

LAKE FORK "The Big Bass Capital of Texas"



"The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use" "Lines To Get Hooked On"

2 Sections

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Free

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No. 229



Lake Fork Guide Randy Oldfield might have got a dollar when he landed this Lake Fork hawg weighing 11.5-pounds while night fishing in August. C.P.R.

Happy Birthday 'The Fisherman's Guide News'
Starting Into Our 20th Year Promoting Lake Fork, Businesses,
and Bringing The News to the Anglers.
Our #1 Goal Will Remain the Same!
"Promoting Lake Fork and the area to the best of our ability!"



David Young from Alba, Texas caught this Lake Fork monster weighing 11.44-pounds on 8/29/18 and weighed in at Minnow Bucket Marina. He was fishing in 20-feet of water with a topwater when this large female struck. C.P.R.



Tommy Redmon caught this nice Lake Fork hawg weighing 9.75-pounds and measuring 24.5" on July 31st and was weighed and measured at Hideaway Harbor Marina. C.P.R.

What Does Bubba Dream About

By: Don Hampton

It wouldn't take a dream expert to analyze Bubba's dreams. For those of us that know him it would not be difficult to guess just what he dreams about.

In his younger years he will admit he dreamed about the "Budweiser Girls and the "Dallas Cheerleaders", but that was before meeting Bubbette the love of his dreams. Now in what he refers to as his "Golden Years", Bubba's dreams consist mainly of drinking Budweiser and fishing 79 miles this side of Dallas.

Now when I refer to Bubba's dreaming, this doesn't mean he is always asleep. This man's daydreams can put Rip VanWinkle to shame. He can be driving his truck or speeding across the lake to get to one of his honey holes and just have a doosie of a dream.

A couple of times, with the fear factor present, I've had to arouse him. When I've asked him where he was at he would reply, "Oh, I was just having a little daydream!"

Bubba has shared some of his dreams with me and believe me that man has a vivid imagination. The best thing about Bubba's dreams though is that no one ever gets hurt and evidently they bring him a lot of enjoyment.

One of his favorites and he insists it might come true because it is a reoccurring dream is that he fishes his way to the Bassmasters and wins.

That is not so far fetched. Many anglers dream of that, but Bubba's dreams go in depth far beyond

that point. In his dream he beats everyone in the competition by 20 pounds per day and at the end of the tournament all the pros want his autograph and insist he give them tips on his fishing expertise. I told him I didn't think he would ever be able to do that with a Zebco 33. (I can't tell you what he told me on that one.)

My favorite one he has shared with me is him catching the new world record largemouth bass. He has even seen this one tilt the scales at 28.62 pounds. That is doing some mighty powerful dreaming. In this dream he even picks up sponsors and does television commercials. Can you imagine Bubba doing a Fruit of the Loom commercial? In case this dream does come true I want to be around for this one. Bubba has been practicing the American Express commercial. It doesn't quite sound like any I've ever heard, but who knows we might have to give him credit.

Bubba's version goes like this: "Howdy you all! You and yours probably don't have a clue as to who I are, that's why I carry this here plastic thang! People may not recognize me in my fishing gear at the rib house or at the chicken fried steak place, which's why I carry this thang. Whether on the pond or on a lake, make no mistake, you present this and you can get a rib or steak! Don't leave your shack without it!"

Now if you saw this, wouldn't it just make you want to go out and extend your credit rating.

With all dreams there comes the scary ones and Bubba has a few of those. His consists of wanting to go fishing and not being able to find his boat,

not being able to find the lake, Bubbette selling all his fishing stuff at one of her garage sales, and the "Dallas Cheerleaders" and the "Budweiser Girls" all wanting to go fishing with him. (Well okay, maybe not the last one. I just wanted to see what Bubbette would do to him.)

To top all of this off someone made the mistake of sharing with Bubba a superstitious saying. Bubba being a country boy and believing somewhat in superstition isn't taking any chances. This individual told Bubba that if you have a dream and tell it to someone before having breakfast that dream will come true. Now when Bubbette tells him to shut-up and go back to sleep, he gets on the phone to his friends to tell them of fishing the Bassmasters or making an American Express commercial.

So, if you meet Bubba, don't give him your telephone number. You just might get a before breakfast call!

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Lake Fork Big Bass Splash Sept. 21, 22, 23

Family, Fishing & Fun at the Big Bass Splash presented by Sealy Outdoors. \$497,000 Guaranteed in Cash and Prizes with 1st Place Overall winning a 2018 Triton 19 TRX Powered by Mercury equipped with Minn Kota, Lowrance, Power Pole and Navionics; 2018 RAM Truck Plus.... \$7,000 CASH!

Fifteen places will be paid in cash each hour of each tournament day beginning with the 7-8 AM hour and continuing through the 1-2 PM hour for the fifteen single heaviest bass weighed in. Heaviest Bass each hour will win \$1,500! 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. New this year the contestant(s) who weighs in the heaviest bass under the slot each day will win \$5,000. In addition, all contestants are eligible to win a 2018 Triton 189 TRX Powered by Mercury, equipped with Minn Kota and Lowrance in the famous "Elimination Drawing".

"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 five to twelve may participate in the Little Anglers Division and win Academy gift cards and trophies/medals for their winning catches of

bass, catfish, crappie or perch.

Registration is open online for the Big Bass Splash Presented by Sealy Outdoors benefiting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. To enter, visit www.sealy-outdoors.com

Early Bird Registration Deadline is Monday, September 10. On-site Registration will be at Lake Fork Marina from 10 AM – 8 PM on Thursday, September 20. Registration will continue each morning from 5 AM until 6 AM on days of the tournament. Tournament Entry Fees are \$160 for One Day, and \$210 for Two Days, \$260 for Three Days: The Little Anglers Division entry

(See Lake Fork Big..... Continued on Page 22-A)



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Bassmaster Elite Series Coming To Lake Fork For 2019 Texas Fest

By Don Hampton

Bassmaster Elite Series and TPWD officials announced mid August that the 3rd annual Toyota Bassmaster Texas Fest is coming to Lake Fork for a May 2-6, 2019 run. Weigh ins and festivities will be held out of Sabine River Authority Headquarters as has been in the past with the Toyota Texas Bass Classics.

This means that professional angling heavyweights like Jeff Kriet, Brandon Palaniuk, Kevin VanDam, Jordan Lee, Mike Iaconelli, Edwin Evers, Greg Hackney, Brent Ehrler, Kelly Jordon, and others will be fishing Lake Fork during the best time of the year. These pros will be competing for some of the \$1 million in prize money, a Toyota pick-up truck for the angler who catches the event's biggest bass, and a chance to qualify for the 2020 Bassmaster Classic.

"Fishing could be off the charts at that time," said Dave Terre, chief of TPWD's Inland Fisheries Management and Research Department, in a news release.

"This outstanding bass fishery is the result of progressive fisheries management practices by TPWD and its partners over the past 38 years," he added. "The opportunity to show-



case this world-class bass fishery on the Bassmaster stage, with a special tournament format we helped create, is something really special." Terre also notes that the 2019 event is being held at roughly the same time as the 2014 Toyota Texas Bass Classic event was at Fork, an event that is the predecessor of the current Texas Fest derby. By that tournament's end, Huntington, Texas bass pro Keith Combs had weighed in a three-day, 15-bass total of 110 pounds even. On one of those days, the Texas angler checked in a five bass limit of 42-pounds, boosted by a 10 pound, 14 ounce largemouth.

"To get 100 pounds in four days is a major accomplishment, and to do it in three is unheard of," said Combs in the news release. "It's nothing about the angler, but it's a testament to this lake."

But Combs wasn't alone in catching huge sacks

of bass in 2014 since Elite Series pro Stetson Blaylock also joined the "Century Club" with a three-day total of 102-8.

