

SLAM QUEST™

GRAND SLAM CLUB OVIS

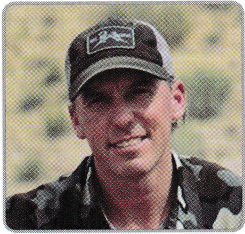
**THE GRAND SLAM CLUB
FOUNDED BY BOB HOUSHOLDER, 1956**

SLAM QUEST (ISSN 2330-359X) is published four times a year (Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall) by Grand Slam Club/Ovis, 2000 Southbridge Pkwy, #601A, Birmingham, AL 35209. Periodical postage paid at Adamsville, AL and additional mailing offices.

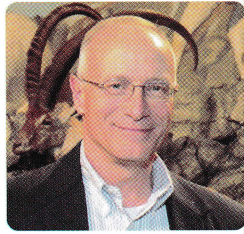
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
Slam Quest • P.O. Box 310727 • Birmingham, AL 35231
Phone: (205) 674-0101 • Fax: (205) 674-0190 • E-Mail: gsc@wildsheep.org

Canadian Return Address:
DP Global Mail, 4960-2 Walker Road, Windsor, ON N9A 6J3

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, OFFICE STAFF & PERSONNEL



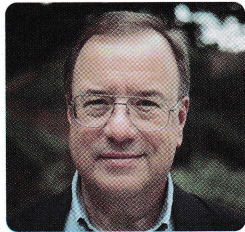
Jason Price
Executive Director
jason@wildsheep.org



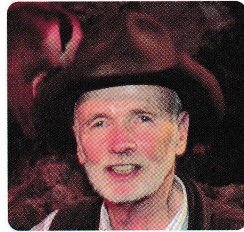
Mark Hampton
Director
mhampton002@centurytel.net



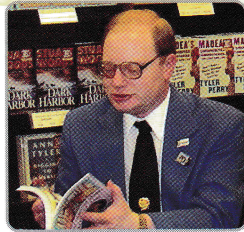
Brian Hauck
Director
bhauck@telusplanet.net



Bruce Tatarchuk
Director
btatarchuk@gmail.com



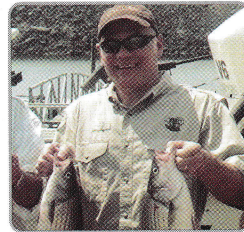
Ed Yates
Director
yates690@comcast.net



Tim Hollis
Editor-in-Chief
gsc@wildsheep.org



Cameron Mitchell
Writer/Public Relations
cameron@wildsheep.org



Chris Naylor
Director of Advertising
& Marketing
chris@wildsheep.org



T.J. Sanchez
GSCO Podcast Host
tj@wildsheep.org



Paul Watkins
Director of Operations
paul@wildsheep.org

Grand Slam Club/Ovis is a 501(C)(3) organization of hunter/conservationists dedicated to improving and perpetuating wild sheep and goat populations worldwide, as well as North American big game.

The purposes and objectives of Grand Slam Club/Ovis are to:

- Continue to be the established documentation and records-keeping organization for legally-taken Grand Slams of North American Wild Sheep®, Ovis World Slams® of wild sheep of the world, Capra World Slams® of wild goats of the world and the Super Ten®, Super 25™ and Super Slam of North American Big Game®.
- Encourage the use of legally issued permits, tags, and/or licenses for the hunting of wild mountain sheep, goats and other North American species.
- Inform and educate people of the world about wild mountain sheep and goats and other North American big game.
- Use financial resources to benefit, directly or indirectly, wild mountain sheep and goats and other North American big game.

SUBSCRIPTION

Subscription is through membership in Grand Slam Club/Ovis. Membership dues are: One year E-mag (digital copy only), \$25.00; One year, \$75.00; Two years, \$125.00; Life Membership, \$1,200.00. Subscription rates quoted in U.S. dollars. Dues can be paid with checks, Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover. Membership is available to anyone interested in big game hunting and conservation. GSCO E-mag members enjoy all benefits of membership with the exception of voting privileges and they do not receive print publications in the mail.

