Nearshore Reefing moves ahead
The Corpus Christi Nearshore reef (MU-775) is a recently permitted site by TPWD and encompasses 160 acres. The original phase of the reefing work was to reef 400 pyramids within a 40 acre site.

With a $100,000 contribution from CCA Texas, the initial phase of reefing will now be 470 pyramids and cover approximately 47 acres. To date CCA Texas has contributed $400,000 to nearshore reefing projects in the state of Texas and has helped by making contributions, securing storage facilities (Freeport reefing project) and coordinating transportation of materials (Port Mansfield and Freeport reefing projects). CCA Texas is proud to be a part of these projects that will provide close proximity fishing areas for recreational fishermen to target snapper, grouper and other offshore species. In addition, much needed habitat is being created at a time when the Idle Iron initiative is removing much of the nearshore habitat along the entire Gulf coast.

Other nearshore reefing news

TPWD recently announced that three artificial reefing projects are in the latest round of projects submitted for the funds being distributed from the Deepwater Horizon restoration fund. These projects include:

The Texas Artificial Reef off the Mid or Upper Coast (Jefferson or Nueces County). This project would place artificial reef structures offshore if the necessary large-scale materials are available. Or, it would enhance existing, permitted nearshore reef sites using constructed, stable and clean materials.

Continued on page 9
A musical welcome to new members of CCA
2013 CCA Concert for Conservation

—May 18, Sam Houston Park: Great music by the country’s finest singers, songwriters and performers was enjoyed by an appreciative audience, many of them brand new members of CCA.

This year, CCA Texas partnered with Sam Houston Race Park to put together a superstar lineup that offered fans a wide variety of country music from featured artists Dwight Yoakam, Robert Earl Keen, Hayes Carll and Ray Wylie Hubbard.

“We were extremely excited about the turn out for our second concert. It was an awesome sight to see CCA being promoted in such a different and new light. I think this event really elevates the organization to another level. Also, with this concert being a membership drive for CCA, we are excited about all the new members that will now be part of the organization. Hopefully these new members will help us to continue to make a difference in conserving our coastal fisheries,” said CCA’s Executive Director, Robby Byers.

The 2013 Concert For Conservation may have been the largest group ever convened for a GCCA or CCA event. Some 3,000-plus music fans and CCA members applauded with abandon at sundown, when Ray Wylie Hubbard opened the event. Hayes Carll maintained the electricity of the event as the evening lights went on. As Robert Earl Keen took the stage, every person in the audience rose with deafening applause. In a surprise move, Keen brought onstage Houston’s favorite son, singer/songwriter/musician Lyle Lovett for two pieces. The crowd, and Lovett, joined in for Keen’s “That Buckin’ Song.”

After Robert Earl Keen turned the stage over to Dwight Yoakam, the crowd never stopped responding, until Yoakam halted the show for an impromptu discussion of the reason for the concert—CCA’s impact on the resource and environment.

Byers said, “This event was a great opportunity for us to see a lot of our old friends and introduce many others to the Coastal Conservation Association.”

As Currents goes to press, the results are still being assessed, but this writer has never enjoyed a CCA event more. For new CCA members, this issue of the Texas Currents newsletter and the upcoming issue of the national TIDE Magazine will be their introduction to many elements of the Texas outdoors. Welcome aboard!

—Sam Caldwell
For more photos, see pages 15, 16 and 17.
NEW FOR 2013! Another icon in competitive angling has chosen to join us... Berkley Gulp. Are you looking for a winning edge this year? Take the 2013 Berkley Gulp Challenge "Use Gulp and Win! To qualify for the Berkley Gulp Challenge Prize Package, STAR anglers must catch a winning fish using a Berkley Gulp bait, abide by all rules of the CCA Texas STAR Tournament and be on the FINAL leaderboard after the close of the 2013 CCA Texas STAR Tournament on Sept. 2nd, 2013. The Berkley Gulp Challenge prize package includes a Limited Edition All Star Team Series Rod, Abu Garcia Revo 5 Saltcast Reel, Berkley Trilene XL fishing line, Gulp Alive Bait and Berkley tackle bag. This fine collection is bound to enhance your skills even further. Berkley Gulp and Alive baits are available at Academy Sports + Outdoors, another proud partner of CCA Texas STAR tournament. You can see the display there. We thank Berkley for joining with us in the spirit of CCA’s mission. We all want to put something back into the water for everyone.

In the heat of our excitement, we never forget our great family of sponsors that make this non-profit event possible.

YOU’VE GOT TO BE IN TO WIN! Are you spoiled up? You’ve got all summer to make this happen, so get your “STAR insurance” now! Therapy is too expensive and your entry fee is too cheap. Starting sunrise Saturday, May 25 through 5 p.m., Monday, Sept. 2 (Labor Day), anglers from all across the great Lone Star State can enter all summer-long to vie for over $1,000,000 in prizes in the 24th Annual CCA Texas/STAR Tournament! So don’t delay... SIGN UP TODAY!

Trophy-sized prizes can be claimed by registered STAR anglers who bring in the first tagged redfish. The first five winners will drive home in a 2013 loaded Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" XLT SuperCab, pulling a brand new 23' Haynie BigFoot boat rigged with a Mercury 150L Pro XS OptiMax motor and Coastline trailer. The next five tagged redfish winners will each claim a 23' Haynie BigFoot boat with a Mercury Pro XS 150L OptiMax motor and Coastline trailers. You will have to supply your own truck to tow these rigs home. Last year, six tagged redfish were caught, but only three anglers claimed prizes. The others, unfortunately and sadly, were not registered for STAR.

MORE EXCITING NEWS! To help with just the right baits, Academy Sports + Outdoors will again generously provide all current CCA Texas members with a $10 coupon. And, of course, don’t forget to take advantage of all the other great Member incentives available to CCA Texas/STAR participants. Please see below for more details.

NEW FOR 2013! Dargel Boats along with UV Country Powersports have teamed up to offer a brand new prize offering for the 2013 Member Bonus Drawing... the "TOTAL OUTDOORSMAN PACKAGE"!!!

Just the price of a $10 CCA "New Tide" Membership. We thank our generous sponsors for making it possible for us to offer younger anglers this great opportunity. Keep in mind, signing up as a "New Tide" member does not automatically register member in STAR. "New Tide" Members MUST BE at least 6 years of age in 2013 to be eligible to fish STAR and under age 18 to enter for FREE. It is the "New Tide" Member’s responsibility to register each year for STAR.

Don’t miss "the boat" or "the truck and boat"... register today! You can sign up NOW online at 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 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 $25 CCA membership card!!! Our Ford Partner Code is CCA 61; go to http://www.fordpartner.com/, if you are considering a purchase. And please share your gratitude with the dealers for helping to make this great offer possible for CCA Texas members.

SPECIAL BONUS FROM ACADEMY SPORTS & OUTDOORS One more great reason to sign up! Academy Sports + Outdoors will mail a $10 gift coupon in return for your support. 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 for 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 2013 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 starttcatexas.org.

2013 PRIZE LINE-UP - This year’s contestants have a chance at winning over 100 prizes including trucks, UV, 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 2013 Ford F-150 “Texas Edition” truck. Haynie Boats returns with the awesome Haynie 23 Bigfoot rigged with a Mercury 150 L Pro XS motor and Coastline Trailer completing this amazing package. The next five weighed in will receive the same boat, motor and trailer packages.

