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Texas Hunter Education Program

Newsletter No. 96

January 1993

Published by Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744

Coordinator's Message



While attending the Rifle, Shotgun and Handgun workshop in Granbury, one of the instructors brought forth some very important information that we all should remember while teaching hunter education courses. Enthusiasm is contagious and should be imparted and shared by each instructor. You owe each individual the same courtesy of involvement. Make them feel welcome. Have them participate often during class.

Ask yourself....was I informative? Did they participate? Was the class fun or boring? Did learning take place? When you have answered these questions with an acceptable answer then you can sit back and smile. "We want to share not show what we know"....was one of the parting comments.

On the workshop announcement you received in December, a statement that each instructor would be required to attend the Standards of Live-Fire/Hunter Safety Trail Workshop within the next three years was

announced. Please take advantage of the dates these workshops are presented. We owe each of our students the best that can be offered. By attending these workshops as well as all the others, we can make the hunter education classes the very best. The information gained during these workshops can sometimes make the difference in the success of a good course. With the amount of training gained during these fun-filled weekend adventures, one can return home with a renewed sense of responsibility. Take this information back to class and share it with your students.

In the last December mailout, each of you received an application to become involved with teaching Angler and/or Boater Education courses. Whether you wish to or not, the application must be completed by all instructors including volunteers, game wardens and professional educators. We need to update our files so that all instructors receive our mailouts. By correcting addresses and phone numbers, we can better serve each of you. Please return the applications ASAP. No additional game warden interview is needed.

New materials are in the works for Angler and Boater Education programs. As we receive information, it will be forwarded to you.

Let me end with the following written by Bill Yeatts, as it sums up a lot of my feelings.

-Terry Erwin

"We hunters are a very special group. A non-hunter can never understand it, because words alone won't do the job."

ONLY A HUNTER...

Has heard, and probably shivered at, the sound of a duckboat breaking pre-dawn marsh ice....

Has seen, and shared the pride of a young setter pup on his first point, or the sadness of an old dog as he stood on his last....

Has smelled, and will trade for few other smells, the aroma of egg-shell coffee, November morning air, guns and gunpowder, and a hunting cabin at night, woodsmoke....

Has felt, with a very real sense of satisfaction, the pain of a sore shoulder after a long day of good shooting....

Has experienced the thrill of drawing a bead on a buck, after many hours of waiting....

Has argued, without every winning or losing, the merits of one gun or one dog, one gauge or one load, one stand or one blind, over all the others....

Call it heritage, if you will....but ladies and gentlemen, it is something that we must teach our wives, daughters and sons for future generations....while we still can do so.

Thank you....and "Good Hunting"!



Cards & Letters

Dear Hunter Education Staff:

Manor Community Education recently sponsored a Hunter Safety Education class using instructors Ray Seymore and John Locke.

I would like to commend these instructors for the excellent job they did in providing instruction for the course. I heard nothing but praise and enthusiasm from the participants - which included a large group of pre-teen and teenage boys. Whenever instructors can keep this age group's attention and interest spans - that says something GREAT about the instructors!!

Please accept my sincere thanks in providing such fine role models as Mr. Seymore and Mr. Locke. This is the second year Manor ISD Community Education has sponsored a Hunter Education Course and I will certainly request these two fine gentlemen again.

Vicki McFarland
Director

Hunter Education Staff:

This is to let you know that even though this course was taught by Mr. David Tisdale and myself, our local game warden, Mr. Eliseo Padilla, did make a great presentation and we feel he should be commended for it. He covered part of hunter safety and responsibility, basic hunting techniques, but most important, he gave a complete rundown on how the law applies to hunters and landowners. The students asked many questions and enjoyed the presentation. He covered questions ranging from bag limits through conviction as the law

reads. Mr. Tisdale and I were very happy with Mr. Padilla's presentation and feel he should be recognized. Both Mr. Padilla and Mr. Gorman are fine gentlemen in this community and are highly respected by everybody. Again we feel these people are assets to our community and hope to continue working with them.

Juan Vela
Agriculture Science Teacher
Zapata High School

Dear Hunter Education Staff:

It does pay to protest. I sent my torn up Sears credit card to Mr. Brennan, President/CEO of Sears. As you can see, the sale is cancelled - I'm sure many more protested also.
Earlie Rose

Dear Mr. Earlie O. Rose, Sr.

