

*Texas Parks & Wildlife*  
EXPO Banquet &  
Conservation  
Hall of Fame  
CELEBRATION



*Perry R. Bass*

*Texas Bighorn Society*

Presented by:



Mark your calendars for Friday, Oct. 5, 2007

# EXPO Banquet & Conservation Hall of Fame Celebration

Benefiting the Texas Parks & Wildlife Foundation

Enjoy a sumptuous Texas-style feast, libations and a fun-filled night of music and entertainment in the Grand Ballroom at the brand new Hyatt Lost Pines Resort & Spa near Austin, just minutes away from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department headquarters. Don't miss the live and silent auctions featuring an exciting array of exceptional outdoor adventure packages and "must have" outdoor gear.

6:30p.m. Dress "Texas Chic" Reserved seating Beverages by Anheuser-Busch, Inc.

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6:00 p.m. Dress: Business Casual Reserved seating Beverages by Anheuser-Busch, Inc.

# What is Texas Parks & Wildlife Foundation?

The Texas Parks & Wildlife Foundation is the official non-profit partner of the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department. Its purpose is to provide private funding support to the Department to manage and conserve the natural and cultural resources of Texas and to

provide hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation opportunities for present and future generations. This fundraiser will benefit all the Foundation's conservation efforts on behalf of the Department and call attention to the plight of our state parks.

The Parks and Wildlife Partners, formerly known as Texas 200 is an exclusive society of individuals who support the work of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation through an annual contribution beginning at \$1,000.

Membership benefits to this society include

invitations to attend exclusive Foundation events with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials, notice of special offers made to the Foundation and its supporters, updates and mailings on additional Foundation activities and the Foundation annual report.

## Highlights from the 2006 Expo Banquet

**W**e dusted off our boots and wearing our best "bib and tucker," we trailed our way down to what was the finest conservation banquet this side of the Mississippi. Nestled in the brush along the Colorado River in Bastrop sits an outdoor enthusiast's paradise.

The Texas Parks & Wildlife Foundation was fortunate enough to break ground by hosting this gala at the brand-new Hyatt Lost Pines Resort & Spa. We branded the event and with the support of our sponsors, corporate partners, volunteers and fellow conservationists, we set revenue records and new standards as we celebrated the 15th year since the event's inception. The EXPO Conservation Dinner & Auction is one of Texas' premier fundraising events, and this year's event continued the tradition by honoring a true Texas legend. Our honoree, Joe McBride, owner and CEO of McBride's Gun Shop in Austin, through his dedication, commitment and contributions to conservation has raised the awareness of Texas habitats, species, sportsmen and future generations of stewards. With our tribute to Joe, we were also recognizing an entire industry that continues to provide equipment for Texas sportsmen and fellow conservationists.

For the first time, the Foundation served as the official beneficiary of the EXPO Conservation Banquet & Auction. The Foundation was quickly tasked in March with securing a new venue to



serve as host to this grand affair. In June, the Foundation together with the Hyatt Lost Pines Resort & Spa sealed the agreement.

With more than 720 in attendance, guests enjoyed a sumptuous Texas-style feast and libations while being serenaded under the stars with the beauty of the land and wildlife throughout our state we are proud to call home. Those in attendance enjoyed special presentations delivered by notable speakers, including U. S. Sen. John Cornyn (Texas), who delivered a special proclamation from President George W. Bush, also a former Texas governor, as well as Executive Director Bob Cook of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Chairman C. Patrick Oles, Jr. of the Texas Parks and Wildlife board of trustees. The Grand Ballroom lived up to its name with the ambiance, culinary art, entertainment, our honoree and unique array of exceptional live auction outdoor adventure packages, collectible art, jewelry and other "must-haves". It was truly a night for everyone.

On behalf of the Foundation, I would like to thank each and every one of the donors, volunteers, sponsors, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department staff, our friends and family for their generous contributions. We look forward to another trailblazing adventure when we gather back at the Hyatt Lost Pines Resort & Spa on Oct. 5, 2007 for the 16th annual EXPO Conservation Banquet & Auction.

