

Contact: Steve Wagner, Blue Heron Communications, 800-654-3766 or steve@blueheroncomm.com

Mexico City Conservationist to Receive Capstick Award

DALLAS—International conservationist, naturalist and hunting rights advocate Hubert Thummler of Mexico City has been selected by Dallas Safari Club (DSC) to receive the 2010 Peter Hathaway Capstick Hunting Heritage Award.

Thummler will be honored Jan. 9 at the DSC Convention and Sporting Expo in Dallas.

DSC and the Dallas Ecological Foundation, offer the Capstick Award in recognition of exemplary leadership in conservation, education, hunting, humanitarian causes, research, permanent endowments and charitable giving.

“Hubert Thummler once said, ‘Hunting and conservation are not only compatible but also inseparable,’ and he has used this heartfelt philosophy to influence wildlife policy and sporting traditions on a global scale,” said Ben Carter, DSC executive director. “His sustained commitment and significant contributions not only benefit today’s sportsman and women, but those of future generations as well.”

Thummler, 80, has been actively involved and continues to be instrumental in:

- Facilitating a vital evolution in Mexico’s model of conservation. Hunted wildlife once was owned by the government but now is owned by landowners. This system, which gave wildlife real value, spawned new private interest in conservation and led to vastly improved protection and management of big game species across the country.
- Advancing hunting, conservation and sporting arms issues within the Mexico Ministry of Tourism.
- Championing scientific recognition and trophy status for additional subspecies of big game, in order to enhance understanding of their specific conservation and habitat needs.
- Consulting with all Mexican state officials, as well as all US border-state officials, regarding mutual wildlife and hunting interests.
- Directing educational seminars to promote political and scientific support for conservation and regulated hunting of Mexico’s three subspecies of wild sheep.
- Propagating a native subspecies of deer and providing animals free for restoration into the wild.

Born of Germanic and Latin descent in Mexico City in 1929, Thummler began hunting at age 40, launching his passion for wildlife and wild places. Today he has hunted 42 countries on 6 continents, collecting 325 record-book trophies including several world records.

Thummler's autobiography, "Wind in My Face," describes the adventures, places and cultures that he has experienced through hunting.

In the book's forward, Dr. Nicolas Franco of Madrid, Spain, wrote, "A great hunter is not one who has taken the best trophy or traveled the farthest to hunt. A great hunter is not one who has paid more or collected the largest number of game animals. For me a great hunter is one who has the passion to pursue game in a fair chase and enjoy the hunt no matter what the outcome. Hubert Thummler is, indeed, a great hunter."

Thummler received the prestigious Weatherby Hunting and Conservation Award in 1992.

The Capstick Award is named for the well-known American author whose defense of hunting and conservation made him a household name. Previous recipients include Harry Tennison of Fort Worth, Texas, the late Baron Bertrand des Clers of France, President Theodore Roosevelt (posthumously), Dr. Ian Player of Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa, and the Boone and Crockett Club.

About 24,000 people are expected at the DSC Convention and Sporting Expo, Jan. 7-10, 2010. The event, which includes an 1,100-exhibit expo hall, seminars and evening banquets and award ceremonies, is the primary fundraiser for the Dallas Safari Club mission to conserve wildlife and wilderness lands, educate youth and the general public, and promote and protect the rights and interests of hunters worldwide. The public is welcome to attend.

For more information, visit www.biggame.org.

About Dallas Safari Club (DSC)

Desert bighorns on an unbroken landscape, stalking Cape buffalo in heavy brush, students discovering conservation. DSC works to guarantee a future for all these and much more. An independent organization since 1982, DSC has become an international leader in conserving wildlife and wilderness lands, educating youth and the general public, and promoting and protecting the rights and interests of hunters worldwide. Get involved at www.biggame.org.