

NEWSLETTER NO. 125

SPRING 2002



Editor's CORNER

Hunter Education Celebrates 30 Years

Some 30 years ago, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission approved the Texas Hunter Education Program under the direction of T.D. Carroll. The first student was certified on February 28, 1972, which was Mike Fain, who is now a game warden in South Texas. This year, we are celebrating the "30th Anniversary" of one of the most successful ventures in Texas Parks and Wildlife's history. There are still 23 original instructors who have remained active all this time. Thirty-year plaques were presented to those veterans who attended the THEIA Annual Conference, recently held on March 1-3, in Rosenberg.



Shown (L-R) receiving their 30-year plaques are Gene Norton, Baytown; Chuck Morrow, Richardson; and Billy Holt, Breckenridge. Congratulations!

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Welcome, New Assistant Coordinators



On February 1, 2002, TPW Hunter Education gained two new employees. Jimmie Caughron, (left), Area Chief from Ballinger, retired after nearly 31 years in public education and started with TPW. Jimmie will cover the largest part of the state west of a line from Childress to Del Rio, including the Panhandle and out to El Paso. Kent Irvin, Grand Prairie, will be responsible from Wichita Falls to Waco to Nacogdoches and up to Texarkana. Kent thanked Jimmie for taking the Panhandle area to Midland off of his area of responsibility. Jimmie's work number is (915) 365-4543.

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Editor's CORNER, continued

The following instructors received their plaques in the mail with a congratulatory letter for a "job well done." H. Boyce Hale, James B. Stephen, Albert Ross, James R. Brown, Wayne Spahn, Bill Lynn, Verna Lynn, Victor C. Shamp, Gerald E. Chapman, Game Wardens - Gary Hunt, and Max M. Hartmann, Virgil Kidwell, Edmund J. Neitzler, Richard W. Schultze, Barney B. Seals, Clinton R. Bippert, Don A. Barber, Carroll L. Kearney, Thomas H. Anderson, III, and Nicholas Mees, Jr. Congratulations to all of those dedicated veterans!

A special thanks goes to Kitty Haynes, Jim Haynes, Jamie Haynes, Frank Moore, Deb Cleverdon, Tom Stashak, Charlie Wicke and all the Houston area instructors who helped host the annual instructor conference. The Fort Bend County 4-H leaders catered all the meals and provided some great food and some unusual desserts, like a "snake cake" all decorated up like a rattlesnake about six foot long. Some great items and packages were available during the "silent and live" auctions. Thanks to all the instructors and staff who provided these items! Charlie Wilson did a fantastic job with the live auction, which netted over \$3,900.

Jim Posewitz, with the Orion Institute and Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Alliance, was down from Helena, Montana. As the keynote speaker, he enlightened us with some historical notes on conservation efforts in North America, which went right along with efforts in Texas. Jim did a great job! He has written two books, *Beyond Fair Chase* and *Inherit the Hunt*, which were given to each participant. He, no doubt, had writer's cramps after his presentation, because of all the autographs he provided to instructors. Thanks for coming Jim!

I was originally asked to join the ranks of instructors back in 1972, but didn't have time in my, then, busy life. I wish I had taken the opportunity and started back then. That way, I would have met many more instructors and made many new friends with one of the greatest groups in the world. Fortunately, I finally took that step to begin as a volunteer in teaching hunter education about 12 years later in the mid-

1980s. That "step" later turned out to be one of the best decisions I have ever made, because I am now a part of a great group, and being fortunate enough to do this for a living was a dream come true. I love the outdoors, hunting, and best of all, helping people.

Before joining the Hunter Education Staff, I spent 24 years in the medical profession and worked for a surgeon, and we saw many gunshot wounds from hunting incidents. I say incidents, because the ones I witnessed could have been prevented, and therefore were not accidents. The "Ten Commandments of Shooting Safety," when followed to the letter, will, hopefully, prevent unnecessary injuries and deaths. As instructors, we are sure you are doing your best to promote safety in every session.

Can we be too careful? I think not, so while instructing, don't hesitate to drill those safety factors home, all the while doing it with finesse and by keeping your courses fun for all. Never deliberately make anyone feel bad, but rather bring out the best in each student. Always take what they say and do and make them feel important by using positive reinforcement.

The new Hunter Education Instructor Training Manual has been completely rewritten and the above information, along with a myriad of other note-worthy topics will be available upon request. The manual is being printed at this writing. When available, instructors must request a copy for their files. Only the contents will be mailed, since most instructors have the three-ring binder already. Simply replace the old contents with the new version. Changes or updates, as they occur, will be mailed out with Target Talk mailings for replacement or inclusion in the new manual. **Please call Jack Nasworthy at 1-800-792-1112 + 61 to receive a copy of this new manual.**

Thanks folks, and let's take this year by the tail and show what Texas can do.

Terry Erwin

NOTICE

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Hunter Education Instructor Caught “Tampering with a Government Record”

When an individual applies to become an instructor in the Hunter Education Program, there is a warning at the bottom of the application the individual reads, and hopefully, understands before signing. It simply states that it is a felony to falsify state records

One of our, now former, instructors was under suspicion for some time. Word got back eventually, and steps were taken to check out the rumors. Although rumors, they certainly deserved merit and investigation. Sure enough, the instructor was not teaching the course, but merely signing off and giving “students” a temporary card, and was sending in the record as if the course had been taught. A substantial amount of money exchanged hands during the period of investigation.

The instructor was under surveillance for over two years. To validate the incidents, an undercover U.S. Fish and Wildlife Agent and a local police officer were sent in to secure student cards. It only took short meetings and an exchange of money to complete the separate transactions. Charges were filed, warrants were issued, and the rest, as they say is history. The arrest was made at the instructor’s place of employment. Bond was set, paid and the individual was out within a short period of time. The individual was charged with three felony counts of “Tampering with a Government Record.” A trial was held, and the following are the results of that trial.

