



Hunting, Holiday and Dinner Seasons Arrive

The days are getting shorter, the wind carries a chill and leaves are rapidly morphing from their vibrant summer greens to the flaming yellows, oranges and reds of fall. While summer's end may be a bit melancholy for the uninitiated, sportsmen and women across Nevada and North America are downright giddy in anticipation of the coming hunting and fall fishing seasons. And for those of you that have been with us a year or more know that anticipation also brings increased demand for classes and clinics and as always we thank you for helping us meet that demand.

I hope Fall '09 finds you in possession of that tag you've always coveted (I got nuthin') or absent that, at least have plans for a trip or two to your favorite hunting spots or fishing holes. I managed to get out chukar hunting for a couple days opening weekend and had a great time.



The birds (fair numbers, widely scattered) and the weather (wind and record rain) didn't cooperate as well as hoped,

but typhoon remnants and a lack of birds didn't take away the pleasure of enjoying time in the field with friends. I encourage you to take every opportunity to get out and recharge your mental batteries away from the grind of daily, urban life.

Of course we can't hunt and fish all the time – not if we want to keep our spouses and families semi-happy anyway – so as you set aside time for things that don't involve fur, fins or feathers

please mark your calendar for the annual NDOW instructor dinners. We have tried to consistently schedule the dinners about the same time in January and February each year so that much like hunting, fishing and holiday seasons you can be certain when the dinner or lunch in your area will be held.

Please look for the statewide dinner schedule inside this issue. Many of the dates, times and locations have been set;

information on those not listed will be passed along as soon as we get it. Dinners are always free for instructors and guests and offer a lot more than just food; some locations offer opportunities to shoot and/or fish, we pass along important program information, they qualify as training and meet the requirement to maintain your certification and last but not least, recognize instructors for their years of dedicated service before their peers, families and friends.

So if you haven't been to a dinner before please consider attending this year. If you're a regular attendee we'll see you there. Either way, please RSVP to your regional coordinator to allow us to plan accordingly.

Happy Holidays to you and yours from all of us in the Conservation Education Division.



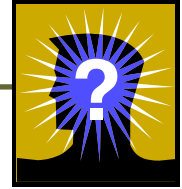
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Special points of interest:

- *New Angler Education Logo*
- *Hunter Safety Trail Score Cards revised*
- *Appreciation Dinner dates announced*
- *IHEA Summer 2009 Journal*
- *NDOW Staff Contact Info*

Stuff You Should Know



Fingerprints/Background Checks – The process of setting up an account through the Nevada Department of Public Safety and identifying locations for electronic fingerprinting continues. My plan/hope is to set up as many electronic fingerprinting locations as possible, but for folks in rural areas we'll come to you if we have to, so training to collect prints manually (ink and paper) was conducted for regional ConEd staff on 9/30. Once all the pieces are in place we'll start fingerprinting new instructor candidates and make sure we have the process as convenient and hassle free as possible before gradually phasing in existing instructors.

New Angler Ed Logo, Shirts and Hats – Due to incessant whining about our old AE logo we have created a new one (actually we adapted the existing *Trout in the Classroom* logo). Truthfully Chris Vasey and Gayle Gregg did all the work revising the artwork and researching various shirts and hats before settling on a lightweight fishing style shirt and Flex Fit hat. The new shirt is significantly cooler when you're outside in hot weather and should help you keep your cool during summer fishing clinics and events. Some new shirts have already been distributed and another order has been placed. Please contact your regional coordinator if you haven't received a new AE shirt and/or hat.



Remington Outdoor Foundation & IHEA Online Instructor Training – As I reported last newsletter the International Hunter Education Association (IHEA) is developing an online instructor training course that will function much like the online Hunter Ed course that our students use. Work on the project continues, but a recent agreement between the Remington Outdoor Foundation and IHEA stands to not only significantly improve the course and its delivery, but also the IHEA itself. Here's an excerpt of the ROF/IHEA partnership announcement sent out to membership by IHEA President Tim Lawhern on 10/9.

