



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

During the Annual IHEA Conference at Vancouver, BC, Canada in late April, I was elected to the office of President-elect. It is an honor to be in this position, and I appreciate and accept it with full responsibilities to help the IHEA Board with its mission: *To continue the heritage of hunting worldwide by developing safe, responsible and knowledgeable hunters.*

Texas has such a great instructor force, and this was one of my considerations before agreeing to accept this position if nominated and elected. You all do such a great job, and I appreciate it very much. Please allow me to be your voice on the Board while you help bring the hunter education program to those who will be the ones to carry on our hunting heritage.

Also during the IHEA Conference Awards Luncheon, several presentations were made. There were three IHEA Hall of Fame awards given to the following individuals, **Ed Augustine** - Kansas, **Bill Nichols** - Virginia and **John Dodson** - Virginia. The Darrell Holt Memorial Award was presented to **Terry Bradbery** of Virginia. A special President's Award was presented by Tim Lawhern - Wisconsin, to **Wayne Doyle** from Kansas. A special Exec.V.P. Award on behalf of Dr. David Knotts went to the staff of the IHEA and included **Bob Mayer**, Business Manager, and **Micki Hawkins** and **Susie Kiefer**, Administrative Assistants. The IHEA

continued on the next page

Hunter Ed Celebrates 14th Annual Conference



General Manager, Scott Larsen, provided an excellent host hotel site, with outstanding food, facilities and rides to special events and locations.

Instructors in the Dallas/Fort Worth area organized and hosted the Fourteenth Annual Hunter Education Instructor Awards Conference at the Harvey Suites Hotel in Irving near DFW Airport. Over 125 instructors and guests attended the two-day event, which is held annually to honor instructors and hand out incentive awards for a "job well done."

Thanks to the following individuals or groups for numerous breakout sessions and shooting events: Trap & Skeet, rifle, and pistol - Grand Prairie

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Editor's CORNER, continued

Industry Award was presented to **Laser Shot, Inc.** and **Henry Repeating Arms Co.** Congratulations to all the recipients.

Over the last year, IHEA developed five "Focus Points" and you can assist with each one by diligently continuing your efforts as instructors. The points are:

- I. IHEA will increase participation in safe, and responsible hunting and shooting sports-Recruitment and Retention.
- II. IHEA will further enhance the quality and delivery options of Hunter Education programs.
- III. IHEA will enhance the professional skills and standing of volunteer instructors and administrators.
- IV. IHEA will improve the image of hunters and hunting.
- V. IHEA will strengthen the leadership role in hunting and Hunter Education.

Now, after describing these five points, I need your help in carrying them out by continuing and improving what you are doing. We will do our best as an agency to provide each of you with training opportunities and assistance in maintaining the professionalism required to meet these focus points. I know you will do your part to help meet them as well. As a group, you have always made Texas Hunter Education one of the best programs in North America. Keep up the good work!

On our local level, we are beginning the 15th year using the current student hunter education manual. It has served us well, is filled with vast amounts of information, but it is time to retire it for a new student user-friendly manual. As we cruise into the fast-paced lifestyles and compete for extra curricula activities' time, this new manual titled "Today's Hunter," will help diminish any "perceived" barrier to certification. It is quite simple to read, is graphically well illustrated and will make teaching quite fun and easy.

The new manual comes with an instructor guide, and a PowerPoint CD presentation for those who have access to a computer and projector. Agriculture Science teachers should be enthused about the new possibilities being made available. Final revisions have been incorporated to reflect "specific" Texas adaptations or considerations.

If you have any of the current manuals in storage, please continue to use them until they are all gone. You may order one of the new student manuals and an instructor guide to become acquainted with its contents. If you want the PowerPoint CD, orders will be taken and mailed at a later time.

Please have a great summer, and keep the fluid levels up. Enjoy what vacation breaks you are taking and continue to spend time with someone in the outdoors. It will give you memories that can never be taken away.

Always be Safe... Terry Erwin

New Hunter Education Instructor's Forum

Instructors with access to the Internet can now register to participate in a new Hunter Education Instructor's Forum. This is a Web-based program that functions like a message board and allows members to hold public online discussions and allows TPWD Hunter Education staff to post announcements of upcoming events. There is a FAQ (frequently asked questions) section available for the forum. If instructors have additional questions please contact Julia Gregory at julia.gregory@tpwd.state.tx.us. She will serve as the moderator for the forum. Anyone can view discussions on the board, but in order to post comments or questions, participants will need to register. Registration is free, easy to accomplish and your personal information can be kept private upon request. The Web site is listed below, so log in at and participate.

www.tpwd.state.tx.us/discussions/phpBB2/viewforum.php?f=1

NOTICE

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department receives federal financial assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior and its bureaus prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex (in educational programs). If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any Texas Parks and Wildlife Department program, activity, or facility, or if you desire further information, please call or write: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office for Diversity and Civil Rights Programs - External Programs, 4040 N. Fairfax Drive, Webb 300, Arlington, VA 22203, (703) 358-1724.

Hunter Ed Conference, continued

Gun Club; Turkey Calling - Wayne "BEAR" Mayo; Survival - John Wieshaar; Feed Plots - MBS Seed Co. (Chris Garcia, owner); First African Safari - Dale Turner and Susan Cole; Boone and Crockett Deer Scoring/Deer Aging - Kent Irvin, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; Laser Shot Training System - Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; Taxidermy Methods - Plano Taxidermy (Taylor Baze, owner).

Friends of THEIA who also participated and donated many wonderful items for auction, raffle and door prizes are: Winchester Ammunition, Steve Buchanan-Classic Cases, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas Pistol Academy, Bass Pro Shop, Cowboy Shooters, Dallas Divas, NRA, THEIA, Plano Taxidermy and Luck O'the Irish Fishing Guide Service. These numerous silent and live auction items raised funds for THEIA to use in sponsoring various Hunter Education programs and events including YHEC and Texas Parks and Wildlife Expo.

Pictured here (L-R) are this years **Hunter Education Hall of Fame** recipients, **Bernie Heer, Jr.** - San Antonio, **Tom Stashak, Jr.** - Pasadena and **Lonnie Ward** - Flower Mound. Presenting the awards is Terry Erwin, Hunter Education Coordinator on the right. Not pictured, but receiving the Hall

of Fame Award is **Bill McCubbin** - Amarillo and **James Parker, III** - Malakof. Congratulations!

Other instructors receiving the 2500-Point Handgun Certificates were Jerry Couch, Irvin; James Witt, San Angelo; John Polasek, College Station; Raul Mendez, Corpus Christi; Don Moody, Gainesville and Byron Norton, Longview. Those receiving the 3000-Point Rifle Certificate were Duke Walton, Houston; Ron Green, Rockdale and James R. Brown, Corpus Christi. Congratulations!



During the banquet, and just in time for dessert, Kathy Powell, Hunter Education Administrative Assistant, was presented with a special birthday cake from the group.

The next conference is tentatively scheduled for the Waco area on March 13-14, 2004. Instructors in that area are needed to assist with the planning and preparation for local activities during the weekend. Please contact David Hammonds in Keller at (817) 431-9397 if interested in helping with the event.



