Trey Chambers and Jacob Keith from Jefferson, Texas won 1st Place in the 1st Annual Lake Fork Open with a 2-day weight of 15.08-pounds winning them a $6,000 Scholarship Package.

Lake Fork Open Scholarship Tournament

By Don Hampton

Seventy High School eligible teams showed up on Lake Fork at Oak Ridge Marina to participate in the 1st Annual Lake Fork Open High School Scholarship Tournament on July 26th and 27th. The registration, check in, and Captain’s meeting was held on Friday July 25th.

The tournament was open to all U.S. High School students entering 9th grade in 2014 and to those 2014 graduates who had not started college classes as of the date of the tournament. Students must be a member of (See Lake Fork Open... Continued on Page 4-A)

Lew Conder (rt) was presented the Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork, Albert Jordan Memorial Trophy by Don Hampton and Debra Jordan. Each year in memory of Albert Jordan, who was a long time member that passed away last year, the angler earning the highest score at the end of the year two day championship will receive the trophy with his or her name engraved on it.

Dean McGuire fishing with brother-in-law Butch Cernosek from Fisherman’s RV Camp caught a 10.31-lb. bass that measured 27” on a late July afternoon. The fish was officially weighed at Lake Fork Marina. C.P.R.
By: Don Hampton

Maybe it’s the heat bearing down on Bubba’s head from being in the sun too much or a phase in life he is going through but he has really impressed me with some of his ingenious ideas lately. Whichever the case Bubba has taken “Stuff” to a new level. July must have been Bubba’s inventive month because he has come up with some ideas for fishing that would put Thomas Edison to shame.

It all started when Bubbette told him it was too hot to be fishing all day. Bubba doesn’t like to hear anything that might slow up his fishing, especially coming from Bubbette. It was then that he applied himself to his drawing board and put his, “Nothin’s gonna stop me from fishin’ inventiveness,” into motion.

These ideas weren’t Bubba originals. I’m sure if he tried to market them there would be some patents brought to his attention, but for per-sonal use and homemade, he did real good.

The first thing Bubba did was get some PVC pipe and T’s. With these he made an umbrella holder that would fit on his bass seat. This put store-bought ones, as he calls it, to shame. He had accomplished mobile shade so now what was he to do about the breeze. This problem he solved with the help of “Wally World”.

(That’s Bubbette’s name for Wal-Mart.)

Bubba bought one of those EverStart Maxx rechargeable jump starters. This is the type that is a rechargeable DC 12-volt power supply. At first I had no idea how this would keep him cool until he pulled the other item out of his sack of goodies. Low and behold, Bubba had a 12 volt oscillating fan that plugs into a cigarette lighter outlet, with a clip that attaches to the umbrella. He informed Bubbette real quick that he now had his own portable shade and breeze and he was going fishing.

Bubba’s power pack has two outlets. I can’t imagine what he’ll think of next to plug into the other outlet!!!!

Bubba was now on a roll with his homemade creativity. He had seen one of his favorite pros on television using an ultimate drop-shot technique called a “Boomerang”. His first thought was, “I can make one of those!” So, it was back to “Wally World” for some elastic, swivels, and snaps. It wasn’t long before Bubba had every ball point pen in the house torn apart so he could use the case for his homemade version of the product. Sure enough Bubba’s version worked great! So whenever he is around keep a close eye on your pens or they will wind up at the bottom of the lake tied to the end of his line.

His inventiveness did not stop here. Whenever Bubba is on the lake he doesn’t like to stop and tie on new baits. That takes away from his fishing time. For his spinnerbaits he has solved this problem. On his favorites he has taken off the swivel connecting the blades and replaced it with a snap swivel. This way he carries extra blades in his pocket and if one doesn’t work, he unsnaps it, replaces it with another in seconds and it is like using a different spinnerbait. To his way of thinking it changes one spinnerbait into as many blades as you have in your pocket. If you have five different types of blades in your pocket, you have six different spinnerbaits without having to tie and re-tie. To Bubba this also means he has a lot more stuff!! Makes sense to me!

Where Bubba comes up with some of his ideas, your guess is as good as mine! He even has a deterrent for getting sweat in his eyes when he is fishing. He did say, “I got this idea from an ‘ole timer.” (I wonder what he thinks he is?) To keep sweat from getting in his eyes while fishing Bubba always has on hand, a clear unscented stick of antiperspirant. He will dab it across his forehead and this keeps his forehead from sweating. This keeps the sweat from rolling down into his eyes. Just another thing Bubba doesn’t have to worry about while fishing. He also said on this matter, “It ain’t no good feelin’ when you wipe the sweat from your eyes and you have sunscreen on your hands. That stuff stings like heck and you have to fish one-eyed!!” Sounds strange but this is another piece of “Bubba wisdom” that sure enough works.

