



Texas Rivers

SPRING, 2008

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

www.txrivers.org

Officers:

Tom Goynes, President
San Marcos, 512-392-6171
e-mail: Goynes@centurytel.net

David Reichert, Vice-president
San Antonio, 210-545-0548

Leslie Redwine, Secretary
New Braunfels, 830-626-8047

Duane TeGrotenhuis, Treas.
Martindale, 512-353-3946

Board of Directors:

Mark Andrus
Angleton, 409-849-3732

Kathleen Cusick
Spring Branch, 830-885-5324

Steve Daniel
College Station, 979-846-4649

David Davenport
New Braunfels, 830-609-3038

Rich Grayson
Dallas, 214-827-0144

Jim Hatcher
Fort Stockton, 915-336-6700

Ed Lowe
Dallas, 214-826-8815

Anne Olden
Houston, 713-864-0205

Ginger Turner
Austin, 512-459-5742

Michael Van Winkle
Kerrville, 830-995-3113

Fred Zagst
Marble Falls, 830-693-1054

New Year, New Life, New Energy!

I have a brand new granddaughter. Her name is Eden Elizabeth Yonley. As I write this, she is two months, and one week old. She is, of course, the most beautiful baby ever born. And, she is destined to be one of the greatest paddlers this State has ever produced

Meanwhile, I just turned 57 (back in December). The old body isn't working out quite as well as it used to. My back hurts if I do too much (like getting out of bed). Paddling trips are few and far between. My MD (Muscular Dystrophy) thing is starting to get in the way of having fun. And, I am convinced that we are not going to get out of here alive.

The circle of life! It seemed so much better on the big screen. In person it sucks. But it happens; whether we are ready for it or not. And, in its own silly way, it's really kinda exciting. It's time for the young bucks to take over. Time for the old farts to get ready for a trip to that happy paddling ground (or river).

And that is what is happening to this organization. We have three new folks who have volunteered to serve on our board of directors. I always ask for volunteers, but I am usually surprised when it happens. But to have three new faces at the same time is a cause to celebrate (especially since it is three very well qualified folks).

So, please take the time to look at the bios for the candidates for the Board of Directors of this organization. Then be sure to take the time to vote. We have one board member who has asked to be replaced: Michael Van Winkle from Kerrville. Michael has served this organization for many years and we really appreciate his service. But right now, health and other considerations have caused him to ask for a break. We also have a couple of other board members who have said that their seat is available if someone wants it. Our simple rule of thumb is, if you really want a seat, you should probably show up for the meeting.

And that meeting will be on Sunday morning, March 2 (the day after the San Marcos River Clean Up) at Pecan Park Retreat. Your best bet is to plan right now to attend both events. What can be a better way to start the new paddling year than to take part in the cleaning of the San Marcos River? Then, on Sunday morning, show up at 8:00 a.m. to hear me preach and Duane TeGrotenhuis play his guitar (or, you do have the option of missing the service and showing up just for the meeting at 10:00). At that meeting you can find out what this organization is really all about – leftover desserts from the clean up meal the night before. Not to mention leftover barbecue from the night before for lunch.

But there will also be lots of discussion of important things that are going on in the world of river protection. And you can be a part of that discussion. Everyone is welcome at our annual meeting. Come and share your ideas.

New ideas. New blood. New energy. That's what this whole circle of life thing is about. Show up at the clean up and the meeting and be a part of it!

Tom Goynes
President

TRPA Financial Report 2007

Beginning Balance, 1/1/07	\$36,896.39
Less \$ Earmarked for Hidalgo Falls, 1/1/07	10,372.38
Less \$Earmarked for Center Point Rockcrusher	7,291.63
Money available for general fund 1/1/07	\$19,232.38
Plus ending balance of Hidalgo fund	15,984.13
Plus ending balance Rockcrusher fund	8,091.82
Plus contributions received for general fund	12,879.40
Plus interest received year to date	246.80
Subtotal	\$56,434.53

Less General Expenses:

