



Just Hunting (& fishing)

by Steve Brewer

I booked a fishing trip for my daughter, Nema Brewer (Candy) and myself in the Gulf of Mexico. I missed the charter, but never missed the grief.

Upon our return from St. George Island, in Florida, I got in touch with my long-time guides and friends on Lake Cumberland, Morgan's Guide Service. Nema and me was on for one of our yearly trips to fish for stripers with them. It took us a little over 2 weeks to get in, but we finally did.

Before I go any farther, let me say, if I was you, and wanted to hire me a guide on Lake Cumberland for a fishing trip for stripers, I would call Morgan's Guide Service. They are great people, and always seem to get the job done. Their telephone number, if you are interested, is 270-866-7177. There that should make it easy for you.

Nema and myself decided to drive down the morning of, instead of our usual staying at the Kentucky State Resort Lodge which is on the lake. We needed to be at the dock to load at 4:45 a.m., that is of course central time.

Nema stayed the night, we pulled from our driveway at 3:00 a.m. sharp, allowing us time to stop if we wanted for another cup of coffee or a donut. We arrived at the Jamestown dock at 4:30, we could see people already walking around.

After walking to Morgan's slips, we spoke with our long time guide, Jeremy Morgan. He is also the owner, along with his dad, who retired several months ago. Jeremy introduced us to the man that would be our guide for the day. It is almost impossible to get Jeremy as a guide anymore, so we just take the one they give us.

We shoved off from the dock at 5:15 a.m., their time. We traveled at around 30 miles an hour for 40 minutes, then the motor went quiet; it was time to fish. It seemed as soon as the bait hit the water, we

Reeling in Stripers on Cumberland Lake



Steve Brewer and his daughter Nema show off some of their catch of 60 pounds of stripers from a trip on Lake Cumberland with Morgan's Guide Service.

were getting bites. I looked at my watch, the action started.

First, as usual protocol, Nema is always first to man a rod; trouble was, all five poles were going crazy. We didn't have a chance yet to get the other three out. I grabbed me one of the rods, and the fights were on. What seemed like a lifetime of reeling, Nema got her striper on board, a nice 18-pounder. I followed with one of my own, coming in a little over 14 pounds.

We had a big problem that fishermen love to have, all the poles were bent double, loaded with fish. She reeled 'till she almost dropped. We could see the fish, and our guide was trying to net it; it got off. I had problems of my own, I was needing to move across the stern of the boat fighting my fish and kept getting into the other lines that were drawn tight from fish.

As soon as Nema lost her fish, being the professional she is, she grabbed another rod; the fight was on again. I got my striper into the boat, no time for pictures, or weighing, just fishing. Nema had

room to work, with me being out of her way, and she brought in another monster. We never took pictures or weighed them 'till we were on land.

We drove two hours, each way, went up the lake 40 minutes each way, and fished for a total of thirty minutes. Limit caught, almost 60 pounds of fish. Oh well that is fishing. Give Morgan's Guild Service a call you will be glad you did.

Nema's and my next trip to fish, barring a trip to Ray's Hog Holler, will be on August 23rd. We will be fishing the Ohio River with Captain Dale of Dale's Guide Service for monster river catfish. His number if you are interested is 513-702-4300. Stay tuned.

Next week we travel to North Carolina getting ready for their black bear season. You won't want to miss it.

On a personal note, this column is about you. I was informed this week that a group of local hunters took the South Africa hunt for plains animals, and that they are also avid turkey hunters. Please contact me, we will do our best to come up with you a story, thanks.

Campbellsville University honors 205 teachers in 72 districts and/or private schools

By Joan C. McKinney, director
Office of University Communications

CAMPBELLSVILLE, Ky. – Campbellsville University's 35th annual Excellence in Teaching Award Program honored 205 teachers throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky from 72 districts and/or private schools.

A total of 4,368 Kentucky teachers have been honored since the program began in 1987 with assistance from Earl Aaron and the Ward, Cundiff, and Aaron Memorial Fund. The purpose of the program is to recognize the quality teaching and learning taking place in the school systems throughout Kentucky.

The Excellence in Teaching Awards program is in partnership with Lexington's CBS-affiliate, WKYT-TV.

The teachers are selected by their school districts in each grade level (preschool/elementary, middle and high school), and included Estill County superintendent Jeff Saylor; Graceland Williams, South Irvine Early Learning Center; Thomas Britton, Estill County Middle School; and Sarah King, Estill County High School.

