

Logo of the Deutsch Drahthaar Kennels von Makoshika Revealed

The logo von Makoshika is thoughtfully illustrated with connotations linked to a trilogy of wildlife conservation stories; they are unveiled below in chronological order.

#1: The Vision of St. Hubertus: The Patron Saint of Hunters.

Hubert lived in the early 700s A.D. and was reportedly a great lover of pleasure. His chief passion was the chase, to which he devoted nearly all his time. According to legend, Hubert was afield the morning of Good Friday, participating in the chase of a deer on horseback with his famous hounds.

As he was pursuing a magnificent stag, the animal stopped and turned. Hubert was astounded when he perceived a crucifix suspended between the stag's antlers. At the same moment, Hubert heard a voice from the figure of Christ say, "Hubert, unless you turn to the Lord, and lead a holy life, you shall quickly fall into the abyss of Hell!"

In fact, the label on the imported bottle of herbal liquor known as Jagermeister (Master Hunter) is representative of the stag with a shining cross suspended between the antlers witnessed by St. Hubertus (see image below). Surrounding the label is a German phrase, which loosely translates as: "This is the hunter's badge of honor, which he protects and wears as his shield, to guard, while in the fine and honorable profession of hunting; which also honors the Creator and his creations."





Although the cross appearing in the logo von Makoshika is of Maltese design instead of Crucifixion design, it symbolizes the cross witnessed in the vision of St. Hubertus on that Good Friday hunt.

Additionally, a Drahthaar appears between the antlers found in the logo. This parallels the story of St. Hubertus' vision and symbolizes a vision for the most divine hunting companion for Makoshika!

#2: Theodore Roosevelt, Hunter Conservationist, Ranches in Makoshika in late 1800's!

The logo features two symbols which parallel actual cattle brands originally used in Makoshika in the late 1800's by proprietor, venture capitalist, and cattle rancher, Theodore Roosevelt. Roosevelt served as the 26th President of the United States, and was one of the most influential patriarchs of wildlife conservation in North America. The logo pays tribute to the abundance of wildlife we share on this continent today because of his swift and decisive political actions involving wildlife conservation at a critical time in the development of our country.

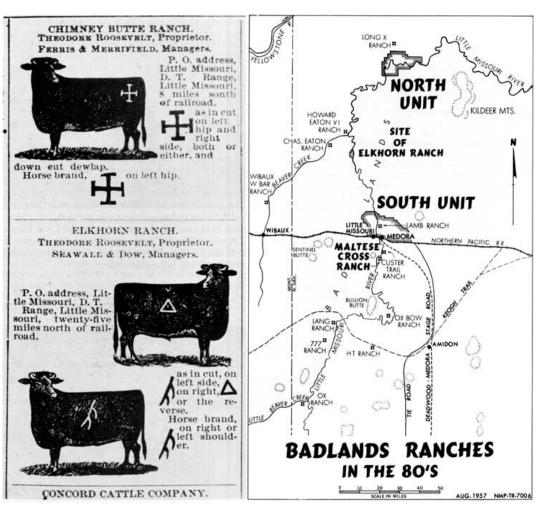
The first cattle brand is a Maltese cross. It was used at Roosevelt's Maltese Cross Ranch (also known as Chimney Butte Ranch) which lies in Makoshika, south of Medora, ND and adjacent to the Little Missouri River (which appears in the cover photograph on the home page of the von Makoshika website). A similar Maltese cross is centrally located on the logo.

The second cattle brand is the Elkhorn, used in combination with a triangle brand on Roosevelt's Elkhorn Ranch, which was located in Makoshika just north of Medora, ND and adjacent to the Little Missouri River. Two representative elkhorns were used on the logo.

Supporting documentation for the ranches and cattle brands can be reviewed in the pictures below.

The Maltese Cross and Elkhorn cattle brands of Teddy Roosevelt's ranching days in Makoshika provided a wonderful opportunity to unite that story with the vision of St. Hubertus via the design of the logo for the Deutsch Drahthaar Kennel von Makoshika!





#3: TR's Great Grand Son is Personally Guided by Benjamin Leo Sand (Owner of the Deutsch Drahthaar Kennel von Makoshika) on the Same Land TR Hunted Over 100 Years Earlier:

A select group of charitable citizens have developed a unique fund raising event in North Dakota called "Hunting Dakota with Roosevelt" (HDWR), which benefits local cancer patients. It features a premier upland hunt in and around the region of Makoshika.

In October of 2008, Tweed Roosevelt traveled to North Dakota to join privileged sponsors, volunteers, and honorary members of the North Dakota National Guard in the inaugural hunt of upland game birds which came to be known as HDWR. Benjamin Sand had the distinct honor of directly serving one hunting party (which included Tweed) as a volunteer hunt master and dog handler. Chinese ringneck pheasants was the primary quarry, a popular upland bird for most hunter conservationists (ironically pheasants are not native to Makoshika or North America). Theodore once said, "No I am not a good shot, but I shoot often." After Tweed was witnessed shooting and missing several flushing roosters early and often, the participants realized the authenticity of the experience!

During the outing, the hunting party convened in the historic town of Medora, ND for comradery, nourishment, and rest. Medora lies adjacent to the Little Missouri River in the heart of Makoshika, between Teddy Roosevelt's historic Maltese Cross Ranch (to the south) and Elk Horn Ranch (to the north). Exchanging stories and jests about the day's hunt with TR's great grandson next to the exact, striated clay buttes TR witnessed over a century ago, created an overwhelming feeling of nostalgia.

While afield, Tweed Roosevelt and Benjamin Sand were captured in the following photographs:





Positioned at the base of the logo von Makoshika, you will find the prized and conspicuous tail feathers of the rooster pheasant. They exemplify the familial connection of wildlife conservation between the Roosevelts, the tenets embodied in HDWR, and one of our favorite pursuits at the Deutsch Drahthaar Kennels von Makoshika!

More information on HDWR may be found in the following link: http://www.huntingdakotawithroosevelt.com/

From the Deutsch Drahthaar Kennls von Makoshika, "Waidmannsheil!" ("Hail to the hunter!")

Artist, friend, and fellow wildlife conservationist, Matt Port of Minnesota served an instrumental role in the logo's conception. Attorney, friend, and fellow wildlife conservationist, John Fagerholt of North Dakota generously edited the narrative explaining the logo's origination.