

CURRENTS

The newsletter for CCA members in Texas

June / July 2012



On track and headed this way.

*Join Pat Green,
Sammy Kershaw,
Jerry Jeff Walker,
Gene Watson and
thousands of your
best friends for the
first-ever CCA
Concert for
Conservation.*



*Moving along on the
Cedar Bayou front*

Jay Gardner considers the ramifications of one of the most important facets of opening Cedar Bayou. As he phrased it in the April/May Currents, "The PROXIMITY of this pass to the estuaries of the Mesquite, Carlos, Ayers, St. Charles, Aransas, Mission/Copano, San Antonio, Guadalupe, and Hynes Bays, and the freshwater inflows into them."

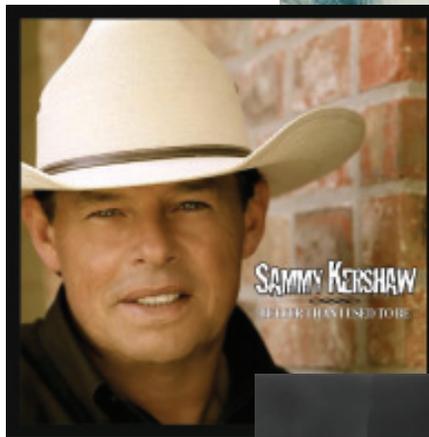
Jay ended his comments about the positive possibilities of opening Cedar Bayou with an intriguing sentence: "Ah, but the freshwater is a story for another day, and another piece of the puzzle that CCA is working on with the Habitat Today, Fish for Tomorrow initiative. For now, dig Cedar Bayou and stay tuned!"

Watch for Jay's comments on the opening of Cedar Bayou and the impact that the pass can have.
— Sam Caldwell

Jay Gardner is a longtime fan of the Cedar Bayou region, as well as an Environmental Scientist with Naismith Engineering, Inc. jgardner@naismith-engineering.com

*It's now
official— the
first CCA
concert is
ON TRACK!*

**Sam Houston
Race Park
Saturday,
June 30**



Pat Green, Jerry Jeff Walker, Sammy Kershaw and Gene Watson. Stay tuned to CCA's website for full details and ticket opportunities: ccatexas.org

Purchase your tickets today!

Concert Gates: 2:30 pm

Showtime: 3:30 pm

Ticket Prices:

General Admission - \$40

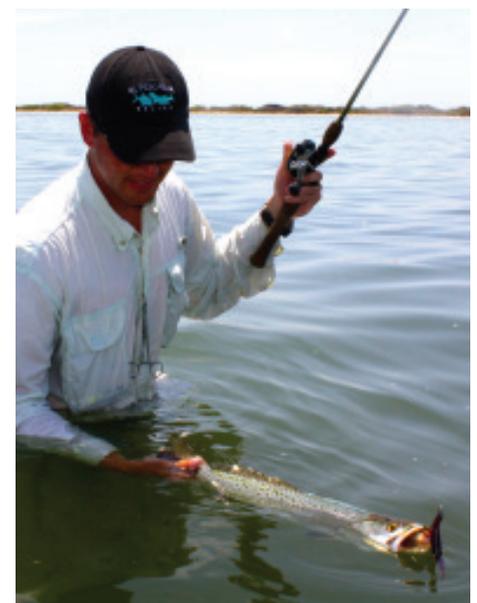
VIP - \$150* (includes special VIP section in front of stage & private cash bar).

Prices do not include applicable fees.

Sam Houston Race Park / 7575 North Sam Houston Pkwy, Houston, TX 77064 281-807-8700



Jerry Jeff Walker



Sent Back For Further Duty. The angler is Derek Causey, the photographer was Marc Peeler.

Front cover art by Heather Peterek, CCA Communication Coordinator

CCCA★TEXAS

presents



CONCERT
for
CONSERVATION

JUNE 30TH

SAM HOUSTON
RACE PARK
7575 N. SAM HOUSTON PKWY W.
HOUSTON, TX 77064

with
FEATURED
ARTIST

Pat Green

and
SPECIAL
GUESTS

Larry Jeff Walker

Sammy Kershaw & Gene Watson

FOR TICKETS VISIT CCATEXAS.ORG
OR CALL 1.800.211.3381

*CCA creates grant request,
pledges additional \$500,000*

Massive oyster restoration slated for Galveston Bay

*Governor Perry approves \$3.2 million
for oyster enhancement project*

After months of process and effort, Governor Rick Perry has submitted a \$3.2 million Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) grant project to US Fish and Wildlife for final approval. This grant request was created by CCA Texas in partnership with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). CCA Texas has pledged an additional \$500,000 to increase the scope of this enormous reefing project.

"Clearly, this is a high impact project," said Mark Ray, Chairman of CCA Texas. "We applaud Governor Perry for his support and vision in this effort and look forward to the next steps."

After Hurricane Ike, more than 8,000 acres of oyster reef were destroyed in the Galveston Bay system. CCA Texas partnered with TPWD, key academic leaders and the oyster industry to create this unique plan for Galveston Bay oyster restoration. The project will restore in excess of 100 acres of oyster reefs in Galveston's popular East Bay.

"Among Galveston Bay anglers, East Bay has always been known for its thriving and productive oyster reefs," said Robby Byers, CCA Texas Executive Director. "Our hope is that this project will be another step in improving the health and productivity of the Galveston Bay complex."

CCA Texas' Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow program has funded more than \$400,000 near-shore reef projects and has

pledged an additional \$500,000 for this enormous reef creation effort.

"The Governor's approval is a critical step in getting final funding for this important project," said Ray. "We all know how tenuous federal and state budgets are right now and it is critical that this project goes to completion."

CCA Texas' Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow program (HTFT) provides much-needed funds for the restoration and enhancement of coastal marine habitats. The program has supported marsh grass enhancement projects, inshore and offshore reef creation and vital estuary restoration that span from Port Mansfield to Sabine. Through CCA Texas' successful fundraising and membership efforts, HTFT has grown to become one of the largest programs of its kind.

The leader of West Coast CCA speaks about the influence of Texas CCA **Gary Loomis named first Dallas Sportsman Conservationist of the Year**

Dallas CCA banquet, April 26—Chapter president John Hansen took the microphone. "Many of you know that this is the first presentation of a special honor, the Dallas CCA Sportsman Conservationist of the Year.

"In a sense, everyone here has had a first class fishing trip with this gentleman. He served his country in a time of

war. Then, he invested years of his life working and developing special tools for our outdoor lives. It would take an hour to outline all the innovations and successes he has had in a long career, but here are just a few of his other awards: Future of Fishing Awards, Washington D.C. In the International Game Fishing Hall of Fame, his name was placed alongside the names of Ernest Hemingway, Zane Grey and Ted Williams. In 2008, he was named by Outdoor Life Magazine as one of the top 25 people who have changed the face of hunting and fishing.

"Given a death sentence from prostate cancer in 1996, he began working with the Coastal Conservation Association to take the CCA's successes to Washington State and Oregon.

"Sixteen years later, as the Chairman of those chapters, he is able to use his own rods in the waters of the Kalama River, where he first learned the pleasures of steelhead fishing.

"Chances are, every person here tonight has equipment with this gentleman's name on it. Please welcome Gary Loomis, here to accept the first-ever Dallas CCA Conservationist Of The Year Award."

When Hansen asked Loomis to speak for a minute—after a standing ovation—Gary brunched his award and said, "It would take a lot more than a minute to tell you what this Texas CCA award means to me."

Loomis pointed out that the success of the Texas CCA along the Gulf and East coasts led to the development of the Washington State and Oregon CCA chapters. And, he noted, the two East coast chapters are now among the most successful chapters in CCA. —**Sam Caldwell**



*Gary Loomis and John Hansen at the
Dallas banquet. Photos, Sam Caldwell*



Anglers aid restocking of Sea Center spotted seatrout

Gulf Coast Trout Series— With cloudy skies and a steady southeast breeze, 36 teams took to the waters from East Matagorda to the Texas state line for the third event of the 2012 Third Stone Gulf Coast Trout Series. Team Thirdstone/Quickswirl (Roger and Joe Friedrichs) took home first place for the second event in a row.

CPR: Catch, Photo, Restock

Sea Center Texas biologists were on hand to collect many of the trout that were harvested from East Matagorda and Sabine bays and transported them to the Sea Center facility in Lake Jackson.

We would like to thank all of our sponsors for your dedication and support to the series, **Harborwalk Marina & Yacht Club** for hosting, and last but not least all the anglers participating. See you at the championship. —**Capt. Lynn Waddell** www.specktourney.com

Texas fishing with Texas Game wardens, Texas food, Texas entertainment

Third Annual Texas Game Warden Association Fishing Tournament & Music Fest

Friday, June 15 / Port Aransas Texas / Pat Green and special guests provide Texas music / For full information go to www.texasgamewarden.com.



Spicy salmon Tartar with Plaintain Chip

From the Junior League of Houston's "Stop and Smell the Rosemary."

1 ½ pounds fresh salmon / ¼ cup Dijon Mustard / ¼ cup pureed chipotle chile peppers canned in adobo sauce / ½ cup capers, rinsed and drained / ½ cup minced green onions / ¼ cup extra virgin olive oil

Remove all gray matter, skin and fat from Salmon. Cut into strips and finely dice. Cover and refrigerate. In a nonmetallic bowl, combine mustard, chipotles, capers, green onions and olive oil. Mix well. Fold in diced salmon. Serve with plaintain chips or crostinis.



In case you were ever in doubt, it's now official:

Redfish named the Official Saltwater Fish of the State of Texas

Senator Juan Hinojosa, Dist. 20 and Representative Dennis Bonnen, Dist. 25, were successful in passing a bill that makes the venerable red drum the official state fish. So, along with the bluebonnet, live oak and chili pequin pepper, redfish are now on the list of official Texas symbols. Pictured above in Houston with the CCA's proclamation (art of the redfish by Al Barnes) are Joey Park, Rep. Dennis Bonnen, CCA's Exec. Dir. Robby Byers and Billy Phenix. Park and Phenix are CCA lobbyists. Senator Hinojosa is in the photo below. The proclamation art is available as a Giclee at CCA fundraising events. 🐠



2012
Outdoor Texas Camps
&
CCA-Texas
Supporting Youth Outdoors

Outdoor Texas Camps

ALL activities taught by Experienced and Certified Texas Professionals!

Outdoor Texas Camps

Outdoor Texas Camps offer quality learning in fishing as well as hunting and character building

CCA considers the Outdoor Texas program to be a potentially valuable youth opportunity, and has placed information on the CCA website. For full information, go to: www.outdoortexascamp.com

The basics: / 2 WEEK SESSIONS

Outdoor Texas Saltwater Camp I and II / Boys Only- Age 11-16

Outdoor Texas Saltwater Camp II and III / Boys Only - Age 11-16

July 22 - August 4 / July 29 - August 11

Contacts: David Todd and Justin Gregory

Office Address: Outdoor Texas Camp P.O. Box 2608 Bandera, Texas 78003

Phone Contacts: Office: 830-562-3354 David Todd - Cell: 512-217-1587

Email Address: OutdoorTexasCamp@yahoo.com

State of Texas Angler's Rodeo



23rd Annual STAR Sixty "STAR" Quality Redfish Ready to Pay-Off Any Lucky Angler!

With the tournament now underway, the CCA Texas STAR is heating up fast! This year's event began at sunrise on Saturday, May 26 and runs through 5p.m. on Labor Day, September 3. Anglers should be really stoked to know prospects are good. Actually, they're better than good... trout populations are on the rise up and down the coast! Guide reports are simply, "Trout numbers have never been better!" That might be expected with a lower, five-fish limit in the Laguna Madre, but **trout numbers are rising from South Padre to Sabine Lake**, according to Texas Parks and Wildlife biologists. "What the guides are reporting is accurate," said Mark Fisher, science director for TPWD. "We saw the biggest increase in our bag seine surveys along the middle coast this year." Fisher said, "Low trout production before 2010 set the stage for the explosion of juvenile trout in the bay systems the past three years and have been at or *broken new records* for numbers of juvenile trout," he said. "We've now had three very strong classes. I think the lack of competition for the young trout has helped them to rebound. When they don't have to compete as hard for food with other, bigger trout, it makes it easier for them to grow." Fisher said, "The winter kill several years ago probably added to the earlier decline, but trout numbers were declining even before those bad freezes. Anglers should expect trout born in 2010 to be of legal size this season. It takes two years for a female fish to get to legal

size", he said. "The males should take a little longer, but anglers should be seeing the results of these classes soon." Hot diggety!

