



CURRENTS

October / November 2018

*A Place
of Their Own*

In Texas coastal waters, the southern flounder is one of the top three recreationally fished saltwater species along with spotted seatrout and red drum. Over most of the last 30 years, southern flounder populations have steadily declined, leading to various fisheries management measures enacted by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD).

In recent years, the flounder stock has responded to these measures with modest improvements in recruitment which have resulted in corresponding increases in catch-rates of adult and sub-adults as documented by TPWD's Marine Resource Monitoring Program. That trend has fluctuated from year to year and seems to be influenced by warm or cold winters. To keep the momentum headed in the right direction, in addition to fishing regulations and other fisheries management strategies, the agency established a stock enhancement plan of action to supplement the southern flounder population by stocking hatchery-reared juvenile flounder into Texas bays.

TPWD initiated the Southern Flounder Stocking Program in 2006 with ongoing hatchery production efforts since 2009. The primary goal of the flounder stocking program is to develop techniques for culturing this species on a large-scale basis to supplement the wild population, and compensate for weak year class recruitment periods due to freezes, warm winters, harmful algal blooms, hypoxia and/or other adverse events. TPWD hatcheries producing southern flounder for stock enhancement are the Coastal Conservation Association Marine Development Center (MDC) in Corpus Christi, the Perry R. Bass Marine Fisheries Research Station near Palacios, and Sea Center Texas (SCT) in Lake Jackson, Texas.

Adult wild southern flounder are collected from Texas bays and maintained at the hatcheries as captive broodfish. A critical challenge has been to consistently spawn the flounder while in captivity. The traditional method of controlling photoperiod and water temperature to induce spawning of red drum and spotted seatrout has not been effective for the southern flounder. Spawning through use of photoperiod/temperature maturation cycles has been successful, but not consistent enough to supply the number of eggs (several million) needed for large-scale fish production efforts. Therefore, most of the captive spawning activities conducted have relied on using hormone-induced strip-spawning techniques which tend to be stressful on the fish and result in lower numbers of high quality eggs.

TPWD Hatcheries working in collaboration with university scientists (Texas A&M University, University of Texas, Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi, Texas State University) have achieved sig-

Flounder Explosion On The Way

Coastal Hatcheries Increase Southern Flounder Production

*By Dr. Robert Vega, TPWD Coastal Fisheries
Stock Enhancement Director*



A skillet-sized flounder fell for a colorful fly at the entry to Shoalwater Bay. The angler-photographer was Sam Caldwell.

nificant advancements in southern flounder spawning, larvae incubation and fingerling rearing techniques. In hatchery production, flounder require a colder set of environmental conditions than red drum and spotted seatrout. Some of the challenges for the hatchery program have been coordinating and timing of culture efforts for the three species. Red drum and spotted seatrout fingerling culture operations are conducted from April through December while flounder production occurs from November through March. Issues related to available hatchery floor space and controlling environmental conditions for the different species (some like it hot, some like it cold) in the egg/larval incubation rooms have hampered flounder production.

In hatchery production, flounder require a colder set of environmental conditions than red drum and spotted seatrout.

Plans have been developed over the past several years to construct hatchery facilities dedicated specifically for southern flounder fingerling production. About a year ago construction began on new flounder larval culture buildings at MDC and SCT. Partially funded by dedicated sportsmen's organizations such as CCA Texas (\$125,000 for building construction, and \$100,000 for equipment needs), the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Sport Fish Restoration Act, and various other generous donations, these two new buildings will allow the TPWD hatchery program to culture flounder larvae nearly year-round, substantially increasing production capabilities. MDC's



Above: Southern flounder broodstock in quarantine prior to being incorporated into the breeding program. Photo by Shane Bonnot.

Below: Southern flounder fingerling during stocking in Texas bay. Photo courtesy of TPWD.



Flounder Building is 3,220-square-foot in size, and SCT's Flounder Building is a 2,860-square-foot facility. Both facilities are designed to grow flounder larvae through their critical early life stages indoors prior to finishing the fingerling rearing process in outdoor hatchery ponds.

TPWD hatcheries have stocked 404,848 juvenile southern flounder fingerlings into Texas bays and estuaries since 2009. The stocking goal for 2018 is 25,000 one-half inch long fingerlings and the hatchery program has already exceeded that goal. Earlier this year, some 80,000 flounder fingerlings were stocked into coastal waters. TPWD's southern flounder Stock Enhancement program is still in its early stages of development when compared to its red drum and spotted seatrout stocking programs. It is evident that flounder larvae are much more delicate and exhibit a higher degree of mortality during early life stages than the other species.

During 30-40 days post-egg-hatch, flounder larvae undergo an amazing metamorphic body change in which their head bones shift positions and the right eye migrates to the left side of the head. At that time, the flounder settles onto its right side and assumes the flatfish position. During this critical life stage, flounder larvae are highly sensitive to variable environmental conditions and have an optimum seawater temperature range between 64-68°F. After the flounder complete metamorphosis, their biological ability to withstand a wider range of temperatures broadens to 59-73°F.

Also, as flounder larvae are typically reared in tanks during their first 30-40 days post-hatch, live natural feeds called zooplankton (rotifers and copepods) must be provided to them. The culturing of zooplankton requires knowledge of intensive aquaculture production methods.

Because of these demanding life stages, flounder are more difficult to culture than red drum and spotted seatrout. Additional expertise and technologies are necessary to successfully rear flounder in a hatchery setting.

Advancements in flounder culture techniques since 2006 include improving spawning and larviculture methods. Continued support from CCA Texas makes it an exciting time for flounder stock enhancement. With construction of southern flounder culture buildings at the MDC and SCT scheduled for completion in the spring of 2019, a significant increase in annual flounder fingerling production for purposes of stocking Texas bays is achievable. We believe that a hatchery-reared flounder explosion is on the horizon.



Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow

BUILDING A FUTURE FOR TEXAS MARINE HABITAT

CCA Habitat and Happenings

By John Blaha

As we move into the fourth quarter of 2018, CCA Texas has had an extremely successful year on many fronts. This success is due to the tremendous efforts of volunteers, sponsors and supporters, and the CCA Texas staff. When this issue hits the reader's hands, CCA Texas will only have four banquets left for the year. As we close the third quarter, banquet attendance and monies raised are pushing all-time highs and the energy within the organization has never been higher. This energy and success is due to the will and desire of so many to ensure the Texas coastal resources are strong and healthy for present and future generations.

Along with the success in fundraising and membership, comes success in CCA

Texas's habitat program, Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow (HTFT), and CCA National's habitat program, Building Conservation Trust (BCT).

These two entities work hand-in-hand to help restore and create coastal habitat up and down the Texas coast.

After funding \$530,000 of habitat work in 2017, CCA Texas and BCT have funded \$986,000 for habitat work in 2018 and are poised to cross the \$1 million dollar

CCA Texas has now funded more than \$1.6 million of nearshore reefing along the Texas coast. This funding and work stretch from the Texas/Louisiana border at Sabine Pass to the Texas/Mexico border at South Padre Island.

mark by the end of the year. This work has included nearshore reefing, marsh restoration, oyster restoration, and criti-

cal habitat science studies and evaluations.

Nearshore Reefing – CCA Texas has now funded more than \$1.6 million to nearshore reefing along the Texas coast. This funding and work stretch from the Texas/Louisiana border at Sabine Pass to the Texas/Mexico border at South Padre Island. Work continues all along the Texas coast and current efforts are focused at Sabine Pass (HI20 Reef), Galveston (Big Man Reef), and South Padre Island (RGV Reef).

The Sabine HI20 Reef should have its first materials in the water by the end of September. CCA Texas and BCT are contracting directly with Eldridge Construction to deploy 200 granite blocks and a 120-foot barge. The next issue will have plenty of photographs and details about the deployment and what is in the future for the Sabine HI20 site.

Much like the Friends of RGV Reef (FRGVR), a new organization, Friends of Sabine Reef (FSR), has formed and they are working diligently to help identify materials and funds to continue reefing the HI20 site and with hopes of expanding it in the future.



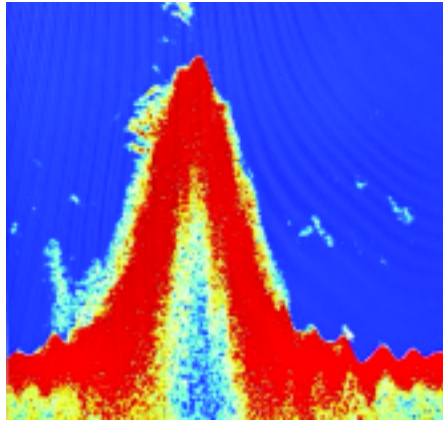
Nearshore reef being enhanced with cinder blocks. Photo by Lisa Laskowski.

Work continues to move along in the RGV Reef — CCA Texas and BCT initially funded an additional \$150,000 this past February for deploying concrete railroad ties and other materials to the site. Another \$56,000 was then approved to expand and fill the 186-acre nursery portion of the site with concrete cinder blocks. This method has proven to be very successful in providing habitat and cover for small snapper and other species until they reach a larger size and move onto the large reef habitat.

Spearheaded by FRGVR, contractors are continuing to mound concrete railroad ties within the site and have created additional low relief habitat.

To date, the mounding effort has created a 30-foot tall mound that also measures 140-feet wide. CCA Texas and BCT have contributed \$461,000 to the RGV Reef, a one of a kind reefing site that would not be possible without the strong grassroots efforts of local recreational fishermen.

Galveston's Big Man Reef and Kate's Reef are hoping to see materials deployed by the end of the year. Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) Department's Artificial Reef Program has placed a request for bids out to deploy materials to the Big Man site. These materials will include railroad ties and pyramids. TPWD is also waiting for final notice from the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) on permit requests for the Kate's Reef site. Progress is moving for-



Sonar showing the mound of railroad ties that have been deployed into the RGV Reef site, measuring 30' tall and 140' wide at this time. Friends of RGV Reef continue to build on this mound and others. Photo credit, Rick Kline.

ward up and down the entire Texas coast, and CCA Texas and BCT are proud to be a part of these nearshore reefing efforts.

Marsh Restoration and Shoreline Protection – Several projects are in progress or have just been recently completed for marsh restoration and shoreline protection. CCA Texas partnered with the Galveston Bay Foundation for restoration efforts in Moses Lake, Trinity Bay and Oyster Lake adjacent to West Galveston Bay.

The Moses Lake project was just completed and the effort created approximately 1.3 miles of shoreline protection in Moses Lake. This protection in turn created 10 acres of available space for marsh restoration efforts through grass plantings carried out by volunteer groups within the community.

The Oyster Lake Shoreline protection project extended previous work in the Oyster Lake / West Galveston Bay shoreline. This project will help prevent breaching of critical estuarine habitat in the Oyster Lake area.

The Trinity Bay marsh restoration project at GBF's Discovery Center will help restore and create two acres of estuarine marsh habitat. The Discovery Center provides outreach opportunities for the general public through local and Houston area school programs. This restored marsh area will provide significant education opportunities in GBF's community outreach efforts.

CCA Texas and BCT look forward to continuing our work with current partners and look forward to forging new partnerships in the future. Habitat restoration and creation are critical to the future of our coastal fisheries. For more information about CCA Texas and BCT's habitat work, please contact John Blaha at jdblaha@ccatexas.org



Volunteers planting marsh grass at the Moses Lake shoreline restoration project. Another grass planting is being planned in late September for Academy Sports + Outdoors employees as well. Photo Credit: Galveston Bay Foundation

A Place Of Their Own

Two Buildings Loom On The Flounder Horizon

By Advocacy Director Shane Bonnot

“What do you need to be successful?”

