

CURRENTS

October / November 2022



Game Warden Interns Are On The way—Courtesy of CCA

CURRENTS IS INTERACTIVE!

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

Texas Game Warden Internship Program

Texas Game Wardens

For more than 125 years, Texas Game Wardens have watched over the lands, waters, wildlife, and people of Texas. Every year Texas Game Wardens patrol over 10 million miles by vehicle and 130,000 hours by boat, facing challenges as unique as the 254 counties they serve. With 550+ commissioned peace officers throughout the state, game wardens tirelessly lead the way in critical search and rescue operations; render aid during times of natural disaster like hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, and wildfires; and provide conservation enforcement and education for fishing, hunting, and boating.

Game wardens receive intensive training in a broad spectrum of topics such as conservation, criminal justice, water safety, penal code, and environmental laws. They are widely recognized as the best-trained corps of conservation officers in the nation and provide an invaluable service to the people of Texas.

Law Enforcement Interns

The goal of the Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) internship program is to increase opportunities for qualified students to gain invaluable insight and experience in the field of natural resource conservation. To accomplish this goal, the internship program provides talented Texas college students with paid internships at TPWD through



funding secured by Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation (TPWF). These internships allow students to put their classroom

knowledge to work, study more about the practical applications of the work in their field, and prepare for careers in their chosen fields.

At the beginning of the internship experience, each law enforcement intern attends an orientation at the 200-acre, state-of-the-art Game Warden Training Center and trains with Texas Game Wardens before entering the field. Once in the field, each game warden intern is assigned to observe and assist licensed game wardens in their regular duties, ranging from law enforcement to public

Texas Game Wardens are widely recognized as the best-trained corps of conservation officers in the nation and provide an invaluable service to the people of Texas.

safety and education. They work 20 hours per week for 10 weeks during the summer, with an allowance for additional hours needed to work emergency situations or prolonged investigations.

Interns gain experience in a wide variety of unscripted, real-time circumstances including boating and safety enforcement, search and rescue, fishing rules and regulations, and common techniques employed by poachers. In addition, they increase their knowledge of wildlife biology. In 2022, TPWD was able to hire a total of 16 law enforcement interns, including 6 coastal interns stationed all along our coastal communities, thanks to continued funding from the Coastal Conservation Association.



Since the program began, **interns have regularly gone on to become Texas Game Wardens.** According to Program Coordinator Lt. Rachel Kellner, on average, **six to eight cadets in every class** of the Texas Game Warden Academy are former interns. Lt. Kellner sees this program as TPWD's single best recruitment tool in the Law Enforcement Division. Being a former intern herself, she has witnessed firsthand the indelible effect the program has on potential cadets. The program continues to harvest Texas' brightest and most impassioned recruits.

The position of game warden cadet is highly coveted, and individuals are chosen from a pool of thousands of applicants. In addition to federal and state hiring requirements, Texas Game

The position of game warden cadet is highly coveted, and individuals are chosen from a pool of thousands of applicants.

Warden applicants must pass six additional steps in their application process, including Physical Readiness Testing, law enforcement background investigation, psychological evaluation, medical evaluation, TPWD Law Enforcement Senior Staff review, and TPWD Law Enforcement Executive Staff and Human Resources Director review.

TPWD plans to hire 14 law enforcement interns for 2023, including 6 CCA interns who

will be strategically stationed throughout coastal areas of Texas to champion Coastal Conservation Association's steadfast focus on marine conservation and education.

TPWD and TPWF are grateful for the unwavering support of CCA members over the past seven years, which has enabled life-changing experiences for youth interested in careers dedicated to conserving Texas' natural resources. CCA's continued support will help to foster a growing cadre of qualified individuals passionate about conserving the wild things and wild places of Texas.



Founded in 1991, Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation's mission is to provide private support to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Try, Try Again

By Shane Bonnot

*If at first you don't succeed,
try, try again.*

This age-old advice once again rings true as critical science-based conservation decisions have been hijacked by political maneuvers, orchestrated by those that stand to personally benefit from the continued and systematic destruction of public trust resources.

Case in point – our Texas public oyster reefs.

You may recall that in March 2022, Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission (TPWC) considered the closure of Carlos, Mesquite and Ayres Bays, otherwise known as the Mesquite Bay Complex, to oyster harvest. The closure would protect ecologically sensitive and unique oyster habitat from the negative biological impacts of increased harvest pressure through the act of dredging reefs. To put it simply, per Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (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.

During the 2021-2022 public oyster fishing season, **this area provided**



30.4% of the coast-wide landings.

Consider that for a moment. An area that represents approximately 2.8% of the oyster habitat in Texas provided over 30% of the landings, before the area was closed after only 2 months of

*An area that represents
approximately 2.8% of the
oyster habitat in Texas
provided over 30% of the
landings, before the area was
closed after only 2 months of
harvest. This is out of balance
and not sustainable.*

harvest. **This is out of balance and not sustainable.**

However, despite this data, a last-minute letter was submitted on the eve of the March 24th meeting, requesting that TPWC delay any decision on a closure until TPWD “study the benefits oyster harvesting has on cultivating healthy reefs, conduct an in-depth economic impact study, and develop a concrete plan to regularly sample any closed areas to ensure that closure works as a tool to significantly replenish the oyster population.” Yes, you read that correctly – study the benefits that dredging has on cultivating healthy reefs.

At that March meeting, public support to permanently close the Mesquite Bay Complex to oyster harvesting was overwhelming with **79% of comments favoring the closure**. Additionally, 16 non-government organizations submitted individual letters backing the justification for the proposal and offered oyster fishery management recommendations for TPWC to consider moving forward. Furthermore, during public testimony, commissioners directly asked Dr. Jennifer Pollack, Endowed Chair for Coastal Conservation & Restoration at Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, if dredging the reefs is beneficial and helpful for the reefs. She replied, “I, to be honest, was very surprised to hear this comment coming up so often because it



Commercial oyster fleet dredging oysters from Mesquite Bay Complex.

was something that I heard in the previous public hearings that I attended...and as a result I scoured the literature...**there is no data out there to indicate that dredging a reef is beneficial for a reef.**"

However, after listening to nearly 4 hours of public testimony and receiving the last-minute letter, TPWC was unable to land on a decision (You can listen to that entire meeting and public comment by [clicking here](#) and forwarding the audio to the 18:41 mark. Dr. Pollack's concluding comments can be found starting at 3:56:00). As you may recall, they opted to form a task force of stakeholders to develop metrics that would define success of a possible closure and evaluate the oyster fishery from a holistic standpoint, ultimately providing suggestions to increase sustainability and oyster fishing opportunities.


As the workgroup continues to meet and have valuable discussions, TPWD has determined that the proposal to prohibit oyster harvest in the Mesquite Bay Complex should be brought forward for reconsideration. You can read and comment on the proposal by [clicking here](#)

So now the opportunity to "try, try again" is before us. On November 3, 2022, TPWC will once again consider the proposal to prohibit the harvest of oysters in Carlos Bay, Mesquite Bay, and Ayres Bay. To consolidate our efforts, we have partnered with FlatsWorthy to bring public awareness to this issue through the usage of Rockport-area billboards, informational videos and mailers. All

information on this critical matter can be found at catexas.org/oysters and RescueOurReefs.com

Please take the opportunity to have your voice heard and "try, try again" by commenting on this proposal. You can scan the QR code or simply visit the TPWD online comment portal https://tpwd.texas.gov/business/feedback/public_comment/proposals/202211_oysters.phtml

Public oyster reefs need our help. We must 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. Thank you for continued involvement and engagement on this critical issue. Your ongoing support and grassroots efforts to ensure the health and conservation of our marine resources and anglers' access to them is truly appreciated.

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. 



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

Your comments are needed

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is accepting public comments for a proposal to close Mesquite, Carlos, and Ayres bays (Mesquite Bay Complex) to oyster harvest. The Mesquite Bay Complex contains ecologically important and sensitive oyster reefs that provide ecosystem services such as nursery habitat for fish and shoreline protection.

Oyster harvest pressure in this minor bay complex has increased steadily over the past decade, while monitoring data from the TPWD has shown highly variable trends and an overall lower relative abundance of oysters compared to neighboring bays. The ecological importance and sensitivity of these oyster reefs coupled with the historically high harvest pressure makes this minor bay complex a candidate for permanent closure from harvest.

[Scan the QR Code or Click Here to support the proposal](#)



Oyster Reefs: Bedrock of the Bays



COASTAL CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION



CELEBRATING 45 YEARS!

PRINTED RICHARDSON CAP

\$24.99

[SHOW NOW >](#)

NEW!



NEW!



CELEBRATING 45 YEARS!

SPF 50 SOLAR LONG SLEEVE

\$28.99

[SHOW NOW >](#)



CELEBRATING 45 YEARS!

LEATHER BADGE RICHARDSON CAP

\$24.99

[SHOW NOW >](#)

NEW!



FREE GROUND SHIPPING IN THE CONTINENTAL US!