If that doesn't get STAR anglers excited, the "STAR" attraction in the 23rd Annual 2012 CCA Texas State of Texas Anglers' Rodeo (STAR) sponsored by the Texas Ford Dealers, Tilson Home Corporation and Capital Farm Credit, sixty specially tagged redfish ranging from 20 ½ to 25 ½ inches in length, were set free just days before the May 26th kick-off by Official Redfish Release Teams throughout 600 miles of Texas coastal waters, from Sabine Lake to South Padre Island. These "STAR" quality redfish are out there swimming around and ready to be caught to make some lucky angler's day! Keeper-sized prizes can be claimed by STAR anglers who bring in the first 10 tagged redfish. The first five winners will drive home in a 2012 loaded Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" XLT SuperCab, pulling a brand new 23' Haynie BigFoot boat rigged with a Mercury 150L OptiMax motor and Coastline trailer. The next five tagged redfish winners will each claim a 23' Haynie BigFoot boat with a Mercury 150L OptiMax motor and Coastline trailers. You will have to supply your own truck to tow these rigs home. Last year twelve tagged redfish were caught, but only three anglers claimed prizes. The others, unfortunately, were not registered for STAR.

Anglers from all across the great Lone Star State can enter all summer-long to vie for over \$1,000,000 in prizes in the 23rd Annual CCA Texas/STAR Tournament! So don't delay... SIGN UP TODAY! To help with your fishing expenses this season, Academy Sports + Outdoors will again generously provide all current CCA Texas members with a \$10 coupon. And, of course, don't forget to take advantage of all the other great Member incentives available to CCA Texas/STAR participants. Please see below for more details.

YOU'VE GOT TO BE IN TO WIN! Time to get spooled up and ready for another great season of fishing fun! A friendly reminder to all anglers who plan to fish the Texas Gulf Coast during this time... in order to win one of a \$1,000,000 in prizes being offered in Texas' largest, richest, summer-long saltwater fishing event, an angler must be a **CURRENT** member of CCA, in addition to being registered as a **2012 TEXAS STAR entrant**. The **STAR tournament entry fee** is still an awesome bargain at **only \$20** for ages 18 and up! Membership fee is \$25 annually, plus \$20 STAR Tournament for a total of \$45. In order to win at STAR, an angler must be registered and be a current member of CCA. You know you'll go so might as well do it now! Remember, everyone entered in the STAR Tournament, who will be 6 years old in 2012 and older, is eligible to win the prizes being offered (even the TAGGED REDFISH DIVISION)!!! Get everyone signed up for the **2012 STAR**. Be sure and enter now to take advantage of some great incentives... see details below, and on next page. **YOUNG ANGLERS FISH FOR FREE!** Speaking of bargains, for young anglers ages 6-17, the "New Tide" membership fee remains \$10 annually and the STAR entry fee is **FREE!!!** Of course, we want **all** kids on the water. CCA "New Tide" members will continue to have the opportunity to win giant scholarships to fund their college education for just the price of a \$10 CCA "New Tide" Membership. We thank our generous sponsors for making it possible for us to offer young anglers this great opportunity. **Keep in mind, signing up as a "New Tide" membership DOES NOT automatically register member in STAR.** "New Tide" Members **MUST BE at least 6 years of age in 2012 to be eligible to fish STAR and under age 18 to enter for FREE.** It is the "New Tide" Member's responsibility to register each year for STAR. Don't miss "the boat" or "the truck and boat"... register today! You can sign up NOW online at www.ccatexas.org or www.startournament.org!!!

CCA TEXAS MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS - Our most generous sponsor offerings still continue to add more value to your CCA Texas Membership. **Be sure and remember to take advantage of the following wonderful benefits your CCA membership affords you!**

-  Ford X-Plan Pricing (*see details below*)
-  \$10 gift card courtesy of Academy Sports + Outdoors (*see details on next page*)
-  Whataburger coupon for a free burger and breakfast on a bun (*see details on next page*)
-  Texas Fish & Game Magazine subscription (*see details on next page*)
-  \$1000 worth of free upgrades with your purchase of a new Tilson home (*see details on next page*)

FORD X-PLAN PRICING - CCA Texas members have been remarkably honored by the Texas Ford Dealers. They approved X-Plan pricing for us; that is, every current member can buy (or lease) any Ford product at the **same price Ford employees must pay**. This means we can save up to \$1,000 or **much more**, just by having a valid **\$25 CCA membership card!!!** Our Ford Partner Code # is **CCA61**; go to www.fordpartner.com, if you are considering a



STAR Collector series art prints: STAR Sighting, 2012 Platinum Series II is shown above. A few STAR Reds, 2011 series I art prints, on right, are still available.



BEST IN TEXAS

2012 Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" XLT SuperCab with Haynie 23 Bigfoot, the Redfish Division prize.

purchase. And please share your gratitude with the dealers for helping to make this great offer possible for CCA Texas members.

SPECIAL BONUS FROM ACADEMY SPORTS + OUTDOORS -

One more great reason to sign up! For those anglers who got on the ball and signed up early, Academy Sports + Outdoors re-



warded you with a \$10 gift coupon just in time for fishing season! For those of you who didn't get in on the first \$10 gift coupon, we have good news! Academy Sports + Outdoors will be sending another \$10 gift coupon after the tournament ends and just in time for hunting season! Special thanks to Academy Sports + Outdoors for continuing to make your CCA membership and STAR entry such an awesome value!

COUPONS FOR A FREE WHATABURGER AND BREAKFAST ON A BUN - Be sure and look in this issue of CURRENTS for a special coupon compliments of our great partner, Whataburger, good for a FREE burger and breakfast on a bun with purchase. YUMMY! Special thanks to Whataburger for making this special offer possible.

TEXAS FISH & GAME "BONUS" SUBSCRIPTION!!

Texas Fish & Game will again honor this year's STAR entrants with a **ONE -YEAR** (12 issues) subscription to *Texas Fish & Game* Magazine. Please be advised your subscription **WILL NOT be sent automatically**. If you wish to take advantage of this special bonus you must declare on your application form. If you have already signed up for the 2012 STAR, but did not declare that you would like this special offer and/or have questions regarding your past or current subscription, please call (800) 725-1134 or email jennifer@actionfullment.com.



TILSON HOMES \$1,000 in FREE Upgrades - Every CCA Texas member who purchases a Tilson Home is eligible for a value discount. Tilson will give you \$1,000 off on any upgrade such as ceramic tile, hardwood floors, kitchen cabinetry and more. See ad in the CCA Texas CURRENTS newsletter for more details or call 1 (888) 540-6705.

2012 PRIZE LINE-UP - This year's contestants have a chance at winning over 100 prizes including trucks, boats, motors, trailers and college scholarships in the following categories:

Texas Ford Dealers Redfish Division - Texas Ford Dealers continue to make this division the "Best in Texas"! They will again give each of the first five regis-

tered STAR participants who catch tagged redfish a brand new truck to get to their fishing destination in a tough, dependable and stylish ride. The first five registered anglers to weigh-in a tagged red will receive a 2012 Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" truck. Haynie Boats returns with the awesome Haynie 23 Bigfoot rigged with a Mercury 150 L OptiMax! A Coastline Trailer completes this amazing package. The next five weighed in will receive the same boat, motor and trailer packages.

For young anglers not of legal driving age and who reel in the famous tagged red, he or she will receive the boat package plus a college scholarship, in lieu of the truck.

Trout Division - With winners in the upper, middle and lower coast regions, each winning angler will take home the **Shoalwater 22' Legend**, "Truly a Texas Legend", powered with a Mercury 150 L OptiMax and McClain trailer. **SPECIAL NOTE:** If you're unsure a trout is large enough to qualify, consider this "**easy rule-of-thumb**" - if length is **less than 27 inches**, chances are it won't meet the eight pound minimum weight requirement for the Trout Division. Unless you intend to mount your fish as a personal best, why not think about releasing anything that might not make the cut so she can reseed the bays.

Offshore Division - Blue water anglers who land the heaviest kingfish, dorado and ling (cobia) will each win the awesome Explorer by Dargel 216 Blue Water Series boat prize to cruise the big waters along with a Mercury 200 XL OptiMax outboard and McClain trailer.

Inshore Division - Each winner that reels in the largest flounder, gafftop and sheepshead will be handsomely rewarded with Blue Wave's 180 V Bay boat completely rigged with a Mercury 115 ELPT OptiMax outboard and McClain trailer.

In the past fifteen years, **\$4,345,000** in college scholarships has been awarded to fisher-kids across the state. And 2012 continues to offer plenty of reason for everyone to round up their kid(s), a rod and reel and head for the water.

Capital Farm Credit StarKid Flounder Division - This division gives entrants age 6-10 a chance to win a **\$50,000** college scholarship for the largest flounder caught throughout the summer.

ES Houston/FS Southwest StarKid Gafftop Division - This division gives entrants age 6-10 a chance to win a **\$50,000** college scholarship for the largest gafftop caught throughout the summer.

Houston Community Newspapers StarKid Sheepshead Division - This division gives entrants age 6-10 a chance to win a **\$50,000** college scholarship for the largest sheepshead caught throughout the summer.

Academy Sports + Outdoors StarTeens Trout Division - This youth scholarship division is open to all New Tide members ages 11-17 and awards a **\$20,000** college scholarship for each fisher-teen with the largest trout in the upper, middle and lower coasts. **SPECIAL NOTE:** The minimum weight requirement for the trout is six pounds. Trout measuring **25 inches or less** probably won't meet the six pound minimum weight requirement for the StarTeens Trout Division. For all fish weighing less than six pounds, if no intentions of mounting young angler's prize catch, please take a quick picture and immediately release back into the water.

Time Warner Cable StarTeens Inshore Division - This youth scholarship division is open to all New Tide members ages 11-17 and awards a **\$20,000** college scholarship for each fisher-teen with the largest flounder, gafftop and sheepshead statewide.

But Wait, There's More...

Runner-Up Prizes - The first through fourth runners-up in all divisions will receive various gift certificates from Academy Sports & Outdoors.

"New Tide" Member Drawing - The "New Tide" Scholarship Drawing will be offered again in 2012. "NewTide"/STAR participants at least, 6 - 17 years old in 2012, are eligible for a bo-



Explorer by Dargel 216 Blue Water Series, Offshore Division Prize



The Shoalwater 22' Legend, Trout Division prize.



Blue Wave 180 V-Bay, Inshore Division Prize

nus drawing that will net one lucky youth a \$20,000 college scholarship even if the participant never wets a line or enters a single fish during the entire tournament.

Member Bonus Drawing - This unique drawing offers STAR entrants a chance to win a fabulous boat prize package even if the participant never wets a line. One lucky contestant's name will be drawn to win a Shoalwater 22' Legend model with a Mercury 150 L OptiMax outboard and McClain trailer.

Please don't forget to thank our wonderful sponsors for their loyal support... return the favor by remembering them when making your purchasing decisions. They make this wonderful family event possible. Major sponsors for the 23rd Annual CCA Texas/STAR Tournament include: **Texas Ford Dealers, Tilson Home Corporation, Capital Farm Credit, Mercury Marine, Academy Sports + Outdoors, Whataburger, Shipley Donuts, Ozarka, Coors Light, Houston Community Newspapers, Fox Sports Houston, Fox Sports Southwest, Time Warner Cable, Haynie Boats, Shoalwater Boats, Explorer by Dargel Boats, Blue Wave Boats, Texas Fish & Game Magazine, Costa Sunglasses, Texas Oilman's Charity Fishing Tournament, Houston Astros, Coastline Trailers, McClain Trailers, Chris's Marine, Mt. Houston Marine and Coastal Backwater Marine.**

STAR has reached \$4,345,000 in scholarships awarded to children 6-17 years of age. Many thanks to our sponsors for making this happen. Without them, it would not be possible.

CURRENTS is a membership benefit of the Coastal Conservation Association - Texas. It is published bi-monthly, alternate months from the Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) TIDE Magazine. Address, 6919 Portwest, Suite 100, Houston, TX 77024. Phone: 713-626-4222. FAX: 713-961-3801. www.ccatexas.org

Editor, Sam Caldwell / sam@samcaldwell.com
This is the issue of June / July 2012 Vol. 30, Issue 4

*CCA welcomes a new
STAR sponsor
with a longtime
conservation ethic*

Capital Farm Credit

Capital Farm Credit shares the Coastal Conservation Association's dedication to the enjoyment and conservation of our natural resources. Through our lending operations, we strive to promote our members' best use of land and fisheries in their agricultural, commercial and recreational activities. Having provided financing to farmers, ranchers, agribusiness firms, aquatic producers, country homeowners and other rural property owners since 1916, we understand the fulfillment that comes with living and working in the outdoors, and we understand the challenges of caring for the land and earning a living from it.

As the largest rural lender in Texas, Capital Farm Credit has the capacity to help with a wide range of rural financing needs. We service 192 counties throughout Texas including the entire Gulf Coast. Our large reach and diverse portfolio puts us in a position of financial strength that enables us to provide reliable credit to agricultural and

recreational landowners and outdoor enthusiasts. Lending extends across farms and ranches, recreational properties, country homes, agricultural equipment and livestock.

Our customers cooperatively own Capital Farm Credit and share in our success. We recently returned a record \$126.6 million in a patronage refund from our 2011 earnings. This cooperative approach to doing business, combined with our lending expertise and love of rural America, makes Capital Farm Credit the No. 1 choice in rural financing.