Your letter addressed to Mr. Brennan regarding your concern of Sears support for the Humane Society of the United States was sent to my attention.

You will be pleased to know that Sears Catalog has discontinued the offer in its 1991 Wishbook which promoted financial support by the supplier to the Humane Society of the United States through the sale of plush animals. This merchandise has been removed from sale and customers will be notified when placing their orders that the merchandise is no longer available.

This promotion should not have been offered and Sears regrets any inconvenience or confusion caused to our customers.

Thank you for expressing your opinion on this issue. We appreciate you as a customer and hope that the action we have taken will continue your patronage of Sears.

Everett L. Buckardt
Sears President *****

Dear Mr. Andrew Sansom:
(Executive Director TPWD)

Re: Hunter Education Program:

I started hunting over 30 years ago with my dad and grandfather in northeast Texas. I hold a Texas Hunter Safety Certificate issued in June, 1981, under the old volunteer program. On October 17, 1992, I completed the Texas Hunter Education Program in Allen, Texas, with my two sons, who hunt with me, and my dad. Since I was already certified, I took this course as an example to my sons not expecting to learn anything new, but, now I am certainly glad I did. I learned far more than the many bow and rifle hunting experiences have taught me over the years. I strongly recommend this course to every new and experienced hunter.

Our instructor, Tom Clark, made it all happen. He has a way of delivering the information where both kids and adults comprehend and enjoy the entire program together. My hat's off to this rare individual who is truly dedicated to preserving the heritage and privilege of hunting for current and future generations.

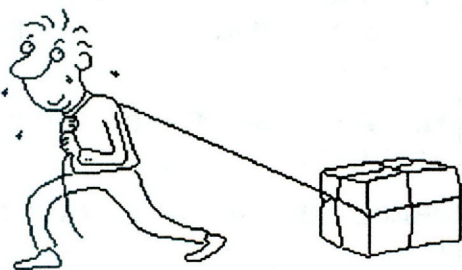
The Texas Hunter Education Program and Training Manual is an excellent resource for anyone seeking basic knowledge of wildlife conservation and habitats, wilderness survival skills and virtually all types of hunting arms and safety.

Because of this course and Tom Clark, my vision and understanding of the privilege of hunting has expanded beyond that which is seen through a scope or binoculars or following game trails. I'm looking forward to taking the course again in a few years with my daughter and wife. A family that camps or hunts together should take this course together. It builds a bond of mutual

respect and understanding for hunting, wildlife and our natural environment, similar to the camaraderie that emerges between friends who share a camp fire under the stars.

Yours truly,
H. Stephen Jones
Plano, Texas

P.S. I'm counting on this to help my wife understand why I spend all year planning and anticipating the beginning of each hunting season so I can pack into a wilderness for weeks at a time and come back happy even when I get skunked!



The Busy Man

If you want to get a favor done
By some obliging friend,
And want a promise safe and sure
On which you may depend.
Don't go to him who always had
Much leisure time to plan,
But if you want any favor done,
Just ask the busy man.
The man of leisure never has
A moment he can spare;
He's busy "putting off" until
His friends are in despair;
But he whose every waking hour
Is crowded full of work,
Forgets the art of wasting time -
He cannot stop to shirk.
So when you want a favor done,
And want it right away,
Go to the man who constantly
Works 20 hours a day.
He'll find a moment somewhere
That has no other use,
And fix you while the idle man
Is framing an excuse.

-Author unknown



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1993 In-Service Workshops

Program Orientation/Teaching Skills

March 27-28 Austin (Recreation)

Standards of Live-Fire/Hunter Safety Trail

March 25-26/27-28 Lubbock
April 1-2/3-4 Ft. Worth
April 29-30/May 1-2 Austin
May 6-7/8-9 Houston

Survival/Wilderness First Aid

March 6-7 Amarillo
March 20-21 Corpus Christi

Primitive Sporting Arms/Muzzloading/Archery

April 10-11 College Station

Hunter Responsibility, Game Laws, Ethics

June 19-20 Austin

***IBEP Instructor Course-
for recertification or new instructors***

June 26 Austin

Rifle, Shotgun and Handgun

March 13-14 Tyler
March 26-28 Brownwood
(with 4-H leaders)



