

# CURRENTS

April / May 2020



*Volunteers*



# Advocacy

## A Better Bivalve

By Shane Bonnot

**T**his time last year we informed CCA Texas members of an industry coming to coastal waters - Cultivated oyster mariculture, more commonly referred to as oyster farming, the process of growing oysters in containment systems off-bottom, in mid-water column, or floating at the water surface.

The captive production of oysters is well known to coastal communities in other states but will be a new experience for anglers and other users of our bays. Oyster mariculture allows individuals the opportunity to influence the shape, size, look, texture and physical characteristics of the oyster depending on choices made before the oyster reaches market. Where the oyster is grown can help influence the taste of the oysters. How the oyster is grown can influence the shape. Inputs and decisions made by the grower create a product with unique brand recognition and the end result is a better bivalve for the half-shell consumer.

The bill that allows for cultivated oyster mariculture (House Bill 1300) was carried by Representative Todd Hunter (R-District 32) and signed into law by Governor Abbott in May 2019. It requires that Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) adopt rules for the new program so that by September 1, 2020 potential oyster farmers can begin the application process for necessary permits. To that end, TPW will conduct public hearings in April/May to gather public input on the proposed program rules, with a vote taken in late May at the TPW Commission Meeting.

The entire process of growing oysters will occur in three phases: 1) Hatchery, 2) Nursery, and 3) Grow-out. The first two phases are land-based or shore-line based operations, with little to no conflicts with current activities along the coast.

It is the final phase of oyster mariculture that will be the most visible in our bay systems, as there are numerous ways that a grower can achieve their desired goals for a half-shell oyster product. Grow-out containment systems or cages can be located just off-bottom, in mid-water column, and/or floating at the water's surface. Each location within the water column has its own



advantages and disadvantages, but most will be visible from the water surface.

Currently, TPW is considering allowing potential participants or permit applicants to self-nominate a location in the bay that is void of what they consider Tier 1 considerations; presence of sensitive or critical habitats, areas already under lease, dredge placement areas, oil/gas activities, mitigation sites, Health Department "Restricted" and "Prohibited Areas", etc. Any area with a Tier 1 consideration is a non-starter and a potential participant will have to find another location.

Most of the ideal locations along shorelines that don't fall under a Tier 1 consideration will likely be subject to Tier 2 considerations; such as unfavorable environmental conditions, favorable recreational and commercial fishing locations, and neighboring entities (state parks, National Wildlife Refuges, etc.). The Tier 2 considerations are not a deal killer, but the applicant needs to be aware of the unique conditions of the

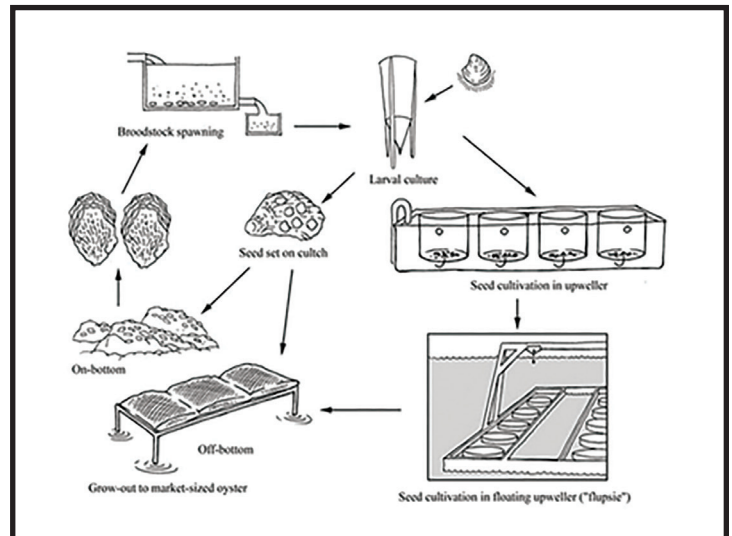


Chart courtesy: Element Seafood

proposed location. All locations will require a lease from the General Land Office (GLO) and will be subject to public comment.

**Here is an outline of how the proposed application process will proceed:**

**Pre-application** – Nominated site form → pre-application consultation → verification of Tier 1 clearances → natural resource survey → public notification (adjacent property owners and public meeting) → written authorization to proceed with application process.

**Application** – Operation plan → GLO submerged lands lease → Texas Commission on Environmental Quality discharge permit → Texas Agriculture Department aquaculture permit (for land-based facilities) → Department of Health and Human Services Sanitation Training → Army Corps of

*Having healthy oysters in our bay systems is important for estuarine ecosystems as they provide numerous ecosystem services and better fishing.*



# Volunteers

## 2019 Abandoned Crab Trap Removal

Engineers Nationwide 48 permit.

Currently, TPW projects that the entire application process could take up to 12 months to complete before a cultivated oyster mariculture permit is awarded to the potential participant.

At this time, it is important to note that the application process may change after TPW staff consults with the TPW Commission and continues coordination with other state agencies.

As CCA Texas members are aware, public oyster reefs receive enormous pressure from commercial oyster fishing but also face other threats ranging from sedimentation, erosion, disease, predation, and freshwater events. Having healthy oysters in our bay systems is important for estuarine ecosystems as they provide numerous ecosystem services and better fishing.

CCA Texas supports cultivated oyster mariculture and will continue to work with the Texas Legislature and Texas Parks and Wildlife to develop a cultivated oyster mariculture program that addresses concerns of the angling community, redefines the Texas half-shell market, and puts more oysters in our waters to benefit the coastal ecosystem. Please reach out to [sbonnot@cca-texas.org](mailto:sbonnot@cca-texas.org) if you have any questions regarding oyster mariculture and the TPW rule making process for this new industry coming to Texas bays.

### Oyster Mariculture

Cultivated oyster mariculture produces excellent product for the half-shell market.

Containment systems (cages) can be placed off-bottom, in mid-water column, or floating at the water surface.

### Benefits:

While in the water these oysters will be providing valuable ecosystem services.

The oysters and containment systems will provide incredible habitat for numerous aquatic species. Cultivated oyster mariculture will provide the half-shell market with a superior product and unique brand recognition.

### Challenges:

There may be some user conflicts including the "NIM-BY" (not in my backyard) viewpoint, access concerns and navigation concerns.

Containments systems will be susceptible to biofouling and will require consistent maintenance by growers.



*This year's results are commendable. Some 62 percent of all traps collected on the Texas coast were in Allan Berger's project area. CCA started this project but he has recently carried it forward to make it a remarkable and sustainable project.*  
—Ronnie Luster

This year, 1,632 traps were removed from the three coastal bay systems on the Texas mid-coast (Lavaca/ Matagorda, San Antonio and Aransas Bays). "It's very important to remove these old traps from the bays. Not only are they a source of ghost fishing, but they're also navigation hazards," said co-organizer Katie Swanson, Mission-Aransas Reserve Stewardship Coordinator at the University of Texas Marine Science Institute.

Removal of derelict crab traps is a massive effort that involved 68 boat days and 164 volunteer days. The effort was led by San Antonio Bay Partnership, who organized many groups, including local chapters of the Coastal Conservation Association, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Coastal Fisheries, the Guadalupe Blanco River Authority, Guadalupe Blanco River Trust, International Crane Foundation, Mid-Coast Texas Master Naturalists, Mission-Aransas Reserve at the University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Dallas Zoo / Bay Flats Lodge, Texas SeaGrant, FlatsWorthy Inc., Lavaca-Navidad River Authority, Lavaca Bay Foundation, Matagorda Bay Foundation and many individual volunteers.

The derelict crab clean-up effort was supported with funds from HEB, Citgo, Dallas Zoo and Texas SeaGrant in addition to in-kind support from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Guadalupe Blanco River Authority, the Guadalupe Blanco River Trust, International Crane Foundation, Mission-Aransas Reserve at the University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Bay Flats Lodge, FlatsWorthy Inc., Lavaca-Navidad River Authority, Lavaca Bay Foundation, and Matagorda Bay Foundation, and the captains who provided their private boats. We'd also like to give a special thanks to International Crane Foundation and Flatsworthy Inc. for boat use. If you want to be included in the early planning for next year, contact Allan Berger at [allanrberger@comcast.net](mailto:allanrberger@comcast.net).

### Abandoned crab trap retrieval results

Ronnie: Below are this year's numbers. Let me know if you have any questions. And just a heads up, although I'll be helping her if she needs assistance, Holly Grand will be taking the lead on the ACTRP starting next year. Thanks again for your valuable partnership. —Zack Thomas



Hannah Rudellat during the Aransas Bay chapter crab trap cleanup. Photo: NPINS Beach Clean Up

ACTRP 2020 Results	Traps	Volunteers	Boats
Sabine Lake	5	0	1
Galveston Bay	366	162	24
Matagorda Bay	140	23	15
San Antonio Bay	1,249	107	41
Aransas Bay	243	34	12
Corpus Christi Bay	21	0	0
Upper Laguna Madre	2	0	0
Lower Laguna Madre	3	1	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,029</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>95</b>



# Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow

## CCA Texas State Board Continues Commitment to Habitat, Research and Education

By John Blaha

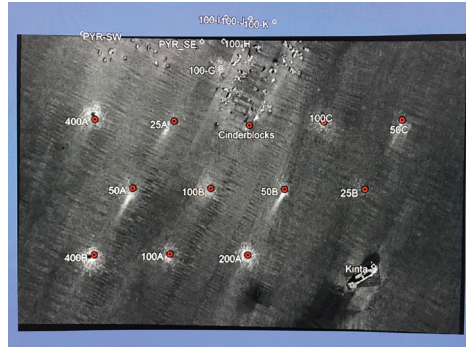
### Habitat

CCA Texas State Board recently continued their never ending support of habitat restoration and creation by earmarking \$2.5 million for habitat restoration and creation projects along the Texas Coast. These funds are funds raised by local chapters across the state and will not only provide monies for these projects, but also as leverage to raise more habitat funds from public, private and government funding sources. This commitment is possible because of another record breaking year in fundraising. This record effort is driven by dedicated and tireless volunteers across the state. At the end of 2019, CCA Texas and Building Conservation Trust (BCT), CCA National's habitat program, have funded 40 projects for a total of \$7,604,666.

