

# CURRENTS

February / March 2014



*Save Callinectes sapidus! And other  
marine life. Abandoned Crab Trap  
Removal Program coming up  
Feb. 21 - March 2*

# Leave it better than you found it

## *It's an old CCA tradition*

Abandoned Crab Traps, Big Shell Beach and East Cut Cleanup are on CCA agendas

**W**e exceeded the 30,000 trap mark last year. Woo hoo! Today, the total number of traps removed stands at 30,449 since the program began in 2002. The most removed from any gulf state!

Only 897 traps were removed from primary Galveston and San Antonio Bays in 2013, but that is good. When the program began in 2002, we removed nearly 10 times that amount, which shows how well the program has worked since its inception. We now can look out across the bay, shoot the flats, wade the shallows and not have to worry about encountering a derelict trap, thanks to the hundreds of volunteers that unselfishly gave a half day of their time and energy to protect our invaluable nature resources, so that all bay users can benefit.

**R**emoval of the traps not only removes unsightly marine debris, but saves countless marine organisms from the "ghost fishing" effects of these derelict traps. Providing sustenance to a variety of marine organisms throughout their lifespan, blue crabs benefit the most from the removal program. For each year a derelict trap

ghost fishes, six legal sized blue crabs succumb to the ghost fishing effects of these traps annually and if the 30,000 + traps removed killed six crabs/year and with 63% of the traps were in a fishing condition and each trap kills 26 crabs per year then nearly 500,000 blue crabs were saved.

And, that estimate is only for one of the 40 species that has been documented trapped in these derelict traps. Included in savings are most game fish species and species of special concern, like diamondback terrapins.

**M**any partners are required to make this program a success. From the local host sites, to organizations such as CCA, Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program, Galveston Bay Foundation, USFWS, local municipalities, cities, counties and numerous others each contributing significantly to the success of this program, now in its 13<sup>th</sup> year.

This year's closure will occur February 21st to March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The main

event day will be Saturday, February 22, from 8:00 to noon or so. While all sites will stand alone for the duration, some of the more popular sites

will be facilitated by TPWD staff or partners on that Saturday.

CCA is providing gloves for every volunteer and plenty of fresh water. Tarps will be available to those who wish to participate. Shallow draft boats, air boats and personnel will be needed to remove traps directly from the bay, while on shore there will be a need for volunteers to help unload vessels.

*Thanks again for the CCA's involvement. We look forward to working with you. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. — Art Morris*


*Fishery Outreach Specialist  
Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.  
Coastal Fisheries Division*

*6300 Ocean Drive Unit 5845  
Corpus Christi, TX 78412-5845  
Phone, 361- 825-3356  
art.morris@tpwd.texas.gov*

**This year's Abandoned Crab Trap Closure will begin on February 21 and run 10 days, through March 2.**

**O**ur main event day will be on Saturday the 16th. The site list has not been finalized at this time but will be similar to last year's list with the glaring exception of Conn Brown Harbor in Aransas Pass, which is undergoing renovation and will not be open to the public until sometime in March or April.

That site will likely move to Ransom Channel Park Public Ramp (Unattended site) also in Aransas Pass. Folks can contact their local coordinators as listed below or me for more information and assistance. Email [crabtrap@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:crabtrap@tpwd.state.tx.us) for any questions.

Drop off sites will look similar to those in years past. Contact your local TPWD Coastal Fisheries Division office for details on how you can help and email [crabtrap@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:crabtrap@tpwd.texas.gov) for more information. And as always, TPWD's Art Morris 361-825-3356 will be facilitating the event from his Corpus Christi office. 

*Ronnie Luster Sr., first winner of Field & Stream's top award, will always be known by his CCA friends as "The Crab Man."*



*Callinectes sapidus, the delectable blue crab, and other marine life will benefit from the Abandoned Crab Trap Removal Program.*

*Cover photo: Miller Bassler prepares a fine specimen of Callinectes for a Port Mansfield dinner. Sam Caldwell photo.*



## 19th Annual Billy Sandifer Big Shell Beach Cleanup, Feb. 22

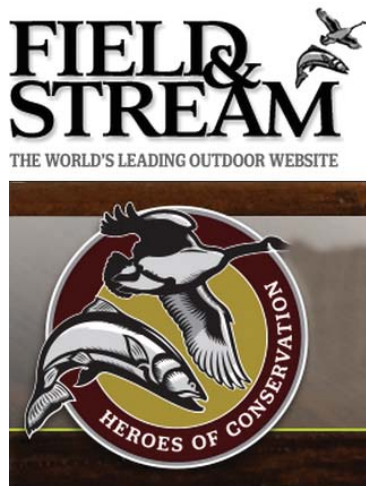
Attention volunteers!

2014 is here and that means the Billy Sandifer Big Shell Beach Cleanup is around the corner. This cleanup can not happen without the help of our volunteers and your help is needed again.

Volunteers will meet at Malaquite Pavilion on PINS and the event will commence at 7 a.m. All volunteers will be back at the pavilion by 2 pm. Four wheel drive vehicles, trailers for hauling trash in and out of the work area, and working volunteers are needed. Walking volunteers (those arriving in two wheel drive vehicles) are welcome and will be afforded transportation to and from the work area. Those having four-wheel drive vehicles are welcome to aid in hauling volunteers and trash. The event will not be rescheduled and will take place rain or shine.

Snacks, water, and soft drinks will be available in the work area and refreshments will be available at Malaquite following the event. *Long pants and sturdy foot wear are recommended. Volunteers will receive event t-shirts.* This is a worthy event and it's only possible because of volunteer participation. Please come and join us. —*Friends of Padre*

*Capt. Billy Sandifer and newsman David Sikes discuss the 20th cleanup at dawn. Sandifer began the program of cleaning Padre Island's Big Shell beach 24 years ago.*



## Heroes of Conservation

National Sports Afield  
awards now include four  
CCA-Texas members.

**Ronnie Luster**  
2006

*The first recipient of  
the Top Award*

**Capt. Billy Sandifer**  
2009  
*Finalist*

**Miller and Kathie Bassler**  
2014  
*Now in the Finals*

## 6th Annual Port Mansfield East Cut & Beach Cleanup, March 15.

### *The Basslers: Filming of Hero for a Day*

Field & Stream film crew focusses on Port Mansfield as the Basslers marshal resources for their Sixth Beach and East Cut cleanup.

Last year was a tremendous success, thanks in large part to all the CCA members who cleaned a huge area of the Mansfield East Cut and PINS beach.

Join us again for lots of fun and a collector T shirt. We'll start at 7 am, the Port Mansfield CC Pavilion where breakfast will be served. A free box lunch will also be provided. Afterwards, enjoy drinks and Texas chili at PELICAN'S PUB.

We could use some boat captains willing to provide ferry service. Free housing will be provided by our generous sponsors on an availability basis with priority given to youth groups of any kind. —**Miller and Kathy Bassler**

979-535-4593, or cell phones 979-204-5185 or 979-324-5555. For photos from last year's event, go to the YouTube site below. Music included by Craig Carter! Type this url into your browser: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TX1321HA8vI>

*Miller and Kathie Bassler took the trashing of a favorite place, the East Cut and Padre Island beach personally. As of Feb. 1, they are Finalists and in the running for Field & Stream's top award.*







## 25th Anniversary Celebration!

Happy New Year, STAR Anglers! As we gear up for another fun fishing season, we're thrilled to inform our members the CCA Texas STAR Tournament will celebrate its Silver Anniversary! Can you believe it!!!! In the past twenty-five years, we have been amazed over how much this fun, wholesome, summer-long, family event has grown and the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary CCA Texas STAR promises to shine bigger and better than ever in 2014! This could be your year to claim one of over \$1,000,000 in prizes and scholarships! Starting sunrise Saturday, May 24 through 5 p.m., Monday, Sept. 1 (Labor Day), anglers from all across the great Lone Star State can once again begin the summer-long quest to try and win one of many truck/boat packages, boat packages and scholarships. SPOOL UP AND GET READY! This is YOUR event, and one of our goals has always been to keep the tournament fee as cheap as possible while still being able to offer such monster prizes and scholarships. Thanks to our wonderful sponsors, we have been able to do so for the last 24 years. With this year's event on the horizon, we want to encourage anglers to register now before a potential increase to the 2014 entry fee. As you start making plans, be on the lookout in your mailbox. Our great partner, Academy Sports + Outdoors, will be sending all current CCA Texas members a \$10 coupon around May. We also want to remind you to take advantage of all the other great Early Bird and Member incentives available to CCA Texas STAR participants. Be sure and register now to make the Early Bird Drawing! Please see below for more details:

**CCA Texas/STAR Platinum Print Membership Package, Series IV** – We're pleased to announce the new print being offered for the 2014 CCA Texas STAR Platinum package is *Working the Spoils*. Renowned artist David Drinkard has again honored the CCA Texas member by creating a print depicting a classic wade fishing scene... check out the Great White Heron! This special offer includes your CCA membership (new or renewal), your 2014 CCA Texas STAR entry, plus a signed, limited-edition print created exclusively for STAR, all for \$125! *Working the Spoils* is a one-of-a-kind special print worth this price alone. If you would like to consider one, or several, of these limited-edition packages, go to: <http://www.startournament.org> more details or to place your order with the STAR Dept., call (713) 626-4222. See images, page 5.

