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Taking Better Pictures
…the do’s and don’ts of taking pictures outdoors
By John DePalma

Photo Tips That Will Help Show Hunting Is Safe
By Tammy Sapp

Features

The international Hunter Education Association – United States of America (IHEA-USA) is an organization involving some 53,000 instructors across the United States of America. The IHEA-USA is affiliated with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

The Hunter & Shooting Sports Education Journal is the official publication of the International Hunter Education Association-United States of America. It is published four times annually (Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter) and distributed to more than 70,000 administrators and volunteer instructors in Canada, El Salvador, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, South Africa and the United States of America, that are responsible for education programs that total 600,000 hunters annually. The purpose of the publication is to increase the skill and effectiveness of hunter education in administrators and instructors so they can improve the enthusiasm, safety, ethics and proficiency of their students as they embark on lifetime enjoyment of hunting and the shooting sports.

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As many hunting seasons are well underway across North America, hunters have long since completed a favorite offseason/preseason pastime: researching and purchasing their latest new hunting gear.

Surely over the last year there has had to have been some new firearm, bow, optic, camping gear or accessory that caught your eye and became a must-have for your inventory?

When it comes to the sheer speed and scope of equipment innovation and advancement, we are in one of hunting’s golden ages. Look at pretty much any category of outdoor gear and you’ll see what I mean. Whether we’re talking firearms and ammunition, bows and arrows, sights and optics or boots and clothing, nothing has escaped the application of advanced technologies, methods and materials. Hunter Education is no exception.

Take wilderness navigation for instance. It wasn’t all that long ago a hunter needed an array of maps, a compass and a fair amount of specialized skill and knowledge to safely and reliably find their way from Point A to Point B or even back to camp. But with the advent of modern handheld GPS units, hunters, hikers, geocachers and all other manner of travelers need not worry of getting lost again. Not only have GPS units become less expensive and readily available, they are also getting smaller, more advanced, more reliable and easier to use with each new model introduced. Sure you don’t want to throw away those maps and compass just yet, but you also might find them gathering dust on the shelf as you use them less and less.

So why is it that we seemingly embrace advancements in certain areas, but stubbornly resist it in others? In recent years Hunter Ed has seen many new and exciting innovations, some accepted wholeheartedly, some grudgingly, if at all. A laser rangefinder that fits in your shirt pocket, reaches out to 1,000 yards and adjusts for inclination is good, but an online Hunter Education course that features interactive flash animation, video and narration is not?

I’ve written in past columns about the hunter recruitment and retention “problem.” Hunter R&R, or lack thereof, has been identified as a major issue jeopardizing our sport for quite awhile now and has many facets that don’t lend itself to any single, silver bullet solution; we can rest assured there are many, many smarter folks than I working on reversing the trend of declining hunter participation.

As potential solutions are identified we shouldn’t be surprised if one is better access to Hunter Ed courses where and when students want them, which just might not be when we now offer them. We also shouldn’t be surprised if there’s a call for more online courses, available 24/7/365, that reduce, or yes, even eliminate time spent in classrooms.

As hunting continually evolves with better, faster, cheaper and lighter gear, gadgets and gizmos in the world of Hunter Education must evolve with it. Manufacturers spend a lot of time and resources improving their products to maintain their existing customers and attract new ones, not necessarily by choice, but because the marketplace demands it. Hunter Education is subject to those same market forces and while it’s certainly our job as administrators and instructors to maintain the quality and integrity of our programs, it’s also our duty to meet demand. And the sound we’re hearing if we choose to listen is our customer, the student, demanding we keep pace.
A POPULAR ammunition among the unprepared, acorns are both plentiful and aerodynamic. But harnessing their full power requires some creative engineering. Look no further than the Acorn Revolver.

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- Manual grade school pencil sharpener
- Plastic spoon (or spork)
- No. 2 pencil
- Acorns

INSTRUCTIONS
1. Wedge spoon handle into hole using no. 2 pencil.
2. Grasping the revoler's base, pull back spoon and load acorn.
3. Aim and release spoon to fire.

NOTE
In case of snake hunger, ammunition may be eaten.

THE ACORN REVOLVER

DON'T BE THAT GUY. Go to Gander Mountain and get the best gear for your next outdoor adventure – from great brands like Ruger, Remington, and Savage Arms. Buy, sell, or trade at one of our 214 stores, or shop our entire selection of firearms at GanderMtn.com.
IHEA-USA’s New Website

By Wayne East, Executive Director IHEA-USA, exdir@ihea.com

The IHEA-USA recently completed a comprehensive upgrade to our website. The customer friendly site has been redesigned and upgraded, making navigation of the site easier.

New Features Include:

Videos – Instructional videos have been embedded in the new site. Check back often as we will be embedding and/or linking to many more videos in the future.

Facebook – The IHEA-USA now has a Facebook page and you can link to it via the Facebook icon in the upper right-hand corner of the homepage.

Twitter – IHEA-USA has a Twitter account. You can sign up by clicking on the Twitter icon in the upper right-hand corner of the homepage.

RSS Feeds – IHEA has RSS feed capability. You can sign up by clicking on the RSS icon (orange icon) in the upper right-hand corner of the website.

E-Newsletter – The IHEA-USA has created a monthly e-newsletter. We will be updating you on hunter education news, teaching products, discounts on hunting and outdoor equipment, and more. Sign up by entering your e-mail address under the “IHEA Email Newsletter” heading on the right side of the homepage.

Memberships – You can join and renew your membership via the new website.

Conference Registration – You can register and pay your conference registration fee via the new website.

Donations – You can now make donations via the website.

The new web address is www.IHEA-USA.org. Check it out! While you are there, like us on Facebook and sign up for our new e-newsletter!
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Cameras with a larger zoom feature are worth the money. Getting as close to wildlife as you can without putting yourself in danger is the best method for great photos. A good zoom will aid in this effort.

Taking Better Pictures
...the do’s and don’ts of taking pictures outdoors

Hunting and taking pictures outdoors are actually two peas in a pod. While the thrill of the hunt it totally captivating, capturing the memories on film (okay, it’s all digital now...I get it) makes that day afield live forever. Too, chasing critters with a camera is equally as exciting as it is with a gun; if not more. Here are a few tips that I learned early on from photographers far more gifted than me that have helped me take much better pictures through the years. If you keep them in mind, they’ll make you a more polished cameraman (or woman) as well as a better hunter:

Keep The Sun At Your Back:
The sun rises and sets every day so take advantage of it. The rays of the sun are at their longest and sexiest about an hour and a half just after the sun rises and about the same before it sets. When the sun is high in the sky during the middle of the day (think eyes squinting) its rays are closer to the earth and become very bright and harsh. Avoid shooting with a camera during the middle of the day and focus at the beginning and end of the day. The light is both soft and warm at these times of
day and makes for very colorful and impactful pictures. Shoot early and shoot late…you’ll take better pictures because of it.

**It’s All Digital Now:** Shoot-Shoot-Shoot: We used to shoot film and had to deal with prints and slides; not anymore. It’s a digital world so take advantage of it. If you see a herd of whitetail deer feeding in a field, shoot a ton of pictures. If you’re sitting on a marsh at sunset and the ducks are piling in, grab your camera. Aim. Shoot. Shoot. Shoot. You never know what picture is going to be ‘the one’ so don’t miss it by not firing away with the camera. Take a lot of pictures and worry about editing them when you get home…you’ll take better pictures because of it.