*Kelli Sellers*



## Texas Parks & Wildlife Conservation Hall of Fame

The Hall of Fame, through the Texas Parks & Wildlife Foundation, provides the opportunity to publicly recognize the lifelong accomplishments and singular landmark achievements by Texas' greatest conservationists. While not chosen from specific categories, eligible candidates include individuals,

organizations, agencies, corporations, professionals, volunteers, artists, communicators, elected officials, educators and others.

The Foundation Board accepts nominations, keeps a fluid list, verifies biographical information and, after careful consideration, ranks and makes

selections. A new class will be inducted each year at the Expo Banquet & Conservation Hall of Fame.

All Texans are encouraged to submit nominations, along with substantiation, to: Texas Parks & Wildlife Foundation, 1901 North Akard, Dallas, TX 75201.

# Texas Bighorn Society

## GOOD SHEPHERDS IN THE MOUNTAINS

During its 26-year history as an advocate for Texas desert bighorn sheep, the Texas Bighorn Society has been the sustaining force behind the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department's program to restore the state's most magnificent big game animal to its native range. A once-abundant species across the Trans-Pecos region, Texas desert bighorns were gone by the early 1950s.

State biologists began their pioneering restoration efforts in 1954, but the underfunded program met only limited success. Although it expanded slowly from its beginning at Black Gap Wildlife Management Area in 1959 to the Sierra Diablo WMA in 1970 to the Chilicote Ranch in 1977, the sheep and the restoration effort struggled.

In 1981, the organization that would become the Texas Bighorn Society was founded, and the challenges it faced were immediate, daunting and ongoing. Embracing those challenges has taken singular dedication to a rare, precious resource in the context of a larger resolve for the cause of wildlife conservation.

In 1982, using technical work done and scientific information collected by TPWD as its foundation, TBS assessed the needs of the small state herd and in the next year raised \$200,000 to enclose four propagation pastures at Sierra Diablo WMA. Texas desert bighorn sheep had found a new shepherd – and more.

Simultaneously, TBS worked in the Legislature to secure political support for its efforts and developed a working relationship with TPWD. The result was an effective partnership that would facilitate the society's long-term objective – the restoration of the desert bighorn sheep to its historic range in the mountains of West Texas.



At TBS expense, desert bighorns were imported from Nevada, Arizona, Utah and Mexico and stocked at Sierra Diablo. The investment in the brood pastures soon began paying off in lambs.

The efficient stewardship of the TBS restoration partner-

ship enhanced the program's credibility and, in 1985, it facilitated the donation to TPWD of 23,000 acres of prime bighorn habitat that would become Elephant Mountain WMA. The sheep were gaining in their race for survival. In 1987, 20 bighorns from Sierra Diablo were transplanted to Elephant Mountain where they have multiplied and thrived.

By 1996, the Elephant Mountain herd was large enough to support limited bighorn ram hunts. One hunt, for example, raises money for the TPWD Texas Grand Slam Hunt program. Ram permits also are auctioned by TBS at its annual Roundup, and by other conservation organizations chosen by TPWD. Other permits are given to private landowners for sale to hunters. To date, TBS has donated more than \$1 million to Texas wild sheep restoration.

Meanwhile, the Elephant Mountain herd continues to expand so that surplus animals have been used to stock the Black Gap WMA. That herd is growing, too. Texas bighorn sheep are on the move and so is TBS.

Society members also gather for one work project weekend a year, investing sweat equity in the bighorns on the sheep's own turf, the high desert mountains. Thousands of hours of hands-on, heavy labor have been donated by TBS members to improving sheep habitat.

The best known of the ongoing TBS work projects involves the installation and maintenance of remote water guzzler facilities that ensure bighorns have places to drink at all times.

Only yesterday, it seems, the future of Texas bighorns was in doubt.

Today, barely a quarter-century into the restoration project, more than 1,000 desert bighorn sheep are thriving in Texas – thanks to the vision, perseverance and dedication of the Texas Bighorn Society and its volunteers!

