

THE RAM'S HORN

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ARIZONA DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP SOCIETY, INC.
A NON-PROFIT, TAX EXEMPT CORPORATION

Vol. 18

Winter '84

#1



George Welsh Retires From Game & Fish Department

Friends, family, and fellow workers gathered in Kingman on January 7th to wish George and Margaret Welsh the best as he began his retirement from the Arizona Game and Fish Department. The dinner was organized by Wes Martin with lots of help from Deann Williams and Suzanne Osborn of the Kingman office. Paul Webb M.C'd. the affair which was a combination Roast and "This is Your Life" show. There were many warm tributes to George and some nice gifts. Bernie Lawrence, Moe Cobb, and Lloyd Nash presented a unique trophy made up of various "used" sheep and burro parts. (Have George explain that the next time you see him.) Bill Welsh topped all the others, however, when he said that he had known George longer than all the rest and that it was his good fortune to be his son.

George's retirement on December 30th marked the end of over 26 years in Arizona as a Wildlife Manager, most of which have been spent in the Kingman area. He joined the Department in June 1957 after his graduation from Colorado State University and was assigned to the Prescott area. The Prescott assignment in those days included everything from Phoenix to the Grand Canyon and the Verde River to the Hualapai Mountains, so George stayed pretty busy. During this assignment George became responsible for Arizona's antelope herd statewide for several years — an assignment he recalls fondly.



George and Margaret Welsh seated with emcee, Paul Webb.



George chatting with Society members Don Johnson and Joe Bill Pickrell.

In 1960 George began his tour in Kingman which marked the start of his "Love Affair" with the Bighorns. By his recollection, the sheep population in the Kingman area at that time was about 350-400. His current estimate of the sheep population in the region is about 1200, an increase he attributes to many factors. The population has increased slightly over the years due to a conservative hunting program, reduction of "non-native" species, water development, and improved range conditions. A dramatic increase has occurred in the past 4-5 years due primarily to the excellent range conditions. George attributes this to Mother Nature, but there are some of us who insist that it just took him about 20 years to get his rain dance perfected.

During his career George became an early enthusiast for aerial helicopter surveys, looking forward to flying out to check his flock, like a youngster anticipating Christmas morning. If the department reimbursed all the film he shot on those trips we can now understand all those budget increases. George's enthusiasm was at its very highest in 1976 when he received one of Arizona's prized bighorn sheep tags. He fought off the shakes and jitters and took a great 11 year old ram scoring 163-7/8.

George is a Charter Member of the Society and has been a mainstay of our annual Hunter's Clinic for many years. He is also a member of the Desert Bighorn Council, the Foundation for North American Wild Sheep, and the Fraternity of the Desert Bighorn. He and Margaret are already enjoying his retirement which will provide him with the opportunity to pursue photography, writing, and his annual Wyoming antelope trips.

George Welsh represents the very best in the tradition of Wildlife Management and Conservation. He has set an example for those who follow him.

Thanks, George, and GOOD LUCK!

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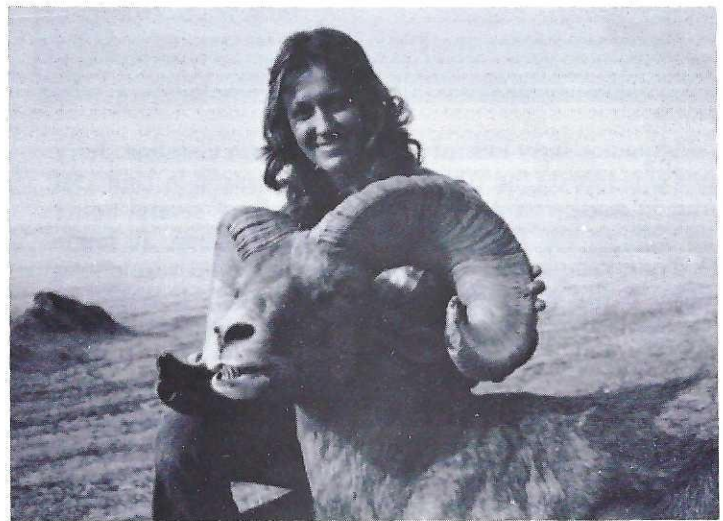
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'83 Hunters

Sheep Society member Lt. Col. Roland Krienke of Round Rock, Texas proudly shows-off his fine ram taken on the 1983 Nevada hunt. After 5 years of applying, Roland obtained a permit in the Desert National Wildlife Refuge some 60 miles north of Las Vegas. Apparently most of the first day was spent packing the necessary supplies nearly 8 miles into the mountain range. Motorized vehicles were not allowed — even the water which the horses were to drink had to be packed in to comply with the regulations. On the second day of the hunt, Roland downed the 12 year old ram with his 7mm Remington Magnum. The old ram measured 14 inches at the bases by 30 inches in length. Nice going Roland!



