



Life's better outside.®

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.



COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Many instructors have asked how to handle the "deferral" when students come into their course. It is very simple. If the deferral was purchased during the current license year, the student may take a course and receive a \$5 discount on their fee of \$15. The deferral must be submitted with the student registration form in order to receive the discount. We must receive the deferral slip for audit purposes. If the student purchased the deferral and it has expired (August 31 of previous license year) or does not have the deferral slip from the current license year, there is no discount. End of scenario. No exceptions.



This slip must be collected and paper clipped to student registration form and sent in with the regular student registration forms from the course.

Please do not send cash in the mail. This is specifically against department policy, and besides, one wouldn't want to have to replace lost funding from a course sent in with cash if it were lost or stolen. The instructor is the last individual to have their hands on the money; therefore it falls back on their shoulders.

Accepting checks is not required by law, but is a courtesy to our customers. TPWD has the following requirements to be followed when accepting a check:

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The First Place Mixed Team was Devine ISD with Jake Patteson, Cassie Mueller and Tres Summerlin; Second Place was Littlefield ISD; and Third Place was Brazoswood HS.

Third Annual Ag Clays Program

TPWD staff, headed up by Charlie Wilson, held the third annual State Ag Clays Competition in Kerrville at the Hill Country Shooting Sports Center. A total of 36 schools with 213 shooters participated in the event. This was nearly a 95 percent increase from the previous year. The popularity of this event is evident by the increased enrollment of participants in the course that went by the name *Ag. 381-Wildlife and Recreation Management*. The same course with increased curriculum has been changed to *Wildlife, Fisheries and Ecology Management*, and

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Coordinator's Corner, continued

- The check writer's name and address should be pre-printed on the check. Make sure the written and numerical amounts correspond. The check should be written within the recent three months. If the telephone number is not pre-printed, please ask for one and record it on the check. If there is an expiration date on the check, watch out! The MCIR line at the bottom of the check should be intact.
- Ask for a work telephone number.
- Write what the check is for (e.g., hunter education course).
- Write a driver's license number if not printed on the check.
- Compare the signatures, photo and physical description of the ID with that of the check writer. No check can be unsigned.
- Verify that the ID is still valid. Check the driver's license for signs of alteration or modification.
- Does the address on the check match?
- Review any checks with low check numbers (100 to 500), which indicates a new account, and particularly for business or "dba" (doing business as).
- All checks, except government checks, should have a perforation along one side of the check.

Attention: A new, revised instructor manual is ready for distribution. Please let us know if one is needed. The old one is still good and very useful, but updated materials are now included. In the future, area chief instructor trainers and staff will only provide an instructor manual to the applicant during the day of actual instructor training. The manual will be issued for use during the day's course and may not be kept or taken home. At the end of the day, the training manuals will be taken up and retained for future instructor training. A note pad will be provided to the applicant if needed. Once the applicant has completed the entire certification process, including the student course, application, game warden interview, release and acknowledgment, background disclosure form signed, mutual agreement completed and returned (for professional educators) and the actual instructor training, then the manual will be mailed out with the certification credentials.

In the past, manuals were provided, and over half of all instructor applicants trained did not complete the process, and we lost the manual and the applicant as well. It was quite costly and TPWD received no benefit from the training. The applicant must show they are really

serious about becoming certified by completing the process before receiving their paperwork and manual.

We recently distributed an e-mail regarding the new IHEA Online Instructor Training Course. The price of \$25 for the course is the sole responsibility of the instructor. However, for the optional fee of just \$5 more for a total of \$30, you get the online course and a new introductory membership in IHEA. What a bargain! If a membership is purchased it will be good until December 31, 2011. Sign up ASAP, and either way, you get a discounted IHEA membership. So far, 17 instructors, including myself, have taken the course, which only takes about two hours to complete. If interested, please go to www.ihea.com and look for IHEA's New Online Instructor Course and log into it.

As a continued way to improve your knowledge about responsible outdoor use, we offered the following "Tread Lightly" online course. The information was provided to you so you can include it in your courses so students will understand the value of responsible outdoor use during their activities. The latest Tread Lightly online course will only take a few minutes to complete and you will be able to print a certificate upon successful completion. After printing the certificate, please e-mail us a copy for our files and receive an additional 25 workshop incentive points. Afterwards, please provide this website www.treadlightly.org/page.php/education-onlinecourse/Online-Awareness-Course to your students and challenge each to take the online course as well. You might have a discussion during the ethics portion of your hunter or bowhunter education course to enhance the topic. So far 32 instructors have taken the course and provided their certification.

As we have already headed into the busy season, many of you have scheduled your courses. Please remember to go online to order your material at least three to four weeks ahead of your course. Fill out your order form and e-mail it to the address on the bottom of the form.

The busy season, which began about mid-July, has progressively continued to fill our plates. Thanks so much for every instructor's dedicated efforts. Please know how proud we are to be associated with each of you. Until next issue, **Always Be Safe!**

Terry Erwin

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



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

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

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IHEA Holds Annual Conference in Estes Park, Colorado

Heidi Rao, Robert Ramirez, Jimmie Caughron and Terry Erwin from the hunter education staff, and volunteers Duke Walton, Gene Norton and Bob Boswell, attended the IHEA conference held at Estes Park, CO in June. An exciting program was presented and numerous break-out sessions were held, along with some adventurous side trips. Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep were seen, as were large herds of elk and some mule deer.



During the Awards banquet, Rhonda Esakov, area chief, Georgetown, was recognized as the Volunteer of the Year for 2009. Federal Ammunition chose her out of a bevy of nominees for her work in hunter education with youth and women. Congratulations, Rhonda! Texas has had four finalist and 11 runners-up for this award since its inception in 1987.

Area Chiefs Gene Norton, Baytown, and Duke Walton, Porter, were inducted into the IHEA Volunteer Hunter Education Hall of Fame for their many years of dedication and involvement in the Texas hunter education program. Pictured in the center is Terry Erwin, hunter education coordinator, with his award for being inducted into the IHEA Professional Hall of Fame.



Terry Erwin was presented a silver medallion and certificate of appreciation from the Mexican Hunting Federation (FEMECA) by Edgar Wenzel, FEMECA vice president, from Puebla, for his work with the organization to promote, train and enhance the hunter education program in Mexico. Not pictured is Thomas Saldias, Peru, an area chief instructor for TPWD, who was also presented with a bronze medallion and certificate of appreciation. Thomas is working on his Ph.D. at Texas A&M University, and has spent a great deal of time promoting and fostering hunter education in Mexico and South America.

The following information may be helpful regarding the next IHEA conferences and the locations of where they will be held. Please watch the ihea.com website for more registration information. 2011 IHEA Conference, June 1-4, 2011, Holiday Inn Resort, Wrightsville Beach, NC – www.wrightsville.sunspresortresorts.com/index.asp

2012 IHEA Conference, Kansas City, MO

2013 IHEA Conference, San Antonio, TX

Annual Instructor Conference in March

Please mark your calendars for **March 18-20, 2011** for the next Annual Hunter Education Instructor Conference and Awards Banquet, to be held in Kyle, at Texas Old Town between Austin and San Marcos. Look them up on the Internet and see what they have to offer.

There should be plenty of rooms in San Marcos (nine miles away) or the Buda area. Please begin making reservations if possible to obtain a good location. A variety of break-out sessions including several special activities and a Dutch oven cookout will be available, plus a surprise guest speaker. Bring the family and make a weekend of it. You will enjoy the event.

Third Annual Ag Clays Program, continued

went into effect on August 23, 2010. Numerous additional schools are becoming interested in this event, and one has even made it a letter sport and provided letter jackets to the team.

The competition is divided into three categories: All Male Team, All Female Team and Mixed Team; however, the schools may bring as many individuals as desired to shoot for overall high-point male and female.



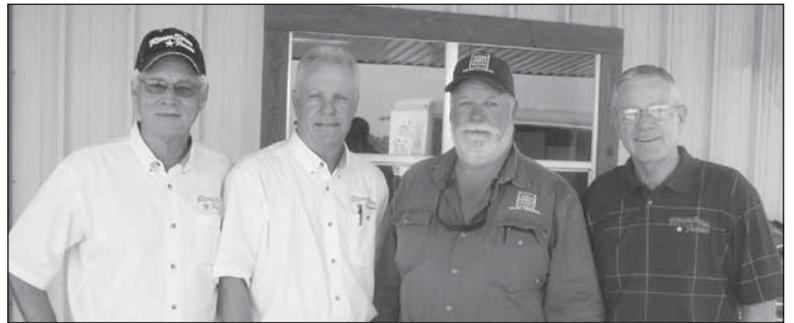
The Overall High Male was Jake Patteson from Devine. The Overall High Female was Cassie Mueller from Devine. Congratulations to both!



The First-Place All Male Team was Petrolia FFA, with Chad Fleming, Bryce Tucker, Tyler Tucker and Will Morath; Second Place was Brazoswood HS, and Third Place was Wills Point HS.



The First-Place All Female Team was Brazoswood HS, with Ashley Slaughter, Destini Phillip and Matlin Sain; Second Place was Whitharral FFA and Third Place was Buffalo HS.



River Star Farms from Mercedes, Texas, a company that produces items as fundraiser products for FFA chapters, donated and catered the noon meal with sloppy Joes, chips and drinks again this year. Representatives on hand from River Star Farms are, left to right, Dick Rea and Ben Cherry, Mercedes; Charlie Wilson, TPWD; and Terry Phillips, Wimberley.

Mike Firkins, Ag. teacher from Brazoswood (Clute), has made significant strides in coaching and sponsorship of his group. The Brazoswood All Female team took First Place, the All Male team took Second Place and the Mixed Team placed Third. That is a sweep of all three categories, which allowed the youth to garner the gold, silver and bronze medals for the competition.



Third Annual Ag Clays Program, continued



Mike was fortunate enough to get his school board to allow the Ag Clays Trap team to letter in this sport. Shown here is one of the students in her letter jacket.



The Operation Game Thief trailer was on display, and Game Warden Mark Chapa answered numerous questions regarding the contents and situation of each incident. Thanks, Mark, for a job well done.



Not only did River Star Farms sponsor the lunch, but they provided koozies and samples of their sausage sticks for the entire group.