In late May, the IHEA was approached by the Executive Director of the newly formed Remington Outdoor Foundation (ROF). The ROF is a non-profit organization that supports hunting, shooting, outdoor sports and conservation through land preservation, access, education, training, safety, awareness, research and wildlife enhancement. They told us

that they had identified the IHEA as one of only five non-profit organizations that they wanted to heavily support. Primary focus areas for this partnership will include communications, marketing, fundraising, training aids, and web/internet development.

*Some of the first partnership programs that the IHEA and ROF will work on include a set of non-functioning firearms with all five action types, IHEA print and video PSAs, and hosting the **Online Instructor Training Program**. ROF was founded by Cerberus a parent company that owns Freedom Group (Remington, Marlin, Parker, etc), and information technology companies among others. The technology, staff, expertise and funding that Cerberus has access to is superior to anything most of us have ever seen before. Not only do they have outstanding expertise, technology and funding, but they offered to host the **Online Instructor Training Program** for a fraction of what we would have paid one of the other contractors. What this means for the IHEA is that we will be able to offer an exceptional product and make a better profit margin for the IHEA which is vitally important for this organization to survive in this economy. All plans and timelines for this project remain the same. The only thing that has changed is the internet platform where it will be hosted.*

The IHEA and ROF have identified several other potential projects but we are still working through the planning and feasibility of those projects. We will let you know more on this exciting new partnership as plans are solidified.

The observant reader may have noted the mention of "a set of non-functioning firearms with all five action types" in Tim's announcement. Perhaps even more exciting than the online training course, the five-gun set will address the long standing need of an affordable source of realistic, durable, non-firing training guns with all five functioning action types. The set comes in a rolling case and includes a pump, break action and semi-auto shotgun along with a lever and bolt action rifle. Each are real guns that are specially produced with blaze orange composite stocks, disabled firing pins and the words "Non-Functioning Gun" emblazoned on the stocks.

As Tim mentions, more details and announcements on the ROF/IHEA partnership will be revealed in the coming months and I'll pass them along as they become available.

Stuff You Should Know - *continued*

www.ihea.com – If you’ve never visited the IHEA website I encourage you to do so. The website has a wealth of information you may find both useful and economical. In addition to the Hunter Ed info you’d expect, there’s also a ton of resources and special offers reserved for active, certified instructors.

Some recent additions include a wide selection of Columbia clothing at deeply discounted pricing, special limited IHEA edition Henry rifles and Browning knives and a monthly auction for items donated by Cabelas. All funds collected go directly to IHEA and may be tax deductible as a charitable donation.

Please contact me or your regional coordinator for the confidential username and password that grants access to the various discount programs.

Revised Hunter Safety Trail Score Cards – We recently made some changes to the cards used to score students on the **four required exercises**. The *Safe Zones of Fire* exercise has been incorporated into the *Hunter Safety Trail* side of the card, eliminating the separate section for SZOF.

What does this mean to you? Essentially it means the SZOF concept still needs to be reviewed and explained to students, but instead of conducting and scoring a separate SZOF exercise, student understanding and demonstration of SZOF will be assessed during the **hunt portion** of the *Hunter Safety Trail* exercise.

This change **does not** diminish the importance of thoroughly explaining and demonstrating SZOF concepts to your students. In my experience students seem to have more difficulty understanding the rules of SZOF than perhaps any other topic we teach and it is **essential** that your students understand SZOF before they leave your class. The **Number One** cause of hunting accidents in Nevada (and thankfully we don’t have many) is a hunter swinging on game and shooting outside their SZOF.

