

What You Need to Know to Promote Youth Hunting

*A Workshop for Hunters, Hunter Educators, Outdoor
Communicators and Conservation Professionals*

By

Randall L. Eaton, Ph.D.

“He had everyone sitting on the edge of their seats ...there may not be a more dynamic ambassador anywhere for all that is good and right about hunting.”

Stan Kirkland, President, Southeast Outdoor Press Assoc.

“Fascinating...one of the few truly humanistic scientists.”

Edward O. Wilson, Harvard

“The foremost psychologist of hunting in the world.”

John J. Jackson, Past President, Safari Club International

“Provocative, a true scholar, articulate and speaks from the heart.”

Dave Guynn, Professor of Wildlife, Clemson

Some Topics:

How important was hunting in shaping human life?

Is it true that hunting gave rise to language, art, music, dance, science and technology?

Why do we hunt and why do we love it so?

Is hunting sport or is it instinct?

What are the social and environmental justifications for hunting?

Is it true that recreational hunters feel respect, admiration and reverence for the animals they hunt?

Does taking the life of an animal awaken a moral sense?

Why hunting is the ideal way to teach universal virtues including generosity, courage, fortitude, patience and humility.

Is it true that hunting teaches inner peace and compassion?

Why hunting still is a valid rite of passage.

Hunters as leading conservationists of wildlife and wild places.

Does hunting teach a philosophy of interdependence, a land ethic?

Why hunting is good medicine for bad kids.

How can we elevate the image of hunting beyond the choir?

How to increase hunter recruitment.

Dr. Eaton has been studying large predators, predation and hunting since 1966, and he has been hunting since 1956. He has made scientific and scholarly contributions in fields ranging from wildlife biology and conservation to anthropology, art history, animal ethics, human evolution, Native American studies, environmental ethics, men's studies and philosophy. He was nominated to the post of Chief of the US Office of Endangered Species in 1972, and owing to his scientific work on the role of hunting in human evolution, was invited in 1981 by Edward O. Wilson to apply for a position at Harvard. He published and edited the journal *Carnivore: Carnivorous Mammals Including Humans*, the editorial board of which included Nobel laureates and Pulitzer-prize winners among the leading biologists and anthropologists on earth. On the other hand he was awarded a Sacred Pipe in the Cherokee tradition, and has learned much from the Lakota and the Maya.

Dr. Eaton has given keynote addresses and workshops at Game Conservation International, Mzuri Safari Club, Safari Club International, FNAWS, Ducks Unlimited's Leadership Conference, Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, British Columbia Wildlife Federation, Outdoor Writers Association America, Southeast Outdoor Press Association, Quality Deer Management Association, Texas Outdoor Writers, CIC, American Association for Advancement of Science, etc. He also has given keynotes and workshops at the annual meetings of hunter ed instructors including Vermont, Nevada and Tennessee.

Randall Eaton has authored/edited 14 books, two of which received national awards, and he has received 13 awards for his TV productions including "The Sacred Hunt: Hunting as a Spiritual Path," the all-time, top-selling production in its field. His 115 technical communications have appeared in *Science*, *J. Wildlife Management and Evolution*, among others; his several hundred popular communications have appeared in *Sports Illustrated*, *New York Times*, *North American Hunter*, etc.

Randall has been interviewed in *Sports Illustrated*, *Saturday Review*, *OMNI*, *International Wildlife*, *LA Times*, *Washington Post*, *NY Post*, *Atlanta Constitution*, *Miami Herald*, *Denver Post*, *Seattle Times*, *Sacramento Bee*, *SF Examiner*, etc.

A speech he gave on the role of hunting in the ecology of North America was broadcast by CBS TV National News. Speaking alongside Gov. John Connally and actor Jimmy Stewart, the *San Antonio Light* said, "It was Dr. Randall Eaton who electrified the audience." He was interviewed by PBS TV's NOVA about the role hunting has played in the recovery of endangered species. A speech he gave in Toronto on "Why hunting is good medicine for bad kids" generated massive international publicity ranging from a TV appearance on "Canada AM" to CBC radio, the national papers

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of Canada and BBC radio worldwide. He also has been interviewed on CBS National Radio News, Fox TV National News and NPR.

Randall has served on the faculties of zoology, psychology, wildlife and humanities of several universities including University of Washington and University of Georgia. He has lectured on over 60 campuses in North America. In 2000 he was named as “Conservationist Lecturer of the Year” at North Carolina State, and in 2002 was “Distinguished Visiting Scholar” at U. Alberta where he became an adjunct faculty member. He received fellowships to lecture at the National University of Australia and at East Shanghai University.

His new book is entitled ***From Boys to Men of Heart – Hunting as Rite of Passage***. Preeminent wildlife biologist, Valerius Geist, has described the book as “Provocative, very interesting and timely....wonderful.” With wilderness educator/tracker Jon Young he is producing “The Next Kid in the Woods” for TV. He was invited to participate in the White House Conference in Reno. He mentors youth and adults in the sacred hunt.

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