Money transferred to Hidalgo	\$3,000.00
New Computer	1,000.00
Hog Creek Legal Brief	800.00
San Marcos River Patrol	500.00
Medina River Clean Up	250.00
Newsletter (printing)	228.00
Postage	250.18
River Network (dues)	100.00
Natural Area Preservation Association	100.00
Annual Meeting	70.02
Office supplies	29.98
Secretary of State (periodic report)	5.00
Total expenses general fund	\$6,333.18
Total money available	\$50,101.35
(bank accounts \$50,058.68 plus \$42.67 cash)	

Less \$ earmarked for Hidalgo Falls 12/31/07	15,984.13
Less \$ earmarked for Rockcrusher 12/31/07	8,091.82
Total \$ available general fund 12/31/07	\$26,025.40

Hidalgo Falls Fund 2007

Money earmarked for Hidalgo Falls 1/1/07	\$10,372.38
Contributions received for Hidalgo Falls	6,402.50
Total money available	\$16,774.88

Less Expenses:

Property Taxes	\$440.75
Gravel for road	350.00
Total expenses	\$790.75
Total money available 12/31/07	\$15,984.13

Center Point Rockcrusher fund 2007

Beginning Balance, 1/1/07	\$7,291.63
Total Donations	1,080.00
Total money available	\$8,371.63
Less Legal expenses	\$279.81
Ending balance 12/31/07	\$8,091.82

Notes on the financial statement:

The ending balance for 2006 had a mistake showing that we had \$530.99 more than we actually had (we added too much interest to the actual bank balance). Also, we showed more money in the Hidalgo account and less in the general because we counted the Hidalgo transfer in 2006 when it actually happened in 2007.

Hidalgo Falls River Festival Saturday & Sunday, April 12 & 13

The seventh annual Hidalgo Falls River Festival will be held April 12-13, 2008 at the TRPA Hidalgo Falls property on the Brazos River near Navasota. The festival, which is the year's major fund-raising event to maintain and improve paddlers' access to the rapid, typically attracts more than 200 paddlers and spectators. Dealer reps and outfitters will have boats and gear available for demos on moving water, and (based on past years) many boaters will come as early as Friday to enjoy the nice play levels on the river and to camp in the upstream and downstream campgrounds.

Events will include a 28-mile downriver race from Koppe Bridge Landing south of College Station to Hidalgo on Saturday morning, a "Boatercross" head-to-head elimination race through the rapids late Saturday afternoon, and a presentation by whitewater expedition kayaker Sam Drevo on Saturday night. World-class kayaker Dan Gravera will join Drevo for paddling clinics throughout the festival. On Sunday there will be a leisurely 3.5-mile float trip from Hidalgo to Hwy 105, a whitewater giant slalom race through the islands in the Falls, and a whitewater rodeo. During the downriver race on Saturday, festival goers can demo different kinds of boats, watch paddling videos, and play in the rapids. The festival admission fee is \$25 for the entire weekend, \$15 for Sunday only; children under 12 are admitted free. Registration for the TCRA downriver race on Saturday costs \$25. The registration fee includes admission to the festival site, camping, opportunities to try out different boats and gear, and the chance to see Drevo's latest whitewater movie on Saturday night. Volunteers who provide at least eight hours of help at the festival are admitted free (contact Patti Carothers patti@paddlesports.com). Limited toilet and water facilities are available in the camping areas at the TRPA property. Motels are available in nearby Navasota.

Directions:

<http://philosophy.tamu.edu/~sdaniel/location.html>. During the festival we will meet visitors at the gate (which is normally locked).

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/hf-fest7.html>



San Marcos River Clean Up

23rd Annual - March 1, 2008

On Saturday, March 1, folks from all over Texas will be participating in the world's longest river clean up. We will be picking up trash along the entire length of the San Marcos River (approximately 90 miles).

BANK CREWS

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. Scuba divers and snorkelers are also urged to participate.

RECREATIONAL PADDLERS

The upper sections of the San Marcos River, particularly just downstream of the City of San Marcos, 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 either section 1 or 2 and more experienced boaters for the other sections.

