

Volume 3 No.1 Summer 2003



HUNTER & SHOOTING SPORTS EDUCATION

# JOURNAL

The Official Publication of the International Hunter Education Association



- **Answers to What Ifs...?  
on Wild Animal Attacks**
- **Preventing and Responding  
to Bear and Lion Attacks**
- **Effects of Adrenaline**
- **Venison vs. Beef**

For Distribution in Canada, Mexico, and the United States of America



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**International Hunter Education Association**

**Mission Statement:**

*To continue the heritage of hunting worldwide  
 by developing safe, responsible and  
 knowledgeable hunters.*

The International Hunter Education Association (IHEA) is an organization involving 65,000 administrators and volunteer instructors across North America, plus cooperators in the shooting sports industry and conservation organizations in Canada, Mexico and the United States. The IHEA is affiliated with the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, and its goals are many:

- Increase participation in safe responsible hunting;
  - Further develop the quality and delivery of hunter education;
- Enhance professional skills and standing of administrators and instructors;
- Improve the image of hunters and hunting; and
- Strengthen the leadership role of the IHEA.

The *Hunter & Shooting Sports Education Journal* is the official publication of the International Hunter Education Association. It is published three times annually (June, September, February) and distributed to more than 65,000 administrators and volunteer instructors in Canada, Mexico and the United States, that are responsible for education programs that total more than three-quarters of a million new hunters annually. The purpose of the publication is to increase the skill and effectiveness of hunter education in administrators and instructors so they can improve the enthusiasm, safety, ethics and proficiency of their students as they embark on lifetime enjoyment of hunting and the shooting sports.

The articles and stories contained herein are the opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of the IHEA, its personnel or publishers. Material contained herein cannot be copied or reproduced in any form without the express permission of the IHEA.

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Cover photo courtesy Chuck Bartlebaugh, Center for Wildlife Information.





## President's Remarks

Mac Lang, President IHEA

### Looking Forward

We begin this column with an important glance back, to thank those who helped us arrive at this juncture. We thank the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies; the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the International Hunter Education Association (IHEA) Board, Past President Tim Lawhern, former Executive Vice President (EVP) Dr. David Knotts, Wellington staff, committee chairs, coordinators/administrators, the IHEA Foundation Board, industry partners, organizational partners, instructors, supporters, and students. We are blessed with a rich history and a labor of love.

As we look at the path before us, I am confident that we are doing the right things. We should be proud that we are educating hunters, enhancing the quality and delivery options of Hunter Education programs, enhancing the professional skills and standing of instructors and administrators, improving the image of hunters and hunting and strengthening the leadership role in hunting and Hunter Education.

All of our activities are important, but one group of whom we can be most proud is the IHEA Foundation Board. Chairman Mark Pentecost and the other Foundation Board members are helping to secure our immediate and long-term funding needs. This allows us the luxury of doing the jobs we were hired, elected, appointed, and certified to perform.

With the 2003 Vancouver Conference behind us, the IHEA is fortunate to have new leadership. We look forward to serving with the IHEA Board, EVP Eric Nuse, committee chairs and all those in key positions. Let them know your ideas and opinions. Communication works in all directions and is vital to our success. If our past performance is any indicator, we have a bright future.

On a personal note, I am honored to serve on the IHEA Board. I will strive to live up to the faith you have placed in me. My first Hunter Education Certificate was dated 1963. I became a volunteer instructor in 1977 while teaching for the Department of Physical Education and Recreation at Western Kentucky University. In 1982, I was employed by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources in the position of Hunter Training Officer (HTO). Since 1988, I have worked in the Frankfort office as the HTO Supervisor and Hunter Education Administrator. Seven employees work in the Hunter Education Program in Kentucky, along with 1100 instructors.

As we look through our crystal binoculars into the future, the vision is much clearer when focused by the IHEA Mission and Focus Points (goals). We are here "To continue the heritage of hunting worldwide by developing safe, responsible and knowledgeable hunters." On the not-too-distant horizon, new technologies will be available to us that currently are mysteries. Let us keep the qualities of the past, such as our traditional courses and our "Investments in Volunteers," and may we have the wisdom and understanding to implement improvements as they appear.

Mac Lang was elected IHEA President at the recent 2003 Annual Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia. He has served on the IHEA Board for several terms in the past and, most recently, served as President-Elect.

## International Hunter Education Association

### Mission Statement

*To continue the heritage of hunting worldwide by developing safe, responsible, and knowledgeable hunters*

The International Hunter Education Association is an organization involving some 65,000 volunteer instructors across the country, plus cooperators in the shooting sports industry, and conservation organizations, and the 63 State and Provincial Hunter Education Administrators in Canada, Mexico, and the United States. IHEA is affiliated with the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, and its goals are many:

- Increase participation in safe and responsible hunting;
- Further develop the quality and delivery of hunter education;
- Enhance professional skills and standing of administrators and instructors;
- Improve the image of hunters and hunting;
- Strengthen the leadership role of the IHEA.



The IHEA gratefully acknowledges  
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## EVP Comments

Eric C. Nuse, Executive Vice President

### A New Adventure

**O**n July 1, I will start a new adventure as your Executive Vice Presi-

dent. I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and lay out my personal goals for the next year.

I grew up in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. I started my hunting career at age five hunting mice with my dog and a stick. I gradually worked my way up to a homemade bow and arrows stalking cottontails. Next was hunter education at the local fish and game club, shooting on a rifle team at my high school, archery field courses, and earning my Eagle Scout badge. In 1966 I was off to the University of Maine; and four years later, I had my degree in Wildlife Management, leadership experience at Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity, field experience with ME Inland Fisheries and Game, and the US Forest Service. After a year with the New Jersey Department of Parks as a tree crew boss I was hired, much to my surprise, as a Game Warden in Vermont.

During my 17 years as a field Warden, I was part of our three-time national champion CO police revolver team. I also earned my associate degree in Criminal Justice, served on the state employee's bargaining team, was president of the Vermont's Wardens Association, and became a 4th degree black belt in Tae Kwon-Do.

In 1988 I had the chance to transfer to the Hunter Education Division as a district coordinator and eventually ended up as the Training Coordinator for the state. Along the way I graduated from the Agency's Leadership and Management course and became a Certified Public Manager. About this time I became active with the IHEA, attending conferences, serving as the director of the New Administrator's Academy and on the Elevated Stand Task force.

I have five children (a 10 year-old still at home), a great wife, two Brittany's, and more chickens and cats than I need. I love to hunt, fish, canoe, hike, camp, and ski. Don't ask how many guns I own, or fly rods for that matter! But I have to admit I probably spend more time reading than anything else. My interests range from Senge's *The Fifth Discipline* to *Rat Hunting Man*.

Over the years I've learned a few things that I hope will help the IHEA achieve its mission of continuing the hunting heritage worldwide by developing safe, responsible and knowledgeable hunters.

*Here is what I believe:*

- Learning never stops. The more you know the more you know you don't know.

- Organizations have all the expertise and knowledge they need to solve their problems. The trick is to uncover it and find common ground to move forward.
- Good people working in poor systems produce poor results. Ordinary people in excellent systems produce excellent results.
- Planning is like meditation on a large scale. A quality planning process will identify important goals, build alignment, focus efforts, and yield valuable results.
- Making assumptions on things that are implicit is not very good for organizational effectiveness.
- Customer service depends on both responsible providers and responsible customers.
- Open, inclusive and democratic processes work. They may be messy and seem slow but they work.
- There are lots of ways to skin a cat, but you better be sure you are skinning the right cat!

*What does all this mean for you and the IHEA? It depends on where you are in the system.*

- If you are on the Board of Directors—I challenge you to learn and fully implement the Carver Policy Governance Model. For me to do an excellent job I need clear results-oriented policies, clarity of roles and a clear set of executive limitations policies.
- If you are a Coordinator or Administrator—I need your brains and your time. I need you to help develop a focused strategic plan that produces added value for you and your agency. I also need you to serve on committees and task forces that move us toward accomplishing our mission.
- If you are an industry supporter, foundation member, or a conservation partner—I need your know-how and your financial support. I don't need another boss. We face a tremendous challenge in reversing the decline in hunters and building support for hunting. By working together to identify common ground, focusing in high leverage activities and putting our money and energy where our mouths are, we can do a lot!
- If you are an instructor, you can demand excellence from your agency and your teaching team. All States and Provinces should be meeting and exceeding the IHEA basic standards. If your hunter education program is under-funded or under-staffed, you and your friends need to stand up and be counted. Basic hunter education is not enough. We need to build interest in

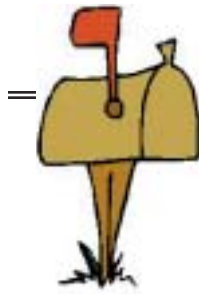
hunting and then provide avenues for new hunters to shoot, learn to hunt successfully, and have the support they need to become life-long hunters. Quality, fun, accessible classes are the foundation of our work.

*What does it mean for the IHEA staff and me?*

- We need to be clear whom we work for—and that is the Board of Directors. They represent the member/owners, and when they speak with one voice, we will too.
- We will have efficient customer service; but we will hold you, the customer, accountable to help us supply that high quality service, otherwise it is not sustainable.
- I expect results; busy work doesn't count; results are the bottom line.
- I intend to focus on improving the systems, identifying leverage points in the system, and getting results as defined in board policies and the strategic plan.
- We will have timely, open and clear communications with all our stakeholders and members.
- Much of what I do will involve facilitating, collaborating, building partnerships, and expanding IHEA's circle of influence.

I don't have the answers—but I do have a lot of tools and experience using them. With your help we can make a difference and truly move hunter education to the next level.

*Note: Eric Nuse was hired by the IHEA Board on April 15th after the position was open to candidates across North America. 15 candidates applied and 5 were invited to interview at a meeting on April 15th in Chicago. Eric will be starting full time on July 7th at the Wellington Headquarters.*



## Letter to the Editor

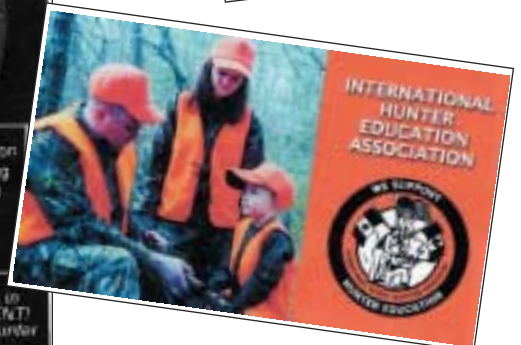
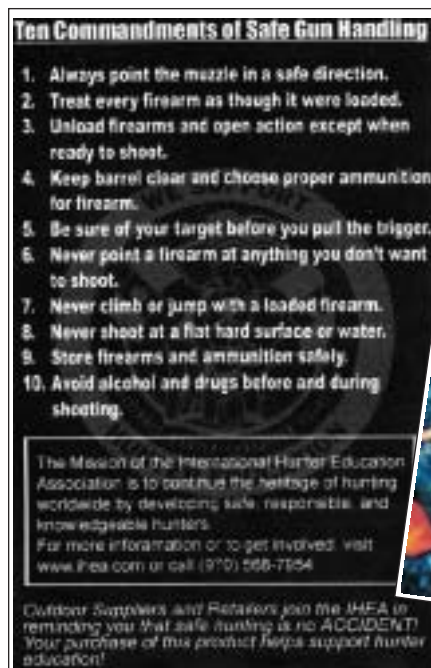
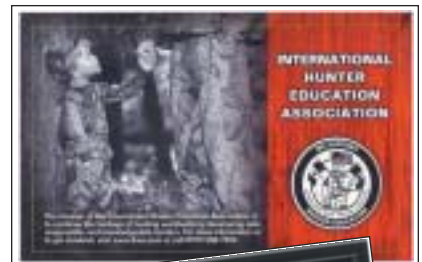
### The Importance of Hunter Education and the Ten Commandments of Safe Gun Handling...

