



# HUNTING TRAILS

## CARTRIDGES & ARROWS



*Newsletter for the Missouri Department of Conservation's  
Hunter Education, Bowhunter Education, & Shooting Programs*

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### Taking the Reins

*An introduction by Outreach & Education Division Chief, Mike Huffman*

I'd like to begin by thanking those of you whom I have met so far for the very warm welcome you have given me. I am both honored and excited to be your Division Chief. I have always considered Outreach & Education Division to be one of, if not the most, diverse Division in the Department. The Division contains an eclectic mix of very talented and creative individuals. You deliver an incredible assortment of programs and services to Missouri citizens. It is invigorating to be part of the O&E team!

Many of you have been asking, "Who is this new guy?" No doubt most of you have read the news release describing a little of my professional background. I won't bore you with a detailed account of the rest of my life. However, I will provide a little more personal background for those of you that have expressed some interest. (Those of you who are not interested can skip to the next paragraph!) I grew up in both a suburb of Washington D.C. and in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. Both my parents worked full time so I spent the school year in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area, and most of my summer running around in the forest, fields, and creeks on my grandparents' farms in Virginia. I am married to Rochelle Renken. She also works for MDC as a Resource



Scientist at the Resource Science Center in Columbia and primarily does non-game and endangered species research. We have three sons who are 27, 24, and 22 years old. Both Rochelle and I enjoy hunting, fishing, canoeing, camping, backpacking, and almost any other outdoor activity.

Now to the other question on everybody's mind, "What changes is the new guy going to make?" Let me begin to answer that question by first articulating my vision of O&E's mission. The three components of MDC's Mission statement are:

- To protect and manage the fish, forest, and wildlife resources of the state;
- To serve the public and facilitate their participation in resource management activities;
- And to provide opportunity for all citizens to use, enjoy and learn about fish, forest and wildlife resources.

In addition, the second bullet of the MDC Vision statement is:

- To have all Missourians understand the relationship and value of plant and animal communities to our social and economic well-being.

Outreach and Education Division plays a fundamental role in achieving major components of the Department's Mission and Vision statements. My vision for Outreach & Education Division is that "Outreach & Education Division will be the catalyst in telling both MDC's story and the story of Missouri's fish, forest, and wildlife

*(Continued on page 17, Taking the Reins)*

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## *Coordinator's Corner*

Hunter Education & Range Coordinator  
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Well we are heading into a new year as we say so long to another great one. This next year is going to be a year of looking ahead and focusing on the future. One great thing is that our new Division Chief Mike Huffman is planning to have a complete review of every Outreach & Education program. The good news is that the first programs to be looked at are our hunter/bowhunter education and range programs.

This is perfect timing as we are looking to establish a new statewide instructor certification program, look at program delivery, and the online registration system. The hunter education program and today's hunters are constantly changing and, to meet their needs and encourage hunting participation, we need regular reviews of our program and where we are heading.

Numerous national research studies have continued to produce similar results. To reach today's generation you have to meet them on their terms. Today's technology and their ability to take it with them is crucial to this generation. If it doesn't go, they don't go. They want to snap pictures and send them immediately to their friends, post on Facebook, text or tweet what is happening, get texts, not miss out on any part of their social network, and much more.

Families as a whole are similar in that they have changed, to get them to involve themselves or their youth; they look at whether it is fun and whether it is an experience and it has to fit their schedules. Few of these new generations or families will find sitting in a metal chair in a classroom for 12 to 14 hours listening to lectures, peppered with three or four students taking part in a demonstration or two, and watching a video.

We have to look at ways to make our presentations and learning experiences for the students of all ages something they enjoy and want to tell their friends and others about. Alternate delivery methods, outdoor classrooms, pre-study, field days, clinic based skills learning are just a few of the topics that we will have to look at as we move forward and continue to recruit and retain new hunters.

We know that to recruit and retain hunters there has to be a family or social network involved. Missouri leads the way in recruitment. Youth can hunt with mentors/family for any species now without hunter education until they are sixteen or are ready to hunt without supervision. New adult hunters can try hunting with a mentor for two years to ensure they want to invest the time in taking hunter education, but

mostly to get them hooked. Going out with family or others and being successful is the key to recruiting new hunters.

We need to look at where hunter can education help and can excel, by training mentors, organizations, families. We need to today's hunters hooked and then certify them to go on their own and become the next mentors. So, the challenge is how do instructors and our program reach this new generation of families and potential hunters. We hope to have a plan for the future and recommendations soon and will get several folks from our last year's summit back together to put together plans and programs.

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## **Missouri To Host The 2012 International Hunter Education Association Annual Conference**

During the recent 2010 International Hunter Education Association Annual Conference Business Meeting in Estes Park Colorado, the representatives from all US states, Canada, Mexico, Peru, El Salvador, South Africa and New Zealand unanimously voted to accept Missouri's bid to host the 2012 annual conference.

The conference is scheduled to have its opening ceremonies on May 30, 2012 at noon and run through the evening Saturday June 2, 2012 with the closing banquet and auction. The conference is being held in the Kansas City area and will show off the new Lake City Range and Education Center on the field day portion. IHEA and MDC are working with the InterContinental, Kansas City at the Plaza to host the conference and special pricing for all instructors at this luxury AAA Four-Diamond hotel.

There will be plenty of options to allow instructors to participate, whether it is the whole conference, some training portions, just the field day, just the Instructor Rendezvous or just attend the banquet and auction. Day trips and specials for the spouses and kids are being planned too. You will have an opportunity to meet and talk with instructors from around the world and you do not have to be a member of the IHEA to attend. This conference is for all instructors and their families.

Even at this early stage we have Tom Knapp scheduled for one of his fantastic shooting demonstrations on the Field Day at the Lake City Range and are working with the US Air Force to get the US Air Force Drill Team here for the opening ceremonies, plus much more. This should be an event to remember for every instructor and their family.

Committees are already being formed and working towards the date. If you are interested in helping with any of the committees or the event, contact Shelli Cannon at the MDC office 573-522-4115 ext 3292 and she can get a committee in touch with you.

Of course if you have not already heard, the 2011 annual conference will be held right on the beach in Wrightsville

Beach, NC June 1 - 4, 2011. For more information visit; <http://www.ihea.com/news-and-events/annual-conferences.php>

## 2010 International Hunter Education Association Annual Conference Wrap-Up

By Lee Vogel

The 2010 IHEA Annual Conference was held at the Stanley Hotel in Estes Park, CO. The Stanley was built in 1909 by the same person who invented and manufactured over 10,000 Stanley Steamer Automobiles. The Stanley was the first hotel in the world to be wired for electricity. Missouri was represented by volunteer instructors Allan and Karen Hoover, Jim and Peggy Ragland and me, plus State Hunter Ed Coordinator, Tony Legg.

The conference began with a greeting from the Director of CO Department of Wildlife, Tom Remington who told of the origins of Hunter Ed in his state. He referred to an article in the June 1949 issue of "American Rifleman" about the decision to open deer hunting on the West Slope the Fall of '48 to reduce the population. Thousands of deer were killed along with hundreds of elk (they were trying to protect), numerous livestock, 13 people and injuring 17 more. Thus a statewide hunter education program was inspired and like so many states, today entire years pass without a hunting related fatality.

Dr. Emilyn Sheffield from California State University, Chico provided the keynote address which centered on the demographics of the American population as it relates to outdoors activities. The value of a keynote lies in part with the "buzz" it creates in other workshops and individual conversations. In that regard, this was successful. Numerous references were made during the next session, Recruiting and Retention Roundtable. There, six panelists, including the keynote provided opinions about what needed to be done to get more people outdoors. Three other individuals were called from the audience to report what their local groups were actually doing to this ends. Allan Hoover was among them and the only one to support his comments (about the accomplishments of MHHF) with a PowerPoint presentation.

Recruiting more Hunter Ed instructors was a topic which came up several times. I used the opportunity to question a number of state coordinators about how and where they found new recruits.