**Get Close To Your Subject:** My good pal and fellow photographer, Dusan Smetana, once told me, “You want to get close to your subject, so close that you’re just to the point where it won’t kill you.” If you’re taking a ‘hero’ picture of you and your friends right after a great mallard shoot, get close to your pals and trophies. Close enough that they fill the frame of the camera’s viewfinder. If you’re working a bull elk in the bugle, try to sneak as close as you can without spooking him. Pictures of guys or critters that look like houses from an airplane aren’t worth the paper you print them on. Get as close as you can to your subject…fill the viewfinder. You’ll take better pictures because of it.

**Get Out and Stay Out:** Most of the hunting shows we watch on TV make it seem like the host of the show goes out and takes a deer or other critter in a half hour. You all know the score; it takes a lot of time and patience to drop a 150 class whitetail or a 300 class bull elk. It just don’t happen that way. You have to put in the time to be a successful hunter and you have to put in the time to get great pictures. I have found you actually have to be a much better stalk-hunter with a camera than you have to be with a gun. It’s like bow hunting; you need to be a lot closer to a critter with a bow than you do with a rifle or slug gun to make a good, clean shot. Hunting with a camera, and increasing the time you spend outdoors, will not only make you a better photographer but it will make you a better hunter...guaranteed. The more time you spend around game with a camera watching their habits and getting to know their patterns, the better hunter you’ll be. The more you stalk successfully with a camera, the better you’ll become at putting a stalk on a handsome mule deer buck. If you’re gonna do the crime, you gotsta do the time. Increase your time outdoors...you’ll take better pictures because of it.

There you go…four easy tips that’ll make you a better photographer.

John DePalma is an avid outdoorsman, writer and photographer. He resides in Littleton, CO. Check him out online at: www.johndepalmaphotography.com.
By Tammy Sapp, tsapp@kalkomey.com

If you are recreating a hunting scene, make sure the hunter’s finger is outside of the trigger guard, unless his or her cheek is on the stock and the photo is supposed to show the moment before the shot. If the hunter’s cheek is not on the stock, then the finger should NOT be on the trigger.

If you’re photographing hunters or shooters sighting in their rifles or patterning their shotguns, make sure they are wearing eye and ear protection. Make sure muzzles are pointed in a safe direction, especially in group photos (see illustration). The two-dimensional aspect of still photography flattens images so even though a muzzle may have been pointed in safe direction, it can look dangerous in a photo. Remember, perception is reality so take extra care to make sure muzzle direction is safe, even when reality is compressed into two dimensions.

If you’re capturing a photo of hunters posed with their trophies, make sure firearms are unloaded and actions are open. During the photo shoot, always treat firearms as if they are loaded.

If you’re photographing hunters in a tree stand, make sure they are wearing a fall-arrest system and attach it in the manner and method described by the manufacturer. Single-strap belts and chest harnesses are not safe and should not be used.

Know the hunting regulations in your area to ensure your photos reflect legal behavior. For example, if blaze orange is required for the area, species and season you are hunting, make sure your subject is wearing it. That will serve as a great reminder for others who see your photos.
Two great sights to help you become a better shooter!

The Spark III sight is a compact and economical front bead replacement. It has interchangeable LitePipes with a viewing diameter of .090", which means you can choose Bright Green, Fire Red or White for different light conditions or personal preference. The new higher brightness LitePipe works even in low-light conditions. Quick target acquisition lets you focus more on the target. The base is made of steel for rugged durability.

The Two In One is a revolutionary magnetic shotgun sight with new twist - two colors in one. Our unique molded LitePipe design makes it possible for us to combine two colors in the same sight. Changing colors is now as easy as turning the sight around 180°!

Each sight has four magnets in the base making this our strongest magnetic sight. The LitePipes are protected by a housing making them nearly impossible to break, and they come in two different shapes - round and triangular. Select the shape that suits you best and the color combination (orange or green) and see what you've been missing!

SHOOTING TIP #6: OVERHEAD SHOT

Some presentations make it a challenge to see the target before it gets to the break point. One presentation I've seen people struggle with is the fast overhead from behind, such as a high one on the skeet field and similar targets on sporting layouts. Seeing this bird before it gets to your breakpoint is critical to consistently breaking this target. Even leaning back may not give adequate visual reaction time. It's surprising, but often the culprit is a baseball cap. Taking off, or turning your cap backwards opens up your peripheral vision so you can see the target as soon as it's overhead giving you that vital fraction of a second to allow your eyes to "coordinate" with your hands. It can actually appear to slow the target down giving you ample time to make a smooth move to the clay.

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If you’re taking photos at a shooting range, whether for a class or a tournament, make sure you listen to and abide by the range master’s directions. Having a camera does not give you license to roam freely at the range.

When capturing the action of an upland bird hunt, steer clear of setting up so a rising bird will be between the camera and the muzzle. Even if it’s a controlled situation where the hunter’s firearm is unloaded, having a muzzle pointed at the photographer sends the wrong message.

If you’re a pro who is lining up an important photo shoot, call your state wildlife agency and request a subject matter expert. The agency may be able to connect you with a hunter education volunteer instructor who can be at your shoot to make sure your photos show safe conduct.

“If a picture is worth a thousand words, let’s make sure we’re communicating the right message,” Cantrell said. “At our agency we go through a stringent review process to make sure the photos and video we use show safe hunting practices.”

To help the media, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission hosts field days. At these events, safe hunting and shooting scenarios are set up, allowing shutterbugs to capture images that demonstrate safe behavior.

Casper and Cantrell also suggested that photographers take a hunter safety course. You can receive a quality education at your convenience by taking an online hunter safety course at hunter-ed.com or bowhunter-ed.com. The training offered at these sites is approved by the state agencies responsible for hunter education.

Studying at www.hunter-ed.com and www.bowhunter-ed.com is free. Those
who must be certified before they can buy a hunting license pay a one-time fee, which is due only if they pass the test. Students can take the test as many times as they need to pass it. Online hunter safety and bowhunting education courses are available in participating states, so visit www.hunter-ed.com or www.bowhunter-ed.com to take a course specific to your state.

**About The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission**

Since 1947, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission has been dedicated to the conservation and sustainability of the state’s fish and wildlife resources through research, scientific management, wise use, and public input. The Commission is the state regulatory agency responsible for the enforcement of fishing, hunting, trapping and boating laws and provides programs and opportunities for wildlife-related educational, recreational and sporting activities. To learn more, visit www.ncwildlife.org.
In the early 1900s, when many fish and wildlife species were dwindling in numbers or disappearing altogether, the hunting and shooting industries stepped forward to help state fish and wildlife agencies counteract the crisis. Manufacturers supported the use of excise taxes on equipment and sought legislation to ensure federal funding would be directed to aid agencies in managing and conserving America’s natural resources and providing hunting access.

On September 2, 1937, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, now called the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act, which to this day fosters partnerships between federal and state fish and wildlife agencies, the sporting arms industry, conservation groups and sportsmen and women to benefit wildlife.

