

*TPWD Mission: To manage and conserve the natural and cultural resources of Texas and to provide hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation opportunities for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.*



## EDITOR'S CORNER

It doesn't seem that long, but on March 7, I celebrated my 20th anniversary with TPWD. It has been an exceptional experience to say the least. I have met some incredible volunteers, and made some lifelong friends over the years, some of whom are still turning in courses and certifying students. The program began in 1972, and I was asked to become a volunteer back then but "didn't have time." I wish I had taken the time, because I missed out on some great experiences and workshops. I finally took the plunge and began my volunteer efforts in hunter education in the 1980s, and so there you have it.

Over the past 21 years, Winchester Ammunition has been honoring the Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor of the Year in North America. Texas submitted a nominee every year from the beginning, even the year before I started with the department. We have some outstanding instructors, as stated, and I am proud to say that Texas had a runner-up 11 times and an actual winner four times, which is more than any other state. That record just goes to show that Texas has a very good group of volunteers, and our staff and I are very fortunate to work with them. Many thanks for all you do for the future of the hunting heritage in our great state. We appreciate your dedicated efforts.

*continued on page 2*



## Game Warden Cadets Graduate

The current class of 36 game warden cadets graduated on Friday, May 16, in the Texas House of Representatives chamber at the capitol. Gov. Rick Perry delivered the keynote address, and TPW Commission Chairman Peter Holt and department leaders attended. The cadets come from diverse backgrounds. Several are upholding family traditions, coming from families of Texas rangers, state troopers and game wardens. One will graduate as a lieutenant pilot with TPWD's aircraft branch, bringing diverse flying experience, including military planes and helicopters. Eleven cadets did TPWD summer internships in recent years, including nine with Law Enforcement, one with State Parks, and one with Inland Fisheries, proof that the intern program helps recruit and prepare conservation professionals. Some cadets are existing TPWD employees who transferred from other divisions, including Wildlife, State Parks and Communications. After their graduation ceremony, the cadets dispersed across Texas to their first field duty stations. This was the last cadet class to graduate from the Austin academy, which began training game wardens in 1978. The next cadet class will start Nov. 1 at the new training center under development in Hamilton County.

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## Editor's Corner, continued

I can remember the Survival workshop at the YO Ranch when I was a volunteer and went driving into Kerrville with Darrell Holt, education specialist for TPWD. He was such a great leader, mentor and friend, and I really miss him. Little did I realize then that I would be fortunate enough to work with him for nearly a year before he passed away. Those fond memories ...

The heat of summer is turning most areas of the state to a parched brown, where water is rationed and folks are being fined for overuse. Take a moment to start your conservation efforts toward the wise use of our resources, and teach the same thing during your courses. Water is the most valuable resource in our state; without it, we would have nothing else. Turn off those dripping faucets in your home, or at least slow them down. Check for leaks and replace defective parts. I will be doing the same around my home.

I just finished up my tenure last year as president of the International Hunter Education Association (IHEA) and was very happy to have served in that capacity. I saw many state associations represented at IHEA functions and annual conferences. I urge you to join our state association, the Texas Hunter Education Instructor Association (THEIA) for only \$12 per year, or \$25 for three years. Better yet, become a life

member at only \$125. THEIA needs your help, because one of its goals is to support the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Hunter Education program. THEIA could do so much more but needs your help. Come to the annual hunter education conference and show your support. It will be held in Corpus Christi on February 21–22, 2009.

Watch for the Public Hunting booklets to come out soon, because there is a new area for archery-only hunts at Schreiner Park in Kerrville. There will be two youth-only hunts scheduled, one for the first weekend and one the last weekend of December. The rest of the hunts are open to the general public, but each individual drawn must have hunter education if required, and **all** must have bowhunter education (IBEP) certification.

If you are visiting the Austin area, please feel free to drop by our new office at Airport Commerce Park, just off Riverside, located at 1340 Airport Commerce Drive. We have a great classroom with audiovisuals and space for field activities. Come on by for a visit. Again, thanks for all you do for the hunters and outdoor users of this great state. Until next time, always be safe and responsible.

—Terry Erwin

## Texas Parks & Wildlife Expo Around the Corner



TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE EXPO

Texas Parks & Wildlife Expo will celebrate its 17th year, and plans are underway for this year's event. Volunteers are needed for the shooting sports areas again. When you receive this newsletter, you might want to make reservations at a hotel/motel of your choice. Right now, Comfort Suites Austin Airport has the best rate at around \$62 plus tax. It should be eventually blocked for Expo, so contact them now at (512) 386-6000 to make your reservations.

Please contact Kathy Powell at (800) 792-1112, ext. 8142 and let her know you will be attending Expo. We will need all the help we can get, especially on Sunday afternoon.

Executive Director  
Carter P. Smith  
Editor, Target Talk  
Terry Erwin



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*"To manage and conserve the natural and cultural resources of Texas and to provide hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation opportunities for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations."*

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### FOR MORE INFORMATION

All inquiries: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, 4200 Smith School Rd., Austin, TX 78744, telephone (800) 792-1112 toll free, or (512) 389-4800 or visit our Web site for detailed information about TPWD programs:

[www.tpwd.state.tx.us](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us)

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## First Ag. Clays 381 State Shoot

The Hill Country Shooting Center in Kerrville, operated by Jack Burch, was the site of the first annual AG Clays Trap Shoot on April 26. Sixty-three youth from schools as far away as Littlefield and Whitharral (small towns northwest of Lubbock), and Victoria, Brazoswood, Belton, Conroe and Snook, traveled the distance to compete for trophies and medals to take back home on behalf of their schools. It was such an exciting day to see youngsters shooting and having fun!



