

# TOWA

The Official Publication of the **Texas Outdoor Writers Association**

## 2011 EIC CALL FOR ENTRIES

### TOWA Excellence in Craft Contest Guidelines Provided for 2011 Entries

**E**xcellence in Craft Chairman Kendal Hemphill has released the following guidelines and submission form for entries in the annual contest that highlights the best works of our members during the past year.

Winners of the contest, which will be judged this year by the Florida Outdoor Writers Association in a reciprocal agreement with TOWA, will receive their awards and be honored at the Feb. 26, 2011, awards banquet in Lake Jackson.

Please note that there has been a streamlining of the entry categories in order to provide a better showcase for the best works of our members. The new guidelines have been approved by the board with the understanding that member comments and recommendations will be welcomed.

In addition to the changes in the guidelines, additional cash prizes will be offered for winners, with \$200 going to first place; \$50 to second place; and \$25 to third place. The cash awards are courtesy of Supporting Member Craig

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## CALENDAR

**June 27-July 3** – A Kids Outdoor Zone hunting camp for boys will be conducted in the Fowlerton area featuring South Texas hog and predator hunting. TOWA members interested in participating or assisting in the event may contact Board Member TJ Greaney at [tj@countrylinemagazine.com](mailto:tj@countrylinemagazine.com) for further information.

**July 11-16** – A Kids Outdoor Zone fishing camp for boys will be conducted at Lake Buchanan. TOWA members interested in participating or assisting in the event may contact Board Member TJ Greaney at [tj@countrylinemagazine.com](mailto:tj@countrylinemagazine.com) for further information.

**July 17** – The public portion of the 2010 Wildlife Forever State-Fish Art Expo will be held July 17, featuring fishing, instructional seminars and demonstrations and a display of all the state and national contest winners, at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens. Details are available at [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/tffc](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/tffc).

**July 18-22** – A Kids Outdoor Zone Pink Girls Fishing Camp will be conducted at Saddler. TOWA members interested in volunteering their time and services may contact TJ Greaney at [tj@countrylinemagazine.com](mailto:tj@countrylinemagazine.com) for further information.

**Aug. 11-14** – Annual Professional Outdoor Media Association conference in LaPorte, IN. Further information is available from Brandon Butler at (812) 322-9851 or at [bbutler@driftwoodoutdoors.com](mailto:bbutler@driftwoodoutdoors.com).



Accepting his first place certificate and award at the 2009 EIC contest, Kendal Hemphill, left, and second place winner Ralph Winingham are both focusing their efforts in coordination with the TOWA board to highlight the best works of our members at the 2011 awards banquet in Lake Jackson.

## TOWA OFFICERS, BOARD

### PRESIDENT

Bob Lusk (903) 564-5372  
[pondboss@texoma.net](mailto:pondboss@texoma.net)

### PRESIDENT-ELECT

David Sikes (361) 886-3616  
[sikesd@caller.com](mailto:sikesd@caller.com)

### TREASURER

Bill E. Mills (281) 448-5811  
[offtheroad.mills@earthlink.net](mailto:offtheroad.mills@earthlink.net)

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Larry J. LeBlanc (936) 856-6788  
904 W. Montgomery, Ste. 4  
Willis, TX 77378  
[towa@suddenlink.net](mailto:towa@suddenlink.net) cell (936) 524-0761  
fax (936) 856-6788

## BOARD MEMBERS

### BOARD CHAIRMAN

John Goodspeed (210) 250-3417  
[john@johngoodspeed.com](mailto:john@johngoodspeed.com)

T.J. Greaney (2013) (512) 789-3838  
[tj@countrylinemagazine.com](mailto:tj@countrylinemagazine.com)

Mike Price (2011) (281) 431-0085  
[bymikeprice@comcast.net](mailto:bymikeprice@comcast.net)

Kendal Hemphill (2013) (325) 347-6440  
[jeep@verizon.net](mailto:jeep@verizon.net)

