

FORT CLARK DISPATCH

Celebrating Fort Clark Life. Past, Present, & Future.

Volume 1 Issue 5

Autumn Calls

FORT CLARK SPRINGS COMMUNITY COUNCIL PRESENTS

GHOSTLY TOURS



Save the Date

October 29th & 30th

In This Issue...

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If you would like to contact the Dispatch with comments and/or questions please email us at fcdispatch@fortclark.com. Be sure to put COMMENT in the subject line.

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Front and back cover photos by Amos Trisler



A big thank you to all who attended the recent Town Hall meeting. A lot of information was put out, including the budget. As always the members had good questions and hopefully got good answers. The answers aren't always what you might want to hear. Be it timelines, projects, or finances. However, they are honest answers. Our members deserve that. Again, thank you for your input and your patience as we work together to put the shine back on this great and historic place that is Fort Clark Springs. Our home.

From the Editor...

Finally! Things are cooling off a little. Not a lot, but enough to sit out in the evening and just enjoy it. Kids are back in school to the relief of some parents. Fall activities are winding up and heading our way. Cooler weather and fun things to do. Not a bad combination.

We look forward to the stories next from a few of our staff who are just back from their travels. We have a great little travelogue in this issue from our Nature columnist, Suzanne Mayne. She also gave us a great article on stargazing and some coming heavenly events. Keep watching the Dispatch as there seems to be some whispers about starting some organized stargazing events.

We will make sure to post something in a future Dispatch, when and if we get any more information. In the meantime if this sounds like something you would like to be part of please email fsca@fortclark.com or fdispatch@fortclark.com and let us know if you would be interested in some stargazing parties or various astronomical events.

The return of the Pumpkin Patch, Ghostly Tours, the Golf Cart Parade and other fun, fall events should, pardon the pun, raise spirits around here after the mess that was 2020. Not to mention that Fall Festival will be in the early part of November.

Now is a great time to get out, take a walk, bike, or just spend a little time outside visiting with friends, family, and reconnecting with your neighbors. And keep a little candy back for yourself this Halloween.



Is it really just driftwood? Or a remnant of one of the spirits that once ruled over the grove we now call Red Bridge Park?



Halloween Golf Cart Parade
October 29th @ 7PM
ENDING @ RENDEZVOUS
PARK
AFTERWARDS ENJOY THE
PUMPKIN PATCH & FOOD
VENDORS & GHOSTLY TOURS

◆ — — — ◆ ● ◆ ● — — — ◆
LINE UP : 6PM @ SWIM PARK
ENDING @ RENDEZVOUS PARK
GOLF CART ENTRY FEE NON MEMBERS \$20
1ST & 2ND PRIZE
NO POLITICAL SIGNS
CONTACT: SHERRY NEUMAN
(830)563-4235



Fort Clark Naturals

The wild life with Suzanne Mayne

Well as the summer drew to a close, I went on my big RVing trip with my in-laws. My sister-in-law and I traveled in my truck camper and my other sister-in-law and her husband pulling their trailer with the biggest truck imaginable. Even my brother couldn't stand it and after several days of hearing about our fun, threw his camping gear in his truck and headed to the northwest states to join us. We began in South Dakota, where for several days we took in Custer State Park and all its wildlife and hair-raising narrow winding roads, hiked around Sylvan Lake and enjoyed the evening lighting ceremony at Mount Rushmore where all veterans in the audience are invited to join the Ranger at the front of the amphitheater to be recognized for their service. My brother-in-law proudly went down to join the veterans.



Then it was on to Wyoming – Devil's Tower where the view and the hiking were superb; Sheridan for some sightseeing and great cuisine, then Livingston where the smoke from the fires was terrible for a day or so but cleared up. My brother-in-law was able to fly his powered para-glider over the Yellowstone River valley. After Wyoming, we zipped over to Sandpoint, ID for Labor Day weekend. Lots of fun shopping and great history about Lake Pend Oreille and the secret, not so secret submarine testing base, a boat tour around the lake and were able to find



the University of Texas/Lafayette football game on TV. Hook 'em Horns!

From northern Idaho, we traveled to Riggins on the Little Salmon River, then went our separate ways, my brother staying in northern Idaho for some primitive camping and pursuit of the evidence of the great Ice Dam lakes and floods and rock hunting. My other sister-in-law and her husband lingered a few days longer then headed to catch up with friends in Twin Falls and parts further south for several more weeks. My sister-in-law and I began our travels back home to Texas by way of visiting a cousin east of Boise, then on south through Arches National Park, Mesa Verde National Park, visiting a friend in Albuquerque for brunch, down across New Mexico through Roswell, Carlsbad, Pecos – through the oil and gas development, then on into our various homes. It was 23 days in all, wonderful adventures, lots of funny or not so funny at the time, events which have all become great stories.... And I am so glad to be back home in beautiful, familiar, if not so green, Fort Clark Springs. I wandered down to the creek to see what was going on and spied the deer and turkey hens just carrying on as if nothing had changed... and indeed it hadn't much, just me. Traveling is so enriching and invariably reminds me of what I can be thankful for in my chosen country, state and home town.

Photos by Suzanne

For more information on Fort Clark Hiking Trails: Look online at www.fortclark.com , under the Recreation drop down menu,click on *Hiking/Biking Trails*. There you will find the different designated trails, totaling over 15 miles.

Coming Soon

Over the Fence

Starting in November, hopefully, we will be adding a new section called, “Over the Fence.” Think of the pages in the most of the small town newspapers in the past that had small paragraphs about who was visiting who, weddings, reunions, and other bits of social happenings among the people in the community. After all, people are what make a community.

So if you have something like that and would like to share it, we look forward to helping you do just that. No need to write a full page. Just a paragraph or two about the happening.