“Excellence is the result of caring more than others think is wise, risking more than others think is safe, dreaming more than others think is practical, and expecting more than others think is possible.”

Unknown

It's Wildlife Expo Time

It's time to sign up and volunteer your time and efforts to help make the 12th Annual Wildlife Expo a huge success. It is impossible to run a safe and successful event without adequate numbers of qualified instructors.

Here's what you'll get for your time: an Expo T-shirt, lunch and drinks on Saturday and Sunday, free BBQ at Saturday night's volunteer appreciation party, a chance at some tremendous door prizes and a big thank you and a smile from over 15,000 kid's faces, a third of which have never been exposed to the shooting sports.

Texas Hunter Education Instructors Association (T.H.E.I.A.) has, again, generously agreed to pay for sandwiches to be distributed during noon work hours of Expo on Saturday and Sunday. We are going to have ARBY'S Market Fresh Sandwiches again. The choices are usually Ham or Turkey, and the lunches come with an apple, pickle slice, chips and a "Grandma's" cookie.

**TEXAS
WILDLIFE**



TEXAS WILDLIFE EXPO 2003

Jim Kellum, Vice President of CHI, who owns Arby's, assured us he would do his best to make sure everyone is pleased with the meal this year. Thanks, Jim ... we look forward to the sandwiches again.

THEIA has also agreed to contribute \$500 to the Wildlife Expo Scholarship Fund. Come out and help Expo visitors get acquainted with the shooting sports, and other fun events. Let us know if you are interested in attending and volunteering.

Note: You might want to make your reservations at local hotels/motels now, because rooms are booking up rapidly. There is a UT vs. Oklahoma State football game in Austin that weekend, and hotel space will be at a premium. Call us for a listing of places available.

Send in the enclosed R.S.V.P. if you will attend Expo this year. We need you!

Youth Hunter Education Challenge

Hundreds of hunter education graduates from across North America, and their families and coaches, will meet this summer at the NRA Whittington Center near Raton, New Mexico to participate in the 2003 International Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC) on July 28-August 1.

Nationwide declines in hunting accident rates bear out the value of hunter education. YHEC is an advanced hunter education program designed to enhance classroom knowledge and increase practical, in-the-field experience. The result is a generation of better trained, more responsible and more skillful young hunters.

Participants in the annual international event compete in eight events that test hunting knowledge and skill: .22 rifle, shotgun, archery, muzzleloading, orien-

teering, wildlife identification, hunter safety trail and a written hunter responsibility exam. Nearly 43,000 youths take part in state and Canadian provincial-level YHEC each year, any of whom are welcome at the annual international event.

For more information on the Youth Hunter Education Challenge and how you can participate, see: www.nrahq.org/hunting/youthed.asp or call NRA Hunter Services at 703-267-1500.

Tom announced that THEIA will be paying for the top five participants from each age group to attend International YHEC competition coming up at the Whittington Center, near Raton, New Mexico from July 28-August 1. Also, please see the THEIA newsletter enclosed.



Pictured here (on the left) is the top senior-division winner, Trevor Siedell from San Antonio with THEIA President, Tom Stashak. To Tom's left are Bob Ratcliff, Area Chief Instructor, and Drew Matej, (on the far right) who is top junior-division winner, from Fort Bend County.

Welcome New Instructors

March

Kent Brenneman	Austin
Garrett Moore	Forney
Phillip Couch	Alvarado
Dearil Jackson, Sr.	Maud
Byron Burkhard	Amarillo
Walter Mason	San Angelo
Orville Mahan, Jr.	Canyon
Larry Byrd	Borger
Jeffrey Popp	Amarillo
Donald Wilhite	Amarillo
Ron Beutler	Booker
Kenneth Bass	Hereford
George West	Canyon
David Pullium	Sulphur Springs
Donald Price	Lewisville
Beverly Troutman	Elkhart
Keli Lovelady	Eustace
Robert Dempsey	Duncanville
Charles Smith, Jr.	Dayton
Felix Craff	Kingsville
Gerad Stratmann	Corpus Christi
Anthony Garcia	Kingsville
Will Desmare	Amarillo
Len Masengale	Bandera
Burton Forney	White Deer
Mike Gilbeath	Plainview
Nathan Johnson	Uvalde

April

Russell Martz	Highland Village
Yvette Aguilar	Houston
Scott Remington	Katy
Michelle Pieniazek	Krum
Ronnie Primrose	Beasley
Richard Wright, Jr.	Lake Jackson
Stephen Wilson	Lake Jackson
Dusty Fritts	Angleton
Michael Johnson	Plano

David Rios	Raymondville
Oscar Jaimez	Eagle Pass

May

Jason Bussey	Rockport
Joni Hunt	Athens
Mindy Howard	Stephenville
Jacob Mohr	Combine
Amber Stewart	Red Oak
Tommy Curry	Plainview
Alexandra Stashak (Assistant)	Pasadena
Marcus Walker	Houston
Joseph Drobniak	Friendswood
Terry Andrew	Spring
Jennifer Mohr	Carmine
Travis Cunniff	Austin
Carl Eckhardt	Baytown
Chad Russell	Carrollton
Paul Richards	Lufkin
Don Kullenberg	Ore City
Clint Gregg	Nacogdoches

June

Brent Satsky	Lubbock
Martin Oviedo	Hebbronville
Jim Van Dyke	La Marque
Leslie Casterline, III	Brownsville
Travis Allen	Temple
James Lindsey	Kingsville
Clinton Borchardt	Fort Worth
Randolph McGee	Fort Worth
Cody Hatfield	Kerrville
Rachel Dickson	Uvalde
Thomas Carbone	Garland
Eric Collins	Mt. Pleasant
Jon Kocian	Victoria
James Cummings	Amarillo
Marshall Davidson	Hebbronville
Jason Duke	Kingsville
Scott Lindner	Corpus Christi

Charles Cotton, Jr.	Lufkin
John Simmering	Alpine
Robert Bearden	Beaumont
Jason Huebner	Uvalde
William Whitus	Hebbronville
John Padgett	Fort Worth
Charles Mayer	Rockport
Ryan Hall	Beaumont
Edward Lehr, III	Lufkin
Cody Jones	Temple
Donald Hutchings	Garland
Randi Sebolt	Stephenville
Tanner Ballew	Dublin
Michael Jennings	Bryson
Jamie Holley	Stephenville
Cory Davis	Stephenville
William Harrison	Stamford
Darren Wright	Big Spring
Eduardo Cordero	Montague
Amy Dawson	Midland
Scott Tiner	Crowley
Diana Dueitt	Stephenville
Jason Wardell	Stephenville
Tracey Cortez	Huntsville
Norman Terry	Garland
Timothy Adams	Midland
Shane Detwiler	Houston
Frederick Ruiz	La Marque
Matthew Kilpatrick	Alpine
Darnell Crist	Bryan
Michael Keller	Sanger
Rusty Oaks	Welch
Sharron Gibson	Bryan
Jimmy Gibson	Bryan
Kelly Gist	Dallas
Jeff Powell	Garland
Douglas Luger	Mountain Home
Ronny Rucker	Mountain Home
Adam Clark	Lake Jackson
Jace Moore	Tahoka
David Wallace	McAllen

Schedule Your Classes Now

We usually begin receiving hundreds of calls per day requesting courses from all over the state around the first of August. That time is here! Please contact us with dates, times and phone numbers when classes are scheduled, especially Home Study classes. Please call and give the information or leave a message as soon as you plan classes so they can be entered. We need your name, instructor ID#, date and time classes start and a phone number for contact information. Individuals might be just around the corner and not know of your classes, but if they were pre-scheduled and in our system, information could be given out or obtained via the automated course line or our Web site.

