

# TOWA

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

**TOWA 2012 ANNUAL CONFERENCE UPDATE**

## *2012 TOWA Conference to Feature Astronaut, Author & Informative Workshops*

From the welcome reception in Gruene to entertaining speakers and informative sessions on improving communication skills, the TOWA conference in New Braunfels is shaping up to be a quality event.

Members planning to attend the conference from Feb. 23-25 might want to check out the agenda on Page 5 to help set up their schedule for the conference that will be conducted at the Courtyard by Marriott River Village.

Maps and information on activity locations will be available at registration table during registration hours or by calling TJ Greaney at (512) 789-3838 or David Sikes at (361) 813-3474. Members with suggestions or recommendations about the conference are being asked to contact Greaney or Sikes.



Retired Brig. Gen. Charlie Duke (in blue shirt) shares a few tales of his experiences as the 10th and youngest astronaut to walk on the moon with members of the San Antonio Sportsman Club during a dove season opening day hunt near San Antonio. Duke will be the featured speaker at the TOWA conference opening day breakfast Feb. 24 at the New Braunfels' Courtyard by Marriott River Village. Photo by Ralph Winingham

### **NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR TEXAS FRESHWATER FISHING HALL OF FAME**

**ATHENS** – Individuals or organizations that have made a lasting contribution to freshwater fishing in Texas may be nominated through Feb. 29 for induction into the Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame.

Nominations may be made in the categories of industry, angler or media. The nominee must be a Texan or Texas organization. Individuals may be either living or deceased. One nominee will be chosen by an independent selection committee and formally inducted during the annual Hall of Fame banquet at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens.

Prior inductees include Floyd Mabry, Jackie Hewlett, R.D. Hull, Bob Kemp, Nick Crème, Charlie Inman, Sugar Ferris, Leonard Ranne, Earl Golding, Kathy Magers, the Sabine River Authority, Skeeter Boats, Michael ("Shorty") Powers, Ray Murski, Albert S. Bradley, Richard M. Hart, William B. ("Doc") Shelton, Charlie Pack, Paul Hinton, Edward Bond, Philip Durocher and David Campbell.

Brief biographies and videos of prior inductees along with nomination forms and instructions can be found on the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center web site at <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/visitorcenters/tffc/visit/virtualtour/halloffame/>.

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



# Trout Unlimited Offers Shout Out to TOWA New Braunfels Conference Attendees

The Guadalupe River chapter of Trout Unlimited will be hosting their annual Troutfest Banquet and EXPO at Rio Raft Resort 14130 River Road in New Braunfels during the same weekend as the TOWA conference and would like to invite attendees to visit their activities.

The GRTU events on Feb. 25 and 26 are free and open to the public, while tickets for the Feb. 24 banquet, dinner and auction are \$50 per person. Exhibitors will have many sporting items on display and there will be three celebrity guests speaking at scheduled times on Feb. 25 and 26.

During the EXPO this year, the group has sponsored booths for authors to sign up and display their books and material; meet the public; or whatever authors do. There are one hour and two hour sessions available to register and sell books. This space is provided free of charge and each author retains 100 percent of their proceeds.

Further information is available from Phil Dopson at (512) 413-3301 or [phil@phildopson.com](mailto:phil@phildopson.com).



Information and gear to help anglers such as these two fly fishermen on the Guadalupe River test their skills against rainbow trout will be available to TOWA conference attendees who can break away for a little quality time with the Guadalupe River chapter of Trout Unlimited at the Rio Raft Resort. Photo by Ralph Winingham

## CALENDAR

**Feb. 2** – Deadline for receiving special TOWA rate of \$89 per night (plus tax) at the TOWA annual conference. Contact Mary Joyce, sales manager, at (800) 769-8380 or [mary.joyce@marriott.com](mailto:mary.joyce@marriott.com) for reservations.

**Feb. 23-26, 2012** – Annual TOWA Conference with the Courtyard by Marriott River Village at 750 Interstate 35 North in New Braunfels as the host hotel. Conference information available from Executive Director Larry LeBlanc at (936) 524-0761 or by email at [towa@suddenlink.net](mailto:towa@suddenlink.net).