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. ** Oyster Reef Creation - St. Charles Bay (Rockport)	\$ 485,000
7. Nearshore Reefing - Galveston / Big Man & Kate's Reef	\$ 329,000
8. HRI Nearshore Reef Enhancement Study	\$ 250,000
9. Dagger Island Shoreline Protection & Marsh Restoration (Redfish Bay)	\$ 250,000
10. Shoreline Stabilization - Oyster Lake (West Galveston Bay)	\$ 230,000
11. Oyster Restoration—Deep Reef Sabine Lake	\$ 215,000
12. Nearshore Reefing - Matagorda	\$ 200,000
13. Shoreline Stabilization - San Bernard NWR	\$ 200,000
14. ** Sink Your Shucks Oyster Recycle Program	\$ 152,000
15. Marsh Restoration - Bird Island Cove (West Galveston Bay)	\$ 150,000
16. Shoreline Protection/Marsh Creation - Moses Lake (Galveston Bay)	\$ 138,000
17. Baffin Bay Serpulid Reef Habitat Conservation/Restoration Study	\$ 135,000
18. Oyster Restoration—Pepper Grove / Galveston (BCT)	\$ 130,000
19. Aransas National Wildlife Refuge Shoreline Protection (San Antonio Bay)	\$ 125,000
20. HRI Oyster Restoration Site Locator Mapping Study	\$ 120,000
21. Marsh Restoration - Dickinson Bayou	\$ 100,000
22. Nearshore Reefing - Corpus Christi	\$ 100,000
23. Bahia Grande Restoration (Port Isabel / Brownsville)	\$ 95,000
24. Oyster Reef Restoration - Aransas Bay (Rockport)	\$ 75,000
25. Oyster Reef Restoration - Copano Bay (Rockport)	\$ 75,000
26. Marsh Restoration - Egery Island (Copano Bay/Bayside)	\$ 70,000
27. Marsh Restoration - Matagorda Island	\$ 70,000
28. Nueces Bay Delta Water Management Gates	\$ 70,000
29. Nearshore Reefing - Freeport / Vancouver	\$ 60,000
30. Nueces Bay Demonstration Oyster Reef	\$ 60,000
31. Marsh Restoration - Goose Island (Rockport)	\$ 50,000
32. Nearshore Reefing - Port Mansfield	\$ 50,000
33. Shoreline Stabilization - J. D. Murphree WMA	\$ 50,000
34. Shoreline Stabilization - Cow Trap Lake (Brazoria County)	\$ 50,000
35. Dollar Bay Shoreline Protection and Marsh Restoration	\$ 50,000
36. Galveston Bay Foundation Headquarters Living Shoreline Restoration	\$ 50,000
37. Marsh Restoration - Oxen & Gang's Bayou (Galveston)	\$ 42,000
38. ** Marsh Restoration - San Bernard Wildlife Refuge	\$ 41,000
39. Trinity Bay Discovery Center Living Shoreline	\$ 40,000
40. Sweetwater Preserve Shoreline Protections and Oyster Reef Enhancement	\$ 30,000
41. Marsh Restoration - Nueces Bay (Corpus Christi)	\$ 24,000
42. Marsh Restoration - Snake Island Cover (West Galveston Bay)	\$ 20,000
43. Weed Eradication for Water Flow Restoration (Guadalupe River Delta)	\$ 15,000
44. ** Sink Your Shucks Oyster Recycle Programs Trailer	\$ 10,000
45. Bay Debris Removal - Aransas Pass	\$ 5,600
46. Building Conservation Trust's Texas Habitat Fund (BCT & CCA Texas Secured Funds)	\$ 399,066

** 2022 Projects Contributed to as 08/24/22

TOTAL FUNDED THROUGH 2022: \$9,377,666

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 Trust	
Nearshore Reefing Support	
• 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





WADING TOWARDS A BRIGHTER FUTURE



frogg toggs supports
CCA's Efforts Toward the
Conservation of our Sacred Waters

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.](#)



**CCA & TPWD
SPOTTED SEA TROUT FINGERLING RELEASE
IN LAGUNA MADRE 2021**



**EVERY YEAR CCA & TPWD
HATCHERIES HELP RELEASE OVER**

**15 MILLION RED DRUM
12 MILLION SPOTTED SEA TROUT
50,000 SOUTHERN FLOUNDER
FINGERLINGS INTO TEXAS BAYS.**



COASTAL
CONSERVATION
ASSOCIATION

TEXAS

TEXAS
PARKS &
WILDLIFE

RESTOCKING OUR BAYS FOR THE FUTURE

JOIN CCA TODAY AT WWW.JOINCCA.ORG




**AN OFFICIAL
COOLER SPONSOR FOR**



QUALITY COOLERS THAT LAST!



DRINKWARE

- STAINLESS STEEL
- BPA FREE
- TRITAN
- FOAM
- NEOPRENE

OPTIONS AVAILABLE!



SOFT SIDED COOLERS

- VARIOUS SIZES
- HAND SEWN
- LEAK PROOF



OPTIONS AVAILABLE!



HARD SIDED COOLERS

- VARIOUS SIZES
- VINYL WRAPPED
- PREMIUM LATCHES
- FISH RULER

OPTIONS AVAILABLE!

FRIOICECHESTS.COM



Golden Triangle and Sabine-Neches volunteers at the 2022 McFaddin Beach Clean up.

Leave It Better Than You Found It

As CURRENTS goes to press on Oct. 1, 2022:

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 remote shores near POC—boat or kayaks required to access. The date for 2022 is Saturday, Oct. 1. By the time you read this, volunteers of the SABP will have completed another successful shoreline cleanup. Look for pictures on our website and images in the next CURRENTS newsletter.

Info on last year's effort is also available on SABayPartnership.org
Allan Berger AllanRBerger@outlook.com or text 713-824-2852

Port Mansfield Cut & Beach Cleanup 2022 was a great success; Put June 10, 2023 on your calendars.

The Rio Grande Valley continues to lead the way with so many coming from all over to show support for the beaches of Laguna Madre and Padre Island. Next year's Cleanup is already set for June 10th, 2023.

Besides fishing, our chapter, along with the Sabine-Neches Chapter, has been busy planning a beach clean-up on McFaddin Beach. We had an unbelievable turnout with close to 100 people showing up to help pick up trash. A lot of hard work was put into that day but the beach is now a cleaner and nicer place. As a group, we would like to thank all of the volunteers who showed up to help out—WE THANK YOU!
—Dave Roberts,
Golden Triangle



The 2022 Port Mansfield Cut & Beach Cleanup was again enjoyed by volunteers of all ages.





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 ccatexas.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!



A Special Gift for New CCA Texas LIFE MEMBERS

For a limited time a new CCA Texas Life Member (\$1,000 + \$50 shipping) can receive a custom Sig Sauer P365 9mm nitron micro-compact pistol with CCA logo. It's featured with a polymer grip, stainless slide, sig xray-3 day/night sights and comes with two 10-round magazines.

It has an overall length of 5.8", height of 4.3", width of 1" and weight of 17.8 oz.
MSRP: \$800. Tax deductible amount \$144.

CCA logo on slide

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)

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

For your Life Member Application, [CLICK HERE](#).

Supporters of CCA Texas

I got my NEW CCA Texas license plates. Have you gotten yours?

If not, you can order our NEW CCA Texas license plates with an updated design that proudly displays our CCA logo for everyone to see.

[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 [CLICKING HERE](#) to get your custom CCA Texas plates TODAY at MyPlates.com.

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



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**

COASTAL CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION TEXAS

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 43-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.

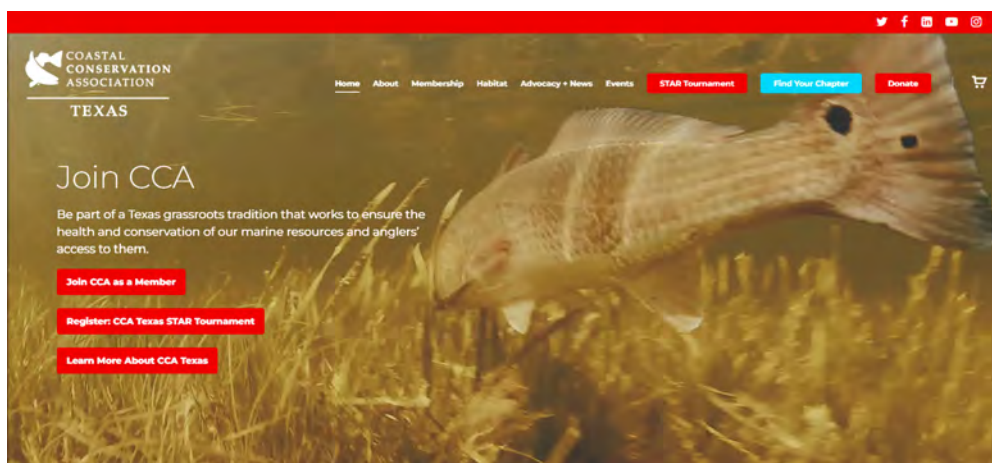
- Photos can be larger and more numerous, allowing for more of the membership's Great Photos to be shared.
- In the Social Media Happenings section, links directly open up to posts on our social media platforms.
- **Another big plus—your CURRENTS Newsletter is now as close as your laptop or your cell 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.

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.


Featured Social Media Highlights

FACEBOOK



CCA Texas on Facebook

Join over 27,000 Texas anglers by **LIKING** our CCA Texas Facebook page to get direct updates, awesome photos, and cool videos! **LIKE** us Facebook **TODAY** and help us out by sharing our posts! [@CCATexas](https://www.facebook.com/CCATexas)

**CCA Texas**
August 24 · 🌐

LOCAL CHAPTER UPDATE 📢

Another Successful Inaugural CCA Texas Chapter Banquet!

🎉 CONGRATULATIONS 🎉 to CCA Gonzales Come and Catch it for putting on an AMAZING Inaugural Chapter Banquet! This brand new chapter is composed of Gonzales, Shiner, Luling and surrounding areas.





Their board has a lot to be proud of, they became one of our most successful first-year chapters in terms of raising crucial funds that will help ensure the health and conservation of our marine resources and anglers' access to them here in Texas.


A big 🙌 THANK YOU 🙌 to all attendees, volunteers, and sponsors for your support of the new chapter, it is greatly appreciated!

Want to know when your local chapter is holding their banquet and other events? Check their page here 📄 <https://ccatexas.org/find-your-chapter/>


📄 CCA Gonzales Come and Catch it

#JoinCCA



 68

3 Comments 10 Shares

**CCA Texas**
5d · 🌐

Conservation in Action 🌿 CCA Texas - Golden Triangle Chapter and Sabine Neches CCA Chapters

The FIRST CCA McFaddin Beach Clean Up 🌊

1 mile+ of beach cleaned

Nearly 100 people helped





A huge 🙌 THANK YOU 🙌 to these amazing chapters, their committed partners, and especially all the dedicated folks who came out and truly made a difference!


As a result of everyone's hard work, this will now be a recurring event. Stay tuned for details on next year's Beach Clean Up!

The CCA McFaddin Beach Clean Up was graciously underwritten by Motiva Enterprises (Title Sponsor) and Turner Industries and 2S Companies (Supplies Sponsors).


📄 Dave Roberts + Joe Winston

#JoinCCA



 43

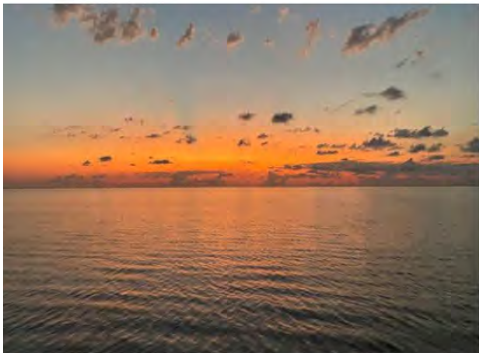
1 Comment 6 Shares


**CCA Texas**
September 18 · 🌐

The vibrant colors of our Texas coast.