Later, anglers and the fishing and boating industries established similar funding strategies through the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act (the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act) in 1950 and its Wallop-Breaux Boating Trust Fund amendment in 1984. Through this American System of Conservation Funding, more than $12 billion dollars have been entrusted to agencies for fisheries and wildlife restoration and management; hunter, angler and boater access; as well as for hunter and boater safety education.

In 2012, we proudly observe 75 years of the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration program and the success of the partnerships that have made this program the single most successful conservation effort in U.S. history.

Wildlife Restoration Facts:
• Between 1939 and 2010 WR provided $6,411,069,221 in grants to State fish and wildlife agencies.
• Between 1970 and 2006, hunting and shooting sports manufacturers saw a 1,000% annual return on their excise tax investments.
• White-tailed Deer – Then and Now:
  – In 1937, 11 states had no open seasons for deer and three others had only local seasons. Virtually all of the remaining states had far more restrictive seasons than today.
  – In 1937, the deer population in Illinois was estimated to be 3,000 animals, and the hunting season was closed.
  – In 2010, hunters in Illinois could potentially hunt deer for 108 days.
  – In 2008, hunters harvested more than 188,400 deer.
  – In 1937, Missouri’s hunters harvested 108 deer. In 2009, hunters took more than 295,000 deer.
  – From 1937 to 1965, deer hunting was not allowed in Kansas. Now, over 100,000 are harvested annually.
  – In 1937, New Jersey deer hunters had six days of opportunity available. In 2009, there were more than 161 deerhunting days available to Garden State hunters.
• Wild Turkey – Then and Now:
  – North Carolina’s fall turkey season was closed in 1971, and a spring season established in 1972. During the spring of 1977, 144 wild turkeys were reported taken. By 2008, the spring harvest was 10,404 birds—an increase of 7,200%.
  – While Arkansas hunters had a 30-day turkey season in the 1930s, only an estimated 300 birds were taken each year. Today, turkey hunters in Arkansas enjoy a 72-day season and harvest more than 11,700 birds.
  – In 1937, turkey hunting in Kentucky was closed. Today, Kentucky hunters enjoy 159 days of turkey hunting annually.
  – During Ohio’s first turkey season in 1966, hunters took 12 birds. In 2009, they took 20,710 turkeys.
• In 1937, states on average allowed 30 days of waterfowl hunting. In 2010, 11 states provide 150 or more waterfowl hunting days, 23 states provide 120 days, and 13 states provide more than 90.
• In 1937, Wyoming elk hunters had only limited local seasons. Today, 170 days of elk hunting are available for various specialty hunts. More than 53,000 hunters put in more than 412,000 hunter-days devoted to elk hunting, harvesting approximately 23,000 elk.
• With greater wildlife populations, the number of Americans hunting—the customer base for businesses paying the tax—increased nearly 2-1/2 times between 1937 and 1982. Even though the number of hunters has recently declined, there were still more than twice as many hunters in 2010 as there were in 1937, based on state license sales.
• Some National WR Accomplishments from 2004-2009 include:
  – Total Animals Stocked – 42,500
  – Students Taught Hunter Education – 3 million
  – Shooting Ranges Operated or Constructed – 900
  – Private Landowners Assisted – 173,000
  – Acres acquired or leased – 4.9 million.
Get lost. Then found again.

Share your route and locations with friends and family in real time. Send for help if you need it. Stay as connected as you’d like via satellite, even outside of cell phone range. It’s pretty cool.

ReadyWithSPOT.com
‘Where2Shoot’ iPhone App Finds Shooting Ranges Near You

NSSF’s range directory goes mobile; other features include video tips, news and safety info

When you want to reach the young people that are the majority of future hunters in your classes, you probably try to use the communication and teaching techniques that work best for reaching their age bracket.

We recognize that most young people, for example, are not getting their news from conventionally published newspapers. If you want to feed them the news, it is best done digitally.

Similarly, the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF), the trade association for the firearms, ammunition, hunting and shooting sports industry, has tapped into a favored method of communication by young people by launching “Where2Shoot,” a mobile app available for the iPhone and iPod Touch.

The app—available for free in the iTunes App Store—puts North America’s most comprehensive directory of shooting ranges in the palm of one’s hand. It also includes video tips for shooters, news and firearm safety information.

Where2Shoot gives users the ability to search for ranges near their current location as well as by zip code and state. It also provides specifics about each range, including shooting activities offered, accessibility and contact information.

The app is modeled after NSSF’s popular website, WhereToShoot.org, and is updated frequently with range information in every U.S. state and Canadian province. New tips for hunters and shooters are also added regularly.

The website is recognized as the best tool for finding conveniently located shooting facilities near home or on your travels. That convenience becomes even more evident when the same information and search capabilities are now available in a telecommunications device.

You and your students can visit the iTunes App Store (http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/where2shoot/id502599240?mt=8) or scan the QR code (right) with an iPhone or iPod Touch to learn more and to download the app.

Easy-access directories may be critical aids to encouraging graduating hunter education students to continue their journey to become sportsmen and women. Students may be intimidated unless they have mentors helping them gain experience and knowledge, as well as showing them where to practice shooting. Without mentors, their development as hunters may be thwarted before it has really had a chance to begin.

That’s why NSSF has developed not only its WhereToShoot website, and now, its Where2Shoot app, but also its WingshootingUSA.org website. This helpful website allows visitors to identify gamebird shooting preserves all across the country. Just as it is important to take a new fisherman to a place where they will likely catch fish to fan the flames of their interest, so it is important and valuable for novice hunters to have a place where they are almost certainly going to enjoy shooting action on game.

A preserve provides that action during lengthy seasons, and it allows hunters to practice the basics of hunting safety and ethics.

So, help your students continue to improve in their hunting and shooting skills after they successfully leave your classroom. Tell them about NSSF’s valuable websites and encourage them to download the Where2Shoot app.

A shooting facility is where your graduating students can become comfortable with their firearms, and the new Where2Shoot iPhone and iPod Touch app from the National Shooting Sports Foundation can help them find conveniently located ranges that meet their needs.

Scan the QR code to download NSSF’s Where2Shoot app.
We start where the competition leaves off.

Whether you’re in the heat of fierce competition or on the hunt of a lifetime and you only have one shot, make sure you have the right tool for the job. Performance Center firearms are hand-crafted, high-tech and ultimate performing machines.

smith-wesson.com/pc
This past year Safari Club International Foundation awarded a total of $33,270 in college scholarships benefitting 20 students majoring in wildlife management, natural resource management, or a related field of study.

That total dollar commitment is being increased to $35,270 in the 2012-13 academic years. Since the year 2000, SCI Foundation has awarded $300,000 to sixty-one scholars attending colleges around the U.S. Since 2004, Safari Club International Foundation has invested nearly $500,000 in scholarship endowments that have awarded $41,000 to twenty-two scholars. Safari Club International Foundation has four hunting heritage scholars this year and will have five at the beginning of the 2012 fall semester.

Education Sables Hunting Heritage Scholarship Endowments are at the University of West Virginia, Unity College in Maine, Texas A & M Kingsville, University of Idaho and University of Montana.

“These scholarships are imperative for the education of future hunter-conservationists,” said SCI Foundation President Joseph Hosmer. “We need more individuals committed to science-based conservation and active wildlife management. Only then can we ensure that future generations are afforded the same opportunities to get out and experience the outdoors as we have.”