Friday the group toured Rocky Mountain National Park. The biologist leading the tour pointed out the numerous dead, old growth lodge pole pine that was succumbing to the pine beetle. He noted that if naturally occurring forest fires had not been suppressed for the last 160 years, the pine beetle would not have been a problem. The Aspen

trees are taking advantage of the thinning pines. The park has erected temporary fences over parts of the valley to keep the elk from eating the bark until the trees are mature enough to survive.

The reintroduction of wolves was brought up from our group. The Ranger pointed out that a very small part of the park would be available for forage over the winter months forcing the wolves into a very compact area near the town of Estes Park. It is most likely the wolves would travel into populated areas in search of food and the populace would not tolerate that, resulting in the killing of the wolves.

In the afternoon we lunched on a bar-b-que buffet at the Sylvan Dale Ranch about two miles below our travels in the morning. After lunch a surprise guest walked under the pavilion. 23 year-old Corey Gogdell won bronze, shooting trap at the Beijing 2008 Olympics, the youngest woman to compete. She told her story causing most of us callous old guys to have to wipe away a few tears in the process. She completed her presentation whipping out her bronze medal from her shooting vest pocket. Afterward she posed for pictures, one of which with the daughter of Mark Cousins, Colorado Hunter Ed Coordinator and the conference Master of Ceremonies. Then we walked up the hill to shoot clay birds, archery and try out Federals new non-toxic .22 loads. Promatic was also demonstrating its new Sharp Shooter Airgun Target System.

The programming Saturday was focused toward Hunter Ed Instructors. Remington showcased its new Hunter Ed Gun Set, as did Hunting Safety Systems their vest/fall restraint system. Colorado and Kansas instructors had brought their field day shoot/don't shoot apparatus (much was of the "homemade" variety) for show & tell.

David Oakes offered a two-hour condensed version of his full-day class for improving presentation skills. Peter Kummerfeldt, a 30-year veteran trainer of Air Force air-rescue offered an hour and a half survival workshop.

Over lunch Randy Newberg spoke briefly about his On Your Own Adventures television program (the Outdoor Channel) and a representative from CO Division of Wildlife gave an overview of their five-year Get Out and Go Wild marketing campaign, part of which was directed toward educating people about the role hunters play and pay in the state's conservation efforts.

This is my third IHEA conference in the last four years. I was able to renew acquaintance with the Alaska HE Coordinator, volunteers and staff from Indiana, Illinois and Kansas, make new acquaintances with staff from Hawaii, Nevada and Wisconsin. They are becoming like extended family. After each conference, I come home with new ideas, a list of things to improve and renewed enthusiasm for introducing folks to hunting and the outdoors.

# Missouri Hunting Heritage

## Federation

By Allan Hoover, MHHF Executive Director



2010 will be remembered as a year of many significant accomplishments for the members and leadership of the Missouri Hunting Heritage Federation (MHHF).

Securing dedicated funding for a full-time executive director, receiving multiple grants, the additions of a Gold Sponsor and a Group Affiliate each contributed tremendously to the funding necessary to achieve our goals for the year.

MHHF worked toward solidifying the organization by conducting a strategic planning session to establish short and long term goals for the future, and by creating a set of Bylaws to provide clear direction for the next generation of leaders on the Board of Directors. The organization, our leadership and members, and the clinic program are now fully insured. Public presentations at the local, state, and international level helped spread the word about the MHHF hunter education clinic model. Work continues on a DVD and training manual to prepare future members to conduct these clinics as the program expands into new areas of Missouri.

The hunter education clinic program celebrated several new accomplishments in 2010. Members conducted the first bowhunter education clinic and archery hunt since adopting the single weekend format, and our first ever waterfowl hunt. We conducted the first clinic on public property working with Clay County Parks & Recreation and with the Army Corps of Engineers on a Smithville Lake area event. Also, for our first time on Missouri Department of Conservation property, we conducted an entire clinic (class, live fire and hunt) at Settle's Ford CA.

MHHF conducted our first election in 2010 to select new leaders who will succeed three of the Founding Board Members. The December Board meeting will include a celebration of the completion of three years of service by the Founding Board. The New Year will mark the beginning of a new leadership team and a move to January for our annual meetings.

The 2011 Annual Meeting and Banquet will be conducted January 30, at the Independence Bass Pro. **Corey Cogdell, 2008 Olympic Bronze Medalist Trap Shooter**, will be the featured guest speaker. MHHF Members and their invited guests will be treated to a great afternoon with a special ambassador to hunting and the shooting sports. Corey's account of growing up in Alaska learning from her father how to shoot and hunt, the mentors who sparked her interest in trapshooting, the sacrifices she made to

achieve her goal of becoming an Olympic competitor and the success she experienced in Beijing, China during the 2008 Olympic Games is an amazing and inspirational story.

Plans for the 2011 clinic schedule are currently underway with several new areas being considered for expansion. MHHF welcomes qualified new members who are dedicated to mentoring youth while introducing them to an outdoor way of life that features hunting and the shooting sports.



## FANNING 66 OUTPOST RECOGNIZED FOR SUPPORT OF HUNTER EDUCATION



On October 9, 2010 the Fanning 66 Outpost was recognized by the Missouri Department of Conservation for their past contributions and outstanding support of hunter education and youth hunting clinics. Crawford County Conservation Agent Tim Tallent presented the award to Dan Sanazaro (Owner of Fanning 66 Outpost) at the Hunter Education Course held at the Cuba Police Department. The certificate was signed by MDC Director Robert Ziehmer and MDC Hunter Education Coordinator Tony Legg.

.....  
• If you continue to do what you've always done, and you •  
• continue to think as you've always thought, you will •  
• continue to get what you've always gotten, minus five •  
• percent - Anonymous •  
.....

## Downpour Challenges Youth at State Trap Championship

--Kevin Lohraff, Education Programs/Curriculum Supervisor

Whether hunting, practicing, or competing, shooters face all kinds of challenges—long hours, jangled nerves, distractions, and, of course, the weather. Last year, it was the wind. This year, it was an all-day downpour. On April 24, 2010, students came from all over the state to compete at the Missouri State High School and FFA Trapshooting Championship, held at the Missouri Trapshooters Association (MTA) headquarters at Linn Creek. Students faced not only the rigors of competition that 687 shooters can bring, but also a non-stop hard rain that soaked clothes and chilled you to the bone if you stayed out in it long enough.

Since 2002, MDC has partnered with MTA to operate this impressive event. This year, 19 Hunter Education and Range Volunteers and 11 O&E Staff members worked with over 30 staff and volunteers from MTA. A big thanks goes to everyone who helped, especially our volunteers who spent long hours in those very wet scoring chairs:

Don Draper	Bill Bravo
Barry Cagle	Dave Rapson
Bill Morton	Linda DuBrul
Willis Corbett	Ray Wood
Len Patton	Ben Williams
Lee Fischer	Brian Alcaraz
Jim Daniels	Carl Moritz
Floyd Bohler	Tim Moore
Colleen Bayer	Priscilla Moore

Despite the tough shooting conditions this year, there were two perfect scores (100) and twelve 99's, testimony to the level of concentration and discipline these shooters exhibited.

Individual female champion—Rebekah Lowen (score of 99)

Individual male champions--Lucas Sparks and Matthew Snyder (scores of 100)

High School Team champions—Southwest Red (score of 484)



Jr. High School Team Open champions—Team Henges Orange (score of 456)



High School Open champions -- Gateway Claybuster's Orange team (score of 478)

The complete scores can be found at MTA's website at <http://motraps.com>.

## Lake City Shooting Range's Grand Opening



On June 11th the new Lake City Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center was officially opened to the public. The long awaited opening was celebrated by more than 80 people including all four Department of Conservation Commissioners: Chip McGeehan, Don Johnson, Becky Plattner, and Don Bedell, our director, Robert Ziehmer, and Jackson County Parks and Recreation Administration.

The traditional ribbon cutting was done in a not so traditional way. The ends of the ribbon were attached to a balloon which was then placed on the rifle range. All four of the Conservation Commissioners and the Jackson County Parks and Recreation Directors took part in the cutting of the ribbon by shooting the ceremonial balloon with .22 caliber rifles.