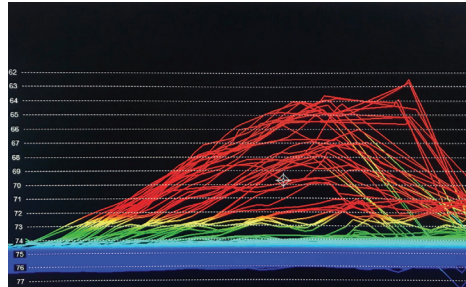
The first two projects to be funded out of the \$2.5 million are nearshore reefing efforts in the Rio Grande Valley Reef and the Corpus Christi MU775 reef site. The Friends of Rio Grande Valley Reef (FRGVR) have been a great partner for CCA Texas and the recreational fishing community. Their efforts continue to impress, and CCA Texas has funded another \$250,000 for habitat creation in the Rio Grande Valley reef and the Corpus Christi MU775 reefing site, working with FRGVR. The MU775 site is located between Packery Channel and Port Aransas and holds pyramids, concrete culverts, the Kinta, and will now be home to concrete railroad tie patch reefs.

This \$250,000 in funding will place approximately 400 tons of the materials in the Corpus Christi MU775 site (Packery Channel) and 4,200 tons in the Rio Grande Valley reef site. In addition, FRGVR is donating another 400 tons of materials to the MU775 site that will provide much needed low relief nursery piles and research opportunities along the middle Texas coast. The success of a diversified habitat within the RGV reef site has proven to be effective as a habitat that not only holds fish, but raises fish for each year class.

CCA Texas and BCT are both actively seeking habitat projects up and down the Texas coast. They are currently working on oyster restoration efforts in the Upper Texas coast and well as more nearshore reefing opportunities in the Upper and Middle



*Low relief 100 ton patch reefs placed throughout MU775: MU775 Patch Reefs Side Scan Photo Credit Dr. Richard Kline*



*This 400 ton pile of concrete railroad ties creates a complex habitat for fish of many year classes and rises approximately 12' off the Gulf bottom. Photo Credit Dr. Richard Kline*

coast sites. Partnerships are key to these efforts. The coming months look promising for fresh new projects and the HTFT and BCT committees look forward to making existing partnerships stronger and forging new partnerships along the way.

**Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation** - Research and Fisheries Management have long been cornerstones of CCA Texas efforts. CCA Texas was one of the original funding partners in the creation of the Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation (CSSC) at Harte Research Institute (HRI), located on the Texas A&M Corpus Christi Campus. The State Board renewed that commitment to this world class research facility by committing to a 5-year \$500,000 commitment. These funds will support angler engagement as well as research in three key focal areas:

1) Artificial Reef Research – There is a growing body of scientific evidence showing the positive contribution of artificial reefs to recreational fisheries. Nevertheless, there are still numerous science gaps on how these structures are used by sportfish and how best to create artificial reefs to maximize the goals of the reefing programs.



*HRI Researchers provide valuable scientific data that influences policy, management and conservation efforts. On right: volunteers develop skills in habitat replacement. Photo Credit Lisa Laskowski Photography*

2) CSSC Tagging Initiatives – Using state-of-the-art electronic tags and an expansive acoustic array known as the Texas Acoustic Array Network (TexAAN), CSSC conducts both fine and broad-scale studies of movement, habitat use, and discard mortality on a variety of inshore and offshore sportfish. These studies are critical to determining seasonal migration corridors, understanding the relative value of different habitats, and identifying release practices that maximize fish survival.

3) Inshore Habitat Assessments – A major focus of CSSC is researching sportfish use of estuarine essential fish habitats and the vital role they play in sustaining marine populations. For example, over the last decade, CSSC studies have examined impact of tidal inlets, such as Cedar Bayou, to fisheries, evaluated oyster reef as essential fish habitat, and assessed flounder nursery habitat, among others.

The partnership is an important part of the CCA mission to “conserve, promote, and enhance the present and future availability of the coastal resources for the benefit and enjoyment of the general public.” The science of the CSSC is important in influencing policy, management and conservation efforts. This model continues to be successful, and will be an important part of these efforts in the future.

**TPWD Summer Interns** - CCA Texas has a long history of supporting TPWD internships. With new flounder hatchery facilities coming online at the CCA Texas Marine Development Center and Sea Center Texas, TPWD requested two additional interns to help at these facilities. One summer intern was approved for each facility for a total cost of \$13,000. This additional funding brings CCA Texas's total commitment for Summer Interns at Coastal Fisheries to 17 interns at a total cost of \$110,500 for 2020. This program continues to provide valuable experience for future biologists and an opportunity for TPWD to have important and on the job training experiences. For more information about CCA Texas, please visit [www.ccatexas.org](http://www.ccatexas.org) or contact the office at (713) 626-4222.







# PROUD PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION

7% of the proceeds from each CCA-branded item sold goes to support habitat restoration.



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## Lone Star Law prepares for the 2020 season

Three Texas Game Wardens dropped in on the February 25 CCA State Board Meeting. No warrants were served, but board members were treated to a special edition of one of the nation's top outdoor programs. The wardens shared their duties and problems on the coast:

**Mack Chambers:** "You may see us on the jetties, or 45 miles off the coast, because we're dual, and busy enforcing the law. It's challenging, but enjoyable."

**Chelsea Bailey:** "On the coast, we have a lot going on all the time. We deal with finfishing, crabs, oysters—and people! Plus, water safety, port security and border protection."



**Jennifer Provaznik:** "We get so involved in our work, I don't even notice the graphics people. After a few minutes of each sequence, we forget about them and just do our jobs."

The series began in 2016. The network is Animal Planet, and the new series schedule has not been announced at CURRENTS press time. For program times and dates, viewers can Google Lone Star Law, or go to [facebook.com/LoneStarLaw/](http://facebook.com/LoneStarLaw/).

*In the photo: Mack Chambers, Chelsea Bailey, Jennifer Provaznik, Mark Ray and Robby Byers.*

## Caught Redhanded! 🦋 Reports from TP&W Game Wardens

On February 25, Region 8 District 1 Game Wardens Adam Clark, Scott Holly, Jake McMahan, and Trey Kram boarded a shrimp boat during a NRDA patrol in the Gulf of Mexico. During the inspection of the vessel, several shrimp sacks filled with southern flounder were discovered concealed beneath stacked sacks of gulf shrimp and other finfish.

The wardens counted a total of seventy-one flounder contained within the shrimp sacks. The shrimp boat Captain was allowed to retain a single daily bag limit of five flounder that are legally allowed to be retained under a commercial captain's license. A total of sixty-six southern flounder were seized with cases and restitution pending.

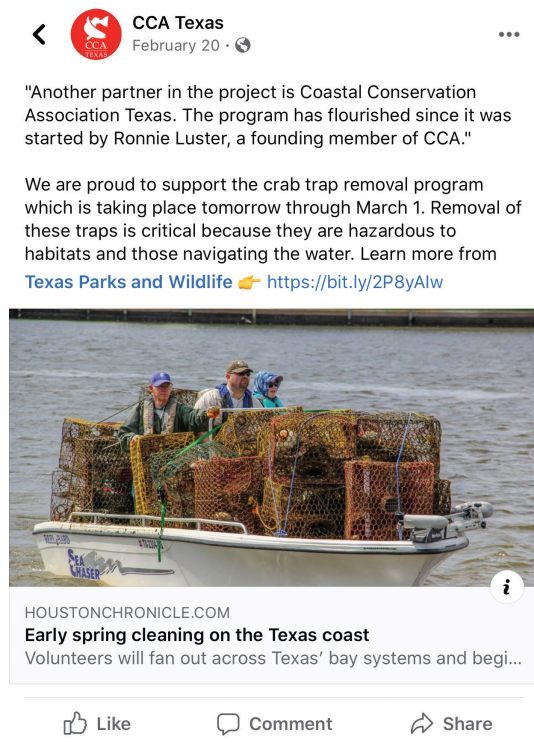




# CONNECT with CCA Texas on Social Media

The BEST way to stay informed on the latest with CCA Texas is by connecting with us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Photo, video, and other updates on our 50+ local chapters, conservation projects, advocacy efforts, and news catered to keep you informed and engaged are posted regularly. If you're on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter, following us is a must!

*We regularly post photo, video, and other updates on our 50+ local chapters, conservation projects, advocacy efforts, and news catered to keep you informed and engaged.*



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**Engage with us TODAY!**  
**Kevin Hickson**  
**Communications Director**  
**Coastal Conservation Association**  
**Email: khickson@joincca.org**



## CCA CURRENTS wins Excellence In Craft top awards

The Texas Outdoor Writers Association (TOWA) and Outdoor Writers Association America (OWAA) share the interests of CCA—a healthy outdoors. Both groups sponsor Excellence in Craft contests, and both have awarded numerous images and features published in CCA's CURRENTS and TIDE publications.

