

TEXAS ANGLER
EDUCATION PROGRAM**Reel Lines**

Issue Number 22

4200 Smith School Road • Austin, Texas 78744

July 2007

New & NoteworthyANN MILLER –
Aquatic Education Coordinator

Saying goodbye to Brenda Justice (aquatic education specialist in Houston) was hard, but she and her family love life in Goliad, where Brenda is assistant park superintendent for Goliad State Park. We are happy for Brenda's promotion and her new life in a small town without the hassles of Houston traffic!

But, saying hello to Kevin Cunningham is easy because Kevin just fits right into our team! Kevin joined us May 1 (see his introduction on page 3), just in time to attend our area chief meeting at Parrie Haynes. If you live in the Houston area and have not yet had a chance to visit Kevin by phone, e-mail or in person, you really need to. Kevin is ready, willing and able to work with you to make your Angler Education program a success!

Also new to our program are five 11-by-17-inch laminated cards that help you teach about fish handling (two cards), fish anatomy, tackle box basics and fishing safety.

If you have access to an instructor kit that doesn't have these new large, laminated cards, please contact Rita Williamson at rita.williamson@tpwd.state.tx.us. Only active volunteers may request these materials.

We have posted the newest version of our Angler Education materials order forms on

*(Continued on page 2)***Water for Fish and Wildlife:
How Anglers Can Help**

TOM HARVEY – TPWD News and Information

It seems obvious: People, fish and wildlife need a dependable supply of clean water to survive.

But human population growth, drought and other factors could jeopardize world-class fisheries, as well as lakeside economies that depend on fishing and boating across Texas.

The good news is that people can make a positive difference. We have new tools and options to conserve and manage water. There is time now to plan for the future, and anglers have an important role to play.

By the year 2050, the human population of Texas is projected to double. Current plans show that nearly half the water needed by our cities may not be available, but water conservation could reduce those needs considerably.

"As our population grows, demands on finite water resources will become more intense," said Phil Durocher, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department inland fisheries director. "This makes it more important than ever that people conserve water so we have good fisheries in our lakes, rivers and streams."

(Continued on page 2)

New & Noteworthy

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

our Web site under "Instructor Resources." These are fillable forms—and it will be much easier for us to process your order if you will fill it out on line and e-mail it to either (or both) ann.miller@tpwd.state.tx.us or windy.altum@tpwd.state.tx.us. Of course, you can also print out the order form, fill it in by hand and mail it or fax it to us.

Our warehouse staff has asked again that you order your materials four weeks in advance to make sure that you receive your order on time. During the months of August through December (hunting season), this is especially important because our warehouse staff will be inundated with hunter education requests.

Be on the watch for our "Take Me Fishing" interpretive trailer that will (if all goes well) begin making appearances at different community fishing events beginning in November. Scheduling the trailer will be somewhat of a challenge, but you are welcome to submit a request if you have a significant community event with fishing as the main attraction.

Please join me in welcoming our **newest Angler Education area chiefs, listed in bold on page 17**. And feel free to contact any of our area chiefs for help in providing Angler Education in your area.

Water for Fish and Wildlife, continued

Drought is another concern. For example, East Texas has traditionally had fairly stable lake water levels. But the region has been in a two-year drought, and some lakes have been very low. Lake Tawakoni, for example, has been 8 to 9 feet low, with only one boat ramp open. Some lakes got so low that no boat ramps were accessible.

"It's been a long time since East Texas has experienced drought conditions like this, so for me it was kind of a wake-up call," said Dave Terre, TPWD inland fisheries regional director in Tyler. "With projected weather patterns and increased demand for water, we could be seeing a preview of the future. We are going to see wider swings in water levels; I think that's a reality."

On a positive note, Terre says fisheries biologists now know how to manage fisheries in the face of water level fluctuations. Plus, Terre says anglers and scientists may have some common ground with controlling authorities like the Sabine River Authority, who may be willing to schedule the timing of water-level changes to maintain or improve quality fisheries in reservoirs.

Good water quality is also essential for fish and people. Terre says things are better now, compared to how they were in the 1950s and 60s, thanks to the Clean Water Act.

"The continued emphasis there is to make sure we have clean water for fish and for potable water supplies," Terre said. "We definitely do not need polluting, used oil dumping and the like. Good water quality is a win-win for people and fish and wildlife."

To learn more about what you can do, visit the How You Can Help section of the Web site: www.texasstateofwater.org

If each person or family takes action, the efforts of many people all doing a little will add up to make a big difference. An important first step is realizing that the water coming out of our faucets has a vital connection with rivers and lakes. We can no longer afford to waste a drop.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

All inquiries: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, 4200 Smith School Rd., Austin, TX 78744, telephone (800) 792-1112 toll free, or (512) 389-4800 or visit our Web site for detailed information about TPWD programs:

www.tpwd.state.tx.us

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Howdy, Everyone!

KEVIN CUNNINGHAM – Aquatic Education Specialist, Houston

Please allow me to introduce myself as the “next” Brenda Justice, or Kevin Cunningham, for short. I have formally taken over as the Houston area (or Southeast Texas) aquatic education specialist. I look forward to supporting and aiding you in our common goal to wipe “couch potato” syndrome from our current generation of kids and teenagers in favor of fishing outdoors and bonding with the environment.

But first let me tell you a little about myself.

I grew up in the Houston area and have had a passion for the outdoors, and especially fishing, since I was very young. I got “hooked” on fishing for life when I caught my first King mackerel with my parents off a party boat in Port Aransas. I was so small that my father had to hold the rod while I reeled it in. Ever since then, I wanted all our family trips to be focused on fishing. Repeated trips to Galveston, Port Aransas, and a single trip to Colorado ingrained the fishing addiction in me.

Because fishing was my first contact with aquatic life, it inspired other interests such as camping, hiking, boating and aquariums. When I was young I never cared for tropical fish, and as a result got in trouble when I would sneak crayfish, bass, sunfish, and turtles into my mother’s 30-gallon tropical tank. Needless to say, they eventually gave me a tank of my own. Later, I became scuba certified to get even closer to marine life, and now I have four aquariums to observe local saltwater species.

I spent my college days at Texas A&M University, where I joined the Corps of Cadets. Feeling the need to serve my country and make a difference, I planned to join the Navy and follow in my father’s footsteps. However, I was disqualified when they found I was allergic to peanuts. With my immediate plans crushed, I went on to graduate school for a public administration master’s program with the intent that I would still serve by working as a civil servant. As I moved further into the program, I found myself thinking how “dry” the coursework was and how I wanted to link my childhood passion for the water with a career in public service.

After graduating I immediately began volunteering with Texas Parks and Wildlife at Sea Center Texas and also with the Galveston Bay ecosystem monitoring team in Dickinson. After several months of volunteering, I was hired on as an intern and shortly thereafter was



brought on full-time as a field biologist in the Coastal Fisheries Division. I enjoyed my job and learned more than I could have ever imagined by just fishing alone. At least two or three days a week I was on the water in the great outdoors.

However, although I was in constant contact with the marine environment, I never got to work with people—something I really enjoyed as a volunteer and in previous jobs. When I met Brenda and found out what she and other outdoor program specialists did at TPWD, I felt that additional altruistic need that my field biologist position could not fill. Needless to say, I jumped at the opportunity to apply for the Aquatic Education position when I found out Brenda was moving on. I was proud to accept the position when Ann and Nancy offered it to me. Their timing was also perfect, as I happened to be stranded on Clear Lake in a broken-down boat when they called!

Although I have some big shoes to fill, I am confident that my volunteers and program staff are among the best. I’ve had the opportunity to meet some volunteers already and look forward to meeting the rest of you in the upcoming months. More importantly, I can’t wait to hear your personal success stories of creating positive fishing memories for our kids. Please let me know how I can help you.

