

Hunters that come to town disappointed

By Norma Martinez
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Early Saturday morning, local resident, Clayton Janicke was hunting the fields with his sons, Walker, Devon, and Jordan, along with friends Don Clymer and Greg Berkley from Denver. They were hunting with their four dogs, Zoe, Sadie, Roche who belong to Mr. Clymer, and Mr. Berkley, and Zeus who belongs to the Janicke's.

All four dogs in the field were well trained and working together as they had been taught to do. They were sniffing down the rows of stubble, and weaving back and forth in front of the four hunters.

Clayton and his younger son Devon were in the bar pit, waiting for any birds who might fly out into their direction. Their dog, Zeus, was waiting to retrieve birds that were downed.

The group said that in the time they had been in the fields, they had stirred up 14 or 15 birds, but Greg Berkley was the only one who had downed one.

Clayton Janicke said things were not looking good at all for a good hunt this year. "I am hoping we will be surprised", he said, "but it looks like a slim picture this year." He said that they have

had several years that were good. Even last year was good, in spite of the drought. Today, he said, would be like shooting in January during a normal year.

Clayton's three boys, Walker, Devon, and Jordan, all started hunting as soon as they were strong enough to hold a gun. He and his two youngest boys, Devon and Jordan, and their dog Zeus went out the week before, with the youth group of 16 years and under boys. All they saw were two pheasants, and things were not looking much better for them today.

Clint Bursch was hunting with Brian Maple from Dodge City. They had been hunting with a group of five. Out of the five, they downed 10 and probably missed another 10.

Rod Klepper was seen on Sunday with his two sons, Nick and Kent, and grandson Ethan Young. They saw a lot of birds, but only downed eight. Kent said they were hunting with some guys from Colorado.

Dee and Stan Dorsch's son, Scott Dorsch, from Ft. Collins, was enjoying the Fireman's Amish Haystack dinner with Tom Choinacki, Deren Signorelli,



GREG BERKLEY, Don Clymer and Walker Janicke and their hunting dog Zoe hunt for pheasants.

Herald staff photo by Norma Martinez

Dana Srdoc, Travis Signorelli, Dana Srdoc's son D.J., and Matt Sawyer. Soon, as they finished eating, they planned on returning to the fields on Dee Dorsch's farm out on 23 K. At that time, they only had two pheasants and one tom turkey. These guys all went to school together at Columbine High School in Colorado, and have been hunting together for five years. They said this year is the scarcest season they have

ever seen. They usually all down five or six a piece. Two years ago they were hunting down east with a group of 15 hunters and they all left town taking their limit of bird's with them.

Scouting out around the other side of Highway 36 found Taryn and Kyler Zwegardt and Bud Killingsworth from St. Francis hunting along the taller weeds along the bar pits. Kyler had just downed a bird. So far, they had

downed only two birds, and scared up about six.

Everyone had the same thing to say about this year, "It is the worst year ever for Kansas hunting". They all contributed it to the drought. It was so dry, the young birds just didn't survive. Those with dogs were having better luck in stirring them out of hiding than those that were just walking the fields. The local farmers were telling their usual yearly hunters that they had only seen a very few during corn picking time.

Ordinarily, they chase flocks of them from the fields with their equipment.

This didn't stop most of these out of town hunters, as this is vacation time they look forward to every year. They will come anyway, just for the opportunity to visit and play cards together. Going home with their limit, or just a few birds, make them happy, but they look forward to relaxing with their long time hunting buddies and Bird City friends every year.



STATE REPRESENTATIVE Ward Cassidy attended the Veterans Day dinner and Charles Coleman was showing him the Memorial room containing flags representing 145 Honorary veterans.

Herald staff photo by Norma Martinez

Vets recognized with meal, program

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On Nov. 11, Century II and the members of the board paid tribute to 50 Veterans and wives by honoring them with a very special dinner at the American Legion Hall. Century II board members, along with Kathy Domsch, served the deliciously cooked beef dinner after Pastor Dan Carson had led the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer dedicating the moment to all Veterans and their wives.

Darci Shields welcomed them all, and gave this brief history on how Veterans Day came about: "On the eleventh hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, an armistice between Germany and the Allied nations came into effect. On Nov. 11, 1919 Armistice Day was commemorated for the first time. President Wilson proclaimed the day should be "filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service, and with gratitude for the victory". Congress changed the words "Armistice" to "Veterans" on June 1, 1954, and Nov. 11 became a day to honor all American veterans, wherever and whenever they had served.

