

CURRENTS

August/September 2020



Harris County Game Wardens make the largest shark fin seizure in the history of Texas Parks and Wildlife.

Caught Redhanded! Reports from TP&W Game Wardens

A Texas Game Warden Shark Fin Case History

TPWD Houston, Harris County—Most of us envision a Warden's job as just enforcing fishing and hunting violations. This case involves part of their many other enforcement duties which is detection of illegal fish contraband by conducting fish dealer inspections. They also discovered this illegal activity had been ongoing for several years. It ended up being the largest shark fin seizure case in the history of Texas Parks & Wildlife. Great end result and thanks for all the other important enforcement activities Wardens perform.—Ronnie Luster / Chairman, CCA Texas Parks & Wildlife Committee

Harris County Game Wardens are often asked “what does a Game Warden do in the city?” In a county that houses Houston and over 5 million residents, an infamous reply is “What don’t we do?” And this past year has been no exception. Harris County Wardens made the largest shark fin seizure in the history of Texas Game Wardens since the ban of the possession and sale of shark fins in Texas, enacted in 2015.

Texas is one of many states including California and New York that have banned shark finning. Texas Law states that a person may not buy or offer to buy, sell or offer to sell, possess for the purpose of sale, transport, or ship for the purpose of sale, barter or exchange a shark fin regardless of where the shark was taken or caught.

The most recent shark fin seizure is an accumulation of the hard work of the Harris County Wardens and the investigations and cases that lead them to become experts in the identification and detection of illegal contraband.

The quest to stop the illegal shark finning business began in the summer of 2019. Shark fin dishes are a staple in traditional Chinese cuisine. Many Houston restaurants advertise and sell shark fin soup, a delicacy in the Asian culture. Harris



Thresher shark fin



Frozen shark fin carcasses, fins removed



Large unknown species, dried shark fin

County wardens took note and began an operation to locate and seize dried shark fins. In August 2019, Wardens served numerous search warrants on local businesses and found shredded, dried shark fins from the restaurants. One restaurant had their shark fin located in a locked metal container in a walk-in freezer. Numerous cases for the possession, sale and purchase of illegal shark fins were filed on the businesses.

In December 2019 Harris County wardens were performing routine fish dealer inspections and observed and seized approximately 650 pounds of black tip shark (approximately 75 sharks) carcasses with the fins removed from multiple fish markets in the Houston area, violating the possession of a shark without the fins naturally attached. It was discovered that the sharks were part of 30,000 pounds of sharks that had been purchased and sold over the past three years.

In May 2020, Harris County Game Warden Kevin Winters, following up on receipts from the past commercial violators, checked two Asian markets for the sale of shark fins. By the end of the day, he would end up making the largest shark fin seizure in the history of Texas Parks and Wildlife.

From two separate locations Warden Winters discovered 861 multiple species of shark fins to include thresher shark fins. Some fins were being sold at a price of \$450 pound to \$655 pound. All contraband was seized as evidence and the cases are pending from the Harris County district attorney's office.

The case also allowed Wardens to shift through receipts from cities around the US including San Francisco, California, New York City, New York and Chicago, Illinois. When reaching out to those respective conservation agencies it was discovered that certain businesses in Texas had previous shark fin violations dating back to 2012 in those states.

The practice of shark finning is a grotesque act and a flagrant violation of the conservation drives that Texas Game Wardens build their careers on. In Harris County, Game Wardens will continue to battle the violators who disregard the law and that do not invest in the species that Texas and the US hold so dear. —**Jennifer Weaver** Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Texas Game Wardens, Serving Texans since 1895



Law Enforcement Off the Pavement

Advocacy Southern Flounder Get Help by Generous Donation

Shane Bonnot

In late May, The University of Texas Marine Science Institute (UTMSI) announced that Bobby Patton, a Fort Worth businessman donated \$1 million to UTMSI to support southern flounder research. As a part-time resident of Port Aransas, member of the UTMSI Advisory Council, member of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission, avid angler and CCA Life Member, Patton is no stranger to the plight of the southern flounder and wants to see meaningful change in the fishery to ensure a recovery of the species.

Per a May 29, 2020 UTMSI press release, Patton states, "I'm passionate about fishing and committed to making decisions with the best facts available. As a commissioner on the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission, I want to do what is right for flounder and what is right for Texas. I think there is universal agreement that flounder populations are in trouble not only in Texas but nationwide."

Patton's donation came on the heels of a decision by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission to raise the minimum size to 15 inches and strengthen language for commercial fishers to report all landings. An additional measure to close flounder fishing from November 1 – December 15 was also passed by the commission but will be delayed until 2021, citing economic concerns from the Covid-19 Pandemic.



Hatchery raised southern flounder fingerlings

While it remains to be seen what specific research will be conducted, UTMSI states that "The donation will dramatically increase understanding of flounder reproductive capability and the critical times in their life cycle that require special attention from fishery managers and anglers to reverse the decline in southern flounder populations."

It's not often that you see such a generous donation directed at such a specific problem in fisheries management and harkens back to the early days of the red drum recovery when there was an outpouring of support and donations by dedicated anglers and conservationists to establish a stock enhancement program. Thank you, Mr. Bobby Patton - Your donation to such a worthy cause is much appreciated by the angling community and your name will be recalled when the stories of the southern flounder recovery are told by future generations.



Mia Guerra, left and Nicholas Gilstrap won Starkid college scholarships in the Flounder Division. To date, the CCA STAR tournament has provided \$6.825 million in college scholarships to youth from all over Texas.

Ocean Conservancy Requests Temporary Rule for Data Calibration for Red Snapper

In a letter sent to National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the Ocean Conservancy (OC) requests that the federal agency promptly issue a temporary rule to implement state data calibrations for the private recreational red snapper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico.

You may recall that when state management (Amendment 50) was passed by the Gulf Council, each state's data collection process was reviewed by NMFS and the states were allocated a portion of the private angler red snapper quota based upon their historical landings. Per the OC letter, "discrepancies between the state survey data units and the federal data collection process (Marine Recreational Information Program "MRIP" Coastal Household Telephone Survey "CHTS" units) raise the possibility that states will exceed their individual portions as well as the total private recreational Annual Catch Limit (ACL) without triggering the necessary accountability measures to prevent catch overages." So, what does all this mean?

Well, simply put, the OC is asking that NMFS calibrate the state data to a "common currency" using MRIP-CHTS units as the common denominator and adjust their individual allocations accordingly. This calibration adjustment will lower every Gulf state's allocation (except Florida), meaning once again we are threatened with shortened seasons. In the chart above is the breakdown by state, excluding Texas because state data from Texas was not used by NMFS in the latest stock assessment.

State fishery managers will be meeting in early August to discuss the MRIP state/federal calibration adjustments and hopefully develop a path forward to keep state management moving in the right direction. The OC claims that current ACLs are in violation of federal law and is urging that NMFS finalize the calibrations as soon as possible.



We have all seen the success of state management of red snapper these past few seasons. Anglers and fisheries scientists are in agreement that we have more red snapper in the Gulf of Mexico than we have had in decades, yet an environmental group seems determined to use flawed federal data to set us up for another round of snapper wars. Get ready folks—we may need all hands-on deck for this one. 🦄



Table 1: The Current ACL and Recommended Revised Quota by State

State	Current Annual Catch Limit	State Data to MRIP CHTS ratio	Revised Quota
LA	816,223	0.7045	575,036
MS	151,550	0.3720	56,378
AL	1,122,622	0.4224	474,260
FL	1,943,451	1.0692	2,045,862

Top photo courtesy of Texas Parks & Wildlife. Below, Lisa Laskowski Photography

Habitat Today for Fishing Tomorrow

John Blaha

HTFT / BCT Update

Forty projects comprising a total commitment of \$7,395,666 with an additional \$130,000 added in December from commitments from Semptra Energy and Cheniere Energy, and \$150,000 from Lone Star for habitat restoration and creation in the Coastal Bend as part of their Hurricane Harvey Relief Funds.

- In 2019, HTFT / BCT funded \$900,000 to 8 projects along the Texas coast.

