

CURRENTS

The newsletter for CCA members in Texas
December 2012 / January 2013





*Allyn's Bight Sun Rise,
by James Prukop.*

Your CCA Texas 2012 conservation dollars at work

🚧 Cedar Bayou project	\$520,000
🚧 Sport fish Research Center w/ HRI	\$500,000
🚧 CCA Music Concert	\$200,000
🚧 East Matagorda ICW breakwater erosion project w/ DU	\$200,000
🚧 Galveston West Bay erosion project w/ GBF	\$200,000
🚧 Artificial reef out of Corpus	\$100,000
🚧 Legal budget for Freshwater inflow issues	\$80,000
🚧 8 TPWD Interns	\$52,000
🚧 Cedar Bayou Study	\$32,000
🚧 Cedar Bayou fundraising consultant	\$30,000
🚧 Goose Island marsh grass planting phase III	\$18,289
🚧 Foundation grant writer	\$15,000
🚧 Mansfield Reef Study	\$14,250
🚧 CCA Billboards(14)	\$10,000
🚧 Sea Grass Protection signs for TPWD	\$7,150
🚧 CCA Game Warden of the year Badges	\$3,425

Total : \$1,982,114

Front cover: Lower Coast guide Rene Hinojosa accidentally hooked this little green turtle near Green Island in the Lower Laguna Madre. Watching the release are Alex Jackson, Miller Bassler and Eric Burke. Photo by Sam Caldwell





A SPECIAL GIFT FOR NEW LIFE MEMBERS

brought to you by

SIMMS.

CCA Texas and Simms Fishing Products have teamed up for a very special offer to CCA members.

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



WINDSTOPPER Softshell Jacket
in Dark Elkhorn

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

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

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

CCA Life Member APPLICATION

Name _____

CCA Member ID# _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

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

Jacket Size: ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ XXL

Method of Payment

☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Credit Card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ AmEx ☐ Discover

Credit Card Number

Exp. Date

Signature

Or print this form and send to:

CCATexas | 6919 Portwest Dr., Ste. 100 | Houston, Texas 77024
Phone 713.626.4222 | Fax 713.961.3801 | www.CCATexas.org

State of Texas Angler's Rodeo



123 Prizes Offered...
115 Prizes Awarded

The 23rd Annual CCA State of Texas Angler's Rodeo (STAR) shone bigger and brighter than ever before! Over 45,000 anglers fished the summer-long tournament setting a new participation record! STAR also recruited over 11,000 NEW members into the organization. The 2012 CCA Texas/STAR event offered a total of 123 fabulous prizes, worth over \$1 million including trucks, boats, motors, trailers and \$290,000 in college scholarships! A total of 24 lucky anglers were rewarded with some amazing top prizes at the October 4th awards Ceremony (see photos). In the Spirit of this Special Season, we'd like to take a moment to recognize and give a special thanks to all of our wonderful sponsors and volunteers who we can always count on that make it possible for us to offer this fun, family event each year for our members! This year's tournament awarded a total of 115 prizes. Here are all of the lucky winners.

StarKids \$50,000 Scholarship Division - This year's StarKids Scholarship Division provided these three young anglers with college scholarships totaling \$50,000 each:

Briley Eason, Capital Farm Credit StarKid Scholarship Flounder winner with her dad, Mike Eason, Wally Hinkle and Josh Krupa of Capital Farm Credit.



Tatiana Ybarra, Houston Community Newspapers StarKid Scholarship Sheephead winner with her dad, Joe Ybarra, Jason Joseph, Megan O'Sullivan and Tommy Legg of Houston Community Newspapers.



Dylan Collazo, Fox Sports Houston & Southwest StarKid Scholarship Gafftop winner and Mike Tippitt of Capital Farm Credit.

Academy Sports and Outdoors StarTeens Scholarship Trout Division - The Academy Sports and Outdoors StarTeens Scholarship Trout Division awarded a \$20,000 college scholarship to the youths pictured below:

Thomas Shelton, StarTeen Upper Coast Trout winner and Eric Herrera of Academy Sports & Outdoors.



Hunter Rutkoski, StarTeen Middle Coast Trout winner and Jason Morris of Academy Sports & Outdoors.

Caden Dicks, StarTeen Lower Coast Trout winner and Manuel Ynfantes of Academy Sports & Outdoors.



StarTeens Inshore Scholarship Division - The StarTeens Scholarship Inshore Division awarded these lucky teens each a \$20,000 scholarship:

Forrest Karl, StarTeen Flounder winner and Michael Thorn-Leeson of Tilson Homes Corporation



Chance Davis, StarTeen Sheephead winner and Mark Brown of Whataburger.

Ky Terrell, StarTeen Gafftop winner and Ardia Neves of Texas Fish & Game Magazine



STAR has reached \$4,635,000 in scholarships awarded to 144 children, ranging from 6-17 years of age. Many thanks to our sponsors for making this happen. Without them, it would not be possible.

Texas Ford Dealers Tagged Redfish Division - The first five winners drove home a fully-loaded 2012 Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" truck and Haynie 23 BigFoot, Mercury 150 OptiMax outboard motor and Coastline trailer.

David Matula, 1st Redfish winner with Ford Truck & Haynie Boat prize



Tony Gonzalez, 2nd Redfish winner with Ford Truck & Haynie Boat prize



Ralph McGrew, 3rd Redfish winner with Ford Truck & Haynie Boat prize

Speckled Trout Division - These winners took home a Shoalwater 22' Legend boat package:



Michael Fesco, Jr., Upper Coast Trout winner with Shoalwater boat prize



J. Santos Ramirez III, Middle Coast Trout winner with Shoalwater boat prize



Weldon West, Lower Coast Trout winner with Shoalwater boat prize

Offshore Division - These lucky anglers won the Explorer by Dargel 216 Blue Water Series boat package:



William Hendrix - Kingfish winner: His wife, Shannon Hendrix poses with hubby's Dargel boat prize



BEST IN TEXAS

2012 Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" XLT SuperCab with Haynie 23 Bigfoot, the Redfish Division prize.



Gregg Filtsch – Dorado winner with his Dargel boat prize



John Shults – Ling (Cobia) winner with his Dargel boat prize

Inshore Division – The following are the proud owners of Blue Wave 180 V-Bay boat package:



Holland DeKeyser, Flounder winner with his Blue Wave boat prize



Jonathon Garay, Sheepshead winner with his Blue Wave boat prize



Chris Brown, Gafftop winner with his Blue Wave boat prize

Runner-Up Winners - A total of 71 runner-up prizes were awarded this year. First through fourth runners-up in ALL divisions received a plaque, "Special Edition" STAR runner-up cap and gift certificates from **Academy Sports & Outdoors**. Gift certificate amounts for scholarship divisions: 1st - \$250, 2nd - \$150, 3rd - \$125, 4th - \$75 and for regular divisions: 1st - \$500, 2nd - \$250, 3rd - \$150, 4th - \$100:

StarKids Scholarship Division

Flounder: 1st: Dylan Gill (age 10) of Corpus Christi, 6 lbs. 4 ozs. / 2nd: Constantine Malouf (age 6) of Boerne, 6 lbs. 2 ozs. / 3rd: Hunter Wernecke (age 6) of Kingsville, 5 lbs. 4 ozs. / 4th: Layton Stary (age 9) of El Campo, 5 lbs. 2 ozs.

Sheepshead: 1st: Cameron Lucas (age 10) of Cypress, 7 lbs. 4 ozs. / 2nd: Nicholas Bell (age 9) of Baytown 5 lbs. 15 ozs. / 3rd: Connor Junot (age 7) of Nederland 5 lbs. 1 oz. / 4th: Churman Howell (age 10) of Baycliff, 4 lbs. 9 ozs.

Gafftop: 1st: Anthony Bellanger (age 7) of Orange, 6 lbs. 11 ozs. / 2nd: Tristan Brown (age 8) of Nederland, 6 lbs. 10 ozs. / 3rd: Joshua Nguyen (age 9) of Bridge City, 6 lbs. 2 ozs. / 4th: Camden Rozacky (age 10) of Rockport, 6 lbs. 2 ozs.

Academy Sports and Outdoors StarTeens Scholarship Trout Division-

Upper Coast: 1st: Dalton Vrana (age 13) of Houston, 7 lbs. 9 ozs. / 2nd: Colton Carner (age 11) of Santa Fe, 7 lbs. 0 ozs. / 3rd: Emily Ibarra (age 15) of Baytown, 6 lbs. 13 ozs. / 4th: Austin Sobieski (age 16) of Seabrook, 6 lbs. 11 ozs.

Middle Coast: 1st: Meg Schomburg (age 13) of Houston, 6 lbs. 14 ozs. / 2nd: Garrett Rutkoski (age 13) of Devine, 6 lbs. 10 ozs. / 3rd: Brooke Otto (age 17) of Corpus Christi, 6 lbs. 7 ozs. / 4th: NONE

Lower Coast: 1st: Cole Gentle (age 15) of Fredericksburg, 6 lbs. 14 ozs. / 2nd: Cole McKnight (age 15) of Richmond, 6 lbs. 13 ozs. / 3rd: Kristina Anderson (age 15) of Port Mansfield, 6 lbs. 12 ozs. / 4th: Cameron Curry (age 17) of Port Isabel, 6 lbs. 8 ozs.

StarTeens Inshore Scholarship Division-

Flounder: 1st: Brandon Gill (age 13) of Corpus Christi, 5 lbs. 3 ozs. / 2nd: Blake Huiitt (age 14) of Palacios, 5 lbs. 3 ozs. / 3rd: Dawson O'Neal (age 13) of Cedar Lane, 4 lbs. 14 ozs. / 4th: Camren Davis (age 16) of Lake Jackson, 4 lbs., 7 ozs.

Sheepshead: 1st: Christian Zapata (age 15) of Baytown, 8 lbs. 2 ozs. / 2nd: John Serrano (age 16) of League City, 7 lbs., 13 ozs. / 3rd: Hannah Soper (age 15) of Deer Park, 6 lbs. 6 ozs. / 4th: Austin Bell (age 16) of Baytown, 5 lbs., 9 ozs.

Gafftop: 1st: Braden Quebedeaux (age 12) of Orange, 6 lbs. 7 ozs. / 2nd: Chance Pearson (age 17) of San Antonio, 5 lbs. 14 ozs. / 3rd: Lauren Parrish (age 17) of Vidor, 5 lbs. 7 ozs. / 4th: Colt Pearson (age 14) of Vidor, 5 lbs. 7 ozs.

Speckled Trout Division

Upper Coast: 1st: Buddy Schaub of Houston, 8 lbs. 6 ozs. / 2nd: Christopher Schwartz of Friendswood, 8 lbs. 3 ozs. / 3rd: Seth Martinez of Galveston, 8 lbs. 0 ozs. / 4th: Brandon Rochner of League City, 8 lbs. 0 ozs.

Middle Coast: 1st: Raymond Gann of Corpus Christi, 8 lbs. 4 ozs. / 2nd: Ronald Gaylor of Brazoria, 8 lbs. 2 ozs. / 3rd: Chad Novak of Alvin, 8 lbs. 1 oz. / 4th: Laura Alaniz of Coprus Christi, 8 lbs. 0 ozs.

