FREE TAKE ONE!

George Strait and Miley Cyrus to visit Austin

INSIDE:
- Nashville & Texas Music News
- Fishing at Riviera Nyayaret
- Central Texas Events
- Fire Ant Experiment
- Hunting Recommendations

Check out Country Line Magazine online at www.countrylinemagazine.com
CALLAHAN'S GENERAL STORE

“Your Full Service General Store!”

Ariat Boots and Shoes!

Vogelzang
Cast Iron Wood Burning Stoves.

New Retro Appliances IN STOCK!

Best selection of belts 'in Texas!

Your cowboy hat headquarters. Best winter felts on sale!

THE REAL
Radio Flyer Wagons
Prices ranging from

Votre Wrangler, Levi's, Cruel, 20X, Cinch, Riata Headquarters

YOUR WRANGLER, LEVIS, CRUEL, 20X, CINCH, RIATA HEADQUARTERS

HORSES AVAILABLE HERE

DEER CORN 50# BAGS!

PECAN PICKER-UPPERS 5 different styles
$8.95 – $43.95

WRANGLER
13MWZ, 936 DEN, 31 MWZDN
(oversize add $1)
44” waist and up or 38” and longer

501 Bastrop/Hwy 183 S (South of the River) • 512/385-3452
IF IT’S AUSTIN
IT’S ON KVET

BOB COLE’S
7-DAY ALASKA CRUISE

July 2-9
Join Bob Cole and Rick Trevino for this memorable, musical journey during this amazing Alaska cruise on the Carnival Spirit. This ship is the floating resort with a two-level promenade, a reservations-only supper club and tons of features.
www.kvet.com

8TH ANNUAL THERMAL UNDERWEAR DRIVE
House the Homeless urges the citizens of Austin to display your generosity and humanity toward the least fortunate among us. A $10 contribution will purchase a thermal underwear top and bottom to keep a guy or gal safe and warm this winter. Send contributions to:
House the Homeless, Inc., P.O. Box 2312,
Austin, TX 78768

WWW.KVET.COM
Full Kitchen Menu from breakfast to dinner.
CATERING menu and specializing in the
ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT Catfish Buffet
cooked at your site or our large covered pavillion.

512-282-3600
1310 FM 1626 West
Just West of the Intersection of
Manchaca Road and FM 1626
across from McCoys and Manchaca Baptist Church

ATTENTION: RANCHERS & FARMERS

Country Line Ministries is looking for ranchers and farmers
willing to allow us to bring out our youth hunting
and fishing groups to their land.

These outdoor adventures teach boys (and girls)
lessons in hunting, fishing and outdoor adventure.

Please contact TJ Greaney if you're interested in helping. 512/292-1113

INSURANCE NETWORK
of Texas

Since 1949

We Specialize in Insurance for Contractors!

Workers Comp.
Liability
Health
Bonding

Protecting your business and
finding the best insurance
program is extremely important
in today's dynamic business
environment. We can help with
Property, Worker's Compensation,
Bonds, Liability, Contractor's Equipment,
Employee Benefits, Risk and more...

When you need insurance, let us - a Texas independent
agency - give you the freedom of choice. We work for you,
not a single insurance company. Take the driver's seat and
call us. We'll put you on the open road to better insurance
coverage.

13 Offices Around Texas
800/258/8302 * 512/863/2395 * intonline.com

Proud to be Texas. Proud to be Independent.
I feel drawn to the oldest generation. Recently, while walking the Trail of Lights in Austin a service cart pushed up next to us in the crowd. The golf cart’s battery was out and the driver was struggling to push it — with an older couple on the back.

I grabbed hold of the back and started to push. The older gentleman sitting on the back looked up at me and I said “hi.” I asked him if he was enjoying the lights and he said, “I don’t know where I am,” then smiled at me. My heart fell to the floor.

I have always had a compassionate heart for the older generation. I have spoken about them many times in this column. I have talked about how they are heroes in so many areas and have done things and understand things that the other generations may never experience. Many lived in a time of no TV or video, relying on books and some radio. Simple things, quiet things, slower things.

I have written about the time I stopped at a garage sale and bought a small box of old memorabilia from World War One. Later that night I found it included a diary and medals; it also included currency from around the world. The money in the box alone was worth hundreds of dollars — I paid five. The sad part to me was she must have never looked inside the box. Did she just over look it? I could not figure out which house it was when I went back. Later I got mad she not figure out which house it was alone was worth hundreds of dollars — I paid five. The sad part to me was she must have never looked inside the box. Did she just over look it? I could not figure out which house it was when I went back. Later I got mad she never explored the things her father or grandmother left her. I still have everything in a box. I don’t know if I could ever sell it.

I never got to know my grandparents; they died when I was young. I remember small things but I never got to talk with them in a way that mattered. I know one of my grandfathers owned a gas station, the other worked for the railroad. I have so many questions that will go unanswered. I wish we could have documented them, the life lessons, the things they failed at and the things they succeeded at.

We videotaped my mom and had her tell me her life history so we would always have it, more people should do that. One Christmas I gave my father a question and answer legacy book. He gave it back to me years later and it was complete. What a gift.

I guess what I am saying here is that time goes by fast. Our lives are moving fast. I want to encourage people to chronicle their family and their lives for those who will come after them. Take pictures, use a video camera, maybe even write down some memories or thoughts.

My daughter’s friends were describing a person they saw recently and said, “he was old, like 50 or something,” I had to crack a smile. They never thought of me sitting there and being almost 50. Not that 50 is old, but when you are a young teen, it seems very old.

I am glad to be older myself. I don’t ever wish to be younger than I am now. I see things more clearly but my vision is not as good as it once was. I listen more now but I don’t hear as well. My emotions are closer to the surface but I am more reserved in my haste to react. I pray more and try to learn God’s will in my life with a true desire to understand it for Him. I strive for gratitude and gratefulness each day in my life and am disappointed in myself when I miss a teaching moment or a memory opportunity with family and friends. God knows my weakness and forgives me daily for my shortcomings. For that I am grateful sometimes, hour by hour, minute by minute.

This year my goal is not to lose weight or exercise more, to get out of debt or read more books. This year my goal will be to be more the man God wants me to be, and in that — all the above will be true.

Happy New Year and God Bless,
CARRIE UNDERWOOD'S CARNIVAL RIDE CERTIFIED DOUBLE PLATINUM

She is the preeminent female country artist of the past two years, and now, reigning ACM Top Female Vocalist, double Grammy winner, and back-to-back CMA Female Vocalist of the Year Carrie Underwood sees her 19 Recordings/Arista Records/Arista Nashville album, Carnival Ride, simultaneously RIAA-certified Gold, Platinum, and Double Platinum for sales of two million units.