With all of the excitement this tournament is likely to bring, some questioned how an Elite Series event could be held on Lake Fork, with it being a slot limit lake where anglers are required to release bass between 16 and 24 inches in length, not to mention only being able to retain one bass greater than 24-inches in length each day. "To comply with the slot limit regulation and to minimize handling stress on bass, TPWD will work with B.A.S.S. to use the 'catch-weigh-immediate release' tournament format that was originally born at the Toyota Texas Bass Classic at Lake Fork in 2007," said Terre.

Under that format, which Tyler-area Bassmaster Elite Series and Major League Fishing pro Kelly Jordon helped create, a judge in each competitor's boat weighs and records the official weight of each bass caught, with all bass then immediately released back into the water except for one fish over the slot limit, which can then be taken back to the Texas Fest weigh-in stage to show off to excited fans in attendance. Bruce Akin, the CEO of the 500,000-member

(Continued on Next Page.....)



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B.A.S.S. organization, is one of those fans.

"B.A.S.S. and the Bassmaster Elite Series anglers have long wanted to conduct an Elite event on Lake Fork, which is a bucket-list fishery for bass anglers worldwide," said Akin, in the news release. "The innovative catch-weigh-release format — along with the support of Gulf States Toyota, Texas Parks and Wildlife and the family of B.A.S.S. sponsors — enables us to finally show what Lake Fork is capable of producing. We can't wait to go there."

Neither can Cindy Hamrick, vice president of marketing for Gulf States Toyota.

"We are proud to once again present the 2019 Toyota Bassmaster Texas Fest benefiting Texas Parks and Wildlife, which showcases the great Texas outdoors," said Hamrick. "Our continued partnership with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department allows them to offer the Toyota ShareLunker Program and a number of youth and urban outreach programs."

When the Elite Series comes to Fork next spring, the full field of anglers will fish Thursday and Friday, May 2-3, to accumulate the heaviest five-bass daily limits.

Anglers will then take a break on Saturday, May 4, for a special Fan Appreciation Day with Bassmaster University seminars, the Bassmaster Outdoors Expo, and the annual Bassmaster High School All-American Fishing Team Tour-

nament.

On Sunday, May 5, the field will be trimmed down for semifinal round action. And then on Monday, May 6, the event will see the tournament's Top 12 pros compete for the 2019 Texas Fest championship title.

"I think we could see record-setting catches of giant-size bass in 2019," said Terre. "These are the fish that have made Lake Fork a top destination for bass fishing for decades."

Lake Fork is truly known and named appropriately as "The Big Bass Capital of Texas". Of the 570 largemouth bass entered into the ShareLunker program with the weight of 13-pounds or more, 261 of those were caught on Lake Fork. Barry St. Clair's current 18.18-pound bass caught on this great reservoir has the state record largemouth bass. Second heaviest in the program is Mark Stevenson's previous 17.67-pound bass. Lake Fork's history speaks for itself with 7 of the state's 10 biggest largemouths ever caught, 12 of the top 15, 16 of the top 25, and 30 of the top 50. At the 14th Annual Legend of Lake Fork, (it being a legendary lake) held the third weekend of May each year, a 13.78-pound bass won as the heaviest bass caught during the three day tournament. This is the calling for bass anglers from all over the country to come and fish this great lake.



At the 2014 Toyota Texas Bass Classic event held on Lake Fork, (an event that is the predecessor of the current Texas Fest Derby) Pro Keith Combs from Huntington, Texas weighed in a three-day, 15-bass total of 110 pounds even. On one of those days, the Texas angler checked in a five bass limit of 42-pounds, boosted by a 10 pound, 14 ounce largemouth.



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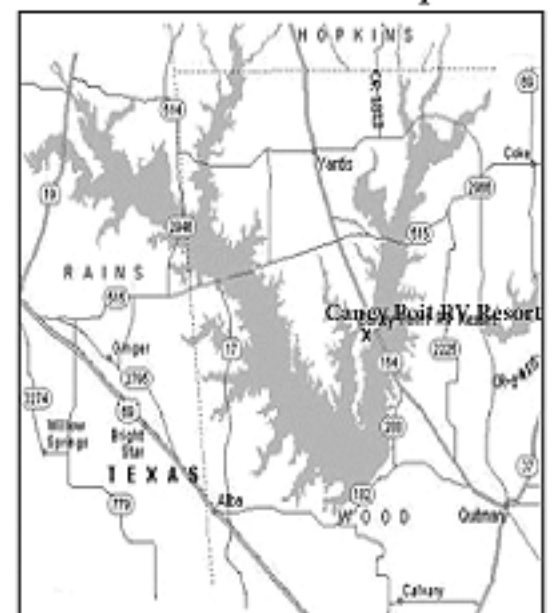
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September Is Transition Time On Fork

By David Ozio

“Transition time is upon us in September as the fall bass feedfest ramps up on Lake Fork. The summer doldrums are winding down and bass are starting to make the move toward the backs of creeks to fatten up for the long cold spell. The water temps as of this writing are much lower than last year at this time along with lower lake levels which will open the door to several more patterns on Fork not seen in the past few years. The backs of the creeks are housing grass and exposed wood which provide better hiding places for the green monsters.

With the days growing shorter, these pat-

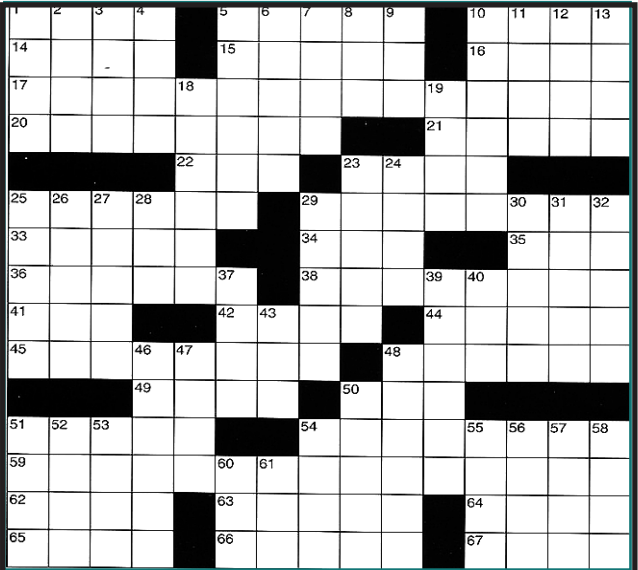
terns should take hold this month and I would be focusing on the shallow bite on a day to day basis especially early in the day. Backs of creeks will be the starting point if you are looking for consistent action. Shad will start to migrate to these areas of the lake and schooling activity will start to take place as the water begins to cool. Top water baits, squarebills, Texas rigged worms and shaky heads will lead the attack especially early and late. The lake is currently a little over pool and shallow water vegetation is taking root all over the lake. New grass growth, reeds and alligator grass (that’s what I call the thick leafy vegetation) lines most all coves and creek banks. Bass love this new aquatic growth as it provides shade and protection from the summer sun and cover to ambush baitfish. If it is a cloudy day, the yellow magic might be the call for the entire day along this vegetation. A sunny day would probably require the Texas rig or shaky head fished in the same shallow areas. Water clarity will determine the color of the plastics needed, dark hues for heavily stained water and translucent colors for the much clearer water.

