



Toledo Bend Lake Association Newsletter

Dedicated to Serving Toledo Bend Lake

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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October 2015 ISSUE

October Membership Social – The October general membership meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 1 at the Sabine Council on Aging (SCOA) facility, Highway 191 North. The main entree will be fried catfish prepared by several members. Please bring appropriate side dishes and desserts. This is our annual membership meeting when we will vote for four board members and bring you up-to-date on TBLA accomplishments and plans.

TBLA Board Member Nominations and Election -- Four TBLA members will be nominated to be elected by acclamation at the October annual membership meeting. These four members will serve 3-year term positions from 2016 - 2018. Two nominees are long-term Board members Phil Medine and Gaynell Goodeaux. Rhonda Dean was elected last year to fill a vacancy for one year and wishes to continue as a Board member. Deb Pennington is a new nominee to the Board. Following are short bios of each candidate.

Phil Medine - Phil is currently serving out a 3-year term as a member of the Board of Directors, he has been an active Lake Association member since 2002, serving as First Vice President, Bass Unlimited Coordinator and long term board member. Phil has been married to Dinah (TBLA Lunker Bass Coordinator) for 25 years. Phil and Dinah have lived on Toledo Bend Lake for 17 years. Phil and Dinah are members of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Many. Phil retired from Wal-Mart after 30 years. Phil enjoys riding his EZGO around the neighborhood, visiting with the neighbors on the weekends, and running his catfish lines. Phil is currently employed at Toledo Town Hardware. It's been a pleasure to serve as a board member and as an active Lake Association member.

Gaynell Goodeaux – Gaynell retired from First Federal Bank of Louisiana in 2004 as an AVP-Branch Operations Manager where she was responsible for all aspects of staffing of nine branches and the Main Office. She and husband Ned have owned property on Toledo Bend since the 1980's, being regular weekenders until they retired and purchased their current home in 2002. Gaynell has served TBLA well: 6 years on the Board including President for 2 years and Treasurer for 3 years. She has worked on the following TBLA activities/projects: Kids BB Shoot - 2 yrs.; 5th Grade Fishing - 1 yr.; TBLA/Sabine SWCD Fish Fest - 2yrs; Bass Unlimited - 7 yrs. (Table Sales, Advertising, Selling raffle tickets); Budget Committee - 2yrs; and Committee to develop goals for TBLA. She also served on the Sabine Tourist Commission Volunteer for B.A.S.S. - for 3 yrs. as co-committee leader responsible for bringing vendors to tournament.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 1, 2015
Member Social
7:00 p.m. at SCOA

October 20, 2015
Board of Directors
6:30 p.m. at SCOA

October 21, 2015
2016 Bass Unlimited
6:30 p.m. at SCOA

Rhonda Dean -- Rhonda is currently serving a vacated position on the Board. Rhonda and Tim moved to the Lake permanently in 2011 from Tucson, Arizona. Prior to that, they resided in Lafayette, La. for 15 years. Rhonda retired as a hospital administrator in 2006 and did healthcare consulting for 5 years. Tim and Rhonda have two sons and two lovely grandchildren. Rhonda and Tim have been the Poster Coordinators for TBLA for the past two years. Rhonda serves as a Board Member on the Sabine Council on Aging and Project Celebration. She enjoys quilting, line dancing, and bridge. Tim loves the Lake and enjoys fishing.

Deborah Pennington. Deb and Randy moved to the Lake permanently from Midland, Texas in 2003, residing in Houston prior to that. Deb began working in the oil and gas industry in 1981, starting in gas plant operations for Shell, then in Shell's environmental group, and ultimately working as an environmental consultant for the industry. Deb has a degree in Business Management, which she put to use managing her environmental consulting firm. She officially closed her business' doors in 2011, but still does occasional consulting work on the side. Deb is the Secretary/Treasurer for the Rotary Club of Many, the Treasurer for the Toledo Bend Citizens' Advisory Committee and a Sabine Master Gardener. With 7 grandchildren, 4 dogs, and fish that are yet to be caught, Deb is enjoying the Toledo Bend area.

