

Hunter Education Quarterly

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

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Department of Fish and Wildlife
 1416 Ninth Street Room 1326
 Sacramento, CA. 95814
 Home page: <http://www.wildlife.ca.gov>

Hunter Education Staff

Robert Pelzman

Captain

Robert.pelzman@wildlife.ca.gov

Sacramento (916) 653-9727

Fam Saeteurn

Staff Services Analyst

fam.saeteurn@wildlife.ca.gov

Sacramento -----(916) 653-1235

Kathy Mammen

Staff Services Analyst

kathy.mammen@wildlife.ca.gov

Sacramento -----(916) 651-9169

Peter Blake

Lieutenant - peter.blake@wildlife.ca.gov

Northern District -----(530) 865-7972

Bart Bundesen

Lieutenant - bart.bundesen@wildlife.ca.gov

North Coast District -----(415) 892-0073

Shawn Olague

Lieutenant - shawn.olague@wildlife.ca.gov

Central District -----(209) 827-0895

Mike Norris

Lieutenant - mike.norris@wildlife.ca.gov

Southern District -----(562) 429-7249

Alan Gregory

Lieutenant - alan.gregory@wildlife.ca.gov

Advanced Hunter Education - (209) 274-9923



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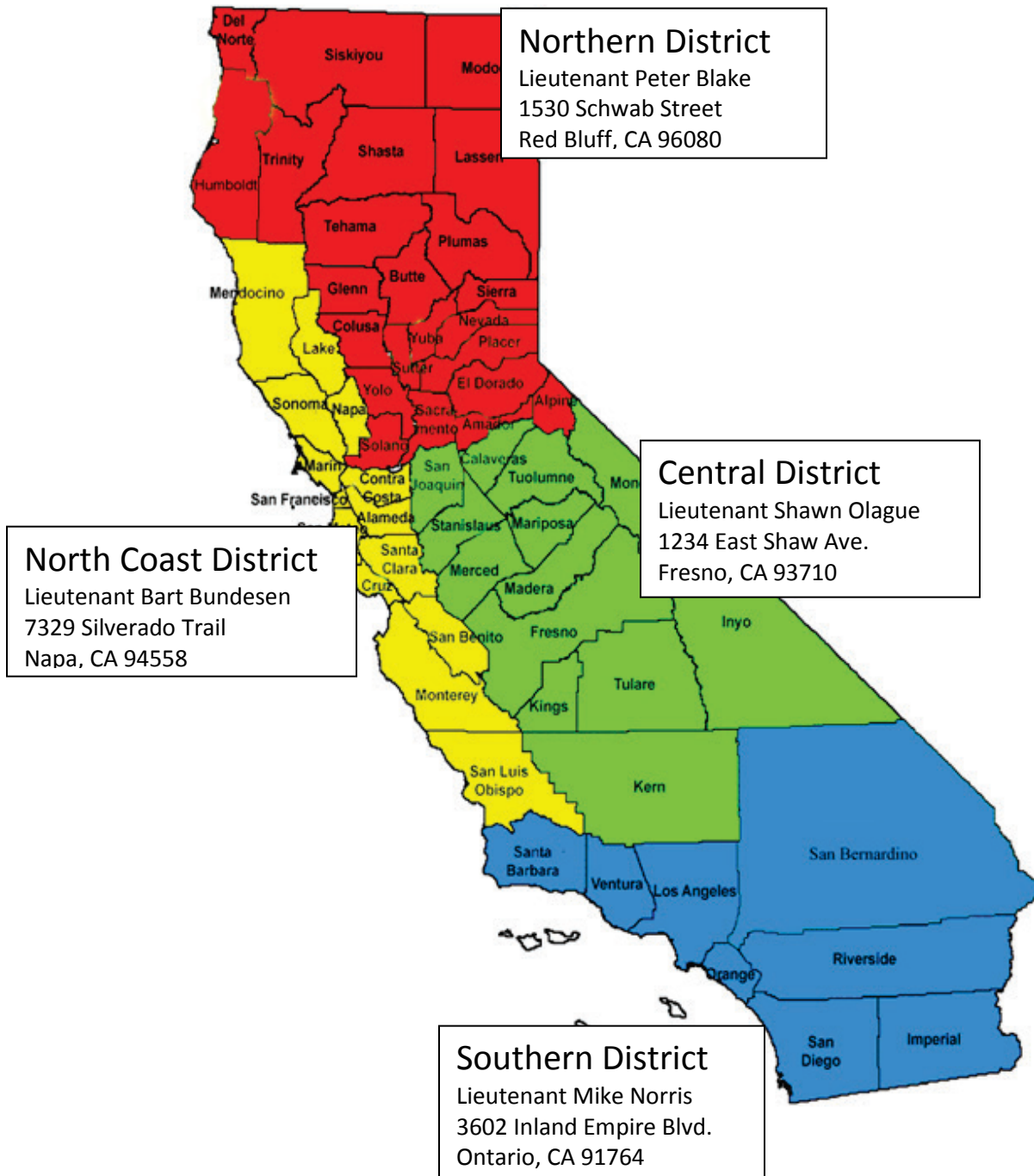
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Hunter Education District Map



Administrator News

By Captain Robert Pelzman

On April 13, 2015 I was promoted to Captain of the Hunter Education Program. Over my career I have organized and taught numerous hunter education class, investigated several hunter casualty incidents, helped with a couple junior hunts, and attended a few conferences. Overall, my involvement with the Hunter Education Program was fairly limited.