Lower Coast: 1st: David Smith of Cypress, 9 lbs. 6 ozs. / 2nd: Abundio Garza of Kingsville, 9 lbs. 1 oz. / 3rd: Richard Gidrey of Corpus Christi, 8 lbs. 14 ozs. / 4th: Neal Brodbeck of Sequin, 8 lbs. 11 ozs.

Offshore Division-

Kingfish: 1st: Nicole Stockton of Corpus Christi, 50 lbs. 2 ozs. / 2nd: Michael Weide of Charlotte, 49 lbs. 4 ozs. / 3rd: Neal Nygaard of Clear Lake Shores, 45 lbs. 0 ozs. / 4th: Tanner White of Fort Worth, 37 lbs. 8 ozs.

Dorado: 1st: Miguel Prida of Galveston, 40 lbs. 10 ozs. / 2nd: Peggy Hughes of San Antonio, 40 lbs. 0 ozs. / 3rd: Kurt Roedel of Pearland, 39 lbs. 10 ozs. / 4th: Michael Hoffman of Brookshire, 38 lbs. 8 ozs.

Ling: 1st: Jason Chide of Galveston, 71 lbs. 12 ozs. / 2nd: Joshua Cotter of Stockdale, 64 lbs. 10 ozs. / 3rd: Matt McCauley of Corpus Christi, 62 lbs. 6 ozs. / 4th: James Manning of Houston, 59 lbs. 14 ozs.

Inshore Division-

Flounder: 1st: Maria Garcia of Spring, 7 lbs. 7 ozs. / 2nd: James Combs of Corpus Christi, 6 lbs. 12 ozs. / 3rd: Julian Lopez of McAllen, 6 lbs. 9 ozs. / 4th: John Gill of Corpus Christi, 6 lbs. 8 ozs.

Sheepshead: 1st: Lorenzo Alba of Channelview, 8 lbs. 1 oz. / 2nd: Rene Garcia of League City, 6 lbs. 14 ozs. / 3rd: Ana Lisa Garza of Rio Grande City, 6 lbs. 13 ozs. / 4th: Robert Ibarra of Baytown, 6 lbs. 11 ozs.

Gafftop: 1st: Sean McGuire of League City, 7 lbs. 1 oz. / 2nd: Michael Darder of Beaumont, 7 lbs. 1 oz. / 3rd: Jessica Darder of Beaumont, 7 lbs. 1 oz. / 4th: Dan Chilek Jr. of Beaumont, 7 lbs. 0 ozs.

Special Bonus Drawings Winners - These unique drawings give participants a chance to win a prize even if they never wet a line or caught a single fish during the entire tournament. The following are lucky winner's of this year's special bonus drawings:

New Tide Member \$20,000 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 was Haley Hawkins, age 14, of Brazoria.



From left to right: Ron Hartman, Bill Kinney, STAR Director and Haley Hawkins (age 14), the New Tide \$20,000 Scholarship winner. Curtis Denison and Joel Battle, along with Ron Hartman, are Texas Oilman's Board of Directors.

Member Bonus Drawing - Every 2012 STAR entrant's name was put into a drawing for a Shoalwater 22' Legend with a Mercury 150 OptiMax outboard and McClain trailer. The lucky name drawn was Herman Krpec of El Campo.



Herman Krpec of El Campo was the lucky winner of the Member Bonus Drawing Boat - 22' Shoalwater Legend, Mercury 150 OptiMax motor and McClain Trailer.

2012 Early Bird Drawing Winners – Every 2012 STAR entrant who registered prior to May 26th went into this special drawing and 21 names were drawn. The following are the lucky "Early Bird" winners:



Mark Carvajal of San Antonio was the lucky winner of the MillerCoors "Early Bird" Grand Prize - 21' Shoalwater Cat, Mercury 150 OptiMax motor and McClain Trailer.



Jeff Northcutt of Hitchcock was the lucky winner of the Early Bird Drawing Prize Mercury 9.9 ELPT BF Pro Kicker motor.

Shoalwater 21' Catamaran boat, Mercury 150 L OptiMax motor and McClain trailer: Mark Carvajal of San Antonio
Mercury 9.9 ELPT BF Pro Kicker motor: Jeff Northcutt of Hitchcock, TX
Three (3) Shimano reel & American Rodsmiths rod combos: Samuel Lewis of Spring, TX, Jon DeVaney of Vail, CO, William Reinhart of Spring Branch, TX
Coleman Thermo-Electric Travel Cooler: Jamie Gonzales of Kingsville, TX

Fifteen (15) CCA "Special Edition" Posters: Jamie Gonzales of Kingsville/ Weston Lundgren of Houston/ Ted Grimes of Round Rock/ Dow Anderson of Bridge City/ Dennis Rogers of League City/ Adrian Aloma of Channelview/ John Pyle of Corpus Christi/ Larry Pults of Kerrville/ Ricky Drozd of Victoria/ Floyd Carter of Fair Oaks Ranch/ Cole McKnight of Richmond/ William Campbell of Huffman/ Blaine Henry of Alice/ Ramiro Velazquez of Houston/ Ernest Dietrich of Silsbee/ Don Hough of Beaumont/ Carmen Cooper of Sugar Land

2013 STAR News!
CCA Texas/STAR Platinum Print Membership Package, Series III - STAR Platinum Print Series III, "School Is In Session" by renowned artist David Drinkard is being offered for the **2013 CCA Texas/STAR Platinum package**. This special offer includes your CCA membership (new or renewal), your 2013 CCA Texas STAR entry, **plus a signed, limited-edition print** created exclusively for STAR, all for \$125! **Series III** is a one-of-a-kind special painting, worth this price alone. If you would like to consider one, or several, of these limited-edition packages as a unique gift, please place your order with the STAR Dept. by calling (713) 626-4222 no later than **December 7, 2012** to reserve yours in time for Christmas! For more details go to: www.startournament.org. The proceeds from the sale of all Platinum Prints will help us continue to fund the STAR scholarships. Thanks for supporting CCA Texas and the STAR Tournament!

STILL AVAILABLE... CCA Texas/STAR Platinum Print, Series I & II - STAR Reds and STAR Sightings are still available. If you signed up for CCA Texas



STAR Collector series art prints: STAR Sighting, 2012 Platinum Series II is shown above. A few STAR Reds, 2011 series I art prints, below, are still available.

and the 2012 STAR Tournament and would like to begin your CCA Texas/STAR Platinum Collectible Series by upgrading to receive the STAR Platinum Prints, please contact the STAR Dept. and we can get you fixed up. To own this first-ever commemorative piece, don't delay... purchase yours today before they're all gone!

The 2013 Tourney

The STAR 2013 is set to begin at sunrise Saturday, May 25 and will run through 5 p.m., Monday, Sept. 2 (**Labor Day**). In order to win at STAR, an angler must be registered and be a member of CCA. You're going to get in anyway, might as well do it now! Remember, everyone entered in the STAR Tournament, who will be 6 years old in 2013 and older, is eligible to win the prizes being offered (even the **TAGGED REDFISH DIVISION**)!!! While you renew your CCA Texas membership and STAR entry, why not honor your family and friends, **of all ages**, with this unique **Christmas gift** that offers hundreds of thousands in prizes. You might put







"School Is In Session" by David Drinkard

'em in a new truck/boat combo or pay for their college education! Get everyone signed up for the **2013 STAR**.

The **2013 STAR entry fee is \$20** for ages 18 and up - an awesome bargain! Membership fee is \$25 annually and an additional \$20 to enter the 2013 STAR Tournament for a total of \$45. For kids age 6-17, "New Tide" membership fee remains \$10 annually and the STAR entry fee is "FREE", but **will not be automatically included**. Each "New Tide" member **MUST sign-up each year for the current year tournament**.

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

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

FORD X-PLAN PRICING - CCA Texas members have been remarkably honored by the Texas Ford Dealers. They approved X-Plan pricing for us; that is, every current member can buy (or lease) any Ford product at the **same price Ford employees must pay**. This means we can save up to \$1,000 or much more, just by having a



valid **\$25 CCA membership card!!!** Our Ford Partner Code # is **CCA61**; go to www.fordpartner.com, if you are considering a purchase. And please share your gratitude with the dealers for helping to make this great offer possible for CCA Texas members.

SPECIAL BONUS FROM ACADEMY SPORTS + OUTDOORS

Another great reason to be a member of CCA! For those anglers who are current CCA members, Academy Sports + Outdoors will again reward you with a \$10 gift coupon just in time for fishing season! Special thanks to Academy Sports + Outdoors for continuing to make your CCA membership and STAR entry such an awesome value!

TEXAS FISH & GAME "BO-NUS" SUBSCRIPTION!!!

Texas Fish & Game will again honor this year's STAR entrants with a **ONE-YEAR (12 issues)** subscription to Texas Fish & Game Magazine. Please be advised your subscription **WILL NOT be sent automatically**. If you wish to take advantage of this special bonus you must declare on your application form. If you have already signed up for the 2013 STAR, but did not declare that you would like this special offer and/or have questions regarding your past or current subscription, please call (800) 725-1134 or email star@startournament.org.

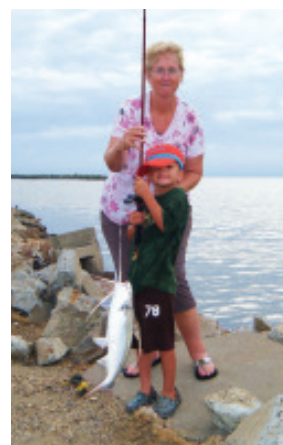


2013 Early Bird Drawings - Don't forget to sign up ahead of time and get your shot at landing one of the many great prize offerings just for registering early. Be on the lookout for special "Early Bird" prizes available **ONLY** for those entrants who sign up before the tournament kicks off. Everyone who signs up for STAR by the **May 24, 2013** deadline will be automatically entered into the special Early Bird Drawings. Several prizes will be given away! They are sure to be a reel catch. You can sign up **NOW** online at www.startournament.org!!!

Major sponsors for the 24th Annual CCA Texas/STAR Tournament include:

Texas Ford Dealers, Tilson Home Corporation, Capital Farm Credit, Mercury Marine, Academy Sports & Outdoors, Whataburger, Shipley Do-Nuts, Houston Community Newspapers, Time Warner Cable, Haynie Boats, Explorer by Dargel Boats, Texas Fish & Game Magazine, Costa Del Mar Sunglasses, Texas Oilman's Charity Fishing Tournament, Houston Astros, Coastline Trailers, McClain Trailers, Chris's Marine and Coastal Backwater Marine

For more information, including a list of weigh-in stations, instant-entry registration locations in your area and weekly leader board updates, go to <http://www.startournament.org>



"I Got One, GoGo!"

Devon Cabrera and his GoGo, Marilyn Smith. Great Kid Photo by Damian Cabrera

STAR has reached **\$4,635,000** in scholarships awarded to children 6-17 years of age. Many thanks to our sponsors for making this happen. Without them, it would not be possible.

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Editor, Sam Caldwell / sam@samcaldwell.com
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We thank our friends at Sea Island Shrimphouse for their \$5,000 donation to CCA Texas in honor of National Seafood month.

Welcome to the CCA Texas Online Auction

Sponsored By Costa Del Mar

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

Dec. 5th through the 19th

1) A pair of custom CCA-Logoed Simms Waders straight from the CCA Texas inventory. These waders are made with Gore-Tex and has our branding on the front with the great CCA Texas Logo. The weather is getting colder and if you want to continue to wade those tough areas, you need these high quality, long lasting CCA Simms Waders— XL SIZE ONLY. These great waders can be yours today for the right price! Make sure to always support the fish and CCA.