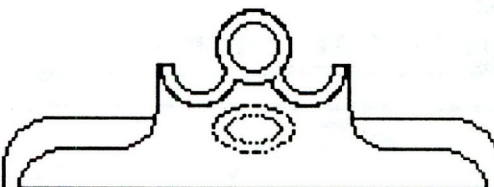
***Hunter Education
3rd Annual Conference***

June 5-6 Waco

**Mark your calendars for this event.
SEE ATTACHED**

**IMPORTANT
INFORMATION**

Please send in your 1993 class schedules. We have the opportunity to advertise these dates in some magazine publications. Students are calling now, believe it or not, for courses. Some Colorado bound hunters are even calling. What a switch!



GILBERT'S CORNER

I have had several problems with final report forms having an incorrect certification date on them. The certification date is **always** going to be the last day of that particular course, and **not** when the paper work was completed.

I've also had instructors send in student registration forms for students that completed the course before they were of age (12 yrs. old) with a certification date that reflects their 12th birthday, but does not reflect the last day of instruction for that particular class. Just by changing the certification date does not mean that he can be certified since that date was not when he actually completed the course.

Thanks
Gilbert Magallanez

NOTICE

Remington Arms Company has recalled a specific quantity of .243 Winchester, 100-grain, PSP centerfire ammunition. The rounds were loaded with an insufficient powder charge according to company officials and that could result in a failure to fire and might leave a bullet lodged in the barrel.

The LOT numbers on the affected product begin with U06D or U07D and no other lot numbers are affected. If you bought any of this ammunition since July 1992 you are urged to call 1-800-634-2459 to determine if your ammunition can be replaced. No other product is involved.



Providing our instructors with the best service we can is our ultimate goal. But, we need your help to obtain this goal. Below are a few reminders concerning booking and returning A/V materials.

***CALL 3 WEEKS PRIOR TO THE EVENT TO BOOK MATERIALS.**

***CHECK YOUR VCR TO MAKE SURE ALL TAPES ARE RETURNED.**

***REWIND TAPES/FILMS BEFORE RETURNING.**

***REPLACE TAPE IN CORRECT HOLDER.**

***RETURN TAPES/FILMS ON OR BEFORE DUE DATE.**

***CHECK THAT CASES ARE SECURELY LOCKED OR ZIPPERED WHEN MAILING.**

***PLACE YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER ON ALL REQUESTS.**

Following these simple guidelines will ensure faster and more efficient service for all instructors. Please contact me with any problems or suggestions.

Thanks
Debi Davis

1-800-253-4536 or 512-389-4795

Education Branch

Steve Hall, Education Director
Terry Erwin, Recreation Coordinator
Rafael Salgado, Recreation Specialist
Scotty Oliver, Range Specialist
Gilbert Magallanez, Recreation Records
Debi Davis, Video Library
Jack Nasworthy, Supplies
MaryJoe Finley, WATS Line



Texas Hunter Education Instructor's Association

Dear Instructor,

Perhaps you have not heard about our organization,

It is *yours*, as much as any other instructor in the state.

Please join us in working together to make our program the *best* it can be. If you would like more information concerning the organization, check this box You can become a member *now*, by completing the form below, and returning with your remittance, to:

Pam Fort, THEIA Treasurer, Rt 3 Box 861R, Seguin, TX 78155.

1 year (\$10.00) 3 years (\$25.00) supporting (\$20.00/yr.)

Name _____ Inst. # _____
Address _____ Date _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
County _____ Phone # _____

WELCOME NEW INSTRUCTORS

1992 JANUARY

James D. Witt	San Angelo	Raul A. Aguero	Knickerbocker	Jorge R. Tamayo	Atascosa
Jeremiah McCarthy	Midland				

