



Texas Rivers

Annual Newsletter, 2018

Texas Rivers Protection Association 444 Pecan Park Dr. San Marcos TX 78666

www.txrivers.org

Officers:

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San Marcos, tom@txrivers.org

David Reichert, Vice-president
San Antonio, david@txrivers.org

Duane TeGrotenhuis, Treas.
Martindale, duane@txrivers.org

Board of Directors:

Steve Daniel
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Nick Dornak
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Charlie Kemp
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Ed Lowe
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Marcos Paredes
Terlingua, marcos@txrivers.org

Fred Zagst
Marble Falls, fred@txrivers.org

Save a Tree: Get your Newsletter Electronically

Not to mention the price of postage it could save this organization! Perhaps you have asked us to e-mail your newsletter in the past, but here you have a paper copy. Well, maybe we never made a note of your desire for an electronic version only. Or, perhaps your e-mail has changed and we never got the word. Do it now. E-mail tom (his address is to your left) and tell him that an electronic version is fine with you. Thanks!

The Big Upcoming Election

No, I'm not talking about the mid term elections. It's time for the TRPA election! We have one every two years, and the ballot, along with the bios on the candidates is included in this newsletter. If you only receive this newsletter electronically, you can either print out a copy of the ballot, sign the back of said ballot (and print your name, please) and mail it in. Or you can send in an electronic copy of the ballot with your choices marked. If you do send in an electronic copy (either by scanning a printed copy or creating a pdf and e-mailing that please send it to Tom (address to your left) and be sure it is sent from the e-mail address we have on file for you. Also, please be sure that your dues are current. If you received this newsletter electronically, there will be an accompanying message that will tell you when you made your last contribution to the TRPA. You have to make a minimum donation of \$10 to be current. Members of the election committee will first of all confirm that you are a member in good standing, then they will turn the ballots over and count the votes. So, it's kinda a secret ballot. We will take some time before the annual meeting comes to order on March 4 (more details in this newsletter) to allow folks to vote who haven't sent in a ballot. So, it's not too late to become a board member. Just show up that morning, introduce yourself and see what happens. We have several board members, including this one, who would be willing to relinquish their seat if some new blood is interested in serving. And, in fact, we do have a few new faces that are running for the board. Exciting times!

What to do about Flooding

First of all, when it comes to floods, I speak from experience. Paula and I own a campground and a home on the San Marcos River. Our campground floods regularly. Our house has flooded three times: once in 1998, and twice in 2015. The 98 flood and the Oct flood of 2015 were declared to be 500 year floods. The May 2015 flood was a 1,000 year event. So, according to the experts, it should be at least 2000 years till we get water in our home again. Well not really. But the good news is that, between saving the money that FEMA gave us after the May, 2015 event, and after some generous folks helped us get our home repaired, we were able to raise our home 4 feet. We are now two feet above the flood of record (May 2015). And that flood was said to be 300,000 cubic feet of water per second (the 500 year floods were a mere 200,000 each). I am convinced that raising homes several feet above the flood of record is the only logical solution to flooding. And, if it is impossible or impractical to raise a home, then perhaps the home should be purchased by the government and the property made into parkland.

The TRPA has also been involved with lots of other things lately, protecting the rivers and estuaries of Texas. We hope that you, too, are working toward that goal! Thanks!

Tom Goynes, president.

TRPA Financial Report 2017

General Fund:

Beginning Balance 1/1/2017	\$37,706.61
Contributions for 2017	9,490.60
Plus interest received	29.84
Subtotal general fund	\$47,227.05
Less general expenses:	
Save our Springs Alliance	6,000.00
Friends of the Brazos	5,600.00
Postage	78.15
Total general expenses	11,678.15
Total general fund 12/31/2017	\$35,548.90

Hidalgo Falls Fund 2017

Money earmarked for Hidalgo Falls 1/1/17	\$4,012.89
Contributions received for Hidalgo Falls	860.00
Total Money Available	4,872.89
Less Maintenance Expense	55.96
Total money available 12/31/17	\$4,816.93