TBLA Board of Directors actions – The Board met on August 18th and addressed the following:

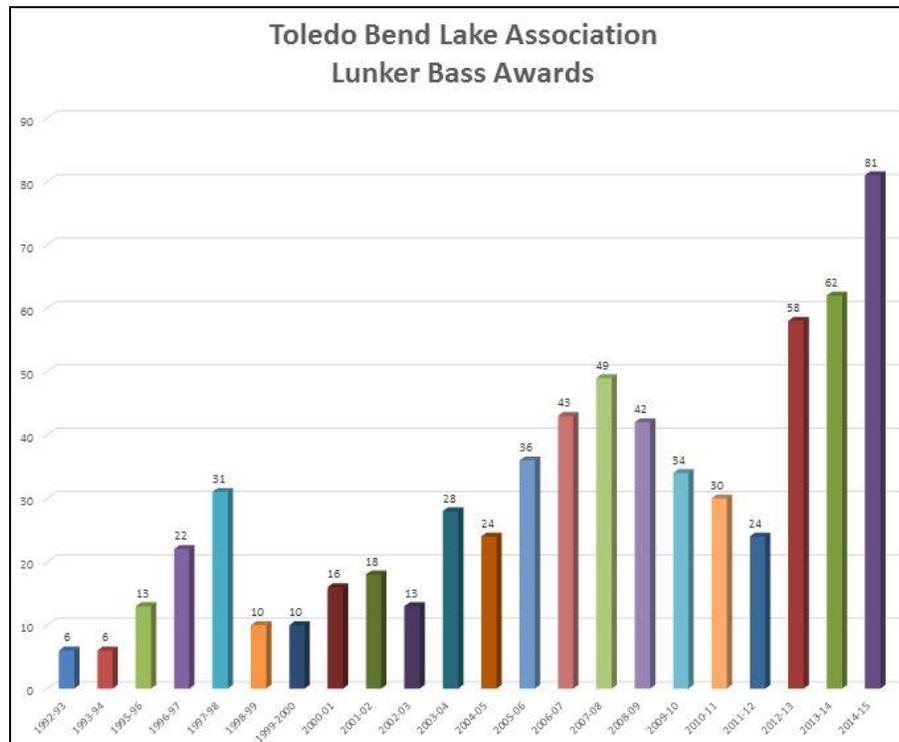
- Approved a grant request from Friends of Hodges Gardens/SRA for \$1,000 to add to and improve the Hodges Gardens State Park annual Christmas Tree Lighting program.
- Turned down a \$30,000 grant request from SRA Louisiana to provide new playground equipment at SRA San Miguel Park.
- Turned down a donation of a large barge to be sunk in the Lake for fish habitat.

2016 Bass Unlimited Volunteers & Committee Members Needed – The “2016 Bass Unlimited – Back A Great Fighter” fundraiser was kicked off at an organizational meeting on September 16th. This meeting was primarily held to provide initial information on the normal process, to ask volunteers to sign up on committees, and to agree to basic color schemes for the hats and t-shirts (greys, black, teal, tan). The Annual Banquet and Auction will take place on April 15, 2016 at Cypress Bend, preceded by our Grand Raffle ticket sales, and BU Poster Unveiling. Not all committee positions have been filled. We always need plenty of volunteers to work on various projects to help set up and take down prior to and after the banquet. If you wish to sign up as a volunteer and/or serve on a committee, please contact BU Coordinator Ned Goodeaux at (318) 590-0501 or email him at: nggoodeaux@cebridge.net The next meeting is Oct. 21, at 6:30 p.m. at SCOA