These past few months have been an eye-opening experience. The passion to pass on the tradition and the devotion to the Program exhibited by you, the instructors, and the Hunter Education Program staff is overwhelming! As a warden, I had people cry when being arrested or dealing with some tragic situation. In my new position, the tears have only been tears of joy. Like when I notified one lucky Hunter Education Instructor they had drawn the instructor Open Zone deer tag!

I'm sure several of you are asking, "What's up with this cheap version of the Hunter Education Quarterly?" Well, as most of you know, we have had a significant turnover of Hunter Education Staff. The desktop publishing software used to produce the Quarterly is fairly complex and our new Staff Services Analyst is temporarily tasked with both her new and prior job duties. Unfortunately, the Quarterly was put on the backburner. With a few formatting and content changes, it should be back to its' glossy-paged glory soon!

Fam Saeteurn

Fam is the new Staff Services Analyst for the Hunter Education Program. She filled the vacancy left when Sarah Brar promoted to a position with a different department. Here is a quick introduction so you can put a face with a name.

Born and raised in Sacramento along with her four brothers and three sisters, Fam is 27 years old and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Clinical Nutrition from UC Davis. She started working for the CDFW in the Law Enforcement Division headquarters a little more than two years ago. In June, she was promoted to her current position with the Hunter Education Program. Fam enjoys outdoor activities including camping and hiking. It's been a while since she has gone, but she enjoys fishing too. She comes from a hunting family; her dad, mom, and brothers are all hunters. Since being with the CDFW, Fam has completed a Hunter Education class and has her certificate.

Fam is smart, learns quickly, soft spoken, and gets things done. Please welcome her to the Program!



Robert Pelzman

I grew up in Folsom, CA in a “Fish and Game family”. My dad retired as Chief of the (now defunct) Land and Facilities Branch. My dad and grandpa introduced me to hunting and fishing at a young age. I have vivid memories of family dove hunts near Roseville, deer hunts in the Sierras east of Sacramento, and ducks, geese, and pheasants near Robbins.

After playing a couple years of football at a local junior college, I focused on wildlife management at Humboldt State. I then attended Resource Academy #9 as a self-sponsored cadet. About six months after graduation, I was sworn in as a Game Warden in January, 1998. My first position was Belmont, San Mateo County. I only spent about six months there, but learned a ton as a new Warden. For the next five years I was the north Napa County Warden. This was a great warden position because we dealt with a little of almost everything a warden wants to deal with – upland game, big game, waterfowl, inland fishing, ocean fishing, etc. Next, I spent about two years with the Delta-Bay Enhanced Enforcement Project (D-BEEP) and focused on enforcement of laws and regulations related to anadromous fishes. I then spent about eight years as the Foresthill, Placer County Warden. This is a “traditional” warden district – rural, wild, forests, mountains, lakes, streams, small town, etc. Folks came to

our house to ask questions or get deer validated, drove past our house to look for my patrol truck on Saturday nights, and would ask my wife Fish and Game related questions while she was dropping our daughter off at school - it was great! About three years ago, circumstances dictated a change in my career path. This change resulted in a promotion to the position of Lieutenant Specialist at HQ for the Law Enforcement Division training program, followed by a transfer to the Professional Standards Unit, and ultimately promotion to Captain of the Hunter Education Program!

I have been married to Michele for 18 years. We have a 14 year old daughter and a four year old son. Our daughter plays competitive soccer and is an aspiring model – no I don’t like it, but I support her. Our son insistently plans and packs (and re-packs) for what he calls our up- coming deer / coyote / fishing /camping trip. He plans on using his BB gun to take a coyote and continuously asks if it will take down a _____ (fill in the blank). For his upcoming birthday we are planning a trip to the grand opening of the Bass Pro Shop’s in Rocklin, followed by a grouse and mountain quail hunt.

Recently, I came across a copy of the April-July 1991 issue of “Safe Hunting – The California Hunter Education Newsletter” (precursor to the “Hunter Education Quarterly”). The hot topic was SCANTRON forms - “Needless to say, we’ve received lots of comments on the new SCANTRON form. We are trying to get the “bugs” out of this new innovation and, as with anything new, it will take some time and practice to get it working to everyone’s advantage”. In the near future,

after 25 years of service, SCANTRON forms will be a thing of the past. Samaritan and Event Manager will be that “new innovation ... working to everyone’s advantage”.

For those of you that have been waiting, the training gun sets will be arriving over the next several months; all 300 sets should be in classes by spring 2016.



