



# Texas Rivers

## Annual Newsletter, 2020

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

[www.txrivers.org](http://www.txrivers.org)

### Officers:

Tom Goynes, President  
San Marcos, [tom@txrivers.org](mailto:tom@txrivers.org)

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Patti Carothers, Secretary  
The Woodlands, [pattic@txrivers.org](mailto:pattic@txrivers.org)

### Board of Directors:

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Fred Zagst  
Marble Falls, [fredz@txrivers.org](mailto:fredz@txrivers.org)

## No More Wastewater in our Rivers!

It is no secret that people are moving to Texas in ever increasing numbers. And for that reason, water resources are being depleted and our beloved rivers are becoming more and more polluted. We simply must be more efficient in using and reclaiming our water. New developments are going to have to lead the way in water conservation - and if such conservation is expensive, it will simply be a necessary cost for the privilege of building here. Total reuse of all reclaimed water simply has to be our goal. We can no longer afford to use drinking water to flush our commodes, wash our cars, water our gardens, parks or playing fields, or fight our fires.

Reclaimed water treated to state of the art standards can be used for all of these purposes. The biggest cost will be the laying of parallel water lines of purple pipe along with regular water lines, and we will have to build reservoirs and distribution systems for this reclaimed water. San Diego is doing this. Texas can too. Below is a primer on the art of reclaiming wastewater written by David Price, past president of the Texas River Recreation Association and a candidate for our Board of Directors. David also happens to be an expert in water reclamation. You can read my primer about wastewater here:

[http://txrivers.org/archive/wastewater\\_goynes.html](http://txrivers.org/archive/wastewater_goynes.html)

Tom Goynes

Wastewater Treatment Plants can either be a discharge plant, or a non-discharge plant. Quite simply, if a plant discharges to the waters of the State, it has to be pretty clean. You hear terms like 5/5/2/1/6, which means BOD5, TSS, NH3, PO4, DO. These numbers have to do with the components in the wastewater quality that exits the plant. The Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD5) is a measurement of the organics in the water. The Total Suspended Solids is just that. The Nitrogen (ammonia) is harmful to fish, if too high. The Phosphorous (PO4) can lead to excess nutrients.

These permits require public hearings, extensive engineering, and expensive construction. This very water can be used for landscape irrigation, grey-water uses (toilets, etc.), and helps lead to less depletion of water sources, either surface waters or wells. My suggestion? We, as an organization cannot stop the development. However, we can show the developers a better way to do it that protects our rivers and waterways, and actually saves them time and money.

David Price

Full article: [http://txrivers.org/archive/wastewater\\_david\\_price.html](http://txrivers.org/archive/wastewater_david_price.html)

## TRPA Financial Report 2019

### General Fund:

Beginning Balance 1/1/2019	\$48,339.89
Contributions for 2019	18,537.42
Donation for San Marcos Clean Up	500.00
Plus interest received	375.28
Subtotal general fund	\$67,752.59
Less general expenses:	
Save our Springs Alliance	10,000.00
Llano River Restoration	1,456.78
Colorado River Clean Up	1,000.00
Adobe Software (for website)	649.37
Bumper Stickers	575.89
San Marcos River Clean Up	500.00
Texas Coalition for State Parks	500.00
Newsletter	75.00
Postage	210.95
River Network	150.00
Total general expenses	\$15,117.99
<b>Total general fund 12/31/2019</b>	<b>\$52,634.60</b>

### Hidalgo Falls Fund 2019

Beginning Balance 1/1/19	\$5,483.93
Contributions received	1,150.00
Total Money Available	6,633.93
Less Expenses:	
Road Work	3,800.00
Water Well Repair	933.91
Electricity	690.00
Total money available 12/31/19	\$1,210.02

### Earmarked Accounts with no change for 2019

River Road	\$200.13
Center Point Rock crusher	\$3,990.58
Center Point Lion's Park	\$100.00

### Memorial Funds

Mike Ash	\$350.00
Ed Lowe	\$100.00
David Smith	\$700.00

### Wastewater Permits

Torn wastewater permit (Tarpley)	\$150
Castroville permit	\$300
General Wastewater permits	\$1,700

### Can Ban and Tuber Issues Fund 2019

Beginning Balance 1/1/19	\$2,002.42
Contributions Received	760.00
Less Can Ban stickers	240.00
Less reusable containers	1,552.56
Ending Balance 12/31/19	\$969.86

**Total funds (all accounts) 12/31/19 \$62,405.19**

## 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](http://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.

**Rock crusher Fund:** Several years ago a company called Wheatcraft applied for an air quality permit for a rock crusher 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 maintained in the event that the issue reappears.

