

TEXAS SPORTSMAN'S NEWS

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PRESORT

Volume 16 Number 3

NOVEMBER, 2006

The Newsletter of The Texas Sportsman's Association

"Dedicated to educating the public about the need for protection, conservation and improvement of fish, game and other wildlife, grasslands, and forests and to safeguard the freedoms that enable these pursuits."

YOU ALL made the TSA's Fall Fund Raiser a success

The annual Fall Fund Raiser held in Industry on Sept. 24 will go down in the record books as a big success.

We want to thank each and every one that made this happen. We appreciate David Foerster and Mitch Lockwood coming out to give their presentation on the antler regulation.

Biologist Royce Jurries and Game Wardens Gilbert (Sonny) Alaniz from Austin County and John Kohleffel from Colorado County were introduced and welcomed.

Thanks to Industry Mayor Alan Kuehn for his welcome and a brief history of the first German settlement in Texas.

We want to thank everyone that

helped in any way to make this event a success. If you purchased raffle tickets, donated items, purchased auction items, brought a dessert, or just came out to enjoy the day, your support for the Texas Sportsman's Assn. is deeply appreciated.

A special "Thank You" to Judy Tiemann and Brandee Froebel for decorating the hall. Coming over to set up their booths were Ron Nelson with Acco Feed and Howard Schomburg with Howard's Wood Works. Thanks guys!

Following are lists of attendance prizes, silent auction and live auction donors as well as the list of raffle prize winners.

TSA directors to meet Jan. 9 in Columbus The next Texas Sportsman's Association directors' meeting will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2007 at 7 p.m. in the EMS Building in Columbus.



COLLYN TIEMANN, 13, of Industry bagged this 13-pointer on Saturday, Oct. 28 near Industry. The deer had an inside spread of 14 inches.

Time changed for Dec. 2 Christmas Party for Austin County TSA Unit

The annual Christmas party for the Austin County Unit of TSA will be held on Saturday, Dec. 2 at the New Ulm Firemen's Hall.

Due to a conflict with the Sealy Fantasy of Lights, the party has been changed and will begin at 11 a.m. A roast beef meal with trimmings will be served at 2 p.m.

Members whose last names begin with letters A through M are asked to bring desserts and those

(Continued on Page 8)



THAT'S BUCK KOLLMAN AND WILFRED ECKARDT up front in the cab as the TSA entry rolls down the street in the Austin County Fair Parade in Bellville in October.

TEXAS SPORTSMAN'S ASSOCIATION

**P.O. Box 26,
Columbus, TX 78934**



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Visit TSA On Line!

The TSA web site is up and running, and members are encouraged to visit:

<http://www.texassportsmansassociation.org>

The website is maintained by TSA Director Leslie Heinsohn.

TSA County Officers

Austin County

President — L.J. Rinn

Vice President — C.F. "Buck" Kollmann

Secretary — Doris Rinn

Treasurer — Charles Abel

Committeemen — Wilfred Eckardt and Duane Dudensing

Colorado County

President — Terrell Maertz

Secretary-Treasurer — Ruth Poncik

Committeeman — Walt Glasscock

Vice President's Wanderings

By
TERRELL MAERTZ

Well, another September has come and gone. At least this one didn't bring any hurricanes. It was so much nicer to spend my time in Industry on Sunday working with T.S.A. members at the Fall Fund Raiser.

Last year at that time I was working around the clock dealing with tired, angry Rita evacuees on the roadways, getting blamed for their troubles and hardships and not letting them go where they wanted to. So this year was definitely a whole lot more pleasant.

Now back to the Fall Fund Raiser. I am not sure of the exact dollar amount, but I know that this year's event can be deemed a success. We had a very good crowd of approximately 250 folks that day. I would like to say thank you to everyone who helped, donated door prizes, auction or raffle items and also to the auction buyers. A big hats off to Mrs. Rinn and her troops for a superb job of decorating the hall. It was beautiful.

Well, easing on, fall is slipping in on us. The cool fronts are rolling in bringing some rain and my neck is starting to swell! The antler restrictions are really helping. It is nice to see so many good bucks running around again. It brings back memories of my young hunting years. I know that my son, Colby is all excited in anticipation of youth weekend getting here. The Texas Sportsman Association founding directors deserve a gigantic pat on the back for getting the restrictions implemented. This started out in six counties and this year will cover 61 counties throughout central and east Texas. So there are a lot of other people out there liking what we got started.

