



Alberta Hunter Education
Instructors' Association

Summer 2012

Conservation Education Magazine

The Voice of
Conservation Education
in Alberta



**AHEIA's Mission is to Make Wildlife and Fish
Part of the Value System of Every Albertan**

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WEEK OF TESTING
OUR PRODUCTS,
WE SPEND THE WEEKEND
TESTING OUR
PRODUCTS.**

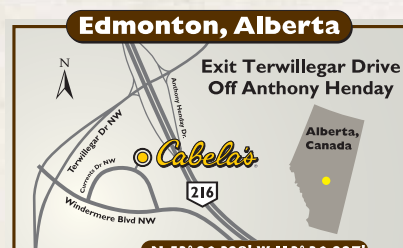
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President's Message

Are You Suspended?

If you are an instructor or volunteer for A.H.E.I.A. and have not completed the volunteer screening process, then your ability to participate as an instructor or volunteer for any one of A.H.E.I.A.'s programs is now suspended.

By Robert A. Gruszecki



Robert A. Gruszecki
President - A.H.E.I.A.

Effective July 1, 2010 the Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association implemented a policy to ensure that we are doing our level best to stay current with the ever changing needs of students, volunteers and staff to provide safe and responsible learning environments. We are following the lead of other agencies and employers who have long since implemented a screening process of volunteers and staff before they can serve their clientele. While the majority of the volunteers have taken the action necessary to become compliant, there are still a few stragglers out there that haven't read about this mandatory requirement or still don't understand it.

What is Screening?

It is a process that is designed to identify any person — regardless whether paid or unpaid, staff or volunteer — who might harm children

or other vulnerable students. Screening lets people that come to us for the services we offer know that we care about the people we serve in our communities. Screening also allows us to ensure that we correctly match the abilities of the volunteer/staff to the work that needs to be done. Our ability to effectively screen plays a vital role in our ongoing mission of making wildlife and wild places part of the value system of every Albertan. Screening includes a police record check, an interview with staff member(s), follow up with the references you provide, an orientation and training session, supervision and evaluation during program delivery, and then follow up with our program participants. Screening is completely voluntary, but anyone wishing to volunteer with our organization must submit to the screening process if they wish to continue to participate in the achievement of our goals. I prefer to describe this process as "Screening people in, not screening people out." There is no connection between an A.H.E.I.A. membership and a police check.

If you have questions about the process I have described, please don't hesitate to contact me directly at the Calgary office at 403-252-8474 or

electronically at Robert_gruszecki@ezpost.com. Additionally, you can speak to Dave Paplawski, our Provincial Program Coordinator, at 403-252-8474 or via e-mail at dave@ahcia.com. In addition, any of our assistant program coordinators at Alford Lake, the Calgary Firearms Centre, the Edmonton office or the Calgary office will be more than happy to assist you with this vitally important part of what we do.

We look forward to continuing to work with you as together we deliver Conservation Education programs to an ever expanding audience. It continues to be both a pleasure and an honour to be associated with each of you in this important community service. See you in September or sooner! Until then, good luck with all of your activities.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Gruszecki
President - A.H.E.I.A.

Additionally at this time, I want to announce that we will be scheduling

Members Relations Meetings

in Lethbridge, Calgary, Red Deer and Edmonton in September. If you have submitted your email address with your membership, you will be getting a notice in the not-too-distant future about dates and locations. Otherwise watch your mail for announcements regarding details. These meetings will be informal and provide an opportunity to meet staff and volunteers in your area and discuss the activities of your Association in your community and throughout Alberta. There are lots of new initiatives to discuss and it will be great to get caught up with all of you.

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Instructors' Association
**Conservation
Education**
Magazine

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Matt Shaw

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All proceeds go directly to conservation education programs in Alberta. With your continued support, in 2012 our programs will reach in excess of 75,000 Albertans!



A.H.E.I.A.'s 2012 National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) Provincial Championships



By Ken Cook



Ken Cook
Program Assistant
A.H.E.I.A.
Edmonton

During the Edmonton Boat and Sportsmen's Show, A.H.E.I.A. hosted the Second Annual NASP Provincial Championships at the Edmonton Expo Centre. There were 351 grade 4-12 school aged children competing in four categories: Elementary, Junior High, Senior High and Individual placement. The tournament started Thursday, March 15, 2012, with the first competitors shooting at 1:00 pm. The first schools arrived early and you could feel the excitement in the air. For many, this would be their first ever Provincial tournament of any kind. It can be intimidating shooting in such a large venue with a crowd watching. This year, a few new schools were added: Landing Trail (Gibbons), Salisbury Composite (Sherwood Park), Bev Facey (Sherwood Park) and Kipohtakaw Education Centre (Alexander First Nation). We, of course, had many returning schools: H.A. Kostash (Smoky Lake), J.C. Charyk (Hanna), Gus Wetter (Castor), J.D. Bracco (Edmonton) and New Serepta.

Finally, all the planning was starting to unfold before our eyes. Over the next two days, the school participants came, competed and headed back home. Each participant received a free pass to the Edmonton Boat and Sportsmen's Show, a fishing rod and a T-shirt commemorating the event. From all reports, this turned out to be another very successful event.

The results from the tournament are as follows:

High School Teams

First.....	J.C. Charyk (Hanna).....	2968
Second.....	H.A. Kostash (Smoky Lake).....	2935
Third.....	Gus Wetter (Castor).....	2843

Middle School Teams

First.....	H.A. Kostash 1 (Smoky Lake).....	2912
Second.....	H.A. Kostash 2 (Smoky Lake).....	2471
Third.....	Landing Trail (Gibbons).....	2238

Elementary School Teams

First.....	Landing Trail (Gibbons).....	2138
Second.....	New Serepta.....	2084
Third.....	H.A. Kostash (Smoky Lake).....	1894

Top Archers High School Female

First.....	Taylor Carson (H.A. Kostash).....	277
Second.....	Courtney Caron (H.A. Kostash).....	263
Third.....	Alyx Crawley (H.A. Kostash).....	252

Top Archers Middle School Female

First.....	Tayla Van Oers (Gus Wetter).....	260
Second.....	Audrey Gowing (New Serepta).....	256
Third.....	Brianna Senetza (H.A. Kostash).....	230

Top Archers Elementary School Female

First.....	Daxxon Lamont (Landing Trail).....	197
Second.....	Cassidy Caron (H.A. Kostash).....	186
Third.....	Tori Pritchard (H.A. Kostash).....	184

Top Archers High School Male

First.....	Darcy Gutsche (J.C. Charyk).....	272
Second.....	Brian Larsen (J.C. Charyk).....	266
Third.....	Sheldon Dombrowsky (H.A. Kostash).....	262

Top Archers Middle School Male

First.....	Jarden Huchulak (H.A. Kostash).....	273
Second.....	Logan Spady (Gus Wetter).....	270
Third.....	Mitchel Smith (H.A. Kostash).....	265

Top Archers Elementary School Male

First.....	Jaxxon Laing (Gus Wetter).....	237
Second.....	Brendan Osachie (Landing Trail).....	221
Third.....	Seth Wahl (Gus Wetter).....	213



Provincial Hunting Day

September 22, 2012

By Kelly Semple



Kelly Semple
Executive Director
Hunting For Tomorrow

The fourth Saturday of every September has become a special date within Alberta. The Alberta Government declared this day each year to be Provincial Hunting Day; the first annual event was held in 2007. This year's Provincial Hunting Day takes place on September 22, 2012. It marks the sixth annual event and is a reminder to all Albertans of our hunting heritage, and of the importance of securing a future for wildlife and wild places, especially within our own province.

Alberta is a wonderful province to live and we enjoy an abundance of natural wealth. This treasure is here due to the perseverance and dedication of outdoorsmen and women who are committed to conservation endeavours.

Alberta recorded 115,443 hunters for 2011, which is nearly a 17% increase from the number of hunters in 2003. This is consistent with previous annual activity, which has remained stable or has shown small increases since 1996. The fastest growing interest in hunting has come from youth and female hunters in Alberta; for 2011 there were 7382 recorded youth hunters, and 8620 female hunters. These figures indicate strong support for hunting in the province.

Across the province, in an effort to honour Provincial Hunting Day, hunters are encouraged to take a newcomer out and offer the opportunity to participate in a mentored hunt. To learn more about mentorship programs, visit www.huntingfortomorrow.com for the Outdoor Bound 2012 information and Provincial Hunting Day information and sign-up forms.

This year, the Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association and Hunting For Tomorrow are offering a daylong event for those who want to explore the outdoors and expand their shooting and hunting knowledge on Provincial Hunting Day.

