

CCA Aransas Bay Chapter Volunteers Scott McLeod and Mike Weiss help bag oyster shell during CCA / Yamaha Day of Conservation at St. Charles Bay Oyster Restoration Project. Photo by @patrickdmurray

CURRENTS IS INTERACTIVE!

This issue is equipped with clickable links. Try clicking one to open it in your browser.

St. Charles Bay Big Tree Living Shoreline Project Expansion

By John Blaha

ysters are natural buffers against rising tides and storm surges created by extreme weather. They protect our shorelines and wetlands from erosion. The Goose Island State Park Big Tree Unit is a wintering ground for many species, and most importantly it plays host to the annual winter migration of whooping cranes to the Coastal Bend. The St. Charles Bay Living Shoreline Project was originally born in 2016, and led by Harte Research Institute's Dr. Jennifer Pollack. The project's original scope was to create approximately 2,000 feet of oyster reef along the western shoreline of St. Charles Bay to help prevent erosion in this area of wetlands and upland habitat.

Oysters grow vertically into reefs that provide complex, three-dimensional habitats for reef-dependent organisms including small fish and crustaceans. These resident organisms are consumed by juvenile fish and larger crustaceans that use oyster reefs for foraging and predator refuge, and in turn are consumed by economically important sportfish, enhancing recreational fishing in Texas bays. As foundational species, that builds habitats benefiting numerous other organisms, oyster reefs are a

priority for conservation and restoration activities. Not only do these types of projects create these eco-system services, they provide important buffers which help prevent and slow down erosion along coastal shorelines.

Phase I of the project was completed in early August of 2017, only weeks before Hurricane Harvey. This phase constructed seven reef beds that measured approximately 120′ long, 30′ wide, and 1′ high. The center of the eye of Hurricane Harvey passed just 4 miles away, creating much concern about the survivability of the new project. Fortunately, the storm had a minimal effect on the project, and the 2017 fall spat set in the area yielded great results on the new reef mounds. The original partners in this effort included Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, the Harte Research Institute, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, CCA Texas, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Texas General Land Office.

With solid success on Phase I, a second phase was planned to add additional reef beds into the area. Phase II was constructed in September of 2020 and added an additional 10 reef beds to the permitted area. Partners in this phase included Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Harte Research Institute, CCA Texas, US Army Corps of Engineers, and the Texas General Land Office. CCA Texas contributed \$75,000 to this phase, which included \$50,000 from Lone Star Breweries and their Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund. The Lone Star Breweries funds were dedicated to habitat restoration in the Coastal Bend area, specifically Rockport and Aransas County.

While the first and second phases were successful, the desire was to work towards filling the entire permitted

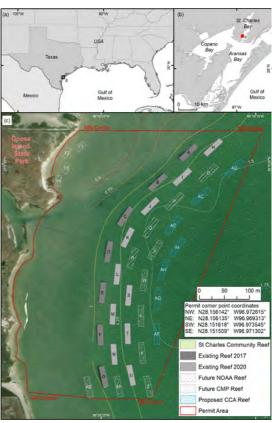


Members of CCA National Staff, Aransas Bay Chapter volunteers, and Yamaha Marine participated in an oyster bagging event hosted by Harte Research Institute. Photo by Pat Murray (@patrickdmurray)

area. This led to Phase III which was planned and was recently completed in May of 2022. Dr. Pollack and the team at the Harte Research Institute continued to lead the effort. Phase III's original scope consisted of 15 new reef beds. CCA Texas and Building Conservation Trust once again moved to support the project and did so by contributing \$350,000 to expand the project from 15 reef beds to 22. Lone Star Breweries contributed \$100,000 and Cheniere Energy contributed \$60,000 through the Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries program to \$350,000. Partners in this phase included the Harte Research Institute, Texas A&M Corpus Christi, CCA Texas, Building Conservation Trust, Lone Star Breweries, Cheniere Energy, the Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program, NOAA and the Texas General Land Office.

Long-term success of the reef will continue to depend upon larval oyster settlement onto the reef structure and survival and growth of these oysters to larger size classes. Dr. Pollack and her staff of graduate students and research associates continue to conduct seasonal

monitoring to measure structural and functional characteristics of the restored oyster reefs. Nearby reference locations on existing oyster reefs are used for comparison purposes to measure the success of these projects. In addition to the monitoring program, Dr. Pollack and staff host hands-on oyster bagging events. These events present a hands-on opportunity for participants to hear from researchers and graduate students about oyster reef ecology, and why reef restoration is important. Handson work is done by bagging recycled shell collected from partner area restaurants and placing it back into the bay to create new reef structure. At the end of May, representatives from Yamaha Outboards, CCA National staff, and Aransas Bay CCA volunteers participated in a bagging event. This event gave participants the opportunity to gather a deeper understanding of the ecology and benefits of this important habitat. CCA Texas, the Building Conservation Trust and partners are proud to be a part of these projects and are



Proposed reef bed layout, which has now been completed. Map provided by the Harte Research Institute

committed to these efforts to ensure healthy oyster reefs and eco-systems for present and future generations.





Contractors place materials in Phase III of the St. Charles Bay Big Tree Unit Living Shoreline Oyster Restoration Project. Drone photo courtesy of John Blaha.

HABITAT TODAY FOR FISH TOMORROW

CCA Texas Projects

2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9.	Nearshore Reefing - Sabine Pass Nearshore Reefing - Rio Grande Valley Reef Nearshore Reefing—Port O'Connor Oyster Restoration - East Galveston Bay ** Oyster Reef Creation - St. Charles Bay (Rockport) Nearshore Reefing - Galveston / Big Man & Kate's Reef HRI Nearshore Reef Enhancement Study	s s s s	906,000 861,000 700,000 500,000 425,000 329,000
4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9.	Nearshore Reefing—Port O'Connor Oyster Restoration - East Galveston Bay ** Oyster Reef Creation - St. Charles Bay (Rockport) Nearshore Reefing - Galveston / Big Man & Kate's Reef HRI Nearshore Reef Enhancement Study	s s s	700,000 500,000 425,000 329,000
5. 6. 7. 8. 9.	Oyster Restoration - East Galveston Bay ** Oyster Reef Creation - St. Charles Bay (Rockport) Nearshore Reefing - Galveston / Big Man & Kate's Reef HRI Nearshore Reef Enhancement Study	\$ \$ \$	500,000 425,000 329,000
6. 7. 8. 9.	** Oyster Reef Creation - St. Charles Bay (Rockport) Nearshore Reefing - Galveston / Big Man & Kate's Reef HRI Nearshore Reef Enhancement Study	s s	425,000 329,000
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			250,000
10.	Dagger Island Shoreline Protection & Marsh Restoration (Redfish Bay)	S	250,000
	Shoreline Stabilization - Oyster Lake (West Galveston Bay)	\$	230,000
11.	Oyster Restoration—Deep Reef Sabine Lake	S	215,000
12.	Nearshore Reefing - Matagorda	S	200,000
13.	Shoreline Stabilization - San Bernard NWR	8	200,000
14.	Marsh Restoration - Bird Island Cove (West Galveston Bay)	S	150,000
15.	Shoreline Protection/Marsh Creation - Moses Lake (Galveston Bay)	8	138,000
16.	Baffin Bay Serpulid Reef Habitat Conservation/Restoration Study	\$	135,000
17.	Oyster Restoration—Pepper Grove / Galveston (BCT)	S	130,000
18.	Aransas National Wildlife Refuge Shoreline Protection (San Antonio Bay)	S	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)	S	95,000
23.	Oyster Reef Restoration - Aransas Bay (Rockport)	s	75,000
24.	Oyster Reef Restoration - Copano Bay (Rockport)	8	75,000
25.	Marsh Restoration - Egery Island (Copano Bay/Bayside)	S	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	S	50,000
32.	Shoreline Stabilization - J. D. Murphree WMA	S	50,000
33.	Shoreline Stabilization - Cow Trap Lake (Brazoria County)	S	50,000
34.	Dollar Bay Shoreline Protection and Marsh Restoration	S	50,000
35.	Galveston Bay Foundation Headquarters Living Shoreline Restoration	S	50,000
36.	Marsh Restoration - Oxen & Gang's Bayou (Galveston)	S	42,000
37.	Trinity Bay Discovery Center Living Shoreline	S	40,000
38.	Sweetwater Preserve Shoreline Protections and Oyster Reef Enhancement	S	30,000
39.	Marsh Restoration - Nueces Bay (Corpus Christi)	\$	24,000
40.	Marsh Restoration - Snake Island Cover (West Galveston Bay)	8	20,000
41.	Weed Eradication for Water Flow Restoration (Guadalupe River Delta)	S	15,000
42.	Bay Debris Removal - Aransas Pass	\$	5,600
43.	Building Conservation Trust's Texas Habitat Fund (BCT & CCA Texas Secured Funds)	S	399,066