### Boys First Place – Littlefield



*Jake Blackwell, Shelby White, Rance Nicholson, Kyler Blackwell and Tyler Moss*

### Boys Second Place – Whitharral



## Boys Third Place – Victoria Memorial



## Girls First Place – Whitharral



*Marisa Ortiz, Alisha Pecero, Maribel Davila and Molly Presley*

## Girls Second Place – Belton



## Mixed First Place – Victoria Memorial

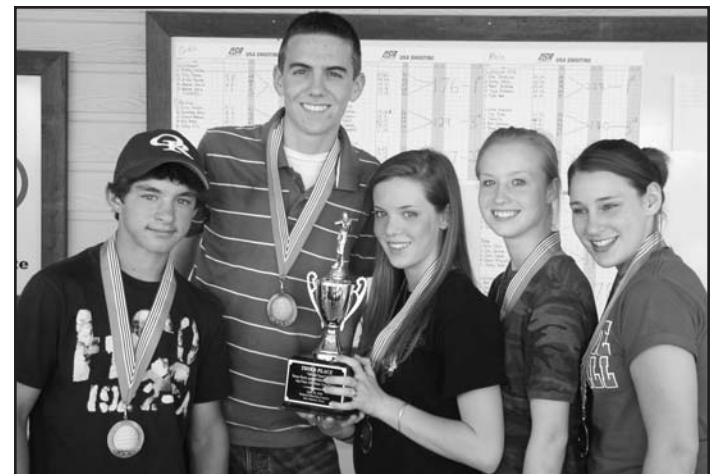


*Trey Miller, Travis Cox, Katie Waida, Marissa Cervantes and Leah Walden*

## Mixed Second Place – Brazoswood



## Mixed Third Place – Oakridge



# Clays 381 State Shoot — What the Teachers Said

On Saturday, April 26, Belton FFA was part of creating history when they participated in the first annual State AG Clays Shotgun Challenge in Kerrville, Texas, at the Hill Country Shooting Sports Center. The Ag Clays 381 contest is an extracurricular part of the Wildlife and Recreation Management class.

With all the things ag teachers have on their plates now, it's occasionally hard to find the time to do more. As an agricultural science teacher, this is something you should really look into. The knowledge and skills students learn from the 24 career development events is amazing and now with one more added to the mix it's even more exciting. A student may or may not want to be on a horse judging team or a livestock judging team but may want to shoot instead. Now they have that opportunity. It's awesome to see students practice this event and to watch their self-esteem and confidence grow. It's also not a bad way to fill more classroom space in Wildlife Management in these trying times for career and technical education areas.

We have to fit our program to the students we teach and not try to make our students fit the program. The more successful students are doing the things they most enjoy. They put more time and effort into those things, and after all, it's our job as teachers to help our students be successful in their lives no matter which avenue they pursue.

Thanks to Terry Erwin and Charlie Wilson from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, we now have AG Clays to add to our list of CDEs. Get more students involved in your ag program and watch your FFA chapter grow.

Rick Ensor, Belton Ag Science Department

Hey Charlie,

I want to let you know what an effect the AG Clays State Shoot has had on some of my students. As we were finishing school last week (a whole month after the shoot) they were all still as excited and talking about it as much as they were the week following the shoot.

None of the four girls that competed for us had shot before we started preparing for the shoot. Two of the girls have since gotten their parents to buy them shotguns and are shooting with the 4-H this summer. Three of our boys have shot for several summers with the 4-H. The other three, like the girls, have never shot at all. One of these boys has also gotten his parents to buy him a shotgun and is shooting with 4-H this summer.

You probably don't know much about Whitharral, but let me give you some background. We are in Hockley County, which is due west of Lubbock, and we are sandwiched between Levelland and Littlefield. We are one of the smaller schools in the Texas with a high-school enrollment this year of only 63, and we play six-man football. Our community is very serious about athletics. We are usually considered the team to beat in district and are a perennial playoff favorite in football, and girls' and boys' basketball. We also have strong track and golf programs with several athletes advancing toward state in both sports each spring. Our kids are very competitive academically, and are usually considered the team to beat in district UIL competition.

My point in saying all this is that with all of the different opportunities to compete (athletically and academically) that our school offers to such a small group of kids, you would think that there would be something for everyone. However, that is not the case. The truth is that there is a core group of students that gets overwhelmed by teachers and coaches trying to involve them in EVERYTHING, but we still have those few kids that are left on the fringes. A few of these aren't involved at all, while most of this group are on every team possible but seldom get to participate and feel like they are contributing.

Of the 10 kids that I took to Kerrville, four (two girls and two boys) are "fringe" kids. It is their experience and reaction to their participation and success at the State Shoot that gives me a great sense of accomplishment. A school teacher's rewards are few, but when you know that you have made a positive difference in someone's life, especially that of a child, that is the greatest reward of all. It feels good to know that through our wildlife and recreation course I have not only introduced these young folk to the outdoor activities of hunting and fishing, both of which I love, but also to shotgun shooting sports, which I also love, and that they can enjoy all of their lives, and also that they have been successful and are excited and proud of their accomplishments.

There is one young man that I have coached in football and basketball. He just completed his junior year of high school, and he is always on the football, basketball and track teams, and he always competes in at least one academic event and is always in the one-act play. He is always there working and waiting for his chance. Saturday afternoon when we got back to the motel from the range in Kerrville, he came up to me in the hall and said, "Coach Rutledge, this is the first medal that I have ever won!" I went to my room and cried.

You have done a wonderful thing by beginning this program, and you have done great job getting everything started. I know first-hand the impact it has made on a few kids already in our little school. Just think about how many more there are out there across our state.

Thank you,

Todd Rutledge, Whitharral ISD

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If any agriculture science teacher is interested in starting a shotgun program in their school, please contact Charlie Wilson at (512) 413-0194. Some teachers who started this program in their school have seen a significant increase in enrollment in their wildlife course because of it.