- Is there an outdoor activity that you have never tried, like shooting a shotgun, which you would like to learn in a safe, controlled environment?
- Are you a beginner who is looking to improve your outdoor skills?
- Are you already active in the outdoors but would like to add to your skills?
- Are you seeking the camaraderie of other like-minded individuals?
- Would you like to celebrate Alberta's hunting heritage by learning more about the outdoors, conservation and more outdoor skills?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, join us for a day of fun outdoor activities at the Alford Lake Conservation Education Centre for Excellence for Provincial Hunting Day, September 22, 2012! Alford Lake Conservation Education Centre for Excellence is located approximately one hour west of Innisfail on Highways

54 and 591 (about 24 km west of Caroline) and then approximately 1.6 km north of Highway 591 on Range Road 8-3 North.

This day will be a celebration of hunting, fishing, and conservation in Alberta. The goal is to engage more people in the outdoors and outdoor activities and to create experiences that will encourage them to continue these activities. All sessions are hands-on and provide the opportunity to learn by doing. This event is completely free and is fun for the whole family! The day starts at 9:00 am and ends at 6:00 pm, and includes free lunch and a pig roast barbeque for dinner. Prizes and free items will be available. The following sessions will be included at the event (you will choose your specific sessions when you arrive):

- Archery and Bowhunting
- Bear Aware!
- Crossbows — Getting Started
- Firearms Basics: Small Bore
- Firearms Basics: Big Bore
- Firearms Basics: Handguns
- Firearms Basics: Shotguns
- Game Calling 101
- Gone Fishing: Spin Cast or Fly Fishing
- Gone Fishing: Choosing Your Tackle and Gear
- Leather Crafting and Utilizing Your Wild Game Hides
- Measuring and Scoring Your Trophies
- Trapping in the 21st Century
- Wilderness Cuisine

How Do I Attend?

To take part in this event, fill out the 2012 Provincial Hunting Day registration form appearing on the following page, and mail, fax or email it to the Edmonton Conservation Education Centre for Excellence (#88, 4003 - 98 Street, Edmonton, AB T6E 6M8, telephone 780-466-6682, toll free 1-866-282-4342, fax 780-431-2871, email edmontoninfo@aheia.com). Alternatively, you can visit our website www.huntingfortomorrow.com to download the form, or call our office and ask for a form to be emailed or faxed to you.

We hope to see you on Provincial Hunting Day, September 22, 2012 at the Alford Lake Conservation Education Centre for Excellence!

Kelly Semple, Executive Director, Hunting For Tomorrow
#87, 4003 - 98th Street, Edmonton, Alberta T6E 6M8
Phone: 780-462-2444 • Fax: 780-431-2871
Email: ksemple@huntingfortomorrow.com
www.huntingfortomorrow.com



2012 Provincial Hunting Day Registration Form

Family Name:

Adults:

Children:

Age:

Total Number Attending: _____

Full Name:

Mailing Address:

City:

Province:

Postal Code:

Phone Number:

Daytime:

Evening:

Cellular:

Email:

☐ Yes, I/we would like to participate in the Provincial Hunting Day event at Alford Lake Conservation Education Centre for Excellence.

Disclaimer, Release, Waiver and Indemnity Agreement

In consideration of the Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association (AHEIA) and Hunting for Tomorrow (HFT) organizing the Provincial Hunting Day activity taking place at the Alford Lake Conservation Education Center for Excellence "wilderness property", I hereby agree as follows:

I acknowledge that the Activity is potentially a very hazardous activity:

I fully acknowledge that neither Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association (AHEIA) nor Hunting for Tomorrow (HFT) have made any representations, warranties or assurances, whether written or verbal, express or implied, about the Activity, the physical conditions or suitability of the Wilderness Property for the Activity, or my personal safety or security while engaging in the Activity.

I agree that I am responsible for my own personal safety and security and the safety and security of others while on the Wilderness Property. I agree to take all reasonable and prudent precautions to ensure my own personal safety and to decrease the risk of injury, death, or property damage to any other parties that might coincidentally be on the Wilderness Property. I hereby voluntarily assume any and all risks associated with the Activity on the Wilderness Property, including, without limitation, bodily injury, death and property damage, all such risks being known and appreciated by me.

I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association (AHEIA) and Hunting for Tomorrow (HFT) and their respective directors, officers, volunteers and employees from and against any and all liability, suits, actions, claims, causes of action, demands, damages, penalties, judicial or administrative proceedings, fines, costs, and expenses of whatsoever kind and character (including, but not limited to, investigative and legal defense costs) associated with, arising out of or in consequence of any loss, injury or damage, including, without limitation, bodily injury or death, whether foreseeable or not, whether direct or indirect, related in any way to the Activity due to any cause whatsoever, including, without limitation, negligence.

I further agree, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators to hold harmless and indemnify Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association (AHEIA) and Hunting for Tomorrow (HFT) and their respective directors, officers, volunteers and employees from and against any and all liability, suits, actions, claims, causes of action, demands, damages, penalties, judicial or administrative proceedings, fines, costs, and expenses of whatsoever kind and character (including, but not limited to, investigative and legal defense costs) associated with, arising out of or in consequence of any loss, injury or damage, including, without limitation, bodily injury or death, whether foreseeable or not, whether direct or indirect, related in any way to the Activity due to any cause whatsoever, including, without limitation, negligence.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understood the terms and conditions of this Agreement, and I accept all of this Agreement's terms and conditions without modification, having had the opportunity to consult legal counsel and recognizing that I am waiving important legal rights.

Name of Entrant (Signature) _____ Witness (Signature) _____

Name of Entrant (Print) _____ Witness (Print) _____

Date _____ Date _____



Look Who's All Grown Up!

It seems no one was able to guess the identity of this little fellow last month. Maybe this clue will help:

He loves fishing and hunting and sports like that. He lives in the boonies and his first name is _____.

Be the first person to guess the identity of this A.H.E.I.A. staffer to win a pair of **10"x25" Binoculars**

Entries must be received by September 15, 2012.
Contest open to all A.H.E.I.A. members.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

This little guy is: _____

You will be notified by letter. Send your entry to us via email at info@aheia.com, fax 403-252-3770, or mail to A.H.E.I.A., 911 Sylvester Crescent S.W., Calgary, AB T2W 0R8. For additional information please contact Dave at 780-466-6682 or email dengland@aheia.com.



Winners of the 2012 Firearms Raffle

The winners of the 2012 Firearms Raffle (Licence #330205), drawn March 18th, 2012, were:

Tyler Long

First Prize - Browning Cynergy 12 Gauge Euro Field Shotgun

Brant McAlister

Second Prize - Tikka T3 Lite .300 Win Mag Rifle

Frank Krieta

3rd Prize - Traditions Pursuit UL XLT .50 Cal Muzzleloader

SAVE *this* DATE FEB 9 2013
11th Annual WISE Awards and Banquet



Firearms Education Report

“ ... simply follow the course book and give your students the knowledge necessary to successfully complete the program. ”

By Glenn McKay



Glenn McKay
Firearms Education
Coordinator
A.H.E.I.A.

What the role of the instructor is within the Canadian Firearms Program has been asked many times and in many ways. Hopefully I can shed some light on the question and maybe put to bed any misconceptions that seem to surface at this time of year. A person who is authorized by the Chief Firearms Officer (CFO) of the province or territory can teach and administer the written and practical examinations. This simply means that if you have not been given an Instructor's number, you cannot teach the course or complete the practical examinations. The course material is written out for the instructor and it is up to him/her to provide the material to the student in a fair and unbiased manner. It is also up to the instructor to provide a suitable learning environment so that the student can understand the concepts and have some hands-on experience

with disabled firearms. Under normal conditions, the student is then subjected to the written examination and, after meeting the passing grade of 80%, the student then attempts the practical examination. With a passing mark of 80% on both written and practical examinations, the student receives the original copy of the course report which is then submitted by the student to the Firearms Program for approval. The conditions for the written examination are that it is closed book and students cannot discuss the questions or answers with the instructor or another student. Simply put, they pass on their own merit. The practical examination then takes place in a one-on-one situation where the student must demonstrate the knowledge and skills to complete simple firearms oriented tasks. The Instructor then completes the course report by inserting the scores into the appropriate spaces, indicating by checking the appropriate box that the student has either passed or failed (including the reasons for failure if applicable) and signing the document.

If the student has passed, he/she completes the required application form to obtain a Possession and Acquisition Licence (PAL) and submits it

in the envelope provided. Approximately seven weeks later, if there are no reasons to delay the application, the student will obtain their PAL. Depending on the contract with the provincial CFO, the instructor will keep their copy of the course report and the student's written and practical examinations for a specified period. After that period, the instructor will destroy these documents in an appropriate manner (burning or shredding seems to work the best).

This is a simplified version of what takes place with the majority of the instructors within the province. There are some that take shortcuts on time and effort to complete the task of teaching students and some take shortcuts testing the students. If you want to keep your designation as an instructor, simply follow the course book and give your students the knowledge necessary to successfully complete the program.