Photos can be included in digital format. If you must scan them please make the resolution no less than 96 PPI. This will keep file sizes small, but still allow enough resolution for digital publication. Higher PPI is fine, but try to keep it at or below 300 PPI to avoid excessive file sizes.

To submit to the Fort Clark Dispatch, please email: fdispatch@fortclark.com
ATTN: Over the Fence in the subject line.

Submissions must be received by the 12th of each month for inclusion in the next month’s issue.



Photo by Carole Trisler

★ Where the Real Stars Gather... ★

★ [Story and Photos by Suzanne](#) ★

This month there are two meteor showers, a full moon named the “Hunter’s Moon” and various optimal planet sightings. We plan to host a star-gazing event soon and will send out an invitation via fsca@fortclark.com to enlist all of you astronomers and interested star gazers to help us out. For meteor showers and most times when planets are brightest in the night sky, there is a period of time, multiple days during which to view the event. So, if one night is cloudy, try the next night. And there is most always something moving in the night sky, be it a very high jet, satellite, space station or even the stray meteor from burning up space junk. Happy Viewing!

Events for October include:

Oct 6: New Moon 6:05 am

Oct 8: Draconid Meteor Shower peak

The Draconid meteor shower is visible in the northern sky from nightfall into early evening. It lasts from October 6-10 with the peak evening being on the 8th. This year, you are more likely to see the individual meteors because the waxing (thinning) moon sets before nightfall. The meteors seem to be coming from the head of the constellation Draco the Dragon in the northern sky. If you have a clear view of the northern horizon, locate the Big Dipper and follow the front stars of the dipper (where water would pour from) to Polaris, also called the North Star. From Polaris look up in the sky a little to the west to find the point in the constellation Draco where the meteors will seem to be coming from. Generally, this meteor shower produces a few number of meteors per hour which move more slowly across the sky than typical meteors. Very rarely, the Draconids may spew hundreds of meteors in a single hour.

Oct 20: The Hunter’s Moon (full moon) rises: 9:57 am

Oct 21: Orionids Meteor Shower peak

The Orionid Meteor Shower runs from October 2 through November 7 with the peak on the 21st. Generally, at the peak, you would be able to see 10-20 meteors per hour with the best viewing time a few hours before dawn. Finding an area with a wide sky viewing area is best. Unfortunately, this year, the full moon is October 19-20 so being able to see any meteors this year

is unlikely. Even though this shower is known for its “fireballs” the chances of a fireball being visible through full moonlight is unlikely. Check it out on nights earlier in the month before the moon becomes more visible.

Oct 25: best view to see Mercury, just before sunrise.

Oct 29: best view of Venus as the evening star, in the west just after sunset.



Christmas Star alignment, December 20, 2020

So, round up a telescope or even binoculars, constellation charts (phone app) and enjoy the beauty of the night sky with friends and family. Some useful sites for knowing what is going on in the sky are listed below and there are many others as well as apps to download to your phone. Reminder – never point a telescope, binoculars or your eyes directly at the sun!

Information courtesy of

www.space.com

<https://www.timeanddate.com/astronomy/night/usa/ualde>

<https://earthsky.org/astronomy-essentials/earthskys-meteor-shower-guide/>

<https://www.timeanddate.com/astronomy>



In keeping with the season and the upcoming, Ghostly Tours, just a reminder. Not all the spirits around are human ghosts. Is this a Chinese Dragon trapped in the body of a tree?

Photo by Amos Trisler

GHOSTLY TOURS

OCTOBER 29TH & 30TH

GET READY

If you dare...



Trails

Starting Friday, October 1st, 2021,

All trails will be closed down,

Dusk to dawn

Signs will be posted

Thank you!



Photo by Amos Trisler

Prose & Poetry

The Date...

© Amos A. Trisler

The first time I ever saw....

“Shut up, John!” Bill snapped, cutting John off. “We’ve heard every one of your tales so many times, we have to correct YOU!”

“WELL, see if I ever try to enlighten your dull life again, Bill Clements!” John fired back.

“They aren’t going to start fighting are they?”, inquired one of the gray haired, lady tourists preparing to enter the tiny general store.

Laughing, I replied, “Don’t worry Ma’am, those fellas sit here everyday and bicker like they’ve been married for fifty years.”

The lady who had spoken raised a doubtful eyebrow towards me, and with a final shake of her head, hurried inside to join her group.

“Well, gentlemen - I’m about to take my leave from you unappreciated scholars.” I spoke, grabbing my coffee cup and starting down the steps.

“What you got going on there boy - a hot date?” Henry inquired, with a look of mischief in his eyes.

“Darn, if you didn’t find me out, Henry! In fact, I do have a date that won’t wait.” I replied.

“Yeah, right,” one of them snorted, “you’re goin back in the hills chasin the light with that fancy camera of yours, aren’t you.”

“I’d swear there was something wrong with you if you didn’t take along a fly rod when you go.” Bill barked. “I guess that makes you at least a little sane.”

“I noticed you took a pretty strong liking to that signed print I gave you.” I chided, smiling.

“I didn’t say you weren’t any good, only a little questionable in the sanity department.” Bill added.

“While I would love to stay and question your own sanity, I need to get moving. See y’all later.” I tossed back, as I headed for my old Land Cruiser.

Continued on Pages 14,

Twenty minutes found me on a dirt road. Ten minutes later, and I had to shift into four wheel drive as the road became a rock and rut trail. Another twenty to thirty minutes of crawling over rocks and I parked my rig in a small clearing surrounded by trees.

I checked my rucksack one last time. Next I examined the camera bag piggybacked on top of the pack. After verifying that all of the Land Cruiser's doors were locked, I swung the pack around and up, feeling the weight settle solidly on my shoulders and hips. A few tugs and adjustments, and I started off, walking stick in hand.