Peggy York (2012) (210) 647-7053  
[peggy.york@sbcglobal.net](mailto:peggy.york@sbcglobal.net)

Steve LaMascus (2012) (830) 563-2656  
[slamascus@sbcglobal.net](mailto:slamascus@sbcglobal.net)

Susan Ebert (2013) (512) 431-2013  
[sebert@suddenlink.net](mailto:sebert@suddenlink.net)

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN

David Sikes (361) 886-3616  
[sikesd@caller.com](mailto:sikesd@caller.com)

### CONFERENCE PROGRAM CO-CHAIRS

T.J. Greaney (512) 789-3838  
[tj@countrylinemagazine.com](mailto:tj@countrylinemagazine.com)

David Sikes (361) 886-3616  
[sikesd@caller.com](mailto:sikesd@caller.com)

### SCHOLARSHIP

Judy Mills, Marriane Odom (281) 448-5811  
[offtheroad.mills@earthlink.net](mailto:offtheroad.mills@earthlink.net)

### MEMBERSHIP

David Sikes (361) 886-3616  
[sikesd@caller.com](mailto:sikesd@caller.com)

### SITE SELECTION

Jonette Childs (361) 729-0239  
[saltex@pyramid3.net](mailto:saltex@pyramid3.net)

### AUCTIONS

T.J. Greaney (512) 789-3838  
[tj@countrylinemagazine.com](mailto:tj@countrylinemagazine.com)

### EIC AWARDS

Kendal Hemphill (325) 347-6440  
[jeep@verizon.net](mailto:jeep@verizon.net)

### TOWA PHOTOGRAPHERS

Gerald Burleigh and David Redwine

### TOWA HISTORIAN

John Thompson

*TOWA News is published monthly for the Texas Outdoor Writers Association by Ralph Winingham. Layout by SusanEbertink, sebert@austin.rr.com. Contributors are urged to submit material by the 15th of each month. For advertising information, contact Ralph Winingham at (210) 764-2450 or [rwiningham@att.net](mailto:rwiningham@att.net). TOWA News is emailed to members and mailed first class from San Antonio.*

*TOWA was formed in 1958 as a professional/social organization for those who communicate about hunting, fishing and other outdoor pursuits, as well as those in business and industry connected with the outdoors.*



The TOWA Newsletter is proudly sponsored by Gulf States Toyota. For information, go to [www.buyatoyota.com](http://www.buyatoyota.com).



## 2011 EIC CALL FOR ENTRIES

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Eppling of Chevrolet.

Members submitting entries are being asked to make sure that their forms are taped to the classless side of envelopes and that in most categories, two copies should be included.

Feel free to contact Hemphill at (325) 347-6440 or by email at [jeep@verizon.net](mailto:jeep@verizon.net) if you have any questions or recommendations about the contest and the new guidelines.

1. Entries must be postmarked by Dec. 1, 2010. Entries postmarked after that date will be returned unopened.
2. Each member is limited to no more than two entries per category. The same entry may be submitted in more than one category. The Over 25,000 circulation and Under 25,000 circulation division has been eliminated in all categories except for Outdoor Publications. See each category for details.
3. Entries must have been published, distributed or broadcast in Texas between Oct. 15, 2009, and Nov. 15, 2010.
4. Each entry must be accompanied by an official 2011 TOWA EIC entry form. Legible photocopies of the 2011 form are acceptable. Forms must be taped to the front side of the envelope.
5. EIC officials will take measures to ensure that all entries are available to be picked up at the conference, but will not be responsible for loss. Those entries not picked up at the conference will be destroyed.
6. Judges will be knowledgeable in the field they are asked to judge; as professionals, there will be no reason to delete bylines or names.
7. The EIC chairman will be the sole judge of any dispute or question concerning the competition.
8. Winners will be announced at the annual conference. All judges' decisions are final.
9. Each entry must be submitted in a separate manila envelope. Two copies (one original and one photocopy is acceptable) of each entry in the writing categories must be submitted with one completed copy of the entry form. Send tear sheets, not complete publications. Note about Internet work: If an article has not been published and paid for, or used as a paid-for image in an Internet publication, it does not qualify. If work appeared on an Internet site, a printout of the web page will suffice as a tear sheet.

