## **Alaska Trophy Adventures**



**Brian Valentine** from Bellevue, WA with the tremendous ram he took in 13D with the Governor's Permit;  $42 \times 37 2/8 \times 14 4/8$ , official B&C score 169 6/8. Brian came ready to go and was a real trooper, going through some very rough terrain with no complaints. We thank him for his great contribution to sheep research in Alaska. Guides Dan Montgomery & Craig Martin.



**Bert Scherer** from Windsor, NY with his giant old 10'2" boar. Bert took a bear with us before, came back for his dream bear and got him. Skull 27 6/16, B&C. Congratulations Bert! Guided by Hank Flatow.



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**Chris Denton** from Las Vegas, NV with his big billy He is  $95/8 \times 93/8 \times 53/8$  and 10 yrs old, official B&C score 486/8. We went on an all day marathon to get this last minute billy. Guided by Dan Montgomery.



**Matt Mann** from Grande Prairie, AB with his monster ram, 42 4/8 x 40 5/8 x 13 6/8, official B&C score 167 3/8. We called this 11 year old buster the Running Ram because he was constantly moving, but Matt and co. ran him down. Guided by Mark Hill.



**Mike Newton** from Cody, WY with his huge old 10'1" boar. Mike got skunked with us in the terrible spring of 2012 but he just had to try again and it paid off big time. 28 2/16 B&C skull. Guided by Todd Walton.



Déjà vu is how I would describe our 2013 season. We had lots of extreme weather in 2012, and we got hit again in 2013 with very high winds all fall and record rain in September. However, even with these very challenging conditions, we still had a very good year overall. We averaged 40 4/8" on the six rams we harvested and the average age on our sheep and bears was the oldest ever.

**SHEEP** We took 5 rams in the first 3 days of sheep season, then it went downhill fast! We went 6 for 7 on rams. Our hunters drew 9 permits and we also took the Governor's permit holder. Due to the lack of legal rams I had to cancel three of those hunts. Our unsuccessful hunter stayed 30 days, but we could not find a legal ram. I talked to the game department about it and they have cut the number of permits in half for 2014 in the units with low ram numbers. We have had 2 hard winters in a row and they need to be conservative with the number of permits they issue and protect this world class sheep resource. That being said, it still looks like there will be some very good rams coming up in 2014. Four of the rams we harvested officially went over 160 B&C. The Governor's permit holder took a giant that officially went 1696/8 B&C, and he had 5 inches broomed off on one side! We averaged 40 4/8" on our rams this year. Their horn lengths were 42 4/8", 42", 41", 40 2/8", 39 2/8" and 38". Their official B&C scores were 169 6/8, 167 3/8, 163 1/8, 160 3/8, 158 3/8, and 156 4/8.

MOUNTAIN GOATS During our goat hunts we got hammered by weather again this year. We had 3 storms that blew over 50 mph in the first week of the season. We went 5 for 6 on our mtn. goats this year. Our one unsuccessful hunter got blisters on both feet the first day (new boots) and didn't leave camp after that. All the goats we harvested were billies; the 2 biggest ones were 10 years old and officially scored 48 6/8 and 48 4/8 B&C. The horn lengths on our billies were 10", 9 5/8", 9", 8 1/8" and 8". We still have very good goat populations with lots of mature billies.



John Leroux (L) from Cody, WY and guide Shawn (The Beard) Andres with the beautiful 9'2" bear John took. This was John's third trip with us and at 71 he still has the passion to hunt and explore.



Paul Leroux from Cody, WY took this great 9'9" boar on his first day out. Skull 27 4/16 B&C. Paul also hunted 16 days with us in the terrible spring of 2012 and this could very well be one of the big ones we saw then. Guided by Dan Montgomery

BROWN BEARS The bad weather followed us to the Alaska Peninsula this year. We were there for 40 days and it blew 35 mph or more almost half of those. The wind switched the evening before opening morning and blew a lot of the big bears out of some of our best areas. We had 12 bear hunters and took 8 bears, all very old. Of the 4 hunters that didn't take a bear, one wounded one and despite a hard effort we could not find it. One hunter went home after 2 days, one missed a giant on opening day and hunted sixteen days in all before he had to leave. The other hunter hunted in town for 6 days and it was the first year in the 19 years down there that we didn't see any town bears (until the day after he left, when we saw 2). We saw fewer bears then we have seen in the past but just as many or more big, old boars. We are going to be more conservative in the number of hunters we take in the future to make sure our hunters have the highest quality hunt with the best opportunity to harvest an outstanding bear.

