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NEWSLETTER NO. 111

SUMMER 1997

EDITOR'S CORNER

NEW FORMS

Remember in the last issue, we talked about change? The new student and instructor Scantron forms are being mailed out. They are extremely "busy" and take additional time to complete. Please be patient and help the students complete them correctly. Have them use a pencil, so mistakes can be corrected if necessary. Properly filled out forms will make data entry much easier, and students should receive their card much faster.

At the beginning of the class, carefully go over each section of the registration form as the students are filling them out. Here are a few things to remember that cause the forms to be rejected in the scanner. Please do not place an "X" or a check mark over an oval. Only the oval must be colored entirely. Do not make any stray marks, or go into other areas with stray marks or signatures. Leave spaces between address numbers and street names, etc. Do not allow the students to mark "Home Study" on their form. When you mark the course type on the final report as Angler, Boater, or Hunter, the **course sub-type** will always be "basic." Bowhunter will be IBEP. Just in case you forget, there will be directions enclosed with supply orders.

If an instructor is certified to teach Angler, Boater, Hunter or Bowhunter Education courses, remember the following. Each course must have a **separate final report** and the students must fill out a **separate student registration** form for each course. Multiple courses may **not** be entered on the same form. This scenario would primarily apply to Agriculture Science teachers, who have the students for a whole semester where multiple classes

Continued on next page

Houston Safari Club Makes Donation

The home study video, "Safeguarding Our Heritage," has been completed thanks to the **Houston Safari Club**, who made a \$5000 donation to Hunter Education to help with production cost. The thirty-six minute video, to be used with the "Home Study" format of learning, covers topics on safety, responsibility, ethics, archery, elevated stands, hypothermia, use of blaze orange, zones-of-fire, landowner relations and big game, upland game and waterfowl tips. This video also is available for use in the regular structured courses.

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might be given. The computer is set up to accept only **one course per final report** and **one course per student registration form**. Again, for Agriculture teachers, if you have more than one course going at the same time, you must finish the courses on different days. The computer is set up so that only one course may be completed on any given day. Example: finish the first period class on Tuesday, the second period class on Wednesday so that two different dates appear on the final report forms and the student registration forms.

If you haven't ordered supplies or obtained the new forms yet, please order them as soon as possible. Count and inventory the materials on hand and order enough new forms to cover the supplies you have. Some of the orders have been pre-packed and may contain the old forms. **Please do not use the old Student Registration forms or Instructor Final Report forms any longer, but save them for emergency use only.**

Remember, you will receive a sample copy and directions when you order your supplies. When you complete a class, if the forms will not all go into one envelope, use two or more envelopes and tape them together for mailing. Until we work out all the "kinks," have patience and understanding. You are doing a fantastic job. All these changes are for the better, believe me.

Most individuals, who are in school, are used to seeing a Scantron type form. Any adult who plays the Texas Lottery should be familiar with filling in the bubbles. We have heard the complaints about how hard it is to use the new forms, and we apologize for any inconvenience. Instructors may have to add another hour to their classes for "paper work."

Talk about new forms...There is another new one for use when instructors do a special presentation other than a regular class. It is used for educational outreach statistics. For example, if an instructor goes to a school, club meeting, service organization or any function and presents a safety program, or a talk on survival, wildlife management, etc., these forms should be used to record the attendees.

The form has two copies, white and yellow, and is easy to fill out. Have each attendee write their name and complete the blanks beside the name. Upon completion of the program, return the white copy to TP&W in a postage paid-envelope. Keep the yellow copy for your records. If you anticipate doing any special presentations, contact Jack Nasworthy for some of these new forms. These statistics will help us meet our goals of reaching additional constituents.

****New Policy Change**** In years past, any student, who took the course and the completion date was within thirty (30) days of their twelfth birthday, would be certified. **NOT ANY MORE.** The student **MUST be twelve on or before** the certification date to be certified. If the birthday is one day after the certification date, the student will be entered as **underage**. This is the way the new computer system is set up. Any student under twelve is always welcome to attend the course, but must understand that they cannot be certified and must take the course over after turning twelve.

Calls are beginning to come in for the Fall hunting season. Schedule courses as soon as possible and remember to plan some in November and December for the holiday season. Young hunters will be out of school and will want to go hunting during this time. Also, out-of-state bound hunters who hunt in Kansas, Nebraska, etc., for pheasants during the holidays, will need courses during this time. When you schedule courses, don't forget to let us know so we can place them in the computer.

Last, but not least. If you order a new STUDENT card, it will have a new student number on it. The old student card had a four-digit number on it. The computer reassigned each student a new number in random order. The new student numbers will be printed on the card when a new card is ordered.

Thanks for all the help and effort.
Hang in there and keep up the great work.

Terry Erwin

I.H.E.A. "DREAM HUNT"

The cards have arrived for I.H.E.A. "Dream Hunt" and are being mailed out with supply orders. Please make sure that all students under the age of eighteen (18) receive one upon successful completion of the Hunter Education course. The drawing will take place around September 1, and the hunts will be in November most likely. Texas had a student drawn last year from Lufkin. Those students completing the course after September 1, will have their cards placed in the drawing for next year.

Instructors who wish to go the "Dream Hunt" or any of the six additional hunts or fishing trips with **Wayne Pearson host of ESPN's Ultimate Outdoors** should send in a plain post card to:

I.H.E.A. "DREAM HUNT"
P. O. Box 5078
Nashville GA 31639

with name, address, phone numbers and a statement that you are a Hunter Education instructor. Several instructor winners from Texas have been selected in the past years. So far, two students have been drawn from Texas for these fine trips.



Hunter Education Loses A Friend

The man known as the "Father of Hunter Education in Texas" left us on May 7, 1997, after a brief battle trying to overcome heart surgery. T. D. Carroll, age 80, passed away while in the hospital in North Carolina. He and his wife, Annette, had been visiting their daughter and son-in-law during the month of April.

