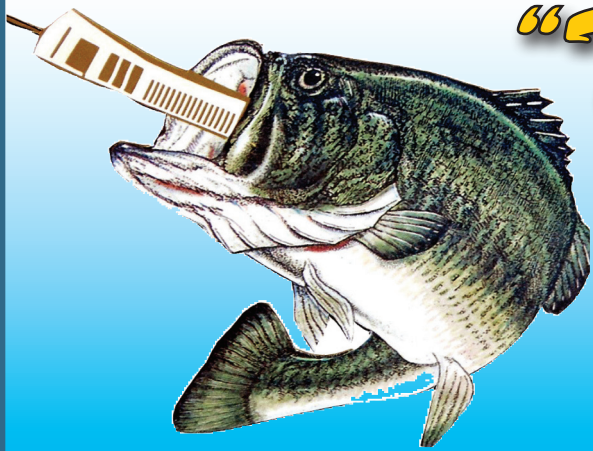


LAKE FORK "The Big Bass Capital Of Texas"



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

1 Section

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Vol. 24

October, 2022

No. 278



David Roulston from Allen, Texas won the 36th Annual Sealy Big Bass Splash Tournament with this 10.21-pound bass winning him the \$100,000 Grand Prize that included a Phoenix 721 Pro XP powered by Mercury, equipped with MinnKota, Power Pole and X2 Batteries, a RAM Truck, and \$5,000 in cash. (Photo by Don Hampton)

Jeffery Horn from Glenwood, Arkansas won 2nd Place in the 36th Annual Sealy Big Bass Splash Tournament with this 9.97-pound bass winning him an extra \$15,000. (Photo by Don Hampton)

Sealy Big Bass Splash on Lake Fork

By Don Hampton

With Lake Fork being 5.5' low this didn't stop anglers from coming to compete at the 36th Annual Sealy Big Bass Splash held on Lake Fork, September 16th, 17th, and 18th.

A total of 2,208 anglers participated in this great event. Some came from as far as Illinois and Arizona. Anglers and staff could not believe the moderate temperatures

they were gifted with. Temperatures ranged from the mid 80's to upper 60's and low 70's at night.

As anglers are quite aware of the reason it is called fishing and not catching is that the bite isn't always what they want or expect. There were a lot of 2-pound plus bass brought in and 20 bass over the 24" slot. With the slot on Lake Fork being between 16"

to 24" no bass between those measurements could be brought in. Some anglers did learn the hard way to measure their bass properly. Many of the anglers reported catching bass in the slot or too small to bring to the weigh-in.

On Friday, the first day of the tournament there were ten bass over the slot brought to the scales.

(See Big Bass Splash
Continued on Page 4)

17th Annual Berkley Big Bass Tournament

By Don Hampton

For all of you anglers that are not only big fans of fishing Lake Fork but also love doing it with Berkley baits, here is the time you have been waiting for. The 17th Annual Berkley Big Bass Tournament on Lake Fork hosted by BassChamps will be held on October 15th and 16th. The tournament will be held out of Lake Fork Marina just off Highway 17N.

Registration times will be Friday October 14th from 11 am to 7 pm, and October 15th and 16th from 5am to 7am at tournament headquarters. Anglers can fish one day or both days. Entry fee for one day is \$160 or \$200 for both days.

For anglers participating this will be one of the most exciting tournaments of the year. With the cooler temperatures setting in, the bass are sure to be feeding up and respond

well to both Berkley hard and soft baits. Check out some of their new line of topwater baits, the General, and Slobberknocker.

There is over \$150,000 guaranteed in cash and prizes with 20 places paid per hour during the two-day tournament starting at \$1,000 for 1st place, down to \$200 for 10th place; 11th thru 15th place wins an Abu Garcia Reel, and 16th thru

(See 17th Annual Berkley..
Continued on Page 21)



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"Bubba practices for Halloween all year long!"

By: Don Hampton

Bubba's favorite holidays are coming up and he is geared up and ready for them. He loves Thanksgiving and Christmas mainly because of all the great food, the get-togethers, (as he calls them), and of course getting new stuff! One of his favorite holidays and Bubbette's worst is Halloween.

This is one "Spook-tacular Holiday" that Bubba practices year round. He's like an oversized lap-dog when it comes to the treats and a scary movie when it comes to the tricks. He is most childlike on Christmas morning opening his presents and getting new stuff, but he is even more so when it comes to jumping out and scaring someone.

He practices mostly on Bubbette and how either of them has survived these many years is a testimony to "True Love"! On more than one occasion she has threatened his health with a rolling pin but Bubba doesn't take the threats too seriously. I couldn't even tell you if he hears them over his own laughter.

Bubba practices his scare tactics constantly to stay in true form. He has Bubbette shaky like a squirrel on a highline every time she walks in the house. The only time he is quiet is when he's about to spring with a goul-ish holler. It doesn't even matter to him if she has an arm full of groceries. If the timing and setting is right, he'll make his move and then laugh for days afterwards. To

Bubba harmlessly scaring someone is one of the funniest things in life. He really must have had a missed childhood or else he just doesn't wish to grow out of it!

I do believe that Bubba bought Bubbette a car, not for her benefit but rather for his entertainment. As is with most new vehicles this one has an alarm system with remotes. For the first week they had it Bubba couldn't stop laughing and it wasn't from the joy of having a new vehicle. Every time Bubbette would go to get in her car Bubba would be hiding around the corner. Her hand would no sooner touch the car door than Bubba's finger would push the alarm button. With the alarm and horn blaring, and lights flashing, Bubbette would be jumping around thinking she did something wrong, while Bubba would be rolling on the ground with laughter. Needless to say that only lasted for a week because he no longer has a set of keys and alarm remote to Bubbette's car.

Bubba doesn't just practice his scare tactics on Bubbette while at home. Even the dog has to hide from him. He'll catch him in one of his deep naps, sneak up as close as possible, get on his hands and knees and commence barking and growling like a maddog. Yes, Bubba has been bitten by his own dog and clobbered by his own wife.

One of the reasons Bubba can't keep a partner on the "Team Tournament Trail" he fishes isn't because of the number of fish caught. It is because their heart can't

take it! Bubba watches his partners closely to make sure they are on their toes during a tournament. If they seem to be day dreaming when the action slows down, he has a rude awakening for them too! He will catch them in one of their relaxed moods and then set his plan in motion. He will intentionally get his lure hung up while they are not watching. Once he has it securely stuck he'll jump up excitedly and holler, "It's a big one get the net!" At this time he has his rod bent going from side to side acting like he has a real hog on the end of the line. This gets his partner throwing his rod down, scrambling all over the boat to get the net and ready to do his job. When his partner finally gets the net ready Bubba will roll with laughter and say, "Just kidding I'm hung up and wanted to see if you were still with me!" I think Bubba has probably been bit, scratched, and clobbered by some of his fishing partners too! He has had five different fishing partners in the past four seasons and not even that will stop Bubba's sense of humor or his enjoyment of a good laugh.

Maybe there is a lesson for all of us here to learn from Bubba. It is possible that if we all kept a childlike quality in our hearts and didn't take ourselves quite so seriously we could find the smaller things in life much more humorous. Then we would all be able to laugh at the bites, scratches and clobberings that life has to offer. "Have a Spook-tacular Halloween!" Bubba will!