Once you reach the midday time frame, I would start looking to the deeper areas of the lake, humps, ridges, road beds and pond dams



for the larger bass. The football jig is hard to beat during this time of the year and the 3/4oz Talon Custom football jig is the best choice for the job. Add a Talon Repo Craw trailer and your ready to tackle the heavy weights of the lake. As of lately, I have found that setting the boat on the shallowest part of the structure and casting out to the deep areas has produced more bites than the reverse scenario. The Carolina rig will also be a “go to” presentation for the same application. I would use a long leader with a 3/0 hook and a Talon Custom Big 10 inch Swamp Wiggler Worm. When you get a bite on one of these, your partner better be

(See September is.....
Continued on Page 20-A)



CLUES ACROSS

1. Statute law

5. Rub off

10. Female parent

14. Razor or jackknife

15. Sea wreckage

16. Asian nation

17. Weather report

20. Needles

21. Matters

22. ____ student, learns healing

23. ____ Alto, California city

25. Performs a dance

29. System

33. Bitter chemical

34. Bank feature

35. A Dalton (Physics)

36. Limits
38. Cyclic

41. Mineral

42. Region

44. Attack (obsolete)

45. Curriculum

48. Feeling

49. Otherwise

50. Plump for

51. Capital of Guam

54. Weightlessness

59. In a gloomy manner

62. Wings

63. Contests

64. Invests in little enterprises

65. Pats

66. Nasty manner

67. Measuring instrument

CLUES DOWN

1. Adolph Simon ____, New York Times

2. Strip

3. Cloudy

4. From pentane (Chemistry)

5. Endings

6. Disliked

7. Turkish leader title

8. Sift

9. Mental object

10. Sheepskin

11. Weapons system

12. Injure

13. & & &

18. Kind

19. Robust

23. Plate for Eucharist

24. ____ Mater, one's school

25. Gulf of, in the Aegean

26. Wing shaped

27. Alloy of nickel and copper

28. Braggart

29. Puzzles
30. Move

31. Domestic helps

32. Measuring rods

37. Compass pt. one point S. of S.E.

39. Motionless

40. Paddle

43. Fixed charge

46. Optical devices

47. Jai ____, sport

48. Purplish red

50. Exhibited

51. S. American armadillo

52. Sicilian city

53. As fast as can be done, abbr.

54. Anagram of iacs

55. Thomas ____, American cartoonist

56. Italian Island

57. Berth

58. Indian groom

60. Wife

61. 007's creator

Answers on Page 21-A

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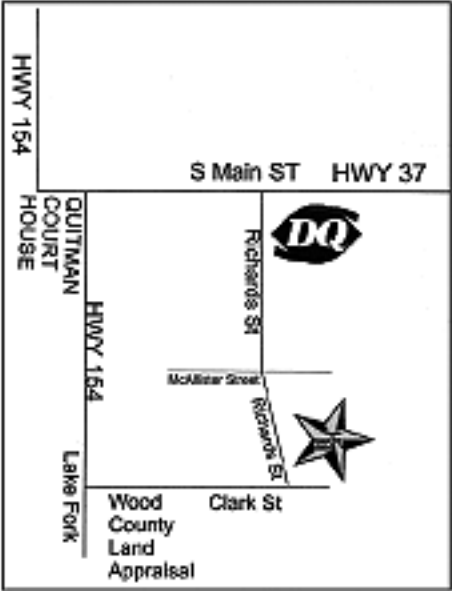
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The level two (faster charging) ChargePoint EV station has two ports to allow two vehicles to charge at one time. These charging ports will be accessible by parking in the designated spots along the B and C parking lot median. Austin Energy will pay for operation of the station and provide

TPWD a \$4,000 incentive for installing the EV Station equipment.

Anyone with an electric vehicle can access the stations through the Austin Energy Plug-In EV-erywhere subscription, which is part of the City of Austin, Plug In Austin Program. The cost to participate in the Austin Energy program is \$4.17 per month. These new parking areas will be designated for electric vehicles only. We ask that users be courteous and only park in these spots when charging an electric vehicle to make the station available to as many users throughout the day as possible.

The EV Charging Station is the newest example of

TPWD's commitment to be a leader in conservation. In 2017 TPWD's Austin headquarters became a City of Austin Platinum Green Business Leader. This new charging station, along with the 92kW solar installation on the building's roof, office composting program, energy efficiency efforts and other sustainability measures will help TPWD conserve resources for present and future generations.

For more information about the event or project installation, contact TPWD Sustainability Program Manager, Andee Chamberlain, 512-389-8652, Andee.Chamberlain@tpwd.texas.gov.



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"The Moon Report"

"Family Time" and Late Summer Crappie

By Terri Moon

First of all – I'd like to send my apologies to anyone trying to reach me the last few weeks while I was in Missouri visiting my family. My mom and dad live in what Verizon calls their "Dead Zone," and boy are they right! So, when I'm there I can't make or receive calls or texts – then to top it off, I got locked out of my e-mails! Then when I had to reset it, a lot of my info was deleted. So, I hope if you've tried to reach me, you will try again and I'm so sorry for the trouble! Not many people want to fish in 100 degree weather (including me) so it's always a good time to go visit my family.

My folks were in need of a vehicle upgrade for their trips to K.C. for my dad's cancer treatments. Prayers were answered and I took them a perfect replacement – (many thanks Ms Darla for making it possible!) Also, a big thank you to Jackie Albin of Tightwad, MO for keeping their old car running till I could get there! Then there was the issue of getting back to Texas. So, my lifetime friend Aneta Salmons and husband J. D. offered to bring me home if I took them crappie fishing – "SWEET!" It worked out perfect because fishing was going to be the first thing I did anyway



when I got home! I'm glad the crappie cooperated to make your trouble worthwhile! I sure appreciated the ride!

The crappie we found were in the typical late summer pattern – 16-24 ft. in 20 to 28 ft. of water in tree lines and brush piles. My Lowrance HDS carbon units with the new fish reveal sure makes my job easier finding the fish! The colors we caught ours on were white/chartreuse and cinnamon/chartreuse. It was still a light bite so line watching was a must. We had to move around a lot. There was no magic spot and our best catch was during the major feeding time. I like using the "fishing deluxe" app for the lunar tables and try to plan my fishing accordingly.

Our famous "FALL" fishing is just around the corner – I can't wait! It's not a secret that it's my very favorite time of year to

fish. To make it even more exciting this year is that my new Skeeter Solera 205 is scheduled for production Tuesday, Sept. 4th! This is going to make Fall fishing even more awesome! I can't wait for you all to get to see it and fish out of it! It will be powered by Yamaha VF250 motor, a MinnKota Ultrex112, and Lowrance HDS

(Continued on Next Page)

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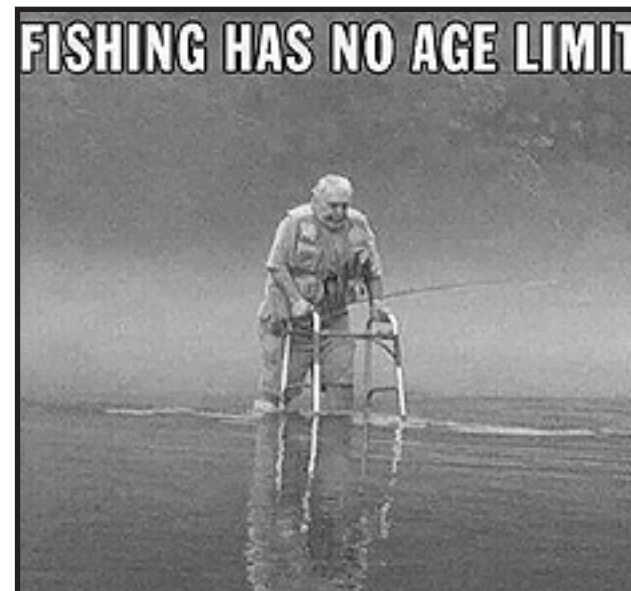
**The Fisherman's
Guide News
538 PR 5861
Yantis, TX.,
75497**

Carbon Units, plus all the extra amenities that make this a true "Luxury Liner"! Catching crappie in comfort -- PRICELESS! I'll keep you posted on the progress of the production. By the way, Skeeter offers factory tours if anyone is interested. It's in Kilgore, TX and you get to see how these boats are built. Just give them a call and they will schedule you in.

