



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

Has anyone ever seen such changes in weather? Before Easter it was near 90 degrees, and then on Easter weekend it was snowing. Well, now that we are fully into the spring season, I hope everyone has settled into this beautiful time of the year. Courses are running smoothly, and all incentive awards have been mailed.

We are experiencing some difficulty with funding not being sent in with course paperwork. Following is a list of instructor numbers and the dollar amounts still pending receipt. If we do not receive funding, we will be unable to process those students. If your number appears below, please contact Kathy Powell to clear up the situation.

According to our records, the following instructors still have these amounts pending, and the records have not been processed:

#14585 \$10	#15539 \$15
#4922 \$35	#11591 \$5
#15249 \$20	#11591 \$25
#13907 \$20	#13653 \$5
#13610 \$15	#14678 \$30
#14383 \$5	

If you see your number among those listed, please call (800) 792-1112, ext. 8142, immediately!

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Texas Loses Game Warden



Close to 1,000 mourners gathered at the First Methodist Church in El Campo Wednesday, March 21, to pay their respects to fallen Game Warden Justin Hurst, who was killed in the line of duty March 17. An honor guard comprised of hundreds of law enforcement officers, mostly game wardens, lined the entrance to the church. Friends, family and co-workers packed the chapel, fellowship hall and classrooms where funeral services were broadcast onto projection screens. Hundreds more listened from outside. The crowd reassembled for a ceremonial presentation of the Texas flag by Col. Peter Flores to Hurst's widow, Amanda, followed by a 21-gun salute and playing of bagpipes by retired game warden Ron Bennett. Memorial fund donations for Hurst's family may be made to Operation Game Thief, c/o Justin Hurst Memorial Fund, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, TX, 78744. The Houston 100 Club is also accepting donations for the family at: 100 Club Survivor's Fund, 1233 West Loop South, Suite 1250, Houston, TX 77027-9107.

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Editor's CORNER, continued

promotions and events. Just go to www.tpwd.state.tx.us/email/ to sign up for free e-mail subscriptions from TPWD on topics that fit your interests. There are many categories from which to choose, each with a wide range of topics. Choose from fish stocking schedules, job postings, park events, red tide and golden algae alerts, e-newsletters, hunter, bowhunter and boater education course schedules, TV show schedule, bid opportunities, news flashes, promotions, public comment opportunities and more! You'll create a personalized profile that you can change easily at any time.

We began a process several years ago to get instructors to read the *Target Talk* and began placing their instructor number among the pages of this publication. Some would find their numbers and some never did. We have been requested to do this again, so we did it two issues back by placing five numbers in the pages in clear view. Only one instructor found his number immediately, and one found his number about a year later (after being told it was in there). They each received a nifty prize.

If you want another opportunity to scan the pages in search of your number, now's your chance. We have placed 10 numbers throughout

these pages; so start the search! The first instructors to call in get the best prizes.

Last, but not least ... Students can now look up their certification numbers for hunter and bowhunter education online. Just log onto our Web site www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntered/ and click on "Hunter Education Verification." This feature is especially helpful for students who have lost their cards and are applying for out-of-state licenses. On the same page, they also can apply for duplicate cards. This process is very beneficial for other states, because they can verify certifications as well. Colorado Division of Wildlife employees call our office many times prior to their three seasons, and our office closes an hour before their offices. Having this new service keeps our residents happy, even if they forgot their cards.

We look forward to helping our customers and instructors any way we can. Keep up the great work, and schedule those courses soon.

Thanks, and always be safe.

Terry Erwin

Texas Parks & Wildlife Expo Around the Corner



OCTOBER 6-7, 2007

Expo will celebrate its 16th year, and planning is already underway. Volunteers are needed to fill 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 \$62 plus tax. It is blocked for Expo, so contact them at (512) 386-6000 to make your reservations.

We hope to see you there!

Executive Director
Robert L. Cook
Editor
Terry Erwin



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New Report on Hunting and Fishing Available

A new report based primarily on the results of previous National Surveys of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation shows that recruitment rates of children in hunting and fishing have stabilized after declining through the 1990s.

The report sheds light on numerous questions regarding fishing and hunting recruitment and retention. What percentage of children in U.S. households have ever been exposed to these activities? How much did this percentage change from 1990 to 2005? At what age do individuals tend to stop fishing and hunting? How do recruitment and retention rates compare among different socioeconomic groups? How does the participation of parents affect children's participation?

The document, Fishing and Hunting Recruitment and Retention in the U.S. from 1990 to 2005, is available at http://library.fws.gov/nat_survey2001_recruitment.pdf. It is based on a preliminary review of information being compiled for the 2006 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation,

and on information collected by the 1991, 1996 and 2001 Surveys. The Survey, conducted every five years since 1955, is one of the nation's most important wildlife recreation databases. The Survey is conducted at the request of the National Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. The U.S. Census Bureau collects the information, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife analyzes the results and writes the reports. The Survey is considered to be the most definitive source of information concerning participation and expenditures associated with hunting, fishing and other forms of wildlife recreation nationwide. 16047

From 1990 to 2000 there was a steady decline in the percentage of children living at home who had ever participated in fishing and hunting. During the last five years this decline has stabilized. Now, 42 percent of our nation's youth have gone fishing and 8 percent have gone hunting at least once. The report also shows that many first-time hunters and anglers—about 33 percent of all first-timers—are 21 years old and older.

The report shows that recruitment declined the least among those with higher incomes, those living in less populated areas of the United States, and those living in the West North Central and East North Central regions. In contrast, the greatest declines were found among people with the lowest incomes, those living in urban areas, and those in the New England, Pacific, and Rocky Mountain regions.

Hunting retention rates look better. Hunting retention rates leveled off in the last five years. During this period, the conservation community maintained 43 percent of hunters after losing 4 percent from 1990 to 1995 and 2 percent from 1995 to 2000. 12440

The survey is funded by an excise tax on firearms, ammunition, archery and fishing equipment, and a tax on small-engine boat fuel. A wide range of individuals and groups depend on the survey to analyze hunting and fishing participation, total monies spent on outdoor recreation, and demographic characteristics of different wildlife-dependent recreation groups.



