

Estill bass fishing team heads for 12th Fishing World Finals

Six members of the Estill County High School Bass Fishing Team will be heading to the 12th Annual High School Fishing World Finals & National Championship this coming weekend, June 30-July, 2021, at Anderson, South Carolina to fish on Lake Hartwell.

Two of Estill's teams qualified earlier in the season to fish the SAF/MLF Nationals, and one team will be competing in the World Tournament.

Chris Osborne is the coach and fishers include Summer

Evans, Brandon Vanderpool, Luke Fletcher, Hunter Flynn, Dean Tucker and Landon Canter. Some are recent graduates.

A record field is expected to attend, with nearly 3 million in scholarships & prizes up for grabs.

The premier High School Fishing event in the world is set to begin on Lake Hartwell, from Green Pond Landing event center.

The 12th Annual High School Fishing World Finals and National Championship has over

400 teams registered.

A team consists of 3 people to a boat, 2 High School anglers and their adult boat Captain /Coach, that alone equates to more than 1200 participants from 41 states and 2 foreign countries as far away as Zimbabwe, South Africa, plus all their families and friends. Several thousand people will be added to the Anderson population for a week or so.

The student anglers pay no entry fee to compete in this one-of-a-kind dual event, the World

Finals portion is the granddaddy of them all where most of the prizes and scholarships are awarded and the most difficult to win. It is open to any SAF member in the nation, so everyone attending will be competing in the World Finals for prizes totaling nearly 2.5 million dollars. At the same time on the dual-stage the top anglers from all SAF sanctioned events and MLF events nationwide qualify to compete in a national championship event with its own set of prizes and scholarships to-

taling nearly \$500,000. Which puts nearly 3million dollars in scholarship and prizes up for grabs.

The two events are conducted together as a dual event to save travel, costs and vacation time for the families while giving any youth from anywhere, any background or economic strata and a chance to come and earn a life-changing educational opportunity if they can and experience the comradery of an event this size where lifetime friendships are made.



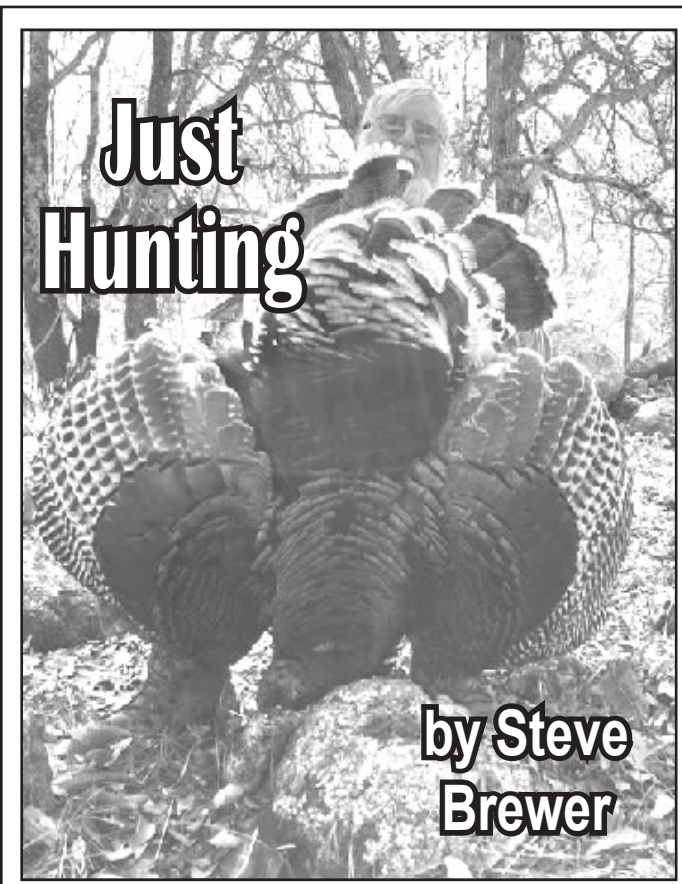
Old West Irvine 5th Grade (About 1940)