Dear Editor: My husband received a pair of camouflage gloves with a tag on them promoting Hunter's Safety and the Ten Commandments of Safe Gun Handling. I just want to thank you for promoting Hunter's Safety and making hunters aware of the dangers of not following the rule.

Unfortunately, my oldest and only son was killed while hunting with his father in 2001. A friend who was hunting in another stand shot my son in the head as my husband and son waited for him to get out of the deer stand. Seeing the picture of the little boy with his daddy on the tag reminded me of my little Dave and his daddy. I believe this is what caught my attention to the IHEA. If the person who shot my son had followed the 10 simple rules of Safe Gun Handling, my baby would still be here today. Also if he had followed a simple hunter safety rule of no hunting after dark, my son might still be here. Seeing that someone is promoting hunter's safety and placing this tag on their garments made me feel the need to tell you "thank you." Maybe someone else's child, husband or friend will not die because of someone's carelessness.

--Shelley W. Cohen

*Editor's note: The tags that Shelley refers to are purchased by major retailers and attached to merchandise before shipping worldwide in support of the IHEA mission. Shown right is the tag (front and back) that Shelley noticed on the product she had purchased. Just recently, the IHEA updated this hangtag (below, front and back) and is continuing to distribute the 10 Commandments of Safe Gun Handling message worldwide.*







# Memories... and the Future of Hunter Education

By Dr. David M. Knotts, former IHEA Executive Vice-President

**A**t some point, everyone has made a tough decision to make in their respective careers. My toughest decision in almost 30 years of working in the field of natural resources has been to leave the IHEA. Too many weekends on the road, grandchildren to teach how to hunt and fish, a wife of 33 years needing a honey-doer around the house, some minor health concerns, and a dog that knew me well enough not to bite me when I walked up the drive, were main components of the equation.

I will always have fond memories of friends and colleagues, and colleagues that became friends, who I had the pleasure to work with over the past eight years. Looking back, one always likes to focus on what one perceives as great accomplishments during his or her tenure.

Realistically, regardless of accomplishments, there are always challenges and unfinished business, too! I sometimes reflect on a statement my old Army First Sergeant made to me when I was given a critical responsibility in which lives would hang in the balance. I said, "Top, maybe you should find someone more qualified." He replied, "Knotts, I never said you were the best man for the job, but you are the best I got, so get out there and get it done!" Well, I may not have been the best man for the tasks IHEA faced transitioning from a half-time, one-man operation with little to no funds, to a full-time staff of four with a Foundation in place committed to assisting the IHEA develop a sound financial base. But I did give all I could. As a result, the organization will always have a place in my heart. These accomplishments could not have been

made without a great staff, Coordinators willing to go the extra mile to serve on the Board, or in Task Force Leader, and Committee Chair positions, Volunteer Instructors who also gave their time to serve on the Board and head up special projects including: the IHEA Annual Conference, Rendezvous and YHEC; and our industry partners and



sister organizations who have stood by us through thick and thin.

It is always healthy to have someone new come in with a fresh view of operations and organization direction. There is a lot of truth to sometimes not being able to see the "Forest for the Trees" or the "Trees for the Forest" when working so closely with something of the magnitude and as far-reaching as the IHEA. The selection of Eric Nuse as the new Executive Vice President was a wise choice. Eric is a great thinker, is well respected within the hunter education community, and will have the ability, with the aid of the good people he surrounds himself with, to take the organization to a higher level.

The future of hunter education will continue to rest with our volunteers. North America has been blessed with a rich history of volunteerism unlike anywhere else in the world. Volunteers have been the Scoutmasters, Red Cross trainers, and Little League coaches; but let's face it, in Hunter Education our men and women volunteers are getting grayer and have less hair every year. We need to recruit our replacements to ensure that future hunter education programs maintain the quality and quantity of instructors we have had to date. Little thought is given to the fact that Hunter Education is the second largest government-volunteer program in North America next to volunteer fire

departments.

Like the volunteer instructor, Hunter Education Administrators are an essential cog in the wheel. I stated, when I first came on board with the Association, that state and provincial hunter education administrators are "over worked, under paid and less appreciated than any other agency employee." However, they are a special breed of men and women dedicated to promoting life safety, and maintaining our hunting heritage.

For over 50 years, we have delivered hunter education in some form or another. The program has had a significant impact on reducing hunting-related accidents and raising the level of awareness towards wildlife management and hunter ethics. It is the program that will lead the way in maintaining our hunting heritage. Given the financial support of the IHEA Foundation, and the commitment of our volunteer and paid members and staff, IHEA can provide the leadership to deal with the challenges of the future, but we must not become complacent. We need to lengthen our stride and be the pace setters that the hunting and shooting sports community is looking for. ✚

*Dr. David M. Knotts who has been the IHEA Executive Vice-President for the past eight years has taken a new position as Conservation Education Division Chief for the Missouri Department of Conservation. During his term with the IHEA, Dr. Knotts helped to develop many resources that are now available for Hunter Education volunteer instructors' use including the IHEA Internet Introduction to Hunter Education on the [www.ihea.com](http://www.ihea.com) website.*

*He also helped to establish a formalized Hunter Education program in Mexico that meets the current IHEA standards. His colleagues in Mexico have named him El Cassador de Pesce or the "Hunter of Fish."*







## Ask the Expert

### Firearms Handling by Hunters During Warden Contacts

#### Question:

**What should you do with your firearm when approached by a Game Warden in the field? Unload it or keep it loaded?**

A recent Wisconsin survey was sent out to Conservation Wardens. Fifty-two Conservation Wardens responded to the survey for a response rate of 26%. This survey covered North America via the Game Warden Listserver, a survey of all WI wardens, state patrol, county deputies, and municipal police agencies.

The selections available and response rate to the question at the left were:

1. Always unload Firearm — 0 (One person checked #1 and #3)
2. Open the Action — 2
3. Follow the Law Enforcement Officer's Instruction — 50

Ninety-six percent of the Wisconsin Conservation Wardens that responded prefer that hunters practice the rules of firearms safety and follow the Law Enforcement Officers' Instructions at the time.

Based on this survey the IHEA recommends that you keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, and follow the officers' instructions.

*Survey Results from Tim Lawhern, Wisconsin Hunter Education Administrator*

#### ATTENTION:

##### U.S. VOLUNTEER HUNTER EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS:

Liability Insurance is something every volunteer Hunter Education Instructor should have.

All volunteers with a current IHEA Volunteer Instructor Membership are provided with Volunteer Liability insurance up to \$1 million per occurrence. This policy provides protection for a personal injury or a property damage liability claim arising out of the performance of the registered volunteer's duties such as: accusation of misinformation given in a course, an accident during a live fire or other field exercise, and allegations of abuse or sexual harassment.

To become a member of the IHEA, simply fill out and return the Membership Application on page 38. For more information, call IHEA at 970-568-7954.

*(Offer currently not available in Mexico or Canada)*

#### Attention Hunter Education Instructors!

#### Do you have a favorite Wild Game Recipe?

The IHEA is putting together a Wild Game Recipe Cookbook that will be made available to the public through popular outdoor retail stores in 2004.

We are currently soliciting recipes from our Hunter Education



Instructors in Canada, Mexico and the United States. If you have a favorite or unusual recipe (or recipes) that you would be willing to share in this publication, please send it (them) along with a short biography about yourself (name, state/province, number years as a Hunter Education Instructor) via email to: [support@ihea.com](mailto:support@ihea.com); or via regular mail to: IHEA, Wild Game Recipes, P.O. Box 490, Wellington, CO 80549

Donors who contribute recipes that are chosen to be published in our Wild Game Recipes Cookbook will receive a free copy of the cookbook. Proceeds from sales will go directly into Instructor development and IHEA program resources.



## Permission to Hunt Matches Hunters with Landowners

**Permission To Hunt / [www.permissiontohunt.com](http://www.permissiontohunt.com) has released an online, U.S. map-based system that matches hunters and landowners. Permission To Hunt was created with the hunter in mind, building a strong hunter community to promote values we all strive to maintain and to support local, state, and national wildlife organizations.**



### The Permission to Hunt mission statement includes:

1. Create awareness of our most important natural resource, our land;
2. Implement a system to match landowners with sportsmen to utilize the land;
3. Introduce a new revenue system for landowner/farmers nationwide;
4. Educate landowners and sportsmen to preserve, protect and respect the land and its inhabitants;

The online system allows hunters to access the website which stores farmer, rancher, and or landowner information. The hunter is able to search for hunting locations based upon which species he or she is most interested in hunting. Landowners can register their land online and specify which species are available to hunt.

"Permission To Hunt provides a service to both landowners and hunters that will simplify the process of getting permission from landowners to hunt, and also provides hunters with unlimited resource for hunting. Anyone with an Internet connection can utilize the system, which is very easy to use. Hunting private land should be regarded as privilege, not a "right." Hunters should respect the landowners' wishes, make sure they clean up spent shell casings, waste, and leave that particular parcel the way it was after they are finished hunting. As a courtesy, hunters should also contact the landowner a couple of months prior to opening season," said George Paul, CEO of Permission To Hunt, New London, MN.

The service is free for now in conjunction with landowners; and once the land base is built, hunters can access this information for a small

yearly fee of \$15.00. Permission To Hunt started with modest goals a couple of months ago and has made substantial progress with over 90,000 acres signed up. "This started as a regional awareness campaign and has moved forward into a credible national program which has gathered interest from the media, local and federal government, and national sportsmen organizations," said Paul. ***Some of those groups are as follows:***

### International Fish & Wildlife Agencies

Case IH • Safari Club International • Delta Waterfowl

Farm And Livestock Directories • Dodge

Beef Today • National Farmers Organization

Chicago Farmers Group • National Farmers Union

The Council • Polaris • University Of Michigan/Agri-Tourism

National Young Farmers Education

Congressional Sportsman's Foundation

4-H Shooting Sports

Future plans involve adding trout streams, snowmobile trails, 4 wheeling trails, and other outdoor-related activities (i.e., hay rides, apple picking, farm-based bed and breakfasts). Their ultimate goal is to match the over 40-million sportsmen in our country looking for outdoor-themed recreation with the privately owned landowners

which make up the majority of land ownership in our country. The matching system will be a resource utilized by millions of people to hunt, fish, hike, and plan vacations.

