

CURRENTS

June / July 2015



*Cedar Bayou moving
along in many ways*

FIRST JUMP AT

CALDWELL

Science behind the projects

By John Blaha

We have talked about Cedar Bayou a lot in the last couple of years, and our last article gave an update on how the project is progressing. CCA Texas, along with its partners in conservation, gets a lot of questions about the monitoring and the science behind projects, but more specifically, how is it captured and analyzed.



Quentin Hall from HRI's Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation demonstrating the download process from the acoustic telemetry receivers to the computer. Photo, Lisa Laskowski



CCA members and volunteers were hosted by team members from HRI's Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation for a day of science and conservation at Cedar Bayou. Photo, Lisa Laskowski

At Harte Research Institute's (HRI) Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Master of Science student Quentin Hall is currently working on his thesis titled, "Determination of Seasonal Abundance, Density, and Distribution

of Nekton Species Proximal to Cedar Bayou Pre- and Post-Opening" under the direction of Dr. Greg Stunz.

His specific research focuses on the effects of reopening the Cedar Bayou tidal inlet on nekton species. This study is a key component to quantifying the success of the Cedar Bayou / Vinson Slough project and has drawn a lot of interest from CCA Texas volunteers and the local community. CCA Texas funded \$32,000 for the pre-opening monitoring of the project area, and the post-opening monitoring costs are funded by Aransas County.

On Saturday, May 2, 2015, Hall and other researchers from HRI hosted approximately twenty CCA Texas members and volunteers who had shown great interest in this part of the project.

The day started out at Goose Island State Park. We made our way out to Cedar Bayou on a beautiful day. The group made its first stop not long after entering the bayou and stopped for a talk about the monitoring portion of the project where the movement of redfish in the system is being tracked.

On front cover: "First Jump At Cedar Bayou" by Sam Caldwell

Hall and his team discussed the method for tracking and gave hands on demonstrations of the acoustic telemetry equipment used in the study. In this particular project, HRI has installed 10 receivers in the Cedar Bayou and Mesquite Bay area. These receivers are installed at main travel points in and out of the bay and Cedar Bayou. Eleven redfish are a part of the project study and have been implanted with transmitters. This has demonstrated to be a simple and proven method used by HRI in several projects.

In less than a year, over 16,000 detections have occurred with these eleven fish, and to date all eleven are still swimming free in the bay, and back and forth to the Gulf. If you catch a redfish in the area and it has a green tag, please release it, and notify the Center for Sportfish Science at HRI or CCA Texas that you caught it and returned it.

Next, the group moved down toward the mouth of Cedar Bayou and Vinson Slough, and stopped for a demonstration on the use of the epibenthic sled. The sled is invaluable in the study. It helps determine what species of marine life are present in the area and their density, based on analysis of samples from the different sampling spots.

Attendees were invited to pull the sled and see the results of the samples. Quentin discussed the methods and analysis of this sampling method and what has been seen since the bayou was opened and when it was closed.

Hall stated "In the two years prior to the opening, not a single juvenile redfish had been found in the immediate Cedar Bayou area. Within days of the opening, juvenile redfish were present." This spring's samples have shown flounder, blue crab, Atlantic croaker and many other species that are all vital to the surrounding eco-system.

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Alex Tompkins from HRI's Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation and Lindsey Laskowski preparing to remove samples from the epibenthic sled. Photo, Lisa Laskowski

Report from TP&W Game Wardens

Caught Redhanded!



During Memorial Day Weekend, 2014, a vessel was contacted to do a water safety inspection. When finished with the inspection, Game Wardens asked the occupants if they had been fishing and they responded no.

At this time the Game Wardens inspected the coolers on the boat and noticed a few slot red drums were visible. Upon further investigation of that cooler, a plastic bag full of slot red drum was pulled out, totaling 23 red drum. The Game Wardens then escorted the vessel to their dock for further investigation.

While investigating the vessel, 10 more red drum were discovered in a hidden compartment under the deck. Four individuals were on board the

vessel in possession of 33 red drum, ranging in sizes from 19.5 in to 27 in. Citations were issued totaling \$2,400 dollars in fines and \$7,707 dollars in civil restitution.

Aransas County Game Warden Richard "Marty" Martin apprehended a subject with seventeen undersize speckled trout. The subject was fishing from a private pier on Copano Bay. Criminal cases and civil restitution were filed. ❧





26th Annual CCA State of Texas Anglers' Rodeo

Sixty "STAR" Quality Redfish are Out there swimming!

ATTENTION ANGLERS! The 26th Annual CCA Texas State of Texas Anglers' Rodeo (STAR) is in full swing with all summer to win! Sixty specially tagged redfish, ranging from 20 1/2 to 25 1/2 inches in length, were set free by Official Redfish Release Teams throughout Texas coastal waters, where people fish, from Sabine Lake to South Padre Island just days before the May 23 kick-off! These "STAR" quality redfish are out there swimming around just waiting to be caught! Could this be your year to catch one? Speaking of the redfish tagged division, see the letter from **Team Captain James Heller** about this year's redfish release.

The STAR tournament drew approximately 48,000 participants last year, making it one of the world's largest saltwater fishing tournaments. This year's event begins at sunrise on Saturday, May 23 and ends on Labor Day, September 7 at 5p.m. Anglers from all across the great Lone Star State can enter all summer-long to vie for over \$1,000,000 in prizes in the 26th Annual CCA Texas/STAR Tournament! So don't delay... **SIGN UP TODAY!** Trophy-sized prizes can be claimed by registered STAR anglers who bring in the first 10 tagged redfish. The first five winners will drive home in a 2015 loaded Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" XLT SuperCab, pulling a brand new 23' Haynie BigFoot boat rigged with a Mercury 150L Pro XS OptiMax motor and Coastline trailer. The next five tagged redfish winners will each claim a 23' Haynie BigFoot boat with a Mercury Pro XS 150L OptiMax motor and Coastline trailers. You will have to supply your own truck to tow these rigs home. Last year thirteen tagged redfish were caught, but only four anglers claimed prizes. The others, unfortunately, were not registered for the CCA Texas STAR.

Other fish can net big rewards in the tournament. STAR contestants who catch the largest speck-

led trout in the north, central and southern regions of the Texas Coast will each take home a NEW boat prize this year... the Shoalwater 21' Cat, powered with a Mercury 150L Pro XS OptiMax and McClain trailer! STAR blue water anglers who land the heaviest kingfish, dorado and ling (cobia) in the Offshore Division will each win the awesome Polaris Ranger Crew 570 EPS UVs in Polaris Pursuit Camo each with a Big Tex 35sa Trailer. In the Inshore Division the Blue Wave's 180 SV Southern Skiff boat, Mercury 115 OptiMax motor and McClain trailer will also be given to the anglers for netting the biggest flounder, gafftop and sheepshead. The STAR Scholarship Divisions offer a total of ten college scholarships in \$20,000 and \$50,000 increments. STAR participants, ages 6-10, who catch the largest flounder, sheepshead or gafftop will each be awarded a \$50,000 college scholarship. Participants 11-17 years of age, who catch the largest flounder, sheepshead or gafftop, as well as the largest speckled trout in each of the three Texas Coast regions (north, central and south) will each be awarded a \$20,000 college scholarship. In addition to these nine scholarship offerings, participants ages 6-17 years old in 2015, are eligible for a bonus drawing that will net one lucky youth a \$20,000 college scholarship even if the participant never wets a line or enters a single fish during the entire tournament!

YOU'VE GOT TO BE IN TO WIN! ATTENTION ALL ANGLERS PLANNING TO FISH THE TEXAS COAST THIS SUMMER! In order to win one of the \$1,000,000 in prizes being offered in Texas' largest, richest, summer-long saltwater fishing event, an angler must be a **CURRENT** member of CCA, in addition to being registered as a **2015 TEXAS**

"HOUSTON, WE HAVE A PROBLEM!"

Here's a special note we received from one of the Redfish Release team captains, **James Heller**, to our scores of volunteers. Recently, we were informed our redfish release teams were having trouble finding the right size redfish for the 2015 release...

All: Our backup sources have produced slot fish for the STAR Tournament. Thanks to our partners at the Corpus Christi CCA chapter and the good folks at NRG and Center Point. Fish collection is complete. We will not be angling at sea water intake this weekend. If the winds were not howling, we would fish for real!

But most of all, thanks to Dow for their eons of help. And thanks to all of you for donating so much of your time to help make the Texas STAR a reality in 2015.

The tagged red division is the lead event of STAR and is critical to this membership drive. Your endurance to collect 45 slot fish (about 180 angler hours) is appreciated as it was not the usual fish rodeo to which we are accustomed.

Thanks again, and best of luck!

—James Heller

P.S.: Keep in mind... if you are on a Release Team, you're ineligible for the STAR Tagged Redfish Division... SORRY!

Thanks to the amazing crew of volunteers from Dow, NRG, Center Point, CCA Corpus Christi Chapter and Texas Parks & Wildlife. They mobilized forces and got the job done!

STAR entrant. The CCA membership fee is \$30 annually and the 2015 STAR Tournament fee is still \$20 for a total of \$50. In order to win at STAR, an angler must be registered and be a current member of CCA.

YOUNG ANGLERS FISH FOR FREE! For young anglers ages 6-17, the "New Tide" membership fee remains **\$10** annually and the STAR entry fee is **FREE!!!** Of course, we want **all** kids on the water. CCA "New Tide" members will continue to have the opportunity to win giant scholarships to fund their college education for just the price of a \$10 CCA "New Tide" Membership. We thank our generous sponsors for making it possible for us to offer young anglers this great opportunity. **To be eligible to fish STAR, "New Tide" Members MUST BE at least 6 years of age in 2015 and under age 18 to enter for FREE. It is the "New Tide" Member's responsibility to make sure their CCA membership is current and that they are registered for the current year STAR tournament.**



2015 Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" XLT SuperCab with Haynie 23 Bigfoot, the Redfish Division prize.

