

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

1 Section

[www.fishguidenews.com](http://www.fishguidenews.com)

Free

Vol. 24

March, 2023

No. 283



Lake Fork guide Randy Oldfield caught this nice Double-Digit bass in February. C.P.R.



Martin Venneman caught this nice Lake Fork bass fishing with Janice Jenkins Malone in February. C.P.R.

## MEGA BASS ON LAKE FORK

By Don Hampton

The 15th Annual Techron Mega Bass Tournament presented by BassChamps will be held on Lake Fork March 26th hosted out of Lake Fork Marina.

This is the highest paying single day tournament for amateur anglers with \$20,000 in cash pay-outs every hour of the tournament.

The heaviest bass brought to the scales each hour will receive \$15,000, 2nd heaviest \$1,000, 3rd \$900, 4th \$800, 5th \$700, 6th \$600, 7th \$500, 8th \$400, 9th \$300 and 10th \$250. There will also be a hat bonus each hour. If an angler purchases a hat and is in 11th or 12th place in any hour, they will receive \$200. Adding even more excitement to the tournament, any angler that weighs in an exact weight of 2.5-pounds, 3-pounds, 9-pounds, or 10-pounds, that angler will receive an extra

\$500.

Mega Bass is open to all amateur anglers and to all boat brands. For the angler that brings in the heaviest bass of the tournament to the scales, they will not only have \$15,000 in their pocket but also be taking home a 2023 Skeeter ZX 200 powered by Yamaha.

Early entries received before March 22nd are eligible to win prizes in a drawing from Techron, Berkley, Abu Garcia, Amphibia and more.

Anglers that wish to enter the tournament at Lake Fork Marina registration will be on Friday March 24th from 5 pm to 7 pm, on Saturday March 25th from 12 pm to 7 pm and on Sunday March 26th at 5 am.

For more information about the tournament see advertisement on Page 28 or go to [www.basschamps.com](http://www.basschamps.com) or call 817-439-3274.

Hope to see everyone there.



Jeff Hammons from Dallas, TX., caught this nice February lunger fishing with guide Whitt Smith. C.P.R.

## Legend of Lake Fork Big Bass Tournament

By Don Hampton

For all anglers that have been anxious and calling about the dates, the 18th Annual Legend of Lake Fork Big Bass Tournament will be held on May 19, 20, 21, 2023.

At present time after the most recent rains, we are sitting at 2.26-feet low having come up at least 5-feet in the past two months. With the winter and spring rains on the way we should be at or close to full pool during the tournament with all boat ramps open. Some bass will have already spawned and eating heavily to get their weight back, but some will still be on the beds. We all know what this means, great fishing and the best time of the year.

(See Legend of Lake Fork....Continued on Page 5)





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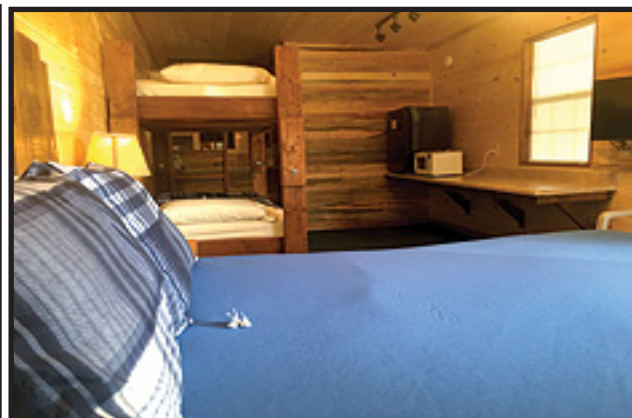
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## "Life Changes and so does Bubba and Bubbette!"

By Don Hampton

As is with life, everything and everyone goes through changes. Such is the way with Bubbas'.

There have been jokes cracked about Bubba and Bubbette's favorite source of entertainment being a bug-zapper and a six pack of beer.

You could sit around a bug-zapper and hear exclamations like, "Wow, that must have been a really big one," or "Holy Cow, it really fried that one!"

The bug-zapper will still serve its purpose and the six pack will remain, but now there is a better source of entertainment for

Bubba. He found at one of the many boat shows he attends a bug zapper tennis racket that runs on batteries. Bubbette admits it is good exercise for Bubba. He will run around the yard imitating John McEnroe's back swing chasing bugs. He even shows some of the same attitude when Bubbette makes him quit chasing her, the dog and cat around the house. He is smart enough not to touch any of them with it when it is turned on! The cat would scratch him, the dog would bite him, and he doesn't even want to think about what Bubbette would do to him.

Bubba hasn't given up his singing bass. He still keeps enough batteries around the house to keep it singing. This bass looks just like a wall plaque replica bass and when you push the button, it starts singing. That is right, a singing bass that does two songs, "Don't Worry, Be Happy", and "Take Me to the River, Throw Me In The Water." Bubbette is about to put a catch and release on that toy of his. You may see that one at Goodwill or she may take it to the river and throw it in the water! When this does happen it will be one bass Bubba won't be able to catch!

You might wonder why Bubba has been so intrigued with this novelty item for so long? It's just a recording! Not so!

As the music starts, the bass starts flapping its tail to the music and in certain segments of the song the bass turns its head to face you and with lips moving, sings to you.

Well this to Bubba, even at his age, is amazed, and six pack or not, he thinks this is one of the funniest things he has ever seen. Everyone I know has seen one, either owns one or is in search of one. If you are in search of one, you can find them at Bass Pro Shop. They

say laughter is the best medicine and I think this keeps Bubba young at heart because he laughs every time it plays.

This is just another example how times change and with them even Bubbas and Bubbettes change.

Here are some classic examples of just how Bubbas and Bubbettes change...

In their younger years they had long hair... now they long for hair;

Entertainment was Frank Zappa... now it is the bug-zapper'

Before, it was all about a Keg...now it's all about an EKG; Earlier it was Acid Rock...now it is Acid Reflux;

The goal of those days was to find a new "Hip Joint"...now it is trying to get a new hip joint;

The it was about getting life insurance, now it is all about keeping your own life insurance;

Then it was the President's struggle with Fidel...then it was a President's struggle with fidelity; and now we are back to Fidel;

The one constant in life is, things are going to change. If we accept the changes and keep our sense of humor, the strength we gain will make us all a better person.

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## 44th Semi Annual Texas Trails Bassmasters Open Tournament March 18th

By Don Hampton

The Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork will be hosting their 44th Semi Annual Bass Tournament on Lake Fork on March 18. 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 warmer weather will be here thus raising the water temperature and bringing on a good bite with the males and female bass preparing for spawn.

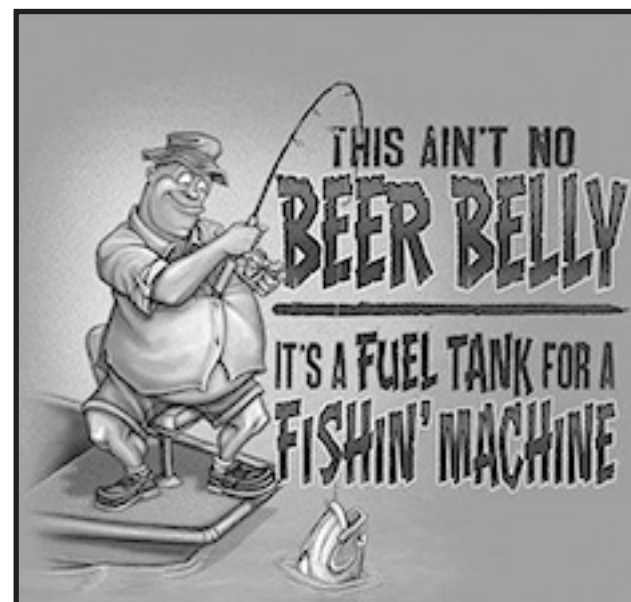
Anglers can enter the tournament by printing an entry from our website at [www.texas trails bassmaster.com](http://www.texas trails bassmaster.com) or pick one up at one of the area businesses and mail it in at the address listed on the entry. Early entries end March 11th. For those of you who wish to enter at the tournament we will be taking entries at tournament headquarters on March 17th from 4 pm to 9 pm and on March 18th 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 18.



