



# Texas Rivers

## Annual Newsletter, 2012

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

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

### How about 99.3%?

#### Officers:

Tom Goynes, President  
San Marcos, 512-392-6171  
<mailto:tom@txrivers.org>

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:

Kathleen Cusick  
Spring Branch, 830-885-5324

Steve Daniel  
College Station, 979-846-4649

David Davenport  
New Braunfels, 830-609-3038

Jack Fairchild  
Martindale, 512-357-6827

Rich Grayson  
Dallas, 214-827-0144

Jim Hatcher  
Fort Stockton, 432-336-6700

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

This morning I was reading a publication from a nonprofit organization that was bragging about the fact that their effectiveness rating was at 92%. What that means is that they only spend 8% of their budget on operating expenses (like rent and salaries). And, compared to the rest of the non-profits out there, 92% is pretty phenomenal. In fact, according to Charity Navigators, a non-profit rating entity, 90% of non-profits spend at least 35% of their budget on operating expenses.

So I decided to take a look at how much the TRPA spends on operating expenses versus how much it actually spends directly on our causes. Now granted, there are some gray areas, like the money spent on domain name registration, and the printing and postage expense associated with this newsletter. But if you consider our newsletter and our website to be part of our causes, then our actual operating expenses comes to about \$370. And, compared to the total of \$54,000 that we spent directly on causes, that produces an effectiveness rating of approximately 99.3%.

That says a couple of things. Number one, you will probably never find a more effective organization than TRPA to which to give money if your goal is the protection of the rivers of Texas and your right to enjoy them. And, number two, the officers and board members of the TRPA have been absorbing a whole lot of the expenses involved in running this organization.

For instance, no officer or board member has ever asked to be reimbursed for travel expenses - which include travel to meetings, hearings etc. Also, you will notice that there are no expenses for telephone, rent, utilities and so forth. In fact, last year we bought some software so our webmaster could better manage our website, and we bought \$22 worth of office supplies. And that was our total operating expenses from the general fund. And, any donations made directly to one of our special funds - like Hidalgo Falls - are at an effectiveness rating of 100%. In other words, no percentage of any of our earmarked funds are used for general operating expenses.

That explains how we were able to contribute \$37,300 (which includes \$10,000 from the general fund) to help purchase parkland in the city of Martindale and thereby keep Sculls Crossing open as a take out. It explains how we were able to contribute another \$10,000 (in addition to our past support) to the Friends of the Brazos, to fight a water right application that had been made by the Brazos River Authority, to effectively grab all the remaining water in the Brazos River. It explains how we are able to fight a rockcrusher that is being placed in Center Point, right on the banks of the river and within a mile of the elementary school. And, it explains how we are able to fight the discharge of poorly treated sewage into the Medina River by the city of Castroville.

The bottom line is that we are doing amazing things. Won't you join us?

Tom Goynes, president

## TRPA Financial Report 2011

### General Fund:

Beginning Balance 1/1/2011	\$36,801.01
Plus contributions for 2011	12,777.02
Plus interest received	35.16
Subtotal general fund	\$49,613.19
Less contributions to our causes:	
Martindale access	\$10,000.00
Friends of the Brazos	10,000.00
Castroville legal expenses	3,200.00
Medina River Clean Up	200.00
Newsletter	167.00
Postage	155.46
Banner	119.06
Texas Conservation Alliance	100.00
Domain name registration	60.00
Total contributions to causes	\$24,001.52
Subtotal	25,611.67
Less operating expenses	
Software for website	\$346.45
Office Supplies	22.48
Total operating expenses	\$368.93
Total general fund 12/31/2011	\$25,242.74

### Hidalgo Falls Fund 2011

Money earmarked for Hidalgo Falls 1/1/11	\$2,349.17
Contributions received for Hidalgo Falls	1,640.00
Total money available	\$3,989.17
Less Expenses:	
Supplies and maintenance	344.31
Property tax	393.15
Total expenses	\$737.46
Total money available 12/31/11	\$3,251.71

### River Road Fund 2011

Beginning Balance, 1/1/11	\$284.33
Plus contributions received	100.00
Total money available	\$384.33
Less expenses (website)	\$184.20
Ending balance 12/31/11	\$200.13

### Rockcrusher Fund 2011

Beginning Balance 1/1/11	\$6,979.27
Contributions Received	50.00
Retainer Returned	500.00
Total money available	\$7,520.27
Less Legal Expenses	1,713.79
Ending Balance, 12/31/11	\$5,806.48

### Money earmarked for access at Martindale 2011

Beginning Bal. Burns memorial 1/1/11	\$475.00
Beginning Bal. Ash memorial 1/1/11	582.00
Beginning Bal. Martindale Access donations	460.00
Total contributions for Martindale access	25,953.00
Total money available	27,470.00
Money given to Martindale	27,370.00
Ending balance Ash Memorial 12/31/11	\$100.00

<b>Total Contributions Received</b>	<b>\$40,520.02</b>
<b>Total \$ spent on causes</b>	<b>54,006.97</b>
<b>Total \$ spent on operating expenses</b>	<b>368.93</b>
<b>Effectiveness rating</b>	<b>99.3%</b>

## News

**Rockcrusher Fund:** Just when it looked like this issue was dead, and the applicant who wanted 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 had withdrawn his permit application, it has come up again. And the bad news is that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has eased the rules for rockcrushers making it almost impossible to win this battle. But, we will continue to fight as long as we have a legal recourse.

