

HUNTING TRAILS

CARTRIDGES & ARROWS



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

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"Over 1 Million Served"

September - December 2011

**Missouri Hunting Heritage Federation
Cofounder recognized as Hero of Conservation
by Field & Stream Magazine**
*Passion for hunting leads to conservation
volunteerism*



this as a reflection of my individual contributions; it's really the result of the hard work and commitment of the MHHF membership."



PLEASANT HILL, MO (August 05, 2011) – For his participation in the Missouri Hunting Heritage Federation (MHHF), Lee Vogel, one of the MHHF cofounders, was recognized in the August issue of Field & Stream Magazine as a Hero of Conservation.

According to the magazine, a Hero of Conservation is someone who spends his or her own time working to create, improve, or restore fish and wildlife or habitat. A Hero is dedicated to the spirit of conservation volunteerism and stands out among other volunteers. Some heroes are members of conservation organizations involved with dedicated efforts to benefit a particular species or area. Others are simply individuals who take it upon themselves to improve habitat where they live. No project is too small, but the public should be able to benefit from the endeavor, and there should be a clear tie to hunting and/or fishing.



Missouri Hunting Heritage Federation, a service-oriented, nonprofit federation of volunteer members and affiliates, conducts clinics designed to engage young people and their families in perpetuating our nation's hunting heritage. With a focus on continuing the use of hunting as an essential component of the North American Model for Wildlife Conservation, MHHF propagates safe hunting practices, the ethics of fair chase and a respect for and appreciation of wildlife. MHHF works with similar-minded entities to ensure continuation of the hunting tradition.

Lee has been a Hunter Education Instructor in our Kansas City Region since October 1993, helped conduct over 47 classes, and accumulated 843 instructor volunteer hours. Lee on his own, recently completed a video promo for the 2012 IHEA Annual Conference to be held in Kansas City and presented it to attendees from around the world at the 2011 Conference in Wrightsville Beach, NC.

"It's an honor to be recognized," says Vogel. "I don't see

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Coordinator's Corner

Hunter Education & Range Coordinator
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Well here it is - that start of another hunting season rush and the anticipation of getting to the woods and field to enjoy our passions and past times. I find myself longing for time away from the daily grind and the enjoyment of the wilds and socializing with friends and fellow hunters. My bow is tuned, my guns are sighted, and I hope my skills are up to the task.

On the Hunter Education front, I am looking forward to the report and recommendations from the Hunting Education and Range Program Committee and administration's review. I want to thank the Committee for their work and many of you instructors who have completed surveys and traveled for interviews. I am sure the efforts will pay big dividends as the program moves forward to the future.

Bowhunter education instructors also have something special to be on the look out for in the mail. We now have a special notebook binder for your bowhunter education class materials. This new binder is really sharp and will probably make the hunter education instructors a little envious. These are on order and should arrive in the next month and will be mailed out to all active BHE instructors.

There are additional items to report to everyone on the upcoming year, we were able to get approval in the budget to purchase 40 of the orange training aid gun sets from Mossberg (5 for each region). They are on order and Mossberg is just about ready to shut down their product lines to retool and start building them. We are really hoping to see them before the end of the year. Additionally, approved in the budget and already received were 10 additional all-in-one, wide-screen data projectors that allow you to play DVD's, run Power Point and slideshow presentations without a computer. They have built-in speakers and a microphone. Remember to get with your Regional OSS to schedule use of these items for your classes.

OSSs now have access to a catalog of all materials available at the Central Office for instructors to conduct classes, workshops, clinics, etc. If you are not sure of what is available, stop in sometime and spend a few minutes with your OSS and take a look. I'm sure they will enjoy the visit.

I wish everyone the best of luck in the upcoming class rush and on your ventures into the outdoors. Be safe and have fun.

Busch Range Volunteer and Youth Coach Receives National Award

*Support of son's shooting leads to history of
dedication to shooting sports for youth*



At the beginning of 2002, a new Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC) team was launched at the August A. Busch Shooting Range & Outdoor Education Center. One of the first 10 members was Dan Stokes son of John Stokes. Dan's interests quickly grew and so did that of his father John who joined the original coaches to help the team and became a Busch Range volunteer.

Quickly the team grew and YHEC shooting was not enough for the eager youth members and John stepped up to coach additional Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) teams calling themselves the Gateway Claybusters to compete in trap shooting. These teams not only competed in the state YHEC championships, but the MTA State High School Championships, and other trap shooting competitions.

These teams started winning numerous awards and continued to grow. With national recognition of the Lindenwood University shooting teams and the construction of the World Shooting Complex at Sparta, Illinois, the SCTP teams started traveling to Sparta and competing in the SCTP National American Trap Shooting Championships and to Colorado Springs, Colorado for the SCTP National Championships for International (Bunker) Trap Shooting.

John's young shooters were regularly winning national championships, awards, competing and making the Junior Olympic team, and earning scholarships for shooting. These teams and parent coaches led by John have become quite well known for their shooting prowess. For many years John's youth teams number between 50 to 60 shooters or more.

This year at the 2011 Amateur Trap Association's (ATA) Grand American Trap Shooting Opening Ceremonies, John



Stokes was presented the prestigious national award as the ATA's 2011 Shooting Coach of the Year. The recognition of John for his years of hard work in not only coaching and bringing youth to the shooting sports, but also his keen ability to excite parents of these shooters to play a very active and enthusiastic part in the team and coaching is well deserved.

Youth Shooters Helping Provide Relief

Jay Henges Youth Shooting Teams Shoot for relief to Joplin residents hit by devastating tornado



HIGH RIDGE Mo — The Missouri Department of Conservation's (MDC) Jay Henges Shooting Range recently took aim at Joplin tornado relief effort and ended up hitting a \$1,107 bulls eye in June.

