“Our First Deer”
by Rick Wilson

Can you remember your first deer with great detail? I was 15 years old the day I took my first deer, a spike buck. I had been hunting with my best friend, my dad, for 4 long years. I can still remember nearly every detail of that hunt with my British .303 rifle on Town Hill Mountain. That’s the day I thought I became a man. Since the early years of my life, that day has been a date that I have relied upon to remember other important happenings. For instance, I married the love of my life 8 years later. Now, settle in and try to remember some of your great first deer stories as you enjoy 3 very special first deer stories as told by some FHFH KIDS! You may need a tissue in your hand for the last story … allergies this time of the year.

This is Emily, and I want to share my story of my first deer harvest. We didn’t have to wait for long on her to walk in. I could just barely see something move in the brush. Then all of a sudden, I saw a head pop out! I whispered, “There’s a deer.” And Paw Paw said, “Let her walk out first, then get the Barnett crossbow up.” She walked in only seconds after that. I took a good, long look at her before I decided that she was it - the one I’ve dreamed about. This was it. I finally had my chance. I looked through the scope, lined it up perfectly, and then squeezed the trigger. My blood was pumping! I was so happy to get the deer, and I just couldn’t stop smiling! I was so excited to share it with needy people near us!

Paw Paw Henry here. I wanted to let Emily share her thoughts first; (continued on page 2)
and as for me, I was so nervous for her and excited far beyond even when I had taken my biggest buck! At THE SAME TIME, I was trying to stay focused on my part of capturing her hunt on film. Finally, I gave her the green light to take her first ever shot at a live deer! She did as we had practiced and trained for so long. Shot placement is everything to take the animal quick with little trailing! We began to rejoice and hug on the success of taking her first deer, a 3 year old doe! As her grandpa, I was overwhelmed with joy and love for that moment in time that God allowed us to share! Upon the recovery of her first deer, Emily recalled how for years I had taken her Dad, my son, with no success; so she dedicated this harvest to him. I am so proud of her! She is a natural; and it seems as if she has truly found her passion! She has been a cheerleader for 2 years winning many state ribbons; but she loves helping people, so hunting has become her new way of serving others and God! To top it off, she is very proud to now be a part of FHFH KIDS! She used her doe to feed her family at the Thanksgiving Day table with over 30 family members enjoying the BBQ deer meat and thanking her for being the hunter she is!

Maddi & I were hunting from a box blind overlooking a feeder on the opening day of rifle season in North Carolina. Maddi, my oldest daughter, is six years old. She harvested a doe last season, but was on a quest to harvest a "daddy deer" with horns. After getting Maddi settled in, it didn’t take long for a fine spike to show himself. With the aid of a Caldwell dead shot field pod, I got her up on the scope and helped her get steady. I gave her that great command, "When you're ready, squeeze the trigger." It only took a second before that old Remington cracked off and I knew she had struck gold with her shot.

The instant joy that filled that blind was overwhelming for both of us. I told her we would sit and wait to see if another deer would come out; it was still early in the evening. After a few minutes she wanted to lay her hands on that buck for the first time, and I couldn’t wait either, so we went to recover her first buck and take some pictures. Words can’t describe the happiness and joy we shared in those moments.

Guess what, it even got better with God blessing her with her first buck as well this season! Upon taking her buck she said to me, "Paw Paw, can I feed some needy people with this harvest?" Then I knew God had begun to stir in her heart and she was becoming His servant!

This past hunting season one of our FHFH Coordinators in North Carolina, Willie Duvall, shared how our Heavenly Father blessed his daughter, Maddi, with her first buck. However, that was just the beginning of the memorable hunt that Willie describes.
she replied, “You know, that place where we take the deer to give to all the people that don’t have any food.” So I asked her again to make sure I was hearing what I thought I was hearing. And she said, “Yea daddy, I want to give my deer to those people that don’t have any food.” So that is what we did. The ride to the processor was one of the most joyous rides I have ever taken. I told her that her decision to do that was such a mature and Godly thing to do, and words could not describe how proud I was of her. That evening made me proud for this very special young lady to call me daddy. Maddi has a huge heart for helping people and for being in the outdoors. At even such a young age, she has figured out how to do both at the same time.

Shortly after that hunt, Willie shared with me how Jesus blessed their 3rd Annual Dreaming Big Deer Hunt hosted by the Glenola Sportsmen for Christ group in the following very special way.