**STILL AVAILABLE...** CCA Texas STAR Platinum Print, Series I, II & III – *STAR Reds*, *STAR Sightings* & *School Is In Session* are still available. If you



2014 Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" XLT SuperCab with Haynie 23 Bigfoot, the Redfish Division prize.

## 2014 STAR Early Bird Drawing

Deadline to enter is May 23

### GRAND PRIZE

Dargel 210 Skout, Mercury 150 Motor and McClain Trailer  
(must be at 21 years old to win boat prize package)

### 20 MORE GREAT PRIZES

9.9 hp Kicker Motor  
Three (3) All-Star Rod & Abu-Garcia Reel Combos  
Thermo-Electric Travel Cooler & Warmer  
Fifteen (15) CCA Special Edition Posters



Terry Ray of Orange was the lucky winner of the Coors Light "Early Bird" Grand Prize - Dargel 210 Skout boat, motor and McClain trailer

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 this first-ever commemorative piece, purchase yours today before they're all gone! The proceeds from the sales of Platinum Packages will help us continue to fund the STAR scholarships.

**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 **2014 TEXAS STAR entrant**. The **STAR tournament entry fee** is still an awesome bargain at **only \$20** for ages 18 and up! Membership fee is \$25 annually, plus \$20 STAR Tournament for a total of \$45. In order to win at STAR, an angler must be registered and be a current member of CCA. You know you'll go so might as well do it now! Remember, everyone entered in the STAR Tournament, who will be 6 years old in 2014 and older, is eligible to win the prizes being offered (even the **TAGGED REDFISH DIVISION**)!!! Get everyone signed up for the **2014 STAR**. Be sure

and enter now to take advantage of some great early bird incentives... see details below.

### YOUNG ANGLERS FISH FOR FREE!

Speaking of bargains, for young anglers ages 6-17, the "New Tide" membership fee remains \$10 annually and the STAR entry fee is **FREE!!!** Of course, we want **all** kids on the water. CCA "New Tide" members will continue to have the opportunity to win giant scholarships to fund their college education for just the price of a \$10 CCA "New Tide" Membership. We thank our generous sponsors for making it possible for us to offer young anglers this great opportunity. **Keep in mind, signing up as a "New Tide" membership DOES NOT automatically register member in STAR.** "New Tide" Members **MUST BE at least 6 years of age in 2014 to be eligible to fish STAR and under age 18 to enter for FREE.** It is the "New Tide" Member's responsibility to register each year for STAR.

### 2014 EARLY BIRD DRAWINGS

- We will again offer some great incentives for anglers to sign up before

the tournament starts. Don't forget to sign up ahead of time and get your shot at landing one of the many great prize offerings just for registering early. Your early registration into the 2014 CCA Texas STAR Fishing Tournament qualifies you to win the perfect rig to get you to your favorite fishing spot in style. The Coors Light "Early Bird" Promotion will again offer another awesome "grand prize" boat package! The awesome Dargel 210 Skout with a Mercury 150 motor and McClain trailer – a prize package valued at around \$35,000! Everyone ages 21 and over that signs up **now through May 23<sup>rd</sup>** will automatically be entered into this special drawing, along with the 20 other great prizes being offered. Everyone age 20 and under that signs up **now through May 23<sup>rd</sup>** will automatically be entered for the 20 other great "Early Bird" prizes.

Don't miss "the boat" or "the truck and boat"... register today! You can sign up **NOW** online at [www.ccatexas.org](http://www.ccatexas.org) or [www.startournament.org](http://www.startournament.org)!!!

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

- 🔥 Ford X-Plan Pricing (see details on page 5)
- 🔥 \$10 gift coupon courtesy of Academy Sports and Outdoors (see details on page 5)
- 🔥 Texas Fish & Game Magazine subscription (see details on page 5)
- 🔥 \$1000 worth of free upgrades with your purchase of a new Tilson home (see ad on page 23)



**BEST IN TEXAS**

**FORD X-PLAN PRICING** - CCA Texas members have been remarkably honored by the Texas Ford Dealers. They approved X-Plan pricing for us; that is, every current member can buy (or lease) any Ford product at the *same price Ford employees must pay*. This means we can save up to **\$1,000 or much more**, just by having a valid **\$25 CCA membership card!!!** Our Ford Partner Code # is **CCA 61**; go to [www.fordpartner.com](http://www.fordpartner.com), if you are considering a purchase.

**SIGN-UP EARLY AND RECEIVE A SPECIAL BONUS FROM ACADEMY SPORTS & OUTDOORS** - One more great reason to sign up! Academy Sports + Outdoors will mail a \$10 gift coupon in May just in time for fishing season!

This is a limited time offer, so do it before it's too late!!! Special thanks to Academy Sports + Outdoors for continuing to make your CCA membership and STAR entry such an awesome value!



**TEXAS FISH & GAME "BONUS" SUBSCRIPTION!!!** - Texas Fish & Game will again honor this year's STAR entrants with a **ONE-YEAR** (12 issues) subscription to Texas

**Fish & Game Magazine**. Please be advised your subscription **WILL NOT be sent automatically**. If you wish to take advantage of this special bonus you must declare on your application form. If you have already signed up for the 2014 STAR, but did not declare that you would like this special offer and/or have questions regarding your past or current subscription, please call (713) 626-4222 or email [star@startournament.org](mailto:star@startournament.org).



**2014 PRIZE LINE-UP** - This year's contestants have a chance at winning over 100 prizes including trucks, boats, motors, trailers and college scholarships in the following categories:

**Texas Ford Dealers Redfish Division** - Texas Ford Dealers continue to make this division the "Best in Texas"! They will again give each of the first five 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 2014 Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" truck. Haynie Boats returns with the awesome Haynie 23 Bigfoot 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 college scholarship, in lieu of the truck.

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

**Offshore Division** - Blue water anglers who land the heaviest kingfish, dorado and ling (cobia) will each win an awesome boat prize to cruise the big waters along with a Mercury 150 motor and McClain trailer.

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

In the past eighteen years, STAR has awarded \$4,925,000 in college scholarships to 154 fisher-kids across the state, ranging from 6-17 years of age and 2014 continues to offer plenty of reason for everyone to round up their kid(s), a rod and reel and head for the water.

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

**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.

**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 **\$20,000** college scholarship for each fisher-teen with the largest trout in the upper, middle and lower coasts. **SPECIAL NOTE:** The minimum weight requirement for the trout is six pounds. 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 scholarship division is open to all New Tide members ages 11-17 and awards a **\$20,000** college scholarship for each fisher-teen with the largest flounder, gafftop and sheephead statewide.

But Wait, There's More...

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

**"New Tide" Member Drawing** - The "New Tide" Scholarship Drawing will be offered again in 2014. "NewTide" STAR participants at least, 6 - 17 years old in 2014, are eligible for a bonus drawing that will net one lucky youth a \$20,000 college scholarship even if the participant never wets a line or enters a single fish during the entire tournament.

**Member Bonus Drawing** - This unique drawing offers STAR entrants a chance to win a fabulous boat prize package even if the participant never wets a line. One lucky contestant's name will be drawn to win a model with a Dargel 210TV boat, Mercury 150hp outboard and McClain trailer.

Please don't forget to thank our wonderful sponsors for their loyal support... return the favor by remembering them when making your purchasing decisions. They make this wonderful family event possible. Major sponsors for the 25th Annual CCA Texas STAR Tournament include:

**Texas Ford Dealers, Tilson Home Corporation, Capital Farm Credit, Academy Sports + Outdoors, Whataburger, Ozarka, Berkley Gulp, Houston Community Newspapers, Fox Sports Southwest, Time Warner Cable, Haynie Boats, Shoalwater Boats, Dargel Boat, Blue Wave Boats, Texas Fish & Game Magazine, , Texas Oilman's Charity Fishing Tournament, Coastline Trailers, McClain Trailers, Chris's Marine and Mt. Houston Marine.**



**NOW AVAILABLE...2014 STAR Platinum Print Series: Working The Spoils.**

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The proceeds from the sales of Platinum Packages will help us continue to fund the STAR scholarships. Thanks for supporting CCA Texas and the STAR Tournament!

If you would like to consider one, or several, of these limited-edition packages, go to:

<http://www.startournament.org> more details or to place your order with the STAR Dept., call (713) 626-4222.



STAR has reached  
**\$4,925,000** 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.



## A few recent STAR Youth Scholarship Winners



Caleb Morales, 2<sup>nd</sup> Redfish – \$20,000 Scholarship and boat winner with John Savickis of Texas Ford Dealers.



Nicholas Gilstrap - Capital Farm Credit StarKid Scholarship Flounder winner and Josh Krupa of Capital Farm Credit.



Sarah Otto – StarTeen Middle Coast Trout winner and Patti Keeper of Academy Sports + Outdoors.



Grant Drabek, StarTeen Flounder winner and Richard Webb of Tilson Homes Corp.



*We want you to fish for us!*



CCA Texas and the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) are looking for vol-



unteers to help with fishing surveys for the East Galveston Bay Reef Restoration project. It's critical to have data before and after. You can be that important Fishing Scientist.

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

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

The fishing periods will be seasonal times during the months of June to August, then September to November, December to February and March to May.

Pre-construction efforts through the end of 2013, and post-construction efforts will take place beginning June 2014 through 2015.

For more information regarding how you can Fish for Science, contact: Bill Rodney, (TPWD), at 281-534-0127, [Bill.Rodney@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Bill.Rodney@tpwd.texas.gov). Or, Bryan Legare@tpwc.texas.gov. Or, John Blaha, CCA Texas at 713-626-4222 [jdblaha@ccatexas.org](mailto:jdblaha@ccatexas.org).