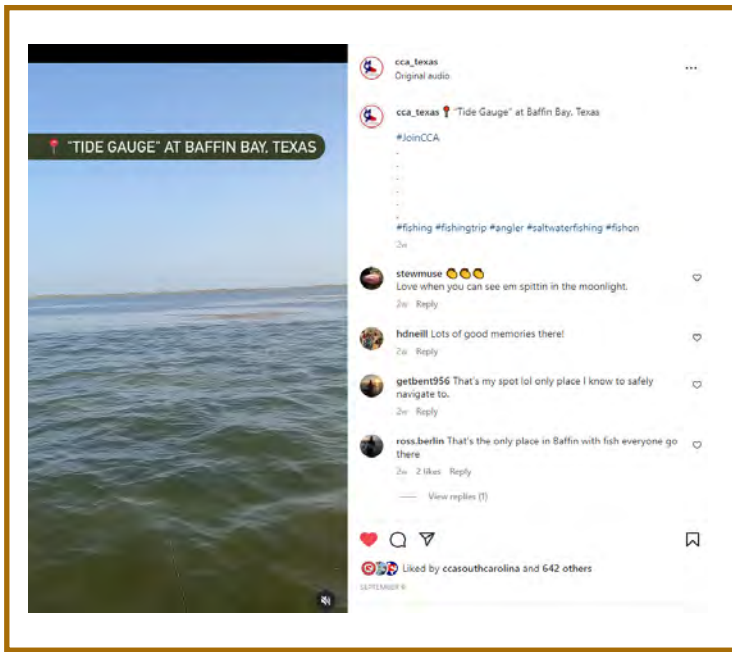
📄 John Blaha

#JoinCCA



 642

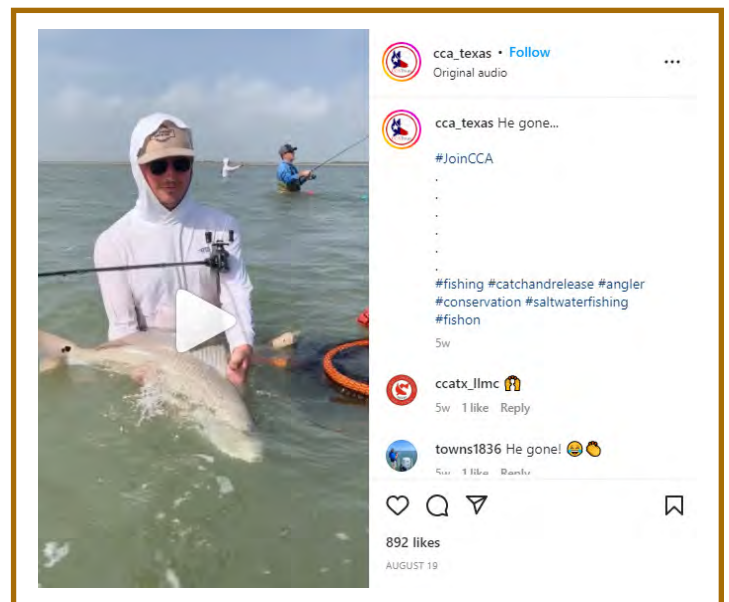
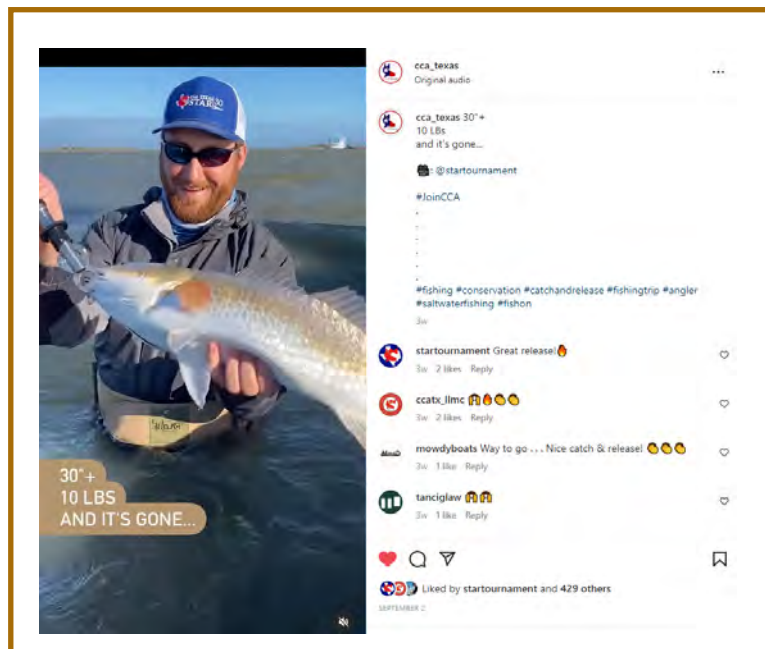
4 Comments 16 Shares



INSTAGRAM

CCA Texas on Instagram

THANK YOU everyone for helping us reach our goal of 15,000 followers on Instagram! Now, we're going for 20,000...Help us out by adding our @cca_texas page to your feed and by telling your friends and family to follow us along with you! FOLLOW us on Instagram TODAY!

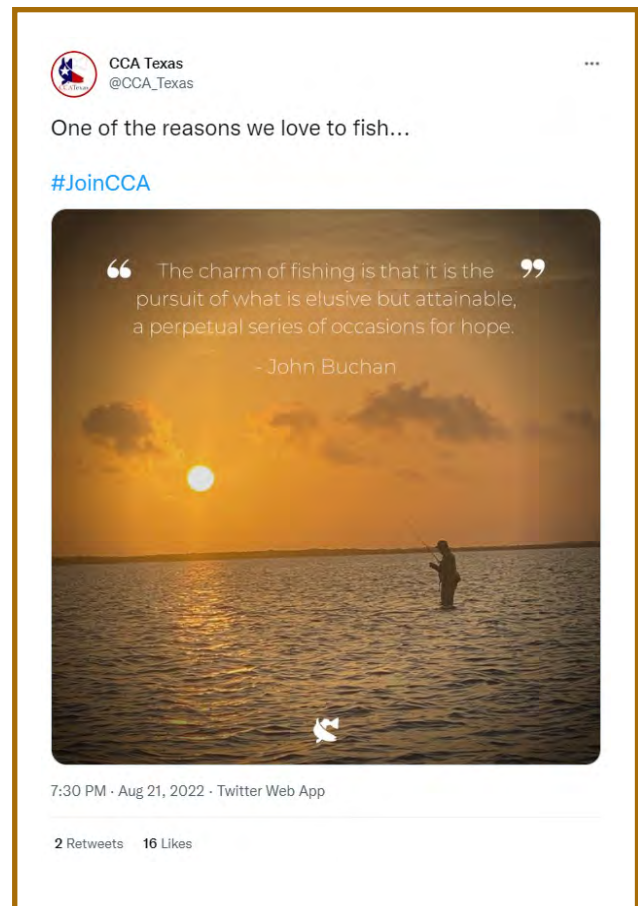
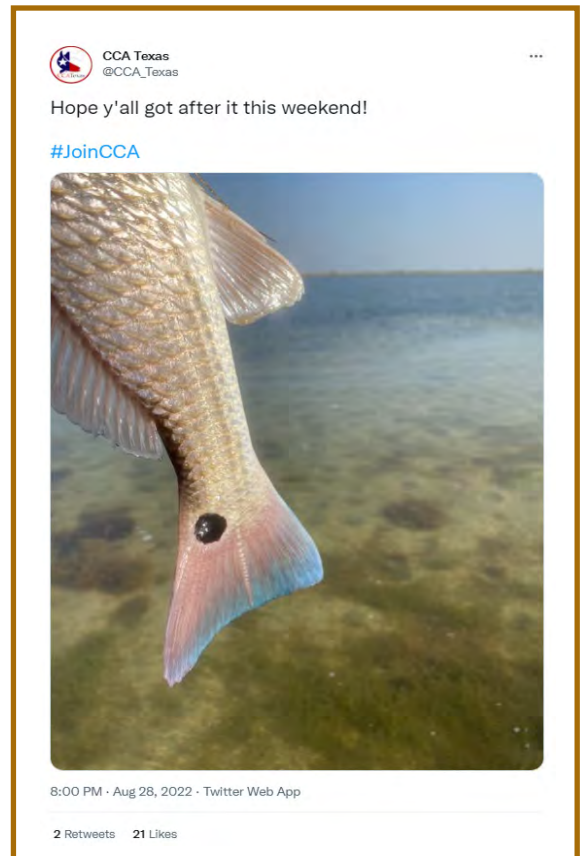


TWITTER



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

PARTNERING TO PROTECT OUR COASTS

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

[SHOP NOW](#)



CURRENTS is published six times a year by CCA Texas, a nonprofit state affiliate of the Coastal Conservation Association. This is the issue of October / November 2022
Vol. 42, Issue 5

Editor-in-Chief / Robby Byers

Editor / Sam Caldwell

Editorial Team

John Blaha, Shane Bonnot,
Luke Giles, Kevin Hickson, Liz Bosmans

CCA Texas Staff

Drew Adams, Blake Burnside, Luke Denton, Corbin Primrose, Taylor Rieck, Erich Schneider, Matt Still, Coleman Todd and Carson Vecera

Chapter Updates

Alvin-Pearland
Rex Richards
alvinpearlandcca@yahoo.com

Happy Fall! With options for both fishing and hunting being available this time of year, it is hard to stay focused!

We will be hosting our last **Anglers' Night Out for the year on Tuesday, October 25**. Our speaker is going to be Capt. Steven Gremillion with Grem's Guide Service. He will be discussing Trophy Trout Tactics. The meeting will be held at Big Horn BBQ in Pearland and the speaker will start at 7 p.m.

Thanks go out to Capt. Clint Barghi from Galveston Kayak Fishing for speaking at our June Anglers' Night Out! He gave an excellent presentation on Moon phases and major/minor feed times.

As we wrap up our chapter activities for 2022, we want to say thank you again, to all who came out to support CCA and the Alvin Pearland Chapter this year. It's all about the resource we enjoy and want to share with our kids for generations to come!

The best way to stay up to date with our latest chapter events is to follow us on [Facebook](#) or go to our [chapter webpage](#).

