

Volume 2 No. 2 Fall 2002



# HUNTER & SHOOTING SPORTS EDUCATION **JOURNAL**

The Official Publication of the International Hunter Education Association

## Ice and Water Safety for Hunters

- Save Your Buddy... Save Yourself
- Ice Safety for Hunters
- Prescription for Duck Hunters
- A Look at Some Historical Waterfowl Hunting Incidents



For Distribution in Canada, Mexico, and the United States of America.



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**International Hunter Education Association**

**Mission Statement:**

*To continue the heritage of hunting worldwide by developing safe, responsible and knowledgeable hunters.*

The International Hunter Education Association (IHEA) is an organization involving 65,000 administrators and volunteer instructors across North America, plus cooperators in the shooting sports industry and conservation organizations in Canada, Mexico and the United States. The IHEA is affiliated with the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, and its goals are many:

- Increase participation in safe responsible hunting;
  - Further develop the quality and delivery of hunter education;
- Enhance professional skills and standing of administrators and instructors;
- Improve the image of hunters and hunting; and
- Strengthen the leadership role of the IHEA.

The *Hunter & Shooting Sports Education Journal* is the official publication of the International Hunter Education Association. It is published three times annually (June, September, February) and distributed to more than 65,000 administrators and volunteer instructors in Canada, Mexico and the United States, that are responsible for education programs that total more than three-quarters of a million new 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.

The articles and stories contained herein are the opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of the IHEA, its personnel or publishers. Material contained herein cannot be copied or reproduced in any form without the express permission of the IHEA.

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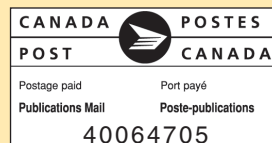
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Cover photo courtesy Ducks Unlimited



## President's Remarks

Tim Lawhern, President IHEA

### *Celebrating Successes!*

This year the IHEA celebrates its 30th anniversary! Congratulations and thanks to all of you for helping make these past 30 years an example for all to follow. When hunter education began in America around 1949 there was a need for hunters to gain the necessary awareness, knowledge, and skills to keep from injuring fellow hunters. Using my home state of Wisconsin as an example, the year before hunter education was mandated by law (1966), there were 44 people per 100,000 participants injured while hunting. In just 30 years of hunter education the incident rate dropped to 4 per 100,000 participants! That's a 90 percent reduction in hunting incidents.



In 1972, hunter education coordinators from Canada and the U.S. came together to form an organization to meet the challenges ahead. Those collaborative efforts were the beginnings of the IHEA, as we know it today. Some of our successes in the past 30 years include: the adoption of teaching standards and methods, a standardized curriculum, new teaching aids, volunteer instructor associations, professional development training, and recognition awards for volunteers, coordinators, and our partners. We created the *IHEA Journal*, the IHEA Foundation, the IHEA Instructor Rendezvous, and the Administrator's Academy, founded an international headquarters (Wellington, CO), hired a professional IHEA Staff, created the Hunting Incident Investigation Academy, developed alternative delivery methods (CD-ROM, Internet), and added Mexico and Puerto Rico to our organization. The list is almost endless.

Take time to reflect on all of these and other things that the IHEA team has done. You should be proud to be a member of an exceptional group of dedicated individuals who have come together, pooled their resources, and made a difference. The difference is beyond successful; it has been and will continue to be SIGNIFICANT. In one way that's what being a leader is all about. You are the leaders and therefore share in the significance of what we all do—continue the heritage of hunting worldwide by teaching hunters to be safe, knowledgeable and responsible.

Along with our successes over these 30 years we have also seen many changes. Changes and how we adapt to them make the difference in our future effectiveness. As we have grown we have improvised when necessary, adapted with careful and conscious planning, and overcame the obstacles with an unwavering spirit. From the conference in Missoula, Montana we set a course of our five most important areas of focus. One of those areas is in volunteer instructor training. Because this is so vitally important to the mission of IHEA, we have made the decision to place greater emphasis on the IHEA Instructor Rendezvous.

In the past we have tried to provide much of this training in our annual conferences. This has proven to be very popular but costly to the coordinators who manage and lead their volunteers in their jurisdictions. Our future conferences will be more focused on administrative issues so that we can maximize our time together. Volunteer instructors and all of our other partners will continue to be welcome. To address our need for volunteer training look for additional Instructor Rendezvous in your region of the country. Volunteer instructors are not paid because they would be costly; it's because you are priceless and your worth is greater than any amount than we could afford.

Again, take a moment to reflect on not so much of what it is that the IHEA does for you but what it is you do for the IHEA. You have earned it! Have a safe and memorable 2002 fall hunting season. Remember, Safe Hunting IS no Accident.

## International Hunter Education Association

### Mission Statement

*To continue the heritage of hunting worldwide by developing safe, responsible, and knowledgeable hunters*

The International Hunter Education Association is an organization involving some 65,000 volunteer instructors across the country, plus cooperators in the shooting sports industry, and conservation organizations, and the 63 State and Provincial Hunter Education Administrators in Canada, Mexico, and the United States. IHEA is affiliated with the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, and its goals are many:

- Increase participation in safe and responsible hunting;
- Further develop the quality and delivery of hunter education;
- Enhance professional skills and standing of administrators and instructors;
- Improve the image of hunters and hunting;
- Strengthen the leadership role of the IHEA.





## EVP Comments

Dr. David Knotts, Executive Vice President,  
International Hunter Education Association

**M**issouri, the Show-Me State, put on a great show as host of the 2002 IHEA Conference. With more than 500 participants it was one of our largest conferences ever. We appreciate the support of Anheuser-Busch Inc., Bass Pro Shops, Henry Repeating Arms Co., Winchester Ammunition, and the Missouri Department of Conservation as our major sponsors. Without their assistance, a conference this large would not have been possible. I would also like to personally thank our host Bob Staton and co-host Rick Flint, and the Missouri Department of Conservation staff for doing such an excellent job.

There were a couple of important "firsts" at this year's conference. This was the first time we had a state governor (Gov. Bob Holden) and a secretary of state (Matt Blunt) participate in our opening ceremonies. It was also the first time we had the director of the USFWS in attendance as well as the director of the Mexican Wildlife Service; we were honored to have Dr. Steve Williams and Dr. Fernando Clemente address the conference in the opening session. It was also the first time we had a formal meeting of retired hunter education coordinators, of which about a half dozen attended.

Leaving the board of directors after dedicated service were Keith Snyder of Pennsylvania, Vice President, Zone III, and Jan Morris of Missouri, Instructor Board Representative, Zone III. Both of these men did a great job and we thank them for their service. Captain James Bell of Georgia was elected to replace Snyder, and John Sears of Iowa was elected to replace Morris.

During the business meeting two new board positions allowing representation from Mexico were established. Dr. Julio Carrera was elected vice president of the newly created Zone IV, and Marco Gonzales was elected to represent the same zone as instructor board representative.

The year 2002 marks the 30th anniversary of the IHEA and the conference theme "Launching a New Corps of Discovery from Missouri" (in recognition of the up-coming 200th anniversary of the Lewis and Clark Expedition) was well met as conference presenters focused on such topics as wildlife management and ethics. We were privileged to have Nina Leopold Bradley, daughter of the father of modern wildlife management—Aldo Leopold—address the conference. Mrs. Bradley shared family slides and related personal experiences of what it was like growing up with her father spending weekends and holidays at the "Shack." See page 16 for a list of presenters and topics.

Putting on a conference of this magnitude is never easy, but the value of coming together and exchanging ideas cannot be measured. Knowledge is passed and gained not just in formal presentations but also in the hospitality suite, during the breaks, and over a meal. We look forward to next year's conference in British Columbia and are certain host Robert Paddon and his volunteers will continue the tradition of learning, making new friends and visiting with old friends.

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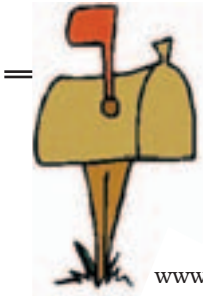
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## Letters to the Editor

### Going to the Hogs

This letter to the editor was a response to a story about hunting hogs with a knife and dogs, which was published in *Outdoor Life* magazine. The story—entitled *Hog Wild*, can be found on their website [www.outdoorlife.com](http://www.outdoorlife.com). The letter was e-mailed to hunter education administrators for their comments.

*I have written a letter to Outdoor Life magazine protesting the publishing of a most bizarre, and to me, most unethical form of hunting ever printed in such a prestigious magazine. The article was about hog hunting with a knife and dogs. While I am not against hunting in any legal form, I think writing about this way of hunting has little place in media print. The outcry from animal rights and PETA types will resound throughout every forest in the nation if allowed to continue. I would encourage every hunter education instructor in the country to sound off on the issue of ethics, or lack of ethics, as it pertains to this story.*

-- Ted Morgan, Hunter Education Instructor, Nampa, Idaho

*What follows is a compilation of some of the responses.*

*One of the most popular forms of hunting in Hawaii is "knife and dog." The Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources authorizes this form of hunting in areas where firearms and bows present a hazard in more populated areas. It is a traditional form of hunting that developed when natives and others were not allowed to own firearms or, later, could not afford to buy firearms.*

*Who is to say what is ethical? As a former dog owner, I don't particularly like this form of hunting; but I know a lot of pig hunters who are legal and responsible outdoors people. As with other things, there are a few bad apples. As a matter of record, I have been contacted by a local Humane Society about the feasibility of allowing hunters to adopt dogs for pig hunting. I supported it—with some conditions. I don't particularly care for baiting bears either but that's my problem. The only difference is, we in the IHEA accept these things as part of the total hunting picture. We sure don't want to fragment and implode the hunting community.*

-- Wendell Kam, Conservation Education Program Specialist  
Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, Honolulu, HI

*The kings of England and France often went stag hunting where the hounds would chase a deer into a corral. Once there, any member of the royal court who was brave enough would kill the animal with a long knife or short spear. This style of hunting is not new, even for our new age hunting sensitivity. Is it right? Not for me.*

-- Les Smith, Hunter Safety Coordinator, Nevada Division of Wildlife, Reno, NV

*Hog hunting with dogs using a variety of weapons, such as rifles or pistols—axes have been proven to be very effective—to do the actual killing is as old as hogs and dogs in Florida. It may be noted that in most of our state, hogs are considered feral animals and are the property of the landowner. In the rest of the state, such as wildlife management areas, they are considered game animals and the method of taking them is the same as with other types of game, guns and bows.*

*Man using animals to catch other animals is a method of hunting reaching back thousands of years. Falconry is probably one of the oldest and best-known methods, and is considered by some to be a noble sport. If Mr. Morgan ever tried to hunt a hog in a swamp or in the wild jungles of Florida, he might have a different view of the subject. I would submit that there are many people who would cry as loud, and feel the same way he does about the method of hunting he chooses. Does he know that in Alabama you can get a spear-chucker license? We should remind him that when one hunter attacks another it only adds support to the anti-hunters.*

-- Edwin Tyer, Hunter Education Administrator retired,  
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission,  
Tallahassee, FL

*It sounds like confusion between ethics and preferences. Is it fair chase? In my opinion it is. Does it result in a clean kill? Could be—the question is, is it a clean kill of the hunter or the pig. Do I like it or would I do it? No, but*

*should I impose my likes and dislikes on someone who participates in this form of hunting? I don't think so—unless the clean kill ethic is not met.*

*I look at fair chase and a clean kill as rising to the level of an ethic. The interesting thing with these two concepts is if you go too far with either one, you may violate the other. Balance based on your skill is the key. I think that bickering over preferences is detrimental to hunting and hunters. You are probably in the preferences realm when you can't make a logical argument for or against a particular activity.*

-- Eric Nuse, Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife, Waterbury, VT

*This is a hard one. It has to do with that southern culture and you cannot say it is not fair chase. Some things need to be left in their own cultural settings.*

-- Don Winslow, Hunter Education Administrator, Arizona Department of Game and Fish, Phoenix, AZ

*I agree with this instructor. What is to gain by Outdoor Life or any magazine publishing an article of this nature? It does not put the best light on hunting, whether the activity is legal or not. We as a group should take a stand on this and inform the publishers of our opinions.*

-- Joy Borsay, Hunter Safety Coordinator, Rhode Island Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Wakefield, RI

*If using a knife and dogs is a legal method of taking a pig, then there is no ethics argument. I'm sure the animal rights people see no difference between a knife held in the hand and a series of knives attached to a stick and shot from a bow. They are against the killing of animals either way. I feel that in most cases, the hunter/trapper himself is the person who is best suited to decide this as long as the method used is legal. Just my opinion.*

-- Mike Crider, Outdoor Education Officer, Indiana Department of Natural Resources,  
Indianapolis, IN



# Delivery of Hunter Education in Canada and the U.S.A. Are we the same or different?

Canada and the United States of America share a lot of common similarities. We share a common, undefended border of some 8,893 km. Both countries are similar in size covering approximately 9.6 to 9.9 million square kilometers each. While our land mass is similar, Canada's population is only 10 percent of that of the U.S.A.