Willie Duvall’s North Carolina FHFH Chapter and his Glenola Sportsmen for Christ Group held their 3rd Annual Dreaming Big Deer Hunt for those with special needs. Youngster Ty Yelton was the “Big Doe” winner; and the “Big Buck” winner was a military veteran who took 14 rounds to the body during his service in Afghanistan. Among the 28 handicapped hunters who took 17 deer, with 11 first timers, there was a blind 6 year old girl who attended with her grandfather. Willie and his friends were scratching their heads figuring out how to help her shoot a deer. They were soon surprised to learn that she came simply to “pet” a deer. Wanting to pet a dead deer seems strange – until you realize those who are blind often “see” things with their hands.

When Willie’s own daughter Maddi (also 6 years old) led her new blind 6 year old friend to pet the first deer taken, tears of joy filled their eyes – along with the eyes of the nearly 20 adults who surrounded them.

These new hunters, as well as many others across America, have honored the request of their Heavenly Father that includes a test with the following promise:

10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it.”

Malachi 3:10 (NKJV)
FHFH Team

We welcome these individuals who have joined FHFH as Local Program Coordinators:

Idaho
Tyrel Lester
Treasure Valley FHFH (ID-01)
County served: Boise County

Maryland
Mike Amoss
Harford County FHFH (MD-12)
County served: Harford

Maryland
Jake Marquis
Western Maryland FHFH (MD-01)
Counties served: Allegany, Garrett, Washington

Maryland
Wayne McPartland
North Baltimore FHFH (MD-11)
County served: North Baltimore County

FHFH Coordinators Needed

FHFH chapters are still needed in states and counties without an FHFH chapter. Coordinators are needed specifically in states of NC, SC, GA, and TN.

If you know of anyone interested in becoming an FHFH coordinator, please ask them to call the national FHFH office at 866-438-3434 or visit the “Become A Coordinator” page at www.fhfh.org.

A current list of existing chapters and coordinators along with the counties they are serving can be found at www.fhfh.org.
Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry Serves Hope to the Underprivileged

LIMA – Meat is central to many Americans’ diet, but with the price rising, the protein source can be hard to come by for those who struggle with food costs.

West Central Ohio Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry helps with this growing need by donating livestock and deer, for beef and venison, to local food pantries and kitchens.

Founded in 1997 by Rick Wilson, the national organization has made more than 13 million meals possible for the underprivileged by asking farmers and hunters to donate their livestock and deer to be processed and then donated to food pantries and soup kitchens.

In Allen and Auglaize counties, Mike Armentrout has been working with the FHFH since 2010, and as the chapter coordinator, he oversees contracts with processors, hauling donations, marketing, and handling the organization’s finances. Armentrout’s work is all volunteer.

“My brother was in Iraq and I was looking for something to do for myself, to get involved,” said Armentrout. “I probably put 300 to 400 hours of my own time into trying to get contracts, meeting with people, talking to programs, getting paperwork done and turned in for year end, and going to see butchers every few weeks.”

Walter & Sons Inc. Wholesale & Retail Meats and Kah Meats in Wapakoneta work with Armentrout to process meat at a discounted price.

For information about the group or how to donate, find West Central Ohio Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry on Facebook.

“A hunter goes out and harvests an animal, they can come to two different processors that we have,” Armentrout said. “They can donate the whole deer, or they can donate one pound of meat, as much or as little as they want.” FHFH pays for the processing, so all hunters have to do is fill out a piece of paper and be on their way.

Once a deer has been processed, different agencies are called to come pick up the meat. FHFH works with Mercy Unlimited Inc. in Wapakoneta, Our Daily Bread, Saint Luke’s Lutheran Church, Churches United Pantry, and more. “With Our Daily Bread, they cook that meat up, and make different meals with it,” Armentrout said. “Saint Luke’s Church, in January, February, and March, we have a free community meal, where we cook chili. They come in, and we have lots of sides.” In the last three years Saint Luke’s has served 4,000 bowls of chili, Armentrout said.

The average deer donated makes about 200 meals and is about 50 pounds of meat. Armentrout says the average is 15 to 25 deer donated a year. FHFH’s No. 1 need is donated animals, whether hunted deer or livestock. FHFH will not take road kill.

(continued on next page)
Hi there,

I just read the article (in *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*) about Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry and, wow, what a wonderful cause and organization! Thanks for all the meaningful work you're doing.

Kindly,
Carl Bell
Development Associate
Marist Catholic High School
Supporting FHFH to Help Feed the Hungry

Your VOTE for FHFH Helped Raise Money to Feed the Hungry!

Thank you to Wingshooting USA TV - Truck Vault Cares and all who voted for FHFH in the TruckVault Cares Campaign!