# *TOWA 2012 Dues & Conference*

*Feb. 23, 24 & 25, 2012*

*Courtyard by Marriott River Village, 750 IH I35 North, New Braunfels, Texas 78130*

Hotel rate & contact information: \$89.00 + taxes, per day. Suites are available, prices upon request. Contact Mary Joyce, sales manager, at (800) 769-8380 or mary.joyce@marriott.com for reservations. The website is <http://cwp.marriott.com/satnb/texasoutdoorwritersassociation.com>.  
The deadline for the TOWA rate is Feb. 2, 2012.

**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION:**

Member: \$125.00

Spouse: \$50.00

**(Guests other than a spouse will be required to pay for any meals they eat at the conference).**

**TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE YOUR MEMBERSHIP MUST BE CURRENT & IN GOOD STANDING.  
TO PARTICIPATE IN NEXT YEARS EIC COMPETITION YOUR 2012 DUES MUST BE PAID BY MARCH 1, 2011.**

## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL & 54TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

PLEASE PRINT

\_\_\_\_\_ Active \$75 \_\_\_\_\_ Student \$10 \_\_\_\_\_ Supporting \$150 \_\_\_\_\_ Associate \$100

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Or Supporting Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Current Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

### **REGISTRATION**

Cost x Number of Persons = Fee

Membership fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (from above) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee by February 11th: \$125.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee after February 11th: \$150.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse \$50.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Exhibitor fee \$75.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

***For payment information, please turn the page.***

# *TOWA 2012 Dues & Conference*

*Feb. 23, 24 & 25, 2012*

*Courtyard by Marriott River Village, 750 IH I35 North, New Braunfels, Texas 78130*

## **PAYMENT INFORMATION**

**CHECK:** If paying by check, please make check payable to TOWA. Enter check number here: \_\_\_\_\_

**CREDIT CARD:** If paying by credit card, enter Mastercard, VISA, Discover, Credit or Debit Card Information Below

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Customer Name \_\_\_\_\_

### **BILLING INFORMATION:**

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

## **MEAL INFORMATION FOR THE 53RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

MEAL INFORMATION: ( # of persons )

Thursday Reception (free) \_\_\_\_\_

Friday Breakfast \_\_\_\_\_

Friday Lunch \_\_\_\_\_

Friday Dinner \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Breakfast \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Lunch \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Awards Banquet \_\_\_\_\_

*Guest meal fee for other than a spouse is \$15.00 for breakfast, \$20.00 for lunch and \$30.00 per dinner for each additional person, payable at registration.*

**TOTAL MEALS** \_\_\_\_\_

## **RETURN THIS FORM ALONG WITH YOUR PAYMENT TO:**

**Executive Director Larry J. LeBlanc, 904 W. Montgomery, Ste. 4, #363, Willis, TX 77378.**  
For more information, Office (936) 445-9348 (Cell) (936) 524-0761 or email [towa@suddenlink.net](mailto:towa@suddenlink.net).

# Agenda Released for TOWA "Inside the Outdoors 2012" Conference

Conference Co-Chairman TJ Greaney and David Sikes have developed the following agenda for the TOWA conference in New Braunfels with an objective to "broaden the knowledge and opportunities of our members and to introduce them to ideas and revenue streams they may have overlooked."

## Feb. 23

- 1-5 p.m. – Registration Open
- 1 p.m. – TOWA Board Meeting.
- 5 -7 p.m. – Welcome reception "Night in Old Gruene" sponsored by the New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce and the Merchants of Gruene – headquartered at Gruene Outfitters.

