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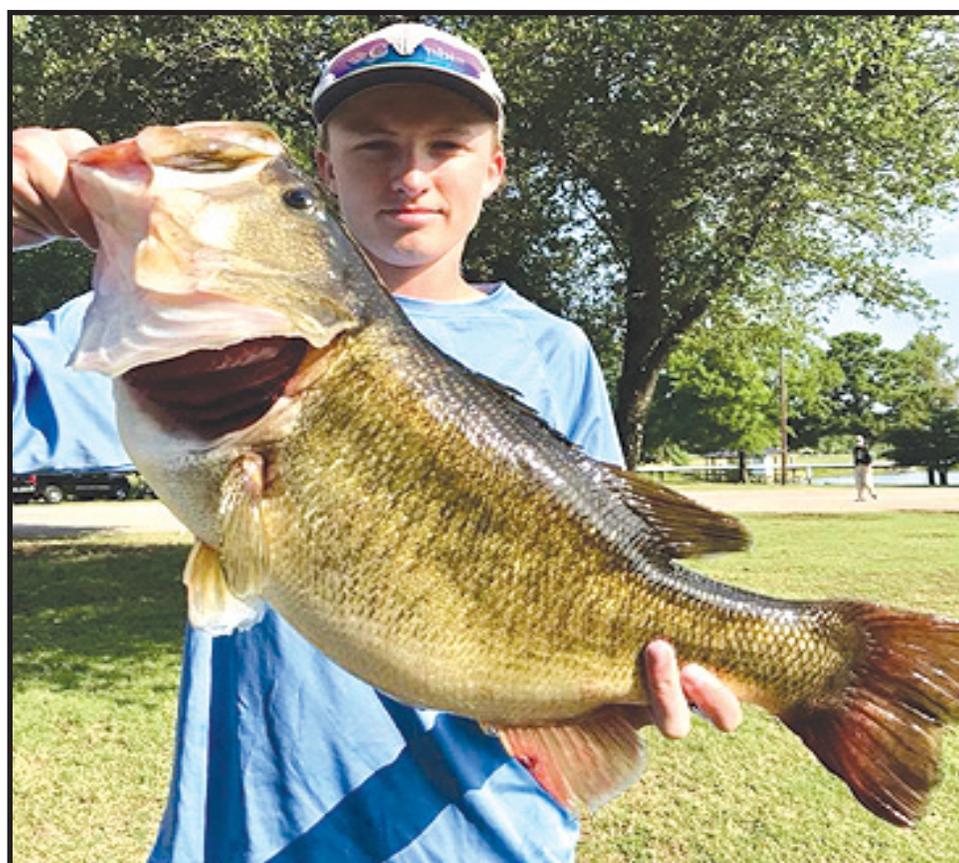
No. 228



Congratulations to Hunter Moncrief and Landen McCarty! They won 1st place and \$7,000 to share. They are pictured with their Captain and awesome LFO Sponsors Holly Morey and Billy Sartin of Sartin Marine.



Hunter Benner and Brandon Benner won 2nd Place in the 5th Annual National Lake Fork Open High School Scholarship Tournament with a two day weight of 15.33-pounds.



Tanner Brooks, 17 years old, caught this nice over the slot bass weighing 10.92-lbs. fishing Lake Fork with guide Whitt Smith. Official weight at Lake Fork Marina. C.P.R.



River Lee and Dakota Anglin won 3rd Place in the 5th Annual National Lake Fork Open High School Scholarship Tournament with a two day weight of 14.90-pounds.

AMATEUR BASS ANGLERS COMPETE FOR \$497,000 GUARANTEED CASH & PRIZES

"Hourly Payouts, Prize Packages and Open Drawings for Your Next Chance to Win!" Lake Fork- Alba, Texas – September 21-22-23, 2018 - Family, Fishing & Fun at the Big Bass Splash presented by Sealy Outdoors. \$497,000 Guaranteed in Cash and Prizes with 1st Place Overall winning a 2018 Triton 19 TRX Powered by Mercury equipped with Minn Kota, Lowrance, Power Pole

(See Amateur Bass.....Continued on Page 4-A)

Bubette Describes Bubba as Being a Fisherman That is Just Too Painfully Honest

By Don Hampton

Bubba may not be making public speeches because his grasp of the English language is just straight to the point. He is very seldom misunderstood simply for the fact he doesn't beat around the bush. I just wish our politicians and a few other choice folks would take a lesson from Bubba. Bubette often describes him as painfully honest. I hope she doesn't change him because I find Bubba quite amusing when conversing with others.

When asking Bubba a question, one really should prepare themselves for an answer they may not be expecting to hear.

After a fishing trip on Lake Fork we were sitting in a restaurant feeding our faces when an old acquaintance of Bubba's came to our table. The first thing out of his mouth was, "Bubba I haven't seen you in a coon's age! Where you been?" You or I would have simplified the matter by saying working, busy, on the run, or just doing the same old same old. That is definitely what I would have said but not our Bubba! Bubba just calmly looked up between bites and asked, "Where have you been looking?" Then he reached in his back pocket, pulled out his wallet, produced his driver's license and studied it for a moment. He then looked up at his acquaintance and said, "Yep that's my address it hasn't changed. I still live in the same place,

have the same noisy dog owning neighbors and even my phone number is the same as it was the day I loaned you \$20!"

Well Bubba's reply cut the conversation a little short, but he did get his \$20 and the guy even promised Bubba he'd see him around.

On another occasion we had just come in from a fishing trip and were loading the boat. As we were strapping the boat down, an acquaintance of Bubba's came up and asked him if we had had any luck that day. Bubba went in detail the great experience we had that day and the good catches and even told him what we caught them on and how deep. This was more information than I would have given but not Bubba, he does like to talk fishing. Then the fellow said something to Bubba I'm sure he regretted after the reply he received. He told Bubba, "I sure would like to get me a big ole' bass, but I haven't been on the water all month!" Bubba's reply must have come from the sky blue when he calmly replied, "Well they aren't going to swim up here and surrender!" I was hoping the guy wouldn't get mad at me for laughing, but being the good sport he is and the way Bubba has of saying things, he found it as humorous as I and agreed with Bubba's philosophy.

One factor in life will always remain constant and that is, Bubba will talk fishing anywhere he might be. The only good advice I

can give is never ask Bubba where the fish are when the time is drawing near for him to fish a tournament. For this he has only one answer that he gives everyone that asks. He will very calmly and while smiling all the time tell you, "Somewhere between where you think they are and where they ought to be!" If you ask him at that time what the big bass are being caught on, his answer for that is, "The ability to endeavor to persevere!"

Another good piece of advice about Bubba, never cancel a tournament or not fish because you think the weather might be too bad. If you do, don't let Bubba know because then he will classify you as a member of the WFWF. For those of you that don't know... that is Bubba's abbreviation for "Wimpy Fair Weather Fishermen!"

When it comes to painfully honest Bubba doesn't leave himself out either.

After weighing in a small limit of fish at a tournament, the MC asked Bubba what the problem was on the water. Bubba lazily said, "I guess I was trying to qualify for the Rinky Dink Bass Club!" Isn't that the club that uses just small fries, or is it shrimp?

Bubba would never try to hurt someone's feelings or try to be a smart aleck but watch what you ask him. He might come up with an answer that you've never heard before or one that you really didn't want to hear.