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

As we get the first cool bit of weather here in Aransas County, we can tell you after a long hot Summer we are welcoming Fall and ready to put those waders back on!

Our Polaris raffle tickets are in and ready to sell for our upcoming **Aransas Bay CCA Banquet on April 1, 2023 at Fulton Convention Center**. This event sells out quickly, so make sure you buy your tickets early for this exciting evening of fundraising for Texas Coastal Conservation. For questions regarding the banquet table and raffle ticket sales, email jdblaha@ccatexas.org or contact President Mike Ferri at (361) 790-4404 or Jane Jackson at (210) 240-7722.

Save the Date for Babes on the Bay on May 19-20, 2023.

Registration opens early January and we are back with another fantastic weekend of fishing, live music, vacation giveaways, vendors, and more! Ladies book your guides and reserve tour hotels ahead of time! If you are interested in being a sponsor, or have any tournament questions, please contact Jen Thomasson by December 31, 2022 at (361) 205-0182. For vendor info, please call Tina Frick at (210) 508-6281. We look forward to another incredible year of the largest women's tournament in the USA with anglers joining us from all over the country!

Happy Holidays to you all!! See you on the water!

Jenn Thomasson provided a few fine photos from Aransas Bay chapter members. Two made the cut to the Great Photos page as well as here. See page 29. —Great Photos Editor



Aransas Bay fishers: Mitchell Mays enjoying a fall wade / Right: Deanna Dean / Hunter Odom and Sage Fields on a Texas Tarpon / Cierra Borak with a Permit on Fly / Tina Frick with a big CPR redfish

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

Summer is over and we are only 7 months away from our **44th Annual Fundraiser on May 11, 2023**. CCA Austin Chapter would not be able to raise the funds needed to continue the mission of CCA without the sponsors, supporters and volunteers that make it happen. Our board works hard all year to create a fun and unique event to raise the funds needed.

Our 2023 boat raffle is a Shallow Sport, 18 sport 2023, Suzuki DF140BTGW5. We are selling boat raffle tickets for \$100 each and only 1250 will be sold. You may purchase them through a board member or call (512) 662-0006 and Cheryl will be happy to help you. We want to thank our sponsors, **Denbow Company, Inc and S Watts Group** for their continued support.

We are offering the Early Bird pre-sale again this year for our 2023 banquet tables. There will be one level of tables this year. They will be \$2,350 before January 15, 2023 and \$2,500 after January 15, 2023. If you are interested in more information, please email cherylccaustin@gmail.com

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.

If you have any questions on Austin CCA Chapter, please contact Jason Magdalena, President, at jason.magdalena@gmail.com or at (512) 789-6207.

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

What a 1st Bastrop County CCA Banquet! It was communicated to us that this was the largest ever CCA Texas inaugural event. This could not have happened without a truly eager community and sponsors providing their support. We had over 550 attendees, 60 tables filled, plus attendees to cover a lot of the standing room. Requests for attendance continued up until the event started, but we were out of space. Thank you to the Bastrop County CCA team volunteers and CCA leadership team there to support, who did a fantastic job putting on a memorable event.

A special thank you to our Title Sponsors – Capital Wright Distributing, TCS Mechanical and Lone Star Brewing. Also, we want to thank Jake's Catering out of Dime Box for the crowd pleasing ribeyes, butter potatoes and green beans.

We are taking all feedback to improve on next year's banquet and hope those that were able to attend had as much fun as we did. Any comments or questions please contact Cole Williams, Bastrop County CCA President, at colew65@yahoo.com. We are super excited for the events to come, stay tuned!

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

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

After a hot summer, we welcome cooler weather. But the fishing

should be hot. We are gearing up for our **general membership meeting at the Brazos Center Pavilion on Tuesday, October 11 at 6 p.m.** Hope to see you there.

Save the date for **next year's banquet at the Brazos Center on Friday, March 3, 2023**. If you would like to get on our Brazos Valley email list, send a request to Scott Sigle at sig@suddenlink.net. Remember to take a kid fishing!

For a pair of Brush Country Great CPR photos, see GREAT PHOTOS 2022 on page 27—Photo Editor

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

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

BRUSH COUNTRY CHAPTER
2022 ANNUAL CHAPTER BANQUET

Academy
SPORTS • OUTDOORS

Kleberg Bank

Join us for a fried fish dinner provided by Baffin Bay Seafood, drinks, raffles, games, rodeo, reels, art and trips all over the world.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2022 AT 6:00 PM
Knights of Columbus Hall 2623
1600 N. 14th St. | Kingsville, TX, 78363

\$50 INDIVIDUAL TICKET
\$10 YOUTH TICKET
\$600 RESERVED TABLE
Premium Seating for 8 with CCA memberships
\$250 UNDERWRITER
(4) Tickets with CCA memberships
\$100 SPONSOR
(2) Tickets with CCA memberships

FOR MORE INFORMATION: BRENDA BALLARD (361) 296-4037 or JOHN BLAHA (713) 626-4222

CUT HERE AND MAIL

	Qty.	Price	
\$ 50 Individual Ticket	Qty. _____	Price _____	
\$ 10 Youth Ticket	Qty. _____	Price _____	
\$600 Reserved Table	Qty. _____	Price _____	Table Name _____
\$250 Underwriter	Qty. _____	Price _____	
\$100 Sponsor	Qty. _____	Price _____	Total Amount _____

Name _____ Email _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Cred Card _____ CVC _____
Exp. Date _____ Signature _____

Check's payable to Coastal Conservation Association | Mail form & money to: Brush Country CCA, Attn: Brenda Ballard, 921 W. Escondido Rd, Kingsville, TX 78363
TICKETS ALSO AVAILABLE AT WWW.CCATXAS.ORG/BRUSH-COUNTRY

We are excited to host our annual fish fry and auction again this year. Come join us **November 2, 2022 at the K.C. Hall 2623 in Kingsville, TX** for good food and fun!

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

Come and Catch It
Jared Brumme 210-825-9088
jaredbrumme@yahoo.com

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

Dallas
Jason Gray 214-384-4164
Jason.Gray@hilltopsecurities.com



A few shots from the 2022 CCA Dallas Banquet



The Dallas Chapter held its 41st annual banquet on September 22 at On the Levee. A packed house enjoyed fajitas and cold drinks while raising money for conservation. The event brought in about a record amount for the Dallas chapter. Thanks to everyone who came out to the banquet and if you couldn't make it, we hope to see you next year!

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

Hello everyone, the summer is finally starting to wind down but what a summer it's been. The fishing lately has been hit or miss but being on the water is always fantastic and we can't wait to see what the winter waters have to offer. On another note, your Fort Bend board members are already preparing for next year's banquet, and we can't wait to show you what I've got up our sleeves! We hope to

see you at the event in 2023. Until next time, stay safe out there.

For news and information about the banquet and other events please see our website at ccatexas.org/fort-bend. Remember to keep the waterways clean and be respectful to your fellow anglers. Hope to see you on the water!

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

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
jmbusceme@easthamforge.com

Summer is almost over with and even though our days are getting cooler, the fishing is still hot. Besides fishing, our chapter, along with the Sabine-Neches Chapter, were busy planning a beach clean-up on McFaddin Beach. We had an unbelievable turnout with close to 100 people showing up to help pick up trash. A lot of hard work was put into that day but the beach is now a cleaner and nicer place. As a group, we would like to thank all the volunteers who showed up to help out—WE THANK YOU!

Fall is just around the corner and fishing is going to be on all of our minds. Be sure to get the family out and go enjoy our Texas resources. We ask that you be safe, have fun and pack out your trash to keep Texas beautiful. Cheers!



Kid fish trailer at Missouri City event and Check-in workers at Angler's Night Out, Greater Sugar Land.

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

Welcome to Fall and hopefully cooler weather soon. We welcomed several new members and renewing members at our Fall Anglers' Night Out that was held Wednesday, September 14, 2022. It took place at the Sugar Land Knights of Columbus



Anglers' Night Out events are family events CCA Greater Sugar Land Chapter Board.



Hall with a fried catfish meal with all the fixings served. The event is designed to grow our Sugar Land Chapter with new members. The new and renewing members who signed up were entered into a drawing for a full day guided fishing trip by Top Water Matagorda Charters in Sargent; congrats to Bob Hrachovy for winning the trip and thank you for renewing your membership. A CCA favorite Doug Pike was our Anglers' Night Out guest speaker and was very educational on fishing limits and the benefits of catch and release program. Special thanks to the members of the Sugar Land Knights for an outstanding meal and fantastic hospitality.

Want to see the smiles on children's faces when they catch their first fish? Then come on out and lend a hand Saturday, October 15 as we partner with Missouri City for their fall Kid Fish Event at Community Park. Set up is at 8 a.m. and fishing starts at 10 a.m.

Our annual President's Cup is scheduled for Saturday, November 12 in Sargent, Texas and is a great chapter event



Left, John Breland, CCA Greater Sugar Land Chapter President, and guest speaker Doug Pike.

every year. The 2021 winner was Bob Hrachovy. The is a fun and spirited event and someone will get bragging rights as they take home the winning trophy like 2021 winner Bob Hrachovy did.

Our 2022 Annual Banquet was a sell-out this past March and plans are already underway for our **2023 Banquet to be held at the Stafford Centre on Thursday, March 9, 2023.** I can already smell the aroma of hot boiled Crawfish as we continue to grow our banquet and you can be a part of making history as and enjoy some FUNraising for CCA Texas. 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.



"I want you to join CCA Texas!" says past CCA Greater Sugar Land Chapter President Bob Bailey.

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

Howdy from the Heart of the Hills. On September 15th, Ford of Boerne was the Title Sponsor for our most successful banquet in chapter history! A sold-out crowd enjoyed an evening out at Don Strange Ranch. The event started with conservation conversation while enjoying beverages donated by Ben E. Keith and Tito's Handmade Vodka. Hungry Horse served delicious grilled chicken poblano and beef tenderloin and H-E-B donated their always popular cupcakes and cookies.

DeWinne Equipment purchased our 2022 Grand Slam Table - thank you for also donating three Kawasaki Gravelly Zero Turn mowers for the live auction!

