



**Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, and Summit 180  
Instruction Booklet - 2005**

**You MUST also view the enclosed DVD BEFORE using your new treestand!!  
Weight Limit (Viper X5, Razor X5, & Summit 180: 300 lbs.; Goliath X5: 350 lbs.)  
Tree Size: 8" to 20"**

## READ ME FIRST !!!

Please read carefully BEFORE using your new Summit **Viper X5**, **Goliath X5**, **Razor X5**, or **Summit 180** Climbing Treestand.

Congratulations! You have purchased the finest commercially available treestand on the market today. Summit Climbing Treestands are designed and built to provide years of trouble-free, successful hunting with a minimum of maintenance and care. They are certified to meet the requirements of the Treestand Manufacturers Association (TMA) Standards. This booklet is provided to you to outline the recommended use, care and maintenance of your Summit climbing treestand.

**BEFORE USING ANY TREESTAND, BE SURE YOU USE A SAFETY HARNESS AT ALL TIMES AFTER LEAVING THE GROUND!!!**

**DO NOT USE THIS OR ANY OTHER TREESTAND IF YOU HAVE BEEN USING DRUGS OR ALCOHOL OR ARE PHYSICALLY IMPAIRED IN ANY WAY!**

**FOR YOUR SAFETY, DO NOT USE ANY TREESTAND DURING STORMS, WHEN TREES ARE WET OR ICY, OR ON TREES THAT ARE LEANING OR THAT APPEAR DEAD OR DISEASED!**

**DO NOT USE ANY TREESTAND IF YOU HAVE NOT FOLLOWED THE MANUFACTURERS CARE AND MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES!**

**NEVER ALLOW THE SAFETY HARNESS TETHER TO GET UNDER OR AROUND YOUR NECK!**

**IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU REMEMBER TO BE PREPARED IF YOU HAPPEN TO FALL AND EMPLOY YOUR SAFETY HARNESS WHILE IN A TREESTAND. STAY CALM AND DO NOT PANIC. YOU MUST BE PREPARED TO RECOVER FROM YOUR FALL BY EITHER CLIMBING BACK ONTO YOUR TREESTAND OR USING A DEVICE SUCH AS THE "TREE DESCENDER" (AVAILABLE FROM SUMMIT, 256 353-0634).**

**DO NOT USE ANY TREESTAND UNLESS YOU ARE IN GOOD PHYSICAL SHAPE. THE ABILITY TO DO SEVERAL PUSH-UPS, CHIN-UPS, SIT-UPS, ETC. IS REQUIRED FOR YOUR SAFETY!**

**FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH!!**

**PRIOR TO HUNTING: YOU MUST NOTIFY SOMEONE OF YOUR HUNTING LOCATION AND WHEN YOU WILL RETURN!**

**NOTE: Weight limit for these treestands is 300 lbs. The weight limit for the Goliath X5 is 350 lbs.**

Before each use of your Summit treestand, **ALWAYS** inspect the treestand for any structural damage, cracks, cable wear or abrasion that may have occurred in transporting your treestand. **DO NOT USE IF ANY DAMAGE IS FOUND!** The only assembly

required is the attachment (where applicable) of the comfort pads, RapidClimb stirrups, climbing bar or footrest described in the *Attachments* section of this booklet.

**Section 1. Use of the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Climbing Treestand (NOTE: Footrests Shown are NOT INCLUDED and may be purchased separately at [www.summitstands.com](http://www.summitstands.com))**

### Part 1. Attachment to the tree.

**A.** Attach the base platform to the tree first. To do this, pull down and hold the QuickDraw cable spring, as shown in **Figure 1**. This will release the locking tab from the cable, allowing you to remove it from the cable bracket.



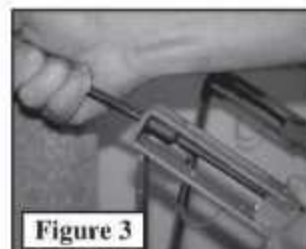
**Figure 1**

**B.** Take one end of the cable around the tree and begin to slide it down into the tubing, as shown in **Figure 2**. Once the cable is easily sliding into the tubing (it helps to bend the cable upward while pushing down on it), you are ready to place it in its final position.