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## Legend of Lake Fork (Continued from Page 1)

As always and as it has been in past years, the tournament will be held out of Lake Fork Marina. This would be a great time to get your reservations in early. We will be on location on Thursday taking sign-ins and entries on Thursday May 18th from 2 pm to 9 pm, on Friday from 5 am to 6 am and 4 pm to 9 pm. On Saturday we will take entries from 5 am to 6 am and again from 4 pm to 9 pm and on Sunday from 5 am to 6 am. As usual anglers can fish one day, two days, or all three days of the tournament. We will be paying eleven places each hour.

The entries are posted on our website [www.legendoflakefork.com](http://www.legendoflakefork.com).

legendoflakefork.com. All entries received on or before April 30, 2023 will qualify for the early entry incentive drawing.

If you have ordered a boat, a motor, or parts for your motor, you know what a long wait it is and how the price escalates each month. With the economy being what it is I have made a change in the format.

After speaking with many of the anglers they agree this is great and they are looking forward to winning a grand prize.

For the angler that catches the heaviest bass over the slot in the tournament that angler will receive a check for \$40,000. For the angler

that catches the heaviest bass under 16-inches he or she will receive a check for \$30,000. For the name drawn in the early incentive they will receive a check for \$20,000. With the economy being what it is, I have not heard any complaints.

I hope to see all of you there and hoping you are looking forward to the event as much as we are.

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# "The Fork Monsters are Finally Starting!"

By David Ozio

"It seems to me that the Fork monster is finally starting to turn the corner. The past few months on this pond have been somewhat treacherous with regard to catching big bass and, for that matter, it has extended over to the smaller two pound offerings. Tournament scores have been down right terrible until this weekend when the Bass Champs event was held. The scores were way greater than expected with last check, 37th place, coming in near seven pounds. That's off the chain compared to the past four months. The team that won weighed in a double

digit lunker which is trademark for Fork. I'm encouraged! Now, how do we capitalize on this lake which is finally moving in the right direction?

This past weeks warming trend has fired up the big bass and they are super hungry, looking for a good meal, as the spawn is right around the corner. Concentrate your focus on these pre-spawn bass are around main lake and secondary points at the entrance of major creeks, creek channel edges and bends, drains and ditches that are in close proximity to spawning flats. These staging fish will normally feed heavily through late February and early March while waiting for water temps to reach a consistent 58-62 degrees before advancing to the bedding areas. Water temp is the single most important factor during this time of year and a huge cold front can spell trouble for the advancing bass especially if it's near the March full moon. The flooded bank grass now offers protection and a comfort zone for bedding bass and sunny days will offer an excellent opportunity to scan the shallows in search of a game changer giant.

Once conditions are stable, start your search on the northwest side of the largest creeks and key on the current water temps in that area. The higher the thermometer reading, the better chance you have of see-

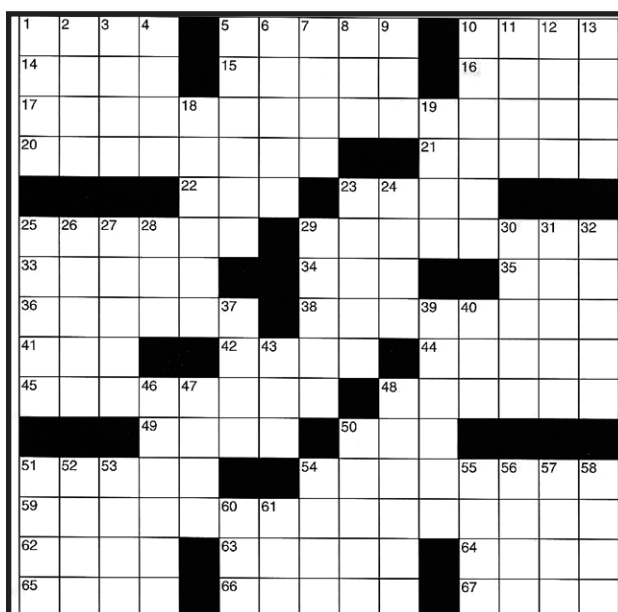


ing those giants cruising the shallows. Once the bass feel comfortable in an area, the ritual begins. Your job will be to target these big fish as they are setting up house. The all time best bait to capture your trophy of a lifetime will be on a big swimbait. There are several types on the market and you will need to find one that is weedless. Color choices can range from a bone color to light hitch or dark hitch. All will work under varied conditions. Throw these baits into very shallow water in the aforementioned areas of the lake and get ready for some heart stopping action. Don't be afraid to chunk these baits into the thickest cover.

They are designed to slide right out and keep on truckin.

During this time of the year, there are other patterns that will work equally as well. The Strike King 8.0 square-bill will deliver it's share of the pre-spawn giants. Shad colors work well and direct your efforts to the main lake and secondary points which are located in the near vicinity of the spawning areas. I think the white spinnerbait will play a huge roll this year as these fish move up. Shell beds also play a key role in how these fish will set up and spending time with a local guide can be the big bass education you've always needed. They will show you what to look for and how to cover the right water to locate the

(See Fork Monsters.....  
Continued on Page 20)



## CLUES ACROSS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Greeting or sympathy                 | 41. Food additive, abbr.                 |
| 5. Velocity                             | 42. School groups                        |
| 10. A wife (law)                        | 44. A sharp narrow ridge                 |
| 14. Smell                               | 45. More becoming                        |
| 15. Flour moths genus                   | 48. Conditions of balance                |
| 16. Hebrew calendar month               | 49. Private school in New York           |
| 17. Retail rivals                       | 50. The act of singing                   |
| 20. A city built on the central plateau | 51. Mei-ling __, wife of Chiang Kai-shek |
| 21. Inspect                             | 54. Peace talk participants              |
| 22. Raincoat                            | 59. Famous acting duo                    |
| 23. Flexible armor                      | 62. Sustained dull painful emotion       |
| 25. Rouse                               | 63. Jan __, Dutch painter                |
| 29. One-sided contest                   | 64. Exchange premium                     |
| 33. Spirit in "The Tempest"             | 65. Data transmission speed measure      |
| 34. Sacred chest                        | 66. Caravanserais                        |
| 35. Opening                             | 67. A cozy or secluded retreat           |
| 36. Stoves                              |  |
| 38. Reduced in size                     |  |

## CLUES DOWN

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Search thoroughly                  | 32. The god of the underworld                        |
| 2. Hebrew calendar month              | 37. Work natural fibers into a thread                |
| 3. Cape near Lisbon                   | 39. Ancient Persia ruler                             |
| 4. Dehydrates                         | 40. A major division of geological time              |
| 5. A variable quantity                | 43. Black or green                                   |
| 6. State of sudden fright             | 46. In a way, chopped                                |
| 7. Icelandic poems                    | 47. Dazed  |
| 8. Work unit                          | 48. Enchantresses                                    |
| 9. Thai                               | 50. Ghostly pale from physical or emotional distress |
| 10. Leg bone                          | 51. Knife  |
| 11. In a way, looked                  | 52. Predatory whale                                  |
| 12. African nation                    | 53. Hawaiian Island                                  |
| 13. Formerly (archaic)                | 54. The content of cognition                         |
| 18. Trope                             | 55. Abba __, Israeli politician                      |
| 19. A way to wound                    | 56. Toboggan   |
| 23. Bogs down                         | 57. Bearded or dwarf                                 |
| 24. Requests                          | 58. Unpleasant person                                |
| 25. Yeasts                            | 60. Request  |
| 26. Wipe out                          | 61. Last in an indefinitely large series             |
| 27. A way to burn                     |  |
| 28. Two-year-old sheep                |  |
| 29. Of cheekbone                      |  |
| 30. Timbers                           |  |
| 31. Greek island in the Mediterranean |  |

Answers on Page 21



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## National Invasive Species Awareness to Promote Action to Combat Harmful, Non-Native Plants and Wildlife

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) asked Texans to join the fight against invasive species that negatively impact the state's natural resources and economy. National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW), which was held Feb. 20 - 26, was an initiative to raise awareness of the threats and provide solutions on how to prevent the spread of invasive species.

