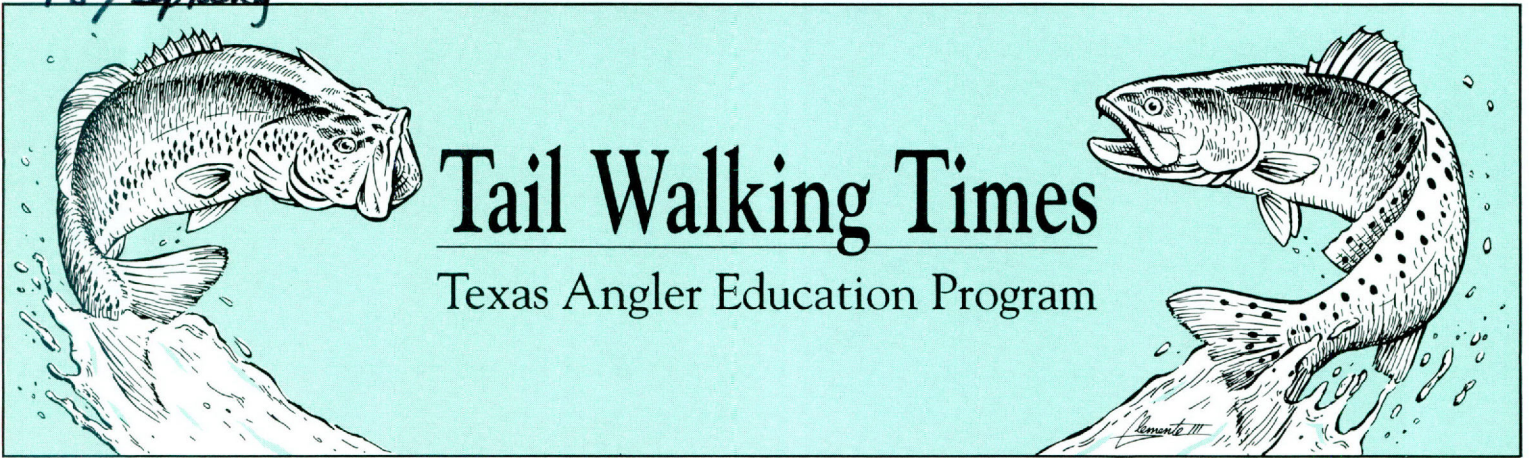


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Issue Number 2

4200 Smith School Road • Austin, Texas 78744

Spring 1998



EDITOR'S

CORNER

The time is here! That's right, the time to enjoy Spring, and get into the feeling of renewal. Numerous species of fish are preparing for the spawn or may have already spawned by this time. Anglers should be evaluating their equipment, making repairs and head out to a particular lake, bay, river or stream to try their "luck." Also, this is an excellent time to conduct an angler education course. Children are looking forward to the warmer months and getting the opportunity to go fishing. Why not give them the chance to do both activities at one setting? They receive information, training, certification and have fun at the same time. Plus, when's the last time you took a bunch of kids fishing, and had as much fun as them?

In the first issue of the newsletter, you were asked to complete a survey form on the workshops being offered. I only received a handful. In-service workshops are similar to those offered through Hunter Education. They are "how to teach" workshops, (i.e. aquatic ecology, angling techniques, etc.). The workshops are developed to help instructors with particular topics or activities for use in the courses. Also, the workshops allow instructors to learn a new topic in which they may not currently feel confident instructing. Instructors attending these in-service workshops will receive incentive points similar to the Hunter Education program as well. The point system and "thank you gifts" are currently being arranged. So, let me hear from you.

Wishing everyone an eventful Spring and fish on your line. ✓

Chris Lena

Government Publications
Texas State Documents

JUL 14 1998

Depository
Dallas Public Library

Open Opportunity ... Don't Miss Out!

