



LEE COUNTY WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION



October 2003

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White-Tail Deer Program Saturday, October 4

Wildlife Biologist and Researcher Kenneth Gee with The Noble Foundation - a charitable organization located in Ardmore, Oklahoma that focuses on agriculture and plant biology - will be presenting a program on Managing and Improving White-Tailed Deer Populations and Hunting Success.

Topics will include:

- Plant Identification
- Plant Habitat
- Habitat Management
- Antler Development
- Breeding Success of Bucks

The program will be held on Saturday, October 4 at the Lincoln Community Center from 9:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.



Deer Hunters Encouraged to Register Their Bucks

The 2003 deer season will be the second year of a three-year experimental antler restriction regulation for six counties which include Austin, Colorado, Fayette, Lavaca, Lee and Washington counties.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) is collecting deer age and antler measurements to assess the effectiveness of the new regulation. A large sample of age and antler data is needed to evaluate the results of this restrictive harvest. The Department is asking hunters to assist in the collection of this information.

Deer hunters are encouraged to take their bucks to any of the voluntary check stations in the six-county area. TPWD personnel will be at the check stations periodically to collect age and antler measurements. If no TPWD personnel are at the check stations, the hunter will be given a registration form to record some basic data about the buck. It is not necessary to bring the entire deer, only the head with attached antlers and jaw is

required. Please do not bring in a frozen head as this makes aging the deer impossible, since the mouth cannot be opened to view the teeth.

Any hunter that has a legal buck checked by TPWD personnel or who self-registers his deer at a check station will be entered into a drawing for one of twelve prizes that include

- ▶ Lifetime Hunting and Fishing License (donated by the Texas Sportsman Association)
- ▶ Remington 700 BDL 7MM (Lee County Wildlife Management Assn)
- ▶ Remington 700 BDL .22-250 (M.G. Inc.)
- ▶ Remington 700 BDL .270 (Austin County West End WMA and Catspring WMA)
- ▶ Remington 20 ga. 870 Express Magnum Shotgun (First State Bank of Columbus)
- ▶ Ruger 10/22 (Hoffer's Grocery)

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Deer Hunters Encouraged to Register Bucks

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- ▶ Max Point Buckmaster Crossbow (Texas Hunting and Mercantile)
- ▶ Ziess 3.5-10 Power Scope (Wildlife Habitat Management Services)
- ▶ Custom made hunting knife (Knives by Charlie)
- ▶ Johnny Stewart Digital Predator Call (Bill Johnson Real Estate)
- ▶ LAMCO Protein Feeder (LAMCO)
- ▶ 2,000 pounds of high protein deer feed (Purina Mills).

The Parks and Wildlife wants to see spike bucks as well as those with a 13-inch or greater inside spread. This is not a “big buck” contest so every hunter that brings in a deer will have an equal chance to win.

LOCAL CHECK STATIONS

Dime Box: Gunters Grocery , 8122 FM 141

Giddings: H.W. Doyle Processing Plant, (one mile south of Hwy. 290 on Hwy. 77)

Lexington: Lexington Food Mart, 8889 North Hwy. 77

Or you can call me and I will make arrangements to meet you and get the information from your deer and get you registered.

Greg Pleasant

979-540-3492 (home)

979-773-9043 (office)

ALCOA Awarded Lifetime Membership to Association

The directors of the Lee County Wildlife Management Association presented ALCOA with a lifetime membership award for their continuing support in the field of conservation and wildlife habitat improvement. Association president Mickey Wachsmann presented the award to Jim Hodson, ALCOA’s public affairs manager, during the September 12 directors meeting at Elm Creek Cafe.



West Yegua Fall Co-op Meeting October 18

The West Yegua Co-op will have their fall get-together on Saturday, October 18, beginning at 6:30 pm. So mark your calendar and come out for a chili supper at Bobby Zoch’s ranch on FM 1624.

Coyote Contest Winners

This year only seven members turned in ears for the contest. A total of 87 sets of ears were turned in.

This year’s first place winner was Louis Schatte Jr. who won a \$300 gift card from Academy Sports. The second place was Joseph Kalbas who won a \$200 gift card. Third place went to Wayne Shelly who won a \$100 gift card.

The directors have decided to discontinue the contest due to lack of new participants and the annual expense to the Association.

Pines and Prairies Land Trust

Joan Russell

The Pines and Prairies Land Trust (PPLT), a 501(c)(3) organization, has begun operating to preserve and protect significant open land in Bastrop, Caldwell, Fayette and Lee Counties. The private, non-profit organization was founded in 2000 and will be seeking special places in these counties to preserve for future generations.

The concept of land trusts holding distinctive properties with unique scenic, natural or cultural importance “in trust” for the common good is not a new concept in the United States. The first land trusts were formed in 1891 in the densely populated northeast part of the country. Six and a half million acres, a total area about the size of Connecticut, is now under the permanent stewardship of 1263 private land trusts in all 50 states as well as Washington, DC and Puerto Rico.

Although the formation of land trusts in the state of Texas is relatively new, there are about 40 land trusts operating in Texas. With less than three percent of Texas’ famous “wide open spaces” publicly owned, protection “in perpetuity” of these natural resources by private groups for the benefit of all becomes more important each year. PPLT’s mission as stated “is to help property owners protect the natural landscapes from the impacts of unwanted development, for current and future generations to use and enjoy.” As the name “Pines and Prairies” implies, PPLT will be working to acquire special land in the pine forests and to preserve significant prairie,

farmland and ranchland in order to maintain the rural identity of central Texas.


A land trust offers several options for landowners wanting responsible, permanent protection for cherished family land or a special piece of Texas. Selling the land outright to a conservator such as the Nature Conservancy or a local land trust like PPLT is one way a landowner can assure this permanent protection. Another option besides selling land outright to a land trust is for a landowner to sell or donate a conservation easement. A conservation easement is a deed restriction limiting development but the landowner still maintains the title and some rights of ownership, such as the right to sell the land and the right to pass title to heirs upon death. The conservation easement, with its restrictions on development and land use, transfers with the title to the land when ownership changes.

PPLT is an all-volunteer organization with membership open to everyone. Grant money is sought for major purchases of land and easements. Tom Dureka, PPLT’s Executive Director, said “PPLT was formed to be an instrument to help willing landowners who are voluntarily choosing to leave a legacy of open land for posterity. PPLT then has the solemn obligation to ensure proper stewardship of the land in perpetuity.”

Interested parties call: 830-839-4628 write: PPLT, P.O. Box 1526, Bastrop, TX 78602 visit: www.pplt.org.

Lee County Wildlife Association Newsletter Sponsors

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