



# The East Ascension SPORTSMAN

PRESORT  
STANDARD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 61  
Postal Patron  
Gonzales, La.  
70737

www.easonline.org

Member LWF

Vol. 48, No. 1

East Ascension Sportsman's League Publication

January 2019

## Guest Speaker CHRIS MACALUSO Director, Center for Marine Fisheries

Chris Macaluso is the Center for Marine Fisheries Director for the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership. He works with a host of advocacy and conservation organizations to advance habitat restoration efforts across the Gulf and improve federal fisheries management law and policy.



Spill.

He left state-government in late 2010 to work as the Coastal Outreach Coordinator for the non-profit Louisiana Wildlife Federation helping to start the Vanishing Paradise Campaign that worked with outdoorsmen and the hunting and fishing industry to pass the RESTORE Act in 2012 before taking his current role at TRCP in 2013.

Macaluso is an avid angler and duck hunter and a lifelong Louisiana resident who has worked in the outdoors communication field for more than 20 years, hosting hunting and fishing radio shows and working as a freelance outdoor and sports writer, radio and TV host. He became the first-ever communications director for the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority in 2006 and handled media relations for the Authority during the 2010 Deepwater Horizon Oil

Spill. He and his wife Katie have a young son and daughter who both enjoy spending time in the swamps and marshes of Louisiana and the beaches along the Gulf Coast.

EASL  
PO Box 446  
Gonzales, LA 70707

## Jan. 2019 President's Message

Hello, I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I sure did. Even though the rain kind of dampened the spirt, it still was very nice to get together with everybody and having fun and eating a lot. I would like to start the new year by thanking everyone for helping me **make it through my first year as your president.** Mostly I thank the other officers and board members who helped me so much. They really made it easier for me to do my duty and made me realize all that they do for the club. Next I thank the new board members who have stepped up to help move the EASL forward and build our club back up to the way it was before. I really like to thank Chef KD for giving us a **place to meet after the flood. We as a club found ourselves in a bad spot** but because of the help from KD and the **dedication of Torrey and the officers and board that he had working together we didn't really miss a beat.** Thing have gone pretty smoothly and without too much disruptions to our meetings. But this year we are hoping to have a new meeting place with more space **and more parking. We need to make an effort to make EASL bigger and better and to do so, we needed a larger place to meet.** I have spoken with Mr.

Walter Leftwich about the possibility of moving to the fire station and he kept in touch with the people there and led us to the point we are at now. I am really excited about this move and have high expectations for the club as we move forward to bigger things in the future. I hope to have more information after our Jan. Board Meeting and have good news for all our members at the Jan. 20th meeting at KD's. Again, thanks to everyone.

Let me tell everyone now about my **last fishing trip, which was Sunday, Jan. 6th.** It was a last minute plan. It seemed like the wind and rain was going to give us a little break so we **went for it. We went offshore out of Venice in the hunt for waahoo. I have never targeted this fish before so I was excited.** I went out on a friend of mine's boat, **Chris Baker, who I have fished with many times and have landed many different species of fish but never waahoo. We got out about 7 or 8 miles and started trolling with two really big crank baits. The first spot was a bust so we moved. The next spot we had a fish on both lines at the same time. The first one pulled a hook off the lure and the second broke the line with a quick, hard strike. Fish 2, People 0. So we re-tied and reset the line and as we**



circled the oil rig and got to the same spot, wham! Two more hits. Missed one but mine was still on and was taking line fast so I just let him go. I didn't want to put any pressure on him too fast and break the line again. I heard that waahoo were sprinters and that they swim really fast but not for long. **When the fish finished his run, I got him in the boat without any trouble. I think we found the key to getting these fast striking fish in the boat. We made several more circles around the rig and got a chance at another one. Using the same game plan that got the last one in the boat, we got another. The fish were twin 55 pounders. A lot of good eating fish. That was all we put in the boat after missing a couple more but it was more than the ice box on the boat would hold so we ran in, cleaned the fish, and was home before dark. Thank you for your time and hope you also had a chance to get outside and enjoy our great hunting and fishing. See you at the meeting.**

*Thanks, Michael Lambert*

PRESORT  
STANDARD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 61  
Postal Patron  
Gonzales, La.  
70737

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

# The East Ascension Sportsman

P.O. Box 446 • Gonzales, LA 70707

Published Monthly by The East Ascension Sportsman League (EASL)

Subscription Rates:

**\$20 per year including EASL membership**

Advertising Monthly Rates:

\$10.00 for 1/8 Page; \$20.00 for 1/4 Page;

\$40.00 for 1/2 Page; \$80.00 for Full Page

## Newspaper Staff:

Editor: David Miles, editor@easlonline.org

Manager & Advertising Sales: Robbie Lambert

Contributing Writers: Goosie Guice, Jim Hebert, Jay Huner, Jodie Singer, David Miles, Lyle Johnson & Torrey Hayden

## 2018 EASL Officers

President: Mike Lambert

1st V.P.: Barney Callahan

2nd V.P.: Herb Finnerty

3rd V.P.: Vince Diez, Jr.

