

TOWA

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

TOWA 2013 ANNUAL CONFERENCE COUNTDOWN

“The Business of the Outdoors”

Texas Outdoor Writers Association Annual Conference 2013

TOWA 2013 Conference attendees can broaden their knowledge, identify opportunities and discover fresh ideas and revenue streams

TJ Greaney, President-Elect and Conference Co-Chair

Galveston's unique heritage, plus its natural and cultural history make for an inspiring backdrop for TOWA's 2013 Annual Conference. Couple that with the picturesque venue at the Hilton Galveston Island Resort on the isle's famed seawall, and a conference program designed to enrich all

attendees ... well, this is one conference you won't want to miss!

The following conference agenda reflects the nearly complete lineup; you can pick up the final version along with your 2013 TOWA Directory upon your arrival at the registration desk. See you there!

Thursday, Feb. 14th

1:00 p.m. – TOWA Board Meeting

1:00 - 5:00 p.m. – Registration in the Hilton Galveston Island hotel lobby

6:00 - 8:30 p.m. – Welcome reception; see Page 3 for details. Don't miss this opportunity to meet the city's "who's who", welcome new members, rekindle your TOWA friendships and enjoy an amazing meal.

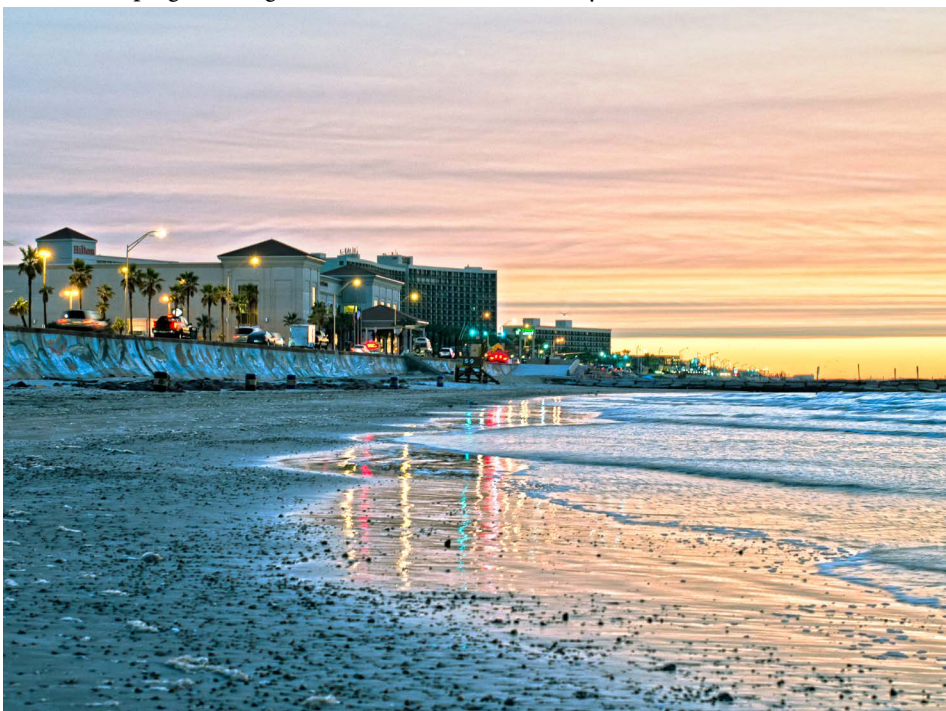
Friday, Feb. 15th

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Registration in the Hilton Galveston Island hotel lobby

7:30 - 8 a.m. – New Member Orientation

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. – Gary White created the top educational program for bass anglers when professional bass was in its infancy. The program was founded in 1974 by White of Edmond, Oklahoma. White was a Financial Aid officer at Rose State College in Midwest City Oklahoma and an avid bass angler. He saw that the College's Continuing Education Department was offering everything from real estate to guitar picking and quilting and thought they should offer bass fishing.

The first event was held at Rose State College in 1974. In 1975, it was offered as a Continuing Education course at the University of Texas. To date, the program



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TOWA News is published monthly by the Texas Outdoor Writers Association and edited by Susan L. Ebert. Layout by SusanEbertInk, SusanEbertInk@gmail.com. Contributors are urged to submit material by the 15th of each month. For advertising information, contact Susan L. Ebert at (512) 431-2013 or SusanEbertInk@gmail.com. TOWA News is emailed to members and mailed first class, if requested, from Porter, Texas.