2) CCA Custom Stamp Shot Glass Collections featuring 25 shot glasses with stamps from 1983-2007. This great collections comes with a black wood shadow box to display these fine glasses. This is straight from the CCA Texas inventory and can be yours today for the right price. Always support the fish and CCA.

These items will be featured online for bidding purposes through **eBay, DATES?** We encourage everyone to take advantage of the art and merchandise that is up for sale.

Coming up will be a variety of unique art packages, as well as new merchandise never seen before! Look great and support the CCA this hunting season. —Erich Schneider

*Sponsored by our
friends at Costa.*



Great Foods / Food Editor Ellen Ohmstede

Tis the season!

*Enjoy this adaptation of Sherried Oysters from
Acme Oyster House.*

*3 leeks, sliced and rinsed / 16 ounces fresh shucked oysters with liquid
6 T butter / 1 medium yellow onion diced / 4 cloves garlic minced / 1 cup cream sherry
2 T Tabasco sauce / 1 cup heavy whipping cream / 1 cup parmesan cheese
Salt and pepper to taste / Toasted French bread for serving*

Slice leeks in half lengthwise and slice thin across the grain, using all the white and some of green. Submerge the cut leeks in a bowl of cold water. Rinse to make sure all grit is removed. Drain oysters, saving juice.

Heat 4 Tablespoons of butter in large skillet on medium heat. Sauté onions, leeks, and garlic until soft and clear. Add cream sherry and liquid from oysters and reduce until almost all liquid is gone.

Add heavy cream and continue to cook. Stir constantly with whisk until reduced, about 5 minutes. Add Tabasco, salt and pepper. Add parmesan cheese and heat through. Take off heat.

In another skillet, melt 2 tablespoons of butter and cook the fresh drained oysters for 3-5 minutes. Drain off excess liquid and add oysters to the cream sauce.

Serve as an appetizer on a toasted crostini or as a first course with French bread.



Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow

BUILDING A FUTURE FOR
TEXAS MARINE HABITAT



Summarizing 2012 HTFT efforts in Texas marine habitat

East Galveston Bay Oyster Restoration Project - \$3,700,000

CCA Texas has partnered with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) to secure \$3,700,000 in funding to restore 130-acres of oyster reef in East Galveston Bay. CCA Texas originally funded \$500,000 for the project and then jointly secured an additional \$3,200,000 with TPWD for the project. All CIAP requirements have been fulfilled and TPWD is currently working with United States Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) and Texas General Land Office (Texas GLO) to finalize contracts. Once contracts are in place, the project work will begin and a final completion date of May 2013 is expected for the placement of materials. In addition to the placement of materials for the reefing site, an education program for local schools, a monitoring program and a public outreach program on the importance of oyster reefs are all part of the project.

Restoration of Cedar Bayou and Vinson Slough - \$520,000

CCA Texas has been active in the efforts to restore Cedar Bayou and Vinson Slough for many years, giving up to \$25,000 in the past for early stage feasibility, engineering and environmental studies. In February of 2012, CCA Texas' State Board approved \$500,000 in funding to assist Aransas County. An additional \$20,000 was committed to the project through the efforts of the Babes on the Bay fishing tournament, sponsored by the Aransas Bay Chapter, located in Rockport. This funding was a major step in "jump starting" the fund raising process for this \$7,400,000 project. To date approximately \$3,250,000 in funds have been secured and Aransas County and CCA Texas look forward to hearing the results of a \$3,000,000 grant request through the NRDA (Natural Resource Damage Assessment) process in December to continue moving forward with the ultimate goal of beginning construction April 16, 2013.

Matagorda Nearshore Artificial Reef - \$200,000

In June of 2009, CCA Texas approved an initial funding of \$35,000 for the new 160-acre nearshore reefing site located between Sargent and Matagorda. After some delays, the project was finally fully permitted in December of 2010. Since the original \$35,000 funding approval, CCA National's Building Conservation Fund has contributed an additional \$150,000 to the project and also secured \$15,000 from the Shimano Corporation making the total commitment \$200,000. After originally being scheduled to be reefed in 2012, the project has been

switched in priorities by TPWD so that the TWPD Artificial Reefing Program could seek full funds necessary to reef the entire site through the Deep Water Horizon NRDA process. An answer from the NRDA process should be forth coming in December 2012. At this time TPWD will move forward with their project package and bidding process in November with a separate package that will reef 200 structures. This will begin the reefing portion of this site at which time CCA can expense its commitment. This initial phase will be completed by August 2013.

Oyster Lake Shoreline Stabilization Project and Marsh Restoration Project (West Galveston Bay) - \$200,000

This project was approved in August of 2012 and is a partnership with the Galveston Bay Foundation. Once completed, approximately 5,200 linear feet of shoreline will be protected and will prevent West Galveston Bay from breaching Oyster Lake, an important estuarine lake in the Galveston Bay system. In addition, lost marsh areas will be replanted for restoration. CCA dollars will be leveraged for additional funds through state and federal grant programs that will be used for Phase II of the project, which are anticipated to be complete in late 2013 or first quarter of 2014.

Sargent area Shoreline Stabilization and Marsh Restoration Project - \$200,000

This project was approved in August of 2012 and is a partnership with Texas DU. This project will eventually create 3.0 miles of shoreline protection and restoration along the Gulf Coast Intra Coastal Waterway, just north of Sargent, Texas. This project will provide necessary protection for approximately 1,200-acres of marsh currently threatened by the quickly eroding shorelines. CCA dollars will be used as matching dollars and will help by providing for an additional 1,300 linear feet for breakwater, thus bringing the total linear footage of Phase I and II to 4,750 feet of breakwater. Phase I and II are expected to be completed by June 30, 2013. Other funding partners for this project include NAWCA, The Meadows Foundation, DU and USFWS.

Corpus Christi Nearshore Artificial Reef - \$100,000

In November of 2011, CCA Texas approved \$100,000 in funding to the Corpus Christi Nearshore reefing project. This reefing site is a 160-acre site located in Texas state waters between Packery Channel and Port Aransas. This project will reef 400 pre-fabricated reef pyramids, making the site 50% reefed. The contract for this project has been awarded and work has begun by the contract con-

structing the structures. This project is due to be completed in August of 2013.

Copano Bay Oyster Reef Restoration at Lap Reef - \$75,000

CCA Texas is partnering with Harte Research Institute (HRI) to create a 1.5 acre oyster reef complex on Lap Reef, in Copano Bay, to enhance fish habitat. This project is part of a large mapping effort to identify and prioritize locations for oyster reef restoration based on long-term water quality and oyster health. Recycled materials will be used as base material for the site and it will then be topped with reclaimed oyster shells through a program initiated by Dr. Jennifer Pollack at Texas A&M Corpus Christi and HRI.

This project is being funded by CCA Texas through the CCA National Building Conservation Fund and should be completed during the 1st quarter of 2013.

Nueces Bay Delta Water Management System - \$70,000

CCA Texas has partnered with the Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program (CBBEP) to install a water management system that will ensure water pumped into the delta stays in the delta and does not backflow into the Nueces River, thus bypassing this critical habitat. This project will install a water control gate type system in Rincon Bayou to keep water in the delta. CCA Texas approved \$70,000 funding to be used for matching funds in November of 2011. The project is currently in the final engineering stages and is awaiting approvals. The scheduled completion date is the 1st quarter of 2013.

Bird Island Cove Marsh Restoration (West Galveston Bay) - \$50,000

CCA Texas funded \$50,000 to this project in May 2011. This project will restore 52-acres within an existing 115-acre marsh site. CCA Texas dollars have been used as matching funds by TPWD to secure dollars from USFW Coastal Wetland Grants Program. All funds have been received and the project is in the final engineering stages with an estimated completion between the fourth quarter of 2013 and first quarter of 2014.

J. D. Murphree Wildlife Management Area Shoreline Stabilization - \$50,000

This project was originally funded in August of 2010 in the amount of \$50,000. This project is a partnership with Texas Ducks Unlimited to construct approximately 2,500 linear feet of breakwater along sensitive salt and fresh water marsh along the Gulf Coast Intra Coastal Waterway within the J. D. Murphree Wildlife Management area. Texas DU used the CCA commitment as leverage dollars to secure further funds from the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) that are being matched with Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) dollars. All NAWCA and CIAP dollars are now in place; contract finalization is being completed for the CIAP dollars; the project is expected to be bid by the end of the year or January 2013 and will be completed by June 30, 2013.

Goose Island State Park Marsh Restoration Project - \$50,000

CCA Texas has provided a total for \$50,000 in funding for this multi-phase project to restore 24 -acres of marsh located in Goose Island State Park. This

project utilized beneficial use dredge materials to create marsh mounds inside of a levied system which will be eventually opened up to normal water flows, thus restoring 24-acres of lost marsh.

In Phase I of the project, twenty-five plus volunteers showed up to transplant various sea grasses from existing areas to the new marsh mounds in October of 2009. The volunteer effort was supplemented in January of 2010 by a professional effort and funded by CCA Texas. The project was a success and after receiving

much needed rains this year, the grasses are growing well.

Phase II of the project met many challenges due to drought and salinity levels, but was finally professionally planted in 2012. CCA Texas once again funded this work bringing the total commitment to \$50,000.

Dickinson Bayou Marsh Restoration Project - \$25,000

CCA Texas funded \$25,000 to this project in May 2011. TPWD is continuing to seek funds for the project and they are currently waiting

on notice form USFWS – CWPRA 2013 funds, which will come on January 1, 2013. TWPD is also seeking funds from Texas FLO CMP grant dollars and those will be announced on January 1, 2013 as well. CCA Texas dollars are being used and matching dollars for the project. Texas DU has stepped in and is going to complete the engineering phase of the project with assistance from NOAA as well. With the help of Texas DU and NOAA, engineering will be completed soon and project construction can be begun and completed in 2013. 🐾

CCA Texas and HRI establish first-ever Sportfish Research Center at Texas A&M Corpus Christi

The CCA has pledged \$500,000 in support of the center. The Harte Support Foundation is committing over \$300,000 to build a special purpose research vessel, plus supporting equipment.

"It is an exciting opportunity to focus on the science that supports the multi-billion dollar recreational fishery that has flour-

ished on the Texas coast and the Gulf of Mexico," stated Dr. Larry McKinney, HRI's Executive Director. "I could not think of a better partner than CCA Texas to make this dream a reality."

"We know that sound science is the foundation on which we must build our conservation efforts," concluded Robbie Byers, Executive Director of CCA Texas. "HRI brings that credibility and expertise to this project as no other institute could do. We are really excited about what the future holds for this research center."

"As researchers, we need the ability to step back out of the trees and see the whole forest in order to address the truly pressing problems facing sport fish-

eries," noted Dr. Greg Stunz, endowed chair for Ocean Health at HRI and the director of the new center. "It is exciting for me and my team to finally have the resources to meet this challenge. We know this is just the beginning of a science-based coalition that will advance our ability to assure the future of this fishery."

Many CCA members will remember that Dr. Stunz was the first-ever recipient of a CCA scholarship.