Team Henges, the range-sponsored sport-clay shooting team, took up arms for the American Red Cross' Joplin relief efforts on Saturday, June 4, with a 50 cent-per-clay-bird fund raiser. The effort was initiated by Team Henges' Head Coach Jan Morris and led by Coach Pat McCart.

Team Henges consists of 22 young adults ages 11 to 18 who train together to shoot trap competitively. Starting out at 50 cents for each bird broken, donations climbed as high as \$1 per bird during the day-long fund raiser. Final donations totaled \$1,107.

Not knowing whether to expect a hundred dollars or a thousand, Morris indicated he was more than pleased with the results. "I was really impressed by how everybody came through," he said.

The group also canvassed for supplies to help in the relief activities. Seeking guidance from an emergency response professional, Team Henges rounded up a collection of practical tools to assist relief workers, such as flashlights, batteries, hammers, and chainsaw bar oil. The donated tools, along with the money raised, were sent to the American Red Cross to be put to immediate use in Joplin.

Team Henges has earned national honors in shooting competitions sponsored by the Scholastic Shooting Sports Foundation. The Jay Henges Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center is located off I-44 at 1100 Antire Road in High Ridge. It is owned and operated by the MDC.

774 Missouri Students Compete in State Trapshooting Championship

Samantha Foppe of High Ridge earns top honors, scoring 174 out of 175.



LINN CREEK, Mo. – A record number of 774 shooters from 59 schools competed in the annual Missouri State High School Trapshooting Championship on April 30, 2011, at the Missouri Trapshooters Association (MTA) Linn Creek Trapshooting Complex near the Lake of the Ozarks.

Seventh-grader Samantha Foppe of High Ridge took top honors with an overall score of 174 out of 175 after a shoot-off with seven other high-school shooters. Foppe is a member of the Missouri Department of Conservation's (MDC) Jay Henges Shooting Range trap team.

Competition categories included high school, high school

open (representing different schools), FFA, junior high, junior high open and ladies' divisions. Shooters fire 100 shots from 16 yards away, with five shooters per squad. All top scores are determined by a shoot-off process. Along with the highest overall individual shooter, awards are also given to the top five squads representing each division.



The Missouri State High School Trapshooting Championship is a joint effort hosted by the MTA and MDC. Thirteen MDC staff and 18 hunter education and range volunteers worked 20 trap fields throughout the competition.



For the first time, each high school represented by at least five shooters will receive a \$2,000 trust fund grant from the Missouri Youth Sport Shooting Alliance. In addition, the first-place school receives an additional \$5,000; the second-place school and extra \$3,500; and the third-, fourth-, and fifth-place schools \$2,500. These funds are deposited with the Scholastic Shooting Trust (SST) for use in school shooting program operations. More information on the SST can be found at www.scholasticshootingtrust.org.

For the full list of scores from the state shooting competition, visit the MTA website at www.motraps.com and select "2011 State Shoot Results."

Workshops Give Instructors and Hunters a Blast

A new season of Effective Wingshooting for the Hunter workshops gear up to help instructors and hunters alike.

Free workshops to help develop wingshooting skills start this month and continue through October 8. These are hands-on events, including range time with expert shooting coaches and ammunition provided.

Volunteer instructors attending receive credit hours towards their achievement awards through the "Green Sheet" program. With free ammunition and targets, and so much fun and camaraderie, it's a hard offer to pass up.



Topics include choke and load selection for nontoxic ammunition, shooting skills, range estimation, and shotgun patterning.



Events are scheduled for:
Sept. 10 at University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, 660-530-5500;

Sept. 16 through 18 at the Jay Henges Range, St. Louis, 636-938-9548;

Sept. 17 at the Charles W. Green Conservation Area (CA), Ashland, 573-882-8388, ext. 230;

Sept. 24 at MDC's Northwest Regional Office, St. Joseph, 816-271-3100;

Sept. 24 at MDC's Northeast Regional Office, Kirksville, 573-882-8388, ext. 230;

Sept. 30 through Oct. 2 at the Busch Range, St. Louis, 636-300-1953, ext.302;

Oct. 1 at the Dalton Range, Bois D'arc CA, 417-742-4361;

Oct. 8 at the Lake City Range, Kansas City, 816-249-3194;

Oct. 8 at the Ted Shanks CA, in the Hannibal area, 573-882-8388, ext. 230.

Hunter and Bowhunter Instructor teaching since 1994, has over 1,100 volunteer instructor hours, and was our 2009 Missouri Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor of the Year.

Remember to tell those students to look for that New Hunter Starter Packet in the mail and send that drawing card in. Instructors really do win from Missouri and this was not the first time it has happened.

2011 Missouri State Fair a Grand Success for Hunter Education

Though Mother Nature blew hard, instructors were met with record crowds and questions.

Instructors were greeted to some wonderful temperatures and record breaking crowds at this year's fair. Coordinators Stan O'Daniel (Southwest Region) and Ken Claspille (Central Region) decided on Treestand Safety as the theme of this year's focus and the crowd questions were many and the display well received. Saturday, August 13 was the busiest day seen in years and the instructors were not only going at a hectic pace answering question, providing materials, and handouts, but literally working up a sweat.

A special thanks to those instructors that stepped up most working multiple days and shifts to meet the public crowds and promote safety:

Laura Pumill	Ken Maxwell	Jim McBride
Roger See	John Locker	Stan Moore
Steve Baur	Delmer Croka	Sandy Hedges
Joe Grooms	Steve Claspille	Earl Cadel
Marilyn Overkamp	Richard Aholt	Brenda Schultz
Joe Grooms	Ken Swails	Jerry Bryant
Paula Brashers	Andy Sanchez	Dennis Desmond
Ryan Steffens	Skip Doucette	Jim & Linda Rhea
Dewayne Holtzclaw	Jim Osborn	Mike & Jan Moran
Mike & Karen Mansell	Tim & Priscilla Moore	

A great job by Stan and Ken to get everything organized and off without a hitch. A special thanks Ken and his wife for riding out the storms in their camper and surviving the ordeal.