That was the question posed in 2013 by Carter Smith, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Executive Director, to hatchery staff. The topic of conversation was TPWD's efforts to incorporate southern flounder into its stock enhancement program. Since 2006, TPWD has worked on perfecting the spawning, larvae culture and live feed techniques required to raise southern flounder fingerlings. Numerous trial and error, hands-on training courses, collaboration with leading fisheries researchers, and pure grit and determination payed significant dividends as the hatchery program was consistently releasing flounder fingerlings on an annual basis. Senior TPWD staff and leaders in the industry were beginning to notice these early successes and it was clear that they wanted to help.

Feeling confident that the staff could effectively ramp up production scales with the institutional knowledge and skills obtained over years, staff answered Mr. Smith's question with a one-word answer: “Space.” They needed the space to increase production levels from releasing tens of thousands fingerlings annually to releasing hundreds of thousand fingerlings annually. With the blessing and support of TPWD executive management, hatchery program leaders Dr. Robert Vega, David Abrego and Shane Bonnot approached CCA Texas with the novel concept of constructing a modest building at Sea Center Texas in Lake

...a long-term plan that would bring about not one but two flounder buildings for the flounder hatchery program.

Jackson and in June of 2014, CCA Texas committed \$225,000 to help fund what would be suitably termed “The Flounder Building.”

The phrase “it only takes a spark to get a fire going” comes to mind, for it did not take long for the TPWD coastal fisheries and infrastructure divisions to add money to the project and develop a long-term plan that would bring about not one but two flounder buildings for the hatchery program. One located at the aforementioned Sea Center Texas and the other at the CCA-Marine Development Center in Flour Bluff. These two buildings will allow the hatchery program to raise southern flounder in a temperature-controlled environment using tank systems that are optimized specifically for flatfish culture.

Long gone will be the days where hatchery staff have to utilize hatchery systems designed for red drum to raise southern flounder larvae. Once the two climate controlled flounder buildings come on-line, TPWD will be able to expand flounder culture efforts into seasons that have traditionally been too warm to raise the demanding larvae. This potential increase in production may play a vital role in sustaining southern flounder recruitment as the natural wild stock continues to struggle during warmer winters (see adjoining article).

Without question, these new buildings will be a game changer for southern flounder stock enhancement efforts. It is difficult, often times impossible, to have success without support. The outpouring of



Sea Center Texas biologist Courtney Moore and Jules Bonnot stocking southern flounder fingerlings into Christmas Bay. Photo by Shane Bonnot.

support that the hatchery program has received from TPWD executive management, CCA, volunteers and the general public are certainly setting the stage for a triumphant outcome, one that very well may help determine the future of flounder in Texas.



Paul Cason, Shane Bonnot and David Abrego check on construction progress of the Flounder Building. Photo by Sam Caldwell.

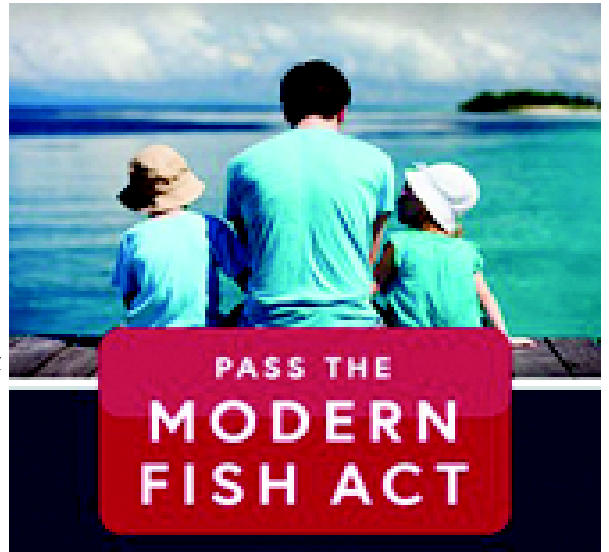


With greatly expanded space and climate controls focused on flounder production, the Flounder Building at Sea Center Texas will be a game changer for southern flounder stock enhancement efforts. Photo by David Abrego.

CCA Texas Social Happenings

Summer has come to an end, but the fish are still running. We hope everyone is taking the time to relish the cooler weather and enjoy their time on the water! Be sure to follow us on social media, listen to our podcast *Coastal Advocacy Adventures*, and visit 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!



Facebook

Facebook:

Want to learn more about the Modern Fish Act? Check out Episode 29 of the Coastal Advocacy Adventures Podcast for an in-depth conversation about this important legislation.

Twitter:

Our Concert for Conservation feat. Hank Williams Jr. brought out a nice crowd in May. Many signed up for a free membership that gave them a chance to win a 2018 Polaris Ranger. That lucky winner was Ayden Rocamora. Thank you Tara Trahan for the Photo! #conservation #joincca



Twitter

Instagram:

Update: Bids are out to restore a 27.7-acre oyster habitat in Sabine Lake that has been damaged over the years by sedimentation from the construction of the Sabine-Neches Intercoastal waterway ship channel. @BCT Photo Credits: @lisajo70



Instagram



Facebook: facebook.com/CCATexas

Twitter: twitter.com/CCA_Texas

Instagram: instagram.com/cca_texas

YouTube: youtube.com/CCATexasProjects

CCA Texas Podcasts: ccatexas.org/podcasts

Upper Coast

Capt. Glenn Hammond

Fishing the Tri-Bay Area

Growing up in Houston and having grandparents that ran a bait camp in Port Bolivar meant that I was in reach of some of the best fishing along the Gulf Coast. I ended up settling in the Tri-Bay area, which consists of Bastrop Bay, Chocolate Bay and Christmas Bay. No matter where else you choose to fish, you should spend some time learning these bays. They are all shallow with mud, sand and many obstacles to maneuver (oyster reefs), and all hold excellent gamefish and low numbers of fisherfolks.

Fall is a transition period between summer and winter fishing. As cool fronts knock down water temperatures and lower tides, shrimp will leave the marsh on their annual migration to the Gulf. This takes a couple of months and requires a trained eye for spotting working birds. Drift fishing those marsh outlets can be very successful.

October means timing this time of year. You have to be selective in choosing your fishing days and careful about taking children on 'maybe' days. For sure, you don't want to fish in the middle of a cold front. But watching the weather and timing a fishing trip two days before, or two days after a front usually works for me.

As we go into November, shrimp migration will be winding down. It's time now to switch gears and break out the trolling motor. As the bay empties of bait, gamefish will gather and stage. Guts, cuts, ditches and drains are great spots to try. We use darker soft plastics, Roach, Black Magic or Chicken on a Chain, Down South Lures, and Bob Norton Lures on a 1/8 to 1/4oz jig head. But you can't go wrong with live shrimp under a Mid-Coast Product popping cork. Remember, safety first and send those big multi-spotted ladies back.

I give live fishing reports on the *Outdoor Fishing Show*, 610 am, every Friday morning 4 am to 4:15 am. You can podcast the show (sports radio 610.radio.com). Thanks, Tight lines and heavy stringers—**Capt. Glenn Hammond** 713-208-0683

Middle Coast

Capt. Stephen Boriskie

Kitchen Pass to go fishin'

Fall fishing on the Middle Texas Coast means many things to me but the thing that stands out in my mind is abundance of fish! My answer to the question 'What's your favorite time of year to fish?' has not changed and continues to be October and November! Abundance in the amount of bait, the number of anglers and certainly the number and variety of fish! Keeper fish in fact! Looking back at my logs, I can prove why this is the time of year that we have the best, most and biggest keeper Speckled Trout, Redfish, Black Drum, Flounder and Blue Cats, yes we do get the Blues up here around our delta near the Guadalupe River.

Fall is for back to school and back to sports and generally back to the reality that you may be 'too busy to go fishing' so I am giving you a kitchen pass with this writing and I urge you to make it happen. So many demands on our time and so little time to fish is what I hear from the folks that come to visit us for a day on the water. The thing is the best days are right around the corner and with help from Mother Nature the water will be cooling down soon and we should be enjoying rising tides with the October moon. The fish seem more active and alive with this change and so are the anglers. More water flowing in, more oxygen in the water and the promise of shorter days giving way to more recovery time under the darkness of night all combine into the perfect home for a game fish. The thing is, you need to be here to benefit from this angling paradise.

Whether your angling method is bait or artificial, this is the time to get it all out of the tackle box and spend these days of cooler weather and seasonal changes walking a reef or lonely shoreline, casting out and setting hooks! At Bay Flats Lodge we have a good mix of clients requesting to be in the boat with bait and out in the water wading with artificials. All of our guides can do either method and we all love the change this time of year brings. —**Capt Stephen Boriskie** Bay Flats Lodge 512-589-1916

Lower Coast

Capt. Bryan Robinson

Autumn: skinny water, fish heaven

Hello from Deep South Texas, where we're looking forward to Autumn's good fishing and cooler weather. Hunting season will be in full swing as well, so there will be less boat traffic and calmer fish.

Higher tides begin throughout the Lower Laguna Madre in early October, so redfish will be hunting areas where the water hasn't been during the hot summer. Target guts and channels on the west side of bays where the water is flowing out in the fall. If the bait is there, the fish will be there too!

Through October and into November, if you're casting flies, try and match the hatch. Tie on small Clousers in tan/white or plastic lures in clear/glitter that mimic small shrimp and pinfish. Always keep some crab flies handy—these work well this time of the year.

With calmer winds and less floating grass, the top water bite can be great. Redfish and trout will be holding in skinny water. My go-to lures for top water flies are poppers, with bone colors by Heddon for casting. Work the top water bait slow and wait for the show—nothing like having a fish come up and crush them!

When not fishing upstairs, try a gold spoon or soft plastics (red/white or green white). Redfish will be schooling up close to the passes on the east side. The Port Mansfield region is a great place to look for them during this time.

Of course, safety is first of all. Remember to pack a light jacket for those cool mornings, take a kid fishing and practice CPR (Catch, Photo, Release). Be sure and send the photos to *CURRENTS*. The Texas coast is a special place! Let's respect it and be courteous to other boaters.

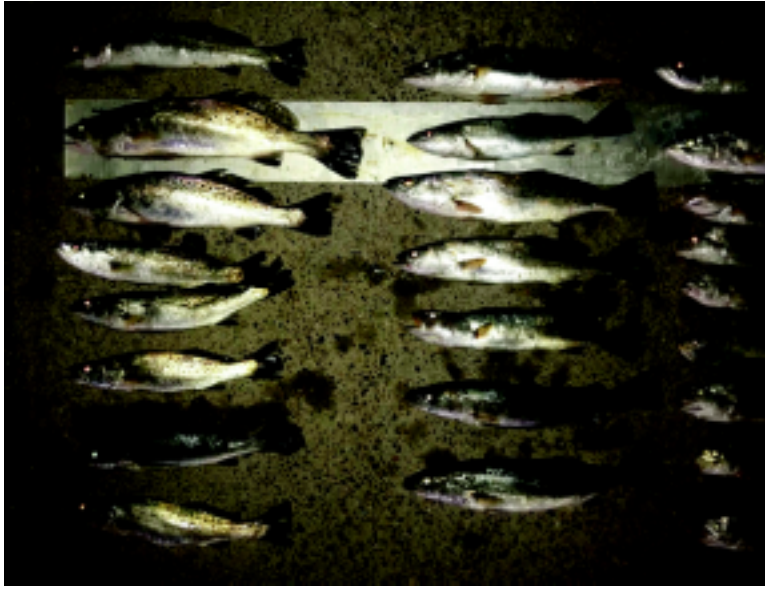
—**Capt. Bryan Robinson** 956-241-5520
bryandrobinson@yahoo.com

Editor's Note: A native of the Lower Coast, Capt. Bryan has spent 30 years enjoying and working in the region. Bryan served as a CCA RGV chapter President, and still serves on that chapter's Board of Directors.

Haley's First-light Trout. Taken with an iPhone 7 in a waterproof case. Dad Jay Collins says he pins the phone strap to his shirt so it is both handy and safe.



Caught Redhanded! Reports from TP&W Game Wardens



Photos courtesy of TPWD Game Wardens.

