

More Ike Says

From page 3

chored on Coon Creek in a drift boat when he hooked a fish. He wasn't having much luck moving the fish and dad was giving him a bad time, saying "Come on Gene, pump him up." Then, when Uncle Gene got the fish close enough for us to get a look, dad shouted "Take it easy Gene, take it easy!" That buck steelhead weighed 21 pounds.

Two years ago, seven of us were hunting deer on Aldrich Mountain. We camped on a high ridge and the weather was nice, but the hunting was poor. We finally started driving up toward the

lookout, evenings, and concluded that the deer were staying close to the roads. We eventually started getting bucks this way, even though most of us disdain road hunting. Uncle Gene hadn't gotten his buck and the season was coming to an end, so dad, Uncle Gene and I headed toward the lookout in the evening. Suddenly, as we were driving along, there were three bucks running up the hillside from the edge of the road. Dad and I shouted simultaneously, "There he is, Gene!" The plan was to let Uncle Gene out, then drive down the road with the pickup so the bucks would think we hadn't seen them. Uncle

Gene jumped out, cranked a round into his gun and shut the door. Dad and I forgot about driving and were still looking up the hillside at the three bucks, saying "Shoot, Gene, shoot." After a moment we realized something was going on alongside the pickup. I looked at Uncle Gene, his face was contorted and he was twisting in agony. I opened the door and his face showed relief — he had shut his thumb in the pickup door. Uncle Gene finally got one of those bucks, but the memory of him squirming around with his rifle in one hand and his thumb in the door will live with me forever.

Later, we had a good laugh, which brings me to one of Uncle Gene's greatest assets — he had a laugh all his own — and I will miss it.

Uncle Gene is gone now, but we will always remember the outdoors man that he was. I hear that in heaven the steelhead are all over twenty pounds, the bucks are all four points and the bulls all wear royal crowns. Good hunting and fishing Uncle Gene.

Isaak Walton League
meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m. The public is welcome. For meeting location, call 429-7193.

Committee members needed by CCCC

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners is soliciting applicants from county citizens, especially representatives from Clatskanie and Vernonia religious organizations, who are willing to serve on the Columbia County Commission on Children and Families. This committee helps shape public policy for the county. Work regarding funding and activities for children and families which create healthy communities is the focus of the group.

Anyone interested, should call the Columbia County Commission on Children and Families office at 397-7211 for more details.

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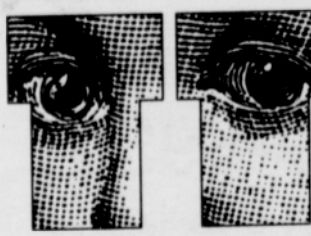
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