Pictured here is Dorene Daiss of Phoenix with her beautiful Kofa ram. With the August mail came Dorene's permit for Unit 45A. Not a bad accomplishment since it was her first time to apply for a sheep permit! Preseason physical conditioning for Dorene entailed climbing the mountains of north Phoenix. The demanding exercise paid off as the hunt was not an easy one. Eleven days of glassing and grueling mountain climbing finally produced a "possible". On the morning of the 12th day, Dorene, along with guide Jim Machac, stalked the bedded ram. A perfect 200 yard heart shot secured the ram. The finale was watched from below by Dorene's husband Dave, Tom Boggess and Cheryl Machac. The ram was estimated at 9 years old and "green-scored" 167 Boone and Crockett points. Taxidermy work will be done by Ken Rowe of Phoenix. Truly the trophy of a lifetime.



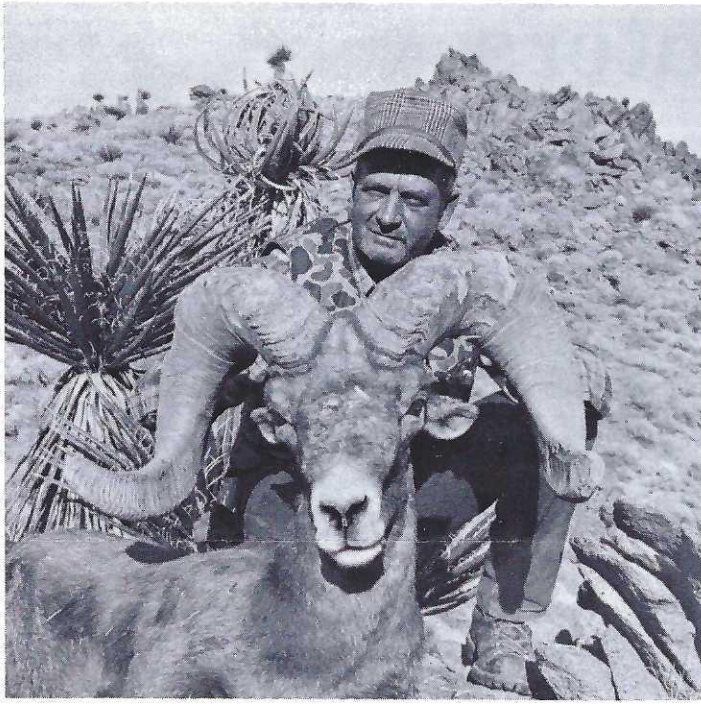
Jim Young of Glendale pictured with his ram taken in Unit 15C South. Jim hunted the first two weekends of the hunt equipped with a bow and after missing 3 different rams he switched to a Thompson-Contender .223 caliber. On the 13th day of the hunt he downed his ram with an amazing 160 yard shot — witnessed by two friends, Alan and Craig Quamme and Wildlife Manager Bill Foldich no less! Jim reports seeing 100-150 sheep during the course of his hunt (20-30 of which were legal rams). Congratulations Jim!