Fishing Fever Caught at Park Events

ANN MILLER – Aquatic Education Coordinator

**Summertime, and the living is easy ...
except at some of our state parks, where the fishing fever is catching on in a BIG way.**

This year, state parks are the hot places to be if you want to learn how to fish or learn some new fishing techniques. In its third year, our program to provide fishing event coordinators and regular fishing events at ten state parks is at fever pitch. More kids are catching their first fish and more families are learning to fish together than ever before. In addition, Huntsville State Park Fishing Event Coordinator David Neyses has official scales to document state youth lake records! As you can see from the photos, several kids are now record holders for Lake Raven (at Huntsville), and the excitement is catching. More parks will get certified scales very soon, with youth records just waiting to be set.

On June 2, Free Fishing Day for the entire state, two parks had huge crowds for their events. At Eisenhower State Park, 96 kids participated in a derby where 12 kids caught their first fish and a total of 88 fish were caught. At Bastrop State Park, 95 kids completed a Junior Angler program under the beautiful pines, with several kids catching their first fish and one child catching a nice 14-inch largemouth bass (see photo below). Both events made use of every available volunteer, with never a spare moment.

Parents raved about the Bastrop event (as I was helping load up at the end). What I heard from those parents was that their kids had a wonderful time, that THEY and their kids learned a great deal, that they want to support our parks (asking how best to do that) and that they will be taking their kids fishing again. I was pleased, to say the least.



PHOTO: KAREN MARKS

Galveston Island SP

Bastrop SP



PHOTO: ANN MILLER

But wait ... we're not finished yet. Our parks have 23 more events planned throughout the summer. And event coordinators could use your help! Please check out the event calendar on pages 15–16 and call our fishing event coordinators. Listed below is each coordinator's contact information. You won't find a more rewarding or fun way to volunteer!

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Bastrop/Buescher | Bill Brooks | bgbrooks@mail.utexas.edu |
| Blanco | Cathrin Gaida | gundogs@moment.net |
| Brazos Bend | Ed Gerhardt | elg@jraha.org |
| Bonham | Don McCommas | don.mccommas@us.army.mil |
| Eisenhower | Steve Hollensed | stevhollensed@texoma.net |
| Galveston Island | David Murphy | davemurph07@yahoo.com |
| Huntsville | David Neyses | proudamerican@att.net |
| Inks Lake | Janet Bohanan | cjbohanan@thegateway.net |
| Palmetto | Don Desch | fishpalmettopark@sbcglobal.net |
| Ray Roberts Lake | Tammie Hahn | tamara_tx@yahoo.com |

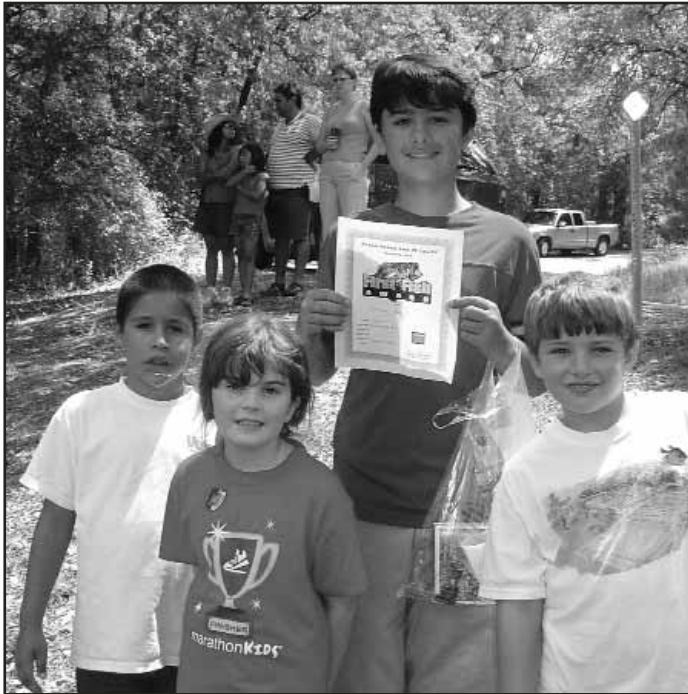


PHOTO: ANN MILLER

PHOTOS: DAVID NEYES



Madison West shows her Junior Angler Lake Raven waterbody record largemouth bass.



Micah Thomas holds a Junior Angler lake record for redear sunfish for Lake Raven.

Bastrop SP



PHOTO: STEVE CAMPBELL

Ray Roberts Lake SP (Katy Hammon teaching the basics)



PHOTO: WINDY ALTUM

Galveston Island SP

Palmetto SP (Don Desch teaches about rods)



Tino Chavez, AmeriCorps member for Capital 4-H, teaches knot-tying.

PHOTO: KAREN MARKS

Sharing Your Passion Takes Practice

KAREN MARKS – Outdoor Learning Program

Last weekend I saw a funny movie entitled *Chalk*, and the film's tag line was "Real Teaching Leaves a Mark." One of the main characters was a novice high school teacher who lacked a little self-confidence in the classroom. Seeing this film got me to thinking. I wondered how many of our new Angler Ed instructors might be feeling a little anxious or nervous about getting their feet wet teaching Angler Ed.

If you're in this group that feels a little antsy, don't worry—you're not alone! A quick review of our database reports indicates that only 15 percent of the 255 new instructors trained in the past year have taught or co-taught a Junior Angler class or participated in an Angler Ed outreach event.

Getting up in front of a room full of strangers, whether they are adults or youth, can be quite intimidating. But remember the reason you became a volunteer Angler Ed instructor was to **share your passion** for the outdoors and fishing. Here are some tips to get started.

- Take baby steps. Instead of offering a whole class, offer smaller skill-set sessions to a group over a period of time, while slowly building up your self-confidence.
- Start by offering a class to a group that you already have a connection with, like a scout or youth group, or other adult organization.
- Invite a friend to participate in the class so you'll have one friendly, familiar face in the crowd.
- Keep it simple. Start with the basic class outline, using the techniques and tools provided in the instructor guide, adapting to your personal teaching style.
- Invite a friend or fellow Angler Ed instructor to help you out at a class or event.
- Check out our calendar of events, find an event or class in your area, and contact the instructor to offer your assistance as a co-teacher.
- When ordering class supplies, allow for ample processing and delivery time.

For those of you with experience teaching Angler Ed, do you remember your first class jitters? Consider inviting a new instructor to co-teach

with you, even if your next class will be small. Let the new instructor decide which activities he/she is comfortable teaching. Sit down with him/her after class and walk through the paperwork together.

Not sure who in your area is part of your Angler Ed cohort? Looking for a mentor? Give us a call and we'll connect you with someone in your area.

Our small staff of four relies on you, the volunteer, to help us reach out across this great state of Texas to introduce folks, young and old, to the wonders of the outdoors and fishing fun. We can't do it without all of our wonderful, talented volunteers. So what are you waiting for?

You have already taken the first step by becoming an Angler Ed volunteer instructor. Now all you have to do is swim up to the task of teaching your first class. Remember—be positive and enthusiastic, don't expect to have all the answers, have fun, and once you toss that first squiggly across the room, the crowd will be yours ... just don't leave a mark.



AED Instructor Michael Howe teaches casting.

PHOTO: KAREN MARKS



With Baited Breath

STEVE CAMPBELL
Aquatic Education –
North Texas/
Panhandle

Most venomous snake bites occur during one of the two following activities—trying to kill it or trying to catch it.

SNAKES!

After two years of drought, the skies have finally opened up and renewed the parched earth with a bounty of rain. Good for our lawns, good for our lakes, good for our fish and good for our snakes.

Did he say “snakes”?!?

Yes, he did!

Reports of increased snake sightings across Texas have begun to pour across my desk. This is good news to me, but then I am a herpetologist—one who studies reptiles and amphibians.

When water becomes scarce, so do snakes and other wildlife. Many reptiles and amphibians, when faced with extended hot and dry conditions, opt for a subterranean lifestyle. They will retreat as deep into the earth as they can reach—places that are much cooler than the surface. There they enter a “summertime” state of hibernation known to science as *aestivation* (ess – tee – vay – schun).