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Applications Now Accepted for TPWD Drawn Hunt Permits

Hunters can start making plans for the upcoming seasons now by applying for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Drawn Hunts. The online system is currently accepting applications and the first hunt category deadline is less than a month away.

This year about 9,500 permits in 49 hunt categories are up for grabs for drawn hunts on public and private lands. Among the offerings available through the online system are hunts for white-tailed and mule deer, pronghorn, turkey, alligator, exotic gemsbok, and scimitar-horned oryx.

New for this season,

hunters will have an opportunity to draw special permit hunts for exotic Sambar deer, as well as for white-tailed deer, on the new Powderhorn Wildlife Management Area. Youth deer hunt permits on this unique coastal area will also be available. Also new this year, Palmetto State Park will be offering a youth archery deer hunt through an e-Postcard drawing.

In addition to drawn hunts managed by TPWD, the system includes applications for hunts administered by other entities, including almost 2,200 deer and exotic hunt positions on four U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Na-

tional Wildlife Refuges in Texas and 2,500 antlerless deer permits for U.S. Forest Service properties in East Texas.

The program's highly-popular private lands dove hunt permit category will feature almost 150 hunt slots at seven prime locations around the state, including dove rich Uvalde, south of San Antonio near Pleasanton, north of Dallas/Ft. Worth in Young County, and newly acquired opportunities in Bell and Ellis counties. These permits are for dedicated hunt positions with quality dove hunting outfitters. Application fee is \$10 with no addi-

(See Applications.....

Continued on Page -17A



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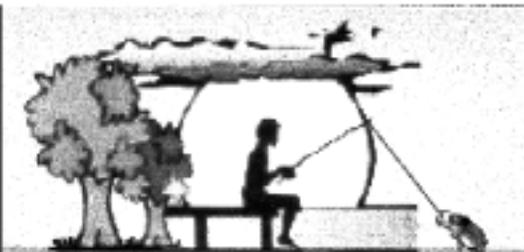
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AMATEUR BASS ANGLERS COMPETE FOR \$497,000 GUARANTEED CASH & PRIZES *(Continued from Page 1-A)*

and Navionics; 2018 RAM Truck Plus.... \$7,000 CASH!

Fifteen places will be paid in cash each hour of each tournament day beginning with the 7-8 AM hour and continuing through the 1-2 PM hour for the fifteen single heaviest bass weighed in. Heaviest Bass each hour will win \$1,500! Hourly updates will be broadcasted live on KMOO 99.9 FM.

Contestant(s) weighing in the first 2.50 exact weight bass each day of the tournament will win \$5,000. New this year- the contestant(s) who weighs in the heaviest bass under the slot each day will win \$5,000. In addition, all contestants are eligible to win a 2018 Triton 189 TRX Powered by Mercury, equipped with Minn Kota and Lowrance in the famous "Elimination Drawing".

"You Can't Win if You Don't Play" Optional Bonus Games such as the Bonus Card "AKA" Insurance Card & Bonus Shirt Hours can win you additional cash.

Children ages five to twelve may participate in the Little Anglers Division and win Academy gift cards and trophies/medals for their winning catches of bass, catfish, crappie or perch.

Registration is open online for the Big Bass Splash Presented by Sealy Outdoors benefit-

ting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. To enter, visit www.sealyoutdoors.com

Early Bird Registration Deadline is Monday, September 10. Onsite Registration will be at Lake Fork Marina from 10 AM – 8 PM on Thursday, September 20. Registration will continue each morning from 5 AM until 6 AM on days of the tournament. Tournament Entry Fees are \$160 for One Day, and \$210 for Two Days, \$260 for Three Days: The Little Anglers Division entry fee is \$10 per Day.

All participants and spectators ages 18 years of age and up can get in on the action. Come out to the tournament site, enjoy the festivities and get your free ticket for the Open Drawing Sunday, September 23.

The Big Bass Splash events are considered to be the world's largest grassroots amateur big bass fishing tournament of its kind. The Big Bass Splash attracts thousands of amateur anglers to these weekend events. It's what we call "Fishing, Family and Fun" for everyone. A portion of the proceeds from registration fees will go to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Sponsors includes Triton Boats, Mercury Marine, Academy Sports & Outdoors, Minn Kota, Lowrance, Power Pole, Navionics, Ri-

ver2Sea, Texas Fish & Game, TH Marine, RAM-Weaver Motors of Kirbyville, TX, SoftScience, BaitScope and Wood County.

For more information go to www.sealyoutdoors.com, call 888.698.2591 or stop by your local Academy Sports & Outdoors store for an official entry form. Follow us on [facebook.com/BigBassSplash](https://www.facebook.com/BigBassSplash).



Cole Frey, 12 years old, caught this nice bass fishing Lake Fork with guide Whitt Smith in July. C.P.R.



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Seven Grants Awarded by Winners of Great Texas Birding Classic

The 22nd annual Great Texas Birding Classic (GTBC) has wrapped up another year and the winners of the largest and longest bird-watching competition in the United States have chosen seven conservation projects to award grant funds. Grants range in amount from \$2,750 to \$10,000.

"The Birding Classic continues to grow in popularity year after year and the different categories have really opened the event up to a wide variety of people," shared Shelly Plante, Nature Tourism Manager at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. "There really is something for everyone. Families and friends put together teams, bird clubs organize community events and birding hotspots promote their sites during the event."

Growth of the GTBC has enabled thousands of dollars in habitat conservation grants to be awarded each year. This year, team registrations and sponsorships to the month-long, 125-team tournament enabled the award of \$35,500 in conservation grants to projects throughout the state. Over the past 22 years, the GTBC has awarded \$954,000 in grants for on-the-ground habitat acquisition, restoration and enhancement projects.

In the field this year, 780 participants

throughout the state identified 423 species of birds during spring migration. Among the competition were 21 youth teams, called Roughwings (ages 13 and younger) and Gliders (ages 14-18), many of which were sponsored by the Texas Ornithological Society.

The GTBC set records for highest species counts in eight tournament categories, including an all-time high of 380 species by the winning team in the statewide weeklong competition.

For many participants, the GTBC offers more than just a chance to check off birds on a list and win prizes, but also an opportunity to connect with nature and appreciate the diversity of birds around them.

"It was a great day for the seasoned birders and new birders alike," said Michele Brooke, parent and mentor of the GTBC youth team, the Chatty Chickadees. "The kids were troopers and had so much fun. We explored all kinds of habitats: woods, marshes, coastal and the front lawn of my house. It was a great day!"

Grants chosen by the winners to receive funding from the GTBC include: \$10,000 Weeklong Conservation Grant- Selected by Swarovski Optik Highway Hawks/

Swarovski Optik. N.A.

Project: Gator Lake Reclamation- Submitted by South Texas Botanical Gardens and Nature Center, Inc. Funding will assist with the removal of invasive species such as salt cedar, giant cane, Chinese tallow, chinaberry, Brazilian pepper trees and guinea grass around Gator Lake and throughout the wetland and adjacent uplands.

