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 widely 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 Gennie 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 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)

Cover photo: A massive oyster reef protects a Texas shoreline. Photo By Kara Thompson

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

Low tide oysters, by Kara Thompson
TUNE IN:
CCA Texas Sponsors TV Series

TEXAS INSIDER FISHING REPORT

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

Watch Us Online
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.

**Aranzas 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>No Fine</th>
<th>$100-$199</th>
<th>$200-$350</th>
<th>$351-$499</th>
<th>$500</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Possession of Undersized Oysters</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing in Closed/Restricted Area</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various Charges</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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/

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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.
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 reeling 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.

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 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 (jblaha@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 authorizations 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 14-16” 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/](https://ccatexas.org/coastal-advocacy-adventures-podcast-episode-35-oyster-mariculture/)
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 Thiefer] 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.

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

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<th>Location</th>
<th>Upper</th>
<th>Lower</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Sabine Lake</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galveston Bay</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matagorda Bay</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Antonio Bay</td>
<td>710</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aransas Bay</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corpus Christi Bay</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Laguna Madre</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Laguna Madre</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1,089</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 Hogies 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 Captwaltkk@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? Easy 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 taylorg60@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 Hella 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 breezy 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 956-241-9520
bryanrobinson@yahoo.com www.flyfishingsp.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 CPK’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 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.
Chapter Updates

Port-Fulton and participated in our 21st 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, HEK Rockport, Frio Ice Chests, Old Irons Camo, Eskimo Hut, Waypoint Marine, The Dailey Ranch, Foreverlast, &F Distributing, The Reserve at St Charles Bay, Keller Williams CB, CoastlPro, Anastasia Musick Art Corporation, Saltwater Sassy and Camo Girl USA. A special thanks to Anastasia & Whitaker Music, 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@ccrctx.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 Benes, 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 Kyris and Paul Cox as masters of all things 4X; Dan Alderman for all things food; Marvin Dworaczyk 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.

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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

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, $10/couple, $55/kids. Reserved/Sponsor tables start at $550 for 8 Guests. All adult tickets include a CCA Membership. Sportman’s Raffle tickets are $20 each or $60 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 “I am 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.ccateexas.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-
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 Olenits, Trish McFang, Ruby Kubena, Gary Janda, Dave Fehlker, Kenneth L’Ence, Kendall Rhodes, and Jeff Burgh. Our assistant list includes Connie Janda, George Gold, John Gold, Kristi Gold, Mike Petras, Norma Petras, Mathew L’Ence, Verlene Ulrich, Lucas Janda, J.K. Brandl, Karl 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 AD Taylor Riek 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 Owings 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 Schovaqua 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-Chervrolet-Buick-GMC, CRW Fish Camp Port O’Connor, Get Skinny Fish’n, J&J Metal Works, Joe Rogers’ Dozer Service, Masonry Works, Maxwell Locke & Ritter, Multisource Sand & Gravel, Murphy’s Steakhouse, Lails and Scales Fish Camp, and Texas 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 Veterans’ Savings Bank, Miller NRG Corporation, Milton’s Home of Fine Furniture, National Bank and Trust, Orsak’s Café, Parker’s Hardware, Powerscreen Texas, Rick Knape, Round Top State Bank, Smith Distributing, USA, Yana 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 1st-Call. Thank you 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.

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 husted 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 Chillton, Dr. Vega, Ashley Fincannon, Courtney Johnstone, J.J. Johnstone, Kimberly Browse, 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 Sutherland (15.50”), 1st- Jack Zaroyski (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 into this event and I can’t thank them all enough. Thank you to our donors and sponsors such as Miles & Miles Outfitters, Beretta Gallery, Marinier Sails, Hobie, Pelicans Roost Resort Lodge, Finish Line Outdoors, Tito’s, Angel’s Envy, Oak Highlakms Brewing, 1imule Fork Outifters, 3 Curl Outifters, Jim Bush and Dallas Chapter Zucker Zee Boys. We had an amazing live auction line-up as well as some awesomely raffle tickets. The reception and amount of support 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 you 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 loyal member 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 13th, 2019. We will be the first to 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 information.

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 thank the best is yet to come for the Dallas Chapter. Please visit us on Facebook and Instagram. Hope you summer holds some saltwater plans. Catch ‘em up and turn ‘em back!

