



*CCA Texas Partners with  
Building Conservation Trust  
on Capital Campaign for Habitat.*



# CCA Texas Fund kicks off Building Conservation Trust Habitat Campaign with \$1.5 million

By Kim Ogonosky and Sean Stone

*On February 23, 2016, the CCA Texas State Board of Directors approved the funding of \$1.5 million towards the Building Conservation Trust habitat campaign.*

As part of its ongoing commitment to improving marine habitats, Coastal Conservation Association's national habitat program, the Building Conservation Trust (BCT), has initiated a multi-million dollar capital campaign which will result in diverse projects such as Gulf reefing, cutting-edge marsh restoration, habitat research programs and more.

"With the incredible generosity of CCA Texas, this is a very exciting time for our habitat program as we are poised to exponentially expand our capabilities," said Sean Stone, executive director of BCT. "Over the history of our program, every dollar from BCT has produced at least \$3 in marine habitat creation and enhancement. As the campaign progresses, we will be in an even better position to do some amazing things for marine resources."

BCT contributions provide necessary "seed" money to leverage numerous state, federal and other partner grants and programs. To date, BCT has been successful in leveraging funding with grant programs, increasing contributions up to 10-fold. The \$1.5 million in funding will have a significant impact on the capi-

tain and we believe that it is an investment that will create significant and tangible benefits for our marine resources and for the recreational anglers who pursue them."

Founded in 2010, BCT is the national habitat program of Coastal Conservation Association designed to provide the means for



J.D. Murphree breakwater protection site near Port Arthur, February 2014. Photo by Kim Ogonosky

tal campaign's overall financial goals. These investments ensure BCT is able to provide marine conservation legacy for future generations.

"BCT has a proven track record of leveraging assets and generating impressive matches to get the most out of every conservation dollar," said Mark Ray, chairman of CCA Texas. "We are proud to make the anchor donation to the BCT capital cam-

*These investments will ensure that BCT is able to provide marine conservation legacy for future generations.*

anyone who cares about healthy oceans – and those who don't mind getting their feet wet and their hands dirty – to make a difference. It provides funding for local, state and national projects

that achieve one or more of five key objectives: restore degraded habitats, create new habitats, advance the science of habitat restoration and conservation, foster habitat stewardship and educate coastal





*The final phase of construction at the Oyster Lake Shoreline stabilization site in West Galveston Bay, November 2015. Photo by Kim Ogonosky*

communities on the value of conservation.

**BCT** and CCA Texas have a shared vision for the conservation of marine habitat, both having a vested interest in accomplishing one or more of BCT's key objectives for the Texas Coast. Because of these aligned goals, the

State Board of CCA Texas strongly feels that leading the way in funding for BCT's Capital Campaign will create a larger conservation and habitat footprint, which will set the example for what like-minded partners focused on marine conservation can accomplish in

short order.

In 2015, BCT helped fund projects in several states, including the Port O'Connor Offshore Reef in Texas, providing funds of \$200,000. This project will see the creation of up to 600 concrete pyramids placed in a permitted reefing site less than nine miles from the popular Port O'Connor area of the Texas Mid-Coast. With BCT's new

*East Galveston Bay Oyster Reef Restoration, August 2014. Photo by Kim Ogonosky*

*—Continued on page 8*







# 27th Annual CCA State of Texas Anglers' Rodeo

## Don't Miss the Boat! Life Changing Experiences Awaiting!

A life could forever be changed right now as you're reading this! Sounds cliché, but it's true! The 27th Annual CCA Texas State of Texas Anglers' Rodeo (STAR) sponsored by the Texas Ford Dealers, Tilson Home Corporation and Capital Farm Credit kicked-off Saturday, May 28th. CCA Texas STAR officials have released sixty specially tagged redfish, ranging from 20 ½ to 25 ½ inches in length, throughout 600 miles of Texas coastal waters, from Sabine Lake to South Padre Island.

These tagged redfish, worth a \$75,000 truck and boat package, are literally out there swimming around just waiting to change another lucky angler's life! Last year's first tagged redfish winner, Scott Hajovsky, personally knows all about it. He was fishing just six days after the 2015 STAR began when he experienced what catching one these life changing tagged redfish can do! "Truck, boat, motor, trailer... four prizes in one... what a redemption made possible by CCA Texas and the STAR Tournament" said Hajovsky. "Thanks, CCA!"

There are also 175 kids ranging from age six to seventeen that personally know the life-changing effect STAR has after receiving college scholarships ranging from \$20,000 to \$50,000 each! Over the past twenty-six years, the tagged redfish and scholarship winner stories have graced the pages of numerous CURRENTS issues, as well as, newspaper and magazines, airing on radio and television stations, but these aren't the only STAR divisions

with big prizes.

We recently caught up with 2013 Speckled Trout "Upper Coast" winner, Jeremy Bane, and he shared how his trout win changed his life, but on a totally different angle never heard of before.

"After I won the boat, I never used it and put it in storage until spring, when I knew it could fetch a prettier penny," said Bane. "The week after selling my boat prize, I replaced the foundation of my house, as well as, my driveway the HOA had been on me for a couple of years to fix, plus all of the galvanized piping in the attic as some was starting to fail.

Then, I put the house on the market and made a pretty good profit, all of which was spent on going back to school to attain my Masters in Business Administration," said Bane.

"Winning the STAR tourney had always been a pipe dream to me, but when I did, it changed my life!" exclaimed Bane. "Of course the overall goal is to get a bigger boat," said Bane smiling.

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 2016 TEXAS STAR entrant. CCA membership fee is \$30 annually and the 2016 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.



2013 Speckled Trout "Upper Coast" winner, Jeremy Bane, shares how his STAR trout win changed his life.

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

YOUNG ANGLERS FISH FOR FREE! Young anglers ages 6-17, the "New Tide" membership p fee remains \$10 annually and the STAR entry fee is FREE!!! Of course,



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 2016 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.

Our great partner, Academy Sports + Outdoors, has sent all current CCA Texas members a very special bonus just in time to help with some of your fishing expenses. We also want to remind you to take advantage of all the other great Member incentives available to CCA Texas STAR participants. Be sure and get everyone signed up for the 2016 STAR! Please see below for more details:

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 2016 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 below)
- 🔥 \$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 - ATTENTION CURRENT CCA TEXAS MEMBERS! Chances are you've received your \$10 gift coupon from Academy Sports + Outdoors just in time for the STAR kick-off! Special thanks to Academy Sports + Outdoors for continuing to make your CCA membership and STAR entry such an awesome value!



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



**BEST IN TEXAS**

**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 2016 CCA Texas STAR participants will once again be 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 for more details or call 1 (888) 540-6705.

**DON'T FORET... FATHER'S DAY IS JUNE 19TH** - Register your dear ole' Dad, Grandpa, Uncle, etc. for a CCA Texas membership and 2016 STAR entry. This unique Father's Day gift might put them in a new truck/boat combo! Get everyone signed up for the 2016 STAR. See STAR Platinum Print

Membership Package and the complete Platinum Print Series below for more, great gift ideas!

CCA Texas STAR Platinum Print Membership Package, Series VI Just as rainfall supercharges the bay systems, CCA Texas STAR is supercharged to announce the premium artwork line-up for the 2016 STAR Platinum Print offering. NEW this year is Good Morning Cedar Bayou, by the legendary Sam Caldwell. Recognized as the Texas State Artist in 2004, Sam's work is already a staple in many CCA member collections. His technique in diluted oils explodes the colors in an action scene that pays tribute to CCA's latest finished project, the newly opened Cedar Bayou. Envision yourself and your son, together, right there in the surf, in search of an elusive STAR-winning trout. Thank you, Sam, for sharing this gift! And for David Drinkard fans, STAR Platinum collectors can marvel over his next work in the series, King Ranch Shoreline. CCA outdoorsmen who hunt and fish will want this iconic scene of a trophy buck watching redfish action with pintail overhead... a Texas heritage, with a classic Drinkard sunrise... this one, indeed, captures it all! These amazing prints will have you wishing you were there! Specially commissioned for STAR members only, these beautiful pieces commemorate the precious opportunity found in Texas' blessed resources. Package includes your CCA membership (new or renewal), your 2016 CCA Texas STAR entry, plus your choice of either of these fine signed, limited-edition prints created exclusively for STAR, all for \$125! These one-of-a-kind prints are 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 and/or to place your order with the STAR Dept., call (713) 626-4222. To ensure

*STAR has reached **\$5,525,000** 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.*

delivery in time for Father's Day, please place your order by Wednesday, June 8, 2015.

**STILL AVAILABLE!** CCA Texas STAR Platinum Print, Series I, II, III, IV, V - STAR Reds, STAR Sightings, School Is In Session, Working the Spoils and Split Screen are still available. If you haven't purchased 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 seven of these commemorative pieces, purchase yours today before they're all gone! Proceeds from the sales of Platinum Packages will help us continue to fund the STAR scholarships.

