

# LAKE FORK "The Big Bass Capital of Texas"



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*2 Sections*

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*Free*

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**No. 226**



Lane Shaw set the record high when he won 1st place in "The Legend of Lake Fork" for the heaviest bass over 24" weighing 13.78-pounds. For his catch he won \$500 in the hourly and a 2018 Legend V-20 powered by Mercury.



Don Overstreet won 2nd heaviest over 24" weighing 10.25-pounds in "The Legend of Lake Fork". For his catch he won \$500 in the hourly and a 2018 Triton TRX-18 powered by Mercury.



David Corbett, was most surprised when his 2.69-pound bass won the heaviest bass under 16" winning him \$400 in hourly cash and a 2018 Triton TRX-19 powered by Mercury. (See full story on Page 4-A)



Don Hampton, (ctr) Owner/Director, "The Legend of Lake Fork Big Bass Tournament" with the grand prize winners (lt to rt) Early Entry Drawing, Robert Mitch won a 2018 Triton TRX18, Lane Shaw, Heaviest over the slot won a Legend V-20, David Corbett heaviest under 16" won a Triton TRX19, Don Overstreet, won a Triton TRX18 for the second heaviest over the slot. (Fisherman's Guide Photo by Julia Flores)



## Bubba Has Rhythm If It is Fishing or Isn't More than Two Steps

By: Don Hampton

Bubba has rhythm. If you had ever seen him work a Texas or Carolina rig, you most definitely would agree.

He will most deftly slowly lift the rod tip with a couple of subtle twitches until he has the rod tip at 12 o'clock and then without creating any slack in the line or moving his bait, reel down to 4 or 5 o'clock in one smooth motion to begin again. He has the same methodical rhythm when he is cranking a chatter bait, spinning bait, deep water crank, or a lipless crank. With a smooth stop of the reel he will gently raise the rod tip or tweet it a bit, let it set for a second and then begin again.

When it comes to dry land and music, Bubba isn't quite as adept as he is fishing. You might be able to say that Bubba is just too content in being old fashioned. He even comments a lot that the old fashions are coming back in style. He just believes that if he can hang around long enough, heck, he might be back in style!

If it isn't a waltz or involves more than a two-step, he could care less and just doesn't want to get involved. Bubba is countrified, through and through. When he was younger he'd tear the dance floor up! Now he prefers fishing to the dance floor. When asked why, he told me, "Dancing, I'm good for about 5 minutes...fishing I can go night and day!" I wonder if that is what he was really talking

about!

Bubba loves music, but restricts himself to only country and gold oldies. I think he listens to golden oldies because it makes him remember about once being young. He even knows some of the words to some of the songs. If you have ever had the displeasure of hearing him sing, you know what I mean. He does halfway alright singing along, (until he runs out of the 4 or 5 words he knows of the song), then you hear a lot of da da da's or do do doo's!

Never get into a conversation with Bubba about music unless you wish to stick with Hank's, Lefty's, or Willie's. With Bubba the best conversations are about fishing, lakes, and his outlook on life. (The last can be quite amusing.)

Music and the art of music is not Bubba's forte' or strong suite. I know this because I made the mistake of engaging him once in a lengthy conversation about it.

To Bubba a symphony is something you give to a person in time of grief or to his buddies when their wife won't let them go fishing, or to himself when Bubbette makes him go to WalMart with her.

"Rock" to Bubba is the rocks. The ones he has to dodge! Just like the one Bubbette hit him with when he brought home a \$300 fishing rod, or the ones he dodges when he says he is going fishing and doesn't want to go

to WalMart unless he can buy some 'fishing stuff'!

"Rap", now that is something Bubbette does to his new stuff he gets for his birthday, Father's Day, or Christmas or does to him on the top of the head when he says he needs some new "fishing stuff"!!

The "Blues", now this was a good one. The "Blues" to Bubba is part of the color spectrum and consists of five shades and he has fishing lures with every shade on them!

"Classical", well, go figure. Every year the BASS Classic is held, last year's was the classical.

If you have the pleasure of riding with Bubba in his truck or boat, you will listen to KMOO mostly. This is because that is Bubba's music. I believe it is because he can pronounce it so well and he likes saying it. Since Bubba heard the pretty lady on the station say, "Go ahead say it, KMOOOO, now doesn't that make you feel better", he does just that.

Sometimes when it is quiet Bubba will blurt out as loud as he can K-MOOOO, scaring everyone around him half to death. When asked why he did that, all he will say is "I feel better now!"

So, if you are out on the lake or even in a public establishment and you hear a loud K-MOOOO, don't be too alarmed. It isn't the cows coming home...it's Bubba "just feeling better now!"

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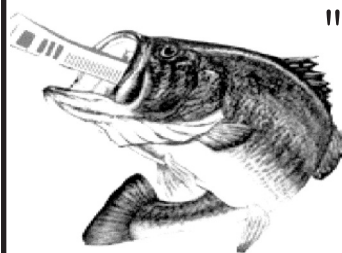
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## Balmorhea State Park Pool Closed

Due to structural failure, the Balmorhea State Park pool will be closed until further notice pending repairs. Damage to the concrete apron under the diving board, which is used to stabilize the walls of the pool from erosion, was found during the pool's annual cleaning recently. Park officials are evaluating the extent of the damage and taking steps to repair the structure.

"Balmorhea State Park is a treasured oasis in west Texas that has provided unique recreational opportunities for generations of Texans," said Brent Leisure, director of Texas State Parks. "Our staff is working diligently to address the situation and make sure the pool is safe for the visitors and the aquatic life in habitats associated with the San Solomon Springs."

The Civilian Conservation Corps structure was built in the mid-1930s and is the world's

largest spring-fed swimming pool. More than 15 million gallons of water flow through the pool each day, gushing from the San Solomon Springs. The 1.3-acre pool is up to 25 feet deep, holds 3.5 million gallons of water and the water temperature stays at 72 to 76 degrees year-round.

Additionally, the Balmorhea State Park pool is home to numerous species of aquatic animals, including two small, endangered desert fishes—the Pecos gambusia and the Comanche Springs pupfish. Habitats have been created outside of the pool for the protection of these species and numerous invertebrates. Steps are being taken to ensure the important habitats and species that call the San Solomon Springs home are protected.

The park will remain open for day-use only with limited facilities.

For more information about Balmorhea State Park, visit the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's website or contact the park at (432) 375-2370.

To view an image of the damage, visit the TPWD Flickr page.

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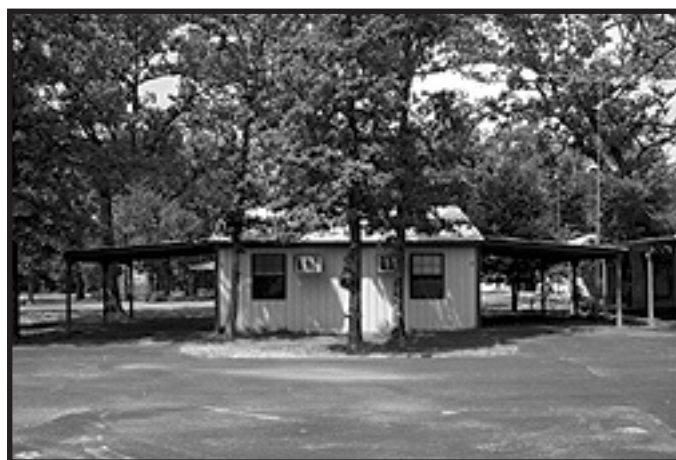
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# 14th Annual "The Legend of Lake Fork Big Bass Tournament" May 18, 19, 20

By Don Hampton

Mother Nature was kind for "The Legend of Lake Fork 14th Annual Big Bass Tournament". The weather was beautiful just a little hot but so was the fishing. This year's tournament was attended by 26 states with some anglers coming from as far away as Maine, New York, Wisconsin, Indiana, Florida, Colorado, California and Wash-

ington. We had many new anglers attending that this was their first time to fish this tournament with promises to be back next year.

