

FREE

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The Cowboy Way

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Owner/Publisher Trilogy Outdoors

PO Box 901 Murrells Inlet, SC 29576

E-Mail:

trilogyoutdoorsmedia@gmail.com

Web Address:

trilogyoutdoorsmedia.com

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Advertising Sales/Editorial

Capt. E 843-655-5459

trilogyoutdoorsmedia@gmail.com

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South Florida Father/Son Trip



In 2022 and 2023 I started traveling to South Florida, Okeechobee to be exact. In search of an Osceola Turkey to add to my list of species harvested. My quest has been very tough with sickness and with terrible weather over the years. But the sheer beauty of the area is enough to make you get excited to spend a few hours in and around a shaded Palmetto hammock and watching mother nature put on a show. This year I decided to bring my sidekick and son, Russ Russ with me. We made the 9 hour trip south and enjoyed some great podcasts along the trip to pass the time. After arriving at our home for the week at 1:45am we had a long talk about the many fishing options versus the hunting. I could tell that my little buddy was really excited about the opportu-

nity at doing battle with a bucket list fish such as the Peacock Bass and the Clown Knife fish after listening to podcasts about these. We decided to sleep on it and to discuss further in the morning. After a coffee and a quick trip to town, we made our way out to survey the hunting grounds and to scout out a spot to build a blind. This was

gonna be a necessity with a 6 year old partner. I put him to work and let him do much of the construction. Upon completion of his version of Fort Knox, we packed it in and headed back to town. We were on the search for some live Speck Minnows (you don't call them Crappie in South Florida),to fish off the dock at the house. Fishing quickly became the hot topic and I could quickly see that his interest in the possible long sit in the blind was giving way to thoughts of tight lines and some tugs on the end of a rod.

On day two the alarm was as annoying as any sound we had ever heard and we both made the decision to press snooze and go for a late morning hunt instead. While we were trying to get our selves motivated after some coffee and pancakes we made a call to a popular guide down in the Del Ray, Florida area. Surprisingly enough, he answered and offered us his only open spot for the week and it was gonna be a tight timeline to get to him in two hours. We didn't hesitate to jump on it and grabbed our things and packed the Tundra. We headed southeast about 125 miles to Lake Ida.

We were greeted by Capt. Doug at the Lake Ida West Park. This was a really well maintained park located conveniently within minutes of exiting I-95. Capt Doug Harris is a guide in the Del Ray area and he was ready to go when we pulled up to the landing. We hopped on his fully outfitted Triton LTS and made a quick run out the lake and into a canal that we followed for a mile or so under several low hanging bridges that we cleared by only inches in some cases. He pulled back the throttle on his new Mercury and started pointing out some potential spots in the canal ahead of us. We had chose to fish live bait so that Russ could enjoy the experience and not the chaos of casting and it was quick to see what a great choice it was. Capt. Doug pointed out a small bed under a dock that had a male and female Peacock nestled in close and I pitched a bait over to them. It was engulfed in seconds and after feeding them 3 or 4 more baits, I finally came tight. It was of course the male on the bed but it gave Russ a great fight and an opportunity to figure out exactly what to do on the next opportunity. We made our way, continuing to slow drift our baits behind the boat. We were trying to keep our baits about 50 yards away from the boat, as Capt. Doug said that the fish can sometimes be a little spooky and they prefer to have a meal with some distance between them and the boat.

We continued to catch a mix of Peacock and Largemouths and we made a turn in the canal when Capt. Doug pointed out that the day prior he had caught 4 Clown Knife on the next straight away. We were floating within yards of condos, businesses, and even a plush golf course that we had to duck as the players played across the canal. I had gotten my drone up in the air and was getting some video when Russ Russ let out a scream and his bobber disappeared with a large explosion just beside it. After a fairly lengthy fight and Capt. Doug chasing down the prey on the end of Russ' rod we had landed a Clown Knife fish. A fish that I had not even known about until months before and one that I knew was on a lot of anglers bucket lists. We could not convince Russ to hold it for a picture, as I can honestly say I don't know that I would have either, but we got a few pics with Capt. Doug and Russ leaning into the frame. This fish was incredible and put on an aerobatics show as well as showed how it can swim backwards as good as it does forwards. Probably something that is passed on in it's genes from it's native waters in tropical Asia, particularly Thailand.

As we continued our four our trip we were treated to shows from many strange animals along the canal. Such as rare Mexican Geese, Gar Fish, Ospreys, Ibis', Herons of all types, and Russ' favorite, the Iguana. We saw these invasive lizards from just inches long to the size of Russ. While the Iguana hunting would not fair well in this canal for all the homeowners that live there, the fact that they are taking over was apparent. We ended the day in a creek just off of Lake Ida where we saw several Mango trees and a very rare Kapok tree. These trees are native to Africa and have huge thorns that cover the entire trunk of the tree and its leaf like skin. This is one that I would never want in my yard and can only imagine that very few animals decide to climb this tree for forage or protection. This trip with Capt. Doug was well worth the time and money and if anyone is looking to have a great time and check off some of those bucket list fish, you should reach out to him if you are making a trip down to that area of South Florida. The memories we made on that trip were priceless and we will talk about this trip for many many years. Sometimes diverting from your plans can end up being exactly where you were supposed to be, and in this case the turkeys may have won out, but I think that Russ and I actually won in having this time together.

