



EAST CAPE SAFARIS

End of year Newsletter 2008

WWW.EASTCAPESAFARIS.CO.ZA



Keith Warren hunts with East Cape Safaris

During the past season we played host to various hunters and observers, one of these were Keith Warren from Keith Warren Outdoor Adventures. It was great having Keith join East Cape Safaris for his first South African safari.

Keith's safari consisted of a combination bow and rifle hunt which would see him hunting for kudu, gemsbok, black wildebeest, impala, blesbuck, ostrich, steenbok, springbuck and cape bushbuck. These hunts will be featured on Keith Warren's Outdoor Adventures, on the Outdoor Channel. (See details of show schedules on www.keithwarren.net)

******East Cape Safaris thanks Keith for all he is doing for us and we look forward to hosting him soon again. Thank you Keith ******



Outlook for 2009 season

The 2009 season promises to be one of our best with an abundance of game available of great trophy quality. Our game management policies are starting to pay off and we foresee even greater results in the future. Our sable herd has grown and we are now able to add these beautiful animals to our trophy list. Cape buffalo are available on one of our neighboring concessions, the herd size is 70 buffalo and if all goes well will expand rapidly. Our large kudu numbers are looking great with plenty of mature bulls around, with some really good looking young bulls being spotted on a daily basis. With the present economic crisis world wide, we are prepared to modify and discuss packages and costs with all our clients in order to make an African safari a reality. *See our 2009 Show dates.*

“John Kameen takes Grandson on Safari”

“What did you do this summer? That is a question a teacher might ask as students came back to school. One sixth grader who had quite a story was Brandon Strief-sky, Flat Rock Road, Forest City, who spent 10 days in the Republic of South Africa. Brandon went with his grandfather, John Kameen, on a game viewing and hunting safari in the East Cape Province, RSA.

After spending months practicing on the Browndale Sportsman's Club rifle range, his steady hand and sharp eye allowed him to get nine African animals including Zebra, gemsbuck, black wildebeest, two

impala, blesbuck, two springbuck, and a mountain reedbuck. He used a Remington Model 600 in .243 caliber for two animals, and a 7MM-08 Weatherby Youth rifle for the other seven game animals.

They flew from JFK Airport, New York, on South African Airlines for a 17 hour flight which stopped in Dakar Senegal. The SAA planes have individual entertainment centers in each seat to play a variety of movies, TV programs, documentary films and games. This surely shortened the flight for Brandon.

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Special points of interest:

- ◆ ECS now has 50 000 acres of privately owned land
- ◆ ECS has a further 200 000 acres of concession land at its disposal

The Men from West Virginia

Larry, Paul, (Grant) & Jim

These guys had a ball and shared the camp with Keith Warren. Their hunting went very well with all bagging their trophy's with time to spare. Jim Morrison wrote: "In 2004 I went on an African Safari. It was the most amazing hunting trip I have ever been on. I didn't think it could be topped, until 2008 when I returned to the beautiful country of South Africa. This time I hunted with East Cape Safaris. It was even better than my first safari. The hunting was great and the staff of ECS went out of their way to see that my safari would be one that I would never forget. They treated me as one of the family, as if they had known me all my life. Their goal is to see that your needs are met at all times. The food was excellent & the lodging was very comfortable. The PH's are very professional and friendly with a main goal of getting you the best trophy possible. Every day was a new species and a new experience. It was like 10 hunting trips crammed into one! This was an awesome experience from beginning to end. I will return again and it will definitely be with ECS!! I highly recommend ECS. It will be the best experience of your life. It simply doesn't get any better than this." ** Jim **



Sadly Andy Gunto passed away September 2008, who due to his brothers death in June could not join his friends on safari- Sympathies to his Wife & Family.

Continued from page 1- John Kameen on safari with his grandson

After landing in Johannesburg, SA, they flew about two more hours to Port Elizabeth. Picked up at the airport by ranch owner Grant Abrahamson, they had another 120 mile drive to his 16000 acre ranch near Somerset East, SA, in the game-rich East Cape Province. Grant, a professional Hunter (PH), and his brother-in-law, last year purchased a neighboring 20,000 acre ranch. In addition they have hunting rights on another contiguous 12,000 ranch. The area covered would stretch from Forest City to Scranton.