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

**Trout Division** - With winners in the upper, middle and lower coast regions, each winning angler will take home the Shoalwater 22 Legend with a Mercury 150 L Pro XS 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 re-seed the bays.

**Offshore Division** – Blue water anglers who land the heaviest kingfish, dorado and ling (cobia) will each win the awesome OptiMax motor and McClain trailer. SPECIAL NOTE: The minimum weight requirement for the kingfish 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.

**Inshore Division** – Each winner that reels in the largest flounder, gafftop and sheepshead will be handsomely rewarded with Blue Wave’s 180 V Bay boat, a Mercury 200 XL OptiMax motor and McClain trailer.

In the past eighteen years, $4,635,000 in college scholarships has been awarded to fisher-kids across the state. And 2013 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** – 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 2013 Ford F-150 “Texas Edition” truck. Haynie Boats returns with the awesome Haynie 23 Bigfoot rigged with a Mercury 150 L Pro XS motor and Coastline Trailer completing this amazing package. The next five weighed in will receive the same boat, motor and trailer packages.

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

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

FS Southwest StarKid Trout Division - This division gives entrants age 6-10 a chance to win a $50,000 college scholarship for the largest trout caught throughout the summer.

FS Southwest StarKid Dorado/Ling (Cobia) Division - This division gives entrants age 6-10 a chance to win a $50,000 college scholarship for the largest dorado and ling (cobia) caught throughout the summer.

FS Southwest StarKid Tilapia Division - This division gives entrants age 6-10 a chance to win a $50,000 college scholarship for the largest tilapia caught throughout the summer.

FS Southwest StarKid Speckled Seatrout Division - This division gives entrants age 6-10 a chance to win a $50,000 college scholarship for the largest speckled seatrout caught throughout the summer.
School Is In Session. The new STAR Platinum print by David Drinkard.

maybe one of those “schools” has a “college scholarship” swimming in it! This special offer includes your CCA membership (new or renewal), your 2013 CCA Texas STAR entry, plus a signed, limited-edition print created exclusively for STAR, all for $125! School Is In Session 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> for more details or to place your order with the STAR Dept., call (713) 626-4222.

CCA Texas STAR Platinum Print Membership Package, Series III — We’re pleased to announce the new print being offered for the 2013 CCA Texas STAR Platinum package is School Is In Session. Renowned artist David Drinkard wanted to honor those parents who take their kids fishing by creating a print depicting the parent and child fishing scene. You never know…

STILL AVAILABLE… CCA Texas/STAR Platinum Print, Series I & II – STAR Reds & STAR Sightings 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 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. Thanks for supporting CCA Texas and the STAR Tournament!

Please don’t forget to thank our generous 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 24th Annual CCA Texas/STAR Tournament include:


STAR has reached $4,635,000 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.

Great Photos Awards

The envelope, please: Best In Show and First Place receive art prints

Best In Show: Sunrise On The Spirit, by Clayton Ging

ACTION: Will Drost
SCENIC: Sally Black
HUMOR: Rhonda Anderson
KIDS: James Barnett
WILDLIFE: Patty Scanlan
CPR: Neal Nichols

HONORABLE MENTION:
Welcome to the CCA Texas Online Auction
Sponsored By Costa Del Mar
We have some great merchandise up for grabs this month!

Available online June 10 - June 17
To bid and win, go to ccatexas.org and click on the link (left hand side) online auction. Good luck! —Erich Schneider

“Official Saltwater Fish of Texas” by Al Barnes
Be one of only 60 people in the entire state to own this great print straight from the CCA Texas Inventory. This amazing piece has the Texas State bill that made the Redfish the official saltwater fish of Texas. The art also has a great depiction of the Texas Flag and an awesome Redfish. Do not let this one go because this is our last one in inventory, and your last chance to own this great piece of art.

“Bowed Up” by David Drinkard
There is nobody in the State of Texas that does a deer scene better than David Drinkard. This large framed print depicts two monster South Texas deer coming together in a cactus-filled field ready to defend their territory. This is one of 60 prints that were produced for CCA Texas only and will be a great addition to anyone’s home. Make sure to always know that every dollar spent with CCA Texas goes to supporting the fish and our great cause.

Seared Scallops on Potato Pancakes
Recipe Courtesy of M & M Bar and Grill / 2401 Church Rear Street / Galveston, Texas

INGREDIENTS
3/4 cup cold mashed potatoes / 1 egg
2 tbsp. bread crumbs / salt and fresh ground black pepper to taste / 1 tsp olive oil / 1 lb. scallops / cayenne pepper to taste / 1 tbsp. butter / 1 tbsp. capers
1/2 roasted and peeled red bell pepper
1 whole fresh basil leaves

DIRECTIONS
Add 3/4 cup cold mashed potatoes, 1 egg, 2 tbsp. bread crumbs, some salt and pepper in a bowl. Mix well.

Add a little oil in a pan over medium heat. Put the mixture in the pan, make 4 round shapes. Cook 7-8 minutes per side. Remove and set aside. These are the potato pancakes.

Put 1 pound scallops in a bowl, drizzle some salt, pepper and cayenne. Add a little bit of olive oil. Stir well.

Pre-heat the pan on high heat. When the pan is hot, put the scallops in the pan. Add the red bell pepper besides them. Cook the scallops for 3-4 minutes per side. Remove the scallops. Spread the red bell pepper in the pan. Add the whole fresh basil leaves, 1 tbsp. butter and 1 tbsp. capers in the pan. Stir and cook until the butter is resolved. Then add 1/4 cup water, turn off the heat.

To serve, put a potato pancake on a serving plate, add 3 scallops on the pancake. Top the scallops with some red bell pepper and basil leaves. Spoon over the sauce. Enjoy!

Dropping in For Family Dinner: Great Wildlife photo by Norman Oates.
CCA Texas and Simms Fishing Products have teamed up for a very special offer to CCA members.

For a limited time, anyone who becomes a CCA Texas Life Member will receive a beautiful Simms jacket emblazoned with the CCA Life Member logo on the left sleeve. (Retail value of $250)

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.

Existing Life Members, please contact CCA Texas or email Erika at ebermeo@ccatexas.org for your special Simms® Jacket offer!

**CCA Life Member APPLICATION**

Name

CCA Member ID#

Address

City ___________________ State __________ Zip __________

Phone_________________ Email

**SIMMS® Jacket Information** - Jacket Style: WINDSTOPPER® Softshell Jacket - Dark Elkhorn

- Jacket Size:  □ S  □ M  □ L  □ XL  □ XXL

**Method of Payment**

- Cash  Check  Credit Card:  □ Visa  □ MasterCard  □ AmEx  □ Discover

__________  Exp. Date  _________

Credit Card Number

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
Continued from page 2

als. Artificial reefs are used by fishermen and scuba divers as recreational areas because of the aquatic community that develops in reef habitat. Estimated cost: $1.8 million.

Brazoria Near shore Artificial Reef Artificial Reef Enhancement (Brazoria County). This project would enhance a nearshore reef site off Freeport. Estimated cost: $2 million.

Matagorda Nearshore Artificial Reef (Matagorda County). This project would include construction of a new near shore artificial reef off of Matagorda. Estimated cost: $3.5 million. In addition, CCA Texas has committed $200,000 to this site for future reefing work. —John Blaha

Casting Comments

CCA Habitat Program – The Building Conservation Trust

By Tide editor, Ted Venker

From time to time in TIDE Magazine you will see a wide array of habitat programs highlighted in our Building Conservation Spotlight column. These projects come in all shapes and sizes, from grass plantings to marsh restoration projects to oyster shell recycling programs to reefs made out of concrete salvaged from hurricane-damaged bridges and buildings. The Buras High School Reef that CCA Louisiana helped install in Breton Sound in 2012, for example, was made of what was left of the school after Hurricane Katrina was through with it in 2005.