In the early 1970s, he began the voluntary Hunter Education program, and the first students were certified in March of 1972. He was the coordinator until 1980 when he retired from Texas Parks and Wildlife. He continued to attend the Hunter Responsibility, Ethics and Game Laws workshops each year, where he made his presentation on the "Unwritten Law." During these workshops, he made numerous new friends, some of which came back just to hear him speak. When called upon for a presentation, he never refused, because his love for the outdoors was always there.

T. D. had been nominated for the International Hunter Education Hall of Fame Award in March. Staff was notified that he was selected in April while he was away. Staff was unable to notify him of the honor, and left messages on his recorder to make contact upon his return. On May 11, while reading the newspaper, Scotty Oliver came across the notice about the funeral service. Needless to say, it was quite a shock.

Contact was made the next afternoon with his wife, and expressions of sympathy were delivered. When she was told of

the Hall of Fame Award, and the regrets that T. D. had not been told personally, she said, "Don't worry, he knows about it." The award was accepted in May at Louisville, KY, during the annual International Hunter Education Association conference. It is a beautiful bronze sculpture of a cougar with an engraved plaque. Accepting the award was J. D. Peer, Oklahoma Hunter Education Coordinator) who was the Assistant Coordinator under T. D. for several years), Steve Hall, TP&W Education Directors and Terry Erwin.

T. D. always said that there was the "written law" and the "unwritten law" and defined them as, "What you can and can't do and what you should and shouldn't do." He will be missed along with his messages on ethics, his stories of "Ole Crip" and the time when he and his son were dove hunting. When asked by his son why they didn't go ahead and get their limit of doves after sunset, T. D. replied that they couldn't do that, because it was against the law. His son said, "But who would know Dad?," and T. D. replied, "We would know son...We would know."

T. D. once said: "Wisdom does not come from the accumulation of knowledge, but rather the application of knowledge accumulated." And so it is...when instructors are teaching about responsibility and explaining about how "ethics are caught and not taught," stop and think about T. D. during that time. For those who knew him, he was loved by all as a friend and mentor, and for those who never met him, know that he was a sincere, true gentleman.

Teaching Tips

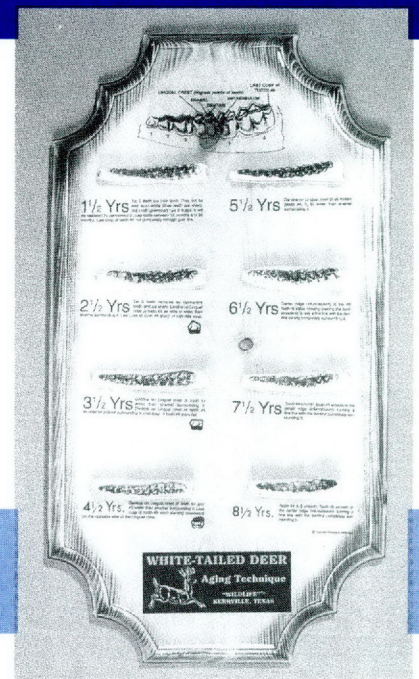
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Did you ever question the age of that big buck? Check out the Deer Aging Plaque

The age is determined by wear pattern on the teeth. This technique was developed by biologists throughout the U.S. The Deer Aging Plaque is an ideal gift for the hard-to-shop-for hunter who has everything. The plaque contains representative teeth from the 1 1/2 to 8 1/2 year old age classes of deer. This decorative plaque would grace the walls of any hunting lodge, den, home, office or classroom.

Cost of the plaque is \$48.50, and includes tax, shipping and handling. To purchase one or for more information, contact:

Mike Kasberg
P. O. Box 363
Kerrville, Texas 78029





The 1997 YHEC was held May 3-4, at the Parrie Haynes Youth Ranch near Killeen.

Competition was held in the following events:

- Rifle
- Archery
- Shotgun
- Muzzleloading
- Orienteering
- Hunter Safety Trail
- Wildlife Identification and Headhunter Responsibility Exam

Thirty-seven individuals came from across the state and competed on individual levels. The winners in each of the Senior categories are as follows: Sr. Rifle - Russell Rogers, Marshall; Sr. Archery - Russell Rogers, Marshall; Sr. Shotgun - Jeff Hinton, Longview; Sr. Muzzle loading - Jeff Hinton, Longview; Sr. Orienteering - Becca Davis, Seguin; Sr. Hunter Safety Trail - Charles Rue, Longview; Sr. Wildlife I.D. - Christopher Wells, Belton and Sr. Responsibility Exam - Russell Rogers, Marshall.

Heading up the Junior categories were the following winners: Jr. Rifle - Zachery Geyer, San Antonio; Jr. Archery - Zachery Geyer, San Antonio; Jr. Shotgun - Levi Geyer, San Antonio; Jr. Muzzle loading - Justin Jobe, Longview; Jr. Orienteering - Chet Smith, Belton; Jr. Hunter Safety Trail - Algie Tuttle, Longview; Jr. Wildlife I.D. - Justin Jobe, Longview and Jr. Responsibility Exam - Algie Tuttle, Longview.

The overall winner in the Sr. Category was Russell Rogers from Marshall with a score of 1912, and the overall Jr. Category winner was Zachery Geyer from San Antonio with a score of 1576.

The sportsmanship award went to Charlie Rue from Longview who loaned his muzzle loader to his competitor who didn't have one. He said, "It's sighted in and you're welcome to use it." Folks, it just doesn't get much better than that.

Congratulations to each of these youngsters and to all the other competitors who worked and trained so hard for this event. A special thanks goes out to all the instructors who came and assisted with the activities. There were more than fifty volunteers who helped during the weekend.

The NRA/IHEA International Youth Hunter Education Challenge was held at the NRA Whittington Center in Raton, New Mexico July 27-August 1. T.H.E.I.A. (Texas Hunter Education Instructors Association) payed the entry fee for the overall Sr. and Jr. Winner's when they traveled to New Mexico for the competition.

Good Luck!!