Both copies of the printed material will be submitted in a clasp envelope, with the entry form taped to the front of the envelope. Clearly identify the category of each entry.

Photos, books, tapes, DVDs and CDs should also be placed in a clasp envelope with the entry form taped to the clasp less side of the envelope. Identify each entry so that it may be identified if it is separated from the form.

Only one copy of photography, radio and video entries is required. Photos should not be mounted. Photography entries must have a tear sheet attached showing the photo in print. Note about Internet work: If a photograph has not been published and paid for as a magazine image, or used as a paid-for image in an Internet publication, it does not qualify. The same qualification is true of illustrations. If work appeared on an Internet site, a printout of the web page will suffice as a tear sheet.

Send a \$10 entry fee for each individual submission. Make all checks or money orders payable to TOWA. Do not send cash. You can include the fee for all entries on one check. If a check is not included with your entry package, the package will be returned to you marked, "Not valid for judging."

Cash Awards: A \$200 check will be awarded to first place winners in all categories; a \$50 check will be awarded to the second place winner; and a \$25 check will be awarded to the third place winner. Honorable mention recipients will continue to receive a certificate of their achievement.

Category Photos: Attach clipping or tear sheet showing photo in print. The distinction between color and black & white photos has been eliminated. Photos should not be mounted and cannot be more than 11x14 inches in total size. Tape a second copy of the entry form to the back of the photo. Entries should be mailed in a manila clasp envelope with entry form taped to clasp less side.

## 2011 Excellence in Craft Categories and Requirements

**Category 1) Outdoor Photography, People** - Photos with an outdoor-related theme. Members are allowed to enter two photos in each category. Include tear sheet or web printout and one print. A print of each photo is required for judging. No slides will be accepted.

**Category 2) Outdoor Photography, Wildlife/Nature** - Photos with an outdoor-related theme. Members are allowed to enter two photos in each category. Include tear sheet or web printout and one print. A print of each photo is required for judging. No slides will be accepted.

**Category 3) Outdoor Photography, Open** - Photos on any outdoor-related subject. Members are allowed to enter two photos in each category. Include tear sheet or web printout and one print. A print of each photo is required for judging. No slides will be accepted.

**Category 4) Outdoor Radio** - Presentations and programs with an outdoor theme. Entries should be on cassette tape or CD and include no more than two programs. Date of broadcast will be certified on the entry form by station manager. Include two cassette tapes or CD copies of the program in a clasp envelope. Tape entry form to clasp less side of the envelope. Identify contest category on tape case in the event the tape becomes separated from entry envelope.

**Category 5) Outdoor Television/Video** - Presentations and programs with an outdoor theme. Entries can be instructional videos, commercial or non-commercial television programs, video news segments, for-profit productions, non-profit, agency, etc. Entering member's participation must be provided on entry form i.e., producer, narrator, camera operator, etc. Also, proof of distribution or airing must be certified on entry form by station manager for TV and producer for video. Include two VHS tapes or DVDs of the program in a clasp envelope. Tape entry form to clasp less side of the envelope. Identify contest category on tape case in the event the tape becomes separated from entry envelope.

**Category 6) Outdoor Illustration/Graphic** - Original artwork with an outdoor-related theme. Artwork must have been published and be the sole work of the member. Include tear sheet showing publication or printout of web page showing art. IF SENDING ORIGINAL ART, mount on stock of appropriate size. Attach entry form to back of mounting stock.

