

Hunt Comfort Cushions Keep Country Music Artists In the Hunt

The Fifth Annual Country Goes Huntin' event was bigger and better than ever this year with more than \$130,000 raised for charity, a packed-out concert and 16 bagged gobblers. The concert, which was held on March 29 at the Dothan, Alabama, Civic Center, entertained a sold-out crowd with more than 3,000 attending. Each year, the event gets bigger and bigger, and Sam Klement, co-founder of Country Goes Huntin', gives much of the credit to the event's sponsors, such as Hunt Comfort Cushions.

"Had it not been for companies, such as Hunt Comfort Cushions, which donated gear for the artists and professional hunters, the event would not be near as special," Klement says.

"The key to the success of this hunt is making sure that the artists and camera guys are comfortable," says Klement. "When you try to cram a hunt into a one- or two-day period, it means you're logging long hours in the woods. The only way you can enjoy the experience is to sit on a comfortable cushion. Hunt Comfort kept us in the hunt. I attribute the success of this hunt to the cushions. When you try to get a country music artist, who's used to being active and on stage, to sit still in the woods for hours on end, it's impossible to do if he's not comfortable. Hunt Comfort Cushions helped the artists sit still thus increasing their odds of success. We took 16 turkeys during the event, and every single one of them was harvested by hunters using the Hunt Comfort Cushion."

Acoustic performances were given by Rhett Akins, Jeff Bates, Tracy Byrd, Craig Morgan, Daryle Singletary, Jason Aldean, Troy Gentry of Montgomery Gentry, Gary LeVox of Rascal Flatts, Blake Shelton, Danielle Peck, Jamie Johnson, Little Big Town and Andy Griggs.

Before and after the concert, the artists hunted with professional hunters such as Eddie Salter, Matt Morrett, Walter Parrott, Shane Berry, Mike Wolfe, David Blanton, Jeff Banks, Chuck Jones, Travis 'T-Bone' Turner, Michael Waddell, John Tate, Ricky Joe Bishop, Tad Brown, Tim Knight and Sam Klement.

Exceptional Hunting

Klement says he's ecstatic about the amount of money raised for charity and the impact this concert had on the crowd.

"To top it off, we took 16 turkeys on film, which is phenomenal for Georgia Easterns," Klement says.

Country artist, Rhett Akins, who co-founded Country Goes Huntin' with Klement, killed the biggest gobbler of the hunt boasting 1 ¾ -inch spurs and a 12 ½-inch beard. Gary LeVox of Rascal Flatts killed a double-bearded gobbler, and Daryle Singletary killed a remarkable five-bearded turkey.

The hunts will be aired on numerous television shows, such as Tiffany and Lee Lakosky's Gettin' Close, Bass Pro Shop's Outdoor World with Jerry Martin, Parrot and Jones TV Show and Hunter's Specialties Outdoors with Eddies Salter and Matt Morrett.

Sold-Out Show

The crowd was packed out with approximately 5,000 fans. It's the fastest selling concert in the history of Dothan's Civic Center.

"Everyone was having a ball and no one wanted to leave, including the singers," Klement says. "At 11 p.m. that night, Rhett came onstage and told the audience that the concert was officially over. But, we couldn't get Blake Shelton and Andy Griggs off the stage. They were having such a good time that they played until 12:30 p.m."

After the concert, Klement received hundreds of e-mails from different people about how much they enjoyed it. Everyone involved from artist, to sponsors, to hunters had a great time.

Country music artist Rhett Akins says the 2006 Country Goes Huntin' event was the biggest yet and he anticipates it growing even larger in years to come.

"Every year, I'm amazed at the turnout," Akins says. "But what amazes me even more is that these popular country music stars give time that they don't even have to participate in this event. The money raised from this concert helps so many people that the artists just want to do what they can to raise even more money, not to mention, we all have a great time just hanging out and hunting together."

Akins says he's also grateful to the many companies which donated gear and money to the event and that he's especially thankful for the cushions donated by Hunt Comfort.

Although Akins has been turkey hunting for a long time and is used to sitting in the woods for hours and hours waiting for gobblers to appear, he still gets uncomfortable.

"Thanks to the Hunt Comfort Cushion, my days of discomfort in the woods are over," Akins says. "The cushion really made a difference in my ability to sit still longer. When I used it during the hunt, I didn't get my usual leg cramps, and I ended up taking the biggest turkey of the hunt!"

Michael Waddell, host of Realtree Road Trips, also thanks his Hunt Comfort Cushion for a successful hunt.

"When it comes to turkey hunting, nothing is more important than remaining still and quite. Thanks to the Hunt Comfort Folding Classic Cushion, I was able to do just that during the 2006 Country Goes Huntin' event. This cushion helped me to enjoy my time in the woods even more than I normally would. For someone who spends as much time in the woods as I do, comfort is a top priority."