On the afternoon of July 28, Game Wardens Richers, Van Dyke, Crawford and Carter Rangel were patrolling the Gulf of Mexico. After checking some shrimp boats, the wardens noticed a suspicious boat on the horizon.

The wardens approached, inspected the boat and found fourteen undersized snapper on the vessel. Citations for under-

sized snapper were issued and cases are pending.

On the night of July 21, Brazoria County Game Wardens received an Operation Game Thief call about several individuals engaged in fishing with illegal means and methods. Wardens Crawford and Rangel responded and found multiple individuals

fishing near the Surfside jetties with a gill net. After a brief interview, the suspects admitted ownership of the gill net and retrieved the net out of the water. Sixteen undersized trout and other small fish were recovered. Cases and citations are pending.

Texas Game Wardens, Serving Texans since 1895



Law Enforcement Off the Pavement

CURRENTS is published six times a year by CCA Texas, a nonprofit state affiliate of the Coastal Conservation Association. This is the issue of October/November 2018 Vol. 36, Issue 6

Editor-in-Chief
Robby Byers

Editor
Sam Caldwell

Director of Communications & Media
Kim Philippi

Editorial Team
John Blaha, Shane Bonnot, Amie Hoy

CCA Texas Staff
Drew Adams, Brian Meuth, Taylor Rieck,
Erich Schneider, Matt Still, Coleman
Todd, Brian Weaver, Blake Burnside

On the cover: Breeding-age flounder share cramped quarters at Sea Center Texas with seatrout and red drum coastal friends. Soon, they will have a place of their own with conditions designed for optimum flounder fingerling production. Photo by Sam Caldwell



Chapter Updates

Alvin-Pearland
Rex Richards
alvinpearlandcca@yahoo.com

Hopefully by the time you are reading this, the weather will have cooled down a bit and we will be transitioning into the "Fall Season" which is a great time of year for fishing! We would like to thank our August and September "Anglers' Night Out" speakers, Bryan Treadway and Capt. Billy Penick from "Gypsy Guide Service". You guys shared some fantastic information and did a great job!

We still have two "Anglers' Night Out" events scheduled for 2018. On October 2, we will be hosting Hunter Welch from "FishStix Rods" and on November 6, we will have the "Flounder Fishing Legend" Phil Ortiz, with IC Jigs. These are two presentations you don't want to miss! The best way to stay up to date with our latest chapter events is to follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/alvinpearlandcca or go to our chapter website at 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

We had another "Sold Out" banquet for the fourth year in a row thanks to CCA supporters from far and wide. It is CCA Texas and CCA everywhere that is making a difference. **Thanks to our sponsors, donors, and volunteers for making our 19th banquet a big success.** We would like to extend a special thanks to **Salemi's Ace Hardware Rockport, Title Sponsor, for their support the last two years.** In addition, our chapter is blessed with an exceptional group of dedicated sponsors: **Star Sponsors - Poor Man's Country Club, First Community Bank, Coastal Innovations, Premier Yahama, and the Reserve at St. Charles Bay. Key Sponsors Navy Army Credit Union, Prosperity Bank, GSM Insurors, and a large contingent of Table Sponsors - Academy Sports & Outdoors, Burkholder Air/STAG Golf, Gator Bait, Keller Williams Realty-Rockport, Rio Engineering, Inc., Stewart Title Company and Tackle Town, 4B Ranch, Bang Air INC/Bang Electric, Belaire Environmental, Inc, Dailey & Burge, John Witte Excavation, Richard Bianchi Team, Rockport Marine, See Level Construction.** We want to extend a very special thanks to **Ashley Macenna and her staff at Camp Aranzazu** for allowing us the

use of their wonderful facility. We also want to thank **L & F Distributors, Ltd. Corpus Christi** for furnishing the beer for the banquet. Last but not least, a big thank you to the **Aransas Bay Chapter members** who tirelessly organized the banquet while still recovering from Hurricane Harvey.

We look forward to seeing everyone next year for the **20th anniversary of BABES on the BAY**. Lots of special surprises are in store. **The Tournament Dates are May 17 - 18, 2019**. Follow the Babes on the Bay at www.babesonthebay.com, on [instagram@babesonthebay](https://www.instagram.com/babesonthebay), and on Facebook.

Austin

Josh Cook 512-656-2964

josh@cookrealestatetexas.com

It doesn't get any better than hunting and football seasons opening in September. And, now is one of my favorite times of the year to fish the Texas coast with lighter crowds and soon to be cooler weather. I am heading down to Gary Boyd's camp, Majek Corner, at the land cut soon to fish the 2018 President's Trip and I know we are going to have an outstanding time. **Thanks for donating your camp again this year Gary and thanks to Sonny Horton of BCS Concrete Structures for buying it again!** And a huge thanks to Scott Sanderson for hosting this with me again and for all his help with this trip over the last few years!

I realize we are a long way out from the 2019 Austin Banquet, but Mark Your Calendars now for May 9. We are already preparing for it and I can assure you this year will have some fresh prizes and games that will have the room buzzing throughout the night.

Our Anglers' Night Out, held on September 19th, was another great and informative event. Keep an eye on your email for upcoming events. Happy hunting, fishing and football season to all of you!

Bay Area

Curtis Anderson 832-435-0257

cla1965@att.net

Brazoria County

Dan Johnson 979-481-3907

djohnson@sparklingclear.com

Brazos Valley

John Ben Strother 979-220-1738

jbsunlimited@yahoo.com

Brenham

Brandon Marth 979-277-0151

brenhamironworks@sbcglobal.net

The Brenham CCA chapter would like to express sincere condolences to the family of Nina Hopkins who recently passed away. Nina and her late husband, Mike Hopkins, were long time supporters of CCA and the Brenham community. **These guys were fishing the Brenham CCA Chapter Tournament in Port O'Connor, August 3&4, 2018, and caught a 5'-7" tarpon while fishing for trout and redfish.**



Brenham trophy fishermen: Left to right, Dylan Baker, Kayn Gurka, John David Baker.

Brush Country

Brenda Ballard 361-296-4037

brendagballard@hotmail.com

The Brush Country Chapter of CCA is hosting Kids' Fish Day Saturday, October 13, 2018 at Kaufer-Hubert Park at Baffin Bay. Fishing time is from sunrise until 11:00am. weigh-in is from 11:00am - 11:30am. Lunch and awards presentation will be at 11:30am. You may fish by boat, from a pier, or off the beach. All youth must be accompanied by an adult. This event is funded by private donations, so participation is free! **To register your child please email Brenda at brushcountrycca@gmail.com.**

Our Annual Fish Fry Banquet & Auction

will be November 7, 2018. We are excited to announce this year the event will be held at the JK Northway Exposition Center in Kingsville and Baffin Bay Seafood Co. will be catering the event. Doors open at 6pm. To purchase tickets please visit our chapter page on the CCA Texas website. To become a sponsor or to purchase a table please contact Brenda at brushcountrycca@gmail.com or (361) 296-4037. For updates and other locations to buy tickets please like our Facebook Page - CCA Texas Brush Country Chapter.

Centex

Wayne Webb 254-405-1300

sheyhunt@aol.com

Centex chapter kicked off our 21st year with our first meeting on July 24 in preparation for our 2019 annual banquet. **The banquet will be held in June and the big-ticket item will be the Can-AM Defender HD8XT side by side provided with a trailer to haul. Thanks to local vendors, Waco Motorsports, RDO Equipment and Flat Rock Trailers for your support in our local chapter.** Our chapter board has grown this year to reach 15 members, including 11 returning. Together we will work to ensure another fun and successful banquet. If interested in a table, please contact bweaver@ccatexas.org. — Donny Fratus

Central Houston

Todd Buster 713-545-1897

tbuster@busterandcogdellbuilders.com

Colorado Valley

Eugene Ulrich 979-249-7425

zeke.ulrich@gmail.com

Greetings from the Colorado Valley! Our board members were busy preparing for our two fish fries which we auction off at our banquet each year. Our first one was held on September 8th for Cecil Delgado with Masonry Works and the second was held on October 12th for AJ Zimmerman with Maxwell Locke & Ritter LLP.

These events were entertaining for the lucky winners as well as for our fry team. We hope everyone enjoyed the summer season fishing time and look forward to some cooler weather this fall. **Don't forget to save the date March 28, 2019 for our next banquet. We truly wish to see ya'll**

SIMMS.
FISHING PRODUCTS

AVAILABLE ONLINE ONLY
WWW.CCATEXAS.ORG

SIMMS DOWNSHORE FLIP W/CCA LOGO

A FLIP-FLOP SANDAL FOR TIRED FEET AT THE CLOSE OF A REWARDING DAY ON THE WATER.

FEATURES

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

there. Wishing bent rods and tight lines to all!

Corpus Christi
Clifford Johnstone 361-816-7338
cjohnstone@higginbotham.net

Hello CCA Members. Fall is about here and we have been busy in South Texas! We had a great turnout for our annual skeet shoot tournament. **Thank you Kelly Dunning, for taking the lead and managing the tournament. Shout out to Mike Henry for sponsoring us with the CC Pistol and Rifle Club.** Our members received a CCA legislative update from Troy Williamson and the Rudy's BBQ was awesome.

Our Anglers' Night Out (ANO) event and membership drive was on September 11th and we had a big crowd at Brewster's. Jay Gardner, Kesley Gibson, Patience Cannon, Judy Arnold and Jessica Arroyo worked hard on the final checklist and the event's deadlines. Our speakers for ANO were Quentin Hall from Harte Research Institute, who spoke about Cedar Bayou and Jay Gardner, from CCA Corpus Christi, updated the crowd about CCA Texas Habitat Today/Fish for Tomorrow Projects along the Texas coastline. Our own CCA lobbyist, Joey Parks, from Austin spoke about advocacy and upcoming CCA conservation efforts.

On October 5 and 6, Columbus Day Weekend, the Corpus Christi Chapter will be hosting Babes on Baffin Ladies Fishing Tournament. The event will be at Marker 37, same as last year, on North Padre Island. 250 lady anglers participated in last year's tournament and we are expecting a great turnout again this year! Valerie Chilton, Tournament Director, can be reached at 361-882-5199 regarding sponsorship opportunities and information. Registration is open, you can access it through the CCA website, CCA Corpus Christi Facebook page or Babes on Baffin Facebook page.

On Saturday, October 27th, our chapter will be sponsoring the Poco Rojo Kid Fish Tournament at the CCA Marine Development Center in Flour Bluff. Our committee members are working hard putting the pieces together for a great Kids Day with their families. **Dr. Robert Vega and his Parks and Wildlife Department staff at the hatchery will be hosting the event.** For more information, check our CCA website and Facebook page, mark your calendar and bring the family for some great fishing and a tour of the hatchery.

Would you like to get involved as a volunteer for one of our upcoming events? For information, call Cliff Johnstone at 361-816-7338 or email cjohnstone@higginbotham.net or Jay Gardner at jgardner@lja.com

Thanks again to all of our volunteers and sponsors who make all of our events possible. Hope to see you at our next event.

Dallas
Matt Scherer 214-995-6777
matthew.scherer@ryan.com

On July 27th the Dallas Chapter hosted their 3rd Annual Hooked on Clays Sporting Clays Tournament. Once again, the event was a huge success with nearly 100 people in attendance. Other than the 100-degree temperature, everyone enjoyed shooting clay birds, Texas BBQ and socializing with fellow conservationists. If you were unable to attend the event this year, don't worry because you can watch it on the DFW Outdoorsman television show. **The show host, Woody Fezatte and CBS11 traffic reporter Madison Sawyer not only came out and**

participated in the event, they recorded an entire episode about CCA Hooked on Clays and CCA. The program aired to the entire DFW metroplex on September 1st giving CCA incredible coverage. If you missed it, you can watch the episode at <https://dfw.cbslocal.com/2018/09/03/ca-hooked-on-clays/>.