Texas Youth Hunting Association

Founded in 1995 and incorporated on February 8, 1996, The Association, in cooperation with Texas Parks and Wildlife, Parks and Wildlife Foundation, Texas Wildlife Association and Texas Wildlife Forever, is working to promote conservation education and responsible, ethical hunting practices among youth. The purpose of the Texas Youth Hunting Association is to increase the number of youth participating in wildlife and hunting activities and to promote the hunting heritage in Texas.

Kristi Sliva, Executive Director, resigned as of May 1, 1997 to get married. She will, however, remain on the advisory board as a volunteer to help with the selection of a new executive director and youth hunts in the future.

Memberships in the Youth Hunting Association are available at the following prices:

Youth...\$5, Adult...\$25, Family...\$30, Associate...\$100, Patron...\$500, Corporate...\$1000 and Lifetime...\$2000.

Volunteers will be needed for the hunts coming up in the '97-'98 hunting season. If interested, please contact Terry Erwin at 1-800-792-1112.

1996 National Survey Reveals Growth of Bowhunting

From AMO News

A nationwide survey of licensed hunters conducted for the National Shooting Sports Foundation from May through August of last year revealed the steady growth of the sport of bowhunting that is occurring. Forty-five percent of all respondents reported that they currently hunt with a bow. This number has increased steadily since 1986 when 19% bowhunted (33% bowhunted in 1991).

Those respondents that bow hunt were asked why. This question was open-ended and allowed for multiple responses. The most frequent reason for bowhunting was related to the challenge of bowhunting and its skill requirements; this was cited by 58% of bowhunters. Almost one-quarter (24%) of bowhunters said

bowhunting lengthens their overall hunting season. Thirteen percent said hunting areas are less crowded, while 11% bowhunt to start hunting earlier. Six percent bowhunt because it offers them a change of pace, and another 6% cited other reasons. For 4% of bowhunters it's the quiet and peacefulness of bow season that attracts them. An additional 3% bowhunt because it's fun and enjoyable. Three percent did not know. Bowhunters were asked if they participated in bowhunting 5 years ago; 79% indicated they had.

This study was conducted by Responsive Management, Harrisonburg, VA. Thanks to NSSF's Bob Delfay for sharing the results with Archery Manufacturers and Merchants Organization.

What has the National Bowhunter Education Foundation done to secure bowhunting's future?

- Educated over 500,000 bowhunter in ethics, tree stand safety, game recovery, shot placement, etc.
- Helped to defuse the wounding and safety issues presented by anti-hunters.
- Opened up hunting areas on military installations, national wildlife refuges, state parks, corporate lands, township lands and city land holdings.
- NBEF Directors provide continuing leadership in the bowhunting community.
- The IBEP course was officially endorsed by the International Hunter Education Association in 1979.
- Involved in opening new areas to bowhunting Internationally.

NBEF Newsletter, February 1997

We are in need of bowhunting courses with the archery season coming up in Texas and other states. The Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge near Pottsboro, requires the IBEP course before applications can be accepted. Some trophy "Pope and Young" deer came off the area in 1995.

If any bowhunter education instructor is planning an IBEP course in the future, please call Byron Norton at (903) 238-9904 to order supplies and give him the schedule. We also need the schedules for inquiring customers. The new student registration forms and instructor final reports have been designed to be used with the IBEP course. Call Byron for your supplies today.

Muzzle Loading Workshop



A special thanks to Donna and Roy Gatlin from the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association for hosting the annual workshop at the Rebel Arms Shooting Range in Pasadena. We look forward to having them back again next year. We will possibly hold the 1998 Muzzle Loading workshop in or around central Texas.

This program is a partnership between federal and state government, industry and hunters. When you purchase sporting goods, you pay for excise taxes collected by the U.S. Treasury from manufacturers. Disbursement of these monies to the states is made by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Federal Aid based on land area and number of licensed hunters. From the nearly \$400 million excise taxes collected annually nationwide, Texas receives the maximum 5% apportionment of around \$20 million. This money pays up to 75% of wildlife project costs approved in accordance with legislation and other associated regulations. The state share must be derived from a non-federal source such as license fees.



The Wildlife Restoration (Pittman-Robertson Act) program is funded from an excise tax on firearms, ammunition and bow and arrows. Funds are used for projects related to the restoration, conservation, management and enhancement of wild birds and mammals, and public use of and benefits from these wildlife resources. Funds also support Hunter Education and construction and operation of public shooting ranges. About 200,000 acres of Texas' Wildlife Management Areas were purchased and are operated under the restoration program. Hunter Education annually trains about 30,000 hunters to be safe, responsible and knowledgeable. A public hunting project provides over 1 million acres each year to meet public access needs for both consumptive and non-consumptive users.

1996 Restoration Dollars at Work in Texas: \$7,712,7016

Economic Benefits of Hunting in Texas*

	Fishing	Hunting
Number of Anglers and Hunters (16 and older)	2,613,000	911,000
Total Expenditures	\$2,900,000,000	\$1,400,000,000
Average expenditures / person	\$1,098	\$1,551

* Based on the 1996 Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-associated Recreation.

Your continued involvement in support of the Wildlife Restoration Programs is important. The success of Texas' wildlife management efforts directly depend on these dedicated federal funds and your license fees. Your purchase of hunting equipment keeps your outdoor traditions alive.

THE TEXAS "DREAM HUNT"

NEWS FLASH!

You have all heard of the national I.H.E.A. "DREAM HUNT," where students from all across North America and Canada are drawn for an all-expense paid upland bird hunt in or around Georgia. Well, we want to have a Texas version. Contacts have been made to have a hunt, possibly during the 1997-1998 hunting season, for two students, two parents/guardians and two instructors. The type of hunt is still undetermined, but things are leaning toward an exotic hunt.

Here is what instructors must do: Pick the most outstanding and deserving student from one of the classes taught and write a letter on why this student should be selected for this hunt. Consider the student's overall level of knowledge, skill and attitude he/she displayed during class. Mail this letter to the Hunter Education Staff at 4200 Smith School Rd., Austin, Texas 78744, ATTN: TEXAS "DREAM HUNT" Good luck!