Like CCA, TOWA has an interest in youth, and has recently had the advantage of adding student members. One young lady from the Corpus Christi A&M system graduated to regular member status two years ago, and is now the President. Hailey Johnson and Chairman of the Board Herman Brune recently presented two First Places for CURRENTS entries: "All Hands on the Water," the CURRENTS April/May 2019 front page photo, and a painting, "A Fine Day in a Back Bay." Both awards were accepted by Sam Caldwell.

Towa president Hailey Johnson is a scientific writer working for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. She holds a Masters Degree in Marine Biology, and founded a scientific consulting company: HMBJ Enterprises that hires college students to build up the conservation-minded industry with the most innovative people.



*Payton Johnson, TOWA President Hailey Johnson and Don Discio check the latest CURRENTS at the CCA booth at the Stella Hotel, Bryan/College Station.*



# CCA EDUCATION EDDY

## EACH YEAR CCA TEXAS PROUDLY FUNDS:

- 15 Texas Parks and Wildlife Coastal Internships
- 4 Texas Parks and Wildlife Coastal Game Warden Internships
- 3 Marine Graduate Scholarships at UT Marine Science Institute
- 2 Marine Graduate Scholarships at A&M Corpus Christi
- 2 Marine Graduate Scholarships at A&M Galveston

### *Texas Parks and Wildlife Summer Internship*

Dear Mr. Lack and CCA Texas Scholarship Committee, I am honored to be the recipient of the Coastal Conservation Association Allen Jacoby Memorial Scholarship. I am inspired by the Coastal Conservation Association's commitment and work to "conserve, promote and enhance the present and future availability of coastal resources for the benefit and enjoyment of the general public."

My work is focused on how environmental stressors effect fish physiology and behavior. Specifically, I'm interested in how crude oil exposure impacts fish cardiac and neurological function and how this can alter a fish's behavior. Currently, oil spill science has focused primarily on either larval fish or juveniles of pelagic fish species; however, I'm interested in understanding the long term sub-lethal effects oil exposure can have on estuarine species.

To date, most of my work has used red drum (*Sciaenops ocellatus*) to understand how acute exposures can have long lasting impacts on this fish. Prior to the start of each experiment, I expose fish for 24 hours to crude oil collected from the Gulf of Mexico during the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. This allows us to have a deeper understanding of what happened to local species following the 2010 spill. So far, I've shown that exposure to oil reduces an individual's ability to compete for resources in one-on-one and group competitions. Some of my other work has shown that oil exposed early life stages are significantly less successful at capturing prey and evading predators. These changes in behavior can have downstream ecological impacts such as reduced reproductive success as well as changes in population dynamics.

Currently I am working on the influence oil exposure may have on neurological function and how this may alter individual repeatable behaviors, or fish personality, as well as the ability to learn. I am honored to receive this award so that I can continue my work investigating how oil impacts a local fish species physiology and behavior. Thank you for selecting me for this endowment.

Best, Alexis Khursigara

### *CCA Graduate Scholarship Texas A&M University Corpus Christi*

Dear CCA Texas Scholarship Committee, Thank you for your kindness and generosity in choosing me as one of your CCA-Texas Marine Science Scholarship Award recipients. I am truly honored to have received this award, and I fully plan to make your investment in me worthwhile. The meaning of this award is taken to a new level for me because the mission of CCA aligns so closely with my fisheries research in the Gulf of Mexico. I am a master's student in the Marine Biology program at Texas A&M University- Corpus Christi where I am conducting my research under Dr. Greg Stunz in the Center for Sport-fish Science and Conservation.

My research focuses on fine-scale habitat usage by Red Snapper at natural and artificial reefs in the northwestern Gulf of Mexico. One of the chapters of my thesis is centered around Red Snapper distribution across different geologic regions of the South Texas Banks, a unique group of natural reefs located off south Texas. The second chapter of my thesis focuses on determining the optimal placement of reefed oil and gas platforms across the northern Gulf of Mexico by taking a 'bang for your buck approach'. The intention of my research is to gain insight on how Red Snapper utilize these habitats and the results will be used to guide management and conservation efforts of Red Snapper as well as provide information to better assess the absolute abundance of Red Snapper as part of the Great Red Snapper Count.

Your generosity is significant to me because this scholarship will help relieve some of my financial stresses that accompanies life as a graduate student. I am so thankful because I will be able to use this scholarship to support my educational and living expenses so I will be able to focus more of my time on my research rather than worrying about finances.

I would like to thank you again for your generosity in presenting me with this scholarship. I am honored that I can represent CCA Texas through my research. Your kindness will allow me to research a subset of fisheries that I am passionate about, and that I hope to spend the rest of my career focusing on.

Thank you, Jill Thompson-Grim  
Master's Student





## Upper Coast

Capt. Steve Hillman

### Settling Into a Pattern

After a back and forth winter of somewhat unpredictable patterns, good news is around the corner. April days will result in warmer and more consistent water temperatures. Forage species such as shad, glass minnows and brown shrimp will begin to mature and fill our bays. Trout will burn more energy as their metabolism increases. This will result in more frequent and more predictable feeding patterns.

As feeding increases, signs will become more obvious. Slicks along shorelines and over open bay reefs will lead us in the right direction. Gulls will hover over fleeing shrimp. Tight clouds of tiny shad will congregate on the surface as trout occasionally breach the surface showering puffs of glitter-like shad into the air.

The cool thing about this time of year is that we have many potentially successful options when it comes to styles of fishing. Trolling alongside schools of frenzied trout feeding under birds can make for an action-packed day on the water. You will encounter many undersized specks, so pinching your barb down on your jig head will reduce potential harm to the trout and makes it easy to release them. And definitely avoid using towels to handle fish you do not intend to keep. This just rubs off their protective slime layer.

Our better quality fish typically come from slicks emerging over habitat such as live oyster reefs. Patches of shell along shorelines and especially near bayou drains can be reliable quality trout locales as well. The presence of active bait greatly increases your chances for success.

My favorite baits to throw this time of year are MirrOlure Lil Johns, Provokers and Saltwater Assassins. Suspended fish will also fall for Borboleta Lele's and Hot Rods. Another awesome twitch bait that's come onto the scene in recent years is Texas Custom Lure's Double D. Best of luck on the water and remember to fish with your eyes...not your GPS. —Capt. Steve Hillman 409-256-7937

hillmanguideservice.com

## Middle Coast

Capt. Scott Salyer

### Throw topwater in bone, walk the dog

Live bait fishing will really heat up in April and May. If available, freeline live shrimp under your favorite popping corks should be the food of choice for those hungry transitional trout. And, you might just grab a redfish as well. Cast netting for hand-size mullet is always a great way to fill the bait well. Other live bait should be making it to the bait stands soon and will be your best bet to land that trophy trout, freeline or Carolina rigged with half-ounce weight above the leader. Cast into grass pockets, edges of grass lines and shell or find shallow sand banks.

For artificial baits, the trout will still be hitting Corkies in pink and in chartreuse and white soft dines, swim baits in white or pearl. 1/8 oz jigheads should trigger a good bite.

Try chunking a topwater in bone or black into the shallows using the old 'walking the dog technique' and don't be surprised when that big redfish nails it. As always, stay safe, pay attention to your surroundings, be polite and patient and have fun out there. —Capt. Scott Salyer 832-401-8244

scottsalyer92@gmail.com  
www.redfishrunnerbayguideservice.com



"Blowing up on topwaters!" Great Action photo by Dan Stephens

## Lower Coast

Capt. Danny Neu

### Warm Weather Sprung Spring Tactics

The warm winter we have just experienced has really put our fish into a frenzy early this year. These warmer conditions have pushed the bait into the bay and the redfish and trout are with them. Each morning when I head out, the number one thing I seek is concentrations of bait. If you find the bait, you find the fish.

However, the key to catching these fish vary. When the mullet are active, the topwater baits have been working. I like a Repala skitter walk moved steadily across the surface in shallow water. Some of the biggest fish of the season will come on top water plugs, definitely a must have lure in the Spring.

As the water warms and the shrimp and piggy perch show up in full force, I will go to Norton sand eel juniors on an 1/8 ounce lead head in the deeper grass beds. Here you will find hungry trout and redfish looking for the smaller forage.

In early April, it will be East windy, often. That's a sign to find lee shores and watch for the color lines. The recent deep dredging all the way to the jetty rocks (great news for later on) will cloudy the water, but you'll probably go south and find clear water.

As April fades into May and the calm days take over, the lower Laguna Madre will be full of promise and opportunity almost everywhere. But there's always a good reason to plan for the unpleasant: stuff happens. Service your boat and everything that will go in it. Be careful of your crew, and if need be, help a fellow boater in need.

Remember to respect this fragile resource. Take only the fish you would like to eat, and practice Catch, Photo, and Release with the bigger fish. We all need to protect this unique fishery we enjoy in South Texas to ensure enjoyment for future generations. —Captain Danny Neu 979-942-0165 DNeuCharters@yahoo.com

**Volunteers left the bay better than they found it.** Trophies headed for a dumpster instead of continuing to ghost kill crabs and foul lower units. Left, stone crabs survive. Photo courtesy of Andy Stetter. Right, a boat load of abandoned crab traps are on the way to a dumpster. Thanks to GBRA Communications.





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Editor-in-Chief  
Robby Byers

Editor  
Sam Caldwell

Editorial Team  
John Blaha, Shane Bonnot,  
Liz Bosmans, Luke Giles

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

# Chapter Updates

**Alvin-Pearland**  
**Rex Richards 281-923-3050**  
**alvinpearlandcca@yahoo.com**

2020 has been off to a busy start for the Alvin Pearland Chapter! We have been enjoying our Anglers' Night Out meetings and planning our 2020 fundraising banquet!