Once the ribbon was cut the new facility was officially opened to the public. Right away people started to enjoy the different ranges including the three trap houses, two skeet ranges and the ever popular pistol range. Many positive comments were received by the staff on the new facility and its state of the art environmental friendly lead reclaiming capabilities.

If you would like to get out and experience some different shooting sports in the Kansas City area, then stop

by the new Lake City located at 28505 E. Truman Rd., Buckner, MO or give us a call at 816-249-3194. We are open Wednesday through Sunday, Noon – 6:00 pm. See you at the range.



### 2010/2011 Instructor Banquet Attendance Gifts

All active Hunter Education and Bowhunter Education Instructors (volunteer, teacher, staff) attending their region's instructor banquet will be receiving the above set of Outdoor Edge Products.

They are an Outdoor Edge engraved set of heavy duty game shears w/nylon belt sheath and an Outdoor Edge Griz-Saw for wood and bone w/sheath. The game shears are engraved with the Hunter and Bowhunter Ed Instructor logos and the banquet year.

These attendance gifts are not only great for the field, but great training aids for chapter 4 in the HE manual and chapter 7 of the BHE manual.

Attendance is mandatory for receiving these gifts, so get with your OSS and save the date now.

For more information on the products visit; [www.outdooredge.com](http://www.outdooredge.com), they also offer instructor discounts.

**Instructors please remember:** If a student does not know if they have a Conservation ID number/Heritage Card or didn't bring their number, before you complete the class and give them their temporary certificate, call 1-800-949-6133 and give the operator terminal number 3349982. You can then give them the name, birth date, etc. they need to verify if the student already is in the system or not. This is critical to not have duplicate or triplicate numbers in the system, which could lead to confusion or a ticket when being checked in the field.



### *Kansas City Region, KC Metro District*

Outdoor Skills Specialist

*Chris Capps*

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This has been a fall of 'firsts' for me. Some have been bittersweet, some have been life-changing and some have been downright incredible.

The first of my kids, my son Seth, got married in December. Seth has been my huntin' buddy for years and I am happy to report that his young bride-to-be spent several days deer hunting with him. She caught her first trout and crappie earlier in the year and enjoys camping too! Looks like the Capps family has gained another outdoor enthusiast.

September 1 marked a big change as I left the ranks of Conservation Agent and joined the ranks of Outdoor Skills Specialist. After 23 plus years as an agent, the change has been a big one, but thanks to great co-workers and the best group of volunteer hunter education instructors in the world, the transition has been smoother and less stressful than expected. Thanks to all of you!! We have had a busy fall and winter, providing remarkable service and certifying and teaching hundreds of hunter education students as well as providing and teaching outdoor skills at a number of events for youth groups, disabled groups, and families.

Speaking of families, which you will find I do a lot, one of those memorable firsts was deer hunting with my 22 year old daughter, Kirsten. Not that she hasn't deer hunted before, but I was in the stand with her on opening morning when she took her very first deer. She made a perfect shot at about 25 yards and harvested a nice young doe. Dad is pretty proud!! I also spent the Youth Deer Hunt weekend at H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservations Special Needs Youth Hunt. I got to know and hunt with great 13 year old named Timmy Gunn and his step dad, Eric. Timmy and I will always remember the 'one that got away' as a monster 12-pointer walked within 15 steps of the blind Saturday evening about 5pm. Timmy has a scope on his Rossi .243, but will soon be adding peek through mounts as all he could see was brown!!

Kansas City District volunteers, Thank you for the welcome and the willingness to pitch in and get the job done!! Every time I asked for help, you were there and I appreciate it!!!! I hope you have had a great hunting season and lots of memorable moments and that the new year brings you joy. As outdoor mentors, remember, the time we give to others, helping them experience the great outdoors we love, is never wasted time! Thanks for all you do!



*Kansas City Region  
Sedalia/Clinton District*

Outdoor Skills Specialist  
*Mark Miller*  
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Greetings from Sedalia and Clinton

The first quarter of the year is never my favorite. Things that I've put off are now, racing towards me and I wonder how everything is going to get done, and why I procrastinate. Then I remember those days when the ducks were here and those things seemed really far away and why I put them off. I figure it's a good trade. I also think back to the fall, when the Hunter Ed class where full every weekend and it seemed there was something going on every day. That's when I realize, with the quality of people I work with, both MDC staff and volunteers, I have a pretty good chance of everything working out.

The Clinton and Sedalia district banquet will be combined this year. It will be at the Christian Church in Clinton on February 5th. Invitations went out in December. If yours did not find you, and you would like to attend call and RSVP at the Clinton office.

Spring classes will be in full swing soon. If you are having difficulties setting up classes with the new system let me know. If you are looking for additional volunteer opportunities, the KC Regional NASP Tournament will be February 12 in Warsaw, and there is an Outdoor Expo in March at Warrensburg.

Your Help is always appreciated. Once again I want to thank you for what you do.

As Always-----Hunt Safe



*Central Region*

Outdoor Skills Specialist  
*Brian Flowers*  
*brian.flowers@mdc.mo.gov*

It seems that our Hunter Education Volunteers and staff are always incredibly busy and this year was no exception. Thanks to the hard work of our Volunteer Instructors there were 51 classes held in Central Region during the last five months. Hundreds of students participated in these courses and many of them went on to experience hunting for the first time. It is through your hard work and diligence that this was possible and I thank you.

As you know MDC manages many public unmanned shooting ranges across Missouri. These ranges are provided for the public to safely and responsibly enjoy the shooting

sports. From time to time some of these ranges are misused or even abused. Keeping this in mind, I ask for your assistance in reminding your students of the proper way to use a public shooting range. In several recent visits to a local range I have observed shooters using the range improperly. Shooting range regulations allow for the use of paper targets only and all targets must be attached to the target stand. MDC ranges are designed so that shooting takes place from the shooting bench and only at the rear backstop, not at side berms. If you should see range violations occurring, please obtain as much information as safely possible about the violators and report it to a conservation agent or regional office. Your help in making public ranges safer is much appreciated.

A pleasant aspect of volunteer recognition is that we are able to reflect each year on the tremendous contribution our volunteers make to all aspects of hunter education. This year eleven instructors have passed service levels and will receive the appropriate award, they include:

- Dennis Desmond 500 hrs.
- Randy Dismany 100 hrs
- Beau Griffith 300 hrs
- Dave Hammond 700 hrs.
- Tisha Holden 300 hrs.
- Scott Huckstep 500 hrs.
- Diane Jurgensmeyer 300 hrs.
- Larry Koenig 100 hrs.
- John Locker 100 hrs.
- Don Munford 200 hrs.
- Robert Overstreet 100 hrs.
- Laura Pummill 200 hrs.
- Chad Robinson 200 hrs.
- David Roush 100 hrs.
- Roger See 200 hrs.
- Doug Smentkowski 300 hrs
- James Smith 100 hrs.

I never cease to be amazed at the commitment and loyalty this represents, and we are very thankful for the vast quantities of time and talent you have given.

A special thanks goes to two Retiring Hunter Education Instructors this year; Mr. Steve McGhee in Boone County and Mr. Carmen Hayden in Morgan County. Both of these instructors have given thousands of hours in their communities teaching hunter education. We wish them luck in their future endeavors.

Once again we will gather on Tuesday, February 22 at the Conservation Employees Credit Union for our annual Volunteer appreciation Dinner. We will gather at 6pm for dinner and conclude by 9pm. You can RSVP to me at [brian.flowers@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:brian.flowers@mdc.mo.gov) or 573-882-8388 ext. 288 to. Your spouses and families are invited as well. Please join us for a fun and exciting evening.

**Change is constant and inevitable,  
Growth is optional**



### *St. Louis Region*

Outdoor Skills Specialists (to left in order top to bottom)

*Scott Sarantakis - Lincoln, St. Charles & Warren Counties*  
*scott.sarantakis@mdc.mo.gov*



*Dennis Cooke - St. Louis City & St. Louis County*  
*dennis.cooke@mdc.mo.gov*



*Conrad Mallady - Crawford, Franklin, Jefferson & Washington Counties*  
*conrad.mallady@mdc.mo.gov*

Just a reminder that the St. Louis Region HE Awards Banquet is scheduled for January 14 at the Holiday Inn Six Flags.