So far, only two entries have been sent in for consideration. Are there no deserving students out there that could have been nominated? Come on instructors, don't let some extraordinary individual miss out on a chance for a hunt of a lifetime. Send those entries in.

Selection Criteria

- 1) Student must be between 12 and 17 years of age.
- 2) Student cannot be related to the instructor.
- 3) Student must have successfully completed the Hunter Education course during the current calendar year.
- 4) Entries must now arrive by **November 1, 1997** for consideration.
- 5) Instructors will be selected by random drawing from those who are active and have taught courses during the current calendar year.

Domestic Violence Law — *It may affect you!*

7

It's unlawful for any person convicted of a "misdemeanor crime of domestic violence" to ship, transport, possess or receive firearms or ammunition...or to sell or otherwise dispose of a firearm or ammunition to any person knowing or having reasonable cause to believe that the recipient has been convicted of such a misdemeanor.

In January, 1997, the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 1997 was signed into law. After the long and politically heated battle last year, everyone was anxious to get this legislation, which gave the government its money to operate, through quickly. As a result, little attention was paid to most of the riders attached to the bill.

One part of the Act amended the Gun Control Act of 1968 to make it unlawful for any person convicted of a "misdemeanor crime of domestic violence" to ship, transport, possess or receive firearms or ammunition. It also makes it unlawful for any person to sell or otherwise dispose of a firearm or ammunition to any person knowing or having reasonable cause to believe that the recipient has been convicted of such a misdemeanor.

This applies to all law enforcement employees of Parks and Wildlife, including Hunter Education instructors. The provision is retroactive without limitation. So, any conviction, at any time in the past, applies.

The provision is being challenged in the courts and amendments are pending in Congress. Meanwhile, in order to comply with the law, we need your assurance that you may legally handle firearms in the class. If anyone has been convicted of a "misdemeanor crime of domestic violence," please contact us immediately. Your name will be kept anonymous, but you will have to become inactive until measurements have been taken to change or amend this law. Thanks for your cooperation.

Good news!!

Some of you have been concerned about your Social Security number being on the student card of each individual you certify. The new computer system, has issued a **new six-digit instructor I.D. number** to each active instructor in the Angler, Boater, Hunter and Bowhunter Education programs. You should have received the new cards by now. The **new I.D. number, including all six digits**, should be used on all forms hereafter. We will still use the SS# on all applications when they are entered into the computer, but no longer will the SS# appear on the student cards.

The new forms mentioned in the coordinator's column will sure help speed up the data entry. Remember, if mistakes are made on the forms in ink, they cannot be corrected, but when using a pencil, they can be erased and corrected. Help me get the courses entered by making sure that all forms are correct before sending them in. If you do a large class, and the forms won't go in one envelope, use two envelopes and tape them together before mailing.

I had carpal tunnel surgery on my right hand in May and on the left hand on July 24. Bear with me as the courses are much easier to scan, than to manually enter. However, if there are any mistakes and the forms are rejected, they must be examined and manually entered. When this happens, it is a much slower process. Thanks for all your help and consideration.

Remember, when you order supplies, call **Jack Nasworthy at 1-800-792-1112, then punch 61, or Fax the order form to (512) 389-4372**. He is the one who ships videos and supplies. If you leave a message on my voice mail, it may get deleted accidentally, and you wouldn't get what you need. We don't want that to happen. Thanks, Folks.

— Kathy

Kathy's
Korner

KUDOS, KUDOS, AND MORE KUDOS

Claude Ratcliff Receives "Darrell Holt Memorial Award"

During the regular TP&W Commission meeting on June 6, 1997, Claude Ratcliff, Area Chief from Silsbee, was honored and presented with the "Darrell Holt Memorial Award." Claude was the first instructor to reach the Hunter Education Hall Of Fame with the required 4500 incentive points in 1990. He continued his outstanding efforts and has now reached 10,088 incentive points, more than twice the amount for the Hall of Fame Award. He has personally certified over 6500 students and been involved with the certification of nearly 3000 more by helping other instructors. He has certified an additional 17 new instructors in and around his area. He works for Temple-Inland East-Tex Paper Company who sponsors his courses. He said, "I am going to have to take some time off...there just aren't enough hours in the day anymore." Attending with him were his wife and son. Congratulations, Claude, for an unmatched and outstanding job.

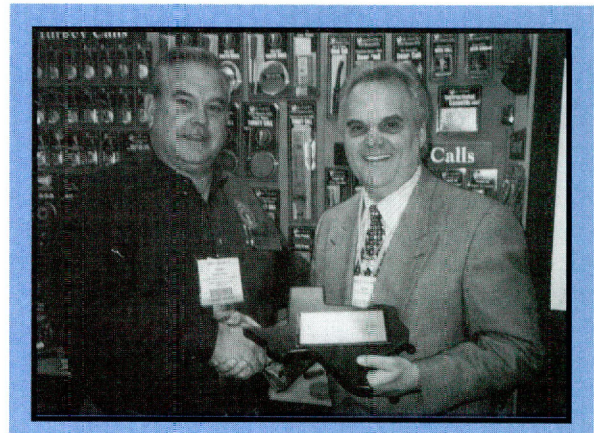


Albert Ross Gets S.C.O.T. Award

Albert Ross, Area Chief from Arlington, received the 1996 Sportsman Conservationist Of Texas "Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor of The Year" award in April. He has been a veteran instructor for over twenty-five years and has certified 1245 students and 31 new instructors. He donates his time, pro-bono, as a consulting attorney for T.Y.H.A., T.H.E.I.A. and the I.H.E.A. His long-time efforts for the Hunter Education program are greatly appreciated. Congratulations, Albert.



Dick Kirby is presented an appreciation plaque for the outstanding dedication and contributions to the Texas Hunter Education program over the years. During Turkey Seminars and White-tailed Deer Clinics, instructors have received various deer calls, turkey calls, caps, camouflage face covers, audio cassettes and video cassettes on outdoors and hunting, thanks to Dick Kirby of Quaker Boy Calls. We really appreciate your support.