Current project updates for ongoing projects:

- **Rio Grande Valley Nearshore Reef** – The last deployments were completed March 19, 2020. Concrete railroad ties and broken concrete are being deployed in low patch relief areas of the “CCA Texas” corner. The latest effort

deployed 10,000 tons of materials in the 400 acre nursery area called the CCA Nursery. This deployment will consist of 54 low relief durable nursery reef patches. Each patch is made up with 25 tons of concrete railroad ties, 25 tons of broken concrete and 6 pallets (420 blocks) of cinderblocks. In addition, there will be 16 patch reefs made up of 250 tons of concrete railroad ties each in a line north of the reef to provide protection to the nursery reef. Capping it all off will be another 1,500 tons of material placed in the SE corner of the reef site, known as the CCA corner.

- **Corpus Christi MU775 Reef Site (Packery Channel)** –

800 tons of durable nursery patch reefs were deployed within the MU775 reef site. CCA Texas/BCT contributions paid for 400 tons, and Friends of RGV Reef donated 400 tons. This was completed in March 2020 as part of the last Rio Grande Valley Nearshore Reef project.

- **Sabine Pass Nearshore Reef** – HTFT / BCT have committed \$230,000 to the Sabine HI20 site. This will deploy 150 pyramids into the site and be a part of the much larger TPWD project in the Galveston Big Man and Kate’s Reef sites. The \$230,000 in funding comes

from: CCA Texas/BCT - \$100,000; Semptra Energy - \$100,000; and Cheniere Energy - \$30,000. TPWD currently has the project out for bid and expects to award it in August 2020 and will be completed by summer of 2021.

CCA Texas and BCT are currently working with Forterra Pipe and Precast to secure 543 pieces of off spec concrete pipe for reefing materials. The current work includes securing the funding for transportation, offloading and a storage site. BCT recently secured a \$50,000 contribution from Phillips 66 earmarked for the HI20 reef specifically. Pending approval from Phillips 66, a portion of these funds will be used for the transportation costs.

- **Big Man / Kate’s Reef Site** –

CCA Texas, BCT and Shell Oil Company are providing \$329,000 in funding for reefing efforts in the Galveston Big Man and Kate’s Reef areas that will provide an additional 155 pyramids and 75 additional low relief modules. This additional funding will supplement a \$1.5 million effort by TPWD that will deploy 845 pyramids and 180 low relief modules in these two sites. TPWD currently has the project out for bid and expects to award it in August 2020 and will be completed by summer of 2021.



For a choice of 21 habitat videos, and many other CCA features, drop by the CCA Texas website: <https://ccatexas.org/project-videos/>



• **Dagger Island Shoreline Protection and Marsh Restoration –**

CCA Texas / BCT have partnered with Ducks Unlimited to create critical shoreline protection and marsh restoration along Dagger Island in Redfish Bay. This project will enhance 557 acres of continuous seagrass beds, intertidal wetlands and coastal islands in the Redfish Bay State Scientific Area through the use of a ½ mile break water and beneficial use materials. The construction is expected to be completed by August 24, 2020. Funding for this project is provided by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund, the North American Wetlands Conservation Act, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation, Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program, CCA Texas, BCT and Ducks Unlimited

• **Oyster Restoration in Sabine Lake**

– HTFT / BCT have funded \$200,000 to this project which will help restore historical oyster beds within Sabine Lake. This funding is being paired with \$500,000 in Harvey Relief funds and is scheduled for construction in late spring to take advantage of the natural

oyster spat release. Construction is expected to begin by the end of July in the latest update from TPWD.

• **Marsh Restoration Egery Island**

– This is a current ongoing project that is currently waiting on GLO leases to begin marsh grass plantings. The success of the culvert replacements in FM 136 are already seeing results with more water flow, normal salinity levels and growth of some marsh grasses. GLO leases and TPWD approvals are in hand, grass plantings will move forward in September 2020 once the temperatures begin to cool and salinity levels begin to drop.

• **Dollar Bay Shoreline Protection and Marsh Restoration**

– HTFT / BCT funded \$50,000 to this effort from funds through Shell Oil Company. This project is ready for construction and is currently delayed due to a USACE project. USACE project should be completed the end of August and Galveston Bay Foundation will then proceed with their procurement process.

• **Galveston Bay Foundation Headquarters Living Shoreline Restoration**

– HTFT / BCT funded \$50,000 to this

effort from funds through Shell Oil Company. This project will restore and create a living shoreline of habitat adjacent to the new Galveston Bay Foundation Headquarters. This project will not only restore and create habitat, but provide excellent community outreach for surrounding community students to better understand the local marine ecosystems. Project work and construction is expected to begin by the end of July and completed by the end of August per update from Galveston Bay Foundation.

• **St. Charles Bay Shoreline Protection Expansion**

– Harte Research Institute will be expanding the St. Charles Bay shoreline protection project along the Big Tree Unit shoreline in the late summer early fall of 2020. This project will place segmented reefs sections behind the existing sections. These new sections will align in the gaps of the existing segments. BCT and CCA Texas will help expand the project through the Lone Star contribution and have committed \$50,000 to this project for additional material placement. 📌

On the CCA Texas website, view an array of 21 Project Videos, complete with music.
<https://ccatexas.org/project-videos/>



Bytes Versus Ink

CCA Texas' financial responsibilities and goals are ongoing, while most chapter fundraising events are on hold. For the time being, publishing the CURRENTS newsletter requires the internet. There are excellent reasons, with cost being primary.


For 36 years, the printed CURRENTS newsletter has provided valuable two-way communication, as well as being an important tool for effecting environmental change. But printing and mailing a 28-page, full color newsletter to 60,000 members is time-consuming and expensive.

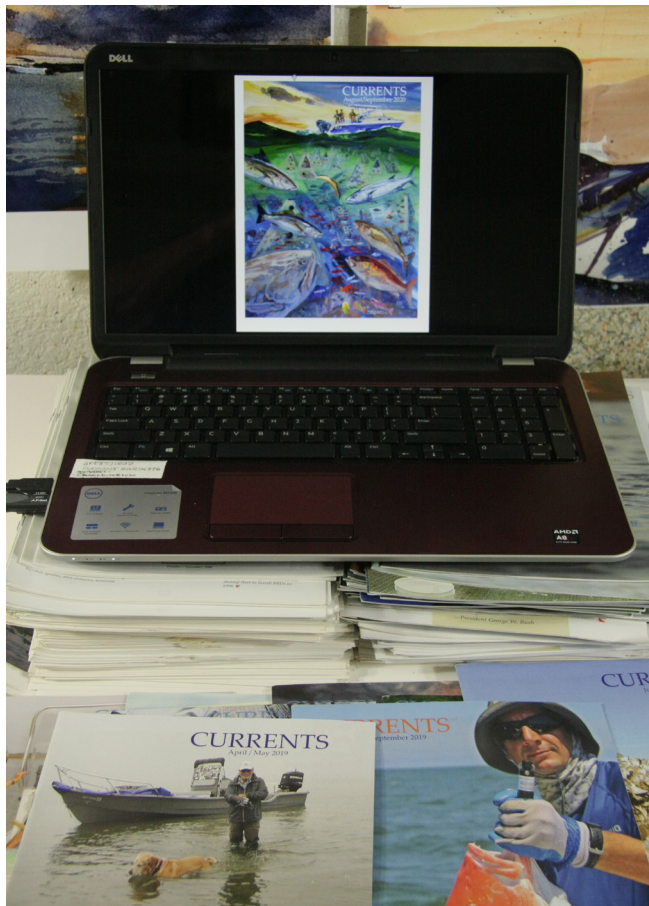
The online CURRENTS newsletter requires no printing nor postage, and delivery is almost instantaneous. An email to members contains a link, with the full newsletter a click away.

Apart from the cost difference, there are reasons a member could appreciate an internet version of the publication.

- An e-newsletter can be opened in seconds. Articles can be accessed rapidly. Images can be viewed large. Text can be enlarged for easier reading, blocked, copied and shared. Past issues are a click away on the CCA Texas website.
- A favored article can be forwarded to others, or readily accessed later instead of having to search through stacks of magazines.
- Links can be used to connect to advertisers, as well as cross referencing other articles, writers, photographers and artists. Texas Parks & Wildlife information is available with a connected link.
- A link to the CCA website provides comprehensive news and resources. On the website, an array of CCA information is available. View 21 videos with an array of Project Videos. Consult the list of CCA-approved guides, view an informative Podcast.
- Photos can be larger and more numerous, allowing for

more of the membership's Great Photos to be shared.