Next year is the 40th anniversary of MDC's Statewide Range Program to provide hunters with a place to safely sight in their firearms and become proficient. So, next year's theme will be range safety and etiquette.



Missouri Graduate and Chief Instructor Win at 2011 IHEA Annual Conference

Congratulations to hunter education graduate Dalton Brissette of Lonedell and Chief Instructor Mark Burns of Union.

Dalton sent in his entry form for the "IHEA Heritage Hunt Drawing" from The Hunter's Handbook magazine we mail to all Hunter and Bowhunter Education graduates in their Hunter Starter Kit. The magazine is provided free of charge to all graduates by the IHEA.

The drawing is sponsored by the IHEA and Focus Group, Inc. publishers of the magazine. While Dalton did not win the grand prize hunt, he and his Chief Instructor Mark Burns each won one of the many consolation prizes.

Dalton and Mark's names were both announced at the 2011 IHEA Annual Conference Banquet in front of a great crowd of instructors, administrators, and industry leaders from around the world. Both received a gift certificate for a pair of Rocky boots of their choice, a value up to \$300 each.

Mark is an instructor in the St. Louis Region and lives in Union, MO in Franklin County. Mark is both a Volunteer





Southwest Region

Outdoor Skills Specialists

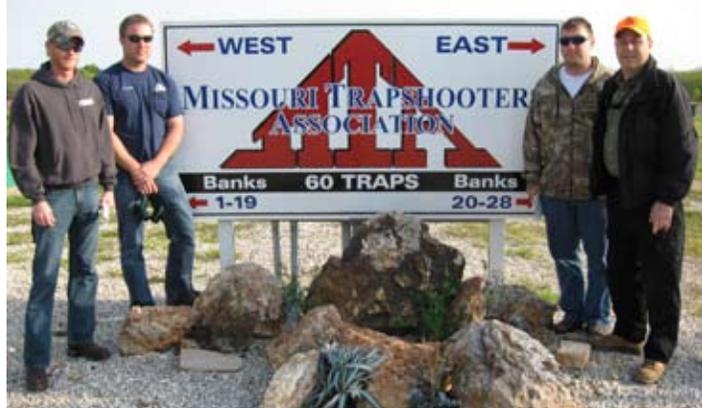
Jean Mayer - Cedar, Barton, Dade, Jasper, Lawrence, Newton, Barry and McDonald Counties
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Greg Collier - Hickory, Polk, Dallas, Laclede, Greene, Webster, Christian, Stone and Taney Counties
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Southwest Instructors Assist with State High School Trapshoot

Volunteer Hunter Education Instructors Gordon Maracle, James Lea, Lance Martin and Ray Wood accompanied OSS Greg Collier to the 2011 State High School Trap Shoot April 30. The event was held at the Missouri Trap Shooters Association's complex located near Linn Creek, Missouri.



SW Volunteer Instructors James Lea, Lance Martin, Ray Wood, and Gordon Maracle

After a 6:00 a.m. departure from the Southwest Regional Office in Springfield and a quick stop for breakfast, the group attended the briefing presented by staff from the Missouri Trap Shooters Association. With their field assignments in hand the volunteers set off to greet the teams. In addition to scorekeeping, responsibilities for judges included calling missed targets, making sure all safety rules were followed as well as answering any questions that arose. This is an annual event; if you would like to help next year, please contact Jean Mayer.

Once the competition began, the day progressed quickly. By 3:00 p.m. the majority of the 160 plus teams had completed their rounds. The participants shot four rounds of 25 each, for a total of 100 possible. Individual scores in the 90s and team scores over 460 are not uncommon. The top honor this year went to the "Southwest Red" team with a team score of 480!



MDC Regional Supervisor, Jeff Cockerham and Missouri Hunter Education Volunteer Instructor, Gordon Maracle, assist a youth participant



The 60 field Missouri Trap Shooters complex near Linn Creek, Missouri

Each year the event hosts nearly 800 shooters from across Missouri. Schools sending teams from the Southwest corner of the state this year included: Ash Grove, Branson, Crane, Greenfield, Southwest R-V, Sparta, and Willard.

Training for New Online System

As of July 1, 2011, all HE, BHE, and Online Field Days conducted in the Southwest Region are to be listed, managed, and reported by instructors using the new online system. Several instructors attended the initial trainings in the spring. For those who were unable to attend the initial trainings, another one has been scheduled for September 20th. Outdoor Skills Specialists Jean Mayer and Greg Collier plan to conduct the training at the Southwest Regional Office (2630 N. Mayfair, Springfield) from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you plan to attend, please register by contacting Greg or Jean at (417) 895-6880. Thanks!



Kansas City Region, KC Metro District

Outdoor Skills Specialist
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I am looking forward with great anticipation to the fall of 2011. Not because of the rush of hunter education, but the end of 100 plus degree days. I hope everyone enjoyed the summer and family vacation time and a break from the pressures spring and fall bring.

The annual Instructor Fun-shoot and Picnic was well attended. I enjoyed meeting some new faces and had a great time visiting with you and your families. I hope everyone had a good time, these events are a great time to catch up with old friends and meet new folks in the ranks.

This fall I am going to try something new! I feel like we need another gathering besides the awards banquet in January and the fun-shoot/picnic in June, so I am putting together an activity (probably in October) similar to a 'Top Shot' competition for you instructors to foster a little competition and teamwork among the ranks. More details will be forthcoming!

We have a full calendar of classes and I hope to add a few more to fill any gaps we might have. Thank you for your willingness to 'get the job done.' I can always count on you.