River Road Fund 2017

Beginning Balance, 1/1/17	\$200.13
Ending balance 12/31/17	\$200.13

Center Point Rockcrusher Fund 2017

Beginning Balance 1/1/17	\$3,950.58
Ending Balance, 12/31/17	\$3,950.58

Center Point Lion's Park 2017

Beginning Balance 1/1/17	\$100.00
Ending Balance 12/31/17	\$100.00

Mike Ash Memorial 2017

Beginning Balance 1/1/17	\$350.00
Ending Balance 12/31/17	\$350.00

Can Ban Fund 2017

Beginning Balance 1/1/17	\$810.50
Contributions Received	1,375.00
Total money available	2,185.50
Less Legal Expenses	700.00
Less Can Ban stickers	383.08
Ending Balance 12/31/17	\$1,102.42

San Marcos Tuber Nuisance Lawsuit 2017

Beginning Balance 1/1/17	\$8,739.59
Contributions Received	900.00
Total money available	9,639.59
Less Legal expenses	9,639.59
Ending Balance 1/31/17	0

Total funds (all accounts) 12/31/17 \$46,068.96

Earmarked Special Accounts

The TRPA board regularly establishes special accounts (and often makes initial investments into those accounts from the general fund). In most cases these funds are established to help locals fight a bad project (like a poorly planned sewage treatment plant or a rock crusher). If you know of a special threat to your favorite river that would benefit from such an account (and remember, we are a non-profit tax exempt organization, so donations are tax deductible) let us know.

Hidalgo Falls Fund: Since April 2001, canoeists, kayakers, and river lovers have been donating money and time to purchase and maintain 13 acres of land at Hidalgo Falls on the Brazos River. Now there is a restroom and camping area for TRPA members and guests to enjoy. Read about it on the TRPA website: www.txrivers.org

River Road Fund: The State of Texas is considering allowing an interstate type highway to be constructed across the Guadalupe River along River Road. We have set up a fund to help the locals defeat this project.

Rockcrusher Fund: Several years ago a company called Wheatcraft applied for an air quality permit for a rockcrusher on the banks of the Guadalupe River and right in the middle of the town of Center Point. Partly due to our opposition, that company has temporarily withdrawn their permit application. The fund is still maintained in the event that the issue comes up again.

Center Point Lions Park: A group in Center Point are interested in improving a small park on the banks of the Guadalupe River.

Mike Ash Memorial: A fund maintained to remember an old friend of Texas Rivers. The money is periodically donated to projects that we feel Mike would have liked to support.

Friends of the Brazos River: In 2017, TRPA voted to donate \$5,600 to the Friends of the Brazos in their continuing effort to maintain stream flows of the Brazos by fighting a huge water right that has been requested by the Brazos River Authority.

Save our Springs Alliance: The TRPA regularly supports the SOS and SOS regularly helps us. Our goals align.

Can Ban Fund: This past May, the Third Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the New Braunfels Can Ban is legal (it had been declared unconstitutional by a lower court). And, on Nov 1, 2017 the City of New Braunfels reinstated the Can Ban on rivers within the city. TRPA welcomes this news. We have learned that many of the folks tubing Texas Rivers simply refuse to keep track of their beer cans. It is time to outlaw the cans (basically, all disposable beverage containers) on certain rivers where littering is out of control. We have a special fund of money earmarked to support can bans wherever they are needed.



San Marcos River Clean Up 33rd Annual - March 3, 2018

On Saturday, March 3, folks from all over Texas will be picking up trash and cleaning flood debris along the San Marcos River. Everyone is urged to help. If you are unable to participate in the water, we need volunteers to work the banks of the river, especially at parks and highway crossings. The upper sections of the river will require the most attention, and the short mileages set for these sections reflect this. Furthermore, the river becomes less accessible and more hazardous as one goes downstream. For that reason, novice boaters should volunteer for the upper sections. The lower river, from Luling to Gonzales, has several long sections with few bridge crossings so we are asking canoe racers (especially teams that have competed in the Texas Water Safari) to volunteer for sections below Luling. Everyone participating in this event is invited to camp free at either Shady Grove Campground/ Spencer Canoes or at the San Marcos River Retreat www.sanmarcosriverretreat.com for the weekend. Starting at 6 p.m. on Saturday evening there will be a meal provided by the San Marcos River Foundation at Shady Grove/Spencer Canoes. Canoe racers paddling the lower river will meet at Palmetto Park at 8:30 a.m. Everyone paddling the sections of river between the Thompson's Island and Luling will meet at 9:00 a.m. Saturday morning at the San Marcos River Retreat. Persons working the upper sections will meet at City Park in San Marcos at 9:30 a.m.