Now for an update on "Sweet Buddy", our Lake Fork Marina camp dog. He is on continued treatment for heart worms with life expectancy 4-5 years at best. He has pain medication for the days his back hips hurt -- but he always has a smile and a tail wag for you! Buddy has

made many friends here at Lake Fork Marina -- but his "Best Friend" Scuba Steve -- who gave him a "safe place" to go every night, a good meal daily, wrestled him in his truck to go to the vet and would shoulder the cost of Buddy's continued care, is in the progress of a new life adventure that's about 10 hours south. We all wish Scuba nothing but the best on this new chapter of his life -- but you will be missed terribly and I know Buddy will miss you the most. Thanks for being there for all of us!

Wishing everyone all the best and thoughts, hugs, and prayers to my family!



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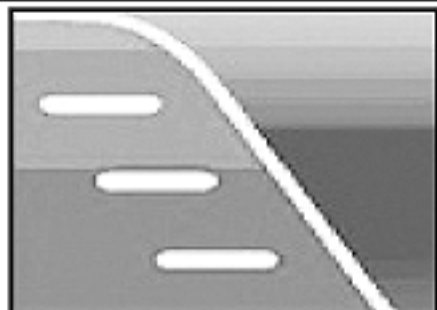
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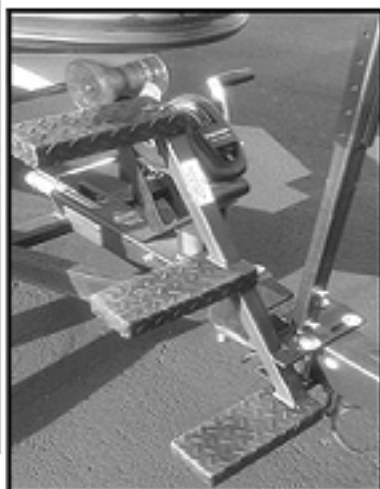
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Follow me and I will make you fishers of men. ~ Matthew 4:19 ~



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"Knowing What To Look For!"

By Michael Mc Farland

Well my fishing friends it's been a long hot summer and fall is just around the corner. The day light hours have begun to decrease and this is mother nature's cue there's cooler weather coming. Longer nights will begin the

cool down trend but our first big cold front is the most important one. As the water begins cooling baitfish will begin to migrate from deep water areas to these new shallow water areas where they will reside until it becomes too cold. These areas are usually creeks, drains,

pockets, coves, ditches, backwaters, etc...

Predator fish species like the largemouth bass will follow the baitfish as they migrate to these shallow areas. The bass will stop up many times along the way using breaks, creek bends, stumps, grass edges, ledges and sec-

ondary points as places of rest and ambush.

This image is of a secondary point that breaks into a creek with a perfect stump for a bass to stop up on. The shell bed near by suggests a great source of plankton in the area to attract the baitfish making this a very likely spot to catch a big bass. In early fall I look for these kind of spots first until the water reaches mid 70's or we have our first big cold front.

Usually our first big cold front will lower the water temp as much as 10 degrees overnight. This huge cool trend can really fire off the fall feeding frenzy. With just a short acclimation time these Florida bass get wild. I really pay very close attention to water temperatures this time of year, much like I do in the spring. In the spring I'm looking for areas that warm up first. In the fall I do just the opposite. I will

always attack these shallow water areas first with reaction baits like chatterbaits, rattle traps, Santone swim jigs, squarebill crank baits, frogs and buzzbaits. When the fish are inactive I will fish much slower with wacky rigs and light Texas rigs targeting secondary points with stumps and any edges of vegetation I can find. Remember the real key is to be sure and find the baitfish first. If there is bait in the area, there's probably something that wants to eat it.

Fall is my favorite time of year here on Lake Fork, much less traffic leaves more fish biting.

Thank you for reading, I wish you all the best in life and even better in fishing.



Michael McFarland
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2018-2019 Texas Hunting, Fishing Licenses on Sale

With opening of dove hunting season, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department reminds sportsmen that all current year Texas hunting and fishing licenses (except year-to-date fishing licenses) expired Aug 31. New licenses for 2018-19 are on sale now.

Outdoor enthusiasts in Texas purchase more than 2.4 million hunting and fishing licenses annually. Hunters and anglers can purchase licenses online, by phone or in person at any of the agency's 28 law enforcement field offices, at more than 50 state parks, and at over 1,700 retailers across the state. Hunting and fishing license fees fund conservation efforts and recreational opportunities that help make Texas one of the best places in the country to hunt and fish. Fish stocking, wildlife management, habitat restoration, public hunting leases, river access permits and Texas game wardens are just some of the initiatives funded in part by license fees.

Hunters can also enter to win any of 10 exciting premium guided hunt packages in the Big Time Texas Hunts drawing. All lodging and food is included and most of the packages allow winners to bring friends along to hunt. There are packages to hunt bighorn sheep, mule deer, white-tailed deer, pronghorn, alligator, waterfowl, upland game birds, wild hog and exotics. New this year is an opportunity to hunt Nilgai antelope in South

Texas. Big Time Texas Hunts entries are available online for \$9 each at www.tpwd.texas.gov/buyentry or for \$10 each at license retailers or by phone at (800) 895-4248. Big Time Texas Hunts raises over \$600,000 each year for wildlife research, habitat conservation efforts, and public hunting programs in Texas.

Hunters and anglers can also purchase an entry in the Lifetime License Drawing. Three lucky winners will each win a Lifetime Super Combo License and never need to buy another Texas hunting or fishing license again. Entries are \$5 each and can be purchased online at www.tpwd.texas.gov/licensedraw, by phone or at any license retailer. The first entry deadline for the three monthly drawings is September 30 with the first winner drawn on October 1. Any entries not drawn will automatically be included in the next drawings on November 1 and December 3.

When making their purchase, license buyers can add a donation of \$1, \$5, \$10 or \$20 to help support the "Feeding Texas' Hunters for the Hungry" program or the Veterans Commission's Veterans Assistance Fund.

Donations to the Hunters for the Hungry program provide hunters with a way to donate legally harvested deer to participating processors, and this processed meat goes to local food banks to feed Texas families in need. Donations to the Tex-

as Veterans Commission Fund for Veterans' Assistance (FVA) program provide grants to veteran service organizations and nonprofit charitable institutions that assist veterans and their families at the community level throughout Texas.

2018-19 hunting and fishing licenses and special drawing entries or Big Time Texas Hunts entries are available online at www.tpwd.texas.gov/buy, at license retailers or by phone at (800) 895-4248. The online transaction system is available 24/7. Call center hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. There is a required \$5 administrative fee for each phone or online transaction, but unlimited items can be purchased during a single transaction for this \$5 fee. All of these license sales outlets offer the opportunity to make a donation to help veterans and/or families in need of food.

Hunting and fishing regulations for the new season are available in the Outdoor Annual in print, online and on the Outdoor Annual mobile app. A limited number of Outdoor Annual booklets can be picked up at any of the 1,700 license retailers.

To get more information on Texas hunting and fishing throughout the year, sign up for free email updates at www.tpwd.texas.gov/email or by texting TPWD HUNT or TPWD FISH and your email address to 468-311 (ex. TPWD HUNT myemail@emailaddress.com).

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Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame Nominations Accepted Through Nov. 1

The Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame committee is seeking nominations for next year's hall of fame winners through Nov. 1, 2018.

"Since 1997, the Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame has recognized 34 outstanding individuals and organizations for their contributions to Texas fishing," said Dan Kessler, TFF Hall of Fame Committee Chair. "There are un-

doubtedly many, many more who deserve recognition for their efforts. Please help raise their profile by nominating them for the Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame."

