

# Just Hunting (& fishing)

by Steve Brewer

Today we will journey to the Blue Ridge mountains of North Carolina, to hunt black bear.

First, let's take a detour to a place here in Estill County, a place I am liking more every time I go there. I am talking about a farm, owned by my new friend I have met, Danny Click. I actually met Mr. Click last year, while buying produce at his farm. But I never really got to know him till this year. He didn't have some beans I wanted, but said he would call me when they got ripe.

As I wrote my name down, he asked, are you the Steve Brewer that writes for the newspaper. Of course my answer was yes. Mr. Click told me he read my stories every week. I love all my readers, but Mr. Click was one that will be my friend for a very long time, I am sure. First and foremost, I think he is a cool old man. That is a rare find these days. Mr. Click and myself are from the old school. We try our best to keep our word, do people right, and love one another. We are from the days when old men sat around and whittled on cedar wood with a Tree Brand German knife, and spit tobacco juice. We heard the same fish story or hunting story a thousand times, and they never grew old.

It never took me long to learn that Mr. Click was not only a very well-educated man, but was also an educator, having held various jobs of leadership within the school system, from principal to transportation director. I am impressed. Some of my favorite memories are grounded around my teachers, and I have a high regard for people like Mr. Click. Let me send you to his farm for almost all of your fresh garden needs, and tell him I said hey.

There is a young lady that works there, she is a jewel, and will help you with what ever you need.

## 2021 Estill County Fair will be held Saturday, August 7th and Tuesday-Saturday, Aug. 24-28

The 2021 Estill County Fair will once again be run in two different sections with the first beginning on Saturday, August 7, 2021 with the 2021 Little Miss and Little Mr. Estill County pageants which start at 7:00 p.m.

The remainder of the fair will begin on Tuesday, August 24th with the Miss Estill County Pre-Teen Pageant at 6:30, followed by the Estill County Baby Show at 7:00 p.m. The Miss Estill County Teen Pageant will begin at 8:00 p.m. and be followed by the Miss Estill County contest at 8:30. Admission will be \$10.00. Rides from Paradise Amusement will be going all five nights.

August 24th's pageant information is at right, and registration for Little Miss and Little Mr. is on Page 12.

Admission will be \$12.00 for Wednesday-Saturday.

**Headline events include:**

• **Wednesday, August 25th**  
**Dirt Drag** for ATV/Motorcycle/Side X Side. Classes include 4x4, 2x4, Youth, Sport, and Motorcycles.

• **Thursday, August 26th**  
**Obstacle Course** for ATV/Motorcycle/Side X Side.

• **Friday, August 27th**  
**Demo Derby**

• **Saturday, August 28th**  
**Mud Run** for ATV/Motorcycle/Side X Side/Trucks

# Green Beans & Blue Ridge



A Blue Ridge Mountains stream. (courtesy of West Virginia State Parks)

She always has a smile on, and that makes for a better day for anyone. You can read his advertising in this paper, for telephone numbers, farm hours, and address. By the way, Mr. Click called me the next day with my beans, I have already picked them up. Thank you Danny Click, for being a nice person.

Now, let us travel to the Blue Ridge mountains for a black bear hunt, from years gone by. For many years I would go to North Carolina, to deer, turkey, and black bear hunt. While black bear hunting, somewhere neigh onto 12 years ago, I confirmed what I really had come to know. My deer hunting days, were either gone, or nearing their last days. A big 11-point buck came within twenty yards of me, turned broadside, and picked there for ten minutes. I never moved my rifle. I knew if I shot this buck, my bear hunt was over. I would have had to field dress him, cut him up, get him back to the cabin; well you get my picture.

Back in the 70's when I started following the old trappers trails to hunt, I would spent the night in their

old line shacks. In the ten mile or so radius that was the trappers hunting area, there were three old cabins. The way they worked was when you arrived after a days hunt, you walked into the cabin, there was always canned food, water, and firewood; and of course a big box of matches. The deal was, use what you needed, but leave what you had brought for others to use. That way the freshest items were there for other hunters.

These old shacks provided you with a rough bed, food and water; that was all real mountain men needed those days. There is an old gospel song, "Time has made a change in the old home place." Time sure made a change in the old line cabins. The last year I hunted them, one had rotted down, (they were build in the 1800's), someone had burned one, one wasn't worth trying to use. That leaves the third one in, and if I live to see October, 10th, I am going to retrace my journey. Once again I will black bear hunt the Blue Ridge mountains.