## Feb. 24

- 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Registration Open
- 7:30-8 a.m. – New Member Orientation
- 8-9 a.m. – Breakfast sponsored by The National Shooting Sports Foundation with Guest Speaker Retired Brig. Gen. Charlie Duke, the youngest and 10th astronaut to walk on the moon. Duke served as lunar module pilot of Apollo 16 in 1972, when he and John W. Young made the first landing in the rough Descartes Highlands region and conducted three extravehicular activities. He and his wife Dorothy live in New Braunfels, have two sons and nine grandchildren. Duke is an Eagle Scout and recipient of the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award from the Boy Scouts of America and is a passionate outdoorsman.
- 9:15-10:15 a.m. – Chevy & Toyota vehicle intro – front of hotel.
- 10:30 a.m. to noon – Roundtable with TPWD staff.
- 12:15-1:15pm: Lunch sponsored by the Dallas Safari Club.
- 1:30-3 p.m. – Break Out –waterside at hotel. This is where supporting members get to be introduced to the writers and plan story lines and ideas for future articles and events, a must for all supporting members and writers. Vendors and supporting members are encouraged to have their wares on display for writers. Just outside the hotel in the courtyard and pavilion areas.
- 2 p.m. – Casting Contest with prizes and a trophy for the best lure plunker of 2012.
- 1:15-2:15 p.m. – Visit to the New Braunfels Coleman plant. This is a limited attendance for 25 writers only. The tour is an opportunity to see behind the scenes of this outdoor gear industry giant. Registration required at registration table.
- 3-3:30 p.m. – Supporting Members meeting, conducted by Supporting Member Liaison Chad Gay.
- 3-5 p.m. – See New Braunfels. Tour and shop the area. See your registration bag for maps, tips, coupons and more.
- 6:30 p.m. – Dinner with featured speaker Walter Yates, Author Walter "Yukon" Yates, - Born in 1924, Walter Yates adventures led him all over the world. His love of the wilderness drew him to the North Country where he built a log cabin 100 miles from the nearest neighbor and lived off the land for an entire year in isolation while filming the documentary "Breakaway." Tragedy nearly ended his adventurous life when his helicopter crashed and burned in British Columbia. Badly injured, he was rescued 14 days later by the Royal Canadian Air Force. After his recovery, Walter spent several years gold mining in the Yukon Territory. Most notable is the season he spent exploring ghost towns and deserted gold mines with his helicopter. As a real estate developer he established many

residential neighborhoods, including the fly-in subdivision called Breakaway Park in Cedar Park where residents keep their planes in their backyards. He lives there today with his wife Tracy.

7:30 p.m. – Dirty Dozen Live Auctions.

Hospitality Suite - Join members in the TOWA Hospitality Suite after all regular conference activities each night for conversation and the fellowship.

## Feb. 25

- 8 a.m.-2 p.m. – Registration Open.
- 8-9 a.m. – Breakfast with presentation by the Guadalupe Chapter of Trout Unlimited discussing their winter rainbow stocking program and efforts to keep the Guadalupe River flowing.
- 9:15-10:15 a.m. – "Organizing and Making Money with Your Images" by Russell Graves, longtime member of TOWA, who will share his knowledge on organizing images and how to make money with them. Graves licenses thousands of images for a profit and has tens of thousands of images on his web site.
- 10:30-11:30 a.m. – "Getting Published." A panel discussion on what publishers are looking for. Come meet editors and publishers, hear what they want and don't want; and learn about changes in the industry. Make sure you come away with contact information so you can pitch stories later.
- Editors include: Curtis Niedermier, managing editor of FLW Bass Fishing and FLW Walleye Fishing magazines; Carol Moczygomba, executive editor, Texas Co-op Power and Texas Electric Cooperatives magazine; and Michael Middleton, publisher, Texas Bowhunter's Journal. Noon-1 p.m. – Lunch sponsored by Clyde Hopkins & Toyota with featured speaker Joe Nick Patoski who is in his fourth decade writing about Texas and Texans. He has authored and co-authored biographies on Selena, Stevie Ray Vaughan and Willie Nelson and his newest book on the Dallas Cowboys. He also authored the coffee table books "Texas Mountains," "Texas Coast" and "Big Bend National Park." He writes for The New York Times, Texas Monthly and Texas Parks & Wildlife magazine, among others.
- 1:15-2:15 p.m. – Panel Discussion on Branding Yourself and Making Money. This is an open discussion on how we as outdoor writers can make money using our brand, our name and other ideas. It is a brainstorming session on getting speaking engagements, new writing ideas, teaching, hosting events etc. How to take advantage of every opportunity.
- 2:30-3:30 p.m. – General Membership Meeting and Election of Officers.
- 5:30 p.m. – Mixer & Wine Tasting sponsored by Katy Jane Botham, executive director of Texas Hill Country Wineries. The area is the No. 1 Hidden Gem Wine Region in the state and the No. 2 Fastest Growing Wine Destination in the nation.
- 6:30 p.m. – Awards Dinner sponsored by Chevrolet and Silent Auction Hospitality Suite - Join members in the TOWA Hospitality Suite after all regular conference activities each night for conversation. Saturday night it is the infamous "Liars Contest", hosted by Kendal Hemphill.