"During National Invasive Species Awareness Week, and throughout the year, we want to encourage all Texans to take time to prevent new introductions and spread of invasive species and help to protect our natural resources for the enjoyment of future generations," said Monica McGarrity, TPWD Senior Scientist for Aquatic Invasive Species.

Invasive species are non-native to an ecosystem and can cause environmental or economic damage and harm to human health and quality of life. In addition, invasive species are expensive to control and can be impossible to eradicate once established, and can inflict costly damage to crops, fisheries, forests and more. According to recent estimates, these costs total approximately \$219 billion across the United States every year.

Many invasive species are spread (inadvertently or intentionally) by humans, who play an important role in preventing their spread to new areas.

A variety of non-native plants, animals, insects and even diseases can become invasive when they enter a new environment, growing or reproducing rapidly and potentially outcompeting native species. This allows them to become established and problematic across large areas. They can be introduced by humans in a variety of ways, including intentional introduction through aquarium dumping, live bait releases or outdoor plantings, or accidentally as "hitchhikers" carried through recreational activities.

These risky recreational activities can include hauling firewood long distances for a campfire or moving a boat from one reservoir to another without properly cleaning, draining and drying it first. Once introduced, some species can harm native species and ecosystems, impact recreational activities, damage infrastructure and require costly, long-term management in cases where control is possible.

This year for NISAW, TPWD offered five easy actions anyone can take to help prevent or slow

the spread of invasive species in Texas.

### Never Dump Your Tank

Don't dump anything — whether it's fish, animals or plants — out of an aquarium into any of Texas' waterbodies. The same is true for flushing them down the toilet. Whether saltwater or freshwater, there's a good chance your aquarium fish, animals and plants are not native to Texas. If dumped into the wild, they can quickly introduce diseases and establish themselves at the expense of native aquatic life, vegetation and reef systems. Learn more on the Texas Invasives website.

Similarly, you should never release any animal that you have purchased as a pet into the wild. Most likely your pet is not native to Texas and could cause serious harm to our native species and ecosystems. Find more resources on the Don't Let It Loose website.

### Use Your Bait Where You Catch It / Never Dump Your Bait

Many people don't realize the potential impact that releasing live bait can have on aquatic life. Bait bucket introductions — anglers dumping live bait into a water body other than the one

(See *National Invasive Species ....Continued on Page 10*)

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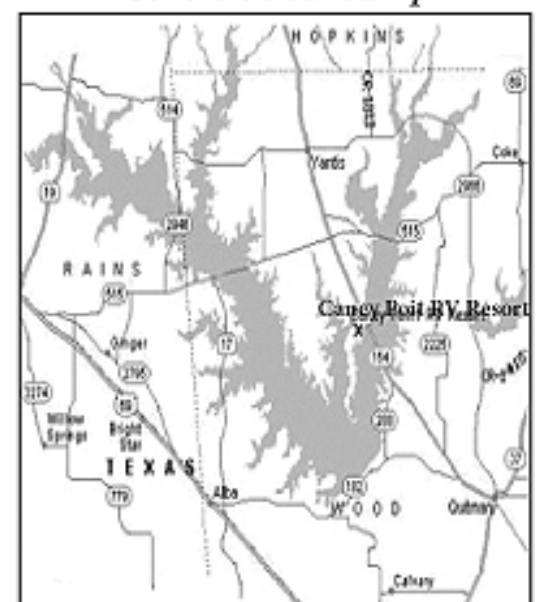
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# "The Moon Report"

## "March Excitement"

By Terri Moon

First off my apologies to anyone who tried to reach me lately while I was "off the grid" at Mama Novas in Missouri. It's been a tremendous mountain to climb sorting through her 92 years of collected memories of not only hers – but also of things that belonged to the rest of my family that had all passed before her. So, I just want you to know I appreciate your patience in trying to reach me.

I was so excited to come home to some warm weather I'd been hearing about and sure enough I think that Missouri cold followed me to Texas again! There were a few spots starting to hit 60 degree water temps, but this front definitely knocked it back to low to mid 50's. We can all just hope our weather conditions will finally stabilize making it an exciting spring. But, it is March, so we know we still have some crazy weather yet to come. So be safe out there and use good judgment! Oh and don't forget – March 1st the 10 inch minimum goes back in effect.

Probably the most exciting thing coming home was the Lake Fork level is finally back to around just 2 ft. low! It's been a long time coming – but so grateful! (Maybe we can get a good crop of willows growing again!) These new levels should make for a good spawn with all the new cover for them to hold in.

As the water tempera-



tures begin to rise back to the mid 50's, start checking up the creeks, targeting 12-20 ft. (the crappie will generally suspend 6-12 ft.) then start checking shallower as the water temperatures rise. When temps are climbing in the 60's it's "Bobber Down" time! I can't wait! The bass are starting to show up shallow so it won't be long.

Remember crappie can be found in many depths during this spring transition. So, if another cold front hits – back off to deeper water around the creeks. They are less effected by the cold fronts. Also, don't forget to check the bridges. They will be coming through them.

Now if you want to know the best crappie baits producing just stop by Lake Fork Marina. They have a great selection of Bonehead, Skipper Jigs, and Limits Tackle available – plus all your other fishing needs. They have EVERYTHING! Also, with the lake level up – now you can pull in to

park your boat and enjoy a great meal at Mosers Restaurant at Lake Fork Marina – Welcome back Kenny and Becky Moser! "Best Pie Around!"

I am so ready for some quality time in my new Skeeter Solera 205 with it's Yamaha 250 SHO motor! (I think it missed me while I was gone!)

Gosh it's good to be home – but nobody is happier than Sweet Buddy! He sat up and stared out the windshield for 500 miles – he was so excited to be headed south! (He has been such a trooper through all this.)

Now for those of you that are new to Lake Fork – please be extra cautious out there. Just because lake levels are up, there are many trees just prop high. So, when your not in the main channels, it's a really good idea to just idle. Also, it wouldn't hurt to get a Lance Vick boat lane chip.

Have fun and blessings to all!

*Practice C.P.R.*





Toby Lewis from Alba, Texas caught this nice bass while fishing Lake Fork with guide Whitt Smith. C.P.R.



Phillip Montano was fishing Lake Fork in February when he caught this really nice bass. C.P.R.