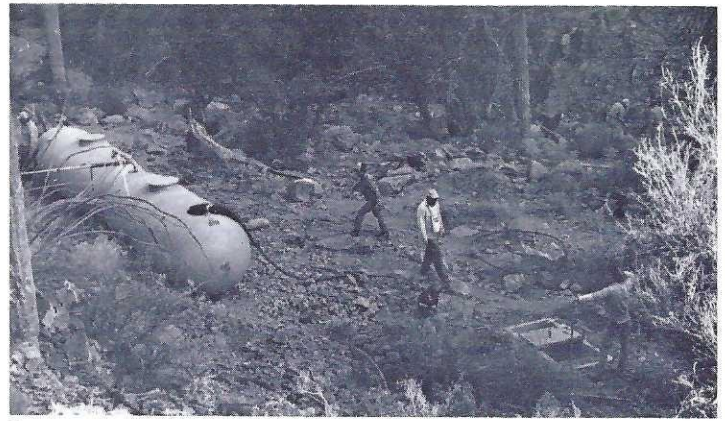
NEXT ISSUE ... Look for a full report on the very successful Fund Raising Event. Also, a report on the FNAWS Convention in San Diego.

Cover Photo
Ram from Aravapai Canyon
in Unit 31

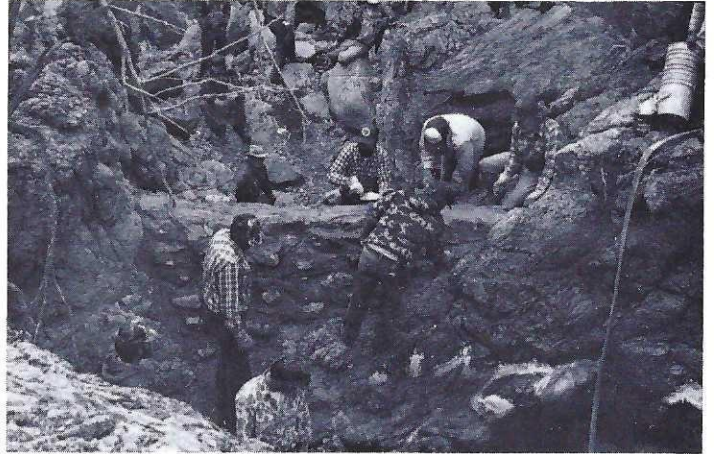
Photo courtesy of Jerry Walters



Pictured is Jerry Eckard of Hickory, North Carolina. Jerry took this ram on the 7th day of the 1983 season in Unit 15B West in northwest Arizona. After a stalk of several hours the bighorn was taken from a herd of six sheep, all rams. This ram completed Jerry's Grand Slam of North American sheep. A life size mount will be done by Jack Wight of Phoenix, Arizona. Guides were Dan Priest, Tom Martin and Tom Boggess.



Lazarus



Little Bones

Moonshine Tank

Our second project of 1984 will also be our fifth project of the year! Due to a small work crew and lots of work, we were not able to complete the project on Feb. 4th and 5th.

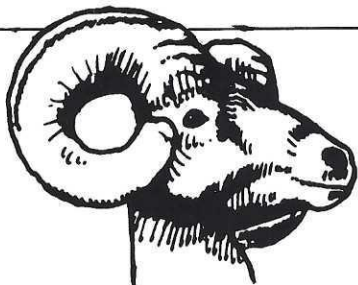
This pothole was very large and filled with more silt and rocks than 22 people could move in two days. About one-half of the debris was cleaned out. The rest of the dirt needs to be moved and the tank needs to be sealed.

We were able to finish a 45 ft. diversion dam but we only partially completed the shade structure. When finished, the 42' by 35' frame will be covered with sheet metal.

We have schedule March 24th and 25th as the completion dates for the project. Please watch for the project flyer. We need your help!!

Jim Stephenson
 Harry Hussey
 David Hussey
 Bill Hook
 Joe Bill Pickrell
 Mernice Alkire
 Harry Vander Hoek
 Tim Swegle
 Mel Vander Hoek
 Tim Vander Hoek
 Eugene Risch

Jack Hall
 John Odinetto
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 Dean Bowdoin
 Paul Roskamp
 Win Welch
 Bob Gray
 Dick Kruel
 Brian Kruel
 Fred Jerome
 Pete Cimellaro



WANTED! Arizona hunting the 1983 Sheep — Need pictures and a small story with the major details. Please send to the editor. Thanks!!!

Lazarus and Little Bones

JANUARY 14 & 15, 1984
LAZARUS/LITTLE BONES

1984s' first project found us back in the Plomosa Mtns. at Lazarus and Little Bones tanks. This project was a high priority due to heavy use of sheep and also because the lower pothole at Lazarus had become a deathtrap during peak use in the summer.

