



THE

# Family Sportsman



VOL. 57

August, 2015

NO. 1

## 2015 ON THE CALENDAR

### MONTHLY

Pistol League.....Tues. 6 pm  
 Trap & Skeet.....2nd & 4th Sat. 1-5 pm  
 Trap & Skeet.....Sun. 1-5 pm  
 Sporting Clays.....1st & 3rd Sat See  
 Web site at  
[www.nwtfsclays.webs.com](http://www.nwtfsclays.webs.com).  
 NRA Rifle Match.....1st Sat

### AUGUST

Deer Fest.....1st  
 Gun Show.....8 & 9th  
 Hunters Ed.....15th  
 Directors Meeting.....27th

### SEPTEMBER

Hunters Ed.....12th  
 Directors Meeting.....24th  
 Red River Regional Match.....25-27th

### NOVEMBER

Girls Deer Hunt.....21-22nd

### DECEMBER

Boys Deer Hunt.....5-6th



NWTFS DIRECTOR GWEN THOMAS, HELPS MADLYN LAND (9) WITH HER FIRST FISH AT THE ANNUAL GIRLS FISHING TRIP IN JUNE.



CARLYN JAMES OF DENTON, TX & GRANDNIECE OF DON JAMES ENJOYING SHOOTING AT THE DON JAMES MEMORIAL SHOOT JULY 1, 2015.



DON'T LET THAT SMILE FOOL YOU HE IS A SHOOTING MACHINE. RICHARD WEARTH A MILITARY VETERAN, WAS MATCH WINNER AND WINNER OF THE VETERAN AWARD AT THE DON JAMES MEMORIAL RIFLE MATCH HELD JULY 4, 2015. See story page 2.

# THE FAMILY SPORTSMAN

Vol. 57

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L TO R: LW & HARRIET SIDES OWNERS OF THE HAPPY C RANCH WITH JACK COUNTY GAME WARDEN T J TWETTLE AWAIT THE WF GIRLS CLUB GROUP.

## DON JAMES MEMORIAL MATCH

July 4, 2015 was a great day at the range with 20 competitors, eight of whom were military veterans. Richard Wearth (USN) won the match on X count with a 473/500-13X and the Veteran Award. This edged out Robert Davis' 473-7X. Billy James, Jr. of Dallas was right behind with a 472. Pat Smith (USMC) of Clay County won the Vintage Rifle class with his M1 Garand. Chris Riordan (USN) won the Sharpshooter class. Two or three shooters were attending their first High Power Rifle match. Twelve year old Charisma Owen shot an AR 15 and earned a very respectable 376 score. The James Family provided another fine meal for all the participants. Billy James, Sr. and grandson James Winkler performed the cooking duties. All day long a breeze kept the flag flying. God Bless America and those who keep us free!

## GUN RANGE RULES REVIEW AND CORRECTIONS

THE ONLY TARGETS ALLOWED are paper targets properly attached to the plywood target boards

INTERMEDIATE TARGETS are allowed to be placed between the firing line and the approved target boards. FIREARMS MUST BE FIRED FROM the established firing line (Yellow line). SAFETY BAFFLES AND THEIR POSTS are not to be shot at or have targets placed on them. EXPLOSIVE TARGETS/OBJECTS are expressly prohibited from this range. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE to ensure your fired round strikes the backstop! **PROHIBITED AMMO CORRECTION:** An article in the last NWTF&S newsletter mistakenly included some items in a list of ammunition banned from use at our ranges. The old list still applies. No tracer, no incendiary, no armor piercing (such as tungsten core and other true AP. Normal military or commercial FMJ is ok), no 50 BMG or similar very powerful rounds. Other items not to be used at our ranges: Tannerite or other exploding targets, Full auto or any device to replicate full auto fire such as "bump fire" stocks. Rapid fire for individual practice is limited to a rate of 5 shots in 10 seconds. The idea is to have every shot aimed. Devices requiring



WICHITA FALLS GIRLS CLUB CREW GETTING A WAGON TOUR OF THE HAPPY C RANCH. RANCH FOUNDER HARRY CAMPSEY BUILT THIS WAGON TO ENTERTAIN GUESTS THAT COME TO THE RANCH.