If you have any questions or concerns about the process, please contact Glenn McKay at the Calgary office, 403-319-2282 (direct line) or via email at bgm@aheia.com.

Bill C-19

On April 5, 2012 the long gun registry was eliminated from the Firearms Act. The registration of non-restricted firearms was removed from law and is not required for the private firearms licensed person. Although there is a legal action in process in the Province of Quebec, it does not play into matters in Alberta.

So what does this mean to a licensed person in Alberta who wishes to sell a non-restricted firearm to another person? First, the person purchasing the firearm must have a valid Possession and Acquisition Licence (PAL) for the date they are purchasing said firearm. The person selling the firearm must see and inspect the licence to ensure it is valid. Some sellers may want to write a bill of sale, others may not. That would be the seller's choice, not the purchaser's choice. The new owner and firearm are then on their own to transport, use and store the firearm in an appropriate manner.



Changes to the Firearms Licence Fee Waiver

A fee waiver will be in effect for the renewal of licences with non-restricted firearm licence privileges only and, until September 17, 2012, for licences with restricted/prohibited firearm privileges.

Licences with restricted/prohibited firearm privileges:

As of September 18, 2012, individuals renewing their POL or PAL with restricted/prohibited firearm privileges will be required to pay the prescribed fee. Those upgrading will be required to pay the additional fee.

Licences with non-restricted firearm privileges:

Until May 16, 2013, a fee waiver is in effect for:

- Persons renewing their POL or PAL for non-restricted firearms;
- Individuals upgrading their POL to a PAL for non-restricted firearms;
- Individuals obtaining a new POL or PAL for non-restricted firearms after their previous one expired;

and

- Minors who renew their Minor's Licence.

The fees associated with all firearms licences and documents can be found at:

<http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/cfp-pcaf/fs-fd/fee-frais-eng.htm>



Completed Careers



Ralph Arthur Lane



Ralph was born in England on August 31, 1940 and was the eldest of eight children. Ralph came to Canada in 1968 with his wife Jean and his two young daughters. He dedicated much of his time to volunteering in an executive capacity with numerous organizations, some of which included acting as past President of the Okotoks Rifle and Pistol Club and the Okotoks and District Fish and Game Association, as well as Safety and Volunteer Training Coordinator for the Calgary and District Kart Racing Association. He was also very proud to hold the title of Alberta Master Instructor for the mandatory Canadian Firearms Safety Courses.

Ralph enjoyed the great outdoors and beautiful blue Alberta skies while quading, fishing, bow hunting and taking Sunday afternoon drives.

Ralph's group of friends was large and as diverse as his interests. He loved a good joke and a laugh just as much as a heated debate. He will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved him.



Waterfowler Heritage Days in Alberta

“... this is an excellent opportunity to try waterfowl hunting under direct supervision of a mentor and on specially designated days allocated just for youth.”

By Jason Caswell
Provincial Game Bird Specialist
Alberta Fish and Wildlife Division

In 2009, Alberta adopted a program offered by Environment Canada where youth hunters aged 12 through 17 may hunt on designated days without the need of a federal migratory game bird hunting permit. This program, called Waterfowler Heritage Days, was matched by the province of Alberta to allow young aspiring hunters, without a provincial game bird licence, to go afield with licensed mentors. Provided youth have completed their prescribed hunter training, this is an excellent opportunity to try waterfowl hunting under direct supervision of a mentor and on specially designated days allocated just for youth.

Although this program was well used and seemed without flaw, one issue remained. Federal policy dictated that Waterfowler Heritage Days were not to occur during an open season. Since the Migratory Bird Convention Act prohibits hunting of waterfowl prior to September 1, and a large portion of Alberta is open to waterfowl

hunting on September 1, there was no room for Waterfowler Heritage Days north of about Red Deer. It was because the waterfowl season didn't open until September 8th in southern Alberta that Waterfowler Heritage Days was offered there from 2009-2011. With some lobbying from provinces, including Alberta, Environment Canada has now removed their policy that restricted Waterfowler Heritage Days to outside an open season. As a result, the entire province of Alberta will be open to Waterfowler Heritage Days on the first Saturday and Sunday (1st and 2nd) of September in 2012.

This fall, youth hunters ages 12-17 throughout Alberta may hunt without a licence with a licenced adult mentor (adults need to have proper licences) on the days designated as Waterfowler Heritage Days (September 1 and 2). Now, it gets a little tricky as I explain the details. As the general waterfowl season is open on September 1 over much of Alberta, we have to be careful how we go about using this opportunity. It is very clear within the regulation that mentors may not be in possession of a gun while mentoring youth on Waterfowler Heritage Days. So, even

though the season is open and the adult mentor has a licence, they may not shoot, or technically be in possession of a gun if they are being accompanied by an unlicensed youth that is shooting. One of the main drivers behind getting this regulation passed by the federal government was that direct, dedicated supervision by an experienced adult mentor was provided to the unlicensed youth. If the mentor is shooting, they cannot adequately supervise the youth, so it was specifically written that the mentor may not be in possession of the firearm.

If, however, a little more freedom is desired to pass the gun back and forth between mentor/mentee, father/daughter, mother/son, or you wish to take a gun for each of you into the field, there is the option of buying the youth a licence and sending a few more dollars to wildlife conservation. Lastly, it is always a great idea to have a youth (or adult) of any age join you for a hunt any day through the fall simply to observe, learn and enjoy. I know for sure I will be out September 1 with a four-year-old who is already counting the days.



Facts on Canada Geese

“ Although they are named for Canada, Canada Geese are found all over North America at various times of the year.”

Are there different types of Canada Geese?

While they may look very similar, there are several different races of Canada geese. In fact, most scientists believe that there are as many as eleven different races.

What do they look like?

Generally speaking, Canada geese have a greyish-coloured body with a long black neck and head. On their faces, they have white cheek patches. Both males and females look alike.

Canada geese come in a variety of shapes and sizes. The smallest is the Cackling Canada goose, which weighs in at as little as 1.1 kilograms and has a wingspan of about 90 centimetres. The largest, the Giant Canada goose, can get as large as eight kilograms and a wingspan of two metres.

Where do they live?

Although they are named for Canada, Canada geese are found all over North America at various times of the year. In the summer, Canada geese make their homes throughout most of Canada, Alaska and the northern United States. Some northern populations even make the trip over to Greenland!

In the winter, most Canada geese seek warmer climates. While many do winter in southern Canada, most make their way to the mid and southern United States. Some even go the extra mile and fly all the way to northern Mexico!

In terms of habitat, Canada geese use different habitats for different reasons. They tend to like low areas with lots of open water, which provides them with safety from predators.

For nesting, Canada geese like upland areas near water. Quite often, they will nest on an island.

What do they eat?

Canada geese eat a lot. Usually they will spend up to 12 hours a day feeding to take in the nutrition they need. They graze on grasses, roots, leaves and other plant materials, but they also spend time in fields feeding on waste crops and grain.

Before the spring and fall migrations, Canada geese will eat even more to build up the fat reserves they need to make the long trips. This is especially true for females in the spring, as they need enough fat to make the migration, produce a clutch of eggs and survive the incubation period with little food.

When and how do they migrate?

Canada geese usually start migrating south when the ground begins to freeze in the fall. The trip to the wintering grounds is a quick one — scientists have tracked geese that have flown up to 1,000 km in one day!

Spring migration is a different story. Starting in late winter, the geese make several stops along the way to feed and rest before reaching their breeding grounds throughout Canada.

Scientists believe that the characteristic v-shaped flock of geese migrating serves two purposes. First, it creates a current of air along the lines of geese that makes it easier for individuals to fly. Second, it may allow for better communication and unity of the flock while in the air.

How do Canada Geese communicate?

While many people only hear the trademark “honk” when geese make noise, there is evidence that Canada geese can communicate with different sounds. Scientists believe that there are as many as 13 different Canada goose calls for things like greetings, warnings and contentment.

Canada geese may be one of the most talkative animals after humans. Goslings, or baby geese, begin communicating with their parents while still in the egg! Once hatched, there is also evidence that they respond differently to different calls and noises from their parents, indicating a sophisticated level of communication.

When do they breed?

Generally speaking, Canada geese do not breed until they are two or three years of age. Breeding takes place earlier in the year than it does for most birds so that their young hatch right when the plant food they need is in its prime.

When it comes time to choose a nesting site to lay the eggs, the female always returns to the same area where her parents nested. While there are exceptions, females will usually return to the same nesting area every year.

Do Canada Geese form families?

The Canada goose is a very family-oriented bird. Usually in their second year of life, Canada geese find a mate and stay together for life. However, if one mate dies, the other will re-mate.