Project Location: South Texas Botanical Gardens and Nature Center, Corpus Christi \$5,000 Toyota Conservation Grant, Regional Big Day- Upper Texas Coast- Selected by Free Falling Falcons/Independent

Project: Holly Beach Acquisition- Submitted by the Conservation Fund. Funds will contribute directly to a multi-million dollar project to secure the 1,540-acre Holly Beach tract along four miles of the Laguna Madre frontage for inclusion in the National Wildlife Refuge.

Project Location: Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge, Rio Grande Valley \$5,000 State Park Conservation Grant- Selected by Mercedes Red Crowns/Mercedes Economic Development Corporation

Project: Llano (Grassland) Restoration- Submitted by Friends of Estero Llano

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

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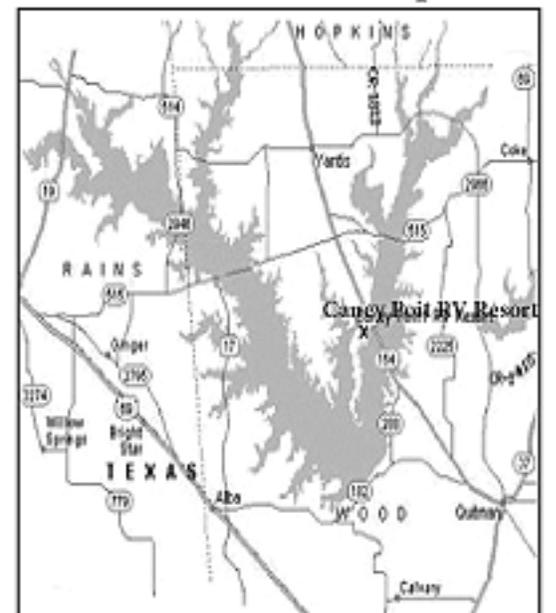
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The Heat is On But So is The Bite For Big Bass

By David Ozio

"Summer is heading into the final stretch and, to date, the heat is the topic of conversation. Some have wondered if the 108 degree days will totally kill any bite? Not a chance! June and July were insane fishing months, probably my best summer to date. I checked my camera roll to discover that I have taken 150 different pics of customers with giant Lake Fork bass. I don't see this stopping. This summer's wind has been a key factor to stabilizing the water and the surface temps haven't been out of control. As August approaches, the only thing that may change is the pattern for targeting the green monsters.

Lake Fork is currently about twenty inches under pool level and water clarity is incredibly good

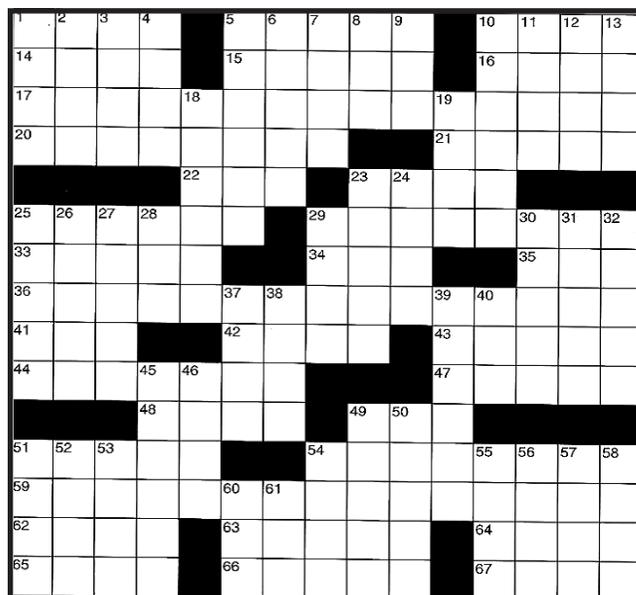
across the expanse of the impoundment. Surface temps have been ranging from 86-89 degrees recently and these extremes have recently delegated where the bass have been holding with regard to structure. When the surface temps are in the lower range, bass seem to be holding on the bottom relating to points, pond dams, ridges, roadbeds and hard structures. As of the past week the air temps have risen dramatically which will cause the top layer of the water to bake and have an effect on the oxygen levels down deep. This will cause the bass to move to a more suitable depth range in search of breathable water. As of this writing I have been catching bass shallow early and then fading back to the 20-26ft range on the same structures to tangle with the bruisers. Targeting these fish is the directive and your electronics will be the tool to getting the job done. I suspect as we roll into August the thermocline will rise up in the water column causing the bass to suspend. I saw this already starting this past week.

Morning and late evening bass are no huge challenge as they will hit top water baits along with the squarebill crankbaits. Shad colors are always recommended and focus these efforts on main lake points. This action will be short lived as the bite dissipates as the sun starts to peek over the tree lines. This is when you shift gears and tie on a deeper



diving crankbait and back out on these points and focus on the 8-15ft depth range. Same colors apply during this time of the year and covering water will be the ticket to success. Once mid morning is upon you, this will be the time to break out the Carolina and Texas rigs to probe the 20-26ft depths using any plastic of your choice. Big worms usually will get the job done and I favor any version of red during the summer months. Redbug is hard to beat especially if you see the bass on the screen and decide to tackle them using a drop shot. I opt for 12lb line on the drop shot in this situation and use a 3/8 ounce weight on calm days, 1/2 ounce weight on the windy outings. If you are strictly after the

(See The Heat is....
Continued on Page 20-A)



CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Outer garments | 41. Chinese dynasty |
| 5. Way to act | 42. Tells on |
| 10. Take back (informal) | 43. Sharp, narrow ridge |
| 14. Negative (informal) | 44. Horse homes |
| 15. At no time | 47. Events |
| 16. Beige | 48. Incline from vertical |
| 17. Jane Fonda movie (three words) | 49. Golf-club part |
| 20. Landings | 51. Russian city |
| 21. Sustains, in a way | 54. Protestant denominations |
| 22. Conceit | 59. George Clooney movie (three words) |
| 23. Retail event | 62. Rail |
| 25. ____ d', headwaiter | 63. Filmed records |
| 29. Abandoned ship | 64. Lake ____, one of the Great |
| 33. Strayed | 65. Act of apportioning something |
| 34. 007's creator | 66. Faked |
| 35. Volt-ampere | 67. Feline sound |
| 36. "Harry Potter and ____" (four words) | |

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Pier on a porch | 31. ____ blanche, unrestricted power |
| 2. Niels ____, physicist | 32. Fig and gum |
| 3. Copycat | 37. Mated |
| 4. Partial (prefix) | 38. Emit coherent radiation |
| 5. Anger | 39. Aspects |
| 6. ____ Park, Calif. | 40. Brother |
| 7. Sheep genus | 45. Site of chemical spill |
| 8. Integer | 46. Cleanse with soap and water |
| 9. Work unit | 49. Buckle (obsolete) |
| 10. Add gas | 50. Selected |
| 11. Outside (prefix) | 51. Posttraumatic stress disorder (abbr.) |
| 12. Quarry | 52. Nailed to the underside of a horse's hoof |
| 13. What belongs to us | 53. East Chadic |
| 18. Exaggerate | 54. Motion |
| 19. Competent | 55. Individual unit |
| 23. Hind ends | 56. Open skin infection |
| 24. River in Florence | 57. Set of three |
| 25. Uppers (slang) | 58. Small merganser |
| 26. Saint | 60. Rural free delivery (abbr.) |
| 27. Bird genus | 61. Expresses distaste |
| 28. Two-year-old sheep | |
| 29. Having relatively few calories | |
| 30. Vines | |

Answers on Page 21-A

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**Texas Game Wardens Stress
Continued Water Safety Vigilance**

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is urging the public to be extra vigilant when it comes to water safety in the wake of five tragic drownings over the July 4th holiday. Thus far in 2018, there have been 37 open water drownings, compared to 30 over the same time period a year ago.

