

## **2020 Rockdale SCI Youth Day by Ron Meek**

On February 22<sup>nd</sup>, we held the 20<sup>th</sup> Youth Day at Rockdale Rod and Gun Club! Over 100 people attended and enjoyed a beautiful mid-Winter day filled with all the regular events that have become a fixture in these days! Over the years we have had between 25 – 90 kids take part in this event each year and it seems that 50-60 makes for a PERFECT amount to handle as we entertain and feed all that come. The adults seem to enjoy the day as much as the kids. This year we started off with a welcome and stressed safety first. Then we made a few announcements of Hunter Safety Courses, Youth Hunts and SCI-Sables Sponsored AWLS Scholarships. An announcement of our honoring longtime contributor, ECO Brett Armstrong was made. He and his dog-partners have been a fixture over the years and he is there to promote youth involvement in our sport of hunting! Then the fun begins. We could NOT do this without the cooperation of Rockdale Club members working along with SCI members and between us we make a GREAT TEAM! Events included Laser Shot, Air guns, Archery/Cross Bow, Ice Fishing, Turkey Calls and Black Powder/Flintlock Shooting. SCI Sables Hands-On Wildlife Box is always popular and completes a full day of entertainment. This year we had a youth from Long Island that came just to experience flintlocks as he had NO chance to do this where he lives. His eyes just lit up and he could not thank us enough for this opportunity. As always, we finished up with a couple of air guns and other great prizes that pertain to the outdoors and the sport we enjoy. This makes for an enjoyable day for all. We look forward to these days every year!

- Thanks, Ron Meek