Thanks go out to Capt. Ernest Cisneros and Capt. Chuck Uzzle for speaking at our March and April meetings. You guys did a wonderful job! We have **additional Anglers' Night Out events** scheduled for the first Tuesday of the month on

May 5 and June 2. The meetings will be at Spring Creek BBQ in Pearland and will begin at 7 p.m. Come earlier if you plan to eat.

Save the date! **Our 2020 banquet is scheduled for Thursday, June 18, 2020 and will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Pearland.** We will be serving a delicious steak dinner by Joe's BBQ, a Sportsman's Raffle that will include guns and coolers. We will have live and silent auctions, as well as numerous other raffles. This is an event you won't want to miss. Reserve your spot now! Banquet tickets are \$60 per person, \$100 per couple and \$15 for kids. Reserved and sponsor tables start at \$550 and includes seating for 8 guests. All 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 or company, or make a donation to our event, please contact Erich Schneider at 713.626.4222 or email us at **Alvin-PearlandCCA@yahoo.com**.

The best way to stay up to date with our latest chapter events is to follow us on Facebook at **facebook.com/alvinpearland.cca** or go to our chapter website at **ccatexas.org/alvin-pearland**. We hope to see 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**

Our 21st Annual Babes on the Bay in Rockport/Fulton is quickly approaching! Hope you are all registered and ready for the largest one-day tournament in the USA! We have hands down the best sponsors ever this year! **Waterloo Rod Company, Yeti, Huk, Costa, Rockport Tackle Town, Chris's Marine, Orvis Swan Point Landing, Poor Man's Country Club, Rockport Rigger, Big Tree Realty, Canterbury Construction, Shelly Griffin Realtor, Reel Sportswear, The Reserve at St. Charles Bay, Goin' Coastal Outfitters, Anastasia Musick Art** and many more! Check-in



*Hannah Rudellat during the Aransas Bay chapter crab trap cleanup. Photo: NPINS Beach Clean Up*

and the captain's meeting are at **Paws and Taws Convention Center & under the big tent Friday, May 15, 2020, doors open at 6:00.**

There will be a mandatory captain's meeting at 8:00 pm. Fishing starts at Sunrise on Saturday, May 16 and weigh-in is held under the big tent starting at NOON. You must be stamped and in line by 4 p.m. We will have good food, fabulous vendors and live music both Friday and Saturday! The swag bags are off the hook this year! Follow our Instagram (@babesonbay) and Facebook for updates and details! Guide shirts and more can be purchased at the Babes on the Bay store in the Vendor area. **Early registration for \$100 per angler ends on April 15. Late registration for \$125 per angler ends on April 30.** Register today at **babesonthebay.com**. Swag is not guaranteed after early registration. If you have any questions or need assistance, you can e-mail Jen at **ccababes@gmail.com** or text/call 361-205-0182.



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*Aranas Bay volunteers worked on the Billy Sandifer Beach Cleanup.*

Mark your calendars for our annual Aransas Bay CCA Banquet on August 8, 2020 at Paws & Taws Convention Center in Fulton. Thanks to all who helped set records this year at the Crab Trap Clean Up and Beach Clean Up at the Padre Island National Seashore. See ya soon!!!

#### **Austin**

**Jeff Beck 512-656-2964**  
ccaauspres@gmail.com

#### **Bay Area**

**Curtis Anderson 832-435-0257**  
cla1965@att.net

#### **Brazoria**

**Kim Lamont 979-482-1456**  
Kklamont93@yahoo.com

#### **Brazos Valley**

**John Ben Strother 979-220-1738**  
jbsunlimited@yahoo.com

Spring has arrived, it's a great time to be on the water. Brazos Valley Chapter held our 28th annual banquet March 6, 2020 at the Brazos Center in Bryan, Texas. It was a great success. We opened the doors at 5:30 p.m. to a record-breaking crowd of almost 500. Everyone enjoyed an evening of comradery, awesome dinner, fun games, beverages, raffles, and silent and live auctions. Our committee members worked diligently this year gathering more sponsors and tables than ever before, hats off to them! C & J Barbeque catering served an award-winning dinner.

**Jack Hillard** Distributing kept everyone's thirst quenched. A big thank you to Drew Adams, CCA Assistant Director, for his countless hours of hard work. A huge shout-out to our sponsors, patrons and attendees. You all are the key to the success and continued conservation efforts for our future.

#### **Brenham**

**Brandon Marth 979-277-0151**  
brenhamironworks@sbcglobal.net

#### **Brush County**

**Brenda Ballard 361-296-4037**  
brendagballard@hotmail.com

#### **Centex**

**Si Hanna 254-723-1922**  
shanna@rdoequipment.com

#### **Central Houston**

**Todd Buster 713-545-189**  
tbuster@busterandcogdell  
builders.com

#### **Colorado Valley**

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

#### **Corpus Christi**

**Clifford Johnstone 361-816-7338**  
cjohnstone@higginbotham.net

all events at the American Bank Center and Whataburger Field. Due to this suspension, the **Corpus Christi Chapter's 42nd Annual Banquet has been rescheduled for Thursday, June 25, 2020, 5:30 p.m. at the American Bank Center.** CCA Texas and the Corpus Christi Chapter remain focused on our continued efforts to create and enhance marine habitat and advocate for the proper management of coastal resources. This vital work would not be possible without the continued support of our dedicated members. We look forward to seeing you at our 42nd Annual Banquet. Individual tickets and boat raffle tickets are still on sale. Contact Courtney Johnstone for more information at (361) 882-5199



*Corpus Christi's Marie Baca and Courtney Johnstone selling CCA Banquet boat tickets*

Springtime in south Texas! On February 29, the 25th Billy Sandifer Big Shell Beach Cleanup on Padre Island National Seashore was a huge success with 1,500 volunteers. CCA-Corpus Christi Chapter had numerous volunteers at the event including Tyler Thorsen (VP of Friends of Padre), Troy Adler, Jay Gardner, Jacob Augs, Jeff Smith, Valerie Chilton, Cliff Johnstone, Grace Santana, and Courtney Johnstone. Well done!

The City of Corpus Christi has suspended

or [ccacorporuschristi@gmail.com](mailto:ccacorporuschristi@gmail.com).

Lastly, we are already getting calls regarding the 2020 CCA Poco Rojo Kids Fishing tournament! Our chapter is excited to announce that our **CCA Poco Rojo Kids Fishing Tournament will be rescheduled for a new date in fall of 2020.** We hope to have a new date and information available soon. Keep an eye on our CCA Facebook





*Fort Bend's 2020 JH Performance Outlaw 185x with an Evinrude 115hp ETEC*

page, CCA website and emails to members. If you are interested in volunteering for our CCA chapter events, please give us a call.

#### **Dallas**

**Greg Resnansky 214-356-9995**  
ccadallasboard@gmail.com

#### **East Texas**

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

#### **Fort Bend**

**Jim Black 979-240-5010**  
jimblack@nov.com

Hello everyone, the Ft. Bend committee members and I are getting excited now! Our 34th Annual Banquet is coming up and we have some great things in store for you this year. To start things off our grand prize will be a **2020 JH Performance Outlaw 185x with an Evinrude 115hp ETEC and a Coastline single axle aluminum trailer**. There will also be four other chances to win some fishing gear so be sure and get your tickets! For tickets please contact Jim Black (979) 240-5010. There will also be a live and silent auction, bucket raffle, games, a great meal, plenty of beverages and much more. So, it's time to get the friends and family out for some fun!

**The banquet has been rescheduled for July 30, 2020 at the American Legion Hall in Rosenberg. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.**

to preview auction items and begin silent auction bids, dinner is served around 7:00 p.m. Contact Jim Black or Blake Tumlinson (979) 332-2236, our banquet chairman, for banquet details. For tickets and table reservations you can contact Troy Burditt (281) 725-8569 or you can purchase them online

at [ccatexas.org/2020-fort-bend-banquet](http://ccatexas.org/2020-fort-bend-banquet). We can't wait to see you all there!

I'd like to give a special thanks to **Sport Marine** in Richmond for all they did for us on this year's raffle, it is a beautiful boat and we can't thank them enough for supporting us. Another huge thank you to all our donors and sponsors. We are fortunate to have the support from so many good people; this event wouldn't be the same without it. Thank you all very much! Finally, some dates for other upcoming events: **CCA Kidfish will be July 25, 2020 and the "ladies only" fishing tournament, The Lingerie on The Bay, both held in Matagorda, will be September 11- 12, 2020.** Flyers and entry forms will be posted at [matagordabay.com](http://matagordabay.com) and [ccatexas.org/fort-bend](http://ccatexas.org/fort-bend) so be on the lookout for these events.

Remember to keep the waterways clean and be respectful to your fellow anglers. Hope to see you on the water!

**Fort Worth**  
**Brad Wallace**  
**817-988-8926**

[brad@northtexasmarine.com](mailto:brad@northtexasmarine.com)

**Our annual banquet will be rescheduled from our original date of May 7 to a later**



*2020 Golden Triangle Raffle Prize: John Deer Gator*

**date.** We will announce our reschedule date soon! Call or email us if you have any questions or would like to talk about sponsorship opportunities. Visit [ccatexas.org/fort-worth](http://ccatexas.org/fort-worth) for more information.

#### **Galveston**

**Golden Triangle**  
**David Thompson**  
**409-273-9233**

[David6340@gmail.com](mailto:David6340@gmail.com)

Greeting from the Golden Triangle Chapter! We recently kicked the year off with our Anglers' Night Out and had a great turnout. We want to share thanks for everyone who came to be part of it as well as Shane Bonnot for coming out to speak about the new Flounder proposals. On top of that, we will be raffling off a custom **John Deer Gator** this year! As well as the raffle, **we will**



be hosting our annual dinner on August 6, 2020. If you would like to purchase tickets for the dinner or raffle item, you can contact Drew Adams at [dadams@ccatexas.org](mailto:dadams@ccatexas.org). We are all excited about the upcoming year and as always, thankful for your support!