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We are a 501c3 benefitting the Garland Police Never Walk Alone Foundation GarlandPoliceFoundation.org

Big Bass Splash (Continued from Page 1)

It all began in the 8 to 9 o'clock hour. David Roulston Sr. from Allen, Texas weighed in a 10.21-pound bass and Jason Maxim from Midland, Texas weighed in a 7.70-pound bass; in the 9 to 10 o'clock hour Orren Aden from Angleton, Texas weighed in an 8.34-pound bass, Cliff Williams from Demopolis, Alabama with a 6.62-pound bass, and Doug Gibbons from Longview, Texas weighed in a 6.35-pound bass. In the 11 to 12 o'clock hour Kent Sikes from Roanoke, Texas weighed in an 8.82-pound bass, and Robert Bandy from Springtown, Texas weighed in a 7.22-pound bass. In the

12 to 1 o'clock hour two Lake Fork hawks came to the scales, Bowie Wheeler from Round Rock, Texas weighed in a 9.84-pound bass and Jason Smith from Forney, Texas weighed in an 8.66-pound bass.

On Saturday, the second day of the tournament seven bass over the slot were brought to the scales. In the 7 to 8 o'clock hour Nathan Bryan from Fayetteville, Arkansas weighed an 8.49-pound bass; in the 8 to 9 o'clock hour Jerry Pate from Downsville, Louisiana weighed in an 8.25-pound bass, and Richard McDowell from Alba, Texas weighed in a 7.21-pound bass; in the 12 to 1 o'clock hour

William Sword from Rusk, Texas weighed in an 7.72-pound bass, Colton Mackey from Gilmore, Texas weighed in a 7.62-pound bass, and Tony Sattler from Marthaville, Louisiana weighed in a 7.01-pound bass. During the 1 to 2 o'clock hour Brian Bayless from New Caney, Texas weighed in a 7.88-pound bass.

On Sunday, the last day of the tournament there were five bass over the slot brought to the scales. In the 7 to 8 o'clock hour Tomas Degelia from Valley View, Texas weighed in an 8.64-pound bass and Gary Scott from Hot Springs, Arkansas weighed in a 6.93-pound

(Continued on Next Page)



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bass. In the 8 to 9 o'clock hour Jeffery Horn from Glenwood, Arkansas weighed in a 9.97-pound bass; in the 12 to 1 o'clock hour Edward Shehane from New Waverly, Texas weighed in a 7.22-pound bass; in the 1 to 2 o'clock hour Matthew McClure from Mansfield, Texas weighed in a 8.29-pound bass.

In Sealy Outdoors Big Bass Splash Tournaments on Lake Fork the first exact weight of a 2.50-pound bass is worth \$5,000 and for any day that exact weight is not caught there is a drawing for the prize money. The heaviest under the 16" slot on any day of the tournament wins \$5,000. On Friday the heaviest bass under the slot was brought in by Paul Pedlar from Waxahachie, Texas

weighing 2.68-pounds winning him an additional \$5,000. On Saturday of the tournament the heaviest bass under the slot weighed 2.56-pounds and was caught by Mike Alls from Ft. Worth, Texas winning him an extra \$5,000. On Sunday the heaviest under the slot was 2.41-pounds caught by Weston Bates from Garrison, Texas winning him an extra \$5,000.

Since there wasn't a 2.5-pound exact caught on three days of the tournament, there was a drawing after the tournament for that prize money. In the drawing Brandan Hylander from Walls, Mississippi, Kendall Goodhue from Conway, Arkansas, and Daniel McKeen from Mendard, Texas had a surprise win of a check for \$5,000 each.

Being there wasn't an exact caught of an exact weight over the slot for the three days of the tournament, there was a drawing after the tournament for that prize money. In the drawing Jacob Moore from Lipan, Texas, Donna Teriaje from Harsborne, Oklahoma, and Daniel Wilder from Amity, Arkansas had a surprise win of a check for \$5,000 each.

In the elimination drawing Felica Ellison from Kilgore, Texas won a Phoenix 819 powered by Mercury, and equipped with MinnKota trolling motor.

David Roulston from Allen, Texas won 1st Place overall for heaviest bass caught in the tournament with his 10.21-pound bass. For his efforts he

(See Big Bass Splash
Continued on Page 7)



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"Feedfest '22 is just around the corner!"

By David Ozio

"It's that time of the year! Feedfest '22 is just around the corner and it's time for the bass to start gorging on three trillion shad that are currently in Lake Fork. I may have exaggerated just a bit but there is an amazing amount of bait in this lake at the moment. As of this writing, super cool temps are scheduled for next week and surface temps will start to fall triggering bass to start stocking up on the poundage to see them through the winter. Plenty of factors will contribute to how bass will react to these falling temps and the key is looking to past history for this time of the year to

determine where to start you're lunger quest. Keep in mind that the lake is over six foot low and there is no telling when it will return to pool level.

Early October can officiate a small drawback called "Lake Turnover". This turnover process is very evident when you see brown bubbles floating on the surface across the lake. The occurrence doesn't happen all at once but in stages according to the strength of the cold fronts as they pass. Not all parts of the lake will turnover at once as some areas cool faster than others. This phenomenon usually lasts about three weeks beginning in late September and throws bass fishing into a tail spin especially for the deep fish. During this transition period, you will need to read the conditions and adapt accordingly. Fall will usually issue in more cloudy days and as the water temps decline, fish will migrate to the shallows in search of food and suitable water conditions thus opening the door to easier catches on moving baits. Where do we start? The answer to that question is wrapped up in the fall bass habits. Creeks will be your starting place and finding the shad will lead you to some of the best bass fishing of the year.

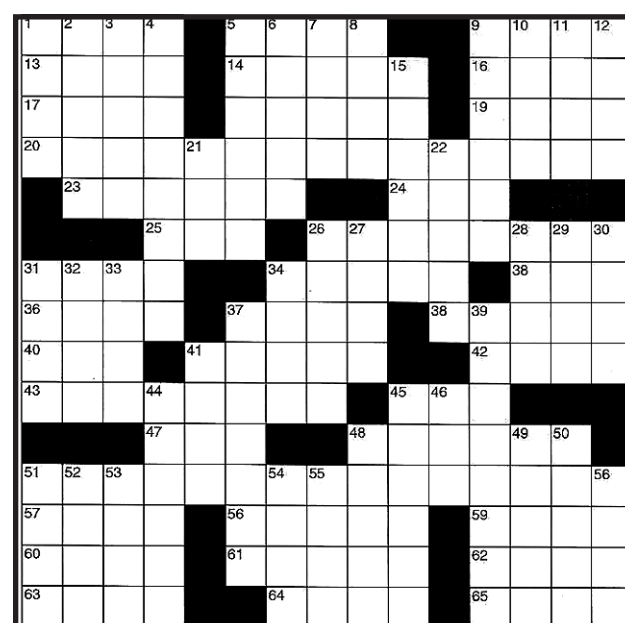
Gear up with a top water for the early bites on secondary points and drains and if we manage to get an-



other huge douse of rain, don't be afraid to chunk baits up next to the bank vegetation that will barely be in the water. Zara Spooks are my all time favorite and will draw strikes from the largest bass around. Buzzbaits, Yellow Magic's and frogs are also excellent choices and truly have a place on the deck of the boat. Whopper Ploppers have been doing some serious damage to big slots as of lately and well worth buzzing them around for some action. Once that bite tapers off, I will switch to a Texas rig worm of any sort and work the same areas until noon. If bank vegetation is more sparse, use a 1/8th ounce tungsten weight with a 3/0

hook and rig it with your favorite worm. Trick worms, curl tails or speed worms all work great. For thicker bank grass, move up to a 5/16 ounce weight so that it will get down to where the monsters live. As for worm colors, stick to dark hues on cloudy days and more translucent shades on sunny days. Carolina rigs in water from 8-15ft will deliver great results especially on sunny calm days. If the water has pitiful clarity, go with the darker colors. If the wind is howling, head to the windiest bank and throw a Talon spinner bait, chatterbait or rattletrap. If the water is on the clear side, use the willow blades. Murky water will call for the Colorado blades on the spinnerbaits.

