



ABA BULLETIN

April 18, 2005

Hi Folks,

I just returned from the Pope and Young Club convention April 14-16, in Springfield, Missouri. The event was hosted in part by Bass Pro Shops (headquarters). At the site was the Fred Bear museum, King of Bucks museum (over a 100 deer heads like the Jordan Buck), Wonders of Wildlife museum, and other wildlife displays. The invited P&Y animals were on display in the store, and over 50,000 people had the opportunity to see these animals including five new world records. This was a good opportunity for show casing P&Y and bow hunting. If you are ever in the area these museums are a must see.

Eight Albertan's attended the convention of which three were honored during the last recording period for outstanding animals. Will Huppertz of Westlock was first with his American elk scoring 402 5/8 typical taken near Athabasca and ranks third overall. Dave Coupland represented Canada during board meeting discussions and helped panel score the animals. Ryk Visscher raised the most monies from all the P&Y fund raiser coordinators for the P&Y museum fund. Well-done Ryk!

During the course of the weekend at the Friday and Saturday Live and Silent Auctions, (over 1000 people at the Sat. night banquet) and the P&Y Conservation raffle, over \$156,000 was raised. The P&Y club also approved a small grant for the Hunting for Tomorrow Foundation for the upcoming year. We learned more of a program called National Archery in Schools program (NASP) and by the end of this year and in a short period of four years all states will be involved with archery as an in-school curriculum program. The benefits are increased attendance, student marks, and the archery purchases can only help to maintain our hunting heritage. We hope Alberta will be the first province in Canada to begin development of this program in the future.

Ryk Visscher is still in Springfield as Alberta's representative for two days to attend a bow hunting summit which is dealing with issues of the day such as cross bows, and anti bowhunting crusades, and other state and provincial obstacles and opportunities. Ryk will provide us with more information in the future. Provided for your information and if anybody wants more information, just contact me. THNX.

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