^{** 2022} Projects Contributed to as 3/01/22

TOTAL FUNDED THROUGH 2022: \$9,114,666

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

HABITAT TODAY FOR FISH TOMORROW

CCA Texas and Building Conservation Nearshore Reefing Support	n Trust
Sabine Pass HI20 (2021 deployments: Culverts & pyramids)	\$ 906,000
 Rio Grande Valley (2021 deployments: Railroad ties & boats) 	\$ 861,000
• Port O'Connor	\$ 700,000
Galveston Big Man & Kate's (2021, deployments: Pyramids)	\$ 329,000
HRI Nearshore Reef Enhancement Study	\$ 250,000
• Matagorda	\$ 200,000
Coprpus Christi	\$ 100,000
Freeport / Vancouver	\$ 60,000
Port Mansfield	\$ 50,000
Total contributions to Nearshore Reefing:	\$3,456,000





s you read this, the 33rd Annual CCA Texas STAR will have kicked off for saltwater anglers up and down the Texas coast. It is a fine pleasure on behalf of all the volunteers of CCA to offer this fun, wholesome event for the entire family. Many folks are not aware that STAR is designed only to break even for CCA; instead,

our "hook" (pun intended) is that you must be a current member of CCA in order to fish STAR. So, STAR serves as our membership drive every year and we are very grateful to each and every one of you members reading this. Help us grow... recruit others that fish with you to join in the main mission of CCA -to ensure the future

vitality of our precious coastal resources for everyone. Ain't nothing more fun than watching the little ones with their first redfish on the line, then it's over, and on to the next kid! Mom and Dad, what better way to get you more time on the water than by bringing the kids along? For \$10 bucks each, they are in a drawing for a \$25,000 scholarship, whether they catch something or not. All the studies show time spent on the water with family and friends is the #1 reason people fish. In today's times, we need that special bonding that families provide. Good for the soul!

And what's better than doubling your chances to win? We discovered last year that folks really love the tagged fish divisions. A lot. So, we doubled the traditional number of redfish we release up to 120. Actually, 123. Now we have both the Red Tag (62 fish) and the Blue Tag (another 61 fish) Divisions for major prizes. Many anglers missed not having actual competition, particularly for the kids, and thanks to ample recoveries in both sheepshead and gafftop since the deadly 2021 freeze, both species are now present again in the Youth Scholarship Divisions and the Inshore Open Division. Even better, the Tournament Committee decided to "spread the wealth" across ALL five places

in both the STARkid (10 and under) and the STARteen Divisions (11-17) so that the action could get more intense! And rewarding, but make sure you read Rule #9. First place in each will now get a scholarship of \$30,000, then \$20,000, \$15,000, \$7,500, \$2,500. No longer are these valid for just "college and universities" but also "accredited technical and trade schools, and vocational training programs". Add to that the scholarship contracts for the winning kids will be paid directly to the chosen schools so NO taxes to pay, Mom and Dad. Win, win, and win some more.

As TPWD continues its fine work in raising baby fish at CCA-built hatcheries, we are assured that these juveniles as released will help supplement the wild stocks to get both speckled trout and flounder numbers back up where they need to be. In the meantime, thanks to all for going easy on these impacted species. Of course it did allow CCA STAR to introduce a replacement—black drum! Be advised—this is tricky because black drum is a "slot" fish; that is, it must be measured on an official CCA device at all the

STAR Weigh-In stations, BEFORE it can be weighed in. The STAR slot is 24"-28" only. Heaviest fish wins after certified measurement. It is entirely the angler's responsibility to take the three (3) required pictures of the measurements according to established Drum Measuring and Means and Methods as published at startournament.org. These are even laminated to the official measuring device, along with the pictures below. Read the exact rules! This is essential and pictures must be sent to STAR within two days. Any blurred pictures will not be accepted. See examples above of correct pictures. No exceptions—all STAR anglers want to ensure a squeaky-clean event for everyone!

If you are new to CCA and STAR, you probably don't know we have the very best sponsors on the planet. Our members are passionate about our sport and appreciate those who make this event possible by patronizing our partners. Be sure and tell them the next time you make a purchase. They care about what you care about and they darn sure want to see more fish in the water for our kids and grandkids to catch!





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 Texas membership!

Ford X-Plan Pricing- CCA Texas members will again have the great honor from Texas Ford Dealers of using X-Plan pricing. For just a \$35 membership any CCA Texas 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.



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



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



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 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.

Thank you to our tremendous 2022 sponsors who allow us to host this 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 <u>www.startournament.org</u>
Thank you for another great year of support for CCA
Texas and the STAR Tournament!

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



A few of the STAR volunteers who make it all possible



Robert Frennea – Sabine area release



Joe Gleason, ABC13 Sports, a many-year veteran of the Tagged Redfish Release from Galveston. Thank you, Marita Schultz, owner, Pelican Rest Marina in Galveston for hosting us at your boat ramp for the 4th year!



Texas Ford Dealers Tagged Redfish Division. The tagged fish was held, then released by **Charlotte Harris** of Academy Sports + Outdoors.



Dillon Goggins, the follow boat captain.



David Harris and Corey Survant- Corpus Release Not pictured, big thanks to **Kyle and Debbie Harris** for Mid-Coast Release



We could not have done this without so many volunteers, pictured here **Carol**, **James Heller** (Tagged Redfish release team captain), **Kelton Thompson** (long-time volunteer for releases) and **Charlotte Harris** (Academy Sports + Outdoors) a veteran release team member!



Many thanks to **Jeff Young**, the boat captain for the release team boat and **Dillon Goggins** (the follow boat captain) for volunteering many years with the Galveston release. These volunteers and approximately 80 additional volunteers from the Sabine area to Harlingen, make this yearly event happen so that you can win big prizes!

Lower Coast Release Team, David De Leon, Charlie Buchen, Bob Brumby and Ryan Towns

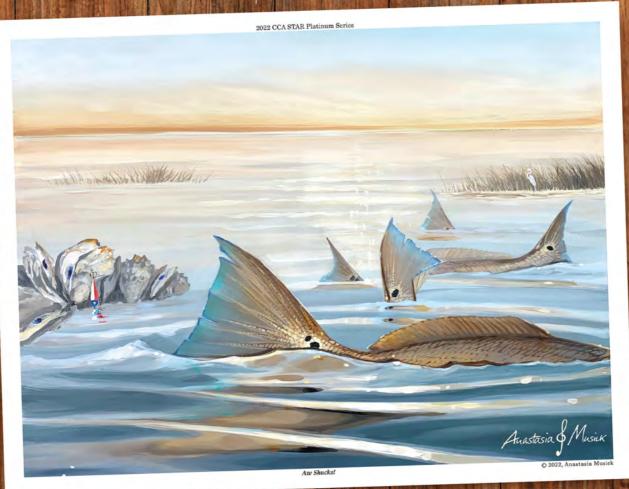
TILSON; a longtime supporter of STAR and CCA programs. See full information on the Tilson offer on page 33.







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ADVOCACY

RAWA - Recovering America's Wildlife Act

WHAT IS THE RECOVERING AMERICA'S **WILDLIFE ACT?**

'n April 2021, Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-Mich.) and Rep. Jeff Fortenberry (R-Neb.) introduced the Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA) in the House of Representatives, a major step forward in securing nearly \$1.4 billion annually for state and tribal fish and wildlife agencies to undertake significant, proactive conservation of imperiled species. In July 2021, a version of the act was also introduced in the Senate (S.2372) by Senators Martin Heinrich (D-NM) and Roy Blunt (R-MO).