**Greater Sugar Land**  
**Mike Bracikowski 291-928-3128**  
[m.bracikowski@tritool.com](mailto:m.bracikowski@tritool.com)

All upcoming meetings and events have been postponed until the beginning of June at the earliest. This includes all general meetings, kid fish events, and our annual banquet. **The new proposed date for the banquet is Thursday the July 23, 2020.** We will forward all updates as received and please look for additional information on our Facebook page: CCA Texas Greater Sugar Land Chapter.

Many thanks to all that attended the Annual Crab Trap Clean-up event. Mr. Mike Spero and crew had a decent day of redfish while paroling for abandoned/illegal traps. We appreciate everyone's efforts and look for all to stay safe during these trying times. We will keep all our members, their families and friends in our prayers. We look forward to seeing you out on the water and we'll catch you on the next

incoming tide!

**Greater Woodlands**  
**Charlotte O'Dell 832-368-8263**  
[choctawcharlie69@gmail.com](mailto:choctawcharlie69@gmail.com)

Make plans to join us at our **13th annual banquet which has been rescheduled to September 24, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.** We'll be having it at The Springs venue again, located at 14135 Laramie Trail, in Montgomery, 77316. It's going to be another great night filled with games, raffles, silent auction, live auction, dinner, drinks and mingling with some fellow anglers. If you'd like to sponsor a table for your friends and family, or for your office party, contact Drew Adams, [dadams@ccatexas.org](mailto:dadams@ccatexas.org) or 713.626.4222. He can hook you up with some great sponsorship opportunities for your table.

Don't forget to join our Facebook page: [facebook.com/CCAGreaterWoodlands](https://facebook.com/CCAGreaterWoodlands) and also on our CCA Texas website: [ccatexas.org/greater-woodlands](http://ccatexas.org/greater-woodlands). Sea y'all soon!

**Guadalupe Valley**  
**Adam Arroyo 361-350-0026**  
[Ctown75@aol.com](mailto:Ctown75@aol.com)  
**The 13th Annual Guadalupe Valley CCA Banquet will be Thursday, August 13,**

**2020. We're having it at The Venue on Church Street located at 125 East Church Street in Cuero. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.**

It will be a great chance to win some awesome fishing equipment, bid on some amazing fishing and vacation trips and tell all your fishing buddies about the big one that got away! Russell G. will be the MC and you don't want to miss his sense of humor! \$50 individual tickets and \$700 table sponsorship for eight.

We will be having a chapter meeting soon. We will send an email notice once the venue is secured.

**Hays County**  
**Tim Young 512-573-7939**  
[tim.haysco@gmail.com](mailto:tim.haysco@gmail.com)

**Heart of the Hills**  
**Kelly Parks 210-669-3732**  
[bucksdelucks@yahoo.com](mailto:bucksdelucks@yahoo.com)

We've been staying busy in the Heart of the Hills. Several members spent time in January picking up trash on the beach. In February, we had a great time attending the Texas State Chapter Banquet. On March 21, our title sponsor, Ford of Boerne, invited chapter members to their 2nd annual Ford of Boerne Music Fest featuring Wade Bow-

# DRINK BEER, GIVE BACK!



**A portion of proceeds  
from each beer sold gives  
back to CCA of 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*





en and The Powell Brothers.

### Helotes

**Johnny Rayburg 210-535-6810**  
**jrayburg@sbcglobal.net**

Howdy CCA Helotes. What a busy spring it's been already. On February 25, 2020 we held "Shark Night" featuring Dr. Kesley Gibson from the Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation at the Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as our guest speaker. She was introduced by our very own VP of Youth Activities Sam Murray. She spoke to about 280 students, educators, and parents from across the Northside Independent School District. Her message on how research plays into conservation, in this case satellite tracking of sharks, shows the important connection between CCA and projects like hers. We were very pleased with the turn out and how interested the crowd was in her work and the subject matter. Advocacy is a big part of our mission at CCA and this opportunity to spread the word about conservation was very successful.

Several of our members volunteered at the Friends of Padre, Billy Sandifer Big Shell Beach Cleanup on Feb 29. Great job John and Karen Botter, the Murray family, and Doug Phillips. Thanks for taking the time to make a difference.

As most of you know, we have been planning our banquet for quite a while now. However, due to the Coronavirus, we want to comply with the recommendations of the health department so, we have postponed the event. We appreciate the understanding of our members and sponsors as we work through this. A date hasn't been set as of this document going to print, but rest assured you will be the first ones to know. Thank you to the banquet committee members that have gotten us this far. They worked hard to get the event ready. We were less than a week away when we had to make the call.

### Hill Country

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

### 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**  
**jvillarreal13@gmail.com**

### Lee County

**Jake Horne 979-540-6117**  
**jake@aubainesupply.com**

### Live Oak

**Taylor Kotrla 979-732-7265**  
**taylorkotrla@hotmail.com**

### Lower Colorado

**Stephen Zapalac 972-244-6633**  
**szapalac@ykc.com**

2020 has begun excitedly for the Lower Colorado Chapter. We started off electing our officers for the year. Stephen Zapalac was again elected as President. This year Antony Kimmey will serve as Vice President and Ronnie Bose will again be Treasurer. Yours truly, Maury Guzik will continue to report on the happenings of the chapter.

It was quickly decided that the **12th Annual Lower Colorado Banquet and Auction will be held Friday, August 7, 2020 at the Bay City Civic Center.** Mark your calendars now! It will continue our string of highly successful banquets.

The stats for the 2019 banquet were reported and it was almost a sell-out crowd with over 450 attendees and the auctions results again put the Lower Colorado Chapter in the top tier. We really appreciate everyone who steps in as sponsors, donors, supporters, volunteers and attendees.

On a more exciting note, we began our 2020 Kids Fish planning. Multiple dates and locations were placed on the table for consideration. Matagorda Harbor, Palacios Pavilion and Sargent are being considered. Decisions will happen soon so keep an eye on this spot for our announcement and more details. We'll be looking for volunteers to assist in making it a fun and safe event for the kids in the Lower Colorado Chapter that represents all of the bays, rivers and creeks in Matagorda County.

### Lower Laguna Madre

**Oscar Garcia**  
**956-491-8148**  
**oscar@shallowportboats.com**

### Mainland

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

### Matagorda Bays

**Chris Bird 979-257-6508**  
**cbird1493@gmail.com**

Matagorda Bays Chapter has hit the ground running in 2020 with a lot of excitement surrounding our upcoming banquet and boat raffle! **The date for the Matagorda Bays Chapter banquet has been set for June 25, 2020 at the El Campo Civic Center.** As always, we expect to be sold out well in advance of the doors opening. Be sure to get your table sponsorships and meal tickets purchased before they're gone! More information pertaining to this year's banquet will soon be on our Facebook page and CCA Chapter page, so please check those out.

This year's Matagorda Bays raffle boat is being built by **TranSport Boats** of Palacios, Texas.

Donny Tran is nearly finished with the 2020 24' XLR8 with Coastline Trailer and 350HP Mercury Verado. This will be the largest horsepower motor hung on a Matagorda Bays CCA raffle boat to date! Matagorda Bay's would like to extend our appreciation to TranSport Boats along with several other vendors that donated items for this year's raffle boat; **Coastline Trailers, Aluma-Tech Custom Aluminum, Bob's Machine, 36 Motorsport, JL Marine Systems and Wetsound Systems.** Raffle tickets will be printed in March and available for purchase soon; please contact Wesley Smolik at (979) 578-3084 or any chapter board member!

**The chapter's 15th Annual Lil' Salties Fishing Blowout has been CANCELLED due to the COVID-19 precautions.** If you have sent in your sponsorship for the 2020 tournament and would like your donation to be refunded, please contact Lynn Staff at

**ltstaff@yahoo.com** or Thomas Gold at **tagold@elc.net** for more information.

Don't forget to check out our Matagorda Bay's CCA Facebook page and our CCA Chapter page for any and all Chapter updates! If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us at any time.

### Mid Coast

**Wade Harrell 361-935-1125**  
**wcharrell@hotmail.com**

It's starting to feel like spring with southerly winds and



*Mid Coast and Greater Woodlands Chapters at crab trap cleanup after-party in POC.*





Mid Coast's Mike Brawner, board raffle chair setting up boat and booth.

warming waters! We can't wait for that big trout bite to be on! Our Mid Coast chapter is so excited about our **upcoming banquet, which has been rescheduled for September 10, 2020!**

Our chapter participated in the abandoned crab trap clean up throughout the end of February closure period. We had five boats and eight board members, Allan Berger, Caitlin Carter, Chris Dobsy, Stephen and Laura Mills, Wade Harrell, Rod Graci and Mark Saddler that participated this year by pulling 246 traps out of San Antonio Bay, about 20% of the traps retrieved in the San Antonio Bay system.

(Mid Coast board members standing proud after a long day of abandoned crab trap removal!)

A big thanks to Allan Berger, Mid Coast board member and board chair of the San Antonio Bay Partnership, for leading this effort. We also had a great time meeting some members of the Greater Woodlands Chapter at the after-party!

We recently showcased our brand new 2020 21' Haynie SuperCat raffle boat at the Victoria Livestock Show, February 27-March 1 and it certainly was a head turner! Thanks to all our board members that stepped up to help at the show! We sold 70+ raffle tickets for our beautiful Haynie boat and recruited 12 new/renewed CCA members!