Robert Pelzman with HEI Jeff Simonides at IHEA-USA Conference in Iowa.

Thank you for all you do.

Moving forward,
Robert

Northern District

By Lieutenant Peter J. Blake

Looking back at what 2015 has thrown at us I am pretty impressed at what we have accomplished. The ISE show was a huge success. The, "Train the Trainer Rendezvous", sponsored by CHIEA North, was awesome! We survived over half of our staff leaving the Hunter Ed. program and going on to bigger and better things. To top off everything we pulled off a statewide Hunter Ed. annual training conference the size and scope of which never before seen.

Now, even with all of our accomplishments there were some bumps in the road. These bumps have served us as learning tools and we are striving to make things even better in the future. Looking towards the future I see nothing but positives. Initially I had a lot of anxiety concerning all the turnover in the HE staff. Now that a little time has gone by I can truly say I am very impressed at the quality of individuals whom have stepped up and filled those vacancies. The flood of new blood and new ideas has definitely inspired the entire team and we are preparing to take this program to the next level.

Our program has grown exponentially and we are always looking of new ways to make things more efficient and better for you the instructors. Now admittedly some of our ideas were better than others but in the end we are learning from our mistakes and moving forward. One of the things I am sure you have noticed is the move towards the electronic generation and the paperless world. We will continue in that direction. Some of us, myself included, will go kicking and

screaming. I can tell you that amongst our group of coordinators I am the biggest devil's advocate on this subject. My fear is that some of you will leave the program because of your unwillingness to change with the times. I challenge you to work with these changes and continue to teach. Ultimately your involvement is way too important to just give up.

For those of you who don't have a computer and don't want one; the above will cause some difficulties in working with the Hunter Ed. staff and program. Please try not to become disgruntled – instead, look for ways to work with these changing times. I have a few suggestions on ways to work through this. The First would be to reach out to a fellow Hunter Ed.

Instructor for help. For those of you who have a teaching team, this will be easy and just a matter of asking for help. If you know someone in your team is lacking computer knowledge, please reach out and offer your assistance. Another idea would be to reach out to a family member who is computer literate. Sons, daughters and grandchildren can prove to be monumentally helpful. If all else fails, call me. I am fully dedicated to helping you any way I can.

The other thing everyone should be aware of is the change in training opportunities this year. If you didn't make it up to the statewide conference in Squaw Valley you will have to complete the correspondence course. We will not be doing any satellite conferences this year. The correspondence course will be relatively painless. You will be required to watch a YouTube video and then log onto Samaritan and fill out a brief questionnaire. Remember this is not a test. It is just a way for us to document that you were exposed to this year's training information to stay in compliance with our Hunter Ed. policy.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU CONTINUE TO DO FOR THE HUNTING TRADITIONS!!!!

Peter J. Blake



North Coast District

By Lieutenant Bart Bundesen

Hope summer finds you all well. It's the time of vacations, fishing, BBQs and most importantly Fall hunt preparation! I must say keep up the good work as I've been getting very few calls from the public searching for classes. Rest assured there will be some procrastinators in that crew and they will wait until the last minute to get their Hunter Safety Certificate. Take a deep breath, stay calm, and deal with them as patiently as possible. I know some of the public can be demanding, but don't let them taint the enjoyment of teaching new members of the hunting community.

Squaw Valley and the first Statewide Training has come and gone. 2016 will bring back the traditional schedule of a Main District Training and two Satellite Trainings. If you are planning on attending the North Coast District Training mark your calendars it will be **Saturday, March 12th**. Time and location are still a work in progress at the time I write this. As soon as it is set I will let you know to give the folks travelling a time to search for the best deals.

It's a time of change in the California Hunter Education world. We have replaced an Advanced Hunter Ed Lt position, Sarah Brar's position, and Captain Roy. What we have gained is an Assistant Chief Roy who will be more involved than any AC you've seen before, and two very competent Game Wardens Captain Robert Pelzman and Lt Alan Gregory.

We've said our good byes to Sarah Brar, but I wanted to take a little space to thank her in writing for helping me out. Sarah was very pivotal in my transition into the coordinator spot and I can't thank her enough. Since Sarah left, Fam

Saeteurn has done an exceptional job filling in and her contributions to the Hunter Team have been welcome. Fam was rewarded by becoming Sarah's permanent replacement, as you get to know her, I'm sure you will become a fan.

Last but not least is Kathy Mammen. I get

more compliments from HEI's about how dependable and proficient Kathy but unfortunately she sometimes gets overlooked. Kathy had to step up and take on some of Sarah's responsibilities in the interim, and she had to do this on top of her other duties. Thanks Kathy for the work you did in your "new" position.

Let's take a few minutes to look forward and see what's on the horizon. We have already seen a move towards computerized records with Samaritan. It fulfills a need but also has its deficiencies. The whole point of computers is to make our lives easier and spend more time doing what we are supposed to be doing. At the Squaw Training we unveiled an Event Manager program that may be in the works sometime in the future. If things proceed, the HEI will have the ability to post their own classes, communicate with prospective students, and post class results directly to the Department's licensing database. And, yes, there will still be the Hunter Ed card a student can bring to a retailer right after class.