Altogether, more than \$1,000,000 will be committed to launching the first ever dedicated research center for the study of sportfish in the western Gulf of Mexico. 🐾

For more information contact:

Dr. Larry McKinney at 361-825-2070 or larry.mckinney@tamucc.edu

Dr. Greg Stunz at 361-825-3254 or greg.stunz@tamucc.edu

Robby Byers at 713-626-4222 or robby@ccatexas.org

"...just the beginning of a science-based coalition that will advance our ability to assure the future of this fishery."
—Dr. Greg Stunz

After a unanimous vote to partner with the Sportfish Research Institute on November 13, the CCA Texas Board of Directors took a brief recess for a group photograph. In foreground are Dr. Larry McKinney, Dr. Greg Stunz, CCA Texas Exec. Dir. Robby Byers, President Bill Schwarlose and Chairman Mark Ray. Sam Caldwell photo





Upper Coast

By Capt. James Trimble, Jr.

All I want for Christmas is a 10 lb. Trout

Galveston Bay fishing has been nothing less than spectacular this fall and as we head toward Christmas and the New Year I expect the fishing to remain top notch. To add to that, don't be surprised to get a gift or two in the form of a large speckled trout.

As we make the transition from working birds and following schools of fish feeding on various types of smaller bait fish to the winter time gorging pattern of the larger trout, expect the best of both worlds, catching a lot of fish as well as having the opportunity to catch that speckled trout you have always wanted for Christmas!

I would key on two areas of Galveston Bay. The first would be Trinity Bay. The wind would dictate which side, east or west, that I would fish. I would also plan my fishing trips right before the passing cold fronts and after the front as soon as the wind stops. My second choice would be East Bay. Same pre- and post front philosophy as well as letting the wind direction tell you which shoreline, north or south, to fish. Pay attention to the tidal movement in and out, which is exaggerated by each passing cold front. The tide level will help you fine tune the areas you need to key on.

Paul Brown Originals give you a great shot at catching both numbers and quality. The 51 series MirroLures are old school, but deadly. MirroLure She Dogs would be my choice of top water baits. My color of choice is chartreuse and white.

Remember to respect our fisheries and your fellow fisherman.

—**Captain James Trimble Jr.** 409-771-7716
captaintrim@me.com / www.captaintrim.com

Middle Coast

By Capt. Robert Sloan

Easy fishing is history for the year

Cold weather and cooling tides are moving in with Old Man Winter, as you receive this issue of *Currents*. The redfish run along the jetties at Port O'Connor is history; flounder have moved out into the Gulf; tailing reds in West Matagorda Bay are rare and trout can be as scarce as snow along the middle Texas coast. But with the cooler water temperatures comes the opportunity to find reds and trout bunched up and easy to catch if you're in the right place at the right time.

Let last year guide us to this year: I was guiding a duck hunt, fish hunt along Matagorda Island. The morning shoot was excellent for redheads and pintails, and the afternoon bite at the mouth of Contee Lake was better than expected. Reds were up on the flats adjacent to the channel drop, and specks, lots of them, were holding along the cut leading into Contee. Trout were best on 3.5-inch white-chartreuse Egret Bayou Chubs. Reds were all over 5-inch long Egret Wedgetails. The trick was to rig the soft plastics on 1/8 or 1/16 ounce jig heads. By the way, that 5-inch Egret Wedgetail is one of the hottest lures I've used in some time. This past summer and fall we used them to smoke reds in the backwater lakes of Port O'Connor. The key was to rig them on a weedless 5/0 hook and reel the Wedgetails on a slow retrieve.

During cold water months there are three areas you want to concentrate on. First, at the mouths of estuary lakes feeding into the bays. Second are the spots along the flats where they drop off into deep water channels. And third, never underestimate the power of jigs worked over soft mud and shell in 4 to 6 feet of water.

—**Capt. Robert Sloan**

Guide/writer/photographer Robert Sloan has fished and hunted out of Port O'Connor for more than four decades. 409-782-6796 email: sloan288@aol.com. Check out his web site at www.hightailangler.com.

Lower Coast

By Miller Bassler

Now it's time for Mr. Winter fishing

December brings new life to our system, with reds moving back on the gin clear sand flats, flounder staging for their exit to the Gulf, and specks finally starting to put on shoulders, while gorging themselves on shrimp, mullet and crab. Pintails, widgeon, and redheads are here by the thousands and duck hunters are enjoying the numbers. Personally, I wish it could stay Fall forever, but we are now in Mr. Winter fishing!

The last few years, we have been whacked by very few really bad fronts that lower the temperature to critical mass for our skinny water system. The best fishing will be a day or two after a strong front, including wind returning to the southeast. As the water warms, we find reds and specks roaming the sand flats presenting ample opportunities for "hunting" or sight casting, my favorite type of fishing.

Captain Rene Hinojosa (see this issue's front cover) recommends sight casting at big reds and extra-large specks. Norton Sand Eels and gold spoons usually rule, but always have a Mansfield maunder and a Gulp ready, because sometimes it's the only thing that will turn on the bite. Remember: When the weather gets really foul and cold, there is something about the opportunity to land that fish of a lifetime that will make you suit up and go.

Port Mansfield said goodbye to longtime resident, Laguna Madre activist and professional guide Walt Kittelberger this past October. He and his wife Nancy moved to Oregon to start a new adventure. Walt has been a champion of preserving the Lower Laguna Madre for over 20 years, fighting everything from the shrimp farms to the development of Padre Island. He and his Lower Laguna Madre Foundation have successfully fought and won many epic battles to preserve the pristine qualities of our beloved Laguna. Take a look at the web site, www.lowerlagunamadrefoundation.com, where you can learn even more about this organization and its ongoing work. Thanks, Walt, for a job well done!

And finally, a big thank you to all those who have helped in the past for the **Port Mansfield Beach & Clean Up Project**, and a save-the-date reminder that this year's **Fifth Annual Port Mansfield Beach and Cut Clean Up** is slated for March 16, 2013. Come join us, you will be lending a hand to a worthy cause. Tight Lines and Adios! —**Miller Bassler**

Shoalwater Bay: Capt. Sloan took a huge Port O'Connor flounder on his now-favorite white-chartreuse Egret Wedgetail, but my flounder fell for a Lefty's Deceiver. Photo, Sam Caldwell.



"Measuring up." Kathy and Miller Bassler check Kathy's big trout before release. Sam Caldwell photo.



Chapter Updates

Alvin-Pearland
Rex Richards 281-923-3050

Aransas Bay
Carter Crigler 435-830-5984
jccrigler@hotmail.com

Our chapter had another outstanding banquet with everyone enjoying an evening of fellowship with sponsors, donors, friends, and fellow CCA members. A big thank you goes to **Ron Hoover RV and Marine**, our Title sponsor for the 13th Annual Banquet, who provided boats for viewing and overall outstanding support. In addition, we would like to recognize **First Victoria National Bank**, Key Sponsor, and our **Table Sponsors: Academy, Bellaire Environmental, Gator Bait, Redfish Bay Chapter-CCA, Rockport Tackle Town, Stewart Title Company**, and **Wells Fargo Bank**. In addition, we need to recognize 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. Less we forget, a very special thanks to **Terri MacDonald**, for the beautiful decorations.

In connection with The Coastal Conservation Association partnering with Aransas County on the Cedar Bayou project an additional \$20,000 from the Babes on the Bay tournaments was recently presented to Aransas County.

How time flies! Registration for **Babes on the Bay** begins on **January 1**. Starting with the 2013 Babes on the Bay tournament, **online registration will be used exclusively to sign up for the tournament**. Please visit the site (www.babesonthebay.com) in early January and review the registration process to determine if you have any questions. If you have questions contact **Karol Scardino** at 361-386-0028.

Mark your calendars: **May 17-18, 2013: Babes on the Bay / August 10, 2013: Aransas Bay Chapter Banquet**.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May the fishing gods be with you in 2013. Tight lines —Carter

Austin
Scott Sanderson 512-637-1750
scott@mbsquoteline.com

Anglers' Night Out (ANO) continues to grow and in September, **Capt. Tommy Countz** entertained our Austin members with fall fishing tactics and great stories. **Capt. Kevin Cochran** is up next November 14, and the night will have been all about catching trophy trout.

And you want to mark your calendar now—we just confirmed **GLO Commissioner Jerry Patterson** will be our very special guest for our **March 20, 2013 ANO!** Come join us

*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**.*

at **Abel's on the Lake**. They're FREE and FUN, you'll get great meal compliments of **Smokey Denmark**, and we give away tons of great prizes. Watch the website www.ccaatexas.org for what we'll have in store for the January ANO, and to keep up with all the Austin Chapter news.

The Austin Board and Officer elections were held in September. Congratulations and thanks to new board members **Jeff Beck, Paul Cox, Steven Kalil, Tim Laine, Blake Masters, Derrick Mattiza, Charlie Morgan, Jake Neubauer, Brandy Perkins, Tyler Taunton and George Thrasher**. Congratulations also to new Austin officers **Marvin Dworaczyk and PJ Todd**, and new Junior Board officers **Sam Appling, Nick Appling and Knox Kronenberg**. See the Austin website for a complete list of our officers for 2012-2013. We have a phenomenal group of men and women in Austin dedicated to the CCA mission.

If you want to keep up with our fun and active chapter, but aren't getting Austin communications, call the CCA Texas office at 713-626-4222 and ask them to put you on the Austin mailing list.

Save the Date: May 9th, 2013- and join us for Austin's 34th Annual Banquet. Sponsorship opportunities are available, and if you'd like to promote your business to our 3000 strong Austin members and show your support of CCA, contact **Ryan Kasten** rkasten@oxfordcommercial.com or **Tim Laine** tlaine@oxfordcommercial.com for information.

Be sure to Friend us on Facebook by searching Coastal Conservation Association Austin Chapter. It's a great way to keep up with everything going on in the Austin Chapter and make sure you don't miss a thing. Best wishes for the happiest of holidays from the CCA Austin Chapter! —**Scott Sanderson**
scott@mbsquoteline.com

Bay Area

Curtis Anderson 832-421-6377

Hello Sportspeople from the Bay Area chapter. **We are getting ready to plan our annual fundraiser and banquet.** Anyone interested in helping out is welcome to come to one of our meetings.

We have had a good summer with many great speakers and experts to inform us at our monthly meetings. The last meeting we had the **Shimano Pro Staff** and even though they had spoken to us before, I still learned a couple of new things. We want to give a big Thank You to all of the guides, experts and other people who donated their time to come and speak to us. Looks like the fall fishing is going to be great and by the time you read this I hope you all had great luck. Till next time we wish you a great holiday season. —**Kent Lacy**, Vice President. Contact us at **Curtis Anderson, President** at 832-435-0257 or **Kent Lacy** at 832-632-2045.

Brazoria County

Wes Dingee 979-299-8245

Brazos Valley

Larry Purifoy 979-229-4752

Hope everybody has had a great start to the autumn bite. The smell of the first cold front has all sportsmen changing their minds, going from trophy trout to trophy whitetails. The problem is that this time of year is really the "Super Bowl" time to be at the bay. The trout and reds are gorging themselves and the flounder are on their migration thru the passes. So by this time I hope everybody has finished their hunting and are back to the bay.