Two fiberglass tanks were intalled between upper and lower Lazarus to increase the storage capacity almot 4000 gallons. A pipe which drains water from upper Lazarus was installed to fill the two tanks. A float-valve water trough was also installed. Hopefully, the trough will help prevent overcrowding at lower Lazarus.

At Little Bones, the tank was drained, cleaned and sealed. The dam was also raised by approximately 3 feet to increase the storage capacity. Rock barriers were constructed in the canyon above the tank to trap silt and debris.

These turned out to be super projects and were made easy due to the large turnout. Thanks to all of you for your help.

Pete Cimellaro

Larry Wilder
Eugene Risch
Patrick Adams
Jim Matchette
Jim Marquardt
Frank Tennant
J.R. Tennant
Richard Remington
Don Johnson
Danny Nasca
Dean Bowdoin
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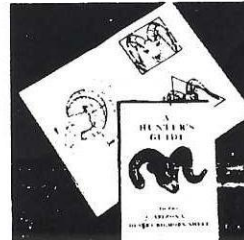
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Mernice Alkire
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Tom Boggess
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The following items are offered for sale in consideration of minimum donations as specified:



Note cards and envelopes reflecting a variety of super sheep pictures.



Guide — A collection of facts and articles by knowledgeable sheep hunters.



T-Shirts in Blue, Tan with Society Emblem. (S, M, L or XL)



Lightweight Outdoor Caps. Blue & White, Yellow & White



Colorful Blue & Gold Patch



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Koozie Kups plain or with cup.

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Patch	\$ 2.50
Decal	1.50
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Postage prices are as follows:
Cap — 1.00 ea.
T-Shirt — 1.75 ea.
Kups — 1.75 ea.
All other items are .75 ea.

CAPS: Specify color and size.

T-SHIRTS: Specify size, style — emblem front or back, color.

Waterhole Projects for 1984

Jan. 14-15 Lazarus & Little Bones — Plomosas Mtns.
 Feb. 4-5 Kofas (F & W)
 Feb. 18-19 Copper Mtns.
 Mar. 10-11 New Water Mtns.
 March 24-25 Finish Moonshine Tank
 April 7-8 Gila Mtns. project changed to Aubrey Hills
 May 19-20 Redfield Canyon

Saturday night's dinner is "on the house" and we have eliminated all raffles at the projects for this coming year.

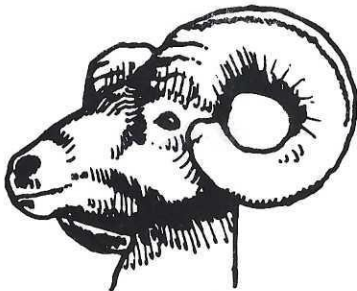
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 John Gillett
 Dennis Hankerson
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 R. Norman Pearce
 Dan Nasca
 Catherine E. Tuft
 Martin F. Wood
 Marvin Wood
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 Greg Pierce
 Reinhart Fagen
 James De Forge



MEMBERSHIP INVITATION

Individuals who are interested in promoting the welfare of the Desert Bighorn Sheep and desire to affiliate with an organization dedicated to this purpose may do so by joining the Arizona Bighorn Sheep Society, Inc.

The membership roster of the Society includes conservationists, sportsmen, professional wildlife managers, educators, biologists, photographers and just plain folks all interested in the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep.

The Society undertakes an annual program of several (usually 5) major habitat improvement construction projects in cooperation with and under the direction of the State and Federal agencies responsible for management of the Desert Bighorn Sheep.

One of the more important projects of the Society is the conduction of the annual Sheep Clinic training program.

In addition to projects, members of the Society participate in other conservation and game management activities; a special legislative committee of the Society closely watches legislation that may affect the sheep or its habitat and general welfare.

While the opportunities for active participation are numerous, such participation is not a prerequisite for membership. All interested persons are encouraged to join, the Society needs and welcomes your moral and financial support.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I thereby make application for membership in the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, Inc., and enclose my membership donation. DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

New membership prices are as follows:

Regular membership	\$25.00/yr.
Youth membership	\$15.00/yr.
Sustaining membership	\$100.00/yr.
Lifetime membership	\$500.00

RENEWAL NEW MEMBERS DATE _____

NAME _____ TEL. NO. _____

ADDRESS _____

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