• In the Social Happenings page, links open a member's recent fishing video, a habitat update, a news flash that could benefit from member input. As an example, see the final sentence in Shane Bonnot's ADVOCACY feature, page 4. 



A great way to enjoy indoor time and stay in touch with the outdoors—the CCA website is at your service.

You'll find news and information about chapter events, advocacy and breaking news, plus 21 videos of the progress we're making along the Texas coast. Need a guide? Want to enjoy a CURRENTS feature from years back? Check in with the STAR program?

Go to ccatexas.org and bookmark it now.



Fall Kickoff *by*  CCA Texas



Due to the amazing and overwhelming response from you, our sponsors, volunteers, and board members, CCA Texas is doing it again by hosting a Fall Kickoff Online Auction!

Bid online for one-of-a-kind hunting and fishing trips and more!

JOIN US!

Wednesday, Sept 2, 2020

LIVE AUCTION *starting at 7:30PM*
on FACEBOOK LIVE  LIVE @CCATEXAS

SILENT AUCTION *from 9AM to 10PM*

Text CCATX20 to 76278
or visit CastForTheCoast.com

Many Ways to Support the CCA Mission

The safety and well-being of all of our members and supporters is extremely important to CCA. We have always strived to create fun, family-oriented fundraisers and events, while at the same time providing a safe environment. This year, out of an abundance of caution with regard to COVID-19 concerns, we have cancelled or rescheduled many of our chapter fundraisers. Together, our volunteer leaders and staff have created other fundraising initiatives to raise vital funds to continue to support our important mission.

To kick off this initiative, we launched our first Cast for the Coast online live auction that was held on July 9th on Facebook live. It was so popular and such a huge fundraising success that we are currently planning to hold **our second statewide online auction on Wednesday, September 2nd at 7:30 p.m.**

Keep an eye out for upcoming emails promoting our next online live auction and your chance to bid on once-in-a-lifetime trips, artwork and outdoor items.

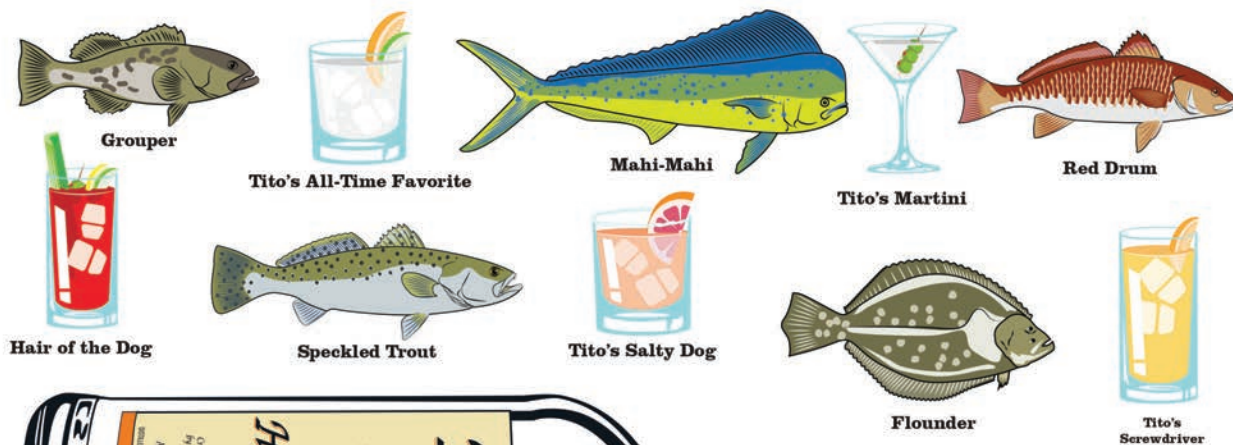
I also want to remind our members that there are many ways you can support CCA's conservation mission during these very challenging times. In addition to our online auctions, **please consider becoming a life member or simply make a donation by clicking on our contribution link:** <https://ccatexas.org/donate/>

Any of these options will help continue our vital work of building and restoring essential habitat while protecting our coastal fisheries. Thank you all for your continued support.



Robby Byers
Executive Director, CCA Texas

Gulf Identification Guide



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



Many years ago, anglers came together to Save the Redfish and launched a movement that charted a new course for saltwater anglers and marine conservation. Today, the Redfish have some advice for us anglers – Mask Up! They want us to take care of ourselves so we can continue to take care of them and all the other marine life we care so much about.

We can meet this new challenge and be as successful as we were in the Redfish Wars. To remind us what we can do to make it happen, we've crafted a BRAND NEW Save the Redfish solar tee in both long and short sleeves.

When you buy a shirt, you'll be supporting our CCA Texas vision of marine conservation while helping to spread the message to protect your fellow anglers and everyone else. Get your masked-up Redfish shirt today and make sure everyone in your crew is doing their part, on and off the water.

Stay safe and thank you for your support of marine conservation as a member of CCA Texas.

SAVE THE REDFISH SOLAR TEE



THIS FABRIC IS RECOMMENDED
AS AN EFFECTIVE UV PROTECTANT



SHORT AND LONG SLEEVE AVAILABLE

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Click on a favorite tee shirt and shop now. Or, paste this url into your browser: <https://www.joinccastore.com/>

Fore THE FISH



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

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Closest to the Hole Contest on all Par 3s
Hole in One Prizes on all Par 3s
Multiple on-course games
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To enter: go to ccatexas.org/events/2020-golf-tournament

Hole Sponsor Without Team - \$100 Minimum

Includes company name/logo on sign at the tee box

Foursome - \$600

Golf for 4, 4 CCA Memberships, tee gifts, lunch before and dinner after golf and drink tickets

Foursome w/ Hole Sponsorship - \$650

Includes all things received with a foursome team, plus one hole sponsorship

LIKE and FOLLOW CCA Texas on Social Media

During this time, the BEST way to stay informed on the latest with CCA Texas is by connecting with us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. We regularly post photo and video updates on our 50+ local chapters, conservation projects, and advocacy efforts to keep you informed and engaged.

On the CCA Texas Facebook page, we held our first Cast for the Coast LIVE Auction and it was an enormous success! It was viewed by over 5,300 people and raised valuable funds that enables us to continue carrying out our vision of ensuring the health and conservation of our marine resources and anglers' access to them. LIKE us on Facebook to be the first to know when we will host our next Cast for the Coast! Don't forget Instagram and Twitter too! FOLLOW CCA Texas to keep up with how we are engaging with our angling community!

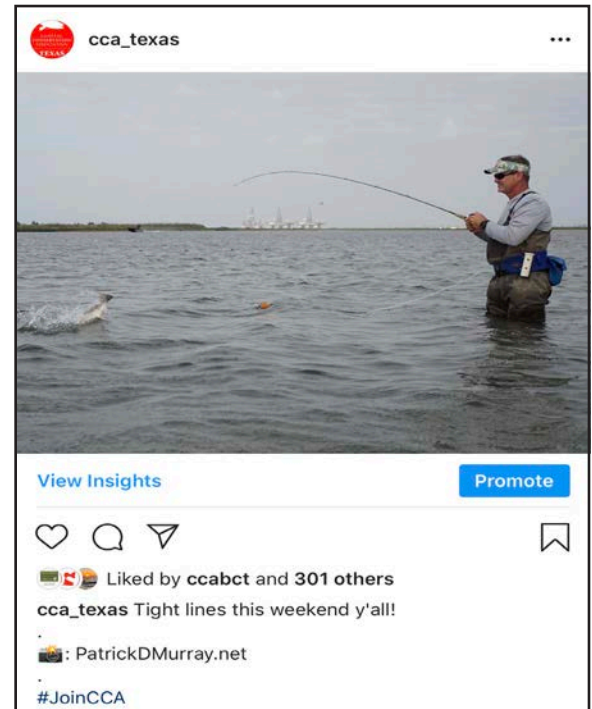
Below are some of our favorite recent posts, check them out and give them a like!