Falling water temps will



CLUES ACROSS

1. Friends (French)
5. Journey
9. Compartments
13. Gulls
14. Yello-fever mosquitos
16. Soft-finned fish
17. Terror
18. Shelf
19. The standard monetary unit of Turkey
20. Speedy
23. Suspension
24. Spoken in the Dali region of Yunnan
25. Male cat
26. Past
31. Interpret something in a certain way
34. Uncovers
35. South American wood sorrel
36. Turkish leader title
37. Desolate
38. Like cereal
40. Albania
41. Pistil bracts
42. Radioactivity units
43. Expunctions
45. School organization
47. Seaport, abbrev.
48. Division of a group into opposing factions
51. Falstaff's go-between
57. Die
58. Capital of South Korea
59. Air-bed
60. Ireland
61. Shrub
62. At all times
63. Tear down
64. Drunks
65. Secretary, for one

CLUES DOWN

1. Sunrise (Spanish)
2. Wet spongy ground
3. Sadam Hussein, for one
4. In a way, sets
5. Type of powder
6. In a way, smells
7. Icelandic poems
8. Containerfuls
9. A silky-coated sheepdog
10. Captial of Western Samoa
11. Banishes
12. Ruler of Iran
15. Member of U.S. Navy
21. Hirobumi __, Japanese Prime Minister
22. Large person
26. Peels
27. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
28. Island north of Guam
29. Frosted
30. Treats skins
31. An account of incidents or events
32. Makes older
33. New Zealand parrot
34. A reddish brown pigment from clay
37. Munificence
39. Apprenticed
41. Sound of pleasure
44. Bench
45. Oars
46. 21st letter of the Greek alphabet
48. Sit on one's heels
49. Remove the surface of
50. French young woman
51. Jan VanDer __, Dutch painter
52. Iris genus
53. Gentleman
54. Mains
55. Fly alone
56. English city

Answers on Page 21

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(See Feedfest '22.....
Continued on Page 20)

Big Bass Splash *(Continued from Page 5)*

won \$5,000 hourly pay, a Phoenix 721 Pro XP powered by Mercury equipped with MinnKota, Lowrance Navionics, & Power Pole and X2 Power Batteries; a RAM Truck plus \$5,000 cash. Winning 2nd Place overall with a weight of 9.97 was Jeffrey Horn from Glenwood, Arkansas. He took home an extra \$15,000. Winning 3rd Place overall was Bowie Wheeler from Round Rock, Texas with a weight of 9.84-pounds. For his efforts he won an extra \$10,000. Winning 4th place overall with a weight of 8.82-pounds was Kent Sikes from Ranoke, Texas. He took home an extra \$5,000.

Coming in 5th Place overall was Jason Smith, from Forney, Texas with a weight of 8.66-pounds. For his catch he took home an extra \$2,500.

During the course of the tournament there were twenty bass weighed in over the slot. On Friday there was a total of 271 bass weighed for a total weight of 539.35-pounds. On Saturday there were 244 bass weighed for a total weight of 468.46-pounds. On Sunday there were 245 bass weighed for a total weight of 449.74. Total bass weighed in the tournament was 760 for a total weight of 1,457.55 pounds. The Lake Fork Sportsman's Association

did an excellent job with their Live Release Boat returning all the bass into the lake in healthy condition to be caught another day.

It was disappointing that the double-digit bass Lake Fork is known for did not show up in a greater number, but the weather was great, safety factors were taken, and the bite for all those winners was terrific.

For more information on Sealy Outdoors Big Bass Splash visit their website at www.sealyoutdoors.com.

God Bless America, Fish Friendly, and I hope to see you on the lakes.

Fish Friendly

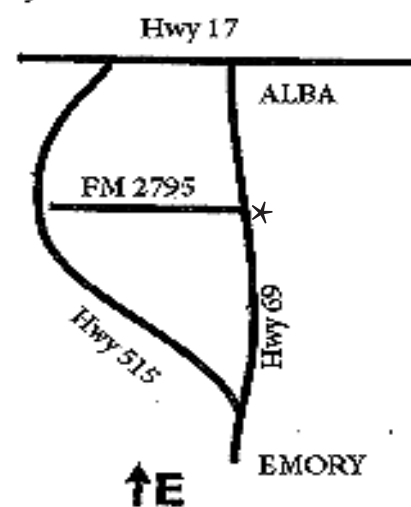
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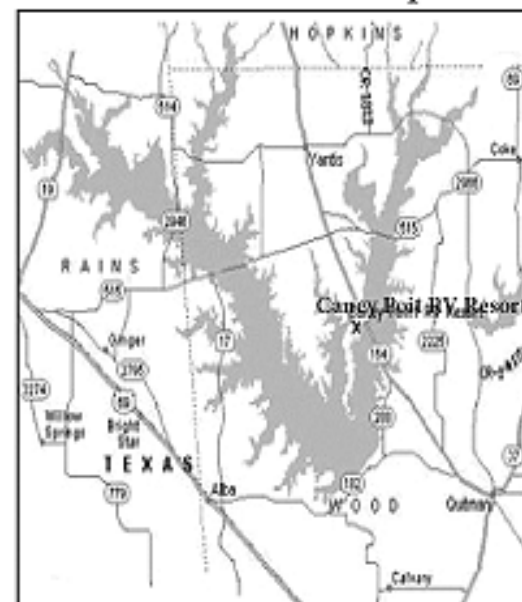
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"The Moon Report"

October "Trophy Time"

By Terri Moon

First off—I want to send my heartfelt thanks for all the prayers, encouraging words, the gorgeous flowers, the food, and thoughtful donations in "Mama Novas" honor as we took her to her final resting place in Leesville, Missouri. It was such a tribute and honor to realize how many peoples lives she had touched in her 92 years. She was definitely an amazing "Angel of God" on earth! Her "Bright Light" is painfully missed by all who knew her.

My thanks to all of you for understanding my time away with family through all this and happily rescheduled.

Now for the bright spot in my life—it's October "Trophy Time" on Lake Fork and to top that off—my new Skeeter Solera 205 is in and ready to pick up! So that means my 2020 Skeeter Solera 205 is now available for anyone interested! This is one beautiful "Luxury Liner" that's perfect not only for fishing but perfect for family fun—(tubing, skiing, or just cruising!) A big thanks to Skeeter/Yamaha for designing this awesome all around boat! It's definitely put the comfort back in fishing!

