

# CURRENTS

August / September 2015



## SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26th at SAM HOUSTON RACE PARK

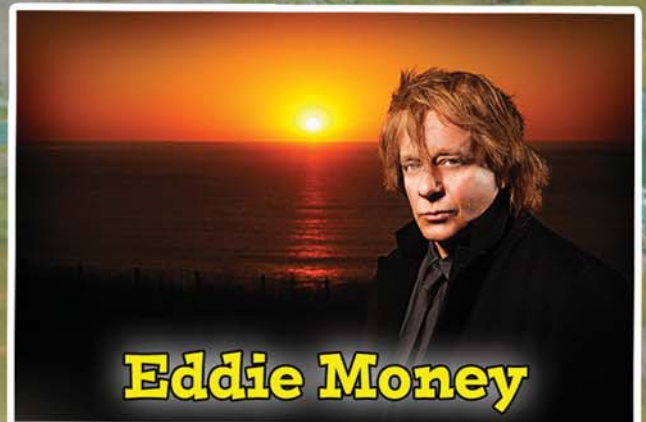


**Lynyrd Skynyrd**

**TICKETS  
AVAILABLE at  
CCATEXAS.ORG  
or SHRP.COM**



**Grand Funk Railroad**



**Eddie Money**



**Atlanta Rhythm  
Section**



**Folk Family  
Revival**



# Membership Matters

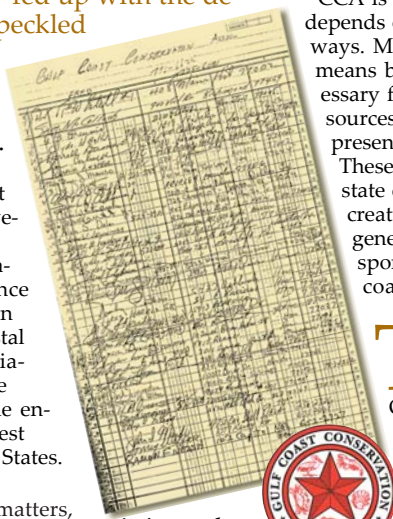
*The strength of any volunteer organization is its membership base and volunteers.*

**C**oastal Conservation Association Texas (CCA Texas) has been in existence since 1977. It all started with a small group of recreational fishermen who were simply fed up with the decline of redfish, speckled trout and other species that were suffering from overfishing.

Fourteen concerned fishermen put into motion the movement that started the Gulf Coast Conservation Association. Since then, the organization has grown into Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) with state chapters covering the entire East, Gulf and West coasts of the United States.

**M**embership matters, and CCA works hard to build and maintain a strong membership base. How does it matter? Starting with one of the biggest conservation efforts

*A sign up sheet from one of the earliest GCCA meetings.*



**T**exas currently has more than 75,000 members and CCA has over 125,000 members nationwide. CCA is arguably the strongest and most effective marine organization of its kind. The reason is the passion and willingness of its members to be active.

CCA is truly a grass roots organization that depends on its membership in many different ways. Membership and volunteers are the means by which the organization raises necessary funds to ensure that our coastal resources are healthy and bountiful for present and future generations.

These funds are used for advocacy in our state capitols, for habitat restoration and creation, and as outreach to educate the general public on the importance of responsible conservation and use of the coastal resources.

**T**he effects of a strong membership are felt near and far on the Texas coast, with chapters from Orange to South Padre Island and up to Laredo; Houston to Dallas, Ft. Worth, Austin, San Antonio and as far west as Midland. Texas has 57 chapters and nationwide CCA has over 200 chapters in 18 states.

CCA memberships come to the organization in many ways. In the early days, it was an effort by those involved to get out and educate their friends and others about the efforts of CCA and the importance of having them as a part of the organization. As chapters began to form across the state, fundraising and membership banquets were mandatory for all chapters.

**T**he State of Texas Anglers Rodeo was created in 1989 as a membership drive and has now been a part of the organization for 26 years. In the late 1990's and early

2000's, the organization's success drew more attention and a big push was made to add more local chapters. Many of these local chapters were born from the desire of local members to be a part of the organization in a more direct way. These member's desire to raise funds, recruit members and spread the word about the CCA mission goes to the very core of the success of CCA— its membership.



*STAR has been crucial in adding members, as well as a venue that has brought more than \$5,235,000 in scholarships to children 6-17 years of age.*

**I**n the late 2000s, CCA began to look at other ways to bring new members and raise the awareness of the organization. The organization's biggest victories at that time were still in the halls of government, but the Texas leadership and National leadership also realized that there were other needs for membership. In November 2009, CCA Texas created Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow (HTFT).

To date, HTFT has contributed over \$3.9 million to habitat restoration and creation projects along the entire Texas coast. CCA National leadership helped create Building Conservation Trust (BCT), a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization exclusively dedicated to habitat creation and restoration. BCT works hand in hand with CCA in all states with local chapters and communities to ensure coastal resources are healthy everywhere. These habitat efforts are another part of the organization that fulfills the mission of CCA and the desires of its members.

**O**n September 26, 2015, CCA Texas will host its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Concert for Conservation at Sam Houston Race Park in Houston, Texas. This event has become a "have to see" event with nearly 6,000 attendees in 2014. This event allows CCA Texas to reach out to another group of members and gives CCA Texas the ability to spread the mission of the organization to a wider base of members across the state. Be sure to mark your calendars for September 26<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are on sale now, and this year's headliner is Lynyrd Skynyrd, backed up by Grand Funk Railroad, Eddie Money, The Atlanta Rhythm Section and Folk Family Revival. It's a Concert for Conservation like no other.

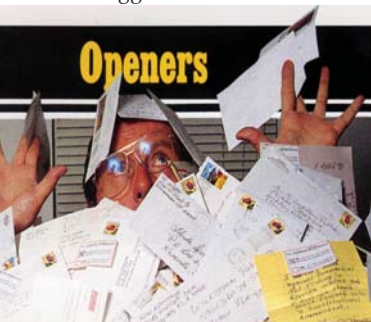


*In a great moment at the Concert for Conservation, Robert Earl Keen brought Lyle Lovett to the stage for a duet.*

**Y**es, your membership matters! Your membership and the membership of tens and hundreds of thousand members is critically important in the battles waged in local, state and federal government offices. CCA at times requests the help of its membership through "calls to action," asking membership to contact their local representation and tell them how important a particular issue is to themselves, the organization and above all, the resource. Please be active, your membership counts!— John Blaha



*Another great moment for CCA Texas membership: Cedar Bayou as it is opened to the Gulf.*



*Members have provided powerful messages to the legislature.*

without the efforts and support of membership. Membership is everyone from the youth and young adults who are beginning to appreciate the resource to the seasoned members who have been active for many years and are connected within the local communities; local, state and federal governments; local, state and federal fisheries management; and lastly and perhaps most important of all, a membership that believes in the mission and approach of CCA.

*See the Life Membership offer on page 20.*

*On front cover: Designer Kim Ogonosky's montage of five great bands headed your way— September 26, Sam Houston Race Park*



# 4th Annual Concert for Conservation Sept. 26, Sam Houston Race Track



## Lynyrd Skynyrd

CCA presents another evening with hundreds of your closest music loving friends—and five of the finest bands in America.



*Eddie Money & Grand Funk Railroad join Atlanta Rythm Section and Folk Family Revival*  
Full information is now on [catexas.org](http://catexas.org).  
**CCA Concert For Conservation**



**ATLANTA RYTHM SECTION**



## Report from TP&W Game Wardens

## Caught Redhanded!



### Region 8 District 2

• On Monday December 8, Aransas County game wardens Scott McLeod and Elizabeth "Libby" Balusek paid a visit to a subject who videotaped himself catching and keeping ten speckled trout (limit is five). The subject posted the video on his Facebook page. One of his friends even commented that the limit was five fish. A further check also revealed that the subject had not purchased his fishing license at the time of the video.

• On Wednesday April 22nd, Aransas County game warden Richard "Marty" Martin was called out late in the evening about a subject keeping undersized fish. The caller gave a good description of the subject and his location. Marty found the subject's bicycle parked outside a restaurant near Aransas Bay. Marty went inside and found the subject and asked if he could speak with him about the fish in his ice chest on his bicycle. The subject was issued a citation for possession of one undersized redfish and one undersized sheepshead.

• On Tuesday June 9th, Rockport Administrative Assistant Norma Garcia had a subject wanting to register two kayaks. A check of the HIN's found both kayaks to be stolen out of Rockport.

Aransas County game warden Scott McLeod responded and questioned the subject as to how he came into possession of the kayaks. The subject advised Scott that he purchased them at a nearby pawn shop. Scott and Aransas County Sheriff's investigator Rodney Cox traveled to the pawn shop where a third stolen kayak was recovered. The Aransas County Sheriff's Department is continuing their investigation into the pawn shop. The kayaks were seized and the subject was able to get his money back from the pawn shop.

• June 6th-7th, Aransas County game warden Richard "Marty" Martin conducted his 29th annual "Go for Fish not Drugs" youth fishing tournament in Fulton. Over 200 youths ranging in age from 2 years to 16 years participated and fished for trophies and other prizes.

Each child was given a medal, t-shirt and lunch just for

participating. One lucky four-year old young lady won the grand prize of a Texas Lifetime Fishing License.

Volunteers from CCA Texas participated. District 2 personnel assisting Marty were Administrative Assistant Norma Garcia, Boatmate Leo Villa, Game Wardens Danny Kelso, Scott McLeod, Laura Peterek and Elizabeth "Libby" Balusek-Myers.



*While patrolling West Matagorda Bay, Texas Game Wardens issued multiple citations for over the daily bag limit of sharks, kingfish and red snapper, and for possessing undersized red snapper, triggerfish, and sheepshead. As always, fish in edible condition are donated to the less fortunate. Photos courtesy of Texas Game Wardens.*





## 26th Annual CCA State of Texas Anglers' Rodeo

### FIRST THREE REDFISH WINNERS CONFIRMED!

Hempstead resident, Scott Hajovsky set up a fishing trip, Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup> with some friends. Hajovsky caught and released a trout and flounder. Hajovsky dug out the last live shrimp. A bump, then the rod bent! As Hajovsky reeled in, he noticed something sticking out of the back of the fish. Hajovsky never would have dreamed of such a fine redemption! He then realized what it was and exclaimed, "It has a tag!" Panic ensued, there was a scramble for the net, but teamwork landed the fish. Hajovsky remained humble until he figured out what had just happened. "What a redemption made possible by CCA Texas and the STAR Tournament... let the smack-talking begin!" said Hajovsky.

On Saturday Morning, May 30<sup>th</sup>, Michael Gibbs was waiting for his cousin to pick him up in his boat. Gibbs decided to do a little casting off the pier behind the beach house. He managed to pick up two nice flounder. A few casts later, he hooked and fought a fish onto the pier. He gained control of the fish. Lo and behold, it was a redfish with a tag in it. Gibbs first told his wife not to get excited just yet because he had caught fish before with tags that were for research. After close inspection all Gibbs' wife could say was "STAR!" Gibbs said, "Don't mess with me." His wife said, "Mike, I promise!" Said Gibbs, "If I had known this fish was worth a truck and boat package, I might have used a net!" They called Gibbs' cousin to tell him, "Forget the boat, we are headed to West End Marina to weigh in my tagged redfish!"