Note: Additional incentive points are given for those instructors who schedule their courses ahead of time and then follow through with them. The computer looks at pre-scheduled classes and adds an additional five points when that course is completed and entered.

For Your Information

Texas Hunting, Fishing, Boat Fees to Increase

AUSTIN, Texas – The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Commission voted unanimously May 29 to increase most hunting and fishing license and boat registration fees. The cost of senior and youth license types will not increase. Hunting and fishing license changes will take effect when new season licenses go on sale Aug. 15. Boat fee increases will take effect Sept. 1, which means boat owners who get renewal notices with August expirations will see the higher fee schedule.

For the past few months, the department has sought public input about the fee proposal. TPWD had public meetings about fees in Abilene, Corpus Christi, Humble, Lubbock, San Antonio, Southlake and Tyler. A total of 24 people came to these meetings and almost all spoke in favor of the fee increase proposal. “Public comment about the fee proposal was surprisingly light in my view, and to me that affirms what I’ve said since we began this process—hunters, anglers and boaters get a good deal from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department,” said Katharine Armstrong, TPWD commission chairman. “It’s been seven years since our last fee increase, and we need this one to keep providing the basic services that our state needs and our customers expect. I think most people understand and support that.” Many of those who commented said they would support a fee increase if they could be assured TPWD would spend the money in ways that benefit boaters, hunters and anglers.

“I think it’s important to emphasize that some very significant belt-tightening has taken place in the department,” said Ernest Angelo, Jr. of Midland, TPWD Commission vice-chairman. “All the necessary fiscal responsibility has been exercised to make possible raising fees. And everything being proposed is within the bounds of inflation and the cost of what it takes to run TPWD. It’s time to do it.”

Hunting and fishing fee increases are projected to bring in an additional \$10.2 million per year. This money will allow the agency to keep providing basic services. By law, TPWD can only spend hunting and fishing license revenue on fisheries and wildlife management and law enforcement. License funds cannot be diverted to state park operations or other state government needs.

The cost of a Super Combo license will increase this fall from \$49 to \$59. Resident hunting and resident fishing licenses will go from \$19 to \$23. Licenses for youth and seniors will not increase. Also for the first time since 1996, fees for two-year boat registration will increase by amounts between \$5 and \$15 depending on the size and type of vessel.

Monkeypox Found in Prairie Dogs

From CDC Web site

Monkeypox is a rare viral disease that occurs mainly in the rain forest countries of central and west Africa. The disease was first discovered in laboratory monkeys in 1958. Blood tests of animals in Africa later found evidence of monkeypox infection in a number of African rodents. The virus that causes monkeypox was recovered from an African squirrel, which may be the natural host. Laboratory studies showed that the virus also could infect mice, rats and rabbits. In 1970, monkeypox was reported in humans for the first time. In June 2003, monkeypox was reported in prairie dogs and humans in the United States.

As of June 14, a total of 81 persons with suspected monkeypox had been reported in Wisconsin (34), Illinois (19), Indiana (26), and Ohio (2). Monkeypox had been confirmed by laboratory tests in nine persons. At least 14 of the people with suspected monkeypox had been hospitalized for their illness; there have been no deaths related to the outbreak. The number of cases and states involved in the outbreak will likely change as the investigation continues. Check the CDC Web site for the monkeypox case definition and other current information about the outbreak.

For Your Information

On the basis of preliminary investigations, it appears that most of the patients became ill after having close contact with infected prairie dogs that had been purchased as pets. Traceback investigations have found a common distributor of exotic pets where prairie dogs and Gambian giant rats were housed together in Illinois. The Gambian rats were shipped to the United States from Ghana. The shipment contained a large number of other small mammals that might have been the actual source of monkeypox. In addition, the possibility of human-to-human transmission in some cases cannot be excluded at this time.

Keeping Hunters Out of 39 Refuges

Animal rights organizations are in court trying to prevent hunters from making use of the wildlife refuges they've been paying for since 1934. ABC news reports that the Fund for Animals is trying to prevent a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) determination to allow hunting in refuges, including 31 where it has not been previously allowed and 21 of them along the Mississippi flyway. USFWS argues that the wildlife preserves are made possible through \$622 million collected from hunters in a federal duck stamp tax that hunters asked for to help conserve wildlife populations. NSSF is active in a communications campaign in support of hunting in the refuge system.

Students Significantly Lacking Wildlife Management Knowledge

(NSSF Bullet Points)

Junior and senior high school students participating in an informal survey by the Council for Wildlife Conservation and Education revealed a glaring lack of appreciation for the success of wildlife management and the population status of many game species. When students were queried about the number of white-tailed deer, 88% either had no idea or answered incorrectly that there are the same number or fewer today than 100 years ago. Additionally, write-in comments on the surveys display an obvious misconception of the role hunting plays in wildlife management, with remarks such as "I think you should not hunt because you would kill all the animals off" and "If we continue to hunt, in another 100 years all our animals will be gone." To help correct these misconceptions, the Council is updating versions of its award-winning video programs, "Wildlife for Tomorrow," "What They Say About Hunting" and "The Un-endangered Species." The newly updated videos will bring a renewed and positive message of wildlife management success to today's students. To make the videos as relevant as possible to modern student audiences, the Council conducted a contest in which students contributed creatively to the conception of the new programs. Many useful, creative entries were received. "In addition to helping us produce videos with more appeal to today's students, the contest has students thinking about wildlife management and hunting even before the videos have been produced and distributed. Also, when placing the programs in schools, the Council can now emphasize to educators that the videos were produced in cooperation with students and educators, increasing their appeal and relevance," said Bill Brassard, NSSF's managing director, communications, safety and education.

Shooting Sports Rank High as Popular Pastimes

(NSSF Bullet Points)

More Americans hunt with firearms, enjoy muzzleloading or participate in various other target shooting activities than play soccer, softball or tennis combined. According to the National Sporting Goods Association's annual research study, Sports Participation in 2002, some 42 million individuals aged seven years and older enjoyed some form of the shooting sports more than once during the past year. Hunting with firearms, with 19.5 million participants, ranked 16th in popularity out of 43 sports activities surveyed. Target shooting, with 18.9 million participants, ranked 17th. Both sports grew in popularity since the previous year's study. Hunting participation rose 1.6% from 19.2 million in 2001. Target shooting increased 9.6% from 15.9 million. Muzzleloading sports ranked in the top ten in terms of growth, increasing 11% with 3.6 million participants in 2002, compared with 3 million the year before.