Let's finish with the yearly training requirement. By having a 2015 Statewide Training and no Satellites, we are left with a huge number of HEI's who have to take the Correspondence Course. I will contact you sometime mid-summer with the details. Where you can help me is keep an eye out for it and complete it ASAP, the less people I have to chase the better. Last year we probably lost about 25 HEI's in the NCD for failure to complete their yearly training. There will be a deadline and I don't plan on chasing people around to get them to complete the training on time.

As always thank you for all that you do! I continue to

consider myself lucky to have been added to the NCD team. My door is always open and if you need anything I'm only a phone call or email away: (415) 892-0073 or

bart.bundesen@wildlife.ca.gov

Have a safe and enjoyable summer.



Lt. Bart Bundesen with Michael Hale and his buck.

Central District

By Lieutenant Shawn Olague

Well I hope this quarterly reaches you with your desired big game tag in hand. I am trying something new this year with an archery deer hunt in our challenging state. I drew an archery tag for all the C zones in Northern CA. I blanked out on my only out of state application which was an antelope tag in Wyoming. I need to find new hunting grounds in their antelope rich state that are easier to draw. I have been blanked the last two seasons for a zone I am very familiar with and happy to hunt. It is time to move on I suppose.

I have said this before and I will say it again, instructor recruitment continues to amaze me. Your help in adding new instructors to the ranks has been amazing. The number of people wanting to be a part of the program is definitely a help when a potential hunter is seeking the opportunity to go through a class. The way we have been able to meet the increased demand for hunter education has been a great testament to your service. We wouldn't have been able to handle the demand when I first started in 2006. The number of calls I get from people looking for classes has dropped tremendously because you are putting them on the internet. Thanks a bunch.

I want to thank all of you who made the great commitment to attend the Tahoe conference this year. It is always nice to see you face to face and I honestly wish I had more time to do so in your classes. Those who attended had a great time and despite all the work that went into it to try and pull it off we may try and do it again. Maybe with our new-found experience we will

be better at pulling it off. We will review the pros and cons and try and make it another positive experience. Just not for a few years, it may find a way into the rotation every four to five years.

Many of you know that Captain Roy Griffith has now become an Assistant Chief and we have a new leader of the squad. I would like you to welcome Captain Robert Pelzman to our hunter education family. I am sure many of you will unfairly compare him to Roy, but we will be in good hands. Roy says he still is on the ship, just in a higher seat....insert joke here.... Thanks a lot Roy. It has been a pleasure working for you and Rob welcome to the best program our department has to offer.

If you were not able to attend our district's available training dates, please make sure you complete the correspondence course sent to you. I hope you will be able to attend next year's main conference. I will look to have it at the Los Banos Sportsmen's Club and I

plan on having a fun and full day before get together too. I will send out a confirmed date and location as soon as I have it locked up so you can put it on your ever-full calendars.

I will be your escort on two of the HEI Incentive opportunities. If you have picked them, I promise you will have a good time. I really enjoy trying to thank you for all your time to the program and the tradition I am so passionate about.

Thanks a bunch and may your summer be bearable.



Southern District

By Lieutenant Mike Norris

The Dove Season Crush means crunch time for you all, and I appreciate each and every instructor who stepped up to the head of a hot classroom to get would-be hunters off to a safe start.

Did you take your HE class on a hot August night(s)? I did!

Hats also off to the instructors who, when they aren't PowerPointing (check

<http://www.huntercourse.com/hetools/> for a free downloadable presentation) or otherwise explaining how a choke works, are in the back of the room getting the paperwork squared away so, come exam time, certificates are ready to issue.

Teaming is a great thing and I wholeheartedly encourage HEIs to link up whenever possible—not only for efficiency sake, but because your students will benefit from the variety of perspectives and teaching styles different instructors bring to the lectern.

Towards that end, I'd like to encourage anyone able to join one of the most successful teaching teams in the district as they present what will hopefully become a great tradition—a free Veterans Day HE Class for Vets and their dependents.

There's space for 100 students, so the SoCal Hunter Education Instructors Association, the organizer of the event, is inviting HEIs to come help teach and administer the class.

Held at the Elks Lodge in Santa Clarita, costs are being covered by the Association, the Quail and Upland Wildlife Federation, CA Rifle & Pistol Association, and the NRA.

If you know a Vet who'd like to take the class (or has dependents who would), send them to www.HunterEdClass.com for details and to download a registration form. If you'd like to help, call/email-- (661) 297-0876/HunterEdClass@HunterEdClass.com.

What a great way to celebrate Veterans Day-- offering an opportunity for Vets to enjoy one of the great past times and traditions our country has to offer because of their efforts and sacrifice.

I'd like to take the rest of my space this issue to recognize HEI Mike Eagan who passed away in June, from a heart attack.

