

CURRENTS

October / November 2014



*Restoration
of oyster reefs
now underway for
the bedrock of healthy bays*

Texas Parks & Wildlife, CCA Texas partner on 180-acre oyster reef

By John Blaha

Across the world, it is estimated that 85% of oysters have been lost since the late 1800s. Oysters are an important part of a healthy and sustainable ecosystem. A single healthy oyster can filter roughly 1.3 gallons of water per hour. Oysters are the natural filters of the ecosystems and a healthy oyster system improves water quality by filtering out excess nutrients, algae, and sediments from a bay helping in water clarity and health.

In 2008, roughly 50% of Galveston Bay's oyster reefs were lost during Hurricane Ike due to heavy sedimentation coverage of the reefs. Estimated oyster reef losses in East Galveston Bay are estimated to have been up to 80%.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) and CCA Texas began working together in late 2010 to secure substantial funding through the Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP). A grant application was filed and eventually \$3.2 million was secured for an oyster restoration project. CCA Texas funded an additional \$500,000 to the project which resulted in a 180 acre reef restoration effort that was recently completed in August 2014.

This project focused on four areas in East Galveston Bay. Some 80 acres were restored at Hannah's reef, 70 acres at Pepper Grove reef, 15 acres at Middle Reef and 10 acres at CCA Middle Reef.

CCA Middle reef was constructed in a "mounding" configuration in order to create more bottom relief and



The unlovely oyster: beloved by gourmets and marine life, bedrock of a healthy bay. The return to health of large areas of Galveston Bay is now underway with efforts by TP&W and CCA.



fish habitat, and to provide opportunities for evaluating construction methods and success.

The other three sites used a more evenly spread cultch material throughout their individual sites. River rock was the chosen cultch material for this project and the size of the material was 1" to 2". This size of material was chosen so that it



Mike Petit from Golden Triangle and Robby Byers watch as initial oyster reef restoration begins.

would pass through the commercial oyster dredge, thus minimizing the removal of cultch material from the bay.

This restoration effort has produced near-instant success already, as cultch materials deployed in May 2014 and collected from Hannah's reef in late July have already had oyster spat set, and growth beginning.

In an effort to protect these restoration efforts, recent legislation has been passed that will close these reefing sites for a period of two years. This will give the restoration sites time to grow into a healthy reef before oyster fishing may resume on them.

"A project like this does so much for a local volunteer and it is like connecting the dots," commented Mike Petit, longtime CCA Texas member and CCA Texas Executive Board member. Mike comment further, "It is really gratifying as a local volunteer to see where the money goes that local chapters raise and to see that it is making an impact on the local bay system." 🐚

Photos by John Blaha



On the cover: Reefing material is being prepared for offloading at Galveston Bay location. Photo by John Blaha



Kim Ogonosky documents restoration work for CCA video presentations. To view the videos for this and other exciting CCA projects, please visit www.ccatexas.org/project-videos.

Right, and below on page 2, contractors deploying the rock via high pressure spray.

CCA Texas's habitat initiative, Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow (HTFT) continues to work closely with state agencies, like organizations and academia to restore and create vital habitat all along the Texas coast. Projects like this are critically important in helping to ensure healthy coastal ecosystems are viable now and for future generations.

"Oyster reefs are an important part of a healthy ecosystem. They not only improve water quality, but also provide essential fish habitat," commented Robby Byers, CCA Texas Executive Director.

Byers continued, "CCA Texas contributed \$500,000 to this project. The dollars that were raised by CCA Texas volunteers is a great example of a true grass roots effort to put money and effort back into the resource."

CCA Texas will continue to remain a part of this project by recruiting local recreational fishermen to fish the new reefs as "citizen scientists." This effort is needed to create baseline data that will be used in the study to evaluate the success of the project. Volunteers are encouraged to work with TPWD and CCA Texas and fish designated areas by designated methods, and be a part of the success and evaluation of the project.

CCA Texas will also work with TPWD to provide outreach and education to the general public about oyster reefs and the efforts to restore them. If you are interested in helping TPWD and CCA Texas collect this type of data, please contact John Blaha at jdblaha@ccatexas.org or Bill Rodney at Bill.Rodney@tpwd.texas.gov.



CCA continues commitment to Nearshore Reefing Sites

The CCA Texas Executive Board recently approved \$200,000 in funding for the new Port O'Connor nearshore reefing site.

This funding approval follows a commitment of \$100,000 in August of 2013 for Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) to secure the necessary US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permit required for the site. This site will be a 160-acre site located out of the Port O'Connor jetties in Texas state waters.

CCA Texas continues to work with CCA National's Building Conservation Trust and TPWD to secure more funds with the goal to make this one of the largest artificial reef deployments to date. TPWD continues to work on securing the permit and hopes to have it in place by the end of 2014 and to begin deployment of materials into the site as soon as possible once the permit is in hand.

CCA Texas remains committed to partner with TPWD and other groups to build nearshore artificial reefs in Texas state waters that provide quick and easy access for recreational fishermen.

With this \$200,000 commitment, CCA Texas has contributed \$700,000 to nearshore reefs along the Texas coast located at Freeport, Matagorda, Port O'Connor, Corpus Christi and Port Mansfield, and continues to fulfill the goal to help provide reefing sites to every port along the Texas coast. 🐠



Old concrete culverts are being joined by specially engineered 'pyramid' reefing elements, designed to harbor smaller marine life. Artist's conception by Sam Caldwell.





FINAL WINNERS!

The 25th Anniversary CCA/Texas Ford Dealers/Tilson Homes Corp/Capital Farm Credit State of Texas Angler's Rodeo came to a close at 5PM on Labor Day, Sept. 1! This year had some surprising results in the offshore division with kids dominating with some very impressive catches. A 10-year old hooked the biggest Dorado and a 14 year-old caught the biggest Kingfish. Nice job, boys! This was also the year lady anglers from the Golden Triangle area dominated all three Gafftop divisions! Way to go, Gafftop gals!!!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR THIRD TAGGED REDFISH WINNER! Tuesday evening, July 1st started like most for Corpus Christi resident, Mike Capell. After fishing awhile, Capell caught a redfish and continued fishing. It wasn't until he went to clean the fish later that he noticed a long skinny thing on one redfish, and yelled to his wife to bring him a magnifying glass. It was Tag TA638!

"The LORD & luck were on my side. I'd like to thank the CCA & STAR TOURNAMENT and all their staff," said Capell. Mike Capell is the third official winner of the 2014 CCA Texas STAR Tournament, Texas Ford Dealers Redfish Division. He will receive a 2014 Ford F-150 Texas Edition XLT SuperCab truck, Haynie 23' Big Foot boat, Mercury 150 L Pro XS OptiMax motor and Coastline trailer.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FOURTH TAGGED REDFISH WINNER! Saturday, August 23, Alice resident David Johnson and his friend launched at Billings Bait Stand. After catching a few fish, Johnson went to the "Boat Hole." Johnson's drag started singing, but he took his time reeling the fish in. His friend told him "It has a tag!" The friends headed to official STAR Weigh Station, Roy's Bait and Tackle, where they verified that it was the "reel deal," tag TA631, and informed him that he had just won a truck and boat.



David Johnson is the fourth official winner of the 2014 CCA Texas STAR Tournament, Texas Ford Dealers Redfish Division. He will receive a 2014 Ford F-150 Texas Edition XLT SuperCab truck, Haynie 23' Big Foot boat, Mercury 150 L Pro XS OptiMax motor and Coastline trailer.

Fortunately for Mike Capell and David Johnson, both were registered. Each will be awarded their truck/boat prize packages at the STAR Awards Ceremony on October 3rd.

Texas Ford Dealers Redfish Division saw thirteen tagged redfish caught but only FOUR are lucky enough to get to drive home a truck/boat prize this year. The others unfortunately, did not qualify for the CCA Texas STAR. BETTER LUCK NEXT YEAR!

Approximately 48,000 anglers registered for the 2014 STAR, and approximately 8,000 new members were recruited into CCA... a NEW RECORD!!! Thanks for supporting CCA Texas and fishing the STAR Tournament! **Don't forget to take advantage of the great benefits your CCA membership has to offer!**

2014 TOURNAMENT RECAP - The Texas Ford Dealers Redfish Division had a total of **FOUR** lucky winners! Four will be driving home the awesome Ford F-150 Texas Edition truck with a Haynie 23 BigFoot boat, Mercury 150 OptiMax Pro XS motor and Coastline trailer. Sadly, there were **NINE** unfortunate anglers who lost out on prizes to the tune of about \$45,000 - \$80,000 each!!!

This year's tournament offered over 130 fabulous prizes. A total of 114 prizes were claimed and the **twenty-five** top prizes will be presented to the winners during the CCA State of Texas BBQ and STAR Awards Ceremony on Friday, Oct. 3rd at the Bayou City Event Center! These are the lucky winners of each division:

Capital Farm Credit StarKids Scholarship Flounder Division - The StarKids Scholarship Flounder Division will

provide a young angler between the ages of six and ten with a college scholarships totaling \$50,000 for catching the largest flounder. This year's winner is Nathan Skrobarczyk, age 8, of Corpus Christi - 4 lbs. 3 ozs.

Houston Community Newspapers StarKids Scholarship Sheepshead Division - The Houston Community Newspapers StarKid Scholarship

Sheepshead Division will provide a young angler between the ages of six and ten with a college scholarships totaling \$50,000 catching the largest sheepshead. This year's winner is Jacob Serna, age 8, of Pharr - 7 lbs., 12 ozs.



HOUSTON COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS



FS Southwest StarKids Scholarship Gafftop Division - The

StarKids Scholarship Gafftop Division will provide a young angler between the ages of six and ten with a college scholarships totaling \$50,000 for catching the largest gafftop. This year's winner is Macayla Hebert, age 6, of Nederland - 7 lbs., 5 ozs.



Academy Sports and Outdoors StarTeens Scholarship Trout Division - The Academy Sports and Outdoors StarTeens Scholarship Trout Division

was open to all New Tide/STAR members ages 11-17. These fisher-teens with the largest speckled trout in each region - upper, middle and lower coast - will be awarded a \$20,000 college scholarship:

Upper Coast: Gage Schnitz, age 16, of Johnson City 7 lbs., 6 ozs.

Middle Coast: Joshua O'Neal, age 14, of Brazoria 6 lbs., 13 ozs.

Lower Coast: Brandon Gill, age 15, of Corpus Christi 9 lbs., 2 ozs.

Time Warner Cable StarTeens Inshore Scholarship Division - Th Time Warner Cable StarTeens Scholarship Inshore Division was open to all New Tide STAR members ages 11-17. These fisher-teens with the largest flounder, gafftop and sheepshead will be awarded a \$20,000 college scholarship:

Flounder: Dylan Gill, age 12, of Corpus Christi 5 lbs., 10 ozs.

Sheepshead: Joshua Dimias, age 15, of Houston 9 lbs., 4 ozs.

Gafftop: Becca De Lord, age 17, of Beaumont 7 lbs., 5 ozs.

Awarding these ten scholarships is truly the highlight of the year for STAR and makes a serious statement toward getting kids on the water. We couldn't be happier for these kids and their families. The kids are really what the tournament is all about. They are the future generation that will keep the vitality of our precious marine resource going for years to come. This brings our total awarded scholarships to **\$5,325,000!**

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

These four winners will be presented with a fully-loaded 2014 Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" truck and Haynie 23 BigFoot boat, Mercury 150L OptiMax Pro XS motor and Coastline trailer; with the exception of Caleb Morales who will receive a \$20,000 scholarship in lieu of the truck prize.

