

Doing some squirrel hunting the hard way

"I didn't kill any, but I sure had fun shooting at them." That is what outdoor personality Tim Wells said after trying to pass shoot some snow geese, with a bow. I recently had a similar experience with squirrels.

Relentless Pursuit is the number one bow hunting show on TV. It can be seen on Friday nights on the Sportsman Channel. Tim is a little out there even by my standards. He takes animals with spears and blowguns as well as bow and arrow. On a recent show a troop of baboons was causing mischief

Do It Outdoors
Wade Betts



on an African ranch so Tim took out the dominate male with a blowgun, definitely not your average hunting show. He doesn't hunt with a gun but is a big time 2nd amendment supporter. As the show is coming on Tim says that even without his guns he'd still be dangerous and that whoever might

come to get them should remember that dying is no way of living. I like that. He shot more than a few arrows at those snow geese, after a while he had adjusted his lead and was hitting them. They were just too high and by the time the arrow hit them its velocity had slowed to the point that all the arrows did was bounce off. They showed the hits in slow motion. Neat stuff.

I hadn't tried squirrel hunting in years, but I got this crazy notion that I might shoot a few with my bow. Shoot at, is better way to say it. I bought me some

blunt arrowheads with little wire fingers that will prevent the arrow from burying itself in the leaves of the forest floor. On this hunt I had two arrows tipped with broadheads for deer and two tipped with blunts for squirrels. Do you have any idea how hard it is to change arrows and not spook the game? For the first part of the morning I was deer hunting. When that didn't pan out I decided to have a go at the squirrels. After scaring away all the tree rats in the area, I was ready, the Parker finally had an arrow with a blunt point knocked in

place. I knew it wouldn't be long before a squirrel would be back. It only ran a few feet when I stood to shoot, then came back. It ran away again as I came to full draw, but not as far. The longer I hold at full draw the more likely I am to push the string instead of getting a smooth release. Not a problem on deer-sized game when they are close, but something as small as a squirrel requires an accurate shot. I hit the little half rotten sapling just to the right. The quarry ran up a tree and just sat there looking at me like he wasn't quite sure what had

just happened. On my second shot I missed just as badly. I could have climbed down, retrieved my arrows and continued hunting but opted instead to go home to some fried eggs and ham. No squirrel stew for me, but my first small game hunt in about 20 years was fun and I plan to try it again soon.

If you hurry you can still get your loved one some outdoor paraphernalia before the 25th. If anyone wants to get me a last minute gift, I could use some more small game arrowheads. Just remember, Jesus is the reason for the season.

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CARD WINNERS



Students Landon Damron, Nate Williamson, Trinity Stanton, Kylie Williams, Tyrell Williams and Allissa Black were winners of the Christmas card contest at Perquimans Central.



Superintendent Dwayne Stallings poses with the first place winners of the school district's Christmas card contest. Pictured (l-r) are Trinity Stanton, Tyrell Williams, Ellie Ward, Georgia Wand, Stanford Dantzler and Jessicah Brown. Not pictured is Brandon Trueblood.



Hertford Grammar Christmas card winners included Jack Joyner, Lauren Heath, Emma Smith, Addison Proctor, Georgia Wand and Ellie Ward.



Perquimans High School Principal Melissa Fields (left) Superintendent Stallings pose with student Jessicah Brown, winner of the school's Christmas card contest.

Stanford Dantzler and Kara Sosa pose with Perquimans County Middle School Principal Andrea Greene and Superintendent Dwayne Stallings. They, along with Brandon Trueblood (not pictured) were the winners of the Christmas card contest.





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From all of us to all of you, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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