**CCA Texas Launches New Online Store!** Visit the CCA Texas Online Store at [joincca.store.com](http://joincca.store.com)



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Editor, Sam Caldwell / [sam@samcaldwell.com](mailto:sam@samcaldwell.com)  
This is the issue of February/March 2014  
Vol. 32, Issue 2

## Welcome to the CCA Texas Online Auction

*Sponsored By Costa Del Mar*

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

*Available online 11 am, February 16,  
ends February 21 at 11 am.*

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

### CCA Custom Metal Tacker -

The CCA Metal Tacker would be a great addition to any beach house or man cave! This large vintage sign is branded with CCA Texas and is straight from our inventory into your home. As always every dollar spent with the CCA Online Auction is going to preserve fishing as we know it for future generations.



### NEW ITEMS! CCA-branded 48 qt Igloo Cooler and 4 Custom Tervis

Tumblers— Want something new and fresh from CCA? How about this great combination of a Cooler and great Tervis Tumblers. Both of these items are made custom for CCA and can only be bought through CCA. Get ready for all those great outdoor parties and fishing trips coming up this year by having this awesome package.



*Sponsored by our  
friends at Costa.*



## Great Foods / Food Editor Ellen Ohmstede **OYSTERS ROCKEFELLER**

*Celebrate this 2014 with oysters! They are great right now.*

This is an adaptation of a recipe from the Jr. League of Baton Rouge River Roads Recipes. If you don't have oyster shells you can use ramekins.

4 dozen oysters  
4 packs of frozen spinach (cook in microwave and drained)  
1 bunch green onion  
2 stalks celery / 1 bunch parsley  
2-3 t anise seed (slightly crushed)  
3 T Worcestershire sauce  
3-4 sticks butter melted  
2-3 T anchovy paste  
1 t salt / 1 t pepper  
Dash of Tabasco / 1 1/2 cups breadcrumbs / 1 box Rock salt

Preheat oven to 450.

For the sauce: Blend all greens in the food processor using butter as a liquefier. Add all seasonings and 3/4 cups breadcrumbs (Saving the rest for topping). Puree to smooth thick paste. Season to taste. Set aside.

For the oysters: Drain oysters from their liquid. Spread on a cookie sheet and bake in oven for 5-10 minutes or until the edges curl. The goal is to preheat the oysters and remove even more liquid.

Assembly: using rock salt, make a sturdy base on another cookie sheet. Place either oyster shells or ramekins on rock salt. Fill shells or ramekins with preheated oysters. Then cover with a generous helping of room temperature spinach mixture. Place in oven for 10-12 minutes until heated through and bubbling. Remove from oven, sprinkle with extra breadcrumbs and bake a few more minutes until breadcrumbs are slightly browned. Serve with lemon wedges and toast points!



*Wrong-  
eyed  
flounder  
on CCA  
cover.  
To Billy  
Blackwood,  
AKA Cap-  
tain  
Blackie:*

*You caught me. As a magazine designer, I always want a cover image with the subject looking INTO the magazine. Enjoy your rare right-eyed flounder.*



*Pauline Osborn has been sending some Great Wildlife Photos. Now, here's The Castnetter.*



# Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow

## BUILDING A FUTURE FOR TEXAS MARINE HABITAT

### Going Viral CCA Texas conservation projects are now on YouTube


By John Blaha and Kim Ogonosky

CCA Texas's Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow (HTFT), continues to play a very active role in the restoration and creation of coastal habitat along the Texas coast. Since the program's inception in 2009, over \$3.4 million has been committed to this important restoration and creation work through twenty projects to date.

These projects include marsh and oyster reef restoration and creation in the bays of Texas; nearshore reefing projects in Freeport, Matagorda, Port O'Connor, Corpus Christi, and Port Mansfield; water inflow management work; and bay debris removal projects.

In 2013, CCA Texas staff has taken the next step to show its membership and the general public exactly what HTFT is doing. You can now visit [www.ccatexas.org](http://www.ccatexas.org) and click on the **Conservation tab**. There you will see the "Project Videos" link where you will be able to view all the great work of HTFT. To date, there are four great projects highlighted with video productions that include interviews with CCA staff and members, project partners, and the general recreational fishing public talking about the benefits of these projects and what is being done to complete them. This is an excellent opportunity for you to see how dollars raised in Texas are being used in Texas.

The benefits of your support and the efforts of CCA Texas' volunteer chapter boards are invaluable to the restoration and creation of coastal habitat along the Texas Gulf coast.

For more information, contact Kim Ogonosky [kogonosky@ccatexas.org](mailto:kogonosky@ccatexas.org) or John Blaha [jdblaha@ccatexas.org](mailto:jdblaha@ccatexas.org). Be sure to follow CCA Texas on **YouTube** and see all the great work being done for the Texas coast. 

### Corpus Christi Nearshore Reefing Project

Nearshore is the key word. **From the YOUTUBE VIDEO** These pyramids are being deployed in Corpus Christi. There are 470 pyramids, and these will be deployed offshore in a TPWD permitted reefing site. This site is lo-

cated within Texas state waters approximately 11 miles from the Packery Channel Jetties and 12 miles from the Port Aransas Jetties. These pyramids along with other materials deployed will provide critical marine habitat for marine species, in particular red snapper and other fish species that are sought by recreational fishermen. It's going to be a great fishing spot easily accessible for recreational fishermen who want to fish offshore!

### Oyster Lake Stabilization, Phase 1

**From the YOUTUBE VIDEO:** "Some of the most severely eroded shoreline along West bay..."

Phase 1 of the Oyster Lake Stabilization Project is

funded in Part by CCA Texas Dollars. The project is under the direction of the Galveston Bay Foundation. Phase 1 is the creation of 500 feet of protection.



### Dickinson Bayou seed harvesting

**From the YOUTUBE VIDEO**

Cultivating the seeds collected for the Dickinson Bayou Marsh Restoration project with

Texas Parks and Wildlife and NRCS.



### Aransas Bay Oyster Reef Restoration

**From the YOUTUBE VIDEO**

From Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi 8-Acre Oyster Reef Restoration Funded in Part by CCA Texas and CCA Building Conservation Trust, with support from Shell Oil Company.

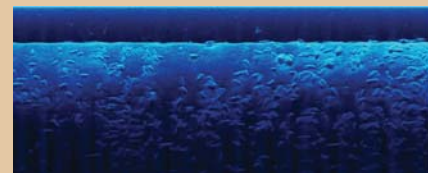


### Next Currents: Nearshore Reefing, advanced

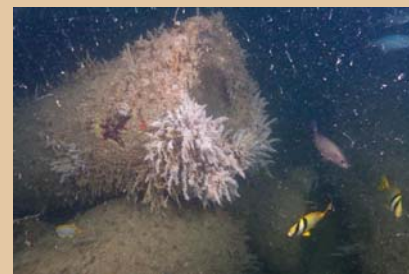
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Assistant Professor  
Biological Sciences

University of Texas at Brownsville

State of the art in reefing: A look at the ongoing nearshore reefing projects. Difference in fish populations (both in number of individuals and species) between the very dense clusters of culverts vs. ones that are spread far apart with only 3-4 in a group. What do the structures look like at depth? Hopefully, we'll have some visuals by the April/May Currents.



Side Scan sonar: many concrete items deployed. Below: Reef life on just one small concrete reef object.



Please welcome a new staffer to CCA-Texas. Kim Ogonosky is the Manager of Social Media and Administration at CCA Texas. She received an M.A. in Public Communications from Fordham University, where she interned with the United Nations and filmed a documentary in Africa about BRAC, a nongovernmental organization working to end poverty in developing countries. Prior to moving back to her hometown of Houston, Kim was an Adjunct Professor at Fordham and a Freelance Editorial Assistant for Frommer's Caribbean Ports of Call Guide Book.







# Special Gift for New LIFE MEMBERS

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

Your \$1,000 tax-deductible life membership in CCA will help us continue our important coastal conservation work in Texas. Supporters like you allow our team to work at our State Capitol and on our coast everyday to ensure the long-term well-being of our critical marine resources.

Together with Simms Fishing Products, we strive to secure that the wonderful fishing we enjoy across our coast today is available for generations to come. **Thank you for your continued support of CCA.**

## CCA Life Member APPLICATION

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

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

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Signature

Or print this form and send to:

**CCA**Texas | 6919 Portwest Dr., Ste. 100 | Houston, Texas 77024  
Phone 713.626.4222 | Fax 713.961.3801 | [www.CCATexas.org](http://www.CCATexas.org)



## Upper Coast

By Capt. Ralph Frazier

### *Presentation is critical now*

As 2013 ended and 2014 began, we had some extremely cold temperatures. Fortunately, they came often enough to stage the fish near deep water which may have prevented a fish kill.

As February comes chilling in, the fish will be stacking up in six to eight feet of water, but NEAR shallow water. Through February and into the winds of March, some true winter hotspots should pay off. Top choices for cold, breezy days are the Blue Hole in Offatts Bayou, Chocolate Bayou and Halls Bayou. Check your map and look for the coves in West Bay that have guts in them. Be sure to slow your retrieve, and remember that during these generally cold months, presentation is critical. Try to remember exactly what you were doing when you got that last strike.

**Be safe** is the number one rule for these winter months. It's best to layer your clothes; overwarm and water resistant on top, warm in the middle, and cooler garb for the days when the sun decides to get you too warm. After all, this is Texas.