FEBRUARY

Dale E. Mulkey	Rowlett	Evelyn K. Grau	Romayor	Ricky L. Pringle	Centerville
Randy P. Laza	Dayton	Joe L. Weaver	Centerville	Michael Schroeder	Katy
Robert C. Waters	Magnolia	James D. Ritchie	Houston	Michael L. Young	Houston
William W. Albert	Conroe	Wendy K. Schatte	Spring	L. John Ford	Houston
John L. Bell	Houston	Roger W. Green	Lubbock	Robert Steenbeke	San Antonio
Ray C. Whitehair	San Antonio	Gerald E. Mainz	San Antonio	David R. Harwood	College Sta.
Robert J. Hand Jr.	Snyder	Lanette J. Clawson	Lubbock	Gertie L. Baker	Plainview

MARCH

Michael S. Johnston	Marshall	Steven J. Smolky	Del Rio	Harvey V. Morgan	Del Rio
Darrel D. Bailey	Del Rio	Cesar F. Chavez	Del Rio	Rafael Salgado	Austin
Danny Clawson	Lubbock				

APRIL

David C. Frazier	Snyder	Melvin Bowman Jr	Hearne	Roque Barrera Jr	La Marque
Craig A. Franklin	Tilden	Harriett J. Bennett	Big Bend Nt. Pk.	Jeffery T. Parrish	Callihan
Richard L. Bennett	Big Bend Nt. Pk	Jimmie Robertson	Walnut Springs	John W. Engel	Smithville
Michael Rexroat Jr.	Arlington	David L. Pope	Irving	Jackson P. Brooks	Del Rio
David J. Macarthur II	Del Rio	Tracy L. Talbot	Graham	Phillip E. Davis	Lufkin
Donnie R. Kee	Lufkin	Donald W. Carroll	Lufkin	Harry J. Jost Jr.	Lufkin
Paul K. Hubbard	Refugio	James Thevenet	Brazoria	James G. Blum	Eldorado
Hulon C. Lummus	Houston	Boyce K. Hamilton	Arlington		

MAY

Terry A. Young	Lufkin	David Hendricks	Lufkin	James Montgomery	Ozona
Elijio Garza Jr.	Corpus Christi	James T. Williams	Big Lake	John M. Warren	Big Sandy
John C. Haverly	Eustace	Lee H. Koning	Terrell	Ward McMillan	Longview
Michael D. Robinson	Terrell	Rick B. Moncrief	League City	Richard A. Howard	Crosby
Charles W. Gordon	Houston	Greg D. Hooker	Conroe	Heather Moncrief	League City

JUNE

Rickey H. McClelland	Utopia	Donald W. Houser	Ft. Worth	Alan W. Krause	Austin
Robert L. Hawley	Austin	Mitchel Freeman	Fritch	James R. Norton Jr.	Buda
David R. Cobb	Childress	Johnny L. Lemons	Dodson	Claburn L. Gunter	Arlington
Lela G. Evans	DeSoto	David M. Rain	Highland Village	Mason L. Harlow	Austin
Jerry L. Berten	Shamrock	Leon Gheer	Canyon	Roxanne K. Davis	Granbury
Robert D. Parette Jr.	Temple	Mackey J. Morgan	Carrollton	Mike D. Booher	Graham
Harold R. Inman	Dallas	Richard D. Hill	Allen	John E. Marley	Mesquite
Jimmy W. Cawthorn	Webster	James C. Ward	Powderly	David S. Lewis	Marshall
Gerald D. Potter	Austin	Mark L. Harris	Paris		

JULY

Cody B. Newcomb	Hamilton	Jason J. Marek	Mason	Wm. Montgomery	Gruver
Robert G. Pardee	Arthur City	Ralph E. James	Gainesville	Van E. Ellis	Port Arthur
Michael S. Gibson	Cooper	Les R. Steger	Round Rock	Ross E. Stansell	Whitehouse
G.W. Stary	Corpus Christi	Shannon Layman	Frona	Evaristo Canales	McAllen
Kenneth E. Cox	Bonham	Randy Jones	Southmayd	Jason T. Mays	Mt. Vernon
Eddy D. Haley, Sr.	Powderly	Blake L. Johnson	Sanford	Clarence Schomburg	Ganado