The future of hunting is dependent upon next generations. SCI Foundation Education Sables are committed to continuing our hunting heritage through education. Investing in the education of these college scholars is an investment in the future of hunting and wildlife conservation.

Contact the SCI Foundation Education Department for SCIF scholarship applications and more information at 520-620-1220 ext. 231 or shankner@safariclub.org.
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weatherby.com
Airgun Hunting Small Game And Varmints, For Me, Is About Accuracy First—Power Second

By Cliff Tharpe

I talk to guys all of the time, that are coming over to airgunning from a lifetime of shooting powder burners, and the one thing they are almost always focused on is pellet velocity.

Show them an airgun, and the first question is, “how fast does this thing shoot a pellet?” That’s usually where the education about the differences between hunting with small bore airguns, and small bore powder burners begins, with the emphasis on accuracy, not power.

Small bore powder burning cartridges, like the .17HMR, .22 Mag, .223, .22-250, and .220 swift, are high velocity death on small vermin like ground squirrels, and prairie dogs. Highly explosive projectiles, such as the Hornady V-Max, and Nosler Ballistic Tip bullets, when driven at high velocity, literally detonate small rodents on impact.

At impact, a tremendous amount of energy is released by the polymer-tipped bullet’s rapid expansion. Impressive power to say the least. You’re not going to get that with an airgun pellet. Hunting with airguns is about accuracy, and very precise pellet placement.

When shooting powder burner varmint rifles, supreme accuracy was always a pursuit of mine, but for a slightly different reason than when shooting my airguns. Supreme accuracy, lets me reach out farther with my powder burners, 400 yards and beyond was common. I wasn’t so much concerned with placing a Ballistic tip bullet on a precise spot, like the earhole of a ground squirrel, as I was mostly interested in putting it center of mass, on the squirrel or prairie dog at long range, and the highly explosive bullet would take care of the rest.

With my airguns, I also pursue high levels of accuracy, but with these guns, it’s because I need to place a pellet precisely where I want it to go. Airguns kill by putting a pellet through one or more vital organs of the critter being hunted. That means a high level of accuracy is required, to consistently put a pellet precisely where it is wanted, on demand.

The guns I hunt with all have one thing in common. They are very, very accurate. The power levels vary from about 6 fpe on the low end, to 46 fpe on the high end with enough power to kill cleanly, within each gun’s accuracy capabilities and power limitations.

**FWB 300S .177, 5 shots at 35 yards, with 8.4 grain JSB Exact, generating about 6fpe at the muzzle.**

For example, the above photo of a target, shows a five shot group at 35 yards, fired from one of my FWB 300S, .177 cal, recoilless springers. This gun generates about 6 fpe at the muzzle. The orange dot is half inch. This rifle is death on ground squirrels, with head shots out to 45 yards.

A typical adult California Ground Squirrel, or adult Gunnison’s Prairie Dog’s head, is a target that measures roughly 2 inches wide by 2 inches high, and about 2.5 inches front to back. Inside of that, you have about a 1.5 inch kill zone. Include the neck, and upper chest, heart lung area, and we now have a kill zone that runs about 1.5 - 2 inches wide by about 4 inches tall.

Not an impossible target, all the way to 100 yards, but it takes a very accurate airgun to stay inside that 1.5 - 2 inch wide kill zone at that distance. Especially when shooting in the wind.

**Marauder .22 pistol/carbine, 5 shots at 40 yards, with 12.8 grain Sn-2 tin pellets, generating 13 fpe at the muzzle.**

I’m very comfortable using my Marauder pistol/carbine, for heart, lung, or head shots on ground squirrels out to 65 yards. The accuracy and power at 13 fpe is more than enough for California Ground Squirrels at that range. Last year, I used it exclusively for hunting ground squirrels, and the performance was simply amazing.

If I’m looking for a bit more power and reach in a nice light rifle, I’ll hunt with my Benjamin Discovery.

**Discovery .22, 5 shots at 30 yards, with 16 grain JSB Exacts, generating approximately 23 fpe at the muzzle.**

My Discovery has been a ton of fun to hunt with. The accuracy and power let me take ground squirrels out to 75/80 yards, and the light weight of the gun
Benjamin Marauder .22, 5 shots at 50 yards, with 14.5 grain DYNAMIC PCP-2 tin pellets, generating 27 fpe at the muzzle. Half inch orange dot.

makes it a dream to carry all day long.

Power may vary from gun to gun a bit, but the common denominator throughout all of these PCP’s I shoot is their excellent accuracy.

Benjamin Marauder .25, 5 shots at 65 yards, with 30.8 grain Beeman Kodiaks, generating 46 fpe at the muzzle.

There is a wide range of airgun prices represented in the marketplace, but accurate is accurate, whether the gun cost $250 or $1600. That doesn’t matter to me, because I’m mostly interested in what a given gun can do down range with a pellet. That’s where the real work gets done with any gun, and my less expensive PCP’s shoot right along with some of their higher priced cousins.

With the exception of the .22 cal Marauder, none of the guns I have are driving their pellets over 900 fps and a couple, the Marauder pistol/carbine and FWB 300S, are under 700 and 600 fps respectively. Not tons of power (13 fpe and 6 fpe) for sure. Yet both guns are very efficient killers of California Ground Squirrels.

When used within each gun’s capabilities and power limitations, they have all performed the task at hand very, very well indeed.

All of these guns are superbly accurate, and that’s the focus when it comes to hunting with small bore airguns. We need enough power, along with the accuracy, to deliver a pellet cleanly to the vital organs of our chosen prey. We will never have the kind of velocities and power that the powder burner varmint cartridges generate, but we don’t need them either.

Hunting with small bore airguns isn’t about high velocity and loads of muzzle energy, it’s really about accuracy and precise shot placement, and for me that’s what makes it so challenging and fun.
Jennifer Morgan’s career with the New Mexico Department of Game & Fish began in 1999 as a fisheries co-op student working with the Native Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout. During this time she also became a Volunteer Bowhunter Instructor. She graduated in the fall of 2000 from New Mexico State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture with a major in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences.

She grew up fishing, camping and backpacking and was not exposed to hunting until college. During her college career she had a desire to teach, especially youth, about the wildlife and fishery opportunities one had to enjoy in the “Land of Enchantment.” At that time she discovered a desire to become involved in archery. She competed regularly in leagues and 3-D tournaments throughout southern New Mexico, which then sparked her interest in bowhunting.

Being exposed to the program as a volunteer was the best thing to happen to her. To be able to educate the public about the enjoyment of wildlife and how hunters play such an integral role as wildlife managers was a dream job. She will be employed with the Hunter Education Program for 11 years this October. Her first 10 years was spent as the Assistant Hunter Education Program Coordinator and in August 2011 she was given the opportunity to apply and promote to Program Coordinator.

She enjoys bowhunting the most, but any opportunity to hunt is a blessing. Her favorite hunting experiences are to take a youth on their first hunt. “To share the adventure with a first-time hunter is priceless,” she stated, “and you don’t always have to be the hunter to enjoy the experience.”

Her husband, Ross, also works for the Department as the Public Information and Outreach Officer for the Northwest Area. They enjoy hunting, fishing, their horses and just being outside. She always makes time to hunt hogs in Texas.