Tight Lines, Capt. E (Capt. Doug Harris 954-914-9439)



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Black Water Therapy

By Capt. Matt Varnadore

The River Rat from Waccamaw Outfitters

The one good thing about the cold months is you can fish for one of my most favorite species, Crappie! I love to crappie fish because it is such an easy and relaxing type of fishing. Now let me make this clear, I am by no means an expert on crappie fishing or any other fishing for that matter. I am a novice fisherman who enjoys taking my children and others out to experience the joy of the sport. I do a lot of reading on fishing and different methods and I have a

great time applying what I study.

Crappie fishing can be done year-round, but the cold weather months when the water temp is in the 50's seem to be one of the best times. When crappie fishing a depth/fish finder is a huge help in order to locate the fish. Crappie love structure and tend to school around brush piles, bridge pilings, docks or any type of structure they can hide. Like most fishing, methods vary and you have to seek out that one that best suits you and your location. Vertical jigging, trolling and float fishing seem to be the most common methods for crappie fishing. Now I've never seen anyone on the Waccamaw with a spider rig trolling for crappie, but I have seen trolling on the river start to become more popular.

I have recently moved outside my box a little and have started trolling for crappie. Light tackle spinning rods, 6-pound line and beetle spins seems to be the best set up. Some people like to sit on the front of their boat with the trolling motor on the lowest setting and drag their bait close to the bank. Then you get me, I look like a king mackerel fisherman pulling 4 lines off the back of the boat. Why not try something different? I like to set my trolling motor and a very low setting, loosen the drag on my reels, put out about 30 years of line and drag my beetle spins behind the boat. Colors are very important and a white beetle spin with a red dot seems to be one of the preferred colors.

Baits are very simple and I prefer to use artificial jigs over minnows because I don't like having to keep the minnows alive. I have used minnows before and have had just as much luck without them so I make it easier on myself and go artificial although live bait can trump artificial most the time. Crappie feed from the bottom up so you need to suspend your bait above them. This is why it is so important to have a good depth finder so you can position your bait over the fish. No matter your skill level just give it a try and see what best works for you. You wont know unless you go!

10 River Safety Tips to Remember

- Wear a Life Jacket
- · Learn to Swim
- Avoid Deep Water
- Watch for Hazards
- Stay with Your Boat
- Obey the Signs

- Alcohol & Water Don't Mix
- Don't Get Tired
- Watch for Hypothermia
- Never Leave Kids Alone

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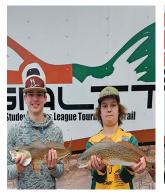
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Channing Davis and Bryce Reeves



Chappell Miller



Dalton Williams and Cody Wilder



Fisher Gallup and Kyle Cook



Fisher Thomas



Garrett Anderson and Jackson Smalls



Mack and Mason Hardee



Mackenzie Hardwick



Mia Mainero

BASS

Elementary No teams made weigh in

Middle

1st Benton White and Robert Mills of Conway with 5 fish at 7.15 pounds 2nd Bryceen Wheeler and Brody McConnell of Williamsburg Academy with 3 fish at 5.07 pounds plus the Big Fish at 2.38 pounds

3rd Garrett Anderson and Jackson Smalls of Conway with 3 fish at 4.14 pounds

High

1st Mason and Mack Hardee of Conway with 5 fish at 8.97 pounds
2nd Cody Wilder and Dalton Williams of Conway with 5 fish at 8.36 pounds
3rd Kyle Cook and Fisher Gallup of Waccamaw with 3 fish at 6.56 pounds
(Big Fish 2.92)

Final tournament is April 13th weigh ins at Carroll A Campbell in Georgetown providing over \$5,000 in gift cards and a free raffle. It is never to late to join and you do not have to have a team or club at your school to fish. For more information: www.salttfishing.com

winds combined with a very muddy Winyah Bay from weeks of rain. The new launch format of a virtual launch from selective boat landings paid off keeping teams safe as they were able to hide from the wind and find clean water. Over 30 boats participated and 100% of the fish were released alive.

