

and girls can enjoy sport of hunting

Nakita, 15 and Darian, 14, and they hunt as a family now.

It's important to her for girls to be able to handle a gun and be as self-sufficient as any man, said Mrs. Bose.

Nakita said she got her first deer permit when she was 12, three years ago, although she can remember going out with her family for a long time. She said she hunts both deer and dove.

"It's fun," said Nakita, "and something we do as a family every year."

In the past three years, Nakita has bagged three mule deer.

Every year that they've gone deer hunting, she said, she's been the one in the family to nearly step on a rattlesnake, but so far has been lucky.

Nakita said most of her friends don't hunt, but she would tell other teenage girls to try it. Some think that girls can't hunt, but that's not true, she said.

Her younger sister Darian has been going out with the family for the past two years.

Darian said she's only gone deer hunting, but bagged her own last year.

Part of the experience, she said, is getting up at 5 a.m. so that they can leave the house by 6. Darian said she has some of her own equipment for black powder hunting, although she borrows an aunt's gun.

She said she isn't totally sure that she enjoys hunting, but the meat sure makes a "great filet mignon."

Maureen Anderson, who lives west of Oberlin, said she started hunting when she was 12. She was raised in Colorado and taught to hunt and handle a gun by her parents. She said she hunted with her father, and although her mother knew how to handle a gun and felt that it was important for all of the children to know, she didn't hunt.

Now, said Mrs. Anderson, she hunts with her husband Richard and their three children.

She and her husband have both shot deer, but since they slaughter their own cattle, they donated the deer meat.

The family hunts pheasant, turkey and dove, she said, but mostly the first two. Birds just fit easier in the freezer, she joked.

Mrs. Anderson spent a year and a half work-

ing and running a green range teaching people how to trap and skeet shoot.

The Andersons' oldest child Samantha, 15, the only girl, also hunts.

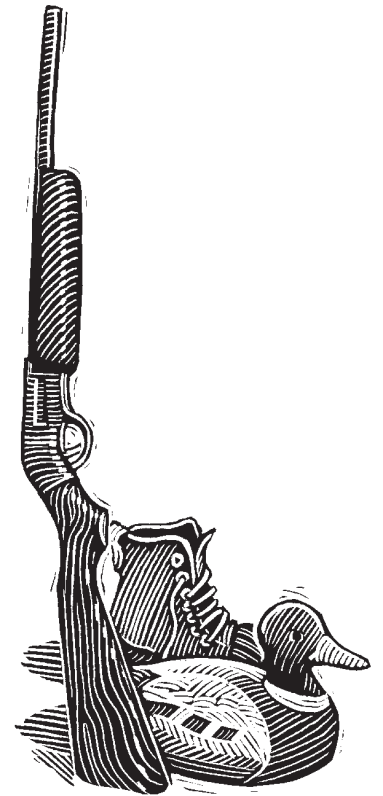
Samantha said she started hunting four years ago, learning from her parents. She said she used to go out with her Dad and the family's friends from Colorado.

So far, she said, she's bagged turkeys and pheasants using a shot gun, but wants to try to get her turkey with a bow and arrow this year; adding that it would be fun to be able to use her bow.

Miss Anderson said she has friends her age who hunt and would tell other girls to take part in the sport because it's fun.

This country, said Mrs. Anderson, was founded on living off the land. God provides the animals and some people want to take away the right people have to live off the land, the way things started. That right needs to be preserved, she said, so future generations can continue to hunt.

It's important to make kids aware of their rights and how to hunt, she said..



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