Katy resident, Cuong Nguyen, was feeling all fished out until some friends talked him into joining them at the last minute on Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. After a few good fish came onboard, one of the friends wanted to move to a different spot, but Nguyen believed the fish would come back around. About 10 minutes later, Nguyen caught another fish. As he reeled in the fish he realized the fish had a tag. The friends thought Nguyen was joking around at first. One of the friends told

him, "I don't give a crap if my back is hurting, I'm going to net that fish for you." Nguyen and friends high fived each other over and over again. "Let's go!" The trio headed back to the Galveston Yacht Basin to weigh in Nguyen's tagged redfish. "The greatest part about this fishing trip was that it was on my birthday," said Nguyen. "I still can't believe it... how sweet it is! Thank you so much CCA STAR Tournament!!!"

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST THREE TAGGED REDFISH WINNERS! Fortunately, each was registered and are now lucky winners of a 2015 loaded Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" XLT SuperCab, pulling a brand new 23' Haynie BigFoot boat rigged with a Mercury 150L Pro XS OptiMax motor and Coastline trailer prize package, which will be awarded to them at the STAR Awards Ceremony, October 9.

At the time of this writing, seven reported tagged redfish have been caught, but only three are winners. Of the four catches that didn't qualify, three were re-released by the anglers that caught them, so the good news is there are fifty-six tagged redfish still out there swimming and two truck/boat/motor/trailer prize packages, plus five boat/motor/trailer prize packages still available to win in the Texas Ford Dealers Redfish Division! Trophy-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 2015 Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" XLT SuperCab, 23' Haynie BigFoot boat rigged with a Mercury 150L Pro XS OptiMax motor and Coastline trailer. The next five tagged redfish winners will each claim a 23' Haynie BigFoot boat with a Mercury 150L Pro XS OptiMax motor and Coastline trailers. For young anglers not of legal driving age who reel in the famous tagged red, he or she will receive the boat package plus a \$20,000 college scholarship, in lieu of the truck. Last year thirteen tagged redfish were caught, but only four anglers claimed prizes. The others, unfortunately, were not registered for the CCA Texas STAR.

### YOU'VE GOT TO BE IN TO WIN! ATTENTION ALL ANGLERS PLANNING TO FISH THE TEXAS COAST THIS SUMMER!


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 **2015 TEXAS STAR entrant**. The CCA membership fee is \$30 annually and the 2015 STAR Tournament fee is still \$20 for a total of \$50. In order to win at STAR, an angler must be registered and be a current member of CCA.


**YOUNG ANGLERS FISH FOR FREE!** 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. **To be eligible to fish STAR, "New Tide" Members MUST BE at least 6 years of age in 2015 and under age 18 to enter for FREE.** It is the "New Tide" Member's responsibility to make sure their CCA membership is current and that they are registered for the current year STAR tournament.


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 2015 and older, is eligible to win the prizes being offered **even the TAGGED REDFISH DIVISION!** You can sign up NOW online at [www.startournament.org!!!](http://www.startournament.org!!!) Don't miss "the boat" or "the truck and boat"... register today!

**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 and Outdoors (*see details below*)

 Texas Fish & Game Magazine subscription (*see details on page 5*)

 \$1000 worth of free upgrades with your purchase of a new Tilson home (*see ad on page 23*)

**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 **\$30 CCA membership card!!!** Our Ford Partner Code # is CCA 61; go to [www.fordpartner.com](http://www.fordpartner.com), if you are considering a purchase.

### SPECIAL BONUS FROM ACADEMY SPORTS & OUTDOORS

- One more great reason to sign up! Academy Sports + Outdoors will mail a \$10 gift coupon at the close of the tournament! This is a limited time offer, so do it before it's too late!!! Special thanks to Academy Sports + Outdoors for continuing to make your CCA membership and STAR entry such an awesome value!



**BEST IN TEXAS**

2015 Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" XLT SuperCab with Haynie 23 Bigfoot, the Redfish Division prize.



**NEW! TEXAS FISH & GAME MAGAZINE**

**"BONUS DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION!"**

- We all love **FREE** stuff, and speaking of **FREE** stuff many STAR anglers have discovered the benefit and convenience of using digital technology and have requested we do the same. *Texas Fish & Game Magazine* is thrilled to announce 2015 CCA Texas STAR participants are now eligible for a **FREE** one-year (12 issues) **DIGITAL** subscription. This subscription (**normally \$11.99/year**) will allow you to access the latest and most in-depth outdoors information anywhere and anytime on your smart phone, tablets and desktops. Now STAR anglers have the chance to embrace the latest in technology, plus conserve our natural resources. We are grateful to *Texas Fish & Game* for providing this STAR-only benefit, while saving some trees and giving you more options. Be sure and include your email address when you register for this year's tournament to automatically receive your **FREE** digital subscription. If you still wish to receive *Texas Fish & Game* in print magazine form, no problem... a special STAR angler price of \$8 a year (vs. \$17.99/year) is still available, including your access to the digital version at no extra cost! If you wish to take advantage of this special STAR angler discounted print subscription price, be on the lookout in your email or mailbox for details on how to activate this special offer. If you have questions regarding your past or current subscription, please call (800) 725-1134 or email [subscriptions@fishgame.com](mailto:subscriptions@fishgame.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, page 23 for more details or call 1 (888) 540-6705.

**CCA Texas STAR Platinum Print Membership Package, Series V** - We're pleased to announce the new print being offered for the 2015 CCA Texas STAR Platinum package is *Split Screen*. Renowned artist David Drinkard has created yet another fine print to honor CCA Texas members. Top half of the print is a scene of anglers in a boat working the birds, while the bottom half reveals underwater action of trout and reds chasing bait... the shrimp look like they're about to jump right out of the print! The package includes your CCA membership (new or renewal), your 2015 CCA Texas STAR entry, plus a signed, limited-edition print created exclusively for STAR, all for \$125! *Split Screen* is a one-of-a-kind print worth this price alone. If you would like to consider one, or several, of these limited-edition packages, go to: <http://www.startournament.org> for more details or to place your order with the STAR Dept., call (713) 626-4222.

**STILL AVAILABLE... CCA Texas STAR Platinum Prints Series I-IV: STAR Reds (Series I), STAR Sightings (Series II), School Is In Session (Series III) & Working the Spoils (Series IV)** are still available. If you haven't purchased these yet and would like to begin your CCA Texas STAR Platinum Collectible Series, please contact the STAR Dept. and we can get you fixed up. To own all five of these commemorative pieces,

**!!! ATTENTION !!!**

**\*\*\* 2015 STAR Platinum Print Membership \*\*\*  
NOW AVAILABLE**

We are pleased to offer the new 2015 CCA Texas STAR Platinum package, *Split Screen*! Renowned artist David Drinkard has created another fine print exclusively for CCA Texas members! Only 1,750 will be available through this special membership level, which includes your CCA membership (new or renewal) + STAR Tournament Entry... all for less than the value of this premium print alone! This 16" x 24" print is on acid-proof paper stock to ensure many years of enjoyment. Package includes your CCA membership (new or renewal), your 2015 CCA Texas STAR entry, plus this special signed, limited-edition print created exclusively for STAR, all for \$125!

*Split Screen* is a one-of-a-kind print worth this price alone. If you would like to consider one, or several, of these limited-edition packages, go to: <http://www.star-tournament.org> more details or to place your order with the STAR Dept., call (713) 626-4222. Be one of the **FIRST** to own this collectors' piece! **GET YOURS TODAY!!!**



*Split Screen!* By renowned artist David Drinkard

purchase yours today before they're all gone!  
**Proceeds from the sales of Platinum Packages will help us continue to fund the STAR scholarships.**

**2015 PRIZE LINE-UP** - Contestants have a chance at winning over 100 prizes including trucks, boats, motors, trailers and college scholarships in the following categories:

"Texas Edition" truck. Haynie Boats returns with the awesome Haynie 23 Bigfoot rigged with a Mercury 150 Pro XS motor and Coastline Trailer completing 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*



**Trout Division - Shalwater 21' Cat with a Mercury 150 Pro XS OptiMax**

**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 registered STAR participants who catch tagged redfish their brand new all aluminum body 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 2015 Ford F-150

**\$20,000 college scholarship, in lieu of the truck.**

**Trout Division** - **ATTENTION TROUT ANGLERS!** After years of requesting a more versatile boat prize in this division, we hear you! This year's winners in upper, middle, and lower coast regions will each take home the awesome Shalwater 21' Cat boat with a Mercury 150 Pro XS OptiMax motor and McClain

trailer. The 21' Shoalwater Cat hull design provides an excellent ride with an 8" draft allowing you to get really shallow, plus it runs well in the heavy chop due to the tunnel hull design. **FRIENDLY REMINDER...** 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 re-seed the bays.

#### Offshore Division

– ATTENTION BLUE WATER ANGLERS!

Hoffpauir Auto & Outdoor Store continues to partner with us to provide the offshore angler something that will come in very handy after a long trip on the high seas. Anglers who land the heaviest kingfish, dorado and ling will each



Offshore Division Prize - Polaris Ranger® Crew 570 EPS

continues to offer plenty of reason for everyone to round up their kid(s), a rod and reel and head for the water.

**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.

#### Fox Sports 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 Sheephead Division

– This division gives entrants age 6-10 a chance to win a \$50,000 college scholarship for the largest sheephead caught throughout the summer.

#### Academy Sports & Outdoors StarTeens Trout Division – This



**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 sheephead 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 2015. "New Tide" STAR participants at least, 6 - 17 years old in 2015, are eligible for a bonus 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 model with a Dargel 210TV boat, Mercury 150 Pro XS OptiMax outboard and McClain trailer.

Major sponsors for the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual CCA Texas STAR Tournament include: **Texas Ford Dealers, Tilson Home Corporation, Capital Farm Credit, Mercury Marine, Academy Sports + Outdoors, Whataburger, Ozarka, Rio Ammunition, Hoffpauir, Polaris, KTRK-abc13, Houston Community Newspapers & Media Group, Fox Sports Southwest, Haynie Boats, Shoalwater Boats, Dargel Boats, Blue Wave Boats, Texas Fish & Game Magazine, Texas Oilman's Charity Fishing Tournament, Coastline Trailers, McClain Trailers, Chris's Marine and Mt. Houston Marine.**



Inshore Division - Blue Wave 180 SV Southern Skiff with a Mercury 115 OptiMax

receive an awesome Polaris Ranger® Crew 570 EPS UVs in Polaris Pursuit Camo each with a Big Tex 35sa Trailer!

**Inshore Division** – Each winner that reels in the largest flounder, gafftop and sheephead will be handsomely rewarded with Blue Wave's 180 SV Southern Skiff boat, Mercury 115 OptiMax motor and McClain trailer.

STAR has awarded \$5,235,000 in college scholarships to 165 fisher-kids across the state, ranging from 6-17 years of age and 2015 con-

tinues to offer plenty of reason for everyone to round up their kid(s), a rod and reel and head for the water. 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. **FRIENDLY REMINDER...** The minimum weight requirement for the trout is six pounds. 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.

**STAR has reached \$5,235,000 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.**

#### **DON'T FORGET... Activate Your STAR Member Premiums Today!**

Ford's special X-Plan pricing can save you thousands on your next vehicle purchase; use your Academy \$10 gift card towards fishing/hunting supplies; free online subscription to *Texas Fish and Game* magazine loaded with really cool info to give anglers and hunters an advantage; coupon for a free Whataburger because there's nothing like a fresh Whataburger to satisfy those hunger pangs after a day of casting and blasting!