Habitat has always been a core focus for anglers and conservationists, but events of just the last few years have driven home how fragile our marine environment is. The hurricane season of 2005, brought to you by Katrina and Rita, and the oil spill of 2010, in particular, were cataclysmic events for marine habitat in the Gulf of Mexico.

As a grassroots organization, CCA has no shortage of ideas for habitat projects. CCA chapters are made up of all kinds of folks who are in positions to make fantastic contributions to a program dedicated to restoring and enhancing our waters. We have lots of fishermen who are in a unique position to see opportunities everywhere, and we also have scientists and biologists, and folks who work for state agencies with intimate knowledge of how to get these projects moving. The tricky part is finding funding for them.

Three years ago CCA began making plans for the Building Conservation Trust (BCT), a support organization dedicated exclusively to the business of funding marine habitat creation and restoration in areas that can be accessed and enjoyed by recreational anglers. BCT was envisioned to provide funding for marine habitat conservation and restoration projects to CCA state chapters for grassroots-driven projects achieving one or more of five key objectives: restore degraded habitats; create new habitats; advance the science of coastal habitat restoration and marine fisheries conservation; foster habitat stewardship; and educate coastal communities on the value of conservation.

Our vision for BCT took a huge step toward reality in 2010 when Shell Oil Company agreed to fund $1.5 million over three years for a habitat program. It goes without saying that this dramatically raised the scope of what CCA could do in this arena and we immediately put those funds into action. Program funds began to be applied in 2010 and over the past two years, that $1 million in CCA funding has been put to work on 14 projects and has been matched by more than $1.6 million from other partners, including state and local governments, private corporations and members of the community. More than $2.5 million in marine habitat projects have been funded in just two years.

BCT was created to build on that record of success as a fully operational support organization of CCA and it was recently announced that Matt Shilling will be the organization’s first president. Shilling also serves as President of OCEARCH, a nonprofit organization that facilitates unprecedented research on the biology and health of sharks, and has served in the White House and held other government positions.
Upper Coast
By Capt. Steve Hillman

The easiest fishing one could ask for.

Fishing in Galveston Bay has been well above average, with trout up to 7 pounds when the weather cooperates. Sustainability of our trout fishery is very important so we’re releasing all of the larger trout. The pattern for June and July will be a sequel to May. Drifting slicks over shell in 4 to 7 foot depths is about the easiest fishing one could ever ask for. Birds have already started feeding over migrating brown shrimp in certain locales, with quite a few undersized trout under them, but this will change in coming weeks as the shrimp get larger.

Trinity, East, West and Lower Galveston Bays will continue to hold plenty of fish throughout the summer. Work the east shoreline of Trinity early in June and then spend more time around the wells later in the month and into July. East Bay reefs are reliable when the wind allows, while the shorelines are good for wading on the breezy days. West Bay’s San Luis Pass can give up some nice trout. Lower Galveston Bay around the Causeway will produce, especially on two-tide days.

Drifting or wading, the key is to locate active bait and / or fresh slicks. Lots of surface activity? Try throwing topwaters. If you just see slicks and not much surface bait then soft plastics will probably work better. Keep it simple when choosing lure colors. Remember, it’s more about contrast in a speckled trout’s world. Dark or overcast conditions in off-colored water call for dark colors such as Red Shad, Morning Glory or Texas Roach. Limetreuse, Pearl or Glow are good examples of colors that will work well in green water / bright sunlight conditions. Throw small, low pitch topwaters in low wind conditions and load, high pitch ones in choppy waters. It’s not Nuclear Physics.

Also, using the right equipment will increase your odds of catching exponentially. Using a rod that is better suited for an Olympic pole vaulting competition won’t get the job done. I use a Shimano Core 50 Mg rigged on a 6’6” Waterfloo Ultra Mag rod and while I may not stick every fish, I can definitely feel every bite. Have fun and remember….the big ones just don’t taste as good. —Captain Steve Hillman

www.hillmanguideservice.com 409-256-7937

Jeff Sadler sent this 6 pounder back for further duty. Photo, Capt. Steve Hillman.

Middle Coast
By Capt. Billy Trimble

It happens fast.

Spring in Texas is a blink of the eye on a typical year, but this year has not been a typical year. In mid-May, we still had cold fronts pushing through, slowing the progress of our summer conditions.

There is still very little grass on the flats and a lot of clean sand and mud flats where grass should be. Find grass and pods of redfish feeding on grass shrimp, find some great sport.

As spring transitions into summer our weather pattern will settle down and the water will clear, and it happens fast. Lately, fishing has been very good. Fishing extremely shallow water, on two days of north wind-grey overcast-spitting rain, my angler landed 14 Redfish that averaged 27”.

I had several days of wade fishing ankle deep water picking off large redfish, great fun. Almost every day we are getting shots at speckled trout in the 24-28” range in less than 18”s of water.

We have been taking some really nice speckled trout, 18-20’s, off of mudding pods of hardhead catfish. I am seeing big schools of small mullet and pin fish with redfish and trout following them and can hear redfish crashing them back in the flooded mangroves. Schools of Black Drum are moving up on to the flats in the late afternoon offering some fine sport.

As summer approaches I am very excited about the “State of the Fishery!”

Last year was a tough one but this year is shaping up to be much better. We have received some timely rains which should help the food chain, shrimp/crab. I am seeing many more fish this year than last and the patterns are what one would expect to see. Good news for the avid salt-water angler, so get out there and go fishing! Tight Lines. —Captain Billy Trimble

www.trimbleflyfishing.com
billytrimble@cableone.net 361-205-1266

Headed your way? Cutt Ableson’s CPR of Neal Nichols big trout.

Lower Coast
By Capt. Bill Sheka

Algae bloom not withstanding...

The summer pattern hopefully will fall into place now. The spawn was behind nearly 2-3 weeks due to the abnormally cold temps from all the late fronts. Even the shrimp runs, and the size of croakers were off. I would say that the trout run and valleys and peaks of the spawning of trout could also be running longer. The temperatures and the continuance of Northers have changed the currents in our Laguna Madre system to North to South, which is not normal for the late April and May periods. But, lots of bright, sunny days will bring our water temps up and a return to our summer patterns of a south to north current.

The algae bloom has been with us since May of 1990. A different strain last year, according to TP&W, was to blame for killing many fish, including some trout, redfish, drum, sheepshead and large numbers of our menhaden shad. What I have seen now is the flushing of the Laguna Madre with a drop of over 12 inches in the water table in in May. This displaced lots of water and the bloom ran hard to south of the Land Cut with three recording-setting frontal passages, which helped it change directions. Talk about trying to stay on top of the water color... We had a short run on some LARGE trout from 28 inches to 30 inches and a few a bit larger.