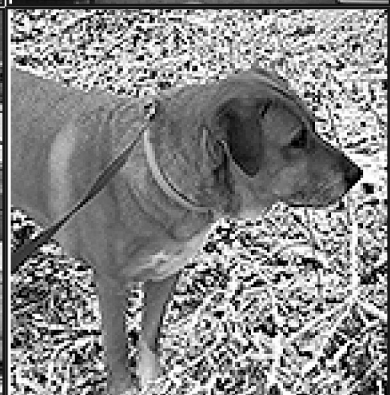
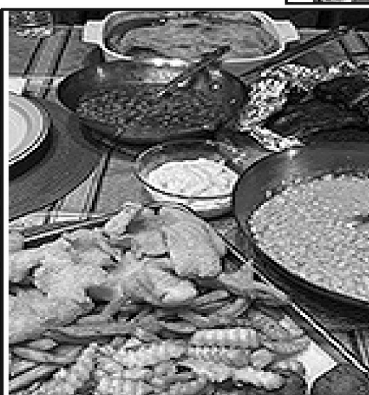


This happy angler was fishing Lake Fork in February with guide Brian Duplechain when he caught this really nice bass. C.P.R.

If you have news or photos on  
Lake Fork Contact Us!  
"The Fisherman's Guide News"  
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## National Invasive Species Awareness to Promote Action to Combat (Continued from Page 7)

where it was caught — are one of the most common ways we spread aquatic invasives.

Just remember this: Don't dump leftover bait in the water at the end of a fishing trip and don't take live-caught bait (or any bait that's touched lake water) to another lake to use. Alternatives include taking your bait home to use on a future fishing trip at that same lake, offering it to another angler to use or placing it in the trash.

### Plant Native

When landscaping near your home or planting a garden, it's important that you choose plants that are native to your region. Non-native plants can escape cultivation and become invasive and have an impact on water quality, biodiversity, fish and

wildlife habitats and more. Learn about great native plants to plant in your garden and find native plant suppliers on the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center website.

### Don't Carry Hitchhikers

You could be carrying invasive species with you when you're enjoying outdoor recreation and not even know it. Insects and plants, including plant seeds, can hitch a ride on your clothes, shoes, gear or even your firewood. You can help stop the spread by removing plants, animals and mud from clothes, boots, gear, pets and vehicles, cleaning your gear before entering and leaving recreation sites, using only local firewood and simply staying on designated roads and trails.

Learn more on the Play, Clean, Go website.

Clean, Drain and Dry Your Boat and Gear  
Boaters can help keep zebra mussels, giant salvinia and other invasive species from being moved and

harming more lakes. We ask all boaters to take a few minutes to properly clean, drain and dry their boats and equipment before they leave a lake every time they go boating. Remove plants, mud and debris from the boat and trailer and drain all the water from the boat and gear. Once you get home, open up compartments and allow everything to dry completely.

For more information on how to properly clean, drain and dry boats and equipment, visit the TPWD YouTube channel for a short instructional video. If you have stored your boat on the water at a lake with zebra mussels, it is likely infested and at high risk for spreading this invasive species. Before moving it to another lake, call TPWD at (512) 389-4848 for guidance on decontamination.

Learn more about aquatic invasive species on the Stop Invasives page of the TPWD website. TPWD also encourages the public to use the Texas Invaders app or website to report sightings of invasive species, whether in your backyard or in wild spaces. Texans can learn how to identify invasive species on the Texas Invasives website.

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## Annual White Bass Run is Approaching

The annual white bass run is heating up and anglers across Texas are preparing for exciting days on the water. Each spring, white bass run upstream from reservoirs into rivers and creeks to spawn, creating prime fishing opportunities for new and seasoned anglers. White bass can be targeted from the bank, motorized boat or paddle craft in multiple publicly accessible locations throughout the state.

White bass, also known as sand bass, are a popular freshwater species preferred by Texas anglers both for sport fishing and

for the dinner table. While most riverside property is privately owned, public access to high-quality white bass runs can be found at many Texas State Parks, Texas Paddling Trails, leased River Access and Conservation Area (RACA) sites and highway and bridge crossings.

Due to the dry summer, some rivers and reservoirs in Texas are currently experiencing low water levels and low flows which could impact the timing of the white bass run. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) recommends that anglers check the

water levels and river flows before heading to their favorite location.

Here are a few locations to get started:

Colorado River: Above Lake Buchanan, bank anglers can fish for white bass without a fishing license at Colorado Bend State Park. The park offers a boat ramp and bank access.

San Gabriel River: Upstream of Granger Lake, anglers can find white bass fishing at a public access point called Dickerson's Bottom, aka "The Steps," in the Granger Wildlife Management

(See Annual White Bass...  
Continued on Page 12)




Crappie Anglers  
of  
Texas






# 10th ANNUAL CRAPPIEFEST

## Saturday, March 25, 2023

### Lake Fork

Tournament Hours—7:00 AM—1:00 PM  
Must be in Weigh-In line by 2:00 PM @ Rains Cty. High School, Emory, TX

### INDIVIDUAL – BIG FISH TOURNAMENT

SINGLE POLE | \$100 Per Person Entry Fee  
C.A.T. Membership NOT required to participate

### \$5,500 1st Place Prize

## Over \$40,000



Fish from Boats,  
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Adult participants NOT weighing in a "Top 7 Fish" are eligible for a chance to win!! (Drawing after the Tournament!!)  
Must be present to win!

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Are encouraged to participate (NO entry fee, Prizes only)

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We also sell Lowrance Electronics products, such as Fishfinders, transducers, and accessories. Advantage Program Available Lowrance products are protected by a one- or two-year limited warranty (depending on the product), and supported for an additional three years by the Lowrance 5-Year Advantage Program, which allows customers to upgrade to the latest technology, at a discounted price, in the unlikely event that a product fails or needs repair.



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**SUNDAY HOURS**

**11am – 8pm**

**Thursday - Sat. 4pm-9pm**

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## Annual White Bass Run (Continued from Page 11)

Area. This location can be found three-quarters of a mile east of SH 95 on County Road 347 in Williamson County.

Neches River: Above Lake Palestine, anglers can find public access at Chandler River Park. This RACA site offers nearly 6,000 feet of river frontage for bank fishing and includes a boat ramp and kayak launch.

Llano River: Access to the river is provided through the Kingsland Slab RV Camp with 750 feet of river frontage along the Llano River. This River Access and Conservation Area (RACA) site offers free public fishing access and is located at

7300 River Oaks Dr. in Kingsland.

Sabine River: Above Toledo Bend Reservoir in Panola County, anglers can find public access for white bass fishing at the Grand Bluff Boat Ramp, which offers 275 feet of river frontage and a single trailer boat ramp. This RACA site offers free public access to the Black Shoals fishing hole located about 3 miles upstream.

Frio River: Above Choke Canyon Reservoir, public access points for white bass fishing can be found at county road and highway crossings, including the Highway 99

bridge crossing and boat ramp in McMullen County.

White bass action and public access points can also be found on the Guadalupe River above Canyon Lake, the San Gabriel River above Lake Georgetown, the Navasota River above Lake Limestone, the Colorado River above Lake Lyndon B. Johnson, Yegua Creek above Lake Somerville, the Colorado and Pedernales rivers above Lake Travis, the Bosque River above Lake Waco and the Brazos River above Lake Whitney.

