

2001 HUNTER - MENTOR REPORT
ALBERTA HUNTER EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS' ASSOCIATION
Dave Paplawski

The Hunter/Mentor program was the joint idea of the Wildfowl Outfitters Association and the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society. The basic foundation of this program is to match a young first time hunter with a professional waterfowl outfitter for the youths first time hunting experience. The youths were picked by volunteer Hunter Education Instructors from the Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association. It is believed that if the first experience of hunting is a positive experience that youth will continue to be a hunter or a least support hunting in the future. It's a win/win situation for the hunting fraternity and the perpetuation of hunting.

This first year we matched 22 youths with thirteen different waterfowl outfitters.
The following youth were graduates of the Hunter Education Program.

The boys that participated were:

Blair Hansen – Taber, AB
Chris Slovak – Taber, AB
Lee Poirier – New Serepta, AB
Darren Holt – Irma, AB
Tanner Frissell – Irma, AB
Jonathan Hobelkamp – Fairview, AB
Travis Robinson – Ardrossan, AB
Andrew Zak – Delburne, AB
Chris Zak – Delburne, AB
Shawn Kelly – Delburne, AB
Brian Kelly – Delburne, AB
Greg Laniak – Edmonton, AB
Scott Pho – Edmonton, AB



The waterfowl outfitters that guided the hunters were:

Greg Speitelbach – Speitelbach Outfitters
Nick Frederick – Battle River Lodge
Bob Byers – Boss Guiding Services
Blaine Burns – Black Dog Outfitters
Jordy McAuley – Jordy McAuley Outfitting
Lloyd McMahon – Great White Holdings
Claudio Ongaro – Ongaro Outdoors
Mike Ross – Oldman River Outfitters
Lyll Kortzman - Torlea Guiding Services
Kevin Rolfe - Bittern Lake Outfitting
Norris Iverson - Target Guide Service
John Davis - Trappers Guiding and Outfitting
Don Jensen - Wildlife West Adventures



A special thanks to the parents and Hunter Education Instructors that prepared, drove and had to deal with all young hunters excitement and enthusiasm.

Bob Tabaka – Holy Trinity High School
Stan Genert – Delburne School
Pat Harris – Ardrossan Jr/Sr High School
Val Poirier – New Sarepta
Sheldon Frissell – Irma School
Al Herbst – St. Mary's High School
Doug Ferguson - Grimshaw

Some had more success than others, but that's hunting. All of the hunters have a lot of memories, and the basis for many hunting stories that will be told for a lifetime.