Also, on the raffle is a Kimber 9mm pistol, Waterloo custom rod combo and a CCA 65 Qt. Engel cooler. Big thanks again to our raffle sponsors **Waterloo Rods, Chris's Marine, Compadres and Momentum Rentals** this year. If you would like to purchase raffle tickets, please contact Mike Brawner, our raffle chair, at (281) 787-1671 or Cheryl Guthrie at (361) 935-3342. We only sell 1200 tickets and they are already going fast at only \$50 each!

Tables for our 2020 banquet are selling quickly, so make sure and get your spot before we sell out! If you are interested in more information regarding table sales or other sponsorship opportunities, please contact Tylar Walyuchow at 361-541-9011.

For the latest chapter updates and information on upcoming meetings, etc., please

check our website: [ccatexas.org/mid-coast/](http://ccatexas.org/mid-coast/) and our Facebook page: [facebook.com/ccamidcoast](https://facebook.com/ccamidcoast). We hope to see you out on the bay, at a chapter event or at a banquet soon!

**Northeast Houston**  
Jason Law 713-898-8594  
[jlaw1899@yahoo.com](mailto:jlaw1899@yahoo.com)

**Northwest Houston**  
Rob Sziy 832-971-1989  
[sziy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sziy@sbcglobal.net)

**Mark your calendar for our Annual Fund-raising Banquet to be held on August 13, 2020 at Shirley Acres, located at 217 Woerner Rd. in Houston.** As always there will be awesome raffle prizes, a silent auction and a great time to be had by all. For any questions email Jerry Goss at [harley6217@gmail.com](mailto:harley6217@gmail.com) or



Port O'Connor chapter members offload a boatful of flattened crab traps. Alan Baribeau, Chris Smisek and Chester, the crab trap spotter.

call (832) 457-7535.

We would like to thank Houston Distributing and Academy Sports & Outdoors for their continued support and sponsorship of our meetings and events, we greatly appreciate it.

**Orange County**  
Scott Bandy 409-988-3667  
[scottbandy77@yahoo.com](mailto:scottbandy77@yahoo.com)

**Port Lavaca**  
Eric Ellison 361-983-4690  
[fishingsalt@yahoo.com](mailto:fishingsalt@yahoo.com)

**Our 3rd Annual CCA Banquet will be held at the Bauer Community Center on August 14, 2020.** We had a great time last year and expect this year to be even better. We have had great community support as a new chapter from many local businesses and more are joining. We look forward to the seeing the friends we made last year and meeting some new ones this year.

Tables and tickets are available for purchase now: Bull Red table - \$1,000, Trout table - \$750, Flounder table - \$500 and Individual tickets - \$50. For more information on the banquet please email Blake Burnside at [bburnside@ccatexas.org](mailto:bburnside@ccatexas.org) or Eric Ellison at [fishingsalt@yahoo.com](mailto:fishingsalt@yahoo.com). For chapter updates follow us on our Facebook page CCA Port Lavaca.

**Port O'Connor**  
Bill Moore  
361-983-4690  
[wildbm@tisd.net](mailto:wildbm@tisd.net)

**The 20th annual POC CCA Banquet has been rescheduled for September 19, 2020.** All previous purchased banquet tickets are valid for this new date. If you have any questions, please contact Taylor Reick at (713) 626-4222.

The chapter wishes to express its appreciation to all who purchased tickets and/or tables, the special donors, and all chapter members who spent long hours putting the banquet together. You all will make the banquet another huge success.

Thought we had a hint of spring, but saw a long flight of teal yesterday, so I guess winter is not ready to leave. So, with the summer activities not far away, come visit some of our banquet donors in POC, "where it all began."

**Prairie**  
Patricia Walters  
979-885-7464

[manager@wpprint.com](mailto:manager@wpprint.com)

**Our annual Redfish Bay Chapter Banquet is now scheduled for August 29, 2020.** We are





*Before the full house: the Sabine-Neches banquet was again a Sold Out success.*

sorry for the change, but safety of staff and participants is always our first concern. As always, we will do everything in our power to make it a fun and enjoyable family event. Mark your calendars! You should receive emails and snail mail info on the event; if not, please go to the [ccatexas.org](http://ccatexas.org) website to get info and sign up. If you have trouble on the website, please call me. Note: we sold out in 2019; so, get your tickets early from a Board member or on-line.

**Our Take-a-Kid-Fishing event will be the first weekend in June.** Plan on bringing the young fisher persons to this great "tournament" event. They will enjoy it! If history rules, we will have our annual Beeville Fish Fry this fall the Thursday before dove season. More information to follow later.

**Redfish Bay**  
Norman Oates 361-758-0266  
[noates@cablone.net](mailto:noates@cablone.net)

**Rio Grande Valley**  
Boone Stutz 210-906-7676  
[riograndevalley@gmail.com](mailto:riograndevalley@gmail.com)

**Sabine-Neches**  
Darin Johnson 409-790-9855  
[darin@jorgensenmarine.com](mailto:darin@jorgensenmarine.com)

Greetings to all from the Sabine Neches Chapter! We just finished up with our 2020 banquet and I am proud to say we sold it out for the 10th straight year! None of this would have been possible without the hard work of our chapter!

**Saltgrass**  
Buck Stobart 409-782-7934  
[stobartbuck@yahoo.com](mailto:stobartbuck@yahoo.com)

**Sam Houston**  
Brandon Kolaja  
281-797-6908  
[bkolaja@huntsvilletx.gov](mailto:bkolaja@huntsvilletx.gov)

**San Antonio**  
Robert Lozano 210-632-4246  
[robertolozano129@yahoo.com](mailto:robertolozano129@yahoo.com)

The spring banquet for CCA San Antonio has morphed to a fall banquet this year. **2020 Banquet is now set with a new date of Thursday, August 27.** It took a CDC directive limiting us to no more

than 10 people grouping together and banquet food to go, to convince us August looks good. Ask any patron who has attended our event about the sights and sounds of Joe Freeman Expo Hall and the unbelievable aromas of Don Strange Catering: we couldn't deprive our attendees of that experience.

Banquet co-chairs Tom Akins and Byron Buzzini along with the best committee in the country have an incredible **August banquet planned for Thursday, August 27, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the Joe Freeman Expo Hall.** This gives you fall hunters and fishermen time to win or purchase fall hunting or fishing trips. We are taking reservations via telephone or email to reserve your table and tickets now for the 41st Annual San Antonio Chapter 2020 banquet. For table reservations please contact Ruth Eaton at (210) 599-3690 or at [reaton@eatoncontracting.com](mailto:reaton@eatoncontracting.com). "Early Bird" table purchasers: deadlines will be published in CURRENTS and posted on Facebook. Receive one entry for a

Yeti Tundra 65-Quart drawing per table purchase.

For the 2020 raffle list, stay tuned to CURRENTS and our facebook page. We will alert you where you can view the boat and Bronco prior to the raffle. Also, be on the look-out for the unveiling of our new CCA SA-Texas Slam dry-fit fishing shirt.



**2020 San Antonio  
Fiesta Medal**

Grand prize is a 2020 Shallow Stalker CAT204 powered with Evinrude G2 150 HP, Coastline Tandem Trailer, thank you Gulf Coast Marine, Bud Light and Shallow Stalker. Other prizes: classic 1996 Ford Bronco 4x4, thank you Jordan Ford, Mike Davis and Maximum Altitude. Shiner Ranch Buggy/Polaris Ranger 570, thank you Shiner Beer and Hoffpauir Outdoor Superstore.

As always, we will have our silent auction, \$5.00 raffle, ice chest raffle with 280 Engel coolers,

live auction, incredible unlimited food from Don Strange Catering and a premium bar. We are promoting "take a kid hunting and fishing" by offering day trips at a reasonable cost. For information and purchases see our booth at the banquet in Exhibit Hall A and thank Tom "Capt Catfish" Akin for spearheading this pet project.

Attention San Antonio Fiesta Medal collectors: 2020 Limited Edition Fiesta Medals are available soon for purchase. Remember the CDC also had a say so on our 129th San Antonio FIESTA, moving it from April to November! Contact Roberto Lozano at [robertolozano129@yahoo.com](mailto:robertolozano129@yahoo.com) to support us by purchasing and displaying medals.

A big thank you to San Antonio Chapter members and volunteers for your loyalty and support of CCA Texas. For questions, donations, sponsorships and volunteer opportunities contact me or your friends on the committee. Remember: Keep those lines taut and take a kid fishing and hunting. Don't forget to share those family at home photos from this month, or fishing ones from last year with us on our CCA San Antonio Facebook Page and check our Facebook page for little entertaining suggestions and videos. Cheers from "Burnt-O" and Hook'em.

**San Bernard**  
Ross Kutach 281-330-0135  
[rosskutach@yahoo.com](mailto:rosskutach@yahoo.com)

The San Bernard Chapter hosted the 2020 Annual Fundraising Banquet in East Bernard at Riverside Hall on February 27. Attendance was great and the support from our local community was evident. Thank you to all of the patrons that came out and supported our chapter. A very special thanks to our 2020 VIP event sponsors: **Academy Sports + Outdoors, Alleyton Resource, Capital Farm Credit and JW Farley.** We appreciate your continued support of our chapter year in and year out.