Derek Nethercutt of Highlands Tag #TA589 caught 6/25/14

Mark Richner of Temple Tag #TA635 caught 6/27/14

Mike Capell of Corpus Christi Tag #TA638 caught 7/1/14

David Johnson of Alice Tag #TA631 caught 8/23/14



BEST IN TEXAS



BEST IN TEXAS

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

Trout Division – These registered anglers brought in the largest trout for Upper Coast, Middle Coast and Lower Coast will each receive a Shoalwater 22' Legend, Mercury 150L OptiMax Pro XS motor and McClain trailer:



Upper Coast Mike Eckhardt of Kemah 9 lbs. 4 ozs.
Middle Coast Ryder Green of Portland 8 lbs. 10 ozs.
Lower Coast Arthur Toscano of Shavano Park 9 lbs. 4 ozs.

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



Kingfish: Seamus Caskey (age 14) of Austin 56 lbs. 12 ozs.
Dorado: William Hefner Appling III (age 10) of Port Aransas 50 lbs. 15 ozs.
Ling (Cobia): Russell Book of Corpus Christi 71 lbs. 13 ozs.

Inshore Division - These

Inshore Division winners will take home a



Blue Wave 180 SV-Southern Skiff with a Mercury 115L OptiMax engine and McClain trailer for hooking the largest flounder, gafftop and sheephead:
Flounder: Hank Hall of Wharton 7 lbs. 15 ozs.
Sheephead: Raymond Lake of Beaumont 9 lbs. 1 oz.
Gafftop: Jessica Darder of Beaumont 7 lbs. 0 ozs.

2014 Berkley Gulp/Abu Garcia Revo Reel Challenge "Use Gulp and Win!" -

Congratulations to our StarKid Flounder Winner, Nathan Skrobarczyk and Tagged Redfish #2 Winner, Mark Richner. Each caught their winning STAR fish on Berkley Gulp baits. In addition to Nathan winning a \$50,000 scholarship and Mark a Ford F-150 Truck, Haynie boat, Mercury motor and Coastline Trailer package, each also won the Berkley Gulp/Abu Garcia Revo Reel Challenge prize package. Prize package includes a Limited Edition All Star Team Series Rod, Abu Garcia Revo S Baitcast Reel, Berkley Trilene XL fishing line, Gulp Alive Bait and Berkley tackle bag. Smart choice, guys! All fifteen winners will be announced in the next issue of CURRENTS.



Coors Light "Early Bird" Grand Prize Drawing – Every 2014

STAR entrant, ages 21 and up, who registered prior to May 24th went into this special drawing for a chance to win the awesome Dargel 210 Skout boat, Mercury 150 Pro XS OptiMax outboard and McClain trailer. The lucky winner is Henry C. Ehler, DDS of Pearland.



New Tide Member Scholarship Drawing – All "New Tide" Members (ages 6 - 17) were eligible for a bonus drawing that netted one lucky youth a \$20,000 college scholarship. The lucky winner is Hendrick Hundl (age 11) of El Campo.

Member Bonus Drawing - Every 2014 STAR entrant's name was put into a drawing for a chance to win a fabulous boat prize package even if the participant never wet a line during the tournament. One lucky

contestant's name was drawn to win an Explorer by Dargel 210TV boat, Mercury 150 Pro XS OptiMax outboard and McClain trailer. The lucky winner is Becky Parker of Port Lavaca.



It has been a phenomenal year for CCA Texas and STAR! Many thanks to our fine sponsors weigh stations and tickets stations, and to the many volunteers for their hard work and dedication to enhancing our marine resources. Of course, without YOU there would be no STAR, and we are most grateful to you... especially those who added kids to their fishing experience.

NEW! TEXAS FISH & GAME MAGAZINE "BONUS DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION!" - We all love FREE stuff, and speaking of FREE stuff, many STAR anglers have discovered the benefit and convenience of using digital technology and have requested we do the same.



Texas Fish & Game Magazine is thrilled to announce 2015 CCA Texas STAR participants are now eligible for a ONE-YEAR (12 issues) DIGITAL subscription. This subscription (normally \$11.99/year) will allow you to access the latest and most in-depth outdoors information anywhere and anytime on your smart phone, tablets and desktop. Now STAR anglers have the chance to embrace the latest in technology, plus conserve our natural resources. We are grateful to *Texas Fish & Game* for providing this STAR-only benefit, while saving some trees and giving you more options. If you still wish to receive *Texas Fish & Game* in print magazine form, no problem... a special STAR angler price of \$8 bucks a year (vs. \$17.99/year) is still available, plus access to the digital version at no extra cost! Please be advised your subscription WILL NOT be sent automatically. If you wish to take advantage of this special bonus you must declare it when registering for the tournament. If you have already signed up for the 2015 STAR, but did not declare that you would like this special offer and/or you have questions regarding your past or current subscription, please call (713) 626-4222 or email star@ccatexas.org.

Immense thanks to our official STAR Weigh Station friends that do such a tremendous job for us each year: **Peggy On The Bayou in Orange; SGS Causeway in Port Arthur; Sportsman Supply in Sabine Pass; Stingaree Marina on Crystal Beach; The Landing Bait Shop in Anahuac; Marburger's Sporting Goods in Seabrook; 3G Bait & Tackle in Galveston; Pelican Rest Marina in Galveston; West End Marina in Galveston; Surfside Marina in Freeport; Caney Creek Marina in Sargent; Harbor Bait & Tackle in Matagorda; Indianola Fishing Marina in Indianola; The Fishing Center in Port O'Connor; Terry's Seaworthy Marine Supply in Fulton/Rockport; Woody's Sports Center in Port Aransas; Roy's Bait & Tackle in Corpus Christi; Harbor Bait & Tackle in Port Mansfield; South Shore Bait & Tackle on South Padre Island.**

Major sponsors for the 25th Annual CCA Texas STAR Tournament include: **Texas Ford Dealers, Tilson Home Corporation, Capital Farm Credit, Mercury Marine, Academy Sports + Outdoors, Whataburger, Ozarka, Berkley Gulp, Abu Garcia, Rio Ammunition, KTRK-abc13, Houston Community Newspapers, Fox Sports Southwest, Time Warner Cable, Haynie Boats, Shoalwater Boats, Hoffpauir Auto & Outdoor Stores, Dargel Boats, Blue Wave Boats, Texas Fish & Game Magazine, Texas Oilman's Charity Fishing Tournament, Coastline Trailers, McClain Trailers, Chris's Marine and Mt. Houston Marine.**

For more information, including a list of all the 2014 winners, go to <http://www.startournament.org>.



Trout Division: Shoalwater 22' Legend with a Mercury 150 Pro XS Optimax



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

CCA Texas STAR Platinum Print Membership Package, Series V – We're excited about the new 2015 CCA Texas STAR Platinum Print package. Renowned artist David Drinkard has created yet another fine print to honor CCA Texas members...stay tuned for more details! Package includes your CCA membership (new or renewal), your 2015 CCA Texas STAR entry, plus a signed, limited-edition print created exclusively for STAR, all for \$125! This one-of-a-kind print is 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.



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

STILL AVAILABLE... CCA Texas STAR Platinum Print, Series I, II, III & IV – *STAR Reds, STAR Sightings, School Is In Session and Working the Spoils* are still available. 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!

**STAR WINNER
PHOTOS ON PAGE 6**

Congratulations to the winners of the 2014 State of Texas Anglers Rodeo



Nathan Skrobarczyk
Flounder
Winner



Macayla Hebert
StarKid Gafftop
Winner



Gage Schmitz StarTeen UC
Trout Winner



Joshua O'Neal Star Teen MC
Trout Winner



Dylan Gill StarTeen
Flounder Winner



Joshua Dimas StarTeen
Sheepshead Winner



Becca DeLord
StarTeen Gafftop
Winner



Derek Nethercutt
1st Tagged Redfish Winner



Mark Richner
2nd Tagged Redfish
Winner



Mike Capell
3rd Tagged Red-
fish Winner



David Johnson
Tagged Redfish
Winner #4



Mike Eckhardt
UC Trout Winner



Ryder Green
MC Trout Winner



Arthur Toscano
LC Trout Winner



Seamus Caskey
Kingfish Winner



William Hefner Appling III
Dorado Winner



Russell Book Ling Winner



Hank Hall
Flounder Winner



Raymond Lake
Sheepshead Winner



Jessica Darder
Gafftop Winner

STAR has reached **\$5,325,000** 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.

**Visit the CCA
Texas Online Store
and check out our
newest product!**

**16 oz Silicone Pint Glass
Perfect for a day
on the boat!**

- BPA Free! - The world's first silicone pint glass
- 16oz. pint glass is unbreakable! - Made of 100% food grade silicone, FDA approved and non-toxic
- Dish wash it, nuke it, freeze it, bake in it, bounce it and even run over it with your car. - No more broken glass or throw away cups.



Visit the CCA
Texas Online
Store at
**joincca
store.com**

Louisiana to join Texas in Crab Trap Cleanup

September 8, 2014- The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission adopted a Notice of Intent that targets Sabine Lake for a joint crab trap cleanup by the Louisiana Department Wildlife and Fisheries and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

The Sabine Lake crab trap closure is scheduled to begin at 6 a.m. February 20, 2015 through 6 a.m. March 1, 2015 and also includes portions of the Sabine River and other parts of Cameron Parish immediately east of Sabine Lake.

In the past 10 years, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, together with individual volunteers and organizations, has successfully removed and disposed of more than 24,000 abandoned and derelict crabs. The removal of these crab traps is espe-

cially important to boating safety and crab harvesting efforts.

All crab traps remaining in the closed area during the specified period will be considered abandoned. For press inquiries please contact Laura Wooderson at (504) 430-2623 or lwooderson@wlf.la.gov.

— **Martin Bourgeois** Marine Fisheries Biologist

<http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/news/38443>

***It's getting to be that time again—
Abandoned Crab Trap season. Will Liz
Hewitt and team win Port O'Connor
bragging rights again?***



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Editor, Sam Caldwell / sam@samcaldwell.com
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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,
October 16 till
11 am, October 21.*

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

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

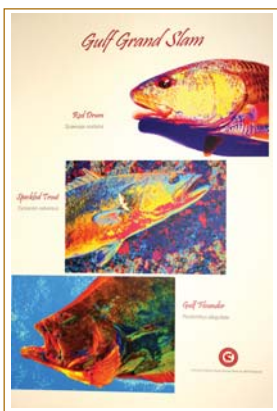


Camo Duffle Bag — With hunting season right around the corner this would be a great travel accessory for any hunter. It is embroidered with the CCA Texas logo in hunter orange.

Gulf Grand Slam — This is a limited edition

piece by Texas artist Bill Edwards. It depicts the Texas gulf slam and would be a great addition to any collection.

*Sponsored by our
friends at Costa.*



FLAXSEED CRUSTED FLOUNDER FILETS WITH JALAPENO-LIME BUTTER SAUCE

Courtesy of chef Glen Dromgoole and Prasek's Hillje Smokehouse

Crust (6-3oz pieces of Flounder)

4 T Golden Flax Seed Meal (Bob's Red Mill) /
4 T Whole Grain Yellow Mustard Seed / 1t
Garlic Powder / 2t Smoked Paprika / 1T Ko-
sher Salt
6 3- oz pieces of flounder
Clarified butter, canola or Olive Oil
for searing

Lay season mix in a 9x9 dish or similar con-
tainer. Press fish on the side it was taken off
the bone—(Seasoning only 1 side)
Heat a 12" non-stick skillet until lightly
smoking add 2 fl oz of clarified butter,
canola oil, or olive oil.