KATHY'S CORNER

Hi y'all! Yep, it's that time again, and I'm here to remind you of a few things. Please send a **Final Report** for each instructor for each course and send them all in one envelope. **Do NOT send cash in the mail.** We are receiving several course rosters, and that is supposed to be kept by the instructor as proof of having taught the course. If the paperwork gets lost, at least you can recreate the course from the roster.

We are caught up on entering courses, so students should be getting their cards in a short period of time. If you encounter a student who did not have their hunter education number printed on their license in the last year, please obtain a copy of the license and their phone number and send to us. We will see to it that it gets to licensing to have corrected.

Remember to take up the "deferral" slips and attach them to the student registration form when submitted. Only charge \$10 for the course if the student has the deferral slip and it has not expired. If the deferral slip has expired, it will not be accepted and the entire \$15 fee must be charged.

Please go online to order your supplies and e-mail them to the address on the **bottom of the page**, supply.request@tpwd.state.tx.us. Do not send the supply request to any of the staff. We have a specific address set up to receive them and they will possibly be held up if we are out. Give us at least three weeks for shipment, and check your order when it comes in to make sure everything has arrived.

Thanks for all your dedicated work, and call me if you need anything.

KUDOS!

I am the club manager for the Lake Granbury 4-H club in Granbury. On Tuesday night Robert Ramirez was presented the annual "Friend of 4-H" award from our 4-H club. This award is presented each year at our end of year banquet to a person or persons that have made a significant contribution to 4-H.

Robert has taken time over the past two years to come to Hood County and make presentations on several occasions to two different 4-H clubs. Without a doubt, he is the most popular speaker that we have had for our meeting programs. His talks have always been interesting, informative and have held the attention of our young 4-H'ers.

Please know that as youth leader, I appreciate Robert for making time in his schedule to develop youth by being an advocate for outdoor education and activities.

Regards,
Jeff Spradlin



Robert Ramirez worked for TPWD in the Inland Fisheries division, and when he returned to work for the Hunter Education branch, he maintained his time with the department and now has been awarded his five-year plaque. Congratulations, Robert!



Tony Biggs stopped by the office after picking up his 3,000-point award rifle (Savage Mark II .22) from Joe McBride at McBride's Guns in Austin. Tony toured the office and spent some time visiting. It was a great opportunity to have him visit the TPWD Hunter Education office. Tony has been in the program since 1990 and has certified 1,282 students. Congratulations, Tony, and many thanks for all your dedicated service.

Samantha Sawyer, one of the students at Camp Mystic near Hunt, took the hunter education course as part of her summer camp activities. Last fall, she went hunting on a ranch in north-central Texas and bagged a trophy of a lifetime. Bryant Truitt, who teaches hunter education at several camps during the summer, is to be commended for engaging this young lady in the shooting sports and hunting adventures. She will have a lifetime of outdoor activities to enjoy because of his efforts. Congratulations, Samantha! Thanks, Bryant.



Felicity's First Deer

Last August, my 8-year-old granddaughter, Felicity, informed me that she would like to go deer hunting with me. Since we were on our way to zero-in my youngest daughter's .223, I told her that she would have to shoot that gun. After I adjusted the scope, I instructed her on how to shoot the rifle. She did just fine.

Felicity practiced with a .22 LR several time before we got a chance to go and she did pretty good. She came with me to several Hunter Education classes that I organized and taught with several other instructors to learn about safe gun handling and hunting safety. She was a quick student and even starting helping on the "Hunter's Skills Trail."



It had been a busy year. I did not get an opportunity to go deer hunting myself and the end of the season was coming fast. I knew that I had to make this happen for Felicity and the only way was the Youth Only weekends after the regular season was over. I contacted James Cundiff, a friend who had been letting me deer hunt on his property to get permission to bring Felicity. He said that according to the game cameras there were enough shooters to add her for this year. He asked me to call him to let him know when we would be out there.

Friday afternoon of the last Youth Only weekend I called James to let him know that we would be hunting Saturday. He invited Felicity to come Friday night and sleep in the camper he had placed on the property and that he would be our guide. It rained on and off that night and as we made our way to the enclose blind in the morning darkness. Just after sunrise, a doe and her two fawns emerged from the woods and came to a feeder to our left and Felicity was excited in anticipation of a buck to come. The doe and fawns stayed for about an hour and then wandered off. James tried some deer calls, buck grunts, doe bleats and fawn cries. He explained each to Felicity and how it might attract a buck. Next he got out the rattling antlers and tried calling in a buck with them. Lunch time came and no buck. But Felicity was having a great time and was asking "What is the next season to go hunting."

James had to leave after lunch but recommended we hunt from a different blind. It was about 3:30 p.m. as we got the blind and settled in. Felicity whispered "Grandpa, there's a buck," pointing to a clearing on our left, just as our "guide" had told us they would stage before going to the larger clearing in front of us. I counted eight points and he had good mass but he had to have at least a 13" inside spread. Excitement in the blind was building. A doe appeared behind the buck as we waited for the buck to look at us so we could tell if he was a legal one. As they moved to the clearing in front of us the eight-pointer finally showed us that he was not wide enough to be legal. I thought it odd that a doe would be following a buck so I used my binoculars to take a close look at it. It is a buck, I see a fork on it right side and it looks like a spike on the left. I looked again and said, "Felicity, that doe is a spike on one side, he is a legal buck. Do you want to shoot him?" He shook her head yes. She put the crosshairs on him and squeezed the trigger.

"Click!" went the hammer. She forgot to flip the safety to "fire." It didn't send the deer running but you could see that they were getting nervous. They started wandering toward the woods; I told Felicity that as soon as she had a shot she better take it before they went back into the woods. "Bang!" The gun reported and the deer were gone! "Oh, grandpa, I think I missed." She said. I had look away from the deer to see if she was having any problems just as she shot but from the commotion in the woods I felt that she had hit it. She had slid the butt of the rifle down, under her arm to look through the scope. The recoil left her with a little split on the bridge of her nose so she didn't follow through on her shot. She had not realized that her nose was hurt with the adrenaline from shooting at her first deer pumping through her body.

I let things settle down and told her "let's go see." We got down from the blind and walked over to where the deer was standing when she shot. Felicity was the first to see blood on the grass at the edge of the trees, "Grandpa, blood!" I looked at it and then the direction the blood trailed. "See that light spot by that tree?" I said as I pointed. "That's probably your deer!" One shot, about 70 yards, and my granddaughter had her first big game animal ... on her first day of hunting! How could it be any better than that?



Monica Sobotka, member of the Phantom Warrior Power Lifting Team, went to Cleveland, Ohio, to compete in the USAPL Women's National Power Lifting meet May 22-23, 2010. Monica placed first in the 60kg Masters Division. She is now on the National Power Lifting team, Team USA. Team USA will compete in the World Power Lifting meet in the Czech Republic in September. "Winning a national title is awesome! I trained very hard for this. I had been training but started competing in 2009. I knew I wanted to go win. I wasn't taking anything less."

Monica has been a hunter education instructor since 1995, has held 82 courses and certified 812 students. In her spare time, she hosts "Women in the Outdoors" workshops through the National Wild Turkey Federation. Congratulations, Monica. We are very proud of you!

Permit Place 1

Permit Place 1 is primarily a bait shop and store that is a woman-owned and family-operated business. It is conveniently located just off the I-45 feeder road at 6506 F.M. 1374 in New Waverly, Texas. The business is Christian-based and has been in operation since September 16, 2006 to service the needs of Lake Conroe fishing and hunting, with limited camping items.

Permit Place 1 maintains a live and artificial bait supply that is specifically selected to satisfy most fishermen's needs. Due to its location, the business mainly services customers from the northern end of the lake, particularly the Stubblefield and Cagle Park areas, in addition to Huntsville State Park and Sam Houston National Park. Laura Garcia is the owner and is very appreciative of the strong customer base in and around the New Waverly area, along with the out-of-area regulars that come to visit the lake area amenities, forestry and parks.

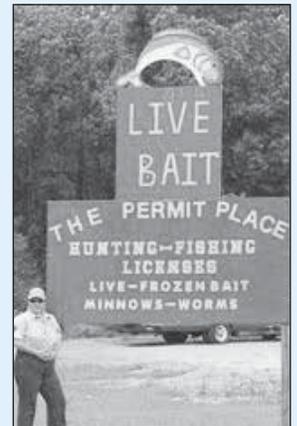
Laura is a Texas Parks and Wildlife trained hunter education instructor and obtained her certification prior to the first day of business. She is also a first-time fishing instructor and teaches other related courses. She provides customers with various required fishing and hunting licenses and stamps. Recently, she obtained her Federal Duck and Water Fowl permission that authorizes Permit Place 1 to sell these specialized stamps.

She provides on-site education courses with a live-fire range or other training events, such as the "Skills Trail" (basic trail survival skills training). In addition, she will accept requests to travel and teach off-site classes on an as-needed basis. During March, the Texas Hunter Education Instructor Association (THEIA) recognized Laura's efforts and awarded her dedication to providing this area's need for hunter education. She is also a member of the International Hunter Education Association and is able to provide additional information and services for specialty requests. In May, she attended the Texas Youth Hunter Education Challenge and provided sponsorship for the event through education classes and assisting throughout the event weekend. Short-term future plans include adding a boater safety course and, later this year, concealed handgun permit and education courses. Please contact Laura at laurah.garcia@yahoo.com, call (936) 827-2722 or visit her at Permit Place 1, if you have questions or comments.



Thought you might enjoy these pictures of Lauren Pitcairn's deer she shot at the King Ranch with her dad. The comments her dad makes about shooting instruction at Camp Mystic are very nice. Lauren lost her mom to cancer in 2005. I think her dad is doing a wonderful job raising her alone. Lauren took the deer on November 27, 2009 on the King Ranch. She used her grandmother's Sako .243 and made the shot at 150 yards. It was a 7.5-year-old buck that scored 135 B&C. Congratulations, Lauren!

Editor's Note: Lauren is another product of Camp Mystic, where Area Chief Bryant Truitt teaches during their summer sessions. Congratulations for a job well done, Bryant.



Hi Duke!

