



WILD ROSE

by Brigid O'Donoghue

FANATIC FEATURE

Wild Rose, Wisconsin, is a town blessed with hundreds of acres of high quality Christmas trees. The Christmas spirit of giving and compassion for others is typified by Back Achers Ranch owned by Bev and Danny Schuman.

The Schumans have operated a scientific breeding facility as well as a hunting operation since 1991. The Schumans have sponsored three previous hunts for the disabled and critically ill hunters. As Bev said, "We really enjoy these special hunters. We love taking kids under our wing and teaching them like our own grandchildren."

A Wisconsin town north of Wild Rose is also famous nationwide, but not for Christmas trees as Wild Rose, but for cheese – Colby cheese.

Mary and Kevin Lieder's 18-year-old son, Trenton, was a typical active teenager. He loved motor sports and was an accomplished motocross racer at a young age. Sometimes accidents happen in fast paced motor sports, and the one that happened to Trenton paralyzed him from the chest down. In addition, the triceps nerves were damaged and he has no use of his fingers. As would be expected, the injury threw a pail of cold water on the fire of life for this young man.

When Brigid O'Donoghue of United Special Sportsman Alliance (U.S.S.A.) heard of this young man and his low spirits, she thought to herself, "Here is a new whitetail fanatic waiting to happen."

After the proper arrangements were made, Kevin Lieder and his son Trenton were off to Back Achers Ranch to meet Bev and Danny Schumann and their well known cook, John.

Rain was falling in Wild Rose that day and while the relief from the summer-long drought was welcomed, the rain didn't improve the outlook for the early afternoon hunt.

As a steady rain dripped off the overhang to the front of the blind, Kevin, Trenton, John and Danny rehearsed their preparations. Trenton had rigged an

s-hook to a band around his wrist to use on the trigger if an opportunity presented itself since his fingers were not able to function.

As the foursome sat in the covered ground stand, a stainless Ruger .243 with a bipod sat silently waiting as well, waiting to fill the valley with the crack of a well placed shot by this special young man.

There was very little movement until early in the evening when the rain lessened. Then three immature bucks began feeding at the back side of the clearing. They were nice bucks by most standards, but Danny thought Trenton may do better with a little luck. As the three young bucks moved on, the movement of deer slowed back down for about forty-five minutes. Then, down off a big hill three really nice bucks came trotting down to graze as the younger bucks had done earlier. These three bucks were big-time attention getters and the special young hunter was riveted to the scene unfolding before him.

Trenton whispered what he thought and Danny, John and his father all confirmed their assessment that any one was a good one! After a minute of evaluation on the good points of each, the old saying crept into their heads, "He who hesitates is lost."

With cool deliberation, Trenton leveled the Ruger .243, got the s-hook around the trigger and then Dad released the safety. A sharp crack shook the peaceful valley and an extra nice 8-pointer reacted predictably to the lung shot put on him by Trenton. The buck stumbled up the hill in the direction he came from and soon collapsed less than 100 yards from where the shot hit him.

Danny headed out to confirm what they had expected – a downed nice buck. Danny's excited wave by the edge of the clearing brought elation to the hunters in the stand.

After rolls of pictures, home video taping and the associated excitement of a successful hunt, the buck was taken back to be processed. In the spirit of giving, Trenton suggested he donate the meat to a hungry family if it was alright with the Schumans, and of course they said it was fine with them.

Feeding our nation's hungry is an excellent way for sportsman to give back to the community some of the Lord's blessings given to them!

Taxidermists nationwide have generously offered their services to these special sportsmen who often times are financially on the brink of disaster. A special thank you goes out to all of them! Visual reminders of a special hunt helps keep the inner fires burning deep inside whitetail fanatics everywhere, including ones with special needs!

U.S.S.A. would like to personally thank all those who helped make Trenton's hunt possible - owners of Back Achers Ranch, Northland Cranberry and Mathews Solocam.

People and businesses that sincerely care about our hunting heritage and hunter recruitment help form the next generation of whitetail fanatics.

A special thanks goes to the members of the media such as *The Whitetail Fanatic* magazine for their critical role in spreading the word of human compassion and outdoor heritage! God bless you and good hunting.



United Special Sportsmen Alliance

U.S.S.A.™ is a non-profit charity granting America's terminally ill and disabled sportsmen a chance to experience the great outdoors.



• Hunting • Fishing • Canoeing • Camping

If you know of a terminally ill or disabled child who would like their "special dream" answered, or if you would like to be a member and or sponsor please contact U.S.S.A.™. Our goal is to help everyone share in the joy of fulfilling a child's dream.



"There is no greater affection than that freely given by a child, there is no greater fulfillment than being able to fulfill a child's lifelong dream"

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