

# CURRENTS

June / July 2018



*Summer of Snapper*



# Summer of Snapper

Recreational Anglers will receive the longest red snapper season in recent years

By Advocacy Director,  
Shane Bonnot

Last September, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), a branch of the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), informed the five Gulf States of its willingness to follow U.S. Senate Report 114-239 in the 2017 Consolidated Appropriations Act.

**T**he act directed NOAA to “develop and support a fishery management pilot program that allows states to lead reef fish management activities in designated zones over artificial reefs in the Gulf of Mexico, specifically red snapper.”

One way to gather data for such a “pilot program,” is through the use of an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP), which is generally used for conducting research, data collection and fishing-related activities otherwise prohibited by federal regulations.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) responded to this request with an EFP application seeking exemption from the federal season to test data collection and quota monitoring methodologies during 2018 and 2019. Under the EFP, recreational anglers fishing from private vessels will have an 82-day season in federal waters and a 365-day season in state waters off the coast of Texas in 2018, beginning June 1.

Charter for-hire (CFH) vessels were not included in the final version of the



Red Snapper on a standing oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico.

EFP, therefore recreational anglers fishing on a charter trip will only have a 51-day season in federal waters.

“CCA has been a strong proponent of state management of red snapper for years, so this is

a very exciting first step toward more predictable and enjoyable seasons for recreational anglers,” said Mark Ray, Chairman of CCA Texas. “We appreciate the hard work that TPWD put into this plan. Given the box that federal management has put this fishery in, this EFP is very likely the only way private recreational anglers would even have a season in 2018, and the state managed to produce the longest red snapper season in years.”

**T**he only negative development was the removal of the CFH from the EFP, which was not the desire of TPWD nor that of the public. Texas anglers dominated the public comment period on the Federal Register, accounting for 47.1% of nearly 1,700 comments received. A total of 98.8% of the individuals from Texas who commented were in favor of keeping the CFH in the EFP. Despite this overwhelming majority, NMFS once again ignored the voice of the recreational angler and forced Texas and Louisiana to remove the CFH from their plans, a move that segregates the recreational fishery.

“The initial inclusion of the CFH sector in the EFP confirmed that TPWD does not play favorites within the recreational fishing community, and they clearly wanted to provide all anglers equal opportunity to participate in this fishery,” said Robby Byers, Executive

*One way to gather data for such a “pilot program” is the use of an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP)... Charter For-Hire (CFH) vessels were not included in the final version of the EFP, therefore recreational anglers fishing on a charter trip will only have a 51-day season in federal waters.*

Director of CCA Texas. “We believe that TPWD has the ability to provide greater access to this fishery to both private recreational anglers and the anglers who use charter boats, so we are disappointed that NMFS forced TPWD to

remove the CFH from the EFP.”

“While we respectfully disagree with that decision (to remove the CFH), we are confident that Texas can successfully manage the red snapper fishery to the benefit of anglers and the resource. As such, this is a positive step forward in our larger discussions with NMFS and the Gulf States about state-based management of the red snapper fishery,” said Carter Smith, Executive Director of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

“Historically, charter boats have been included by NMFS in its allocation for recreational anglers. As a result, I believe it was unreasonable for NMFS to refuse to include the for-hire sector under the Exempted Fishing Permit offered to Texas,” said Ralph H. Duggins, Chairman of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission. “I have advised senior representatives at NMFS that I will vigorously oppose any future efforts to privatize the charter sector through the use of individual fishing quotas. To do so would undermine the fundamental linchpin of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation – that fish and wildlife are public resources.”

**T**he EFP is an excellent opportunity for TPWD to demonstrate they have the ability to effectively manage the recreational red snapper fishery by using current data collection methods such as the Texas Marine Sport Harvest

Cover photograph courtesy of Adrian Gray. The red snapper is being returned to the depths with a descending device, providing safe catch and release.

Monitoring Program (TMSHMP), and incorporating new self-reporting tools such as iSnapper. Under this EFP they can utilize these tools to make management decisions to stay within the quota by closing the 2018 season when the quota is met, and they have the flexibility to propose red snapper season dates that are generally more suitable for offshore navigation and/or in conjunction with historical high-use dates. If the assigned quota for 2018 is exceeded, TPWD can make necessary adjustments in red snapper regulations in 2019 to account for the overage.

"The EFPs are a start to figuring out how to bring sanity back to the red snapper fishery," stated Troy Williamson, Chairman of the CCA Texas Governmental Affairs Committee. "If utilized properly, they should serve as a model for the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council in the development of the more comprehensive state management amendments that will hopefully give states permanent authority over all aspects of the fishery off their coasts." 🐟



*Happy Lauren with a fine red snapper.*



*Future fisheries biologist Hunter Stunz catches a nice red snapper.*

## How Can You Help?

All recreational anglers can engage in the EFP by participating in dock-side TMSHMP creel surveys, utilizing the iSnapper app to report snapper landings, and practicing safe catch and release with descending devices.

### TMSHMP Creel Surveys

You can help TPWD estimate sport fisheries abundance and harvest pressure simply by answering a few questions when approached by TPWD staff at your local marina or boat ramp. Creel surveys are conducted throughout the year from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm at specified boat-access sites along the entire Texas coast. In attempts to increase and refine the data collection efforts from offshore anglers, TPWD has increased the samplings at Gulf launch sites by 300 percent. A typical creel survey includes questions relating to the fishing trip and counts/measurements of the catch as quickly as is practical. In addition, one randomly selected angler from each fishing party will be asked about the species of fish sought and the level of satisfaction with the trip.

### iSnapper: Good data in, good data out

With more accurate data, buffers that are incorporated into the recreational catch projections could be reduced, ultimately providing a greater amount of fish to be harvested over a longer season. The iSnapper mobile app is a user-friendly tool available to anyone with a smart phone. CCA Texas encourages all recreational anglers to download the app and use it to help improve red snapper management by providing scientists with the best data available. With the app you can log catches and trips, save favorite fishing photos, get a local weather report, generate trip statistics and share updates on social media. TPWD will use the data from iSnapper in conjunction with their established fisheries data collection methods to estimate harvest rates and, if necessary, when to close the recreational season and avoid going over the quota.



### Barotrauma and Descending Devices

Barotrauma can occur at relatively shallow depths and most fish brought to the surface from any depth greater than 90 feet will exhibit symptoms such as expanded abdomen, bulging eyes and the stomach protruding from the mouth. As fish are reeled to the surface, gases in the swim bladder expand because the pressure decreases. The gas expansion also increases buoyancy, which can make the fish an easy target for predators. Catch and release mortality of red snapper is highly dependent upon the depth which the fish was landed and how the fish is returned to the water. A simple and effective method to decrease mortality involves the use of a descender device, which will rapidly descend the fish back to a prescribed depth on a weighted line to recompress the swim bladder, alleviate barotrauma symptoms without having to vent the fish and minimize predator interactions at the water surface. The device can be a weighted hook, lip clamp or box that will hold the fish while it is lowered to depth. It will either release the fish automatically, release the fish by actions of the operator of the device or will allow the fish to escape on its own. Since minimizing surface time is critical to increasing survival, descending devices should be rigged and ready for use while fishing is occurring. One of the more popular devices on the market is called the SeaQualizer, which can be purchased online

(<http://seaqualizer.com/>) for approximately \$60. Descending devices are an excellent conservation tool that are scientifically proven to minimize discard mortality, which can ultimately result in increased allocations (longer seasons) for recreational anglers.



*Stephen Hale, TPWD Coastal Fisheries Biologist, conducting routine longline sampling for red snapper.*



# Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow

## BUILDING A FUTURE FOR TEXAS MARINE HABITAT

### CCA Texas Commitment to Nearshore Reefing Surpasses \$1.5 Million

By John Blaha

CCA Texas and Building Conservation Trust (BCT) recently approved CCA Texas' 2018 Habitat Plan, and with that approval, CCA Texas and BCT have now committed over \$1.5 million to nearshore reefing along the Texas coast.

This commitment is cemented by continued active fundraising to raise the necessary dollars for the deployment of more materials into current and future permitted sites along the Texas coast.

CCA Texas and CCA's national habitat program, BCT, are, and have been, active partners in nine nearshore projects along the Texas coast in the last eight years. These projects include: Sabine HI20 Reef; Galveston Big Man's Reef; Galveston Kate's Reef; Freeport Vancouver Reef; Matagorda Reef; Port O'Connor "Keeping It Wild" Reef; Corpus Christi/Packery Channel Reef; Port Mansfield Reef; and Rio Grande Valley Reef.

Freeport's Vancouver nearshore site was the first site CCA Texas was involved in. CCA Texas contributed \$50,000 to the project and secured over 100 concrete culverts and catch basins of different sizes through donations from Old Castle Precast in Houston. In addition, 24 granite and limestone blocks ranging in weight from 2 to 16 tons were deployed as well. Since

the material deployments by CCA Texas in August of 2010, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) has deployed an additional 800 pyramids. In the 2018 planning meeting, CCA Texas and BCT recently funded an additional \$10,000 to the nearshore reefing area. These dollars will be used to deploy between 40 and 50 reefing pyramids that have been donated by Atlantis Marine Habitats. This work was completed in May 2018.

As CCA Texas' Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow (HTFT) habitat initiative began to grow, one of the HTFT committee's goals was to see a permitted nearshore reefing site out of every Texas port. Some sites were already permitted by TPWD, and others were still to come. CCA Texas approached TPWD about permitting an area out of Port O'Connor and committed the funds to pay for the permitting process. As the permit process was progressing, Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation's (TPWF's) Keeping it Wild Campaign for Texas picked the Port O'Connor nearshore site as one of its project areas. Through the efforts of the TPWF, CCA Texas and BCT, \$1 million was raised to deploy 500 reefing pyramids into the site in early 2017. In addition, Shell Oil Company contributed the funds to deploy an additional 100 reefing pyramids within the site. Overall, CCA Texas and BCT have contributed \$700,000 to the Port O'Connor Reefing Site.