Do you have aquatic resource materials, educational curricula, tackle and supplies, or any other angling or aquatic-related items or information you would like to share with others? If so, the National 4-H Sportfishing Program wants to hear from you! On Tuesday, May 5, 1998, the National 4-H Sportfishing Workshop is having "Resource Night." If you would like to come to Palacios and share your program, educational materials, or equipment with other adult leaders and professionals, reserve your booth space now! There is no charge - our goal is to facilitate the sharing of ideas, information, and products that will help aquatic educators and volunteers get people involved in angling and to promote an appreciation of our aquatic resources! For more information, contact Tamara Trail at 915-653-4576.

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National Fishing Week Extended

The National Fishing Week Steering Committee has announced that National Fishing Week has been expanded to include two weekends in 1998 and thereafter.

Traditionally, National Fishing Week has started the first Monday in June. However, this year, the National Fishing Week Steering Committee has formally included the prior weekend in the official celebration. This year, National Fishing Week will run from Saturday, May 30 through Sunday, June 7.

The week-long celebration was expanded to accommodate the demand across the country placed on resource professionals and organizers of fishing events. Director of National Fishing Week Craig Kock says, "A growing percentage of National Fishing Week events and activities were being held on the weekend before the official National Fishing Week celebration began. Those event organizers often asked to be included in the list of official events. National Fishing Week encourages children and adults to learn how to fish and learn about natural resources stewardship. Expanding National Fishing Week to include the extra two days will help to further this mission."

Wayne MacCallum, president of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, adds, "The addition of the second weekends will provide the event organizers flexibility in planning National Fishing Week activities." Aquatic resource educators across the country now can utilize two weekends to hold fishing clinics, provide healthful recreation, and teach natural resource conservation during National Fishing Week.

Tennis superstar Michael Chang will serve as this year's honorary chairperson. Chang will be featured in a public service campaign titled, "Catch A Smile." Chang will lead the 19th annual celebration of the fun and tradition of recreational fishing, and he encourages anglers to share their experiences.

The National Fishing Week Steering Committee is not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization working to increase public awareness of the lifetime benefits of fishing, recreational fishing opportunities, and aquatic resource stewardship responsibilities. National Fishing Week partners include federal and state resource agencies and the sportfishing community.

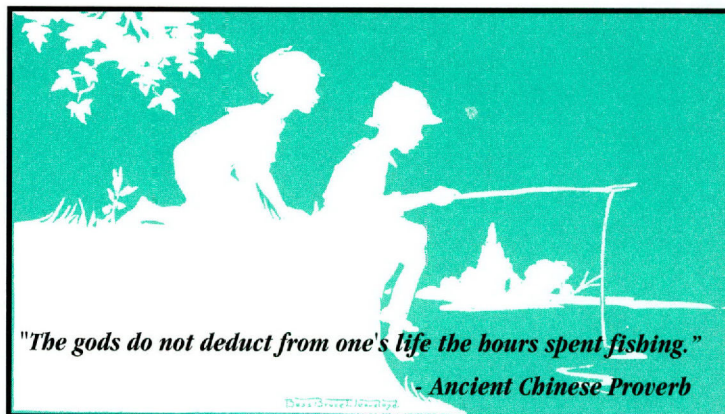


State 4-H Sportfishing Workshops Slated

Those wishing to prepare for leadership or instructional positions in their county's 4-H sportfishing project will be given the opportunity to receive intense training at special weekend workshops tentatively slated for the Athens area, April 3-5, 1998 and the Lake Buchanan area, September 4-7, 1998. Those enrolling can choose to focus their attention on one of the project's five areas of specialization. As with the national conference, the menu of choices includes:

-  **Angling Skills**
-  **Aquatic Ecology**
-  **Tackle Crafting**
-  **People & Fish**
-  **Coordination**

Information on these upcoming programs may be obtained by contacting Dr. Ron Howard in the State 4-H Office in College Station (409) 845-1214. County 4-H coordinators should receive full details in the very near future.



Did You Know... About Operation Game Thief?