Released on October 23, Carnival Ride has already launched the multi-week #1 smash, “So Small,” Underwood’s fifth consecutive country chart-topper after four #1 singles from her 6x-Platinum debut blockbuster, Some Hearts. Carrie’s continued success is celebrated in the year-end issue of Billboard, where she is #1 across multiple categories including Top Country Artist and Top Country Artist – Female (both based on sales and airplay), and #1 among Top Country Album Artists (based on sales). Outside the country categories, Carrie’s phenomenal 2007 is clear to see in the all-genre Billboard 200 Artist Recap, which ranks the pride of Checotah, Okla., as the #1 best-selling female artist of the 2007 chart year.

**Texas Elk Hunting**

5J Hunting Ranches

**TEXAS ELK HUNTING**

Hunt Now...

Exotics
Whitetail
Turkey
Aoudad
Pronghorn
Hogs & more...

6x6 Bull Elk Hunt
$3500.
CALL TODAY!

**RASCAL FLATTS MEMBER AND WIFE EXPECTING FIRST CHILD IN 2008**

Rascal Flatts guitarist and vocalist Joe Don Rooney and his wife Tiffany Fallon are anticipating the birth of their first child next year. The couple looks forward to welcoming the baby in May 2008.

“We are so excited to be adding a new life to our home,” said Rooney. “We cannot wait to become parents and cannot believe this time next year, we will be celebrating Christmas with a child,” expressed Tiffany.

Joe Don and Tiffany were married April 23, 2006 in a beautiful ceremony in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico.

**KENNY & KEITH TEAM UP FOR MORE STADIUM SHOWS**

Good Friends Figure Out How To Supersize the Road

When Kenny Chesney took Keith Urban out on his Guitars, Tiki Bars & Urban Out on his Guitars, Tiki Bars & Good Friends Figure Out How To Supersize the Road, he got more than a special guest — he found a very good friend. But as careers take off and demands mount, it becomes more and more difficult to hang out with people you like, especially at the level Chesney and Urban both exist at.

“Which is why I’m glad I have the ability to play stadiums,” laughs the three-time and current CMA and triple and reigning Academy of Country Music Entertainer of the Year. “It’s the only way that it would make sense for Keith where he is in my career to be able to come out and do some shows with us. We couldn’t do this anywhere else … and it’s something I’ve wanted to do since he played the first stadiums shows with us three years ago.”

Urban, a Grammy Award winner and critically hailed performer, is to this day the only Horizon Award winner in history to go on to win the CMA’s Entertainer of The Year and Male Artist of the Year, a title he’s captured three times. He’s had 7 #1 singles; “Somebody Like You,” “Days Go By,” “You’ll Think Of Me,” “Better Life,” as well as the record breaking single “Once In A Lifetime,” from his newest album Love, Pain & the whole crazy thing. That musical breadth makes him the perfect partner for what will most likely be eight more stadiums beyond the July 26 Foxboro, Massachusetts’ Gillette Stadium date on the 2008 Poets & Pirates Tour, which sold out in less than 15 minutes.

“If you’re committed to bringing the fans the best show possible,” Chesney says, “who else would you call? Keith does it all — and for me, he’s someone I’ve spent time in the islands with, toured the country with, laughed with, hung with, made music with. It’s gonna be as much fun backstage when we’re not rocking as it is onstage — and that’s saying something.”

“What Kenny’s stadium concerts are, is the biggest party you’ve ever been to with the loudest ghetto blaster you’ve ever heard and the audience still singing louder than us,” said Urban. “Me I’m just a kid like 65,000 others that are going to run away with the circus this summer. Bring it on Kenny.”

While Kenny Chesney’s Poets & Pirates Tour will feature multi-platinum Grammy-winner LeAnn Rimes on all dates, the chance for the two friends to get out on the road together marks a rare opportunity for country fans to see two of country’s biggest stars on the same stage.

**CRAIG MORGAN LAUNCHES “TRICK MY TRACTOR” CONTEST**


In just a few weeks at radio, “International Harvester,” is generating unparalleled fan response. The song is rapidly ascending the Top 20 at country radio, reaching an audience of more than 13 million listeners a week. “International Harvester” is the #15 most downloaded country song on iTunes, and Craig’s weekly CD sales have more than doubled since the single hit the airwaves. Sung from the perspective of the guy driving the tractor that is
holding up traffic, “International Harvester,” is the third consecutive hit single from Craig’s current Broken Bow Records CD Little Bit of Life.

To enter Trick My Tractor, fans were asked to submit photos of their tricked out tractors, lawn mowers, push mowers, anything and everything they use to take care of their property, to craigmorgan.com. Whether they were souped up with all customized features, or just tricked out with a theme, CraigMorgan.com wanted those photos!

The winning entry, as determined by Craig and a “distinguished panel of judges,” will win a brand new 8 GB iPod Touch, plus a signed Craig Morgan Prize Pack of Craig’s CDs. And, one runner up will receive an autographed Copley CA-20N acoustic guitar.

Craig created this new contest after an overwhelming number of testimonials poured into his Web site in response to his recent single “Tough.” Fan enthusiasm for that song carried over onto the Internet, and what started out to be a small contest on Craig’s Web site ended up generating huge response. craigmorgan.com

INSPIRED: A TRIBUTE TO BARBARA MANDRELL

Gospel great CeCe Winans earned a Best Gospel Performance GRAMMY nomination today for her recording of “He Set My Life to Music.” The title track to Barbara Mandrell’s acclaimed inspirational album, “He Set My Life to Music” is one of a dozen songs recorded for this year’s star-studded release, She Was Country When Country Wasn’t Cool: A Tribute to Barbara Mandrell, a multi-artist salute to the music and influence of the two-time CMA Entertainer of the Year. The disc also features Mandrell favorites from such stars as Kenny Chesney & Reba McEntire, Terri Clark, Sara Evans and Gretchen Wilson.

COLE DEGGS & THE LONESOME

After breaking into the country consciousness with the Top 30 fave, “I Got More,” Cole Deggs & The Lonesome are back with “Girl Next Door,” the second single from their self-titled debut album’s mix of country rock & Southern soul. At radio now, “Girl Next Door” and the band drew praise from All Music Guide, which cheered,

“Storytelling songs like Deggs' 'Girl Next Door' has [lead guitarist David] Wallace's dirty Telecaster setting the tone. Deggs tells a simple story of young love in memory. It rolls, spits and contains a hook-laden chorus to kill for. ... Like a young John Mellencamp or a Southern — and more innocent — version of Bob Seger, Deggs knows how to bring the archetypes so unique to America right to the fore.” Catch the band’s no-holds-barred energy in concert as they wrap up the final few dates on the Raisin’ the Bar Tour with Jason Michael Carroll and Bucky Covington.

