

CURRENTS

October / November 2016



*Halloween
Greetings
from CCA's
wetlands
workers*

Dickinson Bayou marsh restoration benefits from immediate success

By John Blaha

Coastal wetland loss, from both natural and human-induced causes, is significant in Texas.

Since the 1930s, up to 50% or more of wetlands have been lost in many areas along the Texas coast. It is a continuing concern because of the essential role wetlands play in fisheries production, flood control, erosion prevention, protection of water quality, groundwater replenishment and recreation.

These coastal wetlands serve as nursery grounds for over 95 percent of the species of recreationally and commercially important fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Texas Parks and Wildlife, Galveston Bay Foundation, Galveston Bay Estuaries Program, United States Fish and Wildlife and other entities have all taken part in many marsh restoration projects in the Galveston Bay system.

Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) Texas has been a supporting member in many of these efforts including Bird Island Cove, Snake Island Cove, Oyster Lake (West Galveston Bay), and Sportsman's Road. The Galveston Bay National Estuary Program's (GBNEP) Com-

prehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) has given a very high priority to increasing the quality and quantity of wetlands, and setting as a goal the expansion of the area of vegetated wetlands in the GBNEP area by 15,000 acres within 20 years

The Dickinson Bayou Marsh Restoration Project, led by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), was recently completed and the efforts of the project leaders are showing immediate success. The area, an area designated as impaired by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), has been affected over many years due to development, oil and gas activities, dredging activities and natural events.

Over time, this area within the lower reaches of the Dickinson Bayou watershed has lost 36 acres of marsh since the 1930s. Up

to 9 feet of shoreline per year have been lost during this period, and between 2011 and 2013 18 feet of shoreline was documented as lost during the planning stages of the project. Due to the loss of these wetlands, widening of the bayou due to subsidence and buildup of runoff sedimentation, this area has seen issues with low dissolved oxygen levels which has resulted in 29 documented fish kills prior to the project's completion.

The Dickinson Bayou Marsh Restoration project is somewhat unique in that it is located in the watershed of Dickinson Bayou, which flows into Galveston Bay. The project's location is a little less than 1.5 miles upstream of the HWY 146 Bridge. Marsh restoration projects typically take place along open bay shorelines and are restored and created with shoreline breaks and marsh mounding methods.

The Dickinson Bayou project created 10 acres of living shoreline (new marsh) that will protect 17.7 acres of existing marsh. This project was executed using beneficial use materials to

create the habitat. The beneficial use material was the material dredged from the bayou itself in order to restore historical

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CCA staffer Amie Fritchman, Jan Culbertson (TPWD Project manager), a TPWD employee and John Blaha in the background. Photo by Lisa Laskowski



Halloween Greetings photo on front cover by Capt. Tommy Countz



*Amie Fritchman pulls co-worker Kim Ogonosky from the muck as Jan Culbertson and a fellow TPWD employee look on.
Photo by Lisa Laskowski*

depths within the bayou. The depth of the bayou in the bayou's bend, next to the Humble Oilfield, had decreased to approximately 4 feet of depth with depths up to 12 feet upstream and downstream.

This shallow area allowed a salt wedge to form at this point as tidal exchanges occurred. This ultimately resulted in the low dissolved oxygen level events that led to the numerous fish kills. Two living shoreline areas

make up the 10 acres of restored marsh. Outer, stabilized levees were constructed with rock armor and then back-filled with the beneficial use materials.

Continued on page 8

Marsh cell shortly after completion of construction. Rock armoured outer bank, with solid material on outer bank. The cell was filled with beneficial use materials from the dredging of the main channel. Photo by Lisa Laskowski





27th Annual CCA State of Texas Anglers' Rodeo

FINAL WINNERS!

After a hundred plus days of competition, the 27th Annual CCA Texas Ford Dealers/Tilson Homes Corp/Capital Farm Credit State of Texas Anglers' Rodeo came to a close at 5PM on Labor Day, Sept. 5.

This season faced some tough challenges with obstacles such as rain, flooding and vibrio, just to name a few. Thanks to the strong determination of anglers across the Lone Star state, who count down the days each year until Memorial Day, this didn't stop 'em from registering for STAR, and getting in the salt! The Sumralls of Orange dominated in the Gafftop Divisions, with dad winning a boat and his son winning a \$50K scholarship!

Young lady anglers also scored big in all three of the scholarship divisions, with one 10 year-old from San Antonio winning a \$50K scholarship for the biggest Flounder, another 16 year-old from Palacios winning a \$25K scholarship for the largest Trout for Middle Coast and a third 17 year-old from Kingwood winning a \$25K for the largest Gafftop. Great job, Girls! The winning Kingfish caught by an angler from Houston is the second largest ever to be weighed in the twenty-seven year history of STAR! The largest winning Kingfish ever caught in the tournament was a 75 lb. 5 oz. weighed in during the 1996 CCA Texas STAR.

A big congratulations goes to our second tagged redfish winner, Mike Boyer of San Antonio! On Saturday, July 30 he kept his

promise to take his wife fishing.

For years, Boyer has told anyone going fishing with him about the STAR tournament--they are not required to join to go fishing with him, but if anyone were to ever catch a tagged redfish on his boat and not be registered for STAR, then he would have to politely kick them off the boat right then and there, no matter how far from the boat ramp.

They headed to a certain place across St. Charles Bay. "I had never caught anything at this spot, but it just looked right." Second cast, Boyer's cork was gone, and he felt sure it was an oversized redfish. The fish finally tired and his wife netted the beast. As Boyer removed the fish from the net, he said, "Honey, it's a tag...2016 CCA!"

Boyer and his wife were parked bright and early next morning at official STAR weigh station, Terry's Seaworthy Marine in the Fulton/Rockport area, and weighed in tagged redfish TA847. "A moment in time we will never forget!" said Boyer.

There was also a tagged redfish caught around the Galveston Causeway the Friday before the tournament ended. We sure do wish we could be more excited for this angler, but, sadly, he wasn't registered and will not be receiving a 2016 Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" XLT SuperCab, 23' Haynie Big Foot boat rigged with a Mercury 150L Pro XS OptiMax motor and Coastline trailer. This brings the total tagged reds caught this year to eight, but only two are confirmed winners. Jeff Myer of Houston and Mike Boyer of San Antonio are "thanking their lucky stars"! they were registered before catching their tagged redfish and will definitely be taking home 2016 Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" XLT SuperCab trucks connected to 23' Haynie Big Foot boats rigged with a Mercury 150L Pro XS OptiMax motors and Coastline trailers during the STAR Awards Ceremony, Friday, October 7th at the Bayou City Event Center in Houston. Smart fellas! A total of twenty-three top prizes will be awarded that night!

Over 47,500 registered for the 2016 STAR and over 7,800 NEW members were recruited into CCA. Thanks for supporting CCA Texas and fishing the STAR Tournament! **Don't forget to take advantage of the great benefits your CCA membership has to offer!**

2016 TOURNAMENT RECAP - The Texas Ford Dealers Redfish Division had **TWO** lucky winners! Each will be driving home the awesome Ford F-150 Texas Edition truck with a Haynie 23 Big Foot boat, Mercury 150 OptiMax Pro XS motor and Coastline trailer. Sadly, there were **SIX** unfortunate anglers who lost out on prizes to the tune of about \$45,000 - \$80,000 each!!!

This year's tournament offered 123 fabulous prizes. A total of 108 prizes were claimed and the **twenty-three** top prizes will be presented to the winners during the CCA State of Texas BBQ and STAR Awards Ceremony on Friday, Oct. 7th at the Bayou City Event Center! These are the lucky winners of each division:

StarKids Scholarship Flounder Division - The StarKids Scholarship Flounder Division will provide a young angler between the ages of six and ten with a college scholarships totaling \$50,000 for catching the largest flounder. This year's winner is **Mia Guerra**, age 10, of San Antonio - 5 lbs. 8 ozs.