Treasurer: Jodie Singer

Secretary: Warren Singer



FOR ALL YOUR BUILDING  
AND REMODELING SUPPLIES

OFFICE PHONE

644-6538

559 SOUTH AIRLINE HIGHWAY  
GONZALES, LA 70737



**Kevin Diez**  
Owner/Executive Chef

**Chef KD**  
LOUISIANA  
LEGENDS

38278 Hwy. 74  
Gonzales, LA  
**673-8801**

(Formerly Diez Seafood)

## HUTCH'S ICE HARDWARE

PROPANE • OUTDOOR COOKING

**STIHL®**

**STIHL®**

HWY 621 • 673-6276

**GRAVELY**

Professional  
Grounds Equipment

## EASL Membership Registration

(Check the mailing label for the month & year of your expiration)

New membership     Renew membership

I am including my dues payment (make checks payable  
to EASL and choose payment option below):

\$20 (annual)     \$200 (10 year)     \$400 (20 year)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mail membership application to East Ascension Sportsman's  
League, P.O. Box 446, Gonzales, LA 70707

## Amelia Taylor bags an 8-point buck near Shreveport

Eight-year-old Amelia Taylor shot a tree on her first deer hunt 4 years ago. Three years ago, she shot a deer but they couldn't find it. Last year, she got a doe.

This year, her parents, Robert and Lana Taylor, brought Amelia to a ranch near Shreveport from December 7th – 10th for a hunt. Needless to say, the hunt was fruitful.

The 1st deer she saw she couldn't shoot, because her scope fogged up on her because of her breathe. It was about 29 degrees that morning.

The second buck was a monster. She kept looking over her scope b/c she was so nervous. Still, no shot taken.

On the 10th on an evening hunt, the 8 point came out. She took her time with deep breaths to calm herself down. She was still very nervous and even told her dad that she did not know if she could shoot because she was shaking so bad. She finally shot and dropped the buck where he stood.

She shot an 8 point! She shot it at 114 yards!

Her dad, Robert Taylor III, was with her guiding her but she shot it on her own with a 300 blackout rifle. She is 8-years old!

She had a little party in the stand jumping, yelling, and high fiving her dad. She was a trooper.

By the time she shot, she said her toes were numb b/c it was so cold. Also, it was getting down to the wire because this was the last hunt before leaving.

Her Christmas wish was to get a "Big daddy to put on her wall in her bedroom". And i would say she did a wonderful job!



Amelia & Robert Taylor

## 2018 YOUTH HUNTER OF THE YEAR CONTEST



ENTER BY MARCH 9, 2019

### 2018 YOUTH HUNTER OF THE YEAR CONTEST

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), the Louisiana Wildlife Federation and the Louisiana Outdoor Writers Association are seeking submissions for the 2018 Youth Hunter of the Year contest. The contest is open to Louisiana boys and girls ages 15 and younger.

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

Youth Hunters of the Year will receive a plaque in recognition of their achievement and a gift certificate from Bowie Outfitters. The two winners will also be recognized at the Governor's State Conservation Achievement Awards Banquet in April.

Contest sponsors include Baton Rouge Chapter of Delta Waterfowl, South Louisiana Branch of Quality Deer Management Association, Andrew Harrison with Harrison Law, LLC, Bowie Outfitters - Baton Rouge, and Outdoor Roots.

Download the registration form at <https://lawildlifefed.org/wp-content/uploads/2018-Youth-Hunter-flyer-with-correx.pdf>

Entrants must submit the registration form along with a photograph and story describing the hunt. Entries must be postmarked by March 9, 2019. Applications can be sent by mail or submitted electronically.

For more information on this program and how to apply, contact John Sturgis at 337-948-0255 or [jsturgis@wlf.la.gov](mailto:jsturgis@wlf.la.gov) or Rebecca Triche at 225-344-6707 or [Rebecca@lawildlifefed.org](mailto:Rebecca@lawildlifefed.org).

## LANDRY'S HEALTH MART PHARMACY

*"For Your Health Care Needs -"*

*"For Your Health Care Needs -  
Do Your Hunting & Fishing at Landry's Pharmacy"*

*(BUZZY & BENNY LANDRY - Owners)*

# GOLD PLACE MINI WAREHOUSES

## 644-2203

*Serving the St. Amant area since way back in the 1900's*

## Sportsman Comic Corner

KEEP IT CLOSE TO THE BOTTOM SON,  
THAT'S WHERE ALL THE FISH ARE!