One thing is for sure with Bubba, if Bubbette lays down the law and won’t let him buy any new stuff, he’ll just make his old stuff into new stuff.

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Lake Fork Open Scholarship Tournament (Continued from Page 1-A)

Mason Nivens and Nick Fincher from Grand Saline, Texas won 2nd Place with their 2 day weight of 12.43-lbs. winning a $4,000 Scholarship Package.

Matthew Sprague and Cameron McAnally, from Wills Point, Texas won 3rd Place with their 2 day weight of 12.26-lbs. winning a $2,000 Scholarship Package.

Jared Goebel and Austin White from Lumberton, Texas won 4th Place with their 2 day weight of 10.93-lbs. winning a $1,000 Scholarship Package.

Braden Katchinska and Matt Reynolds from Sulphur Springs, Texas won 5th Place with their 2 day weight of 9.58-lbs. winning a $500 Scholarship Package.

B.A.S.S. High School Nation, Student Angler Federation or show proof of membership in their high school independent fishing team program. If a student does not have a fishing program at their high school, they will need to show proof of being a student in good standing with the most current report card or letter from school officials. The majority of the teams were from Texas but Arkansas and Oklahoma were also represented.

This was a 2-day stringer tournament with each team being able to bring their best five bass to the weight in each day for an accumulated weight. There was $15,000 in scholarship funds available for the top five winners plus sponsorship prizes going for places 6th through 14th. Teams were assigned flight numbers and given their times they had to be in the weigh-in line. Boat captains were responsible for the operation of the boat with the big motor and assuring that all safety equipment, boat registration, adequate storage for tackle, rods, and drinks, and all rules and regulations were adhered to by the anglers. Trailering was allowed but no boat could launch before 5 a.m. and the first cast was scheduled for 6 a.m. each day of the competition.

(See Lake Fork Open... Continued on Page 13-A)

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Look for August on the Fork to be different

By David Ozio

“I would love to have a crystal ball to peek into August and see how Lake Fork will set up this summer. This year of bazaar weather has dealt us curve ball after curve ball and a blizzard this month is not out of the question. Well, maybe it is. This recent cold front dropped the main lake water temp down to 79 but rebounded quickly to 85 within a couple of days. I did see 90 in one location recently. This inconsistency will keep the fish confused, and in my opinion, keep them from ganging up the way that they would normally do at this time of year. I still expect a lot of positives to come out of this chaos moving forward the rest of this time of year. I would love to have a crystal ball to peek into August and see how Lake Fork will set up this summer. This year of bazaar weather has dealt

With all this being said, let’s set up a game plan for August. Personally, I haven’t seen a great top water bite develop early but I have seen the bite improving on the outside edge of grass lines. Wacky worms, Texas rigs, lite Carolina rigs and drop shots will pick up their share of fish before August. Main lake points should be the first segment to shift gear, move out deeper and bring on the Carolina rig. Main lake points should be the focus and target the 12-20ft depth ranges and if timber is present, all the better. Lots of colors work well deep and we all have our personal favorites. Watermelon candy red, plum, green pumpkin all will do the trick and you will need to experiment with action types to determine what the fish want. I prefer the brush hogs as an all-around bait but with action types to determine what the fish want.

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Answers on Page 21-A
AMATEUR BASS ANGLERS COMPETE FOR $500,000 GUARANTEED CASH & PRIZES

Lake Fork - Alba, Texas – September 19-20-21, 2014 - Family, Fishing & Fun at the Annual Big Bass Splash presented by Sealy Outdoors and B.A.S.S. $500,000 Guaranteed in Cash and Prizes with 1st Place Overall winning a 2014 Triton 20XS Powered by Mercury Marine, equipped with Minn Kota, Lowrance Electronics, Power Pole, Navionics, HydroWave, and Tournament Saver Pro; 2014 RAM Truck, PLUS . . . . $7,000 CASH.

New for 2014- Twelve places will be paid in cash each hour of each tournament day beginning with the 7-8 AM hour and continuing through the 2-3 PM hour for the twelve single heaviest bass weighed in. Hourly updates will be broadcasted live on KMOO 99.9 FM.

Contestant(s) weighing in the first 2.50 exact weight bass each day of the tournament will win $5,000 and the contestant(s) who weighs in the heaviest bass under the slot during the 3-day tournament will be awarded $2,500. In addition, all contestants are eligible to win a 2014 Triton 18XS Bass Boat in the famous “Elimination Drawing”. Enter by the “Early Bird” Deadline, September 3 and be eligible to win one of five $200 Academy Sports + Outdoors Gift Cards.

