

MIKE LITTLE'S ADVENTURE

Well with the first week of turkey season over with, I learned an important lesson and came to a deeper appreciation of one of the benefits of our Organization. I got up Saturday morning at 4:00 a.m. and headed out to my turkey spot where I experienced success the last 3 years, anticipating another turkey in the larder. This outing was different in that I would be going out on my own.

I'm fortunate enough to be able to get around on crutches for short distances, but need to depend on an ATV to get out there. Heading to my third set to try and get a response from my calling, I found my ATV in a mud hole that resembled chocolate pudding. Man is that a sick feeling being stuck and having only two options; I could sit there and wait and hope someone would come along or by night fall, which was a long wait away for someone to come looking for me. Or I could try and walk out with one crutch and a branch where I could see a house on the other side of a freshly plowed field about half a mile away. After first trying to shove sticks and branches under my tires to get some sort of traction, without success, I said a quick prayer for the Lord to give me strength and endurance to get to the house half a mile away. It took me an hour and 45 minutes but I made it.

The experience caused me to gain a deeper appreciation of the volunteers who unselfishly give of their time to take us out hunting and share in our joy of getting outdoors and pursuing some of our passions and dreams. Thank you to anyone and everyone who makes these times possible.

On another note... The lesson I learned is that I will never again attempt to go out on another adventure by myself without the cell phone my kids got me for Christmas, because of their concerns for emergencies such as this. I felt the consequences of my ordeal for almost a week before I recovered physically.

THANK YOU, Mike Little

Picture of Mike Little taken at Lori G's 3-D Archery Shoot March 2004 (see related story, Milwaukee Sports Show)