**2016 PRIZE LINE-UP** - One of our goals has always been to keep the tournament fee as reasonable as possible and thanks to our wonderful sponsors, we have been able to do so over the last two and a half decades. CCA Texas STAR has been extremely fortunate to provide members of all ages with some really outstanding prize packages and college scholarships and 2016 will continue to offer the same amazing prize line-up this year! Contestants have a chance at winning over 100 prizes including trucks, boats, motors, trailers and college scholarships in the following categories:

**Texas Ford Dealers Redfish Division** - Texas Ford Dealers continue to make this division the "Best in Texas"! They will again give each of the first five registered STAR participants who catch tagged redfish a brand new truck to get to their fishing destination in a tough, dependable and stylish ride. The first five registered anglers to weigh-in a tagged red will receive a 2016 Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" truck. Haynie Boats returns with the awesome Haynie 23 Big-foot rigged with a 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 \$25,000 college scholarship, in lieu of the truck.

## COLLECT THE 2016 STAR PLATINUM PRINTS



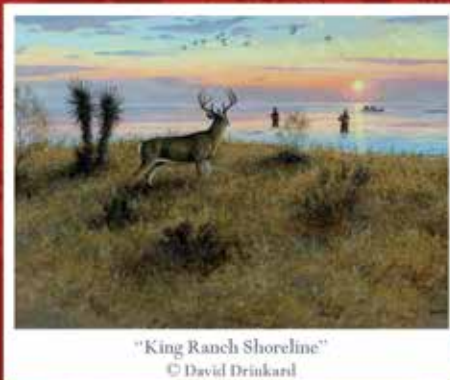
*Two choices...one great cause!*

Act now to own ONE or BOTH of these signed, limited-edition prints! Renowned artists Sam Caldwell and David Drinkard showcase their unique styles exclusively for CCA Texas STAR 2016. Pick your favorite or buy both!

CCA Membership and STAR registration included with your purchase.



"Good Morning Cedar Bayou"  
© Sam Caldwell



"King Ranch Shoreline"  
© David Drinkard

Proceeds from the sale of these limited-edition packages will help us continue to fund the STAR scholarships.

[ccatexas.org](http://ccatexas.org) ★ [startournament.org](http://startournament.org)  
(713) 626-4222





*All NEW Trout Division Prize - the Mowdy 22' V*

Trout Division - ATTENTION TROUT ANGLERS! We are thrilled to announce an ALL new prize offering for this division! Winners in the upper, middle, and lower coast regions will each take home the legendary Mowdy 22' V boat with a Suzuki DF150 motor and Coastline trailer. The 22' V hull design is the perfect boat to handle shallow and rough water and remain completely dry. Mowdy fishermen know that the V-Hull is the most versatile hull on the market. With its 8" draft, the Mowdy gives you all of the best that a fishing boat has to offer. In true Mowdy heritage, the 22' offers everything that you expect from the Mowdy name. 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



*Offshore Division Prize - Polaris Ranger® Crew 570 EPS*

very handy after a long trip on the high seas. Anglers who land the heaviest kingfish, dorado and ling will each receive an awesome Polaris Ranger® Crew 570 EPS UVs in Polaris Pursuit Camo each with a Big Tex 35sa Trailer! SPECIAL NOTE: Watch your inbox for a special CCA members only benefit email! For a limited time and while supplies last, Hoffpauir Polaris will, once again, generously provide a custom CCA cooler (\$330 Value) with purchase. What an awesome benefit!

Inshore Division - ATTENTION INSHORE ANGLERS! We have an exciting new, versatile Inshore Division Boat Prize for 2016! Winners who land the heaviest flounder, sheephead and gafftop will each take home the awesome Shoalwater 19' Cat boat with a Mercury 115 ELPT 4S motor and McClain trailer. The 19' Shoalwater Cat floats and runs shallower due to less deadrise in the bow and less weight resulting in an excellent ride



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

in extremely shallow waters, plus runs well in moderate chop, due to the tunnel hull design. The 6" draft will allow you to get shallower than most flats boats that are much smaller.

In the past twenty-one years, STAR has awarded \$5,525,000 in college scholarships to 175 fisher-kids across the state, ranging from ages 6-17. STAR continues to offer plenty of reason for everyone to round up their kid(s), a rod and reel and head for the water. And, in 2016, there's even more incentive to get your kids and teenagers out on the water! We've ramped up our scholarships another \$35,000 for a total of \$325,000! The StarTeen Scholarships and Scholarship Drawing have been increased from \$20,000 to \$25,000!!!

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.

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 youth scholarship division is open to all New Tide members ages 11-17 and awards a \$25,000 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.

StarTeens Inshore Division - This youth schol-



arship division is open to all New Tide members ages 11-17 and awards a \$25,000 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 2016. "New Tide" STAR participants at least, 6 - 17 years old in 2016, are eligible for a bonus drawing that will net one lucky youth a \$25,000 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 Dargel 210 Skout with a Mercury 150 motor and McClain trailer.

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, Rio Ammunition, LP Building Products, KTRK-abc13, Houston Community Newspapers, Haynie Boats, Mowdy Boats, Hoffpauir Polaris, Dargel Boats, Shoalwater Boats, Texas Fish & Game Magazine, Texas Oilman's Charity Fishing Tournament, Coastline Trailers, McClain Trailers, Chris's Marine and Mt. Houston Marine.



**BEST IN TEXAS**

For more information, go to <http://www.startournament.org>. Thanks for supporting CCA Texas and the STAR Tournament!



TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR'S NOTE

With El Nino amping up our resources everywhere, Texas anglers have a lot to look forward to this year in STAR. Expect fish weights to be up and denser bait patterns to give clues to find winning fish. God has blessed us richly. But, many STAR Anglers must contend with a struggling economy and we hope fishing together will be a welcome remedy for CCA families. A reminder to count the blessings we have is always strived by memories on the water. Certainly we are reminded how grateful we are for the great sponsors listed above. You'll note those five companies have supported the CCA family for many years, though thick and thin. Please remember them when making your purchasing decisions. Thank you and GOOD LUCK!



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## We want you to fish for us!

CCA Texas and the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) 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](mailto:bill.Rodney@tpwd.texas.gov)

Or,  
 Bryan Legare (TPWD)  
 281-534-0103



## Great Foods / Editor Liz Hewitt

### PAN FRIED SHRIMP WITH CURRY SAUCE

2 Tbsp. Peanut Oil  
 2 Tbsp. Finely Minced Garlic  
 1/3 C Finely Minced Onion  
 2 Tbsp. Curry Powder  
 1/2 Tsp. Turmeric  
 3/4 Tsp. Salt  
 2 Tsp. Sugar  
 12 oz. Unsweetened Coconut Milk  
 3 Tsp. Lime Juice, freshly squeezed  
 24 26/30 size peeled and de-veined Shrimp

Lay the shrimp on a paper towel and sprinkle with some salt and the remaining curry Powder.

Over medium heat in a high sided skillet, heat 1 Tbsp. of the oil. Add the onion and stir fry for 1 minute. Add 1 T curry powder, turmeric, salt and sugar and cook, stirring constantly. Add the garlic and cook for 30 seconds. Add the coconut milk and lime juice, bring the mixture to a simmer, and cook for 5 minutes. Adjust seasoning and lime juice to your taste at this time.

In a large skillet over medium high heat, heat the remaining 1 Tbsp. oil until hot, but not smoking. Add the shrimp and cook 1 1/2 minutes per side till slightly browned, but not too dark. Add cooked shrimp to the curry sauce and serve with white rice or turmeric rice.



## Caught Redhanded!

### Reports from TP&W Game Wardens



An abandoned gill net of approximately 9,000 feet was picked up recently about five miles north of the Mexican Border.

Matagorda County Game Wardens Aaron Koenig and David Janssen worked the area around the Colorado River Jetties. They filed cases on numerous boats for various fishing violations, and seized 2 redfish, 3 trout, 4 flounder and 75 red snapper. Cases and civil restitution pending.



Texas Game Wardens serving Texans  
 since 1895-Law Enforcement Off the Pavement



Danny Meyer, Robby Byers and Jack Mayfield

Jack Mayfield,  
 Joe and Danny Meyer  
 (owners of Fishing Tackle  
 Unlimited) recognized for 40  
 years of supporting CCA

Jack, Joe and Danny have been buying Sponsor Tables and donating products to the CCA Central Houston chapter since the first-ever CCA banquet. They were honored April 1, when the 40th banquet was dedicated to the Meyer brothers and the Mayfield family. —Robby Byers



# Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow

## BUILDING A FUTURE FOR TEXAS MARINE HABITAT

—Continued from page 3

habitat campaign, CCA Texas will experience continued funding towards similar important projects along the Gulf Coast.

Our contribution to BCT will not only help jumpstart their campaign, but it will also be a great opportunity to increase the funding for projects here in Texas," said Robby Byers, executive director of CCA Texas. "Leveraging this seed money will allow a significant amount of new dollars to be available to use for expanding our habitat footprint. We believe this investment will continue to help us improve our coastal marine resources for generations." 🐟



Aerial photo of the opened Cedar Bayou, March 2016. Photo by Lisa Laskowski

## Judge Burt Mills and artist Sam Caldwell named to Sports Fishing Wall of Fame

By David Sikes, Corpus Christi Caller Times

ROCKPORT — Aransas County Judge Burt Mills and Texas State Artist Sam Caldwell were inducted into the Texas Maritime Museum's Perry R. Bass Memorial Sports Fishing Wall of Fame March 21. The Wall of Fame, which began in 2007, was created to honor the memory of Perry R. Bass, who helped establish the Maritime Museum and also was an avid angler and conservationist who served on the Texas Parks & Wildlife Commission.

