



2010 Outdoor Education Academy—Lake Tahoe 4-H Camp

I guess it was inevitable. For as long as I've been attending academies we have been blessed with good, if not, great weather. Sure there was the occasional cloudburst here, windy day there, but when the forecast called for snow, wind and freezing cold we knew this year would be different.



Despite being the weekend before Memorial Day, snow and cold weather descended on the 4-H camp at South Lake Tahoe.

We could have blamed it on El Nino or simply the odds catching up with us and packed it in and waited for sunnier days, but Nevada instructors are a tough bunch and the show went on as planned. As usual instructors, families and guests arrived over the course of Friday afternoon and settled in before dinner. After a hearty dinner of meaty favorites (no cheese bread here Martin!) from our friends at Mull's Road Kill Grill, everyone was welcomed to the academy by Chief Rob Bounamici, Nevada's top wildlife cop before the opening night agenda finished up with a choice of fly-tying

and gunsmithing workshops. There was also rumor of a late night snowball fight, but no one's talking!

Saturday offered instructors a number of different topics and speakers to choose from. From National FlyFishing in Schools to Laser Shot/HE Tools to Medical First Responder training there was something

offered for everyone. Saturday wrapped up with a rod building workshop by Bill Davidor, Western Region Angler Education instructor. The idea for the workshop, preparation and instruction was all Bill's, including the suggestion to raffle off both of the custom built rods.



NDOW Conservation Education Chief Kelly Clark welcomed everyone on Friday along with Tonopah instructors Cindy and Don Kaminski.

During breakfast on Sunday morning we wrapped up with a few closing comments, cleaned camp in record time and got off the lake for warmer parts of the state. *~ continued on page 2*



Inside this issue:

Outdoor Education Academy—Lake Tahoe	1
Stuff You Should Know	3
Get to Know Your IHEA Representative	4
Sighting In—A Forum for Hunter Ed Instructors	4
The Eddy Line	5
Free Fishing Day—Always the Main Event	6
Meeting the Needs of the Disabled Student	7
Meet the Newest Member of the Hunter Ed Team	8

Special points of interest:

- *Muzzleloader Basics*
- *Free Fishing Day Events*
- *IHEA Spring 2010 Journal*
- *NDOW Staff Contact Info*

2010 Outdoor Education Academy - continued

The 2011 academy is scheduled for southern Nevada, and as usual we're always searching for a suitable venue and suggestions are welcome. The frontrunner at this point is the Education Center at the Clark County Shooting Park. A multi-state instructor rendezvous is another possibility. The exact dates have not been set either, but with the warmer climates of southern Nevada we'll probably hold it a little earlier than the traditional late May/early June timeframe. As always, we'll pass on more info as soon as we have it. Wherever we end up I hope to see you all next year!

I'd like offer my sincere appreciation to the following staff, presenters and others who helped make the 2010 Outdoor Education Academy a success.:

- NDOW Conservation Education Staff
- Chief Rob Bounamici – NDOW Law Enforcement Division Chief
- Bud Johnson – WR AE Instructor
- Sean Fish – SR HE Instructor
- Bryan Tamietti – Oquirrh Productions; HE Tools
- Al Frandsen, Bryan Hooper, Mike Katz – WR HE Instructors
- Katie Cole – National FlyFishing in Schools Program
- Kevin Lansford – NDOW Staff Predator Management Biologist
- Lt. Paul Dankowski - NDOW WR Game Warden Supervisor
- Steve Tomac – NDOW Game Warden
- Christopher Johnson – NHP Trooper & Medical First Responder Trainer
- Kim Toulouse – NDOW Volunteer & Wildlife Education Coordinator
- Bill Davidor – WR AE Instructor
- Kelly Dean – WR HE Instructor
- John Mull's Road Kill Grill
- And last but not least, all of the volunteer instructors who attended.



Kelly Dean led a perfectly timed fire making class while the snow fell around them.



After slaving over hot stoves to keep us fed, members of the Road Kill Grill get fly-tying pointers from WE instructor Jim Miller.

As I've said before, academies are all about you, the instructor. We truly appreciate the time you all donate throughout the year and taking a precious weekend to come to an academy. We know your time is valuable and want to make the best use of what you give us. We received a lot of good topic/training suggestions that were put to use at this year and I've received nothing but positive feedback on the Tahoe academy. So once again I welcome any ideas on you have to make the 2011 event better, so keep those suggestions coming.