A variety of artificial  
*(See Annual White Bass... Continued on Page 21)*



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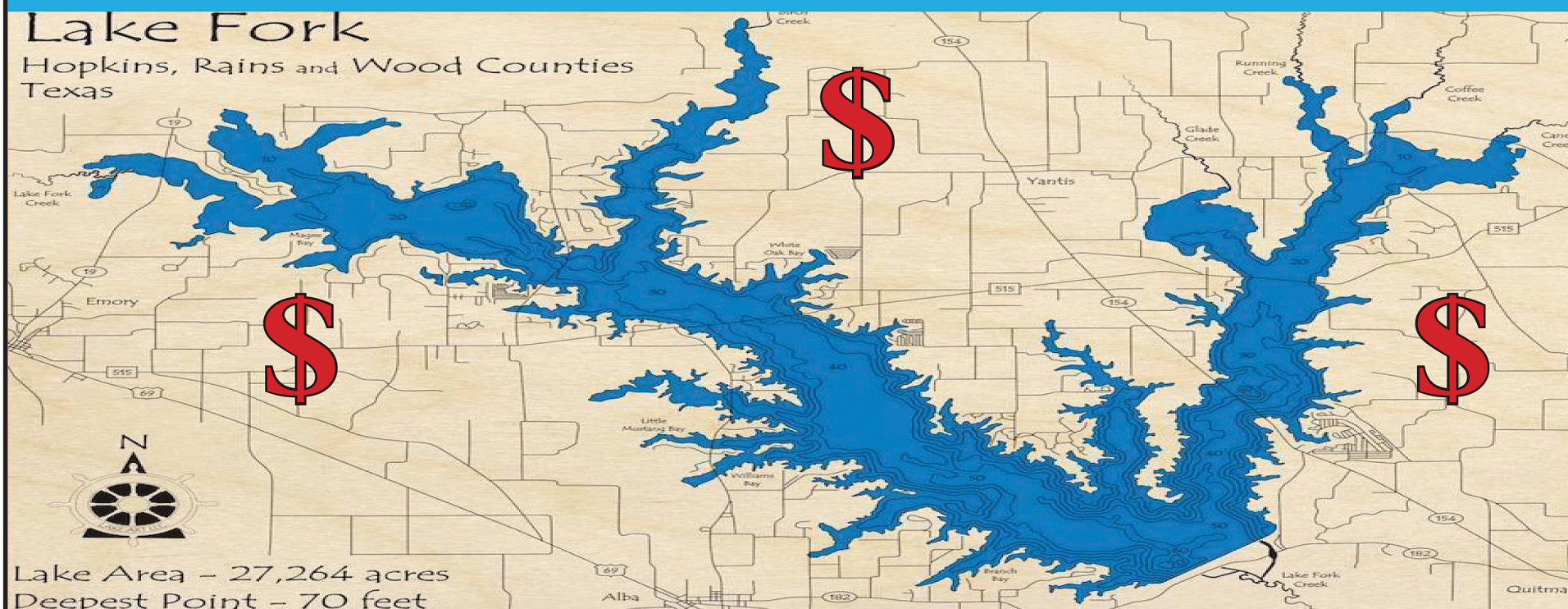
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# 18th Annual Legend of Lake Fork



## Big Bass Tournament

All Boats, Makes, Models Welcome  
May 19, 20, 21, 2023

**\$210,000**

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Tournament Host: Lake Fork Marina, Hwy. 17, 903-765-2764

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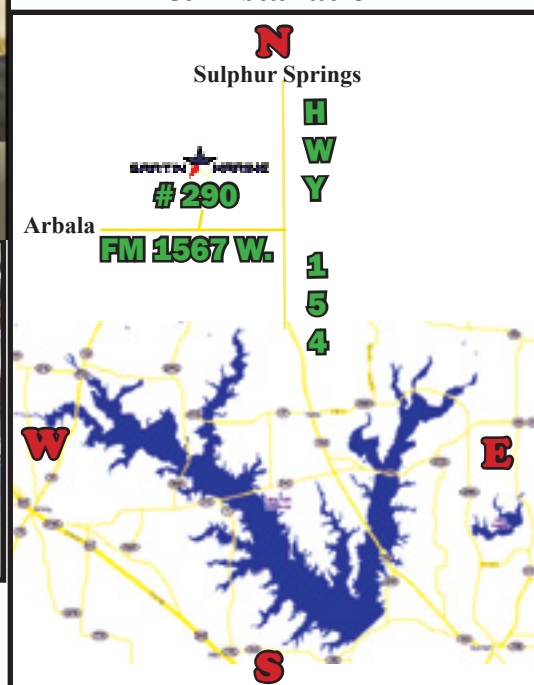
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## Family Fishing Education Opportunities Offered for Texans this Spring

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's (TPWD) Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center (TFFC) in Athens is once again partnering with Fishing's Future and the George H.W. Bush Vamos A Pescar Education Fund to provide convenient fishing education opportunities for families throughout Texas.

The program kicked off Feb. 20 and will continue through June with a variety of activities, including opportunities to participate online. The schedule features a total of 24 in-person family fishing events through June 25 in the greater metro areas of Houston, the Rio Grande Valley and Dallas-Fort Worth. All equipment and expertise needed for families to have a successful fishing event will be provided. Some events will include fish cleaning and cooking.

"Hooking up with the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center and Take Me Fishing on the George H. W. Bush Vamos A Pescar Educational Fund Grant is a perfect partnership for Fishing's Future," said Shane Wilson, CEO and founder of Fishing's Future, a national angling educational organization based in Texas with more than 15 years of experience and expertise in teaching families how to fish and spend time in the great outdoors. "Our three

organizations are dedicated to increasing the educational knowledge of both young and old. TFFC is staffed with the sharpest minds — their staff brings real-life science and research into play."

The goals of the program include building fishing knowledge, skills and abilities of participating families from Texas metro areas to ultimately increase participation in fishing. In addition, the program intends to strengthen family bonds and Texans' connections to the outdoors and fisheries resources.

"I hold to the fact that millions want to fish, but don't know how," Wilson said. "The Vamos A Pescar Grant functions to introduce and provide knowledge and instruction to increase interest in recreational fishing within the Hispanic population. My advice: If you want to learn how to fish and become a lifelong angler, this program is where you should start."

Families can learn new skills and prepare to go fishing on their own through live, virtual, one-hour workshops hosted by Fishing's Future and TFFC. The nightly sessions take place Monday through Thursday, through June 22. Topics include fishing knots, lures and baits, rods/reels and casting, water safety, fishing regulations and fish habitats. Regis-

ter for these free informative sessions on the Fishing's Future Vamos A Pescar website.

Participants can also access free online instructional videos developed to provide information on topics ranging from cleaning and cooking fish to purchasing equipment.

For those wanting to support these important efforts, Fishing's Future will conduct angler education instructor trainings. Increasing the number of certified angler education instructors, especially those who are bilingual or with Spanish as their primary language, will generate opportunities for the program to make a greater impact across Texas.

"We are excited to be partnering with Fishing's Future to offer the George H.W. Bush Vamos A Pescar program and reach underserved families across Texas," said Tom Lang, TPWD Inland Fisheries outreach director. "This effort provides so many excellent opportunities for families to participate in fishing, develop their fishing skills and knowledge, and of course spend quality time as a family. The utilization of in-person and virtual live workshops, video and other downloadable content also makes this a very convenient program that can be worked into busy family schedules."



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## **18th Annual Big Bass Tournament**

**May 19, 20, 21, 2023**

***Now Accepting Reservations For  
Commercial & Vendor Spaces***

***For May 19, 20, 21, 2023***

*Anglers from all over the nation will be converging on Lake Fork to fish this tournament! What better time to advertise & promote your products, merchandise, or company!*

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## TPWD Responds to Governor Abbott's Support of Texas State Parks

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Executive Director Dr. David Yoskowitz expressed gratitude recently for the vision and support provided by Gov. Greg Abbott during a keynote address celebrating 100 years of Texas State Parks.

Governor Abbott provided the keynote address at the Feb. 8 Texas State Parks Centennial Celebration at the Bullock Texas State History Museum's The Art of Texas State Parks exhibit in Austin, where he cited the economic impact of Texas State Parks on local communities and highlighted the conservation efforts made by TPWD.

"On behalf of our hardworking Texas State Parks staff and TPWD in general, I want to thank Governor Abbott for his support for conserving state lands for future recreational use," Yoskowitz said. "Supported largely by the funding allocated to our agency by the Texas Legislature through Proposition 5 in 2019, TPWD has an ambitious plan to bring new parks online for public enjoyment over the next decade. Governor Abbott's elegant endorsement of our work provides fresh inspiration for expanding access to the natural wonders throughout our state."

