



CURRENTS

February/March 2022

VOLUNTEERS

Coming up, Abandoned Crab Trap 2022.

*Hannah Rudellat is with the Aransas Bay chapter.
Last year their crew pulled 129 traps.*

More Oysters

By Shane Bonnot

The Oyster – a sessile organism that creates its own habitat with a remarkable ability to filter water, removing excess organic matter from our bay systems. One single oyster can filter up to 50 gallons of water per day and one acre of oyster reef provides \$6,500 in denitrification services annually. Oyster reefs stabilize bottom sediments, reduce shoreline erosion, diminish wave energy and protect wetlands, historically serving as horizontal levees that provide in excess of \$20 billion worth of storm protection annually to Gulf Coast businesses and communities.

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In their natural environment, oyster reefs do almost all the same things as coral reefs. They are refuge. They are food. They are habitat. Over 300 aquatic species utilize oyster reefs, and research has



Commercial oyster fishermen harvesting oysters from intertidal reefs within 300-ft shoreline buffer.

shown that oyster reefs support nearly 4.5 times the aquatic biomass than seagrasses and 11.5 times the aquatic biomass found along marsh edge habitat.

Texas oyster reefs are a critical component of the natural landscape, no different than the trees of the Piney Woods, the brush in the South Texas plains or the wooded mountains of the Trans-Pecos. Without vibrant oyster reefs, you have an underwater landscape that's flat and featureless with nowhere for critters to hide and little to eat.



Commercial oyster fleet dredging oysters from Mesquite Bay Complex.

It may be difficult to imagine but there was a time where oyster reef systems expanded across entire bay systems, and at low tides, wildlife, livestock and humankind would utilize these reefs systems for navigation between land masses. In the last 100 years, due to storms, mining, dredging and commercial oyster fishing, you'd be hard pressed to find any reef system that has any resemblance of its former self. Much of the discussion recently is focused on the immense shift in oyster fishing pressure to the Texas middle coast and the observable impact it is having on oyster reef systems.

As the transient oyster fishery moves en masse to smaller harvest areas, we are witnessing these changes in real time. The 2nd Chain of Islands, Ayres Reef, Ranch House Reef, Beldon's Reef, Cedar Reef, Carlos Reef, and multiple reef systems in Matagorda, San Antonio, Copano and Aransas Bays are being unnaturally altered in both size and structure. Repeatedly dragged and scraped by the oyster dredges, public oyster reefs are being toppled and scattered, drastically changing their structural nature. Reefs that used to be measured vertically in feet are now measured in inches or lost all together. Reefs that historically would extend to the water surface at low tide are now worked down to the bay bottom, making them more vulnerable to being covered by mud and silt.

Anglers, birders, and coastal residents can attest. Previously wadable reefs are now inaccessible. Reefs that once offered sanctuary for shore birds no longer breach the water's surface. Reefs that used to protect shorelines from erosion are no longer high enough to absorb wave energy across the bays.

- It is time to prioritize the structural and ecological value of reefs.
- It is time to safeguard existing reefs and boldly expand current restoration efforts.
- It is time to expand the legally approved state bay-bottom lease program (certificate of location) and promote increased participation in cultivated oyster mariculture (oyster farming).

Public oyster reefs need our help. We need to remain vigilant and patient as we work together to increase sustainability of a fishery that means so much to the health of our bay systems. Please visit ccatexas.org/oysters to learn more and be sure to participate in upcoming opportunities to share your concerns as Texas Parks and Wildlife Department considers management options to conserve public oyster reefs. In the end, we all want more oysters.



Bay Closings Considered: Public Comments In Order

At their March 23-24 meeting, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission (TPWC) will consider prohibiting the harvest of oysters in Carlos Bay, Mesquite Bay, and Ayres Bay. The closure to oyster harvest would protect ecologically sensitive and unique oyster habitat from the negative biological impacts of increased harvest pressure. [Per TPWD](#), the ecological importance and sensitivity of these oyster reefs coupled with the historically high harvest pressure and highly variable oyster relative abundance makes this minor bay complex a candidate for permanent closure from harvest.

Please stay on alert for opportunities for public comment prior to and during the next TPWC meeting. We will provide updates via email, on the [CCA Texas website](#) and across all our social media platforms.



Oyster exhibit from CCA Sea Center in Lake Jackson, Texas.

HABITAT TODAY FOR FISH TOMORROW

Deployments Continue at Nearshore Reefing Sites on Upper Texas Coast

By John Blaha

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's (TPWD) Nearshore Reefing Program recently completed additional nearshore reefing efforts at the Sabine HI20 and Galveston's Big Man and Kate's sites. TPWD contracted with Laredo Construction to deploy a total of 150 pyramids into the Sabine HI20 site and 1,000 pyramids and 255 slab reefs (low profile) into the Big Man and Kate's sites. The December 2021 deployment included the 150 pyramids into Sabine HI20, 500 into Big Man's, and 70 pyramids and 100 slab reefs into the Kate's site. Laredo Construction is now in the process of assembling the balance of 430 pyramids and 155 slab reefs which will be deployed into the Kate's site once construction is completed.

The Sabine HI20 site has benefited from multiple material deployments since October 2018. CCA Texas, the Building Conservation Trust, and local industry partners have funded \$906,000 to these deployments that include: a 120' barge in October 2018; concrete culverts and granite blocks in November 2018; over 500 culverts in May of 2021; and the latest deployment of 150 pyramids in December of 2021. CCA Texas, the Building Conservation Trust, and Friends of Sabine Reefs have worked with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Nearshore Reefing Program to help secure materials and funds to make the nearshore reefing vision a reality.

Local 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, and Eldridge Construction have all been key partners helping to create much-needed nearshore habitat for nearshore species, and provide an easily accessible fishing area for local recreational anglers. CCA Texas and Friends of Sabine Reef will continue to work with TPWD to establish new nearshore reefing sites along the Upper Texas Coast that will benefit the resource and local recreational anglers.

The Galveston Big Man's and Kate's Reef sites are located roughly 20 miles southwest of the Galveston Jetties. This site was permitted by TPWD with input from many local anglers and support from many, most notably Andy Gessner. These two sites are named for Andy's grandchildren, and honor his support and efforts to bring a nearshore site close to the Galveston area. The Big Man's site was previously reefed with 180 pyramids in 2018 and 180 slab reefs in 2019, and the Kate's site was previously reefed with 200 tons of concrete railroad ties

and a 45' vessel in October of 2020. CCA Texas, the Building Conservation Trust and Shell Oil Company have contributed \$329,000 to these reefing efforts, and look forward to the continued reefing and building of the sites.

Galveston Big Man's and Kate's Reef sites are located roughly 20 miles southwest of the Galveston Jetties.

This site was permitted by TPWD with input from many local anglers, most notably Andy Gessner. These two sites are named for Andy's grandchildren.

Time to Get Involved

After a very successful 2021, CCA Texas and local chapter boards are looking forward to 2022. Local chapter boards and CCA Texas Assistant Directors are busy planning for upcoming events and looking forward to



Big Man's and Kate's Reefs: Gulf habitat loaded and ready to be deployed. Photo Courtesy of Laredo Construction

another successful year. CCA Texas encourages you to get involved with your local chapter and help make a difference for Texas' coastal resources. Your voice is also important and another way to get involved. With coastal fisheries management issues always at the forefront, it is important for each of us to attend and make our voices heard at TPWD public meetings. These are held all along the coast and, in many cases, presentations and opportunities for written comment are available online. Being a part of the process is an important step to becoming a conservation minded recreational angler.

The **2022 Annual Crab Trap Cleanup** is slated for February 18 to February 27, 2022. The volunteer cleanup date is set for February 19, 2022 and dumpsters will be placed at different locations along the coast.

The **Billy Sandifer Beach Cleanup** is set for Saturday, February 26, 2022.

The **Bassler East Cut and Beach Cleanup** out of Port Mansfield is set for June 4. All three of these events are great opportunities to volunteer your time to better the Texas coast.

For more information about CCA Texas, be sure to visit www.ccatexas.org or follow us on social media.

Temporary Spotted Seatrout Regulations Approved

At their January meeting, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission (TPWC) passed temporary regulation changes for spotted seatrout, with a beginning target date of March 10. The new rules reduce the spotted seatrout bag limit to 3 fish and restrict the allowable size to 17-23 inches.

The goal of this rule is to leave more spawning fish in the water for two spawning seasons to help the populations recover quickly from the 2021 winter storm. These regulation changes affect all coastal water bodies south of FM 457 in Sargent and expire August 31, 2023. You can listen to the entire January TPWC meeting by clicking [this link](#).



Big Man's and Kate's Reefs: One of the pyramids designed by Atlantis Marine Habitats being lowered to the bottom. Photo Courtesy of Laredo Construction



A post-freeze CPR trout, courtesy of Mid Coast CCA.

HABITAT TODAY FOR FISH TOMORROW

CCA Texas Projects

1. Cedar Bayou/Vinson Slough Restoration	\$1,600,000
2. ** Nearshore Reefing - Sabine Pass	\$ 906,000
3. Nearshore Reefing - Rio Grande Valley Reef	\$ 861,000
4. Nearshore Reefing—Port O'Connor	\$ 700,000
5. Oyster Restoration - East Galveston Bay	\$ 500,000
6. Nearshore Reefing - Galveston / Big Man & Kate's Reef	\$ 329,000
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. Oyster Restoration—Pepper Grove / Galveston (BCT)	\$ 130,000
17. Aransas National Wildlife Refuge Shoreline Protection (San Antonio Bay)	\$ 125,000
18. Oyster Reef Creation - St. Charles Bay (Rockport)	\$ 125,000
19. HRI Oyster Restoration Site Locator Mapping Study	\$ 120,000
20. Marsh Restoration - Dickinson Bayou	\$ 100,000
21. Nearshore Reefing - Corpus Christi	\$ 100,000
22. Bahia Grande Restoration (Port Isabel / Brownsville)	\$ 95,000
23. Oyster Reef Restoration - Aransas Bay (Rockport)	\$ 75,000
24. Oyster Reef Restoration - Copano Bay (Rockport)	\$ 75,000
25. Marsh Restoration - Egery Island (Copano Bay/Bayside)	\$ 70,000
26. Marsh Restoration - Matagorda Island	\$ 70,000
27. Nueces Bay Delta Water Management Gates	\$ 70,000
28. Nearshore Reefing - Freeport / Vancouver	\$ 60,000
29. Nueces Bay Demonstration Oyster Reef	\$ 60,000
30. Marsh Restoration - Goose Island (Rockport)	\$ 50,000
31. Nearshore Reefing - Port Mansfield	\$ 50,000
32. Shoreline Stabilization - J. D. Murphree WMA	\$ 50,000
33. Shoreline Stabilization - Cow Trap Lake (Brazoria County)	\$ 50,000
34. 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

** 2021 Projects Contributed to as 2/28/21

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

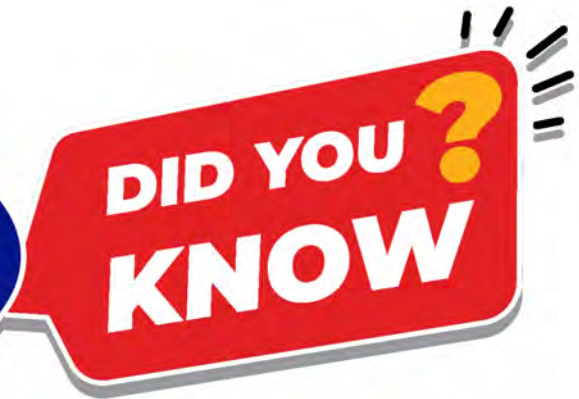
If you are interested in contributing to our Habitat program,
Contact John Blaha at jdblaha@ccatexas.org

Putting fingerlings back where fish need to be

Hatcheries were an early priority of CCA. Enhancing populations was crucial, but replacing a large percentage of cold-stricken gamefish proved to be a primary benefit of the hatcheries.

