



Safari Club International Golden Gate Chapter

272 Castle Crest Road
Alamo, California 94507
www.sci-gg.com

Golden Gate Chapter

President, Mike Borel
Vice President, Donald P. Seibel

Secretary, Eric Carlson
Treasurer, Mary Heppler

Board of Directors:

Mike Borel, Eric Carlson, Paul Dalzell, Michael Dickinson, Sean Duffy, Ken Fish,
Mary Heppler, Chip Hollister, Robert Keagy, Peter Margiotta, Richard Pierce, Theodore Pryor, Donald P. Seibel,
Dennis V. Swanson, Peter Woolley

To: Members and Prospective Members:

Second Quarter encompasses Board Elections, Officer Elections, Sight in Day, Member Meetings, Hunt Planning and Preparation. SCI Golden Gate has much to report for this quarter! Here are the highlights (please note that action is requested for Viet Nam vets, anyone with Pictures to share, everyone wanting to join 1 or more banquets at SCI Reno 2008, and everyone for getting upcoming events on your calendars:

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12. Tom Dum Retires from BOD after 20 years of Dedicated and Distinguished Service

Following is each item, expanded.

1. Note from your Chapter President

Another 3 months closer to hunting season! Several are already on Safari looking forward to Siberia in a month. Board elections are complete with 2 new additions and officers are in place for the next year. This e-newsletter will recap the events of the past 3 months and bring you both some memories and up to date on the any you missed. This quarter has been a state & federal legislative challenge of biblical proportions so far the fight is going reasonably well but only with the active letter writing and calling of elected officials by members. We have a fair bit planned for Mike Borel

2. New Members to Welcome.

Please join me in welcoming the following new members to SCI Golden Gate:

Dewey Savell -Oakley
Steve Nobriga -Manteca
Randy Hall-Castro Valley
Aaron Florian - Dublin
Al DiPrima - Walnut Creek
Scott Hess-Alamo
Todd Ellinwood-San Rafael.
Shawn Maples - Antioch

Please ask your hunting friends and relatives to join us. SCI does the heavy lifting for hunting and hunters rights (like NRA does for our Second Amendment rights). The incentive of a \$50 gift certificate from Cabelas for a new National Membership continues to apply and our deal for the Chapter of \$20 for the first year is also still in effect. Net cost to join both National and Golden Gate is \$25! Major bargain! All hunters serious about keeping our right to hunt intact should be a member of SCI! Besides, it's fun!

3. Board Elections Complete, Officers elected, Committee Chairs Appointed

Mike Borel, Eric Carlson, Don Seibel, Mary Heppler, Pete Margiotta and Peter Woolley were re-elected to new 2 year terms. Paul Dalzell was elected for his first 2 year term.

Officers for the next year are:

Mike Borel - President,
Don Seibel – Vice President,
Eric Carlson - Secretary
Mary Heppler - Treasurer.

APPOINTMENTS:

Chapter Liaison -Don Seibel
Dinner Mtg Program Chair-Pete Woolley
Education Chair –Pete Margiotta
Featured Speakers Chair (1 event/yr)-Sean Duffy
Fundraiser Chair-Bob Keagy

Fundraiser Sub-chairs: Michael Dickinson, Rich Pierce, Chip Hollister, Tom Dum, Eric Carlson, Mike Borel, Mary Heppler

Governmental Affairs Chair -Ken Fish

Humanitarian Projects Chair -Ted Pryor

Membership Chair -Don Seibel

Membership Co-Chairs-Paul Dalzell & Gus Motte

Projects (Funding) Chair-Dennis Swanson

Projects (Funding) Co-Chair-Paul Dalzell

Public Relations Chair-Bob Keagy

Sables Representative-Mary Heppler

SCI-PAC Representative-Bob Keagy,

Youth Chair -Ted Pryor

If you have interest in one or more of these areas, please contact the person listed and volunteer to help!

4. Meetings and Events since Last Newsletter

April 18 - Member Meeting at Zio Fraedo's; Paul Dalzell shared experiences as Pro Hunter and Photographer

April 20 -Long time active member Bernice Newell passed away quietly. She will be missed.

