# CURRENTS June / July 2021

CPR for STAR: Catch, Clip, Release, Claim

How to REMOVE the tag from a tagged redfish before you release it and claim your prize!



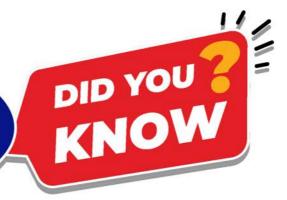






For full information on tag instructions, click on the 4.CLAIM area.







- ★ Runs May 29-September 6, 2021
- ★ Over 180 tagged reds released!
- ★ More prizes than ever!
- ★ Red, Green and Blue Tags for different prizes.
- ★ Catch, Clip and Claim Format When you catch a tagged redfish, anglers are required to clip as much of the tag as possible and **must release** the fish back into the water to be eligible to win, regardless of the fish's condition. Within 24 hours, you need to head to one of our STAR Tournament weigh stations to present the tag.



## SCAN HERE OR VISIT STARTOURNAMENT.ORG TO SIGN UP!



f @ check out more texas star tournament news and happenings on facebook and instagram.

tag.ret /tah-gret/ noun

The feeling that comes over anglers who catch a tagged redfish but aren't registered in the STAR Tournament. A feeling of sadness, repentance, or disappointment over something that could have happened. Self-accusation. Self-reproach. Mourning.

FISH WITH NO TAGRETS. REGISTER FOR STAR TODAY!

COASTAL CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

## Temporary Emergency Rule for Spotted Seatrout Regulations in Laguna Madre Bay Systems\*

## 3 FISH BAG LIMIT

# Slot size of 17-23 inches

\* This temporary rule change is for Upper and Lower Laguna Madre Bay Systems south of the JFK Causeway, including the adjacent beach fronts from Packery Channel to the Rio Grande River.

Changes are in place for 120 days and can be extended for an additional 60 days if necessary. This action will result in a 27% increase in spawning stock biomass to help the stock rebound.



TEXAS



#### **ADVOCACY**

## CCA Texas Funds Hatchery Efforts

By Shane Bonnot CCA Texas Advocacy Director

ccording to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), the severe winter storm in February 2021 killed an estimated 3.8 million fish along the Texas Coast, with spotted seatrout being identified as a significant portion of recreationally important species impacted. In response to this event, CCA Texas has funded two projects at Texas saltwater fish hatcheries to increase production of spotted seatrout fingerlings. Through an electronic vote, CCA Texas' Board of Directors recently approved \$152,000 to fund hatch-

ery projects at the Sea Center Texas Hatchery in Lake Jackson, Texas and the CCA Marine Development Center (CCA MDC) in Flour Bluff.

"It was a moment for immediate action to ensure a speedy recovery of all Texas bays and estuaries that were negatively impacted by the coastal freeze," said Mark Ray, Chairman of CCA Texas. "I am proud that CCA Texas was able to step up quickly in this time of need for our critically important hatchery system, and we will continue to work with TPWD



The original pond liners at Sea Center Texas, installed in 1996, are in desperate need of replacement.

CCA Texas' Board of Directors recently approved \$152,000 to fund hatchery projects at the Sea Center Texas Hatchery in Lake Jackson, Texas and the CCA Marine Development Center (CCA MDC) in Flour Bluff.

leadership as this effort continues."

Each year, with the help from grow out ponds at the Perry R. Bass Marine Research Facility in Palacios, hatchery facilities release approximately 15 million red drum and 10 million spotted seatrout fingerlings into Texas bay systems. Fingerling production in a hatchery setting is contingent upon controlling the environment upon which you spawn and raise the fish. With the help of CCA Texas, Texas hatcheries are about to gain a little more control, and potentially, increase fingerling production this year.

Sea Center Texas, located in Lake Jackson Texas, utilizes plastic-lined outdoor rearing ponds in the process

of producing fingerlings for stocking Texas' Bays. The pond liners at Sea Center were put into service in 1996 and have surpassed their useful life, many deteriorating to a point beyond repair. Replacement of these pond liners will allow staff to increase fingerling production as some of the ponds were entirely out of commission and the remainder required frequent repair, which increased down time between pond filling cycles. As *highlighted in this video*, the pond liner replacement project was completed in April with seven ponds being re-lined with combined funding from CCA Texas and TPWD.

Spawning of broodstock at the saltwater hatcheries is contingent on controlling water temperatures in the broodstock tanks. The CCA-MDC does this with an extensive HVAC system that runs chilled water into buildings and through counterflow heat exchangers, or chillers, that cool the water returning to the brood tanks. The old counter flow heat exchangers that the hatchery has been using since 1988 have exceeded their expected life span and are no longer functioning efficiently. MDC has replaced four heat exchangers recently, but there is a need to replace the remaining four heat exchangers for the spotted seatrout brood tank systems to ensure adequate temperature control. Proper control of the temperature regime in these broodstock tanks should allow staff to increase the spawning season and maximize egg production of trout broodstock.

"To help Texas' speckled trout populations recover from the impacts of the fish kill, it is imperative that hatchery production of fingerlings is maximized," said Robby Byers, Executive Director of CCA Texas. "Funding these projects will definitely help in the near term but will also continue to produce long after the freeze damage has recovered."

Speckled trout and redfish fingerling production is a delicate effort that requires knowledge, precision and the correct equipment. We are fortunate to have gifted biologists and operators at Texas' hatcheries, and now with a little help from CCA Texas, they are well poised entering into fingerling production season. If you want to contribute to CCA's ongoing efforts toward hatchery support and habitat restoration, *please click here* to donate today.



Work underway for replacement of pond liners.





Contractors welding new high density polyethylene liner in 1-acre ponds at Sea Center Texas.

Each 1-acre pond can produce 500,000 fingerlings throughout an entire production season (May-November).



#### HABITAT TODAY FOR FISH TOMORROW

## Next Phase of Sabine HI20 Nearshore Reefing Site Underway

By John Blaha CCA Texas Habitat Program Director

The HI20 Nearshore Reef is a 160-acre site already home to a 120-foot sunken barge and hundreds of granite blocks. It is in the process of being expanded with hundreds of tons of additional diverse materials, including reef pyramids, steel energy industry structures, low-level relief and concrete culverts. The HI20 reef site, nine miles off Sabine Pass, is rapidly becoming one of the largest artificial reef projects on the upper Texas coast. Thanks to an impressive list of leading corporations, a massive array of materials is in the process of being deployed.

Industry partners Sempra LNG, Chenier Energy, Golden Pass LNG, Motiva, Phillips 66, Shell Oil Company, Friends of Sabine Reef, Forterra Pipe and Precast, Bo-Mac Contractors, Eldridge Construction, and The CCA Music City Chapter, have partnered with Coastal Conservation Association Texas, Building Conservation Trust, and Texas Parks &



Eldridge Construction deploys materials on the Sabine HI20 Nearshore Reef Site. Photo by John Blaha.

The HI20 reef site, nine miles off Sabine Pass is rapidly becoming one of the largest artificial reef projects on the upper Texas coast.

Wildlife to make this major deployment possible.

"Massive nearshore habitat initiatives like HI20 show the scope of what can happen when grassroots anglers and conservationists come together in partnership with corporations, local and State Government, NGOs and other community leaders to make a real and lasting difference in our coastal waters," said Mic Cowart, Sabine Pass Port Authority Manager. "I am proud to be a part of a



Partnerships are key to any habitat project, and Sabine HI20 is a great example of local community partners working together. Photo by John Blaha.