As you start making plans, be on the lookout in your mailbox. Our great partner, Academy Sports + Outdoors, will be sending all current CCA Texas members a special bonus as a reminder and to help with some of your fishing expenses.

You know you'll go so might as well sign up now! Remember, everyone entered in the STAR Tournament, who will be 6 years old in 2015 and older, is eligible to win the prizes being offered **even the TAGGED REDFISH DIVISION!** You can sign up NOW online at www.startournament.org!!! Don't miss "the boat" or "the truck and boat"... register today!

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

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

FORD X-PLAN PRICING - CCA Texas members have been remarkably honored by the Texas Ford Dealers. They approved X-Plan pricing for us; that is, every current member can buy (or lease) any Ford product at the **same price Ford employees must pay**. This means we can save up to **\$1,000 or much more**, just by having a valid **\$30 CCA membership card!!!** Our Ford Partner Code # is **CCA 61**; go to www.fordpartner.com, if you are considering a purchase.

SPECIAL BONUS FROM ACADEMY SPORTS & OUTDOORS - Another great reason to sign up! Academy Sports + Outdoors will be mailing CURRENT members a \$10 gift coupon after the tournament ends! Special thanks to Academy Sports + Outdoors for continuing to make your CCA membership and STAR entry such an awesome value!



NEW! TEXAS FISH & GAME MAGAZINE "BONUS DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION!" - We all love **FREE stuff**, and speaking of **FREE stuff**, many STAR anglers have discovered the benefit and convenience of using digital technology and have requested we do the same. *Texas Fish & Game Magazine* is thrilled to announce 2015 CCA Texas STAR participants are now eligible for a **FREE one-year (12 issues) DIGITAL subscription**. This subscription (normally \$11.99/year) will allow you to access the latest and most in-depth outdoors information anywhere and anytime on your smart phone,



!!! ATTENTION !!!

***** 2015 STAR Platinum Print Membership *****

NOW AVAILABLE

We are pleased to offer the new 2015 CCA Texas STAR Platinum package, *Split Screen!* Renowned artist David Drinkard has created another fine print exclusively for CCA Texas members! Only 1,750 will be available through this special membership level, which includes your CCA membership (new or renewal) + STAR Tournament Entry... all for less than the value of this premium print alone! This 16" x 24" print is on acid-proof paper stock to ensure many years of enjoyment. Package includes your CCA membership (new or renewal), your 2015 CCA Texas STAR entry, plus this special signed, limited-edition print created exclusively for STAR, all for \$125!

Split Screen is a one-of-a-kind print worth this price alone. If you would like to consider one, or several, of these limited-edition packages, go to: <http://www.startournament.org> more details or to place your order with the STAR Dept., call (713) 626-4222. Be one of the **FIRST** to own this collectors' piece! **GET YOURS TODAY!!!**

Split Screen! By renowned artist David Drinkard

tablets and desktops. Now STAR anglers have the chance to embrace the latest in technology, plus conserve our natural resources. We are grateful to *Texas Fish & Game* for providing this STAR-only benefit, while saving some trees and giving you more options. Be sure to include your email address when you register for this year's tournament to automatically receive your **FREE** digital subscription. If you still wish to receive *Texas Fish & Game* in print magazine form, no problem... a special STAR angler price of \$8 a year (vs. \$17.99/year) is still available, including your access to the digital version at no extra cost! If you wish to take advantage of this special STAR angler discounted print subscription price, be on the lookout in your email or mailbox for details on how to activate this special offer. If you have questions regarding your past or current subscription, please call (800) 725-1134 or email subscriptions@fishgame.com.

TILSON HOMES \$1,000 in FREE Upgrades - Every CCA Texas member who purchases a Tilson Home is eligible for a value discount. Tilson will give you \$1,000 off on any upgrade such as ceramic tile, hardwood floors, kitchen cabinetry and more. See ad in the CCA Texas CURRENTS newsletter for more details or call 1 (888) 540-6705.

STILL AVAILABLE... CCA Texas STAR Platinum Prints Series I-IV: STAR Reds (Series I), STAR Sightings (Series II), School Is In Session (Series III) & Working the Spoils

(Series IV) are still available. If you haven't purchased one yet and would like to begin your CCA Texas STAR Platinum Collectible Series, please contact the STAR Dept. and we can get you fixed up. To own all five of these commemorative pieces, purchase yours today before they're all gone! **Proceeds from the sales of Platinum Packages will help us continue to fund the STAR scholarships.**

2015 PRIZE LINE-UP - Contestants have a chance at winning over 100 prizes including trucks, boats, motors, trailers and college scholarships in the following categories:

Texas Ford Dealers Redfish Division - Texas Ford Dealers continue to make this division the "Best in Texas"! They will again give each of the first five registered STAR participants who catch tagged redfish their brand new all aluminum body truck to get to their fishing destination in a tough, dependable and stylish ride. The first five registered anglers to weigh in a tagged red will receive a 2015 Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" truck. Haynie Boats returns with the awesome Haynie 23 Bigfoot rigged with a motor and Coastline Trailer completing this amazing package. The next five weighed in will receive the same boat, motor and trailer packages.

For young anglers not of legal driving age and who reel in the famous tagged red, he or she will receive the boat package plus a \$20,000 college scholarship, in lieu of the truck.

Trout Division - ATTENTION TROUT ANGLERS! After years of requesting a more versatile boat prize in this division, we hear you! New for this year, winners in upper, middle, and lower coast regions will each take home the awesome Shoalwater 21' Cat boat with a Mercury 150 Pro XS OptiMax motor and McClain trailer. The 21' Shoalwater Cat hull design provides an excellent ride with an 8" draft allowing you to get really shallow, plus runs well in the heavy chop due to the tunnel hull design. **FRIENDLY REMINDER...** If you're unsure a trout is large enough to qualify, consider this "easy rule-of-thumb" - if length is less than 27 inches, chances are it won't meet

STAR has awarded \$5,235,000 in college scholarships to 165 fisher-kids across the state, ranging from 6-17 years of age and 2015 continues to offer plenty of reason for everyone to round up their kid(s), a rod and reel and head for the water. **StarKid Flounder Division** - This division gives entrants age 6-10



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

a chance to win a \$50,000 college scholarship for the largest flounder caught throughout the summer.

teen with the largest flounder, gafftop and sheephead statewide.

But Wait, There's More...

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

"New Tide" Member Drawing - The "New Tide" Scholarship Drawing will be offered again in 2015. "New Tide" STAR participants at least, 6 - 17 years old in 2015, are eligible for a bonus drawing that will net one lucky youth a \$20,000 college scholarship even if the participant never wets a line or enters a single fish during the entire tournament.

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

Major sponsors for the 26th Annual CCA Texas STAR Tournament include:

Texas Ford Dealers, Tilson Home Corporation, Capital Farm Credit, Mercury Marine, Academy Sports + Outdoors, Whataburger, Ozarka, Rio Ammunition, Hoffpauir Polaris, KTRK-abc13, Houston Community Newspapers & Media Group, Fox Sports Southwest, Haynie Boats, Shoalwater Boats, Dargel Boats, Blue Wave Boats, Texas Fish & Game Magazine, Texas Oilman's Charity Fishing Tournament, Coastline Trailers, McClain Trailers, Chris's Marine and Mt. Houston Marine.

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



Trout Division - Shoalwater 21' Cat with a Mercury 150 Pro XS OptiMax

the eight pound minimum weight requirement for the Trout Division. Unless you intend to mount your fish as a personal best, why not think about releasing anything that might not make the cut so she can re-seed the bays.

Offshore Division - ATTENTION BLUE WATER ANGLERS! Hoffpauir Auto & Outdoor Store continues to partner with us to provide the offshore angler something that will come in very handy after a long trip on the high seas. Anglers who land the heaviest kingfish, dorado and ling will each receive an awesome Polaris Ranger® Crew 570 EPS UVs in Polaris Pursuit Camo each with a Big Tex 35sa Trailer!

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



Offshore Division Prize - Polaris Ranger® Crew 570 EPS

for the largest gafftop caught throughout the summer.

Houston Community Newspapers StarKid Sheephead Division - This division gives entrants age 6-10 a chance to win a \$50,000 college scholarship for the largest sheephead caught throughout the summer.

Academy Sports & Outdoors StarTeens Trout Division - This youth scholarship division is open to all New Tide members ages 11-17 and awards a \$20,000 college scholarship for each fisher-teen with the largest trout in the upper, middle and lower coasts.

FRIENDLY REMINDER... The minimum weight requirement for the trout is six pounds. For all fish weighing less than six pounds, if no intentions of mounting young angler's prize catch, please take a quick picture and immediately release back into the water.



StarTeens Inshore Division - This youth scholarship division is open to all New Tide members ages 11-17 and awards a \$20,000 college scholarship for each fisher-

STAR has reached \$5,235,000 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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Welcome to the CCA Texas Online Auction

Sponsored by Costa Del Mar

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

*Available online 11 am,
June 17 till 11 am, June
21—Father's Day!*

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

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

Custom Made Igloo Wrapped CCA Cooler with four CCA Texas Triton Tumblers: These items would be perfect for your next fishing trip!



Custom Made Metal Flounder: Perfect addition for any beach house or man cave along the coast!