So please thoroughly review and demonstrate SZOF in the classroom before heading outside with your students. We have a new *Wingshooting Safety* DVD from the National Shooting Sports Foundation that can help you do it. Then watch them closely as they shoot at the rabbit and pheasant tennis balls during the hunt portion of the *Hunter Safety Trail*. Don’t hesitate to stop the “hunt” if a student swings outside their safe zone to explain what they did wrong and reinforce the importance of identifying and maintain their SZOF at all times.

NDOW Introduces Archery Education to Southern Nevada

Our new Archery Education Coordinator, Chris Cheff, recently came to us from Prescott, AZ where he was a Physical Education and Biology teacher for the past eleven years. His career in the education field also included coaching high school wrestling and football. He also spent time coaching for a professional arena league team.

Chris has been involved in bow hunting for 25 years. Even though he hunts with every implement allowed, his favorite hunt is archery elk. He is also very active in sports and outdoor activities.

The Archery Education Coordinator’s primary focus is the introduction of the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) into public and private schools in the Southern Region. NASP is designed to teach International style target archery in 4th-12th grade physical education classes. Core content covers archery history, safety, technique, equipment, mental concentration, core strengthening physical fitness and self-improvement. Students shoot at 80 cm bulls-eye targets placed before an

arrow curtain in their gymnasium. Equipment used is state-of-the art and designed to fit every student.

In addition to NASP, Chris also will develop and conduct introductory archery and bowhunting workshops and coordinate bowhunter education courses in the Southern Region.

To date Chris has NASP up and running in eight schools in the Clark County School District with the goal of seeing student archers participate in the inaugural state championship to be held in conjunction with the National Field Archery Association’s “Vegas Shoot” in mid-February. Participants will have an opportunity to qualify for the NASP National Tournament held each year in Louisville, Kentucky. This will be the first time that Nevada will have representation at the national tournament.

Chris is looking forward to working with new instructors and volunteers to create tremendous growth in the program and a great opportunity for the youth of Nevada.

Desert Sportsman's Free Range Day a Success for Southern Nevada ~ *Martin Olson*

The Desert Sportsman Rifle and Pistol Club once again hosted the free range day for the Las Vegas area and the Nevada Department of Wildlife. Men and women of all ages took advantage of the professional assistance that the club offered. Shooters for this event did not need to be a member of the club. Range Safety officers (RSO) were in attendance and informed the public of the range safety rules and observed the many conscientious, concerned shooters.



The RSO's at the event shared their experiences, training, and most of all their knowledge of handling and using firearms. The Desert Sportsman Rifle and Pistol club prides itself with safe

shooting as seen by the number of range safety officers present at the event. All visitors are briefed on the safety rules over the PA system by a range master and enforced by their own personal RSO standing nearby.

New shooters were instructed of what to do and how to do it by their mentors as well as the RSO's. Range times were set up in one hour intervals and participants were



allowed to reserve more than one hour of range time if they felt they would need it. Targets were initially set at 25 yards then could then be moved out to 100 yards if their rifles were on target. "Men, women and children of all ages came to the event with every type of firearm," said Arlie Anderson, president of the Desert Sportsman Rifle and Pistol Club. Anderson explained the

importance of the shooting facility for the Las Vegas community and the fifty year history of the club by creating safe ethical shooters that show respect and knowledge of their constitutional rights.

Primarily the free range day is set up for sportsmen getting ready for hunting season, however other target shooters were also welcomed by the club. Also present at the free range day were many Hunter Education volunteers who checked visitors for proper ammunition, safety glasses and hearing protection.



Volunteer instructors Bob Gaudet (above left) and Don Patterson (right) match up the shooters ammo with the shooters rifle caliber as they enter the range.



Ivy Santee (above) and Christy Klinger (right) take careful aim during the sight - in day.



Sean Fish (left) a long time hunter education instructor for the Southern Region offers support and assistance at the range.



Blackhawk McKimmon (left) and John McKay (right) having a good time at the shooting range.