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**DON MORGAN (FAR RIGHT) PRESENTED SCHOLARSHIPS TO 3 STUDENTS EMILY SLEDGE, HANNAH BAER, & ZACK MAHAN. (see p 5)**

**consideration of your fellow shooters: muzzle brakes because the blast is often directed toward other shooters.**

Explanation of the Rapid Fire Rule: And why is the Rapid Fire rate of fire set at 5 rounds in 10 seconds? Years ago the NWTFS allowed no Rapid Fire during individual practice which meant the NRA Pistol and High Power Rifle competitors could not practice properly under the rules. After much discussion it was decided to allow Rapid Fire at the fastest rate allowed in NRA Bullseye Pistol competition. We do not put a stop watch on shots we hear but when we hear a “magazine dump” or similar you can expect somebody will talk to you. If there are ricochets during the magazine dump the talk will happen even quicker. Remember YOU are responsible for your bullets all the way to impact. A lot of the ricochets off the short pistol, 25 yard and 100 yard ranges fly towards the 50 foot range and the turning target range as well as areas used for sporting clays. Our goal is to have no ricochets and have all projectiles hitting targets. Could anybody ever argue against that?

**DON'T FORGET THE GUN SHOW AUGUST 8 AND 9.**

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**PROSPECTS BRIGHT FOR DOVE AND EARLY TEAL SEASONS**

Dove hunters will have more opportunity earlier in the season with dates and bag limits finalized recently by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has approved the 2015-2016 Texas dove season, including a 70-day season and 15-bird daily bag statewide, and a 16-day early teal and Canada goose season. The traditional September 1 dove season opening day in the North and Central Zones remains. The first segment in those zones will be five days longer than last season, closing on Sunday, Oct. 25. The season will reopen Friday, Dec. 18 and run through Friday, Jan. 1, 2016 in the North and Central Zones. In the South Zone, the first segment will be longer by two days compared to last year. The South Zone opens Friday, Sept. 18 and runs through Wednesday, Oct. 21. The second segment will run Friday, Dec. 18 through Friday, Jan. 22, 2016. The daily bag limit for doves statewide is 15 and the possession limit is 45. The Special White-winged Dove Area will be restricted to afternoon only (noon to sunset) hunting the first two full September weekends on Sept. 5-6 and 12-13. Hunting in this area will reopen Friday, Sept. 18 and continue through Wednesday, Oct. 21, and then reopen Friday, Dec. 18 through Monday, Jan 18, 2016. During the early two weekends, the daily bag limit is 15 birds, to include



**MILITARY VETERAN ROY WOODMAN TAKES A BREAK FROM SHOOTING AT THE DON JAMES MEMORIAL SHOOT.**

not more than two mourning doves and two white-tipped doves. Once the general season opens, the aggregate bag limit will be 15 with no more that two white-tipped doves. “Age-ratios (juveniles versus adults) from last season indicated very strong production in mourning doves across Texas last year; we expect similar or slightly increased production this year with the improved habitat conditions across nearly all of Texas,” said Shaun Oldenburger, TPWD’s dove program leader. “However, improved habitat conditions equal more food and water on the landscape, which means hunters may need to spend more time patterning mourning doves prior to opening day in their area.” Duck hunters can anticipate improved conditions for the September early teal season as abundant rains have filled lakes and marshes for the first time in several years. With record numbers of