Sear the three filets season side down; the
key is to not shake the pan too much be-
cause it will knock off the crust. Once the
Crust is formed, flip the filet and finish
cooking on the other side. Wipe out the skil-
let and finish the other three filets the
same way.

Jalapeno Puree ingredients:

3 Jalapenos (seeded and stemmed) / ½ C
Cilantro / 3 Limes (juiced) / Water as needed
to work the puree in the blender.

To make puree, blend ingredients and
add water until puree is formed.

Sauce

1 oz Butter / 2 T / Minced Onion / 1t Minced
Garlic / ½ C Wine / ¼ C Cream / 2 T

Jalapeno Puree 4 oz Butter (cut into 1/
2" cubes) / Salt to taste

In an 8" or 9" pan, melt butter over me-
dium heat and Sauté the onion and garlic.
When onion is transparent add the wine.
Reduce the wine until the pan is almost dry.
Add cream and reduce until it is a sauce-
like consistency. Add the Jalapeno puree
and reduce until it is like a sauce again. Add
the butter and swirl in the pan, and season
to taste with salt. If more heat is desired
add more puree.



We want you to fish for us!

CCA Texas and the Texas Parks & Wild-
life Department (TPWD) are looking for
volunteers to help with fishing surveys
for the East Galveston Bay Reef Restora-
tion project. It's critical to have data be-
fore and after. You can be that impor-
tant 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 loca-
tion 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. Or,
Bryan.Legare@tpwc.texas.gov. Or,
John Blaha, CCA Texas at 713-626-4222
jdblaha@ccatexas.org.



Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow

BUILDING A FUTURE FOR TEXAS MARINE HABITAT



Cedar Bayou nears completion

By the time this issue hits the news stands, Cedar Bayou should be flowing to and from the Gulf once again.

As of August 21, 2014, Cedar Bayou has been dredged to the intersection with Vinson Slough and the excavation effort toward the Gulf is continuing.

The dredge is completing the final stretch of excavation in Vinson Slough and during a recent site visit, a strong current flowing through Vinson

Slough into the back lakes was evident and a welcome sight. This historic project has been a long time coming and is sure to have a significant and positive effect on the Mesquite and surrounding bay systems. —John Blaha

Above: An awesome picture. Look close and you'll see the dredge working on the left hand side. The plume you see in the water is current carrying sediments. The current was strong enough in Vinson Slough that we had the power pole down and the current had the boat pointed into the wind.



Excavation work at the Gulf side of the Cedar Bayou/Vinson Slough intersection.

Below, dredge working in the back end of Vinson Slough. Photos by Lisa Laskowski.



Caught Redhanded!



Flounder violator receives CCA Night Vision lesson

In the summer of 2005, Wardens in Calhoun County had been receiving reports of a commercial fisherman who was overbagging in flounder. This individual had been charged and convicted with many violations involving flounder in the past.

Recently, Calhoun County Game Wardens Kevin Stancik and Robert Dominguez launched a patrol vessel at approximately midnight to search for the subject in the San Antonio Bay complex after hearing that his vessel was seen launching earlier. It was a clear night with calm winds favorable for floundering. The Wardens located one vessel floundering the shoreline of Matagorda Island south of the South Pass area. After checking the first flounder fisherman, they noticed a vessel with flounder lights further West in Ayres Bay.

The Wardens drove to the boat's area and used night vision donated by CCA to identify the individual they had been

searching for. After watching this individual gig several flounder and place his catch in different areas of the boat [Editor's note: the night vision equipment provided by CCA includes telephoto capabilities].

The Wardens waited until he started his boat and began to move in order to have the element of surprise for a stop. After the subject pulled his vessel up on plane, the Wardens pulled near the suspect's vessel and activated their red and blue emergency lights to make a stop. With the patrol vessel's spotlight shining on the boat, Wardens observed the individual reach behind the console of his vessel and grab a five gallon bucket by the handle. The individual threw the bucket away from his boat toward the water.

The bucket spiraled in the air several times and landed in the water right side up and floated long enough for Warden Dominguez to grab it and pull it on the patrol vessel. Wardens found several undersize flounder in the bucket and pulled alongside the individual's boat as the suspect came to a stop.

The subject was cited several times for undersize flounder to the local Justice of the Peace. The individual failed to contact the Justice of the Peace to enter a plea to the citations and several warrants for his arrest were issued.

In the Fall of 2007 during the flounder run in November, Victoria County Game Warden Travis Haug and Wharton County Game Warden Chris Bird were checking



Photographs by Phillip Fitzgerald and Sam Caldwell.

flounder fisherman near Saluria Bayou. Wardens encountered this same individual floundering that night about midnight. With multiple outstanding warrants for the subject from the 2005 citations, he was carried ashore and to the Calhoun County Jail. His catch was sold at the fish house to the highest bidder and his vessel was towed to storage. 🐟

OGT 2014 Sporting Clays Tournament

Many CCA members were contestants at the Second Annual OGT tournament, held this year at the handsome West Side Sporting Grounds near Katy, Texas. Texas Game Wardens participated in the shoot as members of teams, but also against one another. After the morning competition, the contestants were treated to a wild game dinner provided by the wardens.

Operation Game Thief is a longtime ally of CCA. OGT receives no taxpayer funds and is totally funded by gifts. Donations allow OGT to continue to pay rewards for information leading to the conviction of flagrant game violators, contributes to immediate death benefits paid to the families of wardens and park peace officers killed in the line of duty, and provides funds to purchase technologically advanced equipment such as body armor, sonar, enhanced communications devices and night vision.

For an example of CCA involvement in OGT and TP&W enforcement programs, see page 9, *Caught Redhanded*.



CCA TEAM **REDFISH** did not finish in first place. Said Team Captain Sam Caldwell, "Wait till next year." From left, Caldwell, TP&W Warden Kevin Malonson, Jim Weinzell, Julie Moore, Lynette Mafrige and TP&W warden Mack Chambers.

Wardens prepared and served a fish fry dinner. After the day's shooting, Robby Byers and David Bishop were tied for best score. Byers and Bishop had a shootout for Top Gun honors. Robert McBee, Tournament Director, congratulates winner Bishop.



For information
about Operation
Game Thief, go to
their website:
www.ogttx.com/





Upper Coast

By Capt. Walt Kalinowski

Rising tide shallow, falling tide deep

Dove season will take some pressure off the bay, so this is a good time of the year to get your "grand slam." The bird action starts, but you can hit 10 groups of birds and end up with a few or no fish. So, I like to concentrate on slicks. You will usually smell "watermelon" or "fresh cut grass" in the air before you see it, a sure sign fish are feeding.

The most effective bait under the birds will be soft plastics, between 1/8 ounce to 3/8 ounce jig heads. For soft plastics, I use Hogie's Eel Diablo and Major Minnow, tough baits which will last through more bites, saving time. I like Pumpkin Seed Limetreuse, Plum with Chartreuse Tail, Root Beer with Chartreuse Tail, Clear Red Flake, Salt & Pepper Copper Belly with Chartreuse Tail, and Red Shad.

I also like a Maniac Mullet by Tidal Surge Lures in the Pearl/Pink, Gold Chartreuse and Pink. For top water baits, I like Skitterwalk and Skitterwalk Jr. I also use Super Spook and Super Spook Jr. in chrome chartreuse as well as pink head/white body.

From Sabine to Matagorda, fish will be heading into shallow water in the back of the bays. Shallow as the tide rises, and into deeper waters as the tide falls. Schools will be moving fast, so have respect for your fellow fishermen and don't drop your anchor in front of someone using a trolling motor. Doing so will spook the fish and end it for everyone.

When I see a group of boats, I will usually hang back and wait because the fish will move through fast and I'll pick them up behind everyone else as they move. Keep your eyes on the water. You don't always need birds to tell you where the fish are, because a lot of times we see shrimp and no birds. We usually catch a lot more fish by spotting shrimp, versus working the birds.

Just remember, it's called "fishing" and not "catching." No matter what you do and think you know, you are never guaranteed a single fish. Mother Nature rules that one.

I wish everyone tight lines and full stringers. —Capt. Walt Kalinowski 713-304-7091
www.riptidefishingtexas.com

Middle Coast

By Capt. Steve Boriskie

Reds, trout, ducks—oh my!

The old question continues to be "...what's the best time of year to come down and fish?" October and November! I love the other months but it's these two months for several reasons. The water cools down from shorter days and cooler weather; our shallow bays allow the water to cool down quickly, so the fish become energized. And, that idea in your mind of GET OUTDOORS!

Ducks are pouring down, ushered in by the first strong cold front; I heard several shots which were hunters enjoying the early Teal Season. The middle coast duck season begins the first weekend of November, along with deer season—fewer folks on the water..

October and November are when speckled trout show up in impressive numbers along shell reefs in our area. Wading chilled water with soft plastics from the Texas Tackle Factory in varieties like Trout Killer, Killer Flats Minnow and Killer Hustler are among my faves. The bait fishermen will enjoy strong bites with live shrimp presented under popping corks as well.

Our redfish are not far away either; the back lakes provide mud, grass and shell homes. These brutes can be taken using the same methods as trout. How long has it been since you waded with nothing but whistling ducks in the skies and a sinking sun lighting up the most fantastic sunset you have seen—with a redfish on the line? Not a dream, it's a reality along the Mid-Coast, made possible by volunteering and donations to groups such as CCA.

Cedar Bayou...crews are working tirelessly to help reopen this vital waterway. Our area will benefit in a huge way from this fresh inflow of salt water from the Gulf. I'm not the scientist here but I say in a few years it will be one of the best projects with the most positive impact on our bay system.

Get out and enjoy the Mid Coast and take advantage of the fantastic freedom to fish and duck hunt this area. Of course, use courtesy and help a fellow angler and hunter when you can and leave the marsh better than you found it.

—Capt. Stephen Boriskie Bay Flats Lodge
512-589-1916

Lower Coast

Capt. Sally Black

The Bounty of Baffin and Beyond

The great outdoors comes alive in October and November along the Texas Coast. Legendary fall fishing brings on another trophy trout spawn, along with the best redfish sight casting of the entire year. Add to that irresistible fishing combination some fantastic wing shooting and sportsmen really celebrate this time of the year and the cooler weather which triggers so much excitement.

Falling water temperatures tell fish that the lazy carefree summer is over. This triggers a feeding impulse that lasts throughout the fall and results in some big top water blow-ups, heavy stringers and dynamic angling, whatever your target. With cool fronts interrupting the bite, fishermen use everything within their means to target the best times to hit the water. Solunar tables, feeding periods and tides (see www.tidesonline.noaa.nos.gov) are all indicators of the best times to fish.

If the weather turns bad for fishing, walk a local field and bag some dove. South zone dove hunting this year looks to be fantastic with a healthy quantity of birds inhabiting the brushy fields along the Texas Coast and more arriving with each front that approaches.