The third of four tourneys for the 2023-2024 school year forecasted heavy

REDFISH

Elementary

1st Fisher Thomas of Georgetown with Big Fish at 1.60 pounds 2nd Mia Mainero of Georgetown with 1.52 pounds

Middle

1st Bryce Reeves and Channing Davis of Anderson with 2 fish at 3 pounds 2nd Bella Holt of Ocean Bay with 1 fish at 2.92 pounds which was also the Big Fish

High

1st Ayden Rouhselang and Aden Day of Conway with 2 fish at 7.96 pounds (Big Fish 4.38)

2nd Chappell Miller of Georgetown with 2 fish at 6.46 pounds 3rd Mackenzie Hardwick of Hartsville with 2 fish at 5.54 pounds

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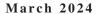
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Patrick McMillan at Hammock Coast Bird Fest

By Jeff Dennis

The Second annual Hammock Coast Birding Festival took place Feb. 8 – 11 on Super Bowl weekend. The host of TV show 'Expeditions with Patrick McMillan' was the keynote speaker for a dinner at Pawley's Plantation, and then he went in the field the next day to the Tom Yawkey Wildlife Center for birding. Multiple properties in the area partner with the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce to promote the migratory species of birds found in winter. A sighting of a Western Kingbird at Brookgreen Gardens gave many birders the chance to add this species to their Life Bird List.

"I am a botanist, but I appreciate the charm of the Hammock Coast," said McMillan. "I stand at 2642 Life Birds all time. Once I saw a bird with a leg band in the Lowcountry, and then when I was filming the TV show in Chile, I saw the same bird after its remarkable migration." McMillan went on to state that S.C. is a weigh station for migrating shorebirds, and that he also marvels at hummingbirds. He implored birders to promote conservation when they can, and cited how native Americans created shell

rings with oyster shells 5000-years ago that are still creating botanical and birding habitat today.

Day One of the Hammock Coast Fest included a visit to Huntington Beach State Park, walking on the North end of the beach including a stroll down the jetty. An immature bald eagle sitting in a dead pine tree where saltwater intrusion is killing the maritime forest was my first sighting of the day. Pelicans, Red-breasted mergansers, sanderlings and



Addie Carter with a Mississippi Kite during a Flight Demo Photo By Jeff Dennis

red-winged blackbirds all came into view. Two horned grebes swimming together in the ocean near the end of the jetty were a joy to view. And no one could miss the playful minks that now call the jetty home.

Later that afternoon the Center for Birds of Prey came to Atalaya Castle to give a flight demonstration with their captive raptors. A Mississippi Kite and a Red-tailed hawk thrilled the birders, as staffer Addie Cater answered any questions about the birds. Saving the best for last, Carter surprised organizers and birders by releasing a rehabilitated Barred Owl into the woods besides the castle, saying that this was a great place for that bird to restart living in the wild after a brief hospital stay with them. Surely, this was the best sighting of the entire weekend.

Day Two at Brookgreen

Gardens began at dawn, so it's a good thing I was staying nearby at the Brookwood Inn. I saw a wood duck fly over, and heard its cry, which was immediately answered by a loud gobble by an unseen turkey nearby in the woods. Our grounp would later see that turkey strutting in a sure sign that Spring is nearing. A visit to their Zoo allowed for close up looks at waterfowl and wading birds for photographers. Besides the bird statues at the Brookgreen Zoo, the Red Wolf Ridge enclosure is a must see, but then its time to get back to birding!

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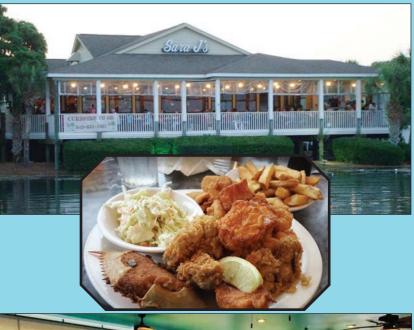




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Fresh Sauteed Flounder Beurre Blanc Chef Richard Florczak

From The Private Chef to the Stars My travels studying in Hong Kong



Don't let the title scare you away. Beurre Blanc roughly means "butter sauce." I can't think of a nicer way to honor the mild taste of the local flounder than with a simple butter sauce made with butter and white wine. The classic sauce uses vinegar but I trade it out for fresh lemon juice which is the universal fish condiment. And it's EASY!

4 flounder filets 1 cup all purpose flour 1/2 tsp salt 3 ounces butter

Whisk together flour and salt

Melt butter in a saucepan large enough to hold two of the filets over medium heat Dredge two of the filets in the flour mixture and shake of any excess flour Place the two filets in the pan and cook about two minutes per side Remove filets from the pan, place on a dish and keep warm Repeat with remaining filets

For the Sauce:

1/4 cup dry white wine ¼ cup fresh lemon juice 2 tablespoons finely chopped shallot 1/3 cup heavy cream

¼ teaspoon salt

2 sticks (1 cup) unsalted butter, cut into tablespoon-size pieces and chilled Boil wine, lemon juice, and shallot in a heavy saucepan over moderate heat until liquid is syrupy and reduced to 2 to 3 tablespoons, about 5 minutes. Add cream and salt and boil for 1 minute. Reduce heat to moderately low and add a few tablespoons of butter, whisking constantly. Add remaining butter a few pieces at a time, whisking constantly and adding new pieces before previous ones have completely melted, lifting pan from heat occasionally to cool mixture. Spoon sauce sparingly, over the filets and serve. If you feel like taking it to the next level, run some black caviar down the centerline of the fish before you sauce it, as pictured.