**Figure 2**

**C.** Pull the cable towards the back of the tree and "seat" one of the cable stops against the back of the bracket, as shown in **Figure 3**. The QuickDraw cable spring will "lock" into place behind one of the cable stops.



**Figure 3**

Your cable bracket should now look like **Figure 4**. **IMPORTANT:** If the QuickDraw cable spring does not lock into place behind the cable stop, you must contact Summit immediately to obtain the proper corrective action.



**Figure 4**

**DO NOT USE THE TREESTAND!**

**E.** If necessary, go to the other side of the tree and position the other end of the cable by repeating the steps of pulling the QuickDraw cable spring, sliding the cable into the tubing, and assuring that the QuickDraw cable spring has locked into position.

**NOTE:** The sole purpose of the plastic coating on the cable is to eliminate noise. After some use you may notice some abrasions, peeling or possibly cuts in the coating. This coating does not affect the performance or safety of your treestand. It is there to eliminate unnecessary noise when sliding the cable down into the tubing.

**DO NOT USE THE CABLE IF IT HAS BROKEN OR DAMAGED METAL STRANDS!** Call immediately to order a replacement.

To ensure that your Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 is level at the height at which you will be hunting, observe the relative change in the tree diameter between the base of the tree and the final treestand height. It is very important to adjust the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 base platform and seat at the base of the tree such that the treestand base platform will be



level at the height you hunt. Trees commonly found in swamp or marsh areas have a tendency to swell at their base, and these may require a greater starting angle in order for your treestand to be level at the same hunting height as compared to a normally tapered tree.

Usually, the front edge of the treestand (the edge away from the tree) should be 4-6 inches higher than the edge against the tree (See **Figure 5**). The Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Seat (the seat climber) attaches above the standing platform. The Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Seat should also have the same basic angle as the platform before you begin to climb. The standing platform and climber **MUST BE** attached to each other with the tether rope provided, as shown in **Figure 6**. Wrap the rope around twice before attaching the hook.

## Part 2. Climbing with the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180.

**Step 1.** Now that your platform and Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Seat are attached to the tree, you are ready to climb. It is **MANDATORY** that you use a safety harness as you climb. Be sure to read the safety harness instructions for proper use of your safety harness. Simply attach the safety line to the tree above the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Seat and secure it to the harness for climbing, as shown in **Figure 7**.

If you purchased the Razor X5, you must first position the climbing bar in order to sit on it and climb. Position the climbing bar so that the keyhole slot in the support bar will fit over the head of the bolt you assembled (see **Razor Figure A**). Now slide both support bars, at the same time, over the bolts and completely through the keyhole slots as shown in **Razor Figure B**. Now pull down on the climbing bar (as it is already attached to the tree) to "seat" the bolts in the back of the support bars (**Razor Figure C**). The climbing bar is now ready to begin your climb.

If you purchased the Summit 180, you will climb with the seat facing towards the tree (see **Summit 180 Seat Attachment later in this booklet**) and you will sit in the seat, not on the bar.

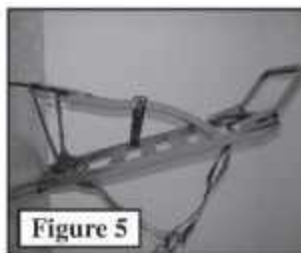


Figure 5

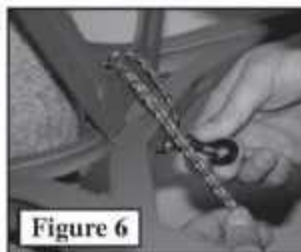


Figure 6



Figure 7



Razor Figure A



Razor Figure B



Razor Figure C

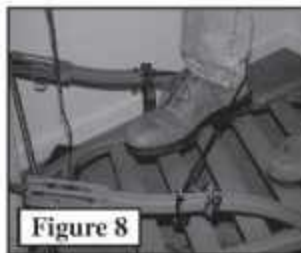


Figure 8

**Step 2.** Your RapidClimb stirrups and bungee heel cords should already be attached to your treestand. If they are not, proceed to the attachments section of this booklet for the correct assembly procedure. To climb, back your heel into the bungee heel cords (**Figure 8**) then simply slide your boot under the RapidClimb stirrup, making sure that your boot is secure under the stirrup, as shown in **Figure 9**. At this point before climbing, **IT IS**

**REQUIRED THAT YOU** attach your safety harness to the safety line around the tree. Hook the seat back elastic cord (bungee) hooks as shown in **Figure 10** to keep secure during the climb.