Honorees are nominated and selected by past recipients, based on a history of promoting Texas coastal fishing, along with contributions to coastal conservation to preserve the fishery for future generations.

**Judge Burt Mills** distinguished himself in recent years as a champion of Cedar Bayou, a storied fish pass that historically divided San Jose and Matagorda islands.

Reopening the silted-in pass was a hard-fought victory. Aransas County received a federal permit for the project about five years ago. Leadership in this environmental restoration project began to jell in 2000, when the Aransas County Commissioners Court, led by Mills, joined forces with the Coastal Conservation Association of Texas. Then Mills and the CCA, along with many other allies, raised the money to make it happen.

Fittingly, the final buckets of sand blocking this once-popular fish pass were ceremoniously removed in September 2014 by a big yellow excavator, with Mills at the controls.

The pass still flows, providing myriad ecological benefits to fish, birds, water quality and the overall productivity of the system, along with the economies that rely on a healthy ecosystem.

**Sam Caldwell** of Houston is the first artist to be honored with a spot on the Wall of Fame. My hope is that many artists and photographers will follow for their contributions to conservation

and promotion of coastal angling.

Caldwell is known throughout Texas and beyond as a sporting artist, who has painted numerous posters and promotional works for Texas Parks & Wildlife, the Coastal Conservation Association and Ducks Unlimited, while for decades donating hundreds of originals and prints of his work to raise conservation dollars for those organizations.

The Texas Legislature named Caldwell a Texas State Artist in 2004. Texas Ducks Unlimited twice named him its artist of the year in 2006 and 2011. And the Dallas Chapter of CCA named Caldwell its 2015 Conservationist of the year. "Wildlife is primary in my work," he said. "But people are important elements of wildlife."

As editor of the CCA newsletter, *Currents*, Caldwell remains deeply involved in promoting coastal fishing along with his fine art. But after 9/11, he was moved to step outside his usual role. The American Red Cross chose one of his paintings to help provide aid to victims of 9/11 and relief to their families. Among Caldwell's many awards, in 2014 the Texas Outdoor Writers Association presented him with the organization's highest honor, the L.A. Wilke Award, for his distinguished body of work and dedication to promoting the outdoors.

The Wall of Fame is located in the Robert J. Hewitt/O'Connor & Hewitt Foundation Collections & Education Center. The nonprofit Texas Maritime Museum is privately funded and is the official maritime museum for the state, located across from Rockport Harbor.



Above, Aransas County Judge Burt Mills with a final small shovel, and Houston artist Sam Caldwell with a small Bahamas bonefish. For a Video of the presentation, go to [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BurtSamWallOfFame) and input **Burt Sam Wall of Fame**







## Upper Coast

By Capt. Jeremy Chavez

### *Now comes topwater time*

June marks the start of summer. Along with the heat you can expect more predictable weather and fishing patterns through the end of August. Just make sure to drink plenty of water and apply sunscreen throughout the day.

It was a wet spring in the Galveston area. Freshwater inflows from the rivers and creeks have caused trout to move from many of their normal haunts. With the lower salinity levels you can expect to find trout on the southern end of the bays closer to the passes. Early, look for trout on main bay shorelines with plenty of bait activity. Then move deep and fish drop-offs and reefs as the sun heats up.

I start most mornings quietly poling shorelines in the marsh listening and looking for signs of feeding fish. Slurps, splashes, tails, and pushes are just a few of the clues that draw my attention. Ah, June and July...the summer months are when we start to consistently see schools of redfish in the back lakes. Keep an eye out for birds hovering low to the water.

My go-to lures in the early morning are usually top waters. There aren't many lures better for locating fish. The Rapala Skitterwalk and MirrOlure Top Dog Jr. are a good choice. I prefer bone or chrome top water lures.

Later in the day, I'll usually switch to a gold spoon for redfish or soft plastic on a jighead for trout and flounder. The flats minnow paddletail lures from TTF - Texas Tackle Factory - are a favorite. In dirty water I like dark colors like Morning Glory. In clear or green water more natural colors like East Beast seem to do the trick.

Be courteous of your fellow anglers and don't encroach on anyone else - even if you see them hooked up. There's plenty of water and fish for everyone.

Remember that summer squalls can from sneak up on you in no time, so have a rain jacket handy for everyone on the boat, and keep an eye to the sky. —Capt. Jeremy Chavez 281-546-1393 [www.castingtales.com](http://www.castingtales.com)

*Third Bar Speck, by Jeremy Bane*



## Middle Coast

By Capt. Forrest Vollentine

### *Spring has sprung*

Birds are singing, flowers are blooming, the wind is howling, tides are rising—it's spring time on the gulf coast. The water has warmed enough to shed the waders and solid fish are blasting topwaters. The strong southeast winds send a lot of clean water from the gulf to the bay systems and adjoining marsh lakes, pushing fish far back into the marsh.

When you see big concentrations of bait on the bay shorelines, you will usually find fish. On a recent trip to Mesquite Bay near the mouth of Cedar Bayou, we caught easy limits of trout in waist deep water and left them biting. I can say that the once dead waters of Mesquite Bay are now teeming with fish. The efforts of CCA, Aransas County and the other agencies are paying off and it will only get better.

Early June, topwaters and tails...the fish on the shorelines will most likely be over grass and pot holes. The fish will be close in to the shoreline early in knee deep water, but the norm is for them to retreat to deeper water as the sun rises. Of course, find the bait and you will find the fish. If you go to an area you have caught fish before and don't see the bait, I suggest that you keep looking.

In July, the west Matagorda Bay shoreline around Greens and Cottons will have fish, behind Matagorda Island between the jetties and Pass Cavallo will be holding concentrations of fish.

The Rockport area and the Aransas Bay shore behind St. Joe Island around Spaulding and Jay Bird will have fish this time of year. As in all areas, just look for the bait. My favorite topwater is a pink one-knocker and I never take it off 'til most of the paint is chewed off!

June and July is the time of year when thunder storms can form up, so be safe and keep an eye on the weather. Remember to wear your kill switch, even when boating in familiar waters. Be courteous to other boaters, and take a kid fishing!

—Capt. Forrest Vollentine  
713-817-8576 [forrestvollentine@hotmail.com](mailto:forrestvollentine@hotmail.com)

*First CPR from the new skiff, by Adam Gilvarry*



## Lower Coast

By Capt. Eric Glass

### *Kingfish bouncing all over the place at dawn!*

Hello, June. Winds begin to subside a bit, and temperatures climb. The brown shrimp migration is still underway in June, so you'll run into birds over trout and redfish in the mornings, from late afternoon until dusk. Approach quietly. Birds over deep water are usually on smaller trout, while those working shallower areas are typically on better fish, maybe tailing under gulls. Smallish soft plastics in dark colors with paddle tails on 1/16 to 1/8 oz heads work for birding duty.

Throw top waters such as Skitterwalks on calm mornings, switch to soft plastics and deeper water as the day progresses. Sight fish for redfish throughout the day; 1/4 oz gold spoons are the perennial favorite.

Around the passes and jetties, there ain't no tellin'. Working the edges of the rocks with heavy swimbaits, the big thump might turn out to be snook, mangrove snapper, tarpon, comb and gag grouper, king mackerel, trout, and redfish. Snook and Tarpon seem to be wired to feed on the ebb. Be sure to have a foot long bite leader of 40 to 60 pound flourocarbon.

Calm nights with clear incoming tides may result in kingfish bouncing all over the place at dawn, always fun to see. Locals troll lures around the ends of the jetties for kingfish, catching them on large top water plugs and spin gear. The first run of a decent sized king on fly tackle is an eye opener. Try a fairly fast sinking line and large, predominately white bait fish imitations- plus a short trace of wire, 8 to 10 inches.

Flounder numbers this year seem as impressive as last year; it's hard to pole through a tidal lake entrance, or down the edge of an island, without seeing the telltale mud trail of several flatties. To target them, work channel edges and dropouts with soft plastics on 1/4 to 3/8 oz heads. Small live finger mullet are reputed to work from time to time as well.

—Capt Eric Glass 956-434-1422  
[captainericglass.com](http://captainericglass.com)



# CCA Texas Social Happenings

CCA Texas is backing some new and exciting projects in the near future, so be sure to continue to follow along on all of our social media platforms for news and updates!

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 [webmaster@ccatexas.org](mailto:webmaster@ccatexas.org) for consideration!

**Facebook:**  
T.G.I.F. - Thank Goodness It's FISHday!! We hope



you get out on the water this weekend - and bring your kids along for the ride too! Photo: Michelle Varga with one of her kiddos!

