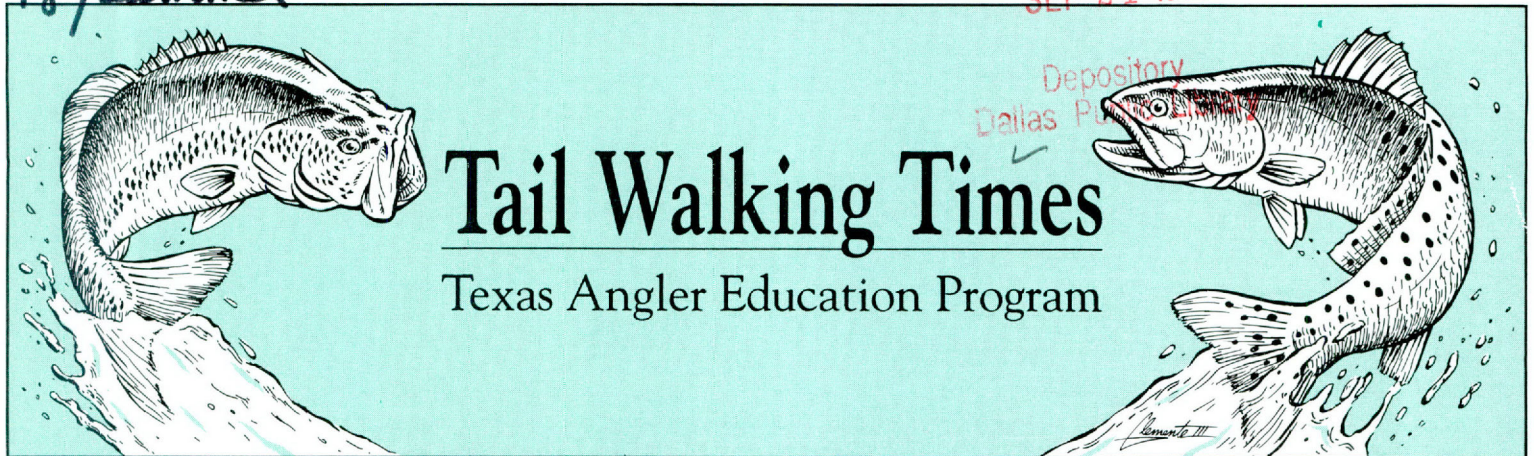


P400.6
T.132
98/summer

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

Government Publications
Texas State Documents

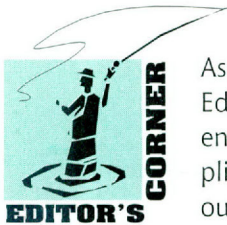
SEP 21 1998



Issue Number 3

4200 Smith School Road • Austin, Texas 78744

Summer 1998



As my first year with the Angler Education Program comes to an end, I reflect on the accomplishments of the program. An outstanding 4-H Sportfish Program, the introduction of the

Tackle Loaner Program and new acquaintances from several instructor courses, are a few of the highlights of the year. What else can I ask for? Numerous youngsters who would like to enjoy the great outdoors, some who may not get the opportunity otherwise, are waiting for each of us to give them the chance. They will remember those who made time for knot tying, casting a fishing rod, baiting a hook and catching that first fish. It is up to you to make it happen. Take a kid fishing, and you will have a friend for life. Involvement and motivation are the keys to success. Be a mentor!

Plans are in the making for more interactive, in-service workshops throughout the state. I'm hopeful that these additional opportunities create a response from each and everyone of you. Bear in mind, that each of us can benefit from specialized training in topics like fisheries management, angler ethics and flyfishing. Whether it's for angler training or for personal information, you will find the workshops beneficial and will build relationships with like-minded individuals in the process. Let's get active and make our efforts better! The dog days of summer are here. Find a shady tree, a covered boat or try fishing at night. The fish are waiting for you. Stay cool and wait for the bite.