**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.

**Ed Lowe Memorial:** Ed Lowe served on the board of this organization for 18 years. He also founded the Friends of the Brazos and was responsible for organizing annual clean ups of that river and fighting tirelessly to maintain the flow and health of the Brazos. Ed also founded Texas Water Trails whereby he introduced thousands of kids to Texas Rivers. Although the current balance of his fund is low, the board is committed to appropriating the necessary funds to provide a lasting memorial to Ed as soon that is possible (decisions are currently being made regarding the best memorial).

**David Smith Memorial:** David was only an active member for a few years, but he was thoroughly dedicated to protecting the San Marcos River from trash and unruly behavior. We intend to work toward achieving his wishes.

**Wastewater Permits:** We are currently fighting a number of bad wastewater permits that threaten our rivers. The Torn permit would allow a Christian camp near Tarpley to dump its poorly treated wastewater into Commissioner's Creek. We intend to help the locals fight that permit. The City of Castroville has applied for a new permit, we intend to monitor that permit to make sure that their reclaimed water continues to be used for irrigation of crops. And there are a number of other bad permits that we are committed to fighting.

**Can Ban Fund:** On Nov 1, 2017 the City of New Braunfels reinstated the Can Ban on rivers within the city. The impact the can ban there has been amazing. The rivers are clean and the behavior has improved. 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.

**Major Sharpe McCullough Fund:** (we just started this fund in January and currently have \$300) A number of older decked canoes have been donated to the TRPA in honor of Sharpe McCullough, a member who taught many a student to paddle. They are available in exchange for a donation. More info:

<https://www.facebook.com/153738111310061/posts/3251066178243890/?d=n>

## San Marcos River Clean Up 35th Annual - Feb 29 and March 7

On Saturday, February 29 and again on Saturday, March 7, folks from all over Texas will be picking up trash and cleaning flood debris along the San Marcos River. On Feb 29 canoeists will be cleaning the river downstream of the City of San Marcos. And on March 7 there will be a large clean up within the city limits of San Marcos along the river and its watersheds and parks. The Buffalo Bayou Canoe Race is scheduled for March 7, so the San Marcos Clean Up was made into a 2 day event (to allow the canoe racers to participate). Everyone volunteering for the Feb 29 event is invited to camp free at either Shady Grove Campground/ Spencer Canoes (one night free camping) or at the San Marcos River Retreat [www.sanmarcosriverretreat.com](http://www.sanmarcosriverretreat.com) for the weekend. Starting at 6 p.m. on Saturday evening there will be a meal provided for the volunteers in the chapel at the San Marcos River Retreat. There will be a meeting in that chapel at 9:00 a.m. on Feb 29 to let folks choose their section of river and arrange shuttles.

The clean up of the upper river (within San Marcos) will take place on March 7. The city of San Marcos has a website for folks to visit for more information and to register for that event:

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

## TRPA Annual Meeting

On **Sunday, March 1 at 10 a.m.** the Texas Rivers Protection Association will hold its 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

## 18th Annual Brazos River Cleanup Saturday, May 2, 2020

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

2322 County Road 312; Glen Rose, TX 76043

BBQ dinner after cleanup (served from noon to 4 pm)

Free canoes and shuttles provided by Low Water Canoes and Rhodes Canoes

If you want to be assured of having a canoe, reserve early.

Low Water & Rhodes have fewer canoes to offer as they have in the past.

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

[info@friendsofthebrazos.org](mailto:info@friendsofthebrazos.org)

<http://www.friendsofthebrazos.org>

## Hidalgo Falls RiverFest

**Saturday and Sunday October 10-11, 2020**

The 19th annual Hidalgo Falls River Festival will be held on October 10&11, 2020 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 tide pool-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://people.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://people.tamu.edu/~sdaniel/hidalgo.html>

## 20th Annual Medina River Cleanup Saturday, May 2, 2020

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 1 and 2

Discounts for RV's: Pioneer River Resort.