**Twitter:**  
@HarteResearch: 38th  
@cca\_texas Corpus Christi annual banquet

**Instagram:**  
@cca\_texas: Treasure the times spent on the water with your kiddos and loved ones! Photo: Lisa Laskowski #joincca #conservation #takeakidfishing

**Facebook:**  
[facebook.com/CCATexas](https://www.facebook.com/CCATexas)  
**Twitter:** [twitter.com/CCA\\_Texas](https://twitter.com/CCA_Texas)  
**Instagram:** [instagram.com/cca\\_texas](https://www.instagram.com/cca_texas)  
**YouTube:** [youtube.com/cccatexasprojects](https://www.youtube.com/cccatexasprojects)



# Chapter Updates

## 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 Tx. 77584 / Check out our info: <http://www.ccatexas.org/chapters/houston-area/alvin-pearland>

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

**Ribeye Steak dinner with all the sides catered by Joes BBQ.** Corporate Tables for 8 people are \$550.00 and still available! Individual tickets at the door are \$60.00 each. Sportsman Raffle tickets are available at BAAD Marine, Manvel Mattress, and Big Guys Shooting supply or contact one of our board members. You could be one of 10 lucky winners of one of the 5-guns or 5-yeti coolers. We have a great live and silent auction line up, and raffle items.

Our chapter board is working hard finalizing our JUNE 16th banquet details. We would not be able to do what we do without support from our sponsors: Title Sponsor: **Commonwealth Financial- Rex Richards.** Sponsors: **Payne Brothers Firearms, Allied Fire Protection, Del Papa, Academy, Joes BBQ, Tran Boats** and many more. Thanks goes out to our recent speakers: March 1, **Capt. Billy Penick** of Gypsy Guide Service; April 5, **Capt. Mike Cacciotti** of Mike's Fishing Service.

**2016 Meeting schedule:** May-3 -Speaker: Brian Treadway, Chocolate bayou mapping and fishing / June-7- Speaker: Capt. Ralph Frazier, Galveston Bay fishing / July-August- NO MEETING-GONE FISHING / September 6, Speaker: **Capt. Zane Starr**, Galveston bay fishing. 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 713-501-2778

## Aranas Bay

Carter Crigler 435-830-5984

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

**Come join us for the 17th Aransas Bay Chapter's Annual Banquet on 13 August at the Paws and Taws Convention Center in Fulton, Texas.** The fun-filled event starts at 5:30 P.M. consisting of silent auction, raffle, live auction, open bar and dinner catered by Black Tie Affairs Catering, Inc. We are looking forward to our 3rd sellout in a row so be sure to make plans early. The Title sponsor for the banquet is **Ron Hoover RV and Marine.** You may purchase tickets by contacting **Carrie Cox** (432-230-9060) or going online at [www.ccatexas.org/aransas-bay](http://www.ccatexas.org/aransas-bay) and click on the Banquet tab. For any questions concerning sponsor opportunities, donations or any other matters contact **Michelle Green**, Banquet Chairperson, at [jeepgirl.green@gmail.com](mailto:jeepgirl.green@gmail.com), **Bud Kittle** (210-279-7309), **Ginette Collins** (361-229-6144), or **Carter Crigler** (435-830-5984).

Members from the Redfish Bay and Aransas Bay Chapters joined forces to staff booth at **Rock the Dock Boat Show in Aransas Pass** to sell CCA and Star memberships. Thanks for everyone's support.

By the time you read this, **Babes on the Bay XVII** will be a memory, hopefully, one to remember for a long time. It is hoped that for those of you that fished **Babes Sweet Sixteen** that you do not have a second year of wading in ankle deep muck.

The **Aranas Bay Chapter** would like to thank all participants, vendors, volunteers and

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

For the full version, go to your chapter's area in the CCA website.

Drop by [www.ccatexas.org](http://www.ccatexas.org), and click on **Chapters.**

**TP&W Game Warden volunteers** who conducted the weigh-in. **Karol Scardino**, tournament director for the past 14 years-many, many thanks for your commitment and hard work to **Babes on the Bay**. Without **Karol's** dedication **Babes on the Bay** would not have grown from a small tournament for women fisherpersons to the largest all women's fishing tournament in the world.

Thanks again **Karol!** A donation of \$5000 on behalf of **CCA Babes On The Bay, Aransas Bay Chapter**, will be made to the "Go For Fish, Not Drugs" kids fish event sponsored by the TP&W Game Wardens. Looking forward to seeing you again next year. Or, if you have not been a participant in the past come and join in on the fun in 2017. Tight lines -Carter

## Austin

Josh Cook 512-656-2964

As I write this we are near the 37th Annual Austin Banquet, and I am optimistic we will set records again this year. I am continually amazed at the dedication of our volunteer board in preparation for this event.

Specifically, I would like to thank officers: **Barron Johnson**, our Banquet Chairman; **John Kane**, Assistant Banquet Chairman; **Jason Magdalena**, Assistant Banquet Chairman; **Scott Sanderson**, Live Auction Chairman; **Neal Meinzer**, Sponsor Chairman; **Dan Appling**, Membership Chairman; **Steven Benton**, Treasurer; **PJ Todd**, Community Relations Chairwoman; and **Dennis Blain**, Secretary for their tireless efforts throughout the year in preparing for our banquet.

I would also like to thank **Blake Masters** for his continued outstanding job as Boat Wrangler; **Mike Frisch** for taking on the Silent Auction this year; **David Ripka** for handling all things Merchandise and Raffle; **Calen Shearer** for managing the Chalkboard Auction; **Jeff Beck** for his continual help with logistics; **Jeff Kyrish** and **Paul Coxas**, masters of all things 4X4; and **Cheryl Smith** for her ongoing amazing job at procuring donations.

An enormous thank you also to **Covert Chevrolet and Independence Title** for their continued support that allows us to hold this flagship event every year.

Next up on the calendar for Austin is **Angler's Night Out at Abel's on the Lake on July 20th**. Like the banquet, ANO is a blast, and 200 or so gather with us for fun, festivities, and a free meal compliments of **Smokey Denmark's**. A big thank you to **Dan Appling** for his ongoing lead role in managing **Angler's Night Out!** We always have a guest speaker, admission is free, and you don't have to be a member to come. **SO BRING A FRIEND AND ASK THEM TO JOIN CCA!** We have awesome raffles with all kinds of great prizes. See you there!

Be sure to "Like" Coastal Conservation Association Austin Chapter on Facebook to keep up with everything our outstanding chapter has going on. If you want to join a fun group of folks and help raise money for CCA, send me a note about joining the Austin Board. Now it's time to go fishing! —Josh Cook



### 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

### Brenham

Dennis Crowson

979-451-2472

We held our 22nd annual banquet/crawfish boil on April 28th with about 4700 pounds of crawfish served. The banquet was another great success. Thanks to all those who helped sell tickets, setup, serve, or clean up. A particular big thanks goes to this year's banquet chairman, **Wesley Mauer**, and ticket sales chairman, **Brandon Marth**. Hats off to the other Brenham Board members which includes: **Trey Scherer**, **John Baker**, **Rodney Forerster**, **Jim Limmer**, **Greg Schomburg**, **Jon Schroeder**, **Steven Siemsglusz**, **Leroy Tegeler**, **Wade Tiemann**, and **Ryan Winkelmann** - thanks to each of them on a great job.

Also a big thanks goes out to the two organizations who helped serve at the banquet: the **Blue Bell Creameries Relay for Life team** and the **Blinn College Agriculture Club**. Finally thanks to everyone who attended and bought auction items or raffle tickets. It was a great showing of community and philanthropic support. At this year's banquet we honored one of our board members who tragically passed away about a month ago, **Ricky Vercher**. Ricky had been instrumental for many years in selling raffle tickets and securing raffle items. He will be missed by everyone.

The Brenham CCA chapter is sponsored by **Mike Hopkins Distributing** and meets the fourth Thursday of each month in the MHD meeting room. The next meeting will be May 26th. For more information contact **Dennis Crowson** at [dennis.crowson@hotmail.com](mailto:dennis.crowson@hotmail.com) or 979-451-2472. —Dennis Crowson

### Brush Country

Brenda Ballard 361-296-4037

For information and questions about our chapter please email us at [brushcountrycca@gmail.com](mailto:brushcountrycca@gmail.com). Thank you —Brenda Ballard

### Centex

Wayne Webb

254-405-1300

[sheyhunt@aol.com](mailto:sheyhunt@aol.com)

### Central Houston

Todd Buster

713-545-1897

The 40th Annual Central Houston CCA Banquet was held on Thursday, April 28, 2016 and was a great success. We would like to thank our sponsors: **Fishing Tackle Unlimited**, **Academy Sports & Outdoors**, **Simms Fishing Products**, **Waterloo Rod Co.**, **Mowdy Boats**, **Coastline Trailers**, and **Silver Eagle Distributing**. And an extra special thanks to the individuals and companies that continue to support our chapter by buying tables and attending the banquet. Without your support we would not be able to put on such a great event! If you are interesting in becoming involved in the Central Houston CCA Chapter, please email me: **Todd Buster**: [tbuster@busterand-cogdellbuilders.com](mailto:tbuster@busterand-cogdellbuilders.com) or **Ian Beliveaux**: [ibeliveaux@donatominxbrown.com](mailto:ibeliveaux@donatominxbrown.com).



