



Doctor heads abroad for safari

By CAROLYN PLOTTS
Ask any hunter what their dream hunting trip would be and nine times out of ten, their answer would be an African safari. A safari is exactly what Dr. Mark Klein, DDS, got to do in September.

“To be honest, going to Africa was never high on my list of places to go,” said Dr. Klein. But, when his best friend, Steve Belknap, a dentist from Spokane, Wash., invited Dr. Klein to join him, his brother John Belknap, also a Spokane dentist and another friend, Rob, on an African safari to Namibia, the doctor couldn’t say no.

Leaving Sept. 7, Dr. Klein and his friends spent 40 hours traveling to Namibia, a small country in the southern part of the African continent. They flew from Omaha to Chicago, to Washington, D.C., to Dakar, Senegal, Johannesburg, South Africa and finally to Windhoek, the capital of Namibia. Settled by Germans, Namibia is the second least densely populated country in the world. That means your neighbors are few and far between.

Their trip was arranged by Makadi Safaris and the men stayed at a compound located inside one of three ranches owned by Diethelm Metzger and his wife Katja. Mr. Metzger’s father also owns a portion of the ranch. The main ranch, where they stayed, was 75,000 square acres. That is the equivalent of 117 square miles. It was all ranch ground, no farm land, at all.

The compound reminded Dr. Klein of a small motel that could accommodate 12 people. Each man had a private room and bath. Every day during their stay, the men ate breakfast and their evening meal with the Metzgers in the main dining hall. Pictures showed all the amenities one would expect plus a few the doctor did not expect. He said every night, after dinner, the group would gather on a central patio by a fire pit and discuss their day. Laundry service was provided and every day the previous day’s clothes would be returned, freshly laundered.

Dr. Klein said it was a good thing he had been a Boy Scout, because he learned to be prepared. His luggage was lost and did not catch up with him until five days into the hunt. He was glad he had packed a change of clothes. With the laundry service, he always had fresh, clean clothes.

Dr. Klein said the men hunted in

two separate groups. He and his friend, Steve, hunted together with a professional hunter, a driver and an employee of the ranch to help load their kill for the day. The hunters traveled in a jeep with an elevated platform so they could see over the dense brush and spot their prey.

Hunting in Namibia costs \$100 for the license and a trophy fee for every animal they took. A kudu cost \$880; a mountain zebra, \$990; a warthog, \$500; a red hartebeest, \$500; a gemsbuck, \$550; and a cheetah, \$2,500.

He said the professional hunter for he and his friend was a black man named John. This is not unusual since 94 percent of the population is black and only six percent white. He said John was a great guy, and a good hunter who could read and write. However, Dr. Klein said he saw a distinct difference between the life of most of the blacks and the whites. He said most of the blacks were uneducated and illiterate. Therefore, they were relegated to the most menial of jobs and it was the whites who owned the land and gave the blacks work. The professional in him came out and he said, “Even though they’re very poor, their teeth are not too bad. They don’t have any sugar in their diet, so they don’t have much decay.”

He said after a kill was made, it was hauled back to the compound. It was never dressed in the field. Rather, it was gutted in the compound and the entrails were given to the black employees. Dr. Klein said some of the meat would go to the market. He said zebra was on the menu every day and during his stay he also ate warthog, springbuck and ostrich.

Lunch was eaten in the field from about noon until three when it was too hot for even the animals to move about. Dr. Klein said after a kill was made the professional hunter would conduct a ceremony, like a salute to the animal. He would break off a piece of brush, give half of it to the animal (to symbolize a last meal), dip the other half in the animal’s blood and stick it in the hunter’s hat.

Sept. 20 brought the safari to an end but Dr. Klein said he would like to go again. He said, “They treated us really good. On the other hand, it would be good to go to one of the big parks in Africa and see elephants, lions, hippos, crocodiles and the like.”

To see more about Namibia and the safari Dr. Klein and his friends took, go to www.makadisafaris.com.

Summer seminars are tuition free for teachers

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History will sponsor, for the thirteenth straight year, tuition-free, one-week summer seminars across the United States and England for teachers at every level. Founded in 1994, the institute promotes the study and love of American history.

Participants receive a \$400 stipend, books, room and board. Public, parochial, independent school teachers and national Park Service employees are eligible. Each seminar is limited to thirty participants by competitive applications.

Historians from universities including Stanford, Columbia, Yale and the University of Virginia will lead seminars on topics ranging from the colonial era, the U.S. Constitution, and the Underground Railroad to the Great Depression, the Cold War and the Civil Rights Movement.


Applications must be post-marked or submitted electronically by Feb. 15. For information on how to apply, visit www.gilderlehrman.org.



During an African safari, (above) Dr. Mark Klein, right, brought down this kudu. With him is his friend, Dr. Steve Belknap. Riding in a jeep (left), with an elevated platform, Dr. Klein, left, and his friends paused by a watering hole. The hunters and their hosts shared a meal (below) at the end of the day.

— Photos courtesy of Dr. Mark Klein





COLBY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MON., JAN. 8 & TUES., JAN. 9 — 6:30-8:00 P.M.

Enrollment will be held in the Norton Junior High School Cafeteria

MONDAY, JANUARY 8 — 3:00-4:30 P.M.

Enrollment at the Norton Correctional Facility Administration Conf. Room

Call Education Coordinator: Jennie Patterson, 785-874-4256 (Home)

Classes not listed may be offered if sufficient interest exists

NO.	COURSE	CR.	INSTRUCTOR	PLACE	START	END	START TIME	END TIME
EN177	English Composition II	3	J. Vatopka	NJHS	Mon. 1/22	5/07	6:00p	9:00p
HI177	American History 1865 to Present (\$40 Telecourse Fee)	3	R. Walz	NJHS	Thur. 2/1	5/18	6:00p	9:00p
PH103	Earth Science with Lab	5	G. Rossi	NJHS	Wed. 1/31	5/07	7:00p	10:00p
PH103L	Earth Science Lab (\$40 Lab Fee)	0	G. Rossi	NJHS	Wed. 1/31	5/07	7:00p	10:00p
SO182	Sociology for Families (\$15 ITV Fee)	3	S. Calliham	Hospital	Wed. 1/24	5/18	6:00p	9:00p
SP106	Interpersonal Comm. (\$15 ITV Fee)	3	S. Calliham	Hospital	Sat. 1/20	5/12	9:00a	12:00p
RE104	World Religions	3	M. McVay	Hospital	Mon. 1/22	5/18	4:00p	5:25p
AL104	Nurse Aide	5	J. Rima	Andbe	M/Th 2/5	TBA	M & Th 6p	M/Th 10:00p
AL110	Medication Aide	4	J. Rima	Andbe	Tues., 2/6	TBA	6:00p	10:00p
AL123	Medication Aide Update	1	J. Rima	Andbe	Fri.-Sat. 1/19	1/20	(F) 9:00a (S) 9:00a	(F) 4:00p (S) 12:00p
ML237	Spanish Comp and Conversation	3	A. Stiles	NJHS	Wed. 1/24	5/07	6:30p	9:30p