We salute CCA Texas STAR's support of Texas' youth through education and scholarship programs and are proud to support such a worthwhile organization.

*Director's Note: For several years, CCA has reserved the Co-Title in STAR for just the right outfit, and we found the perfect fit into our fine family of STAR sponsors. Capital Farm Credit was conservation-minded before it was "trendy," supporting Texas Wildlife Association and Safari Clubs in both Houston and Dallas for years. We know many of you are already members of this outstanding co-op, and we are honored to have an outfit of such integrity joining our work. When you're ready to make your dream of "escaping the big city" a reality, you might want to take a look.
—STAR Tournament Director, Bill Kinney*



Welcome to the CCA Texas Online Auction *Sponsored By Costa Del Mar*



We have some great merchandise up for grabs this month—a CCA Luggage Package and a CCA Logo Metal Tacker.

These items will be featured online for bidding purposes through eBay. We encourage everyone to take



Handsome CCA logos brand each bag.

advantage of the art and merchandise that is up for sale. These items are coming directly from CCA Texas's inventory. There will be a variety of unique art packages, as well as new merchandise never seen before!

CCA Metal Tacker – This metal tacker would be a great addition to any house!

Luggage Package – 1 CCA Tote Bag and 1 CCA Rolling Duffel. Auction runs June 12 through June 19. To bid and win, go to ccatexas.org and click on the link (left hand side) **online auction**. Good luck! —Drew Adams

Sponsored by our friends at Costa.



Costa Del Mar and Kenny Chesney aid CCA conservation projects

Music superstar Kenny Chesney and Amanda Perryman from Costa Sunglasses present a check for \$50,000 to Pat Murray to benefit the Coastal Conservation Association. These funds were raised through sales of the Kenny Chesney Limited Edition Costa Sunglasses throughout his "Goin' Coastal" concert tour last year.

Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow

BUILDING A FUTURE FOR
TEXAS MARINE HABITAT



CCA Texas reefing programs build on successes

CCA's commitment to marine habitat continues to grow

CCA Texas recently committed \$100,000 to a new 160-acre nearshore reefing site located out of Packery Channel near Corpus Christi. This reef will be built in approximately 70-feet of water and will provide vital structure and easy angler access from popular offshore ports including Port Aransas and Corpus Christi.

"CCA Texas is proud to partner with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and others on this project to cre-

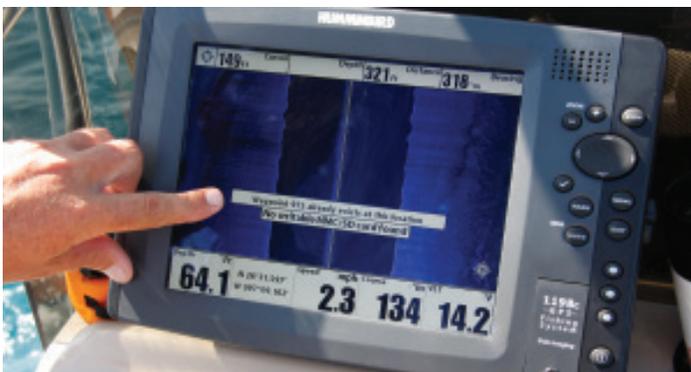
ate this habitat and provide much-needed recreational offshore fishing opportunities," said Jay Gardner, chairman of CCA Texas' Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow program. "CCA Texas has already committed \$400,000 to Texas reef projects along the coast, and that number will continue to grow."

This new mid-coast reefing site will have all necessary permits in place in the coming months and TPWD is initiating the bidding process to begin the first phase of placing reef material. Once materials are placed, they will provide the valuable structure needed to sustain and enhance Gulf reef fish species, including red snapper.

"CCA Texas has long been known for successful efforts in advocating for marine conservation along the Texas coast and in our state's capitol," said

Mark Ray, CCA Texas chairman. "But, thanks to the thousands of volunteers and tens of thousands of members, CCA Texas' habitat efforts are taking the organization's positive impact on our shared coastal resources to a new level."

CCA Texas' Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow program (HTFT) provides much-needed funding for the restoration and enhancement of coastal marine habitats. The program has funded marsh grass enhancement projects, in-shore and offshore reef creation and vital estuary restoration that span from Port Mansfield to Sabine. Through CCA Texas' successful fundraising and membership efforts, HTFT has grown to become one of the largest programs of its kind. 🐟



Port Mansfield reefing project, August, 2011: Jeff Dean of Dargel boats and John Blaha are dwarfed by a few of the huge concrete culverts that are now habitat for offshore fish. The locale: N 26 31 597, W 097 096 162, 64.1 feet. At that waypoint, Dean, Blaha and Caldwell found a sailfish waiting. Photos, Sam Caldwell

Live on the Bay!

David Weekley Homes from the mid \$200s



Grand Cay Harbour features coastal home designs nestled in a bay front, master-planned community offering access to the bay through Moses Lake and Dollar Bay!

For more information, call 800-396-8460 or visit our website.

DavidWeekleyHomes.com

See a David Weekley Homes Sales Consultant for details. Prices, plans, dimensions, features, specifications, materials, and availability of homes or communities are subject to change without notice or obligation. Illustrations are artist's depictions only and may differ from completed improvements. Copyright © 2012 David Weekley Homes - All Rights Reserved. Houston, TX HOUA45707



Upper Coast By Capt. Dickie Colburn

Target slicks politely—courtesy is catching

In June and July, when the wind finally dies down, the action under the birds will be to die for. Remember to be polite when you drift into an action area, whether in Galveston Bay or Sabine Lake. In either region, successful fishermen will target slicks. When soft winds and calm water prevail, Sabine Lake from the Causeway to the islands on the north will be good choices for drift fishing. On the shell reefs of either Galveston Bay or Sabine Lake, live shrimp and/or certain lures can be payoffs for limits. Go for topwaters early, like She Dogs and lures of bone and chrome. I like Bass Assassins in the 4-5" Sea Shad, and the (strangely-named) Die Dapper 5" paddle tail.

But remember, the Texas coast is a huge and diverse region—consider the ship channel. There's a great stretch South of the Causeway to the North end of the lake with flats full of topwater shallows.

And there are the jetties, Sabine Pass and Galveston, where an angler can dodge unfavorable winds, as well as find action on Spanish mackerel, massive redfish and big speckled trout. Anchor up and work the boulders. Out of the jetties, the past couple of years have been excellent for the "Short Rigs," near-shore areas that on calm weather times can provide excellent fishing for snapper as well as bigger fish. Of course, you will know before you go, whether it's offshore or thirty yards from the launch ramp, and remember that courtesy is catching. —**Capt. Dickie Colburn** 409-883-0723 www.sabineconnections.com

Middle Coast By Capt. Bill Pustejovsky

Topwaters early, live bait deep later

Midcoast fishing in June will find me camping out in East Matagorda Bay, simply because that's where the diversity of great fishing will be—in my region of the Texas coast, anyway. Through June into July, you'll find intense trout fishing, whether wading or drifting, in the mid sections of East Matagorda Bay. On the reefs—check your maps—Half Moon, Bird Island will be productive. A fine place to start will be Three Beacon reef, all by itself in the middle of the bay. But nearby is Long Reef, another top producer of BIG trout. Wade fishermen will of course locate the right areas on your charts, and fish accordingly. Addicts of topwaters will have success early in June on She Dogs, Super Spooks and broken backs, but be sure you bring along a few of my all-time favorite fish-getters, Bass Assassins. Hot Chicken and Chicken On A string work well. Bone Corkies are good. Of course, redfish will be shoulder to shoulder with those trophy trout, but shallower.

As hot weather takes over in July, consider The Wells, where live shrimp produce best. Watch for "Buoy Fish," the delectable triple tail. We have seen triple tails up to 30 pounds. Of course, when conditions are right, the surf can be a magnificent place to stay cool and enjoy hot fishing. A beach pass is required, but cheap and easily available—check your local townships.

Capt. Pustejovsky says he is happy to work with and teach new anglers in the region. And, he enjoys fishing Port Mansfield waters, where he notes that the "Just Take Five" regulation seems to have produced some extraordinary fishing. — **Capt. Bill Pustejovsky** / Gold Tip Guide Service / 979-863-7353 www.goldtipguideservice.com

Lower Coast By Capt. Mike Lowe

Intracoastal trout early, then go shallow for reds

The springtime days in Lower Laguna were filled with windblown flats and tough days on the water. When the conditions were right, (which wasn't often) the fishing was incredible. With the five fish limit here continuing to improve the quality of our fishing, our expectations for the summertime are high.

The landscape of our bay system has changed since the massive freshwater influx we received a few years back. There is less grass in some places, and grass in others that never had it. The new areas of grass seem to be holding fish and are not the usual spots people frequent. Try scouting some news areas this summer.

Trout have been right off the intercoastal in 2-4 feet of water in scattered grass. With the hot days ahead, I don't see any reason why they will be moving. These areas give the fish access to feeding grounds and the refuge of the deep cooler water of the "ditch."

Redfish are a different story this year. It's a here today, gone tomorrow scenario. I'm hoping they will get in more defined groups by summertime. Be looking for them on the flats both north and south of the east cut.

Sometimes I have to run 10-15 miles before locating a decent size school. But once I locate them, I can usually stick with them long enough to pull some good fish out. When planning your trip try and hit the edge of the intercoastal first thing in the morning and wait until later in the day to chase the reds.

Good luck out there and be safe. —**Capt. Mike Lowe** / 713-818-1296

Early morning CPR, by Bob Evans.



Chapter Updates

Alvin-Pearland

Rex Richards 281-923-3050

Monthly General Meetings: 7PM - First Tuesday of the month. Location: Spring Creek BBQ 9005 Broadway Pearlland Texas.

Thanks to our March speaker: **Flounder Pounder's Phil Ortiz** for his outstanding discussion on flounder fishing tactics and his products.

Thanks to our April speaker **BAAD Marine Supply PRO STAFF** for his tournament tactics on trend, patterns and tackle products.

May 1st General Meeting speaker was **Shimano Pro Staff** / June 5th General Meeting speaker will be **Capt. Bill Pustejovsky – Gold Tip Guide Service of Matagorda.**

Our **Alvin-Pearland CCA Annual Fundraising Banquet** will be **June 21st at 6 pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 2320 Hatfield Road, Pearland, Texas.** —Rex Richards

Aransas Bay

Carter Crigler jccrigler@hotmail.com
435-830-5984

We express our appreciation to all the participants of the **13th Babes on the Bay Tournament.** We thank all of the sponsors, vendors, volunteers and last but not least, **Karol Scardino**, tournament director, for their commitment to supporting the Babes on the Bay, the largest all-woman's fishing tournament in the world. We hope that you will make a special effort to join us next year.

Our annual banquet will be on **August 11 at the Paws and Taws Convention Center in Fulton, Texas.** Looking for additions from **Michelle Green**, banquet chairperson, in upcoming Currents. Tight lines—Carter

Austin

Scott Sanderson 512-637-1751
scott@mbsquoteline.com

As I write this, the Austin chapter 2012 banquet is only 4 days away, and it will be a dandy. Our sponsors' support has been phenomenal and table sales have been far ahead of last year's pace. Thank you everyone for helping us raise money for the conservation of our Texas coastal resources! The entire board has worked hard to put on CCA Austin's 33rd annual fundraiser for you and we look forward to showtime!

Our **Anglers' Night Out events**, which are open to all continue to grow and take on a life of their own. In March we had **KT Townsend**, of the TV show **KT Diaries**, in to teach us about tarpon fishing on the Texas coast. KT brought some awesome videos and the 200+ fellow fishermen/women who came out were treated to an informative and entertaining show.

Our next ANO will be July 18 and we are REALLY excited to have **Captains Sally and Aubrey Black** coming as our guest speakers. Plan to come out early. Sally and Aubrey are certain to be a big draw. Like always, we'll have a great raffle with prizes and gear from **Yeti, TFO, ACK, Sportsman's Finest** and more. And don't be surprised if there's a shot at a Capt. Sally or Capt. Black trip that night. ANO is always at **Abel's on the Lake** with food compliments of **Smokee Denmark Smoked Meats**. Remember, these are FREE, ladies and children are welcome, bring a friend and ask them to join CCA. You don't have to be a member to come enjoy these really fun nights with your fellow Austin anglers.

We said for a while that our 2012 Banquet Boat was a 21' **Shallow Sport Bahia** and that the raffle tickets were a hot commodity. We weren't crying wolf—boat tickets were a sellout weeks before the banquet. Remember that next year when we have another boat that will no doubt make your eyes pop! Thank you to our boat Sponsors, **Firestone and Burt Watts**, and also to **Cabela's** for letting us moor our dream boat in front of their Buda location. The Austin

Chapter Updates are edited for brevity to allow everyone's voice to be heard. For the full version, go to your chapter's area in the CCA website. Drop by www.ccatexas.org, click on Local Chapters.