Breeding takes place earlier in the year, with nesting usually happening from late March to

early May. Once the eggs are laid, the female incubates them until they hatch around 28 days later.

During the nesting and incubation period, the male stays near the nest and keeps a close eye on the female and the eggs. If a predator should threaten them, the male will attempt to protect the nest by luring the predator away.

How do Canada Geese raise their young?

Once the goslings hatch, both their parents raise them. The family spends all of its time together. Goslings usually stay with their parents for a full year after they hatch.

Soon after the goslings hatch, the female leads her young family to water. With the female in the lead and the male in the rear, a Canada goose family looks like a company of recruits on the march!

Presented by Ducks Unlimited Canada



Migratory Bird Calling 101

"Every call will tell you on the packaging that it is the easiest to use and will produce the best and most realistic sounds. So where should you start?"

By Matt Shaw



Matt Shaw
Camp Manager
Alford Lake

Hello everyone. Now that hunting season is just around the corner, it's time to start honing the skills that we have and practicing the new ones we hope to use this upcoming season.

Hunting migratory birds can be lots of fun, with the action coming fast and furious

when you're in the right spot. There are several different ways to hunt migratory birds that all involve different types of equipment. One type of equipment that is common to all types of migratory bird hunting, however, are calls. Calling is essential when hunting migratory birds to help capture their attention at a distance and to convince them as they get closer that they should land in range of your shotguns.

Learning to call ducks and geese can be a daunting task. When you walk into a sporting goods store you will be confronted by all kinds of different calls. They come in a wide variety of shapes, sizes, materials they are made from and price ranges. Every call will tell you on the packaging that it is the easiest to use and will produce the best and most realistic sounds. So where should you start?

The first thing you need to decide is what species of bird you will be going after. Will you focus on ducks or geese? Once you decide that, you can get even more specific. Canada geese may not

come into a snow goose call and some ducks whistle as opposed to quacking. That being said, you can start off with some generic calls that will work in a wide variety of conditions.

I would like to mention that a call that works great for one person may not work very well for someone else, so there is an element of trial and error involved with finding a call that works well for you. Because of the trial and error nature of finding that call, I would discourage you from buying the very high end calls until you become a proficient caller. It is hard for a beginner to learn how to use these calls due to how little air it takes to blow them and change the pitch. Once you find a brand of call that works for you, I would suggest sticking with it. Most manufacturers produce a wide variety of calls that produce different sounds while being very similar to use.

Goose calls come in two distinct styles. There is one call that is quite a bit longer than the other and is called a flute. The second style of goose call is smaller and is called a short reed call. A goose flute is easier for a beginner to learn to use but will not provide as wide a range of sounds as the other type of call. It will generally produce a deeper sound that resembles the call of the largest Canada geese. This style of call takes quite a bit more air to blow than the short reed style. The short reed call will usually have a higher pitch than a flute and resembles the call of lesser Canada geese. The short reed call is much more difficult to learn to use because it requires the use of two hands to cause back pressure to change the pitch of the call. Because this call

takes less air to blow, it is easier to sound like more than one bird at a time. Whichever style of call you choose to use, make sure you are confident with it and that you can consistently make the sounds you intend to. One false note from a call when you are goose hunting can cause a flock to flare.

Duck calls come in three different styles. Two of the three styles are very similar and differ only in the number of plastic reeds inside the call. They come in a single reed and double reed configuration, with a new style using three reeds having just been introduced. (I have not had a chance to try a three reed call.) The big difference between a single and a double reed call is the loudness or volume you can produce. Generally, double reed calls are used to get louder sounds that travel farther on windy days. A single reed call is more commonly used to get softer, gentler sounds for close-in birds or birds that have been hunted lots and may be decoy shy. Double reed calls will be slightly easier for a beginner to use. The third style of duck calls are whistles. Some species of ducks, like pintails, do not quack, but instead whistle while they are flying. One very easy to use duck whistle is the High Roller made by Primos. All you need to do is blow air into the call to make it work. Other duck whistles are harder to use as you need to roll or flutter your tongue to get the correct sounds, but they do offer a wider range of sounds. Ducks are not as wary of an off note as geese are.

To use any of these calls properly you will need to know what the birds actually sound like. Most manufacturers will offer either a CD or a DVD that will allow you to listen to live birds. These teaching aids will also show you the correct way to hold your call as well as how to properly introduce air into the call. Most videos will also show you some basic techniques, as well as more advanced techniques. The one downside to these videos is that they will only show you calls that their company produces.

I personally would recommend the Team Primos series of videos called "Speak the Language". One added bonus to this series of videos is that you can buy them as a kit that comes with one of the calls shown in the video.

Regardless of what type of call you decide to purchase, spend some time practicing with it.

Good luck this fall in whatever type of duck or goose blind you find yourself in.



My Daughter's First Hunt

By Bruce Stubbs

An old Fish and Wildlife colleague of mine would sometimes talk about the evolution of a hunter.

His theory was that a hunter progresses through a series of predictable steps over the years, until he or she reaches the pinnacle of hunting appreciation — the day you walk into the woods with your firearm and have no intention of killing anything.

Through this progression there appear to be critical events that impact your hunting experience in a most profound way (in today's jargon — "taking it to another level"). The first time you hunted waterfowl or upland birds with your own dog, or the close fraternal relationship with an old hunting partner, are all examples. Last fall I enjoyed an experience that far superseded any hunt before it. I took my daughter on her first duck hunt.

I've been away from waterfowl hunting for many years, and both my equipment and their owner are much older. Slogging through slough mud with waders, decoys and shotguns has long since lost its appeal. My daughter's enthusiasm and keen interest changed all that. So we put in at Watt Lake, northeast of Vegreville, for an early fall duck hunt.

Paddling out, setting-up, and waiting for action was a continual commentary on the pleasures of being on a marsh. Melanie would talk about marsh smells, muskrats, passing swans, speeding teal, soaring hawks, and noisy geese. Her enjoyment of this environment brought back long forgotten elements of comfort to me and a true pleasure in understanding that these elements are appreciated by another generation.

Melanie's first duck (hen mallard) was a perfect 40 yard shot that folded up in the middle of the cattails. The tenacity for the search for this duck was something I hadn't done for a long time. Once she found it, there was a lengthy time spent holding and looking at it — now I remember, my first duck.

Although I had a shotgun with me, I had no desire to shoot anything. My daughter's first duck hunt far outdistanced game in the bag. I think I understand my old colleague's theory now. For the first time in about 10 years, I'm looking forward to this fall's waterfowl season.



My First Duck

"... there must have been thousands, swirling above the lake in a funnel, coming in to land."

By Melanie Stubbs



Melanie Stubbs
Administrative Assistant
A.H.E.I.A.
Edmonton

Growing up on the farm certainly has its advantages: all the room in the world to run, unlimited places to hide, and lots of jobs to keep you busy. Fortunately, for my four siblings and myself, our parents had a passion for wildlife. I remember raising geese and ducks on our dug-out, hunting coyotes in December, learning to shoot before I

could carry the .22, and riding horses in our spare time. I quickly developed a passion for the outdoors, and any sport involving wildlife. Although I learned to pluck and gut the geese we raised from eggs, opportunities for waterfowl hunts were not readily available.

Since joining A.H.E.I.A. in 2010, I have been harassing my Dad (and anyone else who will listen) to take me hunting — any kind of hunting. Last fall, my Dad took me on my first duck hunt. I've always known I loved to shoot shotguns; something about the natural shooting just felt right.

The packing and preparing was half the fun, especially with my Dad around. So we made our plan and I got to go shopping for the extra little things we may need. Extra ammo to cover the boat and shells. Make a list, check it twice! We always run across cool old gear my Dad has forgotten about and he usually has great stories to go along with them. He says he is glad he has a kid interested in hunting; it keeps him going out. I'm just glad I have someone to take me.

We headed out to a good friend's lake; he owns the property all around, so it works out perfect for us. When we first got out on the water, we witnessed quite the spectacle, the largest group of snow geese I or my Dad have ever seen. They were absolutely remarkable; there must have

been thousands, swirling above the lake in a funnel, coming in to land. Then someone stirs and they all lift off again, funneling down again in minutes. This is why I love hunting, I get to see and hear things I would have never seen or heard in the city. We sat in the boat with the heat of the sun on our faces, smoked a cigar or two, experiencing nature at its finest. We watched snow geese, swans, mallards, spoon bills, Canada geese, and a few speckled bellies.

Once we had ourselves a nice spot, we hunkered down amongst the bulrush for a while and waited for the ducks. One of my favourite parts was the calling. While there are no ducks in sight looking for a place to land, I kept myself entertained by having a conversation with a duck on the other side of the lake. Of course I have no idea what we are quacking back and forth, but how hilarious?!