That strain of algae bloom could end up appearing again during June and July periods, but as the currents stay south to north we are seeing much prettier water moving north from the lower Laguna Madre. With all that being said, the current algae bloom is not killing fish as of yet but hampering watery visibility and those wanting to throw artificial lures and top waters are going to have to rethink and use scented lures like my favorite Berkely Gulp’s. Try an Almeda rattler, Mansfield Mauler or Cajun Thunder with a Gulp and a 1/8 or 1/25 ounce jighead. Think sound and scent for the bloom waters. But, if you can concentrate in the areas from Baffin Bay south, including the Yarbourgh Pass area, Kennedy Ranch shoreline, the Landcut, the Nine Mile hole and south to the Lower Laguna, these areas are shaping up for CLEAR water with NO Algae Bloom. Good fishing and God Bless. —Capt. Bill Sheka

billsheka@msn.com 361-991-7191

Many of us old salts know Cap’n Bill as a fine guide, and appreciate his military service.
Babes on the Bay XIV is now in the history books and we would like to thank all entrants for their participation. We would also like to thank the vendors, volunteer TP&W Game Wardens who conducted the weigh-in and faithful chapter volunteers for their support. A special thanks goes to Karol Sardino, tournament director, for her continued dedication and commitment to making Babes on the Bay the world’s best all women’s fishing tournament.

As in the past, a donation of $3,000 on behalf of CCA Babes On The Bay, Aransas Bay Chapter, will be made to Go For Fish, Not Drugs Kids’ fish event sponsored by the TP&W Game Wardens. We do hope you all had a great time and that you will join us again next year.

Our 14th Annual Banquet is scheduled for August 10 at the Paws and Taws Convention Center in Fulton, Texas. We hope you will join us for a fun-filled evening consisting of a live auction including trips, sculptures, art, etc.; raffle; door prizes; and silent auction. Tickets will be available at Rockport Tackle Town and Seaworthy Marine and in-store at Rockport Tackle Town auction. Tickets will be available at Rockport Tackle Town and Seaworthy Marine and in-store at Rockport Tackle Town.

July 17. Our guest speaker will be Captain Dworaczyk from Bay Flats Lodge. A lot of us fish the Seadrift/Port O’Connor area, so don’t miss this one. Come out and learn from one of the best. We’ll have great giveaways and a free meal compliments of Smokey Denmark’s. You don’t have to be a member to come, so BRING A FRIEND AND ASK THEM TO JOIN CCA.

Galveston’s 21’ Shallow Sport, put together by Coastline Marine.

Winner of the San Antonio boat, Manuel Longoria.

Matagorda Bays fully rigged 23ft HDX Dargel KAT w/ 200HP Evinrude E-Tec, McClain Tandem Aluminum Trailer. Thank you to our boat sponsors, Polasek Construction, Quality Lease Services, Q.C.E. Supply, Inc, and Dargel Boats.

Chapters 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.cca texas.org, click on Local Chapters.

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.cca texas.org, click on Local Chapters.

Be sure to “Like” Coastal Conservation Association Austin Chapter on Facebook to keep up with everything this awesome chapter has going on.

We have an incredibly dedicated and hard working board in Austin that puts together all the amazing events for you throughout the year. If you would like to jump on board, and help us grow even more, just send me a note and we will welcome you. You will have a lot of fun and make a difference in the conservation of our great coastal resources. See you at ANO! Warm regards, —Scott Sanderson

Bay Area

Curtis Anderson 832-421-6377

Wow, do we have something to report! We held our annual fundraiser and crawfish boil on April 4 and it was an OUTSTANDING SUCCESS. We INCREASED our REVENUE over last year by 116% and even better, we INCREASED OUR NET by 117%. It’s gonna be hard to top that next year but we are already planning for it.

As I write this on April 24, the temperature outside is 58 degrees. I can’t believe it. Well hopefully, this is the last cold front of the year and we can get out and start some serious summer fishing fun. Have a great summer. —Kent Lacy

Vice President, Bay Area Chapter.

Brazoria County

Wes Dingee 979-299-8245

The Brazoria County Chapter of the Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) wrapped up our annual banquet in March with a very positive outcome. The banquet is our only fundraiser of the year, so our sponsors, underwriters, and attendees are very supportive financially. This year, big sponsors were Beef ‘O Brady’s and Mammoet who helped with our gun/cooler raffle and dinner. Attendance was fantastic, — we packed the Lake Jackson Civic Center!

Our chapter will host a free public presentation at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, June 18 at the Sea Center in Lake Jackson. This CCA chapter general membership meeting will feature recognized Gulf Coast fishing guide Tommy Kountz. Talk About Good catering will provide dinner. There is no charge for this event which also includes a raffle of several fishing items for attendees. There is no reservation required and attendees do not have to be CCA members. For more information call Dan Johnson (979) 265-6555, Wes Dingee (979) 299-8245, or any other Brazoria County CCA board member. The Brazoria County chapter assists Sea Center, Kid Fish, and several other community projects. —Wes Dingee
CCA makes marine conservation a reality. In addition to relentless efforts to educate the public, CCA also partners with organizations like Academy Sports + Outdoors to promote and enhance the present and future availability of coastal resources.

## ELECTRONICS

**699.99**

Lowrance Elite-7 HDI GPS/Fishfinder Combo
- 7-in. SolarMax color display with 800 x 480 resolution
- 600 W RMS, depth to 2,000 ft.
- 83/200 kHz transducer
- Tri-screen display option

**799.99**

Humminbird 598ci HD SI GPS/Fishfinder Combo
- 256-color, 5-in. TFT display with 3-D mapping
- 640 x 480 resolution
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- 455 kHz Side Imaging and Down Imaging transducer

## RODS

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H2O Xpress Ethos Inshore Rod
- IM-8, 40-million modulus graphite blank
- Fuji® Alconite guides
- Genuine Fuji® reel seat

**159.99**

Waterloo Rod Series
- Carbon graphite blank
- Fuji® reel seat
- Alps/S16 stainless steel guides, plus tip
catch the BIG ONE

ACCESSORIES

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ForEverlast G2 Pro Wading Belt
Style BWG2
- Lift-and-lock customization system
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EVEYDAY!
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Style G2P
- Aluminum construction
- Tungsten carbide braid cutter
- Includes nylon sheath and coil lanyard

44.99
EVEYDAY!
Men’s ForEverlast Ray-Guard Reef Boots
Style RB-G4

17.99
EVEYDAY!
ForEverlast Neoprene Wading Socks
Style N3

Prices good through July 31, 2013

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Brazos Valley
Larry Purifoy 979-229-4752

Brenham
Dennis Crowson 979-451-2472
Dennis.crowson@hotmail.com

Brush Country
Hank Henry 361-215-6803

Centex
Brad Hensel 254-776-3411

Central Houston
Todd Buster
Mobil, 713-545-1897

We had the most successful banquet in the history of our chapter last month, and I want to personally thank all of our sponsors and board members! Our 2014 banquet will be May 1st, 2014 with an exciting boat raffle. Stay tuned. Best, —Todd Buster

Colorado Valley
James Loehr 979-250-3958

We presented a Distinguished Service Award to JK Brandt and Gary Janda. We’d like to thank all of those who attended and participated with us at our annual banquet. The event was a great success. We’d like to thank the KC’s for preparing a fantastic meal. Thanks to Oviedo Chrysler Dodge for sponsoring our raffle caps. We’d like to thank Prime Products Inc. for sponsoring our koozies. Special thanks to all of our print sponsors, table buyers and donors we couldn’t have done this without your support. Thanks to all of our board members who spend countless hours collecting donations and selling ticket and tables. —James Loehr

Corpus Christi
Randy Poelma 361-851-1129
r_poelmacpa@sbcglobal.net

Spring is here and fishing is only going to get better. The STAR Tournament opens on Memorial Day weekend and closes on Labor Day weekend—Good Luck— maybe a boat, motor, and trailer is in the stars for you! Please mark your calendars now for the three upcoming “on the water” events (listed below) for the CCA Corpus Christi Chapter.