For Your Information

From National Shooting Sports Foundation

Firearm-Related Fatalities at Record Lows

A new report from the National Safety Council shows that accidental firearm-related fatalities remain at record lows and accidents involving youths continue to decline significantly. The downward trends are occurring even as firearm ownership rises in the United States. Statistics in the council's 2007 "Injury Facts" report show a 40 percent decrease in accidental firearm-related fatalities over a 10-year period ending in 2005. The report also shows that firearm-related accidents involving children ages 14 and under declined by 69 percent between 1995 and 2003. Downward trends also are being reported by other sources, such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Gun, Ammo Sales Up 7.8 Percent

Manufacturers See Increase in Third Quarter

Sales by gun and ammunition manufacturers grew by 7.8 percent in the third quarter of 2006 compared to the same period a year earlier, 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. From July through September, sales of pistols and revolvers were up 25.7 percent, while ammo sales increased 15.7 percent over 2005. During the quarter, \$65 million was generated for conservation, compared to \$60.3 million in 2005. The latest tax collections suggest overall sales of \$603.5 million during the quarter, not including retail markup or final retail sales.

Firearms and Ammunition Excise Tax Collections (calendar year) Source: U.S. Department of Treasury

THIRD QUARTER 2006 (JULY - SEPTEMBER)

Handguns	\$13,154,775.76
Long Guns	\$25,201,242.36
Ammunition	\$26,716,420.50
Total	\$65,072,438.62

THIRD QUARTER 2005 (JULY - SEPTEMBER)

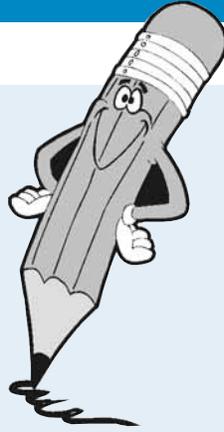
Handguns	\$10,461,323.27
Long Guns	\$26,769,971.86
Ammunition	\$23,088,926.61
Total	\$60,320,221.74

Hi Folks. Yep, it's me again, as usual. We are all caught up entering records, and I have been purging my office trying to make some room. We need courses scheduled as soon as you can. We are getting calls for bowhunting courses as well, so when you can, please let me know, and I will enter them.

If you know of anyone who would like to be an instructor, please let us know, and I will mail them an application to start the process. Remember, the first four-hour portion of the course must be done on the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Web site, www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntered/. Scheduled course also can be found at the web site, so check there for any information you can pass along.

Housekeeping items include checking to see that all records are completed properly. We are still receiving registration forms that are incomplete. Please check them before mailing to save us processing time.

One last thing ... I just purged records and threw away paperwork on 117 instructor applicants who had already been through training. This means they received their instructor manual and all the associated material but never completed the certification process. Still needed, might have been a game warden interview, student course, or mutual agreement. We notified them several times over a two-year period, but they did not respond. It seemed like such a shame to discard all that work. If you have any suggestions, please contact me at (800) 792-1112, ext. 8142. Thanks.



Dear Staff:

The Trapper workshop was awesome! The instructors (Dan, Jimmy and Keith) were great, and it was obvious they are the subject matter experts with many years of field experience and application. The course was extremely informative and personally gratifying. I believe everyone set a trap and had the opportunity to do more if desired. I guess you heard we caught a bobcat, several raccoons, opossums, and a skunk. One of my sets produced a raccoon. (Yee haw!) I had no idea that trapping was so sophisticated and involved so many strategies. I guess that's where the old adage "Trying to outfox a fox" comes from. Anyway, the workshop was a huge success from what I experienced and that was the consensus from everyone else. That's for the invitation. This will be a feather in my teaching hat for the Hunter Education course especially if anyone asks questions. I didn't even know the names of traps, but now I can at least talk about the single and double long-spring traps (basics) and many others.

George and I are very excited to try out our skills at his East Texas location where there are beavers. We plan on using the 330 Conibear™ traps to help open a few waterways necessary to maintain his property. FYI, I think I have an instructor application for George if he wants to apply. I'll check my paperwork but may need one. I think allowing us to bring a visitor was a good idea and would suggest more of this. A few friends of mine I spoke with yesterday said they wish they could have attended. Maybe this is a good way to help recruit instructors for the program!

Thanks,
TR (Trapper Rick)
Richard Rivas, Pearland

Dear Staff:

I was fortunate to attend the Trapper Workshop this past weekend at Coletto Creek outside of Victoria. Our hosts, Dan Hepker, Jim Brooks and Keith Anderson, were great, and the workshop was an awesome experience. Just being able to listen to the "tales" Jim has stored away was well worth the trip. Unlike last year's class, which dealt mainly in water sets, this class dealt in land sets aiming for predators and hogs. By the time the class

came back to the cabin on Saturday evening, there were at least 35 sets out. I truly learned a lot about this industry and look forward to learning more. One of the vehicles even became stuck on Saturday evening, affording us more entertainment. All I can say is whoever had a chance to go to this workshop and did not go—shame on you! I am looking forward to attending more workshops, and any instructors out there should do their best to attend them also. From my past experiences, most times when you attend similar workshops, you can still learn new things. 16501 Thanks again to Dan, Jim, Keith, Heidi and TPWD.

Curtis Ansley, Area Chief
Shepherd, Texas

Dear Staff:

I attended a trapper workshop at Coletto Creek Park on the weekend of 2/9/07. The weekend started on a discouraging note as I drove out of Houston in rush-hour traffic in the rain. When I got to the park, everything changed. The park ranger on duty was welcoming and extremely helpful, and when I got to the building where the workshop was in progress, there was a warm fire and hot chili on the stove. The day was suddenly brighter.