Daniel and Nancy just got back from the 4-H Nationals. There were over 600 young Americans representing 32 states competing in the shooting sports. Daniel was on the Texas Hunting Team, which competed with other states in three 2.5-hour written exams covering Hunter Decision Making, Wildlife ID and Management, and Hunting Skills, which also included Orienteering and field shooting in Shotgun, Rifle and Archery. The team won the Gold Medal High Overall Score, and Daniel was recognized three times during the week for high individual scores. Daniel competed at 4-H state last summer, but this was his first national, which was an invitational. He credited all of you who have given so much in the YHEC program to helping him get ready for this.

By the way, Daniel told me that he “did some serious recruiting for Texas YHEC” and invited all of the Texas competitors to come and try their hand next year. All of the hunting team was very interested and so were the shooters on other teams. Duke, please let the other folks at THEIA know about this. Please thank them for their hard work in making the YHEC opportunity available for our Texas youngsters who love hunting and the shooting sports.

Good news. Daniel won the Gold in the Senior Live Fire portion of the Hunter Competition at the Texas 4-H Shooting Sports Championship. This portion of the competition was for the total cumulative score in four shooting events: Rifle, Shotgun, Muzzleloader and Archery. He will receive his medal this morning. The Hunter Competition will continue. Today, he will take the first of three 2.5-hour tests.

Daniel also shot well in the 3-D Archery event. Last year, he won third place. This year he won second place. The first-place winner is on the national 3-D Archery team. He beat Daniel by 5 points.

Daniel is having so much fun with his bow he decided to try to enter the Field Archery Competition. They accepted his registration and he was allowed to shoot. The targets are up to 60 yards away. He never got to shoot a practice round to see where his arrows hit at the longer distances, but he is in second place so far and he has never even shot a Field Archery round in his life. Too funny. The kid just loves archery.

There are about 800–1,000 kids competing this week at the Texas 4-H Shooting Sports Championship in San Antonio. I wish we could recruit them all for YHEC.

Many thanks,
Kelly Kehrer

Dear Staff:

When I am not teaching HE classes or doing youth hunts for TWA, I am busy with the Boy Scouts. I am in Virginia at the Boy Scout National Jamboree where I am in charge of the Mountain Man program. We have about 50,000 scouts and staff at A.P. Hill Military Base. Working hard but having a good time. The heat index the other day was 120. The attached picture shows one of the outfits that I wear when I am working as a Mountain Man.

Jose Garcia, Irving



A championship team! Texas 4-H Hunting Team wins High Overall Gold Medal. 4-H Field and Stream president, Daniel Kehrer, was recognized three times for high individual scores. The Texas Hunting Team worked tirelessly putting in very long days to beat all other 4-H state hunting teams.





Texas Pride Melts the Snow in Colorado

By Robert Ramirez, Hunter Education Training Specialist

Upon arrival of the Texas Hunter Education contingent to Estes Park, Colorado for the IHEA annual conference, Texans brought the heat. During the awards luncheon numerous awards were bestowed on the Texas Hunter Education Program. They included volunteer of the year, numerous hall of fame awards and acknowledgements from both Mexico and Peru for international guidance for their hunter education programs. The Texas Hunter Education program is revered by many nationally and internationally.

As the conference continued, the temperature was hitting the 90-degree mark and record snowmelt was ascending into Estes Park. The city placed sandbags to protect homes and businesses, from the Big Thompson River. All the while, I was inquiring with the locals about the fishing around town during breaks from the conference. The answer was the same. “The water is too swift and murky; better stick to shopping and sight-seeing.”

Now any Texan takes this report as a challenge. In Texas, when the creeks flood they are fast and muddy with lots of eager sand bass and catfish. I set out to do what any Texan would do during such sunny, hot conditions ... go fishing!

During a short drive to Sprague Lake in Rocky Mountain National Park, I was able to fool several brook trout from a busted beaver dam into biting. I also managed to get a rainbow trout to hit a “wet fly.”

At the end of the conference, I left Estes Park full of “Texas Pride” as several IHEA members patted us on the back for such a fine hunter education program and bid us farewell on our travel back to Texas.

While driving back to Texas, I was thinking—the fish are biting great! As I made

my way south back home, I decided to stop into the “Yer Flies Open” fly shop in Fairplay, Colorado. The sign out front said “Bugs and Bullets,” so I figured they speak Texan here.

When I walked in I was greeted with the same report from Estes Park. “The water is too swift and murky, better stick to shopping and sight-seeing.” So I figured I would hit the swollen creeks and give it a try.

I made my way to the San Isabel National Forest and started looking for water. It didn’t take long, as most waterways were flooding from the record snowmelt. I grabbed my gear as the sun was setting and figured I only have about an hour and a half before it became too dark to fish. It didn’t take long for the trout to hit the “top-water baits” that I was pitching to ’em. I think they call them “dry flies” in Colorado. To my surprise the small trout that I was holding was a cutthroat trout, the first that I have ever caught. So now I was feeling confident about getting fish to hit my “top-water baits” but daylight was fading fast.

I remembered an ol’ trick that I used in Texas on some of the bass that live in the creeks—move that top-water bait as fast as you can to get a reaction strike.

As I made my way back to the car, I was just scooting the dry fly along the surface of the water and boom, it worked! As I struggled with the fish, it seemed bigger than all the rest. When I placed my hands around the fish I realized that it was brown trout.

As I released the fish and made way back to the town of Salida, Colorado, it dawned on me that I just caught the Colorado Grand Slam, which consists of a brook, brown, cutthroat and rainbow trout.

With Texas Pride, I lay in the hotel room with no A/C, I felt the warm air come through the window from the southeast. Texas was calling me home!



Azle Police Department Provides Community Service

By Lieutenant Lee Blaisdell, Azle Police Department

Bringing hunter education to the citizens of our community was the idea of Azle Police Chief Steve Myers. Over the past few years our department has noticed a decrease in citizen participation in programs/functions sponsored by the police department. Chief Myers approached several officers in our department to pitch ideas on ways to try and get the citizens more involved with the police department.

Hunter Education was the program that resulted from those conversations.

The City of Azle lies approximately 20 miles northwest of Fort Worth. The counties of Tarrant and Parker split the city. While

urban development has increased significantly over the past few years, our area is still considered rural. Hunting is still very popular in our area and wildlife is very abundant. Having several officers in our department who have a passion for hunting and greatly enjoy the outdoors, it was very easy to ask some of them to become certified hunter education instructors. In December 2009, Chief Myers made arrangements with Mr. Robert Ramirez to come to our city and host the classes needed to certify our officers.

As a result, Chief Steve Myers, Sergeant Kevin Rogers, Corporal Patrick Bovea, Corporal Mike Winterrowd, Detective Rusti Wingate and I, Lieutenant Lee Blaisdell, were all certified as instructors. Chief Myers gave me the task of putting together the first-ever hunter education course hosted by the Azle Police Department. Not knowing how this program would be perceived by the community, to say I was a little nervous is an understatement. Once the dates were set and the postings were made on the TPWD and City of Azle websites, the phone calls started rolling in almost immediately. When our local newspaper ran



the story two weeks in a row, I knew I had a problem. There were too many people wanting to participate in the class.

I had to call Kathy Powell twice to reorder more supplies. When we initially put this course together we decided to limit the size to 25, however due to the overwhelming response we increased the class to 40.

Unfortunately, we had to turn several people away because we just didn't have enough room to accommodate everyone. In the end, our department hosted two Hunter Education courses that ran the last weekend of August. We graduated 63 students that weekend with a 100-percent pass rate.

We are currently planning more classes in October, and based on the community response thus far, I fully anticipate hunter education will become a program this department will continue to offer its citizens. I truly believe this course was the niche we have been looking for to build a stronger relationship with the citizens we serve.

On a personal note, I would like to personally thank Walnut Creek Elementary principal, Todd Smith, who is a certified instructor, for all his help and guidance in making our course so successful; to Jim Watson of Azle who spoke to the class about his injuries sustained in an accidental shooting; and to Texas Game Warden Clint Bochar (Tarrant County office) who took time to come to the course and speak about the game laws and penalty violations.

Buckskin Brigades

The Brigades have expanded from the original Rolling Plains Bobwhite Brigade and now include the East Texas Feathered Forces Brigade and the South Texas Bobwhite Brigade. The south Texas Buckskin Brigade and the Bass Brigade have also been added.

Each camp is 4-1/2 days long. These camps introduce youth to habitat management and communication skills, and help develop a land ethic. Wildlife professionals, resource managers and adults serve as volunteer instructors and mentors. All of the camps are held on private ranches in different areas of the state. Youth learn about animal anatomy and behavior, botany, nutrition, habitat management, population dynamics, life lessons, leadership, public speaking and teamwork. The youth also will write news releases, practice public speaking and learn to address radio and television interviews. Youth will have an opportunity to meet new friends and make lifelong connections.

If you are interested in finding our more information on the Texas Brigades, log onto www.texasbrigades.org or call 1-800-tex-wild.

TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Pre-Service Training



Pictured here is the Instructor class held at the TPWD Nature Center at Tyler on June 26, 2010. Instructor John Gibson assisted with the Skills Trail and the live fire exercises. Left to right are John Gibson, Damon Williams, Mark Davis and Roger Frazier.

Here is the first class of new instructors that Area Chief Pittman Haymore assisted with training. This was hosted at Elm Fork Shooting Sports Range. Lunch was provided to all who attended for a small donation to the fundraiser shoot that was occurring simultaneously.



This group picture was taken during the new instructor certification course in El Paso. From left to right: My grandson who assists me with the Hunter Skills Trail, David Lee Urquidi, students Mike Maynes, Dennis Kemp, Javier Ramirez, James Urquidi and Jesus Alvidrez.

El Paso Area Chief Manny Calderon sent a picture of his other grandson, Devyn Morales. He helps set up the Hunter Skills Trail as well, and is portraying the victim of a rattlesnake bite.



Shown here are El Paso Area Chief Manny Calderon and Game Warden Ray Spears.

The annual Ag. Teachers Conference was held in Galveston in July. Area chiefs Joe Drobniak and Duke Walton are showing the group how to go through the Hunter Skills Trail exercises from the beginning.



Shown here are the Ag. teacher and volunteers trained by Jimmie Caughron in Canyon.



Rhonda Esakov, area chief, Georgetown, held an instructor course at the Airport Commerce Park TPWD office in Austin.