Wingshooting USA TV-TruckVault Cares initiative concludes with almost 100K votes

Almost 100,000 votes were recorded in the fourth annual Wingshooting USA TV “TruckVault Cares … for conservation, canines & kids … presented by Paw Print Genetics” initiative. Top vote-getter among six groups was the National Police Dog Foundation. The final vote was recorded at one minute before the deadline of midnight Dec. 31, 2014.

Wingshooting USA fans supported six different groups with their votes at the TruckVault Facebook page and website. Voters were eligible for prizes throughout the campaign, and each group will receive a share of the $10,000 funding pool based on total votes tallied. The 99,061 votes were distributed as follows:

1. National Police Dog Foundation - 48,412
2. German Shorthaired Pointer Rescue - 40,411
3. Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry - 4,447
4. Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership - 3,308
5. Quail and Wildlife Federation - 1,708
6. USA Shooting - 775

In addition to raising funds, national television commercials and features on Wingshooting USA generated new members and supporters for the groups, said creator/show host Scott Linden. An extensive social media effort and online promotion by each group motivated supporters and helped each cross-promote among other groups’ members.

Additional sponsors for TruckVault Cares … for conservation, canines & kids … presented by Paw Print Genetics include Happy Jack dog care products, Filson apparel, Fiocchi ammunition, Pursuit Channel, Linden’s Signature Series of dog gear, SportDOG, and O.F. Mossberg & Sons.

The television portion of the campaign highlighted the work done by each group: USA Shooting, training and sanctioning organization for U.S. Olympic and Paralympic shooting sports, Quail and Upland Wildlife Foundation provides funding and manpower for on-the-ground projects, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership’s primary goal is to ensure public access to public lands, Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry funds processing and facilitates hunter donations of meat to needy families, German Shorthair Club of America’s dog rescue effort finds new homes for lost and abandoned hunting dogs, and the National Police Dog Foundation, which buys, trains, and cares for active and retired law enforcement canines.

The most-watched upland bird hunting show on television, Wingshooting USA is the official TV series of the National Shooting Sports Foundation. More information: Scott Linden, 541-382-1726
FHFH in the Community

Surry County FHFH Gun Giveaway

Surry County FHFH held a gun giveaway July 4, 2014, at Colt’s Hot Dog Shack.

Robby’s donated a 22 magnum for the gun giveaway!

In the photo on the left is an employee at Colt’s Hot Dog Shack drawing the winning ticket and Surry County FHFH Coordinator Mike Marsh. In the photo on the right is Mike Marsh, gun giveaway winner Larry Ramey, and a representative from Robby’s.

Partnering with FHFH to Help Feed the Hungry

Gwinnett Braves Award November Grant to North Georgia Foothills Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry


Gwinnett Braves Award November Grant to Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry
Organization receives $1,000 “Thanksgiving” themed grant

LAWRENCEVILLE, GA – The Gwinnett Braves have announced the recipient of their $1,000 grant for the month of November. Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry, Inc. has been awarded the “Thanksgiving” themed grant, aimed at funding an organization that works to end hunger.

Meat can be a difficult and costly item for food banks and feeding ministries to obtain. Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry (FHFH) is an outreach ministry that seeks to transform the renewable resource of deer and other wild game into food for the hungry through locally established chapters. For the past eight years, the North Georgia Foothills FHFH Chapter has provided over 5,000 pounds of venison to local food needy groups.

The $1,000 grant awarded by the Gwinnett Braves helped the North Georgia Foothills FHFH Chapter pay for the processing costs of donated deer. On average, it costs around $55 to cut, package and distribute one deer to local food banks. Funds may also be used toward promoting the option of deer donation to the local farming and hunting community through printed, web and broadcast media.

"We are truly blessed to have the Gwinnett Braves partner with Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry to provide assistance to our food ministry,” said Joe Schuster, President of the FHFH Georgia Foothills Chapter. “FHFH raises funds from sponsors like the G-Braves to process protein enriched venison donated by local hunters which is then directed to the food needy. The Abba House of Cumming, GA, a ministry focused on helping women break free from addiction and abuse, was the recipient of our harvest this year.”
Partnering with FHFH to Help Feed the Hungry

Outdoor Organizations Donate to FHFH

December 16, several outdoor organizations gathered at Steve’s Meat Market in Arvada, CO, to donate $2,000 to the CO-01 Chapter of FHFH. The Colorado Wildlife Federation gave Gregg Kay a donation of $250.00.