“You Can’t Win if You Don’t Play” Optional Bonus Games such as the Bonus Card “AKA” Insurance Card & Bonus Shirt Hours can win you additional cash.

Children ages twelve and under may participate in the Little Anglers Division and win Academy gift cards and ribbons for their winning catches of bass, catfish, crappie or perch. Are you a member of B.A.S.S. and want to win some CASH? B.A.S.S. will be on-site at the event to qualify you for the B.A.S.S. CASH..... $100 awarded to the current B.A.S.S. member with the largest bass from the 10-11 AM and 2-3 PM hour each day of the tournament. $250 awarded to the current B.A.S.S. member with the largest bass in the Overall Top 5. Registration will be at Lake Fork Marina in Alba, TX from 10 AM – 8 PM on Thursday, September 18th. Registration will continue each morning from 5 AM until 6 AM on days of the tournament. Tournament Entry Fees are $160 for One Day, $210 for Two Days and $260 for Three Days: The Little Anglers Division entry fee is $10 per Day. All participants and spectators ages 18 years of age and up can get in on the action. Come out to the tournament site, enjoy the festivities and get your free ticket for the Surprise Drawing beginning at 12 PM Sunday, September 21st. The Big Bass Splash is the Richest Amateur Big Bass Fishing Tournament as featured on National Geographic! Sponsors includes Triton Boats, Mercury Marine, Academy Sports & Outdoors, Minn Kota, Lowrance, Okuma, Tournament Saver Pro, Power Pole, Navionics, River2Sea, Texas Fish & Game, HydroWave, TH Marine, K2 Coolers, Vicious Fishing, Amphibia Sports, The Original Rod Sox, Wood County Industrial Commission, City of Emory, Lake Fork Marina and Motel, Tiffany’s Restaurant, and Fishing World.com. For more information go to www.sealyoutdoors.com, call 888.698.2591 or stop by your local Academy Sports & Outdoors store for an official entry form. Follow us on facebook.com/BigBassSplash and Twitter @SealyOutdoors. # # # # # # # # # 

If you would like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview, please contact Nicole Sealy nicole.sealy@sealyoutdoors.com ~ 409.382.3876 ~ 888.698.2591

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Summertime on Fork

By Terri Moon

If you are wondering where the crappie are, you need to first find the baitfish and target the depths that they are running. Start by checking the deeper areas of the lake – especially the main lake humps, points, and irregular bends in the main creek channels. Crappie like being where they have quick access to shallow and deep water so be sure and graph around drop-offs and ledges. Persistently monitor your depth finder and be sure to work the deep sides of these ledges and drop-offs where there is some form of structure or cover (stumps or brush piles). Right now the productive depths are ranging from 10 to 18 ft. in 20 to 30 ft. of water. Keep in mind – weather conditions and water clarity will all play a factor in how deep the baitfish will be – so in turn – how deep the crappie will be. So, pay close attention to your graph!!! Thank goodness for Lowrance and their amazing technology! They take the guessing out of fishing!

Now – when you’re not looking at your graph, pay very close attention to your line. These fish are on a very light bite so watch for your line to just go slack – if it does – JERK!! Nine times out of 10 I can see the bite before I feel it. In open water and at the bridges, we’re using double rigged jigs about a foot apart. Colors working for us have been cinnamon w/chartreuse tail, and gray w/black and gray tail. Then when fishing the brush and trees we switch to a single jig. This will allow you to fish tighter to the timber without hanging up as bad. We’re using Gene Larew Slab Sayers in Electric Chicken or orange w/chartreuse on brighter days. Then on cloudier days I like Caddo Morning or a dark shad color.

Now if you are still looking for bream, they have been holding in 1 to 4 ft. around the new moon and full moon. Otherwise they are backed off in 8 – 15 ft. around trees and brush, and the bridge ledges. Crickets or worms will work or if you don’t like fooling them, try Gulp minnows by Berkley.

I want to send a big thank you to all the parents and grandparents that took the time to bring all the kids out fishing this month. I don’t know who enjoyed it more – the kids or ME!!! Sure was fun! My best to you all and hope you find the time to get out on the water!

Practice C.P.R.
Come Fish Beautiful Lake Fork!! Book Your Trip Today 903-383-7773
3rd Annual Hook N’ Cook Sand Bass Tournament on Lake Fork

By Don Hampton

The “3rd Annual Hook and Cook Sand Bass Tournament” was held on Lake Fork, July 19th, hosted by Bro’s Patio and put on by directors of “The Wish to Fish Foundation”. The tournament was directed mostly at showing everyone these fish, though a nuisance at times, are very tasty.

