



Region 4 Continued

DON'T FORGET TO REMOVE THE TAG !!!!

By Sgt. Scott Watson

In the 10 years that I have been doing this job I have heard some pretty tall tales if you know what I mean. Some of them were a little taller than others, and some of them have been just down right funny. I have figured out that there are some people that will not tell a lie for anything, and there are the other kind that will lie to their dying breath. Now if I had to guess I would say the largest majority of the population falls somewhere in between.

Every year we hear different kinds of tales, and for some reason the really special ones seem to stick with us. I would like to tell you about one that I heard in the 2006-2007 hunting season that seems to be sticking with me.

This one was in the middle of January in Madison Parish. I was working with Cadet

Leya Grover, who was fresh out of the academy. In a few years Leya will be able to recite her favorite ones out of her book of tall tales, and maybe this one will be in hers too. It was an afternoon, and we were going to do license checks on a hunting club near Waverly. Just after dark, we could see several ATV's exiting the woods, and make their way across the field towards the camps. Leya and I were sitting in the field in a location where they would have to pass us to get to the camps. We checked several hunters, and everything seemed to be on the up and up.

After checking several hunters, we had two more come out of the woods on their ATV. Both were in camouflage, with their hunter's orange on. The passenger was holding a deer rifle in his hands, and

there was a rifle case in the rear of the ATV, which contained another deer rifle. As soon as we asked the guys for their hunting license, they immediately replied, "Oh we're not hunting, we were just videoing". When these guys spoke, you could tell that they were a long way from home. Their accent was from way above the Mason Dixon Line. When we asked about the rifles, one of which was in their hands, they

said they were only carrying them for two more hunters, who did not feel like bringing them out themselves. Now let's see, have we seen any other hunters who came out without their rifles?? Of course not!!!

The men told us they were from Michigan, and they were here only to camp with a business associate of theirs, who was from Louisiana, and was in this hunting club.

Continued on page 94

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Don't Forget to Remove the Tags

Continued from page 93

Well this little charade lasted for a few more minutes while we looked in their backpacks finding deer scents, grunt calls, and other hunting items.

As I was looking at the rifle in the rear of the ATV a little closer, I noticed an airline sticker on the rifle case. Now would you believe that this rifle case had flown into Monroe, La. from Michigan the day before? I asked one of the gentlemen when he flew into Monroe, and he said yesterday. I said so you flew in on the same plane as this rifle

case. This is where their facial expression changed, and it's also the point that they were wishing they had bought those non-resident hunting license.

All in all it wasn't a wasted trip for the two guys from Wisconsin. They got to make at least one deer hunt in Waverly, La. They got to meet myself and Leya, and they got to visit the jail house in scenic downtown Tallulah. I wonder if he kicked himself harder for not buying the license, or not tearing the airline tag off of the rifle case?



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