With the tournament paying ten places per hour for the three days of competition it didn't take long for the action to heat up. During the course of the tournament nineteen bass measuring 24" or more were weighed in and hundreds of bass

under the 16" mark.

On the first day of the tournament during the 7 to 8 o'clock hour Jacob West weighed in an 8.75-pound bass to lead out. During the 9 to 10 o'clock hour Don Hemphill weighed in a 9-pound bass and Gary Green weighed in a 7.91-pound bass. In the 10 to 11 o'clock hour Phillip Huffmaster weighed in a 9.31-pound bass. In the 11 to 12 o'clock hour

Ruby Coggins weighed in a 9.17-pound bass. This was a first in the history of the tournament for a lady angler to bring in an over the slot and win first in an hour. In the 12 to 1 o'clock hour Patti Campbell weighed in an under 16" bass weighing 2.64-pounds winning her first in the hour and proving to be the heaviest under in the tournament until

(See The Legend of Lake Fork...  
Continued on Page 16-A)



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## THE LEGEND OF LAKE FORK 14th ANNUAL BIG BASS TOURNAMENT FINALS

## DAY 1

## DAY 2

## DAY 3

7 - 8 Hour		11 - 12 Hour		7 - 8 Hour		11 - 12 Hour		7 - 8 Hour		11 - 12 Hour	
Jacob West	8.75	Ruby Coggins	9.17	Lane Shaw	13.78	Christopher Barton	10.09	Ronald Morrison	2.42	Shayne Smith	7.91
Matthew Crawford	2.37	Diane Vineyard	2.40	Jacob West	9.83	James Pinnell	2.18	Michael Bueche	2.23	David Corbett	2.69
Thomas Wurst	2.20	James Williams	2.37	Forrest Carvajal	2.40	Kyle Kirkes	2.16	Todd Lowry	2.17	James Berry	2.40
Jacob Johnston	2.16	James Snell	2.36	Michael Bueche	2.13	Mark Yates	2.14	Kenny LaDuke	2.14	Jake Long	2.29
Travis Thrasher	2.10	Amy Greer	2.28	Donna Biondi	2.04	Mike Williams	2.13	John Zanter	2.10	Steve Wells	2.14
John Mc Kerney	2.07	John Makerney	2.28	Clifford Allen	1.98	Jame Renfro	2.13	David Cox	2.05	Chad Johnson	2.14
Chad Penny	2.04	Harold Bredemeier	2.26	James Williams	1.93	Jackson Wassman	2.11	John Fleming	2.03	Michael Lee	2.13
James Renfro	1.99	Phillip Hope	2.21	Ladd Thompson	1.84	Tanner Morgan	2.09	Carl Shafer	2.01	Randall Kirkes	2.11
Rick Legg	1.96	Chris Brewton	2.20	Eric Worley	1.83	Gregory Stout	2.07	John Morale	1.98	Jason O'Neil	2.03
8 - 9 Hour		12 - 1 Hour		8 - 9 Hour		12 - 1 Hour		8 - 9 Hour		12 - 1 Hour	
David Sorrells	2.51	Patti Campbell	2.64	Scott Smiley	2.44	Monty Damron	2.38	Don Overstreet	10.25	Paceience Melton	2.40
Tommy Holt	2.36	Tim Weeks	2.36	Darrel Rose	2.39	Mitchell Stout	2.21	Darrell Campbell	2.18	Danny Weems	2.32
Rick Legg	2.36	James Piersall	2.35	David Goff	2.30	Brandon Keown	2.21	James Snell	2.18	John Sisco	2.20
Julian Boze	2.10	Mark Lester	2.23	Stoney Stout	2.19	Kenny Hall	2.15	Julian Boze	2.17	Joe Rials	2.20
Fadi Echami	2.10	Harry Vissering	2.24	Paul Lowke	2.06	Samuell Hawes	2.10	Randal Formby	2.16	Ryker Holmes	2.15
Gary Grossman	2.09	Tommy Greer	2.17	Ken Baker	1.97	Todd Pfeil	2.07	James Berry	2.12	Gary Rowland	2.09
Larry Coleman	2.08	Wesley Robinson	2.15	Terry Veselka	1.94	Brian Harris	2.03	Sara Barnabee	2.12	Amy Greer	2.07
Tim Thornton	2.00	Gary Green	2.15	James Williams	1.93	Paul Lowke	1.97	Ralph Munk	2.09	Andy Ingram	2.06
Raymond Knox	1.92	Scott Stephens	2.13	Sammy Bates	1.93	Adrian Caro	1.96	Terry Ehren	2.05	David Klett	1.97
9 - 10 Hour		1 - 2 Hour		9 - 10 Hour		1 - 2 Hour		9 - 10 Hour		1 - 2 Hour	
Don Hemphill	9.00	James Snell	2.36	Stephen Hope	8.55	Clarence Mee	2.32	Tracy Rowell	7.71	John Butler	8.06
Gary Green	7.91	Tommy Greer	2.24	Sam Trinca	2.14	Andrew Doerge	2.27	Austin Thompson	2.10	Rodney Morrison	2.29
Eric Worley	2.08	Rodney Morrison	2.22	Joe Rials	2.13	Joseph Reynolds	2.23	Gary Grossman	2.06	David Luttrull	2.26
Thomas Wurst	1.93	Alan Scott	2.19	Ivan Black	2.12	Randy Freberg	2.14	Jay Sheets	2.03	Danny Weems	2.13
Bobby Davis	1.93	Sam Evans	2.19	Rodney Hamlin	2.10	Jonathan Pearson	2.09	Matt Postrach	2.01	Paul Jeffcoat	2.13
Jason O'Neill	1.90	Stephen Jones	2.16	Rodney Ellis	2.09	Ricky Branton	2.00	David Behrendsen	1.98	Roger Howard	2.11
David Kinsey	1.88	Brandon Hamilton	2.14	Brian Spaulding	2.04	David Krauskapf	1.99	Danny Azlin	1.94	Waylon Hurd	2.09
James Callahan	1.83	Wesley Robinson	2.13	John Larrabee	2.02	Jason Duncan	1.99	Ray Ward	1.90	James Hall	2.07
Jacob Callahan	1.81	Tambra Wills	2.09	Tony Stout	2.01	Casey Williamson	1.98	John Makerney	1.87	Phillip Hope	2.04
10 - 11 Hour		2 - 3 Hour		10 - 11 Hour		2 - 3 Hour		10 - 11 Hour		2 - 3 Hour	
Phillip Huffmaster	9.31	Steve Dane	9.08	Ivan Slayton	8.74	Landon Markum	8.72	Rick Johnson	2.32	Chad Rice	8.94
Diane Vineyard	2.47	Michael Bueche	2.48	Rodney Ellis	2.23	Andy Ingram	2.29	Kenneth Gerecht	2.31	Earl Schwartzlander	7.76
James Renfro	2.37	James Cook	2.46	Paul Bacon	2.12	David Goff	2.25	Lance Freeman	2.21	Steven Mills	6.99
Robert Coulter	2.26	Doug Brundidge	2.40	Kenneth Fowler	2.11	Richard Leigeber	2.23	Deborah Peace	2.18	Kwenton Karr	2.46
Aljendro Trevino	2.23	Steven Scott	2.32	Sam Evans	2.06	Tim Weeks	2.10	Dustin Holmes	2.12	David Luttrull	2.20
Brandon Bobalik	2.20	Jacob Callahan	2.22	Robert Blount	1.98	Michael Brewer	2.08	Nicholas Fincher	2.12	Dustin Holmes	2.09
Steve Beck	2.19	Dustin King	2.17	Julian Boze	1.87	David Vanderburg	2.07	Joe Drennen	2.11	Ricky Branton	2.06
Chad Gregory	2.17	Don Penick	2.16	Danny Dabbs	1.87	David Huffmaster	2.06	Jerry Thompson	2.09	Patti Campbell	2.06
Steve Mills	2.05	John Little	2.15	Gary Grossman	1.81	Randy Green	2.03	Joe Smith	2.09	Brandon Keown	2.03

