

LAKE FORK "The Big Bass Capital of Texas"



2 Sections

"The Fisherman's Guide,
News You Can Use"
"Lines To Get Hooked On"
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Vol. 17

September, 2015

No. 193



Becky Marler from Shreveport, Louisiana was crappie fishing Lake Fork with her husband Scott when she caught this hawg weighing 10-lbs.14-ozs. Her big bass measured 25.5" with a girth of 22" and was released back into the lake after weighing and measuring. C.P.R.

3rd Annual Hook n' Cook

By Don Hampton

If you missed the 3rd Annual 'Hook and Cook Sand Bass Tournament' held on August 8th, you missed out on a really good day for a good cause. The tournament was hosted out of Fisherman's One Stop and John Heimgartner and his crew did just an

excellent job feeding the multitude.

The whole purpose of the tournament that benefits "The Wish To Fish Foundation" on Lake Fork is to not only deplete the growing population of sand bass on the lake but to also show a lot of skepticism.

(See 3rd Annual...

Continued on Page 5-A)

BIG-BASS SPLASH
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\$500,000
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Benefiting
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

By Don Hampton

Every angler likes to hear a big splash on the end of his line when he is bass fishing but here is a big splash that will really get your heart pumping! Sealy Outdoors Big Bass Splash will be held on Lake Fork on September 18, 19, 20 hosted out of Lake Fork Marina on Hwy. 17.

This is one tournament where amateurs can win big like the pros! Overall there will be \$500,000 guaranteed in cash and prizes. Five places will be awarded for the five single heaviest bass weighed in over the 3 day tournament. First Place heavy bass overall will take home a 2015 Triton 20 TRX powered by Mercury and equipped with MinnKota, Lowrance, Navionics and Power Pole, a 2015 Ram Truck, plus \$7,000 cash; Second Place will be awarded a 2015 Triton 19 TRX, powered by Mercury, equipped with MinnKota and Lowrance, a 2015 Ram Truck, plus \$2,000 cash; Third Place will hook on to a 2015 Triton 18 TRX powered by Mercury, equipped with MinnKota and Lowrance plus \$1,000 cash; Fourth Place will win \$8,000 cash; Fifth Place \$6,000 cash.

This year in the Big Bass Splash, fifteen places will be paid each hour of the tournament

(See Sealy Outdoors...Continued on Page 4-A)



Steven Wood from Emory, Texas caught this really nice Lake Fork hawg weighing 12.76 lbs. and measuring 27.5" in length on a Carolina rigged watermelon red brush hog in 24' of water on 8/28/15. C.P.R. (Courtesy Photo Lake Fork Marina)



Wood County Game Warden Kurt Kelley was recognized as the Association of Midwest Fish and Game Law Enforcement Officers' Texas Officer of the Year at a recent Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission meeting. TPWD Executive Director Carter Smith presented the award. (See Story on Page 7-A)

Bubba has a lot of reasons to go fishing, but with Bubbette he sometimes makes excuses

By: Don J. Hampton

Bubba is never at a loss for a reason to fish! He must have at least a trillion reasons he should go fishing.

"Oh, it's a little windy today. The plankton and baitfish will be on the windy shore and the bass will be in there feeding. I guess I better go see if I can catch a lunker or two," Bubba will say. And that is a good reason for Bubba (in his own mind), to take off for the lake.

Bubba has also been known to say, "It is too hot to be working today and it's always cooler on the lake, so I think I'll go fishing." It is never too hot for Bubba to go fishing.

The same holds true for all weather conditions. Never too hot, too cold, too calm, or too windy.

My favorite story to listen to from Bubba is when he slips into his Mark Scirto weather man mode.

If a storm is coming, he knows everything there is to know about it. He sounds so suave and debonair as he recites the barometric pressure and how it is either rising or falling and how the fish are going to really turn on. This applies both before and after a front or storm comes through.

I have come to a conclusion that Bubba knows fishing weather so well, there should be a weather channel that carries "Weather or Not, by Bubba!" It would get repetitious after a while though, because all Bubba would say, "It's a good day for fishing, don't mind the weather!"

To Bubba, weather is just another factor to take

into consideration and a reason to go fishing.

The real truth of the matter is Bubba doesn't need a reason to go fishing. To him fishing isn't a matter of life or death! It is much more important than that. Fishing is life. If Bubbette weren't around to keep him straight, he would be fishing unconsciously. As it is, he fishes all the time subconsciously, even when working.

But sometimes, especially where Bubbette is concerned, a reason to go fishing isn't enough. At that time he has to come up with a really good excuse to go fishing.

This doesn't slow Bubba down though! For every reason he has to go fishing, he has an excuse to go with it.

My favorite one and how he gets away with it I'll never know is, "Honey I have to go check out my boat to make sure it is running right for when I get ready to go fishing". Yeah right! Like Bubba doesn't have 30 rod n' reels in his boat and more tackle than a Bass Pro Shop and he is not going to fish while on the lake! Lightning striking twice in the same place is more likely.

But, his most precious and heart rendering of all is his "Sugar Dumplin' Excuse". He will go to Bubbette so tender and romantic and say, "Sug-dumplin', you've been doing so much and working so hard around the house this week. You just take all day tomorrow to relax and do anything you would like. I'll just go fishing to get out of your way!" Now isn't that just so sweet of him?

Bubba also has one of endearment for himself

too. He'll say, "Hon, I've just really been working hard and I'm feeling kind of stressed out. I think I just need to go fishing so I can relax."

Well, what kind of compassionate person could say no to that?

With all of Bubba's reasons and excuses to go fish, he fails to notice one important factor. That is, Bubbette likes Bubba to go fishing.

For Bubba's every excuse and reason to go fish, Bubbette has just as many reasons and excuses to go to Wal-Mart.



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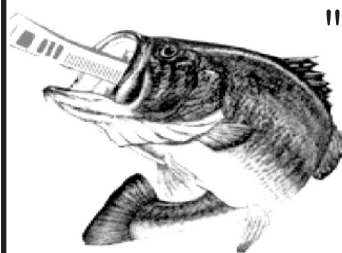
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Sealy Outdoors Big Bass Splash (Continued from Page 1-A)

beginning with the 7 am to 8 am hour and ending with the 1 pm to 2 pm hour. Hourly updates will be broadcasted live on KMOO 99.9 FM.

Any contestant weighing in the first 2.50 exact weight bass each day of the tournament will win \$5,000 and the contestant who weighs in the heaviest bass under the slot limit of 16" during the 3-day tournament will be awarded \$2,500. In addition, all contestants are eligible to win a 2015 Triton 189 TRX powered by Mercury, equipped with MinnKota and Lowrance in the famous "Elimination Drawing". Enter by the "Early Bird" deadline of September 3 and be eligible to win a \$200 Academy Gift Certificate. Participating anglers can also increase their chances of winning by purchasing a Bonus Shirt and a Bonus Card.

