



# THE FISHIN' INSIDER

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*PLEASE NOTE: WE AT THE COASTAL CURRENT ACCEPT NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FOLLOWING NOR CAN WE IMAGINE WHY WE AGREED TO PRINT IT.*

Gonna use an ol' opener of Blackie Sherrod's: Scattershooting while wonderin' what else the New Year will bring them poor folks in Port Mansfield cuz this past year sure has sucked. That once quaint l'il fishin' village has been experiencing explosive growth for the last several years. This past year brought the revelation that the cut to the gulf had silted in and was pretty much un-navigable 'cept for the mosquito fleet on a good tide. Word is that dredging is a long way off. Now they got their nature tour plans up in the air or below the water line. I seem to recall that years back the Nature Conservancy bought out all the land interests of a god awful big Houston Insurance conglomerate-like 24,500 acres where they'd planned to develop a second bridge and all up on north beach. I seem to recall that the conservancy went hat in hand to the Breck Girl's good offices to lobby for a semi-bailout. Sen. Hutchinson arranged for enough dinero to be earmarked so that the U S Fish & Wildlife Service could buy the land and turn it over to Laguna Atascosa Wildlife Refuge to manage and the conservancy could retire their note. I seem to recall all this took place a few years ago. Now I'm wonderin' why the conservancy and the county are buttin' heads.

*Usually run this around this time of year thanks to Tibby. Some of ya'll seemed to like it as a thought to begin the new year:*

## DESIDERATA

Go placidly amid the noise and haste and Remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible without surrender be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth quietly and clearly; listen to others, even the dull and ignorant; they too have their story. Avoid loud and aggressive persons, they are vexations to the spirit. If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain and bitter; for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself. Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans.

Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time. Exercise caution in your business affairs; for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind

you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals; and everywhere life is full of heroism. Be yourself.

Especially, do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment it is perennial as the grass. Take kindly the council of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth. Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness. Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether

or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should. Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be, and whatever your labors and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life keep peace with your soul. With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be careful. Strive to be happy.

See ya'll at the Brothers of Debauchery polar bear bash. Merry New Year.



Darren Dees and Chud Scerra of HoustonWraps.com paid a visit to the Sandspit a ways back. Next time you have somethin exceptionally large to wrap give um a holler cuz no jobs too big for um.

**We welcome your fishin' photos. Drop them by 2600 Padre Boulevard on the Island, or mail them to I.B. Hooked, c/o Coastal Current Weekly, P.O.Box 2429, South Padre Island, Texas 78597. Be sure to include the name of the angler, weight and type of fish, where caught, and name of boat if applicable. Photos with SASE will be returned.**