

## Innovative Handsaw & Bow Hoist

In this month's Kasun's Korner we are spotlighting two items every bowhunter uses, a handsaw and a bow hoist. Now you might ask what is so special about a saw and a hoist? Most people consider them very ordinary items. Well I have to admit that saws and hoists are pretty common but I think you will agree that the saw and hoist we are featuring are anything but ordinary. In both cases they were developed by dedicated bowhunters who used their years of experience and frustration with those "ordinary" products to offer the bowhunter something specifically designed to get the job done.

### Wicked Tough Handsaw

Every bowhunter needs a small hand saw to trim shooting lanes or clear an area for his treestand or ground blind. The problem is most of the available small folding saws are of poor quality with flimsy blades which seldom last a season and may snap just when you need it most.

Like many bowhunters the founder, designer and president of Wicked Tree Gear and Whiteknuckle Productions spends a lot of time hanging treestands and trimming shooting lanes each year. "I got sick of breaking several plastic handsaws every season," Todd Pringnitz said. "As an engineer I knew I could build something better and I felt there was a market for a high quality saw among other dedicated bowhunters as well."

This past season I had the opportunity to put Pringnitz's Wicked Tough Handsaw to the test and didn't find it lacking in any category. The cheap plastic handle common on folding tree saws has been replaced with a rugged and hefty single piece cast aluminum handle. The handle features an over-molded rubber grip for a comfortable non-slip grasp.

The saw blade is made from impulse-hardened high-carbon steel and the overall design was inspired by the equipment used by professional arborists (sometimes known as tree surgeons). The 7 inch long, .050 inch thick blade resists bending and binding while maximizing the cutting surface. Its deep tooth design is suitable for quickly cutting the various types of wood a bowhunter encounters.

For safety and maximum performance the blade locks in both the open and closed positions eliminating cut fin-

gers from an open blade in your backpack or having a blade fold on your hand while making a cut.

The saw measures 8 inches overall and weighs in at a mere 8 ounces. The saw has a solid feel in the hand and the finger grooves in the over-molded rubber grip provide an unparalleled sense of control. The saw is ergonomically designed so the angle of the handle and blade align with the user's wrist and forearm for maximum transfer of power on the stroke making cutting quick and easy. The Wicked Tough Handsaw not only made short work of the job at hand every time I used it but at the end of the season the saw appeared none the worse for wear and I am sure it will be around for many more years.

The Wicked Tough Handsaw is very unique in design and appearance and is one of those items that people can't resist picking up. I would suggest adding them in your treestand display as well as placing several at the check-out. If you have a gift suggestion display during the holidays they make a great addition because you can be assured that any recipient will be happy to receive one. The Wicked Tough Handsaw comes with a limited lifetime warranty. For more information call (319) 217-0885.

### Huntin' Hoist

Our second item this month is a gear hoist. I say gear hoist because it can be used for gun, bow, treestand, backpack or just about anything you can lift and need to get into your stand. The Huntin' Hoist like many other bowhunting items was developed by a bowhunter out of need and frustration. "I was tired of untangling ropes and cords and having them cut into my hands while I



*The Wicked Tough Handsaw is shown here in both the open and closed position. For safety the saw blade locks in either position.*





**The Huntin' Hoist comes in black or in the camo shown here. It is available with either a cord or strap.**

tried to lift my gear," said Doyle Myers, inventor and manufacturer of the Huntin' Hoist. "One day out of sheer frustration I decided to make my own lifting device and after some hard work and experimentation the Huntin' Hoist was born."

Personally, I have tried every trick in the book to get my gear up into the stand. Small ropes or cords cut into my hands and can be difficult to grasp in cold weather. Next came the problem of trying to tie the gear to the cord with a solid knot that I could easily untie later. However the most frustrating part was trying to untangle the cord especially in the dark. I put all of those problems aside when I found the Huntin' Hoist several years ago.

The Huntin' Hoist is neat and compact with a built in retractable spring attached to a 30 foot strap (a cord is also available). At the end of the strap is a specifically designed positive locking patented Gear Cinch. The Gear Cinch is a two piece device permanently attached to the strap. By simply wrapping the strap around the item to be lifted or lowered the Gear Cinch locks the strap in place safely securing the load. Although the Gear Cinch cannot accidentally come unlocked it can easily be undone in just seconds, even in the dark.

The Huntin' Hoist features a



**The Gear Cinch is attached directly to the Huntin' Hoist strap or cord. With a quick wrap around the object to be lifted the Gear Cinch locks together to provide a secure grip yet unlocks with a flick of the fingers when the item is to be removed.**

built-in clip that allows the hoist to be quickly attached to either belt or backpack. I have attached one Huntin' Hoist to the outside of my backpack. When I get to my stand I simply attach the Gear Cinch to my bow and use my previously installed steps or ladders to climb to the stand. As I climb the retractable internal spring lets out the strap. Once I am in my stand I remove my pack and hang it on a tree hook. Next I simply pull the strap up hand over hand lifting my bow to the stand. As I bring up my bow (or any other gear) the internal spring in the hoist automatically retracts the strap. When my bow is in my hand I unlock the Gear Cinch and the strap fully retracts in the hoist housing, neat and out of the way. When it is time to descend to the ground I simply attach the strap to the bow using the Gear Cinch and lower the bow to the ground. I put my pack on my back and using the steps or ladder descend to the ground. Now the retractable spring automatically "reels-in" the strap. Once on the ground I pick up my bow, unhook the Gear Cinch and allow the strap to fully retract. With this product there is no cord or rope to untangle or try to wrap-up in the dark. In minutes I



**The author always keeps a Huntin' Hoist attached to his backpack to use when raising and lowering gear to and from his treestand.**

am on my way.

Another option is to permanently attach the Huntin' Hoist to your stand. You can still use it to raise and lower your bow or other gear but when you leave your stand you must remember to hook the Gear Cinch to an object on the ground so it does not automatically retract and will be available when you return. The Belt clip on the back of the Huntin' Hoist can be rotated 90 degrees so if it is attached to a strap on the treestand the hoist can be positioned in such a manner that the retractable strap always points to the ground for smooth operation.

A great way to show the usefulness of the Huntin' Hoist is in a treestand display showing the hoist attached to a stand with the end of the strap connected to a bow on the floor. The Huntin' Hoist is available in either camo or black, with a cord or strap, both with 300 pound strength. While no one would be physically able to lift 300 pounds the fact that they have such a safety factor means the user never has to worry about a cord or strap breaking and dropping an expensive bow. For more information on the Huntin' Hoist call (812) 346-8226. ←