Children ages twelve and under may participate in the Little Anglers Division and be eligible to win Academy gift cards and gifts for their winning catches of bass, catfish, crappie or perch.

Registration at Lake Fork Marina will be held

on Thursday September 17th from 10 am to 8 pm and each morning of the tournament from 5 am until 6 am. If you wish to avoid the lines, check out the scheduled signups at the various Academy locations and dates on this page. By doing this you will miss the long line sign-ups.

This tournament is fun for the whole family. Even if you are not fishing, come out and visit with the vendors and enjoy the show.

If you would like more information about the tournament, see advertisement on Page 24-A or you can contact Nicole Sealy at nicole.sealy@sealyoutdoors.com, or call 409-382-3876 or 888-698-2591.

Listed below are the proud sponsors of Sealy Outdoors Big Bass Splash.



If you are one of the lucky anglers on Lake Fork, Bob will be calling your name!

You May Also Enter At These Academy Locations

Sept. 8 - Tues	Academy~Arlington, TX	1100 W Arbrook Blvd	817-375-3210	Noon-1PM
Sept. 8 - Tues	Academy~Mesquite, TX	3677 Emporium Circle	972-682-3450	6PM - 7PM
Sept. 9 - Wed	Academy~Tyler, TX	8668 South Broadway	903-266-3100	Noon-1PM
Sept. 9 - Wed	Academy~Longview, TX	445 Forest Square St	903-757-1300	6PM - 7PM



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3rd Annual Hook n' Cook (Continued from Page 1-A)

ties just how good they taste.

Each angler could bring in 10 sandies each, but only their top five were weighed to determine the winners. All the fish brought to the weigh-in were released to the grease. Because of the hot weather fishing hours were from 6 am to 12 pm with all anglers having to weigh-in by 1 pm.

Thirty-three anglers participated in the event but the sandies must have known this was a hook and cook tournament because they did a good job of hiding from the anglers. This did

not dampen the spirits of the day though. Winning 1st Place was Robert Lankfred with a total weight of 7.95-pounds; 2nd Place with a weight of 6.84-pounds was Glenn Wilson; 3rd Place with a weight of 6.30-pounds was Tim Thompson with a weight of 6.30-pounds; 4th Place was Hayden White with a total weight of 4.94-pounds; 5th Place was Bryan Poole with a weight of 4.12-pounds. Winning Big Sandie of the tournament was Tim Thompson with a 1.89-pound sandie; 2nd Big Sandie was a 1.66-pound caught by Robert Lank-

fred and 3rd Big Sandie was brought in by Tina Thompson weighing 1.59-pounds.

Not to conclude the day yet, all anglers and friends were able to take a break and relax for a few hours with the festivities beginning again at 5:00. Everyone was invited to come and enjoy the free fish fry with donations accepted benefitting Wish to Fish. The meal include fried fish, sand bass and catfish, fried shrimp, beans, corn on the cob, cole slaw, and cobbler. With this menu it definitely packed Bro's Patio. All the guests were encouraged to BYOB, because we also threw in a birthday celebration for Bubbette and Scott Fruge. After the meal and check presentations, many of the guests took home nice raffle prizes donated by the many sponsors that help make this function such a success.

If you were not one of the fortunate ones to make this event, there is always next year. Watch for the date in "The Fisherman's Guide News".



Bentley Holiday received not only the gag prize for the lightest sandie but also a souvenir of her first tournament to ever fish.



Even if the fish didn't want to feed, plenty of area residents took advantage of the great meal prepared by Bro's Patio staff and volunteers.

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September on the Fork

By David Ozio

"Thinking back to last year at this time, I made comments about how dumbfounded I was with the water temps being 86 degrees heading into September. As of this writing, the water temps a year later are around the 85 degree mark, slightly cooler than last year. Couple this with much higher lake levels than the previous season and it sets the stage for a totally different group of circumstances as the month evolves. This will make interesting viewing later this month when the McDonalds Tournament rolls into town.

With the days growing shorter, certain patterns should take hold this month and I would be focusing on the shallow bite on a day to day basis. Backs of creeks will be the starting point if you

are looking for consistent action. Shad will start to migrate to these areas of the lake and schooling activity will start to take place as the water begins to cool. Top water baits, squarebills, Texas rigged worms and shaky heads will lead the attack especially early and late. The lake is currently one foot low and shallow water vegetation is taking root all over the lake. New grass growth, reeds and alligator grass (that's what I call the thick leafy vegetation) lines most all coves and creek banks. Bass love this new aquatic growth as it provides shade and protection from the summer sun and cover to ambush baitfish. If it is a cloudy day, the yellow magic might be the call for the entire day along this vegetation. A sunny day would probably require the Texas rig or shaky head fished in the same shallow areas. Water clarity will determine the color of the plastics needed, dark hues for heavily stained water and translucent colors for the much clearer water.

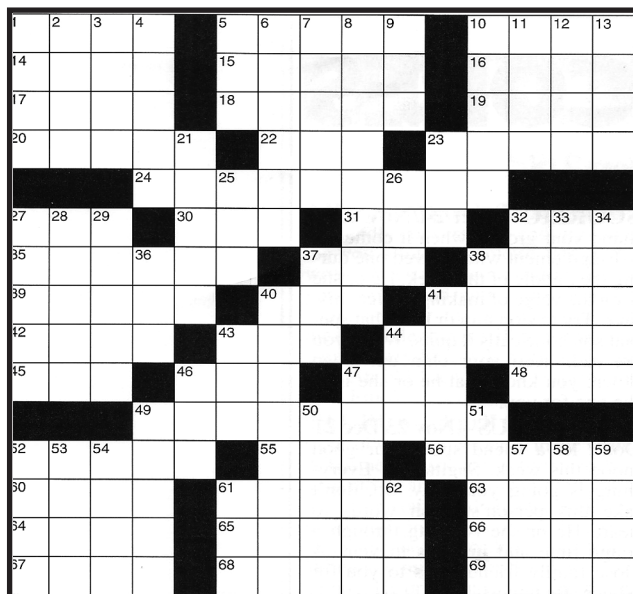
Once you reach the midday time frame, I would start looking to the deeper areas of the lake, humps, ridges, road beds and pond dams for the larger bass. The football jig is hard to beat during this time of the year and the 3/4oz Talon Custom football jig is the best choice for the job. Add a Talon Repo Craw trailer and your ready to tackle the heavy weights of the lake. As of lately, I have



found that setting the boat on the shallowest part of the structure and casting out to the deep areas has produced more bites than the reverse scenario. The Carolina rig will also be a "go to" presentation for the same application. I would use a long leader with a 3/0 hook and a Talon Custom Big 10 inch Swamp Wiggler Worm. When you get a bite on one of these, your partner better be headed for the net. Redbug, Watermelon Red or Green Pumpkin Pepper will do the trick as far as colors are concerned.