Keep Tilson Homes and Capital Farm Credit in mind when you're ready to build that special piece of heaven.

With hunting season around the corner, go see Hoffpauir Polaris for your utility vehicle needs and check out why Rio shotgun shells are taking over... is it me, or do they shoot better?

All nice bonuses available to CCA Texas members. THANKS to our SPONSORS who care and support our outdoor adventures!



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Editor, Sam Caldwell / [sam@samcaldwell.com](mailto:sam@samcaldwell.com)  
This is the issue of August/September 2015  
Vol. 33, Issue 5

## Welcome to the CCA Texas Online Auction

*Sponsored by Costa Del Mar*

*We have some great merchandise  
up for grabs this month!*

*Available online 11 am, August  
13 till 11 am, August 20.*

*To bid and win, go to [ccatexas.org](http://ccatexas.org)  
and click on the link (left hand side)  
online auction.*

*Good luck!—Brian Weaver,  
Banquet Assistant, CCA Texas*



**CCA Texas  
Saltwater  
Camo Coast-  
ers** – These  
unique coast-  
ers would be a  
great addition  
to any beach  
house or fam-  
ily home. Keep

those rings away from your furniture in  
style with these beautiful salt water camo  
coasters.



**CCA Texas Custom Cutting Board** –  
Whether you are cutting up veggies for a  
delicious home cooked meal or filleting fish  
after a big day of fishing, this cutting  
board is ideal for you. On one side is the  
Coastal Conservation Association seal  
and the other is a large cutting surface.

*Sponsored by our  
friends at Costa.*



**Great Foods / Editor Ellen Ohmstede**

## TONNO TARTARE CHEF ALBERTO BAFFONI

*Courtesy, Mascalzone Restaurant in  
Houston / [www.ilmascalzone.com](http://www.ilmascalzone.com)*

4 oz Tuna small diced / 1 tsp. Capers  
chopped / 1 tsp. Shallots chopped  
1/2 tsp. Parsley chopped / Extra virgin ol-  
ive oil / Pinch salt / Pinch black pepper  
5-oz fennel shavings / 1oz baby arugula  
Homemade pickled onion (garnish)  
Bell pepper relish (garnish)  
5 thinly shaved radish (garnish)

### PICKLED ONIONS

4-cup water / 1.5 cup white vinegar  
1-cup sugar / 1/2-cup salt /  
1 Tbs peppercorn / 2 garlic  
cloves / 3 tbs pickling  
spices / 2-onion cut in small  
Strip

### BELL PEPPER RELISH

1/2-cup shallots diced / 1/2  
cup red bell pepper diced /  
1/2-cup yellow bell pepper  
diced / 1/3-cup caper  
chopped  
1/3-cup parsley chopped / 1  
tsp. red chili pepper / 1  
Tbsp. garlic chopped / 1/2  
cup extra virgin olive oil / 5  
each anchovies chopped

**For the Tuna:** Mix all ingre-  
dients. Add salt and pepper  
to taste.

**For the Bell Pepper Relish:** Mix all ingre-  
dients together, drizzle around tuna.

**For the Pickled Onions:** Whisk sugar and  
salt and 1 cup water in a small bowl until  
ingredients dissolve. Place onion in a  
jar; add vinegar and the rest of the ingredi-  
ents. Let sit at room temperature for 1  
hour. DO AHEAD: Can be made 2 weeks  
ahead. Cover and chill. Drain onions be-  
fore using.



## We want you to fish for us!

CCA Texas and the Texas Parks & Wildlife De-  
partment (TPWD) are looking for volunteers  
to help with fishing surveys for the East  
Galveston Bay Reef Restoration project. It's  
critical to have data before and after. You can  
be that important Fishing Scientist.

The \$3.7 million project will restore ap-  
proximately 140 acres of oyster reef in the  
East Galveston Bay system. Areas targeted  
for restoration include one location on  
Hannah's Reef, two locations on Pepper  
Grove and two locations on Middle Reef.

This effort is an important part of the  
project. As a Fishing Scientist, your efforts  
will be critical in understanding the benefits of  
oyster reef restoration all along the Texas  
coast.

**Contact: Bill Rodney (TPWD)**  
*at 281-534-0127 [bill.Rodney@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:bill.Rodney@tpwd.texas.gov)*  
**Or, Bryan Legare (TPWD)**  
*Or, John Blaha (CCA Texas) at 713-626-4222, [jdblaha@cca.texas.org](mailto:jdblaha@cca.texas.org)*



## Catch Cedar Bayou and Bird Island Cove in action videos!

*Cedar Bayou and Bird Island  
Cove are now up and running,  
complete with music.* These  
coastal developments are just two  
of the nationally prominent CCA  
Texas achievements now available  
as videos.

The videos we created on Ce-  
dar Bayou and Bird Island Cove can  
be found here: [www.ccatexas.org/  
project-videos](http://www.ccatexas.org/project-videos).

To view them directly on our  
YouTube channel:  
[www.youtube.com/  
CCATexasProjects](http://www.youtube.com/CCATexasProjects)

All of the videos and several other  
HTFT projects are also available for  
viewing on the CCA website and the  
YouTube channel.—Kim Ogonosky

# Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow

## BUILDING A FUTURE FOR TEXAS MARINE HABITAT

### CCA's Habitat Initiative

By John Blaha

**C**CA Texas is grateful to have the continued support of renewing and life time members. These members have been a part of the organization for years and they have learned through articles in *Currents* and *Tide* what CCA Texas does and how the organization operates. Every month the organization also sees a new influx of members who either attend banquets, sign up at chapter meetings, or simply sign up because they heard about CCA Texas and want to join. Because of this, *Currents* and *Tide* have many new readers each month. This is a good month to let new readers know how CCA Texas gets involved in habitat work through its habitat initiative, Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow.

**Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow (HTFT)** is the habitat initiative of Coastal Conservation Association Texas (CCA Texas). CCA Texas began in 1977 and made its mark on fisheries conservation through the legislative process in Texas. Some of the big early victories included championing the establishment of size and bag limits on speckled trout and redfish, game fish status for these species, and making the use of gill nets in Texas state waters illegal.

CCA continued with many success stories throughout the years including a leading role in establishing saltwater hatcheries in both Corpus Christi (CCA Marine Development Center) and in Lake Jackson (Sea Center Texas).

As the organization grew and with fisheries management at a good point, CCA Texas leadership began to explore where CCA Texas could once again take its conservation efforts to another level.

In November of 2009, the CCA Texas Executive Board approved an initial funding of \$200,000 to start a new habitat initiative, which came to be known as **Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow**. Since its inception in 2009, HTFT has been a part of twenty-four projects and contributed approximately \$3.9 million to these habitat restoration and creation efforts. CCA Texas takes part in these efforts by using its strength in fundraising to provide critical dollars to selected projects.

These dollars often times provide much needed local funds for matching in state and federal grants. In addition, CCA Texas is able to use its lobbying power to gather support for projects

when needed in the political arena. CCA also provides local help and support through a vast volunteer network.

Once completed, CCA Texas can provide critical outreach and education about projects to its vast membership base.

**Volunteers are the driving force of the organization** and without their efforts CCA Texas could not accomplish the important work that it does. "Habitat projects do so much for a local volunteer and it is like connecting the dots," commented Mike Petit, long-time CCA Texas member and CCA Texas Executive Board member. Petit continued, "it is really gratifying as a local volunteer to see where the money goes that local chapters raise and to see that it is making an impact on a local bay system."

HTFT has taken part in many different types of habitat projects that have ranged in monetary value from \$10,000 to \$10,000,000.

These projects include marsh restoration and creation, shoreline stabilization, grass plantings, oyster reef restoration, nearshore

reefing, bay debris cleanup, and in the restoration of hydraulic connections between the Gulf of Mexico and inland bays.

**Partnerships are key to successful projects**, and CCA Texas has worked with many partners.

Some of our past project partners of include Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program (CBBEP), Galveston Bay Foundation (GBF), Texas A&M Corpus Christi and the Harte Research Institute (HRI), Ducks Unlimited, and the San Antonio Bay Foundation.

**Three of HTFT's biggest contributions to habitat restoration and creation in Texas have been oyster reef restoration, nearshore reefing in Texas state waters and the opening of Cedar Bayou and Vinson Slough to the Gulf in the Mesquite Bay area.**

Partnering with TPWD, CCA Texas was part of an oyster restoration project in East Galveston Bay that restored 180 acres of

oyster reef that was silted over by Hurricane Ike. CCA Texas contributed \$500,000 to this project that had an overall cost of \$3.9 million.

CCA Texas partnered with TPWD in the CIAP grant process to secure \$3.4 million and the project was completed in the late spring of 2014. CCA has partnered with HRI on two smaller oyster restoration projects and places these type of projects high on the list of habitat needs for Texas.

**Nearshore reefing in Texas state waters** has been a big part of HTFT's efforts as well. To date, CCA Texas has partnered with TPWD on five different projects with a total commitment of \$700,000. These projects include reefs out of the ports of Freeport, Port O'Connor, Corpus Christi and Port Mansfield.

CCA Texas's vision is to see nearshore reefing projects out of every port in Texas that give the recreational fisherman easy accessible nearshore fishing when conditions and the seasons allow.

**P**erhaps the biggest effort to date for habitat restoration is the Cedar Bayou and Vinson Slough restoration project. This project was completed after many years of studies, engineering, a laborious permitting process and lastly a huge effort to raise the necessary funds.

**Cedar Bayou and Vinson slough** were bulldozed closed during the IXTOC oil spill in the Bay of Campeche in 1979, in order to protect the area bays from the approaching oil. Since that time, multiple efforts had been made to open the passes but fell short in funds and engineering.

When Aransas County took over the project from private individuals, a permit was finally secured and CCA Texas then stepped forward with an original commitment of \$500,000 to start the fundraising campaign needed.

Through different grants, and commitments from Aransas County and TPWD the necessary funds were raised. CCA Texas eventually committed \$1.6 million to the project, and at the end of September 2014 the dream of many recreational fishermen became a reality as Cedar Bayou and Vinson Slough freely flowed to the Gulf of Mexico once again.

**C**CA Texas is committed to ensuring the health of Texas's coastal resources through habitat creation and restoration, and through legislative efforts. The cornerstone to this success is the support of CCA Texas volunteers and supporters across the state who raise the necessary funds and awareness that allow these projects to become reality. For more information about CCA Texas and its efforts, please visit [www.CCATexas.org](http://www.CCATexas.org).





# Fore Casts

## Upper Coast

By Capt. Jim West

*Go early and go deep*

Good news: much of that massive influx of early spring freshwater has moved on, but will still be influencing our fishing along the upper coast. The bays desperately needed that freshwater, but fresh mingles with salt, and the result is opacity. The good news is, when you find the fish, they can be stacked up and hungry. So, go deep in August. Under that murky water can be excellent fishing, depending on your choice of locale.

More good news—there are lots of locales on the upper coast to choose from. Start your day early and work along channels, looking for those deep areas and fish concentrations. Even more good news—conditions may have pushed the fish around a lot, but you can still expect to find them in concentrations. I believe in moving a lot, covering ground, looking for those concentrations. Galveston Bay waters are deeper than a lot of Texas water, so there will be saltwater below all the fresh water. East Bay can pay off bigtime in early August, when you find the right conditions. The Exxon A lease has been on fire, and areas near Smith Point have been producing good stringers.