Tom Goynes (coordinator) 512-787-5574
e-mail: tomgoynes@mac.com

TRPA Annual Meeting

On **Sunday, March 4 at 10 a.m.** the Texas Rivers Protection Association will hold it's annual meeting in the Cowboy Chapel at the San Marcos River Retreat.

To get to the San Marcos River Retreat: coming from Interstate 35 in San Marcos, get on Highway 80 and head toward Luling for 1.8 miles. Take a right on Old Bastrop (aka CR101, aka CR266 – it's the new traffic light right after the overpass). Take an immediate left onto county road 102. Go 1/2 mile on 102 and take a right on Pecan Park Dr. Keep going straight past Pecan Park Campground (on your left) and TG Canoes & Kayaks (on your right). The road will enter the San Marcos River Retreat. Go left to the chapel. For more info call Tom Goynes at 512-787-5574 or visit our website at <http://www.sanmarcosriverretreat.com>



Brazos River Clean Up

15th Annual Brazos River Cleanup Saturday, April 7, 2018

Meet at Tres Rios Campground at 9:00 A.M.

2322 County Road 312; Glen Rose, TX 76043

*Complimentary Ranch House BBQ dinner after cleanup (served from noon to 4 pm)

*Free canoes and shuttles provided by Low Water Canoes and Rhodes Canoes Note: If you want to be assured of having a canoe, reserve early by email, or calling Ed (see below). Low Water and Rhodes have fewer canoes to offer than they have in past years.

Cabins and RV hook ups available. Call Tres Rios for info 254-897-4253

For info: Ed Lowe at 214-802-6811

elowe@celebrationrestaurant.com

<http://www.friendsofthebrazos.org>

Hidalgo Falls River Festival

Saturday April 14, 2018

The 17th annual Hidalgo Falls River Festival will be held on April 14 at the TRPA Hidalgo Falls property on the Brazos River near Navasota. The festival is the year's major fund-raising event to support our efforts to provide paddlers' access to the rapid. Paddlers, their families, and friends can explore the property, check out the tidepool-like river features, play in the rapid, have relaxing floats up and down the river, and enjoy camping for the weekend. We ask that people contribute \$10/person to help cover expenses (e.g., toilets, electricity).

Directions: <http://philosophy.tamu.edu/~sdaniel/location.html>.

During the festival, the gate, which is normally locked will remain open.

Information about the location of Hidalgo Falls, TRPA ownership, pictures of past festivals, etc. can be found at the HF website:

<http://philosophy.tamu.edu/~sdaniel/hidalgo.html>

18th Annual Medina River Cleanup

Saturday, May 5, 2018

Register: 9-12 a.m. at Bandera City Park at the Dam

Food service for volunteers and donors:

breakfast tacos and hot dogs for lunch.

barbecue: 5 p.m. with river music

Free t-shirts for volunteers

Free tent camping with hot showers: May 4 and 5

Discounts for RV's: Pioneer River Resorts.

Info about the clean up and the Medina River Protection Fund is available at: www.MedinaRiver.net or write:

rbrischetto@gmail.com

Start a Cleanup on Your River

The Texas River Protection Association will help you organize a river cleanup on any river in Texas. The tools are available on our website and we will provide consulting at no charge:

<http://www.txrivers.org/cleanups/index.html>

Bios for folks running for TRPA offices and board positions

Tom Goynes (San Marcos) has been paddling canoes and kayaks since 1967. He has served as president of the TRPA since its inception (in the late 1980's). He and his wife, Paula, own a campground and have lived on the San Marcos River since 1972.

David Reichert (San Antonio) started canoeing at Bull Creek Lodges in the mid-50's and got into whitewater paddling in the early 70's. He is a founding member of TRPA and has been active in ACA (BOD, NIC, Safety Committee, Public Policy & Conservation Board), TRRA & USCKT (slalom judge & race organizer; trained as junior sprint coach). He runs the CanoeTX e-mail list and was certified by ACA & Red Cross to teach river canoeing. He was an ACA swiftwater rescue instructor trainer and had SRT II certification. He and his wife Modrea live in San Antonio.

