

November 19, 2013

Issue 5

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Ozark Homesteader



Quote of the Week:

"If ye love wealth better than liberty, the tranquility of servitude better than the animating contest of freedom, go home from us in peace. We ask not your counsels or your arms. Crouch down and lick the hands which feed you. May your chains set lightly upon you, and may posterity forget that ye were our countrymen." – Samuel Adams

Do you have a story you would like to share with other homesteaders? Tell it to us! We are looking for contributors and story ideas.

Ozark Calendar of Events:

11/23 – Craft Fair at the Durand Center Atrium (also known as the FedEx/Regions bank) in Harrison, AR 8am-12pm

11/29 - 12/01 – Mountain Man Rendezvous, Petit Jean Mountain, Morrilton, AR

Ozark Homesteader Poll:

How did you hear about Ozark Homesteader?

Vote at:

www.ozarkhomesteader.com

Sustainability – Sufficiency – Sanctuary – Personal Responsibility

Homestead Days at Dogwood Hills Farm Stay

Dogwood Hills Farm Stay hosted Homestead Days on November 9, 2013.

The event consisted of a day's worth of homesteading skills presentations from fiber weaving to soap making.

Due to a scheduling conflict which was entirely our fault, we arrived late into the day. However, we were still impressed with the turnout as well as all of the information that was shared.

We were also impressed with the food offerings. In addition to dishes with meat, vegetarian chili was also available. As vegetarians, we often do not have the opportunity to participate in eating with others at public events. We appreciated the thoughtfulness of

offering a meat free dish.

Our late arrival prevented us from attending all but two presentations.

Both presentations were very informative. Grace Pepler showed us how she turns a variety of fibers into yarn. It's amazing how much wool comes off of one sheep!

Richard Craig gave us an instructional tour of his 1962 Chevrolet truck. He has fitted the truck with a system that turns wood into a gas that powers the truck. It was truly impressive to see a truck run off of burning wood!

Hopefully the Pepler's will treat us all to another Homestead Day soon.

www.facebook.com/DogwoodHillsBB

Calling All Homesteaders

By Ozark Homesteader

Ozark Homesteader was created to allow homesteaders to share their knowledge with others, be they homesteaders, farmsteaders, preppers, or just people who want to be more self-reliant.

Step up and share your experience! All it takes is an email. Don't worry about grammar or spelling – we can help you with editing.

Just Can It!

By Stephanie McNew

Wondering what to do with the leftovers? No use throwing them away. There is a better way. Can it! You can can almost anything. Here is how.

Cooked meat and veggies can be packed in glass jars. Boiling broth poured over it. A two piece lid and ring screwed on the top. Give it a boiling water bath for 10 min. It's done. Simple. Think of all the extra cash you can save and have a fast, healthy meal for later.

Don't for one minute think that your experiences are unimportant. If it happened to you, it could and probably will happen to others. Help them be prepared when it does!

Share a story. Share a how-to article. Share an event. Share a recipe. Share something. Let's help everyone in becoming more self-reliant.

Here is a simple way to save bread that makes right in the jar.

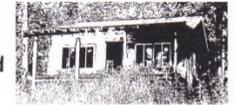
Make your favorite moist bread recipe. Pour made mix in a pint jar about half full. Bake in oven. While still hot cap top with a two piece ring and lid. It will seal on the counter top as it cools. I use banana bread and peach cobbler. This is good on the shelf for about 3 months – makes a great gift too.

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Sustainability Simplicity Sufficiency Serenity

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thegrayhomesteader@gmail.com

I am looking for free or mostly free scrap building materials. Will gladly demolish small buildings, greenhouses, sheds, barns, etc. and haul it all away. Email me at r.s.gray72@gmail.com

Classified Ads

Whitewater Farmstead will have a booth at the Craft Fair at the Durand Center Atrium in Harrison on November 23rd 8am-12pm.

LOVE stories from the Ozarks.
OZARKSTORIES.COM (Award winning novels and short stories)

We reserve the right to reject any ad for any reason, even unreasonable reasons. We are only responsible for humorous mistakes, in which case it probably wasn't a mistake. Contact us for more information.