Upcoming events – Guides Cup - October 3-4, 2013. Contact Cody Roesner, Chairman, 915-531-0078. Captain’s dinner and Calcutta, Thursday evening (Doc’s Restaurant) at 6:00 pm. Babes on Baffin and Blue Ladies Fishing Tournament – October 11-12, 2013 We are looking forward to our Babes on Baffin and Blue Ladies Fishing Tournament, which takes place October 12 at Bluff’s Landing in Corpus Christi. Doc’s Restaurant (under the J&K Causeway) is the location of Friday night’s check-in and social. The Tournament features a live weigh in / donation bonus with the live fish going to the CCA/CPL Marine Development Center in Corpus Christi. Those not familiar with the Marine Development Center is one of the world’s largest state-of-the-art saltwater hatcheries, which provides educational outreach and cutting edge marine science work and produces tens of millions of fingerling redfish and spotted seatrout for release into Texas bays for stock enhancement.

Distinguished service award winners JK Brandt and Gary Janda from Colorado Valley. The picture is in order, JK Brandt past president, James Loehr, President and Gary Janda, board member.


Seniors of the Country Village Care. Hosted by Sea Center Texas and Brazoria CCA Texas.


2013 Corpus Christi Chapter Banquet Committee
Contact Lauren Holon, Chairwoman 361-461-9396
Poco Rojo Kids Fishing Tournament – October 19, 2013 / Contact John De John 361-728-8152 or Mike Henry 361-816-0300.
The Kid’s Fish will be held at the CCA/CPL Marine Development Center in Corpus Christi. E-Blasts are forthcoming for early registration for this event.
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 me at r_poelmacpa@sbcglobal.net — Randy Poelma

Dallas / North Texas
Craig Jones 817-239-6200

East Texas
Dr. Jim Norman 936-554-3165
jnorman7@suddenlink.net
CCA East Texas Chapter held our banquet the first week in February. Our BBQ pit crew of Billy Cox, Dan Hafner, Bill Kaczynski, Rusty Sanders, Mike Miguez, Frank Still, Marty Smith, Allan Spruiell, and Brent Rogers smoked up brisket, pork and chicken to perfection and very little was left over at the end of the banquet. Thanks to R&K Distributors for providing refreshments and Budweiser-themed raffle prizes. Also, thanks to Clear Springs Restaurant, Butcher Boys Restaurant and Brookshire Bros. for donations for the BBQ. We had a good night and racked up our best banquet financially to date.
We are having our spring fishing tournament June 1, headquartered at Stingaree Ma-

Fort Bend
Clint Shepard 832-595-5375
We are fresh off of our 27th annual banquet, and let me tell you, it was a blast. Our board members put together an awesome event, and it was complimented by great attendance. I would like to thank all who attended for their support and participation. Additionally, I would also like to thank our sponsors, and the board members for their efforts that made the banquet go off without a hitch. Way to go guys! Mark your calendars: The “Ladies Only” fishing tournament, Lingerie On The Bay, is scheduled for June 15 in Matagorda. Entry forms will be posted at www.matagordabay.com. Due to LOTB falling on the same weekend as ICC this year, the Fort Bend Chapter will not be attending the ICC. We will see you there next year.
The Jimmy Guest Memorial Kid’s Fishing Tournament is scheduled in Matagorda on July 13. Information for this event can be found at www.matagordabay.com. Be safe, have a great summer, and take a kid fishing. See you on the water. —Clint Shepard

Fort Worth
Earnie Mastin 817-291-1302

Galveston
Dr. Ken Ellis 713-962-7731
The days have gotten longer due to daylight savings, and the fishing should start picking up once the water temperature increases... The small cold fronts need to stop, so that we can all get on the water...
The S.T.A.R. tournament will be starting soon, so please know your local weigh-in, in case you catch “the fish” with “the tag”...Good luck to all, and if you have not yet registered for the S.T.A.R. tournament, please go to cca.org, and do so... Just a reminder also of the upcoming Galveston Chapter CCA banquet...Please mark your calendar for August 3, 2013 at Moody Gardens...We will have a large variety of raffle, silent and live auction items...Trips to all sorts; fishing destination... Gun raffles, and do not forget about our 21’ Shallow Sport, that was put together by Coastline Marine, that will be given away that evening to one lucky person... Only 350 tickets at $100 will be sold, and we are running out quick... So if you would like a raffle boat ticket, or a table (10) to participate in planning and putting on our banquet. We try to have two fishing tournaments a year where we award some nice prizes and occasionally sip a cold one and tell lies. If you are interested in joining us, contact me at the e-mail below. Tight Lines. —Jim Norman jnorman7@suddenlink.net

Golden Triangle
Welcome new president, Josh Kaczynski 409-554-1325
Greater Sugar Land
Welcome new president, Weems Turner
713-857-8897
wtuner@ducummum.com
First, I would like to welcome Weems Turner as our new chapter President. The board and I look forward to working with him.
We held our annual banquet on April 11th. Everyone enjoyed crawfish and catfish. Thanks go out to all that came out to support the Greater Sugar Land Chapter. Also I want to thank all the members for making this another GREAT event!
On April 27, we held the New Territory Kid Fish. About 175 kids showed up for the kid fish. Thanks to Julie Kveton with New Territory Parks, Fort Bend County Constable Precinct 4 and the Sugar Land CCA for an awesome time had by all.
On May 4, we held a Kid Fish for special needs children with the Elks Lodge No. 151 at Sea Center Texas in Lake Jackson. The ELKS bused the children and parents in for the event. The kids had a fantastic time.
On May 18, we will have had the Sugar Land Kid Fish.
On June 1, as you receive this newsletter, we will have the Missouri City Kid Fish, 1700 Glenn Lakes.
On June 29, we will have a chapter fishing tournament at Sargent. We welcome all to join. For info email me at dokveton@gmail.com or call me at 281-808-4870.
Our chapter will not meet in June and July. The next meeting will be on August 7 at Spring Creek BBQ, Hwy. 6, Missouri City. Come join us for a great time. For more info on our chapter go to Sugarlandcc@comcast.net or check out our facebook page at //www. facebook. Com/ccasugarland. —David O. Kveton

The Greater Woodlands group, Pres. James Kay presiding, enjoyed the Concert For Conservation.