## 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  
call Warren Singer at 225-715-1707; email: warren@icscla.com.

Diez, Dupuy & Ruiz, LLC  
1124 S Burnside Ave Ste 200B  
Gonzales, LA 70737  
Telephone: (225) 228-5800  
Fax: (225) 644-9530  
<https://www.ddrcpas.com/>



**Take a proactive approach to your financial needs.**



Big FishPic - 55 lb. Wahoo  
caught Jan. 6 out of Venice  
by Pres. Mike Lambert

**Please  
Note:**  
Our meeting  
location will be  
moving to  
**The  
Gonzales Fire  
Department**  
724 W. Orice  
Roth Road  
Gonzales, LA  
70737  
**In the near  
future.**



225-252-5969 or 985-513-8914

- Elevations (using an advanced, safe unified jacking system)
- House lifting and leveling
- Mobil home lifting and leveling
- New foundations, pilings, block, cement round and square
- Steps & decks
- We participate in all Federal and State Grant programs
- Licensed and Insured

" WE DON'T TAKE HEAVY LIFTING LIGHTLY "  
[gccgla.com](http://gccgla.com)

Sorrento Lumber Company, Inc.  
Building Materials and Ready-Mix Concrete

Jeffrey Melancon  
General Manager

Office (225) 675-5375  
Fax (225) 675-6507  
Cell (225) 921-1795  
[slcjeff@eatel.net](mailto:slcjeff@eatel.net)



PO Box 146  
9563 Airline Hwy  
Sorrento, LA 70778  
[www.sorrentolumber.com](http://www.sorrentolumber.com)

## BAYOU METAL WORKS

**Michael Lambert**

Owner

11500 Benton Frederic Rd.  
St. Amant, LA 70774

(225) 644-3804  
Fax (225) 644-6418



**GAUBERT OIL**  
COMPANY INCORPORATED  
ESTABLISHED 1926

**John Duplessis**  
Technical Sales

Phone (985) 447-3811  
Toll Free (800) 256-1250  
Cell (225) 323-7093  
Fax (985) 447-1614

john.duplessis@gaubertoil.com

---

Quality Fuels and Lubricants  
Technical Support & Solutions  
[www.gaubertoil.com](http://www.gaubertoil.com)

1201 St. Patrick Hwy  
P.O. Box 310  
Thibodaux, LA 70301

**Locally Owned and Operated Since 1984**

PROMPT & COURTEOUS



www.diezsigns.com

Find us on Facebook

**225-647-3608**

DIGITAL PRINTING  
SCREEN PRINTS  
MAGNETIC SIGNS  
BANNERS  
BOATS  
TRUCKS  
REAL ESTATE  
ROAD SIGNS  
SAFETY  
POLITICAL

signs@diezproducts.com

1406 COONTRAP ROAD, GONZALES, LA

50 lbs. net wt

50 lbs PLANTS  
1 ACRE

NOT A HIGH PRICE GIMMICK

GREAT SEED AT GREAT PRICE

**BUCK BUSTERS PREMIUM MIX WITH CHICORY & PLANTAIN**

FIELD TESTED FROM MINNESOTA TO THE GULF COAST

VERY HIGH PHOSPHORUS CALCIUM FOR BONES AND BIGGER TEETH

PLANTAIN TO SOFTEN AND DIGEST

84% TDN

SCIENTIFICALLY FORMULATED

PROVIDES UP TO 12 MONTHS FOOD AND FORAGE FOR DEER AND TURKEYS

ATTRACT MORE DEER AND TURKEYS PROVIDES BETTER NUTRITION

**BUCK BUSTERS SEED COMPANY**

**FALL SEED MIX**

TWELVE SPECIES OF WINTER FORAGE CROPS  
CEREAL GRAINS, WINTER PEAS, BRASSICS, CRIMSON CLOVER, CHICORY, PLANTAIN  
FIELD TESTED UNDER A VARIETY OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Developed By Ricky Smith, Wildlife Biologist  
With The Assistance Of Dr. Don Reed,  
Wildlife Specialist And The LSU AG Center

**SACS**  
WESTERN STORE

125 South Burnside • Gonzales  
**(225) 647-2448**

Gay Robert  
Manager

Hours:  
Mon-Sat 8-6

Joey Temple  
Manager

ASCENSION'S ONLY FULL-FLEDGED WESTERN, TACK, FEED & PET STORE!

## POULE D'EAU, THE UNAPPRECIATED AMERICAN COOT

Jay V. Huner, Louisiana Ecrevisse, Boyce, LA

The name "poule d'eau" (rhymes with "pull due") is French for "chicken of the waters". The official English name is American Coot. Yep, there is a Eurasian Coot that's pretty difficult to separate from American Coots. And, if you find a Eurasian Coot, every birder in the region will become your best friend to see the new regional record!



Poule D'Eaux

These chicken sized waterbirds are first cousins of rails and gallinules. They're gray-black birds that behave a bit like chickens in the way they walk and search for food at the water's edge. The bill is white and there is a red spot on the forehead where the bill attaches. The long legs are grayish-yellow and the toes are webbed.

If you've never seen a live poule d'eau, go to the Capitol Lakes in down town Baton Rouge from November into March and just cruise around. You're sure to see the coots especially if you can find someone feeding the "ducks".

Most duck hunters ignore poules d'eaux (add the "x" to make the word plural). They tend to gather together in good-sized flocks and it's pretty easy to unload on a nearby flock "en pose" to "harvest" your 15 bird daily limit. The birds don't have much of a breast and have to beat their wings vigorously and "walk across the water" for some distance to get air borne. Once in the air, they don't fly very fast and confuse hunters who tend to over lead flying coots much to the amusement of their companions!