Soon enough we had duck activity to keep us busy. I'm sure I would have had more shots if I didn't keep forgetting to turn my safety off. Those were some fat snow geese I missed out on; it's a good thing I could just shake my head and laugh.

I hadn't put a whole lot of thought into what it would feel like when I got one, but I guess I was having so much fun with the process it didn't occur to me to think that far ahead. But when I did, it was a total shock. All I remember is lowering my shotgun barrel and with my jaw dropped open, turning to my dad and saying, "That was AWESOME!" It was one of the greatest adrenaline rushes yet, and I have done some crazy things. Dad said it folded up just like it should and was dead before it hit the water, a nice clean kill. Once I had it in my hands all I could think was, "What a gift."

Hunting or enjoying a hot breakfast riverside on a perfectly crisp morning reminds me of how fortunate I am. Like my Dad says in moments like those, "I wonder what the poor folks are doing." This was definitely one of those moments.



"I hadn't put a whole lot of thought into what it would feel like when I got one ... Once I had it in my hands all I could think was, 'What a gift.'"

Photo by Matt Shaw

Did You Know?

Grouse Practice Snow-Roosting?

If snow is at least 10 inches deep, grouse burrow into it and stay in their "snow caves" until they are ready to feed. Snow-roosting makes them less visible to predators, protects them from wind, and helps insulate them from cold. This conserves their energy during bitter winters. When they leave their caves, they stick their head out, look around; if the coast is clear, they explode out and into the air.



Hunting for Tomorrow



“ Many other provinces are looking to Alberta as an example of an excellent licensing system for hunting and fishing. ”

By Kelly Semple



Kelly Semple
Executive Director
Hunting for Tomorrow



2011 has proven to be another very busy year for Alberta hunting activity, as hunter numbers have increased by 17% over the past nine years. Here are a few of the highlights:

Number of Hunters

2011 – 115,443	2006 – 105,000
2010 – 114,503	2005 – 100,000
2009 – 113,000	2004 – 100,000
2008 – 113,000	2003 – 95,000
2007 – 110,000	

Of this number, approximately 91% were resident hunters, 3% were non-resident Canadians and 6% were non-resident aliens.

All Hunters — Resident 105,389
Non-Resident 3,623
Non-Resident Alien 6,431

New Hunters — Resident 10,010
Non-Resident 1,181
Non-Resident Alien 2,950

Anglers/Hunters and WiN Card Activity

Anglers: 2011 – 257,000 2008 – 253,000
2010 – 256,000 2007 – 243,000
2009 – 274,000

Hunters: 2011 – 115,403 2008 – 113,000
2010 – 114,503 2007 – 110,000
2009 – 113,000

Hunting Products: 2011 – 423,089
2010 – 428,000
2009 – 416,000
2008 – 419,000
2007 – 404,000

New WiN Cards: 2011 – 68,747
2010 – 62,000
2009 – 77,000
2008 – 74,000
2007 – 72,000

WiN Renewals: 2011 – 40,489 2008 – 82,000
2010 – 40,000 2007 – 24,000
2009 – 59,000

- Hunters represent ~3% of the Alberta population.
- 7% of hunters are under age 18.
- 51% of hunters are 18-45 years of age.
- 20% of hunters are 46-55 years of age.
- 14% of hunters are 56-65 years of age.
- 6% of hunters are 66-75 years of age.
- 2% of hunters are over 75 years of age.

Male/Female Hunter Numbers

2011 – Adult Female 7,590	Adult Male 99,708
Youth Female 1,030	Youth Male 6,352
Total Female 8,620	Total Male 106,060

2010 – Adult Female 7,469	Adult Male 100,736
Youth Female 946	Youth Male 6,352
Total Female 8,415	Total Male 107,088
2009 – Adult Female 6,934	Adult Male 99,003
Youth Female 821	Youth Male 6,046
Total Female 7,755	Total Male 105,049
2008 – Adult Female 6,686	Adult Male 99,240
Youth Female 722	Youth Male 5,913
Total Female 7,408	Total Male 105,153
2007 – Adult Female 6,213	Adult Male 97,734
Youth Female 622	Youth Male 5,475
Total Female 6,835	Total Male 103,209
2006 – Adult Female 5,601	Adult Male 93,582
Youth Female 511	Youth Male 5,156
Total Female 6,112	Total Male 98,738

Number of Hunting Licences Sold

There were 420,000 hunting related licences sold in 2011, and the following is a comparison over the past nine years:

2011 – 420,000	2006 – 381,000
2010 – 423,089	2005 – 361,000
2009 – 416,000	2004 – 361,000
2008 – 419,000	2003 – 344,000
2007 – 404,000	

Draw Applications and Sales

Total Draw applicants increased again, following the same upward trend:

2011 – 298,000	2006 – 213,000
2010 – 278,000	2005 – 205,000
2009 – 263,000	2004 – 196,000
2008 – 238,000	2003 – 187,000
2007 – 221,000	2002 – 179,000

Almost 60% of all hunting draw application sales were done on the web.

Bowhunting Permits

Bowhunting permits decreased by 15:

2011 – Resident 16,698	Non-Resident 243
Total 17,956	Non-Resident Alien 1,015
2010 – Resident 16,634	Non-Resident 252
Total 17,971	Non-Resident Alien 1,085
2009 – Resident 15,406	Non-Resident 248
Total 16,764	Non-Resident Alien 1,110
2008 – Resident 14,947	Non-Resident 230
Total 16,550	Non-Resident Alien 1,346
2007 – Resident 13,266	Non-Resident 185
Total 14,859	Non-Resident Alien 1,408

Game Bird, Waterfowl and Pheasant Licence Numbers

2011 – Pheasants Resident 5,313	
Pheasants Non-Resident 315	
Pheasants Non-Resident Alien 1,015	
Game Bird Resident 38,763	
Game Bird Non-Resident 1,092	
Game Bird Non-Resident 3 Day 128	
Game Bird Non-Resident Alien 6 Day 2,620	
Upland Game Bird Non-Resident Alien 246	
2010 – Pheasants Resident 5,344	
Pheasants Non-Resident 319	

Pheasants Non-Resident Alien 57	
Game Bird Resident 40,165	
Game Bird Non-Resident 1,027	
Game Bird Non-Resident 3 Day 123	
Game Bird Non-Resident Alien 6 Day 2,630	
Upland Game Bird Non-Resident Alien 284	

2009 – Pheasants Resident 6,070	
Pheasants Non-Resident 415	
Pheasants Non-Resident Alien 77	
Game Bird Resident 39,355	
Game Bird Non-Resident 1,169	
Game Bird Non-Resident 3 Day 138	
Game Bird Non-Resident Alien 6 Day 2,779	
Upland Game Bird Non-Resident Alien 371	

2008 – Pheasants Resident 6,501	
Pheasants Non-Resident 441	
Pheasants Non-Resident Alien 134	
Game Bird Resident 42,094	
Game Bird Non-Resident 1,230	
Game Bird Non-Resident 3 Day 128	
Game Bird Non-Resident Alien 6 Day 3,301	
Upland Game Bird Non-Resident Alien 520	

2007 – Pheasants Resident 6,229	
Pheasants Non-Resident 454	
Pheasants Non-Resident Alien 146	
Game Bird Resident 41,289	
Game Bird Non-Resident 1,309	
Game Bird Non-Resident 3 Day 126	
Game Bird Non-Resident Alien 6 Day 3,979	
Upland Game Bird Non-Resident Alien 608	

Web Sales Update

Transactions – New WiN 17,967	
Fishing 26,689	
Draw Applications 173,485	
Hunting 20,234	
Total 238,375	

Web as % of Total Sales –	
New WiN 17.1%	
Fishing 10.7%	
Draw Applications 58.7%	
Hunting 6.6%	

Many other provinces are looking to Alberta as an example of an excellent licensing system for hunting and fishing. We are indeed fortunate to live in a province where wildlife populations are healthy and this provides for abundant hunting opportunities. For more information about hunting numbers, contact Licensing and Revenue Services, Alberta Fish and Wildlife Division, 780-427-5185. All data provided in this document is courtesy of Alberta Fish and Wildlife Division.

If you are interested in more information about hunting programs and what the various organizations are doing to promote hunting opportunities in Alberta, please contact Hunting For Tomorrow. Your involvement and support in this regard is certainly appreciated.

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Hunting For Tomorrow partners with the Pope and Young Club as the Canadian distributor for the 7th Edition of the Bowhunting Big Game Records of North America



Pope and Young Club has released the 7th Edition of the BOWHUNTING BIG GAME RECORDS OF NORTH AMERICA. This edition contains records from the inception of the Pope and Young Club in 1961 to December of 2010. The statistics within this edition reference bowhunters, wildlife professionals and others seriously interested in the native big game populations in North America.

This edition is separated into two books; part one contains reflections and the first 50 years of Pope & Young and part two contains the record book entries.