Certified in 1996, Mike taught 56 classes and issued certificates to 1,120 students. But his

efforts to help kids enjoy the outdoors went far beyond the confines of the classroom, and Mike's many contributions are celebrated separately in this issue.

I'll always remember Mike as the guy who came to the rescue of a newly-minted Hunter Ed Coordinator.

I'd barely figured out how to adjust the height of my new desk chair when I learned an instructor couldn't make a booked-up class the next day due to an emergency. I didn't even have a roster of instructors but, fortunately for me and 20-some students, I did have Derek Fong's number. I got him on the line, explained the situation, and Derek said he knew just the HEI for the job. A couple phone clicks later Derek had a three-way phone call going with Mike, who instantly agreed to help out.

Thanks again, Mike, for Passing It On. The community and I will both miss you.



Hunter Education Class 2015 For U.S. Veterans

The Hunter Education Instructor Association of Southern California, Quail & Upland Wildlife Federation, California Rifle & Pistol Association, the NRA and many more would like to salute every US Veteran for the service you've given to our country. Giving back to you, we would like to offer Hunter Education Class for US Veterans for FREE.

In a continued effort to reduce firearm accidents, the State of California requires all first time resident hunters, regardless of age, to complete hunter education training or pass a comprehensive equivalency test before purchasing a hunting license.

FREE Hunter Education Class Saturday November 7, 2015

LOCATION
Elks Lodge 2379 Santa Clarita • 17766 Sierra Highway • Santa Clarita CA

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Orange County's Premier 25 Yard Indoor Range

Logos for: Southern California Hunter Education Instructor Association, California Department of Fish & Game, Quail & Upland Wildlife Federation, California Department of Fish & Game, and California Rifle & Pistol Association.

For more information (661) 297-0876 - email HunterEdClass@HunterEdClass.com, registration form maybe downloaded from www.HunterEdClass.com. Space is limited to 100 students so please register early. Refundable Deposit: \$10.00 per student required at registration, Deposits are not refundable for Non-Attendees, Required I.D. DD-214 or Current Military I.D.

Advanced Hunter Education

By Alan Gregory

Well, I have completed my first six months as the coordinator for the Advanced Hunter Education Program. I would first like to thank all of the Hunter Education Instructors who have attended the clinics as students, instructors, and helpers. These clinics would be very difficult to put on by myself. I would also like to thank the Pacific Coast Hunter Education Instructor Association and Hunter Education Instructor Association of Southern California for their assistance. I can't leave out Captain Dan Lehman for building the program into what it is today, so thanks Dan!

As my schedule of 2015 clinics starts to wind down, my planning for 2016 has already started and the clinics are rolling in. I am excited about the possibilities in the upcoming year and clinics that I am going to hold. To give you a taste of what is to come; I am bringing back the much talked about Game Cooking Clinics and Hunter Marksmanship Clinics. I currently have one cooking clinic planned for Southern California and am working on one for Northern California. I have Marksmanship Clinics scheduled for both Southern and Northern California so stay tuned for the dates.

After spending over a decade in the field, patrolling everything from the ocean to the Sierras, and seeing people pack up their camps after a day or two and complain about a lack of success, I have decided to develop a clinic that solely focuses on the planning of multi-day hunting trips. I haven't decided on a name yet but the clinic will give the novice or new hunter confidence to plan, prepare for, and execute a safe, enjoyable, and hopefully successful multi-day hunting trip. Topics included in the class will include equipment, food, game

care, shelter, and more. I will bring my own personal experiences and those of fellow long time hunters to make this class enjoyable and informational.

A friend and fellow Game Warden asked me one day about having a clinic designed for people that have pack animals that have never used them for hunting in California's vast Wilderness Areas. Not being a horse guy myself, I encouraged him to develop a clinic where we can impart his knowledge and provide another opportunity for California's hunters. He is currently developing a curriculum for that clinic.

Finally, I would like to encourage any Hunter Education Instructors to contact me if you would like to assist with or have anything you'd like to see added to the Advanced Hunter Education Clinics. Thanks again and I hope to continue meeting more of our volunteer instructors. And last but definitely not least good luck this fall with all your hunting pursuits!



Let's Talk Bowhunting

By John Waddles

Hello everyone, I haven't written an article in a while and I thought it was time to update everyone on the latest bowhunting news. Let me start by saying that I had a great spring turkey season. I shot a bearded hen, the first hen I ever shot. I went to the Hunter Education annual training update in Squaw Valley and had a great time; this was definitely an event that you should not have missed. If they ever have one again I would recommend all instructors attend. I would like to thank all of the instructors that help out at the archery range with the shooting, setup, and take down.

Robert Moore and I could not have had a successful event without your help.

The CA/Dept of Fish and Wildlife now provides all hand books and written class material for the IBEP classes. As a result, beginning January 1, 2015, the cost of the Bowhunter Education class or the Field Day class for the on-line students will be reduced to \$10.00. For HEI's who want to take the class to become an IBEP instructor the cost is FREE! All other items remain the same, so if you have any questions please feel free to call or e-mail me -- 916-385-7558, - cell phone, john_waddles@yahoo.com.