The instructors, Jim Brooks, Dan Hepker and Keith Jackson, were well versed in their trade. Each works a different part of the state and has different techniques. The differences in these trapping techniques, as well as the similarities, were discussed in detail as the workshop unfolded, with each instructor explaining his own approach and contrasting or comparing it with those of his fellow instructors. In terms of atmosphere and knowledge imparted to the students, this was the best trapper workshop since the one held at Camp Buckner in 1994. By the way, Jim Brooks was at that workshop, too, and remembers it well.

The students set traps under the supervision of the instructors and the observation of the rest of the class. We caught a skunk, opossums and raccoons, and had a near miss on a coyote (verified by hair left on the trap). We caught the real prize, a beautiful bobcat. In spite of the fact that we had all the ingredients for a gumbo, except maybe the skunk, we were treated to a dinner of barbecued wild hog, prepared by our host for the event, local Area Chief Roger Coleman.

While learning how to set traps and run the trap line, which included trap and release techniques, we learned about the detailed process of trap preparation, baits and attractants, and many other things that are needed to become a successful trapper. We also learned the techniques of preparing hides, including skinning, cleaning and fleshing, stretching and drying.

The instruction in these areas was presented in an informative and entertaining manner, with the instructors playing off their different styles and techniques to make the teaching points vivid.

Roger Coleman and Heidi Rao organized a great program. Park personnel could not have been more helpful, and the park cabins were great. We had instructors from as far away as Corpus Christi and Lubbock, with John Dea getting the distance award. Since he made the drive from Lubbock, I feel I no longer have an excuse for not attending workshops in the Panhandle.

It occurred to me on the way home that since Brock Minton is now in Corpus Christi, maybe he could host a trapper workshop at nearby Choke Canyon State Park, and we could see the difference in trapping techniques in the brush country of South Texas. Who knows—with Brock there, we might even see the reappearance of “Garfield,” missing since those days at Camp Buckner.

A Happy Instructor

Staff:

I just returned from the trapper workshop at Coletto Creek Park just south of Victoria. It was a great time with good chili and BBQ made from wild hog. There was great camaraderie. I got to visit with an old friend, John Dea, that I had not seen in years. I met a new instructor, Thad Alborno, who was attending his first workshop but most definitely not his last! Curtis Ansley, Bob Boswell and I shared a cabin to cut the expense and be able to visit after the class. The training was done by Dan Hepker, Jim Brooks and Keith Jackson, all from the Texas Trappers Association, each from a different part of this great state. We got a wide spectrum of methods for setting traps and learned tricks of the trade. People who didn't attend because they had gone to a trapper workshop before really missed out! The last one that Curtis and I went to in East Texas, put on by Harold Renfro and family, covered mostly water sets. This one taught us the many ways to do land sets for coyote, raccoons and bobcats, and also how to skin and flesh your catch. As always, Curtis took a lot of pictures; they say that “a picture is worth a thousand words,” but pictures can't convey what it is like to get off of the couch and get outside for such a grand time with good people, even on a cold winter day. (Thank goodness it didn't rain!) The cold just made the campfire that much more enjoyable. Roger Coleman did a wonderful job of putting together a most memorable workshop that will be talked about by all who attended for a very long time. 6874

Happy Trails,
Duke Walton, Area Chief

Dear Volunteer Leaders:

I can't say enough about how much I appreciate not only your help but the manner in which all of you helped with the 4-H camp. I've been a part of a lot of youth camps, hunts, Vacation Bible Schools and other youth events, and in most cases dealing with the adult leaders is as aggravating as the kids. I admit that since I did not really know some of you and we were not able to all meet together, I was not sure how this would work. However, now that it is over, I must say that I cannot think of a single incident where anyone of you did not do exactly what you promised, and then some.

Your four out-of-town guest instructors were great. Those of you from Mason County were vital in your roles, and the Parks and Wildlife crew, including my partner, did whatever it took, whenever I asked, and that usually meant without warning. The absence of any one of you would have lessened the experience for the kids or caused me a lot of trouble. Thank you. It didn't hurt that all of the kids that we had were exceptionally well behaved and interested in what we were doing. They have written thank-you notes to the sponsors of which I have attached a list.

I would ask two more things of you. First, when you are around these people or businesses let them know what good their contribution did. And, secondly, give me your honest critique or ideas for improvements.

For those of you who could not be there at the close of camp, you missed a good wild-game dinner of blackbuck and quail that the kids prepared. The varmint hunting went well; all kids got to see foxes or bobcats called up, and four kids killed either foxes, raccoons or ringtails. I believe Gary Roberson was still driving out the drive when the kids called another fox up to camp. The same fox was called up two more times before camp was over. The quail hunting also went very well with over 20 birds in the bag. That might have been the funniest part to the kids, but the best part of all was the instruction and individual attention that each kid received because you were there.

Thank you again for making the 4-H Hunting Leadership Camp a successful adventure.

Best regards,
Jerry Gordon, Game Warden

Peruvian Hunter Takes First Turkey

by Thomas Saldias

I was recently invited to Breckenridge, Texas, for my first experience turkey hunting. Billy Holt, Area Chief instructor, kindly invited me to go hunting with his son Will, a Bryan police officer, and one of Will's friends, fellow officer James Murphy.

It was late Friday afternoon when we arrived, so we went to “put some turkeys to bed” as we sat on top of a hill listening for some gobblers. The weather started to change and it became much colder, so we moved down to the south portion of the property, but we only saw one gobbler about 65 yards away.

Saturday morning I sat in the “Erwin Center” and one young gobbler landed about 75 yards from the stand. (The blind is called the Erwin Center because Terry Erwin built it, and that is what Billy named it.) Even as Will was calling from behind and the gobbler looked straight at the decoy, he didn't commit and began moving away. That was the highlight of the day, and from that moment on the weather went from cold to freezing! Snow covered all the fields, and I was extremely cold.

