

Scott P. from Winter Park, Florida

Forty years ago, at the very impressionable age of 8, I attended a summer camp, Camp Heronwood, in the Orlando, Florida area. Among a myriad of nature and outdoorsmanship building activities there, and much to my youthful fascination, Camp Heronwood offered a rifle range. Campers over 10 years old got to shoot .22 rifles, while campers under 10 got to shoot Daisy BB guns, as was common at that time, but unfortunately less prevalent today.

I took to shooting Daisy BB guns like a fish takes to water. As I would later be told, my accuracy and most importantly, marksmanship and safety with the Daisy BB gun, was unmatched by my 8 year old camper counterparts. In those old days, the muzzle unit of the early model Daisy BB guns could be screwed out and kept separate from the gun, rendering it inoperable and thus, safe. It was my job at the end of each day to disassemble the Daisy BB gun and store it safely for the next day. At age 8, being trusted to do that, helped me develop safety and responsibility skills.