Both countries share in a common history especially regarding hunting and fishing rights, privileges, and opportunities. Collectively we have worked together on wildlife management and hunter education. Hunter education coordinators from both countries founded the International Hunter Education Association (IHEA).

The first mandated hunter education program started in New York State in 1949. Over the years other states and provinces came on line with hunter education programs. The first hunter education program in Canada started in New Brunswick in 1952. Generally the delivery of hunter education programs was similar no matter what side of the border you were on. Hunter education was provided by a government agency with government funding and volunteer instructors.

While similar for years, there have been some radical changes in Canada in recent years in the delivery of hunter education programs. Provincial governments are downsizing and getting rid of programs that were once considered a government service. Seven out of ten Canadian provinces now have either a non-government organization (NGO) operating the hunter education program on behalf of government or there is a partnership between government and an NGO, via a contractual agreement for the delivery of hunter education. Government funding of hunter education programs

in Canada varies from \$0 to over \$400,000 Canadian (\$252,000 USD), depending on the province.

The price for a hunter education course varies from province to province ranging from \$25 to over \$100 CDN (\$16-\$63 USD) per person, depending on government funding or the lack of it. Unlike the U.S.A. we receive NO Federal Aid for hunter education in Canada. Our land mass is equal to the U.S.A., but our tax base is 1/10 that of the U.S.A.

Does the lack of Federal Aid or provincial funding hurt the number of hunter education graduates in Canada? Surely if you put more money in, you would get more graduates? Let's look at the participation rate of hunter education graduates between Canada and the U.S.A. The U.S.A. had approximately 657,000 hunter education graduates and Canada had 69,000 hunter education graduates in 1999. The U.S.A. has approximately 300 million people and Canada has approximately 30 million people. The U.S.A. has 219 hunter education graduates for every 100,000 people. Canada has 230 hunter education graduates for every 100,000 people.

Nevada is considered a small state relative to the number of hunter education graduates in the U.S.A. Nevada receives Federal Aid money (section 4C dollars) for approximately \$222,000 USD or \$352,000 CDN each year. Nevada's hunter education program graduated approximately 4000 students in 1999 from a state population base of approximately 2 million people. Participation rate is 200/100,000. Money spent on each hunter education graduate is \$55.50 USD (\$88 CDN) per student.

British Columbia's annual hunter education budget ranges from

\$100,000—\$125,000 Canadian dollars or \$63,000-78,000 USD depending on the year. British Columbia's hunter education program graduated approximately 3700 students in 1999 from a provincial population base of approximately 4 million people. Participation rate is 92.5/100,000. The Province of British Columbia has spent zero dollars on the hunter education program from the public purse since 1999.

The British Columbia Wildlife Federation (BCWF), an NGO, administers the hunter education program on behalf of the provincial government. Funding for the hunter education program is done via a \$30 CDN (\$19 USD) user pay fee system set in legislation and paid to the BCWF by the student upon successful graduation. Course fees in British Columbia range from free to over \$100 CDN (\$63 USD) with the \$30 user pay fee and manual cost on top of the course fee. The instructor retains the course fee.

The Saskatchewan Association of Firearms Educators (SAFE), an NGO, operates the hunter education program via a contract with the provincial government. The province provides partial funding for the hunter education program. The balance required to operate the program must be raised via a student fee and other fundraising activities. Hunter education costs \$25 CDN (\$16 USD) in Saskatchewan, and the instructors retain \$10 of the \$25 course fee. Fifteen dollars of the course fee goes to SAFE. In 1999, Saskatchewan had approximately 3,800 hunter education graduates with a provincial population of approximately 1 million people. The participation rate of hunter education graduates for Saskatchewan is 380/100,000.

*Continued on page 33*

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# Chronic Wasting Disease and the Hunter

**Question:** With the increased publicity and incidence of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), what should instructors tell their students?

**Answer:** In the Summer 2001 issue of the *Journal*, p. 9, Colorado Hunter Education Administrator, Patt Dorsey, shared initial guidelines for hunting in CWD areas based on the information available at that time. The following is an update of those guidelines plus web resources for the most current information.

Hunters should take some special precautions if they are concerned about CWD. First, read carefully the information from the respective state or provincial wildlife agency. States and provinces are actively working to provide the most up-to-date information possible. They will provide written information, but due to the amount of on-going research, agency websites will provide the latest information.

The precautions hunters should take with animals from CWD areas are common sense. How do hunters get the best-tasting meat, while protecting themselves from CWD and other diseases? Good game care—period!

**1.** Hunters should always take care of their meat in a sanitary manner. This means keeping the meat cool, clean and dry. BUT, also wear rubber gloves and try to keep from unnecessarily cutting any internal organs or tissues, i.e., brain and spinal column.

**2.** Epidemiologists with the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta and epidemiologists at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment have studied chronic wasting disease and have found no link between it and any neurological disease that affects humans. Health officials, however, advise hunters not to consume meat from animals known to be infected with the disease.

**3.** In CWD areas, hunters should

have meat tested. (In Colorado, testing is mandatory and paid for by the State in the endemic area. In other areas of the state, testing is voluntary and runs about \$25.) Check out your state or provincial web sites for state specific testing information.

**4.** In addition, it is suggested hunters take these simple precautions, listed below, when field dressing deer or elk taken in areas where the disease is endemic.

- Do not shoot, handle or consume any animal that appears sick.

- If you notice your animal has disease symptoms, upon killing it, notify your wildlife agency.

- Avoid head and spine shots to prevent potential contamination of the meat.

- Wear rubber gloves when field dressing carcasses.

- Bone out the meat from your animal.

- Minimize the handling of brain and spinal tissues.

- Wash hands and instruments thoroughly after field dressing is completed.

- Do not consume brain, spinal cord, eyes, spleen, tonsils and lymph nodes of harvested animals. (Normal field dressing coupled with boning out a carcass will remove most, if not all, of these body parts. Cutting away all

fatty tissue will remove remaining lymph nodes.)

- Avoid consuming the meat from any animal that tests positive for the disease.

- Request that your animal be processed individually, without meat from other animals being added to meat from your animal.

**5.** As a precaution against the possible spread of CWD, Colorado is implementing new transportation regulations. In CWD units, hunters may transport only:

- Commercially or privately cut and wrapped meat.

- Quarters or other portions of meat (no part of the spinal column or head attached).

- Boned meat.

- Hides (no heads attached).

- Clean (no meat or tissue attached) skull plates with antlers attached.

- Antlers (no meat or tissue attached).

- Upper canine teeth; buglers, whistlers, or ivories.

- Finished taxidermy heads.

There will be a Special CWD Symposium held after this issue goes to press. We will pass along any new findings important to hunters in the next issue of the *Journal*. +

### Some Website Resources on CWD

[www.iafwa.org](http://www.iafwa.org)

[www3.gov.ab.ca/srd](http://www3.gov.ab.ca/srd)

[www.wildlife.state.co.us/cwd](http://www.wildlife.state.co.us/cwd)

<http://www.ngpc.state.ne.us/wildlife/cwd/cwdinfo.html>

<http://www.serm.gov.sk.ca/fishwild/CWD-survey.htm>

[www.dnr.state.wi.us/](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/)

<http://gf.state.wy.us/>

A special Chronic Wasting Disease Alliance website has been established at [www.cwd-info.org](http://www.cwd-info.org)

*These websites address boning carcasses: (Note – A problem with boned meat is that individual muscle groups thrown together in a pack or cooler may not cool quickly or evenly. Hunters should be aware of this and spread the meat out to cool.)*

<http://members.tripod.com/~elkhunter2/nogut.html>

<http://foodsafety.ifas.ufl.edu/sd/sdo18.htm>



## Where To Go From Here!

# Ducks Unlimited's Greenwing Program Aims to Carry on the Traditions

By Scott Yaich, Ph.D.

Everyone agrees that youth are the key to the future of hunting and, in many ways, to the future of conservation as well. The population of hunters and waterfowlers across the country is aging, meaning that, on average, we are losing older hunters faster than we are recruiting new, young hunters to the sport. Anyone running a business with the same kind of profile, one losing customers faster than it gains new ones, would rightly be worried about the future.

Ducks Unlimited, the world's leading waterfowl and wetland conservation organization, is fortunate to have over one million supporters. Although this group is aging, they hold the answer to recruiting youths to carry on the traditions of the sport. Most successful companies now incorporate "succession planning" into their business model. If you are passionate about whatever you do, whether it's banking, duck hunting, or wildlife conservation and education, you must actively train the people who will step into your shoes when you retire.

"Greenwings," Ducks Unlimited's youth program (named after North America's smallest duck, the green-winged teal), has been around for many years. It provides one avenue for adult members to introduce youngsters to the organization and, importantly, what DU stands for. Greenwings under 12 receive the special *Puddler* magazine, while older youths (through age 17) get *Ducks Unlimited* magazine, and all receive various decals, pins, and other typical membership items. There are currently over 80,000 Greenwing members of DU.

The meat-and-potatoes of the Greenwing program is the one-day event. Local committees recruit representatives from their chapter, the local community, staff of the state and federal wildlife agencies, and others willing to donate their time to demonstrate activities such as dog handling, waterfowl trapping, duck banding, falconry, waterfowl identification, decoy carving, farming practices beneficial to waterfowl, and more. The main purpose is to provide the opportunity for youngsters to have fun while also involving them in interesting activities related to waterfowling and, as important, to help cultivate a conservation ethic. We try to help them truly understand the linkage between hunting, conservation, and their involvement in organizations such as DU.

These events generally draw participants from the very young to those in their early teens. With so many activities vying for the attention of older teens, the standard Greenwing events seem to be a lower priority for them. So,

DU has developed special camps geared to older Greenwings, with very successful camps in Arkansas and Wisconsin, for example. Lasting several days, these camps are built around a relatively intense curriculum related to waterfowl and wetland conservation, but are structured so that the education is engaging and fun.

Also, with the recent initiation of special Youth Waterfowl

**Each and every IHEA member, with their dedication to and special expertise in dealing with youths, could be a valuable addition to local DU chapters in building a strong Greenwing program.**



Hunting days by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and state agencies, local chapters of DU have become active in organizing special

hunts, often for youngsters who are physically challenged or otherwise would not have the opportunity to hunt.

Which brings us to, "Where do we go from here?" Or, better yet, "What can I do to get involved?" The grassroots volunteer organization of Ducks Unlimited is a strong, community-based "family," unrivaled among conservation organizations in fundraising through community events. That unparalleled success is made possible by our volunteers' genuine understanding of the relationship between conservation and the tradition they love. They also understand that funding is necessary to do conservation work, and that over 80 percent of the funds they raise for DU goes directly to waterfowl and wetland habitat conservation programs.

But the skills of successful fundraisers are different from those of successful educators and motivators of youths. Fortunately, many of our adult members have some of both skill sets. However, each and every IHEA member, with their dedication to and special expertise in dealing with youths, could be a valuable addition to local DU chapters in building a strong Greenwing program. Many chapters are full of motivated people who want to do good things for youth, but are simply looking for the informed direction that an experienced IHEA member would provide

The overriding goal of the Greenwing program is simply to provide as many youngsters as possible a quality, positive exposure to conservation, hunting, ethics, and the personal responsibilities that they hold in determining the future of the traditions of waterfowling, hunting and conservation. This is certainly a goal consistent with the personal motivation of everyone associated with the IHEA.

We invite interested IHEA members and others to contact DU (click on [www.greenwing.org/greenwings/du\\_facts/dufactsframe.html](http://www.greenwing.org/greenwings/du_facts/dufactsframe.html), for state Greenwing contact information). †

Scott Yaich, Ph.D. is the Director of Conservation Planning for Ducks Unlimited, Inc.



## IAFWA's 100th Anniversary Celebration

The International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the parent organization of the IHEA, celebrates its 100th anniversary at Big Sky, Montana on Sept. 17. There will be a gathering of dignitaries and a variety of special events planned to celebrate a century of wildlife management and conservation. Following the celebration, the IAFWA will hold its 2002 Annual Meeting Sept. 18-21.