Have you noticed these billboards while driving along our Texas highways? Billboards promoting the Operation Game Thief (OGT) program debuted last November in 22 locations across Texas. Operation Game Thief is a privately funded program organized in 1981 to assist Texas Parks and Wildlife law enforcement efforts by offering rewards for information on flagrant game and fish law violations.

Eye-catching billboards are part of a pilot program being launched, urging Texans to call a toll-free number and report game law violators. The goal is to raise public awareness of the program, which offers rewards of up to \$1,000 for information leading to a conviction.

Since its inception, OGT has logged more than 20,000 calls resulting in 6,581 convictions and nearly \$1 million dollars in fines assessed against game law violators.

Better the Second Time Around?

Sergeant Bill Blackburn, Game Warden, Willie Gonzales, and Captain Sam Center, working a lake in Burnet County, caught a man with more than the bag limit on stripers. While being issued a ticket, the man kept apologizing for "making an honest mistake," but the wardens all agreed that he could stand to be watched some more. The next day, wardens returned to find the angler had at least 15 fish over his possession limit – even after he had already given a number of cleaned fish away. The angler was fined \$1,328.00, plus restitution.



Wanna Buy Some Fish, Officer?

A retail fish dealer, operating without a license or proper truck markings, received a citation after attempting to sell fish to Game Warden Robert Goodrich at his residence. The Louisiana man said he saw the decal on the game warden vehicle parked in front of the house, but said he didn't think much about it. He's thinking about it now....

Texas to Host Southern Regional Training Conference

Palacios, Texas has been selected by the National 4-H Sportfishing Project Management Team as the site for its 1998 Regional Training Conference. Extension Service educators, fish and wildlife agency personnel (state and federal), along with professional and volunteer youth workers, will make up the expected 120-plus participants from the 12 states invited to send delegates.

Each of these individuals will receive extensive training in one of the five areas covered under the project's curriculum. This includes angling skills, tackle crafting, aquatic ecology, people and fish (i.e., ethics, conservation, heritage and lore) and coordination (i.e., project development and management at the state and local county levels). When these folks leave Palacios, they are expected to take up key positions of leadership as members of their state management team. The challenge of each state team is to successfully add the sportfishing project to their state's portfolio of 4-H opportunities.

As a founding partner in this project, Texas was selected because of its keen interest in and commitment to this national youth development initiative. Palacios represented an easy choice because of its agreeable combination of housing, teaching facilities and accessibility to both freshwater and saltwater fishing opportunities. Palacios is situated at the juncture of Tres Palacios and Matagorda Bays along the Texas mid-coast. The training will take place at the Texas State Marine Education Center and the Texas Baptist Encampment, which is serving as conference headquarters. Although Texas is the host state, only a limited group of Texans will be selected to participate. Those chosen to attend will be capable of filling critical roles on the state project management team.

Tips, Tackle, & Tasty Tidbits

Fishing Statistics ... What the Research is Saying

Over the past several years, research about fishing has become a very hot topic. Natural resource agencies, consulting firms and universities have sought answers about fishing, and, more specifically, information about the people's participation in the time-honored sport. As part of the Future Fisherman Foundation's continual efforts to educate the public about fishing, we decided to include a column as part of the newsletter that addresses research and shares some of the findings. We want our reading audience to have a better understanding about fishing and how powerful the activity can be for developing relationships.

The specific topic discussed in this edition is motivation — why people fish. Several studies have been conducted throughout the years dealing with





this topic; most of them about why people go fishing. The American Sport-fishing Association, the parent organization of the Future Fisherman Foundation, commissioned a study in 1995 to examine these motivations in detail. Surveys were conducted using a randomly selected sample and computer-assisted telephone interviewing system. Approximately 690 interviews were conducted with freshwater anglers from across the country. The 1995 study included a series of questions to assess angler motivations for fishing. Six motivations were presented and anglers were asked to assign a percentage of importance for each potential choice. The important point – the top three motivations for why anglers fished are based on *social reasons*. The graph below represents the results:

For Relaxation	96%	For The Sport	67%
To Be Close To Nature	94%	To Catch Fresh Fish	57%
To Be With Friends & Family	82%	To Catch Big Fish	57%






Classroom Activity: As part of a math or social studies class, have students interview other students in the school. Have them ask the students if they fish or don't fish. If they fish, ask them to assign a percent of importance to the six different motivations listed in the graph. Have the classroom tally their results and figure the percent of students who fish versus those who don't and develop a graph of the motivations for fishing.

