

(Rewarding Handicap cont'd.)

goodness cream, was complete ambrosia. I guess they were the reason for the first strawberry shortcake, and today's modern counterpart is, if not actually a fraud, a poor excuse in comparison.

The mere sight of those wild strawberries took me back to the scenes of my early youth, and I'm sorry for the kids or anyone who has never had the pleasure to have them excite their palate. And I'm in full accord with Monroe Sprowl's little verse or limerick that said:

"If ever I dies an' you ain't certain I's dead.
Just butter some biscuit and new made bread
And spread 'em all over with wild strawberry jam.
Then step mightly softly to whar I am
An' wave dem vittles above my head ...
If my mouf don't open, I's certainly dead."

Wild strawberries, when you can find them, as I accidently did, are prime examples of how much flavor can be stowed in a small package. They seldom are bigger than a fingertip, their juice is blood-red, and their bit of flesh is a concentrate of wild sweetness, so rich you smell their fragrance before you taste it. If there were wild strawberries in Eden, and there must have been, Adam was a fool as well as a sinner to taste any other fruit.

As you can see, I have no comments about my golf game or score, but what I discovered off the beaten path was well worth the handicap of a lousy golfer. I may never play the fairway again.

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