



NEWSLETTER NO. 115

FALL/WINTER 1998

EDITOR'S CORNER

Meet Marty!



As mentioned in the Summer issue of *Target Talk*, we would now like to introduce the second of our new Hunter Education staff. Martin "Marty" Robillard has been hired as the new Assistant Hunter Education Coordinator stationed in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Marty arrives here from Alberta, Canada, where he was both a Conservation Education Officer and a Game Warden in his native province. He graduated in 1980 from the Letheridge Community College Environmental Science Program, specializing in Renewable Resource Management. His experiences have been widespread, spanning the educational, biological and enforcement areas relating to both wildlife and fisheries management.



Marty is sharing an office in the Fort Worth area with Jack Dyess of the Boater Education Program. However, in the near future, the office will hopefully be moved to a Corps of Engineers facility at Joe Pool Lake south of Granbury. Marty's duties will be to recruit and train new instructors, set up testing teams for the new "Home Study Program," conduct safety presentations and in-service workshops and get advanced Hunter Education programs underway in the coming year. He will generally cover the northern part of Texas from Nacogdoches to

Continued on next page

Texas Instructor Wins National I.H.E.A. "Dream Hunt" Trip

Area Chief, Charles Snowden, Linden, said he mailed two postcards a day for about a month to the address given for the "Dream Hunt." He said he didn't want all of them getting there at one time, so they wouldn't be grouped together in the hopper. "Better chance of winning," he concluded. Well, it must have paid off, because he was selected from all of the other entrants to go on the 1998 "Dream Hunt" at the **PRIMLAND HUNTING RESERVE** near Claudeville, VA. Primland is one of the most beautiful hunting reserves in North America. Nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the 17,000 acre reserve lies just north of the North Carolina border. In fact, one can see Pilot Knob Mountain in NC, where the "Andy of Mayberry" television show was filmed.

Continued on page 3

In this issue...	
<i>I.H.E.A. "Dream Hunt"</i>	3
<i>Texas "Dream Hunt"</i>	4
<i>Y.H.E.C.</i>	4
<i>Kudos</i>	5
<i>Mark Your Calendars</i>	6-7
<i>Did You Know?</i>	8-9
<i>Letters to the Editor</i>	10-11
<i>Welcome New Instructors</i>	12
<i>Kathy's Korner</i>	14

Editor's Corner (continued)

Texarkana to the Panhandle. To contact him, call his office at (817) 820-0037 or Fax (817) 820-0527.

Please welcome Marty to the state (and the country!) and offer your assistance whenever possible. He has already met some of you, either at the YHEC last May, or at the '98 Wildlife Expo. He is looking forward to meeting more instructors and staff at the upcoming events and workshops, and developing a working partnership with each of you.

Marty is an avid outdoorsman, whether it be hunting, fishing or just being out there. His hunting experiences have included trips to Saskatchewan, British Columbia, Northwest Territories and most regions of Alberta. He enjoys big game hunting, bird hunting and fishing equally, and is looking forward to experiencing the diverse

opportunities Texas has to offer. In addition, he is a collector of license plates and old hunting and fishing related memorabilia, and has already started scouting swap meets, flea markets and garage sales for these items. If you find any of these treasures, let him know.

Now that our staff positions have been filled, we can begin to make more training opportunities available in more regions of the state. Your assistance in helping coordinate these upcoming sessions would be greatly appreciated. The holiday season will soon be upon us, and I hope each and everyone of you will share a very special time with family and friends and have a happy prosperous new year! Keep up the great work and let's start out 1999 with a whole new meaning.

Terry Erwin

Independent "Home Study" Requires "Hunter Skills" Course

Some instructors have been trained in this alternate method of delivery. The packets are available at this time and several individuals have started a "pilot program." It has worked well in most areas. The difficulty is...most people think "home study" is just that, and that they don't have to do anything else for certification. They don't realize that they still have to spend a day in class, even if it is for only four to six hours. Austin headquarters staff conducted three testing sessions and all went extremely well. Other testing sites were Lufkin, San Angelo, San Antonio, Midland and McAllen.

Outdoor Life should have the packets available for consumer

purchase in February 1999. Look for the packets in your local sporting good stores, Wal-Mart, etc. When individuals buy the product and are ready to complete the certification process, they can call our office for testing locations.

If the workshop training is completed, and instructors are interested in conducting "Hunter Skills" courses, let us know. We would like to have testing sites state-wide. Read the last *Target Talk* for complete details on how the process works. It will make a huge difference in customer satisfaction. Training sessions are scheduled in the workshop announcement with this newsletter.

Thanks for Making 1998 Wildlife Expo a Success



Wow! What a great weekend. Although it was clear over the weekend, it rained over three inches on Monday night after the event. We didn't have the crowd as expected, but managed to accommodate over 37,000 individuals. Thanks to all the instructors whose tireless efforts made the Wildlife Expo a huge success for another year. Most all activities came off successfully with few, if any, complications.

The shooting events had a total of 13,777 participants broken down into the following categories: TPW 5-Stand - 798; Winchester 5-Stand - 678; Winchester Mobile .22 Range - 1,575; Youth/Women shotgun - 971; L.S.B.A. (Lone Star Bowhunter's Association) Archery - 1,930; A.S.A. (Archery Shooters Association) 3-D shoot - 225; Horton Crossbow - 1,109; Barnett Crossbow - 578; Crosman/4-H Airgun - 952; "Shoot Where You Look" Airgun - 1,325; N.R.A. (National Rifle Association) Airgun - 1,249; DART Interactive Video simulation - 860; and Thompson/Center Arms muzzleloading - 1,527.

The weather was hot, as usual, but it turned out to be a beautiful two days. The shooting events would not exist and be so successful if it were not for your help and enthusiasm. All instructors received 25 points for Saturday and 25 points for Sunday. We couldn't have ask for more support as all of the instructors gave the very best. For those of you who missed the event, we hope you will consider coming next year.