The chapter has been busy fishing from East Matagorda to Baffin. But we need more Brazos Valley CCA members to attend our monthly meetings. Brazos Valley has several hundred members and we only see a few at our meetings. I would like to invite all CCA members in the College Station-Bryan area to attend. We meet at the Brazos Center Pavilion every second Tuesday. There is food, beverages, and a raffle. The new attendees even get a free raffle ticket! Hope to see you at the next meeting. —**John Ben**



Carolyn Pond, Port O'Connor artist and longtime CCA donor, received a special plaque from president Bill Moore and a standing ovation from the Port O'Connor banquet attendees.

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Style RVO3 STX-HS

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- 11 bearing system



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- Nine bearing
system

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- Eight bearing
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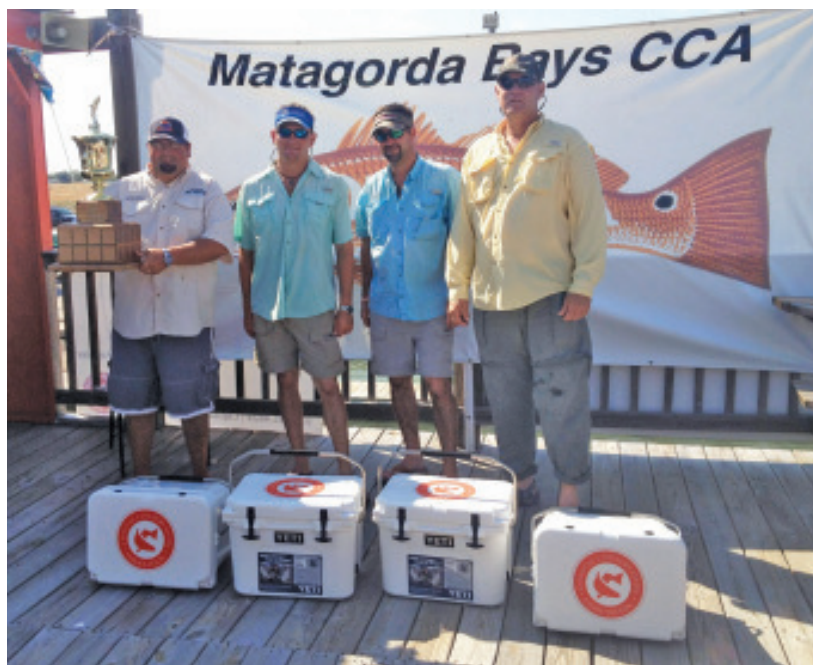
Brenham
Dennis Crowson
 979-451-2472

Dennis.crowson@hotmail.com

Thanks to retired biologist Robert Lehmann and Blinn College wildlife instructor Bryan Benhke For an informative October program on the current state of wildlife in Washington County and the accomplishments and achievements of the Blinn College Agriculture and Wildlife organization.

Our next meeting will be January 24, 2013. Happy Holidays from the Brenham CCA.

Thanks to Mike Hopkins Distributing and ammotogo.com for sponsors our monthly chapter meetings. For more information contact me at dennis.crowson@hotmail.com or check us out on www.facebook.com/BrenhamCCA —Dennis Crowson



Winners of the Matagorda Bays Guides Cup: Captain Tommy Alexander, Garrett Pool, Tyler Williams, Kevin Stehling.

Brush Country
Hank Henry 361-215-6803

Centex
Brad Hensel 254-776-3411

Central Houston
Todd Buster Mobil,
 713-545-1897

The 37th Annual Central Houston Banquet will be held on April 18, 2013. It will be held at the Bayou City Event Center, a great centrally-located facility. For the first time in a long time the Central Houston Chapter will have a boat raffle in connection with its annual banquet. Be on the



Left: Corpus Christi Caller Times Outdoor Editor David Sikes and Capt. Billy Sandifer have a predawn discussion. Right, Ben Matcek and Jason Seale with their invaluable 4WD Jeeps. The Jeepsters carried volunteers and pulled trash trailers some 80-plus miles up and down the Padre Island beach. Photos, Sam Caldwell.

Big Shell Beach, East Cut Cleanup are on CCA agendas

It's become a Texas tradition, cleaning our coastal environment. Eighteen years ago, Capt Billy Sandifer felt so strongly about the trash on the Big Shell region of Padre Island, he invited thousands of his closest friends to make the beach better. Sandifer was named as a Hero of Conservation by Field and Stream Magazine.

Clean beaches are contagious. This year will mark the fifth year for Kathie and Miller Bassler's Port Mansfield East Cut & Beach cleanup. Of course, all the programs require cooperation not only with hundreds of volunteers, but between partnerships with private and local groups, and state and federal agencies. Among the groups participating in the upcoming Crab Trap removal project are several CCA chapters, TP&WD, the TPWD Wildlife Foundation and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

The 18th annual Big Shell Beach Cleanup: Saturday, February 23

To date, this wonderful event has removed 2.45 million pounds of trash removed from PINS. 4WD vehicles and

operators, trailers and walking volunteers are needed and welcomed. Volunteers will meet by 0700 A.M. at the parking lot at the Malaquite Pavilion and ends at 2 P.M.

Refreshments will be furnished at the event's conclusion (thanks to the Corpus Christi CCA) and necessities will be provided in the work area during the event. Event T-shirts and goody bags will be given all volunteers. The work area will be 18-29 miles south of the pavement. Walking volunteers will be afforded transport in and out of work area and are most welcome. —Capt. Billy Sandifer

For complete details, drop by the website: <http://www.billysandifer.com/cleanup.htm>



Families and individuals from all walks of life convene on Padre Island National Seashore, and the Port Mansfield East Cut for a day of hard work. Their reward— leaving their beach better than they found it.

The Fifth Annual Port Mansfield EAST CUT & Beach Cleanup is set for Saturday, March 16

Last year was a tremendous success, thanks in large part to all the CCA members who cleaned a huge area of the Mansfield East Cut and PINS beach. Join us again for lots of fun and a collector tee shirt. Start at 7 am, the Port Mansfield CC Pavilion where Breakfast will be served. A free box lunch will also be provided. Afterwards, enjoy drinks and chili at PELICAN'S PUB. We could use some boat captains willing to provide ferry service. Free housing will be provided by our generous sponsors on an availability basis with priority given to youth groups of any kind.

—Miller and Kathy Bassler, 979-535-4593, or cell phones 979-204-5185 or 979-324-5555. For photos from last year's event, go to the YouTube site below. Music included by Craig Carter! Type this url into your browser:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TX1321HA8vI>

lookout for raffle tickets. In addition to the boat, we will have several other great prizes. We're also working on some events for the early spring 2013, so keep your eyes peeled. If you are interested in getting involved in the Central Houston Chapter, please contact Todd Buster at tbuster@busterandcogdellbuilders.com Tight Lines! –Todd Buster

Colorado Valley Welcome new president, James Loehr 979-250-3958

We held a general membership meeting on Wednesday November 8. The crowd enjoyed BBQ from Zimmerhansel's and beverages from Saunders Distributing. We raffled a Yeti cooler and a Shimano reel and gave away a few door prizes. Capt. Scott Sommerlatte gave us a fantastic presentation that we all enjoyed and we walked away from the meeting knowing a lot more about fishing. Thanks Scott.

Keep your calendars open for March 21st, the date for our Annual Banquet. We will be hosting another membership meeting in January and selling tickets then, so look for your flyer in the mail. We had a great year and would like to once again thank all those volunteers, sponsors and donors that make it all happen. We look forward a great 2013. Getting a kid hooked on fishing it is the greatest gift you can give! –James Loehr

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

Our chapter is wrapping up the last event for the 2012 year on November 10, 2012 with "Poco Rojo Kids Fish." Thank you, Academy for underwriting this event with gift certificates to the first fifty kids registered and thank you, Ainsworth Trucking for underwriting the food and drinks.

Our 35th Banquet is set for March 7, 2013. L & F Distributors, Ltd. has agreed to underwrite the ATV raffle. Thank you Greg Lamantia and L& F Distributors, Ltd. Please mark your calendars now for this early spring banquet.

> **Babes on Baffin and Blue Ladies Fishing Tournament – October 5-6, 2012** / We recently hosted our 8th Annual Babes on Baffin and Blue Ladies Fishing Tournament at Roberts Point Park in Port Aransas with Friday evening's check-in and social held at Doc's Seafood & Steaks in Corpus. Both events were fun-filled with lots of spirited fellowship bigSpeedyinning with picture posing at the logo wall for determination of the best team attire contest finalists and ending with the best team attire finalists stage parade and award



MidCoast's winning Speedy Stop Team, with Captain Kirk Morgan, Jim Angott, Carson Marek, Ramon Ramos and Mark Gresham.

decision. More than 450 individuals were in attendance throughout the weekend with 88 teams participating in the tournament. The fishing skill and determination shown by these Lady Anglers resulted in 51 live fish being donated to the CCA/CPL Marine Development Center. Kudos to You! Not only did we have several local teams participating this year, we had many more traveling in from all corners of the state to join us in what looks to be a rapidly growing regional ladies' tournament.

We want to once again thank our dedicated planning committee who worked tirelessly for the past several months, to ensure that our wonderful participants experienced a fun and memorable tournament. We appreciate the commitment these volunteers show to the event and to CCA. We recognize that each of them has many other full time demands, yet they so generously give their gift of time in order to benefit our Lady Anglers and CCA. These individuals are Jo Gardner, Adriane Hutchison, Laura Payne, Erin Survant, and Candace Tidmore. To each we offer our heartfelt thanks. And we are grateful to our Chapter President, Randy Poelma and CCA AD John Blaha, for their attendance, assistance, and unending support. We also could not have put on

the event without our new and returning and always smiling volunteers who came out tournament weekend to help us. Many of these weekend volunteers are generous family members and friends who traveled to the tournament from the Houston area to assist us — thank you so much for that! Our tournament volunteers included John and Laura, Erica, Adriana, Moira and David, Stephen, Margaret, Tim, Diane and Douglas, Kerry and John, Marsha and Dave, Rodney, Joseph, Kevin, Jay, Jeff, and Cliff. Thank you all!

Very special to us are our 2012 Diamond Sponsors. They are believers in our tournament and in the experience we strive to provide to our participants. Our

2012 Sponsors are Fifteen Carat Diamond Sponsor – My Pink Marlin; Ten Carat Diamond Sponsor -Total Oilfield Equipment & Supply, LLC and Jackie's Brickhouse located in Kemah; Five Carat Diamond Sponsors John and Laura Holmgreen and Sea Tow. We invite all CCA Texas members to take a moment to get to know these very special businesses by viewing their websites linked through our tournament website, www.babesonbaffin.com. Please thank them with your patronage and let them know you saw their names associated with the tournament.

Last, a hearty thanks to each of the Lady Anglers and Little Babes who joined us this year. Our mission was to share CCA and its message of conservation with you through a first class event. We hope we met that goal. We also hope you left us with strengthened friendships and cherished memories that will last a lifetime. —Candace Tidmore

Upcoming events: Poco Rojo Kids Fish – Rescheduled - November 10, 2012. Contact John De John 361-728-8152 or Mike Henry 361-816-0300. / The Kids Fish will be held at the CCA/CPL Marine Development Center in Corpus Christi. As always, if you have an interest in joining our board and being involved in conservation of our coastal resources, please contact a board member or me at

r_poelmacpa@sbcglobal.net
—Randy Poelma

Dallas / North Texas

Craig Jones 817-239-6200

We had a great turn out for our October Happy Hour, with quite a few new faces. We will have several member events throughout the fall and winter, so please make sure to attend. If you are a member and not receiving notices via email and/or Facebook, make sure to contact me. Speaking of Facebook – make sure to Friend us at dallascca and please be sure to send any fishing related photos you have – including banquet trips you have purchased.