During the afternoon Billy Holt and I were sitting at another blind but saw no movement whatsoever. We went to another part of the property trying to call some coyotes, but still nothing. Then later in the afternoon, Billy situated me on top of a tripod next to a feeder. It was very cold, and I was beginning to feel the chill all the way to my bones. I saw no turkeys but did see a big hog on the opposite site of the feeder. I thought, “Too big for this .22 Mag” and probably moved, because he sensed something was wrong and quickly moved away. When Billy was coming back to pick me up, I heard a bunch of coyotes and I thought, “Oh, he is playing the electronic caller for me.” He got out of the truck and said, “Do you hear them? They are about 100 yards from here.” Oh gosh, they were the “Real McCoys,” I said!

Sunday morning, Will set me up again in the Erwin Center and moved the decoy between the feeder and the blind. Early in the morning, I heard a gobbler behind the blind. Then, suddenly, a group of hens moved towards the pasture going away from me. I didn't hear Will any longer, so I grabbed a box call kept in the blind and started to make some noise. I can't say the sounds made were yelps, but it did work. A gobbler entered from behind the feeder and strutted in front of me, about 65 yards away. Feeling he would move away, I made some more yelps and he turned my way. He then saw the decoy and strutted all the way in. Unfortunately, Will had the camera, but from his position, he only saw the hens and not the gobbler. Once he was about 40 yards from the stand, I took aim with Billy's 12-gauge and Boom! My first turkey ever was lying on the ground!



It took me a few minutes to calm down, and I left the blind thanking the Almighty for the blessing of the day. Will came over a moment later and we tagged and then carried the turkey to the camper where we took some pictures. The gobbler was a nice Rio Grande, maybe 16–18 pounds with 3/4-inch spurs and an 8-inch beard. Shown above are Will, on the left, and me.

James Murphy, Will's friend, took a nice gobbler on Saturday. He found his bird near the area where Will and I had seen one on Friday evening. James moved himself closer and called the big boy right in ... all by himself! It was about 20 pounds with a 10-inch beard.



This was a great experience and a wonderful weekend, thanks to Billy and Will Holt. And to finish off the weekend, I was invited to Billy's church, with a name any hunter would welcome—Gun Sight Baptist Church.

It was a perfect weekend with the kindest and most wonderful people. Thanks to all.

Kudos



THEIA Youth Hunt

The Texas Hunter Education Instructors Association (THEIA) sponsored a youth deer hunt for kids whose names were drawn at the state Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC), and it was held over the Christmas holidays at Parrie Haynes Ranch. Some people did not show up, but the kids who did had a great time. Five hunters took four deer! Thanks go out to all who volunteered their time to come and help make this endeavor a great success—especially Buddy Martin, who came to guide but was not able to do so because of some no-shows! Bill Metcalfe amazed everyone, adults and youth alike, with a demonstration of the art of making arrowheads and stone tools out of flint. The new Hunt Procurement Chairman, Ken Bacon, is working on getting hunts for 2007–08. I am looking forward to seeing what he comes up with!

Happy Trails,
Duke Walton
President, THEIA



Pictured here is Texas Hunter Education Instructor Association (THEIA) President, Duke Walton, who built one of two double deer blinds accessible to people with disabilities, and presented them to Parrie Haynes Ranch for use in their annual youth hunts. Dr. Karl Cloninger accepted the blinds during the Youth Hunter Education Youth Challenge held the first weekend of May. Duke has done an outstanding job as THEIA President. Congratulations, Duke, and many thanks!



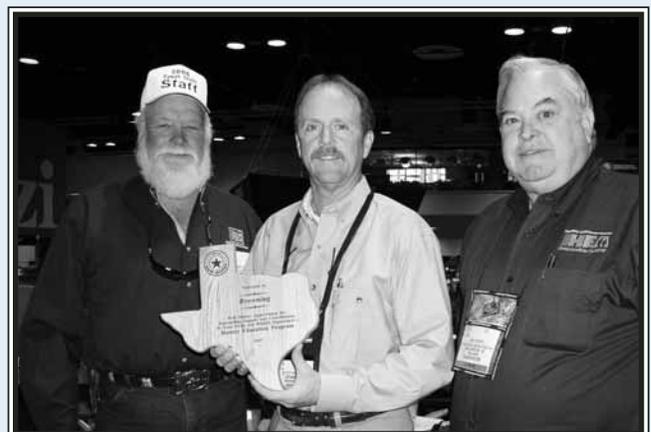
Pictured here is Charlie Wilson accepting his plaque for 10 years of service to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Charlie maintains one of the most visible and active mobile sporting clays venues in the country. He hosts events for county 4-H Shooting Sports and Youth Outdoor Days at TPWD wildlife management areas, and he participates in Becoming an Outdoors-Woman workshops around the state. He will introduce a new AG.381 shotgun program to the Agriculture Science teachers at their summer conference in Arlington. In addition, Charlie has introduced a new Texas Sporting Clays program through which youth participants can begin a lifelong shooting adventure that is supported by the Texas Sporting Clays Association. Congratulations, Charlie, for a job well done. Keep up the good work!

Pictured here are several photos of individuals from the industry who have helped the Texas Hunter Education Program over the years. Thank you, all.



Mary Ann Ventress is the Event Marketing Coordinator for Winchester Ammunition. For over 20 years, Winchester has played an integral part in providing ammunition, training aids and materials for courses. Winchester Ammunition has been a major sponsor of the Texas Parks & Wildlife Expo since the beginning. TPWD is especially thankful for these long years of association with an industry who is indeed a "Partner in Conservation."

At center is Scott Grange, with Browning Arms, Inc., who has been a major contributor of the TPWD-sponsored Whiz Bang events held across Texas with the finals being held during the Texas Parks & Wildlife Expo each year. Browning has always been there in time of need and continues to be a major player in the events.





Holding the Texas plaque is Terri Schurff with FIOCCHI Ammunition, who has been a major contributor of the Whiz Bang event and has provided ammunition for Texas Parks & Wildlife Expo over the past four years. Thanks so much for your generous contribution!