KELLY PICKLER TO ENTERTAIN TROOPS ON USO TOUR

Pickler is packing her bags for the Persian Gulf to perform for service members as part of a USO/MNC-I entertainment tour. This is Kellie’s first USO tour and she will show her gratitude to troops by performing songs from her current album, posing for pictures signing autographs and visiting with armed forces personnel.

“I am so grateful to the USO for this opportunity,” says Pickler. “This is my first ever trip overseas and to be able to sing for our troops makes it even more special. I have to be honest though, I hate bugs and I saw on the internet these pictures of Camel Spiders. They’re huge! I’m gonna be carrying around a really big can of bug spray with me so don’t sneak up on me or you might get exterminated,” she laughed.

In appreciation for U.S. troops and the sacrifices made by their loved ones, Pickler joined Brad Paisley, among others, in early August for an impromptu concert at Fort Campbell, Ky. She kicked off the show and performed for more than 35,000 soldiers and their family members. Following the event, Pickler, along with other music artists, were presented with a souvenir of thanks by Major General Jeffrey Schloesser of the U.S. Army.

Historically, few events have left a more lasting positive emotional impression on service members and their families than USO celebrity entertainment tours. Since the USO’s inception in 1941, thousands of celebrities have selflessly lent their time and talents, and traveled to military bases around the world to entertain the troops. USO tours are essential to fulfilling the USO’s focus on boosting troop morale by bringing a small piece of home to them.

Robert Earl Keen, Asleep at the Wheel, Kelly Willis, Ray Wylie Hubbard, Stoney LaRue, Ryan Bingham, Band of Heathens, Johnny Cooper, Sunny Sweeney, Corb Lund, Randy Rogers Band, Jay Boy Adams, Cross Canadian Ragweed, Bruce Robison, Jason Boland and the Stragglers, Josh Grider, Wade Bowen, Lucas Hubbard, Jack Ingram, Cory Morrow, Ryan James, Roger Creager, Max Stalling, Doug Moreland Show, Kathleen Braun, Micky and the Motorcars, Dub Miller, Adam Hood, Walt Wilkins & The Mystiqueros, Reckless Kelly, Rich O’Toole, Bill Nershi & Honkytonk Homeslice, Keith Gattis, Matt Skinner, Brandon Rhyster, Chris Knight, and many more!

inspired: a tribute to barbara mandrell

Gospel great CeCe Winans earned a Best Gospel Performance GRAMMY nomination today for her recording of “He Set My Life to Music.” The title track to Barbara Mandrell’s acclaimed 1982 inspirational album, “He Set My Life to Music” is one of a dozen songs recorded for this year’s star-studded release, She Was Country When Country Wasn’t Cool: A Tribute to Barbara Mandrell, a multi-artist salute to the music and influence of the two-time CMA Entertainer of the Year. The disc also features Mandrell favorites from such stars as Kenny Chesney & Reba McEntire, Terri Clark, Sara Evans and Gretchen Wilson.

COLE DEGGS & THE LONESOME

After breaking into the country consciousness with the Top 30 fave, “I Got More,” Cole Deggs & The Lonesome are back with “Girl Next Door,” the second single from their self-titled debut album’s mix of country rock & Southern soul. At radio now, “Girl Next Door” and the band drew praise from All Music Guide, which cheered,
SONGWRITERS CONFERENCE IN AUSTIN JAN. 08

First there is a songwriter’s conference on Jan 4-6. There will be classes on writing, rewriting, co-writing and every aspect of the business you can think of. There are panels with Bob Cheevers on connecting with Europe, a panel of artists and publishers on publishing, a panel on “women in the arts” with Kimmie Rhodes, Brandi Warden, Ruth Ellsworth and Cash Edwards.

The event is supported by BMI and the Nashville Songwriting Assn. this year and they will send publishers, pitchers, and record company exec. and artist. There will be showcases in the evening on Friday and Saturday night and there will be places to pitch to buyers all day Saturday and Sunday.

Don’t miss the mini concerts with the songwriter/instructors like Allen Shamblin, Sonny Throckmorton, Monte Warden, Bill Carter, Kimmie Rhodes and more. There will be picking rooms open at night that are hosted by the instructors who will be playing and singing along with your songs … and networking of all kinds.

The whole event is $150 for everything, plus $35 if you want to have a 20-minute showcase. Please check out austinsongwritersgroup.com for more information or call 512-203-1972

TEXAS MUSIC INDUSTRY DIRECTORY

As you know, the Texas Music Office no longer publishes the printed version of the Texas Music Industry Directory (TMID). All information from the TMID is available through the Texas Music Office’s Web site EnjoyTexasMusic.com.

Each year, EnjoyTexasMusic.com attracts more than 400,000 unique visitors. This 3,024-page (when printed) Web site enjoys more than 6 million hits annually. As the primary source for information on the Texas music industry, our site is truly one of the most effective means available to reach music professionals and fans in Texas and throughout the world.

If you never received an application, please send us an email or call and we’ll send one to you immediately. Please note: expanded online listings are only available to music businesses and radio stations; event and talent listings are free (only).

CRAZY EX-GIRLFRIEND MAKES ALBUM “BEST OF” YEAR END LISTS

Miranda Lambert received a Grammy nomination for Best Female Country Vocal Performance for “Famous In a Small Town.” The track, which she recently performed on “Good Morning America,” is from Crazy Ex-Girlfriend, an album many critics are boasting as one of the best of 2007. Lambert’s sophomore album received rave reviews from virtually every publication in the country and now joins the ranks of many “Year End” and “Best of” lists for 2007.

RECKLESS KELLY

Roots-rock quintet Reckless Kelly played their blend of country, rock and folk for football fans at the “Taste of Texas” TexFest on Friday, Dec. 28, before the University of Houston’s appearance in the NCAA’s Texas Bowl 2007.

The band — lead singer-songwriter-guitarist Willy Braun, brother Cody Braun on fiddle, mandolin, harmonica and vocals, lead guitarist David Abeyta, bassist Jimmy McFeeley and drummer Jay Nazz — goes into the studio in late January to begin recording its next album.

Reckless Kelly upcoming shows include Jan. 5 at MusicFest in Steamboat Springs, Colo. Jan. 16 at Texas Hall of Fame in Bryan, Tex. recklesskelly.com

DID YOU CATCH IT?

BRAD PAISLEY JAMMED WITH TEXAS GUITAR GREATS AT CONTINENTAL CLUB

Triple Grammy nominee Brad Paisley was in Austin, Tex. recently taping a performance for Austin City Limits, to air January 19. Famed ZZ Top guitarist Billy Gibbons was hanging out
with Paisley for the day and after the taping they headed to The Continental Club where Red Volkert (Merle Haggard guitarist) was playing. Paisley and Gibbons joined Volkert on stage and played til the club shut down. Guitar enthusiasts in the audience were thrilled with the surprise appearance.