TPWD has entered a new venue to promote shooting sports for new shooters. There will be numerous shooting opportunities around the state in which individuals or teams can participate. Please look for the "Youth Super Shoots" listed on our Web site coming up at American Shooting Center in Houston on Sept. 6; Hill Country Shooting Center in Kerrville on Oct. 11; and at the Brazos County 4-H Shooting Sports Center in Snook on Nov. 15. [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/hunter\\_education/shooting\\_opportunities.phtml](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/hunter_education/shooting_opportunities.phtml) During these shooting activities there will be a chance to learn more about and join the **Scholastic Clay Target Program** or the **4-H Shooting Sports Program** and then have opportunities to win scholarships toward college.

# First Texas Youth Invitational Held

by Steve Hall, Education Director

The first **Youth Super Shoot and Family Festival** was held on June 21 at Elm Fork Shooting Park in Dallas. Super shoots are events begun by the Texas Shooting Sports steering team to bolster the number of opportunities for youth to shoot and be recognized for their programs and efforts. The goal of the super shoot is to provide a family opportunity where youngsters can come and shoot clay sports for the first time and/or as part of the existing programs such as 4-H Shooting Sports, Texas Scholastic Clay Target Program, TPWD Whiz Bang and TPWD AG Clays program.

The first shoot formerly registered 71 shooters for the main event (150 targets) and approximately 50 for introductory shooting, rookie course (50 targets), flurry shoot; make-one/break-one shoot, 5-STAND Whiz Bang (non-qualifier), fly fishing, dog training, air gun and other fun activities. Dallas Woods and Waters sponsored a BBQ dinner and the Dallas County 4-H Shooting Sports club held a fundraiser lunch for all participants. Each individual shooter in each of the main event categories (e.g. overall, team and rookie course contestants) were awarded trophies and plaques made by agriculture science teacher, Alan Linson, Ennis, and his students. All new shooters received a gold medal and there were an additional 12 firearms given to award winners and raffle entrants. Additional prizes were awarded to raffle entrants that earned tickets for sportsmanship and entry into the many fun shoots held at the event.



*A youngster shoots at one of the sporting clays stations, part of the 150-bird main event.*

For information or questions about upcoming “Super Shoots,” visit [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/hunter\\_education/shooting\\_opportunities.phtml](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/hunter_education/shooting_opportunities.phtml)

*Gaylen Capps, Lewisville, works with shooter at the Whiz Bang (non-qualifier) station at the Super Shoot at Elm Fork. Whiz Bang will become a qualifying event at super shoots beginning with the Oct. 11 Hill Country event, after this year’s final held at Texas Parks & Wildlife Expo on Oct. 3.*



# IHEA Annual Conference

The International Hunter Education Association held its annual conference in Fairview Heights, IL on May 28-31. During that time, THEIA President Duke Walton; and Hunter Education specialists Heidi Rao and Jimmie Caughron with wife Shannon; Education Director Steve Hall; Hunter Education Coordinator Terry Erwin and wife, Burna; and volunteer Area Chief Gene Norton and his wife, Jane, were on hand to represent Texas. The 2009 conference will be in Toronto, Ontario Canada, and the 2010 conference will be co-hosted by Mexico and TPWD in McAllen, Texas. Please see future newsletters for more information.

IHEA Awards Chair Terry Erwin presented several awards during the banquet, including the following: IHEA Hall of Fame Awards were presented to Wayne Doyle, Kansas; Lenny Rees, Utah; and Tony Faast, USFWS Federal Assistant, Oregon. Not present for his award presentation was Jim Carter, North Dakota, because he had just retired.



*Shown here (L-R) is Alan Hoover, IHEA Volunteer Board member; Wayne East, new IHEA Executive Director; and Terry Erwin. Wayne presented the prestigious Executive Director's Award to Alan and Terry on behalf of former Executive Director Gary Berlin for their leadership, guidance and assistance given to the Executive Director.*



*This award is only presented by the president to someone who has provided outstanding service, dedication and assistance to the president above and beyond the call of duty. IHEA President Mark Birkhauser presented the award to Gary Berlin for his service to the president and the IHEA. Shown here is Dr. Kozicky, Gary Berlin, and IHEA President Mark Birkhauser.*



*Pictured here (L-R) is Tim Lawhern, Wisconsin Hunter Education Administrator, Dale Hochhausen, winning nominee from Wisconsin, and Donnarae Sarpen, Child Guard who sponsored the award the past two years. Thanks so much to Dale for his service and professionalism and thanks to Child Guard for their generous sponsorship.*



*During the conference, all participants enjoyed a day at the largest range in the world, the World Shooting & Recreational Complex in Sparta, IL. Shown here is Horton Mfg. Vice President of Sales Lee Zimmerman and Duke Walton observing a participant shooting one of the Horton crossbows.*



## Mexico's Courses Progressing

After three lengthy training sessions at areas like the Chaparral WMA in October; the session pictured here held in McAllen in March; and a session held in Veracruz in May, the representatives of different states in Mexico have taken the initiative and are turning out students faster than they can order manuals. Several courses have been held in Nuevo Leon and other states. During the training, representatives from more than one non-governmental organization (NGO) were certified, but most instructors are working through an NGO known as Federacion Mexicana De Caza (FEMECA), who will maintain the database and records for Mexico.

*Pictured at right are members of the first course from Nuevo Leon.*

*Another course was taught recently by Edgar Wentzel in Puebla, near Mexico City. Pictured below and at bottom right is his group, which completed the course with all grades in the 90% area. He pledged he would certify at least 100 students by the end of the year. Congratulations, Edgar!*





## Texas Wins National 4-H Invitational in Nebraska

The Texas shotgun team that competed at the National 4-H Invitational over the last week of June was very successful. Once again, Texas won the overall competition and brought home the Tom Davis Trophy. The Texas shotgun team set a new overall record during this year's event.

Under the very capable leadership of Coach Charley Love, Ian Love, Cody Henneke, Tyson Patrick and Tyler Martin managed the following: First Place Overall Shotgun Team, First Place Skeet Team, First Place Sporting Clay Team, and First Place Trap Team. Of the group, they finished First, Second, and Third Place Overall Individual Shooters; First, Second and Eighth Place Individual Sporting Clays; First, Second, and Eight Place Individual Skeet and Fifth, Seventh, and Eighth Place Individual Trap.