The nominees will be evaluated by the 10 members of the Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame committee made up of anglers, industry professionals and organizations in Texas freshwater fishing. Inductees will be chosen

based on the following criteria: ethics, leadership and commitment, unselfish contributions to the sport, scope of impact on freshwater fishing and fishing/fisheries management expertise and impact.

The winners will be announced in Spring 2019 and will be presented with their awards in a special ceremony during Toyota Bassmaster Texas Fest, a Bassmaster Elite Series tournament held May 2-6, 2019.

"This year we were thrilled to formally induct our 2018 winners on stage at one of the most exciting bass fishing events in Texas," Kessler said. "We are excited to continue that tradition moving forward, and we look forward to reviewing all of this year's nominations and welcoming the winners on stage surrounded by Texas fishing fans and professionals again next year."

The most recent inductees to the Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame include Shannon Tompkins and Lake Fork Sportsman's Association in 2018; and Bobby Whiteside and Gulf States Toyota in 2017.

The Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame is housed at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens. Its mission is to "recognize and honor those who have made a lasting contribution to freshwater fishing in Texas, and to foster a sense of appreciation, awareness and participation in the sport of fishing."

Nomination forms and instructions are available online or by calling (903) 676-2277.

Videos highlighting the 2018 TFF Hall of Fame winners can be found on the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's YouTube Channel under the titles: Shannon Tompkins inducted into 2018 Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame and Lake Fork Sportsman's Association inducted into 2018 Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame.

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WITHOUT IT,
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2-YEAR-OLD
WHOSE BLANKIE
IS IN THE WASHER.**



Dr. Sam Trinca caught this nice bass while fishing Lake Fork on a hot day in August. Weight not provided. C.P.R.



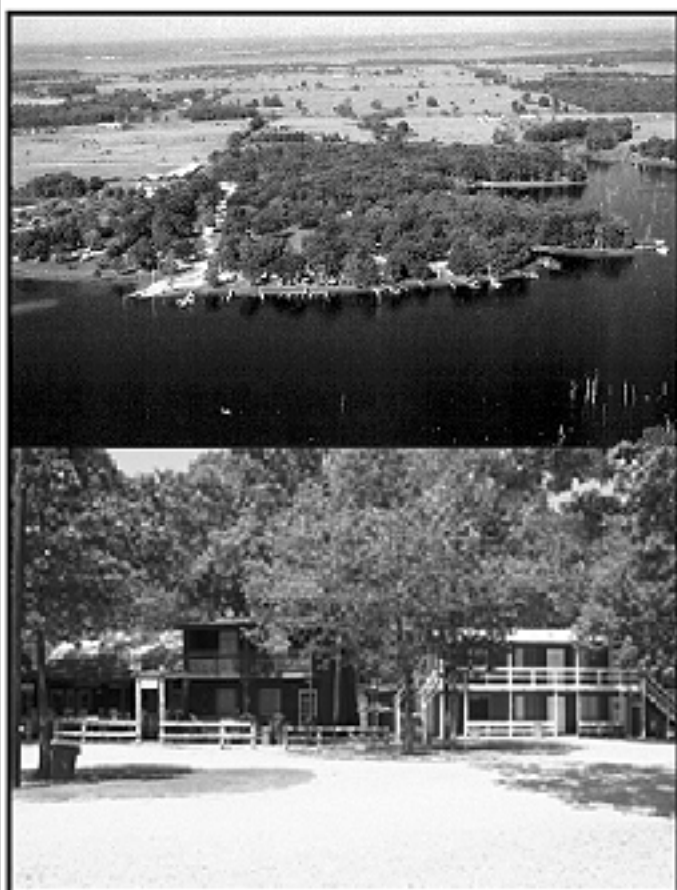
Lake Fork guide Whitt Smith got to do a little fishing on his own in August and caught this nice hawg measuring almost 24". C.P.R.



Larry Scheller caught this nice bass measuring 24.5" and weighing 9.34-lbs. night fishing in August with guide Randy Oldfield C.P.R.

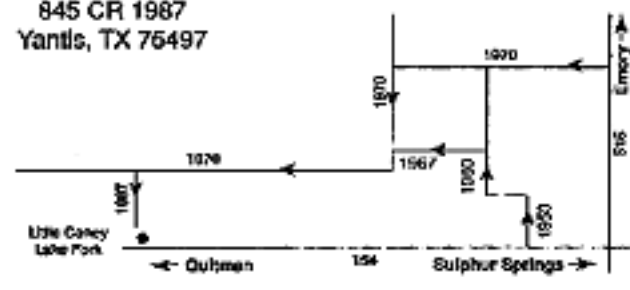
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Texas Dove Hunting Prospects Bright for Season Opener Sept. 1


Though Hurricane Harvey caused a significant drop in dove hunter effort and harvest numbers last year, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department expects the 2018-19 season to be back to normal. In Texas terms, normal means exceptional.

Opening day of dove hunting is Saturday, Sept. 1 statewide. For the third consecutive year, Texas dove hunters can look forward

to a liberal 90-day season and 15-bird daily bag limits. In addition, hunters in Texas' South Dove Zone have the opportunity to hunt every weekend in September thanks to the Special White-winged Dove Days Sept. 1, 2, 8, and 9, combined with a Sept. 14 zone opener, the earliest in half a century. Though hunting hours are limited to afternoons during the Special White-winged Dove Days

(noon-sunset), hunters in the southern portion of the state are now able to take advantage of the earlier dates in which the majority of dove harvest in Texas occurs. Over 300,000 Texas hunters harvest nearly one third of the mourning doves taken nationwide each year, far more than any other state. In recent years, an estimated 10 million doves are harvested in Texas annually. While Texas supports breeding populations of over 34 million mourning and 10 million white-winged doves, those numbers swell during the fall when birds from northern latitudes funnel south.

(Continued on Next Page)



Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork

37th Semi-Annual Open Tournament

October 13, 2018 * Lake Fork, Texas

Oak Ridge Marina * Hwy 154 N.

Guaranteed Pay-Out Based on 100 Entries 903-878-2529

Drawings Held After Weigh-in for prizes

1st Place	\$1,040.00
2nd Place	\$780.00
3rd Place	\$520.00
4th Place	\$260.00
5th ~ 10th	\$100.00



There will be a big bass pot ~ \$10 per person entry

Big Bass will pay Three (3) places. (Based on 100 entries)

1st Place	\$500
2nd Place	\$300
3rd Place	\$200

1. Entry fee is \$40.00 - late entry is \$45.00

2. Early entries must be postmarked by Oct. 5, 2018.

3. All entry fees must be paid before 6 a.m. Sat., Oct.13, 2018.

4. Check in times: Fri., Oct. 12, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Sat., Oct. 13, 5 a.m. to 6 a.m. at Oak Ridge Marina.

5. To qualify, contestants must check in at tournament headquarters before fishing.

6. Fishing hours will be 6:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (official clock at sign-in station). NO FISHING from midnight till start time.

7. Fishing will be done on Lake Fork only (trailering allowed).

8. Contestants must fish from a boat. NO-bank fishing or leaving the boat to land a fish.

9. Life jackets must be worn any time their outboard motor is running.

10. All state, federal, and local laws must be obeyed or contestant and fish may be disqualified. No slot fish may be brought to weigh-in.

11. No one may have more than five (5) fish in their possession at any time. Only one (1) may be 24" or greater.

12. Largemouth bass 12" to 16" or 24" or greater in length may be weighed. No fish under 12" or between 16" and 24" will be weighed (or state law limits at the time of the tournament).