The next strategy will be focusing on suspended fish that set up just off the side of the same structures. Use your electronics to locate these hover-

(See September on the.....
Continued on Page 20-A)



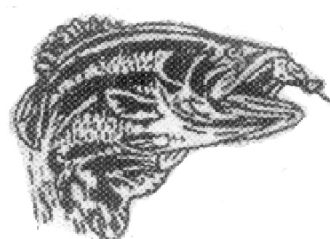
CLUES ACROSS

1. Lean-fleshed fish often farmed
5. Assume
10. Feeling of deep, bitter ill-will
14. South American armadillo
15. Greek city
16. Phil _____, former CIA agent
17. Drunk (slang)
18. Someone worthy of imitation
19. Optical device
20. Starches
22. Supervises interstate commerce
23. Anwar _____, Egyptian statesman
24. Hearths
27. _____ Dhab
30. Light brown
31. Mauna _____, Hawaiian volcano
32. Chest muscle (slang)
35. Bend in a golf course
37. Calendar mo.
38. Make a ringing sound
39. Units of metrical time
40. Scoundrel
41. Short and fat
42. Hebrew month
43. Founder of Babism
44. Knight's garment
45. City that never sleeps (abbr.)
46. Made by manufacturer (abbr.)
47. A way to soak
48. _____ Marvin, actor
49. Walls
52. Mini
55. Drain of resources
56. Hard to penetrate
60. Bantu
61. Type of acid
63. Eagle's nest
64. About ear
65. Grassy plain (Spanish)
66. Aisle
67. Despicable
68. Accepted as true without proof
69. Resorts

CLUES DOWN

1. Expresses audibly, in a way
2. Capital of Western Samoa
3. Resounded
4. Validation
5. Autonomic nervous system (abbr.)
6. Dampen
7. Neglects
8. Represented by drawing
9. Create from raw stuff
10. Festivities
11. Used of tobacco
12. Russian river
13. So that not
21. Lots
23. Large body of water
25. Annoy
26. When born (abbr.)
27. Advertisement author
28. Songbird
29. Uralic language
32. Ride a bicycle
33. Tidal flow
34. Bonnie and _____, criminals
36. Scientists' arena (abbr.)
37. Unbelievable (slang)
38. Mail holder (abbr.)
40. A short negligee
41. Of the head
43. Sound unit
44. CNN's founder
46. Awkward, stupid person
47. Plunder
49. Absence of mental stress
50. Wrap
51. Closes
52. Spot
53. Plant genus
54. Wading birds
57. Lowest tide
58. Transfer RNA (abbr.)
59. Visual organs
61. Sandwich (abbr.)
62. Folds up for storage

Answers on Page 21-A



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Wood County Game Warden Honored

Wood County Game Warden Kurt Kelley was recognized as the Association of Midwest Fish and Game Law Enforcement Officers' Texas Officer of the Year at a recent Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission meeting. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Executive Director Carter Smith presented the award for Kelley's outstanding work as a law enforcement officer.

The Midwest association, which encourages close cooperation between natural resource law enforcement agencies in the United States and Canada to further professionalize their law enforcement activity, recognized Kelley recently at their 71st annual meeting in Duluth,

Minnesota.

Kelley, who started his game warden career in 1999, has maintained a minimum case load of more than 300 cases per year for the last 14 years. Additionally, he averages over 400 boat hours every year, routinely leading his district in all wildlife-fisheries cases.

One case Kelley solved was one of the largest deer poaching cases in Texas, which involved 30 illegally poached deer and four suspects. More than 500 charges were filed on the violators, and all four were convicted. Penalties totaled \$41,000 in fines, 3,000 hours of community service and 12 years of prison time.

Most recently, Kelley

coordinated the water safety enforcement effort during the Toyota Bass Classic and Concert on Lake Fork. In addition, Kelley presents numerous information and education programs in Wood County. These programs include hunter education classes, school programs and sporting group presentations. He also coordinated and managed one of the largest youth fishing events in the state, with more than 300 kids in attendance.

Kelley's other accomplishments include Master Peace Officer Certification, TCOLE Instructor, Firearms Instructor, AL-ERRT training and Patrol Rifle course completion.

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"The Moon Report"

The "Downhill Side" of Summer

By Terri Moon

Doesn't that sound good! I'm so looking forward to Fork's FALL FISHING! I've really been enjoying the cloud cover these past few days with the cooler temperatures – (I think the fish are enjoying it too!)

The depth is changing daily. Yesterday they were 12–16 ft. and today they were 20–22 ft. in 24–30 ft. of water. So, definitely keep an eye on that depth finder. I love-love-love my Lowrance HDS units! They sure make my job easier! I'm constantly monitoring it to watch for any changes in the depth of the fish and adjust my casts accordingly.

The crappie haven't bunched up yet so we're moving around a lot, but we're finding some quality fish. We've released 3 that were over 15 inches just this week! Tree lines, brush piles, bridges and deep water humps are starting to produce some really nice crappie. Some days they want a very slow presentation and



other days they want it moving so don't be afraid to change it up to see what works for that particular day.

Don't be afraid to change up the size of the bait too. The other day the bite seemed to be very slow. I remembered when I was in Missouri. I stopped by "Crappie Town" in Tightwad to see Miss Betty and she showed me the new "Itty Bitty" jig heads and the new Bobby Garland 1-1/4 baits and I brought some home to try – so I dug them out and tied one on and it was like flipping a light switch. I was getting bit on every drop! So, thanks again Miss Betty – looks like you've got another winner with the "Itty Bit Swim R"!! These are available at Lake Fork Marina or online at CrappieTown.

com. You better get you an assortment of colors because the color of choice can change daily too!

Now as far as the bream fishing goes, I took some "ME" time in search of bream and found some monsters! Around the new moon and full moon, they were holding in 1-8 ft. of water around the edges of the grass or willows or lily pads. Don't forget to check around the docks too! Crickets or night crawlers with a bobber or tight lined, there is NOTHING more fun and nothing tastes better. To me they are the "filet mignon" of fish!

My best to you all and hope you get to enjoy the coming "Fall Fishing" on Fork!

Fish Friendly

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\$7.6 Million in Local Park Grants Awarded to Texas Communities

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission recently approved more than \$7 million in competitive grant funds for 25 community parks all across the state.

Funding will help local communities create and enhance outdoor recreational opportunities through projects like hike and bike trails, sensory gardens, BMX trails, dog parks, and fishing piers, just to name a few.