**Step 3.** To begin climbing, raise your Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Seat up to just below waist height (Razor X5 may require slightly higher position), re-engage the climber, sit on the padded bar (or in the seat with the Summit 180) and grasp the upright arms very firmly as shown in **Figure 11**.

**Step 4.** With all of your weight on the padded bar, disengage the platform by lifting the treestand platform, as shown in **Figure 12**.

**Step 5.** To re-engage the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 platform, simply rotate the edge back against the tree upwards, as shown in **Figure 13**. **DO NOT JUMP OR BOUNCE ON THE PLATFORM OR SEAT** to attempt to cause it to "dig" into the tree. It is not necessary and may cause you to inadvertently disengage the platform or seat.

**Step 6.** Now ease your weight onto the platform (to ensure that you have not placed it on an unseen knot or limb on the backside of the tree), then slide your safety harness rope up the tree and repeat steps 3-6.

**DO NOT TIP YOUR WEIGHT ONTO YOUR TOES** unless you are ready to move the platform because this will tend to disengage the platform from the tree. The RapidClimb stirrups are located in such a position that equal distribution of weight will secure the platform to the tree while climbing.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: DO NOT USE** the Summit Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 without a Summit Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Seat or other climber. A climber, especially the Summit Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Seat, is designed to aid you in the correct operation of the treestand while climbing by keeping your weight away from the tree. The Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Seat is

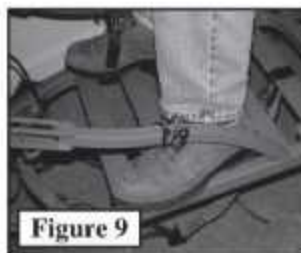


Figure 9



Figure 10



Figure 11



Figure 12

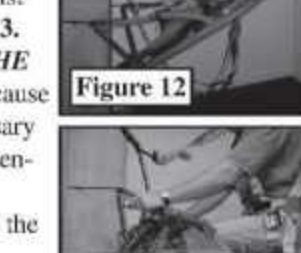


Figure 13



Figure 14



also built so that it fits securely with the platform of the treestand for carrying.

### Part 3. Using the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Seat.

When you get to your hunting height (do not climb higher than 15 feet; it is unnecessary) and have assured that your treestand is level, position your Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Seat slightly below waist level (slightly lower will be more comfortable but higher makes for less movement when you stand.).

**A.** Wrap the supplied strap with the spring lever buckle around the tree and seat frame, as shown in **Figure 14**. Securely tighten the strap to prevent the notched v-bar from losing contact with the tree.

**B.** Unhook the bunge cord that held the seat back rest secure while you were climbing.

Position the seat back rest by wrapping each end of the bunge cord around the climbing cable and hooking the two hooks together, as shown in **Figure 15**. The bunge cord will prevent the seat backrest from falling forwards if you stand up.

**C.** With your safety harness attached to the tree above the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Seat, simply pull your feet, one at a time, from their secured position under the RapidClimb stirrups. **NOTE:** If you purchased the Razor X5, **BEFORE HUNTING** you must first release the climbing bar from the climbing position. Simply reverse the steps of lifting slightly up on the bar, removing the support bars from the bolts, and carefully stepping over the bar as you swing it up under the seat.

Position your safety harness to minimize the slack in the safety line and tether strap and carefully sit down.

The Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Seat will provide maximum comfort when the seat pad is near horizontal rather than tipped down in the front. The seat height can be easily raised (for bowhunting) or lowered (for gun hunting) by adjusting the metal 3-bar slides under the seat cushion (See **Figure 16**). **NOTE:** This adjustment should be made while on the ground. Both sides must be adjusted equally so the seat is level side to side. Sliding the two seat-support straps forward or backwards gives additional comfort adjustment.