Michelob ULTRA

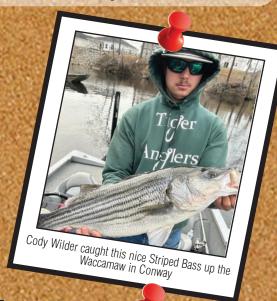
FISH PHOTO OF THE MONTH

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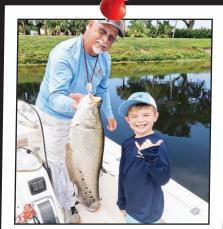


Chip Bull with an incredible catch at the Murrells Inlet Jetties





RIP Mr Robert Reeves (A true Murrells Inlet fishing legend!



Russ Russ with his very first Clown Knife fish in South Florida on Lake Ida



Miss Bella Holt of Team Marshalls Marine had a fear finish in her fists SALTT event



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Fishing Is Coming At Us Full Speed

By John Hurst

Hello Everyone, I hope all is well. We are leaving the winter season and fast approaching the spring season

My waterfowl season in Arkansas was a bust for the most part. We managed to shoot to specklebelly's a couple of great shoots. The dry weather took it's toll on the migration for the most part. It was my 29th season in Arkansas. Waterfowl seasons there have been good to great for a long time. I found myself reminiscing of times gone by. There was also a big change in my attitude towards waterfowl. As I would ride by waterfowl sitting on areas with no pressure. I would hope they stay safe and didn't get shot. The old me would have been plotting to find away to shoot them. The Atlantic Flyway seemed to do much better this season. My thinking on how I would approach future waterfowl seasons has changed. In the past I always stayed at my home in Arkansas from November to February. From now on I plan to go where the ducks are. Lots of different places to go. My life has been filled with many great waterfowl seasons. I am content on my time spent chasing them in my lifetime. I think I would like to help them more in my future than harvest them. I still want to hunt them and a limit is the end game. The older I get, the more I appreciate life over death. My greatest concern is that I get to hunt waterfowl with my grandson. Only time will tell on this concern.

Fishing is coming at us at full speed! Fishing never stops in our region. Theres always something to catch. When the flowers and trees start blooming, the fish spawn starts. This is a great time to fish. The freshwater bite really goes off this time of the year. Saltwater does too mainly on the inshore side. The offshore is good also. Weather plays a key role in the offshore side. Getting there is the key. The bottom fishing as well as trolling is good this time of year. It is crucial to a safe fishing trip to inspect your vessel in all areas. Make sure your bilge pumps are in great working order. Make sure the area that is being drained is clean. Inspect all safety gear. Make sure your anchor and anchor rope is adequate to the depth of water you fish. This is true for all freshwater vessels.



One can never be too safe! I hope everyone stays safe and sound. You don't have the luxury in seeing an accident coming. Be Prepared. I hope everyone has a great upcoming spring fishing season.

There are plenty of freshwater and saltwater guides to take you fishing. It is nice to step on and step off the boat. The guides in our area have everything ready to go. They just need people like you to reel the fish in. Most guides cand be found by searching google for fishing in your wanted area. Get out and enjoy our area. To all who have boats and tackle and not in need of a guide, please support our local tackle shops. Local shops are simple people like us. They need our support. The information that they share could be the difference in a good day from a bad day.

I have started my fishing season. We took and afternoon and went bass fishing. We caught 11 bass and a jackfish in a local lake. Several bites were on a worm. Most of our bites came on a Bagley's Bangolure. All fish were released to bite again. I went inshore fishing with my son &law Captain Buddy Smith. We ended the day with 4 fish. It was a prefish day for a charter the next day. It worked. The next day ended up being great for the clients. I am now looking forward to fishing for herring and shad in the rediversion canal. These trips will combine into a catfishing trip as well. I also look forward to the largemouth bass spawn. Lots to do in all directions. We will also start our offshore meat fish trips soon.

It is time to close now. I hope everyone has a safe and productive spring fishing season.

God Bless All and Stay After Em! John W Hurst





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Opening Season Turkey By Claire Collins

Hello fellow outdoorsman and those aspiring to be. My name is Claire - aside from being a Boat salesman at Marshalls Marine in Georgetown, SC; I'm an animal & nature loving, fish catching and hunting conservationist ... if that is a concept you can follow. In

other words, I



love all of the beautiful resources we have and enjoy them but also have firm beliefs in taking care of those resources and giving back more than we take. I back those claims by ethical practices such as catch and release, participating in local philanthropic



events and of course remembering the 4 C's; Be careful, considerate, capable and courteous. The opportunity to share my experiences and adventures with you all through Trilogy Outdoors is a wish fulfilled and I hope each month you may take something from it!