LIKE us on Facebook: @CCATexas
<https://www.facebook.com/CCATexas>



FOLLOW us on Instagram: @CCA_Texas
https://www.instagram.com/cca_texas



FOLLOW us on Twitter: @CCA_Texas
https://twitter.com/cca_texas



Drop by the Coastal Conservation website for complete information on the coastal outdoors: ccatexas.org

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





2020 CCA TEXAS CHAPTER ONLINE AUCTION DATES

CCA TEXAS HAS EXCITING NEWS! MANY OF OUR SPRING AND SUMMER EVENTS THAT WERE CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19, HAVE NOW SCHEDULED ONLINE AUCTIONS TO GIVE OUR MEMBERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT THEIR LOCAL CHAPTERS. BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR EMAILS REGARDING THE BELOW EVENTS. EMAIL INFO@CCATEXAS.ORG IF YOU'D LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON OUR UPCOMING ONLINE EVENTS.

FORT BEND AUGUST 6	LAREDO AUGUST 20
GREATER SUGAR LAND AUGUST 6	LOWER LAGUNA MADRE AUGUST 20
GALVESTON AUGUST 7-8	AUSTIN AUGUST 25
ARANSAS BAY AUGUST 10	CENTEX AUGUST 27
NORTHWEST HOUSTON AUGUST 13	SAN ANTONIO AUGUST 27
GUADALUPE VALLEY AUGUST 13	WEST HOUSTON AUGUST 27
EAST TEXAS AUGUST 14	MAINLAND SEPTEMBER 3
BRAZORIA COUNTY AUGUST 14	NORTHEAST HOUSTON SEPTEMBER 10
PRAIRIE AUGUST 16	DALLAS SEPTEMBER 16
CORPUS CHRISTI AUGUST 18	ALVIN/PEARLAND SEPTEMBER 17
ORANGE COUNTY AUGUST 20	TOMBALL/MAGNOLIA SEPTEMBER 17
HILL COUNTRY AUGUST 20	



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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.

Randy Boenigk and John Ben Strother exhibit a Sam Caldwell print, won for Boenigk's photo of Strother wade fishing while three whooping cranes ignore the fisherman. It made a great cover for the June/July 2020 CURRENTS Newsletter.

Below: Great Scenic. That wave makes the picture, but it would be dull without the fisherman. That's Josh Funderburk, photo by Kevin Funderburk.





Great Action, Wildlife and CPR photo: Fishing Locos member, Cynthia Michelle with a 53" Black Tip shark. Fish was caught, tagged, and released off South Padre Island — all fins still attached.

Below left: Ashton, 12-years old and an avid fisherman. Photo by step-uncle Bob Kalmbach.

Middle: Mike Bracikowski and his daughter Lily. Mike is the Sugar Land chapter president.

Below right: Anthony Almaguer says, "My son Carson has had a serious passion for fishing ever since he was three years old. We both are hoping our recent catches hold up on the STAR leader board. Mine is a 22.5 inch 5.15 pounds flounder and his is a 5.8 pound sheep head."





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For a limited time a new CCA Texas Life Member (\$1,000 + \$50 shipping) can receive a custom CCA Weatherby .257 magnum with a composite stock, 26" barrel and muzzle break. MSRP: \$1,100.



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Your gun must be picked up from an FFL dealer. Please expect 6-8 weeks for delivery. Guns will ONLY be shipped to addresses in Texas.

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

CCA LIFE MEMBER APPLICATION

Name _____ CCA ID# _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Method of Payment (\$1,050.00)

☐ Check ☐ Cash ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Amex ☐ Discover

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_____ Exp. Date

_____ Signature

_____ CVV

PLEASE SHIP MY GUN TO THIS FFL DEALER

(This form must be completely filled out or your gun will NOT be shipped)

Johnny's Sports Shop (101 Booth Dr. Eagle Lake, TX 77434 | (979) 234-3516) or ANY Academy Sports + Outdoors store have agreed to accept CCA Texas Life Member guns at all Texas stores for no charge. If you choose to send your gun to a different dealer, YOU MUST provide a copy of their FFL along with this form.

To have your gun delivered to Academy Sports + Outdoors, please provide store number and/or address below or contact Mylinda Jones at (281) 646-5908 or mylinda.jones@academy.com for store information.

FFL Dealer _____

Contact Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____ Phone _____

 CCA Texas | 6919 Portwest Dr., Suite 100 Houston, TX 77024 | lbosmans@ccatexas.org | 713.626.4222

CURRENTS is published six times a year by CCA Texas, a nonprofit state affiliate of the Coastal Conservation Association. This is the issue of August/September 2020 Vol. 38, Issue 5

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Chapter Updates

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Hello All! 2020.... What a year! I believe we will call this the year of "Regroup"! On that note, we need to let you know that our banquet/fundraiser that was rescheduled for September 17, 2020 will now be held in an online/virtual format. All of the details are still being worked out, so keep an eye on your email and Facebook for more information. The plan is to have items similar to what we usually have on our Live and Silent auctions available for online bidding on September 17. These items will include fishing and hunting trips, artwork, CCA swag, and many other items. Again, stay tuned for more details to come.

As always, the best way to stay up to date on chapter happenings is to follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/alvinpearland.cca](https://www.facebook.com/alvinpearland.cca) or go to our chapter website at ccatexas.org/alvin-pearland. We hope to see you all online on September 17 as the Alvin Pearland Chapter steps up to support the conservation of the marine resources, we all enjoy!

Aransas Bay
Bud Kittle 210-279-7309
ernestkittle@gmail.com

Hello fellow fishing friends! We hope you are all staying healthy and enjoying your summer outdoors in these challenging times! We are looking forward to our upcoming chapter banquet which has now been **RESCHEDULED for September 26,**



CCA Star Tournament & Babes on the Bay Artist Anastasia Musick visiting Rockport in July.

2020 at Paws and Taws convention center in Fulton, Texas. Still on, the 21st Annual Babes on the Bay will be held at Paws & Taws as well on August 21st/22nd. Thank you very much for your continued support. While we acknowledge the challenging times we are in, we remain hopeful we will be able to run these events within the guidelines and requirements of the Governor's Office and CDC recommendations, putting the safety and well-being of our attendees and participants first within these guidelines. We are communicating weekly with the City of Fulton and hopeful we will be moving forward. Our goal is to make a final decision the last week of July. CCA Texas has their first online Auction, "Cast for the Coast" on July 7 and had an amazing response! Thank you to all of those that may have participated. Please follow our Facebook and Instagram for daily updates!

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Corpus Christi
Clifford Johnstone
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cjohnstone@higginbotham.net

The Corpus Christi Chapter Banquet has had to be rescheduled once again to March 18, 2021 due to the Covid 19 virus. We all realize these are challenging times for everyone and we are working to make this process as smooth as possible for you. Thank you for your patience. The following guidelines are being put in place so that membership is taken care of for you in each case

- 2020 Corpus Christi Banquet Table buyers: please remind your guest that they must have the banquet ticket with the membership stub in hand in order to enter the banquet on March 18, 2021
- 2020 Corpus Christi Banquet Individual ticket buyers: please remember that you must have your banquet ticket with the membership stub in hand in order to enter the banquet on March 18, 2021.

We will offer our banquet ticket holders the options to:

- Automatic rollover of their table or individual ticket for March 18, 2021.
- Donate their table or ticket to CCA
- Refund their table or individual tickets.

The net refund will be the cost of the ticket, minus any ticket holder membership and star tournament fees for those who signed up for these services. Also, to receive a refund, the ticket holders must mail to CCA Corpus Christi all tickets being refunded. Any questions, please contact Courtney at ccacorpuschristi@gmail.com or (361) 882-5199.

Boat and custom golf cart raffle tickets still available! Our Bull Red Raffle, sponsored by **Andrews Distributing**, features a 2020 Majek 22.6 ft Illusion M2 with a 200 HP Yamaha Four Stroke and Coastline trailer. The boat tickets are \$50 each and only 1,500 are available for purchase. Boat tickets may be purchased by calling Courtney at (361) 882-5199 or during the 2021 banquet. You do not need to be present to win!



CCA Corpus Christi Bull Red Raffle sponsored by Andrews Distributing. Boat and custom golf cart raffle tickets still available!



Our Sow Trout Raffle, sponsored by **L&F Distributors**, features a custom 2019 Yamaha 6 seat golf cart with a 12-ft diamond C bi-fold ramp gate trailer. The custom Yamaha golf cart tickets are \$20 and only 1,500 are available for purchase. You may purchase your raffle tickets by calling Courtney at (361) 882-5199 or during the 3/18/2021 banquet. You do not need to be present to win! If you have any questions about the Corpus Christi banquet, please contact us at ccacorporuschristi@gmail.com or (361) 882-5199. Good luck and we look forward to seeing our 2021 Banquet Attendees on March 18, 2021. See you on the water!