Once again, CCA and TPWD are filling the need to mitigate trout, redfish and flounder mortalities. Take a brief voyage with a CCA /TPWD hatchery as technicians replace trout fingerlings. Here's a link to a just-released video that will provide an idea of the process: [CLICK HERE](#)





- ★ Runs May 28- Sept. 5, 2022
- ★ Over 120 tagged reds released!
- ★ More prizes than ever!
- ★ Red 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](https://startournament.org) TO SIGN UP!



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



A Special Gift for New CCA Texas LIFE MEMBERS

brought to you by



WEATHERBY

OFFER EXTENDED INTO 2022!

For a limited time a new CCA Texas Life Member (\$1,000 + \$50 shipping) can receive a custom Weatherby Weatherguard 6.5 Creedmoor with a 24" barrel in a tactical grey cerakote finish. MSRP: \$900. Tax deductible amount \$100



PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Your gun must be picked up from an FFL dealer. Please expect 10-12 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)

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

_____ Credit Card Number _____ 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)

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.

FFL Dealer _____

Contact Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____ Phone _____

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

PARTNERING TO PROTECT OUR COASTS

7% of proceeds from CCA-branded gear
supports habitat restoration.

[SHOP NOW](#)



 **CCA**
TEXAS

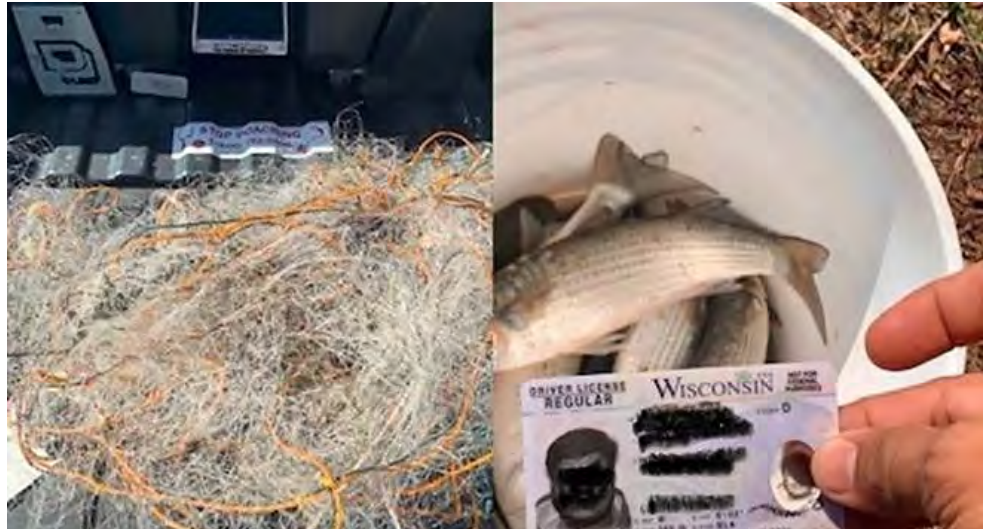
Academy[®]
SPORTS+OUTDOORS

Caught Redhanded! Reports from TP&W Game Wardens

One redfish becomes two oversize reds and four flounder

On 12/13/21 Jefferson County Game Wardens Joshua Sako and Jamal Allen observed a vehicle leaving a popular fishing spot on Pleasure Island in Port Arthur, Texas. They stopped the vehicle for a traffic violation along Highway 82, observed fishing poles in the back of the vehicle and asked the driver if he had caught any fish. The driver replied that he had just caught one redfish. He gave the wardens consent to search the back of the vehicle and they came across two flounder in a 5-gallon bucket. There was another five-gallon bucket stacked under that bucket that contained two more flounder.

The driver received multiple citations for possession of flounder in a closed season plus restitution for each flounder, a citation for possession of oversized red drum without tag, and warnings for traffic violations.



Gill nets abandoned, but Operation Game Thief volunteer provides justice later

On 1/3/22, Harris County Warden Jeff Putnam received an Operation Game Thief (OGT) complaint regarding multiple suspects working gill nets in the Bishop Fiorenza Lake and Wildlife Sanctuary. The suspects departed the area

before Warden Putnam arrived, but left behind their set nets and assorted supplies. Working with the local Harris County Superintendent, arrangements were made to monitor the area for further activity.

On 1/4/22, the complainant reported seeing the suspects in the area again. Working with the Harris County Superintendent, Warden Derrick Lopez was able to respond from nearby and apprehend the two violators in the act of running the gill net in a protected area. Cases pending.






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Shop **Smile.Amazon.com** and .5% of the price of your purchases go to **Coastal Conservation Association**.

Like everyone else you've probably bought a few items (or more) on Amazon recently.
But, did you know that with EVERY purchase you make, you can help CCA and our mission of ensuring the health and conservation of our marine resources and anglers' access to them?

Go to **AmazonSmileCCA.com** and designate "Coastal Conservation Association" as your charity of choice. Then, when shopping on Smile.Amazon.com, .5% of the price of eligible purchases will go to CCA at NO COST to you!



In 2015, the U.S. Coast Guard estimated over **760,000 red snapper** were **illegally fished in Texas** and U.S. waters by the lancha fleet from Mexico.



**REPORT
ILLEGAL
FISHING!**

**STEALING YOUR FISH.
SHORTENING YOUR SEASON.**

REPORT ILLEGAL FISHING IN GULF OF MEXICO:
Inside 9 nautical miles – Texas Parks & Wildlife > **800.792.4263**
Beyond 9 nautical miles – US Coast Guard > **361.939.0450**



Enjoying Your Digital CURRENTS Newsletter

CCA Texas' financial responsibilities and goals are ongoing. 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 affecting environmental change. But printing and mailing a 39-page, full-color newsletter to 67,000 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:

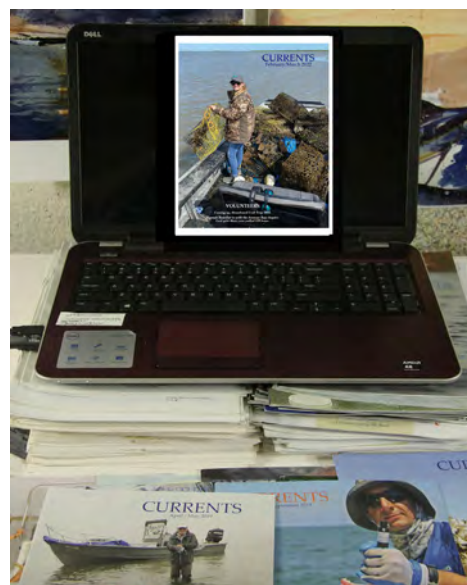
- An e-newsletter can be opened in seconds. Articles can be accessed rapidly. Images can be viewed large. Text can be enlarged for easier reading, blocked, copied and shared. Past issues are a click away on the CCA Texas website.
- A favored article can be forwarded to others, or readily accessed later 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.

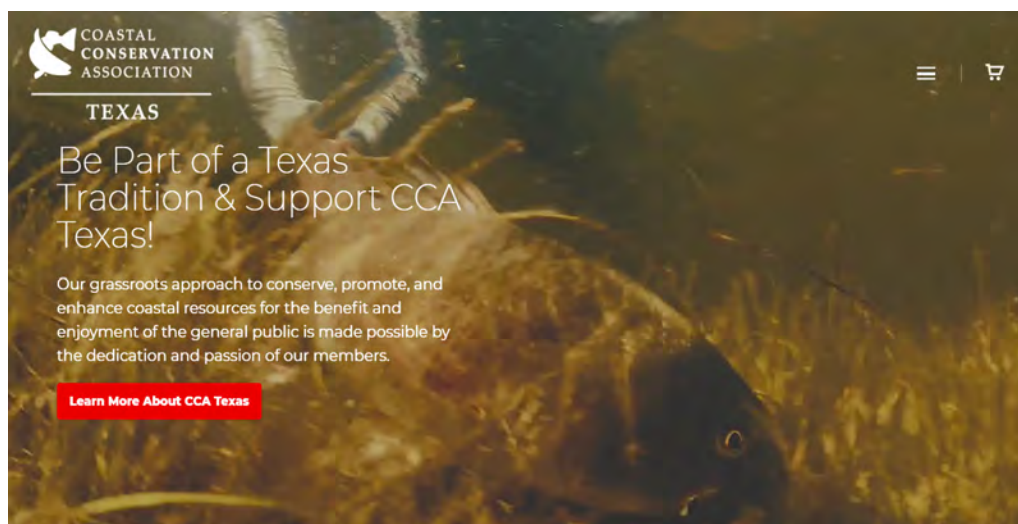
- ***Another big plus—your CURRENTS Newsletter is now as close as your laptop or your cell phone.***



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 ccatexas.org and bookmark it now.





FOR
THOSE
WHO NEED
WATER
TO BREATHE



COSTA
SEE WHAT'S OUT THERE

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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. For instance, our Texas Oyster Fishery is at a critical juncture and we're committed to providing the latest news and ways you can take action directly into your social media feeds. Our following is **GROWING FAST**. Join thousands of CCA Texas members around the state by following us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#)! Every **LIKE** and **FOLLOW** helps to raise awareness for our conservation efforts.

FACEBOOK



CCA Texas on Facebook

Head over to our [CCA Texas Facebook page](#) and **LIKE us today** to stay informed on all the latest CCA Texas news with special photo and video updates and informative links! **LIKE us Facebook TODAY!**

CCA Texas last Thursday

CONSERVING OYSTER REEFS

PROTECTING OYSTER REEFS BENEFITS THE ECONOMY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

CCATEXAS.ORG/OYSTERS

DID YOU KNOW?

303 different marine aquatic species have been identified that use oyster reefs for habitat, refuge, and food (Wells 1961). Oyster reef habitat supports nearly 4.5 times the aquatic biomass found in seagrass beds and roughly 11.5 times the aquatic biomass found in marsh edge habitat (Glancey et al. 2003).

Conserving Oyster Reefs

Did you know...?