Our Banquet will again be at Frontiers of Flight Museum on Thursday, April 18th – Please save the date. Please



"Jon Goes Fishing." Great Kid/Scenic Photo by James Barnett.

contact me if you have sponsor candidates for the banquet. This is a great opportunity to highlight your company in front of a great audience. Regards—
Craig Jones President@dallascca.org

East Texas
Dr. Jim Norman
936-554-3165

jnorman7@suddenlink.net

Our chapter set up and manned a booth at the **Piney Woods Fair** October 10 - 14. We passed out recent copies of Tide, Currents, Did You Know info pamphlets, and sold tickets for a nice **Shimano Curado and Fishing Tackle Unlimited rod raffle** and also began sale of tickets for our six-gun raffle at **our banquet coming up February 8**. Thanks to Billy Cox, Dan Hafner, Marty Smith, Bill Kaczynski, Frank Still, Andrew Still, Allan Spruiell, Harold Derby, and Brent Rogers for the hours spent manning the fair booth. **If you attend our banquets, please note that we have moved our banquet date from April to Feb. 8.** Our banquet gun raffle will include six guns and they are all cool tactical type weapons. Tickets are \$20 apiece or 6 for \$ 100. If you are interested, contact me at e-mail below and I will mail you a list of the guns and arrange for ticket sales.

We held our fall fishing tournament Oct. 20 out of **Stingaree Marina** on Galveston East Bay. We had enough entries for some nice prizes: 1st place: **Shimano Chronarch**; 2nd place: **Waterloo rod**; 3rd place: **Shimano Saros**. Winners include: Trout: 1st **Andrew Still**; 2nd **Lonnie Dunlap**; 3rd **Jim Norman**. Redfish: 1st **Josh Kaczynski**; 2nd **Doug Considine**; 3rd **Grant Jones**. Flounder: 1st **Thomas Massa**; 2nd **Grant Jones**; 3rd **Cindy Derby**. Special thanks to **Brad Vratiss** and the crew at **Stingaree Restaurant and Marina** for providing us with a place to weigh-in and a certified scale and for the excellent service and food upstairs for 20 + people.

We hope to see you at our banquet and to maybe award you a cool gun or auction you a trip to **Cabo San Lucas** or the **Chandeluer Islands**. Tight Lines —**Jim Norman** jnorman7@suddenlink.net

Fort Bend
Welcome new president, Clint Shepard
832-595-5375

The holiday season is upon us, and I hope that means more time on the water for everyone. As mentioned in the last Currents, we held our first annual **"Board Cup Tourney"** on October 20 in Matagorda. The tournament was a great success and a good time was had by all. The fourth place boat consisted of **Deanna McGraw** and crew, piloted by **Jim Grover**; the third place boat was **Bryan Alexander** and his crew piloted by me; second place was **Brian Phillips** with his trusty **Captain Troy Burditt**, and the "Grand Prize" went to **Mark Smiley** and **Brett Price** who were led by the **Meyer brothers** and **Skip Kramer**. I would like to extend a special thanks to all the bidders who bought into the tournament, as well as the rest of the members who cooked and cleaned and made the time off the water as enjoyable as the time spent fishing. With that behind us we will be actively working and planning next year's banquet. Look for



"Texas Coastal Quiver" The well-equipped Texas angler is prepared for fishing from ten inches to ten fathoms. Painting by Sam Caldwell.

it to be another good one. I hope everyone has happy holidays. Until next time —**Clint Shepard**

Fort Worth
Fearn Mastin 817-291-1302

We held our last of two General Membership meetings at the ever supportive **Rahr Brewery** in Fort Worth. They have been gracious supporters of our mission and chapter for three years now and we look to continue to grow our relationship — thank you to the entire Rahr Team!

There were about 75 CCA enthusiasts on hand to enjoy some barbecue cooked and served by our very own President — **Fearn Mastin**, and of course, complimentary **Rahr beer**. Due to a flight cancelation our fishing guide was unable to make it to the event but we had two local game wardens on hand to discuss current issues with the group. There was a very good Q&A to conclude their speech. Some lucky guests walked away with a **Yeti cooler**, rod and reel combo as well as two pairs of **Justin Boots**. We concluded by sending away many happy guests and connected with some new members as well.

Save the date. The Ft. Worth Chapter banquet will be held Thursday May 2nd, 2013 at Joe T's. This year we are raffling a **Haynie 23' Bigfoot with a Mercury 150hp I. Optimax and Coastline Trailer**. Tickets are \$100 and we are only selling 300. This is a fantastic package and the odds are great so don't miss out on an opportunity to purchase a ticket. Tickets are on sale now. Contact **Fearn Mastin** or any Fort Worth Chapter board member to get your ticket or to purchase with credit card call Ellen at CCA 800-626-4222 or email ellen@ccatexas.org. We will draw the winner on Thursday May 2nd at Joe T's. You do not need to be present to win.

Thank you to all of our supporters — without your kindness and generosity none of this would be possible. To all you hunters out there we wish you straight shooting, and for all of you fishermen, tight lines, —**Fearn Mastin**

Galveston
Welcome new president, Dr. Ken Ellis
713-962-7731

I would like to thank everyone who attended, donated, and volunteered to our 20th annual banquet that was held on August, 4 at **Moody Gardens**. Special congrats to **Brian McKenzie**, the winner of our 18' Shallow Sport, that was totally rigged out by **Coastline Marine** and the **Starr Brothers**.

Please mark your 2013 calendars for August 3, for next year's banquet. Our chapter will be hosting a general membership meeting on Thursday, January 24 at **M & M Bar and Grill**. We will have a presentation from one of our local Game Wardens. The Galveston Chapter is looking for anyone that would like to join our efforts in the coming year. Please call me directly with any questions or concerns. Merry Christmas to all, and tight lines —
Dr. Ken Ellis

Golden Triangle
Welcome new president, Fisher Maddox 409-291-6000

It's that time of year again for hunting season to start up and the birds to start working in East Galveston Bay. The cooler weather marks a perfect opportunity to use the birds to find the schools of trout hidden beneath. The flounder run is also in full swing, with marsh drains and various outlets providing many opportunities to land some great flounder.

Our Chapter Banquet is set for May 16th, 2013 and we would like to congratulate **Trey Browne** as this year's Banquet Chairman. Trey is already working hard on securing some new and exciting items for this year's banquet. This is a great time of year to be on the water, so grab a rod and go fish!—**Fisher Maddox**

Greater Sugar Land
David Kveton 281-808-4870

Fall is here, and I hope everyone is enjoying the fishing and the weather. Thanks go out to **Bill Balboa** with Texas Parks and Wildlife for being our speaker at our November meeting. November 10, we had our **President's Cup Fishing Tournament** in Sargent. Thanks to everyone that attended. The proceeds from this tournament are used for the numerous **Kid Fish** events that we put on during the year. I will have the results posted in the next CURRENTS. To keep up with our chapter events you can follow us on our Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/ccasugarland.

Our meetings are held at 7 pm on the first Wednesday of every month at Spring Creek Bar-B-Que on Hwy. 6 in Missouri City. Come join us for some great BBQ and meet some great people.—**David Kveton**

Greater Woodlands
James Kay 281-363-4417

www.ccatexas.org/greater-woodlands
Our banquet held on September 13, 2012 was a great success. Thank You all for attending and

participating in this spectacular event. Thank You, **Anchor Sponsors, Academy, Royal Purple, Silver Eagle and Texcraft Construction.** And a Special Thanks to the **Blair Jennings Family, Dyna-Therm, Gullo Ford and Total Depth Supply.** Thank You, **Audobon Engineering, CDM Resource Management, Home & Leisure Design, Jeff Burton Insurance, Praxair/TWSCO, Valerus and Zephyr Gas Services.** You have all been very instrumental in our banquet and chapter growth. The event was held at **The Grand Palace** and food was catered by **Clint's Kuntry Katfish Catering.**

We will be hosting a **Social Event, December 4, at Rico's.** Please check the web page for information. Everybody that attends will get a "free gift." Christmas comes early at CCA Texas.

Here are a few events for 2013: January / February 2013 – We will be hosting a guest speaker, speaker to be determined. April 2013 – Crawfish Boil at Papa's Ice House.

July 2013 – 6th Annual Banquet & Fund Raisher. Please contact any of the board members on our website <http://www.ccatexas.org/greater-woodlands/> Keep Conserving ...To Keep Fishing! –James Kay

Guadalupe Valley
Cliff Weber
361-275-6506

Hays County
Steve Schiber
512-524-2989

Heart of the Hills

Randy Plummer 830-377-0737

The 10th Annual Heart of the Hills Chapter fund raising banquet was held at the Boerne Community Center on September 13th. Thank You to the following sponsors for your support - **Bull Red Sponsors, Academy Sports & Outdoors, Boerne Marine, Concept Builders, Kendall County Abstract Company, Full Service Auto Parts, Trophy Trout Sponsors, Brady's Auto Repair, C. Joseph Industries, and Garrett Mechanical.**

Attendees enjoyed an awesome shrimp boil by **Cajun Country Cookers** and then participated in the silent auction, \$5 raffles, and Yeti cooler raffle. **Full Service Auto Parts and Boerne Marine** helped out to keep the live auction spirited. It was great to see everyone having a good time. Several tables to mention include **Schwoppe Water Well Drilling, Jack Esser, Thomas Page Sr., Anderson Ford, and our friends from Benson Body & Paint and Blanco Auto Parts.** A special thanks to **Keg 1** for donating the **Lone Star, Miller Lite, and Coors,**



"Like Father, Like Son." The subjects are Alan and Greyson Heine, photo by Cathy Heine.

Tractor Supply for the beer tubs, **Texas Kayaks,** and to **Pure Party Ice.**

This banquet would not have been possible without the dedicated efforts of the following people: **Tom Wayland (Matco Tools), Darrell Steubing (Darrell Steubing Insurance), Rodeana Reynolds, Bob Beckett, Jim Simmons (H&R Block - Boerne), Kelly Parks (Aqua-Man), Rusty Mertink (Auctioneer) and the CCA crew from Houston.** Thanks again to all for a great banquet. If you would like to get involved, give us a call and we'll get you hooked up.
—Jim Simmons 210-

380-5709

Hill Country

Darlene Cook 800-594-2056 ext 217
darlenec@knbt.fm

We have four new Directors! **Thomas Morgan, Jimmy Rabon, Mike and Jenny Delgado** have attended our banquets as guests, fished our tournaments and volunteered with the banquet for set up and as donors. Each declared their interest in getting more involved so welcome to our new Directors.

We had our banquet steak appreciation dinner and introduced the new banquet Co-Chairmen, **Quinn and Dawn Koehler.** They will be holding their first banquet meeting November 13th in their home. This couple is very organized and very creative, I look forward to what they will bring to the table. They have a fantastic team of Directors to work with, strong in talent and creativity.