Galveston's 18' Shallow Sport with Evinrude 115, sitting on a McClain Trailer. And, includes a special plus—great aluminum



The Lower Laguna Madre's 2012 18' Sport boat by Shallow Sport Boats.



The Matagorda Bays boat features a fully rigged 21' Trans Sport XLR8 LS w/ 150 HP Suzuki & Coastline Aluminum Trailer.

Junior board is growing and wants you to come aboard! See their note below. **Be sure to Friend us on Facebook by searching Coastal Conservation Association Austin Chapter.** It's a great way to keep up with everything going on in the Austin Chapter and make sure you don't miss a thing. Good luck on the water this summer and see you at ANO in August. Warm regards, —**Scott Sanderson** scott@mbsquoteline.com

AUSTIN JUNIOR BOARD

The Austin Chapter Junior Board's mission is to get kids involved early in conserving the coastal resources that we all love. We started the junior board two years ago with the idea of creating a board for young adults ages 13-18 and are always look-



Brenham's Christopher holle (2011 college scholarship winner) ken holle, Wayne Blum.

ing for new members interested in fishing or conservation!

This year we have been focusing our efforts on assisting the Austin chapter with its annual banquet. We prepared the 900 bull red table gifts and bundled over 10,000 raffle tickets! And there's still plenty more to do. Each year we lose part of our junior board as we go off to college and move on in life, so we always welcome new members that are interested in CCA and will carry on the Austin Junior board. Please let either us know if you are interested in joining or have any questions! Thank you. —**Joseph Sanderson**, President joemac224@yahoo.com / **Sam Appling**, Vice President smapping@gmail.com

Bay Area

Curtis Anderson 832-421-6377

We held our annual banquet/fundraiser on March 29 in Clear Lake and had a great event. The crawfish were outstanding and the beer was cold. But more than that, we beat last year's figures, beat our budget and had a great turnout. There isn't room here to list all our sponsors and donors but some major ones were **Academy, Del Papa, Kroger, Dirty Third Outfitters, and McRee Ford.** We are planning tournaments and monthly general meetings and have some great speakers lined up. On April 23rd we had **Robert Sloan** speak at our April meeting. Robert is a great outdoors writer and sportsman. His talk was very interesting and informative. Stay safe and good fishing. —**Kent Lacy**

Brazoria County

Wes Dingee 979-299-8245

Currently our 2012 banquet totals are being calculated and we are expecting the best banquet we have ever had. We would like to thank **Beef O'Bradys** for being our title sponsor.

We helped again with the **Port Of Freeport Take a Child Fishing event.** The smiles on those kids faces was worth more than words can explain. I had the privilege to present **Colton Roeder** with his STAR tournament scholarship at senior awards night for Brazoswood High School. He won the star teens trout division back in 2004 with a trout weighing 6lbs. 11oz. The star tourney is nearing. Better get signed up—you just might be the lucky one this year.

—Wes Dingee



Colton Roeder is congratulated by Brazoria County President Wes Dingee after accepting his STAR scholarship.

Brazos Valley

Larry Purifoy 979-229-4752

Brenham

Dennis Crowson 979-451-2472

Dennis.crowson@hotmail.com

We had another successful fundraiser crawfish boil. A big thank you to all of the event and corporate sponsors who helped underwrite the event. Also thanks to all the persons involved with helping to set everything up and working the night of the event. It was a great team effort.

Join us the 4th Thursday of each month at 6:30pm at **Mike Hopkins Distributing** for our monthly general meetings. These meetings are sponsored by Mike Hopkins Distributing and **ammotogo.com** and **Independence Firearms.** For more pictures of the banquet go to <http://southcentral.texaslivenetwork.com/2012/05/01/brenhams-coastal-conservation-association-18th-annual-banquet-and-crawfish-boil/>

For more information about the Brenham Chapter of CCA contact me—**Dennis Crowson** dennis.crowson@hotmail.com

Brush Country

Hank Henry 361-215-6803

Centex

Brad Hensel 254-776-3411

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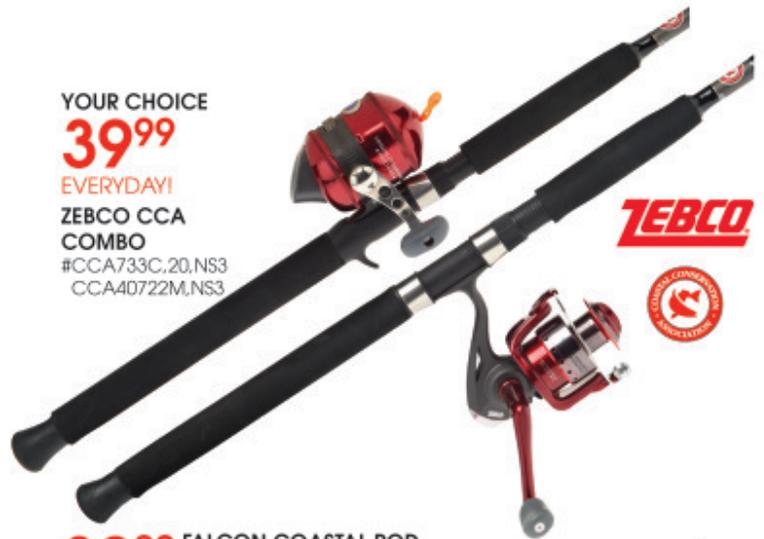
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Central Houston

Todd Buster Mobil, 713-545-1897

Our 36th Annual Central Houston banquet on April 19 at the Bayou City Event Center was a banner event. We're still crunching the numbers, but it looks like the best banquet from a fundraising perspective in recent memory.

We'll be scheduling some **Anglers' Nights Out** and other events in the late summer/early fall, so keep your eyes peeled. Also, mark your calendar for the **37th Annual Central Houston banquet. It will be held on April 18, 2013, at the Bayou City Event Center.** If you're interested in becoming involved in the Central Houston Chapter, please contact me at tbuster@busterandcogdellbuilders.com. Tight Lines!
-Todd Buster busterandcogdellbuilders.com.

Colorado Valley

Jonathan Brandt, (aka JK)

979-966-2679 jkjb00@cmaccess.com

We had a fantastic banquet on March 22. Our chapter board would like to thank all those folks who came out to support a good cause. Thanks to the KC's for providing a delicious dinner.

We'd also like to appreciate all of our donors and supporters. Thank you to all of those generous individuals who purchased tickets and tables for the event and to those of you who bid in the auction. With your participation we were able to raise a great sum of money to help fund projects that our important to the future of our coastal resources. If you are interested in participating on our board please contact us. We are always looking for new volunteers and would welcome your participation. -JK

Corpus Christi

Michael Henry 361-816-0300

Greetings from the Texas Riviera. Spring is upon us, and with that comes the annual STAR Tournament kickoff Memorial Day weekend. As mentioned in last issue, we thanked all of our gold and silver 2012 banquet sponsors. This issue we would like to thank all of our valued bronze sponsors, they are without a doubt, a lot of the reason we are coming off a record breaking banquet. THANK YOU, **David Ainsworth-Ainsworth Trucking, Access Storage, John Grunwald-Grunwald Printing, All Tech Inspection, American Rodsmith, Basic Industries, Berkely Caplan Laser Center, Steve Keevan-Blue Cross Blue**

Shield of Texas, Borden Insurance, Champion Ford/Mazda, Cooper Advertising, Al and Lynda Dehnert-C & S Plating, Desiree Tullos-Desiree's Catering, Troy Adler-Federal Steel Sales, G.E. Betz, Lauren Hollon-Hollon Safe, Lamar Advertising, James Perez-Mattress Firm, Joseph Afram-Modern Pawn & Gun, Ohmstede Ltd., Republic National Distributing, Sentinel Integrity Solutions, Sharkathon, Southern Technical Control, Spartan Thru Tubing, The Producers Professional Guide Services, Total Oilfield Equipment & Supply. CCA Corpus Christi thanks you all for your continued support.

Mark your calendars: 2012 CCA Corpus Christi Guides Cup October 4-5, 2012. Captains Dinner and Calcutta, Thursday evening @ 6:00pm. Contact Cody Roesner-Chairman.

2012 Babes of Baffin and Blue, women's fishing tournament. Friday and Saturday, October 5-6, 2012. Contact Candace Tidmore-713-444-4903.

2012 Annual Poco Rojo Kids fishing tournament. Saturday October 20th, 2012. Contact Mike Henry-361-816-0300.

We will be emailing pre-registration forms for Babes on Baffin and Blue and Poco Rojo Kid Fish in June. In closing, CCA Corpus Christi is proud to announce the induction of our new president, Randy Poelma. As always, take a kid fishing, you will be glad you did. -Michael

Dallas / North Texas

John Hansen 214-243-9435

We just completed our annual banquet on April 26. Great turnout, great evening, thank you to all for your support! As President for two years, I have thoroughly enjoyed serving our chapter, it has been an honor. The reins have officially been turned over to our new President, **Craig Jones** and Vice President Elect **Robert DiCicco**. Our chapter is in very capable hands moving forward. Congratulations to both.

I want to thank all our table buyers, donors, attendees, and the Dallas Chapter Executive Committee for your steadfast support of CCA Texas. You all made your banquet a record setting success this year. Our executive committee is comprised of a great group of CCA members who for several years have gone above and beyond with their time and energy to promote CCA in the Dallas area. I would estimate that 90% of our auction items were 100% donations pro-

vided by our friends and members supporting the CCA Texas cause. I would love to list them all but space won't allow. Please find a way to support the donors and sponsors located in the program - they are owed our reciprocity.

That being said, I feel it is important to thank our **first annual Sportsman/Conservationist of the Year Gary Loomis** for finding the time to share with us in accepting this honor. Several more include **Sam Caldwell** for his tireless conservation ethic in donating a Caldwell original. **Rick Pope of Temple Fork Rods** (www.templeforkflyrods.com) for the donation of our table gifts and signed **Gary Loomis rods** to those purchasing life CCA memberships the night of the auction, **Billy Kinder, Big Billy Kinder Outdoors** (www.bigbillykinderoutdoors.com) for releasing me off the hook as our very talented emcee. Moving forward, keep watch for a summer general membership meeting, we will send out an email blast with further information as well as postings to our web site (www.dallascca.org) and Facebook page (dallascca). We will be hosting a tent at **Tailwaters Fly Shop** 5th anniversary party Saturday, June 2. Be sure to come down and support **Tailwaters!** Thanks for all your support of a cause near and dear to every Texan, we do it for the fish! Tight Lines, -**John Hansen** / Ex-President mesalogistics@sbcglobal.net

East Texas

Dr. Jim Norman 936-554-3165
jnorman7@suddenlink.net

We partnered with Nacogdoches Parks and Recreation again to help sponsor a Kid's Fish event in January. Shirt sleeve weather this time, a welcome change from freezing our butts off at the past events. The event registered 175 kids to fish for fun and prizes. We cooked and served over 400 hot dogs and franks-on-a-stick to participants and families. Special thanks to hot dog chefs **Billy Cox, Dan Hafner, Bill Kaczynski, Allan Spruiell, Mike Miguez and Rusty Sanders, Marty Smith and Frank Still**. Thanks to sponsors **Brookshire Brothers, Butcher Boy Restaurant and Clear Springs Restaurant** for supplying hot dogs and buns, **Dr.'s Kelly Moon and Jeremy Smith** for financial support, and CCA for donated prizes.

One lucky angler in the 6 and under division caught a 9.8 lb. catfish to take big fish honors this year. Special thanks to **Ron Jones** of the Nacogdoches Bass Club who sat all day with certified scales to weigh fish from 0.2 lb. - 9.8 lbs. and



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accurately record the results in 3 age divisions. Kudos to **Texas Parks and Wildlife** for the work involved in stocking the city park lake with hungry fish. If your chapter is not involved in putting on one of these events, you are missing a fantastic opportunity to turn on a bunch of kids to fishing. Most of these kids will never have the opportunity to wade the King Ranch shoreline or soak croakers along Traylor Island or fish an incoming tide at Hannah's Reef. Anything we can do to get them involved in our sport and cause is special stuff.

We held our banquet April 27th. Pit masters **Billy Cox** and **Dan Hafner** were helped by **Bill Kaczynski, Marty Smith, Frank Still, Rusty Sanders,** and **Jim Norman** in the preparation of brisket, pork shoulder, and chicken for 200. Special thanks to **Clear Springs Restaurant and Butcher Boy Restaurant** and **Pilgrim Pride** for sponsoring the meat and sides for the banquet.

If you came to our banquet, you are registered as a member of the East Texas Chapter. We continue to do all the banquet work and other projects with a core group of 10-12 members. If you want to help out, we need you. We meet once a month usually at **Clear Springs Restaurant on the first Monday of the month.** We work on CCA business and spend some time telling fishing lies, showing off pictures of recent catches and planning future trips. You do not have to have a boat, just an interest in coastal conservation. We are currently working on our summer fishing tournament. If you are interested contact me — **Jim Norman.**

Fort Bend

Welcome new President Clint Shepard 832-595-5375

We have just wrapped up our 26th annual banquet and what a great banquet it was. We had around 350 in attendance this year and would like to thank each and every one of you for your generous contributions and support. This year's Grand Prize was a 19' JH w/115 HP E-TEC from Sport Marine in Richmond, Tx., with custom aluminum work and trailer from S.A.W.