*Sponsored by our
friends at Costa.*



Great Foods / Editor Ellen Ohmstede

Pan Fried Trout with Ginger Butter

Adapted from "California Sizzles" The Jr. League of Pasadena, CA.

4 trout filets
2 T sesame oil / 2 T soy sauce /
2 T lemon Juice or rice wine
vinegar / 2 Green onions
minced / Egg wash / Seasoned
Flour / Panko bread crumbs
4 T Canola or Peanut oil

Ginger Butter

2 green onions finely chopped
1 T fresh ginger peeled and
minced / ½ cup room tempera-
ture butter / Salt and pepper to
taste / Juice of one lemon

For the Butter: Process all
ingredients in food processor
and let stand at room tempera-
ture until ready to use.

For the Fish: Combine first
4 ingredients for marinade, place
in a shallow glass dish; add fish
turning to coat evenly. Cover
and refrigerate for 1-4 hours.

Remove fish from marinade and pat dry. Dip fish in seasoned flour, then egg wash, then in Panko and let rest a few minutes. Heat the oil in a large skillet to medium high heat. Add fish filets and cook 3-4 minutes per side until golden brown and cooked through. Remove from pan to serving plate. To serve, place a generous dollop of Ginger Butter on top of each filet.



4th Annual Concert for Conservation Sept. 26, Sam Houston Race Track



Lynyrd Skynyrd

CCA presents another evening
with hundreds of your closest
music loving friends—
and some of the
finest bands in America.



Eddie Money & Grand Funk Railroad
will join a 4th and maybe a 5th major
band. As the 2015 Concert develops, full in-
formation will be on catexas.org. There will
be an eBlast to CCA members. Meanwhile,
get your friends together
for another memorable
CCA Concert For Conservation

Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow

BUILDING A FUTURE FOR TEXAS MARINE HABITAT



Alex Tompkins and attendees looking over marine animals captured in epibenthic sled. Photo, Lisa Laskowski. Below photo from the February/March Currents: A few days after the historic opening of Cedar Bayou to the Gulf, researchers with the Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation found abundant, newly recruited red drum larvae in the area. Photo courtesy of Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation.

Continued from page 2

"Thanks to Harte Research Institute's Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation and Masters student Quentin Hall, we had a great opportunity to witness some of the current research on-site," commented CCA Texas Dallas Chapter volunteer Richard Pratt.

Pratt continued, "The chance for the teams to benchmark the sea life in and



around Cedar Bayou and study its rapid evolution will benefit us for generations.

Cedar Bayou is also a pristine remote coastal location, so let's all do our part to keep it that way by taking out more than what we bring in."

One attendee was high school student Lindsey Laskowski, who commented, "Thanks to HRI for giving us a great opportunity to see how important research is being done on habitat restoration projects. It was definitely an eye-opening experience for me, and makes me really excited about my future studies at Texas A&M Corpus Christi, where I will begin my freshman year in the fall."

Attendees included members from across the state, which only drives home the interest in the Texas coastal resources by our members from everywhere and shows that the desire to be involved in CCA Texas is for the good of the resource. Special thanks to the Harte Research Institute, and the Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation for hosting this group for a day of "Science on the Water."





Upper Coast

By Capt. Jim West

Go early, go shallow

We've had an unprecedented amount of fresh-water coming into the system, especially the back end of the bays, but it was needed. Check the southern end of the bays, but Galveston waters are deeper than a lot of Texas water, so there will be salt water below all the fresh water. The beach can be excellent with the right conditions and clarity, and it won't have fresh water problems.

Here comes the summer bite—and for me, it'll be an early morning affair, much of the time. For those windy days, make your plans to work sheltered shorelines. In June, look for the summertime patterns to begin, and continue into August. High pressure fronts and west winds will clear the water. As temps hit the 80's, after the early morning shallow bite, you'll want to head to the middle of the bays. Areas like Todd's Dump, Redfish Island and the Houston Ship Channel can pay off. Check your charts for the fairly new oyster reefs created by TP&W. The rocks and structure are paying off big time, and trout love those reefs.

My go-to lures depend on water clarity and time of day. On shorelines, I throw Tops and Tails. Small topwaters and small tails, early. Then, if the bite gets finicky, I'll move into deeper water. If it's clear, I like the bigger paddletails, transparent, with metal flake. Tidal Surge, the Maniac Mullet are good. The various lures from a Beaumont outfit, Texas Trout Factory, are excellent producers.

I'm usually off the pond early in the afternoon, rarely fish more than four days a week, and never on a Sunday. Be sure you take care of the resource: keep enough fish for supper, instead of having freezer-burned fish later. —**Capt. Jim West** 409-996-3054 captjimwest@yahoo.com website <http://bolivarguideservice.com/>

Many of us old Salts remember Jim's father, Forrest West as a great hunting and fishing guide who operated Los Patos. Sadly, the resort was destroyed during Hurricane Ike.

Middle Coast

By Capt. Ron Moore

Big year for trout

I'm predicting 2015 to be a "spec"acular year for trout, since June and July are prime spawning months. Look for them on the windward shorelines of Aransas, Copano, and Corpus Christi Bays. Good fish will also be on the shell reefs of Copano, San Antonio, Mesquite, and Aransas Bays, usually in 2 to 4 feet of water.

My go-to lure has been the same for 45 years now, the 52M series MirrorLure, clear body with a silver flash, and hand painted roughly with a red marker to cover about 75% of it. Larger fish will hit these types of lures before the soft plastics, but the most productive plastic for me has been the purple Assassin with a chartreuse tail and a 1/8th ounce jig head.

With June being one of our windy months, and if it's a bit rough to fish the open bays, try Estes Flats. Trout and reds are both on the sand holes and grass beds. The water here is nearly always clear and fishable.

Cedar Bayou has been open several months now, so fishing will steadily improve. Wade fishing is a very good way to cover the shorelines for spawning trout. Always remember though, step out of the boat carefully; most stingray hits are from blindly stepping directly on a sting ray.

With the five trout limit, you will be doing more catch and release. Survival rates vary, but anglers can increase survival by avoiding long struggles and keeping the fish in the water when releasing it. Circle hooks have been proven to greatly reduce mortality rates, while increasing catch rates.

This year marks my 21st year of guiding on the Middle Texas Coast and 35 years of painting the experiences and images I've seen while guiding. I hope you will take a minute to view some of the paintings on my new website. —**Capt. Ron Moore** 361-774-3817 www.ronmooreartist.com

Lower Coast

Capt. Mike O'Dell

Thanks, freshwater inflows

I expect these summer months—from Aransas Bay all the way to Baffin—will be the best in several years, due to the inflows and nutrients all that freshwater brought us. Look for solid reds and nice trout in early June, and as the summer wears on, don't be surprised to see really good numbers of trout in super shape, all looking for your 'offerings.'

Redfish on our many shallow flats may be more numerous, but the reds you'll locate in deeper regions will be bigger, and cause your reels to scream. There'll also be more trout out there, so give those bigger fish a chance to come home for dinner.

Which leads me to an important part of any trip nowadays: culling. The little guys deserve to go back for later, and the really big trout should be released for further duty. Use the least handling possible, in the shortest possible time. Remember that in these summer months, redfish are tougher and may survive awhile on a stringer, but specs that you aren't sure about should be released swiftly.

For the days when wind is a problem—and there will be plenty of those days—make it work for you by planning your trip early on to fish protected shorelines. Drifting with a soft wind can be very productive, if you work at it.

I fish with families a lot, so I like offerings that produce. Chief among my go-to lures are the Gulps, and I really like the white eel varieties. It seems that particular flavor works great for a couple of weeks, maybe because that's moving time for the real eels. Then, it's back to the New Penny Gulp for me. Doesn't mean you can't experiment, and depending on water clarity (or the lack of it) you should give the big topwaters and heavy paddletails an opportunity to produce.

Be courteous, because courtesy has a way of coming back to you. Use that kill switch, be sure your lights work, and always look after your crew. —**Capt. Mike O'Dell** 361-438-1866 web, afishingfantasy.com

Ribbon cutting time at Cedar Bayou. Then one last shovelful, and in comes the Gulf.



CCA Texas Social Happenings

In April we took a trip out to the Bird Island Cove Marsh Restoration completed project site and the Oyster Lake Shoreline site in Galveston Bay. Stay tuned for video footage coming soon at www.ccatexas.org/project-videos. In the meantime, check out the CCA Texas Facebook page to see a video from that day, which includes an exciting encounter with a crab!

Our various social media platforms make it possible to spread the word about projects, events, and positive impacts CCA Texas is making on the Texas Gulf Coast in real time. The participation of our enthusiastic members help to strengthen the conversation and educate the public about the importance of the great work being done!

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

Facebook:

Matthew Hannes sent us these photos of kiddos Nicole, Kira, and Phillip Hoffzimmer on a fishing trip last October to POC with Capt. Kirk Morgan. Great catches everyone! We love the CCA Texas hats.



Twitter:

@SportfishCenter: John Blaha, Asst Director of @CCA_Texas helps a CSSC crew sample for juvenile nekton near Cedar Bayou.



Instagram:

Out checking on some HTFT projects in Galveston today! TPWD's Bird Island Cove Marsh Restoration is complete. There's still some grass planting to be done, but everything looks great! CCA Texas contributed \$50,000 to this project. Thank you to all of our generous members, partners, and sponsors for making important projects like this a reality!