Standards Of Live-Fire/ Hunter Skills Trail/ Home Study Workshop

Thanks to the more than forty instructors who came to the Grand Prairie Gun Club for this workshop on April 19-20. We hope part of this group will be one of the official "Home Study" testing teams and use this excellent gun club as their testing site. It would really serve the DFW metroplex well.

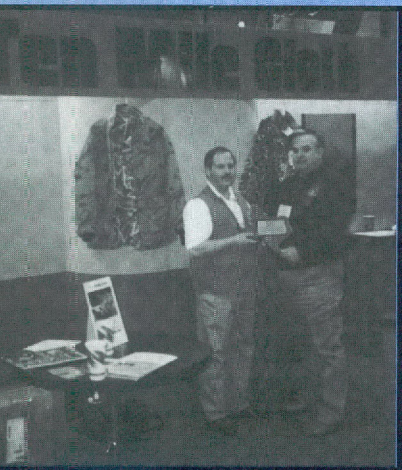




◀ *Bill McCubbin, Area Chief from Amarillo, receives his 3000 point incentive award, a Winchester Model 9422M, .22 Magnum. He recently purchased some land near Guthrie and the Matador WMA, and wants to use his new .22 down there for predator control.*



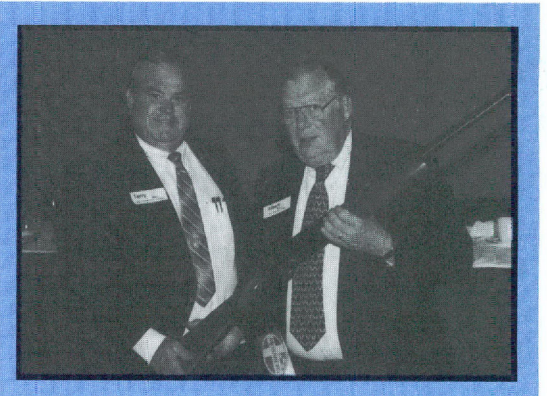
▲ *John Dea, Area Chief from Lubbock, receives his 3000 point incentive award, a .54 Cal. Knight Modern Muzzle Loader. He is an avid muzzle loader hunter and will use it to try for elk in New Mexico. Congratulations and good luck.*



◀ *When instructors receive their Blaze Orange Vest for the 200 point incentive award, they can thank Bill Rothermel of Highland Industries, Inc. He is presented a plaque for all the outstanding contributions to the Texas Hunter Education program. Students can see what should be worn in the field for safety.*



▲ *During the SHOT Show in Las Vegas, Gordon Kramer, President of Silencio, was presented a plaque for contributions of hearing and eye protection to the instructors reaching the 500 point incentive award level. Many thanks for the outstanding support to promote safety.*

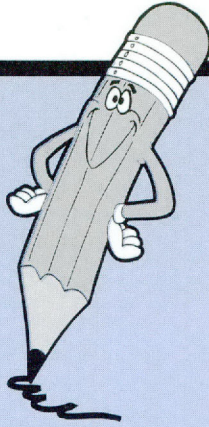


▲ *Albert Ross, Area Chief from Arlington, receives his 3500 point incentive award, a 12 gauge, semi-automatic Mossberg shotgun. Albert is an avid gun collector, but elected to donate the shotgun back to the Hunter Education program for use during youth hunts and Becoming An Outdoors-Woman programs. Thanks Albert, for your generosity.*



Dallas Arms Collectors Association, Inc. Donates \$1000

Steve Hall, (right) Education Director for TP&W, accepts a **\$1000** donation from Frank Horak, President of the **Dallas Arms Collectors Association, Inc.**, to assist with purchasing incentive awards for the Hunter Education program. In addition, the **Houston Safari Club** also donated **\$1000** to help purchase incentive awards to show how much the instructors are appreciated for their many hours of unselfish giving. Thanks so much to both organizations for their generous contributions.



Dear Staff:

I have noticed that my personal social security number is posted on the certification cards of each student I have taught. As of this year, please do not put my number on these cards. This practice is something that needs to be reevaluated. Perhaps another numbering system of some sort should be considered.

The fact that my social security number is floating around in the pockets of many of my past students is very discomfoting. I am aware that an individual may obtain this number with little effort, but posting them on other individuals Hunter Education identification cards only allows it to be more accessible by those who have no business with it.

Sincerely,
C. Douglas DuPree, Jr.
Ag. Science Teacher, Bullard

Editor's note: I wonder if Douglas read "Kathy's Korner" in the last Target Talk, Spring issue, #110. Yes, we are addressing this issue, and all instructors should have received new cards with new I.D. numbers by now. They were mailed on July 11, and thanks for your concern. Please see "Kathy's Korner" in this issue.

DART System An Overwhelming Success

Dear Staff:

I want to thank TP&W and Scotty Oliver for the use of the DART Target System. I used the system as a fund raiser at our annual Collinsville Pioneer Days. The FFA sponsored the simulator to promote firearm safety in our community by providing a safe and enjoyable opportunity to practice. We earned \$86 in the time the system was used. We will use the money to purchase 3-D targets for use in the hunter skills trail.

I also want to thank Mr. Al Cherepon who operated the DART system. We used the rifle and shotgun portion of the program so our younger patrons could utilize the system more easily. We set up the archery program for interested adults upon

request. Mr. Cherepon was very accommodating to all of the patrons and provided them the opportunity to select personal hunting experiences. I enjoyed visiting with him and would gladly have him return. He is truly an asset to the program.

Sincerely,
Dale Latham
Ag. Science Teacher, Collinsville

Dear Staff:

I would like to take a minute to thank you and TP&W for allowing David Palmer and the Mobile DART Hunting Unit to come visit our school. David does a wonderful job visiting with the students, answering all the questions and presenting the hunting demonstration. All of our students had a chance to learn from the scenario and enjoyed the experience. I guess what touched me most was watching one young man who is legally blind, but has some limited vision, and another young man who has physical and mental handicaps participate in the hunting challenge. This is as close as those two young students will ever get to hunting and y'all gave them the opportunity they may never get again. If you could have seen the expressions on their faces you would have realized how important the Mobile Range Unit is.