Chris Lena

Texas Nets \$21 Million for Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration

In what has been described as the most successful example ever of the "user pay, user benefit" philosophy, Texas anglers and hunters were responsible for bringing in nearly \$21 million to fund Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) projects through this year's Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration (Federal Aid) program.

According to a final apportionment report from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service released recently, the \$20,788,879 represents Texas' share of nearly \$400 million in excise taxes paid by sportsmen on hunting and fishing equipment. State fish and wildlife agencies use the money for fish and wildlife conservation through land acquisition, habitat improvement, research, education and other programs.

The department will receive an estimated \$13,601,422 from the Sport Fish Restoration Program (Dingell - Johnson Act), of which \$11.9 million will be used for fisheries-related programs and \$1.7

continued on the next page

In this issue...

Upcoming Events

1998 Texas Wildlife Expo

Letters to the Editor

In the News...

Tips, Tackle, & Tasty Tidbits

Welcome New Instructors



Texas Nets . . . continued

million for boating access. Among the major programs receiving funding assistance in Texas through the Sport Fish Restoration Program are Sea Center Texas and the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center, and wetland protection and restoration projects.

The apportionment for sport fish restoration comes from a 10 percent excise tax on fishing equipment and a 3 percent tax on electric trolling motors and sonar fish finders. The Wallop - Breaux legislation of 1984 increased the tax base for sport fish restoration to include a portion of the federal fuels tax and import duties on fishing tackle and pleasure boats.



Since its inception, the Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration Program has provided more than \$4 billion that states have used for wildlife restoration projects. The money is distributed to the states for projects proposed by the states and approved by the USFWS. Federal aid funds pay for up to 75 percent of the cost of each project while the states contribute at least 25 percent of the cost. Distribution of the restoration funds to the states is based on the land and water area and the number of license holders in each state. Texas receives the maximum five percent allowable under the program.

Projects funded by the 1996 sport fish restoration funds supported such projects as public water stockings, aquatic education, fisheries management and research, resource protection and public boating access.

State 4-H Sportfishing Fall Workshop Slated

The Texas 4-H Youth Program invites you to become part of the newly-introduced 4-H Sportfishing Project and to join others who equally value both our aquatic resources and our youth in a special train-the-youth trainer workshop September 18-20, 1998, at Camp Buckner, outside Burnet, Texas. The camp is located close to Lake Buchanan, Inks Lake and Inks Lake State Park. This weekend retreat is designed to equip prospective project volunteers with the knowledge and skill to instruct and mentor young people in their home county. As a participant, you have the option of training in **Angling Skills, Tackle Crafting, Aquatic Ecology, People & Fish/Conservation & Ethics or Project Coordination.**

If people, like you, who share a concern for the future, step forward to work with and "guide" today's youth many of our social, environmental and economic problems can be reduced and a brighter tomorrow for all will emerge. So please accept this invitation and become part of something which can readily provide tangible rewards to you personally and to society as a whole.

If you can attend or would like more information and an application, please feel free to call the workshop coordinator, **Larry Hysmith**, at **409-845-4865**.

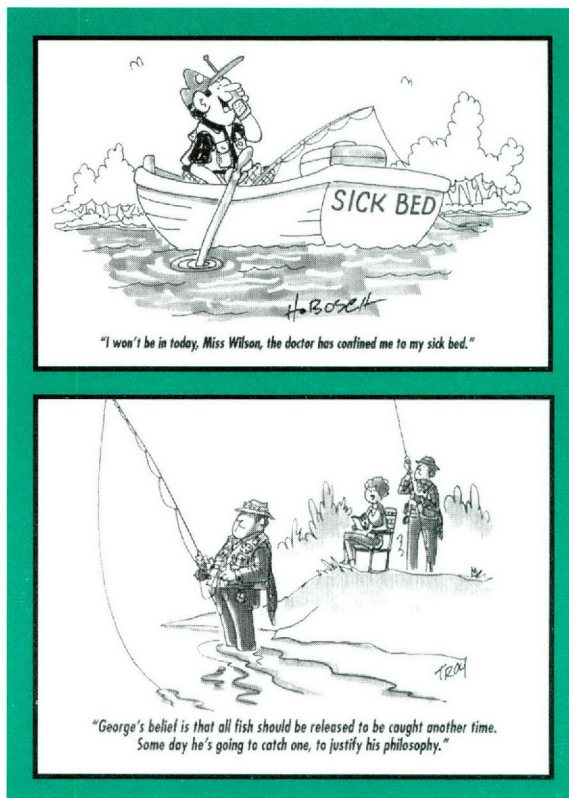


Texas Wildlife Expo Needs You!