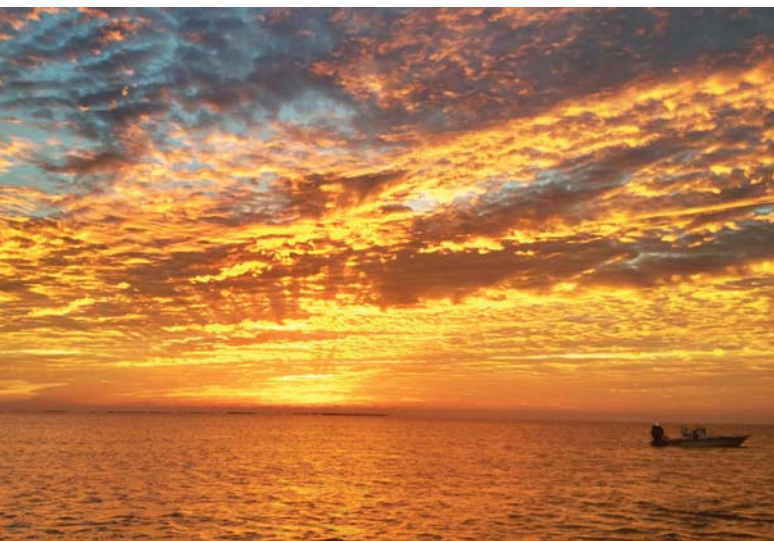
The mid-coast of Texas, including my home base of Baffin Bay, offers so much more than just great fishing and dove hunting this fall. Beginning in early November, duck hunting afflicts many of us. For me, it's all about my black lab, Kelly and watching her joy in the hunt. On Baffin, duck hunting is easy as we target where the ducks want to be and hunt on the banks of the King and Kennedy ranches. All indicators are showing that the migration this year is going to be very good, so, if duck hunting has ever been on your list, this might be the year to do it!

Cooler weather re-energizes all life after the long, hot and dry summer along the Texas Coast. The fall brings with it so many opportunities to get outside and enjoy fishing, hunting, photography and even birdwatching the migratory species that visit the coast each year. It is, without a doubt, one of the very best times of the year!

—Capt. Sally Black 361-205-0624

www.baffinbayrodandgun.com

Two Great Scenics: Sunrise Over Alazan Bay by Capt. Sally Black. Problem On The Horizon, by Jack M. Mouring.



CCA Texas Social Happenings

We have several exciting new videos posted on the CCA Texas Project Videos page (www.ccatexas.org/project-videos)! Be sure to check out the great work being done at the "Nueces Delta Preserve Water Control Project" and the "East Galveston Bay Oyster Reef Restoration." Also, take a peek at the before and after footage we have of the "Port Mansfield Nearshore Reef," completed in 2011!

Curious about the latest going on with Cedar Bayou? We are continuing to post weekly updates on its progress, so check our website for the latest (<http://www.ccatexas.org/cedar-bayou>).

Thank you to everyone who has joined in on the CCA Texas online discussion through our various social media platforms. Your interest, engagement, and continued support helps spread the word about the positive impact CCA Texas is making along the coast!

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

Facebook: CCA Texas Life Member Tracy Thomas shared this photo of her son Charles Dailey with his first red, caught all by himself in Port O'Connor! Way to go Charles!



Twitter: @TexasGameWarden: Congratulates Vu Nguyen, named Game Warden of the Year by the @CCA_Texas. We appreciate Warden Nguyen and CCA both for their dedication.

Instagram: Culth (river rock) being placed on CCA Middle Reef in East Galveston Bay. Your conservation dollars at work!



CCA Texas on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/CCATexas

CCA Texas on Twitter:
www.twitter.com/CCA_Texas

CCA Texas on Instagram:
www.instagram.com/cca_texas



COASTAL
CONSERVATION
ASSOCIATION

TEXAS



Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!

Chapter Updates

Alvin-Pearland

Emery Sadler 713-501-2778

Monthly General Meetings: 7PM - First Tuesday of the month. Location: Spring Creek BBQ / 9005 Broadway, Pearland Tx. 77584

We would like to say thanks to **Shimano Pro Staff** for their informative presentation at the August general chapter meeting.

The June 2014 21st annual Alvin/Pearland CCA banquet was a huge success and a great time was had by all! A special thanks to our great supporters/sponsors and our hard working Board for making it a huge success!

Tuesday September 2nd - General Meeting / Speaker - Galveston Bay Foundation / Spring Creek BBQ - Pearland 7:00 PM

Tuesday October 7th - General Meeting / Speaker - TBA / Spring Creek BBQ - Pearland 7:00 PM

Tuesday November 4th - General Meeting / Speaker - TBA / Spring Creek BBQ - Pearland 7:00 PM
NO GENERAL MEETING IN DECEMBER

We would welcome new board members who would like to get plugged in. Our monthly chapter meetings have great speaker lineups, and we will have a raffle. Bring a friend, a kid and get plugged in! — Emery Sadler 713-501-2778

Aransas Bay

Carter Crigler 435-830-5984

jccrigler@hotmail.com

Thanks to our sponsors, donors, friends, and fellow CCA members from near and far, the Aransas Bay Chapter's 15th Annual Banquet held on 9 August sold out. Many thanks to our title sponsor, Ron Hoover RV and Marine, for their continued exceptional support. We would like to also recognize Poor Man's Country Club and Prosperity Bank as Key Sponsors, along with our Table Sponsors - Academy Sports & Outdoors, ACE Hardware, Belaire Environmental, Burkholder AC/Stag Golf, Gator Bait, George Aitee, Keller Williams Coastal Bend, Kevin & Laurie Pawelek, Polish Invitational Fishing Tournament, Redfish Bay Chapter-CCA, Rockport Tackle Town, Rhode Realty, Stewart Title Company and Twisted Hook Fishing Co. We would also like to recognize L & F Distributors, Ltd. Corpus Christi for furnishing the beer for the banquet. A big thank you goes to all of our donors whom are too numerous to mention and volunteers, under the leadership of our Banquet Chairman, Michelle Green, for a fantastic job.

Judge C.H. "Burt" Mills, Jr., Aransas County Judge, was recognized by the Aransas Bay Chapter for his dedication and support of The Cedar Bayou/Vinson Slough Restoration Project.

We look forward to seeing everyone next year for the 16th annual Babes on the Bay and Banquet. Dates to put on your calendars:

15-16 May 2015 - Babes on the Bay / 8 August 2015 - Aransas Bay Chapter Banquet

Thanks and Tight lines, —Carter

Austin

Scott Sanderson
512-637-1750

scott@mbsquoteline.com

What a year so far for CCA! Cedar Bayou will be open by the time you read this, banquets everywhere are setting records, the STAR tournament has produced some HUGE fish (including one from Austin's own Seamus Caskey, see photo), and more than \$2mm will be poured into

Austin's Seamus Caskey with his STAR-winning kingfish.



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, click on **Local Chapters**.

conservation projects by CCA Texas this year, all thanks to you!

The CCA Austin Board needs your help! The Austin chapter has experienced unprecedented growth over the last 3 years. Membership is at an all-time high, banquet attendance has doubled and net fundraising has quadrupled. Our successes are remarkable. But as you can imagine, the volunteer efforts needed to run our chapter have grown too.

We need your help to keep it going. The Austin board is a great group of men and women that is passionate about the CCA mission and we invite you to become a part of it. If you can volunteer an hour a week, or a couple hours a month, we'll welcome you. If you can help, send me a note at scott@mbsquoteline.com or call 512-343-0707 and let's talk. I promise you'll have a lot of fun, meet a lot of great people, and make a difference as we work to conserve and enhance our great coastal resources.

Save the date now for the 2015 banquet, May 7th at the Palmer Events Center. Don't miss the best event in town! Until then, we look forward to seeing you at Anglers' Night Out on the 3rd Wednesday of November, January and March.

Keep up with the Austin Chapter on Facebook or at www.ccaustin.org. Happy fishing — Scott Sanderson 512-637-1750 scott@mbsquoteline.com

Bay Area

Curtis Anderson 832-421-6377

Brazoria County

Wes Dingee 979-299-8245

We would like to welcome local members and friends to our **General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, October 21st**. We will have a local guide speaking about the latest and greatest fishing spots while sharing some fishing stories. Don't miss it! Food and drinks will be available for all in attendance as well as a variety of raffles. The General Membership Meeting will be held at **Sea Center Texas** in Lake Jackson starting at 6:30pm.

The Brazoria County Chapter has already began preparing for the 2015 Banquet! Last year was a great success, this year will be even better! We will have the date and venue location available on the CCA Texas website soon. For more information on the General Membership Meeting or 2015 Banquet Planning committee, contact Dan Johnson at 979-265-6555. —Wes Dingee

Brazos Valley

John Ben Strother 979-220-1738

jbsunlimited@yahoo.com

It has been a busy summer for the Brazos Valley CCA. In conjunction with Texas Parks & Wildlife, Professional Anglers Association, Brazos Valley CCA, and City of College Station, we had over 150 children at Central Park to fish. The pond was stocked with 900 channel catfish and the kids had big fun trying to catch them. Academy supplied tools and bait with

ALL YOU NEED

for your next fishing adventure



Selection and prices vary by store.

Prices good October 1 - November 31, 2014.

39⁹⁹

EVERYDAY!

**Zebco CCA
Inshore 6' 6" Spincast Combo**

Style CCA733C; 20.NS3

- 11" EVA handle
- Two-piece design
- 90 yds./20 lbs.



ZEBCO

59⁹⁹

EVERYDAY!

CCA Deluxe Tackle Bag

- Includes 3 utility boxes



34⁹⁹

EVERYDAY!

CCA Tackle Bag

- Includes 2 utility boxes



5⁴⁹

EVERYDAY!

CCA 5-gal. Bucket

Style CCA-5-GL-RED

- Use to hold bait and more
- Made in the U.S.A.



CCA Utility Boxes
2⁹⁹-4⁹⁹ EVERYDAY!



39⁹⁹

EVERYDAY!

CCA Landing Net

Style CCA-TEL-400



RIGHT STUFF. LOW PRICE. EVERYDAY!

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.



9⁹⁹

EVERYDAY!

Yak-Gear
Universal
Scupper Plugs -
4 pk.
Style SCUP4



149⁹⁹

EVERYDAY!

Yak-Gear
Outrigger Kit
Style OR1

PADDLE SPORT ACCESSORIES
YAKGEAR



499⁹⁹

EVERYDAY!

Heritage
Angler 12'
Sit-On-Top
Fishing Kayak
• One-piece,
high-strength
polyethylene
construction

HERITAGE

11⁹⁹

EVERYDAY!

Yak-Gear
Taco Paddle
Clip Kit
Style TPCK



69⁹⁹

EVERYDAY!

No•Limits
Sabine Personal
Flotation Device

Style 12220870606014

NO-LIMITS



59⁹⁹

EVERYDAY!

No•Limits
Sabine Red
Personal
Flotation Device

Style 12220810002014

NO-LIMITS



119⁹⁹

EVERYDAY!

No•Limits
Redfish
Kayak Paddle
Style FSNOMC4012

NO-LIMITS



119⁹⁹

EVERYDAY!

No•Limits
Trinity 87"
Kayak Paddle
Style FSNOMC4006

NO-LIMITS



the TP&W had many hands on fishing booths for them to enjoy.

Three Brazos Valley members went to Kodiak, Alaska the last of August to escape the Texas heat. We went out with **Swoboda Charters** who is a banquet sponsor for CCA. He can take up to 6 people with his 48' yacht, gourmet meals, and 16 hours of daylight. This trip will make you want to go back before you get back home!

We are preparing for a fall fishing trip to Matagorda. The accommodations are already set and we need any member interested to get on board. Our next meeting will be October 14th at the **Brazos Center Pavilion at 6pm**. We will be electing officers so we need everybody there at the meeting. As always there is food, beverages, and plenty of fish stories. Give me a call, text, or e-mail if you need more information. Hope to see you there. —jb

Brenham

Dennis Crowson 979-451-2472

Dennis.crowson@hotmail.com

We had another successful chapter summer fishing tournament in Port O'Connor on August 1st and 2nd. Here are pictures of some of the winners.