Learn more and TAKE ACTION by visiting [CCATexas.org/Oysters](#)

See more

43 likes, 1 comment, 23 shares

CCA Texas on Tuesday

ADVOCACY ALERT

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission will vote this Thursday, January 27th on temporary proposed rule changes for spotted seatrout to help the stocks recover from the February 2021 freeze event. If adopted, these rules will expire August 31st, 2023, and affect the Matagorda Bay, San Antonio Bay, Aransas Bay, Corpus Christi Bay, and the Upper and Lower Laguna Madre systems.

Official comment deadline details for this proposal..... [See more](#)

134 likes, 50 comments, 91 shares

CCA Texas about 3 weeks ago

UPDATE from Texas Parks and Wildlife

TPWD Sets Public Scoping Meetings to Gather Input on Spotted Seatrout Regulations

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) is seeking public input on the proposed rules changing bag and size limits for spotted seatrout on the middle and lower Texas coast. The proposed rules would reduce the spotted seatrout bag limit to 3 fish and restrict the allowable size to 17-23 inches for two years. The goal of this rule is to leav... [See more](#)

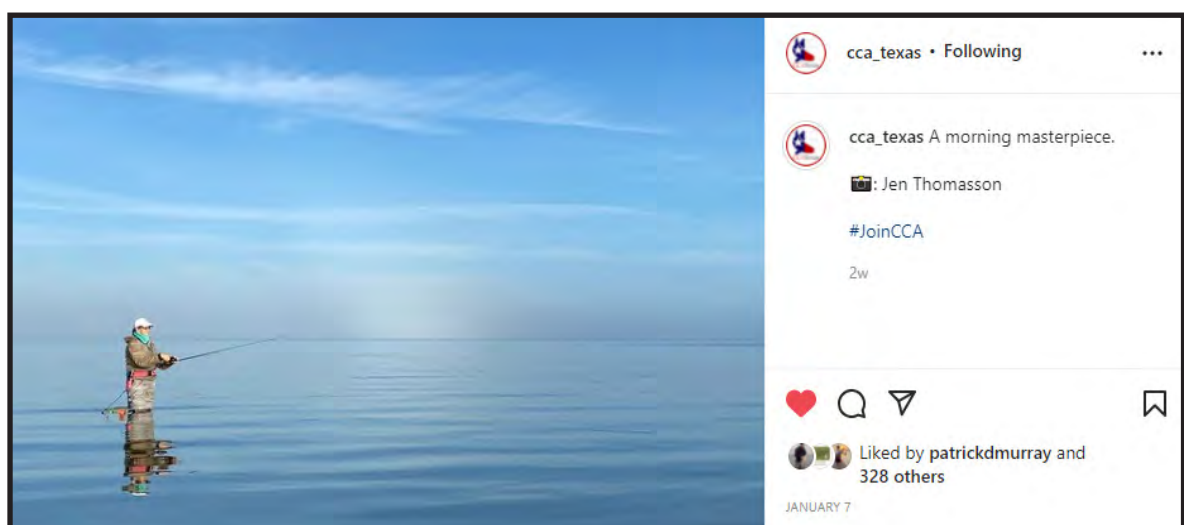
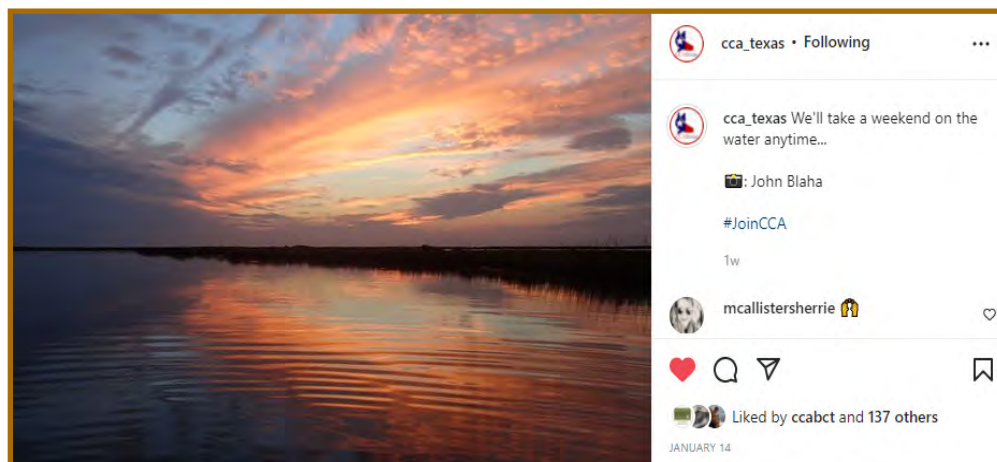
187 likes, 82 comments, 130 shares

INSTAGRAM



CCA Texas on Instagram

We are still working on our goal of reaching **15,000 followers** on Instagram! Help us out by adding [@cca_texas](#) to your feed to see CCA member-submitted photos and videos that you will NOT want to miss. [FOLLOW us on Instagram TODAY!](#)

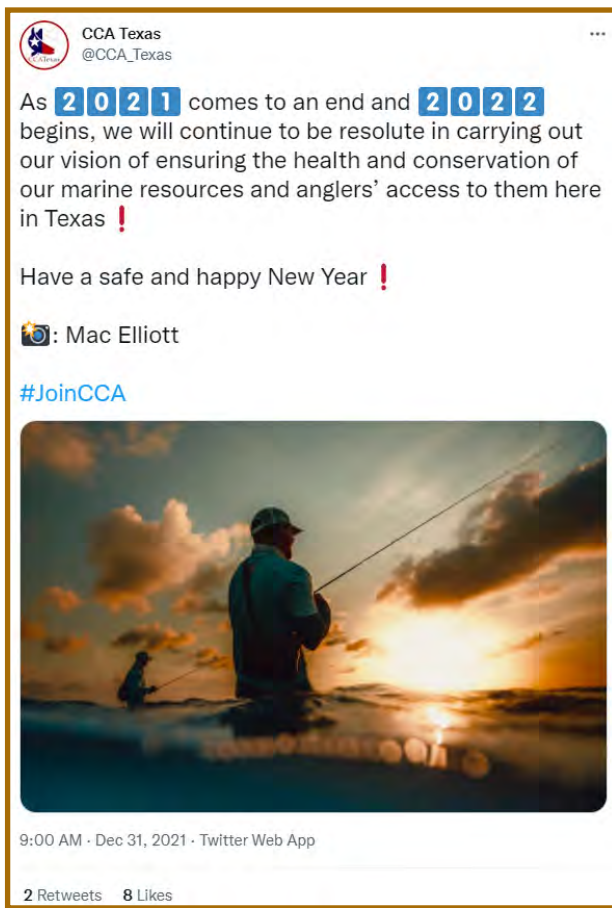


TWITTER

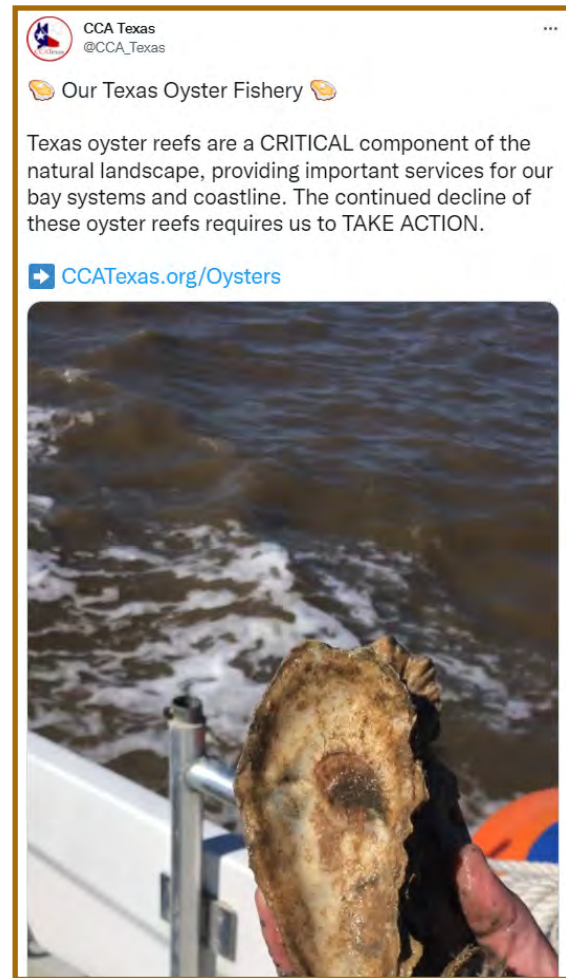


Follow us on TWITTER

Get important recreational angling-related news filtered into your feed by following us on Twitter. In addition to posting our own updates, we make sure to Retweet and Favorite Tweets that we know will help to inform you. [FOLLOW us on Twitter TODAY!](#)



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



Leave it better than you found it
Volunteer
opportunities abound



**Port Mansfield Cut and Beach
 Cleanup, June 4**

Due to several key groups not being able to participate because of schedule conflicts, we have returned the event date to the first weekend of June. Please mark your calendars for the change and book it in your calendars accordingly.

Port Mansfield Beach & Cut Clean Up Saturday, June 4, 2022! More details coming as we get closer to the event.

— Miller and Kathy Bassler / kathie@basslerenergyservices.com 979-204-5185

February may be short on days but it is flush with volunteer opportunities. Dates have been set for the **Annual Crab Trap Cleanup** and the **Billy Sandifer Big Shell Beach Cleanup**.

You can participate in the crab trap cleanup anytime February 18-27, with the main volunteer effort taking place on Saturday, February 19. For more information about the Abandoned Crab Trap Removal Program, please contact Holly Grand at 361-825-3993 or crabtrap@tpwd.texas.gov. You may also contact the TPWD field stations listed below for specific details on collection sites.

Sabine Lake: Port Arthur Field Station / (409) 983-1104

Galveston Bay: Dickinson Marine Lab / (281) 534-0100

Matagorda Bay: Palacios Field Station / (361) 972-6253

San Antonio Bay: Port O'Connor Field Station / (361) 983-4425. This will be the only site facilitated.

Aransas Bay & Corpus Christi Bay: Rockport Marine Lab / 361-729-5429

Upper Laguna Madre: Corpus Christi Field Station / (361) 825-3353

Lower Laguna Madre: Brownsville Field Station / (956) 350-4490



**The 27th Annual Billy Sandifer
 Big Shell Beach Cleanup, Feb. 26**

Contact: Tyler Thorsen – Vice President - Friends of Padre for more information. Email: tthorsen@grandecom.net or 361-779-3044. Here's a link to full information: <https://www.friendsofpadre.com/>



**San Antonio Bay Partnership (SABP) Port
 O'Connor Shorelines Cleanup**

For the last two years, SABP has conducted the POC Shorelines Cleanup to pick up trash on remotes shores near POC—boat or kayaks are required to access. The date for 2022 is not set yet, but it will be on a Saturday in late September or early October. Contact me at the email below to get on the distribution list. Info on last year's effort also available on SABayPartnership.org — Allan Berger / AllanrRBerger@outlook.com



Leave it better than you found it

Abandoned Crab Traps

By Chris Smisek

Some twenty years ago I received a call from Ronnie Luster, asking if I could help TPWD Game Warden Robert Dominguez retrieve abandoned crab traps for a day. That day opened my eyes to a different world. Warden Robert and his partner taught me what a day in the life of a Texas Game Warden was all about and how to help the saltwater resource I loved. I could have never imagined the damage an abandoned crab trap can do over such a brief period.