**Category 7) Outdoor Publication (Newspaper or Magazine) Under 25,000** - Publications with an outdoor-related theme. TWO copies of the entire, original publication are to be included in entry packet. The TOWA member submitting the entry must be responsible for overall production of the publication - editor, publisher, owner, etc. Role of the TOWA member must be included on the entry form. Place materials in a manila envelope of appropriate size and tape entry form

to clasp less side of envelope.

**Category 8) Outdoor Publication (Newspaper or Magazine) Over 25,000** - Publications with an outdoor-related theme. TWO copies of the entire, original publication are to be included in entry packet. The TOWA member submitting the entry must be responsible for overall production of the publication - editor, publisher, owner, etc. Role of the TOWA member must be included on the entry form. Place materials in a manila envelope of appropriate size and tape entry form to clasp less side of envelope.

**Category 9) Outdoor Fiction/Humor** - Fiction or Humor article with an outdoor-related theme. Can be from newspaper, magazine, Internet publication or newsletter. For individual articles/columns, submit only tear sheets. Do not send the entire publication. Entries should include two copies (one original tear sheet and one photocopy is acceptable). The copies should be submitted in one clasp-type manila envelope with the entry form affixed to the front of the envelope.

**Category 10) Outdoor Column/Opinion Writing** - Bylined column on an outdoor-related topic. Can be from newspaper, magazine, Internet publication or newsletter. For individual articles/columns, submit only tear sheets. Do not send the entire publication. Entries should include two copies (one original tear sheet and one photocopy is acceptable). The copies should be submitted in one clasp-type manila envelope with the entry form affixed to the front of the envelope.

**Category 11) Newspaper Feature** - Feature treatment of an outdoor-related topic in a newspaper of general circulation. Sidebars and graphics can be included. Submit one full-page tear sheet including byline, date and publication. Do not send the entire publication. Entries should include two copies (one original tear sheet and one photocopy is acceptable). The copies should be submitted in one clasp-type manila envelope with the entry form affixed to the front of the envelope.

**Category 12) Magazine Feature** - Feature treatment of an outdoor-related topic in a magazine of general circulation. Sidebars and graphics can be included. For individual articles/columns, submit only tear sheets. Do not send the entire publication. Entries should include two copies (one original tear sheet and one photocopy is acceptable). The copies should be submitted in one clasp-type manila envelope with the entry form affixed to the front of the envelope.

**Category 13) Outdoor Feature, Open** - Feature treatment of an outdoor-related topic in any publication of general circulation or other outdoor media venue. Sidebars and graphics can be

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## Anglers & Biologists to Meet at Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center

ATHENS — TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT Inland Fisheries biologists will host a meeting with anglers interested in learning more about fisheries management in Texas at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens on August 7-8.

The meeting will include an angler-biologist fishing tournament on Lake Athens Aug. 8 that will feature demonstrations of fish-friendly tournament weigh-in procedures and fish care.

BASS Elite Series professional angler Alton Jones of Waco will address the group at the Aug. 7 evening dinner.

“Fisheries biologists and anglers share many common interests and concerns,” said Craig Bonds, TPWD’s Inland Fisheries regional director for East Texas. “We all want to make fishing the best it can be in Texas, and anglers have played, and will continue to play, a significant role in improving fish habitat in Texas reservoirs, reporting and removing invasive species and implementing best fish-care practices designed to conserve the resource and improve fishing.”

The meeting’s goals are to provide a forum for anglers and fisheries biologists to interact and communicate with each other, provide examples of previous collaborative fish habitat improvement projects and opportunities for future work, and communicate the latest information on proper fish care.

Sessions on Aug. 7 will feature examples of angler-biologist collaboration on a variety of projects from fish habitat enhancement on Lake Holbrook to fish attractor projects in Central Texas reservoirs to giant salvinia removal on Sam Rayburn Reservoir.

Afternoon sessions will detail examples of possible future projects as well as information on the Toyota ShareLunker program, treating largemouth bass for overinflated swim bladders and methods for keeping bass healthy after being caught.