"Grounds for Outdoor Adventure" is the theme for the seventh annual Texas Wildlife Expo, held at Texas Parks and Wildlife headquarters in Austin on October 3 and 4. Last year over

41,000 visitors tried their hands at all manner of outdoor activities and pastimes. Among the most popular activities were those located in the Fishing and Aquatic area, including youth catfish and trout fishing, virtual fishing, fresh and saltwater touch tanks, fly fishing, fish prints and more.

If you'd like to volunteer for one of these activities, contact Chris Lena at 512-389-4755 or 1-800-792-1112 + 0, then ask for ext. 4755. For a four-hour shift, volunteers earn a 1998 Expo T-shirt!



From FIELD & STREAM

Fork, Sam Rayburn Cranking Out Lunker Bass

(Athens)—This year's ShareLunker program has quickly evolved into a duel for Texas' top trophy bass lake bragging rights between Sam Rayburn Reservoir and Lake Fork. Entering the final week of March, the two lunker factories had accounted for 11 of the 13 entries received at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center near Athens.

Each year, Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) accepts 13-pound-plus "lunker" bass from the first of December through the end of April. Fisheries biologists use bass loaned through the program as breeding stock for TPW's massive fish stocking program, which put more than 5 million bass fingerlings into public water bodies across Texas last year. In this way, the best, big-fish genes are captured and passed on to improve bass fishing in Texas.

Although this year's program got off to a slow start, the first entry not being received until January 21st, eight

lunkers in March leave the effort just off last year's entire collection of 15. Weekend hauls during late March accounted for most of the current stock. The last flurry came March 21-22 and included three Rayburn fish and two Fork entries. Ironically, while Fork and Rayburn have turned out quantity, the largest entry this year hailed from Amon Carter Lake and weighed 14.50 pounds. The top lunker was caught March 13 by Wichita Falls angler, Tony Owens.



For more information on the ShareLunker Program, contact the ShareLunker staff at 903-676-BASS, ext. 338. Anglers who land a big bass and wish to donate or loan it to the program may call the ShareLunker toll-free digital pager at 888-784-0600. The toll-free pager is answered 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Letters to the Editor



Dear Mr. Lena,

I want to thank you for coming to Jacksboro, Texas. I really enjoyed the angler course, I had a lot of fun and learned a lot. I hope I can take it again.

Sincerely,

Jimmie Fitzgerald
Jacksboro, TX

Dear Chris,

I want to thank you for facilitating the workshop on Angler Education for Teachers this past weekend. Everyone liked the class, and the Fashion a Fish was a particularly enjoyable activity. I have read the Sport Fishing and Aquatic Resources Handbook, and the Curriculum we received at the workshop, and I am impressed by the high quality of instructional activities contained in each. I am excited about the future possibilities for angler education here at the Nature Center.

I appreciate your time, knowledge and enthusiasm. See you at the Expo!

Sincerely,

Ellen Hutto, Naturalist
Houston Arboretum & Nature Center

Lake Fork Law Enforcement Shows Angler Compliance

In concentrated patrols since January 16, game wardens have checked more than 4,000 anglers and issued 341 citations for noncompliance with the laws on Lake Fork in Northeast Texas, long known as a haven for trophy largemouth bass. Out of all those checks, less than one-percent (22) yielded violations for keeping fish within the slot limit of 14 to 21 inches. Add to that a huge catch-and-release percentage, and you get a feel for the conservation-mindedness at Lake Fork, which is unusually free of personal watercrafts and recreational boats, but can get pressure from up to 2,700 angling boats on a hot weekend.