## Remembering DeFort Bailey



This is the old Dickerson cabin at Cob Hill where DeFort Bailey was born. It sits next to former Doc and Elsie (Reed) Dickerson's house. This picture was taken in August 2013. Roy and Alpha Omega (Bailey) Dickerson may have been the last Dickerson's to actually live in the cabin. The cabin was built in the early 1900's.

by Jerry L. Eitzroth

I was very saddened by the recent passing of DeFort Bailey. I can clearly remember when we served together on the Estill County Grand Jury in 2013. Defort was not pleased with having to serve on jury duty. He had tried to explain to the judge that he was hard of hearing and would have difficulty understanding what participants in a trial were saying. Perhaps that is why DeFort was assigned to Grand Jury duty rather than open court. The Grand Jury met in a small upstairs room in the courthouse.

I was seated close to DeFort when the Grand Jury met for the first time. We soon learned that we were both veterans. DeFort said he served in the U.S. Navy for twenty years before coming home to Estill County. I also discovered

that DeFort had a Cob Hill connection. Once I mentioned that my Grandpa Bill Dickerson was raised on Cob Hill, DeFort began telling me stories about the Dickerson's and Cob Hill. He was an encyclopedia of the Cob Hill community. I wish I had a tape recorder at that time to save all his stories.

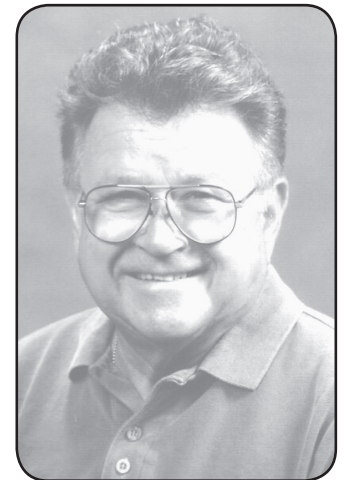
One story I remember well. It was about how he was born in the 'Cob Hill Hospital'. DeFort shared what he would tell his grandchildren when passing the old Dickerson cabin, "That's the hospital where I was born."

On October 10, 1935, DeFort's parents, Burton and Lillie Bailey, were making the ascent to Cob Hill by horseback. They lived on Millers Creek, but Burton had to travel to Cob Hill to cast his vote on election

day.

Lillie was nine months pregnant with DeFort and she was getting uncomfortable; therefore, Burton dismounted their horse to lead it the rest of the way up the mountain. As they neared the Dickerson cabin, Lillie exclaimed that it was time to have her baby. The Dickerson cabin was occupied at the time by Roy and Alpha Omega (Bailey) Dickerson—my great Uncle and Aunt. Alpha was Burton's sister.

I do not know if a midwife was present at DeFort's birth. If there was, it could have been Aunt Fie. Priscilla (Bailey) Wood, DeFort's cousin, told me that Aunt Fie helped to deliver many babies on Cob Hill. Aunt Fie was a tiny woman—only about four feet tall. Supposedly a strong March wind once blew her



DeFort Bailey

into a briar patch. Aunt Fie lived to be over 100 years old.

Alex Haley once said, "Every time an old person dies, it's like a library burning down." We lost a tremendous library of genealogical information and Cob Hill history when DeFort passed away. It was a special pleasure for me to have met the man who was born in the 'Cob Hill Hospital.

### Miss Estill County Fair Beauty Pageants scheduled for Tuesday, August 24th

Applications are now available through the Estill County Fair Association Facebook page. You may submit your application by email or regular mail. Contact info listed on application. If submitting by email, don't forget to scan your birth certificate along with your application.

**Miss Estill County Open Beauty Contest – Ages 16-21 – Entry Fee \$45**

**Miss Estill County Open Teen Beauty Contest – Ages 13-15 – Entry Fee \$40**

**Miss Estill County Pre-Teen Pageant (Closed) – Ages 8-12 – Entry Fee \$30**

Entry deadline for all 3 pageants is Monday, August 23, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

Any questions or for more information contact Gina Flynn (606) 975-5851, gina.flynn@estill.kyschools.us; Missy Hunt (606) 634-5160, missyhwcyo@yahoo.com, or Cheryl Stepp (606) 723-8546, cjstepp@windstream.net



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