Take a moment to visit New Mexico and look Jennifer up. She might take you on a horseback ride west of Albuquerque. To reach her, the information is below.

Hunter Education Program Coordinator
New Mexico Dept. of Game & Fish
3841 Midway Place, NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109
Office: (505) 222-4722
Email: jennifer.morgan@state.nm.us

Lt. Larry Morrison - Larry has worked for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division since September 1998. He started out as a Conservation Officer assigned to Operational District Six, and served in that capacity until he was promoted to the Commander of the Outdoor Education Section in June of 2011.

Larry earned an Associate Degree in Conservation Law Enforcement in December 1997 from Vincennes University in Southern Indiana. After several years of debating with himself, he returned to school in 2010 to obtain a Bachelor Degree in Criminal Justice from Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis. He stated, “It is a harder process while working full time and raising kids, but should be completed in the near future.”

While working the field as a Conservation Officer, he was heavily involved with Hunter Education, and became involved with the Becoming an Outdoors Woman program and various youth camps. Larry served as a Counselor, Staff Counselor, Assistant Director, and finally the Camp Director for several years before his priorities switched to having his own children. And, he still continues to assist with instructing at most of the venues.

He has a strong desire to teach the youth not only about firearm safety, but also about the joys of the outdoors. Larry commented, “There’s nothing better than seeing a youngster hit their first clay target or reel in their first bluegill.” He still remembers the numerous hunting and fishing outings enjoyed with his family growing up. He continues that tradition by passing on all he can to his two boys, Ethan and Trent. He takes them fishing as often as possible and lets them go on hunting excursions as often as they like. He has been married to Sarah for eight remarkable years, and states she has a strong interest in the outdoors as well.

Of all the options, turkey hunting is his greatest enjoyment. He said, “There is nothing better than getting set up on a cool spring morning in the dark and having the gentle silence broken by the high ongoing gobble from a tom turkey. The anticipation of seeing him in full strut cannot accurately be described, and anyone that has experienced it knows exactly what I mean.”

If anyone wishes to contact him, the address and information is below.

DNR Law Enforcement Division
Outdoor Education Section
402 W Washington St. Rm W255D, Indianapolis, IN 46204
Office: (317) 233-5007
Email: lmorrison@dnr.in.gov
Kent Barrett has worked for the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Hunter Education Section for almost 8 years. The first 6 1/2 years he was a part-time Laser Shot operator and the last year and a half he has served as the full time Hunter Education Coordinator after the retirement of Wayne Doyle. He has been involved with Kansas Hunter Education Program as a volunteer instructor for 23 years.

He has been a professional scuba diving instructor with 25 years PADI teaching experience. He also is certified to teach 17 specialties and has a Master Scuba Diver Trainer, Master Instructor and IDC Staff certifications as well.

Kent owned and operated his own sporting goods retail store for 25 years. Besides general sporting goods, his store included scuba diving, hunting and shooting sports, fishing, camping and cycling gear and equipment. He also owned a fitness center and racquetball club.

He is a graduate of Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah where he received a BS degree in Microbiology with a minor in Chemistry. While at BYU he met and married his wife of 33 years, Karen, and they have 6 children and 9 grandchildren.

Also while at BYU he got into retail sporting goods by working at The Park’s Sportsman in Orem, Utah, and while there he learned to fly fish in the Provo River and completed his scuba certification dives at Fish Lake.

Kent has hunted most of his life and enjoys pursuing upland game, turkey, deer, coyotes and prairie dogs. He said, “I enjoy the upland bird hunts because of the family associations involved with the hunt, but I would have to admit that my favorite hunt would be the fall squirrel hunt in Kansas because of the quiet time.”

In addition, he stated, “If not hunting, my favorite activity would have to be scuba diving. My favorite international dive location would be drift diving Palancar Reef at Cozumel Mexico, while my favorite local spot is Lake McConaughy at Ogallala, Nebraska.” He enjoys spear fishing for walleye and bass after July 1st of every year. This really opens up year round hunting opportunities for him. He is a certified Kansas Concealed Carry Instructor and has attended training schools in Kansas and at Swanson Tactical in Ogden, Utah.

He can be reached at the following:

Kansas Dept. of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism
Hunter Education Coordinator
512 SE 25th Ave, Pratt, KS 67124
Office: (620) 672-0768
Cell: (620) 875-3141
Fax: (620) 672-6020
Email: kent.barrett@ksoutdoors.com

Mark C. Ostroski, Hunter Education Coordinator for the State of Delaware, has been on the job since February 2012. He retired from the Delaware State Police in October 2011, after a rewarding 23-year career. He has an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice from Delaware Technical and Community College.

He has been involved as a volunteer Hunter Education Instructor since 2006. His instructor experience with the program has been the Basic Hunter Education Course and the 5-hour Field Day for those electing to take the Internet course.

He resides in Lewes, Delaware with his wife and two children, a daughter, age 14 and a son, age 11. He is an avid outdoorsman and enjoys hunting and fishing. In particular, he especially enjoys hunting whitetail deer and waterfowl with his son. In his spare time, he also volunteers as a coach for softball and baseball.

For more information on Mark or to contact him, visit the following web address:
www.ihea-usa.org/instructors/directory-of-administrators
Ammunition & Air Travel
By Alan R. Edwards, Special Agent, Federal Aviation Administration, Security & Hazardous Materials Safety

Are you planning that hunting trip of a lifetime to Alaska? Perhaps you plan to participate in a civil war reenactment event, or possibly compete in a skeet shooting match? If your plans involve air travel, the Federal Aviation Administration wants you to have a safe, legal and enjoyable trip and ensure you are aware of the limitations and restrictions on traveling with small arms ammunition or muzzle loading supplies.

Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (49 CFR) regulates the transportation of hazardous materials by all four modes (air, highway, vessel, rail). The regulations allow small arms ammunition for personal use to be carried by a passenger in checked baggage, if securely packaged in boxes or other packaging specifically designed to carry small amounts of ammunition. Ammunition clips and magazines must also be securely boxed. While domestic regulations do not limit the amount of ammunition, most airlines limit ammunition in checked baggage to a maximum of 11 pounds per passenger.

What about muzzleloader powder/propellants?
Propelling charges such as black powder and black powder substitutes are not allowed in passenger baggage.

Civil penalties can be assessed against a passenger who improperly offers these items in air transportation. The transportation of these materials should only be performed by a person with knowledge of the hazardous material regulations. For destinations within the United States, contacting your supplier and having them ship these materials directly to your destination is a great way to ensure it is done properly.

What about primers?
Primers, cap type, are not allowed in passenger baggage.

While certain primers can be transported, others are forbidden in air transportation. Again, any transportation of these materials should only be performed by a person with knowledge of the hazardous material regulations. The best way to ensure compliance is to have the primers shipped directly to your destination by the supplier or purchase the primers upon arrival at your destination. Remember the motto: “Avoid a flight and buy on site”.

What if I am traveling overseas?
For international air transportation, the regulations permit up to 11 pounds of small arms ammunition per passenger in checked baggage. Since airlines may have more restrictive policies, it is prudent to contact your airline in advance to ensure they allow small arms ammunition in checked baggage. Black powder, black powder substitutes, and primers are forbidden from international air transportation in passenger baggage. Many problems can be avoided by coordinating in advance with hunting guides or local retailers in the country to which you are traveling. Leave the preparation and shipping of the hazardous materials to the experts.

