

TOWA

The Official Publication of the **Texas Outdoor Writers Association**

TOWA 2013 EIC AWARDS UPDATE

The Sportsmen's Act of 2012 Needs Your Help

*National Shooting Sports Foundation Pledges to Continue Work
on Sportsmen's Act*

NSSF expressed disappointment with the results of November 26's procedural vote in the U.S. Senate that has delayed action on the Sportsmen's Act of 2012 (S.3525), but pledged to continue working in a bipartisan fashion, along with a coalition of more than 45 other leading sportsmen's and conservation groups, to advance the historic package of bills before the adjournment of the 112th Congress.

"It is clear there is broad bipartisan support for the policies contained in the Sportsmen's Act, which contains our industry's top legislative priorities" said Lawrence G. Keane, NSSF senior vice president and general counsel. "While we are disappointed by Monday's procedural vote, we will continue to work in a bipartisan manner to address budgetary concerns raised by senators in time to ensure a vote on the Sportsmen's Act before the end of the lame-duck session."

The Sportsmen's Act of 2012 (S.3525) still can be enacted in this Congress if we keep the pressure on. All hunters, target shooters and firearms owners should call your senators today and urge them to work in a bipartisan manner to

resolve budgetary concerns raised on Monday so the Sportsmen's Act can be brought back to the floor for a vote on final passage. There are ongoing negotiations but time is running short. Tell your senators to compromise and reach a bipartisan agreement now.

The Sportsmen's Act is the most important package of measures for the benefit of sportsmen in a generation. It took a great deal of work to bring together no less than 46 of the nation's leading sportsmen and conservation

groups — including NSSF, NRA, Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, Ducks Unlimited, American Sportfishing Association, International Game Fish Association, Center for Coastal Conservation, and Boone and Crockett Club — to champion S.3525. Call the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121 to urge your senators to continue their bipartisan work on The Sportsmen's Act of 2012. For a complete list of senators, visit nssf.org/blog.

TOWA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE ALLOWS YOU TO RECRUIT AWAY YOUR ANNUAL DUES

AT THE SEPTEMBER 30 TOWA BOARD MEETING, THE BOARD VOTED TO reward current members who recruit new Active, Associate and Supporting Members with discounted annual dues. Here's how it works:

- For every new active member a current member brings in, the member will receive a \$10 credit toward his or her annual dues.
- For every new associate member a current member brings in, he or she will receive a \$15 credit toward annual dues.
- For every supporting member brought into TOWA, the member will receive a \$25 credit toward 2013 annual dues.

Please ensure that your name is listed on the appropriate application as sponsoring member so that the Executive Director can give you the proper credit.

We have an awesome conference coming up in Galveston, and Program Chairs David Sikes and T.J. Greaney know that "the heat is on" to raise the bar on the wonderful program they delivered in New Braunfels this past spring.

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The TOWA Newsletter is proudly sponsored by Gulf States Toyota. For information, go to www.buytoyota.com.



Guadalupe River Trout Unlimited member Gary Cobb of Austin, Texas, prepares to release a rainbow trout during a Texas Parks and Wildlife electrofishing survey on the Guadalupe River below Canyon Lake.

Increased Access Available for Guadalupe River Trout Anglers

AUSTIN — Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has signed temporary leased access agreements with four Guadalupe River property owners to expand free public fishing access to the trout fishery downstream of Canyon Reservoir. In addition, new access sites for anglers are slated to open on the Brazos, Neches and Colorado rivers in time for high-quality spring fishing opportunities.

Recognized as one of the top 100 trout streams in America and the southernmost trout stream in the United States, the Guadalupe River below Canyon Reservoir is the only stocked trout fishery in Texas where trout survive through the summer. Free fishing access to the trout fishery is now available at Whitewater Sports, Rio Raft and Resort and Mountain Breeze Campground. Additional free fishing access will be available at Camp Huaco Springs beginning December 7, 2012.

Site maps, specific conditions for angler use at each site (including any special fishing regulations), and a link to the trout stocking schedule and locations can be found on the TPWD River Fishing web page <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/fish/recreational/rivers/>. Trout stockings are scheduled for this segment of the Guadalupe River on Dec. 7, 14, 21 and 28 and Jan. 4, 11, 18 and 25. Two of the four fishing access areas have special fishing regulations for rainbow and brown trout.

