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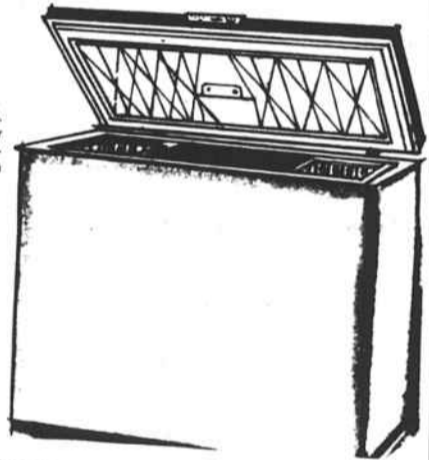
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7 A.M. Until 11 P.M.

Wildlife
Afield

By Jim Dean N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

Last spring, as the turkey season drew to a close, I chanced upon Dick Hamilton in the hall. Dick, who is Assistant Director of the Wildlife Commission, looked like the last survivor of an Angolan mercenary expedition.

"What in the world?" I asked, marveling at his haggard appearance. "I've been hunting turkey gobblers every morning except Sundays for two weeks," he said. "You know, it's a funny thing, but I believe the two most happy days of the turkey hunters year are the first day of the spring gobbler season -- and the last. I don't think I could survive much longer."

For the addicted turkey hunter, the spring gobblers - only season makes the rest of the year worth living, but it plays havoc with the daily routine. During the season, breakfast is wolfed down at 3:30 in the morning and each dawn finds the turkey hunter shivering in the woods.

This spring, the season opens April 10 and closes May 1 in and east of Rockingham, Forsyth, Yadkin, Iredell, Catawba, Lincoln and Gaston counties. In and west of Stokes, Surry, Wilkes, Alexander, Caldwell, Burke and Cleveland counties, the season is April 17 -- May 8.

Only bearded turkeys may be hunted, and the daily bag limit is one with two in possession and a limit of two for the season. No dogs may be used, and the carcass of each wild turkey must be tagged and reported as a big game kill. Hunters will need a big game license as well as a state hunting license.

The reason for holding the turkey season in the spring and restricting it to bearded turkeys only is to protect brood stocks and promote the expansion of the turkey population in North Caro-

lina. Hen turkeys are not only protected by law but also receive additional protection because they do not answer the hunter's "calls" in the spring. Only the male turkeys respond to calls. The spring season, in conjunction with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission's successful trapping and restocking of turkeys in many areas, is helping restore the turkey to many parts of the state -- particularly in the west -- where populations have been very low or extinct for many years.

The wild turkey is a notoriously wary and intelligent bird, and the spring gobblers-only season gives these birds an even greater advantage. It takes a careful, knowledgeable hunter to collect a mature gobbler.

"One thing about turkey hunters has always puzzled me," remarked Dick Hamilton. "To be a successful turkey hunter, it takes the reflexes of a cat, the eyesight of an eagle, the cunning of a fox, the patience of Job, and the woodsmanship of an Indian. And yet, all the turkey hunters I meet in the woods are apparently blind, deaf and lost."

"You ask a turkey hunter if he's seen anything, and he'll quickly tell you he hasn't seen a thing," mused Dick. "Ask him if he's heard any turkeys gobbling, and he'll shake his head and claim he hasn't heard a single yelp all year. If you're bold enough to ask him where he's been hunting, he's likely to express a total loss of recall on that subject."

"Yeah," I agreed. "I've noticed that. By the way, where are you going to open the season?"

"Humm," said Dick. "Let's see, I believe it's down east somewhere between Raleigh and Hatteras. Of course, I can't be real sure because I've only seen it in the dark."

**Paint Cracking?
Easy To Correct**

By Willie Featherstone, Jr.,
Ass't. Agricultural Agent

This is the last in a series of articles on correcting common painting problems around the house.

Extreme cracking, sometimes known as alligatoring, is caused by applying a second or third coat of paint before the previous coat dries.

In some cases, cracking or alligatoring is also caused by using

an undercoat that was not made for use with the type of finish coat applied to the surface.