# Philanthropist, the late Perry R. Bass

Perry Richardson Bass, a business and community leader, oilman, sportsman, philanthropist, and conservationist, was a man of great talent and broad interests. He preferred to work behind-the-scenes for causes in which he truly believed, causes primarily concerned with education, health, human services, the arts and the environment. He was an avid sailor, hunter and fisherman.

Because of his dedication to preserve and expand the quality and quantity of the natural resources of Texas, Gov. Dolph Briscoe appointed him to the Texas Parks & Wildlife Commission on Sept. 1, 1977, and Gov. William Clements appointed him chairman of the Commission on April 11, 1979.

While serving as chairman (1979-1983), Mr. Bass helped to change the landscape of coastal conservation in Texas by championing the protection of fish in Texas' coastal waters. In 1981, the Texas Legislature passed the Redfish Bill (House Bill 1000), designating redfish and spotted seatrout as "game fish" to protect them from commercial harvest. Other major accomplishments during his tenure were the passage of the state Wildlife Conservation Act in 1983 (which replaced the "patchwork quilt" of confusing and sometimes conflicting regulations in each county with science-based, statewide regulation), the creation of the Local Parks, Recreation and Open Space Fund by the Legislature in 1979 (resulting in the building of hundreds of city and county parks), and the creation of Operation Game Thief (which provides rewards for tips leading to the arrest of poachers). His continuing interest in and

contributions to the Commission led to his designation in 1988 as chairman emeritus. In 1991, he helped establish the Texas Parks & Wildlife Foundation, the official nonprofit funding partner of the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department. He was also an active supporter of the American Fisheries Society Friends of Fish, Atlantic Salmon Federation, Coastal Conservation Association, National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, Texas State Maritime Museum and the UT Marine Science Center.

Mr. Bass received many notable conservation awards: the African Safari Club's Gold Medal Award for Conservation, Chevron Conservation Award, Sportsman Conservationists of Texas' Conservationist of the Year, National Fish & Wildlife Foundation's Chuck Yeager Award, Ducks Unlimited's Sportsman of the Year, Fort Worth Sportsman's Club's Outdoorsman of the Year, Harry and Gloria Tennison Conservation Award, Harvey Weil Sportsman Conservationist Award and the Texas Outdoor Writers' Citizen Conservationist of the Year.

Perry Bass was a major voice in the defense of our environment. Once asked the basis for his devotion to conservation, he said, "These are the things – the building of such hatcheries as this [referring to the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department's world-renowned hatchery program], the protection of our wonderful bottomland hardwoods, the protection of our wetlands, the protection of our wildlife—these are the things that we're doing; we're saving them for future generations."



# LIVE AUCTION ORDER

## EXPO Banquet & Conservation Hall of Fame Celebration

(As of press time)  
**LEGEND ON THE FLY**  
Value \$2,800

Challenge your skills in the Salts in search of Ruby Reds or whatever your pleasure with your very own, one-of-a-kind Abel Super 8 Artistic anodized reel and a Limited Anniversary Edition 8 wt. TiCrX Rod by our good friends at Temple Fork. This package also includes Sam Caldwell's "Studies For Perry R. Bass" 16 1/2 x 21 outdoor portrait.

**BECOME A LEGEND IN THE MAJESTIC PINES OF PINEHURST**  
Value \$6,500

Nestled among the sandhills of North Carolina, Pinehurst invites you and your guest to experience southern hospitality at its finest for a 5-day and 4-night all-inclusive package that includes round-trip airfare to their world-class golf resort & spa.

**A YEAR'S WORTH OF APPAREL FOR HER EXPEDITIONS**  
Value \$2,000

One lucky lady will receive an entire SHE Safari collection for a year's worth of expeditions. This package includes 3 complete outfits from the safari, upland and hunting lines. Whether you are an observer or hunter, SHE Safari has you covered. SHE Safari is owned and operated by Pam and Brian Zaitz of Conroe, Texas.