Three types of grants were awarded: the Urban Outdoor Recreation Grants are given to cities with populations exceeding 500,000 and were awarded to the Cities of Austin, Dallas, El Paso, and Houston. The Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation Grants are given to municipalities with a population less than 500,000 and were awarded to 10 communities. The Small Community Recreation Grants are given to municipalities with a population less than 20,000 and were awarded to 11 communities.

Money for the Local Park Grants Program comes from a portion of the sporting goods sales tax through the Texas Recreation & Parks Account (TRPA) and the Texas Large County & Municipal-

ity Recreation & Parks Account (Urban Account). Additional money comes from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). Program funding is appropriated annually by Congress. TPWD is the pass-through agency for local governments in Texas.

The grant funds awarded are listed below by geographic region:

Austin

Austin will receive an urban outdoor recreation grant of \$849,518 to support the development of Waterloo Park. The proposal includes sidewalks, trails, bridges, a playscape, garden, wetland terrace, headwater seep, lighting, site furnishings, and signage.

The City of Brady was awarded a non-urban outdoor recreation grant of \$400,000 to renovate and further develop Richards Park. The proposal includes lighting of existing ballfields, bleachers, a shade structure, playground, pedestrian trail, pedestrian bridge renovations, and picnic pavilions.

The City of Brady was also granted a small community recreation grant of \$75,000 to develop

4.0-acre Willie Washington Park. The proposal includes a replacement playground, installation of fall zone, shade structure, sidewalk, benches, and landscaping.

The town of Johnson City was granted a small community recreation grant of \$75,000 to renovate and further develop 4-acre Community Park. The proposal includes a BMX track/skatepark, native plant garden, solar lighting, washer pits, benches, program and interpretive signage, and renovations to an existing pavilion.

The town of Valley Mills was granted a small community recreation grant of \$75,000 to develop a 3.5-acre Boy Scout Park located along the shores of the Bosque River. Proposed additions include a hike and bike trail, pavilion, rainwater collection system, RV pads, beach volleyball courts, scent wall/sensory garden, and exercise stations.

Dallas

Dallas will receive an urban outdoor recreation grant of \$1 million to further develop Bachman Lake Park. The proposal includes a hike/bike trail

(See Grants Awarded.... Continued on Page 14-A)



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2015-16 Texas Hunting, Fishing Licenses Are Now On Sale

Sportsmen gearing up for the upcoming fall hunting seasons are reminded to re-new their licenses for

2015-16, available now. The current year Texas hunting and fishing licenses (except year-to-date fish-

ing licenses) expired Aug. 31st.

Every year, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is-

sues about 2.5 million hunting and fishing licenses through the agency's 28 field offices, more than 50

state parks and at over 1,700 retailers across the state. Licenses may also be purchased online through the TPWD website at www.tpwd.texas.gov/buy or by phone at 1-800-895-4248. Call center hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please note that there is a required \$5 administrative fee for each phone or online transaction but multiple items can be purchased during a single transaction occasion for the \$5 fee. The online transaction system is available 24/7. For online and phone orders, a physical license will be mailed within three business days. During that time period, a transaction receipt will be provided via email that will be sufficient proof of hunting license that can be used for dove hunting, though it will not be allowed for the take of fish or wildlife that require a tag.

Hunting and fishing regulations for the new season can be found in the 2015-2016 Outdoor Annual, available in booklet form at license retailers and digitally online at www.outdoorannual.com. Hunters and anglers can also download the free 2015-2016 Outdoor Annual mobile app on their Apple or Android devices. Mandatory Hunter Education Certification

In addition to a hunting license, anyone born after Sept. 1, 1971, must successfully complete a hunter education training course or purchase a one-time deferral good for one license year in order to hunt legally in Texas. The certification is valid for life and is honored in all other states and provinces. Last year, TPWD certified a record 72,000 hunter education students, yet Texas game wardens still issued more than 3,400 citations and warnings last fall for hunters not meeting hunter education certification requirements.

Getting certified has never been more convenient. Hunters who need hunter education certification have several expanded contemporary options including a streamlined, one-day basic course and an option for anyone 17 years of age or older to take the hunting safety training completely online. A combination online home study and 4 to 5 hour skills field day course is also offered. More information on hunter education certification is available online at www.tpwd.texas.gov/huntered.

Bird Hunting Requirements

A Migratory Game Bird endorsement and Harvest Information Program (HIP) certification are also required to hunt dove or teal in September. HIP certification involves a brief survey of previous year's migratory bird hunting success and is conducted at the time licenses are purchased. Duck hunters also need to purchase a Federal Duck Stamp. The cost of the duck stamp was increased this year to \$25,

(See 2015-16 Texas...Continued on Page 15-A)



75th SEMI-ANNUAL OPEN CATCH AND RELEASE INDIVIDUAL TOURNAMENT ON LAKE FORK

Saturday – October 10, 2015

Lake Fork Marina

903-765-2764

On Highway 17

Visit www.irvingbassclub.org

\$5,000 CASH + DOOR PRIZES

GUARANTEED - BASED ON 200 ENTRIES - HEAVY CATCH - 5 FISH PER ENTRY

FIRST PLACE.....	\$1,500.00
SECOND PLACE.....	\$800.00
THIRD PLACE.....	\$600.00
FOURTH PLACE.....	\$400.00
FIFTH PLACE.....	\$300.00

SIXTH PLACE.....	\$200.00
SEVENTH PLACE.....	\$190.00
EIGHTH PLACE.....	\$180.00
NINTH PLACE.....	\$170.00
TENTH PLACE.....	\$160.00

One additional place paid for each five entries over 200 to a maximum of 15 places.
There will be an optional BIG BASS POT - \$70.00 per person. **BIG BASS PAYS THREE PLACES**

TOURNAMENT RULES

1. Entry fee is \$45.00 - Late entry fee is \$50.00.
2. Entry fee must be paid before 6:45 am, Oct. 10, 2015.
3. All entry fees must be paid before 6:45 am, Oct. 10, 2015.
4. Check in time: Friday 9:00 - 4:00 pm and Saturday 7:00 - 4:00 pm to 6:45 am.
5. To qualify, contestants must check in at headquarters before fishing.
6. Fishing hours 6:45 am to 4:30 pm (Official clock at sign-in station) **NO FISHING** from midnight to start time.
7. Fishing will be done on Lake Fork ONLY. (Trotting allowed)
8. All State, Federal and Local laws must be obeyed or contestants & fish may be disqualified. No slot fish may be brought to weigh-in.
9. No one may have more than five (5) fish in their possession at any time. Only one (1) may be 24" or greater. (See Rule 10 below)
10. Largemouth bass 12 inches to 16 inches or 24 inches or greater in length may be weighed. **NO FISH BETWEEN 16" and 24" WILL BE WEIGHED.** (Or State Law at the time of this tournament)
11. All fish must be caught on artificial bait by casting. (No trotting with gas engine) Poth trailer may be used.
12. Weigh-in starts at 5:30 pm (Official clock at sign-in). You **MUST** be in the weigh-in line by 7:30 pm.
13. All fish must be brought to scales in weigh-in bags. (Bags will be provided)
14. No live or frozen fish will be weighed. Ice may be added **ONLY** to aid in survival of fish.
15. Each contestant will be responsible for weighing his or her own fish. (No pooling of fish) This question will be on the polygraph.
16. Dead fish at weigh-in will be penalized by 1/2 (.50) pound.
17. All fish weighed in become the property of Irving Bass Club & will be released with the exception of trophy or dead fish.
18. In the event of a tie for any position, prize money for that position