Attending the event were:
- Gregg Kay, Coordinator, FHFH CO-01
- David Kay, Co-coordinator, FHFH, CO-01
- Steve Hein, Steve's Meat Market
- Tim Brass, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
- John Gale, National Wildlife Federation
- Aaron Kindle, Trout Unlimited
- Nick Payne, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
- Don Holmstron, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
- Kent Ingram, Colorado Wildlife Federation

FHFH is grateful for the support of these organizations to help feed the hungry!

From The Outdoor Wire:
“Public Lands Sportsmen Donate to Needy”
"We're very grateful to Colorado public land sportsmen for this generous donation, which is particularly helpful during this busy time of year. This donation will be used to help defray the cost of processing and delivering game meat to those in need," said Greg Kay, Co-Chair of the local Chapter of Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry.

The full article is at www.theoutdoorwire.com/story/1418780302vyn02wkrz3q9

From The Denver Post
“Willoughby: Sportsmen share public-land harvest with the hungry”
By Scott Willoughby

With the freezers full at home, about a dozen sportsmen representing the Colorado Wildlife Federation, National Wildlife Federation, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, Trout Unlimited and Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, gathered to provide a donation of both food and money to Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry.

The nonprofit organization serves as a conduit connecting farmers and hunters with those in need through approved donations of wild meat to food banks and shelters. And while the actual meat is a vital element in the equation, the high cost of meat processing can act as a barrier to feeding even more families.

"Everybody has something they can do for somebody; this is just one little thing we can do," said Steve Hein, owner of Steve's Meat Market, which offers a discount to Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry. "Whether it's through discounted processing fees, or collecting donated meat from others, we're glad to do what we can."

In addition to doing their part through meat donations and a check for $2,000, the conservation groups noted that the game meat all came about as a result of hunts on public lands.

The full article is at www.denverpost.com/willoughby/ci_27150926/sportsmen-share-public-land-harvest-hungry
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$35 Supporting Membership

Your $35 membership helps hunters and farmers provide much needed nutritious meat to the hungry among us nationwide!

Supporting Members Receive:
- FHFH Logo Mossy Oak Hat (alternate style available by request)
- Annual FHFH “For I was Hungry” Newsmagazine
- Vinyl FHFH Logo Decal
- FHFH Supporting Membership Card
- Entry into Annual Hunger Busters Sweepstakes
- 20% Discount off FHFH Logo Gear in online store

To join as a Supporting Member or give a Gift Membership visit www.fhfh.org/supporting-membership.html to join online or print and mail a form or call 1-866-438-3434
START A CHAPTER - GIVE SUPPORT - DONATE A DEER

THE 2X16 CHALLENGE

Hunters and landowners have provided nearly 16 Million Meals since 1997 with FHFH. On average around 1.5 Million Meals are provided annually through FHFH chapters. Help us reach the 2X16 Challenge Goal of providing 2 Million meals annually through 200 FHFH Chapters across our nation. You can join the hunt against hunger in your neighborhood today!

Start a chapter, give support, or donate a deer.

Over 48 Million hungry men, women, and children are waiting for your help!

Make a tax-deductible contribution to FHFH by calling toll-free 1-866-GET-FHFH or visiting www.fhfh.org!

Like us on Facebook at facebook.com/feedingthehungry
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State & Local
Special thanks to these corporations, organizations and foundations who provide a significant amount of financial support for our work. Some provide support to feed the hungry of a particular state while others focus their support on specific communities. Together these sponsors are helping to feed nutritious venison to many thousands of our hungry neighbors!

Baltimore County Game & Fish Protective Association (MD)

Churches United of the Quad City Area (IL)

Coon and Critter Catchers (OH)

D.C. Central Kitchen, Inc. (DC)

Emmanuel United Church of Christ (OH)

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (OH)

Legacy Foundation (CA)

Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Maryland Grain Producers Utilization Board

Maryland Soybean Board

Mathias Washington County Charitable Trust (MD)

Monsanto Company (MI, TN)

Mountain View Community Church (MD)

National Rifle Association (OH)

New Life Ministries (OH)

Ohio Department of Natural Resources

St. Alban’s Parish (DC)

Schwab Charitable Fund (IL)

T. Rowe Price Program (MD)

Wal-Mart Foundation (AZ, FL, GA, IL, IN, LA, MD, MO, MT, NC, OH, SC, TN)

Wells Fargo Bank (NC)

Whitetails Unlimited, Inc. National Headquarters (OH)

To find out how your corporation or organization can become a Corporate or State/Local Sponsor, please email us at staff@fhh.org or call 1-866-Get FHFH today!