AUGUST

J. Frank Saldana	Combes	Ronnie L. Dennis	Olton	Robert Browning	Ft. Worth
Jay G. Newton	Wildorado	Harold Christmann	Seabrook	John C. White II	Silsbee
Ronnie J. Hunter	Santa Fe	Lewis R. Gravell	Houston	Lowell Hudsonpillar	Mission
John C. White	Silsbee	Phillip Stubblefield	Cypress	Howard W. Tooley	Maple
Clarence D. Price	Brady	Brian Stafford, Sr.	Copperas Cove	Billy Meredith	Harker Hts.
Donald E. Beeksma	Killeen	Michael D. Hedges	Canyon	Edward P. Swope	Copperas Cv
O. Robert Hilmo, Jr.	Harker Heights	W. Ransbottom	Midland	Barbie A. Schmidt	Hockley
Bernard H. Hyman	Austin	Timothy Fossette	Austin	Wayne S. Barnett	Houston
Wesley C. Schmidt	Hockley	Darla Washington	McLeod	Diane F. Lawson	Del Valle
Kim T. Morris	Tyler	John S. Davis	Joshua		

SEPTEMBER

Jeffrey S. Sorrells	Kenedy	Bruce R. Keller	Ingram	Paul B. Pugh	Ingram
Gregory A. Golden	Colmesneil	Richard P. Watson	Sulphur Springs	Michael K. Gregory	Arp
Willie R. Melancon	Kountze	John G. Wadley	Waxahachie	Chandra S. Scott	Cross Plains
Ramon F. Dinsdale	Cleburne	Richard L. Benson	Sulphur Springs	Donald J. David	Houston
James B. Christman	Sanderson	William C. Rogers	Marquez	Ronnie W. Norris	Eldorado
Darren L. Francis	Perrin	Debbie D. Jebbia	Fresno	Marvin K. Allwright	Humble

NOVEMBER

Tommy B. Lacewell	Lubbock	John R. Bucknum	Moody	Donald R. Dunaway	Orange
Paul D. Whelan	Garland	Robert P. Russell	Humble	Russell Kuykendall	Van Horn
Bobby W. Owen	Van Horn	David S. Scott	Van Horn	James S. Harper	Van Horn
Thomas W. Grubb	Van Horn	Anthony Debellis	Fort Hood		

DECEMBER

Darryl C. Frizzell	Longview	Bruce M. Innes	Oakwood	Nathan Kowacich	Odessa
Michael C. Myers	Longview	Bill D. Logsdon	Fairfield		

Texas Hunter Education Student and Instructor Drawn for 1992 Winchester Hunter Education Dream Hunt

Four lucky hunter education students and four hunter education instructors were drawn from thousands of post card entries to participate in the 1992 Winchester Hunter Education Dream Hunt in Georgia. Among those students drawn were Chad Moles (Age 14) from Katy, TX. Carl Marmion of San Antonio was one of the lucky instructors drawn to accompany the youth.

The winners were flown to Georgia and met by Wayne Pearson, his "Ultimate Outdoors" crew and Sandy Wood, Winchester Shooting Promotion Manager. After the arrival, the winning students were given an "early" Christmas thanks to Winchester, Sunshine Mills, Wayne Pearson's "Ultimate Outdoors" and those who donated the following products: a 20 ga Winchester shotgun from US Repeating Arms; a compound bow from Bear Archery; a Crosman airgun; one dozen Easton arrows; boots from LaCrosse; clothing and travel bag from Trebark Camo; a custom knife from Robert Dill in Colorado; a gun cleaning kit from Otis and Quaker Boy Game Calls.

Each instructor winner and the youth's dads received hunting attire, including shirts, pants, vests and caps, plus a jacket with the Hunter Education Association logo neatly displayed. Certified instructors who are active may enter a special drawing to accompany the youth on next years trip by simply putting their name, address, phone number, and instructor ID number on a plain post card and mailing it to: Winchester Hunter Education Dream Hunt, Rt 1 Box 402, Naylor, GA 31641.

Again, four youth and four instructors will be drawn near the first of September 1993 so plans, preparations and airline schedules can be made. Let's get behind this program and give our youth the best we can offer in our hunter education classes. After all, this is just a "Bonus" for having taken the course, but it lets them know how much we appreciate their involvement. The youth are the future of our sport, so encourage them and give the best you can...plus the love of our great outdoors. Each individual under the age of 18 who has successfully completed a hunter education course is eligible to enter the drawing for the all-expense paid trip including a parent or guardian. An entry card will be mailed with each new student certification card.