In addition, there were only three perfect 100 scores shot all week. One was in trap by a girl from South Dakota, and Tyler Martin

and Ian Love, both from Texas, ran 100 straight targets in the skeet competition. This is the first time either one of them have ever had a 100 score.

Coach Love commented that all the shooters individually remarked how their attendance at the 2008 JOSCA American Camp not only helped them with their shooting, but also helped them come together as a team. Many of the other states simply send their best shooters to the National Invitational regardless of their sportsmanship record. Texas has always sent the best all-around kids who also happen to be good shooters. The most important recognition the team received was for their great sportsmanship.

Texas can be proud, because kids who shoot are indeed better kids. Congratulations to them all!

## Winchester Honors Norton for Hunter Education

Walter "Gene" Norton of Baytown, Texas, is the clear choice as the Winchester® Ammunition 2007 Hunter Education Volunteer Instructor of the Year, with more than 35 years of volunteerism under his cap. Norton has dedicated himself to hunter education since 1972, when the program began in Texas. Through the years, he has taught more than 330 hunter education courses and certified nearly 7,000 students. In 2007, he taught 17 courses and certified 250 students. Norton also serves many roles and is involved with several organizations in the outdoor industry, including the Texas Hunter Education Advisory Board, Master Instructor, Area Chief Instructor, IHEA member, THEIA member and NRA member.

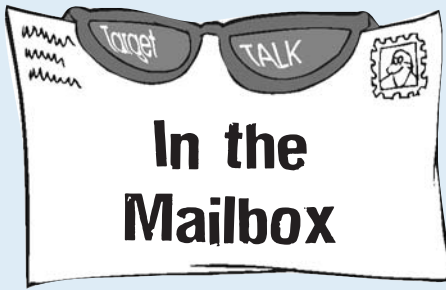
"Gene has impacted the lives of many shooters and hunters in a positive way and most importantly, he has taught them the importance of being responsible hunters and shooters," said Dick Hammett, President of Winchester Ammunition. "Like Gene, thousands of hunter education volunteers work hard every year and we commend them for their tireless efforts."

Winchester Ammunition also recognized runners-up Richard Kiessel of Roscommon, MI, and Ricky Moss of Athens, AL, for their volunteer efforts in educating and training others about hunting and firearm safety. All three honorees were recognized during the International Hunter Education Association's annual conference at the Winchester luncheon held on May 29, in Fairview Heights, IL, and they also received a spotting scope from Vanguard USA ([www.vanguardusa.com](http://www.vanguardusa.com)).



*Left to right are Mary Ann Ventress, Winchester Marketing Communications Administrator; Gene Norton, Heidi Rao, Hunter Education Specialist; and Terry Erwin, Hunter Education Coordinator, during the presentation.*

Winchester Ammunition is proud to be a leader in hunter safety education. For more than 20 years, Winchester Ammunition has recognized a Hunter Education Volunteer Instructor of the Year and continues to be a major supporter of the International Hunter Education Association ([www.ihea.com](http://www.ihea.com)). For more information about Winchester Ammunition, visit [www.winchester.com](http://www.winchester.com).



**Dear Kathy,**

Just wanted you to know that though I wasn't involved in helping to secure your T.D. Carroll Award (Spring 2008 *Target Talk* article) I was not surprised to hear that you received it and I am proud to see it presented to someone who is very deserving. You have always gone way beyond the call of duty to help us all out and you have always demonstrated a very positive attitude and immense dedication towards the Hunter Education program. I was proud to read the article and exceptionally proud to say we are friends. We appreciate all that you do.

Sincerely,  
John Rodriguez, Area Chief, Pipe Creek

**Dear Staff:**

The Texas AgriLife Extension Service now has a new Blog site with some very good information. Wild Wonderings is published to provide landowners, land managers and conservation enthusiasts with information for land, water and wildlife conservation.

Please take a look at the following Web site:  
[www.wild-wonderings.blogspot.com](http://www.wild-wonderings.blogspot.com)

Thanks,  
Larry Hysmith, Program Specialist  
Texas AgriLife Extension Service

**Dear Staff,**

I just wanted to write a quick note about the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Reading the Weather workshop held in Corpus Christi in April. I found the workshop to be quite interesting and of great informational and educational value both as a volunteer instructor for TPWD and as a long time private pilot. I feel that this type of workshop could add some interesting and potentially lifesaving information and education for our instructors that could then pass this on to our hunter education students (especially to those that are heading out-of-state for the first time).

It was an outstanding workshop with a great presenter, Mr. John Metz. The tour of the NOAA facility (with all its bells, toys and whistles) was worth the trip alone. Great stuff for your eyes and mind – (i.e., lots of moving color maps on over-sized monitors, satellite pictures, infrared images, winds aloft graphics, weather balloon procedures and instrumentation, water vapor images, etc.).

Thanks to Brock for putting this one on. I'm hopeful we can get one of these scheduled in the future for the San Antonio area instructors.

John Rodriguez, Area Chief

**Dear Brock,**

Thanks for instructing us in the "Introduction to Primitive Sporting Arms" workshop that was held on June 9 in Mission. I have heard a lot of positive feedback from my colleagues who attended. I look forward to next summer's workshop. If I can be of any assistance, please let me know.

Rodney Beamsley, Rowe High School

## KATHY'S CORNER

Hi Folks! Yep, it's me again and right on schedule. Summer is upon us and the courses are coming in. We have them all entered and are caught up right now. We had a little snag, because we ran out of cards, but that is all behind us. We ordered new ones with the new Executive Director Carter Smith's signature on them.

Remember, please call our office to schedule your courses, because we are fielding many calls, and you know hunting season is just around the corner.