*CCA Texas A&M Chapter Members at the Billy Sandifer Big Shell Beach Clean Up*

The hall was filled with both reserved and corporate tables. Our dedicated board members did a great job getting out in the community to securing presale tables. We appreciate the continued support from our local businesses and want to thank repeat customers: **Bill Gerke Sales, Triple D Machine, WTX Ranch, Pekar's Body Shop, Poor Farms Wrecker Service, Fisch Construction, EB Air Conditioning, Rice Medical, Fulshear Animal Hospital, Jalowy Dental, Smaistrle Insurance, Silver Eagle, Sport Marine Johnnie's Complete Car Care and Xtreme Roofing.** Additional thanks to **Johnny's Sport Shop, Slade Stary and Riverside Hall** for making the event come together. The chapter really appreciates the support from you guys.

Thank you to our new faces in the crowd this year: **AG Land Fuel, DET Consulting, ProLine Hydralink, SWBC Mortgage, EXP Realty, Maxwell Meat Market, Gary Hadjik, Creative Impressions by Summer, Manley Homes and Washfest.** We hope to see you guys back for years to come. Our neighbor chapters came out with force. Thanks to Live Oak, Praire and Ft. Bend Chapters for bringing full tables and participating the way you did. We will have your spots ready next year. The presale raffle was a huge success thanks to the efforts of our board members. All 400 presale raffle tickets were sold-out before the banquet allowing us to add additional raffles for the event. The 5-gun raffle was offered again this year and sold out during the event. Thank you to Jeff for taking care of the guns.

Special thanks to our San Bernard Chapter board members and families. Without your dedication, help and support, none of this would be possible. Thanks to Coleman and the crew of CCA for all of your help. Our next event will be the all you can eat crawfish boil in the spring. Talk to your local board member to get some info on the event.

Be safe on the water and leave it better than you found it. If you love to fish, this organization is and will be a great way to dedicate your time to your passion. If you are interested in getting involved, my 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](mailto:jmelnar@plateaulandgroup.com)

#### **Southwestern**

**Veronica Oliver 830-765-6228**  
[ronnimoliver@gmail.com](mailto:ronnimoliver@gmail.com)

#### **TAMU**

**Aaron Richter 361-876-0524**  
[aaronrichter@tamu.edu](mailto:aaronrichter@tamu.edu)

We have had a pretty packed semester already! On February 27, we had Brian Ray, who oversees operations at the Aquaculture Research and Teaching Facility, come and speak with us about his research. Currently, one of their studies includes flounder reproduction and testing to see if flounder eggs can be altered successfully to give an all-female offspring outcome. It's really amazing to hear about research going on at the university that can potentially increase flounder populations. A big thank you to Brian Ray for taking the time to speak to our group.

Several of our members participated in the Billy Sandifer Big Shell Beach Clean Up on February 29. It was a great way to be involved and see a difference being made on the coast.

As for our banquet, the original date has been postponed and we are still settling on a new date at this time. Look to our social media for updates. We are looking forward to seeing everyone in the fall. Thanks, and Gig 'em!

**Texas State University**  
**Travis James 832-909-5833**  
[travisj0915@gmail.com](mailto:travisj0915@gmail.com)

**Tomball/Magnolia**  
**Matt Maddox**  
 832-963-5215  
[matt@cribbsconcrete.com](mailto:matt@cribbsconcrete.com)

**Tri-County**  
**Justin Putz**  
 210-585-0401  
[putz.stx@gmail.com](mailto:putz.stx@gmail.com)

**Trinity Bay**  
**Gerald Payne**  
 281-728-6278  
[rockin\\_g\\_payne@yahoo.com](mailto:rockin_g_payne@yahoo.com)

Our past banquets have been complete sell outs thanks to our generous

sponsors and engaged board members. Based on this we have changed the venue for 2020. **Announcing... Trinity Bay's 30th annual banquet will be held at: Armenta's Reception Hall, 825 Sheldon Rd, Channelview, TX 77530 on August 21, 2020.**

As always, there will be plenty of food, drinks and opportunities to leave with great prizes, fishing trips or vacations. We will have an "Early Bird" special raffle for table sponsors signing up by July 1, 2020! If you have any interest in joining up with the volunteer committee, please reach out to me.

**Trinity Valley**  
**John Hebert Jr 936-334-2528**  
[jjhebert@imsday.com](mailto:jjhebert@imsday.com)

**West Houston**  
**Ruben Delgadillo 281-808-1434**  
[ruben@liftpull.com](mailto:ruben@liftpull.com)

**Spring is here! The West Houston Chapter has rescheduled the banquet for Thursday August 27, 2020 at the Omni Westside Hotel, 13210 Katy Fwy., Houston, TX 77056. The event will begin at 6:00 p.m.** and the chapter will be providing dinner and drinks. Join us for an evening of raffles, auctions, and fun! We are currently seeking sponsorships and donations for the banquet. These donations and sponsorships offer an opportunity for you or your company to gain visibility and donate to a good cause. For more information about sponsorship opportunities, donations, or to join our chapter, please contact **Branon Pesnell** at [branon.pesnell@transwestern.com](mailto:branon.pesnell@transwestern.com) or 713-231-1587. CCA needs your support!

**West Texas**  
**Craig McDonnold 432-682-3499**  
[Craig@McDonnold.net](mailto:Craig@McDonnold.net)





## THE TEXAS GULF COAST INITIATIVE



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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*





# Elliott's Redfish Florentine

## Florentine Sauce

3 Garlic cloves minced  
 3 Tablespoons yellow onion minced  
 3 Tablespoons celery minced  
 3 Tablespoons green pepper minced  
 3 Tablespoons butter  
 1 Cup Heavy whipping cream  
 1 Handful spinach chopped  
 Salt and pepper to taste  
 1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper

*Saute first four ingredients in butter for 5 minutes. Add cream and spinach and simmer for 10 minutes until reduced by 1/3. Set aside to cool. (Sauce will thicken more as it cools.)*

## The Redfish

2 Redfish fillets  
 Tony Cachere's Cajun seasoning  
 2 Tablespoons butter  
 2 Tablespoons olive oil  
 Season both sides of fillets. Saute on in butter/olive oil on medium for 5 minutes per side til well browned.  
 This can be served on rice pilaf or pasta. Place browned fillet on top of pasta or rice and spoon a generous amount of sauce over both.



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## 31st Annual CCA State of Texas Anglers' Rodeo Early Bird Registration Deadline is FRIDAY, APRIL 24!!

***Absolutely the STAR Tournament will be held this year! Some of the details may change to fit this evolving situation, but at this time we are planning to kick-off the standard Saturday of Memorial Day weekend. The STAR Tournament Committee is meeting regularly to evaluate developments so stay tuned for more details, but we are counting on having the best STAR ever this year!***

Register NOW for the Early Bird Drawings Before You Forget! Spring time is here ladies and gentlemen! If you're not out chasing schools of bait fish being ravaged by hungry predators, what are you waiting for? Even if you haven't been able to make it out on the water this year, YET, you can still be ready when the opportunity finally arises by making sure that you're entered into this years' STAR Tournament. Even if you don't get to make it out on the water during the tournament (May 23 thru September 7), you still have a chance at winning one of two boats, or twenty other great prizes, in our Early Bird Drawings and Member Bonus Drawing if you enter by April 24.

### *A Note from the Directors Desk:*

*We need to get outside, folks. It is good for us to get fresh air, get out, get hot, get cold—feel alive. Why is it when we are fishing, we start to realize how good we have it, and how much we have taken for granted?*

No doubt 2020 started with ample reasons for anxiety for all of us. Sometimes we need a wake-up call to appreciate the core meaning of what we do have. Not playing down our setbacks, but don't they help us reset to the fundamentals? The blessing of family and friends and all that we hold dear. We must refuse to let our circumstances steal our joy. Is thankfulness the key? God knows Texas has been showered with unbelievable resources for our delight. Fast forward to the "dawn patrol" on a special shoreline, teeming with nervous baitfish, the light changing

the color of the water, first gray, then emerald green. Your son (daughter, wife, friend —fill in the blank) hurrying to tie the loop knot on a topwater plug after hearing the first slurp...

Fishing is not just about fishing. Everyone has a story. And not just a fishing story about the one that got away. Most of these stories, no matter the baseline—is about family. Or friendship. Some are humorous or intense. But all have something in common... they are memories created by one common denominator—fishing. Fishing is more than it seems. Get out there and make some stories of your own.

Do you still need a reason? Recently, Virginia's Fish and Wildlife Dept. published a top 10 list. Beyond the obvious of relaxation and being with family and friends, here's their lineup (condensed, not in order):

- Recreation—we all know a bad day fishing beats a good day working.
- Stress relief—nothing brings on the sense of being alive and helps to build our personal reserves like a day spent interacting with nature.
- Self-fulfillment—offers the chance to improve self-esteem, mastering outdoor skills, and passing along the heritage. Just ask any youngster who reeled in their first fish.
- Social bonding—sharing a fishing experience strengthens relationships and also offers the chance to give back to society through mentoring others in the pleasure and importance of being good stewards.
- Health benefits—fishing can help you burn unwanted calories, increase the quality of your lifestyle, and add years to your life.

The remaining reasons include fishing for food, boost to the economy, supporting fish and wildlife management, contributing to conservation, and the Thrill—fulfilling the age-old need of pursuing and catching...the challenge!

*In fact, is it not knowing what you will catch that day...will it be a fish you've never caught...will it be a trophy fish...will it be a STARfish??!*

*Maybe Henry David Thoreau had it right: "Some men fish all their lives without knowing it is not really the fish they are after."*

**Go get'em and GOOD LUCK!**



Brian Franck and son, by Maggie Franck



After thirty amazing years of STAR, we have been blessed to be able to award Texas youth \$6,825,000 in college scholarships to youth from all over Texas, with angling abilities of all levels. The credit for all of the lives changed through STAR scholarships rests solely in the hands of our great sponsors. Without the support of these sponsors year in and year out, this great event that hosted 51,000+ Texas anglers would not be possible. We only ask that you reward our great partners for showing that they care about, what you care about! To learn more about the tournament (rules, prizes, entry, etc.) or our sponsors, simply head on over to [www.startournament.org](http://www.startournament.org). What could be a better gift to someone than the chance to win part of way over \$1 million in prizes and scholarships? Sign up now!