- and the following position will be combined and evenly divided between the tying contestants.
19. Contestants **cannot** have served as a compensated guide on Lake Fork during the previous six (6) months prior to this Irving Bass Club tournament.
20. Contestants **cannot** have fished with a compensated guide on Lake Fork within 14 days prior to fishing this Irving Bass Club Tournament.
21. Use of **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES** or **CONTROLLED DRUGS** is prohibited during tournament hours. Prescription drug use should be declared at sign-in. If list is long, it is ok to attach a list.
22. Anyone who has ever been disqualified for cheating or misconduct from any tournament is ineligible to fish.
23. Any contestant who violates any rule may be disqualified. Any act of a competitor, verbal or physical, that reflects unfavorably upon Irving Bass Club's effort to promote fishing, conservation, clean waters, courtesy and safety shall be reason for disqualification from this and all future Irving Bass Club Tournaments.
24. Parent or guardian must accompany contestants under age 18.
25. All protests must be registered in writing with the Tournament Director within 15 minutes after designated weigh-in time ends. All decisions of the Tournament Director/Judge will be final in all matters.
26. An aeration live well is recommended to aid in fish survival for live release.
27. Contestants must possess and present their photo ID, and fishing license at time of polygraph. **POLYGRAPH TESTS WILL BE GIVEN AT RANDOM AND MUST BE PASSED** to be eligible to receive prize money.

For additional information contact: President: Jack Ward, cell: 214-714-2852 or e-mail: president@irvingbassclub.org
Tournament Director: Roger Barth, cell: 214-543-7316 or e-mail: tournamentdirector@irvingbassclub.org

ENTRY APPLICATION

Entry fee of \$45.00 must accompany this entry blank and be postmarked on or before Oct. 3, 2015 and sent to: Irving Bass Club, P.O. Box 171064, Irving, Texas 75017-1064, or you may pay \$50.00 at tournament headquarters before starting time of tournament. **Please print clearly.**

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Email _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Prescription Drugs Declared

"Having read and understood the tournament rules, with my signature, I agree to accept all decisions of the tournament judge as final. I further agree that I will be an associate member of the Irving Bass Club and my continued membership shall be confirmed by my presence at the next regular meeting of the Irving Bass Club and the payment of the regular membership fee. With my signature I waive and release all members, officials, and sponsors of all liabilities to me and/or my equipment."

Contestant Signature _____ Social Security # _____
(For 1099 Purposes only)

Minor's Release: Signed By (Parent/Guardian) _____

PHOTOCOPIES OF THIS FORM ARE ACCEPTABLE

I.B.C. Use Only	
Entry # _____	
Late Entry <input type="checkbox"/> Early <input type="checkbox"/>	
Big Bass <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check # _____	
I.B.C. reserves the right to refuse any application	
10/2015	

D.H.

Prospects Bright for Dove and Early Teal Seasons

Dove hunters will have more opportunity earlier in the season with dates and bag limits finalized recently by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has approved the 2015-2016 Texas dove season, including a 70-day season and 15-bird daily bag statewide, and a 16-day early teal and Canada goose season.

The traditional September 1 dove season opening day in the North and Central Zones remains. The first segment in those zones will be five days longer than last season, closing on Sunday, Oct. 25. The season will reopen Friday, Dec. 18 and run through Friday, Jan. 1, 2016 in the North and Central Zones.

In the South Zone, the first segment will be longer by two days compared to last year. The South Zone opens Friday, Sept. 18 and runs through Wednesday, Oct. 21. The second segment will run Friday, Dec. 18 through Friday, Jan. 22, 2016.

The daily bag limit for doves statewide is 15 and the possession limit is 45.

The Special White-winged Dove Area will be restricted to afternoon only (noon to sunset) hunting the first two full September weekends on Sept. 5-6 and 12-13. Hunting in this area will reopen Friday, Sept. 18 and continue through Wednesday, Oct. 21, and then reopen Friday, Dec. 18 through Monday, Jan. 18, 2016. During the early two weekends, the daily bag limit is 15 birds, to include not more than two mourning doves and two white-tipped doves. Once the general season opens, the aggregate bag limit will be 15 with no more than two white-tipped doves.

"Age-ratios (juveniles versus adults) from last season indicated very strong production in mourning doves across Texas last year; we expect similar or slightly increased production this year with the improved habitat conditions across nearly all of

Texas," said Shaun Oldenburger, TPWD's dove program leader. "However, improved habitat conditions equal more food and water on the landscape, which means hunters may need to spend more time patterning mourning doves prior to opening day in their area."

Duck hunters can anticipate improved conditions for the September early teal season as abundant rains have filled lakes and marshes for the first time in several years. With record numbers of teal expected to make their way into Texas during the upcoming months, prospects should be good.

A 16-day statewide early teal and Eastern Zone Canada goose season will run Saturday, Sept. 12 through Sunday, Sept. 27. The daily bag on teal remains six, with a possession limit of 18. Bag limit for Canada geese will be three and a posses-

sion limit of six in the Eastern Zone only.

"Blue-winged teal numbers (8.5 million) are way above the minimum of 4.7 million needed for a 16-day season," said Kevin Kraai, TPWD waterfowl program leader. "Conditions for teal across the state are excellent and hunters are urged to have their fingers crossed for a timely migration in the middle of September."