Central Houston banquet: Members of the Mayfield family and Joe Meyers, right, stand in front of a Fishing Tackle Unlimited Kayak, after CCA Texas Executive Director Robby Byers dedicated the evening of the 40th year to the Jack Mayfield and the Meyer brothers.

### Colorado Valley

Eugene Ulrich

979-249-7425

WOW, it was a great banquet! March 31st at the La-Grange KC Hall. We again increased our attendance from the previous years and everyone had a wonderful time. The KC's again prepared another terrific ribeye and shrimp dinner for all. We would like to thank our new A.D. **Taylor Reick** and his team for helping to make our night a success. The chapter members worked very hard this year with putting on our meetings and fish fry dinners, selling raffle tickets, collecting sponsors and coordinating our events. Many thanks to our committee members **Trish Kubena**, **Rusty Kubena**, **Bo Janda**, **Gary Janda**, **Dave Fehlker**, **Danny Olenick**, **George Gold**, **Kenneth LeFrance**, and **Kendall Rohde** along with our banquet support members, **Laurie Janda**, **Connie Janda**, **Brenda Fehlker**, **JK Brandt**, **Karie Brandt**, **Chris Brugger**, **Matthew LeFrance**, **Stephen LeFrance**, and **Mike Petras**. **Dave Fehlker** again did a tremendous job with the banquet program along with procuring all the informative signs.

Our chapter would like to again extend our sincere appreciation for the continued support of **Capitol Wright Distributing** and **Brown Distributing** with their generous donations to the evening along with our cap sponsors, **J&J Metal Works, Inc.**, **LakeView Glass and Mirror**, and **Oviedo Chrysler Jeep Dodge**



Colorado Valley banquet hard workers.

**Ram**. Thanks to our tumbler sponsor, **Miller NRG**, our koozie sponsor **M-G Farm Service Center Weimar**, the door prize sponsor **Murphy's Steakhouse** in Winchester for the ribeye, and our print sponsors, **Brasher-Gunn Inc.**, **First National Bank-Bastrop/Smithville**, **Ken Kram State Farm Weimar**, **LaGrange Ford**, **National**

**Bank and Trust**, **Powerscreen Texas Inc.**, and **Round Top National Bank**. We would like to extend a special thanks to our Grand Slam table sponsors, **Adam Meuth Construction LLC**, **BackSide Thirty LLC**, **Covert Chevrolet**, **Buick**, **GMC Bastrop**, **Eric Rogers and friends**, **J&J Metal Works Inc**, **Murphy's Steakhouse**, and **Joe Roger's Dozer Service LLC**, as these were a new table class for us this year. Thanks again to our 27 Bull Red table sponsors and also our 10 reserved table sponsors who all helped make our night a complete success. Our chapter would like to thank all of our donors for the evening and also thanks to **Academy** for all their support. We truly enjoyed having everyone in attendance and hope all enjoyed themselves enough to join us next year. Wishing bent rods and tight lines to all! —Eugene Ulrich

### Corpus Christi

Jay Gardner 361-658-7159

[tarponchaser@mail.com](mailto:tarponchaser@mail.com)

Welcome new president, **Jake Herring 361-244-0258**

Greetings! The banquet numbers are coming in, and looks like we are going to be up again this year! Awesome! We also had **2,033 people** in attendance at our banquet, which I believe is the most at a CCA event to date! I wish all the chapters the best of luck as we get through another amazing banquet season! I would like to again thank **Nyati Services Inc. (YT and Virginia)** for being the hat sponsor again, and **Flint Hills** as our invitation sponsor. We had a LOT of sponsors this

past year (too many to mention here!) but we couldn't do what we do without them. This is my last update, as my term has expired, and we have elected our next President for the chapter; congrats to **Jake Herring**! I want to thank each and every one of you for your support over the past two years, we have a really GREAT team assembled! Thank you and I'm out! —Jay Gardner, Past President.

But first, here's a note from our newly elected President, **Jake Herring**. Good afternoon CCA-CCTX! I want to say thank you for having the confidence in my ability to serve as President. We are on group with a large voice on coastal conservation and each of your efforts helps further the mission of the organization we

all love and support. Also thanks to those who have volunteered to fill some of the chapter positions, with **Kesley Gibson** accepting the position of chapter Secretary, and **Kevin Hill** as our new Treasurer. **Joseph Briones** will be serving as our 2017 Banquet Chair, and he is still looking for a co-chair. Although it's almost a year away, our banquet is scheduled for March 9th. We have some upcoming events that are important to our chapter coming up in the fall, and please mark your calendars for the following events: **September 10th Poco Rojo Kidfish Tournament**, **September 30th – Guides Cup**, and **October 9th for The Babes on Baffin Tournament**. Contact me if you have any questions, and I will get you plugged in on how to help out or sponsor these events. Thanks! —Jake

### Dallas / North Texas

Welcome to new president,

**John Humbert 214-563-3122**

[jhumbert@softwareimaging.net](mailto:jhumbert@softwareimaging.net)

Congratulations to everyone who helped plan and present the **BEST EVER DALLAS CHAPTER CCA Annual Banquet**! This year, the Dallas area responded above all expectations to collectively celebrate the many great projects CCA Texas has underway to protect, restore and replenish the coastal areas of Texas. 2016 turned out to be the year for exceeding expectations. For example, our local volunteer board has grown to **20 generous people**; our banquet attendance has reached an all-time high; total attendance throughout the year for both local chapter meetings and banquet summed together has doubled; and best of all, the



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total amount of funds raised from the Dallas Area **has never been higher** and expenses have been minimized wherever possible without sacrificing quality.

As we begin to look forward, we have already picked the date of **April 20, 2017** for the next banquet. Our new chapter President **John Humbert** and Vice President **Bill Grasswich** have begun planning even better events for the months to come. Our Sponsors like **Temple Fork Outfitters, Tailwaters, Mariner Sails, Brinson Power Sports, and others** are helping us think of ways to bring excitement to our local events to provide education, insights and friendships with as many like-minded conservationists as we can find here in the area. —**Henry A. (Hal) Thomas, 2015-2016 Past President**



## ***Dallas Conservationist of the Year Ray Sasser, John Hansen and president Hal Thomas.***

This year the Dallas Chapter recognized Ray Sasser as the CCATexas Dallas Chapter Conservation Sportsman of the Year. Ray delivered an inspiring summary of his observations through many years of caring and writing about conservation. As I listened to Ray talk about what he considers important for CCA Texas and its cause, I found it easy to reflect on the 22 years I have known CCA Texas and to be reaffirmed that CCA Texas has and continues to be relevant in matters related to protecting the outdoors, conservation and fostering relationships. Previous honorees are Gary Lumas, Dr. Gregg Stunz, Lefty Kreh and Sam Caldwell. —**Hal Thomas**

### **East Texas**

**Dr. Jim Norman 936-554-3165**  
[jjnorman7@suddenlink.net](mailto:jjnorman7@suddenlink.net)

### **Fort Bend**

**Robb Gaston 281-239-9755**

### **Fort Worth**

**Hunter Baird 817-437-8351**

As members of the Fort Worth Chapter we get the benefit of living in the greatest city in all of Texas. Close enough to the coast to get there and drop a line in the same day and far enough away to make those trips a special break from the stresses of life.

A big Thank You to all who came out on Cinco de Mayo to celebrate our 20th anniversary for the FW Chapter of CCA. The weather was some of the best in years which makes the ambience of sitting outside in the beautiful garden of **Joe T Garcia's** all the more enjoyable. CCA banquets are always sure to be a good time and this year was one of the best in a long time since we had the additional help of being able to celebrate Cinco de Mayo at the same time. With your help we had record attendance of over 300 people and raised a boat load of money to help support CCA causes around the state. **Kent Crank** was back in the saddle hosting the live auction - love him or hate him he is one heck of an entertainer!

The chapter will take a brief break for a few months to hit the flats and enjoy some warmer weather. We will soon begin planning our usual fall general membership meeting so stay tuned. For recommendations on guides or fishing opportunities don't hesitate to reach out to the board. Cheers to tight lines, cold drinks and keeping your head above water. —**Jonathan Black**

### **Galveston**

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

Hello all anglers. The weather has turned on the fishing on the Texas coast, so please take a child out on the water to fish. **Our annual banquet will be held on August 6, at Moody Gardens**. We have corporate / individual tables of 10 at three different levels, as well as individual banquet tickets. If you are interested about any tables / tickets, please give me a call.

We will be giving away our **Mowdy 22' - V/22** with a **175 hp 4 stroke Suzuki** along with a **CoastLine aluminum trailer**. Tickets for the boat are \$25 each, or 5 tickets for \$100. Tickets are going fast, and I expect us to be sold out before the banquet, so please contact me personally, if you would like to purchase some boat raffle tickets.