13. All fish must be caught on artificial bait by casting. (No trolling with gas engine). Pork trailer may be used.

14. Weigh-in starts at 3:00 p.m. (official clock at sign-in). You must be in the weigh-in line by 3:30 p.m.

15. All fish must be brought to the scales in weigh-in bags.

16. No iced or frozen fish will be weighed. Ice may be added ONLY to aid in survival of fish.

17. Each contestant will be responsible for weighing his or her own fish. (No pooling of fish).

18. Dead fish at weigh-in will be penalized 1/2 (.5) pound. All fish weighed in become the property of TTB and will be released (with the exception of trophy or dead fish).

19. In the event of a tie for any position, prize money for that position and the following positions will be combined and evenly divided between the tying contestants.

20. Contestants may not have served as a compensated guide on Lake Fork 30 days prior to the tournmanet.

21. Contestants may fish with a guide on Lake Fork prior to the day before fishing this TTB tournament.

22. Use of alcoholic beverages or controlled drugs are prohibited during tournament hours. Prescription drug use should be declared at sign-in.

23. Anyone who has ever been disqualified for cheating or misconduct from any tournament is ineligible to fish.

24. Any contestant who violates any rule may be disqualified. Any act of a competitor, verbal or physical, that reflects unfavorably upon TTB's effort to promote fishing, conservation, clean waters, courtesy or safety shall be reason for disqualification from this and all future TTB tournaments.

25. Parent or guardian must accompany contestants under 18 years of age.

26. All protests must be registered in writing with the tournament judges within 15 minutes after designated weigh-in time. All decisions of the tournament judges will be final in all matters. Anyone protesting the outcome of an open tournament will have to pay for any additional polygraph test given.

27. All boats must be 18 ft. in length or longer. An aerated livewell is recommended to aid in fish survival for live release. Anglers cannot leave boat to land a fish.

28. All contestants are responsible to have read these rules and must agree to abide by them (by signing the entry form) while competing in this TTB event.

29. Contestants will be subject to polygraph test. Failure to take and/or pass such a test will result in disqualification.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information or for information on joining Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork visit our website: www.texastrailsbassmasters.com

Entry Application

Entry fee of \$40 must accompany mailed entry and must be postmarked on or before Oct. 5, 2018 to Texas Trails Bassmasters, 538 PR 5861, Yantis, TX 75497, or you may pay \$45 at tournament headquarters before starting time of tournament. \$10 extra for Big Bass (Optional). Print clearly.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Having read and understood all the tournament rules, by my signature I agree to accept all decisions of the judges final, by my signature I waive, release and hold harmless all members, officials and sponsors of any and all alledged liabilities to me or my equipment.

Contestants Signature _____

Minor's Release: Signed by _____

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Entry # _____

Entry Fee _____

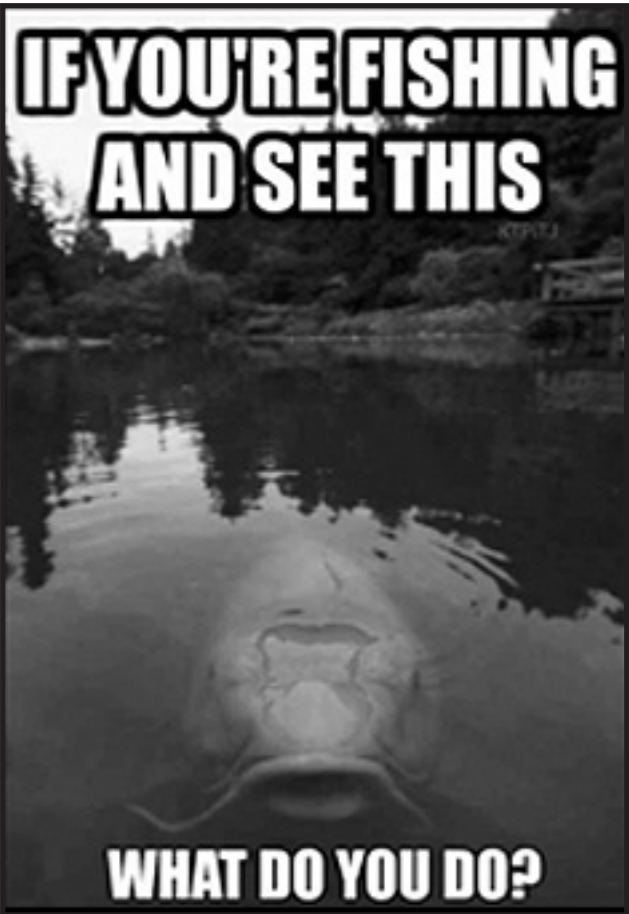
Big Bass _____

Cash _____ Chk# _____

Parent/Guardian _____



Curt Blount from Yantis caught this nice bass in August fishing Lake Fork on a drop shot weighing 7.75-lbs. and measuring 24.6". C.P.R.



"Texas is uniquely situated to catch a lot of migratory birds as they move through the central part of the continent. Couple that with the fact that we are such a big state with diverse habitats, and it makes sense that we have such large numbers of doves," said Owen Fitzsimmons, TPWD Dove Program Leader.

"Despite the dry conditions this summer, we had excellent production very early in the spring thanks to a mild winter and good rains in February and March, so there are a lot of birds around," Fitzsimmons said. "Unless we get significant rain in the next couple of weeks, hunters really need to key in on areas with water. That's where the birds will be concentrated."

White-winged doves were historically found in the lower Rio Grande Valley, but they have rapidly expanded in numbers and distribution across Texas in recent years. According to Fitzsimmons, white-wing populations continue to grow and are making up a larger percentage of daily bag limits statewide. White-wings are now found mostly in and around urban areas, providing hunting opportunity for those hunting just outside major cities and urban centers.

During the early two weekends for the Special White-winged Dove Days (in the South

Zone), hunting is allowed only from noon to sunset and the daily bag limit is 15 birds, to include not more than two mourning doves and two white-tipped doves. During the general season in the South Zone, the aggregate bag limit is 15 with no more than two white-tipped doves.

Hunters are reminded that licenses went on sale Aug. 15 for the 2018-19 hunting seasons and can be purchased through the agency's 28 law enforcement field offices, at more than 50 state parks and over 1,700 retailers across the state. Licenses may also be purchased online through the TPWD website or by phone at (800) 895-4248. Call center hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and there is a required \$5 administrative fee for each phone or online transaction. The online transaction system is available 24/7.

Hunting and fishing regulations for the new season are available in the Outdoor Annual in print, online and on the Outdoor Annual mobile app. A limited number of Outdoor Annual booklets can be picked up at any of the 1,700 license retailers. A Spanish language version is also available online.

To get more information on Texas hunting and fishing throughout the year, sign up for free email updates at www.tpwd.texas.gov/

email or by texting TPWD HUNT or TPWD FISH and your email address to 468-311 (ex. TPWD HUNT myemail@emailaddress.com).

In addition to a hunting license, anyone born after Sept. 1, 1971, must successfully complete a hunter education training course in order to hunt legally in Texas. The TPWD Hunter Education certification is valid for life and is honored in all other states and provinces. More information about hunter education is available online. If you misplace your certification you can print a replacement online at no cost.

A Migratory Game Bird endorsement and Harvest Information Program (HIP) certification are also required to hunt dove. HIP certification involves a brief survey of previous year's migratory bird hunting success and is conducted at the time licenses are purchased.

2018-19 Dove Season Calendar

North Zone: Sept. 1 - Nov. 4 and Dec. 21-Jan. 14, 2019.

Central Zone: Sept. 1 - Nov. 4 and Dec. 21-Jan. 14, 2019.

Special White-winged Dove Days (entire South Zone): Sept. 1-2, 8-9.

South Zone: Sept. 14 - Oct. 30 and Dec. 14 - Jan. 21, 2019.



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"September Means Transition and Turn Over Time!"