Please make sure you are ordering your supplies well in advance, AND, check the boxes upon arrival. If you missed anything, you will still have time to contact us. Send your supply orders to **Mac Almond** in Literature Distribution. His phone number is (800) 792-1112, ext. 4795 or Fax to: (512) 389-4372, and don't forget, you may go online at [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/hunter\\_education/instructor/supply.phtml](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/hunter_education/instructor/supply.phtml) and fill out an order form and send it in. This will save a considerable amount of time. Thanks, and see ya next time.

# NEW INSTRUCTORS

## Welcome, New Instructors

If you recognize any of these folks who might live near you, please give them a call and ask if you can help them get started. Remember, it is always appreciated when you lend a helping hand.

### April

KANDICE M. SCHAEFER	GRANDVIEW
NICK A. MCCOLLISTER	CLEBURNE
ROBERT A. CANTRELL III	FORT WORTH
SAMUEL R. TILLERY	COVINGTON
BRANDY R. WOOD	BALCH SPRINGS
HARVEY M. RICHEY IV	FORT WORTH
CLATE P. RUSSELL	GRANDVIEW
VALERIE J. RUSSELL	GRANDVIEW
LORI L. NUNN	BURLESON
KYLE L. NUNN	BURLESON
ERIC D. MARTIN	WILLIS
WILLIAM L. PLATZ	SAN ANTONIO
MICHAEL S. ODAY	HUMBLE
DARREN W. CARR	WIMBERLEY
LAURENT DELAGRANGE	DEL RIO
TED A. ELLIOTT	SANDIA
JOSEPH D. SIMMONS	RISING STAR
TODD R. RUTLEDGE	WHITHERRAL
JUAN A. MEDINA	SAN BENITO
LARRY D. BACHHOFFER	MIRANDO CITY
JENNIFER K. GARDNER	CRAWFORD
THERON S. OATMAN	LLANO
JOSE G. RINCONES III	HARLINGEN
WENDELL L. BLACKBURN	HOUSTON
CASEY J. SIMERS	DYESS AFB
TELL R. RUTLEDGE	WHITHERRAL

### May

OSCAR W. HENSON II	RUSK
DENNIS K. PATE	LUBBOCK
STACY W. SNAPP	LEWISVILLE
MATTHEW C. CRUSE	LUBBOCK
JARIN C. CRAWFORD	HOUSTON
WILLIAM J. CAWTHON	SAN ANTONIO
REBECCA D. BRAUD	BROWNSVILLE
ERIC C. BARCH	SAN ANGELO
KARIN R. BAILEY	HOUSTON
ERIN M. ALBRIGHT	SAN ANGELO
SAUL AGUILAR	SAN ANGELO
RANDY E. HARPER	RUSK
WESLEY C. GROTH	SAN ANTONIO
DENNIS R. GAZAWAY JR	SAN ANTONIO
GEORGE C. GAULDEN	SAN ANTONIO
CHARLES R. FURLOW JR	MT PLEASANT
ROBERT W. FRETS	SAN ANTONIO
EUGENE H. FERNANDEZ	SAN ANTONIO
BROOKS R. YEATES	SAN ANGELO
CHAD W. WEST	SAN ANGELO
MATTHEW J. STRAUSS	CORPUS CHRISTI
JAMES M. WOODALL	LUBBOCK
MICHAEL S. HUMMERT	SAN ANTONIO
SCOTT C. HOLLY	SAN ANGELO
ROY R. MARTINEZ	SAN ANTONIO
ZACHARY D. MOERBE	SAN ANGELO
CHRIS D. LASITER	MIDLAND
CHRISSEY D. HUTH	SAN ANGELO
JAMES S. KIRKPATRICK	WACO
KENNETH W. STANNARD	SAN ANGELO
ROGER O. NICHOLAS	SAN ANGELO

JERRY D. NOBLE	TYLER
GEORGE W. PASLEY	ABILENE
DEREK L. ROGERS	SAN ANGELO
AARON J. SMITH	AUSTIN
SHAWN R. SMITH	RUSK
NICHOLE M. SPATZ	CORPUS CHRISTI
JIM E. DANIELS	ABILENE
JAY T. CREIGHTON	WACO
MICHAEL L. MATTHEWS	CYPRESS
LAURA H. GOMEZ	WILLIS
BRADLEY R. ASHBROOK	TAHOKA

### June

JOHN E. TODD IV	ABERNATHY
RICHARD B. LONG	KELLER
JOANIE R. BARRON	GRAPELAND
SHAWN A. PORTER	CONVERSE
JEREMY D. WILLIAMS	PFLUGERVILLE
C W. WELCH	MOUNTAIN HOME
JAVIER GUZMAN	WESLACO
JAMES A. KIMMEY	BAYTOWN
DANIEL E. MAYBERRY	FRITCH
DARIN E. WARD	DUMAS
MONIQUE M. RICHARD	MOUNTAIN HOME
ELLIOT K. TOLL	AMARILLO
NAOMI J. PRICE	FORT WORTH
RAY THORPE	WEATHERFORD
DAVID N. AKIN	GRAND PRAIRIE
MONTE T. PARKS	SPRING
FRANK A. WEIDO	SANTA FE

## Do YOU Have Turkeys at the Office?

Just think about looking out the window of your office and seeing this nice gobbler, and then not being able to take him, because he is located in an area not open to hunting. Yes, that's right, he was just outside the TPWD headquarters building in back near where the shotgun area is for Expo. He has a very nice beard about 10-1/2 inches long. He had to be chased away, because folks thought he could break the windows while trying to fight himself in his reflection.