The spring business meeting will be on March 4, 2007, so hope to see and talk to you there.

P.S. This time around, our Madame President decided to do something different and pick on my little brain so I hope that I didn't bore anyone too much.

See you down the trail,
Terrell

Smothered Deer Steak

1-1/2 lbs. deer meat, cut in strips	1 large onion, chopped
1 large can stewed tomatoes	1 pkg. Sweet and Low
1/3 cup flour	1 green pepper, cut up
1 4-oz. can mushrooms, drained	3 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
Salt and pepper to taste	Garlic may be added to taste

Combine steak strips, flour, salt and pepper in crock pot. Add remaining ingredients, cover and cook on high for 1 hour. Turn on low and cook for 8 hours. Serve over rice or noodles. This dish is delicious and is enjoyed by all who try it.

TP&W Whitetail Committee holds meeting

By HERMAN W. BRUNE

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Whitetail Advisory Committee meeting convened August 30, 2006, at the Cabela's store in Buda, south of Austin. Subjects of discussion ranged from Chronic Wasting Disease, to surveys about release-and-hunt practices by scientific breeders, to new ways to count and survey deer, to whether or not to suggest legislation concerning one-way gates in high fences.

The committee is made up of 24 stakeholders who represent landowners, scientific breeders, conservation groups, and interested citizens from around the state.

TP&W Big Game Director Clayton Wolf informed the committee, that concerning scientific breeders' liberation of deer to be hunted, TP&W was undermanned to monitor the releases if the "Triple T" deer movement permits were implemented. Currently, buck deer must be moved from breeders' pens at least 10 days before the opening of deer season — if the animal is to be hunted. If bucks are moved during the deer season the animal's antlers must be removed. Even though deer would be released from pens into the "wild."

That "wild" area would most likely still be within the confines of a high fenced pasture. Wolf said that there was a peak in applications for moving permits from early to mid-September and suggested that a public survey to determine hunter's perception of the practice might be the correct thing to do. However, Wolf disclaimed knowledge as to what type of survey instrument should be used.

Committeeman Renee Barrientos mentioned that Boone & Crockett had given a negative statement on the ethics of such a practice. Texas Wildlife Association (TWA) spokesman David Langford said that if the committee couldn't suggest a monumental move to the benefit of Texas whitetails there was no sense in taking anything to the legislature.

Chairman Lee Bass said, "As a committee we've done about as much as we can do. Unless we have a clear directive from the

TP&W Commission, I think Wolf's idea is the way to go."

Texas Chief Game Warden David Sinclair gave a slide presentation of one-way gates in high fences (from open range to high fenced confines) and asked the questions:

- Is it lawful?
- Is it ethical?
- Are landowners and hunters complaining?

Sinclair went on to explain the status of high fences is a landowners property right to construct whatever type fence they choose. However, the status of the wildlife within that fence remains unchanged. Statutory law provides that wildlife belongs to the state of Texas. Nevertheless, concerning one-way gates, TP&W can't do much unless somebody lays their hands on the deer. Sinclair went on to point out that laws defining captivity concerning white-tail deer are undefined, as well as, laws regulating the minimum size of pens are undefined.

"This is a problem I was never aware of," said Chairman Bass. "We need to know more about case law concerning fences."

Langford said, "If you ask this committee if one-way gates are ethical — the committee is in agreement and says no. If you ask this committee whether having one landowner put up a high fence next to a low fence landowner — this committee has varying views. Be careful what you introduce to the legislature. This may be a problem between neighbors where TP&W and the state shouldn't become involved."

The committee then heard a report from Wolf about new USDA rules concerning interstate movement of deer. According to Wolf, new federal rules seem to pre-empt state restrictions on the interstate transporting of deer. This brings up worries about the state's ability to monitor Chronic Wasting Disease.

Texas' borders are closed to outside deer and Wolf emphasized the significance of state power being able to manage what comes across the border through TP&W and the Animal Health Commission.