The banquet this year is a homage to "Margaretville," and we will have many new silent and live auction items, as well as a 10 gun raffle again this year. I hope everyone has an amazing summer, and as always, Tight Lines --**Dr. Ken Ellis**  
A picture of the boat again with the Galveston Chapter

### **Golden Triangle**

**Welcome new president, Tyler Coco**  
**409-651-6004**  
[tylercoco7@yahoo.com](mailto:tylercoco7@yahoo.com)

### **Greater Sugar Land**

**Richard Lindley 832-270-0398**  
[richardlindley@att.net](mailto:richardlindley@att.net)

### **Greater Woodlands**

**Welcome new president,**  
**Charlotte O'Dell 832-368-8263**

The Greater Woodlands Chapter Annual Banquet will be held on **Thursday, July 21, 2016 at The Grand Palace, 314 Pruitt Rd., Spring, Texas**. Doors open at 6 pm. Come join us for a great night of fun! There will be dinner, a live auction, a silent auction, and raffle drawings. For sponsorship info, please contact: **Drew Adams** at [dadams@ccatexas.org](mailto:dadams@ccatexas.org), 713-626-4222 or **Charlotte O'Dell** at [choctawcharlie69@gmail.com](mailto:choctawcharlie69@gmail.com), 832-368-8263. Thank you —**Charlotte O'Dell**

*Galveston's Mowdy 22' - V/22 with a 175 hp 4 stroke Suzuki along with a CoastLine aluminum trailer.*





**Guadalupe Valley**  
Welcome to new  
president,  
**Chuck Howard**  
361-275-9464  
chuck.howard@aht.net

**Hays County**  
**Tim Young**  
512-573-7939  
hayscountyycca@gmail.com

**Heart of the Hills**  
**Jim Simmons 210-380-5709**

fishtxsurf@AOL.com  
Chapter volunteers have been busy meeting and planning for a mid-September banquet. If you are interested in getting involved, give us a call. Also, be watching your email for information on a General Membership Meeting.

I recently had the opportunity to visit with one of our sponsors from **Pedernales Brewing Company**. CEO, **Lee Hereford**, said that they have been in 14 National/International beer competitions in the past 21 months and have won 38 awards (20 Gold, 13 Silver and 5 Bronze)! They even won 2 "Best of Show" awards. If you are looking for a fun afternoon outing, take the short, scenic drive to Fredericksburg, just 21 miles up Highway 87 from IH-10 in Comfort.

Lee said they have a new deck out front and you can enjoy **classic German lagers and English ales** in their tasting room Wednesday-Saturday between 1 pm and 5 pm. **Pedernales Brewing** is located at 97 Hitchin' Post Trail, Fredericksburg, Texas 78624 (Phone number 830-998-7486). Tight lines!—**Randy** 830-377-0737

**Hill Country**  
**Miles Engelke 830-303-1827**

As you read this issue of Currents, some of these events will be in your rear view mirror. We completed our first event for 2016: the **Social and Fish Fry at the Red Barn in Seguin**—Wow, what a crowd! There were almost 200 people, we did not have a fish fillet left, and the cooks/directors did not get to eat.

Thanks to all the directors who worked hard to make this event a success for adults and kids. Plans are already being made for next year. May 13, we will be hosting the **crawfish boil for Todd Hoffman**. May 21st we will be hosting the **Board of Directors Trip for Tri County Distributors**. June 4th will be our chapter fishing tournament in Rockport Texas. Contact **Darlene Cook** at 830-214-3067.

We will have three General Meetings, each will be held at the **Elks Lodge in New Braunfels**, as follows: \* Tuesday May 17, 2016 **Capt. Joey Farah** \* Tuesday July 19, 2016 **Capt. David Rowsey** \* Tuesday October 25, 2016 **Capt. Everett Johnson**

We will have several vendors at each of these meetings which include, but are not limited to, **Forever Last Hunting and Fishing Products, Creative Eyewear, Rust Game Place, Stinky Pants Fishing Products, Twisted Customs and Staunch Traditional Outfitters**. Food and beverages can be purchased, so grab some friends and join us.

Our 2016 Annual Banquet will be held Thursday, August 25, 2016 at the Civic Center in New Braunfels Texas - mark the date on your calendar and spread the word. For ticket information, call Todd Thetford 830-660-8825. If you have any questions or you would like to get involved in our chapter, cast me a call at 210-260-8968. Treasure the Trips—**Miles Engelke**

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

We held our Second Annual Chapter Banquet at the Sam Houston Race Park on March 24th. I'm pleased to report the banquet was a resounding success, not only for CCA Texas, but for all the vendors, suppliers, and homebuilders in attendance! Word has gotten out that this is one of the best networking opportunities that the Houston homebuilding industry has to offer, and that fact was reflected in the nearly sold out crowd at the Race Park!



*The Northwest Annual Kid Fish in La Porte was another great success.*

I'd like to once again thank all of the folks who contributed their time and resources to making our second year better than ever! As always, kudos to **Coleman Todd** and his CCA team for all their help! We will hold a banquet recap meeting in May and board members will be notified well in advance. For questions about becoming a member of the Houston Homebuilding Chapter, please contact me at 832-381-6130. —**Mack**

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

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

**Lee County**  
**Byron Kalbas 979-540-0056**  
We will have our 6th Annual Banquet on Thursday, October 20, 2016. More details to come at a later date. God's blessings to all.—**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**

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

We are headed for our 11th Annual Li'l' Salties Fishing Blowout down in Matagorda! Again, this year we have a full load with 250 youngsters signed up. The event is held every year on Mother's Day weekend at the Matagorda Harbor. This free yearly tournament for the kids of Matagorda Bays Chapter is something special; each kid goes home with a fishing story, fishing rod, and a bag full of goodies. A big thanks goes out to our corporate sponsors for this event: **Prasek's Hillje Smokehouse, Weise Crop Insurance, Mustang Caterpillar, E. A. Collins & Sons, Backup Utility Contractors, Polasek Construction, Cedar Creek Woodshop, R and R Printing, Texas Tackle Factory, Full Auto Firearms, Lamco Feeders Inc., R&R Printing & Graphics, and Dalton Crane and Trucking**. Also a big thanks to all of the other donors who contribute to the event. I would like to mention their names but would run out of room.

Our chapter banquet is scheduled for June 30 this year at the El Campo Civic Center. Be sure to reserve a table or get your ticket early! The event has Sold Out for the last 7 years. Our 23' Dargel Attackaflatt raffle boat is turning heads all around the area, so be sure to get a couple of tickets before they are gone. If you are not in the area and need boat tickets or want to purchase tickets for the banquet feel free to contact Wesley Smolik (979) 543-2753. Thanks again to **Polasek Construction** for stepping up as a boat sponsor this year.

Without their generosity we would not be able to have such a great chapter. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the chapter.  
—**Chad Hensley**

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

**Northeast Houston**  
**Casey Eakin**  
713-948-5799

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

We held our Annual Kid Fish in La Porte on May 10<sup>th</sup> and it was a huge success. The weather actually cooperated and it was a beautiful day. The kids caught all kinds of fish and even a couple of crabs which were also weighed in by the weigh master. Afterwards hotdogs, chips and drinks were served to all. Every child received a prize and a trophy no matter how small the fish. We want to thank our sponsors, **Linda's Bait & Tackle, Harris County Precinct 2, The City of La Porte, Blue Water Seafood, Eileen's Cleaning Services, Mac DeLaup & Castaway Rods** and a special thanks to **Del and Elaine Martin**. I want to give a huge round of applause to the Directors who worked so hard organizing this event.

By the time you are reading this, hopefully our next General Membership Meeting hasn't passed. On June 7, we will have our very own **Captain Forrest Vollentine** as our guest speaker. Forrest specializes in trophy trout and redfish. He has placed high and won many elite trout and redfish tournaments. He is a master at wade fishing, top water fishing and loves teaching his skills to others. The Chapter will raffle a trip with him at our meeting.

**PLEASE mark your calendars for Thursday, August 11. We are holding our 27<sup>th</sup> Annual CCA Northwest Houston Chapter Banquet!** Preparation has been underway and we are excited for another successful year of raising funds for our precious coastal fisheries and habitats! The banquet will be held at the **Raveneaux Country Club**. And if you are planning or would like more information, please visit the CCA Texas website under the Northwest Houston Chapter page. We are accepting sponsorship tables at this time and since the last 2 years were a sold out event – don't wait to get your table!

As always, we welcome any current or future CCA members to join our Chapter Board of Directors. We have a great group of men and women and are always inviting more hands to grow our chapter! We meet every first Tuesday of every odd month (July 5<sup>th</sup> will be our next) at the Houston Distributing facility off High Life Drive in the Stein Room – starting at 7pm. We would love to see you! —**Alan Massey**

**Orange County**  
**Scott Bandy 409-988-3667**  
sabandy@gmail.com

What a busy month April has been! We hosted our first Anglers Night Out on April 4th - Guest Speakers were **Jamie Hough, Michael Frenette, and Scott Ayers**. They took time out of their busy schedules to share stories of tournament fishing with the 30 members who showed up. Those guys did an awesome job, and they fish the Elite Redfish Classic out of Orange, Texas. We followed that up with the kickoff event for 2016 in Port Arthur 3 weeks later. These guys enjoyed the visit to the area and our hospitality while here.