Of course, beach fishing can be excellent with the right conditions and clarity, and it won't have fresh water problems. Remember that high breezes—especially from the southwest—can turn that 'green to the beach', surf into opaque, unfishable surf.

When it cools off in late September, there may be more clarity along the upper coast, but expect the concentration of gamefish to continue. Live bait will produce of course, no matter whether deep or shallow. My go-to artificials are the Tidal Surges, Bass Assassins and MirroLures. But, finding fish will always be the key.

Whether deep or shallow, remember to think safety before anything else—except maybe courtesy—on the water. —**Capt. Jim West** 409-996-3054 [captjimwest@yahoo.com](mailto:captjimwest@yahoo.com)  
website: <http://bolivarguideservice.com/>

*Capt. Jim has spent much of the past year building a lodge near the famed Los Patos Lodge of his Dad, Forrest West, on Crystal Beach. Watch for an opening soon.*

## Middle Coast

By Capt. Mike O'Dell

*It's hot! So, work near deep and cooler regions.*

August will be hot, so the trout bite will be early or late. Start shallow and work your way deeper as the sun comes up. The big trout will mostly be adjacent to deeper water. Not saying you won't catch trout in shallow flats, but usually the solid trout are going to be close to deeper water drops where they can enjoy the cooler water. So, watch water temps—often, a 10 degree change in temperature will tell you where the fish will be.

The redfish bite should be good most of August, depending on a strong tide movement. In our midcoast area, sand pockets will be disappearing with the growth of new sea grass, so top waters or weedless spoons will be a major go-to.

Look for reds hiding in the grass. In late July, I found several hidden in 3' of grass and had to nearly step on them to get them to move. We did not have a tide movement at that time—nap time? Flounder fishing will be good on the drops along the channels and drains from the flats. You folks out gigging should be finding good-sized flatties late into August and even better fish in September. Then, the schools of black drum will be working. Look for them along the fronts of lakes until the water comes back and they move back into the lakes and flats.

Mid-August and into September, top waters will work early and late in the day over grass. Plastics with light weights will work the rest of the day, unless fishing in grassy areas.

Always check your lights before getting on the water. If they don't work, for everyone's safety, don't go. No fish is worth dying for, especially you kayakers. If boating, wear your kill switch: every boat has one for a reason, so use it.

You will encounter people who were not taught manners by their parents, but set a good example. Tight lines, and hopefully, big fish to clean to all. —**Capt. Mike O'Dell** 361-438-1866  
[www.afishingfantasy.com](http://www.afishingfantasy.com)

## Lower Coast

Capt. Aubrey Black

*Go shallow, with small plastics*

An incredible winter slowly slipped into an awesome spring which eased into a super summer and now we are staring down the barrels of what may be the best fall fishing season we have seen on Baffin Bay in over ten years. It is amazing what a little rain will do when you are limping through an extended drought in the Wild Horse desert. Water quality has improved dramatically. Large patches of stringy wigeon grass, thousands of blue crabs are everywhere.

Our numbers on trout are close to the last two years. One difference is a slight upward trend in the overall size. So far at Baffin Bay Rod and Gun, we have caught 157 trout over the twenty-five inch mark, and one behemoth of a trout taped over thirty-two inches. We are on pace to match the best year of trophy trout fishing in the twelve years of guiding this bay.

Patterns and techniques developed during the tough times are actually working quite well for us in these great conditions. If you are looking for the really big trout, look shallow. While we have caught several of our larger trout on topwaters, the small plastics are the most consistent producers, hands down.

We are primarily using four inch Saltwater Assassin Sea Shad rigged on Reaction Strike 1/32 oz. jigheads on a 1/0 hook. We call this rig the "Game Changer," as it allows us to fish shallow water very slow and still maintain the lure where the majority of strikes will happen.

August, moving into September, take advantage of what Mother Nature has sent us with all of this beautiful clear water and great fishing conditions. And while y'all are down here, check out the progress on the new Baffin Bay Rod and Gun Lodge, opening late 2015 or early 2016. We are excited and can't wait to show it off. We hope you'll be among the first to enjoy real southern hospitality in an incredible setting. Be safe and we'll seaya on the water. —**Capt Aubrey Black**  
361-557-0090 [www.baffinbayrodandgun.com/](http://www.baffinbayrodandgun.com/)  
FaceBook: Baffin Bay Rod and Gun / [captblack@captblack.com](mailto:captblack@captblack.com)

*A few of the thousands of CCA Texas members who made reopening Cedar Bayou a reality. Photo, Lisa Laskowski*





# CCA Texas Social Happenings

In April we took a trip out to the Bird Island Cove Marsh Restoration completed project site in West Galveston Bay. Video footage is now available for viewing at [www.ccatexas.org/project-videos](http://www.ccatexas.org/project-videos) and [www.youtube.com/ccatexasprojects](http://www.youtube.com/ccatexasprojects).

The video discusses the overall scope of the project, its continued progress and its importance to coastal habitat in Galveston.

Thank you for your enthusiastic involvement in our social media platforms, which helps educate our members and the public about the importance of the great work being done by CCA Texas and our great project partners!

In each issue of Currents, CCA Texas will feature a recent **Facebook** photo, **Twitter** Tweet, and **Instagram** photo. Please "Like" our Facebook page and follow us on Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube to get the latest updates from CCA Texas and become a part of the conversation!

## Facebook

Stephanie Guzzetta-Lyle shared this photo with us of these awesome young'uns with their beautiful reds they caught! Way to go!!



## Twitter

@iii\_rockinpy: My teen son with a nice red. First of the year. @STARTournament @CCA\_Texas @Academy #taking it outdoors



## Instagram

@cca\_texas: Congratulations to the 2015 InterChapter Challenge team champions, the Guadalupe Valley Chapter! #joincca



**Facebook:** [facebook.com/CCATexas](http://facebook.com/CCATexas)

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/CCA\\_Texas](http://twitter.com/CCA_Texas)

**Instagram:** [instagram.com/cca\\_texas](http://instagram.com/cca_texas)

**YouTube:** [youtube.com/ccatexasprojects](http://youtube.com/ccatexasprojects)



# Chapter Updates

## CCA Texas Banquet Season Kicks into Full Speed

CCA Texas is excited about the early success of the banquets held to date and looks forward to a successful Autumn. Check out the CCA Texas calendar and attend the banquets of your choice in your local area and across the state.

### ANNUAL BANQUETS NOW SCHEDULED:

- 7 AUG LOWER COLORADO
- 8 AUG GALVESTON
- 8 AUG ARANSAS BAY
- 9 AUG SAM HOUSTON
- 13 AUG LOWER LAGUNA MADRE
- 13 AUG NORTHWEST HOUSTON
- 20 AUG ORANGE COUNTY
- 20 AUG SAN GABRIEL
- 20 AUG HILL COUNTRY CHAPTER
- 28 AUG TRINITY BAY
- 10 SEP TRINITY VALLEY
- 26 SEP CCA CONCERT
- 9 OCT HEART OF THE HILLS
- 15 OCT LEE COUNTY
- 17 OCT PORT O'CONNOR
- 22 OCT SOUTHWESTERN
- 4 NOV BRUSH COUNTRY

### Alvin-Pearland

Emery Sadler 713-501-2778

Monthly General Meetings (Anglers Night Out): 7PM - First Tuesday of the month. Location: Spring Creek BBQ / 9005 Broadway, Pearland, Texas 77584

Put it on your calendar early: **Alvin/Pearland CCA Chapter Banquet June 16, 2016, 6pm. Location: Knights of Columbus Hall, 2320 Hatfield Road, Pearland Tx 77581.**

Our June 2015 event was the best ever and a great time was had by all! Thanks to the following sponsors: **CommonWealth Financial, Sun Belt Valve, Academy, Payne Brothers Firearms/Allied Fire Protection, Del Papa, Faust Distributing, Tran Sport Boats, Fishing Tackle Unlimited, Crain Group, Critical Project Services, Dorsett Concrete, Sprint Waste, Alliance Equipment, Dashiell Corporation, BAAD Marine, Texas Tail Vodka, Frost Bank, ICS Management, Third Coast Graphics, Sarge Customs, Ron Carter Autoland, Meadows Group, Goodrum Auto Repair, Southwest Refractory, Mikes Glass & Mirror, Baumann Marine, Texas First Bank, and 3J Ryan.**

We would like to say thanks to all our sponsors, we would not be able to do what we do without their support!

A Special thanks to our recent June speaker: **TFO- Temple Fork Outfitters-Banning Collins** for his insight into rod design, applications and tactics for conventional and fly rods.

*Chapter Updates have been 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](http://www.ccatexas.org), click on **Chapters**.*

July and August- NO MEETING—GONE FISHING. September 1<sup>st</sup>- General Meeting (Anglers Night Out) / **SPEAKER: BAAD Marine-Brian Diert.**

We welcome new board members who would like to get plugged in. Our monthly chapter meetings have a great speaker lineup and we will have a raffle. Bring a friend, a kid and get plugged in! —**Emery Sadler**

### Aransas Bay

Carter Crigler 435-830-5984

[jccrigler@hotmail.com](mailto:jccrigler@hotmail.com)

**Our 16th Annual Banquet is scheduled for August 8 at the Paws and Taws Convention Center in Fulton, Texas.** As in the past several years the Title Sponsor for the 2015 banquet is **Ron Hoover RV and Marine**. Come join us for a fun-filled evening consisting of a live auction including trips, sculptures, art, etc.; raffle; door prizes; and silent auction. Tickets will be available at **Rockport Tackle Town, Ace Hardware Rockport** and at the door and include dinner (catered by **Black Tie Affairs Catering, Inc.**), open bar and a CCA Membership. For any questions concerning advanced ticket reservations, sponsor opportunities, donations or any other matters, contact **Michelle Green**, Banquet Chairperson, at [jeepgirl.green@gmail.com](mailto:jeepgirl.green@gmail.com).

**CCA Babes on the Bay "Sweet Sixteen"** will be remembered for the spirit and commitment of all involved. Of the 388 teams only 4 did not show for registration. All present had the privilege to wade in ankle yuck on Friday evening and less than desirable fishing conditions on Saturday. A large number of teams weighed in with very nice stringers which would make for a great day on the water for most. Many thanks to all participants who helped make Babes XVI a success. On behalf of the Aransas Bay Chapter of CCA we would like to thank our sponsors: **Ron Hoover RV and Marine, Rosendin Electric Company, L & F Distributors, American Rodsmiths, Black Dog, Coastal Innovations and Rockport Mail Center.** Many thanks to all vendors which were rained out on Friday night and Aransas Bay Chapter volunteers who helped make this event a success. A special thank you goes to tournament director, **Karol Scardino**, for her leadership and dedication to Babes on the Bay. A big thank you also goes to **Jaye Lynn Turnbow and Terri MacDonald** for handling vendor signups. First place winners in their respective divisions were: Non-guided Artificial - Completely Artificial, 10.96 lbs. / Non-guided Any Bait - Reel N Reds, 20.38 lbs. / Non-guided Juniors - Elizabeth Sebra, 4.92 lbs. / Guided Artificial - Let The Good Times Roll, 10.46 lbs. / Guided Any Bait - Croaker Soakers, 20.30 lbs. / Junior Division Guided - Addisyn Sanders, 4.82 lbs.



