



Board of Directors

*John Cobb, President
Bastrop, Texas
cobbfarm@airmail.net*

*Bob Armstrong, Vice President
Austin, Texas
landmanbob@aol.com*

*Ruth Jordan, Secretary,
San Angelo, Texas
RuthJordan@suddenlink.net*

*Richard Solis, Treasurer
Canyon Lake, Texas
Rsolis@GVTC.com*

*Scott Chase, Director
Dallas, Texas
schase@airmail.net*

*Jan DeVault, Director
Houston, Texas
jan.devault@earthlink.net*

*John M. Gosdin
Austin, Texas
jmgosdin@aol.com*

*Barbara McKnight
Stephenville, Texas
bmcknight3276@msn.com*

*Jamie McNally
Austin, Texas
jfm@ctw.com*

*Evelyn L. Merz
Houston, Texas
elmerz@hal-pc.org*

*Kenneth Pollard
Austin, Texas
kpollard52@yahoo.com*

*Beth McDonald, President
Emeritus
Austin, Texas*

*Linda Evans, News &
Administration
512/444-8079
leevans@texas.net*

Texans for State Parks

P. O. Box 41480
Austin, TX 78704-0025

Citizens working to preserve and enhance the state park system for the benefit of the people of Texas and their guests.

Legislative Position Statement

Why does Texas need its state parks?

- ◆ State Parks are a reservoir of Texas' natural, historic, and cultural heritage.
- ◆ State Parks provide affordable, accessible recreation across Texas.
- ◆ State Parks are economic engines for neighboring communities, generating revenue and jobs.
- ◆ State Parks are an important link in the outdoor education of our youth and provide physical and mental health benefits for all Texans.

Texans for State Parks believes that any budget reductions for State Parks should be in a fair and equal manner compared to other Agencies.

We are asking the State Legislature take into consideration the impact of proposed staff reductions as well transfers or closures of parks on the local economy of the Parks in question.

- ◆ Texans for State Parks continues to support the use of the income from the sporting goods sales tax as a means of funding state and local parks in accordance with HB12 passed in the 80th Legislative session.
- ◆ Decisions regarding the possible closing of park sites should include the local economic impact of the site.
- ◆ We ask that public meetings be held between Legislative Officials, Representatives from State Parks, and the local Officials in the areas where Parks would be affected.
- ◆ We ask for the reinstatement of the Entrepreneurial Rider (formerly Rider 27) so TPWD may utilize all funds generated by the agency.
- ◆ We would like for the purchasing rules involving purchases for resale to be revised so that state park enterprises may be operated in a business-like manner.
- ◆ Restore Capital Authority. This will require no additional funds, but is critical in order to continue funding for projects funded with bond money, grants and in-kind payment such as volunteer efforts.