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Othmar Vohringer Biography

My exposure to outdoor pursuits began at about six years of age when I accompanied my parents on fishing and hunting trips near our home in Switzerland. I shot my first rabbit at age seven and by the age of 12 shot my first deer under the supervision of my father.

With that background it might not come as a surprise to you that I do not regard hunting as a sport, although it is a sport, but rather as my way of life. Hunting is to me more than just going out to hunt animals; hunting was, and still is, an all year round activity. I talk and write about hunting. As a hunter education instructor of British Columbia, and with my hunting courses and seminars I am active in the preservation of our hunting heritage and the recruitment of new hunters. As a member of the B.C. Wildlife Federation and the Nicola Valley Fish & Game Club, plus a variety of other notable organizations I actively support a variety of wildlife and habitat conservation programs. Like I said, hunting is my way of life!

If I am not hunting, writing or talking about hunting I am out in the woods and fields studying and observing animals and their behaviors. Coincidentally, it was that urge to figure out what makes animals and nature tick that made me choose a profession as an animal trainer and animal behaviorist. It gave me the opportunity to study animal behaviors and interactions directly and in that capacity I became well known and respected in continental Europe, the U.K., the U.S.A. and the P.R. of China not only as an animal trainer and presenter but also through teaching animal trainers new methods of training based on the natural behavior of the animals. For over 30 years I have traveled throughout the world and appeared as a guest and host on many television and radio shows.

I had originally arrived in North America in 1994 living first in Illinois with occasional visits to middle and eastern Canada and was awestruck with the rich hunting heritage that enabled anybody, regardless of social and financial background (unlike in Europe), to purchase a hunting license. I was equally impressed with the variety of weapons that could be used and the variety of game that could be pursued. During my many years in North America I became an accomplished hunter with bow, crossbow, rifle, muzzleloader and shotgun.

In 2002 I decided to retire from the world of animal training and my wife and I moved permanently to British Columbia, Canada.

The retirement from traveling had given me time to think about how I could combine all my knowledge and hunting related activities in order to make them more accessible to hunters and the hunting community. The result was the founding of Smart Hunting Strategies (SHS). Through SHS I began to write hunting related articles, give seminars, hold courses and promote hunting related products. As time went on people kept asking my advice about hunting strategies they could employ and so I added Hunting Strategy Consultancy to my services too.

Through hard work and honesty I have gained over the years a respected and sought-after reputation in the hunting community and industry alike. I am thrilled at the many testimonials sent to me by every-day hunters and hunting industry representatives thanking me for my advice and assistance. Isn't that a big part of what our hunting community is all about? To be one large community and passing our knowledge and expertise on to the next generation so that they too can enjoy this great heritage we have inherited from our fathers. That is exactly what SHS is all about!

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