THE GROWING CRISIS

Despite the remarkable diversity of fish and wildlife in the U.S., populations of many species are in decline. Freshwater animals have been hit particularly hard and approximately 40 percent of the nation's freshwater fish species are now rare or imperiled. Similarly, an astonishing three-quarters of the nation's freshwater mussel species are imperiled or vulnerable. Without concerted attention, our growing wildlife crisis will almost certainly lead to many more species qualifying for protection under federal and state endangered species

TEXAS-SIZED BENEFITS

Each state has completed a Wildlife Action Plan designed to help recover species in decline and prevent the need for listing under the Endangered Species Act. Once a species becomes threatened or endangered, recovery becomes significantly more uncertain, more difficult, and more expensive. One way to categorize these species is to consider them "species of greatest conservation need." So here in Texas, that could include Pintail Ducks, Reddish Egrets, Eastern Oysters, Whooping Cranes, and Guadalupe Bass. The Recovering America's Wildlife Act would provide the funding needed to effectively implement strategic conservation plans for these species, and as such, it is supported by a wide range of business and conservation

The Recovering America's Wildlife Act would also fuel our outdoor recreation economy, and protect nature's benefits, such as clean rivers, pest control, and pollination services. In Texas, outdoor recreation directly contributes to 327,000 jobs, generates \$14.4 billion in salaries and wages, and \$3.5 billion

in state and local tax revenue. The over \$50 million per year in federal funds that Texas would be eligible to receive, coupled with a 25% non-federal match, would translate into new jobs, increased funding for conservation, support for habitat restoration, and numerous other benefits to Texas fish and wildlife.

This bill could also result in more employment opportunities for aquatic resource professionals in state agencies and in the private sector. Fisheries biologists and other resource professionals will be able to address the serious peril that aquatic species face considering habitat degradation, water quality impairment, rising temperatures, reduced water availability, and other existential threats.

FUNDING SOURCE

One of the great advantages of RAWA is that funding would come from existing revenues, resulting in no new taxes. Under the bill, RAWA funding could be supported annually in existing revenue

from excise taxes on outdoor sporting equipment, offshore oil and gas royalties, and the development of energy and mineral resources on federal lands and waters to the Wildlife Conservation Restoration Program.

The Recovering America's Wildlife Act would also fuel our outdoor recreation economy, and protect nature's benefits such as clean rivers, pest control and pollination services.



POPULATIONS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

WANT TO HELP?

The best way to help is to utilize the *Texas Alliance For* America's Fish and Wildlife *Toolkit.* From there you can contact your U.S. House Representative and Senators Cruz and Cornyn. Send them a message and ask them to vote yes for RAWA.

*Information for this article was obtained from txalliance.org and fisheries.org/policy-media/recovering-americaswild-life-act

A click on the wild fowl image below will take you to an interesting video.



Putting fingerlings back where fish need to be

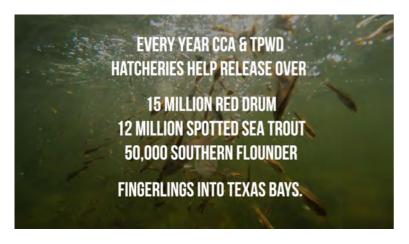
Hatcheries were an early priority of CCA. Enhancing populations was crucial, but replacing a large percentage of cold-stricken gamefish proved to be a primary benefit of the hatcheries.

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



















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Caught Redhanded! K Reports from TP&W Game Wardens



On May 5, 2022, Matagorda County Game Wardens Aaron Koenig and Colten Anderson conducted a boarding of a commercial gulf shrimping vessel inbound through West Matagorda Bay.

During the inspection Warden Koenig found two frozen packages wrapped in numerous layers of tied plastic grocery bags. After cutting through the multiple

layers of plastic Warden Koenig found the packages to contain 26 shark fins from multiple species of sharks.

After a brief interview, the boat captain and one of the deckhands were placed under arrest and transported to the Matagorda County jail. Class B charges and restitution are pending.







Presenting the NEW CCA Texas license plates!



We are incredibly excited about this new, updated design which proudly displays our CCA logo to show everyone you're a conservation-minded Texas angler.

Get yours TODAY by going to ceatexas.org and clicking the link on the homepage.

For each plate sold, CCA Texas will receive \$22 which will be crucial support for our work of ensuring the health and conservation of our marine resources and anglers' access to them here in Texas. Additionally, by purchasing your CCA Texas license plates for your SUV, truck, car, or trailer, you'll also be raising awareness for CCA and our conservation efforts each time you're out on the road!



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. Must be 21 years or older to pick-up firearm.

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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CLICK HERE to get yours today. Why?

- 1. Show everyone you're a conservation-minded Texas angler.
- 2. Raise awareness for CCA and our conservation efforts each time you're out on the road.
- 3. Support our work of ensuring the health and conservation of our marine resources and anglers' access to them here in Texas. For each plate sold, CCA Texas will receive \$22.

Order yours TODAY by CLICKING HERE.

If you already have CCA Texas plates with the previous design, you can definitely keep them, but you also have the opportunity to get the new one by going to your local county tax assessor-collector's office and ordering a replacement for \$6.50.

Help out CCA Texas and upgrade your car, truck, or trailer by <u>CLICKING HERE</u> to get your custom CCA Texas plates TODAY at MyPlates.com.

Your friend in conservation, —Robby Byers Executive Director CCA Texas





Enjoying Your Digital CURRENTS Newsletter

CA 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 38-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 Texas 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.



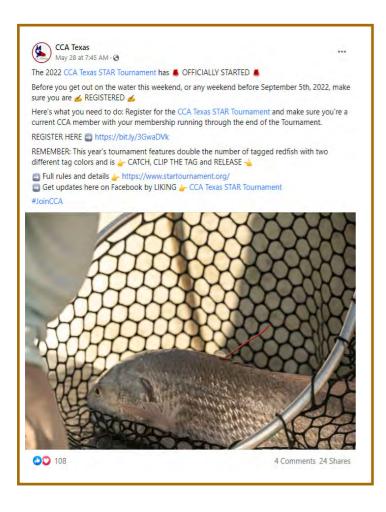
Are You Following CCA Texas on Social Media?

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. With the CCA Texas STAR Tournament underway, you won't want to miss any of our updates!

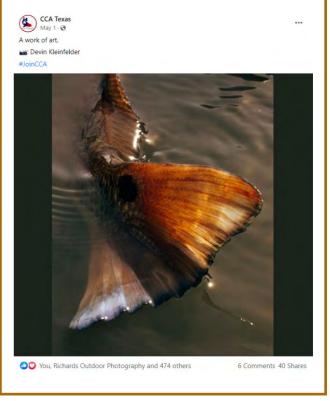
Our following is GROWING FAST, join thousands of CCA Texas members around the state by following us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter! Every LIKE and FOLLOW helps to raise awareness for our conservation efforts.



FACEBOOK CCA Texas on Facebook
Join over 26,000 anglers by LIKING our CCA Texas Facebook page to stay informed on all the latest CCA Texas news with special photo and video updates and informative links! LIKE us Facebook TODAY! @CCATexas





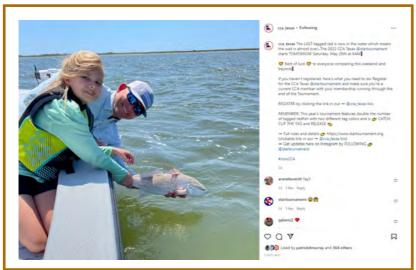


INSTAGRAM

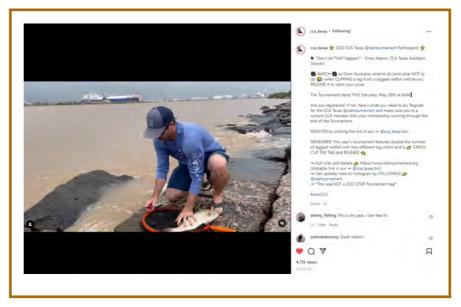


CCA Texas on Instagram

We are less than 800 followers away from 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!