The Corpus Christi/Packery Channel nearshore site began receiving materials in the spring of 2013, and over 100 culverts and catch basins, plus 470 reefing pyramids, were deployed. In October 2015, the 155-foot freighter Kinta was sunk within the site, providing more

diverse marine life habitat and recreational diving and fishing opportunities. This project exhibits the power of community support and partnerships through the efforts of TPWD, Salt-water Enhancement Association and CCA Texas.

The Lower Texas coast nearshore waters have benefited from the efforts of TPWD, CCA Texas, BCT, Friends of RGV Reef (FRGVR) and others with multiple deployments in the Port Mansfield and Rio Grande Valley Reef out of South Padre Island. CCA Texas and TPWD teamed up to deploy over 4,000 culverts into the Port Mansfield site. These culverts, donated by Alamo Concrete, provided immediate and close fishing opportunities for recreational anglers out of Port Mansfield and continue to provide angling opportunities. The Rio Grande Valley site grew from a dream of local recreational anglers Bob and Gary Glick to a 1,650-acre permitted reefing site. This is the largest site ever permitted in the state of Texas, and FRGVR is setting the bar high in effort and the amount of materials that have been deployed. To date, 50-plus reefing pyramids, over 87,000 cinder blocks, low relief concrete rubble, a tug boat and shrimp boat have been deployed into this reefing site. 7,000 tons of concrete railroad ties will be deployed, creating a complex pile of habitat for marine species of all types. CCA Texas and BCT have now contributed \$405,000 to this reefing site. FRGVR has laid the foundation of future nearshore reef habitat for the entire Texas coast by implementing varied forms of small, medium and high relief materials that ultimately create a life-cycle reef for all age classes of fish.

The Upper Texas Coast nearshore waters will begin seeing the benefits of the TPWD Nearshore Reefing Program in 2018. CCA Texas and BCT have committed \$200,000 to the Sabine HI20 nearshore site and \$250,000 to the Galveston Big Man's Reef and Kate's Reef sites. Efforts are under way to deploy 200 granite and limestone blocks, as well as one barge into the Sabine HI20 site in spring of 2018. Several thousand tons of concrete railroad ties will be deployed into the Big Man's Reef and Kate's Reef sites in the summer of 2018. BCT recently met with industry leaders in the Golden Triangle area to garner further support for local nearshore reefing projects. Partnerships are critical to make these habitat projects a reality, and CCA Texas and BCT are leading the way to provide recreational angling opportunities along the entire Texas coast.

For more information about CCA Texas' and BCT's habitat efforts along the Texas coast, please contact John Blaha, CCA Texas Director of Habitat, at [jdblaha@ccatexas.org](mailto:jdblaha@ccatexas.org) or Sean Stone, Building Conservation Trust Executive Director, at [sstone@buildingconservation.org](mailto:sstone@buildingconservation.org). Both may also be reached at (713) 626-4222.





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# iSnapper

## Your Catch Counts!



**1** Login to iSnapper



**2** Start a Trip



**3** Enter a Catch



iSnapper is free and available for download on the following smartphone platforms:




[iSnapper.org](http://iSnapper.org)

## Mark Ray named Harvey Weil Sportsman Conservationist

The Rotary Club of Corpus Christi has chosen longtime marine conservationist Mark Ray of Corpus Christi, as the Harvey Weil Sportsman Conservationist of the Year.

This year's Professional Conservationist Award goes to Carter Smith, Executive Director of the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department.

Rotarians also selected renowned Texas photographer Wyman Meinzer to receive the 2018 Harvey Weil Living Legend Award.

The annual event ultimately honors the life and legacy of the late

Harvey Weil, a longtime South Texas sportsman, maritime attorney, pioneer conservationist and Rotarian, who dedicated his life to the preservation of nature and sportsmanship.

Perhaps Mark Ray's greatest contribution is his service to the largest non-profit marine conservation group of its kind, Coastal Conservation Association

Texas, with a membership numbering more than 70,000.

Ray has served as Chairman of the Board of CCA Texas for 11 years and continues to hold that post. Under his volunteer leadership, CCA Texas has advocated initiatives that include the creation and enhancement of marine habitats, while championing greater angler access to marine fisheries.

Ray fought for the opening of Packery Channel and raising of the JFK Causeway. He helped secure funding for the CCA Texas Laboratory for Marine Larviculture at the University of Texas Marine Science Institute in Port Aransas, and for the opening of Cedar Bayou and Vinson Slough. Most recently, Ray testified before Congress on behalf of recreational anglers concerning red snapper regulations.

This native Texan and graduate of King High School has been married to his wife, Robin, for 28 years. He enjoys fishing, bird hunting and bow hunting. — **David Sikes**  
*Outdoors Columnist, Corpus Christi Caller-Times*



*Mark Ray presides over the opening of Cedar Bayou.*



# CCA Texas Social Happenings

With the warmer weather here, and between all the banquet-hopping, we hope everyone is taking more time out on the water with their loved ones and kids! Be sure to follow us on social media, listen to our podcast "Coastal Advocacy Adventures," and visit [youtube.com/CCATexasProjects](https://youtube.com/CCATexasProjects) to view our habitat video page, which shows videos of our projects done in partnership with the Building Conservation Trust (CCA's National Habitat Program) and several other great organizations.

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, Instagram and YouTube to get the latest updates from CCA Texas and become a part of the conversation! Want to submit a photo of a great catch or fun times at a CCA Texas event to be featured on one of our social media platforms? Email it to [kphilippi@ccatexas.org](mailto:kphilippi@ccatexas.org) for consideration!

## Facebook:

Check out episode 25 of our podcast, which features our great partners, Building Conservation Trust and Bay Flats Lodge!  
(Photo: Lisa Laskowski)



## Twitter:

@CCA\_Texas: Tune in TONIGHT April 19 at 10:30 pm to @TIFRTV on @FOXSportsSW for the latest Texas fishing tips!

#ccatexas #joincca #conservation @ofishalinsider @CCABCT @STARtournament

## Instagram:

@karbachbrewing: This Summer tasty comes in waves! Tasty Waves is brewed with a pinch of sea salt and the perfect kiss of passion fruit for the ultimate summer quencher! Best of all, a portion of the proceeds goes to @cca\_texas!



**Facebook:** [facebook.com/CCATexas](https://facebook.com/CCATexas)

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/CCA\\_Texas](https://twitter.com/CCA_Texas)

**Instagram:** [instagram.com/cca\\_texas](https://instagram.com/cca_texas)

**YouTube:** [youtube.com/CCATexasProjects](https://youtube.com/CCATexasProjects)

**CCA Texas Podcasts:** [ccatexas.org/podcasts](https://ccatexas.org/podcasts)



# 7th Annual Concert for Conservation

Saturday, May 19 / Sam Houston Race Park



*Some 3,500 of your closest friends enjoyed a great musical evening. Molly Hatchet led off the evening with a rousing set. Eddie Money took over at sunset, and Hank Williams Jr. kept the crowd at ear-splitting fervor until the evening ended with standing applause. Many new members who signed up won fabulous prizes.*



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### FEATURES

- FEATURING THE CCA LOGO
- NEOPRENE UPPER LINING
- HYDROPHOBIC UPPER MATERIALS
- EVA FOOTBED
- SIPED OUTSOLE FOR MAXIMUM SLIP RESISTANCE



## Upper Coast

By Capt. George Knighten  
*The heat is on*

Other than the heat, June and July are welcome months. The dreaded winds of May finally lay, and we get a consistent, nice weather pattern for good fishing. The heat is the thing to consider. Many fish will head to the middle parts of the bay and deeper water. The better spots will be the mid-bay reefs of East Bay and the areas around the Houston Ship Channel. Ancient shell reefs and the new artificial reefs will be the main producers—check recent charts.

The gas wells in deeper water also provide great structure and are consistent producers. The down side to the wells and structure there is that you can lose a lot of tackle and possibly your anchor. Also, many of the gas pipe lines have been pulled up just below or barely above the surface, so go slow and carefully in the areas around the gas wells.

The bait of choice in the summer months is live and lively. Shrimp works fine, but you will have to put up with piggies, hardheads and other so called "trash fish."

Wading and throwing artificial baits will work, but for the most part it will be an early morning bite. I will usually start with top waters, and after the sun gets up a way, switch to a Bass Assassin or similar type of soft bait. As always, look for bait activity and if you have some type of structure nearby like shell or the mouth of a bayou, it's a bonus. Once it heats up, most fish will pull off the shorelines.

Heat not only affects the fish. Don't forget to use sunscreen and drink plenty of water. Heat stroke is always a danger this time of year, as well as sunburn.

The kids are out of school and vacations are on, so it's a great time of year. Many days it's an easy limit and great fun for all, but remember to only keep the fish that you can eat and not leave them in the freezer to burn. If we want our kids and grandkids to enjoy what we have, we have to practice conservation.

Enjoy your summer. I hope you have tight lines and good times. —**Capt. George Knighten**  
832-310-9146 [galvestonbayguideservice.net](mailto:galvestonbayguideservice.net)

## Middle Coast

By Capt. Danny Goyen  
*Start early, throw topwaters*

June/July fishing should continue to be over-the-top as water temps begin to rise in and around the Rockport area. Solid trout (18"-22") and redfish will be tight against the bank on the grass and sand and in front of numerous drains before the sun pulls the shadow away from the shorelines. San Antonio, Ayers, Mesquite, Carlos and St. Charles Bays are some of the least crowded, even in the summertime.

We will be heading to a selected shoreline way before daylight, throwing a variety of top water baits, depending on water clarity. I like to use a smaller top water bait, especially at first light. In clear water, we will be throwing the solid black Super Spook Jr. or the small blue-back chrome She-pup by MirrOlure. If the water is off-color, we will be throwing the bone-colored Super Spook Jr., or the bone/ chartreuse She-pup. These will still be my go-to baits until the first hour after sunrise. Remember that the biggest trout and redfish will get in extremely shallow water. I then encourage you to travel to the numerous shell reefs in the bays that were mentioned earlier. Of course, do not leave the shorelines if the fish are still biting.