(Continued on Page 8)

<p>NAME _____ <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"> last first </div> <p style="text-align: center;">(PLEASE PRINT)</p> <p>ADDRESS _____</p> <p>CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____</p> <p>TELEPHONE () _____ DATE _____</p> <p>I AGREE TO SUPPORT THE GOALS OF TEXAS SPORTSMAN'S ASSOCIATION</p> <p>SIGNATURE _____</p> <p>SPONSOR SIGNATURE _____</p> </p>	<p>COUNTY _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> Address Change</p> <p>EXP. DATE _____</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>DUES: Annual</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 5.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Life (Onetime)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$200.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">DONATION TO:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TEXAS SPORTSMAN'S ASSN.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">DUES PAYABLE TO:</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">TEXAS SPORTSMAN'S ASSOCIATION</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">P.O. BOX 26</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">COLUMBUS, TEXAS 78934</td> </tr> </table>	DUES: Annual	\$ 5.00	Life (Onetime)	\$200.00	DONATION TO:		TEXAS SPORTSMAN'S ASSN.	\$ _____	TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED:	\$ _____	DUES PAYABLE TO:		TEXAS SPORTSMAN'S ASSOCIATION		P.O. BOX 26		COLUMBUS, TEXAS 78934	
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Texas Sportsman's Association
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Looking Down from the Saddle By HERMAN W. BRUNE

My eyelids drooped and I melted into a canvas-folding chair preparing to doze. The outfitter had a captive audience and he was primed for a lecture. He was a speaker who enjoyed the sound of his own voice.



It was the first evening in camp and our guests were about to hear everything they needed to know about wilderness hunting. They sat in a Sunday school circle and waited. The first sermon was about gun safety, around camp, around the horses, and in the field. I actually appreciated this oration, a little, but knew that I'd be the one judging and managing my client's gun handling habits.

Gun safety. Sometimes the subject had a different meaning when I was a kid. Then I closed my eyes and drifted into one of my favorite memories.

Duke lunged into the air and yipped. We were in the thickest nest of brush. Then he stuck out his nose and streaked after a rabbit.

The neighbor boy, Keith Schobel, and I raced behind trying to keep the yellow and white dog in view. We dodged, jumped, leaped, and ran at full gallop through the yaupon jungle.

We barreled head over heels down steep sandy creek banks and crunched across dry gravelly rock beds. We hurtled logs and used thick grapevines to climb trees when we needed to relocate Duke. Limbs slapped us and tore our clothes. Briars ripped our

hides and scratched our faces. Sweat coursed off our foreheads out of our hair down our necks and dripped off our arms, but we hardly noticed. Our pursuit was too earnest.

Finally, we stopped to catch our breath.

"Wonder where that dog went?" I said.

"I don't know, I think we went the wrong way," said Keith. I looked at the piece of board he gripped. It was a split one-by-six with a nail in the end.

"I don't think we're gonna get many rabbits with a club," I said. "That damn dog would have 'em ate before we ever got to 'em. Wonder when our folks are gonna let us use rifles. We could get a whole mess of rabbits with our .22s."

Keith agreed. We knew how to shoot but our parents were leery of turning us loose together. Giving up on our hound, we headed back to Keith's house.

Alfred, Keith's dad, was sitting in a lawn chair in the shaded backyard. The old man

fascinated me and always seemed pleased with himself. He was baldheaded, toothless, wore overalls and not much else, squinted at me with one eye, and was known far and wide for his storytelling/lies. Leon Hale even printed some of his hunting fables in the *Houston Chronicle*.

I approached him. "When are y'all gonna let us hunt with guns?"

He shifted a cigar stub from one corner of his mouth to the other. "Well, I reckon whenever I think you boys are safe."

"How old do I gotta be before that's gonna happen?"

He cocked his head. "Go home and get your rifle. I'll see how safe you are."

I took off at a lope. Thirty minutes later I trotted back into his yard packing my Grandpa's bolt action .22. He stood beneath a giant live oak holding his own .22. Then he pointed up into the tree. Twenty-five feet off the ground was a four-inch spot where a limb had been sawed off.

"Can you hit that?" he asked.

GUN SAFETY

Old-fashioned gumshoe work

While patrolling a county road outside Ballinger in mid-October, a game warden discovered several deer carcasses, heads, hide, and feet dumped on the side of the road. As luck would have it, no tags were located but the large cardboard box that the remains were in had a shipping label from Concho Business Solutions, an office supply company. That company was contacted, and they advised the filing cabinet was shipped to the district clerk's office in Ballinger. The district clerk was contacted and said the janitor took the box from her office. The janitor advised he gave the box to an adult probation officer. Lane went to the probation officer's home. She was not there but her husband was.