Dallas

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

While COVID-19 has forced the cancellation of the 39th annual CCA Dallas banquet, the Dallas chapter will hold a virtual banquet this fall. **The CCA Dallas Grand Slam Auction is scheduled for September 16, 2020.** Auction "attendees" will have a chance to virtually bid on great items including five firearms (no reserve) including a Beretta A400 Extreme Plus Max 6 shotgun, plus several Temple Fork Outfitters rod and reel packages. If trips are more your thing, don't



CCA Dallas Board Member recent catch and CPR: Garrett Daley with a 42" red caught in Port Aransas.

miss a chance to bid on hunting and fishing packages including an outstanding trip to chase speckled trout and giant redfish in the Louisiana marsh with Griffin Fishing Charters and Lodge. Bidding is easy and can be done from the comforts of your own home. Don't miss this opportunity to get in on the action and win some great items! For more information, contact Chapter President Greg Resnansky at (214) 356-9995 or ccadallasboard@gmail.com

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

Fort Bend
Jim Black 979-240-5010
jimblack@nov.com

I hope you all are well and staying safe in these trying times. Well, where to begin? I guess the big news first. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, **CCA and the Fort Bend chapter decided to cancel our annual Kidfish event and our 34th annual banquet.** This was a hard decision and one we did not come to lightly. The executive board members work hard every year to see that these events go off without a hitch but this year we just couldn't risk our guests, friends, and family so in the end we had to call it.

On to better news, we are going to have an online auction and raffle drawing in lieu of the banquet this year. So, be on the lookout for communications from CCA and our chapter regarding dates, times and information. I know it's not the same as getting together, enjoying some food, drinks and good old fashion face to face conversations but this way we may still be able to enjoy an auction with a couple friends and still give back to CCA. If you have any questions please contact Jim Black (979) 240-5010 or Blake Tumlinson (979)-332-2236, our Banquet Chairman. Can't wait to see you all online!

In tournament news, the Kidfish event will pick up next year where we left on. This is one of our favorite events and we do not plan to stop having it anytime soon. The best news we have to offer is that the Ladies only fishing tournament is still on schedule! **The Lingerie on The Bay will be held in Matagorda TX, September 11 & 12th, 2020.** Flyers and entry forms will be posted at matagordabay.com and on the Fort Bend Fishermen Facebook page so get yourself signed up. FYI, we have made some big changes to tournament this year. The main thing being that this is no longer an individual's tournament and will be a team event so please read up on the new rules.

Last, and I can't say this enough but thank you all for the endless support. We continue to see our members go out of their way to ensure CCA and coastal conservation succeeds. Thank you all, and on behalf of the Fort Bend CCA chapter our thoughts and prayers go out to everyone that has been affected during these trying times. Just remember that we are all in this together and together we will get through this. Thanks again. For news and information about the banquet and other events please see our website at ccatexas.org/events/2020-fort-bend-banquet. 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

Galveston
Corey Carpenter 832-671-8980
corcarp1@gmail.com

Howdy fellow CCA members! I am super excited and honored to take the position of President for the CCA Galveston Chapter after serving the board for six years. Let's get this party started!

I want to start off by thanking our amazing sponsors: **Underwater Green Fishing Lights, Axis Mechanical Group, Moody Bank, Jomar Electrical and The Boat Yard** for making this year and every year a success for our awesome chapter.

If you are living in or near the Galveston area and are interested in joining our amazing team of board members, please feel free to contact me, Corey Carpenter at (832) 671-8980! Also, be sure to like our CCA Galveston Chapter Facebook and Instagram page. See you on the water!

Golden Triangle
David Thompson
409-273-9233
David6340@gmail.com

Greater Sugar Land
Mike Bracikowski 291-928-3128
m.bracikowski@tritool.com

Dear Greater Sugar Land Chapter members, the safety and well-being of all our members is extremely important to CCA. We have always strived to create fun, family-oriented events, while at the same time providing a safe environment. This year, out of an abundance of caution with regard to COVID-19 concerns, we feel it is in the best interest for our members that we cancel the 2020 annual banquet.

The good news is that we have plans to provide ways for you to stay active in the Greater Sugar Land Chapter and interact with your fellow anglers in support of conservation. The Greater Sugar Land Chapter will be hosting an **online auction on Thursday, August 6, 2020** that will have all the trips, guns and CCA merchandise that you would have seen at our past events. **You will be able to access the auction by sending CCA sugarland20 as a text to 76278.** You can also purchase tickets for the 10 gun raffle the chapter is selling by calling Blake Burnside at 713.626.4222 or emailing him at bburnside@ccatexas.org

Also be on the lookout for a terrific membership renewal deal with our friends at AFTCO that will ensure you continue to receive TIDE Magazine and all the other great CCA membership benefits until we see you again at the next banquet.

We certainly will miss seeing you this year, but your safety comes first. We hope you get out there and enjoy some great fish-



Madelyn Rayburg - Texas A&M/Aggieland Chapter with a nice red from Rockport.

ing this summer, and make sure you drop by our online auction on August 6 for some fantastic deals on hunting and fishing gear.

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

Guadalupe Valley
Adam Arroyo 361-350-0026
Ctown75@aol.com

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

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

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

Times are different for sure. **We postponed our March banquet till September 3, 2020** and as I write this, we are still hopeful but not certain that we will still have our event this year. Rest assured that we will communicate with all our table/ticket buyers as soon as we can regarding the situation. Look to the CCA Texas website, email, and Facebook for updates on all chapter events. Hopefully, you have been able to maintain some social distancing on the water and catch some fish or at least get out of the house with your family and enjoy nature.

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Houston Real Estate
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Katy
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Laredo
Javier C. Villarreal 956-206-7953
Jcvillarreal13@gmail.com

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Live Oak
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taylorkotrla@hotmail.com

Lower Colorado
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szapalac@ykc.com

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

Matagorda Bays
Chris Bird 979-257-6508
cbird1493@gmail.com

The date for the Matagorda Bays Chapter banquet has been rescheduled for September 3, 2020 at the El Campo Civic Center. Please be sure to check back to our chapter webpage and Facebook page to ensure we have not made changes to the banquet



CCA Matagorda Bays boat raffle grand prize

between now and the publishing of this newsletter.

Matagorda Bays Chapter has the pedal to the metal with our 2020 boat raffle and we're not slowing down until the Facebook LIVE drawing on September 3rd! This year's Matagorda Bays raffle boat was built by TranSport Boats of Palacios, Texas. Donny Tran delivered the finished 2020 24' XLR8 with Coastline Trailer and 350HP Mercury Verado, which will be the largest horsepower motor hung on a Matagorda Bays CCA raffle boat to date! Not only are we giving away a boat worth an estimated MSRP of \$80,000, but we have four additional prizes to be given away!

2020 Matagorda Bays Raffle Prizes:

1. 2020 24' XLR8 with Coastline Trailer and 350HP Mercury Verado
2. Lifetime Resident Combination Hunting & Fishing License (Texas)
3. CCA Life Membership (comes with a custom CCA Weatherby Vanguard .257 Magnum Rifle)
4. Waterloo Rod and Lew's Reel
5. CCA Framed Print

The 2020 Jim Ehman Memorial Guides Cup will be held at the Matagorda Harbor on September 21 & 22 of this year. There will be a social gathering and meal on Monday evening with the Guides Cup on Tuesday followed by a meal and the prestigious awards ceremony. Our Guides Cup sponsors for 2020 are: Duckett, Bouligny and Collins LLP., Harbor Bait and Tackle and El Campo Sheet Metal. If you are interested in participating in the 2020 Guides Cup, the live auction event will be held at the banquet on September 3.

The Matagorda Bays Chapter wishes to thank each of our Matagorda Guides for their part in fundraising for conservation and participating in the Jim Ehman Memorial Guides Cup: **Capt. Nick Mosley, Capt. Ozzie Arnold, Capt. Kit Caston, Capt. Kevin Kosik, Capt. Michael Briggs,**

Capt. Stan Sloan, Capt. Charlie Paradoski, Capt. Jimmy Riddle, Capt. Kenny Hauff III, Capt. Floyd Cirutri, Capt. Cody Vacek, Capt. Mike Kubecka, Capt. Lee Warmke, Capt. Tommy Alexander, Capt. Caleb Rush, Capt. Matt David and Capt. Will Fuller.