Houston Community Newspapers StarKids Scholarship Sheepshead Division - The Houston Community Newspapers StarKid Scholarship Sheepshead Division will provide a young angler between the ages of six and ten with a college scholarships totaling \$50,000 catching the largest sheepshead. This year's winner is **Rylan Basci**, age 7, of League City - 8 lbs. 12 ozs.

StarKids Scholarship Gafftop Division - The StarKids Scholarship Gafftop Division will provide a young angler between the ages of six and ten with a college scholarships totaling \$50,000 for catching the largest gafftop. This year's winner is **Ashton Sumrall**, age 8, of Orange - 6 lbs., 5 ozs.

Academy Sports and Outdoors StarTeens Scholarship Trout Division - The Academy Sports and Outdoors StarTeens Scholarship Trout Division was open to all New Tide/STAR members ages 11-17. These fisher-teens with the largest speckled trout in each region -- upper, middle and lower coast - will be awarded a \$25,000 college scholarship:



Up-



2016 Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" XLT SuperCab with Haynie 23 Bigfoot, the Redfish Division prize.

BEST IN TEXAS

per Coast: **Dylan Balch**, age 15, of Liberty 7 lbs., 8 ozs.

Middle Coast: **Sydney Greaves**, age 16, of Palacios 6 lbs., 14 ozs.

Lower Coast: **Mitch Lyssy**, age 17, of Falls City 7 lbs., 9 ozs.

StarTeens Inshore Scholarship Division

These fisher-teens, ages 11-17, with the largest flounder, gafftop and sheepshead will be awarded a \$25,000 college scholarship:

Flounder: **Devin Williams**, age 15, of Angleton 5 lbs., 8 ozs.

Sheepshead: **Nick Bell**, age 13, of Baytown 10 lbs., 2 ozs.

Gafftop: **Jordan Sandow**, age 17, of Kingwood 6 lbs., 5 ozs.

Awarding these ten scholarships is truly the highlight of the year for STAR and makes a serious statement toward getting kids on the water. We couldn't be happier for these kids and their families. The kids are really what the tournament is all about. They are the future generation that will keep the vitality of our precious marine resource going for years to come. This brings our total awarded scholarships to **\$5,560,000!**

Texas Ford Dealers Tagged Redfish Division – We have TWO confirmed winners in the ever-popular Texas Ford Dealers Redfish!

The following winners will be presented with a fully-loaded 2016 Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" truck and Haynie 23 BigFoot

boat, Mercury 150L OptiMax Pro XS motor and Coastline trailer:

Jeff Myers of Houston Tag #TA816 caught 6/10/16

Mike Moyer of San Antonio Tag #TA847 caught 7/30/16

Trout Division – These registered anglers brought in the largest trout for Upper Coast, Middle Coast and Lower Coast will each receive a Mowdy 22' V, Suzuki 150 motor and Coastline trailer:

Upper Coast: **Dean Halewyn** of Alvin 9 lbs. 9 ozs.

Middle Coast: **Thad Reichert** of Catspring 9 lbs. 1 oz.

Lower Coast: **James Vaughan** of Runge 9 lbs. 1 oz.

Offshore Division - In the Offshore Division, the following anglers who hooked the biggest kingfish, dorado and ling (cobia) will each be awarded an awesome Polaris Ranger® Crew 570 EPS UVs in Polaris Pursuit Camo each with a Big Tex 35sa Trailer:

*STAR has reached **\$5,560,000** 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.*

Kingfish: **Matthew Bronstein** of Houston 62 lbs. 13 ozs.

Dorado: **Shane Huff** of Canyon Lake 24 lbs. 11 ozs.

Ling (Cobia): **Hunter Reed** of Nassau Bay 63 lbs.2 ozs.

Inshore Division - These Inshore Division winners will take home a Shoalwater 19' Cat with a Mercury115 ELPT OptiMax engine and McClain trailer for hooking the largest flounder, gafftop and sheepshead:

Flounder: **Paul Gregory** of Brazoria 6 lbs. 13 ozs.

Sheepshead: **Jerry Mills** of Houston 10 lbs. 5 ozs.

Gafftop: **Troy Sumrall III** of Orange 7 lbs 8 ozs.

Early Bird Grand Prize Drawing – Every 2016 STAR entrant, ages 21 and up, who registered prior to April 29th went into this special drawing for a chance to win the awesome was drawn to win a Dargel 210 Skout boat, Mercury150 Pro XS OptiMax outboard and McClain trailer. The lucky winner will be announced in the next issue of CURRENTS.

New Tide Member Scholarship Drawing – All "New Tide" Members (ages 6 - 17) were eligible for a bonus drawing that netted one lucky youth a \$25,000 college scholarship. The lucky winner will be announced in the next issue of CURRENTS.

Member Bonus Drawing - Every 2016 STAR entrant's name was put into a drawing for a chance to win a fabulous boat prize package even if the participant never wet a line during the tournament. One lucky contestant's name was drawn to win a Dargel 210 Skout boat, Mercury150 Pro XS OptiMax outboard and McClain trailer. The lucky winner will be announced in the next issue of CURRENTS.

CCA Texas and STAR would like to thank our fine sponsors, weigh stations and tickets stations, and to the many volunteers for their hard work and dedication to enhancing our marine resources.

Of course, without YOU there would be no STAR, and we are most grateful to

Four of the fine awards from the 2016 STAR Rodeo



All NEW Trout Division Prize - the Mowdy 22' V



Offshore Division Prize - Polaris Ranger® Crew 570 EPS

Early Bird and Member Bonus Drawing Boat Prizes - Dargel 210 Skout



Inshore Division - Shoalwater 19' Cat boat with a Mercury 115 ELPT 4S motor



you... especially those who added kids to their fishing experience.

Immense thanks to our official STAR Weigh Station friends that do such a tremendous job for us each year:

Peggy On The Bayou in Orange; SGS Causeway in Port Arthur; Sportsman Supply in Sabine Pass; Stingaree Marina on Crystal Beach; Marburger's Sporting Goods in Seabrook; GYB Bait & Tackle in Galveston; Pelican Rest Marina in Galveston; West End Marina in Galveston; Surfside Marina in Freeport; Caney Creek Marina in Sargent; Harbor Bait & Tackle in Matagorda; Indianola Fishing Marina in Indianola; The Fishing Center in Port O'Connor; Terry's Seaworthy Marine Supply in Fulton/Rockport; Woody's Sports Center in Port Aransas; Roy's Bait & Tackle in Corpus Christi; Harbor Bait & Tackle in Port Mansfield; South Shore Bait & Tackle on South Padre Island.

Major sponsors for the 27th Annual CCA Texas STAR Tournament include: Texas Ford Dealers, Tilson Home Corporation, Capital Farm Credit, Mercury Marine, Academy Sports + Outdoors, Whataburger, LP Building, Rio Ammunition, Hoffpauir Polaris, KTRK-abc13, Houston Community Newspapers & Media Group, Haynie Boats, Mowdy Boats, Shoalwater Boats, Dargel Boats, Texas Fish & Game Magazine, Texas Oilman's Charity Fishing Tournament, Coastline Trailers, McClain Trailers, Chris's Marine and Mt. Houston Marine.

For more information, go to www.startournament.org

Thanks for supporting CCA Texas and the STAR Tournament!



