

Rangerettes honored at Pageant.

Steel Shot Dictates Shooting Habit Changes

Waterfowl hunters who visit steel-shot zones on the coast of North Carolina should be aware that they may need to make some changes in their shooting habits. While the use of steel shot for waterfowl hunting is controversial -- and studies show conflicting results -- there is no doubt that the ballistics of steel and lead shot differ. Changes in shooting habits can compensate for these differences.

For starters, hunters should switch to a larger shot size. According to Bill Brownlee, an expert on steel shot with the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife, the rule of thumb is to use steel shot that is two sizes larger than your normal lead-shot load.

"Steel shot weighs less than lead shot, so larger pellets are needed to maintain the same amount of knock-down power" he said.

"For large ducks -- like mallards, pintails and black ducks -- the best choice in steel is #2 shot.

For smaller ducks -- like teal over decoys -- #14 shot. Goose hunters should not use anything smaller than 1's or BB shot in steel."

The second difference between lead and steel is in the shot pattern. Steel pellets are harder than lead, and don't become deformed by the barrel when they are fired. Consequently, the shot pattern for steel is smaller and shorter than for lead shot.

In fact, the diameter of a steel-shot pattern may be one-third smaller than lead, and the pattern may be only half as long.

"This difference in patterns accounts for most hunter's difficulties with steel shot," said Brownlee.

"Ironically, since steel shot patterns are compact and short, close shots are more difficult than other shots. To adjust for this, hunters should use a different choke.

Traditionally, full or modified chokes are favored for duck hunting. With steel shot, hunters need to open up that tight pattern. The best choke for steel shot is an improved cylinder -- and the tightest choke that should be used is a modified. Shooting steel shot with a full choke dooms many hunters to failure -- especially at close ranges," he said.

A third difference is in muzzle velocities. Since steel shot is lighter than lead, it travels about 100 feet per second faster.

"For most hunters, the dif-

ference in leads for lead and steel shot is negligible," said Brownlee.

"However, hunters who shoot a lot -- and are excellent shots -- may need to make some adjustments. At close ranges -- within 30 yards -- leads should be shortened. At longer ranges, adjustments of leads aren't necessary," he added.

Since steel shot is harder than lead shot, hunters should also avoid using old, expensive double-barreled shotguns with steel. Also, steel shot should not be loaded into shells made for lead shot -- special components for steel are necessary -- or a dangerous situation could develop. Substitutes for steel shot -- like air-rifle pellets or ball bearings -- should never be used.

"Once hunters become used to steel shot, they have few problems," concluded Brownlee.

"It's a good idea to buy an extra box or two of steel shot, and break some targets at a trap or skeet range. This allows the shooter to make adjustments in habits before hunting. And, it's equally important to have a positive attitude. If you think you'll miss ducks just because you're using steel shot, you probably will."

Rangerette Pageant A Success

On November 29, the W.O.W. Rangerettes of Hoke County held their annual Miss Rangerette Pageant.

This year they combine their two annual events, the Pageant and their athletic banquet, into one evening.

The program started by performing their Ritual Ceremony, to demonstrate to the parents and guests how they had won first place at camp last summer.

The girls will have an all expense paid trip to go and compete with the entire North Carolina Rangerettes and Rangers society on the Ritual.

A prize of \$300 will be awarded to the Youth Lodge that performs their Ritual the best at the State Convention in Raleigh.

Contestants were then introduced to the audience in evening wear.

They were as follows: Donna Hales, Leslie Foster, Diane Smith, Stacey Foster, Michelle Edge, Lisa Usher. Miss Usher was the reigning queen for 1982 and the daughter of Mrs. Yvonne Usher of Raeford, Mandy White, Stephanie Drotar, Amy English, Lisa Barnes, Claudette Jones, Laura Foster, Annette Jones, Christy Beasley. Second runner-up was Amy English daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence English.

First runner-up was Donna Hales daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hales.

The new Miss Rangerette 1983 is Miss Christy Beasley daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Beasley of Lumber Bridge.

Miss Beasley will represent the Rangerettes for major events and fill in for the President if she is not able to attend social functions.

A new event was opened for the girls this year and that was the crowning of "Little Miss Rangerette" which was awarded to Miss Laura Foster, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Foster.