Nathan Woodland and I held an instructor course for bowhunter instructors in July and had 23 prospective instructors show up and complete the first round of training. We hope to have them certified as bona fide instructors by October.

Do not forget to take time for your families, yourselves and of course, for the sport we love. Get out, enjoy time in the woods, and make some new memories.

Have a safe and happy hunting season!



Kansas City Region Sedalia/Clinton District

Outdoor Skills Specialist
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It is 100 degrees again today. It is been hard to catch a fish for a while, and if I stay out on the boat too long the aluminum deck melts my flip-flops. I have decided I'm not going to complain though. I can remember back in the winter cussing at the cold and wishing for warmer weather,

seems like it would just be whining to complain at both ends of the thermometer. I've decided to pick a temperature to hate and stick with it. I pick cold!

We have had a bit of a lull in the Hunter Ed program lately. There were a few classes during summer school, and the Sedalia On-line Field Day was full, but other than that it's been relatively quiet. Things are about to bust loose though. I am cautiously optimistic about going into the fall with regards to the online registration system. If you are not comfortable with the process, get in touch with me and review what we need to do.

We will be having several clinics and hunts this fall. If you would like to participate let me know. Also I would recommend attending one of the Effective Wing Shooting courses offered this fall. The one for the Sedalia /Clinton district is September 10, at the UCM Range. Thanks for all you do, and as always

Hunt Safe!



Northeast Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist
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Summers here and it's a hot one, but fall and the hunter education season will be here before we know it. You have all done a great job adapting to the online hunter education system and I commend you for that. For those you that are having problems or have not had a chance to figure it all out give me a call when you're in front of your computer and I'll walk you through it. This system has been a great help so far and eventually we hope for it to get better.

As most of you know I try to organize many youth and adult programs, clinics and hunts each year. If any of you, that don't already help, would like to be a part of some of these events give me a heads up and I'll be sure to include you.

If you have not sat down with the other instructors you teach with to set dates for classes this fall, you might want to start thinking about it. I have found that if you can meet as a group and enter your class on the web together, everything is smoother and comes together easier.

I regret to inform you that one of our team has passed on. James Hirsch of Palmyra passed away Saturday July 23, 2011. Jim was an instructor both in Missouri and Illinois for many years. He was a longtime asset to our team and will be missed by all.

I hope you all had a good summer and are ready for a busy fall, full of hunting and teaching people to safely hunt. I plan to set the banquets in January or February so be looking for information in the mail, and I hope to see more of you there this go round.

Be Safe!



St. Louis Region

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

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*Dennis Cooke - St. Louis City & St. Louis County
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*Conrad Mallady - Crawford, Franklin, Jefferson, & Washington Counties
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June 11, 2011 a new volunteer Hunter Education Instructors course was administered at Forest Park Visitor Center in St. Louis. Please welcome our five new volunteers into the St. Louis Region's group of dedicated instructors.



Pictured left to right, Darrel Ditto (St. Louis); Scott Clynes (St. Charles); Monica Coffey (St. Louis); Jack Russell (St. Louis); Karl Arrington (Wentzville).

May 21, 2011 the St. Louis Region held its annual Regional Volunteer Appreciation Day gathering at Quail Ridge Park in St. Charles County. We had a great attendance and were glad to enjoy the day with volunteers and their families. The department and staff have a great appreciation for all the volunteers that support the department's efforts in the St. Louis Region.



September 3, 2011 the St. Louis Region will be holding two Youth Dove Hunts and Clinics. Columbia Bottoms CA in St. Louis County and Logan Conservation Area in Lincoln County will be the site locations. A managed Youth Deer Hunt will also be hosted at Columbia Bottom CA October 22 & 23, 2011. Any instructors interested in helping with any of the listed events please contact Dennis Cooke at 314-877-1309 or via email at Dennis.Cooke@mdc.mo.gov.

SAVE THE DATE!!!! The 2012 HED Awards banquet will be January 13, 2012. Location and details have not yet been finalized, but information will be sent to each instructor this fall.



Southeast Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist
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When you read this column, summer will be past and hunting season in full swing. Much time has been spent distributing Hunter Education materials throughout the region to the conservation agents. You should notice this year, there is no shortage of manuals. Thanks to all of the conservation agents, instructors and office staff for making the materials distribution a smooth process. There were two instructor trainings this summer. Welcome to Bowhunter Education, Mike Calahan, Ed Vanguilder, Daniel Cook, Leland Elfrink, and Justin Glastetter!

Upcoming Events you may want to participate in:

Sept 10 - Bowhunting Basics, Maintz Archery Range

Oct 1 - Discover Hunting, Youth Waterfowl Clinic, Duck Creek Conservation Area

Oct 2 - Discover Women, Women's Waterfowl Clinic, Duck Creek Conservation Area

Nov 5 - Hunter Education Field Day, Cape Girardeau Nature Center

Also, please set aside January 14, 2012 for our Hunter Education Instructor Banquet. Location will be announced at a later date.

and/ or their local schools and otherwise give this program a boost. This can be done by either undergoing a BAI training session and directly helping out a school or by going behind the scenes and visiting with teachers, school board members and school administrators to steer them to the possibility of signing on. It only is available for grades 4-12. MDC and the CFM pairs up to offer a \$500 grant to each participating school to help cover the costs, and there are so many other avenues from where participating schools might be able to secure funding.

Besides just being a program that introduces archery to the kids in grades 4-12, there is also a MoNASP State Tournament for participating schools as well as regional and local tournaments throughout the state. The last State Tournament had over 1,000 participants register to shoot, but inclement weather did cause a slight reduction.