We also want to thank all of our volunteers and sponsors. **Sponsors include: Beretta Gallery, Freedom Powersports, Game Guard, Dripping Springs Vodka, Whitehorse Steakhouse, Pelagic, and Academy.**

Dallas members, we are working on finalizing a date in October for our next general membership meeting, so keep an eye out for future emails announcing date, time and location. We also encourage you to visit us on Facebook at DallasCCA, on Instagram or visit the CCA webpage for details on future events and meetings.

East Texas
Dr. James Norman 936-554-3165
jnorman7@suddenlink.net

Fort Bend
Donnie Powers 281-850-9023
dpowers11450@gmail.com

Fort Worth
Brad Wallace 817-988-8926
brad@northtexasmarine.com

Galveston
Dr. Ken Ellis 713-962-7731
drkenellis@aol.com

Golden Triangle
Joseph Ramey 409-892-3323
ramey.joseph@gmail.com

It seems CCA Texas finished another successful year of the Texas CCA S.T.A.R. Tournament. Tagged redfish were caught often and early this year, some entered and some not. Through social media and weekly updates posted on the web, CCA members can be informed on what is leading and who is leading each division. That's a far cry from checking the chalk board down at Stingaree Marina in Crystal Beach or The Causeway on Sabine Lake. Having kids involved in the tournament is a huge part of its success and the allure of catching a tagged redfish even had my 8-year old's attention. Get those kids on the water.

We have set a date for our 2019 Chapter Banquet. It will be held May 30, 2019 at the Beaumont Civic Center. We will be sending out a "save the date" through email but go ahead and mark that down on your calendar. In February, the chapter will host another Anglers' Night Out with food and guest speakers. We will inform you of the date when it is scheduled.

We would like to thank all the board members, donors, sponsors and vendors for all that you did to help with our most successful banquet to date. Most of all, we would like to thank all those that attended our banquet. Your support and donations are invaluable to protect marine habitat across the state. Many chapter members have asked me and other board members about local projects being spearheaded by CCA Texas. **All funds raised at CCA Texas events are kept 100% in Texas.** In the past few years there have been multiple restoration projects in East Galveston Bay and Sabine Lake. **CCA Texas and the Building Conservation Trust (BCT) are teaming together to restore a 27.7-acre oyster reef on Sabine Lake.** The project should be completed in 2019. We all know the importance of oyster reefs and their role for a healthy marine habitat. This is one example of

where your money is going when you sign up as a CCA Texas member, donate to CCA Texas, or spend your money at your local chapter banquet. **THANK YOU!**

Fishing in and around Sabine Lake and East Galveston Bay have been a grind this year. We can't help but think that Hurricane Harvey has had an immediate impact on both fisheries. Hopefully we continue to have a calm storm season. As we know, all Texans deserve a break after last year.

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

By the time you receive this edition of Currents, we already will have been busy: Our first general meeting for the 2018/2019 season was on September 5, 2018, with guest speakers Game Warden Emily Slubar out of TPW's Fort Bend County office and Daisy Chacon, spokesperson for MD Anderson's annual Boot Walk. We also held our annual chapter fishing tournament, the President's Cup, on September 15, 2018. Finally, we held a kid's fish in Riverstone Subdivision in Missouri City on September 23, 2018.

We always seem to have plenty of chapter events so please be sure to check the web page at ccatexas.org/greater-sugar-land often. Our coming events, details to follow as they develop, are: **First Wednesdays, starting 9/5/18:** General Meetings, Otto's Barbecue & Hamburgers in The Fountains Shopping Center in Stafford **Third Wednesdays, starting 9/19/18:** Board Meetings, La Escondida in Missouri City **February 9, 2019 (tentative):** Crab trap pickup in conjunction with Parks & Wildlife (held out of Sargent)

April 4, 2019: Chapter Banquet
June 8, 2019 (tentative): Inter Chapter Challenge **Various dates to be announced:** Kids fish events
That's it for now, but in the meantime, we at the Greater Sugar Land Chapter all hope that you had a great summer on and in the water and hope to see you at our next meeting!

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

Hello Greater Woodlands Chapter! I can't believe summer, and the heat, is almost over. I hope everyone got a chance to go fishing and take the kiddos too. While you were out on the water, I know you were telling all your buddies about our little chapter, and how much fun we have, so they'll want to join us and take a part in helping us grow. We'll be having a general membership meeting soon, so check our CCA website and our Facebook page (CCAGreaterWoodlands) for more info. Bring your buddies and win some prizes! Sea-ya soon!

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

Tight lines to the Guadalupe Valley chapter membership! **We are just over two months until our Annual November banquet and we're fired up.** Individual Tickets are \$50 and our Corporate Sponsor Table is \$700. **Weber Ford Motor Company hosted our board meeting to discuss banquet details and to plan for our final quarterly meeting.** The final meeting will be held in Cuero at a date to be determined. An email blast will be sent to alert chapter members of the meeting, time, date and location. As everyone who has attended these quarterly meetings can attest, they are great feeds. Crawfish boils, fish fries, Coney

Islands, gumbo and you get the picture. Just another reason to be active in the chapter and not on the sidelines looking in.

The chapter will usher in a new president at the conclusion of the 2018 banquet. We have some interest from our members and pledges of support if they do take the position. With the wonderful and energetic membership, being the chapter President is a no brainer. With the support from CCA Texas and Matt Still, the position becomes easier.

I recently attended another CCA Texas Board meeting in Houston. I have not missed one since assuming the role of Chapter President. I find them very informative and they reinforce my belief that CCA is worth the investment of my time and money. Dedicated to the cause coupled with the educated, they know how to get things done. It makes for a powerful, well-funded machine. Habitat conservation and restoration are high on the list of CCA Texas projects.

Oysters, Oysters, Oysters! Support for our Texas Game Wardens was advanced with the passage of a motion to purchase night vision optics and side scan sonar. All designed to keep our good guys and gals technologically in the fight with the bad guys who also have the latest toys. Rebuilding the floating cabins on the Upper Laguna Madre was approved. We must keep our wardens quartered in safe and comfortable buildings while they work to uphold the laws of the state.

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

Plans are well underway for the Annual Hays County CCA Banquet to be held November 14, 2018, at the VFW Hall in Wimberley. Doors open at 6 pm followed by a great night of fun! Tickets are on sale now. Table sponsorships include seating for 8, a CCA Willow Creek Damascus Knife, dinner and drinks, CCA membership and a table gift for each person. In addition to Individual tickets, we have also added a Couples ticket option this year. We'll have door prizes, some great raffle items and a Live Auction. Tickets can be purchased online at ccatexas.org/events/2018-hays-county-banquet/.

We meet the second Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm at Hays City Store in Driftwood. Meetings are open to all and are a great opportunity for you to learn more about our chapter and CCA. Please "Like" us on Facebook www.facebook.com/ccahayscounty

If you have any questions about the banquet or our chapter, please send us an email at haycountycca@gmail.com or call Tim Young at (512)573-7939. From the full board at Hays County CCA we look forward to seeing you all at our banquet and Happy Fishing!

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

Helotes
Bob Mitchell 210-442-7009
bobmitchell89@gmail.com

CCA Helotes had a great start in its first year being a CCA chapter. **Our first banquet in March 2018 hosted over 350 people at the Helotes 4H Building.** We packed the house

and had a great evening raising funds to support our state coastal fisheries. **Plans are already underway for the next banquet to be held at the Helotes 4H Building on March 21, 2019.**

With a strong spirit and excitement to spread the word about our chapter, CCA Helotes participated in the Helotes Cornyval Parade in April with the chapter Presidents personal boat being our float. The boat was dressed to impress with lots of decorations and flare. Chapter members brought their families to ride on the float and had a blast tossing out candy and CCA pamphlets to the crowd.

In June, our chapter participated in the CCA Texas Inter Chapter Challenge fishing tournament in Aransas Pass. Everybody in attendance enjoyed a great time on the water as well as winning a few prizes at the event. One of our members, Ferdinand Gaenzel, won the largest redfish category and walked away with a great pair of new shades and a YETI cooler. That event solidified that the chapter was on the road to success with good ol' fashioned family fun.

CCA Helotes didn't stop there. After taking part of the summer off, our chapter put together a youth fishing tournament at the start of August. It was a great opportunity to bring young anglers out and fish close to home. The event was completely free to enter thanks to our sponsors for the tournament. CCA Helotes members, **Charles and Vicki Sablatura with Rockport Rattler, Judy Mitchell with Keller Williams Realty, John and Karen Botter, Eddie Botello and Mack Rigby, all jumped at the chance to help put together a very successful tournament.** Also a few local businesses contributed to our chapter's tournament, many thanks to HEB, Sam's Club, and Academy for your support. The tournament was set up following the way that the STAR tournament is conducted. This gave us a chance to explain to the youth how just catching one fish could potentially win you a scholarship and other prizes. We had over 40 youth anglers catching a total of 137 fish in just over 2 hours of fishing. **Congratulations to the winners: Grand Champion/Most Fish Caught- Kristianna Eslora, Biggest Fish Awards- Under 11 Division 1st Place- Devin Lozano, 2nd Place- Liam Eslora, 3rd Place- Lane Rigby. Under 16 Division 1st Place- Ashley Phillips, 2nd Place- Kristianna Eslora and 3rd Place- Drew Mahr.**

For more information about our chapter's



Lee County helped at the 10th Port Mansfield Beach & Cut Cleanup
Many Lee County members aided the cleanup again this year. With 25 seasoned Captains, the dispatch of boats to the shoreline went flawlessly. These guys furnish their TIME, BOATS, AND SOME VERY EXPENSIVE FUEL, and they are good at finding trash and getting their workers to the areas that need cleaning the most. Thanks for your efforts, Captains and cleanup survivors! Another fine effort by fine people—Miller Bassler

meetings and events, follow us on our Facebook page, or on the CCA Texas website under Helotes Chapter. If you would like to become a member of the CCA Helotes Chapter, the "busiest little fish club" in Texas, contact our Chapter President **Bob Mitchell** at ccahelotes@gmail.com.

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

Hello Hill Country Chapter Members. Another banquet has come and gone for our chapter without a hurricane closing in on us, we hosted another sellout crowd at the **Civic Center in New Braunfels Texas.** I would like to thank all of my directors for the outstanding job they did in stepping up to the call of duty, in showing up for meetings, obtaining donations and following through with their duty's the night before and the night of the banquet. I will be scheduling a banquet wrap up meeting along with our steak night some time in November, so you directors watch your emails.

We will have our final **General Membership Meeting October 23, 2018 at the Elks Lodge in New Braunfels Texas.** Our guest speaker will be **Bill Kinney, STAR Director, or Dylan Sassman STAR Assistant Director.** This will be a great opportunity to learn a lot about the STAR tournament. We will have attendance prizes and a raffle, food and drink are also available. Treasure the Trips.

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

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

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

The Lee County Chapter will be hosting its 8th annual banquet on Thursday October 18, 2018. Committee members have been putting in their hard work to make this another successful year. You can contact Lee County chapter president Jake Horne or any committee member to reserve individual tickets or tables for the banquet. Reserved Tables start at \$600 for our Flounder Table, \$750 for our Trout Table or \$1000 for our Redfish Table. Individual tickets may be purchased for \$60 and Couples tickets for \$100. Individual tickets and reserved tables may be purchased through any Lee County CCA board member or online under the chapter page at ccatexas.org

The banquet will consist of a Live and Silent Auction,

numerous Bucket Raffle items, a card game to win a Springfield XDS Stainless Slide, 9MM and Glock 19X 9MM and a Cap Raffle with the custom Lee County CCA logo, designed by our very own committee member Wes Swearngen. The Lee County board members are currently selling presale raffle tickets for chance to win 2018 Polaris Ranger 570 Crew, with trailer. The Lee County CCA Chapter would like to give special thanks to our donors and sponsors for their continued support of this great event. The success of the Lee County CCA Chapter would not be possible without them.