New instructor candidates completed the New Instructor Training on August 21 at Kleberg County Trap & Skeet Range located in Kingsville. TPWD staff member Brock Minton, along with Area Chief Gilbert Graves, Jr., conducted the training.

From left to right are: Maj. Larry Johnson (USMC); David Young (USCG pilot); Robbin Follett (Ag. teacher, Beeville); Emily Rollison (Ag. teacher, Riviera).

Brock Minton hosted an instructor workshop at Resaca de La Palma State Park in Brownsville recently with the help of Junior Munoz, park ranger and instructor. Shown left to right are: Joel Chapa, Brownsville; Jimmy Lankford, Houston; Johnny Perez, Pharr; Martin Castro, McAllen; Ben Rodriguez, McAllen; Rolando Galvan, Brownsville; Javier Garza, Delmita; Jose Caballero, Weslaco; Pamela Minnick, Karnes City; William Batson, Brownsville.



TRAINING WORKSHOPS

In-Service Training

Photography Workshop

Thank you again for attending the photography workshop at Joshua Creek Ranch. My hope is that you all enjoyed the day and picked up a few interesting or useful pointers to help with meeting your photography needs. Many thanks again to Richard and the owners of Joshua Creek Ranch for allowing us the opportunity to spend the day at such a beautiful location.

Sharing information on pixels, formatting, memory, lenses, ISO setting, white balance, F stops (aperture settings for those awesome “depth of field images”), shutter speeds, fill flash needs, reflectors, filters, macros, micros, cropping (playing with picture frames and create and shoot images in thirds), light meters, mood lighting, density, zooms, “nifty 50” (standard 50mm lens which we can relate back to our normal eyesight), bracketing, color saturation, sunset vs. sunrise pictures (warm vs. cold picture temperatures), high-energy action shots and product photography wasn’t too much to keep you from remembering that “if you saw it, then you missed it.” (Kodak Moments)

Keep your equipment ready and skills sharpened through practice. Practicing patience when planning for and during your shoot will certainly make you a more consistent, if not just an overall better photographer.

Remember that there are over 180,000 different insects, butterflies and moths that are almost always willing to pose for any picture. Scope out and study different shooting locations paying close attention to the available light and scenery (especially for really early or really late evening shots) along with any other animals or wildlife. Experience, especially when returning to a familiar location, is the best teacher. I had a great time, and happy shooting.

John Rodriguez, Area Chief



A Turkey Workshop was held at Mission Skeet & Trap Range on June 7, 2010. The center photo is Jim Gallagher, Ph.D. (TWA), and the right photo is Randy Fugate (TPWD biologist) receiving their Certificates of Appreciation from Brock Minton, Hunter Education Training Specialist. Special thanks to Jesus Franco (not pictured – TPWD biologist) for his professional input during the workshop.

THE Newsletter of

T H E I A Texas Hunter Education Instructors Association, Inc.

Summer 2010

Number 37

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

FRIENDS,

As I write this, almost everyone I know is getting ready for hunting season. Between building and setting blinds and stands, planting food plots, getting the camp and your gear ready, there is barely enough time to teach the classes that all new hunters and some of the older ones need. My hat is off to all of you that have made the commitment to teach and continue to do so, year after year. Without you, our sport could not be what it is today. Because of your efforts, the Texas hunting accident rate has decreased from a high of 105 with 37 fatalities in 1968, to 29 with 3 fatalities in 2009, making the sport of hunting is the safest it has ever been! Keep up the GREAT work.

The Texas Youth Hunting Program has introduced many new members to our sport. Thanks to all of you that have volunteered your time and effort to assist and guide these new hunters. We all know that youth is the future of our country, and must be the future of our sport. To make this happen, I ask each one of us to get at least one new hunter into the field this year, so we can continue our hunting tradition into the future.

The date and place for the 2011 annual Instructors' Conference has been set. It will be held on March 18, 19, and 20, at Texas Old Town, in Kyle, between Austin and San Marcos. Scheduled guest speakers include Peter Kummerfeldt, who gave outstanding classes on survival at the IHEA conference this year, and Michael Wydner, of Hunter Safety Systems. Hope to see you there. (For details on Texas Old Town, check out their internet site.)

Something to think about: The IHEA conference in 2013 will be in San Antonio. When the IHEA met in Missouri, the Missouri Instructors' Conference was held at the same location, to the enrichment of all who attended.

Keep your powder dry,

Bob Boswell

HUNTER EDUCATION EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

October 8-9, 2010 **North East Regional YHEC**, at the Arlington Sportsman Club, Mansfield. Contact: David Hammonds - 817-236-3158 and mrdavidhammonds@charter.net
March 18-20 2011 Hunter Education Instructor Conference and Awards Banquet, Texas Old Town near Kyle (see www.texasoldtown.com for a preview of the facilities)
May, 2011 Texas Youth Hunter Education Challenge (Date and place TBA)

THEIA's BIG Congratulations to...

INTERNATIONAL YHEC

Colby Hearn, Texas YHEC Senior competitor, and **Jonathan Hlavinka**, Texas YHEC Junior competitor, who with their families went to Mansfield, Pennsylvania to participate in the National Rifle Association's International Youth Hunter Education Challenge, July 26-30, 2010.

TEXAS YHEC

Daniel Kehrer, Senior competitor and Parker Ford, Junior competitor, the winners of the Overall awards in their age groups. Congratulations to the other Event Winners:

JUNIORS: Parker Ford, Jacob Korenek, Jonathan Hlavinka, Zane Faulkner, Hunter Wright

SENIORS: Garrett Lovelace, Trey Simpson, Tyler Aldredge, Colby Hearn, Daniel Kehrer, Adam Herrington

S. E. REGIONAL YHEC

Donnie Kee, Director of the South East Regional Youth Hunter Education Challenge Competition staged June 26, 2010 in Lufkin. Overall winners were Parker Ford, junior participant, and Carter Jacob, senior participant.

A VERY SPECIAL AWARD FOR A YOUNG HUNTER

Hunter Wright, 2010 Texas Youth Hunter Education Challenge Junior participant and award winner, **who** won a Houston Gulf Coast Safari Club International African safari donated by Mr. Louis Loots owner of Ka-Moto Safaris. Hunter and his Mom, **Jeanne Troyano** brought home many wonderful memories not a few trophies, at least one for the SCI record books.

...and a **THEIA THANK YOU to...**

Our regional Youth Hunter Education Challenge competitions and all the dozens of event staff, directors and volunteers who made them happen.

S. E. REGIONAL YHEC (Lufkin, June 26) SPONSORS: Angelina Rifle and Pistol Club, Academy Sports and Outdoors, Houston Gulf Coast SCI, Cactus Express, LP; Carroway Funeral Home, Dignity Memorial, Lufkin Host Lions Club, Texas State Bank, and the National Rifle Association. You all are the greatest!

N. E. REGIONAL (Mansfield, October 8-9): Arlington Sportsman Club, Cabelas' Fort Worth, Houston Gulf Coast Safari Club and THEIA.

FINALLY, to our own state level TEXAS YHEC sponsors Houston, May 14-16): American Shooting Centers, Houston Gulf Coast SCI, National Rifle Association, Texas Parks and Wildlife, and us...THEIA

NEW TEST. NEW PLANS .

by Peggy Weyel, Area Chief

New Hunter Education Exams arrived for our team of instructors and our 2010 fall classes. As many of you have already done, I wanted to find the information for each test item in both the *Today's Hunter* Manual and the TPWD On-Line Course (I have not correlated Test Items with IHEA or other courses) and share that information with our team. As before with the "old test," I marked my new manual in different color highlighters and pens, making sure I remember to cover not only each TEST ITEM information, but other information that helps each of our students decide whether their action is a safe one, a legal one, and a responsible or ethical one.

Test Item lists prepared for the previous Hunter Education Exams were tossed and new lists were made showing (1) the page number where each test item is located and (2) each chapter/subject with test item number or numbers covered therein.

All test items were found, typed into lists, and noted in my new *Today's Hunter* manual. But, in looking through the TPWD On-Line Course I did find a few test items not covered adequately and maybe not covered at all. Please do NOT overlook the video clips which cover information for several test items.

Before we go any farther, this little exercise was not and is NOT intended to bash the TPWD On-Line Course. MOST of the information tested is indeed mentioned in the on-line coursework. This is essay is only meant to encourage you, the instructor, to make sure you review the course work our students are reading so you know to fill in any gaps in the knowledge provided, especially for our novice hunters.

Any teacher or instructor who has ever stood before a class knows that the required reading material often does NOT cover everything that needs to be covered and lesson plans often need to be tweaked.

To put this another way...if you've ever worked with blueprints for a building project you know that they, like a lesson plan, are NOT perfect. Every set has an implied or written statement that means: "I don't care what the drawing shows, just build it so it works when you're finished." Likewise, we hunter education instructors need adjust information and its presentation to get our job done, not just for the course exam, but for "the big test of life" our student must face.

Here are a couple of the test items I found which I believe need a bit more instructor attention:

<u>Test Item</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>PEGGY'S COMMENT/SUGGESTION</u>
2	Pittman-Robertson is not mentioned (I did not see it in text or video)	In LAW portion, let students know how this important 1937 law provides funds for wildlife restoration and hunter education and that hunters support this tax.
9	Firearm Safety Firearm parts are shown But the purpose of a SAFETY is never discussed	In LIVE FIRE, show where safeties can be found. Tell students WHAT safeties do and that they "are a mechanical device that can and will fail."

Now then, let's go back and re-read the information in the on-line course so we all know how to strengthen our Hunter Skills Trail, Live Fire Exercise, Law, and Ethics/Responsibility lessons.

FYI: A NEW ATTEMPT TO BAN AMMUNITION

Source: O'Malley, Patrick. (September, 2010). "Washington Report: Lead Ammo Debate Heats Up," *Safari Times* (Monthly Newsletter of Safari Club International), pp. A4, A14, D14.

A petition was filed recently with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by several extremist environmental groups, including the Center for Biological Diversity, seeking to ask the EPA to ban all ammunition and fishing tackle with lead cores, lead bases and components.

These groups claim in their petition that traditional lead-based ammunition poses a threat not only to wildlife, in particular to raptors, but also to humans who eat wildlife harvested with lead ammunition.