For complete list of winners go to [www.babesonthebay.com](http://www.babesonthebay.com)

**Mark your 2016 calendars for the 17th Babes on the Bay Tournament to be held in Rockport, Texas, May 13 - 14, 2016. Tight lines,—Carter**

### Austin

**Scott Sanderson 512-637-1750**

[scott@mbsquoteline.com](mailto:scott@mbsquoteline.com)

The numbers are rolling in and, with tremendous support from all involved, CCA Austin logged the three-peat! We eclipsed the \$1mm mark in revenue for the third year in a row, enroute to yet another record year of fundraising! This lofty success would never be possible without so many generous contributions from our Corporate Sponsors. Please visit [www.ccaustin.org](http://www.ccaustin.org) to see the local businesses that are committed to the CCA mission and thank them by doing business with them whenever the opportunity arises!

Austin never rests though! **Anglers' Night Out** comes on the 3rd Wednesday of every other month and that means great food, TONS of prizes, presentations from top notch guides and more—and it's free. Join us, bring a friend, and get them to join CCA. Watch the website for the schedule.

The Austin board welcomes all comers as our chapter leads the way to even greater heights for CCA. If you have a little time to volunteer we welcome you to join the great group of men and women that make up the Austin Board. We have a lot of fun doing our part carrying out all the great work of CCA. My contact info is below; jump on board!

"Like" Coastal Conservation Association Austin Chapter to keep up with everything going on in Austin, or check [www.ccaustin.org](http://www.ccaustin.org) so you don't miss a thing.

Your Austin board thanks you for all your incredible support and wishes you a fun, family-filled and safe summer on the water. Be sure to sign up for STAR! There's a tagged redfish out there waiting for you! —**Scott Sanderson** 512-637-1750 [scott@mbsquoteline.com](mailto:scott@mbsquoteline.com)

### Bay Area

**Curtis Anderson 832-421-6377**

### Brazoria County

**Wes Dingee 979-299-8245**

### Brazos Valley

**John Ben Strother 979-220-1738**

[jbsunlimited@yahoo.com](mailto:jbsunlimited@yahoo.com)

### Brenham

**Dennis Crowson**

**979-451-2472**

[Dennis.crowson@hotmail.com](mailto:Dennis.crowson@hotmail.com)

The Brenham CCA chapter had another full house on June 25 to hear **Dr. William Loesch** speak about the dangers of "flesh-eating" bacteria and other water-borne diseases. It was an extremely interesting speech with lots of good information on how to treat and how to avoid these diseases.

Entry forms are being taken for the **2015 Howard Kiecke Memorial fishing tournament to be held July 31st and August 1st** in Port O'Connor. Email [dennis.crowson@hotmail.com](mailto:dennis.crowson@hotmail.com) if you need an entry form or a rules sheet. We are looking for a big turnout. The October membership tournament is also coming up. Please make sure you are at the July meeting to count toward being eligible. Here's a picture



from a recent meeting. The Brenham CCA is sponsored by **Mike Hopkins Distributing**. For information on the Brenham CCA contact me: 979-451-2472 —**Dennis Crowson** [dennis.crowson@hotmail.com](mailto:dennis.crowson@hotmail.com)

### Brush Country

**Hank Henry 361-215-6803**

### Centex

**Wayne Webb**

**254-405-1300** [sheyhunt@aol.com](mailto:sheyhunt@aol.com)

### Central Houston

**Todd Buster Mobil, 713-545-1897**

Central Houston Chapter is taking a little break this summer and trying to get some fishing in! Our 2016 Banquet will be Thursday April 28th so please mark your calendars. —**Todd Buster**

### Colorado Valley

**Eugene Ulrich 979-249-7425**

Our chapter recently prepared one of the two **Fish fry for 20 people** events we donated for our banquet auction. We were in the Muldoon area and the weather did not cooperate at all. It rained the entire time but no rain, sleet, snow or whatever keeps our chapter from coming through with our commitment. We had a terrific time and the party really enjoyed our feast. Hope all are having a terrific summer and wishing tight lines and bent rods to all!



*A few great cooks from Colorado Valley*

—**Eugene Ulrich**

### Corpus Christi

**Jay Gardner 361-658-7159**

[jaygardner@scientist.com](mailto:jaygardner@scientist.com)

Greetings from the Coastal Bend! Whew! It's getting out hot there! I want to wish all the other chapters "good luck!" in your upcoming banquets – time to hit a home run, and remember, it's all "for the fish" as **Randy Poelma** says.

Other than that, we are looking forward our upcoming events, the Guides Cup (contact **Bruce Laser** at [blaser@premier-yamaha.com](mailto:blaser@premier-yamaha.com) to learn how to sponsor the Guides Cup), and of course our perennial favorite, the ladies fishing tournament, **Babes on Baffin**. **Lauren Roesener** is again heading up the charge this year as Director, with her returning super-committee comprised of **Judy Arnold, Valerie Chilton, Michelle Gutierrez, Margaret Ehman, Angie Baines**, and the rest of the ladies. Please contact Lauren at [laurenleeroesener@gmail.com](mailto:laurenleeroesener@gmail.com) to find out how to sponsor this event, and of course watch the website at [babesonbaffin.com](http://babesonbaffin.com) to keep up with the dates and latest news on the event, and to register.

Unfortunately, we also have some good news/bad news. Good news is that the CCA/MDC hatchery in Flour Bluff is getting new pond liners...the bad news is that it will affect

the **Poco Rojo Kidfish event** this year. We are tentatively planning an alternative event, please stay tuned to our website page for more details as time goes on. Hello to **Johnny Augsburgers!** Y'all stay cool out there this summer, and have fun on the water! —**Jay Gardner** [jgardner@naismith-engineering.com](mailto:jgardner@naismith-engineering.com)

### Dallas / North Texas

**Hal Thomas 972-612-1684**

Greetings all! The Dallas Chapter helped celebrate **Tailwaters Fly Fishing Company's 8th anniversary** with a "Cookout on the parking lot." **Shawn, Travis and David** are great friends and loyal sponsors of the Dallas Chapter and we all had a great time. We reunited with members from long ago and signed up new members on the CCA website. Next on the schedule is a chapter meeting with our great friends at **Mariner Sails** in Dallas.

Last weekend, the ICC Team from Dallas made way to Rockport for the weekend ICC festivities. We enjoyed many hours on the water looking for the "honey hole" of trout and redds. Unfortunately, we were so impressed with the work of CCA opening Cedar Bayou, we actually spent more time floating in Mesquite Bay, cruising Cedar Bayou and soaking a few casts towards the surf and also into Vinson's Slough. I must say, the current inflow was impressive and the over whelming abundance of small creatures along the banks was a sight to see. Unfortunately, we did not catch an entry into the tournament despite **Richard Pratt's** prior day's skill demonstration of catch and release of a 29", 8.5lb+ redfish. Congrats to Richard and thank you for the release.

Most of the news from the chapter members is about how much fun people are having on the trips presented at our April Banquet. CCA continues to bring us fantastic trips and merchandise for our banquet and this year seems to be even better than before. Thank you Drew for all the hard work to make our event so good. Tight Lines, —**Hal Thomas** 972-768-3521

### East Texas

**Dr. Jim Norman 936-554-3165**

[jnorman7@suddenlink.net](mailto:jnorman7@suddenlink.net)

### Fort Bend

**Robb Gaston 281-239-9755**

Greetings all you Salty Dogs. How about this wet summer we are having? Definitely flushing out our bays and adding some new life. We held our annual **Jimmy Guest Memorial Kids Fishing Tournament** in July. There were some new faces and some old faces. You could feel the excitement in the air. The looks on these young angler's faces were enough to make a grown man cry. Not me of course, but some.

We were blessed not to have the seaweed problem as we did last year. Please check out our Facebook page for all the pictures from the event. [www.facebook.com/fortbendfishermen](http://www.facebook.com/fortbendfishermen).

Up next is the 2015 ladies tournament known as **Lingerie on the Bay**. We moved the date this year to September 19. We thought the cooler weather would bring out more ladies and bigger fish. If you want to participate, head on over to [www.matagordabay.com](http://www.matagordabay.com) and click on the tournament tab. All the info and registration forms are there.

This year **Intertek** has donated hot dogs and hamburgers and ice cold beverages to enjoy at the weigh in. I look forward to seeing



# THINK RED. SEE BLUE

CCA makes marine conservation a reality. In addition to relentless efforts to educate the public, CCA also partners with organizations like Academy Sports + Outdoors to promote and enhance the present and future availability of coastal resources. Look for exclusive "Think Red. See Blue." conservation campaign gear at your local Academy store. There are approximately 50 CCA-branded products that include CCA shirts, hats, rods, reels, tackle boxes and bags, coolers and much more. A portion of the sales from these products goes to support CCA's important conservation work, including funding habitat restoration efforts.

**Academy**  
SPORTS+OUTDOORS



Selection and prices vary by store.

**59<sup>99</sup>** CCA Deluxe Tackle Bag  
• Includes three utility boxes



**34<sup>99</sup>** CCA Tackle Bag  
• Includes two utility boxes



**24<sup>99</sup>**

Plano  
CCA  
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**5<sup>49</sup>**

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**17<sup>99</sup>**  
CCA  
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with Lanyard  
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everyone there. If you have any questions feel free to give me a shout, or email **Donnie Powers** at [dpowers11450@gmail.com](mailto:dpowers11450@gmail.com). Until next time, keep your drinks full and your lines tight! —Robb

### Fort Worth

**Hunter Baird 817-437-8351**

Summertime doldrums? We don't think so. The slowness that summer often brings means more time for fishing! We have been hearing good reports from the coast as some of our members send in reports and pictures of their catches. We hope you are taking some time to head south and spend some time on the water. If you are looking for guide suggestions or anything else related to CCA feel free to reach out to your local chapter for direction. Your FW board will soon be working on the fall general membership meeting and fish fry, so don't forget us as summer turns to fall. Cheers to a cool breeze in your face, some sun shine on your back and a tight line! —John Black

### Galveston

**Dr. Ken Ellis 713-962-7731**

Hello from the Galveston Chapter. We held a very well attended Membership meeting at the **M & M Bar and Grill in Galveston**. Our featured speakers were guys from the **Shimano Pro Staff**. They gave us an entertaining and informative presentation. We'd like to thank them for coming out to speak to our group. Be on



*Some lucky Galveston boat ticket winner now has a host of new best friends. Here's that handsome Purebay Blue Wave with an incredible wrap.*

the lookout for details about our fall membership meeting.

As you read this we will have just held our **23rd Annual Fundraiser**. We'd like to thank our major banquet underwriters at the time of this printing: **Jomar Electric, DW Hose, Longhorn Dental, Intermar Product and Services, Moody National Bank and Sector Transport**. A more detailed list of sponsors will be featured in the next issue. As always, we'd like to thank all of you who help support our chapter. Tight lines, —Ken Ellis

### Golden Triangle

**Joel Foxworth 409-466-2614**

It was an exciting banquet this year for the Golden Triangle Chapter. We had a record attendance, record revenue, record profits, and most of all — record fun! Special thanks to **Brad Klein, Zummo's Meat Co., and Giglio Distributing** for providing a party outside the party with comfort food for all. If you missed the banquet, you missed the most fun you can have in Southeast Texas.

On August 14th, we will have our **Annual Director's Tournament** where **Mike Petit** will try to repeat his title as fisherman extraordinaire winning every contest we have. This year, we will be joined by several wounded war veter-

ans from the organization, **Heroes on the Water**. It's a great organization and we are proud that our chapter supports these veterans in their rehabilitation.

