



The Unknown Insect



Times Remembered

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Back in the early 90s, on a fall day, Bob and I were busy setting up the campsite for our church youth camp-out when we discovered an insect of some unknown species on our building property on Sand Hill.

In fact, we found many of them when we were digging the fire pit to build the camp fire. But what could they be? After closer examination we finally decided they were some type of scorpions.

I thought, Kentucky has no deserts. Can scorpions exist here? Next I called the County Agent and described the ugly things. Sure enough Kentucky does have scorpions. Well I've lived here all my life and I had never seen one till that day. He explained they are found in the knob areas in and around close to the Cumberland Plateau. Actually, they are found in several counties in Kentucky. Seems like there are more around slate rock. We sure have plenty of slate rock on Sand Hill. I had only seen scorpions on

television; most are found in the South West and are poisonous.

Although rarely seen by people, the Southern Devil Scorpion is actually common across Kentucky. Also known as the southern striped scorpion, this member of the Arachnida class of animals includes spiders, daddy long legs and mites. They sure look scarier than daddy long legs.

The Southern Devil Scorpion is 2 inches long and ranges in color from medium-gray to brown. Like other scorpions, it has a stinger on its tail. However, unless a person is allergic to this specific venom, its sting is painful but no more harmful than a wasp.

The main prey of the scorpion is insects and invertebrates. Due to their poor eyesight, Southern Devil Scorpions are ambush hunters. They wait for their prey to wander in front of them, then capture the victims with their pincers and subdue them with their venomous stinger. While the Southern Devil Scorpion looks dangerous, its small size makes its prey for lizards, birds and spiders.

Females produce 25 to 80 young and will carry them for several weeks

afterwards. Like other scorpions, the southern devil goes through incomplete metamorphosis. The young resemble the adults and will shed their skin as they grow.

The Southern Devil Scorpions live in wooded areas, around ponds and in dry outcrops. Look for them underneath wood piles, leaf litter and brush. Scorpions had rather run and hide than to attack people. It is quite unusual when people in Kentucky find scorpions according to the biologists in Kentucky; but I tell you we have plenty of them in the slate around our house.

When we first built our house and moved here they were everywhere, but we have our house sprayed and it has considerably cut down on them. And yes, I have killed a few inside my house even with spraying and treating every year.

Luckily, we have never been stung but when we were building the house one of the guys got stung and it scared him terribly; he rushed to ER but they also told him they were about like a wasp sting if he wasn't allergic to them. I guess if you are going to live near the woods you just have to deal with them!

Maybe you saw me see it, but you won't see me saw it



America's Heartland

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Maybe you saw me see it, but you won't see me saw it'

One of my favorite stories is about the fellow who, tired of having to get up and go to work every day, decided he'd try life as a bum. So, he went into town and was going door to door asking for food or money.

He walked up to one door, knocked, and a lady stepped out.

"Ma'am, I'm awful hungry," he said. "I wonder if you might have any food or money that you could spare for a fellow down on his luck?"

"Do you see that downed

tree in the yard needing to be sawed into firewood?" she asked.

The bum took a quick glance out of the corner of his eye at the fallen oak, and said, "No, I don't see it."

"I saw you see it," the woman said.

"Maybe you saw me see it, but you're not going to see me saw it," he said as he walked away.

The Bible speaks directly to able-bodied people who are lazy and unwilling to work. In **2 Thessalonians**, the Apostle Paul pointed out that, as the preachers of the early church traveled into various cities to share the gospel, they also worked with their hands to earn their way.

"We were not irresponsible among you. We did not eat anyone's food free of charge. Instead, we labored and struggled, working night and day so that we would not be a burden to any of you. It is not that we don't have the right to support, but we did it to make ourselves an example to you so that you would imitate us. In fact, when we were with you, this is what we commanded you: If anyone isn't willing to work, he should not eat" (**2 Thessalonians 7-10**).

In modern-day America, welfare programs, intended to be a safety net for people who are unable to earn to a living, have become a way of life for some who are fully capable of holding down jobs and providing for themselves. That's certainly not scriptural.

The Bible insists we are to work.

"Go to the ant, O sluggard. Observe her ways and be wise, which, having no chief, officer or ruler, prepares her food in the summer and gathers her provisions in the harvest. How long will you lie down, O sluggard. When will you arise from your sleep."

No doubt, all of us get tired of work from time to time. If can be monotonous at times. Sometimes it's absolutely grueling. But it's always necessary for those of us who are able-bodied, if we are to be people of The Book.

Let's be people who, when faced with a downed oak, will be the ones to say: "If you saw me see it, then you'll see me saw it."