For more information, meeting and sponsorship details, contact Turner and Associates: Josh Turner at (406) 442-9209 or 1-800-666-7488 access code 00. E-mail: [joshturner@aol.com](mailto:joshturner@aol.com) +



## 2003 Conference

The British Columbia Wildlife Federation hosts the IHEA 2003 Annual Conference, which will be held April 25-29, 2003, in Vancouver, Canada. The Coast Plaza Hotels & Suites at Stanley Park is the official hotel site and is located in the heart of the trendy West End of



Vancouver, three blocks from world famous Stanley Park and English Bay. The Industry Exhibits and Registration booth will open Friday afternoon followed by the official Meet-and-

Greet event that night on the 35th floor of the hotel overlooking English Bay and Vancouver.

Numerous professional development sessions for instructors and administrators are planned for Saturday and Sunday. The Instructor-of-the-Year Luncheon and the Annual Auction are set for Saturday. IHEA committee meetings are scheduled for Sunday. Sunday night is open to give you an opportunity to fellowship and try some of the 20-plus restaurants within three blocks of the hotel.

The official opening ceremonies, keynote speaker, and panel discussions regarding our theme "Investing in Volunteers" will start Monday morning. The IHEA business meeting followed by our first IHEA Skills competition will be held Tuesday. *(cont. to next column)*

**Attention: U.S. Volunteer Hunter Education Instructors:  
Liability Insurance is something every volunteer  
Hunter Education Instructor should have.**

All volunteers with a current IHEA Volunteer Instructor Membership are provided with Volunteer Liability insurance up to \$1 million per occurrence. This policy provides protection for a personal injury or a property damage liability claim arising out of the performance of the registered volunteer's duties such as: accusation of misinformation given in a course, an accident during a live fire or other field exercise, and allegations of abuse or sexual harassment.

To become a member of the IHEA, simply fill out and return the Membership Application on page 21. For more information, call IHEA at (970) 568-7954. *(Offer currently not available in Mexico or Canada)*

For details about travel opportunities please contact Lynn Coules at Advantage Aquarius Travel & Cruise, Tel: (604) 926-8651, Fax: (604) 926-8652, Toll Free: 1-800-786-9404 or e-mail her at [lynncoules@shaw.ca](mailto:lynncoules@shaw.ca). Lynn is a hunter/angler and active in the Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW) program.

Accompanying spouses and family may wish to consider several of the packaged bus tours available. Lynn Coules is coordinating these events and creating specialty tours exclusively for our conference. Check out the IHEA Website at [www.ihea.com](http://www.ihea.com) for more details.

You may also want to check out the following Websites:

Tourism Vancouver at [www.tourism-vancouver.org](http://www.tourism-vancouver.org)

Tourism BC at [www.hellobc.com](http://www.hellobc.com)

BC Guide Outfitters Association at [www.goabc.org](http://www.goabc.org)

Hunting and Fishing Regulations at [www.gov.bc.ca/wlap/](http://www.gov.bc.ca/wlap/)

Coast Hotel at [www.coasthotels.com](http://www.coasthotels.com) +

## Crosman Day at the Office

Crosman Day at the IHEA Office – Crosman stepped in as the

major sponsor for the 2002 IHEA Benefit Shoot. Also, In recognition of the IHEA 30th Anniversary, Crosman laser engraved three of their new model 1077 CO<sub>2</sub> rifles. Two were used in the auction at the Benefit Shoot and the Annual Conference, and the third hangs proudly in the IHEA home office. Left to right, IHEA Staff, Bob Mayer, Micki Hawkins, Susie Kiefer, and Dr. David Knotts. +



## 2002 Benefit Shoot

The 3rd Annual IHEA Benefit Shoot was held June 11-12, 2002 at the National Shooting Sports Complex in San Antonio, Texas. Approximately 48 teams generated over \$100,000 in cash and in-kind contributions for the Foundation. Day one of the Benefit Shoot was the Sportsman's

Challenge and included such events as a Cowboy Action Shoot, Casting Contest, Archery, pistol, .22, and high-powered rifle, and other



fun activities. Instructor Board Representative, Bill Blackwell from Ontario, and Texas Volunteer Instructors, Bernie Heer and Rus Greiner, operated a Hunter Safety Trail to give Shoot participants an opportunity to test their hunter education skills. Day two was the competition tournament, which included Trap, Skeet, and Sporting Clays. Event Director, Tom Floyd says, "We have lots of fun, good food, a fine auction, and raise good money for a great cause!"

The Benefit Shoot will return to the National Shooting Sports Complex June 3 & 4, 2003. For information, contact the IHEA. +



## IHEA International Hunting Incident Investigation Academy -- Bob Staton, MDC

The 2002 IHEA/CMSU International Hunting Incident Investigation Academy was held July 21–25, 2002 at the Central Missouri State University Safety Center in Warrensburg, Missouri. Thirty-two Wardens and Conservation agents from the states of Virginia, Vermont, Missouri, Georgia, Mississippi, Kansas, Iowa, Michigan, and Colorado were in attendance. The Academy trains law enforcement officers to properly investigate a hunting incident. "Without proper data from the field, we do not know what to focus on in the classroom. The Academy trains officers to determine what really occurred with the incident, and this information is transferred to the classroom through a hunter education curriculum designed to help prevent these incidents from reoccurring," said Bob Staton, Missouri Department of Conservation and Academy Coordinator.



The IHEA, through the IHEA Foundation was able to assist academy staff in building six training kits. The kits are used in the academy and may be checked out by approved training officers to conduct local training. Items donated included, 6 digital cameras, 6 GPS units, 6 range finders, and 18 Motorola Radios provided by Galyans. Flambeau donated 6 heavy duty boxes to hold the kit material. IHEA purchased 6 Transit Compasses, 6 Tripods, templates and assorted mapping equipment with funds generated by the Foundation.

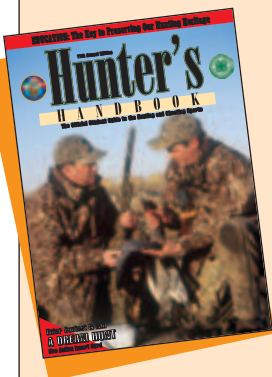
Staff for this year's Academy included Tom Kremer, Missouri; Rod Slings, Iowa; Mike Bradshaw, Texas; Keith Byers, Georgia; Mike Vandurme, New York; Chris Tymeson, Kansas; Steve Wilson, Missouri; Bob Staton, Missouri; and Dr. Leanna Depue, Central Missouri State University.

This was the 6th such academy to be held. The first International Academy was held in 1992, and since that time nearly 200 officers have been trained from the United States, Canada, and Mexico. The next Hunting Incident Academy will probably be held in August of 2004. Interested participants should contact the IHEA for details on future academies. ✚

## Hunter's Handbook Winners Circle Awards Announced

The 11th annual Hunter's Handbook Winner's Circle prize drawing was held April 25. Each year students send their questionnaire/entries for a chance to win a variety of prizes. The student, his or her instructor, and the state/provincial coordinator all win a like prize. The 15 winners for this year were:

<u>State</u>	<u>Student</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Administrator</u>	<u>Prize</u>
MN	Kyle Rosenfeldt	Scott Bridwell	Capt. Jeff Thielen	Remington 95, .22 rifle
AL	Wendall Gunter	Keith Olgesty	Ray Metzler	Leupold 3x9-40 scope
MO	Corey Braker	David Ruteledge	Bob Staton	Buck Caping Knife
TX	Judd Eakins	Whit Weems	Terry Erwin	Tasco 10 x 25 Binoculars
OH	Adam Ebie	Brian Long	Matt Ortman	Buck Caping Knife
ID	JJ Bates	Linda Wilson	Colleen Cade	Tasco 10 x 25 Binoculars
TN	Luther Roark	Stanly Shell	Phil Neil	Bushnell Range Finder
CA	James Young	Neil Stervd	Joe Gonzales	Daisy/Winchester Air Rifle
BC	Dave Driediger	W. Holte	Robert Paddon	Hornady Shotgun Patterning Kit
OR	Will Vance	Bob Lesh	Tony Burr	WR Case & Sons Pocket Worn Knife
NB	Justin Lackie	Jack D. McKay	Ernest McCallum	Gerber Multitool
PA	Julian Boryszewski	Donald L. Ulmer	Keith Snyder	Streamlight: Stylus, Clipmate & Trident
WV	Angie Nixon	Sgt. Dave Trader	Lt. Tim Coleman	Gerber Multitool
AZ	Luke Simm	John Miller	Don Winslow	Gerber Multitool
MI	Scott Savou	S. Gorsuch	Suzanne Koppelo	Gerber Multitool



**Wal-Mart donates equipment to IHEA**

To facilitate production of the IHEA *Journal*, brochures and website, the IHEA has been in need of a digital camera. Working through Ron Friedenberger, Wal-Mart was able to donate two digital cameras, one for in-house use and another for field use. Wal-Mart also donated two laser range finders and two night vision devices for the IHEA Hunting Incident Investigation Academy. ➔

**IHEA Recommendation: Over-the-Shoulder Break Action Shotgun Carry**

Hunter education programs teach five basic carries for safe firearm control. An additional carry involving break action firearms—specifically over and under shotguns—is increasingly appearing in the field and in the media. This particular carry is especially popular among skeet and trap participants. The shooter holds the open gun by the barrel as it rests on the shoulder with the barrel to the front and the stock to the rear. The IHEA has frequently been asked if this is an appropriate carry. The IHEA Education Committee recently reviewed the issue, and submitted the following recommendation to the IHEA Board, which was accepted as the IHEA's official position.

The "over-the-shoulder break action carry" is considered a **non-preferred** method of carry. The committee based their decision on the difficulty of maintaining adequate muzzle control of the firearm during the transition phases of mounting and dismounting the firearm from the shoulder. Additionally, it is recognized by the committee that there is an increased tendency for shooters when using this method of carry, to carelessly point the muzzle at another individual, while facing or speaking with that individual.

It is recommended that all inquiries made on this subject to the IHEA should be responded to by tactfully stating that this is a **non-preferred** method of carry. ➔

*This was an Action Item Request submitted to the Board for review and action. To see a complete listing of the current Action Item Requests and their respective recommended actions, check out the IHEA web site.*

## VOLUNTARY RECALL REMINDER

**CONNECTICUT VALLEY ARMS, INC.** continues the Voluntary recall of the In-line Muzzleloading rifles manufactured in 1995 and 1996. The voluntary recall was implemented in 1997 as a result of very severe accidents when using in-line rifles manufactured in 1995 and 1996.

The CVA In-line rifles affected by the Voluntary Recall are models with serial numbers ending with the last two digits of 95 or 96. To identify the rifle, read the serial number on the barrel opposite the firing bolt. No other firearm models within the CVA product line are affected by the Voluntary Recall.

### WARNING: DO NOT USE CVA IN-LINE RIFLES WITH 95 OR 96 SERIAL NUMBER

Consumers who purchased one or more of the In-Line rifles with a serial number ending with 95 or 96 should not use the In-line rifles until the barrel has been replaced, as firing may cause injury or death to the user or bystanders.

Anyone who currently owns or possesses a CVA In-line rifle with 95 or 96 serial number, or who purchased one or gave it or sold it to another party, should contact CVA immediately by calling CVA customer service:

**1-770-449-4687 — (8:30 am - 4:00 pm EST)**

We apologize for this inconvenience, but this free barrel replacement will insure the safety of our customers. To expedite the free barrel replacement, we will send shipping tags to each cus-

tomers, and will cover all related shipping and repair charges. Please do not return your In-line rifle to CVA before contacting us using the customer service number above.

*In May, 1999 Blackpowder Products, Inc. purchased the assets of Connecticut Valley Arms, Inc. and assumes no liability for products manufactured prior to January 1, 1998.*

## IHEA 2002 Annual Conference Springfield, Missouri



*Left to Right – Dr. David M. Knotts, IHEA EVP; Dr. Steve Williams, Director, USFWS; Dr. Fernando Clemente, Director Mexican Wildlife Service; Dr. Julio Carrera, Director of Hunter Education, Mexico; and Tim Lawhern, President, IHEA, during a visit to the Bass Pro Museum.*



*Dr. Clemente, Director of the Mexican Wildlife Service visits with Nina Leopold Bradley, the daughter of the Father of Wildlife Management, Dr. Aldo Leopold.*



*Left to Right – Terry Erwin, Hunter Education Coordinator, Texas; Kitty Haynes, the 2001 Volunteer Instructor of the Year, Houston, Texas; and Mary Ann Ventress, Winchester Ammunition, Award sponsor.*

# Bulletin Board: Safety Alerts & Notices

## SPECIAL ALERT

### Live round fired in classrooms

Recent incidents of unintentional discharge of a firearm during hunter education classes in Oregon, Texas and Washington underscored the need for constant attention to safety when handling firearms.