Patti Carothers: RN, ACA Kayak, Canoe & SUP Instructor. Kayak Instructor Trainer, River/Touring Red River Division Instructional Facilitator, Texas State Paddlesports Education Coordinator, SouthWest PaddleSports, co-owner

Duane TeGrotenhuis (San Marcos) has served as a TRPA board member from its very beginning. He assumed roles of vice president and treasurer. Along with Evelyn, his wife, he owns and operates T G Canoes and Kayaks with two locations at San Marcos and in Austin. TGCK has been serving the San Marcos River for 30 years and running.

Steve Daniel (College Station) has been a whitewater kayaker for 30 years. He is the author of Texas Whitewater (2nd ed., Texas A&M University Press, 2004) and producer/editor of Texas Whitewater: The DVD. He has been the coordinator of the property at Hidalgo Falls ever since the TRPA purchased the land in 2001.

Nick Dornak joined the TRPA Board in 2016. For the past 6 years, Nick has served as the Coordinator for the Plum Creek Watershed Partnership, a group of organizations and municipalities working to implement a watershed protection plan that addresses non-point source pollution in Hays and Caldwell County. A primary focus for the Partnership has been to incentivize low-impact development in growing communities along the I-35 corridor. Nick has also worked extensively in invasive species management, environmental permitting and agricultural best management practices. Nick lives in Driftwood, TX, with his wife Carrie and three children, Aiden, Emery and Townes.

John Erskine (Austin) is a die hard water nut and has been paddling and fly fishing on Texas Rivers for 35 years. As an Austin resident for the past 25 years he has been involved in local and state wide conservation issues, and has been a strong advocate of water rights, access, and conservation of Texas waterways. In addition to having a background in Environmental Education, John serves on the Board of Directors for the Colorado River Alliance and is a past Board President of Austin Youth River Watch.

Jack Fairchild (Martindale) has been a San Marcos River rat since the 1930's. Formal Naval Aviator, U.T.A. Engineering Prof, and SMRF President for 9 yrs. Primary interest is the protection of Texas rivers for the future. He lives on the San Marcos River near Martindale.

Richard Grayson lives in East Dallas and has been a member of TRPA for about 24 years. Served as president of Dallas DownRiver Club in 1989. Serves as webmaster for TRPA (www.txrivers.org) and Friends of the Brazos River (www.friendsofthebrazos.org). He served on two Devils River Working Groups. He loves to paddle his 16' Wenonah and fly fishes Texas rivers often. Richard rafts western whitewater rivers regularly. Visit his personal web page at www.rivergeek.com.

Zach Halfin (San Marcos) co-founder of The Eyes of the San Marcos River, a non-profit dedicated to keeping the river clean and educating river users to do the same. Manager of Thigh High Gardens a local farm dedicated to sustainable gardening practices.

Heather Harrison (New Braunfels) is a canoe racer and river advocate. She serves on the New Braunfels River Advisory Committee and leads the New Braunfels Paddling Club. She also hosts the Kanu Rennen, a canoe race for all ages, on the Guadalupe River every November, and teaches canoeing at Texas State University.

Jim Hatcher (Fort Stockton) Has served on the board of the TRPA for many years. Often represents our interest in the Big Bend area.

John Hohn (San Marcos). Has served as a lawyer for the TRPA in several cases. Loves the rivers of this state and spends a lot of time protecting them.

Charley Kemp (Ft. Worth) is involved with many aspects of kayaking: Certified ACA Level 4 Whitewater Kayak Instructor, Member of Arkansas Canoe Club and President of the North Texas River Runners chapter for her second term, and member of the Carolina Canoe Club. She is also a shareholder in the Trinity River Paddling Trail Association and owner of Adventure Kayak Plus. Outdoors and environment are her passion

Ed Lowe (Dallas) has been plying Texas and southwestern rivers since 1968. He has served on the TRPA Board since 2000. With generous financial and moral support of TRPA, Lowe founded Friends of the Brazos River (www.friendsofthebrazos.org) in 2003 to preserve the ecological integrity and promote recreational opportunities on the Brazos River. He lives in Dallas and spends weekends at his Brazos river house near Glen Rose.