“Hooked On Fishing - Not Drugs” Newsletter, Fall 1997

Tips for Fishing Crappie Attractors

-  Ease your anchor to the bottom on either side of the attractor to avoid spooking the fish.
-  Lower your bait or lure until you feel the brush, then take note of that depth so you are constantly working within the crappie's strike zone. Fish minnows stationary below a bobber set at the proper depth. Move jigs or small spoons slowly up and down in and around the brush.
-  Small crankbaits, spinners and jig/spinner combos can be cast from a boat anchored off to one side of the attractor. Work the lure over the top of the brushpile or along the sides.
-  Using thin wire hooks that bend easily helps lessen the need for re-rigging due to hang-ups.

Crappie Quick Tips

-  When in doubt about fish depth, err on the shallow side — crappies willingly rise to a bait because they can see better looking up than looking down. So, if your sonar reads a cloud of fish, always work the upper zone first.
-  Fish follow the sun — shallow when it's low, deeper when it's high. However, intervening variables — an insect hatch, dead-calm water under dark skies, suspended baitfish — can prolong a decent shallow bite throughout the day. Dimples on the surface, particularly near weed beds, might give a school away.
-  Big fish hover close to structure, but you have to be careful of snags. A clever trick for getting the count perfect, while saving lures, is using a plain sinker the same weight as your jig on the first cast.
-  When casting under bridges, rafts or docks, “catapult” your jig: Grab the back of the hook, bend the rod, then let go of the bait and line to catapult the offering parallel to the water.
-  Lighter jigs (and lighter line) increase sensitivity, but rough water and gale winds require heavier jigs. However, an alternative is rigging a pair of light lead-heads in tandem. Be sure to experiment with contrasting colors, noting which one produces the most action.

Crappie Recipes

Fried Crappie Fingers

3 pounds crappie fillets, cut into bite-size fingers
2 cups self-rising cornmeal
2 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
Black pepper
4 eggs, beaten
Vegetable or Peanut oil

Heat the oil in a large skillet or in a fryer to 360 degrees. Combine cornmeal, flour and pepper in a shallow bowl. Beat eggs in another bowl. Dry fillets on paper towels. Dredge fillets in eggs, then in cornmeal mixture. Let the coated fillets rest for a few minutes before cooking. Fry to a golden brown.

The best part is the red dipping sauce that you serve with the fried crappie fingers. Here's how you mix it:

Red Dipping Sauce

1 ½ cups ketchup
2 Tbsp. brown sugar
2 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
1 tsp. dry mustard
3 Tbsp. hot sauce

Mix ketchup, brown sugar, Worcestershire sauce and dry mustard in a small saucepan. Bring to a boil, stirring occasionally. Add hot sauce and mix, then refrigerate until serving time and serve with the crappie fingers.



-Courtesy of Outdoor Life

Volunteers Needed

The Texas Game Warden Association, Parrie Haynes Youth Ranch, will begin its summer camps the 2nd week of June 1998. These camps last a week and give youth an opportunity to experience the outdoors through a variety of activities. The Angler Education course, is offered once a week on Thursday. The camp is looking for volunteer instructors to help with training throughout the summer. Any instructor wishing to teach, please contact me at **1-800-792-1112 + 0 ask for ext. 4755.**

Angler Education dates offered (Thursday): June 11th, June 18th, June 25th, July 9th, July 16th, July 23rd, July 30th and Aug. 6th

Welcome New Instructors!