2018 Boat Winners:

Over Slot ~ Lane Shaw w/13.78-lbs. Don Overstreet w/10.25-lbs. Under Slot ~ David Corbett w/2.69-lbs. Draw Boat ~ Robert Mitch

The Legend of Lake Fork 15th Annual Big Bass Tournament May 17, 18, 19, 2019

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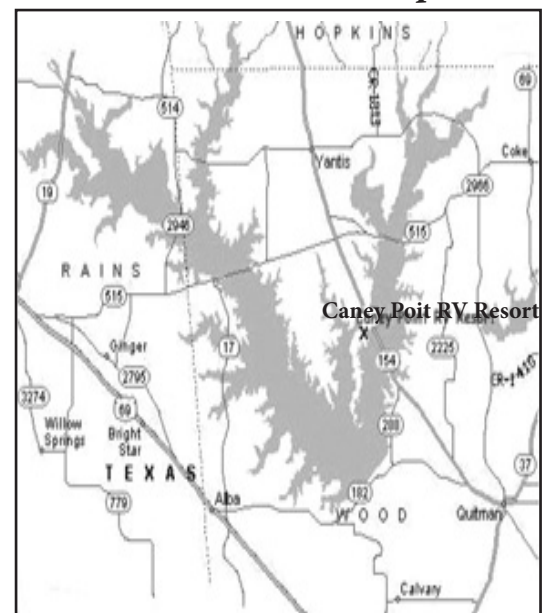
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# June is Wicked Fishing on Lake Fork

By David Ozio

"It's finally here!! Wicked fishing month! Big spawners have finally moved out to deep water to set up for their revved metabolism feed fest and now's the time to boat a giant. Fork has outdone itself this year with several trophy's over twelve pounds capped by a giant that tipped the scales over fifteen pounds. Just last week in the Legend Tournament a lucky angler hoisted a monster 13.78 to the scales in that event to take the win. Another trophy weighing 11.08 was brought to the scales at Pope's landing just yesterday and another 13.25 was caught night fishing by Randy Oldfield. Hmmm! IT'S ON!!! Video fishing is game on right now and electronics will play a huge roll in increasing your chances of

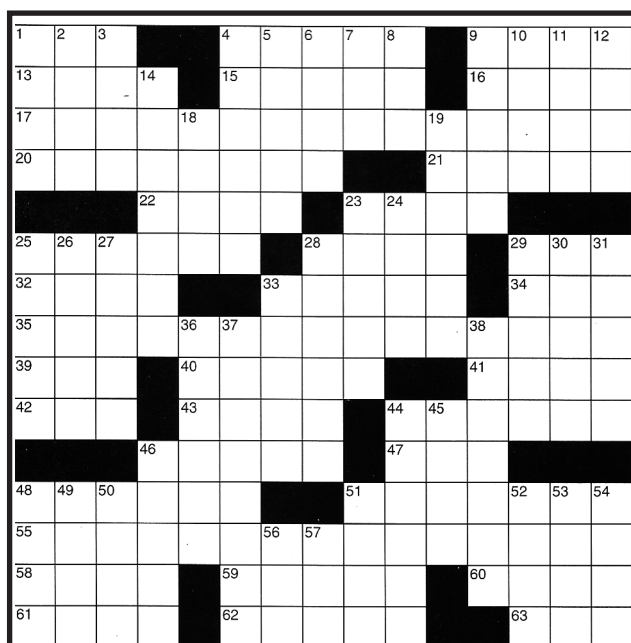
bagging that long awaited trophy.

It is taken for granted that everyone already has the ability to read the high tech electronics. The next skill would be to determine where to look and how to recognize the bass that will start to gang up on certain types of structure. You can start with long tapering points. The next chore will be to ascertain what depth range where the green critters will set up shop. Start your scan in 35ft and graph your way into the 10ft range and then reverse course and head back to the starting point using a different track. Repeat this process until you have covered the entire point from front to back. If you see a group of arches on the screen during any one pass, set a waypoint on that location and put out a marker bouy on that spot once you have combed the entire area. During this time of the year, most fish will be on the bottom so you can focus your fish catching strategies on the Carolina rig, drop shot, Texas rig, jigs or crankbait. Flukes, brush hogs or any straight or curl tail worm will work using standard colors such as watermelon candy, redbug, plum or watermelon red. As for cranking, shad colored crankbaits along with chartreuse blue back also works well.

Next, let's venture out to the offshore humps or ridges. Graph these locations back and forth until you spot the likely targets. Drop a waypoint on the



fishy looking spot and fish each technique until you determine what presentation they favor. If your after a lunker of a lifetime, the jig with matching trailer will be your "go to" bait. To round out your search, target roadbeds and submerged structures such as brush piles or laydown timber. If the arches show up on your graph, pitch out a marker bouy and go to work. It's not rocket science, it's just locating where the fish are positioned. If all of this is somewhat confusing, your best bet will be to hire a full time Lake Fork guide and spend the day covering the aforementioned areas and have him point out what you need to be fishing. Bass move from day to day and




## CLUES ACROSS

- |                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Immense fruit                | 39. Tell on                 |
| 4. Curses                       | 40. Bawls                   |
| 9. Colorless                    | 41. Print                   |
| 13. Continent                   | 42. They _____              |
| 15. Electronic communication    | 43. Foot or dance           |
| 16. Chinese monetary unit       | 44. Dinghies                |
| 17. Anthem time                 | 46. Vascular tissue         |
| 20. Memorials                   | 47. Paddle                  |
| 21. Arthropod genus             | 48. Oblong cream puff       |
| 22. Belonging to Adam's wife    | 51. Demands                 |
| 23. Attempt to please           | 55. Anthem author           |
| 25. Flattened                   | 58. Deal with               |
| 28. Dour                        | 59. Town in Surrey, England |
| 29. Diego, Francisco or Anselmo | 60. Peer                    |
| 32. Get                         | 61. Dates                   |
| 33. 10 million                  | 62. Ham and _____           |
| 34. Near or against             | 63. Citizen of Thailand     |
| 35. Anthem symbol               |                             |

## CLUES DOWN

- |                                       |                            |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Get tired of something or somebody | 28. Influenza              |
| 2. As fast as can be done (abbr.)     | 29. Georg _____, conductor |
| 3. Flightless bird of New Zealand     | 30. Keep up                |
| 4. More abysmal                       | 31. Nears                  |
| 5. Nursemaids                         | 33. Brutal                 |
| 6. Injures seriously                  | 36. Worshiper              |
| 7. Quantity of no importance          | 37. Diners                 |
| 8. Slick                              | 38. Type of iron           |
| 9. Genie                              | 44. Benefactors            |
| 10. Capital                           | 45. Kiln                   |
| 11. Expresses pleasure                | 46. Makes smooth           |
| 12. Wine bottle                       | 48. Immature newts         |
| 14. Electrical device                 | 49. Algonquian language    |
| 18. Yugoslavian river                 | 50. Way                    |
| 19. Defenders                         | 51. Makes cooler           |
| 23. Stuffs                            | 52. Card game              |
| 24. Lightness                         | 53. One trillion (prefix)  |
| 25. Ancient city                      | 54. Monetary unit          |
| 26. Volcanic landslide                | 56. Compass point (abbr.)  |
| 27. Ridge                             | 57. Muslim                 |

