

CURRENTS

June / July 2019



Bedrock
of the Bays

Advocacy A Need For Change

By Shane Bonnot

The eastern oyster and their reefs play critical roles in the coastal environment. They provide habitat for a variety of aquatic species, serve as food source for coastal food webs, improve shoreline stabilization, reduce coastal erosion and sedimentation and improve water quality. We refer to these roles as ecosystem services and according to published literature, the annual value of said services wildly ranges from \$2.23K - \$40K per acre. Bottom line - oysters are critical components of our coastal ecosystems.

Each year the commercial oyster fishery opens on November 1 and closes on April 30 the following year – effectively a six-month season. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) continually monitors public oyster reefs throughout the year by conducting random bi-monthly sampling in our bay systems. They will also conduct additional sampling before and during oyster season if feedback from law enforcement or the oyster industry triggers them to do so. Using metrics that TPWD has established based upon the abundance of oysters and the percentage of their sample under 3" (legal size), they may close a bay system to commercial harvest.

Once a bay system is closed it will take 1-2 years for the reefs to recover and then it can be re-opened by TPWD. That time table is highly dependent on how hard that bay system was fished and environmental conditions. It is important that the reefs are given the proper time to recover for a sustainable oyster fishery.

Unfortunately, there are bad actors within the fishery who ignore the closures and continue to harvest oysters from closed waters, often targeting the undersized oysters remaining on the reefs. While there is an enhanced penalty structure for undersize oyster violations, there is no true deterrent for fishing in closed waters other than a Class C misdemeanor. That will soon change thanks to Representative Geanie Morrison (R-30) and Senator Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa (D-30), sponsors of legislation (House Bill 2321 and Senate Bill 671) that will clean up language in current statutes regarding harvesting undersized oysters and increase penalties for commercial oyster fishing in closed waters. In the next commercial oyster season, persons committing harvest offenses can expect the following:

- Class A misdemeanor for harvesting at night and either harvesting in closed waters or restricted waters during same criminal episode.
- Class B misdemeanor for harvesting undersized oysters or har-

vesting in closed waters if defendant was previously convicted at least twice for violation regarding undersized oysters (less than 30% of cargo) and/or previously convicted for harvesting in closed waters.

- Class B misdemeanor for second violation of possession of cargo of oysters greater than 30% undersize oysters.
- Class A misdemeanor with attendant license suspension for third violation of possession of cargo greater than 30% undersized or fishing in closed waters.
- State-level felony for harvesting at night and either harvesting in closed waters or restricted waters if the defendant has been previously convicted once before within five years for the same crime.

In preparation for public testimony in support of this legislation CCA Texas submitted numerous open records requests for the entire 2017-2018 oyster season and the first half of the 2018-2019 oyster season (10 months total). The first request was to TPWD for a commercial oyster fishing violation summary from



Low tide oysters, by Kara Thompson

*As highlighted by the open
records request data, House Bill
2321/Senate Bill 671 is
must-have legislation.*

Calhoun and Aransas Counties. Nine additional requests were submitted to the Justices of Peace (JP) and County Courts from said counties to get a sense of what fines were being levied. Results from the first request were apparent but the others were somewhat incomplete.

Partially because of the amount of information requested and, unfortunately, partially because some courts refused to provide the information requested citing it would create undue hardship upon the court. Here is what we learned:

TPWD Data

In 2018 a total of 636 resident and non-resident licenses were issued to individuals to participate in commercial oyster fishing as either a commercial oyster boat captain or a commercial oyster fisherman. Most individuals hold both license types which historically allowed crews to rotate captains around in the fishery as they accrue violations. Thanks to legislation (House Bill 51)



SOUTHWEST



TUNE IN: **CCA Texas Sponsors TV Series**



Premiers April 4
Thursdays 10:30pm-11:30pm
Fridays 5-6pm
Saturdays 7-8am

Watch Us Online

FOX
SPORTS
GO

passed last session the entire crew now receives violations for undersized oysters - not just the boat captain. With passage of HB2321 this session, the entire crew will also receive violations for fishing in closed waters - completely closing the loophole in statutes and rendering the rotation strategy ineffective.

From November 1, 2017 - April 30, 2018 and November 1, 2018 - February 28, 2019 (10 months of oyster season) a total of 685 citations and 134 warnings were issued for oyster fishery violations in Calhoun and Aransas Counties. Most citations were written for possession of undersized oysters (360) followed by fishing in closed waters (116). The remaining citations ran the gamut from improperly tagging a sack to fishing without a license. Look at this data again and let the absurdity sink in. We have a commercial oyster fishery that during the 10 months analyzed received more citations in two coastal counties than the number individuals licensed to participate in the entire fishery along the Texas coast.

Aransas and Calhoun County Courts Data

We were able to obtain data for 406 violations across the two counties, 106 of which, as requested, included information regarding fines assessed - roughly 15% of the total violation count. As mentioned earlier, the data request was deemed to be a bit onerous for some of the JP courts, so they provided partial data or respectfully declined to provide any information. Below is the breakdown of penalties.

Violation	No Fine	\$100-\$199	\$200-\$350	\$351-\$499	\$500
Possession of Undersized Oysters	11	3	74	0	0
Fishing in Closed/Restricted Area	9	0	0	0	5
Various Charges	0	3	1	0	0

Within this limited data set, not a single commercial oyster fisherman received the maximum Class C misdemeanor fine of \$500 for the possession of undersized oysters. Only 1/3 of those cited for fishing in closed waters were issued a fine, but those that did receive the fine were punished to the maximum extent.

Need for Change

As highlighted by the open records request data, House Bill 2321/



A mountain of oyster shell awaits disposition near Port O'Connor. Caldwell photos; Olympus TG-5



Senate Bill 671 is must-have legislation. Time and time again the commercial oyster fishery has demonstrated

that they can't self-regulate and have little regard for the sustainability of public oyster reefs. The open records request highlighted here is a mere glimpse at the unsustainable actions ingrained in this fishery. Class C misdemeanors are not a deterrent for illegal activities and the mindset of the fishermen is that the risk is well worth the reward.

In closing, the following story is offered to give you a sense of the sad state of this fishery. At the January 23, 2019 TPWD Commission meeting, TPWD staff provided the commission with an update on law enforcement efforts along the coast, highlighting a recent multiagency operation in Aransas and Calhoun Counties. Several oyster fishermen had previous violations, some had warrants out for their arrest from past violations, many boats were cited for possession of small oysters and some boats were fishing in closed or restricted waters.

One boat did not have a single violation. The crew on that boat was so proud of the fact that they didn't have a violation that they asked to have their pictures taken with the game wardens. Think about that for a moment. The fishermen wanted praise and recognition for something that they should be doing daily. Unfortunately, a boat without a citation seems to be the exception rather than the rule. The need for change has never been more apparent. 🚩

Texas Parks and Wildlife Game Wardens conducting compliance check on commercial oyster boat.



Habitat and Advocacy at the Forefront of Conservation

By John Blaha

Habitat creation and restoration, and a continued strong advocacy effort, remain at the forefront of CCA Texas's conservation efforts. Habitat focus remains on oyster and marsh restoration, shoreline protection efforts, and nearshore reefing in Texas state waters. CCA Texas and its habitat initiative, Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow (HTFT), and Building Conservation Trust (BCT), CCA National's habitat program, strongly believe in the continued support of projects once they are completed.

This support comes in different ways including: public outreach to educate the public on the purpose of these efforts; follow up studies and analysis that provide data that helps determine the success of a project, and creates best practices for creation and restoration efforts; and at times provide critical follow up work to ensure the success and/or expansion of projects. Dickinson Bayou's marsh restoration is a recent example of CCA's commitment to ensure the continued success of projects.

Dickinson Bayou Marsh Restoration - When Hurricane Harvey rolled ashore in Texas in August 2017, it left a trail of destruction that is still being repaired today, and the recent habitat project along the banks of Dickinson Bayou put back repaired marsh that washed away in the storm's extraordinary floods.

Mother Nature always has a hand in the success of projects. CCA is committed to providing a helping hand when she produces unfavorable conditions.

CCA Texas supported the original Dickinson Bayou Restoration Project that enhanced and protected approximately 18 acres of tidal wetlands in 2016, but Hurricane Harvey took a heavy toll. With the understanding and desire to see projects succeed and flourish, CCA Texas, BCT and Shell Oil Company funded the efforts to replant two acres of marsh that will continue to help protect an additional 18 acres of wetlands in the project's vicinity.

This is an area that is clearly vulnerable to erosion and so there is a need to make sure this project is solidly in place and can perform as originally intended. Real improvements were evident in this area after the original project and the HTFT Committee felt strongly about continuing the support of the project. Mother Nature always has a hand in the success in projects, and CCA is committed to providing a helping hand when she produces unfavorable conditions.

The Dickinson Bayou Restoration Project protect is ultimately expected to improve water quality in the area and provide erosion protection for the surrounding marsh. Even in the short time before Harvey did his damage, the project was observed to have improved fish and wildlife habitat in the area and enhanced stormwater filtration in Dickinson Bayou. CCA Texas and BCT have contributed \$100,000 to both phases of the project.

The current replanting work utilized 10,000 smooth cordgrass plants from the NRG Energy Eco-Center and was




10,000 plants were harvested from the NRG Eco Center and planted to replace washed out plants from Hurricane Harvey. Above, the completed area and below, Triton Environmental Solutions employees plant freshly harvested plants. Photos Courtesy of Triton Environmental Solutions



completed the first week of April. Follow up project site visits are planned during the first of June and CCA looks forward to seeing the success of this effort.

Advocacy – Be sure to check out Shane Bonnot's advocacy article in this issue and see what is happening with oysters and other advocacy issues.

For more information about CCA Texas habitat and advocacy efforts, please visit www.ccatexas.org, listen in on the Coastal Advocacy Adventures Podcasts or contact John Blaha (jdblaha@ccatexas.org) or Shane Bonnot (sbonnot@ccatexas.org) with any questions you might have. 

Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission Approves Changes to Fishing Regulations

The Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) Commission adopted a suite of changes to this year's fishing regulations for spotted seatrout, alligator gar, sharks, cobia and oysters, which will take effect on September 1, 2019.