It's finally time for the famous "Fork Fall Fishing." Your missing out on some great memories if you've never experienced this!



It's such an awesome fishery, especially this time of year. I call it "Trophy Time" and this includes all species!

Now that the water temperatures have started to drop, the crappie will start moving off the flats closer to the creeks. Check tree lines, brush piles, road beds and bridges, 15–25 ft. They will be suspended 8 to 16 ft. usually, depending on the time of day. A jig or jig and minnow combination works good for this. Please keep in mind if what your doing isn't working, don't keep doing it! Try different depths and areas till you find active fish. As far as jig color choices, pay attention to light levels. On bright days I'm using brighter colors. On darker or cloudier days I'm using darker baits so don't be afraid to change it up if your conditions change.

Now—about those bream—you will still

find them in that 7-15 ft. range around docks, tree stumps on edges of the coves, or cross members of the bridges. A split shot and a small hook with a cricket or nightcrawler tightlined or under a bobber set just off the bottom has made for some fun fishing! If your not into live bait, just grab a jar of Berkley Crappie Nibbles or Berkley Gulp Minnows in shad, chartreuse, or white, they'll love them!

I hope you all get to enjoy "Forks Fall Fun"—but, please be safe out there. The lake level has once again dropped below 6 ft. and falling. Needless to say it can be quite dangerous—so when in doubt—"IDLE"!

Once again many thanks for all the blessings sent our way! Wishing you all the best!

Practice C.P.R.



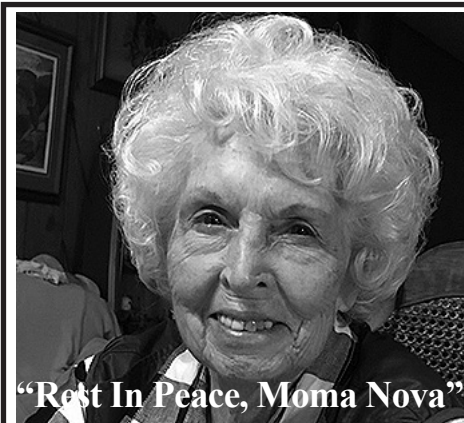
"Happy Birthday Christa!" Her last trip to Lake Fork she caught this 11.35-lb. hawg measuring 25.25". Much Love!! Wayne. C.P.R.



"That's My Boyeee!" My son Chad is smiling so big because he caught his P.B. night fishing on Tuesday 9/20/22. C.P.R.



Roger Wells from Waxahachie, TX. caught this nice Lake Fork bass while fishing with guide Whitt Smith. C.P.R.



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Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork Bass Tournament October 22nd

By Don Hampton

The Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork will be hosting their 43rd Semi Annual Bass Tournament on Lake Fork on October 22nd. The tournament will be hosted out of Oak Ridge Marina. All amateur anglers are invited to participate.

This is an individual tournament. More than one angler can fish in a boat, but all must be a paid entry and have a means of keeping their catches separated.

Entry fee for the tournament is \$45 with 80% of all entry fees paid back and Big Bass Pot \$10 with 100% pay back. Based on 100 entries 1st Place pays \$1,040; 2nd Place \$780; 3rd Place

\$520; 4th Place \$260; 5th thru 10th \$100. Based on 100 entries the Big Bass Pot pays 3 places with 1st Big Bass paying \$500, 2nd paying \$300, and 3rd paying \$200.

Fishing hours for the tournament are from 6 am to 3:30 pm. All anglers must be checked in by 3:30 pm. Lake Fork slot rules apply. A bass can touch the 16 inch mark but not exceed and be at least 12 inches in length. An over the slot must at least touch 24 inches in length to be legal. Any bass between 16 inches and 24 inches brought to the weigh-in is illegal and the angler will be disqualified. The official measuring stick for the tournament is the Chek-It-Stick.

A great thing about this tournament being held at this time are the weather conditions. The cooler weather will be here thus lowering the water temperature and bringing on a good bite.

Anglers can enter the tournament by printing an entry from our

website at www.texas trails bassmaster.com or pick one up at one of the area businesses and mail it in at the address listed on the entry. Early entries end October 15th. For those of you who wish to enter at the tournament we will be taking entries at tournament headquarters on October 21st from 4 pm to 9 pm and on October 22nd from 5 am to 6 am.

Everyone is invited to come out and attend. If not an angler, come out for the weigh-in and festivities. Since this is a fund raising event we will be selling raffle tickets for some great prizes to be given away.

If looking for a great Bass Club to join, you need look no further. Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork is a very progressive club. We have one tournament per month and all lakes are approximately one hour from Lake Fork with a 2 day Championship at the end of the year with motel rooms furnished. This club is also involved in "The Wish To Fish Foundation" and weight masters for the Annual Kidfish.

We hope to see everyone at this event. For more information see the ad on Page 12.

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TPW Commission Implements Two Year Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance Zone in Four Counties

A surveillance zone covering almost 200,000 acres in Duval, Jim Wells, Live Oak and McMullen counties will be implemented for two years after feedback was received in the August meeting of the Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) Commission. This zone will take effect prior to the 2022-2023 hunting season and TPW commissioners will consider the resulting data presented by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) staff to assess the need for continued surveillance in the established zone.

This zone will include land between U.S. Highway 281 to the east, Farm to Market Road 624 to the north and U.S. Highway 59 to the west. The southern border follows a series of roads including County Road 101, Highway 44, County Roads 145, 172, 170, and 120.

This zone also includes the cities of Alice and Freer, as well as highways 59, 44, and 281 between the cities and the main body of the surveillance zone. This will provide a legal means for hunters to transport whole carcasses to deer-processing facilities and/or CWD check stations located in

those cities rather than having to quarter the carcasses first.

As of late August 2022, 376 captive or free-ranging cervids — including white-tailed deer, mule deer, red deer and elk — in 15 Texas counties have tested positive for CWD. First recognized in 1967 in captive mule deer in Colorado, CWD has since been documented in captive and/or free-ranging deer in 30 states and three Canadian provinces.

Testing for CWD allows wildlife biologists to get a clearer picture of the presence of the disease statewide. Proactive monitoring improves the state's response time to a CWD detection and can greatly reduce the risk of the disease spreading to neighboring captive and free-ranging deer populations.

Hunters outside of established surveillance and containment zones are encouraged to voluntarily submit their harvest for testing at a check station for free before heading home from the field. A map of TPWD check stations can be found on the TPWD website.

CWD is a fatal neurological disease

found in certain cervids, including deer, elk, moose and other members of the deer family. The disease is highly contagious, never goes dormant and can remain infectious on the landscape for several years. If left unmanaged, CWD can have long-term impacts on the native deer herd and local economies. Symptoms may not become evident until long after animals have become infected, so testing is the best tool available for detecting CWD at the earliest stage of infection possible and containing it with appropriate management strategies. Clinical signs may include progressive weight loss, stumbling or tremors with a lack of coordination, excessive thirst, salivation or urination, loss of appetite, teeth grinding, abnormal head posture and/or drooping ears.

To date there is no evidence that CWD poses a risk to humans or non-cervids. However, as a precaution, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and the World Health Organization recommend against consuming meat from infected animals.