For Your Information

New Effort Launched To Increase Outdoor Opportunities on National Wildlife Refuges for People with Disabilities

(NSSF Bullet Points)

Increasing opportunities for disabled people to hunt, fish and otherwise enjoy outdoor recreational activities on the 540 units of the National Wildlife Refuge System was the focus of an agreement signed in March by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the National Wild Turkey Federation's (NWTf) Wheelin' Sportsmen program.

In signing the agreement, Fish and Wildlife Service Director Steve Williams lauded NWTf and Wheelin' Sportsmen for really making a difference in sharing the outdoors with young people, women and people with disabilities. "This year marks the 100th anniversary of the National Wildlife Refuge System," Williams said. "There could be no better time for us to join with NWTf and Wheelin' Sportsmen to find ways to open new doors to the outdoors for disabled people."

The agreement was also signed by Kirk Thomas, Wheelin' Sportsmen NWTf national coordinator. "I want to thank the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for their commitment to give disabled people the opportunity to participate in the great outdoors," said Thomas. "We may not be able to reach every disabled individual in North America, but with this MOU that we're signing here today, we've taken an important step toward that goal."

Wheelin' Sportsmen provides all disabled people the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors through chapter events across the country. Through this program, disabled participants enjoy activities such as hunting, fishing and shooting with an able bodied partner. In addition, all Wheelin' Sportsmen members receive a Wheelin' Sportsmen magazine four times a year.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 95-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, which encompasses 540 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands and other special management areas. It also operates 69 national fish hatcheries, 64 fishery resources offices and 81 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Aid program, which distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.

History of the Axis, Chital or Spotted Deer

Submitted by Denise Harmel-Garza

Exotics were introduced into Texas in the mid 1920s to the early 1940s. And their numbers have been increasing. One of the more common exotics is the axis deer (*Axis axis*). The axis is also called the chital meaning "spotted deer" in Hindustani. A small minority of axis in Texas has smaller stockier bodies and may be descendents of axis from the island of Sri Lanka or from South India. These smaller axis are known as Ceylonese axis (*Axis axis ceylonensis*). However most of the larger bodied axis (*Axis axis axis*) in Texas are descendents from axis of the Indian mainland. In India jackals and wild dogs (dholes) kill fawns. Tigers take the majority of adult axis in India while pythons and Indian lions also prey on them. If alarmed, an axis lets out a shrill bark and stamps its foot.

In Texas axis deer were first released in 1932 by Richard Friedrich on the Bear Creek Ranch, Kerr County. Mr. Friedrich was on the San Antonio Zoo board. The original herd was shipped to the Port of Houston along with several other exotics, including blackbuck, sika and fallow deer. Some of the animals were sent to the San Antonio Zoo and others to Friedrich's ranch.

For Your Information

The original animals that landed at Houston were not from their native countries. They came via other zoos, one being Washington National Zoo.

Although the original axis herd was under high fence, flooding frequently washed out water gaps and neighboring ranches soon had axis populations. Additionally, Mr. Friedrich gave some away to Mrs. Walter Schreiner at the Y.O. Ranch after 1940. Today, axis deer are the most numerous exotic in Texas. A 1966 census estimated the axis population in Texas to be 6,450 individuals. In 1988, 39,040 were estimated statewide, over half of these being free ranging. Many people claim that there are more axis in Texas than in their native land of India.

Axis deer have chestnut coats and their red with white spots remain with them throughout their lives. The spots end just before their white undersides. Axis can be confused with several other spotted deer, such as sika, fallow and white-tailed fawns. However, an axis has a black stripe down its back. This stripe helps distinguish axis fawns from white tailed fawns. Axis males weigh 145 to 250 lbs. and stand 26 1/2" to 39 1/2" tall, while females weigh from 95 to 145 lbs. and stand 26 1/2" to 33" tall. The average Texas axis buck is 186 lbs. and 36" tall.

Compared to other deer, axis are more social. Several herds may unite to form large groups. Average herds can range from 5 to 15 individuals. Herds of 100 to 200 individuals have been reported around popular food sources. When not in heavy rut, males form bachelor groups. Eighty percent of the fawns are born between early January to mid April. Fawns lie in hiding for the first 10 to 20 days after they are first born. They then follow their mother with the herd.

The home range of axis is 1,200 to 1,900 acres. Axis deer are most active during dusk and dawn. If the temperature rises above 80 degrees they seek cover. They do not live in rugged terrain and high altitudes. They are not found in the Texas High Plains, Rolling Plains and Trans-Pecos regions due to lack of cover and cold winters. The Pineywoods does not contain enough open grassy area. The Edward Plateau contains the best habitat, with the Rio Grande Plains being the second best.

Axis deer cope well with environmental stress; they seem to stay healthy while other deer lose body condition. They do have a need for dense cover and require frequent access to drinking water unlike some African exotic species. Eighty to 90 percent of axis deer diet is made up of grasses. However, they like forbs and can survive well on browse during stressful times. In one Edwards Plateau food study on average the axis diets consisted of 60% grass, 15% browse and 25% forbs. Both axis does and bucks challenge other species of deer and antelope over food, often using their size and aggressive body posture to drive other animals from favorable food spots.

The heavy bodied and large antlered males are popular with hunters. A small percentage of axis males can have hard antlers at any season and allow for trophy hunting year-round. Most of the bucks have hard antlers between May to December. Axis bucks have main antler beams that can commonly measure 22 to 27". Exceptional antlers can have a main beam measurement of 36". The main beam usually has a middle and brow tine. Smaller antlers of 10 to 18" can take approximately three months to grow. Larger 30" antlers can take up to six months to grow.

Axis meat was rated the best by a survey conducted by the Exotic Wildlife Association, beating out even white-tailed deer meat. Axis meat also compared well to beef. Axis meat tested lower in cholesterol, fat and calories than most of domestic animal meats. The wholesale harvest and commercial marketing of exotic game meat is popular. Axis are favorites due to good tasting meat, the fact they reproduce well and can be harvested year-round.

Since its introduction in 1932, axis deer have made themselves at home on Texas ranges. They have become prolific and look like they are here to stay. This is beneficial for us because they offer great hunting opportunities and have excellent meat.

Resource: Mungall, E. C. and W. J. Sheffield, 1994. *Exotics on the Range: The Texas Example*. Texas A&M University Press, College Station, Texas, USA.

Kudos



Scotty and Randy Walhood, Treasurer of the Grand Prairie Gun Club, who made the presentation. Congratulations Scotty!

Scotty Oliver Honored by Grand Prairie Gun Club

During his tenure with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Scotty Oliver was Target Range Coordinator and assisted many ranges across the state by facilitating Pittman-Robertson funding in a matching grant program. Grand Prairie Gun Club was a recipient of these grants and built an educational building to host hunter education courses for the public. Because of his assistance, the new building was dedicated as the **Scotty Oliver Hunter Ed. Building**.

Terry Erwin, Hunter Education Coordinator traveled with Scotty and two of his three sons, Danny and David, to Grand Prairie on May 17 for the dedication. A public shooting day, dedication ceremony and a barbeque were held to honor the occasion.

