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East Ascension Sportsman's League Publication

December 2018

## Message From Our President

Hello again fellow members of EASL. Hope you all had a happy Thanksgiving Day. I had a great day. Plenty of good food, fun with the family, and a nice win by the Saints too. You just can't beat a day like that, especially when it is followed by Red Friday. This is the day that for as long as I've been back home from the Air Force that I have always spent fishing in the marsh. This year was no different. It's our family tradition. Ever since Robbie was old enough



Mike With 26 inch Red at Pt Aux Chenes

to fish, rain or shine, we've been there. This Year we were joined by my son-in-law J.P. It started out great. J.P. over slept and I almost forgot to put the life jackets in the boat. But hey, we got



JP With Nice Trout & Robbie Picking His Next Bait

off in time enough to make it to the Point Aux Chene boat launch just in time for a great sun rise. The air was cool but not too cool. There was little wind and a pretty good outgoing tide. On arrival at our first spot. A spot that is a secret. It's so secret that only four other boats were there before use. I lowered the trolling motor and we were fishing. In just a few cast I was hooked up with a little rat red. We didn't troll but maybe twenty yards and boom, we found the hole. We started pulling in fish after fish. Mostly redfish but an occasional trout. All while the people in the other boats around us watched and wondered why they didn't try that spot first. We sat there and got our limit of real big redfish and some nice trout in a pretty short amount of time then graciously gave up the spot to the other anglers. We then started the search for the next trout hot spot. The next spot was only a short ride up the bayou where we found birds feeding but it only produced small trout. Then for the next several hours we checked out some other areas with no real results. Later we ended up in a small ditch through the marsh where we continued to catch really, nice redfish.



Mike, Robbie & JP With Their Reds

By the time we made it back to the main canal, the tide had changed and was going out. Right



Sunrise On Pointe Aux Chenes

there where we came out in the cut to the main canal, we started picking up a few more trout and of course more redfish. The trout were mainly small but every now and then we caught a

nice one that we would keep. Later the rain was moving in and the bite was getting slow, so with fifteen reds and fifteen trout we were heading for the house. It is really, nice when a day you look so forward to every year, turns out so well. We had a blast. This is a Thanksgiving tradition that I hope I can participate in for many more years. As long, as I can remember it has always been a good day for fishing. What day isn't? While others spend Black Friday shopping, to me it will always be Red Friday fishing. I wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year. Start a tradition of your own outdoors and with family. Something you will remember and talk about every year and share with the future generation, so they can continue the family fun. Thank you for listening to my story. I hope you can join us at the Dec. meeting on the 17th for a good holiday meal and a night of friendship and fun. We will see you there.

Thank you, Michael Lambert



## The EASL Meeting

Held every 3rd Monday of the month at  
**Chef KD's at 38278 Hwy. 74 in Dutchtown**  
**Monday, December 17, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.**

Meal sponsored by:  
**Sonny Lamendola and Carol Gautreaux**

# The East Ascension Sportsman

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Mail membership application to East Ascension Sportsman's  
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## 'Twas the (fishermans') night before Christmas...

By John Brady (reprinted from bassresource.com)

'Twas the night before Christmas when all through the house  
 not a creature was stirring not even a moss mouse;  
 The rods were hung in there racks with great care,  
 In hopes that next spring soon would soon be there;  
 The children were nestled all snug in their beds,  
 while visions of new crankbaits danced in their heads;  
 And Ma in her 'kerchief, and I in my Bass Cap,  
 had just settled in for a long winters' nap,  
 When out on the pond there arose such a splatter,  
 I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter.  
 Away to the window I flew like a flash,  
 tore open the shutter, and threw up the sash.  
 The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow,  
 gave the lustre of mid-day on the bass down below,  
 When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,  
 but a miniature Ranger all packed full of gear.  
 With a little old driver so lively and quick,  
 I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick!  
 More rapid than Rat-L-Traps his courses they came,  
 as he whistled and shouted and pulled out his baits;  
 Now ZIPPER! Now JJ's! Now RAGETAIL, and JITTERBUG!  
 On POP-R! On SPINNERBAIT! On SENKO and MUDBUG!  
 To the back of the pads, where the big bass will fall;  
 now cast away, cast away, cast away all!

