

Jack County Wildlife Management Association
P. O. Box 923, Jacksboro, TX 76458

Minutes of General Membership Meeting held March 22, 2008

The first annual meeting of the JCWMA for 2008 was held at The First United Methodist Church, Jacksboro. Approximately 50 members and guests were in attendance. After visitation and lunch the meeting was called to order by Vice President Tom Nethery.

Tom Nethery welcomed everyone and asked that the hunters who were looking for leases identify themselves so that any landowners with a lease available could meet with them following the meeting. Also visiting were Shelly Haffly's Bear Cub Scouts from Perrin, who were working on their Conservation badge.

Tom Nethery then introduced the guest speakers:

Chad Fleming, Texas Brigades youth speaker

– experience at the North Texas Buckskin Brigade Camp

Jennifer Barrow, TPWD Biologist – *Turkey Talk*

Rod Heltzel, licensed deer breeder, TPW #1514

– effects of nutrition, age & genetics

Chad Fleming described his experience at the North Texas Buckskin Brigade Camp at the Cook Ranch in Albany. This is a 5-day program for students ages 13-17 years. Chad explained that one must apply for the camp and that sponsorships are available. He said it was a very intense week with little sleep. He was able to dissect a deer while learning about anatomy. He also learned about habitat requirements and identifying plants which were food sources. He enjoyed shooting and various team building projects. The Texas Brigade program has camps for deer, quail, turkey and bass. For more information about the Texas Brigades check out the www.texasbrigades.org website.

Jennifer Barrow gave an informative power point presentation about turkey. She described the species located in Texas, habitat requirements, and efforts made in introducing and rebuilding populations. She had a lot of fun demonstrating various turkey calls and sharing her knowledge of hunting tools and tips. One of the tips she emphasized was knowing the shotgun & shells you planned to use and to test the range and spread before the season starts.

Rod Heltzel gave a short talk on the effects of nutrition, age and genetics in achieving trophy whitetail deer. He noted that genetics plays the least important role and comes into play primarily after nutrition and age have been achieved. He discussed the importance of nutrition and used various sets of antlers from the same buck at different ages to emphasize his point about letting the young bucks "walk" and to shoot a doe if you are just looking for meat.

Jennifer Barrow commented that the TPWD has imposed special antler restrictions in some counties, which has had a positive effect of improving the trophy population. She said that Jack county was on the list for proposed counties for consideration of special antler restrictions during the coming year. She asked if the JCWMA would support such a TPWD proposal and the JCWMA membership agreed.

Rod Heltzel indicated he would be happy to conduct a couple of Field Scoring and Aging clinics for the JCWMA -- one in mid September prior to archery season, and one in mid October prior to the regular season.

Following the speakers, Tom Nethery conducted a short business meeting:

The membership was reminded that the www.JCWMA.org website “forum” is available to post questions or to advertise leases.

The JCWMA directors for each quadrant of the county were identified and members were encouraged to meet and visit following the meeting – especially those members interested in forming contiguous wildlife management areas (WMA’s).

A county road map was available for members to draw in the areas of their acreage. Following the meeting member Jerry Wilhelm donated a county map with abstracts outlined, which would more accurately reflect the locations of the JCWMA membership.

Tom Nethery then conducted a drawing for door prizes donated by Cowboy Industries.

A motion was made to adjourn & seconded.