Mia Guerra
StarKidsFlounder Division



Rylan Basci
StarKids Sheephead Division



Ashton Sumrall
StarKids Gafftop Division



Dylan Balch
StarTeens Upper Coast Trout Division



Sydney Greaves
StarTeens Middle Coast Trout Winner

2016 StarKids and StarTeens Winners



Mitch Lyssy
StarTeens Lower Coast Trout Winner



Devin Williams
STARTeens Flounder Winner



Nicks Bell
StarTeens Sheephead Winner



Jordan Sandow
StarTeens Gafftop Winner

"Gafftop" winner, 17 year-old Jordan Sandow of Kingwood. Her slimy Gafftop won her a \$25,000 scholarship, but with a gorgeous smile like that, we can't blame her for posing with a different catch!

2016 STAR Redfish and Trout Winners



Jeff Myers
2016 1st Redfish Winner



Mike Boyer
2nd Tagged Redfish Winner



Dean Halewyn
2016 Upper Coast Trout



Thad Reichert
Middle Coast Trout Winner



James Vaughn
Lower Coast Trout Winner

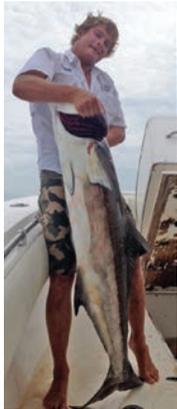
**2016 STAR
Kingfish, Dorado,
Ling, Flounder,
Gafftop and
Sheepshead
Winners**



Shane Huff
Dorado Winner



Matthew Bronstein
Kingfish Winner



Hunter Reed
Ling Winner



Paul Gregory
Flounder Winner



Troy Sumrall
Gafftop Winner



Jerry Mills
Sheepshead Winner

Great Foods Editor Liz Hewitt

PORT O'CONNOR PICKLED SHRIMP

Two lbs Peeled Boiled Shrimp (Medium sized) / 2 Medium Onions
thinly sliced / 8 Bay Leaves

Brine: 1 ¼ Cup oil / 1 Cup vinegar / 2 ½ Tbsp. capers and juice / 2
½ Tsp. celery seed / 1 ½ Tsp. salt / ½ Tsp. pepper
5 Dashes of Tabasco

Layer shrimp, onions and bay leaves in a large jar or bowl. Mix
brine ingredients well and pour over shrimp. Refrigerate for 4
hours or overnight, stirring every couple hours or so. A thinly
sliced jalapeno can be added as well. Keeps in the refrigerator
for two weeks or more. Serve with crackers or toasted bruschetta.
Enjoy!



Reports from TP&W Game Wardens

CCA Texas funds Texas Parks and Wildlife
Department airboat repairs

More than \$32,000 in repairs will Aid Game Wardens

CCA Texas recently provided funding for the repairs of a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Law Enforcement Division district airboat. "This refurbished airboat has a state-of-the-art new engine and propeller system, with more horsepower and half the weight of the old engine installed in 2003," said Ronnie Luster, Chairman of the CCA Texas TPWD Committee. "This airboat can navigate in less than an inch of water or run on land, whereas other enforcement boats cannot. It is also the most environmentally-friendly boat, as it does not damage or destroy sea grass."

CCA Texas is committed to supporting TPWD and providing funds towards Game Warden equipment, which directly impact their effectiveness and success. "We are very pleased to be able to continue to support TPWD," said Luster. "CCA Texas has a long history of contributing to TPWD for coastal enforcement ability and our mutual interest and partnership in conservation."

*Texas Game Wardens serving
Texans since 1895 / Law En-
forcement Off the Pavement*



We want you to fish for us!

CCA Texas and the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department encourages volunteers to help with fishing surveys for the East Galveston Bay Reef Restoration project. It's critical to have data, and you can be that important Fishing Scientist.

The \$3.7 million project restored approximately 140 acres of oyster reef in the East Galveston Bay system. Areas restored include one location on Hannah's Reef, two locations on Pepper Grove and two locations on Middle Reef.

This effort continues to be 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

Or, Bryan Legare (TPWD) at 281-534-0103
bryan.legare@tpwd.texas.gov

Or, John Blaha (CCA Texas)
at 713-626-4222
jblaha@ccatexas.org



Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow

BUILDING A FUTURE FOR TEXAS MARINE HABITAT



Continued from page 2

TPWD and volunteers have already done some grass plantings along the outer edges of the areas and within the levees as well. Once the materials in the marsh cells stabilize and settle out, a large scale planting project will be planned for the spring of 2017. Once stabilization and planting has occurred, the levees will be opened in some areas to allow water to flow through the marsh and provide access and egress for marine species in the area.

“Because of the two fresh water streams that flowed into this marsh area, it remained healthy during the recent drought. When we visited this area and areas above and below this site, this area had the only viable seed head for the establishing marsh grasses,” commented Jan Culbertson, Texas Parks and Wildlife Coastal Ecologist and project manager.

Culbertson commented further, “Because the freshwater streams into the marsh kept it healthy, this provided a perfect place for the restoration project and we are pleased at the immediate success we have seen. The project has taken some time to complete and this success makes it worth the wait.”

Wetlands and marsh losses have continually increased over time along the entire Texas and Gulf coasts. These losses due to human-induced and natural events threaten the health of the coastal resources. Projects like this are important to help restore and create these critically important habitats. CCA Texas and its habitat initiative, Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow, are committed to supporting and helping TPWD and other groups in the efforts to ensure healthy and productive coastal resources for years to come.

“CCA Texas contributed \$75,000 to this project. These funds were used as matching public funds for Texas General Land Office Coastal Management Program grants,” commented Jay Gardner, Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow Committee Chairman.

Gardner continued, “Public funds are important in these grants and through the efforts of CCA Texas volunteers we are able to support important projects such as this one to ensure healthy coastal resources for the future.”

Be sure to visit www.ccatexas.org/project-videos/ or go to youtube.com/ccatexasprojects to see videos on the Dickinson Bayou project and many others.



TPWD's Jan Culbertson demonstrates how the grass is to be planted in Dickinson Bayou. Photo by Kim Ogonosky





Upper Coast

By Capt. Shawn Hebert

Now for the coooool time of year.

Water's salty again in Trinity, so it's time for Jack's Pocket to start producing quality fish. With October's falling water temps, fish will head to the north end of the bay. Wherever, the cooler the water, the better the fishing should be. During October cool-down periods, fish seem to go to a transition from deep water structure to the shallow flats. Key on open water slicks as a good indicator of where the fish are. Be aware of wind and current directions. Always position yourself upstream of the slick, and make long drifts, covering the entire water column with your bait.

When looking for open water fish, I usually throw a 1/8-1/4 lead head with a Tidal Surge Split Tail Mullet. You can fan-cast and cover a lot of area and locate the school. Once you locate the school, you can determine which direction they are moving and stick with them.

When the water temps get down and fish have moved to the flats, it's a perfect time for a Maniac Mullet. This bigger profile bait is a winner when the fish are in this pattern. Concentrate on large flats with bait activity. I use the rod tip down, sweeping motion, which keeps the bait low and covers more area. Feed the bait just a second before you set the hook. This will greatly improve your catch percentage.

This is also the time of year when the flats get crowded. Be courteous. Use your trolling motor when you can. Swing around others and make long drifts.

Trinity bay has a lot of unmarked hazards. Crab trap buoys are good indicators of adequate running depths. But, familiarity with a good chart is an even better safeguard. Be safe, and leave plenty for the next fisherman. -Capt. Shawn Hebert / 281-426-4324
www.trinitybayfishing.com
www.galvestontroutfishing.com

Middle Coast

By Capt. Tommy Countz

If you can't get excited about Fall fishing...

October/ November fishing in the Matagorda Bay Complex is about as good as fishing gets. There are many different options available for anglers.

Option 1 is working the birds. If we get a big influx of shrimp in East Matagorda then we will have bird action. Trout and reds push the shrimp to the top of the water, hungry gulls see the shrimp, fishermen see the diving birds, and bingo! the action is fast and furious.

Option 2 is wading the south shore of West Matagorda Bay. If you are not interested in crowds, then this is your option. The Fall provides plenty of topwater action for aggressive trout and reds, not to mention flounder, and on weekdays, you have very little competition.