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

Lower Colorado
Stephen Zapalac 972-244-6633
szapalac@ykc.com

The 10th anniversary banquet for the chapter held on August 3rd, at the Bay City Civic Center broke records again. With an almost sellout crowd of approximately 450, our chapter members outdid and outbid themselves during the evening's events. As is custom for the Lower Colorado chapter, we made sure the kids attending had their pick of rod & reels, tackle boxes and gift cards. They each got a bag of soft plastic lures from the huge bucket of lures donated by board members.

Mr. W.D. Von Goten and friends as well as Poco Playa, HEB, Alpine Services and Sunbelt Valve Services had the best seats in the house as Platinum Sponsors. A special "Thank You" goes to these folks for their loyalty and devotion to our conservation efforts. They were backed up by our Gold Sponsors; Suez WTS, Capital Farm Credit, Phillips 66, OXEA, Lyondell Basell, Anthony's Auto Works, STP NOC, Full Stringer Realty, Frankson and Giffith CPA's, Aluma Tech, Transport Boats and of course the support from Academy Sports + Outdoors.

Not wanting to be left out of the fun, we had many additions to the Bronze Sponsor level who filled up the majority of tables that were left. We received more donations and gifts for the auctions than ever before. The local support has been overwhelming. We thank all our sponsors, supporters and members for making 2018 a remarkable year in support of CCA. All of this would not have been possible without the leadership from chapter president, Stephen Zapalac and board members, Jerry West, Ronnie Bose, Clint Hewitt, David Sitz, Blake Burnside from

CCA, Maury Guzick, and Melvin Gavender. No banquet is successful without the help from our volunteers, Jane Zapalac, Theresa West, Mrs. Gavender, Jerry and Pat Coleman, Nathan Lubber and Gil De La Rosa. Everyone enjoyed our tasty BBQ and the special dessert again this year, chocolate cake which had no left overs. It was a wonderful celebration to mark the growth and progress of the CCA chapter that represents Matagorda County, all its towns, cities and especially, all its fishing resources.

Keep an eye out for the results of our Guides Cup Tournament that happens on Oct. 16 and mark your calendars for next August 2019 for another superb Lower Colorado CCA banquet.

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

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

Matagorda Bays
Chad Hensley 979-543-2734
Chadwayne73@yahoo.com

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

Hello CCA members! Fall is knocking on the door and I am truly ready to pursue trout and redfish in cooler weather. Even though the air and water temps have been cooking everyone that is on the water after 11:00 am, fishing or should I say catching game fish on the middle coast has been well above average. Just a little over a year ago Harvey devastated hundreds of miles of the middle coast and the comeback and determination of fishermen and fisherwomen to rebuild and flood the coast with their presence has been amazing and encouraging. Pray that we will dodge the bullet for a few more weeks and years to come. The Midcoast chapter board members have been very busy preparing for the SPEEDY STOP GUIDES CUP on October 5th out of the sanctuary in Port O-Connor, Texas. We again have 20 of the best guides on the middle coast who have stepped up to take 4-people per boat at a discounted price in this tourney. A huge thanks goes to all the buyers and their support for making this a very profitable fundraiser for CCA Texas.

Our board meetings are the second Tues-

day of each month at Francis Maries Restaurant in Victoria (social hour at 6:15pm, meeting at 7:15 pm). Meetings are open to all members who would like to be a part of our Board. From all of us in the Midcoast chapter. God Bless!

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

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

Our next General Membership Meeting on October 2, we will be hosting Brandi Reeder, Captain Game Warden Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept., Fort Bend County, TX. Captain Brandi Reeder has served as a Game Warden for 19 years; 12 years a field officer in Rockport, Aransas County, over 6 years as the Fisheries Law Administrator in Austin, and now as a field Captain over Fort Bend, Brazoria, Matagorda and Wharton counties. She was honored in 2011 with a Director's Citation for developing a women's outreach workshop and in 2013 with a Director Life Saving Award. She continues to teach Commercial Fishing Regulations at the Game Warden Training Center, Justice of the Peace and Justice of the Peace Clerk Seminars and serves as guest speaker at Texas State University. So please join us on October 2 as usual at Houston Distributing Company in the Stein Room starting at 7:00 PM.

This might be a little early but mark it in your calendars our General Meeting on December 4, we will be hosting Frank Perez meteorologist from Saltwater-Recon, LLC. He will be talking about what kind of online/real-time resources and tools for fishing conditions, and how to use them. He will give an overview of the website and demonstrate how to use all of the great features. He will also discuss the health of the bay system and talk about the fall and winter weather projections and how to best fish those conditions. So please join on December 4 at Houston Distributing and of course we will have our great Christmas gift raffle items so please plan to attend.

We held our 29 Annual Northwest Houston Chapter Banquet Fundraiser in August at Shirley Acres. A new venue which turned out to be a terrific place. Great food and fun was had by all and we want to thank our sponsors for all of their donations. A great job by all of the directors. A huge thank you to our Gold Sponsor - Houston Distributing. As well as our Silver Sponsor - Bluewater Seafood, Keyera



The Lower Colorado banquet crowd broke attendance records again and enjoyed a great evening, while the kids enjoyed fishing related prizes.

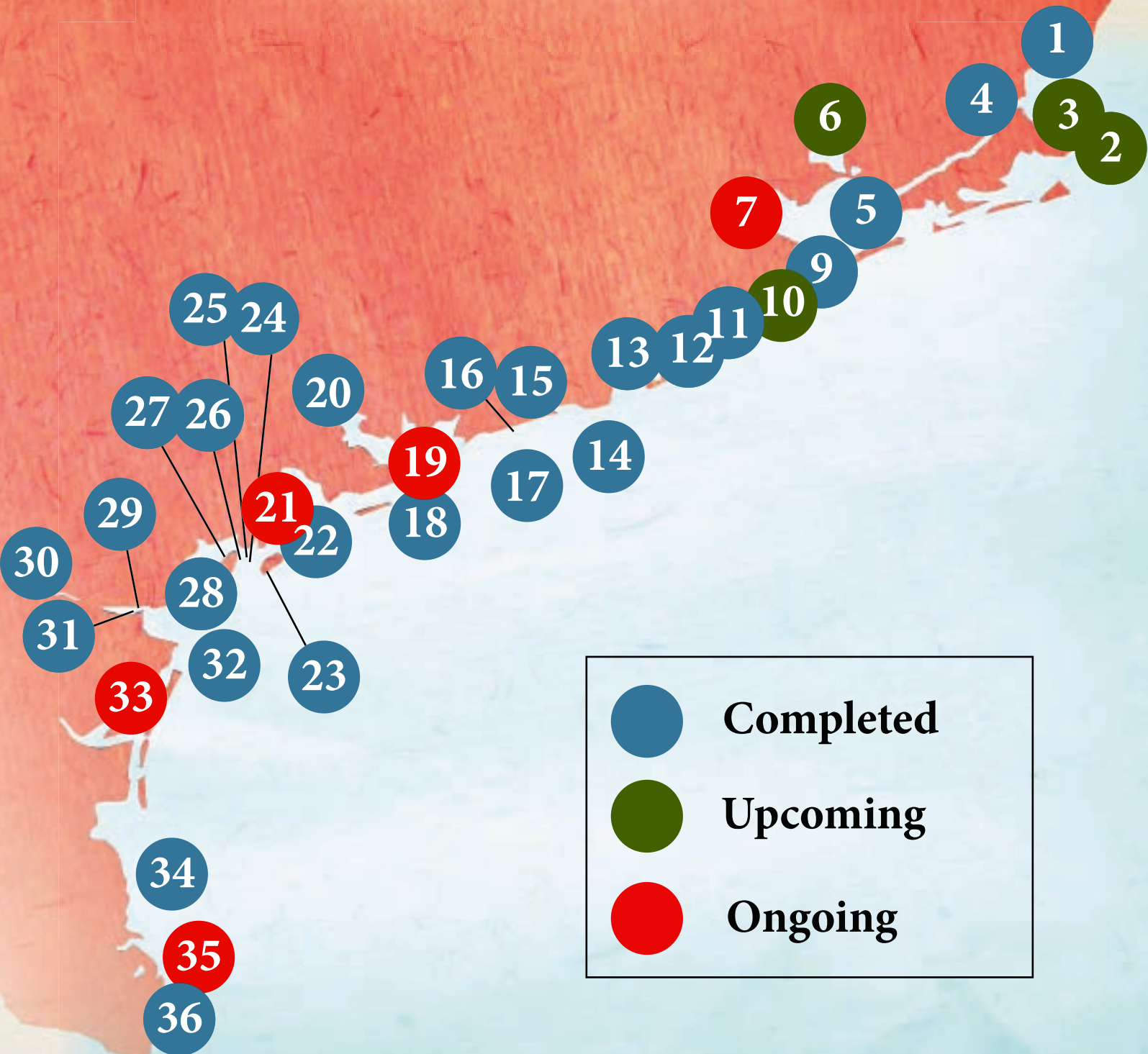
HABITAT TODAY FOR FISH TOMORROW

1. Sabine Lake Deep Reef Oyster Restoration
2. Sabine HI20 Nearshore Reef
3. Sabine Lake Oyster Reef Expansion
4. J.D. Murphree Breakwater
5. East Galveston Bay Oyster Reef Restoration
6. Trinity Bay Discovery Center Living Shoreline
7. Dickinson Bayou Marsh Restoration
8. Moses Lake Shoreline Restoration
9. Sportsmans Road Wetlands Restoration
10. Big Man's Reef
11. Bird Island Cove Marsh Restoration
12. Snake Island Cove Marsh Restoration
13. Oyster Lake Shoreline Stabilization
14. Vancouver Nearshore Reef
15. Cow Trap Lake Shoreline Stabilization
16. San Bernard NWR Shoreline Stabilization
17. Matagorda Nearshore Reef
18. Port O'Connor Nearshore Reef
19. HRI Nearshore Reef Enhancement Study
20. Weed Eradication for Water Flow Restoration
21. HRI Oyster Restoration Site Locator/Mapping Study
22. Matagorda Island Marsh Restoration
23. Cedar Bayou/Vinson Slough Restoration
24. St. Charles Bay Oyster Restoration
25. Aransas Bay Oyster Restoration
26. Goose Island Marsh Restoration
27. Copano Bay Oyster Restoration
28. Aransas Bay Debris Removal
29. Nueces Bay Marsh Restoration
30. Nueces Bay Delta Water Management Gates
31. Nueces Bay Demonstration/Restoration Oyster Reef Project
32. Corpus Christi Nearshore Reef
33. Baffin Bay's Unique Serpulid Study
34. Port Mansfield Nearshore Reef
35. Rio Grande Valley Reef
36. Bahia Grande Restoration

A Natural Partnership



Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow



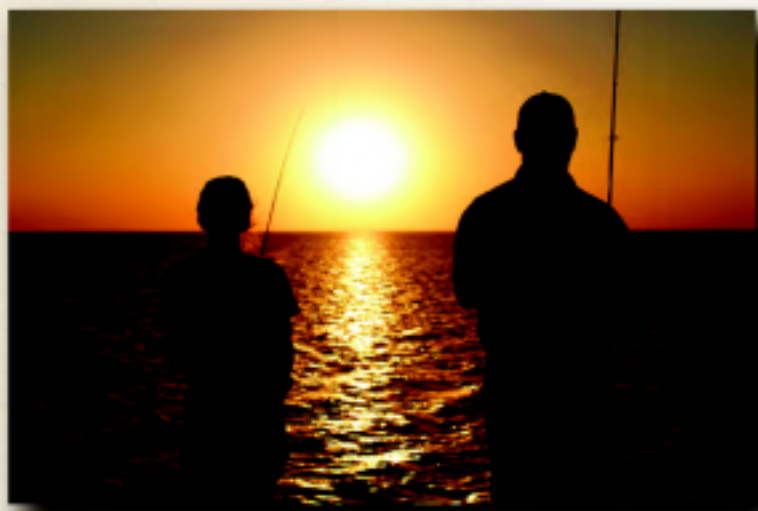
THE TEXAS GULF COAST INITIATIVE



THE TEXAS GULF COAST NEEDS YOU NOW.

