After appearing on Johnboy and Billy USSR’s President, Brigid O’Donoghue was contacted by Johnny Davis. His son, JC, was 12 years old, and battling Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB). People with EB have skin as fragile as a butterfly’s wing which can blister at the slightest touch. The affected population in the U.S. is approximately 12,500 people.

Johnny told Brigid that it was always his sons dream to harvest a whitetail deer, but being that he wasn’t a hunter himself, he would need some special help. Brigid contacted the Mississippi Department of Natural Resources who put her in contact with two local game wardens, Eddie Laster and Brent Madden. Within a week JC was out target practicing and as Brent Madden said, “JC was a one shot wonder”.

As it got closer to the deer hunt JC’s mother got sick and Johnny couldn’t take his son. Troy Jens, USSR board member, picked up this special young man (JC) from his home in Mississippi and took him to the Circle T Wildlife Ranch just south of San Antonio, Texas. Although JC used a wheelchair for mobility, he also got around by walking on his knees, an adaptation from his strong spirit and independent nature. Troy Jens said, “JC loved to hunt and fish, and we were glad to be able to give him the chance to go deer hunting with the help of the Circle T Wildlife Ranch and the United Special Sportsmen Alliance”.

They arrived at the Circle T Ranch on Tuesday afternoon, where they were greeted by Terry Retzloff, Clay Luthringer and Carroll Retzloff. The ranch was awesome, and the hospitality was outstanding. They took JC out and set up a target range where he learned to shoot a .6mm rifle. JC hit within 6 inches of the bulls eye every time. Troy Jens said, “Not bad for a 12-year-old who had never shot a high powered rifle before”.

They took JC out to a tree stand, where he managed to climb up the ladder and begin the patient wait for a buck. A few deer arrived in the area within range, and JC picked out a beautiful 8 pointer that stood in the field about 100 yards from his stand. JC leveled his .6mm rifle, took a couple of breaths and fired a perfect shot. He could not have hit the buck any better.

JC was really excited as Clay Luthringer and Terry and Carroll Retzloff went to retrieve his deer. They were then treated to some great Texas cooking at the cabin to celebrate JC’s first deer. The Circle T can be reached at (www.circletwildlife.com). The fine folks at the Circle T have been very gracious in donating hunts to a number of special USSR kids, and we are very thankful for their help.

United Special Sportsmen Alliance (www.childswish.com)