For more information about CWD, visit the TPWD web site or the TAHC web site.



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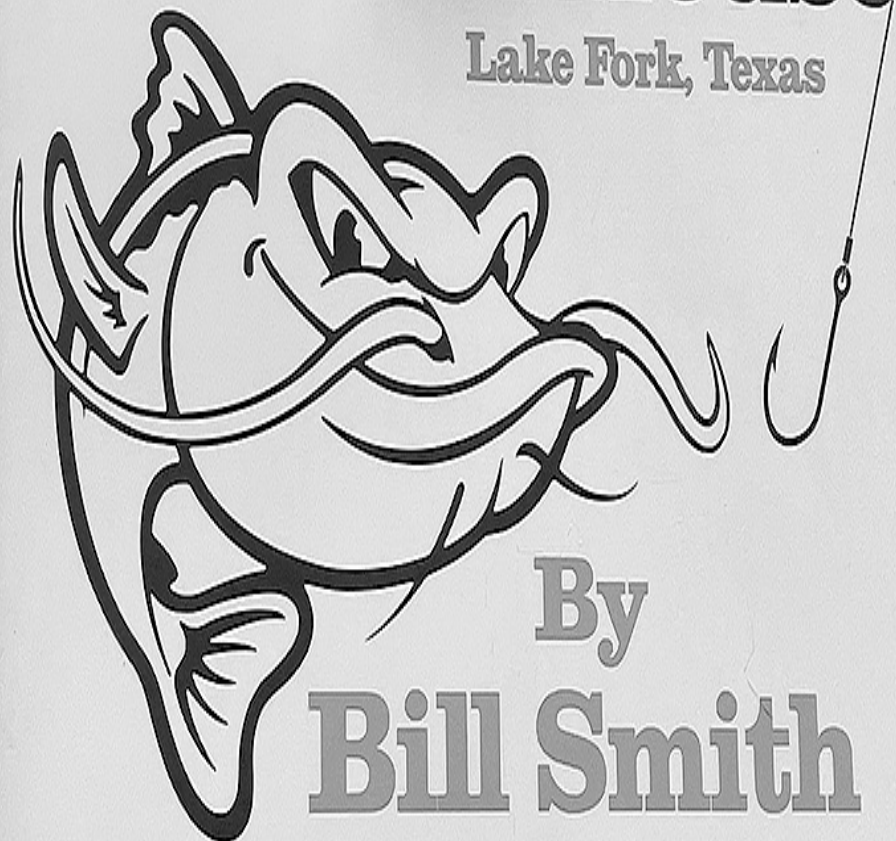
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Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork

43rd Semi-Annual Open Tournament

Oct. 22, 2022 * Lake Fork, Texas

Oak Ridge Marina * Hwy 154 N.



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 Drawings Held After Weigh-in for prizes

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 3rd Place \$520.00
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There will be a big bass pot ~ \$10 per person entry
 Big Bass will pay Three (3) places. (Based on 100 entries)



1st Place \$500
 2nd Place \$300
 3rd Place \$200

1. Entry fee is \$40.00 - late entry is \$45.00
2. Early entries must be postmarked by Oct. 15, 2022.
3. All entry fees must be paid before 6 a.m. Sat., Oct. 22, 2022.
4. Check in times: Fri., Oct. 21, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Sat., Oct. 22, 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 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). Pork 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 TTB 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 positions 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 the 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 TTB's effort to promote fishing, conservation, clean waters, courtesy or safety shall be reason for disqualification from this and all future TTB 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 18 ft. in length or longer. An aerated livewell is recommended to aid in fish survival for live 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 TTB 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

Entry Application

Entry fee of \$40 must accompany mailed entry and must be postmarked on or before Oct. 15, 2022 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 all the tournament rules, by my signature I agree to accept all decisions of the judges final, by my signature I waive, release and hold harmless all members, officials and sponsors of any and all alleged liabilities to me or my equipment.

Contestants Signature _____

Minor's Release: Signed by _____

Parent/Guardian _____

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Entry # _____

Entry Fee _____

Big Bass _____

Cash _____ Chk# _____

Biologists Predict Moderate Hunting Conditions Ahead of White-Tailed Deer Archery-Only Season Opener

With drought affecting most of the state over the summer, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) biologists foresee a moderate season for hunters this fall.

"Overall, 2022 year is expected to be good in terms of harvest numbers and opportunities, so don't let the chance to spend time afield with family, friends and fellow hunters pass you by," said Alan Cain, White-Tailed Deer Program Leader for TPWD. "Texas has one of the longest deer seasons in the nation, so take some time this fall and winter and en-

joy one of the best deer herds in the country right here in your home state."

Deer hunting kicks off with archery season on Oct. 1 across most of the state. Cain noted that while harvest numbers may look good, drought impacts on deer habitats mean hunters should generally expect average to below average antler quality and body weight this fall.

Additionally, hunters may see fewer deer at feeders when archery season opens, as recent rains have improved habitat conditions, providing an abundance

of native forage that means deer won't have to travel far to find something to browse. Archery hunters may need to alter their hunting strategies to find harvest success, Cain said.

Drought conditions Temperatures in the early summer months frequently soared above 100 degrees across most of the state, and lack of significant rainfall limited the spring production of important food sources like forbs (weeds) and woody shrubs for deer.

(See Biologists Predict
Continued on Page 17)

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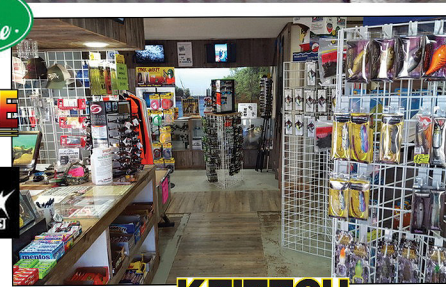
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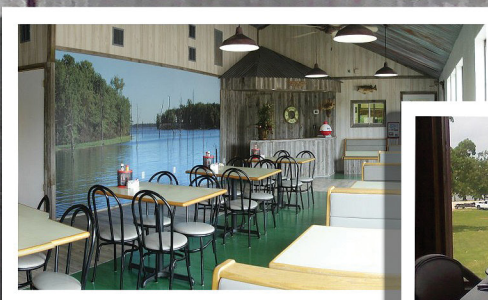


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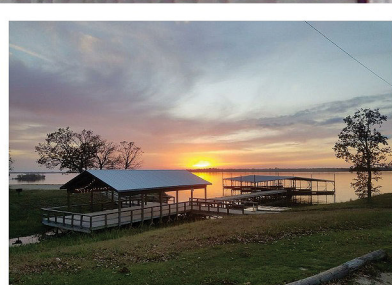