DEAN STRICKLAND
THE HITCHHIKING GUITARMAN

Never Die Records presents Dean Strickland’s first full length CD from the road Hitchhiking Guitarman set for official release on Jan. 1, 2008.

After hitchhiking from gig to gig in Texas, Arkansas, Tennessee and California for over the last two years, thirteen original songs will make up the highly publicized singer-songwriter’s full length album written from his experiences while hitchhiking.

Hitchhiking Guitarman, a replicated CD packaged in a 12 pt premium grade gloss card stock sleeve will be made available online at mytexasmusic.com

29 TEXAS ARTISTS RECEIVED 34 GRAMMY NOMINATIONS

The 50th Annual Grammy Awards will be held on Feb. 10th at Staples Center in Los Angeles and will be broadcast live in high definition TV and 5.1 surround sound on CBS from 7-10:30 p.m. (CST).

Best Female Country Vocal Performance
“Famous In A Small Town” Miranda Lambert
“Nothin’ Better To Do” LeAnn Rimes

Best Male Country Vocal Performance
“Give It Away” George Strait

Best Country Collaboration With Vocals
“Days Aren’t Long Enough” Steve Earle (8 Allison Moorer)
“Because Of You” (Reba McEntire &)
Kelly Clarkson
“Lost Highway” Willie Nelson & Ray Price

Best Country Instrumental Performance
“Mucky The Duck” The Greencards

Best Country Album
“It Just Comes Natural” George Strait

Best Gospel Performance
“With Long Life” Israel And New Breed Featuring T-Bone

Best Southern, Country, Or Bluegrass Gospel Album
“Everybody’s Brother” Billy Joe Shaver

Best Polka Album
“Polka’s Revenge” Brave Combo
“Polka Freak Out” Bubba Hernandez ( & Alex Meixner)

For a list of all Texas Grammy recipients, visit governor.state.tx.us/divisions/music/musicians/grammy.htm

JASON BOLAND & THE STRAGGLERS PERFORMED FOR TROOPS

Jason Boland and the Stragglers brought their classic country music to the troops stationed in Greenland, Nov. 28-Dec. 7.

Recent Post: “Thanks for those that read this and kept track of us. This has been a very moving experience. The military folks here are beyond words; the hospitality and appreciation they have showered upon us cannot be described. It is definitely a different way of life up here and blessed be those that live it. It truly gives you an idea of what people in our military go through for US, you and me. We get to enjoy concerts and family, freedom and choices, all because a few people protect those privileges. It is sobering to think what this world would be like without these great people taking care of us.

And I hope all of you will show appreciation to any and all military personnel each and every chance you get.”

Boland also has one of the best and current music blogs in Texas music. Visit armedforcesentertainment.com for more information. For more information on Jason Boland and the Stragglers, visit thestragglers.com.
ADVERTISE IN
Country Line
MAGAZINE
15 years, over 2 million copies, a Texas Tradition
as little as $99 per month
512-292-1113 • sandra@countrylinemagazine.com
www.countrylinemagazine.com

Kids Outdoor Zone
BOYS
DEER & RAM HUNT
Youth Outdoor Adventure Ministry

The boys will learn first hand:
*Ranch and Land Stewardship.
*Firearm safety and care.
*Types of firearms for safe hunting in Texas.
*How to judge a good deer.
*How to track and stalk.
*Preparations after the kill.
*How to butcher or prepare for commercial meat market.
*Cooking wildgame.

BOYS will be presented with the opportunity to harvest a
deer, ram or exotic doe.

License: See the new hunter regulations on youth hunting and
verification page 26 in the Texas Outdoor Journal. (avail. at all license
dealers)

Cost of the hunt is $495. INCLUDES FOOD, LODGING and Game.

This opportunity is limited to 8 boys. First to register accepted. Contact Sandra at 512-698-4761
to reserve your spot.

Sponsorship support is appreciated. We do not want to deny any boy the opportunity
because of funds. If you would like to sponsor a boy or a partial sponsorship, please
contact Sandra at 512-292-1113 or www.kidsoutdoorzone.com

OUR GOAL: We spend time with the boys exploring God in their lives and what He means to them. Please
pray for us as we mentor to these young men and teach them outdoor and living skills.

Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the
workers are few. Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send
out workers into his harvest.” Matthew 9:37-38

Country Line
ROdeo t-shirts

GREAT TEXAS GIFT IDEA

Country Line Magazine
Texas Rodeo Team T-shirts

Country Line Magazine
Texas Rodeo Team

Country Line Magazine
Texas Rodeo Team

Country Line Magazine
Texas Rodeo Team

Country Line Magazine
Texas Rodeo Team

NAME
ADDRESS
PHONE
EMAIL
CITY
STATE/ZIP
TOTAL
BARREL (S/M/L/XL) x $15 =
BULL RIDER (S/M/L/XL) x $15 =
ROPER (S/M/L/XL) x $15 =
WRESTLER (S/M/L/XL) x $15 =
Shipping & Handling ($3 EACH) =
TOTAL =

MAIL TO:
COUNTRY LINE RODEO
9508 CHISHOLM TRAIL
AUSTIN, TX 78748
SINCE THE FRANK ERWIN CENTER first opened its doors on November 29, 1977 for the first public ticketed event, Texas men’s basketball vs. Oklahoma, over 24 million fans have attended over 6000 events.

Since 1977, the Frank Erwin Center has served Central Texans with some of the best in live entertainment. The multi-purpose facility located on The University of Texas at Austin campus, hosts a variety of events including concerts, theatrical performances, family shows and sporting events. It is also serves as the home court for the Texas men’s and women’s basketball teams.

It’s seen on its stage some of the biggest bands in the world: Madonna, Bob Dylan, U2, Ray Charles and even Liberace and Pavarotti. It’s welcomed former President Clinton and President Bush and said goodbye to Governor Ann Richards.

George Strait

For its 2008 schedule, the Frank Erwin center welcomes Country music king, George Strait to kick off his 2008 nationwide arena tour in Austin, Tex. Jan. 10 with very special guest Little Big Town and introducing BNA Recording Artist Sarah Johns. Strait continues his reign over country music with his latest single “Wrapped” topping the charts.

Not only does this mark Strait’s 55th number one, it is also the third single to hit number one from his 34th studio album It Just Comes Natural. The first single, “Give It Away,” went to the top of the country singles chart in just 13 weeks, making it the fastest rising single of Strait’s career.