Option 3 is the Colorado River. In September, we already had early morning topwater action on redfish. Add trout to that, and you have October/ November river fishing in Matagorda.

Option 4 is fishing the back lakes. Oyster Lake, Crab Lake, Boggy, Lake Austin, and Big Muddy are areas loaded with reds that are more than willing to explode on a topwater and send electrical currents racing thru your body. It's one of my favorite fall options.

Option 5 is go to the deer lease and stay out of our way. If you can't get excited about fall fishing in Matagorda then have someone close the lid on your coffin.

Thanks -**Capt. Tommy Countz**
837 CR 243 / Bay City, Texas 77414
281-450-4037

Lower Coast

By Capt. Mike O'Dell

Peace and quiet, and big fish to boot!

Aransas Pass to the far reaches of the Lower Coast: Now it's peace and quiet time on the water. Summer heat leaves, water cools, and the wind will lay a bit more. Pull into your favorite flat and just enjoy the scenery, take a leisurely drift and catch some really nice fish. Or, anchor up and catch some nice fish. The reds have started to school, and it's Katy bar the door when you find them, as most of the schools I have seen are oversized.

Into November, the flounder bite will be good along the drops on falling tide and along the sand ditches. Get them on light jig heads with a curly tail plastic. My go-to is red.

As the temperature drops, the black drum bite will be hot and fairly easy to find. Now's a good time to take a kid fishing and give them a break from school work, maybe even take the wife along, have a great family time and enjoy the cooler weather. Incidentally-when handling trout, don't wrap them in a towel; this takes the slime off and they may die. Instead, just hold them with two fingers on the lower part of gill plate and squeeze. When handling bull reds, get 'em quick into the water, work them back and forth. Future generations will have fun catching them.

As Christmas looms, you might consider Waterloo rods; mine have held up really well. I have tried nearly every reel manufacturer out there and none have held up as well as the Penn Battle II or Fierce. The 3000 series with 10-12# line will land lots of good fish for you.

Thank you all for a great year. Let's quit sitting around and go fishing! - **Capt. Mike O'Dell**
afishingfantasy.com
See our hunting page or call us at 361-438-1866 for more information.

Patience, perseverance, just the right fly and a bit of luck. Photo courtesy of Adam Gilvarry



CCA Texas Social Happenings

Chapter Updates

YES, the type is SMALL! But, we have to get everyone in, along with images.

If you submitted images and they're not all published, you may find them on your chapter's web page, and your chapter's area in the CCA website:

www.ccatexas.org/chapters

We hope everyone had a wonderful summer fishing the 2016 CCA Texas STAR Tournament and attending several fantastic CCA Texas fundraising banquets! CCA Texas has been hard at work putting your generous donations into the water. Visit youtube.com/CCATexasProjects to view our habitat video page, which includes a recent staff and volunteer grass-planting visit to the Dickinson Bayou Marsh Restoration site in Galveston!

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! Want to submit a photo of a great catch or fun times at a CCA Texas event to be featured on one of our social media platforms? Email it to kogonosky@ccatexas.org for consideration!

Facebook:

CCA Texas: The 2016 Mainland Kid Fish last weekend was a blast! We hope everyone has a safe and happy Labor Day weekend - Get out on the water, catch a CCA Texas STAR Tournament winner and take a kid fishing!



Twitter:

@CCABCT: BCT & @CCA_Texas were recognized for their contribution as partners towards the POC Keeping it Wild Reef!
#ccabet @TPWDNews @TPFoundation
(Photo by TPWD)



Instagram:

@cca_texas: A wonderful morning of planting smooth cordgrass at the completed Dickinson Bayou Marsh Restoration site with Texas Parks and Wildlife and U.S. Department of Agriculture! CCA Texas contributed \$75,000 to this important project. Thank you to all of our wonderful partners and members who made this 6- year effort possible!
#ccatexas #joincca #conservation



Facebook:

facebook.com/CCATexas

Twitter: twitter.com/CCA_Texas

Instagram: instagram.com/cca_texas

YouTube: youtube.com/ccatexasprojects

Alvin-Pearland

Emery Sadler 713-501-2778

Monthly General Meetings (Anglers Night Out) are at 7 PM on the first Tuesday of the month at Spring Creek BBQ (9005 Broadway, Pearland, TX 77584). For more information, visit our chapter page at: www.ccatexas.org/alvin-pearland. We will have a raffle at each meeting!

Thanks go out to our recent speakers for their informative presentations at our monthly meetings: **Capt. Zane Starr** (September 6) and **BAAD Marine, Brian Dieter** (October 4)! Happy Holidays and we look forward to our next meeting in March 2017!

2017 Meeting schedule: March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6, June 15
Annual Banquet, September 5, October 3

We welcome new board members who would like to get plugged in. Our monthly chapter meetings have a great speaker lineup with raffles, so come on out! Bring a friend, a kid and get plugged in! - **Emery Sadler 713-501-2778**

Aransas Bay

Carter Crigler 435-830-5984

jccrigler@hotmail.com

We did it again - "Sold Out" for the third year in a row thanks to CCA supporters from far and wide! CCA Texas and CCA everywhere are making a major difference. Thanks to our sponsors, donors, and volunteers for making our 17th banquet a big success! We would like to extend a special thanks to **Ron Hoover RV and Marine**, Title Sponsor, for their support. In addition, our chapter is blessed with an exceptional group of dedicated sponsors: **Star Sponsors - Salemi's ACE Hardware and Poor Man's Country Club; Key Sponsors - First Community Bank, Navy Army Credit Union and Prosperity Bank; and a large contingent of Table Sponsors - Academy Sports & Outdoors, Burkholder Air/STAG Golf, CCA Texas Redfish Bay Chapter, DMI Insurance/Blackman's Garage, Edward Jones, Gator Bait, Keller Williams Realty-Rockport, Poor Man's Country Club, Rawhide House Moving LLC/TOG Pool's LLC, Rio Engineering, Inc., Stewart Title Company and Tackle Town.**

A big thank you goes to **L & F Distributors, Ltd. Corpus Christi** for furnishing the beer for the banquet. Last but not least, a big thank you to our Banquet Chairman, **Michelle Green** and her team.

We look forward to seeing everyone next year for the 18th Annual Babes on the Bay Tournament and 2017 Aransas Bay Chapter Annual Banquet! Mark your calendars: **Babes on the Bay: May 19-20, 2017 Aransas Bay Chapter Annual Banquet: August 12, 2017** Tight lines, --Carter

Aransas Bay CCA nominated as a Steward of Nature

The History Center, 801 E. Cedar St.

The new exhibit, "Stewards of Nature," features organizations and individuals who have been nominated by the community for their conservation of our natural resources. **Connie Hagar**, the headliner, will be joined by honorees: **Ray Little, James Fox, Kris Kirkwood, Earl Matthew, Jay Tarkington, Tommy Moore and Betty Baker**. Organizations that will be showcased include **Aransas Bird and Nature Club, Aransas First, Friends of Aransas and Matagorda Island (Aransas National**

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

Editor, Sam Caldwell
sam@samcaldwell.com

This is the issue of October / November 2016
Vol. 34, Issue 5

Wildlife Refuge), Aransas Pathways, the Aquarium, the Coastal Conservation Association, the City of Rockport, Ducks Unlimited, Friends of Connie Hagar, the Marine Lab, and Texas Master Naturalist.

We are pleased to bring this theme to the attention of the citizens of Aransas County and look forward to your participation. --Pat Stranahan Presi-



John Blaha, James Fox and Bud Kittle accepted the award for the Aransas Bay CCA chapter at the opening of the exhibit on September 10 at the History Center.