During the midweek Fourth of July holiday, drowning victims were recovered from Lake Grapevine, Lake LBJ, Lake Lewisville, Lake Granbury and Lake Leon.

We're seeing a spike this year in the number of open water drownings,' said Texas Game Warden Assistant Commander Cody Jones, TPWD's boating law administrator. "We cannot stress enough for folks to recognize potential risks and hazards, and know their limita-

tions while out on the water. Fatigue, alcohol impairment, and unforeseen dangers such as cross currents, underwater obstructions and under tow, can lead to tragedy.

Jones reports that game wardens conducted boating safety checks on over 3,100 vessels on the Fourth, resulting in 320 citations and 334 warnings issued. Among those, 11 arrests were made for boating while intoxicated. Game wardens also investigated nine boating related accidents, none of which resulted in fatalities.

Anecdotally, we appear to be seeing more designated drivers out on the water, so boaters are being responsible," Jones noted.

Prior to the July Fourth holiday, TPWD's Law Enforcement Division participated in

Operation Dry Water over the weekend of June 29-July 1 as part of a nationally coordinated boating under the influence (BUI) awareness and enforcement campaign.

Over the three-day Operation Dry Water weekend, game wardens made contact with 7,081 vessels, issued 762 warnings and 680 citations, while making 19 BUI arrests.

TPWD participates in coordinated efforts like Operation Dry Water, along with hundreds of other agencies nationwide, in an effort to reduce the number of accidents and fatalities we see due to boaters consuming alcohol on the water," said Jones. "Our goal is to educate boaters as well as remove impaired operators from the water in order to keep all other boaters safe."



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"Solera" & Crappie Excitement!**

By Terri Moon

Skeeter Solera that is!! It's what I like to call my "Luxury Liner"! I can't begin to tell you how MUCH I've enjoyed fishing out of this boat! They have really taken crappie fishing to another level! Their comfort level is off the chart! One of my customers last week told me - WOW - this is like fishing out of my living room"! We had comfortable seating, the blue tooth stereo going, cold drinks in the cup holders and fish in the livewell. Life just doesn't get any better!

But now it's time to "Supersize" it! Yep - Skeeter has expanded the Solera from a 189 to a 20'5" "dream machine!" So I am "ALL in"! My favorite thing about the Solera is that it's a "Perfect Boat" for any age and especially for us "Seniors"! (I don't know about you but I'd rather ride in a Lincoln Town Car than a little whatever!) Somehow the comfort makes the fishing more fun! So thank you Skeeter for making such a "Family Friendly" boat! I will keep you all posted when the 205 comes in if anyone wants to check it out!

Now as far as the crappie excitement, we've had a really good July. We are starting to check the deeper areas of the



lake like deep water humps, points, and any bends in main creek channels. They like to have quick access to shallow and deep water. So check any drop-offs or ledges and always look for baitfish. Right now we are targeting 12 to 18 ft. in 20 to 30 ft. of water.

The colors working for us have been L.F.T. live baby shad in blue gill or white/chartreuse and bubba baits in LSU purple/chartreuse or white/chartreuse. It's also taking a very slow presentation so try your best not to overwork your bait. All you need is a little twitch now and then so you can stay in contact with your bait (and don't stop watching your line).

Now for those of you still looking for bream, they have been in 1-5 ft. around the new and full moon. Other than that, look in 5-20 ft. around any structure. Crickets

or night crawlers or Berkley Power Wiggles will work.

Many thanks to all of you who came to fish with me this past month and I'm so glad you all have enjoyed the Solera Boat as much as I do!

Be safe out there while you enjoy the rest of your summer.

Sending thoughts, hugs & prayers to my family in Missouri!

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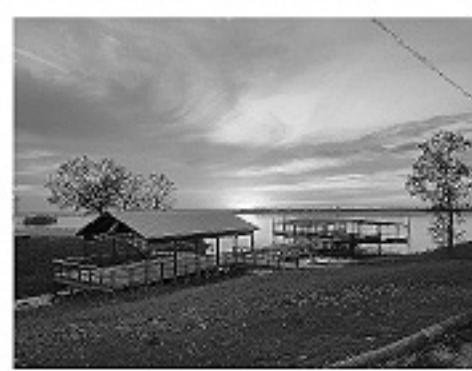
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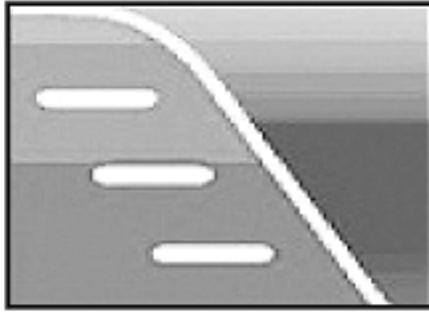
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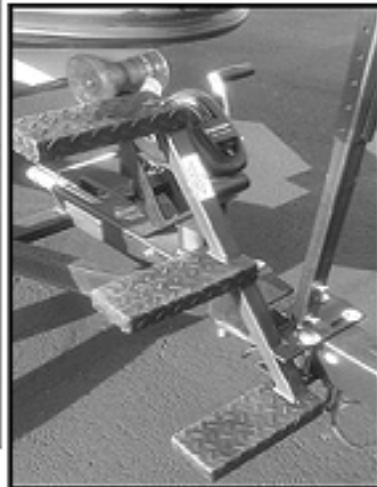
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"Knowing What To Look For!"

Hot, hot and hotter!
 Yes sir, that is not only describing the summer weather we have been having but also the tremendously awesome fishing Lake Fork has produced this year. There were many giant 10 pound plus bass caught during the 2018 season with 3 ShareLunkers recorded by Texas Parks & Wildlife

(2-13 lbers & 1- 15 lber). This alone makes 2018 one of the best seasons in more than 10 years. Many of our guides have continued catching ten pound bass right through the heat of summer. The future of Lake Fork looks extremely bright and in this months picture you will see a very large source of bait and fish suspending

in open water offshore. The predator species in this image is mostly white bass; however, there are some good large mouth arcs mixed in below and at the bottom. As I stated, this is a very large source of bait and fish that can be found throughout the lake all summer. This time of year this is what I am looking for offshore in

open water ranging from 25 to 50 feet deep. Once I find a source of offshore fish I usually will first study the immediate area and look for any structure that the giant large mouth bass may use to their advantage for ambush. Tree tops, humps, ledges and points nearby can be the ticket. However more often than not I seem to find the bigger bass just below amongst or even off the

bottom. Giant bass can sometimes be known as lazy crumb eaters, especially in the heat of summer. This time of year I always start as early as possible. I will throw large spoons, crankbaits and believe it or not even a top water like Yellow magic. Some days the fish will stay active all day long, its absolutely amazing. Literally the hotter it is the better they bite. All that being