The Texas Senate and House of Representatives each passed resolutions citing the economic and

health benefits of Texas State Parks, including outdoor recreation and wildlife habitat conservation at these links below:

SR 149 by Perry, Charles – Recognizing 2023 as the Texas State Parks Centennial.

HR 134 by King, Ken – Commemorating the 100th anniversary of Texas State Parks.

TPWD's Centennial Celebration kicked off Jan. 1 to recognize Texas' 89 existing state parks and natural areas – which span more than 640,000 acres and welcome around 10 million visitors each year – while highlighting the need for even more state parkland to meet the needs of a grow-

(See TPWD Responds ... Continued on Page 18)





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## TPWD Responds to Governor Abbott's Support of Texas State Parks *(Continued from Page 17)*

ing and increasingly urban Texas population over the next century. State parks are experiencing record visitation, requiring TPWD to manage capacity limits at many parks.

"We have a task ahead of us," Governor Abbott said, speaking to a packed house of legislators, community leaders and partners gathered to celebrate Texas State Parks and view the artwork representing state parks throughout Texas. "The task is preserving our Texas for future generations. We must protect the glorious parks that we

already have, and when people gather in this historic museum a hundred years from now, they need to be talking not just about the glory of 200 years of great parks in Texas. They need to be listing all the parks that were added in this next 100 years to preserve the majesty of this great and beautiful state of Texas."

Since 95 percent of Texas lands are privately owned, with only 2.5 percent of that land open and accessible to the public, Texas State Parks offer vital access to outdoor spaces, providing

more than 1,300 miles of trails and 7,961 overnight camping sites.

Beginning with Palo Pinto Mountains State Park, set to open in late 2023 as part of the Centennial Celebration, TPWD has developed a plan to open a new state park every two years, utilizing properties currently in the agency's inventory.

Led by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission, work is also underway to acquire new land for state parks and natural areas, supported largely by a constitutional amendment passed in 2019 allowing for automatic appropriation of 93 percent of the total Sporting Good Sales Tax estimates to TPWD for state and local park purposes. The constitutional amendment passed with 88 percent of Texas voters in support of the funding dedication, and changes have helped ensure a predictable and sustained funding stream for state and local park operations, maintenance, capital construction, and land acquisition.

"As commissioners, we have prioritized our efforts to increase access to and participation in the outdoors," said Commission Chairman Arch "Beaver" Aplin III. "We cannot express our appreciation for the enduring support of Governor Abbott in building upon our state's rich legacy of state parks for the enjoyment of future generations."

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation (TPWF), TPWD's official nonprofit partner, has also set a goal to raise \$2 million this year to generate funding for development projects at all 89 parks.

TPWF is partnering with TPWD and H-E-B to celebrate 100 years of Texas State Parks. H-E-B, the presenting sponsor of the celebration, has donated \$1 million to help Texas State Parks engage all Texans in discovering and enjoying their state parks.

For more information on the yearlong Centennial Celebration, including other upcoming community events, the history of Texas State Parks and how to make a day visit or overnight reservation, visit the Texas State Parks 100 Years website at [TexasStateParks.org/100years](http://TexasStateParks.org/100years).

Additional media resources for the Centennial Celebration can be found on the TPWD website.

# Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork


## 44th Semi-Annual Open Tournament

### Mar. 18, 2023 \* Lake Fork, Texas


### Oak Ridge Marina \* Hwy 154 N.

Guaranteed Pay-Out Based on 100 Entries 903-360-6994


Drawings Held After Weigh-in for prizes



**1st Place** \$1,040.00  
**2nd Place** \$780.00  
**3rd Place** \$520.00  
**4th Place** \$260.00  
**5th ~ 10th** \$100.00



**30% Payback**



**100% Payback**

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 Mar. 11, 2023.  
 3. All entry fees must be paid before 6 a.m. Sat., Mar. 18, 2023.  
 4. Check in times: Fri., Mar. 17, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Sat., Mar. 18, 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). 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](http://www.texastrailsbassmasters.com)

---

**Entry Application**

Entry fee of \$40 must accompany mailed entry and must be postmarked on or before Mar. 11, 2023 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 \_\_\_\_\_

**TTB USE ONLY**

Entry # \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Fee \_\_\_\_\_

Big Bass \_\_\_\_\_

Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Chk# \_\_\_\_\_





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

By Terry Long, President 2023 LFSA

We are all glad to see Lake Fork filling back up after the drawdown to facilitate the needed repair work to the dam. The new growth vegetation around the shore is a welcome biproduct of the draw-down. This new vegetation should help improve this year's spawn and shallow water fishing.

Lake Fork Sportsman's Association is currently scheduled to support 11 tournaments during the 2023 tournament season here on Lake Fork. We provide, on a first come basis, our Live Release Boat at no charge. To schedule the attendance of the LRB at your tournament you can contact Mr. Roger Belk, GoFish Lures / GoFish Cafe, at 903-309-8465 or Terry Long at 214-206-7504.

LFSA will be holding their annual Spring and Fall Raffles again this year. Mrs. Susan Jerrell will be the Chairperson for these events with past President Mrs. Carolyn West assisting. Please stop by our booth during your tournament registration or GoFish Lures at

3736 TX-154 and buy your tickets. You do not have to be present at the drawing to win. LFSA appreciates your continued support.

Mr. Jake Norman, Region 3 District Supervisor - Inland Fisheries Management, TPWD will be LFSA's guest speaker on Tuesday March 14, 2023. Mr. Norman will discuss the state of the Lake Fork Fishery with a question-and-an-

swer session following his presentation. LFSA conducts their monthly meetings at 6:30pm on the second Tuesday of the month at Mosers Restaurant located at Lake Fork Marina. We at LFSA would love to grow our membership in order to continue "Preserving the Legend of Lake Fork." I look forward to meeting you at our next meeting.

Tight Lines!



## 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.



For the past 24 years Lake Fork Sportsman's Association has been Preserving the Legend that is Lake Fork with their Live Release Boat at tournaments releasing catches back healthy in the lake, planting new grasses, and establishing fish habitat.

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**"The Fork Monsters are Finally Starting!"** *(Continued from Page 6)*

"always elusive" slouch's. Like I said before, cold fronts can be a game changer when pursuing trophy bass so pay close attention to the areas that you are fishing. Fish will pull back during these conditions and you will need to back out and target wood in the 6-14ft range to collect your trophy prize. A black/blue jig will gain the starring role and be sure to stay in contact with the jig to feel the bite. Big bass will often bite very softly so you will need to control the slack line to feel the jig as it scours the bottom. We also destroyed them last year in March using a Texas rig lizard in warm pockets on the north side of the

lake. California 420, Tilapia, Watermelon Red and Junebug when it's cloudy are some of the best colors.

If you are headed out to Lake Fork in March searching for the trophy of a lifetime, I would love to be a part of this trophy quest. I also have gift certificates available if you have friends or loved one's who have dreamt of landing a huge bass. You can contact me at 409 782-4269 or e-mail me at skeet21c@aol.com. You can follow me on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/LakeForkGuideDavidOzio>. I post my daily trip results on this page. I would also like to thank Okuma Fishing USA, Talon Custom Lures, Skeeter boats and Dakota Lithiums for making my job the blast that it is. I hope to see a lot of you on the water. Romans 10:13. "Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved". I wish all of you a blessed day."