Eldridge Construction deploying some of the pipe donated by Forterra Pipe and Precast. Photo by John Blaha.

project that creates marine habitat that will provide angling opportunities for present and future generations of Texans. With the vast forest of energy structures that has dotted the Gulf of Mexico for decades slowly disappearing due to federal government regulations, artificial reefing initiatives take on an added importance. The Sabine area has lost more offshore marine habitat than any other along the Texas coast, making grassroots efforts such as the HI20 Reef even more vital for strong and dynamic marine resources. We cannot thank our local industry partners enough, for helping financially and providing ocean-going tugs and barges as well."

"This project really has captured the excitement and imagination of the local community and beyond. It has been inspiring to be a part of the vital work being done through this unique partnership," said Rocky Chase, Chairman of CCA Texas' Government Affairs Committee. "HI20 will undoubtedly have considerable benefits not just for the marine ecosystem and the anglers who enjoy it, but for the local economy as well."

"The infusion of that much material is going to create an unparalleled reef ecosystem in an area that was largely devoid of any habitat just a few years ago," said John Blaha, CCA Texas Habitat Program Director. "We are proud to be part of the incredible partnership that has come together to enhance our marine resources and provide a world-class destination for anglers," said Will Ohmstede, past Chairman of CCA Texas.

Sabine HI20 Nearshore Reef project partners gathered prior to the first deployment of Phase II of the project to view the materials on hand. Photo by John Blaha.



# HABITAT TODAY FOR FISH TOMORROW

## **CCA Texas Projects**

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	HRI Oyster Restoration Site Locator Mapping Study	\$ 120,000
	Marsh Restoration - Dickinson Bayou	S 100,000
	Nearshore Reefing - Corpus Christi	\$ 100,000
	Bahia Grande Restoration (Port Isabel / Brownsville)	\$ 95,000
	Oyster Reef Restoration - Aransas Bay (Rockport)	\$ 75,000
_	Oyster Reef Restoration - Copano Bay (Rockport)	\$ 75,000
	Marsh Restoration - Egery Island (Copano Bay/Bayside)	S 70,000
	Marsh Restoration - Matagorda Island	\$ 70,000
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	Nucces Bay Delta Water Management Gates	
	Nearshore Reefing - Freeport / Vancouver	\$ 60,000
	Nueces Bay Demonstration Oyster Reef	\$ 60,000
	Marsh Restoration - Goose Island (Rockport)	\$ 50,000
	Nearshore Reefing - Port Mansfield	\$ 50,000
	Shoreline Stabilization - J. D. Murphree WMA	\$ 50,000
	Shoreline Stabilization - Cow Trap Lake (Brazoria County)	\$ 50,000
	Dollar Bay Shoreline Protection and Marsh Restoration	\$ 50,000
35.	Galveston Bay Foundation Headquarters Living Shoreline Restoration	\$ 50,000
36.	Marsh Restoration - Oxen & Gang's Bayou (Galveston)	\$ 42,000
37.	Trinity Bay Discovery Center Living Shoreline	\$ 40,000
38.	Sweetwater Preserve Shoreline Protections and Oyster Reef Enhancement	\$ 30,000
39.	Marsh Restoration - Nueces Bay (Corpus Christi)	\$ 24,000
40.	Marsh Restoration - Snake Island Cover (West Galveston Bay)	\$ 20,000
41.	Weed Eradication for Water Flow Restoration (Guadalupe River Delta)	\$ 15,000
42.	Bay Debris Removal - Aransas Pass	\$ 5,600
43.	Building Conservation Trust's Texas Habitat Fund (BCT & CCA Texas Secured Funds)	\$ 399,066

<sup>\*\* 2021</sup> Projects Contributed to as 2/28/21

## **TOTAL FUNDED THROUGH 2020: \$8,814,666**

If you are interested in contributing to our Habitat program, Contact John Blaha at jdblaha@ccatexas.org



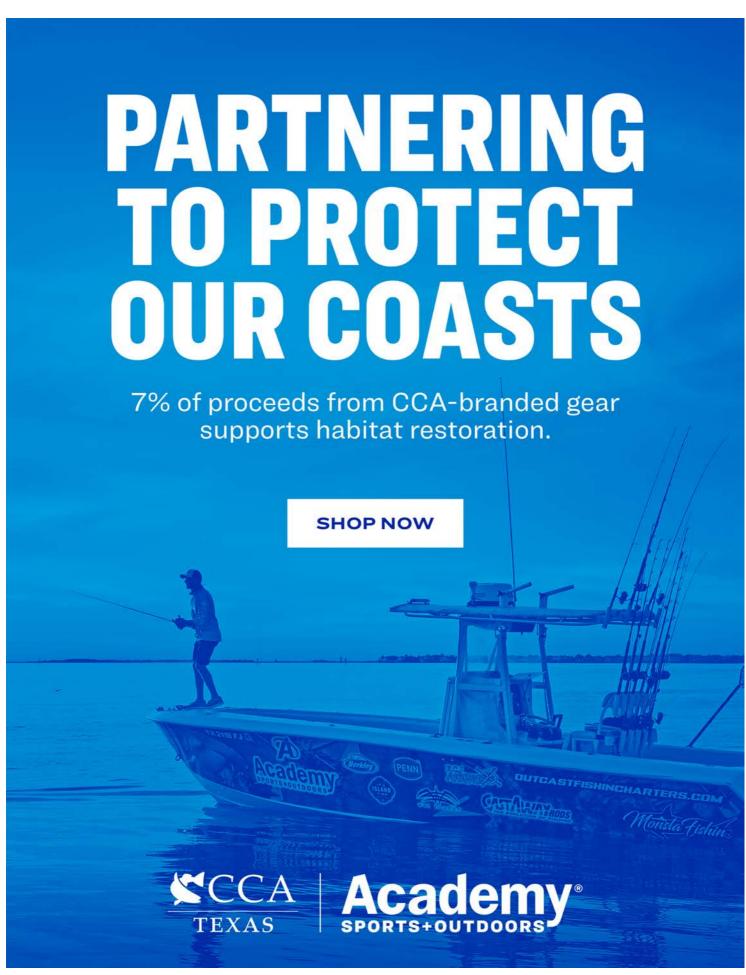
#### PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

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.

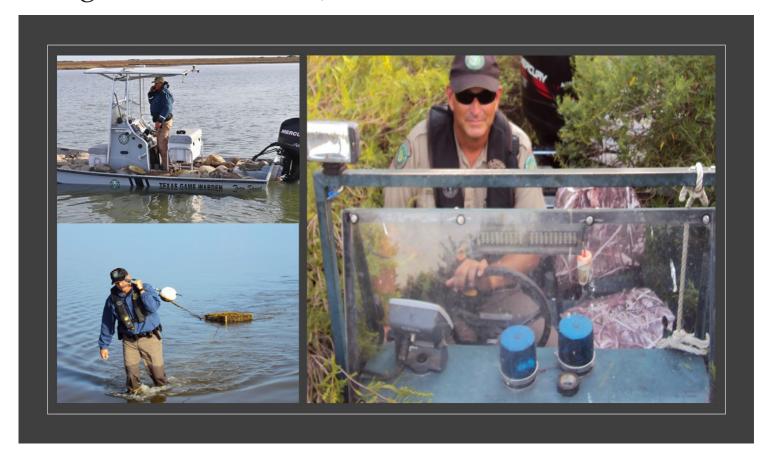
You must return this form via email, phone or by mail to the CCA Texas office completely filled out to receive your gift.

