

**Just
Hunting
(& fishing)**

**by Steve
Brewer**



Steve Brewer's dad on opening day

Third Saturday in August



Looking back at opening day of squirrel hunting season in Wolfe County

The third Saturday in August has always been, and will always be, a day in my life that is burned into my soul. Yep, the opening day of fall squirrel season.

Except for a couple of years, back in the 70's, when our Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife changed the opening day to Labor Day, we have lived with the third Saturday. They saw their folly, after heated hunters from the mountains pointed out that the opening of squirrel season that late would not work for them.

Some of my fondest memories are gathered around opening day. It would find us on an uncle's farm in Wolfe County. There you could hunt in the heat without having to climb our high mountain counties. I loved that trip, which at that time was almost a five hour drive from Letcher County. Now with the new roads, you can drive it right past my uncle's farm in two hours.

I was brought up squirrel hunting, things like deer, elk, turkey, and bear hunting were unheard of. I started out hunting with an old single shot 410 gauge, Winchester, model 37. I was allowed to carry a shotgun at the age of nine years old, under the watchful eyes of my dad. He taught me how to handle a firearm the right way. Now, at seventy-five, still no one's hurt from my guns.

We never had things like mosquito spray, you just

let them bite. No toilet paper, you used leaves, and no camo clothing. We used green clothing with an old green military cap, perched on your head.

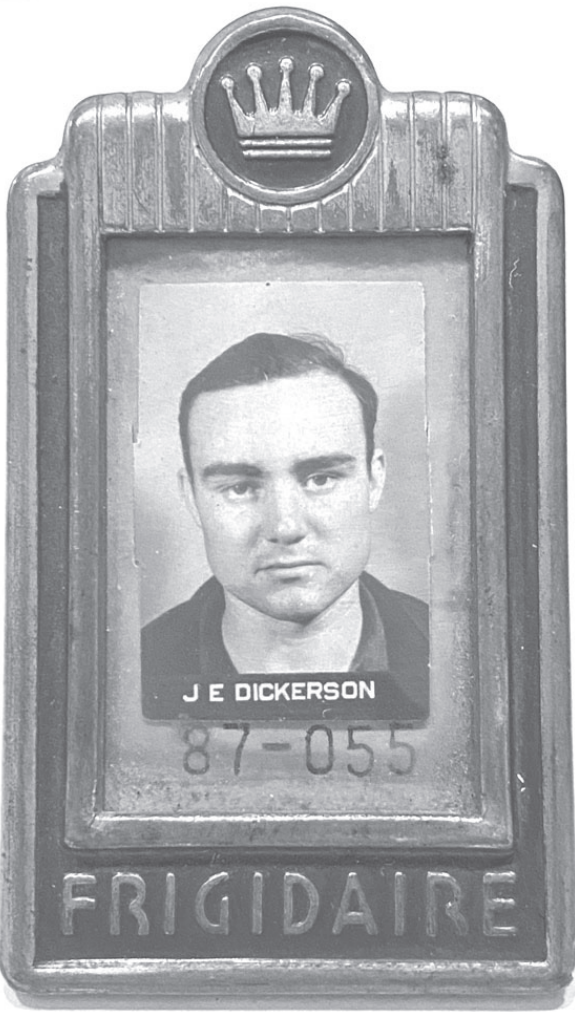
My dad was some hunter, and was until the day of his death. He taught me to be quiet, how to get the game you was hunting into the game; not to shoot a longer shot when you could close the distance. My dad was a Browning man. Every gun he owned was a Browning. I have seen him pull off his boots to sneak upon a hickory where the squirrels were cutting.

I have not hunted squirrels for a couple of years. I just have not found a landowner here that has given me permission to hunt. When I had leased land, when I first moved here, you would go squirrel hunting. And after the first shot, here would come all the neighbors' dogs. Hunt over.

I tried it once in our part of the Daniel Boone National Forest. Within an hour, here came the ATV's. By the way, for the ones of you that ride your ATV's in the national forest, it is illegal. I personally hope you get caught.

Please take time to take a child squirrel hunting, it will make a memory that will last a lifetime. Here I am 75 and still sharing my memories of squirrel hunting with you. Any landowner that will invite me to hunt, I will be there, and thanks in advance.

Did you ever see a badge like this?



My uncle, James Edward Dickerson, worked at the Frigidaire plant near Dayton, Ohio in the 1940's and early 1950's. This is the ID Badge he wore while employed there. James was the son of Bill and Ruby (Smithers) Dickerson who lived on Sand Hill Road at Witt Springs, Kentucky. Like many young folks of Estill County, Uncle 'Jiggs' followed the 40's migration north to seek employment in the northern factories. He was born in 1923 on Bond Street and died in Estill County in 1980 after suffering a heart attack.

--Jerry Eltzroth

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

Estill County Fair Little Mister & Miss Estill County Pageant Saturday, August 7, 2021

7:00 P.M.

Entry Fee: \$10

Rules:

1. All contestants must be Estill County residents.
2. You are eligible if your residential home falls within the Estill County Lines.
You may also register at the **practice at the fairgrounds on Friday night, August 6th, 7PM.** Bring your entry form from the newspaper and the \$10 entry fee.

Due to state rules:

3. Contestants will wear and be judged in age appropriate attire in the pageant.
4. The winners of the Little Mister and Miss Pageant are not allowed to compete again. Little Mister and Miss Estill County will be competing at the Kentucky State Fair as a couple.

Boys and Girls

Ages: Five through Seven –
Must have reached his/her 5th birthday by midnight, June 30, 2021 and cannot be 8 years old by June 30, 2021

All contestants will receive a coin dollar and blue ribbon.
The winner receives a crown, banner and trophy.
1st Runner Up will receive a trophy.

Admission:
\$8 for ages 3 and up
Pay at the Exhibit Hall
front door next to the
parking lot. Only
contestants get in free.



Estill County Fair Association
Look us up on Facebook

For further information, contact:

Missy Hunt 606-634-5160 missyhwcyo@yahoo.com

Full Name _____ Entry Fee \$10.00 _____ Boy _____ Girl _____

Address _____

Parent's Signature/Phone _____
(If you don't have a phone, give number of nearest neighbor or relative)

Age (as of June 30th) _____ Birthdate _____
Month Day Year

Clip this form and mail with entry fee to Estill County Agricultural Fair Association, P. O. Box 361, Irvine, Kentucky 40336 by July 31st.
Make checks payable to: Estill County Agrl. Fair Board. You may also bring the form from the newspaper and \$10 entry fee to the practice at the fairgrounds on Friday, August 6th, 7:00 P.M.

Americanisms



“Deep summer is when
laziness finds respectability.”
— Sam Keene