If you are a certified BAI MONASP instructor and would like to help with the Regional MONASP tournament on January 29, at Seckman High School please contact your OSS.

We would like to increase the number of online field days this year so if you have not helped out with one of these and would like to see how they work please visit <http://my.register-ed.com/event/listall?p=3> or contact your OSS. If you decide you would like to become certified to help with the field days it requires you to observe an Online Field Day and then become familiar with the Instructor Review and Testing plan for the Online Hunter Education Field Day. If you have any questions about the process please call your OSS.

On January 22, the Missouri Gun and Quail Club and Missouri Department of Conservation will be hosting a youth Upland Clinic and Hunt at the Missouri Gun and Quail Club in Wright City. If you would like to help, please contact Eric Edwards (636) 300-1953 ext. 302 or Scott Sarantakis (314) 301-1506 ext.2257.

The Missouri State High School Trap Shoot held at Linn

Creek is scheduled for Saturday April 30. If you would like to help or need more information please contact Scott Sarantakis.

Just recently we have been dealing with problems from a hunter education class held in October of 2009. Off and on from about June through November 2010 we have had students contact us claiming to have passed the course. These students had the temporary blue certificate to prove their claim. Two of those students were listed as "No Shows" on the roster and one wasn't even on the roster. Because the students had their temporary cards we were able to clear up the problem fairly quickly.

In addition to the students above we've had three other students contact us, but did not have their temporary cards (same class). Luckily, a couple of instructors remembered two of the students and were willing to sign a statement stating the students were in the class and passed the test. The parents also sent in e-mail confirming their child's attendance and passing the test. Unfortunately, we have one student that has nothing to show for the class and the instructors don't remember him being in the course. This student is an adult and will most likely have to take the course again.

While the above problems don't happen very often in our classes, when they do crop up it creates serious problems and inconveniences for the students and takes many hours of staff time attempting to correct the issue(s). In an attempt to alleviate these kinds of problems in future classes, we are asking instructors to do a couple of simple things with future classes:

1. Stress to every class that the temporary blue card is the ONLY proof that they have taken the course. Keep it in a safe place and DO NOT throw it away until they get their Heritage Card in the mail. You might even suggest that they laminate it and keep it with their other important papers.
2. Each Chief Instructor should double check their entries into the system before they submit the class for approval. Take a few extra minutes to be certain your information is accurate. Having a second instructor review the report may also be helpful.
3. Lastly, keep your graded test sheets (scantron sheets) for one year after the class. This step will clear up any questions -----as those test sheets should have names on them.

Thanks for your help. CM

We are asking all instructors to update their profiles on the department's Event Manager online registration system. If you have forgotten your password, you may need to contact your OSS to have it reset unless you remember your secret question and answer.

On August 28, nine new volunteer instructors attended training at the Forest Park visitor center in St. Louis. Please join us in welcoming them to our organization. Pictured below; David Domain, John Blankenship, Teak Phillips, Larry Noel,



Pictured below; Charles Glotta, Jason McClenning, Jeff Eisenhart, Colleen Bayer, Tyler Naramore.



On February 19, 2011 the Powder Valley Nature Center will be hosting "Game On," a special event which is all about hunting. If anyone has any wild game that they would like to donate for the tasting part of the program, please can contact Dennis Cooke at [dennis.cooke@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:dennis.cooke@mdc.mo.gov) or 314-877-1309 ext. 1992.

**Save the Date,  
Missouri Hunter Education  
Instructor Association (MHEIA)  
Annual Instructor Conference  
Holiday Inn Select in Columbia,  
Missouri on March 4, 5, & 6  
For more information contact  
417-862-8611**

## Southwest Region

Outdoor Skills Specialists

*Jean Mayer* - Cedar, Barton, Dade, Jasper, Lawrence, Newton, Barry & McDonald Counties  
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*Greg Collier* - Hickory, Polk, Dallas, Laclede, Greene, Webster, Christian, Stone & Taney Counties  
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Please mark your calendars for the SW Region's 2010 Instructor Appreciation Banquets. Once again for your convenience, we are offering you a choice of dates and locations to choose from: Tuesday, February 22, Butcher's Block Restaurant, Joplin; Thursday, February 24, Ramada Oasis Convention Center, Springfield. Both banquets will offer a "meet and greet" from 6:00 p.m.-6:45 p.m. with the dinner beginning at 7:00 p.m. This banquet is our way of saying thank you for all the hard work you, the instructors, do in promoting a safe and ethical point of view for our future hunters. Without all of you our program would not be as successful as it is. The banquet is also a great time to get together with your fellow instructors.

During the banquet the following instructors will be recognized for their contributions to the program in 2010:

Mr. Jon Trent - Southwest Region Hunter Education Volunteer Instructor of the Year

Mr. Randy Vendegrift – Southwest Region Bowhunter Education Volunteer Instructor of the Year

Mr. Andy Rhodes – Southwest Region Missouri Department of Conservation Staff Instructor of the Year

Mr. Willie Carr – Southwest Region Conservation Agent Instructor of the Year

Please join us in congratulating these individuals and celebrating their achievements within the hunter education ranks.

We are happy to announce the opening of our Region's newest shooting facility: Flag Spring Shotgun Field. Located on the Flag Spring Conservation Area, this informal shotgun field lies NW of the main range and offers a shotgun pad available for use with clay targets. Throwing and clay targets are not provided. Please note: Like all of our ranges in the region, it is closed on Mondays for maintenance. Be sure to stop by and see our "newest addition"!



Speaking of “new additions”, Grandma Jean is proud to introduce her grandson Chase Augustus Jefferies. Born November 6, he weighed 7 pounds 7 ounces and was 21 inches long. Both Grandma and Grandpa are looking forward to going hunting and fishing with him!

On October 27, 2010 Crane Middle School held their annual field trip to Roaring River State Park. The day included fishing, dutch oven cooking and hiking for the kids. The trip is part of the curriculum at the middle school thanks to teacher, coach and hunter education instructor, Tracy Flood. Tracy added the outdoor skills component as part of her Lifetime Sports class six years ago and with help from the Conservation Department, the class has grown to include Hunter Education, the National Archery in the Schools Program and annual trips, such as the one mentioned above. The last few years Tracy’s husband, Don Flood, attended the annual trout fishing outing. With the true heart of a volunteer, sportsman, husband and friend, Don joined us at the park to set up rods, help kids net and clean their fish and clean up. Sadly, later that evening while cutting wood on his farm, Don was fatally struck by a tree. Don will be greatly missed. He was not only a vital part of the annual fishing trip, but also the Hunter Education program and more recently the Archery Program. In the past Don attended our Statewide Hunter Education Banquet with Tracy, hosted youth turkey hunts on his farm near Crane, and most recently accompanied the Crane Archery Team to the World NASP Tournament in Orlando, Florida. Our hearts, thoughts and prayers go out to Tracy and their family.

Many of our instructors look for opportunities to volunteer in a capacity other than Hunter Ed Instructor. Here are a few dates that may interest you:

- April 17 - Online Hunter Education Field Day; Andy Dalton Shooting Range. Contact Greg Collier.
- April 30 - State HS & FFA Trap Shooting Competition; Linn Creek MTA club. Contact Greg Collier.
- June 4 - Discover Nature Women: Introduction to Shotgun Shooting; 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.; Flag Spring Shotgun Field. Contact Jean Mayer.

Some results from the 2010 Youth Deer Season in the Southwest



Lauren Collier



Nicholas Rose



## *Northwest Region*

Outdoor Skills Specialist  
*Tim Miller*  
[tim.miller@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:tim.miller@mdc.mo.gov)

Fall has finally arrived and things have been quite busy here in Northwest region. I have been filling orders like crazy for hunter education materials requested by volunteer instructors and school teachers, making numerous school visits, as well as visits to hunter education classes, and

preparing for the switch to on-line hunter education registration. I would like to say thank you to all the hunter education instructors for all the hard work and dedication that make this program the great one that it is. I would also like to thank the clerical staff at the Northwest regional office for their help during this busy time. Also, many thanks to the Conservation Agents for their hard work in providing support for this program.