In preparation for the upcoming opening of Turkey season I want to take a moment to persuade you to be inventive and to utilize as much of your kill as possible. For some this may just be tossing the carcass into a pot of vegetables, herbs and boiling water to make a delicious bone broth instead of tossing it to the trash bin. Many hunters I have talked to on the subject don't usually eat the dark meat, though you certainly could. Alternatives to discarding this meat are to use it in crab traps or cook and feed it to your dogs. There are plenty of ways to minimize waste and I reckon that is the point I am trying to make. To show respect for what we kill I try to find as may uses as possible. For me it is the tedious decision to pluck it by hand so I may repurpose the feathers, rather than dunking it in boiling water and using a chicken plucker or skinning it.

There are numerous ways to butcher a turkey but that is out of my realm, I leave that to the guys after I have harvested my feathers. It is a task and you must be careful not to damage the quill (part of the feather that attaches to the bird), fluff or vanes of the feather. Once I have sorted the feathers by size I clean them. I do this by soaking them in alcohol & peroxide for



about a half hour to sterilize them and then quick rinse with dawn and warm water to remove any debris. Once this is done I lay them on a pan and put them in a sunny place to dry or use clothes pins to hang them from string in the window sill. It is imperative you dry them well to prevent mold. You can then use your fingers or tiny brush to to fix any matted feathers and fluff them back up! This is much more cost efficient than buying craft feathers and yields more from your hunt.

"So now what do you do with your feathers Claire?" I use them for crafts, bowties specifically! Using tulle as the base I make a simple bow. Next - I

weave the quill of the feather through the tulle, tie them down using thread and repeat until I have acquired the desired pattern. Then I trim to the desired shape. I take genuine leather and create the bow knot of

the bowtie and adhere it around the center of the feathers using leather glue. You could use a clear spray glue to set the feathers in place. Though I prefer to simply use a little hairspray prior to wearing. I let my bows cure over night and dry thoroughly and am left with a beautiful product that can be used time and time again. The first bow ties I made were from a canvas back my fiancé hunted in Texas. The feathers were so beautiful and I wanted to make something special for him to remember this trip! His bow ties have been a huge hit and conversation piece. I hope if y'all make your own you love them as much Happy Hunting

Claire Collins







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Turn Your Ground Turkey Into Dinner!

Turkey Empanadas

3 tablespoons olive oil 3/4 pound ground turkey 1 onion, chopped 1 clove garlic, chopped 1 teaspoon cumin 1/3 cup raisins 1/2 cup pitted olives kosher salt and black pepper 2 refrigerated rolled piecrusts, halved



4 cups mixed greens

1/2 small English cucumber, halved lengthwise and sliced

4 radishes, thinly sliced

2 tablespoons red wine vinegar

Heat oven to 375° F. Line a baking sheet with parchment. Heat 1 tablespoon oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add the turkey, onion, garlic, and cumin and cook, breaking the meat up with a spoon, until browned, 3 to 5 minutes. Stir in the raisins and olives; season with 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper.

Top the 4 piecrust halves with the turkey mixture; fold in half and seal the edges. Place on the prepared baking sheet and bake until golden, 20 to 25 minutes.

Meanwhile, in a large bowl, toss the greens, cucumber, and radishes with the vinegar and the remaining 3 tablespoons oil. Serve with the empanadas.

Turkey Fried Rice

3/4 cup long-grain white rice 2 tablespoons canola oil 1/2 pound ground turkey 1 tablespoon chopped garlic 1 tablespoon chopped ginger 4 scallions, sliced

1 cup frozen peas

1 cup snow peas, halved

4 carrots, sliced

2 tablespoons hoisin sauce 2 tablespoons rice vinegar



Cook the rice according to the package directions.

Meanwhile, heat the oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add the turkey, garlic, ginger, and half the scallions and cook, breaking up the meat with a spoon, until browned, 3 to 5 minutes.

Add the rice, peas, snow peas, carrots, hoisin sauce, and vinegar to the turkey mixture and cook until heated through, 2 to 3 minutes. Top with the remaining scallions.



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There are a lot of things that come to mind when people hear the term "cowboy". For some it's Wyatt Earp or John Wayne, or maybe John Dutton. For others they think of out west, oftentimes Texas to be more specific. They think of big hats, boots with spurs, working cattle with horses and all things traditional cowboy. Cowboys from the Carolinas are almost unheard of, but if you look hard enough especially around the woods and swamps of the Great Pee Dee you'll find a group of men, mounted on gritty, resilient horses of a unique breed, spending their days chasing down hogs or ripping up

That group is known by many as "Team Marsh Tacky", a name that comes from the Carolina Marsh Tacky horses that they ride. The Carolina Marsh Tacky is a strain of Spanish Colonial horses that are critically endangered with a little over 500 living today. These horses' genetics trace back to the original Spanish horses that would have been brought over to the new world by the Spanish Conquistadors. In 2010, the Carolina Marsh Tacky was officially named the South Carolina State Heritage Horse

whitetails.