ATTENTION HUNTER EDUCATORS! Have we got a deal for you!

The Texas Conservation Passport,

which is now available from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, gives its holder special benefits:

Access to wildlife management areas and not-fully-developed parks that permit self-guided tours. One admission per Passport.

Access to tours and programs guided by experts in ecology, wildlife biology, archaeology and related fields. One admission per Passport.

Free entrance for you and your family to all state parks that have a per vehicle daily entrance fee.

Discounts on all types of overnight facilities at department sites.

Discounts on department sale items such as the Texas Parks & Wildlife magazine.

Newsletter to announce upcoming events and access conditions to wildlife management areas, parks not fully developed and programs requiring the Conservation Passport.

And the most significant benefit of all: The *Texas Conservation Passport* makes you a partner with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in the *conservation of the state's natural and cultural resources*.

You can get your Conservation Passport by mail. (Just fill out the form on the back and mail it in with your check or money order.) Or pick one up in person at any state park or Texas Parks and Wildlife Department office around the state.

A sample of guided tours available to Passport holders at wildlife management areas and units of the state park system include bus tours at *Matagorda Island*, migrant bird stopover tours at *Candy Abshier*, tours of archaeological pictograph sites and natural sites at *Devil's River*, and whopping crane habitat seminars at *Welder Flats*. Some of the department sites with self-guided tours include *Atkinson Island, Black Gap, Cedar Creek Islands, Las Palomas, Lower Neches, Old Tunnel and Redhead Pond*. The complete list of sites and activities is too long to include here, but will be sent to you with your Conservation Passport.

The Texas Conservation Passport makes a great gift for friends and family members for just about any occasion. Keep it in mind.

Weekly and Semi-monthly Tours

Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area -- In Presidio and Brewster counties. Bus tour with a chuckwagon lunch at the ranch headquarters. On the first and third Saturday of every month. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Make Reservations.** For the first Saturday of a given month, call Fort Leaton State Park (Presidio) 915/229-3613; for the third Saturday of the month, call Barton Warnock Environmental Education Center (Lajitas) 915/424-3327.

Honey Creek State Natural Area -- In Comal County. Tour of the Edwards Plateau ecosystem. Approximately two-hour tour covering 3 miles. Every Saturday at 9 a.m. **No reservations required.** Call Guadalupe River State Park for information, 512/438-2656.

Tours by Request

Devil's River State Natural Area -- In Val Verde County. Guided tour of archaeological pictograph sites and natural sites **upon request by a group.** Bunkhouse lodging and kitchen available. Call 512/395-2133.

Kickapoo Cavern State Natural Area -- In Edwards and Kinney Counties. Birdwatching and nature tours **upon request.** Primitive cavern tour **by special arrangement.** Groups encouraged. Bunkhouse lodging and kitchen available. Bunkhouse capacity is 12. Call 512/563-2342.

Texas Conservation Passport Application Form

Instructions

- Please print or type all information.
- If you are applying for the Passport as a gift, you may omit the person's driver's license number and vehicle's license plate number if not known. Be sure the mailing address is complete. A card specifying the donor of the gift will accompany the Passport.
- You may reproduce this form if you need more applications.
- If you have any questions, call 512/389-4901

----- Please complete and return -----

Staple check or money order here

Name: _____
 Last First M.I.

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Driver's License Number: _____ State: _____ Date of birth: _____

Vehicle license plate number: _____ State: _____

Today's date: _____

Gift Certification. Please complete this portion if you are purchasing a gift Passport.

I'm purchasing this Passport as a gift. MY name and address are:

Name: _____
 Last First M.I.

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone number : (_____) _____

----- Please complete and return -----

Attach check or money order for \$25 per Passport and mail to:
Texas Conservation Passport
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, Texas 78744

***Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
4-H and
Texas Hunter Education Instructors Association***



**Join Hands in Presenting the 2nd Annual Texas
Youth Hunter Education Challenge
June 12 & 13th, 1993**

At a meeting held December 4, 1992, in Austin, Texas, between Ron Howard, representative of 4-H, Steve Hall, representative of Texas Parks and Wildlife, and Rhonda Muller, representative of THEIA, the decision was made to join forces in presenting the 2nd Annual, 1993 Texas Youth Hunter Education Challenge.