By mid-morning, it's time to change baits and wade to the part of the reef that meets the mud, grass or sand. Many of my returning clients kid me about always telling them to fish "the edge of the ledge." This is definitely the ambush or strike zone if you can wade to this area without going under. My go-to baits will be the plum, root beer and Houdini Saltwater Assassins, with 1/4" of the tail dipped in white paint. They do not come this way, so you will have to do it yourself. I can't tell you how effective this is. You have to try it. Keep your crew safe, and send the big girls back for further duty. Good fishing — **Captain Danny Goyen**  
361-564-7471 [goyenfishing@yahoo.com](mailto:goyenfishing@yahoo.com)

## Lower Coast

By Capt. Bill Sheka  
*Hello, Birds*

It's all about the birds, as well as the water settling from the huge March winds. In late April, we had fairly high tides, pulling water through the fabled Land Cut and filling up Nine Mile Hole. As of mid-May, the heavy grass has a large supply of brown shrimp, and the birds have been working on them since late April. That means use your trolling motor to sneak up on them, and then power pole down—when you have shallow conditions.

We've had the best bird action in years so plan accordingly. Early on, I recommend starting with Alameda Rattlers, or popping corks after you locate the birds, because the birds know where the bait fish are being whacked by game fish. It's chow time for the specks and reds, and catching time for the fishermen and fisherwomen. And of course, the young folks you're taking with you.

Throughout June and into July on the lower coast, you will be after redfish and trout, but for great action—as well as fine table fare—do not count out four to eight-pound black drum, and big flounder as well.

You will be well advised to attach Berkley GULP! to quicken the action. When you see shrimp popping across the water and the action begins, count your fish onboard as the action is going to be fast, and you don't want to exceed your limits. You can invest some time chunking topwaters, if only for the excitement of that rare heart-thumping explosion.

It would be wise to bring binoculars, so you can cover large vistas without burning gas and time. Of course, you will have your crew's safety first in mind, with an eye out for fellow fishers who might need some help. Blessings, tightlines, and leave some for tomorrow—**Capt. Bill Sheka**  
361-991-7191 [billsheka@msn.com](mailto:billsheka@msn.com) Ed. Note: **Capt. Bill** was recently named as the **Saltwater Legends Hall of Fame Inaugural Honoree**.

*Clouser at Dusk: Dave Shelpuk of Denver Colorado traveled to West Matagorda Bay in search of his first redfish on a fly. He released two. Photo, Sam Caldwell*







## 29th Annual CCA State of Texas Anglers' Rodeo is out of the chutes

The unofficial start of summer marked the official start of this year's CCA Texas STAR tournament. If you're not taking every chance you can to get out and wet a line, then you're missing out on the finer things in life. Not only do you get some much-needed saltwater therapy with family and friends, but that next fish can turn into a college education or a new driveway-size prize.

Just take it from 1999 STARKids flounder scholarship winner Corey Mock:

*When I was 8, my father, Captain Skipper Mock, and some family members were out fishing for the 4th of July. I was registered for the 1999 STAR CCA Tournament, and constantly out on the boat hoping to land a winning fish.*

*I climbed up on the front tower of my father's 18' Shallowsport and started making casts into potholes using a salt and pepper bull minnow. On my fifth cast, I felt a tug and set the hook thinking it was a trout. As I brought the fish closer to the boat, we realized it was a flounder. Quick on the draw, Dad netted the fish and flipped it into the boat, yelling in excitement. I didn't understand at the time quite how big it was, but Dad kept telling our family members on the boat that this could be a \$50,000 catch.*

*On the way back to the dock, we made a quick stop at Jim's Pier, the CCA weigh station at the time. The scale read four pounds even and was enough to put me in first place. The fish held the lead for the remainder of the summer, and I was awarded the \$50,000 CCA scholarship.*

Ten years later, I graduated from Los Fresnos High School and finally realized how big it was to win such a tournament. To have one fish pay my entire way through college was unreal. I enrolled at Texas A&M College Station, where I graduated in 2014 with a Bachelor's degree in Wildlife & Fisheries Sciences. Through this scholarship, I could pursue a career in a field I love. I've been working in the Oil Spill Prevention & Response Division for the Texas General Land Office in Brownsville, Texas for about four years. I love being able to give back to our coastal waters by helping to prevent and respond to oil spills while educating others on the potential threats posed to our waters. I'm truly blessed to achieve such an accomplishment with the CCA STAR Tournament.

Who wouldn't want to help a kid catch the fish that changes their life?



2018 Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" XLT SuperCab with Haynie 23 Bigfoot, the Redfish Division prize

Remember, to be eligible to WIN one of \$1,000,000 in prizes being offered in Texas' largest, richest, summer-long fishing event, you must be a CURRENT member of CCA, in addition to being registered in the 2018 STAR Tournament. A CCA membership is \$35 annually, and the 2018 STAR tournament fee is \$25, for a total of only \$60. Remember though, YOUNG ANGLERS FISH STAR FOR FREE. Anglers between the ages of 6-17 can register for STAR for free with a \$10 CCA "Youth" annual membership. We want to help get all young people out on the water,



Corey Mock with his \$50,000 flounder in 1999, and below, on patrol for the Texas General Land Office.



and we wouldn't be able to offer our CCA "Youth" members the chance to win one of a \$1,000,000 in prizes for FREE if it wasn't for our great sponsors. To be eligible to fish STAR for free, "Youth" members MUST BE at least 6 years of age in 2018 and under age 18. It is the "Youth" responsibility to make sure their CCA membership is current and that they are registered for the current year STAR tournament.

**As you make your plans** to head off to stock up on gear and register for STAR (if you haven't already), be on the lookout for a very special bonus from our great sponsor Academy Sports + Outdoors, where you can find any gear you might need and register in person in one quick stop.



**CCA TEXAS MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS-** On top of helping to make this event what it is, our amazing sponsors continue to add value to your CCA Texas Membership. Remember to take advantage of the following benefits our sponsors provide you with your CCA membership!

**Whataburger-** CCA Texas members yet again get to enjoy coupons courtesy of Whataburger in this issue of CURRENTS. What could possibly be better after a long day on the water?



**Ford X-Plan Pricing-** CCA Texas members will again have the great honor from Texas Ford Dealers of using X-Plan pricing. For just a \$35 membership any CCA member can purchase (or lease) a Ford vehicle at Ford employee pricing! Depending on your chosen vehicle, this could save you \$100s or \$1,000s! Our Ford Partner Code # is CCA61; go to [www.fordpartner.com](http://www.fordpartner.com), if you are considering a purchase.



BEST IN TEXAS

**SPECIAL BONUS FROM ACADEMY SPORTS + OUTDOORS-** Just one of many great reasons to register for STAR is that Academy Sports + Outdoors will be mailing a \$10 off any purchase coupon just in time for fall!



**TEXAS FISH & GAME MAGAZINE "BONUS ONLINE SUBSCRIPTION!"** - Not many people can say no to free stuff and "Texas Fish & Game Magazine" is again offering a FREE one-year (12 issues) online subscription to all 2018 CCA Texas STAR participants. This subscription gives you access to the latest and most in-depth outdoors information anywhere. Whether you are lying in bed or sitting in the office, you will always have access. Include your email address on your registration form to receive your free subscription! You can still receive a print version, along with online access, for only \$8 a year (vs. \$17.99). Be on the lookout in your email or mailbox for details on how to activate this offer! If you have any questions regarding your past or current subscriptions, please call (800) 725-1134 or email [subscriptions@fishgame.com](mailto:subscriptions@fishgame.com).



**TILSON HOMES \$1,000 in FREE UPGRADES!** Every CCA Texas member who purchases a Tilson Home is eligible for \$1,000 in free upgrades such as ceramic tile, hardwood floors, cabinets and more. See their ad in the CCA Texas Currents newsletter for more details or call 1 (888) 540-6705.



**Evinrude-** Keep your eyes peeled at [www.startournament.org](http://www.startournament.org) or our social media pages for a great offer from Evinrude, exclusively for CCA members!



**Mustang CAT-** Open an account with the Mustang Cat Rental Store between May 1 - September 30, 2018, and receive an incredible special-edition STAR Tournament Cat® cooler. Just mention this offer and provide a copy of your CCA member card. Remember—NO PURCHASE REQUIRED for this rugged custom 27-quart cooler and CCA members need only to fill out the application. However, if you use the CAT Rental service a credit check may be required. Thanks, Mustang, for extending this cool member benefit!



**2018 Prize Line-Up-** Our goal has always been to keep STAR fees as reasonable as possible. We would not be able to do this without our great sponsors! In 2002, we were able to begin offering youth (ages 6-17) the opportunity to fish the tournament for FREE! This year marks 29 years we have been bless-





ed to offer members of all ages amazing prize packages and college scholarships. This tournament will be no different, as we will be offering another spectacular prize line-up! This includes over 100 prizes - trucks, boats, motors, trailers, and \$325,000 in college scholarships in the following categories:

**Texas Ford Dealers Redfish Division-** Texas Ford Dealers continue to make this division the "Best in Texas." The first five registered STAR participants who catch a tagged redfish will receive a tough 2018 Ford F-150 Texas Edition truck to tow their awesome Haynie 23 Bigfoot, rigged with a 150 hp Mercury ProXS OptiMax sitting on a Coastline trailer. The next five anglers will receive the same boat, motor, and trailer package. Registered young anglers not of legal driving age who land a STAR tagged redfish, will receive the boat package plus a \$25,000 college scholarship, in lieu of the truck.



**Trout Division-** Again this year, upper, middle, and lower coast region winners will each drive home with an awesome Mowdy 22' V boat, 150 HP Evinrude E-TEC G2 and Coastline trailer (Eight-pound minimum weight, please release all fish under 28").