The Bull Red Sponsors for this year were Westward, Capital Farm Credit, Kendall County Roofing, Hornberger Fuller Garza & Cohen Incorporated, DD Exotics (2 Tables!), Randy Herrera Design, Williamson Roofing, Turner Roofing, Bill Reed, Xtreme Construction, Aqua-Man Water Conditioning, Beckle Services, Helotes Tactical Firearms, R & S Excavation, Summertime Guide Service, L3Harris Dailey-Wells Communications, Stehling & Walker Garage, KCM Cabinets, Fuentes Brothers Construction, Ron Hoover, BK Paving Sealer Coating, Robert Walz Inc, Tietze Electric Company, Darrell Steubing Insurance, Benson Paint & Body, and Ben E. Keith.

Trophy Trout Table Sponsors were Tom Rusch, Miko Construction, JAJ Construction Services, Stehling & Walker Garage, Esser Ranch/Dry Creek Homes, Kidd Roofing, and Chad Mobley.



2022 Lower Colorado Chapter banquet

Special thanks go out to the following companies for their support - Rhineland Cutlery, Yeti, Waterloo Rods, Frogg Toggs, Apache Rifle Works, Frio Ice Chests, and Academy Sports + Outdoors.

This event would not be possible without the dedicated efforts of our chapter volunteers: Lisa Parks, Blake McCarter, Darrell Steubing, Claude Aaron, Tom Wayland, Sandy & Craig Tietze, Weston Tietze, Randy Plummer, and Katie & Josh Criddle. Thanks to the CCA Houston crew for your hard work and guidance.

Thanks **Ford of Boerne** and to all who attended and made this an incredible night for CCA in the Heart of the Hills!

Helotes

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

Howdy CCA Helotes, the fall weather is upon us, and fishing patterns are changing, not unlike the patterns of our local chapter. We are now gearing up for next year's banquet and planning meetings will start in early January. Keep an eye out for meeting details on Facebook and in your email. We'd love to have you as part of the banquet committee.

The 2023 banquet is set for March 23 at Pedrotti's Ranch located at 13715 FM1560, Helotes, TX 78023. Tickets will go on sale beginning in January.

Multiple sponsorships are available. For details, please reach out to Johnny Rayburg at (210) 535-6810.

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 Laguarta 713-515-3830
KLaguarta@landadvisors.com

Katy

Lyn Goldman 713-591-8550
lgoldman@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

The Lower Colorado Chapter celebrated its 13th banquet on Friday, August 5, 2022. There was a full house of members, supporters, and volunteers.

The fun, food and festivities were held at the Bay City Civic Center. As the crowd poured in everyone got busy checking out the bounty of prizes to be won and which local guides made the cut to compete in the Lower Colorado's Guides Cup Tournament this coming October. The night started off in true American style then the excellent spread of food was dug into. Soon after the live auction began and so did the bidding wars. There were many intense moments of high dollar back and forth especially for competition to on board as part of a team in the Guides Cup Tournament. But, within a few hours this year's successful banquet and auction was in the books, our goals achieved, and the lucky winners were gathering up their prizes.

The Lower Colorado CCA Chapter wishes to heap hardy praise on our sponsors, Salemi's Ace Hardware, Bill VanGoten, Boggy Bend Wildwings, Keating Nissan, and H-E-B along with supporters Antony's Auto Werks and Ward Real Estate. We also give great thanks to our Gold and Bonze Table sponsors without whose help this event would never get off the ground. The Lower Colorado CCA Chapter also wishes to thank the local fishing experts who have are going to face off in October's Tournament.

A most hardy thank you from all the members of the Lower Colorado CCA and all of Texas CCA goes to the officers, board and volunteers of this fine chapter who worked in planning, preparation and participation to pull off a hugely successful event. Thanks go to the President Anthony Kimmey, VP Nathan Lubbers, Past President Stephen Zapalack, Jerry West, Maury Guzick, Clint Hewitt, Gil Delarosa, Clint Shepard, Bryan Alexander, Michael Briggs, Brandon Milliff, Tyler Montgomery and David Sitz. Big "forever grateful" goes out our banquet volunteers Ashley Lubbers, Dana Kimmey, Nicole Kimmey, Kaitlin Kimmey, Kinsley Simons, Theresa West and Jane Zapalac. Our next project is the ever famous, at least in Matagorda County, Lower Colorado Texas CCA Chapter's Guides Cup in October. Keep an eye out here for the results.

As always, the Lower Colorado Chapter represents all the Gulf Coast bays, rivers and creeks in Matagorda County.

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

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

CCA Mainland Chapter hosted their annual Kids fishing tournament Saturday, August 13 at Sea Star Base in Galveston. The 38 kids caught a total of 298 fish! Special thanks to all the volunteers with CCA Mainland Chapter, Sea Star Base, and this year's sponsor Orthopedic Specialist of Texas.

This year's winners are: Grace Patek - Longest Piggy, Danielle



Mainland Kidfish

Malota - Longest Anything, Savannah Linkey - Shortest Anything, Adalynn Cohen - Longest Croaker, Ryder Manner - Longest Trout, Jose Franco - Longest Sheepshead, Armani Williams - Longest Drum, and Levi Rodriguez - Longest Hardhead. Our upcoming Angler's Night Out dates: October 11, 2022 featuring Captain Shuga Shane from Outcast Fishing Charters who will talk about their new home, the upcoming Outcast Flounder Tournament, and give a fishing report for Galveston Bay.

Also, November 8, 2022 will feature The Gulf Coast Lady Anglers who will recap their most recent trips and talk about upcoming events for 2023. Our Angler's Night Out are held at Spring Creek BBQ, 2710 Gulf Freeway South, League City, TX 77573.

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

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

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

We are hard at work planning our 2022 banquet which will be held on Thursday, November 3 at the Humble Civic Center Ballroom. Visit the [Northeast Houston Chapter Webpage](#) to see our sponsorship and table purchase opportunities or call Assistant Director Taylor Rieck at (713) 626-4222 to secure your spot. We look forward to seeing you all in November!

Northwest Houston
Jerry Goss 832-457-7535
jerry.goss@lexitaslegal.com

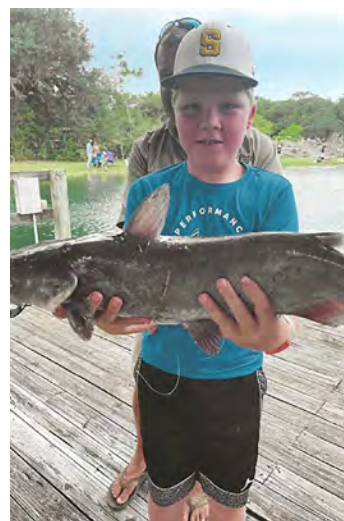
Orange County
Scott Bandy 409-988-3667
scottbandy77@yahoo.com

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

What a day! On August 20 we held our annual CCA Kid Fish Tournament at Waters Lake in Cat Spring. We had over 50 kids with their parents and guests. There were prizes given for different age categories and all winners received either a rod and reel, tackle box or a fishing article. The first category was 5 and under with 3 winners. 1st place was Logan Lewis, 2nd Aubrey



Kid anglers at the 2022 Prairie Chapter Kidfish

Petry, and 3rd Aidden Petry.

The age 6-10 winners were: 1st place Zach Barber (6lb catfish), 2nd River Kalutz (5lb catfish), 3rd Sam Leal and 4th place Korbin Ingram.

Ages 11-15 had 4 winners: 1st place Reagan Horn (5lb



Sabine Neches chapter: Some great shots at the McFaddin Beach Clean Up

catfish), 2nd Will Barber, 3rd Hayden Castro and 4th place was Jackson Blanks and the last category was age 16-20 with only 1 winner Nick Reichardt. There were 3 kids that caught the biggest catfish: 5-6 lbs.

I would like to thank everyone that attend the Kids Fishing tournament and a special thanks to all the board members for making this a great event, and thanks to CCA for donating the fishing items.

A big thanks to Don and Patricia for the use of their lake. Thanks and hope to see everybody next year!

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

Rio Grande Valley
Ruben Arcaute (956) 453-6966
rjarcaute@gmail.com

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

Greeting from the Sabine Neches Chapter! On Saturday, September 17, the Sabine Neches and Golden Triangle Chapters teamed up with our local partners to clean up McFaddin Beach! This was just the beginning of what we anticipate becoming an annual event leading up to a possible monthly event to help keep our beach clean!

We had a great group of volunteers helping out along with the support of local businesses and industry! Motiva, Turner Industries, Zachary Industrial, Del Papa Distributing, Giglio Distributing, Jay Weeks with Golf Car Connection/Southeast Texas Starter, and of course the Sabine Neches and Golden Triangle CCA members!

Special thanks to Jefferson County Judge Jeff Branick for his support! Another Thank you to Dave Roberts with the Golden Triangle Chapter, this was his creation and we were glad to have helped out! If you are interested in volunteering my contact information is above. 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, CCA San Antonio supported the Alamo Area Clay Shooters Shootout hosted by Operation Game Thief with two teams participating. Operation Game Thief is a crime stoppers program sponsored by Texas Parks and Wildlife to fight against wildlife crimes. The website is <https://www.ogttx.org> if you would like more information. This fundraising opportunity is another way our members support critical organizations which assist our cause. We saw many friends of CCA there and the camaraderie was incredible.

The 43rd annual CCA San Antonio Banquet held in April was the most successful event in our 43-year history. Congratulations to our chairs and volunteers. Please contact us if you are interested in volunteering or donating trips or merchandise. Stay tuned for updates on our [Facebook page](#).
Save the date for banquet number 44: Thursday, May 4, 2023.

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

CCA San Antonio team members at the Operation Game Thief Sporting Clay Event. CCA San Antonio President Robert Lozano taking a few pointers from the University of Texas, Clay & Trap Team.



Left to right: "The HOT SHOTS" Brian Strange - Mr Foodie, The Infamous - Sam Caldwell, Brandon Stellgas and Jimmy "Gunslinger" Gibson.



mailing list if you have not done so yet.

As always, stay safe, keep those lines taut and take the family fishing. Best from our CCA family to yours! Hook 'em!

San Bernard
Jeremy Compton (281) 961-0262
jcompton@detconsultinginc.com

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

With the change of seasons, the San Gabriel Chapter of CCA Texas would like to announce its new officers for 2022-2023:

President - David Singleton

Treasurer - John Shook

Secretary - Ray Langlois

Banquet Chairman - Jeff Bible

Mark your calendars! We will be having next year's annual banquet on August 3, 2023. Remember, life's a game but fishing is where the fun begins. Stay safe!

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

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

Our 33rd annual banquet was a huge success this year. We had a big crowd that helped raise some big dollars for our favorite fundraiser.