"I started this system because my hunting buddies and I were finding it very difficult to find quality land to hunt; and in adding this system we believe we will enjoy the new hunting land this online system offers to us for

years to come," mentioned Paul.

For further information contact Paul by email at [info@permissiontohunt.com](mailto:info@permissiontohunt.com) or visit the website at [www.permissiontohunt.com](http://www.permissiontohunt.com).

George Paul is CEO of Permission To Hunt, New London, MN





## Highlights of the 2003 Annual IHEA Conference in Vancouver, B.C.

IHEA delegates and Volunteer Hunter Education Instructors from all over North America and Mexico attending the 2003 IHEA Conference in Vancouver experienced outstanding hospitality from the Conference host, Robert Paddon and his BCWF volunteers.

Fifty-three of the sixty-six US, Canadian and Mexican IHEA member agencies were represented by attendees. The guests attended many educational courses that were on the schedule of events, such as the Hunter's Trail, Bear & Cougar Safety, Wounding Loss, and Lesson Plans. Many new friendships were made, and stories were shared as instructors and delegates mingled at the Meet & Greet and Hospitality rooms.

Between the numerous meetings, discussions, and workshops, attendees were also able to explore and enjoy the many attractions and beautiful scenery that Vancouver has to offer. ✚



2003 IHEA Board of Directors — (standing left to right) Marco Gonzales, Bob Mayer, Eric Nuse, Robert Paddon, Joey Rentiers, Mark Birkhauser, John Sears, Lenny Rees, Bill Blackwell, (seated left to right) Dr. Julio Carrera, Mac Lang, Terry Erwin, (not pictured) James Bell.



Conference attendees were graciously welcomed by the wonderful BCWF volunteer staff. Shown here left to right are: Jean and Don Hall (standing), Brian Wade and Dave Adams (seated).



James Bell and Matt Ortman, Hunter Education Coordinators from Georgia and Ohio, share conversation at the silent auction.



New Executive Vice President Eric Nuse (left) and Marilyn Bentz, newly selected National Bowhunter Education Foundation (NBEF) Executive Director. NBEF headquarters have moved to Fort Smith, Arkansas, and Bentz may be contacted at:

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## 2002 Winchester Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor of the Year Award



This award is selected by Winchester Ammunition from nominations that are submitted by State/Provincial Administrators and Coordinators and recognizes individual volunteer hunter education instructors that have dedicated themselves toward helping the IHEA with its mission.

**IHEA Mission:** To continue the heritage of hunting worldwide by developing safe, responsible and knowledgeable hunters.

Winchester Ammunition has chosen Mr. Jan G. Morris of Imperial, Missouri, as the International Hunter Education Association's 2002 Volunteer Instructor of the Year.

Jan began teaching Hunter Education for the National Rifle Association in 1971 and has worked tirelessly since then to promote safe hunting skills. Last year alone, Jan logged over 14,000 miles and 2,500-plus hours, along with considerable out-of-pocket expenses working for hunter education. He was the Chief Instructor for three hunter education classes and two bowhunter classes, and also assisted with other training for a total of 19 classes in 2002. He recruited nine new instructors and personally mentored three of them.

Jan has served as a board member of the Board of Directors of the Missouri Hunter Education Instructor's Association since 1992 and is currently their Executive Officer. He is also the State Coordinator for the NRA's Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC). Jan also served on the IHEA Board from 1999-2001 as a Volunteer Instructor Board Representative.

Jan has been recognized by the Missouri Department of Conservation for his writing ability. He helped write the new *Bowhunter Education Student and Instructor Manual* along with revising the *Student Hunter Education Manual*.

He has also written several "Teaching 101" articles *Continued to next page*



Winchester Volunteer Instructor of the Year Award: left to right, Terry Erwin, Texas Hunter Education Coordinator; recipient Jan Morris, Missouri Volunteer Instructor; and Rick Flint, Missouri Hunter Education Coordinator. Jan was recently recognized for this award at the 2003 Annual Conference in Vancouver, BC.



for the IHEA *Journal*.

Winchester's International Hunter Education Association Volunteer Instructor of the Year Program began in the late 1980's. Since most states require Hunter Education certification before they will license younger hunters, volunteers have been called upon to conduct Hunter Education courses. Seeing the crucial need for instructors that play a major role in the future of hunting and shooting sports, Winchester developed this program to recognize and say "Thank You" to volunteers who do so much for the sport.

Each year, nominations are received for anyone who has significantly advanced the cause of safe hunting on a voluntary basis through extraordinary service in training or education. Criteria are based on the activities, experience, affiliations, and overall contributions to hunter education. Most nominees have years of outstanding experience, and are truly the cream of the crop.

Winchester is proud to recognize Jan Morris with the IHEA Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor of the Year Award. He has shown unselfish dedication to the shooting and hunting sports. ✦

## IHEA AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS:

Several individuals and industries were recognized at the Awards Luncheons, including:

### 2002 Hall Of Fame Award

Edward Augustine, Kansas • William "Bill" Nichols, Virginia  
John Dodson, Virginia

### 2002 IHEA Volunteer Instructor of the Year,

(Sponsored by Winchester Ammunition) - Jan Morris, Missouri

**2002 Darrell Holt Memorial Award** - Terry Bradbery, Virginia

**2002 IHEA President's Award** - Wayne Doyle, Kansas

**2002 Executive Vice President's Award** - Bob Mayer, IHEA Staff  
Susie Kiefer, IHEA Staff • Micki Hawkins, IHEA Staff

**2002 Industry Partnership Award** - Henry Repeating Arms Co. • Laser Shot, Inc.

### Outgoing Board Members:

IHEA Executive Vice President - Dr. David Knotts, CO  
President - Tim Lawhern, WI • President Elect - Mac Lang, KY  
Treasurer - Joe Huggins, AR • Vice President, Zone II - Helen McCracken, WY  
Instructor Board Representative, Zone II - Christopher Tymeson, KS

### New IHEA Board Members:

IHEA Executive Vice President - Eric Nuse, VT • President - Mac Lang, KY  
President Elect - Terry Erwin, TX • Treasurer - Joey Rentiers, SC  
Vice President, Zone II - Lenny Rees, UT  
Instructor Board Representative, Zone II - Dave Bauer, CO

## A Marriage of 'Ethic' Proportions — A Match Made in Conservation

It's an urban world with urban "attitudes," even down here in the Missouri Ozarks. It doesn't seem to matter if a town is small, large, or growing—people seem to have developed an "urban-think" approach to the land.

Urban thinking breeds a shift in how we view the land. It challenges the health of our land ethic. Where once there was a love for the land and a respect for and wise use of it, there are now opposing forces pitting users of the land against one another—the consumptive vs. the non-consumptive.

Discussions between these two groups often tend to become emotionally charged—proponents of each side passionate about their relationship with the land; about their use of the land and its fish, forest, and wildlife resources; about their future with the land. What neither side realizes is that every one consumes—

By Regina Knauer, Missouri Department of Conservation SW Regional Outdoor Skills Supervisor



*A workshop on "Conservation and the Land Ethic" was recently given at the Andy Dalton Shooting Range in Missouri.*

whether it is achieved through the telescopic sight of a rifle or through the lens on a pair of binoculars. What neither side realizes is that they are truly two sides of the same coin, reflections of each other, dependent upon each other's views and support in order to have a future with the land.

In an effort to bring these two sides closer to an amiable understanding, to a tolerance of each other, to a breaking down of the barrier of consumptive vs. non-consumptive urban thinking, a workshop was presented for teachers at the Andy Dalton Range and Training Center near

Willard, Missouri. The workshop was presented by Missouri Department of Conservation Outreach & Education and Protection staff. It was offered through Southwest Missouri State University for one graduate or undergraduate credit and ran from

*Continued on page 14*



## INSTRUCTOR DISCOUNTS:

### Crosman and IHEA Join Forces to Reach Young People with Gun Safety Message

### Mossberg Makes Special Purchase Program Available to Instructors



The International Hunter Education Association and Crosman Corporation have announced the start of a joint program to foster the growth of the sport-shooting and gun-safety programs nationwide, using Crosman's air guns and the IHEA's organization of youth shooting activity coordinators and certified trainers. The effort, based on Crosman's long-standing Education in Airgun Shooting for Youth (EASY) program, will offer IHEA certified instructors and affiliated clubs and youth program operators a selection of Crosman airguns—three rifle models and one pistol—plus a selection of kit materials needed to start and run a safety and marksmanship training program. Kits may be ordered by qualified IHEA

groups at a substantial discount. In addition, Crosman will donate five percent of the cost of each purchase to the IHEA, to be used to support youth shooting education programs.

For information on this new program, to get prices and descriptions of the program's available equipment, or to place an order, qualified IHEA participants may contact Brenda Dandino at Crosman, telephone (585) 657-3101 or email her at [bdandino@crosman.com](mailto:bdandino@crosman.com).



Mossberg has made available a special purchase program for Hunter Education Instructors. For information on this special program, contact Joe Koziel at (203) 230-5361. ➦

## Conservation, *Continued from page 13*

4 pm-10 pm on a Friday evening, and from 8am-6pm on Saturday.

Entitled "Conservation and the Land Ethic," the workshop included training in two areas not normally combined: the Leopold Education Project, and the Missouri Hunter Education Program. Promoted as "a marriage of ethic proportions," the workshop components proved to be more compatible than envisioned—a better-than-perfect match made in conservation.

The Leopold Education Project (LEP) is part of the educational and outreach program of Pheasants Forever, a non-profit organization based in St. Paul, Minnesota. LEP facilitators provide six-hour workshops to train educators and youth leaders in the use of curriculum and activities based on Leopold's works in order to enhance, promote, and "create an ecologically literate citizenry so that each individual might develop a personal land ethic." *[Excerpt from the LEP Mission Statement]*

Aldo Leopold (1887-1948) has been regarded as a wilderness advocate, an ecologist, and the father of conservation. His collection of short essays in *A Sand County Almanac (Almanac)* has opened the eyes of millions to the beauty, wonder, and fragility of the land. However, the *Almanac's* seasonal journal entries were actually urgent entreaties to recognize the land (and everything living in and on it) as an interdependent community to which we all belong and for which we are all responsible.

Leopold has also been considered the father of game management, and he would probably scoff at anyone who would so much as suggest that the health of the land could exist without management of the fish, forest, and wildlife resources (i.e., that anyone who is an avid bird watcher would speak against those who harvest the deer that spend their days grazing the understory habitat of Missouri songbirds). Jim Posewitz in his book *Inherit the Hunt* describes

Leopold as the man who through the *Almanac* has "told us how hunters could live in our nation's future with both grace and dignity."