A variation of the story "Account of a Visit from St. Nicholas" by Clement Clarke Moore (1779-1863)



## RECOGNIZING OUR MONTHLY MEAL SPONSORS

Our EASL monthly meetings are highlighted by a meal, cooked most times by our host, Chef Kevin Diez. However, some monthly meal sponsors also cook their own meal. Either way, our meetings are made much more enjoyable because we are able to "break bread" with our fellow sports men and women and conservationists.

Our generous meal sponsors do not receive significant attention or acclaim, so we wish to recognize them during this festive Christmas Season, and thank them for their generosity. Below are the fine folks who helped make our 2018 meetings most enjoyable:

January – Mike Stafford and Family. (225) 675-5375 or 955-2526.

February - Thad Bellow, Fins to Feathers Taxidermy, 9275 Hwy. 22, St. Amant, LA, 70774. 225-675-6276.

March – Chef Kevin Diez, 38278 Hwy. 74, Dutchtown, LA 673-3859. Chef KD cooks for most of our meetings but sponsored the March meeting.

April – Simon's Outboard Repair, 13127 Roddy Rd., Gonzales, LA 70737 647-5746.

May – Mike Lambert of Bayou Metal Works (pan fish rodeo), 11500 Benton Frederic Rd., St. Amant, LA 644-3804.

June - Todd Gautreau of Oak Terrace Fuels, 1101 S. Burnside, Gonzales, LA 70737. 647-8802.

July – United Community Bank (UCB), 12328 LA Hwy. 44, Gonzales & 17257 Airline Hwy., Prairieville, LA. 644-2265.

August - Cody Braud of Braud's Barber Shop 516 N. Alexander Ave, Gonzales, LA 225-647-2889 (Cody cooked his famous venison sauce picante).

September - Scott Fairchild of Performance Contractors.

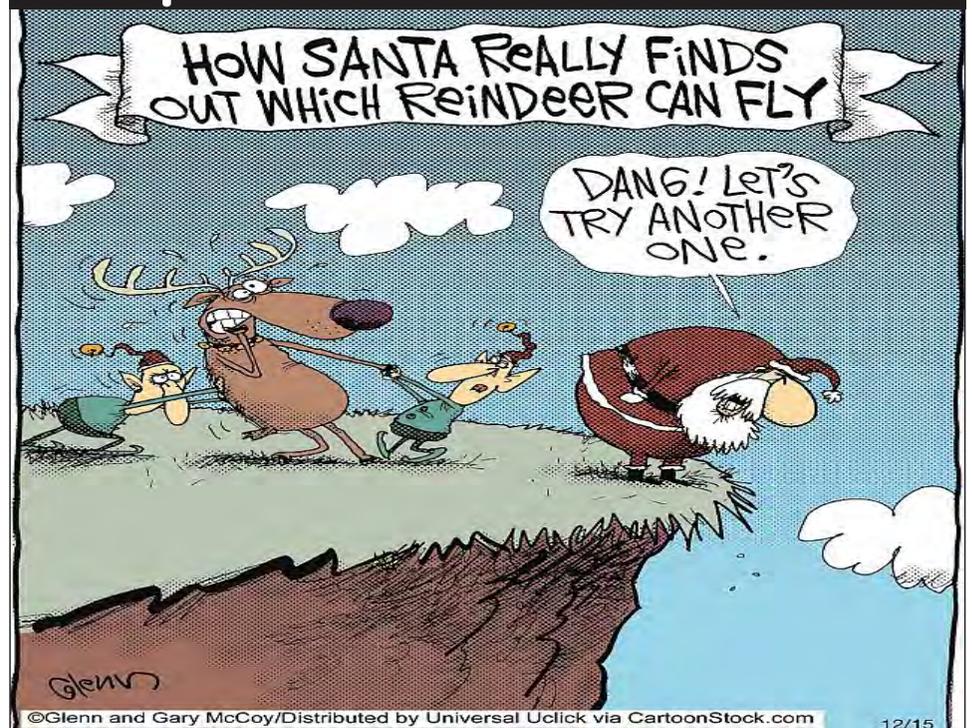
October - Mike Stafford of Sorrento Lumber Co. (225) 675-5375 or 955-2526.

November – The Yep Gautreau Family (Agnes, Lynda, Poppy, Janice, Monica, Valerie, Andrea, Eugene, Merle, Tussy, Richard, Mackie, Steve, Bradley, Francis, and Mark). Chicken & Sausage Gumbo cooked by Perry Berteau.

