



*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

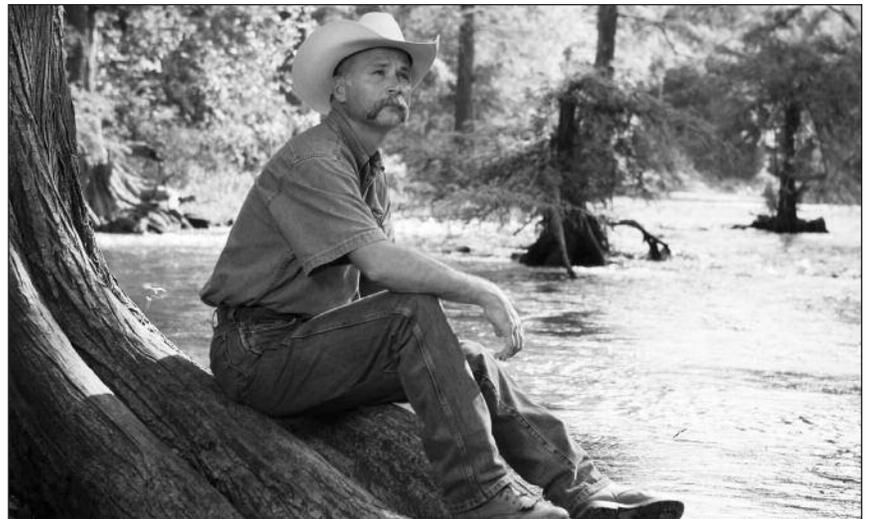
Great news! We had a record fiscal year 2009 (FY09) for students certified (38,232), thanks to all of your hard work! It amazes me that with a down economy and related factors, Texas continues to maintain high hunter numbers and increase the numbers of those interested in completing hunter education. For the first quarter of FY10, we also experienced a record high number of hunter and bow hunter education certifications at 22,656!

I'd like to thank you personally for this success, as it is you, the instructor, who is making it happen, and creating opportunity for thousands of new Texas hunters.

So as not to rest on our laurels, and as we begin a new year, here are a few resolutions I would like you to think about as a hunter education instructor.

**1. Pending Instructor Certifications.** The first resolution is to assist pending instructor applicants in completing their instructor certifications. In FY09, we also had a record year for new instructors trained, yet we had a significant percentage that did not complete the process. Some applicants still lack the game warden interview, the mutual agreement, a photocopy of the student course (if taken out of state), or completion of the student course. We want all applicants to follow

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## Wolf Named TPWD Wildlife Division Director

After a nationwide search, Clayton Wolf has been selected to lead the wildlife division at Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Wolf brings 20 years' experience as a wildlife biologist in Texas, the last six as the agency's big game program director. Headquartered in Austin, he began his job Monday, November 16.

"Clayton has demonstrated strong leadership skills and an inherent ability to develop consensus among diverse groups for the greater good of Texas wildlife," said TPWD Executive Director Carter Smith. "He is a consummate conservation professional."

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## Coordinator's Corner, continued

through so they can begin teaching courses in their areas. If you know an applicant, please contact him or her and offer to serve as a mentor to help them get started as a Texas Hunter Education Instructor.

**2. Promotion of Youth Hunting Opportunities and Programs.** With that said, the second resolution is to continue to steer your students towards youth and family hunting opportunities. In your courses, you should make it a point to promote the Texas Youth Hunting Program and public hunting opportunities provided by the department on wildlife management areas throughout Texas. For the Texas Youth Hunting Program, simply direct your students to [www.tyhp.org](http://www.tyhp.org). There are some fantastic opportunities available, especially to first time hunters—which is a priority of the private lands-based organization. For public hunts, please continue to direct them to the TPWD Public Hunting Program Booklet and/or our Web site at [www.tpwd.state.tx.us](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us).

**3. Recruitment of Women as Hunter Education Students and Instructors.** The third resolution is to help with recruiting more women and minorities to serve as hunter education instructors. The Hunter Education branch will once again administer the department's Becoming an Outdoors-Woman program. We will be conducting two basic workshops and many advanced opportunities throughout the year. The first will occur on April 30–May 2 and the other on September 24–26. Please let us know if you are interested in assisting with this effort or if you know of any women who would make good hunter education instructors. One of the opportunities at the basic workshops will be hunter education instructor certification. Search out similar programs that allow you to educate minorities about the benefits of teaching hunter education and recruit them into the fold.

**4. Hunter Education Instructor Workshops for 2010.** Speaking of workshops, the fourth resolution is to attend as many as you can, and invite a guest who would make a good

instructor, too. The 2010 workshop schedule is attached with this issue. Please look over the schedule, mark the ones you wish to receive information about and mail it in. Remember, it does not commit you to a workshop, but it does guarantee that you will receive information on the workshop about one month prior to the event so you can plan to attend. We will have some new workshops and more hands-on opportunities in new subjects. Attendance at the workshops will improve your subject knowledge, skills and hands-on activities, that you, in turn, can pass on to your students. I'd like to personally invite more of you TPWD game wardens and biologists to take advantage of these workshops as in-service training opportunities! It allows volunteers and teachers to meet you and learn more about your job duties besides the teaching of hunter education in your respective counties.

**5. Texas Hunter Education Instructor Annual Conference –** a final and “MUST” resolution!

Please mark your calendars for March 19-20, 2010, for the next Annual Hunter Education Instructor Conference and Awards Banquet to be held in the Houston area at the American Shooting Center.

Rooms have been blocked at Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 2205 Barker Oaks Drive at Hwy. 6 in Houston, (281) 497-9888. This hotel is about 4 miles from American Shooting Centers. There are 40 rooms blocked at the state rate of \$90 until March 4. After March 4, the room rate will go up. There are 19 rooms with two queen beds; 17 rooms with a king bed; and four rooms with a king suite at this discounted rate. Instructors MUST make their reservations under “Texas Parks and Wildlife” to obtain this discounted rate.

A variety of break-out sessions will be available; plus, a great guest speaker, former hunter education coordinator and head

*continued on page 3*

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



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**[www.tpwd.state.tx.us](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us)**

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## Texas Student Wins Heritage Hunt

I am pleased to be the instructor for a Hunter Education student who won this year's IHEA Heritage Hunt to Indianhead Ranch in Del Rio. Robert Andrew Moritz of Gunter completed Hunter Education in my Ag. 381 class last year. He is a Gunter FFA member, is on the FFA Senior Skills Team, shows barrows and a heifer, and is very active in our meat sale fundraiser. This trip was a great note to remember his senior year at Gunter High School.

Thanks for providing him this great opportunity. He showed a lot of joy as he relayed his hunt and how great the ranch was – with its outstanding lodging and wonderful food. He was the first to take his animal, but really enjoyed the rest of the hunt with the other hunters as they all explored the ranch. His father, Jim, was very excited and will never forget the time he spent with Andrew. Andrew's experience and photos have added much to the excitement of Agriscience classes and Hunter Education at our school. Please read his story on page 4.

Adrian O'Hanlon, Jr.  
Gunter Agriscience Teacher/FFA Advisor



## Wolf Named TPWD Wildlife Division Director, continued

As TPWD's Big Game Program Director since 2003, Wolf has overseen management of Texas' internationally-acclaimed white-tailed deer herd. "Clayton's record of accomplishment in the big game program, coupled with his 'can-do' attitude and the trust and respect he has earned from private landowners, various constituent groups, and his professional colleagues, has well-equipped him to serve as Wildlife Division Director," said Ross Melinchuk, TPWD Deputy Executive Director for Natural Resources.

During his tenure, Wolf guided expansion of buck antler restrictions designed to improve deer age class structure across more than 100 counties. He also coordinated with stakeholders and advisory groups to implement massive changes to the state's deer breeder program and helped develop measures to protect Texas deer populations from diseases, such as Chronic Wasting Disease. "With the continued increase in the state's human population and urban sprawl, we have quite a challenge ahead of us," Wolf said. "It is my goal as wildlife division director to help ensure our resources

are focused on the things we do best – working with private landowners and land managers to help them manage and conserve wildlife habitat. If we can do this successfully, and I know we can, we will be able to ensure that Texans continue to have places where they can enjoy Texas wildlife, whether hunting or wildlife viewing."

Wolf began his career with TPWD in 1993 as a district biologist for the Pineywoods, where he helped implement a new habitat-driven permitting process for managing antlerless deer on private lands and assisted in the restoration effort for eastern wild turkey. In 2001, Wolf became TPWD's white-tailed deer program leader where he coordinated statewide activities related to management, regulations and research efforts.

Wolf received his Master's degree from Texas A&M University and completed his undergraduate studies at Stephen F. Austin State University. He is a Certified Wildlife Biologist with The Wildlife Society.

## Coordinator's Corner, continued

of Law Enforcement for Nebraska Game and Fish Department, Dick Turpin, will deliver the keynote address. Of particular note are his passion for making custom turkey calls and his storytelling abilities, including his fabulous sense of humor. For additional information on the guest speaker, visit [www.turpincalls.com](http://www.turpincalls.com).

Finally, bring your family and make a weekend of it!