The Cowboy Way

By Colin Drew

President of the Carolina Marsh Tacky Association (CMTA)



due to its role throughout history in our state. At one time these horses were as common as the household dog and their ancestors would have served as transportation, and work animals for most people of the low country.

Today Team Marsh Tacky as well as other owners and breeders from the Carolina Marsh Tacky Association still use these horses for various jobs and purposes just as their ancestors would have. Along with using them for various disciplines like mounted shooting, dressage, endurance, or hunting as we do, the folks in this breed are diligently working to promote the horses and educate people about them and their critically endangered status. Not too long ago, David Grant who to many is known as the Pee Dee Cowboy, Travis McKnight, and myself experienced a day that really displayed what this breed of horses is all about.

The day started with an early morning cup of coffee, the loading of horses and a short drive where Travis and myself would meet up with our mentor David. Plans had been made to hunt weeks in advance when a special opportunity presented itself that none of the three of us would ever turn down. After meeting up with David it was on to our first order of business. A meet and greet with the Special Education program at McLaurin Elementary.

One of the teachers had reached out because they were finishing up their unit on cowboys and thought it would be cool to have some "real

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cowboys" come and talk about their horses. While we may not be the traditional cowboy doing traditional cowboy work this entire day really was a full circle moment for us. You see the one constant that connects cowboys all over the world is the cowboy code. A list of rules so to say that every cowboy lives by and identifies with. A couple of these rules that are dear to our group is to be gentle and patient with children and to always leave people, places or things better than you found them.



This is what our

intent was as we unloaded our horses in the parking lot and made our way toward the group anxiously waiting on us. The joy and the smiles shown by all of these children and their teachers was one of the most pure and infectious things I have ever had the pleasure to experience. They all loved the horses and listened eagerly as I gave the story of the breed, took pictures and were thrilled as we distributed bags full of CMTA goodies for each of them to enjoy. Though we came as a favor to a friend. We all three left feeling extremely blessed and grateful for the opportunity.

We shortly wrapped up our presentation and said our goodbyes, loaded the truck and headed to the hunting grounds for the rest of the day. We hunt a large area of commercial timber and agriculture land that is overrun with hogs that cause several hundreds of thousands of dollars in destruction every year. Coming in with dogs and horses to hunt the hogs is not only helping to keep that damage at bay but also is lower impact on the land than hunting with a side by side or four wheelers. The cowboy code calls for a man to be a steward of the land and the animals. While we aren't farming that land, cutting the timber, or moving cattle in a pasture out west, this is our job and how we

cowboy.

This particular day David and Travis were mounted on their two seasoned point horses Simpson and Toogoodoo, horses who have seen a million miles and thousands of hogs. Adversely, I was mounted on a small but athletic and well trained horse named Po owned by Travis, a horse who had never been hog hunting. Accompanying us were four young dogs who per the words of the Pee Dee Cowboy were "figuring it all out". The intention was for a laid back, easy day with no surprises or very much sporty riding. The hours to follow presented a couple of moments that were anything but our intentions.

To be tolerant and have patience is part of the cowboy code that we all held to during that hunt. It took the pups a while to ever get on. Sent and we had ridden almost ten miles that day before they finally struck. The four young dogs went charging down into a pine bottom as we followed the sound of their adolescent bays. As we drew closer it became evident that these four puppies; two Feists, a bulldog mix and a very bold brown dog that I couldn't quite identify, had bitten off more than they were capable of handling.

Bedded down were around twenty hogs ranging from newborn piglets up to five or six mature boars and sows. When the puppies disrupted their slumber the fight was on. Hogs screamed and ran everywhere, dogs were yelping, and the inexperienced Po was antsy under the saddle. Two big sows rushed David and Simpson and at this point I witnessed the old man do something that looked like it was out of a movie. With one fluid motion and

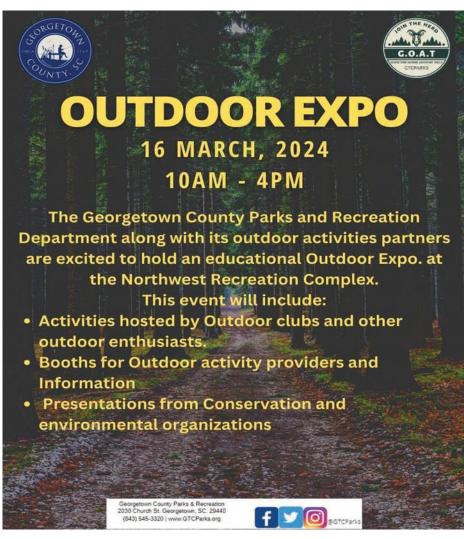
completely composed he drew his lever action rifle from his scabbard, cocked it one handed and fired, dropping the pig at point blank range. He quickly tore off behind two of the dogs which were after a big boar. Moments later another shot rang out while Travis and I were handling smaller hogs that the two Feists had engaged.