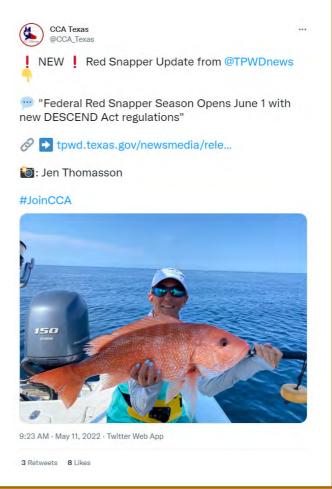


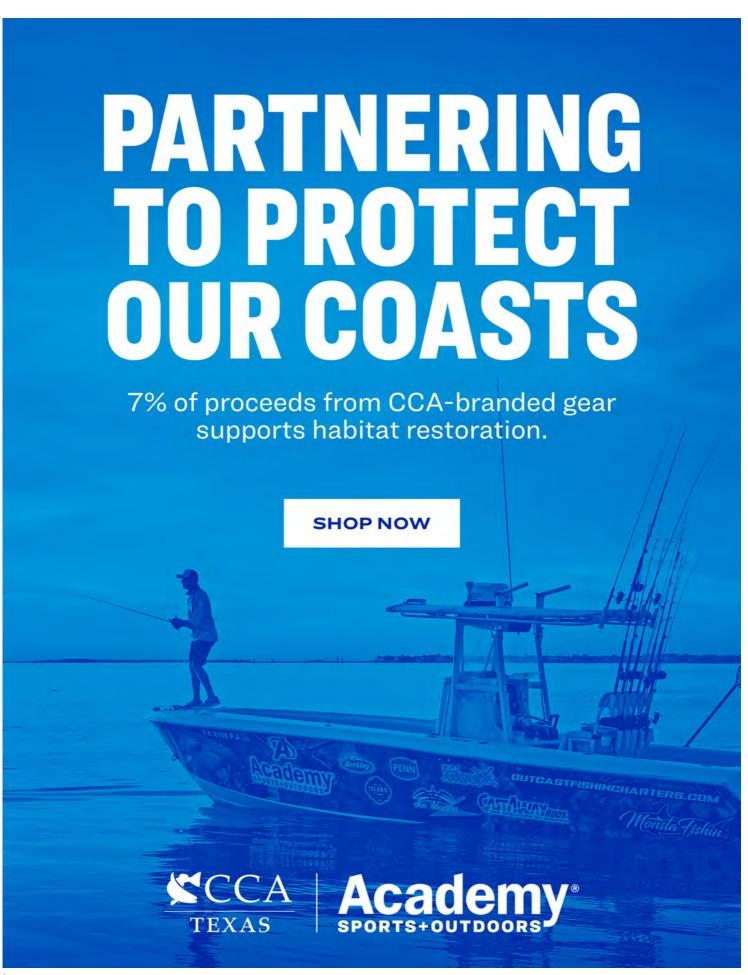




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Chapter Updates

Alvin-Pearland Rex Richards

alvinpearlandcca@yahoo.com

Our 2022 banquet is right around the corner! It is going to be on Thursday, June 16 and will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Pearland. We will be serving a delicious steak dinner by Joe's BBQ, a Sportsman's Raffle that will include guns and rod/reel packages, live and silent auctions, as well as numerous raffles. This is an awesome event you won't want to miss. Reserve your spot now! Banquet tickets are \$60 per person, \$100 per couple, \$15 per child. Reserved/Sponsor Tables start at \$600 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 or company, or make a donation to

our event, please contact Carson Vecera at We have enjoyed getting back to hosting our Anglers' Night Out events this year. Much thanks to Shane Bonnot, CCA Advocacy Director, and Capt. Billy Penick III, Gypsy Guide Service, for coming out to speak at our April and May meetings.

(713) 626-4222 or email us at AlvinPearlandCCA@yahoo.com.

Our upcoming Anglers' Night Out events will be on **Tuesday**, **September 6 and Tuesday**, **October 25**.

The best way to stay up to date with our latest chapter events is to follow us on <u>Facebook</u> or go to our <u>chapter website</u>. We look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events! Don't forget to bring a friend, or even better, a kid!

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

It's officially Summer and has been a fantastic year in Rockport-Fulton thus far! Our amazing Aransas Bay Chapter volunteers have been working hard putting on Babes on the Bay this last month, the largest all women's tournament in the USA! Keeping conservation in mind, the tournament was catch and release (Redfish only) for the second year in a row using the Fishing Chaos App. We had a fantastic year with just under 1,000 anglers coming from all over the country and over 300 teams! Lady Anglers from Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Texas and Wisconsin joined us for an incredible weekend of fishing and fun with friends and family in Rockport-Fulton! We have growing fly fishing and Babette divisions as well and hope you can join the

fun next year!

Special thanks to our generous sponsors this year; Ace Hardware, Sandy Oaks Kennel & Spaw, Rockport Marine and Boater's List. We were able to give away eight awesome trips to registered anglers and raffle ticket buyers. We had a huge list of bighearted 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







Some great shots from the 2022 Babes on the Bay all women's fishing tournament.

Outfitters, Miss Kitty's Fishing Getaways, Sandy Oaks Kennel, Poor Man's Country Club, Guild Mortgage, Simms Fishing, The Reserve at St. Charles Bay and more! We are so grateful for your generosity and are looking forward to next year!

Next year's tournament will be held May 19-20, 2023 at Fulton Convention Center under the big tent. Once again, we will have live music, great vendors, food and drinks, and will be giving away more awesome trips on Saturday! 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.

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

Wow! What a night! CCA Austin would like to thank our sponsors, supporters, vendors and volunteers for another record-breaking fundraiser in 2022. Our Board has been working hard all year on creating a fun, exciting, and new environment for our annual event in an effort to raise money to continue the mission of CCA!

Congratulations to our 2022 winner of the SCB S22 boat: Sonny Torres! A big thank you to our boat sponsors, **Denbow Company**, **Inc and S Watts Group**, for your continued support.

Another Congratulations goes out to 2022 winner of the Tahoe Rig: Thomas Ferrell! Thank you to **PlainsCapital Bank** for your sponsorship of this vehicle and your continued support.

We are hard at work planning our 2023 banquet and have started working on our boat, entertainment, food, and all the other exciting things that make this event a night to remember. We will keep you updated on important dates for the 2023 banquet, ESPECIALLY the table pre-sale date, for what is sure to be an even bigger and better banquet than this year's. Can't wait to see you there!

If you are interested in learning more about volunteering and joining the board of the Austin Chapter of CCA, please contact Jeff Beck at mnatvtexn71@yahoo.com with any questions. We'd love to have you join us.

Bastrop County Cole Williams 512-913-3684 colew65@yahoo.co

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

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

Summer has arrived, like a lionfish! Looks like the best fishing is early morning, due to the unseasonable heat. On May 10, we held our last monthly meeting until October 11. Our members are getting ready for the Inter Chapter Challenge. Should be a fun event for all. On May 6, several of our Brazos Valley chapter members attended the Texas Aggieland Chapter 29th Annual banquet. It was a great success. Congrats aggies for the best banquet to date.

Please mark your calendars for next year's CCA Brazos Valley Chapter Banquet on March 3, 2023 at the Brazos Center in Bryan, Texas. Hope everyone has an awesome summer. See you in October. Til then, take a kid, loved one or friend fishing.

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

Brush Country Brenda Ballard 361-296-4037 brendagballard@hotmail.com

Centex Wayne Webb 361-296-4037 sheyhunt@aol.com

Central Houston Todd Buster 713-545-189 tbuster@busterandcogdellbuilders.com

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

We held our banquet on March 31 and it turned out to be a very successful event. We again enjoyed a sold-out crowd and truly appreciated everyone's participation whether they were sponsors, donors, committee personnel, or just friendly conservationist out to enjoy a good time. Our board members along with all of our banquet assistants worked diligently to prepare and carry out the evening's activities. Our board members included Eugene Ulrich, Danny Olenick, Trish Kubena, Gary Janda, Rusty Kubena, Dave Fehlker, Kenneth LeFrance, Kendall Rohde, and Jeff Burgh. The





CCA Colorado Valley Chapter volunteers at the 2022 Banquet. Right: CCA Assistant Directors and Auctioneer from the 2022 Banquet.