Earlier this fall several new hunter education instructors were certified. They are Ben Olson, Tim Brown, Cory Paul, Ryan Persinger, Aaron Petty, Spencer Lynch, Jacob Phillips, Derek Payne, Bradley Breit, Dylan Reno, Stephen Van Horn, Matthew Dear, Chris Herrod, Wayne Holt, Amy Holt, Allison Gienapp, Jonathan Mullock, Brian Hester, Racheal Malott, Jeremiah Jago, Jeremy Sayre, Kenyon Green, Jerry Sharr, Travis Davis, Christopher Deselms. Welcome new instructors!

On a sad note, Northwest region lost longtime hunter education instructor Patrick Romine. Pat taught hunter education in Kansas City region for many years prior to teaching in Northwest region. He will be missed.

Upcoming Events:

January 29 - Hunter Education Instructor Banquet - St. Joseph at 6:00 p.m.

February 18 - Hunter Education Instructor Banquet-Chillicothe 6:30 p.m.

March 16 – On-line Field day - St. Joseph Regional office

Invitations and information to follow.

Langston has been selected as the agent instructor of the year. Jason certified 189 students in Ripley county as well as held other gun safety programs for those not yet old enough to take the class for certification.

The volunteer HE instructor of the year is none other than Mr. Dale Watson of Willow Springs. Dale has been an instructor for 8 years, and has always “answered the bell” for HE. This year, on his own, he opened one of his classes well beyond capacity in order to better serve those in the area needing the HE certification.



The Ozark Region is fortunate now to claim two of the new hunter-orange Hunter-Safety gun kits. Some really dedicated instructors raised the money for a firearm kit in Pulaski County. In the immediate area surrounding Twin Pines instructors recruited the NWTF to purchase a kit. My hat is off to these individuals. NWTF has been a great partner for the Ozark Region’s HE programs as well as MoNASP. I’d like to see as many HE volunteer instructors join a local chapter if they are not already “waving that flag”.



*Ozark Region*

Outdoor Skills Specialist  
*Larry Lindeman*  
*[larry.lindeman@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:larry.lindeman@mdc.mo.gov)*

I certainly hope everyone had a safe and successful fall hunting season, and that the holiday season has been kind to you as well. On a more selfish note, I also hope Santa has developed a plan to get a gun safe down my chimney.

The Ozark Region once again will have three appreciation banquets for an unsurpassed volunteer instructor force. The exact dates have yet to be determined, but will be held at Twin Pines, Mansfield, and St. Robert. Invitations will be sent out after the first of the year, and the target dates are in February and March. The invitation will be RSVP in order to have the attendance incentive awards on hand. I’d like encourage anyone that can make one of these to come enjoy a good meal and experience some camaraderie.



I got to cross something off my bucket list....I got my first pheasant...never shot at one before! I have yet to miss a pheasant...Bagged these on Black Friday in northern Iowa.

It’s always tough to reach a decision, but this year Jason

I urge that the Ozark Instructors welcome 2011 and bare

with us as we embark on some new changes in the pre-registration process that have already been implemented in other regions. If you have any questions shoot me an e-mail or give me a call.

I am so grateful for the service of both the Ozark region's volunteer crew and family as well as the agent instructors and their families. It would be impossible to accomplish what we do without your efforts; and I personally wish prosperity, happiness and good health to all, and as always, remember to "Keep 'em pointed in a safe direction".



## Northeast Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist  
**Rob Garver**  
[robert.garver@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:robert.garver@mdc.mo.gov)

Hello Northeast! I'm excited to be here and to be your new Outdoor Skills Specialist. I am originally from Osceola, Missouri and from there I moved to Maryville where I graduated from Northwest Missouri State University. From there I started with the Department in Kansas City at Parma Woods Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center.

Enough about me, from what I hear I am going to be working with a great bunch of instructors, and I look forward to meeting all of you. You all made it through the HE rush before deer season and everything went smoothly. We could not do it without you.

We have switched our Hunter Education program over so that student can soon register for classes online. There are going to be some hills to climb along the way, but this will be a better system that will make the paperwork easier. We will already have the student's information, including their conservation number if they already have one, and it will eliminate the student forms. Instructors will be able to submit their classes online where they will be approved for Jefferson City to process.

I hope that your hunting seasons went well and soon it will be time to dust off those fishing poles. Thanks again for sharing your knowledge and for all your hard work!

## "I'm Going to Die" After Fall

By *John Smith, D&DH reader*

My first day hunting the 2010 Wisconsin bow season nearly became my last.

On Nov. 8, I went to hunt a 40-acre wooded lot in the central part of the state. I have hunted the land more than 20 years. Although it is small, it features a nice oak ridge, creek bottom and small pines with good underbrush.

After reaching my chosen tree stand, I began the climb I had made hundreds of times before. I used climbing sticks strapped to the trunk to make my way up the tree.

As I crested the 24-foot climb and stepped onto the stand, the strap holding the climbing stick to the tree snapped. I began a long journey back toward the ground. My life flashed before my eyes. All I could think was "It's all gone" and "I'm going to die."

I hit the ground. I was alive, but I had doubts about my future.

I was bleeding from my ears, nose and mouth. When I tried to move my arms and legs, the pain in my back became excruciating. But I needed to get back my jacket near the tree, since my cell phone was in the pocket. Ten feet separated me and a rescue. But I couldn't move.

I cried out for help. No response. No one was around.

I needed to get to that tree. The fact I was still alive made me realize someone had more in store for me. I had no choice but to crawl.



**Shots of the stand John Smith climbed up the day of his fall. The top climbing stick points away from the tree because of a broken strap. Note the broken strap hanging from the top climbing stick. (All photos courtesy of John Smith)**



I don't remember the crawl to the tree. The pain blocked that out of my memory. My next memory was seeing the phone had no service. I have sent text messages from the

woods before, so I decided to try my wife. My text read, "I fell 911."

The pain forced me to roll onto my back. It proved to be a smart move. The phone suddenly had service. I called 911. Hearing the dispatcher's voice gave me the support I needed to make it through this ordeal.

As the Iola, Wisconsin, rescue team approached, I was overcome with emotion. I realized I was going to be OK. They airlifted me by helicopter to Theda Clark hospital. I spent 11 days being treated for two broken vertebrates. After surgery, I was able to walk again with the assistance of a walker. Best of all, I was home to be with my family for Thanksgiving. The whole family was together, the family I thought I was going to lose.

I am still healing as I write this article. I wanted to share my story to help other hunters. We all check our firearms and bows to make sure our aim is true. We check how clear our shooting lanes are for the season. We check that our clothes are washed and stored properly. We check the wind to determine which stands to hunt.

We also need to check our stands. They are some of the most neglected items of the entire hunt.

Many of us leave stands in the same trees for years. A lot can happen to wear down those stands. I did not replace the climbing stick straps on my stand because they come loose with a small tap on the fastener. Hunters may be putting their life in jeopardy for the same reason. Remember this. The straps were the weakest link in my hunting chain. It almost cost me my life. As I stated earlier, someone has more work for me and offered me another chance at life. My first bit of work was writing this article to help educate my fellow hunters.

Don't think this can't happen to you. I was shocked to hear from my hospital caregivers that they may treat more than a dozen hunters a year due to falls. That's just at a single Wisconsin hospital treating reported falls. Not every fall is reported.

Please use my experience to prevent an unnecessary accident that may cost you your life.

## *News Tidbits*

From National Shooting Sports Foundation Bullet Points  
Full articles can be found at: <http://www.nssf.org/>

**86-YEAR-OLD CANCER VICTIM BAGS DEER OF A LIFETIME . . .** An account that captures the spirit of family, hunting and the holiday season comes out of Pennsylvania. It's a story of 86-year-old Lester Warner, whose frail body is wracked by late-stage cancer and who has decided to stop treatment -- but not stop hunting. His 51-year-old son lugged a recliner up Broadtop Mountain to the small hut his family had built for his dad years ago. On opening day, in 19-degree

weather, the biggest deer either father or son had ever had a chance to take, appeared. The son insisted that his dad take the shot, and the one he took was perfect. Lowering the gun, the elderly man turned to his son and said, "Never give up."