The Aug. 8 fishing tournament on Lake Athens, adjacent to the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center, will allow biologists and anglers to fish competitively with and against each other, but the main purpose will be to demonstrate how to handle and release fish in order to assure maximum survival of tournament-caught bass.

Preregistration is required since lunch and dinner will be furnished on Aug. 7. To obtain a meeting schedule and registration form, contact Jimmie Green at the TPWD Inland Fisheries office in Tyler at (903) 566-1615, ext. 200 or [jimmie.green@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:jimmie.green@tpwd.state.tx.us). Additional information is available at [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/visitorcenters/tffc/calendar](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/visitorcenters/tffc/calendar).

The media contact is Bonds at (903) 566-1615, ext. 202 or [craig.bonds@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:craig.bonds@tpwd.state.tx.us).

## 2011 EIC CALL FOR ENTRIES

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included. For individual articles/columns, submit only tear sheets. Do not send the entire publication. Entries should include two copies (one original tear sheet and one photocopy is acceptable). The copies should be submitted in one clasp-type manila envelope with the entry form affixed to the front of the envelope. Radio and television/video entries must follow guidelines in Categories 4 and 5.

**Category 14) Outdoor News Reporting** - Reporting of an outdoor-related issue. This is a category for articles generally considered to be objective reporting of facts and issues surrounding a topic or topics, and is to be judged by accepted standards of journalism. A series of articles on a single issue may be considered a single entry. Sidebars and graphics may be included. For individual articles/columns, submit only tear sheets. Do not send the entire publication. Entries should include two copies (one original tear sheet and one photocopy is acceptable). The copies should be submitted in one clasp-type manila envelope with the entry form affixed to the front of the envelope.

**Category 15) Outdoor Book** - Published book on an outdoor-related subject. Book can be fiction or non-fiction. Book must have been published during contest year. One copy of the book should be included in the entry packet, with entry forms attached to the books. Book will be returned at conference.

**Category 16) Outdoor Web Page** - Web site with an outdoor-related theme. Sites should be judged on their usefulness to the public and/or outdoor communicators. Entrants should include web address on entry form, and contest chairman will pass these addresses along to judges. The entry form should be affixed to the front of the envelope.

**Category 17) Special Projects/Conservation** - An article or broadcast that takes a conservation stand on a specific outdoor-related issue or educates and informs the public about conservation efforts. With videotape and radio entries, the entry must be the first and preferably only thing on the tape. A statement of the writer’s/broadcaster’s purpose or background on the issue is encouraged on the entry form, as this could assist judges in gauging impact of the work. For individual articles/columns, submit only tear sheets. Do not send the entire publication. Entries should include two copies (one original tear sheet and one photocopy is acceptable). For video entries, submit two video tapes or DVDs. For radio entries, submit two cassettes or CDs. The copies should be submitted in one clasp-type manila envelope with the entry form affixed to the front of the envelope.

**Category 18) Original Internet Story/Blog** – An article with an outdoor-related topic for which payment was received. Must be an original story and not a reprint. Entries should include two copies of the web page. The copies should be submitted in one clasp-type manila envelope with the entry form affixed to the front of the envelope.

**TOWA Outstanding Outdoor Achievement Award (Trophy Only)** – Recognition of outstanding contribution or performance of a supporting member in assisting TOWA in achieving its efforts to increase public awareness, understanding and appreciation of our outdoor heritage in the use and enjoyment of our natural resources. Nominees and a short letter of recommendation may be submitted to any member of the board.