I'd like to thank **JH Performance Boats and Sport Marine in Richmond** for all they did for us on this year's boat, what a great group to business with. I'd also like to thank **Terri Bumpers** with **Sign Designs in Rosenberg** for all that she has done for us for several years now and a special thanks to **Steve Onstad** and **The Swinging Door in Richmond** for allowing us to hold our monthly meeting there all these years.

Our new chapter officers take seat after our banquet each year and I'd like to welcome them: Chapter President — **Clint Shepard**; Vice President — **Garren "Puggs" Schmidt**; Secretary — **Robb Gaston**; Treasurer — **Mike Gamble**. This is a great group of guys with some great new ideas for our chapter. Good luck! I'm looking forward to sitting on the other side of the table for a while. Thanks to all the committee members that surprised me at the banquet with the thoughtful plaque and new YETI cooler.

Special thanks to last year's officers: Vice President — **Garren "Puggs" Schmidt**; Secretary — **Robb Gaston**; Treasurer — **Clint Shepard**.

Mark your calendars: The "Ladies Only" fishing tournament, **The Lingerie On The Bay** is scheduled for June 16th, 2012 in Matagorda. Entry forms will be posted at www.matagordabay.com and www.wadefishing.com. **The Jimmy Guest Memorial Kid's Fishing Tournament in Matagorda** will be on July 7, 2012. Information for this event can be found at www.matagordabay.com Till next time — **Troy Burditt, Past Chapter President**

Fort Worth

Fearn Mastin 817-291-1302

It was a beautiful night and the garden at Joe T's was packed with great supporters. Fantastic groceries and refreshing adult beverages set the stage for what was a record breaking night for our chapter. If you weren't there, you missed it! We had a little something for everyone. We thank all those folks who came out and helped make our 16th Annual membership banquet and fundraiser a night to remember. Thanks



Winners of Greater Sugar Land's Texas Pride Cart — Mr. and Mrs. David Tusa.

Leonard, Firestone & Robertson Distilling, Jason Booth, Justin Boot Company, Kuche Safaris, Miss Kitty's Fishing Adventures, Rahr Brewery, Rapids Camp Lodge, Rough Creek Lodge, Southwest Airlines, Texas Outdoors, Capt. Bill Hull and Third Coast Blue Water Outfitters. We could not have achieved such success without these generous donors. We'd also like to thank our chapter board that continues to grow stronger with each year. They are the ones that make it happen. — **Fearn Mastin**

Galveston

Shane Justus 713-818-6940

Our 20th Annual Banquet is set for August 4, 2012 at Moody Gardens Convention Center. We have secured our Raffle Boat, an 18' **Shallow Sport w/ Envrinrude 115 and sitting on a McClain Trailer** there are only 300 tickets. Tickets are \$100 and are on sale now. Email sj@coopwood.com or call the CCA office if you would like to purchase a ticket. We would also like to thank **COASTLINE MARINE** for the custom aluminum work. They were listed incorrectly in the last issue of Currents so we would like to take this opportunity to thank them and give them credit for the fantastic work they did for us and for their continued support. Remember take a kid fishing or hunting they will remember it forever and so will you. — **Shane Justus**

Golden Triangle

Joseph Ramey 409-338-1095

We had our banquet May 10th, and it was a great success. **Pure Cajun** did a fabulous job with the crawfish — good size and very tasty, and **Seafood Lover** provided the oysters, straight out of East Galveston Bay! Very nice touch. Thanks to **Kizziah Construction** for buying the director's tournament trip, and then turning around and donating it back so it could be sold again! Muchas Gracias!

As of this writing (May 1st, 2012), the temperature has been fabulous on the upper Texas coast, but the winds have been howlin'! I have heard a few reports that if you can get off in the marshes and protected areas, there is no shortage of redfish. Trout and flounder are a bit trickier — that is from what I hear anyway. The Sabine jetties and ship channel have been fruitful as well — I hear.

The 2012 S.T.A.R. tourney will begin soon, and from the looks of the banquet participation so far, it ought to be a good one. The RGV, Corpus, San Antonio, and Houston chapters have had record crowds at their banquets, and we here at the Golden Triangle chapter are looking forward to ours next week — May 10th. It is hard to believe that we are looking at the end of another spring, and the beginning of another summer! Pray that we don't have another drought like last year — EVER! And get out there and GO FISH — Catch ya' one! — **Rocky Chase**

Greater Sugar Land

David Kveton 281-808-4870

We had our annual banquet April 12 at Missouri City Community Center. What a night it was! Words can't describe how proud I am of the chapter members that helped with the banquet. Very special thanks to **Kathryn Cavender** our Banquet Chairman for all that you do for our chapter. Thanks to all of the sponsors that helped make this the Biggest and Best event. The crawfish and catfish were outstanding, thanks to **Chris Hall**. The winner of the Texas Pride Cart is **David Tusa** of Sugar Land.

to our Gold Table Sponsors who helped underwrite a portion of our event: **Academy, Black/ Costanza, Joe White Tank Company, R.E. Cupp, Stuart Balcom and Trident Water Services.** We'd also like to thank **Ben E Keith** and **Chicken Express** for underwriting our gun raffle. And of course all of the many outfitters, guides and donors who helped create such a variety in our auction and raffle: **Skipper Mock, Jeff Bond, Richard Creed, Redneck Boats, David**

We had a great Kid Fish event at Sea Center Texas Lake Jackson. A special thanks to **Houston Elks Lodge 151** for busing the kids out and providing all the shirts, drinks, food, and rod and reels for the kids. All the children are special needs children and to see the kids catch a fish for the first time ever was a rewarding experience. May 2, we held our Regular meeting at Spring Creek BBQ. Thanks to Capt. **Bill Pustejousky** of Matagorda for sharing his fishing expertise with us.

May 12th we held our fishing for kids in New Territory, Sugar Land. May 12, Sugar Land Chapter is having family night out at the new Skeeter's Ball Park thanks to **KEITH BAUMAN**. We welcome you to visit our monthly chapter meetings, held the first Wednesday of each month at **SPRING CREEK BAR B-Q** on HWY 6 In Missouri City at 7pm. Check our facebook page at <http://www.Facebook.com/ccasugarland>. Have a great summer. Take a child fishing. — **David Kveton**

Greater Woodlands

Jimmy Pape / 832-326-6723

www.ccatexas.org/greater-woodlands

Guadalupe Valley

Cliff Weber 361-275-6506

Hays County

Steve Schiber 512-524-2989

Heart of the Hills

Randy Plummer 830-377-0737

We had good spring fishing this year with a lot of trout and redfish and now need to shift our focus to banquet preparation. Watch your email for upcoming meeting dates and times. If you haven't ever been involved in the chapter, this is a great time for you to start. Give us a call at 210-380-5709 and we can give you more information and get your name on the email list. — **Jim Simmons**

Hill Country

Darlene Cook 800-594-2056 ext 217

darlenec@knbt.fm

We had 80 or more people at the March meeting, 10 being youth and teen. We raffled off a flounder trip with **Capt. Dan Pike** of Rockport. **Doug Webb** was the lucky winner! We had four vendors showing great products, **Austin Kayak, Creative Eye/Costas, Rust Game Place, and Reel Improvements.** Each vendor gave a gift certificate or product valued at \$100 or more for door prizes. The Meeting Committee did a great job with the door prizes and getting **Norm Boyd** as our guest speaker. Norm gave the group some interesting fisheries data on relating to population trends of certain species.

The meeting was at the New Braunfels Elk's Lodge. Our guest speaker was a TPW Game Warden who spoke on the fisheries. We raffled off a flounder trip with the **Night Stalker** in Rockport. There was food, libations, 'fish stories', exhibitors and great door prizes!

Doug Webb, former president of the Hill Country Chapter, is heading up a new project that will put Tide magazines and Rising Tide in every school in the New Braunfels ISD and Comal ISD, and **Sterling Schulz** is covering the Seguin ISD. Please save all of your Tide magazines! We will collect them at meetings or you can drop them off at the Radio Station, KGNB KNBT, on Loop 337 in New Braunfels. We are looking for a Sponsor to provide RISING TIDE magazines to the schools, too. Are you interested?

IS THERE A NEED FOR A BOATING CLASS? We are considering hosting a Boating Class for CCA members and non-member fresh water recreation boaters. Is there a need? Let us know! Contact me at darlenec@knbt.fm or 830-214-3067.

The Family Fishing Tournament is June 16th and will be held in Rockport. The dinner and awards will be held at Drifter's Resort on Business 35 south of downtown Rockport. You can purchase your tickets at the May meeting or contact **Chris Lange** at 830-214-5646 or **Josh Downey** at 830-70832986 for tickets. If you can't make the meeting someone will be at Cove Harbor Friday night, 7-9 pm, and you can sign up then. Or you can request a tournament flyer and mail in a check as long as we receive payment by June 6, 2012. As usual families are always encouraged to attend the tournaments and the meetings. **The Fall Family Tournament** will be October 13th. For more information on the Tournaments contact **Chris Lange** at 830-214-5646 or **Josh Downey** at 830-708-2986.



Floyd Cheatham of the Mainland chapter soloed on 66 derelict crab traps.

The HCC Directors would like to thank our Sponsors and all the business's that supported CCA in 2011. Thank you **Metro Ambulance, Power Engineering Services, Stay Tuff Fence, Whitaker Insurance, Creative Eyewear, Seaworthy Marine, Fishers of Men, Diamond K Eyecare, Sandollar Resort and Hardy Eye Care.**

Tickets for the Hill Country Chapter Banquet August 16th are now on sale. One of the items in the LIVE AUCTION is a **1985 Chevy Blazer with lift kit with oversized mud tires, heavy duty replacement bumpers and a grill guard with receiver hitches in both front and back plus, custom cargo basket for either front or rear hitch. Custom snorkel package installed on engine.** All of the body has been Rhino lined in light khaki color, all the bumpers, baskets, racks and storage area in the rear of the Blazer has been Rhino lined in black. Call **Todd Thetford** (830-660-8825) to purchase Banquet tickets or buy them at the May 15th meeting.

Thanks to the efforts of **Doug Webb and Sterling Schulz**, the Comal ISD, New Braunfels ISD and Seguin ISD now have the new Tide and Rising Tide magazines in their libraries! Please save your Tide and Rising Tides and bring to the meetings for distribution. We need all we can get so that our youth can start learning about CCA at an early age!

Buy tickets for the Banquet August 16th today! You can purchase individual tickets but the tables are a better value, plus, you get some great gifts with the tables! If you need information on table sales please contact me and I will email the information to you. We always sell out so don't put it off! For more information call me at 800-594-2056, ext. 217 or at darlene@knbt.fm. Watch the website for meeting and tournament updates. Or check us out on Facebook. See you on the water! —Darlene Cook, President

Houston Real Estate

Dale Couch 281-953-2510

The Houston Real Estate Chapter held its 3rd annual banquet in February at **The Houston Country Club**. The chapter is largely composed of home builders, land developers, mortgage and banking executives, and other real estate oriented individuals that are all motivated to help CCA preserve our natural coastal resources.

The latest banquet was very successful and highly attended with many auctioned hunts and fishing trips donated by CCA Board members at no cost to CCA. The bidding on these trips was motivated by the opportunity to hunt or fish with one of the board members. In addition to our three annual banquets, the chapter hosted its first fishing tournament last October in Matagorda. We will continue building on our success with the annual banquet and fishing tournaments that promote interaction with executives in the real estate business. Hope you are doing well!

Katy

Jason Smith 281-924-7040

Banquet Time for your Katy CCA is just around the corner, June 14 at Agave Road in Katy. Everyone already needs to have made your plans to come. I can guarantee a great time for all, good food, good drinks, and some great auction items. If you need tickets for the banquet, which still are a great bargain at \$50, which includes your CCA membership, or raffle tickets at \$200 for our 15 gun raffle. You can contact me at 281-924-7040, **Gary Mancini** 281-850-2212, or **Matt Still** at 713-626-4222.

On June 30, CCA is sponsoring the **Concert for Conservation at the Sam Houston Race Park**. It features **Pat Green** with **Jerry Jeff Walker, Sammy Kershaw** and **Gene Watson**. You can go to CCATEXAS.ORG for tickets.

Profits from this go to CCA for conservation purposes.

Want to remind all of you that we meet monthly on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, 7 pm at the **Red River BBQ on Mason in Katy**. Come on out for some good speakers, good food, cold drinks and great raffle items.