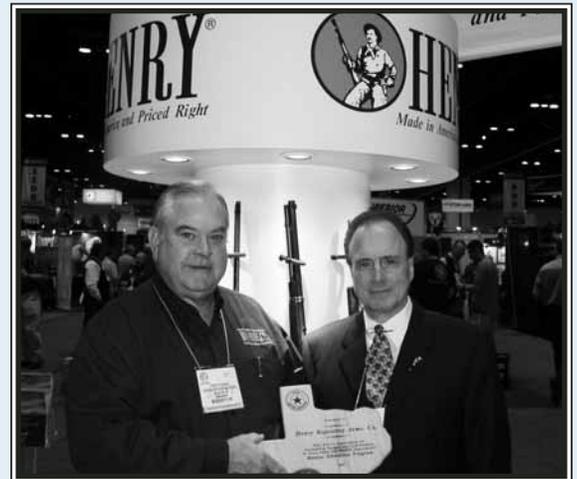
Pictured here are Dan Gutting, National Sales Manager and Mike Jordan with Atsko, Sno-Seal and Sport-Wash products. Instructors will remember the booklets on "How Animals See" and the Sport-Wash and Sno-Seal products associated with them.



Jim Schletten, National Sales Manager for Wildlife Research Center, Inc., accepts a plaque of appreciation for the many years of service to the instructors and students of Texas. Wildlife Research Center provides videos, DVDs and information packets about products used for hunting.



Ray Gurries, Business Unit Manager for Silencio, accepts an appreciation plaque for contributions over the last 15 years to Texas. Silencio has provided shooting accessories such as hearing and eye protection for instructors and hearing protection for participants of Texas Parks & Wildlife Expo on numerous occasions. Many thanks!



Pictured here is John Petrizzo, who accepted a plaque on behalf of Anthony Imperato, President of Henry Repeating Arms, Inc. Henry has provided several .22 rifles to the hunter education program for use in live-firing activities. Henry is a major sponsor of the IHEA and has contributed generously to each jurisdiction across North America to support hunter education efforts to provide opportunities to continue the heritage for future generations.

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.

November

Tim Crist	Houston
Terry Bull	Deer Park
Michael Funk	Dumas
Kurt Sanders	Bay City
Bobby Schat	Sabine Pass
Lisa Spiess	Canyon
Wm. Hickmott	Amarillo
Adam Skinner	Humble
Bonnie Newcombe	Keller
Jeffrey Srygley	Amarillo
Darrell Holland	Amarillo
Corky Parker	Amarillo
William Eudy	Burleson

December

Garrett Goen	DeSoto
Courtney Dieckman	San Marcos
Frederick Kruse	Ingram
Emily Berg	Dalhart
Mark Hodges	Blue Mound

Joe Dickson, Jr.
Chesterfield Hargrove
Eric Williams
Cody Wilhelm
Robert Altman
Jordan Blount

January

Kathryn Sullivan
Fernando Rodriguez
Chris Jones
Manuel Calderon
Jude Albornoz
Janie Pluenneke
Fernie Aguilar
Cheryl Kinney
Jerimie Layton

February

Todd Steelman
Donn Greiner

Kemah
El Paso
Lewisville
Canyon
Amarillo
Rockwall

Waelder
Zapata
Crosby
El Paso
Corpus Christi
Liberty Hill
El Paso
Wills Point
Decatur

Amarillo
San Antonio

Jerry King	San Antonio
Clayton John Barron	San Antonio
Samantha Srp	Orange Grove
Michael Zarosky	Pleasanton
Carol Walsdorf	Los Fresnos
Joi Ernst	San Antonio
Karl Smith	Bryan
Thomas Maloy	Houston
Jerry Goodson	Benbrook
Chester Kendall	Waco

March

John Williamson	Amarillo
Patrick Saavedra	Dalhart
Wayd Rusler	Canyon
Robert Vela	San Antonio
Shelby Fischer	Victoria
Manuel Olague, Jr.	San Antonio
Jose De Leon	Corpus Christi
John Thompson	San Antonio
Robert Harris	Nursery

New Area Chiefs

James Bartay, Victoria, has been an instructor for the past six years and has certified 476 students. James is also an IBEP instructor. He will cover Victoria County and surrounding area along the Gulf Coast. James has worked extensively with the local game wardens and does a great job. He will work with Roger Coleman of Edna during instructor training opportunities. Welcome aboard, and congratulations, James! 13043

Curtis Ansley, Shepherd, has worked very closely with Area Chief Duke Walton for the last three years. Curtis will cover San Jacinto and Harris counties and surrounding areas. He will be assisting other Area Chief instructors with activities covering all aspects of the program. Welcome aboard, and congratulations, Curtis!

New Face at Literature Distribution

If you have noticed a different voice on the phone when you order supplies, it's because we have a new member of our staff on board. Mac Almond replaced Chris Lena in literature distribution and is doing a great job. Here are some new facts from him that should make ordering supplies much easier.

We have revised order forms for the traditional hunter, bow hunter and home study hunter education courses. They are on the TPWD Web site as Word documents that can be completed and e-mailed. The old forms are still good, but we would like instructors to start using the new forms as soon as possible. Please note that we have combined the traditional and home study order form into one form as a result of recent Area Chief recommendations.

To get the new forms, go to the following Web site:
www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/hunter_education/instructor/supply.phtml



In the selected new form, fill in the required fields to complete your order. Save the form on your computer. (Don't forget where you saved it!) E-mail the completed form as an attachment to the e-mail address listed on the order form. *Voila!* At cyber speed your order will be in the mailbox ready for processing. Isn't technology wonderful? For those of you that don't have access to the Internet, fax or snail mail will still work. 7805

Save a blank copy of the order form on your computer and use it as described above. This will eliminate you having to log onto the Web site every time you place an order for a course. Just remember to save the completed form (Save As) with a different name than the blank copy.

Training Efforts and Workshops

Area Chief Meetings

The first 2007 meeting was held at the Grand Prairie Gun Club on January 20 to provide updates and changes to the Area Chiefs of North Central and East Texas. Ten instructors were present including IBEP instructor trainers (Area Chiefs).



