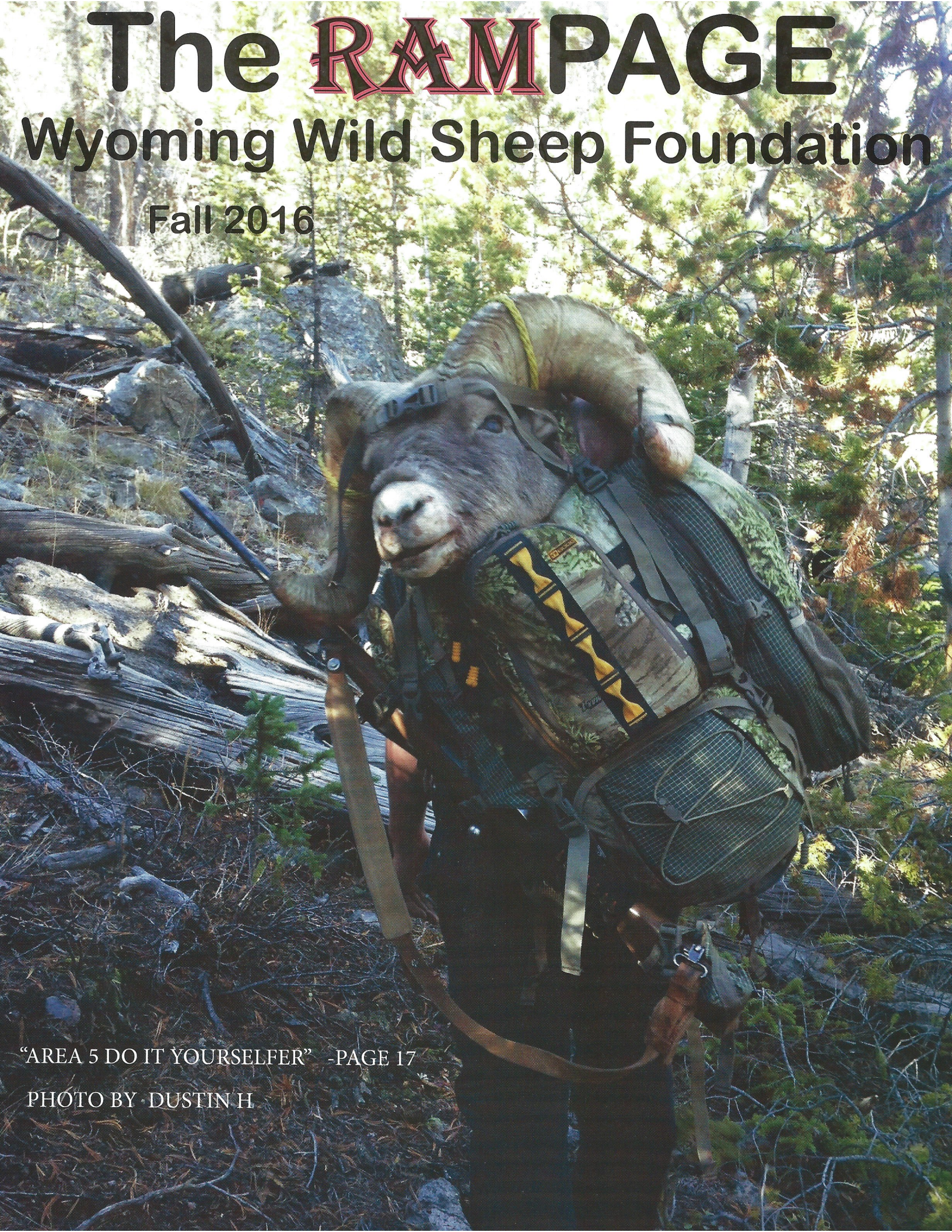


The **RAMPAGE**

Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation

Fall 2016



“AREA 5 DO IT YOURSELFER” -PAGE 17

PHOTO BY DUSTIN H

GRANT IN AID UPDATES

Hunting with Heroes

Giving Back to our Nation's Disabled Veterans

It seems like yesterday when Dan Currah was reading his hometown newspaper and read a story about [Colton Sasser](#), a courageous US Army soldier from Casper, Wyoming, who was recovering after a 200-pound bomb exploded under his vehicle while serving in Afghanistan. Dan visited Colton in the hospital and a profound friendship was born. Colton was just 21. Dan was "older" but they had strong common interests – the US Army (Dan is a Vietnam veteran), a love for big game hunting, a love for Wyoming, and a deep desire to help disabled veterans. It was Christmas 2012. It was the beginning of something big.