December – EASL members Sonny Lamendola and Carol Gautreau.

Please thank our meal sponsors personally when you see them and, by all means, consider doing business with them whenever possible.

## Sportsman Comic Corner



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12/15

## EASL Big Fish Contest Contacts

*Deadline for entry is 7 days after month end*

To report weight for Big Bass call Jim Hebert at 225-717-6037.

To report weight for Big Speckled Trout  
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## YOUTH HUNTER OF THE YEAR CONTEST

If you have a special hunt this year, harvest your first game animal or bird, or just enjoy a hunting trip made great by sharing time in the outdoor with family and friends, you could be a candidate for our male and female Youth Hunter of the Year contest.

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), the Louisiana Wildlife Federation and the Louisiana Outdoor Writers Association is seeking submissions for the 2019 Youth Hunter of the Year contest, which may be submitted anytime during the fall, winter and spring hunting seasons. The contest is open to Louisiana boys and girls ages 15 and younger.

Youth hunters who enter the Youth Hunter of the Year Contest must submit a short story about their hunting experience along with a photo or photos of the hunt. LOWA, LWF and LDWF will then select a male and female youth hunter of the year based upon the stories and photos that are received. The winners will be honored with a plaque and gift certificate from Bowie Outfitters in Baton Rouge at the LOWA awards banquet in August of 2019.

The application form, short story and photo(s) can be submitted any time during an ongoing fall/winter/spring hunting season but must be submitted by June 30 of the competition year. For more information, log on to <http://www.wf.louisiana.gov/hunting/yhrp>



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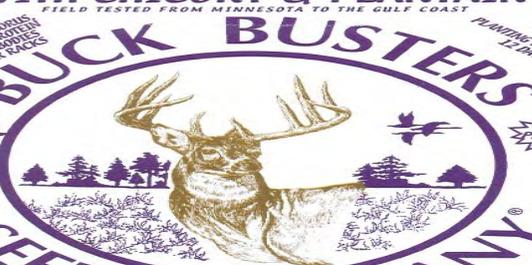
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## HERMIT THRUSHES AND COPPERHEADS

Jay V. Huner, Louisiana Ecrevisse, Boyce, LA

Hermit Thrushes are medium-sized birds that somewhat resemble short-billed Brown Thrashers. Their backs tend to be reddish brown and their chests are light colored with many brown spots. They winter in our region and move north to nest in the spring.

Back in the early 2000s, I had several grants to study the bird fauna of the Mouton Cove area of southeastern Vermilion Parish when I was Director of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Crawfish Research Center. My colleague Michael J. Musumeche and I were documenting the significance of working wetlands – rice, crawfish-rice, and crawfish – as water bird habitat. Our surveys took us to an area that was being developed into what is now Palmetto State Park along the Vermilion River.

The project involved developing seasonal bird checklists to show seasonal variation in the bird populations. The wooded wetland habitat of the Palmetto Island State Park area was ideal winter habitat for Hermit Thrushes. These birds are perfectly camouflaged blending well into the underbrush and ground cover. But, they are suckers for disturbance. Birders often use playback of Eastern Screech-Owl calls to attract song birds. The owls prey on song birds and when the birds hear the owl calls, they come to find their natural enemies, often “mobbing them” to drive them away.

Hermit Thrushes were one of the most common birds we found at the park site from October into March each year. We'd often hear them making a strong “chuck” call before we saw them. As long as we were patient, the birds would almost always make an appearance, often 15-20 feet above the ground on branches flicking their wings, cocking their tails and dropping the tails slowly.

Sometimes in March of the year, we'd be treated to the Hermit Thrush's song. The song is properly described as an ethereal,



Hermit Thrush

flute-like melody with three or four phrases at different pitches, each with a long introductory note. Google Hermit Thrush and enjoy this wonderful song.

Okay, so what does this have to do with Copperheads, beautiful venomous snakes with spectacular checkered color patterns and coppery highlights? Well, in 2002, I moved permanently to Cotile Lake in Rapides Parish in central Louisiana. I commuted on weekends to Lafayette where

I had an apartment. My new home had (and still has) two fireplaces and I needed wood for the one downstairs fireplace that we use. It's mostly ornamental but if one loses power in the country during the winter, a fireplace is nice to have!