Prairie View A&M Gives Top Award

Congratulations to Denise Harmel-Garza who received a 2003 Distinguished Service Award from the Cooperative Extension Program, Prairie View A&M University. Denise is an Extension Associate in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, where she delivers conservation education programs, many of which are focused on building Extension Capacity to reach limited resource and minority youth. Her program is a partnership between TCE, the Cooperative Extension Program at Prairie View and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. The award was “in recognition for exceptional performance in planning and implementing successful educational programs in the area of Agriculture and Natural Resources.”

Quoting from the program: “She is very creative in her approach at gaining interest of at-risk youth, which has increased their enthusiasm and participation in wildlife and fisheries programs.”

More from Texas A&M

On April 2, 2003, Larry Hysmith and Denise Garza received Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Awards from the Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences Department at Texas A&M University in College Station.

Larry and Denise work for the Texas Cooperative Extension at A&M, and are Area Chief instructors in our programs.

They are always providing excellent workshops on numerous topics, including this year's white-tailed deer workshop. Congratulations to you both!

Instructor Designs “DU” State Pin

Although hunter education began in Texas in 1972, we still have a few veteran instructors who just keep on doing a great job. They are out there, we never hear from them, yet they keep doing classes and certifying students. Thirty-year veteran Don Moody from Gainesville is one of those individuals.

He has remained active during all these years, has conducted 178 classes while certifying 598 students. Don earned his 2,500-point handgun certificate this year, but also received a very special award.

He entered a contest to design a new state **Ducks Unlimited** pin. His design was chosen over all other entries for the new pin, and he received a trip to the state DU meeting and banquet in Corpus Christi. He was presented with a special recognition award during the banquet. Congratulations Don!

2002 Winchester Volunteer Hunter Ed Instructor of the Year

This award is selected by Winchester Ammunition from nominations that are submitted by State/Provincial Administrators and Coordinators and recognizes individual volunteer hunter education instructors that have dedicated themselves toward helping the IHEA with its mission. Winchester Ammunition has chosen Mr. Jan G. Morris of Imperial, Missouri as the International Hunter Education Association's 2002 Volunteer Instructor of the Year.

Jan began teaching Hunter Education for the National Rifle Association in 1971 and has worked tirelessly since then to promote safe hunting skills. Last year alone, Jan logged over 14,000 miles and 2,500+ hours, along with considerable out of pocket expenses working for hunter education. He was the Chief Instructor for three hunter education classes and two bowhunter classes, and also assisted with other training for a total of 19 classes in 2002. He recruited nine new instructors and personally mentored three of them.

Jan has served as a board member of the Board of Directors of the Missouri Hunter Education Instructor's Association since 1992 and is currently their Executive Officer. He is also the State Coordinator for the NRA's

Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC). Jan has also served on the IHEA Board from 1999-2001 as a Volunteer Instructor Board Representative.

Winchester's International Hunter Education Association Volunteer Instructor of the Year Program began in the late 1980s. Seeing the crucial need for instructors that play a major role in the future of hunting and shooting sports, Winchester developed this program to recognize and say "Thank You" to volunteers who do so much for the sport.

Each year, nominations are received for anyone who has significantly advanced the cause of safe hunting on a voluntary basis through extraordinary service in training or education. Criteria are based on the activities, experience, affiliations and overall contributions to hunter education. Most nominees have years of outstanding experience, and are truly the cream of the crop. Congratulations Jan!

Texas has submitted a nominee every year for the past 16 years, and has had nine "Runner-Ups" and three Top Winners. Thanks to Winchester Ammunition for all they do to support hunter education.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

Program Orientation – New Instructor Training

See the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Web site: www.tpwd.state.tx.us/edu

Workshops

August 2	Alligator Workshop	J.D. Murphree WMA
August 2-3	IBEP Student/Instructor Course	Austin
August 7	American Archery Assoc. Level I Instructor Course	Flower Mound
August 9-10	Responsibility, Game Laws and Ethics	Grand Prairie
August 16-17	Responsibility, Game Laws and Ethics	Austin
August 23	Wounding Loss Workshop	Houston
August 30	Wounding Loss Workshop	Midland
October 11	Wounding Loss Workshop	Corpus Christi
October 18	Wounding Loss Workshop	Amarillo
November 8	Wounding Loss Workshop	Rio Grande Valley
September 13-14	Wildlife Management/Conservation Workshop	Kerr WMA
September 14	Dove Workshop/Hunt	Rio Grande Valley
September 27	Dove Workshop/Hunt	Corpus Christi
September 27-28	Dove Workshop/Hunt	Houston



Dear Kitty and Jim Haynes,

Thanks so much for the wonderful Instructor Certification class you taught this weekend. I just got home from it and while I fell like I drank from a fire hose the past couple of days, I am excited! What great stuff!!!

You truly presented with knowledge, enthusiasm and a passion for quality education for the hunters of today and those that hold hunting's future. Thank you for motivating!!! I am looking forward to learning even

more and becoming a contributing factor in the Texas Parks and Wildlife Hunter Education program. With the leadership of people like you and Heidi Rao (what a super representative of TPWD!!!) I believe that I can indeed make a contribution.

As I shared with you, my church has committed the use of our facilities and even granted a small budget for the start up of the Hunter Education program. I will be in touch with you in the near future to discuss what dates you may have to lead or assist in the kickoff class to be held here in spring. Please feel free to contact me any time.

Again, thanks for your leadership and passion. You were a blessing to me and I look forward to working with you. Regards and Good Hunting!!!

Michael Gabrielse
Spring, TX

“Don’t Get Tagged” Program Begins

One of the most common violations written is for improper tagging of a game animal. Over the last two years, there have been over 3,700 Parks and Wildlife citations issued for tagging violations with fines up to \$500 per violation. Law Enforcement Game Warden, Jeff Parish, and Hunter Education staff came up with a program campaign this year to help educate the public and possibly prevent these common mistakes. A new poster is available and will be mailed to all license vendors, meat-processing facilities, lease-license purchasers and to hunter education instructors with each supply order. There are four simple reminders:

- Make sure you use the correct tag when you kill a deer or turkey, or retain an oversized red drum.
- Make sure you immediately CUT OUT the month and day on the proper license tag.
- Attach proper tag IMMEDIATELY upon killing a deer or turkey, or retaining oversized red drum. The tag must remain attached to the game or fish until it reaches its FINAL DESTINATION and is FINALLY PROCESSED.
- Immediately upon killing a white-tailed deer, complete the WHITE-TAILED DEER LOG on the back of your Hunting License.

Tell your students, “don’t become a statistic.” Please remind them to read the current Texas Parks and Wildlife *Outdoor Annual* and make sure all wildlife resources are properly tagged. Go the extra mile and cover this in class until everyone understands it thoroughly. Let’s help make a difference!

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

DON'T GET TAGGED!

- Make sure you use the correct tag when you kill a deer or turkey, or retain an oversized red drum.
- Make sure you immediately **CUT OUT** the month and day on the proper license tag.
- Attach proper tag **IMMEDIATELY** upon killing a deer or turkey, or retaining oversized red drum. The tag must remain attached to the game or fish until it reaches its **FINAL DESTINATION** and is **FINALLY PROCESSED**.
- Immediately upon killing a white-tailed deer, complete the **WHITE-TAILED DEER LOG** on the back of your Hunting License.