We picked up dozens of abandoned traps, some new, some old. We picked up one that had a dead crab shell, another with an eco-system of live fishes and crabs. I was amazed at what each one had left alive in it. We even found one



Several species were released from this "ghost" crab trap.

with a trapped live gamefish. I remember how irritated I was that one of my sought-after game fishes was caught and doomed by a crab trap. That day, I was more than willing to help, but could do little but watch and learn from a pro.

Through the years, I found one needs a good pair of rubber gloves that are long enough to all but reach your elbows, rubber boots, a tee handle 4-foot J-hook to use as a trap grapppler, an old pair of waders and layered clothing, a cheap blue tarp to help protect my boat deck, a few old ropes, a couple of energetic volunteers, an ice chest with water and refreshments, a good back, a good back brace and plenty of patience. Picking up derelict traps can be dangerous as every inch of those darn things are sharp and full of bad voodoo bacteria. There is no rush, just one at a time and enjoy the moment. It is hard work but at the end of the day, there are nothing but smiles and accolades from everyone involved. It is also helpful to have four on a boat to work in pairs and have time off occasionally. There is a great sense of accomplishment one gets by saving the life of anything in our time here on this beautiful planet Earth and watching whatever is still alive swim off as you release the contents of the retrieved traps is rewarding beyond what my words can relate.

As time has passed, I see fewer and fewer derelict and/or abandoned traps in the bays. Heck, we used to use them to tell us how shallow the water was. If they were less than halfway under, we'd get the heck out of there but now, they are becoming harder and harder to find. Some I see are there due to an unintentional prop cutting of the buoy



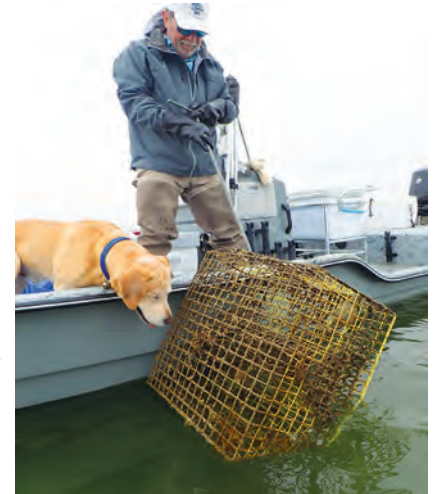
Joe Terry and a young crew of crab trap grabbers.

rope by recreational anglers and/or storms blowing them into the grassland and the crabbers cannot find them. It is hard for me to imagine that the crabbers are leaving them purposefully at a cost of over \$40 a piece!

After almost 20 years of helping, mostly with the same group of friends, we have bonded in a unique way and look forward every year to helping again.

One year, during the most severe weather day we have encountered, we delivered our haul to Charlie's Bait Dock as Capt. Everett Johnson was about to leave. He was the official counter and told me afterwards that, "I lost count and you either came in with 96 or 97 traps!" That stands as a record for one boat, one haul, in one day...and we even have pictures!

If you want to walk a bay shoreline with someone ahead of you and someone behind from Sabine Pass to the Rio Grande, get involved in the Annual Crab Trap Pickup Weekend and you will then feel what true satisfaction feels like. Bet you will be back the next year!



Chester and Chris 'Cap'n Camo' Smisek

The Abandoned Crab Trap Removal Program was initiated in 2002. It is the brainchild of Ronnie "The Crab Man" Luster, a long-time CCA Texas volunteer and the first to be recognized as a Field and Stream "Hero of Conservation." Ronnie's passionate conservation efforts have made a positive and lasting impact on our Texas Coast. Thank you, Ronnie.



A Twenty-year Tradition Continues

The comprehensive and systematic approach to removing traps has been expanded to include San Antonio, Aransas, Lavaca and Matagorda Bays. Search areas are defined out of Port O'Connor, Charlies, Seadrift, Austwell, Rockport, Port Lavaca & Palacios, with removal activities continuing throughout the closure period. Funding for this year's effort will come from a NOAA Marine Debris Removal grant. Volunteers are asked to collect data on each trap removed and mark its location using a cell phone-based app. This data will help to determine the root causes of trap dereliction. Send the email address of the data coordinator in your crew so we can create a username and password for accessing the data program. And, the mobile phone of the Captain for last minute changes and on-the-water emergencies. Allan Berger is the contact.

Also, contact Allan Berger to sign up for your area. Details are available on sabaypartnership.org. Looking forward to the event—it will be fun again! Call or email questions. —Allan Berger AllanRBerger@outlook.com 713-829-2852

Save the date: February 19. The closure period is February 18-27. In case of bad weather, Feb. 26 is the fallback day.

Although traps can be removed at any time during the 10-day closure, several partner organizations will be holding volunteer events on February 19th with February 26th acting as a back-up day if a cancellation occurs due to weather. Registration for these events may be required.

Opportunities for land-based volunteers are limited, but boaters are always needed. Individuals who need additional information about how or where to volunteer should complete the following survey: <https://forms.office.com/g/IPtYJ9VSgr>

To date, over 40,000 traps have been removed coastwide with the help of about 4,000 volunteers. This equates to 657,820 crabs saved since the beginning of the program in 2002. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department looks forward to another successful year of cleaning the Texas coast. —**Holly Grand** / Coastal Outreach Coordinator, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department 361-825-3993

Abandoned Crab Trap Dropoff Sites 2022

A complete list will be available in February. The link to the Abandoned Crab Trap program is https://tpwd.texas.gov/landwater/water/conservation/Crab_trap/Crab_trap.phtml



San Antonio Bay
Partnership



CURRENTS is published six times a year by CCA Texas, a nonprofit state affiliate of the Coastal Conservation Association. This is the issue of February/March 2022
Vol. 42, Issue 1

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Chapter Updates

**Alvin-Pearland
Rex Richards**

alvinpearlandcca@yahoo.com

Hello and Happy 2022 from Alvin Pearland CCA! As this update is being written, we have just held our first in-person chapter board meeting in almost 2 years! We are hopeful that this is a solid start to a path back to normal for our chapter!

We have set the date for our 2022 fundraising banquet. **It will be held on Thursday, June 16 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Pearland.** We are still lining out all the details, but as usual, it will be a fun-filled evening of friends, food and good old-fashioned fundraising for the fish! If you have a company or product you would like to showcase at our event, please reach out to discuss options. Stay tuned for more details soon.

As many of you know, Spring Creek BBQ in Pearland, where we have hosted our Anglers' Night Out events for the last several years, has closed. We are currently reaching out to another local restaurant that has the capacity to host our events and hopefully we will hear back soon! Our goal is to host four Anglers' Night Out events for 2022. The plan as of now is to hold the events in early April, late May, early Sep-

tember and in late October. Historically, these months have been our most well attended meetings. Again, stay tuned for dates and more details soon.

The best way to stay up to date with our latest chapter events is to follow us on [Facebook](#) or go to our [chapter website](#). Wishing tight lines to all!

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



Beau and Lauren Ramey enjoying a beautiful Cedar Bay evening.

Happy New Year to all! February starts off with a bang with the **TPWD Crab Trap Clean Up, which is February 19 at Goose Island State Park.** This is an excellent volunteer opportunity and a lot of fun for our local chapter members. We meet at GISP bright and early Saturday morning. Please contact President, Mike Ferri for details at (361) 790-4404. **Billy Sandifer Big Shell Beach Clean Up is February 26 at Padre Island National Seashore.** This is a huge group effort every year and a great time is had by all while we clean up this beautiful Seashore! Please contact VP, Bill Burge for details at (713) 828-3823.

Our planning has begun for yet another fantastic year in Rockport-Fulton. Our Aransas Bay Chapter has been working hard selling raffle tickets for our 2022 Annual Banquet in April. Raffle tickets are for a 2022 Yamaha Gas Golf Cart with a 2022 Big Tex Trailer. There will also be prizes drawn for 2nd and 3rd Place the night of **our banquet, April 2, 2022 which will be held at Fulton Convention Center.** Tickets and tables are being sold online, please go to CCATexas.org/Aransas-bay to purchase tickets. For raffle tickets contact Hannah



The Aransas Bay 2022 Yamaha Gas Golf Cart with a 2022 Big Tex Trailer.

Rudellat at (361) 746-5046. Huge shout out to **Salemi's Ace Hardware** for your generosity, support and making this possible! Also, thanks to **The Reserve at St. Charles Bay, Lectrics** and **Guild Mortgage** for help making this banquet extra special for our guests! Looking forward to another full house for a fabulous time supporting coastal conservation! If you would like to get involved in the Aransas Bay CCA Chapter, please contact President, Mike Ferri at (361) 790-4404 or Secretary, Jane Jackson at (210) 240-7722. You can e-mail aransasbayccatexas@gmail.com for more information.

As you may have heard, our Aransas Bay Chapter has been working closely with CCA Texas Advocacy Director, Shane Bonnot, FlatsWorthy, and other organizations to address our concerns regarding oyster fishery harvest pressure in our bay systems. Rest assured, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is working to address some of these concerns, which you can hear at their next commission meeting. Please visit ccatexas.org/oysters for all the latest information regarding oysters and thank you for your continued grass-roots efforts to create a sustainable oyster fishery for current and



Alex Bagley in a stunning Aransas Bay Sunrise.



Janelle Weller with a pretty Speckled Trout.

future generations. This work would not be possible without your help. Truly, thank you.

Babes on the Bay registration has opened! By visiting BabesontheBay.com you can click on the registration link to sign up through Fishing Chaos. The largest one day all women's tournament in the USA is back again and will be catch and release. We have ironed out the details and look forward to a fantastic year for lady anglers coming from all over the country! **The tournament will be held May 13-14, 2022 at Fulton Convention Center under the big tent.** We will have live music, great vendors, food and drinks, and will be giving away some awesome trips on Saturday, thanks to Sandy Oaks Kennel & Spaw (must be registered & present to win). We have a huge list of generous sponsors this year, including **Salemi's Ace Hardware, Reel Sportswear, Waterloo Rod Company, Rockport Tackle Town, Yeti, Costa Sunglasses, Orvis Swan Point Landing, Chris's Marine, Goin' Coastal Outfitters, Miss Kitty's Fishing Getaways, Sandy Oaks Kennel, Poor Man's Country Club, Tow Boat US, Canterbury Construction, Guild Mortgage, The Reserve at St. Charles Bay & more!** We are so grateful for your generosity and are looking forward to May! For more info, please follow our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages for updates. You can call or text Jen Thomasson, Tournament Director for more details at (361) 205-0182. We have a lot going on in Aransas Bay and would love for you to join in the fun! Tight lines fishing friends!