### Part 4. Climbing Down with the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180.

To climb down the tree after hunting, follow these steps:

**NOTE:** The Razor X5 climbing bar must first be reconnected in the climbing position.

**Step 1.** Reattach your treestand platform to your feet (keep your safety harness securely attached to the tree until reaching the ground) by using the procedure in **Part 2, Climbing with the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180.**

**Step 2.** Disconnect the elastic cord that has been holding the



Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Seat in place and fold the seat up. Secure the backrest and seat as shown in **Figure 17**. Disconnect the strap that has held the seat in place against the tree (**Figure 14**).

**Step 3.** Place the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Seat at about knee level, sit on the padded bar (or in the seat with the Summit 180), and grasp the upright arms as you did in climbing (see **Figure 18**).

**Step 4.** While firmly grasping the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Seat upright arms, disengage the platform by lifting and tipping the edge closest to the tree downward and then lower the platform (see **Figure 12** again).

**Step 5.** To re-engage, rotate the top edge of the treestand closest to the tree upwards. Now carefully place your weight back on the treestand. **DO NOT JUMP OR BOUNCE ON THE PLATFORM OR SEAT** to attempt to cause it to "dig" into the tree. It is not necessary and may cause you to inadvertently disengage the platform.

**Step 6.** Slide your safety harness rope down to about chest height and repeat **steps 3-6** until you have reached the bottom of the tree. **NEVER disconnect your harness until reaching the ground!**

### Part 5. Carrying the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180.

The Platform and Seat of the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 are lightweight and easy to carry as one unit.

**A.** To combine the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Seat and Platform, place the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Seat frame on its end as shown in **Figure 19**. The Razor X5 climbing bar will need to be folded up (past the climbing position as shown in the **Razor Figure** at right) to do this. Slide the short comfort pads towards the cable bracket.

**B.** Take the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Platform, and begin sliding it into the seat climber so that its upright braces and cable goes next to the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 seat side braces and cable as shown in **Figure 20**.

**C.** Both sides of the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Platform V-bar should be against the side braces of the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 Seat. Now pull the seat back rest through the platform as shown in **Figure 21**. Be sure that the back





pack straps will clear the bottom seat pad as shown in Figure 22.

D. Secure the Viper X5, Goliath X5, Razor X5, or Summit 180 seat to the platform with the green strap with the tourniquet buckle (Figure 23). This will prevent the seat and platform from making noise as you hike to your hunting location.

E. Use the backpack straps to carry the unit as shown in Figure 24.



Figure 24

## Section 2. Maintenance and Care

Because of the quality construction techniques used in manufacturing, your Summit treestand is very durable under normal hunting conditions. However, since all hunting equipment that is exposed to the elements requires some maintenance and care, the following guidelines for caring for your treestand should be used.

**DO NOT** leave your treestand outdoors when it is not being used. **Any tubing that is allowed to fill with rainwater and freeze will rupture or burst. DO NOT use your treestand if this happens.** If your treestand is exposed to the elements, it is necessary to cover the seat to prevent rain and moisture from saturating the material. This will extend the life of the seat material as well as make it more comfortable the next time it is used.

The powder coat finish that is applied at the factory is very durable and should need touch ups only in areas of heavy wear or accidental impact.

Should you damage any part of your Summit treestand, contact your nearest authorized Summit dealer or the factory to obtain the proper corrective action procedure and/or replacement parts for the treestand. Unauthorized repairs, modifications, or alterations will void the warranty and could degrade the integrity of the treestand. You must perform periodic inspections of the treestand for damage. **DO NOT use the treestand if ANY obvious or suspected damaged is observed.** It is **VERY IMPORTANT** to inspect the cable on your climbing treestand to ensure that there is no sign of frayed, damaged or broken strands. If **ANY** such damage is noticed, you must replace your cable **IMMEDIATELY**. Replacement covers for the cable are also available. **NOTE:** The plastic coating on the cable serves **ONLY** as a noise reducer. Over time your cable cover will begin to wear. This is normal.

Look for nicks, gouges, cuts, cracks, bends, corrosion or similar damage that can be the result of improper use or accidental damage. For instance, this could occur if someone else used the treestand without knowledge of its proper use, or if the treestand were dropped, or hit by a motor vehicle, or subjected to corrosive conditions, etc. Summit treestands have the highest structural integrity by design, material selection and manufacturing techniques, but as its owner, only your continued care will assure trouble free performance.