This year at the annual California Bowman Hunter/State Archery Association (CBH/SAA) Captain Roy Griffith spoke on the importance of bowhunter education and what it means to the hunting program in California. After hearing his speech a recommendation was made and seconded to make

Bowhunter Education a requirement in California. A vote was taken and passed unanimously for the recommendation. Robert Moore, the Legislative rep for CBH/SAA, was given the task to start the paperwork and wording for the change. With this change the need for bowhunter instructors will more than likely increase along with the classes, instructors get ready?

Robert Moore and I have given 2 California Game Warden IBEP class In the North Coast District this year we teach these classes every other year. Lieutenant Bart Bundesen organized two IBEP classes for the Game Wardens in his area one at Lake Sonoma and another at Elk Horn Slough. We had over 40 Game Wardens and several HEI's take the classes. Many of the students, on completion, requested applications to become an IBEP instructor and when all the paper works is done Lt. Bundesen will have a large

increase in Bowhunter Ed. Instructors. Thanks for stepping up guys.

This article will be in the summer edition of the Hunter Education Quarterly and by then any respectable bowhunter will probably be in the woods hunting, seeing how the archery season starts July 11 in the Coastal zone and August 15 in the Inland zones and most of the B zones. I hope all you bowhunters drew your favorite tags and here's wishing you good luck hunting. Remember be safe and don't forget to pick a spot and shoot straight.



HEI John Waddles with bearded hen.

North Coast Game Wardens

Become IBEP Instructors

Game Wardens across the North Coast congregated at two International Bowhunter Education Program (IBEP) courses at Lake Sonoma and Elkhorn Slough. The classes served two purposes, first to educate Wardens who don't have much bowhunting experience and improve their ability to work with the bowhunting community. Second, there are many Wardens with years of bowhunting experience who were certified as IBEP instructors.



HEI Robert Moore and North Coast Wardens.

The response to the opportunity was overwhelming with both classes filling to capacity. None of this could have been done without IBEP's Robert Moore and John Waddles. Both instructors spent long hours traveling and teaching the courses and their generosity was extremely appreciated. Feedback from students was across the board positive. Even the most seasoned hunters were talking about things they were able to take away from the course material.

Are you an HEI
interested in
becoming an
IBEP Instructor?

Contact John Waddles at
(916) 381-4130 or
john_waddles@yahoo.com.



HEI John Waddles and North Coast Wardens.

PCHEA – Exciting New Year Ahead

By Chuck Giordanengo

Hello fellow Instructors. The Pacific Coast Hunter Education Association has a new Board of Directors and they aren't letting any grass grow under their feet. For those of you that wish to Purchase Hunter Education Graduation Patches, the board has elected to reduce the price to \$1.25 per patch, regardless of order Qty. Need Pencils....we've got'em, only \$18.00 per hundred. If you're interested in PCHEA Tee Shirts - we have them too, sizes S to 5x 15.00 each in two colors; Grey and Maroon.

This new group of directors has already committed to having a booth and setting up a laser shot at several functions for this upcoming year. We'll be supporting the Watsonville Youth Day, Suisun Marsh Field Day, CWA, and CDA dinners in the Hollister, Gilroy area as well as a few other youth functions in our district. We're committed in spreading the word about Hunter Education, Safe Gun Handling, and Ethics to the Youth in our district.

We're also committed in partnering with the DFW in the Advanced Hunter Education Clinics and supporting Lt. Alan Gregory in his new role as Coordinator of this program. We're already discussing door prizes for our next North Coast District HEI Conference, I won't mention any we have discussed, but I guarantee you'll want to be taking some home with you. As always we're looking for suggestions so that we may better serve you.

Feel free to contact any of the officers listed below, or if you prefer drop us a line, our address is also below.

Your 2015/2016 PCHEA Officers:

President; Chuck Giordanengo, E-mail Charles.Giordanengo@TE.Com

Vice President; Sam Grow, E-mail growsam71@yahoo.com

Secretary; Bill Plummer, E-mail wplummer@calpoly.edu

Treasurer; Mary Warfield-Hooker, E-mail mwarfieldhooker@sbcglobal.net

PCHEA: PO Box 2523 Morgan Hill CA. 95038

PENCILS PENCILS PENCILS

We have a limited number available at \$18.00 per hundred.

By the way:

Pencils are known to cause errors on math papers, English assignments and science tests...

We cannot be held accountable for those mistakes.

BUT IT FILLS OUT A SCANTRON sheet perfectly...

Give me a call or email me: 707 648 0410 or growsam71@yahoo.com

Many, many thanks.... Sam

In Memoriam

Passing of Michael Eagen

HEI #2095

By Derek Fong & Luann Peterson

Hunter Education Instructor Association of Southern California

It is with heavy hearts we announce that one of our fellow Hunter Education Instructors, Mike Eagen, succumbed to a fatal heart attack and passed away on Saturday, June 20th.