## Feb. 26

- 8 a.m. – Prayer Meeting conducted by Jim Darnell. breakfast treats, coffee
- 10 a.m. – TOWA Board Meeting and Installation of New Officers

## HI MOUNTAIN SEASONINGS UNVEILS TWO NEW BREAKFAST SAUSAGE MIXES

RIVERTON, WY – World-renowned for its jerky cure and seasonings, Hi Mountain Seasonings is now offering two new breakfast sausage mixes, Chorizo Blend and Sweet Italian Blend, to its line. Both blends can be mixed with fresh ground pork or a combination of pork, beef or venison, to create a new breakfast addition.

The Chorizo Blend is a richly flavored combination of chili pepper, paprika, salt and vinegar powder that is spicy in taste, but it's not hot. The new Sweet Italian Blend offers a perfect balance of spices, brown sugar, paprika and garlic to wake up taste buds and get the day started.

Like the other blends, Hi Mountain Seasonings breakfast sausages are a cinch to make. There is no aging involved and the meat mixture can be made into patties or links through use of the Hi Mountain's Link Master.

Sausage is one of the most versatile and easy-to-make breakfast sides. Studies show starting a day with a good breakfast boosts energy, increases the attention span and heightens the sense of well-being.

You can fry some links and serve them with eggs; you can put a patty on a biscuit for a delicious breakfast sandwich; or you can crumble it into cream gravy to serve over biscuits. You can even toss some into a tortilla with scrambled eggs for a quick breakfast burrito.

In addition to the new Chorizo Blend and Sweet Italian Blend, the Breakfast Sausage is available in Original Mountain Man, Country Maple and Prairie Sage flavors. Each kit seasons 22-24 pounds of meat – a pound at time, if desired – and retails for \$5.99 each.

Hi Mountain's entire line of products, cooking tips, instructional videos, and recipes are also available at [www.himtnerjy.com](http://www.himtnerjy.com), and the products can be found at high-quality sporting goods stores, farm and ranch stores and your local grocery stores.

For additional information, write: Hi Mountain Seasonings, 1000 College View Drive, Riverton, WY 82501; call (800) 829-2285; or visit [www.himtnerjy.com](http://www.himtnerjy.com).



## Bushnell Introduces Feature-Rich High Definition Trophy Cam Lineup for 2012

OVERLAND PARK, KS – Bushnell Outdoor Products has introduced the Trophy Cam HD that features a one-year battery life, superior image clarity and a host of new features including high definition (HD) video, 0.6 second trigger speed, improved Field Scan 2x time lapse technology and hyper night vision.

Featuring 8 MP image resolution and HD video standard on every unit, the Trophy Cam HD is packed with features to help hunters more effectively monitor game activity around the clock. The new Field Scan 2x technology allows users to program two windows of time lapse capture, improving a hunter's ability to monitor game activity at dawn and dusk. Field Scan technology captures images at preset intervals ranging from one minute to 60 minutes, while simultaneously capturing live trigger images.

Bushnell has improved its night vision technology to deliver enhanced image brightness and better quality images of game captured at up to 60 feet away. In addition to brighter night vision, the Trophy Cam HD features an auto passive infrared sensor that automatically adjusts sensitivity levels based on the ambient temperature. Users also have the option to pre-program the PIR sensor by selecting a low, medium or high sensitivity setting.