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

Hello from the Mid Coast chapter! Our board members have been out in our bays trying to catch that tagged STAR redfish and we hope you have been able to get out on the water as well! Change has been

the only constant these last few months and our board is doing our best to adapt.

We made the difficult decision to shift our in-person annual banquet on September 10, 2020 to an online event. We will be doing a Facebook Live drawing for our beautiful 2020 Haynie 21' SuperCat boat the evening of September 10 along with some other exciting online activities. Stay tuned as we put together a memorable event! Updates soon to follow on our 19th annual Speedy Stop Guides Cup tournament in Port O'Connor this October.

Also, on our 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 Cheryl Guthrie at (361) 935-3342. Raffle tickets are still available for \$50/each and will be until we sell out, likely before the drawing, so get yours while you can!

The Mid-Coast chapter plans to participate in the First Annual Port O'Connor Shorelines Cleanup on Saturday morning, September 12 and we challenge other chapters to join the effort! Boats and volunteers are needed to remove trash from shorelines accessible only by boat. See details and registration info for your team at sabaypartnership.org Call Allan Berger at (713) 829-2852 with questions. Lunch and refreshments at Hurricane Junction afterwards to celebrate our efforts to keep the Bay healthy and productive.



MidCoast's Haynie 21" SuperCat raffle boat displayed at Waterloo Rod Company, downtown Victoria.



Mid-Coast Chapter President Wade Harrell and his sons with a catch and release bull redfish caught at the Port O'Connor jetties in June.

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jlaw1899@yahoo.com

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

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

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

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

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

This has been a very stressful year with COVID affecting our daily routine and with everything shutting down its hard to make plans but it's a good time to go to the coast and do some fishing! The CCA star tournament is still going on until September 7, 2020, so get out of the house and go.

Our 2020 Banquet has been cancelled but we are now planning a chapter BBQ drive-through. So, come pick up your Chicken and sausage plates to go on Sunday August 16. Pick-up will be from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM. Plates are \$12.00 and pick-up will be at Wittenburg Printing: 210 Main Street in Sealy, TX (advanced tickets only). At 3:00 PM we will have our

raffle drawing, prizes include: CanAm ATV, pellet grill, 123qt. Engel cooler, 40cal S&W pistol, CCA rod & reel, gun safe, Magellan handheld gps, camo gear, trail camera and a crawfish boiler. Raffle tickets are \$100 and only 400 will be sold. Good luck! For tickets e-mail manager@wpprint.com or call (979) 885-7464.

Thanks and have a safe year, Ron Chess (979) 525-9254.

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

Our annual Redfish Bay Chapter Banquet is now scheduled for August 29, 2020. We are 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 ccatexas.org/redfish-bay 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 online.

We had to cancel the Take-a-Kid-Fishing event that was scheduled for the first weekend in June. Plan on bringing the young fisher persons to this great "tournament" event the first week of June in 2021. 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.

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!



CCA PRAIRIE CHAPTER

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16TH

RAFFLE DRAWING 3:00

\$100 per ticket / Only 400 sold

BBQ PLATES TO GO 11:00-1:00

\$12.00 per plate / Chicken & Sausage

ADVANCED TICKETS ONLY

Pick up at
WITTENBURG PRINTING
210 MEYER ST. • SEALY

Need not be present to win.
Raffle winners will be posted
on Facebook @ccaprairiechapter

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**ENGEL COOLER
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**S&W M & P 40
CAL. PISTOL**



CCA ROD & REEL



GUN SAFE



**MAGELLAN EXPLORIST 350H
HANDHELD GPS FOR HUNTING**



**MITKA CAMO HUNTING
GEAR (VALUE \$400)**



**SPARTAN 4G LTE GOCAM
WIRELESS TRAIL CAMERA**



**SINGLE-SACK
CRAWFISH BOILER**



Name: _____ ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ CC

of Raffle Tickets: _____ x \$100 \$_____ / # of BBQ Plates: _____ x \$12 \$_____ = TOTAL \$_____

Credit Card: _____ CVV: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Email: _____

Email form to Patricia Walters at manager@wpprint.com or drop off at Wittenburg Printing, 210 Meyer, Sealy, TX

Tight lines to all!

Saltgrass

Buck Stobart 409-782-7934
stobartbuck@yahoo.com

Sam Houston
Brandon Kolaja
281-797-6908

bkolaja@huntsvilletx.gov

I hope everyone is staying well during this crazy time we are in. I hope people have been enjoying the HOT summer heat. Don't forget to check out our Facebook page, stay hydrated and keep fishing. **We are STILL gearing up for another great banquet this year. It will be held Thursday, September 3, 2020 at the Walker County Fairgrounds.** This will be a good chance to gather with friends and show your support for our great organization. As always there will be a great meal and plenty of cold beverages. We will also have live and silent auctions and plenty of chances to win coolers, guns, rods, reels and some great trips. Please contact us for tickets and sponsorship opportunities.

San Antonio
Robert Lozano
210-632-4246

robertolozano129@yahoo.com

It's July, we are still watching fishing videos and dreaming of day full trips & charters will return rather than social distance trips with friends and family.

For only the second time in over 129 years San Antonio Fiesta has been cancelled. The good news for us is that our CCA Fiesta Medals will certainly become a collector's items. You can get yours by emailing me at robertolozano129@yahoo.com

Our executive & banquet committee has continued to work but we made the difficult decision to not throw our 41st annual banquet/fund-raiser until next May 6, 2021. Remembering ultimately CCA Texas and our conservation mission need the support, motivation and funds we raise.

We want to congratulate CCA Texas for a hugely successful "Cast for the Coast" CCA Texas' First Online Auction. WOW! A new virtual platform. Our banquet & executive committee "went to school" at this auction. This is the future and a great



addition to, chapter banquet events. Along with incredible trips and a sweet silent auction it was really great to see our CCA buddies. With this example of success, San Antonio is in the works of planning some classic central Texas fundraising. We refuse to lay down, and alternative avenues and banquet seasons are ahead. Stay tuned to our Facebook page details are coming.

Remember to keep those lines taut and Take a Kid Fishing and Hunting with your CCA mask on, and social distancing. Also, it's never too to sign up yourself & family for STAR - State of Texas Angler's Rodeo.

Don't forget to share those family at home photos or family fishing memories with us on our CCA San Antonio Facebook Page. CHEERS from "Burnt-O" & Hook'em.

San Bernard
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rosskutach@yahoo.com

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

Southwestern
Veronica Oliver
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ronnimoliver@gmail.com

TAMU
Aaron Richter 361-876-0524
aaronrichter@tamu.edu

Texas State University
Travis James 832-909-5833



West Houston chapter news: Left, young angler, Caplan Pesnell proudly displays his monster Spanish Mackerel caught in Alabama on July 10. Right: West Houston chapter Board Member, Branon Pesnell, releases his 90# Tarpon caught in Key West in early June.

travisj0915@gmail.com

Tomball/Magnolia
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832-963-5215
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Tri-County
Justin Putz
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Trinity Bay
Gerald Payne
281-728-6278
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Trinity Valley
John Hebert Jr 936-334-2528
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West Houston
Ruben Delgadillo 281-808-1434
ruben@liftpull.com

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



2020 CCA San
Antonio
Fiesta Medal

Upper Coast Capt. Glenn Hammond

Tri-Bay area fishing in the Autumn

August starts hot and will get hotter until mid-September. I get geared up for night fishing. We leave the dock at 6:30pm-12am. For a day trip we start very early; 5:30am-10am, so we are back at the fish cleaning table before noon with catches of speckled trout, redfish and flounder.

Drift fishing has been the ticket in the Tri-Bay area. You are able to cover a lot of territory this way. We also anchor up and fish structure like toe heads, small reefs and sand bars. The idea is to intercept the fish that migrate around the structure.

Usually, my bait of choice in the heat is live shrimp under a popping cork (I like Midcoast's Product Nexus4). When that's not working, go to the bottom with live bait. Carry a cast net and learn to use it.