The Houston meeting was hosted January 23 by the Gander Mountain Store at Hwy. 290 West. It was an excellent meeting and an opportunity to see the store, and of course, have an opportunity to purchase something after the meeting. Store manager Darren Hall, pictured at right, receives a Certificate of Appreciation from Heidi Rao.



Bass Pro Shop hosted the San Antonio meeting on January 24, thanks to Area Chief John Rodriguez. Many suggestions were presented and implemented upon return.

The last meeting was held on January 27, at the South Plains Gun Club in Lubbock, for the Area Chiefs of the Panhandle and the West Texas regions. It was snowing briskly outside and the temperature was in the low 30s.

Thanks to all the Area Chief Instructors who made the effort to attend these meetings and provide guidance and suggestions for improving the hunter and bowhunter education programs in Texas. We will fully inform all hunter and bowhunter instructor trainers next year of all the scheduled meetings upcoming.

Peru Training

Thomas Saldias, a Texas A&M graduate student working on a Ph.D. in Wildlife Management, and Terry Erwin, on behalf of the IHEA, conducted the first Hunter Education Course in South America in March, certifying 28 students and, later, 24 instructors. The course was held under sponsorship of the Peruvian Air Force Shooting Range at its main base in Las Palmas. Several “firsts” occurred in this course:



- 1) First Hunter Education Course in South America
- 2) First Hunter Education Program established
- 3) First youngster certified (Miguel Mejia, 14-year-old National Air Gun Junior Champion)
- 4) First Peruvian DNR (INRENA) officers certified
- 5) First two females certified (from INRENA)
- 6) First two Peruvian National Police certified as students/instructors

The three-day course was very intensive. Participants came from a variety of sources and included an orthopedic surgeon, attorneys, executive businessmen, the Department of Natural Resources, National Police and a retired Colonel from the Peruvian Air Force. People attending from DNR were the officers in charge of several wildlife management areas and who establish the hunting calendar dates. They were eager to learn about program information, and IHEA provided them with shooting opportunities in archery and shotguns. At the end of the course they said that, in fact, they didn't know anything about hunting.

The National Police issue all gun licenses in Peru and verify the entry of all guns into the country via the Lima airport. A meeting was held on Thursday with their commander, and we explained all the benefits that hunting could bring into the country and the vital participation of its direction in providing excellent service for tourists entering the country for shooting or hunting activities.

A meeting was held with the director of rural business for Sierra Exportadora, the flagship developing program of Peruvian President Alan Garcia. This gentleman was fluent in English, which facilitated the conversation. After spending five minutes explaining what has been done in Mexico and Argentina, he asked, “When can we start?” He was ready to start a pilot program right away, but it was explained that once the legal framework was changed and a Hunting Commission was established, the whole country would benefit. He requested statistical information on hunting benefits, especially for Mexico, Argentina, Chile and other Latin American countries.



The most important meeting was with the minister of agriculture, Juan Salazar, whose position is equivalent to that of director of both the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the United States. As soon as information on Chile, Argentina and Mexico was mentioned to him, he said, “This is what I'm looking for ... what do you need to start?” The problem with the legal framework was mentioned, as well as the need to reform it. He called his secretary and asked to get names and contact numbers to coordinate a meeting with a developing team to work with the information that had been provided.

This trip was very successful in introducing programs that will benefit Peru in the future.



Turkey Workshop

I wish to thank all participants for attending and participating in a very interesting workshop. Joe Herrera, wildlife biologist, really made a difference with his collection of calling devices, audio recordings and Power-Point presentation. His knowledge and years of experience in the field added greatly to the information he delivered to the class. Thanks to Ross Walker for working hard on setting this whole thing up for us.

John Rodriguez, Area Chief, Pipe Creek

Reading the Weather Workshop

Pictured (left to right) are Thad Albornoz, John Metz (with NOAA Weather Service), Raul Mendez and Gilbert Graves, Jr., all from Corpus Christi. John presented a very interesting program on reading the weather. We have been attempting to hold this workshop for the past two years and finally made it happen in Corpus Christi, thanks to Brock Minton. Another workshop like this is planned for Austin in the near future. Watch these pages for information.



Pheasant Workshop

Pictured here is the group that attended the Pheasant Workshop in Dalhart. Thanks to Bo Adkins and Jason Brooks, TPWD biologists, who came and presented an excellent program on pheasant hunting, habitat, and interesting facts from the Panhandle of Texas.

Trapper Workshop

Hello Heidi,

Here I am back in my studio pecking away, wishing I was still in the field setting traps. Thank you so much for inviting me to the Trapper Workshop. It was great fun; I met some wonderful people, and what a huge learning experience. Everyone is sick of listening to me already, and I am just so excited I can hardly contain myself. Another good thing ... I think my enthusiasm over this weekend might have swayed my dad into taking an instructor course. I threw it out there, so we'll see what happens. Thanks again, and I look forward to seeing you again sometime real soon.

Sincerely,
Thad Albornoz
Corpus Christi



Upcoming Training Events

NRA INSTRUCTOR COURSES

NRA Instructor courses are now being offered in the San Antonio area. The courses will be held at the Law Enforcement Training Center (Annex Bldg.) at San Antonio College, 1300 San Pedro, San Antonio, TX 78212. You must complete the NRA Basic Firearms Instructor course before beginning an instructor certification course in the various disciplines. These courses are limited to 10 students.

Please contact Damaso Torres, Executive Director, Students for the Second Amendment & Collegiate Firearms Instructor Program at (210) 674-5559, or e-mail him at dtorres@sf2a.org for more information, or to confirm your space in any of the courses.