You guessed it!! Appropriate charges filed.

(From "Game Warden Field Notes," courtesy of Texas Parks & Wildlife Department.)

I looked at him like he'd been eating horse nuggets, jacked a round in the chamber, shouldered my rifle, and stuck a .22 bullet almost dead center. He shrugged, mumbled something indiscernible, and brought up his rifle. His shot enlarged the bullet mark and he looked mighty proud. I chambered another round, aimed, and stuck my second bullet in the same hole as the first.

"You missed," he said.

"I did not. I stacked 'em."

Alfred studied the knot with the bullet marks. "Okay, you boys be careful and y'all can hunt with your guns."

Every other aspect of gun safety was considered common sense. Alfred's main concern was a clean kill on game.

The next afternoon was wasted on piano lessons and I missed our usual tour through the brush. I agonized over the prospect of Keith shooting rabbits without me.

The following day I met Keith at the appointed rendezvous. I carried my weapon and he showed up with his split one-by-six with a nail in the end.

I was incredulous. "Where's your rifle?"

He hung his head. "Well, yesterday me and Duke ran a rabbit in a log. I tried to twist a forked stick into its hair and drag it out but I couldn't reach it. Then I saw a crack and I tried to pry the log open with my rifle barrel."

"What happened?"

"I bent the barrel — Daddy is pretty mad."

"Did you get the rabbit?"

"No, but, now we could take turns with your rifle."

I pondered our situation and decided to keep my rifle safe and let Keith hunt with his one-by-six with a nail in the end.

Scenes from the TSA Fall Fundraiser



Have you ever thought about how many kernels of corn you feed the deer when you throw out one gallon? This was one of the features at the Fall Fund Raiser. Everyone had the opportunity to guess how many kernels of corn were in a gallon jar. Thomas Froebel was the lucky winner of the gallon of corn and a TSA cap for his guess of 9,250 kernels. The exact number of kernels you feed each time was 9,494. The children were asked to guess how many kernels of candy corn were in a jar. Simon Borak was the winner of a TSA T-shirt with a guess of 401 kernels. There were 478 pieces of candy in the jar. Both jars are on the table in the photo at left.



Holiday Greetings

This being the last newsletter for the year 2006, the state officers and directors would like to wish all of you a happy and safe holiday season. Please be careful as you travel to and from parties as well as to and from deer camp during the upcoming hunting season.

From all of us to all of you ... may you have a blessed Thanksgiving and a merry and healthy Christmas!!!

2006 ATTENDANCE PRIZE DONORS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 2 Bass Pro T-Shirts - Terrell Maertz Family | Deer Grunt - First National Bank, Bellville |
| 2 Deer Horn Plaques - Howard's Wood Works (Howard Schomburg) | 2 Rifle/Shotgun Socks - First National Bank, Bellville |
| 2 Coolers - L.J. & Doris Rinn | 12 pk. Pepsi - Dorothy & Tommy Brune |
| 2 Sets of Recipe Cards - L.J. & Doris Rinn | Gift Bag - Dorothy & Tommy Brune |
| 1 Cap & Koozie - First National Bank, Bellville | Angel - Irene & Leeland Schramm |
| | 6 Gift Bags - Carolyn & Delmar Tipp |

2006 LIVE AUCTION DONORS

- Skinning Board & Fillet Knife - Trafco
- Softside Cooler - Terrell Maertz Family
- Flashlight - Irene & Leland Schramm
- Deer Block - Irene & Leland Schramm
- \$25 Gift Certificate - Brookshire Brothers, Bellville
- Deer Picture - Randy Tiemann Trucking
- Star Wreath - Debra & Dale Kollman
- Concrete Statue - Class Ready Mix
- Bud Light Cooler - Mike Hopkins Dist.
- 50 lbs. Deer Corn - Terrell Maertz Family
- 50 lbs. Deer Corn - Terrell Maertz Family
- Italian Cream Cake - JoAnn & Raymond Foerster
- Frog Plant Stand - Kaylee & Ryland Froebel
- Five Silver Dollars - Eddie Ray Lux
- Five Silver Dollars - Eddie Ray Lux
- Walking Iris Plant - Carolyn & Delmar Tipp
- Hummingbird Cake - Carolyn & Delmar Tipp
- Child's Rod & Reel - Carolyn Bilski
- American Flag - Carolyn Bilski
- Four Bags Feed - Acco Feed - Ron Nelson
- Two Deer Blocks - Acco Feed - Ron Nelson
- Two Wooden Ball Point Pens - Robert & Joyce Bullard