In the Oregon incident, a hunter education instructor was demonstrating how the grip safety on a 45-caliber semi-automatic pistol worked when the gun discharged.

According to Tony Burt, Outdoor Skills Education Coordinator for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the instructor was using his personal firearm during the demonstration. He had removed and emptied the clip, but failed to check the chamber.

The instructor apologized to the class and their parents, and explained the rule that he had broken. He also called the police and filed a report with Burt.

As a result, Burt has implemented two new procedural changes for his instructors.

1. Personal firearms that are normally kept loaded for personal protection are NOT to be used for any hunter education activities and are not to be taken into any classroom.
2. Safety "Chamber Checker" flags are to be placed in ALL firearms (that will accept them) before they are taken into any facility where a class is being held (including a range).

In a remarkably similar incident, a Texas hunter education instructor was also demonstrating how the safety on a 45-caliber semi-automatic pistol worked when the gun discharged. He had removed the clip but failed to check the chamber.

In both cases, the instructor had the gun pointed up and away from the students and there were no injuries.

A third unintentional discharge happened last fall in a Washington State hunter education class. The instructor was demonstrating how the trigger cocked on a double-barrel shotgun using what he thought were dummy rounds. In the course of his demonstration, the gun discharged into the ceiling. The instructor had inadvertently inserted a live round into the chamber. There were no injuries.

*Chamber Checkers are available from Boonie Packer Products at 68 cents each in quantities of 500 or more. For more information call 1-800-477-3244 or visit their website <http://www.redimap.com/tactical.htm> +*

## Safety Precaution for Gun Boots & Scabbards

A potentially dangerous safety issue has been brought to our attention by a Conservation Officer with the Alberta Fish and Wildlife Department.

After traveling on an ATV with his issue rifle in a gun boot, the officer inspected the rifle barrel and found it to be plugged with a hard epoxy-type glue. The glue (used to attach the cotton liner to the plastic shell) was forced into the barrel ½ inch and required a cleaning rod to remove the glue plug. The make and model of the gun boot is Kolpin Gunboot, model 20051.

Alberta F & W is pursuing this matter with the manufacturer and will advise of the outcome. For now, hunter education instructors should share the following directions with their students: At anytime when carrying a firearm in a closed-bottom case of any type, the barrel must be checked for obstruction before firing. It only takes a small obstruction to cause barrel damage or rupture. Closed bottom scabbards are notorious for collecting dirt, lint, and other materials that can cause problems aside from defects from the manufacturer. The scabbards should be inspected and cleaned regularly. To avoid the similar issue with the glue, it is suggested that extra cloth be placed at the bottom of the scabbard. In addition, a heavy piece of cloth or plastic may be placed over the barrel and held with an elastic band. This will not hinder the operation of the firearm in an emergency.

*-- Miles Grove, Staffing and Training Officer Enforcement - Field Services, Fish and Wildlife Division, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development. +*



## Education Resources Review

### IHEA Internet Introduction to Hunter Education

The IHEA Internet Introduction to Hunter Education (Webcourse) will be available for States and Provinces to test with students this fall. Hunter education staff from the US and Canada collaborated on the standard North American homework component. Students can do homework at their own pace on the Internet and finish the course in field sessions with instructors. Watch the IHEA website [www.ihea.com](http://www.ihea.com) and future issues of the *Journal* for up-to-date reports on the IHEA Internet delivery system. Wayne Jones, NY, serves as Internet Task Force Chair.

### Instructor Rendezvous 2003

Funding permitting, the IHEA will conduct three Instructor Rendezvous in 2003. The three instructor training programs will be held in Ontario, Mexico, and Delaware. Delaware's rendezvous is tentatively scheduled for the weekend of May 16-18, 2003. Details of dates, times, and agendas will be posted on the IHEA website [www.ihea.com](http://www.ihea.com) and in the winter 2003 issue of the *Journal*. Past rendezvous have been held in Nevada, New Mexico, and Kansas. +

# IHEA 2002 Annual Conference - Springfield, Missouri

## 2002 IHEA Awards & Recognitions

**2001 Hall of Fame Award** – Ed Tyer, Florida

**2001 Industry Partnership Award** – The Focus Group, (Brian Thurston)

**2001 Darrell Holt Memorial Award** – J. D. Peer, Oklahoma

**2001 Innovations in Technology**, sponsored by Brunton Ray Metzler, Alabama on behalf of Southeast States Region IV  
Certificates for Participating Southeast States Region IV  
Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi  
South Carolina

**2001 Innovations in Technology Certificates of Achievement**

**Video-Based Learning Resource**

Kentucky, Nevada, South Carolina, Texas

**Computer-Based Learning**

New York, Oregon, Wisconsin, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland,  
Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick

**2001 IHEA Instructor of the Year** – (Sponsored by  
Winchester Ammunition) Kitty Haynes

**2001 Conference Sponsors Recognition** - (Lewis & Clark Bronze)

Anheuser Busch, Bass Pro Shops, Winchester Ammunition,  
Henry Rifles and Missouri Department of Conservation

**2001 Executive Vice Presidents Award for Service to IHEA**

Dick Miranda, President, ADSTAR  
Brian Thurston, Publisher, Focus Group

**Special Recognition for Service to the**

**IHEA Hunting Incident Investigation Academy**

Dr. Leanna Depue, Missouri Safety Center

**2001 National Bowhunter Education Foundation Administrator  
of the Year** – (Sponsored by NBEF)

Terry Erwin, Hunter Education Administrator, Texas

**Resolutions Honoring Retiring or Transferred  
Hunter Education Administrators**

J.D. Peer, Oklahoma Division of Wildlife Conservation

Jim Hall, New Hampshire Fish & Game Dept.

Randy Curtis, New Hampshire Fish & Game Dept.

John Gahl, Idaho Fish & Game

Ed Tyer, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Bud Carpenter, Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries

Steve White, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources

**Outgoing Board Members**

Zone III Vice President – Keith Snyder, Pennsylvania Game Commission

Zone III Instructor Board Representative – Jan Morris, Missouri

*The outgoing Board members were presented a  
Knight In-line rifle in recognition of their service.*

**IHEA Board and Business Meeting Action Items**

**New administrative zone created**

A new administrative zone (Zone IV) and two board positions allowing representation from Mexico were established at the 2002 IHEA Conference. Dr. Julio Carrera was elected Vice President, Zone IV, and Marco Gonzales was elected as Instructor Board Representative, Zone IV.

New IHEA Board Members

Zone III Vice President – Capt. James Bell, Georgia DNR

Zone – Instructor Board Representative – John Sears, IA

Newly Created Zone IV – Mexico

Zone IV Vice President Dr. Julio Carrera, Mexico

Zone IV Instructor Board Representative – Marco Antonio  
Gonzales, Saitillo, Coah.

**For Your Information – Who Belongs to What Zone?**

**Zone I** – all provinces of Canada,

**Zone II** – all states west of the Mississippi River – AK, AR, AZ, CA,  
CO, HI, IA, ID, KS, LA, MN, MO, MT, NB, NV, NM, ND, OK, OR,  
SD, TX, UT, WA, WY

**Zone III** – all states east of the Mississippi River – AL, CT, DE, FL, GA,  
IL, IN, KY, MD, MA, MI, MS, NH, NJ, NY, NC, OH, PA, PR,  
RI, SC, TN, VT, VA, WV, WI,

**Zone IV** – all states of Mexico

**2002 – 2003 Committee Appointments**

Communications - Chair, Helen McCracken, WY (Interim)

Education - Chair, Keith Snyder, PA

Education Subcommittee - Chair, Eric Nuse, VT

Internet Task Force - Chair, Wayne Jones, NY

Constitution, By-Laws & Resolutions - Chair, Bill Shattuck, SD

Research & Evaluation - Chair, Bob Staton, MO

Hunting Incident Investigation Sub-Committee - Chair, Rod Slings, IA

Tree stand Incident Study Task Force - Mike Bogdanowicz, NC

Nominations & Awards - Les Smith, NV

Awards Subcommittee - Terry Erwin, TX

Volunteer Instructor Committee - Chair, Chris Tymeson, KS

IHEA Canada - Chair, Robert Paddon, BC

IHEA Mexico –Dr. Julio Carrera, MX

Retired Hunter Education Administrator's Committee – Chair, Ed Kozicky, IL

*Other procedural changes requiring changes to the Constitution and by-laws included removing the responsibility of naming members and chairs of committees and task forces from the Executive Director. That task will now be the responsibility of the members of the Board of Directors. The entire text of the Constitution and By-laws can be found on the IHEA website [www.ihea.com](http://www.ihea.com).*



*Major sponsors of the IHEA 2002 Annual Conference were presented a bronze commemorating the Lewis and Clark expedition. This bronze, presented to Bass Pro, is currently displayed in the Wonders of Wildlife Museum in the Bass Pro store in Springfield, MO. Other recipients include Winchester Ammunition, Anheuser Busch, Henry Rifle, and the Missouri Dept. of Conservation.*



# Region 1 Update

By Bill Blackwell, Instructor Board Representative, Zone I

Many improvements and changes have been taking place in hunter education programs in each Province and Territory in Region 1 (Canada).

Here is a brief synopsis from Coast to Coast.

### New Brunswick

This year marks the 50th anniversary for hunter education in New Brunswick. A number of events are planned to mark the occasion including a limited edition pin and crest for the instructors. Mr. Lionel Girouard, one of the original founders of the program, who is still active and teaching at the age of 80, was recognized in the Legislature for his long and active service. Two other instructors were also recognized: Mr. John D. MacKay of Sussex, was named the Staff Firearms Safety/Hunter Education Instructor of the Year, and Mr. Leonard S. Hall of Fredericton, received the Volunteer Instructor of the Year Award.

### Ontario

Ontario has rewritten their student's manual and instructor's guide. Both will be available this fall. The hunter education program is about to go through a major review process. A committee will review the program and make recommendations. Recruitment and retention remains stable with 10,000 new students per year and annual hunting license sales of approximately 450,000. Instructor numbers are stable at 400. Ontario became the first Canadian Province to enact a Hunting Heritage and Fishing Act. The act recognizes the right to legally hunt and fish in Ontario, and establishes a fish and wildlife advisory heritage commission.

### Manitoba

Due to concern about the numerous hunting incidents involving First Nations people, chiefs and elders across Manitoba agreed that there was a need for a hunter safety training program in their communities. A hunter safety instructor initiative was proposed to the Minister of Conservation who is of First Nations decent himself, requesting that First Nations people be trained as instructors. The proposal was accepted and approximately seven Tribal Councils will see their instructors in place by the end of 2002. The Hunter Education Instructor's Guide has been revised to include many First Nations issues. Provincial coordinator Reg Wiebe is also working to ensure that Hunter Education gets introduced as part of the school curriculum.

### Saskatchewan

The average number of students in Saskatchewan remains steady at about 3,800 a year. They are taught by approximately 900

instructors. This year, Saskatchewan is implementing a full and comprehensive self-study program. Workbooks are completed and a pilot program with about 180 students is under way. Full public implementation is scheduled for this fall.

### Alberta

Alberta's hunter education program is now the delivery agent for the Canadian Firearms Safety Course. Beginning September 1, 2002 all training records and resources within the province will be transferred to the program. The Federal Government will, however, maintain control of the authorization of new instructors. Alberta also has a new facility to improve the training of volunteers and staff thanks to the donation of 80 acres of land and inventory by the Calgary Trap & Skeet Club. The club is located four kilometers south of Calgary.

### Yukon Territory

The Yukon Hunter Education and Ethics Development (HEED) program will become mandatory on April 1, 2003. Proof of successful completion of a recognized hunter education program will be necessary in order to obtain a hunting license. Current license holders and aboriginals hunting on their traditional lands will be exempt.

### Nunavut

Canada's newest territory of Nunavut is busy developing a new Wildlife Act to present to their legislature. Solomon Awa, the Hunter Education Coordinator for Nunavut is gathering information on hunter education programs across Canada in order to assist in organizing Nunavut's program. Solomon is also working with the Board of Education to create a school curriculum that will contain hunter education programs in Nunavut.