Anyway, if I happened on a decent oak, hickory, etc. limb while doing bird surveys, I'd pick it up, cut it with a bow saw, if necessary, and put it in the bed of my pickup truck. “Waste not, want not!” So, one nice warm October day, I was surveying birds in the park area and came upon a nice limb lying at the base of a big tree. So, I reached down to pick up the near end of the limb. As I did, there was a great commotion at the other end of the limb at the base of the crenulated tree! Out comes a 3-4 foot Copperhead that scurried around the base of the tree away from me.

I walked around the tree and there was the snake coiled up in the back of one of the crenulations between roots. It gave me the evil eye. There was no way it could get past the limb and get to me. I thought about it and said to the snake – “Well, you scared me and I scared you! Neither of us is injured, have a nice day.” And, I went about my business.

Yes, there were plenty of Hermit Thrushes to record that morning. However, my point is that why kill any snake, venomous or not, that presents no danger to you or others? Snakes are important parts of our ecosystems and have every right to be in them.



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# EASL BASS CLUB NEWS

By: Jim Hebert

## "George Valentine wins EASL Classic Tourney" "No big stringers this time!"

Everyone struggled to catch fish on this day. George caught two keepers but they were all that he needed to take the win including "Big Bass".

Tournament week began with our meeting at the Gonzales Fire Dept. on November 13th to plan for the upcoming Classic Event. Before we called the meeting to order we enjoyed a delicious meal of Baked Chicken, Dirty Rice, Green beans with potatoes, drinks and a black berry cobbler. All of this was prepared by Warren Hebert and it was very much appreciated and enjoyed by everyone.

When the meal was over, Eddie signed up 19 boats to fish the Tourney. This was the largest number of boats in recent years for this event. It was a reflection of a good year where we averaged 11-13 boats for each Tourney during the year.

We then had a discussion to explain the "payouts" for this event. Each month we put money aside for the Classic and we pay three places for total weight and two places for Big Bass, so the checks were substantial for this one. We then discussed the Club Finances and decided to move money into our second "jackpot" for Big Bass. This will give us two completely funded "\$300 jackpots" going into 2019. The Club is on solid financial ground going into next year.

Next on the agenda was to discuss and vote on rule changes for 2019. No one had any suggestions for changes so that indicates that we have a good set of rules and our bylaws are sound.

We then took nominations for the location of our Two-day away tournament for 2019. There were two suggestions; one was Lake Bruin and the other was Toledo Bend. The vote was close and we will be going to Toledo Bend again in 2019. Headquarters will be San Miguel State Park and the weigh in times will be 4:00 on Saturday and 1:00 on Sunday.

And finally we had our Elections of Officers and Board Members. After 3 years in office, Jim Hebert and Eddie Bowman opted to step down as Officers.

Mike Guitreau was nominated for President. He was elected with a "unanimous second" by the members of the Club.

George Valentine was nominated for Secretary/Treasurer and was also elected by "unanimous



**Classic Winner George Valentine with winning catch**

Day, Warren Hebert, Micha Mire and Jim Hebert (past president). Congratulations to the new Board Members for 2019.

After thanking the cook, we adjourned and cleaned up for the night.

second" by the members. Congratulations to President Mike and Secretary/Treasurer George for their elections to Office for 2019.

We then had a discussion to Elect Board members. When all was concluded we will have 3 new Board Members and one returning member for 2019.

Board members will be Eddie Bowman, Julian

Day, Warren Hebert, Micha Mire and Jim Hebert (past president). Congratulations to the new Board Members for 2019.

After thanking the cook, we adjourned and cleaned up for the night.

Saturday morning we faced cool temperatures, no wind, blue bird skies and calm conditions that left the fish in a lethargic mood. We launched in the ditch and everyone took off in all directions hoping to have a good day for fishing.

My first impression was that the calm slick water was not a good sign but I was hoping for the best. To keep it short, I went with my "plan A" and stuck with it until 9:00 with only short fish to show for that effort. So on to plan B for a couple more hours which resulted in my 2.51 lb. Bass on a crank bait pulling it through a tree top. After pulling that crank bait for several hours without another bite, I went back to "plan A" hoping that conditions would be better now that the wind was blowing a little. I was right on that and saw that the water was pulling out so I stuck with it and that



**Left to right, Corey Guitreau, Jim Hebert, Donald Braud, George Valentine**

resulted in two more keepers to round out my catch. I was disappointed in my bag but you just never know until you get to the weigh in and see what everyone else did.