FUTURE GUN SHOWS AT  
THE WICHITA FALLS  
MPEC

August 8-9  
October 10-11  
December 5-6

teal expected to make their way into Texas during the upcoming months, prospects should be good. A 16-day statewide early teal and Eastern Zone Canada goose season will run Saturday, Sept. 12 through Sunday, Sept. 27. The daily bag on teal remains six, with a possession limit of 18. Bag limit for Canada geese will be three and possession limit of six in the Eastern Zone only. "Blue-winged teal numbers (8.5 million) are way above the minimum of 4.7 million needed for a 16-day season," said Kevin Kraai, TPWD waterfowl program leader. "Conditions for teal across the state are excellent and hunters are urged to have their fingers crossed for a timely migration in the middle of September." Hunters are reminded that licenses go on sale August 15 for the 2015-2016 hunting seasons and can be purchased through the agency's 28 field offices, more than 50 state parks and at over 1,700 retailers across the state. Licenses may also be purchased online through the TPWD website at [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/buy](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/buy) or by phone at 1-800-895-4248. Call center hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and there is a required \$5

administrative fee for each phone or online transaction. The online transaction system is available 24/7. For online and phone orders, a physical license will be mailed within three business days. During that time period, a transaction receipt will be provided via email that will be sufficient proof of hunting license and required endorsements that can be used for dove hunting, though it will not be allowed for the take of fish or wildlife that require a tag. Hunting and fishing regulations for the new season can be found in the 2015-2016 Outdoor Annual, available at license retailers August 15, online at [www.txoutdoorannual.com](http://www.txoutdoorannual.com) and via the free Outdoor Annual mobile app available for Apple and Android devices. In addition to a hunting license, anyone born after Sept. 1, 1971, must successfully complete a hunter education training course or purchase a one-time deferral good for one license year in order to hunt legally in Texas. The certification is valid for life and is honored in all other states and provinces. More information on hunter education certification is available online at [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/outdoor-learning/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/outdoor-learning/)

hunter education. A Migratory Game Bird endorsement and Harvest Information Program (HIP) certification are also required to hunt dove or teal in September. HIP certification involves a brief survey of previous year's migratory bird hunting success and is conducted at the time licenses are purchased. Duck hunters also need to purchase a Federal Duck Stamp.

### BANQUET YIELDS NEW EQUIPMENT

The Friends of the NRA banquet held late last year yielded a quantity of new equipment for our Youth Marksmanship Program. NWTFS Directors Larry Carr and LeRoy Chaddick assisted with the banquet while long time NWTFS members were at the tables supporting this fun event with their time and money. First and foremost was 25,000 rounds of



TWELVE YEAR OLD CHARISMA OWEN COMPETING IN HER FIRST HIGH POWER RIFLE MATCH AT THE DON JAMES MEMORIAL MATCH ON JULY 4.



TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT FISHERIES TECHNICIANS STEVEN HISE (L) AND WES DUTTER TRANSFER STRIPED BASS FINGERLINGS FROM THE HAULING TRAILER TO CONTAINERS ON BOARD A BOAT IN PREPARATION FOR STOCKING THEM INTO POSSUM KINGDOM RESERVOIR. POSSUM KINGDOM RECEIVED 267,748 STRIPED BASS FINGERLINGS AND 213,209 FLORIDA LARGEMOUTH BASS FINGERLINGS IN 2015. TPWD photo © 2015, Tom Lang.

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CENTER: HARRIET SIDE, FAMILY & GUESTS ENJOY THE DAY AT THE GIRLS CLUB FISHING TRIP, SPONSORED BY THE HAPPY C RANCH AND NWTFS.



THE GIRLS ENJOY AN UP CLOSE VIEW OF HAPPY C RANCH CATTLE, BEING CALLED UP WITH CATTLE CALL SIREN, FOR THEIR EARLY FEEDING.

badly needed rimfire ammunition. One day of rifle and pistol practice with 20 youngsters on the firing lines will easily burn up 1,500 rounds. Five .22 caliber Ruger target pistols and three Ruger American .22 Caliber bolt action rifles were added to our inventory along with several spotting scopes and youth size rifle shooting coats. The Youth Marksmanship Program will put these to good use. The hardware will last for years and help train hundreds of youngsters.

### NWTFS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Director and Co-Chairman of the Scholarship Committee Don Morgan presented 3 \$1,000 scholarship checks to this years recipients. There was a full house at this years award presentations to Zack Mahan, Hannah Baer, and Emily Sledge. Don thanked all Directors that helped out with committee selections and wished recipients our best.