Spotted seatrout

- After years of dialogue with recreational anglers and an overwhelming support during the public comment period, the TPW Commission voted in favor of extending the 5-fish spotted seatrout bag limit to Galveston Bay and Sabine Lake, creating a statewide five-fish bag limit.

Alligator gar

- Enact a 48-inch maximum length limit for alligator gar on the Trinity River from the I-30 bridge in Dallas downstream to the I-10 bridge in Chambers County, including the East Fork of the Trinity River upstream to the dam at Lake Ray Hubbard.
- Implemented a drawing to allow selected anglers to harvest one alligator gar over 48 inches in length per year from the Trinity River. The draw system would allow non-transferable harvest authorization for a to-be-determined number of alligator gar.
- Between one half-hour after sunset and one half-hour before sunrise, no person may take or possess an alligator gar by means of lawful archery equipment or crossbow on the Trinity River unless they have received a harvest authorization through the drawing system.
- All persons who take an alligator gar from the public fresh waters of the state other than Falcon International Reservoir would be required to report the harvest via the department's website or by mobile app within 24 hours of take.

Sharks and cobia

- Anglers targeting sharks will be required to use non-offset non-stainless circle hooks.
- The minimum size limit for cobia was increased to 40" total length.

Oysters

- Oyster restoration areas in Galveston, Matagorda and Copano Bays will be temporarily closed to commercial harvest to allow oysters on the newly restored reefs to reach marketable size.

Portion of Red Snapper Management Shifted to States

In early April, the Gulf Council took final action on Amendment 50 and voted to delegate management authority of the private angling component for recreational red snapper fishing to each state. Gulf states will receive the portion of the quota that they have been using under the 2018-2019 exempted fishing permits, with an additional 3.78% for Florida and Alabama. Texas will receive 6.21% of the allocation which will equate to a projected 90-day season in federal waters and a 365-day season in state waters. The delegated authority will allow gulf states to modify bag limits, minimum size limits within 14-18" and maximum size limit. States will also be allowed to close areas of federal waters adjacent to the state by requesting that National Marine Fisheries Service implement the closure. These changes will take place in 2020.

The 2019 federal-water red snapper season will begin June 1st and will run for a projected 97 days. The state-water season remains open year-round unless we reach the allowable quota under the exempted fishing permit.

Oyster Mariculture coming to Texas

Be sure to check out Episode 35 of the Coastal Advocacy Adventures Podcast to learn more about this exciting new industry coming to Texas waters. <https://ccatexas.org/coastal-advocacy-adventures-podcast-episode-35-oyster-mariculture/>

BULLETIN IN BRIEF:

The TPW Commission unanimously voted in favor of the following rule changes:

Saltwater

1. 5-fish trout bag limit for Galveston Bay and Sabine Lake
2. Require non-stainless non-offset hooks when fishing for sharks
3. Move size limit for Cobia to 40"
4. Temporarily close (2yrs) some new oyster restoration sites in 3 bay systems

Freshwater/Alligator Gar

1. No harvest of gar over 48" on the Trinity River
2. No nighttime Bowfishing on Trinity River
3. Mandatory reporting of all alligator gar harvest
4. Implement a draw tag system to allow some harvest of trophy gar.

—Shane Bonnot



Follow
CCA Texas on
Social Media!



/ccatexas



@ccatexas



@ccatexas



CCA Texas



Caught Redhanded! Reports from TP&W Game Wardens

I didn't know you could do this much damage with a cast net—but this was no ordinary cast net.—Ronnie Luster Jr.

On May 3, 2019 at approximately 8:00 pm, Matagorda County game warden Marcus Lowe received an OGT [Operation Game Thief] call stating there were five individuals keeping everything they caught with a large cast net at the Matagorda jetties. Upon arrival, warden Lowe was able to make contact with a vehicle occupied by two individuals in possession of an ice chest full of undersized fish and an oversized cast net.

After investigating, Warden Lowe called in the assistance of Matagorda County game warden Aaron Koenig. Once Warden Koenig arrived, the wardens were able to locate the other three individuals who were on a canoe on the other side of the Colorado River.

In total, the five individuals had committed 125 separate violations including: no valid fishing license, possession of undersized sheepshead, possession of undersized speckled trout, possession of undersized black drum, over the daily bag limit of sheepshead, insufficient number of PFDs, improper lights on vessel, illegal means and methods and an illegal cast net. The appropriate citations were issued and fish were donated. Cases and civil restitution are pending.



Photo courtesy of Texas Parks & Wildlife Game Wardens

Texas Game Wardens, Serving Texans since 1895



Law Enforcement Off the Pavement

Abandoned Crab Trap Finals

For the sixteenth year, hundreds of volunteers across Texas filled boats with their own gas money and spent hours tracking down abandoned crab traps. The final total of 1,089 traps meant less chances of "ghost-killing" crabs and other aquatic species attracted to the traps. Damage to lower units and props will be lessened, as the satisfaction of doing an important job makes it all worthwhile.

—Sam Caldwell



Sabine Lake	7	2	1
Galveston Bay	211	126	16
Matagorda Bay	17	0	0
San Antonio Bay	710	31	0
Aransas Bay	74	12	7
Corpus Christi Bay	28	5	3
Upper Laguna Madre	0	0	0
Lower Laguna Madre	42	0	1
Totals	1,089	176	28

Crab Trap Retriever Chester aids Chris Smisek in eliminating a lower unit, propeller fouling crab trap. Sam Caldwell photo, OlympusTG-5.



Upper Coast Capt. Walt Kalinowsky

Wind? Lee shore and topwaters

Lots of freshwater arrived in early and mid-May. The fish tended to be concentrated, reds not as much as trout. But as June begins conditions should stabilize and temperature at 75 degrees will be the key. Of course, wind is one of the main determining factors for your choice of territory. In case of a heavier wind, the upper coast has a lot of lee shores to hug and they can hold some surprising concentrations of fish in muddy water. If you are a top water fanatic as I am, that is a good choice, especially early in the day.

Check your charts before you go, but nowadays a GPS device can have excellent information as well. Of course, you will watch for mullet signs in the big bays. Slicks and big concentrations of mullet mean the predators have them grouped together, and the ambush is on. Use your optics for slicks and birds working. When you see a dead calm day with incoming tides in the morning, drop everything and go to the surf. I often guide a crew to fishing in the surf, when I know it's going to be spectacular. The jetties can be a good bet almost anytime. My lures are Hoagies and Diablos, mostly shad tails. I like root beer and red glitter with chartreuse tails. You'll tie on a 3/8 oz head, and take a lot of the above, since you'll lose many in the rocks where the fish are.

Conditions will be much the same into July, but in the hotter conditions, the deeper water regions like East Bay, Texas City, Dollar Reef and Half Moon Reef with humps and deep edges can pay off. Of course, you will remember that safety on the water is your first concern, and be prepared with gear for the crew. Send the larger trout and reds back—that five fish limit was overdue. —**Captain Walt Kalinowsky**
713-304-7091 Captwaltk@yahoo.com

Middle Coast Capt. Gordon Taylor

Tides falling? Go to mangroves

The toughest thing about summer is all the choices you have to catch fish. Artificial or live bait? Early morning or late afternoon? Any of these options can be productive in June and July.

When heading out early, live bait is most popular this time of year. Try targeting water depths of 3-4 feet free-lining your baits in Redfish Bay, Lydia Ann Channel and Corpus Christi Bay. If the winds are calm, head out to the platforms in Corpus Christi Bay and free-line with live bait for a wide variety of fish including trout, reds, whiting, sheepshead and even sharks. Always be prepared to pull anchor because you will have a chance of catching an oversized red and big shark.

If your choice is artificial lures, try wade fishing the shorelines along any of the islands in Redfish Bay early in the morning in shallow water and then deeper as the bays heat up. I like using a soft plastic 4" sea shad called "Space Guppy" by Saltwater Assassins on 1/8 oz lead heads early and then changing to a color called "Morning Glory" later in the wade.

When the tides are falling in the late afternoon, head out to the Lydia Ann Channel and throw soft plastics along the drop offs. The baitfish will be pulled out from the mangroves and will be highly visible with schools of reds or trout blowing up on them. Going out late afternoon can really be enjoyable since many people being done fishing, and also with the temperatures getting cooler as the sun goes down.

Summer is here and in order to make sure it is a fun day to remember, stay hydrated, apply sunscreen, follow all boating safety rules and be courteous to everyone out on the water. Always remember that being nice goes a long way in making a trip memorable and that there are plenty of spots to fish out on the water. —**Capt. Gordon Taylor** 361-319-0099 taylorgj60@gmail.com

Lower Coast Capt. Bryan Robinson

Quiet in the boat!

Here comes two of the fishiest months of the year. As June opens, our lower coast will not have the upper coast's problem of May's massive rains, but we may have their share of wind. Expect a normal breeze of 15 mph from the south and plan accordingly. Put out your drift anchor and watch for a shot at a big red or speck. For the upper wind knots, plan for lee-side fishing and deal with it. Great news will be water clarity—usually gin clear. And, remember that if it's difficult in a breeze to see the fish, it works the other way around.

I run a Hell's Bay Professional for two anglers and like the flyrod aspect of fishing. When a crew agrees, we'll work the shallows on foot or by drifting and hunting for a direct presentation to a fly-hungry red or big spotted lady. Flies of choice depend on the conditions and the fisher, but I have favorites on hand to lend. For spin casting fishermen, we'll choose wading the sands or drifting, depending on conditions. My favorite lure lately has been a 3" penny gold, with 1/16 oz head and almost any color of Gulp. Of course, when live shrimp are available, they can cause a curve in your rod. Top waters can cause a thrill early in the shallows, so bring your favorites.

July will be hot and humid, and can have a lot of light breeze days toward August. That's when the Skipper needs quiet in the boat as we see that trophy fish ahead and wait for just the right presentation.