The Trophy Cam HD also offers a multi flash mode with three programmable flash settings: low, medium or high. With multi flash mode, users can select the ideal flash setting based on the location of the camera and the typical distance of recorded game, which in some instances can help eliminate image washout and conserve battery life.

To simplify the tracking of game movement, users have the ability to input the GPS coordinates of the camera and auto-embed a geotag on each image or video captured. In addition, the info stamp has been upgraded to include date, time, temperature, Moon phase and a user-selected name.

The Bushnell Trophy Cam HD will be available in May 2012 for an estimated retail price ranging from \$229.99 - \$299.99. For more information about Bushnell Outdoor Products, visit [www.bushnell.com](http://www.bushnell.com) or call (800) 423-3537.

## Rage Outdoors Acquires Nockturnal Lighted Arrow Nocks

SUPERIOR, WI – Rage Outdoors has acquired Nockturnal lighted nocks and associated technologies from DoubleTake Archery, including the full-line of revolutionary Nockturnal lighted nocks for bow hunters.

"We are very excited about the opportunity to add the Nockturnal products to our portfolio of innovative hunting brands," said Richard Krause, president and chief executive officer of Rage Outdoors. "The breakthrough design, state-of-art technology and unsurpassed quality of the Nockturnal brand fit right into what we are all about at Rage Outdoors."

Rage Outdoors is one of the world's leading manufacturer of broadheads, quivers and accessories. For more information visit [www.ragebroadheads.com](http://www.ragebroadheads.com).

# Dallas Safari Club Sets Records for Event Size, Attendance & Fundraising

**DALLAS** – The Dallas Safari Club wrapped up its annual convention and expo at the Dallas Convention Center on Jan. 8 with new watermarks for event size, attendance and fundraising.

“Based on day-pass sales, it looks like attendance will be up nearly 20 percent from last year. Our preliminary estimate is 38,000, which is well above our final count of 32,000 in 2011,” said Ben Carter, DSC executive director.

Carter added that the show’s exhibition area grew by 25 percent over last year. With 338,000 square feet in 2011, and 425,000 square feet in 2012, DSC added approximately 1-1/2 football fields’ worth of space to this year’s show, shattering old records.

The entire event was held as a conservation fundraiser. Gate admission and exhibit revenues will be combined with proceeds from DSC’s biggest-ever auctions and raffles, plus new membership and logoed apparel sales. When the final numbers are in, Carter expects to net an all-time high sum to support DSC’s habitat and wildlife initiatives, youth education and hunter advocacy programs in 2012. Grants for initiatives worldwide will be awarded later this year.

“This is another example of the hunting industry and hunters themselves giving back to wildlife, wild places and the outdoors overall,” said Carter. “That’s a source of pride for everyone at our show, especially the DSC volunteers who work so hard to make this event a success not just for our organization and its mission, but for everyone who attends.”

The strong event traffic kept many exhibitors, especially outfitters, busy.

“This was the best show we’ve ever had,” said Marina Lamprecht of Hunters Namibia Safaris. “In the two years previous,

hunters were cautious. They would visit our booth, ask lots of questions, take our materials, think about it, email us later and then maybe book a trip. But this year was completely different. Hunters have enthusiasm and spontaneity in their buying. We took in more deposits and booked more hunts than ever. It’s going to be an amazing year.”

“Africans who are serious about conservation are saluting DSC because of the work they’re doing in our country and around the world,” she added.

Among the high points of the convention were the raising of \$110,000 for the youth education programs of the Dallas Ecological Foundation, a non-profit charitable foundation affiliated with DSC, which focuses on the popular Outdoor Adventures program and other youth education initiatives; and a \$100,000 high bid for a whitetail hunt with military heroes Marcus Luttrell of SEAL Team 10 and fighter pilot Scott O’Grady.

In addition, \$10,000 of the funds raised at the event were presented to the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department as a token of help for shortfalls caused by extreme drought and wildfires across the state during 2011.