(Right) Instructors were treated to a rod building demonstration led by Bill Davidor. One lucky workshop attendee, Ivy Santee, won the custom demo rod and Dennis Deputy won the Academy-wide raffle for all instructors.

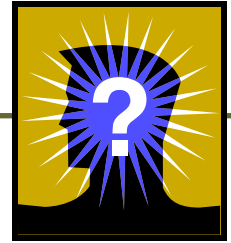


(Left) Gayle Gregg welcomed instructors, including Phil Hiller, Dwight Kirk, Sean Fish and Bob Gaudet, who came all the way from Las Vegas to attend this year's Academy.

(Above) Angler Ed instructors learn to use the "Castarget System" from Katie Cole of the National FlyFishing in Schools program.



Stuff You Should Know



IHEA/Remington Outdoor Foundation Online Instructor Training – As I’ve reported in previous newsletters, the International Hunter Education Association (IHEA) and Remington Outdoor Foundation (ROF) have been developing an online instructor training course that will function much like the online Hunter Ed course that our students use.

The course covers basic information and techniques that are common to all Hunter Education classes, such as history and purpose of Hunter Ed, effective communications, classroom management, etc.

Work on the project is essentially complete with the course undergoing its final review before going live in late/early August. Once available, we will incorporate the new course into our new instructor training as well as requiring its completion for recertification of existing instructors. Stay tuned for information on how to log on and access the course.

IHEA/ROF Five-Gun Training Sets – Instructors that attended the Tahoe academy had the opportunity to fondle the new firearms training set, but for those of you that didn’t make it to the lake, the guns are a set of non-functioning firearms with all five action types. These are real guns that are specially produced with blaze orange composite stocks, disabled firing pins and the words “Non-Functioning Gun” laser-etched on the stocks. The set comes in a rolling case and includes a pump, break action and semi-auto shotguns along with lever and bolt action rifles. The 51 sets with cases that we purchased have arrived and we are in the process of distributing them statewide in time for this fall’s classes.



Hunter Exam Online Student Hunter Education Course – Another topic I’ve discussed in past newsletters is the Hunter Exam course. Since I first told you about their course last September, Hunter-Exam’s course has been adopted by 20 other states and is adding more every month.

They have customized their curriculum for Nevada and still have their test site up for you to look over (follow instructions in the ad below). Hunter Exam will look familiar to those of you familiar with HE Tools as it uses HE Tools illustrations and animations throughout. So if you get a chance go to their website and give it a look.

The plan is to finalize the Nevada course and begin offering it as an option to students before our fall class schedule begins. No changes, I repeat **NO CHANGES**, will necessary to the way you teach your course. There will simply be three ways for students to prove they have completed their pre-class work; present their completed *Today’s Hunter* workbook, present a Hunter-Ed.com completion confirmation **OR** a Hunter Exam completion confirmation. Any of the three will allow students to take the class. We’ll send out examples of the Hunter Exam confirmation once we’ve finalized the exact wording and design, and will keep you posted as we near launch.

Get to Know Your IHEA Representative

Dave Bauer here, your Zone II Instructor Representative for the IHEA. My job is to help you communicate to the IHEA Board of Directors any ideas, concerns, or anything else you would like to have us look at that would help us complete our shared mission statement of continuing the heritage of hunting worldwide by developing safe, responsible and knowledgeable hunters. There are approximately 70,000 instructors and the Hunter Education mission cannot be carried out without us. I would like to hear from your instructor associations, or if there isn't one in your state, from each of you individually at least three times a year with items you feel would help us help you. I will try my best to get answers and get back to you as soon as possible. I will also be updating all instructor associations and Hunter Education Administrators of pertinent agenda items that the Board has made decisions on. Communication is key to our success, whether in or out of the classroom and I need your help so IHEA can continue providing instructors, hunters, (new and seasoned) and our administrators the best in new and



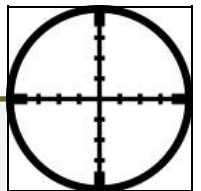
innovative ideas to help us complete our mission. I do not have all of the answers but sure know where to get them and hope that you will let me help.

Now for a little about me. I was born and raised in Gunnison, Colorado. I am a self taught hunter as no one in my family hunts or fish. So I have made many mistakes and hopefully have learned from them all. I have been a Hunter and Bowhunter Education instructor for a long time and also currently serve as the Region 6 coordinator for the National Bowhunter Education Foundation. I probably do more bowhunting than rifle hunting and shotgunning is still and always will be a big part of my outdoor fun.