BRUCE BIERMANN



# IN THE NEWS...

*From National Shooting Sports Foundation*

## Top Brands Used by Hunters and Shooters

Southwick Associates has announced the brands and products that hunters and shooters preferred most in 2007. This list has been compiled from the 19,288 surveys that hunters and target shooters returned from HunterSurvey.com and TargetshootingSurvey.com last year. In 2007, the top brands included:

Top rifle brand:	Remington	14.1% of all purchases
Top shotgun brand:	Mossberg	27.5% of all purchases
Top muzzleloader brand:	Thompson Center	29.7% of all purchases
Top handgun brand:	Smith & Wesson	17.6% of all purchases
Top scope for firearms:	Bushnell	23.7% of all purchases
Top rifle ammunition brand:	Remington	32.7% of all purchases
Top shotgun ammunition brand:	Winchester	33.0% of all purchases
Top handgun ammunition brand:	Winchester	26.2% of all purchases
Top blackpowder brand:	Pyrodex	40.3% of all purchases
Top balls, bullets, or shot brand:	Powerbelt	32.1% of all purchases
Top bow brand:	Matthews	16.7% of all purchases
Top arrow brand:	Easton	45.1% of all purchases
Top fletching brand:	Bohning	29.6% of all purchases
Top broadhead brand:	Muzzy	29.6% of all purchases
Top archery targets brand:	The Block	26.6% of all purchases
Top decoy brand:	Flambeau	23.4% of all purchases
Top game call brand:	Knight & Hale	18.3% of all purchases
Top reloading bullet brand:	Hornady	24.5% of all purchases
Top reloading powder brand:	Hodgdon	42.6% of all purchases
Top binocular brand:	Bushnell	24.5% of all purchases
Top tree stand brand:	Gorilla	12.8% of all purchases
Top knife brand:	Buck	24.3% of all purchases
Top scent brand:	Scent-A-Way	19.5% of all purchases
Top shooting target brand:	Shoot-N-C	36.8% of all purchases
Top clay brand:	White Flyer	36.6% of all purchases

Launched in 2006, HunterSurvey.com and TargetshootingSurvey.com help the firearms and outdoor equipment industries, government officials, and conservation organizations track consumer activities and expenditure trends. The list above represents only a small sample of the vast amount of information that is available from the complete survey results. The results are scientifically analyzed to reflect all U.S. hunters and target shooters. Find out how a subscription to the complete survey data can help your business, government agency, or organization. For more information, contact Rob Southwick at [Rob@southwickassociates.com](mailto:Rob@southwickassociates.com).

## Legislation Offers Simple Fix to Longstanding Inequity

Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus members recently introduced legislation that seeks to rectify a longstanding inequity in the collection of the Firearms and Ammunition Excise Tax (FAET), a major source of wildlife conservation funding. H.R. 6310 will change the way American firearms and ammunition manufacturers pay their federal excise taxes from the current bi-weekly to quarterly schedules. This simple change could free as much as \$22 million annually for manufacturers to invest and contribute to industry growth, which in turn, would provide more money to support state wildlife restoration programs through the Pittman-Robertson Fund.

## Gun, Ammo Sales Up Nearly 11% in Fourth Quarter

Sales by firearm and ammunition manufacturers were up 10.8 percent in the fourth quarter of 2007, led by a 23.6 percent increase in ammunition sales, a 5.9 percent rise in handgun sales and a 4 percent increase in long gun sales, according to the firearm industry's best economic indicator. The statistics are taken from the latest Pittman-Robertson federal excise tax collection report. Excise taxes are calculated as a percentage of wholesale receipts, paid quarterly by firearm and ammunition manufacturers, and earmarked for state wildlife conservation and habitat restoration programs. During the quarter, \$74.8 million was generated for conservation, compared to \$67.4 million in the same period in 2006. From October through December, \$16.2 million was collected for pistols and revolvers, \$31.4 million for long guns and \$27.1 million for ammunition. The latest tax collections suggest overall sales of \$694.4 million, not including retail markup or final retail sales. For the entire calendar year, a total of \$303.2 million was collected in excise taxes, up 21.2 percent from the \$250.1 million in 2006.

## Daisy, Elk Foundation Announce Video Essay Contest

MISSOULA, Mont.—In a new twist on a classroom classic, the old essay contest goes high-tech in a new competition for youths sponsored by Daisy and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. Students 10 to 18 can create short video essays and post them online for the world—and contest judges—to see. Visit [www.daisy.com](http://www.daisy.com) for a portal to complete entry rules, prize descriptions and uploading info.

Videos may be 60 to 90 seconds long. Students can use video to communicate how safe, ethical hunting and shooting, spending time in the outdoors, or conserving and appreciating wildlife and nature has positively impacted their lives. The Web site, [MyHuntingRoom.com](http://MyHuntingRoom.com), will host submitted videos. Contest winners will receive prizes from the Elk Foundation, Daisy and Cabela's.

One grand-prize winner and one parent or adult guardian will receive airfare, lodging and registration to one of the great annual events for hunters and conservationists, the Elk Foundation's Elk Camp & Hunting, Fishing and Outdoor Expo, March 5-8, 2009, in Fort Worth, Texas. The grand-prize winner also will receive a Daisy Red Ryder BB gun and a Cabela's gift certificate worth \$500.

Four additional prizes will be awarded for Best Use of Graphics, Best Audio, Most Awesome Outdoor Scenery and

Best Use of Animation. Winners in each of these categories will receive a Daisy Red Ryder BB guns and a Cabela's gift certificate worth \$200.

"Young producers have complete creative control over message delivery, music and any text that may be included in their videos. The best overall video will receive the grand prize, but the four additional categories are designed to inspire extra creativity," said Joe Murfin of Daisy.

Bob Swanson of the Elk Foundation added, "The Elk Foundation and Daisy have a longstanding partnership and we're pleased to work together to get young people thinking about gun safety, hunter ethics and habitat conservation." The Daisy-Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation "Take Aim At Safety" Video Essay Contest begins May 5, 2008, and ends Jan. 1, 2009. Winners will be selected Jan. 15, 2009.

Accepted video formats: WMV, FLV, 3GP and MOV. Additionally, videos can be uploaded to YouTube and embedded. All videos will be reviewed prior to going live on [MyHuntingRoom.com](http://MyHuntingRoom.com) and must follow posted Terms and Conditions, including granting to contest sponsors the rights to use videos in future promotions. If under the age of 13, parent verification is required by law. To enter the contest, visit [www.daisy.com](http://www.daisy.com).