I feel that this is an outstanding way to get kids started with shooting sports and your support would be greatly appreciated, and you too will be greatly rewarded when you see the excitement of a kid's first bulls eye, and just like a firearm and kids in general we can "keep 'em pointed in a safe direction"



Ozark Region

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The photo above is of one of my latest group of BAI (Basic Archery Instructors) graduates of the MoNASP (Missouri National Archery in the Schools Program) from Alton, Missouri. I urge our volunteer corps, especially our bow-ed instructors to consider becoming a part of this program even though it is specifically designed to be target shooting only. Obviously the skills one would obtain by becoming a shooter in the program would be very easy to apply those learned skills applicable to bow hunting, hence the volunteer instructor connection.

MONASP is one of the fastest growing programs that MDC offers to schools both public and private, and I strongly suggest that any of our HED and especially Bow-Ed volunteers contact their OSS (Outdoor Skills specialist)



Northwest Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist
 Tim Miller
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Now that the close of summer is drawing near, we are preparing for a busy fall here in the Northwest. A lot of time has been spent getting the new Hunter Education manuals, new tests and other associated items distributed around the region. Thanks again to all the Hunter Education instructors, Conservation agents, and office staff from the Northwest regional office and the Chillicothe office for all the things you do. Please remember the next time you are at the Northwest regional office or the Chillicothe office, to pick up your new copies of test A and B. You can reach me at 816-271-3100 to make arrangements.

Also we are now exclusively using the online registration system. Most of you have been trained on how set your classes up, monitor registration, and submit your completed results using the online system, however I still need to get a few of you trained prior to setting up your fall classes. Again, I can be reached at the above number for a training session.

This summer I have conducted a few instructor trainings for teachers at area schools. I would like to welcome Tyler Owen as a new Hunter Education instructor. Tyler will

be teaching Hunter Education at his school in Lawson. Also, I would like to welcome Joni Fields from Fairfax R-3, Blaine Martin from Union Star and Stuart Shifflett from King City who replaces his dad and fellow Hunter Education instructor Steve Shifflett who recently retired from teaching. Having teachers that incorporate Hunter Education in their school classes is a tremendous help and we thank you.

Upcoming Events you may want to participate in:

Youth Dove Hunt Sept 3 at Poosey CA-Contact Jake Strozewski 660-973-3813 or Tim Miller 816-271-3100

Hunter Education Booth staffing needed at Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge Oct 15th-Contact Tim Miller at 816-271-3100



University of Missouri Bradford Research & Extension Center, located at 4968 Rangeline Rd in Columbia. This event gives us a chance to recognize the service and hard work of volunteer and staff instructors. Please plan to bring the whole family and join us for an exciting evening of food and fellowship. Look for invitations in your mailbox during the month of December.

Long time Conservation Agents retire from Central Region

Thomas Davidson, Saline County
- After more than 30 years of service to the Department, Saline County Conservation Agent Thom Davidson has decided to retire.



Tom began his career with the Department of Conservation on August 1, 1980 as a conservation agent trainee. After graduation from the training class, Tom was assigned to Mercer County, with headquarters in Princeton. After three years of work in Mercer County, Tom received a transfer to Saline County, with headquarters in Marshall, where he continues to serve today.



Tom has had a distinguished career serving the people of Saline County. As a result of his hard work and dedication he was recognized as the North Central Region Outstanding Conservation Agent in 1985, Central Region Outstanding Conservation Agent in 2000, received a Meritorious Service award in 1995, and was honored as the Missouri Outstanding Conservation Agent in 1990. Tom was also the first Conservation Agent to serve on the Missouri Rural Crimes Major Case Squad in 1986. Tom served as an investigator following the quadruple homicide at Marshall Junction Conservation Area, where then Safety Coordinator Jim Watson was killed while inspecting the shooting range.

Tom has always placed great importance in complete customer service. He has worked hard to develop a positive reputation for himself and the Department within his community. He is an excellent investigator and thorough interrogator. When asked questions Tom's explanations are extremely thorough. As an example, if you ask Tom what time it is, he will explain to you how to build a watch, and explain how time works. His tenacious work ethic is



Central Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist
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Shooting Range Improvements



Recent improvements were made to the Rocky Fork shooting range near Columbia. Staff improved drainage on the shotgun and rifle range, as well as refaced catch berms. The range work was completed in preparation of the fall hunting season. MDC provides public shooting ranges for safe and responsible use by hunters and recreational shooters.



Hunter Education Instructors Appreciation & Awards Banquet

On Tuesday February 21, 2012 6pm to 9pm, we will once again meet for our annual Instructor Appreciation and Awards Banquet. We are switching locations to better accommodate our large group. We will meet at the

a hallmark of his career. Tom looks forward to mentoring his replacement in Saline County following his planned retirement in late summer of 2011.

Robyn Raisch, Boone County - Conservation Agent Robyn Raisch grew up in Jefferson County where he began his participation in the outdoor activities of hunting and fishing. His passion is hunting waterfowl, and he visits many of the Department's waterfowl areas around the state pursuing the sport. After graduation from Southwest Missouri State University, Robyn began his Department career in 1979 as a temporary employee working for Wildlife Division. He worked on a project at Shell Osage CA studying the effects and effectiveness of the use of steel shot in waterfowl hunting. What a way to combine what he loves to do while earning an income.



In 1980 Robyn changed gears a little and began working as a temporary employee for Fisheries Division at the James A. Reed Memorial CA. Robyn worked doing area maintenance and other duties as a temporary employee. In June 1981 Robyn became a full-time employee as an Area Aid working at the Reed Area. Wanting to follow a career in wildlife law enforcement, Robyn was selected to be a member of the Conservation Agent Training Academy on January 1, 1983. Following graduation from the training academy Robyn was assigned to Scotland County, with headquarters in Memphis. In February 1994 Robyn was transferred to Boone County, stationed in Columbia, his current assignment. Robyn has had a very rewarding and productive career with the Department. He was honored in 1986 as being the Outstanding Agent for Northeast Region. In 2001 he was again bestowed this same honor for Central Region. As many dead ducks will attest, Robyn is an outstanding shooter. In 1995 the Northeast Missouri Peace Officers Association held a shooting competition, of which Robyn earned the title of Top Shooter in the Practical Event.