You may contact me anytime via email: dbauer@jeffco.k12.co.us My phone is 303-982-3998 and that will also get me 24/7. John McKay has asked that I write a regular column in your instructor newsletter where I'll discuss the issues of the day. I hope to talk to you soon.

Sighting In—A Forum for Hunter Ed Instructors

"Sighting In" features stories written by or of interest to Hunter Ed instructors like you. If you would like to share information, classroom tips, favorite recipes or even a recent hunting expedition with fellow instructors, please email Carolyn at cmont@ndow.org with your short article.



California Firearms Bills Get Hearings

Hearings were recently held on three firearm/ammunition related bills in California and bear watching by sportsmen who shoot or hunt in the Golden State.

Assembly Bill 1810, sponsored by Assemblyman Mike Feuer (D-LA), would require the state to keep registration information for all firearm transfers, including transfers of commonly used hunting rifles and shotguns. Current California law only requires the state to keep a database containing the information acquired from handgun transfers including the owner's name, address and serial number of the handgun.

"It's bad enough that the state keeps a handgun owners registry, a major infringement on second amendment rights as it is," said Jeremy Rine, U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance (USSA) associate director of state services.

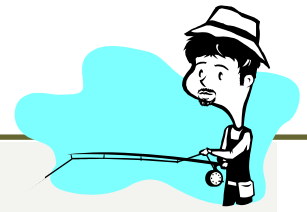
Assembly Bill 2186, sponsored by Assemblyman Kevin de Leon (D-LA), would prohibit a person convicted of a misdemeanor loaded firearms violation from owning or possessing a firearm for 10 years. In California, loaded firearms violations are some of the most common hunting-related citations issued and are often the result of an honest mistake. Regardless, this bill would still subject the violator to an overly-severe 10 year ban on the possession of firearms.

"Something as simple as forgetting to completely unload your hunting rifle before crossing a road could result in being banned from owning or using a firearm for 10 years," said Rine. Assembly Bill 2223, introduced by Assemblyman Pedro Nava (D-Santa Barbara), would ban

~ continued on page 5

The Eddy Line

On the water, you know what an eddy line is but on paper, it's where Angler Ed instructors can share information, tips, gossip or even fish-tales with fellow instructors. If you would like to contribute to this column, please email Carolyn at cmont@ndow.org with your short article.



Don't Cuss the Wind...Learn to Love IT—Bud Johnson—Western Region Angler Educator

How many times have you heard some fly fishers say, "Oh, oh, here comes the "W"? Sure, we have and I will agree that there are times when my two ten-pound anchors let my cataraft slide and waves break over my lap and I decide that an adult beverage cooling on shore is a good excuse "to hang it up".

But the opposite of the above is a flat mirror-like surface of a lake. Your line makes a splash that shatters the surface. Every trout, other than one or two dumb tiddlers, are trembling in the deep water, fearful of being a target for their aerial enemies.

Well, let's look at a few benefits of the nasty old wind. It pumps oxygen into the water, especially in the warmer months. It traps and transports all kinds of airborne food onto the water, such as ants, beetles, hoppers, etc. Used correctly, it can propel you and your craft in a very productive way to cover a large area without the noise and disturbance caused by oars, motors, or even fins.

Another phenomenon that many fly fishers fail to realize is that the surface waters that bounce against the windward shore are being forced down and then travel back to the leeward shore, but at a lower level. As a result of this lower reverse current, trout will line up facing into this lower level food line. You can tempt two groups of trout by presenting offerings to both levels of trout by casting moderate sinking lines perpendicular to these currents.

Although heavy winds can reach a point where common sense says, "head for shore", larger trout are known to work in heavy waves due to the increase in oxygen and the number of small bait fish that become stunned or disoriented. This would be the time to work streamers in patterns that represent these little guys.

Back to the mid-day glassy surface. If that is all you get, watch for any sign of current no matter how small. Position yourself whereby you can

drift your offering into this current. Watch for occasional areas of ripples on this otherwise glassy surface. These are caused by small pockets of wind. Shoot for these pockets.

Get up and get on the water early. Usually things don't get to blowing until early afternoon or a bit later so be prepared for this wind with proper equipment, wind proof clothes, making sure that your floatation device is in good condition and let that wind work for you.

We should remember . . . wind usually dies near sundown. Stick around into the dark. This can be the best time of all! Shorten your leader for accuracy and use dark flies that will be more visible against the lighter evening skies.