The event is designed to test our youth's outdoor skills, including Wildlife Identification, Rifle, Shotgun, Black Powder, Archery, Orienteering, Hunter Safety Trail, and a Written Test. All eight categories are not necessary in conducting your local event, however.

NRA Challenge brochures may be obtained (50 at a time free) by calling NRA, 1-800-336-7402.

Rules may be obtained by contacting Terry Erwin, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, TX 78744.

If you are interested in conducting a local challenge, contact your county extension office to get in touch with the 4-H shooting sports program in your area.

For any additional assistance, contact Pam Fort, Rt 3 Box 861R, Seguin, TX 78155, 512-623-5339; Rhonda Muller, 9026 Clipper, San Antonio, TX 78242, 512-623-5339; or Cyndi Sykora, 1117 Holly Vista, Waco, TX 76711, 817-752-7078.

This can be an exciting and rewarding event, but we need instructor involvement to make it a success.

NOTES FOR FUTURE YOUTH CHALLENGES

Contact 4-H Shooting Sports and coordinate the event with them. They can provide participants and possibly some additional people to conduct the event.

1. Set date for local events in early May, state event in early June.
2. Event chairman must be a qualified instructor who will give assignments and oversee the event from beginning to clean-up.
3. Director's meeting where directors are assigned events and duties.
4. Local level -- Pre-registration cost lower than registration on the day of the event.
5. State participants **MUST** be pre-registered. (no walk-ins)
6. Registration up to a certain time (possibly the night before) with at least 1 hour for officials to coordinate groups. Then have meeting with participants. This could also be done the night before (Friday night). Adults and parent volunteers meet before event to know each one's duties.
7. Receipts distributed for registration/entry fees.
8. Event to last two (2) days. (Saturday and Sunday).
9. Officials to be identified in some way (arm-band, certain color shirt, etc.)
10. Qualified Instructors to check out facility well in advance.
11. Establish a Visitor Area and Eating Area.
12. Set up First Aid Station.
13. Set up two (2) days before event if possible. (or know exactly how everything will fit together and be set up)
14. Have release forms ready at registration. (may be sent out with pre-registration packets)
15. Written Exam prepared well in advance with answers on scantron or block answer sheets.
16. Color coordinate score sheets with events. Use a different color for each event. (avoid confusion in scoring and posting)
17. Obtain dependable runners. If possible, use adults.
18. If possible, secure walkie talkies for communication between stations.
19. Have an equipment room for each shooting event where necessary.
20. Be sure all equipment necessary for each station is available.
21. Have shade and water at each event.
22. Have restroom facilities convenient to events.
23. Have plenty of trash cans and ash cans.
24. Have chairs and table at each event station.
25. Set up a time configuration with warning horn/sound (15 minutes till time period ends).
26. Order of go **MUST** be adhered to. Anyone changing their order forfeits points.

27. Coordinate number in group with number of stations at each event = 4 to a group)
 - paper clips
 - staple guns/staples (for each shooting event)
 - flagging tape (orange)
 - markers
 - extra paper
 - range rules for shooting events
 - event signs
 - duct tape
 - ground cloths for shooting events
28. Participants **MUST** wear caps provided for the event.
29. Separate room for scoring. No admittance to participants, spectators, or coaches (only officials designated for scoring).
30. Parent volunteers may help with events and posting. Not with scoring, placing, and overall winner determination.
31. Hunter safety trail must provide orange vests for participants.
32. Written exam conducted in secure area (no interference from other participants, adults, or spectators).
33. Large area set up for Wildlife ID. Start one participant, half way through, start another.
34. Shooting area to be secure (no traffic in or out that could endanger someone's safety). If necessary have sheriff's deputy or game warden on duty to ensure this.
35. Participants are responsible for retrieving their spent cartridges. (part of being a responsible hunter)
36. Any participant caught littering is automatically disqualified.
37. Try to have all shooting events pivot out from a central area and non-shooting (trail & orienteering) on the other end of the wheel.
38. Make sure compasses used to lay out course are working properly.
39. Each participant shall be responsible for providing their own compass.
40. Some things to remember to have on hand are:
 - Receipt book
41. Other considerations:
 - Pam says Rhonda will be at the next state event!
 - Areas or regions can coordinate and help each other. Teamwork is the only way this project will work.
 - A possible slogan for next year "Something to shoot for".
 - We need to get media into these events.
42. Possible locations to consider:
 - a. International Paper at Jefferson (Game Warden Mike Walker contact person)
Marion County.
 - b. Fort Hood
 - c. Camp Bullis
 - d. 4-H Center
 - e. Corp of Engineer Areas
 - f. Private land owners
 - g. Choke Canyon - Game Warden
43. Contact Game Warden Association for possible concession stand. We take a percentage of the profits.
44. Use your local groups where possible:
 - Muzzleloader
 - Shotgun
 - Rifle
 - Archery
45. Interested instructors submit questions for test question pool (for the participants to study).