Robyn has been involved in many rewarding arrests; probably the most memorable was a joint investigation with the state of Iowa. In December 1991 Robyn teamed up with the Iowa officers to break up a poaching ring that involved the commercial sale of large deer antlers.

Please congratulate these fine Agents next time you see them.

New Conservation Agents join Central Region

The Conservation Agent plays a vital role in the administration of Missouri's Hunter Education program. The Agent serves as the designated point of contact for all conservation related programs within their assigned county. In Central Region Conservation Agents are responsible

for distribution of materials within their counties and coordination of courses.

Two new Conservation Agents have recently joined our team. Please welcome Andrew Mothershead and Tyler Brown graduated



Andrew Mothershead
Saline County

in August from the Conservation Agents Academy. Andrew will be assigned to Saline County and Tyler to Camden County. Please introduce yourselves



Tyler Brown
Camden County

to these new Agents and welcome them to our conservation family.

New Central Region Community Conservation Center

Through a unique partnership with the City of Columbia, the Missouri Department of Conservation is building a new Community Conservation Center off US Highway 63 just west of the Discovery Parkway exit. The new Center will provide an improved public contact office for the Central Region and an exciting new focal point for community conservation in the region. The new Center will house staff from the existing Central Regional Office and many staff from the existing Resource Science Center in Columbia. It is scheduled to open in Spring 2012.

The Central regional office serves as a hub of conservation activities for the public and for regional staff. The Community Conservation Center will provide a new opportunity in the Central Region for people to discover nature and learn how they can take an active role in conservation. It will also provide a much-needed and more efficient new facility for staff. The new Community Conservation Center has been in the planning stage for some time and is one of the final facilities in the MDC long-term Regional Service Center plan for better serving Missourians. It will house staff from the existing Central Regional Office and many staff from the existing Resource Science Center in Columbia. The current regional office will remain open for the public while the new facility is under construction. While it will provide a public contact point for Department services and community education programs, the new Conservation Center will not be a nature center.

By being located just off US Highway 63, the new Center will be more convenient for people from throughout the region. As part of the new Discovery Parkway development, the new Center will draw people to this growing area and be convenient for people using the proposed Gans Creek Recreation Area, Rock Bridge State Park, local schools and nearby University of Missouri facilities.

The new Center will have a “prairie-style” design that will complement and coexist with the surrounding natural environment. Included in the building’s design will be a 100 seat classroom for teaching hunter education and conservation related public programs.



Front (north) view of new MDC Community Conservation Center in Columbia



Rear (south) view of new MDC Community Conservation Center in Columbia



Construction is progressing on the facility July 2011



Andy Dalton Range & Outdoor Education Center

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor
Mike Brooks
mike.brooks@mdc.mo.gov



We are fast approaching the busy season at the ranges and will need your support in Hunter Education classes, Bowhunter Education classes, and shooting and hunting programs and hunt events. We are again holding a Discover Hunting Families and Women’s Dove Clinic and Hunt. The clinic date is August 27, 2011 from 8:30AM until 4:30PM. The participants will be invited to return on September 1, 2011 and participate in the actual hunt.

We will again be working with the Wonders of Ozarks Learning Facility (WOLF) School and we will be holding a series of shooting programs and events throughout the school year. The Springfield Public School program targets 5th grade students from across the district and they allow 46 children to participate. They learn archery, fundamentals of shooting, rifles, shotguns, and muzzleloading rifles, and

participate in a deer hunting clinic and a turkey hunting clinic as well. It takes a lot of eyes to keep things safe while working these programs and we can use your talents.

On September 24 we will once again be hosting Great Outdoors Day; a celebration of National Hunting and Fishing Day where we typically have between 1,500 and 2,500 participants in attendance. Again, we can use your assistance with staffing a rifle booth or shotgun field or perhaps work you into helping with the most popular archery program.

October 1 we will be conducting an Effective Wingshooting for the Hunter program and we still have plenty of space in it. You can benefit from this training even if you are not a bird hunter by attending the classroom portion of the program since we now teach these principles in the Hunter Education program. October 8 and 9 we will be hosting another managed deer hunt on the Bois D’ Arc Conservation Area for hunters with disabilities. The deer hunt in the past has been very popular and we have seen a good harvest rate on this hunt. I invite you to assist with one of these events and promise you will absolutely love it!

On October 29, 2011 I plan to hold and teach a Discover Nature Women’s Shooting Sports Sampler that is for women age 14 through adult. This will be a beginner’s course and I plan to teach the participants shotgun and rifle shooting fundamentals along with archery. Any time during the last 2 weeks of October and the first 2 weeks of November we can use your assistance with maintaining line safety during deer rifle sight-in. If possible I would like to have some of you on hand to assist people with scope mounting and sighting in their rifles.

The first 2 Saturdays in December we will again be hosting a Discover Hunting pheasant hunt. This is for first time hunters and limited to only those who attend the pre-hunt clinic. I can use some of you to help maintain safety throughout this process and especially during the actual bird hunt to be held at Bois D’ Arc CA on December 10, 2011. If you have dogs or would like to guide please contact me so I can get you worked into the hunt plan.

If you are interested in helping out with any of these programs either give me a call at 417-742-4361 or drop me an email at michael.brooks@mdc.mo.gov but most of all I hope you have a great Hunter Education season and many safe days afield.

News from the NSSF/// 13-YEAR-OLD WINS GRAND CHALLENGE . . .

Logan Taylor, a 13-year-old from Russellville, Ala., topped some of the best trap shooters in the world to claim the \$100,000 Grand American Challenge at the World Shooting and Recreational Complex in Sparta, Ill.