Of course, you'll practice conservation, respect your fellow anglers and help with the education of young (and older) anglers. Best wishes for a great summer of fishing! —**Capt. Bryan Robinson**
956-241-5520

bryanrobinson@yahoo.com www.flyfishspi.com

Captain Bryan is a longtime CCA member, a past President of the RGV chapter, and has served on the CCA State Board of Directors.

Fly CPR's: Dave Shelpuk releases a fly-fooled red in West Matagorda Bay. Photo, Sam Caldwell, Olympus TG-5.

Below, Capt. Bryan Robinson releases a fine red on a Lower Laguna Madre sand flat. The photographer was son Connor Robinson, camera an iPhone.



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

CURRENTS is published six times a year by CCA Texas, a nonprofit state affiliate of the Coastal Conservation Association. This is the issue of June/July 2019
Vol. 37, Issue 4

Editor-in-Chief
Robby Byers

Editor
Sam Caldwell

Editorial Team
John Blaha, Shane Bonnot,
Liz Bosmans

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

Alvin-Pearland

Rex Richards 281-923-3050

alvinpearlandcca@yahoo.com

Our 2019 Banquet is right around the corner! It is Thursday June 20 and will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Pearland. We will be serving a delicious steak dinner by Joe's BBQ, having a "Sportsman's Raffle" that will include guns, YETI Coolers, and rod/reel packages, have live and silent auctions, as well as numerous raffles. This is an event you won't want to miss. Reserve your spot now!

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

Banquet tickets are \$60/person, \$100/couple, \$15/kids. Reserved/Sponsor tables start at \$550 for 8 Guests. All adult tickets include a CCA Membership. Sportsman's Raffle tickets are \$20 each or 6 for \$100. If you would like to purchase banquet tickets, reserve a table for your group/company, or make a donation to our event, please contact Erich Schneider at 713.626.4222 or email us at AlvinPearlandCCA@yahoo.com.

Our Chapter has been enjoying some great camaraderie and information at our "Angler's Night Out" events! Thanks go out to **Capt. Garry McAninch** of "Team McAninch Outdoors" and to **Capt. Steven Gremillion** from "Grem's Guide Service" for speaking at our May and June meetings. We will be taking a break in July but will have additional "Angler's Night Outs" on the first Tuesday of the month, August 6, September 3, October 8, and November 5. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend!

The best way to stay up to date with our latest Chapter Events is to follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/alvinpearland.cca or go to our chapter website at www.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

Aransas Bay CCA would like to send a HUGE thanks to all the lady anglers who came to Rock-

Chapter Updates

port-Fulton and participated in our Twentieth Annual Babes on the Bay Tournament! This year was one for the record books! This event would not have been possible without our Tournament Director **JEN THOMASSON**. Her dedication and leadership was beyond awesome! Congratulations to all our winners! You can view results posted on our website at www.babesonthebay.com. A big shout out to all of our sponsors this year who made this tournament extra amazing! **Waterloo Rods Co., Orvis Swan Point Landing, Reel Sportswear, Goin' Coastal Outfitters, Big Tree Realty, Gulf Coast Mariner Magazine, Ronnie's Marine - Premier Yamaha, HEB Rockport, Frio Ice Chests, Old Tejas Camo, Eskimo Hut, Waypoint Marine, The Dailey Ranch, Foreverlast, L&F Distributing, The Reserve at St Charles Bay, Keller Williams CB, CoastPro, Anastasia Musick Art Corporation, Saltwater Sassy and Camo Girl USA.** A special thanks to **Anastasia & Whitaker Musick**, whose artistic talent and contributions to Babes on the Bay this year were nothing short of incredible! So honored to have you both help make this tournament amazing this year! *Mark your calendars for next year's tournament, which will be held May 15-16, 2020.*

We are gearing up for our Aransas Bay CCA Banquet which will be held Saturday, August 10 at Camp Aranzazu in Rockport. Catch'em up!

Austin

Josh Cook 512-656-2964

josh@ccretx.com

As I write this, we are only a few days away from the 40th Annual Austin Banquet and I am optimistic we will set records again this year. I am continually amazed at the dedication of our volunteer board in preparation for this event. Specifically, I would like to thank officers: **Barron Johnson, Banquet Chairman; Jason Magdalena, Assistant Banquet Chairman; Scott Sanderson, Live Auction Chairman; Dan Appling, Co-Sponsorship Chairman; Steven Benton, Treasurer; PJ Todd, Community Relations Chairwoman; Tim Franke, Habitat and Research Chairman; Clifford Mankin and Kip Richmond, Membership Chairmen; and Dennis Blain, Secretary**, for their tireless efforts throughout the year in preparing for our banquet. I would also like to thank **Blake Masters** for his continued outstanding job as Boat Wrangler; **Mike Loughrey** for managing the Silent Auction this year; **Grant Kinchen** for handling all things Merchandise and Raffle; **Jeff Beck** for his continual help with logistics; **Jeff Kyrish** and **Paul Cox** as masters of all things 4X4; **Dan Alderman** for all things food; **Marvin Dworaczky** for all things Salesforce, and **Cheryl Smith** for her ongoing amazing job at procuring donations and ticket sales. An enormous thank you also to **Covert Chevrolet** for their continued support that allows us to hold this flagship event every year, and to Greater Austin Development for becoming a new title sponsor

this year. We couldn't do this event without both of you!

Next up on the calendar for Austin is **Angler's Night Out at Abel's on the Lake on July 17**. Like the banquet, ANO is a blast where 100 or so of us gather for fun, festivities and a free meal compliments of **Smokey Denmark's**. A big thank you to **Dan Appling** for his ongoing lead role in managing Angler's Night Out! We always have a guest speaker and you don't have to be a member to come. SO BRING A FRIEND AND ASK THEM TO JOIN CCA! We have awesome raffles with all kinds of great prizes. See you there! Be sure to "Like" Coastal Conservation Association Austin Chapter on Facebook to keep up with everything our outstanding chapter has going on. If you want to join a fun group of folks and help raise money for CCA, send me a note about joining the Austin Board. Now it's time to go fishing.

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

Brush County

Brenda Ballard 361-296-4037

brendagballard@hotmail.com

Centex

Wayne Webb 254-405-1300

sheyhunt@aol.com

Central Houston

Todd Buster 713-545-189

tbuster@busterandcogdellbuilders.com

The Central Houston Chapter held its 43rd Annual Banquet on April 25 at the Bayou City Event Center. A huge thanks to all of our sponsors, those who bought tables, and our Board members who made it a great evening. Congratulations to **Joe Terry** for winning the Polaris Ranger. We are already starting to gear up for the 44th Annual Banquet and planning events for the next year. If you're interested in getting involved



Central Houston's Polaris Ranger, won by Joe Terry

in the Central Houston Chapter, please reach out to Todd Buster – tbuster@busterandcogdellbuilders.com or Coleman Todd – coleman@ccatexas.org.

Colorado Valley
Eugene Ulrich 979-249-7425
zeke.ulrich@gmail.com

Greetings from Colorado Valley.

Just as the song says, "Oh What a Night"! We just completed our largest and most productive banquet in the history of our chapter. Our board members worked very diligently and really did a fantastic job of putting on this event but we could not have pulled this off without the fantastic help from all of our banquet assistants. Our board members include Eugene Ulrich, Danny Olenick, Trish Kubena, Rusty Kubena, Gary Janda, Dave Fehlker, Kenneth LeFrance, Kendall Rhode, and Jeff Burgh. Our assistant list includes Connie Janda, George Gold, John Gold, Kristi Gold, Mike Petras, Norma Petras, Mathew LeFrance, Verlene Ulrich, Lucas Janda, J.K. Brandt, Kari Brandt, Crawford Gadd, and Robert Hodges. Many many thanks go out to John Gold who did a fantastic job of creating the banquet program for us this year.

Thanks also go out to our AD Taylor Rieck and his group for helping make it all happen and congratulations to Aqua Beverage Company for winning our Early Bird Contest as they did purchase their table early before we sold out. We had a delicious steak and shrimp meal prepared again by the KC's along with great beverages provided by Brown Distributing-Budweiser. We would like to thank our cap sponsors again this year, J&J Metal Works, Lakeview Glass and Mirror, and Oviedo Auto Group. We would like to acknowledge our other game sponsors which include cap sponsors Milton's Fine Furniture and Pease Custom Floors, ladies game sponsor Burgh's Septic and Wastewater, our door prize sponsor Murphy's Steakhouse, our table glass sponsor Miller NRG, our pen sponsor WHATABURGER of LaGrange, our buyer's cap sponsors We Stitch and M-G Farm Service Center in Weimar, our bag sponsor Oviedo Auto Group, our towel sponsors Burgh's Septic and Wastewater, Morris & McClimon Attorneys at Law, CJNR Ranch Fowlerton, and Doug's Plumbing, and our print sponsors including LaGrange Ford, National Bank & Trust, Powerscreen Texas, and Round Top State Bank.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Ben Schovajsa who again purchased the Captain's Table for next year's banquet along with our Grand Slam table sponsors which include 304 Construction, Academy, Covert-Chevrolet-Buick-GMC, CRW Fish Camp Port O'Connor, Get Skinny Fish'en, J&J Metal Works, Joe Rogers' Dozer Service, Masonry Works, Maxwell Locke & Ritter, Multisource Sand & Gravel, Murphy's Steakhouse, Tails and Scales Fish Camp, and Steaks Tool Traders. Thanks to all of our Bull Red Table sponsors which include A J Florus, Aqua Beverage Company, Bill Wallace, Brawley Dental Clinic, Brown Distributing, Burgh's Septic and Wastewater, Canada Ranch, Chris Dillon Attorney, CJNR Ranch, Clearwater Consulting, Colorado Valley AFLAC, Doug's Plumbing Company and Pease Custom Floors, Fayette County Veterinary Clinic, Fayette Savings Bank, Miller NRG Corporation, Milton's Home of Fine Furniture, National Bank and Trust,



The 2019 Colorado Valley Banquet Committee

Orsak's Café, Parker's Hardware, Powerscreen Texas, Rick Knappe, Round Top State Bank, Smithville Heating & Air, Texana Cottages, Tri-County Realty, Ulrich Family, and Waste Away Trash Service. Our reserved table sponsors include Fayetteville Bank, Heger's Tree Service, Kleiber Tractor and Equipment, Linda Morrison/Paul Mikula and Terrill Watson.