Austin

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

We are gearing up for our **2022 fundrais-**



2022 CCA Austin Chapter Raffle Boat

ing banquet on Thursday May 12, 2022 at Palmer Events Center. The Austin board is working hard to bring you the best raffle, live auction and we are excited to roll out our new game zone for everyone to enjoy. You can go to our chapter [webpage to purchase tickets](#) or you can email cherylccaustin@gmail.com for more information and table forms.

This year's boat is an SCB S22. It is equipped with a Mercury Verado 250hp engine, Lenco Trim Tabs, a Boss Machine Extreme Jac, and raised console. Plus, it sits atop a tandem axle McClain aluminum trailer! The early bird drawing for a Sitka Rambler Rolling Bag **ends February 28**, so get your tickets early. Purchase your 2022 boat raffle tickets through a board member or call Cheryl at (512) 662-0006. Only 1500 will be sold!

We want to thank all of our sponsors and supporters for making it possible to continuing the mission of CCA! If you are interested in learning more about volunteering and joining the board of the Austin Chapter of CCA we would enjoy having you join us. Please contact Jeff Beck at natvtexn71@yahoo.com with any questions. We meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at Warren Wildlife Gallery, 1401 Bouldin Ave, Austin, TX 78704. If you have any questions on Austin CCA Chapter, please contact Jason Magdalena, President, at jason.magdalena@gmail.com or at (512) 789-6207.

Brazoria

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

Brazos Valley

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

With winter and some cool days upon us, fishing can be interesting. Luckily there have been a few warm days to lure us out on the water.

CCA Brazos Valley Chapter held its

first meeting of the year on January 11. We enjoyed a delicious fish fry, compliments of Scott Sigle and Randy Boenigk, with the help of chef Mark Fitzjerrell. The major topic of the night was the upcoming banquet. Raffle tickets, flyers and banquet tickets have been printed and are ready for distribution. A long-time member, Quentin Henry, has already been gathering sponsors for what we hope will be the best banquet ever. The funds we raise go to conserving our coastal environment, not only for us to enjoy, but for our kids, grandkids, great and great-great grandkids. We appreciate all the support through the years from the sponsors, attendees and our members who diligently work to make it happen. The banquet is just around the corner on **March 4, 2022 at the Brazos Center in Bryan, TX. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.** Please come join us for a night of dinner, drinks, auctions, raffles and good ole fundraising fun. If you would like to buy a table, we offer Reserve or Corporate options, or a program ad, or would just like to attend the banquet contact John Ben Strother (contact above) or Carson Vecera at 713.626.4222. Take a kid, family or friend fishing. They will remember it the rest of their life.

Brenham

Ryan Saunders 979-251-2389
ryansaunders1@att.net

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

Our team is very busy preparing for our

sponsor, please contact Heather at ccacorpuschristi@gmail.com or call (361) 882-5199.

Keep an eye on your email and the chapter [Facebook page](#) for more details on these upcoming events: Babes on Baffin will be October 7-8, 2022, Poco Rojo Kid Fish



The Murphy Table at the 2019 Colorado Valley Banquet

upcoming banquet on **March 31, 2022 in La Grange at the Knights of Columbus Hall. The banquet starts at 6:00 p.m. with dinner served at 7:00 p.m.** You can contact any of our chapter board members for tickets or contact Taylor Rieck in the Houston office. Get those tickets early to qualify for our early bird drawing. Aqua Beverage Company was our last year's winner. It promises to be another hugely entertaining evening of fun and fellowship so don't miss out. Wishing bent rods and tight lines to all!

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

We made it to 2022 and we are hitting the ground running. **The 44th Annual Fund-raising Banquet is March 24 at the American Bank Center** and we are planning, organizing, and getting things ready for all of you. **Dr. Kesley Banks** has taken the helm as banquet chair this year and she is ready to get this party started! Look for some exciting changeups in the live and silent auctions. **Saltwater Grill** and **House of Rock** will be providing food and drinks again this year. They have been catering this event for several years and we cannot thank them enough for all their support. Thanks Paul and Casey!

Speaking of the banquet, this year's boat is provided by **Ron Hoover RV & Marine** and is a 2022 18' Freedom Patriot Cat with Suzuki 115hp Four Stroke Engine and Coastline Trailer. The drawing will take place at the American Bank Center on March 24 and you do not have to be present to win! If you would like to purchase banquet tickets, raffle tickets, or get in as a

is TBA and the next Anglers Night Out is TBA.

Let us know if you're interested in volunteering! For questions, contact Heather at ccacorpuschristi@gmail.com or call (361) 882-5199.

Dallas
Jason Gray 214-384-4164
Jason.Gray@hilltopsecurities.com
The Dallas Chapter Annual Banquet has been set for Thursday, September 22 at On The Levee. We had a fantastic banquet there last year and we look forward to putting on an even better one in 2022. Tables are available to purchase now and there is an Early Bird buyer's prize if you purchase by June 30 and gift values increase with premium table purchases. We want to thank all our past attendees, sponsors and donors and hope we can count on everyone's attendance and support again. Please contact us for details on tables and if you are interested in donating a product we can showcase in our auctions or raffle packages.

Many of our local members have enjoyed some fishing trips to the coast over the winter months, while others have been concentrating on hunting seasons. More of us are looking forward to upcoming spring trips to get some lines wet.

Stay tuned to [@CCADallas](#) for updates on events prior to the banquet. Keep those lines tight!

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

Hello everyone, we hope you are all doing well. Your Fort Bend CCA committee members have been on the ball making plans and coming up with some great ideas for our 36th Annual Banquet. This year we will be raffling off another boat for our grand prize! A 2022 JH Performance Outlaw 210x (21') with a 175HP Mercury and a Coastline aluminum trailer. There will also be chances to win other prizes so be sure and get your tickets today! For tickets, please contact Jim Black at (979) 240-5010.

As usual, our gracious sponsors and generous donors are doing all they can to help make this year's banquet a huge success. It is scheduled for April 28, 2022, tickets and more information can be found on our [chapter webpage](#). If you would like to become a sponsor or would like to donate please contact Thomas Welch, our Banquet Chairman, (832) 628-0130 or Blake Tumlinson, your support is greatly appreciated. For table reservations you can contact Troy Burditt (281) 725-8569 and he'll get you fixed up. Hope to see you all there!

Upcoming events: We are starting to prepare for the CCA Kidfish held in Matagorda TX. Dates and info on the event will be coming soon. Flyers and entry forms will be posted on our [chapter webpage](#) and www.matagordabay.com so be on the look-out. Thank you for all the support!

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

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

Golden Triangle
TS Bell 409-291-0448
tsbell70@yahoo.com

Greater Sugar Land
John Breland 281-808-2969
geauxing_ishing@yahoo.com
If you can smell the aroma of boiled crawfish in the air, then it must be time for the Greater Sugar Land CCA Annual Chapter



Photos from the 2021 CCA Greater Sugar Land Chapter Banquet. Left: Thumbs up from the beverage line. Right: boiled crawfish being scooped out for hungry Greater Sugar Land members.

Banquet. Make your plans and join us **Thursday, March 31, 2022 at the Stafford Centre** for a night of dinner, drinks, auctions, raffles and good old FUNdraising fun. Our friends from Cajun Country Cookers will be serving up delicious, boiled crawfish and fried catfish with all the fixings. No better way to start out the spring-time than securing a table for you and 7 of your friends. You can purchase a table online on our [chapter webpage](#).

We are excited to be hosting our **Kid Fish events with our first one set for Saturday, April 30, 2022 in New Territory**. If you know of a neighborhood in the Greater Sugar Land area that may want to have a Kid Fish event, please don't hesitate to contact us. Or if you would like to volunteer and lend a hand, please feel free to join us. Believe me when you see a young angler landing their first catch and the smiles on their face it will warm your heart. Plans are underway for Anglers' Night Out and I will publish more info on that. The last one was a big success, and our goal is to top that one.

And as always, a very special thank you to the Board of Directors of the Greater Sugar Land CCA Chapter for all of your hard work and dedication to all that is CCA. La Les La Bon Temps Roule and Geaux Fish.

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

I can't believe it's 2022! I hope this new year finds you and your friends and families healthy and well. I can tell you that covid and quarantine are no fun! We binge-watched Lone Star Law and caught up on some rules of hunting and fishing. I couldn't believe how many people try to play the "I didn't know I needed a license" and "we didn't catch any fish" card when they get caught red-handed with fish in a bucket or on a stringer, and nobody else is around them. If you do go fishing, always

make sure your buddies have a license, and if you decide to give your fish away to someone as a nice gesture, don't forget to have the proper document (Wildlife Resource Document) to give them as proof that you were the one that caught the fish, or you'll just be ruining their day if the law shows up.

Be on the lookout for our Annual Chapter Banquet coming up soon. You can check out our [chapter webpage](#) or our [Facebook page](#) to find out about current events that we'll be having throughout the year. We're looking forward to welcoming some great guest speakers at our general membership meetings. If you know someone in the fishing industry that would like to be our guest speaker, just let Drew Adams at 713.626.4222 or myself know so that we can make arrangements for them to join us.

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

Hello Guadalupe Valley Chapter members. Hope all are doing well and are starting to venture out more to wet a line.

Our 14th Annual Chapter Banquet was held in August 2021 was a HUGE success. Thank you to all board members for helping make the banquet great. Thank you all that attended and purchased live and silent auction items. Funds raised help CCA do BIG things in our waterways for years to come. Info will be out soon with a date for our 15th Annual Chapter Banquet soon. Been hearing chapter members talk of big fish out there this winter. Hope to see pictures soon. 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

Hope everyone is doing well and getting in some fishing time when the weather is right. Tight lines!

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

Howdy CCA Helotes, winter is coming to an end soon and that means it's almost time for **the 5th Annual Helotes Chapter Banquet**. The chapter's banquet committee has been hard at work getting ready for another great evening on **March 24, 2022**. This year we are once again at **Pedrotti's Ranch**, located at 13715 FM 1560 (Hausman Rd). By the time this issue of CURRENTS is released, ticket will probably be scarce, so don't wait. You can buy tickets online at <https://ccatexas.org/events/2022-helotes-banquet/> or contact me directly. My number is listed above. 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

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

Houston Real Estate
Kirk Laguarda 713-515-3830
KLaguarda@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

Calling all CCA members and lovers of PINS no matter where your chapter resides to join us for the Port Mansfield Cut and Beach Clean Up, Saturday June 4, 2022.

Come one come all and join us in Port Mansfield for this year's event and as always, we need volunteers for many different jobs. Foot soldiers to do the picking up of trash and heavy lifting, boats with Boat Captains, to ferry all the workers back and



Volunteers for last year's Port Mansfield Cut and Beach Clean Up. Above, the jetties and below, a group photo.

forth from Port Mansfield to the Cut then on to the jetties and finally back to Port to call it a day, and 4WD enthusiasts to travel from Corpus to the Jetties on PINS in their 4WD trucks and trailers to help ferry workers up and down the beach and then, pull their trailers back northward, to haul the trash to a designated PINS dumpster site.