Henges Range & Outdoor Ed Center

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor
Jake Hindman
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As I write this submission for the newsletter the thermometer shows 93 degrees, the cicadas are calling and we are in desperate need of rain. Summer has set in. However it is likely that when you receive this newsletter, our outside world will be completely different with leaves changing colors and the fall hunting seasons well under way. Fall is always such a welcomed season after a hot summer. Autumn is also one of the times that volunteers such as yourself can certainly pat themselves on the back for another season of trained hunters hitting the Missouri outdoors and returning home safely due to training they may have received through hunter education or visiting one of the staffed ranges around the state.

I promised in the last newsletter that I would include a photo of the newest addition to the Hindman family. Lacey Grace Hindman was born on May 8, 2011 (Mother's Day) and has been a terrific baby. I joked with my wife that some years our oldest daughter Hailey's birthday will fall on opening day of spring turkey season, while in other years, Lacey's birthday will fall on the last day of spring turkey season. I am confident that a higher power was trying to tell me that I needed to be home more during turkey season! Regardless, both of our daughters are doing well and it won't long before I will be taking them on their first hunting or fishing trip.



Speaking of firsts in the outdoors, fall provides a great opportunity to introduce a first timer, not only are hunting opportunities great, but the outdoors can be a pleasant place to spend an afternoon and foster an appreciation for the things that may be second nature to you or I.

For a list of programs for upcoming months please visit our website at www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/henges.

Thanks for all that you do.

GRANT FUNDS STILL AVAILABLE TO BOY SCOUT COUNCILS . . . NSSF recently announced its new \$100,000 challenge grant to encourage shooting sports programs at local Boy Scouts of America Councils. There are still funds available to qualifying BSA Councils that plan to strengthen and increase their activities in the shooting sports. Such programs teach Scouts marksmanship skills, firearm and range safety, teamwork and fundraising.



Busch Range & Outdoor Ed Center

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor
Eric Edwards
eric.edwards@mdc.mo.gov



As you read this we will be into the busiest time of year for the Hunter Education Instructors as well as the ranges. I know that everyone's time is limited these days however I will list a few classes that we are holding in the coming months. If you would like to attend one as either an instructor or as a student please let me know. As a reminder all active Hunter Education Instructors get to shoot at our staffed shooting ranges for free, so if you still need to sight in your deer gun, or if you find a new one under the Christmas tree, stop by and make sure that it's hitting where it's aimed. I hope everyone has a safe and memorable fall hunting season, and I'll talk to you in 2012!

September

- 1 - Discover Hunting; Deer Calling
- 8 - Discover Hunting; Bowhunting 101
- 30, Oct 1 and 2 - Discover Hunting; Effective Wingshooting for the Hunter

October

- 4 - 6 Hunter Education Class
- 8 - Youth Deer Clinic (HELP NEEDED!)
- 26 - Discover Hunting; Goose Hunting Clinic

November

- 9 - Discover Hunting; Firearm Selection
- 10 - Surviving the Night

December

- 14 - Discover Hunting; Burger & Sausage Making
- 15 - Discover Hunting; Venison Cooking
- 28 - Discover Nature; Families; Basic air-gun and .22 rifle class 9:00 am (HELP NEEDED)



Lake City Range & Outdoor Education Center

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor
Steven Elliott
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On July 23, Lake City Range hosted a Dutch oven class given by OSS Chris Capps of the Kansas City Region. All of the participants got to try their hand at preparing dishes such as chuckwagon stew, lasagna with black beans, and Dutch oven brownies. They not only got to see how the dishes were prepared, but got involved in the preparation and setup of the ovens for cooking. After the food was cooked all the students sit down and sample what they had prepared, along with being able to ask questions about

other dishes that could be cooked in a Dutch oven. Lake City Range looks forward to hosting more Dutch oven classes in the future. To check when the Dutch Oven class as well as many other outdoor classes are held please visit mdc.mo.gov/node/282. We look forward to seeing you at our next Dutch Oven class.



- Sep 4/ 9 - 11:30 AM - Introduction to Skeet Shooting
- Sep 11/ 9 - 11:30 AM - Basic Shotgun
- Sep 13-14/ 6 - 9 PM - Decoy Carving
- Sep 17/ 8 - 11:30 AM - Women's Firearm Safety- Ph. 2
- Oct 8/ 9 AM - 5 PM - Effective Wing Shooting for the Hunter
- Oct 21 / 6 - 9:30 PM - Cable Restraint Certification
- Nov 20/ 9 - 11:30 AM - Introduction to Skeet Shooting
- Dec 13/ 9 - 12:00 PM - Para Cord Weaving
- Dec 4 / 9 - 11:00 AM - Basic Shotgun
- Dec 10 / 9 - 11:00 AM - Beginning Archery

yours. Oh well, enough senseless rambling, we have got a full line up for you this fall. As always if you need more info, or want to sign up, just give us a call at (816)891-9941.