Thanks again for all who helped make this banquet such a success that it was including everyone who sponsored or donated items to our event. Please mark down March 26, 2020 on your calendar because it will be our 20th anniversary of our banquet and promises to be another terrific fundraising event! Wishing bent rods and tight lines to all!



Corpus Christi kayak winner Mason Ellis is on the right and his friend Chase Brzozowski on the left.

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

Summer is here in South Texas! Our chapter just wrapped up our 2019 Anglers Night Out and Poco Rojo Kids Fishing Tournament last week and had a great turnout on both events.

Our spring Anglers Night Out at Brewster Street Ice House featured two outstanding Texas Saltwater Fishing Legends: Jay Watkins and Cliff Webb. Jay and Cliff talked about the current fishing trends, conservation and some great fishing stories in our Coastal Bend waters. Dr. Kelly Dunning from the University of Texas Marine Science Institute and Jay Gardner from CCA Habitat Today For Fish Tomorrow Committee Chairman started our event off with updates on Coastal and Marine Conservation efforts in South Texas. We had a large crowd of CCA members, volunteers and the general public. We signed up 22 new CCA members!

We had a great turnout for the 2019 CCA Poco Rojo Kids Fishing Tournament—almost 100 kid anglers and sold out! The weather was great and the fishing was spectacular! The CCA Marine Development Center/Hatchery facilities were awesome. We signed up 95 new CCA members!

Flint Hills Resources was our New "Title Sponsor" and we welcomed their volunteers and support! Thanks again to our corporate sponsors: Higginbotham, Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies, Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation, Laguna Wealth Services, W. Scott Turner CPA, BBVA Compass, Hilliard Family Foundation of South Texas, Supreme Production Services Inc., Corpus Christi Moms Blog, Roy's Bait and Tackle, Fishbites and The Bait Bucket.

With our sponsors support, we were able to offer numerous improvements towards our tournament, such as: youth "Jackson" kayak, kids photo booth, more door prizes, larger tent, and quality food services. Flint Hills Resources volunteers provided breakfast tacos for the volunteers and for lunch, Flint Hills Resources volunteers served hot dogs, fajitas, chips, and drinks to the kids, siblings, parents, grandparents and all volunteers.

We could not have hosted two great events without the support from our awesome Board Members and Volunteers. Thank you to: Paul Silva, Tyler Thorsen, Jay Gardner, Michael Mendoza, Valerie Chilton, Dr. Vega, Ashley Fincannon, Courtney Johnstone, Joe Johnstone, Kimberly Prowse, Joseph Briones, Jessica Arroyo, Arron Arroyo, Jim Sutton, Josh Hawley, Tina Johnstone, all of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Hatchery Staff and Flint Hills Resources volunteers—Great job everyone!

Next event up is the Corpus Christi Hooks Baseball Coastal Bend Conservation weekend on June 20, 21 and 22. CCA-Corpus Christi, the CCA Marine Development Center/Hatchery and other Coastal Conservation organizations will be a part of the event. More information will be posted on our CCA website and Facebook page.

Below are the final winners of the 2019 Poco Rojo Kid Fish tournament

Black Drum: 1st - Isaiah Sanchez (28.50"), 2nd - Adyson Hernandez (27.50"), 3rd - Jake Brzozowski (27.00")

Red Fish: 1st - Kiah Wallace (24.00"), 2nd Isaiah Sanchez (33.75"), 3rd Rylan Caskey (33.00")

Sheep Head: 1st - Penelope Southerland (15.50"), 1st- Jack Zarosky (15.50"), 2nd - Rome Cardona (14.00") 3rd - Brooklyn Wall (12.75")

Redfish-Most Spots: 1st (ALL - 4) Ady Wallace, Jed Wallace, William Long, Jack Zarosky, Jayden Long

Door Prize Winner is Mason Ellis who won a Youth Kayak—9ft 10 inches, Jackson "Skipper" model with paddle and chair from Roy's Bait and Tackle.

(Kayak winner Mason Ellis is on the right and his friend Chase Brzozowski on the left)

For more information about our upcoming CCA events, please go to our CCA Corpus Christi website and Facebook page. If you are interested in volunteering for our CCA Chapter events, please give us a call. See you on the water!

Dallas
Matt Scherer 214-995-6777
matthew.scherer@ryan.com
 On April 18 we celebrated our 38th Annu-

al Banquet and once again it was another record-breaking year. We had a record crowd in attendance in excess of 400 guests and grossed over a quarter of a million dollars. The Dallas board members along with Assistant **Director Drew Adams** put a great deal of time and effort into the event and I can't thank them all enough. Thanks to our donors and sponsors such as **Miles & Miles Outfitters, Beretta Gallery, Mariner Sails, Hobie, Pelicans Roost Resort Lodge, Finish Line Outdoors, Tito's, Angel's Envy, Oak Highlands Brewing, Temple Fork Outfitters, 3 Curl Outfitters, Jim Bush and Dallas Chapter Zuider Zee Boys.** We had an amazing live auction line-up as well as some awesome raffle packages. Fortunately, the list of supporters was too extensive to list them all, but please check out our website to see some of the other donors. Most of all, thank you to our banquet attendees for your unwavering support. Were it not for the support you've shown through the years, none of this would be possible. Thank you one and all! During the banquet, we recognized **Ron Gard as our 2019 Conservation Sportsmen of the Year.** Ron has been a staunch supporter of CCA for nearly 40 years. Congratulations Ron!

Next on the schedule is the **Dallas Chapter's 4th Annual Hooked on Clays sporting clays tournament** at the Dallas Gun Club on Friday, September 20, 2019. We will begin check-in at 11:00 am and lunch shortly after. The tournament will begin at 1 pm followed by raffles and a social event. Feel free to contact me or **Drew Adams** at dadams@ccatexas.org for more details or to register a team.

In closing, the Dallas Chapter is happy to announce that **Greg Resnansky** will serve as the new chapter president for the next two years and **Jason Gray** will be serving as vice president. We have no doubt that the best is yet to come for the Dallas Chapter. Please visit us on Facebook and Instagram. Hope your summer holds some saltwater plans. Catch 'em up and turn 'em back!

East Texas

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

Fort Bend

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

Hello All. Our Fort Bend committee members have just wrapped up our 33rd annual banquet and what a great and successful banquet it was! We had over 400 in attendance this year and would like to thank each and every one of you for your generous contributions and for supporting us and CCA. We can't wait to see you again next year.

Our new chapter officers take seat after our banquet each year and I'd like to welcome them: Chapter President – **Jim Black**; Vice President – **Blake Tumlinson**; Secretary – **Chris Sandoval**. This is a great group of guys with some great new ideas for the chapter and I can't wait to see what the new year brings! Special thanks to last year's officers: President – **Donnie Powers**; Vice President – **Blake Tumlinson**; Secretary – **Jim Black**; Treasurer – **Robert Oliver**, we greatly appreciate all your time and hard work. I would also like to thank **Steve Onstad** and **The Swinging Door in Richmond** for allowing us to hold our monthly meeting there all these years.

Mark your calendars we have some exciting events coming up this summer. First, the **Fort Bend CCA Kid's Fish Tournament in Matagorda** will be held on **July 27, 2019** and next the "Ladies Only" fishing tourna-

ment, **The Lingerie On The Bay (LOTB)** is scheduled for **September 6-7, 2019 in Matagorda.** Entry forms and tournament information will be posted at matagordabay.com/tournaments2019 and ccatexas.org/fort-bend or you can call **Jim Black** at 979-240-5010. Till next time...

Fort Worth

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

On Thursday May 2, the Fort Worth Board of CCA hosted its 23rd annual banquet at the wildly popular **Joe T Garcia's in the Stockyards.** We arrived early for setup and all eyes were on the weather map watching a series of terrible storms to the west of us, but we were prepared and luckily the storms missed us to the south and provided us with some cooler weather and a slight breeze. This was a significant help in helping take down a few of Joe T's famous margaritas. It was obvious that everyone had a great time listening to music, telling fishing and hunting lies, looking over the silent auction and raffle and even more obvious that some were having a REALLY good time! It was awesome to see such camaraderie as we get together these few times each year. To all of our lucky winners – congratulations – and to those who left lighter in the wallet – thank you and we look forward to sending you home with something next year.

The weather has officially turned warmer and it's time to head south to the coast. If you are interested in having some fun, meeting some new folks and serving on the board please reach out to us. We are always looking to add folks as natural attrition sets in. Thank you to all the sponsors that helped make the event a success! Man, I really hope that one guy found his shirt that he didn't make it home with. Wonder how that story got told to the wife?! Until the fall event, we look forward to seeing you on the water.

Galveston

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

Hello all from the Galveston chapter. **We are hard at work making preparations for our 2019 banquet which will be held Saturday July 27 at the Moody Gardens Convention Center.** Tables and tickets are on sale now so call or go online to reserve your table soon!

We have begun selling tickets for our **2019 23' Haynie Boat** that has a 200 hp Suzuki motor and Coastline custom trailer. Only 700 tickets will be sold at \$100 each. Contact any board member if you wish to purchase tickets.

Put **Friday and Saturday, June 21 and 22 on your calendar for our annual Ladies Fishing Tournament** that will be held at the Galveston Yacht Basin. Sign up information will be available on the chapter webpage.

On May 27 the chapter held our annual Kids fishing tournament and we would like to thank all of the volunteers and donors for making it another great success. A good time was had by all participants and attendees. Thank you again to **Harborwalk** for being a great host.

Come join us on the island in July for a fun night at Moody Gardens. Tight lines.

Golden Triangle

Kevin Picard 409-658-5246
kevinpicard@yahoo.com

Hello fellow members! We held our 2019 Annual Banquet May 30. We are continuing to see our chapter grow year by year and we are on our way to having our first sold out event. It was great to see everyone there.