Austin

Josh Cook 512-656-2964

It doesn't get any better than hunting and football seasons opening in September! And now is always one of my favorite times of the year to fish on the Texas coast with lighter crowds and cooler weather. I am about to head down to Gary Boyd's camp, Majek Corner, at the land cut for a few days to fish the 2016 President's Trip, and I know we are going to have an outstanding time. Thanks for donating your camp again this year Gary, and thanks to Sonny Horton of BCS Concrete Structures for buying it again!

I realize we are a long way out from the 2017 Austin Banquet, but mark your calendars now for May 11! We are already preparing for it, and I can assure you this year will have some fresh prizes and games that will have the Palmer Events Center buzzing throughout the night. Jack Gilmore and business partner Tom Kamm, long-time supporters of CCA, just opened their new restaurant in Round Rock called Salt Traders Coastal Cooking. I just went recently and can tell you it is absolutely spectacular. Jack is featuring a Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Cocktail as an

appetizer, and portions of those proceeds will benefit CCA throughout the year! We really appreciate your continued support Jack and Tom!

Just a reminder that the next Anglers' Night Out will be held on November 16 at 6:00 pm at Abel's on the Lake in Austin. Come out and hear the best guides tell all, get a free meal compliments of Smokey Denmark's and enjoy an evening with your fellow fishermen and fisherwomen. It's all free! So join us for those events, bring a friend, and ask them to join CCA. Happy hunting, fishing and football seasons to all of you! - Josh Cook

Bay Area

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Brazoria County

Wes Dingee 979-299-8245

Brazos Valley

John Ben Strother 979-220-1738

jbsunlimited@yahoo.com

Brenham

Dennis Crowson

979-451-2472

We held our regular monthly meeting on August 25. Conner Himly and Reid Aschenbeck presented a program on their participation in the Bass, Coastal and Quail Brigades. Below is a picture of Conner and Reid. These young men also helped weigh fish at the chapter's 2016 Summer Tournament. Thanks to these fine young outdoorsmen for their great work and to their parents for their support!

The Chapter had another successful tournament at Port O'Connor this year. Thanks go out to Mike Hopkins Distributing for sponsoring the tournament and to Hurricane Junction for providing a great meal. Special thanks to Brenham CCA board members John David Baker for his role as Tournament Director, Wade Tiemann as Weigh Master, Leroy Tegeler for securing the prizes and Trey Scherer for being the Treasurer. Also a big thank you to



all the teams that participated. Some great fish were caught and some bigger stories were told!

The Brenham CCA meets the 4th Thursday of each month at 6:30 at Mike Hopkins Distributing. The Chapter's next meeting will be on September 22. For more information please contact me at (979) 451-2472 or dennis.crowson@hotmail.com. - Thanks, Dennis

Brush Country

Brenda Ballard 361-296-4037

Brush Country CCA has two exciting events coming up! First is our Annual Kids' Fish Day on October 8, 2016 at Kaufer Hubert Park. The event is free. After that, we are gearing up for our Annual Fish Fry Banquet. Come join us on November 2, 2016 at KC Hall in Alice, Texas for good food, fun and prizes!! For more information, to register or buy tickets please contact Brenda at 361.296.4037 or at brushcountrycca@gmail.com. - Brenda Ballard

Centex

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Todd Buster

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Colorado Valley

Eugene Ulrich

979-249-7425

Corpus Christi

Jake Herring 361-244-0258

jakecherring@hotmail.com

What a wonderful summer. Our chapter wrapped up the hot summer months with our Corpus Christi Chapter Skeet Shoot. Way to go Mark Ray and Michael Henry for taking home the top shot awards!

We also want to thank Michael Henry and the CC Pistol and Rifle Club for hosting our chapter on that fun evening. Of course during the event there were some real fish stories being told. Reports of this being one of the best summers for fishing in the Coastal Bend was a common thread in all the tales of tails. The last couple of weeks the fall bait run has been in full swing, and there have been some great days in the surf for some of our members.

Like the fish our fall is in full swing. The Corpus Christi Chapter hosted our Guides Cup on September 29-30 - a big thank you goes out to all of our participating guides and our Guides Cup Chairman, David Norris. We are immediately following up Guides Cup with our Babes on Baffin Tournament on October 7-8.

Chairwomen Valerie Chilton and Judy Arnold, along with their core team of Kesley Gibson, Angie Bains and Lauren Augsburger have put together a great tournament, and the weigh-in will not be one to miss! There are still a couple of days until the tournament, so get your teams of lady anglers together, and register for this fun ladies-only fishing event. Go to babesonbaffin.org for full tournament details, or email babesonbaffin@gmail.com. Hats off to our Babes on

Baffin Title Sponsors Majek Boats, Premier Yamaha, Waterloo Rods and Stinky Pants Fishing for making this event possible. A special thanks goes out to our Platinum Sponsors Marker 37 Marina, Sierra Pacific Mortgage, Water Street Restaurants, Total Oilfield Equipment, Animal Medical and Miller's Bar-B-Q.

Banquet Chair Joseph Briones and his co-chair Judy Arnold are working on our 2017 Banquet and have secured our top raffle items. This year with the sponsorship from Andrews Distributing and contribution from

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Together, Academy and CCA are proud to make a difference in coastal conservation and in the futures of young college-bound anglers.



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Premier Yamaha, our Bull Red raffle will feature a 2016 Majek Illusion with a 150 HP Yamaha motor. Our Sow Trout raffle will feature a 2016 Kawasaki 4x4 Trans Mule and trailer sponsored by L&F Distributors, with contributions from CC Cycle Plaza and Superior Trailer Sales. A great thanks goes out to Alex Tompkins for stepping up to be the chairman for the Bull Red and Sow Trout Raffle. Stayed tuned for additional banquet details and save the date of March 9, 2017 for our 39th Annual Fundraising Banquet!

Lastly we sincerely apologize that construction delays at the CCA Marine Development Center caused the cancellation of our 2016 Poco Rojo Kid Fish. Our Poco Rojo chairman Michael Henry is looking for a replacement date. Remember to get out and take a kid fishing; their voice is the future of Coastal Conservation! Yours in Conservation – Jake Herring

Dallas / North Texas John Humbert 214-563-3122

jhumbert@softwareimaging.net
Hello Dallas Chapter area members! Hope the summer was filled with tight lines and some great fish stories. Just want to provide a re-cap of the past couple of months' activities.

Those of you who were able to come out to the Dallas Gun Club in Lewisville on July 21 for our Inaugural "Hooked on Clays" Sporting Clay Tournament were treated to a great lunch and a spectacular round of sporting clays at one of the premier gun clubs in our area. Being July, it was a warm day, and there were some hot shooters as well. Prizes and trophies were given to the top teams and shooters along with a special trophy to the lowest scoring participant. By the way, the CCA cap for the event participants is seriously cool. We hope to bring you this event again in 2017. Thank you Dallas Gun Club!

On the evening of August 11, many of us got together at Mariner Sails (www.mariner-sails.com) to see a video filming presentation by Robert Field of YakFish TV (yakfish.tv). Also participating were Ty and Theresa Southerland of the YouTube kayak fishing show 30milesOut. Mariner Sails owner Aris Tsamis hosted a great Happy Hour and pizza buffet, and all participants learned how to take their video skills with their Go Pros and Sonys to a new level. Great event Aris!

Mariner Sails donates a top shelf kayak to the Dallas CCA Banquet held each April at the Frontiers of Flight Museum at Dallas Love Field. Start marking your calendar for the 2017 Banquet - Thursday, April 20, 2017!