Greater Woodlands
James Kay 281-363-4417
www.ccatexas.org/greater-woodlands
Here comes our 6th Annual Banquet – Thursday July 18-- The Grand Palace 314A Pruitt Rd. – Spring, Texas. The event starts at 6:00 p.m. and ends around 10:00 p.m. Single ticket admission is $50, which includes a year’s CCA membership, adult beverages, and a catfish & shrimp dinner by Clint’s Kundry Katfish Catering. Sponsorships and Corporate Tables are still available for purchase beginning at $750 and continuing to $5,000 for a Platinum Sponsorship. The evening’s live auction will feature hunting and fishing adventures from around the world, along with original artwork and unique gift items. There will be plenty of outdoor related bargains and other treasures among the raffle items and on the silent auction tables. Proceeds fund conservation projects along the coast, fisheries research, conservation lobbying, and equipment to help with fisheries management and in the enforcement of game laws. The event is headed for a sellout, so don’t delay in purchasing your tickets, a Corporate Table or a Silver, Gold or Platinum Sponsorship, by contacting Drew Adams at 713-626-4222 or Bryant Bennett at 281-757-5011.
Larry Bozka and Mark Mantell were invited to speak to the CCA TX GWC group on March 26. With an informative and entertaining mix of fishing advice and a veritable traveling gallery of top-notch photography and artwork to boot, Larry put on an unforgettable program. After sharing a few funny stories, Bozka presented some insights as to how he interprets and utilizes wind, tide and other conditions to narrow down his choice of potential fishing hotspots. As a full-time outdoor writer and broadcaster for more than 35 years, Bozka draws on that experience and more as a popular public speaker, video and seminar producer, photographer and marketing consultant. He hosts the award-winning website and blog CoastalAnglers.com, and can be emailed at larry@coastalanglers.com. Better yet, “friend” him on Facebook. Larry brought out his close friend and creative collaborator artist Mark Mantell of Friendswood (on Facebook at art name Marcus Mann: Email: mmann@mckelleygalleries.com). Mark brought his limited-edition sporting art prints “Homecoming” and “Reflections” and sold them at a substantial discount in support of our cause. He and Larry provided signatures for the past 5-years. Thank You Charles and Susan Upshaw for all your support.
Please visit our web page for up to date events and information. http://www.ccatexas.org/chapters/inland/greater-woodlands/ Keep Conserving …To Keep Fishing. —James Kay

Guadalupe Valley
Cliff Weber 361-275-6506

Heart of the Hills
Randy Plummer 830-377-0737

Cool weather lasted longer than we expected and the winds blew, but several members still reported good catches of reds and some nice trout. One of our active supporters from Blanco, Dobie Benson of Benson Body & Paint, was seen enjoying a weekend at the coast with his family. Hope you have had the chance to get out and fish, also.
We are preparing for our Banquet on Thursday, September 12, 2013 at the Boerne Community Center. If you would like to donate merchandise or sponsor an auction item, please give me a call. We also have volunteer opportunities - come and be a part of the group!
Remember Boerne Marine, Full Service Auto Parts, Concept Builders, Academy, Kendall County Abstract, Brady’s Automotive, and C. Joseph Industries/Garrett Mechanical are proud sponsors of CCA Heart of the Hills! See you on the water—Jim Simmons 210-380-5709

Hill Country
Darlene Cook 800-594-2056 ext 217
darlene@knbt.fm
The Hill Country Chapter had our first CCA Social Sunday, April 28. It was held at the Texas Agriculture Education and Heritage Center in Seguin. The venue offered a stroll through his-
and game. Some of our Director’s kids helped out at the fish pond and casting contest – thanks Hayden, Wyatt, Haley, Montgomery, Eric, Brae and Kortlyn! 

Adults enjoyed the gardens, music, door prizes, raffles and a great fish fry. We signed up some new members and STAR participants. I want to thank Dawn and Quinn Koehler for chairing this first time event for the Hill Country Chapter. It was well planned and we had a surprisingly big turnout for a first time!

OUR NEXT MEETING will have been MAY 21st at the New Braunfels Elk’s Lodge at 7pm. Dr. Lee Fuiman with the University of Texas Marine Science Institute will have been the guest speaker. CCA Texas made a sizeable donation to start a larviculture facility to raise and research young gamefish, and Dr. Fuiman detailed the advances our money is making.

OUR FAMILY FISHING TOURNAMENT is June 8 in Rockport. There will not be a meeting before the tournament so you have had to sign up at the May 21 meeting or by mail. For more information on the tournament contact Sterling Schulz at 830-305-5128 or Josh Downey at 830-708-2986. They can send you a registration form for the tournament. Deadline to register for the tournament is June 2, 2013. There will not be a registration the Friday night before.

JULY 16TH MEETING Dr. Greg Stunz will be our Guest Speaker.

OUR BANQUET IS AUGUST 15 at the New Braunfels Civic and Convention Center. Purchase your table now. We sold out last year and had to turn people away.

If you have a product or service you would like to donate to the banquet please call me, 830-214-3067. We also accept cash donations to purchase art work or other items. We need a lab puppy. We are looking for a hunting jeep in good condition or an ATV, mule or ranger. Have one? Would you like to donate a hunt, fishing trip or condo? Hope to see you at our next meeting or banquet. Wishin’ to be fishin’ – Darlene Cook

Houston Real Estate
Dale Couch 281-953-2510

Early in the concert, the crowd is still filing in, but ready to enjoy the music. Below—the crowd from the musician’s perspective.

Katy
Clint Hilton 713-515-3991

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

Lee County
Byron Kalbas 979-540-0056

We held a membership/business meeting on April 22. There have been some family emergency issues that have come up concerning our some of our chapter officers and we have called a membership/business meeting at the Lion’s Den in Giddings. It’s Monday, July 15, at 6:30 pm. We will be electing a 2nd Vice President and a 1 year Executive Board member. We will have a speaker that night with refreshments and drinks provided, and encourage any Lee County CCA member to attend. We hope to see some new faces along with some old ones as well.

Mark your calendars for the Third Annual Lee County CCA Chapter Banquet, which will be on Thursday, October 17 at the Sons of Hermann Hall in Giddings, TX. We will start selling pre-banquet raffle tickets and tickets to the banquet by the beginning of August. Please contact me, or any other committee member, if you are interested in purchasing tickets. I hope everyone has a safe and successful summer on the water, and don’t forget to register for the STAR Tournament! – Byron Kalbas bkalbas@yahoo.com 979-540-0056

Live Oak
Brad Kotrla 979-732-1669

Lower Colorado
J.L. West 979-318-9007

Lower Laguna
Travis Flanagan 956-207-6391

Mainland
Eric Minor 281-534-6242

By now we will have had our 15th annual banquet on May 3. The deadline for this Currents edition precedes this date so we will have more information about the banquet in the next one. We do have a date for our fourth annual Kid Fish Tournament, which will be held on Saturday August 24. Once again, Harbor Walk Marina will host the event and we expect it to be our best one yet. If you would like to get involved, we meet at Dickinson Bar-B-Que every third Tuesday of the month.

—Eric

Matagorda Bays
Linc Lutrict 979-541-9901

The 28th Annual Matagorda Bays CCA Banquet will be held on Thursday June 27 at the El Campo Civic Center. This year’s boat raffle will feature a fully rigged 23ft Dargel KAT w/ 200HP Evinrude E-Tec, McClain Tandem Aluminum Trailer. Thank you to our boat sponsors, Polasek Construction, Quality Lease Services, Q.C.E. Supply, Inc. and Dargel Boats.

This year’s live auction will feature a Customized Golf Cart from B&D Carts, Argentina Dove Hunt from Frontera Wingshooting, Matagorda Bay Fishing Trip & Lodging donated by Sunrise Lodge on Matagorda, Bink Grimes & Mark Talasek, and many other items.

Don’t forget about the Matagorda Bay Guides Cup to be held at Harbor Bait & Tackle in September. This event is made possible by the support of our local guides, and sponsors Duckett, Bouligny & Collins LLP, Las Palmas Lodge, and H&H Oilfield. We are pleased to announce that for the fourth year in a row, the Game Warden of the Year will be recognized at our banquet. To be awarding one of these fine folks at our banquet is truly an honor.