Packed house at the 2022 Colorado Valley Chapter Banquet.

list of our assistants included Connie Janda, George Gold, Betty Urban, John Gold, Kristina Gold, Mike Petras, Norma Petras, Matthew LeFrance, Stephen LeFrance, Verlene Ulrich, Lucas Janda, Kalynn Hodges, and Robert Hodges. I wish to extend a huge thank you to **John Gold** who again created the wonderful banquet program for us this year. Everyone enjoyed a delicious ribeye steak and shrimp meal expertly prepared by the Knights of Columbus members while also enjoying drinks provided by Brown Distributing-Budweiser.

We would like to again thank our Grand Slam table buyers who include Brown Distributing, Burgh's Septic and Wastewater, Chris Dillon Attorney, Clearwater Consulting, Covert Chevrolet Buick GMC Bastrop, Fayette Savings Bank, Joe Rogers' Dozer Service, Krossfire Exploration, Oviedo Auto Group, Long Ranch & Home Services, Mark's Heating & Air Conditioning, Norm Lambert Homes, Masonry Works, Murphy's Steakhouse, Rocking R Construction, Round Top State Bank, Schovajsa Mayer & Klesel, and Smithville Heating and Air.

Our Bull Red Table buyers included A.J. Florus, Adams Waste Service, Brawley Dental Clinic, CJNR Ranch, Daredevil Oil Services, Denver Conrad Welding, Doug's Plumbing Co, Fayetteville Bank, Heaney Group, Kurt Hutton, Mark Ulrich CPA, Milton's Home of Fine Furniture, National Bank and Trust, Orsak's Cafe, Ozarka Spring Water, Pease Custom Floors, Pine Draw Ranch, Powerscreen Texas, Rooks Fish Camp, Southern Tx Roots, Straight Arrow Archery, Texanna Cottages, Tri-County Realty, Waste Away Trash Service, and Weimar Manufacturing.

The list of buyers for our reserved tables include Capital Farm Credit, Paul Mikula, and Schovajsa Mayer & Klesel.

We would like to again extend our appreciation to some of our sponsors which include Murphy's Steakhouse-Door Prize, Ken Kram State Farm-Print Sponsor, Burgh's Septic and Wastewater-Ladies Game, J&J Metal Works Lakeview Glass & Mirror Oviedo Auto Group-Pick of the Stringer caps, M-G Farm Service WE-STITCH-Buyer's Cap, Milton's Home of Fine Furniture Pease Custom Floors-Game Raffle Cap, Adams Waste Service Waste Away Trash Service-Gun Game Cap, and our towel sponsors Burgh's Septic and Wastewater, Calbri Road & Bridge, CJNR Ranch, Doug's Plumbing Company, Red Claw Company, SCT Broadband, Smithville Heating & Air, and WHATABURGER.

We would like to thank our Early Bird winner this year **Chris Dillon Attorney at Law** for purchasing his table before the deadline. We also want to extend our sincere appreciation to **Ben Schovajsa** for purchasing our Captain's Table for next year's banquet.

Thanks again for everyone who helped make our event the huge success that it was and please mark down March 30, 2023 on your calendar as the date for next year's banquet. With your help, we can make it a memorable and successful evening again. Wishing bent rods and tight lines to all!

Corpus Christi Cody Roesner 916-531-0078 cbroutfitters@yahoo.com

It's summertime again! We all know what that means.... vacations and fishing! We hosted our annual Poco Rojo kid fish on June 4th at the CCA Marine Development Center in Flour Bluff. Flint Hill Resources was the Title Sponsor and their cook team provided us with some delicious food for the event. The kids (and the adults) had a great time!

The 2022 Babes on Baffin all women's fishing tournament is October 7-8, 2022 and we are excited for our second year of a Catch-Photo-Release tournament! Keep an eye on http://babesonbaffin.org for updated information.

Last, but not least, we would like to announce our new chapter officers: Capt. Cody Roesener has filled the position of President and Tiffany Currie will be taking over as Treasurer. Thank you both for your volunteerism and dedication to the organization! As always, 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

Greetings from Dallas! Our board members have been busy preparing for the **annual banquet on September 22 at On The Levee.** We hope to have a more successful event than our record breaking 2021 year. Individual tickets and tables for 8 are available to purchase at https://ccatexas.org/find-your-chapter/dallas/. Sponsorship information is available on this link also and we are always looking for donations that will help make our event even better, as well as showcase and promote the donor's product.

Eleven Dallas board members are excited to be participating in the CCA Inter Chapter Challenge on June 10-11 in Rockport. 2021 saw our team finish in 6th place and we plan on making a strong showing again this year. Hoping the wind dies down a bit to make things a little easier.

Our next Anglers Night Out will be held at Beretta Gallery in Highland Park Village on July 14. At this event, we will be





Dallas Board President Jason Gray recently enjoyed a couple of days on the water near Aransas Pass and Ingleside with some family friends from Austin. The kids had a great time reeling in redfish of all sizes and learning which ones we could keep, and which needed to be released. Afterwards, they said they are ready to fish every week instead of once per year. It was rewarding to teach them about conservation and see the smiles on their faces when the guide would measure one over 20" and put it in the box.

drawing for the Early Bird Table Buyer prize which is a Beretta APX Compact 9mm. You can purchase a table for the banquet any time before this date using the link above or buy your table that night to be eligible.

Follow the Dallas Chapter on Instagram and Facebook forupdates and gear and trips that will be featured at the banquet.

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

Hello everyone, our Fort Bend committee members have just wrapped up our 36th Annual Banquet and what a great and successful event it was! We had a great turn out this year and we would like to thank everyone for your generous contributions, for supporting CCA and the Fort Bend Chapter. We can't wait to see you again next year.

I'd like to give a special thanks to **Sport Marine** in Richmond and all they did for us on this year's raffle, it was a beautiful boat, and we can't thank them enough for all their support. Another huge thank you to all our donors and sponsors. We are fortunate to have the support from so many good people; this event wouldn't be the same without it. Thank you all very much!

Finally, the CCA Kidfish will be held on July 23, 2022, in Matagorda, TX. Flyers, details, and entry form will be posted on the Fort Bend chapter webpage. This is a free fishing event of the kids so load up the family and come join us! Thank you for all the support, see you at the Kidfish!

Fort Worth Andrew Rico 817-313-7112 andrew@rosshealypools.com

Recently the Fort Worth Chapter held our annual banquet on a beautiful evening at the famous Joe T Garcia's in the historic Fort Worth Stockyards with an incredible turnout. One might say that you, our dedicated members, have strived to make this one of the best inland chapters within CCA. For that, your board is extremely thankful. Not only was the turnout great but many of our guests went home

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

Golden Triangle TS Bell 409-291-0448 tsbell70@yahoo.com John Martin Busceme 409-767-0353 imbusceme@easthamforge.com

Greetings from the GTC! Summer is among us, and we hope that everyone is getting to spend a little time with their family and friends on the water. Also, now that school is out, be sure to take a kid fishing; they are our future! On top of that, the S.T.A.R. tournament is kicking off and as always and there are plenty of great prizes to be won. Here on the upper coast, we just recently held our annual banquet, and we want to thank everyone who came out to support us. It was a great party, and we cannot thank you enough! We hope that everyone has a great summer by making memories on the water. Cheers!

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



Greater Sugar LandCCA Chapter Board of Directors 2022. Below: A great time was had at the recent Kid Fish at Riverstone.









with exotic trips and top-notch prizes.

A special thank you to all who attended and to the board for their sacrificial service in putting on a tier-one event. To all of our winners, we hope you enjoy your prizes and create a lifetime of memories sharing them with friends and family. Now that we are moving to warmer weather, we hope that each of you find some time to wet a line and enjoy a beautiful Texas sunrise and sunset. Stay tuned for upcoming events in the fall. Fish on!

We wrapped up our annual banquet and had a record year. A TEXAS size thanks to everyone who attended to help us make this year the best banquet ever for the Greater Sugar Land Chapter. Save the date for Thursday, March 9, 2023 for our next banquet.