We hope you had a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and a most successful hunting season. We look forward to working with you in 2010. Until next time ...

*Always be safe! Terry Erwin*

# To the Victor Go the Spoils

By Andrew Moritz

**At first I didn't believe that I actually won anything because obviously the odds are against me. I won a Heritage Hunt through IHEA at Indianhead Ranch. Three students and two instructors get picked out of everyone in the country that fills out an entry form and mails it in. Really, I wouldn't have filled it out if it wasn't for my Ag instructor, and for that, I am eternally grateful. A few months later, we were on our way to Del Rio.**

As we draw nearer I watch the landscape shift and change from how it is in northern Texas. Upon arrival at the ranch we drive for a good while and then out on top of a plateau overlooking a wondrous spectacle of only part of the ranch. Each group got our own cabins with rooms to ourselves. The lodge was where we went to eat and everyone spent their time after dark so we could talk about whatever came to mind. Unfortunately, we arrived later than expected so we just got to chill the first night and would begin our hunts early tomorrow morning.

Dawn broke as I was already awake, eager with anticipation. First thing we needed to do was to go down and sight in the guns we were using. A few shots later and we were off to searching. Since it was a management hunt, we drove around searching for a few specific animals that had some kind of

defect — not that they're not good animals, it's that if there's anything different about them, they can't be in the "Trophy" category.

Eventually we spotted the one that our guide had been searching for. It was a scimitar-horned oryx that instead of having that sword look to its horns, they both dropped immediately, almost looking as if they were trying to curl around like a bighorn sheep. We would try and get close in a vehicle, but we would have to get out and stalk it. It was in a group of about 13 others; that's a lot of eyes watching out for danger. It took three attempts before I got close enough to make a good shot. Luckily, after the third failed attempt, we drove atop a hill and there they were standing beside the road about 80 yards off.

I steadied my rifle, waiting for that moment when mine steered away from the group.

Without hesitation I took it. One shot, one kill. It dropped immediately. A great sensation of excitement and joy filled the whole of me.

Since I was the first person to get my animal, I had some extra time to do some scouting and sightseeing. I hope someday I'll see some of those animals that big again. All the animals at the ranch were amazing as was the area around us. Granted, there wasn't a single type of plant that wouldn't prick you if you would brush against it, but overall, it creates an essence of peace when you're there.

Everything was perfect. The people I met there are great. The things I saw there are beautiful. The time I had there is indescribable. Everything was just perfect!

## Reminder: New Supply Order Method in Effect

Instructors are entering a new era for literature and supply distribution and are encouraged to use the new online procedure for ordering supplies. Mac Almond has been assigned to the warehouse staff, but continues to fill orders. Direct communication via phones with Mac is difficult because of his new location, so it will be much more efficient to e-mail the order directly to him via the address on the order form.

To get to that form, use the Web site address below and you will need a user name and a password to access the form. Please begin this process immediately, if you have not already. It will quicken the process for orders and supply delivery. If you do not have e-mail capabilities, you are still welcome to mail the form in or contact our office, and we will assist you with your order. Thanks for your cooperation.

[www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/hunter\\_education/instructor/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/hunter_education/instructor/)

# Regional Youth Hunter Education Challenge

By David C. Hammonds, Northeast Regional YHEC Director and Director, Region 2 THEIA



Here is some information on the Northeast Regional YHEC. The three presenters are (from left to right): Richard Matsler, President, Arlington Sportsman's Club; Tracy Doty, Special Events Coordinator, Cabela's Fort Worth; and Matt Jones, President-elect, Arlington Sportsman's Club.

The First Annual Northeast Regional Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC) was held on October 10, 2009, hosted by the Arlington Sportsman's Club (ASC) in Mansfield, Texas. The Cabela's Fort Worth store joined with ASC in sponsoring the YHEC. We had four individual senior participants and 12 individual junior participants competing in five scored events: Archery, Shotgun, .22 Caliber Rifle, Wildlife ID, and a Hunter Skills Trail. The scored events were staffed by 18 volunteers who were all Texas Hunter Education Instructors (THEIA), Scout Leaders, and/or ASC, TSRA, NRA members. To ensure adequate and safe staffing for the events, we conducted the three shooting events in the morning and the two responsibility events in the afternoon. We also had a non-scoring muzzleloader event – a family fun shoot following the afternoon schedule, with more than 19 other family members participating. Lunch was procured and served by my wife, Jeanette, and Mrs. Jean Hicks. It was well received and appreciated by all.

The awards ceremony began at 5:00 p.m., where we presented

Olympic-style gold, silver and bronze medals for first-, second- and third-place winners in each event and ribbons for fourth and fifth place. ASC President Richard Matsler, President-elect Matt Jones, and Ms. Tracy Doty, Special Events Coordinator for Cabela's Fort Worth, presented the awards.

The day was cool, overcast, and wet from rains over the immediate past few days, and did not improve but briefly in the early afternoon. We did have a few problems with the shotgun traps, possibly due to too much standing water. But, participants, volunteers and family members did not let the dampness affect their enthusiasm for the YHEC. We received many favorable comments and feedback.

From several volunteers: *"Sign me up to work this thing next year, this is fun, and I'll work any area where there is a need."*

From family members: *"I did not know it was illegal to hunt bear in Texas, and Daniel was up early Sunday morning to go show the medal he won to his best friend, and where do I find information on other events like this."*

And from youth: *"This is a blast! And, I scored the max in Archery! I want to do this again."*

These comments are representative of all that I heard, And I did not hear a single negative comment about the YHEC. I have already started the planning for next year's event.

To all participants, volunteers, sponsors and family members, "Thank You" for making the Fall YHEC so successful!



# TRAINING WORKSHOPS



## Staff Attends Recruitment and Retention Workshop

The Best Practices Training Workshop for Hunting and Shooting Recruitment and Retention, hosted by the National Shooting Sports Foundation, was held in Nashville, TN, September 22-23, 2009. The workshop was delivered in a “train-the-trainer” format using small groups through hands-on activities discussing real-world situations. These best practices are relied on to guide the design, development and delivery of programs. This, in turn, can mean more effective use of your time and money, and greater long-term results. Research conducted over the last decade provides a foundation for a successful program that has long-term impact, not just “feel-good” numbers. Heidi Rao (Houston) and Robert Ramirez (Grand Prairie), TPWD Hunter Education Specialists, and David Baxter, Texas Hunter Education Instructor, TYHP Huntmaster and Principal at Crockett High School, attended, along with 16 other participants from across North America. States represented included TX, AL, IL, MI, TN, SC, MT, VA, IN, NY, GA, WI and AZ. Those present included two state wildlife agency commissioners, 11 hunter education staff, two shooting sports coordinators, and two volunteer instructors who deliver hunting and shooting programs to the public.



I just wanted to pass on a few good words about Robert Ramirez and Heidi Rao. Their contributions, good humor and work ethic were a wonderful addition to the Best Practices Workshop. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, of course, has much to be proud of and those two would be close to the top!

My very best regards,

Jim Stewart (410) 353-9514 [jimstewart@broadreachstrategies.org](mailto:jimstewart@broadreachstrategies.org)

## Resaca de la Palma Training

New instructor training was held at the Resaca de la Palma State Park for staff in order for them to host courses and bring in additional visitors to the park. Pictured left to right are Noe Salazar, Junior Munoz, Pablo de Yturbe and Albert Martinez.





## Wounding Loss – Dove Workshop

Instructors attended and participated in a Wounding Loss Dove Workshop with Hunt that was held September 26, 2009, at the Lonesome Dove Ranch, located just south of San Antonio. Some limited out, and some, well – they had fun!

## Game Processing Workshop

Ever have a student ask not only about processing game, but how to cook some of those edible parts? Well, then attendance at this workshop would have been very worthwhile. Robert Ramirez, Hunter Education Specialist, Grand Prairie, coaxed his mother and family members to put on this workshop, and they cooked up some original family recipes. From what was said, all the food was consumed and the participants even had a little to take home for remembrances. Pictured here are: (front row) Game Warden Sergio Bazaldua, Jeremy Vasquez, Gloria Abbott, Becky Vasquez and Robert Ramirez; (back row) Ron Bobo, Jerry Couch, Jeanne McCubbin, Bill McCubbin, Gilbert Vasquez and Pitman Haymore.



## Gulf Coast Quail Forever Sponsors Class

The Gulf Coast Quail Forever (QF) Chapter sponsored another Hunter Education class October 16-17 in Alvin. Thirty students attended, including two 8-year-olds, so 28 were certified. QF sponsored a great lunch for everyone, and there were plenty of snacks and drinks. Instructors were Joe Drobniak and Don Polensky.

# First Annual Take Me Outdoors Houston

By Heidi Rao

I would like to send out a heartfelt thank you for your participation in the first annual Take Me Outdoors Houston (TMOH) event October 10 at Discovery Green. Although we had a number of things working against us on Saturday — horrible weather the day before possibly preventing attendance on Saturday; cool, windy and overcast conditions on Saturday; the International Quilt Festival; a large gun show; the International Art Festival; Texas Renaissance Festival, etc. — I think we fared pretty well being a first-time event.