### RAINS BOOST LAKES, FISH STOCKING

Widespread rains in May and June did more than end the drought and raise lakes to levels not seen in years. Many

lakes that had been scheduled for stocking contingent on significant spring rains were able to be stocked to take advantage of improved habitat. Fortunately, TPWD freshwater fish hatcheries had a better-than-expected production year for such popular species as Florida largemouth bass, blue catfish, striped bass and palmetto bass (hybrid striped bass), making more fish available. TPWD has five inland fish hatcheries. One is currently closed because of water supply problems caused by drought. In 2015 TPWD hatcheries produced and stocked almost 500,000 channel catfish fingerlings; 800,000 blue catfish fingerlings; 4.8 million striped bass and hybrid striped bass fingerlings and 4.7 million fry; 157,000 Guadalupe bass fingerlings; 55,000 smallmouth bass fingerlings; 129,000 bluegill fingerlings and 7.5 million largemouth bass fingerlings. The good news doesn't stop there. Spring rains brought many reservoirs to levels not seen in several years, so the hatchery fish were stocked into great habitat. When reservoir levels go down for several years, vegetation grows up in the dry lake bottom. When levels rise, the flooded vegetation gives little fish a place to hide from predators and, as it decays, releases nutrients into the water that jumpstarts the food chain. Water

level rises came to many lakes in time for spawns from resident fish to enjoy good habitat conditions, adding to the bounty. Those water level rises benefit all species of fish, which means that fishing should see significant improvement in the next several years, and predator species like bass, striped bass and hybrid striped bass will have plenty to eat and grow quickly.

### THE OTHER TWO SHOTS

A Harris County landowner reported hearing three gunshots. When game wardens arrived on scene they found two men who had permission to hunt hogs and coyotes, but who had killed a buck instead. The wardens found with them a scabbard with the knife missing, along with two hunting rifles and a pistol. The men were taken to the Waller County Jail with misdemeanor charges. Later one of the wardens went back to gather GPS and photo evidence and found a knife that matched the scabbard found earlier and two more deer carcasses, explaining the two other gun shots heard. The evidence was gathered and the wardens added a felony charge of

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**CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE DETECTED IN MEDINA COUNTY CAPTIVE DEER**

A two-year-old white-tailed deer in a Medina County deer breeding facility has been confirmed positive for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). This is the first case of CWD detected in captive white-tailed deer in Texas. CWD was first detected in Texas in 2012 in free-ranging mule deer in the Hueco Mountains in far West Texas. The Medina County tissue samples submitted by the breeder facility in early June as part of routine deer mortality surveillance revealed the presence of CWD during testing at the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL) in College Station. The National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa, confirmed the findings on Tuesday, June 30. An epidemiological investigation to determine the extend of the disease, assess risks to Texas' free ranging deer and protect the captive deer and elk breeding industry is being led by the Texas Animal Health Commission

(TAHC), in coordination with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) and U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Veterinary Services (USDA/APHIS/VS). Officials have taken immediate action to secure all cervids at the Medina County breeder facility with plans to conduct additional investigation for CWD. In addition, those breeder facilities that have received deer from the Medina County facility or shipped deer to that facility during the last two years are under movement restrictions and cannot move or release cervids at this time. TPWD is disallowing liberation of captive deer from all breeder facilities into the wild at this time pending further review. Additional measures to further minimize risk of CWD spreading into Texas' free-ranging white-tailed deer heard, and to protect the captive deer breeding industry, will be considered. "This is a terribly unfortunate development that we are committed to addressing as proactively, comprehensively, and expeditiously as possible. The health of our state's wild and captive deer herds, as well as affiliated hunting, wildlife, and rural based economies, are vitally important to Texas hunters, communities, and landowners. As such,

our primary objectives are to determine the source of the disease and to identify other deer breeding facilities and release sites that may have received deer from affected facilities," said Carter Smith, TPWD Executive Director. "Working collaboratively with experts in the field we have developed protocols to address CWD, and our implementation efforts are already well under way." The TPWD and the TAHC CWD Management Plan will guide the State's response to this incident. The plan was developed by the State's CWD Task Force, which is comprised of deer and elk breeders, wildlife biologists, veterinarians and other animal-health experts from TPWD, TACH, TVMDL, Department of State Health Services, Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine, and USDA. Since 2002, the state has conducted surveillance throughout Texas for the disease. More than 34,000 samples collected from hunter-harvested and road kill deer have been tested for CWD. Although animal health and wildlife officials cannot say how long or to what extent the disease has been present in the Medina County deer breeding facility, the breeder has had an active CWD surveillance program