In the news . . .



The Kid's Fishing Event at Lockhart State Park was one of the major draws in celebrating the 75th State Park Anniversary on April 4, 1998. Park staff, the Plum Creek Casters, and several other volunteers came out to make this a very special outing for approximately 250 children. All need to be commended on a job well done!



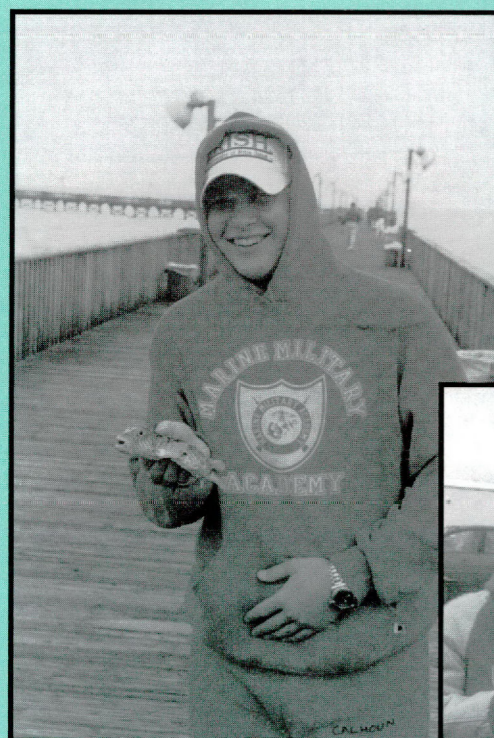
Taylor Snyder, 2 years old, accompanied by her father, shows off one of 25 channel catfish she caught during the event. She took 1st place in the event. That's what I call "catching!"



During the coastal sampling activities, Brian Triplett, San Jacinto County Extension Agent, and 4-H Sportfish Workshop Aquatic Ecology instructor, (pictured left) looks on while participants help with the bay trawl.

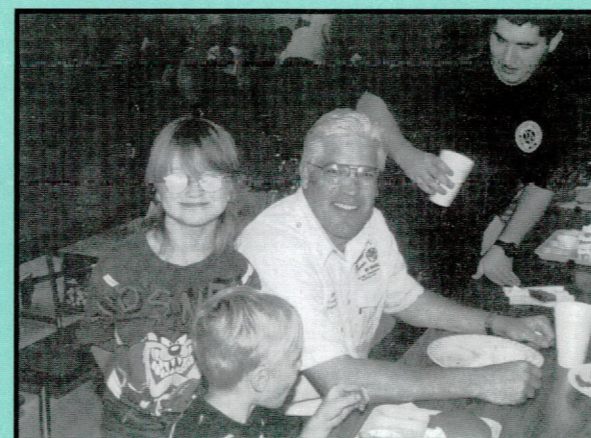


The first week of May, the National 4-H Sportfishing Workshop, was held in Palacios, Texas. Texas Parks and Wildlife, Coastal Fisheries Biologist, Mike Weixelman, coordinated the "hands-on" bag seining, bay trawls and oyster dredges for the Aquatic Ecology participants on May 5th. Special thanks go out to all TPW personnel for their time and coordination during the workshop.



The Port Isabel Fishing Pier, was the site of the Fishing Rodeo for the Marine Military Academy cadets and their families on April 18, 1998. Cadet Nick Calhoun, was the proud angler, winning the most unusual fish caught, a porcupine fish.