Lastly, stay on the hook for some new events from the Golden Triangle Chapter. We are planning to introduce something new this Fall if we can put it together in time. If you are interested in becoming a Board Member, please contact me at the number listed. As we continue to grow our chapter, we will need to add additional quality board members. Until next time, wishing you all "Tight lines, warm breezes, good friends, and plenty of bait."

—Joel N. Foxworth

### Greater Sugar Land

**Richard Lindley**

**832-270-0398**

[richardlindley@att.net](mailto:richardlindley@att.net)

### Greater Woodlands

**James Kay 281-363-4417**

[www.ccatexas.org/greater-woodlands](http://www.ccatexas.org/greater-woodlands)

[www.ccatexas.org/chapters/inland/greater-woodlands/](http://www.ccatexas.org/chapters/inland/greater-woodlands/) By the time this publication comes out, CCA Texas Greater Woodlands Chapter – 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet will be complete. I would like to Thank our Platinum Sponsor – **Royal Purple Synthetic Oils**. They have been a sponsor since our inception and we are pleased to have their continued support. Our Gold sponsor **VCC** and **Anadarko Petroleum** were also instrumental in the success of our Banquet - Thank You. Thanks to all the Silver and Corporate Table Sponsorship and all participants who attended. These functions need your support. Officers and Board Members where instrumental in getting the banquet set-up

GMM (General Membership Meeting) – June 22nd we hosted Zane Starr as our speaker. We said a record attendance for a GMM with 62 CCA Members & Guest. Zane addressed a few concerns about all the rain we have had and how it effects saltwater fishing. After the brief intro, he opened to a Question & Answer session. Thank You all for attending. Hope all the raffle prize winners enjoy their gifts.

Fishing—as of this writing, I have been very few times. The most memorable trip was a recent trip down to the Landcut. I would like to Thank Glen for hosting us in his cabin and cooking some magnificent steaks. Also Thanks to Rick for the invite and Jesse for the company. Last but not least I would like to Thank my brother for taking me down. Highlight for me was a 23-1/2 Trout. We caught over a 100+ undersized fish and of course released back. With all this rain, I believe it is going to improve fishing. We did not see a spot of Brown Tide on the way down, so hope it assist on water quality. **Keep Conserving...To Keep Fishing!!!** —James Kay

### Guadalupe Valley

**Jon Eric Rodriguez 361-243-1017**

We are the champs! The team of **Stacy Cordes, Darrel Cordes, Jay Bramlette, Bobby Lane, Robert Caskey, Eric Draper, Buck Blain, Bobby Weir** and **Chuck Howard** were able to win just about everything in the ICC fishing tournament. They are very happy to represent our chapter. The chapter will be holding general meetings coming up discussing our banquet that we will be towards the end of the year. If you have any questions please email me at

[rodriguezjon05@gmail.com](mailto:rodriguezjon05@gmail.com). Thank you for all your input. And congratulations to our fishing team! —Jon Eric Rodriguez

### Hays County

**Tim Young 512-573-7939**

[hayscountyccta@gmail.com](mailto:hayscountyccta@gmail.com)

### Heart of the Hills

**Jim Simmons 210-380-5709**

[fishtxsurf@AOL.com](mailto:fishtxsurf@AOL.com)

The Heart of the Hills Chapter participated in the CCA Inter-Chapter Challenge fishing tournament in June in Aransas Pass. **Congratulations to Nancy Castro on her 8.88 pound red that took first place** and to the entire **HoH team** on a 16.62 pound stringer that took 3rd place! Hope your Summer fishing trips have been successful.

Are you ready for the Heart of the Hills Banquet? We are back at the Boerne Community Center this year on Thursday, September 10, 2015 for our annual shrimp boil, live and silent auctions and raffles. Call 210-380-5709 for tickets. See you at the banquet! —Jim Simmons

### Hill Country

**Miles Engelke 830-303-1827**

Hill Country CCA is pleased to announce that we added four new directors. They are **Jerry (Pooch) Blankenship, Kevin Acker, Kenny Boeder** and **Kevin Seelhammer**, welcome aboard. Our summer is moving right along, we had our chapter tournament on June 6 in Rockport at **Drifters Resort**. We had about 85 entries, fun was had by all adults and kids, a big Thank You to **Josh and Sterling**. Josh did a lot of pre-tournament work and Sterling handled the tournament events at Rockport. Great job guys.

The very next weekend, June 12, our team consisting of **Bill Daughtery, Don Whitaker, Miles Engelke, Jerry (Pooch) Blankenship, Michael Laskowski, Michael Laskowski Jr., Dennis Williams, Travis Williams** and **Joe Mark Miller** fished in the ICC and won second place. Congratulations, Hill Country Team.

Our next general meetings will be July 21, 2015 and October 20, 2015 at the Elks Lodge, programs to be announced.

**Our chapter banquet will be Thursday August 20, 2015 at the Civic Center in New Braunfels Texas. Black Tie Affairs Catering** will be serving up the wonderful food. Plan on attending, tell your fishing friends. To purchase a table call **Todd Thetford** at 830-660-8825. We are selling in advance 300 only Premium Choice Raffle tickets for \$100 each, Prizes are as follows:

1. Grand Prize winner will choose between a **Mahindra eMax 22 tractor** provided by **Texas Tractor Country** or a **Polaris Ranger 570** provided by **Wood's Cycle Country**. 2. Will receive a **Benelli Nova 12 Gauge Shotgun**. / 3. Will receive a **65 quart Yeti Cooler**. / 4. Will receive a **Shimano Chronarch Reel/American RodSmith Rod**. / 5. Will receive a **GoPro Hero Camera**.

Drawing will be held at our banquet. Tickets can be purchased from **Darlene Cook**, 830-214-3067, **Royce Harboth** 830-832-7430, **Bill Daughtery**, 830-708-2339 or any of our directors.

If you see any of our sponsors out and about, give them a big Thank You. They are **Reel Em Inn on The Bay, Redfish Bay Boat House Redfish Willie's, Kontiki Beach Resort, Whitaker Insurance, KGNB KNBT, Power En-**



gineering Services, Cemex, StayTuff, Fishers of Men RV, Sandollar Motel, Creative Eyewear and FAPCO.

For any questions or if you would like to get involved with our chapter, Cast me a call. 210-260-8968. Treasure The Trips— Miles Engelke

**Houston Homebuilders**  
**Mack Davis 832 381-6130**

**Houston Real Estate**  
**Dale Couch 281-953-2510**

Looking for a few good live auction items for our Feb. Dinner. Thanks, —Dale

**Katy**  
**Clint Hilton 713-515-3991**

If banquets were fish, the Katy Chapter would have just landed a 10lb Trout! Yep, the Katy crew just wrapped up another wildly successful banquet, setting the bar even higher than ever before. We took a gamble on changing venues, and it paid off in spades with more people in attendance, more money raised, and more fun than ever!

The Katy Board really stepped it up this year, too. Special thanks to everyone who took time to be intimately involved: **Trevor Deihl, Keith White, Keith Whitlock, Craig Roberson, Giacomo Meeks, Preston Roobaert, Bradley Miller, Leroy Martinez, Bobby and Garrett Grigar, James Harle** and anyone I left out, did a FANTASTIC job brainstorming ideas and executing a plan that put this banquet ahead of the rest. Without a great board, our chapter would not be what it's grown to be. Thank you guys!

We also had a record year for sponsors and underwriters. As you do business in the Katy area, please choose to support those that support CCA: **LED Shop of Texas / Red River BbQ / Ace Hardware / Extreme Offroad / Hyper Audio / JH boats / Macquarie / Bomber Saltwater Grade Lures / EZ Wade / Sport Marine / Sarge Custom Rods / Laguna Custom Rods / Photographer - Kristine Martin** (photos of the banquet can be seen on Dropbox, by calling me for the link.

Thanks again to all of you who make the Katy Chapter the success it is. I thoroughly enjoy the time I spend with everyone and look forward to the next time! —Clint Hilton

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

**Lee County**  
**Byron Kalbas 979-540-0056**

**The 5th annual Lee County chapter banquet will be held on Thursday, October 15, 2015 at the Sons of Herman hall in Giddings, Texas.** You can contact myself or any committee member for banquet tickets or raffle tickets. Hope everyone has a great summer on the water. God Bless Texas! —Byron Kalbas

**Live Oak**  
**Brad Kotrla 979-732-1669**

**Lower Colorado**  
**Tim Munos 979 332-2876**

**Lower Laguna Madre**  
**Oscar Garcia III 956-491-8148**

**Mainland**  
**Eric Minor 281-534-6242**



*Corpus Christi Nearshore Reef work underway. Being deployed are the new specially-designed pyramid reef elements. Photo, Lisa Laskowski*

**Matagorda Bays**  
**Chad Hensley 979-543-2734**

The "Sold Out" signs were once again pulled out and taped to the front doors of the El Campo Civic Center for our 30th Annual Matagorda Bays Chapter Banquet. This is the 7th year in a row that the banquet has sold out. All of this could not be possible without the continued support from the generous donors and members of our chapter.



*The Matagorda BAYS 22' Tran Sport XLR8 w/ a 200HP Suzuki sponsored by long time chapter supporter Polasek Construction. This year's lucky winner was Justin Massey from Wharton, Texas.*

Banquet guests enjoyed a fun-filled evening with chances to win on the **Pick of the Litter cap raffle** sponsored by **Prasek's Hillje Smokehouse, El Campo Boating Center, and Mustang Caterpillar**, a **Koozie raffle** sponsored by **R&M Forge & Fittings, INC and Polasek Construction**, and a **Yeti cup raffle** sponsored by **RSI and Energy Construction, Inc.** A great Ribeye steak meal with all the trimmings was prepared and served by board member **Slade Stary** and his top-notch cooking crew. The live auction, sponsored by **Full Auto Firearms, Wiese Crop Insurance, and Gulf Coast Lease Service** was full of great items that ranged from fishing and hunting trips from around the world, to guided fishing trips right here on the Texas coast. The **Jim Ehman Memorial Guides Cup** trips were once again a big hit among buyers. This tournament, sponsored by **Duckett Bouligny & Collins LLP, Harbor Bait and Tackle, and El Campo Sheet Metal** is held every year in September in Matagorda and can only be entered by purchasing a trip in our live auction.

The highlight of the evening of course was the drawing for the fully rigged **22' Tran Sport XLR8 w/ a 200HP Suzuki** sponsored by **Tran Sport Boats** and by long time chapter sup-

porter **Polasek Construction**. A big thanks goes out to these guys for their continued support. This year's lucky winner was **Justin Massey from Wharton Texas**. As always I wish I could list everyone who donates and contributes to our chapter, but here are a few who are there year after year: **Cedar Creek Woodshop, Multi Fab Metals, El Campo Refrigeration, Wild Wing Taxidermy, Rocky Creek Retrievers, Eichorn Gonzales & Miller Jewelers, Las Palmas Lodge, Capt Troy Keen, Capt Dickie Colburn, Ellen and Will Ohmstede, Tapatio Springs Hill Country Resort and Spa, Red Bluff Prairie Hunting Club, Del Papa Distributing, Hartman Distributing, Texas Coast Limo Services, Full Auto Firearms.**

Once again thanks to all the members of our great chapter. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the chapter.  
—Chad Hensley

**MidCoast**  
**David Jenkins 361-578-5580**

At this writing we are in the dog days of summer and with all of the rain and flooding, the bay systems in the Port O'Connor area are still inundated with fresh and brackish water. We have had several cases of Vibrio here in our area. Normally we may have 2-3 cases, but this year already, we have had 9-10 cases, some being very severe. If you decide to fish in our area, please take precautions not to get infected.