Your gift to CCA's National Habitat Program, the Building Conservation Trust (BCT), is vital to make a positive impact on marine habitat creation and restoration, from coast to coast. Every dollar you give to BCT is leveraged multiple times to create a conservation impact far beyond your initial gift. Start making a difference now for marine habitat, fish, outdoorsmen and future generations by making your gift to BCT's Texas Gulf Coast Initiative.

Don't wait. Call BCT at (713) 626-4234 today to speak with our fundraising staff for your area.



Since the creation of Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow (HTFT) by the CCA Texas Executive Board in 2009, CCA Texas has been a partner in 36 projects along the Texas coast with a total contribution of over \$5.6 Million. Project partners include: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Galveston Bay Foundation, Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program, Harte Research Institute, Aransas County, San Antonio Bay Foundation and Texas Ducks Unlimited.

BUILDING
CONSERVATION
TRUST 

CCA's National Habitat Program



2018 BCT AND CCA TEXAS FUNDED HABITAT PROJECTS

- Vancouver Nearshore Reef: \$10,000
- Dickinson Bayou Marsh Grass Planting: \$25,000
- Trinity Bay Discovery Center Living Shoreline: \$40,000
- Nueces Bay Demonstration Oyster Reef: \$60,000
- Baffin Bay's Unique Serpulid Reef Habitat Conservation Science: \$60,000
- Sabine Lake Restored Oyster Reef Expansion: \$100,000
- Rio Grande Valley Nearshore Reef: \$150,000
- Sabine Nearshore Reef: \$200,000
- Big Man's Nearshore Reef: \$250,000

TOTAL DOLLARS COMMITTED: \$895,000

EQUATES TO \$3.6 MILLION IN MARINE HABITAT

A Natural Partnership



Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow

Building Conservation Trust strives to be the largest marine habitat restoration, enhancement and creation entity in the United States. BCT is a development and major gift program that multiplies and maximizes funds raised to restore and enhance marine habitat. The grassroots-driven projects achieve one or more of five key objectives: Restore degraded habitats; Create new habitats; Advance the science of coastal habitat restoration and marine fisheries conservation; Foster habitat stewardship; and Educate coastal communities of the value of conservation.

TO BECOME A PROJECT PARTNER CONTACT jdblaha@ccatexas.org · (713) 626-4222



The Orange County 2018 Banquet Committee. Left to Right: Anna Bandy, Louis Moore, Emily Henry, Davis Dixon, Heston Henry, Zach Johnson, Addison Bandy and Scott Bandy.

Energy, Academy Sports and John Eagle Honda.com. Thank you to everyone who sponsored or donated to our event. If you didn't attend hope to see you next year.

Our sincere thanks to both Houston Distributing and Academy Sport + Outdoors. They are active sponsors of our meetings and many events. We are especially fortunate to have such great support. See you at the next meeting!

— Rob Sziz

Orange County
Scott Bandy 409-988-3667
scottbandy77@yahoo.com

In August we had our 10th annual banquet and fundraiser. We had an outstanding crowd of 450 people in attendance and broke all records for our banquet goals. I want to thank all of our board members and everyone else who made this year a banner year for us. All of this would never be possible without the generosity of the Community. I would like to thank Banquet Sponsor Granger Chevrolet for their loyalty

to our group and always believing in us. Our Banquet Redfish Sponsor came through like champs for us also, Total, Vincent Recycling, Fabricating Solutions, Golden Pass LNG, Goodyear, Philpot Ford Toyota, Brown Hearing Centers, LANMARK Staffing, Innovative Air Solutions, and Spanky's Bar & Grill. Last but not least, a big thanks to Randy Brown of Domino's Pizza, his first time to attend but left with some nice gifts and trips.

Port Lavaca
Eric Ellison 361-983-4690
fishingsalt@yahoo.com

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

As summer comes to a close and we prepare to usher in the fall activities, it also signals the time to start planning for our annual banquet. **The 19th Annual POC CCA Banquet is scheduled**

for Saturday, March 30, 2019. Be sure and pencil in the date on your calendar at the POC Community Center.

Also, if you want to get involved in the banquet planning, this is a great time to join our group, enjoy great fellowship and talk conservation, etc. So, if you are enjoying the fall fishing or just kicking back, give us a call in POC, "Where it all began."

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

What a day! On August 11th the chapter hosted our 17th annual kid fish tournament that was at the Walters Lake in Cat Spring. The event started at 3:00pm and lasted until 6:00pm. We had over 40 kids registered to fish, they enjoyed hot dogs, chips and drinks prepared by Mark Bolton. Everything was free including all the bait. All the kids had to bring was their fishing poles and parents.

The tournament was for all ages from 1 year and up, prizes were awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place and the winners in the three age groups received a rod and reel. All the kids who caught a fish got a CCA tumbler. The winners in the three categories are as follows: **Age 0-9 1st place Reid Engelbecht; 2nd place Rhett Reichardt; 3rd place Logon Schalla. Age 10-15 1st place Samantha Biberstein (she got the biggest fish 8#catfish); 2nd place Chase Cooper; 3rd place Nicholas Reichardt. Age 16-up 1st place Rob Trevino; 2nd place Amie Howerton; 3rd place Ross Pagsdale.**

I would like to thank board members Mark Bolton, Brent Pfeffer, Danne Ellis, Mark Switzer, Mary O'Neal, Ron Chess and Don and Patricia Walters for all their help that made this event a great success, and a thanks to Brian Weaver and CCA for all the gifts they donated. On behalf of all the Prairie Chapter Members a big thanks to Don and Patricia for letting us use their lake. Don told me that next year will be better than this year because he plans to stock the



SERIOUSCOOL

HIGH PERFORMANCE COOLERS, BACKPACKS,
DRYBOXES, AC/DC FRIDGE FREEZERS
& TUMBLERS

ENGEL Coolers high performance coolers
& drinkware are built for more than just
keeping things cold. Rugged, durable, and
heavy duty. When the heat cranks up,
ENGEL is here to cool things down.







Phone 561-743-7419 • www.engelcoolers.com



The Prairie chapter hosted our 17th annual kid fish tournament at the Walters Lake in Cat Spring.

lake with more fish.

We hope to see everybody next year at our 18th annual CCA kid fish, the date and time will be announced at our **2019 Banquet on the 1st Thursday in April at the Cat Spring Hall.** —Ron Chess

Redfish Bay

Norman Oates 361-758-0266
noates@cableone.net

The year is moving so fast! By the time you see this, we will have had the Beeville Fish Fry and General Membership Meeting! We have a Board Recruitment Social planned for October 4th and another General Membership Meeting on November 14th.

I want to thank the Board Members for the Banquet and Beeville Fish Fry for their many hours of work and planning. Of course, John Blaha is always there for us! Our members, sponsors, and donors have supported us in every way this year - a special thanks to all of you. Also, Chris's Marine has been our Banquet Title Sponsor for 15 years!

Our chapter's success depends on many factors - Board, Houston (John), members, sponsors, and donors. We appreciate everyone's help in making the chapter a success!

Rio Grande Valley
Boone Stutz 210-906-7676
riograndevalley@gmail.com

Greetings from the Rio Grande Valley chapter and welcome **new President Boone Stutz**. 2018 has been another great year for the Rio Grande Valley chapter, and we still have two major events happening before the end of the year. We will host our annual **Take A Kid Fishing Event on October 27th**. Check in and registration will begin Friday evening, the 26th, at 5:00 PM at Louie's Backyard on South Padre Island. We will continue registration Saturday morning at day break for the late arrivals, and the fishing will begin at that time as well. You must be registered first. Registration is \$10 per child and this will include their CCA membership and entry into the 2019 STAR Tournament. All fish must be weighed in at Louie's Backyard by noon

on Saturday.

We will have food for the kids and additional meals will be available for purchase by parents and other family members. Do not miss out on a great event. Keep an eye open for upcoming eBlasts for more information or contact event chairman, **Brett Polvado** at 956-373-5772.

On December 11, 2018 we will hold our **Annual Fall Gun Raffle**. It will be held once again at the Weslaco Elks Lodge and doors will open at 5:30 PM. Tickets will be \$100/chance and each ticket will have the opportunity to win multiple times. Please be sure to watch your email, the RGV Chapter page at www.ccatexas.org and the RGV chapter's Facebook. More details will follow soon.

Don't miss out on our 2019 Boat Raffle. The Rio Grande Valley chapter has once again teamed up with L&F Distributors to bring this great opportunity to you. 2019's boat is a slick 21' Shallow Sport, Sport model with a 150 HP G2 Evinrude motor and aluminum trailer. A limited number of tickets will be sold, so don't miss out. Tickets are available at The Sportsman in San Benito, Johnny's True Value in Harlingen, Glick Twins in Pharr, and L&F Distributors in McAllen. Thanks again to L&F Distributors and Shallow Sport Boats for making this possible. For more information about tickets and how to purchase, contact RGV CCA at cca.riograndevalley@gmail.com or CCA Texas Assistant Director Erich Schneider at eschneider@ccatexas.org.

Lastly, the Rio Grande Valley Chapter wishes to send out a **BIG THANK YOU** to outgoing President Louis Zimmerer. Louis has



The Rio Grande Valley 2019 boat is a slick 21' Shallow Sport model with a 150 HP G2 Evinrude motor and aluminum trailer.

been there for the chapter without fail for over 15 years and we are indebted to your commitment to ensure that Texas coastal resources are healthy for present and future generations. Well done Louis!

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

Greetings! Time is flying by, summer has gone and now our eyes are on the cooler weather and the much-anticipated flounder run. Sabine Lake has been hit or miss for much of the summer but as the days get shorter and the heat has been turned down the fish are responding.

The Sabine-Neches Chapter would like to welcome Matt Byars and Justin Hawkins as Banquet Chairs for the 2019 Banquet to be held March 7, 2019 at the Bob Bowers Civic Center in Port Arthur, Texas. That's right, we will be back at our usual venue for the 2019 banquet, Harvey

made a mess of things but Adam Saunders and his team at the Civic Center have gotten things back up and running strong! Stay tuned for more details! Here's to tight lines and good weather!

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

Well, I hope everyone had the chance to be at our banquet this year. **If you didn't make this year, go ahead and mark your calendar for September 5, 2019.** This year's was a huge success and let me tell you the crowd was there. I would like to first thank all of the board members for their hard work in preparing and making it another successful event. I would also like to thank Faust Distributing and Coca Cola for providing the cold beverages and Margaritas for catering our event. Huge thanks to all of our corporate sponsors and everyone that helped out at our event:

Faust Distributing, Extreme Signs & Rigging, Straightline Striping/ Ron Tallent, Walker County SO & Constables, Texas Parks & Wildlife, Farm Bureau Insurance- Russ Sorenson, Able Ammo, Texas Marine, Bill Fick Ford, Eddy Packing, Dealer Solutions, Advanced Process, Weisner Huntsville, The Miller Family, Ducks Unlimited, Tu-Mile Sportsman Coalition, Academy, NWTF- Montgomery Chapter, REO Seasoning & Spice, Capital Farm Credit, Premier Yamaha, Action Buggies, Steely Lumber, Walker County Feed & Farm, Benny D. Rush, Long Veterinary Clinic, Pete Johnson Towing, Performance Tinters II, Woodlands CCA Chapter, OK Bail Bond Co., Mitcham Industries, Texpress Urgent Care, Global Financial, Atkinson Toyota, Texas Brigades, Nichols/ Young Team, Advantage Specialties, Big D Marine, Lonestar Interiors and Hilltop Icehouse.

Thanks again to all our supporters, and we look forward to seeing you soon. Keep an eye on our Facebook page as we are going to try to plan a Spring event to get together. Happy fishing and get out on the water.