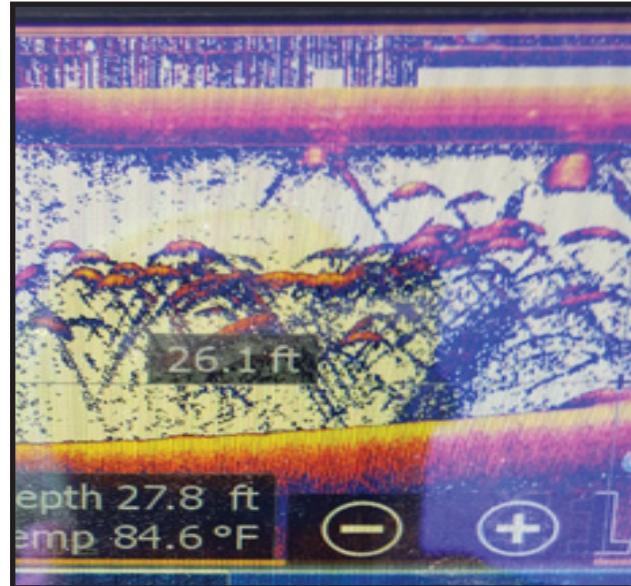
said I prefer and love to catch the real big lazy crumb eaters so my favorite technique is to simply toss a big jig or extra large worm to the bottom especially if I am seeing the big fish on my sonar. For non active times I tend to use weightless plastics like senkos or flukes and you can't go slow enough. Painful sometimes but rewarding when done right. My best advice is to bring lots of water, wear comfortable summer apparel and stick with it. Dont let the summer heat fool you with the proper preparation, knowledge and application there is some great fishing to be had and the bigguns still bite. I wish you all great blessings and awesome fishing!



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Top 5 Heat Hacks to Stay Safe at Texas State Parks and on Area Lakes

With temperatures soaring into the triple-digits, it's important to make sure you have the essentials before hitting the trails at a Texas State Park.

Experts from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department are sharing their top five heat hacks for staying safe on the trails during the summer months.

Here are the top five hacks recommended for

park visitors:

- (1) Hydrate- It's important to drink at least 16 ounces of water every hour in the heat to replenish your body and prevent dehydration. Don't forget your four-legged family members and make sure to bring enough water for them.
- (2) Dress Smart- Wear light, loose-fitting, breathable clothing, a hat, correct shoes, sun-screen and wet bandanas to keep you cool while

in the sun.

(3) Stay Salty- Food helps keep up energy and replace salt lost from sweating. Snacks such as jerky, granola, trail mix, tuna and dried fruit are a fantastic way to nourish your body while on the trails.

(4) Buddy System- Two brains are better than one. It's beneficial to have someone with you in hot conditions so you can look after each other on the trail. With high temperatures hitting Texas, heat-related illnesses are common and having a friend around to help recognize the early symptoms can save you from getting sick.

(5) Plan Ahead- Study the map and have it with you. Average hikers move at 2 miles per hour, allow yourself plenty of time to avoid hiking in the heat of the day. Make sure to rest in cool or shaded area to recover from the heat if necessary. It is also a good idea to let someone know your plan before you hit the trails and what time you should be back. That way, if you become lost, people know where to look.

Parks are a great place to explore during the summer and there are things happening weekly at the more than 90 Texas State Parks. For a full calendar of state park events, visit the Texas State Parks calendar page on the TPWD website.

Find a park in your area at <http://texasstateparks.org>.

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Deric Miller caught this nice bass while doing some night fishing on Lake Fork with guide Randy Oldfield. I hope he took Randy's dollar. C.P.R.



Lake Fork guide Randy Oldfield might have won a dollar when he caught this nice bass. C.P.R.



Toby Lewis caught this nice over the slot hawg while fishing Lake Fork in July with guide Whitt Smith. C.P.R.



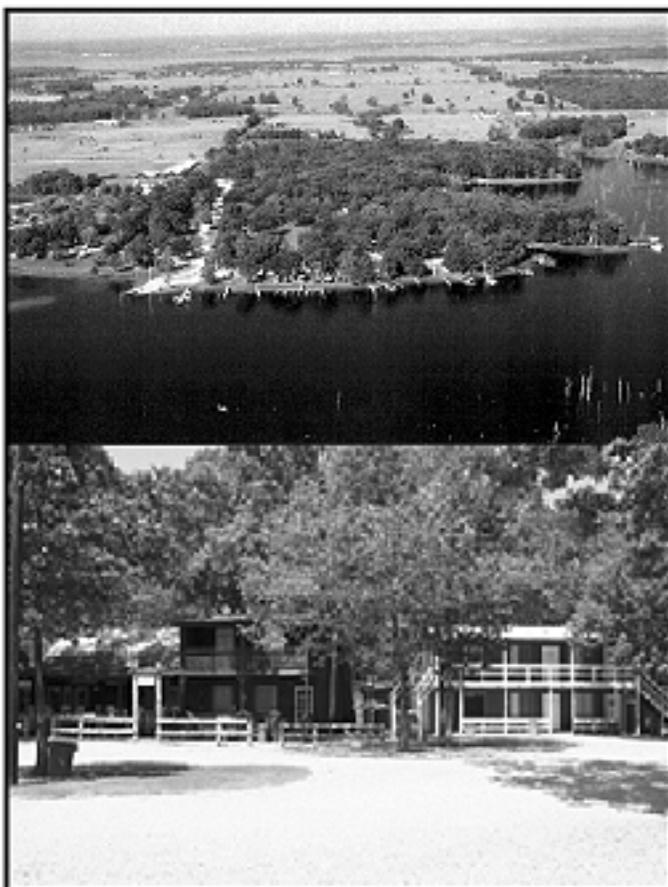
John Gray and his buddies from Oklahoma had a great time fishing Lake Fork with guide Danny Holder in July. For the two days they were here they had their limit in catfish by noon. Released to the Grease!

If you have news or photos on Lake Fork Contact Us!
"The Fisherman's Guide News"
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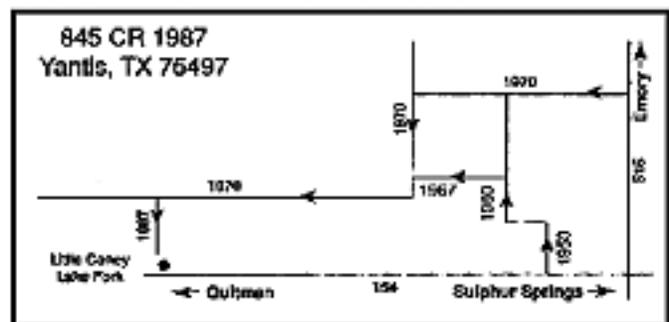
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Seven Grants Awarded by Winners of Great Texas Birding Classic *(Continued from Page 5-A)*

Grande State Park. The grant will fund invasive species removal to enable the restoration of 10-acres worth of grassland habitat within the park using native grasses, forbs and shrubs.

Project Location: Estero Llano Grande State Park, Weslaco

\$5,000 Sunrise to Noon Conservation Grant- Selected by SCENIC GALVESTON Sandhill Craniacs/SCENIC GALVESTON, INC.

Project: Enhancement of Eagle Lake Municipal Park- Submitted by Revitalize Eagle Lake. The grant will help fund professional interpretive panels for installation on site to enhance the visitor's experience. There is currently no interpretive signage to educate visitors on the diversity of birds, wildlife and natural vegetation at this site.