Additional leased fishing access areas will open along the Brazos, Colorado, and Neches rivers in time for high-quality spring fishing opportunities. The new angler access area on the Brazos River will be located upstream of Waco and provide excellent fishing opportunities for smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, and catfish. Already a popular fishing destination among fly anglers that target largemouth bass, the Colorado River access area will provide increased access for anglers downstream of Lady Bird Lake in Austin. The Neches River site will provide access to the popular spring white bass run at the State Highway 31 bridge crossing immediately upstream of Lake Palestine.

Directions to these new angler access areas and information on special conditions on use will be available soon on the TPWD River Fishing webpage at: <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/fish/recreational/rivers/>

These new leased fishing access areas were made possible with grant funding provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program.

Media Contacts: *Tim Birdsong, (512) 389-4744, Timothy.Birdsong@tpwd.state.tx.us; Steve Magnelia, (512) 754-6844, Stephan.Magnelia@tpwd.state.tx.us.*

TOWA 2013 Conference

Feb. 14, 15 & 16, 2013

Hilton Galveston Island Resort – Galveston, Texas

Hotel Address: 5400 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, Texas 77551

Hotel rate & contact information: \$129.00 + taxes, per night. Contact Reservation Department, at (877) 425-4753. The main web site is www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/texas/hilton-galveston-island-resort-GLSGIHF/index.html. The deadline for TOWA rate is Jan. 29.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION:

Member: \$125.00

Spouse: \$100.00

(Spouse cost has been increased due to increased meal cost. Guests other than a spouse will be required to pay for any meals they eat at the conference.)

EARLY BIRD SIGNUP: Pay both your annual TOWA dues and registration fee for the Galveston conference by Jan. 15 and become eligible for a "Pick of the Litter" drawing during the Saturday night silent auction. Drawing winner will be allowed to pick any silent auction item as their prize before the bidding process begins

**TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE YOUR MEMBERSHIP MUST BE CURRENT & IN GOOD STANDING.
TO PARTICIPATE IN NEXT YEARS EIC COMPETITION YOUR 2013 DUES MUST BE PAID BY MARCH 1, 2013.**

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL & 55TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

PLEASE PRINT

_____ Active \$75 _____ Student \$10 _____ Supporting \$150 _____ Associate \$100

Name _____

Or Supporting Company Name _____

Current Email address: _____

REGISTRATION

Cost x Number of Persons = Fee

Membership fee \$ _____ (from above) \$ _____

Registration fee by February 5th: \$125.00 x _____ \$ _____

Registration fee after February 5th: \$150.00 x _____ \$ _____

Spouse \$100.00 x _____ \$ _____

Exhibitor fee \$75.00 x _____ \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT \$ _____

For payment information, please turn the page.

TOWA 2013 Conference

*Feb. 14, 15 & 16, 2013
Hilton Galveston Island Resort – 5400 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, Texas 77551*

PAYMENT INFORMATION

CHECK: If paying by check, please make check payable to TOWA. Enter check number here: _____

CREDIT CARD: If paying by credit card, enter Mastercard, VISA, Discover, Credit or Debit Card Information Below

Credit Card Number _____ Month _____ Year _____ Expiration Date _____

Customer Name _____

BILLING INFORMATION:

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

MEAL INFORMATION FOR THE 53RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE

MEAL INFORMATION: (# of persons)

Thursday Reception (free) _____

Friday Breakfast _____

Friday Lunch _____

Friday Dinner _____

Saturday Breakfast _____

Saturday Lunch _____

Saturday Awards Banquet _____

Guest meal fee for other than a spouse is \$15.00 for breakfast, \$20.00 for lunch and \$40.00 per dinner for each additional person, payable at registration.

