

Notes to Consider...

Woodcraft: *Archery (Crossbows)*
By G.S. Morris — 05 March 2018



Many years ago, a fellow teacher with far more bowhunting experience than myself advised if I really wanted to increase my lethality, I should buy a crossbow. "To sixty yards, they shoot like a rifle." He wasn't exaggerating by much.

Across the nation, more and more bow hunters are purchasing crossbows for big game hunting. The reasons for crossbow popularity are the same as they were in the Middle Ages; their high velocity bolts (arrows) are easier to hit with. Growing up, when we went out for squirrels, we didn't go "hunting" with .22 rifles; we went "killing" with shotguns. I'm all for the added challenge of hunting with a compound or recurve bow, but increasing numbers of hunters appreciate the crossbow's efficient ability to put meat on the table, much like the natural movement of black powder hunters from flintlock, to percussion, to inline rifles. A reasonable balance may be to use your crossbow to fill the first couple of spots on your tag, then use the more challenging traditional tackle for the two other spots on the back of your license.

Two weeks ago, we discussed the never ending technology race in compound bows. One could make an argument the tech arms race is even hotter over on the crossbow racks. Recent years have seen "reverse" bow (called a "prod" or "lath" on crossbows) mechanisms and the new Ravin crossbows nearly solve the age old problem with crossbows, namely their "wideness" which makes them unhandy when moving through heavy cover.

Personally, I picked up an Excalibur Vixen II. Canadian made Excalibur bows are most recognized for their trademark recurve prods. Absentmindedly, I've managed to dry fire my Vixen on a couple of occasions (it's easier to do than you may think during long shooting sessions), and it's a testament to the hardiness of the Excalibur product that my bow is just fine (a cotton ball rubbed over fiberglass limbs will reveal any cracks). A pulley based compound crossbow would not have been so forgiving of my lack of pre-shot check consistency ("Did I load a bolt?").

Next Week: Current Events

Shane Morris is a retired soldier and teacher. You may contact him at sigm11@yahoo.com

Inspirational Thoughts Into God's Word

By Lynetta Hunter

There was no set time, place, or way Jesus performed miracles and helped people. The certainty of his divine power meant that whenever the time, wherever the place, or whatever the situation, He had the answer to their problem or need.

Jesus wasn't surprised to see the man with a withered hand in the synagogue that day. Actually, that's why they both were there. Jesus knew the man needed a physical healing and the Pharisees needed a spiritual healing, but only the man was willing to believe and accept His words.

(Jn. 4)The adulterous woman at the well had her own reasons for going there at odd times, but divinely the reason was, to her surprise, to have a life-altering encounter with Jesus as He passed through.

(Mt. 14)The disciples didn't have a clue why Jesus would be walking on the water in the middle of the night, they were just glad He was, for their life was saved because of Him. (Jn. 5)The sick man at the pool of Bethesda was there out of habit, but Jesus came there to specifically transform him. (Mt. 15)Jesus knew the faith and need of a Canaanite woman from across the region, made the trip there, and then delivered her daughter from demons as she asked Him to do. (Mk. 5)Jesus also traveled into another region, Gerasenes, because He knew there was a troubled man there who desperately needed His help.

The point is, the power of Jesus is there for those who need Him and will accept Him, whether it's in church, a hospital, a home, on a body of water, or all the way into another region, no matter if the region is an actual place or state of mind. He knows where we are, how to reach us, and the exact time to get there. God is a present help in time of trouble (Ps. 46:1).

Yards to Paradise Landscaping

Landscaping with Fruits and Nuts

By Max Phelps

While it is a fact some folks don't want to deal with fallen fruit and nuts in the yard, nor colorful bird poop after they steal some of the smaller fruits and then 'nature calls', we are writing for the rest of you all who have a yard and wouldn't mind doing double duty by having both shade and fruit or hedges and fruit. And, who knows, a few of the no-fruit people might change their minds if they read along.

For larger yard trees, typically it's maples and Bradford pears we see on every city block, in practically every yard. (Did you know both produce a lot of pollen, along with oak trees?) Other big trees include ginkgo, sweet gum, elms and zelkova, weeping willow and tulip poplar.

A pecan, chestnut, walnut, fruiting pear, plum, persimmon, or mulberry tree could just as easily provide shade, plus edible nuts and fruits for people and wildlife. Full sized apple trees on seedling or Antonovka rootstocks make a 30 foot tree someday which might produce ten or more bushels of apples per year ten or twenty-five years from now. (And, with careful selection, rather than grabbing a tree at the big box store, you can even find varieties of apples that will hold their fruits for several weeks after they are ripe, or even all winter for a few—unless a great big windstorm comes along, in which case all promises are off about hanging onto their fruit.) Some apples can be as pretty as flowering crab apples.

If you don't have room for a shade tree, then you might replace a redbud or white dogwood with a kousa dogwood or cornelian cherry dogwood that have edible fruit and pretty blooms. Maybe a pawpaw tree or a cherry or a peach. Or dwarf or simi-dwarf apples and pears.

Here's an idea: Bud-9 and M-27 and G-41 dwarf roots produce apple trees no more than 6 to 8 feet tall. Since these little guys need staking, consider an espalier, or how about a hedgerow or cordon with a couple posts and wires to support the trees and plant them three feet apart like you would boxwoods or viburnum shrubs? You could have a thick hedge...loaded with lovely fruit you can pick with no ladder. Wouldn't look bad either—a cordon acting as a hedge with lots of apples for eating and cooking.

