

Americus Times Recorder

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A child's 'Make a Wish' deer hunt happens in Schley County

On Oct. 23-25, the Rock Hill Hunting Preserve hosted its "Make A Wish" for five special hunters this year. All had the opportunity to shoot at deer and four them harvested their first deer. The hunters were Mackenzie Carter of Tifton, Daniel Collins of Fitzgerald, Colton Moore of Columbus and Myles and Mattox Woodard of Waycross.

These hunters registered for the hunts through the United Special Sportsman Alliance (USSA) www.childswish.org

Everyone arrived Friday afternoon in time to shoot on the range to get comfortable with their weapons. They went to their stands with local guides Friday afternoon where three of the hunters got their first deer.

Saturday morning they went out again and shot at a few, but missed them. They got one more chance Saturday afternoon to try to improve their record. One more doe was shot on the last hunt.

This is the fifth USSA hunt that Rock Hill has sponsored and was successful because of the hard work accomplished by the volunteers. Local citizens cooked, cleaned, guided the hunts, and kept the children and their families company. Douglas Jamieson said that he extends his personal thanks to Rusty and Mary Taylor (owners) and everyone that donated, volunteered or helped in anyway. Douglas said if he listed the volunteers he would be afraid that he would leave someone out, but they have been the backbone of the success for the past five years.

The United Special Sportman Alliance Inc. (USSA) is an all-volunteer 501[c] [3] non -profit with granting charity that specializes in sending critically ill and disabled youth and disabled veterans on the outdoor adventure of their dreams. USSA adventures give youth and veterans something to look forward to and help sustain them in their time of need. Families are whisked away from the mundane, man- made world of hospitals and high medical bills by giving them a place of peace to focus on the quality of life, family ties and the wonders of the natural world. The USSA is composed of a 100 percent volunteer staff from all walks of life, bonded together by common love for our fellow mankind and deep respect and appreciation of our world's natural resources. By working cooperatively, caring adventure donors as well as generous individuals and cooperating sponsors, USSA has made a significant impact on the lives of thousands of children, disabled veterans and their families. The public image of all sportsmen is enhanced through this valuable community service an new lifelong friendships are made.