A special THANKS to the Texas Hunter Education Instructor Association (T.H.E.I.A.), who paid for the sandwiches and drinks distributed during work hours of Expo on Saturday and Sunday. What a life saver. Instructors hardly had time to leave the areas to eat, or take a break, which proves we have a lot of dedicated individuals working in Hunter Education.

Thanks also goes to T.H.E.I.A. for donating \$500.00 to the Texas Wildlife Expo Scholarship Fund. Just so happens that out of the fourteen scholarships given, one of our instructors received one. CHAD ELLIS, senior at Sul Ross State University, and son of Area Chief, Quincy Ellis, will have some help through his senior year. He will graduate in May 1999. He is majoring in Wildlife and Range Management and worked as an intern at the Gene Howe WMA this past summer. Congratulations CHAD!

National I.H.E.A. "Dream Hunt"

Texas Instructor Wins National I.H.E.A. "Dream Hunt" Trip

Continued from front page



Charles Snowden, left, with Wayne Pearson, host of ESPN-2's "Ultimate Outdoors"

There is no airport near Claudville, so everyone had to fly into Greensboro, NC, and then be driven about one and a half hours to the reserve. Arriving with Charles were the following youngsters and their parent or guardian. Travis Brunner and his dad, Brian, from Kent, WA; Daniel

O'Brien and his dad, Ron, from Swanton, MD; Cody Trosper and his dad, Larry, from Jonesboro, AR; Chris Cooley and his uncle, Gerald Joyner, from Rocky Mount, NC; Jesse Randolph and his dad, Tim, from Limestone, TN and last, Devin Greenlaw with his mom, Jackie, from Grand Manan, New Brunswick, Canada.

On Thursday evening, after arriving at the reserve, they were met and welcomed by Steve Helms, manager of Primland. Chef, Doug Hemmings had a great dinner prepared, which the group really enjoyed. Later on that evening Charles and the youth were treated to an early Christmas. Eyes almost popped out of their heads when they saw what was there for them. Winchester 20 gauge shotguns were provided to each youngster by U.S. Repeating Arms. L.L. Bean provided clothing and various accessories to completely outfit each hunter, including pants, belt, shirt, vest, socks, boots, shooting glasses, a gun cleaning kit and an outstanding metal gun case to carry each new shotgun. Pennzoil provided a zippered travel bag in which to carry all their gear, and Wayne Pearson provided sponsorship for the trip and "Ultimate Outdoors" jackets and caps. Winchester Ammunition not only provided the entry cards for the "Dream Hunt," but all the ammunition used during the weekend.

The group stayed in beautiful homes located on the ridges overlooking the hunting areas of the reserve. After a good night's rest, the group was up early and went down for a hearty breakfast. Pheasants were the game

for the weekend, and after breakfast, the group went to the sporting clays field for some practice. Those new Winchester shotguns had a few misses in them, and the group wanted to get as many of them out as possible before hitting the fields that afternoon.

During the next two days, Charles and each youngster and partner were treated to some of the best pheasant hunting in the U.S. The weather was perfect, and, although relatively dry, the temperatures stayed in the low 50s to low 70s. The dogs worked magnificently and were a joy to watch, but the dryness made it harder for them to smell the birds. Good dogs make all the difference when the birds are holding tightly and won't fly.

Wayne Pearson began filming his show with the youngsters during the Friday afternoon hunt. Several of the boys were naturals when it came to being in front of the cameras. After editing, the show will air on "The Ultimate Outdoors" with Wayne Pearson on ESPN-2 sometime around next September. Over 63,000,000 households get ESPN-2, so if anyone has a satellite dish or cable with ESPN-2, let us know so we can get you to tape the show. Watch the schedule, because the show comes on several times each week.

Winchester Ammunition printed and distributed entry cards for the 1998 National "Dream Hunt." Any instructor wishing to go with **Wayne Pearson** on one of his additional trips, should send in a plain post card to: **I.H.E.A. "DREAM HUNT," P. O. Box 5078, Nashville GA, 31639**, with name, address, phone numbers and a statement that you are a Hunter Education instructor. So far, in the last nine years, four instructors and three students from Texas have been selected to go on the "Dream Hunt." Four more instructors have been selected to go on the additional trips.

Keeps those cards coming in and your chances of winning are a lot better than if you just sit back and wish! Congratulations to all the winners for this year. We'll be looking for you on the screen.

Pictured L to R: Front row: Charles Snowden, Instructor, Texas; Wayne Pearson, Host of ESPN-2's "Ultimate Outdoors"; Jesse Randolph, Tennessee; Chris Cooley, North Carolina; Daniel O'Brien, Maryland (very front) Ron O'Brien (behind).
Second row: Travis Brunner, Washington; Brian Brunner; Tim Randolph; Larry Trosper; Gerald Joyner, Chris Cooley's uncle;
Back row: Cody Trosper, Arkansas; Jackie Wilson (mother of Devin Greenlaw); Devin Greenlaw, New Brunswick, Canada.



THE TEXAS “DREAM HUNT”

The Texas “**Dream Hunt**” will be hosted by **TREY DORAN** at the **DORAN RANCH** between Del Rio and Rocksprings, after Christmas, on December 27-30, while students are out for the Christmas Holidays. This is a 15,000 acre ranch located in Edwards County at the western edge of the beautiful Texas Hill country. **Each student, parent/guardian and instructor will have an opportunity to harvest one**

buck, two does and a turkey. The hunt is **not** guaranteed to produce all of these animals, but it is guaranteed to provide one of the most memorable weekend outings of a lifetime. By the time this newsletter arrives, the “Dream Hunt” group will probably be hunting. Wish them luck, and good hunting. Look for a complete story with photos in the Spring issue of *Target Talk*.

1998 Youth Hunter Education Challenge

Raton, N.M. – After four days of tough competition, the 13th annual National Rifle Association’s International Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC) came to a close with the following top winners.

In the Junior Individual Overall division, 14-year-old Nick Muckerman of St Louis, Mo., was the first place winner with a total score of 1690 points out of a total 2400. David Reese, 18, of Bossier, La., placed first in the Senior Individual Overall Category. Reese scored 1840 points out of 2400. In the team division, the Colorado Whistlers were the first place Junior Team Overall. The Pennsylvania Senior Gold team placed first in the Senior Team Overall.