This year due to budget considerations,



2021 CCA Lower Colorado Chapter Guides Cup Winners

PINS personnel will no longer be able to use their personnel and vehicles to ferry up and down PINS, therefore it's even more critical that we sign up as many 4WD participants as possible to help offset the loss of PINS.

Remember: Free lodging for you and

their designated starting spots on the East Cut, and we usually return to Port by no later than 3PM, sometimes sooner, pending weather.

Please contact **Kathie Bassler** on how you can help and get signed up for the event and FREE lodging.

kathie@basslerenergyservices.com
979-204-5185

As always we welcome Financial Sponsorships which help us offset the many costs associated with doing this event and you may contact Miller Bassler to learn how you can sponsor and help make a difference by emailing Miller Bassler:

miller@basslerenergyservices.com

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

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

There was a blowout attendance at the 13th Annual Lower Colorado Chapter Banquet and Auction on Friday, August 5, 2021.

The Bay City Civic Center was filled to the brim. Extra tables had to be brought out to accommodate everyone. It was our largest banquet attendance ever! The chapter wishes to thank all those who came out to enjoy the evening of fun, food and fantastic support.

Thank you to our sponsors who stepped up with tremendous support for

the banquet and the Lower Colorado Chapter's mission. Special thanks to the tireless volunteers who worked both before, during and after the banquet to make it such a huge success. A shout out to platinum sponsors **Gulf Coast Ace Hardware, Bill VonGoten, HEB, Academy Sports and Outdoors, Busha Boat Works, Tim Munos, Matagorda Bay Distillery, and Boggy Bend Wildwings.**

The Lower Colorado Guides Cup Tournament, on October 5, 2021, was a huge success for all those lucky winners at the live auction to fish and compete with their favorite captains. Last year brought some superb fishing. It is one of CCA Texas' favorite tournaments in this part of the gulf coast. It really brings out the competition for who is TOP GUIDE on the water in the Matagorda Bay system. And, a big thank you to Gulf Coast Ace Hardware for sponsoring this tournament.

With the beautiful weather and 14 of Matagorda finest guides we knew it would be a good day of competitive fishing. Coming out on top were the following captains and their teams. Good job!

1st Stringer - Capt. Tommy Alexander

2nd Stringer - Capt. Caleb Rush

3rd Stringer - Capt. Pat Gardner

Big Trout - Capt. Caleb Rush

Big Redfish- Capt. Charlie Paradoski

Big Flounder - Capt. Michael Kubecka

Captain Tommy Alexander and his winning team members Mike Morcaw and Brian Walters took home the trophy and some great prizes.

As always, keep watching this spot for the upcoming news and events from the Lower Colorado Chapter of CCA Texas. The only chapter that represents and supports all of Matagorda's Bays, Lakes, Rivers and Creeks.

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

Mainland
Trey Mitchiner 281-636-2165
trey642004@aol.com

Our Anglers' Night Out meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month. Mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

On February 8, 2022 our guest speakers will be Gulf Coast Lady Anglers. They will talk about how they get more women involved in fishing and go on fishing trips with other women who share their interest and experiences. Membership includes everyone from beginners to Captains.

On March 8, 2022 our guest speakers will be Capt. Tyler Reed and Capt. James Pre-



CCA Mid Coast Pre-Banquet Raffle Grand Prize is a 2021 Haynie Bigfoot powered by Mid Coast chapter's 2021 Mercury 150 sitting on a 2021 Coastline custom trailer.

Midcoast fishermen have had good days on the bays. Below, Midcoast President Wade Harrell hoists a sight-cast catch and release winter black drum.



witt from Marsh Rat Rod & Gun. They will discuss fishing Chocolate Bay during the Spring. Please follow [Mainland Chapter CCA on Facebook](#).

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

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

Looks like we finally have some winter weather headed our way, can't wait for the big trout thump! The Mid Coast Chapter has some exciting events coming up and we hope you will be a part of it!

We are excited about our pre-banquet raffle! Grand prize is a 2021 Haynie Bigfoot powered by a 2021 Mercury 150 sitting on a 2021 Coastline custom trailer, 2nd prize is a Browning X-Bolt 6.5 Creedmore Max Long Range Rifle, 3rd prize is a Weatherby Element 20 ga Tungsten shotgun, 4th prize is a custom Waterloo Rod and Reel combo and 5th prize is an Engel 65 qt cooler! Thanks to our sponsors, **Chris' Marine and Waterloo**. We have tickets and will be showcasing the boat around Victoria, please call Cheryl Guthrie (361) 935 3342 or Mike Brawner (281) 787 1671 to purchase tickets (\$100 each). We are only selling 600 tickets, so get yours while they are available! Please keep an eye on our chapter [Facebook page](#) for special upcoming events around the area where we will be showcasing this beautiful boat!

Our chapter will again be partnering with the San Antonio Bay Partnership to assist with the **February abandoned crab trap cleanup in Aransas, San Antonio and Matagorda Bays**. The big event will be the first **Saturday of the closure on February 19, 2022 in Port O'Connor**. If you want to bring your boat and participate, Allan Berger has laid out cleanup routes to follow. You can contact Allan at (713) 829-2852 (text preferred) or allanrberger@outlook.com for more information.

Mark your calendar **for our 2022 banquet the evening of Thursday, April 21 at the Victoria Community Center**. Until next time, tight lines!

Northeast Houston
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jlaw1899@yahoo.com

Northwest Houston
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scottbandy77@yahoo.com

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

Port O'Connor
Hank Lippold 832-499-1067
hanklippold@gmail.com

The **2022 Port O'Connor Chapter Banquet will be held on Saturday, April 9, 2022**. Tables and tickets are on sale now and can be purchased on the [Port O'Connor chapter webpage](#). We look forward to 2022 and we hope you can all join us at the banquet. See you next time in POC "Where it all began".

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

Hope everybody had an awesome holiday and ready for a new year. On January 12 we had our first meeting of the year and starting to plan for the **CCA Prairie Chapter Annual Banquet that will be on Thursday, April 7, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at the Austin County Fair Convention and Expo building 1076 Hwy 159 in Bellville**. We are planning on a sell out so get your tickets early. Along with the selling of tickets there will be a choice of three levels of tables: Bull Red Table, Gold Table and the Silver Table. Individual tickets are also available and they can be purchased at Wittenburg Printing, 210 Meyer Street in Sealy or email mmanager@wpprint.com or any board member.

This year we are going to have some new raffle items along with a high end raffle and our cap & card game. The silent and live auctions have some great items including fishing and hunting trips, some fine prints and much more. Dinner will be prime rib, chicken breast and boiled shrimp served by David Divin of Mikeska BBQ. Thanks and see everyone at the banquet!

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

Hello Redfish Bay chapter members; welcome to 2022! I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Your board is looking forward to our events in 2022, and, as always, we want you enjoy them.

Our banquet is scheduled for Saturday, May 21, and it will be in the Aransas Pass Civic Center, starting at 6 p.m. We will have a "sit down" meal, drinks (mixed), beer, wine, cokes, and tea.

We do everything we can to make it a fun and enjoyable evening. As always, there will be something for everyone in the raffle, silent auction, and live auction. We are blessed with many donors, who make our items varied and interesting! With Woody's Sports Center being closed, we are looking for ways to continue our Take a Kid Fishing event. We are planning on the first week in June. Look for more information on social media, the CCA web site, and in the mail. I am sure we can make it happen!

Our Beeville Fish Fry will be in the fall, usually the Thursday before dove season. More on the date a venue to follow.

Rio Grande Valley
David Deleon 956-533-8374
david_deleon2@yahoo.com

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

The **CCA Sabine Neches 24th Annual Chapter Banquet will be Thursday March 3, 2022 at the Bob Bowers Civic Center Port Arthur Texas at 6 p.m.!** Come join us for a great night of fundraising with hot crawfish, cold drinks with great auction and raffle items! We look forward to seeing you!

Fishing on Sabine has been good despite the up and down weather we have been experiencing. That's all for now, pictures from our event will be in the next issue! Tight lines y'all!

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

San Antonio
Robert Lozano 210-632-4246
robertolozano129@yahoo.com

Happy New Year! Here is hoping Santa was good to all, brought you that new waders or rod & reel combo! As we all know, planning the right clothes for winter fishing, can be a blast on our coast.

Just finished a SA Banquet Committee ZOOM call. Planning is well underway for the **2022 San Antonio Banquet, which returns to its spring date this year on April 28 at Joe Freeman Expo Hall**. We are also planning our **San Antonio Hooked on Clays shooting event for March 18, 2022 at the beautiful National Shooting Complex**. This is another great event of comradery supporting the mission of raising funds for our cause.

Follow us at CCA San Antonio on [Facebook](#) for future events, meetings and information



2021 CCA San Gabriel Banquet

and get yourself on our mailing list if you have not done so yet. We wish you a safe and Happy New Year to you and your families! Keep those lines taut and take the family fishing. Best from our CCA family to yours!

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

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

As we start 2022, the CCA San Gabriel Chapter would like to wish everyone the best start to their new year. 2022 will be **San Gabriel's 20th anniversary and with this we are holding a special banquet on August 4, 2022**, to honor and recognize all who have contributed in the past. Please reach out if you are interested in assisting or contributing to this year's event. And remember, time spent fishing is time well spent!

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

TAMU
James Payne 210-275-0707
jamescp88@tamu.edu

Howdy Texas Aggeland CCA, we have a pretty packed semester already! We will be spearheading a group of volunteers to participate in the 27th annual Billy Sandifer Big Shell Cleanup. We recently had John Andrasko from the Bait Barn come speak to us. Mr. Andrasko highlighted the different fish and bait they raise on site and the capabilities of their pond stocking programs. Additionally, Bait Barn carries just about any gear and tackle you might need. Aggeland CCA would like to thank Bait Barn for speaking to our chapter over the years and we're looking forward to future joint events.

Recently, President James Payne III and Vice President Madeline Woodall were guest speakers at A&M Consolidated High-school's FFA meeting where they spent the evening informing students about CCA. During our presentation we demonstrated how to make a fishing lure out of paracord, gave students some fishing tips and recommended local areas to fish. It was nice to

see the students engage in lure crafting and show interest in an organization like CCA. We would like to express our thanks to A&M Consolidated High-school's FFA Chapter for being great hosts, we are looking forward to coming back!

Save the date for our **Annual Aggeland Chapter Banquet on May 6, 2022**. Keep an eye out on our social media pages for more information, meeting dates, and chapter updates.

Texas State University

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

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

TRI-COUNTY

25TH ANNUAL CHAPTER BANQUET

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Join us for a crawfish boil and fried fish dinner, drinks, auctions, raffles and good old fundraising fun

FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 2022 | 6:00 PM

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\$850 TROUT TABLE
Preferential seating, 8 regular tumblers, 8 hats, sponsor placement spot

\$600 FLOUNDER TABLE
Preferential seating, Signage

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Justin Putz 210.585.0401 | putz.stx@gmail.com
 Blake Burnside 713.626.4222 | bburnside@ccatexas.org

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\$30 Kid's Ticket	Qty. <input type="text"/>	Price <input type="text"/>	Table Name <input type="text"/>
\$1,100 Redfish table	Qty. <input type="text"/>	Price <input type="text"/>	
\$850 Trout Table	Qty. <input type="text"/>	Price <input type="text"/>	Total Amount <input type="text"/>
\$600 Flounder Table	Qty. <input type="text"/>	Price <input type="text"/>	
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TICKETS ALSO AVAILABLE AT coastalconservation.org/events/2022-tri-county-banquet/

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

Hoping you had an opportunity to spend quality time with family and friends over the holidays. Also hoping you got a line wet or filled the freezer with backstrap and sausage.