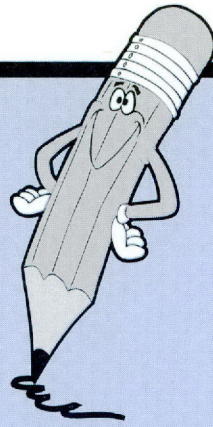
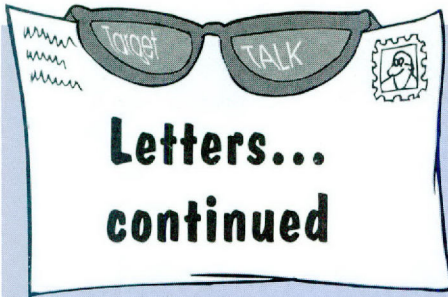
I would also like to tell you that you have a top-notch person in David Palmer. He represents your agency and all of its people very well. He not only visited with us about wildlife, but told us about all the other departments in TP&W and all of the job opportunities available. Again, thanks for allowing us to use this technology and David, and for your time.

Sincerely,
Reece Blincoe
Ag. Science Teacher, Leander

Turkey Hunting and Management Seminar

Dear Staff:

I just wanted to write and tell you how much my family and I enjoyed the Wild Turkey Hunting and Management Seminar in March at Cooper Lake Wildlife Management Area. The staff did an outstanding job of making everyone feel welcome and sharing the information with us as well as aiding my son and wife with information on local fishing spots. The TP&W employees involved need to be recognized for going the extra mile at this workshop. As this was my first advanced workshop as a Hunter Education instructor, I will be expecting fabulous things from the workshops to come.



My family also had the opportunity to attend and help with the Hunter Ed. Youth Challenge at the Parrie Haynes Ranch. Except for the food – which my wife would be glad to help with next year – we had a very good time and enjoyed working with Quint Roberson from R&R Sales and Service and Game Warden Ronnie Yates. We plan to be back next year.

Sincerely,
Thomas Bass
Huntsville



**Wildlife Management/Conservation Workshop –
Matador WMA**

Dear Staff:

The department has outdone itself twice in a year's time. The Wildlife Management/Conservation workshop in April 1996 and again in April 1997. The presentations by so many professionals, done with enthusiasm and tremendous preparation, were to say the least, outstanding! It is a shame that more people in Texas (non-hunters as well as hunters) are not aware of the contributions, on behalf of all wildlife and their habitat, this staff of dedicated experts are making.

Thank you and the department for a wonderful workshop opportunity with all we learned. We will be much better prepared to spread the word.

Best Regards,
John Dea
Area Chief, Lubbock

Dear Staff:

I thoroughly enjoyed the Wildlife Management/Conservation workshop at the Matador WMA on April 12-13. I hope other instructors from other parts of Texas will attend future workshops at the Matador WMA. For those who missed it, the workshop included hands-on practice at aging deer, quail, ducks and turkey; teaching wildlife management and conservation to youths; information about various wildlife research projects in the Rolling Plains and Panhandle regions; habitat management strategies, such as prescribed burning and crop rotation, for managing the habitat for species of game and non-game found on the Matador WMA and information on hunting in the area.

The Panhandle Wildlife District personnel, Danny Swepston, David Dvorak, Brad Simpson, Jim Ray, Calvin Richardson, Kevin Mote, John Hughes, and Dana Wright definitely presented an outstanding workshop! This group of biologists enthusiastically provided us with a valuable education on wildlife management and conservation that we can pass on to our students. Their hard work on making this workshop a success was definitely appreciated by all that attended.

Sincerely,
Joel McKinney
Levelland

Dear Staff:

My congratulations to TP&W for another great workshop at the Matador WMA. What constantly amazes me is the dedication and hard work that out state biologists do. They knock themselves out to accommodate and inform us on all aspects of the diverse wildlife in our state. It's a good feeling knowing that our resources are in the hands of so many dedicated, educated and motivated individuals.

It amazes me that only a fraction of the almost 3000 instructors take advantage of these workshops. I am a much better instructor because of the information, ideas and materials I have received at these workshops. I challenge everyone of the instructors to sign up for the workshops remaining this year and for next year's sessions. I guarantee you will be blessed and enriched. It's made all the difference for me.

Sincerely,
Steven Fox
Irving

MARCH

Johnathan Anderson, Stephenville
Philip Smith, Mineral Wells
Tim Groves, Alvarado
Amy Walsh, Stephenville
Tracey Drews, Hewitt
Travis Vaughn, Windthorst
Jay Isbell, Childress
John Garner, Stephenville
Jeff Wallick, Amarillo
Delynn McGehee, Amarillo
Robert Faulkner, Crawford
Henry Radde, Jr., Meridian
Jason Willberg, Lott
Jess Peper, Godley
Michael Ford, Lingleville
William Self, Stephenville
Allen Carlile, Dumas
Glenn Clark, Plainview
Carl McDaniel, Chico
Cody Cloud, Palo Pinto
Joel McKinney, Levelland
Shylia Miller, Mullin
David Peterson, Stephenville
Frank Vogler, Round Rock
Jerry Lewis, Stephenville
Brad Metting, Yorktown
Justin Underwood, Gorman
Randal Ross, Abilene
Russell Holloway, Merkel
Michael Palmer, Stephenville
John Coates, Weatherford
Alejandro Ortiz, Jr., Harlingen
Jerald Rashall, Lumberton
Cynthia Guthrie, Garland
Robert Darwin, III, Whitewright
Jennifer Huff, Stephenville
Elizabeth Smith, Stephenville