### British Columbia

BC enhanced their CORE program with the addition of archery, blackpowder, hunters heritage, ecology, and wildlife management sections. The written test increased from 70 to 100 questions based on the new information, and questions on the exams were upgraded to assist those with language and learning difficulties. There are two parts to the test (A and B); students must pass the firearms section (B) with 75 percent or better, and have an average of 75 percent on both parts of the test to pass.

## IHEA Instructor Membership Application

Please Print

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment (US funds only):  Check/Money Order  MasterCard  Visa  New Membership  Renewal Membership

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Instructor Membership Fee</b>	\$ 25.00
<b>Donation to IHEA Resource Development Fund</b>	\$ _____
<b>Total Payment</b>	\$ _____

Mail to: IHEA, P.O. Box 490, Wellington, CO 80549, or call (970) 568-7954.



## Idaho Waterfowl Hunting Incidents

By Dan W. Papp, Southwest Idaho Regional Wildlife Educator

The news article read, “No charges will be filed in connection with the accidental shooting death Saturday of a duck hunter.” The victim died at the scene of the accident. According to Gooding County authorities, the victim and his twelve-year-old son were hunting ducks together when the victim was hit from behind as his son swung and fired his 20 gauge shotgun at some birds. A county official said, “The details of the accident might never be clear. After the accident, the boy drove his father’s car back home and found his mother who called the authorities.” According to the incident report, the shooter was so traumatized by the incident he was unable to verbalize to the authorities exactly what had happened.

In another duck hunting accident, the news article read, “Duck

hunter shot by man’s best friend.” According to Elmore County authorities, “The victim was shot in the face at close range as he returned from putting out decoys. As he approached, his dog stepped on his shotgun that lay on the bank of the river, it (shotgun) discharged, killing the victim instantly.”

Any hunting accident is a terrible situation, a horrific experience that no one wants to share. But each year hunting accidents like the ones above do happen. Fortunately, volunteer instructors teaching within their respective Hunter Education Programs across our nation have greatly helped to lower the incident rate of all hunting accidents.

Accident investigations help us all learn how to possibly prevent similar hunting accidents from occurring again. For instance, further investiga-

tion of the first accident found that the 12-year old boy was left-eye dominant, yet because he was right-handed he chose to shoot from his non-dominant-eye or right-handed side. This disabled the shooter, for he had no peripheral vision when he moved from right to left and didn’t see the victim until it was too late.

Shotgun instructors teach the importance of shooting with both eyes open. Non-dominant-eyed individuals are encouraged to learn to shoot from their dominant-eye side. If they do not, there are compromises that a shooter can make such as frosted-tape or a grease mark over the pupil of the dominant-eye.

But the fact remains that it is best to shoot with both eyes open. However, if you insist on shooting from your non-dominant-eye side, make sure there is no person situated

### IHEA ENDOWMENT

Goal: \$1 Million by 2010

In order to ensure that Hunter Education funds will have sufficient assets at work in the years ahead, the IHEA has created a permanent endowment. Its goal is to generate \$1 million by the end of this decade.

#### Support the IHEA Education Endowment with *10 Commandments of Firearm Safety*

4" Commemorative Patch, Limited Edition - \$10 each

• Order the IHEA 2000, 2001 and 2002 Patches:

“Always Point the Muzzle in a Safe Direction,” “Treat Every Firearm as Though it Were Loaded,” and “Unload Firearm and Open Action Except When Ready to Shoot”

• Certificate of Authenticity • Tax Receipt

Future editions of the series will be released at IHEA annual meetings.

The IHEA 2000 Commemorative patch was designed by Missouri Volunteer Instructor and IHEA Board Member, Jan Morris. Future editions of the series to be released at future annual meetings will be as follows:

- 2003 — Keep barrel clear and choose proper ammunition for firearm.
- 2004 — Be sure of your target before you pull the trigger.
- 2005 — Never point a firearm at anything you don't want to shoot.
- 2006 — Never climb or jump with a loaded firearm.
- 2007 — Never shoot at a flat hard surface or water.
- 2008 — Store firearms and ammunition safely.
- 2009 — Avoid alcohol and drugs before and during shooting



Use the form on page 29 to order.



in your blind spot and that everyone understands their complete zone of fire.

Investigation of the incident with the dog found several things that contributed to the outcome. First, the investigation found that the three duck hunters were racing the clock. One of them had overslept, which meant they would be putting out decoys after shooting hours had begun. Second, they brought two dogs to do the retrieving of downed birds and both had very little obedience training. Third, while placing decoys they chose to load their shotguns in case birds approached so they would be ready to shoot—all the elements of an accident waiting to happen. After placing the decoys, they approached the dogs sitting next to their loaded shotguns laying on the riverbank. An excited young dog stepped on the trigger of the victim's shotgun and it discharged, killing him. Don't load any firearm until you are ready to maintain personal control of that firearm.

It is obvious that little common sense was exercised in this situation. But how often do we not think about the importance of a good night's sleep, being on time, or providing the necessary preseason training to our hunting dogs. Most of all, by not following the basic rules of firearm safety we place others as well as ourselves at risk.

Waterfowling, like many of our hunting experiences is there to provide us a lifetime of wonderful memories provided we act responsibly, safely, and use our common sense. †

## Strategic Plan for the Environmental Management Released

**D**uring the past eight months, a working group composed of 37 shooting sports organizations, range managers, and conservation groups have been busy developing a document entitled, "The Shooting Sport's Strategic Plan for the Environmental Management of Shooting Facilities." The strategic plan relies heavily on educational and outreach efforts to people within the shooting community. The first public draft of this document was released at the Shooting Sports Summit held in June.

The National Shooting Sports Foundation, the National Association of Shooting Ranges, the National Rifle Association, and the Wildlife Management Institute co-sponsored this strategic planning effort.

Many who have followed this issue believe that improving the environmental management of shooting facilities is critical for the long-term survival of the shooting sports. The premise is simple; by improving the environmental management of ranges, the shooting sports community will control its own destiny. If this issue is not taken seriously, it will be decided by someone else.

The strategic plan proposes three simple steps to improve the environmental management of your range: (1) develop an environmental stewardship plan for your range, (2) implement the plan in a prescribed time frame, and (3) document the activities.

For more information on the strategic plan or on how to develop an environmental stewardship plan, contact the National Association of Shooting Ranges (203) 426-1320 or visit their website at [www.rangeinfo.org](http://www.rangeinfo.org).

## Refuge System Approaches 100th Birthday

The National Wildlife Refuge System turns 100 years old in March 2003. To celebrate the event, Congress established the National Wildlife Refuge Centennial Commission. The commission is planning numerous events to highlight the contributions the refuge system has made to wildlife conservation. Some of the events include: a state-of-the-art exhibit at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC; a national celebration held in conjunction with the Disney theme parks; a series of special habitat restoration projects designed to reestablish selected critical habitats; a special scholarship program to fund wildlife research on refuges; an enhanced, outdoor, environmental education program; and a national conference focusing on the contributions of and challenges to wildlife refuges. In addition, numerous additional projects are being planned at the regional and local level. For more information visit [www.refuges.fws.gov/centennial](http://www.refuges.fws.gov/centennial).

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# Year 2000 Hunting Incident Data Review

Compiled by Jim Wentz, Silvertip Productions, IHEA Data Consultant

There is good news in the latest compilation of hunting injury and fatality statistics. Over the last decade, turkey hunting has gone from one of the most dangerous types of hunting in North America to one of the safest.

Hunter education instructors can join the National Wild Turkey Federation, the International Hunter Education Association, government agencies, the hunting industry, and the outdoor media in taking credit for this near-miraculous turnaround. Ten years ago the NWTf and the IHEA created the National Turkey Hunting Safety Task Force to address the high number of accidental shootings during the turkey hunting season. The result was an aggressive plan to educate all hunters on safe and effective hunting techniques.

Fifty-four states and provinces submitted summary reports of year 2000 incidents. There were 69 spring turkey season incidents with one fatality, and 17 fall season incidents with no fatalities. Over the last 10 years the number of turkey hunters has increased by 60 percent, seasons have gotten longer, and harvests have gone up. The NWTf reports incident rates dropped from 8.1 shootings per 100,000 hunters in 1992 to 2.95 per 100,000 in the year 2000.

Overall, agencies reported a total of 926 incidents including 91 fatalities during the 2000 hunting season. Statistically, shotguns accounted for the most incidents with 559 shootings, including 36 of the fatalities. The 251 total rifle incidents were less than half that reported for shotguns, but 44

of the rifle incidents were fatal.

Some instructors will be surprised to learn that bowhunters accounted for three, two-party shooting fatalities. This compares to two, two-party fatalities for muzzleloaders, and none for handgun or crossbow hunters.

Deer hunters were responsible for approximately 39 percent of the

**Thanks to hunter education, hunting is safe and getting safer. However, each statistic is a husband or wife, son or daughter, mother or father, so as a community we must keep looking for improvement.**

shooting incidents and 62 percent of the fatalities. Another 45 hunters were shot, 10 fatally, while hunting ducks or geese. Ninety-three hunters were shot while hunting pheasant, 65 while hunting squirrel, 55 while hunting dove, 51 while hunting cottontail, 37 while hunting grouse, and 24 while hunting quail. The 2001 National Survey of Hunting and Fishing reports a 29 percent drop in small game hunting participation over the past five years, but the incident report clearly shows that instructors should stress small game hunting safety in the classroom.

Overall, 630 incidents involved two or more people, while 296 shootings were self-inflicted. Errors in judgment accounted for 74 percent of the multiple party shootings. Skill and aptitude factors accounted for 70 percent of the self-inflicted incidents. Overall, the report breaks the incidents down among 30 different kinds of contributing factors in five categories.

Game law violations were associated with 145 of the incidents. Some agencies also reported non-shooting related incidents, such as treestand falls, but most do not have a good

method of collecting this information. Research in some states has shown that falls, heart attacks, hypothermia, drownings, cuts, burns, and illness are significant risk factors facing hunters.

The Year 2000 Incident Report can be found online at [www.ihea.com](http://www.ihea.com). Future articles in this *Journal* will take a closer look at hunter injury and fatality statistics. It is also worth noting that the International Hunter Education Association has applied for a national grant to

improve the collection and analysis of hunting incidents. The current summary reports submitted by agencies lack sufficient detail to allow for the type of analysis that occurs as part of the National Turkey Hunting Safety Task Force process every five years. Without more detailed information, the IHEA and other hunting groups will not be able to address significant new efforts to promote safety.

Imagine for a moment an overall reduction in hunting injuries and fatalities that parallels the success seen in turkey hunting over the last 10 years. The statistics would show dozens fewer fatalities and hundreds fewer injuries. Thanks to hunter education, hunting is safe and getting safer. However, each statistic is a husband or wife, son or daughter, mother or father, so as a community we must keep looking for improvement.

Look at the statistics and give yourself and your fellow instructors a hearty pat on the back. Keep up the good work, and watch this *Journal* for future news about hunting safety.

*Jim Wentz operates Silvertip Productions and can be reached at [www.silvertip.net](http://www.silvertip.net). †*

## The theme of this issue, ice and water safety for hunters, correlates with the survival and emergency preparedness component of the hunter education program.

Dr. David M. Knotts, Executive Editor

Ice and water safety for hunters is a subject that is frequently overlooked by hunters. I grew up on the Texas-Louisiana border with miles and miles of rivers, lakes and swamps offering great hunting and fishing opportunities. Most of us “natives” could swim by two and handle a boat by three. Nevertheless, as I look back at some of the foolish things I did or failed to do, it’s a wonder I didn’t end up in Davy Jones’ locker!

For one, a life jacket was either unheard of or something you sat on. I remember as a 16-year-old going out one cold winter day in a pirogue with my scoutmaster to hunt ducks. We jumped a flock of wood ducks and both of us fired at the same time and off the same side. I’ll let your imagination run with what happened in the split second after we pulled the triggers.

Simply put, it was a good thing the water was only three feet deep. Both of us had pockets loaded with shot shells and we were wearing heavy winter clothing and boots, not to mention holding on to our shotguns. A box of 20-gauge shells can weigh over a pound and a box of 12-gauge shells can weigh more than 2 pounds. Add to all this, icy water, and it’s a wonder either one of us is here to talk about it.

Lesson learned: Always wear a life jacket! Don’t just throw one in the boat—put it on, buckle it up and wear it!