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# Annual White Bass Run (Continued from Page 12)

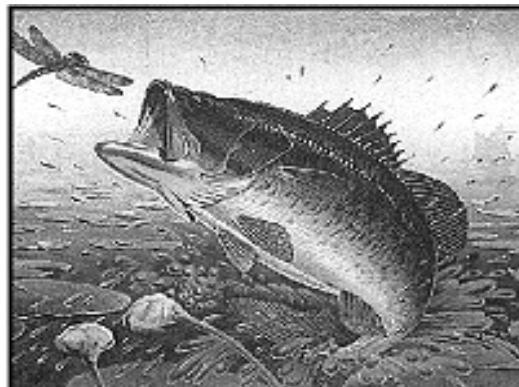
lures will work for anglers targeting white bass, including small jigs and crank baits. Night fishing using lights or around lighted docks can also be effective. White bass are excellent table-fare — anglers should pack a cooler if the fish are biting. The daily

bag limit for white bass is 25 with a 10-inch minimum length. More information on fishing regulations can be found in the TPWD Outdoor Annual.

For more information about white bass identification, fishing patterns, life history,

biology and access to public sites visit the White Bass Fishing in Central Texas website

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## Tool Find

There are 14 home-improvement-project needs hidden throughout the scrambled puzzle below. See how many you can find and circle. The words go horizontally and vertically, backward and forward.

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HAMMER  
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H I R L I E H L E V E L  
R E D N A S E S A N A A  
S A W R N C T E T H S M  
T R E I R D M A L C U A  
L V R V E S L I E N R L  
O H C N E R W P V P E E  
B E S S R E P P I N E R  
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## Game Warden Field Notes

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

--If I Could Turn Back Time-- Henderson County game wardens were conducting an inspection on a local processor when they came across a license that did not have an archery endorsement. During the inspection, wardens found out the deer was harvested the same day the license was purchased, but the license was bought by the hunter later in the evening. The wardens visited the hunter and learned that the deer was harvested

under the license of another individual. After further questioning, it was discovered that the hunter asked his wife to go buy a hunting license the same day he harvested the deer so that he could use her tag to harvest another buck. After denying the incident, the wardens were able to use cell phone photos with consent from the couple to put together a timeline proving the deer was harvested by the hunter before the license was purchased by his wife. To further the false claims that his wife had harvested the deer, he had her pose for photos with the deer, which wardens found on the

phone. Cases pending.

--Oh Deer--A Lavaca County game warden was on patrol when they heard a rifle shot come from an area where they had previously seen deer hunting violations. When they went to investigate, the warden saw a man drive out of the brush, head home, pick up his wife and then return to the woods. An hour later, the wife returned to the house with the head and meat of a white-tailed buck. The warden approached the wife, who then lead the warden to where she was meeting her husband in the woods. The man was surprised when his wife

(Continued on Page 24)

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# Catfish On A Roll – In Less Than 10 Minutes

By Sue Hampton

Sandwiches are a staple for most of us, but it's easy to get in a rut, making or ordering the same old thing. Why not break out of the boring routine with a Southern-style po'boy stuffed with crispy-coated U.S. farm-raised catfish and all the trimmings? In less than 10 minutes, this world-class sandwich is ready to enjoy!



Catfish Po'Boys and Peanut-Chip Cookie Bars can't be beat!

## CATFISH PO'BOYS

1 egg beaten  
1 cup Italian-seasoned breadcrumbs  
4 U.S. farm-raised fillets (about 6 ounces each)  
¼ cup vegetable oil  
4 4-inch long rolls, split or 8 slices of bread  
½ cup prepared pesto sauce  
8 jarred roasted red pepper halves  
8 lettuce leaves  
8 thin slices provolone cheese

In separate shallow bowls, place egg and breadcrumbs. Dip each catfish fillet into egg, then coat in breadcrumbs, shaking off excess. In a large skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Cook the fillets, a few at a time, until golden brown and opaque in the center, 3 to 4 minutes on each side; drain on paper towels. Spread cut sides of the rolls with pesto. On bottoms of rolls, layer roasted red peppers, lettuce leaves and provolone; top each with a catfish fillet. Place roll tops on fish.

After this delicious sandwich, top off your meal with a "Peanut-Chip Cookie Bar"!

## Peanut-Chip Cookie Bars

¾ cup all-purpose flour  
½ cup whole-wheat flour or peanut flour  
½ cup old fashioned oats  
½ teaspoon baking powder

1/4 teaspoon baking soda  
Pinch salt  
1 cup salted butter  
¼ cup white sugar  
¾ cup packed dark brown sugar  
¼ cup all-natural peanut butter  
1 large egg  
1 large egg white  
½ cup chopped unsalted peanuts  
¼ cup semisweet chocolate chips

Preheat oven to 350F. In a medium bowl, combine flours, oats, baking powder, baking soda and salt. Stir with a fork to blend. Set aside.

Place butter and sugars in a large bowl; beat with a mixer at medium speed until well combined and fluffy, about 3 minutes. Add peanut butter and beat until blended. Add egg and egg white; beat until combined. Fold in peanuts and chocolate chips. Spread mixture evenly on a 13x9x2-inch baking pan lightly rubbed with butter or sprayed with canola-based cooking spray. Bake for 30 minutes. Cool in pan 10 minutes on a wire rack. Remove from pan, and cut into 12 approximately 4-inch long by 2-inch wide bars; let cool completely. Enjoy!

PRACTICE CPR • Catch • Photo • Release



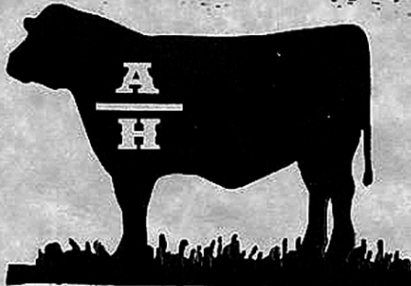
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# Game Warden Field Notes (Continued from Page 22)

showed up with the game warden to their hidden cleaning rack. Citation was issued for taking a white-tailed deer in closed season and civil restitution was filed. Case pending.

**--Crossbow Drive-by--** Two Trinity County game wardens received a call from the local sheriff's office about a hunter who had just shot a buck in a yard from a vehicle. The landowner thought a rifle was used and was able to write down the license plate number and get a good description of the vehicle. The wardens and sheriff's office called a local constable who lives in the same neighborhood for some back up. The constable was able to find the vehicle quickly while the wardens traveled to the scene. After a brief interview upon their arrival, the hunter admitted to shooting the buck out of his vehicle with a crossbow from the public roadway. Wardens filed multiple charges for hunting from the public roadway and hunting during closed season. Cases pending.

**--Drunk and on the Hunt--** A Cass County game warden was on patrol when they saw a vehicle stop twice near a large pasture and stick what they thought was a rifle out of the window. While following the vehicle to confirm what they had seen, the subject was driving erratically on the county road. When the vehicle stopped again, the warden conducted a traffic stop. The warden then approached the vehicle and saw an AR-15 rifle in the passenger's seat. The

weapon was secured, and the driver was checked for warrants. The warden noticed the thermal scope was still on, so they asked the driver about hunting and told him that they had seen him stick the rifle out of the window. The driver then admitted to hunting the field for hog and admitted to being intoxicated. The driver was arrested and charged with hunting without landowner consent and hunting non-game from a motor vehicle.

**--Does Your Mother Know That You're Out?--** Tom Green County Game Wardens patrolled a city street late at night, when a white vehicle sped by in a 40-mph zone. The warden sped up to catch the vehicle and finally paced him at 60-mph. The warden attempted to stop the vehicle, but the driver evaded. Once pursued, the suspect drove down a residential alley and crashed into a garage. The suspect abandoned their vehicle and fled on foot. No one on scene was injured. Multiple agencies responded to assist with the crash and search for the suspect. During the investigation, wardens could hear the suspect's cell

phone ring over and over. Once in the vehicle, they found the cell phone connected via Bluetooth. The phone continued to ring as they gathered evidence. Eventually, wardens along with their city police counterparts answered the phone. The caller identified herself as the suspect's mother. Believing the officers were buddies of her adult child and playing a joke on her, she identified the suspect and demanded to speak with them. Wardens explained the situation and discovered that over the years, the suspect accumulated multiple felony warrants. Charges pending.