Travis Dube, Georgetown
Wade Mayfield, Pipe Creek
Darren Friedel, Hockley
Tiffany Jorgren, Plainview
Tammy Cargile, Stephenville
John Hughey, Whitehouse
Jeffrey Gossett, Garland
Michael McLellan, Avoca
Clint Burkey, Coleman
James Williams, Jr., Bedford
Joseph Innis, Amarillo
Dustin Durham, Stephenville
Daniel Cocca, Richmond
Decatur Holcombe, III, Houston
Alethea Owens, Magnolia
Thomas Bass, Huntsville
Bryan Owens, Magnolia
Billy Murphree, Monahans
Alex George, Brazoria
Guillermo Flores, Edinburg
Steve Struck, Pipe Creek
Nathan Lutz, San Antonio
John Hudson, San Antonio
Steven Hudson, San Antonio
Marcus Miller, El Paso
Thomas Campsey, Spring Branch
Juan Lopez, El Paso
Russell Greiner, San Antonio
Megan Harmon, Alvin
Alan Morgan, Bryan
Marion Marks, Malakoff
Will Grote, Mason
Tonya Spaeth, Mason
William Edmiston, II, College Station
Jason Cleere, Anderson
John Zamzow, Three Rivers
Jenny Haley, Hondo

Michael Cooper, Spring
Walter Smith, Jr., College Station
Shannon Feldman, Bryan
Timothy Nichols, Bryan
James Gambrell, Plainview
James Farrell, Baytown
Thomas Blass, Salado
Jochen Hein, Nambia
Kevin Smith, Belton
James Coleman, Houston
Ken Witt, Burleson
Davod Lassetter, Irving
Frank Asebedo, Jr., Alvarado
John Matthews, Jasper
Jennifer Barrow, Jasper
Miguel Amador, San Antonio
Kenneth Smith, Jr., Marfa
Jack Stafford, Nederland
Alana Wright, Dell City
Terry Westmoreland, Nacogdoches
Alfredo Estrada, Jr., Presidio
Joe Zubiate, Presidio
Barry Click, Douglass
Reno Lewis, Dell City

APRIL

George Garza, McAllen
Lloyd Burrows, El Paso
Richard Smith, Kopperl
Dean Fritz, Whitney
John Richardson, Austin
John Baird, Weatherford
Mark Hilona, China Springs
Robert McClanahan, Waco
Leslie Vollmer, Granbury
Larry Jackson, Marlin

Area Chiefs Update

Welcome new Area Chiefs Mike and Elaine Lochabay from Garland. They will be helping in the Dallas and surrounding county area. They can be reached at (972) 495-4708.










Education
Thinking
Honesty
Integrity
Conservation
Safety



Courtesy of
instructors
Ed Kilgore &
Harry Lee of
Lewisville

...after a disaster

Major storms and rainfall have hit parts of Texas this Spring. The hurricane season is here and, no doubt, we might be forced to encounter some further stages of foul weather before hunting season begins. Any major storm adds new dimensions to hunter safety. Hunters must be aware of the increased hazards. In some heavily damaged areas, hunting may have limited access or even be closed due to the results of these storms or rainfall. Before going afield, it is advisable to check with local areas or landowners to see if your favorite hunting spot falls into any of the affected areas. During class, advise your students of the following:

-  Watch for washed-out roads and bridges along secondary roads or on private property, especially low-water crossings or jeep trails in watershed areas.
-  Take care crossing bridges on private land, that may have suffered support damage due to high water, especially in the Hill Country of Central Texas.
-  Be cautious of holes created by the roots of downed trees.
-  Take caution along cliffs or bluffs that may have suffered erosion and become weak.
-  Climb over fallen trees and other debris with an unloaded gun and take great care.
-  Watch for snakes, spiders and insects at all times.
-  Since areas that you were familiar with before the storm may have changed appearances, in some cases drastically, don't rely on old landmarks to get you out of the woods. Carry a compass.
-  Don't rely on fallen trees to build a stand in. They are not stable enough.
-  Inspect blinds and stands for structural stability and make repairs this summer.

Pearls of wisdom...

“Education is not the filling of a bucket,
but the lighting of a fire”

William Butler Yeats

Ultimate Survival™ High Performance Outdoor Tools

While at the SHOT (Shooting, Hunting and Outdoor Trade) Show in Las Vegas, I met Barry Dougan, Director of Sales and Marketing for Survival, Inc. The booth had some very interesting items for use in the outdoors. One was the Blast Match™ Fire Starter. It is an all-weather, lightweight, compact fire starter that uses a spring-loaded flint bar and thumb button. The spark can be generated with one hand and is twice as hot as a standard match and burns at more than 1300 degrees. It comes in a compact plastic case and can be used with the Wet Fire™ Tinder, a non-toxic, odorless and smokeless fuel that actually burns longer when it is wet.

The second was the Saber Cut™ Saw, a lightweight, strong, versatile, low profile, gasless hand chain saw. I have used wire saws and folding, short toothed hand saws, but this one has several features like no other. The 24" patented chain blade has bi-directional, self-cleaning cutting teeth to ensure a smooth, fast action. Web loop handles are bar tacked securely to custom designed steel clips which prevent the chain from twisting while cutting.

The third was the Star Flash™ Mirror. The trademark star in the mirror enables you to aim the flash precisely at your target. This mirror is included in every Air Force and Space Shuttle survival kit and can be used with any light source...even a flash light.

Last, but not least, was the Jet Scream™ Whistle which is available this summer. Focused air streams activate harmonically tuned chambers to create a piercing shriek audible above most natural or man-made noise. For a signaling device, this is the best whistle I have seen in a long time. It would fit perfect in the pocket and it has a lanyard hole for use so it can be worn around the neck.

These items are not cheap, but are well worth the price when it comes to personal safety. For more information, contact them at Survival, Inc., 2633 Eastlake Ave. East, Suite 103, Seattle, WA 98102-9363, or e-mail them at: sales@survivalinc.com.