In May we had our annual banquet and had 950 attendees who enjoyed a great meal, catered by **Uncle Mutt's Bar B Que**, drinks and a fun night. We honored my and CCA's good friend, **Hector Mendieta**, by dedicating the banquet in his name. I want to thank all who attended; the donors, and our own board members who helped make our banquet a success again this year. I truly believe we have committed board members who make things happen, and it is greatly appreciated.

A special Thank You! goes to **Rick Kresta, Krestas Boat and Motors, Dennis Stumfoll, Bernies Boats and Motors, Hartman Distributing, Del Papa Distributing, Cliff Thomas, Speedy Stop, Jimmy Burns, WaterLoo Custom Rods USA, Darrel Hester, Victoria All Sports, Eichorn, Gonzales and Miller Fine Jewelers, Atzenhoffer Cheverolet/Cadillac and the 21 Guides** who participated in our 2015 Guides Cup Tournament. If anyone would like to join a great team of CCA Volunteers and would like to be one of our board members, please con-



tact me or one of the Mid Coast Chapter Board Members. We welcome you with open arms. Tight Lines—**David Jenkins** 361-578-5580

**Northeast Houston**  
**Jason Law 713-898-8594**

**Northwest Houston**  
**Alan Massey 281-414-6341**

Alan Massey 281-414-6341  
We held our 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet and it was a huge success. It was at the **Raveneaux Country Club** and they did a fabulous job.

Thank you to our Table Sponsors: **Houston Distributing, Beck & Masten Buick-GMC, Inc., Way Tech, Inc., Quadvest Construction, Lehmann Fowler, Bluewater Seafood, John Eagle Honda, Keyera Energy, J. D. Moynahan & Cold Leather Koozies, Academy, Redfish Ranch & Agave Flats, M-Services, Bayer Animal Health, MEK Construction, Ray Blackburn & National Auto Service, Tour Star Rods, Lakey Electric, Tight Lines, American Rodsmiths, The Emmott's, F. Vollentine, The Hallum's, The Massey's, West Fire Inc., Merek Bros., LMC Marine** we hope to see everyone again next year.

We also thank our sponsors who donated raffle items, auction items and refreshments. Thanks to all our Directors and folks who came out to help put the event together.

Our next **General Meeting** will be **October 7<sup>th</sup>** at Houston Distributing in the Stein Room, at 7:00 PM. Our guest speaker will be **John D. Blaha Assistant Director – CCA**. He will cover Texas's habitat program, **Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow** and what projects it has worked on most recently, such as the Cedar Bayou restoration project and East Galveston Bay Oyster Reef restoration hope to see you there! – **Loretta Vasquez** Secretary 281-723-6963 [loretta.vasquez@att.net](mailto:loretta.vasquez@att.net)

**Orange County**  
**Scott Bandy 409-988-3667**  
[sabandy@gmail.com](mailto:sabandy@gmail.com)

As the temperature of summer heats up, or banquet planning also follows suit. We are proud to announce that **Granger Chevrolet** again stepped up to be our **Banquet Sponsor** this year. Thanks to **Al and Dean Granger** and all the crew at Grangers for being a generous contributor year after year to make our banquet a success.

We also want to say thanks to **Golden Pass LNG, Goodyear Chemical, Vincent Recycling, Total, Exxon Mobil, Stout Homebuilders, and Rodney Townsend Attorney at Law** for stepping up to our Redfish sponsor tables.

**This year's banquet will be on August 20, 2015 at the Orange Convention and Expo Center.** Tickets and tables are selling fast, so get in touch with a Chapter Member fast to make sure you won't be left out this year. Contact Info : **Scott Bandy** – [scottbandy77@yahoo.com](mailto:scottbandy77@yahoo.com) / **Louis Moore** – [louis\\_moore@yahoo.com](mailto:louis_moore@yahoo.com) / **Davis Dixon** – [dcdixon149@yahoo.com](mailto:dcdixon149@yahoo.com) / **Matt Still** – [mstill@ccatexas.org](mailto:mstill@ccatexas.org) — **Scott Bandy**

**Port O'Connor**  
**Bill Moore 361-983-4690**

Summer greetings from POC and we hope everyone is having a great one. From the crowds on the weekends, it seems a lot are taking advantage of all the activities on this end. Also, with the influx of all this fresh water into the bay system, fishing has certainly improved.

The POC CCA hosted a Banquet Appreciation /Member Drive Dinner. The event was held at **Josie's Cantina** and **Norman Boyd** of TPWD Coastal Fisheries Division was the guest speaker. He shared recent data regarding the health of the fishery in San Antonio Bay and also discussed the recently opened Cedar Bayou.

In regard to the support of our coastal resources, we want to remind everyone to come join us on **Saturday, October 17, for our 16th Annual CCA Banquet**. It will again be held at the Community Center. Tickets and/or Tables are readily available from any POC CCA member, Assistant Director **Ellen Ohmstede** (800-626-4222), or at any of the following POC businesses; **Sonny's Marine, Coastal Boat Services, Coastal Bend Marine, Port O'Connor Rod & Gun, and Tigrett Real Estate**.

Also, if you want to get involved, give us a call and definitely come join us on Saturday, October 17 in POC. "Where it all began." —**Bill Moore**

**Prairie**  
**Sharon Goebel 979-877-4103**

Hope everybody is having a great summer to spite the rain storm this year that put a lot of fresh in our bays. I would like to thank all of our board members who went to the annual CCA Inter chapter challenge in June at Port Aransas. Thanks to **James Henderson** for being the captain of our team. The names as follow were the team: **Katy Henderson, Lori Cruz, Larry Hughes, Brian Wietstruck, Audra Rustin, Branden Rustin and Tori Rachuner**. Unfortunately we did not place, but everybody had a great time and can't wait for next year.

**Brian Wietstruck** won a CCA yeti cooler Friday night at the Captain's dinner.

By the time this CCA currents article is out, we will have had our annual Kids Fishing tournament, this year at **Wietstruck Farm** in Bellville Texas. Thanks to **Larry** for the use of his catfish lake on August 1st.

We had awards given for different classes of fish, a silent auction. All the kids got free hot dogs and drinks.

On August 15, we will have our annual **Rock Port Madness** fishing trip that was on our April Banquet Live Auction. The winners this year are **Mike Berry, Gerald Harwell, Michael Hollman, Larry Hollman, Kenneth Nelson, and Stanley Kollatschny**. On the Saturday night dinner we will serve ribeye steaks and boiled shrimp. If anybody is interested in this trip, it will be up for bid during our 2016 Banquet.

We are in the planning stages of our Chapter Fishing Tournament that will be held late in the summer, place and date to be announced. Thanks and Good Fishing—**Ron Chess** 979-525-9254

**Redfish Bay**  
**Norman Oates 361-758-0266**

We're having a great year for events! Our Annual Banquet was a success with fun for all, and we want to thank the board, supporters, and attendees for their participation.

Also, the annual "Take a Kid Fishing" event was enjoyed by young fisherpersons of all ages from the area. If you have young kids or grandchildren, don't miss this event next year. The "Take a Kid Fishing" event is always the first weekend in June. As always, special thanks to **Glenn Martin of Woody's Sports Cen-**

**ter** and the many other supporters who make this "tournament" happen.

Upcoming, we have the **annual Beeville Fish Fry**. The event is always the Thursday before dove season starts – this year it will be September 10. Fried catfish and trimmings are the food of the evening, and a relaxed atmosphere and fun are enjoyed by all who attend. It is a fundraising event with live auction, silent auction, and raffle items. Join us for an enjoyable evening while supporting CCA's conservation efforts! —**Norman C Oates** / 361-758-0266 H / 361-790-2748 C

**Rio Grande Valley**  
**George McCaleb 956-984-8688**  
[gmccaleb@hotmail.com](mailto:gmccaleb@hotmail.com)

**Sabine-Neches**  
**Darin Johnson 409-790-9855**

Greetings! Fishing on Sabine is still not right on the North end, but as the rain has ended, it will be game on. The south end, jetties and Keith Lake have been a great alternative.

**Saturday August 22nd 9am-11am is the Kidfish event at Sea Rim State Park.** Ages 1-12 Free Entry to Sea Rim. The First 100 kids will receive a free rod and reel and event t-shirt. Tackle and bait will be provided. Prizes will be awarded. Volunteers are needed to help, so please contact me for additional information. We look forward to seeing everyone there. This is a great event that TPWD puts on and we look forward to helping out.

**Don't forget our friends in Orange County either, they have their banquet coming up too, Thursday August 20th.** Until next time, Tight lines to all —**Darin M Johnson** 409-502-1010

**Sam Houston**  
**Brandon Kolaja 281-797-6908**

**San Antonio**  
**Jimmy Gibson 210-287-4378**

Summer has sprung and I hope you have been out on the water. Getting out to the coast is always fun and it appears the 5 trout fish limit hasn't met too much resistance. Your San Antonio Volunteer Committee deserved a much needed beach break as we have had an exciting and busy six months. The group has been consumed putting on our 2nd Annual "Hooked on Clays" Sporting Clays Shooting event which grew to over 200 shooters, then in May our biggest CCA banquet ever, with over 1850 attending and grossing more CCA dollars than ever before. We just keep getting bigger and THANK YOU to all who support our chapter.

Moving forward we are planning a CCA night out this fall and are presently working on a time and place. We will send out an update as soon as things are finalized. Until our next update, The reds, trout, and flounder are waiting for you inshore, if offshore, what can I say, but Wahoo!!! and the kingfish are one show away. The best part is, if you just need some time off, the beaches are a perfect spot to spend a lazy afternoon catch up, reading your CURRENTS and TIDE Magazine and enjoying your summer days.

That said, I always want to thank our generous membership, sponsors and our unbelievable volunteer staff. Without you CCA would not have become the voice for the recreational angler it is today. The San Antonio bunch is just incredible. The can-do attitude is special, and I am happy to say I am a part of this fine or-





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ganization. Vaya Con Dios, —Jimmy Gibson, CCA Volunteer

**San Bernard**  
**Jayson Zahradnik**  
281-202-8438

**San Gabriel**  
**John Melnar**  
512- 497-8284

Our banquet is set for August 20 and we are very excited about the new venue at the Cedar Park Center. Making this move has literally opened the doors for us. Our goal is to get 500 people to attend the banquet but we will have room for many more.

Individual tickets are \$125 each, which includes open bar, great food, and plenty of opportunity to win. Reserved Bull Red Tables will be \$1,500 which will be 10 top tables. We also have sponsorships starting at \$2,000. Since we are growing the event we have also increased our popular **Gun/Yeti Raffle** to include 15 guns and 15 coolers. Additionally we have brought back our **UTV Raffle** which will be a **2015 Polaris Ranger Crew 570**. Tickets for both the Gun/Cooler and UTV Raffles will be \$100. All tickets for the Banquet, Raffles, as well as table and sponsorships can be purchased online at our Chapter's webpage at <http://www.ccatexas.org/chapters/inland/san-gabriel/>.