American Coots show up in Louisiana in October and are pretty much gone by the beginning of April. However, there is some evidence that a few coots hang around through the summer and try to nest. While the birds take a long time to get airborne, they flying long distances, migrating at night. So, once in the air, they can stay aloft easily.

Coots as "table fare" is an interesting situation. I like to eat them. My Indiana born and raised mother could make a really good coot gumbo complete with the huge and tender gizzards. In fact, some folks refer to coots as "flying gizzards"!

How to prepare coots? Well, back in the mid-60s, I paddled my pirogue from the road between St. Gabriel and Prairieville back into Spanish Lake. I "harvested" a limit of coots and brought them home. That's when I found out that they're rather hard to pluck in the kitchen. (It was cold outside and dark!) Since that time, I have always skinned them!

I had found a recipe for a duck marinade that was basically Italian dressing with ground clove and Worcestershire sauce. I would marinate duck breasts, wings and legs overnight, wrap them in bacon and grill them. Delicious. So, I tried this with coots and even the fellows at the Timberton Social Club east of Sorrento liked them.

There's not much to a coot breast but the legs are substantial. They have very strong tendons. That's just something you have to "eat around".

By the way, coots do a good bit of damage to crawfish crops which was a surprise considering they are supposed to be vegetarians! Watching a coot coming up with a crawfish and being chased by gulls is amusing. Ironically, the swamp Cajuns around Thibodaux avidly hunt and eat coots. However, their cousins in the prairie region around Eunice won't waste shotgun shells on them!

Finally, Bald Eagles readily feed on coots. I've watched them hunt the birds in pairs in the Sorrento area. The first eagle makes a pass over a flock with all the birds diving. The second eagle follows about the time the coots come up and grabs a meal!



**VERON**  
River Parish Flavor Since 1938  
**SMOKED SAUSAGE**

# EASL BASS CLUB NEWS

By: Jim Hebert

## Jim Hebert wins 2018 "Angler of the year"

### Mike Guitreau elected 2019 President – George Valentine elected Secretary/Treasurer

I was fortunate enough this past year to be able to fish all of the Tournaments and to do a little scouting and these two elements were the key ingredients to allow me to win this title. I am humbled and grateful for the win. The Bass Club has some really good fishermen that are a lot better at it than I am, and to come out on top is an accomplishment that I'm proud of. It was a very fun year of fishing with you all.

I am very glad to see two members step up to be the new Officers for the



**Jim Hebert 2018 Angler of the Year**

Club in 2019. I have been President for the past 3 years and in November we elected Mike Guitreau to be our new President. Mike is one of the good fishermen that I mentioned earlier and has been in the Club for many years and won his share of Tournaments. He will be a good leader going forward.

Our new Secretary/Treasurer is George Valentine. He is another of the good fishermen

in the Club who has won his share of Tournaments including our recent Classic, and will make an excellent Treasurer to keep up with our finances. Mike and George, thank you both for stepping up to lead the Club.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing Secretary/Treasurer, Eddie Bowman. He served admirably for the last several years and did a great job and we appreciate that.

The Bass Club will have its Banquet to kick off the 2019 schedule on the 15th of January. That's where we sign up members for the Club and the EASL and plan our January Tournament.

Here is the Tournament Schedule for 2019:  
January 19th, February 16th, March 16th, April



**Mike Guitreau is 2019 President**



**George Valentine is new Treasurer**

13th&14th (Toledo Bend), May 11th, June 15th, July 13th, August 10th, September 21st, October 19th, November 16th, (Classic Tournament)

The Club meets monthly on the Tuesday before each Tournament at the Gonzales Fire Department on Orice Roth Road at 6:30 PM to sign up and plan for each event.

We welcome all new members and hope to see everyone at the January Banquet.

### *From the Scrapbook – Around 1967 - 1970*

submitted by Warren Singer

Wade Abadie, a board member of E.A.S.L. for the past five years was recently awarded a life membership in the Louisiana Wildlife Federation. The award is given each year to the most outstanding member in the League. Abadie has served on several committees over the years that he has been a member. Other winners of this award in the past were J.B. Landry, Walter Leftwich, and Adrian Wintz.

**FINS TO FEATHERS  
TAXIDERMY**



**"PRESERVING YOUR  
TROPHIES OF A  
LIFETIME"**



**THAD BELLOW  
9275 HWY 22  
ST. AMANT, LA  
225 -675-6276**

[www.finstofeatherstaxidermy.com](http://www.finstofeatherstaxidermy.com)



**Fisher Collision Center**

Collision Repair, Restorations, Fiberglass Boat

INSURANCE CLAIMS WELCOME

**119 N Pleasant Ave  
Gonzales, LA 70737**

**Phone: 225-647-2772  
[fishercollisionrepair.com](http://fishercollisionrepair.com)**

# LIFE HAPPENS IN CYCLES

Outdoor Corner with Lyle Johnson

I am 65 years old and have spent a fair amount of my time trying to figure things out about the outdoors. I'm sure some of the people that read this and enjoy all sorts of activities outside of their home have done the same thing.