TOWA was formed in 1958 as a professional/social organization for those who communicate about hunting, fishing and other outdoor pursuits, as well as those in business and industry connected with the outdoors.



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



has been conducted through 137 colleges and universities in the U.S. and Canada, and White has been inducted into the National Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame for contributions to education and conservation.

White's stories and insights of the anglers he's met, where bass fishing was in those days and where he sees it today will keep you laughing and give you insights into this passionate pastime and professional sport.

9:15 - 10:15 a.m. – Chevy and Toyota vehicle display and test drive in front of the hotel. Come drive the newest models of trucks and SUVs.

10:30 a.m. - noon – Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Roundtable with TPWD Division Directors and staff. This is an annual opportunity to meet with these incredible program leaders and staff. Bring your questions and plan on creating a list of story ideas for 2013.

12:15-1:15 p.m. – Lunch sponsored by the Dallas Safari Club. Learn what this dynamic organization is doing and how you can support them or get a great story line.

1:30 - 2:30 p.m. – Breakout, inside the hotel. This is an opportunity for supporting members to display and demonstrate their wares, pitch story ideas and forge relationships with TOWA outdoor communicators.

2:30 – 3:30 p.m. – Membership Input and Improvement Session: TOWA and the industry of outdoor communication is growing. Come be a part of shaping our organization for the future. New, old, freshman and senior members are encouraged to attend.

3:30 - 4:00: Supporting Members meeting. Chad Gay chair. Supporting members are encouraged to provide feedback and suggestions regarding the conference and the organization.

4:00 - 6:00 p.m. – Tour/shop Galveston on your own. Maps, coupons and points of interest will be included in your registration packet.

6:30 p.m. – Stephen Curley is the author of *Aggies by the Sea: Texas A&M University at Galveston*. He holds a Ph.D. from Rice University and is a Regents Professor of English at Texas A&M University at Galveston. He will be talking about his book on the A&M training ship, the Clipper, which is now a fishing reef 17 miles off South Padre and on other topics.

7:30 p.m. – Dirty Dozen Live Auction.

Hospitality Suite – Join members in the TOWA Hospitality Suite after all regular conference activities each night for conversation and the fellowship.

Saturday Feb. 16th

8:00 a.m. - 2:100 p.m. – Registration continues in the Hilton Galveston Island hotel lobby

8:00 -9: a.m. – Breakfast sponsored by Ducks Unlimited. DU's Kirby Brown will share with us the most current developments in DU and offer assistance on story lines, share DU staff contacts, and more.

9:15 -10:45 a.m. – Your Book: Write it, publish it and make money doing what you love! THIS is a roundtable discussion you won't want to miss!

Steve Hemphill is uniquely qualified to offer some sound advice and practical suggestions to other authors: After a lucrative career in the business world where he was his own boss in the competitive and constantly changing field of technology, and owned his own business for almost 30 years and had 32 employees, Hemphill left to pursue inspirational speaking and authoring helpful and encouraging books.

R.K. "Rob" Sawyer has been a waterfowl hunter and hobbyist historian since 1964, the seeds of his lifelong passion first sown on Maryland's Chesapeake Bay. After moving to Texas in 1993, he extended his interest to the Gulf Coast. Rob's first book, *A Hundred Years of Texas Waterfowl Hunting – The Decoys, Guides, Clubs, and Places* came out in 2012, and documents a vanishing sporting way of life in Texas. His second book, due out in 2013, is titled *Texas Market Hunting – A Story of Waterfowl, Game Laws, and Outlaws*. Rob currently resides in Sugar Land, Texas, with his wife Wendy, daughter Christen, and Nellie, a Chesapeake Bay retriever.

Shannon Davies is the Louise Lindsey Merrick Editor for the Natural Environment at Texas A&M University Press, where she acquires and develops manuscripts on nature, natural history, agriculture, ecology, and conservation related topics. She has a PhD from the University of Texas at Austin and has been in the book publishing business for more than twenty-years. Her current interests lean toward rivers, parks, and conservation leadership.

11:00 -11:45 a.m. – OPEN

Noon -1:00 p.m. – Lunch sponsored by Toyota: with luncheon speaker Steve Hall, Executive Director of the Texas State Rifle Association.