I wish we had more of the public attend TMOH, but those who did attend loved it! They were exposed to nature, hands-on activities and a variety of outdoor opportunities we all have to offer right here in Greater Houston — and better yet, they were able to experience it in the heart of Downtown Houston!

TMOH was put together in just four short months. We already have planning meetings set to discuss TMOH for 2010. There are things that will be done differently, thanks to all of your suggestions and comments. We will make sure everyone has high exposure and is placed in the best possible spot for what each of you has to offer. We will also do our best for stronger media coverage. By setting the 2010 date early, we hope to accomplish that. If you have any questions, concerns or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me. Again, many thanks for your support! I hope to see everyone back in 2010!

## Here are some of the comments from Discovery Green staff:

Thank you. This event filled a gap in our programming; this park is all about getting people outside. I was so proud of it!

We estimate attendance to be approximately 3,000. With the word that Sunday's attendance was dramatically lower than Saturday — with much the same weather conditions — I think it is safe to assume that weather played a role. It is ironic that we were competing with our own Cool Globes event on Friday for publicity, but I was pleased to see that Take Me Outdoors did get television coverage on KPRC and Channel 39. We can coordinate resources for a bigger push for next year's event.

*Discovery Green's mission is to operate an urban park that serves as a village green, a source of health and happiness for our citizens, and a window into the diverse talents and traditions that enrich life in Houston. The fall schedule — more than 150 events ranging from yoga classes to live music concerts to seasonal spectaculars — begins September 1. Sign up for a weekly update at [www.discoverygreen.com](http://www.discoverygreen.com).*



## WANTED: Hunter Ed Courses in Spanish for 2010

By Maria Araujo, TPWD International Affairs Director

Adán Agüero and his family live in the Dallas area and had to travel to Austin to take a Hunter Ed course in Spanish so that he and his 14-year-old daughter could get certified. A man from Brenham also attended the same course in Austin. Other people called asking for a Spanish course in San Antonio. This year, for some reason, it appears that few Hunter Education courses were offered in Spanish.

You have probably canceled Spanish courses in the past because only a couple of people signed up. I have had the same experience. To address this issue, I would like to invite all instructors who can teach in Spanish to join me in a new strategy for 2010.

- Schedule a course as soon as possible and get it posted on the Internet. Even if potential students do not use Internet, someone they know does. A couple of my students knew about the course because their spouses looked it up on the Internet. Also, sporting goods store employees will be more likely to be aware and give the information to their customers.
- Consider scheduling the course on Saturday and Sunday afternoon for the benefit of people who have to work at least half a day on Saturday.
- Make sure that we have the information about your course so that we can promote it statewide next summer. In the statewide news release to Spanish media, we will include the

list of courses offered so that newspapers and radio stations can publicize the local phone numbers for the courses offered in their area. We will also promote the courses through “Voz y Voto,” a statewide program on Univision, and will display the phone numbers for courses offered in major metropolitan areas.

- Ask permission to post a flyer in Spanish at sporting goods stores, feed stores, shooting ranges, etc. Jesús Franco, Hunter Education Instructor in the Rio Grande Valley, designed the flyer I use. We will be glad to give you the electronic file so that you can update it and use it to promote your courses.
- Let me know if you would like to have a copy of materials I developed in Spanish. So far, I have done a PowerPoint presentation that highlights the hunting regulations and a two-page course review. Even if you do not have a laptop to show a PowerPoint presentation, you can make copies and give it to your students as a handout.

There is interest in these courses, but it is not simple to reach the intended public. Let’s schedule these courses in Spanish from mid-July through mid-November and let’s see how we do. I already scheduled my courses for late August in Austin. If you have any comments or would like any of the materials I mentioned, please contact me at [maria.araujo@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:maria.araujo@tpwd.state.tx.us).



with broken legs. Some of the children were intrigued with this. I used balloons for the faces, with a happy face on the one in the harness and a scary old man Halloween mask on the floor hunter.

Also on the table were 20 ga. and 12 ga. shot shell hulls to make waterproof match or pill holders. This went over almost as well as anyone else’s booths. The brochures available were: Ten Commandments of Shooting Safety, Hunter Education brochure information, Bears in East Texas and stickers that read “Life is Better Outside, Hunting.” Over 150 people visited this event, and I enjoyed talking to them about hunter education.

## Safety Fair at Panola College

By Charles Snowden, Area Chief, Linden

I attended the biannual community health fair in Marshall on October 10, 2009, from 7 a.m. to noon. This was sponsored by the Panola College Associate Degree Nursing program and was held at the First United Methodist Church’s gym. I set up a table with brochures and information on hunting safety. The theme of this year’s health fair was “Hunt for Good Health,” and all of the students were dressed in camo T-shirts. There were about 30 other vendors primarily representing the health care industry. TxDOT was at the table next to me with information on car seats. I had a display of a hunter hanging from a fall restraint harness and another hunter was lying on the floor

# 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.

### September

Trevor Reifel	Dickinson
Kevin Rhoades	Andrews
Stephen Wright	Canadian
James Buchanan	Hurst
Hiram Rodriguez	McAllen
Kimberleigh Geistweidt	Bryan
Chris Gill	Canadian
Shawn Colwell	Weatherford
Jason McAnally	Canadian
Leonel Farias, Jr.	Weslaco
Alejandro Castillo, Jr.	Edinburg
Jerry Hunt	Austin
Shawna Braden	Iraan
Jessica Welch	Midland
Dusty Billings	Canadian
Garrett Fulcher	Hamilton
Richard Solomon	Falfurrias
Gregory Sellers	Cisco
Amy Schatte	Azle
Courtney Helton	Schulenburg
Charles Jewell, Jr.	Amarillo
Mark Doyle	Cypress
Kevin Patek	Victoria
Phil Garrett	Canton
Brandon Henry	Dripping Springs
Brandy Blahuta	Waller

Lisa Klar
Jason Klar
John Miles
Robert Terry
Daniel Price
Shawn Dunkin
Jeremy Ballew
Nathan Grigsby
Jerry Ward, Jr.
Katherine Childers
Deatrich Wise
Chad Walker
Brad Jenschke
Richard Ball
Chris Wiemers
Thomas O'Connor, Jr.
Kasey Crawford
James Davis
Leon McNeil
Brandy Whisenant
Tony Dieste
Dean Stewart
Justin Humbert

### October

William Gay
Jerrod Baird

Poth
Poth
Dallas
Oakwood
Ennis
Stephenville
Granbury
Salado
Dallas
Bandera
Grapevine
Flower Mound
Poteet
Goliad
New Braunfels
Bandera
Bogata
Deweyville
San Antonio
Buna
Frisco
Fredericksburg
Farnsworth

Dayton
Chillicothe

Kimberly Kalich	Houston
Donald Guillory, Jr.	Crosby
Kirk Clark	Waskom
Jack Dillard, Jr.	Waskom
Allen Keys	Colmesneil
Jessica Norvell	Dumas
James Lear	Perryton
Robert Reneau	North Richland Hills

### October Assitant Instructor

Daniel Butcher	Irving
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### November

Donna Smith	Conroe
Dustin Moore	Tuscola
Landin Mathison	Holly Lake Ranch
Tally Stout	Trinity
Ashley Simmons	Forney
Santiago Munoz, Jr.	Brownsville
Charlie Duke	Huffman
Richard Durante	Amarillo
James Wiley	Seguin
Jerry Campos	Woodway
Billy Murphy	Lufkin
Steve Camarata	Amarillo

## Hunter Education Student Tracking Program

One of the TPWD instructors has written a program that has some definite benefits. The program allows you to keep track of your students. It stores all the information we collect about each student. It allows for searching of general information, printing blank rosters, and printing out group and/or individual information. It also prints out temporary certificates. If you co-teach, it allows you to keep track of the students under each separate instructor. **The cost is free.** Contact Mike Driscoll at [driscoll@camalott.com](mailto:driscoll@camalott.com).

# For Your Information

## Governor Proclaims November “Hunter Appreciation Month”

Governor Rick Perry has signed a proclamation designating November as Hunter Appreciation Month. The proclamation states, “Texas ranks tops in the nation in hunting participation, with an internationally-acclaimed white-tailed deer herd and vast opportunities for a wide variety of other game animals. These natural resources could not exist without hunters, whose conservation ethic and passion for the sport have helped maintain strong and healthy wildlife populations. Their conservation efforts have helped restore numerous wildlife species to native ranges in Texas. ... Texas hunters also contribute through their pocketbooks, with an annual economic impact of more than \$4.6 billion. Our state’s rich hunting heritage is passed from generation to generation and represents an integral component of family life. ... One of the cornerstones of hunting is hunter education. More than 850,000 Texans have been instructed in sporting arm safety, conservation and hunting ethics by over 3,000 active instructors, many who volunteer their time. As a result, hunting-related incidents have been reduced by nearly 70 percent during the last 50 years and hunting ranks among the safest of outdoor activities.”



## Hunter Education for Hearing Impaired

Have you ever had someone who needed a course taught in sign language? TPWD provides interpreters who assist the student in learning during these courses. When a hearing-impaired person contacts you for a course, please let us know, with as much advance notice as possible, so we can arrange for interpretive services. Once you or we know that a hearing-impaired course is being offered, we will try to put out a news release so that other hearing impaired persons can take advantage of the offering. This allows us to maximize the cost for such services.



