

FeedbAK

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FOUNDERS UPDATE

Founding Member Summits in Fairbanks & Anchorage, and the Full Public Launch of RHAK

In appreciation for our Founding Members and to engage in discussion of RHAK's mission and goals and how to achieve them, we invited all Founding Members for an evening out to meet the RHAK board and staff and celebrate the full public launch of our new website and offering of general membership in *Resident Hunters of Alaska*.

Our Fairbanks event was graciously hosted by RHAK board member Tom Lamal and his wife, Kate, on a beautiful Friday-the-13th evening last month, featuring grilled moose burgers and sheep brats along with cold beer, good company and engaging discussion.

Our Anchorage event was held at the Alaska Aviation Museum the next evening, May 14th, with catering provided by Founding Member Mark LaPorte and beverages provided by Founding Member Randy Howard, and featured the same cold beer and good company and discussion. The venue costs were completely donated. Each RHAK board member spoke and explained their reasons for getting involved with RHAK and what kind of future they wanted for Alaska wildlife management and resident hunting opportunities. Our president, Brad Sparks, and Secretary, JR Gates, gave a history of how RHAK formed, current activities and future plans, and the launch of our website www.residenthuntersofalaska.org. Our Executive Director spoke about RHAK's efforts in Juneau this past session and moving forward, as well as Board of Game issues and proposals RHAK is involved with. Our lobbyist spoke about helping RHAK open doors to gain influence in the political arena and developing a grassroots campaign effort to recruit membership and spread our message.

Founding Members spoke about why they supported RHAK and a Q&A was held between members and RHAK leadership. We could never have accomplished what we have so far without the support of our Founding Members, let alone even started, and we can never thank you enough for your support!



RHAK Board member Tom Lamal addresses Founding Members at Fairbanks Summit.



RHAK Secretary JR Gates introduces our website.

Alaska Board of Game appointment

RHAK will provide some recommendations for consideration to the administration on potential Board of Game nominees to fill the currently open seat of Pete Probasco, from Palmer, who did not seek reappointment. We hope to help seat a new BOG member who strongly supports a resident priority to our game resources.

And General Membership Launch

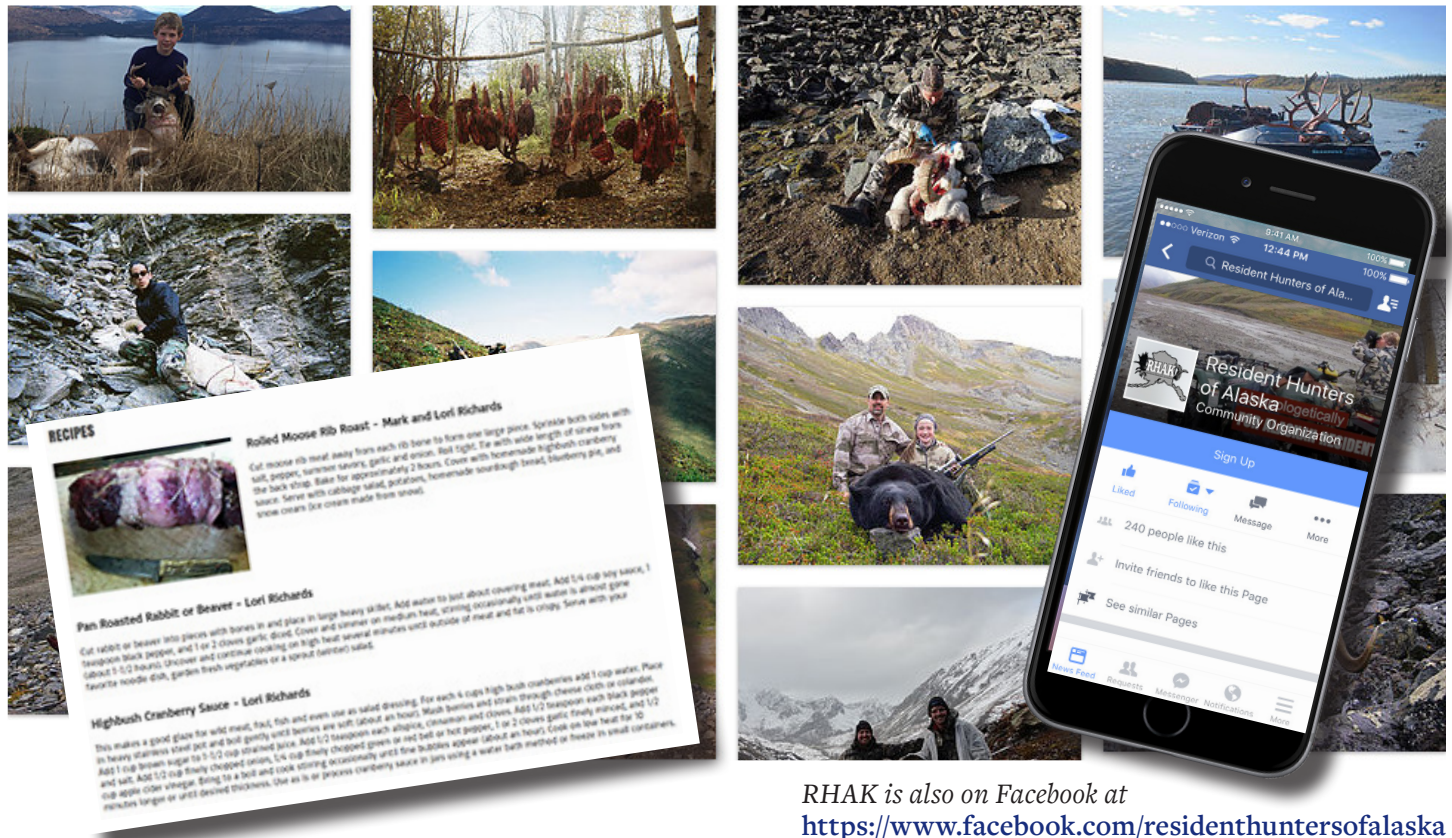
Our website www.residenthuntersofalaska.org was formally launched on May 14th with general membership opportunities at differing levels and the ability to join online. Thank you to all new members for your support! We value your membership at any level and we will strive to keep you up to date on what RHAK is doing and what you can do to help us achieve our goals. RHAK is growing every day and we are building an Alaska-wide membership base.