We will be updating Dallas Chapter CCA members about our upcoming events via email in the weeks to come. Hope all of your fall fishing and hunting trips are successful and safe. All the best – John Humbert

East Texas

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jnorman7@suddenlink.net

Fort Bend

Robb Gaston 281-239-9755

Fort Worth

Hunter Baird 817-437-8351

Galveston

Dr. Ken Ellis 713-962-7731

Golden Triangle

Tyler Coco 409-651-6004
tylercoco7@yahoo.com

Greater Sugar Land Richard Lindley 832-270-0398 richardlindley@att.net

We have completed the painting and signs on our Kid Fish trailer, thanks to John and Lynda Breland. With their help Freddy Lopez with Expert Collision painted the trailer, Gary Herst with Sign Systems installed the graphics and Jeff Flasiak did the graphic design work. Great job!

John Breland also secured 500 t-shirts for the Kids Fish from Main Event, Ren Barte family.

Our September meeting's speaker was Philip Cimbra with Shimano. Everyone enjoyed his talk, and he gave us a set of his best lures, which were won by Bob Bailey. Ramona Mishaga won tickets to Clint Black at the Stafford Center, also donated by Lynda and John Breland. And no, you cannot recruit them to your chapter - they are ours! But we welcome all of you to join us the first Wednesday of every month. - Richard Lindley

Greater Woodlands Charlotte O'Dell 832-368-8263

I would like to give a big THANK YOU to all of our sponsors who made contributions to our 2016 Chapter Annual Banquet in July: VCC, Rock Materials, Texas Marine, Academy Sports + Outdoors, Wright's Printing, Crisp, Jeff Burton Insurance, Gullo Ford, Kneipp Properties, Silver Eagle, Clint's Kuntry Katfish, The Grand Palace and Papa's Ice House.

And another big THANK YOU to all of my Board Members for all of their hard work and dedication to helping pull off the whole event. Y'all are awesome!

We're winding down our meetings for the year, so please don't miss our General Membership Meeting on Monday, October 17 at Crisp in The Woodlands, 2520 Research Forest Drive. We'll have a SURPRISE guest speaker and plenty of prizes to give away!

Keep popping your corks! And send me pictures with your fish tales, so I can make you famous in our GWC video. --Charlotte O'Dell
choctawcharlie69@gmail.com, (832) 368-8263

Guadalupe Valley

Chuck Howard

361-275-9464

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Hays County

Tim Young

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Heart of the Hills

Jim Simmons 210-380-5709

fishtxsurf@AOL.com

Hill Country

Miles Engelke 830-303-1827

It's been a busy year for the Hill Country CCA! We started the year with a Steak Night for all directors in February, and our first event was our Annual Social and Fish Fry on April 3. We hosted the Crawfish boil on May 13 at the Red Barn for Todd Hoffman, the Board of Directors Fishing trip was on May 21 for Tri County Distributors, our Chapter fishing tournament was on June 4, our Annual Banquet was held on August 25 and we will wrap the year up with our last General

Meeting on October 25.

Our banquet hosted a sellout crowd of approximately 800 anglers. I would like to thank our Marlin, Tarpon, Bull Red and Regular table buyers for purchasing tables and attending our banquet. Black Tie Affairs Catering once again provided a wonderful selection of food, and Cow Girls Unlimited served up the good cold drinks. Thanks to all of the Board of Directors who work together all year attending meetings, getting donations, selling raffle tickets and assisting with banquet setup and cleanup.

Plans are underway for next year's banquet on August 24, 2017. Our final General Meeting will be Tuesday October 25, 2016 at the Elks Lodge in New Braunfels. Make plans to attend - Our guest speaker will be Everett Johnson, Editor and Publisher of Texas Saltwater Fishing Magazine. He will be discussing the current state of the middle coast fisheries as he sees it, the importance of fresh water inflow, the positive effects of Cedar Bayou opening and the continuing need for grassroots advocacy of marine resources in Texas.

Starting February 2017 we will do it all over again! If you would like to get involved in our chapter, cast me a call at (210) 260-8968. Remember, it's for the fish. Treasure the Trips – Miles Engelke

Houston Homebuilders Mack Davis 832 381-6130

Houston Real Estate Dale Couch 281-953-2510

We would like to acknowledge three new Directors for our chapter: Bobby Orr with Orr Commercial, Todd Chachere with Perry Homes and Russ Bynum with Hillwood Communities. Our next event will be dinner on Tuesday February 7, 2017. – Dale Couch

Laredo

Jesse Martinez 956-763-5555
jesse@laredo.twcbc.com

Lee County

Byron Kalbas 979-540-0056

The Lee County Chapter will be having its 6th Annual Banquet on Thursday October 20, 2016. Committee members have been working hard to make this another successful year. You can contact myself or any committee member to purchase a table for the banquet, starting at \$500 for a Flounder Table, \$750 for a Trout Table or \$1000 for a Redfish Table. You may also purchase Single Tickets at \$55 and Couples Tickets for \$85.

We are also selling Sportsman Raffle Tickets for \$20 a ticket, or 6 for \$100, to win a Remington model 700 Rifle, Beretta A300 12ga Shotgun, Sig Sauer P938 9mm Pistol, Waterloo Slam Mag rod with Inception Concept C reel or Yeti 105qt cooler. You do not have to be present to win.

On the night of the banquet we will have various card games to win a Custom AR15 5.56 from Jigsaw Weaponry & an S&W AR15.22, along with a Cap Raffle with a custom Lee County CCA logo - designed by our very own committee member Wes Swearengen - to win an RTC bag cooler and a CCA print.

We are thankful for all of our sponsors and without them we would not be able to have such a successful banquet!

On another note, if you are in search of the

perfect fishing app to help you prepare for your upcoming fishing trip or just to see what the conditions on the water are, **my buddies Mark and Robert** created the fisherman's pal **Salt-waterUp**. The new updates will let you see the pressure graph from the prior 3 days along with water movement. You can also store your catches which will take your GPS location along with the current info from the nearest tide station and will store them for future recall. It's a great tool for fishing that I use for all my trips. They are great supporters of CCA, so go check them out! God's blessings - **Byron Kalbas** bkalbas@yahoo.com,

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

Matagorda Bays

Chad Hensley 979-543-2734

With summer on the way out and fall on the way in, a lot of people are putting up the rods and pulling out the guns. Teal season opens with dove season right behind it. Our chapter has one more event planned for the year which is our **Jim Ehmen Memorial Guides Cup**. As always the event will be held in beautiful Matagorda on **September 26-27**. Plans are for a social gathering and meal on Monday evening, then fishing on Tuesday with awards and a meal after weigh in. The tournament this year is being sponsored by long time donors: **Duckett, Boulogny and Collins LLP., Harbor Bait and Tackle and El Campo Sheet Metal**. The only way to enter the tournament is to purchase a trip at our Annual Banquet.

A big thanks goes out to all the guides who donate their time for this event: **Capt. Tommy Alexander, Capt. Mike Rolf, Capt. Kit Caston, Capt. Leighton Keen, Capt. Jimmy Riddle, Capt. Scott Reeh, Capt. Kenny Hauff III, Capt. Stan Sloan, Capt. Ozzie Arnold, Capt. Rob Baylor, Capt. Kenny Hauff Jr., Capt. Gary Mach, Capt. Walt Wendland, Capt. Charlie Paradoski, Capt. Lee Warmke, Capt. Mark Talasek, Capt. Mike Kubecka, Capt. Ken Sabin, Capt. Floyd Ciruti, Capt. Nick Stillwell, Capt. Kevin Kosik, Capt. Troy Keen, Capt. Kendall Kersh** and last year's winner **Capt. Rob Cummings**. Will **Capt. Rob** be able to come up with a win again this year? We shall see! Check our Facebook page on **September 27th** for a list of all the winners.

Thanks again for all the support of our chapter members, donors and board for another great year! If you have any questions about fill free to contact me. - **Chad Hensley, (979) 542-2734**

MidCoast

David Jenkins 361-578-5580

It's a **GREAT time of the year!** Fall means cooler weather and biting fish. The Guides will be doing double duty, fishing and duck hunting. Good luck to all for both!