We would also like to thank the communities of Missouri City, New Territory and Riverstone for hosting successful Kid Fish Events. All three were great vents and the smiles on the children's faces when they catch their first fish is priceless. We are in the process of planning for future Kid Fish events and are looking at putting together a Greater Sugar Land Chapter Kid Fish committee so if you would like to participate, please contact us.

Stay tuned for information on our Fall Anglers' Night Out events. Plans are currently underway and will be announced soon. Our annual **Presidents Cup is scheduled for Saturday, November 12, 2022 in Sargent, Texas** and is a great chapter event every year. The next **Greater Sugar Land Chapter Board Meeting is set for September 13** at LaEscondido in Missouri City, if you would like to get involved in a growing chapter, please join us.

Wishing all of you a very healthy active summer and plenty of tight lines. 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

Roulle and Geaux Fish.

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

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

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

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

Hope everyone is doing well in the Heart of the Hills. A group of chapter volunteers met on April 27 at Dodging Duck in Boerne and enjoyed a meal and drinks and started planning our annual fundraising banquet. Go ahead and save the date on your calendar for September 15, 2022 at Don Strange Ranch. If you would like to participate in chapter activities or help with the banquet, please call me at (210) 669-3732 and I'll get you hooked up.

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

Howdy CCA Helotes, summer is fast upon us and it's time to spend more time on the water. Our board members got together recently to celebrate the successful banquet we had in March.

This year we had another record-breaking fundraiser. Mark your calendars for March 23, 2023. We will be at Pedrotti's once again. Thank you to B-Daddy's BBQ for cooking the brisket for us and a very special thanks to Judy and Pat Mitchell for hosting our get together. We are blessed with a board of dedicated members that truly believe in the work of CCA. Great job everyone! Be safe out there and 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

Save the date for the Annual Houston Homebuilding Banquet: September 8, 2022 at St. Arnold's Brewery. Contact Jimmy Reid for questions or more information (281) 932-3395.

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

Katy Lyn Goldman 713-591-8550 contrexenergy.com

Laredo Javier C. Villarreal 956-206-7953 Jcvillarreal13@gmail.com

Lee County Jake Horne 979-540-6117 jake@aubainesupply.com

Live Oak Denise Krc 979-733-3358 liveoakchaptercca@gmail.com

Lower Colorado Anthony Kimmey 979-241-2239 anthonykimmey@ymail.com

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

Mainland Trey Mitchiner 281-636-2165 treym642004@aol.com

We had a great turnout for our banquet on May 13. With over 300 people in attendance, we had a very successful fundraiser. Just want to say thank you to all of our sponsors. On **June 14, 2022**, we will have guest speaker Kris and Debbie Burr from Adventure Sports and Outdoors in Hitchcock. They will talk about kayaks, micro skiffs and all the products they carry.

On **July 12, 2022**, we will have guest speaker CCA Advocacy Director, Shane Bonnot. He will talk about conservation, oysters, snapper, the freeze, CCA/TPWD initiatives. Please <u>follow Mainland Chapter CCA on Facebook</u>.

Matagorda Bays Chris Bird 979-257-6508

cbird1493@gmail.com

We are rocking and rolling over here in the Matagorda Bays Chapter; with one event down for the year, we have two more to

Our 2022 upcoming events include: Chapter Banquet and Boat Raffle - June 30 and the Jim Ehman Memorial Guides Cup – Sept. 26-27

The 16th Annual Lil' Salties Kidfish was a great success once again. A total of 150 kids and their parents participated in the catch, photograph, and release event. The kids enjoyed a day full of fishing where they caught a multitude of fish species, battled in the casting contest, and ate a good meal cooked by the chapter board members. The Matagorda Bays CCA board and chapter members would like to show our appreciation to this year's Lil'



2022 CCA Matagorda Bays raffle Boat.



Matagorda Bay's 2022 Lil' Salties Kidfish was a success.



Salties sponsors:

\$500 Corporate Sponsors Coastal Bend Oilman's Fishing Tournament, Gulf **Coast Lease Service** LLC. First State Bank of Louise, Earl & Deanna Calkins, E.A. Collins & Sons, Prasek's Smokehouse. Multi Fab Metals, Seaman's Plumbing LLC, Greenpoint Ag Holdings, LLC, Unlce Ervin's **Premium Texas** Jerky, Reef Hopper, and Chris's Marine. \$200 Sponsors Prosperity Bank, Rice Belt Warehouse Inc., Ermis Vacuum Service, LLC, El Campo Monuments, Texas **Coast Limousine** Services, LLC, Hlavinka Equipment Company, Crowell **Drilling Company.**

Inc., NewFirst National Bank, El Campo Sheet Metal, LLC, The Family of Doris Clifton, Rod Insurance Group, El Rancho De Los Patos, Novak Diesel Services LLC, Mike & Melisa Prasek, South Texas Oil & Distributing, Inc., Dr. Melissa Kainer – Erwin, First Financial Bank, Matagorda Harbor Bait & Tackle, R&R Printing, Aqua Beverage, Shot Spot, Cooper Turf Farms, and Energy Construction.

Other Sponsors

Rice Farmers Co-Op, Inc., Superior Motor Parts of El Campo, Hailey Welding Services, and Svatek Vending.

Our "Ice Blue" 2022 Haynie Magnum 25 built at Chris's Marine and Haynie Boats is out and about at local businesses on display. Thank you to our 2022 boat sponsors: Capital Farm Credit, Del Papa Distributing Company, and Sutton Wealth Management. We will be drawing the lucky raffle winner on June 30 via Facebook live, at our annual chapter banquet. If you like attending a good party every now and then...mark your calendars and don't miss it! You can purchase boat raffle tickets by contacting any of our board members or at these local businesses: Prasek's Family Smokehouse, Matagorda Harbor Bait & Tackle, Chris' Marine, Superior Motor Parts, The Shot Spot, Hoffer's Auto, Johnny's Sport Shop, Star Parts, Rice Farmers Co-Op & Mr. Tire (El Campo & Bay City), United AG General Store, VonDerAu Ford, and Wayne's Bait Camp.

We have numerous table sponsorships available for this year's banquet and if you would like more information about these sponsorship opportunities, please contact us or visit the CCA Matagorda Bays chapter webpage.

Matagorda Bays CCA Banquet Table Sponsor Levels: GOLD - \$1,800, SILVER - \$1,400, BULL RED - \$800. Please check out our Facebook page and chapter webpage on the CCA Texas website for all boat raffle and banquet updates. If you have any questions, concerns, or comments please don't hesitate to contact us at any time.

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

Hope everyone has been able to get out this spring and enjoy some quality time on the water! Our annual banquet on April 21 was a blast and everyone had a great time. We were back in the Victoria Community Center for the first time in 3 years and had Alimento Catering by Mr. John Welder for the first time! Thanks to all our sponsors and those who came out to support CCA Texas conservation work! Congratulations to the winners of this year's raffle: 5th place (Yeti Cooler) Wayne LeJune, 4th place (Waterloo rod/reel combo) Cameron Helm, 3rd place (Weatherby 20 gauge) Jonathon Gordon, 2nd place (Browning 6.5 Creedmore) Ronnie Warzecha, 1st place (Haynie boat package) Ty Goyen. You can go to our Mid Coast CCA





Left: Captain Mike Hart with Brush Country Charters releasing a 30" trout in Baffin Bay, Right: Mid coast chapter Vice President Rod Graci with a nice trout on a recent Port O'Connor trip.

Facebook page and watch the exciting drawing at the event!

We are still in need of new board members and hoping to fill some key leadership positions here in our chapter, so if you are in the area and want to join us, please reach out to Coleman Todd at coleman@ccatexas.org or myself!



CCA Mid Coast Board Members from left: Mike Brawner, Cheryl Guthrie, Laura Mills and Doug Anderson with raffle prizes at the 2022 Banquet. I don't know about you, but I'm going to spend some time over the next couple of months searching for a tagged redfish! Till next time, fish on!

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

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

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

Prairie
Patricia Walters 979-885-7464

manager@wpprint.com
Wow, what a night! On Thursday, April 7 we held our Annual CCA fundraising banquet at the Austin County Fairgrounds in Bellville. The turnout was amazing we had around 500 people the best banquet in years.