TOTAL MEALS _____

RETURN THIS FORM ALONG WITH YOUR PAYMENT TO:

**Executive Director Larry J. LeBlanc, 904 W. Montgomery, Ste. 4, #363, Willis, TX 77378.
For more information, Office (936) 445-9348 (Cell) (936) 524-0761 or email towa@suddenlink.net.**



2012/13 YOUTH OUTDOOR WRITING CONTEST IS OPEN TO STUDENTS

Texas Outdoor Writers Association Teams With Dallas Safari Club to Promote Youth Outdoor Writing Contest



The Texas Outdoor Writers Association has teamed up with the Dallas Safari Club's Dallas Ecological Foundation to again promote the outdoors with good storytelling through a writing contest for middle school and high school students of Texas. The Dallas Ecological Foundation will promote the contest through its Outdoor Adventures Education Program. The Galveston Island Convention & Visitors Bureau has agreed to help recruit contestants within the host community for the 2013 TOWA conference. The TOWA board of directors is also asking association members to promote the contest at campuses in their respective communities.

Below are the contest rules and entry form. There is no entry fee. Cash prizes will be awarded for the top three stories from each age division, middle school and high school. A laptop computer will be given to the author of the overall best story in each age group chosen by a panel of judges. The overall winners will also be recognized at the February 2013 TOWA Conference in Galveston.

Questions should be directed to Board Member TJ Greaney at (512) 292-1113 or tj@kidsoutdoorzone.com.

TEXAS OUTDOOR WRITERS ASSOCIATION JUNIOR OUTDOOR JOURNALIST ADVENTURE STORY WRITING COMPETITION

Sponsored in part by Dallas Safari Club's Dallas Ecological Foundation's Outdoor Adventures Education program

The Texas Outdoor Writers Association and Dallas Ecological Foundation are pleased to announce our First Outdoor Experience Story Writing Contest for students. The contest opens Dec. 1, 2012. There will be two divisions: Middle School grades 6-8 and High School grades 9-12.

First Place winners in each division will receive a new laptop computer, Second Place winners will receive a \$100 cash prize, and Honorable Mentions will receive \$25 cash prize. The winners will also receive an invitation to the 2013 TOWA Conference in Galveston, Texas on Feb. 16, 2012.

Stories will be judged on originality, creativity, proper grammar, punctuation and writing style. Each contestant should submit her/his story to TOWA, attention TJ Greaney; 9508 Chisholm Trail, Austin, Texas 78748. All entries, whether delivered in person or by mail, must be received by 4 pm on Feb. 1, 2013.

Winning entries will be featured at the TOWA 2013 conference in Galveston where members and guests may read and enjoy them. All entries become property of TOWA and may be published in full or part in the TOWA and DSC newsletter, web site or brochures. Winners will be notified by telephone or email, and a list of winners will also be posted in the April 2013 edition of the TOWA newsletter.

RULES:

1. Your story must be your own original work on the topic "My Best Outdoor Adventure."
2. Type your story (minimum 12-point font) on 8.5" x 11" paper.
3. Maximum word count should not exceed 500 words.
4. Do not include any artwork.
5. Only one story may be submitted per person.

Stories will not be returned. Stories not following these rules will not be accepted. No exceptions will be made.



CUT AND CLIP TO YOUR STORY

TOWA JUNIOR OUTDOOR JOURNALIST ADVENTURE STORY WRITING COMPETITION

Title of Story: _____ Grade Level: _____ Number of Pages: _____ Word count: _____

Student's Name: _____ Parent's Name: _____

Street Address/P.O. Box: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Primary Phone Number: _____ Secondary Phone Number: _____

Teacher: _____ Teacher email: _____

School Name: _____

Street Address/P.O. Box: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Ducks Unlimited Elects Texan Shawn de Cento to Board of Directors

SAN ANTONIO, Nov. 28, 2012 — Ducks Unlimited has elected Shawn de Cento of San Antonio, Texas, to serve as a regional vice president on the organization's national board of directors.

"Shawn has a long history as an active DU volunteer," said DU President John Newman. "He brings enthusiasm and commitment to the team, and we're proud to have him on board."

De Cento is the founder and president of Lone Star Roofing and Construction Inc. He began volunteering with Ducks Unlimited in 1998 and has held a variety of positions, including 2010-'11 Texas state chairman.

"Shawn has been one of the single most successful state chairmen I've ever known, elevating Texas to the number one fundraising state in the nation," said Rogers Hoyt Jr., a DU board member from Uvalde, Texas.