About 300 youths from 20 states participated in the challenge, which took place July 27-31 at the 33,000 acre NRA Whittington Center in the heart of northeast New Mexico’s rugged mountains. YHEC participants took part in eight events simulating the most true-to-life hunting conditions possible – including rifle, shotgun, muzzle loading and archery skills. In addition, participants were tested on their ability to identify wildlife, navigate using map-and-compass skills, and demonstrate hunter safety skills.

Top scores in both the junior and senior age divisions were awarded on an individual basis for each of the eight events, as well as for the best total scores. Likewise, awards went to the highest scoring five-person teams in individual events, as well as for overall scores.

Conducted by the NRA’s Hunter Services Department, the International YHEC is the summit of state of provincial Challenges. Each year, thousands of young hunters train with volunteer instructors across North America to compete in state and Canadian provincial YHEC’s with top finishers advancing to the international event.

Texas Hunter Education Instructors Association (THEIA) sent the best from Texas to compete. Attending were Charlie Rue, Russell Rogers, Jeff Hinton, Lance Barr, John Compton, Brandon Krawczynski, Samuel Durham, Ann Leininger, Matt Albert, Anna Rue, and Laura Leininger in the Senior division. Competing in the Junior division were Christopher Mery and Christian Klaus. Charlie Rue placed Fourth, Russell Rogers placed 13th, Jeff Hinton placed 34th and Lance Barr was 37th in the Senior Individual Overall scores out of 166 entrants.

Team efforts were lead by the East Texas group out of Longview who placed 6th in the Senior Team Overall scores, while the San Antonio team placed 24th. The East Texas team won the Muzzleloading event, and John Compton placed 2nd in the individual rankings for the Senior Muzzle loading event.

Congratulations to all who participated! Thanks to staff and all of the instructors who went to assist with the challenge.

TEXAS



Youth Hunting Program

Volunteers will be needed for the hunts coming up in the future. In order for the program to grow and be able to reach more youths, it is vital to have a volunteer base large enough to accommodate expansion. A Hunt Master Course should be completed by each volunteer before next year’s hunting season. Several courses are scheduled in the upcoming year for the Houston, Waco, San Antonio, Laredo, Dallas/Fort Worth, Midland and Amarillo areas.

The Hunt Master Course is approximately 8 hours long and is mostly hands-on application. It provides the necessary training for organizing and running a youth hunt with additional support from the TYHP office. Generally, Friday evening is for registration with the course being taught all day on Saturday or split between Saturday and Sunday. **Instructors attending any of these workshops will be given 25 additional workshop points.** If interested, please contact Jerry Warden at (210) 930-2177 for future locations and dates.

Kudos, Kudos, Kudos!

Shikar Safari Honors Warden Knight

Sutton County game warden Rodney Knight, a 26-year veteran has been named the Shikar Safari International's Wildlife Officer of the Year for 1998. Knight has been instrumental in youth outreach through a Hunter Education camp he conducts annually. He has personally certified over 600 Hunter Education students. **Congratulations Rodney!!**



Steven Fox displays a trophy taken on his deer lease in Kimble County last year. The buck scored very high (129 4/8) for an 8 point. Steven said he watched this "old boy" for several days before deciding to take him. The tag must be under Steven's right hand... Congratulations Steve!

George McNeill (center) is shown with his 2500 point handgun, (686 S&W); 3000 point rifle, (Thompson/Center .50 cal. Pennsylvania Carbine); and 3500 point shotgun, (Mossberg semi-auto). George earned these incentive awards over the last three years, but we never had a photo of his acceptance. Marty Robillard, new Assistant Hunter Education Coordinator (left) and Terry Erwin (right) were in Weatherford for the photos. Congratulations George!



New Web Site for Volunteers Through IHEA

The Volunteer BBS is online and working. You may access this BBS from the main menu at www.ihea.com, or you may link to it via the Texas Parks and Wildlife web site. The username is "volunteer" and the password is "huntsafe." You may use this password to log into the IHEA Volunteer Bulletin Board as you see fit. When you visit this BBS you can select the "(Un)Subscribe" function if you want automatic e-mail notification when new messages are posted. You may use the same selection to turn the notification off as needed. It is very easy, but as always, please let them know if you have any questions.



Visit Organizations on the Internet



- ✓ Texas Parks and Wildlife — <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us>
- ✓ Ducks Unlimited — <http://www.ducks.org>
- ✓ Texas Ducks Unlimited — <http://www.texasducks.org/>
- ✓ IHEA — <http://www.ihea.com>
- ✓ National Bowhunter Education Foundation — <http://www.nbef.org>
- ✓ MPI Outdoors — <http://www.adventuresports.com/asap/products/mpi/welcome.htm>
- ✓ World's largest hunting web site — <http://www.hunting.net>
- ✓ Burris Scopes — burriscoptics.com
- ✓ National Shooting Sports Foundation — <http://www.wheretoshoot.org>

Mark Your Calendars

1999

International Hunter Education Association Conference

50th Anniversary of Hunter Education in North America



On June 2-6, 1999, the International Hunter Education Association will mark its 50th anniversary of hunter education at the annual conference and special celebration in Buffalo, NY. An International Expo is planned and all instructors are invited to join them as they recognize 50 years of success and to launch hunting and hunter education into the 21st century. I would encourage any of you who can to consider attending this worthwhile conference. Circle your calendars now in anticipation of this milestone event!

In addition, a "Call For Artifacts for 50th Anniversary Display" has been issued. A hunter education history exhibit will be set up in conjunction with the Expo portion of the 1999 IHEA Conference. They need old things such as patches, manuals, early photographs, instructor and student cards, teaching aids and other appropriate items for display. Please notify us if you have any of these items in your possession and if you would be interested in loaning them for display. They will be shipped to Wayne Jones, Hunter Education Administrator in New York, for use.