Grab your calendar and save **Friday, August 26, 2022, for the 32nd annual Trinity Bay Chapter Banquet at Armenta's Reception Hall on Sheldon Road**. If you attended last year's banquet at the new venue, you would have to agree we came a long way from the

very cramped hall in Baytown. Armenta's allows us more elbow room at the tables and more display space around the hall.

Last year, we tried a second event for our chapter. We strategically started small to test the water. Building on the good time had by all, keep an eye out for the Trinity Bay Spring Fling Crawfish Boil. More in the way of a social event as opposed to the full-blown banquet, we will have a few games and raffles. When the details are locked in, we will share on the Trinity Bay website.

It's never too early to start planning for crawfish, it just makes your mouth water, doesn't it? Call or text and we'll hook you up.

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

Come join us for the **19th West Texas Chapter Annual Banquet on April 20, 2022 at Midland Country Club. This fun filled event starts at 6:00 p.m.** featuring a silent auction, raffle, live auction, open bar and crawfish and shrimp prepared by the **Enviro Resources Cooking Team**. These guys come all the way from Earth, Louisiana to boil up some of the finest seafood to hit West Texas. Tickets and tables are on

sale now: Bull Red Tables (10 guests) for \$2500, Trout Tables (8 guests) for \$1750 and Individual Tickets are \$100. Call Craig McDonnold at (432) 553-5396 or (432) 682-3499 to purchase your tickets or you can buy them online on our [chapter webpage](#).



Leaving it better than they found it; Sandifer PINS beach family cleanup crew, circa 2013

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Upper Coast Capt. George Knighten

Challenges, with rewards

February and March can be challenging, but these months can produce some of the largest trout of the year. That being said, it seldom comes easy—so much to think about when its 70-degrees one day and high-30s the next.

That's the challenge. What's the water temperature? Are the tides super low? Will there be a moving tide? When is the best time to go? Moon phase, bait, water clarity, structure?

Successful fishermen can put all of this together. If I am targeting big fish, then I will be wading. I know Corkys are the lure many anglers throw this time of year but my personal favorite is the tried-and-true 51M Miro-lure. I will also try topwaters for a while no matter how cold it is.

Drifting is probably going to be your best bet for average-size fish. I like drifting over shell, especially if I see mullet. Many Galveston and Matagorda Bay fishermen fish off-colored streaks in the water. The bait uses it for cover to hide, predator fish use it to ambush, so I seldom pass up a dirty streak without giving it a try. If you see mullet in the streak, or it's over shell, your odds go up.

My go-to lure for drifting this time of year is the Bass Assassin or similar soft plastics. When fishing the streaks, I will occasionally use a Rattletrap. The vibration helps them find the lure in off colored water and the strikes can be aggressive. Weather: everything hinges on weather and that includes how you dress. Cold in the morning, hot later in the day and cold again for the ride back in. Dressing in layers that can come off and go back on easily is the way to go.

Conservation should be on all of our minds. The only way we will get our numbers back is with catch and release. I know it's hard to resist the temptation to show off a good catch back at the dock, but there is a special satisfaction with releasing a nice trout. Take a picture and let them go to reproduce. Hope your fishing trips are successful, stay safe and warm. —Capt. George Knighten 832-310-9146 gtkphoto@yahoo.com

Middle Coast Capt. Tommy Countz

Go topwaters, live for the explosions

February: pay attention to the weather. I like to go a couple of days after a strong norther blows the tide down. For wading, I enjoy fishing West Matagorda Bay's south shoreline for redfish. When the tides are really low the redfish have to come out of the back areas. I concentrate my efforts on the drains coming out of the peninsula. My go-to baits are weedless gold spoons and paddle tail plastics rigged on 1/16 ounce lead-heads. It's winter; the fish are cold and much less aggressive. Slow down your retrieve and "feel" the bite.

If I'm fishing from the boat, I'll be in East Matagorda Bay drifting the scattered shell on the west end or the big mud flats on the east end. If the water is cold, then the fish are also cold and much less aggressive. Slow down your retrieve and "feel" the bite. I like a heavier leadhead with a bright finfish imitation bait like a Norton Sand Shad Jr. in Margarita. Look for off-colored water and work your bait sloooooow, keeping it just off the bottom.

March: Spring is in the air and hope springs eternal, so break out the topwaters and live for the explosions. My go-to topwater has been the Rapala pink Skitterwalk. If tops aren't producing, I'll go to a Norton Sandeel JR, rigged on a 1/16 ounce leadhead.

If you're a boat fisherman, your best bet is probably drifting East Matagorda Bay. Rig live shrimp under Mid-Coast corks with a three foot leader. If the water is clear I prefer tossing 1/4 ounce leadheads rigged with Norton Bull Minnows. My choice of colors is usually Black Magic or Margarita.

Be optimistic, but cautious. It's winter, and conditions change. Remember to check your waders for leaks; checking them after you get in the water can greatly increase the "shrivel factor." —Capt. Tommy Countz *If you're interested in booking a trip you can call or text me at 281-450-4037.*

Lower Coast Capt. Rene Hinojosa

Think slow, but go!

February on the lower Texas coast: icy, windy and clear one day, warm, still and sea-foggy the next. You can use your GPS for navigation but watch for waders. I could be among them.

I like to start the day with topwaters. Choose your favorite, but think slow... That heart-stopping blowup is worth a lot of casting. I like the Skitterwalks and Super Spooks. But don't ever not try your favorite topwater any time of the day.

No secret spots to reveal, just try to locate bait and expect to find gamefish on grassy flats. We've had success with the Norton lures. I have affection for the Sand Eel red and white paddle tails beneath an 8 oz jig head. Try the Kellywiggles; red and white, Punkin' Seed. You can work them as "suspended" baits in deeper water with practice, keeping the rod tip up. If you're seeking a trophy speckled trout, shallow grassy flats with mud and baitfish are the recipe. Of course, the old Johnson Sprite gold spoon can be a winner.

We'll be wading mostly through February and looking forward to those days just after a strong front moves through. But drifting on a mild wind can provide a big payday for reds. On light wind and balmy days, ease along shorelines looking for trophy redfish. Slow is an important part of your equipment in February and March, whether balmy or breezy.

March comes in strong with plenty of wind, but the fish don't care if you're uncomfortable. There's always clear water somewhere, and maybe very little competition for that perfect spot. On light wind and balmy days, ease along shorelines looking for trophy redfish.

February or March, you'll be prepared with gear for your crew and a sharp eye for weather problems. Help a fellow fisherman if one needs it, and the same for your catch: send the big spotted ladies back for further duty. —Capt. Rene Hinojosa Jr. 956-966-0719 shallowcharters@gmail.com



"Fish On!" Great Action Photo by Wade Harrell. For the CPR shot, see page 38.

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The Evolution of STAR

33rd Annual CCA State of Texas Anglers' Rodeo Early Bird Registration Deadline is **FRIDAY, APRIL 29!**

When the CCA Texas STAR Tournament Committee met in early 2021, they had to do the unthinkable in reimagining thirty-one years of tournament precedent. Well, as we look forward to another hot summer of tournament action, volunteers on the committee have once again shown their ability to adapt and refine the tournament's structure.

After the changes that were made to the 2021 STAR Tournament due to Winter Storm Uri, many anglers fell in love with the new format. However, there was an even bigger group of anglers, including STAR staff, that longed for the action that came with updating the leaderboards just waiting to see if they had been bested by another angler. After much deliberation and head scratching, STAR volunteers and staff believe we have come up with a semi-hybrid of the two formats that capture the best components of each, with another big twist in the mix.

Big Ugly and **Drumfish**, are just a couple of the names you may hear black drum referred to. Well, now regarding STAR Tournament anglers, the Big Ugly can also be called Big Prize! The 2022 tournament will, for the very first time, feature a Black Drum category in the Open Inshore Division. This new species is sure to produce some exciting competition in the Open Inshore Division! Drum will be required to measure within a 24-28" slot on the Check-It-Stik Elite Measuring System provided to weigh-stations by

STAR, and anglers must provide photographic evidence of this length. The 24-28" slot size was designed to serve two purposes primarily, to help reduce the harvest of Black Drum in the tournament and prevent anglers from inadvertently bringing an illegal fish to the weigh-station. Please see www.startournament.org for more details.

As part of getting back to the tried-and-true tournament format, STAR 2022 will be the return of Gafftop and Sheepshead for the Open Inshore, STAR Kids, and STAR Teen Divisions. For the STAR Kids and STAR Teens there's a little twist in the prizes. Instead of having one \$50,000 or \$25,000 scholarship for the winner and gift cards for the other four places in the category, STAR volunteers decided to spread the love around some. All youth anglers on the final leaderboard will now receive a scholarship. This should certainly make things fun to watch this summer and help get more kids, and future conservationists, on the water!

\$6,800,000 in scholarships to youth from all over Texas

On top of spreading out the scholarship dollars for more youth anglers, STAR volunteers recognized our country's need for more and more skilled tradesmen in the marketplace. Scholarships can now be used not only for traditional colleges or universities, but any trade, technical, or vocational training program to help prepare the angler for a successful future in the workplace.

As we continue to evolve and adapt to try and make

the tournament as enjoyable and fair for all anglers, the rules must evolve with it. We ask that all anglers make themselves familiar with all applicable rules listed at www.startournament.org, especially in regards to Fishing Method and General Rules sections.





STAR\2021 Early Bird Scholarship
Drawing Winner - Thomas Arredondo

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!



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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 2022 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

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Thank you to our tremendous 2022 sponsors who allow us to host his great event:

Texas Ford Dealers, Tilson Home Corporation, Academy Sports + Outdoors, Whataburger, Mustang CAT, Kryptek, Mercury Marine, Hoffpauir Polaris, Shiner Bock, Shoalwater Boats, Haynie Boats, Mowdy Boats, Dargel Boats, Texas Fish & Game Magazine, Coastline Trailers, McClain Trailers, KTRK-abc13, and Chris's Marine.

For more information, go to www.startournament.org
Thank you for another great year of support for CCA Texas and the STAR Tournament!

See page 34 for the 2022 CCA Texas STAR Tournament Prizes.