We have now ordered our **2017 Banquet Giveaway Boat for Friday April 28**. The **22'6" Mowdy** will go to the lucky winner at the Banquet. It will come with a **modified V Tunnel, powered with a Suzuki DF 175 HP**. It is the same boat given to the STAR big trout winners,

and this year we will be selling only 700 tickets. Be sure to get yours early!

Upcoming events include our Speedy Stop Guides Cup Tournament to be held October 6-7 at The Sanctuary in Port O'Connor. We will be having a General Meeting on November 17, with our Guest Speakers being Captain Chad Peterek and Leslie Hartman from TPWD. The venue for the event will be Frances Marie's Restaurant and Cantina. It will be a fun night with great food and better information from our speakers!

I would like to invite anyone who would like to be a team member to join our board. Feel free to give me a call. Tight Lines --**David Jenkins**

Northeast Houston

Casey Eakin

713-948-5799

Northwest Houston

Alan Massey 281-414-6341

Orange County

Scott Bandy 409-988-3667

sabandy@gmail.com

Orange County just celebrated our **8th Annual Banquet Fundraiser** with a record crowd, great food and awesome prizes! **Big Thanks to Dean and Al Granger of Granger Chevrolet for being the Event Sponsor. Special thanks goes out to Jimmy Vincent of Vincent Recycling for being such a generous sponsor at our event every year, our prayers are with you and your family. Other Redfish sponsors are Golden Pass LNG, Good-year Beaumont Chemical, Total, and ExxonMobil. This year's Hat Raffle Sponsor was Lanmark Staffing, and Card Raffles were sponsored by Mike LeMoine and family and Innovative Air Solutions.**

The meal cooked by **Spanky's Catering** was melt in your mouth good, and the beverages were good and cold. **Thanks also to the 35 Individual Table Buyers - Without your year-to-year support, this event would not keep growing to be what it is today! Scott Bandy - scottbandy77@yahoo.com, Louis Moore - louis.moore@yahoo.com, Davis Dixon - dcdixon149@yahoo.com**

Port O'Connor

Bill Moore

361-983-4690

Well, as summer comes to an end and we prepare to usher in the fall activities, it also signals the time for everyone to come join us for the **17th Annual POC CCA Banquet!** It will again be held at the **POC Community Center on Saturday, October 15**. Tickets are available, as well as Bull Red or Trophy Trout tables from

a POC CCA member, or CCA Assistant Director **Taylor Rieck (713-626-4222)**.

In POC, take note of the CCA banners at the following businesses where tickets/tables may be purchased: **Coastal Boat Services, Port O'Connor Rod and Gun, Sonny's Marine and Tigrett Real Estate. Kudos again to Chris Mapp & Coastal Bend Marine for his donation towards the CCA golf cart. Tickets are available and the drawing will be held at the banquet!**

A slate of officers was presented and elected at a recent CCA meeting: **Vice President - Dain Whitworth, Treasurer - Ann Brownlee, Secretary - Jim Busby and Sergeant-at-Arms Sonny Cook**. Also, thanks to **Jim Busby** for stepping up and being our Banquet Chairman.

So, if you are in the area enjoying the fall weather, fishing or just kicking back, make arrangements for tickets or a table as we continue to support our coastal resources!

Bring a friend and join us at the POC Community Center on Saturday, October 15th in POC - "where it all began." - **Bill Moore**

Prairie

Sharon Goebel 979-877-4103

On **August 6** we hosted our **15th Annual Kids Fishing Tournament at the Wietstruck Farm in Bellville**. The event was open to the public with no entry fee and free hot dogs/drinks. Each child registered received a free t-shirt. The tournament was great, and we had a good turnout despite the hot weather. There was plenty of shade and a lot of water, **donated by Don Jackson**. We had 54 kids along with their parents and families, and a lot of catfish were caught. **Thanks to Kirk Hoppe and Lee Clark for being the weigh masters, and to Jerald and Laura Sturm from Sturm**



Prairie chapter KidFish was a great success.



Fish Hatchery in Sealy Texas (817-718-6794) for donating the minnows that were used for bait.

The tournament lasted 3 hours, and after everybody was through fishing we handed out the awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd, according to age group: Ages 0-6: 1st place Scarlett Goebel, 2nd place Aubrey Lockstedt, 3rd place Reed Engelbrecht / Ages 7-11: 1st place Katie Eder, 2nd place Kade Jackson, 3rd place Morgan Engelbrecht / Ages 12-15: 1st place Colton O'Brian, 2nd place Weston Samples, 3rd place Kyle Nelson / Ages 16-99: 1st place Steve Samples, 2nd place Jill Samples, 3rd place Garrett Samples

All the winners of each age group received trophies, rods and reels. The adults received CCA rods, trophies and t-shirts. Following the awards ceremony, everyone enjoyed a meal of hot dogs and beverages, and we also had a silent auction. The bid winners walked away with some great gifts! **A big thank you to Larry and Sandra Wietstruck for the use of their Lake and Facilities.** I also would like to thank Sharon Goebel, Lori Wietstruck, Ashley Lockett and the board members for their hard work. See you at next year's Kids Fish!

August 12-13 we enjoyed our Rockport Madness Prairie Chapter Fishing Tournament at Holiday Beach, Rockport. Friday night we enjoyed good fellowship and a meal of beef fajitas that was prepared by Brian Wietstruck. On Saturday morning we headed for St. Charles Bay for a full day of fishing. We had 3 fishing guides - **Boat #1 was Bembo Marten;** his boat was more of a pleasure boat, but they did catch some fish. **Boat #2 was Gunny Borland;** they caught their limit on red fish and trout. **Boat #3 was Mike Wilcox;** they also caught some good reds. That evening

everyone enjoyed ribeye steaks and shrimp that were purchased at Mikeskas BBQ and prepared by Randy Goebel. There were some nice reds that were caught that day - **Bembo Marten with a 31" red, Carol McNett with a 28" red and myself with a 26" red.** Everybody was a winner and received a prize of a tumbler with a jar of honey!

I would like to thank Gordon and Sharon Goebel for letting us use their beach house for the weekend, and thanks to all the board members who helped out. We will have another tournament next year! Thanks and good fishing - Ron Chess, (979) 525-9254

Redfish Bay

Norman Oates 361-758-0266

By the time you get this, our **Beeville Fish Fry** will be over. It is a great event that is held right before dove season, and the same will be true this year. The casual annual event has great fish, beans, potato salad and hush puppies. As always, raffle items, a silent auction and a live auction help raise money for CCA. **Thanks to our Board members in Beeville, this is always a fun event. A special thanks to Curtis Bednorz, Dan Moore, John Hunter and Trace Morrill for their extra efforts in making it a success in 2016! As always, John Blaha does more than his part.** Nothing can be a success without our members who support CCA at our fundraisers, and we want you to know that we appreciate you being there for our Redfish Bay Chapter team.

Look for a General Membership Meeting sometime in October or early November. Mailers and e-blasts will announce the date and time - **Norman Oates, Chapter President, (361) 758-0266 h, (361) 790-2748**

Rio Grande Valley
George McCaleb 956-984-8688
gmccaleb@hotmail.com

Sabine-Neches
Darin Johnson 409-502-1010

Sam Houston
Brandon Kolaja 281-797-6908

Apologies to Brandon for missing the Sam Houston report for the August/September Currents newsletter.

Our 2016 Chapter Annual Banquet was held on **September 1**, and we had a great time! I want to thank everyone who came out to support the Sam Houston Chapter.