I don't recall seeing as many deer pictures on social media than this year. Without any research, I'd dare to say that this is one of the best hunting years as I've ever seen. But a friend had a conversation with me about the lack of deer they are seeing on their lease. His story is "Man, this is the worse I've ever seen it." I've had similar discussions with other folks as well, so what's the deal?

Hunters and fishermen are the world's worst at trying to "figure it out". Why don't we catch fish or take game like we used to. Now I know habitat figures into some of the hunting issues as it's disappearing in some places and fishing pressure can figure into catch ratios. Limits on length of fish, numbers of animals, whether male or female, all sorts of different things figure into the conservation part of the equation.

On the hunting side of things as of late is the less than stellar duck hunting seasons we've had for the last few years in parts of our state. Many theories have been debated as to the cause such as how much water do we have in the northern nesting grounds, surely that must be the problem. How about predators eating all of the eggs? There's no more trapping of furbearing animals because fur is not the thing to be wearing anymore. More predators; less eggs!

Mild winters sometimes have taken their share of the blame also. If the lakes, ponds and rivers don't freeze over, the ducks have a place to rest. Hey, then there's the group that's been accused of "short-stopping the ducks". Theories abounded about how crops have been planted to keep the ducks from flying farther south. Keep 'em fat and full and they'll just stay put.

Then there's the fish. Salt water, fresh water, it doesn't matter; we always seem to try and figure out why it's not like the way it used to be. Many more people fish these days than ever before, so I'm sure that's a factor. Just like hunting, habitat changes affect fishing patterns also.

Just the other day I was involved in a conversation about the Atchafalaya



**Blaire Melancon-- This is Bridgit and Blaire Melancon with 28 rabbits they helped kill at Wax Lake WMA on January 5, 2019. In the group was Chance Gaudet, Garrett Landry, Charles Brignac, Clay Steib, and Lynn Granier. Photo provided**

Basin and how the fishing was. We talked about a lot of things but one topic was the grass. "What happened to all the grass", was one of the questions I was asked. I remember times when there was so much grass that you couldn't hardly get a boat through some of the places, the grass was so thick. So what's up with that?

The forces of nature play a big role also. Hurricanes deal devastating consequences to our freshwater fisheries as fish kills are sometimes in record numbers. It was the opposite in the saltwater arena; the lack of fishermen along with no shrimp boats harvesting the shrimp or by-catch issues, the number of fish exploded in our briny estuaries.

The worst possible thing we can do is over react. Our first reaction is usually, "Man, what can we do?" We think we can fix it but what happens when we didn't do anything to cause it? Usually that is a sure fire recipe for a bad decision and lots of unintended consequences that are usually worse than the original event.

So, just what is the deal? How can we fix all of this stuff? We surely spend a lot of time fretting over what we can do to change it. I think a lot of the reasons are simply that life is experienced in cycles. That's right; ups and downs. Life is full of them.



**Alivia Wells-- Alivia Wells, she is 11 yrs old and goes French Settlement elementary. She killed this 180 lb, 11 pt. in Artesia Wells TX, while hunting with her PAPPY David Bush on the Foster Ranch. Photo provided**

If we take time to look even at our personal lives, we experience times of plenty and times of lack. Right now in our area, life is going to be good in the construction area. Lot's of work means plenty of jobs and wages should increase. Sometimes our relationships are as full as they can be, other times there is strife. Sometimes life in general is just great and other times it's not so good.

Now certainly there are things that we can adjust to correct our responsibilities that may have things out of whack. We can adjust the numbers that we are allowed to harvest; times we can and can't catch fish or take game along with many other things. Sometimes we may just have to wait until it comes back around.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 says it best, "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven..." So until next time, keep out the slack and set the hook hard. Have fun in the outdoors, be safe and may God truly bless you!!

## Outdoor Calendar

- EASL Monthly Meeting; 3rd Monday every month, East Ascension Sportsman's League meeting held at Chef KD's on Hwy 74 starting at 7:00 pm. A meal served and special speaker will be in attendance.
- APSO Shooting Range; The rifle range on St Landry Rd is open to the public year-round on the second and fourth Thursday of each month from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., or safe shooting light.
- Squirrel season; Through Feb 28 daily bag limit 8 possession 24.
- Rabbit season; Through Feb 28 daily bag limit 8 possession 24.
- Quail season: Through Feb. 28, statewide, private lands only. Daily bag limit 10 possession 30.
- Fishing for Tucker Bass Classic; Feb 2nd—save the date. The 9th Annual Fishing for Tucker Team Bass Tournament is scheduled for February 2, 2019 at Cabela's in Gonzales.
- La-BASS Open Tournament; Feb 16th at Doiron's Landing in Stephenville, La benefitting Anything Outdoors Helping Kids. \$100 entry fee, see La-Bass on their Facebook page or contact Bryce Hanna 225 715-0197—Derek Braud 225 270-8029
- LSU College Bass Team Benefit Tournament; Feb 17th at Doiron's Landing in Stephenville, La benefitting LSU Fishing Team. \$100 entry fee, register morning of Tournament. See LSU Bass Fishing on their Facebook page for info & entry form rules.