This book can be purchased from the Pope and Young Club online at www.pope-young.org or from Hunting For Tomorrow in Edmonton, AB.

The cost to purchase a book from our office is:
\$43.00 plus GST.

To purchase from HFT, simply call or visit the Edmonton office. For more information contact Kelly Semple at 780-462-2444.
To purchase from Pope & Young Club, visit www.pope-young.org and click on their gift shop link.

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Staff Appointments



Charlie McLean
Administrative Assistant
A.H.E.I.A.
Calgary

It is A.H.E.I.A.'s pleasure to announce the appointment of Charlie McLean, effective June 12, 2012. Charlie joins our team as Administrative Assistant.

Charlie brings to A.H.E.I.A. a wide variety of skills and excellent customer service, making him a great addition to our team.

Charlie is an outdoor enthusiast and enjoys hiking, mountain biking and camping, to name a few. Charlie also has an extensive background in music, from managing a music shop to teaching music.

He can be reached at our Calgary office. His direct phone line is 403-319-2285 and his e-mail is charlie@aheia.com.

Please join us in welcoming Charlie to his newest challenge.

It is also our pleasure to announce the appointment of Jody Daskalchuk. Effective May 15, 2012, Jody joins our team as Executive Assistant to the Chairman.

Jody has many years of experience working with a local Calgary law office as their legal secretary. She enjoys the outdoors and has many great memories of big game hunting with her father.

She can be reached at our Calgary office. Her direct line is 403-319-2276 and her e-mail is jody@aheia.com.

Please join us in welcoming Jody to her newest challenge.



Jody Daskalchuk
Executive Assistant
to the Chairman
A.H.E.I.A.
Calgary



The APOS Hunting Heroes Program

Sponsored by the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society to honour our heroes, the men and women of the Canadian military, who have sacrificed so much on our behalf.

This initiative matches up wounded Canadian veterans with Alberta's professional outfitters to partake in a professionally guided hunting experience.

For more information contact APOS at 780-414-0249
or via email at info@apos.ab.ca

APOS
ALBERTA PROFESSIONAL OUTFITTERS SOCIETY
www.apos.ab.ca

Did You Know?

A.H.E.I.A. staff and volunteers taught Conservation and Hunter Education to approximately 15,000 students and Fishing Education to 4000 students in 2011?

A.H.E.I.A. staff and volunteers taught the Canadian Firearms Safety Course to over 27,000 students in 2011?

That over 3750 students took the Conservation and Hunter Education Course online in 2011?



Pheasants Forever

Calgary Chapter

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Surviving the Fall:

Physician Warns of Dangers Associated With Full-Body Harnesses

By Ken Cook



Ken Cook
Program Assistant
A.H.E.I.A.
Edmonton

Well hunting season is just around the corner, and soon we will be trekking into the field with tree stand in tow. After close examination, we find a location and up goes the stand. I have heard that one in three hunters will fall from their stand. I pondered this; I guess it makes sense. We get into the stand early; about 5:00 a.m., the sun comes up and it starts to warm. Next thing,

we start to dose off. Or we are fortunate enough to harvest an animal and we forget that we are 15' up a tree. In either case, we find we have fallen off the stand platform and are suspended in mid air.

The hunter is now in a fall arrest situation. It has long been suggested that wearing a full body harness will help the hunter survive the fall. Many things now come into play, such as free fall distance (this is the distance a body falls before fall protection works). We are taught that the height of the tie off is usually recommended to be at eye level when standing upright on the stand. This will ensure that if we fall, we will not fall below the level of the stand. Hopefully this will enable the hunter to climb back into the stand. We also know that wearing this protective equipment will help save us, but will not necessarily prevent us from suffering an injury.

Following is an article by John McCoy, Charleston Gazette, West Virginia that offers a different perspective on fall arrest systems.

By John McCoy

May 12, 2012

Dr. Norman Wood knows all about falling out of trees.

Fourteen years ago, a plunge from a tree left him with a broken back and a determination to keep others from suffering the way he did.

As an emergency-room physician, Wood knew that most accidents like his involve hunters falling from tree stands. He set about designing a harness able to prevent such falls. But the more he researched the subject, the more he discovered that harnesses sometimes do more harm than good.

"I wanted to create a full-body harness, because full-body harnesses give the best chance at survival," said Wood. "While doing my research, I learned about suspension trauma. What I found was that if you hang in a harness long enough, you will die."

Wood found that the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration recommends immediate rescue of workers who fall and are suspended in full-body harnesses.

"According to OSHA, death can occur in 30 minutes or less," Wood said.

In a recent presentation to state Division of Natural Resources and West Virginia Hunter Education Association officials, Wood outlined why people sometimes die from hanging legs-down in a harness.

"With a full-body harness, the leg straps are the problem," he explained. "When a person is hanging in a harness, the leg straps constrict the thighs and put pressure on the big arteries that feed blood to the legs."

"The heart is a pump, and it has the power to push the blood past that constriction, but there is no pump in the legs to push the blood back to the heart. The blood pools in the legs, where it loses oxygen and becomes toxic."

Wood said that in only a few minutes, five to six pints of blood — 70 percent of the body's volume — can accumulate in a person's legs.

"When that happens, the heart can't get enough blood to feed the rest of the body. Blood pressure gets lower and lower. When it gets low enough, you pass out. After you pass out, you're dead within five to 10 minutes."

Tree stand manufacturers since 2009 have been required to include a suspension relief strap, a dangling strap with a loop the suspended hunter can stand in to relieve pressure in the groin area. Wood said the straps can definitely help, but often aren't enough to save victims' lives.

"Workers have survived up to two hours using a suspension relief strap, but it's not a cure-all," he explained. "Sometimes a hunter will hang in his harness for hours, or even overnight, before someone finds him."

While designing his harness, Wood came to the conclusion it needed a feature that would allow victims to quickly lower themselves to the ground. He developed a prototype and has had the Rescue One CDS (Controlled Descent System) harness and its variations on the market since fall 2009.

He insists that his goal in preaching the perils of suspension trauma is not to market his harness.

"There are other harnesses on the market that allow hunters to lower themselves and those get the job done too," he said. "As a physician, I want to get the word out to hunters that they can't just hang there in their harnesses and expect to survive. If they aren't in harnesses that allow them to descend, they need to do everything they possibly can to get back into their tree stand as quickly as possible."

"If they can't get back up, they need to bring their legs up to heart level or above to keep the blood from pooling. One way to do that is to turn around and prop one's legs against the tree."

"Another thing — people who feel like they're going to pass out need to fight the feeling for all they're worth. If you pass out, you're dead."

Wood said the scariest part about suspension-related trauma is that even victims who are rescued relatively quickly can die soon afterward of cardiac arrest, or a few days later of kidney failure.

"What's really scary is that emergency medical technicians and even a lot of physicians don't understand how to treat a suspended person. Most EMTs or rescue squads would immediately lay the victim down and carry him on a stretcher. That's the wrong thing to do."

"If a suspension victim is allowed to lie down soon after being rescued, all that toxic blood goes quickly rushing back to the heart. The heart gets its oxygen from the blood it circulates. A big slug of oxygen-starved blood can trigger a massive myocardial infarction — a heart attack," Wood said.

"And even if no heart attack occurs, the kidneys can be damaged by all the toxic substances that accumulate in the pooled blood. An Austrian study of rescued mountain climbers showed that several seemingly healthy victims died several days later of kidney failure."

To help prevent such tragedies from happening, Wood has developed a series of recommendations for rescuers and hunters who have to be rescued:

"If the victim is conscious, he should stay seated at least 30 minutes before being laid down. If unconscious, he should be kept horizontal and should not have his legs elevated. If possible, he should be given oxygen. He should also be given fluids, intravenously if that option is available. And he should be transported immediately to a hospital with a kidney dialysis unit."

Wood's warnings and misgivings might lead hunters to believe they're better off not wearing harnesses. Nothing could be farther from the truth.

"Hunters are much better off wearing harnesses than going without," he said.

"Six thousand hunters a year are injured or killed in falls from tree stands. Eighty percent of those injured end up needing surgery. Thirty percent end up with partial or total paralysis. The statistics for suspension trauma are not nearly that grim, so I would definitely advise hunters to use harnesses."

But only certain types of harnesses.

"I would avoid the belt-type and chest-harness types," he added. "Both of those can restrict breathing and can end up suffocating the user. I would go with a full-body harness of some kind and preferably one that allows the victim to lower himself to the ground."

For the past several months, Wood has been taking his warnings about suspension trauma to hunter-safety educators, to wildlife officials and to gatherings of doctors and emergency-care workers.

"Right now, both the hunting and medical communities know far too little about suspension trauma," he said. "That needs to change."