Answers on Page 21-A



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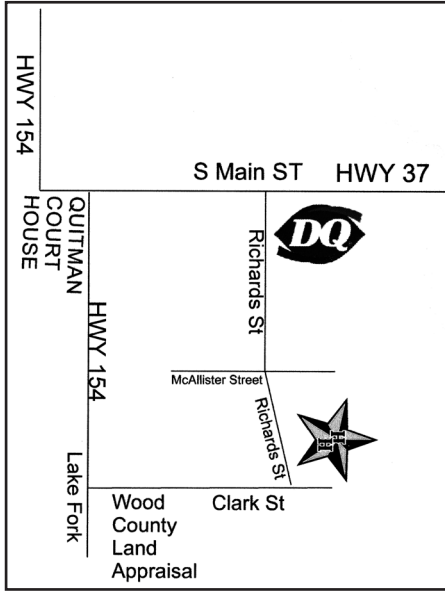
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(See June is Wicked.....  
Continued on Page 20-A)

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## Memorial Ceremony in Athens Honoring Fallen Texas Game Wardens

Each day, over 550 Texas game wardens dedicate themselves to protecting the state's natural resources. It's a legacy they've carried on since game wardens first enforced resource conservation laws in the Lone Star State prior to the turn of the 20th century.

Texas game wardens also help to keep their communities safe, patrol the state's vast waterways, and respond to natural disasters.

A ceremony honoring the 19 Texas game wardens who lost their lives in the line of duty was held Friday, May 18, at 10 a.m. in the

Memorial Plaza at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens.

"This memorial service is a stark reminder of the dangers Texas game wardens face every day while protecting our incredibly valuable natural resources, responding to natural disasters, and helping to keep Texans safe on our waterways," said Carter Smith, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department executive director. "We will never forget the sacrifice made by these game wardens, other peace officers, and their families throughout Texas and across the country."

Following is a list of Texas game wardens who died in the line of duty, and the circumstances surrounding their deaths: Joe Williams and Harry Raymond -- Both officers were washed away in a hurricane in 1919 while trying to reach their boat RELIANCE in Aransas Bay to put out more anchors. Dawson Richard Murchison -- While patrolling for poaching activities on the King Ranch in 1938, was murdered by a poacher near the site currently known as Murchison

(See Memorial Ceremony Continued on Page 14-A)

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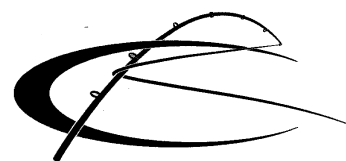
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## "The Moon Report" June is BIG Crappie Month!

By Terri Moon

June got here in a flash – can you believe this year is half over! I know I can't but I just love June fishing on FORK! It's BIG fish month for all species. Every day we are getting a surprise with either a huge bream or a big bass or a hard fighting white bass. They are all exciting on my Shimano Ultralights! The line I'm using is Suffix Siege 8# in Neon Tangerine. I really like this hi-VIZ line because I'm a serious "line watcher" – and this Suffix sure makes it easier on these old eyes! All I can tell you is if you're not watching your line, you are missing MANY bites! Your numbers will definitely go up if you are vigilant at "line watching". These crappie don't always "Slam" the bait so you have to be ready for those sneaky ones!

The majority of the crappie are post-spawn and have migrated to cover in 10-24 ft. depths. There were a few stragglers even shallower around the new and full moon. We are targeting standing timber, brush piles and bridges. The baits producing for us have been Lake Fork Tackle's Live Baby Shad in chartreuse/white – Bubba Baits in electric chicken, and Boneheads Stumpbug



in black/chartreuse. Some days they want the bait moving and others they want it dead still – so don't be afraid to change up your presentation till you figure out what they want that day. Keep a close eye on that depth finder and watch for any changes of depths of the fish and adjust your casts accordingly.

The new "fish reveal" on my Lowrance Carbon Units is quite amazing. You can literally count the fish around a tree! (This is just another important tool that sure makes my job easier!) But, the biggest game changer for me has been my Minn Kota Ultrex with Spot Lock! I couldn't imagine my life without it. It will "spoil" you terribly! The best part of all about this amazing equipment is that it's attached to the new Skeeter Solera! I lovingly call it my "Luxury Liner"!!

My customers are sure enjoying the comfort and fish ability of this sweet ride. They all agree that a lot of thought went into designing this boat. So a HUGE thanks to Skeeter for bringing a "Top of the Line" boat to the crappie fishing world! – (Did I mention – the icing on the cake is that it's powered by the Ya-maha 150 SHO four stroke motor!) How could it get any bet-ter??

If you'd like to take a look at this Solera, come by Lake Fork Marina the weekend of June 8th – 10th. This is the annual Skeeter Boat Owners Tournament and I will have my Solera there for those of you who would like to check it out! (So be ready – you'll fall in love with it too!) While you're there, enjoy the hourly weigh-ins. It's always exciting! Skeeter always puts

(Continued on Next Page)



on a "FIRST CLASS" tournament!

So don't let the hot temperatures keep you off the lake. The fishing has been really good. Just get out there early – drink plenty of fluids – and use lots of sunscreen.

Happy Fathers Day to you all and especially to my dad Bobby Car-

leton of Leesville, MO. I'm keeping him in my thoughts and prayers as he begins a round of chemo. Also, thinking of my brother John who was just diagnosed with ALS. (Lou Gehrig's disease) Sending prayers your way!

Hope you all have a safe and fun summer!



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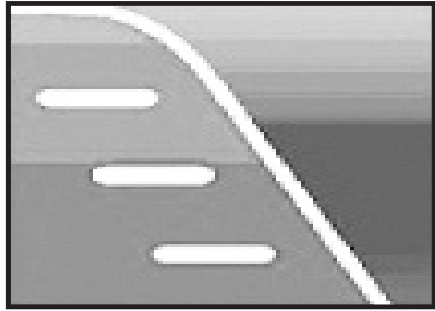


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## "Knowing What To Look For!"

By Michael McFarland

The months of May and June are primarily post spawn months for most of the lakes in Texas. Lake Fork specifically is most definitely in the post spawn period at this time. This is when you can really find big schools

of big fish stacked up together offshore and often feeding in a very aggressive manner. First you will most certainly need to use and rely on your mapping and sonar skills. Start looking offshore in places like long points, humps, tree lines, deep creeks channels

and deep under water roadbeds. In these deep areas I also look for signs of bait fish, extra cover like brush piles, laydowns and yes shell beds (shell beds are very important on Fork)!!! Sometimes I just explore. I might start only 50 yards offshore and end

up hundreds of yards or even more. With a properly set sonar I really enjoy searching for these big fish this time of year. For me it is very similar to deer hunting with binoculars only I'm searching under the water. Once you find them

you have a good shot at catching them. Here is an image of a group of big female bass on a Lowrance sonar. When you see this they are usually getting ready to do something. A crank bait is usually best to use first, then a jig, Carolina rigged

creature or a drop shot rigged worm. Go out and explore offshore on your home lake and see what you find. You very well might be surprised.