They are seeking to have the 1976 Toxic Control Substance Act changed so ammunition can be regulated as a "toxic substance." Congress had expressly exempted ammunition from such regulation when the TCSA originally passed. Another observation suggests that these groups are asking the EPA to expand its jurisdiction and open a new front in the debate over lead in ammunition.

According to this report, the petition has been filed and the EPA must act within 90 days, which would bring any action just before the November mid-term elections. Why these groups are acting now is a mystery to reporter O'Malley, but he cautions readers to keep watching for EPA's response and any developments.

NEW THEIA DIRECTOR

Region 4 -- **Thomas Connaughton** will be filling out the term 2010-2012. He can be reached:
11011 Brighton Gardens Dr., Richmond, TX 77406;
281-450-5276; JTCONNAUGHTON@MISWACO.SLB.COM

THEIA

TEXAS HUNTER EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION, INC.
Membership Application

INSTRUCTOR MEMBERSHIP 1 year, \$12 3 years, \$25
Must be currently certified by Texas Parks and Wildlife as a Hunter Education Instructor
SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIP available for THEIA friends 1 year, \$12 3 years, \$25
JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP available to junior instructors 1 year \$6 3 years \$15
CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP available to our friends in business 1 year \$300 3 years \$750

make checks payable to: THEIA
send to Shannon Caughron,
1601 N 8th St. Ballinger TX 76821
325-365-2854 shannoncaughron@mac.com

NAME: _____ INSTRUCTOR # _____
ADDRESS: _____ PHONE _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____
E-MAIL: _____



Front row (left to right): Nick Nicholas, Ray Thorpe, Jim Schaefer, Candice Schaefer, Jim Markle, Jennifer Barrow and Pittman Haymore. Back row (left to right): Luke Snow, Ron Bobo, James Lewis and Aaron Bonneville. Ed Solis, James Rhoades, Luke Leissner, Ed Knetsch, Tom Taylor

Scoring Workshop



Public Lands Workshop

At the Public Lands Workshop, Robert Ramirez demonstrated the Safari-In-a-Box to Dallas Ecological Foundation (DEF) Outdoor Adventure teachers.

Left to right, Scot McClure – DEF Coordinator, Steve Tucker – Paris Junior High, Nathan Wieck – St. Mary's in Sherman, Marc Moran – Killian Middle School, Bonnie Newcombe – Keller High School, Brain Cottongame – Irving MacArthur High School, Rodney McNeil – Ennis Junior High.

Wildlife Management Workshop Held at Welder Wildlife Refuge

A Wildlife Management Workshop was held on September 11 at the Welder Wildlife Refuge near Sinton. Classroom topic presentations were: Deer nutrient requirements for growth and antler development by Dr. David Hewitt; Deer plants and their nutritional value with Daniel Kuntz (TPWD); Habitat management to provide quality food resources, Dr. Tim Fullbright; Grazing management to benefit deer, Dr. Lynn Drawe; Hunter management, Kirk Feuerbacher; Use of fire to improve wildlife habitat, Dr. Terry Blankenship; Field – Chemical, Mechanical, and Prescribed Fire, Dr. Terry Blankenship; Types of chemicals used, timing, rates, results and prescribed fire – summer and winter burns, setup, procedures, results. The workshop was well presented and very educational. Feedback from those who attended was, “A day well spent.”





Donnie Kee, area chief, Lufkin, hosted a Game Laws, Ethics and Responsibilities workshop in Lufkin. His comment was that he was going to take an entirely different approach to teaching this topic in the course in the future. Thanks, Donnie!

Charlie Wilson and Jimmie Caughron held two days of training during the Ag. Teachers summer workshop held in Galveston. The Ag. Clays Program is fast becoming a very popular activity for FFA students. It has begun to increase enrollment in the ever popular Wildlife, Fisheries and Ecology Management elective offered in high school.



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TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

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★ DRAWING ★

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NEW INSTRUCTORS

Welcome, New Instructors

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

May

Thomas Epting	Fort Stockton
Cord Eversole	Needville
Kimberly Price	Iowa Park
Faye Price	Iowa Park
Maria Pratt	Pflugerville
Darin Martinez	Lubbock
David Lassetter	Irving
Sean Tredway	Greenville
Robert James	College Station
Joshua Cummins	Liberty
Larry Beard	Livingston
Jerry Colliver	Eules
Sanford Mason III	Joshua

June

Ronnie Robledo	Monahans
Stephen Spies	Gainesville
Olivia Martinez	Irving
Allen Darst	Eules
William Kelcy	Rising Star
Demetrio Rubio	Fort Stockton
Brian Smock	Copperas Cove
Richard Moon	Fort Worth
Rickie Dowling	Conroe
Robert Noah	Forestburg
B.N. Harris	Dallas

July

Billy Killian	Waco
Ryan Kiphen	China Spring
James Bridges	Robinson
Missy Rhodes	Waco
Ryan Sparks	Waco
James Nivin	North Richland Hills
Donald Turnbow	Dallas
Luke Perry	Krum
Paul Cash	San Antonio

Ricardo Orozco	Harlingen
Hunter Warren	McCaulley
Benjamin Bailey	Gonzales
Gerald Bailey	The Colony
Andrew Banda	Levelland
Calvin Christian	Encinal
Bradley Clark	Hamilton
Charles Westerman, Jr.	Hamilton
Hallie Dacy	El Paso
Jamie Sanchez	Hamilton
Chelsea Estrada	Lubbock
Christopher Frey	Huntsville
Sam Smith	Jarrell
Thomas Sparkman III	Andrews
David Thorne	College Station
David Vannoy	Star
Brandon West	Hamilton
Mariela Guzman	Hamilton
Crystal Hoppe	Del Rio
Ryan Hunter	Gatesville
Kenneth Isaacs	Paige
Daniel Kessler	Alpine
Richard Key	Hamilton
Matthew Kiel	Hamilton
Shannon Kruse	Round Rock
Phillip LeDoux	Hamilton
Tyler Reed	Amarillo
Lawrence Leiws	Hamilton
Matthew Marek	Hamilton
Brandon Rose	Hamilton
Joshua Ross	McKinney
Isaac Ruiz	Del Rio
Jacob Mort	Hamilton
Mark Nelson, Jr.	Bruni
Bryan Newman	Hamilton
Patricia O'Neill	Porter
William Nicholson	Canyon Lake
Tristan Pokorney	Manor
Harry Rakosky	San Antonio
Warren Shayler	Lipan
Matthew Kennedy	Manchaca
Wendy White	Center Point

Duane Hendrickson	Center Point
Ricky Zuniga	Rio Hondo
Mike Nail	Austin
Harold Stone	Austin

August

Luis Lopez	San Antonio
Adam Broll	Austin
Steven Cantu	Wichita Falls
Aaron James	Grand Prairie
Miguel Maynes	El Paso
Javier Ramirez	El Paso
Jesus Alvidrez, Jr.	El Paso
James Urquidi	El Paso
Bryan Corb	Bellville
David Freeman	Roanoke
Jennifer Arellano	Austin
Jose Calvillo	Fort Worth
Jay McCook	Argyle
Brian Cottongame	Eules
Wesley Haltom	Lytle
Todd Nunnally	Forney
Eric Hall	Flower Mound
Jeffery Eichman	Apple Springs
Jonathan Pfleeger	Friendswood
Tristian Humbird	Alvin
Clarence James, Jr.	Del Rio
Brian Moss	Dallas
Mark Davis	Carthage
Corey Ferguson	Spring
Damon Williams	Athens
Rodney McNeill	Burleson
Hattie Webb	Amarillo
Kurtis Koop	San Antonio
David Vicars	Carrizo Springs
Jeffery Reed	College Station
Charles Gabbard	Mesquite
Jeremie Parker	Keller
Richard Reed	Carthage
Chris Raney	Elkhart
George Abrams, Jr.	Liberty Hill

September

Charles Knippa	Alvin	Aaron Conway	Farmers Branch	Katrina Spearman	Pickton
Perry Arnold	Amarillo	Mike O'Neal	North Richland	Asucena Concha	Lufkin
Mark Billings	Nixon	Victor Black	Hills	Eduardo Concha	Lufkin
Kim Sullins	Tolar	Jeff Warren	Richardson	Clyde Herrington	Lufkin
Zachary Williams	Tyler	Herbert Reynolds	Salado	Gabriel Lara	San Antonio
Richard Wilson	Lubbock	Mitchel Robinson	North Richland	Peter Kallodaychsak	Briarcliff
Stephen Marlow	San Marcos	Steve Picou, Jr.	Hills	Harry Wolfe	Ralls
Jason Thomas	Lewisville	Brandon Paul	Rosharon	Gregory Glover	Krum
Carin Cason	Weimar	David Sirmon	Huffman	Brad Wilson	Amarillo
Jason Butler	Nederland	James Jones	Huffman	Barkley McClellan	Lubbock
Joshua Flowers	Ben Wheeler	Howard Putter	Amarillo	Burnie Wells	Amarillo
Michael Dear II	Montalba	David Fontenot	McKinney	Amber Loyd	Bedford
Melissa Arhelger	Graham	Travis Waldrep	Flower Mound	David Edwards	Del Rio
Stephen Matkoff	Wylie	John Luper	Uvalde	Melissa Bell-Bendy	Chester
Jill Gladden	Rotan	Delayna Atkins	Cooper	Eva Crow	Plano
Margaret Jones	Rocksprings	Shannon McCuistion	Midlothian	Tammy Sconyers	Bellville
Scott Pesl	Houston	Rebekah White	Stephenville	Robbin Follett	Bellville
Andrea Ashcraft	Dickinson	Jessica Black	Grandview	Gary Hightower	Midland
Cody Womack	Fort Davis	Matthew Sewell	Nemo	Ronald Lewis	Pampa
Joe Solley	Doddridge	Craig Lenard	San Antonio	Philip Whitaker	Paris
John Price	Athens	Mark Goggins	Stephenville	Edwin Arbon, Jr.	Lewisville
Jack Denham, Jr.	Arlington	Laci Harbor	Justin	Jace Moore	Wellman
Janna Fincher	Lewisville	Tara Beaty	Plano	Grant Crowell	Commerce
Randy Spradlin	North Richland	Dustin Naumann	Waxahachie	Paul Hendrix	New Caney
	Hills		Cross Plains	Darrell Trojacek	Franklin

New Area Chiefs

Brent Heath, Waco, will cover McLennan County and surrounding area. He has already held an instructor course and is working closely with instructors in that area providing materials and supplies. Brent has been in the program since 1998 and has certified 235 students. Congratulations, Brent!