Steve Hall joined the Texas State Rifle Association as executive director in January

2011 after retiring from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. He spent most of his career with TPWD as Education Director, overseeing programs such as mandatory hunter and boater education, target range grants, the sporting clays mobile range, a 4-H Shooting Sports partnership, aquatic education, Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW), Parrie Haynes Youth Ranch, Texas Wildlife Expo activities and the Archery in Schools program.

Hall has served as president and vice president of the International Hunter Education Association, and currently serves on the boards of the National Bowhunter Education Foundation and Austin Woods and Waters. He has been inducted into both the IHEA and Texas Hunter Education halls of fame.

1:30-2:30 pm - How to Self Publish an E-Book/E-Article on Amazon/Kindle and watch the money roll in.

Chances are, your next great novel or fantastic magazine article will not get selected for publication. A great option is to self-publish it for the fairly new and immensely growing tablet market. Learn how to self publish an E-Book, E-Article, or the new "E-Extended Article." Tablet sales have increased tremendously and are expected to surpass notebook sales in 2013. Learn how you will make more money over several months versus a onetime payment from a magazine on your article. The best part is that as long as it sells, you will get a check every month. Presenter Lefty Ray Chapa created the "E-Extended Article" genre in the outdoor writing field in 2012 and has watched the money roll in ever since.

2:30 -3 :30 p.m. – General Membership Meeting and Voting. Important that all members attend.

6:30 Awards Dinner & Silent Auction sponsored by Chevrolet. A brief tribute to Ben Kocian by Larry Bozka and Sam Caldwell.

Hospitality Suite – Saturday night is always entertaining, with the Liars' Contest, hosted by Kendal Hemphill.

Sunday Feb. 17th

8 a.m. – Optional prayer meeting with breakfast treats and coffee. Guest Steve Hemphill will speak.

10 a.m. – TOWA Board Meeting.

Maps and information on where activities will be held available at registration table during registration hours or by calling TJ Greaney's cell at (512) 789-3838 or David Sikes' cell at (361) 813-3474.



Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary Headquarters Is Site of TOWA Welcome Reception on Thursday Evening

Tom Linton, Host City Coordinator

I'm delighted to announce that the TOWA reception will be held at the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary headquarters at 4700 Avenue U, Building 216, Galveston, Texas 77551, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. on February 14. Located 115 miles off the coast of Galveston; the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary boasts some of the healthiest coral communities in the Caribbean.

The healthy coral reefs and associated ocean life make the sanctuary a premier recreational dive destination that is consistently ranked among the world's best by participants in *Rodale's Scuba Diving Magazine's* annual survey.

The sanctuary headquarters is part of the historical Ft. Crockett complex, which now houses several different parts of National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and is managed by National Marine Fisheries Service.

The fort was established in the late 1890s to protect the city and harbor of Galveston. It served as a military base in both World Wars and included a prisoner of war camp during WWII. It was later used as a recreation facility for military personnel and the families.

In the 1950s, the fort was decommissioned and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service acquired ten of the buildings which now comprise the NOAA campus.

Renovations to all of the buildings were completed in 2011.

The reception will be held in what was originally the Post Exchange, then a research lab where the "Galveston Method of Shrimp Culture" was developed and is now the headquarters for Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary.

We have invited to this reception all kinds of people from Galveston that we deem will be good contacts for writers who are developing stories and seeking information. The reception is from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

I will request that everyone meet and get business cards from as many of the attendees as possible. Then, at 9:00, I will ask folks to count the number of cards each has collected.

The one with the greatest number of cards will be asked to tell us something about the person whose card will be pulled at random from their collection.

The person with the greatest number of cards – who does not "flunk" the test – wins a magnum of champagne, so bring plenty of your business cards!

The event is hosted by the following groups:

The Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary

The Galveston Island Nature Tourism Council

The Galveston Daily News

Catering by: Shrimp & Stuff

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 see page five.

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.**

TPWD Proposing Fishing Regulation Changes

Staff Recommendations Proposed at January TPW Commission Meeting

AUSTIN (January 30, 2013) — The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is proposing fishing regulation changes on two largemouth bass fisheries in East Texas, a clarification of fish harassment rules and new possession rules in state waters for aquatic resources taken in violation of federal regulations in the EEZ (Exclusive Economic Zone).

TPWD staff presented their proposed amendments to the 2013-14 Statewide Recreational and Commercial Fishing Proclamation to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission on Wednesday, January 23.