Contact: 713.626.4222 | lifemember@ccatexas.org (This offer is NOT available online)

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PLEASE SHIP MY GUN TO THIS FFL DEALER (This form must be completely filled out or your gun will NOT be shipped) You can pick up your gun from Johnny's Sports Shop (101 Booth Dr. Eagle Lake, TX) or Academy Sports + Outdoors has agreed to accept the Life Member guns at all Texas stores with no FFL transfer fee. If you choose to send your gun to a different dealer, YOU MUST send a copy of their FFL with this form.  To have your gun delivered to Academy Sports + Outdoors, write the store address in the FFL portion below. For questions regarding Academy Sports + Outdoors, contact Mylinda Jones at (281) 646-5908.					
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## Caught Redhanded! K Reports from TP&W Game Wardens



### 2020 Coastal Conservation Officer of the Year

—Texas Parks & Wildlife Game Warden David Janssen Matagorda County Game Warden David Janssen began his career in 1992, graduating from the 43<sup>rd</sup> Texas Game Warden Academy Class in Austin. Throughout David's 29 years of service he has consistently and diligently served his county and citizens of the state. David continues to demonstrate, year after year, his passion and commitment to resource protection and public safety with his enduring diligence and high performance in the field.

David was raised in Matagorda County but began his career in Galveston where he spent three years before returning to Matagorda County. Matagorda County is where he chose to stay and raise his three boys, in the same manner as he was raised, with two of them expressing an interest in following in his footsteps to become Game Wardens themselves. David's passion for the area and his community has been reflected in his outstanding patrol efforts.

This past year, David has committed over 570 boat hours to protecting our valuable coastal resources. He willingly, and without being asked, adjusted days off to meet the needs of his community and the resource. This year's freeze disaster was a recent example of his dedication. He chose to respond on his day off, during horrific weather conditions, to work

recovering cold-stunned sea turtles, which he did in 2018 as well. He has made many outstanding cases but one of the most memorable was his capture of a shrimp boat with over 160 red snapper illegally possessed onboard. His deep-seated understanding of when and where his patrols should be conducted has deterred many violations and has also provided him the skills to detect violations and capture violators. Not only does he display exemplary effort in his resource protection enforcement, but he is deeply committed to the safety of recreational fishermen and boaters as they enjoy our public waterways. He is intoxilyzer certified, a device that measures alcohol levels in the body, to help detect, apprehend, and aid in successful prosecution of violators that risk lives of others with their impaired operation of a vessel.

David's enforcement efforts in the Matagorda Bay complex has netted many recreational and commercial infractions encountered for violations such as: under and oversized fish, exceeding the bag limit, licensing, and water safety violations. David demonstrates a profound knowledge and skill in recreational and commercial fishing enforcement, as well as his deep-rooted commitment to serving citizens and protecting resources of the state.







## **Enjoying Your Digital CURRENTS Newsletter**

CA Texas' financial responsibilities and goals are ongoing. For the time being, publishing the CUR-RENTS 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 affecting environmental change. But printing and mailing a 35-page, full color newsletter to 60,000 members is time-consuming and expensive.

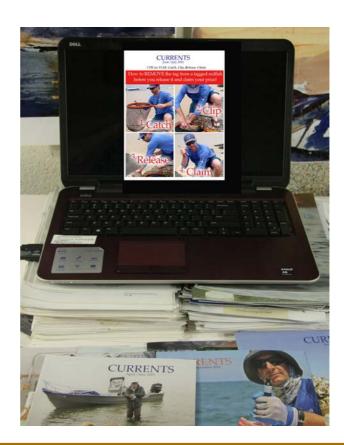
The online CURRENTS newsletter requires no printing nor postage, and delivery is almost instantaneous. An email to members contains a link, with the full newsletter a click away.

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.
- A link to the CCA website provides comprehensive news and resources. On the website, an array of CCA information is available. View many project-specific videos. Consult the list of CCA-approved guides. Listen to 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 Media Happenings section, links directly open up to posts on our social media platforms.
- In the Social Media Happenings section, links directly open up to posts on our social media platforms.
- Another big plus—your CURRENTS Newsletter is now as close as your laptop or your cellphone.



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

You'll find news and information about chapter events, advocacy and breaking news, plus 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 <u>ccatexas.org</u> and bookmark it now.





## Are You Following 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. We regularly post photo and video updates on our 50+ local chapters, conservation projects, member photos, and advocacy efforts to keep you informed and engaged. Since our last CURRENTS, we've posted videos about the latest deployment for the HI20 Reef, the completed Sea Center Texas Pond Liner Repair project, and our official 2021 TV commercial. In total, these videos have been viewed over 50,000 times on Facebook.

Our following is **GROWING FAST**, so join thousands of CCA Texas members around the state by following us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, and <u>Twitter</u>. Every **LIKE** and **FOLLOW** helps.

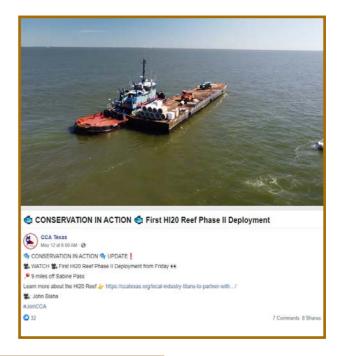
#### **FACEBOOK**

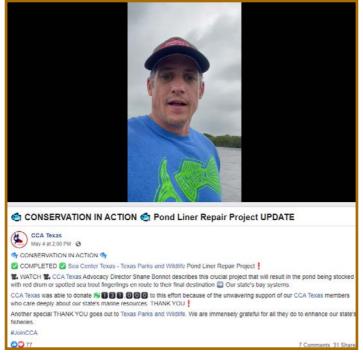


#### **CCA Texas on Facebook**

If you haven't done so, head over to our CCA Texas Facebook page and LIKE us today! Stay informed on all the latest with special video updates and be the first to know when we go LIVE for online events. LIKE us on Facebook TODAY! @CCATexas <a href="https://www.facebook.com/CCATexas">https://www.facebook.com/CCATexas</a>









CCA Texas on Instagram
Our next goal is to get to 15,000 followers on Instagram, help get us there. Add us to your feed to see photos that you will NOT want to miss! FOLLOW us on Instagram TODAY!





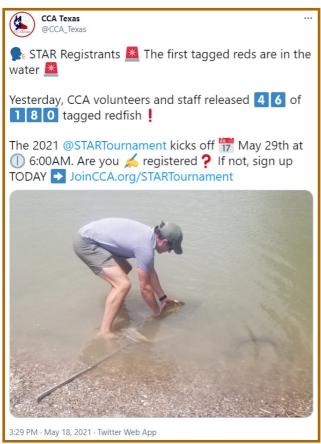


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Kevin Hickson Communications Director Coastal Conservation Association Email: khickson@joincca.org











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# **Chapter Updates**

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



## The 2021 Banquet is ON!! It is on Thursday, June 24 and will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Pearland.

We will be serving a delicious steak dinner by Joe's BBQ, having a "Sportsman's Raffle" that will include guns, YETI Coolers, and rod/reel packages, have live and silent auctions, as well as numerous raffles. This is an event you won't want to miss. Reserve your spot now!

Special thanks go out to our long-time

supporters and Title Sponsors, **Waypoint** Financial and Sunbelt Valve, for stepping up again this year!

Banquet tickets are \$60/Person, \$100/Couple, \$15/Kids. Reserved/Sponsor Tables start at \$550 for 8 guests. All adult tickets include a CCA Membership. Sportsman's Raffle tickets are \$20 each or 6 for \$100. If you would like to purchase banquet tickets, reserve a table for your group/company, or make a donation to our event, please contact Erich Schneider at (713) 626-4222 or email us at AlvinPearlandCCA@yahoo.com.