Ah, yes, hunters... which brings us to the other partner in this workshop relationship—the Missouri Hunter Education certification program. Of the six chapters in the current student manual, the most essential and prominent strand woven throughout is safety, especially in muzzle control. But there are two other essential strands woven a bit more subtly throughout—ethics and conservation. Each of these three strands has a chapter devoted to it, but each also provides an inextricable pattern within the entire design—and each has strong ties with Leopold's *Almanac* essays. Passages were chosen from various essays and read aloud to reinforce and enhance each hunter education chapter.

Land ethic, conservation, and management messages were easily blended between the two works in such a way as to make both consumptive and non-consumptive users of the land understand the role of the other. Waterfowl hunting was discussed, Leopold's essay on migratory birds, "Back From the Argentine," was read, time was spent nature journaling and sketching birds flitting to and from feeding stations, and bird feeders were built and taken home.

The chapter on firearms use and hunting accidents was followed by a reading from Leopold's essay, "Smoky Gold":

*Between each hanging garden and the creekside is a moss-paved deer trail, handy for the hunter to follow, and for the flushed grouse to cross—in a split second. The question is whether the bird and the gun agree on how a second should be split. If they do not, the next deer that passes finds a pair of empty shells to sniff at, but no feathers.*

*Continued on page 18*







# Bulletin Board

## 2003 Region 1 Canada, Instructor Rendezvous

Photo and Story by Bill Blackwell, Ontario Rendezvous Host and IHEA Instructor Board Representative, Zone 1

On the weekend of April 11-13, more than 100 instructors from Region 1 gathered at the Leslie M. Frost Centre for the first Instructor Rendezvous and 12th annual Ontario Hunter Education Instructor Conference. The Rendezvous/Conference was co-hosted by IHEA and the Greater Toronto Region Hunter Education Association through an agreement reached between Bill McKittrick, GTR Association President and Bill Blackwell, IHEA Volunteer Director for Region 1. The 100-plus instructors were treated to an informative and fun filled weekend that started at 2:00 on Friday

afternoon with opening ceremonies. Opening remarks were presented by Ontario Minister of Natural Resources, the Honourable Gerry Ouellette, who praised instructors for their commitment to continuing our hunting heritage by teaching future generations of hunters. He then assisted with the introduction and opening of the Ontario Hunter Education Hall of Fame which will be housed at the Frost Centre.

After taking the time to mingle with instructors and answer questions, the minister left and the program

*Continued on page 19*



## Hunter's Handbook Winners Circle Awards Announced

The 11th annual Hunter's Handbook Winner's Circle prize drawing was held April 15. Each year students send their questionnaire/ entries for a chance to win a variety of prizes. The student, his or her instructor, and the state/ provincial administrator all win a like prize. The 15 winners this year were:

<u>Student</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Administrator</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Prize</u>
Brent Collins	-Bruce Clark	-Ron Fritz	-ID	-Traditions Black Powder Rifle
Josh Greiser	-Donald Nofziger	-Matt Ortman	-OH	-Daisy Model 1894
Robin Weidman	-Bob Knackel	-Wayne Jones	-NY	-Mossy Oak cooler
Warren Stewart	-Tom Easterly	-Helen McCracken	-WY	-Mossy Oak cooler
Joseph Llawes	-S. Pomet	-Paul Ritter	-NJ	-Knight & Hale Game Call
Bobby Hodge	-Bill Holiday	-Phil Neil	-TN	-Knight & Hale Game Call
Richard Fletcher	-Leroy Bishop	-Rick Flint	-MO	-Plano shooters case
Scott Perron	-Greg	-Nolan David Paplawski	-AB, Canada	-Plano shooters case
Ben McGuire	-Don Sears	-Wayne Doyle	-KS	-Gerber Multiplier
Michelle Buri	-Dean Finch	-Bill Shattuck	-SD	-Gerber Multiplier
Kaitlyn Wiens	-Tom Horlick	-Dr. Thomas Baumeister	-MT	-Leupold riflescope
Brandon Dykes	-George Mountjoy	-Mac Lang	-KY	-Streamlight flashlight
Daniel Wilkinson	-Earl Weerner	-Lance Meek	-OK	-Bushnell binoculars
Danny Mardis, Jr.	-Paul Neiman	-Keith Snyder	-PA	-Cabela's gift certificate
Pablo Benavides	-Andrew Samson	-Terry Erwin	-TX	-Brunton compass









## Bulletin Board

### Conservation, *Continued from page 14*

The chapter on hunting traditions and ethics led perfectly into Leopold's essay entitled "Too Early." After reading it, the teachers were taken outside into the cold, crisp blackness of the December night and shown the Orion constellation. Accompanied by the soft, plaintive yelps of coyotes in the distance, Greek myths involving this great star-bound hunter were told along with stories of the Greek goddess Artemis, the Lady of Wild Things, and the goddess of

**The workshop also served to put a bit of a kink in some "urban-think" by forging and making accessible to educators the link between consumptive and non-consumptive users of the land.**

the hunt to whom all wild animals were sacred—a dilemma for a goddess or the description of a true hunter? These myths should not seem too "Greek to us," because their messages mirror exactly a key concept of the hunter education chapter: The mark of a truly great hunter is love, respect, and complete knowledge of that which is hunted.

Immediately after the concepts of preservation vs. conservation were tackled in the chapter on the hunter and conservation, Leopold's "Good Oak" essay was read aloud as participants took turns sawing through a large piece of oak with an old two-handed saw, noting along the way the annual rings and the history to which this good oak had been witness.

Dinner was cooked entirely in Dutch ovens, a cooking method commonly used by the Leopold family and referenced several times in the *Almanac*. On Saturday after-

noon, the hunter education chapter on firearms was covered and excerpts from Leopold's "Red Legs Kicking" were read. Following this, the group proceeded to the trap and skeet fields to experience firearms first hand and to practice newly acquired muzzle control skills.

All participants passed the hunter certification test with flying colors; and considering their overwhelmingly positive evaluation responses and their nature journal entries (submitted as part of their grade), it would seem that one of the workshop's key objectives had been met—to increase participant awareness of the importance and impact of consumptive and non-consumptive use of Missouri's resources.

Each participant left with a hunter education certificate; copies of *A Sand County Almanac*; Posewitz's *Beyond Fair Chase* book and video; the LEP Activity Guide and LEP Task Cards for use in their classrooms; various firearm safety booklets; brochures and ammunition charts from both Remington and Winchester; a nature journal; Dutch oven recipes, information, and curriculum; language arts, math, and physics lesson plans dealing with firearms; and plans for building a Leopold-designed bench. Staff at the Dalton Range had built one of these benches for demonstration purposes, and a lucky teacher took it home.

The main goal of this workshop, "to marry" two seemingly unlike bodies of curriculum, was achieved. However, this workshop also served to put a bit of a kink in some "urban-think" by forging and making accessible to educators the link between consumptive and non-consumptive users of the land. Simply put, it was a match made in conservation—conservation education, that is. ✚

### Safety Alerts & Notices: CVA Recall Notice



#### **WARNING — CONTINUATION OF 1997 RECALL DO NOT USE CVA IN-LINE RIFLES WITH 1995 OR 1996 SERIAL NUMBERS SERIOUS INJURY MAY RESULT**

In 1997, Connecticut Valley Arms, Inc., voluntarily implemented a recall of in-line muzzleloading rifles manufactured in 1995 and 1996. If you currently own or possess a CVA Inline rifle with a 95 or 96 serial number, or you purchased one or gave it or sold it to another person, and the barrel has not been replaced, you should contact a Company representative immediately by calling the customer service number below:

**1-770-449-4687 — (8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. EST)**

sample serial #61-13-xxxxxx-95

sample serial # 61-13-xxxxxx-96

To identify the rifle, read the serial number on the barrel opposite the firing bolt. The only CVA rifles subject to the voluntary recall are in-line models with serial numbers ending with the last two digits of 95 or 96.

**No other firearm models within the CVA product line are affected by the voluntary recall.**

Blackpowder Products, Inc. purchased the assets of Connecticut Valley Arms, Inc. in May, 1999. Blackpowder Products, Inc. assumed no liability for any product manufactured or sold prior to January 1, 1998. Blackpowder Products, Inc. is continuing the Connecticut Valley Arms, Inc. recall, and will cover all reasonable related shipping charges. Please do not return your in-life rifle before contacting a Company Representative at the above customer service number.



## **Canadian Rendezvous,**

*Continued from page 16*

resumed with Wayne Jones, program director of New York State and chairperson of the IHEA Internet task force, introducing the IHEA Internet program. Wayne did an excellent job in dispelling fears that the Internet program was not a way to replace instructors but rather a tool to augment existing programs and assist students.

Following dinner, Dr. David Knotts spoke on the Child Protection in Hunter Education classes which was followed by a presentation by Bev Robson on Harassment and Ontario's Human Rights Code. Both subjects sparked a lot of interest and questions from the audience.

Following the formal program instructors retired to a meet-and-greet session and started taking part in a Hunter's Challenge which consisted of quizzes, silhouette identification, range estimation, and shooting skills using the Laser Shot system.

On Saturday the rendezvous continued with Al Stewart speaking on the Future Hunter/Future Hunter Education Instructor. Al presented his views and then the instructors broke into five groups to address five questions Al had given them. The results of the break-out groups were compiled by Al and presented back to the group in the afternoon session. The last presenter of the morning was Oliver Barriault who gave an excellent and informative presentation on Bear Awareness. Besides teaching hunter education and the Canadian Firearms Course, Oliver delivers the Bear Awareness programs to many Northern Ontario schools.

Saturday afternoon was filled with four presentations. Charlie Todesco, an MNR Conservation Officer, spoke on the Moose Watch program, Brent Patterson a MNR Biologist spoke on Chronic Wasting Disease. Following a break, Gary Martin a MNR Enforcement Specialist, spoke on The Hunter and Conservation Officer Relationship. The afternoon session ended with Al Stewart providing feedback on the morning breakout sessions. Following some break time instructors and guests were treated to an excellent dinner followed by our keynote speaker, Dr. David Knotts, who spoke on the IHEA, its mission and five focus areas.

The evening program continued with the presentation of Life Memberships to the Greater Toronto Region Hunter Education Association to Irvine Cochrane, who has been an instructor in the area for 45 years, and Fred Bell who has

been teaching for over 35 years. Several other instructors then received service awards from the MNR and OFAH. Dr. David Knotts was presented with a framed MNR print, depicting a rising speckled trout, in appreciation of the relationship the MNR enjoyed with Dr. Knotts while he was EVP of IHEA. Bill Blackwell, IHEA volunteer rep for Region 1, then presented Dr. Knotts with a gift of handmade filleting knives on behalf of the IHEA Board of Directors.