Raffle winners from **Granger Chevrolet** were OC Chapter members **Jamie Hough, Michael Frenette, and Scott Ayers** with **KK White**. The guys were all about the



kids and making them feel included!

With our banquet set for August 18, preparations are in full swing. If you would like to join us at the event, see a Banquet Committee member, or contact us on Facebook – Orange County CCA Chapter. Don't forget to sign up for the STAR Tournament –you never know when you "Might Hook the BIG ONE"! Good luck & Tight Lines — **Scott Bandy**  
Contact Info: **Scott Bandy** - scottbandy77@yahoo.com / **Louis Moore** - louis\_moore@yahoo.com  
**Davis Dixon** - dcdixon149@yahoo.com

### Port O'Connor

**Bill Moore 361-983-4690**

*We're in the process of planning the 17th Annual POC CCA Banquet and Auction, which is slated for Saturday, October 15 at the Community Center.* Tables will again be offered to individuals, groups, businesses or corporate sponsors. The times and dates of upcoming banquet planning meetings will be emailed over the next few months. We look forward to seeing you there, and if you want to get involved, give us a call.

At this year's POC Chamber Crawfish Festival, the chapter had a booth where the raffle item was showcased for this year's banquet. This was a shiny new golf cart. We are excited to have donations to purchase a big ticket item to sell raffle tickets. A special thanks to **Chris Mapp** and **Coastal Bend Marine** for their donation to make the golf cart raffle possible. So between now and the banquet, the golf cart will be on display, especially Memorial day, July 4th, and POCO, where tickets may be purchased. Also, tickets may be purchased at any time from any member of the POC CCA Board. So pencil in Saturday, October 15 on your calendar; come by and check out the golf cart in POC, "Where it all began" — **Bill Moore**

### Prairie

**Sharon Goebel 979-877-4103**

What a great night at our 19th annual Banquet at the Cat Spring Hall, This banquet was the best that we have ever had. This year we had a lot of new games. Our regular Cap and Card Game, a Savage 7mm, a Remington 870 and a TC Venture 22 and a Savage 17 HMR on the Cap and Tumbler game. Also this year we had a new game called Football Square Game and raffled off a Henry Golden Boy 17 HMR and a CCA Logo AR15. Thanks to **Carol McNett** for donating the items on a special drawing.

And a thank you to **Wittenburg Printing** for generously donating their services and **Snuffy Garrett** and **Ivan Menke** for being the security for the night. The meal of prime rib and shrimp was outstanding, thanks to **Mikeskas Catering** for all the fine service.

We had a great silent auction this year. Some great items were raffled off thanks to **Academy**, CCA and all of the sponsors that donated. Thanks to **Mark III** for sponsoring the koozies, **Mikeskas** and **Ron Chess** for donating the winner towels and **Indoor Outdoor Store** for the cap and card guns and **Fat Dog Firearms** and **Prairie Chapter Board members** for sponsoring the coolers and a big thanks to all the sponsors that donated the drink tumblers, the table tumblers and the raffle tumblers. And thanks to all the Corporate Table Sponsors, Cap Sponsors, and the Banquet Donors.

Thanks to the girls from **High Profile Promotions** for selling the \$5 tickets, \$300 package tickets and the \$500 package which included the drawing for the Polaris and other gifts. The winner of the Polaris was **John ( Bull**



*The Orange County Redfish Elite group.*



*The Port O'Connor crew with the 2016 banquet Golf Cart.*

**Head ) Buttschell.** Thank s to **Mark Switzer** for being our auctioneer for the live auction. He made it a great success for the evening. And thanks to **Brian Weaver** and his CCA team for their help and special thanks to **Sharon** for all her endless days and nights of hard work, and thanks to all the Board Members that made



this banquet a great success. If I have left out anybody I'm sorry. See you next year at our 20th Banquet.

On June 10 and 11 we will have a team going to Aransas for the 2016 CCA inter chapter challenge fishing tournament. Hopefully we will come home with a trophy. **July 30th we will hosting our annual Kids fish at Wietstruck Lake in Bellville.** For more info contact **Lori Wietstruck** at 713-992-7874. — **Sharon Goebel** 979-877-4103 / --**Ron Chess** 979-525-9254

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

Our Redfish Bay Chapter Annual Banquet was April 23, and we had a great time! Thanks so much, **Chris Marine** for being our Title Sponsor for the 13<sup>th</sup> time – what great supporters of our chapter and CCA in general. Our other sponsors were great as usual with more table sponsors than we have ever had and more donors than we have ever had.

Many of our corporate table sponsors and donors have supported the chapter for years, and it makes our jobs so much easier. We really appreciate your support, and we do everything possible to make it an enjoyable evening. Our Redfish Bay Chapter Board and **John Blaha** continue to provide the legwork and effort to make the event a success – they deserve our appreciation also. Thanks again to all of those who make this event a success! Our next event is **Take a Kid Fishing on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.** There is registration and a shrimp boil on Friday night starting around 5:30 to 6 PM. Each kid gets a rod and reel of their very own. On Saturday, we weigh and measure the fish starting at 11:30 AM and have an awards ceremony around 1 PM. There are places behind **Woody's Sports Center** to fish off the docks; so, don't worry if you do not have a boat. Each kid gets a trophy – even if it is for the pinfish with the most spots

(or the unluckiest guide). There are hot dogs for lunch. This is a wonderful event, and is

enjoyed by all young fisherpersons! The only rule is that kids have fun.

The **Beeville Fish Fry** should be the Thursday before dove season – watch for the date announcement! For all veterans in the Coastal Bend area, the **Vets Fishing with Vets** event is **May 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>.** While this is not a CCA event, it is a chance to participate in a tournament and banquet in your honor. It is held at **Redfish Bay Boathouse on Conn Brown Harbor.** Please contact **Jan Moore**, 361-445-1974. Registration is \$25 for the tournament and banquet, to include the banquet meal. Volunteers are donating their time and boats to help vets fish – volunteers should call Jan also.

--**Norman Oates**

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

**Sabine-Neches  
Darin Johnson 409-502-1010**

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all who were affected by the floods. Sabine was muddy one day and gin clear (by our standards) the next. Fishing on Sabine and surrounding bodies of water have started to show signs of life again, and it can only get better.

Things within the chapter have cooled off for the moment, but that doesn't mean we aren't up to something. The fabled **Tri-Chapter Challenge (Sabine**



Neches vs. Orange County vs. Golden Triangle) is still getting all of the particulars worked out. When we have it buttoned up we will make the announcement. Stay tuned to Facebook and [www.ccatexas.org](http://www.ccatexas.org) for further details. Now that I'm done typing it's time to grab the kids, hook up the boat and head out for some aqua therapy! Tight lines to all! See you on the water! -**Darin M Johnson**

#### Sam Houston

**Brandon Kolaja 281-797-6908**

#### San Antonio

**Mike Sarosdy 210-863-7288**  
[urodoc@satx.rr.com](mailto:urodoc@satx.rr.com)

We had a great turnout for our third annual Hooked on Clays shoot at the National Shooting Complex on March 25th, with great weather and crawfish. Those that attended our Social Night Out two weeks later were treated to an excellent detailed presentation on the status of our fisheries by **Lance Robinson**, TPWD Coast Fisheries Director. And two lucky chapter members—**Jonathan Rehkopf** and **Vince Vita**—each won a rod and reel.

Our Annual Banquet on May 5th is behind us, and Kudos to Banquet Chair **Rick "HOOK-EM" Neitzel** and the hard-working chapter volunteers that pulled off another consecutive record-setting BIG event. Over 1800 enthusiastic conservation-minded supporters showed up for an event that sold out a week beforehand, and were treated to great food and expanded auctions and raffles. Special Thanks to our Platinum Sponsors: **IBC Bank, Academy Sports and Outdoors, Miller-Coors, Pabst/Lone Star, Anheuser-Busch, and Silver Eagle Distributors**. A Special Thanks also to our Gold and Silver Sponsors **Valero Energy, Glazers, Lone Star Paving, H+K Whitetails, Corona Beer, Water Exploration, Ben E. Keith, Forum Construction, Well-Med, and Martin Marietta**.

Thanks to "Capt. Camo" **Chris Smisek** and his team for a new and improved Live Auction, "Capt. Cocktail" **Tim Kiker** for a great Cutting Board Auction, and "Capt. Roberto" **Lozano** for another superb \$5 raffle. "Capt. Colonel" **Byron Buzzini's** Customized CCA Jeep was a hit, as were the Shallow Stalker boat from Gulf Coast Marine, The RV, the Jet Skis, the Silent Auction items, and all the guns.

Thanks also to **Derrick Howard** and his crew at the ATT Center and Freeman Expo Hall who have done much to help us over the years, and **Don Strange** Catering for over-the-top food and beverages.