I've never seen a horse physically tremble, but in that moment my fresh mount Po was. He pushed through nerves and probably some fear and kept himself and me as his rider safe. Po continuously did things that day that impressed the whole hunting party for his first time. At one point we crossed a large canal that the other horses decided to leap over even when the landings may not have been the most graceful. Po however decided to be slow and steady and inched our way down the side of the steep canal bank to the bottom. This canal was deep, I on his back was looking level with the bank on the other side where the others waited patiently for what Po was to do next. At this point the little horse looked straight up to where the others were, crouched like a frog and jumped flat footed to the bank above.

Po showed his own cowboy in the way he handled the hunt and all its challenges that day. He displayed courage, perseverance and a don't quit attitude that are all part of the cowboy code and what it means to be a cowboy. On the ride back we all had time to reflect on the day and agreed that it was an exciting and fulfilling event for all.

While we aren't working on some large outfit out west like the four six's, bucking ninety in the NFR on a saddle bronc, or leading a pack string through the mountains. The cowboys you can find here in the South Carolina lowcountry, the job they do and the way they live are as cowboy as they come. I am grateful to be able to call these men my friends and to experience memories and adventures like this one with them.

For more information on the Carolina Marsh Tacky Horse, follow us on Facebook or visit https://marshtacky.info



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With deer season upon us, I want to wish everyone the best of luck for the upcoming season!