ABOVE: Left to right, front, Robert Earl Baker, Randolph Dozier, John Warner, Wade Johnson, Marvin "Pig" Parsons, Ben Hunt, Alvin Ball. Second row, Roy J. Turpin Jr., Jim Stepp, Ivan Carter, Robert Henderson, Genevieve McIntosh, Pauline Flynn, Raymond (Winkler or Miller?). Third row, Laura Eunice Tipton, Nora E. Howard, Margaret Lee Stevens, Charles Buddy Elliott. Back row, Dorothy Lee Snowden, Eva Mansfield, and Sherman Gordon. Mary Anna Kidwell, teacher. (Courtesy of April Mansfield Blevins)



Dripping Springs School at Patsey

AT RIGHT, Front row, left to right, Laverne Hall, teacher Pansie Crowe (Gross), Sharon Hall. Back, Jackie Hall, Charles Stewart, Arthur Abney, Joe Cole, Donald Arthur. (Student photo courtesy of Adrian Friend with student identification by Charles Stewart. School photo courtesy of Kathy Detrick Justice.)



by Steve Brewer

Planning a hunt to anywhere, takes time, and help. What about the planning it takes to hunt the plains animals of South Africa. Although I never had the desire to hunt in Africa, I have many friends that have taken the plunge. All of them had a blast.

My latest friend to hunt South Africa is Bridgett

Wildlife Woman hunts South Africa

Holbrook, a young lady from my hometown of Whitesburg, and the founder, and president of "Wild Life Women." Bridgett booked her hunt with Msenge African Safaris, and during her visit stayed at Maweni Hunting lodge, in the Eastern Cape of South Africa. It was a distance of 21,000 plus miles, and knowing how much 6,000 miles have worn me out hunting and fishing this year, I know it must have been a tiresome trip.

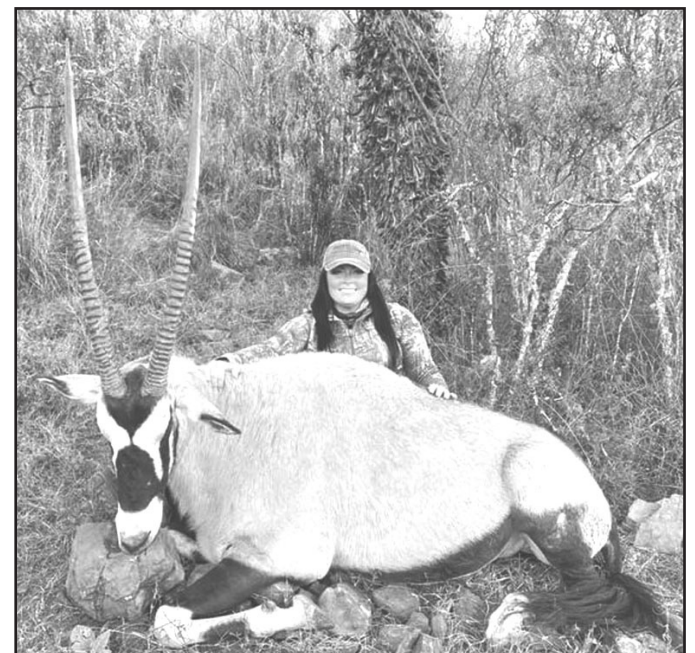
The flight was 78 total hours. Bridgett told me everywhere they went they were treated with love and respect. Bridgett has this outlook on life, "Don't just dream, execute, bust through stereotypes, trust yourself and always believe anything is possible." She asks, "what dream are you going to execute?"

When she scored on her White Blessbok, she knew that animal was meant just for her. The first couple days hunting Africa, she was struggling with her shot. As anyone knows, that knows Bridgett, she is a archery hunter, most of the time. The first day her professional hunter, "PH," put her on a monster Kudu, which they had stalked for over 3 hours. However when the opportunity arose the nerves kicked in, she missed at 425 meters. She told me she was really sad, but the PH just continued on, as though nothing happened.

"We hunted on," she continued, "and soon came across a beautiful Oryx. I pulled again, and once again I missed. I was getting so upset with

myself, that I was afraid I couldn't get it done. I had practiced on my first morning, and had hit dead center each shot. But in practice I was sitting down, out in the real hunting world I was using shooting sticks, and developed Elvis leg. I kept trying to calm down, but I only got worse."

Does Bridgett ever get it together? Tune in next week for the second part of her, "Thinking outside the box" hunt.



Bridgett Holbrook on South African hunt