**OUTDOOR SKILLS LINKED TO HEALTH, LEARNING AND LIFESTYLE BENEFITS . . .** The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies has released a white paper, Benefits of Outdoor Skills to Health, Learning and Lifestyle, which documents the contributions of outdoor skills and wildlife-related outdoor education to health, learning and lifestyle in general and hunting and fishing participation in particular. Learn more about this white paper, which demonstrates the importance of outdoor activity on youth's physical development and reduction in both Attention Deficit Disorder and crime.

**\$1.6 MILLION DONATION . . .** MidwayUSA's Larry and Brenda Potterfield recently donated \$1.6 million to the Scholastic Shooting Sports Foundation, a sizeable investment in the future of shooting. SSSF, which oversees the NSSF-developed Scholastic Clay Target Program, works to introduce school-age youths to the shooting sports. SCTP's growth over the past decade has been remarkable. The program has drawn comparisons to Little League, and it has introduced thousands of young Americans to the fun and excitement of shooting. "A donation like this from the Potterfields will go a long way in helping us achieve our mission of developing more young shooters and furthering the future of our sport," said Russ Arnold, SSSF's executive director. Learn more at [shootsctp.org](http://shootsctp.org)

**NEW WOMEN HUNTERS SECTION COMING TO DEER AND TURKEY EXPOS . . .** A new "Garb and Gear Section" of women's hunting apparel and related hunting products designed for female hunters' physical needs will be an exhibit floor highlight at the 2011 deer and turkey hunting expos produced by Target Communications in Michigan, Ohio, Illinois and Wisconsin. With women being the fastest-growing segment of the hunting community, manufacturers are paying attention to their needs with new products designed specifically for them.

**FOCUSING ON 'FAMILIES AFIELD' PROGRAM'S SUCCESS . . .** Following up on its story "Hunting Remains Bulletproof Industry" in September, USA Today last week focused on the gains being made for youth hunting with "Young Hunters Take to the Wild." The story focuses on states that have made it easier for youth hunters to go afield with a licensed adult mentor in order to give hunting a try before taking the time-consuming hunter education course -- a sort of "try before you buy" concept. Since 2004, this approach has been promoted by the Families Afield program sponsored by the National Shooting Sports Foundation, U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance and National Wild Turkey Federation, with 30 states having passed legislation to lower or remove age barriers to youth hunting. The goal is to introduce youths to hunting before their interest and time are bound up in

video games and other organized sports. The Families Afield initiative is working. Some 418,000 apprentice hunting licenses have been purchased in states with youth-friendly hunting regulations, giving hunting the youthful boost it needs to replenish its ranks.

## Hunter shoots unusually large coyote in Northwest Missouri

Carroll County deer hunter shot a coyote weighing more than 100 pounds.

DNA tests show that a 104-pound canine shot by a hunter in Carroll County Nov. 13 was an unusually large coyote.

The hunter shot the big canine on opening day of Missouri's November firearms deer season, thinking it was a coyote. Coyotes are legal game during deer season. However, when the hunter saw the animal's size, he wondered if he had mistakenly shot a wolf. He reported the kill to Conservation Agent Marc Bagley. Bagley took possession of the animal and turned it over to the Missouri Department of Conservation's (MDC) Resource Science Division for identification.

Resource Scientist Jeff Beringer said the MDC staff took measurements and collected tissue and hair samples for DNA analysis. The test showed the animal was a coyote.

According to Beringer, the coyote was a male approximately 3 years old. It had no tattoos, microchip or evidence of ear tags that would indicate it might have escaped or been released from captivity.

The coyote's size and the size and shape of its feet were similar to those of a wolf, leading to speculation it could be a coyote-wolf hybrid. Gray wolves, also known as timber wolves, once inhabited northern Missouri but were gone from the state by the late 1800s, due to hunting and habitat loss. Wolves persisted in Minnesota. From there, they dispersed into Wisconsin and Michigan, which now have wolf populations of their own.

The last record of a gray wolf in Missouri was of a young male mistaken for a coyote and killed by a bowhunter in Grundy County in October 2001. A radio collar and ear tag linked that 80-pound wolf to Michigan.

The Wild Mammals of Missouri, the definitive text on Show-Me State mammals, indicates a normal weight range of 18 to 30 pounds for coyotes. However, much larger specimens have been documented in other states.

Wolves are a protected species in Missouri. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the grey wolf is listed as a federally endangered species in the lower 48 states, except in Minnesota and where there are non-essential experimental populations.

Beringer said the MDC has never stocked wolves and has no plans to restore them to Missouri.



## Lake City Range & Outdoor Education Center

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor  
Steven Elliott  
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The staff at Lake City Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center put on their first "Field to Freezer," class held at the new facility on October 16. The class was well attended by students very eager to learn new and different ways of field dressing deer, properly capering deer for mounting, and of course, processing the meat properly for the freezer. The range staff was able to harvest three animals prior to the class: a buck, mature doe and a yearling doe so the students could practice their newly acquired techniques on the deer.

All the deer were previously field dressed, so the staff walked the students through the different techniques of field dressing a harvested deer. The next step was getting the animal hung to remove the hide. If the animal is going to be mounted or the hide saved, different hanging techniques can make the skinning task easier. The students had the opportunity to skin the three deer differently to preserving the hide for mounting, making a rug, or wall hanging. Once the deer hide was removed proper care in rolling the hide was demonstrated for storage in the freezer before going to the taxidermist.



Now, came the real challenge, how to quarter the animal. Range Assistant, David Glaskey, demonstrated to the class different butchering techniques and explained all the different cuts of meat from sirloin steaks to roasts. The students learned where and how each cut was made from the animal and how to properly remove the meat from the bone. Each student was able to take home a small portion of the meat they had deboned and processed for the table. The "Field to Freezer," class at the Lake City Range was a successful hands-on program that was well received by people in the KC region.



On 25 September 2010, the new Lake City Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center hosted the regional National Hunting and Fishing Day. National Hunting and Fishing Day is an annual event in the Kansas City Region. This year several outdoor equipment vendors were present at the event. The vendors were able to give the KC sportsmen a sneak peak at their new hunting products which included firearms, ATV's and optics. There were several outdoor events for families, including trap shooting, free rifle and pistol shooting, and air rifle for the youth. The new Lake City Shooting facility was also open for tours to the public.



**Andy Dalton Range & Outdoor Education Center**

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor  
**Mike Brooks**  
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By the time you read this hopefully you will have enjoyed some quality family time over the holidays and are now starting to focus on those spring hunter education classes that always seem to slip up on us. Many of the participants will be new turkey hunters and this is a prime opportunity to remind everyone in your classes that once they pass the course they are entitled to a free hour of range use at any of the staffed ranges in Missouri.

This is a great opportunity to encourage them to use that hour to pattern test their ammunition and equipment so they are sure to be more successful in the woods. It is important for them to understand that by taking some time to pattern test their equipment it helps reduce the risk of hitting and only wounding a bird. Ask them if they shoot at a bird and wound it and it flies away should it count toward their season bag limit. My guess is that this will generate some interesting discussion in your classes.

It is also a time to remind them to be vigilant about never shooting at sound, color, or movement and to always use

blaze orange while moving in the woods for their own protection even though it is not required by law. While they may think they are the only one hunting in that particular area they should not assume they are the only hunter there. Encourage the use of common sense when it comes to safe hunting.

I appreciate all of the efforts of the volunteer instructors and know the sacrifices that each of you make by choosing to teach others how to hunt safely. I hope that you make some time to enjoy doing the outdoor activities that keeps your passion burning and fuels your desire to share your talents, skills, and attitudes with the new hunters of Missouri.

Thanks for all you do!



