

Mission of the Organization

- Promote sportsmanship and the protection of natural resources
- Promote the quality of Lake Fork fishery and other outdoor recreational activities
- Promote the future of angling through youth programs
- Promote a spirit of cooperation with local, county, state, and federal governmental agencies, and other civic organizations for the purpose of improving Lake Fork and its surrounding communities
- Promote items of interest of the membership at large

President's Report

During our August meeting President Micheal Rogge expressed his sincere thanks to the membership for the many hours everyone put in to make the first annual Catfish Classic a huge success. Without everyone's help this event would never have happened.

We also would like to welcome new members Joe and Tammy Legenza. They joined at the Catfish Tournament. Welcome.

Micheal reminded everyone that membership renewal comes up in September. A renewal letter will be e-mailed or mailed during September.

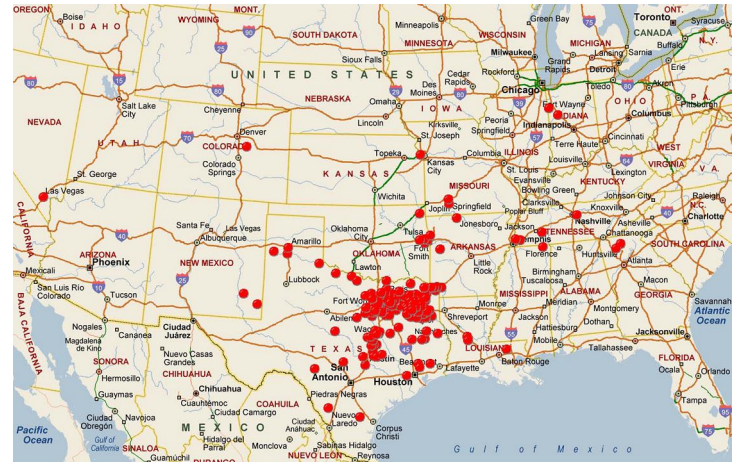
Catfish Tournament Final Report

"The Catfish Classic" was a huge success!

Sam Scroggins gave a final report on the Catfish Classic during our recent meeting and by all measures it was a huge success. We had 460 entrants from as far away as New Mexico, Colorado, Indiana, Alabama and Georgia. The feedback we have received from area merchants indicates that they enjoyed an economical bump from the anglers who stayed overnight. It was a win, win for all.

The date for next year's Classic has been tentatively set for the last full weekend in July. We can hardly wait!!

This map shows where the Catfish Classic anglers came from.



Tournament Time



The McDonald's Big Bass Splash is scheduled for September 18, 19, and 20 at Lake Fork Marina. This is a three day hourly payout tournament. Mark your calendar, we will need a lot of help manning the Live Release Boat.

Next LFSA General Meeting

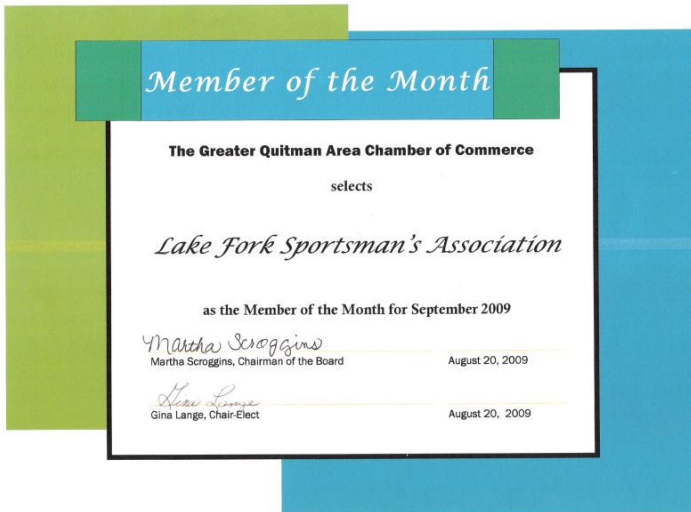
Our next meeting will be September 8, at the Lake Fork Deli and Cafe on Hwy 17, beginning at 7:00. See you there

LFSA Quitman Chamber Member of the Month

During its August Mixer, hosted by Forever Young, the Quitman Chamber of Commerce recognized the LFSA as its Member of the Month. Presenting the award is Martha Scroggins, President of the Chamber.



Pictures l/r Sam Scroggins, Treasurer; Micheal Rogge, President; Dick Walker, Secretary; and Martha Scroggins, Quitman C of C President.



Certificate of Recognition

Texas Parks and Wildlife Report

Craig Bonds, Region 3 Director for The Texas Parks & Wildlife, recently presented a report on the health of some of our waterways, and specifically Lake Fork.

Bonds said in 1985 the state began the slot limits that have helped produce trophy bass, and the growth in the number of large bass has taken off since 1995 when Florida bass were introduced to the lake.

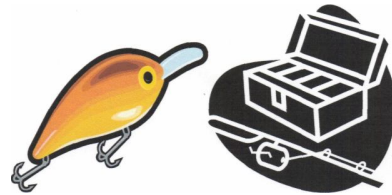
Two-thirds to three-fourths of the fish entered in the ShareLunker program now are Florida bass, he said.

The state conducts surveys of the anglers visiting Lake Fork and it is estimated they spend, \$15 million in the lake area yearly, with a total impact of \$30 million.

Bonds talked about the fishing pressure on Lake Fork, calling it "quite intense." He said there are more than a million angler-hours per year on the lake, which breaks down to 40 angler-hours per acre of lake. The state monitors the fish population beyond just the bass, and over the past six years the weight of some fish has begun to dip a little and that might have an impact in the future.

Then Bonds talked about invasive plants that have created problems in some of the lakes in Texas, as well as elsewhere.

Lake Fork is experiencing some hydrilla issues that can be beneficial to the fishery, but the "biggest threat" to Lake Fork is water hyacinth. It was first spotted in a creek leading into the lake in 1993 and was attacked aggressively. When a moratorium on spraying came into play in 1998 it allowed the vegetation to gain ground and the rapid expansion has the state's attention. Annual treatments of herbicides are currently being used to control the water hyacinth.



Lake Fork Trade Days

When: Sept 19th & 20th

Where: Loomis Lodging
Hwy 154 two miles south of Yantis, TX

This is the weekend of the McDonalds Big Bass Tournament and there are lots of people not fishing looking for things to do.

If you have Tackle, Rods & Reels, Boats, RV, Wet Bikes, Pets or other wares that you might want to sell. We are renting space on about one and a half acres.

This event will also be advertised in the Paper and on the Radio.

To book your space or get more information contact
Rick Loomis 903/383-3050