In 2013, Dan and Colton founded [Hunting with Heroes](#), a Wyoming non-profit with one goal – to give back to our nation's disabled veterans by offering them big game hunts in Wyoming. Word traveled fast. Closing out this year, Hunting with Heroes will have hosted 360 Wyoming hunts and welcomed veterans ages 21 to 91 from 30 states. In 2016 they'll host 150 hunts (up from eight in 2013), including two coveted sheep hunts – tags generously donated by Chris Sandmark and Fred Maguire.

How can you decide who goes? They drew names – one Wyoming veteran and one out-of-state veteran – from Hunting with Heroes alumni.

Ron Nading Jr., the Wyoming winner and Cody native, joined the Navy when he was 18. During the next 22 years he had four deployments to the Persian Gulf in support of Iraqi Freedom. He was deployed twice with Marine sniper platoons, and Ron rounded out his Navy career diving from submarines as an under-water demolition deep-sea diver. He retired as Chief Petty Officer.

Ron noted, "I struggled when I came home, but when I met Colton and Dan I felt like I was a part of something bigger than "me" again. It brought me out of a dark place. This sheep hunt is a once in a lifetime opportunity for me. I've met Chris Sandmark, a really incredible man who has a warrior's spirit. I am humbled to be a part of Hunting with Heroes."

Marine veteran, Doug Bassford of Los Banos, California, won the out-of-state tag. Doug was injured in the Gulf War by Iraqi artillery fire but good medical care kept him fighting to help drive Saddam out of Kuwait. His unit withdrew through hellish fields of burning oil wells and black clouds of toxic mist. In 2007, after eight years of duty, Sargent Bassford left the Marines, settled in California with his young family, and became a superintendent at a major construction company. In 2013 he crashed – a combination of combat injuries and debilitating PTSD. A six-month in-patient VA Trauma Recovery Program helped Doug, but it was the 2015 Hunting with Heroes program at North Portal,

Wyoming, that was the key.

Doug states, "It was transformational – a major turning point that opened a new world for me. I found hope and motivation. It was the best trip of any kind I've ever taken anywhere in my life. Now, winning Fred Maguire's sheep tag is simply unreal. I can't wait to meet him to thank him!"

The Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation (WWSF), a generous supporter of Hunting with Heroes, presented the organization with a significant donation earlier this year. Currah said, "We are grateful to the WWSF for their partnership and support. Our program is dependent on donations and volunteers, and the WWSF has provided both. We can't thank them enough for helping us offer hunts to these brave men and women who have sacrificed in the name of our country, and continue to enrich our lives every day."

For more information about Hunting with Heroes visit huntingwithheroes.org or check out [Hunting with Heroes Wyoming](#) on Facebook.

About the author – Nelda Currah is a retired marketing executive and Dan Currah's wife. She is Chief Marketing Officer for Hunting with Heroes.