Tickets for George Strait with very special guest Little Big Town and introducing Sarah Johns at the Frank Erwin Center Thursday, Jan. 10 at 7:30 p.m. are $54.50 and $64.50. Charge-by-phone at 512-477-6060 or 1-800-982-2386 or order online at TexasBoxOffice.com.

Hannah Montana

14 days later Miley Cyrus, star of Disney’s hit TV Show “Hannah Montana,” will be performing at the Frank Erwin Center Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. with special guest Aly and AJ.

Cyrus, the 15-year-old singer/songwriter/actress, will perform as a double bill appearing as her Disney Channel character, Hannah Montana, and as herself singing material from her first solo album, Meet Miley Cyrus. Released in June as a two-disc set featuring the “Hannah Montana 2” soundtrack, this collection debuted at No. 1 on Billboard 200 and reached platinum status after one week.

Tickets for Hannah Montana and Miley Cyrus with special guest Aly and AJ at the Frank Erwin Center Thursday, Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. are $26, $43.50, $56 and $66. For more information visit 4erwincenter.com.

COUNTRY LINE MAGAZINE The Only Texas Lifestyle Magazine • 11
Picture a life without fishing

Think of all you’d have missed were it not for a simple invitation. Someone offered to take you fishing, and that one day has led to countless gifts. Give a fish back by passing on the gesture. Visit anglerslegacy.org today. Take our pledge and ask someone new about your boat. It's a connection that can last a lifetime.

START YOUR LEGACY TODAY. VISIT ANGLERSLEGACY.ORG

Anglers’ Legacy
A national mission from “Take me fishing”

---

Hop- a Lot Moonwalks

MOONWALK RENTAL & SALES 528-1233
7 Days Per Week • Carnival Games • Birthdays
• Block Parties • School Functions • Churches •
Family Reunions • Day Cares

Choose from Popular Children’s Characters for your Moonwalks such as:

Dora the Explorer, Disney Princesses, Spiderman, Little Mermaid,
Barbie, Powerpuff Girls, Scooby-Doo, Noah’s Ark and Sponge Bob

POPCORN • COTTON CANDY • GIANT WATER SLIDES •
DUNKING BOOTH
• SNOW CONE MACHINE • KIDS TABLES & CHAIRS
VISIT www.HOPALOT.COM FOR ALL YOUR PARTY NEEDS!

“Reserve Your WaterSlide Today!”

---

SOUTHWEST HILLS VETERINARY HOSPITAL

Dr. Dave Garza, DVM
Dr. John Fling

13345 NUTTY BROWN ROAD • AUSTIN, TX 78737 • 512/301-0070

---

Bandages the scraped knee,
 Packs for hunt camp,
 Takes the biggest buck.
 Toyota Tuff...

Champion Toyota
4800 South IH 35
Austin, Texas 78748
866-324-2623
www.championtoyotaoftaustin.com
FOR YEARS PUERTO VALLARTA HAS been the must fish destination for anglers who have been drawn to the blue green waters of the pacific. The rich cultural history and old world flavor exist to this day and the tradition of fishing is embraced.

But now the most polished and delightful jewel along the new Emerald Coast is Riviera Nayarit. This coagulation of new construction and old world charm, new resort accommodations and world class adventure is just north of Puerto Villarta and is one of the finest resort and adventure destinations in the world.

The water is a color blue that seems unfair to try and describe in words. It has a turquoise, green, deep blue color and is gin clear at the same time. Our adventure was one for big fish, Marlin, Sailfish or Swordfish. We would fill in the time between our big catches with Tuna or Dorado (Mahi Mahi) — not a bad plan for a day on the water.

Our captain was Jose Manuel Quintero, exclusive to the MiChaparrita team. The boat we traveled in was the traditional panga — it was fiberglass and hosted a Mercury 150 with a stainless and canvas cover over us to protect from the midday sun. It was clean, freshly painted and made for fishing.

Our destination that morning was the rock, 90 minutes from where we launched. After leaving the confines of the harbor Captain Quentero stopped a local fisherman and bought some fresh whole macrel. This would be one of the baits we would use all day.

When we arrived at the rock the fist order of business was to catch the bait for the marlin. For this we used small jigs, white and pink. We trolled these behind the panga and it was just seconds before we had two double hook-ups. The fish we fought in was in the 2 to 6 pound range, they called the olotillo. There was no translating it into English; it looked similar to a small tuna.

The olotillo was set out live on lines with one outrigger to the left and one to the right. They needed to be alive and the bigger the better Capt. Quentero explained. The macrel was set out, maybe 30 yards behind. He took the macrel; lip hooked it and used a cotton kite type string and large needle to sew the lips around the hook securing it to the line.

It was not long before we had an explosion behind the boat on the biggest of the Marlin baits. The Captain began to bark orders and the boat went forward and then stopped, then forward again as the captain pulled back the line and sat me in the chair. Almost as soon as it happened it ended. The bite was gone. A look of disappointment rolled over the captain’s face. He reeled in the bait and showed me where the Marlin had bitten behind the hook.

Capt. Quentero worked hard all day as well as Gamaliel — they never did the minimum — they always did everything they could to put fish in the boat up to the last minute. He told stories of fishing adventures of days gone by and trusted them to be interpreted by Richard Zarkin or tour guide on the trip.

I asked him if he knew of the Hemmingway novel “Old Man and the Sea” — he said he thought so and smiled. I don’t know what that meant — there were a lot of things I did not understand in his conversations with his assistant and my friend. But I enjoyed the laughs they enjoyed and the constant cooling breeze as the midday sun warmed everything.

A full day marlin and sail fishing with tuna and mahi mahi will run you about $700. American. This was one of the finest meals I have ever experienced.

The trip can be packaged and with airfare less than $1500 per person. To book your adventures go to their web site at rivieranayarit.com — Riviera Nayarit is a place of beauty and charm and almost the best kept secret on the new Emerald Coast! 

—TJ GREANEY

RIVIERA NYAYARET
The new blue water water sport fishing capital of the world

The Best Little Meat Market in South Austin

JOHNNY G’S MEAT MARKET

Your Summer BBQ Meat Headquarters
We also offer …
Fresh-Choice Beef, Pork, Sausage, Wholesale/Retail

Tanglewood Biz Park • 11600 Manchaca Rd, Ste H • Austin, TX • 512/280-6514

COUNTRY LINE MAGAZINE The Only Texas Lifestyle Magazine • 13
Taking The Egg Out Of Eggnog

Traditionally, for Christmas week, I write a column about Christmas. Big surprise there, I know. But this year I didn’t do that, for several reasons.