Remember that CCA is not a fishing club, but a conservation group that the whole family can participate in. We would like to hear from you, so if you have a good fishing story or pictures and want to share them send them to me at (jasonshope@msn.com) or **Matt Still** at (mstill@texascca.org) and we will get them on our web site at CCA. If you have not been getting our Chapter Meeting emails you need to send me your email address and we will get you on the list. Looking forward to seeing all of you at our meetings and the Banquet. —Jason Smith

Laredo

Jesse Martinez jmartinez@bushlan.com
956-763-5555

Lee County

Clarence Wolfshohl
979-412-0916

Cwolfshohl@claytonwilliams.com

Live Oak

Brad Kotrla 979-732-1669

Lower Colorado

J.L. West 979-318-9007

On Saturday, April 14, our chapter supported the **Third Annual "Rally on the River"** at Riverside Park in Bay City. This event was sponsored by the Matagorda County Birding and Nature Center. Ninety one kayak and canoe enthusiasts enjoyed a seven mile round trip excursion on the Colorado River. Back at the park, the festivities included vendors, music, and foods. Our chapter provided a backyard fishing experience for youngsters teaching them techniques in using a rod and reel. **Jerry West** and **Ronnie Bose** did a great job in this area. **David Sitz** did an excellent job demonstrating the proper way to throw a cast net, to include hands-on training for all youngsters and young adults interested. All in all, it was a great experience.

By the time you are reading this article, our **Second Annual Kid Fish Weekend** scheduled for **May 19** has come and gone. More details next issue.

At the time of this writing, several businesses in Bay City have stepped forward and made contributions to help cover costs of this event. Those businesses are: **Dependable Machine Inc., Wells Fargo Bank, First State Bank of Louise, OXEA Chemical Corp., Pepsi Corp., Blue Bell Creamery, HEB Food Stores, and CVS Pharmacy.** A huge "Thank You" to all these businesses. Without you, our CCA events would not be possible.

Our 4th annual CCA Fundraiser/Banquet will be held Friday, AUGUST 17th, at the Bay City Civic Center. MARK YOUR CALENDARS. We are already selling Banquet and Raffle tickets, and contacting our local businesses for sponsorships. Last year, we had a lot of great sponsors who made the difference in making our banquet a success. Hopefully, they will continue that level of support again this year. The raffle this year will be \$20 for 10 assorted firearms and 10 assorted Yeti coolers. That's 20 opportunities to win something for a \$20 investment.

For a \$40 banquet ticket (\$50 at the door), you get a CCA membership, a delicious BBQ meal, drinks, entertainment, and a world class Auction, all this for the price of a tank of gas. Drinks will be provided this year by **Del Pappa Distributors** for **Budweiser Products**. We will also have an in-house raffle for a lot of outdoor/fishing/hunting equipment provided by **Academy**. We still have a lot of planning to do. It takes a lot of effort from a lot of people to make this event a success. Watch for the August/September issue of CURRENTS newsletter for more information when all the details get worked out.

If you can help with ticket sales for the banquet, or ticket sales for the gun/Yeti cooler raffle, or just need information, call **Jerry West** at 979-318-9007, **Ronnie Bose** at 979-429-0457, or **Robbie Noster** at 979-241-8598.

REMEMBER! The Lower Colorado Chapter meets every first Tuesday at 6:30 pm. Check the **Bay City Tribune Tidbits column** for location. Come early and share a meal with us. Chapter members get involved with your chapter. Come to meetings and bring a friend. In the meantime, keep those lines wet. —John Kubecka / Secretary

Lower Laguna Madre

Travis Flanagan 956-207-6391

The Lower Laguna Madre Chapter will be raffling a 2012 18' Sport boat by Shallow Sport Boats. The winner will be announced at our 2012 Banquet which will be held on Thursday, September 13, 2012, at Schlitterbahn Beach Water Park on our beautiful South Padre Island. Doors open at 6pm. For more information about purchasing tickets for the boat raffle and/or purchasing tickets for the banquet please email us at atloverlagunamadrecca@yahoo.com.! —Travis Flanagan

Mainland

Eric Minor 281-534-6242

As of right now the Mainland Chapter is getting ready for our banquet on May 4th, which puts us in-between the Currents publications for June and July. There will be more to come in the August issue.

I would like to speak about a board member, **Floyd Cheatham**, who not only is very active with the chapter but took time out of his day, and made a mess out of his boat. He was able to pick up 66 derelict crab traps by himself when it was legal to do so. Thanks Floyd for the hard work and getting those traps out of the water. —Eric 281-534-6242

Matagorda Bays

Linc Lutrick 979-541-9901
with boat pic

The 27th Annual Matagorda Bays CCA Banquet will be held on Thursday June 28th at the El Campo Civic Center. This year's boat raffle will feature a fully rigged 21' **Trans Sport XLR8 LS w/ 150 HP Suzuki & Coastline Aluminum Trailer.** Thank you to our boat sponsors, **Tran Sport Boats, Aluma Tech, Suzuki Motors, and Coastline Trailers** for their support.

This year's live auction will feature **Stainless Steel BBQ Pit from Multi Fab Metals, Argentina Dove Hunt from Frontera Wingshooting, Matagorda Bay Fishing Trip & Lodging** donated by **Sunrise Lodge on Matagorda, Bink Grimes & Mark Talasek**, and many other items. Don't forget about the **Matagorda Bay Guides Cup** to be held at **Russell's Bait & Tackle** in September, this event is made possible by the support of our local guides and sponsors **Duckett, Boulogny & Collins LLP, Russell's Bait & Tackle** and **H&H Oilfield**.

We are pleased to announce that for the third year in a row, the **Game Warden of the Year** will be recognized at our banquet. To be awarding one of these fine folks at our banquet is truly an honor. Be sure and get your tickets early, the banquet has sold out the past three years. You may contact **Wesley Smolik** at 979-543-2753 for more details.

The **7th Annual Matagorda Bays CCA Lil' Salties Fishing Blowout** was held on May 12 at the Matagorda Harbor. This is a FREE TOURNAMENT FOR KIDS between the ages of 3 and 14. This event has averaged over 200 kids for the past 5 years and it is only possible because of the generous donations of our sponsors. Thank you again to all of the sponsors who make this event a huge success and to our Event Sponsors: **D A M Services, Inc, Prasek's Hillje Smokehouse, Backup Utility Contractors, Inc., Polasek Construction Inc., Cedar Creek Woodshop, Volnerau Ford, Mustang CAT, and Quality Hot Mix, Inc.** See the next Currents Publication for more details on this event. For more information on the tournament or to be a part of this great event, contact **Chad Hensley** (979-541-3239).

Thanks, —Linc Lutrick

MidCoast

Danny Hurta 361-648-4914

Northeast Houston

Jason Law 713-898-8594

Saturday, April 21, we held our annual **Crawfish Boil Fundraising Banquet** at the **Humble Civic Center Outdoor Pavilion**. It was an amazing success! It was catered by our local **Zydeclaws crawfish company** with all the trimmings!

We had some amazing raffle prizes and silent auction items donated by **The Rod and Reel Repair Center, Fiesta Azteca Mexican Restaurant, Alsbaugh ACE Hardware, G&S Trolling Motors, Coastal Fishing Gear, and Faust Distributing.** Our live auction was full of exciting trips, beautiful artwork, and surprises!

We would like to thank everyone who attended our banquet and helped make the night a wonderful success! This of course could not have been done without the work of our fabulous board members...Thank you, **Nate Gonzalez, Gary Barth, Robyn Barth, Blake Roder, Brandon Jones, Shannon Jones, Tim Stamps, Oscar Dominquez, and Samantha Law.** We will be having a board meeting on May 16 at 6:30pm. If you would like to join the board please join us at **Fiesta Azteca,** or just give me a call. Thanks! —**Jason Law**

Northwest Houston

Blayne Eversole 832-444-4579

Our speaker at April's meeting was **Bill Balboa,** Galveston Bay Ecosystem Leader with Texas Parks and Wildlife. Bill has spoken to us in the past discussing changes in Galveston Bay since Hurricane Ike and the results of the gill net surveys to date. He continues to give very informative and entertaining presentations.

We also celebrated our annual Member appreciation fish fry at the April meeting. We had a large turnout to renew memberships, sign up for the STAR tournament, enjoy both plenty of fish and a great speaker program.

Our Kid Fish was May 12. Many thanks to the **City of La Porte, Harris County Precinct 2, and Linda's Bait and Tackle** for their support of this program.

Our Annual Fund Raising Banquet is scheduled for August 16th. Please plan to attend. You can count on a great venue and evening program.

Our next General Members Meeting is June 5th at **Houston Distributing.** We have arranged to have **Scott Jones,** Galveston Bay Foundation's Director of Advocacy. In this capacity, Scott guides the Foundation's efforts to serve as the watchdog for Galveston Bay. Scott ensures that the Foundation is an active participant in the public review of projects, initiatives and issues that impact the estuary – from individual wetland dredge and fill projects to protecting seafood consumption safety to influencing freshwater inflows standards - by attending public meetings and submitting written public comments. Scott works with stakeholders and the public encourages balance among the multiple uses of Galveston Bay so that the long-term interests of the bay itself are not compromised.

Our sincere thanks to both **Houston Distributing and Academy.** They are active sponsors of our meetings and many events. We are especially fortunate to have such great support. As a reminder, we are using email for meeting announcements. If we don't have your e-mail address and you would like to receive our announcements, please send your e-mail address to js_declue@yahoo.com. —**Blayne Eversole**

Orange County

Scott Bandy 409-988-3667
sabandy@ymail.com

With banquet preparation in full swing for an **AUGUST 30th event,** the Orange County CCA Chapter welcomes **GRANGER CHEVROLET** as our Platinum Sponsor for 2012. The Bridge City Community Center will be packed with everyone enjoying ribeye steaks cooked by Orange's very own **Mike Lemoine** of **SPANKY'S BAR & GRILL.** As as I type this article, only a few tickets are remaining, so some people will have to wait till the 2013 banquet when we will expand to a larger facility. It may be too late to get your ticket but you can always get your **5 gun / 5 yeti cooler raffle tickets.** Contact a banquet committee member to get yours. Tight Lines, —**Scott Bandy**
occ_cca@yahoo.com

Piney Woods

Jess Mowery 903-736-3891

Port O'Connor

Bill Moore 361-983-4690

Several members of the POC chapter traveled to Victoria on May 4 to join the MidCoast chapter for their annual banquet, as well as visiting with members of the other chapters.

Our chapter held a combination general membership meeting and a 2011 banquet appreciation meeting on May 17. Thanks, **Carl and Pam Ray** for hosting this, as well as those who helped and prepared the meal. If you could not attend this meeting, a proposed slate of officers, along with an updated 2012 banquet committee list will be presented

to the membership at the next meeting. So, if you want to get involved, it's not too late to volunteer. **The 13th Annual POC CCA Banquet is still slated for Saturday, October 20th.**

Also, many reading this will be in the POC area on July 18-21 for POCO Bueno. Come by and visit some of our banquet donors. See you at POCO in POC, "where it all began." —**Bill Moore**

Prairie

Sharon Goebel 979-877-4103

WHAT A NIGHT! On Thursday, April 5, the chapter hosted our 15th annual fund raiser banquet which was held at Cat Spring Hall. This year we completely sold out of tickets for the event. There was a "cap and gun" raffle of eight guns, and for \$20 you got your choice of a cap which had a card attached. If your card was won, you won that gun. Also, there was a dollar raffle for a pistol. The evening started with a prime rib and quail dinner catered by **Jerry Mikeska** of Columbus.

We would like to thank **Mart Switzer** and his team for presenting the Live Auction, which included fishing and hunting trips, framed prints, plus many more great items. There was also a silent auction of many donated items. Also, there was a \$5 bucket raffle which was sold throughout the evening by **Mandy Goebel, Erin Beaman, Jennifer Flentge, Amy Herbrig, Lori Cruz and Cassie Kasprovicz.** We thank them for their help. Thanks, also, to **Joey Pawlowski** for managing the raffle. Many thanks to those who donated caps. We appreciate their generosity.

Also, thanks to the corporate table sponsors. Without the corporate tables and **Kirk Hoppe's** direction we would not be as successful. Also, we want to thank the sponsors for the table coolers – **Select Quality Systems, Wittenburg Printing, and G. W. Goebel & Sons & Granddaughters.** Plus, we would like to thank **Mark 111 and Cool Blue Fans** for donating the koozies.

We would be remiss in not thanking all the **CCA Prairie Chapter Board Members.** They worked diligently to put the banquet together. Also, thanks to **Coleman Todd** and his team from the CCA Corporate Office.

This year we offered something new which was a lifetime membership in CCA. For those who purchased membership that evening received CCA soft sided coolers, two CCA tumblers and \$300 worth of raffle tickets for \$975.

On May 19, the chapter sponsored the annual Kids Fish. It was held at the **Eberly Ranch** in Chappell Hill. Thanks to the **Eberlys** for the use of the lake and facilities.