NWTFS DIRECTOR/COOKS RD COX, RICHARD WEARTH, DICKIE DIXON, RAY SPANGLER & KEN HASTINGS ARE GIVEN A THUMBS UP BY GWEN THOMAS ON THE COOKING.



NWTFS DIRECTORS RICHARD POIROT, DOT AND RAY SPANGLER SERVE CATFISH AND TRIMMINGS AT THE GIRLS FISHING TRIP.



MIKE CAMPSEY OF THE HAPPY C RANCH FIXES TO ENJOY A PLATE OF CATFISH AT THE GIRLS FISHING TRIP. MIKE MAY HAVE NEEDED SIDE BOARDS ON HIS PLATE.

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**RICHARD SUTTON RECEIVES THE FIRST PLACE MARKSMAN AWARD FROM GREG YOST.**



**ARON PILKINGTON, THE MATCH WINNER, ACCEPTS HIS AWARD FROM GREG YOST.**

since 2006 with no positives detected until now. "We are working with experts at the local, state and federal level, to determine the extent of this disease, and respond appropriately to limit further transmission," said Dr. Andy Schwartz, TAHC Epidemiologist and Assistant Executive Director. "Strong public awareness and the continued support of the cervid industry is paramount to the success of controlling CWD in Texas." The disease was first recognized in 1967 in captive mule deer in Colorado. CWD has also been documented in captive and/or free-ranging deer in 23 states and 2 Canadian provinces. CWD among cervids is a progressive fatal disease that commonly results in altered behavior as a result of microscopic changes made to the brain of affected animals. An animal may carry the disease for years without outward indication, but in the later stages, signs may include listlessness, lowering of the head, weight loss, repetitive walking in set patterns, and lack of responsiveness. To date there is not evidence that CWD poses a risk to human or non-cervids. However, as a precaution, the U.S. Centers for Disease

Control and the World Health Organization recommend not to consume meat from infected animals.

**NRA 2700 MATCH**

The Northwest Texas Field and Stream Pistol Club in Wichita Falls, TX, hosted an NRA Registered 2700 Bullseye Pistol Tournament on Saturday, June 27. The Match Director was Greg Yost and the Chief Range Officer was, the Pistol Club President, Steve Briley. The match consisted of 22 pistol, center fire pistol, and 45 cal pistol competitions with a total of 90 rounds of slow fire at 50 yards (10 rounds in 10 minutes times nine), 90 rounds of timed fire (5 rounds in 20 seconds times eighteen), and 90 rounds of rapid fire (5 rounds in 10 seconds times eighteen). The Match Winner was Aron Pilkington, from Palo Pinto County, he shot a 2331-30X out of a possible 2700. In Second Place was Roger Kroes with a 2188-17X. First Place Marksman was Richard Sutton with a 1965-11X. Second Place Marksman was David Venegas with a

score of 1902-12X. Ronda Wetherbee shot a 1785-12X to take Third Place Marksman. Charisma Owen was the High Junior.

**ILL-FATED FOUR**

An Atascosa County radio dispatcher said that there were reports of multiple gunshots at a residence in Charlotte. A game warden and a county deputy were the first to respond and found a person dead in the front yard from apparent gunshot wounds. The two men cleared the house and tended to the homeowner, who had multiple gunshot wounds, also. The homeowner was flown by Airlife to San Antonio and the warden stayed behind. Shortly after daybreak four people allegedly involved in the shootout were in custody. **HAPPY SUMMER & KEEP COOL**

*Memorials*

For:	From:
Mattie Rivas	Jan & Jim Henderson
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