The best way to stay up to date with our latest chapter events is to follow us on Facebook at <a href="https://ccatexas.org/find-your-chapter/alvin-pearland/">www.facebook.com/alvinpearland.cca</a> or go to our chapter Website at <a href="https://ccatexas.org/find-your-chapter/alvin-pearland/">https://ccatexas.org/find-your-chapter/alvin-pearland/</a>.

We look forward to seeing you! Don't forget to bring a friend, or even better, a kid!

#### Aransas Bay Michael Ferri 361-790-4404 txsprig@yahoo.com

As more challenges were thrown our way after the February freeze of 2021, the Volunteers of the Aransas Bay Chapter and CCA Texas staff made the decision to make Babes on the Bay a **No Kill Tournament.** Using the *Fishing Chaos App*, all Lady Anglers who fished the tournament this year learned a new way to navigate the tournament by taking a photo of their catch and releasing their fish back into our bays. With this new learning curve, overall we got a very positive response from the community and our anglers.

Over 950 anglers fished the tournament this year, including eleven Fly Fishing teams. We had an excellent group of sponsors for 2021, including our Title Sponsors, Salemi's Ace Hardware in Rockport, Waterloo Rod Company, Yeti, Costa, HEB, Rockport Tackle Town, Chris's Marine, Goin' Coastal Outfitters, Reel Skipper, Reel Sportswear, Canterbury Construction, Kebo Oil & Gas, Aaron Concrete, Orvis Swan Point Landing, Poor Man's Country Club, Miss Kitty's Fishing Getaways, The Reserve at St Charles Bay, The Boiling Pot, Rockport Living, The Coastal





Babes On The Bay, a No-Kill Tournament this year.



**Mercantile and More!** We want to say thank you to all of you who support CCA Texas and enjoy this event every year!

The Aransas Bay CCA Chapter meets the second Tuesday of every month at **Poor Man's Country Club** at 6:00 PM. We would love to have you join our general membership meetings and look forward to having fun fishing this Summer!

#### Austin Jason Magdalena 512-789-6207 Jason.magdalena@gmail.com

Bay Area

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

#### Brazos Valley John Ben Strother 979-220-1738 jbsunlimited@yahoo.com

Hope everyone is enjoying the Spring weather... and wetting a line!!!

Our chapter had a meeting on May 11. 18 people were in attendance for a Fish Fry! We also voted and approved new chapter



Corpus Christi Angler's Night Out event. Photo, Tyler Thorsen.



Corpus Christi: Dr. Judd Curtis of the Center for Sportfish Science & Conservation talks about the Great Red Snapper Count. Photo, Valerie Chilton.

shirts with a logo. Some of our members are signing up for the **Inter-Chapter Challenge**. Should be great fishing!

We discussed our 23rd fall banquet which will be held on Sept 23 at the Brazos Center. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Hope everyone will join us for dinner, drinks, auctions, raffles and good fun. Tickets are still available! Contact Drew Adams at (713) 626-4222 or John Ben Strother at (979) 220-1738. Tickets are also available here: <a href="http://www.ccatexas.org/events/2021-brazos-valley-banquet">http://www.ccatexas.org/events/2021-brazos-valley-banquet</a>

Please take a friend, child, or family member fishing, and have fun!!!

Brenham
Brandon Marth 979-277-0151
brandon@brenhamironworks.com

Brush Country 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@busterandcogdellbuilders.com

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

#### Corpus Christi Valerie Chilton 405-831-4158 vkchilton@gmail.com

It's Summer again in South Texas and you know what that means... more fishing time on the water! We held our first in person event, **Angler's Night Out on May 19 at The Bar-B-Q Man**. We've missed seeing all of your faces! Thank you to everyone that came out to support CCA.

Calling all women anglers! The 2021 Babes on Baffin Fishing Tournament will take place on October 8 - 9, 2021 at Marker 37 Marina. We hope to see you there!

And last but not least, the banquet will be held on July 29, 2021 at the American Bank Center and it is SOLD OUT. 2020 table buyers who did not make their purchase a donation nor requested a refund will

have tickets mailed. For questions, contact Courtney at <a href="mailto:cacorpuschristi@gmail.com">cacorpuschristi@gmail.com</a> or call (361) 882-5199. We look forward to seeing you!

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

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

#### Fort Bend Blake Tumlinson 979-332-2236 Btumlinson86@gmail.com

Hello Everybody! We've just completed our 35<sup>th</sup> annual Fort Bend CCA banquet. The banquet was held at the Needville K of C Hall this year. It was a SOLD OUT event this year with over 400 in attendance! **The Fort Bend CCA board would like to personally thank all of our sponsors, donors and attendees** for making this event an awesome record-breaking banquet for everyone that attended. We look forward to seeing everyone again next year at the **2022 Fort Bend CCA banquet!** 

For 2021, we have a new list of committee officers and they include: Chapter President – Blake Tumlinson; Vice President – Thomas (Tommy) Welch; Secretary – Chris Sandoval; and Treasurer – Jim Black. This is a phenomenal group of gentlemen who will bring a lot of fresh ideas to the chapter and its events. The chapter also has the support of its committee members and their input, and we couldn't ask for a better group of people to back each other. We would like to also thank our previous 2 year officers; President – Jim Black; Vice President – Blake Tumlinson; Secretary – Chris Sandoval for the hard work and time they've devoted to the chapter and the community. We would also like to thank FB CCA board member Steve Onstad, for allowing us to utilize The Swinging Door for our monthly meetings.

As we move forward through the year, please mark your calendars as we have some exciting events coming up this summer. Fort Bend CCA will be hosting its **annual Kid's Fish Tournament in Matagorda on July 24, 2021.** The Fort Bend chapter committee members will also be hosting a **Ladies Only fishing tournament, Lingerie On The Bay (LOTB), scheduled for August 27-28, 2021 in Matagorda.** Entry forms and tournament information will be posted soon at <u>matagordabay.com/tournaments2019</u>; and on the Fort Bend chapter page at <u>ccatexas.org/find-your-chapter/fortbend</u> or you can call Blake Tumlinson at (979) 332-2236.

Once again, thank you to everyone for your continuous support and we look forward to seeing you in the near future!

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

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

#### Golden Triangle Joe Winston 830-624-6570 Joe.winston@heroesonthewater.org

Greetings from the Golden Triangle Chapter! We hope that despite the rain and other unforeseen weather conditions, you have been able to get out and enjoyed the outdoors. Summer is upon us and we are gearing up for our inaugural Fishing Tournament on Bolivar Peninsula. It will be held on June 5 at Stingaree Marina. We encourage everyone to bring the family, as we will have a Kids Fish at the Marina; the first 20 kids will receive a rod and reel combo to use and take home! Come see us because it is going to be a fun event that you won't want to miss.

We are also still a few months out from our banquet dinner. It will be held in Beaumont on October 7. Be sure to put that on your calendar and get your tickets soon because they will be going quick.

We would like to thank everyone for the continued support and are looking forward to the following year! Cheers!

Greater Sugar Land John Breland 281-808-2969 geauxingfishing@yahoo.com

A huge TEXAS size thank you to all the attendees, table sponsors, sponsors and volunteers who helped make our annual banquet a sold-out success. It's not too early to save the date for Thursday, March 31, 2022 for our next banquet to be held at The Stafford Centre. The Greater Sugar Land CCA Chapter is excited about getting back out and hosting some of our annual events like our Kid Fish Projects. On Saturday, September 25, we are partnering up with Missouri City and hosting a Kid Fish event at the Community



Greater Sugar Land banquet tables. Below, Waiting at the bar line with Gary Blanchette giving a thumbs up.