# TEXAS OUTDOOR WRITERS ASSOCIATION 2011 EXCELLENCE IN CRAFT ENTRY FORM

*The Excellence In Craft Contest is an opportunity for active members to receive special recognition for journalism excellence. Submission must be outdoor oriented and must have been published, broadcast or distributed in Texas. Associate members are not eligible.  
The TOWA Excellence in Craft Contest is proudly sponsored by Chevrolet.*

CATEGORY NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

CATEGORY \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name Of Publication and Circulation: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Publication: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Role In Production (Video/TV Radio ONLY): \_\_\_\_\_

Distribution/Further Information: \_\_\_\_\_

Certified Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: (Purpose statement, technical data, etc. that might assist the judges in evaluating your entry):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Each entry in any category will require an entry fee of \$10.** You may write one check for the total amount of all categories entered. All entries must be postmarked no later than Dec.1, 2010. Any entry received after this date will be returned unopened.

Send package and check (made out to TOWA) to: **Kendal Hemphill  
TOWA EIC Chairman  
P.O. Box 1600  
Mason, TX 76856**

# *No Daughter Left Behind*

By Chester Moore

I'll never forget the first time I held my daughter. My wife Lisa and I had been through a long and often stressful adoption process, having quite literally traveled across the world to get this little girl who we very properly named Faith.

Emotions ran high as a dream came true and this beautiful child became part of our family. Coming from a special needs orphanage she was diagnosed with cerebral palsy and was not supposed to be able to walk or talk. One medical report labeled her as "slightly retarded" and had we not taken her in, Faith's prospects would have been grim.

I am happy to report the Lord gave us a different diagnosis and our little angel is walking and talking and is already the smartest member of our family according to my grandmother.

I write this not to document our adoption but to celebrate the opportunities all children, male and female have in the United States of America. And as a life-long lover of hunting and fishing, I think it is extremely important to not leave our daughters at behind as we venture in the wild of Texas and beyond.

My father, Chester Moore, Sr. is the one who introduced me to the outdoors but my mother Gloria tagged along on many trips and fully supported my passion for all thing fish and hunt. My aunt

Brenda Moore hunted with us on many occasions and was there most of the time my uncle Jackie went fishing. To me, a woman participating in the outdoors was just a matter of fact.

During our adoption process the subject often came up in conversation and several acquaintances were surprised I would want to adopt a girl.

"Don't you want a boy to carry on your outdoors tradition?" one of them asked.

"I figured you would want a son to fish and hunt with you," another said.

It would be easy to get offended at such statements but I chose to take the high road and realize some people meant no harm while others are just clueless.

There is still a small portion of the outdoors community who think this is some sort of men's club but the vast majority welcome women with open arms and enjoy spending time in the field with their wives and girlfriends.

As parents it is important for us to spend quality time with our children, forging common interests and there is no better place to do this than in a boat or in the woods. Your daughter might be too young to shoot a gun but she can probably tag along looking for shed antlers, riding the four-wheeler or catching bluegills on the family pond. Beyond all things children want our attention and by venturing outside and escaping the television and com-

puter you have a golden opportunity to be parent and child with no interruptions.

That is a precious commodity these days.

Imagine your child catching their first croaker or seeing their first red-tailed hawk or whitetail buck. Those are memories that will last a lifetime for both you and them and as the years pass will serve to draw you closer.

You see I believe Faith might just end up being a future duck calling champion, fly fishing expert, dedicated deer hunter or maybe even a flounder crusader like her father. Then again, her interests could run more toward dance, music or cheer-leading and that is fine by me. Lisa and I will be there to support her no matter if she's wearing camo or a tutu.

The point is, she will have the same opportunities as would a boy to thrive in the great outdoors and while she may not end up a hardcore hunter or angler, I have a feeling she will at least love the great outdoors in some fashion.

Most children do if they are given the opportunity and there is no way I will leave Faith behind just because she is a girl.

She might choose to sleep in on cold mornings like her mother often does but the opportunity will always be there whether I am slugging it out with specks in the surf, hunkered down in a duck blind or simply taking a walk in the woods.

## Top Column Recognized by TOWA 2010 EIC Judges

In our continuing effort to display the best works of our members, as noted by the judges in the annual TOWA Excellence in Craft contest, the following is a republishing of the first place winner in Category 11: Outdoor Column.