GRANT IN AID UPDATES

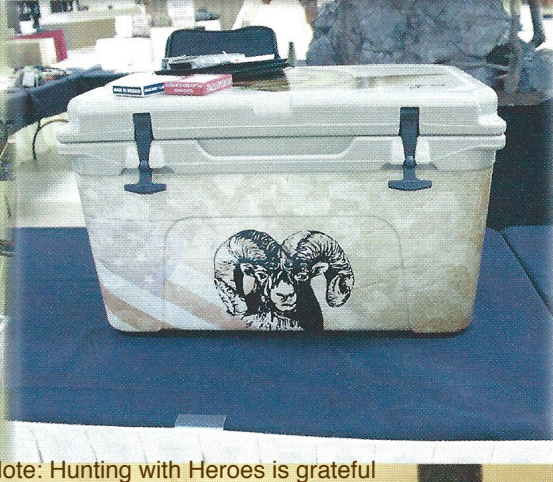
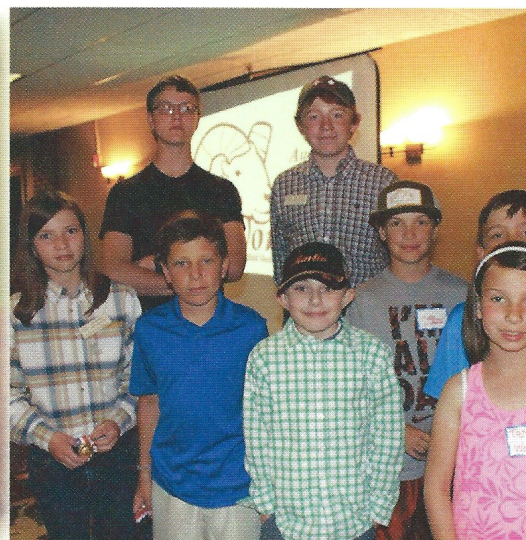


Ron Nading, a Navy veteran, hunted antelope with the Hunting with Heroes Central Wyoming Chapter near Casper

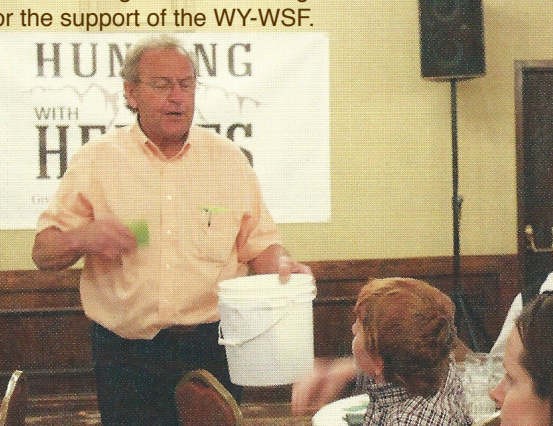
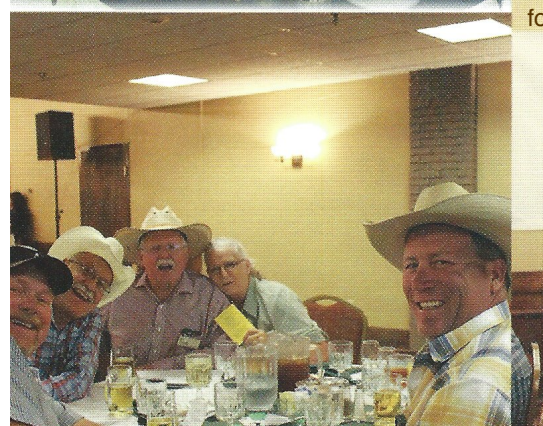


Doug Bassford, a Marine veteran, with his prize antelope at the Hunting with Heroes North Portal hunt. Image courtesy of Tibby Photography www.tibbyphotography.com

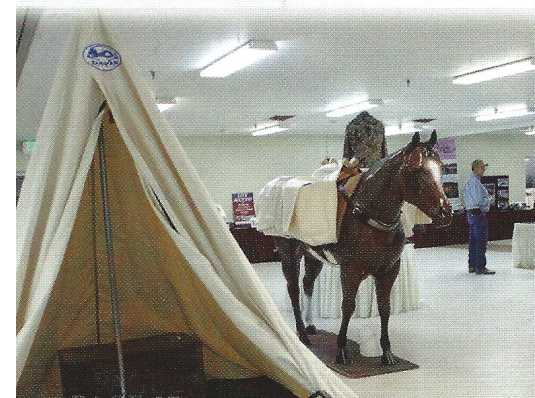
JUNE 3-4, 2016 IN CASPER, WY



Note: Hunting with Heroes is grateful for the support of the WY-WSF.