Need an event publicized? Contact Lyle at reelman@eatel.net

# ASCENSION EQUIPMENT & RENT-ALL

ALL UNDER ONE ROOF!



**Great Expectations**  
KUBOTA & JOHN DEERE  
SALES EVENT

**\$0 Down & 0% Financing up to 60 Months**  
on select models



**Kubota**

**Deere Days Of Summer!**



Z335E  
**\$2,499<sup>1</sup>**

Comfortable Operation, Mowing Precision, On-the-spot turning, and Exceptional build quality.

**D105 Lawn Tractor**

**No Interest if Paid in Full within 12 months** <sup>\*\*\*18a</sup>

Automatic transmission, Cast-iron front axle, and Edge Cutting System gives superior performance.



**13173 Airline Hwy. | Gonzales, LA 70737**  
**225.647.5881 | www.ascensionequipment.com**

**The local way to bank big.**



United **Community** Bank

866.505.3736

UCBANKING.COM

MEMBER FDIC

**FRESH**

IDEAS • WEBSITES • LOGOS • BRANDING  
GRAPHIC DESIGN • DIGITAL MARKETING  
E-NEWSLETTERS • COPYWRITING + MORE

**JON HÉBERT**  
- CREATIVE -

*Fresh Designs. Fully Dressed*

**Discounts for EASL & LWF  
Members & Advertisers**

(504) 723-0240 | jon@nola-creative.com | nola-creative.com

**Superior**  
**BAIT & TACKLE**

**“Rod and Reel Repair”**

Fresh Water . Salt Water  
Blue Water

**5760 Siegen Lane · Baton Rouge, LA 70809**

**293-3474 (FISH)**



# LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

by **Goosie Guice**

## JUSTIFIED

It had only been a couple days before when a nice mature buck had surprised me from my left side (which is my good side when it comes to shooting) and caught me off guard. It was going to be a give-me shot at twenty-five yards. While I was trying to count points to determine whether or not he was a shooter the large animal spotted me. He stopped, looked at me, and then began to run away with a tree in the line of fire between him and me. At about sixty yards he slowed down and before he entered the palmetto thicket, I took a shot that I probably shouldn't have taken.

So be it. By all observations, my shot was a clean miss. With my miss over with for the season, now I can move on.

My next opportunity was going to be different. The morning slowly

awakened with mild temps, cloudy skies and 5 miles an hour northwest wind with fog and rain to begin at 9 a.m. I'd seen several deer from the same location in which I had missed earlier in the week. I had replayed that last scenario at least fifty times in my head as I sat there in the stillness.

I had an employee Christmas dinner to attend at 11:00 a.m. that day at my job site. My plan was to leave the woods at 9 a.m. At 8:58 I took a last glance at my time piece, and took one more look around my surroundings before packing it up for the morning. I spotted a deer walking towards me at this point. I had myself convinced that it was one of those does or younger bucks that I had seen earlier coming back to the feed. A closer look through the scope confirmed that the deer was a buck and definitely a shooter. He was not

the same deer I'd missed two days earlier but he was definitely a keeper. At that point I said to myself "Don't you mess this up." But really, "mess" wasn't the exact word that I had used, if you know what I mean. When the young majestic six pointer cleared the last sapling in my line of fire, I put the crosshairs on its shoulders and squeezed the trigger. He bolted into the sky and as he landed, I could remember seeing a hole in his left shoulder. He ran about sixty yards through the water and stopped in the middle of some palmettos and just stood there. I kept waiting for him to fall and after several seconds I fired off another shot at him. I missed and he took off running due north.

As I climbed down from my perch, something told me that this was not going to come out good. At this time it started to rain. The water was about six inches in there. For the next hour I tried my very best to find this animal. I could not see where he ran and there was no blood trail. I reenacted the shot several times without success. Hot, wet, mentally exhausted and with a major case of the "you-know-what", I finally throw in the towel with total disgust. At one point I thought about not telling anyone about this catastrophe. But I'm much too honest of a person for such action.

Others were now coming to hunt for the mid-morning hunt and I didn't want to disturb them. Should I call for help? Should I call for a blood dog? (I don't know, I haven't found any blood). Did I miss again? I don't know. I do know this, I considered quitting for the season and starting over next year. This kept me awake at night for some time.

One evening a few days later I received a call from one of my favorite

hunting buddies. His message was "Hey dude I found your deer, meet me there after the hunt tomorrow and you can cut his horns off." At a little after nine that next morning I headed in his direction with a saw and camera in hand. As I approached the location I felt as if I was approaching the casket of a friend of mine, in which I had been a part of the reason for his death. I was so relieved when I saw the placement of my shot had been right on target. This gave me comfort to know that the animal had not suffered very long. The 30-06 bullet had penetrated both shoulders, and to this day I don't know how that deer made it those three hundred yards plus. The pain's on me now. I'll suffer with this thought till I go to my grave.