Hunters are reminded that licenses went on sale August 15 for the 2015-16 hunting seasons and can be purchased through the agency's 28 field offices, more than 50 state parks and at over 1,700 retailers across the state. Licenses may also be purchased online through the TPWD website at www.tpwd.state.tx.us/buy or by phone at 1-800-895-4248. Call center hours are Monday through

(See Prospects Bright.....Continued on Page 17-A)



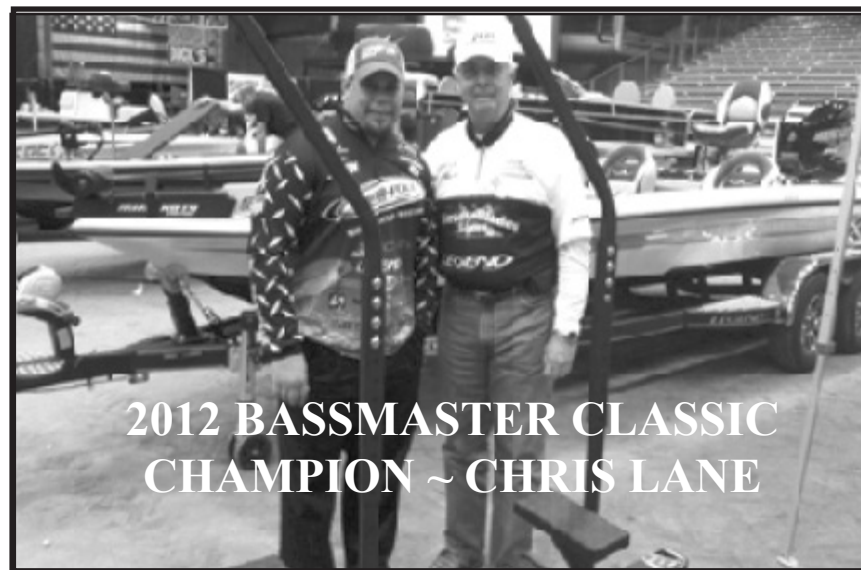
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FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: 903-360-6994 OR 903-383-7748 EMAIL: FISHNEWS@LAKEFORK.NET



Grants Awarded to Texas Communities (Continued from Page 9-A)

with lighting, scenic overlook, Point Nancy Carolyn enhancements, fitness loop, pavilion, drinking fountains, plant restoration, WPA/CCC stations renovation, and interpretive signage.

The town of Dublin was granted a small community recreation grant of \$75,000 to renovate and further develop 5-acre City Park. The proposal includes a sand volleyball court, sensory garden, horseshoe pits, walking trail with exercise stations, hopscotch/four square, benches, picnic

tables, renovation of existing tennis courts, playground area, and pool building.

The City of Flower Mound was granted a non-urban outdoor recreation grant of \$400,000 to further develop 243-acre Twin Coves Park located on the north shore of Lake Grapevine. The proposal includes RV sites, nature trails, RV area pavilion, cabins area pavilion, disc golf, playground, fishing pier/small boat launch, lake overlook/picnic area, horseshoe pits, trails, great lawn area, tree

planting, and interpretive signage.

Gunter in Grayson County was granted a small community recreation grant of \$74,579 to further develop 13.7-acre Gunter Park. The proposal includes a playground.

The town of Little Elm was granted a non-urban outdoor recreation grant of \$294,150 to acquire 21.9 acres and to develop 38-acre McCord Park located on the eastern side of town. The proposal includes a boardwalk, group pavilion with picnic tables, covered small pavilions with picnic tables, dog park, disc golf course, benches, interpretive signs, and landscaping.

Pilot Point in Denton County was granted a small community recreation grant of \$75,000 to renovate and further develop a 1.2-acre City Park. The proposal includes a walking trail, splash pad, multi-activity play structure, pavilion, basketball court and playground renovation, adjustable basketball goal, picnic table, game tables, overhead ball toss, wheelchair swing seat, fitness stations, and scent gardens with interpretive signage.

The City of Rockwall was awarded a non-urban outdoor recreation grant of \$400,000 to obtain 28.8 acres by donation and develop Breezy Hill Park. The proposal includes a concrete trail, playground, picnic areas, pavilion, boardwalk, open lawn area/soccer field, and tree plantings.

(See Grants Awarded.... Continued on Page 16-A)

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2015-16 Texas Hunting, Fishing Licenses Are Now On Sale *(Continued from Page 10-A)*

plus applicable state and federal fees.

There are other mandatory endorsements to consider at the time of license purchase. An Upland Game Bird Stamp (\$7) is required to hunt all non-migratory game birds, including turkey, quail, pheasant and chachalaca.

Texas Parks & Wildlife Magazine's Hunting Forecast

The Texas Parks & Wildlife magazine's free digital hunting issue was available starting August 15. This special issue includes the 2015-2016 hunting forecast for deer, dove, ducks and more. Wild game recipes and other tips are also included. It can now be downloaded as a free app on iPad or iPhone or viewed as a digital version online at www.tpwdmagazine.com/hunt/.

Big Time Texas Hunts

Big Time Texas Hunts provide opportunities to win one or more of nine premium guided hunt packages with food and lodging provided, as well as taxidermy in some cases. The crown jewel of the program is the Texas Grand Slam hunt package, which includes four separate hunts for Texas' most prized big game animals -- the desert bighorn sheep, white-tailed deer, mule deer and pronghorn. New this year is the Ultimate Mule Deer Hunt, where one winner will be the first to hunt on the recently acquired Yoakum Dunes WMA. There are

several quality whitetail hunt packages available, as well as opportunities to pursue alligator, waterfowl, upland game birds, wild hog and exotics. Big Time Texas Hunts entries are available online for just \$9 each at www.tpwd.texas.gov/buyentry, or for \$10 each at license retailers or by phone. There is no limit to the number of entries an individual may purchase and all proceeds benefit conservation, wildlife management and public hunting. Deadline for entry is October 15. The program is made possible with support from Toyota, Texas Trophy Hunters Association and the Texas Bighorn Society. More details on all nine premium hunts can be found online.

Lifetime Licenses

Hunters and anglers can also take care of their licensing requirements for life with the purchase of a \$1,800 Lifetime Super Combo, or they can enter for the chance to win a lifetime license through the department's Lifetime License Drawing. Entries for the drawing cost \$5 each and may be purchased at license retailers, by phone or online at www.tpwd.texas.gov/licensedraw. There is no limit on the number of entries that may be purchased. Winners will be drawn on Dec. 30, 2015 and June 30, 2016. If you enter by Dec. 27, 2015, you will be eligible for both drawings.

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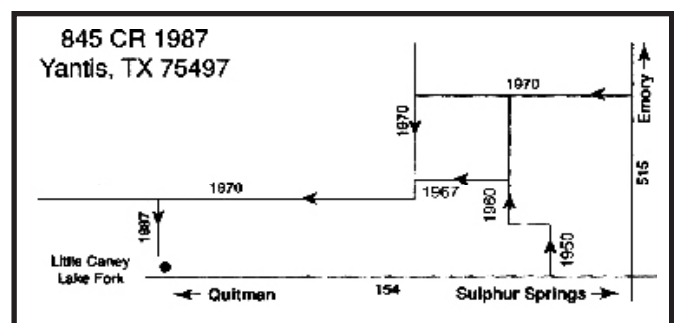
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Grants Awarded to Texas Communities (Continued from Page 14-A)

The town of Throckmorton was granted a small community recreation grant of \$45,863 to renovate and further develop a 0.9-acre City Park. The proposal includes a playground, basketball goal, lighting, repainting of benches and tables, new picnic tables, tree excavation, tree planting, landscaping, swing set, drinking fountain, flag pole, and barbecue pit renovation.