The recommended changes include:

- Modifying existing regulations for largemouth bass on two East Texas reservoirs, Lake Jacksonville and Lake Kurth.
- On Lake Jacksonville, the proposed change would remove the 18-inch minimum length limit for largemouth bass. The five fish daily bag for bass would be retained, but anglers would be allowed to retain two largemouth bass less than 18 inches in length as part of that five fish bag.
- For Lake Kurth, the proposed change would establish a 16-inch maximum length limit on largemouth bass, with a temporary retention of bass 24 inches or greater for weighing purposes and/or submission to the ShareLunker program. Anglers would be allowed to harvest five largemouth bass less than 16 inches in length.
- Defining parameters of handfishing for catfish and listing restrictions to aid in public understanding and enforceability, specifically regarding prohibition of the use of devices, such as poles, sticks, boxes, and pipes to aid in handfishing.
- Adding Canyon Lake Project #6 in Lubbock to special regulations for catfish and devices restrictions.
- Clarifying the definition regarding possession of fish to indicate possession limits do not apply once the resource has been processed and reached final destination.
- Clarifying the definition of fish harassment to note It would be unlawful to use any vessel to harry, herd, or

drive fish by any means including but not limited to operating any vessel in a repeated circular course, for the purpose of or resulting in the concentration of fish for the purpose of taking or attempting to take fish.

- Removing prohibitions concerning possession of red drum and bonus red drum tags.
- Adding provisions regarding enforcement of federal regulations in state waters. The proposed change would make it a violation for a person to possess an aquatic wildlife resource taken in the Exclusive Economic Zone (federal waters 9-200 miles out) during a closed season provided by federal law; within a protected length limit or in excess of the daily bag limit established by federal law; or with any gear or device prohibited by federal law; or without a required license or permit required by federal law.

Comments on the proposed rules may be submitted by email or mail to Robert Macdonald at robert.macdonald@tpwd.state.tx.us, or at Robert McDonald, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744. Comments may also be submitted on the department's website and at the following upcoming public meetings to be scheduled around the state.

TPWD PUBLIC HEARING CALENDAR

All meetings start at 7:00 p.m.

March 4, 2013

Alpine: Kokernot Lodge, 400 N. Harrison St.
Jacksonville: Norman Activity Center, 526 E. Commerce St.

March 5, 2013

Dickinson: Dickinson Marine Lab, 1502 FM 517 E
Fort Stockton: Pecos County Civic Center, N Hwy. 285

March 6, 2013

Dallas/Fort Worth: Cabela's Allen, #1 Cabela's Dr.

March 7, 2013

Corpus Christi: Texas A&M Corpus Christi, NRC Rm. 1003, 6300 Ocean Dr.
Van Horn: El Capitan Hotel, 100 W Broadway

March 11, 2013

Lufkin: Angelina County Courthouse, 159th District Courtroom, 606 E Lufkin Ave.

March 12, 2013

Dalhart: Dallam County Courthouse, 414 Denver Ave.
San Antonio: Lions Field Community Center, 2809 Broadway

March 13, 2013

Houston: Sheldon Lake State Park Regional HQ, 14500 Garret Rd.

March 14

Austin: TPWD Commission Hearing Room, 4200 Smith School Rd.
Pampa: Gray County Courthouse, 2nd Floor Courtroom, 205 N Russell

John Wootters, Author of *Hunting Trophy Deer*, Dies

Longtime gun writer John Wootters passed away on January 29, 2013 in Ingram, Texas.

Semi-retired, Wootters wrote *Hunting Trophy Deer* — arguably the all-time best selling book written on deer hunting and was editor of *Petersen's Hunting Magazine*, and author of the monthly column "Buck Sense." A former board member of the National Rifle Association, his work appeared in *Outdoor Life*, *Sports Afield*, *Field & Stream*, *American Sportsman*, *Gray's Sporting Journal*, *American Rifleman*, *Shooting Times*, *Guns & Ammo* and others.

Arrangements are incomplete at this writing, but a memorial service is planned in Wootters' honor in the very near future. (Photo courtesy of West Kerr Current)



Alpen Optics Offers New WBDC-TACT Reticle for Pinpoint Accuracy in 2013

RANCHO CUCAMONGA, Calif. — Alpen's new WBDC-TACT reticle is designed for pinpoint accuracy at any distance. The reticle is designed with 1 MOA and 5 MOA increments across both the horizontal and vertical axis to help find the best target range. It is available in the Apex XP (Xtreme Performance) 6-24x50 Apex Riflescope model 4058.