Just as in hibernation, or some herpetologists might prefer the term *brumation* (brew – may – schun), aestivation brings on a reduction in heart and respiration rates. Metabolism is also decreased, which prevents the loss of much-needed fat reserves.

Some fish have found very interesting ways to either survive prolonged dry periods or at least ensure that the species will survive. A species of African lungfish, with ancestral roots dating back to the Devonian Period, can survive up to three years by generating a cocoon of mucus around its body.

Snakes either adjust to a pattern of nighttime stalking of prey or simply find a cooler place to hang out.

Texas is blessed with 73 species of snakes—130 if subspecies are counted. Of these varieties, 11 (about 20 percent) are venomous, and only about eight have either venom or a venom delivery system capable of causing death in humans. I consider that a comforting statistic when compared to the number of fatalities caused by automobile accidents each year.

Did he say “blessed”?

He sure did!

Snakes seek out and consume prey that varies from invertebrates, fish, amphibians, other reptiles (including their own species), birds and their eggs to small mammals. For the most part, many of their prey items have been deemed harmful to humans in one way or another. Sometimes it is not the species consumed that is beneficial as much as it may be the individual organism. Water snakes, for instance, cannot capture healthy fish. Instead, they catch those that are sick or dying and prevent further contamination of fish populations. Unfortunately, the worlds of angling and water snakes collide. Water snakes are not aware of bag limits, and a stringer of fish is just too easy to pass up.

Ominous encounters with snakes may happen around our homes. These ill-fated meetings are actually our fault. We provide places for snakes to live and/or unintentionally attract species (rodents and birds) they prefer to dine upon. You cannot blame the snake; it’s just doing what a snake does. We are the intruders.

What should I do if I come across a snake?

That depends on what the two of you are doing at the time. If you are out walking in the woods or in a field, or if you are fishing, just leave it alone. Most venomous snake bites occur during one of the two following activities—trying to kill it or trying to catch it.

The severed head of a pit viper can deliver a venomous bite hours after its decapitation, so take care not to leave it around for someone to handle. More often than not, nonvenomous, beneficial snakes are put to death needlessly. It is akin to the ultimate case of identity theft. However, I would by no means suggest that a venomous snake present on your front porch should be overlooked. It presents a clear and present danger to your family and should be removed carefully.

To quote an over-quoted movie, “Can’t we all just get along?”



Karen Marks teaches nature photography to David Neyses and John Miller.



Singing along while the fire crackles.



David Murphy fries up some tasty shrimp while Rey Ramirez looks on.

Of Seafood and Song

ANN MILLER – Aquatic Education Coordinator

Our area chief meeting in May set a new standard that might be hard to repeat. David Murphy's fried seafood rocked everyone's boat on Friday night, while Steve Campbell got everyone singing around the campfire on Saturday night. Steve's original words to some old favorite songs and Ernie Gammage's soulful guitar inspired everyone to warm up those vocal chords. With Windy's song books and a crackling campfire, an evening of fun helped wind up a day of learning and sharing at our annual area chief meeting at Parrie Haynes. See the lyrics on the next page for our favorite of Steve's songs. Some of you may decide to use Steve's rendition of "YMCA" with your Angler Ed groups!

Of course, the meeting this year had many other high points. Jim Stewart, with the Angler's Legacy program of the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation, inspired us to keep our eyes on the prize—leaving a legacy of boaters and anglers who are stewards of our precious resources. Dr. Gary Garrett's presentation about native fish and the pressures that may cause their decline helped us understand how scientists and citizens can be a positive force in preventing those declines. Advanced training sessions gave us the opportunity to learn about aquatic plants (thanks to Inland Fisheries' Mark Webb), learn the "do's and don'ts" of kayak fishing

(thanks to Aaron Reed), tie a fly with Doc Harrison, find ways to teach fishing to people who have physical and mental disabilities (thanks to Dr. Hauseman and Dr. Ramirez of UT-Brownsville), learn to flycast (thanks to Walter McLendon) and learn how to take beautiful outdoor photos (thanks to Karen Marks). So much to choose from, and so little time!

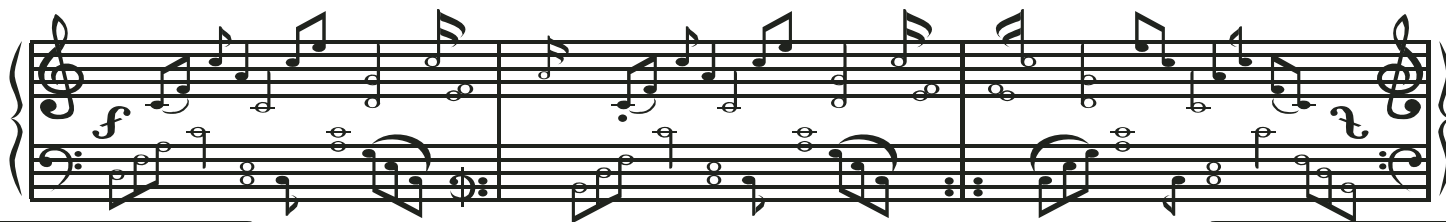
With fishing and kayaking trips to round out the agenda, surveys we received from our area chiefs indicated that we might consider making the meeting a tad bit longer. Our next area chief meeting might include some programming for Friday evening. We are also going to consider how to allow more time for networking and sharing of ideas among all the area chiefs. If we can, we'll even try to get the bass pond stocked so that next year, our anglers will have a bit more luck ... unless it is SKILL that is lacking ... and we just need to bait an area like we do when we take kids fishing!

I hope everyone takes some time off this summer to get out and enjoy our Texas waterways, fishing or boating, and teaching Angler Ed, of course!

Best fishes, Ann Miller



PHOTO: KAREN MARKS



Fun to Fish With Parks and Wildlife

Steve Campbell

(played to the tune of "YMCA" by the Village People)

- 1). Young folk, there's a place you can go
- 2). Young folk, there's no need to feel down
- 3). Young folk, are you list' - ning to me?
- 4). No one does this all by them - selves

- 1). I said, young folk, when your op - tions are low
- 2). I said, young folk, keep your feet on the ground
- 3). I said, young folk, what do you want to be?
- 4). I said, young folk, take some pride in your - self

- 1). I said, young folk, when you run out of dough
- 2). You can make it, though you live in down - town
- 3). I said, young folk, you might catch some big fish
- 4). And just go to Tex - as Parks and Wild - life

- 1). There's no need to be un__ - hap - py (to 2nd verse)
- 2). Man - ny ways to fish in Tex - as (to Chorus)
- 3). But you got to know this one thing: (to 4th verse)
- 4). Man - ny way to fish in Tex - as (to Chorus)

Chorus:

It's fun to fish with Parks__ and Wild - life

It's fun to fish with Parks__ and Wild - life

They have e - ver - y - thing, for young peo - ple to learn

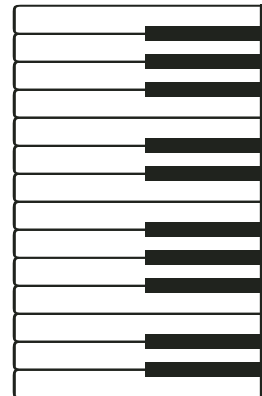
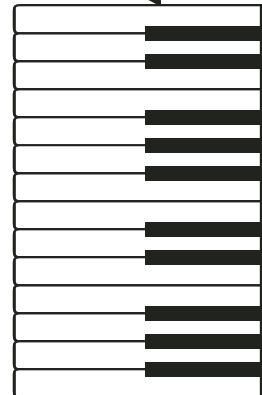
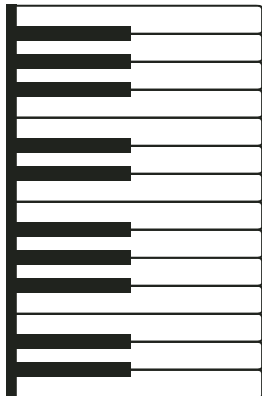
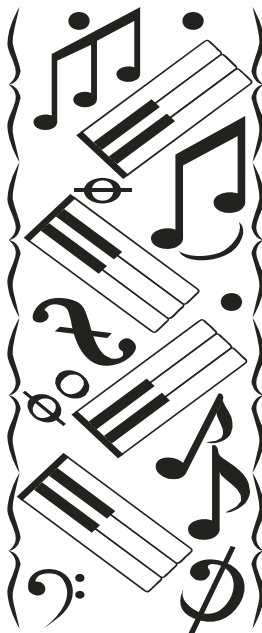
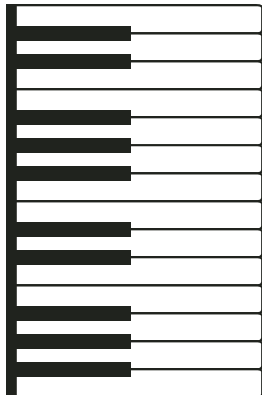
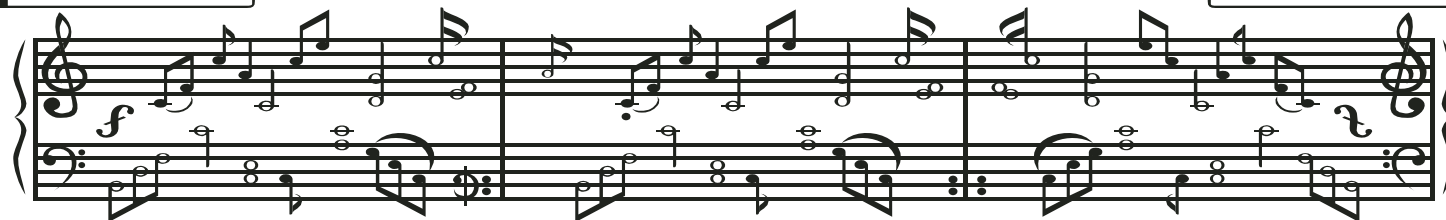
But you might have to wait your turn__

Learn to fish with us, Parks__ and Wild - life

So cool to fish with Parks__ and Wild - life

You can have a good time, you can learn how to fish

You can do what - ev - er you wish__



Grissom Elementary's Kodak Moment

KEVIN CUNNINGHAM – Aquatic Education Specialist, Houston

The evening of Friday, April 27, was poised to be a great “Kodak Moment.” Not because the sun was out, not because the fish were biting, but because 17 families (totaling 53 people) showed up to fish for the first or second time in their lives.

Now in its second year of implementation, the Take Me Fishing, Houston! (TMFH) program is designed to increase fishing participation and aquatic stewardship among Latino/Hispanic families in the Houston area. Utilizing partnerships with local communities, TPWD aims to bring Latino/Hispanic families out onto the water to fish. The family fishing event on Friday, April 27, is a capstone of that effort. Our community partner, Grissom Elementary, located in southwest Houston, held their annual TMFH fishing event. Each child and some of the adults learned how to fish through hands-on activity stations. And although there were some initial language barriers, the event went very smoothly and was a big success.

At first, it seemed unfortunate that we only had a couple of Spanish-speaking volunteers to help converse with the parents who couldn't speak English. However, we soon found that the children were more than up to the task of playing interpreter. In one case, after failing to instruct a father on how to cast, I simply taught the daughter and, in turn, she instructed him. For myself, the value of this experience was twofold. On the one hand, it revealed to me the power that even one child can have in the implementation of our program. And on the other hand, it gave me great joy to watch the young lady build her confidence by teaching her father how to cast both the spincast and spinning reels. Later, both would go on to catch fish of their own.

Immediately following the education section, the students got to apply what they learned through actual fishing. Almost every student caught a catfish, and those who didn't either lost one or landed a bluegill instead. A total of 35 channel cats were landed, with the



PHOTO: KEVIN CUNNINGHAM



Hector Amaya's "Kodak Moment" with happy anglers.

PHOTO: KEVIN CUNNINGHAM

average size being 14.5 inches. Following the event, prizes were given out for categories such as "largest fish," "most fish," "smallest fish," "most enthusiastic," etc. But in the end, every kid walked away with a prize; some received their "First Fish" certificate.

Thanks to TPWD Angler Education volunteers, Grissom Elementary volunteers and TPWD staff, the event was well supplied and managed. A special thanks goes out to Brenda Justice for her efforts in getting the pond stocked before the event.

"We appreciate all the work each and every one of you put into this project. It's one of those win-win situations where all of us benefit from the partnership we share," said Ann Miller, TPWD Angler Education coordinator. Hector Amaya, Jr., fishing event coordinator and Grissom Elementary teacher, was pleased with the turnout and hopes to recreate this success again next year.

In closing, Dr. Karl Cloninger, director of Parrie Haynes Ranch, had this to say based on his observations at the event:

As a professional educator, I am interested in how youth take the skills we teach (awareness), turn them into avid hobbies (participation), and then maybe ... just maybe, they turn it into a professional career. I think we need to presume that these possibilities exist for all of our youth. This is so profound ... it can't be about just a day of fishing as an endpoint. Such information (about career possibilities) needs to be communicated to all kids in school and at home.

Let's strike while the iron is hot.

Picture perfect.

Hector teaches about fishing regulations.

Learn to Fish — Fish to Live

LINDA THIBAUT AND ELIZABETH OROSCO – Adapted Physical Education Department, Denton Independent School District

Under the watchful supervision of Dr. Linda Hilgenbrinck, Denton ISD’s Adapted Physical Education program received grants from Groundhog Gala Grant to Teachers and Denton Public School Foundation to purchase equipment and supplies to teach students with varying disabilities and/or special needs how to fish.

Certified para-educators, middle school physical education teachers and Adapted Physical Education (APE) staff were certified in Texas Parks and Wildlife’s Angler Education Program. Within days our special needs kids were learning to cast rods and reels and catch backyard bass like professional anglers.

By the time the event rolled around, the APE department had rallied support from Bass Pro Shop’s representative Debi Dowdall and pro-

fessional anglers Helen Gordon, Matt Hupp and Michael Lawson. These pro-anglers were on hand to assist our kids with support, additional instruction and some great catches!

On the morning of May 9, students loaded onto buses and headed to the small lake at Eureka Park, eager to see what would bite their well-baited hooks. Would it be a catfish, bluegill, trout or a turtle? Perhaps a diamondback water snake!

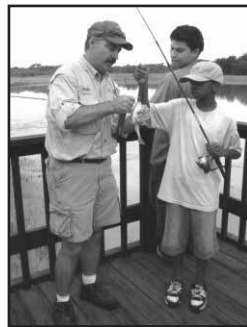
Luckily, the students only caught fish, both big and small. The fish were weighed and carefully released back into the lake. With a fish still in a Catch-a-Smile bag, one student announced, “I caught a fish! I’m a champion!”

The objective of the grant that supported this fishing field trip was to provide a community-based experience, one that could lead to a lifetime of activity, for these students with special needs and disabilities. For many, it was their first time to fish, as well as the beginning of an APE Angler Education Program for the district. The students had a wonderful time outdoors, away from their everyday classroom experience. Watching the faces and hearing the excitement in the student’s voices of those who had caught their first fish, as well as those who enjoyed a day outside, provided even more joy and entertainment to the teachers and volunteers.

The kids were all champions that day!



Left: Matt Hupp and friend grin for the camera.



Right: Professional angler Michael Lawson helps unhook a bullhead.

PHOTO: DENTON ISD

ANGLER EDUCATION CONTACT INFORMATION

General Information and Records

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Supplies

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(512) 389-4795 or (512) 389-4528
mac.almond@tpwd.state.tx.us
rita.williamson@tpwd.state.tx.us

Aquatic Education Coordinator

ANN MILLER (800) 792-1112 + 9 + 4732
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Aquatic Education – Dallas/Fort Worth

STEVE CAMPBELL (972) 263-0427
stephen.campbell@tpwd.state.tx.us

Aquatic Education – Houston

KEVIN CUNNINGHAM (281) 534-0123
kevin.cunningham@tpwd.state.tx.us

Outdoor Learning Program

KAREN MARKS
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Outdoor Learning Programs Coordinator

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Freshwater Mussels Are Good for Bass!