**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. You can read more at: <http://www.save-river-road.net/>

**Access to San Marcos River at Martindale:** Last year a new bridge was built across the San Marcos River at Scull's Crossing. At the same time, the city of Martindale was trying to come up with some money to purchase a small tract of land (1.5 acres) adjacent to the recently acquired Allen Bates Park (which is on the river in the middle of town). We were able to swing a deal with the City of Martindale whereby we helped them purchase the additional parkland (we have donated \$37,370 to the cause so far) and they established a loading area on the east side of Scull's Crossing. In addition, Guadalupe County has promised to donate approximately 8 acres of land immediately downstream of the Bates Park now that the city has acquired this 1.5 acre tract.

**The Battle over the Brazos:** Several years ago the Brazos River Authority applied for a water right permit from the TCEQ whereby they would get all the remaining water in the Brazos to sell to whoever they wished. TRPA board member Ed Lowe, and the Friends of the Brazos challenged the BRA, and asked for a contested case hearing. Now, after a lengthy and expensive legal battle (TRPA contributed another \$10,000 this past year) the TCEQ has denied the permit. Of course, the appeals process starts now. You can read about it on this link <http://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/article/State-rebuffs-bid-for-Brazos-River-rights-2705936.php>

**The Devils River Working Group:** Several members of the TRPA have been working hard (along with Texas Parks and Wildlife staff, and a group of landowners) to secure campsites along the Devils River, and to come up with some sort of a system whereby paddlers can enjoy the river without fear of overcrowding and/or conflicts with landowners. TRPA has committed to pay for the food for one of the meetings of this group. You can read more about the working group on this site: [http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/devils\\_river/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/devils_river/)

## Hidalgo Falls River Festival

**Saturday & Sunday, March 31 and April 1, 2012**

The 11th annual Hidalgo Falls River Festival will be held 3/31 and 4/1, 2012 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 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.

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, 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>

## San Marcos River Clean Up

**27th Annual - March 3, 2012**

On Saturday, March 3, 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). 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 and for that reason, 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 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. 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. Persons working the upper sections 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

On **Sunday, March 4 at 10 a.m.** the Texas Rivers Protection Association will hold it's annual general meeting. 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>



## 9th Annual Brazos River Cleanup Saturday, April 14, 2012

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>

## 12th Annual Medina River Cleanup Saturday, May 5, 2012

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: May 4 and 5 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 [pioneertrr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pioneertrr@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)



### 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** 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.

**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.

**Dave Davenport** (New Braunfels) has served on the board of the TRPA for many years. Also serves on the South Central Texas Water Advisory Committee and on the Guadalupe River Association.

**John Erskine** "I'm a die hard river user and also serve on the board of Austin Youth River Watch. I think I could serve complementary roles between the two organizations as I regularly interact with folks from LCRA and various watershed folks in Austin. I'm particularly interested in the Colorado River since it is my home turf, but care about all of them."

**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. He lives 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).

**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.

**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.

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

**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.

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

**Charles Zucker** Paddler and avid fly fisher, has lived in Austin for 23 years. He wants to preserve our rivers for the next generation and for the generations that follow.

# Texas Rivers Protection Association Election, 2012

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, 2012, 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:	<input type="checkbox"/> check here	or	<input type="checkbox"/> write in candidate
President	<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Goynes (San Marcos)		_____
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/> David Reichert (San Antonio)		_____
Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Kathy Cusick (Spring Branch)		_____
Treasurer	<input type="checkbox"/> Duane TeGrotenhuis (San Marcos)		_____

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

- Steve Daniel (College Station) \_\_\_\_\_
- David Davenport (New Braunfels) \_\_\_\_\_
- John Erskine (Austin) \_\_\_\_\_
- Jack Fairchild (Martindale) \_\_\_\_\_
- Rich Grayson (Dallas) \_\_\_\_\_
- Jim Hatcher (Fort Stockton) \_\_\_\_\_
- John Hohn (San Marcos) \_\_\_\_\_
- Ed Lowe (Dallas) \_\_\_\_\_
- Marcos Paredes (Big Bend) \_\_\_\_\_
- 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 or a Texas Whitewater DVD. Rangers and above receive all three. Guardians need to indicate their choice (cap, 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  Cap or  t-shirt (circle one) M L XL XXL or  DVD

Ranger \$100 & above  Cloisonné Pin and  Cap 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  
San Marcos, TX 78666