I followed a rocky creek bed that led up into the mountains. Soon I came upon a huge boulder that always struck me as a giant's marble. Here, the stream bed turned gradually left, continuing to rise slightly. Ignoring the obvious route, I climbed the back of the boulder, where rock and earth met.

Few, if any, ever noticed the little break in the way the trees lined this part of the hillside. I had passed by the break several times on trips, before something about the terrain caught my eye. One day, I felt drawn to take a closer look. There I discovered a small bush guarding a cut in the ridge.

This cut angled back and in, exiting on top of the ridge, but out of sight of the stream bed down below. About one hundred yards further east, an old Indian trail took a winding path to a tiny, hidden valley. This valley is my destination.

As I trod along the old trail, I thought of the hidden oasis that waited ahead. There are many valleys that attract attention in this region. My little valley is fairly well hidden by the layout of the land, and the trees that surround the valley. Even viewed from the air, there is little visible to attract attention. To really appreciate my secret place, a person simply has to see it up close.

Stopping at the crest of a steep climb, I take a break, drawing water from my canteen. As I feel the liquidity of the water, I see a different water in my mind. I see the sliver of a stream cutting the floor of the valley to which I am headed. This stream disappears into a long ribbon of trees. The valley floor is actually a series gentle steppes. The fall of the steppes is more pronounced where the trees partially conceal the stream. Within this stretch of trees the quiet little stream expands into a run of low falls and deep pools. Rested, and fed by the images in my head, I shift my pack and resume my journey.

Finally, I arrive at the edge of a ridge overlooking my destination. Removing my pack, I take my Mirrorless camera out of the camera bag. I unbuckle the tripod that is strapped to the right side of the pack. (The fly rod I will use a little later is nestled in its case and strapped to the left side.) Setting up the tripod, I take several wide angle photos, then switch to my 300mm telephoto lens. I like the perspective of the 300mm; I often use it for close work.

After burning up some time shooting at subjects, near and far, I strap the tripod back on my pack. The camera will remain around my neck for the descent into the valley. Rucksack again on my shoulders, I start the last leg of my journey. I know that I will use at least a few more gigabytes of memory card, before I reach the valley floor.

Reaching the valley floor, I just enjoy the cool air. As I near the small clearing that fronts one of my favorite spots on the stream, I sense movement. Easing closer, I take up a position at the base of a tree. A small tent stands to the right; a pack rests on the ground by the front of the tent. To the left, is one of the many pools the stream forms along this stretch of water. This pool is filled by water dropping over a low, rocky runway. The movement that originally caught my attention is now explained. An angler stands knee deep in the pool - fly rod making graceful arcs forward and back.

I set the shutter on my camera to quiet mode. Bracing against the tree, I start shooting. The angler lifts the rod, ripping the fly line from the water in the process. As the rod arcs rearward and the line rolls along the back cast, hundreds of water droplets hurl into the air. The late afternoon sun turns the water droplets into glittering, flying diamonds. I will look forward to editing the images I am capturing.

Sensing someone near, the figure in neoprene chest waders and fly fishing vest turns my direction, searching. I press the shutter again, recording her tan face surrounded by shoulder length, dark blonde hair. Her deep brown eyes settle on me and she waves.

“I was starting to wonder if you were ever going to get here?”, she teases me. “Don’t tell me; I can guess. You took too long at the store again because you were swapping lies with the old farts that make up the ‘Bullshooter’s Bench’.” A knowing, and understanding smile makes her face sparkle.

“Henry asked if I had a hot date. I told him he had found me out!”, I replied in mock innocence.

Walking toward me, she laughed, “And of course, no one believed you!”

Kissing her gently, I smiled, “of course.”

“Well - at least you’re honest.”, she said, slipping her hand into mine.

Moments

©1994 by Amos A. Trisler

Moments are fleeting,
moments are frail,
moments are short
and they will never tell.

Moments weren't moments then,
they were life.
Brief, alive, powerful
and they were life.

A scent, a color,
kiss of a breeze
against your skin,
and for a moment you believe.

Years are not and
today is yesterday.
You are there and not again.
It was a moment, gone away.

Welcome to a new feature. Prose & Poetry. This will be a section where you, the readers can contribute your creative writings. For prose, please keep it to 2-4 pages in length at 12 Point type. The piece I have included is around what we can handle.

For both prose and poetry please keep it clean and non-political. Spiritual is fine, just not preachy. Also make sure it is your work. All copyright remains with the author. Submission of your work to the Fort Clark Dispatch, simply extends license to publish your piece in the Dispatch.

If you would like to contribute please send your work as an attachment to: fedisatch@fortclark.com and put Prose & Poetry in the subject line.

Writer’s guidelines can be found here on the following page. Exceptions to the word limit will be allowed for prose for this section. Within reason. There are standards so Staff will have final selection of what it printed. There may also be delays due to production cycle and space.