Project Location: Eagle Lake Municipal Park, Eagle Lake

\$5,000 Lone Star Bird Award- Selected by Brazos Banditry/Moore Wild Birds and Thomas Moore Feed

Project: Port Aransas Nature Preserve, Enhancing Neotropical Migratory Bird Habitat- Submitted by City of Port Aransas Nature Preserve. Funding for this project will be used to remove invasive species such

as KR Bluestem and guinea grass making room for the installation and care of 45 native trees such as live oaks, black willows and yaupon holly within the preserve.

Project Location: Port Aransas Nature Preserve (Clay's Hill), Port Aransas

\$2,750 Upper Texas Coast Big Sit! Conservation Grant- Selected by Courageous Conservationists/Artist Boat, Inc.

Project: Artist Boat Coastal Heritage Preserve Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail and Viewing Area - Submitted by Artist Boat, Inc. Funding will be combined with donated design time from the University of Texas School of Architecture's field-based program for advanced design students, as well as funding from other sources to create the first public viewing platform, bird blind and trail at the preserve for birders, cyclists, hikers, island visitors and residents.

Project Location: Artist Boat Coastal Heritage Preserve, Galveston

\$2,750 Heart of Texas East Big Sit! Conservation Grant- Selected by the Pelicans!/ Mitchell Lake Audubon Center

Project: Restore Connie Hagar Cottage Sanctuary- Submitted by Friends of Connie Hagar. This grant will fund the last piece of an \$80,000 enhancement project for the

sanctuary, the construction of a pavilion to use for a rest area, interpretive and education programs, and wildlife viewing.

Project Location: Connie Hagar Cottage Sanctuary, Rockport

This event is made possible by sponsorship and registration fees, donations from event sponsors Toyota, Texas Ornithological Society, and awards ceremony sponsor Audubon Texas.

For more information about the GTBC, visit the TPWD Great Texas Birding Classic page.



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Applications Now Accepted for TPWD Drawn Hunt Permits *(Continued from Page 3-A)*

tional hunt permit fees for this category.

Among the program changes this year, all drawn hunts associated with the \$48 Annual Public Hunting (APH) Permit will not be available for application until Aug. 15, when APH Permits go on sale. Applicants for e-Postcard hunts and USFS Antlerless Deer Permits must have a current APH to apply. This change is intended bring the postcard hunts back to the way they functioned before the draw system went on-line.

"The second big change is limiting the number of youth applications per hunt category to three," said Kelly Edmiston, TPWD public hunts coordinator. "When the new online drawn system launched, you could apply to as many different areas as you wanted within a hunt category. Because of this, we have been experiencing a number of 'no shows' in cases where youth hunters were selected for multiple hunts within a youth hunt category. To ensure more youth have an opportunity to participate and increase attendance, this year applicants will only be allowed to select up to three hunt areas in the same youth hunt category."

Drawn hunt opportunities can be viewed online by category or by area via an interactive

map and all applications, fee payments and permit issuance is handled electronically. To participate, applicants will need internet access, an email address and a credit or debit card. The Customer ID number from the applicant's hunting or fishing license is one of the easy ways to access the system.

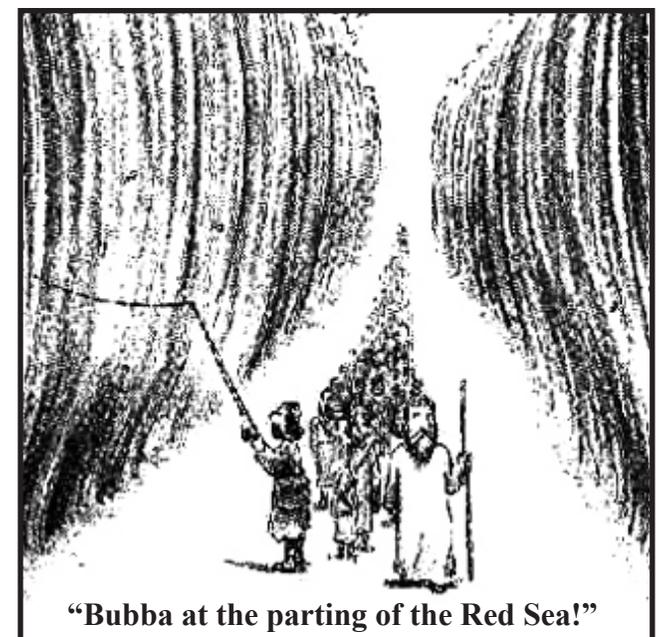
Last year, the department received 155,000 applications for drawn hunts.

The first application deadlines are in August. Aug. 1 is the deadline for the alligator hunt categories, pronghorn, youth deer, and the new private lands dove hunts, and Aug. 15 is the deadline for archery deer, exotic, and javelina. Application deadlines are on the 1st and 15th of each month. A full list of category deadlines can be found online. Hunters can apply up to 11:59 p.m. Central Time on the application deadline, and after the application is submitted, they can check their drawing status online at any time.

The Drawn Hunts program offers affordable hunting experiences throughout the state, including several Youth-Only hunt categories. Application fees are \$3 or \$10 depending on the hunt category. Adult hunters that are selected may also need to pay a Special Permit fee of \$80 for regular hunts and \$130 for

extended hunts. Some categories, such as the Youth-Only hunts, require no application fees or permit fees. Permits are open to resident and non-resident hunters alike. Last year, about 4 percent of applicants were non-resident.

For more information or to get started in the application process visit the TPWD drawn hunts webpage. For questions, contact hunt@tpwd.texas.gov or call 512-389-4505 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday



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"August is here, temps are up, and the quality of the bass is up!"

By Andrew Grill

August is here and it sure feels like it. While the fishing has been a little tough this past month, I'm still impressed with the quality of fish we are catching here on Lake Fork.

Surprisingly, the lake is still less than 2 feet low. That's pretty good considering how hot, dry, and windy July was. The water temperature is in the upper 80's at the moment.

Overall numbers have been lower this month for me, but the quality has been good. I'm guilty of being hard headed though. When cer-

tain techniques and areas have been proven big fish producers for me, I have a hard time changing. Sometimes that works in our favor, sometimes it doesn't. I have probably thrown a Santone jig more than anything else this past month. I've heard a lot about big worms this summer, but jigs have been working fine for me.

Other techniques are producing as well. I'm also doing some cranking, and others are getting bit on Carolina rigs, spoons, and drop shots. 15-25 feet deep is the range. I know that is vague. While one specific depth is usually going to be best, you'll find some a little deeper and some a little more shallow.

It's also important to be looking for schooling activity on or near the surface right now. That's going to be more of a numbers deal, but you will occasionally get a big one mixed in there with them. If it's flat and calm, it's a good idea to be watching.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me if you're planning a trip to Lake Fork. I'll help any way I can. Next thing you know it'll be hoodie time. Peter 3:18 says, "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit."



Josh Cordonier was fishing Lake Fork with guide Andrew Grills when he caught this nice bass. Weight not provided. C.P.R.



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Game Warden Field Notes

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

--Not for Sale-- A Titus County game warden responded to a complaint of a subject selling catfish without a commercial license. The subject was arrested for warrants out of Upshur County and also cited for not having a commercial fishing license. Warnings were issued for waste of fish and selling flat-head catfish.