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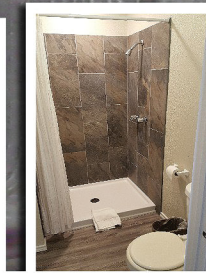
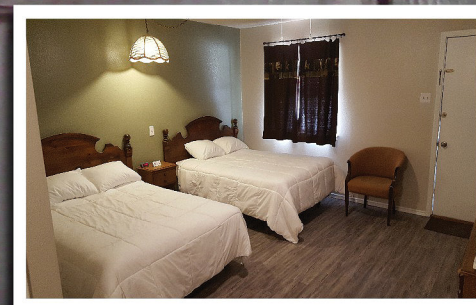
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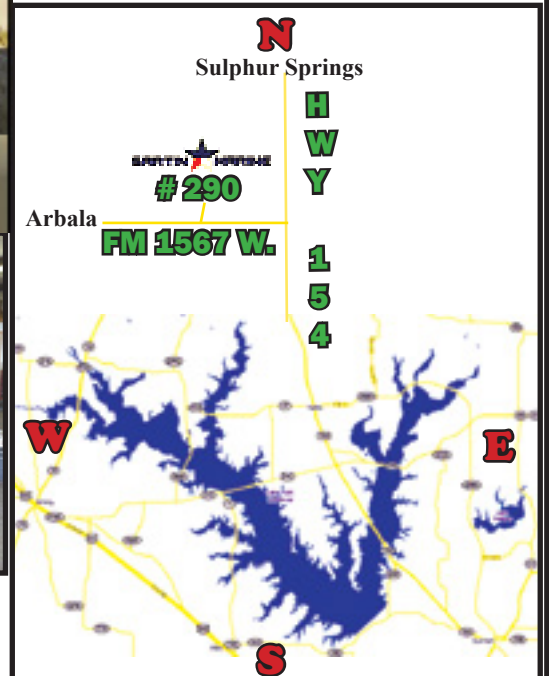
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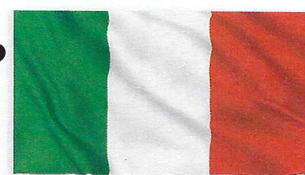
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Biologists Predict Moderate Hunting Conditions Ahead (Continued from Page 13)

"Woody plants are critical in times like these because these deep-rooted plants are often the only abundant supply of green groceries for deer, but even these browse plants are showing some signs of stress," said Cain. "Mesquites appear to be on track to produce an abundance of beans this year and were critical sources of natural forage for deer in late summer in the central, south and western portions of the state."

Wildfires have plagued large areas of the state as well, causing significant habitat loss and damage, but Cain said nature finds a way to rejuvenate the landscape.

"Where fires have occurred, there's been new grass and weed growth providing some much-needed nutrition and cover for deer," Cain said. "Although habitat conditions have improved immensely with recent rains, the timing was a bit late to have any meaningful influence on antler quality."

While the archery-only season kicks off Oct. 1, the general season opens more than a month later, on Nov. 5. The general season runs through Jan. 1, 2023 in the North Zone and Jan. 15, 2023 in the South Zone. A special youth-only gun deer season is set in both zones for Oct. 29-30 and Jan. 2-15, 2023. For additional late season deer hunting opportunities, county specific regula-

tions and information on how to properly tag and report a harvest, consult the 2022-23 Outdoor Annual.

Archery hunters are required to purchase an Archery Endorsement in addition to their hunting license. Hunters taking advantage of Texas Public Hunting Lands must have the Annual Public Hunting Permit. Public land hunters should also consult the Public Hunting Lands Map Booklet to review regulations that may apply to specific areas. The My Texas Hunt Harvest app can be used to complete on-site registration electronically at a public hunting area.

Those interested in learning more about archery and bowhunting, or anyone who is looking to brush up on their skills ahead of the season, are encouraged to explore Bowhunter by Fall, a newsletter series presented by TPWD's Community Archery Program.

CWD Testing

TPWD reminds hunters that TPWD wildlife biologists and animal health officials are collecting and testing Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) samples from hunter-harvested deer to get a clearer picture of the prevalence and distribution of the disease across Texas. Proactive monitoring improves the state's response time to a CWD detection and can greatly reduce the risk of the

disease further spreading to neighboring captive and free-ranging populations.

Hunters in surveillance and containment zones must meet submission requirements of harvested CWD susceptible species. Additionally, hunters outside of established surveillance and containment zones are encouraged to voluntarily submit their harvest for testing at a check station, for free, before heading home from the field. A map of TPWD check stations for all CWD zones can be found on the TPWD website.

For more information about CWD, visit the TPWD web site or the TAHC web site.



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Texas Game Wardens Were Busy Labor Day Weekend on the Water

Texas Game Wardens were out in force during the Labor Day Weekend, logging 2,110 patrol hours to ensure water safety while Texans spent time with friends and family.

"With sharp increases the previous two years in water-related recreation and accidents, our agency took every precaution available to ensure the safety of everyone on the water and in our parks," said Cody Jones, Assistant Commander for Marine Enforcement for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. "We had 374 Texas Game Wardens on patrol and they made con-

tact with at least 3,182 vessels on the water confirming everyone aboard was equipped with life vests, and boats followed state law."

In addition to issuing 305 citations and 433 warnings for various boating safety law violations, wardens arrested three individuals for Boating While Intoxicated (BWI) and filed four other charges for Driving While Intoxicated (DWI). Additionally, they arrested 22 people for various other charges.

Texas Game Wardens also conducted multiple search and rescues over the holiday weekend and assisted with

three reportable boating accidents on Texas lakes and rivers.

They helped one woman back onto her pontoon boat after she had been trying to pull herself out of the water for nearly an hour. Game wardens performed a search and rescue for a five-year-old boy who was found within 10 minutes.

In addition, game wardens recovered a stolen personal watercraft and vehicle reported stolen in April 2020. Game wardens also seized a rifle connected to a deadly conduct and tampering with evidence case in El Paso County.



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Lake Fork Sportsman's Association "Preserving the Legend That is Lake Fork"

Carolyn West, President 2022
Lake Fork Sportsman's Association

Lake Fork Sportsman's Association made our Live Release Boat available to the Sealy Big Bass Splash in September and once again, experienced a high rate of survivorship for the bass we took on board. The large bass were often stressed and needed to be "fizzed". For the tournament though, only four fish did not survive the catching and weighing process and none of them were lunkers or overs. Using the three 100-gallon tanks on board and the techniques of reviving fish, we continue to experience successes with returning the anglers' catches back into Lake Fork.

We have an exciting meeting in October, and we welcome guests to witness the presentation of fishing tackle to local High School Fishing Teams. On Tuesday evening, October 11, 6:30 pm at Lovell's Restaurant at Lake Fork Marina, LFSA's 2022 High School Tackle Program will provide rods, reels, soft and hard baits, tackle boxes and other fishing equipment to team sponsors who will distribute it to 40 student anglers.

Since 2017 the program under the current lead-

ership of Terry Long, Chairperson, and Mike and Pat Kostial, has assisted approximately 180 Northeast Texas high school young men and women with these donations. Throughout the year, we ask anglers to donate any new or used equipment. The LFSA members refurbish and repair the donations and annually donate it to teams.

A new program the committee has just begun is reaching out to tournament anglers and participants while partnering with tournament directors. We are asking the directors to include notification of our fishing gear collection efforts in their registration information. LFSA will be present at each tournament to receive equipment and monetary donations.

Our aquatic grass program is well under way; grass starters were ordered and are almost ready for delivery, growing troughs have been delivered, soil is purchased, and three high schools' students are ready to plant the grasses and continue to grow them in their greenhouses during the winter months. Ed Swenson is in charge of floating planters and will work with Yantis High School to build the first unit to verify the design

and deploy in Lake Fork. He is also responsible for a Fragment Seed Generator, which will allow plant fragments and seeds to be returned to the water for growing.

