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Strollin’ With Stroman

By Dean Stroman

The best pattern for big bass now is in the grass beds, isolated small grass pockets, and isolated points with patch grass around the tip of points. Concentrate on fishing grass breaklines and grass points extending out to deeper water as well as deep cuts or deep pockets that are inside the grass beds. Bass will be setting up their core area in those locations. A lot of folks have a hard time finding the grass patch on Fork. All I can tell you is that you are looking up the wrong creeks.

Some of the best lures I have found for catching big ‘uns are the jig/craw and large worms, the 12 to 14-inch variety. The jig/pig should be at least ½ ounce. If worm fishing, use heavy worm weights. Peg the weight with a toothpick to keep it from sliding up your line when fishing thick grass.

The heavier weights, ¾ to 1-ounce, are punching through the grass to get your worm near the bottom. Use heavier weights to fish the deeper pockets inside the grass beds as well. Lighter weights should be used to fish the grass points and outside breakline areas. Weightless twelve to fourteen inch worms swimming on top grass of beds early morning can be awesome.

The grass bed you should never pass up during fall is the one with a creek running through it. Position your boat in the center of the creek and pitch or flip your jig/craw or big worm to the edges. Key in on all the creek bends and grass points

(See Strollin’——Continued on Next Page)
that come close to the creek channel. One key factor to remember when fishing grass beds is to keep boat noise to a minimum. Big bass spook easily and you have to get close to successfully fish for them.

If you are planning a trip to Lake Fork, I’ll be more than happy to help make your trip a successful one. If you want to book a trip or just need up-to-date information, give me a call at 903-850-5083 (cell) or 903-383-7214 (landline) or email me at dstroman@peoplecom.net. If you are wanting a guided trip, I still have openings for fall and winter trips. Good luck and good fishing!

Dean is a professional guide on Lake Fork and is sponsored by Legendary Boats, Mercury Marine, Century 21 Lake Country, Gene Larew, V&M the Ultimate Bass Bait, Mossy Oak and Easy Step Systems.

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Wood County Sheriff..............903-763-2201
Rains County Sheriff.............903-473-3181
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Game Warden Field Notes

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

--The Fish Don’t Belong to Us. No Wait, Yes They Do-- While patrolling Lake Granger for water safety compliance and recreational freshwater fishing enforcement, a Williamson County and a Milam County game warden found five fishermen on the water without a valid fishing license. The wardens asked if they had caught any fish, and the men said they had caught two little ones but released them. One warden went to their campground and found seven white bass in an ice chest. One of the fish was 9 inches long. The men said the fish did not belong to them. After a short interview, one warden got a confession and several citations and civil restitution were filed.

--A Tale of Two Wardens…and Undersize Crappie-- A Williamson County game warden received an OGT call about a man using a cast net to catch undersized crappie at the Granger Spillway. The warden took him up to his patrol truck to interview him, another warden was checking another fisherman in the parking lot with 10 undersized crappie and no fishing license. The warden cited the suspect for illegal cast net over seven feet, illegal means and methods, no fishing license, catching undersized crappie and civil restitution. Both wardens recovered a total of 30 undersized crappie.

--The Caged Birds Aren’t Singing-- Acting on a tip, a Williamson County game warden found a backyard bird cage containing 10 doves, both mourning and white winged, and two blue jays. Next to the cage was a small trap with a mourning dove tied to it. The warden also found a small shed nearby with several cages inside and cracked corn on the floor. The door to the shed was tied to a nearby tree with string. The warden confirmed the homeowner was not a TPWD approved wildlife rehabilitator and then took evidence photos before liberating all the doves and blue jays, including the mourning dove that was tied to the trap. The warden came back to the house four hours later to make contact with the owner, who admitted doves would fly into the shed to eat the intentionally placed corn on the floor. When several dove had flown into the shed, the homeowner would pull the string attached to the doorknob, trapping the birds inside. He would then enter the shed with his young son to catch the doves by hand and put them in the cage in the yard. He admitted the dove tied to the cage was a live decoy to lure more doves. The man received numerous citations for illegal baiting and possession of migratory game birds and songbirds and no hunting license. The cases are pending.

--The Oysters Returned to the Water-- Two Arkansas game wardens apprehended a commercial oyster boat in Mesquite Bay with a 23 percent undersized cargo of oysters. The wardens issued the captain of the boat a citation and returned 12 sacks of oysters to the water.

--Team Takedown-- Three game wardens were patrolling for oyster violations by helicopter when one of them spotted a vehicle working a spotlight on the public roadway. Another game warden used the helicopter’s onboard infrared camera system to observe and record the suspect spotlighting and releasing dogs from the public roadway. Three different game wardens contacted the four individuals on the ground and filed multiple cases against them.

--Not Just Drugs But Assault Too-- After seeing two individuals in the woods on the roadside, an Ellis County game warden stopped next to a vehicle parked partially on the road and noticed signs of marijuana use. The warden searched a passenger in the vehicle and found a small bag of marijuana in his sock. The warden also searched the vehicle and found a small bag of cocaine and other paraphernalia.

(See Game Warden ...Continued on Page 7-B)
Now Accepting Reservations For Commercial & Vendor Spaces For May 12, 13, 14, 15, 2016 At The 12th Annual LEGEND OF LAKE FORK BIG BASS TOURNAMENT May 13, 14, 15, 2016 Anglers from all over the nation will be converging on Lake Fork to fish this tournament! What better time to advertise & promote your products, merchandise, or company! Call Today: 903-383-7748 Email: fishnews@lakefork.net

Red Velvet Cake & Fried Chicken – Unlikely Combination

Why not combine two of America’s favorite foods – fried chicken and red velvet cake? Time to turn on your fryer!