MARSHA MAY – Texas Mussel Watch Biologist

Freshwater mussels are good for bass? That's right! Scientists in Oklahoma found that where there are beds of native freshwater mussels there also are many benthic macroinvertebrates! So, what are benthic macroinvertebrates and why are they important? Benthic macroinvertebrates are very small animals without backbones (invertebrates) that live in the river bottom on rocks, logs, sediment, debris and aquatic plants during some time in their life. These animals include crayfish, snails, worms, aquatic insects and the larvae of mayflies, damselflies and dragonflies.

How does that make them good for bass? Well, let's see ... what do bass like to eat? When they are young they feed on insects, crayfish and small fish—in other words, benthic macroinvertebrates. When they get bigger, they will eat just about anything that they can catch and swallow, including other fish, crayfish, frogs, salamanders, snakes, mice, turtles and even ducklings (Hodge, L., *Texas Parks & Wildlife* magazine, Bass Buffet, January 2007). Bluegills are a favorite food for bass, and what do bluegills eat? They eat aquatic insects and their larvae—benthic macroinvertebrates!

Caryn C. Vaughn and Daniel E. Spooner of the Oklahoma Biological Survey and Department of Zoology, University of Oklahoma, published their work "Unionid mussels influence macroinvertebrate assemblage structure in streams" in the 2006 *Journal of the North American Benthological Society*. They compared benthic macroinvertebrate densities in mussel beds in 30 study sites and 10 patches or quadrats per study site in eight streams in Arkansas and Oklahoma. They found that macroinvertebrate densities were significantly higher in patches containing mussels than in patches without mussels. Therefore, mussel density was positively correlated with macroinvertebrate density across the 300 quadrats. Vaughn and Spooner (2006) stated that mussels probably assist macroinvertebrate production by creating biogenic structure, stabilizing stream sediments, and providing food resources.

Another study, "Context-dependent effects of freshwater mussels on stream benthic communities," published by Daniel E. Spooner and Caryn C. Vaughn in the 2006 *Freshwater Biology Journal*, looks at the

By preserving freshwater mussel beds, we also preserve habitat for bass.



influence of unionid mussels on the distribution and abundance of benthic algae and invertebrates. In this study, Spooner and Vaughn conducted an experiment in the Kiamichi River in Oklahoma where they compared the benthic community in live mussel beds versus just the presence of mussel shells and also a mussel-free control. They found that the algae and invertebrate abundance was higher in the live mussel beds than in either the mussel shells or mussel-free control areas. They suggest that the invertebrates were responding to higher levels of organic matter and nutrients deposited by the live mussels. They also concluded that the invertebrates were responding to the increased amount of algae on live mussels as food and/or shelter.

Freshwater mussels play an important role in aquatic ecosystems. Not only are they good habitat for bass, their filter feeding cleans the water of detritus and bacteria, and they are an important food source for many aquatic and terrestrial animals. There are about 53 species of freshwater mussels in Texas, and six species can only be found in Texas. About 38 percent of those 53 species are thought to be in danger of becoming extinct. These amazing creatures are very sensitive to changes in their environment, which include things like siltation from construction sites, pollutants, river flow alterations, and salinity. To learn more about these amazing creatures and a program called Texas Mussel Watch, please check out this Web site: www.tpwd.state.tx.us/mussels. Texas Mussel Watch volunteers help by monitoring populations of these incredibly beautiful and increasingly rare species and help biologists map out their distributions.

Anglers' Legacy

A national mission from "takemefishing"

Just a reminder to all of our Angler Education instructors.

We hope that you will visit the Angler's Legacy Web site and take the pledge!

www.anglerslegacy.org

STUDENT ACTIVITY

Follow this link to the EPA's Web site for an interactive activity to simulate an animal's entanglement in plastic litter.

www.epa.gov/gmpo/edresources/bind.html

Our State Fish Returns

ANN MILLER – Aquatic Education Coordinator

May 31 dawned with a downpour but turned sunny by mid-morning for the long-awaited release of thousands of Guadalupe bass fingerlings in the Guadalupe River near Hunt, Texas, just west of Kerrville. Texas Parks and Wildlife's Dr. Gary Garrett, officials of the Upper Guadalupe River Authority, Dr. Guy Harrison (Angler Ed area chief) and Preston Weatherred (Flyfishing instructor), looked on as the first of the fingerlings were acclimated and then released close to vegetation where they could hide from predators. Smiles and handshakes punctuated the event, while the Guadalupe rolled by, swollen with recent rains.

As reported in the July 2006 issue of *Reel Lines*, stocking Guadalupe bass began in Johnson Creek, a tributary of the Guadalupe, about three years ago. An agreement with the Upper Guadalupe River Authority and support from various groups such as the Hill Country Flyfishers (led by Guy Harrison), the Federation of Fly Fishers Southern Council, various other flyfishing clubs and the Kerrville Convention and Visitor's Bureau, has set the stage for a five-year stocking program. With data showing that the restocking in Johnson Creek resulted in a greater incidence of pure-strain Guadalupe bass, the stage was set for today's stocking in the main part of the river ... and for some great fishing in years to come since the Guadalupe bass, although not as large as other bass species, is known as a good fighter.

We thank Guy "Doc" Harrison for his dedication to this project, to all those who have contributed to the project, and to Dr. Gary Garrett and his team for their work to restore our official state fish! If you would like to support this project with a donation, please contact Doc at (830) 895-8696 or gunyon003@aol.com

Dr. Gary Garrett releases the Guadalupe bass fingerlings.

PHOTOS: ANN MILLER



Dr. Gary Garrett, Dr. Guy Harrison and Preston Weatherred

Doc Wins Award

MIKE ANDREWS

Dr. Guy Harrison of Kerrville's Hill Country Fly Fishers was recently voted by fly-fishing clubs within the Southern Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers as Conservationist of the Year and was awarded the honor at the October Conclave in Mountain Home, Arkansas.

The award reflects Dr. Harrison's efforts to recruit and develop support for a project in cooperation with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in restoring the population of Texas' state fish, the Guadalupe bass, known to exist only in rivers of the Texas Hill Country. Not limiting his activities to conservation, Dr. Harrison has also devoted countless hours to organizing and leading fly-fishing youth activities at Camp La Junta near Hunt, Texas, along with recruiting and spearheading activities with our Basic and Intermediate Fly-fishing program. His energy carries him into every aspect of fly-fishing and conservation.



State-Fish Art Contest Winners Announced

LARRY HODGE – Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center

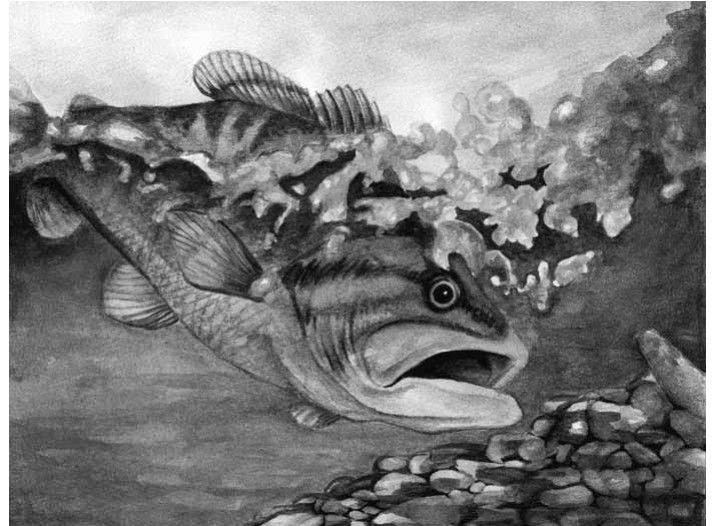
ATHENS, Texas—Winners in the Texas division of the 2007 State-Fish Art Contest have been announced by Wildlife Forever and the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center, the sponsoring organizations.