Members of the GTR Association conference committee were very diligent in securing donated items for the instructor prize and auction table. Every instructor went home with a prize, and the auction that followed netted some much-needed funds for the hunter education program.

Sunday morning sessions were divided into four separate rooms, and instructors moved from one session to the next. The topics were program-specific for Ontario. Doria Cialella and Tammy Gunter presented the new examination form that will be coming out, while Fred Bell and Joe Reid introduced the new student-written test. Pat Hogan led a session on teaching tips, and the future of the hunter education program in Ontario was led by Tom Cumby of the MNR.

Final updates on the program were given by Joe Reid, MNR program coordinator; Pat Hogan, OFAH program administrator; and Bill Blackwell, Chair of the Hunter Education Provincial Advisory Committee.

Future hunter education instructors Jonathan McKittrick and Patrick Blackwell, who were attending and assisting with all the running, setting-up, and Hunter's Challenge, were presented with tokens of appreciation for all their help.

As a token of appreciation for all their work and planning, Rendezvous/Conference co-hosts Bill Blackwell and Bill McKittrick were presented with OFAH 75th Anniversary watches by Pat Hogan and Joe Reid.

Conference Chair Bill McKittrick thanked all the instructors for attending, all the speakers and facilitators for their presentations and assistance, the Frost Centre staff for all their help and excellent meals, the MNR for providing user days at the center and the IHEA for its participation and support of the Rendezvous/Conference. Each participant was presented with a Rendezvous Certificate from the IHEA. The Rendezvous/Conference, from all reports, was an overwhelming success and enjoyed by all. ✚



## Northeast Region USFWS Sponsors Hunter and Trapper Education Courses

The USFWS Northeast Region Wildlife Division of Federal Aid recently sponsored several Hunter Education courses as part of the Massachusetts Hunter Education Program featuring Trapper Education as part of their curriculum.

Regional Director Dr. Mamie A. Parker welcomed students to the Northeast Regional Office in Hadley, Massachusetts, on Saturday, November 16, for the beginning of a Massachusetts Trapper Education Course. Quoting poet Maya Angelou, Dr. Parker told the students and instructors. "When you learn, teach... When you get, give... And then pass it on and on and on..."

The course was the 4th in a series offered by the Regional Office as part of Massachusetts Wildlife's Hunter Education Program. A core group of Regional Office and field station volunteer instructors has been de-

veloped and, combined with volunteer instructors from the public, has offered courses in Basic Hunter Education, Bow Hunter Education, and Trapper Education to the general public and Fish and Wildlife Service staff. A course on Black Powder Education is being planned for the spring. Basic Hunter Education and Trapper Education are mandatory for first-time hunters and trappers in Massachusetts.

During May, the first home study Basic Hunter Education Course offered in Massachusetts was conducted as an experiment for Massachusetts

Wildlife to National Wildlife Refuge seasonal personnel who would be required to handle firearms and conduct predator control as part of their duties. The home-study course provided the opportunity to conduct more extensive field activities and observe student behavior, including live fire, because less time was needed for lecture. Plans for the future include adopting the home study format for most Basic Hunter Education courses offered at the Regional Office.

The core of all courses is emphasis on safety, ethics, and responsibility. Responsibility includes responsibility to society, responsibility to the resource, and responsibility to the perpetuation of our enormously successful and unique North American Model of Wildlife Conservation that was developed by hunters such as Theodore Roosevelt.

Volunteer instructors from the Service's Regional Office include Ed Christoffers, Jaime Geiger, George Haas, Tom Healy, Alex Hoar, Dee Mazzaresse, Paul O'Neil, John Organ, and Bill Zinni. Bud Oliveira, Dave Nicely, and Stephanie Koch (Eastern

Massachusetts NWR), Barry Parrish (Conte NFWR), and Janet Kennedy (Parker River NWR) have also volunteered as instructors. Volunteer instructors from the public include John Benedetto, James Benoit, Dale Crandall, Robert Destromp, Rodgers Madison, Trina Moruzzi (MassWildlife), Kevin Richardson (retired USFWS), Richard Slabinski, Malcolm Speicher, and Al Wilbur. Susan Langlois, administrator of the Massa-



*Steve Farino and son Jayson examine a cage trap.*



*Malcolm Speicher demonstrates a dirt-hole set with a foothold trap.*



*John Benedetto demonstrates the proper way to skin a beaver.*



*Dale Crandall demonstrates a water set for a foothold trap in the Regional Office pond.*



*Susan Langlois of MassWildlife demonstrates how to set a Hancock beaver trap.*

chusetts Hunter Education Program, has participated in all four courses offered to date. According to Langlois, "There is a large demand for the mandated Hunter and Trapper Education courses in the state, and the courses offered at the Fish and Wildlife Service office are meeting a critical need for this

demand in the Hadley/Amherst area. The Fish and Wildlife Service instructor team, along with other volunteers, have been very generous with their time and expertise and help promote the importance of conducting

*Cont. to next page*





# The Hunting Incident Report

## Another case of not identifying your target...

By Pete Lester, Hunter Education Administrator, New Hampshire Fish & Game Department

On November 10, 2002, two brothers, aged 43 and 38, were hunting deer during New Hampshire's primitive firearm season in Errol. The weather was sunny and clear, and both men had hunted these woods for many years.

They were part of party of four, all family, and were participating in a deer drive. The two brothers were dressed for the weather but were not wearing an article of blaze orange clothing; in fact they were both wearing camouflage coats.

The two brothers were using small portable radios, which is legal in NH, to communicate with each other during the drive. The elder brother and soon-to-be victim was tracking some deer and radioed to his younger brother to get ready. The younger brother positioned himself where he thought the deer would cross. He was sure that, given the radio report from his brother, that some deer were coming.

Shortly after, he heard some noise and saw movement.

Certain that he could see antlers, he fired a shot. The 50 caliber projectile struck his brother in the abdomen at range of less than 100 yards.

The victim was transported by his family members/hunting partners to a local hospital where he underwent

### LESSONS LEARNED:

This is a classic case of a shooter failing to properly identify a target. It may also be a case where the shooter was put into an overly anxious state of mind by the radio report that deer were coming his way. Oftentimes, the mind will play tricks completing the picture of what we want or expect to see based on partial information (sights and sounds). Communication often saves lives, but there is risk that information can "overcharge" a situation by creating undue excitement and expectations.

The use of hunter orange may have prevented this incident, but a mindset of "always expect to see a person" is paramount to safety whenever a hunter hears a noise or sees movement. **IDENTIFY YOUR TARGET AND WHAT'S BEYOND!** ✚

emergency surgery. The victim survived the shooting, but it was certainly a traumatic event, especially considering that one of the family members/hunting partners present was the victim's 10-year-old son.

Cont. from previous page



Course graduates Dee Howe, Maria Cienciwa, Elizabeth Mackay, and Tom Howe display their course patches.

these activities in a safe, responsible, and ethical manner."

Plans are to offer at least one course annually in Basic Hunter Education, Bow Hunter Education, Trap-ner Education, and Black Powder Education. These courses have furthered the Service's objectives of serving the local community, delivering positive messages on natural resource conservation, and reconnecting to our traditional conservation partners. ✚

John F. Organ, Ph. D., is Wildlife Program Chief, Division of Federal Aid USFWS.



## Education Resources Review

**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND**

2nd Edition - January 2003

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# Answers to What Ifs...? on Wild Animal Attacks



LYLE K. WILLMARTH PHOTO

In an active classroom where there is a lot of interaction and discussion with the students, it is not unusual for some one to ask one of the famous “What do you do if...?” questions. One of those questions being asked more frequently is, “what do you do if you are attacked by a wild animal such as bear or a mountain lion?”

IHEA has had a number of inquiries from instructors as to how to best answer these questions, and we submit the following as background information for your use. Some of these questions may or may not be directly related to course curriculum,

and instructors have to exercise care to not get off on tangents. Sometimes, it is best to ask the student to meet with you over the break and discuss the topic in question, especially if it does not have direct relevance to the course. However, we should remember that the purpose of the Hunter Education program is to educate, and we should capitalize on “Teachable Moments.”

## Background

Unfortunately, the number of bear/lion incidents with humans, including fatal attacks, in North America is on the increase. One study on human/lion incidents reported that there have been more attacks on humans by lions in the last decade than there has been in the previous 100 years. This human/wild animal confrontation is partially due to an increase in populations of bear and lion from the east coast to the west

coast of North America, as well as around communities with large urban/wild land interface. Animals born or raised near people lose their natural fear and become more tolerant of humans compared to animals born in the remote wild. This tolerance, or loss of fear, accounts for much of the problem encounters. Wildlife managers also attribute the high number of incidents to the large increase of hunters and non-hunters participating in remote back-country activities

By Dr. David M. Knotts,  
Chief, Conservation Education,  
Missouri Department of Conservation,  
Former IHEA Executive Vice President

## One study on human/ lion incidents reported that there have been more attacks on humans by lions in the last decade than there has been in the previous 100 years.

where incidents occur when individuals stumble upon a feeding lion or run head-on into a grizzly with cubs. In these situations, the animals are generally just as surprised as you are, but instinct kicks in and they are going to defend their food, their young, or their territory.

It goes without saying; prevention is probably the best antidote for a bear attack. However, there is the joke that goes "An experienced hiker tells a young backpacking couple, when in bear country, they should wear a whistle and blow it frequently and hang small bells on their hats to let a bear know they are in the area to prevent surprises. The couple complies, and once on the trail, they see bear scat here and there containing bells and whistles." Jokes aside, the recommended prevention methods do work, but once in a while, a bear or lion simply does not play by the rules, and for whatever reason, decides to come after you. Again, "What do you do if...?"

Bear pepper spray is probably the safest, effective deterrent. Bear spray affects the eyes, nose, throat and lungs of the bear. However, its effectiveness can be impacted by wind, rain and temperature. Be sure you are using bear pepper spray registered by the EPA as such and not a personal defense spray. Personal defense sprays may not have sufficient concentrations to thwart a bear attack. It is illegal to sell personal defense spray

as a bear spray. The spray must contain one to two percent capsaicin and related capsaicinoids. Capsaicin and capsaicinoids are the active ingredients that cause rapid eye irritation and difficulty in breathing. The net weight must be at least 7.9 ounces or 225 grams, and the spray duration must be a minimum of six seconds from a distance of at least 25 feet.

To use, point the canister downward and spray a defensive blast at an aggressive or attacking bear about 40 feet away. If the bear continues to charge, keep spraying until the bear backs off. Leave the area immediately, but do not run.

While there is little scientific evidence, professional wildlife managers and conservation officers have knocked aggressive mountain lions back with the bear pepper spray.

Experts recommend that you carry a backup can in the event you are charged by more than one bear, encounter more than one incident, or to compensate for wind or other conditions weakening the effect of the spray. For more information on bear pepper sprays, contact the

Center for Wildlife Information at [www.BeBearAware.org](http://www.BeBearAware.org).