Mike was born and raised in Long Beach, California. Growing up, he led a fairly urban life having little contact with the great outdoors. In the 1960s, as a young man, he decided to pack up, move to Texas, and try his luck as a rough neck working the oil fields. It's there that he had his first introduction to shooting sports and hunting. He was immediately drawn to this new lifestyle and went on to become an avid hunter, sportsman, and conservationist. Twenty years later, he returned to California and continued his work on the oil fields as an environmental engineer.

Upon his return to California, he gravitated toward people who shared his love of hunting and shooting sports. It was then that he became aware of the many people who were interested in hunting and shooting sports, but did not have the opportunity to pursue these interests. To fill the void, in the early 1990's, he became an HEI. When Mike and I met 16 years ago, we quickly realized we shared common interests. We partnered together to develop a HE program. Our program grew to include a team of over 15 HEI's. Mike mentored each and every one of them. The knowledge and experience Mike provided to our team members enabled them to

hone their skills and become more qualified and capable instructors.

We are proud to say that in those years our team taught over 10,000 students!

Mike understood the value of getting young people out of the city and "into the woods." In fact it became one of his missions in life. When his son, Mike Jr. joined Boy Scouts, Mike Sr. found another avenue to give back. He became a Scoutmaster and Shooting Sports Merit Badge Counselor.

Once again he found and filled a void. Most Scouts were only given the opportunity to participate in shooting sports at Boy Scout camps because there were not enough local NRA instructors to support the BSA Shooting Sports Program. To fill this void, he became an NRA Training Counselor. For many years, he offered discounted or free NRA training to anyone who promised to give back by working with youth in the area.



As a result, he trained hundreds of instructors who have, in turn, trained thousands of young people. In addition, he sought out local shooting ranges and arranged for them to offer discounted--or free shooting--programs for Scouts. When firearms were not available, he purchased and left them at ranges with the understanding that any Scout troop could use them, free of charge.

This was the type of man Mike Eagen was.

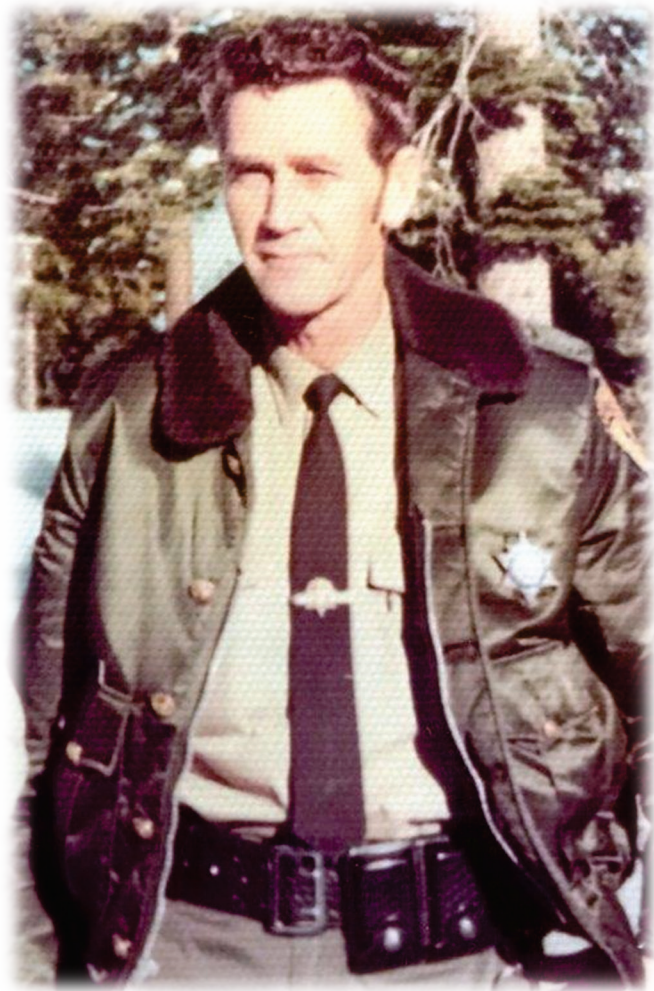
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In Memoriam

Passing of Wayne Caldwell

By Walt Drysdale HEI 0671

On April 18, 2015, Wayne Caldwell, the leader and organizer of the Auburn Elks Lodge sponsorship of the California Hunter Safety program passed away. He was born on 7/26/1929. It seems fitting that he would pass away on the last day of the Lodge's April course.



It is very fitting to honor a Game Warden who contributed so much to a Hunter Education program. Hunter Education is just one of the many facets of their job. I wonder how many, like me, were introduced to or helped with hunting /fishing/ competitive shooting by Game Wardens? They have been an inspiration for many young people involved in outdoor activities and provide an example for all. Their early help starting up the first Hunter Safety courses started the ball rolling and their continued participation greatly enhances the program today. Everybody looks forward to the presentation by the Game Warden and informal talks with them.