**Offshore Division-** Hoffpauir Polaris is back again providing anglers who land the heaviest kingfish, dorado, and ling an awesome Polaris Ranger Crew 570 EPS UV in Polaris Pursuit Camo on top of a Big Tex 35 trailer to cruise around in when you're back onshore!



## CCA Texas STAR Platinum Print Membership Package, Series VIII

We're pleased to announce the new print being offered in the 2018 CCA Texas STAR Platinum package is *Until We Meet Again* by renowned Texas artist Sam Caldwell. We hope you love this print as much as we do! Your CCA Texas Platinum package includes your CCA membership (new or renewal), your 2018 CCA Texas STAR entry, plus one signed, limited-edition print created exclusively for STAR, all for only \$125! This one-of-a-kind-print is worth this price alone. If you are considering one, or several, of these limited-edition packages, go to: [www.startournament.org](http://www.startournament.org) for more details or to place your order with the STAR Dept. call (713) 626-4222.



*The Inshore Division prize, a Shoalwater 19' Cat boat with a 115 HP motor, all on top of a McClain trailer.*

**Inshore Division-** The registered angler who turns in the heaviest flounder, gafftop and sheepshead will get to drive off into the sunset pulling a new Shoalwater 19' Cat boat with a 115 HP motor, all on top of a McClain trailer.

### StarKid Division (ages 6-10, \$150,000 Total):

Flounder Division- \$50,000 scholarship for heaviest flounder!

Gafftop Division- \$50,000 scholarship for heaviest gafftop!

Sheepshead Division- \$50,000 scholarship for heaviest sheepshead!



### StarTeen Divisions (ages 11-17, \$175,000 Total):

Academy Sports + Outdoors Trout Division- \$25,000 scholarship for heaviest trout in upper, middle, and lower coast divisions! (Minimum weight requirement of six pounds for entry)

Inshore Division- Gafftop, flounder, and sheepshead- Anglers with heaviest fish in each category will receive a \$25,000 college scholarship!

*In 2018, STAR will have reached \$6,500,000 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!*



### \*\*NEW\*\* CCA Texas Guides Division

It is the hope of Texas STAR and CCA Texas to be able to reward Texas fishing guides who support marine conservation and empower them to help recruit more anglers into the CCA mission through this new division. The winner of this division will take home a 26' Mowdy CAT with a 225 hp Mercury ProXS and custom Coastline trailer. See [www.startournament.org](http://www.startournament.org) for more details and eligibility requirements!

### THE PRIZES DON'T END THERE!

First through fourth runners-up in all divisions will receive various gift cards from our longtime partner ACADEMY SPORTS + OUTDOORS.

**Youth Member Drawing-** All youth STAR participants (age 6-17) are eligible for a bonus drawing for a \$25,000 college scholarship, even without wetting a line!

**Member Bonus Drawing-** One lucky STAR entrant will also take home a brand new Dargel 210 Skout, 150 HP Evinrude E-TEC G2 motor, and McClain trailer simply for registering!

Thanks for supporting  
CCA Texas and the  
STAR Tournament!  
For more information, go to  
[www.startournament.org](http://www.startournament.org).

PLEASE SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT OUR CONSERVATION EFFORTS





# Caught Redhanded!



Reports from TP&W Game Wardens

## New Oyster Laws Gain Compliance

The enforcement of the oyster regulations continue to be a priority for the upper coast. During the season (November - April), District 4, Galveston and Chambers County Game Wardens have made several under-size oyster cases and a few harvesting oysters from closed area cases.

Overall, with the implementation of new laws, game wardens have found a high rate of compliance from the Industry. Cases are pending. — **Edward E. Tanuz**  
Major Game Warden Region 4, Law Enforcement Texas Parks & Wildlife Department



Photos of oyster enforcement in Galveston Bay.

Texas Game Wardens, Serving Texans since 1895



Law Enforcement Off the Pavement

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This is the issue of June/July 2018  
Vol. 36, Issue 4

# Chapter Updates

## Alvin-Pearland Rex Richards

[alvinpearlandcca@yahoo.com](mailto:alvinpearlandcca@yahoo.com)

**The 2018 Alvin/Pearland Chapter Annual Banquet is right around the corner! It will be held Thursday, June 21 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Pearland.** We will be serving a delicious steak dinner by Joe's BBQ; having a "Sportsman's Raffle" that will include guns, Engel Coolers and 13 fishing reels; and hosting live and silent auctions, as well as numerous raffles. This is an event you won't want to miss. Reserve your spot now!

Special thanks go out to our long-time supporters and Title Sponsors, Commonwealth Financial and Sunbelt Valve, for stepping up again this year!

Banquet tickets are \$60 per person, \$100 per couple and \$15 for kids. Reserved/Sponsor Tables start at \$550 for eight Guests. All adult tickets include a CCA Membership. Sportsman's Raffle tickets are \$20 each, or 6 for \$100. If you would like to purchase banquet tickets, reserve a table for your group/company or make a donation to our event, please contact Erich Schneider at (713) 626-4222, or email us at [AlvinPearlandCCA@yahoo.com](mailto:AlvinPearlandCCA@yahoo.com).

Our chapter has been enjoying some great camaraderie and information at our "Anglers Night Out" events! Thanks go out to Scott Ray of "Super-tunes by Scott Ray", and to Capt. Steve Hillman from "Hillman's Guide Service" for speaking at our May and June Meetings. We will be taking a break in July, but we will have additional "Anglers Night Out" events on the first Tuesday of the month: August 7, September 4, October 2 and November 6. Mark your calendars now, and plan to attend! – Rex Richards

The best way to stay up-to-date with our latest chapter events is to follow us on Facebook, or go to our chapter webpage at [ccatexas.org/alvin-pearland](http://ccatexas.org/alvin-pearland). We look forward to seeing you at one of our events! Don't forget to bring a friend, or even better, a kid!

## Aransas Bay Bud Kittle 210-279-7309 [ernestkittle@gmail.com](mailto:ernestkittle@gmail.com)

**The 19th Annual Aransas Bay Chapter Banquet will be held August 4, 2018 at Camp Aranzazu, 5420 FM1781, Rockport, Texas!** Come join us for a fun-filled evening consisting of: a live auction including trips, sculptures, art, etc.; a raffle; door prizes; and a silent auction. The Title Sponsor for the banquet is Salem's Ace Hardware, Rockport. You may purchase tickets by contacting Carrie Cox at (432) 230-9060 or by going online at [www.ccatexas.org/aransas-bay](http://www.ccatexas.org/aransas-bay) and scrolling to the Banquet row. For any questions concerning sponsor opportunities, donations or any other matters,

contact Bud Kittle at (210) 279-7309.

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

**Babes on the Bay XIX** is now history, and the Aransas Bay Chapter would like to express our thanks to all the entrants for their participation. The support for the tournament, post-Harvey, has been overwhelming. **A big thank you goes to all the vendors, volunteer TP&W Retired Game Wardens who conducted the weigh-in and the dedicated chapter volunteers for their support.** A special thanks goes to Jen Thomasson, our new tournament director, for her dedication and commitment to keeping Babes on the Bay the world's best all-women's fishing tournament. A donation on behalf of CCA Babes on The Bay, Aransas Bay Chapter, will be made to "Go For Fish, Not Drugs" kids fish event sponsored by the TP&W Game Wardens. We hope that all of you had a great time and that you will join us again next year! Catch 'em up – Bud Kittle

## Austin

Josh Cook 512-656-2964  
[josh@cookrealestatetexas.com](mailto:josh@cookrealestatetexas.com)

As I write this, we are less than two weeks from the **39th Annual Austin Chapter Banquet**, and I am optimistic we will set records again this year. I am continually amazed at the dedication of our volunteer board in preparation for this event. Specifically, I would like to thank officers: **Barron Johnson, Banquet Chairman; Jason Magdalena, Assistant Banquet Chairman; John Kane, Assistant Banquet Chairman; Scott Sanderson, Live Auction Chairman; Dan Appling, Membership Chairman; Steven Benton, Treasurer; PJ Todd, Community Relations Chairwoman; and Dennis Blain, Secretary** for their tireless efforts throughout the year in preparing for our banquet. I would also like to thank **Blake Masters for his continued outstanding job as Boat Wrangler; Mike Frisch for managing the Silent Auction again this year; Grant Kinchen for handling all things Merchandise and Raffle; Jeff Beck for his continual help with logistics; Jeff Kyriash and Paul Cox as masters of all things 4X4; Marvin Dworczyk for all things Salesforce, and Cheryl Smith for her ongoing amazing job at procuring donations and ticket sales.** **Maureen Appling**, you are without question the master of all things food and we couldn't do it without you. An enormous thank you also to **Covert Chevrolet** for their continued support that allows us to hold this flagship event every year.

Next up on the calendar for Austin is **Angler's Night Out at Abel's on the Lake on July 18, 2018.** Like the banquet, ANO is a blast, where 100 or so of us gather for fun, festivities and a free meal, compliments of **Smokey Denmark's**. A big thank you to **Dan Appling** for his ongoing lead role in managing Angler's Night Out! We always have a guest speaker, and you don't have to be a member to come. SO, BRING A FRIEND AND ASK THEM TO JOIN CCA! We have awesome raffles with all kinds of great prizes. See you there!

Be sure to "Like" Coastal Conservation Association Austin Chapter on Facebook to keep up with everything our outstanding 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! – Josh Cook

## Bay Area

Curtis Anderson 832-435-0257  
[cla1965@att.net](mailto:cla1965@att.net)

## Brazoria County

Dan Johnson 979-481-3907  
[djohnson@sparklingclear.com](mailto:djohnson@sparklingclear.com)

We held the **36th Annual Brazoria County Chapter Banquet in April**, and we had an amazing turnout! The chapter grossed over \$145,000 for the organization! **We would like to extend a HUGE thank you to our Title Sponsor, TNT Crane.** We would also like to thank our **Texas Slam Sponsors** this year: **Sparkling Clear Industries, Olin Corporation, Gulf Coast Sleep Center, Slickwater Tackle, Foster Fence and Freeport LNG.** A record number of attendees were at the banquet to enjoy an evening with great food from **Talk About Good** and a great lineup of live auction items and raffle packages. We already have our date set for 2019: **Mark your calendars for Friday, April 5, 2019!**

If you are interested in becoming involved in the chapter, please reach out to me or **Drew Adams** at [dadams@ccatexas.org](mailto:dadams@ccatexas.org). We would love to have you as part of our chapter!

