



# Texas Rivers

## ANNUAL NEWSLETTER, 2010

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, 512-392-6171  
e-mail: [tomgoynes@mac.com](mailto:tomgoynes@mac.com)

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:

Gay Culbertson  
Del Rio, 830-775-2557

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

Marcos Paredes  
Big Bend National Park

Ginger Turner  
Austin, 512-459-5742

Fred Zagst  
Marble Falls, 830-693-1054

Charles Zucker  
Austin, 512-328-8153

### We made it through 2009!

Sometimes, just surviving a year is a bit of a victory. That's how I feel about the year that just passed. First there was the drought. And then, with the economy in such bad shape, and so many of our members unemployed, it's amazing that we were able to receive enough donations to continue operations. But we did. And, maybe because times are tough, some of the battles that we expected to have to fight didn't materialize. I have some of that news on this page and some on the pages that follow.

But, probably the main reason that we are able to survive is because we are strictly a volunteer organization. If you look at our financial statement, you will notice that there are no salaries. In fact, there is no office rent (Paula and I donate that, along with any phone expense and even our travel expenses) or any of the other normal expenses that you would expect from a statewide organization. So, if you can't afford to send in your dues, don't worry about it right now. You can catch up later. But, if you are still blessed with employment, consider that the vast majority of your donation goes directly to the good cause of protecting our rivers.

**The Center Point Rockcrusher:** We won! Or, more specifically, at the very last minute the applicant (the Rockcrusher) withdrew their application to pollute the air and water in Center Point (right on the banks of the Upper Guadalupe River). While they can reapply, they would have to start over at the beginning, and we would be there, ready to oppose the application again. So, at least for the moment, chalk one up for the river and the air.

**The Castroville Wastewater Plant.** The City of Castroville applied for a permit to dump "treated" sewage into the Medina River over two years ago. I received a call from John Hall, a concerned citizen in Castroville and advised him on the steps he needed to take to get a contested case hearing. He did a great job, on short notice, and gave the TCEQ all the necessary info for them to grant a contested case hearing. But the TCEQ eventually denied the request. Now we are going through the court system to overturn the TCEQ decision. But, in the meantime I have heard that the City of Castroville is considering building another wastewater plant closer to their airport. As I understand they have some land near the airport and it is my hope that they might be encouraged to irrigate that land with effluent instead of dumping it in the river. If that happens, then they might withdraw their application to discharge. We shall wait and see how this one turns out – but it could have a happy ending as well.

**The Martindale Waterski Lakes.** There is a developer from the Houston area who has come up with a great plan to pump water (which was originally granted by the State for the irrigation of crops) from the San Marcos River into some man made waterski lakes. Then, the former farmland will be sold as waterfront property for a considerable gain. We simply have to stop such activity. We need the state to change the water code in such a way that a landowner cannot convert water that was granted for irrigation into "recreation" water. Or, in the very least, if such a conversion occurs, the state must mandate some really strong minimum streamflow requirements to protect the rivers from which this water is pumped.

So, as you can see, we have a few victories this past year, and we have a lot of work to do as well. And, as always, we sure need and appreciate your support. Thanks

Tom Goynes

## TRPA Financial Report 2009

Beginning Balance, 1/1/09	\$59,680.82
Less \$ Earmarked for Hidalgo Falls, 1/1/09	20,027.87
Less \$Earmarked for Center Point Rockcrusher	7,517.37
Money available for general fund 1/1/09	\$32,135.58
Plus ending balance of Hidalgo fund	10,193.57
Plus ending balance Rockcrusher fund	6,970.27
Plus ending balance River Road fund	483.90
Plus ending balance Burns fund	375.00
Plus ending balance Ash fund	255.00
Plus ending balance Waterski fund	50.00
Plus contributions received for general fund	8,578.53
Plus interest received year to date	43.09
Subtotal	\$59,084.94