So we say a final farewell and thanks to our friend and brother and expect he is now in heaven with family and friends. And I can imagine him with a lot of old Wardens talking about "old times" and a enjoying a "horn of corn".



Auburn Elks Lodge #1691

Wayne, a California DFG Warden and Elks Lodge member (Exalted Ruler in 1983-4) held the first course (6 hours) on July 12, 1975 - thus, starting the tradition of the Lodge funding the biannual courses including free lunches. From the beginning, Lodge members have assisted with course administrative tasks and the food preparation and service. Wayne was course leader thru 1985. Other Lodge HEI's have taken the reins since then and the course has grown in duration (now a Friday and Saturday course) and numbers of attendees.

Continued from page 14.

When he saw an opportunity to help, fill a void, or in some way give back, he jumped into action. He did this quietly and humbly, without seeking any measure of appreciation or accolades. He was fully satisfied by simply providing opportunity and resources to those interested in hunting and shooting sports.

In addition to the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Boy Scouts, Mike dedicated his time to the Hunter Education Instructor Association of Southern California, Quail and Upland Wildlife Federation, and other nonprofit hunting, conservation, and youth groups. Ten years ago, he was instrumental in establishing an annual weeklong hunter education and shooting sports resident camp for youth. He worked as the camp range master every year, and was a favorite among the campers.

To say he will be missed by these organizations and those who were privileged to know and work with him, and be mentored by him, is an understatement. Mike leaves a void that cannot be filled but we will do our best to honor Mike's memory and legacy by keeping his programs going strong and bringing shooting sports opportunities to young and old.

God bless you Mike, and thank you for enriching the lives of so many. You will be missed and never forgotten.

HEI Business Card Template

The template is available on the Hunter Education Program Instructor Resources webpage.

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/huntered/instructor-resources.aspx>

- Open the template in Microsoft Word.
- Input your name, phone number and email address.
- Print on Avery business card sheets (Avery Template 8371).

Your Name

Volunteer

Hunter Education Instructor

Phone (999) 999-9999

Your.email@gmail.com

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Hunter Education Program

Class schedule

www.wildlife.ca.gov/huntered/classes



This Point's For You

Why are you an HEI?

Everyone has their reasons – passing on the hunting heritage, firearms safety, giving back to their community. Regardless of your reasons, isn't it nice to be acknowledged and rewarded from time to time?

Would a chance to hunt pigs at the Tejon Ranch, a buck at Arrow Five Outfitters, or deer on Catalina Island, convince someone to become a HEI? How about an X Zone deer tag, a \$300 gift card at Sportsman's Warehouse, a Dana Point fishing trip, pheasants at Bird's Landing, or a getaway stay for two at an Inn in Monterey?

In July, the Hunter Education Instructor Incentive Program, awarded these opportunities.

Here's what it takes to eligible for these opportunities:

Instructors must maintain active status for at least three (3) consecutive years, inclusive of the year prior to the drawing. Instructors will earn an additional entry for every ten (10) years of active Service.

Active status consists of **completing in-service training requirements, teaching or assisting with at least one course every year**, and **on-time submission of annual income and expense records**. An instructor's eligibility status must be met by December 31st of each year to be eligible for the drawing for the following year.

Using the Hunter Education Instructor database (**Samaritan**) exclusively, all eligible instructors will be assigned a random number for the drawing. *If you do not have a number you won't be in the drawing.*

Meaning if you haven't registered with Samaritan you'd best sign up ASAP! Your Coordinator or another HEI familiar with the program can help you. Your contact info. needs to be accurate—email/mailling addresses and phone numbers. Winning but unreachable HEIs will never know they were rejected and another was name drawn instead...don't be "that" guy!

Another reason Samaritan is essential: all class hours must be logged into the system because Instructor Scantrons are going away. We know it pains some HEIs, but we must supply accurate and current data for the Federal grant program. Our goal is reduce your administrative workload and the computer makes it possible.



Finally, we need to help HEI's unable to attend the statewide training conference in Squaw Valley complete their 2015 training requirement. If you did not attend the training at Squaw Valley, your only option is the 2015

Correspondence Course. **There will be no Satellite Conference in any district.**

District and Satellite Conferences will return in 2016.

Contact your district coordinator if you need assistance or have questions.

As always, we appreciate everything you do to make the Hunter Ed Program what it is. 1000+ Instructors working towards a common goal and it is an honor to be part of Team Hunter Education.

Needs, questions or *constructive* gripes? We are just a phone call or e-mail away.

Have a great fall!

Robert, Kathy, Shawn, Fam, Bart, Pete, Alan, & Mike

Where's Ed?



HEI Bill Willard took his son and some friends from High School to visit Little Petroglyph Canyon, part of the Coso Rock Art National Historic Landmark, aboard the Naval Air Weapons Center, China Lake, CA



Assistant Chief Griffith enjoying a little time off in the backcountry - Garnet Lake, John Muir Trail.



HEI's Doug Barnhart and Loren Metzler on African safari.