ALPEN APEX XPTM 6-24X50 RIFLESCOPE FEATURES:

- WBDC-TACT reticle
- Shock tested to 1,000g's magnum load
- Fully multi-coated lenses for maximum light transmission
- Fully waterproof, fog proof and shockproof construction
- Zero-set low profile windage and elevation adjustments
- Fast focus eyepieces and long eye relief
- Alpen hard coat, black matte, non-reflective finish
- Alpen's No-Fault, No Problem Lifetime Warranty

All XP riflescopes are covered under Alpen's no-fault, no-questions-asked warranty. If you have any problem with your XP riflescope for any reason, send it back and Alpen will repair or replace it FREE... period.

For more information about Alpen Optics, visit alpenoptics.com or call (877) 987-8370. Join us on Alpen's FACEBOOK! Media contact is Vickie Gardner at (877) 987-8370 or via email at Vickie@alpenoutdoor.com.

ABOUT ALPEN OPTICS: *Alpen Optics has won seven Great Buy Awards as seen in Outdoor Life magazine — More than any other optics company — EVER. ALPEN was established in 1997 and offers a line of binoculars, spotting scopes, rifle scopes and accessories we believe give the best value in the industry today. Our objective is to provide superior quality optical products at affordable prices. Products range from our entry level Sport Series to our world-class Rainier top-of-the-line family of binoculars and spotting scopes. Alpen strives to provide performance features and quality normally found only on products selling for several times that of an Alpen product.*



Hardin-Simmons Wins College Southern Event on Amistad

DEL RIO, TEXAS (JANUARY 28, 2013) — **THE HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY TEAM** of Randy Sullivan of Woodson, Texas, and Hubbell Allen of Graham, Texas, won the FLW College Fishing Southern Conference event on Lake Amistad Saturday with five bass weighing 17 pounds, 13 ounces. The victory earned the club \$2,000 and advanced the team to the FLW College Fishing Southern Conference Invitational tournament.

"The weights were not at all what we expected," said Sullivan, a junior Economics major. "We live about four hours from Amistad, and we've been down here the last two weekends practicing. We knew that the water levels dropping would have an effect on the fish, but it was definitely a lot slower than we thought it was going to be.

"We fished a creek channel that drops off to a point," Sullivan continued. "It was a deep drop-off that went from 20 feet down to 70 feet. We were able to locate the fish using our Lowrance Structure Scan. That was crucial for us. The fish were deep; we were catching them around 40 to 50 feet."

The Hardin-Simmons team credits the Lowrance HDS-10 as the key to their victory.

"We never would have found them without it," said Allen. "The side imaging and structure scan are amazing. We never would have been able to find the deep grass.

"This is definitely our club's biggest win to date," Allen went on to say. "We're a smaller school and we've got around 20 members. We're out fishing and practicing every weekend, and we'll take anyone at our school out that is interested in fishing."

Complete results can be found at CollegeFishing.com.

Three regular-season qualifying events are held in each conference: Central, Northern, Southeastern, Texas and Western. The top 15 teams from each qualifying tournament will advance to one of five two-day FLW College Fishing Conference Invitational tournaments, where the first-place team wins \$4,000 for their club. The top 10 teams from each Conference Invitational advance to the 2014 FLW College Fishing National Championship.

College Fishing is free to enter. All participants must be registered, full-time undergraduate students at a four-year college or university and members of a fishing club recognized by their college or university.

The next FLW College Southern Conference qualifying tournament is scheduled for Feb. 16 at Toledo Bend Reservoir in Hemphill, Texas, and is hosted by Sabine County.

For regular updates, photos, tournament news and more, follow College Fishing on Facebook at Facebook.com/FLWFishing and on Twitter at Twitter.com/FLWFishing. For information on starting a collegiate club, visit CollegeFishing.com.