**SAN ANTONIO'S NBA SPURS EXPERIENCE**  
Value \$3,000

Experience life as a champion, front and center. This package includes 4 front-row tickets to a selected 2007-2008 regular season game, pre-game meal at the Terrace Club restaurant, photo shoot with Spurs mascot "Coyote," and overnight accommodations at the Westin Hotel in downtown San Antonio, including limo transportation to and from the game.

**BIGHORN SHEEP PERMIT**  
Value Priceless

The Texas Parks & Wildlife Department is pleased to offer the opportunity to harvest one desert bighorn ram on the next available permit at one of the state Wildlife Management Areas. The hunt will be ten days maximum and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department will furnish guides and a first-class camp. The hunter may also bring along one non-hunting companion. This hunt will take place at either Elephant Mountain WMA, Black Gap WMA or Sierra

Diablo WMA. In addition to the permit, the hunter is required to possess a valid Texas hunting license.

**BERETTA 687 EELL DIAMOND PIGEON COMBO SHOTGUN**  
Value \$10,000

Own a refined pleasure and make a statement with this exquisite Beretta Diamond Pigeon 28 gauge/410 combo shotgun. Complementing the high quality walnut stock is the hand-finished engraving making this a classic element of one of the most sought-after shotguns in the world.

**GAME WARDEN HUNT WITH TEXAS ATTY. GENERAL GREG ABBOTT**  
Value \$13,000

The Texas Parks & Wildlife Foundation executive director will host you and Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott for the hunt of a lifetime in Coleman County on the L.O. Ranch operated by Van Wilson. This package is for two 150-class bucks, with guiding by Game Warden Tracy Davis and meals and lodging for 3 days during the 2007 season. Dates are subject to availability.

**CANADIAN RIVER TROPHY MULE DEER**  
Value \$5,000

Trophy Mule Deer hunt for 1 hunter and 1 non-hunter for 3 days in Oldham County, Texas during the last three days of the mule deer 2007 season. Bidder is responsible for transportation, but may fly into the Amarillo airport via commercial airlines or a personal aircraft with a prior authorized release for ranch runway use.

**TROPHY ELK HUNT WITH HOUSE SPEAKER TOM CRADDICK**  
Value \$8,000

Trophy Bull Elk Hunt at Flat Top Ranch with House Speaker Tom Craddick for 1 hunter and 1 non-hunter for 3 days during October, November or December of the 2007 season. TPWF Board Member and EXPO Banquet Event Chair Will Beecherl will host this trip. This hunt can be upgraded to include Whitetail deer and/or Scimitar-horned Oryx at \$3500 each. Flat Top Ranch is located in Walnut Springs, Texas. Dates are subject to host and guest schedules.

**CABELAS GOLDEN TRIANGLE TROPHY WHITETAIL**  
Value \$5,000

Thanks to Cabelas and Hunters Connections, LLC, you

will have an opportunity of hunting a true Texas-sized trophy in the finest whitetail country – a perfect addition to your trophy room. This 4-day package for a 150 + class whitetail for one hunter provides hunting access to more than 50,000 acres of private land, including the BLT, Mirasol and Kincaid ranches with lodging and meals provided. Hunter is responsible for transportation to and from Uvalde, Texas. This package may be upgraded to include a non-hunter at a rate of \$100 per day. Winning bidder should contact Frank Cole to confirm dates and specific ranch. This hunt must be taken between Nov. 3 - Dec. 20, 2007.

**TEXAS SIX-PACK**  
Value \$5,000

Take a guided tour of some of the finest fishing along the Texas coast on six bay fishing trips. From schooling redfish on Sabine Lake to trophy trout on Baffin Bay, you and your closest family, friends and business associates will get to experience it all.

This package includes 1 day for three anglers with Capt. Dickie Colburn on Sabine Lake; 1 day for three anglers with Capt. Steve Hillman on Galveston Bay; 1 day for two anglers poling the backwaters of Matagorda Bay with Capt. Brent Burdett; 1 day for three anglers fishing East Matagorda Bay with Capt. Tom Perilloux; 1 day for three anglers in the Rockport area with Capt. Marvin Sessler; 1 day for three anglers chasing monster trout with Capt. Hugo Ford on legendary Baffin Bay.