A **Hill Country member Social** is in the making so watch for more details. It will include a fish fry, raffles and a chance to meet fellow anglers. If you know of a good location in the tri-county area to have the event, let us know. It should be large enough for a couple of hundred people, hopefully nice outside space with room indoors in case of inclement weather and, inexpensive. If you know of a place email me at darlenec@knbt.fm.

The Tournament committee will post the summer date in February. At that time we will also announce the General Meeting dates. If you have a subject or speaker you would like to hear let us know now. Have fun and God Bless—**Darlene Cook**

Houston Real Estate

Dale Couch 281-953-2510

The Houston Real Estate chapter is looking forward to our Fifth annual fund raising banquet February 12, 2013. Once again, we will offer a superb dinner and great values in the Silent auction as well as the Live auction, including trips and fine art. For reservations, contact Coleman Todd at CCA, 713-626-4222.

Katy

Jason Smith 281-924-7040

The Katy Chapter had another record year. We had more new general meeting attendance than ever, more chapter involvement, and we hosted the best-attended banquet in chapter history. The banquet also raised more money than ever before!

In addition to a fantastic year, we are losing the guidance of our chapter president. **Jason Smith, who** has been chapter president since 2006, and announced his "retirement" at our September meeting. Jason took over in 2006 and his efforts leading the chapter have yielded some huge accomplishments. The chapter has grown its membership and raised more money each year, grown in the community, and has generated more member involvement than ever before. To fill the spot on the "stringer," I was elected and hope I can pull as many tricks out of my tackle box as Jason. Even at the chapter level, "it takes an army" and I hope to earn the chapter support that Jason did.

The Katy Chapter would also like to thank all the guest speakers we had in 2012: **Capt Walt Kolinovsky, Capt Bink Grimes, Capt Mark Talasek, Capt Tommy Alexander, Tarpon Tomorrow - Scott Alford, and the guys from Shimano (Phillip Cambra, Ed Hix, Capt Eric Renteria, and Capt John Havens).** We enjoyed **The Texas Gourmet - Bryan Slaven,** as a speaker. We try to host interesting guest speakers for our meetings, and welcome ideas for 2013. We always have a raffle for great items and fishing trips, and **Red River BBQ provides special cold beer pricing.**

I hope the rest of 2012 is great for everyone. If you are travelling to the coast, deer lease, or for the holidays - please be safe. We look forward to seeing you in January and hope to hear stories of double digit trout, banded ducks, and record-book deer. Until next time —**Clint Hilton,** the "new guy."

Laredo

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

Lee County

Welcome new president, Byron Kalbas
979-540-0056 bkalbas@yahoo.com

Our 2nd Annual Lee County CCA chapter banquet held on Thursday, October 18 was a smashing success! Due to the support of our local business members and the many people in the community and abroad, we managed to raise over \$100,000 for CCA Texas. Although the final numbers are not in as of press date, I want to personally thank all of the sponsors, donors, buyers, table buyers and every new or renewing member who so willingly and generously gave to help make the Lee County CCA chapter banquet a success! I also want to thank all of our committee members who gave of their time and efforts to sell the tables, raffle tickets, pick up donated items, help decorate and secure sponsors as well.

I also want to thank **Brian, Drew and Campbell** for making our job so much easier the night of the banquet. We are looking forward to what the future has in store for CCA Texas and are grateful to be a part of such a great organization. —**Byron Kalbas**
bkalbas@yahoo.com

Live Oak
Brad Kotrla 979-732-1669

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

Lower Laguna Madre
Travis Flanagan 956-207-6391

Mainland
Eric Minor 281-534-6242

Matagorda Bays
Linc Lutrick 979-541-9901

On September 10 and 11 we held our **Annual Matagorda Bays Guides Cup** in Matagorda. Once again **Russell and Brandy Hicks** at **Russell's Bait & Tackle** did a great job of cooking and making sure we were well taken care of. We would like to thank our sponsors, **Duckett, Bouligny & Collins, L.L.P, H & H Oilfield Consultants** and **Russell's 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. This year's winner was **Captain Tommy Alexander** with the assistance of **Garrett Pool, Kevin Stehling**, and very little assistance from **Tyler Williams**. (Sorry Tyler, I could not resist). This team took home **Yeti Coolers** filled with **Prasek's Hillje Smokehouse**

Steaks. Congrats to **Captain Tommy**, he is truly one of the good guys!

Second place was won by **Captain Kenny Hauff**. Placing third was **Captain Nate Koenig**. 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, Jimmy Riddle, Kenny Hauff, Tommy Alexander, Kit Caston, Dewayne Newbern, Nick Stillwell, Terry Karstedt, Walt Wendtland, Scott Reeh, Charlie Paradoski, Walt Schelle, Ken Sabin, Mark Talasek, Jesse Arsola, Phillip Leopold, Rob Cummings, Floyd Ciruti, Troy Keen, Ozzie Arnold, Tommy Countz, Tom Perriloux, and Nate Koenig**. Thank you again to all of our sponsors and guides. —**Linc Lutrick**

MidCoast
Welcome new president, **David Jenkins**
361-578-5580 jenkins12@sbcglobal.net

The past few months have been eventful for us. First, on September 15, several members, families, friends and I attended the dedication of the new pier system at the CCA/CPL Marine Development Center in Flour Bluff, Texas. **Hector Mendieta**, a past Mid Coast Chapter President, a great CCA member, and now one of my Vice-Presidents as well a good friend, was instrumental in getting the two piers constructed,

which are beautiful, and will be used by many in the years to come. The two piers have been dedicated with a beautiful bronze plaque, there to recognize **Hector** by CCA Texas.

October 11 and 12, we held our **Speedy Stop Guides Cup Fishing Tournament** in Port O'Connor. We had twenty teams there and I would like to thank our chairman, **Dennis Lala** and **Captain Danny Goyen** for doing a great job putting it all together. I would also like to thank each and every one of the guides that were there to support the tournament.

The Guides Cup Tournament winner this year was no other than the **Speedy Stop Team** with **Captain Kirk Morgan, Jim Angott, Carson Marek, Ramon Ramos** and **Mark Gresham**. Second place was **Team Tackle Box** with **Captain Dwayne Newbern**, and Third place went to **Captain Derrick Dick**. Thank you, **Cliff Thomas** and the **Speedy Stop family, Jimmy Burns** and **Waterloo Rod CO., USA, Jay Soule** and **Hartman Distributing, Paul Salazar** and **Del Papa Distributing**.

Our 2012 CCA Raffle Boat is Ready! A 22'.6" Majek Illusion (loaded), to be given away to one lucky winner the night of our CCA Banquet on April 19, 2013. There will only be 500 tickets sold at \$100 each. There will be four other prizes to win on this raffle as well. The boat will be able to be seen at several upcoming events, as well as at **Academy** and **Tackle Box** here in Victoria, Texas. Tight Lines! —**David Jenkins**

Partners in conservation initiatives

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

Association in their mission to protect coastal resources.

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

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

"Since 1995, the Budweiser Outdoors program has celebrated and supported the passion, dedication and leadership of conservationists across the country," said Bob Fishbeck, senior manager for the Budweiser brands. "We all have a responsibility to help protect our natural resources and the work

being done by CCA and other wildlife advocates is an inspiration for all of us to follow."

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

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



Northeast Houston
Jason Law 713-898-8594

Northwest Houston
Blayne Eversole 832-444-4579

Our next General Membership meeting is December 4, about the time you receive this issue. It will be held in the **Stein Room at Houston Distributing** as in the past. We will announce the speaker when we send out the meeting notice. Plan to attend as you can expect our huge holiday raffle, a great speaker, and beer courtesy of **Houston Distributing**.

The Speaker at the October General Membership Meeting was **Capt. Tim Redden** tredden4@gmail.com. Tim is a full time professional fishing and hunting guide in Rockport, Texas. His fishing methods are tailored to each client's specific choice and level of expertise, utilizing all local bay systems. Whether you want to take your family on a fun-filled fishing trip, or are entertaining clients, or maybe you are a "Purist" in hot pursuit of "Trophy Fish," Tim's knowledge and 20- plus years' experience of "Fishing Rockport" make him one of Rockport's most sought-after professional fishermen. Tim has spoken to us before and several of the members have joined him for some very productive trips. Additionally, the chapter sponsored a raffle for a guided trip with Tim and we hope to get the winner's fishing report soon.

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

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

As a reminder, we are using email for meeting announcements. If we don't have your e-mail address and you would like to receive our announcements, please send your e-mail address to at js_declue@yahoo.com. —**Blayne Eversole**

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

With winter fast approaching, the fishing is heating up here on Sabine Lake. The chapter is working on new year projects. The ball is rolling on a General Membership Meeting set for **February 11th at Roberts Meat Market & Steakhouse** at 6:30 with two guest speakers you won't want to miss. More details to come. Tight Lines —**Scott Bandy** occca@yahoo.com

Piney Woods
Jess Mowery 903-736-3891

Port O'Connor
Bill Moore 361-983-4690

The 13th Annual POC Banquet was held on October 20 and again was another success. Thanks to all the board members, chapter members, volunteers, and donors. Without your dedication, the banquet would not have been such a great success. When you try to thank everyone involved, you always seem to leave someone out—but we will try. Special thanks to banquet chairmen **Carl Ray** and **Jim Busby**, VP **Mike Sharp**, treasurer **Ann Brownlee**, secretary **Debbie Busby**, and Sergeant at Arms **Sonny Cook**. Also, to our outstanding board members **Pam Ray**, **Chris Smisek**, **GB Robertson**, **Jim &**

Jessamy Reed, **Lefty & Joanne Ward**, **Donnie & Julia Klesel**, **Maxine Sharp**, **Monique Morlan**, **Jerry and Virginia Lichac**, **Steve and Linnie Mashman**, and **Suzie Onishi**. Thanks to **Candace Stryker** for another fantastic job on the program. Thanks to our CCA AD **Ellen Ohmstede** for her assistance and to **Sam Caldwell** for making another visit to assist.

We would also like to thank all of our table sponsors- **Bull Red Tables**, **A Cut Above Pool Service**, **Capital Farm Credit**, **Central Drug - Victoria**, **Fishing Tackle Unlimited**, **Killebrew, Inc.**, **Larry Moczygemba**, and **Travis Ernst. Trophy Trout Tables: Adventures with Capt. Camo**, **Branding Works, LTD**, **Alligator Head**, **Bill Moore**, **Cindy Spears Real Estate, LLC.**, **First Victoria National Bank**, **Mid Coast CCA**, **Mike Sharp** and **Lefty Ward**, **Pakebusch/ Barr**, **Port O'Connor Rods**, **Saltwater Lodge**, **Seigler Insurance**, **Specialty Fabricators**, **Tigrett Real Estate**, and **Will Ohmstede**.