## Brazos Valley

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

**The 26th Annual Brazos Valley Chapter Banquet was held on March 2, 2018 at the Brazos Center.** We had another record attendance and fundraising event! It started with a "Texas Size" pork chop meal with all the trimmings catered by **C & J BBQ.** The beverages were set up by **Jack Hilliard Distributing Company** and served by **Luke's Bartending.** The back wall of the event center was lined with raffle items, and the surrounding tables had games which kept our guests busy until the auction started. **We would like to give a big "Thank You" to our Assistant Director Drew Adams** for putting together the outstanding live auction items. **The last "Thank You" goes to the great group of Brazos Valley people and our banquet committee who have made a great 26 years.**

On April 11, 2018 we lost a good friend and major asset to our chapter when **Larry Purifoy** passed away of a sudden heart attack. He was a past president of our chapter and always in the middle of what we had going on. He will be greatly missed.

**The CCA Texas STAR Tournament is starting up and the Inter Chapter Challenge will be in June**, so I hope all the chapters can make plans to attend. It's always a great time. If you would like to be added to the chapter email list, send a request to [sig@suddenlink.net](mailto:sig@suddenlink.net). Also, put on the calendar that we meet at the **Brazos Center Pavilion on the second Monday of each month.** Bring a friend to enjoy food, beverages, raffle and fish stories. We hope to see you there!

## Brenham

Brandon Marth 979-277-0151  
[brenhamironworks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:brenhamironworks@sbcglobal.net)

## Brush Country

Brenda Ballard 361-296-4037  
[brendagballard@hotmail.com](mailto:brendagballard@hotmail.com)

## Centex

Wayne Webb 254-405-1300  
[sheyhunt@aol.com](mailto:sheyhunt@aol.com)

## Central Houston

Todd Buster 713-545-1897

[tbuster@busterandcogdellbuilders.com](mailto:tbuster@busterandcogdellbuilders.com)

**The 42nd Annual Central Houston Chapter Banquet was held on Thursday, April 26, 2018.** Congratulations to **Jay Cliburn** for winning the **Polaris Ranger 900.** We would also like to extend a big "Thank You" to all our sponsors and those who bought tables. The food has always been a big draw for the Central Houston Banquet, and this year we decided to change it up a bit. It was a huge success! Thank you to the restaurants from around Houston that partnered with us to make it a successful



event. If you're interested in becoming involved in the Chapter, please contact **Todd Buster** ([tbuster@busterandcogdellbuilders.com](mailto:tbuster@busterandcogdellbuilders.com)) or **Ian Beliveaux** ([ibeliveaux@donatominxbrown.com](mailto:ibeliveaux@donatominxbrown.com)).

Cycle Plaza; Hicks Family Nissan; Premier Yamaha Boating Center; and Sentinel Integrity Solutions. **BRONZE LEVEL:** Access Storage; Berkeley Eye Center-Corpus Christi; Borden Insurance; C&S Plating; Center for Sportfish Science and Conserva-

getting ready for our next event, which will be the **3rd Annual Hooked on Clays sporting clays tournament** at the Dallas Gun Club on Friday, July 27, 2018. We will begin check-in at 11:00 am and serve lunch shortly after. The tournament will begin at 1:00 pm, followed by raffles and a social event. Feel free to contact me for more details or to register a team.

In closing, I encourage you to "Like" us on Facebook or visit the CCA Dallas webpage ([ccatexas.org/dallas](http://ccatexas.org/dallas)) for details on future events and meetings! – **Matt Scherer**, (214) 995-6777, [Matthew.scherer@ryan.com](mailto:Matthew.scherer@ryan.com)



*The Colorado Valley Fish Fry Crew*

### Colorado Valley Eugene Ulrich 979-249-7425 [zeke.ulrich@gmail.com](mailto:zeke.ulrich@gmail.com)

Greetings from the Colorado Valley! I truly hope everyone is gearing up for the **CCA Texas STAR Tournament**, which is coming up soon, so don't forget to enter! I know we are ready, here in the valley.

Our chapter has been banquet-hopping lately, having a great time and meeting new fisherpersons. We also recently enjoyed providing a **Fish Fry for 20**, which we sell at our banquet auction. It was awarded to **Joe Rogers' Dozer Service**. They purchased the fish fry at last year's banquet, and it was held at their home north of La Grange. Those chapter members supporting this fun event were: **Eugene and Verlene Ulrich, Gary and Connie Janda, Danny Olenick, Trish Kubena, George "Bubba" Gold, Kendall Rhode, and Mike Petras.**

Our chapter is currently very busy planning the **2018 Colorado Valley Chapter Annual Banquet, which will be held on May 18** – and will have been held before this message is printed. We do appreciate all of our returning guests, and I know we will have a great night fundraising. Wishing bent rods and tight lines to all! – **Eugene Ulrich**, (979)249-7425

### Corpus Christi Jake Herring 361-244-0258 [jakecherring@hotmail.com](mailto:jakecherring@hotmail.com)

Good Day, Saltwater Friends! Hopefully by the time you read this the spring winds will have subsided a little, and everyone will have had some time to get out and enjoy our beloved coastal resources. I would like to say **THANK YOU** to all the members who helped toe the line and make our voice heard regarding our recreational red snapper fishery.

The Corpus Christi Chapter had a busy start to the spring, and we would like to thank all of those who helped us kick off the year with a big bang at the **40th Annual Corpus Christi Chapter Banquet**. Over 2,000 guests and volunteers were in attendance, and we sure hope that everyone had a great night. Our successes would not be possible without our devoted sponsorship base. The Corpus Christi Chapter would like to thank the following sponsors – **GOLD LEVEL:** Academy Sports + Outdoors; Andrews Distributing; AutoNation Chevrolet Cadillac South Corpus Christi; Flint Hills Resources; and L&F Distributors. **SILVER LEVEL:** Corpus Christi

tion; Cooper Outdoor Advertising; F.I.R.S.T., LLC; Grunwald Printing; HRI Gulf of Mexico Studies; Intertek; Lamar Advertising; Ohmstede LTD.; Pipe Pros; Poses & Associates INC.; Ron Hoover Marine; The Boat Stop; Total Oilfield Equipment & Supply; UT Marine Science Institute; and Valero. A special thank you to the City of Corpus Christi, American Bank Center, House of Rock, Saltwater Grill, CCA Texas-Corpus Christi Chapter board members, the companies and individuals who donated items and trips to our banquet, and the individuals who filled out the membership portion of their ticket and became members or renewed their memberships to Coastal Conservation Association. You are the voice that matters.

Stay tuned, as we have plans for another **Angler's Night Out** in the making!

Our growing-in-popularity **Babes on Baffin All Ladies Fishing Tournament** is set for **Columbus Day weekend (October)** and the place is **TBD**.

Before I sign off, I would sincerely like to thank **Judy Arnold and Valerie Chilton**, our banquet chairs who made the Corpus Christi Chapter's 40th Annual Banquet one to remember. And lastly, if you feel so called to serve, our chapter is always looking for folks to help us do the great things we do. For more information on helping out the Corpus Christi Chapter please send us an email at [ccacorporus@hotmail.com](mailto:ccacorporus@hotmail.com), or you can reach me directly at (361) 244-0258 or [jakecherring@hotmail.com](mailto:jakecherring@hotmail.com). Yours in Conservation – **Jake Herring**

### Dallas Matt Scherer 214-995-6777 [matthew.scherer@ryan.com](mailto:matthew.scherer@ryan.com)

On April 26, 2018 we celebrated the **37th Annual Dallas Chapter Banquet**, and it was a huge success! We had a record crowd in attendance with nearly 400 guests, and we grossed over \$225,000. The Dallas board members, along with **Drew Adams**, did an amazing job securing sponsors and working out all the logistics for our new venue. We would also like to once again recognize **Beretta Gallery, Mariner Sails, 505 Ranch, Pelicans Roost Resort Lodge, Westwind Tugboats and Williams Knives** for their continued support of CCA. During the banquet, we recognized the **McMurray Family (John IV and Robert)** as our 2018 Conservation Sportsmen of the Year.

Now that this year's banquet is over, we are

### East Texas

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

### Fort Bend

**Donnie Powers 281-850-9023**  
[dpowers11450@gmail.com](mailto:dpowers11450@gmail.com)

### Fort Worth

**Brad Wallace 817-988-8926**  
[brad@northtexasmarine.com](mailto:brad@northtexasmarine.com)

### Galveston

**Dr. Ken Ellis 713-962-7731**  
[drkenellis@aol.com](mailto:drkenellis@aol.com)

Happy summer to all – Your Galveston CCA chapter has a lot going on this summer! Our **Galveston CCA ladies' tournament** is **June 23**, out of **Pelican Rest Marina**. Please sign up early – You can contact me personally or go to our chapter page on the CCA website ([www.ccatexas.org/galveston](http://www.ccatexas.org/galveston)) for all the information.

**The 2018 Galveston Chapter Annual Banquet will be held July 28 at Moody Gardens!** Tables and individual tickets are available. This year's theme is a tribute to our Houston Astros! It will be an epic evening with orange, blue and white all over the banquet. We will also have many live and silent auction items up for bid, and don't forget – **That evening we will be giving away a 22V Mowdy boat and Coastline trailer with a 4 stroke 150 hp Suzuki.** Tickets are \$100 each, with only 500 being sold. We will sell out before the banquet, so get yours now!