Two felony counts pled down and a plea of guilty with a conviction of one felony count resulted. The defendant received two years of supervised probation with \$40 per month probation fee, a \$500 fine, \$327.25 court cost, 80 hours of community service, \$50 payable to local crime stoppers, and the individual must submit to random testing for alcohol or controlled substances during the probation period.

This makes a total of six individuals who have been caught doing something wrong, and others are under surveillance at this time.

It is extremely unfortunate that incidences like this take place, but they do. In most all circumstances, authorities eventually know or find out about what is happening. Someone brags about getting the course in “just an hour,” or wants to cut corners, and not do what is right, and authorities move in. This makes a total of six individuals who have been caught doing something wrong, and others are under surveillance at this time.

As a friendly reminder, the course must be done in a required amount of time, although opportunities have been implemented to help eliminate “so called barriers” to certification, i.e. Home Study and Online courses. The law limits the amount that may be charged to \$10 for the structured course, and \$5 for testing the Home Study, no matter how tempting. If one is going to circumvent the process, do it wrong, or just plain not do the course at all, they will eventually be caught, and dealt with in the appropriate manner. Texas Parks and Wildlife does not need instructors like this. Integrity and honesty are foremost in our ranks; so don’t let temptation become a part of your teaching methods.

“If one is going to circumvent the process, do it wrong, or just plain not do the course at all, they will eventually be caught...”

New Assistant Coordinators, continued

The other new individual is Ty Harris, (right), formerly with Texas A&M Cooperative Extension Service. Ty will be stationed in Corpus Christi, and cover an area just south of Victoria to Laredo and down into the Valley to Brownsville. Needless to say, Heidi Rao was also relieved to know she didn’t have to make that trip to the Valley again this summer. Heidi will remain over the area from Houston/Galveston down to Victoria, up to Bryan, over to Lufkin, down to Port Arthur and back. Ty’s cell phone work number is (361) 815-0926. Office number will follow.

Both positions came open with funding known as Hunter Education “Section 10.” As long as states spend the same hunter education apportionment as last year, they became eligible for the funds. Section 10 funds could be used to enhance current programs. Besides increased staffing, Texas will use the money to increase range construction projects and advanced hunter education opportunities. Welcome aboard Jimmie and Ty! We are certainly glad to have you on our staff, and know you will have your work cut out for you.

Texas' Fifth Dream Hunt Successful



Christmas. Special thanks to Dave Cook of Stearns (Mad Dog Products) for providing a duffle bag that held all the early presents, and to Mary Jane Orman of Mossy Oak, for shirts, pants, and coats for each participant; Otis Technologies for gun cleaning kits; Walls Industries and Highland Industries for hunter orange vest for everyone; and Jerry Jones, of Pro Marketing & Sales who provided a knife for one student, and Terry Erwin who provided a knife for the other. It was then off to bed for a good night's rest.

The group was up at 5:30 each morning having breakfast, and waiting for their trip to each respective blind or stand. The first morning was successful. Two Axis deer, and one white-tailed doe were taken the first morning. By the end of the second day, there were seven animals harvested, three white-tailed bucks, two does, an Axis buck and an Axis doe.

December 16, 2001 began the Fifth Annual Texas Hunter Education Dream Hunt for two lucky youngsters who had been nominated by their instructor as the "Most Outstanding Student." Instructor Fred Grimm nominated Amy Reid from Belton, and instructor Ronald Van Der Weert nominated Ryder Hohman from Rocksprings.

Clay Conoly, owner of the world famous Dixie Dude Ranch in Bandera, was gracious and generous in donating the hunt for the two students, the instructors and their parent/guardians. Amy brought her dad, Ronald Reid, and Ryder brought his grandfather, Alvin Connell.

The group arrived at the ranch around 4 p.m. and secured their lodging accommodations and got settled in. After a brief overview of the ranch, Clay Conoly gave them the general agenda for the next couple of days. Deer blinds had been set up and checked for activity. Since there were at least five hunters, locations were numbered, and a drawing was held for respective locations. It seems that all numbers were just what the group had wanted anyway, and it was now time for a great dinner. The food was gourmet style, and one could have not asked for any more quality or quantity.

After the evening meal, the group retired to the main room of the lodge to get further acquainted and for an early



It was a tremendously successful “Dream Hunt.”

However, the best thing about the hunt was seeing instructors and students, a daughter and father and a grandson and grandfather share quality time together. Instructors rarely see or follow-up with their students like this. Amy jumped right in there along with her dad and cleaned, skinned and quartered their animals for storage and transport home.

Ryder is very close to his grandfather, having been raised by him, and as they shared the adventure they grew even closer. Although, Ryder’s grandfather, Alvin Connell didn’t hunt on the trip, he said, “I’m just as pleased to be here sharing the event with Ryder.”



The whole group was such a pleasure to work with. It is no wonder these two youngsters were selected by their instructors. Keep up the great work folks, and send in those nominations!

IHEA Dream Hunt Marks 12th Anniversary

This year, you just might have a chance to go on real plantation quail hunt in Southern Georgia. A special thanks to Wayne Pearson, host of *Ultimate Outdoors* as seen on ESPN-2, for continuing to make this year’s upcoming IHEA “Dream Hunt” a special 12th

annual event. This could be the experience of a lifetime for each participant, because it is filmed and shown on ESPN-2. Instructors should remind their students to send in their entry card found in the back of the Hunter’s Handbook, provided by the Focus

Group, Inc. Any entries received after September 1, 2002 will go into next year’s drawing. Instructors may use the same entry card, completing the instructor information only. Congratulations to all the previous winners!

Area Chief Meeting

Over 50 Area Chief instructors from all over the state attended a special annual meeting at Camp Buckner in January. The new instructor manual was finalized, and the home study exam was given a good once-over for revision. This was a time for recognizing some special folks, and having an opportunity to share some teaching aids and training methods with each other. Shown here are those Area Chiefs who earned some of the top awards in the incentive program.