To this day, I see hunters and fishermen in boats not wearing a life jacket. The law may require you to have one life jacket or Personal Flotation Device (PFD) in the boat per passenger, but what good does it do if you fall out of the boat and it drifts away—or worse yet—you hit your head on the edge of the boat or a rock in the water and are knocked unconscious? PFD’s come in many forms including floating hunting coats and vests and even complete suits. Most are available in your favorite camouflage pattern. Whatever type you chose, make sure it is Coast Guard approved, and put it on!

Another water safety item I have come to rely on over the years is a readily available knife—preferably a sheath knife. Lakes and rivers are full of old fishing line, broken anchor rope, and other debris that may require you to cut yourself out of. As a diver, I see a lot of things below the surface that are both man-made and natural which could hang a person up. A pocketknife buried deep in your pants pocket will not work. I usually strap a sheath knife on my life jacket within easy reach of either hand.

Then there is the problem of ice—never trust it! Warming trends, underwater springs, and other factors can weaken ice in unexpected places. When in doubt, wear a PFD. When really in doubt, stay off! A pair of commercial or homemade ice picks hanging on a cord around your neck can make the difference between life and death should you fall through the ice. These simple devices can help you pull yourself out of the water and up onto solid ice. See page 38 for instructions on how to make one.

We hope you find the material included in this issue beneficial, and that you incorporate it into your lesson plans and discussions with your students.

*Photo courtesy Ducks Unlimited*

# Save Your

**W**hen you read the papers or watch TV and the subject is drowning, it often isn’t one person who drowned. All too frequently there were two people, sometimes more. Why does this happen and what can the average person do to prevent it?

First, you need to understand what happens when a person drowns. When a person is drowning they panic. They will grab onto anything and do almost anything to keep their head above water. Rational thought is beyond them. When a rescuer swims to a drowning person, they become something to grab onto. The victim will try to climb on top of the rescuer. Frequently, this forces the rescuer underwater and before long, there are two drowning victims.

When I took lifesaving training many years ago, my instructor taught me the following mantra, “Throw, row, go.”

### **THROW, ROW AND GO**

What did she mean by throw, row and go?

**Throw** means to throw something to the victim—something they can hold on to. Ideally, it should be something you can use to pull them back to shore. But even if you can’t pull them to shore, it may help them keep their head up, and calm down enough so they can be rescued. Throw is your first option.

**Row** means to use a boat to reach the victim. A person who is drowning can grab onto a boat and rescuers can grab them. But, there are two reasons why this is the sec-

# Buddy... Save Yourself

ond choice. One reason is that a boat may not be available. The second reason is that many boats aren't very stable. A lot of boats, including most used for hunting, and many used for fishing, are easily capsized. If a panicked victim capsizes your boat, you may end up in the two-or-more-victims category. If you attempt a rescue in a boat, you can still throw, and unless the victim is unconscious, you should.

**Go** should be the last choice. This means to go into the water to help the victim. Only trained lifeguards should do this. The one exception would be to recover an unconscious victim.

## THROW, THE FIRST CHOICE

Those of us who do a lot of water rescue often use throw bags, rescue discs, and other tools to make the rescue safer. But what about the average citizen? There are all kinds of items that can be used in a water rescue. They can be divided into floaters and pullers.

Floaters are items you throw to a victim to help them float. They won't rescue the person, however. A partial list of floaters would be: a cooler, a milk or water jug with a little liquid in it for weight, a life jacket, a beach ball, balloons, plastic gun cases, or a spare tire. Be careful when you throw something to a victim so that you don't injure them.

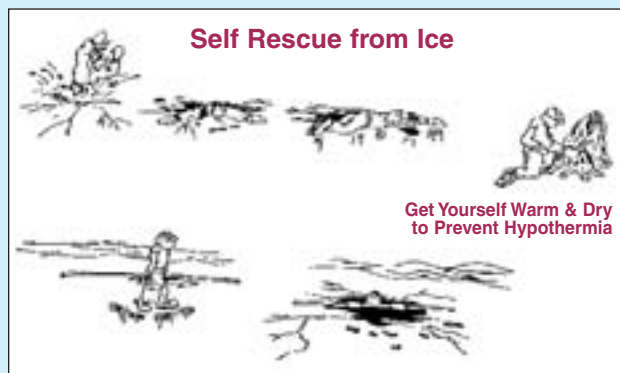
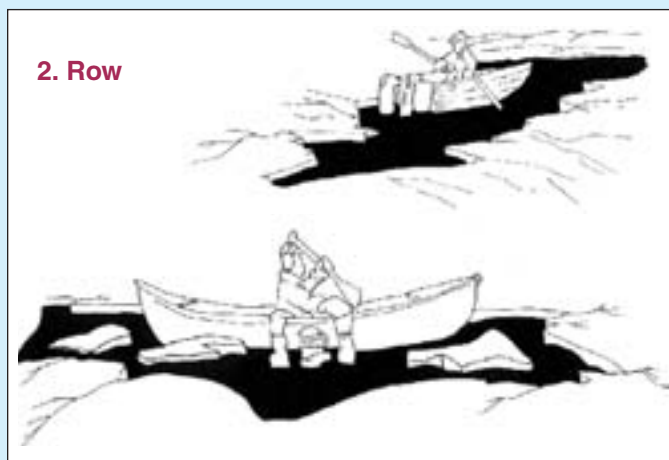
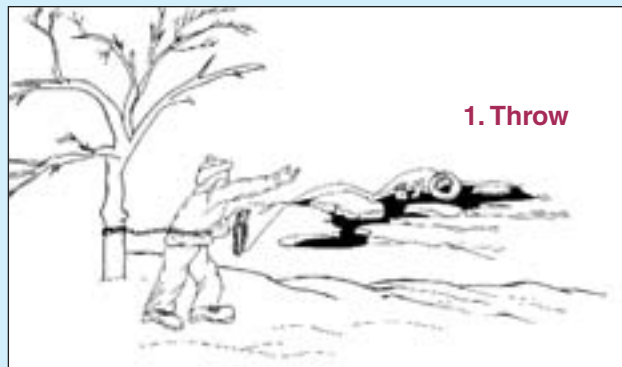
Pullers are used to bring the victim to safety. A partial list of pullers would be: a rope, a shovel (I have pulled a person out with one), a stick, a fishing rod (make sure if it comes apart, it won't be between you and them), a branch, a dog leash, a throw bag, or a paddle. When you throw something with a rope attached, try to throw it past the person so that the rope falls over their shoulders. If they are in a stream, throw it slightly upstream.

Once you reach them with a puller, be careful that they don't pull you in. Make sure your footing is stable and try to stay on dry and solid ground. You don't want to be on a bank that can collapse under you. If you can hold onto, or tie off on something that won't give way, that's even better. If possible, get as vertically close to the victim as you can. If you are in the water, it should be shallow with no drop-offs or strong currents nearby.

When teaching students with this program, bring a selection of floaters and pullers to class. You can even set up "victims" and "rescuers" on dry land. Emphasize that they need to be secure so that they can't be pulled in. The whole thing can be done in 15-30 minutes.

The goal is to save lives and prevent the additional deaths of many brave people. You may admire their courage, but it is better to be a live hero than a dead one. †

*Illustrations by D. Michael Knotts, Jr., Cheyenne, WY.*



*Written by Don Headly, a former ranger for the Army Corps of Engineers, and Steve Keefer, District Wildlife Manager for the Colorado Division of Wildlife and President of the Southeast Colorado Water Safety Council.*

*Article courtesy of the Colorado Division of Wildlife and the Southeast Colorado Water Safety Council.*

# Ice Safety for Hunters

“Ice Safety” gets very little attention in hunter education. Yet, the fundamentals of ice safety should be part of every hunter’s education. Ice or frozen water may be encountered during big game and small game seasons. It should be expected during waterfowl season.

Because of the wide variation between and within types of ice, hunters should view all ice as unsafe for travel (walking). “Ice should never be considered safe,” counsels Spencer Bodaness, head of the Dive Team for the Logan County Sheriff’s Department in Sterling, Colorado. “No one should ever step out onto ice without measuring and testing it.”

## Nature of Ice

“People shouldn’t think of ice as a solid or terra firma. Ice is frozen water,” says Bodaness. A more complex consideration is that the nature of ice depends on the nature of the water that froze. We generally accept that water freezes at 32°F. However, salt in the water drops the freezing point to 28°F.

Understanding what type of ice you are dealing with is vital to your safety. Bodaness lists several types of ice along with some characteristics for each.

- **Frazil ice** is formed from shaped ice crystals, forming a film that floats on the surface of the water. It mixes at areas of moving water and becomes pancake ice—round ice cakes that keep shape from continual bumping. Frazil ice is not safe, says Bodaness.

- **Clear ice** is the strongest ice form. It is typically found on lakes and in areas where temperatures fluctuate little. Clear ice derives its color from the water or from the bottom.

- **Snow ice** is the weakest ice. It forms as saturated snow on an ice sheet. It is milky colored and has a low density.

- **Candled ice** is also milky or gray colored. It is a very weak ice, formed as thicker ice deteriorates.

- **Brackish ice** is found along the seacoast where salt water and fresh water mix. It is 50 percent weaker than clear ice.

- **Anchor ice** forms on submerged solid objects. When warmed by the sun, the ice releases and forms ice jams. Its strength is unknown.

- **Layered ice** consists of many types. Frozen and refrozen snow forms layered ice. It is similar to snow ice and is not strong at all.

- **Pack ice** occurs when ice flows pile up. This can occur in fresh water as well as in the polar seas. Its strength is unknown.

- **Border ice** forms along shorelines while deeper water is still circulating. Its strength is unknown.

According to Bodaness, thermal cracks in ice also add to the hunter’s need for “ice savvy.” Thermal cracks can be dry or wet and are caused by expansion or contraction of an ice sheet due to temperature fluctuation. A dry crack is visible at the surface, but does not extend to the water level. The area around a dry crack may be stable, but it serves as a warning that the ice conditions have changed. A wet crack extends from the surface of an ice sheet to the water. These cracks are dangerous; added weight may cause it to break off.

## Factors affecting ice strength

Ice strength is determined by many complex factors and cannot be judged by appearance alone. There are many environmental, chemical and external factors that effect the strength of ice, such as:

- A lake fed by surface streams will freeze relatively evenly. A lake fed partially by underground springs will be unstable at those points. A lake fed partially by hot springs is hazardous.

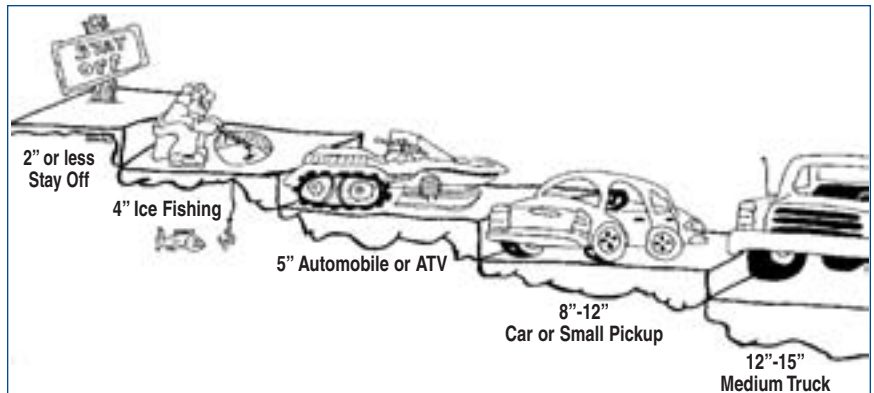
- River ice covers moving water. Changes in the motion of the water will change the condition of the ice. River ice is 15 percent weaker than lake ice.

- Wind effects ice strength. A strong wind can destabilize an ice sheet.

- Ice thickness is the most recognized factor in determining ice strength, but ice safety cannot be judged on thickness alone.

Bodaness takes ice safety seriously and says, “The only absolute in ice safety is ‘stay off the ice.’” But, he recognizes that winter recreation is important to hunters and to all sorts

*Continued on page 30*



## Guidelines: What types of activities clear, solid lake ice can support.

Ice Thickness	Maximum Load
2"	One person
4"	One person fishing, or group walking
5"	Snowmobile
8"	Car
10" to 12"	Light truck

*Illustration by D. Michael Knotts, Jr., Cheyenne, WY.*

## Ice Safety

Continued from page 28

of outdoors people. "In some states, winter lasts a long time."

If you or someone else goes through the ice, Bodaness recommends following these simple guidelines.