"As a DU member who lives to hunt, it is my duty to conserve these resources for future generations of young hunters," de Cento said. "It's vital that we lead by example and instill in the next generation

the importance of responsible stewardship of our natural resources. Past DU members made it possible for me to enjoy my passion, and it is up to each one of us to continue that legacy. I'm excited about doing just that in this new position."

Ducks Unlimited is the world's largest non-profit organization dedicated to conserving North America's waterfowl habitats. DU is governed by a volunteer board of directors and senior officers.

"As a member of DU's board of directors, Shawn will help guide Ducks Unlimited in our future conservation work. It's a significant commitment, and a pivotal position within the organization. I'm confident he'll do a great job," Newman said.

Ducks Unlimited Inc. is the world's largest non-profit organization dedicated to conserving North America's continually disappearing waterfowl habitats. Established in 1937, DU is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year, with special events, projects and promotions across the continent. Ducks Unlimited has conserved more than 12 million acres thanks to contributions from more than a million



Shawn de Cento of San Antonio, Texas, has been named a new regional vice president on DU's board of directors.

supporters across the continent. Guided by science and dedicated to program efficiency, DU works toward the vision of wetlands sufficient to fill the skies with waterfowl today, tomorrow and forever. For more information on our work, visit www.ducks.org.

Connect with us on our Facebook page at facebook.com/DucksUnlimited, follow our tweets attwitter.com/DucksUnlimited and watch DU videos at youtube.com/DucksUnlimitedInc.

TEACHERS' ACQUIRES PLANO MOLDING COMPANY, LEADING SUPPLIER TO OUTDOOR ENTHUSIASTS

TORONTO, Nov. 30, 2012 — Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan (Teachers') today announced an agreement for the acquisition of Plano Molding Company, Inc. (Plano), the premier supplier of outdoor sports storage systems.

Based in Plano, Illinois, and founded in 1932, Plano is recognized as the leading brand in fishing and fall sports markets where it enjoys leading market shares in tackle boxes, bait storage, gun cases, archery cases, and ice fishing products. It also produces cases for cosmetics, tools and crafts, as well as storage containers and shelving for home and office.

Teachers' is making the acquisition through its private equity investment division, Teachers' Private Capital (TPC). Terms of the transaction are not being disclosed.

"Plano has exceptionally strong brands and product categories supported by attractive market characteristics. It also benefits from its long-standing relationships with top North American retailers," said Jane Rowe, Senior Vice-President of TPC. "Plano's proven management team has a record of solid organic growth and has strongly positioned the company to benefit from acquisition opportunities. We look forward to supporting their success."

"The Plano management team and I are extremely

excited to be partnering with Teachers," stated Tom Hurt, the Company's President and CEO. "Together we look forward to growing Plano's heritage brands to their full potential and continuing our dedication to exceeding our customer expectations in product innovation, market leadership and world-class customer service. An exciting new journey has just begun for Plano, our valued associates and the many market leading brands under our umbrella. The Teachers' partnership in Plano promises to yield more exciting opportunities than ever before."

TPC activities include leading deals on a sole or partnered basis, investing in private equity funds in markets and sectors that it cannot efficiently access directly and co-investing with other like-minded private equity funds. TPC manages a global portfolio valued at approximately \$12 billion.

About Teachers': With \$117.1 billion in assets as of December 31, 2011, the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan is the largest single-profession pension plan in Canada. An independent organization, it invests the pension fund's assets and administers the pensions of 300,000 active and retired teachers in Ontario. For more information visit otpp.com.

Hi Mountain Seasonings Introduces a Delicious New Breakfast Sausage Seasoning Kit for Game Birds, Poultry



RIVERTON, Wyo. (September 10, 2012) — For most waterfowlers and turkey hunters, the extreme excitement of the hunt quickly fades the moment they begin breasting out their quarry as familiar thoughts rush in. “Now I have to figure out how to cook these gamey things.” But, as always, Hi Mountain Seasonings has come to the rescue with a quick, easy and delicious solution to hard-to-prepare birds with the introduction of its new Breakfast Sausage Seasoning For Game Birds and Poultry.