Our next chapter meeting will be Sept. 25 when Washington County Game Warden, **Eddie Hines**, will



*A few of the
Brenham
Kid Fish
winners*

be the guest speaker. Our meetings are held at 6:30 every fourth Thursday of the month at **Mike Hopkins Distributing**.

The Brenham Chapter of CCA is sponsored by **Mike Hopkins Distributing** and **ammotogo.com**. For more information, check out our facebook page or contact **Dennis Crowson** at dennis.crowson@hotmail.com or (979) 451-2472. WITH KIDPIX!!!

Brush Country

Hank Henry 361-215-6803

Centex

Brad Hensel 254-776-3411

Wayne Webb – 254-405-1300 sheyhunt@aol.com

Central Houston

Todd Buster

Mobil, 713-545-1897

With summer wrapping up, the members of the Central Houston CCA Board are looking forward to all of the outdoor activities fall brings. We're also planning an **Angler's Night Out event**, so be on the lookout for the announcement. If you are interested in becoming involved in the Central Houston Chapter, please contact me at tbuster@busterandcogdellbuilders.com. Tight Lines! —Todd Buster

Colorado Valley

James Loehr 979-250-3958

Greetings from Colorado Valley. Our chapter committee members and guest recently enjoyed preparing and serving a delicious fried fish meal which was donated by our chapter at our banquet and purchased by **Lakeview Glass and Mirror**. Many thanks to **Steve McGuire** for his generosity. The committee members involved were **Trish Kubena, Rusty Kubena, Karyn Kubena, Dave Fehlker, Kendall**

Rohde, Bo Janda, Gary Janda, Eugene Ulrich, and guest Kenneth LeFrance.

Our chapter is planning a general membership meeting for September 23rd at the Fayette County Fair Grounds including refreshments and a guest speaker. Hope all are having a terrific summer fishing season and wishing bent rods and tight lines to all! —**James Loehr 979-250-3958 / Eugene Ulrich 979-249-7425**

Corpus Christi

Jay Gardner 361-658-7159

jaygardner@scientist.com

We have one "on the water" event left here in the Corpus Christi area that we would love for you to be a part of this fall. The **Babes on Baffin and Blue Ladies Fishing Tournament** will be held on **October 18, 2014**. The event will occur again at **Bluff's Landing** in Flour Bluff, starting with a Friday night check-in and social starting at 6pm. Registration and rules are on the website at <http://www.babesonbaffin.com/>. This tournament features a live weigh-in in conjunction with the **CCA/MDC Fish Hatchery**, where the fish that are weighed in are donated to serve as brood stock for the hatchery, and for fish in the KidFish ponds. Fun and Conservation at the same time!

Thanks to our title sponsors **Majek Boats** and **Premier Yamaha**. Contact Tournament Director **Lauren Roesener** at 361-500-3799 to learn how to get involved or be a sponsor. Our Banquet season will start early this year, as **our banquet date has been set for February 22nd at the American Bank Center**. We will be getting started this fall with assigning board members for Committee Chairs, contacting sponsors, and getting ramped up for another of the largest CCA banquet events in the country! If you have an interest in joining our local chapter and being involved in the great conservation projects that we do please contact the Houston office or myself at jaygardner@scientist.com

—Jay Gardner

Dallas / North Texas

Welcome new president, Hal Thomas

972- 612-1684

The Dallas Chapter regular meeting was held August 12th at the **Flying Fish** in Preston Center. Once again we enjoyed hearing great tales about family, friends, boating and of course, fishing. TW shared his in-sights as to "where to find the big ones" and Fred shared with us a few of his secrets as well. Other members gave feedback regarding our last banquet along with suggestions for next year.

Frank extended to us a great invitation to host a membership meeting at the **MarineMax** facilities in Lewisville. Frank will show us some boats and equipment, along with fellowship and fun food. The event will take place in November, tentatively scheduled for November 6th. Please reserve the date and look for additional details over the coming weeks.

Dallas Chapter members continue to fish the coast each month. If you are planning a trip, let us know and tell us all about the experience. We would love to share your stories at our local events. Planning has started for our 2015 banquet. We have reserved the same venue at **Frontier's of Flight museum**, scheduled the auctioneer, and will be selecting the caterer before Thanksgiving. We appreciate everyone who contributes to CCA and welcome everyone to come join us. Our next Chapter meeting is in October so please look for the details to follow and come join us as we listen to **John Blaha** share his up-



Gakveston gals and puppies. Ken Ellis presented the CCA Game Warden Officer of the Year award to Vu Nguyen.

date regarding the project at Cedar Bayou. Tight Lines —**Hal Thomas**

East Texas

Dr. Jim Norman 936-554-3165

jnorman7@suddenlink.net

Fort Bend

Robb Gaston 281-239-9755

Greetings all. Ready or not, here it comes. Cool weather, ghost and goblins, turkey and dressing, and Fall Fishing! The crisp cool wind running the boat, and the thrill of chasing birds; the flounder run and surf rods bending to the max with big bull reds in the surf! I don't know about you, but fall on the water is definitely something I am thankful for.

We have been moving and shaking in our monthly meetings. We are well underway in gearing up for our annual banquet even though it is close to 5 months away. Never can be too prepared, right? We have some great things in store. Until next time have some great holidays and start airing out them waders! Winter fishing is around the corner! —**Robb**

Fort Worth

Fearn Mastin 817-291-1302

As another summer officially draws to a close with the passing of Labor Day, the Fort Worth Chapter is back at it again. Be on the lookout for updates regarding our fall general membership meeting at **Rahr**. We have tentatively set the date for **October 30th** and, as usual, your board will be kind enough to be digging out some sort of dinner from their own freezers to serve you alongside Fort Worth's finest **Rahr beer**. Now is a great time to thank Rahr for another year of continued support with our local CCA Chapter. Next time you are out at a restaurant help support a sponsor and order a Rahr. —**Fearn Mastin**

Galveston

Dr. Ken Ellis 713-962-7731

Hello from the Galveston Chapter. We have just wrapped up a record year banquet. Thanks to all of those who participated and helped make it such a great success. We'd like to thank all those who purchased tickets and tables and attended the event: **Andon Energy Services, Andon Specialties, Diamond Hydraulics, G & K Services, Hook Spit Fishing Gear, Jomar Electrical, Longhorn Dental, Renyco/Bell McCoy, Rowan Companies, Schaefer Ranch Wear, Suncoast Marine Works, Castaway Rods, John Eagle Honda, Cletus P. Dodd, Comiskey Realty/Comiskey Capital Insurance, Ceci Sink, DW Industries, Intermar, Laser Marine, Meredith Welsh/RE Max, Powell Industries, Pricewaterhousecoopers LLP, R & R Consultants, Russell Smith Ford, Sector Transport, B & C Painting and Wallcovering, Ben Moorehead, Del Papa Distributing, Emken-Linton Funeral Home, Jeff and Phyllis Nesmith, Joe Koshkin, Ron Hoover Marine, Sander Resources, The Naked Mermaid, TEXAS ORIGINAL BBQ PITTS/Anthony Saragusa, Utility Tax Service L.L.C.** We'd like to thank all of our sponsors: Caps sponsored by DW Industries and Intermar; tumblers sponsored by Diamond Hydraulics and Jomar Electric; koozies sponsored by Suncoast Marine Works; Key chains sponsored by Longhorn Dental; Tote bags sponsored by Branding Works,

Kimberly Gaido/Sand N Sea Realty and Sam Pennington/Sector Transport.

We'd also like to thank our local Texas fishing guides who donate their time to our chapter: **Capt. Charlie Paradoski, Capt. Steve Hillman, Capt. Ruben Garza, Capt. Walt Kalinowsky, Capt. Clint Sholemire, Capt. Bill Hull, Capt. Stan Sloan and Capt. Danny Neu.** We'd also like to thank all of our donors who gave so generously.

We had the honor of hosting the Game Wardens this year and presented the **CCA Game Warden Officer of the Year.** This year's recipient was **Vu Nguyen.** We are always appreciative of the good work they do.

We will be hosting a **General Membership meeting** on Thursday October 23rd at **M & M Bar and Grill.** The folks from **Galveston Bay Foundation** will be on hand to give us an update on the status of our bays. More information to follow at a later date. Finally, thanks to the Galveston Chapter board, a great group of volunteers, for working tirelessly to put on this record event. Tight Lines — **Dr. Ken Ellis**

Golden Triangle

Welcome new president Trey Browne
409-338-0803 tbrowne@ocbm-tx.com

This August, the Golden Triangle Chapter had our annual Director's dinner and tournament. The dinner was catered by our very own board member, **Kevin Picard.** Kevin may work full time running Gulf Coast Electric, but he can cook the best fried fish and shrimp you'll ever eat.

Special thanks to Kevin and to all our donors who helped make it a memorable evening including: **Del Papa Distributing, Giglio Distributing, Sam's Package, Tyler Coco and Cobb Real Estate and J. Mark Smith & Associates.** The fishing tournament was well attended and a lot of fun. The winner this year was the living legend himself, **Mike Petit.** I think home court advantage has something to do with it, but in Mike's own words, "I've fished this tournament for a lot of years and never won it. Some says it's better to be lucky than good. Guess I'm neither lucky or good." Well, you won this year Mike — well done and thanks to you and **Elizabeth** for allowing us to do the weigh-in at your place. It's been a great 2014 for the Golden Triangle Chapter.

One last special word of thanks to **Trey Browne** for being our President this year. All of us look forward to what good things are to come in the future. — **Joel Foxworth** 409-466-2614

Greater Sugar Land

Weems Turner 713-857-8897
wturner@ducommun.com

Jake Herring, Director of Land Conservation for Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program drove from Corpus to speak at our monthly Greater Sugar Land CCA meeting. Jake gave a brief history of the CBBEP and an overview of the organization focused on the partnership with CCA Texas. Jake gave a PowerPoint presentation and discussed the benefits of CBBEP and CCA Texas being able to leverage funds to complete successful restoration projects. Jake also focused his presentation on the efforts on the **Nueces Bay Marsh Restoration Project, the Rincon Bayou Freshwater Inflow Management Structure** and most recently the restoration of the western marsh on **Matagorda Island.** It is impressive to witness the great projects CCA Texas is helping to fund! Thank you Jake.

Bill Kinney, CCA Director of the Star Tournament, spoke at our September meeting and did a great job of bringing his enthusiasm for CCA and the Star Tournament to our group. Bill has been the leader of Star since its inception in 1990. His leadership has contributed to the growth of Star from 7,200 entrants in 1990 to over 47,000 this year. Star has awarded more than \$5 million in scholarships during its existence. Bill discussed all of the current CCA Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow projects that CCA is pursuing including the Cedar Bayou and Vinson

Slough reopening, which will be completed shortly. Thank you Bill.

We have the following speakers scheduled for our regular meetings: **Robby Byers** on October 1, 2014/**Sam Caldwell** on November 5, 2014.

The Greater Sugar Land CCA Presidents Cup will be held in Sargent, Texas on October 18, 2014. We meet the 1st Wednesday of each month through May of 2015 at Spring Creek BBQ, 4895 Hwy 6, Missouri City, TX 77459 at 7:00 pm. — **Weems Turner**

Greater Woodlands

James Kay 281-363-4417

www.ccatexas.org/greater-woodlands

As predicted, we just had our **BEST** Banquet ever. Excellent Revenue and Attendance. **Thank You Sponsors and Thank You Board and Committee Members.** Without your participation this would not have happened. We had our traditional **CtBio (Celebration the Banquet is Over)** fishing trip to Port O'Connor. The highlight of the weekend: **Colin** caught his best ever trout of 28"+. I asked where he caught it (*which you should never ask — this information should be volunteered*) and he did not remember if it was in the left side (or) the right side of the mouth. Congratulations Colin, I believe I still owe you 500 cents.