In the last two years, there have been over 3,700 Parks and Wildlife citations issued for tagging violations with fines up to \$500 per violation.

Tagging Fish

- Immediately upon catching a fish:
- Measure tag from center and use entire tag.
- Fill in ALL information spaces on front of tag.
- CUT OUT day and month.
- Attach tag with a string or wire to the narrowest part of the fish, just ahead of the tail.

Tagging Deer or Turkey

- Immediately upon getting a deer or turkey:
- Measure appropriate tag from license.
- Fill in ALL information (month, middle area, etc.) and attach to back of tag.
- CUT OUT day and month.
- Immediately attach tag to animal on deer or turkey so that it is not damaged, removed or lost in transporting or handling.
- Don't forget to fill out the White-Tailed Deer Log if applicable.

White-Tailed Deer Log

Smith Ranch
Brooke

DON'T BECOME A STATISTIC

PLEASE READ THE CURRENT TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE OUTDOOR ANNUAL AND MAKE SURE ALL WILDLIFE RESOURCES ARE PROPERLY TAGGED.

TEXAS GAME WARDEN FIELD NOTES

That Pool Ol' Buck

A game warden concluded a lengthy investigation that resulted in charges against a Seminole, Texas man for taking a mule deer in a closed season. With nothing more than rumors that the deer had been killed in Gaines County, (where there is no deer season), the warden followed leads that took him to several counties. The break in the case came when a witness came forward. During the third interview, the suspect confessed to killing the deer behind his residence because he didn't want it to die of old age. The mule deer buck scored 206 Boone and Crockett points and weighed more than 300 pounds.

Man's Best Friend?

A Tarrant County game warden came across two separate incidents involving individuals with drugs around Benbrook Lake. The first was a man camping in an area not normally known for camping. The man had his three dogs with him, and the warden noticed one of the dogs pawing at the dirt around some bushes. With the aid of the dog, the warden located what appeared to be a marijuana pipe that was still warm. The other incident began as an investigation of hunting on Corps of Engineers land. The warden observed the suspect take a marijuana pipe out of his pocket. He also had in his possession a clove spice container with marijuana in it. Cases are pending.

Will Travel for Squirrels

A warden received a call about a truckload of men shooting squirrels from a major highway in Washington County. The warden was able to locate the men and cited them for possession of illegally taken squirrels. The warden found that the men had driven from Texas City to Brenham, a considerable distance. The men then told the warden that it was almost impossible to find a squirrel on the road in Harris County.

Dress for Success

A San Augustine County game warden left his house in his personal truck and civilian clothes to get a haircut. He had gone less than a mile when he drove up behind a van that was stopped in the middle of a county road with a gun barrel protruding from the drivers window. The driver got out of the van as the warden approached and informed the warden that he was trying to kill a hog. Due to the person's attitude and the fact that he was armed and the warden was not, the warden left the scene, returned home, and put on his uniform and pistol. Having recognized the car, the warden drove directly to the person's house. When the person came outside and recognized the warden, his eyes got big and he stated, "Oh, God, I'm going to jail." Charges were filed.

Silencio Promotes Hearing Protection

Silencio, Inc., a Sparks, Nevada-based leader in hearing protection for the hunting and shooting industry, will be introducing their new **Silencio Hunter Orientation Taskforce** program.

The **SHOT** program, as Silencio has named it, is being developed to help promote the importance of hearing conservation to those who are just entering the world of hunting and shooting. By teaming up with Firearm

and Hunter Education instructors throughout the country, Silencio and the instructors will focus on the major issue of preserving an individual's hearing. Many times, since hearing loss is only noticeable over time, it goes unnoticed until it is too late. This is a critical concern to Silencio.

Instructors will also be able to take advantage of the **SHOT** program. Members of the taskforce will be able

to take advantage of special product opportunities, sneak peek purchases of new products and possibly outfit their entire class.

Silencio will be announcing this program in the near future. Until then, if you are interested, call Silencio customer service at 800-648-1812 to get your name added to the mailing list.

Training Efforts and Workshops



Wildlife Management/Conservation

The Wildlife Management/Conservation workshop went equally well at the Matador WMA with Dave Dvorak and all the biologists in that area doing a great job. Thanks for hosting this workshop, Dave, and for all your help with training hunter education instructors on management practices, so they can relate them to students for a better understanding management principles.

The Wildlife Management/Conservation workshop in Nacogdoches on April 5 and 6 went great. John Burk the Texas State Turkey Coordinator, gave a detailed presentation on Turkey habitat management and research highlights of recent studies on restoration of the Eastern wild turkey into East Texas. Rickey Maxey, Endangered Species Specialist for East Texas, gave an informative presentation on the history and status of various endangered and threatened wildlife species in Texas. Both biologists emphasized the need for controlled burning in East Texas.

The group met on Sunday at Winston 8 Ranch Tree Farm, a 3,600-acre area aggressively management with controlled fire and other habitat management techniques. The group toured the area receiving “first-hand” field experience on the effects and benefits of prescribed burning in the Pineywoods ecological region. John Burk also detailed the specifics and techniques of hunting wild turkeys in Texas, including gun safety, hunter safety and hunting etiquette on public lands.

Responsibility, Game Laws and Ethics

A “Responsibility, Game Laws and Ethics” workshop was held in Mission June 9-10 with outstanding participation. Sixteen instructors arrived from the South Texas area coming from as far as Corpus Christi, Laredo and Port Mansfield. The new “Don’t Get Tagged” posters were introduced and discussed along with changes in the Outdoor Annual. Participants liked the game law updates, but the discussion on “Defining Ethics” definitely highlighted the two-day workshop.



TPWD would like to thank the Mission Trap and Skeet Club for their generosity and continued support of the Hunter Education Program, and in particular, a big “Thanks” to Rodney Beamsley for his logistic support.



Wounding Loss Workshop

Kent Irvin and hunter education instructor members of the Grand Prairie Gun Club hosted a workshop where information on “Wounding Loss” was disseminated. Distance judging, shot patterning and shooting skills were covered during the activities. Thanks to the GPGC, several of these workshops will be conducted for the general public next year.

Pictured here during the Wounding Loss workshop is Scotty Oliver and GPGC hunter education instructor Joe Cawthon with Joe’s “Long Tom” shotgun with its 60” barrel. He said, “If I can’t shoot ‘em down coming in, I’ll just slap ‘em when they go by.”



Show & Tell Workshop

Eleven Hunter Education Instructors and one IBEP Instructor attended the Show & Tell “How To Teach” Workshop at Sheldon Lake Environmental Center in northeast Houston. A lot of great ideas were shared, along with some creative and impressive training aids. We learned different uses of overhead projectors (Pat Dowdell) with laser guns, and even a laser arrow (developed by Gene Norton) during shoot-don’t shoot scenarios. Gene Norton demonstrated carrying capacity, and we watched a puppy follow a blood trail to aid in tracking deer (Mike Baird). We explored a survival/day pack and learned different uses of various items included (Bob Duncan and Vicky Trahan). We learned how to create a wooded environment with forest debris – leaves and twigs – place them on a pan or sheet and teach students how to find shelter in the woods (Doris Allwright). Use of the Internet as a resource was covered (Joe Drobnik). Throughout the day, instructors shared what works and doesn’t work in their classrooms. This workshop was a huge success, thanks to the many hours of dedication and support of our valuable volunteers.