Shown here is Lori Petty, who was contracted to provide the training for an entire family in the Dime Box area, in a course taught by Roger Wubbenhorst.

## Recall: Gander Mountain Treestands [SportsOneSource Media](#) Posted: 11/18/2009

Gander Mountain Co. is recalling about 13,000 hang-on fixed position treestands. The clasp may open unexpectedly if the strap is fastened incorrectly, causing the treestand and user to fall to the ground. Gander Mountain has received two reports of consumers falling while using the treestands: one sustained unspecified injuries and a second person sustained a broken pelvis and broken arm.

Gander Mountain is recalling the 2008 model GMT101 and 2008 model GMT103 Hang-On Fixed Position Treestands. The recalled treestands have wire mesh on the base of the platform to the top of the footrest and a Gander Mountain logo on the front of the seat. In addition, the seat has a camouflage pattern that is branded “AP” and “REALTREE.” Model GMT101 has “Steel Hang-On with Foot Rest” printed in large bold print on the exterior of the box and the GMT103 has “Large Steel Hang-On With Foot Rest” printed on the exterior of the box. This recall does not affect the 2009 models GMT101 and GMT103 Hang-On Fixed Position Treestands manufactured by Rivers Edge.

The treestands were sold only at Gander Mountain stores from July 2008 until July 2009. The GMT101 was sold for about \$60 and the GMT103 was sold for about \$80. They were made in China. Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled treestands and return them to Gander Mountain for a refund, exchange for a 2009 model or a store credit. The recall is being conducted in cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

NOTE: Don’t forget to cover tree stand safety during your regular hunter education and bowhunter courses. It is the number one “unreported” incident that occurs during hunting season. Let’s try to make a difference in these incidents that are causing so many injuries and deaths. (See information on back of newsletter.)



### Oh! Bad Dog—Uh, Good Boy!

By Wendy White

Yep, it's confusing. As many know, our dog "Shorty" has turned out to be a great bird dog, finishing the dove season with close to 100 percent of the birds he was to find in the high grass of south Texas. We're so proud of the dog. But, here's the problem.

I was in town recently taking care of business at the bank and had to pick up my truck from the shop, so Butch drove me, and that meant Butch and I got into the black truck, and "Shorty" thought it was time to go to the lease. See, we never ride together in the black truck unless we're going hunting, and we skipped last week. So, it should be time to go, right?

Knowing the dog wouldn't want to be sitting in the truck in town while I went into the bank for awhile, then the office supply, he needed to stay home but he just didn't understand why I wouldn't let him ride in the truck. He was ready! So, I lied to the dog, which I felt very guilty about, and told him I was merely going to the post office. He knows all about going to the post office. Giggle. When I returned, someone had taken the gate opener out of my truck so I had to disassemble the gate and there was "Lu Lu" (the other dog). I got into the gate and reassembled it, and drove the truck up to the house as usual, and there was Shorty, sitting so still with exception of that wagging tail. I grabbed all the bags from the office supply and my purse and headed for the kitchen door. When I got closer, I saw what was going on.

Apparently, Shorty, not wanting to be left behind or be left out, caught one of the white-winged doves I've protected and fed on our property for the past few years! Oh no, bad dog I thought, but it's not his fault as he doesn't know when dove season closed! So what could I do? As I was standing there, hands full, with my thoughts running rampant, he gently picked up the dove and dropped it for me to see. I didn't respond fast enough I suppose, so he picked it up and dropped it again for me to notice. Well, what could I say other than "Good boy!" You got the bird!

I picked it up and looked it over, it was freshly killed, and I handed it back to him and told him he could keep that one. Good dog! When I went back outside to see what he did with the bird, there were only feathers left in a pile in the grass. He had sat and patiently waited for me to come home to see what he had done. Oh well. I never thought I'd have to explain to the dog, you can only get the birds when the book says you can. I've guarded these white wings from friends and family who want to shoot them, and they have lived here in the corner tree for at least two years winter and summer, due to the corn feed we leave out for the pet hog. Oh, well.

### Dear Staff:



This is a photo of Lee Koning, Kathy Wren and Mike Robinson, teaching team from Terrell. The signs seen in the back get the students' attention and were donated by a local Kaufman County rancher many moons ago in the 1980s as were the other ones you can see. Some you can't see behind us have shotgun pellet and bullet holes. I have lugged those signs around since 1988 or so. I guess I am fond of them but use them to make points on what happens from negligence and how they reflect on us as hunters.

Mike Robinson  
Terrell

### Staff,

Recently I e-mailed you about the *Outdoor Annual* rules on the quartered carcass. As you recall, you informed me that it had changed but encouraged me to keep teaching them to keep all of it. I agree and did a little experiment as follows. This past weekend I harvested a doe on my place in Lavaca County. She was about three years old and weighed 85 pounds. I kept all of her. I started trimming the neck and

rib cage first. I actually got more pounds of meat from the neck and rib cage than I did from the two fore quarters. You might also be interested to know that it was a neck shot with a .270 win. and I could not use all of the neck.

I don't know if it will ever come up again, but if you need someone to speak before a committee, I would be willing to help. I have hunted for over 40 years and have never wasted any game meat. It is all usable. I made sausage out of the ribs. After mixing with lean cuts of pork it needed no oil in the skillet to fry. It was very good. That 80-pound doe yielded 12 to 15 pounds of meat from the neck back and rib cage.

Education is the key. If people know what to do then maybe they will use it. Timewise it took very little time. I used a fisherman's filet knife to cut the slabs from the ribs. It didn't leave much on the bones for the dogs!

By the way, one of the students in my class who passed his hunter education course put his skills to good use. His older brother killed a deer opening weekend but did not know how to clean it. The student told me that since we watched the video in class, he knew how to clean the deer and was able to help his brother. (The video is excellent, by the way.)

Thanks,  
Bob Smith  
Hardin High School

**Dear Jim Schaefer:**

Thank you all very much for the class you put on recently. Top notch all around! I've been to a lot of different training over the years, and the way you all present the info was very professional and good quality. Thank you and your staff, Jim. If you know anybody that needs some hogs controlled or eliminated, please pass me the information.

Thank you all!  
Michael Steet, USMC

**Dear Mrs. Rao,**

Please allow me to compliment one of your own. If you will indulge me, I'll start with a bit of background about my son, Hunter, currently age 11. Several years ago he lost his dad, just two weeks prior to his kindergarten year. For a young impressionable boy, this has obviously continued to be a hurdle. The realization of that loss manifests itself

more and more through the years as he sees friends and their dads doing things together everywhere we go. Last year, at the age of 10, it hit me that my son needed some good ol' healthy "guy stuff." Hunter approached me about having a dream to go hunting and for a moment I froze, realizing I knew nothing about this activity. You see, I hadn't grown up exposed to this sport, nor have I ever been close to anyone who has. However, I knew in my heart that I couldn't use my lack of knowledge or exposure as any kind of excuse nor would I want to hinder my son in experiencing healthy, positive outdoor activities.

We started with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Web site and signed him up for a Hunter Education class in our local area in which he did quite well. Through that class and other series of events, processes and people that we've had the honor of meeting, we were introduced to Mr. Duke Walton. As a direct result of Mr. Walton's sponsorship, my son was able to participate in his very first youth doe hunt in 2008 and I must say there are hardly words to convey the gratitude, joy and pride in seeing my 10-year-old beaming with self-confidence when he took his first doe. But that was only the beginning.

Mr. Walton has since shared his time to educate and enlighten my son about Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC is something we'd never heard of) and went as far as bringing equipment to my house that we didn't otherwise have access to for my son to practice with and use during the recent regional competition in Mansfield, TX. As a direct result of Mr. Walton's invaluable time and teaching, my son placed second in Wildlife I.D., fourth in Skills Trail and fifth in Archery ... all things he knew nothing about just two months prior.

He has shared his knowledge with patience and kindness. He has encouraged and cheered on my son and patted him on the back ("man-to-man"), intuitively knowing this is what my son was starving for. As my son continues to learn and excel in the wonderful world of outdoorsman activities, Duke is there cheering him on. He has been an amazing role model, an invaluable mentor, a leader and most importantly, a friend to my son. The time, knowledge, patience and encouragement he has shared with my son is absolutely unselfish and shows the character and fervor he has in reaching our youth. I feel incredibly blessed to have come to know him. I feel even more blessed to see the transformation in my son since meeting Mr. Walton. To go from a timid, somewhat introverted young boy to a more self-confident, more outgoing adolescent ... well, there just aren't enough words. Thank you for indulging me with your time and thank your entire organization for having such passion for reaching and teaching.