Virgil Frick, Panhandle, began in the program in 2007 and has certified 417 students. He will cover Carson County and the surrounding area. Virgil started assisting Area Chief Larry Larson two years ago. Congratulations, Virgil!

Jeff Srygley, Amarillo, started in the program in 2006 and has certified 235 students as well. He and Virgil Frick began assisting Area Chief Larry Larson from Amarillo a couple of years ago. Jeff will cover Randall and Potter counties and surrounding area. Congratulations, Jeff!

INSTRUCTOR DISCOUNT\$

Take a look at this new and available training aid. It is a synthetic stock fitted with metal conduit to appear as a firearm. It has an orange tip to remind students of the muzzle. These firearms are lightweight and can be used on the Skills Trail for training. They are remarkably easy to store and use. If interested, please contact Fred Choate at Choate Machine and Tools, 116 Lovers Lane, Balk Knob, AR, 72010, by e-mail at ccmmtt@ipa.net or call him at 1-800-972-6390. These training aids are exceptionally reasonable and priced at \$15.00 plus shipping.



Alan Madison Productions is having a big discounted sale on their DVDs with a 30-70% markdown. Please contact them to see what you may add to your list of videos to enhance your courses. You may reach them toll free at 1-877-404-3311 and speak to Gerri Hatfield, director of marketing and sales. You may also e-mail them at amp@alanmadison.com.



Dear Staff:

I am writing in regards to a Hunter Safety Course my daughter, my niece and I just completed. Bill McCubbin, Wayne Ellis and Tom King were our instructors. We took it through Amarillo College and it was held on Monday evening for two hours per night for six weeks.

The first Monday of the course, I attended it with my daughter and niece to see what the instructors were like and to get an idea of what the class would be like. I had no intentions of taking the course myself, but after sitting in the class that evening, I was so encouraged by these men and their love for the hunting sport, that I chose to go through the course, too.

The three men offered a wonderful, top notch class—not only a love for hunting, but respect for the sport and appreciation for the wildlife. Their decades of hunting experience complemented the Hunter Study Guide. The girls and I feel much more prepared to begin hunting—and doing it safely. We are grateful for each instructor that has given their time to help educate us in his field.

Sincerely,
Sara Young, Amarillo

Dear TPWD:

I recently took my Hunter Education course. I am 38 years old and an officer for a NY Stock Exchange trading company. My instructor was Jessie Stevens. He was excellent and represented your organization very well. He made the course fun and convenient for all involved. Many youngsters were present and had a very good time.

On the other hand, prior to taking the course with Jesse Stevens, I attempted to take the course at the Denton County Sports Club. This number (on your website)

refers to another website when you call it. This website is “insulting” and the process makes enrollment very difficult. In my opinion, this particular instructor does not provide an image that is acceptable to hunters, children or adults. As a parent I would never take my children to such an instructor. His website is designed to scare people away. This is a horrible representation of your organization. These are my thoughts. I hope you find them helpful.

Recent Student

Dear Joe Drobnik,

I recently took your Hunter Education class. I just wanted to say “thanks,” I really enjoyed the class and learned quite a bit. The class was fun, organized, and the pace was very easy to keep up with. You were very open and helpful, and I will definitely use your class again when its time for my kids to take the class.

Thanks again,

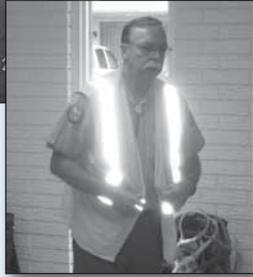
Chris Dodd
Production Supervisor/Specialist
Pasadena

Dear TPWD:

I would just like to take a minute to thank Mr. John Rodriguez for presenting the hunter safety course September 18–19 in Pipe Creek to my three children ages 12, 17 and 20. Evidently he did an excellent job; the kids came home each day talking about what they went over in the class. Never once did they complain about the length of the class—time flies when your having fun. I appreciate the fact he was able to keep their attention and keep them interested for the duration of the class. His talent for teaching and working with kids in this manner will help keep kids in the outdoors.

My oldest said in an e-mail to me, “I have to admit I had fun; learning about all that was very interesting and I really liked our instructor he was very nice and he liked what he did so he made it fun! It was a great experience! I am so excited about hunting now!” Thank you John!

Sincerely,
Jeff Horvath



I made a program presentation to the Linden Lions Club recently. I gave the 22 members present an overview of the Hunter Education program in Texas and its history, along with the requirements. I gave each person a Firearm Safety brochure with the ten commandments and parts of firearms. I dressed in hunter orange vest and hat and related how more safe it is to be seen. I then put on a tree stand safety vest and talked about accidents that can occur from tree stand hunting. I had a shotgun barrel that had been blown apart from an obstruction and also passed around a display of cartridges in various calibers. I told about how the numbers of accidents and fatalities have been reduced as a result of Hunter Education.

I had grilled pheasant, goose and venison for each person to sample while I spoke. I thanked them for their past support of the program and to the volunteer instructors.

Charles W. Snowden, Jr.
Area Chief Instructor

Dear Staff

I wanted to share a couple of comments from two “professional educators” who participated in the course recently about the methods we use to administer the final exam. My understanding, from what was discussed, is that “we” (talking TPWD staff and volunteer instructors) should consider letting students (anyone attending any type of schooling today) use the final test for reading and answering questions rather than reading from one document and marking the answer on a separate document (answer sheet). The idea (again, as I understood from the conversation) is that “though it’s not difficult to use both documents, it would certainly eliminate the coordination effort required (guess it’s a skill not currently taught in schools today) to accurately mark the correct answer on a separate sheet of paper, thus making it easier for students to take this test.”

We (TPWD) could potentially provide a better environment for all students taking the final test and would give the students a better chance for making a better grade because they wouldn’t have to take a test using different methods than what they are required to use or do in the classrooms today. Food for thought. ...

John Rodriguez
Area Chief Instructor

2010 State YHEC

Dear Jimmie:

These are the event winners from YHEC held in Houston. I’d like to send Robert and Melanie Matej a copy of the award presentation photos. They are the ones who donated the two \$50 gift certificates to Academy Sports and Outdoors.

Thank you again for your work and Shannon’s work in getting this show on the road. As I said in my note to Shannon, I can’t imagine us getting the organizing, the copying, the computing, the stuffing, and work, (er, swimming and wading all day Saturday in the field), done without your help and support.

I know you are going to say, “Shucks, I’m just doing my job,” but you do it with such competence and proficiency, all with a smile. Big hug to you and Shannon!

Appreciatively,
Peggy Weyel, YHEC 2010 Coordinator

Challenge Event Winners

ARCHERY

Junior J. Parker Ford, East Texas Rooters, Lufkin
Senior Garrett Lovelace, Belton Split Arrows

HUNTER SAFETY TRAIL

Junior Hunter Wright, Team Troyano
Senior Colby Hearn, Fort Bend 4-H Field and Stream

MUZZLELOADER

Junior Jacob Korenek, East Bernard Field and Stream
Senior Trey Simpson, Belton Split Arrows

ORIENTEERING

Junior J. Parker Ford, East Texas Rooters, Lufkin
Senior Daniel Kehrer, Fort Bend 4-H Field and Stream

RESPONSIBILITY EXAM

Junior Jacob Korenek, East Bernard Field and Stream
Senior Colby Hearn, Fort Bend 4-H Field and Stream

RIFLE

Junior Zane Faulkner, Pineywoods-Longview
Senior Garrett Lovelace, Belton Split Arrows

SHOTGUN

Junior Jonathan Hlavinka, East Bernard Field and Stream
Senior Tyler Aldridge, Fort Bend 4-H Field and Stream

SPORTSMANSHIP TROPHY

EAST TEXAS ROOTERS, LUFKIN

J. Parker Ford (junior competitor)
Adam Herrington (senior competitor)
Shelby Robinson (senior competitor)
Caleb Forrest (senior competitor)

Coaches Donnie Kee and Clyde Herrington

Top Overall Awards

The \$50 gift certificate to Academy Sports and Outdoors was presented to the second place "Top Junior and Senior" by Robert and Melanie Matej of Orchard, Texas. They contacted THEIA and wanted to do something for the kids and provided this award. They also came out and worked all day Saturday in the Orienteering Challenge.

TOP OVERALL JUNIOR AWARD and prizes awarded:

1st PLACE: trophy, muzzleloader, eligible for THEIA scholarship for NRA-International YHEC 2010 in Pennsylvania, J. Parker Ford, East Texas Rooters of Lufkin; Coaches Donnie Kee and Clyde Herrington

2nd PLACE: \$50 gift certificate to Academy Sports, eligible for THEIA scholarship for NRA-International YHEC 2010 in Pennsylvania, Ben Simpson, Belton Split Arrows, Belton; Coaches Rick Ensor and Jimmy Okun

3rd PLACE: eligible for THEIA scholarship for NRA-International YHEC 2010 in Pennsylvania, Jonathan Hlavinka, East Bernard Field and Stream Club; Coach, Charles Wicke

TOP OVERALL SENIOR AWARD and prizes awarded:

1st PLACE: trophy, muzzleloader, eligible for THEIA scholarship for NRA-International YHEC 2010 in Pennsylvania

Daniel Kehrer, Fort Bend 4-H Field and Stream Club; Coaches Kelly and Nancy Kehrer

2nd PLACE: \$50 gift certificate to Academy Sports, eligible for THEIA scholarship for NRA-International YHEC 2010 in Pennsylvania Caleb Forrest, East Texas Rooters of Lufkin; Coaches, Donnie Kee and Clyde Herrington

3rd PLACE: eligible for THEIA scholarship for NRA-International YHEC 2010 in Pennsylvania, Colby Hearn, Fort Bend 4-H Field and Stream Club; Coach Brian Walker



Left to right: Makaylah Macha, Daniel Kehrer (YHEC Overall Senior), Coach Garcia, Jordan Rector, James Dougherty. All youth are members of the Fort Bend 4-H Field and Stream Club.