~ Bud Johnson has been teaching Angler Education in the Western Region for the past 15 years.

Sighting In—A Forum for Hunter Ed Instructors (cont'd)

California Firearms Bills Get Hearings

~ continued from page 4

the use of traditional shot within California's Wildlife Management Areas. These areas encompass more than one half million acres of state hunting and recreational shooting land. The California Fish and Game Commission (FGC) already has the authority to place restrictions on ammunition on a case by case basis. AB 2223 will simply circumvent the science-based regulatory process of the FGC to decide on what is appropriate ammunition to use in state lands.

Each of the bills had committee hearings in April.



This article was reprinted from the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance Sentry newsletter, May/June 2010 edition.

Free Fishing Day—Always the Main Event

The second Saturday in June has always been a volunteer favorite for the Angler Education program and this year was no exception. Hundreds of volunteers spent the day rigging up poles and untangling lines for the almost 3,000 participants at events statewide.

In the Western Region Sparks Marina had a great showing for Free Fishing Day, despite a cold and gusty day. Sparks Rotary did their usual wonderful job, distributing 2,000 fishing poles to the kids who attended, and feeding them hot



Sparks Marina

chocolate, hot dogs, chips and drinks. NDOW staff manned the Angler Education trailer, where they handed out fishing regulations, fishable waters maps, "Take Me Fishing" bumper stickers, and gave away boating safety coloring books and wristbands. Despite slow catching, most everyone left happy with a free t-shirt and goodies.



Bluegill were the catch-of-the-day in Boulder City

to fish and fair for those who didn't, but most anglers caught at least one fish. Due to the light turnout, every child that showed up received not only a goody bag, but a prize in the free drawing at the end.



Nearly 300 young anglers and anglers-to-be registered

as official participants in the Southern Region Free Fishing Day. They were joined by adults and non-registered anglers. The Veterans Memorial Park in Boulder City

was the perfect venue. With an estimated total of 600-700 total participants it was combat fishing but everyone had a great time.



Ivy Santee takes a moment to admire the crowd at Veteran's Memorial Park.

Informational booths at the event featured fishing activities, such as casting, fish identification, baits and lures, etc. along with booths on desert wildlife, boating safety, fish art, and much more.

Thanks go out to all the volunteers, NDOW staff and game wardens who came out and pitched in to make Free Fishing Day a great time for everyone!



NDOW game warden Brandon Haase shows off the bluegill Austin Peace landed at Veteran's Memorial Park.



Bobby the Boat & NDOW game warden Dave Patula made an appearance at the Sparks Marina.

Despite miserable weather, Free Fishing Day at both Cave Lake in Ely and Chinese Gardens Nature Study Area in Carlin were successes. Approximately 30 kids and their parents participated in the Cave Lake event with almost 40 at the Carlin event. At Cave, it was cold, windy and rainy, though the kids had fun with all the kids catching fish and many catching limits. At Carlin it was cold and windy with a few sprinkles now and then. Fishing was good for those who knew how

Free Range Day for Instructors at the Clark County Shooting Park will be held Saturday, August 21. If you are interested you must R.S.V.P. to Martin Olson at 702-486-5127 ext. 3501 before August 16 to participate.

Volunteers are also needed for the public Free Range Day to be held August 28 so let Martin know if you can help staff the event.

Meeting the Needs of the Disabled Student—*Larry Simoneaux*

On the opening night of our last class, each of the three instructors (myself included) almost immediately noticed one particular student in the class. He was neat, attentive, not disruptive in any manner, but his questions seemed to be a bit off of the immediate topic and not quite focused. We also noticed that his speech was - at times - difficult to understand.

During one of the breaks, we spoke with the father who indicated that his son had a learning disability. On speaking with him privately, we found that the young man was autistic. This led to a preliminary discussion amongst the instructors that evening wherein we decided to look carefully into the situation and continue watching him closely to determine if he would be able to be trusted with a firearm should he pass the course.

One incident the first evening gave us pause as - at the end of a safe handling exercise using wooden/mock rifles - when he turned to return to his seat, he pointed the wooden rifle at one of the other young participants and said "bang." This raised flags in all of our minds.