May 12 - Work Session in preparation for 5/19 Afternoon in the hills for Disadvantaged Youth. At Mel Toponce Ranch in Vacaville. We cleared trails, prepped areas, helped Jimmy Young disintegrate a very large boulder that was restricting drainage at the campsite and had a fantastic lunch.

May 16 - Member Meeting at Zio Fraedo's; 20th Anniversary of Chapter Celebration. Don Causey (The Hunting Report) was our guest speaker. We celebrated 20 years as a chapter, which was initially formed with 24 members and Mike Leiser dog! (it was and still is a requirement to have at least 25 members!). We are now 150 members, have spawned 2 additional chapters SFBA and Napa, and continuously made a difference in the Bay Area, Nationally and Internationally.

May 19 - Afternoon in the hills for Disadvantaged Youth. Eighteen youths and Four teachers from the Grant Union school district attended the event. SCI Golden Gate had 10 volunteers on hand, which included Mel Toponce and his wife Sandy who generously donated their Ranch facilities for the event. The children benefitted from Mels vast knowledge of the foliage and wildlife that was presented on the nature walk. Mother nature cooperated with appearances from Blacktail Deer and Wild Turkey. The children were given an archery lesson and most progressed to breaking a balloon at 10-15 yards. The youths were also treated to a reptile exhibit and discussion. For lunch the kids made short work of hot dogs, salad, home made baked beans and beverages. SCIGG supplied each child with a backpack, SCI hat, SCI key ring, SCI keyring flashlight, SCI pocket Wilderness survival guide, sun glasses, spiral notebook with pen.

Volunteers for the work party and/or the event included Mel Toponce, Sandy Toponce, Mike Borel, Don Seibel, Millie Siebel, Eric Carlson, Jimmy Young, Lauri Young, Steve Nobriga, Matt Greylund, Randy Hall and Ted Pryor (who also organized it all). This was so well received we expect to make it an annual event.

May 19 -Mike Borel & Bob Keagy were elected Directors at Large for SCI during the May Board meeting in D.C. Dwight Ortmann, President SFBA Chapter, was elected Region 2 Representative. 3 Californians were elected to the Executive Committee Dennis Anderson President, Mary Linn West Sables President and John Whipple - VP.

June 2 - Sight In @ Chabot, organized by Michael Dickinson. We had a good crowd (in spite of low RSVP Members please work on this, it really helps!) ___ won smallest group honors with a sporter rifle in ___ shooting a .7XX Group at 200 yards.

June 23 - Region 2 Sharing/Training Seminar for Chapter Officers & Board Members. Ted Pryor, Don Seibel and Mike Borel made the trip to Sacramento. Great sharing and many learnings that will help us grow membership, develop our chapter and improve our fundraisers.

5. Legislative and Key Litigation Items (Segmented into Federal, State/Local, and International) [Assembled by Legislation Chair Ken Fish]

California Update

As expected the new legislative session has started with the re-introduction of multiple bad bills, as it pertains to gun- and hunting-related issues. As we begin a new two-year legislative calendar, please remember the following:

1. All of the California bills that SCI opposes in this legislative session were defeated in the last session. Although legislators who are friendly to our positions do not hold a majority in either the Assembly or the Senate, we have been able to hold the line on punitive legislation by being organized and by continuing to contact our respective legislators and the Governor, who

has proven to be mostly a supporter of hunting and gun rights. The Golden Gate Chapter and its sister chapters play an especially crucial role in this by reminding their legislators most of whom are from districts that oppose our points of view on conservation, hunting, and gun rights that they have significant and vocal minorities in their districts whose concerns they must also represent.

2. All contacts with legislators make an impact. The kind of contact you make can multiply that impact. A phone call is always noted and registered, and it is generally counted by legislators as worth five (5) votes. If you have access to email, and if the legislator provides his or her email address, sending an email multiplies the impact five-fold, and generally is counted as twenty-five (25) votes. If you have the time and the inclination, sending a physical letter or a fax, multiplies that impact five-fold, and is generally counted as one hundred-twenty-five (125) votes. You can determine the degree of impact you have by the type of contact you make! If you only have time for a phone call, then make the call. If you can also send an email, do that. If you have the time to type an email, copy it into MS-Word and then mail or fax it, do that as well. Whatever you do, DO SOMETHING!