--Baited Birds-- Smith County game wardens were patrolling during opening weekend when they came across several hunters finishing up cleaning dove. During the check, it was determined the nine hunters were hunting over an area baited with milo. Citations were issued for hunting dove over a baited area. Wardens seized 97 dove and do-

nated them to a local needy family. Cases and civil restitution are pending.

--The Buck Stops Here- A Goliad County game warden received a call from a landowner claiming to have found a dead white-tailed buck on his property that appeared to have been shot. After talking to the landowner and inspecting the deer, the warden concluded it had indeed been shot. The farmer told the warden he had stopped a vehicle near his property late the night before and got the driver's name. An investigation into the shooting resulted in multiple cases filed against four individuals. Civil restitution charges were filed for a white-tailed buck deer scoring 125 1/8 Boone & Crockett.

--Holy Snap!-- In mid-August, game wardens participated in a joint patrol operation in the Gulf of Mexico target-

ing fishing violations for reef fish and highly migratory species. While on patrol, wardens observed a recreational fishing vessel near gulf shrimp boats and made contact with the 10 people on board. During the inspection, it was found that there were 40 red snapper on board. Each person was over their federal limit of two red snapper per person. Cases were filed and referred for federal violations and federal restitution on 20 red snapper over the limit on board the vessel.

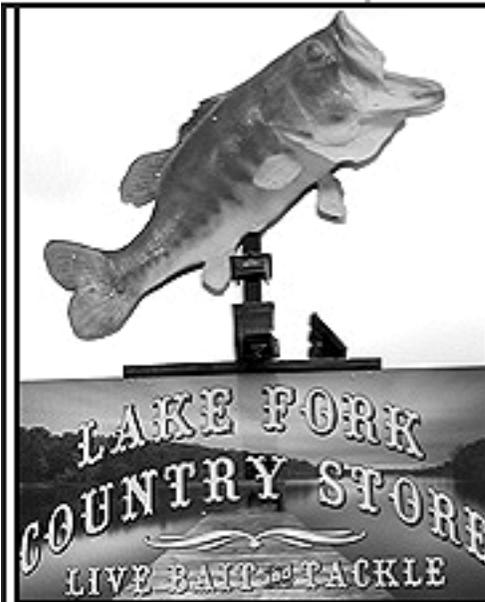
--Caught and Released- A Williamson County game warden was patrolling the Overlook Park on Lake Georgetown following several complaints that people were taking undersized striped bass. The warden found one individual who didn't have a valid fishing license and was in possession of three striped

bass measuring 17, 18, and 19 inches. The warden confiscated the fish and was able to release two of them back into the water alive.

The other striped bass was donated to a needy family. The fisherman was issued citations for not having a fishing license and possession

of undersized striped bass. Civil restitution is pending.

See more Game Warden Field Notes in Section B.



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The Heat is On But So is The Bite For Big Bass *(Continued from Page 6-A)*

biggest fish in any school, break out the one ounce football jig with matching trailer and hang on for dear life when the rod tip loads up. Fluorocarbon lines in the 17-20lb range work well for this application and make sure you use the San Diego Jam knot to reduce break offs. As a matter of fact, use the jam knot on all line sizes of fluorocarbon line. It will be a very smart move.

The other half of this deep bass equation equates to these suspended fish. These are much tougher to catch and require great patience both in locating them and putting them into the boat. Again, the electronics play a huge role in determining where these

fish are holding in the water column and then there is the challenge of matching the right lure with the conditions. If it is windy on that given day, choose the flutter spoon as your means of attack. Size may matter so try smaller versions first then gravitate to the magnum beast if the bite is good. Colors may also vary based upon cloud cover, silver on clear days and gold when the light level is much lower. If there is no wind period, tie on a magnum fluke in any shad color using a 7/0 hook only. In both cases, experiment with the countdown to establish the correct depth range of the given lure. Remember that sequence when a toad grabs hold of the bait and stretches your line into oblivion.

I hope this helps and gives you a starting point on your Lake Fork adventure. If you are headed out to Lake Fork in August 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 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/DavidOzioLakeForkGuide>. I would also like to thank Okuma Fishing USA and Talon 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".



Hugh Roth with David Ozio



Austin Martin with David Ozio



Richard May with David Ozio



David Hanson with David Ozio

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Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork



By Kenny LaDuke

Lake Hawkins was the site of the Texas Trails Bassmasters 9th tournament of the 2017 - 2018 season.

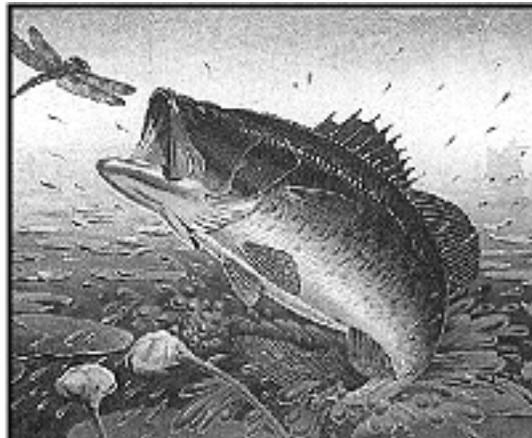
The dog days of summer are here! If you can beat the heat, it is an exciting time to be on the water. The fish are scattered deep and shallow and being in the right place at the right time seems to be a key factor on being able to catch these elusive green fish. Kenny LaDuke with a 5 fish limit that weighed 13.35 lbs. for 1st place. Chris Large brought a 5 fish limit for 2nd place with 11.82 lbs. Don Hampton brought in 4 fish weighing 9.58 lbs. for 3rd place. Kenny LaDuke also had the big bass of the derby weighing 3.59 lbs.

Texas Trails Bassmasters is a club around Lake Fork, Texas and they fish surrounding lakes with one tournament a month (mostly on Sat.) and a two day club championship. If you are an angler that is looking for a great group of fellow outdoorsmen, then please feel free to contact me, Kenny LaDuke, 972-400-1025, or Don Hampton, 903-360-6994 and join our club. We have had several new members join this year and you could be part of the fun.

Texas Trails Bassmasters will be hosting their 38th Semi-Annual

Open Tournament on Lake Fork October 13th. This is an open stringer tournament paying back 80% of all entries and 100% of Big Bass entries. Pay outs are based on 100

entries. This would be a great opportunity to come out and fish with the members, maybe win some money and see if this is the club for you. See ad on Page 22-A.



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1	A	2	B	3	A	4	S	5	E	6	M	7	O	8	T	9	E	10	R	11	E	12	P	13	O
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41	H	A	N					42	R	A	T	S						43	A	R	E	T	E		
44	S	T	A	45	B	46	L	E	S									47	C	A	S	E	S		
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51	P	52	S	53	K	O	V					54	B	A	P	T	55	I	56	S	57	T	58	S	
59	T	H	E	P	E	60	R	61	F	E	C	T	S	T	O	R	M								
62	S	O	R	A				63	F	I	C	H	E				64	E	R	I	E				
65	D	E	A	L				66	D	E	K	E	D				67	M	E	O	W				

Math Find

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

ADDITION CARDINAL COSINE DENOMINATOR DIVISION FRACTION INTEGER	MULTIPLY NEGATIVE OPERATION ORDINAL PRODUCT SUBTRACTION SUM
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 A C O S I N E O R P L A
 C O I M V O R I A D D N
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 E V I T A G E N T L U M
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Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork



37th Semi-Annual Open Tournament
October 13, 2018 * Lake Fork, Texas
Oak Ridge Marina * Hwy. 154 N.