As the class progressed, we encountered no further such instances and found him to be - as noted - attentive and extremely focused on doing well in the course. Outside of class, I spoke with two friends in the field of mental health and got completely divergent opinions. One was that the young man should never be allowed to handle a firearm while the other said that, it all depended on the severity of the case. If the young man understood the nature of what was required while hunting as regards

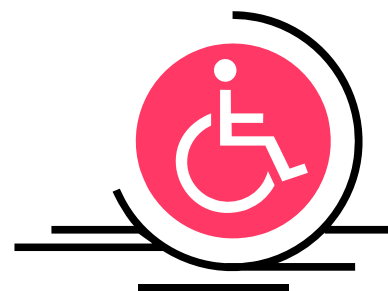
safety and firearms handling, he should be allowed to hunt. Note here that his father had told us that he would always be supervised while hunting. In further discussions with the father, we found that the young man was finishing up the requirements to become an Eagle Scout and had almost finished the requirements for the marksmanship/firearms merit badge.

Amongst ourselves we continued to discuss the situation each evening and we sought and received further input from two separate individuals. One was the parent of a young autistic child while the other had a grown son who had Asperger's Syndrome. The father of the autistic child was extremely concerned and was of the opinion that we should not issue a passing grade to the young man while the other parent indicated that it was, again, dependent on the case in front of us and that he would willingly allow his son to hunt, albeit only while in the company of an adult.

Dilemma? You bet.

The young man continued the course with no further untoward incidents (we've had other young men that we've had to correct who were simply behaving as young boys/teenagers will behave and simply proceeded with the course while keeping them a bit tethered) and took the final exam and the firearms handling practical on Friday evening (ours is a 5 night course). He finished the written exam with a score of 59 correct answers - missing a passing score by 1 answer. He did pass the handling segment of the test.

The dilemma may come in the near future as he has indicated that he



will attend our next class and is determined to do better.

So, here we have a future Eagle Scout with a firearms related merit badge who is intelligent and determined but has a learning disability that does not inherently disqualify him from hunting.

In our final discussion after the class, we, as instructors, came to a majority decision - with honest dissent amongst ourselves - that, if this young man were to pass the written exam and also pass the handling exam while displaying no disqualifying behavior in the class, we would have to - on the basis of straightforward objectivity - issue him a course completion card.

As I would be signing the form, I can honestly tell you that I would feel some trepidation in so doing, but on the basis of all other factors, I could not do otherwise. None of us in our class are trained mental health experts and, for all of what we hear about autism, being confronted with someone who functions as this young man did and with the other factors to consider, we believed that this would be the correct decision. Something to think about for all of us, I believe.

~ This article was reprinted from The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's "Instructor Talk" newsletter.

Meet the Newest Member of the Hunter Ed Team

The Southern Region Hunter Education program proudly welcomes it's newest member to the Hunter Education team—Eva the Event trailer. Purchased with Federal Hunter Education funds, the event trailer was recently unveiled with it's customized artwork representing the variety of wildlife and habitats that Nevada offers. Evelyn will be showing off her stuff at various events in the Southern Region, such as wildlife trade shows and events such as the Carp Festival recently held at Pahrana Lake.



The Southern Region Con Ed team: (L to R) Chris Cheff, Archery in the Schools Coordinator; Margie Klein, Wildlife Education Coordinator; Ivy Santee, Angler Education Coordinator and Chris Pietrafeso, Angler Educator and Volunteer Program Coordinator.



The Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) protects, restores and manages fish and wildlife, and promotes fishing, hunting, and boating safety. The Outdoor Educator is a publication of the Nevada Department of Wildlife, Conservation Education Division.



Nevada Department of Wildlife

Outdoor Education

Contact Information



Reno Headquarters

John McKay, Outdoor Education Coordinator-(800) 597-HUNT, (775) 688-1553, (775) 530-5585 cell, jmckay@ndow.org

Carolyn Montgomery, Administrative Assistant-(775) 688-1915, cmont@ndow.org

Gayle Gregg, Administrative Assistant-(775) 688-1559, ggregg@ndow.org

Eastern Region

Joe Doucette, Outdoor Education Coordinator-(775) 777-2305, (775) 934-4565 cell, jdoucette@ndow.org

Southern Region

Ivy Santee, Angler Education Coordinator-(702) 486-5127 ext. 3503, (702) 468-3299 cell, isantee@ndow.org

Martin Olson, Hunter Education Coordinator-(702) 486-5127 ext. 3501, (702) 419-9777 cell, mgolson@ndow.org

Chris Cheff, Archery Education Coordinator-(702) 486-5127 ext. 3504, (702) 469-9128 cell, ccheff@ndow.org

Western Region

Chris Vasey, Outdoor Education Coordinator-(775) 688-1622, (775) 742-4848 cell, cvasey@ndow.org