TPWD Employees Step Outside

An exotic hunt organized by Tami Crawford and hosted by the Diamond K Ranch in Sisterdale, Texas was the chance of a lifetime for several women who had never hunted before. Sixty-seven women applied for the chance to go on this hunt and ten lucky participants were selected traveling from as far away as Midland, Palacios, Coldspring and Port O’Connor.

These women had the opportunity to harvest blackbuck antelope does, aoudad ewes and feral pigs. Six of the participants were first time hunters and two of those were successful in harvesting animals. One lady stated that she was going to get her 16 year-old daughter involved in hunting because of her experience on this hunt and another stated that her husband had been trying for 19 years to get her to go hunting with him and now she is ready to go again.

Hunter Education instructors played a big role in making this hunt a success by assisting as guides, cooks and range coordinator. Instructors were Roger Wubbenhorst, Linda Montgomery, Jim Parker, Kent Brenneman and Duane Crawford. Also assisting as guides were several TPWD employees, which included wildlife biologists and a game warden.

*Front row L to R: David Hempel, Bryan Perkins, Roger Wubbenhorst, Yvette Padilla, Scott Davis, Juan Velasco, Loretta Velasco, Nance Gallacher, Laura David, Vicki Sybert, Nancy Reinert, Amy Thibodeaux, Jim Parker and Theresa Krenek.
Back row: Daryl Klecka, Linda Montgomery, Misty Sumner, Mindy Benson, Tom Van Zandt, Kirsten Johnson and Stanley Tindall.*

IHEA Foundation Hosts Fourth Annual Fundraiser



San Antonio Area Chief Rus Greiner, Instructor Al Pothast and Area Chief Bernie Heer

Tom Floyd, Chairman of Star State Investment, Inc. of Houston, chairs the IHEA Foundation Endowment Committee and has facilitated this event for the past four years. Tom and wife, Jean, along with Ron Freidenberger, IHEA Foundation Treasurer and Wal-Mart Hunter Education/Licenses Coordinator, hosted the Fourth Annual Shooting Sports Industry and Retailers Fund Raising event on June 3-4, 2003 at the National Shooting Complex in San Antonio. This year's event totaled almost \$200,000.

Mark Pentecost, Senior Buyer with Galyan's Sports and Outdoor Adventure, Chairman of the IHEA Foundation Board of Directors and Dave Cook, President of Stearns, Inc., were both on hand for the event and provided excellent support. Additional representatives and helpers included the new IHEA Exec. Vice President, Eric Nuse; IHEA President, Mac Lang from Kentucky; Bill Blackwell, IHEA

Board Volunteer Representative from Canada; Bob Mayer, IHEA Business Manager; Micki Hawkins and Susie Kiefer IHEA Administrative Assistants; Ryan Kiefer, Susie's son; Mason Shaw, Ron Freidenberger's grandson and Jimmie Caughron, TPWD Hunter Education

Specialist. They all provided outstanding support getting all the bags ready for participants and facilitating the event. Thanks to all National Shooting Complex staff for the great jobs they did too!

On Tuesday, a "Sportsman's Challenge" was held for all individual participants that included skills in bait casting, archery, rifle, pistol, shotgun, including skeet, trap, sporting clays, paint ball and cowboy action events.

Providing a special Hunter Skills Trail Competition were San Antonio Area Chief Russ Greiner, Instructor Al Pothast and Area Chief Bernie Heer. Only

a few individuals participated in the Skills Trail event, but all did well and increased their scores by five bonus points.

Wednesday's activities had each three-member team competing in trap, skeet and sporting clays. Winning the event was Wal-Mart, second place was Remington, and coming in third was Winchester Ammunition. There were door prizes, goodie bags, outstanding live and silent auctions, and everyone had a great time.

Among the sponsors of the event was Anthony Imperato, President of Henry Repeating Arms, Co., centered in the middle of Bob Mayer, (L) IHEA Business Manager, and Terry Erwin, (R) IHEA President-elect. Anthony is shown accepting one of the two IHEA Industry Awards given during the IHEA Annual Conference in Vancouver, BC.

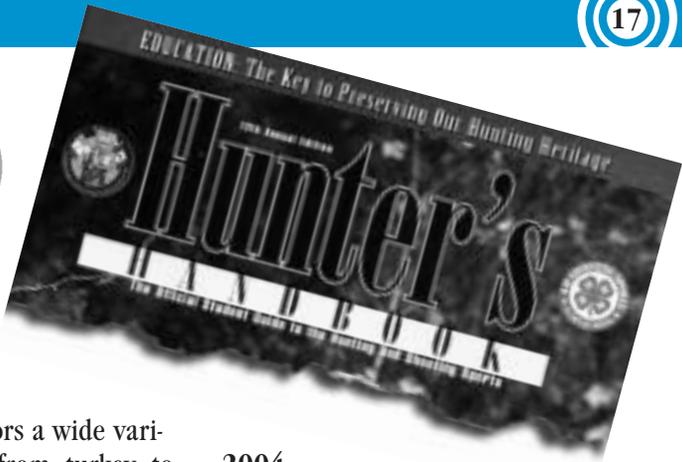


People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care.

Bill Short, TPWD Training Coordinator



Flash! New "IHEA Hunt" Announced



Win a hunt of a lifetime! The International Hunter Education Association Student/Instructor Hunt is a **NEW** opportunity beginning this year for students and instructors to go on an all-expense-paid hunt for big game, upland birds, fish for trophy rainbow trout and be treated to some of the finest home cooking you will ever eat.

ming pool and sporting clays field to deluxe accommodations.

Four lucky students, one parent or guardian of each winner under 18, and two hunter education instructors will be the guests of the exclusive **J.B. Hunt Big Horn Lodge and Outback Ranch**. This 3,000-acre ranch is located in southwestern Missouri among the hills and rugged countryside to provide the perfect sportsman's retreat. The lodge offers everything from a big screen TV, swim-

The Outback Ranch harbors a wide variety of quality animals from turkey to Sika deer. The hunt should give students and you the chance to put hunter education skills and knowledge to the test.

Please have students complete the entry form on the card found between pages 24-25, and read all about it on page 25 in the **Hunter's Handbook** student magazine given out during each class. Fill out all information requested, and don't forget the "parent/guardian signature" required for students. Please affix a stamp to the card and mail so it will be postmarked prior to **February 15,**

2004.

Or, if you have access to the Web, simply go to www.huntershandbook.com and to the IHEA Student/Instructor Hunt page. Fill out the form and e-mail it to the address given there. **Drawing will be held February 20, 2004** and will take place during the calendar year 2004. Plans for the 2005 hunt might involve the **YO Ranch in Texas**. Spread the word, and make sure each student gets the Hunter's Handbook.