Chester Moore was our guest speaker on **August 19.** We had the event at **Papa's Ice House in Spring, Texas,** which is an outdoor facility. We had a concern with it being too hot (August), yet it worked out fantastic. A little rain shower earlier in the day cooled things off and Chester did an excellent job. I have been acquainted with Chester for about five years and his presentations get better each time. We also got a bonus, because Chester brought his dad (**Chester Moore Sr.**). Congratulations to all you raffle winners, I believe some of you won 2 or 3 times. Glad to see the new attendee's.

We should be having a meeting in **October** to elect new officers and ratify board members. This is a chance for new and old members to get involved. Please check the web site and stay tuned to your e-mail for the announcement. If anybody has any questions about CCA Texas and The Greater Woodlands Chapter, please contact me or any of our board members.

It is with a heavy heart that I add this last bit of information. We lost one of our Key Board Members in August. **Scottie Lyons** with **Dyna-Therm** passed away on August 22nd. He was very instrumental with his sponsorship and moving our chapter forward. He will dearly be missed. — **James Kay**

Guadalupe Valley

Jon Eric Rodriguez 361-243-1017

We will be having our 7th annual banquet, November 13 at The Venue on Church Street in Cuero, Texas. Doors will open at 6pm with a social hour to get in and get your raffle tickets. We will have a sportsman raffle with different guns, coolers and electronics. Dinner will be served at 7pm by **Werner's** catering, with the action starting around 7:30. We had a wonderful turn out the past few years and hope the locals can all come out. Thank you for all the support. — **Jon Eric Rodriguez**

Hays County

Tim Young 512-573-7939

hayscountyccta@gmail.com

Our 2014 banquet is scheduled for November 12, 2014 at the Wimberly VFW at 6:00 pm. Tables will be \$500 and individual tickets are \$50. Come out and support a great growing chapter. — **Tim Young**

Heart of the Hills

Randy Plummer 830-377-0737

As I write this, we are one week away from our 12th Annual Heart of the Hills banquet. Watch the Dec/Jan Currents for a full report. Thanks to the following sponsors for their continued commitment to conservation — **Jennings Anderson Ford, Keg 1 O'Neal Miller Lite/Coors Light/Lone Star, Academy Sports and Outdoors, Pedernales Brewing Company, and Boerne Marine.**

Chapter member **Rodeana Reynolds** recently participated in the Texas Women Anglers Tournament. Reports are that the team she was on scored a marlin and Rodeana caught her personal best dorado. Congratulations to all!

I hope you were able to make it to the banquet and that you have safe and enjoyable Fall fishing and hunting seasons. — **Jim Simmons** 210-380-5709

Hill Country

Darlene Cook 800-594-2056 ext 217

We had another great banquet August 21. Thank you to all our Table Sponsors and Businesses that donated items. We had some unusual handmade

items that were a big hit, plus, other major gifts, all donated. Our experienced Ringmen and Auctioneer brought out the best in the bidders, thank you guys. This year's Banquet Chair was **Raymond Davila** and his co-chair **January Martin,** great job Raymond and January. Decorations were awesome. Can't wait to see next year's.

We have a General Meeting **October 21st** at 7pm at the New Braunfels Elks Lodge. The topic will be **CE-DAR BAYOU** — The how, what and why of a historical habitat restoration effort. When any coastal fisherman that fishes the Rockport area

hears the words Cedar Bayou, it invokes many great memories for a lot of anglers that have spent time fishing Cedar Bayou itself or the surrounding areas.

The Hill Country Chapter will host our fall **General Membership meeting on Tuesday, October 21, 2014** at the Elk's Lodge in New Braunfels and the topic for the evening will be the restoration of Cedar Bayou and Vinson Slough. Speakers for the evening will include **John Blaha,** CCA Texas Assistant Director; **Aaron Horine,** Project Engineer from Coast and Harbor Engineering; and **Quentin Hall,** a graduate student at Texas A&M University Corpus Christi.

The evening will conclude with a discussion, led by Quentin Hall, on the foreseen impact of re-opening Cedar Bayou on juvenile fish populations within the Mesquite Bay region. This meeting will be a great opportunity to learn all about the efforts to open Cedar Bayou and Vinson Slough, and what the long term benefits of this great project will be. Come early, have a bite to eat and tell share some fish stories!

The **Watkins Wade Off,** sold at the banquet, was challenged Monday, September 8. **Jay Watkins'** team — **Paul and Mandy Jarzombek** and **Thomas Morgan** won. **Jay Ray's** team was **Mike Sullivan, Keith Cook** and **Darlene Cook.**



Here are two pictures from the 'Watkins Wade Off,' a fishing trip that was sold at the Hill Country banquet.

In 2015, we will start the year with the Hill Country CCA Social and Fish Fry. The Social and fish fry is for Hill Country Chapter members and families. If you bring a guest that is not a CCA member they can sign up at the Social. We will have activities for the kids, merchandise to sell and raffle. Look for more information on the Social in January. God Bless and Have Fun! —**Darlene Cook** darlenc@knbt.fm 830-214-3067 WITH PIX!!

Houston Real Estate

Dale Couch 281-953-2510

Thanks to our long term directors, **Gary Hough** of Kinghorn Driver and Hough, **Keith Faseler** of MHI, **Tim Welbes** of The Woodlands, and **Joe Peddie** of Cushman Wakefield for their support of the chapter and the great work accomplished by CCA Texas. Our next dinner is on Tuesday, February 10 2015. Put it on your calendar. —**Dale Couch**

Katy

Clint Hilton 713-515-3991

The Katy Chapter hit another home run, hosting **Capt John Havens** for our August meeting. We had a "full stringer" in attendance, with more new faces than old ones. We really like the new activity and welcome anyone to our meetings. Capt Havens talked about his experience fishing the Galveston and Trinity Bay systems, even giving specific information on when fish bite and where. He also talked about his involvement with **Shimano**, as a Pro Staff Rep, and how he and his partner attach tournaments in new waters. There's no doubt that John has a special talent in saltwater, and a wealth of knowledge for anyone looking to learn.

As always, the Katy Chapter tries to out-do itself, and a brilliant idea by our Treasurer and volunteer effort by another Board member raised the bar for our speaker meetings. **Thanks goes to Preston Roobaert for the idea, and Craig Roberson for setting up his nice audio system.** The added volume was another 'win' for our chapter meetings.

The Katy Chapter has one more General Membership Speaker Meeting this year. The plan is to go out with a bang, so don't miss out. Hopefully, someone will share the secret to catching a big girl in the cold. I'm sure many of our members will be tuning up dogs, oiling shotguns, and sighting in rifles, and slinging little kernels over the next few months; shoot straight, I wish you long springs and wide spreads! I'll be looking for a magic 30" fat girl.

I also want to say thank you, again, to the Katy Chapter donors, sponsor and buyers. Our banquets continue to grow, and without generous support we would not be the Chapter we've grown to be. Please support those who support us: **Fire Disc Grills** www.firediscgrills.com (for 15% off on an order use coupon code CCAKATY) / **LED Shop of Texas** www.ledshopoftexas.com / **Wet Sounds** www.wetsounds.com / **Mobile Innovations** www.mobileinnovations.com / **Chicken Boy Lures** www.chickenboylures.com / **Bobby Steph Custom Coolers / Sarge Custom Rods** / www.sargecustomrods.com / **Red River BBQ** www.redriverbbq.com —**Clint Hilton**

Laredo

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

Lee County

Jason Seale 979-412-0270

jason@basslenergy.com

Mark your calendars for the **4th Annual Lee County Chapter banquet on Thursday, October 16, 2014.**

We had a fine day on the beach of Padre Island, during the 6th Annual Beach and Cut Cleanup. —**Jason Seale**

Live Oak

Brad Kotrla 979-732-1669

Lower Colorado

Tim Munos 979 332-2876

We held our 6th Annual Fundraiser/Banquet Friday evening, August 15th, at the Bay City Civic Center. We had a great turnout and want to say Thank You to the people of Bay City and surrounding Matagorda County for coming out and supporting our event. This was our largest and best fundraiser yet.

The live auction was the main event of the evening with an assorted variety of beautiful art items, many local fishing trip packages, a Lake Calcasieu fishing trip, a pair of Costa Rica and Cabo San Lucas bill fishing packages, and a VIP Wine Experience in Sonoma, Calif.

Prior to the live auction, the announcer recognized all of tonight's Table Sponsors and Underwriters. Fundraisers like this, is how CCA makes money to do the marine conservation efforts that it is known for. Without the support and help of people like you, this effort could not be possible. Remember, "Money Raised in Texas, Stays in Texas."

We had our new 20 ft. **Tran Cat bay boat on display** in the main hall and it was the center of attention. At the end of the night, **RUSSELL KAPPLER** of Giddings, Texas was announced the winner of our first ever Lower Colorado Chapter Fishing Boat. Congratulations, Russell. I want to thank our sponsors for our boat this year, **Donnie Tran** of TranSport Boats, **Tim Munos** of Busha Boat Works, **Suzuki Corp.**, and **Coastline Trailers**.

The chapter wants to thank all of the Corporate Table sponsors, the Live Auction Art and Trip Underwriter sponsor/donors, and the Silent Auction donors. For **GOLD TABLE** Sponsorship, **Thank You** to W. D. "Bill" Von Gonten, Academy Sports & Outdoors, Tran Sport Boats/Aluma-Tech of Sweeny, Busha Boat Works, Suzuki Motors, Coastline Trailers, STPNOC, Full Stringer Realty, Gateway Mortgage, HEB, Texas Farm Bureau Insurance, Phillips 66, Capital Farm Credit, Mechanix Inc., Matagorda Regional Medical Center, and Anthony's Auto Werx. For **BRONZE TABLE** Sponsorship, **Thank You** to Gasaway Inc., Dependable Machine, Ward Real Estate, First State Bank, Wells Fargo Bank, Frankson & Griffith CPA's, Wendel Electric Company, Property Connections Real Estate, Dodd Family, LyondellBasell, Triangle Turf Co. Inc., South Texas Corrugated Pipe, Ronald Gavender, Thompson Land Company, the office of Dr. Dane D. Simons, Dr. Andrew M. Sher, and Julianne Zapalac, PA; VeriChem International Inc., Matagorda Concrete, Matagorda Construction & Materials, and Performance Health & Wellness.

For **RESERVE TABLE** Sponsorship, **Thank You** to Don Davis Dealership of Bay City, Custom Auto Refinishers, Salty Dog Liquors, Newpark Mats & Integrated Services, Drymalla Construction, Split Ends Salon, James Teutsch, and Matagorda Sport Fishing Offshore Charters.

Thank You to our Art and Trip Underwriters: BayCel Federal Credit Union, James and Helen McAda, Hlavinka Equipment Company, Ward Real Estate, Hewitt Lodge – Hackberry, La., Blue Gecko Sports Bar & Grill, The Sargent Area Chamber of Commerce, KMKS 102.5 FM Radio, Gateway Mortgage, Rusty Green, Letulle Green Ranch, Bay City Vet Clinic & Equine Hosp., and Clint Hewitt.