First place in the Grades 4–6 category went to Stanislav Nedzelskyi of Keller, Texas, a home-schooled sixth-grader. His acrylic drawing of two Guadalupe bass is titled “The Underwater Meeting.” Nikita Samarin of Victoria won the Grades 7–9 category with “Down in the Blue,” a black-and-white pencil drawing of a catfish. Samarin attends Profit Magnet High School in Victoria. His art teacher is Melanie Burns. Winner of the Grades 10–12 category was Clayton Bowen of Eagle Lake. He attends Rice High School in Altair, where his art instructor is Debbie Christ. Bowen’s watercolor shows a Guadalupe bass diving into the water and is titled “Splashin’ Bass.”

The Texas division of the national contest is headquartered at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center (TFFC) in Athens. Initial judging takes place at TFFC, and winning entries are sent to Wildlife Forever headquarters in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, for judging at the national level. Results of the national contest will be announced at the State-Fish Art Expo, July 21–22 at the Mall of America, where all winning artwork will be on display.

National awards to be announced at the July expo include Best of Show for the top three pieces of artwork in each grade category and the Art of Conservation Stamp Award. The winning artwork of the Art of Conservation Stamp Award will be reproduced as a stamp for sale to collectors; proceeds will be used to fund conservation education and aquatic restoration projects across America.

Educators and students in Texas have embraced the State-Fish Art Contest so enthusiastically that the number of entries from Texas alone, 570, amounts to about one-fourth of the entries for the entire country. To enter the contest, students create an illustration of an officially rec-



Clayton Bowen of Eagle Lake wins grades 10–12 category.

ognized state fish and write a composition about its behavior, habitat and efforts to conserve it. The Texas state fish is the Guadalupe bass, but contestants may depict any state fish of their choice. Entries are due at TFFC by March 31 of each year; for contest details, visit the TFFC Web site at www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/visitorcenters/tffc/

Wildlife Forever is a nonprofit multi-species conservation organization dedicated to conserving America’s wildlife heritage. Wildlife Forever has funded conservation projects in all 50 states. It supports habitat restoration and enhancement, land acquisition, research and management of fish and wildlife populations.

**Digital images of the winning artwork are available
on the TPWD Web site at
www.tpwd.state.tx.us/newsmedia/news_images/**

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Hutsell Elementary School principal Keiko Davidson, lead teacher Brenda Shaver, and all of the Hutsell faculty who are participating in the “Take Me Fishing, Houston!” project.

Hutsell was chosen to receive a grant from the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation to provide fishing and boating education to their students. We couldn’t be happier for them and look forward to working with them in the coming year!

EVENT CALENDAR

Looking for an opportunity to have fun and use your Angler Education Instructor training? Many of the following events would welcome additional volunteers. Please contact the event coordinator or location for more information.

ANGLER EDUCATION INSTRUCTOR COURSES

Basic Fishing Instructor Course

June 30, 2007 – Austin, Texas Contact Karen Marks, Karen.Marks@tpwd.state.tx.us or (512) 389-8833.

Fly-fishing Instructor Course

June 30, 2007 – McKinney Falls SP Contact Ann Miller at ann.miller@tpwd.state.tx.us or (512) 389-4732.

YOUTH FISHING CLINICS

- June 16, 2007 Buescher SP – Jr. Angler Fishing Clinic, (512) 237-2241.
- June 16, 2007 Caddo Lake SP&WMA – 2nd Annual Wal-Mart Kids All-American Fishing Derby, (903) 679-3351.
- June 16, 2007 Galveston Island SP – Youth Fishing Clinic, (409) 737-1222.
- June 16, 2007 Huntsville SP – Learn How to Fish, (281) 419-6477 or (936) 295-5644.
- June 16, 2007 Lake Texana SP – Take Dad Fishing Day, (361) 782-5718.
- June 16, 2007 McKinney Falls SP – Learn to Fish, (512) 243-1643.
- June 16, 2007 Ray Roberts Lake SP/Johnson Branch Unit – Family Fishing Fun and Angler Education, (940) 637-2294.
- June 17, 2007 Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center – Celebrate Father's Day, kids bring their father or grandfather for a day of free fishing, (903) 676-BASS.
- June 23, 2007 Inks Lake SP – Basic Fishing Clinic, (512) 793-2223.
- July 14, 2007 Bastrop SP – Jr. Angler Fishing Clinic, (512) 321-2101.
- July 14, 2007 Eisenhower SP – 4-H Kids Fishing Derby, (903) 465-1956.
- July 14, 2007 Galveston Island SP – Youth Fishing Clinic, (409) 737-1222.
- July 14, 2007 Ray Roberts Lake SP/Isle du Bois Unit – Carp Fishing Festival, (940) 686-2148.
- July 21, 2007 Buescher SP – Jr. Angler Fishing Clinic, (512) 237-2241.
- July 21, 2007 Huntsville SP – Learn How to Fish, (281) 419-6477 or (936) 295-5644.
- July 21, 2007 Inks Lake SP – Basic Fishing Clinic, (512) 793-2223.
- August 4, 2007 Inks Lake SP – Basic Fishing Clinic, (512) 793-2223.
- August 4, 2007 Lake Whitney SP – Youth Fishing Tournament, (254) 694-3793.
- September 8, 2007 Lake Texana SP – Take Your Grandparents Fishing Day, (361) 782-5718.
- September 15, 2007 Palmetto SP – Jr. Angler Fishing Clinic, (830) 672-3266.
- October 20, 2007 Palmetto SP – Jr. Angler Fishing Clinic, (830) 672-3266.
- October 20, 2007 Sea Center Texas – Catch and Release Youth Fishing, (979) 292-0100.

EVENT CALENDAR

continued

OTHER FISHING EVENTS

- May 26 – Sept 3, 2007 Coastal Conservation Association STAR Tournament. Youth prizes include college scholarships up to \$50,000. For more information, www.ccatexas.org
- October 6, 2007 Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center – Big Fish Bluegill Tournament, (903) 676-BASS.
- October 20, 2007 Port Arthur, Texas – Coastal Fisheries Bay Team Fishing Tournament. For more information contact Robert Adami at robert.adami@tpwd.state.tx.us or (361) 939-8745.
- October 27, 2007 Aransas Pass, Texas – Coastal Fisheries Bay Team Fishing Tournament. For more information contact Robert Adami at robert.adami@tpwd.state.tx.us or (361) 939-8745.
- November 3, 2007 Port O'Connor, Texas – Coastal Fisheries Bay Team Fishing Tournament. For more information contact Robert Adami at robert.adami@tpwd.state.tx.us or (361) 939-8745.
- November 10, 2007 Texas City, Texas – Coastal Fisheries Bay Team Fishing Tournament. For more information, contact Robert Adami at robert.adami@tpwd.state.tx.us or (361) 939-8745. (800) 792-1112 (Press 4).

**For additional events and information, check out
www.tpwd.state.tx.us/newsmedia/calendar/**



TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE EXPO

October 6 & 7

9 to 5, Saturday & Sunday

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Headquarters

4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas

To volunteer to help at Expo, please contact Windy Altum at windy.altum@tpwd.state.tx.us

We have four-hour shifts available on Saturday and Sunday. Hotels with special rates for Expo must be booked by Sept. 15. See the Web site for hotel list.

Want to be an Area Chief?

Area Chiefs are a group of active and dedicated Angler Education (AED) instructors who volunteer to help the Aquatic Education team train new AED instructors. AED Area Chiefs have demonstrated leadership in training youth and families in their communities.

If you would like to become an Angler Education Area Chief, please contact an Angler Education staff member (see page 11).

Current Area Chiefs are listed on the next page.

