

Blue Goose, Fields Offer More Than Hunting

The Blue Goose Hunting Club in Altair, located at the junction of U.S. 90A and U.S. 71, offers excellent hunting, fine dining, waterfowl gallery and clay target range.

While the Hunting Club offers top rated hunts during the waterfowl season, the Blue Goose Restaurant provides elegant year-round dining and the Blue Goose Gallery offers waterfowl scenery enjoyment.

The sporting clay target shooting range, located near Eagle Lake, will help the hunters improve their skills. The clays can simulate duck and goose flights. It's America's fastest growing shooting sport and is open to the public.

Afternoon shoots for hunters

can be arranged. Contact the club at 979-234-3597 for more information.

John Fields provides a relaxed atmosphere in his landscaped restaurant.

The Blue Goose Bar has a giant screen TV for viewing football games and tapes of goose hunting along with deer hunting.

The gallery is more than a few prints and contributes to one of the most enjoyable settings for dinner in the area. Two glass cases are re-creations of hunting habitat. One glass case separates the lobby from the main dining room, providing an ambiance of serene country dining.

Diners also have a view of the second habitat area on the far wall. Interspersed are exciting recreations in print of waterfowl scenes... all for sale. John added that, during the holidays, they make attractive gifts.

The restaurant is more than the "breakfast" part of routine "bed and breakfast" offerings elsewhere. The menu has been expanded, and diners are exquisitely prepared.

Dinner is offered from 5 p.m. on. Lunches will include barbecue chicken, beef and pork, and hamburgers. Dinner will feature fresh gulf seafood and the finest selections of steaks available, specially selected for the hunter.

During the season, breakfast is available from 3:30 to 5:30 a.m. and the noon meal is served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., seven days a week.

"All hunters and area residents are welcome," John Field emphasizes. "You don't have to be a hunter registered with our club to enjoy our food and hospitality."

So while in the area, whether visiting or hunting with one of the many clubs on the prairies, stop by the restaurant. A regular luncheon and dinner menu is available, and once seated, ask to see the extensive selection.

The bar is a relaxing environment for "off-hours" get-togethers, with story swapping encouraged, no matter where you hunt.

Not forgotten is the core of the hunting season business: the hunters drawn to the area. Blue Goose guides are chosen for their experiences, their personal treatment of

guests, and knowledge of the area.

The Blue Goose Hunting Club leases soy bean, rice, wheat and plowed ground from Needville to Rosenberg to Victoria and from Sealy to the Gulf Coast. Hunting can be done just 15 minutes from Hwy. 6 and U.S. 59.

Hunts include parkas, huge white spreads and guides. Lodges are available for overnight stays. Bird processing is done on the premises of the club, and accommodations can be made for storing the birds until departure.

Finally, remember the Blue Goose for special occasions. The main dining room is available for groups at special rates for such celebrations as birthday and wedding parties.

If you need a special place for a holiday party, don't forget the Blue Goose Restaurant. Just give John a call at 979-234-3597.

New For 2007-2008 From TPWD

Licenses and Fees

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission has made the following changes to the state's hunting and fishing licenses to reduce redundancy and eliminate confusion. License types and tags to be changed or eliminated include:

Special Resident Hunting

This license is replaced by a Senior Resident Hunting License for Texans 65 and over (\$6 plus cost of any required stamp endorsements) and a Youth Hunting License for residents and non-residents under 17 (\$6; no stamps required).

Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp ("Duck Stamp")

The fee for this stamp is now \$17.

Special Resident Fishing Packages (freshwater, saltwater and all-water)

Senior Resident Fishing Packages will be offered to Texans 65 and over at the same fees (\$11 freshwater, \$16 saltwater, \$21 all-water). Texans who are legally blind can purchase a Special Resident All-Water Fishing License for \$6 with no stamp endorsements required. One red drum tag is available at no extra charge.

Day Plus Fishing Packages (freshwater, saltwater and all-water)

All variations are eliminated in favor of a One-Day All-Water Fishing License (\$10 for residents, \$15 for non-residents).

July and August Fishing Packages

No longer available

Red Drum and Bonus Red Drum tags

Saltwater fishing packages still include a Red Drum Tag which allows an angler to take one red drum per year over the maximum length limit. A Bonus Red Drum Tag, which allows taking of an additional

fish over the limit, is no longer free. It is available for \$3.

Fishing Regulations

* On Lake Texoma, the possession limit for striped and hybrid striped bass increases from 10 to 20 fish. The daily bag limit is still 10 striped/hybrid striped bass in any combination, only two of which may be 20 inches or greater.

* There will be no take or kill (No Open Season) on diamondback terrapin.

* The minimum length limit for tarpon increases from 80 to 85 inches.

* The minimum length limit for sheepshead increases from 12 to 13 inches. -- Beginning on Sept. 1, 2008, the length limit will be 14 inches. Beginning on Sept. 1, 2009, the length limit will be 15 inches.

* For spotted seatrout in the Lower Laguna Madre, the daily bag limit and the possession limit shall be 5 fish in all inside waters south of marker 21. Inside waters include all bays, inlets, outlets, passes, rivers, streams, and other bodies of water landward from the shoreline of the state along the Gulf of Mexico and contiguous to, or connected with, but not a part of, the Gulf of Mexico and within which the tide regularly rises and falls.

* Recreational anglers must have a Texas fishing license and saltwater endorsement to bring any fish taken in federal waters ashore in Texas.

Hunting Regulations

* Teal - The early Teal season is not statewide. The High Plains Mallard Management Unit is open September 15-23, while the remainder of the state is open September 15-30. Bag and possession limits are 4 and 8, respectively.

* The statutes governing game laws have a new web address. It is: <http://tlo2.tlc.state.tx.us/statutes/pw.toc.htm>

* A taxidermist who accepts a deer or turkey shall retain the wildlife resource document or tag accompanying each deer or turkey for a period of two years following the return of the resource to the owner or the sale of the deer or turkey mount to recover taxidermy cost.

* Beginning September 1, 2007, new rules will govern the collection, possession, and sale of nongame wildlife. TPWD has created a list of species of nongame wildlife lawful to use in commercial

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John Fields, Owner
At Junction of US 90A and US 71
7 miles west of Eagle Lake; 10 miles south of Columbus off Interstate 10
Write: Blue Goose Hunting Club
P.O. Box M, Altair, TX 77412
www.bluegoosehuntingclub.com

Come In & Browse through Our Wildlife Art Gallery and Museum of Mounted Birds