50th Anniversary

Upcoming Events

Dove Season	Dec. 26-Jan. 6	Central Zone
	Dec. 26-Jan. 9	South Zone
NRA/4-H Shooting Sports Workshop	Jan. 8-10	San Angelo
(Contact Dr. Ron Howard (409) 845-5961 ASAP)		
Stds., Skills Trail, Home Study Workshop.	Jan. 9-10	Tyler
Trapper Workshop	Jan. 23-24	Burnet
Stds., Skills Trail, Home Study Workshop.	Jan. 30-31	Houston
Stds., Skills Trail, Home Study Workshop.	Feb. 6-7	Austin
NMLRA Muzzleloading Workshop.	Feb. 5-7	Pasadena
Survival Workshop	Feb. 13-14	YO Ranch
IBEP Instructor In-Service	Feb. 27-28	Austin
Turkey Workshop	Feb. 27-28	College Station
NRA Shotgun Workshop.	Mar. 5-7	Grand Prairie
Annual Conference	Mar. 6-7	Parrie Haynes
NRA/4-H Shooting Sports Workshop	Mar.12-14	Brownwood
Ethics Workshop	Mar. 20-21	Baytown

Please contact the Hunter Education Staff for further information.

Mark Your Calendars

Ninth Annual Hunter Education Conference

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Education Staff and Texas Hunter Education Instructors Association (THEIA) will host the Ninth Annual Hunter Education Conference on March 6-7, 1999 at the Parrie Haynes Ranch near Killeen. Plans are to have a fun weekend where everyone can participate in 5-Stand sporting clays, archery, muzzle loading, fishing, etc. There will be activities for all. Mark your calendars for this event, mark your workshop schedule and mail it in. Registration will be minimal at \$15.00 per individual, which will include lunch and supper on Saturday.

The THEIA meeting will take place on Sunday morning with election of officers. Come join the festivities and take your place in an organization that supports Hunter Education efforts across Texas.

For more information, contact:

Billy Imes
Texas Hunter Education Instructors Association
111 Ridgewood
Victoria, TX 77901

New Mexico To Host Regional Workshop

New Mexico is hosting a regional Hunter Education workshop for instructors on May 21-23, 1999, at the NRA Whittington Center near Raton. Plans are in progress to have a limited number of instructors (200 total) in for a multi-discipline workshop, including archery, shotgun, rifle, muzzleloader, skills trail, etc. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has provided a grant to help with this endeavor. There will be door prizes and a lot of great bargains offered.

Registration will be approximately \$40.00 for the workshop, and will include meals and lodging! What a bargain. The only other expense will be travel and meals to and from the workshop area. Mark your

calendars on these dates and plan to get a group together and take advantage of this fantastic offer. See how many of you can van-pool or rent a motorhome and make the trip. If groups of instructors did this, the cost would be minimal, and the trip would be well worth the effort. Besides, think how many workshop points you could get for being there. How about 100!! The NRA Whittington Center lies in the mountains of northern New Mexico, is a beautiful area and should make an excellent retreat for all those interested. Remember, space is limited to the first 200 individuals who sign up. The total is 200 from all states, not just Texas, so let us hear from you if interested.

Make Hunger Your Next Target



Any hunters wishing to help feed hungry Texans can take their legally harvested deer to a participating plant in Texas. A tax deductible donation of \$15 is required. The venison is ground, packaged, and then distributed through Texas Second Harvest Food Banks or pantries in local communities. Your contribution will go a long way in providing a source of nutritious protein to many Texans in need! For information about a processor in your area, call 1-800-992-9767.

Hunger In The U.S.

A new survey says 25.8 million people get charitable food assistance each year. Who are they?

- Most are women
62% Are women
38% Are men
- Young and old
38% Under the age of 17
16% Over the age of 65
- Many out of work
37% Unemployed
20% Working
- Affects ALL Races
47% White
32% Black
15% Hispanic



And in Texas....Over the past 20 years, the number of children under the age of six living in poverty increased by 24%, which is twice the national rate. It is estimated that 1 in 9 children in Texas is hungry.

Did you know...

Texans Are Becoming Conservation Leaders

Ducks Unlimited members in Texas set new marks for fundraising last year. At the recent Duck Unlimited National Convention in Quebec City, Canada, Texas DU members were honored for leading the nation in four fundraising categories.

“The great state of Texas has always been a pillar of support for the conservation programs of Duck Unlimited,” said DU executive vice president Matthew Connolly. “And, this past year, State Chairman Jim Rutta and the people of Texas have really come on strong, leading the nation in increases from the previous year. With numbers like these, I expect even greater things from the Lone Star State in the future.”

Texas was first in the nation in the following fundraising categories:

- Increase in Grassroots Income \$385,771
- Increase in Number of Sponsors* 583
- Percentage Increase in Number of Sponsors 41%
- Increase in Number of Contributors 5,211

*A sponsor contributes \$200 or more to Duck Unlimited annually

Ducks Unlimited is the worlds largest private wetland and waterfowl conservation organization, protecting and restoring wetlands and other wildlife habitat all over North America.

To date, DU has spent more than \$6 million on over 900 habitat projects in Texas. These projects benefit numerous waterfowl species like wood ducks, mallards, blue-winged teal, green-winged teal, scaups, pintails, mottled ducks and gadwall. Hundreds of other species benefit as well, including dozens that are threatened or endangered.

There are 39,215 DU members in Texas, including 2,616 Greenwings members (Greenwings are DU members under age 18). Only three states (Wisconsin, Minnesota and California) can claim more members. Since its inception in 1937, Duck Unlimited has raised more than \$1 billion to conserve more than 8 million acres of critical wildlife in all 50 U.S. states, each of the Canadian provinces and in key areas of Mexico.

Pearls of wisdom...

“A real friend will tell you your faults and follies in times of prosperity, and assist you with his hand and heart in times of adversity.”