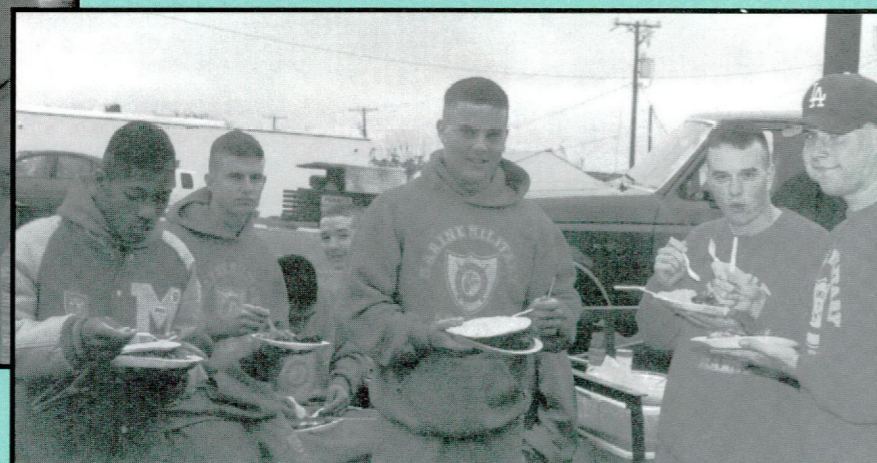
Even though the weather wasn't the best for fishing, everyone enjoyed the opportunity to fish, some for the very first time. The fajita cook-out was definitely a welcomed meal for all!



Smiles and happy faces are exhibited not only by kids during lunch, but by Education Director, Steve Hall. (He's the one in the middle!) Steve attended the East Texas event to participate in "Hooked on Fishing - Not on Drugs" activities at Etoile Elementary School. Way to go Steve!



Area law enforcement gave presentations on safety, rules and regulations, and "Just Saying No to Drugs" to all kids in attendance.



Shirley Creek Marina, Lake Sam Rayburn, hosted the 11th Annual East Texas "Get Hooked on Fishing - Not Drugs" event.

One of several seminars during the event involved a puppet show skit which drew a great response from the kids.





Tips,



Tackle, &



Tasty Tidbits

Sun and Eyes

If you're an angler or a boater, you are probably aware of the punishing effects of the sun's glare on your eyes. In fact, the effect of glare on the surface of the water can be 25 times brighter than light level indoors. For most activities, sunglasses should be able to absorb about 60 percent of the sun's rays. For fishing or boating, however, sunglasses should be darker, absorbing at least 80 percent of the sun's rays. Bausch & Lomb suggests this simple in-store test for lens darkness: Look in a mirror with the sunglasses on. If the lenses are dark enough, you will have some difficulty seeing your eyes. This test does not work for photochromic sunglasses because they would be at their light stage indoors. If you are an angler, you should select sunglasses with polarizing lenses, which are usually made by sandwiching polarizing film between layers of dark glass or plastic. They eliminate reflections on the surface of the water and allow anglers to see beneath the surface. Sunglasses come in a variety of lens colors, but most eye-care professionals recommend green, gray or brown for outside activities.

Leaking Boots/Waders

Small leaks and briar-pricks in boots or waders can be plugged temporarily by melting the end of a plastic worm and smearing the hot "goo" over the hole. The plastic hardens in a few seconds and sticks well.

Dry 'em Out

When you return home after a day of fishing, make it a habit to leave your box of lures or book of flies open overnight so the contents can dry out. Moisture trapped in an airtight container will soon rust hooks and tarnish metal lures.

Time for a Trim?

Bass bugs are much easier to cast when all the air-resistant parts are trimmed off, leaving only the body and tail. As long as the bug kicks up a bubbly commotion on the surface, bass will come to it. Dressing a bug with extras costs more, adds little to effectiveness.

Rough but Rewarding!

Slow summer fishing can change to fast fishing quick, even at midday, if a strong wind blows up. Waves aerate the water, stir up the fish, and scatter loose food along the shoreline. Fish the shorelines where the water pounds, using subsurface lures.