3. The impact you make will be determined in large part by how you sound in writing. Always read your document carefully before you send it. Keep it short! One page, consisting of three short paragraphs is enough. Don't ramble, and listen carefully to the words you use. Avoid anything that sounds angry, caustic, combative, rude, or insensitive. Safari Club may be many things, but we are respectful and respectable sports(wo)men. Our correspondence with our elected leaders must reflect that fact.

4. Know your legislator. If you don't know who your State Assemblymember or State Senator is, look in the cover of your phone book. Or, go to <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/yourleg.html> and enter your zip code. Your State Senator and Assemblymembers name and contact information will appear. Members of the various committees mentioned below can be identified on the State Senate website www.senate.ca.gov or at the NRA Members Councils website, www.nramemberscouncils.com.

AB 334 Loss/Theft Reporting (Levine D, Van Nuys)

Description: This bill would make it an infraction for any person whose handgun is stolen or irretrievably lost to, within 5 working days after his or her discovery or knowledge of, or within 5 working days after the date he or she should reasonably have known of, the theft or loss, fail to report the theft or loss to a local law enforcement agency of the jurisdiction in which the theft or loss occurred or in which the person resides. The bill would require specified notices of this requirement to persons acquiring handguns after July 1, 2008, as specified. The bill would provide that local governments are not prohibited from enacting ordinances imposing reporting requirements that are stricter than those specified in the bill.

The bill would require the Attorney General, in cooperation with law enforcement agencies and firearms-related organizations to develop a protocol for the implementation of these provisions, as specified, on or before April 1, 2008.

SCI Position: Oppose as the bill is bad public policy. Without AB 334, when a gun is lost/stolen, the gun owner and law enforcement are eager to work together to recover the firearm. If AB 334 becomes law, the same gun owner will contact an attorney because they will be subject to possible prosecution for violating Mandatory Reporting Requirements. This bill places well-intentioned, law-abiding gun owners and law enforcement in an adversarial position, which is why it is bad public policy. One of the most troublesome aspects of AB 334 is that it attempts to bypass state preemption of local regulation of firearms and related issues. AB 334 is currently identical in language to last year's SB 59, which earned this veto message from the governor:

I am returning Senate Bill 59 without my signature. While I share the Legislatures concern about the criminal use of lost or stolen weapons, the ambiguous manner in which this bill was written would make compliance with the law confusing for legitimate gun-owners and could result in cases where law-abiding citizens face criminal penalties simply because they were the victim of a crime, which is particularly troubling given the unproven results of other jurisdictions in California that have passed similar measures. In addition, this bill may have undesirable legal consequences as it allows local governments to pass ordinances that differ from State law, thereby leaving law-abiding citizens with the task of navigating through a maze of different or conflicting local laws depending upon the jurisdiction they are in. A patchwork of inconsistent local ordinances creates compliance and enforcement problems that erode the States ability to effectively regulate handguns statewide. For these reasons, I am returning this bill without my signature.

Action Requested: Members are encouraged to contact the Senate Public Safety Committee and their State Senator to OPPOSE this bill. This bill has passed out of the Assembly and could be heard by the Senate at any time.

AB 362 Ammo Sales (De Le D, Los Angeles)

I am pleased to report this bill got gutted in Senate Public Safety Committee today and became a feasibility study bill only. We will see those amendments shortly but the main components of the bill on the DOJ maintaining records on ammunition sales, banning internet sales and burdensome requirements on retailers were gutted today. Thank you to all you that weighed in with your legislators on this bill.

AB 821 Lead Ammo Ban (Nava D, Santa Barbara)

Description: This bill would enact the Ridley Tree Condor Preservation Act to require the use of nonlead centerfire rifle and pistol ammunition when taking big game and coyote within specified areas. The act would require the commission to establish, by regulation, by January 1, 2008, a public process to certify centerfire rifle and pistol ammunition as nonlead ammunition, and to define nonlead ammunition by regulation. The act would also require the commission, to

the extent funding is available, to provide hunters in these areas with nonlead ammunition at no or reduced charge through a coupon program. Under the act, a person who violates those requirements would be guilty of an infraction punishable by a \$500 fine for the first offense. A similar bill, without the coupon program, was defeated in the last legislative session.