There were 19 boats fishing and only 9 of them weighed fish. There was only one 5 fish limit, two with 3 fish and the rest with 2 or 1 fish. To say it was "tough" would be an understatement.

When the weigh in was complete, George announced the winners.

First place with 2 fish that weighed 6.87 went to George Valentine. He also won Big Bass with his lunker that weighed 3.77 lbs.

Second place was won by Donald Braud with 5 fish that weighed in at 6.6 lbs.

Third place went to Jim Hebert with 3 fish that weighed in at 4.61 lbs.

Second place Big Bass was won by Corey Guitreau with his one fish that weighed 2.60 lbs. Congratulations to the winners of the Classic Tourney for 2019.

The Officers and Board will meet soon to set the schedule for 2019. We will start back up in January so be looking for the date soon. Anyone interested in joining the Club can contact any member for information. See more at [www.easonline.org](http://www.easonline.org)

### **From the Scrapbook – STATE TIMES, Baton Rouge, La., Thursday, March 27, 1969**

submitted by Warren Singer

### **–OUTDOOR OBSERVATIONS–**

Notes from 30th Annual WL Federation Convention by Mike Cook

Although a few things went haywire, the 30th annual convention of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation went about as smoothly as could have been expected here over the past weekend. John Gottschalk, director of the U.S. Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife, got in and out of town without getting tarred and feathered. Gottschalk, in fact, did such a good job of sweet talking the delegates that some of them were willing to vote for him for governor. The governor, incidentally, had promised to be on hand for the Governor's State Conservation Achievement Awards banquet Saturday night but did not appear. Gov. McKeithen, who recently spoke before the Baton Rouge Woods and Waters Club and the Louisiana Tarpon Club in separate meetings here, has been heard to state publicly that he's happy to be invited anywhere nowadays. But apparently the Federation, with more than 1,000 members, failed to attract him. Former two-time Gov. Jimmie Davis was there, though.

# "ON THE ROAD AGAIN"

Outdoor Corner with Lyle Johnson

On the road again, I just can't wait to get on the road again...I can hear the melody as I sing the popular song by Willie Nelson in my head typing at my computer. Except this road trip is not about making music. It's about driving down to Reggio, La in search of Louisiana blue crabs.

I'm driving by myself on a Tuesday morning listening to K-Love radio while thinking about the eight people back at home that are anticipating a crab boil when the trip is over. My daughters, Kaycee and Gabby are home with their families for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Along with my anticipation of a great day is a bit of trepidation as the pressure is on because my daughters live away, one in Pensacola and the other in Breckenridge, therefore I must produce enough crabs for five adults and four grandkids.

The plan is to meet with my father and brother-in-law on the Delacroix road and team up to film for Ascension Outdoors TV as well as harvest some of the incredible bounty that southern Louisiana has to offer.

Now this is a trip that is easily made from anywhere in Ascension parish. Fall through early winter is the prime time to

catch these crabs. One of the best things is that you don't need a boat. They can easily be caught off the side of the road with a little planning.

Chicken necks (not turkey necks) are a great bait and is easily obtained at some of our local grocery stores; fresh or frozen will do. Cut them in 3" pieces so your bait will stretch longer; no need to use the whole neck at once.

Lots of folks use string lines but we've discovered a much better way that makes things much easier. A rod & reel is the best way to catch crabs in this situation. A weight of ¼ oz or larger to cast out and get the bait to the bottom will do. Either a hook to attach the bait or just tie it on the string works well.

Two rods per person will be enough as sometimes it might be hard to keep



Goosie with our haul of fresh Louisiana blue crabs caught in Reggio, La.

Photo by Lyle Johnson

up with two. The reason a rod & reel works better than string; you can get the crab up off the bottom quickly and can be consistently reeled in slowly so they don't let go as much. Works like a charm.

A long-handled net (6' to 8') is needed to dip the crabs before they get to the bank. The mesh needs to be 1" so the crabs don't get

tangled up. A small mesh net will do the job but you will spend more time trying to get the crabs out of the net than you are fishing for them. This is very frustrating; I know from experience.

After dipping the crabs have an ice chest nearby to deposit them in. A bag of ice (unopened) will keep them plenty cool. When the trip is finished, pour the ice on top of the crabs to get them cold. The crabs won't let go of their paws when boiling them if they are cold.

