



# Newsletter 3

*Wonderful people  
Excellent trophy hunting  
Lifetime of memories*



**Dries Visser Safaris**



# Dustin Etchison

Pensylvania - 765 623 9651



# Peyton Merideth

Fairbanks Alaska  
907 908 2002







Joe & Ace  
Adams  
Fairbanks Alaska  
907 388 4833





This being my third adventure with Dries, it was also my best.

I have hunted with Dries over the past six years, but this time I was able to bring three friends with me that made it special.

In the past I have taken fourteen different animals, so I was looking for something special and Dries did not disappoint.

He had a red Sable that he had been trying to cull for the past three years and I was going to get the opportunity to hunt him.

After spending a couple of nights in tree stands (because he only watered at night) with cape Buffalo under the stand most of the night, that will up your heart rate. My PH Armand decided to try a day time sit and it happend the fourth morning, what a rush, I was able to take a great blesbuck and several warthogs, I like shooting pigs.

As usual I saw many trophy animals, the staff and PH's were first class.

You can never say enough about the accommodations and the food first class all the way.

Thanks Dries, and will be back.

**Jim Paine**

Illinois - 217 414 7937



I had no idea what to expect for my first trip bow hunting in South Africa with Dries Visser Safaris, but I hoped for the experience of a lifetime. Two years ago we had “made a plan” to make the fifteen hour flight in pursuit of African plainsgame. I have hunted all over the United States and Canada, but had only dreamed of hunting in Africa. Arriving at Johannesburg International with all my gear was a good start. My PH, Johan, and friend Jimmy were there to meet us, and we were off to the camp. I had been awake for over 36 hours, but the excitement of arrival through the front gates of the camp, helped keep me awake. First things first, was to shoot the bow and make sure it was as accurate as when I had left with it, thankfully it was. I had a list of Gemsbuck, Impala, Zebra, Blesbuck and Warthog. I had been advised by my friend who had been there before me to “let the hunt unfold” and not be disappointed if you weren’t successful in filling your list.



Fortunately, within 8 days of hunting, I was successful in harvesting each animal on my list and making a lifetime of memories. My PH, Johan, did an exceptional job and taught me a lot about African game. I enjoyed the time we spent in the blind as each day was a new adventure and learning experience. The trackers did an exceptional job finding the track and recovering the animals we harvested. Originally I thought that hunting Africa would be a once in a lifetime experience. However, my experience with Dries Visser Safaris keeps me looking forward to a return trip. The accommodations are exceptional, the game is plentiful, the staff superb, and I can’t find a reason not to share my experience with my friends in the future.

**Craig Conway**  
New York - 631 831 0324



I came to Africa the first time with high expectations. When arriving I knew I had chosen the right outfitter, Dries Visser Safaris. From the pick-up at the airport, to the meals, to the PH’s, to the accommodations, everything was top-notch! Although not planning on harvesting a Zebra, the highlight was making a perfect shot on a large female that ran only 60 yards, getting it on video made it perfect. The staff made their best attempt to track game, video all hunts etc. You can be assured that my expectations on my next visit will be even higher. I plan on coming back in 2 years, but to be honest don’t know if I can wait that long!

**Bob Yager** 631 495 1317





# Richard Fogarty

New York - 631 666 1572

I made what I thought was a good shot on a Blue wildebeest, but after 1-2 hundred yards found my arrow and realised I didn't get good penetration. We called Dries and he sent out what I call the "A Team" - there were 2 PH's, 3 trackers and Dries himself with 2 dogs. Spent about 5 hours looking for that animal, saw him once or twice, but to no avail.





Chris, Kathy & Sarah Hanson

Saskatchewan Canada

306 752 3118



Not in my wildest dreams did I ever think that I would go on an African safari, so I felt very privileged and honoured to come to this great country and experience hunting these wonderful animals with my own bow and arrow.

All the people treated us like gold, the food was incredible and the memories of this trip will last a lifetime.

The highlight of this trip was shooting a 53" Kudu one morning and a Blue wildebeest in the afternoon.