Front kneeling (L-R) Bob Ratcliff, handgun, and rifle; George Sykora, shotgun; Standing (L-R) Larry Larsen, handgun and rifle; Ricky Linex, handgun; Kitty Haynes, rifle, shotgun, and Hall of Fame; Elaine Lochabay, Hall of Fame; Chuck Morrow, shotgun; Velma Parker, handgun; Cyndi Sykora, shotgun; and Jim Parker, rifle and shotgun. Not pictured is Mike Lochabay, who earned his Hall of Fame Award, but because of a computer error, was notified after the meeting. Not pictured, but receiving one of the top awards was Bryan Waller, rifle; Jan Heath, rifle; and Gilbert Graves, Jr., handgun and rifle. Other non-Area Chiefs receiving top awards were Max Dean, handgun; and J.R Brown, handgun. Congratulations to you all!

Dr. Lanny Bullard, retired 4-H Shooting Sports Development Director was on hand to take the group through some philosophical and technical teaching and training exercises. It was an experience one should not have missed. The participants were divided into groups and asked to accomplish certain tasks. Team building became the focus and some of the members realized the importance of cooperative efforts.

Often times individuals feel “burn out,” and want or need to take a break from the hunter education program. Dr. Bullard accepted the challenge when asked to make a significant difference to some special folks, and came with a presentation that saw the revitalization of some weary souls. A couple of instructors told him that they were glad he came, because they were about to leave the program, and he started their fire again, and charged their batteries. Evaluations indicated that his afternoon session was one of the best and most successful ever conducted.



Dr. Bullard described one of the first “awards” he received for a presentation he gave to a small county 4-H group back when he was just starting out. He still has it, and written in pencil on a small piece of brown grocery sack, an old farmer had scribed the words, “**Ya done good!**”

All instructors need encouragement, and compliments as often as possible, because being a volunteer is sometimes a tough job. Texas Area Chiefs are a very special group, are appreciated more than they know, and as far as awards go, “**Ya all done good!**” Thanks to each and every one of our instructors!

New Area Chiefs

Frank Moore, Houston, has been in the program since 1995. He has taught 20 courses, certified 184 students and attended 11 workshops or special events. He will cover the north-east side of Harris County and assist with surrounding county activities. Congratulations!

Russ Greiner, San Antonio, has been in the program since 1997. He has taught 35 courses, certified 551 students, and attended 32 workshops or special events. He will help other Area Chiefs cover the San Antonio and surrounding area. Congratulations!

Welcome New Instructors

November

Suzanne Minga
Ronald Renick
Cliff McMullan
Paul Baggerman
Richard Kerschner, Jr.
Mark Bindseil
Michael Norton

The Woodlands
Timpson
Iraan
Princeton
Killeen
Bergheim
Elgin

December

Mark Smith
Michael Sommers
Cindy Dickenson

Houston
Copper Canyon
Alvarado

January

Viola Walding
Don Staples
Walter Drawe
Lester Walding
Lissandra Ramos
Corey Lloyd

Livingston
Livingston
Livingston
Livingston
Hereford
Mesquite

How Much Water Do You Drink?

This was sent in by Don & Betty Eyser, Colorado HE instructors, to Patt Dorsey, Colorado Division of Wildlife, who shared it with us.

Water is important. Are you drinking enough? (We all know that water is important but probably have never seen it written down like this before.) 75% of Americans are chronically dehydrated. In 37% of Americans, the thirst mechanism is so weak that it is often mistaken for hunger. Even MILD dehydration will slow down one's metabolism as much as 3%.

One glass of water shuts down midnight hunger pangs for almost 100% of the dieters studied in a U-Washington study.

Lack of water is the #1 trigger of daytime fatigue. Preliminary research indicates that 8-10 glasses of water a day could significantly ease back and joint pain for up to 80% of sufferers. A mere 2%

drop in body water can trigger fuzzy short-term memory, trouble with basic math, and difficulty focusing on the computer screen. Drinking 5 glasses of water daily decreases the risk of colon cancer by 45%, plus it can slash the risk of breast cancer by 79%, and one is 50% less likely to develop bladder cancer.

Has anyone seen my glass?

Training Efforts and Workshops

Trapper Workshop

The Texas Trappers and Fur Hunters Association hosted another great workshop at the Parrie Haynes Ranch near Killeen on January 18-20, 2002. Only a few instructors took advantage, but the rewards were well worth the effort. Troy Vaughn, Treasurer for the Trapper Association, was on hand with other instructors to take, beaver, opossum, raccoon, and fox. Trapping is a slowly dying wildlife management tool and tradition for some. It is part of our great hunting heritage and American conservation success story. Thanks to the instructors and participants who assisted in the workshop. Hopefully, next year, more individuals will be able to attend.



NRA Pistol Workshop

Area Chief and NRA Training Counselor, Jan Heath, and his teaching staff conducted this workshop in January at the Grand Prairie Gun Club. Regular scheduled NRA workshops are held by Jan and his training staff throughout the year. If interested, please contact our office or look at the workshop schedule.



Reloading Workshop

Dr. Ron Howard and Terry Erwin held the first NRA Reloading workshop for instructors on February 16. It was attended by 16 individuals, most of whom were hunter education instructors with the remaining being 4-H leaders. Metallic and shot shell reloading were covered, while participants later learned how to reload .44 Mag., .308, .30-06 metallic, and 12 gauge and 20 gauge shot shells. The generosity of the following sponsors really made the workshop a great success. Thanks to RCBS, Lyman, MEC, and Hodgden Powder for providing supplies for the workshop. Ron Howard and Rick Howard spent several hours constructing reloading benches for the group's use during the sessions. Susie Howard provided refreshments and fruit during the day's activities. You should have been at this one! There is a tentative Reloading workshop in June.

Waterfowl Workshop

The Waterfowl, Biology, Management, and Hunting Workshop was held Saturday January 12, 2002 at the Katy Outdoor Learning Center. A total of 18 instructors and huntmasters attended the weekend event. Tamara Trail, Education Director with Texas Wildlife Association, coordinated and presented at the workshop. Once everyone arrived and registered, Tamara and TPW biologist Justin Hurst began with an "Introduction to Divers, Dabblers, and Honkers." They covered basic biology, identification, sexing and aging, and techniques for new hunters. Participants went outdoors and dissected a few geese to accomplish this hands-on portion of the class.