September

Trey Shewmake, Austin
Richard Snitkin, Austin
Stephen Satchfield, Austin
Alejandro Rodriguez, Austin
Sean Reneau, Austin
Eric Minter, Austin
Dwayne Havis, Victoria
Melanie Moynahan, Austin
Kenneth Johnson, Austin
Anthony Norton, Austin
Scott Kelly, Austin
John Kohleffel, Austin
Johnny Longoria, Jr., Austin
Zach Havens, Austin
Benjamin Friebele, Austin
Sandie Bostick, Brackettville
James Barge, Austin

October

Doyce Anderson, Austin
James Dunks, Austin
Ronald Fitzpatrick, Austin
Ronnie Cherry, Austin
Shea Guinn, Austin
Jeffrey Phillips, Austin
Andrew Ozuna, Austin
John Thomas, New Boston
Todd Robinson, Pottsboro
Robert Mauk, Wichita Falls
John Findeisen, Wichita Falls
John Salazar, Mesquite
Brian Van Zee, Wichita Falls
Aleda Carpenter, Bells
Sunny Garrett, Pottsboro
Roy Goodman, Denison
Chris True, Lewisville
Becky Clayton, Sherman
Debbie Olds, Denison

October (continued)

Donald Dunlap, Sherman
Barbara Dunkle, Pottsboro
Steve Dunkle, Pottsboro

November

Karen Sanders, Scurry
Rodney Sanders, Scurry
Steve Swerske, Plano
Robert Hazelwood, Mesquite
Gilbert Moreno, Dallas
Stephanie McDermott, Seagoville
David McDermott, Seagoville
Bob Tumlinson, Carrollton
Paul Balkenbush, Tyler
Steve Poarch, Tyler
Shelley Hoy, Wylie
Mark Brown, Wolfe City
Brian Hughes, Dallas
Brad Reid, Coppell
P. D. Slayton, Carrollton
Gary Sims, Coppell
Lloyd Mauch, The Colony
Martin Edwards, Garland
Michael Verduin, Lewisville
Chris Luper, Whitewright
Bill Fuhrmeister, Dallas
Dave Wilkie, Corsicana
Slim Mitchell, McKinney
April Azary-Thomas, Corpus Christi
Myra Cantu, Corpus Christi
Mike Dixon, Corpus Christi
Jimmie Nell Dixon, Corpus Christi
Christina Conner, Corpus Christi
Lisa Velasquez, Corpus Christi
Ralph Trejo, Corpus Christi
Simon Guerrero, Corpus Christi
Anna Luis, Corpus Christi
Mark Garcia, Corpus Christi

November (continued)

Chris DeLeon, Corpus Christi
Cindy Savino, Louise
Staci Frerich, Corpus Christi
Freddy Ortiz

December

Gary Enkowitz, Denton
Clayton Cockrell, Laguna Park
Gary Lacy, Azle
Dona Burgess, Ft. Worth
D. L. McKean, Frisco
Mike Petrick, Plano
Phil Waigand, Ft. Worth
Karen Bick, Dallas
Lupe Hernandez, Corpus Christi
Jane Deisler-Seno, Corpus Christi
Brenda Garcia, Corpus Christi
Gerard Sepulveda, Corpus Christi
Smiley Nava, Corpus Christi
Diane Hartung, Corpus Christi
Janet Neill, Corpus Christi
Ernest Leal, Jr., Houston
Michel Pappillion, Channelview
David Smith, Cypress
George Ewart, Porter
Nolan Chaline, Porter



Fishing Hauls in Big Money!

When it comes to spending their hard-earned dollars on fishing and fishing-related activities, Texas anglers are major players in the overall financial stability of the state, according to a study conducted by the American Sportfishing Association.