Facebook: facebook.com/CCATexas

Twitter: twitter.com/CCA_Texas

Instagram: instagram.com/cca_texas

Chapter Updates

CCA Texas Banquet Season Kicks into Full Speed

CCA Texas is excited about the early success of the banquets held to date and looks forward to a busy spring and summer. Be sure to check out the CCA Texas calendar and attend the banquets of your choice in your local area and across the state. **NOW AS SCHEDULED:**

- 4 JUNE LIVE OAK ANNUAL BANQUET
- 11 JUNE KATY ANNUAL BANQUET
- 18 JUNE CENTEX ANNUAL BANQUET
- 18 JUNE ALVIN/PEARLAND ANNUAL BANQUET
- 25 JUNE MATAGORDA BAY ANNUAL BANQUET
- 25 JUNE TOMBALL/MAGNOLIA ANNUAL BANQUET
- 25 JUNE SAN JACINTO ANNUAL BANQUET
- 9 JUL GREATER WOODLANDS ANNUAL BANQUET
- 7AUG LOWER COLORADO ANNUAL BANQUET
- 8AUG GALVESTON ANNUAL BANQUET
- 8AUG ARANSAS BAY ANNUAL BANQUET
- 13AUG LOWER LAGUNA MADRE ANNUAL BANQUET
- 13AUG NORTHWEST HOUSTON ANNUAL BANQUET
- 20AUG ORANGE COUNTY ANNUAL BANQUET
- 20AUG SAN GABRIEL ANNUAL BANQUET
- 20AUG HILL COUNTRY CHAPTER ANNUAL BANQUET
- 28AUG TRINITY BAY ANNUAL BANQUET

Alvin-Pearland

Emery Sadler 713-501-2778

Monthly General Meetings (Anglers Night Out): 7PM - First Tuesday of the month.

Location: Spring Creek BBQ / 9005 Broadway, Pearland Tx.77584

Alvin/Pearland CCA Chapter Banquet June 18, 2015, 6pm. Location: Knights of Columbus Hall, 2320 Hatfield Road, Pearland Tx 77581.

Banquet planning is in full swing. Corporate tables and Sportsman Raffle tickets are now available. The Sportsman Raffle this year will have 5 guns and 5 yeti coolers for a total of TEN winners. Joes BBQ will once again cater the ribeye steak dinner. Our Live auction, Silent auction, Raffle items are coming together and looking to be the best ever!

Thanks to the following Table sponsors: Commonwealth Financial, Sun Belt Valve, Academy, Payne Brothers Firearms/Allied Fire Protection, Crain Group, Critical Project Services, Dorsett Concrete, Sprint Waste, Alliance Equip-

Chapter Updates have been 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**.*

ment, Dashiell Corporation, BAAD Marine. We would like to say thanks to all our sponsors, we would not be able to do what we do without their support!

A Special thanks to our recent speakers: April-Capt. Scott Null, May- Capt. Caleb Harp for sharing their knowledge of equipment and fishing tactics.

June 2 General Meeting (Anglers Night Out) SPEAKER: TFO (Temple Fork Outfitters) Banning Collins

July and August- NO MEETING—GONE FISHING

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

Aransas Bay

Carter Crigler 435-830-5984

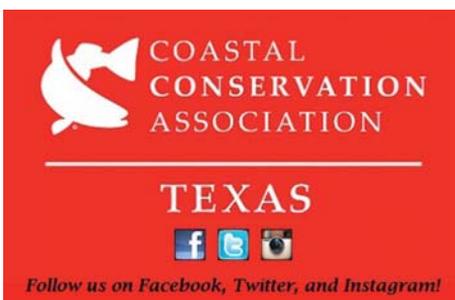
ccrigler@hotmail.com

Babes on the Bay Sweet Sixteen was just recently completed and the Aransas Bay Chapter would like to thank all participants and hope everyone had a terrific time. A special thanks also go to all the vendors, volunteers and the volunteer **TP&W Game Wardens** who conducted the weigh-in. As for the past 13 years **Karol Scardino**, tournament director, deserves a big thank you for her continued dedication and commitment to making Babes on the Bay the worlds best all women's fishing tournament. A donation of \$5000.00 on behalf of CCA **Babes On The Bay, Aransas Bay Chapter**, will be made to "Go For Fish, Not Drugs" kids fish event sponsored by the TP&W Game Wardens. In case you are wondering plans are already underway for Babes on the Bay XVII. Looking forward to seeing you again next year or if you have not been a participant in the past come and joint in the fun in 2016.

Aransas Bay Chapter's 16th Annual Banquet is scheduled for 8 August at the Paws and Taws Convention Center in Fulton, Texas. Come join us for a fun filled evening consisting of a live auction including trips, sculptures, art, etc.; raffle; door prizes; and silent auction. **Title sponsor for the banquet is Ron Hoover RV and Marine.** Tickets will be available at **Rockport Tackle Town and Ace Hardware Rockport** and include dinner catered by **Black Tie Affairs Catering, Inc**, open bar, and a CCA Membership. For any questions concerning advanced ticket reservations, sponsor opportunities, donations or any other matter contact **Michelle Green**, Banquet Chairperson, at jeepgirl.green@gmail.com.

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

The Aransas Bay Chapter was very fortunate to have **Aaron Horine, PE.**, from Coast and



Harbor Engineering as guest speaker at our April meeting. Aaron was Project Manager for the Cedar Bayou Project and provided an overview of the design, construction and current status of Cedar Bayou and Vinson Slough. He provided a most informative talk and answered questions about the project and what the future may hold. He assured those in attendance that movement of the mouth 400 plus yards to the south and the channel becoming somewhat less than straight is following engineering projections. Tight lines—Carter Crigler

Austin

Scott Sanderson 512-637-1750

scott@mbsquoteline.com

The 36th Anniversary Austin banquet is behind us now and the support for Conservation our sponsors, donors and members show continues to amaze. The Palmer Events Center was packed full with over 1700 CCAers and they were treated with live music from **Charlie Robison**, great food, once-in-a-lifetime-trips and just a generally super night. Thanks to our presenting sponsors, **Covert Chevrolet** and **Independence Title**, and everyone involved for making our banquet the best CCA has to offer.

A lot of folks have a lot of new toys or trips to take. 2015 Boat Raffle winner, **John Bundy**, has a brand new Shallow Sport. **Willie Schmidt** won the Sportsman's 4WD and is tooled to terrorize south Texas. **Henry Kubena** has a brand spanking new **Polaris Ranger Crew** from Hoffpauir Polaris.

Preston Luster, and 20 others, became Lifetime CCA members at the banquet. To thank them all we held a special drawing, that Preston won, and he's going to the **Abacos!** All told, lucky winners walked off with nearly \$200,000 in prizes!

Next up on the calendar for Austin is **Anglers' Night Out at Abel's on the Lake** July 15th. Like the banquet, ANO is a blast and 200 or so gather with us at these for fun, festivities and a free meal compliments of **Smokey Denmark's**. We always have a great guest speaker, admission is **free** and you don't have to be a member to come so **BRING A FRIEND AND ASK THEM TO JOIN CCA**. We have great raffles with all kinds of great prizes and that's where **George** bought his winning Shallow Sport ticket. So there's another great reason to come.

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



John Bundy checks out his new ride, a 2015 Shallow Sport.

Bay Area

Curtis Anderson 832-421-6377

Brazoria County

Wes Dingee 979-299-8245

Brazos Valley

John Ben Strother 979-220-1738

jbsunlimited@yahoo.com

The spring is about over and fishing with family and friends is beginning! Hope everybody is registered for the Star? This has to be the best bang for the buck when it comes to fishing.

There are so many great prizes and so many ways to win them. Take a young person fishing and if they catch the biggest they win a college scholarship. What a great excuse to take a kid fishing.

The Inter Chapter Challenge was a big hit again and it would be great if there were 59 chapters there. Brazos Valley CCA has been there for every one since the beginning and the reason is because we have fun year after year. It is a great time and everybody shares the spirit CCA stands for.

We filled a table May 1st for the Aggie Chapter Banquet. **Ian Kocker** and his members did a great of entertaining the crowd. It is gratifying to see the next generation take CCA to the future.

The first club fishing outing was May 14 to 17 at Rockport. Our group had a grand time bunking at the **Last Resort**. The fishing was great and we needed some practice for the Inter-Chapter Challenge.

We have over 800 registered CCA members in the Brazos Valley and would like you to join us at our monthly meetings. We will be sending an email blast each month for these meetings. We always have a great time. **The meeting place is the Brazos Center Pavilion on the 2nd Tuesday every month.** With food, beverages, and a lot of fish stories. If you need more information give me a call, text, or email and don't forget to register for STAR and get a CCA license plate. Hope to see ya there! —**John Ben**

Brenham

Dennis Crowson

979-451-2472

Dennis.crowson

@hotmail.com

We held our annual crawfish fundraiser April 23. It was the largest fundraiser the Chapter has held with over 650 persons attending, eating over 4500 pounds of crawfish. Special thanks to all those who made it a great night including table buyers, sponsors, auction item buyers and board members.

There are some good pictures of the event on our website. Drop by CCAtexas.org, **Brenham chapter**. The Brenham CCA Chapter meets the 4th Thursday of each month at Mike Hopkins Distributing at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome. Our next meeting will be May 28th. For more information contact me at (979) 451-2472 or dennis.crowson@hotmail.com. —**Dennis Crowson**

Brush Country

Hank Henry 361-215-6803

Centex

Welcome new president Wayne Webb

254-405-1300 sheyhunt@aol.com

Central Houston

Todd Buster Mobil, 713-545-1897

The 39th Annual Central Houston CCA Banquet was a resounding success. We would like to thank all of the board members for their efforts to make it another great event. Many thanks also to **Silver Eagle, Fishing Tackle Unlimited, Academy Sports + Outdoors, Simms Fishing Products, Waterloo Rod Company and Mowdy Boats.** **Luke Johnson** was the winner of the 2015 23' Mowdy Cat powered by a 200 HP Suzuki four-stroke. But most importantly we would like to thank the people that attend our banquet year-in and year-out. Without your continued support the Central Houston banquet would not be what it is.