Author unknown

Texas Has Dedicated Instructors

Danny and LaNette Clawson team teach with Area Chief, John Dea, and his group in Lubbock. Not only do they teach Hunter Education, but they both are Bow Hunter Education instructors and avid bow hunters. Back during the summer, LaNette was involved in a serious auto accident and received a broken neck. Her doctor told her she would be unable to participate in hunting activities for at least a year. LaNette has since undergone surgery to repair damages from the wreck and is doing much better. After she recuperated enough to return to work as an agent for O. & A. Tex Pac, her co-workers asked her what she was going to do about not being able to hunt this year. She said, “I am going to buy my hunting license anyway, because I know how much it means to wildlife restoration.” She is undergoing physical therapy and will soon be back to her old self. We wish her all the best and a speedy recovery, but those deer and hogs better watch out next year! Thanks for buying that license!

Texas Has New Trespass Law

It was passed last year, but few people actually know about the law. It was recently brought out that instructors need to inform students regarding the particulars of the new law. Here it is in short.

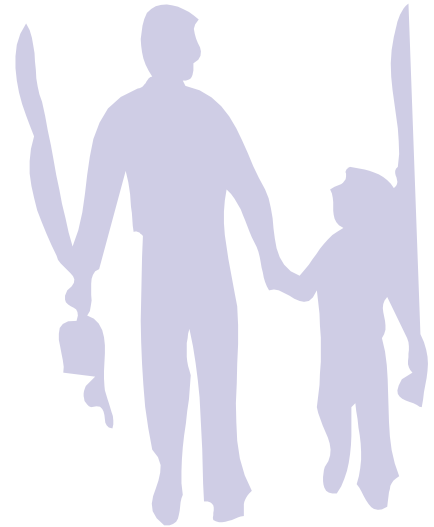
Entry is forbidden when: the placement of purple paint marks on trees or posts on the property, provided that the marks are: 1) vertical lines of not less than eight inches in length and not less than one inch in width; 2) placed so that the bottom of the mark is not less than three feet from the ground or more than five feet from the ground; and 3) placed at locations that are readily visible to any person approaching the property and no more than (a) 100 feet apart on forest land, or (b) 1,000 feet apart on land other than forest land. Pass the word.



The Myth Doesn't Hold Up!

For several years, it was believed that declining hunting and fishing license sales was directly attributed to single-parent, female-headed households. Not so! Now research by Responsive Management, a Virginia firm, shows this conclusion may be based on some faulty assumptions. Actually there seems to be no significant difference in recruitment from single-parent and two-parent households.

- Assumption #1:** *That women do not take their youngsters hunting or fishing.*
Reality: *The number of male hunters and anglers has remained stable or declined and the number of women enjoying these sports has increased. They also seem to be getting their children involved.*
- Assumption #2:** *The increase in single-parent households is the same across demographic groups.*
Reality: *The largest percentage (39%) of single-parent households is in the inner city where folks are less likely to participate in outdoor recreation.*
- Assumption #3:** *Youngsters in female-headed households lack a dad or adult male to take them hunting and fishing.*
Reality: *Fathers frequently take their children hunting or fishing as part of the time they spend together and other adult males in the family step in to fill the void when dad is not available.*



Both hunters and anglers cited having less time available and decreasing access and opportunity as reasons for not participating. Increasing urbanization and people growing up in cities contributes significantly to declining numbers. We have had a significant number of parents attending courses and we should always encourage every adult concerned to attend courses with their youngsters. Whether the adult ever hunts or fishes, they can spend that precious time learning and sharing the outdoors with a loved one. That's time well spent, and you can never take it away.

Texas Game Warden Field Notes

Austin— In the course of duty, game wardens, at times, face harrowing situations such as confronting armed subjects who may have previous criminal histories. Heartbreaking scenarios are also part of the job – for example, searching for a young drowning victim. And there are times when game wardens are placed in harm's way, such as facing dangerous flooding situations head-on to evacuate stranded residents. Fortunately, there are a few light moments and interesting stories which game wardens just love to share. Here are a few.

- ★ Before opening of dove season, a Starr County warden heard some shots while on patrol one afternoon. Upon investigating the site, he came upon three men who claimed to have been rabbit hunting. When the warden asked the men about the dove feathers in their hair, they confessed to hunting doves and were issued citations. "Here's yer sign!"
- ★ In early September, warden Steve Medford received a call from a concerned citizen reporting road hunting. The caller described a vehicle as driving back and forth down the road with two guns sticking out the window. When Medford arrived, he found the vehicle on private property with a hoe and a rake sticking out of the window and no evidence of road hunting.
- ★ On August 31, a warden in Wichita County cited a dove hunter for hunting out of season. The hunter had killed 10 doves and had no license. In arguing with the warden the hunter maintained, "But my watch says September first!"
- ★ Two wardens testified in the trial of a Tyler County man charged with negligent operation of a motorboat. The man's defense was that he was a master electrician, and electricians do not operate motorboats in a negligent manner. The court disagreed, found him guilty, and assessed a fine of \$150.



Dear Staff:

I am a 25 year-old deer hunter from San Antonio. When I first learned I had to take a Hunter Education course, I said, "Oh man." But, I'm glad I did! I attended Mr. Bob Barnett's class. When we first sat down in class, Mr. Barnett asked everyone to give their name and what they liked to hunt with. I said, ".243 and a 9mm on my side, because of the javelina in South Texas where I hunt." I told Mr. Barnett, "down there, you always want a gun in reach, because you never know when you might walk up on a pack of javelinas. You might be carrying something and I don't like to have a rifle on my shoulder and not be able to get to it, so that's why I carry a 9mm." Mr. Barnett asked me if I had anything in the chamber, and I said, "Yes, and I keep the safety on." He told me, "That is not too wise." I started thinking, what if I forget the safety is off, start walking in brush, a branch hits the trigger and the gun goes off. He told me I would have time to bring up a round into the chamber, and that I would see, hear or smell the javelina in time to get ready if they put me in danger. He also said there should be no reason to carry a loaded firearm on my side, unless I was a police officer, but especially not while hunting.

Mr. Barnett made me realize a javelina can't shoot at me, so my life wasn't in danger. I'm putting my own life in danger when I carry a loaded gun at my side. I'm glad I took this class and I feel, even if you hunted for twenty years, you should take this class before you hunt anywhere. The films, talking with other people in class and sharing information are very helpful. Just when you think you know everything about hunting, taking this course teaches you safety and things you didn't realize you didn't know.