It is the end of winter in SA now, with temperatures in the 40's in the morning rising to the 60's during the day. Traveling to a different area each morning, Brandon and his grandfather, along with PH and tracker and skinner, sought out various game animals indigenous to that area by scanning with binoculars. When an animal which fulfilled the PH's trophy requirements was spotted, a stalk was setup. Not all stalks work out, in fact , almost an entire day, involving eight different stalks, was required to bag Brandon's blesbuck.

Brandon's most sought after trophy, the one he determined months ago was to be his principal goal, was a burchell's zebra, a huge and wary African game animal. It was not until the fourth day that a trophy was spotted and stalk ensued. The animal has great eyesight and acute smell and hearing. Wind direction and silence were absolutely required. He was able to get within 160 yards to make the shot which was successful. The zebra weighed over 800 pounds. All meat from game animals is returned to the ranch and cut up in a meat processing facility as large as is found in any area meat market. The meat feeds the ranch owner and his family along with 26 employees. Brandon got to eat kudu, impala, eland, blesbuck and springbuck, as well as Karoo lamb, the most delicious tasting lamb found anywhere in the world. All meals were eaten with the Abrahamson Family which includes a son, Anthony, the same age as Brandon, and a daughter, Abigail, age 10. After every day's hunt, Brandon and the two children got together with the family's many pets including dogs, cats, pigs, chickens, even two pet springbuck and a pet kudu. Brandon also got to learn about school as it is in South Africa. The only tense part of the trip occurred on return to JFK Airport when a drug dog hit on Brandon's backpack. The object of the dog's interest was a peanut butter and jelly sandwich which the Abrahamson Family had packed for him on the plane. The two were also surprised when they emerged from Customs inspection to find their family waiting for them with signs greeting their arrival.

Brandon and his grandfather will have lasting memories of that summer vacation which took them 8,167 miles (by GPS) from their homes in Forest City. Brandon got to learn that children in South Africa have the same joys and interests as those here in the States, plus they have all those animals surrounding them every day." ***



Our Colorado & Grand Junction Family visit again



Jeff Williams from Eagle Colorado visited us for the first time after meeting and talking to our good friends Rich and Georgiana Weimer and Ray Montgomery from Grand Junction. Jeff who was guided by Johan (PH) hunted this 51" kudu and also was successful in bagging a

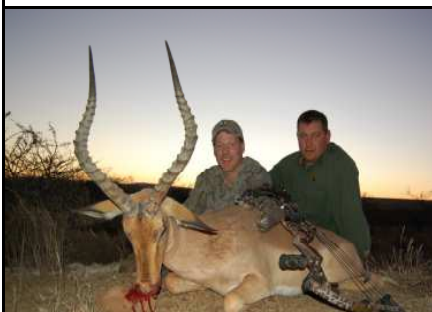
further fourteen trophy animals on his 12 day safari with East Cape safaris which included blesbuck, black wildebeest, impala, springbuck, gemsbuck, steenbok, zebra, white springbuck, mountain reedbuck, cape bushbuck, black springbuck, fallow deer and warthog.

Well done Jeff and see you here again soon.

Rich & Georgiana Weimer completed their 4th safari with East Cape Safaris this year; that is 4 in a row now and every time we enjoy it more and more. Rich & Georgiana do a tremendous amount of work for East Cape Safaris back in Colorado and we are very thankful to them as well as to our friend Ray Montgomery who could not make it to us this year as he was off to Mongolia for an ibex hunt. Rich & Georgiana were able to add some more trophy's to their collection and below we see Rich with his 14" common reedbuck and Georgiana with her 5.5" duiker, two excellent trophy's. **WELL DONE AND THANK YOU BOTH**



Safari dream comes true for the Albertson's and Roat's



Randy Roat and his first bow kill on African soil with PH Abrie



Scott & Sherri Albertson with Randy Roat and his mother Sharon joined us for a safari in July 2008. Sherri and Sharon came on a non-hunting safari while Scott and Randy would hunt for 8 days before joining the ladies for some sightseeing trips. Scott had a successful safari and bagged some very nice trophy's including this beautiful kudu pictured above right. Randy came with the idea that he would rifle hunt, however being a bow hunter PH Abrie persuaded him to use his bow and Randy ended up taking more than half his animals with bow which included this good impala ram above which was also his first animal on safari. To the four of you thank you, and the memories we shared with you will always be remembered. Looking forward to the next time, always good times!!!