Picture of the Week



This is Richard Craig's 1962 Chevrolet pickup, powered by a wood gasification system. It is very impressive. Check out our video of the system at work!

www.youtube.com/ozarkhomesteader

Email your picture to ozarkhomesteader@gmail.com to submit it for Picture of the Week. No copyrighted pictures, please.

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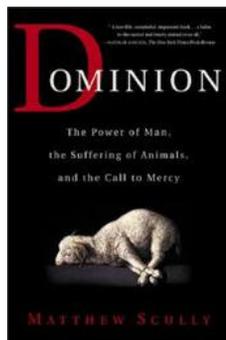
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"Either write something worth reading, or do something worth writing."
— Benjamin Franklin

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Read it today!

Deer Season 2013

On November 9th 2013, 60,000 Arkansas Hunters hit the woods for modern gun season. Whether you are a deer hunter or just live in the woods there are a few things that can keep you safe this season. As is the law, wear your orange. Hats and vest are required in the woods no matter why you are there. Children should be reminded to wear theirs even when out playing in a wooded area.

With deer hunters comes the ATVs. While it is still not legal to ride on Arkansas roadways, they are there. ATVs are not for children. Do not allow anyone under 16 to drive an ATV. It is also a law. ATV accidents make up over half of the deaths during hunting season. So **Look Twice Save a Life.**

Cell phones may not

work in the woods. Make sure someone knows where you are and when you will be back.

Once you bag and tag your game you still need to think about safety. With Arkansas weather you may have to think about how to keep your catch at or below 40 degrees. This could be a cooler of ice or a refrigerator. Ice is nice but water can make the meat taste funny so keep it drained. Keeping clean is also very important. Mud will also make the meat have a different taste the longer it stays muddy.

If you take it to a processing professional, it is better to take it in a large cooler of ice or rubber tub of ice. It is better if you know beforehand what the processing place has to offer in cuts, sausages, grinds, and packaging to minimize the

confusion when the time comes to process. This is a busy time for all processors so the more you know before the better.

In addition, when you call with your catch it is courteous to show up with it when you say you will. The longer you wait the more chance you have of spoilage. In addition, waiting is very time consuming for them and their families.

When you live in the woods, keeping livestock as close to home as possible is safer. Dogs with orange collars are easier to see. This will work for goats too.

So have a safe and fun season.

Submitted by:

Justus Farms - Cleveland, AR

"Never settle for just a share of your dream."

Moral Bearings

By Richard Gray

Bear season is well under way in Arkansas. It opened on October, 1, 2013 and will continue until November 30 or until the quota of bears have been legally reported as killed. Due to the limit, bear season may already be over.

We were worried that someone would get "our" bears. We saw some tracks back in the spring which indicated that there are possibly two bears who call our homestead home. But, we are encouraged by the tracks that I found last week.

The people who have a deer camp across from us bait bear in addition to baiting deer, and the people across the creek from us also appear to be bear hunters. Therefore, we know that "our" bears might not make it through the season.

I'm not sure why anyone would want to intentionally set out to kill a bear – at least not a

black bear in Arkansas. Black bears are mostly vegetarian, reclusive, and generally good neighbors. As a rule, they don't kill livestock, pets, or people. The only time they appear outwardly aggressive is when they are protecting their cubs against perceived threats. There seems to be no reason that a person should desire to kill a black bear unless it is being overly aggressive. But, that's just how I see it.

However, since I have a very libertarian philosophy on life, I will not attempt to impose my morals on others. If a person feels that it is moral to kill a black bear, even for sport, then that is their prerogative. I will not help them do so, and I won't allow it on my property – that is my prerogative. Everyone has their own set of morals. Morals are funny – none are "right" and none are



Bear scratches?

"wrong". Morals are subjective. Just like beauty, morals are in the eye of the beholder.

We hope "our" bears make it. We have never seen them. We have only seen their tracks and an occasional claw mark. We just feel a little better knowing that they are here.