The night started with an outstanding meal of prime rib, shrimp, chicken breast and all the trimmings catered by Mikeskas BBQ, thanks to the owner, David Divin, and his crew for serving a great meal. The main event of the night was our live auction. There were prints, fishing and hunting trips and many more great items to bid on. Thanks to Mark Switzer of Switzer Auction Services for being our auctioneer. There was the silent auction that had some outstanding items thanks to CCA, Academy Sports + Outdoors and others that donated items.

We also some great games for the night, one of the favorites was the cap and card game, each cap had a playing card on it that represents a gun if your card is drawn you win that gun and there were 7 guns. One of the other games was the high-end raffle when you purchase a ticket from the girls and deposit it in the bucket with a chance to win one of five items. They were a Benelli 12ga, Tikka 3006, Savage 22, Waterloo, Lews rod and reel and a Yeti Roadie 24.

Also, the golden ticket game was a hit, throughout the live

auction there were five 65 qt Yeti coolers out for bid and at the end of the auction if your cooler was drawn you win a CCA logo Savage tactical 306 riffle with a CCA loge leather case. The third game was the poker chip challenge where only 100 chips were sold and you pay the price of the chip's number you draw. If your chip is then drawn, you won a Weatherly 300 mg bronze twisted barrel with a s/s gun case.

The chapter is planning our 19th annual kids fishing tournament this August or September at Don and Patrica Walters Lake in Cat Spring. It is open to the public and everything is free. There are prizes, food and drinks just bring your fishing pole and lawn chair. The date will be announced later.

I would like to thank everyone that attended our banquet and also thanks to Taylor Rieck, our representative of CCA, and his crew for the awesome job they did, to the board members, and everybody that helped. Thanks to all the sponsors and donors that made this banquet a great success. See you all next year!

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

The Redfish Bay Chapter Banquet on May 21 was a success! Thanks to the Redfish Bay Board and our Houston support team for all of their hard work in making the event well run and fun for all. As always, we want to thank our donors and attendees – nothing can happen without you. Our donors make the raffle and auctions have something of interest for everyone. Special thanks to **Chris's Marine** for being our Title sponsor, buying a second table, and supplying the koozies; a real supporter of Redfish Bay Chapter and CCA in general.

Our Beeville Fish Fry will be in September. We are still working on the final date. More to come!

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!

Fishing has been really good on Sabine Lake when the winds decide to cooperate. Trout and flounder have been really good as of late and the reds are still doing their thing. We are in the preliminary stages of bringing back our KidFish event, stay tuned for more information.

Looking forward to another STAR Tournament, a perfect time to get the family together on the water. Until next time, Tight Lines to all!

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

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

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

Hello all, the 43rd Annual CCA San Antonio Banquet is a done deal. It was held Thursday, April 28, 2022, and was a huge success! How do we even start to thank our guests, patrons,



The 2022 CCA San Antonio Banquet panorama. Below: The ice chest sales counter was bustling throughout the night. Right, the Marine Color Guard.



sponsors, and banquet committee? Preliminary reports tell us there was record attendance and sales were strongest to date. A big thank you to Joe Freeman Expo Hall, the venue is a major part to our success. Our big-ticket raffles of Kawasaki Mule PRO-FTx w/Blue Star ATV trailer, 21'Flats Cat /Suzuki 150 were loved by all.

A special thanks to Academy Sports + Outdoors and Igloo Ice Chest for your ever-present help.

With ice chest sales. A stroll over to our infamous \$10 raffle, then on to the silent raffle was like Christmas in April for every patron in attendance. Our BOTE inflatable kayak, twin kayak with trailer raffle was a hit. Tito's Hat Raffle was fun, everybody won. The beautiful Tito's ice sculpture and oyster shots were not to be missed, as well as the fabulous tasting section. There were plenty of items for the ladies and children including a Luis Vuitton purse raffle, Kendra Scott jewelry exhibit and various items in the \$10 raffle and vacation trips in the live auction. As always, a very special thanks to San Antonio's own Don Strange catering. Some of the best food & beverages in the state!

CCA San Antonio would also like to thank our major event sponsors: Silver Eagle Beverages, Gulf Coast Marine, Academy Sports + Outdoors, Frost Bank, Scott A. Freund Memorial Foundation, Shiner Beers, Tito's Handmade Vodka, Kawasaki of Universal City, Blue Star Trailers, Ranch Armor UTV Accessories and Mireles Party Ice.

As always, the USMC Color Guard opened the banquet with an impressive presentation of the colors. Special thanks to the best banquet chairs and committee members in the country. With a very special thanks to banquet chair, Tom Akin, and co-chair Brandon Stellgas, for all the hard work



and a majorly successfully event. The A-V committee kept the banquet entertaining, showing the best of CCA on the giant screen throughout the night. Thanks to the decorating committee, providing something on every table for participants to take home.

Follow us at CCA San Antonio on Facebook for future events, meetings and information and get yourself on our mailing list if you have not done so yet. Please stay safe, 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 We wish you a great Summer with friends, family, and fishing and look forward to seeing you in August.

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

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

Texas State University

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

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



CCA San Gabriel Chapter members want to give a HUGE thank you to our Title Sponsor: Don Hewlett Chevrolet.

As Summer begins, the CCA San Gabriel Chapter has pushed

the throttle forward heading towards its 20th year of the **Annual Chapter** Banquet which will be held on Thursday, August 4, 2022, at the Georgetown Conference Center in Georgetown, Texas. The evening promises to have a fantastic line-up with a VIP Reception followed by our banquet, live auction, fun raffle games, and other special events. We are bringing a UTV raffle back, thanks to generous support from SouthStar Bank, Champion Site Prep, and RDO **Equipment Company**. We are inviting you to help us celebrate 19 years of coastal conservation efforts driven, in part by money raised in Williamson

Thanks to our committed sponsors - Don Hewlett - Title sponsor, Independence Title - VIP Reception, Morris Glass - Live Auction, Plains Capital Bank - Shirts, Grand Land Company - Koozies, Liberty Civil - Loaded Safe, Aday & Associates - Gun/Cooler Raffle, Currey Builders - Coffee Mug Over/ **Under Raffle, Embree Construction** - Bottle Openers, Utz Environmental - Precision Firearms Tumblers, and SouthStar Bank SSB, Champion Site Prep, and RDO equipment - UTV **Sponsors**. We still have three more UTV sponsorships available if you are interested.

If you are interested in learning about this chapter or more about our annual banquet, we invite you to visit our website at https://ccatexas.org/events/2022-san-gabriel-banquet.



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

Greetings fellow travelers, a very special shout out to all the brave souls that ignored the clouds for our Spring Fling Crawfish Boil. After we got past noon, the sun came out and steamed everything up for us. Cajun Country Cookers never disappoint, and these bugs were nice and spicy. We filled up the patio by the pond with people and proceeded to fill up a six-yard dumpster full of shells. The HPPI ladies did a great job selling raffle tix and tending bar for us. We did a couple tables full of raffles and four card draws. None of this would have been the same without the generosity and hospitality of Gene Anderson of Gene's Polaris. I was so glad to see him stop by to eat some bugs and tell a story or two. Thanks again to all our board members for pitching in to make this a success and raise some money for CCA.

It's that time again for our 32nd Annual Chapter Banquet, Friday, August 26, 2022, at Armenta's Reception Hall on Sheldon **Road.** Join us for a live auction, silent auction, raffles, games and a whole lot of fun. Our chapter, year in and year out, puts on a quality banquet that you will surely enjoy. So, pick up the phone and give your favorite board member a call to get the ball rolling. As always, you can also get all the details on the <u>Trinity Bay website</u> or on our <u>Facebook page</u>.

The kids are out of school and driving us crazy. The logical answer is to take them fishing. Don't miss a chance to share that special time with them without electronics in their hands. Let's go fishing...

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

I would like to thank everyone who helped make the 20th Annual West Texas Chapter banquet a big success. Thanks to our loyal table sponsors that make this event possible. Thanks to Erich Schneider and the CCA crew for making my job easy.