**The CCA Texas STAR Tournament begins Memorial Day weekend**, so sign up now!

There is a movement to ask restaurants to stop putting straws into drinks, unless asked for, because plastic of any kind ends up in our oceans. Happy Father's Day to all you dads! I hope to see you on the water. **Tight lines! – Ken**

### Golden Triangle Joseph Ramey 409-892-3323 [ramey.joseph@gmail.com](mailto:ramey.joseph@gmail.com)

At the time of this publication we will have already hosted the **2018 Golden Triangle Chapter Annual Banquet**. We are expecting another record breaking year. As of May 3, we have 90 tables sold! That shatters our previous record of 80 tables set last year. I would like to thank all our sponsors and donors for their continued support and generosity.

We hosted a new board member meet-and-greet at **Giglio Distributing in March** with great success. A huge reason we are expecting record attendance is because of the new board members who have infused new ideas and new opportunities for table sales. I would like to thank them and all our board members, especially **Kevin Picard**, 2018 Banquet Chairman. New board members are **Mark Harmon, John Darling, Travis Norris, Colby Plaia, Mickey Phelan, John West, Joe Winston, Cory Holley, Bobby Beaver, Josh Heinz, Jason Younger, Nick Rizzotto and Weston Martin.**

Well, the friendly north winds arrived for a



few days, and fishing was hot and heavy in Sabine Lake and East Galveston Bay. There were even a few reports of some surf fisherman bending rods as well. It should be interesting to see the effects that the freeze, winds and Hurricane/Tropical Storm Harvey had on our fisheries, not only on the displacement and mortality of fish, but also the lack of fishing pressure. With many fishermen hiding from the wind, repairing homes or huddled around the chimney, that leaves more fish in the water. Most reports of speckled trout, tarpon, redfish and snook mortalities during the freeze were out of the lower Texas coast. On the upper coast, the reports of fish mortality were very minimal. We hope everyone has a fun and safe summer! Tight Lines.

### Greater Sugar Land Robert Bailey 713-819-5534 rbailey@robertbaileypc.com

We held the Greater Sugar Land Chapter Annual Banquet on April 5, and it was a great success! Thank you to all the members who helped put it on, and special thanks to Pam Canavan, Banquet Chair, and Jeff Flasiak, who handled all the graphics for the program and flyers. Thank you, too, to our sponsors for their support.

We also had a Kid's Fish in Missouri City in March. It was well-attended, and fun was had by all! As Currents mails, our next Kid's Fishes were May 5 at Meadows Place and June 2 at New Territory. We can use all the help we can get, so please call or email me at (713) 819-5534 or rbailey@robertbaileypc.com if you would like to help.

We had three Kid Fishes this spring. Missouri City in March, Meadows Place in May and New Territory in June. They were all well-attended and fun was had by all. Our last General Meeting before the summer was May 3rd at Otto's BBQ at the Fountains Shopping Center in Stafford. We had a great time with our Guest Speaker Phillip Cambra of Shimano. Our next meeting will be September 5 at 7:00 pm, also at Otto's. The speaker is to be determined. Have a great summer! - Bob Bailey

### Greater Woodlands Charlotte O'Dell 832-368-8263 choctawcharlie69@gmail.com

### Guadalupe Valley Chuck Howard 361-275-9464 chuck.howard@att.net

Warming waters, high tides, bait busting on the flats - It's got to be springtime on the Texas coast! The Guadalupe Valley Spring Fish Fry was held on May 16, 2018 hosted by Kenneth and Ronnie Adamak, and Billy Goodrich. There was plenty of fried fish, sides and desserts for all attendees. Chapter business was discussed, and plans were made for the autumn quarterly meeting. The chapter is ramping up for the 2018 Inter Chapter Challenge Tournament, coming up on June 8-9. Last year Stacy Cordes and Paul Lucas landed the two largest trout of the tournament!

A well thought out public relations campaign to rid the beaches, bays and the Gulf of plastics is underway. Please carry your water in reusable containers (Nalgene bottles), don't take plastic bags on board (HEB reusable bags work great). And if you must, have a container set aside and taken off your boat and disposed of in a recycling facility. Each year millions of pounds of plastics are tossed out of convenience, which is a huge waste. So let's do our part in keeping our waters clean!

All over the state, chapters are having their annual banquets. Recently several of our chapter members were invited by Capt. Danny Goyen, Mid Coast president, to attend the Mid Coast Chapter Annual Banquet. The Mid Coast chapter event was a sell-out and was great fun. If you can find the time to attend another chapter's event, I encourage

you to do so. Some of the larger chapters like San Antonio, Houston, Austin and Dallas fill up huge facilities. They give away multiple boats, ATV's, fine selections of firearms, trips all over the world and truckloads of fishing gear from a huge supporter of CCA Texas, Academy Sports + Outdoors.

The CCA Texas STAR Tournament begins in late May and continues into September. All along the Texas coast, teams will be releasing batches of tagged redfish. These are the fish dreams are made of. Be sure to register, and don't let it become your nightmare. I've never seen a tagged redfish in all the years of the STAR event, but I know they exist, therefore I register! Have a Great Shave! - Chuck Howard

### Hays County Tim Young 512-573-7939 tim.haysco@gmail.com

### Heart of the Hills Kelly Parks 210-669-3732 bucksdelucks@yahoo.com

I hope everyone had a good spring fishing season between cold fronts. Come join Kelly, Blake, Darrell and the rest of the gang as we start meeting to prepare for the 2018 Heart of the Hills Chapter Annual Banquet. Call Kelly at (210) 669-3732 for more information. Tight lines! - Randy Plummer

### Hill Country Miles Engelke 210-260-8968 engelke@pe-svcs.com

Our chapter is on the move! We had our first Directors Meeting on March 6, hosted the crawfish boil on April 7 and held our 6th Annual Social on April 8. On May 5, 2018, we will be hosting our Fish Fry for 50 for Kassi Jaroszewski. We are still trying to get the Board of Directors Fishing Trip Scheduled with Stace Vercher.

We will hold our first General Meeting on Tuesday May 15, 2018 at the Elks Lodge in New Braunfels. Our guest speaker will be Joe Moughon, the founder of Chickenboy Lures and one of the most sought-after speakers for CCA chapter meetings.

The 2018 Hill Country Chapter Annual Banquet will be held on August 16 at the Civic Center in New Braunfels, Texas. For ticket information, call Todd Thetford at (830) 660-8825. We are selling 300 Premium Choice Raffle tickets in advance for a chance to win one of several prizes. The Grand Prize Winner will select one of three options: 1) Mahindra eMax 22 Tractor provided by Texas Tractor Country; 2) Polaris Ranger 570 Crew provided by Wood's Cycle Country; or, 3) \$10,000 in Norwegian Cruise Lines Gift Cards. Only one (1) item will be given away. Winner #2 will receive a Benelli Nova 12 Gauge Shotgun; Winner #3 will receive a Waterloo Rod and Concept C Reel; Winner #4 will receive a 65 Qt. Engel Cooler; and Winner #5 will receive a GoPro Camera. The drawing will be held at the banquet on August 16, 2018. You do not need to be present to win. The winner is responsible for applicable tax, title and license costs. Contact any board member to buy your tickets.

#### Other Upcoming Events:

- June 2: Spring fishing tournament for Live Oak Chapter members only
- June 8-9: ICC Tournament
- July 24: General Meeting (speaker to be announced)
- October 23: Final General Meeting (speaker to be announced)

All General Meetings will be held at the Elks Lodge in New Braunfels, Texas. Look for newsletters and e-blasts for information on these meetings.

Please take the time to thank our sponsors:

CEMEX, Creative Eyewear, FAPCO, Fishers of Men RV Park, KGNB KNBT, 1st Source Digital, Redfish Bay Boathouse, Redfish Willie's, Sandollar Resort, Stay Tuff, Whitaker Insurance and Power Engineering Services.

Cast me a call if you would like to get involved or be a sponsor! Treasure the Trips - Miles Engelke, (210) 260-8968

### Houston Homebuilders Jimmy Reid 281-932-3395 jreid@newmarkhomes.com

### Houston Real Estate Dale Couch 281-953-2510 dcouch@txlrmortgage.com

We just finished 10th Real Estate Chapter Banquet. It was a great time, and we had a fantastic turnout! I greatly appreciate the continued support from Jim MacIntyre of Central Bank, Ken Kapelka of Firemark Insurance, Bob Greenburg of Stewart Title, Tim Welbes of Howard Hughes Corporation, Garrett Clayton and the team of AmCap Mortgage, Kurt Watzek, retired, Al Brende of Land Tejas, Mack Davis of Black Oak Homes and Peter Houghton of Rooted Developers. Thank you for your continued support! - Dale Couch

### Katy Gary Mancini 281-850-2212 gman091753@aol.com

### Laredo Javier C. Villarreal 956-206-7953 jcvillarreal13@gmail.com

### Lee County Jake Horne 979-540-6117 jake@aubainesupply.com

### Live Oak T.J. Harkness 832-723-6723 tandmenenergy@gmail.com

The date has been set for the Live Oak Chapter Annual Banquet: June 7, 2018 at the KC Hall in Columbus, doors opening at 6:00 pm! Join us for a night of food, fun and awesome prizes. The live auction will have something for everyone, from Costa Rica fishing trips to deer hunting in South Texas. We will still have the same great food lineup as we have in the past, with baked flounder, southwest chicken and all the fixin's. Tables are still available for purchase, and tickets can be bought at the door. Take a chance at the Sportsman's Raffle with lots of great prizes. To get more information on tables, or to buy raffle tickets, contact one of our board members or myself. I look forward to seeing you there. Tight lines! - T.J. Harkness, (832) 723-6723, tandmenenergy@gmail.com

### Lower Colorado Stephen Zapalac 972-244-6633 stephen.zapalac@capitolfarmcredit.com

### Lower Laguna Madre Oscar Garcia 956-491-8148 oscar@shallowsportboats.com

### Mainland Eric Minor 409-370-7379 eric.minor@anico.com



**Matagorda Bays  
Chad Hensley  
979-543-2734**

**Chadwayne73@yahoo.com**

The 13th Annual Lil' Salties Fishing Blowout was held, as always, on Mother's Day weekend in Matagorda Harbor. Once again, this year we had a full load, with 250 youngsters signed up. This free yearly tournament for the kids of the Matagorda Bays Chapter is something special. Each kid goes home with a fishing story, fishing rod and bag full of goodies. A big thanks goes out to our corporate sponsors for this event: **Prasek's Hillje Smokehouse, Weise Crop Insurance Services LLC, Mustang Caterpillar, E A Collins & Sons, Backup Utility Contractors, Polasek Construction, Cedar Creek Woodshop, Texas Tackle Factory, Coastal Bend Oilmen's Fishing Tournament, Schmidt Implement, KC Services, Sutton Wealth Management, Earl and Deana Calkins and Coastal Flow Liquid Measurement.** Also a big thanks to all the other donors who contribute to the event, I would like to mention their names, but I would run out of room!