Next year's banquet will be the 40th Annual Central Houston CCA Banquet and we're going to try and make it an extra special occasion to mark this milestone. —**Todd Buster**

Colorado Valley

Eugene Ulrich 979-249-7425

WOW, what a great banquet! The Colorado Valley Chapter banquet was held on March 26th at the KC hall in LaGrange and we were blessed with our largest attendance to date. Our chapter would like to extend our sincere appreciation to all who attended and helped make our event such a huge success. Our board members—**Eugene Ulrich, Bo Janda, Trish Kubena, Rusty Kubena, Gary Janda, Danny Olenick, and JK Brandt** along with our committee members—**Dave Fehlker, George Gold, Kenneth LeFrance, and Kendall Rohde** plus our committee helpers—**Connie Janda, Laurie Janda, Brenda Fehlker, Karie Brandt, Verlene Ulrich, Chris Brugger, and Mike Petras** did a tremendous job and worked very hard preparing for and putting on our event.

Of course, **Ellen** and her crew did a fantastic job of preparing and helping ensure our night was a big success as well. We also wish to extend a huge thank you to all our table sponsors, print sponsors, our tumbler raffle sponsor, our Koozie sponsor, our table topper sponsor, and our door prize sponsor for their generosity.

In addition, we would like to thank **Brown Distributing and Capitol Wright Distributing** for their generous donations. The **KC crew** again did a tremendous job of preparing our Ribeye steak and shrimp dinner. Our raffles, silent auction, and of course our live auction were all huge successes. The Colorado Valley Chapter wishes to extend a very special thank you for your generosity to all who participated in these events.

Hope all of you are enjoying fun and eventful spring fishing with summer trips right around the corner. Wishing bent rods and tight lines to all!! —**Eugene Ulrich**

Corpus Christi

Jay Gardner 361-658-7159

jaygardner@scientist.com

Greetings from the Coastal Bend. Whew! We are still trying to put the last banquet to bed, but we are already gearing up for next year. I want to wish all the other Chapters "good luck!" in your upcoming banquets – time to hit a home run, and remember, its all "for the fish" as Randy Poelma says. I would like to again thank some of our sponsors for the banquet, including **Environmental Evolution Energy Services LLC, Harte Research Institute (Isnapper), and Nyati Services Inc.** We are also gearing up for the Inter-Chapter Challenge this year, and Corpus Christi Board members are already pre-fishing and assuring me that they are going to place at or near the top this year. Bring on the competition! See you all in Aransas Pass.

Other than that, we are looking forward to our upcoming events, the **Poco Rojo kidfish tournament** (which will be interesting this year!), the **Guides Cup** (contact **Bruce Laser** at blaser@premier-yamaha.com to learn how to sponsor the Guides Cup), and of course our perennial favorite, the ladies fishing tournament **Babes on Baffin.** **Lauren Roesener** is again heading up the charge this year as Director, with her returning super-committee comprised of **Judy Arnold, Valerie Chilton, Michelle Gutierrez, Margaret Ehman, Angie Baines,** and the rest of the ladies. Please contact Lauren at laurenleeroesener@gmail.com to find out how to sponsor this event, and of course watch the website at babesonbaffin.com to keep up with the dates and latest news on the event, and to

THINK RED. SEE BLUE

CCA makes marine conservation a reality. In addition to relentless efforts to educate the public, CCA also partners with organizations like Academy Sports + Outdoors to promote and enhance the present and future availability of coastal resources. Look for exclusive "Think Red. See Blue." conservation campaign gear at your local Academy store. There are approximately 50 CCA-branded products that include CCA shirts, hats, rods, reels, tackle boxes and bags, coolers and much more. A portion of the sales from these products goes to support CCA's important conservation work, including funding habitat restoration efforts.

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Tidal Surge
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14⁹⁹

CCA
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Style CCA-3A



4⁹⁹
CCA
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2⁹⁹
CCA
Medium Utility Box



14⁹⁹ CCA Big Game Lip Grabber
Style CCA-15A
• The grabber can be used for freshwater or saltwater fishing and is 11" long



19⁹⁹ CCA
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register. Y'all stay cool out there this summer, and have fun on the water!
—**Jay Gardner** Environmental Scientist
Naismith Engineering, Inc.
jgardner@naismith-engineering.com

Dallas / North Texas

Hal Thomas 972-612-1684

Wow! Thanks to everyone who attended the CCA Texas Dallas Chapter Banquet at the Frontiers of Flight Museum in Dallas. The evening was terrific as we enjoyed great food prepared by **G Texas**, and celebrated **Sam Caldwell** as the **Dallas CCA 2015 Conservation Sportsman of the Year**. Previous recipients were **Gary Lumas, Dr. Gregg Stunz** and **Lefty Kreh**.

We set a record for proceeds from the event, in keeping with the purpose of supporting CCA Texas. The folks in Dallas are fantastic and very generous and we say **THANK YOU!**

Our sponsors went all out making this year's event a success. Our friends at **Mariner Sails, Tailwaters, and Marine Max** have generously offered opportunities for us at the banquet and after. On May 16th, we are celebrating Tailwaters' 8th Anniversary and we will help them by cooking lunch for the event. This summer, Mariner Sails will host a Dallas Chapter meeting and later this year Marine Max and the Dallas Chapter will get together for another chapter meeting.

We are excited for all that is happening with CCA. New memberships, renewals from old friends and great projects that are making a difference encourage all of us to come alongside and support the people who make CCA great. Please check out the web site and join in the effort. We would love to see any photos you would like to share with us and to hear your stories. Best wishes and tight lines —**Hal Thomas 972-768-3521**

East Texas

Dr. Jim Norman 936-554-3165
jnorman7@suddenlink.net

Fort Bend

Robb Gaston 281-239-9755

Ahoy Mateys. Ft. Bend committee members have just wrapped up our 29th annual banquet and what a great banquet it was. We had over 475 in attendance this year which was up 18% from last year. I would personally like to thank each and every one of you for your generous contributions and support.

A special thanks to **Texas Citizens Bank of Rosenberg** for graciously helping us out. This year's Grand Prize was an **18.5' JH Performance Outlaw w/115 HP Yamaha from Sport Marine in Richmond, Texas**, with a Coastline Aluminum trailer. I'd like to thank **JH Performance Boats and Sport Marine in Richmond** for all they did for us on this year's boat, what a great group to do business with. I'd also like to thank **5S Designs in Rosenberg** for the awesome boat wrap they did for us this year. We also had numerous new members to our executive board who helped out tremendously.

Mark your calendars: Our "Ladies Only" fishing tournament, **Lingerie On The Bay** is scheduled for September 18-19 in Matagorda. **New Date!!** Entry forms will be posted at www.matagordabay.com and www.wadefishing.com. The **Jimmy Guest Memorial Kid's Fishing Tournament in Matagorda** is on July 11, 2015. Information for this event can be found at www.matagordabay.com or **give me a shout!** Bent rods and screaming reels —**Robb Gaston**



Dallas Conservation Sportsman of the Year Sam Caldwell accepted the award as President Hal Thomas, auctioneer Ed Phillips and a sold-out Dallas crowd applauded.

Fort Worth

Hunter Baird 817-437-8351

We spent most of the 2014-2015 year working to make sure that the 2015 banquet was not forgotten easily. With a new auctioneer to liven up the party, your FW Chapter reached new heights. A special thank you to all of those who made it possible. It seems that some new trips and new board members created the buzz to make this one of our most successful banquets that I have personally been a part of. Thank you for your contributions to a great night. Mother nature blessed us with some of the most beautiful weather we could expect during a usually rainy and hot time of year.

Thank you to **Joe White Tank Company** (www.jwtank.net) for supporting us again at this year's banquet. Another thanks to **Brad Wallace and the team** at <http://northtexasmarine.com> for stepping up at a high level to help sponsor the event. There were too many sponsors to list but we still want to recognize the efforts of each of you so thank you to all of our table sponsors at this year's banquet. Coming off a banquet with record attendance we are excited about what our chapter is going to accomplish during the next GM membership/banquet season and know that none of it is possible without your continued support.

If anyone one of you readers is interested in getting more involved with your local chapter (or you simply want to take one of your board members on a fishing trip, HA) never hesitate to reach out to us. The weather is turning warmer and our attention is turning to the coast for the next couple of months. We hope you can find some time to search for tight lines, sand between your toes and a nice cold Cerveza! Stay tuned for our next general membership meeting in the fall. —**Hunter Baird**

Galveston

Dr. Ken Ellis 713-962-7731

Save the Date: The Galveston Chapter 22nd Annual Banquet will be held August 8th, 2015. We will back at Moody Gardens Convention Center. The folks at Moody Gardens are going to prepare a Fajita buffet with all

the trimmings. There will be plenty of cold beverages available as well as several cash bars.

Be sure to watch your mail and emails for more details in the near future. **Check out our 2015 Raffle Boat: 2200 Purebay by Blue Wave, Suzuki 4 Stroke DF150 TX Motor and McClain Trailer. Only 500 tickets are being sold and are on sale now!** You don't want to miss out on this deal. Contact any board member to purchase tickets.