Hurst covered "The Wonders of Waterfowl" with an exceptional power point presentation/interactive CD ROM show. He covered life history, habitat needs, and current population status. Harris County Game Warden, Derek Spitzer, attended the workshop to share his knowledge of waterfowl. Derek taught how to "Dress for Success" when waterfowl hunting. It was also nice to have a game warden present so he could explain rules, regulations, and hunting opportunities. Everyone greatly enjoyed Derek's contributions to the workshop.

HED instructor Pat Dowdell catered lunch with his homemade chili, and after that the class hit the field. Derek arranged a visit of local fields on the Katy Prairie to observe waterfowl. Additional topics covered were dog training tips and demonstrations, calls and calling techniques, decoy set-up, and blinds. The group returned to the classroom, both educated and exhausted from the field exercises. They took a post-test, and gathered many teaching materials and helpful resources. Thanks to all instructors and participants!



Outdoor Skills/Survival Workshop

What a nice change of agenda, when instructor Suzanne Minga came from Houston and provided training in CPR, and First Aid. At the end of the day, her husband and fellow instructor, Alan, planned a new type of Skills Trail for participants to walk through. The Trail represented simulated hunting scenarios, and as indicated by participant evaluations, rated an "excellent" score. The Trail provided opportunities for individual participants to survey the situation, perform necessary triage and/or treat the victim. With evidence of the victim or scenario, participants had to make a decision as to what had actually

happened, then follow up with the proper course of action. One scenario was an overheated dove hunter; the next was an archery hunter who fell and had an arrow impaled in his abdomen; another was a duck hunter who fell into a pond and became hypothermic, and the last was another deer hunter who had suffered a heart attack while dragging his animal up a hill.

John Weishaar was on hand for the fourth year to take the participants through the psychology of survival, fire starting techniques, orienteering, signaling, and various other topics regarding safety in the outdoors. Thanks John, Suzanne, Alan, and thanks to Dr. Karl Cloninger, Manager of Parrie Haynes Youth Ranch, and to Oscar Rocha for the excellent meals. Great job folks!!

Western Big Game

Shane Whisenant, Texas Cooperative Extension Specialist, set up the first workshop of this kind. He solicited the assistance of Eddie Lero, a hunter education instructor and 29-year veteran of out-of-state big game hunts. Eddie covered license and application requirements, survival considerations using basic and advanced equipment, safety factors, special considerations, and numerous other topics regarding a variety of game. His comments and advice were well received by all participants.



Scott Keating, Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Rangeland Ecology and Management was on hand to offer his expertise as a veteran guide in most western states including Alaska. He gave excellent tips on backpacking, transporting game, precautions to take while in "bear country," and general survival considerations when in the wilderness. If anyone is interested in having Scott speak to a group, his number is (979) 696-6370. He is willing to travel for a nominal fee to cover his expenses.

Overall, it was an excellent workshop, and the presenters were great. We will try to talk Shane into having another one next year for those who missed this one. Try to make it!!

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

April 20-21	Amarillo	Outdoor Skills/Survival Workshop
April 27-28	Humble	Ethics Workshop
April 27-28	Grand Prairie	Ethics Workshop
May 3-5	Parrie Haynes Ranch	Texas Youth Hunter Education Challenge
May 3-5	Grand Prairie	NRA Rifle Workshop
May 18	Baytown	How to Teach/Training Aid Workshop
June 10	Mission	How to Teach/Training Aid Workshop

The Texas Trappers and Fur Hunters Assoc., Inc. will host their **Spring Rendezvous** in Shamrock at the Shamrock Community Center on April 19-21, 2002. They will have on-line trapping demonstrations; Tom Beaudette with coyote and bobcat demos; trapping supply dealers, an auction on Saturday, entertainment on Friday and Saturday nights, arts and crafts, special youth activities, speed trap setting contest and lunch on the grounds on Saturday at noon. For more information, contact Bill Turnbow at (806) 256-3039

IHEA Annual Conference in Springfield, MO on May 28 - June 2, 2002. This will celebrate thirty years of the North American Association of Hunter Safety Coordinators, later named the Hunter Education Association, now called the **International Hunter Education Association**. Missouri Hunter Education Coordinator, Bob Staton invites all Coordinators and instructors to the fun-filled, weeklong activities with special events, including a tour of the new Bass Pro Shop Museum. Come on and enjoy the trip, and bring your family. For registration information, look on the Web site, **IHEA.com**.

WILD - Wildlife Intensive Leadership Development - Anyone wishing more information on the various programs coming up this summer regarding camps for top students in the **Bobwhite Brigade** or the **Buckskin Brigade** should contact **Tamara Trail, Education Director with Texas Wildlife Association at (800) 460-5494**. These programs are designed to teach youngsters valuable leadership skills, team-building in all walks of life and an appreciation and love of the outdoors. Applications are due in very shortly, so call now.

Game Wardens Make Rescues, Recover Bodies of Flood Victims

AUSTIN, Texas - Texas Parks and Wildlife Game Wardens used everything from jet skis to rafts to help rescue people stranded in flooded areas after severe thunderstorms in central Texas in November. TPW Wardens are used to dealing with law enforcement and safety on waterways, but when floodwaters rise and citizens are floating away in their cars, game wardens are called upon for their specialized equipment and expertise.

Wardens rescued three people from Blanco County floodwaters and one person was killed there, according to Mokey McCrary, Game Warden captain in Kerrville. One rescue effort on Friday, Nov. 16 involved three men who had been riding in a pickup and came upon a low-water crossing at County Road 102 in Kerr County. Two of the men got out to walk to safety but the third, a 64-year-old who owned the vehicle, chose to stay. The two who walked away were pulled from the water. The man who stayed with the vehicle was killed when the truck was swept into a nearby creek-bed, McCrary reported. Warden Bobby Fenton from Blanco worked on these rescues and recovery.