## THEIA Cookbook Needs Recipes

Did you ever have a special recipe you thought everyone would like? Well, if so, please send your latest mouth-watering bits of information to Duke Walton, President of THEIA. A group of members are planning a recipe book to be sold as a fundraiser. It will be filled with all sorts of ideas that might be fun to prepare and share with the outdoor enthusiast. It can be any recipe that includes meats, casseroles, vegetables, salads, soups, breads, desserts or miscellaneous snacks. Please submit the name of the dish, ingredients and preparation, and be sure to include your name and city. Mail to: Duke Walton, 22648 2nd St, Porter, TX 77365.

# KUDOS!



## Youth Hunter Education Challenge

Pictured here is the Youth Hunter Education Challenge group of participants who were at the Parrie Haynes Ranch on May 3–4, 2008. Included is a presentation check for a grant from the Friends of NRA Foundation in the amount of \$10,641.51, which was used to purchase the trailer in the background, four shotguns, two .22 rifles, and a gun safe. This is part of an ongoing project to take the Y.H.E.C. activities to different areas of the state for regional contest leading up to the state event.

Duke Walton, THEIA President

On May 3–4, Belton FFA competed at the Youth Hunter Education Challenge sponsored by the Texas Hunter Education Instructor Association and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Pictured left to right back row: Jessica Mebane, Anna-Maria Clardy, Sam Hinze, Justin Okun, Jeremy Rabel, Elisa Peebles, and Rick Ensor (coach). Front row seated: Brad Hobbs (coach), Kaitlyn Ellis, Chance Maruna, Jared Siegeler, Courtney Okun, Jimmy Okun (coach), Ally Bates, Seth Preece (coach), and Josh Wellman.



Mebane placed 4th on the Exam, Justin Okun placed 4th in the Muzzleloading Challenge, and 5th in the Shotgun Challenge, Sieglar placed 2nd in archery and Rabel placed 3rd. They both shot a perfect 300 and the exam was the tie-breaker, Hinze placed 5th on the Compass Orienteering Course, and Mebane placed 5th and Ellis placed 3rd on the Skills Trail. Thanks so much THEIA and TPWD for hosting this event for our youth.

Rick Ensor, Ag Teacher, Belton



*Instructor Rick Cumins, Cleburne, took this nice trophy in northern Menard County. He said, "I think they are among the most beautiful of all the animals, and I would still like to get a really black one. Maybe you could see in the photo that he has broken off both points and worn the ribs of the horns almost smooth? He had almost sharpened both sides to a point again. Even the rancher said his body was huge. I bet he weighed close to 90 pounds. I don't know how to age them, but he is very old. The bases were 5" and around the curl, he was still over 23" long on each side. I know there are bigger ones out there somewhere, but I like this guy! Loads of character."*



Dear Staff:

Just a few pictures of what is happening in scouting with this Hunter Ed instructor, Jose Garcia. He was gone for about 11 days at Boy Scout National Camp School where they taught adult volunteers to teach Scouts at summer camp. Topics covered were NRA Rifle, Shotgun, Black Powder Rifle, Pistol and Archery. Part of the syllabus was to cover Hunter Education, which was required by the NRA and Boy Scouts. Instructors mainly covered the high points of Hunter Ed in Texas. Boy was it hot and muggy. It wasn't hard to keep your powder dry.

Jose Garcia, Irving



*Pictured are five Hunter Ed instructors who volunteered their time to run a Black Powder Shoot for the Cross-Timbers Boy Scout District in Longhorn Council. The volunteers who help put on the shoot are members of the Dallas Arms Collectors Association, Inc. Shown (L-R) is William (Bill) Tatsch, Don Keith, Jose Garcia, Jesse Stevens and Frank Horak. Thanks, gentlemen, for a job well done! We will look for you and those new Thompson/Center rifles at Expo.*

*Pictured here is instructor David Hammonds, Fort Worth, who just returned from his South African safari, where he took this nice trophy Kudu. He and his son took several other trophies. David also got an additional seven-day hunt for five animals generously donated by his Outfitter and Professional Hunter at the location he and his son hunted.*

*We will sell \$10 raffle tickets for this hunt and draw the winner at the Instructor Annual Conference in Corpus Christi on February 21, 2009. Congratulations, David, and thanks for securing such a nice item for the conference!*



# INSTRUCTOR DISCOUNTS



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Savage Arms Inc. supports the efforts of organizations and groups such as yours, and is pleased to extend special discounted pricing to enable you to purchase a rifle. Please contact Cathy Hale for a price quote. Please refer to our catalog or our Web site at [www.savagearms.com](http://www.savagearms.com) to view our complete line for 2008.

When you decide to purchase, you will need to forward the following to Cathy Hale's attention:

- Your request stating the model and caliber, submitted with your name, address and phone number.
- Check made out to Savage Arms Inc. for the total amount. (Note that Savage Arms covers the cost of shipping.) If you want to place this order on credit card, I will need the number, expiration date and three-digit code on back. You can call me with this information.
- Copy of FFL (Federal Firearms License), with original signature, from the dealer who will be receiving the firearms on your behalf. (Note: If the dealer sends FFL separately, they need to include your name or this will delay your order.)
- If this purchase is for a muzzleloader, you do not need an FFL. We can ship directly to your address.
- Certified Hunter Ed instructors, send a copy of your current Hunter Ed Certificate or other valid certification. Limited to one rifle per year.
- Savage Arms covers the shipping charges.

Should you have any further questions, please call Cathy Hale at (413) 642-4121.

## CZ-USA Offers Discount

Contact Alice Poluchova at CZ-USA to secure a great discount on CZ-USA centerfire, rimfire and shotguns. To obtain firearms at the discounted price, a person must provide proof that they are a hunter education instructor, send the FFL license information where they want the gun delivered, plus include a check or credit card for the purchase price + \$15.00 shipping and handling. Orders can be sent to CZ-USA, Inc. P.O. Box 171073, Kansas City, Kansas 66117-0073 or call 1-800-955-4486.