"Personal" vs "Professional" Opinion

Every once in a while, the Hunter Education staff receives disturbing calls, evaluations or letters regarding information being taught in the hunter education course. Sometimes, it is the instructors themselves who describe statements they stress in class which, in good faith, they believe to be a part of the curriculum.

Most statements do relate directly to material of safe, responsible and knowledgeable hunting practices. However, some statements do not! Take a close look at some of the following statements and think about their content, then decide if they are appropriate or not.

- 1) "This is the only firearm you should use for personal protection in the home."
- 2) "I wouldn't eat anything that came out of Galveston Bay."
- 3) "You must obey all hunting regulations as they are written."
- 4) "Don't report any mountain lion sightings to Texas Parks and Wildlife. They just want to try to take away our right to hunt them, like what happened in California."
- 5) "Safety is important and you must concentrate on the Ten Commandments every time you handle a sporting arm."
- 6) "Texas Parks and Wildlife Department shouldn't have passed that regulation."
- 7) You should wear a hunter orange hat and vest while hunting no matter what the legal requirements."
- 8) "Those anti-hunting crazies have no place in society."

Read on to see what the appropriate answers might be and how they should or should not be used.

- 1) No — You may make recommendations regarding equipment use as they relate to safe and responsible actions, but topics such as "Personal Protection" are not a part of the hunter education curriculum.
- 2) No — Whether you would personally consume what comes from "Galveston Bay" or not has no significant reason to be used in a hunter education class. The Resource Protection Division of Texas Parks and Wildlife works closely with other state and federal agencies to help clean up polluted areas so that those who visit and use them can feel good about it. Be positive!
- 3) Yes — Hunting regulations are established, legal sets of guidelines which assist your understanding of laws designed to protect the resource, protect other people, ensure fair chase and fair share and educate and gather information for wildlife managers.
- 4) No — Reporting the sightings of mountain lions is not done to keep you from hunting them, but is requested to note their presence in different areas of the state for biological reasons as well as for safety reasons. Mountain lions are not considered game animals, nor are they listed under endangered, threatened or restricted species in Texas.
- 5) Yes — Safety is the primary emphasis of hunter education courses and can not be over emphasized, even with adults who tend to become complacent with safety issues. The "Hunter Safety Trail" will be most valuable in getting these points across.

- 6) No — Remember, you represent the Department, its mission, goals and objectives once you put on your hunter education instructor hat. It's not "me and them" — it's US. Your problems are our problems and vice-versa. When it comes to safe, responsible and knowledgeable hunting activities, we want to enhance and preserve our great heritage.
- 7) Yes — This falls into the category of ethics. Wearing hunter orange saves lives; has not been demonstrated to reduce hunting success; and should be worn regardless of legal requirements. Hunter orange is a symbol of hunter education and safety, and its use should be promoted. (Some exceptions may apply).
- 8) No — As a representative of the Department, you also represent the citizens of Texas, no matter what their opinions. Your mission is to not only educate hunters, but you must also be a diplomat and ambassador of the sport. Educate non-hunters to the benefits of hunting. You will not change anti-hunting sentiments, but you can make a difference for those who do not oppose nor understand hunting practices.

These are just a few of the examples you as instructors might encounter. We know you will handle the situations like true professionals. Keep up the good work, and please know that we are here to help you any way we can. Many thanks!



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Airgun Competition

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