As a bonus, we have included an American Rodsmith rod and Shimano Chronarch for you and an American Rodsmith rod for you to give to each of your guests on your trips. That's 6 guides, rods and a Chronarch reel. This package is a real catch!

**EXPERIENCE THE BEST ON THE KING RANCH**  
Value \$10,000

Make history on this exclusive 150 Boone & Crockett Trophy Deer Hunt on the historic King Ranch with our own Texas Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst. You and a friend together with the lieutenant governor will enjoy the challenge of shooting one trophy deer as well as does and hogs on two guided hunts while enjoying five-star overnight accommodations on the ranch. Your package includes a sensational breakfast, dinner and two lunches as well as the opportunity to test your skeet and trap shooting skills. Experience the best! Your hunt will be scheduled for Oct. 29 thru Nov. 2, 2007.

**SAM CALDWELL ORIGINAL**  
Value \$5,000

"Putting Fish Back Where Fish Used To Be/St. Joe Island 1983" original outdoor portrait by Sam Caldwell, Texas State Artist 2004.

**QUAIL NEVER LOOKED SO GOOD**  
Value \$8,000

A 2-day quail hunt for four at the Los Pobres Camp on the historic Armstrong Ranch in South Texas. The hunt includes a dog handler with truck both days and two nights at a safari-style camp with meals and beverages. Your hosts will be Sarita and Bob Hixon and Katharine Armstrong. Guns, ammo and transportation to and from the airport are not included.

**SET OF 4 CHAMPIONSHIP BALLS**  
Value Priceless

If you are a Spurs enthusiast, here's your chance at a unique piece of history: a set of 4 autographed basketballs from the 1999, 2003, 2005 and 2007 San Antonio Spurs championship seasons.

**HYATT PAMPER PACKAGE**  
Value \$7,000

Hyatt experience for 2 includes round-trip airfare and 4 nights at Hyatt Hotel and Resort of your choice. Expires Oct. 5, 2008.

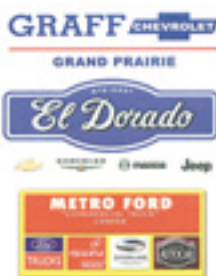
**MAN'S BEST FRIEND**  
Value \$1,500

Every hunter needs a trustworthy companion to work with him as a team. Add to the family and increase your skill with a gorgeous 4-month-old female pointer puppy. Pup is sired by Purina 2007 Top Bird Dog Champion "Millers on Line," dam is out of Multi-national Champion "Animas Molly."

**SHRIMP LICENSE**  
Value \$10,000

Retire a commercial shrimp license by supporting The Texas Shrimp License Buyback program. Through your contribution, it will ultimately create a sustainable shrimp fishery for Texas, decrease the fishing pressure on one of the foundation species that supports a tremendous recreational fishery and reduce shrimp trawl bycatch.

# SPECIAL THANKS FOR THEIR SPONSORSHIP



THE FAMILY OF HARTZ DEALERSHIPS



**Order Card** To register, complete and mail this Order Card or order online: [www.tpwf.org/banquet](http://www.tpwf.org/banquet)  
(Seating is limited, must be received by Sept. 20, 2007)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to purchase:

___ Hall of Fame Table of 10, \$10,000 per table =	\$ _____
___ Gold Table of 10, \$5,000 per table =	\$ _____
___ Silver Table of 10, \$2,500 per table =	\$ _____
___ Bronze Table of 10, \$1,500 per table =	\$ _____
___ Individual Event Ticket(s) at \$150 each =	\$ _____
I am unable to attend, but please accept my donation in the amount of =	\$ _____
Total amount enclosed =	\$ _____

Payment: Please make checks payable to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation.

Please charge to:  Amex  MasterCard  Visa Card# \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_



Mail to Texas Parks & Wildlife Foundation. Attn: Kelli Sellers, 1901 N. Akard, Dallas, Texas 75201