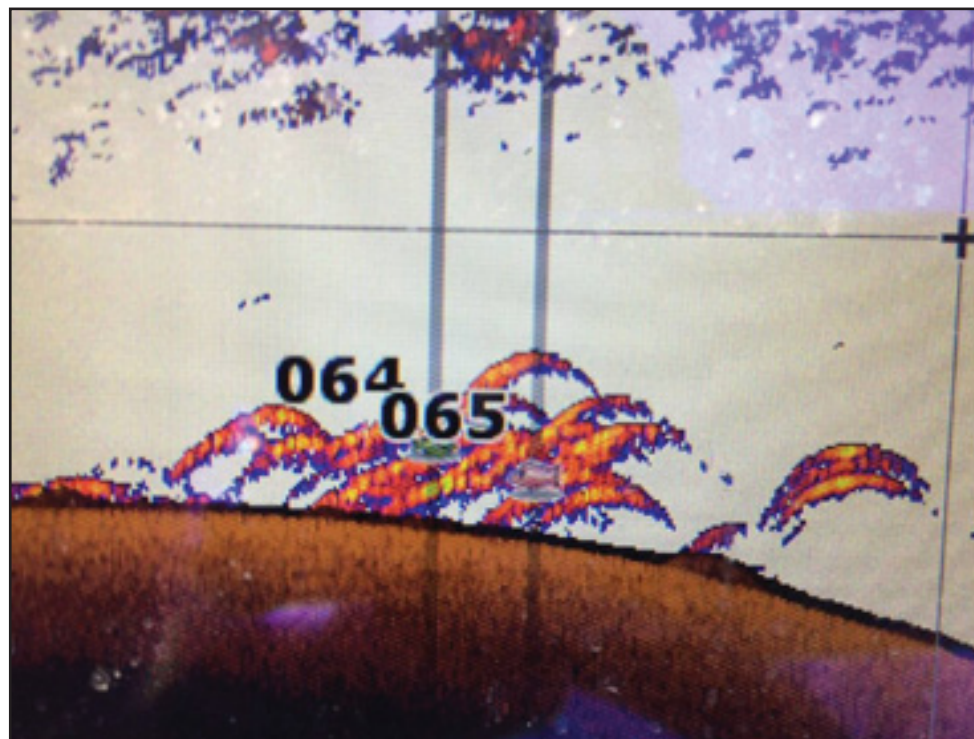
Thank you and I wish you all great fishing.



**Michael McFarland**  
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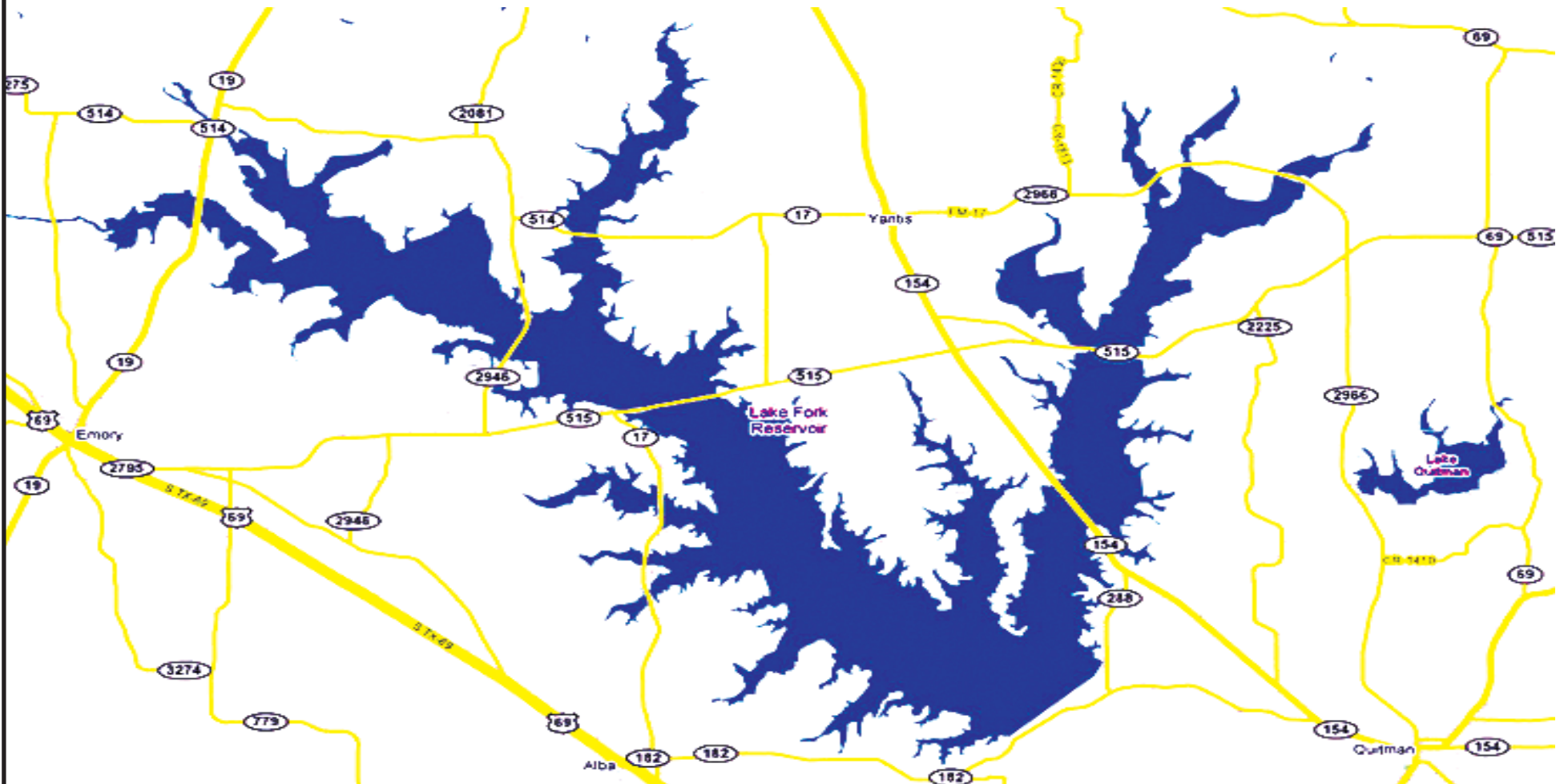
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## Memorial Ceremony in Athens Honoring Fallen Texas Game Wardens (Continued from Page 7-A)

Lake. The lake is near the county line between Kleberg and Jim Wells counties. The murderer fled into Mexico and was never brought to trial. R.M. Wynne -- Was killed in a car accident near Amarillo in 1948. Gus Engeling -- A warden and a biologist, Engeling was murdered by a duck poacher in Anderson County in 1951 near the current site of the wildlife management area that bears his name. The poacher was apprehended, convicted of murder and executed.

Claude Keller -- Was killed in a plane crash in 1956 while patrolling the Laguna Madre for illegal netting activities. J.D. Murphree -- Was murdered by a duck poacher in Jasper County in 1963. The murderer was apprehended, convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to prison. Joe Evans -- Was killed in a car accident while patrolling in Young County in 1965. Lloyd Gustin -- Drowned on Somerville Lake

in 1968 when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers boat he was riding in capsized and sank. Ronnie Germany -- Was murdered by a poacher in San Augustine County in 1973 while patrolling a remote river bottom area. The poacher was caught, convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to prison. James Daughtrey -- Was killed in a head-on collision with suspected night hunters while patrolling near the Nueces River in McMullen County in 1978. James Birmingham -- Suffered a fatal heart attack October 12, 1988 while patrolling the bays near Port O'Conner. Barry Decker and Bruce Hill -- Both officers drowned while on patrol on Lake Murvaul in Panola County in 1990. Mike Pauling -- Stopped to offer roadside assistance in Port Arthur in 2001. A driver sped off with Pauling partially inside his vehicle, and the warden was thrown to the roadway and killed. The driver was convicted of aggravated assault on a public servant; he was sentenced to 55 years in prison. Wes Wagstaff -- Was killed in a head-on collision while responding to an Operation Game Thief call in Hardin County on August 5, 2003. Justin Hurst -- Killed by gunfire while apprehending a poacher in Wharton County in 2007. The murderer was apprehended, convicted of capital murder and executed. Teyran (Ty) Patterson -- Drowned May 30, 2007 while attempting to recover the body of a drowning victim from the Paluxy River. George Harold Whatley, Jr. -- Suffered a fatal heart attack October 10, 2008 while participating in a required physical fitness assessment at Fort Stockton High School.