Miss Foster was escorted by Ranger Ashley Hales. Mrs. Hales also did the honor of crowning Lil' Miss and presented her with a small silk rose.

The girls also elected their President for 1983, Donna Hales daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hales won the '83 presidency.

Awards for the 1982 year went to these girls who worked all year to earn these awards. Most of the honors were given to those who excelled at the annual encampment held last July.

The encampment awards are given in various sports events by age groups, 8 to 11 and 12 to 15 years old.

Awards for Room Inspection, conduct and sportsmanship were given to the following:

Room Inspections: First place: Donna Hales, second Lisa Barnes, third Amy English, fourth Lisa Usher.

Conduct: first Lisa Barnes, second Amy English, third Lisa Usher, fourth Christy West.

Sportsmanship: First Stephanie Drotar, second Lisa Usher, third Christy West, fourth Amy English.

Track 'n' Field: Claudette Jones Basketball: 8 - 11 Stacey Foster, Volleyball - Michelle Edge, kickball - Amy English.

White Tag Swimming - Mandy White. There was one large victory trophy awarded to Christy Beasley for scoring in basketball, kickball and volleyball.

The trophies were given to the girls who scored and were the most valuable players in their events Track 'n' Field - Christy Beasley, Kickball - Stephanie Drotar, Claudette Jones.

Swimming: Stacey Foster, Christy Beasley.

Basketball: Annette Jones, Claudette Jones.

Volleyball: Maxine Blackburn and Donna Hales.

Non-athletic awards were given to the following: Donna Hales, No. one Fund Raiser, in Rangerette fundraising events and charity organizations Rangerettes have participated in: Also second Fund Raiser went to Maxine Blackburn third Amy English. These girls have done an outstanding job for 1982 combining their monies these three girls have raised well over \$1,000.00 in Rangerette fundraising and charity organizations.

Lisa Barnes, Most Improved. Lisa Usher, Sportsmanship. Outstanding No. one Rangerette '82 went to Donna Hales.

Honored guests from out of town were: Harvey L. Bedsole, National Director and State Manager. Mr. Earl Hughes, fraternity co-ordinator and Sarah Steinback, former fraternity co-ordinator, Mr. David Reich - area manager.

Mr. Bedsole honored the Rangerettes with a plaque for raising the most money in the entire state for the new Woodmen Camp.

Mr. Bedsole honored Patti Lunsford with a plaque for being Fraternalist of the Year. This was a nationwide search of over 60,000

people to be chosen for this award. These were surprise honors for Mrs. Lunsford and the girls.

The Rangerette President Donna Hales presented Mrs. Lunsford with a dozen long stemmed red roses on behalf of all the Rangerettes.

The girls dedicated this night to Mr. Monte Lunsford.

They presented him with a plaque for his dedication and support from '79 through this year.

During their program Mr. Lunsford also helped Miss Lisa Usher crown Miss Beasley.

Entertainment was also provided by "The Lowery Family" The Trio" Karen and Erenestine Hinson and Brenda Kellis all of Raeford which performed gospel music.

The main attraction was the Hoke County High School Barber Shop Singers.

They performed with great enthusiasm and were enjoyed immensely.

As were the other groups. The Barber Shop Singers were invited to play at the State Woodmen of the World Convention being held in Raleigh.

Appreciation Certificates were awarded by the Rangerette President Donna Hales to Mrs. Frances Lewis for her help with the girls and the use of her home for their meetings.

A special plaque was presented to Pam Frederick for all of her help in getting publicity for the Rangerettes and for taking pictures of them in social community events.

Also Mr. David Reich - area manager, Mr. George Hudson Field Representative for their aide in buying an Activity Bus.

Mrs. Lunsford presented appreciation plaque to the Woodmen of the World Lodge 118 for their financial moral support to the girls.

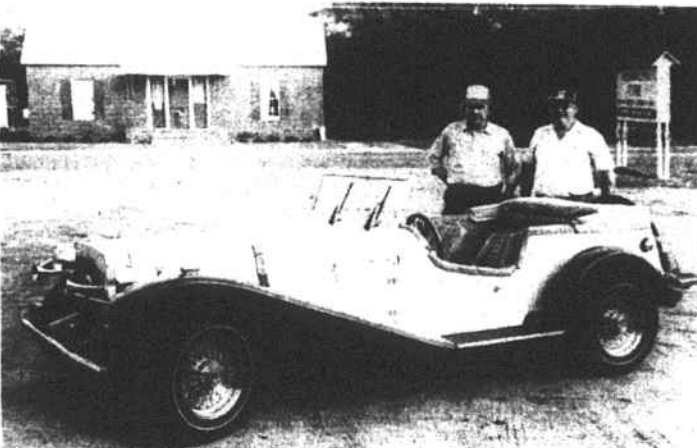
Mr. Ed Hasty accepted on behalf of the Men's Lodge.