Area Chiefs (new chiefs in bold)

| LAST NAME | FIRST NAME | CITY | E-MAIL |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|---|
| CONDRA | LARRY | ABILENE | larry.condra@abileneisd.org |
| BURKHALTER | GEORGE | ALICE | |
| LARSON | LARRY | AMARILLO | |
| BAMMEL | MICHAEL | AUSTIN | mikebammel@yahoo.com |
| DURAN | GILBERT | AUSTIN | gillduran@yahoo.com |
| HOWE | MICHAEL | AUSTIN | mahowe@ag.tamu.edu |
| PEDRAM | HALEH | AUSTIN | heyhalehguesswhat@gmail.com |
| GANZE | CHARLES (CHUCK) | BAYTOWN | ganzec@gte.net |
| IBARRA | ROBERTO | BAYTOWN | |
| BOHANAN | JANET | BERTRAM | cjbohanan@thegateway.net |
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| HARMEL-GARZA | DENISE | COLLEGE STATION | d-harmel-garza@tamu.edu |
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| CARPENTER | MARK | DALLAS | markscampfire@sbcglobal.net |
| BOHANNON | KEN | DODD CITY | KENBOHANNON@MSN.COM |
| VAN DE PUTTE | ANTOINETTE | EL PASO | yhstrainer@aol.com |
| KOLTON | ROBIN | ELGIN | robin.kolton@tpwd.state.tx.us |
| FLOYD | JOHN | FREDERICKSBURG | jcf5460@aol.com |
| MASTERS | KEITH | FREDERICKSBURG | keith.masters@honeywell.com |
| PURSCH | MARTIN | FREDERICKSBURG | countryflyfish@fbg.net |
| MIZE | SHANE | FT WORTH | SHANE.MIZE@FORTWORTHGOV.ORG |
| DANNER | THOMAS | HOUSTON | thomas.danner@nov.com |
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| GERHARDT | EDGAR | HOUSTON | ELG@JRAHA.ORG |
| KESTER | ROBERT | HOUSTON | BKESTER@FKP.COM |
| MILLER III | JOHN | HOUSTON | cochoutx@yahoo.com |
| PARKS | ROBERT | HOUSTON | |
| PELLOWSKI | JAMES | HOUSTON | jpellos@ccisd.net |
| PERKINS | JOHN | HOUSTON | jpspecs@peoplepc.com |
| SMITH | CHARLES | HOUSTON | jaronnie@peoplepc.com |
| WALL | ROBERT | HOUSTON | bobwall@hal-pc.org |
| FOBIAN | MARK | KATY | markfobian@katyisd.org |
| GALPIN | BARBARA | KATY | BGALPIN@CONSOLIDATED.NET |
| RICHARDS | DANNY | KEMAH | richardsdanny@sbcglobal.net |
| CRAIG | GREGORY | KERRVILLE | gregneld@ktc.com |
| HARRISON | GUY | KERRVILLE | gunyon003@aol.com |
| HICKMAN | ROY | KERRVILLE | roydh@ktc.com |
| SAUNDERS | WALTER | KERRVILLE | |
| TULL | FRANK | KERRVILLE | |
| CONTRERAS JR. | RICARDO | KINGSVILLE | bcft@omniglobal.net |
| DELA CRUZ | ELIGIO | KINGSVILLE | RICKYCONTRERAS96@gmail.com |
| LOPEZ | JEFF | KINGSVILLE | POMPANOSLAYER5000@YAHOO.COM |
| GORE | JAMES | LAKE JACKSON | KSDJL01@TAMUK.EDU |
| BELLO | DAWN | LIVINGSTON | HEYPACO@YAHOO.COM |
| CONE | DAN | LLANO | DAWN.BELLO@TPWD.STATE.TX.US |
| ROBINSON | FRANK | LOCKHART | cast@llanoriverflyfishing.com |
| MCLENDON | LINDA | LUFKIN | FRANK.ROBINSON@TPWD.STATE.TX.US |
| MCLENDON | WALTER | LUFKIN | ljo@sprynet.com |
| HOWES | MICHAEL | MCKINNEY | waltermc@sprynet.com |
| LEE | JAMES | NACOGDOCHES | mikesfishn@msn.com |
| MASON-LEISTER | ANDREW | ODEM | flynacbrm@yahoo.com |
| ANDERSON | JERE | PLANO | masonator19@gmail.com |
| PETRICK | MICHAEL | PLANO | Jaand75023@cs.com |
| SCOTT | MERLE | ROUND ROCK | mike.petrick@verizon.net ; petrickm@lisd.net |
| SCOTT III | TREY | ROUND ROCK | merlea@ev1.net ; merle@force-elec.com |
| BROWN | JIMMY | SAN ANGELO | trey@bantamei.com |
| CRUMRINE | WILLIAM | SAN ANTONIO | JMYBRN@MSN.COM ; JIMMYBROWN@SAISD.ORG |
| YORK | PEGGY | SAN ANTONIO | billoutdoors@hotmail.com |
| HAUSMAN | RALPH | SAN BENITO | peggy.york@sbcglobal.net |
| RAMIREZ | REYNALDO | SAN BENITO | RHAUSMAN_RALPH@MSN.COM |
| DESCH | GERALD | SEGUIN | REYNALDO.RAMIREZ@UTB.EDU |
| NEYES | DAVID | SPRING | fishpalmettopark@sbcglobal.net |
| HAMMON | KATY | SPRING | proudamerican@att.net |
| MURPHY | DAVID | TEAGUE | |
| SCHONS | CHARLES | Texas City | davemurph07@yahoo.com |
| GOSE | TAD | VICTORIA | CFSCHONS@AWESOMENET.NET |
| | | WICHITA FALLS | 336173725@msn.com |

Welcome, New Instructors!