CANOE RACING ENTHUSIASTS

The lower river, from Luling to Gonzales, has several long sections with few bridge crossings and for that reason, we are asking canoe racers (especially teams that have competed in the Texas Water Safari) to volunteer for sections 9 - 11.

CAMPOUT AND GET-TO-GETHER

Everyone participating in this event is invited to camp free at either Shady Grove Campground/ Spencer Canoes or at Pecan Park Retreat 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.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

On Sunday morning at 8 a.m., there will be a non-denominational Christian worship service at Pecan Park.

MEETING TIMES AND SHUTTLES

A group meeting will be held for everyone paddling the sections of river between Pecan Park Retreat and Luling at 9:00 a.m. Saturday morning at Spencer Canoes. Canoe racers paddling the lower river will meet at Palmetto Park at 8:30 a.m. Contact Ginsie Stauss for more info: ginsie@io.com Persons working sections 1 and 2 will meet at City Park in San Marcos at 10:00 a.m.

Tom Goynes (coordinator) 512-392-6171

e-mail: goynes@centurytel.net

TRPA Annual Meeting and Election

On **Sunday, March 2 at 10 a.m.** the Texas Rivers Protection Association will hold it's annual general meeting and election. We will meet at the Pecan Park Retreat office (which is also the home of Tom and Paula Goynes).

To get to Pecan Park Retreat: coming from Interstate 35 in San Marcos, get on Highway 80 and head toward Luling for 1.8 miles. Take a right on county road 101. Take an immediate left onto county road 102. Go 1/2 mile on 102 and take a right on Pecan Park road. Keep going straight (past TG Canoe Livery) and the road will end at the Pecan Park Retreat Office. For more info call Tom Goynes at 512-392-6171 or visit our website at <http://www.pecanparkretreat.com>



4th Annual Brazos River Cleanup

Saturday, April 5, 2008

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 - 1:30-5:00 pm

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

*Complimentary camping at Tres Rios 4/4 - 4/6.

Cabins available. Call Tres Rios for info 254-897-4253

Contact Ed Lowe: twtedlowe@sbcglobal.net wk: 214-358-0612, cell: 214-802-6811 www.friendsofthebrazos.org

8th Annual Medina River Cleanup

Saturday, May 3, 2008

Register: 9-12 a.m. at Bandera City Park Maple St. and Hwy. 173 at the Medina River Dam

* Free barbecue: 5-7 p.m. with entertainment

* Free t-shirts for all participants

* Free camping: May 2 and 3 at the Bandera City Park and at Pioneer River Resorts (across 173 from the park). Pioneer River Resorts (formerly Jelleystone Park) is offering free camping and hot showers for all river cleanup campers. RV sites with full hookups are available to river cleanup participants at Pioneer for \$11 per vehicle, less than half their normal rate. They will also cook chili dogs Friday evening if you notify them in advance. For reservations call 1-866-371-3751 or (830) 796-3751 or email Linda or Lloyd Randall at pioneerrr@sbcglobal.net.

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

brischetto@wireweb.net

Olympic Team Trials qualifier in San Marcos

Some of the best racers in the country will be coming to San Marcos' Rio Vista Park to begin their run for a spot on the Olympic Team on Sunday February 17. There will be pro-racing, novice, and junior classes so that anyone interested can compete! Cheer on Local Red River Racing Junior athletes, and local Olympian Ben Kvanli, and his wife Michelle! Come enjoy the Olympic Spirit!! Volunteers will be needed to work as gate judges, announcers, and for boat checking and other various jobs. Contact Ben or Michelle Kvanli at 512-203-0093 or visit: <http://www.redriverracing.com>