On June 30, we are having our **first annual Prairie Chapter Bay Blast Fishing Tournament,** which will be occurring at the Matagorda Harbor. Entry fee will be \$65 per team. This is a non-profit tournament to give back to Bay Systems. There will be prizes for six (6) places for trout, red fish, and flounder. The tournament is open to the public. For more information contact **Travis** or **Amy Herbrig** at 979-877-9917 or e-mail: aherbrig@hotmail.com —**Ron Chess, Sr.**

Redfish Bay

Norman Oates 361-758-0266

The annual "Take a Kid Fishing" event will be held the first weekend of June at **Woody's Sports Center in Port Aransas.** On Friday night, June 1, there will be a shrimp boil and sign up, and kids that can't make it Friday night can sign up on Saturday morning, June 2. Each fisherperson is given a free rod and reel. The awards ceremony will start around noon on Saturday with trophies for all kids. Thanks in advance to the TPWD folks who help the kids fish, and help us measure and weigh fish. In addition this year, **IHOP has agreed to give each kid a free kid's meal.** This is a great event for future fisherpersons!

The Annual Redfish Bay Chapter Banquet was held on April 28, and it was a great success that exceeded our expectations! Thanks to the Redfish Bay Chapter Board and our CCA Texas staff for the planning and work that make events possible. Our attendance was much higher than 2011 (no final count yet). We had tons-of-fun while supporting a great organization – what a great way to spend the evening. Special thanks to **Chris's Marine** as our Title Sponsor and our other sponsors and donors as well as the attendees. We just cannot have a Banquet without the local people who support us – thank you again! —**Norman Oates**

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Rio Grande Valley

Matt Klosterman 956-642-7965

The RGV Chapter recently held its 32nd Annual Banquet. This year's banquet was held on April 26 at the Pharr Events Center. The winner of our 21st Explorer Attacka Flats boat with motor and trailer was Rolando Ramirez of San Antonio. We would like to once again thank L&F Distributors for their continued sponsorship of the RGV Chapter raffle boat. Also thanks to Cleve Ford and his crew over at Dargel Boats in Donna, TX for their support of the Rio Grande Valley Chapter. The banquet evening was enjoyed by all who were in attendance and the food was great courtesy of Don Strange Catering. Now that the banquet is behind us some of us will now look forward to getting out on the Laguna Madre and harassing a fish or two. A special thanks also to the Rio Grande Valley directors who all put in extra effort to make this year's banquet such a success. The chapter is always looking for fresh faces to help so if you are interested in joining the RGV Chapter feel free to give me a call at 956-642-7965 to join. —Matt Klosterman

Sabine-Neches

Darin Johnson 409-790-9855

darin.johnson@delpapabud.com

On May 19 we held our 2nd annual Kid Fish. We had a very good turnout, our future anglers had a very good time, to see the look on the kid's faces when they came to the scales with their catch is priceless. We look forward to making this event grow. Last year we had 10 young anglers show up and we more than doubled that this year.

We couldn't have done this without the support of our volunteers and sponsors: Daley's Hunt and Fish, Ancelet's Cajun Market & Marina, Causeway Bait & Tackle, Classic Chevrolet of SE Texas, and Texas Marine.

Congratulations to the Golden Triangle for their successful banquet on May 10th, certainly a good time had by

all! Tight lines to all! Be safe on the water! —Darin Johnson

Sam Houston

Mark Robinson 936-662-0841

mark6469@hotmail.com

San Antonio

Johnny Rayburg 210-837-5500

CCASanAntonio@yahoo.com

Another incredibly successful banquet is in the history books. Many thanks to all the volunteers led by our banquet chairperson Liz Hewitt. Attendance was up this year, as we held our 33rd annual fundraiser on May 3. We owe a big thanks to Don Strange for providing the fine table fare of fried oysters, boiled shrimp, tenderloin, fried quail, their signature white wings, ceviche filled avacados and so much more. They are always on top of their game.

Big winners walked away with a new Harley Davidson, compliments of Coors Light, a new Haynie Boat, sponsored by Anheuser Busch, a John Deere Gator XUV550 S4, sponsored by John Deere, and a custom safari hunting truck, sponsored by Corona beer—built by Tausch Tough Trucks and Anthony's Planet Pickup.

Thanks to everyone who came and supported CCA that night. If you got your tickets last minute this year, don't wait so long next year. We were sold out to capacity this year and I'd hate to think we might have to turn someone away. So next year, get your tables reserved early.

Immediately following the banquet on May 5, the San Antonio chapter sponsored a float in the Helotes Cornyval Parade. We had 13 young New Tide members representing CCA. Sail & Ski generously loaned us the only float in the parade that would actually FLOAT. The kids had a great time and we flew the CCA flag in front of tens of thousands of onlookers. Sticking to the "corny" theme, the kids dangled ears of corn from the ends of their fishing poles over the side of the boat. The crowd loved it.

Now that the banquet is over, it's time for me to go fishing. I hope that you all get to do the same. Take a kid fishing. It will put a smile on their face and yours. —Johnny Rayburg

San Bernard

Royce Macha 979-472-5211

San Gabriel

John Melnar 512- 497-8284

Our tenth annual banquet is scheduled for August 9th. Once again it will be held at the Dell Diamond. We are working on some new changes for this banquet so if you attended a banquet in the past, you need to mark your calendar for the 9th. We hope to see you there!

If you have questions or would like to join our fine group of sponsors please feel free to contact me. —John Melnar jmelnar@piscavore.com

San Jacinto

Pete Ruiz 832-496-4903

TAMU

Burr Thornton 559-901-9783

Texas State

Robin Benson 830-385-1081

Tomball/Magnolia

Matt Maddox 832-590-1828

We ope everyone had a chance to pack the hunting equipment away and dust off the fishing gear!

The month of May brought with it our annual Kidfish Tournament. The event was held May 5 in Magnolia at the Wolf Residence. This event over the past years has had a great turnout and a lot of fun for both the kids and the volunteers alike. I would like to take a moment to thank some of the fine people that help make this event possible: Jerry and Frances Wolf for letting us utilize their won-

Partners in conservation initiatives

At Anheuser-Busch, focusing on environmental sustainability is a key issue. The company operates efficiently to reduce water and energy use and increase recycling in its facilities across the country. As part of this commitment

to conservation efforts, the company has supported the Coastal Conservation Association in their mission to protect coastal resources.

In addition to supporting CCA, Anheuser-Busch promotes outdoor sports and wildlife conservation in several ways, including a \$10 million investment in on-the-ground conservationist initiatives.

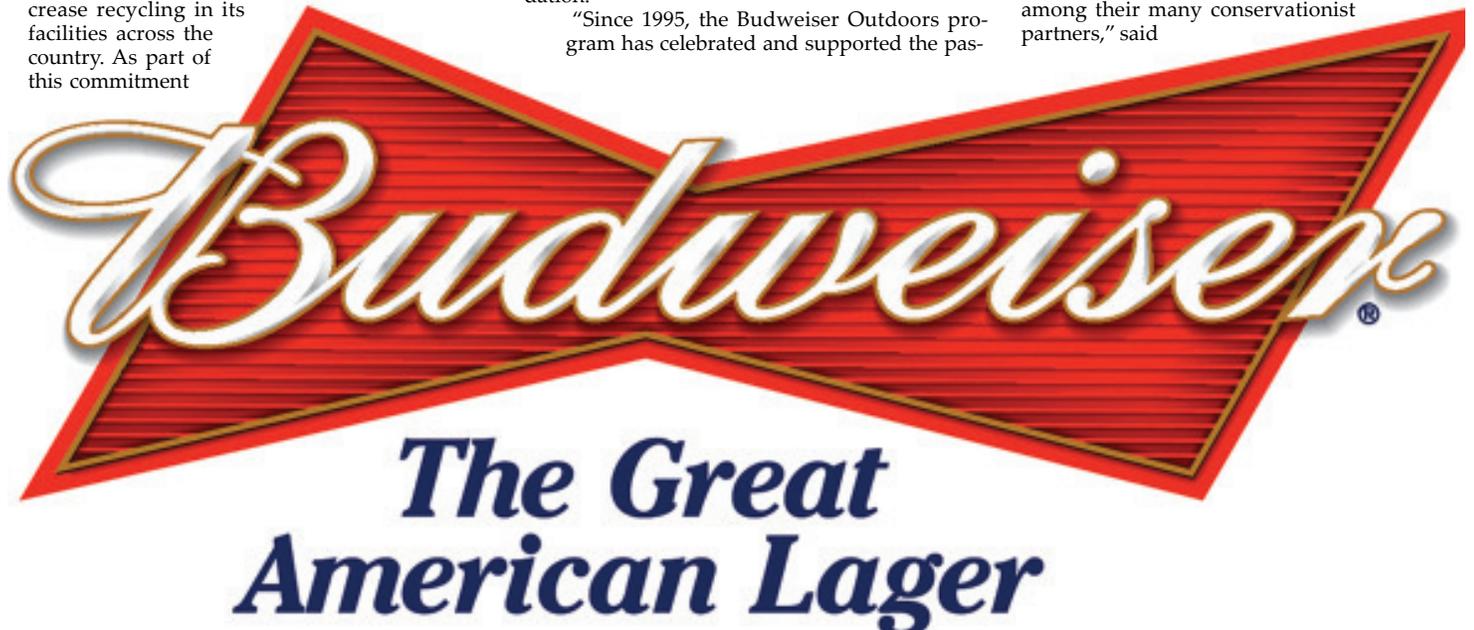
For the past 17 years, the company had awarded the Conservationist of the Year, along with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

"Since 1995, the Budweiser Outdoors program has celebrated and supported the pas-

sion, dedication and leadership of conservationists across the country," said Bob Fishbeck, senior manager for the Budweiser brands. "We all have a responsibility to help protect our natural resources and the work being done by CCA and other wildlife advocates is an inspiration for all of us to follow."

Throughout the years, the Budweiser Outdoors Program has supported numerous conservation organizations.

"Budweiser has become an important supporter of CCA, and we're proud to be among their many conservationist partners," said



derful piece of property. We could not ask for better or more gracious hosts! **Casey Monigold, Sara Weaver, and Lisa Kay** for their time and effort put into this event. Donors that we would like to recognize are: **Texas Armoroat, Tomball Rentals** for the use of the tables and chairs. **Butch Gibbs** at Gainsborough Waste/Texas Out-house. **Camille at Fishing Tackle Unlimited** for use of rods and reels. **Harvey Builders. Dr. Pepper/Cadbury.**

Additional Sponsors who helped make this event possible: **Bobby Miller, Stephen Herdon, Steven Zahn, Johnny Flanagan, Scott Rosemeyer.**

Don't forget about the Annual Tomball/Magnolia Banquet to be held at the Tomball VFW. It will be Thursday, June 28th. Please mark your calendars! Make sure that your email address is correct in our system so we can keep you updated on all of the upcoming chapter functions and events. Also, like us on Facebook under CCA TEXAS:TOMBALL/MAGNOLIA CHAPTER. —**Matt Maddoz**

Tri-County

Jason Trial 830-570-2988

The Tri-County Chapter's 15th Annual Banquet and Fund Raiser took place on April 20, 2012, at the Atascosa County Show Barn. Attendance was better than ever, and the **Cajun Country Cookers** outdid themselves with the fried catfish and boiled crawfish. I would like to thank the Tri-County Board of Directors including: **Rue Ferguson-Treasurer, Brandon and Sara Stellges, Robert and Jeannette Denkeler, Steven Mafrique, Christian Hildebrand, Andrew Cace, Bobbie House, Butch Long, Jean Streetman, John Wilborn, Mary Anne Wilson, Robert Williams, and Craig Gupton.** The hard work of these directors was evident in the huge success of this event. I would really like to thank those in attendance who made this fund raiser possible.

A special "Thank you" to our Redfish Table sponsors: **Aerrotek, AP Electric, and Y Bar Ranch; Trout Table sponsors: Academy, AP Electric, Cace Law, and Solution Services; and all our Flounder Table sponsors.** The sponsorship of our gracious donors made this event possible: **Water Well Services, Inc., Kinsel Ford, Pure Party Ice, W.W. Wood, Inc., Chaparral Veterinary**

Center, Bimini Custom Rods, Tuttle Motor and Hardware, Captain Eric Knipling, Poteet FFA, Yazoo Enterprises, Silver Eagle, Rue Ferguson, Decorative Divas, Smith Propane, Fish Bone Metal Art, Four Seasons Hunting Service, Reus Grain, L.P., Deer Hunters Toy Store, Jean Streetman, Christian Hildebrand, Doc Williams, TNT, Circle S Tack, Schorsch Knives, Honey Hole Stringers, Sara Stellges, New Water Boatworks, Pro Line Custom Aluminum, Laddie J. Nemic, and Glazier's, Inc. Thanks to everyone involved and in attendance, the Tri-County Chapter was able to raise valuable contributions to be used to improve a resource we all enjoy!

