



DUCK COMMANDER DUO COMING TO MEMPHIS



Two of the waterfowl industry's most successful team is coming to Memphis as featured attractions in the annual Mid-South Hunting & Fishing Extravaganza, Aug. 13-15, at Agricenter International in East Memphis.

We're talking about John Godwin, AKA Wildcat, and Jephtha Robertson, the youngest son of legendary waterfowl hunter and call maker, Phil 'The Duck Commander' Robertson.

Godwin and Jephtha Robertson are based out The Duck Commander's headquarters in West Monroe, La.

They'll be part of what promises to be one of the MSHFE's biggest productions with show hours, 2-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 13; 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 14 and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 15. Ticket prices are \$7 for adults and \$5 for youth with a discount coupon available at www.exposouth.com. Parking, as usual, will be free.

Godwin, who grew up hunting with his father, credits the air pressure from playing the trumpet in high school with giving him a head start in the waterfowl calling world.

"My father and I went to a duck call contest to watch my neighbor, James, compete," Godwin says. "Just about the time the contest had started my dad informed me that he had entered me into the contest. Shocked and very nervous, I started to warm up. Dad asked me if I wanted to use an old Duck Commander call that I had. I told him, 'Heck no, that thing won't ring one lick.' I didn't know that Phil Robertson was judging the contest or that he was sitting right in front of me when I said that. Phil turned around and said that he was the one that builds those calls."

Robertson asked Godwin if he could "cut on the reeds a little bit." Taking the call apart, Robertson clipped the reeds and told Godwin to use it in the competition. Godwin ended up placing third place.

"It's kind a funny story that I insulted my future boss (Phil Robertson) the first time we met, but it all worked out," Godwin says.

Now, Godwin builds calls and serves as The Duck Commander's Supply Manager. During the waterfowl season he is the team's decoy technician, figuring out the exact spot the decoys are placed and working with the equipment after the hunt.

Oh, and another thing.

Godwin also used to be heavily involved in motor-cross. In fact, he has raced at such places as the Astrodome and Texas Stadium and in 1978 won the Mississippi State Championship. He also was a professional bull rider for six years.

As for Jephtha Robertson, he's part of The Duck Commander's production team.