“ For those volunteers who continue to support the cause by assisting with courses and challenges, I salute you! ”

By Len Gransch



Len Gransch
Program Coordinator
A.H.E.I.A.
Red Deer - North

The 2012 Youth Hunter Education camps and the Outdoor Youth Seminar were once again a big success and were actually sold out by about mid-April. To assist those who missed out, we have now implemented an “Express Notification” procedure for those who wish to get notified via email as soon as the 2013 registrations are available. To be added to the lists, simply email your request to edmontoninfo@ahcia.com or call us at 1-866-282-4342 and we will look after the rest.

We continue to look for volunteers who may be able to assist at these events, as well as our numerous sports shows. If you have some spare time and would like to help at these or any of our other events, please contact me at len@ahcia.com. Any

assistance is always very welcome indeed as we are continually searching for help.

It always seems to be a struggle to get enough Firearms Instructors and Hunter Education Instructors to assist with our in-house courses and challenges in the Edmonton office. We tend to have the same handful of faithful instructors who come and help out. If you are in the Edmonton area and would like to assist with teaching a few classes a year, please contact me and I will be very happy to plan some sessions around your schedule.

For those volunteers who continue to support the cause by assisting with courses and challenges, I salute you! Thanks for your continued support, as we surely could not accomplish all that we do without your tireless dedication and zeal.

I frequently get inquiries regarding what might be available for resource materials that can be utilized for courses. We have compiled a listing that is available in CD format. The files are too large to email, so simply request a copy of the 2012 Resource Materials and Kits CD and we

will be happy to mail you a copy. This useful disc contains an up-to-date listing of all the resource kits and materials available to A.H.E.I.A. instructors and members. Remember, you do not need to be a certified A.H.E.I.A. instructor to borrow them, only a current A.H.E.I.A. member.

Our Instructor/Volunteer screening-in process has been underway for over two years now and I am still astounded by the number of instructor/volunteers who have not responded to numerous emails, repeated phone calls and letters. If you have not taken the time to complete the process yet, I suggest you do it as soon as possible. Remember that without being screened-in you will no longer be able to teach, order materials or certify students until you do. The process is very simple, so if you live Red Deer and north please contact me as soon as possible so that I may assist you through the process.

In the meantime, enjoy yourself in the outdoors this summer and make sure you take a youngster or two along with you.



Great Meals from the Harvest

with Matt Shaw & Len Gransch



Matt Shaw
Alford Lake Camp Manager
A.H.E.I.A.

Bacon Wrapped Duck

- 6 duck breasts (cut into bite size pieces)
- 1 bottle of Italian salad dressing
- 2 sweet peppers (red or orange)
- 1 lb. of bacon
- 1 container of spreadable cream cheese
- 1 container toothpicks

Place bite size pieces of duck breast into a bowl and cover with the Italian dressing. Allow the duck to marinate for at least two hours (overnight is better).

Soak enough toothpicks in water so that there is a toothpick for every piece of duck. (This is to stop the toothpicks from burning on the barbeque.)

Cut sweet peppers into bite size pieces. Cover the inside of each piece of pepper with cream cheese. Cut the pound of bacon in half so that the strips are only half as long as what you started with.

Take one piece of duck and one piece of pepper and cream cheese, and place them together with the cream cheese in the middle. Wrap this in one of the half strips of bacon and hold this together with a toothpick. Prepare all of the pieces of duck like this and then place them on a preheated barbeque. Using medium heat on the barbeque, cook them until the bacon is slightly crispy, about 15 to 20 minutes. This will cook the duck to about medium.

Alternate Recipe: To spice up this recipe, jalapeños can be used instead of the sweet peppers. Or for a surprise in each bite, you can use half sweet peppers and half jalapeños.



Len Gransch
Program Coordinator
A.H.E.I.A. Red Deer - North

Pineapple Duck

- 3 lbs. duck, cut into serving size portions
- 2 tbsp. soy sauce
- 1 - 14 oz. can crushed pineapple
- 2 cups boiling water
- Salt and Pepper to taste

Place duck in a large sauté pan and cover with boiling water. Simmer on low heat for about an hour until duck is nearly tender. Make sure to skim fat and foam that floats to the top. Add salt, pepper, soy sauce, garlic and pineapple, including the juice. Simmer for approximately 30 minutes until tender. Serve over steamed rice with a mixed salad.

Applesauce Cake

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 2 cups brown sugar | 1 cup butter (softened) |
| 2½ cups all-purpose flour | 2 cups applesauce |
| 1 cup raisins | 1 cup walnuts (chopped) |
| 1 tsp. baking soda | ¼ teaspoon salt |
| 1 tsp. each of ground allspice, cinnamon and nutmeg | |

In a large mixing bowl combine cream butter and sugar. Add applesauce, raisins and nuts, and mix into the sugar/butter mixture. Add dry ingredients, slowly beating after each one. Bake in a greased metal 9"x13" cake pan at 375° F. for 30 minutes or until a toothpick pushed in the centre comes out clean.



Go Fish This Season and Help Someone New Learn to Fish too!

Alberta Free Fishing Weekend

July 7 and 8, 2012

Alberta's Free Fishing Weekends are celebrated each year in July and February. On these weekends, people of all ages are invited to fish, without having to buy a licence, on public water bodies that have an open fishing season. National parks are not included in the Free Fishing Weekends.

Free Fishing Weekends give Albertans and visitors a chance to learn about fishing in Alberta while enjoying some of the province's most valued resources — our water bodies and the fish that swim in them.

Visit mywildalberta.com to find this year's Guide to Sportfishing Regulations and additional information about angling in Alberta.

Kids Can Catch Trout Pond Grand Opening Celebration

July 7, 2012

On July 7, 2012 the Kids Can Catch Trout Pond celebrates its official opening at Calgary's Bow Habitat Station.

Located east of downtown in the neighbourhood of Inglewood, this stocked pond brings angling opportunities and a love of natural places to young people living in the city. Visitors to the pond can practice catch-and-release fishing, and gain an awareness and appreciation for the responsible use of Alberta's fish, wildlife, water and wetland ecosystems.

For more information, call 403-297-6561 in Calgary, or call 310-0000 toll-free and ask to be directed to Bow Habitat Station. You can also visit the website at bowhabitat.alberta.ca.

Bow Habitat Station

Year Round

Even when the fish aren't biting, families can continue to learn about Alberta's fish, wildlife, water and wetland ecosystems at Calgary's Bow Habitat Station.

At the Discovery Centre, visitors can experience five galleries of hands-on exhibits, watch an award-winning film and test their Alberta fish identification skills at the aquariums.

Attached to the Discovery Centre is the Sam Livingston Fish Hatchery where Alberta trout species are raised to be released into over 200 water bodies in Alberta. Join a guided tour and see for yourself what it takes to raise 1.5 million fish each year.

A visit to Bow Habitat Station is a great way to introduce families to ethical angling, fish, and aquatic ecosystems, as well as the responsible use of our natural resources.



Fishing with Amanda and Caroline

By Ken Cook



Ken Cook
Program Assistant
A.H.E.I.A.
Edmonton

My daughter Amanda and I awoke on Saturday to a bright and blue sky; looks like a great day for fishing. Our destination for the day was Chain Lakes near Athabasca. We were going to be fishing for rainbow trout on a fly rod. After breakfast we hooked up the boat, loaded all our gear into the truck and we were on our way to pick up Amanda's school friend, Caroline. Caroline's family are not outdoors people; walking, biking and soccer are their source of outdoor entertainment. This will be Caroline's first fishing trip.

Once we picked her up, we were on our way. A couple of hours down the road and we were passing through Athabasca and up Highway #2 north towards Smith. There is a little gas station/convenience store a couple of miles before the turn off to Chain Lakes. My daughter and I have a tradition that we have to stop for ice cream for good luck. Both girls agreed we should carry on with this as we did not want any bad luck. After the ice cream we were on the road again. It will be about a half hour to the lake.

Arriving at the lake always brings a sense of excitement and anticipation of what the day will be like. Quickly we got the boat in the water and the electric motor mounted. Regulations do not permit the use of gas motors on this lake. While I was doing this, both girls were busy looking in the water at a school of minnows. We unloaded

the rest of the gear and I went and parked the truck and trailer. Our choice of gear will be fly rods and flies attached to a sinking line. We got the rods all strung up and next comes choosing which fly to use. Caroline doesn't know which one to try so I suggest one that we have had some luck with in the past. It kind of looks like a dragon fly nymph. Amanda wants to try one that she has tied herself. It is orange and black. Soon we are all rigged up and ready to catch fish.