Bios for folks running for TRPA offices and board positions

Eric McGhee is from Friendswood, TX, but has lived throughout the state for most of his life. After high school, he joined the US Air Force and was involved in two different Operations during the later part of the Gulf War. After the military, he studied different subjects in college and finally settled on the Computer Science program at Texas A&M University. He has been a computer & communications engineer since he started the military and now currently owns and operates his own company, CertNet Solutions Inc., out of Spring, TX. He has been a member of the Aggeland Paddle Club for over 3 years, and has been paddling since he was 15. Currently, he is both Treasurer and acting VP for the Club. He is consistently involved with the Hidalgo Falls property and has volunteered to help with the annual River Festival event for the past 3 years. His goals: to help promote awareness and conservation of Texas Rivers; to ensure that my children have the ability, and right, to enjoy not just Texas' rivers, but this country's great river systems. I am a person that does not like to sit idly, waiting for change to happen; I want to help make it happen.

Gay Culbertson Born 12/25/1955 in Uvalde, Tx. Graduated HS 1974 in Del Rio. Graduated Texas A&M 1984 with BBA in Management. Worked in management in various retail and service businesses from 1980-2000 in College Station. Worked in Special Ed at a College Station middle school from 2000-2006. Last year took over as technology coordinator at the middle school. Divorced, with a 22 year old daughter and 1 year old grandson Has been an avid paddler since 1995 and an avid hiker since 1998. Camps/paddles almost every other weekend. Has been involved with river clean-ups all over Texas for years and has helped run the race at HidalgoFest the last two years.

Charles Zucker: My love of the outdoors stems from the many wonderful childhood vacations I spent exploring the lakes, rivers and forests of northern Wisconsin where my mother was raised. After receiving a Ph.D. in American history from Northwestern University, I taught at the college level for many years, but then left teaching to pursue association work. In 1988, a colleague called to tell me that a job as executive director of the Texas Faculty Association (TFA) was opening up in Austin. He thought I should apply for the position. My wife and I visited Austin and liked what we saw. When I was offered the job, I took it. My wife, twin sons and I moved to Austin in July 1988. Last August I retired after nineteen years of service with TFA. Although I had traveled extensively throughout the United States and Canada on camping trips, I embarrassed to say that I knew little if anything about the Hill Country and its rivers before moving to Austin. What a marvelous surprise! Within a few years, I had discovered Barton Creek, the Pedernales, the Frio, the Medina, the Guadalupe and, of course, the San Marcos. I purchased both a canoe and an inflatable kayak and having been paddling these beautiful rivers whenever I could find the time ever since. I should also add that I am an avid fly fisher and have spent many wonderful days casting for the bass and bream that inhabit them (once in a while I even catch a few!) Retiring has provided me with the opportunity to increase the amount of time and energy I can devote as a volunteer to protecting Hill Country rivers. In the nineteen years that I have lived in

Austin, I have seen the threat to our rivers increase dramatically because of unrelenting development. I would like to do what I can to help preserve these rivers for the next generation and for the generations that follow. I would be honored to serve on the board of the Texas Rivers Protection Association. Married to wife, Shaya, for 37 years. Twin sons, Noah and Sasha.

Ed Lowe 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.

Richard Grayson lives in East Dallas and has been a member of TRPA since 1989 (or 1990?) 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) and serves on the TPWD Texas Rivers Conservation Advisory Board. Volunteered last spring for Big Bend National Park, working in the River District. He loves to paddle his 16' Wenonah and fly fishes on Texas rivers often. Richard rafts western whitewater rivers regularly and did his 6th Grand Canyon private raft trip in October. Visit his personal web page at www.rivergeek.com.

David Reichert 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 TPRA 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.

Anne Olden has canoed for about 20 years and especially likes whitewater, along with camping and just being outdoors.

Tom Goynes has been paddling canoes and kayaks since 1967. He has served as president of the TRPA since its inception (back in the late 1980's). He is also currently serving as president of the San Marcos River foundation. He and his wife Paula own a campground and live on the San Marcos River.

Ginger Turner, schoolteacher, mother of four, proud board member since 2002, is an avid canoeist and conservationist. Paddling in earnest since about 1995, she enjoys canoe racing and river tripping and loves to travel. She has a BA from UT and a Med from TxState. She is honored to help protect Texas Rivers by serving on the TRPA board.