By Andrew Grills

It's hot, dry, and very quiet around the Lake Fork area at the time of this report. We are heading into September, what I would rank as #1 on the toughness scale among the twelve months for catching bass on Lake Fork. The turnover traditionally happens during the month of September, the fish seem as tired of the heat as we are, and there is a giant tournament in there to make things a little tougher. The best thing about September is that it is the month right before October!

We have had a very dry summer so far. The lake is 2.25' below full pool at this time, and will con-



tinue to drop until we get some much needed rain. On the bright side, the next few weeks will be a good time to take advantage of lower water and put GPS coordinates on some of those stumps you forgot about last time the lake was low. Fishing is usually a little better when the lake is low, so we might as well enjoy it. We can't do anything about the water level anyway.

The water is still very warm. 88 degrees last time I checked. The fish aren't "ganged up" out deep though. They're not really "ganged up" anywhere. That is why August and September are tough months; it is a transitional time and there isn't a strong pattern you can depend on. There are a few stragglers out deep, you'll find one here and there up shallow, and a few suspended.

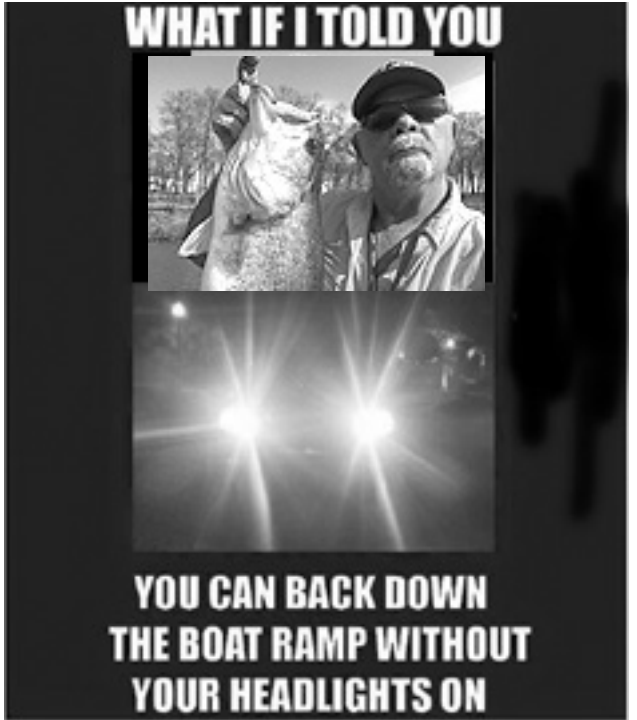
I tend to stay shallow this time of year. That will tell you how tough the deep bite is, because given the option, I'd be out deep looking for a big one. If you can find some grass that will sure help. Don't worry about catching a big one, just catch what you can and hope to get lucky. Because when you catch a big one in September, you got lucky.

The guides who drop shot will outfish all the rest of us this month. The drop shot will catch more fish than any other technique I know of in September. I'll tie one on when I get desperate enough... Maybe.

Have a topwater handy at all times. When you least expect it, a fish will come up on the surface

chasing a shad and your topwater will be just out of reach and it will be too late. Speaking of "too late", here's something to think about: II Corinthians 6:2 says, "For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation."

Hopefully, this will help give you an idea about what is going on out here this month. If I can be of any assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me!



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TPWD Graduates 30 Texas Game Wardens and State Park Police Officers

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department graduated the 62nd Texas game warden and state park police officer cadet class July 30 at the Texas State Capitol. The class included 23 game wardens and seven state park police officers.

Following their seven month preparation at the TPWD Game Warden Training Center in Hamilton County, the newly-commissioned state peace officers were recognized during a special ceremony that included a keynote speaker, oath of office and commissioning by senior-level department staff and TPWD Executive Director Carter Smith.

"We, the State of Texas, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, along with the people in the communities in which you will live and work and serve and

raise your families, will expect you to be pillars of strength and leadership, resolute in character and virtue, fair beyond reproach, and unfailing in response in times of disaster and duress," said Smith. "When you are called for help, day or night, weekday or weekend, irrespective of the need or the cause or the caller for help, you will go and you will go dutifully."

The graduates will begin their new careers stationed in counties and state parks throughout the state.

The 62nd cadet class brings a unique and diverse collection of skillsets and accomplishments; among their ranks include a licensed attorney, a high school science teacher, a former SWAT team commander, a Gold Gloves boxing champ, and a seasoned mara-

thon runner with more than 30 races under his belt, including a pair of 50-mile events. Several in the class are military veterans, including a U.S. Marine who served on MP Squadron One, the president's Marine One detail, and a 20-year U.S. Army special ops veteran with more than 120 static line airplane jumps on his resume. One cadet hails from California, while another is from Rhode Island, but the bulk of the class are homegrown Texans.

The duties of a Texas game warden include the enforcement of all state laws with primary emphasis on hunting, fishing and water safety regulations. As fully commissioned state peace officers, they respond to all types of emergency situations, assist other law enforcement agencies and work to educate the

public about conservation issues.

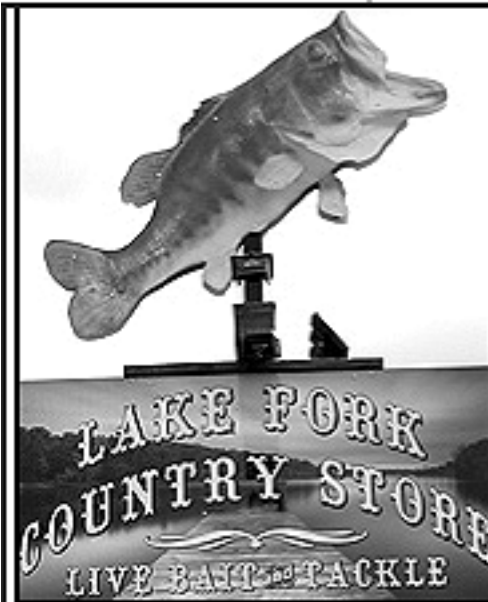
"Looking back 26

years ago, becoming a Texas game warden was like a dream

come true," recalled Texas Game Warden

(See TPWD Graduates....

Continued on Page 23-A)



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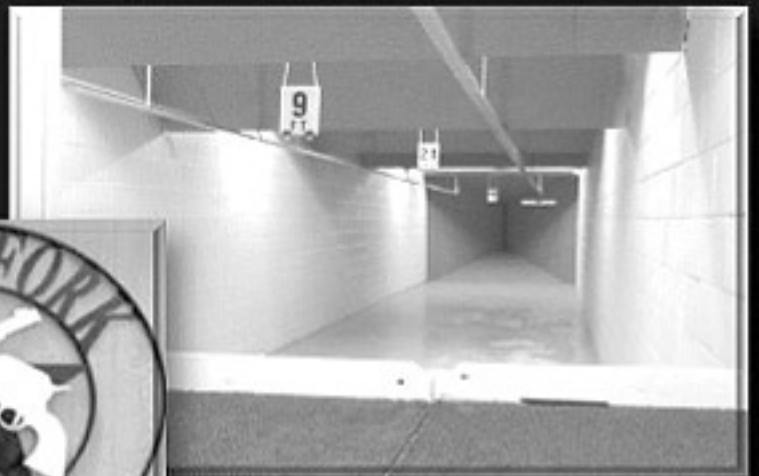
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September Is Transition Time On Fork (Continued from Page 6-A)

headed for the net. Redbug, Watermelon Red or Green Pumpkin Pepper will do the trick as far as colors are concerned.