East Texas

The town of Center was awarded a non-urban outdoor recreation grant of \$400,000 to acquire additional acreage, renovate, and further develop a 3.0-acre Mini Park to include trails, pavilion, basketball court, volleyball court, landscaping, irrigation, washer pits, soccer, site amenities, and fencing.

The town of Edgewood was granted a small community recreation grant of \$75,000 to renovate and further develop 8.3-acre Edgewood City Park. The proposal includes restrooms and storage rooms with associated roofing, concession stand, stage, rain garden, and signage.

Longview in Gregg County will receive a non-urban outdoor recreation grant of \$400,000 for the acquisition of 9.4 acres to create The Green, located in the central area of the city. Proposed elements include a multi-use trail, pavilion, picnic areas, recreation amenities, landscaping, and in-

terpretive signage.

Richland in Navarro County was granted a small community recreation grant for \$10,000 to further develop Community Park. The proposal included two new playgrounds.

Houston

The City of Galveston was granted a non-urban outdoor recreation grant of \$400,000 to develop a community swim center on the eastern side of the island. Proposed elements include a multi-use swimming pool, bathhouse, parking, fencing, renovation of football fields and tennis courts, and walking trails.

Houston was granted an urban outdoor recreation grant of \$1 million to renovate and further develop Squatty Lyons Park located north of the city. The proposal includes a T-ball field renovation, softball field with lighting, batting cages, and bleachers, renovation of adult baseball field, renovation of youth baseball field, new concession stand with restrooms, relocation of pavilion, new playground, site furnishings, picnic area, and landscaping.

Tomball will receive a non-urban outdoor recreation grant of \$400,000 to acquire and develop 14-acre Broussard Park. Proposed elements include a playground, multi-purpose athletic fields, walking trails with exercise equipment, picnic facilities, a fishing pier, existing pond improvements, and in-

terpretive signage.

Panhandle

The City of Wheeler will receive a non-urban outdoor recreation grant of \$400,000 to renovate and further develop the Aquatic Center. The project includes swimming pool renovations, a pump house, utilities, concrete decking, picnic facilities, fencing, and a concrete driveway.

Rio Grande Valley

The City of Donna will receive a small community recreation grant of \$53,662 to renovate and further develop 7.0-acre Altas Palmas and 4.8-acre Little League Parks. Proposed development for Altas Palmas Park includes dugout and concession area renovation, drinking fountain, shading for bleachers, lighting renovation, concrete, and barbecue pits. Proposed development for Little League Park includes concession area renovation, drinking fountain, aluminum bleachers, and concrete costs.

The City of Los Fresnos was granted a non-urban outdoor recreation grant of \$400,000 to acquire 20 acres of land and develop Los Fresnos Nature Park. Proposed elements include a playground, trail, fishing pier, boat ramp, amphitheater, benches, picnic tables, butterfly garden, bird blind, exercise stations, drip station, habitat restoration, removal

(See Grants Awarded.... Continued on Page 21-A)

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Prospects Bright *(Continued from Page 11-A)*

Friday, 8 p.m. to 5 p.m. and there is a required \$5 administrative fee for each phone or on-line transaction. The online transaction system is available 24/7. For online and phone orders, a physical license will be mailed within three business days. During that time period, a transaction receipt will be provided via email that will be sufficient proof of hunting license and required endorsements that can be used for dove hunting, though it will not be allowed for the take of fish or wildlife that require a tag.

Hunting and fishing regulations for the new season can be found in the 2015-2016 Outdoor Annual, available at license retailers now or

online at www.txoutdoorannual.com and via the free Outdoor Annual mobile app available for Apple and Android devices.

In addition to a hunting license, anyone born after Sept. 1, 1971, must successfully complete a hunter education training course or purchase a one-time deferral good for one license year in order to hunt legally in Texas. The certification is valid for life and is honored in all other states and provinces. More information on hunter education certification is available online at www.tpwd.state.tx.us/outdoor-learning/hunter-education.

A Migratory Game Bird endorsement and Harvest Information

Program (HIP) certification are also required to hunt dove or teal in September. HIP certification involves a brief survey of previous year's migratory bird hunting success and is conducted at the time licenses are purchased. Duck hunters also need to purchase a Federal Duck Stamp.

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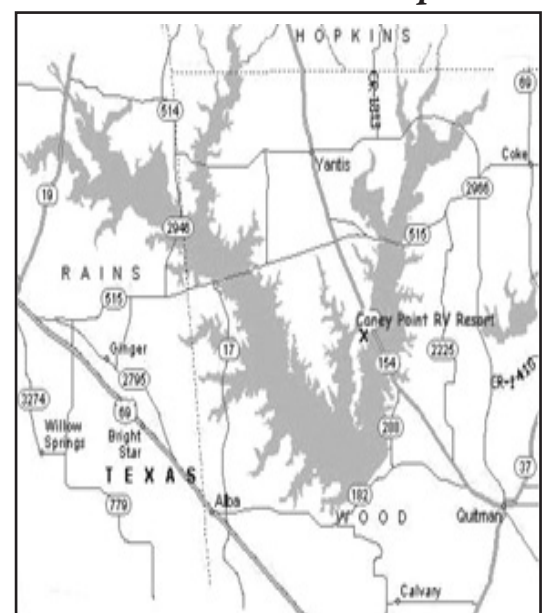
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"Pack of Knowledge" Surviving September

By Andrew Grills

As a guide I am often asked, "What is the best month to fish Lake Fork?" That can be a difficult question to answer, because fishing can be great just about any time of year. However, there is one month that stands out for considerably tougher fishing and that is September. Of course there are some good days mixed in, and weather patterns can make some years better than others, but they seem to be the exception. However, the good news is there are some ways to survive September and still enjoy some productive outings on the

water.

September is a time of transition for our lakes in the South. The first few cool fronts have begun cooling the water's surface and the deeper fish seem to disperse as they move shallower. This means that the offshore bite we enjoyed throughout the summer has begun to wane, or may have become totally nonexistent. To be successful as anglers, we have to adapt to the changes that are taking place.

I try to focus on shallow to intermediate depths at this time. I rarely fish much deeper than 14 feet during September. When fishing shallow, finding some form of aquatic vegetation can be a life saver. If aquatic grass or flooded vegetation is available the fish will flock to it this time of year. If there is some significant wind it can be even better. I have had some very good September days fishing windblown grass flats with moving baits. Lures like swim jigs, chatter baits, and lipless crankbaits can be very good. If the water is clear enough, a swimbait is my first choice. If there isn't any wind, I will pick up a texas rigged craw or creature bait and pitch around, or drag through the cover.