We have a lot of people to thank. First and foremost, our Platinum Sponsor – **Sunbelt Valve Services. John Richie and his crew** have been huge supporters of the Trinity Bay Chapter for many years. Our Title Sponsors – **Energy Rental Solutions, Ferguson Industrial, Ohmstede Industrial Services, SMP Supply and Topwater Energy Solutions**, make a big impact on our net dollars raised. Next, we need to send a shout-out to our Crab Craps Sponsor – **Dr. Thomas Friedt, DDS**, to our Koozie Sponsor – **Salty Texan** and our Visor Sponsor – **Baytown Hat Company**.

Lastly, it's all about butts in the seats for a fundraiser. So big thanks to the 25+ table sponsors that we hope enjoyed themselves and will be back next year. It's not always easy asking people for money, having a good cause helps, but in the end, these companies and individuals stepped up and deserve your support if possible.

On behalf of our 20 Trinity Bay Board Members, thanks to everyone that attended and helped make this another fine banquet. We'll do it again next year...

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



OPERATION GAME THIEF SPORTING CLAYS 2022

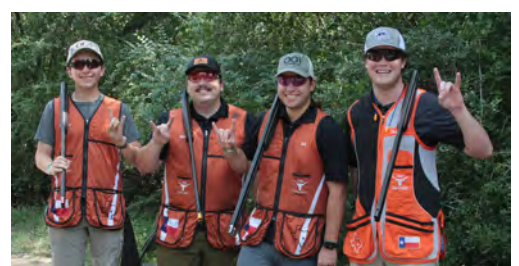
Operation Game Thief offers rewards up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of natural resource crimes and provides financial aid to the families of game wardens and park peace officers killed in the line of duty. Through fundraising programs like Sporting Clays events, OGT obtains technologically advanced equipment for game wardens, resulting in safer and more efficient operations.

Privately funded, the program is dependent on financial support from the public through the purchase of OGT merchandise and memberships, donations, sponsorships, gifts and events like the recent Austin, Dallas and Houston Sporting Clays. Learn more about Operation Game Thief with a video at this link: <https://www.ogtx.org/>



Houston OGT Sporting Clays Winner, 2002: on left, Will Van Deusen of the UT team congratulates First Place Braden Davis of the Gonzales Shooting Team, "Come and Break It."

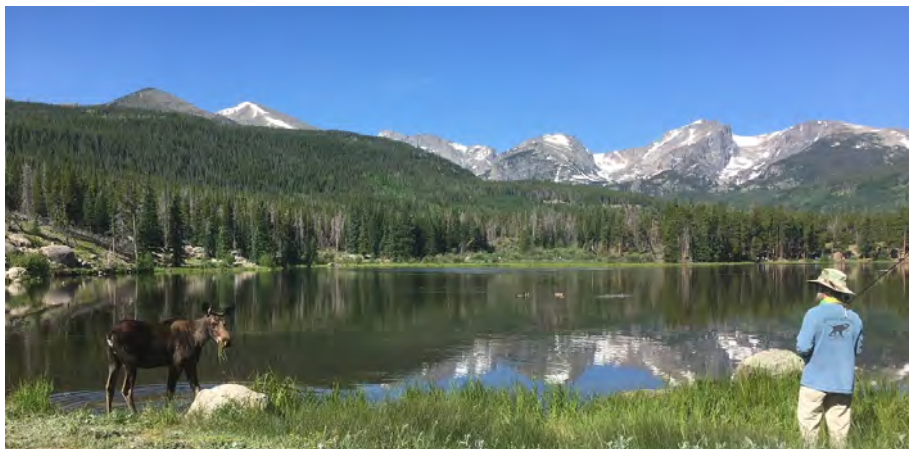
At Texas Sporting Clays events, Texas Game Wardens provide much of the work, including cooking and providing food and beverages for contestants. At the San Antonio Sporting Clays event, Warden Carmen Rickel and Warden Kevin Winters served as "Celebrity Auctioneers" for Live Auction items. One of the bidders said the duo "Got every dime in the crowd." Then, at the Houston/Sealy Sporting Clays event, along with other wardens, Carmen Rickel and Kevin Winters prepared the catfish lunch. —**Sam Caldwell**



Great Photos 2022

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

Important: Send jpegs and include name of subject, title, your name as well as any other names if you have them. Email jpegs to: sam@samcaldwell.com Give us your best shot, and keep CURRENTS an award-winning newsletter.



Great Scenic: John Ben Strother at Sprague Lake in Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado: "Fly fishing with a moose." Photo by Bess Bruton.

On right: Great Humor Combined With CPR. John Ben Strother wade/fly fishing on Gunnison River outside Gunnison, CO. That's a CPR brown trout going back for further duty. The Photo Editor commented that it looks more like an unintentional release. John Ben Strother replied, "I'm a conservationist... all fish go back in the water. Some faster than others. Lol."



Below: Great Action and Great Scenic combined: Hunter Odom and Sage Fields on a Texas Tarpon. Photo sent by Jen Thomasson of Aransas Bay. Lower right, Beauty and a Beast. Dai Yu Lange CPR'd this huge jack crevalle after a tough fight. Photo by Peter Lange





cast of the day. How grateful we can all be for the blessings we have learned on the water. Like Henry Thoreau said "Many folks go fishing all their lives without knowing that it is not the fish they are after." I think many CCA anglers subscribe to the Doug Larson quote: "If people

Indeed, after this year STAR will have awarded \$7,475,000 in scholarships to Texas youth alone! **Without further ado, here are the 2022 STAR winners and some of the stories they shared:**

PLEASE SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT OUR CONSERVATION EFFORTS



Red Tagged Redfish Division
2022 Ford F150 "Texas Edition"
XLT Super Cab connected to
a Haynie 23 Bigfoot with a
Mercury 150 L Pro XS Optimax
and Coastline Trailer. 1st Caught:
Marco Rocha of Austin, TX.
Weighed in at Roy's Bait &
Tackle, Corpus Christi



Marco Rocha



On June 4th Mr. Rocha and his buddy set off down the Lydia Ann Channel in search of an inlet with sufficient bait and clear water. Their first stop of the morning would prove to be the most important decision they made that day. Not long after starting their

All the winners, with their prizes, stories and photos

Thanks to YOU, the 33rd Annual CCA State of Texas Anglers Rodeo was a step back to normal after the devastating 2021 freeze and a huge success with more than 55,000 entrants. We applaud not only our winners, but every single member who went out this summer to enjoy coastal resources and did their part for conservation. We all WIN!

It can happen in one moment, in one hookset during over 100 days of action coastwide. Over 80 STAR winners claimed prizes this year. Those not catching the specially-tagged redfish hang on for the wait of their life, wondering if their fish will hold. Wish we could report how many have won on the first, or very last

concentrated on the really important things in life, there'd be a shortage of fishing poles!" What relief we receive, in the spectacular beauty of our precious Texas coastline, in the current madness of this world, thinking/known/wondering if the next cast could be the one...this is aquatherapy at its finest!

As we reflect on STAR 2022, we want to take a moment to applaud ALL of our very special partners in making STAR happen. As many folks know, we don't make a dime on STAR, it's our membership drive, and without such special conservation friends you can bet this "feature event of the Texas coastline, all summer" could not offer such an extravaganza of monster prizes and scholarships.



wade, the bite was on! With live shrimp in hand and plenty of bait working, Mr. Rocha hooked into a redfish which he soon realized was the fish of a lifetime. With the drag burning and his pole bent, the redfish finally came into sight with the RED tag waving at him! He shouted, "It has a RED tag!" Both the nearby boat and his buddy yelled, "Get 'em! Get 'em!" The redfish made one last run with the red tag vanishing into the depths, and it must have felt like an eternity. Soon, he gained more and more of the line back. Finally, the redfish came close enough to be netted, and he finally landed the RED-tagged redfish! With cheers all around, Mr. Rocha clipped the tag and released the redfish. With the Red tag in hand, Mr. Rocha headed off to one of our official weigh stations. Roy's Bait & Tackle Outfitters, to turn in the RED tag.

2nd Caught-Heriberto Flores of Baytown, TX. Weighed in at Linda's Sylvan Beach Bait & Tackle, La Porte

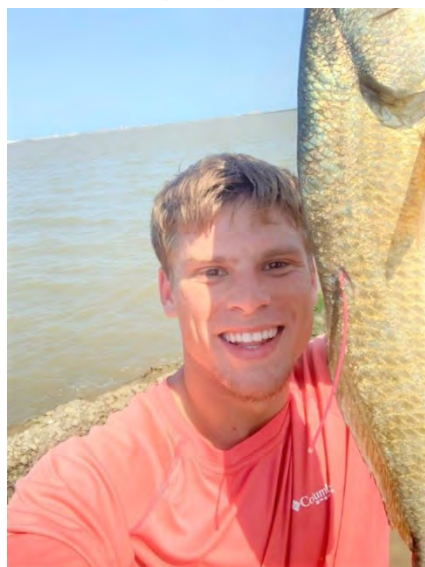


Heriberto Flores and his buddy struggled all afternoon, finding live bait and fighting the rain. Once they caught a handful of shrimp and a few finger mullet, they caught a break in the weather, and Heriberto said, "Let's go. Let's go try it with this." After pulling up to their regular spot in North Trinity Bay, they saw multiple boats were already there, and one was catching redfish out in the distance. After using what little bait they had catching flounder, they needed more bait and were able to bring in nickel-sized baby shad. After the boat that was catching those redfish left, Heriberto took the opportunity to grab the spot and set up shop there. He tried everything he could, even yelling "Tag, Tag, Tag" after each tug of the line. He went back into the live

well one last time and grabbed those baby shad, and with rod and reel in hand, he let the bait fly as far as he could. Suddenly, he felt a tug on the line and started screaming. Again, he yelled, "Tag, Tag, Tag," as he told his buddy to grab the net. It wasn't until the redfish was safely in the net that he realized that this one had a tag! At first, he couldn't see what color it was since it was covered in algae. He yelled to his buddy, "Video me! Video me! This one has a tag in it! Come on!" With the redfish in hand, he began to strip the algae away, revealing a RED-Tag! As they were celebrating, Heriberto clipped the tag and released the redfish. With the Red tag "safely" in his teeth, he headed off to one of our official weigh stations to turn it in. [Linda's Bait & Tackle]

3rd Caught-Kasey Arnst of Spring, TX. Weighed in at West End Marina, Galveston

Kasey Arnst 3rd Red Tagged Redfish Winner.