Thank You to our Silent Auction donors: C.D. Faix, St. Rep. Dennis Bonnen, Dr. Jennifer Davis-Lewis, Soothing Hands Massage, Lisa's Cutting Up Salon, TDECU, Bert's RV Park & Propane, Clint Hewitt, Harbor House, Cattails, Homestead Gift Shop, Green Bros., Bay City Feed Store, Hank Huitt,

Matt Caldwell, John Deere, Dependable Machine, and Academy Sports & Outdoors.

"Thank You's" go out to **Busha Boat Works, Dependable Machine, and James & Debbie Hobbins** for donating the rod and reel combos given away to 25 kids; to **Ward Real Estate and Tran Sport Boats** for the Cap Sponsorship; to **Gateway Mortgage and Full Stringer Realty** for the Yeti Cooler Sponsorship; to **Capital Farm Credit** for the Yukon Cooler Sponsorship; and to **Bay City Abstract & Title Company** for being our Radio Advertising Sponsor.

Thank You to the many fishing guides who donate their time, effort, and equipment to make our banquet a success each year: **Captains Ozzie Arnold, Mike O'Dell, Charlie Paradoski, Mark Talasak, Sammy Mock, Tommy Countz, David Garcia, Bill Hull, Daniel Kubecka, Nick Stillwell, Tom Hans, Tommy Alexander, Ron Frasier, Jessie Arsula, and Don Simons.**

Thank You to **Stephen Zapalac**, for being our Banquet Chairman this year and doing a really great job, and to **Casey Munos and Debbie Hobbins** for decorating the main hall, and to the Lower Colorado Chapter Board Members who gave so much of their time. —**John Kubecka, Secretary.**

Lower Laguna Madre

Oscar Garcia III 956-491-8148

Mainland

Eric Minor

281-534-6242

We had our **Mainland Chapter 6th annual Kid Fishing Tournament** on Saturday August 23rd at **HarborWalk Marina**. We had 67 participants with 250 fish caught and logged. We had ten categories with the following winners:

Most Fish – **Grant Wilkinson / Shortest Fish – Tyler Calhoun / Longest Fish – VJ Pistone / Longest Croaker – Daniel Warren / Longest Trout – Noah Balboa / Longest Hardhead – Jordan Canales / Longest Flounder – Emma Pistone / Longest Piggy – Aden Joanson / Longest Redfish – Tristan Mottesheard / Longest Whiting – Daniel Warren.** A special thanks to HarborWalk for hosting



Mainland's Kid Fish tournament winners

the event again this year! —**Eric Minor**

Matagorda Bays

Linc Lutrick 979-541-9901

On September 8 and 9 we held our 13th Annual Matagorda Bays Guides Cup in Matagorda. We would like to thank our sponsors **Duckett, Bouligny & Collins, L.L.P., El Campo Sheet Metal, and Harbor Bait & Tackle.** We also want to say a special thank you to all of our Matagorda Guides who donate their time, effort and equipment to make the guides cup a remarkable success each and every year. Winning this year was **Captain Kenny Hauff III** with the assistance of **Butch Dluhos, Clayton Dluhos, and Jason Beery.** Second place was won by Captain Stan Sloan & placing third was Captain Nick Stillwell. Thank you to Russell & Brandy Hicks of Las Palmas Lodge and Prasek's Hillje Smokehouse for handling the great food for our event. We would also like to thank all of the buyers who purchase these trips year in and year out. Thank you for your continued support of our chapter.

Please look to these great guides the next time you're booking a trip. We are truly blessed to have some of the best guides in the state right in our own backyard. **Bink Grimes, Kenny Hauff, Tommy Alexander, Kit Caston, Dwayne Newbern, Nick**



Matagorda Bay's winning team: Captain Ken Hauff III, Butch Dluhos, Clayton Dluhos, Jason Beery.

Stillwell, Lee Warmke, Walt Wendtland, Scott Reeh, Charlie Paradossi, Walt Schelle, Stan Sloan, Kenny Hauff III, Ken Sabin, Mark Talasek, Jesse Arsola, Leighton Keen, Rob Cummings, Floyd Ciruti, Ozzy Arnold, Tommy Countz, Kevin Kosick, Nate Koenig, Nick Stilwell and Troy Keen. Thank you again to all of our sponsors and guides. — **Linc Lutrick**

MidCoast

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

As always, we have fine people to thank for their sacrifices to or for CCA TEXAS and our Mid Coast Chapter. My thanks go out to all members of the Mid Coast board, **Coleman Todd** and CCA Texas staff for all they do in making my job easier as the chapter president. Thank you Coleman, you are a great asset to our chapter as well as CCA TEXAS.

We held our elections in August and the results are as follows, President: **David J Jenkins**, Vice-Presidents: **Hector Mendieta** and **Dennis Lala**, Treasurer: **Travis Bryant**, Secretary: **Bobbie Rankin**, Sgt of Arms: **David N. Jenkins**. We welcome and appreciate their commitments.

Our upcoming events: **The Speedy Stop Guides Cup** to be held October 9 and 10, the **Victoria Lighted Christmas Parade** in December. We will be making plans for a General meeting at a later date in early 2015 and our banquet to be held again in May 2015.

Something new for next year's banquet will not be one give-away boat, but we will have two to be given away. We will have a fully loaded 22 ft. **Majek Extreme** from **Kresta's Boat's and Motors** out of Edna, Texas and an 18ft all aluminum boat and trailer from **Bernie's Boat's and Motors** from **Victoria, Texas**. More news about these new boats will be updated in future editions of the Currents magazine.

We plan to start ticket sales as early October 2014 and they again will be at the following outlets in Victoria, **The Tackle Box** and **Victoria All Sports**. If you would like to become a board member, enjoy our fun-filled events and participate in the planning of the 2015 Banquet, contact **David** or **Lisa Jenkins** at 361-578-5580 or contact any of our board members. Tight Lines — **David Jenkins 361-578-5580**

Northeast Houston
Jason Law 713-898-8594

Northwest Houston
Alan Massey 281-414-6341

We held our 25th Annual Banquet and it was a huge success. It was at the **Raveneaux Country Club** and they did a fabulous job. Thank you to our Table Sponsors: **Houston Distributing**, **Beck & Masten Buick-GMC, Inc.**, **Way Tech, Inc.**, **Quadvest Construction**, **Lehmann Fowler**, **Bluewater Seafood**, **John Eagle Honda**, **Keyera Energy**, **J. D. Moynahan & Cold Leather Koozies**, **Academy**, **Redfish Ranch & Agave Flats**, **M-Services**, **Bayer Animal Health**, **MEK Construction**, **Roy Blackburn & National Auto Service**, **Tour Star Rods**, **LaKey Electric**, **Tight Lines**, **American Rodsmiths**, **The Emmott's**, **F. Vollentine**, **The Hallum's**, **The Massey's**, **West Fire Inc.**, **Merek Bros.**,

LMC Marine we hope to see everyone again next year. We want to also thank our other sponsors who donated raffle items, auction items and refreshments. Thanks to all our Directors and folks who came out to help put the event together.

Our next **General Meeting** will be **October 7th** at **Houston Distributing** in the Stein Rm. At 7:00 PM. Our guest speaker will be **John D. Blaha, Assistant Director – CCA**. He will cover Texas's habitat program, **Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow** and what projects it has worked on most recently, such as the Cedar Bayou restoration project and East Galveston Bay Oyster Reef restoration hope to see you there! — **Loretta Vasquez** Secretary 281-723-9693
loretta.vasquez@att.net

Orange County

Scott Bandy 409-988-3667 sabandy@gmail.com
We held our 6th annual Banquet on August 21. The chapter opened its door to over 450 guests, making this year's event the largest in our short 6 year history. Special thanks to all of our Board Members for all their hard work and dedication. Banquet Sponsor **Granger Chevrolet** of Orange once again stepped up to the plate. Redfish sponsors **Stout Home Builders/Rodney Townsend**, **Vincent Recycling**, **Goodyear Beaumont Chemical**, **Golden Pass LNG**, **Exxon Mobile**, **Total Refinery**, and **Sabine River Ford**, along with 31 Speck Sponsor Tables. Thanks to all of the Company's support and their generosity to the Chapter and CCA Texas.

Now is a great time to join our team and enjoy some good fellowship, talk conservation and fishing. For more information about our chapter look for us on FACEBOOK at Orange County CCA Chapter. Tight Lines — **Scott Bandy 409-988-3667**
Scottbandy77@yahoo.com

Port O'Connor
Bill Moore 361-983-4690

As summer comes to a close and we prepare to usher I the fall activities, it also signals to time for everyone to come join us for the **15th Annual POC CCA banquet**. This will again be held at the **POC Community Center on Saturday, October 18**.

Tickets are available, as well as Bull Red or Trophy Trout tables from any POC CCA Member or CCA Assistant Director **Ellen Ohmstede**, (713-626-4222). In POC, take note of the CCA banners at the following businesses where tickets/tables may be purchased: **Sonny's Marine**, **Coastal Boat Services**, **Coastal Bend Marine**, **Port O'Connor Rod & Gun** and **Tigrett Real Estate**.

The POC chapter would like to express its appreciation to the **Oilfield Helping Hand Tournament** again held in POC. We attended the awards ceremony and accepted a generous donation in the name of the POC CCA. This tournament has really grown and brings a lot to the POC Community.

A slate of officers was elected at a recent meeting: VP- **Mike Sharp**, VP- **Dain Whitworth**, Treasurer- **Ann Brownlee**, Secretary- **Debbie Busby**, Sgt. At Arms- **Sonny Cook**. Also, thanks to **Carl Ray** and **Jim Busby** for stepping up and being our banquet chairman.

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



Prairie chapter Kid Fishers

us at the POC Community Center on Saturday, October 18, "Where it all began." — **Bill Moore**

Prairie

Sharon Goebel 979-877-4103

On July 26, we had our annual Board Member Fishing Tournament, held at the Bullhead Lake in Cat spring, Thanks to **John (Bullhead) Buttschell** for the use of his lake. We had a great turnout, ev-

erybody fished for His and Hers prizes.

1st place was won by **Rhys Riechardt**, a CCA soft-sided cooler and a \$50 gift card from **Indoor Outdoor store** in Bellville. 2nd place winner was **Brian Wietstruck**. He received a cooler, tumbler and a \$25 gift card from **Academy**. 3rd place was **James Henderson**, who got a cooler, tumbler and a \$25 gift card from **Academy**. After the awards were given out we enjoyed hamburgers, drinks and some good fellowship. Thanks to all the board members for their hard work for making this a great success.

On August 9, we hosted our 13th annual Kids Fish. This year we had the pleasure to fish at the **Wietstruck Farm**. We had a great turn out. There were well over 150 kids with families. All the kids got a free yellow T-shirt, (so it was easy to spot them.) Also the kids got a free box of worms for bait. The tournament was 4 p.m. till 6 p.m. (or until they got tired fishing.) After the tournament the awards were given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners.

There were four-age categories. In the first age group, 1st place was **Haeleah Hehin**. 2nd place winner was **Nade Jackson**. 3rd Place was **Blakley Noviskie**.

In the second group, 1st place winner was **Bradley Paul**. 2nd place was **Gage Wietstruck** and 3rd place winner was **Remington Reichardt**.

In the third age group, 1st place went to **Mercedes Berg**. 2nd place was **Cameron Ray** and 3rd place was **Christina Swonke**.