If a firearm is carried for bear defense, a shotgun is the preferred tool. Wally Baumann, Field Operations Supervisor, Chief Firearms Office in Ontario, recommends the following based on intensive studies of current research and reports of bear attacks. First, the load sequence in a pump or semi-automatic shotgun should be buckshot, (12 or 9 pellets), buckshot, and slug.

While some bear experts argue  
*Continued on page 29*



CHUCK BARTLEBAUGH PHOTO



# Preventing and Responding to Bear and Lion Attacks

By Patt Dorsey,  
Colorado Hunter Education  
Administrator

**W**hat if you encountered a bear or lion while out in the woods? Would you know how to respond? Few hunters ever see a bear or mountain lion, although hunters enjoy North America's wildlands. One reason many of us hunt is for the excitement it creates. You participate in the natural world as another predator. Yet, bears and lions make us nervous.

Predation is what hunting is all about! Bear and lion encounters are rare and most often positive. Hunters can predict, avoid, or handle most encounters without conflict. This article provides information on dealing with bears and lions while hunting.

## Encounters with Lions

Mountain lions once ranged from coast to coast in North America, and across the Americas. Today, they are more restricted in range. However, chance encounters between lions and people occur where deer, lions, and people share habitat. "Of the 300-400 mountain lion encounters reported in California each year, few are on National Forest land," explained Steve Torres, Senior Biologist for California Game & Fish Department. Torres advises hunters meeting lions, "Don't be immediately fearful, but know how to behave."

- **The best advice is "Stop. Don't run."** Running may trigger an attack," explained Linda Sweanor, Cougar Biologist, Hornacker Institute.
- **Slowly back away.** Leave the lion with an escape route. Do not approach it. "Most of the time, if you're not a direct threat and the cougar can get out of there, it will," related Sweanor.
- **Look at the cougar and do not lose sight of it.** "Lions are secretive. Once a lion has been seen, it has lost its advantage," said Torres.
- **Be vocal.** Yell loudly to appear a strong opponent. (Do not scream or yell in a high pitched voice. Screams sound like injured animals.)
- **If you are hunting with a partner, stand together.** Pick up any small children and keep larger children behind you.
- **Make yourself appear as large as possible.** Remain standing. Raise your jacket, backpack, hunting rifle or bow over your head.
- **If predatory behavior continues, prepare to defend yourself.** Have rocks, sticks, pepper spray, and other weapons ready.

*Continued on page 26*



LYLE K. WILLMARTH PHOTO



PATT DORSEY PHOTO





## Bear & Lion Attacks

*Continued from page 24*

In September 1996, Steve Murphy met a mountain lion while hunting bighorn sheep in Colorado. "I heard the lion before I saw it—it sounded like an alley cat only deeper and heavier." Murphy did not see anything until the cat appeared on the fallen tree in front of him. Without losing sight of the cat, Murphy could not back out the way he came. He backed another direction as the cat approached, "hissing and with her hair all fuzzed up," Murphy said. He kept backing until he backed into a clump of trees. He yelled, but the mountain lion crept toward him. Murphy shot the lion at 14 feet with his bow.

Sweanor and Torres do not downplay the possibility of defending yourself in an attack. However, both have scientific data and personal experiences to show that attacks are ex-

tremely rare. Sweanor has handled cougars 396 times. She has placed radio-collars on kittens at den sites and recalled only one potential threat. A lion approached within three feet of her husband. "My husband beat a yucca stem on the ground to frighten the lion. It ran off when the yucca broke in half," she acknowledged.

### Bear Encounters

Bear encounters are often precipitated by human behaviors. They differ from mountain lion encounters, which happen by chance. Black bears live in every state and habitat in North America, with the exception of extreme desert areas.

Grizzly bears live in Alaska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and the northwestern Canadian provinces and territories. Many of the rules for bear conflict avoidance and management are the same for grizzlies and blacks. A

few are different. Many are misunderstood.

"The number-one cause of bear encounters resulting in property damage or human injury is poorly stored food or garbage," said Mark Bruscano, who works in the Wyoming Grizzly Recovery Zone for Wyoming Game and Fish.

Tom Beck, a Colorado researcher agreed. Beck has hunted in some of Colorado's best black bear habitat for 26 years and has never had a bear problem. He stores his food in locking, steel barrels and always puts up two tents: a cook tent and a sleep tent, even if he is alone. "I do not cook or store any food in my sleeping tent," Beck said.

Bruscano added, "Bears are smart. They are long-lived animals that depend on learning to survive. They learn where to find elk calves in the spring and where to find berries in the fall." Bears that learn to find food around people continue to forage around people. He struggles with people that do not take his recommendations to heart. "I tell them, maybe you don't care if a bear gets your food, but you're creating a problem for someone else. Ultimately, a problem bear ends up dead."

Grizzlies and black bears consume a lot of plants, carrion and insects. However, they are opportunistic and will eat game meat. Still, encounters in the field are uncommon. "Hunters harvest about 50,000 elk and 45,000 deer each year in Colorado alone, and fewer than 10 incidents occur each year with bears at carcasses," revealed Beck. Most incidents occur when hunters leave game in the field and bears discover it during the night.

The easiest solution is to get your game out of the field immediately. If that is not possible, follow these suggestions to help protect you and your animal.

- **Separate the gut pile from the**



CHUCK BARTLEBAUGH PHOTO

### If you hunt in bear or lion country, get more information:

- Most wildlife agencies publish bear and lion brochures, available at no charge.
- Go on-line or call. You can find links to wildlife agencies at [www.ihea.com](http://www.ihea.com).
- Log on to [www.BeBearAware.org](http://www.BeBearAware.org) for additional information on bear safety awareness.
- Learn more about bears. Take the State of Montana's bear identification course. It is fun, free and available on-line at <http://www.fwp.state.mt.us/bearid/default.htm>.
- *Mountain Lion Alert* by Steven Torres and *Bear Aware* by Bill Schneider are short books, small enough to fit in a shirt pocket.



CHUCK BARTLEBAUGH PHOTO

**Grizzlies and black bears consume a lot of plants, carrion and insects. However, they are opportunistic and will eat game meat.... Most incidents occur when hunters leave game in the field and bears discover it during the night.**

on that carcass, it may stand up, giving you the opportunity to see it.”

**B**ruscino has lots of experience with grizzly and black bears at livestock carcasses. He advises hunters to avoid encounters at carcasses by maintaining a safe distance and acting in a manner that does not threaten bears. “We don’t advise people to haze a bear off a carcass. But, in my experience, the bear leaves once it knows you are there.” If the bear does not leave or has consumed most of the carcass, most states will issue you a second tag. Be sure to read the regulations and know how to contact a game warden, before you hunt.

Bruscino endorses EPA-approved

hunters are discouraged from climbing trees.

People falsely believe that they should curl up in a ball if a bear charges. This is not the case. If a black or grizzly bear charges, stand your ground. Be prepared for an actual attack.

In the event of a bear attack respond correctly depending on several specific factors: Is the bear a grizzly or black? Was the attack the result of an encounter or was the bear in camp?

• **If attacked by a black bear—fight back.**

• **If attacked by a grizzly bear as the result of a chance encounter—play dead.** Curl into a ball. Cover your neck and head with your hands and

**meat.** Bruscino explained “Bears seem to prefer the heart, lung and liver. Drag either the meat or the gut pile downhill, the farther apart the better.”

• **Leave something with human scent, like a sweaty T-shirt, with the meat.**

• **Cover the meat with pine boughs or logs to reduce the odor.**

Place the carcass where you can see it from a distance. Place a stick with flagging on top.

• **When retrieving your meat the next morning, do not go in at first light.** Wait until visibility is better. Take time watching the carcass from a distance. If the pole with the flagging moved during the night, be extra cautious.

• **Make your presence known.** Reduce the chance of surprising a bear. If possible, approach upwind, so the wind carries your scent over the carcass. Beck added, “There is no reason to be quiet, your elk or deer is already dead. If there is a bear feeding

pepper sprays, advising hunters in bear or lion country to carry and use sprays according to the instructions. “If a bear spent a lot of time sizing me up, I’d have my pepper spray out of the holster and I’d back up slowly,” said Bruscino. Shooting a bear may escalate the situation to a dangerous and unnecessary level. Bears usually live long enough to attack their shooters.

Bears frequently bluff charge. If a bear charges, do not run and do not climb a tree! Beck explained, “People who run from a bear can expect two things. One, the bear will chase them and two, the bear will catch them.” Some grizzlies can climb trees, and

arms. Stay tucked and do not move until you are sure the bear is gone.

• **If attacked by a grizzly bear in camp—fight back.** Playing dead will NOT work in this situation as the bear has made a conscious choice to attack you. Punch, slap or use any object available as a weapon.

**H**unting memories come from being with friends, improving your outdoor skills and being a natural predator. Most of us will never encounter a bear or a mountain lion, but being prepared provides the best outcome for all the predators on the hunting grounds. ✚

**“People who run from a bear can expect two things. One, the bear will chase them and two, the bear will catch them.” -- Tom Beck**

# Effects of Adrenaline

By Larry Leigh,  
Yukon Hunter  
Education Coordinator

**S**hooting at running deer or elk is not considered ethical and is also not a safe hunting practice. Another good reason for not shooting at running game may also be that it can affect the quality of your meat. It has been shown that the flavor and quality of your wild game may be impacted

by the adrenaline level in the animal at the time of its demise. Larry Leigh, Hunter Education Coordinator from the Yukon responds below to the concerns regarding the effect of adrenaline on venison.

## **QUICK KILL BENEFITS: Meat Quality**

There are four major benefits to achieving every hunter's goal of a quick (one-shot, preferably) kill. They are:

- The animal does not suffer unnecessarily.
- The animal does not escape.
- The animal does not flee to a swamp, river or over a cliff.
- The meat is better quality.

Unfortunately, some hunters believe a one-shot kill includes hitting the animal once and then refusing to shoot it again while it staggers around for some time before falling down and dying.

It is often said, and I cannot find anyone to disagree, that an animal that is stressed or traumatized, as it would be from a gun-shot wound (or other serious injury), often needs more marinade to be nearly as tasty at the dinner table than one which dies very quickly from one well placed shot (or two quick shots if necessary). In areas where deer are hunted with hounds, the same affect seems apparent in the taste as a result of stress and overheating during the chase. To me this is very apparent when this meat can be compared to the meat from a deer that has been killed while just going about its daily business and unaware of the hunter.

I have been unable to find any scientific reports on this topic but a typical "hunter opinion based on experience" comes from Steve Adams of the Alaska Volunteer Hunter Education Association who offers, "With 50 years of big game hunting under my



PHOTO COURTESY NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION



belt, I can tell you that, given identical field and subsequent care, the meat of the quick-kill animal will be far superior to the one that has been chased down to finish it off."