The judges had these comments about Chester Moore's "No Daughter Left Behind," published in the May 2009 edition of *Texas Fish & Game Magazine*:

"Chester Moore is an excellent and popular columnist. This column, however, tears at one's heart. No child – son or daughter – should suffer the consequences of not having the privilege of being properly introduced to the great outdoors. Moore's daughter, it is evident, will enjoy the fruits of nature, just like any little girl or boy should, and then be allowed to make her own decision as to how she will partake with nature in adulthood. Here's betting she will be one with nature. Nice work, Mr. Moore, really nice work."

We congratulate him on the award and encourage all our members to gather up their best works of the past year and enter them in this year's EIC competition.

## NSSF GRANTS DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE COLLEGIATE TARGET SHOOTING PROGRAMS

**NEWTOWN, CT** – On college campuses across the country, men and women are taking up target shooting in increasing numbers. From Harvard to Jacksonville University to the University of Colorado, the shooting sports are “in” as students discover how they can enjoy these safe, fun activities with their friends.

To encourage this growth trend, the National Shooting Sports Foundation, trade association for the firearms and shooting sports industry, last year began providing grants through its Collegiate Shooting Sports Initiative to support the development of varsity teams for those students interested in competition and create clubs for students interested in the recreational and social benefits of target shooting.

“After just one round of grants, NSSF has seen participation in target shooting grow significantly at colleges,” said Zach Snow, NSSF’s senior shooting sports coordinator. “We’re just getting started, so the sky’s the limit. All it takes to form a team or club is for a dedicated coach, faculty member or student to step up and lead the way. Once that happens, participants follow.”

Here’s how NSSF’s Collegiate Shooting Sports Initiative is making target shooting a common activity on campus:

Trinity College in San Antonio and Schreiner University in Kerrville promoted introductory seminars where new shooters learned how to safely handle firearms and were introduced to shooting games for rifle, shotgun and handgun.

Jacksonville University began a sporting clays, skeet and trap club program thanks to the work of master-level instructor David Dobson, who will join the JU faculty this fall to teach a class on the theory of wingshooting and continue as the program’s head coach. Dobson’s work at Jacksonville inspired one of his shooting students to launch a clay shooting club at the University of North Florida, a team Dobson also coaches. “NSSF’s grant program has energized both coaches and student participants to promote collegiate target shooting. In NSSF, we now have a resource to turn to for funding and non-monetary assistance, particularly in the early stages of creating a program when support is most needed. NSSF’s support will be significant to our success moving forward,” Dobson said.

The first New England Collegiate Clay Target Championships, supported by NSSF, featured teams from Harvard, Harvard Law, Yale, Brown, Tufts and the University of Vermont.

Last month’s ACUI College Clay Target Championships held at the National Shooting Complex in San Antonio in April were the largest ever with 40 teams participating, some new or expanded programs thanks to grants from NSSF.

The University of Arkansas - Fort Smith, assisted by a grant from NSSF, finished as the fourth-ranked air rifle team in the country at the inaugural NRA Intercollegiate Rifle Club Championship at Purdue University.

“We hope these success stories will give interested students or prospective coaches the incentive to start a varsity team or a club shooting group at their college or university,” said Sarah Morton, NSSF’s shooting development coordinator. “We’re here to assist them in getting the activity established.”

NSSF developed the Collegiate Shooting Sports Initiative to provide a “next step” for hundreds of thousands of students already participating in youth programs such as the Scholastic Clay Target Program, Boy Scouts of America and 4-H.

“When these students go off to college, many will want to continue participating in the shooting sports -- just like athletes in other sports want to,” said Snow. “We have a great feeder system in place, but opportunities to shoot at the college level have been limited. With the Collegiate Shooting Sports Initiative grant program, we’re expanding opportunities for experienced shooters and newcomers.”