We recently held our first kid's fishing tournament and it was a great success. We'd like to thank all those folks who participated and helped sponsor this event: **Fishing Tackle Unlimited, Harborwalk Marina, Longhorn Dental, Ron Hoover Marine Galveston, Texas City Anglers, Treasure Island Trophies.** All the kids had a great time and walked away with goodie bags filled with lots of treasures.

A big thank you to the Galveston chapter board and to our tournament director, **James Larue.** Great Job. We will be hosting a membership meeting on June 11th at 6:30 at **M & M Bar and Grill.** The **Shimano Pro Staff** will be on hand to share some of their fishing techniques. As you can see, we are pretty active. If you'd like to be involved with your local CCA Chapter please contact me. We would welcome the participation. —**Ken Ellis**

Golden Triangle

Joel Foxworth 409-466-2614

Our next event will be the 35th Annual Golden Triangle Chapter Banquet at the Beaumont Civic Center on Thursday, May 21st. Main raffle item this year is a **NauticStar 2110 Sport CC Boat sponsored by MobilOil Credit Union.** Tickets will be \$20 each or six for \$100. To purchase raffle tickets or tickets to the Annual Banquet, please email **Drew Adams** at dadams@ccatexas.org or you can call **Joel Foxworth** at the number listed. —**Joel Foxworth**

Greater Sugar Land

Welcome new president Richard Lindley 832-270-0398

richardlindley@att.net

We held our annual banquet and crawfish boil on Thursday April 9. We had another successful banquet this year and we look forward to growing our banquet attendance next year, now that we have moved to a much more spacious venue at the **Stafford Centre.**

The Greater Sugar Land chapter would like to say a big thank you to everyone that attended the banquet and helped support such a great cause. We would also like to thank all of our generous donors and sponsors for making this year's banquet a huge success. We could not continue to grow and achieve our goals without the support of these generous donors and sponsors. We want to thank our banquet chair-



Galveston's 2200 Purebay by Blue Wave, Suzuki 4 Stroke DF150 TX Motor and McClain Trailer.

man, **Judy Kveton**, for an exceptional job in planning and guiding our volunteers.

Houston Elks Lodge 151 had their kid's fish and Easter egg hunt in April. The Greater Sugar Land CCA helped them by supplying the rods, reels and bait. We helped the kids with baiting hooks, learning to cast and how to handle the fish for return to the lake. **The next kid's fish will be in Sugar Land on May 16, 2015 at Eldridge Park.** I want to thank our outgoing officers for their contribution over the last two years. They are: **Richard Lindley, Vice President; Robert Bailey, Secretary; Paul Lawson, Treasurer; Judy Kveton, Banquet Chairman and Barbra Lindley, Kid's Fish Chairman.** Our new officers for the next two years are: **Richard Lindley, President; David Kveton, Vice President; Robert Bailey, Secretary; Paul Lawson, Treasurer; Pam Canavan, Banquet Chairman; and Barbra Lindley, Kid's Fish Chairman.** Thank you to our board members for supporting our efforts and officers. —**Weems Turner 713-857-8897**

Greater Woodlands

James Kay 281-363-4417

www.ccatexas.org/greater-woodlands

The GWC hosted **Phil Cambra of Shimano** a speaking engagement at **Papa's Ice House in Spring, Texas.** Phil passed on some great information and introduced us to the World of Shimano. Thank You Phil for your time and dedication to our Chapter. *Next GMM will be in June check e-mail message and check our web page for date and time.*

CCA Texas Greater Woodlands Chapter – 8th Annual Banquet – Thursday - July 9, 2015. The Grand Palace in Spring, TX. Please visit our web page for updated information on the banquet. Pre-Sale Raffle Tickets for our Banquet are Available. We are offering the Sportsman Raffle of 20 Prizes which was a great success last year and a Sellout. You may contact the following people to secure your tickets. **Bryant Bennett - (281) 757-5011, Charlotte O'Dell - (832) 368-8263, Nick Hibler - (361) 537-1082, James Kay - (281) 363-4417, Drew Adams - (361) 649-9223. Keep Conserving...To Keep Fishing!!!** —**James Kay**

Guadalupe Valley

Jon Eric Rodriguez 361-243-1017

Hays County

Tim Young 512-573-7939

hayscountycca@gmail.com

Heart of the Hills

Jim Simmons 210-380-5709

fishtxsurf@AOL.com

Hope you had a good Spring and are enjoying the Summer fishing season with the kids. It is with great sorrow that I bring you sad news. Chapter member, **Robert "Bob" Beckett**, passed away on Wednesday, March 25, 2015. In his early years, Bob was a High School All-American football star, a football player and graduate of SMU and a Captain in the U.S. Air Force.

He owned Beckett Ford in Boerne in 70's and then had a successful career with GE Capital. After retirement, Bob helped run a home daycare and drove a school bus for Boerne ISD. In his free time, he was an avid golfer, fisherman and photographer. He was also a dedicated CCA volunteer and regularly worked as the greeter at our annual banquets. Our condolences to his wife, Gloria, and his family who he loved so dearly. We will miss Bob's friendship and his smiling face. —**Jim Simmons**

Hill Country

Miles Engelke 830-303-1827

Hello Fisher Women, Men and Kids. As I write this article for currents, the temperature at my

office is 52 degree's, the cool fronts are still hanging around. Our chapter social and fish fry held Sunday, March 29 was a fun time for all. We held our 1st. general membership meeting April 21st. at the Elks lodge. Our speaker was **Joey Farah of Farah's Backwater Adventures.** Joey presented a very informative talk on different fishing techniques using baits and lures, also various methods of rigging your rods/reels. He held everyone's undivided attention for a solid two hours and answered numerous questions. Thanks Joey for your time and sharing some of your secrets with us.

Our next event is our chapter tournament Saturday June 6, 2015 in Rockport Texas at **Drifters Resort and RV Park.** Final registration is June 1, 2015. Contact **Josh** at 830-708-2986 or **Sterling** at 830-305-5128. Our next general meeting will be July 21, 2015 at the Elks Lodge, program to be announced.

June 12 – 13 is the 2015 Inner Chapter Challenge Tournament.

Our chapter banquet will be Thursday August 20, 2015 at the Civic Center in New Braunfels Texas. Mark your calendars, tell your friends. To purchase a table call **Todd Thetford** at 830-660-8825. We are selling in advance (300) only Premium Choice Raffle Tickets for \$100 each, Prizes are as follows:

Grand Prize winner will choose between a **Mahindra eMax 22 tractor** provided by **Texas Tractor Country** or a **Polaris Ranger 570 Crew** provided by **Wood's Cycle Country.**

2. Will receive a Benelli Nova 12 Gauge Shotgun. / 3. Will receive a 65 quart Yeti Cooler. / 4. Will receive a Shimano Chronarch Reel/ American RodSmith Rod. / 5. Will receive a GoPro Hero Camera. Drawing will be held at our banquet, tickets can be purchased from **Darlene Cook 830-214-3067, Royce Harboth 830-832-7430, Bill Daughtery 830-708-2339** or any of our directors.

I would like to acknowledge and thank our sponsors for their participation in our chapter: **Reel Em Inn on The Bay, Redfish Bay Boat House Redfish Willie's, Kontiki Beach Resort, Whitaker Insurance, KGNB KNBT, Power Engineering Services, Cemex, StayTuff, Fishers of Men RV, Sandollar Motel, Creative Eyewear and FAPCO.**

If you have any questions or would like to get involved with our chapter, let me know. (210) 260-8968. **Treasure The Trips, —Miles Engelke**

Houston Homebuilders

Mack Davis 832 381-6130

Houston Real Estate

Dale Couch 281-953-2510

We are pleased to announce two new Directors. **Sam Yager** of Sam Yager Incorporated and **Michael Cox** of Johnson Development are aboard and active. **Our banquet is next Feb. 9, 2016. Al Brende of Land Tejas** has committed to donate one of his very posh time shares for the banquet. Thanks, Al. More details soon. —**Dale**

Katy

Clint Hilton 713-515-3991

WE DECIDED TO CHANGE VENUES FOR THE 2015 BANQUET. This year, our banquet will be held June 11th, at Palacio Maria (near the corner of Mason and Highland Knolls. Lots of cold beer and the same **great crawfish or catfish** as years past. The new venue can hold up to **600 people**, plenty of room to mingle, extra space for more prize items, and lots of room to grow.

Individual tickets are only \$65, and reserve tables for 8 are \$1250 or \$750. All tickets include a CCA membership. I recommend the \$1250 tables as they include several premium benefits! We have also ironed out our main raffle item:

Katy is becoming known as the "gun" chapter! We are **raffling 20 guns**, supplied by **Payne Brothers Firearms.** Tickets are **\$20 each, or 7 for \$100.** Tickets are printed, and ready for purchase. Raffle tickets are limited, and when they are gone, they're gone!

Meetings will be back with speakers, so watch your email for the official update. If you need banquet or GUN raffle tickets, please holler! —**Clint Hilton**

Laredo

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

Lee County

**Welcome new president, Byron Kalbas
979-540-0056**

The Lee County Chapter had a quarterly meeting on Tuesday, March 24, 2015. After a short business meeting we had the developers of the new fishing app **Saltwater Up.** They gave a short presentation on the workings of the app and how it can help you prepare for your trip on the water and many features that are incorporated within the app to help you while on the water as well. If you haven't checked out **Saltwater Up** yet go to the app store in iTunes and check it out.

Mark your calendars, the 5th annual Lee County Chapter CCA Banquet will be held on Thursday, October 15, 2015 at the Sons of Herman Hall in Giddings, Texas. Hope everyone has a great summer, and God Bless Texas! —**Byron Kalbas bkalbas@yahoo.com**

Live Oak

Brad Kotrla 979-732-1669

Lower Colorado

Tim Munos 979 332-2876

Here's just one picture of the Lower Colorado CCA Chapter Kid Fish that was held Saturday April 18. See more on the Lower Colorado website at www.ccatexas.org.