Another rule: numbers may not be large, but this is the time of year when you catch one to go on the wall. And, when the catching is great, consider the resource and send some back for the next trip. — **Capt Ralph Frazier**  
281-337-0321 [ralph2fish@aol.com](mailto:ralph2fish@aol.com)

## Middle Coast

By Capt. Kenneth Hauff, Jr.

### *Cold or not, go fish!*

I look for this early winter pattern to continue into the next couple of months. During February and into late March, both Matagorda Bay West and East will be good destinations for those cold, windy days when you're gonna go, regardless.

There are some excellent charts and maps that can help even the old salt locate good locations. When drift fishing East Matagorda Bay, you want to stay over mud bottom in the early morning and really cold times.

Later on a cold day, or after temperatures have risen for a while, you can move to mud and shell mix. Check the chart, if you're not sure about the underwater terrain.

Late February and into March, on more pleasant days, wade fisherman can have good luck wading out from the shoreline and casting out to soft bottom. I have had good success with the new Norton Sand Shads, drifting and wading. I will also continue hitting the Colorado River, when the water temperatures stay low. Of course, you will know before you go, dress warm, maintain all safety precautions, and remember that the fish belong to all of us. Be courteous, and you'll find that the other guy will do the same.

I will be rigging out my new El Pescador Cat in February. Come take a ride! — **Captain Kenneth Hauff, Jr.** 979-240-3614 [saltgrasslodge.com](http://saltgrasslodge.com)

## Lower Coast

By Capt. Mike Lowe

*Top waters early, then red/white plastics*  
February can be fine, even when windy and chilly, but March is one of my favorite times of the year. Warming weather, sunny days, and waderless wades, (when we can) make for some good times on the water.

Along with the rising air temperature, warmer waters bring game fish out of the depths and onto the flats. It's hard to pick a favorite spot to fish this time of year because they all can be good. I definitely like going south. Green Island can hold good trout.

Wherever, I like throwing small top waters early and then switch to 1/8 ounce jig heads with red/white sand eel juniors. As always, be looking for nervous bait as you come into the area.

A lot of times I just like running the flats, scouting for the red fish herds. There is no rhyme or reason where they might be. When you do find them, don't shut down on top of the schools. Continue past the herds and circle back. They will usually form back together. Get out of the boat, throw gold spoons and be quiet when you're chasing them. Pick at the edges of the schools so you don't spook them and you should have success.

On a different note: One of Port Mansfield's local guides and a close personal find of mine, Capt. Jeff Neu was in a bad accident last month, breaking his leg in two places. For those of you that don't know Jeff, he is an asset to the fishing community and an excellent outdoorsman. Prayers go out to him and his family. Safe Boating and tight lines,  
— **Capt. Mike Lowe** 713-818-1296

*Abandoned crab traps waitin g for disposal, February 2009. Many fewer traps are expected this year, but as Art Morris says, that's the good news.*





# CCA Texas Social Happenings

We hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season! CCA Texas is excited to continue spreading the news of our conservation efforts through our various social media outlets. To view videos of our current projects, please visit [www.ccatexas.org/conservation/habitat/project-videos](http://www.ccatexas.org/conservation/habitat/project-videos).

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

## Facebook

Christopher Hoefling submitted this photo of Kirsten Hoefling with her first flounder, which was taken in Sabine Pass. Great job Kirsten!



## Twitter

1 Nov  
@HRIfoundation:  
@CCA\_Texas The Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation @HarteResearch officially approved by Texas A&M System.  
[thefishingwire.com/story/303107](http://thefishingwire.com/story/303107)

## Instagram

Out picking seeds in Dickinson, TX for Smooth Cordgrass Seed Harvesting with TPWD and GBF today!



CCA Texas on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/CCATexas](http://www.facebook.com/CCATexas)

CCA Texas on Twitter:  
[www.twitter.com/CCA\\_Texas](http://www.twitter.com/CCA_Texas)

CCA Texas on Instagram:  
[www.instagram.com/ccatexas](http://www.instagram.com/ccatexas)



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# Chapter Updates

Alvin-Pearland  
Rex Richards 281-923-3050

Aransas Bay  
Carter Crigler 435-830-5984  
[jccrigler@hotmail.com](mailto:jccrigler@hotmail.com)

Happy New Year! Can you believe it, bids were opened in December and the contract for the Cedar Bayou/Vinson Slough Restoration Project was awarded in early January 2014! We cannot wait for the start of the project in April. The Aransas Bay Chapter would like to give a special thanks to those individuals, corporations and organizations that have supported the project for all those years that it took to get to this point. Needless to say we are looking forward to a great year for our chapter and for CCA Texas.

By the time you read this, registration for **Babes on the Bay XV** will have been in progress for a full month. As stated in the previous issue, online registration will be used exclusively to sign up for Babes on the Bay XV. Please visit the site [www.babesonthebay.com](http://www.babesonthebay.com) and review the registration process to determine if you have any questions. The last day for regular registration is 4/15/2014. All registrations received after this date and prior to the 4/30/2014 cutoff date will pay a late registration fee of \$110. If you have questions, contact **Karol Scardino**, tournament director, at 361-386-0028.

Mark your calendars: May 16-17, 2014: Babes on the Bay / August 9, 2014: Aransas Bay Chapter Banquet. Tight lines, —Carter

Austin  
Scott Sanderson  
512-637-1750

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

May 8th, 2014. Save that date because you do not want to miss the 2014 Austin banquet. We are celebrating the Coral Anniversary of the Austin chapter and it will be memorable.

The 35th Annual banquet calls for something special and that's what your Austin board will offer up. There are too many new and exciting additions in store for the evening to list here,



The Austin boat: Sincere thanks to Burt Watts and Denbow Construction, our boat sponsors, and Wes at Shallow Sport Boats and Marty at Coastline Trailers for making this special rig possible.



MidCoast's fully loaded banquet boat



RG's 2014 210 Dargel Skout

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

but suffice it to say we promise this year will be even better than ever before. There's nothing like it in Austin. We look forward to seeing you there! Table and ticket information is available at [www.ccaatexas.org](http://www.ccaatexas.org).

Austin's 2014 banquet boat has arrived and raffle tickets are on sale now. Simply put, this is the nicest boat we have ever offered and she's loaded with more upgrades than ever before. This Sport model from Shallow Sport has all of the upgrades, plus a few bonuses: a casting platform and black aluminum work, and it all sits on a Coastline Custom trailer. It's truly stunning. You can see it in person as usual at Cabela's in Buda or get an early look at Anglers' Night Out.

Every year tickets sell out well before the banquet so get yours now. There's even an early bird drawing for a Laguna Custom Rod and Shimano Curado. Tickets are \$100 and only 600 will be sold. You can buy online at [www.ccaatexas.org](http://www.ccaatexas.org), pick up an order form at the Cabela's fishing counter, contact our Boat Captain

Blake Masters at [blakeatc@gmail.com](mailto:blakeatc@gmail.com), or just scan this code now!

SCANIMAGE

Be sure and join us for our Anglers' Night Out events. In 2013 our speaker lineup included Dr. Greg Stunz, GLO Commissioner Jerry Patterson, Capt. Billy Trimble, CCA Executive Director Robby Byers and Capt. Jay Watkins! And we'll keep it going in 2014.

Keep up with everything on our Facebook page, Coastal Conservation Association-Austin Chapter or at [www.ccaatexas.org](http://www.ccaatexas.org). Best wishes for an outstanding 2014 and see you May 8th! -- Scott Sanderson [scott@mbsquoteline.com](mailto:scott@mbsquoteline.com)

Bay Area  
Curtis Anderson 832-421-6377



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- Water resistant 840D poly construction

**29<sup>99</sup>**

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Style FSH2FC1000

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- 7-ft. medium action rod
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8 lb./170 yds.

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Half-Pint Bucket**





**Brazoria County**  
**Wes Dingee 979-299-8245**

**We'll be holding our annual fundraising banquet on Thursday, March 20. We have a new location this year at the Dow Academic Center at Brazosport College** to allow additional attendees since we have had to turn away people at the door in previous years.

There are many banquet sponsorship opportunities from underwriting to auction items to table sponsorships. Let one of the board members know if you'd like to be a sponsor or if you want to become more involved in the chapter. Call **Dan Johnson** at (979) 481-3907, **Wes Dingee** (979) 299-8245, **Kyle Harris** at (979) 798-2429 or **Glenn Blount** at (979) 236-1700. — **Wes Dingee**

**Brazos Valley**  
**John Ben Strother 979-220-1738**  
[jbsunlimited@yahoo.com](mailto:jbsunlimited@yahoo.com)

Happy New Year to the 50,000+ CCA members in the great State of Texas. This will be a banner year for CCA and Conservation because we are involved in so many states. The Brazos Valley Chapter is ready because this is our 22nd year to be associated with CCA. We are kicking off the New Year with a GM on January 14th at **Vor-Tex 2310 Cavitt in Bryan at 6:30 pm.**

We would like to invite all CCA members in the Brazos Valley to attend this meeting. Our Assistant Director, **Drew Adams** will be there and we will discuss the "new ideas" for the banquet. As always, we would like to see some new faces at this meeting because there is always food, beverages, and a lot of fish stories. Hope to see you there and, I'd like to extend an invitation to other chapters to attend our banquet. If you need more information give me a call, text or e-mail. — **John Ben Strother**

**Brenham**  
**Dennis Crowson**  
**979-451-2472**

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

We'll meet on Thursday, January 23rd at **Mike Hopkins Distributing** starting at 6:30 pm. Please plan on joining fellow fishermen and conservationists for an enjoyable evening of fish tales, fellowship, and refreshments. This month's guest speaker is **Michael Bosse** who will be discussing this year's flounder run as well as tactics he has used successfully for deep water jetty redfish.