Good Luck!

INSTRUCTOR DISCOUNTS



Henry Repeating Arms Company is offering special pricing for instructors who wish to order Henry firearms for teaching. The following models are priced as shown.

Model	Description	Price
H001	Henry Lever Action .22	\$ 152.25
H001Y	Henry Lever Action Youth .22	\$ 152.25
H005	Henry Mini Bolt Youth .22	\$ 125.00

Ordering Instructions

If you wish to order any of the above firearms, please forward your order in letter form showing your complete name, address, telephone number, along with a copy of your instructor identification card and an original signed copy of a gun dealer's Federal Firearms license. Payment must also be included, and may be by cashier's check, Visa, MasterCard or American Express. For individual instructor's orders, there is a limit of one (1) unit of each of the above firearms. If several instructors wish to purchase firearms as a group, then each instructor must provide the complete information requested above, and the limit is still one unit per instructor. ****No additional charges for shipping.****

To Order Catalogues

If you wish to order catalogues for your class, please include:

- date of class
- quantity wanted
- name, address, city, state and zip.

Send to: Henry Repeating Arms
110 8th St.
Brooklyn, New York 11215

These are exceptional firearms, and if you wish to check them out, please look at their Web site. www.henryrepeating.com

Hi Folks.... Gee, I knew I was getting a little older, but I didn't know everyone knew about it, too. It was such a great surprise to have my birthday celebrated at the Annual Conference, and with a cake, no less. Thanks so much for all who were responsible. I really appreciate all of you!

Now, the busy season is just around the corner, and we need information on classes from you to enter into the computer. We also need updates from you so we can keep your mail, records, etc. straight. If anything has changed, please let us know about new phone numbers, addresses, e-mails or any other pertinent information. We have mail returned, and we don't know where to send it, at times. You need to let us know, so you won't miss anything. Agriculture Science Teachers move, change schools and need to let us know, too.

NOTE: When any professional educator changes schools, a new "Mutual Agreement" must be

signed by the teacher and school authority and returned for our files. We must keep a current Mutual Agreement on file at all times.

I am caught up on data entry at this time, but with the 'busy season' comes a new flood of records. Students are already calling in for classes, especially Bowhunter Education (IBEP) classes. Seems folks have applied to the Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge, were drawn for a hunt, and now must find IBEP classes. Let us know ASAP.

Thanks for all of your help in making our job easier to serve our customers ... your students. **Remember, you have seven (7) days to get your records to us after completion of any class.**

See Ya!

K A T H Y

HUNTER EDUCATION LOSES INSTRUCTORS

Bill Mildner

Bill Mildner, Area Chief from Kerrville, passed away on April 6 after a long battle with cancer. He was certified in 1988, taught 65 student courses certifying 331 students. He attended 30 advanced workshops and became an Area Chief in 1992. Bill is remembered often for his slide presentations on hunting in India and Africa where he served the U.S. government as a geologist. Some of his most notable attributes were his shotgun training skills during the Rifle, Shotgun and Handgun workshops for instructors. He was a Life Member and Training Counselor with the NRA. He was significantly involved in helping with design and construction of the new Buck and Bull Gun Club, located on Hwy. 41 west of Mountain Home.

Bill brought a new insight to "ethics" training by sharing his experiences while abroad. He informed participants of the workshops that hunting was more of a necessary way of life, rather than considered as just an outing or "sport" as we sometimes refer to the activity. He was a unique individual, and a perfectionist who maintained his firearms in a fashion that reflected the fact. He would load thousands

of rounds and spend his summers in pursuit of prairie dogs in the western and central plains states. He and his wife would take their Air Stream travel trailer on extended visits during these times. She said, "If you are married to a man, you should support his lifestyle, and help him live it. I always tried to do that, and after 54 years of marriage, we had a good life together." We will miss him, but we also know he is hunting on higher ground.

Laurie Jean Russell

Laurie Jean Russell passed away May 7, 2003 at the age of 52. She is survived by her loving husband Bill Russell, mother and stepfather, her father and stepmother, and three sons. Laurie was actively involved with the Boy Scouts of America serving as a member of the Order of the Arrow and Scout leader for troop #423. Laurie was actively involved with the TPWD Hunter Education program. She team-taught classes with her husband Bill in Northwest Houston. Together, they certified over 1,500 students since 1998. Laurie participated in advanced Hunter Education workshops and training sessions. Her contribution to the program touched many lives, and we will miss her.



THE BOWHUNTER

TEXAS BOWHUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAM

NOTICE:

Classes are needed between now and the beginning of Archery Season. Please schedule your classes and notify the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and me so we can refer students to your area. You may contact TPWD at 1-800-792-1112 + 63 to schedule your classes. My contact information is Jack Jetton, 1824 Branch Hill Dr., Pearland, TX 77581. Phone number is (281) 992-0917. E-mail has changed, and is now, jjetton@houston.rr.com

Remember to order your materials in plenty of time to get them in for the class. Contact Jack Nasworthy at 1-800-792-1112 + 61 to place your order.

Aim to be "Bulls-Eye Perfect"

NWTF Stands Behind \$1 Million Commitment

The National Wild Turkey Federation continued its work for sportsmen and sportswomen with a \$250,000 donation to the National Shooting Sports Foundation. This is the third donation in a four-year, one million dollar commitment by the NWTF.

The NSSF is a nonprofit organization that promotes firearms and the shooting sports through education and participation. NWTF CEO Rob Keck presented the check to the NSSF at the 2003 Outdoor Writers Association of America conference in Columbia, Mo.

"Target shooters and hunters have been and will continue to be the most important factor in wildlife conservation this country has ever known," said Keck. "Unfortunately, there are millions of Americans who just don't get it. Hunters pay for conservation through the Pittman-Robertson 11 percent tax on

firearms, ammunition and archery equipment."

The donation will be used to further the efforts of the NSSF to educate the general public about the history and tradition of hunting and the shooting sports. "If we all answer the call, together we can help people understand that," Keck said. "Without shooting, there is no hunting. Without hunting, there is no conservation. Without conservation, there are no wild turkeys or other wildlife. The donation was made possible through a combination of support from the NWTF, its 2,050 state and local chapters and half-million members.

About the NWTF: In 1973 when the National Wild Turkey Federation was founded, there were an estimated 1.3 million wild turkeys and 1.5 million turkey hunters. Thanks to the work of wildlife agencies and the NWTF's many

volunteers and partners, today there are an estimated 5.6 million wild turkeys and approximately 2.6 million turkey hunters. Since 1985, more than \$168 million NWTF and cooperator dollars have been spent on over 22,000 projects benefiting wild turkeys throughout North America.

The NWTF is a half million-member grassroots, nonprofit organization with members in 50 states, Canada and 11 foreign countries. It supports scientific wildlife management on public, private and corporate lands as well as wild turkey hunting as a traditional North American sport.

For more information on the National Wild Turkey Federation, call (803) 637-3106, check out our Web site at www.nwtf.org or e-mail questions to nwtf@nwtf.net

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PWD BR D0200-135 (7/03)

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