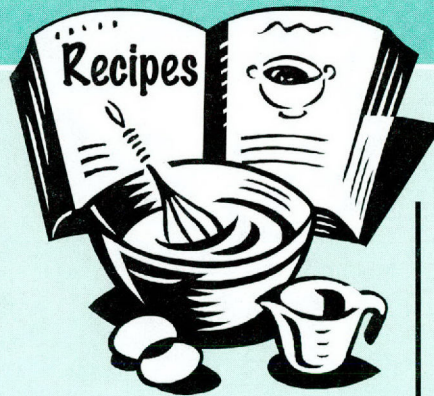
-Courtesy of Field & Stream

Crab Custard (serves 4)

- 1 - 16 oz. container of lump crab meat, well drained
- 2 Tbsp. lemon juice
- 3 eggs
- 1-1/2 cups heavy or whipping cream
- 1 Tbsp. minced parsley
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2 thin slices white bread
- 2 Tbsp. butter
- Parsley sprigs for garnish

Preheat oven to 350 F. Grease a 1-quart, shallow casserole dish. Pick over crab meat to remove any pieces of shell or cartilage. In small bowl, mix crab meat and lemon juice; place in casserole. In the same small bowl, mix eggs, cream, minced parsley and salt; pour over crab meat. Bake 30 minutes or until knife inserted in center comes out clean.

Meanwhile, cut crusts from bread slices. Cut each bread slice into 4 triangles. In small skillet over medium heat, in hot butter, cook bread triangles until golden on both sides, turning bread once. To serve, divide custard into 4 portions and top each with 2 of the toasted bread triangles; garnish with parsley sprigs.



Country Scallops (serves 4)

- 4 slices bacon, cut in small pieces
- 2 Tbsp. minced onion
- 1/3 cup catsup
- 2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- salt & pepper to taste
- 1 pound fresh scallops (1 pound of stingray "wing" fillets may be substituted for scallops)

In 10-inch skillet over med. heat, fry bacon 3 minutes. Add onion. Cook until bacon is lightly browned. Stir in catsup, Worcestershire, salt & pepper. Add scallops or stingray; cook 5 to 8 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Welcome New Instructors!

JANUARY

Todd Hicks, Corsicana
Sommer Sebastian, Willis
Armon Hewitt, Trinity
Aaron Watson, Huntsville
Coy Graham, Mabank
Rhett Moore, Malakoff
Sean Sammon, Rosebud
John Conti, Jr., Texas City
Darla Bunch, Huntsville
William Taft Buck, III, Missouri City
Joseph G. Lemmons, Houston
Marley Morris, Katy
Brian Martin, Troup
Joshua Limmer, Round Top
Stan Bauer, Huntsville
Bobby Yeater, San Antonio
Kenneth Woodley, Bellville
Stephen Peikert, Sealy
Natalie Herring, Huntsville
Kim Luman, Conroe
Gary Jones, Trinity
Jay Maddox, Harleton
Craig Krienke, Georgetown
Robert H. Ratcliff, Harker Heights
Ferris Bavousett, Ft. Worth
Gail W. Wood, Spicewood
Billy Kniffen, San Marcos
Mack Lester, Martindale
Wayne D. Cook, Austin
Douglas A. Amundson, Burnet
Jeff Gant, San Marcos
Roben Gant, San Marcos
Nancy Herron, Austin
Bill Ingram, Justin
Fred Brand, Austin
Frank Robinson, Lockhart
Frank Hernandez, Seguin
Charon Coonfield, Austin
Kevin Hutchison, Austin
Miller Talbot, Lindale
Melanie Doughty, Mineola
Stephanie McIntyre, Tyler
LuAnne Ashby, Lindale
Traci Sawyer, Lindale
Kim Guthrie, Van
Bill J. Russell, Houston
Robert L. Parks, Houston
Mason R. Edwards, Houston
Jan Edwards, Houston
Brad Hall, Conroe
Sam A. Rowe, Alvin
Ellen Hutto, Houston

FEBRUARY

Jack D. Redding, Millsap
Donnie L. Collier, Weatherford
Kenneth R. Russell, Weatherford