In the fourth age group, 1st place was **James Henderson**, 2nd place was **Katy Henderson** and in 3rd place was **Stacey Stastny**. After the awards were given out we had a silent auction with some great gifts. Everybody enjoyed the hot dogs, snacks, beverages and some good Blue Bell ice cream. I would like to thank all the board members for their hard work putting together this event. Thanks to **Franks Monk** for donating the Blue Bell ice cream cups and thanks to **IOS** for the worms that the kids used for bait. Thanks to **Kirk Hoppe**, **Joey Pawlowski** and **Randy Goebel** for being our weigh masters. Thanks to **Travis Askew** for the use of his EVP fan that kept everybody cool on a hot day.

And a big thanks to **Larry and Sandy Wietstruck** for the use of their catfish lake that made this a great day for the kids. They were given a CCA yeti cooler for their help. See you all that our 14th annual Kids Fish next year. — **Ron Chess Sr. 979-992-3295**

Redfish Bay

Norman Oates 361-758-0266

We're having a great year! By the time this edition is printed we will have just finished the 2014 Beeville Fish Fry on September 18. This is a major effort by our board members in the Beeville area, and it is always a fun and successful event. Special thanks to **Dan Moore**, **John Hunter**, and **John Blaha** for carrying a lot of the load. As always, the other board members do their share of planning and soliciting. Donors and sponsors help make the event profitable while offering a wide variety of items for raffle, silent auction, and live auction – thank you very much!

We have already had our annual Banquet and Take a Kid Fishing event. We also participated in the Big Shell Beach Cleanup on the Padre Island National Seashore. We will have a General Membership meeting in late September or early October – look for the e-blast! Another exciting event will be the **Wetlands Field Trip for fifth graders** in Rockport. **Martha McCloud** does a great job of organizing the week, and two classes attend each day. TPWD Game Wardens and CCA members help the kid's fish. Like in our Take a Kid Fishing event, many of them have not fished before, and it is a blast.

Your Redfish Bay Chapter tries to stay active in the community and with conservation efforts. If you would like to join the Board, please call me on 361-758-0266. —**Norman C. Oates** 361-758-0266 H

Rio Grande Valley

Welcome new president, George McCaleb
956-984-8688

gmccaleb@hotmail.com

The 2015 Raffle Boat Courtesy of L&F Distributors, Dargel Boats and RGV CCA. For more information, contact Louis Zimmerer at lmz01@yahoo.com or John Blaha at jdblaha@ccatexas.org. The Rio Grande Valley Chapter will begin selling the 2015 Weekly Gun Raffle Calendar in September for the first drawing to be held January 4th, 2015 and then every Wednesday after that through December 30th, 2015. There will be a total of 1,000 calendars sold at \$100 each. For more information, please visit our Facebook page at CCATXRGV.

Our 2015 CCA RGV Annual Banquet is scheduled for April 23rd, 2015 at the Pharr Event Center, so mark it down on your calendar. For more information, please visit our Facebook page at CCATXRGV. —**George McCaleb** gmccaleb@hotmail.com

Sabine-Neches

Welcome back again to new/old president, Darin Johnson 409-790-9855

Sabine Neches

I would first like to say congratulations to our President **David Rocknic** on his new job. However, with a new job, comes change and unfortunately our new president will be leaving our chapter to move to Houston for his new job. David, Teresa, and the kids will be greatly missed; David has done a great job with the chapter. So with that let me introduce you to our new president, **Darin Johnson**. I'm back at the helm for one more trip.

STAR has finished, so congratulations to all participants and winners. The weather is right for all things outdoors; flounder, reds, trout and for those doing double duty doves and teal make up the rest of the day.

Time is flying by so fast I am shaking my head realizing we are only six months away from our next banquet. Mark your calendar; Thursday March 5th, 2015 will be our annual banquet and crawfish boil! Check out our Facebook page for updates and all things related to our chapter, Sabine Neches CCA. Until then tight lines to all! —**Darin M Johnson** 409-790-9855 office 888-433-5727 darin.johnson@delpapabud.com

Sam Houston

Brandon Kolaja 281-797-6908

The Sam Houston Chapter annual banquet was held on September 4 at the Veterans Conference Center in Huntsville. This was another record event for our chapter. I would like to thank each and everyone that was in attendance for their contributions and support. Hope to see everyone next year. Special thanks to my board members for their hard work on putting together another successful event. Happy fishing. **Brandon Kolaja**



RGV's 2015 Raffle boat Courtesy of L&F Distributors, Dargel Boats and RGV CCA.

San Antonio

Jimmy Gibson 210-287-4378

Fall has arrived and the reds are schooling up marking their return to the gulf. I hope you have planned the time to be out on the water as this time of year is some of the best fishing and weather we have each year.

We at San Antonio CCA have taken our summer break but with the fall weather patterns, we are reminded it is time to start planning the rest of the year and our 2015 events. Speaking of events, mark your calendars for the **CCA San Antonio Night Out October 30th**. We are planning a great evening that will include a very special friend of CCA's, Captain Jay Watkins who will give us an update on our coastal fishing, baits and areas that have been productive.

Question and answer sessions with Jay are always fun and hopefully he will give us a peek as to what he forecasts for the next six months. Come out and enjoy the evening as we will have a raffle giveaway to include **Laguna Rods**, coolers and the grand prize—a **guided day of fishing with Jay**. I will send details and location out by e-mail in the next week as we are finalizing plans this week. We look forward to seeing you there.

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. Come join us and have some fun working on our banquet committee. We will begin meeting mid-January and would welcome you to our group.

Remember our first battle cry "SAVE THE REDFISH." As Always, Thank you for doing your part. NOW, GO FISH! Vaya Con Dios Mi Amigos —**Jimmy Gibson** jimmy.gibson@CSTBrands.com

San Bernard

Jayson Zahradnik 281-202-8438

San Gabriel

John Melnar 512- 497-8284

We all breathed a sigh of relief after our 12th annual banquet. We filled the **United Heritage Center** to capacity. Not only did we have more people than ever, we also set a new record for funds raised. Congratulations are due to all of our board members for all their hard work and dedication, especially our banquet chairman, **Jeff Bible**, he did a great job!

Of course, the banquet could not have been so successful without our fine sponsors, a number of which have been contributing since the start of our chapter 12 years ago. The distinguished list includes; **Don Hewlett Chevrolet, PMB Helin Donovan LLP, R Bank, Champion Site Prep, LJT Texas, Aday Associates, Gibson Concrete, Morris Glass, Chasco Constructors, Plains Capital Bank, First State Bank, Navcon, United Heritage Credit Union, Independent Bank, Independence Title, Allied Electric, TXI Ready Mix, Limberg's Guns and Guitars, Mercedes Benz of Georgetown, Suncoast, and Academy Sports and Outdoors**. So if you need a new vehicle or help with construction, taxes, sportswear, concrete, outdoor gear, banking, or firearms don't forget these companies. We look forward to all of generous sponsors returning next year. In addition to our sponsors, another round of thanks is due to every single person who attended the banquet. Whether you spent five

dollars or five thousand dollars we thank you for being there and hope you will come back each and every year! Don't forget to bring a friend.

Based on this year's attendance, we are looking for a larger venue to host the event. If we move locations to a bigger facility, we are going to need more help not only with organizing the banquet but also increasing the overall attendance. So if you or someone you know would like to get more involved by becoming a board member, please feel free to contact

me. —**John Melnar** 512-497-8284

jmelnar@piscavore.com

San Jacinto

Jim Wilson 713-828-7639

Southwestern

Welcome new president, Robert Hart 830-879-5541

The Southwestern Chapter of CCA is putting on their 3rd annual fundraising dinner on Thursday, October 23rd at the Noonan Pavilion in Hondo, TX at 6:00 pm.

This chapter includes Uvalde, Val Verde, Zavala, and Frio Counties. Help us build on the success of the last 2 years and get involved to make this one of the best chapters CCA has to offer. You may even walk out with a new gun or other great prizes. —**Robert Hart**

TAMU

Cameron Blackwood 713-591-7097

Howdy Aggs. We hope you had a great summer and good luck on the water! We are looking forward to a great fall semester and hope that everyone can make it out to our CCA tailgates and begin work on next semester's banquet. Thanks and Gig'em — **Cameron Blackwood** / Vice-president, Michael Johnson

Texas State University

Ryan Wishnow 832-444-3598

rw1303@txstate.edu

Tomball/Magnolia

Matt Maddox 281-770-7858

Tri-County

Jason Trial 830-570-2988

Trinity Bay

Gerald Payne 281-385-2894

After months of preparation, the 2014 Trinity Bay banquet came and went on August 22. This was our first year to host the event in Baytown, Texas. Although the jury is still out, we hope all attendees had a fabulous time and enjoyed the tasty shrimp and beverages throughout the evening. Congratulations to everyone taking home prizes, vacations and various fishing trips. As always, we want to thank the many sponsors that support our efforts to further conservation efforts.

Hope to see everyone again in 2015! —**Gerald "Get er Done" Payne**

Trinity Valley

John Hebert Jr 936-334-2528

As Currents is readied for press, the Trinity Valley crew is readying another fine banquet for September 11. Watch this spot next issue for full details. —**John Hebert Jr.**

West Houston

Welcome new president, Mike Ayers 832-248-9352

Happy Fall Everyone! We have scheduled our next General Membership Meeting for Thursday, November 6 at 6:00 pm. It will be held in the party room of **Texadelphia**, located at 6025 Westheimer

Road. Our guest speaker will be Anja Borski with the Galveston Bay Foundation. The Galveston Bay Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and conservation of our bay and its natural resources for present users and posterity. Ms. Borski will be presenting an overview of their report card project of Galveston Bay and will welcome our input to help shape the scope and features of future report cards. We are looking forward to what should be a very insightful discussion of Galveston Bay.

We have also set the date for the 29th Annual West Houston CCA Crawfish Boil and Banquet for Thursday, May 14th, 2015. This is always a great event and the board is already at work to make next year's event bigger and better! Until next time - Best of luck on the water and stay safe out there! -Mike Ayers

West Texas
Craig McDonnold 432-682-3499



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 2012

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

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

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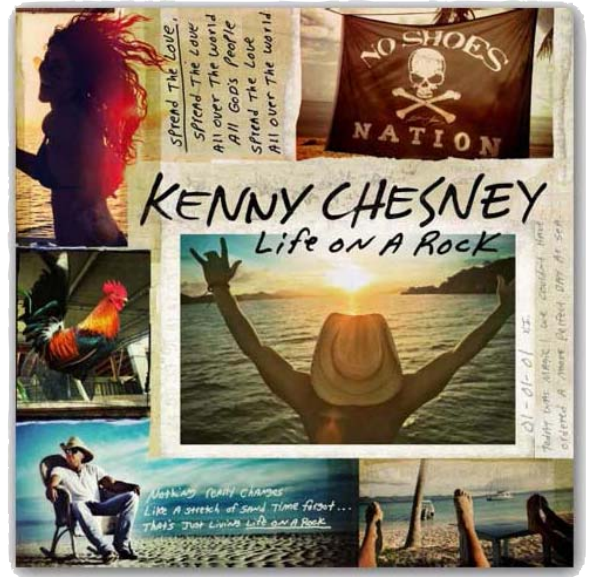
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Flounder gigging? This green heron has lunch plans below. Darlene Cook has a way with feathered wildlife. Next issue, maybe she'll share some photo tips with us.

The Last Laugh



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.

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

Iron Mike

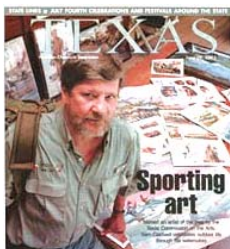
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The Texas Parks & Wildlife website is your starting point for almost anything you need to know about outdoor Texas, including links to many areas. Visit <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us> To focus on fishing and boating, visit <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/>



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/>



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