With dehydrated apple pieces and natural maple flavoring, the new Spicy Apple Maple Blend delivers a unique flavor and texture to your breakfast plate. Now the excitement of the hunt can extend from the field to the breakfast table.

“Bird hunters have been blown away by the superb flavor and tenderness of our waterfowl and turkey jerky cure and seasoning kits, and they’ve been hounding us for even more ways to easily prepare their game birds,” said Hans Hummel, Hi Mountain president. “Breakfast sausage was the logical place to start. We borrowed the dehydrated apple pieces from our line of recently introduced Camping Meals, added natural maple flavor and combined them with our secret blend of seasonings for a savory and sweet breakfast sausage that’s easy to make and just can’t be beat.”

Ideal for use with any game birds or domestic poultry, the kit comes fully equipped with collagen casings, seasonings and dehydrated apples for 22 lbs. of meat. It is recommended to add a little pork or fat to the recipe when using very lean birds.

Now, thanks to Hi Mountain Seasonings, you no longer have to question what to do with those birds you shot; you just have to worry about knocking them down. Hi Mountain’s entire line of products, cooking tips, instructional videos, and recipes are also available at www.himtnjerky.com, and the products can be found at high-quality sporting goods stores, farm and ranch stores and your local grocery stores.

Located in the heart of Wyoming, Hi Mountain Seasonings was founded in 1991. It is the premier manufacturer of kits for homemade jerky and sausage. Hi Mountain Seasonings has successfully captured distinct, traditional Western flavors in its Jerky Cure & Seasonings, Western Style Seasonings, Bacon cures and other products that make up the unique line of gourmet Western seasonings. In 2011, Hi Mountain Seasonings introduced a line of delicious freeze-dried Camping Meals.

For additional information, write: Hi Mountain Seasonings, 1000 College View Drive, Riverton, WY 82501; call (800) 829-2285; or visit himtnjerky.com.

For media inquiries, contact Karen Lutto at Karen@hunteroc.com or (830) 755-4308 (press office).



Mossy Oak Announces Partnership with Walls Industries Inc.

Walls Offering Mossy Oak Branded Cotton Apparel for Men, Women and Youth

WEST POINT, MS – Mossy Oak is excited to announce a partnership with Walls Industries Inc., who will offer cotton hunting wear for men, women and youth that will be available in Fall 2013.

“Walls has a long, proven history with the outdoor consumer. Their broad assortment of new Mossy Oak apparel is sure to find its way into the hands of outdoor enthusiasts looking for value, quality and function,” said Chris Paradise, Sr. Vice President and Chief Sales Officer for Mossy Oak.

Walls Industries Inc. will begin producing Mossy Oak branded cotton button-up shirts, pants, coverall and overall bibs, jackets, coats, and t-shirts for men, women and youth. These items will feature Mossy Oak patterns in addition to the Mossy Oak logo. Walls will be producing these in all of Mossy Oak’s current camo patterns in addition to utilizing some of Mossy Oak’s most popular vintage patterns.

“Walls Industries has always made it a priority to align ourselves with the best in the business and this partnership exemplifies that commitment to our customer,” said Mike Bray, Vice President of Sporting Goods for Walls. “We are excited, energized, and determined to design, manufacture, and deliver the products our Mossy Oak customer expects for many years to come. The features we build in to each product at a value expected will be a promise delivered on each and every garment we build. Wall’s heritage runs deep in the grassy roots of the outdoor industry, which mirrors Mossy Oak’s rise with the outdoorsman. We are very pleased to have this opportunity and look forward to a future full of possibilities.”

Walls Industries Inc. is an official licensee of Haas Outdoors Inc. Haas Outdoors Inc. is headquartered in West Point, Miss., was established in 1986 and is home of Mossy Oak (www.mossy-oak.com). Mossy Oak specializes in developing and marketing modern camouflage designs for hunters and outdoorsmen. Haas Outdoors Inc. is the outdoor industry leader in modern camouflage design, international licensing and marketing. Haas Outdoors Inc. markets its services and products under widely recognized brands including: Mossy Oak, BioLogic, Mossy Oak Productions, MOOSE Media, Nativ Nurserie and Mossy Oak Properties.

To learn more about Walls Industries, visit walls.com or call (800) 588-4366.