### Less General Expenses:

Castroville legal expenses	\$3,600.00
New Computer	872.00
Donation to River Road fund	500.00
Hydrolab Repair	377.25
Medina River Clean Up	200.00
Newsletter (printing)	138.97
Postage	247.16
River Network (dues)	100.00
Website	60.00
Office supplies	7.29
Total expenses general fund	\$6,102.67
Total money available	\$52,982.27
(bank accounts: \$52,879.35 plus \$102.92 cash)	

Less \$ earmarked for Hidalgo Falls 12/31/09	\$10,193.57
Less \$ earmarked for Rockcrusher 12/31/09	6,970.27
Less \$ earmarked for River Road 12/31/09	483.90
Less \$ earmarked for Burns memorial 12/31/09	375.00
Less \$ earmarked for Ash memorial 12/31/09	255.00
Less \$ earmarked for Waterski lakes 12/31/09	50.00
Total \$ available general fund 12/31/09	\$34,654.53

## Hidalgo Falls Fund 2009

Money earmarked for Hidalgo Falls 1/1/09	\$20,027.87
Contributions received for Hidalgo Falls	3,340.00
Total money available	\$23,367.87
Less Expenses:	
Property Taxes	\$369.33
Septic tank and water well	12,580.00
Hidalgo Festival expenses	224.97
Total expenses	\$13,174.30
Total money available 12/31/09	\$10,193.57

## Center Point Rockcrusher fund 2009

Beginning Balance, 1/1/09	\$7,517.37
Total Donations	100.00
Total money available	\$7,617.37
Less Legal expenses	\$647.10
Ending balance 12/31/09	\$6,970.27

**Notes on the financial statement:** Memorial Funds for Nancy Burns and Michael Ash were started in 2009. TRPA shared half the cost of the repair of a hydrolab (a water quality testing instrument) owned by the San Marcos River Foundation.

## Hidalgo Falls River Festival Saturday & Sunday, March 20 & 21

The 9th annual Hidalgo Falls River Festival will be held March 20 & 21, 2010 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. Overall this year's event will be more like our early events, where paddlers, their families and friends come simply to explore the property, check out the tidepool-like river features, play in the rapid, have relaxing floats up and down the river, and enjoy hanging out with and meeting other boaters from around the state.

The schedule is very fluid: we hope that people will offer to coordinate float trips down to Hwy 105 (3.5 miles), do impromptu tours of the property (e.g., identifying plants or talking about the geology of the falls) when interested people are around on Saturday and Sunday, and swap information on where to paddle in the state. This year we are asking people to donate at least \$5/day/person and \$10/weekend to help cover expenses (e.g., toilets, electricity) and to support the costs of our new bathhouse (under construction).

As in years past, on Saturday there will be a 28-mile downriver race from the Koppe Bridge Landing south of College Station to Hidalgo. Recreational division paddlers will leave from the Koppe Bridge starting line at 9:00, and competition division paddlers will leave at 10:00. Registration opens at 7:30 at the put-in. Racers are required to pay \$15 to register for the race in addition to their donations for the festival (\$5/day, \$10 weekend/person).

### 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 25th Annual - March 6, 2010

On Saturday, March 6, 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 the San Marcos River 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 the San Marcos River Retreat.

### MEETING TIMES AND SHUTTLES

A group meeting will be held for everyone paddling the sections of river between the San Marcos River 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 Tim Curry for more info: wildmancurry at yahoo.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: [tomgoynes@mac.com](mailto:tomgoynes@mac.com)

## TRPA Annual Meeting and Election

On **Sunday, March 7 at 10 a.m.** the Texas Rivers Protection Association will hold its annual general meeting and election. We will meet at the San Marcos River Retreat office (which is also the home of Tom and Paula Goynes).

