

SCI and Cabela's Young Hunter Award

DEADLINE: September 1 of each award year

Award sponsored by Cabela's

With the growing number of young SCI members with an interest in the Young Hunter Award, the Trophy Records Committee decided to develop criteria for this honor. Effective July 1, 2009 the young hunter must be 15-21 years of age and do the following: be a current member of SCI, complete the application posted on www.scifirstforhunters.org, compose a 500-word essay on the topic, "How I Am A Role Model for Hunting," complete a hunter safety education certification course, obtain a letter of recommendation from an SCI chapter, and obtain a letter of recommendation from a school administrator. The Trophy Records Committee will be the selection committee for the Young Hunter Award. Applications are scored, based on 30 percent conservation work and community service, 25 percent hunting and outdoor experience, 25 percent role model for hunting (including essay), 10 percent SCI Chapter recommendation and 10 percent TRC overall judgment of applicant. The two applicants with the highest overall percentage will be declared the winners and be recognized both at the Major Awards cocktail reception and at the following evening banquet during the SCI Annual Hunters' Convention.



Chase W. Blalock

Chase W. Blalock, 18, lives in Raleigh, North Carolina, and attends Leesville Road High School, where he is a senior. Chase is a Boy Scout who earned his Eagle rank in July 2007 and has earned all three Eagle Palms: Bronze, Gold, and Silver.

As a Life member of SCI, he has been active in the local Triangle SCI Chapter, helping with fundraising and conservation projects. Chase comes from a family of hunters. He enjoys hunting with his father and mother – who are both Life members of SCI – and his sister and friends. Chase first accompanied his dad on hunting trips when he was 2 years old. At the age of 6 he shot his first deer, a five-point buck, using a muzzleloader and shot a bear with a 20-gauge shotgun. Chase has helped guide three hunters from the Outdoor Dream Foundation for bear and deer.

Chase was given the choice at age 5 to go to Disney World or hunting in Botswana with Jeff Rann Safaris. He picked hunting in Botswana with his family and guide Luke Blackbeard. Chase has continued his hunting adventures by hunting in Tanzania, South Africa, Australia, Canada, and Hyde County, North Carolina.



Alec Janda

Alec Janda, 16, lives in Chagrin Falls, Ohio. He is a junior at Gilmour Academy in Gates, Ohio, where he is a member of the National Honor Society, the Honor Council and the National Coalition Building Institute.

Alec was introduced to fishing by his father at age 5 and subsequently introduced to hunting at age 12. He has been an avid advocate for the outdoors, supporting his local SCI Chapter and participating in multiple SCI-sponsored camps, including the American Wilderness Leadership School, and the Ohio Chapter picnic and annual fundraiser. He was excited to volunteer at the Cleveland Boating and Fishing Festival, which introduces inner-city families to the outdoors. The SCI Ohio Chapter awarded Alec the Hunter of the Year award at its annual fundraiser and banquet in April.

Hunting and fishing has taken Alec to six of the seven continents. Along with hunting in Africa, Alec was involved in raising money to purchase school supplies for children of the Vaalpenskraal School in the Limpopo Province, South Africa. He hunts regularly in his home state of Ohio and in Texas.

Alec is a Life member of SCI, the National Wild Turkey Federation, USSA, Texas Big Bucks, Quail Unlimited and the NRA.

SCI YOUNG HUNTER AWARD RECIPIENTS

Monica G. Hermosillo (1987)
 Joe Bills Reynolds II (1987)
 G. Kelley-Kines Taylor (1987)
 Murat Ustay (1988)
 Niccolo Ricci (1989)
 Matt J. Arkins (1990)
 Jason C. Roussos (1990)
 William 'Billy' K. Wright Jr. (1991)
 Michael R. Kubick (1991)
 Vincent Allegra (1992)
 Karla Gonzales Hermosillo (1993)
 James North (1993)
 Peeler Grayson Lacey (1994)
 Willie Pelsler (1994)

Sarah Steger (1995)
 Toby Nice (1995)
 Filippo Ricci (1996)
 Brent 'Bugsy' Barstow (1996)
 Geoffrey Barstow (1996)
 Lance Lester (1997)
 J. Hanley Sayers III (1997)
 Alisha Rosenbruch (1997)
 Rebecca Kelso (1998)
 Scott Duncan (1998)
 B.J. Lange (1999)
 Michael O'Day (2000)
 Michael Seay (2000)
 Justin Westervelt (2000)

Jayson Arnold (2001)
 Matthew Wills (2001)
 Morgan Wynne (2003)
 David Yap (2002)
 Tyler Irwin (2003)
 Tommy Lamb (2003)
 Kalan Lemon (2003)
 Chelsea Selle (2004)
 Katie O'Day (2004)
 Will Ellison (2005)
 Trevor McMahon (2005)
 Sarah Remesch (2005)
 Matthew Yap (2005)
 Kathryn Barstow (2006)

Daniel Freed (2006)
 Zachary Garrett (2006)
 Rand Hallman (2006)
 Elizabeth Seegmiller (2006)
 Sara Seegmiller (2006)
 Cody Dye (2007)
 Nicholaus Mizrahi (2007)
 Keagan Christensen (2008)
 Justin Fox (2008)
 Austin McMahon (2008)
 Chase W. Blalock (2009)
 Alec Janda (2009)