Greater Sugar Land volunteers replace a worn out sign with a new CCA sign at the Sargent Boat Launch.

Park. If you know a neighborhood in the Greater Sugar Land area that would like to participate, please let us know. Stay tuned for more information on these events as they start to develop.

We have general meetings scheduled for August 5 and November 4. They will take place at Otto's BBQ in the Fountains Shopping Center in Stafford at 6 p.m. Come join us and bring a friend.

We are also looking forward to having a team in the **Inter Chapter Challenge on June 11 and 12 at Paws & Taws**. Our team may be small but to quote Team Captain Mike Spero, "We expect to catch the biggest trout and redfish in the tournament."

In October, we will again host our **Annual Presidents Cup** Fishing Tournament in Sargent on Saturday, October 23rd.

If any of you fish the Sargent area and launch at the Intracoastal Boat Launch you probably have noticed the old and worn-out sign stating rules on the water. A few of our chapter members recently replaced that one with a new CCA Texas sign. Thanks to our friends at Sign Systems for providing us with the new sign. La Les La Bon Temps Roulle and Geaux Fish!

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

We had our biggest banquet ever! So, I'd like to give a big shoutout to all of our sponsors because without them it wouldn't have been a huge success! Academy, R Construction, VCC, GreenBook, Techline Pipe, Eldridge Roofing & Restoration, ROMCO/Ashton Sawing & Drilling, Premier Yamaha Boating Center, Reddico Construction, Capital Farm Credit, Gullo Ford, William Clarke, The Whiddon Group, Ameritex Pipe, Ferguson Waterworks, Harris Group, Doggett Heavy Machinery, and the Burton Family.

I'd also like to say **thank you to all of my board members** for working so hard to get everything ready for the big event, for bringing in the sponsors, and for their continued support of our chapter.

We're looking forward to the CCA ICC tournament next month and we hope to have a general membership meeting on the books soon. So catch us online: <a href="https://ccatexas.org/find-your-chapter/greater-woodlands/">https://ccatexas.org/find-your-chapter/greater-woodlands/</a> and <a href="https://ccatexas.org/ccatexwoodlands/">www.facebook.com/CCAGreaterWoodlands</a>.

Guadalupe Valley Adam Arroyo 361-350-0026 Ctown75@aol.com Hello Guadalupe Valley chapter members! Hope you all are doing well and are starting to venture out more and getting a chance to wet a line. Our 14th Annual chapter banquet is set for August 19, 2021 at The Venue on 125 East Church Street in Cuero. Tickets and tables are on sale now and available for purchase (\$700 Corporate Tables, \$50 Individual Tickets). Hope to see everyone there! Tight Lines!

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

Howdy CCA Helotes members! After our incredible banquet in March, the chapter has already set our sights on next year's event. We hope you all enjoyed Pedrotti's because we will be back there next year. Save the date: March 24 is our banquet date for 2022.

Our volunteers enjoyed an outdoor fish fry to celebrate the hard work and success of our banquet. It really is a great group and very much a family friendly board. Thank you to **the Mitchells**, **the Botters**, **and the Lutzs** for putting together a great event. Buy your seafood from **Groomers**! They are big supporters of CCA.

If you'd like to be more involved with our chapter, please reach out to us on social media or call one of our board members. We'd love to have you. In the meantime, take a kid fishing, it will put a smile on their face and yours.

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

The Hill Country chapter is busy making plans for our banquet which will be Thursday, August 19, 2021 in New Braunfels Texas at the Civic Center. For ticket information please contact Todd Thetford (830) 660-8825.

We are planning a **chapter family fishing tournament** sometime in October 2021, keep your eyes and ears open for more details.

I would like to welcome back the following **sponsors** as of this writing: **KGNB / KNBT, Creative Eyewear, 1st. Source Digital, FAPCO, Stay-Tuff Fence Mfg., and Whitaker Insurance Associates.** Welcome to the new sponsor Redmon's Plumbing! If you would like to be a sponsor or get involved with our chapter, call Miles Engelke at (210) 260-8968.

As always, Treasure the Trips!

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

Houston Real Estate Kirk Laguarta 713-515-3830 KLaguarta@landadvisors.com

Katy Gary Mancini 281-850-2212 gman091753@aol.com

Laredo Javier C. Villarreal 956-206-7953 Jcvillarreal13@gmail.com Lee County Jake Horne 979-540-6117 jake@aubainesupply.com

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

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

The Lower Colorado Chapter of CCA Texas has been busy during the pandemic crisis to further our support of the CCA's mission. Our 2020 online auction was a huge success and brought out some competitive bidding fun amongst our members.

There was good news and bad news regarding our Guides Cup Tournament scheduled for October 2020. Good news is that we have a new corporate sponsor, **ACE Hardware of Bay City.** Their support will greatly enhance this already exciting event! Unfortunately, we had to put off the event until October of 2021. The wait will be worth it!

Check in with us on the progress of this tournament. We also hope things continue to improve on the covid front to allow us to schedule the Kids Fish that also had to delayed. But things are improving, and we've got great news:

The 2021 CCA Texas Lower Colorado Chapter Banquet will be held on Friday, August 6 at the Bay City Civic Center | 201 Seventh St. Bay City, TX 77414.

Our annual Banquet is going to be the best yet and we want you to be a part of this great event. We have missed our members! We look forward to seeing everyone and we want to assure you that we are taking all the necessary precautions to ensure a safe and successful banquet. Join us for a night of dinner, drinks, auctions, raffles and good old fundraising fun!

Inside chapter activity planning continues with monthly meetings. More interested volunteers are needed so please contact Stephen Zapalac at <a href="mailto:szapalac@ykc.com">szapalac@ykc.com</a> or Blake Burnside at b <a href="mailto:bburnside@ccatexas.org">bburnside@ccatexas.org</a> to join in. Lower Colorado Chapter continues to represent all of Matagorda County's rivers, creeks and bays!

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

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

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

The Matagorda Bays Chapter held the 15th Annual Lil' Salties Kid Fish derby on this year's Mother's Day weekend. It was an immense success with 163 kids participating in the event. The board would like to thank all of our generous sponsors and Texas Game Wardens for making this a memorable experience for all. Visit our Facebook page for all of the great photos that the Matagorda Bay's parents snapped and submitted.

Our chapter banquet is set for June 24 at the El Campo Civic Center where it is expected to be sold out early, so get your tickets now! We will be giving away our 2021 raffle prizes the night of the banquet and still have many tickets available! Please find the 2021 raffle prizes listed below:

1st - 2021 Haynie 25 Magnum w/ 400 hp Verado 2nd - Texas Lifetime Hunting & Fishing license

3rd - Lifetime CCA Membership & Custom CCA Rifle

4th - Waterloo Rod w/ Lew's Reel

5th - CCA Framed Print



**2021** *Matagorda Bays Lil' Salties Kid Fish Tournament.* Visit our <u>Facebook page</u> for all of the great photos that the Matagorda Bay's parents snapped and submitted.





2021 Matagorda Bays Lil' Salties Kid Fish Tournament





Mid Coast chapter Vice President Mark Saddler, with a shallow water spawning speckled trout quickly released to repopulate the bays.





Early morning redfish CPR. Right: Striped marlin caught in Cabo San Lucas aboard High Risk with Captain Oscar Elehazar Cosio. From L-R: John Welder VI, Jonathan Williams, Tylar Dick, and Tyler Dick. Angler: Tylar Dick.

