



VOL. 006

SEPTEMBER 2026

WELCOME TO OUR
Quarterly Newsletter

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Irene Dudley-Hanlon
Sables President

Building Momentum for an Exciting Year Ahead

In July, Sables came together with enthusiasm and purpose to begin planning for an exciting year ahead. It was inspiring to hear each committee present its goals for 2026–2027 and share the ideas, energy, and dedication that will help guide our work in the coming year.

As Sables continues to grow, we are more committed than ever to creating meaningful opportunities for connection, learning, and adventure. A special focus for the year ahead will be developing additional AIM and Adventure Skills Camps for women, mothers and daughters, and families programs that reflect the heart of Sables and the spirit of shared educational experiences.

We are also busy preparing for Convention, the Annual Members Meeting, Sables Sip and Social, and Sables Brunch on January 22, 2027. These events are wonderful opportunities to celebrate our mission, reconnect with friends, welcome new faces, and look ahead to all that we can accomplish together.

Thank you for being part of Sables. Your support, involvement, and enthusiasm help make this organization stronger every year, and I am grateful to move forward with you with focus and a truly committed team.

Sables Committees

- Convention Committee
- Communications Committee
- Dream Hunt Committee
- Education Committee
- Elections Committee
- FFEE Endowment Committee
- Governance Committee
- Membership Committee

Co-Chairs - Tina Turner and Cindy Schabert
Chair - Jennifer Dums
Chair - Stephanie Wottrich
Chair - Mary Predovich
Chair Mary Predovich
Chair - Susan Hayes
Co-Chairs - Kylie Carrey and Lisa Gingerich
Co-Chairs - Amy Stevens and Kelsy Slusser

SABLES MEMBER IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Sue Skold

"The courage to say YES"

We celebrate a woman whose hunting story began not as a lifelong personal pursuit, but through family, friendship, and a willingness to step into something new.

Raised in a non-hunting family, she was introduced to the outdoors by her husband, starting with upland game birds. SCI events in the late 1980s and 1990s expanded that interest, opening the door to bigger adventures and a deeper connection to the hunting community.

Her first North American hunt, an antelope pursuit in New Mexico, delivered both excitement and a quick lesson in the unpredictability of the field when she nearly stepped on a rattlesnake.

Then came caribou. Inspired by a television program on the migration, she found an outfitter through SCI and traveled to Kuujuaq, Quebec, arriving as the only woman in camp.

For five days, no caribou appeared. On the final day, she and her guide spotted one along the shoreline, and Sue harvested the only caribou taken in camp that week. The experience tested her resolve—and strengthened it.

More hunts followed: mountain lion in Nevada, mountain goat, moose, and caribou in Alaska, and the growing realization that the most memorable adventures are often the most demanding.

That lesson came into sharp focus on her sheep hunt this past year. Despite vertigo, rain delays, steep ridges, and boulder-strewn terrain, she pressed on with her guides and ultimately took a beautiful ten-year-old Dall ram at 150 yards.

Through SCI, she gained more than access to the field—she found friendship, mentorship, and a network of women whose encouragement helped shape her confidence and sense of belonging.

Her travels have taken her across North America and beyond, often with her husband Steve beside her and always supporting her solo pursuits. She has nearly completed the North American Super 10, with only elk remaining, and continues working toward new goals, including her caribou slam.

Her legacy now extends to the next generation.

Her daughters have also become hunters, turning one woman's first step into a family tradition defined by adventure, perseverance, and memories shared across generations.

Her story captures the heart of Sables: women encouraging women, building confidence through experience, sharing knowledge, and creating a community where no adventure has to be taken alone.

For anyone wondering whether she belongs outdoors, her journey offers a lasting reminder: sometimes all it takes is one opportunity, one encouraging friend, and ***the courage to say yes!***

OUR SABLES BUILDING COMMUNITY



The Fort Worth Committee celebrated its first gathering with an incredible group of ladies who came together for an evening full of energy, friendship, laughter, and connection. The room was filled with excitement as members met, shared ideas, and began building the momentum that will carry Sables Fort Worth forward. It was a great beginning for our committee and a wonderful celebration of the spirit, enthusiasm, and sisterhood that make Sables special.