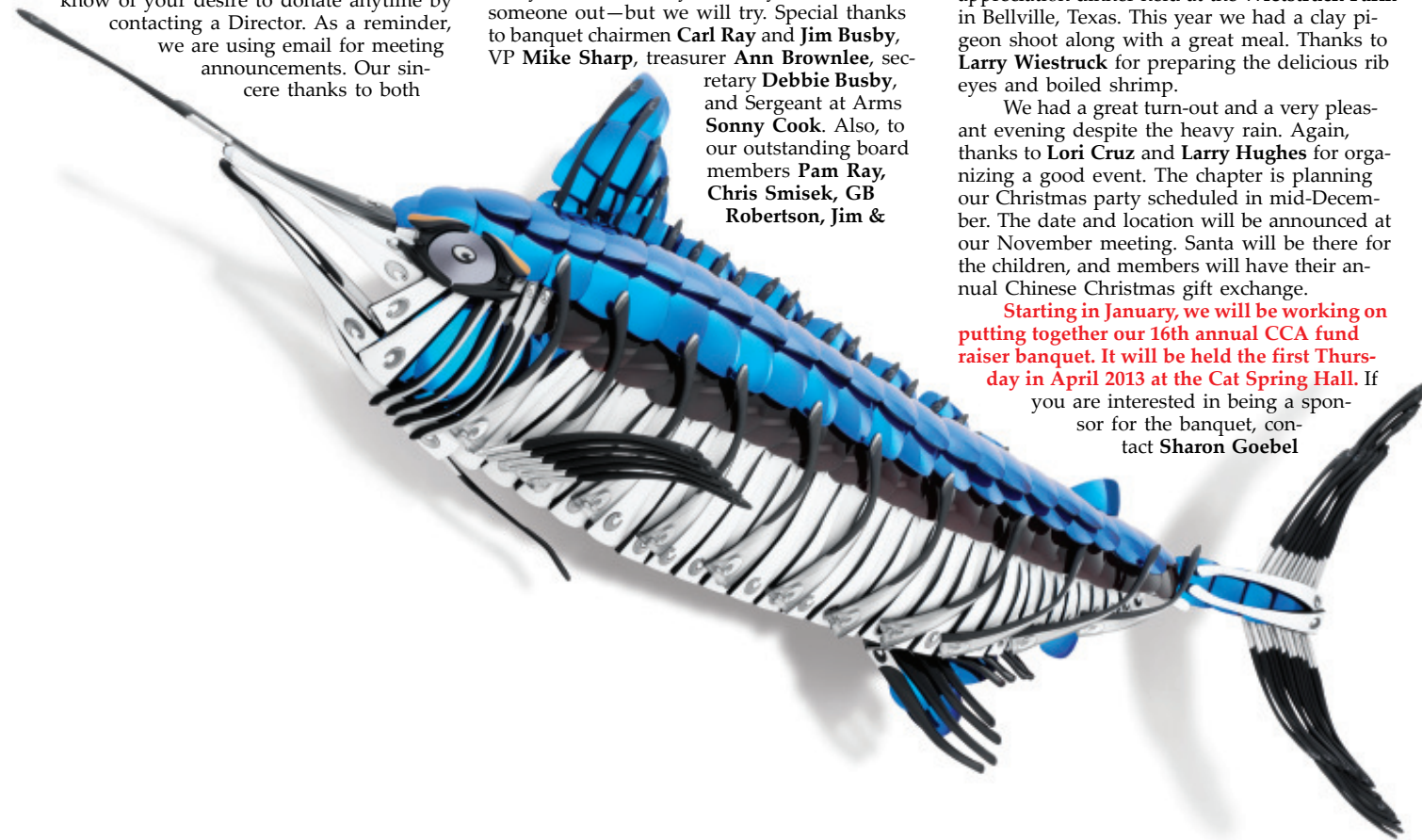
Again our appreciation to a special group who help make our banquet a success, the donors that made possible the different items, gift, and trips, you will be notified individually to say thank you. Also, kudos to all who attended and helped with the success of the banquet. So, come spend some of your holiday with us, visit some of our donors or just kick back in POC. "Where it all began." —**Bill Moore**

Prairie
Sharon Goebel 979-877-4103

On Saturday, September 29, we hosted our fall appreciation dinner held at the **Wietstruck Farm** in Bellville, Texas. This year we had a clay pigeon shoot along with a great meal. Thanks to **Larry Wietstruck** for preparing the delicious rib eyes and boiled shrimp.

We had a great turn-out and a very pleasant evening despite the heavy rain. Again, thanks to **Lori Cruz** and **Larry Hughes** for organizing a good event. The chapter is planning our Christmas party scheduled in mid-December. The date and location will be announced at our November meeting. Santa will be there for the children, and members will have their annual Chinese Christmas gift exchange.

Starting in January, we will be working on putting together our 16th annual CCA fund raiser banquet. It will be held the first Thursday in April 2013 at the Cat Spring Hall. If you are interested in being a sponsor for the banquet, contact **Sharon Goebel**



INSPIRED BY OUR FRIENDS IN THE WATER. BUILT FOR OUR FRIENDS ON LAND.

COSTA



"Catching Dinner." Alan Heine and an unidentified great blue heron. Great Wildlife and Humor photo by Cathy Heine.

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sam@samcaldwell.com

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

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at 979-877-4103. Also, there will be corporate tables available. For more information, you can contact **Kirk Hoppe** at 979-885-8868.

In February 2013 we will be having our annual chili appreciation dinner held in the **Cat Spring Tin Building**. That evening there will be a guest speaker along with a silent auction and a raffle. Dates will be announced later. Have a great holiday! —**Ron Chess, Sr.** 979-992-3295

Redfish Bay
Norman Oates 361-758-0266

Another year is coming to a close, and what a great year it was! The **Annual Banquet, Take a Kid Fishing** event, and **Beeville Fish Fry** were better than ever! I want to thank all of our members and supporters for helping us in support of conservation across Texas. As usual, special thanks to **Chris's Marine in Aransas Pass** for being our banquet Title Sponsor again.

Mark your calendars! Our 2013 Annual Banquet will be on April 20. Our 2013 Take a Kid Fishing event will be the first weekend in June, and the **Beeville Fish Fry** will be the Thursday before dove season starts.

Volunteers from our board also joined the local Game Wardens in Rockport with helping about 250 fifth graders fish during a week in October. The kids were from the **Fulton 4-5 Learning Center in Rockport**. One of our Board members, **Glenn Martin from Woody's Sports Center** in Port Aransas, supplied bait for all of the kids for the entire week.

The Board wishes all of our members and supporters a happy Thanksgiving and a merry Christmas. We all look forward to a successful 2013! —**Norman Oates**

Rio Grande Valley
Welcome new president, Phil Teinert
956-367-4267
pteinert@fcbtx.com

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

Wow, time flies! The Sabine Neches Chapter is already preparing for our 2013 Banquet! We are working on some big things for this year's event, so stay tuned to our Facebook page for more details. Come January, we will be in full banquet mode, so if you want to lend a hand, let us know! From all of us in the Sabine Neches Chapter have a safe and Happy Holiday Season. We look forward to seeing everyone soon —**Darin Johnson**

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

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



Smile! RGV's past president Nikky Runnels takes a picture of his son Wilson with a red he caught sight casting. Photo by Capt. Bryan Robinson.

On October 25, we held a general membership meeting at the **Barn Door Restaurant**. Many thanks to **Randy Stokes** and **The Barn Door** for hosting our event and offering a great discount on dinner. We had a good size crowd that listened to an update on current projects from **John Blaha**, Assistant Director of CCA Texas. He went over some great news. CCA membership is at an all-time high, and fundraising is projected to be as well. We also were pleased to welcome **Lefty Ray Chapa**. He gave us an informative seminar on how to take better pictures of those memorable catches using everything from a cell phone camera to a fancy SLR. I'm sure everyone learned something new.

Here's a tip I learned: Even in broad daylight, use your flash. It will help illuminate any of the shadows cast on your subject's face from a hat and make the colors "POP." Lefty Ray has a wealth of knowledge on fishing and photography and we were very fortunate to have him speak at our event.

If you missed this meeting, be sure to be on the lookout for the next one. We use an email blast to send out the specifics prior to the event. If you do not receive emails from CCA Texas, be sure to update your information by calling 1-800-201-FISH and ask for the membership department.

Take a kid fishing; it will put a smile on your face and theirs—**Johnny Rayburg**

San Bernard
Royce Macha 979-472-5211

San Gabriel
John Melnar 512-497-8284

San Jacinto
Pete Ruiz 832-496-4903

Southwestern
Welcome to a new chapter and new president, Jody Jacobs
210-827-7180

CCA Texas is proud to announce the creation of the new chapter, **Southwestern**. The chapter generally encompasses the cities and surrounding communities of **Medina, Uvalde, Kinney, Val Verde, Zavala, and Frio Counties**.

The Southwestern Chapter held their first annual chapter banquet on October 25 in Hondo, and it turned out to be a very successful event. Congratulations, **Southwestern**, on a great first banquet! —**Campbell Weber, CCA AD**

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The Last Laugh

TAMU

Burr Thornton 559-901-9783

Tomball/Magnolia

Matt Maddox 832-590-1828

Tri-County

Jason Trial 830-570-2988

Trinity Bay

Gerald Payne 281-385-2894

West Houston

Welcome new president, Joe Perez
832-279-4794

West Texas

Craig McDonnold 432-682-3499
Roger Letz / Communications Director
432-685-6026 rc1301@aol.com



Mr. Egret drops in for a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Mallard.

Great Humor / Wildlife Photo by Rhonda Anderson. Rhonda writes, "We had taken our boat to the lake and saw the bird and the ducks taking a rest on a log together." Rhonda is the Treasurer and Curtis is President of the Bay Area Chapter CCA.



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Coastal Conservation Association

6919 Portwest Suite 100 / Houston, TX 77024

CURRENTS NEWSLETTER
December 2012 / January 2013

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Ben Kocian presided at many CCA staff Christmas parties. In this whimsical scene from 1992, Santa Ben receives a gift from his friends.

Best wishes for a fine Holiday Season and a Great New Year from all of us at CCA Texas.

U.S. Coast Guard Air & Sea Rescue

National Response Center: 800-874-2143
Port Isabel: 956-761-2668
Corpus Christi / Marine Safety Office:
boating emergencies, chemical and
oil spills: 361-888-3162
Port Aransas: 361-749-5217
Port O'Connor: 361-983-2616
Freeport: 979-233-3801
Houston, Galveston: 409-766-5620
Sabine: 409-971-2195

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



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

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



COASTAL CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION TEXAS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (including STAR Entry)



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___ Charge to my:
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___ VISA
___ AMEX
___ DISCOVER

MEMBER:	\$25	Membership card, decal, bumper sticker, Texas CURRENTS newsletter & TIDE magazine.
ASSOCIATE:	\$15	Per each family member. All membership privileges except TIDE and CURRENTS.
PRINT MEMBER:	\$100	All of the above plus CCA Texas print of your choice.
LIFE MEMBER:	\$1000	CCA Life Membership piece, print, plus member gifts. Payable in four \$250 installments.
STAR ENTRY FEE:	\$20	Tournament entry fee. Must be a current CCA member.
NEW TIDE:	\$10	Tide newsletter, patch, decal, iron-on T-shirt transfer, redbird sticker.
NEW TIDE / Star:	\$10	Members 17 and under only Same as above, plus "FREE" STAR Tournament entry.

Age: _____ Date of birth: _____
Age: _____ Date of birth: _____

Credit card number _____ Signature _____

Credit card expiration date _____ By entering this tournament, I agree to be bound by the STAR Tournament Rules, Release and Indemnity Agreement. I understand that there are specific rules governing the conduct of the tournament and that upon request a copy will be mailed to me. 6919 Portwest, Suite 100 / Houston, TX 77024 / 713-626-4222 / Website: www.ccatexas.org