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

Hello fellow anglers! By the time you read this, the Mid Coast Chapter will have had our annual banquet on May 20, 2021 at Spring Creek Event Center in Victoria.

First off, we'd like to thank all of our faithful sponsors who make this effort possible! And our board members and volunteers who pitched in to make the event a success. We decided to change things up a bit this year and work towards a smaller, more intimate event with a fun-filled crawfish boil! Time will tell as to how we approach planning for our 2022 banquet, but it was great to have a change and celebrate the good work CCA Texas does for our fisheries! We are in the rebuilding mode here at Mid Coast and are looking to host some upcoming events where our local members can get to meet our board and hopefully decide to get involved and help in the future. Stay tuned by watching our <a href="Facebook page">Facebook page</a> and the CCA website. We need CCA now more than ever as our fishery recovers from the 2021 freeze event! Please practice conservation while you are out on the water and practice catch and release!

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

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

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

We are busy putting together our 13th Banquet for the Orange County Chapter. This year's event will be on August 12, 2021 at the Orange County Convention and Expo Center in Orange.

Our next Planning Meeting will be on June 7, 2021 at the Domino's Pizza on 2107 MacArthur Dr. Meeting will start at 6 p.m.

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

We will be having our 4th annual chapter banquet at the Bauer Community Center here in Port Lavaca on Friday, August 13, 2021 at 6 p.m. Gather up your friends and family for the CCA fundraising fun. We still have some tables available and individual tickets left. Don't miss out on the chance to win big and help to save what we all love to do so much, fishing. For ticket or table purchases please email: Blake Burnside: <a href="mailto:bburnside@ccatexas.org">bburnside@ccatexas.org</a>. I look forward to seeing everyone there!

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

We had another great evening at our 2021 banquet, and we would like to thank everyone who attended and made donations to contribute to a huge success. We hope you all had a great time and will come see us again next year. We have our date booked for our 2022 banquet so be sure to put it on your calendar!

We will be holding our banquet on Saturday, March 26, 2022.



Twin CPR's from two new Port O'Connor CCA and STAR members. Dai Yu Lange and Dave Shelpuk released these 38+ reds near the old Coast Guard Station. Photo by Peter Lange.

Be on the lookout for email communications of when tickets go on sale later this year. Come down and see us in POC this Summer and visit our sponsors while you're here, we'll sure be glad to see you! See you next time in POC "Where it all began."



Port O'Connor, Texas, Warrior's Weekend XV. Hundreds of wounded veterans are treated to fishing and Texas hospitality. The huge field near the Port O'Connor Community Center is filled with American flags honoring those who have died in service to America. An award-winning video featuring Craig Carter and Charlie Daniels went viral: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\_Vkfy7kZpdM

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

On Thursday, April 1 we held our 23rd annual CCA fundraiser banquet at the Austin County Exp. Building.

After a year of not having the banquet, we decided to have it at the Austin County Fairgrounds this year. It was scheduled to be at the Cat Spring hall but due to covid19 they only allow 200 people in the hall. We had a great turnout that night and over 400 guests came! The night started out with a great meal of prime rib, boiled shrimp and chicken breast thanks to David Divin, owner and his crew of Mikeska Catering. After the meal was served, the live auction started with some great items of prints, hunting and fishing trips and much more. Thanks to Mark Switzer for being the auctioneer.

Along with the live auction we had our silent auction with many great items thanks to: CCA, Academy Sports and Outdoors, and all the sponsors that donated gifts. We also had the cap and card games and other raffles. With the cap and card game you purchase a cap with a playing card attached. If they draw your card you win the gun that is associated with that cap.

Our newest raffle this year is the high-end raffle! With the purchase of a special ticket, you get a chance to win a pistol, rifle, shotgun and 123 qt. cooler and a rod and reel. Also, something new in the live auction is that there will be 5 Engel coolers auctioned off and the winners will have 5-1 chance to win a Browning X bolt rifle with scope.

I would like to thank Brian Meuth and his crew from CCA and all the Board Members and all the sponsors that donated. Have a great year of fishing and see everybody next year!

#### Redfish Bay Norman Oates 361-758-0266 noates01@gmail.com

The Redfish Bay Chapter Annual Banquet is scheduled for July 31, 2021. We will observe whatever covid guidelines are in effect at the time – we want our attendees to be safe! For the first time, the Banquet will be held in the Aransas Pass Civic Center (not Port A). As always, there will be a sit-down meal, beer, wine, colas, and CCA annual membership included in the price of tickets. Individual tickets are \$75, married couples tickets are \$110 for both, corporate tables for eight are \$600, and auction tables for eight are \$1,000. We will have raffle, silent auction, and live

auction items for you to choose from. As always, our Board works hard to have items of interest for everyone to bid on; about 40% of our attendees are women. Our banquet is family oriented, and we work hard to make it a fun event for everyone. We sold out in 2019, but with the larger venue we will not have that problem!

Our **Take-a-Kid-Fishing event** the first weekend of June will be over by the time you receive this, and I hope your young fisherpersons were able to take advantage of it.

Our Beeville Fish Fry will be on the first day of dove season – more info to follow!

Rio Grande Valley David Deleon 956-533-8374 david deleon2@yahoo.com

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

Greetings from the Sabine-Neches Chapter! As I type this it is raining again! We have not been able to catch a break lately with this weather, Dam B is sending a lot of water downstream, Sam Rayburn is 7′ above pool, and as always, Sabine will handle it!

Interested in volunteering for our next event? Contact **Darin Johnson** for details at **doubletroubleoutdoorsllc@gmail.com**.
Until we meet again! Tight Lines to all!

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

#### San Antonio Robert Lozano 210-632-4246

robertolozano129@yahoo.com Newsflash! The San Antonio Banquet is back! Mark your calendars for Thursday, August 5, 2021. We will be hosting the event in the Joe & Harry Freeman Expo Hall. For your reservation to the hottest ticket in town contact Ruth Eaton at (210) 599-3690 or (210) 289-8821, or email at reaton@ eatoncontracting.com. If you are interested in sponsoring, contributing an item or enjoying a remarkable evening and making an impact to our Texas efforts go to https://ccatexas.org/findyour-chapter/san-antonio/ - San Antonio chapter page. You have an opportunity to support CCA and attend a high energy, fun-filled evening of fabulous Don Strange food, great drinks, and treasures available at a variety of prices and chances. Our banquet event is sure to be a "SELL OUT."

Remember, we lost a significant portion



Fiesta is Back in San Antonio! Our Fiesta Medals. Below: San Antonio 2021 Banquet.



of fish that could not tolerate the Winter Storm of February 2021. CCA is making huge efforts to minimize the damage and make sure we can enjoy our resource for generations to come.

STAY TUNED, we will be updating our Facebook page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/SanAntonioCCA">https://www.facebook.com/SanAntonioCCA</a> for our banquet committee planning meetings and locations.

We can always use more volunteers to help in various projects and will find a way to put your special talents to use for a great cause.

We have something special planned out: **Fiesta is Back in San Antonio! June 17-27, 2021** / Get your official 2020 - 2021 Fiesta Medal - a sure collector's item! \$10.00 donation; **Contact: Roberto Lozano (210) 632-4246** 

Please be safe. Keep those lines taut, wear a mask, and take the family fishing. Best from our CCA Family to yours! Cheers from "Burnt-O"!