This was a great chance for all the complainers about the growing sand bass population in Lake Fork to come out and deplete those numbers. Judging from the number of participating anglers though, I feel some find it easier to sit back and complain than take active steps.

Participation for the tournament was lower than expected but those anglers that participated had a great time. Though competitive for cash prize the rules were more relaxed than most tournaments. Anglers could share information, tie up to each, use live bait and even fish with as many poles at one time as they desired.

Fishing hours for the tournament were 6 am to noon with a trailer in weigh-in behind Bro’s Patio/Fisherman’s One Stop on Hwy. 515. All anglers had to be in weigh-in line by 1 pm.

Though the tournament limit was five fish, all anglers were encouraged to bring in their daily limit of 25 to be filleted for the free fish fry to (Continued on Next Page)

Matthew Symes caught the heaviest sand bass of the tournament and won 5th Place heavy stringer.

Greg Morgan, member of Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork, had a nice limit of sandies and won 4th Place heavy stringer.

Wrong species but good eating! Harold Jennings caught this nice 1.98-lb. crappie during the tournament and we ate it!

WE’LL HELP YOU FIND THE RIGHT CUT OF OUR FRESHEST MEATS!”

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<th>Boneless Beef Tenderloin</th>
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<td>Boneless Pork Loin Roast</td>
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<td>Boneless Chicken Breast</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hours: Tues. thru Fri. 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Sat. ~ 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Closed Monday
be held starting at 5 o’clock that evening. It was the responsibility of each angler to keep the five they wanted to weigh separate.

Some anglers were hard put at finding the schools of sandies, while others had a field day. Lew Conder from Point, Texas was one angler that had no problem. He won 1st Place heavy stringer with five sandies weighing 8.17-pounds and 3rd Place heavy sandie weighing 1.71-pounds. John Thorne won 2nd Place heavy stringer with five sandies weighing 7.46-pounds and had 2nd Place heavy sandie weighing 1.72-pounds. David Eldridge won 3rd Place heavy stringer with five sandies weighing 7.34-pounds. Greg Morgan won 4th Place heavy stringer with a five fish limit weighing 7.23-pounds. Matthew Symes won 5th Place heavy stringer weighing 5.96-pounds and 1st place heavy sandie weighing 1.87-pounds.

Prize money for all the winners this year was paid in cash, no worries over check cashing. Following the prize presentations was the free fish fry of all the sandies that were brought in. It was an open invitation to anyone that wished to attend with donations accepted for “The Wish to Fish Foundation”. Many remarked they had no idea these fish tasted so much like crappie and were so good! The fried fish were accompanied with baked beans, potato salad, hush puppies, cole slaw, ice tea, and peach cobbler all prepared and donated by John Heimgartner, Bro’s Patio and Fisherman’s One Stop. (Except for the peach cobbler, Bubette did that.)

On behalf of the foundation, I and the other directors thank you and really appreciate all you’ve done for the organization. With the tournament, donations, and sale of raffle tickets the function raised $575 for “The Wish to Fish Foundation”. We would also like to take all of our other sponsors that gave so generously of product to put into the raffle.

Plans for the 4th Annual Hook and Cook Sand Bass Tournament are in progress. It will be held in August, 2015. Watch for the date and time in “The Fisherman’s Guide News”. For Sale By Owner

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Justin Lobaugh from Rains County High School didn’t worry about his line breaking when he caught the smallest bass in the tournament, but he did say it put up a really good fight.

Family and friends anticipated the weigh-in to see if their favorites had a very productive day on the water.

The tournament was conducted with the professionalism of any major tournament. Vendor and sponsor booths were on site, and a block party was held on Saturday evening with a free meal for all contestants, captains and volunteers. The Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork performed all the duties of weighing the young anglers bass and Legend Boats provided the weight trailer and all set-up tents along with their donation from owner Randy Qualls towards the scholarship fund.

The bass on Lake Fork didn’t cooperate for all of the anglers. Many of the young anglers were disappointed when they caught a big bass that didn’t quite touch the 24” mark, but isn’t that why they call it fishing?