Further information comes from Larry Lewis also from Alaska. "I've eaten quite a bit of meat from "stressed out" animals over the years, as I'm sure most people that eat meat have. (Have you ever been to a slaughterhouse and seen the stress levels in the cattle, pigs or sheep? They know something bad for them is going on at the end of the chute.)

"Meat can be a little tough from the lactic acid that builds up during a stressful period in the animal during a fight-or-flight response, but it's all edible. The lactic acid build-up in the muscle tissue inhibits fiber breakdown during the aging process. Meat from an animal that was not killed immediately or that was killed while aware of and reacting to danger (stress) may need to be aged longer, cooked slower for longer periods of time, or used as ground meat. It may also have a stronger or "gamey" taste."

Cool, clean and dry are the "buzz words" of meat care in the field. It may be that cooling the meat quickly is even more important when the animal has been severely stressed by running hard or having been wounded (or both), causing it to heat up.

In areas of the north or southern areas during fall and winter, it is easier to chill the meat more quickly. We often (even with a quick kill) put the meat right into a clear, fast-moving creek for up to an hour to remove all heat from the muscles. It is then hung or laid out on rocks or willows while all the water runs off and, of course, we do not allow it to get wet again.

I strongly believe that we should continually emphasize the importance of shot placement, stalking skills, and those other attributes that typify the true hunters among us. ✚

## **What Ifs...**

*Continued from page 23*

that a slug should be the first round, Wally points out that a slug is a longer-range projectile and can effectively kill a bear out to 100 yards. At this range, the bear does not present a threat and should not be shot at. On the other hand, as Baumann's research indicates, most bear encounters occur within a limited distance (less than 20 yards) and in a time frame measured in seconds.

Under these conditions, where the hair is already standing on the back of your neck and your adrenaline is pumping out by the quart, the average person will have limited ability in dispatching a bear with a single projectile (slug), most frequently missing the bear altogether. Baumann points out, "Most shooters may be able to hit a nice quiet deer standing broadside to you, but things change when you are on the menu!"

The 9 -12 SSG type buckshot is very effective at close range for either stopping or turning a charging bear. If a follow-up shot is needed, you have the second round of buckshot followed by the slug. At this point, the bear should be down, and the shooter can finish the animal off with the slug.

Then there are those who choose to use a handgun for bear protection. Baumann's research indicates a preference of a revolver over a semi-automatic. There has been a case where the bear is on top of a victim, and its weight depressed the barrel of the semi-auto sufficiently to prevent trigger pull and subsequent firing of the handgun. Revolvers are preferred as they do not experience this type of problem. Calibers should be .357 or greater, and ball ammo is more effective than hollow or soft-point rounds.

The latter tend to break up when they strike a bone, while the ball ammo will remain solid and break the bone thus crippling and/or continue penetrating and, hopefully, hitting a vital organ of the animal.

The principles governing the use of a shotgun or handgun as protection during a bear attack applies to mountain lions as well. A lion is a much smaller target—maybe too small for most hand gunners—therefore a shotgun would be the overall preferred firearm.

You must be aware of the laws governing the respective protective tool you select. Bear pepper spray may be illegal to possess under certain circumstances and is not allowed on airlines, even in packed luggage. Many jurisdictions have prohibitions on carrying a handgun for any reason without proper permitting, and firearms, in general, are not allowed in state, provincial, or national parks. If the bear happens to be a grizzly, you can guarantee the incident will be investigated and the facts will be determined.

So, don't shoot any bear or lion just for the fun of it thinking you can get away with telling an *Outdoor Life* "It Happened to Me" story. Plus, you certainly will not be allowed to keep the animal. The carcass will become the property of the governing jurisdiction, and you may end up in jail.

Report any incident of aggressive animal behavior to the authorities whether you had to use protective measures or not. You may save the life of next person bumping into that animal. In spite of the wild, adventurous visions this article may conjure up, don't become paranoid of the wild outdoors, but do take precautions and be prepared. ✚

# Venison vs. Beef

**Controversy has long raged about the relative quality of venison and beef as gourmet foods. Some people say that venison is tough, with a strong “wild” taste.**

Others insist that venison is tender and that the flavor is delicate.

To try and resolve this issue once and for all, a blind taste test was conducted by a certified research group to determine the truth of these conflicting assertions.

First, a high-choice Holstein steer was selected and led into a swamp approximately a mile and a half from the nearest road.

It was then shot several times in various locations throughout the carcass.

After most of the entrails were removed, the carcass was dragged over rocks and logs, through mud and dust, thrown into the back of a pickup truck bed and transported through rain and snow approximately 100 miles before being hung in a tree for several days.

During the aging period the temperature was maintained at between 25 and 60 degrees.

Next the steer was dragged into the garage and skinned out on the floor.

(PLEASE NOTE: Strict sanitary precautions were observed throughout the processing within the limitations of the butchering environment.

For instance, dogs were allowed to sniff at the steer carcass, but were chased out of the garage if they attempted to lick the carcass or bite hunks out of it. Cats were allowed in the garage, but were always immediately removed from the cutting table.)

Next, half a dozen inexperienced but enthusiastic individuals worked on the steer with meat saws, cleavers and dull knives. The result was 200 pounds of scrap, 375 pounds of soup bones, four bushels of meat scraps for stew and hamburger, two roasts and a half a dozen steaks that were an inch and a half thick on one end and an eighth of an inch on the other.

The steaks were then fried in a skillet with one pound of butter and three pounds of onions. After two hours of frying, the contents of the skillet were served to three blindfolded taste panel volunteers who were asked if they were eating venison or beef.

Every one of the panel members was sure they were eating venison.

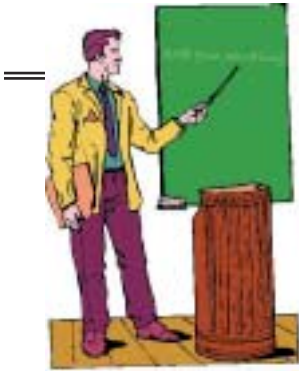
One of the volunteers even said it tasted exactly like the venison he had been eating at the hunting camp for the last 27 years.

The results of this trial showed conclusively that there is no difference between the taste of beef and venison.



Author Unknown  
Submitted by New York Officer  
Tom Lutz





## Teaching 101

# Teaching New Shotgun Shooters

Introducing a newcomer or a “newbee” to shotgun shooting starts with a good **“UNDERSTANDING.”**

It’s this understanding that takes a “newbee” to success.

**Let’s start with Understanding Ammunition:** How is it manufactured, how does it work, and which shotgun shell should be used for which task?

Example: Let’s assume you will be introducing the shooter to clay targets.

- Clay targets do not require large shot or lots of powder — known as “lite.”
- Lite has 2¾ drams of powder and one ounce of #8 shot in a twelve gauge.
- Some instructors like to use ammunition marked “low recoil” in 1 ounce of #8 shot.

### Understanding How the Shotgun Works

Instructors should cover how the gun is loaded and how it works. Also, how to hold a gun while transporting it to and from the shooting location is VERY important. Hold the muzzle up and carry it higher than your head.

### Understanding How to Fit the Gun to the Shooter

Most store-purchased “off-the-shelf” guns come with a 14¼ inch trigger pull, or a measurement from the center of the trigger to the middle of the butt place on the stock. That’s great if you are a 165 pound adult male, but if you are smaller it is not going to be comfortable and will not result in success for the shooter.

A good recommendation, for “newbees” or women or girls of smaller stature, would be guns that have been shortened to 12½ or 13 inches. This puts the face in the proper place on the stock, which means that the form will be more comfortable with better target visibility.

Suggestion: a twelve gauge semi-automatic, such as a Remington 1100 or 1187. They are not really fancy and will do about anything you want to do, either for recreational shooting or hunting.

### Understanding the Proper Shooting Position

Proper foot placement is the most important, and most overlooked, element of shooting form. Think of it as the foundation of the house. If the basement walls are not plumb, straight, and erect—everything above it to the chimney will need adjustments. Nothing will fit correctly and no matter what you do—you can’t fix it! So let’s get the feet placement correct!

- For right-handed shooters, picture a clock on the ground. (One with hands, not digital.) The left foot should point at 12 o’clock and the right foot at 2 o’clock with 6 to 8 inches between the heels. Give it a try—12 o’clock points at where you will point the gun and where you will break the target. It is also the center of your “Zone of Fire.” Keep the feet from moving from now on. Next we will position the arms.
- Again, assuming the shooter is a right-handed, right-eye-dominant person, stand erect and hold your arms out in front at shoulder height. Move the left hand to the right elbow and the right hand to the left elbow.
- Take the gun and place it on the right shoulder in the pocket developed when the arms came up. Remember to keep the arms and elbows level with the shoulders. You should place the top of the butt stock at the top of the shoulder with the muzzle elevated to about 45 degrees.
- Next instruct the shooter to place his or her head on the stock and look down the barrel. This should

By Ed Augustine,  
Kansas Volunteer Instructor and Past  
IHEA Instructor Board Representative



ERIC NUSE PHOTO

## UNDERSTANDING:

- Ammunition
- How the Shotgun Works
- How to Fit the Gun to the Shooter
- The Proper Shooting Position
- Proper Target Selection



hang the cheekbone on the comb “top” of the gunstock and have the head properly placed.

- Place the left hand on the forearm and the right hand on the grip.
- Now slowly lower the gun to horizontal while hunching the right shoulder up a bit, making sure the right elbow remains level with your shoulder.

**Instructors** should now assist the shooter and ask them to move their body forward without moving their feet. This results in the shooter’s left knee barely bending and they will have about 60 percent of their weight on the front or left foot. Now have them move back and forward so that the weight transfer can be felt and learned.

Standing with the weight forward allows swinging to either the left or right smoothly and the pivot can be felt clear to the ankles—as it should be. Each joint of the body from the ankles up can contribute to the smooth swing without straining any muscles to overcome bad foot placement.

**Note:** Make sure the shooter doesn’t spread his or her feet too far apart as in a baseball stance, just six to eight inches will do.

Have the shooter practice this several times until it becomes a natural stance. As you approach the time to actually shoot, you will want each step along the way to be mastered and understood before you go onto the next step.

#### **Proper Target Selection**

At this stage, success is everything. The target should be fun to shoot at and easy to hit. More important is the mental picture of the target and the gun muzzle when the shot is taken so that the target breaks. A good selection is to shoot an incoming target. In the field, this would be like a dove coming into a pond, or a duck as it prepares to plop into the decoys.

Use a battery operated, remote-controlled trap for this practice—placed about 60 yards in front of the shooter. They are easy to use, portable, and allow you to practice anywhere safety permits.