**--Don't Fence Me In--** Local ranch managers notified local Polk County Game Wardens that an individual, well known in the area for stirring up trouble, trespassed on their property multiple times in the past few months. The landowner turned over footage from multiple game cameras showing the suspect riding through the property on a homemade ATV. Eventually, the ranch managers caught him in the act and tried to hold him at gunpoint. They were

*(Continued on Next Page)*

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unsuccessful and the suspect fled into the woods, leaving behind his homemade ATV. Concerned the trespasser was utilizing the unusual route to deal drugs in a neighboring subdivision, one of the wardens drove to the suspect's home. Once there, he spotted the suspect outside with two other males. The warden requested backup from a county deputy since the suspect had a track record of fleeing law enforcement. When the deputy arrived, the suspect was working on a vehicle in the yard. Together, they questioned the suspect, who stated he was unaware that he had been trespassing. The warden informed the suspect that he was trespassing because he crossed a fence as well as other barriers into a property that did not belong to him. The suspect was then arrested without incident and booked into the county jail. Case pending.

**--What Happens in Vegas ...--** Patrolling for wildlife violations, Harris County Game Wardens observed a flashlight beam in the woods and a truck operating erratically on an adjacent private easement road. The wardens stopped the vehicle and contacted the driver. Wearing full camouflage, the driver exited the vehicle immediately with his hands up. What appeared to be a potential road hunting case quickly changed when the driver and their partner stated that they lived nearby and were investigating a prowler after an alert from their farm dogs. The wardens confirmed their

house was located just 200 yards away from where the couple stopped. While interviewing the driver, a loaded revolver was located on the center console. A serial number check revealed that the pistol was stolen during a 2006 burglary in Las Vegas. The driver stated he couldn't remember if he was given the pistol or purchased it but denied any knowledge that it was stolen. With no independent charges to file or evidence that the driver was involved or had knowledge of the theft, the couple were released from the scene and the pistol was seized for return to the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department.

**--When Doves Cry--** While patrolling late at night, a Bastrop County Game Warden heard multiple shots from a nearby property. As he arrived, a truck exited the property, and he initiated a traffic stop. He immediately recognized the driver as a convicted felon he had previously arrested twice. The driver admitted to multiple guns in the truck and claimed they belonged to the passenger. However, the passenger could not answer basic questions on the firearms like how many or what kind they were. The warden also recovered a fish shocker in the backseat and two freshly killed mourning doves in the bed of the truck. The individuals claimed the doves had somehow fallen out of a tree and into the truck. Altogether, the warden seized seven firearms, one shocking device and two mourning doves. Dispatch confirmed one

of the firearms was stolen. The male subject was arrested for unlawful possession of firearms by a felon and possessing a shocker within a half-mile from public water. The female passenger was arrested on 11 outstanding warrants.

**--Where Everybody Knows Your Name--** After assisting with a manhunt, a Falls County Game Warden was returning home when another vehicle changed lanes abruptly, almost striking his patrol vehicle. The warden initiated his emergency lights for a traffic stop but it took almost a mile for the driver to pull over to the shoulder. Upon contact, he noticed the driver was under the influence. During the standard field sobriety test, the driver asked several times if he could just be taken home or if someone could pick him up. The warden explained that the test revealed an absolute level of intoxication (three times the legal limit) and he was going to be arrested for driving while intoxicated. The driver became very emotional and sat down on the shoulder, refusing to be placed in the patrol vehicle. With the assistance of a deputy, the warden spoke with the driver for a few minutes and the driver finally agreed to get in the deputy's patrol vehicle. Once at the jail, staff immediately recognized the driver. Just the week before, the driver had been arrested and released for another driving while intoxicated charge.

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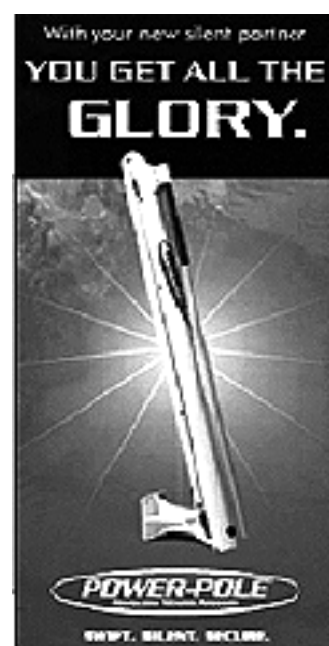
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Mar. 18 ~ Tex. Trails Open

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Minnow Bucket

Mar. 26 ~ Mega Bass (Bass Champs)

Lake Fork Marina



## April

Apr. 15 ~ JC Outdoors Teams

Minnow Bucket

Apr. 29 ~ Media Bass

Minnow Bucket

Apr. 30 ~ JC Outdoors Individual

Minnow Bucket

If you are having a tournament on Lake  
Fork, email us at fishnews@lakefork.net.  
or Call Don ~ 903-360-6994

## Annual Legend of Lake Fork Big Bass Tournament May 19, 20, 21

## May

May 7 ~ Media Bass

Minnow Bucket

May 13 ~ JC Outdoors Teams

May 19, 20, 21 ~ Legend of Lake Fork

Lake Fork Marina

May 27 ~ 14th Annual Sartin Marine

Minnow Bucket

May 28 ~ JC Outdoors Solo

Minnow Bucket



Moser's

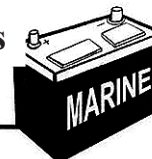
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Please leave a message or text I will call back

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Buy One pair of eyeglasses

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(903) 474-9436  
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# TECHRON®

## MEGA BASS

### \$20,000 CASH

### GUARANTEED - EVERY HOUR

**12 Places per hour**  
**GUARANTEED**  
 regardless of entries  
**EVERY HOUR**

1st place.....	\$15,000
2nd place.....	\$1,000
3rd place.....	\$900
4th place.....	\$800
5th place.....	\$700
6th place.....	\$600
7th place.....	\$500
8th place.....	\$400
9th place.....	\$300
10th place.....	\$250



**HAT BONUS**  
**\$20.00**  
 Pays two extra  
 places every hour

11th ....\$200  
 12th ....\$200

**Even Weight Bonus \$\$**  
 2.50 lb - \$500 - 3.00 lb - \$500  
 9.00 lb - \$500 - 10.00 lb - \$500  
 first even weights weighed in

**Amateurs Only - Open to all boat brands**

**Big Bass of the day**  
**WINS \$15,000 CASH**  
**and a SKEETER ZX 200**

**includes hourly win**



**Lake Fork**  
**Sunday, March 26th, 2023**

**Lake Fork Marina**

**Entry Fee: \$200 per person**  
 (Includes \$10 cash/check discount)

**Checks NOT accepted on site**

**On site registration times:**

3/24 Friday 5-7 PM

Sat 3/25: 12-7 PM Sun 3/25: 5 AM

**EARLY REGISTRATION DRAW PRIZES**

Entries received before March 22nd  
 are eligible to win drawings

**For additional info. and rules go to [www.basschamps.com](http://www.basschamps.com) or call 817-439-3274**

Winners are responsible for taxes, titles, and license fees. Boat pictured may differ from actual prize.  
 Over \$140,000 Cash, Skeeter boat & 12 places every hour are guaranteed regardless of entries.

**basschamps.com**