If the state ever makes Hunter Education mandatory (for everyone), I would help in any way. I don't know how, but I would help. This class stopped me from possibly hurting myself, and I'm grateful. I want to live to be a hundred years old, and this class may have helped me on my way. To Mr. Barnett and Hunter Education.....Thank You!

John Oliver
San Antonio

Editor's note: Well, Mr. Oliver just might get that chance to help others in the future. An application to become an instructor has been sent.

Dear Staff:

I would like to bring your attention to the services of a Harris County Hunter Education Area Chief. Travis Wehring offered his place of employment to hold an informal meeting (August 22 & 23, 1998) for Harris and surrounding counties volunteer Hunter Education instructors. Mr. Wehring donated his weekend to facilitate this meeting and welcome both current and new instructors to the program. We utilized an upstairs room that was available to accommodate a large group of people. This meeting was a great opportunity to meet Hunter Education instructors and discuss pertinent information.

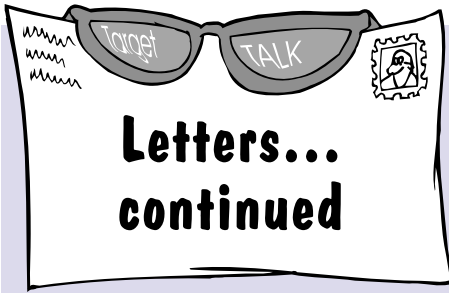
He has since provided me with an enormous amount of training materials, a trunk to carry them in and has loaned me all of his props so that I might do my job more effectively. Just starting out in the area was a great challenge. He made me feel like a veteran and not a newcomer. I would like to thank Travis for his assistance toward the success of this meeting, and all of the help he has given me and the TPW. It is a pleasure to work with him and I look forward to future contacts.

Sincerely,

Heidi Husser
Assistant Hunter Education Coordinator
La Porte

Dear Staff:

My two sons and I participated in the Texas Hunter Education course offered in Georgetown his past weekend. I would like to express my gratitude and compliments to the instructors, Billy and Judy Whitfield. Mr. & Mrs. Whitfield were not only knowledgeable instructors but were able to create a relaxed, yet serious, learning environment. Their thirty or so participants ranged in age form 12 to 50 years-of-age. In spite of the obvious age and learning style differences, they were able to hold everyone's attention, encourage participation, check for understanding and keep the course on track as well as interesting. In short, these people simply did a wonderful job! They certainly made my weekend an



enjoyable learning experience and exceeded my every expectation. It is impressive to observe anyone who is willing to give their time and talents to others. It is most impressive when we experience the fruits of labor expended by volunteer personnel. I really appreciate the time and energy the Whitfields expended to make the course the success it was.

Sincerely,

Jim Cartier
Austin

Dear Staff:

I am sure glad I attended the Hunter Education Ethics Workshop you hosted in July. Not only did I come away with a better understanding of what I can do to enhance the ethics sections for education students, but also how I, as an educator, should prepare for media presentations. Thanks to Tom Harvey, Media Relations Manager, TPW, for a fine presentation. Thanks for reinforcing that I should attend, and thanks to Terry Erwin and his wife, Burna, for hosting a wonderful BBQ dinner at their home on Saturday night. Jimmy Caughron did an excellent job with the brisket, and Bill and Bev Brummel had tremendous baked beans and peach cobbler. The workshop also allowed me to network with other instructors and find out how others are delivering the Hunter Education courses.

Joe Stengel
Austin

Dear Staff:

I attended the hunter education course held at the Grand Prairie Gun Club recently. I have been hunting for more than thirty years. I am 45 years old, and under the law, I was not required to take the course. My son, who is thirteen years old, was also not required to take the course if he hunted in my presence. However, I am convinced that, as with most teenagers, he might listen to a stranger better than he listens to me, particularly when it comes to matters of safety.

Therefore, when I visited the Grand Prairie Gun Club and learned about the course, I thought it would be a good opportunity to see if I knew everything I thought I knew, and to impart some knowledge to my son.

The purpose of my letter is to make sure that you realize what an excellent job the people associated with the course in Grand Prairie are doing. Jan Heath is the name that I remember, but he, as well as the other four or five people that conducted the course, did a fantastic job. Frankly, words cannot express my gratitude, because I am certain that my son learned more in that three day course than I could have possibly taught him in ten hunts. I am sure you are aware of what goes on in the courses, but I thought I would give you my impressions and describe some of the activities that took place. We had two nights of lecture format, during which time the speakers went over the specifics of the recent gun accidents, displayed all kinds of pistols, rifles, shotguns, and bows and arrows, as well as provided a wealth of information concerning guns, including their history. During these two sessions, the three golden rules of gun safety were drilled into the entire room, including me: (1) make sure your gun is pointing a safe direction, (2) keep your finger away from the trigger and (3) make sure the action is open and empty. We were taught to use a safety, but not to rely on it. During the day of field exercises on Saturday, we shot shotguns and muzzleloaders, went on a mock hunt and learned survival skills. There was also a lecture on various trapping devices.

I recognize that the individuals who participated as teachers in this course are not paid. I told them how grateful I was for their efforts, and they indicated that my gratitude was enough payment for them. Their passion for hunting was obvious, and I am so grateful that they take the time to pass on the information they have learned to new hunters, so that the sport can give joy to hunters that follow. Frankly, I know of nothing which bounds a parent and child more than hunting together, and these men have given me the opportunity to do that, while at the same time, giving me the knowledge that I have done what I can to give my son a good foundation regarding hunter safety.

I hope that you will do what you can to encourage Jan and his cohorts. I commend you for your commitment to this activity as well, and for your role in bringing these courses to us on a state-wide basis.