- Adjust the trap to toss a target toward the shooter, rising about 20 feet as it travels, to land about 10 feet in front of the shooter. The shot is called a “blot shot.”
- As the target is thrown from the trap, the shooter swings the gun up and under the target until the muzzle “blots” out the target. Then bang it and keep swinging the gun, and pieces fall to the ground.
- Sometimes the shooter wants to ride the target before shooting. Remember the target is coming closer all the time, and the shot pattern is less the closer you shoot. Rule of thumb: As the shot leaves the shotgun muzzle, the shot spreads out about one inch for each yard that it travels. So 3 yards—3 inches, 10 yards—10 inches, 20 yards—20 inches, and 30 yards—30 inches. So don’t let the shooter wait until the shot gets “righter.” Get the gun swinging and bang the target—the sooner, the better.

Next, is to shoot the same target twice. “How can we do that if we broke it?” you ask. Well, maybe you did. If so, there are pieces still in the air. The range we desire is in the 30 to 40 yard area, which is where the shot pattern is really working for you, whether it is clay targets, quail or pheasant targets.

**Instructors:** A good way to get the shooter to do this is in the instruction presented at the first shot. Tell the “new-

bee, “If you do the things that you were taught, I guarantee that you will be breaking targets with confidence by the third shot and you will be able to break PIECES by the fifth shot.” It is important to get the eyes searching “out there” for the target or piece, NOT looking down the barrel or, heaven forbid, aiming, but seeing the object then moving the gun until the muzzle touches the target and, bang, success happens. Most “newbees” are eager to do what you ask and will do well if they are not overloaded with details and if what they are asked to do falls within their capabilities.

This is kind of sneaking up on the shooting method called the Swing Through method.

Here is how this works:

If we could hook up a series of cameras and electrical gizmos to the body of a good Swing Through shooter, we would see the following sequence of events.

- As the target is first seen, the shooter starts the gun in motion to come to the proper shooting stance.
- Next the shooter starts swinging the gun along the path of the target, from behind it. The shooter must swing faster as the target is moving in order to catch up to it.
- At that time, the brain sends a signal to the finger to operate the trigger. It responds while the gun is now pointed ahead of the target.
- Now, the mechanical thing happens in the gun causing the shell to perform its function, all the time the gun is still moving.
- Finally the shot leaves the muzzle and flies out at about 1200 feet per second to seek and destroy the target. And, again, the gun and, therefore, the muzzle keep swinging on the same plane as the target, following the bird or target all the way to the ground.

Of course, all this takes place in less than the blink of an eye so we really can’t see it happen in real life, but the gizmos we mentioned earlier could and, in fact, have recorded all of this.

This is just a long way of saying, that if we swing to and through the target, lead takes care of itself. Make sense? We hope so because it’s the basis for hitting any flying object, be it bird or clay. The faster it flies, the faster you must swing, simple as that!

No coaching please by saying “you are shooting behind it.” Rather, coach by saying, “swing faster.”

Next bring the trap in and place it to throw outgoing targets, again keeping them “hittable.” Don’t let them get too high, just nice, and outgoing, like a quail bursting from cover and streaking away. As the shooter gains confidence and is able to pepper these, move the shooter to the left then the right to get an angle shot. Again, the Swing Through method comes into play. Inform your shooters to be prepared to make a serious investment in sporting toys, jacket, shells, bags, re-loaders, etc., because the “understanding” is now complete and satisfaction will follow.

One other thing!

If you have the good fortune to be with a new shooter when he or she breaks their first target—STOP for a moment and retrieve that empty shell, make a big deal about presenting that shell to them—for it is truly a trophy and the first of many happy memories to come! ✚





# Wild Game Recipes

## Bear Roast

Use a roast that does not have a large amount of fat on or in it, such as a sirloin tip.

In a large bowl, mix 1 packet of onion soup mix  
1-2 bottles of beer or 1 bottle wine (red or white)  
2 - 4 cups of water (cover roast to marinade)  
1/2 teaspoon each dry mustard, garlic powder, parsley flakes  
2 Bay leaves  
Peppercorns to taste  
1 Tablespoon meat tenderizer

Mix ingredients in a bowl, add roast and let marinate overnight (12 hours)  
Place roast and 1/2 - 3/4 the marinade in a roasting pan. Cover and cook at 300 degrees until cooked to desired taste (20 minutes a pound). Remove roast when done, remove fat off top, and thicken sauce for gravy.

*Bill & Rose Blackwell, Port Elgin, Ontario*

Bill & Rose Blackwell  
Journal, Summer 2003

**Cat ch It**  
•  
**Cook It**  
•  
**Eat It**



## Bear Stew

Ingredient s:

4 lbs. meat, cubed	1 bay leaf
1 onion	3 Tbsp. frozen peas
4 Tbsp. Oil	1 clove diced garlic
1 stick chopped celery	1 cup beef broth or consommé
3 chopped carrots	10 oz. tomato sauce
1 cup diced turnip	2 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
3 cubed potatoes	1 cup fresh sliced mushrooms

Method:

Dredge the meat in flour and brown in oil. Add all the ingredients except the potatoes, peas, and mushrooms and cook for 1 1/2 to 2 hours. Now add the potatoes, cook for 20 minutes, add the mushrooms and peas and cook for 5 minutes. Drop dumplings by spoonfuls on top and cook, uncovered, for 10 minutes. Then cover and cook for 10 minutes longer.

*Bear Stew recipe from the Yukon Bear, Bacon and Boot Grease recipes book; contributed by Larry Leigh, Yukon Hunter Education Coordinator.*

Larry Leigh  
Journal, Summer 2003



## About bear meat:

- Meat quality, if the animal is carefully field dressed and correctly cooked, can be excellent. The flavor resembles pork and venison combined. It is very rich meat.

- Berry-fed bears have the best flavor. Mid to late fall and early spring bears are usually the best choice. Fall bears gorge on berries before denning; spring bears feed on over-wintered cranberries uncovered by melting snow.

- The nutritive value of bear meat surpasses that of commercially produced beef. As with other wild

game, it is high in protein, minerals and vitamins while low in fat and calories as compared with beef.

- All bear meat, like domestic pork, must be well cooked to make it safe for human consumption. Follow standard pork cooking procedures.



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## IHEA Patches, Part I

The following are patches from IHEA. The original name of the organization was the North American Association of Hunter Safety Coordinators (NAAHSC).



**NAAHSC patches.** These are the first two patches issued by NAAHSC showing only two of the North American flags. The Associate Member patch was available to individuals who paid a small membership fee.

**Membership patches.** Not long after the Association was formed, the long name (NAAHSC) was shortened to the Hunter Education Association. The next membership patch introduced with this name included the three flags of the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. One of the designs included the wording, Associate Member. Finally, the name was changed to the International Hunter Education Association. The first patch with this wording abbreviated Association. The current design (lower right) includes the full wording of the name.



**Academy patches.** The original academy patches were marked both NRA and NAAHSC. The lighter green patch also had a matching decal. The Instructor Academy patch included all 3 flags and the word International. The Administrator patch is currently being used for the IHEA Administrator's Academy which is held every other year.

### Youth Challenge Patch.

In 1993 and 1994, the National Rifle Association postponed their International Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC) events due to various circumstances. IHEA made the decision to offer a Youth Challenge event called the North American Hunter Education Invitational (NAHEI) in North Carolina. This patch was issued to participants in that one-and-only IHEA event.



**Advanced Training.** IHEA created this patch that is currently available to states and provinces to denote Advanced Instructor Training. The Missouri Hunter Education Instructor's Association distributed this patch to graduates of their advanced instructor workshops in the late 1990's. This patch is still currently available from IHEA.



### Investigator patch.

For the past several years, IHEA in cooperation with Central Missouri State University, in Warrensburg, Missouri, hosts the Hunting Incident Investigation Academy. This every-other-year academy is designed for state and provincial hunter education staff or law enforcement personnel for training in hunting incident investigations. This patch was first issued in 2000.



### Anniversary patches.

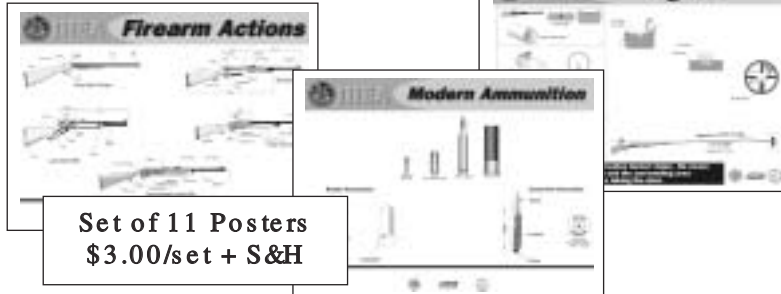
In 1997, IHEA issued a patch commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the Association. Again, in 2002, IHEA issued a patch commemorating 30 years. In 1999, in conjunction with the annual conference in Buffalo, New York, IHEA issued a patch marking 50 years (1949-1999) of hunter education. *(More next issue.)*

Author Jan Morris is a former IHEA Board member, avid patch collector, and Executive Officer for the Missouri Hunter Education Instructor's Association. He can be reached at [JGMorris@aol.com](mailto:JGMorris@aol.com) or P.O. Box 38, Imperial, MO 63052.



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## Shot Size

**Purpose:** To show the relationship between shot size and the distance the shot will travel.

This is a very interactive and interesting exercise to students of all ages and makes for a great activity that can be done outside during a scheduled break. It is desirable to have discussed the relationship between shot size and number of pellets in a given load in class prior to this exercise. You will need to prepare, ahead of time, four small paper cups that will be marked:

**#9 Shot (will contain regular sand)**

**#7-1/2 Shot (will contain small gravel)**

**#4 Buckshot (will contain small rocks)**

**Slug (will contain one big rock)**

Ask for a volunteer (preferably a young student) to come forward beside you facing the group. Explain that he or she is going to demonstrate the distance that shot of various sizes will travel. Pour the student a small handful of sand that you explain is similar to #9 shot. Have the student turn away from the group at a 90-degree angle and make a horizontal throw simulating a shot from a shotgun.

Discuss with the group the distance the shot traveled and what use the shot size might have in hunting and clay target sports.

Next, pour the student a small handful of the small

gravel representing #7-1/2 shot and have them make a horizontal throw in the same direction as before. The group should be able to see that the small gravel will travel farther than the sand. Reinforce the distance traveled and uses of the shot size.

Next, pour the student a handful of small rocks representing #4 buckshot and have the student make another throw. Distance will be farther but fewer shot (rocks) will be sent downrange.

Finally, hand the student one egg-size rock that can be thrown in the same horizontal manner. The rock will travel the longest distance of all shot sizes.

### Teaching points are:

1. The relationship between shot size and distance the shot will travel.
2. That as shot sizes increase, pellet number decreases in a given load.
3. That shot size must be matched to the target size and the distance the shot will be taken. ✚

*This exercise was submitted by Texas Hunter Education Instructor, Ricky J. Linex.*

## IHEA Instructor Membership Application

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<b>Instructor Membership Fee</b>	\$ <u>25.00</u>
<b>Donation to IHEA Resource Development Fund</b>	\$ _____
<b>Total Payment</b>	\$ _____

**Method of Payment** (US funds only): ☐ Check/Money Order ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal Membership

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