For one thing, since I’ve been writing about Christmas for ten years, I’ve said just about everything I can think of to say about Christmas. And then I’ve said it again. And then I’ve said the opposite, or something similar. I’ve written about presents, and trees, and rude, disgusting relatives who come and eat and stay so long it’s no wonder there are more suicides and homicides and domestic disturbances during the Christmas season than any other time of year. Not to mention plumbing problems.

So this year I decided to just write a regular column for Christmas week. I looked for current news stories that would be heartwarming, or footwarming, or would maybe warm some other part of the anatomy. I didn’t find any. But I did find a story about eggnog, which is almost as good.

As you are no doubt aware if you are an American Consumer who sometimes consumes things, we have an organization called the FDA, otherwise known as the Food and Drug Administration. This is the governmental agency that requires packaged food substances to be labeled properly, with all the ingredients listed right there on the box or can or whatever. This is so when you buy, say, a can of cream of mushroom soup, you will know if they put turpentine in it or not.

Of course, if a soup company was going to put turpentine in their soup, which is probably illegal, they would be unlikely to advertise that on the can. But if they did put turpentine in their soup, the FDA probably wouldn’t care, as long as it was listed on the label. The FDA is a great organization, but it is very specific.

Well, according to a recent story in the Portland Press Herald, which is published in Portland, or Press, or maybe Herald (where the angels in the song live), the FDA recently came down on Smiling Hill Farm, in Westbrook, Maine, like a chicken on a June bug. Smiling Hill Farm makes eggnog, and as you have probably guessed, the FDA, alerted no doubt by a Concerned American such as yourself, discovered that Smiling Hill Farm’s eggnog containers were improperly labeled. The gall.

Now, eggnog, according to Wikipedia, is “a sweetened dairy-based beverage made with milk, cream, sugar, beaten eggs, and flavoured with ground cinnamon and nutmeg.” Smiling Hill Farm didn’t have all those ingredients listed on their labels. The FDA determined, through careful study, that they had failed to list the eggs. Big mistake.

If you were so inclined you could argue that only someone with the intelligence of a sausage ball would not realize there are eggs in eggnog. And you would be right. But the FDA does not care. The FDA, like the Surgeon General and Hillary Clinton and your average personal injury lawyer, exists to protect us from ourselves, even if we have LESS intelligence than a sausage ball.

And speaking of the Surgeon General, our next two stories make you wonder if the Surgeon General has been on vacation for the past few years, or what.

One story, from the Boston Globe, concerns fires in hospital operating rooms, especially in Massachusetts, and more especially in Pennsylvania, which has had 28 operating room fires per year for the past three years. Makes you wonder if they’re roasting marshmallows in there, or something.

That’s bad enough, but much worse is the Associated Press story that said the Rhode Island Dept. of Health recently fined Rhode Island Hospital $30,000 because, during 2007 alone, three doctors there have performed neurosurgery on the wrong side of patients’ brains.

These are not janitors, or McDonalds employees, or U.S. congresspersons. These are people who are supposed to be smart. They’re brain surgeons, who spent, what, at least twelve years learning where all the tiny little important parts of your brain are located, and which ones to tweak to cure your drooling, or make you stop trying to put the cat in the blender. These are people with Mercedeses and Porches and houses in Aspen. We expect them to be able to tell their right hand from their other right hand.

But not knowing your right from your left is trivial compared to not being able to recognize your own grandchild. A 77-year-old Jacksonville, Florida man recently rode his bicycle to Long Branch Elementary School to pick up his grandson, and came back with the wrong kid. The mother of the boy he DID take was, understandably, frantic by the time the mistake was corrected. She was quoted on WMTW television in Auburn, Maine (for some reason), as saying the two boys don’t even look alike. In the man’s defense I’d like to point out that, at least, they were both male.

So let these stories be a lesson to you this holiday season. If you’re going to sell eggnog, make sure you put all the ingredients on the label. And if you’re going to drink eggnog, check the label and make sure it doesn’t contain alcohol. Or turpentine …

**HOMESPUN**

by Shirley Baker

---

**GRANDMA’S HINTS**

Need glue and can’t find the bottle? Use egg qhite for a great substitution.

Need to move a piece of furniture? Use a skateboard!

Need a color wood filler? Use instant coffee and spackle, mixed and applied to wood.

Need substitute for wine in cooking? Use cranberry juice cocktail.

Need a rolling pin? Use an empty wine bottle filled with cold water.

---

**WHITE CHILI**

1 lb dried navy beans
6 cups chicken stock, or frozen leftover turkey stock
4 Tbsp butter (1/2 stick)
1/4 cup diced onion
Green chilies, chopped (canned and drained)
1 lb turkey breast, chopped
1/2 Tbsp ground cumin
1 Tbsp dried oregano
1-2 tsp ground black pepper
1/2 tsp white pepper
1/2 bunch cilantro, chopped (or 1/2 tsp dried)

Wash beans, cover with water, soak for at least 2 hours. Drain. Place beans in large pot with turkey stock. Bring to a boil. In saucepan, heat butter, saute onion and chilies for 5 minutes. Add to bean pot. Add turkey, cumin, oregano, black pepper, white pepper and cilantro. Lower heat to medium and cook, stirring occasionally for 1 1/2 hours. Serve with your favorite cornbread, with jalapenos or onions added for the extra umph.
Greetings and happy New Year to you! My hope is that your holidays were festive and fulfilling. At the start of every New Year, people are spurred on to exercise, quit smoking, lose weight, be nicer, get involved and the list goes on and on. I thought about that and wondered why the first day of the New Year is a time to make those commitments especially when we always here that “today is the first day of the rest of your life” or “spend each day like it is your last.” My thought is stay in the moment and do what’s best and healthiest thing for you to be doing all year round! Each day is a new beginning and we can always start something good and leave the not so good behind. In January there are some wonderful opportunities to “get healthy,” “give back” and “enjoy life” right here in Central Texas.

IN TOWN

ALL MONTH AUSTIN FARMERS MARKET Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and Wednesdays, 3-7 p.m. at Republic Square Park (4th and Guadalupe). Buy fresh fruits, vegetables and more from local growers. austinfarmersmarket.org

ALL MONTH LADY BIRD JOHNSON WILDFLOWER CENTER features free admission the entire month of January! austinwildflower.org

JAN 17 DRAW, IRON ARTISTS, DRAW at the Austin Museum of Art Downtown. Go out and watch artists create comics based on audience suggestions. 512-495-9224

JAN 17-20 AUSTIN BOAT SHOW at the Austin Convention Center. The show promises enormous variety for the boating enthusiast and there will be many experts on to show you around and give you professional information. austinboatshow.com or 512-216-0401

JAN 26 TREE TALK & WINTER WALK: GET WILD & WOODY at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. Get tips on landscape design and tree maintenance, and learn about individual tree and shrub species with walks and talks led by staff and local tree experts. Choose from bold and beautiful trees and shrubs at the plant sale. Be a part of central Texas history by purchasing your own tree grown from seeds collected from the LBJ Ranch. All proceeds go toward building an arboretum at the Wildflower Center. wildflower.org or 512-232-0100

JAN 21 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. MARCH AND FESTIVAL More than 10,000 march to the historic campus of Huston-Tillotson University for an outdoor festival in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on this national holiday. Performances by some of the city’s finest jazz, blues and gospel musicians.