Visit Organizations on the Internet



If you have a modem and would like to see what is offered, use the following addresses:

Texas Parks and Wildlife--- <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us>

Ducks Unlimited--- <http://www.ducks.org>

IHEA--- <http://www.fortnet.org/~iheacom>

National Bowhunter Education Foundation--- <http://www.nbef.org>

MPI Outdoors--- <http://www.adventuresports.com/asap/products/mpi/welcome.htm>

World's largest hunting web site--- <http://www.hunting.net>

Burriss Scopes--- burrissoptics.com



Upcoming Events Reminder

Rifle, Shotgun & Handgun Workshop	Lubbock	September 5-7
Wildlife Management & Conservation Workshop	Kerr WMA	September 20-21
Texas Wildlife Expo	Austin	October 4-5
White-tailed Deer Clinic	College Station	October 18-19

Education Division Phone Numbers



General Information

Roben Gant 1-800-792-1112 +0 ask for ext. 4999
(512) 389-4999
Fax (512) 389-8042

Videos & Supplies

Jack Nasworthy 1-800-792-1112 +61
(512) 389-4795
Fax (512) 389-4372

Records

Kathy Powell 1-800-792-1112 +63
(512) 389-8142

Automated Hunter Education Course line

(24 hours a day)
1-800-792-1112 +62

T.H.E. WISDOM TEAM

We did it!!!—1025 Texas Hunter Education students were certified by **T.H.E. WISDOM TEAM** of Rick Alexander, J.W. Couch, Larry Clark, Chuck Fry, Jose Garcia, David Pope, Jimmy Thomas and Charlie Watkins. On May 17-18, 1997, after many long and fun-filled years, we counted the harvest and came up with a bag limit that is worth bragging about. There is no trophy to mount on the wall, just 1025 smiles and handshakes to remember from all the new friends we made along the way.

Thank you and TP&W for giving us the opportunity for a more fulfilling roll in this otherwise dull and dreary work-a-day world. We are all hoping to be around when we reach 2025 students.



Volunteers Needed For Texas Wildlife Expo

Texas Parks and Wildlife Commissioner Nolan Ryan has been named chairman of the 1997 Texas Wildlife Expo, to be held on October 4-5. The theme is "Touch The Great Outdoors." Last year, more than 35,000 individuals attended the event, even though it rained the first day.

Since 1992, when the first Expo was held, volunteer instructors have made an outstanding effort to come and run all of the shooting events. Again, this is a reminder that your help is needed so that all the events will run smoothly. No accidents have been recorded thanks to the valuable help of the volunteer Hunter Education instructors.

Each volunteer who attends will receive a T-shirt with this year's logo. A minimum of eight hours of volunteer time are required (department rules) to receive the shirt. A special party for all volunteers will, again, be held

Touch
the
Great Outdoors



on Saturday night in the main tent. It's our way of showing how much you are appreciated.

The State 4-H "Whiz-Bang" and the Becoming An Outdoors-Woman, 5-Stand Sporting Clays finals will be held on Friday afternoon. Then, beginning at 4:00 PM, the celebrities will warm up for the annual 5-Stand Sporting Clays shoot. The Friday banquet will begin at 7:00 PM, and the Governor will be here. Tickets are \$75 each, and will go fast. Contact Michelle Klaus at (512) 389-4879 if you want to attend.

Another reminder...make motel reservations NOW! It's not too early to book that room for the weekend. If unable to book in Austin, San Marcos is only a twenty-five minute drive from the south, and has some new motels. The prices are less, too.

Formula Estimates Reward of Hunt in Pounds for Elk

By Ed Dentry, Rocky Mountain News

How much did that elk weigh on the hoof and how much should it weigh in your freezer? In both cases, probably less than most hunters imagined when they saw the daunting project that waited after the gunsmoke cleared. Well, it may have looked like a 1000 pound animal, but these are few and far between.

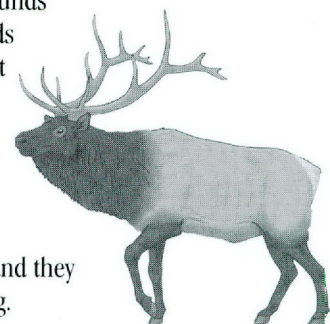
Jay Pooler, a meat cutter who owns A-1 Game Processing in Ken Caryl Ranch, figures a good-sized bull elk averages about 600 pounds on the hoof and delivers a finished weight of 180-200 pounds of meat. Bull elk yield less meat than cow elk per pound on the hoof, because cows are fatter, and bulls lose lots of weight during the rut and before and during hunting season.

He said small deer yield about 40 pounds of boneless meat and larger deer yield about 70 pounds. Antelope yield about 40-50 pounds. "You can expect to wind up with about **one-third** of the animal's live weight on average," said Pooler, who processes about 200 animals - elk, deer and antelope - for hunters each fall.

Successful elk hunters can estimate the live weight of their kill by ciphering backwards from the boneless finished product. Divide the total weight of the boneless cuts by .43 to get the animals field-dressed weight (divide by .54 if you have retail cuts with bones).

Multiply the field-dressed weight by 1.48 to get the animal's "whole weight" on the ground. Add 15 or 20 pounds of blood loss at the time of kill to get the animal's live weight. Maybe these figures aren't as high as some hunters expect, but 100 pounds of the leanest, most savory meat is a great treasure.

Editors comments: In parts of Texas, where deer are somewhat smaller, the yield is much less. If you want to make it a lot simpler for estimating live weight, field-dressed weight and edible yield, contact Trail Sign Products, P. O. Box 365, Germantown, WI 53022, for a tape that has the pounds marked off at given measurements in inches. Measure the girth of the animal right behind the front legs. For Example...a deer measuring 24" at the girth would yield 56 pounds of live weight, 39 pounds of dressed weight and 26 pounds of edible meat; a measurement of 34" would be 117 pounds live, 92 pounds dressed and 53 pounds edible, etc. When you get one of these tapes, no one can argue about the field-dressed weight. I've used one and they are very close.....Happy hunting.





Target Talk
Texas Hunter Education Program
Texas Parks and Wildlife
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, TX 78744

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