BassCashBash Donation -- We recently received the following message from TBLA member P.D. Vinson, Founder of the BassCashBash tournament held on Toledo Bend this year: “There were four participants of the 2015 BassCashBash that weighed in Lunkers in our inaugural Summer Long Event. In an effort to contribute to the wonderful work that is being done by Ms. Dinah (Medine) and the TBLA Lunker Program, I would like to donate funds, to help purchase their replicas, in the amount of \$1,500 to the Lake Association at our awards banquet on September 26th at 5:30 pm at Fin & Feather Resort. If possible I would like a couple of the officers to attend and accept the check on behalf of the TBLA. I believe were it not for the Lunker Program, my tournament would simply be a tagged fish tournament and not a Tags & Tens event. Thank you for all of the effort that TBLA puts into making Toledo Bend a great place to fish, for not only our generation, but generations to come.” TBLA President John Toliver and Lunker Bass Program Coordinator, Dinah Medine, will attend the banquet to accept the check. We wish to thank P.D. for his gracious comments and the donation to the Toledo Bend Lunker Program. If you wish to check the BassCashBash Tournament results out, go to <http://www.basscashbash.com/>

Toledo Bend Lunker Bass Program update -- As of Sept. 21, 2015, twenty-nine (29) lunker bass, weighing 10 lbs. or greater, have been registered with the TBLA Lunker Bass Program, 20 more lunkers than were registered at the same time during last year's record-breaking 81 replicas awarded.

Check the big fish out on our [Toledo Bend Lunker Bass](#) Facebook page. Following is a historical record of lunkers caught and registered in the program since 1992. TBLA assumed total responsibility starting with the 2005 - 2006 lunker year.



Broadband Hope for All of Toledo Bend Area? AT&T recently announced a \$27,907,591 grant from the Federal Communications Commission’s (FCC) “Connect America Fund” for broadband improvements and upgrades in rural areas of Louisiana where broadband coverage is deficient or, in many cases, not available. The funds were allocated by the FCC to cover some 74,978 rural households designated as deficient in broadband coverage and are to be spent at the rate of 40% of the allocated funds by the end of 2017; 60% by the end of 2018; 80% by the end of 2019; and 100% by the end of 2020. In discussions with Louisiana AT&T officials knowledgeable of this grant, they have indicated that the area around Toledo Bend is recognized as being mostly without broadband capabilities and is definitely an area of potential for this rural broadband expansion effort. However, AT&T also stated that no final decision has been made as to what areas of the state these funds will be allocated to. TBLA, local officials, and local organizations are in touch with AT&T and will continue lobbying the appropriate AT&T representative for a “piece of the pie.” We will keep you posted on these developments.

TBCAC/TBLA “Help Keep Toledo Bend Lake Country Trash Pick Day” is scheduled for Saturday morning October 3rd. We will meet at 7:30 a.m. at Toledo Town and try to pick up trash along the four LA Hwy 191 and 6 routes we normally do. If you haven’t notice them yet, watch for our yellow and red **“Stash Your Trash – Help Keep Toledo Bend Country Clean”** signs along LA Hwy. 6 and 191.

Toledo Bend Lake level was 168.17 ft. msl. at 6:30 a.m. on 9/22/2015 and SRA is running Generator 1 three hrs. a day from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. By agreement, they should stop running the generator when the Lake reaches 168 ft. msl. The Lake is in beautiful condition as there has been very little rain in the area.

If you have any questions or comments relative to the contents of this Newsletter, please contact me at jtoliver@soft-spec.com or call me at 318-256-2401. John Toliver, TBLA President

TOLEDO BEND LAKE ASSOCIATION 2015 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL OR APPLICATION

Name (include spouse): _____

Business Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Telephone: Home _____ Cell _____

Email Address: _____

2015 Dues -- Please check one: _____ Individual (\$10.00) _____ Couple (\$15.00)

_____ Business 1 yr. (\$25.00) _____ Business 10 yrs. (\$200.00)

Please indicate method of payment: Cash _____ Check Number * _____ PayPal _____ Date _____

*Make check payable to: TBLA or Toledo Bend Lake Association and be sure to mark it as 2015 dues. Bring to our meeting or mail to: Toledo Bend Lake Association, P.O. Box 1031, Many, LA 71449 or you can pay your membership dues through PayPal by clicking on the Pay Now icon on the Contact/Join Us page of the TBLA website at www.toledobendlakeassociation.com.