**Please save the date for this year's annual crawfish boil on April 24th.** This will be the chapter's 20th anniversary fundraiser and are looking for it to be the biggest and best. For questions or more information contact **Dennis Crowson** at 979-451-2472 or [Dennis.crowson@hotmail.com](mailto:Dennis.crowson@hotmail.com). Thanks — **Dennis**

**Brush Country**  
**Hank Henry 361-215-6803**  
**Centex**  
**Brad Hensel 254-776-3411**

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

We're looking forward to great things in 2014. We had such a great response to our boat raffle in 2013 we've decided to do it again. This year we are raffling off a 22' Mowdy with a 175 HP Suzuki 4-stroke. The boat and engine will be sitting on a Coastline trailer.

**The 38th Annual Central Houston Banquet will be held on May 1, 2014.** If you are interested in becoming involved in the Central Houston Chapter or purchasing raffle tickets, please con-

tact **Todd Buster** at [tbuster@busterandcogdellbuilders.com](mailto:tbuster@busterandcogdellbuilders.com)  
Tight Lines! — **Todd Buster**

**Colorado Valley**  
**James Loehr 979-250-3958**

Greetings from the Colorado Valley Chapter! We hope everyone had a fantastic fall fishing experience. Our chapter is busy meeting and planning for our general membership meeting which is scheduled for **January 30th at the EH kitchen located in the Fair Grounds in LaGrange.** It should be a fun evening with refreshments and a guest speaker. Please do not hesitate to come and join us for a great and informative evening.

The board is also very busy planning our **banquet which will be held on Thursday March 27th at the K of C Hall in LaGrange.** Please keep this date on your calendar. We hope to continue the terrific success we experienced last year. Please call if anyone would like to participate in any capacity such as a committee or board member. For more information call **James Loehr** at 979-250-3958 or **Eugene Ulrich** at 979-249-7425. Wishing "bent rods and tight lines" to all!  
— **James Loehr**



*East Texas Kid Fish winners—the little dude left front and center with two rod and reel packages had both the biggest fish and the smallest— 1.1 lb and 0.1 lb.*

**Corpus Christi**  
**Randy Poelma 361-851-1129**  
[r\\_poelmacpa@sbcglobal.net](mailto:r_poelmacpa@sbcglobal.net)

Happy New Year - Hope 2014 brings you prosperity and a lot of time on the water.

We are in banquet mode as this article is being published. **The 36th Annual Dinner Banquet is scheduled for March 20, 2014 at the American Bank Convention Center.** The banquet will start at 5:30 pm with cocktail hour and then on to the raffles and auctions. Our Banquet Chairman is **Jake Herring** and his supporting committee members are: **David Harris** - Live Auction, **Barrett Fines** - Blackboard Auction Chairman, **Joseph Briones** - Boat Chairman, **John Fry** - ATV Chairman- **Bruce Laser** - Guides Cup Chairman, **Cliff Johnstone** - Facilities Chairman, **Jay Gardner** - Advertising & Banquet Program Chairman.

Gold Sponsors for this year's event are **L & F Distributing** (John Deere 4x4 ATV), **Andrews Distributing** (21' Majek w/150 Yamaha and Coastline Trailer), Silver sponsors for this year's event are **Academy Sports & Outdoors** and **Premier Yamaha Boating Centers.**

Our chapter volunteers are displaying the Andrews Distributing boat and L & F Distributing ATV selling tickets weekly at **Academy Sports & Outdoors** in Corpus Christi on Thursdays thru Sundays until March 16th.

Tickets are \$10 each or 6 for \$50. You need

not be present to win and the winner is responsible for all taxes, titles, and registration fees. The raffle drawings will take place at the Banquet on March 20th.

Coming off a record setting year in 2013, the Chapter is hard at work to break this record in 2014. Record attendance and funds raised were vital to many conservation projects in 2013. CCA Texas spent \$1,385,325 in 2013 and out of this \$1,235,325 had a direct impact on the Coastal Bend. Your attendance and support are critically important to the future of Texas' coastal resources and we hope to see you again at this year's Banquet. Last year the event sold out and due to planning purposes all table reservations are due **no later than Thursday, March 6, 2014, 5:00 PM.** All program ad reservations and artwork are due March 13, 2014. No guarantees can be made for tables and/or ads once deadlines have passed. For more banquet information contact: CCA Corpus Christi – **Jake Herring**, Banquet Chairman, 361-882-5199 [ccacorpus@hotmail.com](mailto:ccacorpus@hotmail.com) or **John Blaha** - CCA Texas Assistant Director, 800-626-4222, [jdblaha@ccatexas.org](mailto:jdblaha@ccatexas.org).

As always, if you have an interest in joining our board and being involved in conservation of

our coastal resources, please contact a board member or myself at 361-851-1129 or [r\\_poelmacpa@sbcglobal.net](mailto:r_poelmacpa@sbcglobal.net). It's for the fish — **Randy Poelma**

**Dallas / North Texas**  
**Robert DiCicco 214-799-2369**

**The date is set for the 33rd Annual Dallas Chapter Banquet! Please join us on April 17th at the Frontiers of Flight Museum in Dallas for our annual fundraiser.**

We are proud to announce that **Lefty Kreh** will be this year's *Conservation Sportsman of the Year*. This event is a great way to support CCA. It is also a great evening to win some auction and raffle items! Last year featured a record banquet, and we are looking forward to shattering that record this year. We have various ways to support the event through sponsorship tables, underwriting auction items and volunteering. Stay tuned for auction and raffle item updates. Please contact me for more information. — **Robert DiCicco**

**East Texas**  
**Dr. Jim Norman 936-554-3165**  
[jnorman7@suddenlink.net](mailto:jnorman7@suddenlink.net)

We are currently gearing up for our part of the **Nacogdoches Parks and Recreation Kid Fish on January 25.** This past year, we had over 175 kids



register for prizes donated by CCA Texas, CCA East Texas Chapter, and Academy. We cooked and served over 400 hot dogs to kids and parents.

**We will hold our banquet Friday, February 21 at Banita Creek Hall.** Our BBQ crew asked for a vacation this year, so **Clear Springs Restaurant** will cater a catfish dinner. Refreshments will be provided by **R&K Distributors**. Included in our banquet this year is another 6 gun raffle. All the guns are tactical types and tickets are \$20 each or 6 for \$100. If interested, contact me at e-mail or telephone number below.

At the 2013 banquet, **Dr. Brent Stephens** and **Michael Kenney** bought a Cabo San Lucas trip. On their fishing trips, they caught mahi and had five marlin hook-ups with two coming to the boat for pictures. **Allan and Francis Spruiell** and **Jim and Laura Norman** bought the same trip in 2012 and their fishing trips had mahi, lots of 10 - 20 lb yellowfin tuna and 3 billfish strikes with one to the boat for pictures. If you have ever wanted to make a trip like that, come to the banquet and take a shot at it on the auction. There will also be trips to Costa Rica, Alaska, Montana and all along the Gulf Coast. Corporate tables this year are \$400, \$600, and \$1,000. Contact me ASAP if interested.

We are still looking for some new blood. Some of you young guys that come to the banquet and have a good time, we need you to start coming to the monthly meetings and help us plan banquets, Kid Fish, and chapter fishing tournaments. When we have enough people enter, we award top quality Shimano equipment for prizes at our chapter tournaments. Some of us old guys might even take some of you new young guys under our wing and learn you up some about fishing East Bay. I look forward to seeing at our banquet. Tight Lines, —**Jim Norman** [jnorman7@suddenlink.net](mailto:jnorman7@suddenlink.net)

### Fort Bend

**Clint Shepard 832-595-5375**

Hello All. Our Ft. Bend committee members have been on the ball this year making plans and coming up with some great ideas for our 28th annual banquet. For this year's banquet, our Grand Prize will be **JH Performance Boat's new model, the Outlaw 185X w/115 HP Yamaha from Sport Marine** with a custom wrap by **AMJ Designs in Richmond, Texas**. There are also five chances to receive gift cards valued at \$100 and 15 chances to receive gift cards valued at \$50.

In addition to the Grand Prize Raffle and other great items, we have some real surprises in store for everyone this year. As usual, our gracious donors are coming out in droves to help make this year's banquet a huge success. **It is scheduled for April 24th at the Ft. Bend Co. Fair Grounds Bldg. C, in Rosenberg, Texas.** Doors open at 6 p.m. to preview auction items and begin silent auction bids, supper will be served around 7 p.m. Contact either **myself** or **Matt Meyer**, 832-595-4855, Banquet Chairman, for details. For table reservations, contact **Ren Davis**, 281-342-6828 or **George Guest**, 281-384-7582, or for raffle tickets contact **Troy Burditt**, 281-239-8507.