SCI Position: SCI opposed this bill in the last legislative session, because it was not supported by scientific data from the Department of Fish and Game (DFG). In this session, DFG is moving separately to ban lead ammo under threat of an environmentalist lawsuit. Note that this lawsuit alleges that DFG has permitted the illegal taking of condors and other predators and raptors by failing to ban lead ammunition. Consequently, although the motivation for DFG to ban lead ammunition has nothing to do with a change in the science behind whether lead ammunition is toxic to raptors, it is now more difficult to argue during this legislative session than last that DFG doesn't support the bill. Without scientific data to support a ban, however, SCI continues to hold that this legislation should be defeated.

Action Requested: AB 821 has passed out of the Assembly into the Senate. On June 26, it was approved by the Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee and is now awaiting a hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee. From there it will go to the Senate floor for a vote. Members are urged to contact the Senate Appropriations Committee and their State Senators to OPPOSE this bill.

AB 1472 Microstamping (Feuer D, West Hollywood)

Description: This bill would, commencing January 1, 2010, expand the definition of unsafe handgun to include semiautomatic pistols that are not designed and equipped with a microscopic array of characters that identify the make, model, and serial number of the pistol, etched into the interior surface or internal working parts of the pistol, and that are transferred by imprinting on each cartridge case when the firearm is fired.

SCI Position: OPPOSE, as the identical bill was defeated in the last legislative session when it was then known as AB 352. In the discussion of this bill in the last session, the technology was shown to be easily defeated, and it enriches the sole vendor who has patented the technology. Moreover, the risk to law-abiding sportsman is high, as criminals could recover fired brass from local ranges, only to deposit these now-microstamped casings at the scene of a crime. Investigators would then assume that the owner of the gun that stamped the casings was involved with the crime in question, resulting in significant legal risk to the innocent gun owner. To learn more about this bill, go to http://www.news.ucdavis.edu/search/news_detail.lasso?id=8148 or <http://nramemberscouncils.com/legs.shtml?summary=ab1471&year=2007>.

Action Requested: AB 1472 has passed out of the Assembly into the Senate. On June 26, it was approved by the Senate Public Safety Committee and is now awaiting a hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee. From there it will go to the Senate floor for a vote. Members are urged to contact the Senate Appropriations Committee and their State Senators to OPPOSE this bill.

AB 1634 Mandatory Spay/Neuter of Dogs (Levine D, Van Nuys)

Congratulations all! AB 1634 has been pulled from hearing this am in the Senate Local Government Committee. The author Assemblyman Levine indicates that he does not have the votes to advance the bill and he was very bitter about the defeat calling out us the opposition in using whatever tactics necessary to defeat his bill. This now becomes a two year bill and will not advance this session. Certainly because this is the first year of a two year session he can try to advance it next year. Thus, I will keep you posted if that occurs. For now thank you and enjoy this victory.. This was the most heavily lobbied bill this session in the Legislature.

AB 912 Mentored Hunting (Parra D, Hanford)

Description: This bill would require the Fish and Game Commission, in consultation with the Department of Fish and Game, to create and implement a mentored hunting program meeting specified goals that allows apprentices to hunt resident small game, upland game birds, and waterfowl for up to one year, without meeting existing hunting license requirements, if the apprentice is under the immediate and direct supervision of a qualified mentor.

SCI Position: SUPPORT, as it furthers our long term goal of introducing young hunters to our sport.

Action Requested: Members are encouraged to contact their State Assemblymember in SUPPORT of this bill.

National Update

H.R. 1022 Reauthorization of the Assault Weapons Ban (McCarthy D, NY)

Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy has introduced the above bill that seeks to re-authorize the Clinton-era "Assault Weapons Ban. The new bill would NOT have a sunset provision, as did the old bill. Furthermore, it would ban entire new classes of weapons that were not previously considered "assault weapons. Included among these would be virtually ALL semi-automatic shotguns, including nearly all that are used by hunters (Benelli, Beretta, Browning, Remington, Weatherby, Winchester, etc.), as well as many currently legal semi-automatic rifles (Browning BAR, Remington 7600, Ruger Mini-14 and 10-22, etc.). The bill has not made significant progress since its introduction, but SCI will continue to monitor it closely, as it has the potential to be a significant threat to our hunting rights.