For Kasey Arnst, this was not a typical Monday. Ordinarily, Kasey would be starting his work week, but this Monday marked the first work day after losing his job. Over the weekend, knowing he would not work on Monday, Kasey decided to sign up for the CCA Texas STAR Tournament and head to Galveston to spend time fishing. Once there, he pulled out his cast net, snagged a few mud minnows, and waded into the water. With his rod and reel in hand, he cast his line out and waited for a bite. The line went taut, and he set the hook! Once the redfish was within reach of the net, he noticed what appeared to be algae on its back. Upon further investigation, it was a RED tag! Kasey's luck had just changed; what had initially seemed to be a misfortune Monday turned into the most fortunate day as he landed the tagged red, making him our third RED tag winner. Kasey clipped the tag, released the redfish, and headed off to one of our official weigh stations, West End Marina, to turn in the tag

1st Caught, Blue Tag redfish: Stephen Berris of Corpus Christi Weighed in at Roy's Bait & Tackle Senior Chief Stephen Berris, USN, ret. of Corpus Christi, TX is the FIRST BLUE-Tag CERTIFIED WINNER. Steve will be awarded a 2022 Mowdy 22' V boat with a Mercury 150L Pro XS Optimax and Coastline Trailer. Steve and his fishing buddies Jim and George pushed off early Monday morning June 20th, 2022, from North Padre Island. While running down the ditch, George asked the guys, "Where do y'all want to fish this morning?" Jim replied, "Wherever the tagged redfish are." George set a course to one of their tried-and-true spots on the flat near Pita Island. With the motor up and a slight breeze at their back, they floated across the extensive flat. Being the good friend that he is, Steve positioned himself at the stern of the boat to let his buddy Jim cast from the bow in hopes to get him on more fish. With a rod and reel in hand and scattered potholes all around, Steve let his bone super

Stephen Berris- 1st Blue Tagged Redfish.



spook fly. With a few twitches of the wrist that familiar sound of a topwater exploding on a calm morning set in and Steve was hooked up. He exclaimed, "She Blew it Up!" It was not until the redfish was safely in the net before they realized that it had a BLUE- tag waving at them! With cheers all around, Steve clipped the tag and released the redfish. With the Blue tag in hand, Steve headed off to one of our official weigh stations, Roy's Bait & Tackle Outfitters, to turn in the BLUE Tag. Thank you, Senior Chief Stephen Berris, USN, ret for 26 years serving this country!

2nd Caught-Randall Kelly of Rockport, TX -Weighed in at Terry's Seaworthy Marine

Randall Kelly 2nd Blue Tagged Redfish Winner.



With tides changing, Randall decided to either go south towards Ingleside or north towards Rockport. Randall and his wife Sandra headed north up the ICW to Turtle Bayou flats. With the day's heat upon them, Randall knew that these fish would be in deep guts off the flat. Each time they would hook up, Sandra would yell in hopeful anticipation, "TAG! TAG! TAG!" The power of positive thinking is REEL! Randall grabbed his rod and reel and cast the mullet into the gut, and BAM, he was hooked up! Once the redfish was within reach of the net, they noticed algae on its back. Upon further investigation, it was a BLUE tag!



Blue Tagged Redfish Division Prize Mowdy Boat.

With the Blue tag in hand, Randall headed off to one of our official weigh stations, Terry's Seaworthy Marine Supply, to turn in the tag.

3rd Caught-Kimberly Schurwon of The Woodlands, TX Weighed in at West End Marina

Kimberly Schurwon 3rd Blue Tagged Redfish Winner



Once the anchor was out, she grabbed some live shrimp, took her rod and reel, and cast the shrimp near old pylons. It did not take long after that shrimp hit bottom before something got a hold of it. She set

the hook, and the fight was on! Once that fish was hooked, it tried everything to escape, including running through and around those pylons! Kimberly recalled, "It was like I was reeling that fish in through an obstacle course!" She could feel the line dragging across the pylons and knew it would break off if she did not bring that fish in quickly. Once the redfish was safely in the net, she realized it had a tag waving at her. Kimberly yelled to her husband, "Give me my glasses! IT'S A 2022 BLUE-TAGGED REDFISH!" With cheers all around, Kimberly clipped the tag, released the redfish, and headed off to one of our official weigh stations, West End Marina, to turn in the tag.

Inshore Division-Sheepshead Winner – Steven Morales of Huffman, TX. Weighed in at Linda's Sylvan Beach Bait & Tackle

"It was June 16th, around 10:50 am. I was in Trinity Bay fishing for croaker so we could go fishing for gafftop and reds. I used my little Abu Garcia bait pole with a 6-pound test line. I had a tiny piece of shrimp on it. I had probably had four



Inshore Division Prize

Steven Morales- Sheephead.



Inshore Division – Winner, Noe Martinez of Oyster Creek, TX Weighed in at Surfside Marina

Offshore Division – Kingfish Winner, Aaron Baker of Friendswood, TX Weighed in at Surfside Marina

Aaron Baker - Kingfish Winner.



"While I was standing below one of the rod holders on the side mount, something hit the line, and the reel started screaming. I grabbed it and watched the line continue to run out for what felt like another 30 seconds while we stopped the boat. I worked the rod to keep constant pressure, and it was a battle where if he wasn't taking line, I was bringing the line back in. As the King got closer, he shifted from one side of the boat to the other several times, and I had no choice but to follow him around. It wasn't until about 25 minutes after the initial hit that I finally saw a body, and I could then understand how this was taking so long. I knew this would likely be the biggest fish I had ever reeled in. He made his swimming seem effortless while I struggled to gain any distance. He got within 10' of the boat a couple of times before returning to tease me. After a good 30 minutes of fighting, I finally got him close enough for somebody to gaff him and got it in the boat. Then, my adrenaline started wearing off, and I realized how tired my hands and body were. This is the biggest, most exciting, and most exhausting catch I've ever had in my life."

Offshore Division – Dorado Winner-Erasmo Rodriguez of League City, TX. Weighed in at Surfside Marina

Erasmo Rodriguez, Dorado Winner.



Offshore Division – Red Snapper Winner-Matthew Richter of Port Aransas, TX. Weighed in at Fisherman's Wharf

Matt_Richter, Winning Red Snapper



croakers. We said we would get six and then go to our spot. The next hit took off. I fought it for a good minute, but once I got it to the boat, I thought it was a black drum, but I wasted no time. I grabbed my leader and got it in... God was on my side." The angler's brother-in-law exclaimed, "You just won a boat."

- Tiny pole
- Tiny shrimp
- After croakers
- And only 6 LB mono that comes on the poles from the factory.

That pole will forever go with me, but the line will be updated.

Inshore Division-Gafftop Winner – William Hendrix of Angleton, TX. Weighed in at Surfside Marina.

William Hendrix-Gafftop Winner.



Noe Martinez - Black Drum Winner.



**Offshore Division – Ling Winner,
Thomas Ramsden of Port
Aransas, TX. Weighed in at
Fisherman's Wharf**

Thomas Ramsden was alone when he stumbled across a MASSIVE 70 lbs. 13 oz. Ling on the #3 Green Buoy out of Port Aransas. Remarkably, he was able to snag a photo somehow and land the fish by himself!

Thomas Ramsden, Ling.



**Early Bird Drawing Winner, Francisco
D. Casias III of San Antonio, TX**

Francisco Casias III-Early Bird Drawing Winner.



**Member Bonus Drawing Winner,
Clint Haas of East Bernard, TX**

Clint Haas, Member Bonus Winner.



Just for entering Early Bird and being in STAR, both these winners collect a 21' Dargel Skout with Mercury 150hp ProXS!



**\$7.475 million in college
scholarships to youth
from all over Texas**

Building Memories for Generations.

As the largest custom home builder in rural Texas, Tilson is proud to support CCA and provide members with this special thank you for fostering the love and respect of our coastal marine resources for generations to come.



TILSON
CUSTOM HOME BUILDERS

\$1000

of **FREE** upgrades
for **CCA** members

888-884-5766

Tilson-CCA.com

* Offer available for new contracts only. Not retroactive. Cannot be combined with any other offers. To qualify for discount, you must present the original ad and your current CCA membership card.



2114 US-84
Goldthwaite, TX 76844
855.648.3341

hpolaris.com
hcanam.com

We Carry the Utility Vehicles You Need

★ and the brands you trust ★

can-am

POLARIS



Click here for a visit to HPolaris.com



BEST IN TEXAS

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

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

TILSON

CUSTOM HOME BUILDERS

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 www.startournament.org
Thank you for another great year of support for CCA Texas and the STAR Tournament!*

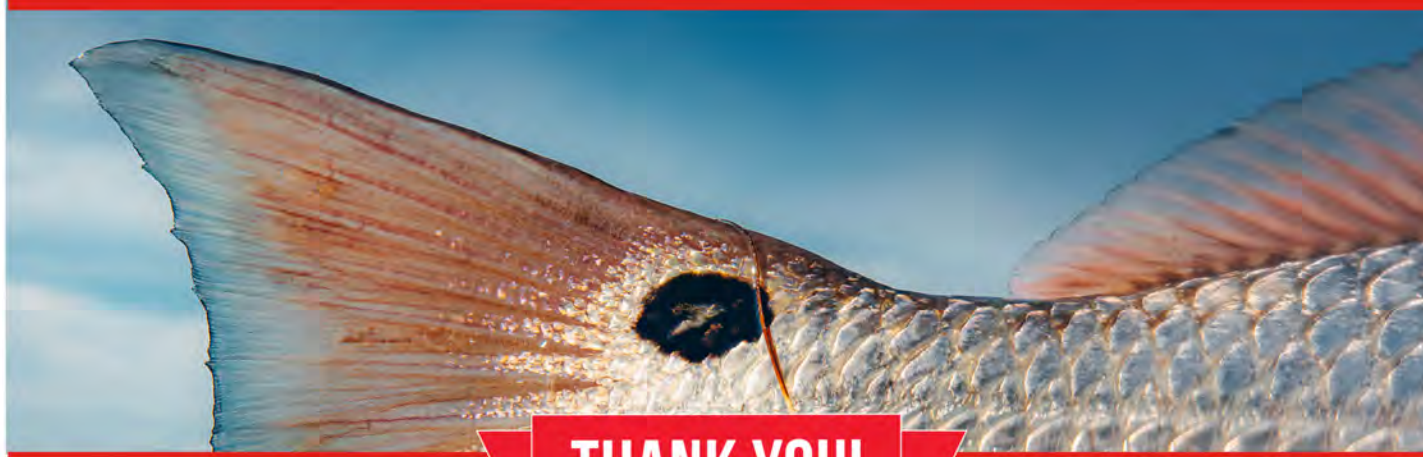


**\$7.475 million in college
scholarships to youth
from all over Texas**



CCA TEXAS
STAR
TOURNAMENT

*Please support those
who support our
conservation efforts!*



THANK YOU!



