



2026 Annual Meeting
Fulton Convention Center, Fulton-Rockport, TX
January 19 – 21, 2026

MONDAY, JANUARY 19

12:00 PM	Sponsor/Trade Show Set up
4:00 PM	On Site Registration for those not Pre-Registered
5:30 PM	Opening Night Reception/Oyster Tasting Sponsored by Palacios Marine Agriculture Research (PMAR)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

7:30-8:00AM	Coffee and Kolaches	
8:00 AM	Opening Greeting	Brian Brawner, TAA President Business Development Manager-Aquatics/Aquaculture Hayward Flow Control
8:10 AM	Welcome to Fulton	The Honorable Kelli Cole Mayor, Fulton, TX
8:25 AM	Plenary/Introduce Keynote	Brian Brawner
8:35 AM	Keynote Address	Dan Hunter, Texas Executive Director, USDA Farm Service Agency
9:15 AM	Moving Aquaculture Forward: Updates from the NAA	Caitlyn Czajkowski Executive Director, National Aquaculture Association (NAA)
9:45 AM	Coffee Break - Sponsored by Skretting	
10:00 AM	Aquaponics/Pond Management	Ken Rust, CEO Enterprise Aquatics, LLC
10:50 AM	Introduction to Baylor Genomics Lab	Jake Minich, PhD

		Asst. Professor, Baylor University
10:55 AM	Fish Waste to Plant Food: <i>My Experience With Fish Waste Mineralization</i>	Joe Masbni, PhD, Professor & Extension Specialist, Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension
11:20 AM	NOAA Update on Offshore Aquaculture Development in the Southeast Region	Andrew Richard Regional Aquaculture Coordinator NOAA Fisheries
11:50 AM	Marine Aquaculture Feeding Update	Alejandro Buentello, PhD President and Founder Ichthus Unlimited
12:10 PM	Lunch Break Sponsored by Capital Farm Credit - El Campo	
1:00 PM	UT's Research Program to Improve Flounder Aquaculture	Lee Fuimann, PhD, Director Fisheries & Mariculture Laboratory Perry R Bass Chair The University of Texas at Austin
1:30 PM	The Latest in Fish Nutrition .	Delbert M. Gatlin III, PhD Senior Professor, Department of Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management, Texas A&M University and AgriLife Research
2:15	The Texas A&M Center for Marine	Chris Hollenbeck, Director Aquaculture
2:30 PM	Break - Sponsored by ORRC	
3:15 PM	SRAC Update <i>and</i> Evaluating Liming Formulations for Water Quality Improvement & Clearing Response in Aquatic Systems	Todd Sink, PhD Associate Professor and Aquaculture Extension Specialist Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
4:00 PM	State of the Texas Oyster Industry	Ellis Chapman, Program Director Harte Research Institute Oyster Research & Recovery Inst.
4:30 PM	Oyster Aquaculture Marketing Extension	Mario Marquez, Ph.D, Oyster Mariculture Program Manager Texas Sea Grant, Texas A&M University
5:00 PM	Happy Hour/Reception Sponsored by Rangen	
6:00 PM	President's Banquet	Texas Grown Seafood Dinner

Sponsored by Gulf States Aquaculture

Prepared by Gabriella's Seafood & Tapas Rockport

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

8:30-9:00AM	Coffee and Kolaches	
9:00 AM	Texas Workforce Commission Update w/ Producer Feedback	Russell Hunter, Manager, Migrant & Seasonal Farmworker Outreach Workforce Development Texas Workforce Commission
9:50 AM	AI and Aquaculture: From Farm Intelligence to Decision Automation	Praneeth Narisetty & Uday Reddy Founders, Kurma AI
10:20 AM	Sponsor Spotlight - Shoppa's John Deere	
10:30 AM	Annual TAA Business Meeting -Scholarship Awards : Ray -Achievement Awards : Brawner -Program and Membership Update:Johnson Smith -Financial Report: Kureshy -New Officer Install: Brawner	Brian Brawner
12:00 PM	Lunch Sponsored by Cargill	
1:00 PM	Leave for Off Site Tour – Behind the Scenes Tour of the Texas State Aquarium and Oceans & Wildlife Institute (drive on your own)	
1:30 PM	Texas State Aquarium and Oceans & Wildlife Institute Tour 2710 North Shoreline Corpus Christi, Texas 78402	

Get an exclusive look at the nation's leading wildlife rescue operation, the Port Corpus Christi Wildlife Rescue Center. Its facilities include intensive care and holding areas for marine mammals, sea turtles, and other Texas wildlife species along with connected water systems, husbandry workspaces, and state-of-the-art veterinary laboratories and equipment. The Oceans and Wildlife Institute wildlife response fleet will also be on view and attendance also includes entry to the Texas State Aquarium for the day.

Notably, many of the systems utilized and care provided are exactly the same as used by aquaculture farmers, so this is a great opportunity to view how water-based animals are cared for on land.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS BELOW!



Austwell Aqua Farm