WY-WSF'S 33RD ANNUAL CONVENTION



GRANT IN AID UPDATES

WY-WSF & HWH HUNT ANTELOPE IN THERMOPOLIS

As Jim Collins(WY-WSF Board Member) and Dan Currah(HWH Executive Director) scanned the dining room at the VFW on Saturday night, October 1, they couldn't help but be astonished by how well the weekend had gone.

Starting with Friday's range shooting and dinner at the VFW and continuing Saturday with all 10 disabled vets harvesting trophy antelope, the event was a huge success. Two of the antelope were rumoured to score over 80 points.

There was more fun to come on Sunday with some of the Vets going fishing with the Healing Waters guys and others electing to go to the range for some trap shooting.

Everyone was to finish the adventure with a picnic at Jim and Cindy Collin's home that afternoon.

Many of the landowners who contributed their hunting licenses and businessmen who provided hotel rooms, butchering, or taxidermy work free of charge were also in attendance.

The VFW post really stepped up by providing meeting space and meals for the vets and guides through out the weekend.

Watch this magazine and the two organizations' webpages for more information on this hunt and the hunting veterans.

Thank You to the following for their contribution to this joint venture:

Hunting with Heroes
Thermopolis VFW Legion Post
WY Wild Sheep Foundation
Project Healing Waters Casper
Casper Vet Center
Hot Springs State Park
Days Inn
Wind River Processing
Herring Taxidermy
Lynn Steward Taxidermy
Wyoming Whiskey
Briess Malt & Ingredients
WOW (Wedding of the Waters)
Pheasants Forever Chapter
Reese & Ray's IGA

Guides
Chuck Bunch
Binky Fisher
Jim Lash
Steve Richins
T J Owsley
Scott Miller
Dan Herring
Jerry Lake
Shane Wilson
Ken Smith

Landowner Licenses
Jim & Terry Wilson
Tom & Coleen Anderson
Mike & Phyllis Baker
Jerry & Sharon Johnson
Mike & Corky Messenger
John & Virginia Baird
Jerry Lake Family



WY WSF PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY JERRY GALLES

Welcome to the fall edition of the Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation Rampage magazine. Our talented volunteer staff and others have put together a very nice magazine for your visual and reading enjoyment.

Archery season is almost over, and so is the beautiful fall weather we have had over the last several weeks. Rifle season will begin in earnest and many of you will be out pursuing your animals. I am envious of those of you who have drawn those coveted Bighorn Sheep, Mountain Goat, Moose, Elk, Deer, and Antelope tags.

Good luck in your endeavors to fill your freezers and harvest your trophy rams, bulls and bucks. I was not so lucky in the special license draw this year, so I will be hunting general Mule Deer and general Elk. Maybe, just maybe, I will stumble upon an unsuspecting elk or deer. I would like some meat for the freezer.

I want to invite you to our winter meeting to be held December 2nd and 3rd in Saratoga, Wyoming. We will have a business meeting and

reception following on Friday. On Saturday, we will have a tour of sheep country with a sack lunch. That night we will have dinner with a few raffles and silent auction items. The weekend should be informative and enjoyable.

We lost a good friend to wildlife this past week. I would like to share a few of my memories of Brian Scott Gamroth: Many times he would introduce Director Scott Talbott, Governor Fruedenthal, Dan Gay, Steve Price, John Barasso or other special people in the room as, "Here is the man, the myth and the legend". I know that many of you who read this will remember that phrase and remember Brian and his voice. As a man he was every bit of that connotation. Most importantly he was "the Man". He had a memory that would rival Kevin Hurley's memory. Once he met you, he never forgot who you were, what you did as an occupation, your name or your family.