I push the boat away from the launch and get the motor running as we head out towards the middle of the lake, which is fairly calm this morning. I instruct the girls to start letting line out. Amanda is the first to have a strike, and before long a trout dancing at the end of her line. This brings a smile to her face as she has caught her first fish on one of her own patterns. After a few minutes she has the trout near the boat before the fish takes one final run. Amanda perseveres and the fish is landed — a healthy, stocky twelve inch rainbow. The colors are a thing of beauty. We marvel for a short time and the fish is quickly returned to the water.

Caroline was the next to catch a fish. This one made a couple of jumps on the way in. Nothing like the tail dance of a hooked trout. She managed to get the fish landed. By the way, Caroline named this one Gertrude. This one was a keeper and kind of neat as it was the first fish she had ever caught. The next one she catches is named Harvey; every one she catches has a name. Soon Amanda is in on the act and Sally is landed to the boat.

By the end of the day, we kept four fish to take home for dinner and then headed for shore. Gear all packed away and boat loaded on the trailer. The fish had to be cleaned and packed on ice for the trip home. Neither girl wanted any part of this but were quite interested in what the entrails looked like and quite curious as to what they ate.

Dropping Caroline off at home, we enquired if she would like to take some fish home for a meal. She chose Gertrude and Stanley. I was interested if Caroline would eat any fish since they actually had a name. A couple of weeks later, when I had a chance to ask her mother if Caroline had eaten the fish, she replied Caroline had had no problem.

There is nothing like taking a child into the outdoors, but even better when there are two. I was pleased to have taken one young lady out on her first fishing excursion. Hopefully, it will not be her last and will become a lifelong activity.



Fishing for the Disabled

"... I told him I taught 'fishing education'. He replied, 'Then how come we are not catching any fish?' I replied, 'The fish are not yet educated.' "

By Ken Cook



Ken Cook
Program Assistant
A.H.E.I.A.
Edmonton

On Saturday, May 27, 2012, the St. Albert and District Fish and Game Association, with the support of many organizations, held its annual fun fishing derby for the physically challenged. Shortly after arrival, we were assigned boats. I was teamed up with "Captain" Scott and Kelly and Alice from the CNIB. We spent a couple of uneventful hours drowning lures. We switched lures many times, fishing both shallow and deep water. It was soon time for lunch — soup and sandwiches made by the staff at Camp HE-HO-HA on Lake Isle.

Before you know it, all of the participants are eager to get out and try their luck again. No fish being caught leaves time for good natured banter and chit chat. Kelly and Scott had been partnered together for a few years, so on went the playful nattering.

During a lull in the action, Kelly asked me if I knew what he did for a living. Having just met him, I had no clue. He said he built furniture, which I found puzzling, him using power tools and being legally blind. So, being good natured, I asked him if he knew what I did for a living. Again, having just met, I told him I taught "fishing education". He replied, "Then how come we are not catching any fish?" I replied, "The fish are not yet educated." Soon the afternoon had passed, but still no fish were caught.

In we went into the camp main hall where Ralph Robinson and I set up A.H.E.I.A.'s fishing simulator. Nearly all the participants tried the "fishing experience". One thing about the simulator, you are guaranteed to catch a fish. One by one, whether in wheelchair or perhaps with a white cane, the participants came up and tried their hand at fishing. Plenty of smiles to go around, the feel of that rod when that dorado or sailfish pulled the line. It feels like the real thing, even if only for a short time.

The day culminated with a roast beef dinner with all the trimmings. Trophies and prizes were handed out during dessert. This marked the end of a good day on the water, enjoyable food and a goody bag. All are looking forward to next year. I will mark it on my calendar.



New Uniform for Ken *(the Outdoor)* Cook

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 2012

Date	Host	Event	Location	Time	Additional Information
July 1-6	AHEIA	Youth Hunter Education Camp	Alford Lake Conservation Education Centre for Excellence Caroline, AB	Please visit our website for registration information	Contact AHEIA Edmonton 780.466.6682 or 1.866.282.4342 edmontoninfo@aheia.com www.aheia.com
July 6	AHEIA	Canadian Firearms Program Challenge	Calgary Conservation Education Centre for Excellence 911 Sylvester Crescent SW Calgary, AB	Please contact the AHEIA Calgary office to make an appointment	Contact AHEIA Calgary 403.252.8474 or 1.866.852.4342 info@aheia.com www.aheia.com
July 8-13	AHEIA	Youth Hunter Education Camp	Alford Lake Conservation Education Centre for Excellence Caroline, AB	Please visit our website for registration information	Contact AHEIA Edmonton 780.466.6682 or 1.866.282.4342 edmontoninfo@aheia.com www.aheia.com
July 10 & 12	AHEIA	Canadian Firearms Program Non-Restricted	Calgary Conservation Education Centre for Excellence 911 Sylvester Crescent SW Calgary, AB	5:00 pm to 10:00 pm Both nights	Contact AHEIA Calgary 403.252.8474 or 1.866.852.4342 info@aheia.com www.aheia.com
July 15-20	AHEIA	Youth Hunter Education Camp	Alford Lake Conservation Education Centre for Excellence Caroline, AB	Please visit our website for registration information	Contact AHEIA Edmonton 780.466.6682 or 1.866.282.4342 edmontoninfo@aheia.com www.aheia.com
July 20-22	AHEIA	Teachers' Workshop	Alford Lake Conservation Education Centre for Excellence Caroline, AB		Contact AHEIA Edmonton 780.466.6682 or 1.866.282.4342 edmontoninfo@aheia.com www.aheia.com
July 22-27	AHEIA	Youth Hunter Education Camp	Alford Lake Conservation Education Centre for Excellence Caroline, AB	Please visit our website for registration information	Contact AHEIA Edmonton 780.466.6682 or 1.866.282.4342 edmontoninfo@aheia.com www.aheia.com
July 24-29 & 31	AHEIA	Alberta Conservation & Hunter Education Course	Calgary Conservation Education Centre for Excellence 911 Sylvester Crescent SW Calgary, AB	Tuesday-Friday 6:00-9:00 pm Sat. & Sun. 9:00 am - 4:30 pm Tuesday 6:00-9:00 pm	Contact AHEIA Calgary 403.252.8474 or 1.866.852.4342 info@aheia.com www.aheia.com

August 2012

Date	Host	Event	Location	Time	Additional Information
August 5	Wild TV	Hunfest	Edmonton, AB		
August 8-12	AHEIA	Outdoor Women's Program (OWP)	Alford Lake Conservation Education Centre for Excellence Caroline, AB	Please visit our website for registration information	Contact AHEIA Edmonton 780.466.6682 or 1.866.282.4342 edmontoninfo@aheia.com www.aheia.com
August 14-20	AHEIA	Alberta Conservation & Hunter Education Course	Calgary Conservation Education Centre for Excellence 911 Sylvester Crescent SW Calgary, AB	Tuesday-Friday 6:00-9:00 pm Sat. & Sun. 9:00 am - 4:30 pm Tuesday 6:00-9:00 pm	Contact AHEIA Calgary 403.252.8474 or 1.866.852.4342 info@aheia.com www.aheia.com
August 17-19	AHEIA	Outdoor Youth Seminar	Alford Lake Conservation Education Centre for Excellence Caroline, AB	Please visit our website for registration information	Contact AHEIA Edmonton 780.466.6682 or 1.866.282.4342 edmontoninfo@aheia.com www.aheia.com
August 21-23 & 25	AHEIA	International Bowhunters Education Program (IBEP)	Calgary Conservation Education Centre for Excellence 911 Sylvester Crescent SW Calgary, AB	Tues.-Thurs. 6:00-10:00 pm Saturday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm	Contact AHEIA Calgary 403.252.8474 or 1.866.852.4342 info@aheia.com www.aheia.com

September 2012

Date	Host	Event	Location	Time	Additional Information
September 4-9 & 11	AHEIA	Alberta Conservation & Hunter Education Course	Calgary Conservation Education Centre for Excellence 911 Sylvester Crescent SW Calgary, AB	Tuesday-Friday 6:00-9:00 pm Sat. & Sun. 9:00 am - 4:30 pm Tuesday 6:00-9:00 pm	Contact AHEIA Calgary 403.252.8474 or 1.866.852.4342 info@aheia.com www.aheia.com
September 18-23 & 25	AHEIA	Alberta Conservation & Hunter Education Course	Calgary Conservation Education Centre for Excellence 911 Sylvester Crescent SW Calgary, AB	Tuesday-Friday 6:00-9:00 pm Sat. & Sun. 9:00 am - 4:30 pm Tuesday 6:00-9:00 pm	Contact AHEIA Calgary 403.252.8474 or 1.866.852.4342 info@aheia.com www.aheia.com
September 22	AHEIA	6th Annual Provincial Hunting Day	Alford Lake Conservation Education Centre for Excellence Caroline, AB	Watch the AHEIA website for updates	Contact AHEIA Edmonton 780.466.6682 or 1.866.282.4342 edmontoninfo@aheia.com www.aheia.com

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