**Henges Range & Outdoor Ed Center**

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor  
**Jake Hindman**  
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October 13, 2010 will stick in my mind for quite some time. That date marks the opening of the renovated Jay Henges rifle/pistol range after a long 10 month wait. The new range has not disappointed and we have been busy from day one, seeing record numbers of shooters visiting the range. It has certainly been a worthwhile project that will no doubt have a long lasting impression on the shooters who use the range. (the photo below was taken on top of the backstop nearing completion of the project)



This newsletter covers the January – April 2011 time frame. January not only marks the beginning of a new year, but also is a great time to start preparing for the upcoming hunter education rush, hunting seasons, fishing and other outdoor opportunities. I use the winter months to secure property for the following season, drop off a gift for a landowner who I hunted on the season before, check

gear (treestands, safety equipment) and to “refuel” from the busy fall.

For a list of programs for upcoming months please visit our website at [www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/henges](http://www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/henges). In addition to upcoming programs, we have scheduled the second annual St. Louis region range volunteer appreciation banquet for January 7, 2011.

I urge you to take a first timer out hunting or just exploring nature, and mentor them along the way, you will be glad you did.



## *Busch Range & Outdoor Ed Center*

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor  
*Eric Edwards*  
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Please feel free to contact me about attending any of the courses as either a student or as an MDC volunteer we are always looking for some extra help.

### January

4 – 6 Hunter Education Class 5:30 – 9:30

13 Discover Hunting; Predator Hunting Clinic 6 - 8

20 Discover Hunting; Rabbit Hunting Clinic 6 - 8

22 Discover Hunting; Youth Pheasant Clinic and Hunt 9 - 5

### February

1 - 3 Hunter Education Class 5:30-9:30 pm all three nights.

9 & 10 Basic Shotgun Shooting 6 - 8

26 Bow hunter Education Class 9 - 6

### March

1 - 3 Hunter Education Class 5:30-9:30pm all three nights.

5 Discover Nature Families; Archery Class 9 – 12

9, 10, & 12 Basic Handgun 6-8

16 & 17 Basic trap Shooting 6 – 8

### April

5 – 7 Hunter Education Class 5:30 – 9:30

7, 9, & 10 Discover Hunting; Youth Turkey Hunting Clinic and Hunt

13 Discover Hunting; How to Pattern your Shotgun 6 – 8

For a complete listing of all of the range programs check out our web page at [www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/busch](http://www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/busch)

## TEAM HENGES TAKES NATIONAL TITLES

Two squads of young trapshooters from the Jay Henges Shooting Range walked away with two national titles at the recent Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) Championships. Nearly 1200 youngsters from 27 states competed at the World Recreational Shooting Complex in Sparta, IL on July 23 and 24.

Team Henges Orange squad claimed the top honor in the Intermediate Advanced Division made up of seventh and eighth graders. They shot a total of 947 targets out of 1000.

Team Henges Red squad ended with a tie for third place in the Varsity Division resulting in an exciting shoot-off against a squad from Alabama. The “last-man-standing” rule left Benjamin Tihen of Team Henges claiming the title for his teammates. Team Henges Red shot their squad best ever score hitting 976 targets out of 1000.

This marked the fourth year that Team Henges has competed in the SCTP program.



Front row, left to right: Samantha Foppe, Brendan McCart, Jack Koury, Matt Varner, and Nick Koury. Back row, Jan Morris (Head Coach) and hidden, coaches Gwen Morris and Jim Napoli.



Front row, left to right: Joe Stuckstede, Victor Hiegel, Benjamin Tihen, Logan Napoli, and Jake Hiegel. Back row, Jan Morris (Head Coach), Coach Gwen Morris, and Coach Jim Napoli.

*Continued from page 1, Taking the Reins*

resources at statewide and local levels. Through increased and integrated outreach and communication efforts O&E Division will facilitate telling the stories in ways that energize and empower Missouri citizens to become actively engaged in outdoor recreation activities and actively support conservation efforts.”

O&E will often be the lead, but not the sole vehicle for delivering key messages and outreach efforts in the Department. Frequently we will facilitate communications and outreach efforts of Administration and other Divisions. Communications and outreach efforts will be more vertically integrated within Outreach & Education Division. Communications and outreach efforts will be more horizontally integrated across Divisions and at all levels, from local DCT efforts, to Regional efforts, to statewide initiatives.

Developing a Department-wide communications and outreach plan will be critical to achieving this vision. The plan will focus on developing a consensus on the long range goals, identifying communication and outreach strategies and actions necessary to achieve those goals, and articulating the respective roles of all Divisions in implementing the communication and outreach strategies and actions. This will not be an O&E communications and outreach plan, but rather an MDC communications and outreach plan.

As we move forward we need to keep in mind what we already know about Missourian’s values, behaviors, and opinions about the outdoors. The focus group study “Outdoor Values of Missourians” contracted by O&E in 2007 told us:

- Young adults value “family time.”
- Young adults value the outdoors as a place to play and escape.
- The best way to communicate with parents is by engaging their children.
- Adult interest in the outdoors has the best chance of flourishing when it begins during childhood with parental support.

The “Your Opinion Counts!” survey conducted by the University of Missouri – Columbia told us:

- Eighty percent of the people surveyed considered “Not enough time” to be an obstacle to participating in outdoor activities.
- Activities that take more time (hunting, backpacking, etc.) ranked lower in participation compared to activities that can be done quickly and easily (hiking, watching birds and wildlife, etc.).

- Local newspapers, television news, and friends & family were overwhelmingly the top three sources of conservation information for surveyed people.

Basically, people would like to spend “family time” together outdoors but do not think they have enough time. And even though people are increasingly accessing and getting information from the web, most people still get their information from local, traditional sources. We must develop and enhance programs and messages to communicate that most outdoor activity is closer and easier to participate in than you think, and it provides great opportunities for quality family time. We must continue to enhance MDC’s “new media” tools and applications, but we cannot discount and overlook the value of local outreach efforts.

The question “I want to \_\_\_(do what)\_\_\_ for \_\_\_(whom)\_\_\_ so they can \_\_\_(do what)\_\_\_” should be asked of every strategy and action item identified in the plan. The answers to that question should directly relate to stimulating Missouri citizens to actively participate in outdoor recreational activities and/or actively support conservation efforts. For example, knowing the difference between the Amazon rainforest and Missouri’s oak / hickory forest is good. However, the Department’s efforts need to go further and stimulate a desire to engage in the outdoor recreation opportunities Missouri’s oak/hickory forest offers and support management of Missouri’s oak/hickory forest.

Defining how what I have outlined above will be accomplished is going to be a group effort. As I stated earlier, O&E has a diverse mix of very creative and talented individuals who are passionate about what they do. It would be foolish not to engage your passion and creativity to help develop ideas for enhancing and integrating the Department’s outreach and communication efforts. It would also be foolish not to engage the other Divisions early in the process.

Stephen Covey said, “Seek first to understand, then to be understood.” Over the next few months the Unit Chiefs and I will be visiting with each Region, each O&E unit in Central Office, and each of the other Divisions’ leadership team. My goals for meeting with the other Divisions are to answer questions about the direction of O&E Division, identify their Divisional needs, and develop consensus on how we can work together to achieve mutual communication and outreach objectives. My goals for meeting with the Regions and O&E Central Office units are, most importantly to meet each of you and hear what excites you about your job, but also to listen to your ideas about how we can enhance and better integrate outreach and communications efforts both locally and at a state-wide level.

Let me clarify that when I say “enhance” I do not simply mean to do more. I fully understand the number of positions O&E has lost to the Department-wide staff reduction efforts. No Division was immune from the cuts. When I talk about enhancing O&E efforts I am talking about being more effective. That means clearly identifying program and project goals in ways that can be measured, making sure the goals strongly support the Department’s mission, and assessing if the current approach is the best way to achieve those goals. We may find that there are other ways, like contracting, to accomplish certain project or program goals. We may find that due to staff and budget constraints certain programs or projects have to be dropped to focus resources on other projects or programs that more strongly support the Department’s mission.

After gathering everybody’s input, I, the Unit Chiefs, and other O&E Division leadership will work through formulating the communications plan discussed previously.

