

Editor's Note: While people in the archery industry know John Kasun for his business acumen and equipment knowledge, in his corner of Pennsylvania he has a far different reputation. Kasun has been writing humor columns for area newspapers for many years, and has become something of a celebrity. I've asked my good friend to try his hand at a new humor column for *ArrowTrade* and as an introduction to that we're reprinting two recent newspaper columns that I especially enjoyed. Look for his first hunting related column for this publication in the upcoming May issue. *Tim Dehn*

No pie for you By John Kasun

My wife came home from the grocery store one day earlier this week and I thought I would help her by putting the groceries away. I noticed she had bought several cans of canned milk and when I went to place them on the shelf in the pantry located in our rear hallway I noticed we already had several cans on hand.

Now I have been married for 48 years to the same wonderful woman and just in case you are wondering it is not 48 years out of 55 years but 48 years out of 48 years so far. However in spite of all of the time I have been married I constantly amaze myself at some of the stupid things I do and I did one while putting those groceries away.

Walking in the kitchen with the cans of milk in my hand I said, "Just wanted to let you know that we already had several cans of milk on hand and we didn't need any at this time." No longer had the words come out of my mouth then I saw her place several large cans of pumpkin on the table. As she slowly turned towards me I realized that she was planning to bake the pumpkin pies I had requested earlier in the week. "When you want to take over the cooking and baking in this house let me know and

Inside the troubled mind of John Kasun

then you can also be in charge of buying the groceries we need." "Oh, you misunderstood," I stammered. "I didn't mean we have too much canned milk. I said you can NEVER HAVE too much canned milk on hand." It was a feeble attempt at pulling my foot out of my mouth but it seemed firmly entrenched. Her sudden silence told me that my pumpkin pie was a few days further away then it had been five minutes earlier.

The whole incident took less than a minute but it reminded me of that old Jerry Steinfield TV episode where the gang tries to order soup from the "Soup Nazi."

The Soup Nazi, who was famous for his excellent soup, also did not appreciate anyone who questioned his soup making skills. If he did not like you or the comments you made about his soup he would loudly shout, "No soup for you!" I had no one to blame but myself. I crossed that invisible line of responsibility. My wife never tells me what weight oil to put in the car or what brand of tires to buy and I had no business telling her

how much cnded milk to buy.

There have been many books written on the secrets to a happy marriage like the recent popular one entitled "Men are from Mars and Women are from Venus". That author was on the right track but the planets were much too close together. Many people try to explain the differences between men and women and profess to have the answers on what to do and not do to have a happy marriage but it is all so much gobble-te-goop.

The secret to a good marriage is simple and you don't have to under-

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stand it to be successful at it. In many ways it is very much like electricity. You don't have to understand how electricity works to use it. But you do have to respect it or otherwise you will get shocked. A good marriage is the same thing. Work with your partner to get the job done and respect what she does even if you don't agree with how she does it. If I had done that I would be eating pumpkin pie right now instead of crow. She didn't say it but I could see it in her eyes, "No pie for you!"

My wife's next husband By John Kasun

It is an accepted fact that women live longer than men on average and that means the chances of my wife outliving me are pretty good. While I have never let that concern me I always take it into consideration when I do anything around the house as I make sure it not only outlasts me but my wife as well. I guess that is why I paid extra to install 50 year shingles on the roof when I was only 65 years old.

However I must admit that I realize with her outliving me the chances are good she might just remarry. Now while I would not want her to live alone it occurred to me that a lot of the work I do to make her life easier in the future is also making her next husband's life easier as well. That is when I decide to pay special attention to certain things I do.

For example each morning I stay in bed until my wife gets up and goes downstairs to let the dog out and start breakfast even if I have to pretend to be asleep or fake a bad back. But



John Kasun

there is a method to my madness; I always make the bed before coming downstairs. Now I don't go to all the trouble women do by tucking in the corners and making sure the sheets are so tight you can bounce a quarter on them. We have a big fluffy comforter cover on the bed with some fancy accent pillows. So all I do is tuck the sheets under the comforter, toss some pillows on top and consider it made. Here is the beautiful part, I always get to sleep in a little longer in the morning and when I am dead and gone and my wife gets remarried she will always remind her next husband that her first husband always made the bed in the morning. I figure that will drive him nuts.

This summer we bought some new patio furniture to go along with the other new patio furniture we

have. We have two separate patios that border a tropical water garden and in spite of the fact that there are just the two of us and a dog we have two large tables, two love seats, 10 chairs, two snack tables and numerous plant containers. If all of our friends came over at once we would still have extra seating. While the patios look like a page out of Better Home and Gardens the problem comes when it is time to store all of the furniture for winter.

This fall my wife was really concerned about getting all the new furniture in our small storage shed without damaging it. I told her, "No problem, I'll take care of it." I didn't tell her that while she was shopping I took one whole set of furniture and stored it in a friend's manufacturing warehouse and swore him to secrecy. I am sure that our friendship plus a case of beer will keep him quiet. When my wife returned from shopping she was shocked to see the patios clean and the furniture all stored neatly away. She must have been really impressed as she said over and over she just doesn't know how I got all that furniture stored in such a small space. The beauty of this is if I die and she gets remarried she will expect her next husband to get all of that stuff in the same shed which is physically impossible. I can just hear her telling him now as he stands scratching his head before a full shed with four chairs, a table and three large plant pots still outside, "I don't understand it. My first husband had no problem getting all of that furniture put away for the winter."

I think tomorrow I will remark the electrical distribution box in the basement. If I just move everything down one step I will still know which breaker shuts off what room but if my wife's next husband follows the chart when he shuts off the family room circuit the appliances in the kitchen won't work. He will not be able to convince my wife that anything is wrong because, after all, her first husband never had any trouble.

My wife's next husband may never have met me but I can guarantee you that he will never forget me.

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