



Hello Members,

During my recent Missouri Rifle hunt, I was in “camp” with hunters from Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Minnesota, New York, Georgia and Florida. We visited with other hunting “camps” and shared the usual stories, laughed at other’s follies and cheered for other’s success. In my group, I happened to be the only woman hunter and I never felt any different than anyone else, including the 75 year old “seasoned” hunter who impressively spent all day in the blind. Now mind you this year the Missouri Rifle Season opener boasted beautiful weather, where it is ok to be out all day, starkly different than last year’s shut out, freezing temperatures and snow. When we visit with this same group of friends outside of hunting, hunting conversations float in and out, but “everyday life” discussion lead the conversation, however, at the core of our relationship is the foundation and mutual respect we develop while in “camp”. Whether or not you are in Wisconsin, Montana, Missouri, Texas, Alaska, Africa, Europe, Asia, South America or Australia – I presume the “hunting camps” are very similar.

Hunters when hunting are significantly different than hunters who are not hunting, and true hunters are the individuals who carry the message of hunting conservation everywhere they go. Like many of you, I see firsthand the importance of hunting and conservation – these two go hand in hand if we are to be considered true hunters and it is an important message that we need to tell every chance we get. In the wake of a firestorm of media this summer, a new audience has emerged, listening and waiting to form their own opinion – and it is up to each one of us to ensure that the message they hear is the right one, one of Conservation, Education and the amazing Humanitarian efforts sportsmen and women contribute to every year.

By the time this article hits your mailbox the banquet and fundraising season will be here. While it is an unbelievably stressful period for members of each Safari Club Board, it is also a wonderful time to re-acquaint ourselves with friends near and far. Once again hunting stories are shared and new hunting plans are made. So many outfitters and vendors make the trek to our shows leaving businesses and families at the home-front to keep their operations running. It is the time of the year where we as members have an opportunity to offer the financial support to our chapters that will help fund many wonderful activities, including youth activities, humanitarian efforts, education, and of course provide support to Safari Club International for national and international efforts. Every single dollar raised during our annual fundraisers is vital to the successes we are blessed to be a part of. At the core of each and every one of our fundraisers is the purpose of raising money and it is an important point to remember as you attend these events this season.

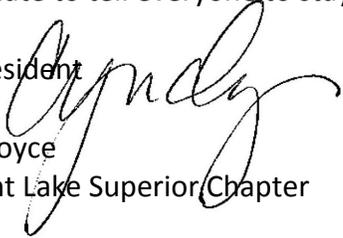
Chapters work tirelessly to ensure that their events are worthy of your donating dollars by offering quality hunts, entertainment, good food, plenty of opportunities of chance for firearms, bows and other outdoor related prizes – all opportunities for you to contribute to the

individual chapters fundraising efforts. As you sit at the next banquet, raise your hand for that live auction item, buy that extra raffle ticket, bring a friend and actively participate in the fundraising efforts by the respective chapter, we can't accomplish our goals and missions without each and every one of you! I look forward to seeing many of you at upcoming fundraisers and banquets.

I started and finished my rifle hunt in Missouri in under an hour with a beautiful 10 pointer, my kind of weather, a camp full of friends and of course a few new stories to share. I am looking forward to sharing my story and hearing many member stories at our Annual Fundraiser and Banquet in April. Until then, be safe, travel safe and it is that time of year, where it is appropriate to tell everyone to stay warm!

Your President

Cyndy Boyce
President Lake Superior Chapter

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cyndy', written over the printed name 'Cyndy Boyce'.