Fort Clark Dispatch Writer's Guidelines

These are the basic guidelines for articles submitted to the Fort Clark Dispatch. This will simplify submissions, acceptance, and facilitate timely production of the Dispatch

- Subject area is pretty open. Ideally it should relate to life on the fort and/or the surrounding community. History, lifestyles past and present, and recreational opportunities are encouraged. If your story is medically or health related please discuss it with the editorial staff first. Articles that inform about and celebrate the surrounding area are encouraged. How to and DIY articles are another area. Just keep in mind that it needs to fit in a small print area and be something many people can do with basic skills.
- Word count is generally limited to 600 words or less. Preferably at least a 450 word count. Some exceptions can be made for longer articles depending on the subject, relevancy, and/or significant benefit to the readers. These must be discussed and approved prior to final submission by the editorial staff. There may be allowances for How to/DIY stories with heavy illustration.
- Articles need to be submitted in either as a Word document, Open Office Document, or as a straight text (.txt) file.
- Preferably in Times New Roman, 12 pt, regular. Please do not use any fancy formatting. Block paragraphs, a single line break between paragraphs. Italicizing something like a book title, etc., is acceptable and encouraged.
- Please check spelling and grammar before submitting. It reduces the frequency of migraines by the proofreaders. We get more work out of them that way.
- While subject areas are open and we welcome a variety of topics we also are striving for a lifestyle and entertainment mission. As such, submissions that are inflammatory, show extreme bias, or seek to push a political, religious, or otherwise divisive slant or agenda will be rejected. We certainly respect everyone's right to their most fervent positions, opinions, and beliefs. Many on the magazine have those that they feel strongly about. It just doesn't fit the mission or the purpose of the Fort Clark Dispatch.
- All submissions will be considered. Final approval of submissions will be made by the editorial which consists of the Editor, Executive Admin, and the General Manager.

We look forward to and encourage ideas and article submissions. If you want to see if we would make a good fit please feel free to attend our weekly staff meetings. Meetings are held at 1:30 PM in the Board Room at the Admin building.

Submissions and queries about submitting can be emailed to fdispatch@fortclark.com. Please put the words ARTICLE SUBMISSION in the subject line. Thank you for your interest in being part of the growing world of the Fort Clark Dispatch.

NOTES FROM THE RECYCLE CENTER

by Helena McBride

Everyone at FCSA should try to recycle. From 2016 to 2020, we kept 212 tons of trash out of the landfill. Bring us # 1 plastic, # 2 plastic, aluminum cans, steel cans, office paper, and mixed paper. We're open Thursdays 4 to 6 and Saturdays 8:30 to 12.

Look for the triangle on the bottom of the item. If its # 1 or # 2 bring it. Do NOT bring # 5 (yogurt, cottage cheese, sour cream, dishwasher tablets, nutrition drinks, some yellow medicine bottles). Take off caps, lids, handles, then rinse. Crush big items.

1 Plastic: water bottles, clear plastic from fruits & veggies.

We don't want the caps or lids or handles.

#2 Plastic has 2 different boxes, one is Colored Plastic, the other is "Natural Plastic." Some # 1 plastic is black or dark, you can't see through it. Put into the box marked Colored Plastic. Natural Plastic is regular milk, #2 vinegar, cat litter containers. Step on these big items to crush them to make them smaller.

Aluminum cans: beer & soda cans & large cat food cans. No aluminum foil or pie pans.

Steel or Tin Cans: veggie & soup cans, and small cat food cans

Office paper: white or colored paper that go into a printer. Bills or hand-written paper, post-it notes or shredded office paper is good. No construction thick paper, no shredded magazines, no business envelopes with the plastic front.

Mixed Paper: broth & waxed juice containers, newspapers, magazines, shredded magazines, boxes from beer & soda, telephone books. No deer food or dog food bags that have a plastic coating.

No glass, corrugated cardboard, or plastic bags. Cardboard should be flattened and put out with trash on Monday morning. Maintenance bales it, the Fort gets money for the bales.

Please Do NOT drop off items at the Recycle gate. We have to pick up your stuff. Its good if you separate your items at home, This allows you to move quickly & you don't keep the cars behind you waiting to do their drop offs.

Volunteers, Please Note: when the plastic bottles reach the top of the trash can, remove the black plastic bag, and continue to fill it up. The bags are costly so please fill them completely. Tie the bag tightly so it doesn't spill and bring it outside. Maintenance takes them and makes bales of the plastic.

THANKS TO ALL VOLUNTEERS FOR DOING LOTS OF WORK, especially in the hot summer. Joe builds & organizes the boxes, & runs the forklift, Helena schedules volunteers, organizes paperwork, writes & reports to the Board. Volunteers are Pat, Phil, Memo, Valada, Tim, Mary P, Kathi, Wanda, Lori, John B, John W, Diana, Vida, Linda & John, MaryJane & Dennis, Bob, Viola, Pam, Barbara, Natanya, Phoenix, Griffen, Maria and Helena.