Once You Bag a Chukar You're Hooked ~ Chris Vasey

Let me warn you now if you have never hunted chukar, it may be a long-time obsession or it may be the last time you ever hunt the elusive red-legged partridge. If you experience any kind of success when you begin hunting the wily chukar it can become an obsession. To achieve this success there is some key information to unlocking some the secrets to bagging a few or a limit of birds. Here are some quick tips for starting the addiction.

Where to look:

There is a saying "chukar are where you find them." This is true but there are some geographical characteristics to look for - steep slopes, lava rock, high rimrock and terrain that is almost impossible to traverse or hike. If you find all these characteristics of terrain and the habitat most often you will find chukar. Some basic habitat components include a water source close by such as (streams, springs, guzzlers) and good food supplies. "Groceries" for the chukar include cheatgrass, grasses of any kind, leaves, starflower. Other important food items include seeds and stems of filaree, Indian ricegrass, wheatgrass and insects.



When to hunt:

Early season, the upland game opener can be a very good time to hunt because birds are usually concentrated on water or where new vegetation has become available. If



we have been experiencing drought-like conditions many seasoned hunters consider these conditions somewhat of an unfair advantage. The reason for this thinking is that the birds are concentrating in the area



where they are getting their groceries and water making it easy for the hunter. You will find birds in other areas as the season presses on and conditions change. When the weather does change, rain can create your worst

conditions and time to hunt because it makes it difficult for dogs to pick up scent and water tends to spread the

birds. Plus travel to your hunting location can be next to impossible. The only positive thing during rain events is the birds do seem to hold. Wind can also be your friend because chukars don't like wind, they will



hold in tight and tend to be in rock or draws. Snow is good too, serious chukar hunters don't wait until the snow is gone because chukar will concentrate on south facing slopes and their dogs can pick up scent very well.

Basic needs:

- Boots—mid- to high top with a very good sole
- Warm clothes—layers of good synthetic outdoor clothing—never cotton.
- Hat and gloves
- Survival-map, compass or GPS unit, flashlight, First-aid kit, knife or Leatherman, and water for you and your dog
- Good hunting vest with room for an excessive amount of shotgun shells. You may need extra.

Quick note:

- ◆ Be in good physical condition!
- ◆ Use a dog, preferably a pointer
- ◆ Identify chukar habitat (use topo maps)
 - ◆ Look for lots of jagged rock outcrops
 - ◆ Locate water sources (streams, springs, guzzlers)
 - ◆ Walk (side-hill or contour around slopes)
- ◆ Shoot straight
- ◆ Keep your head down
- ◆ Sustain your lead
- ◆ Walk Some More!

Good luck and good hiking.

The Guzzler Book is an excellent resource for locating small game water developments throughout the state. Revised in 2005, it is available at all NDOW offices for \$40 and also makes a great gift.

Instructor Appreciation Dinners—Coming Soon!

We are diligently working on setting up the Instructor Education Appreciation Lunches and Dinners that will be held throughout the state. We will be mailing out the final announcement with more details in a few weeks, but we'd like you to know the dates and tentative sites of our appreciation dinners so you don't miss it!

Winnemucca

The Winnemucca Instructor awards and dinner will be held at 6:00p.m. on Thursday January 21 at The Martin, located at 94 W. Railroad St. Instructors must RSVP by January 15 by calling Maryanna at 775.623.6565.

Reno

The Reno area Instructor awards and dinner will be held at 6:00p.m. on Monday January 11 at the Little Waldorf Saloon in Reno. Instructors must RSVP by January by calling Gayle at 775.688.1559.