Sponsors for the 2012 DSC convention and expo included MidwayUSA, Orion Versus, Sports Afield, Trijicon, Lone Star Conversions, Hunting Consortium, Hornady, Tanzania Adventures, Bad Boy Buggies, Yamaha Motors, Capital Farm Credit, The Wildlife Gallery, Ruger, Blaser, Cabela’s, Sovereign Bank and RBC Wealth.

More information about DSC is available at [www.biggame.org](http://www.biggame.org) and the media contact is Steve Wagner, Blue Heron Communications, at (800) 654-3766 or [steve@blueheroncomm.com](mailto:steve@blueheroncomm.com).

## Browning Adds Realtree Camouflage Patterns to Outdoor Apparel Line

**MORGAN, UT** – Browning will be adding Realtree camouflage patterns to its diverse line of outdoor apparel for the avid sportsman for 2012.

“Having Realtree camo patterns in our line will give us a dimension we have not had in the past. Now our customers can choose between the two most popular camo brands on the planet. We have already had a lot of positive comments and expect to see significant growth in our business as a result,” said Dale Weathers, vice president of Outdoor Products & Apparel at Browning.

“It has been amazing to see the reaction from our customers when we announced that we would have Realtree camo patterns in addition to Mossy Oak. We will now be able to offer the two dominant camo brands and the power that each brings to the market place. It’s exciting,” said Mark Francis, senior product manager for Browning Apparel.

Bill Jordan, Realtree designer and president, said Browning’s Realtree camouflage line will cover all the needs of hunters by offering a variety of versatile patterns.

“Realtree AP is simply the most effective pattern I’ve seen across nearly every hunting situation nationwide. Realtree MAX-4 is always a great choice when hunting around crops, grassy or marshy habitat - no matter what game you’re after. Of course, MAX-1 is the perfect pattern anywhere out West, as well as any open terrain across the country.

“Realtree will continue to be the leader in camouflage promotion, creating demand for these patterns through television, print, internet, social media and point-of-purchase. And as always, we will do everything in our power to ensure the success of our licensees in the future,” he said. Browning has a long tradition in offering innovative and high quality hunting clothing. For detailed specifications and pricing on Browning’s complete line of outdoor clothing, including styles in Realtree camo patterns go to [www.browning.com](http://www.browning.com).

## TEXAS STATE-FISH ART CONTEST ENTRY DEADLINE SET FOR MARCH 31

**ATHENS** – Student artists across Texas in grades K–12 should take notice that it is time to start preparing entries for the 2012 Wildlife Forever State-Fish Art Contest, which is open to all students in public, private or home schools.

The entry deadline is March 31.

Major changes in the contest for 2012 include: change in the permissible size of artwork to include works 8.5 inches by 11 inches or 9 inches by 12 inches; creation of a kindergarten to third level division for artwork only; addition of a national prize for best essays in grade level divisions 4-6 grades; 7-9 grades; and 10-12 grades; and a new category with one national winner for best artwork and essay about an invasive species.

Contest rules, guidelines, entry information and details about the contest changes can be found at [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishart](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishart).

Support for the Texas division of the contest is provided by the Toyota Texas Bass Classic, which makes it possible for the top three Texas entries in each grade level to win cash prizes. First place in grades 10-12 wins \$1,000; second place \$750; and third place \$500. Prizes in the 4-6 and 7-9 grade levels are \$100 for first; \$75 for second; and \$50 for third.

Additional support for the contest is provided by Strike King Lures, the William E. Armentrout Foundation and Friends of the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center.

One outstanding piece of artwork each year is selected for the Art of Conservation Award, and a commemorative stamp featuring the artwork is produced for sale. Proceeds from sales of the stamp are used to fund conservation projects.

Educators who wish to have their students enter the contest can download the free "State-Fish Art Contest Lesson Plan" at [www.statefishart.com](http://www.statefishart.com). The interdisciplinary curriculum includes lessons and activities, a species identification section profiling each state fish, a glossary and student worksheets.

Wildlife Forever is based in Brooklyn Center, MN, and is a non-profit multi-species conservation organization dedicated to conserving America's wildlife heritage. Working at the grassroots level, Wildlife Forever has funded conservation projects in all 50 states, committing millions of dollars to "on-the-ground" efforts.