The team of Jacob Keith and Trey Chambers from Jefferson, Texas were in 2nd place on the first day weighing a good 5 fish limit of 7.32-pounds but topped it off on day two with a limit weighing 7.77-pounds to win 1st Place and a $6,000 Scholarship Fund to split with a total weight of 15.08-pounds. Second place with a total weight of 12.43-pounds was Mason Nivens and Nick Fincher from Grand Saline winning a $4,000 Scholarship Fund. Coming in 3rd place and winning a $2,000 Scholarship Fund was Matthew Sprague and Cameron McAnally from Wills Point with a total weight of 12.26-pounds. Jared Gobel and Austin White from Lumberton, Texas won 4th place and a $1,000 Scholarship Fund with a weight of 10.93-pounds. Fifth place with a weight of 9.58-pounds winning a $500 Scholarship Fund was Braden Katchinska and Matt Reynolds from Sulphur Springs, Texas. Winning 6th through 14th and taking home prizes in order were: Jake Biram and Connor Burk, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Cameron Smalley and Antwan, Combine, Texas; Logan Cortez and Kol...
Lake Fork Open Scholarship Tournament (Continued from Page 4-A)

The tournament was conducted with the professionalism of any major tournament. Vendor and sponsor booths were on site, and a block party was held on Saturday evening with a free meal for all contestants, captains and volunteers. The Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork performed all the duties of weighing the young anglers’ bass and Legend Boats provided the weight trailer and all set-up tents along with their donation from owner Randy Qualls towards the scholarship fund.

The bass on Lake Fork didn’t cooperate for all of the anglers. Many of the young anglers were disappointed when they caught a big bass that didn’t quite touch the 24” mark, but isn’t that why they call it fishing?

The team of Jacob Keith and Trey Chambers from Jefferson, Texas were in 2nd place on the first day weighing a good 5 fish limit of 7.32-pounds but topped it off on day two with a limit weighing 7.77-pounds to win 1st Place and a $6,000 Scholarship Fund to split with a total weight of 15.08-pounds. Second place with a total weight of 12.43-pounds was Mason Nivens and Nick Fincher from Grand Saline winning a $4,000 Scholarship Fund. Coming in 3rd place and winning a $2,000 Scholarship Fund was Matthew Sprague and Cameron McAnally from Wills Point with a total weight of 12.26-pounds. Jared Goebel and Austin White from Lumberton, Texas won 4th place and a $1,000 Scholarship Fund with a weight of 10.93-pounds. Fifth place with a weight of 9.58-pounds winning a $500 Scholarship Fund was Braden Katchinska and Matt Reynolds from Sulphur Springs, Texas. Winning 6th through 14th and taking home prizes in order were: Jake Biram and Connor Burk, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Cameron Smalley and Antwan, Combine, Texas; Logan Cortez and Kol... (See Lake Fork Open... Continued on Page 15-A)
Game Wardens Arrest 58 Intoxicated Boat Operators During the July Fourth Weekend

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department game wardens made 58 boating under the influence arrests and contacted some 30,000 recreational boaters over the July Fourth weekend.

Earlier, TPWD’s Law Enforcement division participated in Operation Dry Water June 27-29 as part of a nationally coordinated boating under the influence (BUI) awareness and enforcement campaign. Game wardens continued their enhanced patrol efforts through the holiday as boaters enjoyed area waterways.

Over the three-day Operation Dry Water weekend, game wardens made contact with 22,732 recreational boaters, issued 1,147 citations and safety warnings and made 17 BUI arrests in an effort to raise awareness of the dangers of boating under the influence of drugs or alcohol. During the July Fourth holiday, game wardens made contact with roughly 30,000 recreational boaters and arrested 58 operators for boating under the influence. In addition, game wardens filed 39 minor in possession of alcohol cases and 8 drug related offenses.

“TPWD participates in coordinated efforts like Operation Dry Water, along with hundreds of other agencies nationwide, in an effort to reduce the number of accidents and fatalities we see due to boaters consuming alcohol on the water,” says Asst. Commander Cody Jones, TPWD’s boating law administrator. “Our goal is to educate boaters as well as remove impaired operators from the water in order to keep all other boaters safe.”

Nationally, more than 550 local, state and federal law enforcement agencies from all 50 states and 6 U.S. territories participated in the 2014 Operation Dry Water effort. National results are still being collected and compiled, but in 2013, nationwide 6,219 law enforcement officers from 513 agencies and US Coast Guard units participated in Operation Dry Water. Officers made contact with 144,044 boaters, issued 17,159 citations and safety warning, and made 290 arrests for boating under the influence. Alcohol use is the leading contributing factor in recreational boater deaths. Since 2009, the year Operation Dry Water launched, there has been a 37 percent drop in the number of boater deaths where alcohol use was the known contributing factor, according to the 2013 U.S. Coast Guard Recreational Boating Statistics.

For more information on Operation Dry Water, visit operationdrywater.org.

