

**Wanderings
from the
Woods
& Water**
by Jay
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The New Duck Hunter

Congratulations to all the youth that harvested a deer during youth season!

If you read my column regularly, then you probably know that oldest son Jake is crazy about hunting. If there is a critter you can hunt, then Jake is ready to go. He has the hunting bug so bad that he wakes up super early to follow me around the house. He follows me to see if I am in work clothes or hunting clothes. If it's hunting clothes and he figures out he is not going; well, then I usually have a fight on my hands!

As of recently, he has duck hunting on his radar. Jake has been preparing for this duck season for a while. He started hinting to his Granny Karen a year in advance that he wanted waders for his birthday. His hinting got him some waders that are better than the ones I have. I guess if all else falls ask Granny.

Jake is a very persistent and focused kid. The persistence could land him and me in hot water with momma. He is being very persistent about wearing mom down to let him go duck hunting in Arkansas with me. I will be traveling to Arkansas to duck hunt this season and I am pretty sure Jake might hide in my suitcase.

On our way back from vacation in Disney World last week, Jake said he wanted to get him a Labrador retriever to hunt with. We spent about an hour talking about retrievers on the ride back. We talked about the color of lab he wants. We talked names that he might call his lab. He said he would train it to be a great duck dog. I guess we are in the market for a Lab!

When our conversation ended, Jake wanted either a yellow or black lab. The names he came up with were

4-10 after his shotgun or Teal after my old lab who passed away a few years ago. Now all he needs is a lab and Jake will be in the waterfowl hunting business.

I see in the near future that it will be impossible to get out of house to duck hunt without Jake. I am looking forward to this season and having my little hunting partner beside me. I can't wait to help Jake train his first duck dog.

Jake has been watching all the duck hunting shows. He has been learning all the different types of ducks there are. He wants to shoot a banded duck or goose. He is ready to be a hard core water fowler. So, get ready for Jake duck hunting stories to come.

Deer Muzzleloader Weekend

Good luck to all who is going after deer this muzzle loader weekend. If you are hunting from a stand, be sure to wear your safety harness. Be safe! Please send me pictures of the harvest!

Until next week, get out and enjoy God's creation!



Needs West with a nice buck!



Kyle Conrad with first deer!

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



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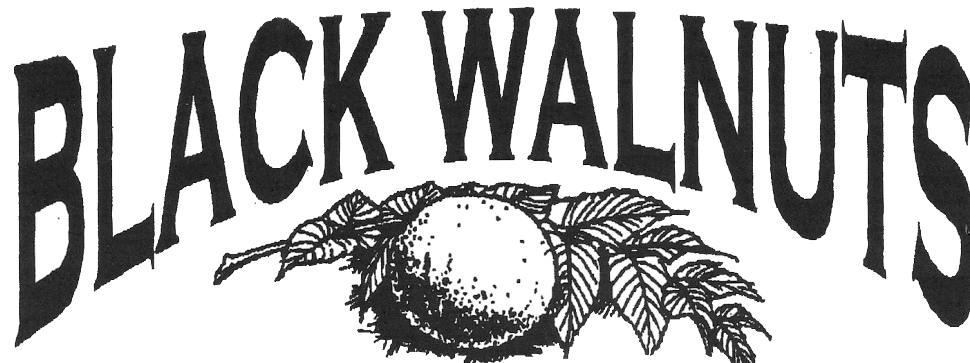
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