And a very special thanks to all the volunteers that work hard on the Banquet Committee year round to make our banquet the best of its kind in San Antonio. **Mark your calendar for May 4, 2017 for the next big bash!**

The Inter Chapter Tournament is next, and we will field a team or two that will be the ones to beat. Watch your emails for news on social events, and we are beginning to work on a CCA Golf Tournament for the fall! Be safe, enjoy your time on the water, and take a kid fishing. —**Mike Sarosdy**

#### San Bernard

**Jayson Zahradnik 832-535-7738**  
[jayson.zahradnik@alleytonresource.com](mailto:jayson.zahradnik@alleytonresource.com)

#### San Gabriel

**John Melnar 512-497-8284**  
Get out your calendar and save August 4, and then call your fishing buddies and tell them to meet you at the Cedar Park Center for our 14th Annual Banquet. We are looking forward to our second event at the CPC. Last year's event exceeded our goals, however we are still aiming to grow our event this year again, so we need your help. Whether you would like to join our list of generous sponsors, purchase a reserved table with a group of your fishing buddies, or simply buy a single ticket at the door, the most important



*San Antonio president Michael Sarosdy remarks to Live Auction Chairman Chris Smisek that there is a certain resemblance in the Caldwell painting, "CPR The Big Girls."*

thing you can do to help support our chapter is attend this event and help spread the word.

If you would like more information on becoming a sponsor or purchasing a reserved table, please contact me or any other board member. We are always looking for more help with our banquet committee and we will need it as we grow this year. So please let me know if you would like to get involved.

I would also like to thank **Don Ross Hewlett** at Hewlett Chevrolet for once again stepping up to the plate and committing to be our Title Sponsor. If you are in the market for a vehicle, please go see Don Ross and his team.

I hope to see you all at the Cedar Park Center on Aug 4th! --**John Melnar 512-497-8284**

#### San Jacinto

**Jim Wilson 713-828-7639**

#### Southwestern

Welcome new president **Veronica Oliver**  
**830-765-6228**

#### TAMU

**Ian Kocher Mays Business School**  
**512-632-9222**  
[ikocher12@gmail.com](mailto:ikocher12@gmail.com)

*The 2016 San Antonio boat winner was Ralph Bradford. Ralph now has a lot of new Best Friends.*



**Texas State University**  
**Alex Limon 817-880-4044**  
[arlimon26@gmail.com](mailto:arlimon26@gmail.com)

#### Tomball/Magnolia

**Matt Maddox 281-770-7858**

We have been busy planning our upcoming banquet fundraiser. **This year's banquet as always will be at the Tomball VFW Hall on Thursday June 23rd, doors open at 6 PM.** Tickets can be purchased at the door, but we suggest you get hold of one of our chapter officers, as attendance has been growing over the last few years, and we are almost at capacity. On the menu this year will be fried catfish and shrimp with all the sides provided by **Catfish on Wheels**, so come hungry, as they are some of the best at keeping you swimsuit ready with their fried delights!

For table reservations, individual ticket sales, and raffle tickets please contact one of your Chapter Officers: Chapter President **Matthew Maddox: 832-571-7638** [matthew.maddox@usabldg.com](mailto:matthew.maddox@usabldg.com) / Chapter Vice President: **Wayne Ellison: 281-615-0347** [g.w.ellison@att.net](mailto:g.w.ellison@att.net) / Director of Hospitality and Balloon Animals: **Travis Slagle: 281-685-8232** [tslagle98@hotmail.com](mailto:tslagle98@hotmail.com) Best wishes --**Matt Maddox**

#### Tri-County

**Christian Hildebrand 830-534-2730**

#### Trinity Bay

**Gerald Payne 281-385-2894**

#### Trinity Valley

**John Hebert Jr 936-334-2528**

By the time you read this we will have held our 3rd annual Trinity Valley CCA Fishing Tournament. I can't wait to report how much fun everyone had and how many fish everyone caught. Our chapter continues to grow and we always welcome new faces. If you're not already a part of CCA, then we'd love for you to join us. If you would like more information please contact **Jennifer Creel** at 936-334-2314 or **John Hebert** at 936-334-2528. Hope to see you there! --**Jennifer Creel** [www.JennCreel.com](http://www.JennCreel.com)

#### West Houston

**Mike Ayers 832-248-9352**

#### West Texas

**Craig McDonnold 432-682-3499**

Greetings from the West Texas Chapter, located just a mere 500 miles from the brine. Despite current oil and gas prices, our banquet turnout was excellent. Special thanks to all our table sponsors that make our banquet possible.

I'd like to thank **Dean Angella** with **Energy Pipe and Equipment** and **Enviro Resources**, who came all the way from southern Louisiana to bring the west Texas boys some huge crawfish and shrimp. They were excellent gentlemen. Thanks to **Rusty Smith** for manning the BBQ pit all night for some delicious prime rib and port butts. Thanks to **Reece Boudreaux, Tyler Smith** and **Phoenix Services** for y'all's continued support of CCA. Your help is essential for a successful banquet each year. Tight lines --**Craig M. McDonnold**





# The 2016 Beach Cleanups

CCA members were volunteers in both programs.

## The 21st Big Shell Beach Cleanup

This year was record-setting. It featured good weather and great attitudes, which allowed 700 volunteers to remove 60 tons of trash from 18 miles of PINS. This is a one-of-a-kind event and it takes place in a wonderful kind of a place. It is considered the most successful cleanup of its kind in the USA. It is a wonderful way for parents to teach their children the importance and responsibility of caring for the great outdoors. —**Capt. Billy Sandifer**

## The 8th Port Mansfield Beach & Cut Cleanup

In spite of rough weather, PLAN B worked really well. We went to the beach with about 80 University of Houston Honors college kids and professors, and 30 of my CCA friends. We did about three miles of the beach and a small part of the Cut. Then, we cleaned all of the public parks and the water's edge of the harbor and the shoreline of Laguna Madre. I felt quite proud of our final results! —**Kathy Bassler**



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- Restoration of natural inlet processes

Quantifying the relationship between tidal inlets and juvenile fish populations is crucial to sustainable fish management along the Texas coast.

for more information:  
**sportfishresearch.org**  
info@sportfishresearch.org



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HARTE



*David Ainsworth Sr's Rolligon taking out the trash at the Big Shell Beach Cleanup. Right, a few of the many volunteers there.*

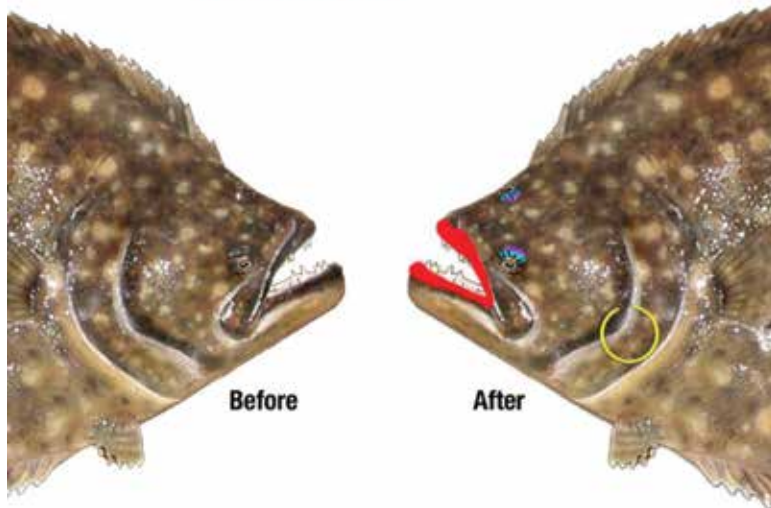
*Below left, a few of the Port Mansfield Beach & Cut volunteers. The Tee shirt art this year featured a photo by Redfish Bay's Norman Oates.*







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

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

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Method of Payment \$1,025.00

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Johnny's Sport Shop (101 Booth Dr., Eagle Lake, TX 77434) and Academy Sports + Outdoors have agreed to accept the CCA Texas Henry Life Member gun at all Texas stores, with no handling fee charge.

To have your gun delivered to Johnny's Sport Shop, contact Mike Grigar at (979) 234-3516.  
To have your gun delivered to Academy Sports + Outdoors, contact Mylinda Jones at (281) 646-5908, Candice Buckles at (281) 646-5777, or [CustomerFACompliance@academy.com](mailto:CustomerFACompliance@academy.com).

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

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Return this form to:

**CCATexas** | 6919 Portwest Dr., Ste. 100 | Houston, Texas 77024  
Phone 713.626.4222 | [kogonosky@ccatexas.org](mailto:kogonosky@ccatexas.org) | [www.CCATexas.org](http://www.CCATexas.org)





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## CURRENTS NEWSLETTER

June / July 2016

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## \$1.5 million CCA seed money planted for habitat

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Port Isabel: 956-761-2668  
Corpus Christi / Marine Safety Office:  
boating emergencies, chemical and  
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 anything  
you need to know about outdoor Tex-  
as, 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)

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MEMBER: \$30 \_\_\_\_\_ Membership card, decal, bumper sticker, Texas CURRENTS newsletter & TIDE magazine.  
ASSOCIATE: \$15 \_\_\_\_\_ Per each family member. All membership privileges except TIDE and CURRENTS.  
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: \_\_\_\_\_  
Same as above, plus "FREE" STAR Tournament entry. 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)