Hedges and screens could also be created with jujube trees, currant or gooseberry bushes. A bed of blueberries...especially ones with red or yellow limbs that show in winter, with pink and white blooms in spring, and blue berries in June and July...would look nice.

Borders. Instead of phlox or candytuft or monkey grass, how about a dwarf blueberry or a creeping raspberry or some strawberries? The forsythia bush might be replaced with a honeyberry bush. A burning bush might be replaced with a dwarf cherry bush.

Most have seen contorted filberts, called Harry Lauder's Walking Stick? Well, since hazelnuts need a second variety to cross pollinate, why not find a spot for a couple more hazelnuts, and your contorted one will have one more added attraction. Nuts!

Arbors and fences could be covered with grapes, kiwi, passion flower vines, hops,

You might not have to give up your fall color with nuts and fruits either. Some apples have red or orange fall color, hickory trees have golden yellow, and some grapes have red leaves in the fall.

For everyone, a couple blueberries or gooseberries worked into the flower bed will not even draw attention to your fruiting ambitions. Add in sun chokes (Jerusalem artichokes which look like sunflowers) and they will fit right in with black-eyed-susans and echinacea.

Other edible cuties would include asparagus, service berry bushes, or a raised bed filled with strawberry plants. Strawberries would look good most anywhere you would have a raised flower bed or a terraced wall with flowers just beyond it.

Then, let's don't forget you already probably grow some edibles... for you can eat daylily, hosta, nasturtiums and a whole bunch of things you probably never even considered.

Oak trees drop nuts and sweet gum and sycamore drops stickyballs, so why not some pears or chestnuts? And a full sized apple tree can be limbed up like a maple, with fruits way up high and you can walk under it's limbs. Should you have trouble finding a full sized apple—you can plant a dwarf one really deep so the graft union will be buried and the top part of the tree would put out roots just below the surface and become a full sized tree. Planting some trees too deep may kill them, but it won't be the case with an apple tree. It will become a bigger tree.

Not every nut, not every apple or peach, just like not every maple, will make a perfect lawn tree. But, there are good ones if you search them out. They may be old varieties your grandparents grew, and hard to find. Yellow and red delicious aren't much to look at in the front yard. I know a well planned yard with fruits and nuts can work, for I've done it more than once over the years. My hope is it will also work for some of my readers.

The author is a landscaper. Contact Max via website: rockcastles.net

Whistle Stop Express & Living Stone Outreach

EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 1ST

HWY 2004 IN SAND GAP

EVERY CHILD WILL RECEIVE A GIFT BASKET

Festivities will start @ 11:00

Egg Hunt will begin @ 1.00 p.m.

FREE LUNCH WILL BE SERVED

PRIZE EGGS, INCLUDING LIVE CHICKS

THERE WILL ALSO BE AN ADULT EGG HUNT

606-965-7613 for more info



★ ★ **ELECT** ★ ★

CHARLES
"CHARLIE"
RUSSELL
JAILER



Working for the people of Jackson county!

My name is Charles Russell. Most people in the County call me "Charlie". I've been married to my wonderful wife, Lindsay "Gilbert" Russell for 16 years. I am the son of Gerelene "Brown" Buchignani. My Grandparents are the late Andy Brown and Ruth "Crech" Brown of Tyner. My father is Owen Russell. Grandparents, the late Parkey and Edith "McQueen" Russell of Clay County.

I've been involved in our community for many years. I started working as a young boy on my aunt and uncles farm, where I obtained a strong work ethic. Upon completion of high school in 1998, I started working at Gray Hawk Building supply, where I learned the rewards of working with the public.

In 1997, I started volunteering at pond creek volunteer fire department. It was during this time I found my calling: a passion for helping those in the community. In 2004, I realized that with hard work and setting goals, you can make your passion a reality. I pursued a teaching position with the State Fire rescue training in London. I still work and help firefighters hone their skills throughout the state. During this time I was made aware of federal grants that were available for rural departments for much needed equipment. The result of this hard work and dedication form community members and myself resulted in nearly 100,000.00 in grant money being awarded. In 2005 I set out to acquire a new fire apparatus. With help from the same great people, we were once again awarded 181,000.00 in grant money to purchase the apparatus that is still serving our fine County. In August 2005, I began my career with the City of Berea Fire Department where I'm a Lieutenant and I currently supervise firefighters and volunteers on emergency scenes. I still Love helping in my community!

If I'm elected to the position of jailer, I will work hard to serve the people of Jackson by cooperating with county and state government officials. We will strive to make the jail run more efficiently and become more cost effective. I feel it's necessary to offset the operating expenses of the jail by keeping the inmates out in the community and participating in the work release program. Allowing inmates to take part in the work release program will help alleviate County cost by assisting in cleaning up illegal roadside dumps, working at the transfer station "land Fill", and will also be able to assist with grounds keeping at our beautiful parks and recreation areas, like Flat Lick Falls, which brings tourist to the county along with additional revenue. I will be open to all ideas and suggestions to get inmates involved in the work release program, which in return keeps them healthy and help keeps inmate health care cost lower. I will work hard to help reinstate the incarcerated back into the work force, by assisting with education programs. I will work hard to help them obtain a skilled trade that will be beneficial to them and their community. I will strive to help get employment for the incarcerated to help offset operating cost of the detention center. We have a great group of employees at the detention center that works hard to keep day to day operations operating smooth, and I salute them for their hard work and dedication. I would love to serve our outstanding community that I call my home in this capacity. I will show the citizens and the incarcerated the utmost respect if elected to this position with care and compassion. I would like to ask for your support!

Thank you,
Charlie Russell

Paid for by Charlie Russell