Hope to see you all there! —**Clint**

### Fort Worth

**Fearn Mastin 817-291-1302**

Greetings from the Fort Worth Chapter. We hope you are having a great New Year! We are looking forward to another busy one ourselves working hard on your behalf. Our chapter will be hosting a General Membership meeting. It is scheduled for Thursday, March 6 at **Rahr Brewery**. Expect advanced ticket and table sales for our annual banquet, a cooler and rod/reel raffle and as always food and beverages sponsored by your local board! **SAVE THE DATE: Our annual**

**banquet is scheduled for the usual hotspot at Joe T Garcia's on Thursday, May 1st.** —**John Black**

### Galveston

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

Happy New Year to all. **The Abandoned Crab Trap Removal Program** closure will begin on Friday, February 22 and run through March 2nd. Our main event day will be Saturday, February 23, typically running from 8:00 to noon. However, traps can be removed anytime during the 10 day closure. Starting in 2002, volunteers have removed 30,449 traps coastwide. This year will be 13th year of the event. Look for my orange boat in Galveston or Port Mansfield, if you see her, wave me down and say Hello. Tight Lines, and Hook'em—**KEN**

### Golden Triangle

**Josh Kaczynski 409-554-1325**

**Save the date: Golden Triangle CCA Chapter has scheduled the 34th Annual Banquet for May 15th, 2014 at the Beaumont Civic Center.**

Happy New Year. Hope you remember that if people concentrated on the really important things in life, there'd be a shortage of fishing poles. Thoughts? Sincerely yours—**Joel N. Foxworth**

### Greater Sugar Land

**Weems Turner 713-857-8897**

[wturner@ducommun.com](mailto:wturner@ducommun.com)

### Greater Woodlands

**James Kay 281-363-4417**

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

This will be a short update for the CCA GWC.

The calendar of events should be updated by the time this article comes out so please review our web page. We do have our **Pre-Sale 2014 Banquet Tickets available**. You will have (20) chances to win a prize. Please contact any members or the CCA Texas Greater Woodlands Chapter to get yours in advance. Keep Conserving to Keep Fishing! —**James Kay**

### Guadalupe Valley

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

The 2013 Guadalupe valley CCA chapter banquet was a huge success once again! This year's banquet was held at The Venue in downtown Cuero. We had a little over 300 attendees. Between the silent and live auction, almost everyone went home a winner. I'd like to personally thank every single person who came out that night and give a special thanks to all the board members and volunteers who helped put this banquet together. Without y'all, we would have been in some rough water.

If there are any questions or comments, please contact me. The Guadalupe Valley chapter is looking forward to having another productive and successful 2014! —**Jon Eric Rodriguez** [rodriguezjon05@gmail.com](mailto:rodriguezjon05@gmail.com).

### Hays County

**Tim Young 512-573-7939**

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

We are already hard at work on our next banquet **scheduled for July 23, 2014. The banquet will be held at the San Marcos Activity Center.** Our 2013 banquet was a smashing success and we

are expecting the 2014 banquet to be even better.

**A group of Hays County CCA volunteers will head down to Padre beach on February 22, 2014 to assist with the 19th Annual Billy Sandifer Big Shell Cleanup**, but we are still looking for more volunteers. If you are interested in helping with the clean-up send us an email.

A general membership meeting is scheduled for March 2014. Be on the lookout for more details. We will have great speakers and some wonderful raffle items.

We meet the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm with meetings rotating between Dripping Springs, Wimberley, and Kyle. We are looking for more sponsors and for more volunteers to join a great group of people in helping lead our chapter. It is the generosity of our sponsors and our volunteers that allows us to raise funds and awareness for CCA. Please consider volunteering and come join us at one of our monthly meetings. If you are interested in becoming a Hays County Sponsor, please contact me, **Tim Young**, 512-573-7939. If you are interested in volunteering with the chapter or just being added to our email list, send us an email at [hayscountyccta@gmail.com](mailto:hayscountyccta@gmail.com) or call **Tim Young** at 512-573-7939.

Hope everyone had a great holiday season and we look forward to seeing you at an upcoming chapter event! —**Tim Young**

### Heart of the Hills

**Randy Plummer 830-377-0737**

### Hill Country

**Darlene Cook 800-594-2056 ext 217**

[darlenec@knbtfm](mailto:darlenec@knbtfm)

The Hill Country Chapter had a great year and



*Katy member Bret Price being a proper steward of the resource, practicing CPR: Catch, Photo, Release.*

Banquet. It was a pleasure working with the Directors and watching them in action! **Dawn and Quinn** did an outstanding job for the Banquet, and **Black Tie Affair** served fabulous food again, thank you Richard!

The Executive Committee meets in January to get the ball rolling on 2014 Election of Officers. The new officers will be supported by a great group who believe in CCA and will work for another great year. Have a Blessed and Happy New Year! —**Darlene Cook**

### Houston Real Estate

**Dale Couch 281-953-2510**

**The 2014 Houston Real Estate event is scheduled for Feb. 11, 2014 at the Houston Country Club.** There will be some very special items in the silent as well as the live auctions. **Sam Caldwell**, Texas State Artist, is donating a

unique commission, "It's All About You." A list of auction items is available by contacting **Coleman Todd** at 713-626-4222 or [cweber@ccatexas.org](mailto:cweber@ccatexas.org) —**Dale Couch**

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

After a short sabbatical, the Katy Chapter is back in action! We've oiled the guns, stored the decoys, and smoked all the sausage - now it's time to chase the big girls (or at least talk about the bite we almost got).

Our 2014 kickoff speaker was **Captain Tommy Alexander** of Matagorda. Tommy has supported the Katy Chapter for years and is always there for us! Tommy discussed strategies he uses when chasing tournament fish, and gave an update on how Matagorda is shaping up for the coming season. If you don't know Tommy, or want to get to know Matagorda, you owe it to yourself and fishing buddies to charter a trip with him! Tommy is a genuine good guy, and has proven he is perhaps the best guide on the Middle Coast, as proven by his back to back wins in the Matagorda Guides Cup, the ALL TIME heaviest stringer weight in the Guides Cup, and wins in the Texas Trio, Lingerie on the Bay, and the Texas Threesome. Tommy runs a 25' Haynie Magnum, and can find a smooth way to the fish on almost any day.

The Katy Chapter hosts Speaker Series meetings in January, March, May, August, and October. In February, April, July and September we meet to discuss "chapter business" that includes banquet planning, chapter trips (did you fish POC with us?), and other 'important' stuff. We meet at **Red River BBQ** on South Mason Road at 7pm-ish, and will host our annual banquet in June. If you are interested in becoming an active member or just want to hone your fishing skills please come to a meeting. I'll see ya at Red River! —**Clint Hilton**

**Laredo**  
**Jesse Martinez**  
[jmartinez@bushlan.com](mailto:jmartinez@bushlan.com)  
956-763-5555

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

Mark your calendars. The 6th annual East Cut & PINS beach clean-up will be Saturday, March 15, 2014. If you would like to participate or donate please contact Kathie Bassler at [kathieb@basslerenergyservices.com](mailto:kathieb@basslerenergyservices.com).

If you've never been down to this part of the Texas coast, I highly recommend it. One of the last pristine jewels of Texas that needs our help to make sure her beauty never fades. Looking forward to seeing everyone down there this year. Spread the word.

Also Mark your calendars for the 4th Annual Lee County Chapter banquet on Thursday, October 16, 2014. I hope everyone has a healthy, safe & prosperous 2014. Tight lines and calm seas to all! —**Byron Kalbas 979-540-0056**

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

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

We hope everyone had happy and safe holidays. A new year begins, vacation time starts again, and we just endured a bitter cold wave that hopefully we won't see for another 20 years in this area.

**We are making plans for our next banquet**

**which will be in August again.** This year we will offer a 20 foot SVT TransCat boat with a 4 stroke 175 hp Suzuki outboard motor. We will be holding a General Membership Meeting in March or April. We will have the boat package ready to show at this meeting and have a guest speaker. CCA will contact you by email with the exact date. Put a reminder in your calendar and we hope to see you there.

The next events coming up this year will be the Annual Crab Trap Cleanup Weekends in February, and then we will host our **Annual KidFish Event in May**. So, there are always things to do. Make a note on your monthly calendar to participate. We always need help during the KidFish. This is a free fishing tournament that we put on for the kids in our county. We need people available to help watch over the kids for safety reasons, help them remove fish from their lines, give them encouragement, be a role model. Their dads aren't always with them. When you see them with a big smile on their face, it just naturally drifts over to yours. More details when we get closer to that event.

We meet the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm. Lately, we have been meeting at **Bowlera Fun Center in Bay City**. If you are not on my monthly minutes email list, watch the local

tickets will be sold again at the **Tackle Box** and **Victoria All Sports Center**.