With fishing season upon us, I hope everyone has taken the time to register for the S.T.A.R. Tournament beginning Memorial Day weekend. There will be several tagged redfish roaming our bays waiting for a lucky angler! Don't forget to "like" our chapter Facebook page, CCA Tri-County Chapter. We will use this avenue to keep you informed of chapter events like our approaching **Lower Laguna Madre Shootout** planned for Saturday, July 21, 2012, in Port Mansfield, Texas. Until then, I hope you take every opportunity to get on the water! —**Jason W. Trial, DVM**

Trinity Bay

Gerald Payne 281-385-2894

August 24 is rapidly approaching for Trinity Bay's annual banquet. Once again we will hold our banquet at the Bay Area Community Center off of Nasa Road One in Clear Lake. On tap this year is a boiled shrimp dinner with all the trimmings provided for us by **Cajun Country Cookers.** We're also working out the details for our major raffle ticket which will include trips, guns and electronics and/or anything else we come up with. Our meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month at the **Wismar Distributing Co.** in Baytown; volunteers are certainly welcome. For any information on the Trinity Bay Chapter or our board please call **Gerald Payne** at 281-728-6278 or **Patrick Anders** at 832-629-7822. Tight lines! —**Patrick J. Anders II**

West Houston

Mike Booher 281-772-0132

We enjoyed another successful banquet on May 3rd. We would like to thank all of our sponsors including **Thomas Instruments, Academy Sports & Outdoors, John Eagle Honda,**

Jansen International, and Silver Eagle Distributors.

We would also like to thank the many exhibitors that came out and displayed their wares to our members. Once again **Papagators** did an outstanding job on the crawfish. I hope everyone got plenty to eat. I know I tried to put a dent in it.

Through our raffle, silent auction, and live auctions we were able to raise a lot of money to help CCA and its conservation efforts. We also held a general membership meeting where we heard **Dr. Greg Stunz** from the Harte Institute at Texas A&M in Corpus Christi. Everyone commented on how fascinating his study findings were. We may just have to have him back next year. Be on the lookout for two more general membership meetings later this year. Hopefully everyone has heard about the **CCA Concert for Conservation** coming up June 30th at the Sam Houston Race Park. Featured artist will be **Pat Green**, with special guests **Jerry Jeff Walker, Sammy Kershaw, and Gene Watson.** I look forward to seeing everyone there. I know I wouldn't miss it.

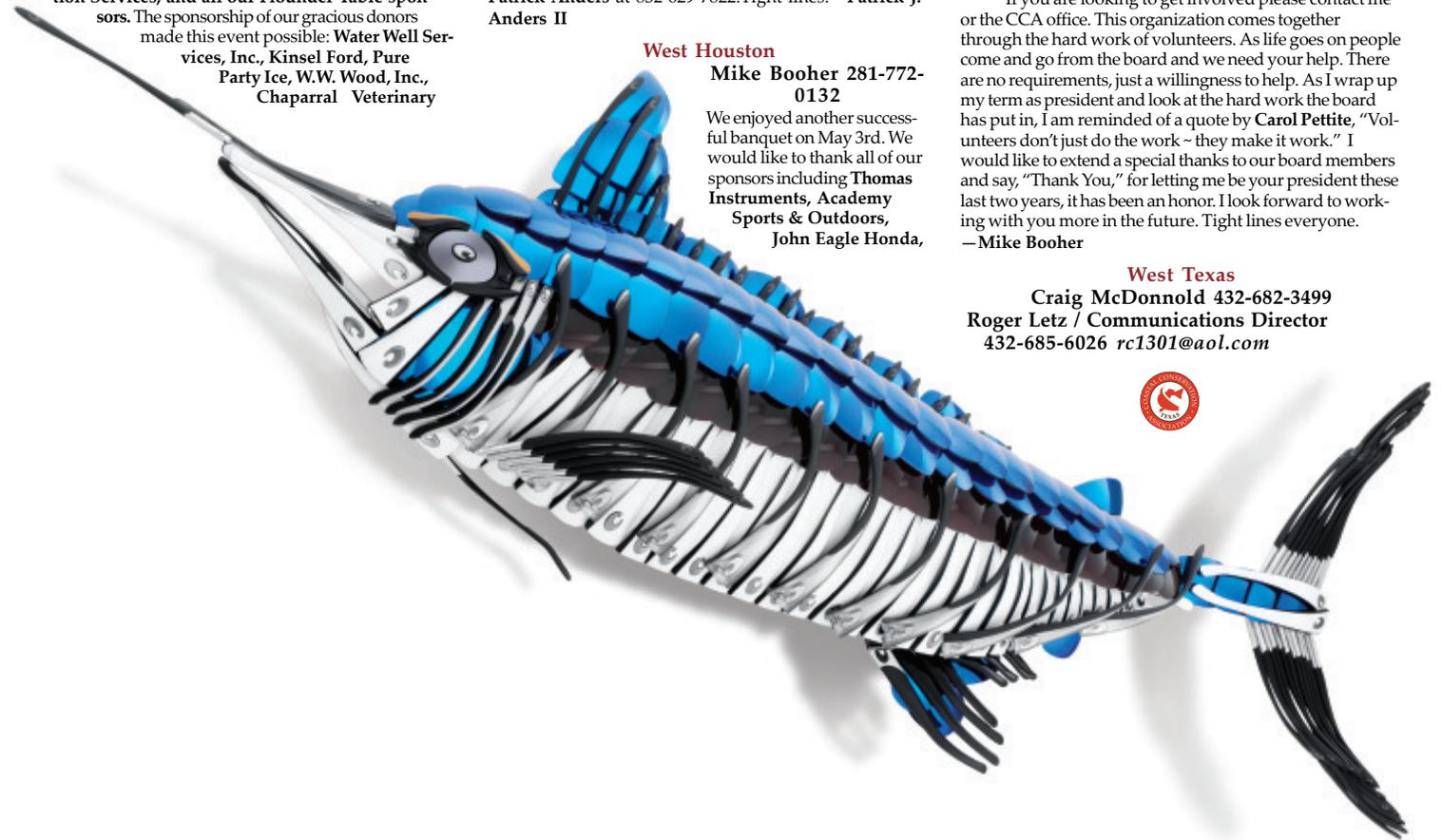
Another upcoming event to be on the lookout for is our first ever CCA Joint Chapter fishing tournament. The **West Houston Chapter is getting together with the Northwest, Northeast, and Tomball / Magnolia Chapters** to plan a fishing tournament for our chapter members. We are in the planning stages right now, but the tentative date is October 13th. We will be having prizes for largest trout, redfish, and flounder. (Prizes could grow with more entries). Entries include a buffet dinner and cash bar. We are also planning on having a raffle, silent auction, and live auction with all the proceeds benefiting CCA. We are still working on the details, so be on the lookout for more information via email and snail mail. If interested in entering or maybe even sponsoring, please contact **Gary Brown** at 281-513-8191 or **garybrown@daytonsuperior.com.**

This will probably be my last Currents update as the West Houston chapter president. It has been an honor serving this chapter. I plan to remain on the board actively serving this great chapter.

If you are looking to get involved please contact me or the CCA office. This organization comes together through the hard work of volunteers. As life goes on people come and go from the board and we need your help. There are no requirements, just a willingness to help. As I wrap up my term as president and look at the hard work the board has put in, I am reminded of a quote by **Carol Pettite**, "Volunteers don't just do the work - they make it work." I would like to extend a special thanks to our board members and say, "Thank You," for letting me be your president these last two years, it has been an honor. I look forward to working with you more in the future. Tight lines everyone. —**Mike Booher**

West Texas

Craig McDonnold 432-682-3499
Roger Letz / Communications Director
432-685-6026 rc1301@aol.com



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Great Scenic Photo by *Glen 'Bo' Gillum* of Bayside, Texas. The Photo Editor liked Bo's juxtaposition of industry and recreation.

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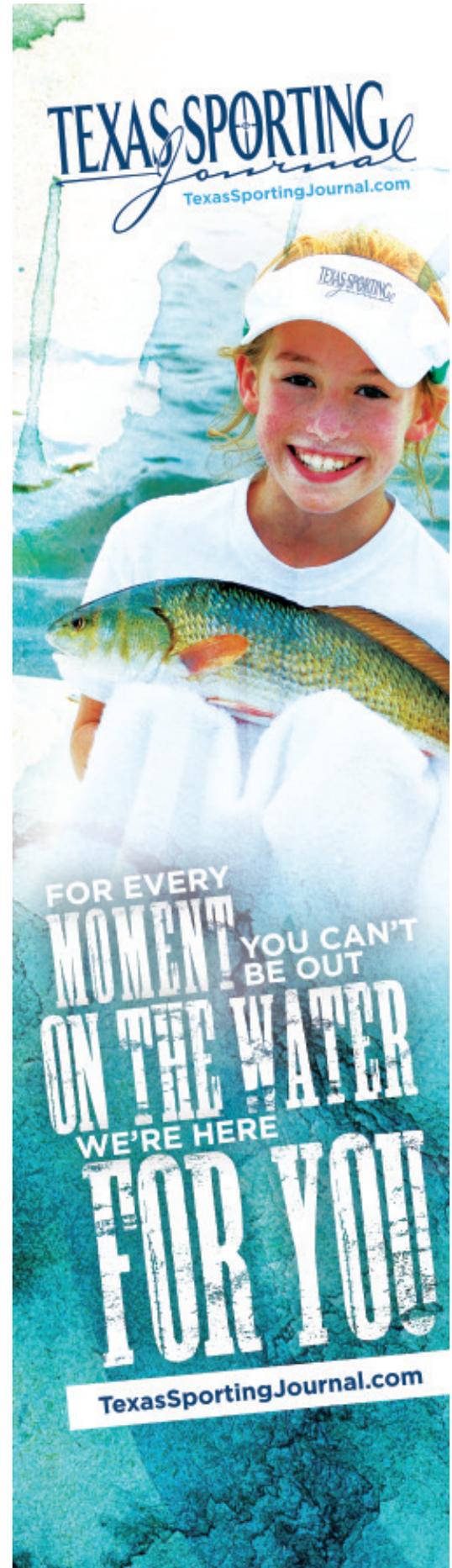
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Redfish sighting, spotted on Hwy 87.





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The Last Laugh



President Scott Sanderson of Austin shut down the 2012 banquet festivities to present a special award. Laughing in surprise was longtime Austin chapter president, Scott McGuire, who now has a fine new rod and reel, and maybe, says Sanderson, time to actually go fishing.

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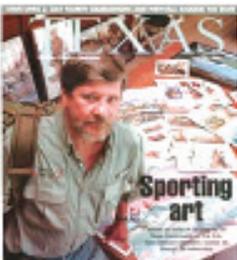
CHEST THUMPING TIME!

Just notified of two national awards from Outdoor Writers Association of America:

First Place Prize for "*Thirteen Years Old.*"

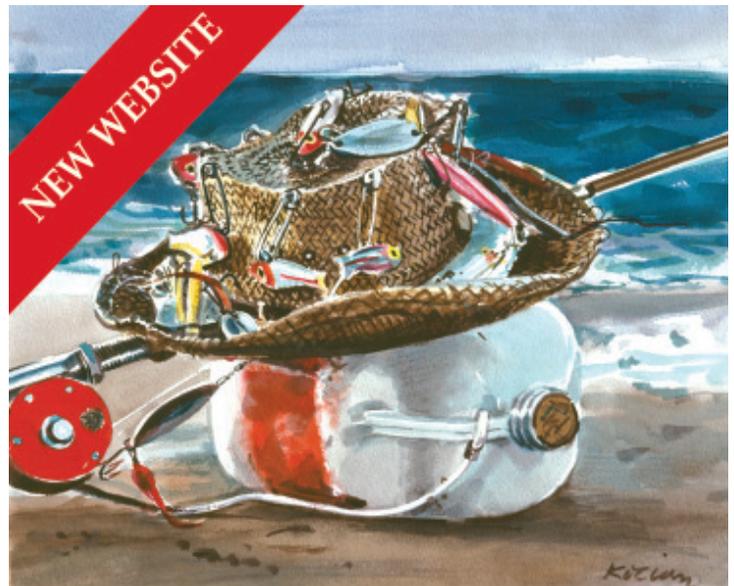
Second Place Prize for "*Copano Bay Redfish.*"

To view these two paintings and other new and old Caldwell's, visit my website.



www.samcaldwell.com

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The Texas Parks & Wildlife website is your starting point for almost anything you need to know about outdoor Texas, including links to many areas. Visit <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/> To focus on fishing and boating, visit <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/>.



Current size, bag and possession limits are now available through the Texas Parks & Wildlife website: TPWD has a number to report game violations. 1-800-792-4263.

A partner with CCA in aiding Texas game and Game Wardens is Operation Game Thief. Drop by and put this website on your favorites list: <http://www.ogtx.com/>



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 - PRINT MEMBER: \$100 _____ All of the above plus CCA Texas print of your choice.
 - LIFE MEMBER: \$1000 _____ CCA Life Membership piece, print, plus member gifts. Payable in four \$250 installments.
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 - NEW TIDE: \$10 _____ Tide newsletter, patch, decal, iron-on T-shirt transfer, redfish sticker.
 - NEW TIDE / Star: \$10 _____ Same as above, plus "FREE" STAR Tournament entry.
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