More information about the Texas Game Warden Memorial is available online at <http://tpwd.texas.gov/warden/connect/memorial>.

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Marie Anderson from Weston Louisiana caught this nice 2.876-pound crappie while fishing on Lake Fork. Released to the grease. Nice Catch...





Lake Fork guide Randy Oldfield caught this hawg weighing 13.25-lbs. on a Santone rattling jig and a V&M hawg trailer. C.P.R. (Courtesy Photo Randy Oldfield Guide Service)



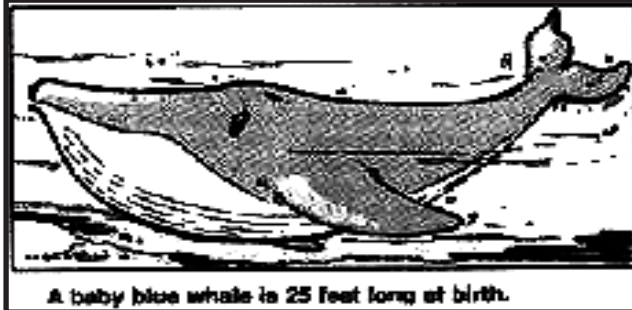
Rick Weidert from Kansas City caught this nice Lake Fork bass weighing 10.40-lbs. Officially weighed at Minnow Bucket Marina. C.P.R. (Courtesy Photo Martin's Fisherman's Inn)



Shelby Smith caught this hawg, it being her personal best, while fishing in May with her dad Lake Fork guide Whitt Smith. C.P.R. Weight not provided. (Courtesy Photo Whitt Smith Guide Service)

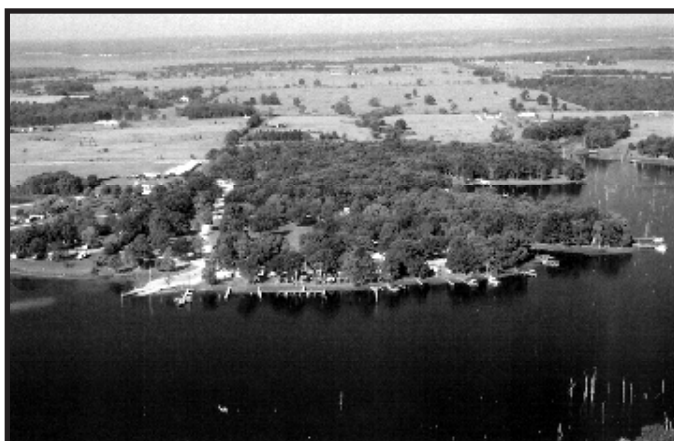


Human beings normally have 23 chromosomes; a goldfish, on the other hand, has 94.

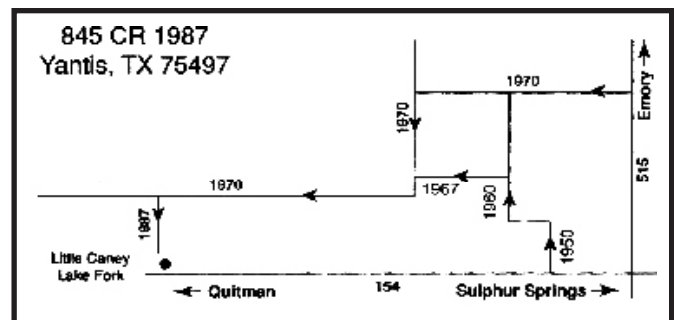


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## "The Legend of Lake Fork Big Bass Tournament" (Continued from Page 4-A)

Sunday during the 11 to 12 o'clock hour. In the 2 to 3 o'clock hour Steve Dane weighed in a 9.08-pound bass.

On the second day of the tournament fishing heated up in a hurry with Lane Shaw weighing in a 13.78-pound bass during the 7 to 8 o'clock hour. In the 9

to 10 o'clock hour Stephen Hope weighed in an 8.55-pound bass. Ivan Slayton came to the scales in the 10 to 11 o'clock hour with an 8.74-pound bass. In the 11 to 12 o'clock hour Christopher Barton weighed in a 10.09-pound bass and in the 2 to 3

o'clock hour Landon Markum weighed in an 8.72-pound bass.

On the third day of the tournament in the 8 to 9 o'clock hour Don Overstreet weighed in a 10.25-pound bass. In the 9 to 10 o'clock hour Tracy Rowell weighed a 7.71-pound bass. In the 11 to 12

o'clock hour Shayne Smith weighed in a 7.91-pound bass and David Corbett weighed in a 2.69-pound bass, it being the heaviest of the tournament under 16". During the 1 to 2 o'clock hour John Butler weighed in an 8.06-pound bass. It would seem some anglers held their big bass until the last hour of the tournament. Three bass 24" or over came to the scale in this last

hour of the tournament. Chad Rice weighed in an 8.94-pound bass, Earl Schwartzlander weighed in a 7.76-pound bass, and Steven Mills weighed in a 6.99-pound bass.

As it is in all of "The Legend of Lake Fork Big Bass Tournaments", we give away four new boats. We give away two for the two heaviest 24" or more, one for the *(See The Legend of Lake Fork.... Continued on Page 21-A)*



At the awards presentations Robert Scott from Odessa, Texas donated \$2,500 to "The Wish to Fish Foundation". A contribution that will be put to good use!



Anglers and some of their families came from 26 states to participate in The Legend of Lake Fork Big Bass Tournament.

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Landon Marler, Yantis High School caught this beauty off his dock on Lake Fork May 5, 2018. Great catch! C.P.R. Weight not provided.



Matt Steadman caught this bass on a topwater while fishing with Lake Fork guide Whitt Smith. C.P.R. Weight not provided.



Katie Nix caught her personal best weighing 9-lbs. fishing Lake Fork with guide Andrew Grills. C.P.R.

If you have news or photos on  
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## 'Pack of Knowledge' "Stability equals good fishing on Lake Fork"

By Andrew Grills

Yesterday my neighbor said, "This year we had three February's, and we are going to have three July's!" I think he might be right. We had a very cool and windy spring with below average water temperatures. We are making up for it now. At this time last year the water temperature was in the low 70's. Today it is in the upper 80's. We are approaching one foot below full pool on the water level.

May was a pretty good month for fishing. Numbers were good on the good days, and we had a lot of big fish as well. I'm bet-

ting June will be another good month.

Right now we are transitioning from the more shallow patterns of spring, to traditional summertime fishing. While fish can still be caught shallow all summer, the majority of the quality bass will be deeper.

We are already finding bass on deep offshore structure, and many more will show up out there soon. The depth they are holding really just depends on the area of the lake, but at the time of this report most of the deeper fish seem to prefer a depth somewhere from 15 to 20'. I find them a little more shallow on the upper ends of the lake.