**Upcoming Events:** We will be showing our Give-A-Way boat at the Holder Fishing Show in Houston during the first week of March. We will be selling chances for our fully loaded SCB Stinger at the show. The ticket sales are going well, don't miss out for a chance on this boat. Have a great year, be safe and practice Catch and Release when you can. Tight Lines,—**David Jenkins**

—Sam, you may have to get my separate paragraphs correct

**David Jenkins**  
CCA Mid Coast Chapter President  
361-578-5580

**Northeast Houston**  
**Jason Law 713-898-8594**  
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**2014 ANNUAL CCA FUNDRAISER AND**  
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*Leaving it better than they found it. A young family eliminates Padre Island debris during Capt. Billy Sandifer's 2010 Big Shell Beach Cleanup.*

newspaper for location, or call **Tim** or myself for information. We would be glad to have you come. Thank you. —**John Kubecka**, Secretary, 979-245-9571 or [jkubecka@yahoo.com](mailto:jkubecka@yahoo.com)

**Lower Laguna Madre**  
**Travis Flanagan**  
956-207-6391

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

**Matagorda Bays**  
**Linc Lutrick 979-541-9901**

**MidCoast**  
**David Jenkins 361-578-5580**  
[jenkins12@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jenkins12@sbcglobal.net)

The Midcoast Chapter wishes all a Happy New Year! We are excited with the new year being here and are ready to help CCA TEXAS grow both member wise and financially in 2014. **We are now in the planning stage of our banquet, which will be held on Friday, May 9.** Our venue will be the same, the **Victoria Community Center**. We will start selling our tables and individual tickets in the near future. The individual

**Northwest Houston**  
**Welcome new president Alan Massey**  
**281-414-6341**

The Next General Membership meeting is Wednesday, February 5th. It will be held in the Stein Room at **Houston Distributing**, 7100 High Life Dr. off Cutten Rd and Hwy 249 as it has in the past. Our speaker is **Susan Heath**, an Avian Biologist at the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory in Lake Jackson, TX.

December Members Meeting: Our December speaker was **Jason Catchings**. He fishes from Galveston Bay to Venice, LA. He also runs a hunting lodge in South Texas for quail and trophy deer. It was a great program. We also confirmed our new slate of officers: **Alan Massey** – President / **Lee Moynahan** – VP Operations (new director) / **Brett Crawford** – VP Banquet / Treasurer – **Teresa Sims** / Secretary – **Loretta Vasquez**.

**Annual member Fish Fry:** Mark your calendar for our annual member appreciation fish fry. It will be held at our April 1st General Membership Meeting.

**Help us with Kid Fish.** Mark your calendars! Here is the info for our 2014 Kid fish. Date: Saturday, May 10, 2014. Time 7AM - 1PM. Many thanks to Harris County Precinct 2, The City of La Porte and Linda's Bait & Tackle for their support of this



annual program.

Please remember that we are always happy to accept donations for the annual kid fish program. Please let us know of your desire to donate anytime by contacting a Director. As a reminder, we are using email for meeting announcements.

Our sincere thanks to both **Houston Distributing and Academy**. They are active sponsors of our meetings and many events. We are especially fortunate to have such great support.

As a reminder, we are using email for meeting announcements. If we don't have your e-mail address and you would like to receive our announcements, please send your e-mail address to [loretta.vasquez@att.net](mailto:loretta.vasquez@att.net). —Alan Massey

### Orange County

**Scott Bandy 409-988-3667**

[sabandy@ymail.com](mailto:sabandy@ymail.com)

**On Monday, February 10 the Orange County Chapter will hold our annual membership drive meeting at Roberts Meat Market and steak house.**

This year's event will be an awesome night with **Bassmaster Elite Pro Fisherman Dennis Tietje from Roanoke La.** Dennis has two local business sponsors, **Granger Chevrolet and Gopher Industries**. Dennis has been spotted at several local schools in the area talking to the kids in our community. He will give us an insight on what it is like to be an elite series tour fisherman and include some tournament tactics.

Mark the date down, the meeting will be at **Roberts Steakhouse** at 6:30pm. Everybody's welcome to this event, door prizes and raffle items will be given out also. Tight Lines and bent rods,

—Scott Bandy

### Port O'Connor

**Bill Moore**

**361-983-4690**

As the holiday season has come and gone, we again wish to thank all those members whose tireless efforts helped make the 14<sup>th</sup> annual POC CCA Banquet such a success. A special thanks to our table sponsors: **Bull Red Tables- Central Drug Inc., POC Rod and Gun, A Cut above Pool Service, Tigrett Real Estate, Costa Bonita Properties, Fishing Tackle Unlimited, Action Oilfield Supply, Lagoon Boat and Trailers, PJW Consulting, Fishbeck Enterprises, Capital Farm Credit, Alligator Head Riff Raff, Gayle and Mary Joyce Wilson, Bill Moore, Smisek, Smolik and Ray, Brownlee, Vielock and Luster and Russell Cain Real Estate. Trophy Trout Tables: Sonny's Marine/ Jason Stryker, Torrent Boats Inc., Cindy Spears Real Estate LLC, Bate Shack, Sharp and Ward, Mid Coast- CCA, and Fred Grantham.**

The chapter held a banquet wrap-up meeting at the **Sharps** and thanks to all who assisted in the food preparation. We will have a general membership meeting and banquet appreciation event when



*Great Kid Photo by Dan Crawford. Hudson's trout. 23 1/2 inches without a tail. We were wading near the fishing pier at Goose Island State Park near Rockport in late July in the afternoon. You can see the top water he was using in this picture. He was pretty excited and I was glad it wasn't an eel of some sort!*

the weather warms up a bit.

Everyone will be notified. So if you are interested in getting involved, contact us and plan to attend any meetings you can in POC – "Where it all began." —Bill Moore

### Prairie

**Sharon Goebel 979-877-4103**

Happy New Year to all! 2013 was a great year for the chapter but 2014 will be better! On December 28, we had our annual Chapter Christmas Party at the **Goebel Ranch barn**. The evening started with a great meal of rib eye steaks, boiled shrimp and extras. Thanks to Sharon and her brother **Bimbo** for preparing the meal.

Following the feast, we started the Chinese Christmas gift exchange. There were many gifts

that made the rounds around the room. Everybody got the gift they wanted and Santa was there for the kids. All the children had a chance to sit on Santa's lap except **Sailer Goebel** who thought Santa wasn't real. But when she pulled on his beard, she found out quickly that he was real!

Our January board meeting was on the 8th and **we are starting to plan our 2014 fundraiser banquet that will be on April 3rd at the Cat Spring Hall**. We appointed committees that will handle gun and cap game and many other areas of the banquet. We plan a very successful turnout this year. During the evening we will have a Cap and Gun game raffle, live and silent auction, pistol raffle, and our regular raffle.

We are still looking for donors and supporters for the banquet. For more information, contact a board member or **Sharon** at 979-877-4103. If interested in purchasing a corporate table, contact **Kirk Hoppe** at 979-885-8868.

On February 21st we will be having our annual appreciation dinner at the **Cat Spring Tin building at 5:30 p.m.** We will be serving **Kirk's famous chili**. There will be a guest speaker plus a "one dollar raffle." You can count a great evening with good food and fellowship. Also, we are in the planning stage for our annual Kid's Fish Tournament. A date will be announced later. Thanks and have a GREAT YEAR. —Ron Chess, 979-992-3295

### Redfish Bay

**Norman Oates**

**361-758-0266**

Redfish Bay Chapter is ready for the new year! **Our Banquet is scheduled for April 26, 2014.** It will be in the Port Aransas Civic Center, and it will start at 6 PM. Mark your calendars! More details to follow in e-mails and mailings.

We will have a General Membership meeting on February 27 starting at 7 PM. It will be at **Redfish Willie's on Conn Brown Harbor in Aransas Pass**. Redfish Willie's is part of the Redfish Bay Boathouse. As always, we ask that you come early and enjoy the food and drink at Redfish Willie's before the meeting starts. More on the speaker to follow.

As always, we look forward to the participation of our members. The Board will do everything in its power to make our events informative and entertaining in 2014.

—Norman Oates

### Rio Grande Valley

**Phil Teinert 956-367-4267**

[pteinert@fcbtx.com](mailto:pteinert@fcbtx.com)

We have secured the 2014 Raffle Boat and it is now on display and tickets are for sale. This year's raffle boat is a 2014 210 **Dargel Skout** powered by 150 HP **Evinrude ETEC** and sits on a **Custom Aluminum Trailer**. The boat is complete with Custom Aluminum, Power Pole, Raised Platform, Deluxe Leaning Post, Two Tone Custom Gel Coat Color and Much More. Tickets can be purchased by contacting **Louis Zimmerer** at 956-373-0799 or **John Blaha** at 800- 626-4222. Special thanks go out to **L&F Distributors** and **Dargel Boats** for making this raffle possible once again.



*A Lee County CCA family cleans a really bad spot at the Port Mansfield East Cut jetties during the Bassler's 2013 cleanup.*



Mark your calendars, the 2014 banquet has been set for Thursday, April 24, 2014 at the Pharr Events Center. The chapter board is planning for the event and looks forward to having another great night. If you are interested in helping the local chapter, contact Chapter President, **Phil Teinert** at 956-367-4267 or **John Blaha** at 800-626-4222. We hope you have tight lines all 2014.

—Phil Teinert

#### Sabine-Neches

**Darin Johnson 409-790-9855**

Happy New Year! By now most of you know from my reports we have a banquet coming up, for those that don't know, here I go again! **Thursday March 6th, 6pm @ the Bob Bowers Civic Center in Port Arthur, Texas, the 17th annual Crawfish Boil and Banquet!** If you were at last year's event you will be even more wowed by the event this year!

Hot boiled crawfish, cold drinks and lots of trips, artwork, rods, reels, etc.! We sold out last year, so don't wait until the last minute! If you need tickets, tables or just want to sponsor something at the event let us know; call, text, email! We look forward to seeing all of our friends at the event! Until then Tight Lines to All!

—Darin M Johnson [darin.johnson@delpapabud.com](mailto:darin.johnson@delpapabud.com)



*Taking a hike? Great Wildlife photo of a walking heron by this issue's featured photographer, Pauline Osborn.*

#### Sam Houston

**Brandon Kolaja 281-797-6908**

#### San Antonio

**Welcome new president Jimmy Gibson 210-287-4378**

The San Antonio chapter is well into the planning stage for an active 2014, but first we need to thank outgoing President **Johnny Rayburg** and outgoing Banquet Chair **Liz Hewitt** for their out-

standing contributions and ongoing commitment to CCA. Without their leadership, CCA San Antonio would not have accomplished the success we have had over the past few years.