When the above-mentioned guidelines are followed, your Summit treestand will provide years of successful hunting.

## Section 3. Adjustments

The only adjustments that may be required on your Summit treestand would be the RapidClimb stirrups,



Figure 25

backpack straps or seat height.

The RapidClimb stirrups should be adjusted before you go hunting. Put your hunting boots on and step into the stirrups with the treestand platform on a flat surface. Loosen the wing nuts and slide the stirrups until they securely fit your boots, then re-tighten the wingnuts.

To loosen the backpack straps, simply pull up on the thumb tabs. To tighten them, pull down on the tag ends of the straps. This can be done before or after the treestand is on your back. The seat height can be adjusted by means of the 3-bar slides on the seat straps. This adjustment should be made while on the ground and both sides must be adjusted equally so the seat is level side to side. (See Figure 16 in earlier sections of these instructions for details).

## Section 4. Attachments

**Comfort Pads.** The camouflaged foam comfort pads for the bars can be easily attached for additional comfort. On the Viper X5 and Razor X5 attach the short comfort pads to the curved upright bars as shown in Figure 25. Two cable ties per pad is sufficient. The cable ties are "in-line cable ties: Note the right and wrong ways of attaching. Pull the cable ties snug, cut off the excess, and rotate the clasp to the underside of the pad. Then place the long piece of comfort pad over the front of the seat bar, with equal lengths extending on each side and with the opening down. The Mini Viper X4 long pad will not extend outside the frame. Then attach a plastic tie on each end and one on each side of the bar in front to secure it similar to that described for the upright bars. The Goliath X5 and Summit 180 have one long pad that covers the front bar and upright bars. The Razor X5 has two short that attach to the upright bars and one long pad that attaches to the climbing bar.

**Backpack Straps.** Locate the backpack straps in the instruction bag included with your treestand. Place the looped end of the backpack straps around the middle of the second platform rung from the front of the stand as shown in Figure 31. Now push all of the remaining straps through the loop, as shown in Figure 32. Now locate the two 1-inch wide straps



Right Way



Wrong Way

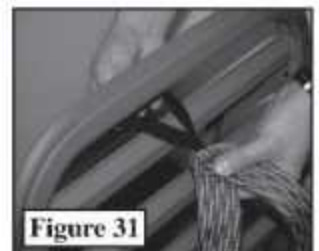


Figure 31

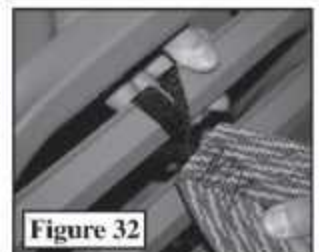


Figure 32



Figure 33



Figure 34

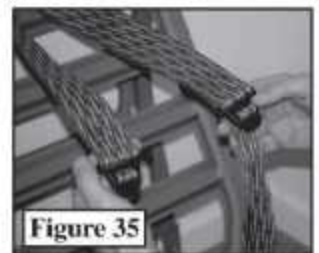


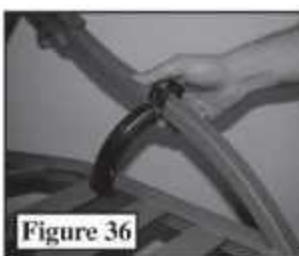
Figure 35



remaining in the instruction bag. They will attach to the treestand at the end that contacts the tree. Position the looped end of one of the straps and push the remaining strap through the loop as shown in **Figure 33**. Now thread the tag (loose) end of the strap through the buckle on the backpack straps as shown in **Figure 34**. The completed assembly should look like **Figure 35**.

**RapidClimb Stirrups.** The two (2) RapidClimb stirrups fit on the curved upright arms of the platform. Simply slide one stirrup on each side of the platform such that they are on the inside of the platform and facing down as shown in **Figure 36**. Once positioned, secure with the bolt and wing nut provided as shown in **Figure 37**. Occasional readjustment may be required as your footwear needs change. Wrap the supplied bungee cord around one side of the curved platform upright bars and push the s-hook through the loop as shown in **Figure 38**. Hook the s-hook around the opposite curved platform upright bar and back onto itself as shown in **Figure 39**.