More information can be obtained by contacting the nearest Federal Aviation Administration, Security & Hazardous Materials Office. Contact information can be found at www.faa.gov. Visit www.iata.org for International air transportation information.
Planned Giving

By providing for the IHEA-USA in your will or trust you will help to ensure that future generations experience the same kind of outdoor experiences that you hold so dearly. Please read:

"The mission of the International Hunter Education Association-United States of America is so pure that for those of us that hunt and believe in education first and legislation last, I personally have included in my Last Will and Testament 1/2 of my estate be awarded to the IHEA-USA. Hunting for me has been one of life's great disciplines and made me a better person in so many ways. Having an understanding of our connection with the land, how we both collectively and individually influence our natural resources and the opportunity to actively participate in the management of those resources is key to the future of our hunting heritage." — Tim Lawhen

You can set aside:
- A specific dollar amount
- A percentage of your estate's value
- All or part of the remainder of your estate in your will or trust
- All or part of the proceeds of a Life Insurance policy or Retirement Plan

All donations received from this program will be deposited into our Planned Giving Endowment and will be utilized for long-term funding of the organization. The interest earned from this Endowment will be used for general operations for the IHEA-USA.

We urge you to consult your attorney in preparing your will or trust and hope that the following language will be helpful in providing a bequest to IHEA-USA:

"I give, devise and bequeath _____% of what remains of my estate (or $______) to the International Hunter Education Association-United States of America (Tax ID # 37-1145157), a charitable corporation presently having offices at 2727 W. 92nd Ave., Suite 103, Federal Heights, CO 80260."

IHEA-USA is a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Colorado. Bequests of any size are gratefully accepted and sincerely appreciated. However, while IHEA-USA can accept gifts of land, we are not in a position to hold property for any reason. Any land given outright or bequeathed to IHEA-USA will be immediately sold. The proceeds of which will be used to fund our programs.
Airsoft Sportsman: Hunter Safety Practicum

By Scott Beam, *Indiana HE Instructor*

I have been teaching environmental education for quite some time, but only recently did I earn certification as a Hunter Education instructor. As I was learning the curriculum I wanted to find new, creative ways to present the safe hunting concepts. The required program relies heavily on classroom lecture. But many learners learn by doing, and I wanted to capitalize on that. My goal was to develop a practicum that would reinforce the lectures by acting out safe habits and decision making. I designed a hunting simulation and found a tool to accomplish this, the airsoft gun. Young people are very familiar with airsoft guns which shoot a low-power 6mm bb. Most airsoft guns are tactical replicas for playing army. With some simple modifications, though, the airsoft shotguns can more closely resemble actual sporting arms. Our local Pheasants Forever chapter sponsored the purchase and modification of the guns.

We already had the perfect location to host Airsoft Sportsman. One of our Lagrange County Indiana Parks, Pine Knob, features a public archery trail with 3-D animal targets, complete with elevated platforms to simulate using a tree stand.

Since the purpose of the event was to make the experience as realistic as possible, participants had to first fill out a license, just as they would need to do prior to

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Connor Lloyd practices his airsoft shotgun before the activities of Airsoft Sportsman.
going hunting. Then the hunters hit the trail in the woods.

Stations were set up along the trail to allow the young hunters to apply what they learned during the lectures. Stations included: Shoot or Don’t Shoot—analyze the situation for a safe shot; Practice using a hoist rope in a tree stand; Act out a safe fence crossing; and more.

Other learning stations were to interpret the hunting experience and the hunter’s role in wildlife conservation. Firearms action match was a simple game of matching replica firearm types to their proper name. A “shopping spree” was a sample of goods used during hunting season. Participants had to decide which goods were subject to the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration excise tax.

During the exercise, each young hunter was required to carry his or her hunting license, since they would need to properly fill out a deer transportation tag. At one point, a successful kill was declared and the deer tags were filled in and graded. The idea was to prepare them for applying for a license or filling out a game tag when their turn comes. And, just as in the real world, everyone had a photo opportunity with one of the deer targets as their trophy.

Marksmanship is also an important part of the practicum. The hunters first practiced at the field target bull’s-eyes before heading into the woods. Then we scored shots at designated targets along the 3-D trail.

At the conclusion of the event, the young hunters drew for hunting gear prizes sponsored by the Pigeon River chapter of National Wild Turkey Federation. The event’s other sponsor, Whitetails Unlimited, covered event publicity and logo gear for participants.

Everyone got to practice something they had never done before. Everyone got to put themselves in a situation where they had to make safe decisions. And everyone had fun. It was a good day of hunting, without hunting.
W
die Hunter Education has been one of the most successful life-saving programs in history, every year there are still a few hunting-related incidents. These unfortunately result in personal injury and even, quite tragically, death. While it is rare any of these are intentional criminal acts, there is often a degree of negligence or recklessness involved that can result in criminal charges against the shooter.

Enter HSRC. Founded by Rod Slings from Iowa, retired Iowa DNR law enforcement and hunter education administrator; Capt. Michael Van Durme, retired from New York State DEC; and Sgt. Keith Byers, retired from Georgia DNR, these three bring over 50 years of experience to the investigation of hunting-related shootings to their consulting business. They have also been key members of the leadership and instructor cadre of the Hunting Incident Investigation Academy.

Many hunting and shooting incidents are truly accidents; cases where the shooter followed all the game laws as well as the rules of safe hunting and firearms handling. Determining the actual facts of these cases can contribute significantly in identifying and correctly interpreting vital details as well as assisting in determining where liability, if any, lies.

The partners at HSRC also serve as subject matter experts and can provide informative, useful Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor Workshops. Offering incident trend analyses to states, these partners are the leaders on the impacts of hunting-related shootings and investigation techniques. For more information on these “CSI guys in the woods”, go to www.huntsrc.com.
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SAFETY first when it comes to a trip to the deer woods this fall or when crawling in on that boss gobbler next spring. Mud, twigs, rain, and snow constantly get in the end of your barrel so don’t risk an explosion when lined up on your trophy. Barrel Guards™ prevents muck and mire from entering the end of your barrel and gives you piece of mind when your crosshairs or sites are in position.

Jump on Google sometime and search for ‘plugged barrel explosion’ and you may be surprised that there’s a ton of chatter about this out there. According to Barrel Guards’ President and founder Ken Voigt most hunters never believe this is going to happen yet it’s a very preventable situation. “I have an awful lot of people come up to me at sport shows and admit that they have actually experienced a plugged barrel explosion or have had to remove twigs or mud prior to a shot. I came up with the Barrel Guards product so hunters would not have to worry about any foreign object becoming an obstruction at the end of their barrel. When you’re lined up on a trophy, the only thing in your mind should be making a good, clean shot and not a concern over something plugging your barrel.” Pretty sound advice indeed.

Barrel Guards is basically a latex covering that goes over the tip of the barrel and stops any external matter from getting inside and clogging your barrel. Matter of fact, you shoot right through it and will not have to worry about removing it prior to taking a shot. There are sizes for rifle, muzzleloader and 12 and 20 gauge shotguns both in white and black colors. You can still see the colored gun site when using the white version. There’s no need to be concerned about picking up any debris once you’ve taken a shot because it is a green product and will biodegrade in a couple months. Barrel Guards was about four years in the making so have no doubt that it’ll quickly become a necessary and trusted companion in the field.