ABOUT FLW: *FLW is the industry's premier tournament-fishing organization, providing anglers of all skill levels the opportunity to compete for millions in prize money nationwide in 2013 over the course of 220 tournaments across five tournament circuits, four of which provide an avenue to the sport's richest payday and most coveted championship trophy - the Forrest Wood Cup. FLW tournament fishing can be seen on the Emmy-nominated "FLW" television show and is broadcast to more than 559 million households worldwide, making it the most widely distributed weekly outdoors-sports television show in the world. FLW is committed to providing a lifestyle experience that is the "Best in Fishing, On and Off the Water." For more information about FLW visit FLWOutdoors.com and look for FLW on Twitter, Facebook, Pinterest and YouTube.*

Julius Franklin Knebel (December 7, 1929 - December 31, 2012)

Julius Franklin Knebel, TOWA Life Member, passed from this life on December 31, 2012 after a brave struggle with brain cancer. He was born December 7, 1929 in Harlingen to Herman and Fannie Yarborough Knebel. While attending Southwest Texas State College, he met and married his wife of 59 years, Nell Rose Afflerbach. Their family includes two daughters, Nancy Harding of Montgomery and Julie Craven of League City, sons-in-law, Jerry Harding Jr. and Jackson Craven, and two granddaughters, Mindy and Kristy Harding.

Julius spent his life working in different areas of education. He began his career as a junior high history teacher in Pasadena. From that point on, his career took many different paths from high school teacher, to junior college teacher, to other positions in educational administration. He then obtained his Doctorate of Education degree from the University of Houston and taught at the University of Houston at Clear Lake City. He ended his career in education by returning to Pasadena ISD as director of secondary curriculum.

Julius was an avid reader and interested in many topics. After retirement, he and Nell spent many years living in the country near Cuero. Here, he began writing a column, "The Outdoor Scene", for *The Cuero Record*. He was always interested in hunting and fishing. This gave him the opportunity to pursue his enjoyment of the outdoors. During this retirement time, he also wanted to gain a better understanding of God and the Bible. He participated in the S.A.M. program associated with the Lutheran Church.

A memorial service honoring Julius Knebel was held at Zion Lutheran Church of Arneckeville on January 5, 2013. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Zion Lutheran Elevator Fund or to Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church in Houston.



WILL YOU BE AN EIC WINNER?

TOWA EIC Chairman Kendal Hemphill reports that there are 178 entries for the 2013 EIC Awards competition at this year's annual TOWA Conference. Following are the number of entries in each category:

Category 1	14
Category 2	15
Category 3	14
Category 4	6
Category 5	3
Category 6	3
Category 7	6
Category 8	6
Category 9	7
Category 10	20
Category 11	12
Category 12	15
Category 13	19
Category 14	15
Category 15	3
Category 16	7
Category 17	7
Category 18	6
TOTAL	178

SPECIAL SALES TABLE TO BE AVAILABLE AT CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

A "Special Sales" table will be available at the TOWA Conference Registration Desk in the lobby of the Hilton Galveston Island Resort for members who are marketing products directly to consumers.

The table is available for display of items to TOWA members who would like to sell books, cookbooks, note cards, jewelry, salsas, etc. Pam LeBlanc and Judy Mills will handle the sales for the members.

Interested members should contact Pam at ljleblanc@suddenlink.net or Judy at offtheroad.mills@earthlink.net prior to the conference to reserve a space. Those wishing to sell items must provide a price list or have each item marked.

CALENDAR

Feb. 14 -16 — Mark your calendars and plan to join in the fun for the 2013 TOWA Annual Conference, at the Hilton Galveston Island Resort in Galveston, towa.org.

Feb. 14 -17 — 40th Annual National Wild Turkey Federation Convention & Sport Show, Gaylord Opryland Convention Complex, Nashville, Tenn., nwtf.org.

Feb. 21 -22 — Smith & Wesson IDPA Indoor National Championships, Smooth & Wesson Shooting Sports Center, Springfield, Mass., idpa.com.

Feb. 21 -24 — Port Aransas/Mustang Island Annual Whooping Crane Festival, whoopingcranefestival.org.

Feb. 22 -24 — Bassmaster Classic, Grand Lake O' the Cherokees and Tulsa, Okla., bassmaster.com/classic.

Mar. 6 - 9 — POMA Annual Business Conference, Lake Murray Country, Columbia, S.C., professionaloutdoormedia.org.

Mar. 6 - 10 — 38th Annual Houston Fishing Show, George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston, houstonfishingshow.org.

Mar. 9 - 10 and May 4 - 5 — Spring Turkey Season, South Zone Special Youth Season (in all counties that have an open season for those species)

Mar. 16 - April 28 — Spring Turkey Season, South Zone (54 counties)

Mar. 23 - 24 and May 18 - 19 — Spring Turkey Season, North Zone Special Youth Season (in all counties that have an open season for those species)

Mar. 30 - May 12 — Spring Turkey Season, North Zone (101 counties)