December 1, 2006 - May 1, 2007

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------|------------------------|---------------|
| BAIRD, MICHAEL | ANGLETON | VOLDING, JEFFREY | CORINTH | MARTIN, DESSIE | DENTON |
| BREED, STEVEN | ANGLETON | YOUNG, JARED | CORINTH | MARY, JOHNSON | DENTON |
| HENDERSON, DAVID | AUBREY | LAWRENCE, PAM | CROSS ROADS | MAXWELL, SHERRI | DENTON |
| IVEY, JO | AUSTIN | COTTO, VICTOR | DALLAS | MILLS, BILLY | DENTON |
| KNIGHT, DARRELL | AUSTIN | GOODE, ELIZABETH | DALLAS | MULLENWEG, BETTY | DENTON |
| ROSALES, RUBEN | AUSTIN | KLEMENT, CHRISTEN | DALLAS | OLIVER, KELLY | DENTON |
| WATKINS, JACKY | AUSTIN | LAMBERT, MICHAEL | DALLAS | OROSCO, ELIZABETH | DENTON |
| EDEL, JOHN | BACLIFF | WILLIAMS, THOMAS | DALLAS | PETTY, DEBRA | DENTON |
| GAIDA, CATHRIN | BLANCO | TAYLOR, RICHARD | DAMON | PONSONBY, JOHNATHAN | DENTON |
| CASTRO, CYNTHIA | BROWNSVILLE | BRANUM, DALE | DENTON | PRITCHARD, SHARON | DENTON |
| GALVAN, HECTOR | BROWNSVILLE | BRANUM, FRANCES | DENTON | RAINEY, CHANNON | DENTON |
| GARZA, NELINDA | BROWNSVILLE | BRIGGS, DIANE | DENTON | RAMIREZ, MARIA | DENTON |
| GOMEZ, HEIDI | BROWNSVILLE | BROWER, RUTHANN | DENTON | RAMOS, WANDA | DENTON |
| GUILLEN, ERNESTO | BROWNSVILLE | BROWN, HILTRUD | DENTON | ROBERSON, MARTHA | DENTON |
| GUILLEN, LUZ | BROWNSVILLE | BUSHRE, KAREN | DENTON | RODGERS, DIANNA | DENTON |
| GUTIERREZ, ARACELIE | BROWNSVILLE | BUTCHER, DIAN | DENTON | TEAGLE, LONNIE | DENTON |
| GUTIERREZ, MARLEN | BROWNSVILLE | BUTTON, GERALDINE | DENTON | TEAGLE, TIFFANY | DENTON |
| MARTINEZ, CESAR | BROWNSVILLE | CARRASCO, CARMELA | DENTON | THOMAS, JENNISHA | DENTON |
| MARTINEZ, CYNTHIA | BROWNSVILLE | CARTER, DIAN | DENTON | THOMPSON, TROY | DENTON |
| MORENO, CARLOS | BROWNSVILLE | COLUMNA, LUIS | DENTON | WASHINGTON, KIMBERLY | DENTON |
| MURILLO, CESAR | BROWNSVILLE | DIAZ, PAZ | DENTON | WILLIS, SANDRA | DENTON |
| PARTIDA, MICHELLE | BROWNSVILLE | DONALDSON, DANITRA | DENTON | BURRIS, BRENNIA | FARSON |
| RODRIGUEZ, GRACIELA | BROWNSVILLE | DONALDSON, STEPHEN | DENTON | PLANE, SANDRA | FORT WORTH |
| SALINAS, MARTIN | BROWNSVILLE | FEELEY, ROBERT | DENTON | TODD, FRANCES | FORT WORTH |
| WILLIAMS, ZULEMA | BROWNSVILLE | FOSTER, MELINDA | DENTON | RINALDI, BILLIE | GALVESTON |
| OLIVER, MARK | BURLESON | FRANKLIN, NICOLE | DENTON | STEARNS, THALIA | GALVESTON |
| ALTUM, WINDY | CEDAR CREEK | FRIEDEMANN, LYNETTE | DENTON | SWENSON, JESSICA | GALVESTON |
| PHINNEY, DAVID | CEDAR PARK | GEORGE, MONA | DENTON | CALDWELL, JERRY | GARLAND |
| GARCIA, ANA | CHANNELVIEW | GEORGE, SHARON | DENTON | MASSIE, WILLIAM | GONZALES |
| ERWIN, TOMMY | CIBOLO | GONZALEZ, MATERESA | DENTON | GRAYSON, DWIGHT | GRAND PRAIRIE |
| STOKES, LORETTA | CIBOLO | HOPE, KIMBERLY | DENTON | RODRIGUEZ, JAMES | GRAND PRAIRIE |
| BARNES, LINDA | COLLINSVILLE | HOWELL, KENNY | DENTON | STEELE, JOHN | HAMLIN |
| RAMON, MICHAEL | CONVERSE | JOHNSON, FREDDIE | DENTON | ESCOBAR, MARIA | HARLINGEN |
| EVANS-YOUNG, MARTHA | CORINTH | JOHNSON, SCOTT | DENTON | RAMOS, ANDREA | HARLINGEN |
| MCDOUGALL, DAVID | CORINTH | LIBBY, BARBARA | DENTON | CASTANEDA, CHRISTOPHER | HOUSTON |
| REED, TRACY | CORINTH | LOPEZ, ANGELICA | DENTON | CHING, KATHY | HOUSTON |

We encourage you to team up to teach. It's fun, easier, and a great way to support each other.

Just call the Austin office if you would like to team up with one of these new instructors.

If we have accidentally left someone off, please let us know.

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|---------------------|---------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| CUNNINGHAM, KEVIN | HOUSTON | WILLEY, TAMMY | KATY | ANAYA, JOSE | SAN ANTONIO |
| DAVIDSON, KEIKO | HOUSTON | TETER, DOUGLAS | KERRVILLE | CALES, THOMAS | SAN ANTONIO |
| EWING, SONIA | HOUSTON | WEATHERRED III, PRESTON | KERRVILLE | CONNER, GEORGE | SAN ANTONIO |
| FITZGERALD, RICHARD | HOUSTON | ROBERTSON, RYAN | KRUGERVILLE | DELEON, JOHHNY | SAN ANTONIO |
| FULLER, CARL | HOUSTON | HANSON, LISA | KRUM | MCCORMICK, BARBARANN | SAN ANTONIO |
| LEIVINGSTON, ALBERT | HOUSTON | KEELER, JOANNE | KRUM | MENDOZA, ELI | SAN ANTONIO |
| LEWIS, MICHAEL | HOUSTON | LIRA, MARYANN | KRUM | WHITE, CHRISTOPHER | SAN ANTONIO |
| MILLER III, JOHN | HOUSTON | TYE, JANICE | KRUM | TRUE, JASON | SAN MARCOS |
| PELLOWSKI, JAMES | HOUSTON | WEBB, CATHY | KRUM | LANDRY, TED | SANTA FE |
| PERKINS, JOHN | HOUSTON | HILGENBRINK, LINDA | LAKE DALLAS | DESCH, GERALD | SEGUIN |
| PERKINS, JUDY | HOUSTON | LONGORIA, MARICRUZ | LAKE JACKSON | MCNULTY, CLARA | SOUTH PADRE ISLAND |
| SACCO, ASHLEY | HOUSTON | WEYANT, GERALD | LEAGUE CITY | NEYES, DAVID | SPRING |
| SMITH, CHARLES | HOUSTON | HEIMANN, JOSHUA | LEANDER | WU, WENYEN | SUGAR LAND |
| SMITH, PEARLIE | HOUSTON | ROWLAND, BARBARA | LEANDER | HAMMON, WILLIAM | TEAGUE |
| PRINGLE SR, DANNY | HUMBLE | NORRIS, FREDRICK | LEWISVILLE | CARNEY, KEVIN | TEXAS CITY |
| SHAW, JASON | JUSTIN | ROJAS, JASON | LEWISVILLE | MURPHY, DAVID | TEXAS CITY |
| BANKS, LYNN | KATY | PINA, SALLY | LIBERTY HILL | OLSON, JENNIFER | TEXAS CITY |
| BICE-WHITE, LILY | KATY | HOOLEY, MONICA | LITTLE ELM | TRUELOVE, KIM | THE COLONY |
| CAHILL, DIANNE | KATY | CLARK, MICHELLE | LOS FRESNOS | HAHN, TAMMIE | VALLEY VIEW |
| COY, NAKIA | KATY | HENDERSON, MARIA-ISABEL | LOS FRESNOS | HODSON, JAN | VALLEY VIEW |
| FRISON, LISA | KATY | NICHOLS, REBECCA | MARBLE FALLS | HODSON, KENNETH | VALLEY VIEW |
| HASSAN, SAMIRA | KATY | BRAVO, YVETTE | MC KINNEY | CHRISTY, SARAH | WACO |
| JOHNSON, TERI | KATY | WILKE, STEVE | MIDLAND | EVEES, CHRISTOPHER | WACO |
| KREIDER, TIMOTHY | KATY | TARWATER, JOHNNIE | MISSOURI CITY | GOTCHER, LAURA | WACO |
| LAFOLLETT, KRISTIN | KATY | KIOUS, JAMES | MOORE | JONES, ANTONIO | WACO |
| LAMB, LAURA | KATY | HAASE, SCOTTINA | MORGAN'S POINT RESORT | JONES, JACOBY | WACO |
| LARSEN, VERA | KATY | BOTTLINGER, DAVID | MURPHY | RAULS, IRA | WACO |
| LINKENHEIMER, ERIN | KATY | NEELY, LEWIS | PEARLAND | SMITH, FRANCES | WACO |
| MALFITANO, LYNNE | KATY | ALEMAN, ROY | PFLUGERVILLE | SNEED, AVERY | WACO |
| MIESNER, SUSAN | KATY | SOLIS, SONNY | PILOT POINT | SERB, PAUL | WAMEGO |
| NELSON, PATRICIA | KATY | THIBAUT, LINDA | ROANOKE | WILLIAMS, AMON | WAXAHACHIE |
| SASS, DAVID | KATY | SAINLAR, DOUGLAS | ROSENBERG | JOHNSON, PETER | WINNSBORO |
| SASS, KATHYRN | KATY | WALLER, JR., CHARLES | ROSHARON | SMITH, JD | WYLIE |
| SMITH, JULIE | KATY | RITCHIE, JAMES | SACHSE | | |
| STANLEY, JEANETTE | KATY | | | | |