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TRILOGY OUTDOORS

Murrells Inlet, Oaks Creedk, SC March 2024

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Phase	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Fri 01		6:25 AM EST 0.35 ft	11:47 AM EST 3.38 ft	6:24 PM EST 0.32 ft			6:43 AM EST	6:13 PM EST		9:39 AM EST
Sat 02	12:27 AM EST 3.88 ft	7:11 AM EST 0.48 ft	12:37 PM EST 3.26 ft	7:09 PM EST 0.38 ft			6:42 AM EST	6:14 PM EST	12:06 AM EST	10:14 AM EST
Sun 03	1:22 AM EST 3.90 ft	8:07 AM EST 0.58 ft	1:33 PM EST 3.21 ft	8:06 PM EST 0.42 ft		Last Quarter	6:41 AM EST	6:14 PM EST	1:10 AM EST	10:56 AM EST
Mon 04	2:22 AM EST 3.98 ft	9:15 AM EST 0.59 ft	2:34 PM EST 3.25 ft	9:18 PM EST 0.37 ft			6:40 AM EST	6:15 PM EST	2:13 AM EST	11:48 AM EST
Tue 05	3:24 AM EST 4.14 ft	10:26 AM EST 0.47 ft	3:39 PM EST 3.41 ft	10:33 PM EST 0.20 ft			6:38 AM EST	6:16 PM EST	3:15 AM EST	12:49 PM EST
Wed 06	4:27 AM EST 4.39 ft	11:29 AM EST 0.23 ft	4:43 PM EST 3.69 ft	11:40 PM EST -0.06 ft			6:37 AM EST	6:17 PM EST	4:10 AM EST	1:59 PM EST
Thu 07	5:27 AM EST 4.70 ft	12:25 PM EST -0.06 ft	5:45 PM EST 4.07 ft				6:36 AM EST	6:18 PM EST	4:59 AM EST	3:13 PM EST
Fri 08		12:39 AM EST -0.35 ft	6:24 AM EST 5.01 ft	1:16 PM EST -0.35 ft	6:41 PM EST 4.51 ft		6:35 AM EST	6:18 PM EST	5:41 AM EST	4:28 PM EST
Sat 09		1:35 AM EST -0.61 ft	7:16 AM EST 5.24 ft	2:05 PM EST -0.60 ft	7:33 PM EST 4.91 ft		6:33 AM EST	6:19 PM EST	6:17 AM EST	5:43 PM EST
Sun 10		3:29 AM EDT -0.78 ft	9:05 AM EDT 5.32 ft	3:52 PM EDT -0.77 ft	9:24 PM EDT 5.21 ft	New Moon	7:32 AM EDT	7:20 PM EDT	7:50 AM EDT	7:56 PM EDT
Mon 11		4:21 AM EDT -0.83 ft	9:54 AM EDT 5.23 ft	4:38 PM EDT -0.82 ft	10:13 PM EDT 5.35 ft		7:31 AM EDT	7:21 PM EDT	8:21 AM EDT	9:08 PM EDT
Tue 12		5:13 AM EDT -0.77 ft	10:43 AM EDT 4.98 ft	5:24 PM EDT -0.76 ft	11:03 PM EDT 5.31 ft		7:29 AM EDT	7:22 PM EDT	8:52 AM EDT	10:20 PM EDT
Wed 13		6:05 AM EDT -0.59 ft	11:34 AM EDT 4.62 ft	6:11 PM EDT -0.59 ft	11:57 PM EDT 5.12 ft		7:28 AM EDT	7:22 PM EDT	9:25 AM EDT	11:31 PM EDT
Thu 14		6:57 AM EDT -0.31 ft	12:30 PM EDT 4.22 ft	6:59 PM EDT -0.34 ft			7:27 AM EDT	7:23 PM EDT	10:02 AM EDT	
Fri 15	12:54 AM EDT 4.84 ft	7:53 AM EDT 0.00 ft	1:29 PM EDT 3.88 ft	7:50 PM EDT -0.06 ft			7:25 AM EDT	7:24 PM EDT	10:44 AM EDT	12:42 AM EDT
Sat 16	1:54 AM EDT 4.53 ft	8:55 AM EDT 0.31 ft	2:30 PM EDT 3.62 ft	8:48 PM EDT 0.21 ft			7:24 AM EDT	7:25 PM EDT	11:31 AM EDT	1:49 AM EDT
Sun 17	2:56 AM EDT 4.26 ft	10:07 AM EDT 0.53 ft	3:32 PM EDT 3.47 ft	9:56 PM EDT 0.40 ft		First Quarter	7:23 AM EDT	7:25 PM EDT	12:25 PM EDT	2:51 AM EDT
Mon 18	3:58 AM EDT 4.05 ft	11:21 AM EDT 0.61 ft	4:33 PM EDT 3.42 ft	11:09 PM EDT 0.46 ft			7:21 AM EDT	7:26 PM EDT	1:23 PM EDT	3:45 AM EDT
Tue 19	4:59 AM EDT 3.94 ft	12:23 PM EDT 0.58 ft	5:33 PM EDT 3.48 ft				7:20 AM EDT	7:27 PM EDT	2:23 PM EDT	4:32 AM EDT
Wed 20		12:13 AM EDT 0.42 ft	5:57 AM EDT 3.93 ft	1:12 PM EDT 0.50 ft	6:28 PM EDT 3.61 ft		7:19 AM EDT	7:28 PM EDT	3:23 PM EDT	5:11 AM EDT
Thu 21		1:05 AM EDT 0.32 ft	6:48 AM EDT 4.00 ft	1:53 PM EDT 0.39 ft	7:17 PM EDT 3.81 ft		7:17 AM EDT	7:28 PM EDT	4:22 PM EDT	5:43 AM EDT
Fri 22		1:51 AM EDT 0.21 ft	7:32 AM EDT 4.11 ft	2:28 PM EDT 0.28 ft	7:58 PM EDT 4.01 ft		7:16 AM EDT	7:29 PM EDT	5:19 PM EDT	6:12 AM EDT
Sat 23		2:32 AM EDT 0.10 ft	8:10 AM EDT 4.20 ft	3:01 PM EDT 0.18 ft	8:35 PM EDT 4.20 ft		7:15 AM EDT	7:30 PM EDT	6:14 PM EDT	6:37 AM EDT
Sun 24		3:11 AM EDT 0.02 ft	8:45 AM EDT 4.23 ft	3:33 PM EDT 0.12 ft	9:09 PM EDT 4.35 ft		7:13 AM EDT	7:31 PM EDT	7:09 PM EDT	7:01 AM EDT
Mon 25		3:49 AM EDT -0.03 ft	9:18 AM EDT 4.21 ft	4:04 PM EDT 0.09 ft	9:41 PM EDT 4.44 ft	Full Moon	7:12 AM EDT	7:31 PM EDT	8:04 PM EDT	7:24 AM EDT
Tue 26		4:27 AM EDT -0.03 ft	9:50 AM EDT 4.11 ft	4:36 PM EDT 0.11 ft	10:13 PM EDT 4.47 ft		7:11 AM EDT	7:32 PM EDT	9:01 PM EDT	7:47 AM EDT
Wed 27		5:05 AM EDT 0.02 ft	3.96 ft	5:07 PM EDT 0.16 ft	4.44 ft		7:09 AM EDT	7:33 PM EDT	9:59 PM EDT	8:13 AM EDT
Thu 28		5:42 AM EDT 0.11 ft 6:21 AM EDT 0.23	3.78 ft	5:40 PM EDT 0.23 ft 6:16 PM EDT 0.31	11:23 PM EDT 4.37 ft		7:08 AM EDT 7:07 AM	7:34 PM EDT 7:34 PM	10:59 PM EDT	8:41 AM EDT 9:14 AM
Fri 29	12:05 AM EDT	ft 7:02 AM EDT 0.36	3.61 ft	6:16 PM EDT 0.31 ft 6:55 PM EDT 0.38			7:07 AM EDT 7:05 AM	7:34 PM EDT 7:35 PM	12:02 AM	9:14 AM EDT 9:54 AM
Sat 30	4.29 ft	ft 1:02 AM EDT 0.36	3.47 ft	ft 0.38			EDT EDT	EDT EDT	EDT	EDT



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