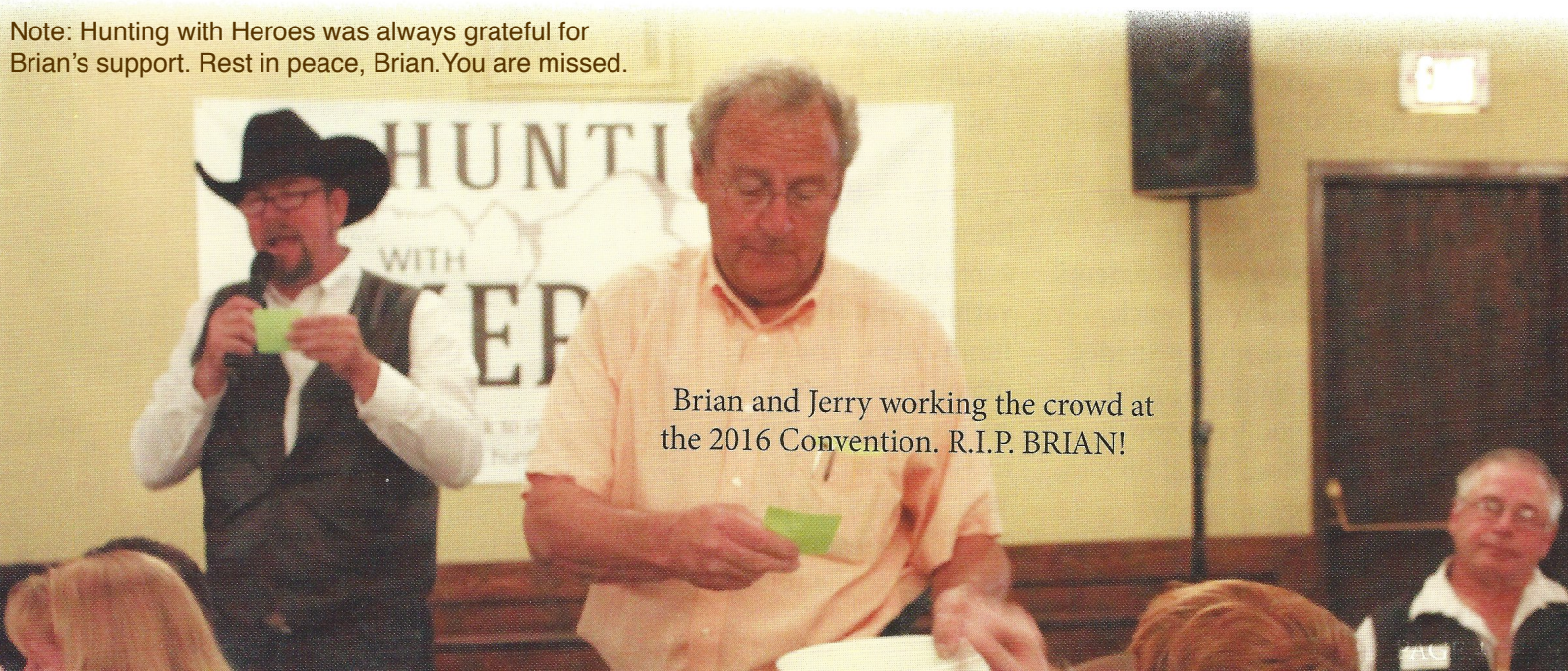
He always had a warm greeting, a big smile and a big hug for you. Boy, did he have long arms. He

had the most recognized voice in Wyoming. It was vibrant and full of energy. When he spoke, people would listen. He had that special wit in him that so few people can match. I was always impressed with his ability to work with auctioneers and people in the room to entice bids to raise money, for wildlife, children, arts, humanities, veterans, elderly, and the needy. He would always be willing to lend a hand when asked.

I considered Brian a friend, a special person, that has earned all of the recognition that has been bestowed upon him. I will miss Brian! From seeing him at functions many times a year to talking to him when I would run into him. I have shed tears of sadness and joy with his passing thinking of all the fun times we had at the events. I loved Brian and I will miss him,

**"HE LIVED...."
THE MAN, THE MYTH,
THE LEGEND".
BRIAN SCOTT GAMROTH!**

Note: Hunting with Heroes was always grateful for Brian's support. Rest in peace, Brian. You are missed.



Brian and Jerry working the crowd at the 2016 Convention. R.I.P. BRIAN!