

CAST for Kids to be held Saturday at lake
By Julie Anderson
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El Dorado, Kan. -

The third annual CAST for Kids will be held from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the Shady Creek Marina at El Dorado Lake.

The event started in 2006 and they are working to make it an annual event.

“It was a perfect fit for me and for the Kansas Highway Patrol,” said Trooper Tom Spencer, KHP and coordinator for the event. “It gives us a chance to give back and really do something. Of course, fishing has always been my passion.”

He enjoys it because it gives families and kids an opportunity to do something they might otherwise not get to do.

“Spending time with these kids reminds the rest of us how fortunate we really are, and puts our own problems and challenges into perspective,” Spencer said.

“Throughout the day you spend with these children, you’ll find not one who whines or complains. The pure undaunted joy that exudes from them will bring tears to your eyes and many others that are helping to make this a success.”

CAST for Kids teams up bass fisherman with area youngsters for a day of fishing enjoyment.

C.A.S.T. for Kids foundation supplies pre-registered participants a t-shirt and hat with logo, rod and reel, tackle box, photo plaque, certificate of participation and bait. They also receive a fun pack containing water safety information, stickers, coloring books, etcetera donated by sponsoring organizations.

Children with disabilities or long-term illness, and other special needs youth learn to fish while sponsors learn about living with limitations. For some of these children, this is the first opportunity to fish. What a thrill this day is! Not only do the young anglers get to spend the day with Kansas State Troopers they get to fish with some of the best Bass Anglers in Kansas and the Midwest.

After fishing they and their bass angler partners are treated to a barbecue lunch and awards ceremony.