Wrong catch but great catch! I was fishing in a sand bass tournament when I caught this Lake Fork mammy feeding on them on July 19th. Don’t think for a moment I’m complaining though. C.P.R.
Lake Fork Open (Continued from Page 13-A)

by Brown, Winnsboro, Texas; Marshall White and Clay Lane, Terrell, Texas; Katlyn Stovall and Rhett Rabenaldt, Emory, Texas; Jarred Boutwell and Tyler Thames from Lumberton, Texas; Cody Benson and Collin Head, Combine, Texas; Bailey Mischnick and Tanner Clower, Mineola, Texas; and Avery Barrett and Hunter Smith, Forney, Texas.

As the weight master, I must congratulate all the anglers and captains that participated in the tournament for their excellent handling of the bass. To my knowledge only two dead fish were brought to the scales during the course of the tournament. Also to the Lake Fork Sportsman’s Association for their Live Release Boat and their volunteers for getting all the bass back into the lake to be caught another day.

The many sponsors that came together to donate their time, money and products are to be commended for their services. To date, fishing has become one of the fastest growing sports in America. What more positive path could we lead the youth of today down than faith, religion, and fishing? In our area alone our high schools are starting up their own or already have fishing teams that compete among themselves and other schools. Quitman and Mineola High Schools are starting theirs this year. If you or if you know anyone that would like to be a captain for either of these schools, I urge you to get in touch with the appropriate officers. You should put your best foot forward to put our youth on the right path. After all the youth of today are the future of our industry. Steps and planning are already in motion for the 2nd Annual Lake Fork Open High School Scholarship Tournament to be held the last weekend of July, 2015. If you would like to be a sponsor or just a volunteer its never too early. You can contact Tracy Hatton at Oak Ridge Marina for further information.

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TPWD Online Public Hunt Drawing System Now Live

Hunters applying for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department’s drawn public hunts can now take advantage of the new online-only Public Hunt Drawing System. The new online-only system is currently accepting applications for 2014-15 Drawn Hunts, including Special Permit hunts, E-Postcard hunts, and U.S. Forest Service Antlerless Deer Permits. For the first time, the entire process is handled electronically -- from applications, to fee payments and permit issuance. “Applications for Drawings on Public Hunting Lands” booklets, application forms and permits will no longer be printed and mailed out. Hunt options can be browsed online by category or by area using an interactive map. A downloadable PDF of the 2014-15 Drawn Hunt Catalog is also available online.

In addition to now being able to apply for multiple hunt areas within the same hunt category (i.e. apply for a Gun Deer -- Either Sex hunt on more than one hunt area), the online system will give applicants more time to apply. With no paper applications to mail in, applicants will have until midnignt CST on the day of the deadline to apply. Applicants will also retain and continue to accru Preference Points, now called Loyalty Points, as in the past. Points will stay with the category and be applied to each application equally. And for the first time, applicants will be able to check the status of their applications and Loyalty Points online at any time.

The new system will only allow applicants to submit complete and accurate applications. This will eliminate disqualification.

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- Large Lots With Concrete Pads

Concrete Boat Ramp

Abundant Wildlife For Scenic Pleasure

August  
Page 17-A

Blake Robinson from Katy, TX., caught this nice 8-lb. bass while Bassin’ With Bubba on 7/16/14. CPR (Courtesy Photo Bassin’ With Bubba Guide Services)  
Scott Hodges from Houston, TX., caught this nice Lake Fork bass while Bassin’ With Bubba on 7/16/14. CPR (Courtesy Photo Bassin’ With Bubba Guide Services)  
Clint Granger from Yantis, TX., caught this hawg while fishing with guide Terri Moon on a Shimano 5ft. ultralite. C.P.R. (Courtesy Photo Terri Moon Guide Service)
Beat August Heat with a Canoe, Kayak Outing

On the water it’s easier than ever to experience a closer view of wildlife and scenery. Beat the heat and kayak or canoe easily accessible and scenic waterways in a state park or along a designated Texas Paddling Trail. More than 60 designated Texas Paddling Trails provide well-mapped, accessible day trips in a variety of settings and for all levels of paddling experience.

**Austin:** Twelve Texas Paddling Trails within about an hour of Austin. They include: Lady Bird Lake Paddling Trail, El Camino Real Paddling Trail, and Wilbarger Paddling Trail.

**Dallas/Ft. Worth:** Eight Texas Paddling Trails within an hour of DFW. They include: Dallas Trinity Paddling Trail, Joe Pool Lake and Walnut Creek Paddling Trail (Grand Prairie), Lake Arlington Paddling Trail and River Legacy Parks Paddling Trail on the Trinity River (Arlington).