OUT OF TOWN

JAN 12-13 SPRING TRAINING BASEBALL CAMP in San Marcos, Tex. They will be offering skill-sharpening sessions for ballplayers ages six to 18. The sessions will be led by Texas State University baseball coaching staff. 512-245-4345

JAN 17-20 HILL COUNTRY DISTRICT JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW in Kerrville, Tex. FFA and 4-H members from Kerr and 31 surrounding counties compete. Hill Country Youth Exhibit Center, Hwy 27 E.

JAN 19 13TH ANNUAL OPRY NIGHT in Smithville, Tex. at the American Legion Hall. A professional stage band will be backing local favorites as they perform their live renditions of country and gospel classics. This is good time fun for everyone! smithvilleopry.org

JAN 20 WINTER BULL RIDING SERIES in Bandera, Tex. The event includes open bull riding, junior bull riding, mutton busting, and hilarious ostrich races. lightningranch.com or 830-535-4096

JAN 25-27 COWBOY MARDI GRAS in Bandera, Tex. Enjoy country-style Mardi Gras activities, complete with a parade and Cajun-style music. banderaacowboycapital.com

JAN 26 3RD ANNUAL PAWS BONE APPETITE FUNDRAISER in Dripping Springs, Tex. There will be an elegant meal, music, auctions, and more at the Terrace Club. 512-894-0756

JAN 26 INDIAN ARTIFACT & COLLECTIBLE SHOW in Fredericksburg, Tex. Includes displays of arrowheads, books, cases and collectibles for sale. Pioneer Pavilion at Lady Bird Johnson Park. 830-626-5561

JAN 26 TEXOMA TIE-IN in Denison, Tex. at Eisenhower State Park. Join the fly-fishing and fly-typing craze and learn from the experts. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

JAN 26-27 EAGLE QUEST 2008 in Gordonville, Tex. Features boat tours on Lake Texoma to sight magnificent bald eagles, a live birds of prey exhibit and demonstration, educational seminars, polar bear plunge, Central Market Place and much more. texomawestend.org and 903-523-5982

COMING IN FEBRUARY

FEB 2 MARDI GRAS 5K Over the last 4 years this run has evolved into a family event that attracts runners and their families from all over Austin. Get a great run in while enjoying the luscious scenery of Barton Creek and then enjoy Mardi Gras festivities afterwards. 4x

E-MAIL YOUR EVENTS TO SANDRA@COUNTRYLINEMAGAZINE.COM FOR CONSIDERATION. SPACE LIMITS OPPORTUNITY.
Fire Ant Experiment Shows Good Progress

Red imported fire ants had no natural enemy in Red River County until this fall when phorid flies were released in the area to help combat the infamous pests.

Texas Cooperative Extension experts said they hope a population of the phorid flies will establish themselves by spring in a pasture near Clarksville, where the flies are likely to flourish and stalk fire ants.

“The flies as a biological control hold promise for suppressing red imported fire ants,” said Extension agent Lynn Golden, based in Clarksville. “It doesn’t promise to eradicate the ants. It’s just another way to help control them.”

The phorid flies were released on 24 mounds in late October, said Kim Schofield, an Extension program specialist in Dallas who coordinated the project. She and Golden will return to the mounds in April and October to measure the fly populations.

“We’re hoping that the flies establish themselves as they have at other sites in the Dallas area and around the state,” Schofield said. “We want to see fire ant numbers fall and native ants reclaim their territory.”

The Clarksville project is Extension’s latest and northernmost release of phorid flies in a long-running battle against fire ants in the state, said Dr. Bart Drees, a Texas A&M University professor and Extension entomologist.

“In the late 1990s, researchers began to see these as potential biological control agents,” said Drees, who is based in College Station. “And since that time the flies have been imported to the United States, mass-produced and released.”

Test releases began in 1997 to determine whether the flies would populate designated areas and to make sure they posed no threat to anything other than fire ants, he said.

In 2000, a governmental initiative brought several agencies together to raise and release large quantities of phorid flies in southern states, Drees said. The program involves Extension, the University of Texas at Austin, U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Agricultural Research Service, the USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Phorid fly populations have been established in Bastrop, Brazoria, Burleson, Cameron, Denton, Kenedy, Kerr, Lamar, Orange, Polk, Travis, Walker and Wharton counties, he said.

“I would say several dozen release sites have been established across Texas using two fly species, but many attempts failed,” Drees said. “Over the coming years, established flies are expected to spread throughout the entire fire ant infested portions of Texas.”

But it may take several years before the flies to become abundant enough to provide measurable effectiveness against fire ants, he said.

Red imported fire ants are native to South America and arrived in the United States in the 1930s aboard ships in Mobile, Ala., according to the Texas Imported Fire Ant Research and Management Project. They spread to southern states, arriving in Texas in the 1950s.

In Texas, they cost $1.2 billion annually in agricultural losses, ecological damage and pesticide expenses, according to Texas A&M’s fire ant economics Web site, http://fireant.tamu.edu. Their sting makes them dangerous to humans, livestock, pets and wildlife.

In South America, phorid flies and other predators keep red imported fire ants in check, Schofield said. The female flies attack the ants and lay eggs in their bodies. Larvae eventually hatch and burrow into the ants’ heads. There, they grow and release enzymes that cause the heads to fall off. Mature flies eventually emerge from the decapitated heads, and the cycle starts over.

“The flies attack and eventually kill the ants, but their real impact is that they stalk the fire ants when they’re foraging,” Schofield said. “That reduces foraging activity which, in turn, helps limit food within the fire ant colony.”

Though fire ants have earned scorn, Drees cautioned, the war against them shouldn’t extend to the nearly 300 ant species that are native to Texas.

Collectively, ants are regarded as beneficial organisms in the environment, he said. They prey on flea larvae, cockroach eggs and other pests. They aerate the soil and reduce compaction.

“One of our native ant species are much more polite than fire ants,” Drees said. “They nest in little out of the way areas. They don’t sting. They do the good things without bringing to the table what fire ants do.”

For more information on fire ants in Texas, go to http://fireant.tamu.edu.

—MIKE JACKSON
Hunting recommendations for next year

Today I offer for your reading enjoyment and edification an article devoted primarily to the subject, “I told you so”.