NOTE: For more discounts, look in the *Hunting and Shooting Sports Education Journal* enclosed.

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## Madison Films Has New DVD

Alan Madison Productions has just released a new DVD with all their topics. The Master is a compilation of eight videos on one DVD produced by Alan Madison Productions, which together create an informative, award-winning overview of a variety of outdoor education subjects. Digitally re-mastered, shortened and modernized, full authored main menu, and instant, easy access to individual titles and features comprise this new, interactive teaching tool. Topics include Firearms Safety and the Hunter, Shoot/Don't Shoot, The Hunter's Path, Introduction to Bowhunting, Skill of Survival, Judgement on the Water, Survival and Swept Away. Also, of great interest is the price ... \$99 plus free shipping. Quantity discounts are available. To order yours, please call Geri Hatfield at Alan Madison Productions (toll free at 1-877-404-3311) or visit the Web site at [www.alanmadison.com](http://www.alanmadison.com) for more information.



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## Conservation License Plates Support Texas Wildlife, Parks, Fisheries

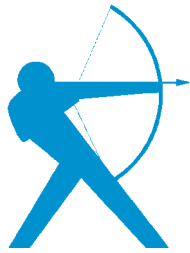
What started as a wild idea in 1999 has become an important way to fund wildlife and fisheries conservation and support state parks in Texas, as evidenced by tens of thousands of motorists who have raised more than \$4 million by humming down Lone Star roadways sporting conservation license plates.

An expanded Web site at [www.conserva-tionplate.org](http://www.conserva-tionplate.org) not only makes it easy to order the plates, but it includes a big new section called Projects Funded: Where The Money Goes that details how the money from each plate is used. All of TPWD's four plates are now also available for trailers and motorcycles. Take a look at these sites and help support conservation efforts in Texas.

# TRAINING WORKSHOPS



*This group went through Laser Shot training in San Antonio in order to be able to run the system during the Texas Trophy Hunters Extravaganza in August. This workshop was arranged by Area Chief, Ross Walker and staff person Brock Minton. Thanks to Area Chief, Bryant Truitt, Hunt for bring his Laser Shot System down for an additional unit to train with. Congratulations and thanks to those who attended!*



# THE BOWHUNTER

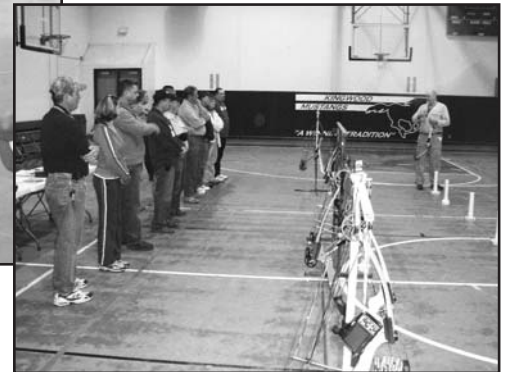
## TEXAS BOWHUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAM

### Highlights of Archery in the Schools

- 757 people have been trained total (educators and non-educators) from 80 counties.
- 315 formal educators representing 172 schools have been trained.
- In 06/07 school year, 28 formal educators reported conducting archery with 2,025 students (34% female students).
- 21 non-formal educators reported conducting archery with 4,791 kids (67% were female).
- Third annual Texas state tournament was attended by 476 students representing 19 schools.
- 128 Texas students attended NASP National Tournament in Louisville, May 10, 2008 which was the largest archery tournament in United States history – 2,856 students participated in the second annual stand alone National Archery in the Schools Program national tournament.
- [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/archery/nasp\\_texas/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/archery/nasp_texas/)



*Shooters participate in the 2008 Texas State Tournament, March 28, 2008, in Temple.*



*Instructor candidates from the area attend an Instructor Training class at Kingwood High School on January 17, 2008.*



*I recently attended the NASP class held in New Caney. The class was very educational as well as fun. We had a blast and the day flew by. I am to get the program going up in my area someday and this class really helped out. Have a great week!*

*Curtis Ansley*



## Bowhunter Education Class

On Saturday, April 19, the first Bowhunter Education Home Study class was held in the Houston area. Two students were certified. The class was held at the Pearland Parks and Recreation facility in conjunction with a regular two-day bowhunter class. The live firing with bows, range estimating and blood trailing exercises were held at Independence Park in Pearland. This class also included a bowhunter instructor certification (pictured here).

## BOWHUNTER ED MAILBOX

Dear Staff:

Marcus, Nicole and Nicolaus were all quite impressed with the archery course. Nick said that the archery instructor, Joe Drobinak, was better than any of the Boy Scout archery instructors. Nick has the experience to compare, he's almost an Eagle Scout (two months away) and he has been to Jamboree in Washington DC several times, where they had archery instruction. If you can, send our appreciation to the instructor.

Thanks,  
Ruth Cleveland

Notes from Mary, another mother of one of the students. I concur 100% – my son, Michael, had a great time in the course. Joe is an excellent Archery instructor and Michael has been to YMCA Camp Cullen two years in a row and was always disappointed that he could never hit anything during Archery. He was so happy yesterday I can now “bribe” him with the promise of a compound bow if he gets commended status on his two TAKS tests this year! Thanks to Joe and everyone.

Thank you for facilitating our attendance of the Bowhunter Education Certification Class held May 17 and 18 in Arlington. The presenters did a good job of presenting the material in a coherent manner while providing appropriate anecdotes to illustrate specific concepts. Each of the presenters appeared to be enthusiastic about the subject and in sharing their knowledge and skill with the class. Specifically, David Lassiter could

not have been more helpful in finding a class location and date that would accommodate my group's needs. As constructive criticism, I realize that there may be a minimum time requirement for the certification; however, I believe that the information could be effectively communicated in a shorter period. Thank you for providing this service at such a reasonable price and at so many venues and dates.

Regards,  
Scott Pitre  
Macfarlan Capital Partners, L.P.

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