Situations such as these make me want to hang it up, but I do understand that if humanity is to survive we must make use of the animal life on this planet. I'm a hunter and proud of it. I have no apologies to make to anyone, I do the best I can with the upmost respect for every creature in which I pursue. I watch many more animals walk or fly by than I shoot. At times like this it's hard for me to justify my actions, but in reality every deer that's living at this moment will most likely be dead within the next ten years whether I hunt or not.

By the way the camera that I had used to take a picture of the deer would not reveal the photo. So I threw that S.O.B. away! There was not a bunch that went right with this entire ordeal. I can only hope better days are in the future....

**Till Next Time,  
Hunter Always,  
James "Goosie" Guice**

### *EASL Wild Game Recipe*

#### Grilled Wahoo with Tomato Sauce by Bobby Flay

##### Ingredients:

- 4 wahoo fillets, 6 ounces each (or whatever a good size is)
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, plus more for finishing dish
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 4 anchovies in oil, patted dry and chopped
- 1 pint cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1 tablespoon capers, drained
- 1/2 cup pitted kalamata olives
- 1 lemon, zested and juiced
- 2 teaspoons finely chopped fresh oregano leaves
- 1/4 cup chopped flat-leaf parsley

##### Directions:

Heat the grill to high. Brush both sides of the fillets with canola oil and season with salt and pepper, to taste. Grill until slightly charred and almost cooked through, about 3 to 4 minutes per side, (it will continue cooking in the



sauce).

While the fish is grilling, heat the olive oil in a large saute pan over medium heat. Add the garlic, anchovies and tomatoes and cook until slightly soft, about 4 minutes. Add the capers, olives, lemon juice, oregano and parsley and cook for 30 seconds. Transfer the fish to the sauce and let cook for 1 minute. Transfer to a serving platter and serve.



# Specializing in **BOAT UPHOLSTERY** **ALL'APERTO** **UPHOLSTERY & DESIGN**

225-505-6969 / allaperto.design@gmail.com

Free estimates. 30 years' experience.  
GINO AND STACY BAZILE, OWNERS



## JERRY'S BOAT SHOP

Michael Lanoux

Jerry Lanoux

225-644-3797

11178 E. Lanoux Road • Gonzales, LA 70737



"Since 1965"

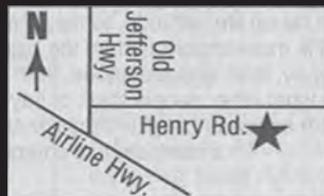
## PETIT'S BODY SHOP

Locally Owned  
& Operated  
By Lionel Petit  
petit@eatel.net

**673.5422**

- Frame Alignment Specialist
- State-of-the-Art Paint Booth
- Computerized Estimate System
- Free Estimates
- Insurance Claims Welcomed
- Rental Car Arrangements Available
- All Work Guaranteed
- 24 Hour Towing Available

38246 Henry Road  
Prairieville



### It's Not Just a Boat.

It's a way of life – your life.  
It's your escape from the rest of the world.  
It's your passion.  
Protecting it is ours.

Let us customize a boat policy that's just right for you.  
Call today for a free personalized insurance quote.

Harry Robert Insurance Agency

725 EAST CORNERVIEW

GONZALES, LA 70737

225-647-2168

**PROGRESSIVE**

# EASL BOARD MEETING

December 17, 2018



The 2019 EASL Board & Officers

Pictured below- Warren Singer Outstanding Member Recipient



Warren Singer receives 2018 Outstanding Member Award



Jodie Singer wins 50-50 Drawing



Jim Hebert reads Bass Report with Mike Lambert.JPG



ByronMireCustomLures

Warren Singer reads meeting Minutes



LOUISIANA DUCKS UNLIMITED

**Cabela's**  
WORLD'S FOREMOST OUTFITTER

# DUCKS UNLIMITED / CABELA'S

# FIRE ARM FRENZY

# 50 GUN

# SUPER RAFFLE

Thursday, March 8, 2019

5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Cabela's  
2200 W. Cabela's Pkwy  
Gonzales, LA



**TICKETS:**

**\$20 Single Raffle Ticket**

**\$100**

**Ticket Pack  
7 + 1 Bonus**

**\$250**

**Ticket Pack  
25 + 3 Bonus**

**\$500**

**Ticket Pack  
60 + 10 Bonus**

Each Raffle Ticket includes 1 year DU Membership,  
Food, Soft Drinks, Beer and Wine!