Below is a breakdown of the 2022 CCA Texas STAR Tournament Divisions

Texas Ford Dealer's Red Tag Division					
	1st Tag	2nd Tag	3rd Tag	4th Tag	5th Tag
	Ford F-150, Haynie Boat, Coastline Trailer, Mercury Motor	Ford F-150, Haynie Boat, Coastline Trailer, Mercury Motor	Ford F-150, Haynie Boat, Coastline Trailer, Mercury Motor	Ford F-150, Haynie Boat, Coastline Trailer, Mercury Motor	Ford F-150, Haynie Boat, Coastline Trailer, Mercury Motor
	6th Tag	7th Tag	8th Tag	9th Tag	10th Tag
	Haynie Boat, Coastline Trailer, Mercury Motor	Haynie Boat, Coastline Trailer, Mercury Motor	Haynie Boat, Coastline Trailer, Mercury Motor	Haynie Boat, Coastline Trailer, Mercury Motor	Haynie Boat, Coastline Trailer, Mercury Motor
Blue Tag Division					
	1st Tag	2nd Tag	3rd Tag	4th Tag	5th Tag
	Mowdy Boat, Coastline Trailer, Mercury Motor	Mowdy Boat, Coastline Trailer, Mercury Motor	Mowdy Boat, Coastline Trailer, Mercury Motor	\$2,000 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$2,000 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card
	6th Tag	7th Tag	8th Tag	9th Tag	10th Tag
	\$750 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$750 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$750 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$750 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$750 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card
Open Inshore Divisions					
	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	4th Place	5th Place
Gafftop	Shoalwater Boat, McClain Trailer, Mercury Motor	\$500 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$250 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$150 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$100 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card
Sheepshead	Shoalwater Boat, McClain Trailer, Mercury Motor	\$500 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$250 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$150 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$100 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card
Black Drum	Shoalwater Boat, McClain Trailer, Mercury Motor	\$500 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$250 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$150 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$100 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card
Open Offshore Divisions					
	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	4th Place	5th Place
Ling	Hoffpauir Polaris Ranger	\$500 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$250 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$150 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$100 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card
Dolphin	Hoffpauir Polaris Ranger	\$500 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$250 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$150 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$100 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card
Kingfish	Hoffpauir Polaris Ranger	\$500 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$250 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$150 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$100 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card
Snapper	Hoffpauir Polaris Ranger	\$500 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$250 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$150 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card	\$100 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Card
Academy Sports + Outdoors STAR Teens Scholarship Divisions					
	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	4th Place	5th Place
Gafftop	\$30,000 Scholarship	\$20,000 Scholarship	\$15,000 Scholarship	\$7,500 Scholarship	\$2,500 Scholarship
Sheepshead	\$30,000 Scholarship	\$20,000 Scholarship	\$15,000 Scholarship	\$7,500 Scholarship	\$2,500 Scholarship
STAR Kids Scholarship Divisions					
	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	4th Place	5th Place
Gafftop	\$30,000 Scholarship	\$20,000 Scholarship	\$15,000 Scholarship	\$7,500 Scholarship	\$2,500 Scholarship
Sheepshead	\$30,000 Scholarship	\$20,000 Scholarship	\$15,000 Scholarship	\$7,500 Scholarship	\$2,500 Scholarship



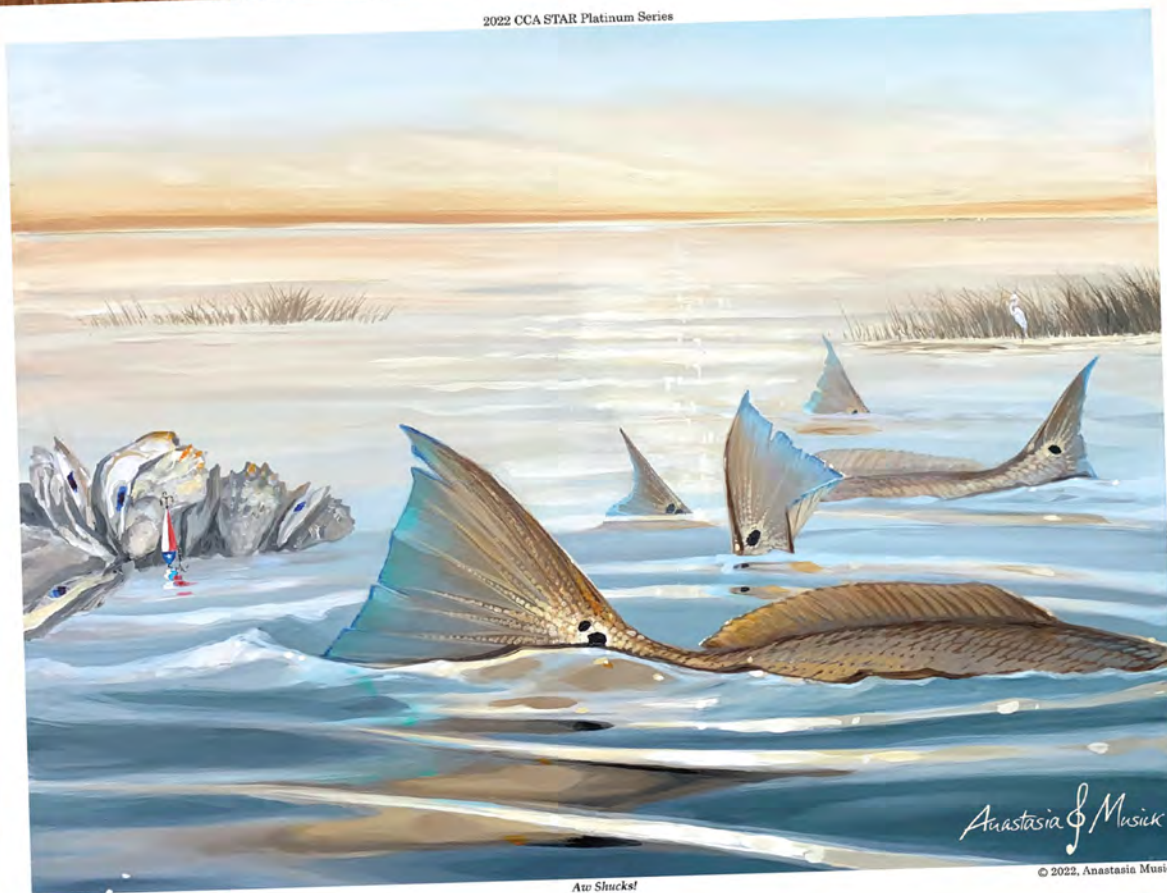
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Gulf Identification Guide



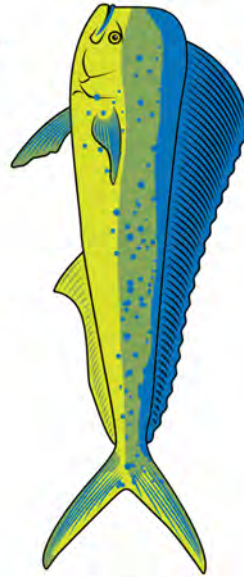
Tito's Bloody Mary



Grouper



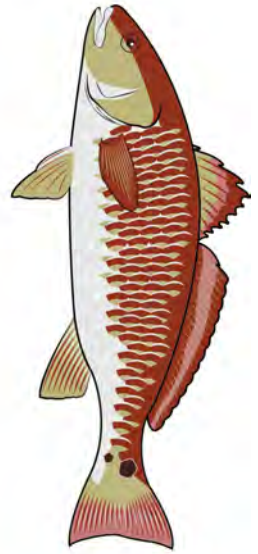
Tito's Martini



Mahi-Mahi



Mo-Tito



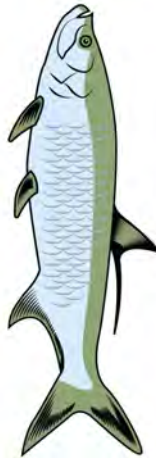
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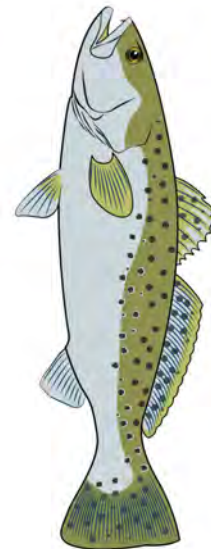
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Chipper Trout

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6 trout fillets with skin on / an 8 oz bag of Lays potato chips / 1 cup grated cheddar cheese / Season All seasoning / Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Line a cookie sheet with foil. Place trout fillets (dried off), skin side down on foil. Season well with the Season All. Smash up potato chips, add cheese and mix well. Sprinkle cheese/chip mixture over each fillet. **Bake** for 20 min. **Broil** for 3 to 5 min. until golden brown. Using a spatula, remove fillet from skin and serve.



Great Recipe Editor Liz Hewitt

Great Photos 2022

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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



Jeremy Janda oversees Will Janda with rod. Reed Jonda is holding the net. It was the First Place Kids Photo for 2021. The photo on the right may be the result of that bent rod. Photo by Grandfather Gary Janda.

Beau and Lauren Ramey enjoying a beautiful Cedar Bayou evening.



Left, Great Photo, Humor by Capt. Danny Neu. The guide titled the photo, "Battery pack available, slightly used."

Right, MidCoast President Wade Harrell caught the Great Action photo of a spot-tailed red.



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

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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

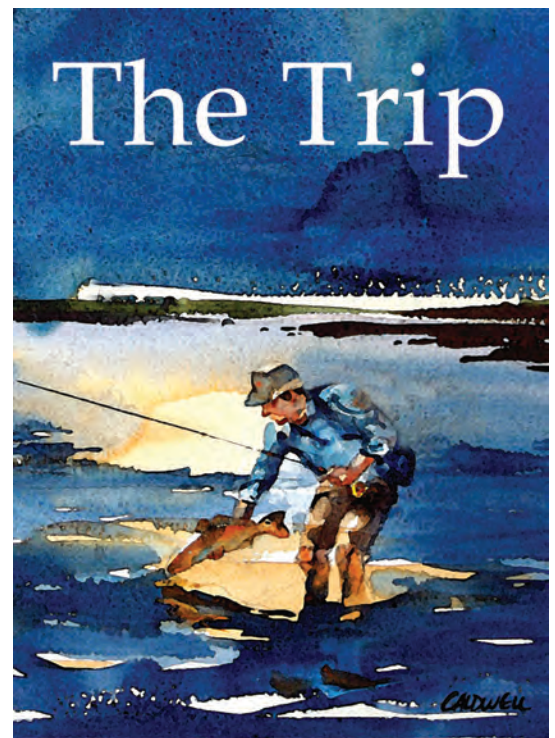
Texas State Artist 2004

DU State Artist 2010-2011

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Coastal Conservation Association

6919 Portwest Drive, Suite 100
Houston, TX 77024

February/March 2022



On the CCA conservation menu:

Abandoned Crab Traps and Overharvesting of Oysters

U.S. Coast Guard Air & Sea Rescue

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

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

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

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



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



COASTAL CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION TEXAS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (including STAR Entry)

Name _____ Phone _____ Date _____

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

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

MEMBER: \$35 _____ Membership card, decal, bumper sticker, Texas CURRENTS newsletter & TIDE magazine.
ASSOCIATE: \$20 _____ Per each family member. All membership privileges except TIDE and CURRENTS.
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.

CONSERVATION MEMBER: \$50 _____ Age: _____ Date of birth: _____
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