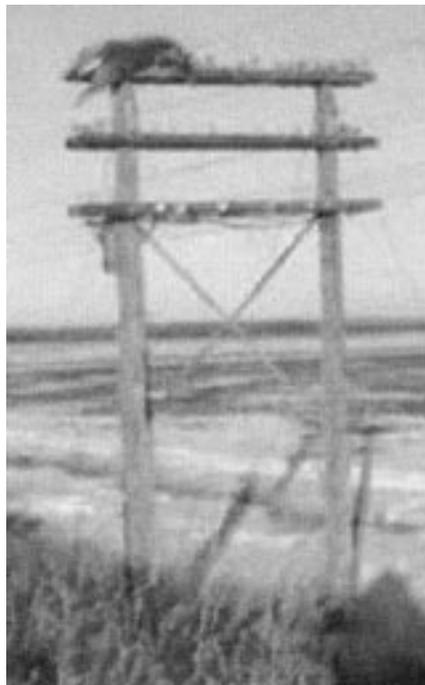
2006 SILENT AUCTION DONORS

- Angel Figurine - Carolyn & Delmar Tipp
- Insulated Tote Bag - L.J. & Doris Rinn
- Cast Iron Skillet - Buck & Ora Dell Kollmann
- Cross - Randy Tiemann Family
- Oak Ball Point Pen - Robert & Joyce Bullard
- Door Stop - L.J. & Doris Rinn
- Porcelain Night Light - L.J. & Doris Rinn
- Cookie Jar - L.J. & Doris Rinn
- Walking Iris Plant - Carolyn & Delmar Tipp
- Hand Painted Gourd Basket - Bonnie & Rocky Roesler

Service Call of the Month

Baltimore Gas & Electric received a call from a customer saying, "My power is out." Then added, "When you come to fix it, be sure to bring a truck with a tall enough bucket to remove the deer."

The customer service rep, prudently trying to gather information to help diagnose the problem asked, "What deer?" The customer replied,



"There is a deer on top of one of the electric poles on Wilkes Rd. about 1/2 mile west of Perimeter Rd."

The customer service rep tried desperately to pull herself together and not laugh in front of the customer and replied, "We'll dispatch someone right away to investigate the power outage, thank you for the call."

The customer service rep then proceeded to share the funny story with her coworkers in the office and they all had a good laugh.

Well, lo and behold, the serviceman who repaired the problem stopped by the customer service office the following day with pictures.

Sure enough, the deer had been hit by a train and landed on top of a distribution feeder pole!

Unbelievable!



Recipes

GOLDEN CATFISH FILLETS

- 1 egg white
- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup cornmeal
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon onion powder
- 1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 4 catfish fillets, cut in diagonal strips
- 1/8 teaspoon black pepper
- Cooking oil

In a shallow bowl, beat the egg white until foamy; add milk and mix well. In another shallow bowl, combine the cornmeal, salt, onion powder, cayenne and pepper. Dip fillets in milk mixture, then coat with cornmeal mixture. Heat oil in deep-fat fryer, drop in fish and fry until golden. (Note: Can substitute garlic powder for onion powder, if desired.)

SWISS STEAK QUICKIE

- 6 servings round or leg steak of venison
- 1 envelope dry onion soup
- 1 envelope dry tomato soup
- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine
- Mix soups together dry. Dot large piece of foil with 1-1/2 tablespoons butter. Spread 1/3 soup over foil. Lay meat on mixture. Spread remaining soup on top. Dot with butter. Fold foil secure around meat. Bake 1 hour at 350 degrees F. Serves 6.