Guaranteed Pay-Out Based on 100 Entries
 Drawings will be held after weigh-in for door
 903-878-2529

- 1st Place \$1,040.00
- 2nd Place \$780.00
- 3rd Place \$520.00
- 4th Place \$260.00
- 5th thru 10th Place



- 1st Place \$500.00
- 2nd Place \$300.00
- 3rd Place \$200.00

1. Entry fee is \$40.00 - late entry is \$45.00.
2. Early entries must be postmarked by Oct. 5, 2018.
3. All entry fees must be paid before 6 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 13, 2018.
4. Check-in time: Friday, Oct. 12, 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 13, 5 a.m. to 6 a.m. at Oak Ridge Marina.
5. To qualify, contestants must check in at tournament headquarters before fishing.
6. Fishing hours will be 6:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (official clock at sign-in station). NO FISHING from midnight till start time.
7. Fishing will be done on Lake Fork only (trailer fishing allowed).
8. Contestants must fish from a boat. No bank fishing or leaving the boat to land a fish.
9. Life jackets must be worn any time their outboard motor is running.
10. All state, federal, and local laws must be obeyed or contestant and fish may be disqualified. No slot fish may be brought to weigh-in.
11. No one may have more than five (5) fish in their possession at any time. Only one (1) may be 24" or greater.
12. Largemouth bass 12" to 16" or 24" or greater in length may be weighed. No fish under 12" or between 16" and 24" will be weighed (or state law limits at the time of the tournament).
13. All fish must be caught on artificial bait by casting. (No trolling with gas engine). Park trailer may be used.
14. Weigh-in starts at 3:00 p.m. (official clock at sign-in). You must be in the weigh-in line by 3:30 p.m.
15. All fish must be brought to the scales in weigh-in bags.
16. No iced or frozen fish will be weighed. Ice may be added ONLY to aid in survival of fish.
17. Each contestant will be responsible for weighing his or her own fish. (No pooling of fish).
18. Dead fish at weigh-in will be penalized 1/2 (5) pound. All fish weighed in become the property of Texas Trails Bassmasters and will be released (with the exception of trophy or dead fish).
19. 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.
20. Contestants may not have served as a compensated guide on Lake Fork 30 days prior to this tournament.
21. Contestants may fish with a guide on Lake Fork prior to the day before fishing this TTB tournament.
22. Use of ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES or CONTROLLED DRUGS are prohibited during tournament hours. Prescription drug use should be declared at sign-in.
23. Anyone who has ever been disqualified for cheating or misconduct from any tournament is ineligible to fish.
24. Any contestant who violates any rule may be disqualified. Any act of a competitor, verbal or physical, that reflects unfavorably upon Texas Trails Bassmasters effort to promote fishing, conservation, clean waters, courtesy or safety shall be reason for disqualification from this and all future Texas Trails Bassmasters tournaments.
25. Parent or guardian must accompany contestants under 18 years of age.
26. All protests must be registered in writing with the tournament judges within 15 minutes after designated weigh-in time. All decisions of the tournament judges will be final in all matters. Anyone protesting the outcome of an Open tournament will have to pay for any additional polygraph test given.
27. All boats must be 8 feet in length or longer. An aerated live well is recommended to aid in fish survival for the release. Anglers cannot leave boat to land a fish.
28. All contestants are responsible to have read these rules and must agree to abide by them (by signing the entry form) while competing in this Texas Trails Bassmasters event.
29. Contestants will be subject to polygraph test. Failure to take and/or pass such a test will result in disqualification.

Additional Information

For more information or for information on joining Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork visit our website

www.texastrailsbassmasters.com



Remove entry form below this line. Retain above portion for your record



Entry Application

Entry fee of \$40 must accompany mailed entry and must be postmarked on or before Oct. 5, 2018 to Texas Trails Bassmasters, 538 PR 5861, Yantis, TX 75497, or you may pay \$45 at tournament headquarters before starting time of tournament. \$10 extra for Big Bass (optional). Print clearly.

Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

Having read and understood the tournament rules, by my signature I agree to accept all decisions of the judges as final. By my signature I waive, release and hold harmless all members, officials and sponsors of any and all alleged liabilities to me and/or my equipment.

Contestant Signature _____

Minor's release: Signed by _____ Parent/Guardian

TTB USE ONLY

Entry # _____

Entry Fee _____

Big Bass _____

Cash _____ C/M _____



Mike Huggins was fishing Lake Fork with guide Michael McFarland when he caught this nice bass weighing 10.92-lbs. C.P.R.



Lake Fork Catfish Guide Cameron Burnett shows what a trophy catfish can be caught on this great reservoir. Caught in July Rod n Reel.



Ryan was fishing Lake Fork with guide Michael McFarland when he caught this nice bass weighing 10.20-lbs. C.P.R.

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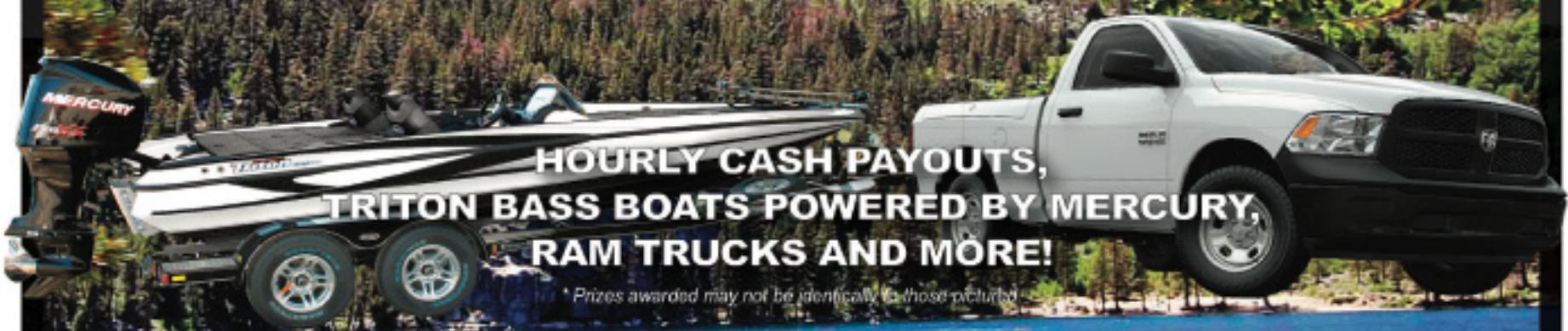
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Sept 12 - Wed	Academy - Tyler, TX	8668 South Broadway	903.266.3100	12PM - 1PM
Sept 12 - Wed	Academy - Longview, TX	445 Forest Square St	903.757.1300	6PM - 7PM
Sept 20 - Thurs	Lake Fork Marina - Alba, TX	275 CR 1558	903.765.2764	10AM - 8PM
Sept 21 - 22 - 23	Lake Fork Marina - Alba, TX	275 CR 1558	903.765.2764	5AM - 6AM



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