Lake Superior Sables Committee enjoyed a fantastic clay shooting event at Wing's North, bringing together a great group of ladies for a fun day of encouragement, learning, and connection. Jason Gentz provided instruction and shared the opportunity to experience Syren firearms, designed especially for women, youth, and smaller-framed shooters.



The Virginia Sables Committee, our newest committee, came together for a truly special evening of fellowship, celebration, and community as they began their Sables Sisterhood journey. The gathering was filled with warmth and anticipation for all that lies ahead. These ladies are thrilled to be part of the newest committee to form, and their enthusiasm, dedication, and vision for the future already shine brightly. We are excited to watch Virginia Sables grow, connect, and make a meaningful impact in the year ahead.



Virginia Committee proudly represent Sables at a wonderful reception hosted by DC Women in Conservation at the Hunters Embassy in Washington, D.C. The event provided a meaningful opportunity to connect with fellow conservation-minded women, celebrate shared interests, and strengthen relationships within their communities.



Sables Governance

Sables Planning Meeting Held July 23, 2026, at SCI Headquarters in San Antonio. Members of Sables Governance gathered for three full days filled with information, teamwork, and in-depth discussions about the year ahead. Committee chairs shared their goals and ideas for 2026–2027, bringing energy and vision to the table as Sables continues to build a strong and meaningful future. It was a productive gathering that celebrated our shared commitment to Sables, with attendees also enjoying time together in beautiful San Antonio, including a special tour along the iconic River Walk.



Sables Educating Chapters

Over the past few months, Sables Governance attended two SCI Chapter training sessions hosted by G2 Ranch in Texas and Legends Ranch in Michigan. These sessions offered helpful guidance on building successful chapters and establishing Sables Committees within their chapters. Attendees gained valuable information, and Sables was grateful for the opportunity to participate in and support these training efforts.

Sables Awards

Sables is pleased to introduce the new Sables Member of the Year and Sables Committee of the Year awards, which will be presented at the Sables Brunch.



Beau Collins Harvest a Blue Wildebeest

Beau Collins, winner of our convention Scavenger Hunt, used his prize money toward a Blue Wildebeest hunt. This is what educating future generations is all about. Congratulations, Beau!

Sables Member of the Year



Sables Committee of the Year



Nomination forms/applications are due November 1st, 2026. Submit your nominations via QR Code above or the forms attached to the Newsletter. Self nomination is also acceptable. Nominate members and committees today!

Sables Happenings and Upcoming Events



Congratulations to Kylie and Max Carrey

Margot Kathleen Carrey arrived on July 18th, 2026. She is the daughter of Kylie Carrey, Sables Director.

She will be joining her parents at Convention 2027 and looks forward to attending her first Sables Brunch!



Welcome baby Chelsea

Chelsea Dylan Joy Wagner was born on July 27th, 2026. She is the granddaughter of Sables Secretary Stephanie Wottrich.

Sables extend their congratulations to the Wottrich family!



Vicki and Bill Swan celebrate 50 Years

The Swans celebrated by retracing part of their first vacation from 1976—this time with a little more comfort, a Mustang convertible, and nearly three weeks exploring.

Bill's love of hunting opened Vicki's life to adventure, travel, and unforgettable memories with family and friends.

Through SCI and the Sables sisterhood, Vicki found purpose, connection, and opportunities to give back.

Congratulations on 50 Years!



In Loving Memory of Debbie Fontenot

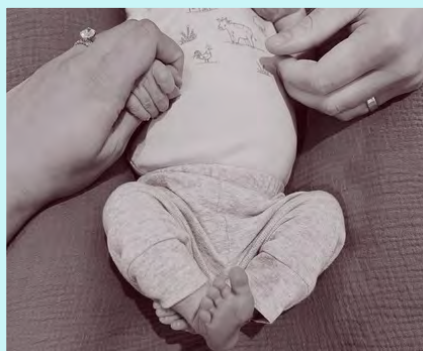
Sables Sisters, extend our deepest and most heartfelt condolences to Jimmy Fontenot and family as they mourn the loss of our beloved Sables Sister, Debbie Fontenot.