Yours Very Truly,

Mike Holloway, Attorney at Law
Dallas



Welcome New Instructors

A group of Agriculture Education graduates at Tarleton State University gathered at Heart O' The Hills camp near Hunt for a field trip and instructor training before doing their student teaching and internships. Congratulations to all of them for their hard work. Thanks to Dr. Don Knotts, Dr. David Druckhammer, Dr. Johnny Johnson, Dr. Sandy Johnson and graduate student, Seth Lucas, for their assistance in setting up these training sessions for the students. Tarleton has been one of the leaders in turning out Agricultural Science teachers in Texas.



* New Assistant Instructor

JULY

John Booth	Giddings
Mark Parkin	Houston
Lelon Willis	League City
Hal Shaw	Beaumont
David Sosa	Nederland
John Badeaux	Beaumont
Dennis White	Beaumont
Ocie Chaisson	Beaumont
Samuel Spikes	Beaumont
William Hammock	Beaumont
Charles Bates	Waco
Make Barbour	Sanderson
Robert Staton, III	Georgetown
David Guthery	Gorman
Van Burg	Stonewall
Harry Odell	Edna
Shirley Odell	Edna
Stephen Abbott	Killeen
Fredrick Becker	Bryan
Loraine Deloney	Austin
Russell Clark	Austin
Heidi Husser	Seabrook
Bobby Brown, II	Kingwood
Robert Russell	Boling
Ruth Leger	Beaumont

AUGUST

Jeff Jones	Nacogdoches
Laurie Russell	Houston
Gary Jones	Trinity
Steven Lenz	Tyler
Jeff Kennedy	Pleasanton
Olan Watins	Fort Worth
Scott Hofmann	Fredericksburg

Chad Saunders	Smithville
Brian Watkins	Fort Worth
Shelton Hunter	Fort Worth
Robert Vincent	Grapevine
Melanie McClure	Midlothian
Ryan Wubbenhorst*	Dime Box
Scott Brewer	Seagraves
Cheryl Wagner	Cypress

SEPTEMBER

Scott Miller	Dalhart
Jude Champagne	Waco
Norm Champagne	Waco
Christopher Sullivan*	Early
Kim Luman	Conroe
Mike Shipman	Nocona
James Greenhill	Cleburne
Jon Payne	Stephenville
Gary Carper	Rio Vista
Trey Dodson	Pleasanton
Case Hudson	Weatherford
Chad Kelley	Ponder
Chad Morrow	Austin
Neal Nebgen	Fredericksburg
Jimmie Cyrus	Houston
Trent Dansby	Stephenville
Jason Giesen	Stephenville
Gordon Grona	Fredericksburg
Rocky Ingram	Stephenville
Chad Langley	Stephenville
Kris Scitern	Gorman
Jerry Shimek	Red Rock
Jorge Zapata	Stephenville
Jason Moseley	Gunter
David Burtnett	Springtown
Tammy Guerrero	Houston

Dianne Simpson	Robert Lee
Joshua Barnette	Corsicana
Shawn Henderson	Aquilla
Jerriann Cornett	Dublin
Joshua Covington	Crane
Stephenie Thompson	Elgin
Ronald Vanderweert	Rocksprings

OCTOBER

Scott Beene	Poynor
Kinberly Beene	Poynor
Robert Herrington	Adkins
Michael Fitch	Katy
Johnny Brock	Lubbock
Gerald Kent	Sweetwater
Randy Hopper	Baytown
Randy Wilson	Bryan
Glenda Johnson	Weatherford
Darla Bunch	New Caney
Robert Layne	Caldwell
Shiver Nolan	Houston
Robert Parks	Houston
Wayne Pearson	Ray City
Kyle Luce	Orange
Harold Cramer	Bellaire
James Morrison	Huntsville
Bob Duncan	Houston
Vicky Trahan	Houston
Eric John	Atascocita
Chris Cecil	Deer Park
Robert Morris	Cookville
Nathan Mounts	Texas City
Kathryn Haynes	Houston
Deborah Cleverdon	Houston
Charles Parsley, Jr	Magnolia
Martin Lambrecht	Bulverde

Dallas Moore
Kathleen Burdett

Cypress
Bryan

NOVEMBER

Josh Lewis
Lyle Peters
Jay Cranfill
Katie Mangum
Larry Boswell

Stephenville
New Braunfels
Hooks
Weatherford
Fort Davis

James Koonsman
Julie Frederick
Stephanie Hoppe
Robert McConathy
Joseph Parnell, Sr
Shawna Scrimshire
Tom Hill
Thomas Barr
Lester Macek
Wilton Wiley

Hico
Stephenville
Fort Worth
Weatherford
Bastrop
Stephenville
Mesquite
Whitesboro
Industry
Irving

Barbara Morris
Jefferi Morton
Virginia Duffek
Justin Mitchell
Randy Greenfield
Michael Leininger
William Morris, II
Gerald Hollier

New Caney
Fort Worth
Dallas
Ennis
San Antonio
San Antonio
New Caney
Houston

More Area Chiefs Needed

It is the goal of the Hunter Education staff that each county have an instructor representative at the Area Chief level. Texas is a large state with 254 counties, and some are very sparsely populated. However, it is still a goal that we will work toward in the future. We will strive to accommodate all requests for student courses in any way possible. To do this, we must have the commitment of dedicated individuals who are willing to recruit and train additional instructors. ***Do you have what it takes?*** If so, let us hear from you.

Each new Area Chief will cover their county of residence along with the surrounding counties when necessary. However, their duties may extend across the entire state as needed. Staff will be traveling across the state training new Area Chiefs and meeting with existing ones. If any instructor wants to take that additional step up the "mountain,"

please let us know. Qualifications to apply for Area Chief are as follows: Must be a *Master level instructor, request and fill out an application, complete an exam and an additional game warden interview and then assist with an instructor Program Orientation training workshop under the supervision of the Hunter Education staff or an Area Chief. Any individual already at the Master level is eligible to apply.

****NOTE: NEW Master Level Qualifications Going into Effect January 1999.*** Master level instructors must be in the program for at least three (3) years, certify at least fifty (50) students and complete the ***Responsibility, Game Laws and Ethics workshop, and the STANDARDS OF LIVE FIRE, HUNTER SKILLS TRAIL, HOME STUDY*** workshop.