I would also like to give a huge shoutout to Enviro Resources, LLC. These guys hauled all the cooking equipment plus the absolutely beautiful shrimp and crawfish, cooked to perfection, all the way from Erath, LA to Midland. That's 750 miles one-way. So, thanks again Landry Brothers and crew for a job well done. Our banquet would not be possible without the generous contributions of Enviro Resources. Hope to see you on the water.



Gulf Identification Guide





Upper Coast

Capt. Ralph Frazier

Find the baitfish, find the gamefish

June is here, and as the weather heats up, so will the fishing. The birds will still be working, which is one of my favorite times of the year as customers love catching lots of fish. The fish will start slicking a lot more, making them much easier to find. Choose a place to start depending on conditions, and move along with a game plan until that first big strike makes the drag complain.

Trinity Bay and East Galveston Bay will both be excellent choices with wading the Ridge in Trinity Bay and the Wells as perfect places to target lots of trout. But keep a watchful eye for big schools of reds out in the middle of the bay. As always, find the baitfish and you will find the gamefish.

The reefs in East Bay are great this time of year with live shrimp as a major menu choice. The spoil banks on the side of the ship channel should be on fire, with live bait being the primary offering. A word to the wise: both Galveston jetties are where many of the STAR Tournament fish come from.

So, get out and wet a line. Practice conservation, know and follow the regs. You will plan ahead and be sure your team is safe. And of course, remember that the big spotted ladies and over-sized reds need to be returned for further duty. —Capt. Ralph Frazier 281-337-0321 Ralph2fish@aol.com

CHARTS: Important to an upper Texas coast fisherman, faced with myriad choices of places to fish. The editor checked a few of many options. From a Humminbird at \$150 (Academy), to a Hook-N-Line for \$15 (Texas Map Store) you can enhance a trip and a stringer with intelligent planning.—Editor

Middle Coast

Capt. Tommy Countz

A fight you'll never forget

We've got plenty of options for June and July fishing in the Matagorda complex. My favorite fishing method is wading the grass beds in West Matagorda Bay, looking for bait activity as a clue as to where I might find fish.

There are a lot of guts running through these beds, deeper with slightly cooler water. Trout often use these guts to move from deeper water into the flats or from the flats to deeper water.

I usually start the morning tossing Topwaters or LeLe's. No action? I'll switch to soft plastics. My plastic of preference is a Mirrolure Lil John or a Norton Sandeel Jr. rigged on a 1/16 or 1/32 ounce leadhead. Light heads don't sink fast so you can work them slower through the grass.

When fishing from the boat, I'll be drifting in East Matagorda Bay either on the west end working over scattered shell or on the east end drifting big mud flats. Most of my customers prefer drifting using live shrimp under a popping cork. I like to rig their rods with a Midcoast cork and a three foot leader.

The surf is always an option in June and July. Usually the last two weeks of July and the first two weeks of August are the calmest wind conditions on the Texas coast. Anytime the beach front is flat and green, you will find me there. In Matagorda we have over 20 miles of beach front from the Colorado Jetties to Mitchell's Cut near Sargent and over 20 miles to the south from our jetties to the Port O'Connor ietties.

My favorite in June and July is fishing for tripletail. If you've never caught one then you really need to get on my calendar for a trip. It's a fight that you'll never forget and it's the most delicious fish in the bay. As you can see we've got plenty of options for fishing June and July in Matagorda. To book a trip call or text me at 281-450-4037 or email me at tecont@sbcglobal.net — Capt. Tommy Count 837 CR 243 / Bay City, Texas 77414 281-450-4037

Lower Coast

Capt. Danny Neu

Think deeper in mid-day

Last time we visited it was cold. Now it's hot! Good fish will tend to be deeper, especially larger speckled trout. It's your problem to find the fish, then present the appropriate lure to fill your three-fish trout stringer (you will of course send the big spotted ladies back for further duty).

Redfish are more numerous, but you have to find them. Reds can be found in shallower water, especially early in the day. That's when we patrol the skinny water, presenting gold spoons or topwaters. For top-hungry fish, my choices lately have been the Mansfield Knocker or the Zombie or a Glass Minnow, all rigged with only one hook. The old Skitterwalk is also a good producer, maybe due to the loud rattle. For plastics, Norton Sand Eel Juniors in red and white and LSU colors have been productive. I go to gold spoons in shallow flats on sunny days. If they don't grab one of these lures, they're just not eating that day. On balance, I think the larger fish are still here and their numbers are rebounding.

July: All the above, but think a bit deeper in mid-day. Look for deeper grassbeds and start earlier with those topwaters. Also, offshore and beach fishing can be excellent now. On calm days, we can chase daisy-chaining tarpon and go for nearshore snapper. The knee-deep beach fishers have some of the above, just a bit more shallow.

When you're the Captain of a boat, consider your crew FIRST. Always navigate with care and stay aware of your location. I've seen GPS units "lie" in the fog. You will remember to conserve and protect the resource and be respectful of others on the water. —Capt. Danny Neu 979-942-0165 dneucharters@yahoo.com



Headed back for further duty. Dave Shelpuk photo.

Boggy Bayou Baked Crawfish Dip

8 oz softened Cream Cheese / 1 Cup grated Parmesan Cheese divided ½ Cup Mayo / 1½ tsp. dry Mustard / 3 Green Onions chopped / 1 Garlic Clove minced ½ tsp. Shrimp boil seasoning / 1 tsp. Worcestershire Sauce / 12 oz cooked Crawfish tails Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Combine cream cheese, mayo, ¾ Cup parmesan cheese, dry mustard, green onions, garlic, shrimp boil and Worcestershire sauce in medium bowl. Whisk until combined. Fold in crawfish. Season with salt and pepper.

Spread mixture into a greased, small baking dish or pie plate. Bake for 20 minutes. Top with remaining Parmesan Cheese and bake another 10 min till golden brown.

Cool slightly and serve with tortilla chips or crackers.

Liz Hewitt, CURRENTS Great Recipes Editor









VISIT THE GALLERY -

ABOUT SAM CALDWELL

CONTACT SAM

Invest in Coastal Fine Art

Sam Caldwell's website is back up and running. Dozens of old, middle-aged and new images are available for your viewing enjoyment-- and Caldwell hopes, for purchase.

A few original paintings are available. Or, thumb through 30 years of Caldwell's award-winning outdoor images. Most are available as high-quality Gclee art prints.

A Big thank you to Michael Klasno from WebSEOHouston.com for the excellent job with the new websites design and implementation of my vision.



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 a friend or yourself, choose a high quality Giclee from many Caldwell paintings.



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

ARTISTS IN CONSERVATION

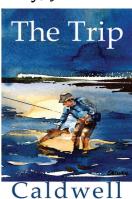
Panel discussion featuring the impact of art and artists on Texas coastal conservation. Panelists are Jim Booth, Dinah Bowman, Steve Russell and Sam Caldwell.

Caldwell will revisit the early days of the GCCA, when coastal art helped form the vision of a national conservation phenomenon.

Texas Maritime Museum Rockport, Texas

1 PM Saturday, June 18

Caldwell
will sign
copies of
his awardwinning
novel,
The Trip.







June / July 2022

Putting oyster shell back where oysters need to be



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

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	Phor	ıe	Date _	
AddressNEW MEMBER	City RENEWAL (Member ID for renewing members only)	·	State EMAIL	
ethod of payment _ Check/Money order Charge to my: _ MASTERCARD _ VISA _ AMEX _ DISCOVER	MEMBER: \$35 Membership card, decal, bumper ASSOCIATE: \$20 Per each family member. All multiple MEMBER: \$100 CCA Life Membership piece, pri STAR ENTRY FEE: \$25 Tournament entry fee. Must be a YOUTH: \$10 TIDE newsletter, decal. Includes Age: Date of bi A portion of the proceeds go tow exclusive Conservation Member decal.	nbership priv nt, plus memb current CCA : STAR Tournai rth: vard CCA's Na	ileges except TIDE and CURRE ver gifts. Payable in four \$250 in: member. ment entry, for members 17 and tional Habitat Program, Buildin	NTS. stallments. under. g Conservation Trust. Includes
Credit card number	Signature			