Texas Sportsman's Association

September 2006 Report

Gross profit for the Fall Show	\$4,285.41
Expenses (Hall Rent)	\$365.00
Net Profit for the Event	\$3,920.41

Breakdown of income and expenses

Raffle Sales	\$5,463.00
Gun Cost	\$2,502.00
Quilt Cost	\$240.00
Rod and Reel	\$108.12
Cost of printing tickets	Donated
Gross Profit	\$2,612.88

Penny Raffle

Income	\$436.30
Cost of camera	\$346.27
Gross Profit	\$90.03

Live Auction

Gross Profit	\$1,641.50
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Silent Auction

Gross Profit	\$112.00
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Shirts and Caps Sales

Gross Profit	\$157.00
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Meal Sales	\$1,397.00
Cost of Meals	\$1,725.00
Gross Profit	(\$328.00)

TSA Raffle Winners

1. Remington 700-BDL 243 donated by TSA - Clayton Swanson of El Campo
2. Weatherby Vanguard Sporter 270 donated by TSA - Rattleguard Products of New Ulm
3. Meat Grinder & Tenderizer Combo donated by Heinsohn's, Frelsburg - Dorothy Borak of Columbus
4. Remington SPR 310 20 ga. Over & Under donated by TSA - Milo Thibeadeau of Houston
5. Remington 870 Express 12 ga. donated by TSA - Manley Leyendecker of Columbus
6. Savage 93R17 17 HMR Cal. donated by TSA - Mark Janecka of Weimar
7. Hand Made Quilt donated by TSA - Darren Nelson
8. Leopold 3x9 Vari-X 1 Scope donated by TSA - Brent Mikuluha
9. Ruger 10-22 donated by TSA - Brent Mikuluha
10. All-Star Extreme Rod & Reel Combo - 7' Rod donated by TSA - Virginia Korenek
11. \$200 Savings Bond donated by Col. & Mrs. Robert A. Kubena of Lavaca Co. - Raymond Polasek
12. \$200 Savings Bond donated by Round Top State Bank - Ray Grawunder
13. \$100 Savings Bond donated by First State Bank of Columbus - Jacob Tovar of Weimar
14. \$100 Savings Bond donated by Columbus State Bank - Ed Malek
15. \$100 Savings Bond donated by Wells Fargo Bank of Bellville - Butch Howell
16. \$100 Savings Bond donated by Carmine State Bank - Marvin Jurries of Brenham
17. \$100 Gift Card to Academy donated by TRAFICO of Eagle Lake - Ed Malek
18. \$100 Gift Card donated by Industry State Bank - Joe Pruitt of Seadrift
19. \$50 Gift Card-Bass Pro Shop donated by Citizens State Bank of Sealy - Curtis Carden
20. Set of TSA Dominoes donated by Buck & Ora Dell Kollmann - Al Weiser of Brenham
21. \$25 Gift Certificate to FeedBarn Restaurant donated by Lindemann Store - Melvin Howard of SealyTexas Sportsman's

TSA PENNY RAFFLE WINNER - L.J. Rinn

2006-07 Coyote Contest Entrants

Following is a list of coyote kills that have been reported to TSA. since March, 2006:

Colorado County

Brian Glucek	3
Glenn Weishuhn	1
Clint Burger	2
Kathleen Kloesel	1
Blaise Dreitner	3
Joshua Moeckel	2
Oliver Weishuhn	1
Richard Grobe	3
Ernest Prihoda	1
Shawn Fishbeck	1
Jim Mathis	<u>12</u>
	30

Austin County

Aaron Youngblood	1
Kenneth Ueckert	1
Chase Pawlak	2
Gary Luetge	1
Kevin Swearingen	3
J.C. Kloss	1
Terry Shupak	1
Nicholas Villarreal	1
Duane Dudensing	2
Ricky Peck	2
Steve Short	1
R.L. Strauss	1
John Murray	1
David Kautz	<u>1</u>
	19

Lavaca County

Tommy Sitka	1
Bradley Pustejovsky	2
Sylvester Janak	1
Jeffery Kallus	1
Steven Koehne	<u>2</u>
	7

Fayette County

Sylvester Janak	1
Lee Coufall	2
Delton Wunderlich	<u>47</u>
	60

Total116



Caught on camera

These two nice Austin County bucks were caught recently on deer cameras. Both appear to be 10- to 12-pointers. The top photo was taken Oct. 17 shortly after 11:30 p.m., and the lower photo was snapped just after 9 p.m. on Oct. 24. Not bad for "little ole" Austin County deer!