Hi Mr. Walton,

Here is a brief synopsis of Hunter's essay contest journey per your request. Mr. Steve Grams with Texas Trophy Hunters Association (TTHA) has also asked me to share with him some additional details of Hunter's overall journey and desire to learn about hunting and the outdoors. I will copy you on what I send him.

Hunter Wright, age 11, first heard about the Texas Trophy Hunters Association Youth Essay Contest in 2009 from his mentor, Duke Walton. He decided to enter the contest and write about the subject he loves most. Even though he didn't win, he learned from the overall experience and from reading the top chosen essays. Although his fifth-grade teachers were less than supportive of his writing about hunting all the time, he found encouragement from other hunters and mentors. So, he decided to try again this year (2010) He handled constructive criticism well from his



mentor, made the recommended grammatical edits and submitted his essay.

On his 12th birthday (July 21, 2010) he received a call from Steve Grams of TTHA announcing he had won this years contest. He was informed that the decision came down to him and a 17-year-old girl and that the judging committees took several days in deciding the final outcome as the competition was truly neck and neck. Hunter has participated in two Texas Parks and Wildlife Youth Hunts for whitetail doe and has dreamed of someday going on a buck hunt. This prize of a trophy buck at the prestigious Diamond R Ranch is sure to be a dream come true for this young boy who just two years ago told his mom he wanted to learn about hunting. Ordinarily this wouldn't seem like too big a request, but seeing how Hunter's dad had passed away just weeks after Hunter had turned 6 years old and had no one in his family that knew anything

about hunting, this single-mom family had to start from scratch. Hunter and his mom started educating themselves on hunting and the outdoors through Parks and Wildlife and actively sought out others that knew about the subject matter. Hunter's good character and humble attitude soon earned him several mentors that have invested their time, knowledge and resources to empower him to succeed not only in the field of hunting, but in life. Hunter says, "Don't give up on your dreams to learn about hunting or the outdoors; search for the information, ask grown-ups who know about it and learn all you can so you can teach other kids."



Ka-Maoto Safaris

Outfitter: L. L. Loots

Reg. No.: 008-00837

August 15, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

To call this the hunt of a lifetime would not do it justice. At first there was a young boy's dream to learn about hunting, then a mom who believed in her son, Hunter. From a Texas Parks and Wildlife website to a local shooting range, to mentors that would influence this boy's yearning to hunt, the journey began at the age of 10.

Donovan Lamar, Josh Vacek, Clint Brown and the entire Lamar family at Hot Wells Shooting Range worked with him and eventually referred him to Duke Walton, the man that made Hunter's first hunting opportunity a reality and soon became an instrumental mentor. After becoming an honorary junior member of the Houston Chapter of Safari Club International and winning a Youth Safari Hunt from that organization, Hunter's dream to hunt would soon find him on the other side of the world in wild South Africa.

After the completion of his first 10-day safari at the age of 12, it is my privilege to thank and honor everyone who made this boy's dream come true. For everyone who helped create the opportunity for Hunter to live his dream, a very big **THANK YOU!**

It is clear that Donovan, Josh, Clint and Duke invested time, effort and resources in teaching this young boy how to properly handle a firearm which by doing so empowered him with the confidence required to make some very difficult shots while on the safari. The golden Trophy Bush Buck (rated #49 on the SCI list) was evidence of that investment. Though the animal was moving quickly towards thick brush Hunter waited for the Professional Hunter (PH) to call the shot when the Bush Buck's head had already entered the brush. He made the perfect shot at about ±50 yds at a moving animal and declared the shot to the PH with confidence. It was necessary for the PH to know where the animal was shot because a wounded Bush Buck in thick brush can be very dangerous. Everybody was impressed when the Bush Buck was located and the accuracy of shot was confirmed. It was evident that Hunter understood what to do to make the perfect shot on a moving animal. A skill many hunters never master.

The trophies Hunter was able to harvest during his safari with Ka Maoto Safaris were: Impala, Zebra, Blesbuck, Warthog, Blue Wildebeest, Diuker and Bush Buck all with a single and accurate shot on each. I must mention that the 30-06 rifle that was donated and custom made for Hunter by MG ARMS played a key role in his success; a beautiful, precision and balanced work of art. This firearm will suit Hunter for many years to come as it is an accurate and dependable tool with which he can hunt just about anything.

The hunt of lifetime...Yes indeed; but also a lifetime of good hunting for sure!

Sincerely,

Louis L. Loots

Ka Maoto Safaris
Limpopo, South Africa

Outfitter:

L. L. Loots

Box 873 • 0555 Ellisras, South Africa
laba@spiderconnect.za.co
011-27-83-226-0942

Instructor Rethinks His Near Decision

By Curtis Ansley, Area Chief

I try to use as much personal experience as possible in my classes. I have been lost twice in the past two years and am not ashamed to admit it, especially if it helps someone else be prepared for it. I love archery and want every course to hear about my first deer taken with a bow at my friend and fellow instructor Billy's ranch. But this one I will hold close forever. I hope you find this as inspirational as I have.

This past weekend I completed a course that will rank at the top of my most remembered classes. I have held classes with as few as six people and been part of classes that number over 200. I have had a course where a game warden brought me a freshly killed deer and Duke Walton quartered it out for the students, with the meat going to a needy family in my community. I have had courses in churches, banks, schools, community centers and barns. But this one was definitely different. And it was a simple act of giving back that took less than 15 minutes that made this unique.

Last year I came close to quitting the volunteer program. The driving force behind that was an incident that occurred on my lease. Eddie and his son CJ are on my lease. CJ had a rifle go off accidentally, and he almost lost his thumb, not to mention his life. Now I know Eddie and CJ pretty well. We are even members of the same church. But what almost drove me from the program was the fact that they had sat through my course earlier in the year. I know I covered safety. I talked about the unexpected. I stressed the importance of safe gun handling. I swore I did my job. Yet a blast from a lever-action rifle changed everything, and it made me doubt myself as an instructor. Every course since then I have shown the grainy pictures from a cell phone of CJ's thumb. Sure, I have shown pictures of accidents before, but this one hit very close to home with me.

For the week leading up to the course I talked with Eddie off and on about bringing CJ to share his experience. Getting

him to "show and tell" what actually happened. And until they appeared in the doorway Saturday morning, I didn't know if they would actually show. But there they stood.

I eagerly finished what I was talking about and introduced them. I asked CJ to relate the event and, like most kids, he was done in about 20 words. No big deal. He was in the stand, the gun went off, and the thumb went numb. I thought, "Um, could we get a little more CJ?" He shrugged as though to ask, "What more is there?"

Then Eddie patted him on the back and took over. As he related his version it became very apparent this was going to get extremely emotional. Eddie gave the details of the incident without flaw. Then the rush of emotion overcame him.

You see, Eddie had never talked about this in public. This truly was the first time he faced the event openly. This was the first time he talked about the noise, the flash and hearing his son simply groan. As he fought back tears he told of the emotions he went through that day. The calmness he had as he dealt with the fact his son had shot his thumb. He needed to be calm for CJ so CJ would be calm.

Later that night the anxiety of knowing that he almost lost his son overcame him. We had all praised him for the direct, matter-of-fact, "let's get this handled attitude" he had that day. As he says now, any loving father would do that. But he said once he got home he went to his bedroom and cried to the point of throw-

ing up. The adrenaline was wearing off now and he no longer had to be brave.

He related as much of the story and emotions as he could before he had to walk out of the room. No one said a word. I looked out at the students and most were looking down. I hope in reflection about what they had just heard. If they took nothing else away from my course, Eddie's short speech would be what I wanted them to take.

After what seemed like forever, but was really less than a few minutes, I let them get up and take a break. They needed it. I needed it. Eddie hung around a little longer and several people thanked him and CJ for sharing. I, too, thanked them. I told Eddie he is now a regular for any of my courses I do at our church. He said maybe next time it will be easier for him to relate the emotions. Honestly, and not to be mean to my friend, but I kind of hope it isn't.

Editors Note:

When an instructor provides a course and covers everything about safety as well as possible, he or she cannot blame themselves because of an incident that occurs after the course.

We ask, "Why did this have to happen?" A small lapse of caution or the thought, "This won't happen to me," can never be substituted for continually practicing everything learned during the course.

One can never be too careful! Thanks, Curtis, for sharing this, and please keep up the great job!

IN THE NEWS...

From National Shooting Sports Foundation

4-H Shooting Sports Invitational Sets Record Attendance

The 2010 National 4-H Shooting Sports Invitational June 28 – July 3 in Kerrville, Texas, set a new record with 516 4-H youth participants representing 31 states. Total event attendance including participants, coaches, parents, family members and 4-H faculty and volunteers was estimated at 1,500. State teams and individual 4-H youth competed throughout the week, demonstrating their skills in Shotgun, Air Rifle, Air Pistol, Small-bore Rifle, Small-bore Pistol, Compound Archery, Recurve Archery, Muzzleloading Rifle and the Hunting Skills, Wildlife ID/Management and Decision Making.

The National 4-H Shooting Sports Program operates under the auspices of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture and Extension System in the United States Department of Agriculture. There are active 4-H shooting sports programs in 47 states with over 200,000 youth participating under the direction of several thousand trained volunteers. Like all 4-H programs, shooting sports is a partnership among the land-grant institutions, federal, state and local governments and business and industry. Funding for the National 4-H Shooting Sports Program is managed through National 4-H Council, a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization. Industry and association partners who help currently support the National 4-H Shooting Sports program including the Invitational include: NSSF- National Shooting Sports Foundation; Federal Premium Ammunition; CMP – Civilian Marksmanship Program; NRA – National Rifle Association, Whitetails Unlimited, NWTF – National Wild Turkey Federation; SCI – Safari Club International; YSSA – Youth Shooting Sports Alliance and Henry Repeating Arms.

The focus of all 4-H programs is the development of youth as individuals and as responsible and productive citizens. The National 4-H Shooting Sports Program stands out as an example. Youth learn marksmanship, the safe and responsible use of firearms and archery, the principles and ethics of hunting, and much more. The activities of the program and the support of caring adult leaders provide young people with opportunities to develop life skills, self-worth and conservation ethics.

