

Estill Sports

Saturday, September 28th @ 11:30am

WestCare's 7th Golf Scramble

WestCare's 7th Annual "Recovery" Golf Scramble will be held Saturday, September 28, 2013, starting at 11:30 a.m. at the Estill County Golf Club. For more information, please call WestCare at 606-726-0385.

Saturday, September 28th

Estill Longbeards Host Jakes Event

The Estill County Longbeards will be hosting a JAKES field day event for youth up to grade 12 on Saturday, September 28, 2013 at the Estill County Fairgrounds.

For more information, contact (Teddy Hunt) at (606-643-5473).

Estill Outdoors

Closed through Sunday, Sept. 22, 2013

Hidden Valley Hunting Dates

Hidden Valley Training Site, a 523-acre public hunting area near Clay City of KY-15 in northeast Powell County, will be closed to public access for several dates in September and October, including through Sunday, September 22, Oct. 9-13 and Oct. 16-20.

The area, which is owned by the Kentucky National Guard, is being used for training during those dates. An agreement between the Kentucky National Guard and the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources opens the area for public hunting when it is not being used for training purposes.

The area opened Sept. 7 under statewide regulations for archery and crossbow deer hunting. Hidden Valley Training Site also opened for small game hunting.

Stickeler's Puzzle



Maggie has nine puppies on her farm. She has to build four pens for the nine puppies, with each holding an odd number of puppies.

How can this be accomplished?

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Stickeler's Answer on Page 12

Wanderings from the Woods & Water by Jay Bicknell
WetStoneKennels@yahoo.com



September 18th Teal And The Master

On September 18th, 11 years ago, my little girl Bailey was born. It was also opening day of early wood duck season. I missed the opener 11 years ago due to a little miracle that came into my life!

September 18th of this year fell on opening day of early wood duck season, and it's my little girl's birthday!

I have put Teal and the Master in the paper a couple of times, so this is not a new column. Teal was a once in a lifetime dog! My daughter loved Teal as much as I did! So, I thought it was only fitting to run it again on opening day and my little girl's birthday (who is growing up way to fast)! My daughter is 11 and my Lab Teal has been gone for several years now! Time flies, so cherish every day because we are not promised tomorrow.

This week's column is dedicated to "Daddy's Little Girl Bailey Ann!" Happy Birthday!

Teal was a 60 pound black Labrador Retriever. She was a tenacious, hard-charging duck dog. She only had one master and that was me. She taught me more than I ever taught her.

We got Teal when she was four months old. Actually, my wife got her as a pet, 13 years ago. I saw Teal

as an opportunity to get into duck hunting. I watched a few training videos and started getting her ready for the upcoming hunting season. Before I knew it, Teal was my dog 100% and had snubbed my wife. Teal's mission in life was to make me, her master, happy.

I taught her how to be one heck of a duck dog. She did it all, took hand signals, did blind retrieves with ease, and even passed every hunt test she ran in. Teal did everything I asked of her without hesitation.

Teal taught me many things, too. We were hunting the river on a 10-degree morning when my brother-in-law shot a duck in the middle of the river. I sent Teal and she went without hesitation into freezing water to chase down a crippled duck and bring it back.

We were hunting a slough covered in Lotus so thick you could barely see the

water. I shot a wood duck in the middle of the Lotus jungle. I sent Teal into this mess after the crippled duck and she went without hesitation. She was out of sight, busting through the Lotus for at least 30 minutes. I came to the conclusion the duck was a lost cause. She would not give up. Another 15 minutes passed when she came out of the Lotus, face bleeding and raw, with the duck.

Again, we were hunting Station Camp Creek when a friend of mine shot a duck on the other side of the stream. Teal didn't see the duck fall. But I sent her and again, she went without hesitation. She got to the other side of the stream and I gave a whistle blast, she turned to watch me. I gave the back left hand signal, she did it perfectly. Then I gave another blast, she turned and I gave her a left over signal. She went left and made an awesome blind retrieve.

A year ago last January, Teal made her last retrieve for her master. Her body was covered with cancer and started to shut down. We went for one last retrieve. I grabbed a retrieving bumper

and tossed it for her. I sent Teal and she went without hesitation even with her hurting body. She brought it back and went to sleep in my arms. If real men don't cry; then, I am not a real man.

So what did Teal teach me?

She taught me when the master asks you to do something, you do it without hesitation. She taught me to trust the master no matter what the circumstance. She taught me when the master asks you, don't give up until it's done. She taught me to listen and look for signals from the master. She taught me that no matter how bad it gets, follow the master's commands. She taught me to only follow one master. And she taught me to LOVE serving the master.

I will tell you straight up, I love Jesus. I feel like the Lord talks to us every day; we just have to listen. I try my best to live for the Master the way Teal taught me. I fall short every day, but I keep striving. It's funny how the Master talks to us, are you listening?

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

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