As a Hunter Education instructor, give Ken at Barrel Guards a call at 414-975-2446 and he’ll gladly give you a 50% discount off the product. He’s a former instructor who fully appreciates what y’all do each and every day. You can see the product and get more details online at www.barrelguards.com. You will probably want to buy a few packs of them when you speak to Ken since you’ll quickly become everyone’s best friend in camp this fall.
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The decision to outfit your new long range hunting rig with the best sighting device is a decision that you will most likely have to consider in the near future. Two popular possibilities include the BDC turret or the ballistic reticle.

The main benefit to the BDC turret is that no matter what magnification your riflescope is set to, the center crosshair remains zeroed. This is helpful if shooting conditions are affected by heat mirage or low light. Today’s quality custom turret manufacturer’s offer knobs that are precise, well designed and easy to read for fast dial to target distance. Negative possibilities include possible unwanted movement if the turret is not lockable, or the forgetting to reset the knob from one encounter to the next and therefore blowing a close shot by assuming the knob was back to your original zero setting. Spooking game with extra body movement at critical shooting times or not being able to see the dial clearly in low light conditions can also be troubling. Of course, windage turrets will require the purchase of a second knob as the elevation turret does not offer any hold reference point(s) for windage.

Ballistic reticles allow for much lower profile turrets and often contain reference points for both elevation and windage. Quality designed reticles are fast on target as there is no need for hand movement or to dope clicks before the shot. Ballistic reticles also don’t require the necessity to read the elevation dial. Numbered holdover bars reduce the chance of error by accidently using the incorrect bar in a stressful or heart pounding situation. The main drawback is that ballistic reticles are often designed for long distance targets and a well designed reticle will have a finer subtension which can sometimes be difficult to see in very low light.

There are many options available, pick the system that is most comfortable for you and only shoot within the means of your ability. Shoot straight, be safe and get out there.
Columbia Sportswear Offers Discounts To Hunter Education Instructors

Columbia Sportswear in Portland, OR is pleased to offer Hunter Education Instructors a discount through their Pro Purchase program for 2012. Interested instructors should visit www.columbia.com/propurchase.

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With the strong commitment and belief that volunteer Hunter Education Instructors ensure the future of our great nation through teaching responsibility, moral character, leadership, teamwork, and more, Promatic is proud to remind instructors that discounts on all of their clay throwers including the Signature Series Skeet Machine are available. In particular, the Signature Skeet offers the quick and easy ability to adjust height, spring tension and tilt without the use of a wrench for lightning fast adjustment. With over 60 machines, backed by their superior service team, give them a call at 888-767-2529 or visit www.promatic.biz to determine what makes sense for your students.

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For more information on these special discounts and offers for Instructors, go to: http://ihea-usa.org/special-offers-for-instructors.
State Awards Lifetime Of Community Involvement

By Hannah Heimbuch; Originally printed in May 2012 online issue The Bristol Bay Times; Re-printed with permission

Jerry Soukup, AK Hunter Education Administrator, presenting Ward Jones with an IHEA Henry Rifle and certificate in recognition of his Lifetime Achievement Award.

Ward Jones has worn a lot of hats in his nearly 50 years in Dillingham. And under those hats he holds a wealth of knowledge and experience, much of which he’s spent years sharing.

While Jones’ efforts as a gun safety and hunting education instructor bear the mark of straight-shooting practicality, the big picture story adds up to a man who has dedicated much of his time and energy to advocating for his community — for its safety, for its strength and for its knowledge.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game’s Hunter Information and Training program recently recognized this lifetime of community involvement. Jones was the first recipient of their Lifetime Achievement Award.

Jones credits some wise words from his father for his lifelong community involvement.

“You’ve got no right to gripe unless you get in there and work,” Jones’ father told him, in response to a strong opinion he’d voiced.

Jones started teaching gun safety in rural Alaska two-and-a-half decades before the state started to require it.

He and his wife, both young gym teachers new to Dillingham, became certified instructors so they could teach their students hunting safety techniques and hand them an official certificate at the end.

“He’s done so many unique things,” said Jerry Soukup, who works with the HIT program. Jones’ nomination for one of the HIT instructors of the year is one of the reasons they established the Lifetime Achievement Award.

“His (nomination) probably had input from 10 or 12 other people,” Soukup said. “Talking about what he’s done for a number of decades out in western Alaska.”

It’s people like Jones that enhance and perpetuate Alaska’s rich hunting heritage, Soukup said.

After retiring from teaching in 1986, Jones continued to teach hunter safety as a volunteer instructor, and especially reached out to women and youth groups that wanted more knowledge about gun and boating safety.

This was another aspect that set him apart, Soukup said. Jones was able to provide access to groups that were sometimes intimidated by the general hunter education classes.

“(He was) getting kids shooting safely and honing their skills early,” Soukup said.

In 1992 Jones went to work for the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation as an injury prevention specialist. He was able to continue spreading information about hunter safety, including firearm storage.

This is where Jones’ commitment went from safe hunters to safe homes.

“One of our big concerns out here is storing guns right,” Jones said. Suicide by firearm is a tragic and all too common reality for rural Alaska, and Jones believes appropriate gun storage is one way to combat that.

“(We need) to keep lethal means out of the hands of young people and people intoxicated,” he said.

With that goal in mind, Jones has helped place about 500 gun lockers in homes around southwest Alaska, and he emphasizes the locker part.

The small gun safe that a handgun owner might use just isn’t effective for rural households, Jones said.

“For every hunter in the house then you’ve got three guns,” Jones said, noting that the average hunter owns a .22, a large rifle and a shotgun, none of them small pieces of equipment.

So he figured to be effective when providing gun storage to the community, it would need to be large lockers.

Some of the lockers Jones has helped place have been through the Bristol Bay Housing Authority, which now installs a gun safe in every new house they build.

Another way was partnering with other organizations — such as Indian Health Services and the University of Washington, among many others — to conduct a study to determine if the installation of gun lockers would improve firearm storage in the average household.

“Gun cabinet installation in rural Alaska households improved the storage of guns and ammunition. If these gains are sustained over time, it may lead to a reduction in gun-related injuries and deaths in the population,” the study stated in summary.

No less than 250 grant-funded gun lockers were placed as a part of that project, about 130 in Bristol Bay area communities. The study was published last month in the American Journal of Public Health.

That study involved a number of expert and dedicated individuals, Jones said, people who are dedicated to the safety and best interests of rural Alaska.

Hannah Heimbuch can be reached at hheimbuch@reportalaska.com.