**The 2018 Matagorda Bays Chapter Annual Banquet is scheduled for June 28 this year at the El Campo Civic Center.** The board is hard at work getting all the ins and outs together for a night of fun and fundraising. Invitations with all the details are in the mail. Be sure to reserve a table or get your ticket early, as the event has sold out for the last nine years. **Our 24' Tran Sport XLR8 w/ a 300HP Suzuki** 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** at (979) 543-2753 or any Matagorda Bays CCA board member. **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, (979) 543-2734**

**Mid Coast  
Danny Goyen 361-564-7471  
goyenfishing@yahoo.com**

Hello CCA members! Just a few weeks ago we finished our main fundraiser, the **2018 Mid Coast Chapter Annual Banquet.** Thanks to the hard work of our awesome board members and volunteers, we had one of our best banquets ever! We had a sold-out house, filled with over 800 people. There are so many people to thank for their work in making this event very profitable for CCA Texas. **The biggest thank you goes to our banquet chairman Curt Allison.** His excellent leadership and experience has made this event one of the best we've ever had. Thank you, Curt. **This event would also not have been possible without our loyal sponsors and volunteers, and their continued support for the Mid Coast Chapter – Thank You!** Another big thanks to all those who purchased tickets for the boat that was shown right here in the last two issues of **CURRENTS.** Just under 600 tickets out of 700 were sold for our **Mowdy Boat.** **Garrett Evans** from Victoria was the winner.

I am looking forward to our next event, the **Inter Chapter Challenge on June 8-9 at the Aransas Pass Civic Center.** I know it will be a great time, as well as a nice break for our board members who will be there.

**Our board meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at Frances Marie's Restaurant in Victoria (social hour at 6:15 pm, meeting at 7:15 pm).** Meetings are open to all members who would



*Four chapter presidents enjoyed the Northeast banquet: Bob Kalmbach, Jason Law, Gerald Payne and Sam Caldwell.*

like to be a part of our board. From all of us in the Mid Coast Chapter, God Bless!  
— **Capt. Danny Goyen**

**Northeast Houston  
Jason Law 713-898-8594  
jlaw1899@yahoo.com**

April has come and gone, but not before we celebrated another great chapter fundraiser and crawfish boil. This year's event was a huge success thanks to the hard work of our amazing chapter board, Walden Country Club, & Zydecaw's. Thanks to all of the wonderful CCA supporters that attended this event, and don't forget to mark your calendar for next years Crawfish Boil April, 13, 2019. — **Jason Law**

**Northwest Houston  
Rob Sziy 832-971-1989  
sziy@sbcglobal.net**

Our **April Fish Fry Membership Drive** was a huge success! The food was fantastic, and we had a great turn out for our membership drive. I would like to thank all the folks who helped in one way or the other.

**For our next Membership Meeting on June 5, we are proud to welcome T'Noya Thompson, Report Card Coordinator for Galveston Bay Foundation (GBF).** Born and raised in the Bahamas, T'Noya felt connected to nature at an early age, as there was much to explore and learn from. A deep connection to the ocean inspired her to attend Texas A&M University at Galveston, where she received a B.S. in Marine Biology in 2005. From there, she began working at Moody Gardens in the Animal Care Department. Over the past 12 years, T'Noya served several roles at Moody Gardens and connected with the community on various levels. She is currently pursuing a Global Field Project Master's Degree in Biology at Miami University through Project Dragonfly. T'Noya is passionate about collaborating conservation with community engagement and is excited to apply her experience to GBF. She looks forward to connecting with the community to preserve Galveston Bay for future generations. **So please join us at Houston Distributing facility off High Life Drive in the Stein Room starting at 7:00 pm.** We would love to see you!

Also coming up is our **Annual Kid Fish on May 12, 2018 at Linda's Sylvan Beach Bait Camp from 7:00 am to 1:00 pm.** The cost is \$10 (17 and under), which includes bait, pier pass, food and drinks. Participants must provide their own fishing gear and tackle. **Please RSVP to Teresa Sims at simstopping@aol.com.** LIMITED AVAILABILITY, MUST RSVP! Many thanks to Harris County Precinct 2, The City of La Porte, Capt. Forrest Vollentine, Eileens's Cleaning Service, Blue Water Seafood, Platinum Homes and Linda's Bait & Tackle for their support of this annual program. Bring the kids and enjoy! — **Rob Sziy**

**Orange County  
Scott Bandy  
409-988-3667**

**scottbandy77@yahoo.com**

**Port O'Connor  
Bill Moore  
361-983-4690  
wildbmt@tisd.net**

Well, Harvey pushed back the **18th Annual Port O'Connor Chapter Banquet, and it was held on March 26th at the Community Center.** It was again a sell-out – Special thanks to all who attended!

The banquet was another success, with everyone enjoying the great weather and great food. A good time was enjoyed by all in attendance. It could not have been a success without the diligence of all chapter members, volunteers and donors.

Special thanks to Banquet Chairs **Patti Elkins and Pam Johnson, VPs Jim Busby and Patti Elkins, Treasurer Ann Brownlee, Secretary Dain Whitworth and Sergeant-at-Arms Michelle Lippold.** Also, thank you to our outstanding board members **Ann Brownlee, Barbara Skalak, Carl and Pam Ray, Chris Smisek, Sonny Cook, Fred Carr, Jim Busby, Michelle Lippold, Dain and Judy Whitworth, Pam Johnson, Patti Elkins, Becca Wright, Carol and Pete Lascelles, and Sara and David Clark.** Thank you to **Pam Johnson** for the program, our CCA Assistant Director **Taylor Rieck** for all his hard work, **Sam Caldwell** for again making an appearance and **Dawn Ragusin** for the program cover art. Our appreciation goes out to a special group who helps make our banquet a success – **The donors, who make possible all the items, gifts and trips;** you will be notified individually to say, "Thank you." **Thank you to all the table sponsors and others in attendance.** We again would like to thank the local businesses who assisted in selling tables/tickets: **Coastal Boat Services, Tigrett Real Estate, Sonny's Marine, Coastal Bend Marine, and Port O'Connor Rod and Gun.** And thank you to **Coastal Bend Marine for the golf cart donation.**

So, as summer is here, come spend some time with us and visit some of our donors, or just kick back. If you would like to get involved, give us a call, in POC, "Where it all began." — **Bill Moore**

**Prairie  
Patricia Walters 979-885-7464  
manager@wpprint.com**

**On April 5, 2018 we hosted the 21st Annual Prairie Chapter Banquet at Cat Spring.** The meal of prime rib and shrimp was catered by **Mikeskas BBQ,** and it was, as usual, outstanding.

The biggest attraction was the live auction, which consisted of a deer feeder, prints, fishing and hunting trips, and the Bull Red Table. For last six years we have had the Bull Red Table in the auction, and the 2017 winners were **Betty and Vern from the Diamond H Ranch.** Thanks to **Mark Switzer** for being the auctioneer. We also had a silent auction with many fine gifts to bid on. Thanks to **Academy Sports + Outdoors, CCA, and to all the sponsors who donated items.** This year we had some new and different games. The most popular games were the cap and tumbler raffle games. For just \$20, a buyer had a chance to win one of six guns including: a Henry Golden Boy 30-30, a Henry Golden Boy .22, a Henry Golden Boy .22 Mag, a Savage .22 LR, a Beretta A300 Outlander 12 Ga., or a Remington 783 rifle. Also, for \$50 guests could participate in the soft sided cooler raffle game to win a Glock 19.

I would like to thank **Brian Weaver,** the CCA Texas staff, all the sponsors who donated items and the board members who helped make this a great



success. Thanks to all who purchased Corporate Tables.

We will be having our **Annual Kid Fish on August 11, 2018 at the Walters Pond**. Contact us at Wittenburg Printing for time and directions, (979) 877-5598. Thank you, and I hope to see everyone next year! – Ron Chess, (979) 525-9254

**Redfish Bay**  
**Norman Oates 361-758-0266**  
**noates@cableone.net**

The Redfish Bay Chapter Annual Banquet was a great success and fun for all! Thanks so much to our sponsors, donors, board members, John Blaha and attendees. As always, special thanks to Chris's Marine for being our Title Sponsor for the 16th year in a row! Even after Hurricane Harvey, we proved that South Texas is truly Texas Strong with great attendance and the best revenue ever from auction and raffle items! Thanks again for everyone's support – What a great CCA community.

We want to remind everyone that the Take a Kid Fishing event will be June 1 and 2 this year. Bring the young fisherpersons out for a shrimp boil Friday evening starting at 6:00 pm. Admission is \$10, which includes a CCA membership and STAR Tournament entry. They will fish Saturday morning and have the trophy celebration starting around noon. There will be hotdogs and lemonade for lunch Saturday.