Our hearts are heavy, but we are grateful for the love, light, and beautiful memories Debbie shared with us.

She was a devoted mother, daughter, aunt, sister, mentor, and soon-to-be grandmother whose kindness, warmth, and spirit made a lasting difference in the lives she touched.

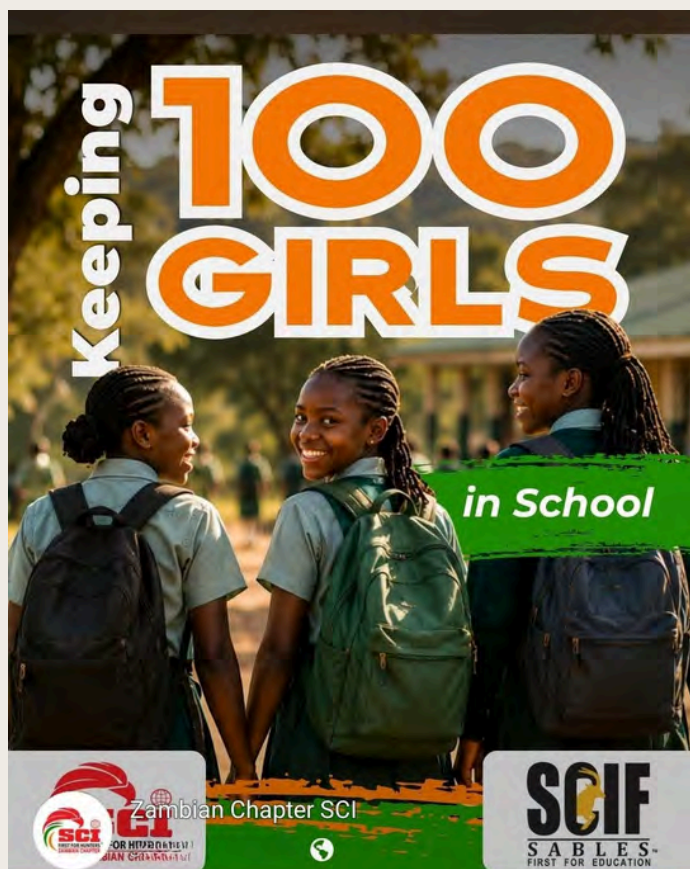
Sables are holding the Fontenot family in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Debbie will forever remain in our hearts, and her memory will continue to live on through the love she gave so freely. Rest in Paradise, dear Debbie.



Proud Grandparents Katie and Laird Hamberlin

Sables congratulate Noah Haider Hamberlin's parents and grandparents Katie and Laird Hamberlin on the arrival of their first son and grandson Born July 5th, 2026. Welcome to the world little one!



Sables Support Keeping 100 Girls in School Initiative in Zambia

Education changes futures, and sometimes a simple, practical solution can remove a barrier that prevents a young person from reaching their full potential.

This December is looking set to bring huge joy to children in Zambia, whilst making a tangible difference to girls' education.

In collaboration with the Zambian Chapter Safari Club International, Sables SCI/SCIF are supporting the Keep 100 Girls in School initiative, providing 100 reusable feminine hygiene packs to help orphaned and vulnerable girls, who would otherwise be absent, remain in the classroom for their education.

The initiative addresses a simple but significant barrier to education. Access to appropriate feminine hygiene products gives girls greater dignity and confidence whilst helping to prevent them from missing valuable days at school.

Delivery is planned to coincide with the Sherman's Shoe Boxes Christmas outreach, which is hoping to reach approximately 450 orphaned and vulnerable children this year.

The Zambian Chapter SCI will bring its Blue Bag Program alongside the Sherman Shoe Box Christmas initiative, working with SCI Foundation and Amy Bell Charities to extend the support being delivered to these children.

Together, these initiatives demonstrate what can be achieved through collaboration across the SCI global family, combining humanitarian support, education and community engagement to make a practical difference where it is needed.

The Zambian Chapter is especially grateful to Sables SCI/SCIF and several Sables members for their support of the Keep 100 Girls in School initiative and for helping turn an idea into meaningful action on the ground in Zambia.