Greater Sugar Land

Robert Bailey 713-819-5534
rbailey@robertbaileypc.com

The past couple of months have been busy ones for our chapter. The main event was our April banquet—it was a great success, thanks to the tireless efforts of our Banquet Chair, **Pam Canavan**, and the help of many, many others, notably **Tara Jurica**. Thanks especially to our many wonderful sponsors and underwriters, all of whom are listed on our banquet web page. Thank you all for helping put together a lively and entertaining evening!

March brought us a pair of great speakers for our general meeting: **Captains Sally and Aubrey Black of Baffin Bay Rod and Gun** spoke about the unique features of Baffin Bay and why it needs to be on your bucket list of fishing destinations.

We also had our first **Angler's Night Out** in March. It was successful by any metric, thanks to the hard work of our committee, **Mike Spero, Mike Bracikowski, Lynda and John Breland and Gary Blanchette. The Red Neck Country Club** was a great venue and our speaker, **Doug Pike**, kept us entertained with great stories. Thank you one and all! We're working on a similar event for the fall. "Stay tuned," as they say.

We kicked off May with **Tommy Countz** as speaker for our general meeting. Tommy shared his tips for fishing in Matagorda Bay. Thank you, Tommy, for making the trek to speak with us. While I'm on thanks, I especially appreciate the efforts of **Michael Lindley**, who chairs a Speaker's Committee of One. Michael has put together a great string of speakers for us since taking on that task and we really appreciate it.

We also had a kid's fish event in **New Territory** on May 4, which was sponsored by **Constable Trevor Nehls of Fort Bend County Precinct 4.** The event was well attended on what was an absolutely perfect day for getting on or by the water. A good time was had by all! Special thanks go to **Judy Kveton**, our Kids Fish Committee chair, for coordinating the event.

We are going on hiatus for the summer. Our last event until fall will be a Kids Fish in Missouri City's Community Park on June 1. Please contact us if you're interested in helping out.

My tenure as President of the chapter ends May 31. I'll be passing the baton to **Mike Bracikowski**, who I know will be successful, especially if he receives the kind of support I received and for which I am very, very grateful. Thank you all.

We hope to see you in September, when our **monthly general meetings resume on September 4 at 7:00 p.m. at Otto's Barbecue, 11222 Fountain Lake Dr. in Stafford.** In the meantime, have a safe and wonderful summer! Tight lines!

Greater Woodlands

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

We were recently invited by the Girl Scouts to join them for a day of fishing at **Camp Agnes Arnold.** The girls have an annual camping weekend where they get to take part in events like archery and boating, and this year they added a fishing event. They have a cute little section of camp called the Fishing Village, complete with cabins and a gazebo over the water, which is where we set up our camp for the day.

It started off with some light rain, then a storm blew threw right after lunch, but the girls were determined! They came prepared, wearing their rain ponchos. The older troop donated some cane poles and three containers of worms for the younger girls to use. There were over 150 girls that passed through our event throughout the entire day. Some of the girls had never even been fishing before, so it was a treat for them to see a fish up close and touch it if they wanted to. The girls that did have some fishing experience were excited to help their fellow troopers put the



worm on the hook and take the fish off the hook after they caught it.

It was a catch and release kind of day, but almost every girl had the opportunity to catch a fish. Only a few girls did not want to touch the fish, or the worm, and some really enjoyed just playing with the worms. Even though a few cane poles ended up broken and tangled beyond the third repair, all of the girls had the best time



Girl scout images from Greater Woodlands Kid-fish by chapter president Charlotte O'Dell.

getting on the edge of the water, sharing a pole with their friends, laughing, being patient and learning how to enjoy the experience of fishing. We look forward to making this one of our annual events. If you'd like to see our photos from the day, check out our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/CCAGreaterWoodlands

We had an Angler's Night Out on April 9 with our guest speaker Michael Bosse with Down South Lures. We had a packed house and gave away some fun new prizes. Michael had the audience captivated with his presentation

on fishing. He demonstrated his technique on how to catch a fish using different types of lures. He gave us his take on corks and received some input from Bill Hall, owner of Cajun Thunder, about his corks. His takeaway for night was to go fishing with whatever bait you prefer, and whenever you get the opportunity to go.

Guadalupe Valley
Campbell Weber 361-243-8942
cww_05@hotmail.com

12th Annual Guadalupe Valley CCA Banquet date change: Thursday, August 8, 2019.
We're having it at The Venue on Church Street located at 125 East Church Street in Cuero, Texas; doors open at 6:00 p.m. It will be a great chance to win some awesome fishing equipment, bid on some super fishing and vacation trips and tell all your fishing buddies about the Big One that got away! \$50 Individual Tickets and \$700 Table Sponsorship for 8.

Other events coming up:

June 8-9: CCA Interchapter Challenge in Aransas Pass

June 29: DeWitt County Pescadores Tournament in Rockport

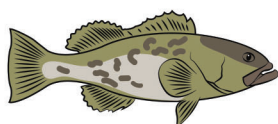
August 8: Guadalupe Valley CCA Banquet 6PM.

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

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

Hello from the Heart of the Hills! Hope you had some productive fishing this spring. Chapter

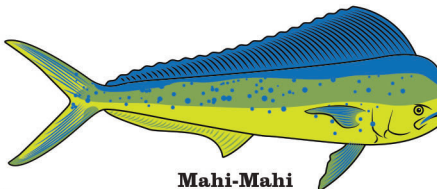
Gulf Identification Guide



Grouper



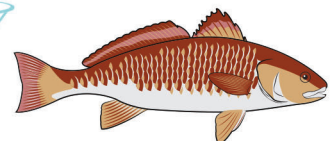
Tito's All-Time Favorite



Mahi-Mahi



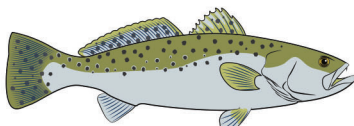
Tito's Martini



Red Drum



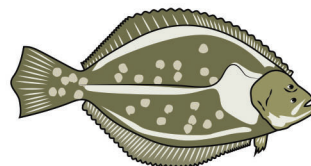
Hair of the Dog



Speckled Trout



Tito's Salty Dog



Flounder



Tito's Screwdriver



Tito's Handmade Vodka is a proud supporter of CCA Texas



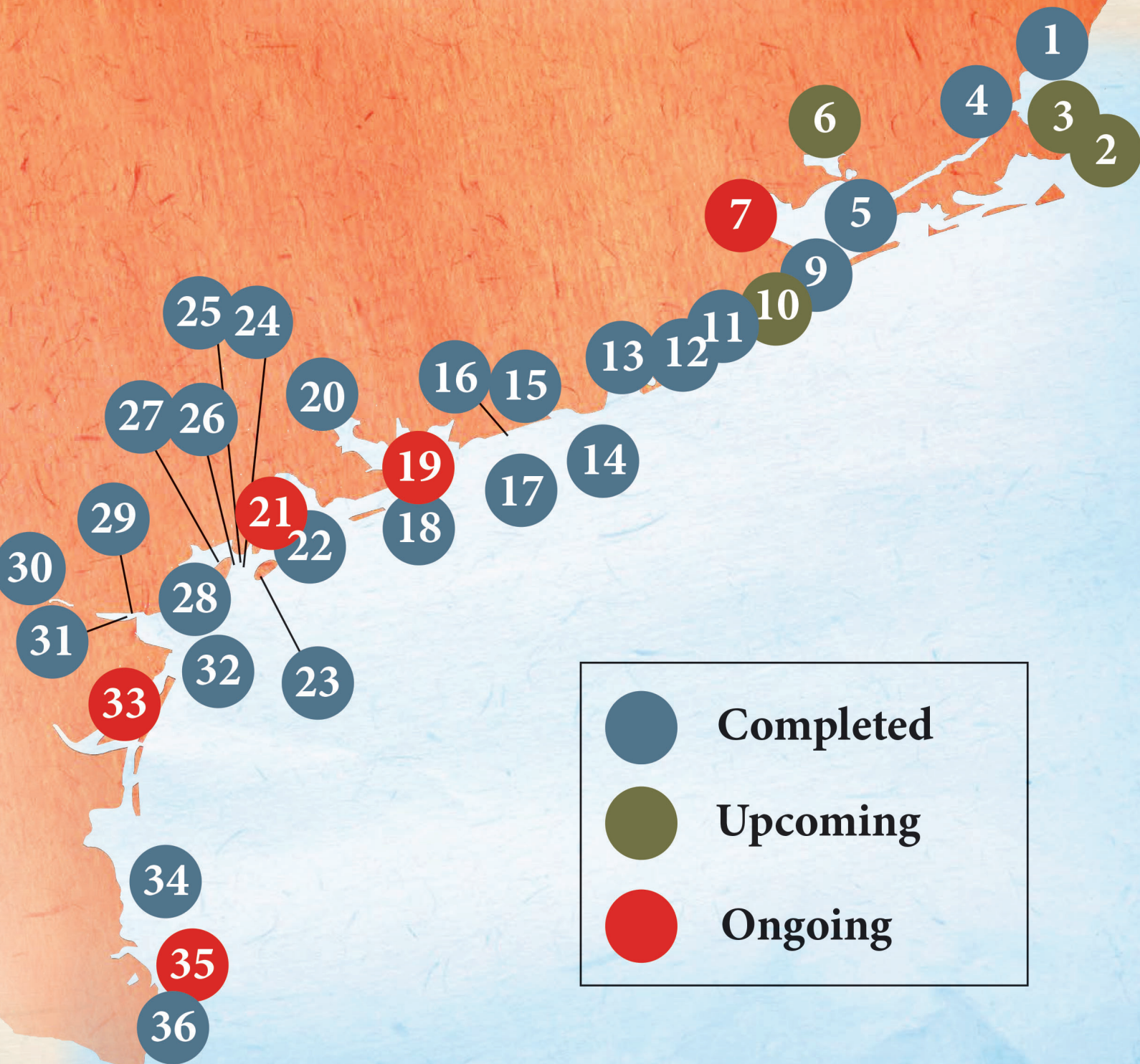
HABITAT TODAY FOR FISH TOMORROW

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



volunteers have been having fun together and attended a couple of banquets held by other CCA chapters. We also put together our team to fish the **Inter-Chapter Challenge tournament in June in Aransas Pass**. Currently, we are in the planning stages for our **Annual Heart of the Hills Banquet to be held mid-September at Don Strange Ranch**. Give me a call for tickets, to reserve your table or to volunteer to help! Tight lines!