Sincerely grateful,  
Jeanne M. Troyano

# IN THE NEWS...

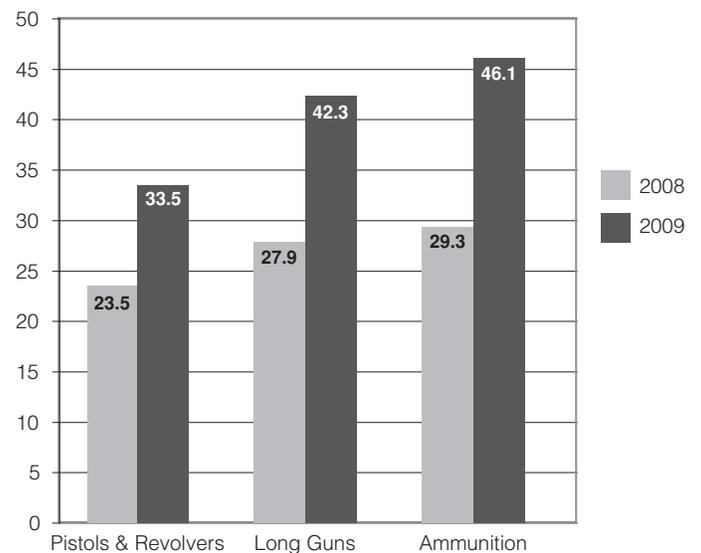
*From National Shooting Sports Foundation*

## Industry Generates \$122 Million for Conservation in 2nd Quarter

### 52 Percent Rise in Excise Taxes Paid by Firearm, Ammo Manufacturers

Firearms and ammunition manufacturers reported federal excise tax obligations to be \$122 million in the second calendar quarter of 2009, up 52 percent compared to the same period a year ago, according to data from the Department of the Treasury. The increase follows a 43 percent increase in excise tax obligations reported during the previous quarter. Manufacturers pay the federal excise tax — a major source of wildlife conservation funding — on all firearms and ammunition manufactured (11 percent on long guns and ammunition and 10 percent on handguns). Between April 1 and June 30, \$33.5 million was due in taxes for pistols and revolvers, \$42.3 million for long guns and \$46.1 million for ammunition. Compared to the same quarter in 2008, excise tax obligations were up 44.4 percent for handguns, 51.3 percent for long guns and 57.5 percent for ammunition. Using the latest collections as an indication of sales, a projection of \$1.14 billion was generated in the second quarter. Though excise taxes are one of the best indicators of industry performance, they only reflect what excise taxes the manufacturers have filed and do not reflect retail mark-up and final retail sales.

**Firearms and Ammunition Excise Tax Collections  
2nd Quarter (calendar year) in millions**



## New Data: Participation Up 3.5 Percent in Past Five Years

Between 2003 and 2008, women who hunted with firearms increased 3.5 percent to 2.9 million, according to new data from the National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA). Women who participated in bowhunting rose 1.5 percent to 600,000 during that time. Louisiana can attest to the recent rise in female participation. This year alone, the number of women with hunting licenses jumped 12 percent there when compared to 2007-08, courtesy of the *Shreveport Times*.



## Also Worth Mentioning...

Editor's Note:

Instructors might also teach the proper way to transport game animals on the return trip home. This photo was taken on opening weekend of deer season on IH-20 near Weatherford of a vehicle apparently heading for Fort Worth.

# NSSF RECOMMENDS FIVE ACTIONS FOR HUNTERS TO TAKE

With hunting season unfolding like the colors of autumn, the National Shooting Sports Foundation encourages five actions hunters can take during this time of fair chase and harvest. “We ask hunters to consider these thoughtful actions during this beautiful time of year when we enjoy the companionship of family and friends in the outdoors and the riches that nature provides for us,” said Steve Sanetti, president of NSSF. “Each one of these actions reaffirms the value of hunting on a personal level and reminds us of our obligations toward wildlife and our fellow hunters.”

## Put Healthful Fare Locally Acquired on Your Table

Although it may appear to be a current movement, living an eco-friendly lifestyle is not new to hunters, who have always relied on renewable resources to provide nutritious food for their families – food locally acquired and unfettered by hormones or processed feed. As NSSF President Steve Sanetti has pointed out in *The Washington Post*, “Most of us hunt exclusively in our home states. Only 5 percent never hunt locally. Compared with consumers of U.S. supermarket food which routinely travels as much as 2,500 miles from source to table, we are model locavores.”

## Take a Youth Hunting

Nearly 300,000 apprentice hunting licenses have been put to use thanks to legislation passed in 29 states that allows a youngster to try hunting with a licensed adult mentor. Youth who are introduced to supervised hunting at an early age tend to stick with it, while children introduced in their mid-teens are often diverted by video games and organized sports. Check your state hunting regulations to see if the opportunity exists to take a youth hunting.

## Be a Good Conservationist

Learn about the critical role hunters have played in protecting wildlife and wild places. Join a conservation organization that helps protect the species of your choice. With interest in wildlife and habitat heightened by Ken Burns’ “National Parks: America’s Best Idea” series, now is a good time to explain to youngsters how as hunters they are part of a community that helped save the white-tailed deer, wild turkey and Rocky Mountain elk. Teach them how they can carry on the legacy of Theodore Roosevelt and Aldo Leopold. A good place to start is NSSF’s booklet, *The Hunter and Conservation* and the video, *Unendangered Species*.

## Be an Ethical Sportsman

Practice and teach the rules of fair chase, and report violators of written laws and regulations. Lawbreakers hurt the image of responsible hunters. Unwritten rules also exist among hunters that must be followed, such as agreeing not to take an excessively long shot, using inadequate equipment and preparing properly for the hunt. Those who violate these unwritten rules should be corrected. Learn more from NSSF’s brochure, *The Ethical Hunter*. Consider reading *Beyond Fair Chase* by Jim Posewitz. Your state fish and wildlife agency (find them at [www.huntandshoot.org](http://www.huntandshoot.org)) or the International Hunter Education Association ([www.ihea.org](http://www.ihea.org)) can assist with hunter education courses.

## Practice Safe Gun Handling at Home and in the Field

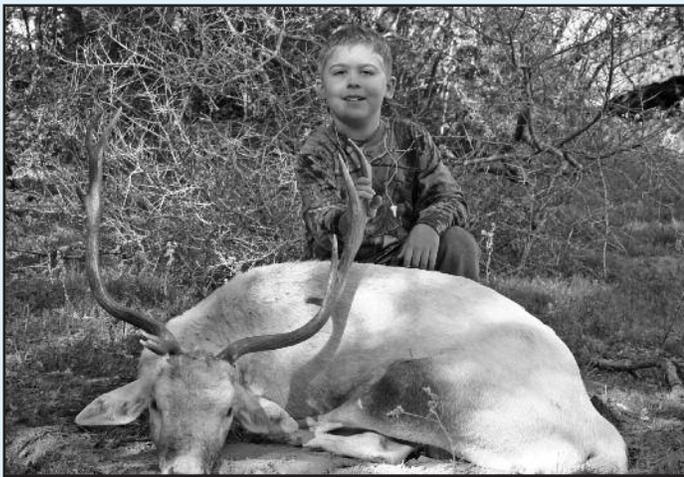
Hunting season is always a good time to take stock of how safely your firearms are stored in the home. Proper storage of firearms, with ammunition stored separately, can help prevent firearms accidents, particularly among children. Learn the basics of safe gun handling by reading the NSSF brochure *Firearm Safety Depends on You* or by watching the video of the same title either on DVD or online at [www.nssf.org](http://www.nssf.org). Learn about safe storage of firearms in the home at [www.projectchildsafes.org](http://www.projectchildsafes.org).

# KUDOS!

Dear Staff:

I recently returned from a Wyoming antelope hunt. Enclosed is a photo of my buck. I had him scored for Boone and Crockett and the minimum score to make the book is 80" and my buck scored 78 6/8". The length of each horn was 13 5/8", prong length 5 6/8", circumference of the base was 7 3/8". Total deductions were 7/8". This was a buck that was very symmetrical and had no flaws. Not bad for a first pronghorn. There were other measurements taken that added to the score, however the spread, which was 12 4/8", does not count towards the final score.

James Bartay  
Area Chief, Victoria



*Dominick Rao shows off a fallow deer taken on a hunt in Central Texas. He is the son of Game Warden John Rao, and Hunter Education Specialist Heidi Rao. According to Heidi, "Dominick is being brought up to understand the hunter's role in conservation and will be guided down the right path to appreciate hunting and enjoying the outdoors ... just like we teach our students!"*

## Visitors From Mexico

In previous issues of *Target Talk* there have been photos and information regarding training done for Mexico. The four individuals pictured here were among the participants during this training. They drove from Monterey to Austin for a visit, and it was a great honor to have them come to visit. While here, they assisted Maria Araujo in making some translation edits to the new Spanish final exam.

Pictured are from left to right: Emilio Cantu, Agustin Ravelo, Terry Erwin, Maria Araujo, Omar Treviño and Juan Dahuabe. The Mexico contingent belongs to a hunting Club in Monterey which requires hunter education to join as a member. This is a "first" for Mexico. Congratulations to them for their accomplishment!