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

Thanks to everyone who attended our 3rd annual "Hooked on Golf" event which was held at The Silverhorn Golf Club in September. Thanks to Jordan Ford and Gulf Coast Marine for their hole-in-one prize. I also want to thank Dylan Sassman, Assistant Director of the STAR Tournament, and Capt. Geoff Austin for taking the time to speak at last month's general membership meeting. Both did a fantastic job!

Mark your calendar for October 17th our next general membership meeting at 6:00 PM at the Barn Door Restaurant. Patrick Murray, CCA President will be our speaker for the evening. We will raffle off a guided fishing trip plus plenty of other raffle items. This is open to all CCA members. We will have our banquet committee meetings soon, so if you are interested in joining us please reach out to our banquet chairman Robert Lozano at robertlozano129@yahoo.com. Lastly, remember to wet a line with your family and friends.

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

The San Bernard Chapter hosted the inner chapter challenge in Matagorda on July 27 and 28. The weather cooperated and allowed the participants a great day to be on the water fishing. We commenced Friday at the **Klopsteck residence** for a team meeting and a rib eye steak dinner. It was one of our better steak dinners to date thanks to **Kovasovic's meat market** in Rosenberg, that is until Saturday. **Richard Domel** and **Billy Klopsteck** seasoned and grilled the steaks to perfection. **Judy** and **Joyce** took care of the rest and at the end of the night, there were no leftovers for the boats the next day!

Jarrold Montagino took the trophy for the second straight year with a total stringer weight of 30.38 lbs., edging second place by nearly 5 pounds. The stringer included the first and second place redfish and second place trout. First place trout went to **Team Kutach**, first place flounder to **Team Winkler** along with second place stringer and spot pot. The event concluded with a fried chicken and hot wing dinner. Thank you to **Gary, Rodney, Billy and William** for the help cooking the chicken. Thanks to all the sponsors of the event. Without you, these events would not be possible. Special thanks to **Billy and Gary** for allowing our chapter and its members into your home. Big thanks to **Momma Jude** for all your help with the running and meal prep.

Our second social event of the year will be held on Sunday, October 28, 2018 at the American Legion Hall in East Bernard. The event brings an opportunity to meet our members and learn more about our organization. The steak and lobster meal will start at 4pm followed by a private acoustic performance. The event allows the members a chance to collectively discuss topics related to the CCA and brainstorm to ideas how to improve our involvement. Tickets are on sale now for \$20. Get with a board member soon to secure your tickets.

It seems like we just finished with our banquet, but here we are again gearing up for the 2019 Annual Fundraising Banquet in East Bernard at Riverside Hall, February 28. Raffle tickets are already available and top prizes include a Polaris Ranger and Custom Golf Cart.



The hard-working Tri-County Board of Directors in a relaxed moment.

Give us a call to secure your raffle ticket and it's never too early to reserve your table for the banquet.

The Matagorda Bay system has been steadily producing solid trout in deeper than usual water. Don't be afraid to wade chest deep to get on them. Mid-bay reefs have been producing on falling tides and fall redfish have fired up. Be safe on the water and leave it better than you found it. If you love to fish, this organization is and will be a great way to dedicate your time to your passion. If you are interested in getting involved, the number is at the top. Hope to see everyone on the water and make sure to like us on Facebook and share your pictures and fishing experiences with us. Tight lines and safe travels.

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

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

Hey there! **The Southwestern Chapter Banquet will be held on Thursday, October 18, at the Nooner Pavilion in Hondo, Texas.** Doors open at 6:00pm. The night will consist of great raffles, guns, rods, reels and trips. Heavy's BBQ will be serving some good 'ol pit fired BBQ with all the fixings and **Silver Eagle** will be providing the drinks. This is a GREAT opportunity to support an awesome cause and enjoy a fun night out! Individual tickets are \$40 and the Table for 10 is \$500 which includes CCA memberships, dinner, drinks, gift for the table buyer and a gift for each guest. For more information please contact **Eric Schneider**: eschneider@ccatexas.org; 713-626-4222 or **Veronica Oliver**: ronnimoliver@gmail.com; 830-765-6228. Come on out and support the CCA, Southwestern Chapter!

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

Justin Putz 210-585-0401
putz.stx@gmail.com

The 2nd Annual Ed Geyer Memorial Invitational was a great success for the Tri-County Chapter. 16 teams, 8 artificial and 8 live bait, descended upon the waters of Port Mansfield, TX to chase the fish. Good times and great fishing were had by all. **Thank you to Steven Mafrige for his efforts organizing and managing the tournament. A very special Thank you to Walt Franklin.** Walt's team won the live division as well as big fish in live division and donated all winnings back to the chapter to go towards funding next year's invitational.

Trinity Bay
Gerald Payne 281-728-6278
rockin_g_payne@yahoo.com

Baytown, Texas... **Trinity Bay's Annual Banquet** took place in August. Sponsors and guests came out and enjoyed a spectacular night while supporting future conservation. We were very excited with the results as we had a record crowd of more than 400 people in attendance, generating funds over \$130k to be put back into our coastal waters. Congratulations to the hard-working and dedicated volunteers that make up the chapter's board for hosting yet another successful event.

A special thanks goes out to our Banquet Sponsors: Sunbelt Valve, SMP Supply, WOWCO Equipment Co, Double Diamond Heavy Haul, Thomas J Friedt, D.D.S. and L&B Property Tax LLC.

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.

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

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

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





29th Annual CCA State of Texas Anglers' Rodeo Round-up

After more than a hundred days of great fishing, the 29th Annual CCA Texas STAR Tournament has come to a close.

It was another great year here at STAR. Over 50,000 Texas anglers of all ages wet a line in search of their prize-winning fish. A special thank you to the over 10,000 new CCA members, we hope that you will stick around as we continue our mission of marine conservation and making our great fisheries even better for generations to come! Please hook up with your local chapter folks.

Texas anglers landed a quarter of all tagged redfish released for the tournament, with at least one coming from every port along the coast in the Texas Ford Dealers Redfish Division. As we like to tell people who ask where they are, "from the Sabine to the Rio Grande and everywhere in-between." As always, there were many Texas anglers who missed their chance at a driveway-sized prize by fishing without being registered for the tournament, many saying something along the lines of, "I never thought I'd catch one, but I dang sure will be registered now!" A simple \$25 STAR entry fee and CCA membership could have had them fishing in style out of a new Haynie Bigfoot pulled by their new Ford F-150 instead of simply enjoying a fresh redfish dinner.

We have already opened STAR 2019 online registration. Get yourself, the kids and anyone else you can think of registered now so that you don't become one of the many heartbroken anglers who would have won!

This year we were once again able to offer 124 prizes for the catching in the STAR Tournament, 117 of which were claimed by lucky anglers across the state. With high tagged redfish claims, we will be giving away twenty-six top prizes on October 11th at the CCA Texas STAR Awards Ceremony & Banquet at Bayou City Event Center, including \$325,000 in college scholarships! Everyone is welcome at the banquet with purchase of a ticket. Without further ado, we present to you the 2018 CCA Texas STAR Tournament final winners!

STARKids Scholarship Division

This Division will provide three young anglers (ages 6-10) with a \$50,000 college scholarship after entering for free with their \$10 CCA membership. Through the years, this division has empowered many children to further their education who otherwise may not have been able to attend college.

Flounder- Cannon Martin, age 9, Beaumont, 6 lb 3 oz
Sheepshead- Taner Basci, age 8, San Antonio, 8 lb 3 oz
Gafftop- Makenzie Hebert, age 8, Nederland, 7 lb 0 oz



Academy Sports + Outdoors STARTeens Scholarship Trout Division

This Division was open to all STAR entrants ages 11-17 for free with their \$10 CCA membership.

These young anglers with the heaviest speckled trout in each region (upper, middle, and lower coast), will be awarded a \$25,000 college scholarship to help further their education:

Upper Coast- Noah Fong, age 12, Houston, 7 lb 2 oz
Middle Coast- Cayla Albers, age 12, Gillett, 8 lb 4 oz
Lower Coast- Audrie Lozano, age 17, La Feria, 8 lb 10 oz

STARTeens Inshore Scholarship Division

This Division was open to all STAR entrants ages 11-17 for free with their \$10 CCA membership. These young anglers with the heaviest flounder,

sheepshead, or gafftop will be awarded a \$25,000 college scholarship to help further their education:

Flounder- Chase Blackwell, age 16, Cuero, 6 lb 1 oz
Sheepshead- Emily Gray, age 15, Baytown, 10 lb 3 oz
Gafftop- Madison Newman, age 16, Angleton, 6 lb 12 oz

Youth Scholarship Drawing

On top of the nine scholarships listed above, STAR also awards one youth entrant (ages 6-17) with a \$25,000 scholarship simply for entering the tournament for free with their \$10 CCA membership. *The lucky winner will be announced in the next issue of CURRENTS!*

Being able to award \$325,000 in college scholarships again this year is the highlight of the STAR Tournament for many involved. What better way to entice kids away from the electronics and on the water to and enjoy the resource that we all love so dearly? Not to mention providing the opportunity to better their education. These youth are the future in protecting the vitality of our precious marine resources for many years to come. Take a kid fishing today! To date we have awarded over \$6.5 million in free college tuition to Texas youth!



BEST IN TEXAS

Texas Ford Dealers Tagged Redfish Division

The first five winners will be towing home a brand new 23' Haynie Bigfoot powered by Mercury Marine on top of a new Coastline trailer. To tow this new set-up home they will also be using their brand new Ford F-150 Texas Edition! The next two winners will have to provide their own truck to tow home their brand new 23' Haynie Bigfoot powered by Mercury Marine on top of a new Coastline trailer.

1st Winner- Larry Holman, Highlands

2nd Winner- Sam Lack, Bellaire (Sam receives a \$25,000 scholarship with his new boat rig!)

3rd Winner- Michael Varnado, Houston

4th Winner- Daniel Mullenix, Lake Jackson

5th Winner- Lisa Murillo, Edinburg

6th Winner- Mitchell Parham, Houston

7th Winner- Aaron Graham, San Antonio

Trout Division

These registered anglers weighed in the heaviest trout for the Upper, Middle, and Lower coast divisions. They will each be taking home a Mowdy 22'V, powered by a 150 hp Evinrude E-TEC G2 set on a Coastline trailer:

Upper Coast- Robert Lewis, Angleton, 9 lb 0 oz

Middle Coast- Chris Grapentine, Corpus Christi, 9 lb 4 oz

Lower Coast- Frank Cavazos, Harlingen, 11 lb 0 oz

Inshore Division

These Inshore Division winners will take home a Shoalwater 19' Cat with a 115hp Mercury motor and McClain trailer for weighing in the heaviest flounder, sheepshead, and gafftop:

Flounder- Carlos Gonzalez, Texas City, 7 lb 11 oz

Sheepshead- Eduardo Torres, Baytown, 10 lb 13 oz

Gafftop- Janette Darder, Beaumont, 6 lb 15 oz

Offshore Division

In the Offshore Division, the following anglers weighed in the heaviest kingfish, dorado, and ling. Each angler will be leaving the banquet with a brand new Polaris Ranger Crew 570EFI in Polaris Pursuit Camo each on a Big Tex trailer courtesy of Hoffpauir Polaris:

Kingfish- Austin Fuller, Corpus Christi, 66 lb 15 oz

Dorado- Marc Smith, Corpus Christi, 39 lb 14 oz

Ling- Grant Gale, Johnson City, 77 lb 15 oz

Early Bird Grand Prize Drawing

Every 2018 STAR entrant (21 and up) who registered by April 27 went into this special drawing for a chance to win a sweet new Dargel 210 Skout, Mercury motor, and McClain trailer package. The lucky winner will be announced in the next issue of CURRENTS.