Steve Daniel (College Station) has been a whitewater kayaker for 28 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.

130 MILES BY CANOE

by Bob Heinsohn

On Sunday, October 11, 1998, two solo canoeists left the boat ramp on Business Highway 71 in Columbus, Texas to complete a five-day paddling trip on the Colorado River to the finish at the River Bend boat ramp past Matagorda. The water had receded two and a half feet, and the trip was completed one week prior to the big Central Texas and Houston flood in October, 1998.

This section had not previously been canoed by Bob Heinsohn and friend Millie Lehrmann. Bob spent many summers working on the family farm adjacent to the river and fishing in the river while growing up, so he had a desire to paddle the Lower Colorado River.

On their first day on the river, they heard trains and dove hunters enjoying the outdoors, however, the gun sounds could have been timed-shots used to scare crows away from pecan trees. A few fishermen were out in their motorboats, but generally it was a nice quiet day of paddling through an area where several cypress trees were seen. Since these trees help control erosion, it is unfortunate that so few are left in this area.

Just south of the Garwood river bridge, two alligators were seen, which was surprising. At sunset, two bald eagles were spotted in a tall tree, and the next morning, one eagle flew close to the two paddlers. One evening, many flocks of geese flew over, but only three deer were seen on the entire trip. In the mornings, squirrels chattered when they were approached by the canoes, plus nutria were seen swimming in the river or scurrying to their bank-side homes. Falling stars and satellites were seen at night while camping on the banks of the river. The only mishap on the trip was a spider bite on Millie's arm that caused some swelling.

Two small dams on the river had to be portaged, plus Bob and Millie had to exit the river to pass the large dam at Bay City, which caused them to lose six miles of river travel. Below Highway 59 at Wharton, many used tires were on the inside bend of the river above the city park boat dock.

On Thursday at sunset, the two canoeists reached the take-out at the River Bend boat ramp. After cleaning up five days worth of grime, Bob and Millie dined on the largest hamburgers served at the River Bend Tavern, located on the east side of the Colorado River. They were allowed to sleep on the picnic tables on the tavern's screened patio. The next morning, the two exhausted canoeists were picked up by Bob's mother and two family friends for the trip home. Paddling 130 miles in five days was quite a challenge, but well-worth the effort.

Texas Rivers Protection Association Election, 2008

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 2, 2008, at 10 a.m. at Pecan Park 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 2, 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 print your name on the back side and sign it, and then mail it to the address below.** 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, then all the ballots will be turned over and the votes privately counted.

Officers:	check here	or	write in candidate
President	[] Tom Goynes (San Marcos)		_____
Vice President	[] David Reichert (San Antonio)		_____
Secretary	[] Leslie Redwine (New Braunfels)		_____
Treasurer	[] Duane TeGrotenhuis (San Marcos)		_____

Board of Directors:

vote for 11 of the following 13 candidates (15 total board members)

[] Mark Andrus (Angleton)	_____
[] Gay Culbertson (College Station)	_____
[] Kathleen Cusick (Spring Branch)	_____
[] Steve Daniel (College Station)	_____
[] David Davenport (New Braunfels)	_____
[] Rich Grayson (Dallas)	_____
[] Jim Hatcher (Fort Stockton)	_____
[] Ed Lowe (Dallas)	_____
[] Eric McGhee (Friendswood)	_____
[] Anne Olden (Houston)	_____
[] Ginger Turner (Austin)	_____
[] Fred Zagst (Marble Falls)	_____
[] Charles Zucker (Austin)	_____

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 either a logo cap or logo t-shirt. Rangers and above receive all three. Guardians need to indicate their choice (cap or t-shirt) 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 ___ Cap or t-shirt (circle one) M L XL XXL
Ranger \$100 & above ___ Cloisonné Pin and ___ Cap and t-shirt (circle one) M L XL XXL

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

___ I would like to receive a new bumper sticker.

<p>Texas Rivers Protection Association 444 Pecan Park Dr. San Marcos, TX 78666</p>