The numbers presented by the Virginia-based group are staggering, and in Texas alone, more than 2.6 million adult fishermen spent an incredible \$2.8 billion in 1996 on an array of items ranging from trips and equipment to food, bait and fuel. The study indicates that the total economic impact of angler expenditures in the Lone Star State was more than \$6.3 billion. "Sportfishing is more important to Texas than ever before," said ASA President Mike Hayden. "What an angler spends during a weekend fishing trip ripples through the economy to create jobs, wages and tax revenues for the state and federal governments. In Texas, these numbers are significant."

The study, which was conducted by Vishwanie Maharaj, ASA director of economics, indicates that sportfishing in Texas during 1996 created the following: the equivalent of 80,282 full-time jobs, more than \$1.6 billion in wages, \$179 million in state tax revenue and \$168 million in federal tax revenue. The study also shows that anglers spent more than 51 million days fishing Texas waters for a wide

variety of saltwater and freshwater gamefish. "Anglers in Texas are fishing more days and spending more money on each trip," Maharaj added.

Hayden said the link between strong fishery resources and Texas jobs is very clear. "Often industries such as power, timber and agriculture have pitted the need to protect their jobs against the need for healthy fisheries," Hayden said. "These statistics send a powerful message that wise conservation choices that protect fish also protects jobs. Clean fishable water is of vital importance to our national economy." The data used in ASA's economic impact analysis comes from the 1996 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-associated recreation, which was conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The survey polled sportsmen and women ages 16 and above on their spending habits and activities outdoors.

Nationally, the statistics indicate the total economic impact of recreational fishing in the United States reached \$108 billion in 1996, created more than 1.2 million full-time jobs in the United States and generated \$28.3 billion in wages. The popularity of sportfishing in this country has grown to such an extent over the past several decades that 35.2 million American adults go fishing each year. This interest added more than \$3 billion in federal income tax revenue, not to mention \$2.39 billion in state income tax revenue.

Upcoming Events

TEXAS ANGLER EDUCATION INSTRUCTOR WORKSHOPS

Pre-Service Workshops

- Program Orientation-New Instructors - July 18, 1998, Austin
- Program Orientation-New Instructors - July 25, 1998, Corpus Christi

In-Service Workshops

- Angler Responsibility, Game Laws & Ethics - June 13, 1998, College Station
- Tackle Crafting - June 20, 1998, College Station
- Aquatic Ecology/Biology (Coastal & Inland Waters) - August 22, 1998, Corpus Christi

Those instructors who wish to attend any or all of the workshops, please contact me at the address below:

Chris Lena

Texas Parks & Wildlife

4200 Smith School Rd.

Austin, Texas 78744

512-389-4755 or 1-800-792-1112 + 0 ask for ext. 4755

-The Galveston Daily News



EDUCATION DIVISION PHONE NUMBERS

General Information

Education Secretary 1-800-792-1112 + 0 ask for ext. 4999
(512) 389-4999
Fax (512) 389-8042

Records

Kathy Powell 1-800-792-1112 + 63
(512) 389-8142

Videos & Supplies

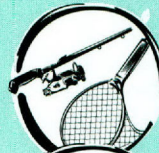
Jack Nasworthy 1-800-792-1112 + 61
(512) 389-4795
Fax (512) 389-4372

Education Director

Steve Hall 1-800-792-1112 + 0 ask for ext. 4568
(512) 389-4568
Fax (512) 389-8042

Angler Education Coordinator

Chris Lena 1-800-792-1112 + 0 ask for ext. 4755
(512) 389-4755
Fax (512) 389-8042



Tips,

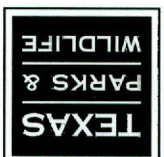
Tackle, &

Tasty Tidbits

Have a great fishing tip? How about an interesting article? Maybe you just want to pass on that mouth-watering recipe for all to enjoy. All information sent will be listed in upcoming issues of the newsletter and will be greatly appreciated.

PWD BR D0200-162 (03/98)

Texas Parks and Wildlife
Angler Education Program
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, TX 78744



TAIL WALKING TIMES