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

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



**BEST IN TEXAS**

**ACADEMY SPORTS + OUTDOORS-** Don't forget about that Academy Sports + Outdoors coupon sitting in your wallet!



**TEXAS FISH & GAME MAGAZINE "BONUS ONLINE SUBSCRIPTION!"**-

Not many people can say no to free stuff and "Texas Fish & Game Magazine" is again offering a FREE one-year (12 issues) online subscription to all 2020 CCA Texas STAR participants. This subscription gives you access to the latest and most in-depth outdoors information anywhere. Whether you are lying in bed or sitting in the office, you will always have access. So be sure to include your email address on your registration form to receive your free subscription! If you prefer the print version don't worry! You can still receive a print version, along with online access, for only \$8 a year (vs. \$17.99). Be on the lookout in your email or mailbox for details on how to activate this offer! If you have any questions regarding your past or current subscriptions, please call (800) 725-1134 or email [subscriptions@fishgame.com](mailto:subscriptions@fishgame.com).



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



**WHATABURGER-** 2020 coupons coming soon!



**Thank you to our tremendous sponsors who allow us to host this great event:**

Texas Ford Dealers, Tilson Home Corporation, Capital Farm Credit, Academy Sports + Outdoors, Whataburger, Mustang CAT, Mercury Marine, Hoffpauir Polaris, Shiner Bock, Evinrude BRP, Shoalwater Boats, Haynie Boats, Mowdy Boats, Dargel Boats, Texas Fish & Game Magazine, Coastline Trailers, McClain Trailers, KTRK-abc13 and Chris's Marine. For more information, go to [www.startournament.org](http://www.startournament.org). Thanks for supporting CCA Texas and the STAR Tournament!!

**\$6.825 million in college scholarships to youth from all over Texas**

#### ATTENTION GUIDES:

We are about to enter year three of the CCA Texas Guides Division. When the idea was first brought to the attention of the STAR Tournament committee, it was designed as a way to not only reward Texas saltwater guides who support CCA's mission with their very own division in STAR, but to incentivize them to get their clients involved in conservation as well. At the advice of TPWD officials, STAR decided to take a different approach to this division due to laws concerning guides keeping fish on charter trips. Captains don't win based off of their personal catch, but their ability to put other people on big fish! If a captain puts someone on a division winning fish, they earn five chances in the drawing for a 26' Mowdy Cat, 225 hp motor, and custom Coastline trailer combo. From there, the guides chances in the drawing goes in descending order from five for a division winner, down to one chance for a fifth place fish. Captain's Charlie Buchen and Hunter Saha claimed the first two titles, will you be next? Check-out all of the rules at [www.startournament.org](http://www.startournament.org).



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# Great Photos 2020

Categories: Best In Show  
Action / Scenic / Humor  
Kids / Wildlife / CPR

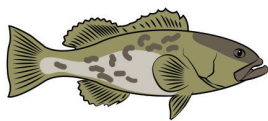
Important: Send jpegs and include name of subject, title, your name as well as the names of anyone in the photo. Email jpegs to: [sam@samcaldwell.com](mailto:sam@samcaldwell.com) Give us your best shot, and keep CURRENTS an award-winning newsletter.

*Great Action/Humor/Kid Photo. The photo editor liked the life vest on the young passenger.*

Joe DiStefano says, "Here is a pic I took of my son Clint DiStefano and his son Tyce DiStefano. We were heading south to Baffin Bay. I put this in my album titled "Making Memories."



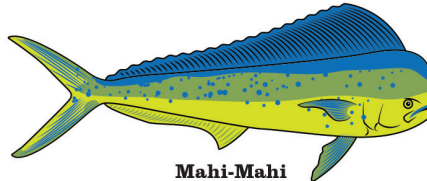
## Gulf Identification Guide



Grouper



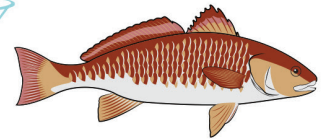
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Mahi-Mahi



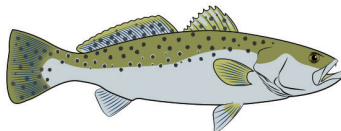
Tito's Martini



Red Drum



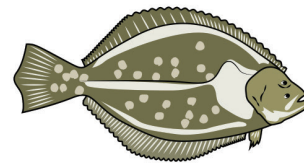
Hair of the Dog



Speckled Trout



Tito's Salty Dog



Flounder



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# Great Photos Contest 2018-2020

CCA volunteers have provided many of the images that have made CURRENTS one of the top outdoor publications in Texas. Over the years, your newsletter has won numerous accolades, including **Best Newsletter in Texas** honors from the Texas Outdoor Writers Association. It's time for the Great Photo Editor to acknowledge and award a few of the great photographers and photographs of the past twenty issues. First Places and Best In Show receive a Sam Caldwell fine art print. Winners, send an email to [sam@samcaldwell.com](mailto:sam@samcaldwell.com)

## HONORABLE MENTION

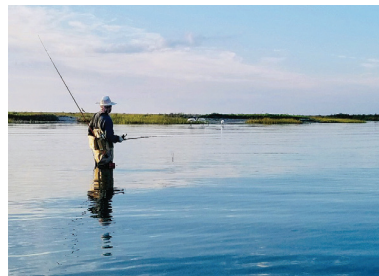
With special recognition of Lisa Laskowski for dozens of offshore reefing and volunteer marsh planting photos.

Joe Terry  
Kenneth Ryan  
Chris Smisek  
Paula Smisek  
Kim Phillipi  
Adam Gilvarry  
Pam Parsons  
Garrett  
Tyler Haley  
Matt Still  
Sam Smolik  
Johnny Rayburg  
Mike McGuire  
Sarah Mueller  
Joe Delmore  
Luke Delmore  
Charlie Everts  
Ursula Mireles Harris  
John Blaha  
Kathie Bassler  
Chris Bird  
Randy Plummer  
Jared Easley  
Rex Richards  
Hunter Stunz  
Adrian Gray  
Annette Syring  
David Shelpuk  
Anthony Scobarczyk  
Jay Collins  
Miller Bassler  
Rebecca McCarthy  
Hunter Bailey  
Dustin Nichols  
Capt. Jerry West  
Stephen Zapalac  
Helen Elschick  
Marie Baca  
Courtney Johnstone  
Mike Brawner  
Alan Baribeau  
Chester  
Liz Hewitt  
Maggie Franck  
Joe DiStefano

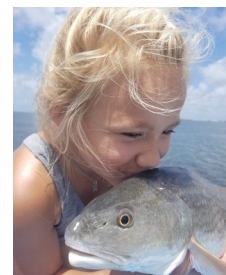
## Categories: Best In Show / Action / Scenic Humor / Kids / Wildlife / CPR



**ACTION:** Van Sturdivant reaches for a cold weather speck. Van says he, Doug Hollingsworth and Roy Smith have been fishing together for over 40 years. They keep only the fish they require for supper.



**SCENIC:** John Ben Strother: Calm water, a fisherman with two rods, and a whooping crane group on the distant shoreline. If Strother had a kid in the photo releasing a fish, he might have won a trifecta.



**HUMOR:** A beautiful young lady kisses a redfish— and wins the Humor prize. Ryleigh Flores, by Dad Ruben Flores.



**KIDS:** A magnificent scene, capturing the essence of family fishing. That's Brian Franck and son, by Mom Maggie Franck.



**WILDLIFE:** A huge jack crevalle has been tamed by the father-son team of Blade and Pierson Bassler. A CPR for sure, but the photo is a keeper by Miller Bassler.



**CPR:** Photographer Lisa Laskowski returns a beautiful speck. Photo by John Blaha

**BEST IN SHOW:** Adam Gilvarry says fooling a fly-hungry tarpon demands patience, luck and a hungry tarpon. The ultra wide angle lens provides a powerful visual experience.







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# Coastal Conservation Association

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## CURRENTS NEWSLETTER

April / May 2020

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Corpus Christi / Marine Safety Office:  
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oil spills: 361-888-3162  
Port Aransas: 361-749-5217  
Port O'Connor: 361-983-2616  
Freeport: 979-233-3801  
Houston, Galveston: 409-766-5620  
Sabine: 409-971-2195

The Texas Parks & Wildlife website is your starting point for almost anything you need to know about outdoor Texas, including links to many areas.

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

[www.tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/fish](http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/fish) [www.tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/boat](http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/boat)

Operation  
Game Thief



Current size, bag and possession limits are now available through the Texas Parks & Wildlife website: TPWD has a number to report game violations. **1-800-792-4263**. A partner with CCA in aiding Texas game and Game Wardens is Operation Game Thief. Drop by and put this website on your favorites list: [www.ogtx.com](http://www.ogtx.com)



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

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PRINT MEMBER:	\$100	All of the above plus CCA Texas print of your choice.
LIFE MEMBER:	\$1000	CCA Life Membership piece, print, plus member gifts. Payable in four \$250 installments.
STAR ENTRY FEE:	\$25	Tournament entry fee. Must be a current CCA member.
YOUTH:	\$10	TIDE newsletter, decal. Includes STAR Tournament entry, for members 17 and under.

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

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