



Just Hunting

by Steve Brewer

Growing old has many benefits we sometimes fail to see right off, but come to us later: Like this morning. When I was younger, I would have been out in the 14 degree weather, finding something to hunt, or fish. I was taught, "With age comes wisdom". Growing old has taught me, days like this is better, just hunkering down and recalling memories of years gone by.

This week, I will share another hunting, fishing trip to the Daniel Boone National Forest, along the banks of the Rock Castle river. We will be accompanied by my younger brother, Rick, and his son, Little Ricky. Rick lives in North Carolina as does little Ricky. Sorry to say, that have had many problems in life, and having enough money to live well has always been at

the top of that list. They are the kind of people, the more they make, the less they have. My brother, has went through a fortune, and will never be able to retire; his son Ricky following his footsteps.

I was glad when one day, I got a call from Rick, wanting to go to the Daniel Boone for a week to camp, hunt, and fish. He had just bought a brand new pop-up-camper. Rick operates like this, buy today, sell tomorrow, so I knew I should jump on his offer, before he sold the new pop-up.

He stopped by my house, (I was living in Whitesburg), and we left out together. Rick, as usual, was running about three hours late; he always is, but this was not a good time to be doing so. We needed to get to where we would be camping to set up before dark; now that wasn't going to happen. Setting up a camp is hard enough in daylight, let alone by flashlights.

We got there, almost midnight. We broke out our mining lights, and against my wishes; I tried to get them to wait, sleep in the trucks, and set up in the morning. Nothing to do them but get the new camper set up and get a good night's sleep. Well, we unhooked from his truck and pushed the camper by hand to where they wanted it to set up. I returned back to my truck, which was probably ten yards from their camp site. I heard, they are inside the camper. At that time, I wasn't alarmed; that never lasted long. Knowing those two, I should have been. They had the camper top up, and I saw everything looked just fine. What I

forgot about, there are four jacks that go under each corner; that is what the shouting was about, finding the jacks.

I had my back to them and thought, what was that object that just flew by me. Being a forest, next to a river, my mind thought, it could have been anything. Then I heard the screams, "HELP" "HELP", I turned to see what was going on, and heading straight to the river, right in the middle of the logging road we were camping in, was the camper, with those two inside. Of course there was nothing I could do. How do you stop a run away anything, going wide open? I thought, they are in for a wet ride. Just about that time, the rear of the camper bucked up, like a bucking horse. The camper was stopped, the door opened, and doing a fast exit was Rick and Ricky, falling on their backs and really shaken up.

I walked down to them, "What happened," I asked? Seems they were looking in the camper for the jacks, both went to the back of the inside of the camper, it reared up, and they were off to the races. They both finally made their way to the front, the weight shifted, the tongue went into the ground, and everything went in the other direction. A few more yards, into the river they would have went. Their plans changed fast, they would wait until daylight to make camp. That was our first, last and only trip in his new camper. I understand he sold it a short time later. Those are the kind of memories, you can't make

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Stickelers Answer

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