Upcoming NRA Instructor courses include:

- NRA Basic Firearms Instructor
- NRA Personal Protection Instructor
- NRA Basic Shotgun Instructor
- NRA Basic Rifle Instructor
- NRA Basic Muzzleloading Rifle Instructor
- NRA Basic Pistol Instructor

HUNTER EDUCATION WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Basic Archery Instructor (Not IBEP)

June 30	Houston Area
July 18	Ft. Worth
Aug 4	Houston Area
Aug 15	Dallas Area

Wing Shooting Responsibility

June 9	Dallas
June 9-10	San Antonio
Aug 25	Rosenberg

IBEP Student/Instructor

June 2-3	Lubbock
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Dove Hunting

July 28	San Antonio
Sept 29	Alice

Map & Compass

June 16	Friendswood
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INSTRUCTOR DISCOUNTS



The Child Guard, firearm safety device is the most advanced solution to increased security for firearms. This impenetrable safety device has been subjected to and passed higher laboratory test standards than are required by state or national legislation.

To this end, we are pleased to report that the International Hunter Education Association is partnering with Child Guard on a special instructor offer.

First: Become a member of Child Guard's Instructors Program and get a Free Child Guard unit (a \$29.95 value) and Instructors Kit when you

are among the first 1,000 instructors to register. It's easy; go to www.childguardusa.com and click on the Instructor's link to register or call (866) 381-4882. Child Guard will give you everything you need to teach your students about Child Guard's advanced safety technology.

Second: Before you teach your next course, visit www.child-guardusa.com and watch the videos that demonstrate the features of Child Guard, how easy it is to use, and comparative destructive testing demonstrations.

Third: As a special bonus to support IHEA, Child Guard will donate \$5.00 to the IHEA for every unit your students purchase. To purchase they should call toll-free (866) 381-4882 or visit www.childguardusa.com and use the special promotion code, IHEA07. IHEA will receive a \$5.00 donation for each unit purchased PLUS your student will receive free shipping! That's a savings of \$4.95!



HENRY
Made in America and Priced Right

Henry Repeating Arms Company would like to make a special 2007 price program available to all instructors of Texas, and is making a special offer to purchase firearms direct from the company. If interested, please contact them at (718) 499-5600 or email at info@henryrepeating.com. You will need an order form, a photocopy of your instructor ID, a signed Federal Firearms License, and a credit card or cashiers check made out to Henry Repeating Arms Co.

In addition, Henry Repeating Arms Co. would like to send you a quantity of Firearms Safety literature and catalogs for distribution to your students. They come 50 per pack at no charge; let them know how many you need. **NOTE: Additional discounts and information are contained in the Hunter & Shooting Sports Education Journal received with this publication. Please check the pages for these offers.**

Madison Films Still Available

Alan Madison Productions has been a pioneer in the education and safety awareness of individuals involved in the hunting sports for over 30 years and continues to offer cutting-edge and award-winning media to stimulate discussions and ethical decisions in your classes. This opens eyes and opens minds—thus saving lives and reducing accidents.

Alan Madison Productions features a lineup of “all-time” hunter education favorites in their DVD 5-Pack packaged in an attractive and sturdy case. Including *The Last Shot*, *Firearms Safety and The Hunter*, *Shoot/Don't Shoot*, *The Hunter's Path*, and *Survival!*, the 5-Pack offers the “best bang for your buck” at just \$149 plus \$8 shipping and handling. That's less than \$30 per DVD! Providing a true “A to Z” library of hunter education topics, the five individual DVDs contained in the 5-Pack have won 25 combined film festival awards. To order yours, please call Geri Hatfield at Alan Madison Productions (toll free at 877-404-3311) or visit the Web site at www.alanmadison.com for more information.

Note from Geri Hatfield: *Recruitment and Retention ...* It dawned on me that one of the ways to recruit and retain is to recognize. Plain and simple, people are more apt to be a part of something if they are recognized for their successes. An idea was born to recognize not only those involved in hunting, but also the state programs that provide hunting opportunities and encourage our youth to hunt. Instructors, please be aware that an opportunity is at hand to recognize your students and your teaching efforts, as well. In an effort to provide this opportunity, I am asking for factual submissions of actual hunting experiences. You don't need to be a writer; just send the facts. I will do the rest and submit the article to the IHEA *Hunter & Shooting Sports Education Journal*. If you have a photograph available, send that along as well, with permission to reprint. Electronic submissions are preferred. The *Journal* is printed and distributed quarterly. The editorial deadlines for upcoming issues are August 1 (print date–Sept. 1), and November 1 (print date–Dec. 1). My first article appears on page 31 of the Spring 2007 issue and is relative to the Walk-In Hunting Area program in the State of Kansas. 14269

Instructors may contact me directly by telephone, email or written mail. Again, instructors do not need to be writers—just provide the facts. I will write the article and submit it to the *Journal*. I cannot guarantee printing, but I will guarantee an article worthy of print and recognition of your efforts.

Outreach Efforts



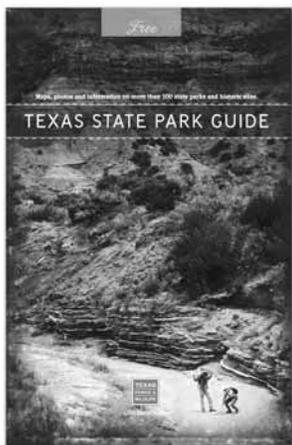
Pictured at left is Area Chief Bryant Truitt from Hunt, TX. He attended the Southwest Camping Conference of the American Camping Association held near Meridian in January. Kent Irvin attended for hunter education, and Steve Campbell, for angler education. Bryant provided the table and sign for use in distributing information and answering questions from participants. He capitalized on the opportunity to gain recognition for TPWD and staff and to use that recognition when hosting activities at summer camps in the future. Bryant has been instrumental in hosting hunter education courses for summer camps for several years along the Guadalupe River near his home in the Kerrville area and as far away as Columbus.

Thanks, Bryant, for your dedication and hard work!