Graceland Williams, of Richmond, Ky., has taught preschool at South Irvine Early Learning Center since 2009. She formerly taught at Richmond Head Start from 2013 until 2015.

She received her bachelor of science from Eastern Kentucky University in 2002, and her master of arts from the University of the Cumberlands in 2018. She is a 1997 graduate of Letcher High School.

She is daughter of Cooley Cornett and the late Carrie Cornett of Letcher, Ky. She has four children: Carley and Kendric Williams and Kinzie and Kacey Cooper.

Thomas Britton, of Richmond, Ky., has taught band at Estill County Middle School since 2017. He formerly taught at Harlan County High School, James A. Cawood Middle School and Wallins Middle School in 2015.

From Eastern Kentucky University, he received his bachelor's degree in 2013 and his master's degree in 2015. He is a 2009 graduate of Bourbon County High School.

He is the son of Sandra and Thomas Britton of Elizabethtown, Ky.

Sarah King, of Richmond, Ky., teaches tenth and eleventh grade English at Estill County High School.

She received her Bachelor of Arts in English Teaching from Eastern Kentucky University in 2020. She is a 2016 graduate of Estill County High School.

She is the daughter of Melissa King of Lexington, Kentucky.

Although the ceremony wasn't in person, a video was sent to each recipient with a welcome from Dr. Lisa Allen, dean of the School of Education, who thanked them for the job they do and their impact on students in the coming years.

She said the teachers have become better at what they do as a result of the technology they learned and used, and she expected the teachers to just keep getting better.

"Teachers are vital in the lives of students and families and society as a whole," she said.

Shad Lacefield, a 2007 Campbellsville University graduate, who is a fourth-grade teacher at Garden Springs Elementary School in Fayette County and who has been featured on TV stations in Lexington due to his innovative teaching, was the guest speaker. He has taught in Kentucky, Missouri and China.

Lacefield, wearing sunglasses and coveralls with the name Maverick on them from the movie "Top Gun," spoke of his teaching methods and his goal to make his students smile during the pandemic, which he said was hard on him, teachers, students and their parents.

He said, "misquoting" Tom Cruise as Maverick in the movie, "I felt the need. The need to make kids smile."

He dressed in different costumes each day (over 120 in all!) and presented lessons in costumes pertinent to his subject matter.

He said the costumes didn't always work because students would smile while on Zoom, but when doing their independent work, the students weren't as excited.

So, he relied on Darth Vader from Star Wars to help him.

Dressed in a Darth Vader mask with a face mask underneath and in the black costume with his light saber, Lacefield decided to choose two students each Monday who had finished their work and turned it in for him to visit. He called his visits #vadervisits.

At their home visit, he played whatever socially distanced game the students wanted, varying from

rock climbing, roller skating, drawing with sidewalk chalk and playing Harry Potter themed yard Yahtzee, which he even created a custom scorecard for.

He got those "miles of smiles" during those 50 Vader Visits. He said he missed those in-person smiles, and he decided he wanted to continue the costumes when in-person instruction began.

His everyday costumes aren't as elaborate in person now, but he does show up once or twice a week in full costume to coordinate with the students' lessons.

He urged the teachers to make the students smile in their classrooms to have a great culture and climate. "I encourage you to think of fun ways once a week to make your kids smile, and, if they are smiling, I know you as a teacher are smiling too," he said.

He said teachers could have given the students one of the most awful and horrible memories of their educational experience but "I know the teachers watching this took time to make the best quality education we could give them. And for me, I'm going to think I was successful because of all those smiles."

"I want to salute you and thank you for being a 'top gun' in your field. I want to thank you for all your hard work, I know your kids are going to remember you forever," he said.

Lacefield has taught and coached in kindergarten, first, second, fourth, seventh, eighth and ninth grades. He is the co-creator and director of the Do Something Extraordinary Golf Program in Lexington whose goal is to bring new experiences free of charge to low-income students in Title I schools, including free lessons, clubs and clothing.

Since its creation in 2017, this after school club has grown from one school and 10 students to three schools and 40 students.

Lacefield lives in Lexington with his wife, Whitney Morgan Lacefield, a 2008 Campbellsville University graduate, with his three children: Hannah, Caleb and Ella, who have many costumes in their home.

Campbellsville University is a widely acclaimed Kentucky-based Christian university with more than 13,500 students offering over 100 programs of study including Ph.D., master, baccalaureate, associate, pre-professional and certification programs. The website for complete information is www.campbellsville.edu.