**Climbing Bar Attachment (Razor X5 Only)** First determine that all hardware is available. Included should be four (4) long shank shoulder bushings, two (2) short shank shoulder bushings, four (4) 1/4-20 lock nuts, two (2) 2 1/2" bolts, and two (2) 1 1/2" bolts with spacers. Place the four long shank bushings into the four holes in the ends of the climbing bar as shown in **Figure 40**. Now place two short shank bushings in the pre-punched holes in the inverted u-shaped climbing bar brackets (two in each bracket) as shown in **Figure 41**. Secure the climbing bar to the seat climber using the 2 1/2" bolts and lock nuts (**Figure 42**). Place two short shank bushings in the outside of the remaining bracket on the climbing bar as shown in **Figure 43**. Attach the climbing bar support struts to the bracket using the 3/4" bolts and lock nuts, as shown in **Figure 44**. Now place the remaining 1 1/2" bolts into the end holes of the seat climber so that the spacers are on the outboard side of the seat climber (**Figure 45**). Secure with lock nuts. Your finished climbing bar should look like **Figure 46**.



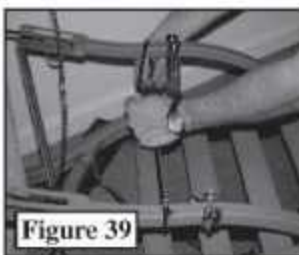
**Figure 36**



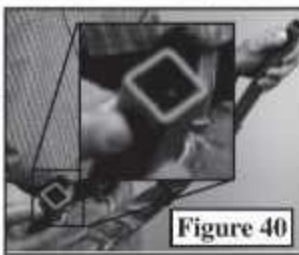
**Figure 37**



**Figure 38**



**Figure 39**



**Figure 40**



**Figure 41**



**Figure 42**

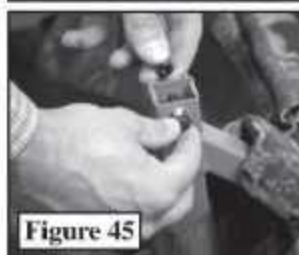
**Summit 180 Seat Attachment.** The Summit 180 seat can face towards the tree (for climbing) or away from the tree. Simply remove all four straps from the bar and reattach as shown in **Figure 47**. **Figure 48** shows the seat attached in the climbing position and **Figure 49** shows the seat facing away from the tree.



**Figure 43**



**Figure 44**



**Figure 45**



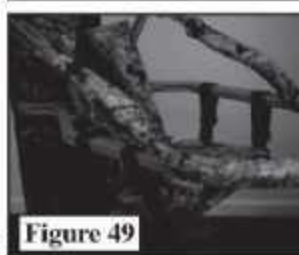
**Figure 46**



**Figure 47**



**Figure 48**



**Figure 49**

## Section 5. Tips

You will easily learn how to use your Summit treestand more efficiently and make it more effective for your hunting.

With proper practice you can learn to level your platform without climbing down to re-position the cable. Pulling the cable against the backside of the tree while you're supporting the platform with your legs can do this. While the cable is against the tree, position the platform level and engage the front edge against the tree. This puts a slight bend in the cable while keeping the platform level. Only minor level adjustment, however, can be made using this technique. (The DVD shows this technique).

Sometimes on a cold, dry, hard bark tree a rubbing noise can be produced at the scalloped edge that engages the tree. This comes from friction forces. It can be eliminated a couple of ways. First, simply re-positioning your platform slightly will in most cases eliminate the noise. Second, a liquid or candle/bowstring wax can be applied at the intersection of the tree and the scalloped edge to reduce the friction. Also, using a file to remove the finish and slightly upset (roughen) the smooth metal surface contact points on the scallops can eliminate the noise.

Changing your sitting position can relieve muscle stress and reduce fatigue. This will allow a longer hunt and perhaps an opportunity for a shot. Although it must be done slowly and quietly, repositioning and changing the height of your seat by raising or lowering the seat frame just a couple of inches could make a difference. This changes the hip to knee angle. Moving the seat straps, again slowly and quietly, forward or backward on their support bar will alter the sitting position also. Being comfortable will result in no