Two longtime hunting friends come to Africa for first safari

Frank Gahagen and Bill Monteparte from Pennsylvania booked a safari with us on the last day of the Harrisburg show this last February 2008. They arrived for their safari just two months later and together with myself (Grant) and Zirk Erasmus as their PH's we were set to have a great time. With Bill around there are always lots of laughs and we did do a lot of laughing. Bill and Frank have hunted together for years and we thank them for choosing East Cape Safaris. They were able to bag two great kudu trophy's, that within a two hour period, and numerous other plainsgame as well as this good nyala which Frank was able to bag.

On the photo: Bill left with Frank and his nyala.





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**“WHERE CLIENTS BECOME
OUR FRIENDS”**

MATT VISITS AGAIN

Matt Yablonski visited the East Cape for a second time and this time he brought his family along. Matt, Kim, Jacob, Leah and Tyler enjoyed a vacation with us at East Cape Safaris and three of them did some hunting. Matt shot a huge bull giraffe amongst numerous other trophy's while Kim managed a good zebra and Jacob shot amongst others a very good steenbok.



**See us at
these shows**

SHOW SCHEDULE FOR 2009

Denver Sportsman's Exposition
Booth #767 * 22—25 Jan

Great Rockies Sports Shows
Casper-Wyoming
Booth #430 * 30 Jan—1 Feb

Harrisburg— PA Outdoor Show
Booth #2607 * 7—15 Feb

“Mike and Barbara find a place they could call home”

I met Mike Leibhart back in 2006 at the Harrisburg Outdoor Show, he was planning an African Safari and had the daunting task of choosing an Outfitter to go with. Mike and Barbara were planning a trip for 2008 and they were determined to do their homework. I did eventually get to ask Mike how he singled East Cape Safaris out and his reply, “*you were the only one who said you could not make any false promises, the only promise you made was that we would have a good time.*”

July 2008 arrived and it was time for the safari. The planning had been so good that there was no way for anything to go wrong and nothing but nothing did go wrong. The hunting went so well it felt as if that was also planned.

Mike and Barbara fitted right into our family and it was pure fun from day one. Barbara at first had no intentions of accompanying her husband on any of the hunts. Mike and I persuaded her to join us for the first day and there was no turning back after that day. From then there was no leaving Barbara at home, she was hooked.

Mike is one of the most interesting guys you could ever wish to meet, you can simply listen to him all day. He is an expert when it comes to firearms and ballistics. Mike's choice for this safari was his single shot Thompson Center 30.06.

From the start I could see that Mike knew about hunting and that things were looking good for a successful safari. For Barbara this would be her first time out in the field with husband Mike. That could be a good thing or a very bad thing; but it turned out to be great, with Barbara shadowing us so well, that at times we did not even know she was there.

Mike did exactly what I told him and that was great except when he listened too well and missed one shot due to my incorrect range information. The kudu hunting bug bit Mike and he ended up taking two good east cape kudu of which the largest was the 48” kudu pictured right. The gemsbok pictured above right, Mike took at 120 yards with a perfect heart shot, this trophy gemsbok measured an excellent 41”. Besides these two animals Mike successfully hunted the following: blesbuck, steenbok, springbuck, impala x 2, warthog x 2, black wildebeest and a second kudu.

Visits to two game parks and local attractions were just some of the extra trips they enjoyed while here, they also remarked that they could quite easily make this their home if they were ever to make such a decision. “See you in 2010 for more kudu”



“SEE YOU ALL SOON AND A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL”