

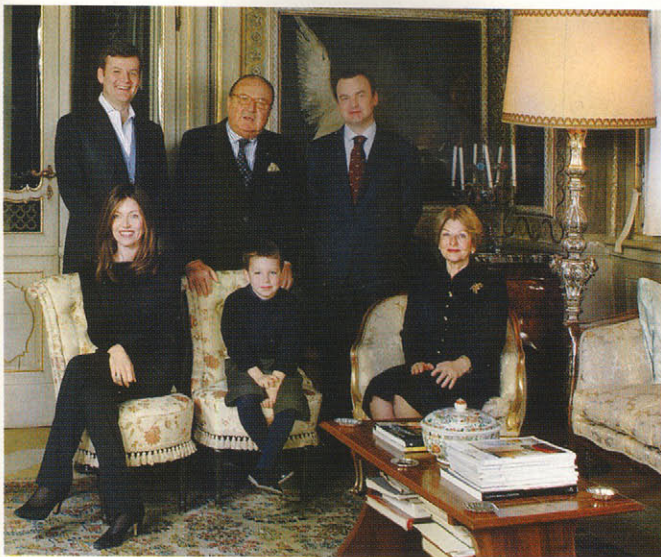


# Awards of Excel

*Our 12th Annual Awards of Excellence salutes companies and individuals whose exceptional products and services are having a decided impact on our sporting lives.*

*Nominees for the Awards are submitted by our Senior and Contributing Editors, then finalized by the Sporting Classics staff. The honorees were chosen for their achievements in defining what a great sporting product should be. Their craftsmanship, engineering and innovations have set higher standards than ever before.*





### *Sporting Lifestyle* - BERETTA

For hundreds of years, one company has been the go-to for discerning sportsmen and women around the world: Beretta. From top-quality firearms to stylish apparel, Beretta has exactly what you need to fulfill your sporting wish list.

Beretta's Trident program offers unmatched hunting and shooting adventures at some of the world's finest lodges, while Beretta Galleries in New York and Dallas carry everything from fine guns and works of art to the latest in British sporting attire.

Founded in 1526 by Mastro Bartolomeo Beretta, the company name has always been synonymous with fine craftsmanship and performance. It is this never-ending commitment to quality that has earned Beretta our Award of Excellence in Sporting Lifestyle.

### *Sporting Heritage* - BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB

Theodore Roosevelt was not only one of America's greatest presidents, he was also a dedicated conservationist. In 1887 Roosevelt, along with a group of others, founded the Boone and Crockett club over concerns that we might one day lose our hunting privileges and wildlife populations. Looking to future generations, TR wanted to ensure that our grandchildren and great grandchildren would have the same hunting opportunities he had.

Since its founding, the organization has a long list of accolades including aiding in writing one of America's strongest pieces of conservation legislation: the Lacey Act. Over the past 125 years B&C was also involved in developing the National Forest Service, National Park Service and National Wildlife Refuge system.

Because of the Boone and Crockett club, outdoorsmen in the United States have had the opportunity to hunt, fish and enjoy the natural wonders of North America without interference. For this unwavering commitment to conservation, Boone and Crockett Club receives our Sporting Heritage Award of Excellence.



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### *Rifles* - KILIMANJARO

To think that you can enter a field as traditional and crowded as custom rifles and expect to make a significant splash takes a bit of naivette, a significant dose of faith and a hell of a bunch of work.

Erik Eike and the whole crew at Kilimanjaro have all that and more. Their full-blown custom Kilimanjaro rifle is, as advertised, "The Pinnacle of Strength, Beauty and Accuracy."

From its marbled Turkish Walnut Stealth Laminate stock with Diamond Fleur wrap-around checkering to its lifetime

guarantee, the Kilimanjaro bespeaks classic quality and performance. Its graceful, well-proportioned lines and precise wood-to-metal fit foreshadow its balance and slick handling qualities. Its stainless steel, match-grade barrel is softened by a deep, rich, protective metal coating that marries the look of traditional bluing with the durability of rust-proof, space-age ceramic. And, of course, each rifle is tailored to its buyer.

Whether chambered for a traditional, all-round cartridge like the .30-06, a flat-shooting super magnum or a dangerous game big bore, the Kilimanjaro rifle proves that old adage: There's always room at the top. — Ron Spomer