Now let's talk about 2014, beginning with the **Boat Show January 23rd thru 26th**. We will be in full force at our booth. Come by and renew your membership, pick up a new CCA San Antonio shirt, a CCA Cap, stickers or just bring us a new fish story and pictures. We just might put you on our Web Page.

Next on my list is our first "CCA Hooked on Clays" Sporting Clays Shoot to be held at the National Shooting Complex, 5931 Roft Road, San Antonio, Friday April 4th at 1 pm. Teams will be composed of 5 shooters. There will be great prizes for the top teams, give aways and BBQ served after the shoot. This promises to be a great time so organize your team and get signed up. Individual shooters are always welcome and will be assigned a team. Cost is \$125 per shooter, and we expect to see you there. Our web site has all the details and you can sign up by calling **Robert Mendoza** at 210- 842-0643 or E-Mail Robert at [mendozarm09@gmail.com](mailto:mendozarm09@gmail.com).

**On to our 2014 BANQUET scheduled for Thursday May 1st.** Doors open at 5:30 pm. It's going to be bigger and better than ever. We have added space, we have some great new sponsors, secured new auction items and new trips, and thanks to our generous sponsors, we will again give you a great chance to win a new boat, a Harley, a 4 wheelers and the list goes on. Mark your calendars and plan to enjoy an evening with friends, business partners, and CCA volunteers at an event that always creates





memories. More details, tables costs and individual ticket information is on our web site or contact **Joe Eaton** at (210) 599-3690 or E-Mail Joe at [jeaton@eatoncontracting.com](mailto:jeaton@eatoncontracting.com).

That will get us started for 2014 but I promise more fun events to come. Your CCA Chapter is always looking for individuals to volunteer their time, resources, and thoughts as to how we can better serve this great organization in a most productive way. Come join us and have some fun working on our banquet committee, the beach cleanup, crab trap pick up, be a part of our inter-chapter fishing team. You will enjoy our group and get satisfaction knowing you contributed to our efforts to improve our coastal marine habitat. We have fun, enjoy putting events together, do a little fishing and would welcome you to our group.

Remember our first battle cry, "SAVE THE REDFISH." Thank you for doing your part. Until the next Currents travel safely —**Jimmy Gibson** [jimmy.gibson@CSTBrands.com](mailto:jimmy.gibson@CSTBrands.com)

### **San Bernard**

**Welcome new president Jayson Zahradnik 281-202-8438**

**We will be holding our annual banquet on Thursday, February 27th at Riverside Hall in East Bernard, Texas.** What a way to kick off the New Year with good food, good fun, and good friends.

The night will be filled with activities including live auction, silent auction, bucket raffles, hat games, and more. We will also be enjoying our regular delicious ribeye steak dinner. There are corporate tables available. We also have gun raffle tickets for sale prior to the night of the event.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the banquet and

hope you have had a great start to a new year. For raffle tickets, please contact our new chapter treasurer, **Kenneth Schatz**, at 979-533-4385. Thank you to all of our board members in advance for all of the hard work and volunteer hours it takes to make a banquet of this size a huge success. The San Bernard Chapter will continue to have our monthly board member meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of every month and hope to see some new faces each meeting. Again, thank you to all CCA supporters and hope to see everyone at our banquet. Thank you, your new chapter president, —**Jayson Zahradnik**.

### **San Gabriel**

**John Melnar 512-497-8284**

### **San Jacinto**

**Pete Ruiz 832-496-4903**

### **Southwestern**

**Jody Jacobs 210-827-7180**

### **TAMU**

**Cameron Blackwood 713-591-7097**

Howdy! Texas A&M CCA had a great fall semester. We had a great turnout for our tailgates for the football games.

This spring we are looking forward to getting back out on the water and catching some fish. Along with some fishing we will be having a skeet shooting event as well. We also have **our banquet coming up May 2nd at the Brazos Center**. We are looking to have a great turnout and raise some money for the resource. If you are interested in sponsoring or coming to our banquet please contact us via email at [tamucca@gmail.com](mailto:tamucca@gmail.com). Thanks, and Gig'em! —**Cameron Blackwood**

**Texas State University**  
**Ryan Wishnow 832-444-3598**

**Tomball/Magnolia**  
**Matt Maddox 832-590-1828**

**Tri-County**  
**Jason Trial 830-570-2988**

**Trinity Bay**  
**Gerald Payne 281-385-2894**

The frigid air and periods of inclement weather may have kept some inside but folks in the Chapter have been sharing all kinds of recent experiences on the water tackling hungry speckled trout and line peeling reds.

In addition to taking time to enjoy the great outdoors on happenings in the Chapter include the annual board elections taking place and firming up our new banquet venue for 2014. We are excited about this change as the new facility holds more capacity and will be in Baytown, Texas this year. As in previous years the banquet will be in August.

Although we are months away from the banquet, members are beginning to reach out to new and past sponsors who have made this event one of the best along the Upper Gulf Coast. In addition to banquet preparation the Chapter will be gearing up to host a Bar B Que along with crawfish and shrimp boils. We look forward to serving those sponsors who purchased these items during the 2013 banquet auction: **AAA Chemical, Coastline Marine & Aluminum, Fisher Mechanical, Zepher**.

If you are interested in participating in any of our Chapter functions please let us know. We have monthly meetings in Baytown, Texas on the first Wednesday of each month. We have a great bunch of individuals that dedicate themselves towards the work of CCA and have a lot of fun doing so. —**Gerald "Get er Done" Payne**

**West Houston**  
**Joe Perez 832-279-4794**

**West Texas**  
**Craig McDonnold 432-682-3499**



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*Cuddle Time, by Marsha Landers.*

### Want to share even more of your Great photos?

Currents had many fine images submitted again this issue. Limited space means we can use only a few photos, but there is a good option for your Great Photo: send it to CCA via our new social media. See Page 7 for connections to Facebook and Instagram. *Every entry there will also be an entry in the Currents Great Photos Competition.*

## Enter Great Photos 2014

### Categories:

**Best In Show / Action / Scenic / Humor / Kids / Wildlife / CPR**

*Important: for jpegs, be sure you include name of subject, title, your name and address. On back of prints, write your name and address, as well as the names of anyone in the photo. email jpegs to:*

**[sam@samcaldwell.com](mailto:sam@samcaldwell.com)**

**Color prints to: CCA Great Photos Editor / 6919 Portwest Dr., Suite 100 Houston, Texas 77024**

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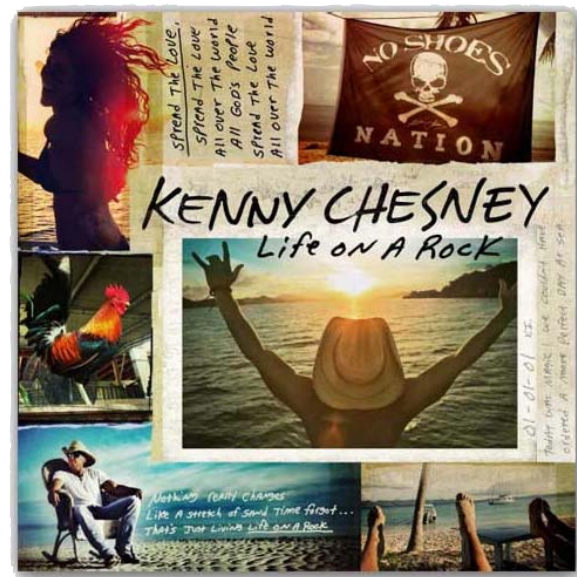


Send the Photo editor a Great Cutline for this Pauline Osborn photo, and win applause in the March April Currents newsletter.

[sam@samcaldwell.com](mailto:sam@samcaldwell.com)

*The Last Laugh*

CCA's friend and supporter, Kenny Chesney, has released his new album, *LIFE ON A ROCK*. Get your copy today.



When Kenny Chesney decided to get personal, he stripped away expectations, pulled out a bunch of songs he'd written just for himself and kicked back for a soul-search that turned into *Life On A Rock*, available now on iTunes.



## *The Farrier*

*Chosen for the International Watercolor Exhibition.*

You can watch this Caldwell masterwork as it builds from rough sketch to finish, via stop action video. And a few other new Caldwell paintings, as well. Drop by the Caldwell

Art Cave, via the magic of the internet.

[www.samcaldwell.com](http://www.samcaldwell.com)

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281-455-9390



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# Coastal Conservation Association

6919 Portwest Suite 100 / Houston, TX 77024

## CURRENTS NEWSLETTER

February / March 2014

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it better than you found it.  
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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 any-  
thing you need to know about outdoor  
Texas, including links to many areas.  
Visit <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us> To focus on fishing and  
boating, visit <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/>



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

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



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

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

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

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

#### Method of payment

\_\_\_ Check/Money order  
\_\_\_ Charge to my:  
\_\_\_ MASTERCARD  
\_\_\_ VISA  
\_\_\_ AMEX  
\_\_\_ DISCOVER

MEMBER:	\$25	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	Same as above, plus "FREE" STAR Tournament entry.

#### Members 17 and under only

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

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

**NOTE: Application good only through March 31, 2014**

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)