Disclaimer: The Hunter & Shooting Sports Education Journal welcomes article submissions expressing individual or organization views and opinions. Articles submitted do not necessarily reflect those of the IHEA-USA, IHEA-USA board of directors, IHEA-USA management, the editor or publisher. The IHEA-USA will continue to support the safety aspect of all hunting activities and methods. In addition, we encourage anyone who wishes to submit a rebuttal to published articles to send them to susiekiefer@msn.com.
### 10 Commandments of Firearm Safety

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Postal Code: __________________________________________

Phone: ( ) __________________________ Fax: ( ) __________________________

E-mail: __________________________________________

I prefer (check one): [ ] E-Mail [ ] Paper correspondence

### Lifetime OR Annual Membership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Type</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Instructions</th>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Individual Membership</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
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<td>Lifetime Membership Fee .............</td>
<td>$375.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lifetime Membership Payment Plan</td>
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<td>(3 Consecutive Mo. Installments)</td>
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**Total Payment $______**

**Method of Payment (US funds only):**

[ ] Check/Money Order [ ] American Express [ ] Master Card [ ] Visa

Card Number: __________________________ Expiration Date: ____________

Name on Card: __________________________________________ Expiration Date: ____________

Signature: __________________________________________

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**Mail to:**

IHEA-USA • 2727 West 92nd Ave., Suite 103, Federal Heights, CO 80260

Website: www.IHEA-USA.org • Phone: (303) 430-7233 • E-Mail: Info@IHEA.com

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Each ANNUAL $25 IHEA-USA Individual Membership includes:

1. IHEA-USA Membership Card.
2. IHEA-USA “Member” Pin.
3. IHEA-USA “Member” Decal.
4. IHEA-USA Membership Patch.
5. IHEA-USA Responsible Hunting static cling Window Decal.
6. Special early bird invitations to IHEA-USA events (www.ihea.com).
7. Exclusive “Member Only” opportunities to purchase significantly discounted merchandise and closeouts offered by hunting and firearms manufacturers and distributors (www.ihea.com).
8. Liability Insurance-Individual memberships of the IHEA-USA are provided with Volunteer Liability Insurance up to $1,000,000 per occurrence. This policy provides protection for a bodily injury or a property damage liability claim arising out of the performance of the registered volunteers’ duties.

Note: A similar policy is being pursued for Canadian Volunteer Instructors but is not yet available.

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In addition to the benefits listed above, each new IHEA-USA Lifetime $375 “Membership will include:

- $100 Cabella’s Gift Certificate
- Recognition on the IHEA-USA website as a Lifetime member.
- Certificate signed by the Executive Director of the IHEA-USA.
- Continuing the Heritage #2 Print (16” X 20”)
- “Lifetime Member” Lapel Pin
- Cabell’s/Sportsman’s Gift Bag (29”L X 16”W X 14”H) embroidered with “Lifetime Member”

Membership rewards are subject to change.
My Turn—Thank You Terry Erwin And Hunter Education

Rick Cumins, Texas Hunter Education and Bowhunting Instructor

I am a Hunter Education and Bowhunter Education Instructor in Texas and would like to thank Terry Erwin and Hunter Education.

Throughout the years, Terry Erwin, Hunter Education Coordinator for Texas Parks and Wildlife, has given me pointers and advice to improve myself, my writing, and my presentation of Hunter Education instruction. He has helped give me confidence in my writing, and thanks to him, I push myself to recall stories from my past and capture them on paper to share with family and friends.

Several years ago, Terry even drove up from his home south of Austin, Texas to my home near Cleburne, Texas to be guest speaker for a group that I help with, the Johnson County Creative Writers. That’s about an eight hour drive, round trip, and I’m sure he didn’t return home until near midnight.

If not for Hunter Education, we may never have met. I will never be able to thank you enough for all of your help, advice and confidence! Now that you will be retiring, maybe we can plan a hunting trip together and actually spend time making some hunting stories together? I’m ready when you are my friend!
Who knew a bow with 40 lbs of weight adjustment could be this fast, this smooth and this quiet?

Who could've imagined getting all that for $299? Our competitors say, it's crazy. We say, it's the Craze.
SCI Foundation Grants
IHEA-USA Heritage Hunt $5,000

Each year, Focus Group and its partners offer Hunter Education students and IHEA-USA Certified Instructors entry into the IHEA-USA Heritage Hunt through Hunter’s Handbook, the official student publication of the IHEA-USA.

Of these entries, three students and two instructors have the opportunity to win an all expense paid trip of a lifetime to Indianhead Ranch in Texas for the opportunity to hunt unique species of game. Each trip includes airfare, food and accommodations, apparel, animal fees, tips for guides and cooks and taxidermy. It truly is the hunt of a lifetime, so as one can imagine, the costs to put this all together are not small.

For 2012, the Heritage Hunt is getting a giant helping hand from a new partnership with the Safari Club International Foundation. Since the IHEA-USA Heritage Hunt seeks to give students and instructors background on wildlife conservation, world species management, as well as provide a safe environment in which to give the attendees the opportunity to hunt exotic species and further fulfill their individual desires and knowledge for lifelong hunting, the SCI Foundation and Safari Club Education Sables offer the perfect partnership, specializing in conservation education efforts, and worldwide hunting initiatives. Many thanks go out to the Safari Club Education Sables and their staff for their help in aiding and guiding the grant request. Together we can make amazing experiences for new young hunters. ■
Volunteering as a hunter education instructor is a personal commitment and sometimes challenging. Obtaining quality hunter safety and educational materials shouldn’t be. The National Shooting Sports Foundation has been supporting hunter education instructors for almost 50 years.

A longtime supporter of the International Hunter Education Association, NSSF has been in the forefront of developing multimedia hunter safety and education materials. We provide printed and electronic materials for volunteer instructors—most of which is free. And when your students graduate and are looking for places to hunt or for additional information to develop their skills and knowledge, the answers are simply a click away!

Log on to the www.nssf.org and order your materials today. All the help you need is at your fingertips.
To assist certified NRA, Hunter Safety, Appleseed, 4-H, Scouting and state instructors in their efforts to provide quality firearms safety training, Ruger offers the following products for purchase at a special discount:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model #</th>
<th>Firearm Model</th>
<th>Barrel Length</th>
<th>Sights</th>
<th>Finish</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
<th>Caliber</th>
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<tr>
<td>92118</td>
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<td>.44 Mag</td>
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Sales Tax (if shipping to Arizona): 9.30%
Sales Tax (if shipping to Connecticut): 6.30%

Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery (subject to availability) Total

Name:
Address:
City: State: Zip Code:
Daytime Phone: Email:

I agree these firearms are for training only and are not to be resold.

Signature:

To order, (1) complete the form, (2) attach a check or money order for the entire amount, (3) provide a copy of your NRA, Hunter Safety, Appleseed or other instructor certification and (4) provide a copy of a Federal Firearms License (FFL) with an original signature. Prices include Federal Excise Tax and are subject to change. Up to 10 firearms may be purchased by an instructor. Firearms are for training purposes only and are not to be resold. **NOTE:** This special offer is valid through December 31, 2012. Handguns must ship overnight. All firearms will be sent to address on the FFL. Some firearms may not be available in some states and locales. Offer is subject to all applicable state, federal and local laws. Product will ship when available. Discontinued products may not be available. All orders shipped freight prepaid, F.O.B. seller's place of business, with title and risk of loss passing to purchaser upon delivery of the firearms to the carrier. The purchaser is solely responsible for obtaining insurance for the firearms in transit, if desired, and for paying any and all transfer costs and/or other fees imposed by the FFL.

Send this Form, Instructor Certification, FFL, and Payment to: Training, Sales Department, Ruger, 1 Lacey Place, Southport, CT 06890

WWW.RUGER.COM