"Those two men were just shaking and very distraught," Fenton, said. "They were pretty much resigned to the fact he (third man) was gone. They had asked him to come and he said he could not walk in water that was between knee and thigh height."

In San Antonio during these floods, a teenager was killed and another rescued by Game Wardens last Nov. 15 after the teens left their jobs at an area grocery store. The two young women were swept away at Geronimo Creek in northern Guadalupe County, according to Pete Flores, game warden captain there. The creek had risen 12 feet, Flores said. Wardens Joe Vega, Ernie Lerma and John Bonham were involved in the effort. It wasn't until the following morning after waters had receded that wardens could safely find and retrieve the victim's body.

Jim Stinebaugh, director of law enforcement at TPW said he was proud of the wardens, who often provide the first line of defense for citizens in rural Texas when crime or disasters strike. "They help people on a very frequent basis on waterways - flood or not. We're glad we could assist but are very saddened at the deaths and injuries that occurred."

TEXAS GAME WARDEN FIELD NOTES

Interesting Facts....

During TPW fiscal year, September 1, through August 31, listed below is the number of citations issued by game wardens for hunting without Hunter Education certification. Perhaps some of those folks are a little behind in their obligations to follow the law, and instructors have, no doubt, seen some of these students in their classes.

FY '98 - 1285

FY '99 - 1414

FY '00 - 2008

FY '01 - 2960

“

Happy laughter and family voices in the home will keep more kids off the street at night than the strictest curfew.

”



From email:

I want to commend TP&W on their Hunter Education Program, and specifically the Fort Worth instructor, Bill Tatsch. I recently completed the course along with my two sons (ages 10 & 11). They needed to pass a Hunter Education course in order to obtain a hunting license in Illinois, where we were going for the Christmas holiday. While they are not officially certified in the state of Texas due to their age, Illinois will recognize their certificate of completion and license them to hunt. Bill was invaluable in providing me with the information necessary to contact the state of Texas and Illinois to arrange for these boys to have an opportunity to hunt. In addition to his help, the Hunter Education Program that he conducted was informative, interesting and entertaining. I was worried about my sons being able to stay focused during two five-hour sessions, but Bill's delivery and amusing anecdotes kept them interested the entire time. Bill Tatsch is a wonderful resource for Texas Parks and Wildlife and the youth of Texas. I am thankful for the opportunity to have been in his class.

Steven Nuding

Dear Staff:

Susan Cole and I attended the Outdoor Skills workshop in Killeen in Feb. 8-10, and both agree that this was one of the more valuable, informative, hands-on workshops that we have attended in our years as TPW instructors. Those who did not attend missed a great opportunity to meet and learn from some very experienced folks in the area of survival; things you really need to know how to do and actually do in the workshop. We spent most of the first day with Alan and Suzanne Minga on first aid and CPR, where we worked on "Anne" until we got it right. Then they actual took the class of instructors on a skills trail for outdoor first aid where the instructors participated and learned how to teach and respond when something went wrong or an accident happened in the outdoor/field live environment. You might say we

learned the ABC's, (Airway), (Breathing), and (Circulation). We both feel we could now teach the basic first aid skills in case of an emergency as well as perform them ourselves.



That evening we meet and spent time with John Weishaar, and if you haven't been to a workshop with John you haven't been to a workshop. The guy is incredible, and has done it and lived it and with him you see it, hear it, touch it and do it. That evening we spent time on signaling by various techniques, most of it in the dark I might add. The next morning the temperature had dropped about 30 degrees, (welcome to Texas) and we spent part of the time going through video and classroom teaching props and material, which was fun and informative. Later that morning, outside (very cold) we learned almost a "hundred" different ways to build a fire, and we did, as well as participate in a string-burn contest. This was to see who could build the fastest and biggest fire to burn a string stretched 18 inches off the ground. This is a great way to get the kids involved, learn, have fun, and maybe some day, save their life or someone else's. Later that day (still outside, but getting warmer, not much though) we worked on compass use, how to find direction, change direction, and best of all, find your way back and how to teach it to others. It was a great workshop, just not long enough, and the facility and the food was fantastic. I gained 5 pounds thanks to the cooking of Oscar Rocha.

Thanks,
Dale Turner



Dear Staff:

Thanks so much for the great workshop on Survival and First Aid at Parrie Haynes Ranch. It was well worth the money and time spent. I learned so much that would make my classes even better. We got to perform CPR on Red Cross mannequins, and were trained by a certified instructor, Suzanne Minga. The survival skills taught by John Weishaar were so informative and hands-on. We built fires with so many unusual methods, and learned ways to signal so rescuers could find us. The food, lodging and overall facilities were great.

I would encourage every instructor reading this to take advantage of the many workshops offered by TPW for the remainder of the year. It will enrich our knowledge and appreciation of the outdoors. The manuals and videos we use are excellent, but they cannot replace hands-on experience. I hope to meet some of you at future workshops.

Sincerely,

Steven K. Fox
Irving

Dear Staff:

I recently completed the TPW Huntmaster training program and joined my son in the Hunter Education program. I want to become a TPW Hunter Education Instructor and was informed that I needed to contact your office and get the necessary forms to start the process.

My son and I were lucky enough to recently go on a TYHP hunt on the Bradley Ranch near Harper, TX. It was a fantastic experience for my son and I. Without a program such as this it would have been several years before my son could have experienced a safe, organized and successful big game hunting experience. I applaud all of those involved with this program. It is the reason I would like to become an education instructor to help promote programs such as this to keep our youth involved in the heritage of hunting.

Thank You and I look forward to furthering my involvement in Hunter Education and the Youth Hunting Program.

Scott Remington
Houston

Dear Ken Grau and John Meekins:

Thanks you so much for helping make the Youth Waterfowl Expo 2001 such a tremendous success! Seventy volunteers and presenters guided nearly 215 children from 37 different communities through the various demonstrations and presentations. Of those 215 children, 145 qualified for the raffle for the free-guided hunt. That is to say that 215 children have a greater understanding and appreciation for hunter safety, hunter ethics, waterfowl migration and many other aspects of wetlands and waterfowl.