Despite the terrible rainy weather that week, we had 45 kids show up for the event. Through **Capital Farm Credit's** sponsorship and many others, we were able to provide an educational and fun time for the kids. Each youngster who participated, went home with a brand new rod and reel, thanks to our generous contributors. The half-day event included several hours of fishing, a casting contest, fishing awards for the different age groups, many door prizes, drinks, and hot dogs. **Capital Farm Credit** is proud to be a sponsor of this event.

Thanks to the many CCA Chapters in the great state of Texas and the Coastal Conservation Association, these kids have the opportunity to learn about our aquatic environment, conservation of our natural resources, and have some plain old fun. Many CCA Chapters will host one of these events every year. Kids, ages 3 to 14, are invited to participate for free. A big THANK YOU to the Lower Colorado CCA Chapter. —**Clint Hewitt hewitt.clint@heb.com**

Lower Laguna Madre

Oscar Garcia III 956-491-8148

Mainland

Eric Minor 281-534-6242



Matagorda Bays

Chad Hensley 979-543-2734

As I write this we are loading trailers and stuffing bags for our 10th annual Lil' Salties Fishing Blowout. This year we have a full load with 250 youngsters signed up. The event is held every year on Mother's Day weekend at the Matagorda Harbor. This free yearly tournament for the kids of Matagorda Bays Chapter is something special, each kid goes home with a fishing story, fishing rod and a bag full of goodies. A big thanks goes out to our corporate sponsors for this event: Gulf Coast Leaser Service, Prasek's Hillje Smokehouse, Mustang Caterpillar, E. A. Collins & Sons, Dalton Trucking and Crane, Backup Utility Contractors, O'Day Drilling, Polasek Construction, Cedar Creek Woodshop, R and R Printing, Texas Tackle Factory, Full Auto Firearms. Also a big thanks to all the other donors who contribute to the event, I would like to mention their names but would run out of room.

Our chapter banquet is scheduled for June 25th this year at the El Campo Civic Center. The board is hard at work getting all the ins and outs together for the night of fun and fundraising. Be sure to reserve a table or get your ticket early. The event has Sold Out for the last 6 years.

Our 22' Tran Sport raffle boat is turning heads all around the area so be sure to get a couple of tickets before they are gone. If you are not in the area and need boat tickets or want to purchase tickets for the banquet feel free to contact Wesley Smolik (979) 543-2753. Thanks again to Polasek Construction for stepping up as a boat sponsor this year. Without their generosity we would not be able to have such a great chapter. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the chapter.
—Chad Hensley

MidCoast

David Jenkins 361-578-5580

Northeast Houston

Jason Law 713-898-8594

In early April, we hosted our annual crawfish boil and fundraiser at the Humble Civic Center. Thanks to all of the folks who attended the event, the great exhibitors, and amazing Northeast Houston Board members, the event was a huge success. I would like to give a special thanks to our hardworking board members: thank you Samantha Law, Tim Stamps, Jimmy Burke, Melyssa Greene, Sean & Sarah McCullough, Ray Ramos, Rick Benavides, Kansas Swope, Nate Gonzalez and our CCA Area Director, Brian Weaver. —Jason Law 713-898-8594

Northwest Houston

Alan Massey 281-414-6341

First off, we would like to give a HUGE thank you to Sam Caldwell for being our guest speaker during our April Fish Fry Membership Drive! We had a great attendance come out and enjoy some fantastic catfish with all the fixin's while listening to Sam speak about the beginning years of GCCA, into the progression of CCA. Sam screened an early GCCA video, *The Endangered Crescent*. Filmed by Fred Carr, Craig Camp and Caldwell, the video won one of the nation's top awards in 1985.

Our board members were in full force that night prepping and cooking for this event - thanks guys and gals! And last but not least, our amazing sponsors for the night! Brad and Ping Alpin with Blue Water Seafood for donating the side dishes, Houston Distributing for hosting and providing the refreshing beverages, and catfish, Steve and Don for catching our delicious fish!

By the time you are reading this, hopefully our next General Membership Meeting hasn't passed. On June 2nd, we are proud to welcome



Matagorda Bays' fully rigged 22' Tran Sport XLR8 powered by a 200 HP Suzuki, with all black powder coated aluminum, and tee top. It sits on a double axle Coastline Trailer.

Chicken Boy with Chicken Boy Lures! If you've never met Chicken Boy, do yourself a favor and join us in this informative and highly entertaining evening! Believe me, you will learn a thing or two about catching flounder and you can see for yourself the amazing lures Chicken Boy makes. The meeting will be held at the Houston Distributing facility (Stein Room) located off High Life Dr, starting at 7pm. We will have beer on tap, so don't miss this!

For those of our members who like to plan in advance, go ahead and mark down our August 4th General Membership meeting. We will be welcoming Bryan Slaven, an outstanding wild game chef! Bryan is the man behind the "Texas Tasted" article in Texas Fish and Game magazine. An avid recreational fisherman himself, Bryan will share with us different recipes for our favorite seafood! Only thing you have to do after this meeting.....CATCH SOME FISH!

Lastly, PLEASE mark your calendars for Thursday, August 13th. We are holding our 26th Annual CCA Northwest Houston Chapter Banquet! Preparation has been underway and we are excited for another successful year of raising funds for our precious coastal fisheries and habitats! The banquet will be held at the Raveneaux Country Club. If you plan on attending or would like more information, please visit the CCA Texas website under the Northwest Houston Chapter page. We are accepting sponsorship tables at this time and we plan on another sold out event - don't wait to get your table!

As always, we welcome any current or future CCA members to join our chapter Board of Directors. We have a great group of men and women and are always inviting more hands to grow our chapter! If you are interested in joining our banquet planning committee, contact our President, Alan Massey or our CCA Assistant Director, Drew Adams (713) 626-4222. We meet every first Tuesday of every odd month (July 7th will be our next) at the Houston Distributing facility off High Life Drive in the Stein Room - starting at 7pm. We would love to see you! —Alan Massey

Orange County

Scott Bandy 409-988-3667

sabandy@gmail.com

The banquet planning has begun with our chapter. We are busy getting the information for our 7th annual banquet in the mail. This year's banquet will be August 20, 2015, at the Orange County Convention and Expo Center, kicking off at 6 pm. Each year our banquets have grown in numbers, so please act early if you or your company plans to attend this year.

If you are interested in helping with the banquet committee, please try to attend the next meeting on May 11th, or contact one of the Banquet Chairmen. Follow us on Facebook @ Orange County CCA Chapter. —Scott Bandy at scottbandy77@yahoo.com / Louis Moore at louis_moore@yahoo.com / Davis Dixon at dcdixon149@yahoo.com

Port O'Connor

Bill Moore 361-983-4690

Our chapter is in the process of planning the 16th Annual POC CCA Banquet, which is slated for Saturday October 17. As usual, your participation and ideas to improve this year's banquet are always welcome. Tables will again be available to individuals, groups, businesses, and/or corporate sponsors. The time and dates of upcoming meetings will be emailed over the next couple of months. We are looking forward to seeing you there, and if you want to get involved, give us a call.

The Chapter has been saddened by the passing of a valued member, Debbie Busby. We will not only miss her as a member, but as a dear friend. Also, many of you reading this will be in the POC area, July 15-18 for the Poco Bueno. Come by, and visit many of our banquet donors. See you at POCO in POC, "Where it all began." —Bill Moore

Prairie

Sharon Goebel 979-877-4103

On April 2nd, the chapter held its 18th Annual Fundraiser Banquet at the Cat Spring Hall. This year we had a sellout event and one of the largest sell of corporate tables thanks to Kirk Hoppe for all his hard work coordinating the tables. The meal was a great hit this year, Thanks to Mikeska's BBQ for catering the prime rib and shrimp. This year we had 9 guns and one cross-bow in the cap and card game for \$25. Thanks to Indoor Outdoor of Bellville for all the guns. I would like to thank all the sponsors who donated the caps. Thanks to Mark Switzer for being the auctioneer and his team for putting together a great auction. The silent auction also was a great hit thanks to CCA and Academy and all the sponsors for donating the items and thanks to Fat Dog Firearms and Riley's crew for sponsoring our coolers.

This year we had the pleasure to serve the Bull Red Table to Diamond H Ranch. I would like to thank MARK III for donating the Koozies. Phillip Fairchild has done this for the past 18years, and thanks to Mikeska BBQ and Ron Chess for donating the CCA cutting boards that were given out to the live auction buyers.

Again, thanks to CCA and Academy for the donations. Thanks to Coleman Todd and his staff for making the Banquet a great success, and to Pat and Francis Sechelski for the artwork framing. I thank Wittenburg Printing and Patricia and Pam for generously donating their service.