“What changes is the new guy going to make?” The answer to that question lies partially in you. I have articulated a broad vision of enhancing and integrating the Department’s outreach and communications efforts in ways that energize Missouri citizens to actively participate in outdoor recreation activities and actively support conservation efforts. I have defined a process for identifying the details of how that will be accomplished. Your level of participation and involvement in that process, in helping identify those details, is up to you. I have a strong feeling there won’t be any problems getting input and feedback from all of you!

In closing, I will restate how excited I am to be part of the Outreach & Education Division team. I think most people who know me would characterize me as open, approachable, and above-board. I look forward to meeting each of you to hear what you think and what excites you about working for the Missouri Department of Conservation.

Thank you. See you soon! MH

*There is nothing more delicate to take in hand, nor more dangerous to conduct, nor more doubtful of success, than to step up as a leader in the introduction of changes. For he who innovates will have for his enemies all those who are well off under the existing order of things, and only lukewarm supporters in those who might be better off under the new.* Niccolò Machiavelli, *The Prince*, 1527



## Because You Asked?

### ***I heard something about HE & BHE class registration going online for students? (update)***

Yes, regions are going to set up training for instructors and staff and plan a transition schedule for implementation. Central and St. Louis regions have been piloting this since August 2009 and provided valuable input and numerous changes to make it more user friendly for students, instructors and staff. We also completed briefings on this upcoming transition in each region during the months of March & April 2010. These procedures are required to be in full implementation by July 1, 2011.

Instructors will be able to go online and set up classes, then their OSS approve them and they immediately are posted on the internet. Students register all information online, at home, local, county or school libraries, school computer labs, using friends and family computers, at work or by their cell phone web browser. Instructors can follow along and see how their class is growing, send e-mail greetings, updates or reminders to students or assistant instructors, congratulate and send out thanks to students, etc.

This system will replace all bubble forms, rosters, class pre-registration forms, scanning and thousands of man-hours in forms handling and processing. There will be exceptions and workarounds for courses held for our Amish and Mennonite communities. Other needs will be handled on a cases-by-case basis by the regions.

All instructors information has been initially loaded into the new database. Instructors will need to go in and update their profiles and ensure information is complete as in the current database to meet federal and state requirements along with background checks. All information is protected with the same levels of security and access as the current electronic database.

Instructors can find out more information on upcoming training and regional implementation plans by contacting their regional OSS.

Articles, photos, stories, etc. for next newsletter (May - August) is due to the Tony Legg by April 1, 2011.

**Our New Instructors for Hunter Education and Bowhunter Education Courses.**

**Welcome New Instructors!**

These new instructors have completed their training, 10-hour mentorship teaching certification and background checks (Apr '10 - Nov '10) and are ready to teach and start accruing hours. So all you senior instructors out there, be the great mentors we know you are. Get with your OSS and make contact with these folks and get them involved now. If you recognize any of these folks who might live near you, please give them a call and ask if you can help them get started. Remember, it is always appreciated when you lend a helping hand.

**Central Region**

Boone County

Sara Debold - HE

Camden County

John Blankenkemper - BHE

Kathy Blankenkemper - HE & BHE

Tisha Holden - BHE

Eric Smith - BHE

Cole County

Eric Findley - HE

Janet Halerig - HE

Kevin Woodson - HE

Cooper County

Dustin Townlain - HE

Montgomery County

Jessica Cobb - HE

Chris Davis

**Kansas City Region**

Platte County

Scott Harrison - HE

**Northwest Region**

Carroll County

Oscar Whitson - HE

Chariton County

Ricky Shatto - HE

**Ozark Region**

Howell County

Elizabeth Ball - HE

Amanda Bell - HE

Janetta Cunningham - HE

Robert Cunningham - HE

Oregon County

Bryon Rikard - HE

Phelps County

Cody Smith - HE

Pulaski County

Willard Armistead - HE & BHE

James Bott - HE

Benjamin Garrett - HE

Charles Goff - HE

Ronald Hill - HE

Terry Patton - HE & BHE

Travis Prewett - HE & BHE

Wendy Rivera - HE

Pulaski County

Robert Wilson - HE

Texas County

Roy Hensley - BHE

Wright County

Aleth Rogers - HE

**Southeast Region**

Madison County

Scott Wilkerson - HE

**Southwest Region**

Barry County

Jeffrey Kuhnert - HE

Cedar County

Beau Swopes - HE

Christian County

Russell Alexander - HE

Misti Baser - HE

Bobby Hollis - HE

Lance Moore - HE

Greene County

Lyndsea Berry - HE

Travis Clubb - HE & BHE

Steven Johnson - HE

Robert Oliver - HE

McDonald County

Timothy Williams - HE

Stone County

Candis Akin - HE

Michael Chapman - HE

Kimberly Hopper - HE

**St. Louis Region**

Jefferson County

Edward Bingesser - HE

St. Charles County

Barry Cagle - BHE

David Cantoni - HE

Marvin Daniels - HE

Donald Draper - BHE

Bernard Fisher - HE

Larry Lindsey - BHE

William Schoonover - HE

St. Louis County

Stephen Fleming - BHE

Marcus (Mike) Hirsch - HE

St. Louis County

Larry Noel - HE

Edward Rosenbaum - BHE

Teak Phillips - HE

Warren County

John LaManna - HE

Raymond Schultz - BHE

**INSTRUCTOR DISCOUNTS**

IHEA has a central web page that lists discount offers to instructors. This web page can be found at <http://www.ihea.com/instructors/special-offers-for-instructors.php>, or go to [www.ihea.com](http://www.ihea.com), click the Instructors tab on the green bar, then click Special Offers For Instructors.

You don't have to be a member of IHEA (although it is encouraged) to receive a discount. All instructors qualify, but the vendor will require that they provide current documentation/instructor card to prove that they are currently a state certified HE/BHE instructor.

Username: instructor

Password: gohunt

NBEF has a central webpage that lists discount offers to instructors. This web page can be found at <http://www.nbef.org/instructor.html> (yes, instructor is mis-spelled) or you can go to their home page at <http://www.nbef.org> and click on Instructor Section. Password is wadsworth.

**Continuing the Call for E-mail Addresses**

We are continuing our call for e-mail addresses of instructors. If you have not been receiving e-mails from us simply send an e-mail to [tony.legg@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:tony.legg@mdc.mo.gov) with your name and request to be added to the instructor group list. You will be able to then receive immediate updates on training, materials, instructor offers and discounts, information, notices, web links, etc. without having to wait on the next newsletter (especially now that we are going to only three times a year) to find out new information. Please ensure your spam blocker and firewall has Tony Legg's e-mail address as exempt, otherwise your blocker may reject the e-mail due to it going to so many addresses.

**VENISON DOG BISCUITS**

Hunters who bring home trophy antlers sometimes find the culinary fruits of their labor problematic. The meat from large, old bucks can be tough and strong-tasting, but ethical hunters are obliged to consume what they kill. One way to deal with this dilemma is to turn less-than-tasty venison into treats that will delight four-legged family members and save you money on dog treats throughout the year. Try this recipe for venison dog biscuits.

INGREDIENTS: 1 cup whole-wheat flour, 1 cup cornmeal, ½ cup wheat germ, ½ cup cooked ground venison, ½ cup vegetable oil, 1 egg, ½ cup beef broth, ½ tsp. salt.

PREPARATION: Mix the dry ingredients and add them to the wet ingredients. Roll the mixture out to about .5 inch thick. Cut into appropriate shapes with cookie cutters and bake at 350 to 400 degrees for 25 to 30 minutes, or until crisp. Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator or freezer.

# NORTH AMERICAN MODEL OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

*Best effort to conserve and manage wildlife that the world has ever seen.*



- Wildlife is Held in Public Trust
- Eliminating Commerce in Dead Wildlife
- Allocating Wildlife Use Through Law
- Hunting Opportunity for All
- Wildlife May be Killed Only for Legitimate Reasons
- Wildlife is an International Resource
- Science is the Basis for Wildlife Policy

*"The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired, in value." — Theodore Roosevelt*