I would also like to thank our fine sponsors who have already committed their continued support, including **Don Hewlett Chevrolet** as our **Title Sponsor**, **Aday & Associates**, **PMB Helin Donovan**, **Morris Glass**, **Gibson Con-**



Galveston Oyster Restoration in East Galveston Bay. Photo by Lisa Laskowski

vore.com

#### San Jacinto

**Jim Wilson 713-828-7639**

Since our last update we have completed our **Annual Sunshine Kids event, ICC and Banquet**. Our next event will be our **Youth Tournament** on September 12, 2015 at Sylvan Beach Pier.

This year at our Sunshine Kids event we had 23 Sunshine Kids and their families. Counting volunteers, SSKs and Boat Captains, we had about 136 participants. A good time was had by all. Several of our SSKs and families had never been out in a boat before.

There's a lot of satisfaction for us as volunteers to provide this service. The smiles are all the payment anyone would ever need.

We give a special thank you to the SSKs organization for letting us participate, the boat

**crete, Independence Title, and R Bank**. If you have any questions about table sales, sponsorship levels, or how you can help with the banquet, please feel free to contact me.

—**John Melnar** 512-497-8284  
[jmelnar@piscavore.com](mailto:jmelnar@piscavore.com)

captains, volunteers and our donor. Thanks everybody for a great day!

The banquet has come and gone and so has the ICC. Thanks to all of the Table Sponsors and people who made this event a success. This was not our year at the ICC. We had some tough fishing but a lot of good times.

**Our Youth Tournament is scheduled for Sept 12, 2015 at the Sylvan Beach Pier**. Fishing starts at 8:00 AM. Everything is free. We provide the bait, 80+ rods and reels for any child who doesn't have one, food, drinks and trophies. Everything is donated or paid for by our board. If you're interested in bringing a kid you can contact myself (**Steve Wilson**) at [steveww52@yahoo.com](mailto:steveww52@yahoo.com), **Jim Wilson** at 713-828-7639 or **Pete Ruiz** at [peteruiz007@yahoo.com](mailto:peteruiz007@yahoo.com). Fill free to pass on to your Church Youth groups, Daycares or any other organization that maybe interested.

—**Steve Wilson**

#### Southwestern

**Robert Hart 830-879-5541**

#### TAMU

**Ian Kocher Mays Business School**  
512-632-9222

[ikocher12@gmail.com](mailto:ikocher12@gmail.com)

#### Texas State University

**Ryan Wishnow 832-444-3598**  
[rv1303@txstate.edu](mailto:rv1303@txstate.edu)

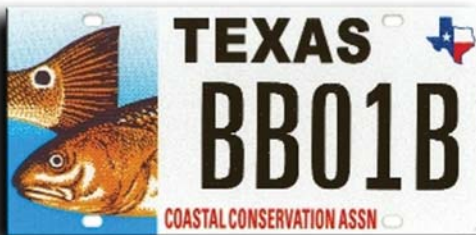
#### Tomball/Magnolia

**Matt Maddox 281-770-7858**

#### Tri-County

**Christian Hildebrand 830-534-2730**

## CCA Plates for Projects



You've seen our CCA Texas License plates driving the roads of Texas. We would like to ask all of our 70,000 Texas driving members to consider ordering their own plate today. For just \$30 you can have this fantastic-looking plate, and CCA will receive \$22 to be used for our Habitat projects.

It will take you just a few minutes to order for your truck, car, or boat trailer. To place your order, input in your network browser (Google works best), **TxDOT Special Plate Order Application**. Follow the next thread to Coastal Conservation Association. These plates would also make great gifts for any fishing enthusiast. So drive in style and help support our Habitat projects at the same time.

If just half of our members drive with our CCA plates, it will generate almost \$800,000 each year to fund future Habitat projects. Now that is driving for a cause.

**Please support us and order your plate today!**



### Trinity Bay

Gerald Payne 281-385-2894

It is "Crunch Time" here in the Trinity Bay Chapter as we are making final preparations for our August 28th Banquet in Baytown, Texas. It seems everyone had a great time last year with the event returning to Baytown, Texas. Based on preliminary information, we anticipate yet another sell out in 2015.

Silent and live auction items will be plentiful as will the raffle items lined along the walls throughout the venue. Amusements such as the popular "Crab Craps" dice game and other innovated activities are certain to keep everyone anticipating winning great prizes by the end of the evening. As always, come and indulge in our spectacular all you can eat boiled shrimp dinner that includes various sides and cold refreshments.

\*Individual Tickets - \$50 each, \$85 per Couple (CCA membership and meal included)  
\*Reserved Tables 8 persons - \$500, \*Title Sponsor - \$1,350, \*Executive Sponsor - \$2,250 \*Platinum Sponsor - \$3,250\* All Reserved and Sponsor Tables include CCA memberships for each guest, banquet meals, table gifts and more. Title/Executive Sponsor includes 2 tables of 8 - Platinum Sponsor includes 3 tables of 8.

The chapter also has a **Sportsman Raffle** loaded with prizes that will entice any outdoorsman. The tickets can be pre-purchased before the banquet through any Trinity Bay Board Member or **Drew Adams** - CCA Texas, Assistant Director 713-626-4222.

Banquet information: August 28, 2015 at Nuevo Leon Social Events, 1000 Park Street, Baytown, Texas 77520.

We look forward to seeing everyone again this year and we want to sincerely thank all of our sponsors. —**Gerald Payne** 281-728-6278

### Trinity Valley

John Hebert Jr 936-334-2528

We hope everyone is having a great summer. Our 2nd Annual Fishing Tournament was a success. Everyone had a wonderful time and there were some nice fish caught.

**Now the planning begins for our banquet. Please mark your calendars for the 3rd Annual Trinity Valley CCA Banquet. It will be held on Thursday, September 10th at the Dayton Civic Center.** For more information please contact **John Hebert Jr.** at 936-334-2528 or **Jennifer Creel** at 936-334-2314. We'd love for you to come. —**John Hebert Jr.**

### West Houston

Mike Ayers 832-248-9352

The 29th Annual West Houston Banquet is in the books, and we are proud to say this year was another great year! Thank you to all of our sponsors, underwriters and attendees for helping make this year another great one. I would also like to thank all of the dedicated board members and CCA staff who helped plan, organize and host the event. The West Houston Chapter would never be able to host a party for 500 of our closest friends without your help and dedication!

Now that the banquet is over, the board is taking some time off to squeeze in a few fishing trips. We hope everyone is enjoying their summers and are sneaking in a few trips as well. If you would like to keep up with the chapter current events, please find us on Facebook or on the chapter page on the CCA Texas website. Feel free to share any good trips with us on our Facebook page and be sure to post up your pictures!

Next up for the West Houston Chapter is the **4th Annual CCA Texas/CastAway Cup fishing tournament.** This is a great event that

has drawn a record number of teams each year. The event will be held on Saturday, October 17 at **Harborwalk Marina on West Galveston Bay.** Please stay tuned for more information, including rules and entry forms in the near future. We are very proud to say that all proceeds from this tournament are donated back to CCA Texas!

Thanks again to all of the participants who attended the **29th Annual Crawfish Boil & Banquet.** Next year we will be hosting the 30th Edition of the West Houston Banquet and are looking forward to making it bigger and better than ever! Stay safe out there and good luck catching! —**Mikle Ayers**

### West Texas

Craig McDonnold  
432-682-3499

Greetings from the West Texas Chapter. We got to enjoy another successful banquet this year and would like to thank all of our sponsors and supporters. A packed house at **Midland Country Club** was treated to boiled shrimp and crawfish and BBQ prime rib and slow-cooked pork. Thanks goes out to the **LPC and Phoenix Services** cooking team for all of their hard work. Thanks to **Tyler Smith** for keeping everyone in line. Thanks to our pit boss **Rusty Smith** for all of the hours you put in on the delicious BBQ.

A very special thanks to **Brad Willett** with "**Wilder on the Taylor.**" Brad donated not one, but two, fly fishing trips to a private stretch on the beautiful **Taylor River by Gunnison, CO.** This was a big boost to our live auction, so thanks Brad. Tropical storm Bill his hitting Port O as I write this, but so far Midland has fared OK. Tight lines—**Craig McDonnold**



INSPIRED BY OUR FRIENDS IN THE WATER. BUILT FOR OUR FRIENDS ON LAND.







## Special Gift for New LIFE MEMBERS

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**This firearm offer and transfer is subject to all Texas and Federal Firearms laws and regulations, including a background check and age restriction.**

### PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Existing Life Members, please contact CCA Texas or email Kim at [kogonosky@ccatexas.org](mailto:kogonosky@ccatexas.org) for your special CCA High Standard offer!

Your gun must be picked up from an FFL dealer. Please expect 10-12 weeks for delivery. Guns will ONLY be shipped to addresses in Texas.

You will be responsible for any additional handling fees by dealer.

**You MUST return this form to the CCA office completely filled out to receive your gift (This offer is NOT available online).**

### CCALifeMember APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

CCA Member ID# \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

#### Method of Payment \$1,025.00

☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Credit Card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ AmEx ☐ Discover

\_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card Number

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Exp. Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

#### Please Ship My Gun To This FFL Dealer:

(This form must be completely filled out or your gun will NOT be shipped)

Academy Sports + Outdoors has agreed to accept the CCA Texas High Standard Life Member gun at all of their Texas stores, with no handling fee charge. For more information please contact Mylinda Jones at [mylinda.jones@academy.com](mailto:mylinda.jones@academy.com) or (281) 646-5908.

FFL Dealer \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Return this form to:**

**CCATexas** | 6919 Portwest Dr., Ste. 100 | Houston, Texas 77024

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## The Last Laugh



Adam Gilvarray says he has used the hashtag #lovetherelease on his Instagram page since he discovered how rewarding it was to share a sportsman's moment and send a trophy on the way to fight another day.

## TEXAS WILDLIFE ART

"JACK" by Herb Booth

A Tribute to John "Jack" Cowan (20 x 30" Giclee')



- > John Cowan
- > John Dearman
- > Sam Caldwell
- > Herb Booth
- > David Drinkard
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# Coastal Conservation Association

6919 Portwest Suite 100 / Houston, TX 77024

## CURRENTS NEWSLETTER

August / September 2015

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PERMIT 2532

## On track and headed your way

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26th**  
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Corpus Christi / Marine Safety Office:  
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oil spills: 361-888-3162  
Port Aransas: 361-749-5217  
Port O'Connor: 361-983-2616  
Freeport: 979-233-3801  
Houston, Galveston: 409-766-5620  
Sabine: 409-971-2195

The Texas Parks & Wildlife website is  
your starting point for almost any-  
thing 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.ogttx.com/>



### COASTAL CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION TEXAS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (including STAR Entry)



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

NEW MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_ (Member ID for renewing members only) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

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MEMBER:	\$30	Membership card, decal, bumper sticker, Texas CURRENTS newsletter & TIDE magazine.
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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.
STAR ENTRY FEE:	\$20	Tournament entry fee. Must be a current CCA member.
NEW TIDE:	\$10	Tide newsletter, decal.
NEW TIDE / Star:	\$10	Members 17 and under only Same as above, plus "FREE" STAR Tournament entry.

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card number \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card expiration date \_\_\_\_\_ By entering this tournament, I agree to be bound by the STAR Tournament Rules, Release and Indemnity Agreement. I understand that there are specific rules governing the conduct of the tournament and that upon request a copy will be mailed to me. 6919 Portwest, Suite 100 / Houston, TX 77024 / 713-626-4222 / Website: [www.ccatexas.org](http://www.ccatexas.org)