## TPWD Videos on YouTube

A recent featured video on TPWD's YouTube channel is "When Plants Attack," Producer Alan Fisher's entertaining yet cautionary story about invasive species threatening Texas. The video begins with campy scenes from an old sci-fi movie about monster plants, then segues into the real story of invasive aquatic plants like giant salvinia and terrestrial invasives like ligustrum. The department's YouTube channel is one of four "social media" outlets TPWD is currently piloting, the others being Twitter, Facebook and Flickr. The TPWD YouTube channel ([www.youtube.com/TexasParksWildlife](http://www.youtube.com/TexasParksWildlife)) now has 135 videos posted, with new video topics added weekly. TPWD YouTube videos cover individual state parks, fishing, hunting, wildlife, boating safety, how-to topics and news reports on a variety of subjects. Check them out.

## New DVD Available – Deer Aging and Evaluating Techniques

**Think before you pull the trigger!**

Want to do something to stop the harvesting of young big bucks?  
Here are 8 simple things to look for that can help.

look for everything **larger** on older deer

- larger hind quarters
- undulated back
- larger head
- larger neck
- larger testicles
- larger belly
- larger hanging brisket

overall large body size is most important

**Our videos are proven to help age deer on the hoof.**

"...a must have video for all hunters!"

outdoorvideo productions.com  
click on "videos for sale"

**buy it now on DVD!**

orders can also be taken by e-mail or phone  
vpvideos@yahoo.com 956.794.0045

We have a new DVD titled "Don't Shoot Young Big Bucks" on aging and evaluating deer on the hoof. Footage of deer from 1.5 to 7.5 years old has been generously produced and donated to TPWD by Vicente Peña of V. P. Productions. This DVD will be an added course complement and at the same time, help hunters, lease managers and landowners increase the quality of game coming off their property. If you would like a free copy, please contact Kathy Powell via e-mail at [kathryn.powell@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:kathryn.powell@tpwd.state.tx.us).

### 13-Inch Rule

Some folks are having a difficult time determining if an antlers on a deer are 13 inches wide or not. We have a new DVD which can be shown to students to assist them in making the decision to shoot or not to shoot. Please let Kathy Powell know if you want one to show in your courses, especially those of you in counties with 13-inch restrictions. By the way, we don't advocate measuring like this.



## Conservation License Plate Sales Up

Strong August sales results, with all plates up at least 30 percent in monthly sales compared to fiscal year 2008, capped an exceptional year for TPWD's conservation license plate program. Overall in fiscal year 2009 which ended Aug. 31, sales of the specialty vehicle plates were up to 15.32 percent from the year before. Fiscal 2009 total revenue was \$536,060.84 compared to \$454,944.47 the previous year. Sales for each of TPWD's four conservation plates have increased, as detailed below.

- Horned lizard plate sales up 13.20 percent. FY09 total revenue of \$277,925.57 vs. \$241,248.81 in FY08.
- Bluebonnet plate sales up 17.91 percent. FY09 total revenue of \$136,157.76 vs. \$111,769.17 in FY08.
- White-tailed deer plate sales up 17.80 percent. FY09 total revenue of \$72,660.89 vs. \$59,725.44 in FY08.
- Largemouth bass plate sales up 16.46 percent. FY09 total revenue of \$49,316.62 vs. \$41,201.05 in FY08.

Each conservation license plate costs just \$30, and \$22 of each purchase goes to TPWD to directly benefit conservation efforts in Texas. Information about how to buy license plates, and where the money goes from each plate, can be found online ([www.conservationplate.org](http://www.conservationplate.org)).

# OUTREACH EVENTS

## Gone Fishing for Kids Hunter Education Outreach Event – Marble Falls, October 2009



*Instructor Julie Clark assists a young shooter with the Laser Shot System, reinforcing shoot/don't shoot situations in the process.*



*Brock Minton, Hunter Education Specialist, Corpus Christi, also got in on the action in Marble Falls. TPWD staff and volunteers conducted over 100 such events in FY09, reaching thousands of Texans with the hunter education mission and messages.*

*Steve Hall, education director (left), introduces a young shooter to archery.*



## Lonesome Dove Fest – Karnes City, September 2009



*Brock Minton is shown here with the Laser Shot System set up during the Lonesome Dove Fest at Karnes City.*

## Step Outside Event



*November 11 was an official holiday for TPWD employees and the Hunter Education Branch along with TPWD's Human Resources Division provided a "Step Outside"® event for those who wished to attend. It was a skeet and sporting clays shoot at Capitol City Trap and Skeet Club in Austin. New shooters were given an opportunity to learn about the sport and the veteran shooters simply enjoyed another round or two of sporting clays. Thanks to instructor Joe Stengel, Austin, for helping arrange and staff the event. (Of course, he also got to enjoy a round of shooting, too!)*

## Resaca de la Palma State Park Youth Hunt, September 2009



*Resaca de la Palma State Park in Brownsville held a mentored dove hunt, and it was very successful.*



*Resaca de la Palma staff members help with identification of the doves taken during the hunt.*

# KATHY'S CORNER

I started out in the Dallas area, went down to San Antonio, over to Victoria, then to Kerrville. I circled around to Follett and Amarillo, came through Lubbock, touched the edge of Midland and went straight to El Paso. I finished up in San Angelo and I made it back to Austin to finish out my day. Wow, what a trip. ... Not really, this is just the way the zip code labels were sent to us for stuffing the envelopes for *Target Talk*. Just thought everyone would like to know what we do so that the envelopes for *Target Talk* are labeled and ready for stuffing.

**NOTICE:** In the very near future, we will be sending out this publication electronically in order to save paper and funding for the program. Please notify us of your e-mail address by sending it to [kathryn.powell@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:kathryn.powell@tpwd.state.tx.us).

**NOTICE:** Incoming revenue at TPWD is still receiving cash in the mail! This is unacceptable, because if it gets lost, the instructor is responsible for the loss. We had a course completed in September, and somehow wound up in the "Dead Letter File" at the post office. It had \$120.00 in cash in the envelope. The post office opened the envelope and took out the cash and provided a money order and sent it on to TPWD. Unfortunately, it did not arrive until December 8. This envelope was "lost" and the students did not receive their certification cards until three months later. **Again, please do NOT send cash in the mail!** See what can happen?

All incentive awards points are being totaled up and awards/teaching aids will be mailed out soon. The major awards will be presented at the annual awards banquet. (See information in Coordinator's Corner and below.)

**NOTICE:** Please mark your calendars for March 19-20, 2010 for the next **Annual Hunter Education Instructor Conference and Awards Banquet** to be held in the Houston area at the American Shooting Center.

Rooms have been blocked at Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 2205 Barker Oaks Drive at Hwy. 6 in Houston, (281) 497-9888. This hotel is about 4 miles from American Shooting Centers. There are 40 rooms blocked at the state rate of \$90 until March 4. After March 4, the room rate will go up. There are 19 rooms with two queen beds, 17 rooms with a king bed, and four rooms with a king suite at this discounted rate. Instructors **MUST** make their reservations under "Texas Parks and Wildlife" to obtain this discounted rate.



# THE BOWHUNTER

## TEXAS BOWHUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAM

### Congratulations, Eric!

Texas game warden Eric Minter stopped this buck during archery season for carrying too many tines through the woods. “I had never felt that much emotion deer hunting,” he said of claiming his big-antlered prize. “I never dreamed that I would ever get a buck of that quality – that’s always something that happens for the other guys.” Not this time – the 5 1/2-year-old, 27-point non-typical buck field-dressed 165 pounds and it green scored a little over 205, and is now wearing Minter’s tag.



### Dear North Texas Expo Staff:

We spoke at the closing meeting for the Outdoor Expo. I wanted to pass along this story about my father-in-law and my daughter.

My daughter loves the outdoors. She especially loves to hunt and fish. Being a vendor, Sit Means Sit Dog Training, at the Expo I knew I wouldn’t be able to take her to see everything and my wife being 8 months pregnant neither could she. So I asked my father-in-law who is an avid outdoorsman to come down and take my daughter to the Expo. He agreed. After she had been thru everything she came over to our booth and was telling me about casting the rods, seeing the deer head, and several other things. I asked her what part of the Expo was her favorite and she started to tell me about the Archery Village. She was so animated and enthusiastic about every detail from just pulling it back, to the sounds it made, and hitting the target. Needless to say her and my father-in-law both had a great time. My father-in-law, being from Oklahoma, always goes to Bass Pro Shop while he is here. So he took his trip after the Expo. While there this trip after seeing my daughter with the bow at the Expo he bought my daughter her first bow. As it is now Thanksgiving week, my daughter went up a couple of days ahead of us to my in-law in Oklahoma. He surprised her with it when she got there. He said she has been shooting it non-stop and already want to take it into the woods to hunt deer.

Thru all of this I just wanted to say Thank You. As a proud parent that loves the outdoors, you help to introduce my daughter to something we can enjoy together for the rest of both of our lives. Thanks and see you next year.

Allen Stephens  
Sit Means Sit of Frisco

## My Oldest Daughter, Lauren, Got Her First Deer ...



And I am one proud dad! Lauren and I arrived at the ranch Friday evening. Two of my good friends Keith Latimer and Devin Smith were already there. Keith gave me a quick review of the stands and the ranch road conditions. I picked a stand that would require some four-wheel drive, but was only a short walk to the blind. The shot to the feeder was only 66 yards and this being Lauren's first hunt, it was perfect.