October 2021

GC-GOLF COURSE
AC-ADULT CENTER
PT-POST THEATER
ARTS-ART STUDIO
TC-TEENCENTER
AD-ADMIN OFFICE
PB-PALISADO B.
RV-RV PARK

RVP- RV PAVILION
RVK-KITCHEN
SC-SERVICE CLUB
OQ- QLD QUARRY
AMPHITHEATER
BR-BOARD ROOM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<u>GOLF COURSE HOURS TUES.-SUN. 7:30AM-7:30PM</u>	<u>PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU WANT TO ADD ANYTHING ON THE CALENDAR!</u>	<u>CONTACT JULIE @THE ADMIN OFFICE 830-563-2493 OR EMAIL FCSA@FORTCLARK.COM</u>		<u>*BOOKS, LITERATURE AND TEA - THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE OF SAM HELL BY ROBERT DUGONI</u>	1 10A WATER AEROBICS	2 8:30A-12P RECYCLE CENTER <u>10A MOUNTAIN LAUREL GARDEN CLUB - CREEKSIDE - GC</u> 12-3P ARTS 1-4P MUSEUM & SUTLER STORE
3 1-4P MUSEUM & SUTLER STORE	4 10A WATER AEROBICS 12-3P ARTS 3-7P TWILIGHT SCRAMBLE	5 9A LADIES GOLF 4P ARCH-BR	6 10A WATER AEROBICS 10A MENS GOLF	7 9A MEN'S COFFEE - RV 9:30A COUPLES GOLF <u>10A MOUNTAIN LAUREL GARDEN CLUB - AC PRESENTATION ON TREES OF SW TEXAS</u> 4-6P RECYCLE CENTER	8 10A WATER AEROBICS	9 8:30A-12P RECYCLE CENTER <u>10A COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING-BR</u> 12-3P ARTS 1-4P MUSEUM & SUTLER STORE <u>PUMPKIN PATCH OPENS- RENDEZVOUS PARK</u>
10 1-4P MUSEUM & SUTLER STORE	11 10A WATER AEROBICS 12-3P ARTS 3-7P TWILIGHT SCRAMBLE COLUMBUS DAY	12 9A LADIES GOLF 4P ARCH-BR	13 10A WATER AEROBICS 10A MENS GOLF	14 9A MEN'S COFFEE - RV 9:30A COUPLES GOLF 4-6P RECYCLE CENTER OPEN	15 10A WATER AEROBICS	16 8:30A-12P RECYCLE CENTER <u>9:00A FCS BR BOARD MEETING</u> 12-3P ARTS 1-4P MUSEUM & SUTLER STORE <u>LADIES LAS MORAS TOURNAMENT-GC</u>
17 1-4P MUSEUM & SUTLER STORE	18 10A WATER AEROBICS 12-3P ARTS <u>*1PM BOOKS, LITERATURE & TEA - AC</u> 3-7P TWILIGHT SCRAMBLE	19 9A LADIES GOLF 4P ARCH-BR	20 10A WATER AEROBICS 10A MENS GOLF	21 9A MEN'S COFFEE - RV 9:30A COUPLES GOLF 4-6P RECYCLE CENTER OPEN	22 10A WATER AEROBICS	23 8:30A-12P RECYCLE CENTER 12-3P ARTS 1-4P MUSEUM & SUTLER STORE <u>10A-4P HEALTH FAIR-TC</u>
24 1-4P MUSEUM & SUTLER STORE ----- 31 1-4P MUSEUM & SUTLER STORE HALLOWEEN	25 10A WATER AEROBICS 12-3P ARTS 3-7P TWILIGHT SCRAMBLE	26 9A LADIES GOLF 4P ARCH-BR	27 10A WATER AEROBICS 10A MENS GOLF <u>6P FCD MEETING - AC</u>	28 9A MEN'S COFFEE - RV 9:30A COUPLES GOLF 4-6P RECYCLE CENTER OPEN	29 10A WATER AEROBICS <u>GHOSTLY TOURS 6P LINEUP- GOLF CART PARADE SWIMPARK 7P START</u>	30 8:30A-12P RECYCLE CENTER 12-3P ARTS 1-4P MUSEUM & SUTLER STORE <u>KINNEY CO CHURCH ALLIANCE TOURNAMENT-GC</u> <u>GHOSTLY TOURS</u>

FORT CLARK

STILL NEEDS

YOU!

FORT CLARK NEEDS VOLUNTEERS FOR A VARIETY OF PROJECTS AROUND THE FORT.

As members of the community there are many things large and small that you can do to help out while making Fort Clark a better place to live and play.

I might be as simple as volunteering a little time to go through some of the restrooms and change out the aerators in the sinks. Or painting a few benches.

Or you may be one of those people who have advanced

To volunteer or to find out how you can help please contact:

skills and years of experience in a particular field. Your help could move along projects on the fort that are stalled or moving much slower due to shortages of manpower and/or specific skills needed.

From the simple set of extra hands to sharing your hard earned skills and experience.

Fort Clark needs YOU!

Thank you for reading this issue of the Fort Clark Dispatch. We hope you enjoyed it and will visit with us each month.

The Dispatch is a monthly online magazine that is available on the first of each month.



It isn't just the trees that the faces of the spirits of Fort Clark Show up in. The waters of Las Moras hold them too. Can you find the face in the water? This one is more of a challenge. (Hint: Look deep.)

Photo by Amos Trisler

To contact the magazine with comments, questions, or to volunteer, please email:

fcdispatch@fortclark.com

Please put "Comment", "Question", or "Volunteer" in the subject line. This will help us keep it separate from submissions and administrative emails.

On the back cover:

Remembering when the creek was full. Water flows strong through the control gate at Red Bridge Park.

Photo by Amos Trisler



FORT CLARK SPRINGS ASSOCIATION, INC.

2021/2022

HUNTING RULES & GUIDELINES

Welcome to Fort Clark Springs! Thank you for joining us this season. The safety and wellbeing of hunters, animals and residents is the #1 priority of Fort Clark Springs Association. FCSA reserves the right to deny any individual authorization to hunt. The hunting experience at Fort Clark Springs is quite unique and is considered to be Residential/Urban Hunting. Fort Clark Springs is approximately 2,700 acres of low fenced property. All animals are free-range and roam the property at will. Hunters will be hunting in wooded areas surrounded by residential and recreational areas. While hunting you may hear vehicular, aviation, gun range activity and/or pedestrian traffic. FCSA is a private homeowner's association, and has numerous hiking and recreation trails that are active year-round. Certain areas have been designated for hunting. Certain bow hunting takes place in areas near hiking and recreational trails that are not closed off from pedestrian access. The wildlife live and thrive in an urban residential environment, and are used to the everyday sounds you may hear during your hunting experience. **DO NOT EXPECT YOUR HUNTING EXPERIENCE TO BE IN A QUIET OR SECLUDED AREA.**

Please read these guidelines carefully and initial where appropriate. You will be asked to sign below.

_____ I am a member of Fort Clark Springs Association (Please check if yes).

Member: Is defined for this particular event and rules as any individual who has been a current member of FCSA for at least 1 full year which entitles them to member rates.

Non-FCSA Member: Is defined for this particular event and rules as any individual who is not a current member of FCSA or has a current membership of less than 1 full year. Individuals in this category cannot receive Member benefits until they meet those qualifications.