50 Caliber Rifles

Both New Jersey and Illinois are moving aggressively to ban the purchase, sale, or ownership of .50 BMG rifles. These statewide bans are essentially identical to the one that Governor Schwarzenegger signed into California law in 2004 (AB-50, authored by Koretz, D-Hollywood). Members are encouraged to monitor these two bills in other states because buried in them both

is language that would ban any centerfire rifle over .50 caliber (including many beloved safari calibers such as .500 Nitro Express, .505 Gibbs, .577 Tyrannosaurus, .600 Nitro Express, and .700 Nitro Express). It is possible (likely) that if these bills pass in their present form, similar language would be introduced into California to amend AB-50.

DC Gun Ban Overturned

In March, a three-judge panel of the Washington, DC Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the Districts decades-old handgun ban was unconstitutional. In its opinion, it found that the 2nd Amendment guarantees an individual right to keep and bear arms, and that the DC ban violated the 2nd Amendment rights of the citizens of the District of Columbia. While this verdict is encouraging, it is not definitive. Several legal angles remain unexplored. The District plans to appeal to the entire DC Circuit, and if that proves unsuccessful, to the US Supreme Court. Furthermore, the NRA is backing legislation that would overturn the DC ban. Were this legislation to pass Congress, it would vacate the decision and return the legal debate to status quo ante. All who care about gun rights, whether pro-gun or anti-gun will continue to monitor this situation with great interest.

Polar Bear Hunting Battle Won, Fight Continues

Safari Club International applauds the U.S. House of Representatives for overwhelmingly defeating an ill-advised amendment that would have undermined global conservation for polar bears. This amendment, sponsored by Rep. Jay Inslee (D-Washington) and Rep. Frank LoBiondo (R-New Jersey), would have forbidden the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from processing permit applications for the importation of polar bear hides or parts into the U.S. Although purporting to protect polar bears, this amendment would not have reduced polar bear mortalities related to hunting. If U.S. hunters did not take these polar bears, the same number of bears would be hunted by individuals from native communities in Canada and/or by hunters from other countries.

But by effectively stopping American hunters from hunting in Canada, this amendment would have removed one incentive for the Canadian governments to fund (at least in the amount of \$1,000,000 per year) the current, successful Canadian efforts to conserve the bear. If the amendment had succeeded, it would also have destroyed the source of funding (from the permit fees paid to the U.S. government) for polar bear research in the U.S. and Russia.

The attempt to add the amendment to the House Interior Appropriations bill was clearly defeated by a vote of 188-242. Lawmakers voting to block the amendment recognized it as a purely emotion-driven attack on hunting in general.

Numerous sporting and conservation organizations rallied to oppose this amendment, including SCI, the National Rifle Association and the Congressional Sportsmens Foundation. Also allied in opposition to this amendment were the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Government of Nunavut (where many healthy populations of polar bears reside), and the federal Canadian government, which issued a strong letter of opposition to the amendment co-sponsors.

A website has been developed to counter the misinformation campaign and emotional, non-scientific arguments put forth by anti-hunting legislators, and the anti-hunting groups they support. This site can be found at www.polarbearfacts.org .

Another battle may need to be fought in the Senate. Similar language was inserted in the Senate Interior Appropriations bill by Sen. Jack Reed (D-Rhode Island) but the Senate has not yet completed action on its version of the bill.

SCI President Dennis Anderson said, "Defeating the House amendment was an important victory, but while this battle is won, the war against the conservation benefits of sustainable polar bear hunting, and hunting in general, wages on. All sportsmen and women must continue to let their Congressional delegations know they oppose such anti-hunting efforts.

6. Viet Nam Veterans Identify Yourselves - SCI will honor you at the Reno Convention

"We are trying to identify SCIs Vietnam veterans so we can invite each of them to our awards presentation, said Warren K. Parker, SCI Past President. "These veterans have too long been denied the recognition they deserve for their service in a difficult time, in an unpopular war.

