

News Release

Coastal Conservation Association South Carolina East Cooper Chapter

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 13, 2010 CONTACT: John G. (Jay) Brown II @ 843-224-0028

Coastal Conservation Association East Cooper Chapter announces 8th Annual "Celebrating Conservation Event"

The East Cooper Chapter of the Coastal Conservation Association invites you to enjoy their 7th Annual "Celebrating Conservation" Event <u>Thursday, May 06, 2010, 6:00 p.m.</u> at Alhambra Hall in Mt. Pleasant. This event is open to all!

Social Hour will begin at 6:00 p.m. with food catered by Charleston Bay Gourmet, followed by a Live Auction and Silent Auction. Open bar is included. For inquiries concerning sponsorship opportunities or attendance please contact 2010 Chapter Chairman Jay Brown 843-224-0028 or John Gourdin at 843-214-1408 locally or the CCA State Office (803) 865-4164.

Tickets for the event, which include the annual CCA Membership, are \$50.00 for singles and \$75.00 for Couples, Children are welcome, under age 18 free.

CCA was founded in 1977 by a handful of anglers in Texas frustrated at the demise of once-robust redfish populations at the hands of commercial netters. CCA's spirit of conservation and stewardship started with the "Save the Redfish" campaign and soon swept across the entire Gulf Coast. By 1985, Gulf-state chapters had formed from Texas to Florida. The South Carolina Chapter was founded in 1986 and was the first CCA chapter on the East Coast. By decade's end, state chapters were founded through the mid-Atlantic region, and by the early 1990's, development of the New England state chapters was completed to address state, national and international issues as a united Coastal Conservation Association. CCA's strength is drawn from the tens of thousands of recreational saltwater anglers who make up its membership. CCA's unmatched breadth and depth of volunteer involvement has made it the largest marine conservation group of its kind. Its grassroots network and unique combination of membership, fundraising and advocacy have enacted positive change on all levels of coastal marine conservation and management.

Among notable achievements in its history, CCA volunteers have helped establish game fish status for billfish and redfish, enacted net bans in four states, and outlawed many destructive gear types. CCA is also recognized by fisheries managers as instrumental in the recovery of redfish, king mackerel, Spanish mackerel, speckled trout, striped bass, Gulf grouper, and Atlantic weakfish. CCA East Cooper Chapter also spearheaded the CCA South Carolina *Topwater Action* Campaign Oyster Recycling Project "Habitat Today equals Fish for Tomorrow"

CCA South Carolina now consists of 12 chapters including Ace Basin (Walterboro), Aiken County, Columbia, East Cooper, Orangeburg, Pee Dee, Rock Hill, Sea Island (Charleston Area), Upstate, Low Country (Beaufort), Waccamaw, and the most recent addition Lexington

For more information on Coastal Conservation Association South Carolina please visit the website at http://www.ccasouthcarolina.com/. CCA is a registered 501(c) (3) charity, 501(c) (3) organizations are considered public charities and all donations to them are tax-exempt to the fullest extent of the law.