The trip there is around 1 ½ to 1 ¾ hrs from Gonzales and the route goes through New Orleans so you have to plan your trip accordingly. During the week getting through NO before 7:00 am is advisable and 3:00 pm for the return trip. On the weekends just be careful of sporting activities at the Superdome.

On your smartphone type in Reggio, La and it will get you right on the spot. The old time directions would be to take I-10 east to 1-610 then connect with I-10 to I-510 at the Chalmette exit. Turn left at Judge Perez then another left on La 46 to the stop sign. Continue straight on La 300. When you pass Reggio Marina on

your left there are many places to stop on the right side of the road to pull off to crab or fish as well.

I caught up with Goosie and Sonny about a mile from our crabbing spot. We pulled over, exchanged greetings and made our way to the waters edge. They had chicken necks for bait but I brought a few catfish heads from a few I'd cleaned the day before that were caught off my pier.

I baited my first line and threw it out. Before the second rod was ready, there was a crab already tugging on my first line. A short time later, a very healthy male blue crab was put in my ice chest and it was on.

We spread out along the bank and I ended up in the middle with Goosie on my right and Sonny on my left. I was in front of a canal coming out of the marsh, Goosie was upstream and Sonny was down stream. Goosie and I were catching larger crabs but Sonny was hauling in crabs one after another, they were just a little smaller.

We had a very successful trip as Goosie and Sonny left after three hours with 54 crabs and I left a little later with 39. This trip is easily done and good for the kids as well.

I was on my pier yesterday (Sunday afternoon) thinking about the trip when I realized something I thought to be quite unique about our outdoor bounty here. I caught some shad in my cast net that allowed me to catch a few catfish to eat. The heads from those catfish were used to catch some crabs which we enjoyed very much. The crab shells were deposited in the Diversion on the pier and a couple of hours later I was able to catch some really nice bream that were eating the crab leftovers. Food for thought? Pun intended. Until next time remember to keep the slack out and set the hook hard, be safe in the outdoors and may God truly bless you!!

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# LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

by Goosie Guice

## BAND OF BROTHERS, OR NOT?

It was calm, cool November morning. Day two of our three day hunt down in the beautiful marsh of Southwest, Louisiana. Our first hunt was far from spectacular, with only four ducks for our three man team, consisting of myself, my son, and our friend/guide. I can still hear him reminding us the afternoon before that tomorrow is a different day. The next morning, there was a little more wind, and the ducks seemed to be responding as we were sitting with 12 birds on the stringer at 7:30! It was then that we saw a huge flight of ducks heading our way from the southwest. Before too long we could hear that beautiful, hair raising sound of a pintail whistle! We were crouched down with anticipation, as the flight of twenty beautiful birds made their second and third dance around our decoy spread, descending

ever so slightly, with every pass. The call was made from our lead man that we were going to shoot on the next pass.

This is where the story changes.....

From out of nowhere, seven Black-bellied Whistling ducks appear from the west, flying over the decoys! "Take 'em boys" was the command, and we obeyed, as the three males crash landed in the pond. Immediately, our lead man started apologizing for not waiting for the pintail to circle back one last time, but said we could not pass up the shot over



the decoy spread. It was around this time that Cami, the chocolate lab, returns with the first whistler. In what could only be compared to the cheer of a game-winning touchdown pass is what followed, as the sun glistened off of the band hanging on the side of Cami's face! As the three of us celebrated, with our "band dance", Cami was back in action for the second retrieve. Upon her return was when our hearts nearly stopped, when we spotted the second, yes second, band coming into the blind! It was at this point that we nearly retrieved the 3rd bird ourselves, but somehow we managed to let Cami do her thing, and she delivered, with the 3rd banded bird! What are the odds of killing 3 banded birds out of one flight? We had no idea, but we had just done it! After more dancing and several phone calls, we thought surely these birds had to be caught, banded, and

released in the same spot on the same day. Once returning back to the camp and celebrating, with the newest member of the family, our friend's three month old son, we sat down and entered in the band numbers. Not only were the birds not banded together on the same day, they were not even banded in the same year. All three were banded in Vermillion parish on April 9th 2015, March 29th 2016, and April 16th 2017. Now we are talking, winning the lottery odds, and that is kind of how we felt that day!