No doubt about it, Youth Waterfowl Expo requires a lot of hard work by a lot of people, staff and volunteers, but the pay-off is tremendous. Like last year, we have already received numerous compliments and questions of when next year's Expo will take place.

Again, thank you so much for helping. We really couldn't have done it without your help. It is the effort put forth by so many people like you that ultimately will make the difference in the conservation of wild places.

Respectfully,

Andy Loranger
Anahuac Project Leader
USFWS



Texas 4-H Hunting Program Field Notes

By Shane Whisenant

Hello to all our great volunteers! I am the new Texas Hunter Education Coordinator for the Texas Cooperative Extension as an Extension Assistant leading the Texas 4-H Hunting Program.

I grew up in Dripping Springs, Texas, where I met my wife, Janey, who is currently an undergraduate Speech Communication/Business Major.

Growing up in the Hill Country of Hays County afforded many opportunities for deer hunting and creek fishing. Like most, the time spent hunting and fishing allowed my knowledge and interest in nature to expand.

After graduating high school, I followed in my older brother's footsteps to Texas A&M University. I was amazed there was a college offering a major in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences. Some of my dreams were realized when I acquired my Bachelor's of Science degree in this unique major. I am also currently pursuing a Master of Science in the same Department at Texas A&M University. My thesis research focuses on the population dynamics of white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) on the Johnson Space Center.

I was fortunate enough to host a Hunter Education Instructor Workshop

during my first few months of employment. The workshop was held in October 2001 at the Seguin Outdoor Learning Center. The participation and enthusiasm proved promising for continuing education in outdoor learning and activities for Texas youth hunters.

Please take a second look at the 2002 Hunter Education Instructor Workshop Schedule. The schedule offers many new and exciting workshops. The workshops are a great resource to bolster your own hunter education curriculum. The workshops I will host for you in 2002 are Western Big Game, Exotics in Texas, and Dove Hunting. Please call, e-mail, or write me for any information concerning these workshops and information on schedule, locality, and reservations.

In addition to offering specific species workshops, the Texas 4-H Hunting Program is trying to combine the efforts of the 4-H Shooting Sports Hunting Discipline and Texas Wildlife Association's Texas Youth Hunting Program curriculum with Texas Hunter

Education. The program is interested in certifying adult youth group leaders in all curriculums, thus providing the instructor ability to teach hunting safety, technique, and offer the youth of Texas valued opportunities to hunt.

Give me a call to see how you can become involved with 4-H Shooting Sports Hunting Discipline. Jerry Warden, Texas Youth Hunting Program Director, would be glad to answer any questions regarding his program. You can e-mail Jerry at j_warden@texas-wildlife.org for information on how to help Texas youth go hunting.

Needless to say, I am excited about Texas Hunter Education and working with the special volunteers making it a success.

My office is located in Nagle Hall 103B, TAMU 2258, College Station, TX 77843-2258; you can also contact me by e-mail: shanew@tamu.edu and my phone number (979) 458-0708. Thank you again for your interest and valuable time.



*Kindness pays most
when you don't do it for pay.*



Cereal Company Joins in Partnership with Nation's Largest Animal Rights Group

General Mills, maker of a variety of breakfast cereals, is promoting the nation's largest animal rights organization by distributing free calendars in specially marked boxes of Golden Grahams cereal. The "Pets and Their Celebrities" 2002 calendars feature information from the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and its Kids in Nature's Defense (KIND) News. It includes photos of a number of celebrities and their pets, including Christina Applegate, David Alan Grier and Brendan Fraser. KIND News is a classroom newspaper the HSUS uses to spread its animal rights message to children. Produced by the National Association for Humane and Environmental Education, a youth education division of the HSUS, this newspaper is printed monthly and is read by more than 1.2 million school children, grades K-6.

"General Mills has made a tremendous mistake in its support of the Humane Society of the United States," said WLFA President Bud Pidgeon. "In this partnership, General Mills and Golden Grahams cereal are promoting an organization that is determined to eliminate the

“The HSUS
has millions
of people fooled
into thinking it is
raising money to
save dogs and cats
that are stranded
in local shelters.”

American traditions of hunting, fishing, trapping, animal agriculture and other animal use." General Mills is not alone in their misunderstanding of the nation's largest animal rights group. "The HSUS has millions of people fooled into thinking it is raising money to save dogs and

cats that are stranded in local shelters," said Pidgeon.

"The truth is HSUS does not operate or oversee any animal shelters. In fact, the organization spent less than one percent of its 1999 income of \$67 million on grants to wildlife, animal habitat and dog and cat shelters."

Take Action! Sportsmen should contact General Mills to express their extreme displeasure of its support for the Humane Society of the United States. Contact Stephen W. Sanger, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of General Mills, at P.O. Box 1113, Minneapolis, MN, 55440 or call him at (763) 764-7600. General Mills Feedback: www.generalmills.com/corporate/comments/ And call: 1 (800) 328-1144

Reprinted courtesy of the WLFA and www.wlfa.org For more information about how you can protect your rights as a sportsman, contact The Wildlife Legislative Fund of America, 801 Kingsmill Parkway, Columbus, OH 43229. Phone (614) 888-4868. Email us at info@wlfa.org

Out-of-State Travel Information

By Bob Stogdill

A reference document that would be useful for instructors is *Traveler's Guide to the Firearms Laws of the Fifty States* by J. Scott Kappas, Esq. We, in Texas, may transport long guns readily accessible and in view such as in a gun rack. Many states do not allow this. If one is going out of state to hunt, they must comply with the laws of the states they are going through as well as the states in which they will hunt. Kappas' book outlines the state laws for each state and provides the address and phone numbers for the various state attorneys general.