If you would like to support this initiative, contact Irene Dudley-Hanlon, Sables President at iredudleyhanlon.sables.com or Laura Duploy, Zambian Chapter President at zambiansci@gmail.com.

**Please share your news
and events with us at:**

Sables.events@gmail.com

SABLES SOAR INTO THE FUTURE

Empowering Women, Inspiring Adventure,
Educating Tomorrow



January 22, 2027
Nashville, TN

**RESERVE YOUR TABLES AND
YOUR TICKETS TODAY!**

[HTTPS://SAFARICLUBFOUNDATION.ORG/SAB
LES/ WWW.SAFARICLUB.ORG](https://safariclubfoundation.org/sables/)

JOIN WOMEN GO HUNTING

WOMEN
GO
HUNTING

WOMEN GO HUNTING PRESENTS

5TH ANNUAL

**LADIES
MIX & MINGLE**

FREE WOMEN'S-ONLY EVENT

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2027

10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

SCI HUNTING CONVENTION

NASHVILLE, TN

MEET • CONNECT • WIN DOOR PRIZES

Sables

Sip and Social

Meet new women, build community, and connect over conversation.

FREE Women's Event
Wednesday, January 20th, 2027 1:00 pm 3:00 pm
Nashville, TN



Learn about Sables



Win special giveaways

Bring another woman to the event
and receive an extra chance at
winning an exclusive giveaway!

BRING A FRIEND for an extra chance to win!



Audrey Murtland Award Guidelines

Candidates are nominated by a Sables member or may be self-nominated. This award is based on history of service to the SCIF Sables, following the Sables mission statement, which is: To further the understanding of our outdoor heritage, including the positive role of hunting, through the creating and support of wildlife and educational conservation programs that are consistent with the educational mission and purposes of SCI and SCI Foundation.

Candidates' hunting accomplishments are not taken into account for this award.

1. Selection committee shall be comprised of current president and appointed board members, as well as past winners.
2. Request for nominees shall be noted in Sables newsletter and sent back to Sables staff at sables.awards@gmail.com in a timely manner. Nominees will receive application with a deadline of August 15. This aligns with the other major awards application deadlines to allot proper time for voting, having plaques made, bio for the luncheon catalog, etc., before the convention.
3. Staff then will compile applications of nominees, place on a ballot and send applications and ballot to the committee.
4. The ballot shall have the instructions on how to vote and deadline to return the ballots.
5. The committee may choose more than one winner each year.
6. Inductees receive award to be presented at the Sables Luncheon at convention, as well as list of winners to be published on SCIF Sables website.

Deadline November 1st, 2026



AudreyMurtland Award Nomination Form

The SCIF Sables Audrey Murtland Award is designed to provide recognition to those deserving members who have displayed exemplary character in the world of education, as well as dedication and service to SCIF Sables.

Applicants embody the Sables mission statement, which is: To further the understanding of our outdoor heritage, including the positive role of hunting, through the creating and support of wildlife and educational conservation programs that are consistent with the educational mission and purposes of SCI and SCI Foundation. Candidates' hunting accomplishments are not taken into account for this award

Nominations may be made for the **Audrey Murtland Award** by any SCIF Sables member. Please use this form to nominate a deserving member for the SCIF Sables Audrey Murtland Award.

Your Name & Membership ID:

Your Email Address & Phone number:

Nominee Full Name:

Nominee Email Address & Phone Number:

Please give a brief explanation as to why you feel this member deserves a nomination:

Email this completed form to **sables.awards@gmail.com**

Deadline November 1st, 2026



The SCIF Sables Committee of the Year Award is designed to provide recognition to those deserving committees that have embodied and carried forward the Sables Mission Statement as well as dedication and service to SCIF Sables. Please consider nominating a committee for this prestigious award.

Nominations may be made for the **Committee of the Year Award** by any SCIF Sables committee member. Please use this form to nominate a deserving committee SCIF Sables Committee of the Year Award.

Your Name:

Your Membership ID:

Your Email Address:

Your Phone Number:

Committee Nomination:

Please give examples committee events, projects, and/or other reasons why this committee is deserving of award:

Email this completed form to Sables.Awards@gmail.com