The next strategy will be focusing on suspended fish that set up just off the side of the same structures. Use your electronics to locate these hovering green monsters, pitch out a marker buoy once you locate a group of fish, then tie on a Talon Big Daddy Lake Fork flutter spoon and go to work. Cast back toward the buoy and count the spoon down until you hit the desired

depth. Twitch the spoon and let it flutter down to draw the strike. Depending on the depth the fish are holding, a crankbait will work equally as well. I would choose the Strike King 6XD or the 8XD. Both are deadly and can be fished on 15lb line on a cranking rod. Also, submerged trees will hold the lion share of bass. Throw the crankbaits around these trees and work the bait through the limbs. You may lose a few lures, the rewards can pay off handsomely.

If you are headed out to Lake Fork in September searching for the trophy of a lifetime, I would love to be a part of this trophy quest. I still have a few dates open in September and some open dates in October. 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/LakeForkGuideDavidOzio>. I post my daily trip results on this page. I would also like to thank Okuma Fishing and Talon Custom Lures for making my job the blast that it is. 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."



Aaron Spicer with David Ozio



Gilbert Little with David Ozio



Jerry Hawkins with David Ozio



Logan Fleming with David Ozio



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Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork



By Kenny LaDuke

Lake Holbrook was the site of the Texas Trails Bassmasters 10th tournament of the 2017 - 2018 season.

August has to be the toughest month in Texas to find and catch fish! The hot water temperatures and no wind always makes the fishing a grind but a few anglers were able to scratch out a limit of fish.

Jim Martin with a 5 fish limit that weighed 13.33 lbs. for 1st place. Kenny LaDuke brought a 5 fish limit for 2nd place with 11.37 lbs. Don Hampton brought in 5 fish weighing 7.22 lbs. for 3rd place. Kenny LaDuke also had the big bass of the derby weighing 5.40 lbs.

Texas Trails Bassmasters is a club around Lake Fork, Texas and they fish surrounding lakes with one tourna-

ment a month (mostly on Sat.) and a two day club championship. If you are an angler that is looking for a great group of fellow outdoorsmen, then please

feel free to contact me, Kenny LaDuke, or Don Hampton and join our club. We have had several new members join this year and you could be part of the fun.

Just The Right Answers

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Fruit Find

There are 14 fruits hidden throughout the scrambled puzzle below. See how many you can find and circle. The words go horizontally and vertically, backward and forward.

APRICOT
BANANA
BOYSENBERRY
CRANBERRY
CURRANT
DATE
GRAPE

HONEYDEW
LOGANBERRY
MANGO
NECTARINE
PLUM
TANGELO
TANGERINE

B Y R R E T P A R G I O
O L O G A N B E R R Y C
Y O G N M A A R C A P R
T A N G E R I N E P I N
A T A Y R R T I N E A E
N A M B A U N A E T A D
E N A O T C E D T L P P
W E D Y E N O H E L O G
A P R S O C T A N E L M
P R I E L R A P I G E A
L G C N G A R D R A G T
U A O B A N A N A P N T
M C T E N B N E T R A N
M R M R A P R I C O T A
A A N R T E E C E T U R
E R R Y R R E B N A R C



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Lake Fork Big Bass Splash (Continued from Page 3-A)

fee is \$10 per Day.

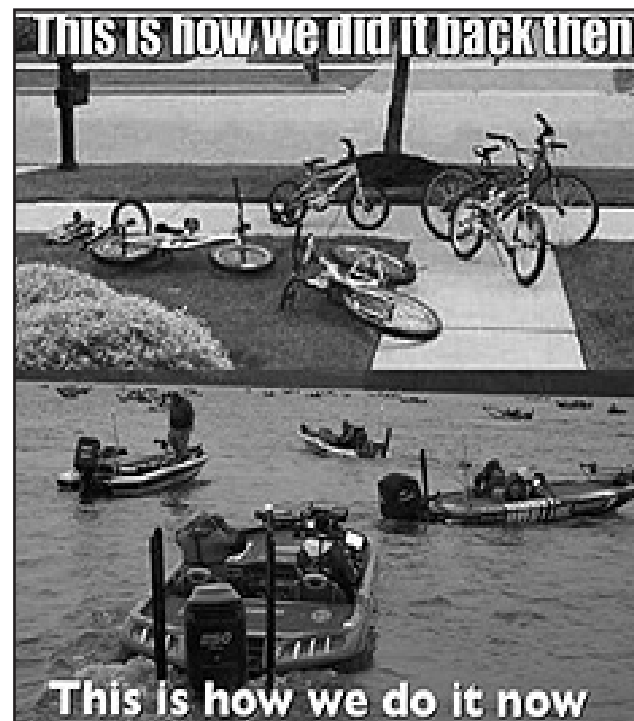
All participants and spectators ages 18 years of age and up can get in on the action. Come out to the tournament site, enjoy the festivities and get your free ticket for the Open Drawing Sunday, September 23.

The Big Bass Splash events are considered to be the world's largest grassroots amateur big bass fishing tournament of its kind. The Big Bass Splash attracts thousands of amateur anglers to these weekend events. It's what we call "Fishing, Family and Fun" for everyone. A portion of the proceeds from registration fees will go to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

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TPWD Graduates 30 Texas Game Wardens and State Park Police Officers *(Continued from Page 19-A)*

Col. Grahame Jones, TPWD Law Enforcement Division Director. "I commend these newly commissioned game wardens for their hard work and dedication as they realize their dream and embark on a mission to protect our valuable and fragile natural resources and fellow citizens of Texas."

State park police, also commissioned state peace officers, provide law enforcement services to the visitors and users of state parks and help enforce laws within their local jurisdictions.

"These new park police officers will be assigned to critical locations around the state where they will be working alongside other law enforcement to serve and protect the citizens of Texas within our state parks, and beyond the borders of our sites," said Wes Masur, Chief of State Park Police with TPWD. "This class marks our fourth group of officers who have trained alongside our partner game wardens as a cohesive law enforcement unit, and I look forward to working with these dedicated individuals."

All graduates met the state-mandated require-

ments for peace officer certification, including criminal and constitutional law, firearms, self-defense, use of force, defensive driving, arrest, search and seizure, ethics and first aid.

The 62nd cadet class joins a force of more than 500 game wardens and 160 park police officers in the field to help enforce TPWD regulations and carry the department's high standards to every corner of the state.

These are the new game wardens and park police and the counties

or parks in which they will be stationed:

Location	Assignment
Mitchell / Howard	Mason Murr
Coke Randall	Mullins
Midland / Glasscock /	Martin
Derek	Bean
Hudspeth	Ruben Aguilar
Hudspeth	Ryan Svehla
El Paso Freeman	Cones
Pecos Trevor	Pevehouse
Bowie Nathan	Lavender
Freestone David	McMillen
Robertson	Matthew Adams
Duval Zackary	Steven-

Live Oak	Kally Marbach
Maverick	Matthew Maloney
Starr	Dustyn Jansky
Zapata	Gloria Alcaraz
Zapata	Chuck Daugherty
Zapata	James Ramirez
Webb	Michael Hickerson
Webb	Roper Smith
Palo Pinto	Michael Foster
Palo Pinto	Amelia Springer
Kent / Dickens	Jeremy Lindsey
Throckmorton	Clayton Armstrong
Garner SP	Jose Almazan III

Cedar Hill SP	Allison R. Langley
Eisenhower SP	Keegan E. Moore
Tyler SP	Michael S. Roden
Lake Tawakoni SP	Justin W. Sooter
Lost Maples SNA	Erin Trotti
Lake Somerville SP	Richard J. Whitt

For more information about TPWD Law Enforcement, visit us online at <https://tpwd.texas.gov/warden/recruiting-careers/career>.

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Sept 12 - Wed	Academy - Tyler, TX	8668 South Broadway	903.266.3100	12PM - 1PM
Sept 12 - Wed	Academy - Longview, TX	445 Forest Square St	903.757.1300	6PM - 7PM
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Sept 21 - 22 - 23	Lake Fork Marina - Alba, TX	275 CR 1558	903.765.2764	5AM - 6AM



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