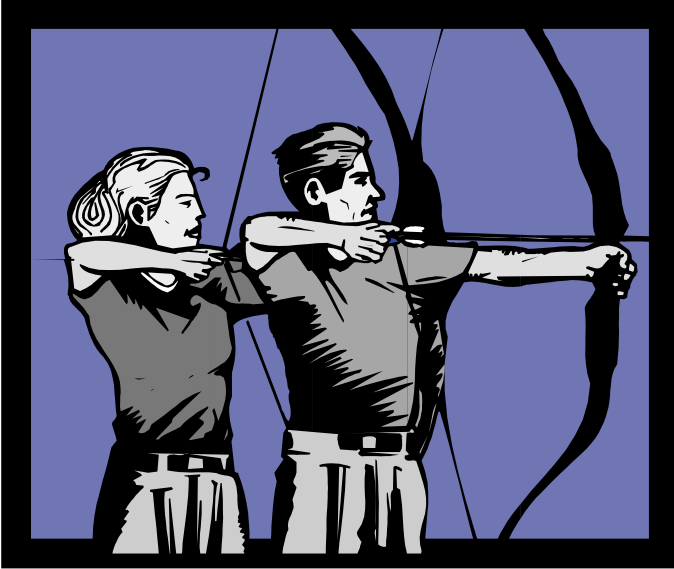
Training

A great group of instructors was on hand for the Wildlife Management/Conservation Workshop held in September at Heart O' The Hills camp and the Kerr Wildlife Management Area near Hunt. Thanks to Max Traweek, Gene Fuchs, E. L. "Butch" Young, Bill Armstrong and Denise Garza for an exciting, informative weekend. The workshop offered an opportunity to learn more about wildlife management, conservation and Pittman-Robertson funding. Most students are not aware of the federal funding that goes into wildlife restoration, management and hunter education. Because of these workshops, instructors are encouraged to learn and pass on the information.



Look for the 1999 workshop schedule with this issue of *Target Talk*. Review the schedule, mark your choices and send it in as soon as possible. Remember, if you don't mark any of the workshops and mail in the list, you will not receive any information on the workshops.

Mandatory IBEP



The following is a list of states and provinces that have mandated requirements for bowhunter education: Alaska, Connecticut, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, West Virginia and Wisconsin. In Canada: New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Quebec.

Frequently, we find ourselves in dire need to provide IBEP courses for Texans. Texas doesn't have mandated requirements, but we do have a national wildlife refuge where MANDATORY BOWHUNTER EDUCATION is required. It's the Hagerman Wildlife Refuge near Pottsboro. If anyone plans to hunt there, they MUST have IBEP certification and prove proficiency at the refuge before being allowed to hunt. There have been some Pope and Young records taken there in the last few years, so its popularity has significantly increased.

NOTE: Look for the IBEP newsletter on page 16.

Hey folks, read this!

Kathy's
Korner

Remember the **NEW** Scantron® forms we are distributing for use? The **new** form is 8 1/2" X 11" with **two** sides with a perforated **Temporary Student Card** at the bottom. Upon successful completion of a course, each student is issued this **Temporary Card** with their **SS # as their temporary I.D. number**. This new temporary card should be much easier for the student to keep up with. All information on the new temporary card must be printed for clarity.

NOTE: In addition, after you have printed your instructor name, please sign your name **beside** the printed name, and write your instructor number **under** that area. We have had some concern from other states as to the validity of our cards with just a printed instructor's name. It seemed like the appropriate thing to do at the time, and we were satisfied. However, to satisfy all concerned, we think it would be more appropriate to have a valid **signature and instructor number** on the form as well. Just add them to the bottom portion of the card as requested. We'll make the appropriate space changes when we have them reprinted. If you have any of the old forms, use them up. The scanner can read either one. One more thing...**PLEASE DO NOT** staple the forms or **WRITE** on them anywhere except in the designated areas.

NOTE: We can now e-mail instructors the "Access Format" to enter data for students. This will enable instructors, who have a PC, to enter data on the format and e-mail it to me for entry into the system. I still need the hard copies and the (\$) funding, but this should speed things up dramatically. We have found that this system works very well, because of Mike and Elaine Lochabay, Area Chiefs from Garland, who have instituted this process. Mike has the system down to a fine art and has sent in his last six classes via e-mail. I have been able to clean up the data and get the cards out within two days. If there are no mistakes, the data can be entered directly into the system and the cards are processed the same day. Instructors must be very careful to not make any mistakes. If there is a mistake, I won't have the hard copies to check and the process is held up until I receive them.

If any of you have a compatible PC and e-mail capabilities, I can e-mail the format to start the process. I can't provide a format on floppy disc, as this is time consuming, and I can scan the material faster than using a disc.

If you have any questions, give me a call at 1-800-792-1112. Until later, keep up the good work.

Kathy

Texas Youth Hunter Education Challenge

It's time to start thinking about the Youth Challenge scheduled for the first weekend in May at the Parrie Haynes Ranch.

The program consists of having a state level competition for junior and senior level youth designed to bridge the gap between basic and advanced hunter training. Any youth between the ages of 12 and 19 is able to compete in the following events: Light Rifle, Sporting Clays, Muzzle Loading, Archery, Wildlife Identification, Orienteering, Hunter Skills Trail, and a Hunter Responsibility Exam.

A vital key to the success of this program is the involvement of volunteer and professional hunter educators. Without the efforts of volunteers, the Youth Challenge could not exist.

If you would like to volunteer your time and services, please return the below Volunteer Information form to:

Betty Allen
102 Creekside Dr.
Stephenville, TX 76401
(254) 968-8532
e-mail: allen_betty@hotmail.com

Texas Youth Hunter Education Challenge

Yes, I would like to volunteer at the upcoming event.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Comments:

Meals requested– (Breakfast & Lunch Saturday and Sunday, Dinner Saturday)

Lodging in bunkhouse or camping needed? _____

Pearls of wisdom...

“Character grows in the soil of experience, with the fertilization of example, the moisture of desire and the sunshine of satisfaction.”

Author Unknown