My son’s favorite cake happens to be Red Velvet and it just so happens, Bubba’s favorite meal is Fried Chicken. Let’s combine the two! It may seem an unlikely combination, but aren’t those sometimes the best meals? Fried chicken and red velvet cake complement each other in this memorable dinner that is bursting with great and unique flavors.

The smell of frying chicken and frying cake is phenomenal, and it really isn’t too much harder than your typical fried chicken. Instead of the usual bread- ing for fried chicken, a red velvet cake is made and a piece is crumbled. That crumble serves as the “breading” for this chicken. Bonus – you are left with the rest of the cake after you’ve finished breading the chicken. This meal is tasty and sure to please a crowd. It goes well with some fresh fruit and a green salad, but mashed potatoes would be a fun side dish as well.

Red Velvet Fried Chicken Recipe

Ingredients:
- 1 red velvet cake mix plus ingredients called for
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 large boneless skinless chicken breasts
- ¼ cup flour
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- 1 large egg, beaten
- Vegetable oil, for frying

Directions:
1. Prepare the red velvet cake according to package directions, adding in 2 teaspoons vanilla extract. Bake according to package directions.
2. When cooled, cut out and remove a large slice from the cake. Crumble it into crumbs in a bowl.
3. Fill up your fryer with vegetable oil.
4. Preheat your deep-fryer to 325 degrees F.
5. Place the flour and salt and pepper in another bowl and the beaten egg in a third bowl.
6. Cut the chicken breasts into large pieces.
7. Cover each piece in the flour mixture and then dredge in the egg mixture.
8. Transfer the chicken into the red velvet mixture and make sure the crumbs completely cover the chicken.
9. Fry the chicken for about 5 minutes on each side or until the chicken is completely cooked through.
10. Remove from the fryer with tongs onto a paper towel-lined plate.
11. Enjoy immediately!!
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nalia in a cigarette box. The passenger admitted the box was his after the warden found a bank card with his name on it in the box. The warden also discovered the passenger was wanted on Texas Crime Information Center warrants for indecent exposure, aggravated assault and probation violations. The individual was arrested and multiple charges are pending.

--Drowning on Lake Bob Sandlin-- A Titus County game warden responded to a drowning on Lake Bob Sandlin after an 18-year-old male and his friend jumped from the bridge at Barefoot Bay Marina. The 18-year-old surfaced, but immediately went back under water and never resurfaced. His friend made it safely to shore and called for help. The warden and Titus County lake patrol officers recovered the body.

--Not Gone Fishing-- A Titus County game warden issued a citation for no Commercial Finfish License to an individual who sold four red snapper and 60 tilapia from his home using an online garage sale site. The case is pending.

--Door Ajar-- When a Titus County game warden pulled over a moving vehicle after noticing the passenger door was open, he witnessed a female passenger throw coffee on the driver and slap him. After separating the two, the warden discovered the woman was intoxicated and had just come from her great grandmother’s funeral. Her car door was open because she was attempting to jump out of the moving vehicle, having already done so once. Three Mount Pleasant police officers responded to the scene after the warden called them and told the woman they would give her a ride to the police lobby and find another driver to transport her. At this point, the woman tried to kick the officers and the police car window out with her high heels.

(See Game Warden ...Continued on Page 10-B)
By Sue Hampton

My son’s favorite cake happens to be Red Velvet and it just so happens, Bubba’s favorite meal is Fried Chicken. Let’s combine the two! It may seem an unlikely combination, but aren’t those sometimes the best meals? Fried chicken and red velvet cake complement each other in this memorable dinner that is bursting with great and unique flavors.

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October


October
Oct. 3 & 4 ~ BassCat Owners
Lake Fork Marina
Oct. 10 ~ Irving Bass Club Open
Lake Fork Marina
Oct. 10 ~ JC Outdoors Fall Teams
Minnow Bucket
Oct. 17 & 18 ~ Berkeley Tournament
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The officers finally restrained her to an ambulance stretcher after she repeatedly hit her head against the police car window.

"A Truck Goes Down with Its Boat"—A Titus County game warden responded to the Lake Monticello boat ramp after a truck and boat sank in the lake. A man trying to put his boat on his trailer allowed his grandchild to drive his truck, but the child accidentally put the vehicle in reverse. Both the truck and trailer went into the lake. A second child in the back seat was safely removed from the truck before it sank.

"We thought you had left..."—As he was patrolling the border between Uvalde and Real counties, a Real County game warden approached three individuals who were about to launch a 12-foot aluminum boat to go fishing. The warden, who checked for lifejackets and did not find any, explained the men needed lifejackets if they were planning to put the boat in the water. The men said they would check the nearby store for lifejackets, and the warden left the scene to continue his patrol. However, as the warden was driving across the nearby bridge, he saw the individuals launch the boat and paddle downstream.

The warden turned around and contacted with the individuals again. The boat owner said, “We thought you had left, so we decided to launch the boat anyway, even though you told us to get lifejackets.” The warden issued the boat owner a citation for insufficient number of personal flotation devices.

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**Game Warden Field Notes (Continued from Page 7-B)**

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Emory $87,500
Yantis $289,500
Emory $125,000

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Hawkins $199,000
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