Marcos Paredes (Terlingua) is a retired River Ranger in Big Bend National Park. He has served on many river conservation boards over the years including the Devils River Working Groups 1 and 2.

Fred Zagst (Marble Falls) an avid canoeist, has served on the board of TRPA for many years.

Texas Rivers Protection Association

Election, 2018

Officers and board members of the TRPA serve two-year terms. Our by-laws state: "Election of the officers and other members of the board shall be conducted by mail prior to the annual meeting in such a manner as the Board of Directors shall determine."

This ballot contains a list of the current officers and board members who have agreed to serve another term. It also contains other nominees and blank spaces for all offices and board positions, allowing write-ins for some or all positions. Immediately prior to the annual meeting on Sunday morning, March 4, 2018, at 10 a.m. at the San Marcos River Retreat, members present will discuss additional nominations or changes since this ballot was sent out. Members present will fill in their ballots and these ballots will be counted along with those ballots that have been received in the mail. A committee selected from persons present at that time will count the ballots. Once the election is over, the annual meeting will begin.

If you intend to be present at the meeting on Sunday, March 4, please bring this ballot with you. If you cannot attend, but wish to vote in this election, please fill in this ballot and return it. Make sure that your dues are paid, and that the backside of this page either has your mailing label affixed or the application filled out. **For those of you who get an electronic copy only of the newsletter, please print this ballot, then (to mail it) print your name on the back side and sign it, and then mail it to the address below or (to e-mail it) scan it and be sure to e-mail it to us using the e-mail address that we have on file for you.** Your vote will be private, but we need to verify that everyone voting is a paid member, so we will look at the labels first (and/or check the e-mail return address), then all the ballots will be turned over and the votes privately counted.

Officers:	check here	or	write in candidate
President	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tom Goynes (San Marcos)	_____
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	David Reichert (San Antonio)	_____
Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/>	Patti Carothers (Houston)	_____
Treasurer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Duane TeGrotenhuis (San Marcos)	_____

Board of Directors:

**vote for 11 of the following 12 candidates
(15 total board members)**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Steve Daniel (College Station)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nick Dornak (Driftwood)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	John Erskine (Austin)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jack Fairchild (Martindale)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rich Grayson (Dallas)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Zach Halfin (San Marcos)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Heather Harrison (New Braunfels)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jim Hatcher (Fort Stockton)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Charley Kemp (Ft. Worth)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ed Lowe (Dallas)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marcos Paredes (Big Bend)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fred Zagst (Marble Falls)	_____

Return to: TRPA Ballot, 444 Pecan Park Drive, San Marcos, TX 78666

Texas Rivers Protection Association Membership Application

To join, or renew your membership, fill out the information below and include a check for your dues.

Name _____ Hm Phone _____ Wk phone _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Check here if e-mail version of newsletter is sufficient _____

Levels of membership: (check one)

___ Regular\$10 ___ Protector\$25 ___ Guardian\$50 ___ Ranger\$100 ___ Bronze\$500 ___ Silver\$1000 ___ Gold \$5000

Is this a renewal? _____ Check if new address _____

All members receive a bumper sticker, notices and newsletters and get to vote at general meetings. Protectors also receive a cloisonné pin with our emblem. Guardians receive the pin and a logo t-shirt or a Texas Whitewater DVD. Rangers and above receive all three. Guardians need to indicate their choice (t-shirt or DVD) and Rangers and Guardians wanting t-shirts should indicate their size (M,L,XL, or XXL).

Protectors, Guardians, Rangers, Bronze, Silver and Gold members:

Please send the following:

Protector \$25 ___ Cloisonné Pin

Guardian \$50 ___ Cloisonné Pin and ___ t-shirt (circle one) M L XL XXL or ___ DVD

Ranger \$100 & above ___ Cloisonné Pin and ___ t-shirt (circle one) M L XL XXL and ___ DVD

We will not send any merchandise, unless the above section is filled out.

___ I would like to receive a new bumper sticker.



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