1. If a vehicle goes through the ice, it will take that vehicle about 20 seconds to sink.

2. If someone goes through the ice, do not jump in after them.

3. Never go onto the ice after someone, unless you are trained to do so. If you go into the water, the chances that you and your victim will get out are not good. Hypothermia sets in fast in water temperatures below 70 degrees F. (Some people have hung onto the ice for 20 to 30 min-

utes; most hang on for less.)

4. Stop/think/act. Do not panic. Call for emergency help (911). Talk to the person in the water; assure them that help is on the way.

5. Reach/Throw/Go. Reach the person with a branch or other solid object and pull the person to shore. Throw a rope, a cooler or flotation device to keep the person from going under. (A weighted object tied to a rope will help you throw more accurately.) Go after them, only if you have a boat or raft.

6. If the person goes under, do not panic. Stay in front of the spot until rescue arrives. Try marking the spot with anything you can find.

7. When you get the person out of the water, take their wet clothing off and warm them immediately.

8. If you bring an unconscious person out of the water, check to see if

they are breathing and have a pulse. Start necessary emergency treatments.

9. Cold water drowning occurs when water is 70 degrees or cooler. If victims can be rescued within an hour of going under, they may possibly be revived. Cold water drowning is the one instance of heart and breathing failure in which the chances of resuscitation are good.

10. If you know you are going on the ice, do not go alone. Carry these essential items for ice safety and rescue: a personal flotation device, a rope bag or disk, and a cellular phone, radio, or some way to contact emergency help.

11. The best piece of advice Bodaness can offer? "Stay off the ice."

Article by Margaret Rothermel, Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor, Colorado Division of Wildlife. †

# Prescription for Duck Hunters

Waterfowlers seldom think of themselves as boaters. After all, isn't a boat simply a means to cross the slough to the blind and set out decoys? Why bother with life jackets and boat cushions that take up space that could be used for extra decoys, dogs, guns, and a million things that duck hunters deem essential? The reason is simple. Hunters drown needlessly every year because they spend more time getting the perfect camouflage paint job on their boat, than making certain they have the necessary equipment and skills to survive in an emergency.



## EIGHT COMMON FACTORS

In a review of ten separate accidents resulting in 14 waterfowl hunter deaths in Minnesota, eight factors common to hunting boat fatalities become apparent:

- Waterfowlers are more likely to drown in a boating accident than be shot by a hunting companion.
- None of the victims were wearing a personal flotation device (PFD), and only one even had a flotation cushion in the boat.
- Two-thirds were men between 18 and 23 years of age, possibly because young men are more likely to take greater risks, and generally have less experience than older hunters.
- All of the accidents were a result of the boat capsizing or swamping due to overloading, sudden shifts in weight, or weather conditions.
- All but one happened under cold, stormy conditions in

the latter half of the season.

- 60 percent were in canoes or boats 12-feet or less.
- Hypothermia (loss of body heat due to immersion in cold water) was a contributing cause of most of these deaths.
- More waterfowl hunter drownings occur on small sloughs than big lakes, possibly because big water hunters use larger, more stable boats, and are more likely to carry PFDs.

### **PFD'S: PREVENT FOOLISH DROWNINGS**

What can we do then, to avoid some of the hazards that befall too many hunters each year?

The first and most important tip is to wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device (PFD) while traveling to and from your blind. A PFD can make a difference between life or death for a hunter who falls into cold water. Camouflage models are available in both the Type III vest and full sleeve "float coat" varieties, and both should offer adequate flotation and considerable protection against hypothermia in case you make an "unscheduled water landing."

### **OVERLOADING: AN INVITATION TO TRAGEDY**

Boats used for hunting should be checked to see if they will float when filled with water. All modern outboard boats have a capacity plate that indicates the maximum outboard motor horsepower as well as the carrying capacity of the boat. This is a good way to determine whether or not your boat is large enough for the gear you wish to transport. Any attempt to overload will result in a dangerous loss of freeboard, and too little freeboard is an invitation to the first large wave to swamp your boat.

Hunting boats are typically small craft (under 14 feet), and many have flat bottoms which are particularly unsuitable for rough water. Hunters should avoid crossing large open bodies of water and stay as close to shore as possible when traveling to and from hunting locations.

Make sure you have enough fuel. Take into account that your motor will use more gasoline when hunting than on a summer fishing trip. Decoys, dogs, and shells weigh more than fishing rods and tackle boxes, and will demand more power (and gasoline) from your outboard.

### **THE GALES OF NOVEMBER**

Keep an eye on the weather. All but one of the waterfowling boat fatalities in a seven-year period happened after October 21, and in windy or stormy weather. Four hunters were lost in one storm in 1984, and in the infamous Armistice Day Storm of 1940, hundreds of hunters were stranded and scores drowned when boats capsized or swamped in six foot waves whipped by 50 MPH winds. Don't let bluebird weather at the start of a hunting trip lull your judgment, and be sure to get an up-to-date weather forecast.

With practice, you can float in hip boots or waders, even if you forget to put on your PFD! If you keep your legs bent in a seated position, enough air is trapped in the shin

area of the boot to keep you afloat for hours. You can then propel yourself backwards to return to your boat. Waders do not turn the practiced wearer upside down, and even when filled with water, they will not pull you to the bottom and do offer protection from hypothermia.

As mentioned before, hypothermia is a factor in most duck hunter fatalities. Since water conducts heat 25 times faster than air of the same temperature, it is important to keep as much of your body out of the water as possible. If you unexpectedly enter cold water (any water less than 70 degrees is considered cold), immediately attempt to reenter the boat. This will minimize the effects of hypothermia, and greatly increase your chances for survival. Do not remove your clothing unless it's absolutely necessary, since even wet clothing holds body heat in like a diver's wet suit.

### **H.E.L.P YOURSELF**

If you fall in while wearing a PFD and decide not to swim for shore, and can't get back into your swamped boat, you can reduce the effects of hypothermia by assuming the heat escape lessening position (H.E.L.P.). Cross ankles, cross arms over chest, draw knees to chest, lean back and try to relax. This head out of the water, fetal position reduces body heat flow to the water by at least 50 percent. It should, however, be tried in a pool before depending on it. Note that the hands should be kept high on the shoulders or neck. If kept out of the water, the hands will stay warmer and more flexible—an important factor in self-rescue.

If more than one person is in the water and wearing PFDs, the "huddle" is recommended. This is where small groups of two to four "hug" with chest closely touching chest. Your arms should be placed around the backs of the others and kept underwater, while smaller individuals or children can be placed in the middle of the "sandwich." The huddle helps to conserve body heat and it is also easier for rescuers to locate than one lone victim. The close proximity of victims can serve also as a significant morale booster.

Studies have shown that 97 percent of all non-PFD wearing adult males can float motionlessly, hands stretched behind their heads, with faces out of the water for long periods. If large waves prevent floating on the back, a non-PFD-wearing individual should keep his or her head out of the water and slowly tread water or dog paddle.

The operative word here is slowly. Excess movement such as swimming or thrashing about, accelerates heat loss and encourages hypothermia. Unconsciousness can occur in as little as 15 minutes in very cold water, and death follows unconsciousness.

### **ALCOHOL: THE DEADLY COMPANION**

When hunting, alcoholic beverages should be avoided. Besides increasing the possibility of a firearms accident, even "just a couple of swallows" can seriously impair judgment, increase risk taking, and reduce visual awareness. Contrary to what many people believe, alcoholic beverages don't warm you up, but actually serve to speed up cooling and bring on hypothermia.

# A Look at Some Historical Waterfowl Hunting Incidents

By Lee D. Salber

Photo courtesy Ducks Unlimited

**YOU'RE SAFE WITH A GUN AND SO AM I.** A look at statistics shows that most of our hunting companions are too. We've passed hunter safety courses and had accident-free hunts for years. National figures, in fact, prove hunting is an extremely safe sport. (The yearly fatal accident rate per 100,000 hunting licenses sold averages 1.3, whereas 18.7 people are killed in car accidents per 100,000.) Yet, ironically, our good record in itself may create a danger—the danger of complacency. A Michigan study showed that veteran hunters with 11 to 20 years' experience caused 27 percent of the hunting accidents—the same percentage as first-time hunters.

An accident-free record is to be commended, but when it comes to gun safety, the only season that counts is the one that's coming up. It might, however, be worth looking back on last season for a moment because last year's close calls could very well lead to this year's accidents. Did you ever take a shot at a duck or goose—maybe the last bird needed to fill a limit—even though an occupied blind was close to being in your line of fire? Did you hunt with a partner in spite of the fact that you knew him to be unsafe with a gun? Did you point out the unsafe action to him or did you keep your comments to yourself? Did you have control of your firearm at all times, or were there instances when either a companion or a retriever could have knocked it over, possibly discharging it? Did you ever swing your gun into your buddy's line of fire, slip your safety off before your gun was firmly against your shoulder or before you were certain of your target?

If so, then you were very lucky, for a number of waterfowlers who made these mistakes were killed.

If everyone followed the 10 commandments of gun safety there would be no accidents. Rule number four is particularly important. If your muzzle never points toward something you do not intend to shoot, nearly all accidents would be avoided. The rule has a special application to waterfowling, since space is usually at a premium in a duck blind. Hunters, guns, and dogs are squeezed into close quarters where the effects of a misguided shotgun blast can be devastating. Simply standing up at the wrong time can place a hunter in the line of fire, while a short swing of a muzzle to the right or left can suddenly violate a companion's shooting zone.

Over the years, you've been safe with a gun and so have I. Let's keep it that way by reminding ourselves that the potential for an accident follows us on every single trip to the duck blind. Only through constant atten-

tion to safety can we guarantee that this potential does not become a reality. †

*Article reprint courtesy of Ducks Unlimited, Vol. 49, No. 5, Sept-Oct. 1985.*

## The following are incidents that happened during the past two decades:

**MISSISSIPPI:** A father and son were in a boat blind. Ducks dropped in and the father swung into his son's zone of fire as the boy stood up. Shot from the father's 12 gauge knocked the son's 20 gauge Remington 1100 out of his hand, bending the barrel as if it had been wrapped around a tree.

**NEW YORK:** Three friends were duck hunting in a 14-foot boat, two in the middle and one in the bow. They planned not to stand up to fire. Eight to 10 ducks came into their decoys and all three fired. As the duck flock flared, one of the individuals in the middle seat stood up to get a better shot just as the friend in the bow fired. The shot struck the victim in the top of the head from about three feet, requiring 45 stitches.

## Delivery in Canada

Continued from page 9

The statistics in the above paragraphs can be viewed from various perspectives. These statistics given are very simplistic in nature and could easily be modified if you looked at population based on age, sex, rural/urban demographic trends, hunting opportunities, etc., between these two Canadian provinces and Nevada. While lack of government funding appears to impact the participation rate, it does not stop students from completing hunter education.

In comparing Canada to the U.S.A. you also have to look at the issue of different federal and state/provincial legislation. To own a firearm in Canada, federal legislation requires that an individual complete the Canadian Firearm Safety Course (CFSC), obtain a firearms license, and register their guns. This is above the requirement of hunter education. What impact does this have on hunt-

ing and participation in the shooting sports? Some provinces have combined the CFSC and hunter education programs in order to reduce the obstacle and cost to the user. It is called "one-stop-shopping."

Hopefully this analysis of delivery of hunter education in Canada and the U.S.A. should spark some discussion, debate, and research into the various methods of delivery of hunter education programs and the dollars spent. In Canada we do an excellent job of producing hunter education graduates within the varied delivery methods and funding schemes.

It is crucial for Canadian Hunter Education Coordinators to work collectively together and as part of IHEA because government funding for hunter education is limited in Canada.

The efforts of the sum of the whole will achieve more than the efforts of one. +

## Rx for Duck Hunters

Continued from page 31

### TORSO REFLEX: YOUR LAST GASP

If you know you are about to fall into cold water, cover your face with your hands and hold your breath. Anyone who has ever gotten into a cold shower, knows the effects of the "Torso Reflex." This is your automatic gasp for air in response to being hit in the chest area with cold water. If your mouth is underwater when this gasp occurs, drowning is the most probably outcome.

The outcome of any hunting trip should be a limit of fun, but fun does not have to mean unsafe. Hunting safety only takes a little bit of planning, foresight, and diligence—some waterfowling PFD that can go a long way toward helping all hunters home. +

*(Copyright Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, used with permission. Written by Timothy M. Smalley.)*

**MARYLAND:** A 44-year old was hunting in northeastern California. He removed his shotgun muzzle-first from the duck blind with the safety off. The gun discharged, hitting him in the neck and chest. Fatal.