If one is a handgun hunter, the laws are generally more complex than for long guns. Additionally, some states have restrictions on large capacity magazines. His book covers these items as well. The book is available for \$9.95 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling at:

Traveler's Guide
529 Madison Ave.
Covington, Ky 41011

Kudos



Congratulations to Jim and Velma Parker, who received the Henderson County Wildlife Committee Award for “Outstanding Service” in 2001. Jim and Velma rarely have any extra time because of volunteering for TPW in hunter, boater and angler education efforts, and giving programs at the Texas Fresh Water Fisheries Center in Athens.

Mike and Elaine Lochabay are the first husband and wife team to receive the Hunter Education Hall of Fame Award. Mike was certified in 1981, and Elaine was certified in 1991. Mike and Elaine together have conducted 196 student courses and taught 2,374 students during their tenure, and have participated in 142 workshops or special events. They have been at every Wildlife Expo in Austin, and usually celebrate their Wedding Anniversary during that time. What a great effort by such a dedicated couple. Congratulations to you both!





Kitty Haynes accepts her Hall of Fame Award at the recent annual instructor conference. She earned her award faster (four years) than any instructor in the 30-year history of Texas hunter education. She was certified in 1998 and has held 105 structured and home study courses certifying 1,715 students, while attending 61 workshops or helping with numerous other special programs. She traveled all over the state throughout the year, appearing at Becoming an Outdoors Woman, teaching at summer youth camps, or filling in at special events with Laser Shot or Archery Alley. She became an Area Chief instructor in 2001 and began conducting Program Orientation workshops training new instructors. Congratulations Kitty!

Ron Sutton accepts a plaque recognizing **Walls Industries, Inc.** for many years of continued generous support for the hunter education program.



Dan Gutting, Vice President of **Atsko**, receives a plaque for continued generous contributions of the publication "How Animals See Color," along with samples of Atsko Sno-Seal for each student.

Rod Haydel, of **Haydel's Calls**, receives a plaque for generous donations to the white-tailed deer workshops, big game workshops, and to the state annual conference.



Doreen Marks, President of **Otis Technologies, Inc.** (Kit and Kaboodle gun cleaning kits) accepts a plaque for their continued support of the hunter education program.



Deanna Thornton with **Silencio** (hearing and eye protection) accepts a plaque for their generous contributions to the hunter education instructor incentive award program.



Mary Jane Orman, Marketing Director for **Mossy Oak** accepts a plaque for continued generous contributions to the Texas Hunter Education Dream Hunt.

A plaque is presented to a representative with **Stearns (Mad Dog Products)** on behalf of Dave Cook for support of the Texas Hunter Education Dream Hunt.



Use Enough Gun

By Area Chief, Robert E. Boswell

“Use enough gun” was Robert Ruark’s belief, based on his experiences hunting African game. He used the specific example of inflicting a surface wound on a warthog, using a .220 Swift, and then having to kill it with a much larger rifle. With the high velocity of the Swift and the bullets used in the 1950s, this kind of performance is not surprising. A broadside shot on some of the smaller varieties of antelope, though, could have had a completely different result.

We all know that under ideal conditions deer have been killed with .22 rimfires. My grandfather regularly used a .22 Hornet, which is a center-fire, on deer with excellent results, but he waited until the right shot was available. Currently, Federal, Remington, and Winchester sell .223, .22-250, and .220 Swift ammunition with controlled expansion bullets designed for deer sized game. A-Square, Barnes, and Nosler also sell .22 caliber controlled expansion bullets for hand loading enthusiasts. Most hunters consider the .243 as the minimum caliber for deer, but the availability of these specialized loads may change our ideas on the subject.

In the .24 calibers, deer bullets have been available since their introduction, but the trick is to select a suitable bullet from a vast number of bullets mostly designed for other purposes. Several years ago I helped a friend develop a load for his .243 Model 70. The most accurate load used an 85-grain hollow point target bullet. Not knowing any better, we loaded up for deer season. On the first weekend he shot a deer at less than 100 yards, while it was trotting across an open hillside. At his 5th shot, the deer finally fell. Upon examination, we found that all 5 shots hit the heart/lung area, but none of the 5 expanded, acting instead like full metal jackets.

Were we using enough gun? We would have been, if we had used 100 gr. Winchesters, 95 gr. Noslers, or perhaps the equivalent Federal or Hornady loads. It is equally important to avoid ‘varmint’ bullets that are made to

expand violently even at very low velocities, and often will not penetrate enough, much like the .220 Swift bullet that failed Robert Ruark. Today, ammunition and bullet manufacturers are much more free with information about the designed use of their bullets. Following their recommendations will keep you from making the same mistakes I have made. By the way, NO manufacturer of target bullets recommends them for game use, because they are designed purely for accuracy, not for expansion, penetration, or any other qualities we look for in hunting bullets.

As we look at larger cartridges, ranging from the .250 Savage and .257 Roberts, both of which approximate the killing power of the .24s, bullet selection becomes simpler, partly because larger diameter, heavier bullets are easier to make and tend to be more consistent performers. We must still take care to choose a bullet and cartridge combination suitable for the game we are hunting. I read an article in a testing magazine where the author compared their standard test to the results a staff member had in shooting a moose through the shoulder. He was quite proud of the fact a comparable bullet was more deformed in their test than the one recovered from the moose. If you are going to hunt moose or Cape buffalo, this is good information, but for a deer hunter the information from this test is meaningless, and may lead you to make a poor bullet selection. In fact, one of the bullets that the magazine staff felt was too easily deformed and unreliable, I found to perform perfectly on deer

from 30 to 300 yards (296 yards by rangefinder), even when fired from a .270 Weatherby magnum. What did the bullets look like? I don't know! They all penetrated fully, even the one at 30 yards, and were not recovered.

Am I using too much gun? Bob Hagel, an experienced hunter, guide, and writer, said that we should choose a gun that will do the job even when everything goes WRONG. The .270 Weatherby and others like certainly qualify, but so do the standard .270, .280, .308, and .30-06. All of these cartridges with any reasonable bullet have the power to handle

whatever shooting situation you may have while hunting deer. The magnums are the same, they just have flatter trajectories, which make them easier to hit with, if you can handle (or ignore) the recoil.