September is a great time to find the birds working. As the tides and water temps start dropping, break out the soft plastics. I find that Norton Sand eels and Down South Lures work the best. Great fall colors are glow-Chartreuse, Texas Roach and strawberry are my choices, attached to 1/8oz screw-lock jig heads.

A good pair of eyes can locate flocks of birds working over migrating shrimp. As cool fronts approach, the bite's on a couple of days after. Please practice catch and release, and of course, always get a photo. Take care of all little fish, our future resource.

I give a fishing report every Friday and Sunday morning on the Outdoor Fishing Show, 610am radio, at 4am to 4:15am. You can podcast the show (sportsradio610.radio.com) Tight lines and heavy Stringers —Capt. Glenn (the Hammer) Hammond 713-208-0683

Middle Coast Capt. Gordon Taylor

Go shallow early, deep guts later

We are now entering one of the most interesting and challenging months to fish in South Texas. Not only are we in the dog days of summer, but now we have to keep an eye out on the tropics. Storm Hanna hopefully got everyone's attention to always be prepared. On the other hand, Hanna provided some much needed rain to our bay systems which should help the fishing.

This time of year offers a wide variety of fishing options from using artificial lures to a bait options and locations. All these options should be applied with an early start before the heat and humidity gets too high.

I will be fishing early in shallow water using artificial lures or even live shrimp under popping corks. As the day heats up, I will fish deeper water either freelining live shrimp or piggies in the deeper guts next to the islands or the wells out in Corpus Christi Bay for trout, reds, sharks, and even mangrove snapper.

Make sure to keep an eye on your fellow anglers in the boat to ensure that they are applying sunscreen and staying hydrated. If everyone is starting to look tired, go back in so they can get out of the sun and rest. Never try to grind it out for a few more fish, especially if you have kids in the boat! Take care, be safe, and have fun catching fish! —Capt. Gordon Taylor 361-319-0099 taylorgj60@gmail.com

Lower Coast Capt. Bryan Robinson

Tailing redfish in your sights

Boy, the fishing has been good this year. We started the year off with tons of fish on the flats and mild weather. The last report I wrote was in the winter and I talked about bundling up with layers of clothes. But not now! These next few months are going to be complete opposite. Hot, Hot, and Hot. Let's hope the fishing continues to be Hot also!

Fish will be hitting the flats early morning and late evening when the tide is moving. Light tackle is best during these times especially when you have a group of tailing redfish in your sights! A light jig head (1/8 or 1/16) work the best for me with a 3" plastic lure in natural colors. GULP shrimp or paddle tails will definitely be on the menu. Look for the fish to head for some deeper water in the heat of the day. Work a little heavier jig head with the same kind of lures during the heat of the day. Top water lures can be really effective mid-day. Bone or silver plugs work well. A "walk the dog" action will pull those fish up from potholes for sure!

The SPI and the Mansfield jetties will be awesome also. The warmer water temps are going to bring lots of bait close to shore. Look for kingfish, Spanish mackerel, jacks and tarpon to bite a hook. Snook will still be roaming the flats late September or until we have some cooler weather move south.

So grab your family and some sunscreen and get out on the water and enjoy what Mother Nature has blessed us with! Remember to practice catch and release to ensure many more great days on the water with plenty of action. —Capt. Bryan Robinson 956-241-5520 bryanrobinson@yahoo.com www.flyfishspi.com

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



"Trolling for Reds in My Old Hobie" Barry Wuthrich says he caught both fish while trolling a Ratltrap over scattered shell about 100 feet off the East Bay, Matagorda shoreline. An unknown kayaker shot and texted the photo to Barry.



BEST IN TEXAS

TILSON
CUSTOM HOME BUILDERS



While most things in life have been shut down in some capacity, the bays have been mostly wide open for people to get out and enjoy some time on the water. This has been very evident in the number of anglers taking advantage of the STAR tournament and trying their luck at catching a STAR winner. At the time of writing, five Texas anglers have been certified as able to capitalize on their fishing time, but everything else is up in the air!

The first winner is Jake Bozeman of Katy, Texas. Jake is a 19-year old student at Texas A&M Corpus Christi who was taking advantage of the break in classes and spending some time on the water in Corpus Christi when he hooked the fish of a lifetime the evening of June 2nd. Jake will be taking home a brand new Ford F-150 4x4, 23' Haynie Bigfoot boat, Mercury motor, and Coastline trailer package valued at nearly \$100,000!

After having five tagged redfish caught by unregistered anglers, Jake opened up the flood gates. The next morning after his catch, the Monroe family, from Cypress, Texas was headed for their very first family



Jake Bozeman

fishing trip on the bay. Marilyn Monroe, 8, and her brother, 5, were having a great start to the morning catching their first big fish, mom and dad beaming with joy. After catching a few fish with a little assistance, the guide and Marilyn both told dad that she could handle the next one all by herself. Her guide, Sammy Guerrero, cast out her line and handed her the rod to go rig up another one. When he turned back around, the soon-to-be third grader was in a battle with another redfish. After a tense moment with the fish running underneath the boat, Sammy was able to net the fish. When the fish hit the net he saw it, a



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Marilyn Monroe



Bettina Mathis

slime-covered tag sticking out of the fish's back, the thing thousands of Texas anglers dream about. Dad and Sammy waited anxiously as they scraped the slime away from the tag to confirm their suspicion, lucky for Marilyn it was indeed a 2020 tag!

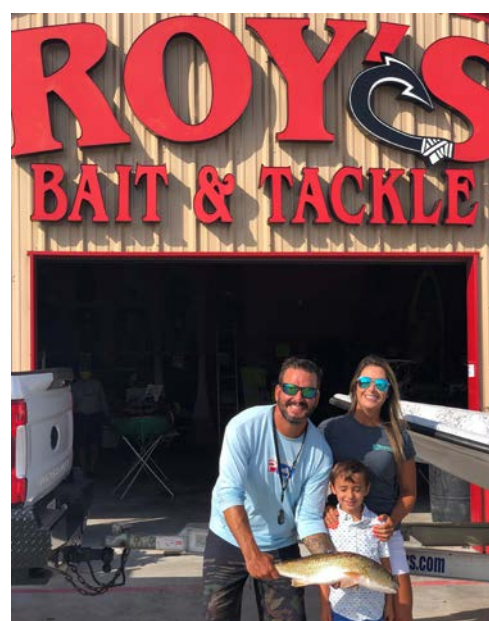
June 9th, Marilyn officially became the second tagged redfish winner. Since she is under driving age, Texas Ford Dealers will be awarding her a \$25,000 scholarship in lieu of the truck. Her family will also receive a 23' Haynie Bigfoot, Mercury motor and Coastline trailer package in her behalf.



Thomas "Jacob" Bosse

And then there were three! Thomas "Jacob" Bosse from Needville officially became the third winner in the Texas Ford Dealers Tagged Redfish Division. Jacob caught his fish while fishing near Baffin Bay on a friend's bachelor party. Congratulations to Jacob on your brand new Ford F-150 4x4, Haynie boat, Mercury motor, and Coastline trailer!

On July 2nd, Bettina Mathis of Dripping Springs, became the fourth person to win a 2020 Ford F-150, 23' Haynie Bigfoot, Mercury motor and Coastline trailer package. Bettina and her husband were making their annual fishing trip to the coast, having a good morning of fishing with Captain Carson Bashaw in Corpus Christi on June 24, when she caught the fish of a lifetime. After breaking off a nice redfish previously, Bettina was determined to land the fish on the end of her line. Once the fish was netted, she was excited to have landed a nice keeper redfish and was celebrating. Her guide then turned the fish over and exclaimed to her that the fish was tagged! Being new to the STAR tournament, Bettina asked him,



Jacob Goodwin

"Is that what the thing is for?" After Carson confirmed that it was indeed a 2020 STAR tournament tag, all Bettina could muster to say was "Oh, God!" Even after finding out that she was just a polygraph away from being the fourth 2020 winner in STAR, Bettina still did not know exactly what kind of prize she was looking at. She was overcome with joy and disbelief yet again, as STAR

staff informed her of the prize over the phone.