The Shooting Sports curriculum uses the resources of the land-grant university and the time, talent and dedication of Cooperative Extension Educators and certified 4-H volunteer leaders, instructors, and trainers who instruct 4-H members in firearms and archery safety and marksmanship. The shooting disciplines include: archery, muzzle loading, rifle, pistol, shotgun and hunting. A national or state certified instructor teaches each discipline.

College Students Taking Up Shooting in Increasing Numbers

On college campuses across the country, the number of students participating in the shooting sports is on the rise. From Harvard to Jacksonville University to the University of Colorado, the shooting sports are “in.” To encourage this growth trend, the National Shooting Sports Foundation last year began providing grants to college shooting programs through its Collegiate Shooting Sports Initiative. “After just one round of grants, NSSF has seen participation in target shooting grow significantly at colleges,” said Zach Snow, NSSF’s senior shooting sports coordinator. “We’re just getting started, so the sky’s the limit. All it takes to form a team or club is for a dedicated coach, faculty member or student to step up and lead the way. Once that happens, participants follow.” See the success stories so far on the NSSF website: nssf.org.

Where to Shoot Listings Get Overhaul

NSSF recently completed a six-month project to expand and update the database that fuels the website www.wheretoshoot.org. Hundreds of new places to shoot have been added and thousands of listing updates have been made. Wheretoshoot.org is a free service that has seen more than 375,000 unique visitors during the first half of 2010. The site is particularly helpful to new participants to the shooting sports as well as active participants who have moved to a new location. Visitors simply enter their state, area code or zip code and a list of places to shoot is created. Searches can be further narrowed by selecting which shooting discipline you are interested in. If you own a shooting range or if you’ve recently changed locations, NSSF encourages you to the following website: www.wheretoshoot.org/List_Range/index.cfm to enter or update your range free of charge.

OUTREACH EVENTS

Rhonda Esakov along with Ed Sanchez and other instructors manned this booth during the Georgetown Expo event held recently.



Jose Garcia, Irving instructor, held this course specifically for Spanish speaking individuals. All did very well and are now ready to go hunting. The course was held at the BSA Camp Wisdom.

Jimmie Caughron and adult leaders take youth through a Skills Trail during the Concho, Coleman and Runnels counties summer Wildlife Camp. The youth participated in numerous activities during the event.



Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Donates Laser Shot

I wanted to let everyone know we have a complete Laser Shot system (two firearms, projector, projector screen, computer, speakers and banner) that has been used in two hunter education courses. The grants received from RMEF made this possible. Thanks, RMEF! This system works really well and has had a lot of compliments from the public.

I have been in contact with Christine Hastings from the National RMEF, and she is setting up a link for us to post pictures and documents, stories, etc., regarding the use and education of the Laser Shot for Victoria County. Hopefully if all goes well, there will be something included in the Bugle. Once everything is complete I will forward the link for everyone to look at or to add. How awesome is this going to be, to have our own link representing Victoria County!

On October 16, I will have the system out at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; this is going to be a fun event. If anyone is interested in helping, let me

know. I need to get some good pictures of the system being used so I can turn in for the grant report, and this event will be good to get some good pictures. Does anyone have any pictures from the RMEF banquet in College Station with the laser shot so they can be added to the RMEF link? If so, please e-mail them to me. Thanks.

The Laser Shot system can be used for so many aspects of firearm education, such as firearm safety, shot placement, wildlife anatomy, hunting ethics, firearm handling, and is an asset to our area for educational purposes.

Also, when we have our next RMEF meeting, I want to bring the Laser Shot and set it up and do a run through of how to set up and how to use. I know some of you know how but this equipment was expensive, so I would like to have some training. Maybe afterwards we can have a friendly competition of shooting skills.

James Bartay, Area Chief, Victoria



Heidi Rao is New Becoming an Outdoors-Woman Coordinator

The BOW Steering Committee met at TPWD headquarters and Heidi was introduced as the new BOW Program Coordinator. She immediately began gathering information from all in attendance and soon set up a BOW Facebook website. The next workshop will be held at the Parrie Haynes Ranch on November 5-7. If interested in the BOW program, look them up on the BOW Facebook page or contact Heidi at heidi.rao@tpwd.state.tx.us. She is always looking for instructors for the program.



Shown here are Game Warden Scott Krueger and Area Chief Bryant Truitt, who held a hunter education student course during the summer in Kerrville. Thanks to Mr. Truitt for supplying the Hunter Education Mobile Program trailer for the course. It contains a complete teaching environment no matter where he goes.



Jimmie Caughron participated in the annual Wildlife Camp held in Junction. During that time, he took the students through the hunter skills trail to learn responsibility, ethics, game laws and safety.

Youth Dove Workshop

Shown here are youths displaying their prizes received through a drawing while attending the 2nd Annual Youth Mentored Dove In-service/Hunt workshop. The workshop was held at Resaca de la Palma State Park, Olmito, Texas on September 18-19, 2010. The hunt, which takes place the day after the classroom portion, was cancelled due to the nine inches of rain that fell at the park the night before. Park Ranger Junior Munoz assured the youths that he would schedule the hunt at a later date during the season.

Walter Pritt (back row on left next to Brock), South Texas Regional Chairperson for Texas State Rifle Association, provided the prizes (game bird vests, head lamps, caps and other items). Brock Minton provided the training and TPWD material and handouts (gun locks and wilderness survival and first aid pocket booklets). William Batson (back row on right), Range Technical Team Advisor for NRA, assisted with the live-fire exercise as a part of the workshop. Junior Munoz (center of photo), state park lead ranger, conducted the skills trail and assisted with live-fire exercise during the Youth Mentored Dove In-service/Hunt. Area Chief Rusty Shriver (not pictured, took photo) and assisted with the workshop.





THE BOWHUNTER

TEXAS BOWHUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAM

Camp Bullis

I wanted to take a minute to let you know that the August IBEP course scheduled for Camp Bullis will be the last one taught there for the foreseeable future. There are two reasons for the cessation of IBEP at Bullis:

- The “guidance” for operating Camp Bullis’ hunting program was revised by Fort Sam Houston/Camp Bullis Natural Resources Management team; among the revisions was **elimination of the requirement for IBEP**. Under the new guidance, hunters must show satisfactory completion of “Basic” Hunter Education only whether they hunt with firearm or archery equipment.
- Civilians with no military affiliation are prohibited from bringing a weapon (of any type) onto a military reservation for any reason (the only exception being local law enforcement personnel using the FBI range). We will “take the chance” that none of the “civilians” on next week’s course schedule are checked at the gate when entering Bullis. That said, please remove the September class from the Hunter Ed website, we’ve had no one sign up for it thus far and will not push the “banned weapons” envelop any further than next weekend.

I’ve spoken with our instructor team about which direction our team will take; continuing to teach or stopping completely. We’ve agreed to continue, but will limit ourselves to one or two sessions per year. Thanks for your time and support.

Rick Holland, IBEP Area Chief, San Antonio

Upcoming NASP Events

If anyone is interested in becoming involved in the program or assisting with local or state tournaments, please contact Burnie Kessner, TASP Coordinator. Here is a list of Texas NASP tournaments you may be interested in and the contact person for each. The first three are invitational shoots at schools (great for “warming-up” for the state tournament!) that may differ in cost and age divisions.

There is most likely limited space at the three school shoots so e-mail the contact person to get the specifics!

1. January 6, 2011—Union Grove ISD, Gladewater.
Contact Brian Gray: brian.gray@uniongroveisd.org
2. January 28, 2011—Lamar MS, Flower Mound.
Contact Ferris Bavousett: bavousetf@lisd.net
3. February 5, 2011—Ennis JH, Ennis. Contact Lanna McCabe: lanna.mccabe@ennis.k12.tx.us Some details: JH AND HS STUDENTS ONLY, PLEASE. 6th grade and up IF 6th grade is part of your middle school or JH program.
JH Boys, JH Girls, HS Boys, HS Girls Divisions: no team

format. Entry fee – \$10/shooter. We will start at 8:30. 1:15 minute flights. NASP format.

4. February 25, 2011—Texas–NASP State Tournament, Waco Convention Center, Waco. Contact Burnie Kessner: burnie.kessner@tpwd.state.tx.us
5. May 13–14, 2011—NASP National Tournament, Kentucky EXPO Center, Louisville, KY. Contact Burnie Kessner: burnie.kessner@tpwd.state.tx.us

If you are planning to host a small invitational NASP-style tournament at your school and would like for me to send the date to everyone, let me know. I can also help if you have questions on how to host a tournament.

Burnie Kessner, TPWD Archery Coordinator
111 Nagle Hall TAMU 2258
College Station, TX 77843-2258
office (979) 862-7341 · cell (281) 793-5135 · fax (979) 845-7103
burnie.kessner@tpwd.state.tx.us
www.tpwd.state.tx.us/archeryinschools/

Houston Hosts the ATA's First Archery Academy

Fourteen city staffers of Houston, Texas, participated in the first Archery Academy, a joint program provided by the ATA and its members and made possible by a generous grant from the Easton Foundations. The ATA and Easton Foundations work together on a number of projects designed to grow archery and bowhunting participation. These growth projects would not be possible without the support of ATA members and the Easton Foundations.



The Houston staffers came from all four of the city's regions. Three of the staff members were trained to be Basic Instructors, and 11 became Intermediate Instructors, which assures they've received the training to train beginning instructors. "It's exciting because Houston is the country's fourth-largest city," said Michelle Doerr, the ATA's director of archery and bowhunting programs. "Its leaders not only embrace archery but they think strategically about how to carry out the effort, and they carefully choose which personnel are best fit to receive the training."

An upcoming news release spotlighting Houston's effort will take an in-depth look at this Academy's urban nature, and the upsides of introducing archery to a densely populated city. Others attending the Academy included two representatives from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, a Texas JOAD coordinator, state directors of the Archery Shooters Association, a local volunteer hunter education instructor, and two representatives from Viking Archery, a Houston retail shop.

These participants and the Houston staffers took the first steps toward building a good working relationship with each other. They're now poised to share and exchange information to grow the city's archery programs.



Brock Minton, Hunter Education Training Specialist from Corpus Christi, provided equipment for the Archery in the Schools program shown here conducted by several teachers and game wardens in Rockport. This is one of the fastest growing school activities across North America.