The SCI Medal of Valor is a custom, die-struck bronze medallion commissioned by Safari Club International to commemorate the heroism and sacrifice of those who risked their lives to preserve freedom and democracy. It will be presented in a handsome velvet case along with a certificate signed by the SCI President and the Chairman of the Veterans Committee.

Veterans who wish to receive this honor may fill out a Veterans Information form, which may be obtained by calling or emailing Stan Skinner, staff coordinator for the SCI Veterans Committee at: sskinner@safariclub.org or (520) 620-1220 X232.

7. Reserved Tables for Evening Banquets at SCI Convention Reno But only if you act!

SCI Golden Gate will again be reserving one or more tables of 10 for the evening banquets at Reno. The benefits include MUCH better seats and Reserved seating, no need to rush, AND Very short line for entry.

The entertainment plan is as follows:

☞ Wednesday Night Dana Carvey, Comedian

☞ Thursday Night Oak Ridge Boys

☞ Friday Night Beach Boys

☞ Saturday Night Bill Engvall, Comedian

To participate:

1. Do NOT include banquet tickets in your individual registration
2. Do send the ticket amount to Mary Heppler, 540 Banyan Circle., Walnut Creek, CA 94598-2502H) (925) 934-3509 with the number of tickets and which nights you want. Tickets are the same price this way - \$100/ticket.

8. Projects Funded/Supported

The Mojave Preserve Water Study - \$10,000 with some conditions

U.C. Endowment for Wildlife Biologists and CA Wildlife Projects - \$5000 (matched with \$5000 from member Marshall Whites Foundation).

Mosquito nets for kids in the Zambezi, Luangwa, & Kafue River valleys, and on the Zambezi escarpment.

9. Hunter Education - ~50 more Students were trained during the last quarter out at the USI range in a September session! Thank you Pete Margiotta and Mike Vaiana! There are several more 2007 Options and they are noted on the Event Calendar at www.sci-gg.com and later in this newsletter.

10. Upcoming Events

July 10-12, 17-18 "Hunter Safety Program @USI, led by Pete Margiotta & Mike Vaiana; Call for info or to reserve space (925) 280-1430; Location is USI, Concord

July TBD Sporting Clays @Birds Landing, organized by Michael Dickinson

July 18 Member Meeting at Zio Fraedo's with Cary Jellison G&J Outdoors

August 14-16, 21-22 "Hunter Safety Program @USI, led by Pete Margiotta & Mike Vaiana; Call for info or to reserve space (925) 280-1430; Location is USI, Concord

August 15 Member Meeting at Zio Fraedo's

September 8, (tentative) "Freezer Cleanout prior to the new hunting season" Meat collection and Donation to St. Vincent de Paul

September 4-6, 11-12 "Hunter Safety Program @USI, led by Pete Margiotta & Mike Vaiana; Call for info or to reserve space (925) 280-1430; Location is USI, Concord

September 19 Member Meeting at Zio Fraedo's

September 22 National Hunting & Fishing Day - Celebrate! Introduce a Youngster!!

October 17 Member Meeting at Zio Fraedo's

November 21 Member Meeting at Zio Fraedo's

December 9 Member Christmas Party 3:30-7:30PM @Pierce's New Home/Trophy Room

11. Website www.sci-gg.com -- Request for Pictures; See the New Stories!

Are you using our Chapter Website? Its fun, informative and has info to help you make applications for hunting permits! If you havent visited lately, please do it now - www.sci-gg.com.

Check the Showcase.

Are your best pictures included? To get your pictures added send the jpg digital file along with a key to mike.borel@contextnet.com.

See the 2 new articles posted under Showcase What do do When It Happens (a Charge by Dangerous Game) by Brian Marsh; and Conservation in Perspective by Tony Marsh. Both of these are courtesy of Rowland Ward Guild.

The events and News items can keep you up to date on communications.

12. Tom Dum retires from the Board after 20 years of distinguished and dedicated service

Tom was a founding member and has been President, Fundraiser Chair, SCI Director at Large, and more. Please join us in thanking Tom for setting a very high standard for participation and involvement!

Best wishes for the rest of Summer! Please make an opportunity to introduce a youth to hunting and recruit another member!

Regards,
Mike Borel, President
SCI Golden Gate
First for Hunters!