Wortham's Second Novel in Red River Series Receives Accolades from Kirkus Reviews

KIRKUS REVIEWS: BURROWS (reviewed on December 1, 2012)

Another stroll down memory lane to Center Springs, Texas, where life in 1964 is a lot more eventful than you remember.

Kendal Bowden's therapist said that laying the ghosts to rest would help. So Kendal's embarked on a murder spree, killing Randal Wicker and Josh Brooks, former schoolmates who tormented Kendal as a child, along with Josh's wife, Beth, and his mother, Onie Mae. A headless body found in the creek turns out to be that of Kevin Jennings, whom Kendal broke out of a Tulsa asylum before tiring of his company. Although Ned Parker has retired as constable in favor of his son, Cody, it's Ned who gets called to the scene and pressed into service when it becomes clear that Kendal is the killer. Even so, Cody, who served as a tunnel rat in Vietnam, will see plenty of equally nerve-shredding action on the homefront. When the trail leads to the home that Kendal's abusive stepfather, retired mortician George Hart, shares with his invalid brother Alvin, a rookie deputy's mistake triggers a device that turns the house into a deathtrap. Now it's up to Cody and Big John Washington, Lamar County's only deputy of color, to make their way through a dark, deadly interior labyrinth rendered disgusting by George's inability to throw anything away and harrowing by the booby traps someone's set.

As in Ned's debut (*The Rock Hole*, 2011), his grandchildren, Top and Pepper, are on hand to provide welcome humor and lend perspective to the acutely and unobtrusively observed small-town landscape. The result is that rare bird, a mystery with something for everyone.



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Kirkus Reviews Issue: Dec. 1st, 2012

OUR SARGASSUM EARLY ADVISORY SYSTEM

Update from TOWA Member Tom Linton Explains Goals of Texas A&M Galveston SEAS Research

The Sargassum Early Advisory System (SEAS) was designed to fill that need for advanced notification of sargassum landings.

It incorporates NASA's Landsat satellite imagery with HYCOM surface ocean currents and Buoyweather surface wind forecast predictive models to predict location, direction and speed prior to beach landings.

The model has three phases.

The first gives coastal managers a two week notice of impending landings.

The second will give coastal managers a six-month notice of increased chances of sargassum landings by increasing the area of monitoring Landsat imagery in conjunction with surface water and wind currents.

The third seeks to find a practical procedure for removing sargassum from the beach and strategically placing it to assist in developing the dune system.

"Depending on amounts present — light landings/heavy landings — the Park Board spends \$373,804 to \$849,142 to move sargassum away from the beach," says Mario Rabago, Deputy Director, Galveston Park Board of Trustees.

"It results in a substantial cost saving if we have early warning so we can deploy our work

force and machinery in advance — the SEAS system Texas A&M University has developed gives us that capability."



Sargassum has long had a bad reputation, ever since Christopher Columbus' navigator Ojeida reached over the side of the Santa Maria, retrieved a large batch and cried out, "What the (several expletives deleted) is this weed that floats in the sea?"

For centuries, sargassum was blamed for impeding ships crossing the Atlantic to the new world, alleged to ensnare vessels in the Bermuda Triangle and for the past 150 years as being a nuisance by landing on the beaches as documented in Texas Gulf Coast newspapers.

After a couple of days on the beach, sargassum branches, along with its resident flora

and fauna, decomposes, creating a foul smell that drives away tourists. But wait, sargassum isn't all bad.

While floating out in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, it creates an oasis in the middle of nutrient-depleted surface waters. The symbiotic relation that is developed between sargassum and other forms of life is crucial for the survival of those organisms.

As sargassum enters near-shore waters, it undergoes a rapid growth rate by absorbing nutrients, thus creating offshore sargassum mats that are the haunts of many highly prized gamefish.

Even after sargassum makes it landings on the beach, it serves as an important food source for multitudes of gulls and other shorebirds.

The final goal for the SEAS system is to develop a practical means of creating a compacted mass of sargassum that can be used in creating a sand dune. This organic bale would give native coastal plants the ability to establish sustainable groundcover to support the dune system.

And thus improve the "reputation" of that weed floating in the sea that Columbus and his crew first encountered.

— Tom Linton