Member Bonus Drawing

All 2018 entrants, who did not win a grand prize were automatically entered into our Member Bonus drawing for the same new Dargel 210 Skout, Mercury motor, and McClain trailer package. *The lucky winner will be announced in the next issue of CURRENTS.*

CCA Texas and STAR would like to thank our fine sponsors, weigh stations, ticket stations, and the countless volunteers for their hard work and dedication in not only helping to enhance our marine resources but helping these lucky kids with their education.

Without you, the CCA member, there would be no CCA or STAR, and we want to thank every single one of you for all that you do for our great resource. We especially thank those getting kids out on the water to ensure that future generations can enjoy the same things we do!

One often overlooked area of STAR is the critical role that our great weigh stations serve. For all of your hard work this year we thank: *SGS Causeway in Port Arthur, Sportsman Supply in Sabine Pass, Sting-aree Marina in Crystal Beach, Marburger's Sporting Goods in Seabrook, Pelican Rest Marina in Galveston, GYB Bait & Tackle in Galveston, West End Marina in Galveston, Surfside Marina in Surfside Beach, Wahoo's Marina in Sargent, Harbor Bait & Tackle in Matagorda, Indianola Fishing Marina in Indianola, POC Fishing Center in Port O'Connor, Terry's Sea-worthy Maine Supply in Fulton, Woody's Sport's Center in Port Aransas, Roy's Bait & Tackle in Corpus Christi, Harbor Bait & Tackle in Port Mansfield, and South Shore Bait & Tackle in Port Isabel.*

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! **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 \$100's or \$1,000's! Our Ford Partner Code # is CCA61; go to www.fordpartner.com, if you are considering a purchase.



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 2019

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. So be sure to include your email address on your registration form to receive your free subscription! If you prefer the print version don't worry! 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.



TILSON HOMES \$1,000 in FREE UP-GRADABLES! 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 or our social media pages for a

great offer from Evinrude, exclusively for CCA members!



MustangCAT- Be on the look-out for Mustang CAT's 2019 member benefit!

CCA Texas STAR Platinum Print Membership Package, Series IX- We're pleased to offer a new print from artist Anastasia Musick in the 2019 package. We hope you love this print as much as we do! Your CCA Texas Platinum package includes your CCA membership (new or renewal), your 2019 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 for more details or to place your order with the STAR Dept. call (713) 626-4222.

Thank you to our tremendous 2018 sponsors who allow us to host this great event: *Texas Ford Dealers, Tilson Home Corporation, Capital Farm Credit, Academy Sports + Outdoors, Whataburger, MustangCAT, Mercury Marine, Hoffpauir Polaris, Shiner Bock, Evinrude BRP, LP Building Products, Shoalwater Boats, Haynie Boats, Mowdy Boats, Dargel Boats, Texas Fish & Game Magazine, Coastline Trailers, McClain Trailers, KTRK-abc13, Costa and Chris's Marine.*

For more information, go to www.startournament.org

Thank you for another great year of support for CCA Texas and the STAR Tournament!



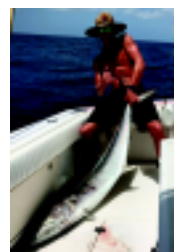
Cannon Martin



Michael Varnado



Aaron Graham



Austin Fuller



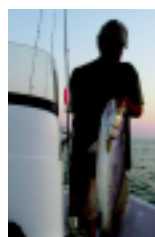
Sam Lack



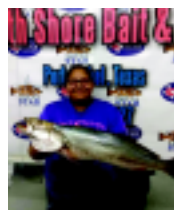
Taner Basci



Lisa Murillo



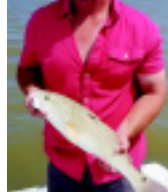
Robert Lewis



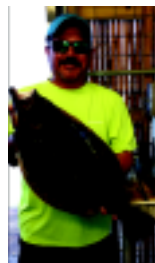
Audrie Lozano



Mackenzie Hebert



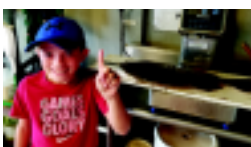
Mitchell Parham



Carlos Gonzalez



Grant Gale



Chase Blackwell



Cayla Albers



Larry Holman



Madison Newman

PLEASE SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT OUR CONSERVATION EFFORTS



Enter Great Photos 2018

Categories: Best In Show

Action / Scenic / Humor

Kids / Wildlife / CPR

Important: Send jpegs, and include name of subject, title, your name, as well as the names of anyone in the photo. Email jpegs to: sam@samcaldwell.com Give us your best shot, and keep *CURRENTS* an award-winning newsletter.

Want to share even more of your Great Photos?

Limited space means we can use only a few photos, but here is a good option for your Great Photo: send it to CCA via our Social Media. See Page 8 for connections to Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Every entry there will also be an entry in the **Currents Great Photos Competition**. Great Photos submitted will be also be considered for use on *Currents* Social Happenings media. There are now a wide variety of "Tough" cameras on the market that can stand up to the abuse inherent in saltwater use. Surprisingly, your cell phone can be among them. Check the Great Photo Page next issue. —Photo Editor



Above: Trying to be like Dad. John and Kyle Wayne McCarthy fishing. Taken by Rebecca McCarthy.

Below: Menacing Monster over Mustang. Great landscape, with the humor of a lonesome gull. Photo by Karen Botter of the Helotes chapter.



**LARGEST
POLARIS DEALER
IN TEXAS**



POLARIS

www.hpolaris.com | 866.522.8793

2114 Hwy. 84 • Goldthwaite, TX 76844

Store Hours: Monday-Friday: 8a - 6p

Saturday: 8a - 5p

Sunday: Closed



Hoffpauir
Outdoor Superstore



Nothing but stars
for this great deal!

**Tilson supports
CCA Texas.**

With FREE upgrades
worth \$1,000 toward
anything in our design
center for members!



Like you, Tilson is committed to preserving our world for future generations. That's why we'd like to thank all CCA Texas members for your efforts with a special offer. Visit our website, call, or stop by one of our model home centers and speak with a sales consultant to see what Tilson can build for you.

TILSON
Family Owned Since 1932

1.888.540.6705 | www.Tilson-CCA.com

Gulf Coast Angleton, Houston, Spring, Katy, Bryan
Central Texas Boerne, San Marcos, Georgetown
North Texas McKinney, Midlothian, Weatherford

Offer available for new contracts only. Not retroactive. Cannot be combined with any other offers. To qualify for discount, you must present the original ad and bring in your current CCA membership card.



Tilson Homes is a proud supporter of the CCA Texas and the STAR Fishing Tournament.



A SPECIAL GIFT FOR NEW LIFE MEMBERS

brought to you by

SIMMS.

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

For a limited time, anyone who becomes a CCA Texas Life Member (\$1,000 + \$25 shipping) will receive a beautiful Simms jacket emblazoned with the CCA Life Member logo on the left sleeve.
Tax Deductible: \$444



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

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

Please expect 3-4 weeks for delivery. No P.O. Box addresses

You MUST return this form to the CCA office completely filled out to receive your gift (This offer is NOT available online.)

CCALifeMember APPLICATION

Name _____ CCA Member ID# _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Method of Payment \$1,025.00

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

Credit Card Number _____

Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Please Choose ONE of the following Sizes:

☐ Small ☐ Medium
☐ Large ☐ X Large
☐ 2XL ☐ 3XL

*Disclaimer- Large and XL are gray; 3XL is a different style

CCA Texas | 6919 Portwest Dr., Ste. 100 | Houston, TX 77024
Phone 713.626.4222 | ahoy@ccatexas.org | www.CCATexas.org



WHEN THE SUN DISAPPEARS
**THE FISH
WON'T**

COSTA
580[®]
TECHNOLOGY

NEW SUNRISE SILVER MIRRORS

This advancement of our color-enhancing 580 lens technology allows you to see more with less light. The yellow-based polarized lenses allow high light transmission while still providing maximum protection and deliver sharper contrast for sunrise, sunset, and a sun that wants to hide behind the clouds all day. Find your pair by using the dealer locator at costadelmar.com.


COSTA
SEE WHAT'S OUT THERE[™]

ALOHA Mr. Can!

INTRODUCING

KARBACH BREWING CO.

TASTY Waves

SUMMER SEASONAL

WHOOA... TASTY WAVES

Karbach's Tasty Waves is the Summer Ale that majorly rules. All citrus and breezy, not bogus or cheesy – and the perfect kiss of sea salt and fruit that won't harsh your mellow.

For primo summer vibes all you need is some Tasty Waves, some cool buds, and you'll be just fine!

For every case sold of Tasty Waves in 2018, Karbach will be donating a portion of proceeds to the Coastal Conservation Association.

KARBACH BREWING CO.

CCA TEXAS

WE PROUDLY SUPPORT THE CCA TEXAS

THE CATCH OF THE DAY

DRIPPING SPRINGS VODKA

93 POINTS BEST BUY

HIGHEST RATED VODKA OF 2017

WINE ENTHUSIAST

DRIPPING SPRINGS VODKA

BEST of YEAR

2017

DRIPPING SPRINGS



BACON WRAPPED SCALLOPS WITH CREAMY ONION SAUCE

The Scallops

½ pound or 9 sized 10/12 scallops

9 slices of thin Bacon

Rinse scallops and pat dry. Lay them on paper towels. Season well with salt and pepper on both sides. Wrap with bacon and secure with a wooden toothpick. Broil on high in the middle of the oven for 7 minutes. Move to higher rack for 1 to 2 minutes till browned slightly. Remove from oven and turn them over. Place on the middle rack again for 5 minutes. Move to higher rack for 1 minute or till slightly browned.

The Sauce

1 stick butter

4 oz. cream cheese

4 oz. white wine

2 tsp flour

½ med onion thinly sliced

2 cloves garlic minced



Melt butter till slightly tan but not yet brown, over medium low. Add onions and sauté for 2 minutes, then add garlic and cook for 1 minute. Turn to medium, add flour and stir continuously for 1 minute and then add the wine, stirring til blended. Add cream cheese in pieces till melted. Simmer till thickened. Add salt and pepper to taste. Serve with scallops.



*Seven Texas
outdoorsmen
journey to
the hunting of
South Texas and
the fishing of
Mexican
beaches.*

Six return.

Now a five-star e-book on Kindle and your favorite browser. Or, own a first edition paperback. Drop by the Caldwell website for full information. While you're there, enjoy some old, middle aged and brand-new Caldwell paintings.



www.samcaldwell.com

Texas State Artist 2004

DU State Artist 2010-2011

Dallas CCA Conservationist 2015

2016 Perry R. Bass Wall of Fame

281-455-9390

BEN KOCIAN

Fine Art, Fishing Lure Art Cases,
Humorous illustrations, Collectables



(Port-O'Connor) Boat Ramp Parody

18"x 10.75" \$ 100

BenKocian.com

info@BenKocian.com



Coastal Conservation Association

6919 Portwest Suite 100, Houston, TX 77024

CURRENTS NEWSLETTER

October/November 2018

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HOUSTON, TEXAS
PERMIT 2532



Large flounder explosion is on the horizon

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

To focus on fishing and boating, visit www.tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/fish
www.tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/boat



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



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 CURRENTS newsletter & TIDE magazine.
ASSOCIATE: \$15 _____ Per each family member. All membership privileges except TIDE and CURRENTS.
PRINT MEMBER: \$100 _____ All of the above plus CCA Texas print of your choice.
LIFE MEMBER: \$1000 _____ CCA Life Membership piece, print, plus member gifts. Payable in four \$250 installments. \$25 for shipping.
STAR ENTRY FEE: \$25 _____ Tournament entry fee. Must be a current CCA member.
NEW TIDE: \$10 _____ TIDE newsletter, decal. Includes STAR Tournament entry, for members 17 and under.
Age: _____ Date of birth: _____

CONSERVATION MEMBER: \$50 _____ A portion of the proceeds go toward CCA's National Habitat Program, Building Conservation Trust. Includes
exclusive Conservation Member decal, one-year subscription to TIDE Magazine and 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