Eureka

The Eureka and Ely area Instructor awards and dinner will be held at the Perdiz Shooting Range on Sunday January 10. Shooting begins at 1:00p.m. and dinner will start at 3:00p.m. Instructors must RSVP by January 4 by calling Joe at 775.777.2305

Elko

The Elko area Instructor awards and dinner will be held at 6:00p.m. on Saturday January 9 at a site yet to be determined. Instructors must RSVP by January 4 by calling Joe at 775.777.2305

Las Vegas

The Las Vegas Instructor awards and BBQ will be held on January 9 in the Hunter Education Center at the Clark County Shooting Park. Open shooting will be available from 12:00pm.-3:00pm. The Road Kill Grill will be serving from 3:00pm—4:00pm, with awards and scheduling for the 2010 year beginning around 4:30pm.

Caliente, Panaca, Pioche

The Instructor awards and lunch will be held at noon on Saturday, February 6 at the Knotty Pine Restaurant, located in downtown Caliente.

Tonopah

The Tonopah Instructor awards and dinner will be held on January 8 at Don and Cindy Kaminsky's house beginning at 6:30p.m.



Pahrump

The Pahrump Instructor awards and dinner will be held at 6:00p.m. on Friday February 12 at the Red Sky BBQ, located in Pahrump.

Instructors attending any of these Southern Region events must RSVP by calling Martin at 702.486.5127 ext 3501 or Ivy at 702.486.5127 ext 3503

This ad is for a new company, Hunter-Exam.com, that is looking to break into the Hunter Education market. They have customized their curriculum for Nevada and are asking us to provide some feedback. 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. They want to know what you think and have provided an email address for your honest opinions. We'll also discuss the product at the dinners next year.

NEVADA
DIVISION OF
WILDLIFE

INSTRUCTORS: HELP US EVALUATE

AN INNOVATIVE ONLINE HUNTER EDUCATION OPTION THIS FALL.

VISIT THE NEVADA STUDY GUIDE AVAILABLE AT HUNTEREXAM.COM AND RELAY ANY FEEDBACK TO THE EMAIL ADDRESS BELOW.

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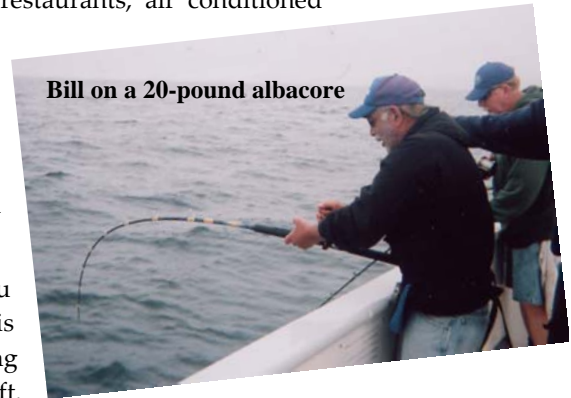
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EDUCATING HUNTERS ONLINE

Long Range Fishing, The Ultimate Fishing Holiday

This article is Part 1 of 3 from Western Region Volunteer Angler Instructor Bill Davidor

Long range fishing for albacore, bluefin and yellowfin tuna, wahoo, dorado and yellowtail is so unique that you can do it in only one place in the world—San Diego, CA. San Diego is home to a fleet of boats commonly referred to as long range boats or multi-day boats. A fishing trip on one of these boats is like being on a cruise ship **AND** you get to fish. These boats are totally self-contained because they go out for trips ranging from 3 to 18 days, depending on the time of the year. They offer gourmet food that is better than most restaurants, air conditioned staterooms and are equipped with the latest state-of-the-art electronics for safety and locating fish. Long range boats typically carry 7 to 8 crew members, including at least two licensed captains and a chef, which works out to be one crew member for every 3 or 4 passengers. All of the skippers realize this is a service oriented business, and their crews bend over backwards to make sure every passenger has a successful and enjoyable trip.

Starting out on one of the shorter trips is good way to find out if you would enjoy spending this much time on the water. The size of the boat is also a consideration. Long range boats come in two sizes. Boats 90 ft. long with a beam of 25 ft. carry up to 25 passengers. The larger boats (100 ft. plus in length with a beam of about 30 ft.) carry as many as 35 passengers and are more stable in rough seas. The smaller boats carry fewer passengers, which is an advantage, but the larger boats are more comfortable if you are prone to motion sickness.