Five a.m. comes really quick when you have a bunkhouse full of giggling boys and one girl. We get to the blind well before sunup and enjoy the stillness of the morning. At 6:45 the feeder goes off. I whisper to Lauren it's show time and to be very still. At 6:50 I see movement in the brush. Two doe were cautiously approaching the feeder. Both deer feed for 10 minutes, but it was still too dark to allow Lauren to shoot. We are waiting for more light when the doe takes off into the tree line.

I see movement to my right and I could not believe the eight-point buck running after the doe. This was a shooter buck and I wanted Lauren to get him. The buck never slowed down. This was her second buck to see in the wild. She was happy. The afternoon was spent playing with the boys and two other girls. When it was time to go hunting Lauren was ready. A quick slippery drive to the blind and short walk put us back in the same blind. I had a good feeling about this spot. The blind was a little to open for my style of hunting and I knew Lauren would have to be still in order to see anything.

At 5 p.m., the feeder goes off and it was show time again. I positioned the rifle out the window to that there would be very little movement when it was time to shoot. The sun is being to set and it didn't look like we were going to see any deer. I was wrong. Three doe walked within 30 yards of the box blind. I motioned to Lauren to get up and get ready. I thought the deer would go to the feeder. Wrong again! The big doe stepped out 40 yards from the box blind. The doe was looking right at us. We sat very still until the doe gave us a broadside shot. I got the rifle up and told Lauren to look through the scope. When the crosshairs were on the shoulders she was to shoot. I took the safety off and told her not to touch the trigger until she was ready.

I asked again if the crosshairs were lined up and the next thing I knew the rifle went off. I could tell by the reaction of the doe it was a hit. Lauren jumped out of my lap and was excited and scared at the same time. The rifle blast was louder than expected. I watched the doe run off as well as three more deer. I found the doe 50 yards from the blind. My not-so-little girl had her first deer.

From the bottom of my heart, I cannot thank TPWD enough for allowing us to hunt this wonderful ranch.

Timm Getts, Service Management Systems, Dell Perot Systems

## Bowhunter Education New Instructors

### SEPTEMBER

- |                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Jose De Leon     | Corpus Christi |
| Carlos Escamilla | Corpus Christi |
| Ronald Walter    | Robstown       |
| William McCord   | Corpus Christi |
| Richard Rivas    | Pearland       |
| Joseph Schmidt   | Huntsville     |



Well, here is the story of our bowhunting trip 2009. It came and went, and again it came and went — while David waited patiently in his tree stand ... never moving, never complaining — just waiting. After two days of hard hunting, the hero shot finally presented itself. Yes, time is all that was killed. David is proud of his 12-point time piece though.

Few deer were seen as this is a bumper crop year for the acorns and the deer were not moving much — especially to feeders. Have had lots of rain and everything is green and wet which will be great for gun season and the deer will be fat!

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
SPECTATORS ALWAYS WELCOME**  
Witness the World's largest archery tournament  
featuring over 6,000 NASP archers & over  
6,000 spectators!!! South Wing A, B & C.  
Kentucky Exposition Center, Louisville, KY

**2010**

*Registration opens March 2010*



*National Archery in the Schools Program*

**NATIONAL  
TOURNAMENT**

*www.archeryintheschools.org*

**Friday & Saturday  
May 7-8, 2010**  
General admission: \$5/day  
(12 and over) - Parking \$6/day

*Changing lives, One Arrow at a Time...*

# INSTRUCTOR DISCOUNTS

## Third Hand Archery

Third Hand Archery put together a Kentucky bow hunter's package for the hunters that use climbing tree stands.

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=w6jjo9x7\\_Ok](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w6jjo9x7_Ok)

If you will, please forward this to any bow hunters and ask them to forward it also. We will include free a 30' Kentucky bow rope with slip stopper free for any of the bow hunters that are hunter safety instructors when an order is placed. Please contact Third Hand Archery to place an order.

Jim Litmer, Third Hand Archery  
(800) 339-0232



**NATIONAL ARCHERY  
IN THE  
SCHOOLS PROGRAM**

## Mark Your Calendars!

### 2010 5th Annual Texas – National Archery in the Schools Tournament and Scholarship Championship!

Where: Heart of Texas Fair Complex, General Exhibits Hall, Waco TX  
 When: Friday, February 26, 2010  
 Cost: \$20.00 per student

Schools that teach archery (TX-NASP) as part of the in-school curriculum are qualified to compete in this tournament.

Highlights: College scholarships for the top three male and female high school archers, trophies, ribbons, t-shirts, and the high scoring male and female archer will receive a Genesis bow. Door prize drawings will take place throughout the day.

Shooting Divisions for Teams and Individuals are:

Primary, K-3rd grade  
 Elementary, 4th-6th grade  
 Middle, 7th-8th grade  
 High School, 9th-12th grade

You will receive the 2010 tournament registration announcement and detailed information in December. First-place team winners in each division are automatically qualified to attend the National Tournament in Louisville, Kentucky. First- through fifth-place male and female individual winners qualify to attend and additional teams may attend with qualifying team scores. Complete National Tournament information will be available at the state 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/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/archeryinschools/)

# DECLARE WAR ON TREE STAND ACCIDENTS

More hunters are killed or seriously injured from tree stand accidents than from accidental shootings in the field.

Tree stand accidents are a serious hunter image and liability problem within the hunting community.

The National Bowhunter Education Foundation and a host of industry and agency partners joined to wage war on tree stand accidents. A massive education campaign is being launched to reduce tree stand accidents and deaths. The campaign dubbed Project STAND (Stop Tree Stand Accidents 'N Deaths) will be conducted over a 3 year time period and is designed to significantly reduce the number of injuries and deaths associated with tree stand accidents.

The public face of Project STAND is a bright yellow and black "caution" sign which graphically reminds hunters of the dangers of hunting from a tree stand. It also offers a solution - "HUNT SMART/HUNT SAFE". The sign is designed to be used by the campaign partners and will appear in magazine ads, on websites and TV and be widely utilized in hunter ed and bowhunter ed classes. It will appear on hunting gear and clothing and will be stuck on bow limbs and rifle receivers as a constant reminder of the danger that tree stand hunting presents. The sign will be backed up by new and improved breakthroughs in tree stand safety information and education.

Every hunter knows someone who has fallen and been seriously injured—or worse. Studies show that only 50% of tree stand hunters wear a safety harness. Many wear outdated safety "belts" which have been shown to cause serious injury and even death. Studies indicate that between 10-30% of all tree stand users will fall sometime in their hunting careers; many more will experience a "near miss". In addition to the obvious personal trauma, tree stand injuries have the potential to discredit the sport of hunting.

With your help Project STAND will change all this by the year 2012. The broad reaching, hard hitting, tree stand safety education campaign will show 15 million hunters how to prevent tree stand accidents by "hunting smart and hunting safe". Project STAND needs your support and funding dollars. Join your associates in doing the right thing to keep the industry strong and save lives to hunt again. Retailers, manufacturers, and industry representatives all have a role in Project STAND.

Call today (479-649-9036) or go to [www.nbef.org](http://www.nbef.org) to find out how you can do your part and become a sponsor.

NATIONAL BOWHUNTER EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
**PROJECT STAND**  
STOP TREE STAND ACCIDENTS 'N DEATHS



NATIONAL BOWHUNTER EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
[WWW.NBEF.ORG](http://WWW.NBEF.ORG)



# 2010 HUNTER EDUCATION INSTRUCTOR WORKSHOPS

Mark your calendars for the upcoming workshops. We've scheduled additional programs in different areas of the state. Hunter Education Specialists and Area Chiefs will host most of these workshops. Again, our goal is that each volunteer instructor, professional educator and game warden will attend at least one of these workshops scheduled across the state.

These workshops offer advanced training and hands-on experience in each of the disciplines taught in the Hunter Education course. They give instructors a chance to learn new techniques, teaching skills and receive new material. The workshops offer an opportunity to visit other areas of the state, to "get away" and meet new friends. Exchanging ideas with other instructors is perhaps the best way to learn about new techniques.

A number of well-qualified individuals, such as biologists, game wardens, land managers and hunter education

instructors will assist with the new knowledge and training in each of the workshops. Like you, these folks volunteer their time and expertise to pass on the necessary information used to effectively educate hunters, as well as other outdoor users, to be safe, responsible, knowledgeable and involved.

## GENERAL FORMAT INFORMATION

Most workshops are just one day, on Saturday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. **But read the information letter for exact times and details of each workshop.**

## Registration, Lodging & Meals

Mark workshops you would like to attend, or desire information on, complete the attached registration card and return it to Austin. Information cannot be mailed out if the sign-up forms are not returned. This does not commit

you to a given workshop, but it does assure that you will receive an information packet for that workshop. Austin staff will send specific information on reservations, lodging, meals, directions and agenda items about four to six weeks prior to each workshop. **Don't put it off—mail it today!**

## Other Reminders

Dress for the workshops is casual: shorts and t-shirts, sport shirts and jeans, tennis shoes or boots. Be sure to bring warm clothes and rain gear in case of bad weather. We have seen rain, sleet, hail, snow and sunshine at the Outdoor Skills/Survival workshop in the past years.