On July 21st, Jacob Goodwin officially became the fifth Texas angler to win a Ford F-150, 23' Haynie boat, Coastline trailer and Mercury motor. If it wasn't for Jacob's good friend convincing him to go chase redfish that day, he would have never been rewarded with what over 50,000 Texas anglers chase for over one hundred days each summer. He said, "Cade Peterek and I went drift fishing the King Ranch shoreline on 7/14/2020. We loaded up on live shrimp for the early morning haul in my boat. I was not sure how the bite was going to be but we fished anyway. The bite produced five keeper trout but we wanted redfish. So we continued getting closer to the shoreline looking to pop a redfish. Well I caught one. As it came closer to the boat I saw a tag. I yelled, Get the net! Once the fish was in the boat I was in disbelief. I immediately felt the presence of God smiling down."

While Jacob claimed the final boat and truck combo in the CCA Texas STAR Tournaments' Texas Ford Dealers Tagged Redfish Division, there are still plenty of reasons for anglers to be excited about fishing STAR... not the least being FIVE more boat packages available for more tagged fish. There are still

fourteen boats, three UTV's and \$325,000 in scholarships up for grabs this summer in a wide array of categories. With fifty-one out of sixty tagged redfish remaining, chances to win are still incredible! Along with the redfish, there are still tons of empty spots, and beatable fish on the leaderboard just waiting for you. So get registered, get out and win yourself a new boat or your child a life-changing size scholarship!

After thirty amazing years of STAR, we have been blessed to be able to award Texas youth \$6,825,000 in college scholarships to

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

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.), sponsors, or REGISTER, simply head on over to 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!



PLEASE SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT OUR CONSERVATION EFFORTS



BEST IN TEXAS



HABITAT TODAY FOR FISH TOMORROW

CCA Texas Projects

1.	Cedar Bayou/Vinson Slough Restoration	\$1,600,000
2.	Oyster Restoration - East Galveston Bay	\$ 500,000
3.	** Nearshore Reefing - Rio Grande Valley Reef	\$ 611,000
4.	Nearshore Reefing—Port O'Connor	\$ 700,000
5.	** Nearshore Reefing - Sabine Pass	\$ 311,000
6.	Nearshore Reefing - Galveston / Big Man	\$ 250,000
7.	HRI Nearshore Reef Enhancement Study	\$ 250,000
8.	**Dagger Island Shoreline Protection & Marsh Restoration (Redfish Bay)	\$ 250,000
9.	Shoreline Stabilization - Oyster Lake (West Galveston Bay)	\$ 230,000
10.	** Oyster Restoration—Deep Reef Sabine Lake	\$ 215,000
11.	Nearshore Reefing - Matagorda	\$ 200,000
12.	Shoreline Stabilization - San Bernard NWR	\$ 200,000
13.	Marsh Restoration - Bird Island Cove (West Galveston Bay)	\$ 150,000
14.	Shoreline Protection/Marsh Creation - Moses Lake (Galveston Bay)	\$ 138,000
15.	** Baffin Bay Serpulid Reef Habitat Conservation/Restoration Study	\$ 135,000
16.	** Aransas National Wildlife Refuge Shoreline Protection (San Antonio Bay)	\$ 125,000
17.	HRI Oyster Restoration Site Locator Mapping Study	\$ 120,000
18.	** Marsh Restoration - Dickinson Bayou	\$ 100,000
19.	Nearshore Reefing - Corpus Christi	\$ 100,000
20.	Bahia Grande Restoration (Port Isabel / Brownsville)	\$ 95,000
21.	Oyster Reef Creation - St. Charles Bay (Rockport)	\$ 75,000
22.	Oyster Reef Restoration - Aransas Bay (Rockport)	\$ 75,000
23.	Oyster Reef Restoration - Copano Bay (Rockport)	\$ 75,000
24.	Marsh Restoration - Egery Island (Copano Bay/Bayside)	\$ 70,000
25.	Marsh Restoration - Matagorda Island	\$ 70,000
26.	Nueces Bay Delta Water Management Gates	\$ 70,000
27.	Nearshore Reefing - Freeport / Vancouver	\$ 60,000
28.	Nueces Bay Demonstration Oyster Reef	\$ 60,000
29.	Marsh Restoration - Goose Island (Rockport)	\$ 50,000
30.	Nearshore Reefing - Port Mansfield	\$ 50,000
31.	Shoreline Stabilization - J. D. Murphree WMA	\$ 50,000
32.	Shoreline Stabilization - Cow Trap Lake (Brazoria County)	\$ 50,000
33.	** Dollar Bay Shoreline Protection and Marsh Restoration	\$ 50,000
34.	** Galveston Bay Foundation Headquarters Living Shoreline Restoration	\$ 50,000
35.	Marsh Restoration - Oxen & Gang's Bayou (Galveston)	\$ 42,000
36.	Trinity Bay Discovery Center Living Shoreline	\$ 40,000
37.	Marsh Restoration - Nueces Bay (Corpus Christi)	\$ 24,000
38.	Marsh Restoration - Snake Island Cover (West Galveston Bay)	\$ 20,000
39.	Weed Eradication for Water Flow Restoration (Guadalupe River Delta)	\$ 15,000
40.	Bay Debris Removal - Aransas Pass	\$ 5,600
41.	Building Conservation Trust's Texas Habitat Fund	\$ 114,066

** 2019 Projects

TOTAL FUNDED THROUGH 2019: 7,395,666

If you are interested in contributing to our Habitat program,

Contact John Blaha at jdblaha@ccatexas.org

Shrimp & Cream Cheese Poppers



Simple, quick, delicious

- 1 dozen medium peeled and deveined shrimp
- 12 pieces thin-sliced bacon
- 6 pickled jalapenos, sliced in half the long way
- 12 tablespoons softened cream cheese

Smear one tbsp cream cheese in each jalapeno half.
Place shrimp in jalapeno and wrap with bacon.
Grill or bake at 400 for 20 minutes or until bacon is done.
Enjoy with your favorite sauce.

Liz Hewitt, Great Recipes Editor
pescaliz <pescaliz@aol.com>
lizhewitt@qb3mfg.com



The Outdoor Writers Association of America recently awarded top awards to two Sam Caldwell paintings: First Place, "A Search for Rainbows" and Second Place, "Autumn Wolves."



The painting used on the cover of "The Trip" won First Place from the Texas Outdoor Writers Association. It will be in the Live Auction of the San Antonio event, whether as a banquet or in an online auction event. Drop by the website for a first edition of the book, and view other Caldwell works.

www.samcaldwell.com
 Texas State Artist 2004
 DU State Artist 2010-2011
 Dallas CCA Conservationist 2015
 2016 Perry R. Bass Wall of Fame
 281-455-9390



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Coastal Conservation Association

6919 Portwest Drive, Suite 100 Houston, TX 77024

CURRENTS NEWSLETTER

August/September 2020

*The 2020 STAR is on!
Friends don't let
friends fish
without a STAR
membership.*



Great Action and CPR photo: Fishing Locos member, Cynthia Michelle with a 53" Black Tip shark. Fish was caught, tagged, and released on South Padre Island—all fins still attached.

U.S. Coast Guard Air & Sea Rescue

National Response Center: 800-874-2143
Port Isabel: 956-761-2668
Corpus Christi / Marine Safety Office:
boating emergencies, chemical and
oil spills: 361-888-3162
Port Aransas: 361-749-5217
Port O'Connor: 361-983-2616
Freeport: 979-233-3801
Houston, Galveston: 409-766-5620
Sabine: 409-971-2195

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

Visit www.tpwd.texas.gov
To focus on fishing and boating, visit

www.tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/fish
www.tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/boat

*Operation
Game Thief*



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



COASTAL CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION TEXAS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (including STAR Entry)



Name _____ Phone _____ Date _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
NEW MEMBER _____ RENEWAL _____ (Member ID for renewing members only) _____ EMAIL _____

Method of payment
___ Check/Money order
___ Charge to my:
___ MASTERCARD
___ VISA
___ AMEX
___ DISCOVER

MEMBER:	\$35	Membership card, decal, bumper sticker, Texas CURRENTS newsletter & TIDE magazine.
ASSOCIATE:	\$20	Per each family member. All membership privileges except TIDE and CURRENTS.
PRINT MEMBER:	\$100	All of the above plus CCA Texas print of your choice.
LIFE MEMBER:	\$1000	CCA Life Membership piece, print, plus member gifts. Payable in four \$250 installments.
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.

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

Credit card number _____ Signature _____

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