Pizza party!

On Oct. 2, a Tom Green County game warden was putting the "sneak" on some unsuspecting illegal dove hunters and was trying to find a way to approach them unnoticed, when he heard an approaching vehicle behind him. At first, he thought it was more hunters coming to join the ones he was watching, but as the vehicle got closer he saw that it was a pizza delivery truck. Being the innovative warden that he is, the game warden quickly saw a solution to his problem and stopped the pizza truck. It just so happened that the driver was trying to locate the same hunters and deliver their pizza. The game warden convinced the driver that it would be a good idea if he assisted in the delivery, and the driver consented to let him ride along. To say the least, the hunters' jaws dropped when they saw a game warden getting out of the pizza delivery truck to deliver a pizza supreme and a few citations.

(From "Game Warden Field Notes," courtesy of Texas Parks & Wildlife Department.)

Ten commandments of shooting safety

- ★ Always point the muzzle of your gun in a safe direction.
 - ★ Treat every firearm or bow with the same respect you would show a loaded gun or nocked arrow.
 - ★ Be sure of your target.
 - ★ Unload firearms, arrows and ammunition with care.
 - ★ Handle firearms and unstring conventional bows when not in use.
 - ★ Know your safe zone-of-fire and stick to it.
 - ★ Control your emotions when using weapons.
 - ★ Wear hearing and eye protection.
 - ★ Don't consume alcohol or drugs before or while handling firearms or bows.
 - ★ Be aware of circumstances that require added caution or safety awareness.
- If you practice these rules, you'll help ensure a safe future for yourself, for others and for the shooting sports.*

Committee

Continued From Page 1

Wolf also noted that with the dropping of the National Animal ID program, there was no record of elk within the state. "Effective January 1, elk breeders in Texas were first on board for the Animal ID program. Then the agriculture community effectively stopped the program and now the elk breeders want out," said Wolf. "Elk are tested voluntarily and we don't know how many elk or elk breeders there are in Texas."

Committeeman Dr. James Kroll said, "Breeders put their operations in jeopardy if they don't implement the highest degree of standards for their herd's health. We must protect our deer."

The committee discussion moved on to increasing hunter opportunity throughout the state. TP&W Linda Campbell presented information showing that 60,000 applications are received annually for 6,000 licenses on state lands. Campbell also said that the state spends \$240,000 annually on leases for small game hunts. At the moment, the state needs more private landowners with surplus doe permits that are willing to allow public hunting on their property.

"The state needs not compete with the private sector," said Campbell. "The state buys Private Lands Management Hunts and then re-markets. Often, hunters on private lands in public hunts become regular lease holders."

Kroll said, "This is to the self-interest of the commercial deer industry. There needs to be greater emphasis on youth hunts."

Langford said, "There needs to be more opportunity for camping and hiking. We need to invest more time with kids who want a career in wildlife."



R.W. MAERTZ JR. stands beside a 235-pound feral hog that won't be causing any more problems. The big porker bit the dust at 8:25 a.m. on Oct. 22 in Colorado County.

Party

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that begin with letters N thru Z are asked to bring chips and dip.

All Austin County members will be receiving invitations in the mail. Mark your calendars and make plans to come to the party and get in the holiday spirit.

Also, the Colorado County Unit will hold its Christmas meeting on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 3. For more information call 979-732-5339.

Editorials published in the TSA newsletter may contain opinions of the author and are not to be taken as a position of the Texas Sportsman's Association. Members of TSA may submit stories, a photo or editorials for possible inclusion in future newsletters.

TSA welcomes new memberships

The Texas Sportsman's Association welcomes new memberships. Dues are only \$5 per year, and memberships run from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 of each year except for lifetime memberships. All TSA memberships expire on Dec. 31 each year.

Simply cut out the application form on page 3, enclose the fee, address an envelope to TSA, P.O. Box 26, Columbus, TX 78934, stamp it and put it in the mail! You may also sign up online at <http://www.texassportsmansassociation.org>.

TSA Spring Business Meeting

March 4, 2007

Mentz Hall

**More details coming up
in February Newsletter.**

REPORT GAME VIOLATIONS:

Texas:

1-800-792-GAME

Nationwide:

1-800-800-9273