For more information, please call (800) 792-1112, ext. 8142 or (512) 389-8142. We will try to see that you have successful workshops and that you go away with a sense of accomplishment and increased knowledge. We look forward to seeing you at the 2010 workshops. **Be Safe!**

# 2010 WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS



## Program Orientation/Standards/ Home Study Field Activities

This is a 12-hour workshop, and the first four hours must be completed online at [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/hunter\\_education/instruct.phtml](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/hunter_education/instruct.phtml). New applicants must attend the remaining eight-hour workshop in person. Veteran instructors are encouraged to refresh their knowledge online and attend the one-day session and learn how to conduct "Home Study field activities and testing."

## Outdoor Skills/Survival

This workshop gives participants a philosophical background and hands-on experience in situations and exercises including map and compass use, fire starting techniques, shelter building, outdoor cooking and desert/mountain survival. Participants might experience a "camp-out" reviewing the materials learned that day. Be prepared for a great outdoor experience with adequate needs rather than luxurious facilities.

## Rifle, Shotgun and Handgun

These workshops are conducted by NRA Training Counselors. They offer NRA instructor certifications in each of the above disciplines. However, each participant may be certified in only one of the three disciplines at a time. Each discipline is limited to 25 participants and is on a first-come, first-served basis. NRA certification is strictly up to each individual, and is the sole responsibility of the individual.

## Responsibility, Game Laws and Ethics

This workshop reviews Texas game laws and gives information regarding violations from a game warden's point of view. Training on "how to teach" using the *Texas Outdoor Annual* is an important portion of this workshop. The workshop covers important aspects of hunter responsibility by introducing participants to different teaching concepts, such as "trigger films," open meetings, brainstorming and dilemma methods.

## 2010 HUNTER EDUCATION INSTRUCTOR WORKSHOPS continued

Feb 26-28	<b>Trapper Ethics and Education</b> (Coletto Creek Res.)	Edna
Aug 7	<b>Home Game Processing</b>	Grand Prairie
Feb 20	<b>Pheasant Hunting</b> (Lonesome Dove Ranch)	San Antonio
Mar 20	<b>Laser Shot Training</b>	Houston
May 22		Corpus Christi
June 6		Mission
July 24	<b>Public Hunting Lands</b>	Grand Prairie
Apr 17	<b>Reading the Weather</b> (NOAA)	New Braunfels
July 10	(NOAA)	Ft. Worth
Mar 6	<b>Quail Hunting</b> (Lonesome Dove Ranch)	San Antonio
May 29	<b>Photography</b>	San Antonio
May 29	<b>Snakes of Tarrant County</b>	Ft. Worth
May 22	<b>Wing Shooting Responsibility</b>	Midland
Dec 18-19	<b>Waterfowl Workshop (Wing Shooting)</b> (Cooper WMA)	Sulphur Springs
Jun 7	<b>Turkey Hunting</b>	Mission
<b>SPECIAL EVENTS</b>		
Mar 19-20	<b>Annual Instructor Awards Conference</b> At the American Shooting Center. Dick Turpin, former Nebraska HE coordinator and director of law enforcement will be the special guest speaker. You won't want to miss this!	Houston
May 15-16	<b>Youth Hunter Education Challenge</b>	Houston
June 3-5	<b>IHEA Annual Conference</b>	Estes Park, Colorado

Place  
stamp  
here

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPT.  
HUNTER EDUCATION  
4200 SMITH SCHOOL ROAD  
AUSTIN, TX 78744

(fold here)

(staple or tape here)

# 2010 WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS, continued

## Wildlife Management/Conservation

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department personnel plan to give participants an overview of wildlife management/conservation of game and non-game species. A tour of wildlife management areas is usually planned, and professional biologists will be prepared to answer questions concerning the department's efforts across the state.

## ADVANCED IN-SERVICE WORKSHOPS

### Archery in the Schools Program

The Archery in the Schools Program has taken off across America, including Texas. The course offers two levels of certifications—Basic Archery Instructor (BAI) and Basic Archery Instructor Trainer (BAIT). The BAI course is geared towards P.E. teachers and is a one-day workshop covering the basics of archery, gymnasium range set up, 11 steps to shooting success and safety whistles (commands) and procedures. Geared towards the positive teaching style, this course is a prerequisite for BAIT—a three-day training that focuses on how to instruct teachers in the safe, fun approach to archery, especially in schools. The goal of NASP is to give 4th–12th graders a threshold experience in the shooting sports.

### Huntmaster

The Huntmaster Workshop is approximately 14–16 hours long and is mostly hands-on application. It provides the necessary training for organizing and running a youth hunt with additional support from the Texas Youth Hunting Program office. Friday evening is for registration with the course continuing all day on Saturday and until Sunday noon. **“Take a kid hunting!” Please contact TYHP at 2800 NE Loop 410, Ste. 105, San Antonio, TX 78216, or call (800) 460-5494.**

## Laser Shot Simulator

Come in for a day of instruction on set-up and use of the Laser Shot system. Learn how to check out this mobile unit for your courses or special events. No instructor will be allowed to check out or use this system unless they have been trained and certified in the appropriate care, transport, use and troubleshooting.

## Trapper Education

Instructors will become familiar with seasons, fur-bearing animal regulations, equipment, means and methods and general trapping knowledge. Texas Trappers and Fur Hunters Association members will provide instruction. Running trap lines to varmint calling will be on the agenda. The workshop will be enhanced with mostly hands-on activities. This workshop is one of the most popular, so don't miss it!

## Wing Shooting Responsibility

Come to this new workshop and learn what it takes to become a successful wing shooter with respect to waterfowl or upland game birds, and how to become a more responsible hunter. This workshop emphasizes the importance of judging distance and knowing when to shoot and when not to shoot, resulting in fewer “lost” birds. Bring your favorite shotgun and non-toxic shot for a rewarding day. Remember, practice should begin long before the season opens.

## Pheasant/Quail Hunting

Ever wonder why you just couldn't hit that little critter? Learn about quail biology, identification, flight patterns, ecology, habitat, favorite foods, watering and roosting patterns. Take some notes from the specialist. It could mean the difference in becoming a successful hunter and bringing home some tasty morsels for the table. Remember, you must practice well before the season!

## Waterfowl Hunting or ID

Texas has some of the best waterfowl hunting in North America. Learn different techniques on how to set up decoy spreads and call in those birds. Professional guides and personnel will be on hand to lead the activities. Hands-on training will be the focus of this workshop including necropsy of some species. Individuals will possibly have the opportunity to pattern their shotguns with steel shot.



**Mark the workshops that interest you and we'll send you the specific information packets about four to six weeks prior to each workshop.**

## 2010 HUNTER EDUCATION INSTRUCTOR WORKSHOPS

### INSTRUCTIONS

Choose which courses you would like to attend, cut out the blue panels, fold and tape, then mail it in. You are not committed to attend—rather, you will be sent an information packet as the workshop approaches.

#### Program Orientation/Standards/Home Study

Look on our Web site for current listings:  
[www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/hunter\\_education/instruct.phtml](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/hunter_education/instruct.phtml)

#### Survival & Outdoor Skills

Mar TBA Amarillo

#### NRA Rifle, Shotgun, Handgun, Reloading

Jan 23 NRA Pistol Houston  
 Feb 6-7 NRA Rifle Houston  
 Mar 6 NRA Pistol Houston  
 Apr 23-25 NRA Rifle Grand Prairie  
 May 28-30 Range Safety Officer Grand Prairie  
 June 11-13 Reloading Grand Prairie  
 Sep 24-26 NRA Shotgun Grand Prairie

#### Bowhunter Education – New Instructor

Jan 31 (Instructor only) Mt. Pleasant  
 Jan 16-17 (Stud./Inst. Combo) Brownsville  
 Mar 13-14 (Stud./Inst. Combo) Brownwood  
 Mar 27 (Instructor only) Pearland  
 Mar 28 (Instructor only) Tyler  
 May 16 (Instructor only) Whitney  
 July 31-Aug 1 (Stud./Inst. Combo) Big Lake  
 Aug 15 (Instructor only) Grand Prairie  
 Sep 25 (Instructor only) Pearland

#### Responsibility, Game Laws and Ethics

Mar 6 Lubbock  
 Mar 27 San Antonio  
 Apr 17 Midland  
 Aug 7 Lufkin

#### Wildlife Management/Conservation

Feb 6 (Landowner Relations) Houston  
 Sep 11 (Welder Wildlife Refuge) Sinton

#### ADVANCED IN-SERVICE WORKSHOPS

##### Basic Archery Instructor (not IBEP)

See Web site for information  
[www.tpwd.state.tx.us/archeryinschools/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/archeryinschools/)

##### Big Game Scoring

June 12 Grand Prairie

##### Crossbow Education

Mar 6 Grand Prairie  
 Mar 20 (at Annual Conf.) Houston

##### Trapper Ethics and Education

Feb 26-28 (Coletto Creek Res.) Edna

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Aug 7 Grand Prairie

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##### IHEA Annual Conference

June 3-5 Estes Park, Colorado

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Save the panel to the right so you have a list of courses and dates.**

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