As for intermediate depths, I am talking about approximately 6 to 14 feet deep. Without much hydrilla the past few years, this seems to be the range most bass are caught. Because the fish seem to be picky and a bit temperamental from all the changes taking place in their environment, I employ two tactics.

First, if possible I want to get a reaction bite. A mid

range crankbait like a DD22 or a Strike King 5XD are great tools for this scenario. These crankbaits are often thought of a deep divers, but on the heavier line we use fishing the flooded timer here on Lake Fork, they efficiently cover the intermediate depths. I try to fish these baits fast and aggressively through standing timber and laydowns. This is a great way to catch bigger fish when they may not be that interested in feeding because it is a reaction technique.

Another way to target these fish in the intermediate range is with a drop shot rig. I have to confess that this is my least favorite technique of all, but it has become a staple on Lake Fork for good reason: It flat out catches fish. While a drop shot tends to produce smaller than average sized fish, occasionally an angler will get a lunker. If putting numbers of fish in the boat is your goal, the drop shot rig is a good bet in September.

This information shouldn't discourage you from fishing in September. Many of us enjoy the sport of bass fishing because of the challenges it presents. Hopefully these tips will help you put a few more fish in the boat and give you an extra perspective during what can be a tough month to catch them. If you would like to book a trip with me you can reach me at (903) 638-1170 or email me andrew@lakeforkguideandrewgrills.com or visit my website: www.LakeForkGuideAndrewGrills.com

Andrew is a professional guide on Lake Fork and is sponsored by Skeeter Boats, Nautical Mile Marine in Tyler, Costa Sunglasses, Under Armour, and M-Pack Lures.



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Game Warden Field Notes

The following items are compiled from recent Texas Parks and Wildlife Department law enforcement reports.

--Don't Post Illegal Harvests on Social Media-- Bexar County game wardens received an Operation Game Thief call regarding a group of individuals who shot a deer on Easter weekend and posted about it on their social media accounts. With the information from the OGT call, the wardens contacted the subjects and obtained confessions. Multiple cases and restitution are pending.

--Four Men Caught Catfishing-- A Starr County and a Zapata County game warden patrolling Falcon Lake conducted a water safety inspection on a boat on which four men were fishing. During the inspection, the wardens noticed freshly cut catfish chunks on top of an ice chest. The men told the wardens the fishing slowed down so they decided to catch an alligator gar, but since they hadn't brought any bait to catch a gar, they decided to use a catfish they caught earlier in the day as bait. The wardens asked all four men to reel in their lines and saw more catfish chunks on their hooks. The wardens educated all four men about not using game fish as bait. Citations were issued to all subjects. Cases and civil restitution pending.

--Triple Threat of Violations-- A Comal County game warden concluded an investigation that

started with a couple dumped animal carcasses in New Braunfels recently. In his investigation, the warden found that one individual killed a hen turkey, failed to keep any of the bird in edible condition and did not tag the bird. The warden cited this hunter for hunting hen turkey in closed season and for failing to keep the bird in edible condition. The warden issued a warning for the tagging violation. The warden also cited a second hunter for illegal dumping: the hunter disposed the remains of an exotic animal in a city drainage channel. Cases are pending.

--Looking for a fishing license, found arrest warrants-- A Lubbock/Lynn County game warden was checking fishermen on the Lubbock Canyon lakes when she found an individual without a fishing license. The warden then discovered the individual had several arrest warrants. The warden placed the man under arrest and transported him to the Lubbock County Detention Center.

--Party Foul-- A Motley/Cottle County game warden received a call from an individual who said he was physically assaulted after a long night of partying on a property in Motley County. The individual said the suspect, who was intoxicated and high on a controlled substance, dragged him out of his vehicle as he was sleeping, threw him to the ground and beat him over the head for sev-

eral minutes. After the warden interviewed several eye witnesses and obtained a cell phone video of the incident, he filed for an arrest warrant. The warden, along with a Briscoe/Swisher game warden, found and arrested the suspect for assault with bodily injury, a Class A misdemeanor. The case is pending.

--Traffic Stop Produces Arrest Warrants-- A Scurry/Garza County game warden on routine patrol saw a suspicious vehicle on a rural road. As the warden drove past the vehicle, he noticed the inspection sticker on the windshield was expired and initiated a traffic stop. After the warden discovered the individual had three outstanding local warrants and was driving without a license, he placed the individual under arrest and transported him to the county detention center.

--The Case of the Goose Egg Thief-- A Lubbock/Lynn County game warden solved a goose egg theft case after receiving a call about an individual who was digging through the bushes at a Lubbock city park and collecting goose eggs. The man, who only spoke Mandarin Chinese and spoke through a translator from the Lubbock County Sheriff's Office, admitted to taking them for personal consumption. The warden issued the man a citation for disturbing the nest and destroying the eggs. The case is pending.



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Hot fishing on the Fork (Continued from Page 6-A)

ing green monsters, pitch out a marker buoy once you locate a group of fish, then tie on a Talon Big Daddy Lake Fork flutter spoon and go to work. Cast back toward the buoy and count the spoon down until you hit the desired depth. Twitch the spoon and let it flutter down to draw the strike. Depending on the depth the fish are holding, a crankbait will work equally as well. I would choose the Strike King 6XD or the 8XD. Both are deadly and can be fished on 15lb line on a cranking rod. Also,

submerged trees will hold the lion share of bass. Throw the crankbaits around these trees and work the bait through the limbs. You may lose a few lures the rewards can pay off handsomely.

If you are headed out to Lake Fork in September searching for the trophy of a lifetime, I would love to be a part of this trophy quest. I still have a few dates open in late August and some in September. I also have gift certificates available if you have friends or loved one's who have dreamt of landing a huge bass. You can contact me at 409 782-4269 or e-mail me at skeet21c@aol.com. You can follow me on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/LakeForkGuideDavidOzio>. I post my daily trip results on this page. I run a Skeeter FX with a Yamaha 250SHO and would like to thank Skeeter for making my office on the lake the best in the country. I would also like to thank G-Loomis, Talon Lures, Shimano and Lowrance for making my job the blast that it is. A special shout out to Nautical Mile Marine in Tyler for all their help in keeping me on the water seven days a week, no issues. I hope to see a lot of you on the water. Romans 10:13. "Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved". I wish all of you a blessed day."

DAVID OZIO



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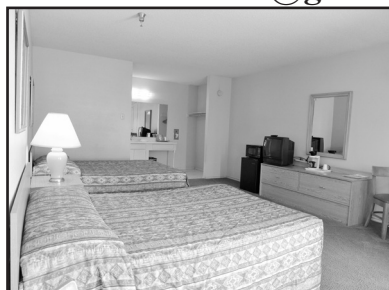


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