RHAK membership includes hats, shirts and hoodies with choice of logo.

Send in Photos and Recipes!

Check out member photos on the [Photo Gallery](#) page of our website and the wild game recipes posted to our [Recipes](#) page. Email your photos and recipes to share to info@residenthuntersofalaska.org.



Our Full Page Ad in the Alaska Dispatch



Resident Hunters

unapologetically
FOR ALASKAN RESIDENTS



Resident Hunters of Alaska (RHAK) is a newly formed organization with a mission of creating a hunting priority for Alaska residents. We are the original and only group that supports a priority for you – the Alaska Resident hunter – to Alaska's wildlife resources.

We are proud of the support we have received from our Founding Members, listed below. Join the team as we advocate for policies that benefit our wildlife populations and ensure long-term hunting opportunities for current and future generations of Alaskan resident hunters.

Jeff Alling	Richard Garner	Leif Lunoe	Laura Saxe
Luke Anderson	J.R. Gates	Peter Lunoe	Brian Schmidt
Kevin Asher	Danny Graham	Larry Madosik	Joe Seelig
Brian Bearle	Troy Graziadei	Doug Malone	Robert Sept
Lew Bradley	Nathan Haines	Gary McCarthy	Heidi Smith
Rob Bussell	Mike Harper	Mike McCarthy	Matt Soley
John Calder	James Haselberger	Mike McNamara	Chris Soley
Bob Cassell	Steve Houck	Sean Meadows	Bill Southard
Cynthia Cassell	Randy Howard	David Miller	Brad Sparks
Carl Cook	Casey Hultquist	Mike Monnin	Jack Sprinkle
Tom D'agostino	Dave Hultquist	Bub Nelson	Tim Sterner
Shawn Davis	Tony & Cynthia Jacobson	Hans Nordstrom	Steve Stidham
Roger & Shelly Denney	Lenny & Daniel Jewkes	Frank Nook	Mark Stillier
Alfred DeRamus	Daniel Jirak	Todd Olson	Rob Stone
Pete Dickinson	Doug Johnson	Buzz Otis	Matthew Stone
Travis Drake	Shawn Johnston	Stu Peckeh	Dave Sullivan
Marlin Dubetz	Mark Keller	James Pencilfield	Greg & Sharon Swisher
Jaques & Darcy Elcheverry	Tom Lamal	Davis Peterson	Jeff Varvil
Jeffrey Elcker	Kate Lamal	Doug Prevost	Clay Waggood
Mark Fallon	Mark Laporte	Mark Richards	Corey Waisanen
Paul Ferucci	Mark Larson	Rick Rogers	Greg Waisanen
Colt Foster	Tyler Loken	Gabrielle Rubenstein	Joshua Waisanen
Dan Foster	Doug Luiten	John Ryshek	Brett Westcott
Jack Frost	Barbara Luiten	Mike Samson	Erhan Williams
Jason Fry	Chris Luiten	Jeff Saxe	Birch Yuknins

View our website to learn more. We are grateful for your support.

www.residenthuntersofalaska.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

RHAK Will Have a Booth at The Fairs This Fall

TANANA VALLEY STATE FAIR — Fairbanks, August 5-14
ALASKA STATE FAIR — Palmer, August 25-September 5

For those members not out hunting during those time periods, we could use your support and help in manning the booths.

BOARD MEMBER BIO

Brad Sparks

Brad Sparks was born and raised in Bowling Green, Kentucky. He began hunting while in college for whitetail deer and Eastern turkeys. This hobby became an addiction and changed his life forever. During some postgraduate work, Brad was able to do a rotation in Alaska at the Alaska Native Medical Center. After going on his first do-it-yourself hunt as a nonresident, he knew this would be his home someday. Once he completed his postgraduate education in 2008, the Alaskan dream became a reality for Dr. Sparks. Brad loves learning about and pursuing Alaskan big game in this amazing state. While not hunting several weeks a year, he enjoys photography, hiking, traveling, fishing, ATVs and snowmachines. As a founding member of RHAK, Brad wants to help restore the resident's preference to our big game animals!



Quarterly Member Award

When we asked for help in designing and publishing our RHAK website, Founding Member Cynthia Cassell (wife of Board member Bob Cassell) offered to help and stepped up to the plate in a huge way, volunteering her expertise and time to get our website fully launched. The end result is something we're all very proud of and we can't thank Cynthia enough for making it happen and for her continued efforts in updating the site with new pictures and information, as well as her help with our newsletters. You rock, Cynthia!



Cynthia Cassell on Kodiak Island.

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RHAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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RHAK

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