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

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

The following is an outline of our events for 2019:

April 26 we hosted the Board of Director Fishing trip for **Tex Mix Concrete**.

May 10: we hosted our crawfish boil for **Todd Hoffman** who has purchased this several times at our banquet.

May 21: Our first General Meeting with **Jay Watkins** as our guest speaker.

July 16: General Meeting (Speaker to Be Announced)

July 20: Our summer tournament for Hill Country Chapter Members only. For more information call **Cameron Kallies** (830)560-6936 or **Augusta Kallies** at (210)249-1617

August 15, 2019 Hill Country Chapter Annual Banquet at the Civic Center in New Braunfels Texas. For ticket information call Todd Thetford at (830)660-8825.

October 15: Final General Meeting for "2019" (Speaker to Be Announced)

Other events that we are in the process of scheduling are:

Fish Fry for (50)

Our Meeting and Tournament Sponsors are as follows:

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

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

I am looking forward to an exciting year with our chapter. If you would like to become a sponsor and/or get involved with our chapter cast me a call (210)260-8968.

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

Live Oak
Taylor Kotrla 979-732-7265
taylorkotrila@hotmail.com

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

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

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

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

The bags are packed and trailers are loaded and we are headed for our 14th annual Little Salties Fishing Blowout down in Matagorda. Again, this year we have a full load with 250 youngsters signed up. The event is held every year on **Mother's Day weekend at the Matagorda Harbor**. This free yearly tournament for the kids of Matagorda Bays Chapter is something special; each kid goes home with a fishing story, fishing rod and a bag full of goodies. A big thanks goes out to our corporate sponsors for this event: **Prasek's Hillje Smokehouse, Mustang Caterpillar, E. A. Collins & Sons, Polasek Construction, Cedar Creek Woodshop, Texas Tackle Factory, Coastal Bend Oilmen's Fishing Tournament, Schmidt Implement, KC Services, Sutton Wealth Management, Earl and Deana Calkins, Dalton Trucking, Hunter's Air and Heat, and Seaman's Plumbing**. Also, a big thanks to all the other donors who con-

tribute to the event, I would like to mention their names but would run out of room.

Our chapter banquet is scheduled for June 27 this year at the El Campo Civic Center. The board is hard at work getting all the ins and outs together for the night of fun and fundraising. Invitations with all the details are in the mail. Be sure to reserve a table or get your ticket early, the event has sold out for the last 10 years.

Our fully rigged **Hanyie Magnum w/ a 300HP Suzuki raffle boat** is turning heads all around the area so be sure to get a couple of tickets before they are gone. A big thanks goes out to **Haynie Boats, Coastline Trailers** and all the guys at **Chris's Marine**. If you are not in the area and need boat tickets or want to purchase tickets for the banquet feel free to contact **Wesley Smolik** (979) 543-2753 or any Matagorda Bays CCA board member.

Another big thanks goes out to **Polasek Construction and Sutton Wealth Management** for stepping up as our 2019 boat sponsors this year. Without their generosity we would not be able to have such a great raffle boat.

***New for 2019 Banquet: All Gold Tables entered in a raffle for a trip for 8 people.**

***New for 2019 Banquet: All Silver Tables entered in a raffle for 8 rod and reel combos.**

Feel free to contact the chapter president if you have any questions about the chapter.

Mid Coast
Wade Harrell 361-935-1125
wcharrell@hotmail.com

Fellow coastal conservationist, I hope you have been out enjoying our beautiful spring weather! Our Mid Coast chapter just wrapped up another annual banquet on Friday, May 3. We had a terrific turnout and fun was had by all!

I want to thank **Tylar Walyuchow** for leading this effort as our banquet chair this year, many attendees remarked that this was one of our most organized and best banquets ever! I'd also like to thank the following banquet chairs who worked closely with Tylar to make this event a reality: **Michael Brawner, SeaDoo raffle**



MidCoast board members from left David Bartels, Danny Goyen (recognized as board member of year), Bill Williams and Ty Goyen prepping for annual banquet.



Matagorda Bay's 2019 banquet boat

chair; Rod Graci, games chair; Mark Saddler, live auction; Cheryl Guthrie, silent auction and raffle chair; Tracy Jurek, finance chair; Kent Miller, catering chair; Bill Williams, beverage chair and Janet Guajardo, placemat chair. We are blessed to have an outstanding board!

I also want to thank all of our sponsors and the attendees that helped us raise funds for CCA Texas to continue making our coastal environments a wonderful place to recreate and make memories with our friends and families! One of the highlights of the night was a record-breaking live auction of our captains that will be fishing our **18th annual Guides Cup tournament on October 4**. We had a single Guides Cup boat auctioned off for over \$6,000!

Congratulations to the winners of the 2019 Raffle Give-Away, drawn at the conclusion of our banquet: 1st place prize 2019 Sea Doo Fish



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



A SPECIAL GIFT FOR NEW LIFE MEMBERS

brought to you by

SIMMS.



CCA Texas and Simms Fishing Products have teamed up again 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 these workhorse Simms G3 Guide Stockingfoot Waders and Taco Bag with the CCA Texas logo. Tax Deductible: \$657.00

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. Adult signature required.

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

Please Choose ONE of the following Sizes:

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

☐ Small ☐ Large (9-11 foot)

☐ Medium ☐ Large (12-13 foot)

☐ X Large ☐ 2XL

Credit Card Number

Exp. Date

Signature

CVV

CCA Texas | 6919 Portwest Dr., Ste. 100 | Houston, TX 77024

Phone 713.626.4222 | lbosmans@ccatexas.org | www.CCATexas.org



A great showing at the Mid Coast banquet.

Pro winner **Brad Scherer**, 2nd place 2019 Club Car Onward PTV winner **Diane Kliem**, 3rd place Beretta A-400 Shotgun winner **Nathan Allan**, 4th place Waterloo rod/reel combo winner **Tyler Williams** and 5th place CCA Engel Cooler winner **Tyler Trahan**. A big thanks to our raffle sponsors **Atzenhoffer Velocity Power Sports** and **Waterloo Rod Co.**

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

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

We want to thank **Chicken Boy** with **Chicken Boy Lures** for being our speaker at our Annual Member Appreciation Fish Fry! It was a fun time for everyone. We also want to thank

our sponsors **Mark and Renea Mohr, Blue Water Seafood, and Houston Distributing.**

Our June General Meeting will be held on June 4, our guest speaker TBA. So please come and join us as we will have our usual raffle items. It will be held as usual at **Houston Distributing, 7100 High Life Drive off Cutten road in the Stein Room** starting at 7:00 p.m.

Coming up is our 2019 Annual Kid Fish on Saturday May 11, 7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Linda's Sylvan Beach Bait Camp Fishing Pier, 636 N. Bayshore Dr. in La Porte, TX. Many thanks to Harris County Precinct 2, The City of La Porte, Capt Forrest Vollentine, Eileen's Cleaning Service, Blue Water Seafood, Platinum Homes and Linda's Bait & Tackle for their continued support of this annual event. Must be a CCA New Tide Member. PLEASE RSVP: **Teresa Sims simstopdog@aol.com** - Limited availability, must RSVP!

August 8, 6:00 p.m. Save that date because you do not want to miss our 30th Annual North-



Northwest: Chicken Boy with Chicken Boy Lures

west Houston Chapter Banquet and Fundraiser.

It will be held again at **Shirley Acres, located at 217 Woerner Road.** We do have raffle tickets available for sale so please see a Director to purchase yours today. More information to follow!

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!

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



WHAT SUN?



OMNI-SHADE SUN DEFLECTOR™

TECHNOLOGY USES HUNDREDS OF TINY SUN-DEFLECTING DOTS ON THE FABRIC TO REPEL HARMFUL RAYS, KEEPING YOU COOLER, PROTECTED AND OUTSIDE LONGER.



With our Banquet set for August 8 preparations are in full swing. If you would like to join us at the event, see a banquet committee member or contact us on Facebook – Orange County CCA Chapter. Meetings are held on the 1st Monday of each month at the **Domino's Pizza** located in **Orange on MacArthur DR.**

Don't forget to sign up for the STAR Tournament you never know when you "Might Hook the BIG ONE." Good luck & Tight Lines

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

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

The 19th Annual POC CCA Banquet was held on March 30 at the POC Community Center and again it was sold out.

The banquet was another success and seemed to be enjoyed by all in attendance. It could not have been a success without the diligence and dedication of all board members, chapter members, volunteers and donors. Special thanks to banquet chairman **Pam Johnson** and **Patti Elkins**. VP's **Jim Busby** and **Patti Elkins**, treasurer **Ann Brownlee**, Secretary **Dain Whitworth**, and sergeant at arms **Michelle Lippold**. Also, our outstanding board members **Ann Brownlee**, **Barbara Skalak**, **Carl** and **Pam Ray**,



The Port O'Connor banquet was again a sold out success. President Bill Moore and Ann Brownlee pause before the festivities began.

Chris Smisek, Donnie and Julia Klesel. Fred Carr, Michelle Lippold, Dain and Judy Whitworth, Pam Johnson, Patti Elkins, Carol and Pete Llarcelles, and Sara and David Clark. Pam Johnson for doing an outstanding job on the program. To our CCA Assistant Director **Taylor Rieck** and to **Sam Caldwell** for his visit and sharing his art work. To **Dawn Ragusin** for the program cover.

Also, our appreciation to a special group who help make our banquet a success, the donors, who make possible all the items, gifts, and

trips. To all who attended including table sponsors, again thanks for attending.

So, with the summer season here, come visit us and support our donors. If you want to get involved with the chapter, give us a call in POC, "Where it all began."

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

What a Night! On April 4 we hosted our 22nd Annual CCA Banquet at the Cat Spring Hall. It was sold out event. The meal was outstanding: **Mikeska BBQ** catered and served prime rib, shrimp and all the trimmings.