**Houston:** Nine Texas Paddling Trails within an hour of Houston. They include: Buffalo Bayou Paddling Trail, Stephen F. Austin Paddling Trail, Galveston Island State Park Paddling Trail and Christmas Bay Paddling Trail.

**San Antonio:** Seven Texas Paddling Trails within an hour of San Antonio. They include: Upper Guadalupe – Nichol’s Landing Paddling Trail (above Canyon Lake) and San-panco Paddling Trail (near San Antonio)

**Rio Grande Valley:** One Texas Paddling Trail within an hour of RGV. South Bay Paddling Trail “Texas communities love this program, which has experienced great growth over the last year,” says Shelly Plante, nature tourism manager for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. This past May, Plante says, three new trails were added—near Victoria to the Texas Paddling Trails roster.

Many parts of Texas are experiencing drought conditions, so it’s always a good idea to go online to consult specific river flow information (http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/water/habitats/flow/) in advance and to contact the Texas State Park you’re planning to visit for current lake levels and other water conditions. Keep in mind that water levels at some state parks, such as Inks Lake and South Llano River, remain fairly constant despite ongoing drought.

Paddling novices looking for helpful tips before heading out, can watch a how to paddle a canoe video or read a Canoeing and Kayaking 101 brochure. Paddlers should keep in mind that open bodies of water (lakes, rivers, bays, bayous, ponds, oceans) are vastly different from neighborhood swimming pools and definitely warrant extra precautions. The key differences are that there are no lifeguards, water conditions can change rapidly and underwater currents sometimes exist. Bottom line: all paddlers should wear a life-jacket. In Texas, children under 13 in or on vessels under 26 feet must wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable life jacket.

For trail maps and photos, where to rent canoes and kayaks, directions to access sites and fishing and wildlife information, visit: www.tpwd.state.tx.us/paddlingtrails.

For downloadable Texas paddling images, visit: http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/news-media/news_images/?g=oam_paddling

To view a YouTube paddling video, visit: http://youtu.be/H8SnpEG9MRI
Texas Sets Dove, Teal Seasons

Dove hunters will have more opportunity later in the season with dates and bag limits finalized by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department recently. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has approved the 2014-2015 Texas dove season, including a 70-day season and 15-bird daily bag statewide, and a 16-day early teal and Canada goose season. The traditional September 1 dove season opening day in the North and Central Zones remains; this year falling on Labor Day Monday. However, the first segment in those zones will be shorter than last season, closing on Monday, Oct. 20. The season will reopen Friday, Dec. 19 and run through Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2015 in the North and Central Zones. In the South Zone and Special White-winged Dove Area, the first segment will be shortened by five days compared to last year, and those days would (See Texas Sets.... Continued on Page 21-A)
Look for August on the Fork to be different (Continued from Page 6-A)

bait and appeal to the current mood of the fish. As you approach midday, it’s time to depend on your electronics. I like to think, if you can see them, you can catch them. Idle around on key structure in 20-35ft until the hooks appear and, if bait is present with the hooks, game on. Deep road beds, humps, extended points, pond dams and hard structure will all hold fish. You will need to burn some gas to find where a large group of fish might be holding. Once located, Carolina rigs, flutter spoons, tail kickers, crankbaits, A-rigs and the beloved drop shot will be the weapons of choice. Chrome spoons will be a great choice as well as shad colored crankbaits especially if the green monsters are suspended. This will be obvious as you idle over the structure and you will see them anywhere from 10-20ft down hovering over 30 plus feet of water. Also consider using a weightless fluke for these fish as they are the toughest to catch. Experiment with the countdown method to target the depth level where you have spotted the fish. If you happen to idle over a brush pile, mark it with a way-point and turn around and fish it with a Texas rig worm or a jig. I have seen giants come off this type of structure before. Fish are where they are and it’s our job to find them.

If you are headed out to Lake Fork in August searching for the trophy of a lifetime, I would love to be a part of this trophy quest. I still have a few dates in August. I also have gift certificates available if you have friends or loved one’s who have dreamt of landing a huge bass. You can contact me at 409 782-4269 or e-mail me at skeet21c@aol.com. You can follow me on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/LakeFork-GuideDavidOzio. I run a Skeeter FX with a Yamaha 250SHO and would like to thank Skeeter for making my office on the lake the best in the country. I would also like to thank G-Loomis, Shimano and Lowrance for making my job the blast that it is. A special shout out to H&W Marine in Tyler for all their help in keeping me on the water seven days a week, no issues. I hope to see a lot of you on the water. Romans 10:13. “Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved”. I wish all of you a blessed day.”
Texas Sets Dove, Teal Seasons (Continued from Page 19-A)

be added to the end of the second segment. The South Zone opens Friday, Sept. 19 and runs through Monday, Oct. 20. The second segment will run Friday, Dec. 19 through Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015.