BEST IN TEXAS

TILSON
CUSTOM HOME BUILDERS

Academy
SPORTS+OUTDOORS



startournament.org · ccatexas.org



Crack of Dawn at Haley's Dock. Photo by Gator Garcia, Olympus TG-5

Gulf Identification Guide



Grouper



Tito's All-Time Favorite



Mahi-Mahi



Tito's Martini



Red Drum



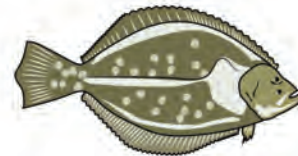
Hair of the Dog



Speckled Trout



Tito's Salty Dog



Flounder



**Tito's
Screwdriver**



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





Upper Coast

Capt. Josh MacNaughton

Bay boat options

Hello fall! Water temps in the 60's mean trout can't resist a Corky slowly sinking by. Christmas Bay and Chocolate Bayou: the marsh and bay systems just off these bodies of water is likely where the fish will be taking refuge into the season's transition. Back lakes and bayous like Halls and Greens should be thick with healthy redfish. Up the coast, marshes like Confederate Reef should be holding larger trout in nice quantities. Following the first good front and north wind push, flounder and reds will be easy targets at any marsh drain. Apply this theory to all of our large marsh systems and back lake estuaries. Throwing light tackle, a great set up would be plum, pink or pearl Corky Fat Boys—absolute trout candy at Confederate!

Tabbs and Trinity Bay up to Sabine will see activity continue to heat up as the temps cool down. This is a prime time for marsh fishing, so don't be afraid to venture back deep in the marshes if your boat will float. If there is water with bait, there is fish, so up your drift and fish!

Live bait, preferably shrimp, on a popping cork makes for a relaxing day on the water if you want to take a break from slinging artificial. The birds will continue to be a valuable resource in locating schools of trout and redfish as well. If you are still having issues locating fish, the old faithful top water is a great search bait. She dog in pink or clown spook Jr. are the most valuable tools in my box. No matter what you choose, just get out and get on the water. —**Capt. Josh MacNaughton** | and | *Fishing* / www.championsoutdoors.com

Kayakers and shallow water fishers

Marsh fishing is heating up for the fall transition. The flounder run will pick up after the first good cold front. Remember the current size and limit restrictions on flounder: TPW regulations are 5 flounder per day, minimum size 15 inches. **November 1st through December 14, the season is closed.**

Texas Bayou should be producing healthy flounder, redfish and trout with both the channels and marsh systems providing quick limits. For live bait choice, mud minnows or shrimp will do you well. Artificial baits: go with heavier jigs in the channel and lighter jigheads as you move into the shallow marsh systems. A 1/8 ounce, with a morning glory or Texas roach-colored swim bait works well with the muddier water we encounter. Keep it heavy in the channels and deeper water. 1/4 oz jig head is perfect for getting the bait down to the fish for a quicker presentation.

Now, high tides push reds into the marsh grass, shrimp on the popping cork will bring the fish out of the grass lines for a sure bite when the artificial action slows down.

Take a kid fishing because kids fish too. Wishing you all the tightest of lines —**Jenn Nolan**
TP&W Kayak Fishing Guide / *Champions Outdoors* / www.championsoutdoors.com
832-266-7978 / Reel Girlz / Support, Kidzfish2

Middle Coast

Capt. Chuck Naiser

Smaller crowds, cooler weather

Good news first: We have lived through a drought. Now the autumnal equinox brings many changes that create excellent fishing opportunities. We'll have some of the more interesting fishing of the year. October and November are both blessed with currents. Another happy fact is that there are typically smaller crowds in the fall because of hunting season and high school activities with kids.

A word to the wise: with the onset of hunting season there will be guns on the water and if you get in a conflict remember the old rule, guns beat rods. I've got a motto that I try to live by; let's live to do this again because it might be fun.

A word on stewardship: We were blessed with a great resource and it didn't happen by accident. God placed it here and man has done his best to tear it up so if we want this to survive, we need to be aware of the little things that we do that are big things to the fishery.

Sad news: For anyone who has followed the history and evolution of our fishery, one of the major architects of House Bill 1000 left us recently. Jim Adkins was a stalwart in the battle for the passage of the legislation that created the fishery that we have today. He was extremely active in the Corpus Christi area, serving as president of the Corpus Christi chapter of GCCA. His work then is an important element of the fishery we have now.

Finally, the oyster issue is gonna come back up and will be cited on November 3. Please stay tuned as it's now or never for this important issue to be adopted. If we don't succeed this time, it never will get done. Instructions for becoming involved will be forthcoming in CURRENTS and TIDE so stay tuned. —**Captain Chuck Naiser**
Chuck Naiser was one of the early GCCA founders. A dedicated flyfishing guide, he loves flyfishing the flats all year-round. 361-230-9392 info@flatsworthy.com

Lower Coast

Capt. David Rowsey

Go at the crack of dawn

In our low-current, warm waters we'll be looking forward to the first cold fronts. Water temps will finally stabilize from warm 70's into cool 60's. As big migrations of baitfish gather and head for Gulf passes, there'll be plenty of quality gamefish keeping company. That's the cue to pinpoint concentrations of prime gamefish, especially groups of big redfish that like to go shallow for breakfast and lunch. As usual, quality specks will be deeper and require more patience as well as deeper presentations of lures.

Wind may be a problem on most of the Texas coast, but here it's your friend because so much of our currents are wind-driven. As you wade fish, good currents are one key to bumping into the fish concentrations you're after. If wade fishing is your passion as it is mine, the many miles of lower coast shorelines are the place to be—at the crack of dawn. I like to start casting as the sun rises.

Topwaters can be effective, but if there are no blowups right away, my go-to fish locators are the Bass Assassins. Mid-water plugs are primary weapons. I especially like the Corkys for big trout that tend to linger deeper, waiting for a slow-moving meal.

Of course, you will be concerned about the health of the resource. Those magnificent trout and big redfish need to have a chance to provide next generation fish for our next generations of fishers.

My clients practice catch and release of reds and trout but like me, can enjoy the delicious black drum that also fall for lures. —**Captain David Rowsey**
Captain Rowsey has spent much of his life fishing and guiding the waters of the Lower Coast. 361-960-0340 David.rowsey@yahoo.com



Blake and Kelly Harris fish the Coast Guard Flats at the crack of dawn. Caldwell, TG-5

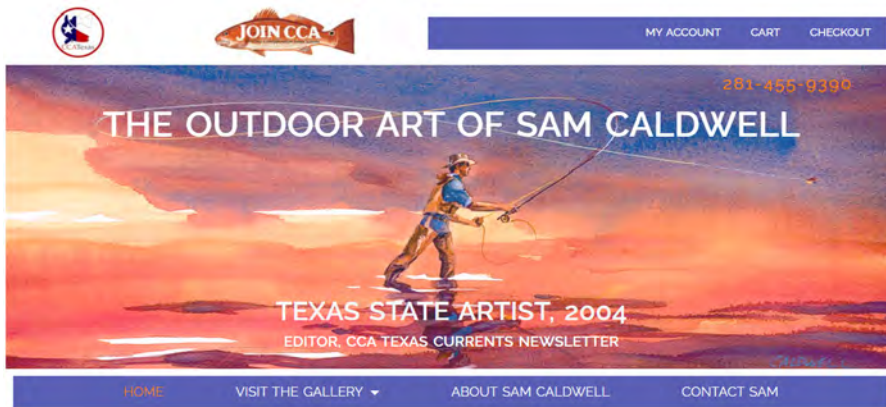
Simple Lemon Shrimp Treat for Two

Melt one stick of butter in a 9x13 pan. Slice two small lemons, arrange on the melted butter. Place a dozen or so butterflied shrimp on top of lemons. Sprinkle evenly with a package of dry Italian dressing mix. Bake at 350 degrees for 10 minutes, then stir and bake for 8 more minutes.

Serve with a refreshing beverage and sides to suit your appetite.



Great Recipe Editor Liz Hewitt



Sam Caldwell has been awarded the Harvey Weil Living Legacy for 2023.

Caldwell said, "Others may deserve this honor more than me, but I'm going to accept it."



The Great Spirit pays off...

Welcome to Caldwell's new BLOG
Featuring CCA's Not That Serious
column of 30 years.

The national award-winning
art of Ben Kocian and stories by
Sam Caldwell. Click on the guitar
for the second issue of this classic
Tide Magazine column.

*Soon to be an
Amazon/Kindle book.*



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*.

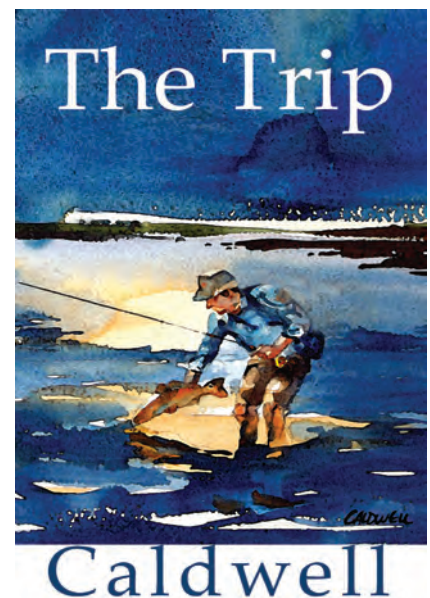
For a friend or yourself, choose
a high quality Giclee from many
Caldwell paintings.

samcaldwell.com

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



New on the website:
**SPECIAL EDITION OF FOUR
CALDWELL ART PRINTS**
While you're there, get a
personalized First Edition
copy of *The Trip*
www.samcaldwell.com





Coastal Conservation Association

6919 Portwest Drive, Suite 100
Houston, TX 77024

October / November 2022



Leaving it better than they found it: Golden Triangle and Sabine-Neches volunteers at the 2022 McFaddin Beach Clean Up.

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. |

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

Credit card number _____ Signature _____

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