I have two favorite techniques for early summer here on Lake Fork: deep crank baits and football jigs. These just seem to work best for me for bigger fish. Sure, I can catch some on big worms or Carolina rigs if I have to, but I prefer the other methods for now.

For the jig, I always use a Santone football head in 3/4 oz. and 1 oz. I use several different colors. My favorites are "beans and carrots", "pb&j", and "Mexican heather". If the water is clear, "bullfrog" is my top choice.

I use several different crank bait brands, but the one I throw the most is the DUO Realis G87. It's a Japanese bait that casts extremely far and dives deeper than 20' with ease. Lake Fork Marina carries this brand and the colors I use. I primarily use the deeper diving 20A model.

The problem with offshore fishing on Lake Fork nowadays is seemingly everybody knows how to do it. Even the less obvious areas are getting hit pretty hard. The key may be finding some "off the wall" area that everyone else will overlook. I used to fish deeper offshore structure exclusively throughout the summer, but now I supplement some shallow to mid-depth patterns because of the increasing pressure from anglers out deeper.

Hopefully this report points you in the right direction. As always, I'm happy to help any way I can so feel free to contact me before your trip.



Andrew Grills  
Lake Fork Guide

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www.LakeForkGuideAndrewGrills.com



Katy McFarland caught this nice bass fishing in May with guide Andrew Grills. Weight not provided. C.P.R.



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## 2018 Texas State-Fish Art Contest Winners Announced

The 2018 Texas Division of the Wildlife Forever State-Fish Art Contest first place winners include Juliann Dooley of Warren for grades 10-12, Madeleine Alexander of Keller for grades 7-9, Lauren Yue of Coppell for grades 4-6, and Sanjitha Yeruva of Irving for grades K-3. The State-Fish Art Contest is part of a conservation education program designed to interest youth in fishing by encouraging K-12 students to submit original artwork of any officially designated state fish and an essay or poem about the participant's fish entry, its habitat or efforts to conserve it. This year, judges at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center (TFFC) chose the top 12 out of 488 total entries from Texas students.

"All of the young artists who submitted entries this year demonstrated immense creativity and imagination in their depictions of state fish," said Zoeann Stinchcomb, TFFC Education Director. "We hope that by exploring the state fish and their habitat through art, these students are becoming a new generation of conservationists and stewards that will help protect and preserve our natural resources well into the future."

In the K-3 category, winners are: First Place, Sanjitha Yeruva of Irving; Second Place, Cecilia Chen of Southlake; Third Place, Sophia Liu of Coppell. In the grades 4-6 category, winners are: First Place, Lauren Yue of Coppell; Second Place, Kadence "Kady" Martin of Fort Worth; Third Place, Tarini Gupta of Irving. In the grades 7-9 category, winners are: First Place, Madeleine Alexander of Keller; Second Place, Sophia Zhukova of Dallas; Third Place, Ashley Zhang of Coppell.

In the grades 10-12 category, winners are: First Place, Juliann Dooley of Warren; Second Place, Isaac March of Grapevine; Third Place, Christa Gorman of Irving.

Scholarships in the grades 10-12 division are \$1,000 for first place, \$750 for second place and \$500 for third place. Awards in the 4-6 and 7-9 grade levels are \$200 for first, \$150 for second and \$100 for third. In the K-3 division awards are \$100 for first, \$75 for second and \$50 for third. Scholarships for Texas winners are provided by fund raised through Toyota Bassmaster Texas Fest, with additional support for the contest provided by the William E. Armentrout Foundation and Friends of the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center.

All winners and honorable mentions and their families and teachers will be invited to a free day at TFFC for an awards ceremony and luncheon June 23, where winners will receive their cash prizes and winners and honorable mentions will receive a set of free fishing gear.

First-place entries advanced to the national level and compete against winners from other states. Although none of the Texas entries won a national first place prize, the first place Texas winners will go up against the rest of the state entries for a 2018 People's Choice Award, which is voted on by the public online throughout July and in person at a location that will be announced at a later date by Wildlife Forever.

Honorable mentions for Texas students in grades K-3 are: Ivory Vanover of Keller, Meghana Akarapu of Irving, Taylor Davis of Coppell, Hyunjeong Roh of Coppell, Anya Hegde of Irving, Dmitry Bondarchuk of Grapevine and Athalia Kyrushok of Irving.

Honorable mentions in grades 4-6 are: Jaden Whisneant of Silsbee, Jonah Kim of Flower Mound, Alice Won of Flower Mound, Arjun Pemmasani of Westlake, Richard Li of Addison, Alanna Sun of Coppell and Jamie Yoon of Flower Mound.

Honorable mentions for grades 7-9 are: Josh-

ua Lee of Warren, Mya Caraway of Warren, Olivia Park of Dallas, Cady Lambert of Dallas, Maughan Rachel of Keller, Kristine Kim of Cedar Park and Ashley Mitchell of Irving.

Honorable mentions for grades 10-12 are: August Dooley of Warren, Harley McNeel of Village Mills, Ely Tafoya-Cozine of Woodville, Stacy Hong of Irving, Yougone Lee of Carrollton, Kevin Juarez of Pasadena and Yue Taira of Irving.

Educators who wish to have their students enter the 2019 contest can download the free "State-Fish Art Contest Lesson Plan" at [www.statefishart.com](http://www.statefishart.com). The interdisciplinary curriculum includes lessons and activities, a species identification section profiling each state fish, a glossary and student worksheets. Entries must be postmarked by March 31 each year.

The State-Fish Art Contest is a project of Wildlife Forever. Located in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, Wildlife Forever is a nonprofit multispecies conservation organization dedicated to conserving America's wildlife heritage. Working at the grassroots level, Wildlife Forever has funded conservation projects in all 50 states, committing millions of dollars to "on-the-ground" efforts. Wildlife Forever supports habitat restoration and enhancement, land acquisition, research and management of fish and wildlife populations.

To view the winning artwork online, visit [https://tpwd.texas.gov/spdest/visitorcenters/tffc/education/fish\\_art/artwork.phtml](https://tpwd.texas.gov/spdest/visitorcenters/tffc/education/fish_art/artwork.phtml). To download high resolution images of the artwork, visit the TPWD Flickr page at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/texasparkswildlife/sets/72157696636049665/>.

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## June is Wicked Fishing on Lake Fork (Continued from Page 6-A)

they may be set up in one spot today and a hundred yards away tomorrow. Water temps, current from waves and sun angle all come into play when dealing with these wary creatures. Try not to over complicate it, fish what you see and let the results be your guide.

The shallow bite is also an option and don't rule out top water and frog action especially around flooded willow trees and grass beds. Low light is key for success in this arena. Once the sun makes it's way up, shift gears and pitch a creature bait as far back in those willow trees as possible. A 3/8 ounce weight

will do the trick and use at least 20lb line. Your favorite colors will work fine, just keep it simple. The most important factor in this process will be the accuracy of the pitch. Pick the bush apart until you key on where the bass are positioned. Once that is established, follow that pattern across the lake. It will pay off in spades. If simple action is what you seek especially if kids are involved, I would chase the sand bass. You can use a 1/2 ounce Hopkins spoon or a 1/2 ounce jig head with a fluke jr. attached. This is wicked fun on light line. We can spend a day on the water if you like and I can teach you the ropes how to catch a ton of these entertainment fish.

If you are headed out to Lake Fork in June searching for the trophy of a lifetime, I would love to be a part of this trophy quest. 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/davidoziolakeforkguide>. I post my daily trip results on this page. I would also like to thank Okuma Fishing and Talon Custom Lures for making my job the blast that it is. 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."