Hunter Education Camp Offered

Speaking of summer camps, Kathy and Dave Burdett and Burdett & Son Outdoor Adventure Shop, 1055 Texas Avenue, College Station, Texas 77840, are offering two sessions of a Hunter Education Summer Day Camp this year. The camp will be offered at the Texas Cooperative Wildlife Collection, University Drive, College Station, Texas. Campers will be offered the opportunity to earn their hunter education certification. In addition to the regular subjects contained in a hunter education course, campers will visit a local archery range to shoot both flat and 3-D targets, and visit a gun club to shoot shot-guns, .22 rim-fire rifles, center-fire rifles and muzzleloaders. They will also learn about exotic animals in Texas, endangered species, aging white-tailed deer, snakes, game calling, hunting with dogs, and lots of other things! The extra hours with the campers allow a lot of time for "enrichment" activities. "It must be fun, because some campers have attended three consecutive summers," said Dave. 12639

Sessions are held 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. on Friday. Campers are asked to bring a sack lunch, but the camp provides drinks and snacks. The first camp starts on Monday, June 18 and ends on Friday, June 22. The second camp begins on Monday, July 18 and ends on Friday, July 20. Call Kathy or Dave Burdett at (979) 695-2807, or e-mail burdettandson@verizon.net for additional information.



New Texas State Park Guide Out in April

About 500,000 copies of the 2007 *Texas State Park Guide*, a 112-page color booklet, are now available at state parks. The guide was also distributed to other TPWD sites and field offices, all TxDOT Travel Information Centers, and many local convention and visitors bureaus and chambers of commerce.

Two advertisements promoting the new guide ran in the April issues of *Texas Monthly* and *Texas Co-Op Power*, reaching more than 1 million readers. The ads let people know they can pick up a free guide at any state park or visit the TPWD Web site and fill out an online request form to have the guide mailed to them. The guide is also available online in both English and Spanish.

www.tpwd.state.tx.us/parkguide

2007 ANNUAL INSTRUCTOR CONFERENCE & BANQUET

Location: Arlington Sportsman's Club
11500 Lillian Road (CR525), Mansfield, TX 76063
Phone: (817) 473-0581

Friday, June 22

Early Registration & Social 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Arlington Sportsman's Club, entertainment by Instructor Charles Watkins

Saturday, June 23

Late Registration	8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
Opening Ceremonies	9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.
Breakout Session	10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Lunch	12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. (Catered and included with registration)
Breakout Session	1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Breakout Session	3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Banquet & Awards	Who Is THEIA and What Do They Do? (THEIA President Duke Walton) and THEIA Meeting
Dinner	6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Catered by Triple J Texas Barbecue Choice of brisket, chicken or sausage, potato salad, coleslaw and beans, cobbler
Guest Speaker	7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Service Awards	7:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Silent & Live Auction	8:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Motel Information:	Comfort Inn	
	(817) 453-8848	Single – \$71.99
	175 North Highway 287	Double – \$76.99
	Mansfield, TX 76063	Suite – \$80.99

Registration

Name: _____ Instructor ID#: _____ E-mail: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

I will be attending Friday night Social Yes No Banquet Only Yes No

Number of attendees ____ X (\$49.00 all events or \$30.00 banquet only) = _____

List names of attendees for badges (spell names as you wish them to appear)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Make checks payable to THEIA

Return form with check or money order by **June 5, 2007** to:
Albert Potthast, Treasurer, 3327 Deer Creek Lane, San Antonio, TX 78230



THE BOWHUNTER

TEXAS BOWHUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAM

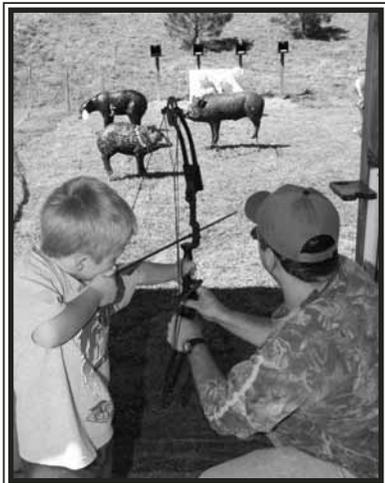
Archery Tournament a Big Success!

The **Texas Field Archery Association** successfully hosted the **Second Annual Texas Archery in Schools Program Tournament** on February 23 at the Mayborn Convention Center in Temple. With assistance from sponsors such as the Dallas Safari Club, Toyota, Morrell Targets and the Texas Hunter Education Instructor's Association and from staff, agencies, and volunteers of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Texas Cooperative Extension, the tournament was a big success!



Hunter education staff members Brock Minton, Jimmie Caughron and Kent Irvin, and Texas Cooperative Extension staff members Laci Blaneck and one of her volunteers, assisted in a one-day preparation for the tournament and helped out with the tournament itself. Hunter education staff members Terry Erwin, Heidi Rao, Steve Hall and Burnie Kessner (new archery coordinator) assisted with the actual tournament. Game wardens Ronnie Yates and Neal Bieler also were on hand for the event, as well as volunteer hunter education Area Chief Instructors Duke Walton and Frank Moore. Karen Loke filmed the event for an upcoming TPWD video news release and promotional video. All did more than a full day's work, of course!

Outdoor Fool's Day Events Draw Crowd to Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center



Archery, kayaking, retrievers, birds of prey, Caddo dancer, reptile displays please visitors

In Athens, Texas, more than 800 people learned Saturday that the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center is about much, much more than fish and fishing. "I was very proud of this event," said TFFC director Allen Forshage. "We had great displays and activities representing all aspects of the outdoors, from retriever dogs to archery to birds of prey." TFFC's ponds, streams and wooded areas provided the ideal venue for numerous activities. Visitors of all ages enjoyed shooting arrows under the supervision of members of the Lone Star Bowhunters Association. 5100

Plans are already underway for the next Outdoor Fool's Day on April 5, 2008. Additional sponsorship opportunities will be available.

NEW IBEP INSTRUCTORS

November

Lonnie Ward Argyle

February

Nathaniel Pettigrew Odessa

March

Robert Harris Nursery

Aim to be "Bulls-Eye Perfect"



**TEXAS
PARKS &
WILDLIFE**

Target Talk

Texas Hunter Education Program
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, TX 78744

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