**NEW YORK:** Two friends finished hunting ducks and were pulling their boat out of the water bow first. A loaded .410 with its muzzle pointed forward, slid back inside the boat. It hit the ribs of the craft, causing it to discharge, hitting both hunters in the hands with no. 6 shot.

**CALIFORNIA:** Three duck hunters were preparing to hunt a spot on the lower end of the Sacramento Valley. The victim was standing near the van, putting on layers of clothes. He picked up his shotgun, and because of the clothes and his gloves, was having trouble holding it. He put two shells in and was working the bolt when he tripped. The gun hit the ground butt first and discharged, hitting the victim in the left forearm, removing all flesh from above the bone

in a three-inch area near the elbow.

**CALIFORNIA:** Two juveniles were hunting a federal refuge in the Bay Area of central California. The 15-year old tried to retrieve a downed duck, but could not reach it so he jumped in, becoming stuck in the mud. While holding his gun by the muzzle, he handed the butt to his friend on the levee. The 12 gauge discharged twice, hitting the youth in the groin. He survived.

**MARYLAND:** Self-inflicted. A 65-year old was hunting in a pit blind with his 12 gauge propped up, safety off. As the gun began to fall, he grabbed the muzzle. The firearm discharged, blowing his fingers off.

**MAINE:** A 12-year old and his father were hunting in a blind. The youth was standing on a five-gallon pail to see over the blind. His 20 gauge single barrel hammer gun was resting on the edge of the bucket. The gun slipped off and the hammer struck the edge of the pail, firing the gun. The boy was fatally hit in the abdomen. Investigation

revealed that the shotgun was defective.

**CALIFORNIA:** A 28- and 24-year old were hunting together. The caller was in front of the shooter. Ducks came in and the 28-year old fired as the caller stood up to shoot. The victim sustained severe injury to his left hand requiring the amputation of one finger and the wiring of another.

**MICHIGAN:** A family of four, all first-year duck hunters, were jump-shooting ducks. They approached the pond, the ducks went up and all fired. The hunter in the rear swung on a duck, shooting his brother in the back of the head. Fatal.

**NEW YORK:** Four friends were lying prone in an open, cut cornfield with decoys all around them. A flock of geese landed about 100 yards from the party. While attempting to crawl toward the geese, one hunter's semiautomatic discharged, hitting his friend in the nose from about 10 feet with number 4 shot. Apparently the trigger caught on brush. +



# Wild Game Recipes

Terry Erwin  
Journal, Fall 2002

## Chicken Fried Goose Breast

### Ingredients:

One to two geese, breasted and sliced into 1/2-inch thick strips (enough for 6-8 people)  
Two eggs

One cup whole milk  
Two cups flour  
Fajita seasoning with mesquite flavoring

### Preparation:

Combine (beat) the eggs and milk in a bowl. Season the goose breast strips on both sides. Dip the strips in the milk and eggs and then flour both sides. Cook in a deep fryer (medium-high heat) or in large skillet with 3/4 inches of cooking oil until golden brown. Remove and drain. Make a cream gravy and serve with fries and salad.

Recipe courtesy of Terry Erwin, Hunter Education Coordinator, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.



Bag It

Cook It

Eat It

Got a  
Wild  
Game  
Recipe?  
Send it to  
the IHEA

## Honeyed Goose or Duck

Joy Borsay  
Journal, Fall 2002

The recipe is for one duck (or goose) and can be doubled or tripled depending on the number of ducks you are cooking or the size of the goose. (Do not use for mergansers - See recipe below.)

### Ingredients:

#### Mix in a small bowl:

2-1/8 teaspoons salt  
1 teaspoon ground ginger  
1 teaspoon ground basil  
1/2 teaspoon pepper

#### Combine in a saucepan:

3/4 cup honey  
1/4 cup butter or margarine  
3 tablespoons orange juice  
2 teaspoons lemon juice  
1 teaspoon orange peel  
1/8 teaspoon dry mustard  
One or two oranges and 1/2 teaspoon of cornstarch

### Preparation:

Pluck the duck or goose, do not skin. The cavity should be cleaned, rinsed and dried. Combine two teaspoons of salt with the ginger, basil and pepper. Rub half the mixture inside the duck. Warm the honey, butter, orange juice, lemon juice, orange peel, mustard and that extra 1/8 teaspoon of salt together until butter melts. (Do not boil). Rub two or three tablespoons inside the duck. Slice the unpeeled oranges 1/2 inch thick and stuff the duck with as many as possible. Pour four or five tablespoons of the honey mixture inside. Rub the remainder of the spices on the outside of the duck. Place the duck in a turkey-roasting pan (with cover) and pour the rest of the honey mixture over the bird. Cook at 325 degrees for 1-3/4 hours. Uncover and baste with drippings, then bake for another 20 to 25 minutes until brown. To serve, cut the bird up and put it back in the pan drippings. If you want gravy, combine the cornstarch with a little cold water, add to the drippings, stir, and heat to boiling. Serve with wild rice, steamed carrots, and a salad.

## Merganser Recipe

### Ingredients:

Sliced onions, butter, and a dash of Worcestershire sauce (optional).

### Preparation:

Breast out the ducks. In a heavy, cast iron skillet melt the butter and fry onions until translucent. Add merganser breasts and quickly cook. When done correctly they will taste just like venison.

Recipes courtesy of Joy Borsay, Hunter Safety Coordinator, Rhode Island Department of Fish and Wildlife.



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## Hunter Education Patch History: Manitoba

Manitoba's hunter education program was first administered by the Manitoba Junior Rifle Clubs Committee (MJRCC) around 1949 in response to legislative concerns over numerous hunting accidents. In 1951, the Manitoba Game and Fish Association, now the Manitoba Wildlife

The Junior Rifle program (a part of MWF) annually certifies approximately 40 percent of the hunter education graduates in the province. These graduates are unique in the fact that they are required, in addition to the hunter education course, to attend weekly marksmanship training from September through April.

Beginning in 1964, a unique patch was issued to all Junior Rifle graduates who achieved a 100% unassisted score on their exam. This patch, still in use today, now requires a 96% score, without instructor assistance. A Junior Rifle Instructor patch was issued in 1969 and is still current. Also, in 1969, an Assistant Safety Instructor patch was issued to all assistant instructors ages 16-18. This patch is also still in use.

The Manitoba graduate patch was selected as the "most colorful" student patch at the IHEA Conference in Louisville, Kentucky.

Thanks to Reg Wiebe of the Manitoba Wildlife Federation for his help in preparation of the history of the Manitoba hunter education patches.

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Federation (MWF), took over administration of the program. In 1964, the Manitoba government officially took over the program and in 1969 made the course mandatory. In 1998, the Manitoba Wildlife Federation and the province signed an agreement to once again have the MWF administer the course.

The first graduate and instructor patches were issued in 1964. When the program became mandatory in 1969, a second version of the graduate patch was issued. This second, smaller, patch was given to students who successfully completed the course with a passing mark of 96% or better. An iron-on (heat-transfer) patch was created in 1999. This new patch did not catch on and was dropped in 2001. Today, Manitoba does not issue a graduate patch. Instead, graduates (96% score or better) are issued a zipper pull with the newly designed hunter education logo and a graduate certificate.

In addition to the first instructor patch (1964), there was also a series of "years of service" patches including a 3-year, 5-year, 10-year and 20-year. These patches were first issued in 1972 and are now discontinued.



## TEACHING 101

# Talking Head Syndrome

By Robert Paddon  
IHEA Vice President, Zone I

**H**ave you ever noticed that when you instruct, that you do all the talking, and all of the students sit quietly and are attentive? Or have you noticed that the students are fidgeting in their seats, some even fall asleep? Maybe you are suffering from the Talking Head Syndrome! “I am the instructor; I do the talking, you take notes and listen.” The only time the student talks is when you ask a question in the conclusion part of your lesson plan (30 minutes into the lecture). This style of instructing does not lead to a very interesting or productive class. There is limited or no student participation and only one-way communication.

With effective two- or three-way communication, you will probably find that you can go through the material quicker and with more participation. The two things you have to do are:

- ▶ Be prepared to close your mouth and listen. You cannot actively listen and talk at the same time. Instructors just hate to be quiet for 10 to 15 seconds. That pregnant pause syndrome.
- ▶ Ensure that you maintain good class control and lead/direct the answers or discussion. Rephrase the questions and draw out the answers. If Billy gives part of the answer have Susie complete the answer; three-way communication.

### The lecture is a suitable technique to use:

- ▶ When the basic instructional task is to give information;
- ▶ When the information is available nowhere else or is difficult to obtain;
- ▶ When some content material must be organized in a special way;
- ▶ When establishing learner interest in a subject is one of the learning objectives;
- ▶ When the material presented is needed for only short-term retention; and
- ▶ When introducing a subject or giving directions for learning tasks which will be pursued or developed through some other techniques.

### The lecture, by itself, is not appropriate:

- ▶ When the learning objective involves any form of learning other than acquiring information;
- ▶ When the learning objective involves the application of skills or knowledge (learning how to use a firearm);
- ▶ When the learning objective involves changing or modifying attitudes (teaching hunter ethics);
- ▶ When the information is complex, detailed, or abstract and requires analysis, synthesis, or integration by the learner; and
- ▶ When learner participation is crucial to achieving the objective (sounds like firearms training and/or hunter education to me).

Try a new approach. Ask questions instead of lecturing from the pulpit. Use student's experience, knowledge, and interest to create an active class with two- or three-way communication. For example, instead of telling the student the three main parts of a firearm, hold up a firearm and ask the students, what are the three main parts of a firearm? If they answer trigger, bolt, and magazine, reply you have got one part, the action. What are the other two major parts? When they give you the correct answers or most of it, repeat their answers. Show the correct answers on the overhead; demonstrate those parts on the firearm. You now have created two-way and in some cases three-way communication.

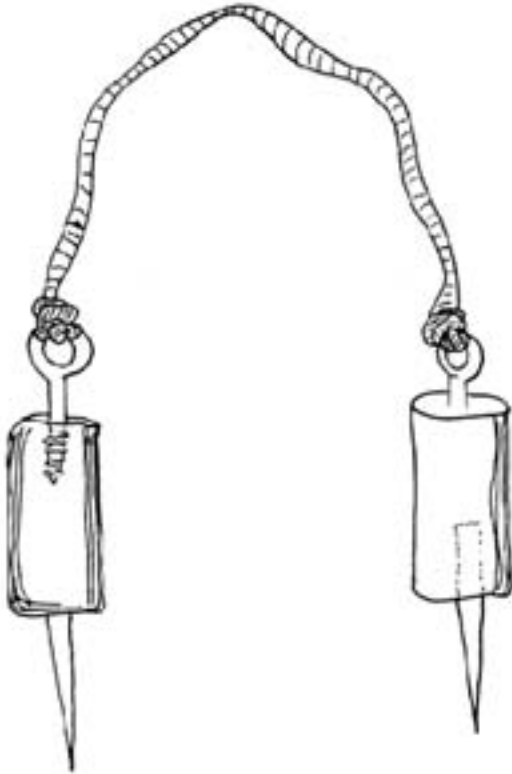
For too long instructors have been trained to lecture. There are a lot of other instructional techniques. The Instructor Diploma Program of British Columbia describes a lecture as an uninterrupted oral presentation of relevant material by a qualified person; the pattern of communication is a one-way transmission of information from instructor to participant.

**S**o think about these points next time before you choose lecture as your style of instruction. You do not have to be the talking head in the front of the class. Ask questions instead of lecturing from the pulpit. A lot of students already know some of the gospel.



# Self-Rescue Ice Picks

By Dr. David M. Knotts  
Art by D. Michael Knotts, Jr.



### Materials needed:

Wooden broom handle cut into two,  
3- to-4 inch lengths  
2 eye screws  
2- to 3-foot length of stout cord  
2 sixteen penny nails  
Glue  
Orange paint

### Instructions:

Insert the eye screws into one end of each broom handle section.

Drill a hole in the other end of the broom handle sections the same diameter as the nail.

Cut the heads off the nails with a hacksaw, squeeze glue into the drilled holes, and insert the nail with the point facing out.

Tie the ends of the cord to the eye screws.

Paint the broom handle sections orange or a bright color to make them easier to see in the event the device is dropped.

Wear it around your neck for easy retrieval should you fall through the ice.