Info about the clean up and the Medina River Protection Fund is available at: [www.MedinaRiver.net](http://www.MedinaRiver.net) or write:

[rrbrischetto@gmail.com](mailto:rrbrischetto@gmail.com)

## 3rd Annual Colorado River Clean Up Saturday, May 16, 2020

Visit the facebook page to learn more:

<https://www.facebook.com/cleanupthecolorado>

### 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 board

**Grace Arianoutsos**, (Dallas) is an avid paddler and kayak & SUP instructor advocating safety on the water and enjoying the outdoors in an environmentally friendly way. Member of TRPA for 5 years and involved with the cleanup North Texas waterways for over 15 years.

**Bob Brischetto** (Lakehills) Robert Brischetto is a sociologist with a Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin (1975). He taught for 12 years at University of Texas at El Paso, Our Lady of the Lake University and Trinity University. He founded the annual Medina River Cleanup in 2001, modeled after the San Marcos River Cleanup. The cleanup will celebrate its 20th year on May 2 at the Bandera City Park.

**Patti Carothers** (Navasota) RN, ACA Kayak, Canoe, Safety & Rescue & SUP Instructor. Kayak Instructor Trainer, River/Touring, Red River Division Instructional Facilitator, Adaptive Paddling chair, former ACA board member, VP and secretary, curriculum committee. Long-time interest in San Jacinto and Brazos River watersheds. Current secretary for TRPA.

**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** (Driftwood) joined the TRPA Board in 2016. Nick is the Director of Watershed Services with The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment. His work includes watershed protection planning with an emphasis on green infrastructure and One Water policy and practice. 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 diehard 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 as Board President 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.

**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.

**Richard Grayson** lives in East Dallas and has been a member of TRPA for over 25 years. Served as president of Dallas Down River Club in 1989. Serves as webmaster for TRPA ([www.txrivers.org](http://www.txrivers.org)) and Friends of the Brazos River ([www.friendsofthebrazos.org](http://www.friendsofthebrazos.org)). He served on two Devils River Working Groups. He loves to paddle his 16' Wenonah, Jackson SOT, and fly fishes Texas rivers often. Richard rafts western whitewater rivers often. Visit his personal web page at [www.rivergeek.com](http://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.

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

**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.

**Alexander Neal** (San Marcos) joined the TRPA board in 2019, hails from Dallas and currently resides in San Marcos. He received a B.S. in Geography from Texas State University in 2018 with a minor in Nature & Heritage Tourism. Alexander has been involved with the implementation of a Watershed Protection Plan, citizen science, and guiding glass-bottom boat tours with Meadows Center for Water & Environment. He is an advocate for Wilderness, Wild & Scenic Rivers, and is deeply interested in keeping intact streams & wetlands undisturbed.

**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.

**David Price** (Austin) Former President of River Recreation Association of Texas. Launched first major cleanup of Lower Guadalupe River in 1983, and worked on many cleanups since then. Worked for container deposit legislation, as a volunteer lobbyist. Currently working on Perdido Bay pollution issue against International Paper (Florida Panhandle, pro-bono technical consultant on water quality issues). Civil Engineer by trade, with specialty in Wastewater. Own a boat, or two, since 1977 (9 currently, with another in the works).

**David Reichert** (San Antonio) started canoeing in the mid-50's and got into river paddling in the early 70's. He is a founding

member of TRPA and has been active in ACA, TRRA, and USCKT. He was certified by ACA & Red Cross to teach river canoeing. He was an ACA swiftwater rescue instructor trainer. He and his wife Modrea live in San Antonio.

**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. TGCK has been serving the San Marcos River for 30 years and running.

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

# Texas Rivers Protection Association Election, 2020

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 1, 2020, 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 1, 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 14 candidates (15 total board members)

### Incumbents:

- |                          |                                |  |       |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--|-------|
| <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"/> | Jim Hatcher (Fort Stockton)    |  | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Charley Kemp (Ft. Worth)       |  | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Alexander Neal (San Marcos)    |  | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Marcos Paredes (Big Bend)      |  | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Fred Zagst (Marble Falls)      |  | _____ |

### People who would like to serve:

- |                          |                            |  |       |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|--|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Grace Arianoutsos (Dallas) |  | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Bob Brischetto (Lakehills) |  | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | David Price (Austin)       |  | _____ |

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:

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.



Texas Rivers Protection Association  
444 Pecan Park Drive  
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