Following the dinner, State Representative Ward Cassidy gave a brief "thank you" to those who served in the military. Rose and Dennis Hengen, with the assistance

of the elementary and junior high teachers, brought the Cheylin first thru eighth grade students to sing. They sang the Star Spangled Banner, American Tears, and You Are Our Hero.

Charles Coleman presented a special plaque to Gary Brubaker, one of Century II's board members, for the dedication and support they have provided to all Bird City past and present Veterans throughout the years.

Everyone in attendance received an American Legion Post Memorial Room Honorary Booklet, put together by Century II. This booklet lists all the 145 flags on display in the Memorial Room. Each of these flags represents a local veteran who served during a war or wars, and has since passed. These flags each once draped the caskets of the deceased Veteran, and the family chose to leave it with the American Legion Post. Offering due respect to the Veterans and their families, Century II compiled these books with the Honorary Veterans names listed by the order they have been presented to the Memorial. These flags can now be observed with honor, by connecting a name and wars they served to the flags in each of the four columns. Space has been left in the booklets to add any new flags that are added to the fifth column.

In order for Mrs. Shields to

properly and truly honor all the local veterans for their dedication to our country, she said she had to research sources that could give her an understanding of what Veteran's Day is all about. In her 3 months of research and education, Mrs. Shields gained a 'passionate understanding' and deeper sense of what it meant to "serve our country". This deeper understanding, she said, helped her realize that in America, many people take their freedom and rights for granted such as; freedom of speech, the right for women to walk in public without covering their faces, freedom to worship in the way the individual person chooses and they do not have to fear being murdered or tortured for doing so. "The rights and freedoms we have right here in the United States were built by our founding fathers, and fought for by our many veterans throughout the years," she said. With these insights, she reflected on the daily basis of comforts these veterans gave up, such as; hard ground vs. a bed, air conditioning vs. trekking for days in the heat loaded down with their gear, lack of food and water, leaving their families behind for months at a time. They simply put their life on hold to assure the betterment of their country and risk their lives to better secure the protection of others.



DAN CARSON led the pledge of allegiance and introductory pray for Veterans Day.

Herald staff photo by Norma Martinez

"Each one of you", she said, "has a different story and different memories; you've walked where many have not, and seen things most of us couldn't begin to imagine. These sacrifices and commitments for our country are beyond what any one of us can ever re-pay."

On behalf of the Century II, we extend our sincerest gratitude to each and every one of you! Whether you're a veteran, their spouse, or their family member, we thank you!!!

Free trash pick up for heavy items

Bird City is going to have a free heavy trash pick up day on Saturday, Nov. 16. To have trash picked up, it must be placed in the street, in front of your house, before 10 a.m. Saturday morning.

To have trash items picked up, please separate them into the following different groups and place them so a volunteer can pick them up:

Metal: Washer, dryer, stove, refrigerator and scrap metal.

Construction: Cement, asphalt, porcelain sink, tub, toilet.

E-Waste: Anything with a cord, mixer, lamp, toaster, phone, TV, computer, microwave.

Liquid: Paint, solvent, oil, anti-freeze, chemicals.

Organic: Tree limbs under 4-inches in diameter, leaves, brushes, plants (no grass clippings).

Tires: All sizes but must be off the rim.

Trash: All those other items you just want to get rid of.

Volunteers are needed to help make this event work. Rolls and coffee will be provided at the Senior Center at 9 a. m. for those who come out to help. Lunch, consisting of ham and beans, will be provided to all the volunteers and workers at 12:00.

Cheylin sponsors chili cook off

Cheylin schools is sponsoring a Chili Bowl cook-off on Friday, Nov. 22 at the Legion Hall in Bird City. This is a fund raiser for landscaping, future exercise equipment and up-keep of the Cheylin Wellness Center. It will be an event you won't want to miss.

Serving starts at 5:30 p.m., so come and enjoy the chili contestant's wonderful creations. At 7 p.m., there will be an auction of the garden shed, built by Mr. Hengen's wood class. Following the auction, there will be a lively quiz bowl

with student's teams against teams of parents, teachers and community members. Come enjoy the evening and support the Cheylin Wellness Center.



Kansas Day theme set at first meeting

The first planning meeting for the 2014 Kansas Day was held in the Bird City Historical Association room, in the Robertson-Griffin-Bacon Memorial Building on Friday, Nov. 8. Those present were Rod Klepper Sally Wieck, Rosemary Powell, Helene Landenberger, Marsha Magley, and Shirley Watson.

The American Legion Hall has been reserved for Jan. 29. The theme for Kansas Day will be "Homestead Heritage". The Lutheran Ladies will be in charge of the kitchen, and the Wesleyan Ladies are in charge of the decorations. More will be announced about the guest speaker and other items on the agenda as plans are finalized.