Roger Alford offers words of encouragement to residents of America's heartland. Reach him at rogeralford1@gmail.com

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| MONDAY Sept. 18 | TUESDAY Sept. 19 | WEDNESDAY Sept. 20 | THURSDAY Sept. 21 | FRIDAY Sept. 22 |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| SOUTH IRVINE EARLY LEARNING CENTER BREAKFASTS | | | | |
| Breakfast Pizza Pineapple Tidbits Milk | Yogurt Animal Crackers Apples, Milk | Cinn. Toast Crunch Banana Milk | Scrambled Eggs Toast Mandarin Oranges | Cheese Toast Juice Milk |
| SOUTH IRVINE EARLY LEARNING CENTER LUNCHES | | | | |
| Grilled Cheese Sandwich Cauliflower Bites Applesauce Milk | Chicken Tenders Roll Mashed Potatoes Peaches Milk | Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce Texas Toast Garden Salad Apple, Milk | Cheese Breadstick Marinara Sauce Cucumber Slices Mandarin Oranges Milk | Round Pizza Baby Carrots Pears Milk |
| ESTILL SPRINGS BREAKFASTS | | | | |
| Breakfast Pizza or Cereal/Graham Snacks, Pineapple Tidbits, Asst. Juice Milk Choices | Mini Maple Pan- cakes or Cereal/Gra- ham Snacks Apple, Asst. Juice Milk Choices | Donuts or Cereal/ Graham Snacks Cantaloupe Asst. Juice Milk Choices | Scrambled Eggs Toast or Cereal & Toast, Banana Juice Milk | Assorted Muffins or Cereal/Graham Snack Strawberry Cup Juice, Milk |
| ESTILL SPRINGS LUNCHES | | | | |
| Grilled Cheese Sandwich Pork & Beans Potato Rounds Applesauce, Milk | Chicken Tenders Roll Green Beans Mashed Potatoes Peaches | Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Texas Toast Cooked Carrots Garden Salad Apple | Mini Corn Dogs Potato Smiles Steamed Broccoli Apple Milk | Pizza Hut Cheese Pizza, Corn Fresh Carrots/Dip Pineapple Tidbits Fudge Bar Ice Cream |
| WEST IRVINE BREAKFASTS | | | | |
| Breakfast Pizza or Cereal Juice, Milk | Mini Maple Pancakes or Yogurt, Cheese, Crackers or Cereal | Mini Cinni Rolls or Donut or Cereal/ Graham Snacks | Scrambled Eggs Toast or Cereal, Toast, Fruit | Assorted Muffins or Cereal, Fruit Juice, Milk |
| WEST IRVINE LUNCHES | | | | |
| Grilled Cheese Sandwich Pork & Beans Potato Rounds Applesauce, Milk | Chicken Tenders Roll Green Beans Mashed Potatoes Peaches | Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Texas Toast Cooked Carrots Garden Salad Apple | Deli Turkey Wrap Shredded Cheese Potato Smiles Steamed Broccoli Strawberry Cup | Round Cheese Pizza Fresh Carrots/Dip Corn Pears Ice Cream Sandwich |
| ESTILL COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL BREAKFAST | | | | |
| Breakfast Pizza Fruit Loops, Pop Tart, Apples Juice & Milk | Sausage & Biscuit Lucky Charms Pop Tart Pineapples | Pancake Porky w/ Syrup, Cocoa Puffs, Pop Tart Applesauce | Yogurt & Scooby Snacks, Frosted Flakes, Pop Tart Mixed Fruit | Donut Cinn. Toast Crunch Reese Puffs Pop Tart, Peaches |
| ESTILL COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL LUNCH | | | | |
| Chicken Nuggets WG Roll Mashed Potatoes CA Blend Vegetables Tropical Fruit Apple | Pepperoni Pizza or Taco Snax Romaine Salad Corn Pineapples Sidekicks | Cheeseburger or Mr. Rib on Bun Potato Wedges Lettuce & Tomato Bananas Peaches | BBQ Pork on Bun or Fish on Bun Sweet Potato Fries Slaw Applesauce, Pears WG Cookie | Taco w/Shell or Chicken Fajita w/Shell, Let./Tom./ Cheese Refried Beans, Salsa, Pine- apple, Fresh Orange |
| ESTILL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL BREAKFAST | | | | |
| Cereal, Pop Tarts Yogurt Oranges/Apples Juices/Milk | Muffins Cereal Pop Tarts, Yogurt Oranges/Apples | Bacon/Egg/Cheese Biscuit, Cereal Pop Tart, Yogurt Ban./Apple/Orange | Sausage Biscuit Cereal, Pop Tart Yogurt, Banana, Apple or Orange | Donuts Cereal, Pop Tart Yogurt Banana or Apple |
| ESTILL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL LUNCH | | | | |
| Chicken Tenders Roll, Spicy Chicken on Bun, Grapes Scalloped Potatoes Steamed Broccoli Tropical Fruit | Tacos w/Shell Chicken Fajita Let./Tom./Cheese Refried Beans, Corn Side Kicks Applesauce | Chili Dog on Bun Mr. Rib on Bun Tater Tots Carrot Sticks Peaches Pineapples | Meatball Sub Chicken Patty/Bun Let./Tom./Peppers Green Beans Glazed Carrots Chips, Fruit | Ravioli w/Breadstick Fish on Bun Garden Salad Grape Tomatoes Pineapples Peaches |

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6 p.m. — Paradise Luau Dinner

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