The girls from **High Profit Promotions** were selling raffle tickets thru out the evening. They consisted of \$5 bucket raffle, pick of the stringer and a \$300 package that consist of (3) books of general raffle tickets (1) book sportsman raffle tickets and (2) books of the pick of the stringer

The Live auction was a great success also. Some of the items in the auction were prints, hunting and fishing trips and many more great items, thanks to **Mark Switzer** for being the auctioneer for the evening. One of the items in the live auction was the Bull Red table for 8 people with their meal and drinks served with special treatment. We have had this on the live auction for 6 years and the winner last year was **Betty and Vern from Diamond H Ranch**.

Also, the silent auction had some great items to give away thanks to **CCA, Academy Sports + Outdoors** and all the supporters that donate.

One of the most popular games that night was the cap and card game: for \$20 you get a cap with a playing card attached. If your card is drawn, you win the gun that is associated with that card. This year we had 8 guns and pistols.

That night we also had the drawing of the sportsman raffle. The winners are as follows: **Scott Hinze** won the **Yamaha Golf Card**, **David Sullivan** won the **Engel Cooler**, **Billy Marricle** won the **Waterloo Phantom w/ Lew's Team Life Reel**, **Ross Kutach** won the **\$500 Academy gift card** and **Bradley Miller** won the **Glock 22.40 caliber**.

We would like to thank **Wittenburg Printing** and the staff for donating their services. Thanks to **Roger (snuffy) Garrett** for the security that night and a Big thanks to **Brian Weaver** and his **CCA staff** for their help that made this event a great success.

Another big thanks to all the **Prairie Chapter Board** members for their help. And thanks to all the banquet sponsors and donors that helped with all the terrific gifts that made this banquet a great success. And a special thanks to all that purchased a corporate table, we appreciate your support.

Don't forget our **18th Annual Prairie Chapter Kid Fish** that will be **August 3** at the **Walters Lake 12857 Newberg Road** in **Cat Spring**. This event is open to the public and everything is free. Thanks, **Ron Chess**.

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

Thank you for your support! The thanks go to our **Redfish Bay Chapter Board**, **Houston support team** (especially **John Blaha**), our sponsors/donors, and banquet attendees - for the first time ever, we had a sellout banquet! As always, special thanks to **Chris Marine** for being our Title Sponsor. We continue to work hard to have a fun, family-oriented Banquet that has raffle and

auction items for everyone. I hope your attendance is an affirmation of our success!

One special note: we did not realize that we had a sellout until the evening before the banquet. When we counted corporate tables and pre-sold online tickets, we realized that we were at capacity for the number of seats we had in the Civic Center (even after crowding in two more tables). We sent an email to everyone in the **Redfish Bay**, **Aransas Bay** and **Corpus Chapters** announcing the sellout, but some people did not get the email in time. As a result, we had to turn people away at the door. As I said, this was the first time we had ever sold out and we are really sorry we had to turn people away. Next year, we will try to have as many chairs as possible, but we encourage you to buy your tickets online as soon as you determine you can attend the Banquet.

We just held a **Take a Kid Fishing Event**. Registration and shrimp boil was the evening of Friday, May 31, and fishing was the morning of Saturday, June 1 (until noon). After fishing, there was hot dogs and the awards ceremony. Our **Beeville Fish Fry** is another great chapter event! More to follow, but it is usually the Thursday before dove season starts.

Our **Redfish Bay Chapter** continues to support conservation in the coastal bend. If you would like to be active on our board, please give me a call on 361-758-0266 or email me on noates@cableone.net.

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

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

Greetings from the **Sabine Neches Chapter**! We have been taking a mini break from our volunteering to spend time on the water! Our chapter will be getting together at the end of summer to elect new board members, if you would like to volunteer your time email me for details. Wishing everyone a safe and happy summer. Be safe on the water. Tight lines to all!

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

Summer fun, sun and heat are upon us. Hopefully you are spending as much time as possible with friend and family out on the water. **Save the date for our annual banquet September 5, 2019.** Tickets will go on sale soon. Please follow us on Facebook @CCASAMHOUSTON for ticket information and general chapter updates.

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

The **San Antonio Chapter's 40th Annual Banquet** was another record setter! Congratulations to banquet chairman **Robert Lozano**, co-chair **Byron Buzzini** and their committee members for putting on another over the top event! We want to thank all of our faithful sponsors and hard-working volunteers for making this banquet the best of them all.

Mark your calendar for next year's event on April 30, 2020. **Rush Truck Centers** won this year's Early Bird Table Buyer Drawing and they took home a Weatherby Creedmore 6.5 Rifle. Be sure to buy your tables early and get yourself in the mix for next year's drawing. **Josh Harris**

won the Audi TT Roadster, Matt Ehrlich won the Shiner Beers Polaris 570 UTV, **Bill Kirchoff** won our Jeep Wrangler from **Jordan Ford**, **Bill Cook** and **Maximum Altitude**. That was one heck of a jeep!

Our Grand Prize **2019 Shallow Stalker Boat, Motor and Trailer** from **Gulf Coast Marine** were won by **Brian Ogle**. We also had 130 plus winners from our \$5 Raffle, Silent Auction, Cutting Board Auction, 5 Handgun Raffle, and 10 Gun Raffle. But the biggest winner of the night was CCA Texas! CCA San Antonio thanks all of our patrons for their continued support of our banquet, without them this would never work.

Mark your calendars: August 7, 2019 we will be having our next General Membership Meeting at 6:00 p.m. at the Barn Door Restaurant. Our guest speaker for the evening will be **Capt. Chris Bush** from **The Speckled Truth Blog**. Capt. Bush will be speaking on some of the tactics that he uses to land that special trout we all fish for. 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 will be hosting an all you can eat crawfish gathering at S-Curve in East Bernard on Thursday May 30. Tickets are \$25 and presale only. First come, first serve. We are looking forward to getting together and celebrating a successful banquet and ways to improve for our fisheries. Get with your local board



San Antonio's 40th was a record setter. Above, Marines parade the color to the hats-off National Anthem. Below, a few of the thousand-plus attendees.



member or contact **William Wilcox** for tickets at 281-753-1445.

Fishing has been steady in Matagorda through the spring and with temperatures heating up it looks to be a great early summer. That is, if the weather will cooperate. Either way a day on the water is better than one at work.

Be safe on the water and leave it better than you found it. If you love to fish, this organization 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

Last year, we had an amazing banquet at the Sheraton in Georgetown, TX with the Williamson County area topping the previous high-water mark for annual banquet proceeds received in our 17-year chapter history. None of this would have been possible without the support of our amazing donors and sponsors. As I write this, we are currently planning our 2019 San Gabriel Chapter banquet, which will occur on August 1 at the Sheraton, in Georgetown, Texas.

We have an exciting event planned with new raffles and old favorites queued up this year for chances to win some great prizes. Please make plans to attend and get your table reserved early, as tables and sponsorships are selling faster than a trophy speck can inhale a Skitterwalk. You can purchase tables to our event here: www.ccatexas.org/events/2019-san-gabriel-banquet or by contacting **Matt Still** (mstill@ccatexas.org). We would like to tip our hat to the fine folks at **Don Hewlett Chevrolet**, who have been our long-time Title Sponsor and will continue to be the Title Sponsor for our event in 2019.

In addition, at the Exclusive donor level (\$5K and above), the following businesses have made a strong commitment to our 2019 banquet: **PMB, Morris Glass, Plains Capital Bank, Aday & Associates, Independence Title, Champion Site Prep, Independent Bank, Watkins Insurance, Liberty Civil Construction**. We would like to give a heartfelt THANKS! to all our sponsors and donors for supporting our event with money and materials.

If you would like to get involved with planning our banquet or have feedback about past events, please reach out to one of our board members listed on our chapter page here: www.ccatexas.org/san-gabriel

Southwestern

Veronica Oliver 830-765-6228

ronnimoliver@gmail.com

TAMU

Rudy Mueller 832-349-1055

tamuca@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

Please, mark your calendar for our annual banquet which will take place on August 23 in Baytown, Texas. The Grand Prize this year for our raffle will be a fully rigged Piranha P140C skiff, powered with a 20 hp Tohatsu Motor & aluminum trailer. All made possible through sponsorships by Tohatsu & The Boat Yard, www.eaglesboatyard.com/ located in Kemah Texas. Don't miss out, only 400 tickets will be sold.

The Trinity Bay Chapter meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. If you would like further details on becoming a member or sponsor please contact us, we'd be glad to hear from you. www.ccatexas.org/trinity-bay/

Trinity Valley

John Hebert Jr 936-334-2528

jjhebert@imsday.com

West Houston

Ruben Delgadillo 281-808-1434

ruben@liftpull.com

The West Houston Chapter held our annual banquet on Thursday, May 9, 2019 at the Omni Houston Hotel Westside. Special thanks go out to all of our table sponsors, contributors, members, and guest. Good times were had at the event! We tried hard to break the record on pounds of crawfish consumed but came up short. All in all, the auction and raffles were a tremendous success in raising money for a great cause.

Stay up to date with our latest chapter events on our chapter website at www.ccatexas.org/west-houston.

Our chapter is always looking for new members and active leaders to help with the conservation and restoration of coastal marine resources. If you are interested in joining our chapter or serving on our board, please contact **Branon Pesnell** at 713-231-1587 or branon.pesnell@transwestern.com. We hope to see you at one of our upcoming events!