-
- **All hunting on FCSA property is in accordance with FCSA Rules & Regulations and current FCSA Hunting Rules & Guidelines.** The FCSA Executive Officer or their designated agent will act as the Hunting Supervisor.
 - No one is allowed to hunt on FCSA property without the permission of the property owner. Anyone found to be hunting on FCSA property without the property owner's consent or outside of the perimeter of this set of Rules & Guidelines will be considered POACHING and will be subject to any and all penalties, fines or legal action as deemed necessary.
 - FCSA Hunting Rules & Guidelines and deer harvest availability are subject to change at any given time, depending upon the recommendations of Texas Parks & Wildlife, the FCSA Hunting Supervisor or at the discretion of the Property Owner.
 - The Property Owner will set the hunting pricing and hunting dates.

- All FCSA members must be in “Good Standing” before they are able to hunt and are required to follow all of the Hunting Rules & Guidelines herein.
- All hunters must contact FCSA Admin. Office for booking and reservations prior hunting. Hunters are not allowed to hunt without placement of the Hunting Supervisor.
- Non-Member Hunters will be priority in scheduling and placement over members.

PLEASE INITIAL BELOW:

_____ FCSA does not guarantee that any hunter will see or harvest any animal.

_____ It is the responsibility of the hunter and his/her guests to know the following property owner’s Hunting Rules & Guidelines as well as all state game laws prior to hunting.

_____ **MEDIA RELEASE:** All photo/video captured by FCSA personnel or their representative of hunters and their harvested animals is the property of FCSA to be used solely for the purposes of promotional material and publications. The hunter waives all rights of compensation or ownership thereof and grants a digital media release.

Fees, Penalties and Fines

- All fees, penalties and/or fines are at the discretion of the property owner or their designated agent. Violations of game laws will be enforced by state Game Wardens.
- **FEES:**
 - **Fees: \$200** per day with a two (2) doe (Axis or Whitetail) per day limit, all FCSA Hunting Rules & Guidelines apply. Any buck other than a Whitetail “Cull” Buck shot (wounded or harvested) will incur an additional buck fee.
 - **Axis Bucks: \$2,500.00** (limited to 28 to 34 inches, additional inches above 34” will be an additional \$100/inch) Longest main beam will apply. In addition, any antlerless (shed) or velvet horned Axis deer weighing 150 + lbs. will also incur a \$2,500.00 fee. Axis Bucks in this category that are shot, wounded and/or not retrieved will incur said trophy fee of \$2,500.00.
 - **Axis Buck Hard-horned (only) 16-28 inches longest main beam, \$1,500.00.** Axis Bucks in this category that are shot, wounded and/or not retrieved will incur said trophy fee of \$1,500.00.
 - **Axis Buck Hard-horned (only) 6-16 inches longest main beam, \$750.00.** Axis Bucks in this category that are shot, wounded and/or not retrieved will incur said trophy fee of \$750.00.
 - **Axis “Juvenile” Buck: Hard-horned (only) 1-6 inches longest main beam,** Bucks in this category will be counted same as a doe. Bucks in this category that are shot, wounded and/or not retrieved will count the same as if harvested.
 - **Additional Doe: \$100/doe (Axis or Whitetail).**
 - **Whitetail Bucks: \$1,500.00** Any buck shot (with the exception of Whitetail ‘Cull’ Bucks) regardless of age/size by any hunter (member/non-member) will incur a \$1,500.00 fee. All Whitetail Deer must be 3 ½ years of age or older. Whitetail

Bucks in this category that are shot, wounded and/or not retrieved will incur said trophy fee of \$1,500.00.

- **Whitetail ‘Cull’ Buck: Hard-horned (only)** Spike or Cow Horned Bucks (depending upon availability of MLDP tags.) will be considered same as a doe. All Whitetail Deer must be 3 ½ years of age or older. Bucks in this category that are shot, wounded and/or not retrieved will count the same as if harvested.
 - **Whitetail Deer (Bucks or Doe must be 3 ½ years of age or older).** Whitetail Deer younger than 3 ½ yrs. of age shot (wounded or harvested) will incur a penalty fee of \$300.00
 - **Turkey:** included in day fee pricing. Must meet Texas Game Law Regulations.
 - **Javelina:** included in day fee pricing. Must meet Texas Game Law Regulations.
 - **Feral Hog:** no additional fee, hunter incentive offered (read below)
 - **Predator Animals (Coyote, Bobcat, Fox):** no additional fee, hunter incentive offered (read below)
 - **Other exotic animals:** fee at property owner’s discretion.
- **FERAL HOG/PREDATOR ANIMAL HUNTER INCENTIVE:** Upon successful proof of harvest, a non-member hunter will be awarded an additional day hunt to compensate for assisting in hog/predator management. Members may volunteer to hunt hogs/predator animals at no charge with prior coordination from hunting supervisor.
 - **There will be no night hunting for non-members.**
 - Hunters who kill animals that they cannot pay for forfeit the animal to FCSA, and all additional hunts will be forfeited without refund. Any penalties, fines or other legal action will be at the discretion of the property owner.
 - Hunters are not allowed to tamper, alter, damage or destroy any FCSA property including vehicles, hunting equipment, blinds or feeders. Individuals caught doing so will be in breach of this agreement and all penalties and/or fines as well as criminal charges will apply.

Wounded Animal Policy

Any animal that is shot (wounded or killed), all rules, fees, penalties and/or fines will apply. This policy applies regardless of whether the animal is retrieved or not.

Protected Species

FCSA is home to the federally protected Blue Indigo Snake. All federal laws apply; no one is allowed to kill, harm, harass or try to catch or obtain possession of this snake. Violators will be prosecuted.

