



Virginia Hunter Education Association

www.vahea.org

Fall Newsletter, 2010

Welcome: The VHEA officers and Board members welcome you to the fourth year of the Association's existence and we are excited about the many accomplishments that the Association has made in its short lifetime. We continue to expand our activities and projects and we invite you to join in these! We welcome new ideas in the pursuit of fulfilling the goals of VHEA.

Officers: Vernie Kennedy, President
Rob Zepp, Vice-President
Danny Bartee, Treasurer
Daune Angell, Secretary

Regional Directors: Chauncey Herring (Reg. 1)
Spud Almond (Reg. 2)
George Angell (Reg. 3), Chairman
John Dunne (Reg. 4)
Jesse Ebron (Reg. 5)

Regional Committee Members: Region 1: Tony Carambia and Angie Leigh
Region 2: Kevin Cunningham and Joanna Dunevant
Region 3: Mike Cantrell and Mary Lewis
Region 4: Pat Hawse and Mike Landis
Region 5: Ed Crebbs and Glenn Waleska

Membership: At the time of this newsletter, VHEA has 138 current members, 48 of which are Life Members, 82 are instructor members and eight are associate members (nonvoting). Membership dues are \$20/year and are due January 01 of each year. Life Membership is \$150. Associate member dues are \$15/year. Dues may be sent to Danny Bartee, Treasurer, 7120 Dry Fork Road, Dry Fork, VA 24549. New members receive a wallet card and a patch indicating membership. Angie Leigh is presently working on the Association providing permanent (plastic/laminated) cards for Life Memberships.

Patches: There are extra VHEA patches for sale to the VHEA members. They are \$5 apiece and may be purchased at Holiday Lake's Advanced Training. See Danny Bartee if interested.

Hats: There are VHEA/VHSW caps for sale to VHEA members. Two styles are available. The cost of each is \$15. See Vernie Kennedy or Danny Bartee.

Elections: This year (an even year) is the time to elect a President and Secretary. The election will take place at the September, 2010 meeting of the Association. These positions may receive nominations by either mail or at the annual meeting; they will be voted on and approved at this meeting by a majority vote of the members present at the meeting. Regional Directors for Regions 2 and 4 will be elected at this time as well. They will be nominated and elected from the membership within their respective regions. All new officers will hold their positions for two years and their terms will begin on January 01, 2011. Be involved in the Association!! Run for an office or nominate a dedicated volunteer!

Projects/Activities:

- 1) VHSW: Virginia Hunter Skills Weekend, May 14-16, 2010. 96 attendees; multiple courses and range activities. Great success for this first event, cosponsored by VHEA, VDGIF and the Holiday Lake 4H Camp. The organizers for this event were Vernie Kennedy, Crystal Weidman and Bryan Branch, representing the sponsors, respectively. Thanks for your efforts in making this event what it was...Fantastic!
- 2) VHSW: Second event scheduled for this year!!! October 1-3, 2010. See the website for further information, details and registration.
- 3) DAV Crossbow Deer Hunt: First event was held in 2009, with exciting plans for 2010. Contact John Dunne or Lee Turner.
- 4) Bedford Youth Deer Hunt: The 2009 season was very successful, with two hunts actually occurring, with several deer taken during the two hunts. The 2010 Hunt is being planned. Contact Vernie Kennedy or Crystal Weidman.
- 5) Bedford Youth Rabbit Hunt: The winter of 2009 required the cancellation of the two Rabbit Hunts that were scheduled. Hopefully, the hunt of 2010 will once again provide a good hunting experience. Contact Vernie Kennedy for the date and info.
- 6) Wounded Warriors Turkey Hunt: April 9-10, 2010. Great success story, again!! The Fourth Annual Wounded Warriors Turkey Hunt is scheduled for 2011. Contact Rob Zepp for the dates and for further info.
- 7) VHEA has purchased 10 sets of shooting sticks that are available for use in live fire activities in which VHEA is represented. See Vernie Kennedy if you are interested.
- 8) VHEA website: www.vahea.org : Advertising is available: \$25/6 months. Multiple articles and links are available. Contact Ralph Graybill or Vernie Kennedy.
- 9) V.O.S.S.: Virginia Outdoor Sportsman's Show: The VHEA booth was represented by Vernie and Crystal Weidman, Jesse Ebron and Kathie Gill, Elaine Gruttemeyer, Wade White and David Lewis. Thanks, members, for your dedication.
- 10) The VDGIF booth at the V.O.S.S. received assistance from several VHEA members as well: Henry McBurney, Barbara Mitchell, Jerry Ward, and Billy Bush. Others may have helped out, but these were the only folks named as of the time of this publication.
- 11) The Treestand Safety Team, under the leadership of Dick Holdcraft, worked the Treestand Safety Booth at the recent VA Outdoor Sportsman's Show. Those volunteering their time and talents were: Carter Lewis, Russ Holland, Mike Cantrell, Mark Allamong, Bruce Hartman, Kathie Gill and Chip Studer. Thanks for your help!! The winner of the treestand (**donated by the membership of VHEA**) was Mr. John Thurston of Virginia Beach, VA and the winner of the Third-Hand gun hoist was Mr. Michael Murray of Sundsden, VA. Congrats to these winners!!
- 12) The Treestand Safety Team has been very active this year and seven of the members have been NBEF Certified. The team has certified about 15-16 volunteer instructors since their Certification Course has been implemented. Those interested in becoming certified need to sign up for the course, even if you have previously earned your rocker.

Awards: *Two Virginia Volunteer Hunter Education Instructors received their **5000 hour awards** from the VDGIF and VHEA at the Richmond office on April 20, 2010. Vernie Kennedy and Paul Siple were the deserving recipients of a plaque from the Department and an engraved Henry Rifle from the Association. Congratulations!! Thanks for all of your hard work through the years!

*VHEA recognized the tremendous contributions of two Hunter Education Coordinators to VHEA and the Hunter Education Program. At the VDGIF meeting on April 20, 2010, President Kennedy and Board Member Spud Almond presented two beautiful plaques (artfully created by Jesse Ebron, VHEA Board member) to Kris Dougherty and Crystal Weidman. Thanks, Officers, for all you do!!!!

*This year's **Morgan Award winner** was none other than the always happy, always positive young man whom we all know as Chauncey Herring. No one is more deserving than he and the Association acknowledges the fine spirit which he brings to Hunter ED. Congratulations, Chauncey!! The award presentation was held at the Wakefield Advanced Training session since Chauncey was from this region. Jon Ober and David Dodson presented the plaque.

People in the Spotlight: VHEA has a scrapbook of sorts, with various articles from different sources that highlight some of the activities of our organization. It is available for your perusal at each of the Training Events. If you are aware of an article that has been omitted, please send a copy of it to the Secretary for inclusion in the scrapbook.

Committees: Please see Vernie Kennedy if interested in starting or serving on a committee within the Association. More members need to be involved! You can be one of those!

**As the Association grows and recruits new members, we should see new ideas and projects being introduced and implemented. We welcome suggestions, ideas and recommendations for improvement by the membership. Please see any of the Officers or Board members. To promote better communication with the membership, please provide your name, HE instructor number and a current email address on any correspondence with the Board or Officers of VHEA. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Vernie Kennedy, President (540-586-4931; vernie_k@msn.com)

Rob Zepp, Vice President (757-986-4454; rlzepp@hughes.net)

Danny Bartee, Treasurer (434-724-7253; lesterbartee@comcast.net)

Daune Angell, Secretary (276-728-4781; gadangell@directv.net)

VHEA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization and contributions are fully tax-deductible within the limitations of Federal and State Laws.