Bill on a 20-pound albacore



Bill with his 34-pound yellowtail

Fishing is always “about time on the water” and long range trips give anglers more time on the water and bang for their buck than any other type of fishing. Pricing is dependent on the time of year. In the spring, before the water warms up, the daily price works out to be about \$225. During the summer vacation season, when the water warms up and the fish move into the 3 to 5 day trip range, the daily price increases to about \$375. After mid-September, the daily price drops to about \$300. Prices change with load. A light load will result in more room at the rail and in the galley, but comes with an increased cost. While the pricing may appear to be steep, remember you are getting your accommodations, fantastic meals and all the fishing you can handle in one package.

This is the time of the year that the long range boats finalize their schedules and pricing for next year. On an average basis, year in and year out, most long rangers agree that the best time of the year to be on a long range boat is the September through November time frame when both the fishing and the weather are usually excellent.

For convenience, the web sites for the three major long range San Diego landings are listed below. The individual boat web sites can be accessed through the landings’ web sites.

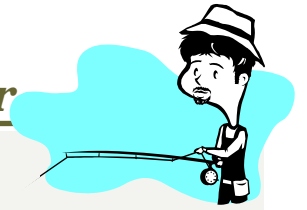
Fisherman’s Landing	www.fishermanslanding.com
Point Loma Sportfishing	www.pointlomasportfishing.com
H & M Landing	www.hmlanding.com

In future issues I’ll describe in more detail the species of fish you can catch, different length trips, the gear required for a 5 to 7 day trip, miscellaneous additional costs, and “amenities” that will make your trip more comfortable.

If you have any questions or need additional information, I can be reached at (775) 825 3296.

The Eddy Line—Just for the Angler Educator

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.



Mud Hole Custom Rod Building Class Available in Sacramento

Mud Hole, a company based in Florida and one of the world's largest supplier of custom fishing rod components, is putting on a two-day rod building class in Sacramento. The price includes all supplies, rod wrapping tools and consumables (which participants take with them) to make a 6'6" 14-18 lb rod. Details are below and on the Mud Hole website -www.mudhole.com - but if anybody needs more information contact Bill Davidor at (775) 825-3296, he's already signed up for the class. Todd Vivian, one of the instructors, was a rod designer for Lamiglas.

Mud Hole, Custom Rod Building and Fly Tying Supplies—Sacramento Rod Building Class

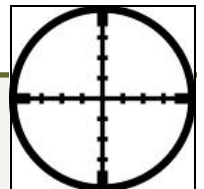
Date: March 20 & 21, 2010

Price: \$149.00

Lodging: Hawthorn Suites, 321 Bercut Dr., Sacramento; phone (916) 441-1200, special Mud Hole rate is \$60 per night.

Sighting In—A Forum for Hunter Ed Instructors

We are introducing a new column to the Outdoor Educator, "Sighting In" that will feature stories written by 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.



Where to Find Those Chukar —Chris Vasey

Now that you're ready to get out and get your limit of tasty little birds, here are some helpful hints and resources. For a detailed look into your newest hunting obsession, NDOW offers "The Chukar Partridge" bulletin. Originally published in 1970, this biological bulletin is as relevant and informative today as it was 40 years ago. Take a look at it on our website—www.ndow.org/about/pubs. NDOW upland game biologists publish the "Chukar Hunting Forecast" every fall interpreting survey data and providing insight on where those wily birds can be found. Another resource is NDOW's Water Development Atlas (A.K.A. the Guzzler Book) that is available for purchase at all NDOW offices. For \$40, you'll get detailed topographic maps pinpointing small and large game guzzlers which can aid in getting a little bit closer to your next meal.



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, mgonson@ndow.org

Western Region

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