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

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

We are excited to be able to host an in-person event this year. Our banquet will be held on Thursday, August 5 at the Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center in Georgetown. We are expecting full capacity at the event and based on early registration, we should have a full house. So grab a group of fishing buddies or business associates and come join us for a great time supporting an even better cause. Our event would not be possible without the support of our great sponsors such as Don Hewlett Chevrolet, who once again has agreed to be our Title Sponsor. I would also like to thank the following businesses that are also making significant contributions: Independence Title, Grand Land Company, Aday and Associate, Morris Glass, Champion Site Prep, Currey Builders, Watkins Insurance, Plains Capital Bank, Liberty Civil Construction, and Cherry Bekaert, LLP.

If you would like more information, please contact John Melnar, Chapter President at (512) 497-8284 or john@grandlandco.com, or Jeff Bible, Banquet Chairman at (512) 632-3474 or aggieangler93@gmail.com.

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

#### TAMU Madelyn Rayburg 210-900-7445 Maddierayburg@gmail.com

Howdy Ags! We finished off our semester strong with our 28<sup>th</sup> annual chapter banquet on May 7! We had a great night of fundraising. Although it can be challenging as a college chapter with board members constantly changing, we worked together to make this event possible. A huge thank you to: Aaron Zavala, VP, Morgan Kopecky, Treasurer, and James Payne, our Merchandise Officer. Without them, our year would not have been successful. And thank you to our dedicated members: Preston Higginbottom, Emilio Salinas, Nick Statz, Madeleine Woodall, and Caleb Arnott for volunteering at our banquet this year!

Also, a huge thank you to our sponsors and donors: Jack Hilliard Distributing, First Financial Bank, DPS Contracting, Lonestar Floors, Hrncir Family, America's Choice Home Loans, Boyd Ready Mix, San Gabriel CCA, Brazos Valley CCA, TAMU TTHA, TAMU DU, Stellar Roofing, Caldwell Country Chevrolet, Winner Family, Will Patterson Family, Mack Rigby, Johnny Rayburg, Spooky Outdoors, Burdett and Sons Outdoor Adventure Shop, CC Creations, The Ranch Harley Davidson, Pronto Services, LLC, and Live Oak Archery.

Based on what A&M has been saying about next year, we are planning to resume in person meetings in the Fall. Hopefully, we



Officers and members who helped at the 2021 CCA Texas A&M banquet.

can be a part of some hands-on projects again this coming year as well. Follow our <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Facebook</u> for chapter updates.

We have elected our new officers for the 2021-2022 school year! James Payne is our new TAMU CCA Chapter President. Madeleine Woodall is our new Vice President. Andrew Stoffels is our new Treasurer. Gavin Minor is our new Merchandise Officer, and Lulu Hoffman is our Social Media officer. We have an exciting year ahead! Tight Lines!

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

Tomball/Magnolia Matt Maddox 832-963-5215 mrmaddox04@gmail.com

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

Trinity Bay
Jayo Washington 281-960-7064
jayowash@comcast.ne

The Trinity Bay Board is proud to announce our banquet is set for Friday, Aug. 13 at Armenta's Reception Hall, 825 Sheldon Road in Channelview. After our banquet in 2019 at Nuevo Leon, we realized we had outgrown the venue. The room at Armenta's is much bigger and will make everyone very comfortable. There will be plenty of space... Save the date and contact your favorite Board member to reserve your table. We're Back and it will be Beautiful...

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

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

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



#### **Gulf Identification Guide**







## Upper Coast Capt. Steve Hillman

#### Summer Patterns and Tips

June and July, strong winds tame down, allowing us to utilize the entire bay complex while looking for tell-tale signs. In early June, wading sand bars and guts near passes as well as drifting open bay reefs can be excellent. Rafts of nervous mullet will often have trout swimming just beneath them.

Into July, less wading and more drifting. Focus on slicks when drifting open bay oyster reefs. MirrOlure Provokers, Saltwater Assassins and various topwaters all come into play. Pay attention to the wind and current as well as the size of the slick in order to set up your drift properly. For slicks, small is better, as they are newer and closer to the fish. Don't avoid the larger ones, just understand that the fish will likely be further upwind and /or up current.

My favorite bait to use when drifting slicks is a MirrOlure Lil John rigged on an eight ounce lead head. Purple Demon is by far my favorite color. If it's calm and the fish are suspended in the upper portion of the water column, I'll switch over to a sixteenth ounce jig head. Conversely, if we're fishing deeper structure and the fish are near the bottom, a quarter ounce may be more effective. This is especially true in strong current and / or high wind situations.

We use needle nose pliers to crimp down our jig heads to allow for quicker and cleaner releases. Keeping just a few and releasing the rest has become a common practice on my boat as well as many others up and down the Texas Coast in an effort to enhance our trout fishery.

Here's wishing all of my fellow anglers a happy and productive summer. Best of luck! Capt. Steve Hillman 409-256-7937

captsteve@hillmanguideservice.com

#### **Middle Coast**

#### Capt. Gordon Taylor

Crazy weather then, great weather now What a strange and crazy year for weather so far. I am really hoping to finally see fishing conditions settle into a set pattern of daily Southeast winds at 10-15 mph with sunny skies!

June and July should be the two months that provide us predictable weather and fishing patterns. Live bait should be plentiful for all the trout fisherman to use in about 3-5 foot depths out along the shorelines in Corpus Christi Bay.

Redfish have been easy to find using live shrimp or shad under popping corks in the flats of Redfish Bay against the shorelines in 1-2 foot depths. Wadefishermen can also use their favorite lures against the same shorelines for redfish and trout. I have been throwing a variety of lures catching some really solid trout and reds using either small suspending lures or my favorite 4' sea shad paddle tail made by Saltwater Assassin called "Space Guppy" on a 1/8th ounce lead head. If we are finally blessed with light winds, I will be fishing the wells out in Corpus Christi Bay freelining live shrimp or live piggies for a mixture of fish that include trout, whiting, sharks, and oversized redfish that are a blast to chase around the bay on light tackle.

During the months of June and July, make sure to bring plenty of water, sunscreen, hats, and anything else to provide for a safe trip. Keep an eye on the kids and the older family members in your boat to make sure that they are doing well and not showing signs of distress due to the heat. It is by far more important to have fun and be safe than to try to put more fish in the box. Capt. Gordon Taylor 361-319-0099

Itaylor99@cableone.net

#### **Lower Coast**

#### Capt. Rene Hinojosa

Sight casting now on deck!

Arctic cold: we lost a lot of fish in that super-cold spasm, but we're pleased at the apparent numbers of redfish that held their own. Rain: the lower coast got our share and maybe someone else's. But that's good news down the way for crab and shrimp spawns, as well as little gamefish looking for food.

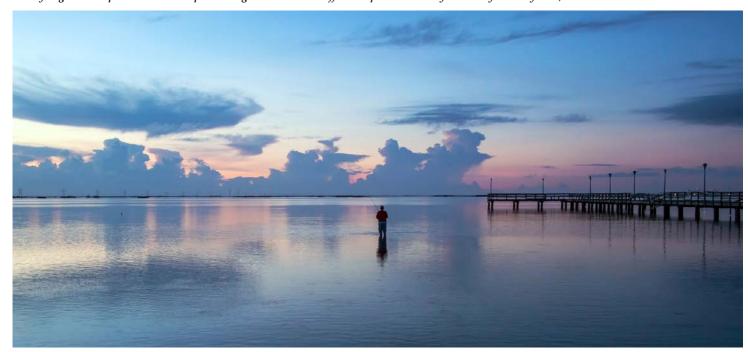
As we move into June, more good news: tequila-clear water is holding and looking great for sight casting. Intense dredging of the channel has apparently made for stronger tides. One dredge is still functioning, which means the super-deep channel will continue to bring ingress and egress offshore for the big boats, as well as happy drifters in back bays.