September

- 1 Shotgun Patterning
- 6-8 Hunter Education Class
- 9-10 Hunter Education Class
- 15 After the Shot: Game Recovery
- 18 Basic Archery
- 22 Discover Nature Women-Fall Turkey Hunting
- 23 Discover Nature Families-Squirrel Hunting Clinic
- 24 National Hunting and Fishing Day
- 28-29 Intro To Firearms
- 30 Hunter Education Class

October

- 1 Hunter Education Class
- 2 Trapping Education Class
- 4-6 Hunter Education Class
- 12 Deer Hunting 101
- 13 Intro to Food Preservation and Canning
- 14-15 NRA Basic Muzzleloading Rifle Course
- 19 Predator Hunting Seminar
- 29 Cable Restraint Trapping Certification Class

November

- 1-3 Hunter Education Class
- 4-5 Hunter Education Class
- 11 Holiday-Range Closed
- 19 Deer Processing
- 24 Holiday-Range Closed
- 30 Venison Cooking



Parma Woods Range & Outdoor Ed Center

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor
Nathan Woodland
nathan.woodland@mdc.mo.gov

Busy and Hot are just two words for my summer. Hope yours has been a blast. I know I'm really looking forward to a break in the heat and some cooler weather. Fall will be here before you know it, and there is so much yet to do to prepare for the upcoming seasons. Shoot, shoot, shoot, that's the name of the game. Dove season's not going to catch me off guard again this year. Plan to do some more handgun hunting this fall too. I think I'm hooked on that now too. That is something else to spend my money on. Better shoot a lot. On another note, since we last spoke, my wife and I welcomed our second baby boy to the world. Jackson Cole Woodland was born on May 5, so you see that is where the busy part comes in I mentioned earlier. All in all it's been good for us, and I hope the same for you and

10 Ways to Protect America's Hunting Heritage

Surveys show that three of every four Americans approve of legal hunting, and support is trending upwards. As long as the majority of citizens continue to see this sporting tradition as fair, safe and meaningful, hunting will remain a privilege of citizenship--as well as a boon to conservation.

For hunters headed afield this fall, the Boone and Crockett Club offers 10 ways to help keep the public on our side.

"Modern society has high expectations of hunters," said Ben Wallace, president of the Club. "In a changing culture with ever more scrutiny of all things related to the environment, our behavior toward animals, the land, firearms and even each other is more important today than anytime in our history."

Here's how to do your part:

- Hunting is allowed today because the vast majority of hunters through the ages have respectfully followed laws, regulations, safety rules and high ethical standards known as fair chase--the sporting pursuit and taking of native free-ranging game species in a manner that does not give the hunter improper advantage. Continue the tradition.
- Remember: Any animal taken in fair chase is a trophy.
- America's system of conservation and wildlife management is the most successful ever developed. It works only because of

- funding from hunters. Spread the word.
- Respect the customs of the local area where you're hunting, including the beliefs and values of those who do not hunt.
- This season, make every attempt to take a youngster hunting. If you already hunt with your son or daughter, invite one of their friends to come along.
- Technology is a wonderful thing until it replaces the skills necessary to be a complete hunter. If it seems gratuitous, leave it at home.
- Always ask permission before hunting private land. Respect landowners.
- Tread lightly, especially on public land. ATVs have their place--on roads and trails. If you pack it in, pack it out.

- Sportsmen have always been instrumental in managing big game herds. If antlerless harvest is encouraged in your area and you have the opportunity, take a doe or cow.
- Remember: The reason for a hunt is intrinsically about the experience. A kill is a justifiable outcome but not the only definition of a successful hunt.

Theodore Roosevelt founded the Boone and Crockett Club in 1887 to help uphold sporting values and promote science-based conservation and wildlife management.

Surveys by research firm Responsive Management showed that 73 percent of Americans approved of hunting in 1995. Support had grown to 75 percent by 2003, and to 78 percent by 2006.

Our New Instructors for Hunter Education and Bowhunter Education Courses.

Welcome New Instructors!

(Apr 2011 - Jul 2011)

These new instructors have completed their training, "First Course" mentorship teaching certification, background checks, 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

Audrain County

David Ray - HE

Montgomery County

Jaron Freie - HE

Kansas City Region

Bates County

Ray Sellars - HE

Benton County

James Dent - HE

Richard Roe - HE

Clay County

Sarah Hackett - HE

Samuel Owen - HE

Corwin Yoder - HE

Jackson County

Jason Ball - HE

Johnson County

Darrin Wood - HE

Pettis County

Craig Silvey - HE

Platte County

Karla Ledom - HE

Paul Lowry - HE

St. Clair County

David Hoagland - HE

Vernon County

Adam Barrett - HE

Sean Buehler - HE

Chris Daniel - HE

Stanley Ford - HE

Joseph Skillman - HE

Northeast Region

Adair County

Ashley Harker - HE

Clark County

Ryan Binsbacher - HE

Knox County

Mike Poor - HE

Macon County

Tyler Mason - HE

Larry Shoemaker - HE

Marion County

Adam Smith - HE

Jason Standbridge - HE

John True - HE

Monroe County

James Ebbesmeyer - HE

Pike County

Brock Bailey - HE

Jason Davis - HE

Chris Grote - HE

Shelby County

Heather Christine - HE

Northwest Region

Andrew County

Stuart Shifflett - HE

Buchanan County

Anna Slawson - HE

Daviess County

Blaine Martin - HE

Ray County

Jeffery Jones - HE

Ozark Region

Oregon County

Kearby Bridges - HE

Southeast Region

Cape Girardeau County

Mark Gihring - BHE

Southwest Region

Barry County

Scott Redshaw - HE & BHE

Barton County

Vance Griffen - HE

Christian County

Shawn Kellis - HE

Cara McCoy - HE

Jeremy Sides - HE

Jeremy Sisco - HE

Dallas County

Ryne Emerick - HE

Greene County

Anna Brashers - HE & BHE

Andrew Debey - BHE

Steven Govero - BHE

Richard Livingston - HE

Ali Underwood - BHE

Cary Wells - HE & BHE

Laclede County

Matthew Lyon - BHE

Polk County

Gregory Whaley - HE

Rebecca Wicklund - HE

Webster County

Emily Yates - HE

St. Louis Region

Crawford County

Stephen Scharfberg - HE

St. Charles County

David Cantoni - BHE

Jeffrey Johnson - BHE

David Miller - HE

Jennifer Muschany - HE

St. Louis County

Floyd Bohler - BHE

Susan Haskins - HE

Bryant Hertel - BHE

Guy Vogt - HE

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