Booking/Refunds/Rescheduling/Transfers/ “No Call, No Show”

- **100% of hunting fees are payable at the time of booking.**
- Cancellations or reschedule requests occurring 10 days prior to scheduled hunt date will receive a full refund or payment transfer. Rescheduling is based on availability.
- If a cancellation is made less than 10 days before the scheduled hunt, 50% of the booking fee may be returned only if notification is given prior to the hunt. (see below)
- No Call-No Shows will not be given a refund.
- If you make arrangements with an alternate hunter to fill your space, it is up to you to collect, recover or exchange fees. FCSA will not participate in this type of transfer, hunters are welcome to try to fill your spot in the event that you can not make your hunt.
- Hunters will not tag Whitetail deer with their own deer tags. MLDP tags will be provided.
- All hunting will only take place in blinds and in areas that are designated by the Property Owner. **Trophy hunting will take place in blinds only.** There will be no guided trophy hunts.

CHECK-IN AND HUNTING PROCEDURES

- All hunters must check in at the FCSA Old Motor Pool Building for briefing.
- Morning hunt check in time: 5:00am
- Afternoon hunt check-in time: 3pm
- **LATE ARRIVALS MAY NOT BE SEATED.**
- All hunters must sign a Liability Release, Authorization of Medical Treatment, and Hunting Rules & Guidelines before they are able to hunt. All paperwork must be accomplished prior to the hunt.
- Hunters must notify hunting supervisor prior to any hunt of any medical, physical or mental conditions that may inhibit, impair or put others in jeopardy or danger while on FCSA property.
- All hunters must have a valid Texas Parks & Wildlife Hunting License.
- FCSA will enforce Texas Hunters Education requirements:

Every hunter (including out-of-state hunters) born on or after Sept. 2, 1971, must successfully complete a Hunter Education Training Course. Proof of certification or deferral is required to be on your person while hunting.

- **All persons under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.**
- There will be no smoking, alcoholic beverages, animals (pets) or littering allowed while hunting.
- It is the hunter's responsibility to ensure their hunting equipment is in good working order prior to hunting. It is the hunter's responsibility to come prepared for the hunt, this includes both equipment and proper clothing.

- If a hunter needs to sight-in or validate their rifle zero, hunter may coordinate with the hunting supervisor prior to their day hunt to do so at the FCSA gun range.
- The Hunting Supervisor will determine hunter placement.
- **RIFLE HUNTERS** will be allowed to drive their personal vehicle to a designated parking area and then walk to their designated blind. Hunting or wandering outside of the blind is not permitted.
- **BOW HUNTERS** may be escorted out to their designated blinds by FCSA personnel. **Bow hunters will only be allowed to hunt in elevated tree (ladder stands only) stands under the following guidelines:**
 - It is the responsibility of the bow hunter to bring his/her own equipment (ladder stand). The proper safety equipment will be required to be working at all times by bow hunters while they are hunting in elevated tree stands of any type.
 - The hunting supervisor will tell the bow hunter where he/she is allowed to place the stand.
 - The stand may be put up the day before the bow hunter's scheduled hunt and must be taken down and removed the day after their hunt.
- All weapons will be unloaded (no rounds in the chamber) with "safety on" placing weapons (barrel) in a safe direction away from other individuals when traveling to and from designated hunting blinds.
- **HUNTING / SHOOTING IS ONLY ALLOWED IN FCSA DESIGNATED BLINDS AND/OR TREE STANDS WITHIN THE DESIGNATED HUNTING AREAS AS PRESCRIBED BY FCSA.** Any hunter caught hunting outside of these permitted areas will not be allowed to continue hunting for the rest of the season and/or future hunts on FCSA property and are subject to penalties and fines.
- **"SPOT AND STALK" OR SHOOTING FROM VEHICLES IS NOT AUTHORIZED.**
- All ground blinds will be equipped with 2 chairs, any additional chairs will be at the responsibility of the hunter. If more than one individual is hunting out of the same blind, each individual will be paying as an individual hunter.
- Hunters will be allowed to only hunt with the weapon (Rifle or bow/ crossbow) that they scheduled to hunt with. Changing weapons during a hunt will require prior permission from the Hunting Supervisor.
- FCSA personnel will maintain hunting blinds and feeders. Hunters will be allowed to bring and distribute their own corn or attractants while hunting.
- All hunters must shoot in the direction given (from the blind directly to feeder) when they are assigned a blind. No shooting across or outside of blind boundaries will be tolerated. No target practicing or unauthorized shooting is allowed. No shooting skyward (upward) or through/into trees or treetops will be permitted.
 - Rifle Blinds: distance from blind-to-feeder is approximately 50-100 yards.
 - Bow Blinds: distance from blind-to-feeder is approximately 20-30 yards.

- Hunters may use rattling horns and/or mouth or hand held devices to lure deer or turkey while they are hunting.
- **Upon shooting an animal, the hunter will immediately call and notify the Hunting Supervisor. All animals will be required to be seen by the Hunter Supervisor before processing and/or leaving FCSA property.**
- **Do not attempt to track or wonder around looking for wounded animals without FCSA personnel present.**
- At approximately 10:00am, all hunters will leave their designated blinds and head back in with FCSA personnel at different designated locations as assigned by the hunting supervisor. It is at that time the hunters will declare and register the animals that have been harvested during the morning hunt. All Whitetail deer will be registered and tagged by FCSA personnel. MLDP tags will be provided. Hunters will not tag any Whitetail deer.
- Afternoon hunters will repeat the check in process at the time set by the hunting supervisor.
- FCSA will make a cleaning area available for hunters. **NO FIELD DRESSING ALLOWED.**
- Cleaning and animal processing is the responsibility of the hunter. The hunter may ask a FCSA volunteer to help with the processing or cleaning of the animal, but it will be at the discretion of the volunteer. Volunteers are not obligated to assist hunters. The volunteer may ask for compensation for their assistance. The transactions are solely between the hunter and the volunteer – FCSA is not responsible for any agreements or transactions made between a hunter and volunteer.
- Any hunter who does not follow the FCSA Hunting Rules & Guidelines or fails to declare or register any harvested animal by any means will be subject to immediate action by the property owner. Action including fines up to \$1,500.00 per incident and/or violation may be accessed at the discretion of the property owner.
- **FCSA is not responsible for any lost, stolen or damaged property.**