Bryan Teter, Riesel
Michael Van Winkle, Stephenville
Jeannie Bindseil, Spicewood
Trey Mitchell, Burlison
Cory Raibourn, Dublin
Brendan Odom, Lisco
Michael Pruitt, Jacksboro
Stephanie Renfro, Itasca
Kevin Canfield, Stephenville
Matthew Beseda, Mt. Calm
David Williams, Cisco
Rebecca Johnson, Thorndale
Laurah Johnson, Carbon
Ryan Webb, Stanton
Bethany Bradford, Weatherford
Koh Box, Pecos
Grady White, Devine
Mac Weil, Stephenville
Todd Bierschwale, Fredericksburg
Cody B. Lane, Stephenville
Adrian Keith Bradford, Stephenville
Thad A. Hudson, Elgin
Jeb Brown, Bluff Dale
Jeremy Williams, Goldthwaite
Todd Vetter, Stephenville
Jake Scott, Round Rock
Brandon Moore, Round Rock
Josh Brooks, Round Rock
Corey Hodges, Stephenville
Bart Smith, Round Mountain
Kenneth C. Kemp, Azle
Lee Munz, Moody
Christin Gray, Stephenville
Lana Smith, Stephenville
Amy Bumpus, Lampasas
Jacqueline Townsend, Lometa
Jenifer Evans, Stephenville
Danielle Vernon, Snyder
Kim Fahle, Stephenville
Tamara Petty, Stephenville
Leonard Nixon, Jr., Granbury
Jason Jeffery, Lipan
Timothy S. Reich, Dublin
Bridgett D. Willett, Gonzales
Doug Scherer, Rosharon
Kathy Jones, Angleton
Debbie Giesecke, Angleton
Milton Newton, Angleton
Odis Caskey, Angleton
Donald J. Armand, Lake Jackson
Denise Grier, Brazoria
Billie McCulley, Clute
Ron McCulley, Clute
David Dosser, Lake Jackson
Wayne Roberds, Angleton
Cynthia Thomas, Freeport
Tova Heimeyer, Lake Jackson
Duane Valusek, Rosharon
Bubba Kettler, Manvel
Bob Smiley, Alvin

Ted Triplett, Manvel
Rich Tillman, Angleton
Carolyn Burmeier, Houston
Becky Kyle, Lake Jackson
Sabra Mitchell, Freeport
Holly LaChance, Lake Jackson
Larry Oliver, Alvin

MARCH

Debbie Coker, Frankston
Linda Moore, Frankston
Judy Hyde, Frankston
Hunter Wise, Trinidad
Orville Bevel, Chandler
Frank Hollowell, Athens
Lynn J. Wilson, Longview
W. D. Lewis, Brownsboro
Jimmy E. Cox, Waskom
Ray Stanley, Karnack
Barry St. Clair, Athens
Melanie Roos, Marshall
Letha Wuerch, Hawkins
Chantel Kilcrease, Pineland
Lynne Maddox, Longview
Beth McCafferty, Flint
Larry C. Davis, Athens
Steve Campbell, Athens
Tommie Thomas, San Augustine
Suzanne McAdams, Center
Ervey Trevino, Laredo
George Kinslow, Laredo
Rudy Dominguez, Laredo
Oscar J. Medina, Laredo
Ernesto Garza, Laredo
Maria E. Harrison, Laredo
Juan M. Meza, Laredo
J. Lucero, Laredo
Anita Stanley, Laredo
Olivero S. Perez, Laredo
Dwain W. Vincent, Laredo
Paula Livingston, Laredo
Mike Chapa, Laredo
Tim Dietz, Wylie
Larry Metzger, Mesquite
Shelly Lanners, Garland
Russell Rice, Dallas
Kenny McCord, Garland
John Williams, Garland
Bill Wallace, Garland
Randy Sell, Garland
John Wisdom, Mesquite
Craig Easley, Garland
Susan Thomas, Dallas
Johnathan Price, Dallas
Marjorie Sewell, Jacksboro
Vicki Walker, Jacksboro
David Harmonson, Jacksboro

EDUCATION DIVISION PHONE NUMBERS

General Information

Sheri Harper 1-800-792-1112 + 0 ask for ext. 4913
(512) 389-4913
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.

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