Goals of the Collegiate Shooting Sports Initiative include: raising awareness of shooting sports and firearm safety at the college level; providing financial and non-financial assistance in developing college shooting clubs or teams; serve as a resource for colleges and students interested in learning more about the shooting sports; and help grow the shooting sports at the college level.

Details on how to apply for a Collegiate Shooting Sports Initiative grant from NSSF are available at <http://nssf.org/college>. All grant applications must be received by NSSF no later than 5 p.m. on Sept. 17.

More information about the NSSF is available by contacting Bill Brassard at (203) 426-1320 or [bbrassard@nssf.org](mailto:bbrassard@nssf.org).



Last month’s ACUI College Clay Target Championships held at the National Shooting Complex in San Antonio in April were the largest ever with 40 teams participating.

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## **TEXAS AGRILIFE SETS INAUGURAL TEXAS WILDLIFE SHORT COURSE FOR AUG. 20-21**

**THE TEXAS AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE WILL HOLD ITS FIRST EVER TEXAS Wildlife Short Course on Aug. 20-21 at the Brazos County Exposition Center, followed by the Texas Wildlife Association's Regions 5, 6, 7 (Post Oak Savannah, Pineywoods, and Coastal Prairies) annual Texas Big Game Awards Sportsmen's Celebration.**

The Texas Wildlife Short Course is designed for both new and seasoned sportsmen alike, providing up-to-date information on various aspects of wildlife management. Educational topics covering white-tailed deer management; the use of infrared cameras for scouting; and what forages to plant for deer and doves will be discussed. Feral hog and farm pond management, and marketing wildlife will also be covered. A special session will be devoted to managing wildlife for the 1-d-1 Open Space Lands tax valuation. Three continuing education units can be obtained.

Admission to The Texas Wildlife Short Course is \$75 and included with the price will be a lunch on Aug. 20, vendor displays and a chance to see some of the best deer taken during last year's hunting season. There will also be exclusive activities designed for children.

The Texas Big Game Awards Sportsmen's Celebration will begin Aug. 21 with a luncheon at 1 p.m., followed by the awards presentation.

To register for the Texas Wildlife Short Course as an attendee, sponsor or exhibitor, go to Extension Conference Services' web-site at <https://agrilifeevents.tamu.edu>. For more information regarding this inaugural event, please contact Kristi Smith at (979) 845-7471 or email her at [kjsmith@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:kjsmith@ag.tamu.edu). For more information on the Texas Big Game Awards Sportsmen's Celebration visit [www.TexasBigGameAwards.com](http://www.TexasBigGameAwards.com).

## ***TOMPKINS WINS FIRST PLACE AWARD IN APSE SOUTHWEST REGION CONTEST***

### **TOWA PAST PRESIDENT SHANNON**

Tompkins, outdoor writer for the *Houston Chronicle*, and Matt Tresaugue, the *Chronicle's* environmental writer, recently won a first place award in the Southwest Region of the Associated Press Sports Editors annual contest.

They were recognized in the Enterprise/Projects Category for newspapers with a circulation of 125,000 and above for their collaborative series on Galveston Bay a year after Hurricane Ike struck the area.

Tompkins and Tresaugue will receive their award at the APSE Southwest Region annual meeting to be held July 16-17 in San Antonio. In addition to the award ceremony, the meeting will feature seminars on craft improvement. The deadline for registration is June 30. For details, contact San Antonio|Express-News Sports Editor Brad Lehman at [BLEhman@express-news.net](mailto:BLEhman@express-news.net).



Standing in front of one of the Chevrolet test drive vehicles brought to the 2010 TOWA conference in Kerrville by Supporting Member Craig Eppling, the winning TOWA Challenge team of Kerrville 4H youngsters receives a well-earned tribute by Ralph Winingham, captain of the losing TOWA team. Chevrolet has generously continued to provide \$5,000 for the EIC contest winners in the 2011 competition.