Through June, we expect the clear water to hold. Watch for concentrations of mullet and shrimp popping up. Put out your drift anchor and sight cast. I like the Bull Minnow lure with a red-head jig. But a topwater early in the morning—whether drifting or wading—needs the same attributes. I also like the Super Spooks, especially the one we call "Bozo the Clown." Of course, there's my ancient go-to lure, the venerable gold spoon. Put a red tag on it.

Then comes July, with heat. Drifting continues of course, but you may want to get out of the boat and wade those shorelines and flats in the heat of the day. You will remember the new limits, be considerate of your fellow boaters/anglers and take a kid fishing. — Capt. Rene Hinojosa Jr. 956-966-0719

shallowcharters@gmail.com

Early angler. Philip Dimmitt Municipal Fishing Pier in Flour Bluff on Corpus Christi Bay. Photo by an early riser, David Sikes





Visit with White Claw at whiteclaw.com



### 2021 CCA Texas STAR-Bigger and Better than Ever

And they're off and swimming! Volunteers with Coastal Conservation Association of Texas have been hard at work releasing tagged redfish worth up to \$100,000 each from Sabine to South Padre Island. This years' CCA Texas STAR Tournament, kicked off at 6 a.m. May 29 and is running through 6 p.m. September 6, will have a different look than what Texas anglers have seen before. Due to the effects of Winter Storm Uri on coastal ecosystems, the CCA Texas STAR volunteer committee voted to do what they can to minimize our impact on affected fish stocks. All while adding to the \$1,000,000 in prizes and scholarships up for grabs!

For the first 31 years of the STAR Tournament, the Texas Ford Dealers Tagged Redfish Division has always been the

favorite division of most anglers, with sixty of the specially tagged fish released across the coast. This year STAR is expanding on this model and will feature FOUR



tagged redfish divisions, tripling the number to over 180 TAGGED REDFISH released along the coast! The Texas Ford Dealers Tagged Redfish Division will remain the same with the first five eligible anglers who catch one of these red tags, taking home a Ford F-150, Haynie boat, Mercury motor, and Coastline trailer package, and the next five taking home the same boat package.

The first new tagged redfish division is the Blue Tag Division. The first three Blue Tag winners will take home a 22' Mowdy boat, Mercury motor, and Coastline trailer package.



The next six anglers will receive a \$750 Academy Sports + Outdoor gift card.

As much as we all loved the STAR Gafftop and other species in the Inshore Division, they have been replaced for now by the Green Tag Division. The first three Green Tag winners will take home a 19' Shoalwater boat, Mercury motor, and McClain trailer package.



The next six anglers will receive a \$750 Academy Sports + Outdoor gift card.

For those young STAR anglers, we have the STAR Youth Division. Any entrant between 6 and 17 years old who catches a Green or Blue Tag will each receive a \$30,000 college scholarship!

There is one other MAJOR CHANGE to this years' tournament, ALL tagged redfish categories are mandatory catch and release! Anglers now just have cut, pull, or clip off the exposed portion of the tag, release the redfish and turn in the tag to their nearest weigh station. Catch, Clip, Release and Claim!

So grab the kids, grab your fishing poles, get your STAR entry and head for the coast this summer to claim your share of over \$1,000,000 in prizes and scholarships!

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 member-



#### **BEST IN TEXAS**

ship any CCA member can purchase (or lease) a Ford vehicle at Ford employee pricing!!! Depending on your chosen vehicle, this could save you \$100's or \$1,000's!! Our Ford Partner Code # is CCA61; go to www.fordpartner.com, if you are considering a purchase.

Our resident long-time partner for all things outdoor, Academy Sports + Outdoors,



takes an even larger step in their ongoing support of CCA Texas. Moving in as a STAR Title Sponsor, Academy's commitment to the future vitality of our precious coastal resources can now be seen in their amping up the scholarships in the new STAR Youth Scholarship Division. Our 2021 Catch and Release format now offers ten (10) of \$30,000 each!

Academy has contributed over \$2,000,000 to CCA STAR scholarships since 1994. No one of course denies the merit of these huge scholarships that mean so much to our kids; they are actually changing the "life paths" of many Texas youth. Yet it is Academy, year in and year out, that continues to invest in "getting these kids hooked" all right...but on the REEL thing!

Kudos to Academy Sports + Outdoors! Be sure to get your kids and grandkids on the water. For \$10 bucks each, they get a shot at winning...and catching the biggest and best whopper of all, free college! Thanks to all our friends at Academy.

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 2021 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.

\$7.15 million in college scholarships to youth from all over Texas

TILSON HOMES \$1,000 in FREE UPGRADES!- Every CCA Texas member who purchases a Tilson Home is

TILSON

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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- 2021 member rewards coming soon!

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

Texas Ford Dealers, Tilson Home Corporation, Academy Sports + Outdoors, Whataburger, Mustang CAT, MerWHATABURGER.

cury Marine, Hoffpauir Polaris, Shiner Bock, Kryptek, 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 <a href="https://www.startournament.org">www.startournament.org</a>. Thanks for supporting CCA Texas and the STAR Tournament!!



## Fried Pickle-brined Tilapia



#### **INGREDIENTS**

4 large Tilapia fillets, sliced in 2" strips / 1 Cup Dill Pickle Juice / 1 Cup Cornmeal / 1/2 Cup Bisquick / 2" oil for frying / seasoning to taste

#### **PREPARATION**

Marinate fish in pickle juice for 30 minutes. Take right out of juice and dredge in cornmeal mixture. Heat oil to 325 and fry fish till golden, being careful to not overcook. Serve with your favorite tartar sauce and enjoy!

LIKE HUSHPUPPIES? For an additional treat, use the remaining cornmeal mixture for hush-puppies. Mince onion and cilantro and add an egg and milk to cornmeal mixture, plus additional cornmeal if necessary. Drop in tablespoon size pups.

Great Foods Editor, Liz Weber





# Three major national awards:

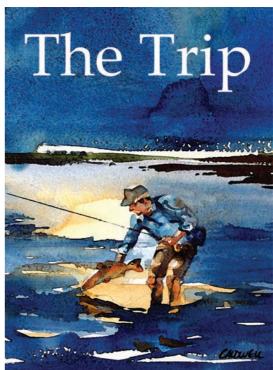
First Place, "Outdoor Book" TOWA, 2018

First Place art, "A Search for Rainbows" and Second Place for "Autumn Wolves" OWAA, 2019 Giclees are now available.

Great idea for a good friend:
Drop by the website and get my
4.5 star novel, *The Trip*.
For the friend or yourself, choose a Giclee from many old, middle-aged and new
Caldwell paintings.

#### 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



Caldwell





**MAJOR CHANGE TO 2021** STAR: ALL tagged redfish categories are mandatory catch and release! Anglers now just have to cut, pull, or clip off the exposed portion of the tag, release the redfish and turn in the tag to their nearest weigh station. Catch, Clip, Release and Claim!

#### How to REMOVE the tag from a tagged redfish before you release it and claim your prize!









#### U.S. Coast Guard Air & Sea Rescue

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

The Texas Parks & Wildlife website is your starting point for almost anything you need

to know about outdoor Texas, including links to many areas.

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

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

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







Phone	Date	

Name	rnone Date
AddressNEW MEMBER	City         State         Zip           RENEWAL         (Member ID for renewing members only)         EMAIL
Method of payment Check/Money order Charge to my: MASTERCARD VISA AMEX DISCOVER	MEMBER: \$35
Credit card number	Signature
	By entering this tournament, I agree to be bound by the STAR Tournament Rules, Release and Indemnity Agreement. I understand that there 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