I would say that this is a story I will tell my son for years, but I was fortunate enough to have him there to live it with me! To know that he will have this tale to pass on to his own son one day is amazing, and we have the jewels to prove it! So it turned out that the band of brothers were not the three ducks we killed that day, but the three guys that were squeezing the triggers!

11/25/2017

### EASL Wild Game Recipe LOU'S PECAN PIES

2 tbsp. margarine, melted; 4 eggs, beaten; 1½ cups sugar; 2 tbsp. flour; ½ cup Karo white (light) syrup; ½ cup Karo red (dark) syrup; 2 tsp. vanilla extract; 2 cups pecans (broken up as desired); 1½ cups "pecan meal" (chopped to "corn meal" consistency); 2 unbaked pie crusts (or 24 three inch pastry (tart) shells).

Mix all ingredients and pour into pie or pastry shells. Pre-heat oven to 400 degrees and bake for 15 minutes then reduce to 350 degrees for an additional 30 minutes (45 min. total). Makes 2 pies or about 24 "mini-pies".





John "Charlie" Lieux  
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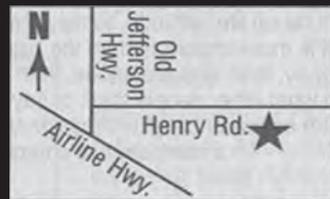
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# PROGRESSIVE®

## LOUISIANA RIFLE SILHOUETTE TEAM REPORT

By Dustin Flint

[louisianasilhouette@gmail.com](mailto:louisianasilhouette@gmail.com)

225-719-1112

### EASL Club Championship - Cameron Wins It All!

Cameron Braud took a second place in the Hunter Rifle Match on November 24 to secure the 2018 EASL Club Championship. Congratulations to Cameron on winning a case of outstanding SK or Lapua .22 ammo from Capstone Group!

There is one more EASL match in 2018, on December 22, and the results from that match will count toward the Club Championship. But Cameron's lead cannot be overcome at that final match. As reported last month, Dewey Stewart, Yumi Domangue and Ken Green are among the other board leaders.

At the Hunter Rifle Match, we had six new shooters attend for the first time! Welcome to these new shooters! We hope that you will join us again and become regulars.

We will start the 2019 EASL Club Championship at the January 2019 match. Contact Jerry or Dustin if you are interested in competing and would like additional details.

Jerry Tureau can be reached at 225-803-2773.



Cameron Braud, right, with Yumi Domangue & Dustin Flint



Jerry Tureau Lines Up For a Shot

## EASL BOARD MEETING

November 19, 2018

Present: Mike Lambert, Barney Callahan, Herb Finnerty, Darlene Bourgeois, David Miles, Warren Hebert, Kevin Diez, Jodie Singer, Warren Singer, Vince Diez Jr, Byron Gautreau, James Guice.

Mike Lambert called the meeting to order at 6 pm.

David Miles said he needs newspaper articles by December 7th.

No meal sponsor is set for December.

There will be no guest speaker for December as it is election and awards night.

Jodie Singer said she emailed the financial report to the board today.

Warren Singer said he will pick up as newspaper advertising chairman.

Mike said that all ads will be paid for in advance from now on.

Kevin Diez made a motion, second by

Byron Gautreau, to write off the past due advertising fees owed by The Bug Man. Motion passed.

Mike announced the passing of Mrs. Joan Hubbs. Joan and her husband Jim have been long time EASL members.

Mike called for the nominations and election of the 2018 Outstanding Member.

Barney Callahan, EASL's nominations chairman, said he will ask the general membership tonight to nominate new folks to serve on the board of directors.

David Miles, EASL's newspaper editor, said he will be adding an article to the paper describing our advertisers' businesses as another way to show our appreciation for their support and help connect our members with their services.

Meeting adjourned at 7 pm.

### LWF Kicks Off New Conservation Leadership Program for Students

In September, the Louisiana Wildlife Federation (LWF) kicked off a brand new program for high school and college students – the Edgar Veillon Conservation Leadership Corps (EV-CLC). Students from around the state were selected to participate in



training program focused on conservation policy and leadership development. Through this program, LWF will provide the tools necessary for students to gain an understanding of Louisiana's rich conservation legacy and an appreciation for the importance of advocacy in shaping conservation policy.