**BUY A RAFFLE PACK AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS!!**

Raffle Packages include Bonus Tickets for the Bonus Prize:  
American Flag Red, White and Blue Howa 308



**NEED NOT BE  
PRESENT TO  
WIN!!**

PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE

**dufrenzy.com**



**Hunter Founded! Hunter Supported! Hunters Wanted!**

# CASUAL OBSERVATIONS

## Backyard Bonanza

by Torrey Hayden



Over the recent holiday season, I was fortunate to have a successful hunting trip. I was invited to my buddy's farm which looks like a picture post card complete with log cabin. After surveying the layout and listening to everyone talk about where they wanted to hunt, I asked if anyone ever hunted the stand on the side of the pond next to the farm house. My host said no one ever hunts there, "too close to the house for good deer but you're welcome to hunt there if you want".



Back Yard Bonanza Buck

Worked out great for all concerned. Endurance and tenacity were required with each hunting foray out into the wilderness. I remember strapping one of those old heavy metal tree stands onto my back then walking all the way to other side of my Grandparent's Neighbors Farm, which took about an hour, find the tallest tree on top of a mountain, put the tree stand together then climb up the tree as far as I could go. My

Grandfather would tell me his neighbor had seen a good buck there sometime in the last decade. On most hunts I would not see a deer then return to discover Grandpa would have a nice deer hanging in the barn.

When I asked where he hunted the answer would usually be from the rocking chair on the back porch while drinking his morning coffee. "I have been waiting for you to come hunting to shoot this deer, so I could teach you how to process one." Translation – Torrey you do everything. I will tell you how to do it while I drink whisky with my buddies.

Squirrel hunting was no different. Grandpa would send me out with one of his red bone hound squirrel dogs who have long legs and enjoy mountaineering. He always had good dogs and our hunts were successful. However, there was a lot of physical exertion required with long legged dogs and mountains. I would return worn out with a half-dozen squirrels. Laid on the porch would be about the same number of squirrels. "Grandpa where did you shoot those?" "Pecan tree in the back yard. Now let me teach you how to clean squirrels."

The rest of the hunting party loaded up four wheelers to cross the bayou and head deep into the forest. They would be using ladder stands strapped 20 feet up a pine tree. It was chilly, windy and rainy. I walked 100 yards and climbed in a nice box stand complete with carpeting, tin roof, sliding windows and office swivel chair.

After about 30 minutes a doe was feeding nearby and I picked up my phone to take a photo. Out of nowhere a very nice buck appeared interrupting my photo session. He must have been eating out of the dog's bowl on the back porch he was so close to the farmhouse. Threw the phone down and picked up my rifle. My host came by with his four-wheeler to pick up the deer and was astounded one of the largest bucks taken on his property in several years was shot literally in his backyard. Lessons learned from my youth led me to choose that spot.

My parents would deposit me at my Grandparent's farm during Christmas holidays for me to go hunting.

# It's A Fact!

*The female squirrel is only receptive to mating for about 24 hours, usually twice a year. Her scent attracts many males who take turns to mate, then leave and have nothing more to do with her or the kittens (or kits). 2-8 bald kits are born, deaf, blind, toothless and totally dependent on their mother for two to three months.*

## Nominations Open for State Conservation Awards Recognizing 2018 Efforts



StateConsAward - Eagle Statuette



StateConsAward - Wild Turkey

The Louisiana Wildlife Federation (LWF) is accepting nominations for the 55th Governor's State Conservation Achievement Awards. The program recognizes those persons and organizations making outstanding contributions to the natural resource welfare and environmental quality of their community, parish and the state. Nominations are accepted for conservation achievement in 2018 in eight award categories: professional, volunteer, business, educator, youth, elected official, communications and organization.

The nomination deadline is March 4, 2019. The awards will be presented on April 27, 2019 at a banquet at Ashley Manor in Baton Rouge. The awards themselves are handsome wildlife statuettes and are unique to the program.

The program recognizes significant efforts to conserve fish and wildlife resources, enhance opportunities for citizens to enjoy outdoor recreation, improve the quality of the environment, and/or educate and advocate on behalf of our natural resources in Louisiana.

"We encourage the public and our members to nominate an individual, organization or business demonstrating significant conservation achievement in 2018," said Rebecca Triche, executive director for Louisiana Wildlife Federation. "It's exciting to recognize and highlight what people are doing to protect and preserve Louisiana's natural resources."

In a statement of support for the annual program Governor John Bel Edwards said, "Recognizing that wise management of our State's natural resources is essential to the health, happiness, welfare and economic well-being of Louisiana's citizens, and understanding that proper recognition of conservation efforts promotes wise resource management and use, I fully endorse the concept of the Governor's State Conservation Achievement Awards Program as conducted annually under the auspices of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation."

More details about the program and a nomination form are posted on the LWF website at <https://lawildlifed.org/>. People may also call the LWF office, 225-344-6707, or email [lwf@lawildlifed.org](mailto:lwf@lawildlifed.org) for more information.

The Louisiana Wildlife Federation is a statewide conservation education and advocacy organization and represents a broad constituency of conservationists including hunters, anglers, campers, birders, boaters, hikers and other outdoor enthusiasts.

# The **EASL** Meeting

Held every 3rd Monday of the month at

**Chef KD's at 38278 Hwy. 74 in Dutchtown**  
**Monday, January 21, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.**

Meal sponsored by:  
**To Be Announced**