On June 12 and 13, CCA will be having the InterChapter Challenge Tournament in Port Aransas. If you would like to be part of this event contact one of the Prairie Chapter Board members. On August 1st we will be having our annual Kid Fish Tournament at the Wietstruck Lake in Bellville, this is a free tournament for the kids for more info contact Lori Cruz at 713-992-7874. I would like to personally thank Sharon Goebel for all her hard work organizing the event, she spends many days and hours to make this a successful Banquet. And a big thanks to all the Prairie Chapter Board members for their hard work putting this Banquet together. If I have forgotten anybody I'm sorry. —Ron Chess Sr 979-525-9254

Redfish Bay

Norman Oates 361-758-0266

The 2015 Redfish Bay Chapter Annual Banquet was a fun and successful event! While the Board does everything in its power to make it an enjoyable family event, it is at its heart a fund raising event, and our net income set a new record for the second year in a row. I want to thank our supporters, donors, attendees, Board members, and CCA Texas staff for making this one of our



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best Banquets ever. Special thanks to our donors who continue to provide a wide variety of items that make our raffle and auction items of interest to everyone that attends. Our CCA Texas staff said we had one of the best silent auction selections that they had seen. Another great Banquet! **FYI – next year's Banquet will be on April 23, 2016, or April 30, 2016.** Mark your calendars now, and we will let you know which one as soon as possible.

The **Take a Kid Fishing** event will be **June 5 & 6 at Woody's Sports Center in Port Aransas.** This is a great event and real fun for young fisherpersons. The signup and meal is Friday evening, and fishing is Saturday morning until noon. There is an awards ceremony and hot dogs after fishing. Each fisherperson gets a rod and reel and a trophy. This is truly a memorable event for your young children or grand-children. Bring the kids and enjoy!

We can always use more help on the Board, please contact me if you are interested. —**Norman C Oates** 61-758-0266 H 361-790-2748 C

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

Sabine-Neches
Darin Johnson
409-790-9855

Greetings from SE Texas. We are currently working on our next event, **KIDFISH!** We will be having our event later this summer so stay tuned. This is going to be a bigger and better event than years past. Not much else to report, fishing on Sabine is slowly returning to normal after all the rain we had. Keep an eye on the inbox for the latest on KIDFISH. We look forward to seeing all of our junior anglers back for another year of fun. Tight Lines! —**Darin M Johnson** (409) 790-9855

Sam Houston
Brandon Kolaja 281-797-6908

I hope everyone is finding time to enjoy our Texas coastline. Fishing reports have been good when the weather cooperates. **The board is gearing up for the annual banquet which will be held once again in September.** Also, please go like our page on Facebook as we will be updating it soon. Happy fishing and hope everyone has a great summer. —**Brandon Kolaja** 281-797-6908

San Antonio
Jimmy Gibson 210-287-4378

Spring has sprung and if you aren't fishing you should be because the bite is on!

Back in the real world of San Antonio, your chapter has been busy. First we had a great turnout for our 2nd Annual "Hooked on Clays" sporting clays shoot. We held it at the **National Sporting Clays complex** which if you have been there, you will know it is fabulous. We had 200 shooters turn out with lots of raffle prizes, fried catfish and even a band. I want to thank all of the partici-



Touching moment: A Marine Color Guard presents colors at the San Antonio banquet. /Johnny Rayburg



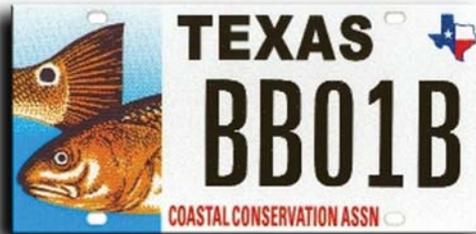
This San Antonio Coors Light Harley will have been won Thursday night, May 14.

opening day of the south zone on a special ranch in South Texas for you and your friends. **The banquet is May 14th,** so by the time you read this it will be in the history books. Hope you were there...and thank you for your support.

Remember our first battle cry "SAVE THE REDFISH." As Always, Thank you for doing your part. Until the next Currents, travel safely, enjoy your summer, take family, friends, and kids fishing. —**Jimmy Gibson** jimmy.gibson@cstbrands.com

San Bernard
Jayson Zahradnik 281-202-8438

CCA Plates for Projects



You've seen our CCA Texas License plates driving the roads of Texas. We would like to ask all of our 70,000 Texas driving members to consider ordering their own plate today. For just \$30 you can have this fantastic-looking plate, and **CCA will receive \$22** to be used for our Habitat projects.

It will take you just a few minutes to order for your truck, car, or boat trailer. To place your order, input in your network browser (Google works best), **TxDOT Special Plate Order Application.** Follow the next thread to Coastal Conservation Association. These plates would also make great gifts for any fishing enthusiast. So drive in style and help support our Habitat projects at the same time.

If just half of our members drive with our CCA plates, **it will generate almost \$800,000** each year to fund future Habitat projects. Now that is driving for a cause.

Please support us and order your plate today!

San Gabriel

John Melnar 512-497-8284

Our banquet is set for Aug 20th and we are very excited about the new venue at the Cedar Park Center. Making this move has literally opened the doors for us. Our goal is to get 500 people to attend the banquet, but we will have room for many more. Individual tickets are \$125 each, which includes an open bar, great food, and plenty of opportunities to win. Reserved Bull Red Tables will be \$1,500 which will be 10 top tables. We also have sponsorships starting at \$2,000.

Since we are growing the event, we have also increased our popular Gun/Yeti Raffle to include 15 guns and 15 coolers. Additionally, we have brought back our UTV Raffle which will be a 2015 Polaris Ranger Crew 570. Tickets for both the Gun/Cooler and UTV Raffles will be \$100. All tickets for the Banquet, Raffles, as well as table and sponsorships can be purchased online at our Chapter's webpage at <http://www.ccatexas.org/chapters/inland/san-gabriel/>.

I would also like to thank our fine sponsors who have already committed their continued support, including Don Hewlett Chevrolet as our Title Sponsor, Aday & Associates, PMB Helin Donovan, Morris Glass, Gibson Concrete, Independence Title, and R Bank. If you have any questions about table sales, sponsorship levels, or how you can help with the banquet, please feel free to contact me. —John Melnar 512-497-8284 jmelnar@piscavore.com

San Jacinto

Jim Wilson 713-828-7639

Southwestern

Robert Hart 830-879-5541

TAMU

Ian Kocher Mays Business School
512-632-9222

ikoher12@gmail.com

Texas State University

Ryan Wishnow 832-444-3598

rv1303@txstate.edu

Tomball/Magnolia

Matt Maddox 281-770-7858

Greetings! Hope everyone had an enjoyable hunting season this year full and filled up the freezers. Now that all that hunting gear is cleaned and stored away until fall, it's time to super tune those reels and go out after them spots and dots.

Please mark your calendars for the Tomball/Magnolia CCA Banquet. This year it will be held on Thursday, June 25th at the Tomball VFW Hall.

Single ticket and table prices will go out in the banquet flier soon, so keep an eye on the mailbox. The chapter banquet is open to members and non-members alike, so invite your friends and neighbors to join us for the food, friends, and fun. If you haven't yet, please friend us on Facebook as we will be posting banquet information and other upcoming chapter events on our Facebook page. For information, please contact Matt Maddox 281-389-5924 or Jason Kaptchinskia 281-770-7858. —Matt Maddox

Tri-County

Christian Hildebrand 830-534-2730

Trinity Bay

Gerald Payne 281-385-2894

We're in the middle of gearing up for our August 28th Banquet in Baytown, Texas. Last year we secured a larger facility, which gave all attendees more room to eat, drink and mingle as they browsed the abundant silent and live auction items. In addition, the large array of raffle items and the excitement of our dice game kept everyone energized throughout the evening. As always, the drinks were cold and the boiled to perfection shrimp were plentiful and superb.

Based on our recent meetings, we feel 2015 will be another stellar year for us. *Individual Tickets – \$40 each, \$70 per Couple (CCA member-

ship and meal included) *Reserved Tables 8 persons - \$500, *Title Sponsor - \$1,350, *Executive Sponsor - \$2,250 * Platinum Sponsor - \$3,250* All Reserved and Sponsor Tables include CCA memberships for each guest, banquet meals, table gifts and more. Title/Executive Sponsor includes 2 tables of 8 – Platinum Sponsor includes 3 tables of 8. The chapter is also announcing a Sportsman Raffle, loaded with prizes that will entice any outdoorsman. The tickets can be pre-purchased before the banquet through any Trinity Bay Board Member or Drew Adams - CCA Texas, Assistant Director (713) 626-4222.

Banquet information: August 28, 2015 at Nuevo Leon Social Events, 1000 Park Street, Baytown, Texas 77520. We look forward to see everyone again this year and we want to sincerely thank all of our sponsors. —Gerald Payne 281-728-6278

Trinity Valley

John Hebert Jr 936-334-2528

With summer quickly approaching, we have some exciting events happening. Our chapter continues to grow and by the time this is published we will have held our 2nd annual fishing tournament.

We had a great turnout last year and expect an even better one this year. We are also currently in the planning stages of our 3rd annual banquet. If you'd like more information on any of these events or you're interested in becoming a member, please contact John Hebert Jr. at (936)334-2528 or Jennifer Creel at (936)334-2314. We'd be happy to hear from you. —Jennifer Creel

West Houston

Mike Ayers 832-248-9352

West Texas

Craig McDonnold 432-682-3499



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Conservation Sportsman of the Year

Richard Pratt, longtime Dallas CCA volunteer, won Sam Caldwell's painting in the Live Auction, "Greater Fish Hawks." To view the painting as it progressed as a video, and read Caldwell's remarks on the award, drop by the Caldwell Art Cave.



samcaldwell.com

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June / July 2015

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Photo, Lisa Laskowski

Cedar Bayou: Hands on science shows success of CCA investments

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Sabine: 409-971-2195

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



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

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



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- 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.
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- NEW TIDE: \$10 _____ Tide newsletter, decal.
- NEW TIDE / Star: \$10 _____ **Members 17 and under only** Age: _____ Date of birth: _____
Same as above, plus "FREE" STAR Tournament entry. Age: _____ Date of birth: _____

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