Was my father, with his .300 Savage, or my uncle with his .270 Winchester, less skilled hunters than my grandfather and his .22 Hornet? Probably not, but they covered more ground in rougher terrain and took longer shoots, often at less than perfect angles. These are situations that require more gun. In fact, my father's .300 Savage replaced a .30-30 carbine

when his hunting opportunities required a longer range, more powerful gun. We talk a lot in Hunter Education about making choices. This choice is about using enough gun to dependably kill our game at the ranges and under the conditions we will be shooting. The information on cartridges and bullets is available, as well as manufacturer's recommendations. If you combine these with first hand observation of field results (Bob Hagel once said that he dissected every game animal he saw killed, to learn more about bullet performance.), you will make the right decisions about gun, cartridge, and bullet. The choice is yours.

INSTRUCTOR DISCOUNTS



Henry Repeating Arms Company is offering their new lever action and mini bolt-action rifles at a special discount. Instructors must send in a request, mail a copy of their instructor identification card, and forward an original signed FFL to have the rifles sent to them. The following prices are for instructor discount promotion only, and are limited to purchase of one only of each of the following. **Call Kathy Powell @ 1-800-792-1112 + 63 for a catalog.**

Model	Description	Price
H001	Henry Lever Action .22	\$ 145.00
H001Y	Henry Lever Action Youth .22	\$ 145.00
H005	Henry Mini Bolt Youth .22	\$ 120.00

MasterCard, Visa and American Express cards welcome. You may send your order to:

Anthony Imperato, President
Henry Repeating Arms Company
110 8th Street
Brooklyn, New York 11215

Phone (718) 499-5600
Fax (718) 768-8065



Horton Manufacturing Co. 2002 Hunter Education Crossbow Offer

In the last issue of Target Talk, you read about an offer from Horton Mfg. to purchase a Crossbow. The offer is still good until July 1, 2002. You may purchase a Horton Hawk CB 266, 150# Crossbow with 4 bolts, field tips and quick detachable quiver, and receive an additional Horton Steel Force 150# re-curve crossbow free. Total charge for this package is **\$124.00**, and includes shipping. You may purchase additional supplies within reason at instructor discount prices. **Please check out the Web site location at www.hortonmfg.com for accessories or contact our office for a catalog, details.** **Note: Purchases are limited to one purchase per instructor per year.** To order, instructors must send in a copy of their hunter education instructor ID, and may use a credit card or money order.

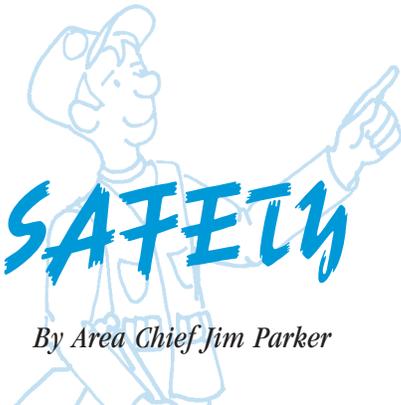
Well, you asked for more numbers to be printed in the Target Talk, so we did. Now, after all that, only four found your numbers and contacted me for your prize. Must not have read it very closely. Come on folks, give it another look and see if you can find those numbers. You will like what I send you. Besides, you just might read something interesting. Shall we continue to print more numbers? Why not, so continue to read carefully, and you just might find yours.

I know the year is off to a slow start, but we have taken steps to correct all incentive points for all instructors. New computer programs were written and tested over the past several months, and new tabulations were done recently. Some instructors lost a few points, but

many instructors gained some. I am mailing the incentive awards out as you read this issue of Target Talk. Please be patient and watch the mailbox. If you do not receive an award this year, it only means you were between point levels. If you have any questions regarding your points, please call, and we can discuss them.

Let's look at our calendars, call in those classes and have them scheduled in the computer. Remember, if an instructor schedules a class early, and then holds the class, an additional five (5) points is added when the class is processed. Besides, it helps us refer students to classes in a much more orderly manner. Customer service is the name of the game, and we all want to be winners. See ya next issue.

K A T H Y



By Area Chief Jim Parker

Safety must be in mind at all times, not just after a tragedy or horrible experience.
Accident - an unplanned event resulting from carelessness, ignorance or misconduct.
Failure to follow safety rules and use good judgment places life and property in jeopardy.
Educate as many as possible and urge everyone to think safety at all times.
Think before you act, the life you save may be your own.
Yes! Safety is for everyone, a few will never do.

“

The only commodity on earth that does not deteriorate with use is knowledge.

”



THE BOWHUNTER

TEXAS BOWHUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAM

2002 Instructor In-Service & New Instructor Workshop Dates and Locations

April 13, 2002 – Austin, Instructor In-Service
 April 27 & 28, 2002 – Houston, New Instructor Course
 May 18, 2002 – DFW Area, Instructor In-service
 August 3 & 4, 2002 – Austin, New Instructor Course

*Please put these dates on your calendar for 2002. The In-Service/Workshop is for YOU.
 Encourage and recruit new potential applicants
 and direct them to the “New Instructor” Courses.*

For information regarding scheduled student courses check the following Web sites:

www.nbcf.org

www.tpwd.state.tx.us

REVISED SAFE TREESTAND HUNTING VIDEO NOW AVAILABLE

The new video is shorter (15 minutes), gets to the point of the safety message and contains the most current information. There is an **Instructor Guide** on a 3.5” floppy disk included. The video may be ordered from the NBEF at (406) 266-3237 or online at their Web site. The cost is \$5.00 plus shipping.

Check the NBEF web site for information on special discounts offered to IBEP Instructors from folks like, PSE Archery, C.P. Oneida Eagle Bows, Fall Woods fall restraint systems, McKenzie Targets, Rinehart Targets, and others.

Any Questions...?

Contact the IBEP State Chairman, Jack Jetton at (281) 824-9299 or by e-mail: tex-doublej@prodigy.com

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