Be sure and get your tickets early, as the banquet has sold out the past three years. You may contact Wesley Smolik at 979-543-2753 for more details.
The 8th Annual Matagorda Bays CCA Lil’ Salties Fishing Blowout was held on May 11 at the Matagorda Harbor. This is a FREE TOURNAMENT FOR KIDS between the ages of 3 and 14. This event has averaged over 200 kids for the past 7 years and it is only possible because of the generous donations of our sponsors. Thank you again to all of the sponsors who make this event a huge success and to our Event Sponsors: Dalton Lodge, E. A Collins & Sons, Mustang CAT, Schmidt Implement, Inc., Wiese Crop Insurance, Gulf Coast Lease Services, Backup Utility Contractors, Texas Tackle Factory, D A M Services, Inc, Prasek’s Hillje Smokehouse, Polasek Construction Inc., Cedar Creek Woodshop, Multi Fab Metals, and Quality Hot Mix, Inc. See the next Currents Publication for more details on this event. For more information on the tournament or to be a part of this great event, contact Chad Hensley (979-541-3239). Thanks, —Linc Lutrick

Above: Dancing as Ray Wylie Hubbard began the concert. Hayes Carll begins his set, and below, tremendous applause as Robert Earl Keen brings Lyle Lovett to the microphone.

MidCoast
David Jenkins 361-578-5580
jenkins12@sbcglobal.net

The past few months have been very busy and a lot of hard work preparing for our annual banquet. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the board members of Mid Coast Chapter CCA, we had one of the most successful events ever! I want to thank our guests for your attendance to the banquet, all 800 of you are the primary reasons that we can continue to enjoy fishing along the beautiful waters along the Texas Coast.

As always, we could not get this done without our sponsors, and I thank you. Academy Sports & Outdoors, Majek Boats, Rick Kresta and family of Krestas Boats & Motors and his new 5th Lake Trailers, Jimmie Burns and Waterloo Rod Company USA, Del Papa Distributing, Hartman Distributing, Uncle Mutts Bar B Que, Bernie’s Boats & Motors, Victory Auto, Victoria Oliver Co., Twin Fountains Walk In Clinic, De Tar Healthcare System, Lowes, Coastal Bend Marine, The Tackle Box, and all of the donors of items for our live auction, Raffles, and Silent Auctions. I would like to give special thanks to our Banquet Chairs, Curt Allison, Banquet Chairman, did a great job this year in securing items and making sure the banquet would be a great success. Hector Mendietta, Table Chairman, Dr. Brian Burns, Live Auction Chairman, Doug Anderson, Silent Auction Chairman, Mallory Thurman, Raffle Chairman, Eric Maciel, Ice Chest Chairman, David and Lisa Jenkins, Boat

Chairmen, Lisa Jenkins, Placemat and Po Mans Raffle Chairman, Captain Danny Goyen and Dennis Lala, Guides Cup Chairman, and all of our board members for the commitment and dedication for the long hours spent prior and during the banquet. Each year we elect a board member who displays dedication, continued effort and hard work representing CCA Texas Mid Coast Chapter. This year’s award of Board Member of the Year was presented to Captain Danny Goyen.

Upcoming events, later this year: This Fall we will be having a General Meeting and date and time will be determined at a later date. On October 2013, we will hold our yearly Guides Cup Tournament. Mid Coast Chapter gives thanks to all of the guides who will be participating in this year’s event.

If you are interested in becoming a new board member, please contact a board member or me directly at 361-578-5580. Tight Lines, —David Jenkins

Northeast Houston Jason Law 713-898-8594

Northwest Houston
Blayne Eversole 832-444-4579

The next General Membership meeting is June 4. It will be held in the Stein Room at Houston Distributing as it has in the past. We will announce the speaker when we send out the meeting notice.

April Member’s Meeting: Our April speaker was Lt. Commander Scott Parkhurst who is the Command Center Chief - Sector Houston-Galveston. He provided a very informative session and addressed pointed audience questions. He was a great complement to our annual member appreciation fish fry. Many thanks to Mark and Renea Mohr who sponsored the cooking and to Catfish Steve and his fishing buddy Dan for providing the fresh caught catfish. We cooked over 100 lbs of fish, along with beans, cole-slaw, fries, onion rings and more. A great evening topped off with beer courtesy of Houston Distributing.
 NW Houston CCA Kid Fish: Here is the info for our 2013 Kid fish.

Date: Saturday, May 11. Time: 7am – 1pm at Sylvan Beach Park – Fishing Pier, in La Porte. Rain or Shine! Lots of Prizes! Hotdogs for all after the event along with the awards.

Many thanks to Harris County Precinct 2, The City of La Porte and Linda’s Bait & Tackle for their support of this annual program. Call Blayne Eversole for questions at 832-444-4579 or email Theresa Sims, simstopdog@aol.com to RSVP.

Our Annual Fund Raising Banquet is scheduled for Thursday, August 15th. This year again, the banquet will be held at the Crowne Plaza – Houston Northwest located at 12801 Northwest Freeway. (Pinemont @ Hwy 290). Get your tickets early by calling me (Blayne) or Alan Massey at 281- 414-6341. Dinner is served at 7 pm and the auction soon thereafter. Please plan to attend and support the NW Houston Chapter of CCA. You can count on a great venue and evening program.

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 jsdeclue@yahoo.com. — Blayne Eversole

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

As we enter the months of May and June, it’s our full blown banquet planning time again. Aug 22 is the date we have set. This year’s event will be held in the brand new Orange County Convention and Expo Center, so we will be able to handle a larger crowd this year. Mark your calendars with the date. This will be our chapter’s 5th banquet and the biggest one yet! The next chapter meeting will be on May13 at Roberts Meat Market and Steakhouse at 6:30 pm. If you would like to join the chapter or participate in the planning of the 2013 banquet, please come to the meeting or contact Scott Bandy at409-988-3667 or Louis Moore at409-988-4845. —Scott Bandy

Piney Woods
Jess Mowery 903-736-3891
Port O’Connor
Bill Moore 361-983-4690

We’re in the process of planning the 14th annual POC CCA banquet and Auction, which is slated for Saturday, October 19. As usual, your participation and ideas to improve this year’s banquet are welcomed. Tables will again be sold to individuals, groups, businesses or corporate sponsors. Be on the lookout for updates and announcements over the next few months on meetings. We are looking forward to seeing you there and if you want to get involved, give us a call.

Also, many of you reading this will be in the POC area, July 17-20 for Poco Bueno. Come by and visit some of our banquet donors. See you at POCO in POC, “Where it all began.” —Bill Moore

Sharon Goebel 979-877-4103

On April 4, we hosted our 16th annual CCA banquet at the Cat Spring Hall. The evening started with our cap and card game. There were seven guns raffled off. With every cap purchased, there was a playing card attached to it. If that card was drawn the person won. Thanks to Westley Goebel for organizing the guns and the game.

Also, there was a pistol raffled in the one dollar raffle. We would like to thank Mark Switzer and his helpers for putting together a great live auction which included fishing and hunting trips as well as prints that were framed by Pat and Frances Sechelski.

This year we had something different in the live auction. It was a custom built protein feeder from Kenny Frank. Thanks to Academy Sports and Outdoors and all the sponsors that donated items for the silent auction. Many thanks to Jerry Mikeska Catering for serving an outstanding meal of prime rib and shrimp. Also, we would like to thank Mandy Goebel, Erin Beaman, Jenifer Flantge, Amy Herbrig, Lori Cruz and Cassie Kasprowicz for selling our five dollar raffle tickets as well as participat-

Partners in conservation initiatives

At Anheuser-Busch, focusing on environmental sustainability is a key issue. The company operates efficiently to reduce water and energy use and increase recycling in its facilities across the country. As part of this commitment to conservation efforts, the company has supported the Coastal Conservation Association in their mission to protect coastal resources.