LFSA is an active group with a variety of programs of interest to our members and the community. We invite our readers to join us and witness the activity as we Preserve the Legend of Lake Fork.



TACKLE DONATIONS NEEDED

Rods, reels, tackle, and fishing-related equipment are needed to support the High School Fishing Tackle Program sponsored by Lake Fork Sportsman's Association. LFSA requests donations of new and used fishing articles that will be cleaned, assembled, and refurbished. Items will be further donated to area high school fishing teams.

Call Pat Kostial, 760-458-7885 or Terry Long, 214-206-7504 for more information or to arrange a donation.

"Wish To Fish Foundation"

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If you know a family that has a child that meets our criteria, just have them call us.

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*"Every child deserves a chance to fish!" Children diagnosed or who have experienced a life-threatening illness or accident sometimes do not have that opportunity. Now through the "Wish to Fish Foundation" they can have that day in the sun with their family. Any family with a child between the ages 3 to 18 years of age that has been diagnosed or treated for a life-threatening illness or accident is invited to come fish Lake Fork for any species of fish at **NO COST!** Lodging, meals, and fishing are provided for. This allows the family to spend quality time together fishing without worries or expenses. The outing includes one night lodging, meals, refreshments, snacks, all on a 26' Tritoon Pontoon, (accompanied with a 9-1-1 chase boat for any emergency that may occur. All bait and fishing equipment provided. If you are, or know of a family that meets the above criteria, contact us! Help us spread the word, we are here for the children!*

For Scheduling or More Info Contact: Don Hampton, Founder & Program Director
visit our website: www.wishtofishfoundation.com



"Feedfest '22 is just around the corner!" (Continued from Page 6)

also issue in a better deep bite as bass start to group up. Deep structures, road beds, points and ridges should all come alive as these fish search for food to fatten up for the winter. Once the afternoon rolls around, start looking deep for bait and you will find bass that just flat live there year round. The electronics are key to this success and once you locate a sizeable wad of fish, pitch out a marker buoy and go to work. You can start with a Carolina rig using any big worm to fool the bass. Blue fleck, watermelon red and plum all work well. A stand-up head is also a great tool for

these fish using the same worms. My mantra is "if I can see them, I can catch them". It's game on for video fishing and the drop shot rules the roost for this type of play. Put the worm right in front of their nose and wait for the rod to load up. It don't get much better than that. If you spot the big arc's suspended, dig out a 5 inch Talon spoon, count it down and hold on. A magnum fluke will work equally well if the wind is not howling. Use a heavy rod and 20lb line for this application.

If you are headed out to Lake Fork in October 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 October and some in November. 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 and Instagram at DavidOzioLakeForkGuide. I post my daily trip results on this page. I would also like to thank Okuma Fishing USA, Talon Fishing Unlimited, Skeeter Boats, Dakota Lithiums, Hennessey Outdoor Electronics and Kicking Bass 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."



Phil Hennigan with David Ozio



Scotty Taylor with David Ozio



Jason Horner with David Ozio



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Give Away. Bring an empty package of any Berkley bait with your name written on it legibly and put it in the bin for drawing of extra prizes.

The tournament is not only a great fishing experience but also terrific entertainment for

the entire family.

Hourly updates can be heard on KMOO 99.9 FM, so be sure to have a radio in your boat. For more information and details check out their ad on Page 28 or go to their website: www.bass-champs.com.

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Treat Find

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

LOLLIPOP

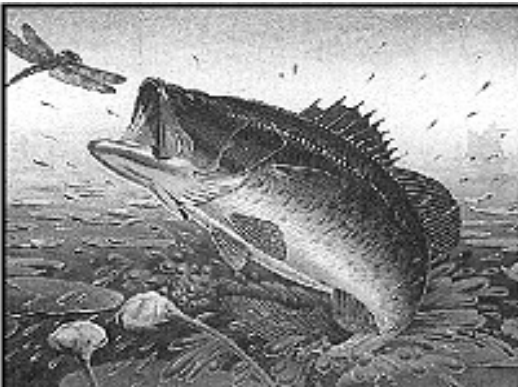
APPLE
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CARAMELS
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COINS

FRUIT SNACKS

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A	P	O	N	Y	T	R	F	E	P	R	G
P	I	C	E	N	O	M	E	L	P	C	F
C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E	A	E	R
E	C	O	L	U	E	R	A	K	P	N	U
C	O	K	P	L	E	B	E	R	A	R	I
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E	A	E	P	U	U	U	P	R	A	N	S
P	T	S	I	G	C	O	I	N	S	P	N
T	O	A	L	Y	P	L	B	N	L	V	A
R	P	N	L	C	R	B	E	K	E	W	C
F	A	A	O	E	F	R	U	I	M	A	K
U	N	R	L	G	M	E	L	W	A	W	S
V	N	R	A	I	S	I	N	S	R	R	G
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P	R	E	T	Z	E	L	S	A	C	M	M
M	I	C	E	C	R	E	A	M	L	P	V



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Game Warden Field Notes

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

--Linked by Ink--

Two Liberty County game wardens completed an investigation that began in mid-February of this year when they were notified about some potential hunting without landowner consent. A hunting lease member contacted the wardens when they captured a picture of a man on their game camera and on their property without permission. The picture was

clear enough to see the very distinctive tattoos the man had. After a few weeks of talking to local residents, the wardens were able to identify the name of a possible suspect. They ran the name through the Liberty County Sheriff's Department to check for priors and they discovered that he had been through the system and they had pictures of his tattoos on record. After a quick comparison of the tattoos, the wardens had enough probable cause to get an arrest warrant for the suspect. He was soon arrested on the

Class "A" Misdemeanor charge of Hunting Without Landowner Consent and a brief interview was conducted at the Sheriff's department. During the interview, the suspect admitted to the crime. Case pending.

--It's Tradition--A Lubbock County game warden was travelling to Buffalo Springs Lake when he came across a group of five young men shooting skeet on a county road. While approaching the group, he noticed numerous empty shell casings on the road. When the warden

(Continued on Page 24)

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By Sue Hampton

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from start to finish in only 20 minutes, this pizza is a no-brainer for hectic nights.

Not only is it a delicious pizza that kids crave, it provides a balance of important nutrients that moms want to serve. Mangos provide more than 20 essential vitamins and minerals, are an excellent source of vitamins A and C and a good source of fiber. Since mangos are available year-round, moms can let them transform family meals from blah to unbelievable anytime of year.

Mango and Bacon

Barbecue Pizza

(Makes 4 servings)

2 (7-inch) pizza crusts

4 tablespoons barbecue sauce

1 cup shredded Italian blend cheese

4 strips bacon, cooked crisp and coarsely crumbled

2 tablespoons sliced green onion tops

2 mangos, peeled, pitted and diced

Preheat oven to 450 degrees and place pizza crusts on two separate large baking sheets. Spread each crust with 2 tablespoons barbecue sauce, then sprinkle each crust with half of the cheese, bacon, green onion and mango. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes or until lightly browned around the edges. Let cool slightly, then cut into small wedges.

Note: Mangos are available anytime of year to add some sunshine to your plate. Following are tips to get the most out of the mango experience.

*Color isn't the best indicator of ripeness. To determine if a mango is ripe, squeeze gently. A ripe mango will give slightly but not be too soft.