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 TG Canoe & Kayak) and the road will end at the San Marcos River Retreat office. For more info call Tom Goynes at 512-392-6171 or visit our website at <http://www.sanmarcosriverretreat.com>



## 7th Annual Brazos River Cleanup Saturday, April 10, 2010

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

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

For tent camping info or other questions, Contact Ed Lowe: [twtedlowe@sbcglobal.net](mailto:twtedlowe@sbcglobal.net) wk: 214-358-0612, cell: 214-802-6811 <http://www.friendsofthebrazos.org>

## 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Medina River Cleanup Saturday, May 1, 2010

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

\* Free barbecue: 5-8 p.m. with entertainment

\* Free t-shirts for all participants

\* Free camping: April 30 & May 1 at the Bandera City Park and at Pioneer River Resorts (across 173 from the park).

Pioneer River Resorts 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.

For reservations call 1-866-371-3751 or (830) 796-3751 or email Linda or Lloyd Randall at [pioneer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pioneer@sbcglobal.net).

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

## New Protected Area Benefits Chihuahuan Desert Borderlands

In summer of 2009, Mexican president Felipe Calderón issued a decree creating the 826,000-acre Ocampo Flora and Fauna Protection Area in the northernmost part of the state of Coahuila. Larger than the state of Rhode Island, this new protected area connects two existing federal conservation projects, the Maderas del Carmen and the Cañon de Santa Elena Flora and Fauna protection areas and, in the process, creates a nearly contiguous conservation area stretching across 2 million acres. For the full article:

<http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/texas/features/art29679.html>

## **Bios for folks running for TRPA offices and board positions**

**Tom Goynes** 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** 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.

**Duane TeGrotenhuis** 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, as well as Buchanan Adventure Tours at Canyon of the Eagles, on the Colorado River and Lake Buchanan, near Burnet, TX. TGCK has been serving the San Marcos River for 25 years and running.

**Gay Culbertson** Born 12/25/1955 in Uvalde. 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.

**Kathy Cusick** has lived in rural Comal County for the past 11 years, which is when she began paddling. She is a certified instructor with the American Canoe Association in both River Canoe and Kayak at the essentials level. She was also a certified canoe instructor with the American Red Cross and volunteered for 3 seasons as a regular canoe and kayak instructor working with Boy Scout Leaders from the Houston area. Her preferred craft is a whitewater canoe, but she also enjoys river tripping and is a regular participant in local river clean up activities. She is presently vice president of the Alamo City Rivermen for the past 4 years after serving as the club president for 3 years from 2003-2005. She is a board member of the Guadalupe River Association. Off the river, she is an oncology nurse in both the pediatric and adult settings, and has worked predominantly in research for the past 10 years.

**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.

**Jack Fairchild** 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. Live on the San Marcos River near Martindale.

**Richard Grayson** lives in East Dallas and has been a member of TRPA for about 20 years. Served as president of Dallas DownRiver 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 loves to paddle his 16' Wenonah and fly fishes Texas rivers often. Richard rafts western whitewater rivers regularly and did his 7th Grand Canyon private raft trip in August. Visit his personal web page at [www.rivergeek.com](http://www.rivergeek.com).

**Marcos Paredes** is a River Ranger in Big Bend National Park. He has served on many river conservation boards over the years.

**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](http://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.

**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.

**Charles Zucker** 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 in 1988. What a marvelous surprise! Within a few years, I 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 twenty-one 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. After joining the TRPA board, I noticed that although we had a great website, we did not have a TRPA membership brochure that we could mail to individuals and hand out at events. I decided to design a brochure for the TRPA. It has recently been printed up and is now ready for distribution. I would be honored to serve a second term on the board of the Texas Rivers Protection Association.

# Texas Rivers Protection Association Election, 2010

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 7, 2010, 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 7, 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	<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Goynes (San Marcos)		_____
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/> David Reichert (San Antonio)		_____
Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Leslie Redwine (New Braunfels)		_____
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"/>	Gay Culbertson (Del Rio)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Cusick (Spring Branch)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Steve Daniel (College Station)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	David Davenport (New Braunfels)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jack Fairchild (Martindale)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rich Grayson (Dallas)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jim Hatcher (Fort Stockton)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ed Lowe (Dallas)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marcos Paredes (Big Bend)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ginger Turner (Austin)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fred Zagst (Marble Falls)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Charles Zucker (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 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>
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