

# KYSCI Hosts 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Fundraising Gala

By Chapter President Larry Richards



Larry Richards

I want to thank each and every member for making our 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Fundraiser such a huge success! Tons of work went into it and we are very proud of the quality and variety of program of live and silent auction items that we could make available to our membership. Many chapter members went home with wonderful items and fabulous hunts. Again this year, the addition of the online bidding option helped tremendously with our fundraising efforts and we will be continually refining that option for next year's banquet.

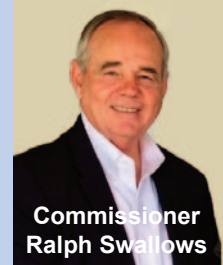
Plan to join the fun and fellowship next year on February 20, 2021, as this is the date of our next fundraising event that will be held at the completely renovated Audubon Country Club in Louisville. Audubon's management team had completed their makeover and put on an excellent showing this year. Comments repeatedly made to me were that this year's meal was the best EVER, and I wholeheartedly agree. Mark your calendars now for our 2021 event and plan on bringing friends.

As you know from past articles, 30% of what we raise is sent to SCI and we are pleased to announce that this is the third year in a row that amount has exceeded \$10,000. Those funds are used by SCI to help protect our hunting heritage and to fight for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment rights. The good news is our chapter is eligible to get as much as \$5000 of that \$10000 back in the form of grants for various programs.

At the beginning of the festivities, we were treated to remarks from Dr. Ryan Quarles, *Commissioner of Agriculture* of the Commonwealth. His remarks were very enlightening and very supportive and appreciative of our work



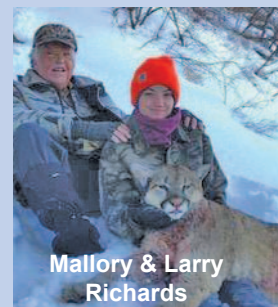
Dr. Ryan Quarles



Commissioner Ralph Swallows

with *Hunters for the Hungry* and he encouraged us to keep up the good work. We look forward to seeing more of the Commissioner in the future. *KDFWR* 3<sup>rd</sup> District Commissioner Ralph Swallows was also in attendance and we welcome him as a new chapter member.

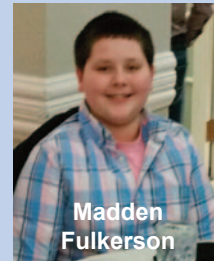
We had several new outfitters and hunts offered for sale this year that were well received and we hope to add even more next year. The photo to the left was taken in Colorado last



Mallory & Larry Richards

December of my daughter Mallory and me on the 2019 Mountain Lion hunt donated by *WestStar Aviation* and outfitted by *Cat Tracks Outfitters*, a great host who provided a great experience! We purchased that fantastic hunt at last year's fundraiser and *WestStar* donated that hunt again and it sold wonderfully high.

Madden Fulkerson, winner of the 2019 4-H Youth Hunt, was recognized for being an outstanding youth hunter and taking an 8 point buck. This youth hunt was donated to the 2019 fundraiser by Ivan Schell and then Breckinridge County 4-H leaders, Alex Bryant and Shannon Morton.



Madden Fulkerson

Those members who attended the annual fundraiser saw some new awards given this year. The *OUTSTANDING YOUTH MEMBER* award went to Charlie Miller for his never-ending work and support of the Chapter at all levels. He volunteers at every function, doing whatever he is asked to ensure a good outcome. He has been invaluable as our youngest chapter member in giving us that perspective of the younger generation that we are going to need in the chapter going forward. We are trying to "grow our own" in the chapter with our young people in the forefront. Congratulations, Charlie, job well done!



Charlie Miller

The next award, *OUTSTANDING CHAPTER MEMBER*, went to Retired Colonel Michael Abell. This award is a well-deserved salute for his tireless effort on behalf of the Chapter, keeping our Legislative affairs website current and informative. That effort is huge. It takes hours of



Colonel Michael Abell

laborious reading through the proposed legislation out of Frankfort and Washington to keep us well informed on what's happening. BRAVO, Colonel!

Our *OUTSTANDING CHAPTER SUPPORTER AWARD* went to Chris and Janis Bohner of McHenry, Illinois. They have been supporting us tirelessly since our very first fundraiser and we cannot

thank them enough for their efforts and support on our behalf. They are great folks and stalwart allies, making the drive down each year to help make this the first-class event that it is. We are proud to be able to host their annual "Kentucky Conservation Officer of the Year Award" to the KDFWR's peer nominated Officer of the Year on behalf of the *Shikar Safari* organization.



Janis Bohner



Alice Monarch

Thanks again goes to Alice Monarch, the editor of this year's award-winning Chapter Fundraiser Brochure and this year's award-winning Chapter Newsletter, the *Kentuckiana Hunter*, virtually as reporter, photographer, editor and virtuoso of the written word. She has worked tirelessly with Grace Priddy, our webmaster to keep our new website up,



Ivan Schell



Grace Priddy

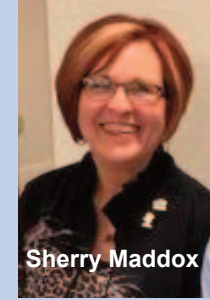
running and current and Pam Noble of J and C Printing to again publish our outstanding newsletter and auction brochure. Alice and Ivan Schell worked their respective fingers to the bone organizing the Live Auction into a great presentation of hunts and other items. That in and of itself is a Herculean task and we cannot give them thanks enough for the hours it took.

The third award presented on our fundraiser night was a special honor for the entire chapter and me! Ms. Peyton Whitworth was awarded the second *SAM MONARCH MEMORIAL YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP AWARD*. The Monarch Family and the Whitworth Family were on hand and it could not have been a prouder moment for the chapter. That much-deserved award of \$2,500.00 will go toward Peyton's Western Kentucky University education where she will enroll this fall. Sam would have been so honored!



Peyton Whitworth

I guess I should also mention – We won *CHAPTER OF THE YEAR AWARD* – again!! A special thanks goes out to Sherry Maddox who spent many hours compiling the information for that application. That makes it a clean sweep this year for our chapter and I could not be prouder of the effort everyone has put forth to make that happen.



Sherry Maddox

In addition to our generous donors (whose ads and website links can be viewed on our chapter website under *Fundraiser*), we have some awesome sponsors without whom we would be hard pressed to make our fundraiser the huge success it has become – notably – Auc-



Elizabeth & Lonnie Auction Solutions LLC

tioners Elizabeth Monarch and Lonnie Gann, Maratha Plantation, Dave Noem's Wildlife Artistry, Gary Roman's Firearm Service Center, Webb's Butcher Block and J and C Printing. We cannot thank donors and sponsors of this caliber enough. Donations such as these are



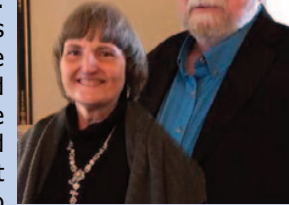
Dave & Crystal Noem

Noem's Wildlife Artistry

the heart and soul of our live auction and directly affect our ability to pursue our chapter's goals. Salute!

In closing, we put on an excellent, well attended event with great people in furtherance of a wonderful cause and we look forward to doing even better next year.

Paul & Pam Noble of J&C Printing



## Outfitters Attending 2020 Fundraiser



Michael Valencia Valencia Expeditions



Graham Sales Graham Sales Safaris



Lize Theron & Friends Jules Of The Karoo Safaris



Miranda & Jaco Van Der Merwe Namibia Safari Corporation