What I am referring to are articles I have written many times in the past recommending three important activities for hunters prior to hunting season. In case you do not remember they were:
- Check out their firearms to make sure everything is functioning properly, during the summer time, when there is time to get them repaired without losing valuable hunting time.
- My strong recommendation that hunters shoot all year long and not just the week before hunting season starts.
- Getting into some semblance of adequate physical condition so you can better enjoy your trip to the field and not promote a heart attack is listed last, but probably should be first.

Any gun found to malfunction because it has a worn or broken part the chances are the gunsmith will have to order the parts to repair. Although most gunsmiths will keep on hand many of the common parts for many of the popular hunting arms, to entertain the idea that they will always have every part needed at their finger tips is ludicrous. Murphy's Law being what it is, you can bet if your Model 700 Remington malfunctions the week before hunting season starts, the part will have to be ordered. With luck it will only cost you a loss of at least two to four weeks of hunting awaiting the part. That is assuming the part is still in production.

This also dovetails right into the subject of shooting all year long. If a hunter went out once a month and would shot a few rounds, it would not be necessary to rush out to the range in a last minute panic to sight in a rifle. It would always be sighted in. The hunter that leaves his rifle in the closet until the week before the season opens and then rushes out to the range to get it sighted in so he can hunt on the first weekend of November, is courting problems even if his rifle works, the odds are slim, whether or not he can even hit anything if the game presents itself to him.

I use the masculine here to describe the general population, and not to discriminate against the lady hunters. The ladies can be just as remiss as the men about these details.

Let’s get to the last point, and that is physical condition of the hunter. Those who did not bother to get up and get out and walk for the past few months, at least every other day, are surly now finding out why I so strongly recommend that exercise. It would be interesting to know how many people had to stop for a breather, on their journey from the truck to the deer stand. Put on the heavy clothing, pick up 10 or 11 pounds of rifle and scope combination, extra ammunition, maybe some water, and you quickly discover the real meaning of poor physical condition.

The only Texas lifestyle magazine
The holiday season is over for another year and I hope everyone had a good Christmas. I am looking forward to a new year of tournament fishing in 2008. The Fishers of Men Tournament Trail is kicking off their season on January 26th at Lake Travis. The take-off and weigh-in site will be located at Jones Brother Park. Skeeter Bass Champs Central division will begin their tournaments one week later on February 2nd also on Lake Travis. The take-off and weigh-in site will be at Pace Bend Park. The Texas Outdoor Zone (TOZ) fishing teams will be fishing both tournaments this year.

In December, the austinafrica fishing.com guys challenged the TOZ team to a grudge match. I did not get to fish in the event due to a death in my family. I asked fellow team member, Brian Booker, to relay his impressions of the results.

Texas Outdoor Zone v. Austin Bass Fishing Grudge Match

Ding, ding ... let the bout begin! The much awaited “Grudge Match” between the Texas Outdoor Zone Fishing Team, and the Austin Bass Fishing Pro Staff took place on December 1st. It was a dual lake contest, with the teams fishing Lake Travis from 6-11 a.m., and Lake Austin from 1-6 p.m.

The rules were simple. The overall weight from the combined lakes would win, and the winning team would also receive the first annual TOZ vs. ABF “Smack down” winner’s plaque.

The Texas Outdoor Zone Fishing Team: Jody Jackson/Jerry Shinn; Jason Patureau/Mark Neuenschwander; Robby Crabb/Cody Ryan Greaney; Brian Booker/Keith Crabb  
The Austin Bass Fishing Pro Staff: Charles Montgomery/Bryan Alan Montgomery; Yung Follis/Rich McDonell; Mark Pevey/Keith Pederzani; Duke/Tommy Lordon

The weather was pretty mild, with winds out of the south at around 10 mph. Cloudy skies and temps in the 60 degree range made for a fisherman’s dream day.

Lake Travis Summary: Some really big stringers were lugged to the scales by Travis standards. Several stringers were over 10 pounds, with the biggest at over 14 pounds caught by ABF’s Follis and McDonell.

Most bass were reported caught in depth ranges from 5-15 feet in and around mouths of major tributaries. Lots were caught on the Grande Rattlesnake on a Spot Remover, and many others on a spinnerbait or crankbait. However, TOZ’s Jody Jackson and GrandBass President Jerry Shinn caught their big sack on a walking topwater bait near steep walls where water was churned up. As Jody mentioned in his post Travis interview on the TOZ Web site, any time water temps are above 60˚ and you have cloudy conditions, you should at least give a topwater a look. We are glad you did!

Lake Austin Summary: Leaving Lake Travis and heading to Lake Austin, ABF and TOZ were really in dead heat, with ABF leading by less than a pound! Fishing conditions were tougher on Lake Austin, as weights overall were significantly lower. The best sacks were caught on bluff walls around solitary boat docks with a GrandeBass Rattlesnake on a Spot Remover. The key was to fish it really slow, slow, slow.  

The results:

Lake Travis Round 1  
ABF: 41.44 lbs.  
TOZ: 40.74 lbs.

Lake Austin Round 2  
ABF: 25.16 lbs.  
TOZ: 39.94 lbs.

Total Weight:

TOZ: 80.68 lbs.  
ABF: 66.60 lbs.

It came down to the wire, and a good time was had afterwards by all. Everyone is looking forward to the next “Grudge Match” event on Lake Falcon!  

Skeeter Bass Champs 2008
Feb 2, Lake Travis | March 1, Lake Belton  
April 5, Lake LBJ | May 10, Lake Belton  
June 7, Lake Choke Canyon
For more info visit basschamps.com

Fishers of Men 2008
February 23, Lake Buchanan | March 29, Lake LBJ
April 26, Lake Belton | May 24, Lake Stillhouse Hollow  
For more info, call 512-413-4178, or visit fomcentex.com

CHECK OUT THE TOZ BASS TEAM BLOG FOR NEWS AND TIPS AT TEXASOUTDOORZONE.COM

True Texas spring water bottled right here in Austin. Don’t buy bottled city tap water when you can enjoy nature’s pure refreshing spring water.

KEEPIN’ IT LOCAL!

Home or Office Delivery  
Call Today! 512/280-4037

Official Water of The Texas Outdoor Zone  
Texas Proud!
YOU KNOW HARD WORK.
CHEVY KNOWS HARD-WORKING TRUCKS.

COMMERCIAL
AN AMERICAN
REVOLUTION

WE’LL STAND BY YOU

COMMERCIAL SALES

(OUTSIDE AUSTIN, 800-460-1888, EXT 305) 512-832-2305
WWW.HENNA.COM • 8805 NORTH IH-35 • AUSTIN, TX