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

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

“Since 1995, the Budweiser Outdoors program has celebrated and supported the passion, dedication and leadership of conservationists across the country,” said Bob Fishbeck, senior manager for the Budweiser brands. “We all have a responsibility to help protect our natural resources and the work being done by CCA and other wildlife advocates is an inspiration for all of us to follow.”

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

“Budweiser has become an important supporter of CCA, and we’re proud to be among their many conservation partners,” said Robby Byers, executive director of CCA Texas. “Our programs aim to conserve, protect and enhance our coasts for everyone to enjoy.”

Prairie

The Great American Lager

~18~
ing in other duties. Thanks to Wittenburg Printing for embroidering the cups as well as many other services.

We would like to thank all the sponsors that purchased corporate tables this year as well as Kirk Hoppe for managing all the tables. If you are interested in purchasing a table for next year’s banquet, contact Kirk at 979-885-8868. Thanks to Mark III, Cool Blue Fans, and Hair Reflections for donating all the koozies. And thanks to all the Board Members who volunteered their time to make this banquet a great success. Also, thanks to all the sponsors who donated caps for the cap and card game. Without their help our banquet would not have been a success. We would also like to thank Coleman Todd and his staff from the CCA Office.

On May 18, the chapter will have our appreciation dinner at the Goebel Ranch. There will be a skeet shoot and good fellowship. Don’t forget to bring your shotgun and shells.

On June 29, we will have our second annual CCA Bay Blast fishing tournament which will be held at Matagorda harbor. There will be prizes given to the winning teams. In the evening there will be a raffle. For more info, contact Travis or Amy Herbrig at 979-530-7126.

On Saturday, September 21, we will have our annual Kid’s fishing tournament that will be held at the Eberly Ranch in Chappell Hill. There will be t-shirts for the kids as well as food and drinks. Just bring your rod and reel and a yard chair. For information, Mandy Goebel at 979-887-8690. Thanks, —Ron Chess, Sr. 979-992-3295

Redfish Bay
Norman Oates 361-758-0266

A big thank you to our Redfish Bay Board, John Blaha, CCA Texas staff, and our many donors and sponsors for making the 2013 Annual Banquet a very special event! Chris Marine in Aransas Pass was the Title Sponsor for the 10th year in a row - thank you Chris and Julie for your continued support of CCA Texas.

The event could not be a success without the many attendees who buy raffle tickets and bid on silent and live auction items; we appreciate your attending and taking part, and we hope we made it enjoyable for you!

It seems that each year is bigger and better than the last, and we had the largest attendance ever. A great meal (and coconut shrimp appetizers) catered by Jay Jones of Castaways always adds to our event. The Port Aransas Rotary helped with all beverages, and they do a bang-up job. All-in-all, a very successful and fun event - thank you to all who played your part!

The annual “Take a Kid Fishing” event will be over May 31. It is a shrimp boil and June 1 fishing and awards ceremony. As always, it will be held at Woody’s Sports Center in Port Aransas, and rods and reels and trophies for all.

Our Beeville fish fry will be the Thursday night before dove season starts. It will be an entertaining evening with food, drink, and a good time. Much like our banquet, there will be raffle, silent auction, and live auction items. Thanks in advance to the Beeville Board members who do the preparation. Also, thanks in advance to the many donors and sponsors of the event. We will see you there. —Norman Oates H 361-758-0266 C 361-790-2748

Rio Grande Valley
Phil Teiner
956-367-4267
pteiner@fcbtx.com

Sabine-Neches
Darin Johnson 409-790-9855
darin.johnson@delpapabud.com

The Sabine Neches Chapter hosted its 3rd annual Kid Fish on May 18 at Walter Umphrey State Park on Pleasure Island. Kids and volunteers had a blast and many fish were caught and released to fight another day. We would like to thank your sponsors of the event, Ancelet’s Cajun Market and Marina for the links, Causeway Bait and Tackle, Anthony Toups and Classic of Southeast Texas for the water and their continued support of the Sabine Neches Chapter, Daley’s Hunt and Fish for the goodies, Matt Peavey for all of the Little Debbie snacks, Beaumont Pepsi, Texas Marine and Del Papa Distributing.

A special thanks goes out to the additional volunteers from Orange County CCA and SALT Club members for helping us introduce and encourage our young anglers at this year’s event. Tight Lines to All! —Darin

Sam Houston
Mark Robinson
936-662-0841 mark6469@hotmail.com

San Antonio
Johnny Rayburg 210-837-5500
CCASanAntonio@yahoo.com

[Apologies to San Antonio from the Currents editor for missing the April May Report]

On May 2, we enjoyed our 34th Annual Banquet and it was another example of how well things can go when you have a top notch crew of volunteers. Our venue, the Expo Hall on the Freeman Coliseum grounds, was full to the brim. I would like to thank our Sponsors, Coors Light, Academy Sports and Outdoors, Silver Eagle Distributors, IBC Bank, Metro Ambulance, Diageo Guinness, Ben E. Keith, ConCor/Arrowall Co., Corona Beer, Anheuser Busch, Davenport Drilling & Pump Service, Forum Construction, Chicky Tackle Co.
CCA Texas loses
President Bill Schwarzlose

CCA suffered a tremendous loss with the passing of CCA Texas President and CCA National Vice Chairman, Bill Schwarzlose. Bill passed away on May 10th after a long fight from surgery complications.

Bill has been part of CCA for many years starting out at his local chapter in Beaumont to moving up to become the CCA Texas President. His vision and leadership played a key part in the creation of our Mariculture Lab in Port Aransas as well as our habitat program, Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow (HTFT).

These along with many others accomplishments and milestones for CCA will be a legacy that Bill left that will continue to benefit CCA members and all recreational fishermen for generations.

Bill will be remembered as a great father, husband, friend, outdoor enthusiast, and conservationist and will always be a permanent part in the fabric of CCA.

Kenny Chesney kicked off his No Shoes Nation tour in Tampa, Fla. with a check presentation to the Coastal Conservation Association (CCA). Over the past two years, more than $80,000 has been raised to benefit the CCA through the sale of Kenny Chesney’s Limited Edition Costa sunglasses, now available at www.costadelmar.com.

Pictured left to right: Pat Murray, president, Coastal Conservation Association; Kenny Chesney; Amanda Perryman, marketing manager, Costa Sunglasses; Brett Palmer, president, AbiJack Management.

the Bay Area Community Center in Seabrook, Texas and see what we are talking about. —Gerald “Get er Done” Payne

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Knee deep to a tall bird, or a shallow dolphin? Near Sargent Beach. Great Wildlife Photo by Judy Matula.
The Last Laugh

Jessica Badgett IS NOT HAPPY her fish isn’t bigger. Next, a CPR for Jessica. Photo by Denna Badget.

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~23~
Welcome to many new members, courtesy of the Concert for Conservation

U.S. Coast Guard
Air & Sea Rescue
National Response Center: 800-874-2143
Port Isabel: 956-761-2668
Corpus Christi / Marine Safety Office: 361-749-5217
Port Aransas: 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 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: ______

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