AXIS TROPHY RAFFLE

All registered FCSA hunters will be placed into a drawing for an Axis Trophy Hunt. In order to qualify for the raffle entry:

- The hunter must have hunted a day hunt during the 2021-2022 hunting season.
- Only the registered hunter’s name will be entered into the drawing (valid upon paid receipt).
- If the registered hunter is paying for other individuals to hunt, it will be at the discretion of the paying registered hunter which names will be entered into the drawing.
- Each paid hunt qualifies for a raffle entry.
- Cancellations or refunds disqualify the hunter from the drawing entry.
- Violations of state Game Laws or FCSA Rules & Guidelines as written above will disqualify the hunter from the drawing.
- The drawing for the Axis Trophy hunt will be on the last hunting day of the season.
- The winning Axis Trophy Hunt will take place between Oct 2022 and the end of the calendar year unless otherwise coordinated with the hunting supervisor.

Acknowledgement and receipt:

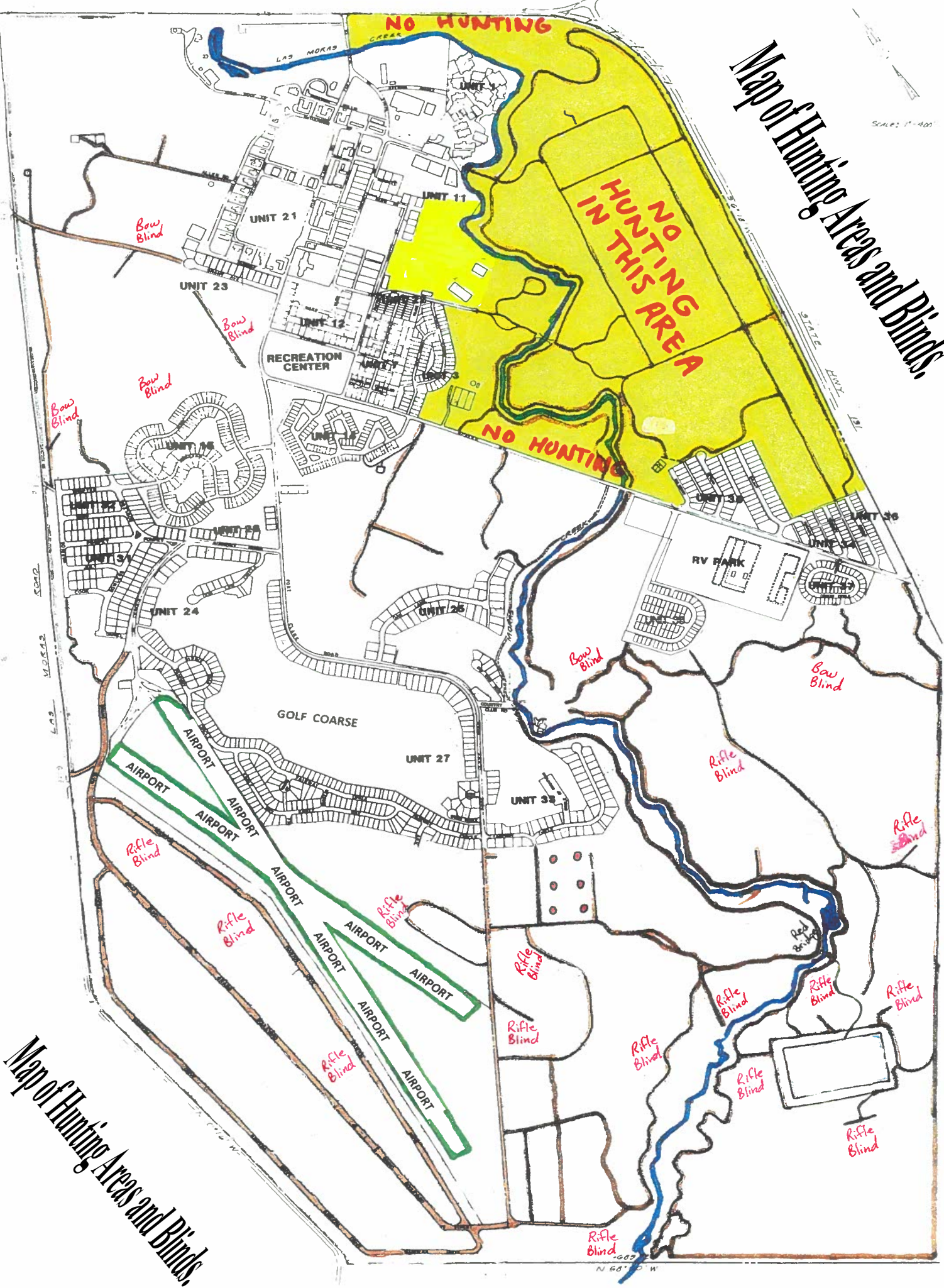
By signing below, I acknowledge reading and understanding the 2021-2022 FCSA Hunting Rules and Guidelines, and understand and agree to follow all the above Rules and Guidelines as given to me.

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Map of Hunting Areas and Blinds

SCALE: 1" = 400'



Map of Hunting Areas and Blinds

N 68° 15' W