The bears we harvested this year squared out at 10'2", 10'1", 10', 9'10", 9'9", 9'6", 9'2" and 9'1". Their skulls measured from 28 2/16 to 25 10/16.

BLACK BEARS We took 4 black bear hunters this spring, hunting over bait, and harvested 7 bears. (One client chose to only shoot one.) We are excited about the hunt in 2014 because we are going to be able to also take brown bear over bait for the first time. These hunts are not physically demanding and the bears have beautiful hair.

We would like to give a big THANK YOU to our hard working crew of Hank, Nolan, Doug, Harry, Todd, Mark, Fred, Kay, Paul, Aaron, Dave, Rick, Andy, Parker, Craig, Jordan and Drake. It is because of their skills, positive attitudes and good work ethics that we are able to make our hunts some of the greatest adventures of our clients' lives!

We wish everybody the best on their adventures in 2014!

Dan Montgomery Loven Karro

Master Guide #173

Registered Guide #941



**Jeff Dickens** (L) from Quitman, TX with friend & hunting partner Lee Block (R) with Jeff's 9'10" swamp monster. Skull 27 8/16 B&C. Jeff could not believe how big these bears are. Guided by Aaron Bloomquist.



**Scott Moore** from Cody, WY and his big heavy ram, 38 x 37 4/8 x 14, official B&C score 160 3/8. Scott put in an 18 hour day that ended way after dark, but it was worth all the sweat and pain for this great trophy. Guided by Dan Montgomery.



**Justin Moore** (R) from Parker, CO and his Dad Scott Moore (L) with Justin's fantastic ram,  $40 \ 2/8 \ x \ 40 \ x \ 13 \ 2/8$ , official B&C score 163 1/8. Justin was ecstatic after taking this 10 year old warrior. Guided by Doug Garner.



**Ron Kotarski** from Cortez, CO with his huge old 10" billy, official B&C score 48 4/8. It took a few days of hard work but it paid off with this great trophy. Guided by Dave Montgomery.



**Mark Rolfe** (L) from Tampa, FL and guide Hank Flatow (R) with Mark's big old 9'6" boar, skull 27 14/16 B&C. Mark held out for a big one and was rewarded with this awesome colored brute.



**Tracy Welchel** from Choctaw, OK with his beautiful, flairing 10 yr old ram, 39 2/8 x 38 4/8 x 12 6/8. B&C green score 156 4/8. Tracy wanted one with flair and this great ram was just what he was dreaming of. Guided by Nolan Eck.



**Jeff McNerney** from Hood River, OR with his ram that was another 10 yr. old warrior, 41 x 36 5/8 x 13, official B&C score 158 3/8. This ram was on the move opening morning and it took almost all day to run him down. Guided by Hank Flatow.



**Stuart Atnip** (R) from Casper, WY and guide Dan Montgomery (L) with Stuart's old 10' bruin. After seeing a number of big bears, Stuart finally got a shot at this old fighter and anchored him at 36 yards.



**Mel Moeding** from Huron, SD with brother Marty, and Mel's 8 1/8" billy. The billies were playing hard-to-get with these two but they finally tracked them down. Guided by Hank Flatow.



**Tom Howard** from Jeannette, PA with his 9'1" boar. His son Andrew shot a wolf off of it the next day. This is Tom's third brown bear and his biggest. Guided by Harry Beninati.



**Brady Stinson** from Longview, TX and his 9" billy. Camping on a glacier and wearing crampons, this was a true adventure for Brady and he did great. Guided by Doug Garner.



**Matt Jones** from Altamont, NY and his father Bill, with Matt's big boar black bear, 19" B&C skull. These two had a great time and took 4 bears in 4 days. Guided by Dan Montgomery.