West Texas

Craig McDonnold 432-682-3499

Craig@McDonnold.net





30th Annual CCA State of Texas Anglers' Rodeo

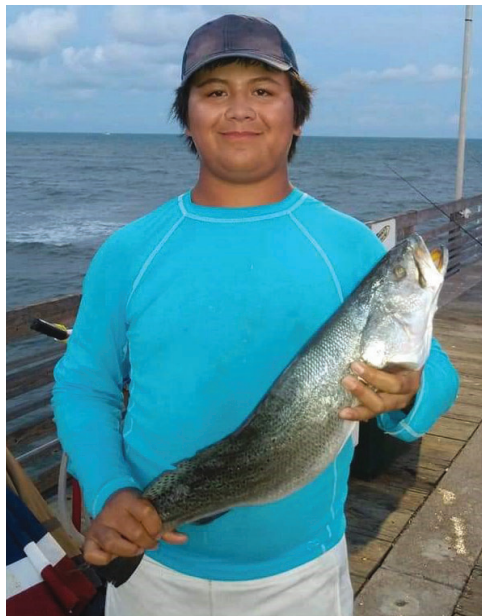
Hopefully by the time you're reading this you've had a chance to hit the water in hopes of catching a STAR winner. If you haven't, what are you waiting for? Summer is here the fish have been biting and we can't think of any good reason for you to not be entered in the 30th Annual CCA Texas STAR Tournament.

If we had a dollar for every angler who has said that they aren't lucky enough to catch a tagged redfish, we could probably fund a whole new scholarship division. Every year we get around a dozen calls from anglers who have this mindset with a heart-breaking story about the tagged redfish that they just caught and released. No matter how "unlucky" you are, you never know when you are just one cast away from a fish of a lifetime.

Another disheartening comment we hear from Texas anglers is that they don't have access to fish from a boat. If we were to tell you how many of each year's winners caught their fish without a boat, you may end up selling yours! In the 2018 tournament alone, nearly twenty percent of top prize-winning fish were caught from a dock, pier, or simply by walking into salt-water. For example, both teen and regular division lower coast trout winners stepped out of their vehicles, into the water and



No boat? Young Sam Lack, on a pier, took this \$25,000 Scholarship and a Haynie Bigfoot boat!



Noah Fong was fishing a public pier when he won \$25,000 worth of free college education!

straight into a grand prize fish.

Don't like to wade? That's no excuse not to enter either! Young Sam Lack was just enjoying catching hardheads on a boat dock when he caught a \$25,000 scholarship and 23' Haynie Bigfoot. STARteen Upper Coast Trout division winner, Noah Fong, was fishing a public pier when he won himself \$25,000 worth of free college education. Anglers fishing from land, docks and other places where a boat is not needed have historically made up a large portion of anglers who catch tagged redfish but are ineligible. As Smokey Bear would say if he fished, "Only you can prevent yourself from entering to win."

While a huge part of the goal at STAR is to get kids involved in fishing and promote education, it can be even more fun winning as an adult! Even if you procrastinate and miss out on the Early Bird drawings, with your small \$25 entry fee (plus CCA membership), you can win one of nineteen boats, five trucks, or three UTV's. Let's take a look at what you could have in your driveway this fall! Remember though, even if you don't win a prize, you still qualify for some awesome opportunities provided by our sponsors; such as Ford X-plan pricing, a free online subscription to Texas Fish & Game magazine or Academy Sports+Outdoors gift card. Check them all out at www.startournament.org.

Don't forget to enjoy a free Whataburger with your enclosed coupon!



Texas Ford Dealers Redfish Division-

Texas Ford Dealers continue to make this division the "Best in Texas"! The first five registered STAR participants who catch a tagged redfish will receive a tough 2019 Ford F-150 Texas Edition truck to tow their awesome Haynie 23 Bigfoot, rigged with a 150 hp Mercury ProXS OptiMax sitting on a Coastline trailer. The next five anglers will receive the same boat, motor, and trailer package. Registered young anglers not of legal driving age who land a STAR tagged redfish, will receive the boat package plus a \$25,000 college scholarship, in lieu of the truck.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CCA Texas Guides Division

It is the hope of Texas STAR and CCA Texas to be able to reward Texas fishing guides who support marine conservation, and empower them to help recruit more anglers into the CCA mission through this new division. **ALL GUIDES ARE ELIGIBLE TO ENTER AND WIN in this division!** The winner of this division will take home a 26' Mowdy CAT with a 225 hp engine and Coastline trailer. See www.startournament.org for more details and eligibility requirements!

\$6.5 million in college scholarships to youth from all over Texas

THE PRIZES DON'T END THERE!

First through fourth runner-ups in all divisions will receive various gift cards from our longtime partner **ACADEMY SPORTS + OUTDOORS!**



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

Note: The addition of the CCA Texas Guides Division does not affect any other STAR category, and guides are still excluded from participating in the public part of the tournament.



Texas Ford Dealers Division: Be one of the first five to win a 2019 Ford F-150 Texas Edition truck, Haynie 23 Bigfoot, 150 hp Mercury ProXS OptiMax on a Coastline trailer.



Trout Division: Find that champ speck, and win this Mowdy 22' V boat, 150 HP Evinrude motor and Coastline trailer!



Offshore Division: Thanks to Hoffpauir Polaris, when you find that heaviest kingfish, dorado and ling, win the Polaris Ranger Crew 570 EPS UTV on top of a Big Tex 35sa trailer!

CCA Texas STAR Guides Division

2018 Winner – Charlie Buchen

It is the hope of Texas STAR and CCA Texas to be able to reward Texas fishing guides who support marine conservation, and empower them to help recruit more anglers into the CCA mission through this new division. The winner of this division will win a Mowdy 26' CAT, 225 HP outboard, and custom Coastline trailer.

To be eligible, all guides must possess:

- Current CCA membership and STAR entry
- Valid USCG Captains License
- Current TPWD Guide license

ATTENTION: The addition of the CCA Texas Guides Division does not affect any other STAR category, and guides are still excluded from participating in any other division of the tournament.

RULES

This division is for Guides only, and no customers or regular STAR anglers will be fishing against guides at any time.

1. All guides must meet the above criteria to win the Mowdy 26' CAT, Mercury 225 hp ProXS OptiMax outboard, and custom Coastline trailer.
2. All eligible guides who were present when a member of their party catches any fish on the final leaderboard on a paid, or unpaid trip, will be entered into a drawing to win the division, pending polygraphs. Drawing will be held after the final winner board is posted. Entries will be weighted in descending order based upon final standings, with a division-winning fish (including all tagged redfish winners) being worth five entries and a fifth place fish being worth one entry. The guide must be listed on the angler's Official STAR weigh-in form to receive entries.

**As below, we then attach chances for each guide in the drawing based upon the client/angler's placement in the FINAL STAR Leaderboard standings:*

Final Place	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Entries	5	4	3	2	1



Inshore Division: Turn in the heaviest flounder, gafftop or sheepshead, drive away pulling a Shoalwater 19' Cat boat with a 115 HP motor, on a McClain trailer.

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





CCA TEXAS
STAR | 30
Years!



BEST IN TEXAS

TILSON
CUSTOM HOME BUILDERS



Please support those who support our conservation efforts!

713.626.4222 ★ ccatexas.org ★ startournament.org

SEAGLASS

WINE COMPANY

One of a kind coastal wines



Proud Supporter of



SEAGLASSWINECO.COM

Great Photos 2019

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's a good option for your Great Photo: send it to CCA via our Social Media. See Page 6 for connections to Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Every entry there will also be an entry in the *CURRENTS* Great Photos Competition.

There are now a wide variety of fairly inexpensive "Tough" cameras on the market that can stand up to the abuse inherent in saltwater use. The Photo Editor has trialed the Canon Powershot, Fuji Film and two Olympus TG's. Haven't had a chance to use the three Nikons that have good vibes.

So far, the Olympus TG-4 and TG-5 are out front, partly because the lens is in the center. GPS, WiFi and myriad enhancements, plus a telephoto and fisheye lens and separate flash have made this little camera a go-to substitute for my heavy, fragile, expensive Canon F-5.

Surprisingly, your cell phone can be among the tough ones. There are waterproof, shockproof cases that can survive most on-the-water adventures. Google "Tough Cameras," and "Tough Cell Phone Cases" and remember to send your best photos to *CURRENTS*. —**Photo Editor**



Mike McGuire and close friend Michelle Rathkamp shoot great photos in tough conditions, and share them with CCA members through CURRENTS. Most fish are returned for further duty. Mike says, "This photo was taken while trolling for kings with rattletails in a kayak. All pictures were taken using cell phones." Below, Michelle Rathkamp and a matched pair of winter-caught trophies.

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.





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[®]



**CATCH 'EM.
RELEASE 'EM.
PASS IT ON.**

ENGEL®
**PROUD CONSERVATION
PARTNER OF**



COASTAL
CONSERVATION
ASSOCIATION

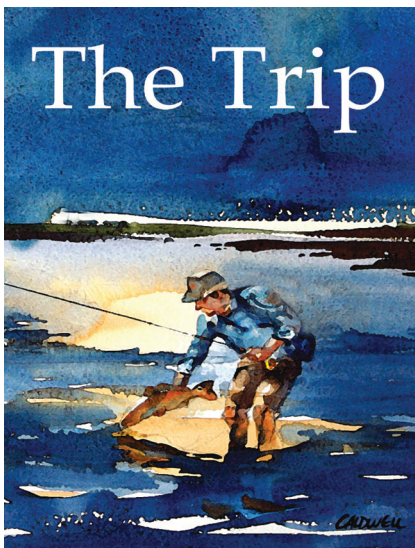
888-272-9838 | ENGELCOOLERS.COM | 900 Jupiter Park Drive | Jupiter, FL 33458 | info@engelcoolers.com

ENGEL®

**Texas Outdoor
Writers
Association:**

**"First
Place
Outdoor
Book"**

Gift a favorite outdoor friend with a five-star ebook on Kindle. Or, own a first edition paperback. Drop by the Caldwell website for full information. While you're there, browse through old, middle-aged and brand-new Caldwell paintings.



Caldwell

www.samcaldwell.com

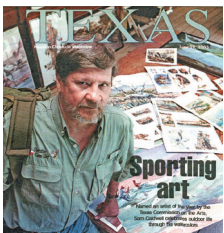
Texas State Artist 2004

DU State Artist 2010-2011

Dallas CCA Conservationist 2015

2016 Perry R. Bass Wall of Fame

281-455-9390



**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





Coastal Conservation Association

6919 Portwest Drive, Suite 100 Houston, TX 77024

CURRENTS NEWSLETTER

June / July 2019



Bottom line—oysters are critical components of our coastal ecosystems, as well as delectable components for the table.

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. Additional \$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