The only solution to the problem is to completely sand away the cracked or alligatoring surface. If a large area is involved, it is wise to use power sanding or brushing equipment. The job may take too much time and effort for sanding and scraping.

After the sanding and scraping has completely removed the cracked or alligatoring paint from the surface, brush the area thoroughly to remove dust and loose paint particles. Apply one coat of a good quality undercoat paint.

Allow the undercoat paint to dry thoroughly and then apply a second coat of a top quality house paint of the desired color. This will completely correct the problem.

For more information, contact your county extension service, 875-3461.

Mrs. Koonce Leads Drive

Mrs. Herman Koonce has accepted the chairmanship of Hoke County's Roanoke Island Historical Association drive. Mrs. Dan Moore, vice-chairman of the Board of Directors, serves as the general membership chairman.

Ranked among our state's and nation's first is Paul Green's The Lost Colony, the first outdoor drama that tells the story of the first English Settlement in America. Through the efforts of many North Carolinians, each spring the Historical Society conducts a membership drive to assure funds for the opening of The Lost Colony in the summer.

Mrs. Koonce asks support in this annual endeavor.

Tax Receipts Rise

Collections of state sales and use tax from February 1975 through January 1976 in Hoke County totaled \$626,440, an increase of \$26,983 or four and one half per cent over collections from February 1974 through January 1975, according to state revenue officials.

Statewide, 1975 net collections totaled \$437,374,523, an increase of \$15,058,779, or 3.57 per cent. All counties experienced an increase in gross collections except Person and Yancey. The greatest increase, 24.91 per cent, occurred in Currituck County and the lowest, .04 per cent, occurred in Brunswick County.



25 YEARS -- Hestel Garrison completed 25 years of service with Burlington Industries on April 2. He is a maintenance analyst planner in the shop on first shift. Hestel is shown as he is being presented his twenty-five year service pin and certificate by the Plant Manager, Gib Bernhardt (left) and his Department Head, John Forsythe (right).



SERVICE PIN -- Leroy Wells completed 25 years of service with Burlington Industries on April 2. He is a fork lift operator in the warehouse on second shift. Leroy is shown receiving his twenty-five year service pin and certificate from (left to right) his Department Head Red Davis, Topmaking Superintendent George King, and Plant Manager Gib Bernhardt.

**Record Turnout Seen
For Demo Fundraiser**

With the presidential preference primary decided for North Carolina, the Democratic political spotlight now shifts to district conventions scheduled May 8, the Democratic state convention slated for June 12, and the state primary set for August 17.

Record attendance is anticipated at the traditional Democratic "Downeast" fundraising banquet scheduled at the John Yancey Motor Inn at Atlantic Beach April 9-10.

"In addition to pre-convention maneuvering by Carter and Wallace forces, the Downeast'er will draw heavy participation by candidates for statewide office as well," says Democratic State Chairman James R. Sugg. With the commitment of North Carolina's delegation to the Democratic National Convention already decided in the March 23 election, and the field

seeking the party's nomination for Governor narrowed by the withdrawal of "Skipper" Bowles, the Downeast'er is drawing unusually strong attention."

Sugg announced that Kentucky Sen. Walter (Doe) Huddleston will be keynote speaker for the \$50 - per-plate affair. North Carolina Attorney General Rufus Edmisten will preside as master of ceremonies.

In announcing the Downeast'er program, Sugg also announced appointment of prominent Carteret County Democrats Kay Hewitt, Eugene Pond, and John Tillery as co-chairman for the event. Tickets are available from any of North Carolina's Democratic county chairmen, or from state party headquarters at Raleigh's Hilton Inn.

The theme for this year's Downeast'er is the party's continuing theme for this election year, "Unity For Victory In '76!"

More than 1,300 Veterans Administration benefits counselors are assigned to college campuses either full time or on a part-time basis to assist GI Bill students.

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1972 GRAN PRIX		\$79
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1968 PONTIAC Firebird		\$39
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1972 LUV Pickup		\$57
1971 PINTO "Auto."		\$42
1966 VW		\$39
1972 AUDI 4 dr.		\$79
1972 GRAN TORINO		\$41
1974 VEGA G.T.		\$78
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1970 CADILLAC 4 dr.		\$57
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All Continental Extras
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