The daily bag limit for doves statewide is 15 and the possession limit is 45.

The Special White-winged Dove Area will be restricted to afternoon only (noon to sunset) hunting the first two full September weekends on Sept. 6-7 and 13-14. Hunting in this area will reopen Friday, Sept. 19 and continue through Monday, Oct. 20, and then reopen Friday, Dec. 19 through Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2015. During the early two weekends, the daily bag limit is 15 birds, to include not more than two mourning doves and two white-tipped doves. Once the general season opens, the aggregate bag limit will be 15 with no more than two white-tipped doves. A 16-day statewide early teal and Eastern Zone Canada goose season will run Saturday, Sept. 13 through Sunday, Sept. 28. The daily bag on teal remains six, with a possession limit of 18. Bag limit for Canada geese will be three and a possession limit of 6 in the Eastern Zone only.

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Texas Game Wardens Host National Officer Water Survival “Train the Trainers” Course

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department game wardens recently hosted a nationwide Train the Trainer Officer Water Survival (OWS) course for water safety enforcement officer trainers. Officers from Texas, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Alaska, New Mexico and Arizona attended the course which took place July 21-25 at the School for the Deaf pool facility. This training is part of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) Boat Operations and Training (BOAT) Program catalog of nationally credentialed courses. “Texas game wardens like many of their counterparts across the nation are the primary law enforcement officers on the state’s waters, an environment which brings its own hazards,” said Asst. Commander Cody Jones, Texas’ Boating Law Administrator. “In the course of their duty, game wardens wear gear including their duty belt and ballistics vest that add an additional 18 to 20 pounds of weight to them. It’s important that if they enter the water whether expectedly or unexpectedly they know their capabilities and how to survive.” “Six Texas Game Wardens have drowned in the line of duty and that’s something we think about every day,” said Colonel Craig Hunter, TPWD Director of Law Enforcement. “Game wardens are routinely on the water in very demanding situations and this training will save lives.” Eighteen officers from across the nation went through this five-day course, which included skills in surviving a water entry in uniform, disengaging from assailant while in the water, water extraction techniques, and other lifesaving water skills.

Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Season Opened July 15

The Gulf of Mexico commercial shrimp season for both state and federal waters opened July 15. The opening date is based on an evaluation of the biological, social and economic information to maximize the benefits to the industry and the public. In making its determination, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Coastal Fisheries Division used the best available scientific information including samples collected by using trawls and bag seines in TPWD routine data collection.

The purpose of the closed Gulf season is to protect brown shrimp during their major period of emigration from the bays to the Gulf of Mexico until they reach a larger, more valuable size before harvest and to prevent waste caused by the discarding of smaller individuals. Federal waters (from 9 to 200 nautical miles offshore) opened at the same time that state waters opened. The National Marine Fisheries Service chose to adopt rules compatible with those adopted by Texas.
Don J. Hampton, Publisher/Owner
  Member  Texas Community

... On his favorites he has taken off the swivel connecting the blades and replaced it with a snap swivel. This way...

(That’s Bubbette’s name for Wal-Mart.)

store-bought ones, as he calls it, to shame. He pipe and T’s. With these he made an umbrella personal use and homemade, he did real good.

me from fishin’ inventiveness,” into motion. That was then that he applied himself to his draw was, “I can make one of those!” So, it was back from sweating. This keeps the sweat from roll...
Trey Chambers and Jacob Keith from Jefferson, Texas won 1st Place in the 1st Annual Lake Fork Open with a 2-day weight of 15.08-pounds winning them a $6,000 Scholarship Package.

Lew Conder (rt) was presented the Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork, Albert Jordan Memorial Trophy by Don Hampton and Debra Jordan. Each year in memory of Albert Jordan, who was a long time member that passed away last year, the angler earning the highest score at the end of the year two day championship will receive the trophy with his or her name engraved on it.

Lake Fork Open Scholarship Tournament

By Don Hampton

Seventy High School eligible teams showed up on Lake Fork at Oak Ridge Marina to participate in the 1st Annual Lake Fork Open High School Scholarship Tournament on July 26th and 27th. The registration, check in, and Captain’s meeting was held on Friday July 25th. The tournament was open to all U.S. High School students entering 9th grade in 2014 and to those 2014 graduates who had not started college classes as of the date of the tournament. Students must be a member of

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