Mrs. Lunsford also presented appreciation awards to Mrs. Betty Hales and Mrs. Sandra White for the hours of help and support.

The pageant was an all around success which they are very proud of. The Rangerettes have worked very hard and would like to take this time to thank all of you that have aided in their success, through financial and moral support.

A sincere thanks to the citizens of Hoke County.

Special thanks to Mrs. Vardell Hedgpeh (Raeford Floral) and Mrs. Bertha Hendrix for all their help.



Neill McDonald [left] and Gene Johnson with replica of 1929 Mercedes.

1927 Mercedes Replica Traveling Raeford Streets

by Bill Lindau

A working replica of a 1929 Mercedes convertible is traveling on the highways two years after it was "born" in a Raeford garage.

Gene Johnson of Fayetteville explained Thursday afternoon he bought the car from Neill McDonald of Raeford last August. McDonald said he bought the kit with the parts about two years ago from a supplier in Florida and completed about 60% of it. He had a hard time finding time to work on it, so he decided to sell it. He said the parts came in something like eight separate boxes.

Johnson said he wanted a replica to give to his daughter, Gena, as a graduation present when she completed her studies at Pembroke State University in 1985.

He heard about McDonald and his replica through a mutual friend, so Johnson and McDonald got together, and the deal was made. Johnson completed the work McDonald had started. He said it took him about four months to do the remaining 40% of the work to get the car into perfect form and running condition.

McDonald said everything about the car is a perfect replica of the 1929 Mercedes, except the motor, which is a four-cylinder Pinto. Even the hood ornament, though, is strictly Mercedes. McDonald said his wife bought it for him at the Mercedes plant in England. Mrs. McDonald, a counselor at Hoke County High School, was escorting some of her students on a tour of England at the time.

Johnson said he's driven the car 485 miles so far (up to Thursday afternoon). He didn't know what

gas mileage the car gets, but he said it's good.

Johnson brought the car to McDonald's tire business shop to show McDonald what it looks like completed.

Neither would say how much money they spent on it, but a car dealer friend said it would cost \$26,400 if bought complete on a car lot with an air conditioner.

The Johnson-McDonald creation has no air conditioner.

Meanwhile, Johnson not only has a unique automobile but he is also meeting more people these days: whenever he stops for gas, someone comes up to take a look at the car.

Deaths And Funerals

Mrs. Ethel Thompson
Mrs. Ethel Thompson, 97, died Sunday.

The funeral was held Tuesday in Hoffman Baptist Church. Burial was in the Thompson family cemetery.

Surviving are her sons, Coolidge Thompson of Aberdeen, and Burleigh Thompson of Raeford; her daughter, Mrs. Lavonia Smith of Carthage; her stepson, Andrew Thompson of Aberdeen; her stepdaughter, Mrs. Flonnie Evans of Carthage; and her sister, Mrs. Lee Alice Thompson of Raeford.

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Retail Sales Down
Gross retail sales in Hoke County were down in October from figures recorded in September, a recent report from the North Carolina Department of Revenue shows.
However, October sales were up from the same period during 1981 and 1980.
During October, local merchants recorded sales of over \$3.5 million with tax collections of more than \$70,000.
In September the sales figures had reached \$4.26 million with tax collections of more than \$88,000.
The October figures were higher than the \$3.4 million recorded in 1980 and the \$3.3 million during 1981.
Also during October, collections from the local 1% sales tax were almost \$30,000.
That figure was down from the previous month when collections reached almost \$33,000.
The 1% funds will be returned to the county by the state.

Bake Sale Successful
The homemade bake sale held on December 3 by the Hoke County chapter of the American Lung Association was a success.
Proceeds from the sale netted over \$362 for patient services at McCain Hospital and for research into causes of lung diseases.

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