Our inaugural EV-CLC class met Saturday, September 15, 2018 at the Louisiana Sea Grant building for a session focused on conservation leadership. LWF thanks our presenters from taking time out of their busy schedules to help us make our first session a success. Presenters included Dr. Bobby Soileau (LSU AgCenter), Dr. Robert Twilley (Louisiana Sea Grant), Karen Gautreaux (The Nature Conservancy), Dr. Virginia Burkett (USGS), Dr. Bob Stewart (LWF Board member/EV-CLC Chair), and Rebecca Triche (LWF Executive Director).

The 2018-2019 class of the Edgar Veillon Conservation Leadership Corps are:

Chandler Ancar, Makayla Baham, Aimee Bajoie, Shelby Brundige, Saheba Cuccia, Caitlin Derksen, Sydney Finn, Shelby Francis, Priya Gilman, Natalie Lafont, Sloan Livaccari, Natalie Matherne, Tess Morton, Eduardo Paternostro, and Rosalind Remsen.

Over the course of the academic year, the students will participate in four sessions learning about conservation history, policy, advocacy and leadership. The program will conclude with students presenting resolutions on topics of conservation concern to the LWF Board of Directors at their annual convention in August 2019. The program is being developed and implemented by Stacy Ortego, LWF outreach coordinator and Bob Stewart, LWF board member and committee chairman with the help of a volunteer committee which also includes Zac Burson, Barney Callahan, Paul Coreil, Marty Floyd, Willie Fontenot, Larry Raymond and Warren Singer.

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## CASUAL OBSERVATIONS

### Football Just Ain't That Important

by Torrey Hayden



It is surprising to many of my friends I choose to go fishing while major football games are on TV. If I had tickets to go to the Super Bowl and the College National Championship Game or go on a good fishing trip, someone else would



1st of 3 days of full coolahs

this!" "Okay Dad!", as an 80-year-old Cajun Gentlemen in a pirogue slides into the targeted spot and catches his limit in short order.

About that time another transplanted Cajun from Texas came by and I would guess in his mid-20's wearing

be enjoying football tickets. Sure, I enjoy watching a good football game, but I don't let it interfere with spending time in the outdoors with family and friends. Not many lifelong memories are made while sitting on a couch watching football.

The weekend prior to Thanksgiving my friend Len and Dad came down to fish off Highway 1 near Grand Isle after a strong cold front. We were able to launch Dad's boat off the side of the road. Fishing was great. We had a three-day meat haul of trout, redfish, black drum, sheepshead and flounder.

Dad always takes point and assumes trolling motor responsibilities because that is the only seat in the boat. He also does not have to get up, get bait, put fish in the cooler, get his sammiches or beer or deal with the anchor. He just sits there all day wreaking havoc with the trolling motor and casting toward the back of the boat crossing over our lines.



Len with one of 37 reds caught over 3 days

This is a normal conversation between Dad and I as I try to guide him to a good spot where we had caught several nice trout earlier in the day. "Go left, go left, go left Dad, go left, okay go your other left". Dad's reply, "Dammit If you can do a better job, you get up here and run the trolling motor". "Okay Dad, move and I will relieve you". "Dammit sit down I got

shorts, tennis shoes and a t-shirt wading along the edges in the frigid water. He was telling us what kind of lure to use, what color, how to retrieve it, etc. as he waded by. He got about 30 yards down the bank and Len went on a tear catching about twenty 15 to 22-inch trout almost on consecutive casts. Apparently the younger Cajun was full of antifreeze which explains how he was able to withstand wading in the cold water and he came charging back up the bank. He was now seeking information instead of dishing it out. "What are you f\*\*khs using? I ain't catching s\*\*t but you f\*\*khs is on fire." We explained and shared information with him, and Len even provided a demonstration by catching another 20-inch trout on cue. He then said "I gots to go back to my truck for a minute, you f\*\*khs leave me some fish." I assume his bottle of antifreeze was back at the truck.

You just can't get memories like that sitting on a couch watching football. The enjoyment I get out of football is agitating those who are all-consumed by football. Especially those who think there is a conspiracy against their team and a rival team gets all the breaks. Getting those fans worked up and flustered is as easy as catching a good mess of trout in November but not nearly as fun.

# It's A Fact!



Reindeer can't fly, but female reindeer have antlers and Santa's reindeer have mountains name after them. The Christmas Mountains in northern New Brunswick, Canada, are named: North Pole Mountain, Mount St. Nicholas, and Mounts Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donder\* and Blitzen. \*("Donner" was originally "Donder", but has changed over time).

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