ADVERTISING

For our media kit with ad rates and sizes, please send an email to chris@wildsheep.org.



WEBSITE

www.slamquest.org



John Amistoso (WA) connected on this impressive Bukharan markhor on a hunt in Tajikistan back in November 2021.



John Amistoso (WA) with his Bukharan urial from Tajikistan, November 2021.

hour boat ride to reach base camp. This conservation project was also fairly new with hunting beginning just five years ago. Khutalon is the name of the conservation and hunting area. Hunting here would consist of boating to various areas then hiking into the mountains. Our first day was windy. We traveled up a canyon then up a ridge to an area the local guides had scouted. Here we located three urial males with one that looked good. We didn't have a good approach and a 700-yard shot in the wind was not an option. Halit spotted a unique ibex here that was totally black. I have never seen this before.

Our second day was a rainy affair. We hunted until early afternoon and called it a day. On the third day the rain had turned to snow in the higher elevations. The weather had cleared, and the sun was shining. The snow improved glassing for urials and we spotted a large group. From here we went off the back of the ridge to the bottom then back up the ridge the urials were on. Hiking was very difficult. The sun was warm, and the snow was melting fast, making for very muddy walking on steep terrain. Our boots were twice the weight due to all the mud.

We finally got within 400 yards of the group of 24 rams as Halit began getting video footage. Once we had the video, we began sorting out the rams. This technique is the best method under these circumstances. They were all bedded down and we had determined the target ram. Now we waited. The angle of the shot made for difficult shooting. It was so steep I had trouble getting the field of view in my scope. Finally, the ram stood up and my shot was good. As we

approached the urial, it was obvious he was something special. The mass and length were amazing. We were anxious to get off the mountain and measure him. Halit and I scored this trophy and to our surprise, he was 10 inches over the current record.

Many thanks to all the local people on these hunts. Both of the local guides were excellent hunters with great eyes and fun to hunt with. I also wish to thank Kaan Karakya and Shikar Safaris for setting these hunts up and for providing me one of the best guides in the industry. Halit, you are amazing!

Brian Hauck (AB) is up next with a report on his Vercors chamois hunt in January 2022:

It had to happen sooner or later. I got off my flight in Lyon, France but my baggage/ rifle didn't. It would not be arriving soon, so **Jean-Francois Picheyre** and I were off to the sporting goods store. With a new



Brian Hauck (AB) with his 37th Capra species, a Vercors chamois from France taken in January 2022.

set of hiking boots, clothes and borrowing Jean-Francois's rifle, we set off south and began my Vercors chamois hunt the next day. I got my chamois on day two, a beautiful male that completes for me all the chamois on the GSCO list.

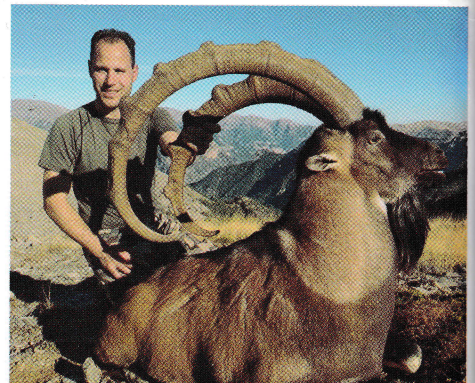
Hunting in Europe is always a pleasure. There is no roughing it in Europe with great places to stay, great food, a hot shower, mountains that make you work but not ugly and usually lots of animals to see. This hunt excelled in all aspects! Of course, my luggage arrived at the Lyon airport the day before I departed. It worked out great and I didn't even have to open my bags before checking back in.

These next two reports come to us from **Thomas Martini (BC)**:

Marco Polo Argali (9/2015): After a few long days of travel and some challenges accessing the hunting area, we were able to backpack into a beautiful valley to set up a camp. After lying in the tent for two days with altitude sickness, I was finally able to hunt on day three. Luck



Thomas Martini (BC) traveled to Tajikistan in September 2015 to get this Marco Polo ram.



This bezoar ibex from Turkey was taken by Thomas Martini (BC) in October 2018.