I personally would like to thank all of our donors and table sponsors for their contributions and support to our organization. We have a year to plan the next event, but as we all know time flies! **I also want to thank my board members for all that they do.** Get out on the water - **Brandon Kolaja, (281) 797-6908**

San Antonio
Mike Sarosdy 210-863-7288
urodoc@satx.rr.com

Thanks to all who volunteered, played in or sponsored our First "Hooked on Golf" Tournament at Silverhorn. Sandwiched in between September dove hunts and upcoming October fishing, it was a blast. Maybe TPC next year? Golfers, join the Golf Committee and take this baby where you want! Especially those golfers who missed but might have played it on a different course - Please give us your input.

Your Banquet Committee is having monthly

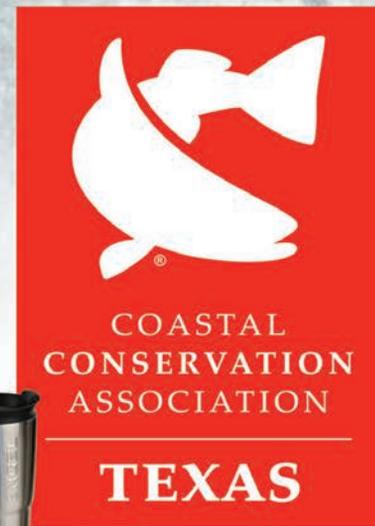
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strategic planning meetings to make the next banquet better than ever! It is never too late to provide your input, and all members have equal say and vision. Contact Banquet Chair Rick Neitzel (210-771-7807) or me for details.

Finally, pencil October 19 on your calendar for another social event. Watch your email and our chapter Facebook page for details. While you are on Facebook, please "like" our page if you haven't already done so! And remember, Take a Kid Fishing. - Mike Sarosdy

San Bernard

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San Gabriel

John Melnar 512- 497-8284

San Jacinto

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Matt Maddox 281-770-7858



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Tri-County
Christian Hildebrand 830-534-2730

Trinity Bay
Gerald Payne 281-385-2894

What a great turnout we had for our 26th Annual Banquet! Let's start out by thanking all of our great sponsors such as Chastang Ford, Sunbelt Valve Services, Brand X Valves, API, Specialty Metal Products, Double Diamond Heavy Haul, Reynolds Marine, L&M Fiberglass, Academy, Cima Services, Delta Companies Group, Lubrizol, Roughneck Outdoors, Thomas Friedt DDS., Wismer Distributing OFS Solid Waste Services, Stronghold LTD, Tejas Elevator/Kwick Kar, Coldwell Banker United-Rebecca Thomas, SMP Supply, Bay Area CHL, Coastline Marine, Fasco Fasteners, Jackie's Brickhouse, La Car Porte LLC, Sprint Waste Services, VLS Recovery Services, O'Daniels's Garage, Seal Pac Professional SVC, Hexion, Armstrong McCall and Fisher Mechanical. Without your support we would not have had such a huge success.

With the addition of some of our new chapter members, our banquet ran like a well-oiled machine. Beer was cold, margaritas were frozen and the food was hot. Thank you Crazy Cookers for keeping things rolling with those tasty shrimp. We had a record breaking evening and had a magnificent time doing it!

Our illustrious leader Gerald Payne threw out a challenge to the crowd. If you don't know Gerald, he grew a mullet that Joe Dirt would be proud of. The challenge was if we generated \$85,000 during the live auction, he would cut off his mullet. We made that money so the mullet came off. Even better than that, we auctioned off the haircut and did it on stage! Cole Star with Coastline Marine was the winner at a bid of \$500. This led to our greatest wrap up ever. This was all done in great fun and helped us generate more money than ever before.

Thanks everyone for all the hard work! We are looking forward to seeing everyone again. Feel free to come out and join us the first Wednesday of every month at Wismer Distributing at 7:00 pm. Always looking for new faces and making new friends. See you soon.

Trinity Valley
John Hebert Jr 936-334-2528

We just had our 2016 Trinity Valley Chapter Annual Banquet and would love to thank everyone who participated! Once again it was a success, and everyone had a great time. The turnout was wonderful, and the dinner was even better!

If you have any questions or are interested in joining us, please contact our Chapter President, John Hebert at 936-334-2528. – Jennifer Creel

West Houston
Mike Ayers 832-248-9352

All is well with the chapter, and the Board Members have enjoyed some much deserved R&R over the summer. We have settled back into our normal schedules and have begun to work on the 2017 Chapter Annual Banquet! Please stay tuned for details!!

If you have an interest in joining the West Houston Chapter and/or would like to be more involved as a Board Member, please reach out and give us a call. New Board Members are always welcome, and we are happy answer any questions you may have.

This will be my last update as Chapter President, as we will be electing new officers for the 2017-2018 seasons. The last four years as Banquet Chairman and President have provided some great memories, and I am very proud of what our chapter has accomplished. None of our success would have been possible without a great group of people working hard together behind the scenes.

I would like to thank Matt Still at the CCA office for his leadership and for keeping us all on a straight and focused path when needed! I know it was not always easy!!

I would also like to thank all of the Board Members for their time and dedication. Your hard work is the reason for our success! The

commitment and work ethic of this group goes beyond words, and everyone's contribution is greatly appreciated. Your involvement with the chapter made my job much easier, and it has been a pleasure working alongside each and every one of you! I look forward to continuing to work with everyone involved and hope to see a few new faces join us on the Board this year! Have a great hunting season, and best of luck chasing trophy fish this winter! – Mike Ayers

West Texas
Craig McDonnold 432-682-3499



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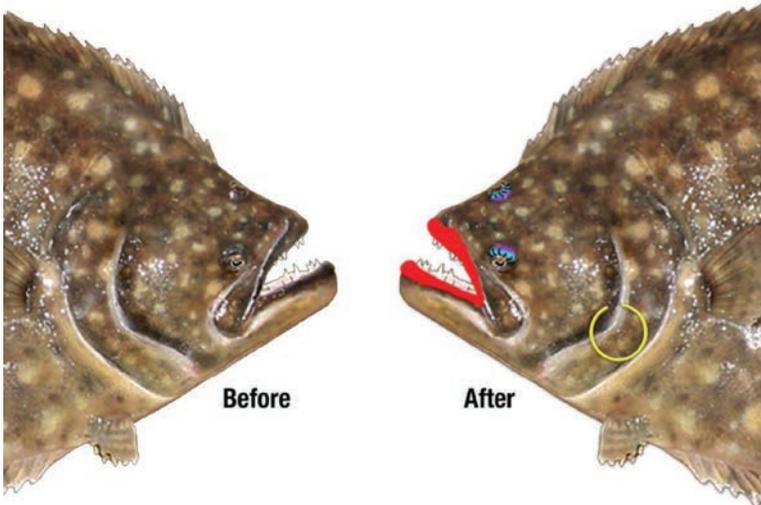
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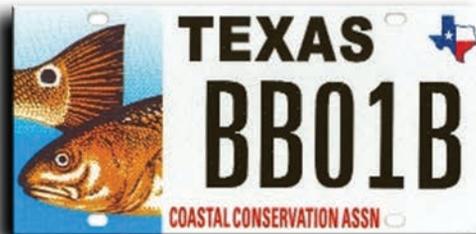


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It will take you just a few minutes to order for your truck, car, or boat trailer. To place your order, input in your network browser (Google works best), **TxDOT Special Plate Order Application**. Follow the next thread to Coastal Conservation Association. 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.

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CURRENTS NEWSLETTER
October / November 2016

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Sabine: 409-971-2195

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



Current size, bag and possession limits are now available through the Texas Parks & Wildlife website: TPWD has a number to report game violations. **1-800-792-4263**.
A partner with CCA in aiding Texas game and Game Wardens is Operation Game Thief. Drop by and put this website on your favorites list: <http://www.ogtx.com/>



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- DISCOVER

- 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** Age: _____ Date of birth: _____
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