The Annual Beeville Fish Fry will be the Thursday before dove season. I will provide more information as it gets closer! – Norman Oates, (361) 790-2748

**Rio Grande Valley**  
**Louis Zimmerer 956-373-0799**  
**Lmz01@yahoo.com**

**Sabine-Neches**  
**Darin Johnson 409-790-9855**  
**darin@jorgensenmarine.com**

**Sam Houston**  
**Brandon Kolaja 281-797-6908**  
**bkolaja@huntsvilletx.gov**

The sun is out, and weather has been great! Our chapter board is starting to gear up for another fun-filled banquet. Mark your calendars for September 6, 2018 – It will be here before we know it! Once again, make a point to get out and enjoy the water. If you are interested in getting involved with our chapter, please contact us. Happy fishing – Brandon Kolaja, (281) 797-6908

**San Antonio**  
**Rick Neitzel 210-771-7807**  
**tasiscorneitzel@aol.com**

A Big "Atta Boy!" to all our banquet committee members, sponsors and volunteers who helped make our 39th Annual San Antonio Chapter Banquet on May 3, 2018 another over-the-top event! Banquet Chair Robert Lozano and his committee did a fantastic job putting this event together. Urban Concrete was the winner of this year's Early Bird Table Buyer Drawing, and he took home an Uncle Henry .410 Lever Action Rifle. Be sure to buy your tables early next year to be a part of this drawing!

Dan Schmidt won the 2018 Shallow Stalker boat motor and trailer. Irene Davis took home the Jeep Wrangler from Jordan Ford. Victor Hewitt took home the Shiner Beers Polaris 570 UTV. There were hundreds of winners of various raffles and auction items. The biggest winner of the night, though, was CCA San Antonio, and we thank all our patrons for that!

Mark your calendars: On Friday, Septem-

ber 28, 2018, we will be holding the 3rd Annual "Hooked on Golf" Tournament. This year's event will be at the SilverHorn Golf Club of Texas. For information on getting a team set up, contact Tim Kiker at [tim@timkcpa.com](mailto:tim@timkcpa.com).

Mark your calendars again for our next General Membership Meeting on August 22 at 6:00 pm at the Barn Door Restaurant. We will have two speakers that evening; the first will be Mr. Bill Kinney, Director of the CCA Texas STAR Tournament. Bill will talk about CCA Texas and provide updates on the STAR Tournament. Next up will be Capt. Geoff Austin out of the Corpus Christi area. Capt. Geoff will update us on fishing tactics that are currently working in the Bays. Lastly, remember to Wet-A-Line with your family and friends! – Rick Neitzel

**San Bernard**  
**Ross Kutach 281-330-0135**  
**rosskutach@yahoo.com**

The 11th Annual San Bernard Chapter Banquet was held on February 22, 2018 at Riverside Hall in East Bernard, Texas. The event was a huge success with a great turnout by our community and surrounding neighbors. Thanks to all who participated through donations and in person at the event!

Those in the Pre-Sale Raffle winners' circle were D. Dutton, Jeff Jalowy, Wittenburg Printing, Waylon Burger, Brian Domel, Ignacio Guerrero, Shae Menard, Jim Hagemann, Adam Warren, Grant Guidry and Josh Vincek. Thank you to all the San Bernard board members for their preparation and hard work the day and night of the event. Thanks also to team Burnside and Todd for their help the night of the event. Special thanks to junior board member Blake Winkler for your help and participation the night of the event.

Thanks to our sponsors Johnny's Sport Shop, Shoppa's Farm Supply, Schmidt Implement, Academy Sports + Outdoors and Riverside Hall for their support of the San Bernard Chapter. Thank you to Slade Stary of El Campo for another great job on the rib eye dinner. The banquet reached a pinnacle with record numbers across the board. The outpouring of support from our community and those surrounding was a wonderful thing to be a part of.

With rising temperatures this spring, the waters of the Matagorda Bays have produced solid fish. Artificial trips on soft plastics including Down South Lures and Little Johns, have produced nice boxes. Late spring and early summer look promising. I hope to see everyone on the water! Make sure to like us on Facebook and share your pictures and fishing experiences with us. Tight lines and safe travels! – Ross Kutach

**San Gabriel**  
**John Melnar 512-497-8284**  
**jmelnar@plateaulandgroup.com**

**Southwestern**  
**Veronica Oliver 830-765-6228**  
**ronnimoliver@gmail.com**

**TAMU**  
**Rudy Mueller 832-349-1055**  
**tamucca@gmail.com**

**Texas State University**  
**Travis James 832-909-5833**  
**travisj0915@gmail.com**

**Tomball/Magnolia**  
**Matt Maddox 832-963-5215**  
**matt@cribbsconcrete.com**

**Tri-County**  
**Christian Hildebrand 830-534-2730**  
**jonhildebrand@aol.com**

The 2018 Tri-County Chapter Annual Banquet was a hit as usual! We would like to thank all our table sponsors, donors, and the Tri County Chapter communities and residents for their great support for coastal conservation of saltwater habitats and fisheries. A special thank you to Christian Hildebrand for his four years of service as chapter president. 2018 was Hildebrand's final banquet as president, as a new chapter president was elected this year. This banquet marked the inaugural year for the Ed Geyer Memorial Redfish Table. This table will be reserved for distinguished alumni of the Tri-County directors board each year in gratitude for service.

The 2nd Annual Ed Geyer Memorial Fishing Tournament will be held July 20, 2018 in Port Mansfield, Texas.

Once again, we would like to thank all supporters and friends of the Tri-County CCA for making our success possible!

**Trinity Bay**  
**Gerald Payne 281-728-6278**  
**rockin\_g\_payne@yahoo.com**

Well, here it is summer time already and that means us folks here on the upper coast in southeast Texas are feeling the humidity and temperatures rise. In addition, that means the Trinity Bay Chapter's annual banquet is right around the corner.

Don't wait; mark your calendar for this premier event taking place on Friday, August 24, 2018, at the Nuevo Leon Social Events, 1000 Park Street, Baytown, Texas 77520.

Our 2017 banquet took place the night before the largest storm in Texas history...but that didn't stop the dedicated sponsors and guests who packed the house for a night loaded with fun.

There is indication already of a 2018 sellout and a record setting year. We look forward to seeing all of our dedicated sponsors for an evening full of food, drinks, raffles and games.

The Trinity Bay Chapter meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm. If you would like further details on becoming a member or sponsor please contact us, we'd be glad to hear from you. – Gerald Payne 281-728-6278

**Trinity Valley**  
**John Hebert Jr 936-334-2528**  
**jjhebert@imsday.com**

Summer is finally here, and school is out. It's time to take the family fishing and make some great memories! By the time you read this, we will have had our 5th Annual Trinity Valley CCA Fishing Tournament. I will be reporting on how much fun was had in the next issue. If you would like to be a part of the Trinity Valley Chapter and all the fun we have, we would love to have you. Please contact chapter president John Hebert at (936) 334-2528. – Jennifer Creel

**West Houston**  
**Ruben Delgadillo 281-808-1434**  
**ruben@liftpull.com**

**West Texas**  
**Craig McDonnold 432-682-3499**  
**Craig@McDonnold.net**

We have just concluded our 2018 15th Annual West Texas Chapter Banquet. The banquet was once again a huge success!

I'd like to thank all our table sponsors. Without you this wouldn't be possible. A great big thanks to Tim Macaluso, et al. with Enviro Resources. These guys hauled a crawfish cooking trailer all the way from Lafayette, Louisiana and



cooked the best tasting shrimp and crawfish ever. Thanks again guys, and I hope I see you next year (with cooker of course)! **Thanks to Ally Outdoor** for donating and handling all our firearm needs. Y'all have the finest retail store and gun range in West Texas! **Thanks also to our CCA crew consisting of Brian Meuth, his father Glenn, Blake and Eric.** Good job guys. **A big thank you to our lovely CCA girls, Ashley and Jenna.** You proved us West Texas boys have trouble saying no when you're the ones selling the raffle tickets! **Thank you to Reece Boudreaux and Rusty Smith** for always offering to lend a helping hand.

A handful of us had a great day in the Port O'Connor surf two days after the banquet! That's it for now from the West Texas Chapter, where we pump our saltwater downhole. – Craig M. McDonold



*Nathan's first keeper red from East Matagorda Bay. Great Kid Photo from Rex Richards, Alvin-Pearland chapter president.*

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Liz Hewitt, Editor



## TUNA TARTAR

**Mix together:**  
4 oz dices fresh tuna  
¼ t lemon zest

**In a separate bowl mix together:**  
¼ cup avocado diced  
1 t sliced green onion  
¼ cup diced cucumbers

**In a separate bowl mix together  
the sauce:**  
½ t chopped garlic  
½ cup soy sauce  
1 T sugar  
½ t lemon juice  
½ t white vinegar  
white pepper to taste

**Place avocado mixture in bottom  
of bowl, place tuna mixture on top  
and drizzle sauce around.**  
(Photo has been garnished with  
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# Coastal Conservation Association

6919 Portwest Suite 100 / Houston, TX 77024

## CURRENTS NEWSLETTER

June/July 2018

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U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
HOUSTON, TEXAS  
PERMIT 2532



## Summer of Snapper

*Future fisheries biologist Hunter Stunz  
with a trophy red snapper*

### 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  
[www.tpwd.texas.gov](http://www.tpwd.texas.gov)

To focus on fishing and boating, visit  
[www.tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/fish](http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/fish)  
[www.tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/boat](http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/boat)



*Operation  
Game Thief*

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



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



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

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

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

#### Method of payment

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

MEMBER:	\$35	Membership card, decal, bumper sticker, Texas <i>CURRENTS</i> newsletter & <i>TIDE</i> magazine.
ASSOCIATE:	\$15	Per each family member. All membership privileges except <i>TIDE</i> and <i>CURRENTS</i> .
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. \$25 for shipping.
STAR ENTRY FEE:	\$25	Tournament entry fee. Must be a current CCA member.
NEW TIDE:	\$10	<i>TIDE</i> newsletter, decal. Includes STAR Tournament entry, for members 17 and under.
CONSERVATION MEMBER:	\$50	Age: _____ Date of birth: _____ A portion of the proceeds go towards CCA's National Habitat Program, Building Conservation Trust. Includes exclusive Conservation Member decal, one-year subscription to <i>TIDE</i> Magazine, set of CCA and state fish decals.

Credit card number \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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