Hoping to come back in the near future. Special thanks to Armand who was an awesome guide and host.

Murry Hanson

Saskatchewan Canada

306 752 3118





# Frank Zonneveld

California  
559 923 4066





# Theo de Haan

It was my second time in South Africa with Dries Visser Safaris. This time we stayed at the Blue Wildebeest Lodge owned by the Lottering Family. Magda, Hein's mother, oversees the lodge and prepared all the wonderful and diverse meals. I wasn't sure always just what we were eating, but I know it included a lot of game. I am typically not a huge fan of wild game, but this always tasted great and we ate everything. Hein was my PH on the first trip, and that proved to be excellent, so I requested him to guide my hunt on the second go around. I really enjoy Hein's insight. I sometimes need to pry the answers out of him since he is a man of few words. He has hunted his whole life and is deeply in tune with animal nature. I learned more about hunting from him, than any book TV program, or other human I've run across. He really is remarkable. Take game spotting for instance. Before you see anything, he can tell you what type, sex, hornlength, and who the father is, of any animal out there. I thought sometimes he was pulling my leg because I rarely spot anything. But then when I called him on it, he stopped the bakkie (pickup), backed it up until I saw it. That happened a few times. I was able to get my Sable, Nyala, and Warthog. That bushbuck proved to be too elusive for me. Two nights of spotlighting and plenty of daytime searches yielded only glimpses. Maybe next time. Hein really tried and I appreciated that. Spotlighting was a real treat. We were so close to the animals you could have hit them with a rock. The fish jumped out of the water when they saw the light. We saw the red eyes of the crocodiles in the Limpopo river. The sky had no moon those nights and it was really, really dark. The sky was unbelievable with all the stars. We had a pair of Ostriches join us on a stalk one afternoon. I was quite uncomfortable with these guys right behind me. I held my rifle out a little ways to keep them from striking me. Hein told me not to shoot them and that it would be ok. It wasn't until a little later he admitted he raised four of them from their youth. My list was smaller than the previous time, so during the ten days hunt I was able to do a few extra things. One of those was to provide extra support for my 2 friends on their Cape Buffalo hunts. Getting the behind the scenes tour was also incredible. Being in the commercial livestock business at home you know a little something of animal's health and reproduction. It's funny what preconceived notions you have upon going to see a game breeding operation.

California - 559 730 1294





My first impression was that it was all taking so long to get genetics up to a strong level. I wondered why they don't breed artificially, use embryo transplants and such. I've seen domestic animals gone wild, and I've seen wild animals domesticated. Then I was set straight. Wild animals don't respond well in confined areas. The stress level is way too high to conceive in that environment. So the bulls and cows have to do their thing the old school way. The natural way, out in the bush. The care they give these animals is first rate. The mix feed supplements are similar to the way we do except they fill bags and deliver it to remote feeding stations. I even heard the dinner bell ringing for the wildebeest. Pavlov's dogs ring a bell? (No pun intended). Another day Hein took me to Thabazimbi, to see a wild game auction. This too was really different. Animals of the same species are penned together in small groups in corrals covered in rubber belting up to 16' high. There is a catwalk up high so you can inspect the lots. Unlike the animal auctions I'm used to, they don't parade the animals in the ring in front of the prospective buyers, but show pictures of the lots on the big screen as well as in the catalogue. Hein bought a red hartebeest bull replacement for his ranch, which was delivered the following morning. Every trip there has been an extraordinary experience. The landscape of the bushveld is tough, the animals are tough and the people are tough. It keeps me wanting to go back again.

Thanks, Hein, Magda, Ismael, Dries, Mariana, Benny and all the behind the scenes personnel for making this a great trip.

## Theo de Haan



Steve Armstrong  
Saskatchewan - 306 946 2836

Konnor Teneycke







Stalking and waiting motionless for up to an hour and then being rewarded with a 300 yard kill shot on a Red Hartbeest, Unbelievable! Great Job Willem.

**William Tos**  
California ~ 559 816 0345