* To ripen firm mangos, store at room temperature. They will continue to ripen, becoming sweeter and softer over several days.

* Once ripe, store mangos in the refrigerator for up to five days.

* Mangos may be peeled, cubed and placed in an airtight container in the refrigerator for several days or in the freezer for up to six months.



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Game Warden Field Notes (Continued from Page 22)

questioned the group about what they were doing, one of the individuals admitted they were skeet shooting, but did not know the owner of the field they were shooting across and into. At one point, a family member of one of the young men became frustrated and said, "we have done this for years." Citations were issued to the individuals for Discharge of Firearm on Public Roadway and Trespass by Projectile.

--**A-B-C, It's Easy as 1-2-3--** A Hamilton County game warden and Johnson County game warden were patrolling Lake Pat Cleburne when they conducted a water safety check on a pontoon boat that had three women, one man and two dogs on board. The boat had expired registration, no throwable floatation device and the captain of the boat had a freshly opened 16 oz. can of beer next to his seat. During the water safety check, the warden could smell alcohol on the man and noticed he had a hard time keeping his balance standing. The warden asked the captain, "How much have you had to drink? Have you had anything to eat today?" The captain said, "I've had about 5 beers and I had some watermelon earlier." The warden then asked the man to say his ABC's and he missed several letters. During the standard field sobriety test on shore, the man said under his breath, "I can't even do this sober."

The captain was placed under arrest for Boating While Intoxicated. He consented to provide a breath specimen, which produced a result of 0.182 g/210L blood alcohol content. The captain was booked into the Johnson County Jail.

--**Teamwork Makes the Dream Work--** A game warden was traveling back to Bell County from Lake Travis when he heard several deputies, several volunteer fire fighters, Temple technical rescue and Starflight in route to a call near a river. The warden called the local dispatch for more information and learned that a minor was operating an ATV and went off a sheer 35-40 ft. cliff into the Little River. Additional assistance was requested because the terrain was difficult to navigate and needed a four-wheel drive vehicle. The warden reached out to another warden also in the area and they responded to the scene. Upon arrival, Temple Fire Department's technical team prepared a repelling system pully system and various per-

sonnel from seven different agencies assisted in recovering the patient, two of his friends and several rescuers up the sheer 35-40 ft. cliff. Due to the excellent teamwork and communication the operation was successful, and the patient was transported to the hospital in stable condition with a few broken bones.

--**Strike a Pose--** A Houston County game warden was patrolling Houston County Lake when he noticed a man in possession of a slot limit bass. The man said he was going to take a photo with the fish and then release it back into the lake. The warden asked to see the fish and when the man removed it from the live well, the warden saw that it was dead and beginning to turn stiff. Case pending.

--**Curiosity Caught the Cat--** A game warden received a call from an Andrews County deputy asking about the legality of shooting mountain lions in Texas. After explaining the

(Continued on Next Page)

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regulations, the deputy told the warden someone had claimed to have seen several mountain lions hanging around an old abandoned house near the state line. The warden contacted the individual who had allegedly seen the cats and located where he had spotted them. The warden spoke to the landowners in the area and found out the individual did not have permission to be on their property. After investigating further, it was determined that four individuals were trespassing on the ranch. Appropriate charges were filed and are currently pending.

--Punch Buggy! Wait...That's MY Buggy!-- A Polk County game warden was patrolling an area recently hit with several burglaries when he noticed an unoccupied UTV. While searching the UTV for a serial number, a person pulled up in a truck screaming for help. The person claimed that someone had just broke into their property, then said "Hey! That's my buggy!" The thief had used the UTV to transport stolen goods from the burglary that morning. Trail cameras, which were also stolen, sent partial images of the thief to the owner's cell phone. The next day, the warden visited a nearby house that was being worked on to see if anyone recognized the subject. One of the workers said, "Yes, that guy borrowed

my phone, he said his buggy broke down." The warden saw the text messages the subject sent and was able to gather their name and address. The case was handed to Polk County Sheriff's Office due to subject being part of an organized crime ring in Polk, Liberty and San Jacinto Counties. Multiple warrants have been issued.

--We Found Dove in a Hopeless Place-- Two game wardens responded to a call regarding individuals shooting birds near a gun range in Donna. With the wardens approaching the area from opposite directions, two men were found exiting a brushy area carrying a rifle and piece of plywood with a target affixed, while a third man was sitting under a blue tent near his pickup truck. The wardens confronted the men and asked if either of them owned the property or had the landowner's permission to be there. They readily admitted that they did not have permission, although one offered that he had hunted there a couple of years before. They were then asked if they had been hunting birds, but categorically denied it. Unfortunately for them, the Wardens were able to find the seven white-winged dove they had hidden in a bait bucket. After consulting with the landowner, it was determined that "Criminal Trespass - Ag-

ricultural Land" and "Hunting During Closed Season" would be the charges filed. In addition, the individual claiming to have killed the birds was assessed the civil restitution value for each of the white-winged dove.

--We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together-- A Montgomery County game warden received a complaint from a woman saying her boyfriend and his friend had killed a deer a couple of days ago and still had it hanging in the garage. The warden arrived at the location and found the deer had gone to waste. The boyfriend admitted to shooting the deer from a public road at night and was arrested for a Felony Warrant, Hunting at Night and Failing to Retrieve or Keep in Edible Condition. The next day, the warden contacted the friend who had admitted to helping the boyfriend kill the deer and leaving it hanging in the garage without processing it completely. After further investigation, the warden found that the friend also had a felony warrant. He was arrested for the Felony Warrant, Hunting at Night and Failing to Retrieve or Keep in Edible Condition.

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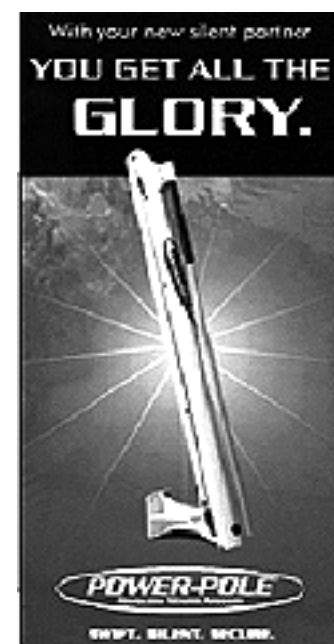


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Oct. 15&16~ Berkley
Lake Fork Marina
Oct. 22 ~Texas Trails Bassmasters Open
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Nov. 19 ~ JC Outdoors Fall
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> BERKLEY EMPTY BAG GIVE-AWAY
(bring an empty package from any Berkley bait to enter)

When: October 15th & 16th, 2022

Entry Fee: \$160 One day
\$200 Both days

Registration: Lake Fork Marina

Registration Times:

Friday Oct. 14th From 11 to 7 PM
Oct. 15th & 16th from 5:00-7:00 AM

*Above entry fees include \$10 cash/check discount
Checks are not accepted on-site.

For additional info and rules www.basschamps.com or call 817-439-3274

Winners are responsible for taxes, titles, and license fees. Boats pictured may be different than actual prize boats. Exact weight bonus cash is paid to the first angler to weigh in the exact even weight fish only. Fish must be caught using a ABU GARCIA REEL or ROD.

basschamps.com