East Texas
Dr. James Norman 936-554-3165 jnorman@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 Tuminson, Secretary – Chris Sanders. The 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 Luminsohn; 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 tournament. 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@northtxamarine.com

On Thursday May 2, the Fort Worth Board of CCA hosted its 23rd annual banquet at the highly 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. Fortunately 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 stories, 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 for two hours 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 fill natural attrition sets in. Thank you to all the sponsors that helped make the event a success! Man, I really hope that one guy in your closet 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 Classic Boat Floor, Only 700 tickets to 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 day 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 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 Laura Jurica. Thanks especially to our many wonderful volunteers, 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.

And 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 Brackowski, 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 Cunntz as speaker. 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 Lindey, who chairs a Speaker’s Committee and 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 Coastwide Tackle and Baffin 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 chairman, for coming up with the idea.

We are going out 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 Brackowski, 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 chotcawcharlie6@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 participate in events like archery and boxing, 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 right over after lunch, but the girls were determined! They came prepared, wearing their rain ponchos. The older troop donated some latex poles and three outfits of waders 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 close up and touch it if they wanted to.

The girls that did have some fishing experience were excited to help their fellow troopers put the
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

* 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
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:
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, you can call me at (210)260-9696.

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

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 979-540-6177
jake@aubainesupply.com

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

Lower Colorado
Stephen Zapalac 972-244-6633
szapala@yk.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 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 good tidings. 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 Luck Factory, Coastal Bend Oilsman’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 contributed 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 Magnun 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 2733 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 Iables entered in a raffle for a trip for 8 people.
*New for 2019 Banquet: All Silver Lables 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 Wulachow 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 hard with Tylar to make this event a reality: Michael Brawner, SeaDoo raffle chair; Rod Gract, 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

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 (Retail Value: $500)

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

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Signature ___________________________ CVV ___________________________

Please Choose ONE of the following Sizes:

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☐ Large (9-11 foot) ☐ Large (12-13 foot) ☐ 2XL

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 Waterkoo rod/reel combo winner Tyler Williams and 5th place CCA Engel Cooler winner Tyler Trahan. A big thanks to our raffle sponsors Azenhoffher Velocity Power Sports and Waterkoo Rod Co.

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 Cuten 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 sinstopdog@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 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!

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

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

Orange County
Scott Bandy 409-988-3667
scottbandy77@yahoo.com
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@tsd.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 Lipold. Also, our outstanding board members Ann Brownlee, Barbara Skalak, Carl and Pam Ray, 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 iTeam Life Reel, Ross Kutach won the $500 Academy gift card and Bradley Miller won the Glock 22/40 caliber.

We would like the thanks 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@cablene.com

Thank you for your support! The thanks go to our Redfish Bay Chapter Board, Houston support team (especially John Blaha), our sponsors, donors and board members - for being a 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 Lake a Kid Fishing Event. Registration and shrimp boil was the evening of Friday, May 31 at 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@cablene.com.

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 hosting an election in 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
tasiscornelz@aol.com

The San Antonio Chapter’s 40th Annual Banquet was another record setter! Congratula- tions 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 the loyal 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 Lable 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 Shinex Beers Polaris 570 UTV. Bill Kitchoff 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 Ogles. We also had 130 plus winners from our $7 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 calendar. 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 member or contact William Wilcox for tickets at 281-753-1445.

Fishing has been steady in Matagordas 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 spreck can inhale a Skitterwalk. You can purchase tickets 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 tamucca@gmail.com

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

Tomball/Magnolia
Matt Maddox 832-963-5215 matt@cribbconcrete.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 jhebert@imsday.com

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

The West Houston Chapter held their 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 Pensell at 713-231-1587 or branon.pensell@transwestern.com. We hope to see you at one of our upcoming events!

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

West Texas
Craig McDonnell 432-682-3499 Craig@McDonnell.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 years’ 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 saltwater. For example, both teen and regular division lower coast trout winners stepped out of their vehicles, into the water and straight into a grand prize fish.

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

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.

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 CA1 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 Hoppaui 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 11PWD Guide license

**ATTENTION:** The addition of the CCA Texas 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:

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**Inshore Division:** Earn in the heaviest flounder, gafftop or sheephead, drive away pulling a Shoulwater 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 Durgel 210 Skout, 150 HP Evinrude E-TEC G2 motor, and McClain trailer simply for registering!
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 rattletrap 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.

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

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