The media contact about the contest is Zoe Ann Stinchcomb at (903) 670-2238 or at [zoeann.stinchcomb@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:zoeann.stinchcomb@tpwd.state.tx.us).

## TOWA SUPPORTING MEMBER NEWS

# Browning Black Label Tactical Knife Line to be Offered in 2012

**MORGAN, UT** – A complete new line of knives called Browning Black Label Tactical Blades, designed with direct feedback from special operations, military, law enforcement and civilian knife experts, will be made available to the public in 2012.

Black Label Tactical Blades include deep cover neck knives, heavy duty fixed blade and folding utility knives, plus exotic push daggers, throwing knives and a combat tomahawk. Thirty unique models will be offered that include the Shadowfax, Arbitrator, Hell Fire, Turning Point Carbon and Shock N' Awe Tomahawk. Designed by Russ Kommer, Browning's new Black Label Tactical Blades bring custom grade workmanship, exquisite materials and cutting-edge design together to produce the most efficient and exotic tactical blades available.

The new Shadowfax is a fixed blade model featuring a 4 5/8" blade made of 154CM steel in a satin finish. The handle material is G-10 and overall length is 9" with suggested retail of \$249.95. The Arbitrator is also a fixed blade model featuring a 5 1/2" blade also made of 154CM steel in satin finish. The handle material is G-10 and overall length is 10 3/4" with a suggested retail of \$169.95.

The Hell Fire is a folding blade model with a 3 9/16" blade made of 154CM steel in black oxide finish. It has a 4-way adjustable pocket clip and liner lock design and G-10 handle with a suggested retail of \$174.95. The Turning Point Carbon is a folding blade model with a 3" blade made of 440C steel with a laser etched finish. It has a two-way adjustable pocket clip and liner lock design with a carbon fiber handle and suggested retail of \$99.95.

The Shock N' Awe Tomahawk is made of 1055 steel with a powder coat finish with 2 3/4" blade and 10 1/2" overall length and a suggested retail of \$79.95.

For more detailed information and specifications on Browning's new line of Black Label Tactical blades and new hunting model knives for 2012 visit [www.browning.com](http://www.browning.com).

## HOPPE'S INTRODUCES NON-TOXIC, DISPOSABLE GUN CARE PACKS

**OVERLAND PARK, KS** – Hoppe's, an industry leader in gun care cleaning products and accessories since 1903, has introduced Elite Pillow Packs, the first disposable packages for convenient, on-the-go gun care. At the range or in the field, the new single-use packs give hunters and shooters a convenient way to clean and protect their firearms.

Available in either Elite Gun Cleaner or Elite T3 Gun Oil, the packs provide just the right amount of gun cleaner or oil for a day in the field or at the range. The packs are small and leak-resistant, making them easy to carry in a pocket or range bag, and feature a spout tip for precise application. Hoppe's Elite products are odorless, biodegradable and non-toxic, making them safe to use and easily disposable.

The Elite Gun Cleaner offers deep penetrating power, reaching every pore to clean carbon, copper and lead fouling while conditioning the metal to repel fouling. Featuring thin coat technology, the Elite T3 Gun Oil provides long-lasting corrosion protection to prevent separation or break down of metal surfaces at temperatures ranging from minus 40 degrees to 320 degrees. Best of all, gun owners can reduce cleaning time by up to 80 percent with Hoppe's Elite gun care products.

Dating back to the introduction of Hoppe's No. 9, the Hoppe's name has been synonymous with quality and innovation. Elite Pillow Packs continue that tradition by giving hunters and shooters a convenient option for in-the-field gun care. Elite Gun Cleaner Pillow Packs are available in eight and 32 packs while the Elite T3 Gun Oil Pillow Packs are available in eight and 26 packs. The eight packs are available for a suggested retail price of \$8.95 while the 26 and 32 packs are available for \$29.95.

For more information about the new Elite Pillow Packs, or to learn more about Hoppe's and its complete line of gun care products, visit [www.hoppes.com](http://www.hoppes.com).