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## The Legend of Lake Fork (Continued from Page 16-A)

heaviest under 16" and one in a drawing among the early entries received before April 30th. This year winning the heaviest bass over the 24" mark was Lane Shaw with a whopping 13.78-pound bass. For his catch he took home the hourly 1st Place check and a 2018 Legend V-20, powered by Mercury, Motorguide trolling motor and Lowrance electronics.

Don Overstreet won the second place heaviest over the slot with a 10.25-pound bass. For his great catch he took home the hourly 1st Place check and a 2018 Triton TRX-18, powered by Mercury, Motorguide trolling motor and Lowrance electronics.

Winning with the heaviest bass under 16" was David Corbett with a bass weighing 2.69-pounds. For his catch he took home the hourly 2nd Place check and a 2018 Triton TRX-19, powered by Mercury, Motorguide trolling motor, and Lowrance electronics.

Being the luckiest angler to fish this year and get his entry in before April 30th was Robert

Mitch. His name was drawn from all the early entries and he took home a 2018 Triton TRX-18, powered by Mercury, Motorguide trolling motor, and Lowrance electronics.

"The Legend of Lake Fork 15th Annual Big Bass Tournament" will be held on May 17, 18, 19, 2019. Mark your calendars and get

your entries in early to join in the fun and rip some lips on some of the great bass on Lake Fork when I'll be giving away 4-2019 Charger boats and paying 10 places each hour of the tournament.

We would like to thank all of our sponsors that make this tournament such a success for all the anglers. God Bless!

### Just The Right Answers

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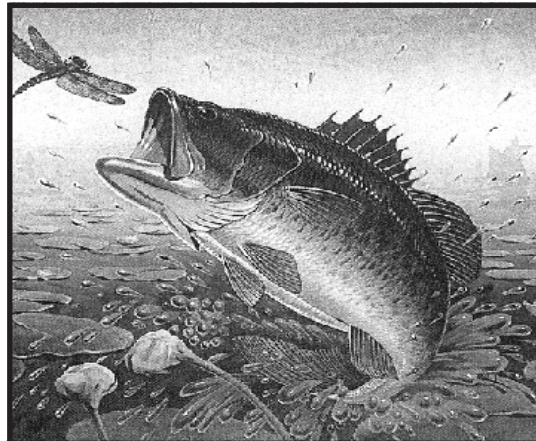
### Music Find

There are 14 musical instruments hidden throughout the scrambled puzzle below. See how many you can find and circle. The words go horizontally and vertically, backward and forward.

BANJO  
CLARINET  
DRUMS  
FLUTE  
GUITAR  
HARP  
OBOE

ORGAN  
PIANO  
SAXOPHONE  
TROMBONE  
TRUMPET  
TUBA  
VIOLIN

T R U E N O H P O X A S  
R P A H A N J H N V E M  
O J N A B P I O A I T U  
M B O R T I R T G O B D  
B A R P R A P E O L A R  
O N A I M O B N R I U U  
N A T U B I P I A N O M  
E T U L F L T R O E B T  
R A G I U T R A H T O E  
N I P N O T U L E R E P  
O S M A R A L C R B O E  
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## Guadalupe Bass Creating Memories for Anglers

In 2017, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), the Llano River Watershed Alliance and Bass Pro Shops partnered together to help celebrate conservation successes in the South Llano River and recognize the ecological, recreational and economic importance of Guadalupe bass.

As part of that effort, TPWD stocked 35 tagged Guadalupe bass in the South Llano River at multiple locations including the South Llano River State Park, the South Llano Paddling Trail, and the County Road 150 River Access and Conservation Area. Anglers who catch these tagged fish can redeem the tag for fly fishing gear

donated by Bass Pro Shops through Dec. 31.

So far, anglers from five cities around the state including San Antonio, Arlington, Pflugerville, Kerrville and Junction have caught 11 of the 35 tagged fish. Among this group are a youth angler, an out-of-towner visiting the South Llano River to escape bad weather, a fly fisherman affectionately dubbed the "stocker stalker," and a few lucky locals who have caught multiple tagged fish during the same fishing trip.

"I think it's a really cool program in that way, getting people out to explore this place," said angler Robin Fuquay of Junction, who caught the third tagged fish in the con-

test. "We call Junction 'The Land of Living Waters' - and it's very alive with Texas fishing. It truly is a hidden gem in the hill country."

For Fuquay and JD Davila, who recently moved to Junction from the Austin area, one of the tagged Guadalupe bass created quite a fish tale for the couple.

In November 2017, Davila unofficially caught the third tagged Guadalupe bass. That catch was unofficial because he didn't realize until after he got home and checked the internet that it was tagged for a prize program and not a tracking or movement study from the local university.

"I threw it back after

*(Continued on Next Page)*



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we had taken a few pictures, and when I got home I went to look up Guadalupe bass and I found the TPWD [prize giveaway]," Davila said. "I was howling...I was going crazy once I found out."

But Fuquay wasn't willing to label it the Guad' that got away. The next weekend Fuquay said she put on her game face, grabbed the same fishing tackle used to catch the fish initially and revisited the fishing hole where Davila released the fish.

"I really thought 'let's just go back to that same fishing hole and catch that fish,'" Fuquay said.

The plan worked. After fishing in the same spot for a little while, Fuquay pulled up a Guadalupe bass that appeared to have the same

tag in the same location on the fish. After they got home and compared pictures of the fish they said there was no mistake - these fish had the same scale pattern all the way to the tail.

"It was exciting...it felt like it was a 'welcome wagon' from the river when we caught it again," Fuquay said.

In February 2018, angler Albert Vasquez of San Antonio caught the fifth tagged Guadalupe bass in the South Llano River after a storm diverted his group to find a fishing spot west of San Antonio. Although he did not set out to catch a tagged Guadalupe bass that day, he said he and his group of fishing buddies, the Lone Star River Riders, joked about the possibility during the 2-hour car

ride from San Antonio.

"When we were headed up there we were joking with each other about catching one of them," Vasquez said. "Right below the state park the river kind of split - I went left and my buddies went right and I ended up catching one. It was cool to think that at that point I caught one of the 15 initially stocked in the river."

An avid kayak angler who fishes more than 20 Texas rivers each year on the River Bassin' Tournament Trail, Vasquez said he is no stranger to catching plenty of black bass in his travels. But even for this seasoned veteran, catching the state fish of Texas is always a special experience.

"I'm kind of a Guadalupe bass nerd,"

Vasquez joked. "I feel proud catching them. They fight like a train - the colors and patterns on them are awesome - it's a beautiful fish to be our state fish."

Although the prize giveaway provides extra incentives for anglers to explore the South Llano River in pursuit of the state fish, the broader goal of the program is to inform the public on the decade long effort that TPWD has put in to restore the population of Guadalupe bass in this stretch of the river. It wasn't long ago that the Guadalupe bass population there was threatened by hybridization

from smallmouth bass stockings that occurred nearly 60 years ago.

In 2010, TPWD partnered with the Llano River Watershed Alliance, the Texas Tech University Llano River Field Station, areas landowners, and an extensive list of other local project partners to hatch a plan to restore Guadalupe bass to the South Llano River. Between spring 2011 and spring 2017, more than 700,000 genetically-pure Guadalupe bass were stocked in the river and today, less than 2 percent of the Guadalupe bass population now consists of hybrids.

Because of this effort, the South Llano River now supports a healthy, thriving population of pure Guadalupe bass. For those who want to try their luck catching one of the tagged fish, Fuquay has one recommendation.

"Go out with your game face on, and believe that you are going to catch one," Fuquay said. "Those fish are still out there waiting to be caught."

For more information about Guadalupe bass restoration and prize giveaway rules, visit <https://www.llanoriver.org/guadalupe-bass>.



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