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TOLEDO BEND ALERT

August 2018

**Toledo Bend Citizens' Advisory Committee
To Educate and Activate**

www.tbacac.net

tbacac3@gmail.com

Next TBCAC SOCIAL 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 11, 2018

Our Next TBCAC Quarterly Membership Meeting and Dinner will be held on Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at the **Sabine Council on Aging – Toledo Town Location (SCOA)** located on Hwy. 191, 3/4 miles north of the Hwy. 6 Toledo Town intersection. The SCOA is located next to the DAV. Socials are held quarterly on the 2nd Tuesday of the designated month.

The guest speaker for the September 2018 meeting will be Warren Founds, executive director of the Sabine River Authority of Louisiana (SRA/LA). Warren will provide an update on SRA activities including progress on the spillway repairs and how those repairs might impact lake level. The September social entrée will be baked catfish served on a bed of rice topped with crawfish etouffée. Please bring complimentary side dishes and desserts and join us for good food, fellowship and updates on TBCAC. For more information, contact Jim Mifflin at (318) 586-7897.

2018 Calendar of Meetings: Be sure to “*save the date*” for the upcoming 2018 Socials:

September 11

November 13

Meetings/Socials begin at 7:00 p.m. We hope to see you there, and bring a guest!

Board Meetings: The Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of even numbered months at 2:00 pm at the SCOA-Toledo Town location. The Board welcomes all members to attend these meetings. Any member who wishes to address the Board during a Board meeting should notify the President prior to the meeting to ensure that appropriate time is allocated to hear that member. The detailed minutes of all Board of Directors meetings are posted on the TBCAC website at www.tbacac.net.

TBCAC Officers for 2018/2019: The TBCAC Board of Directors has elected the following officers for 2018/2019: Jim Mifflin – President, Harry Stafford – Vice President, Ted Dove – Secretary and Mitzie Galligan – Treasurer.

Lake Level as of 08/01/2018: The lake level for Toledo Bend is reported to be 168.82 feet above mean sea level, as measured near the dam by the National Weather Service automated gauge. Last year at this time the lake level was reported at 171.34 feet. Up-to-date reservoir elevations and releases may be obtained from the Toledo Bend Project offices on a 24 hour per day basis at (337) 286-5253 and (409) 565-2273. For the most current lake levels, go to www.srala-toledo.com and click on the National Weather Service link.

Sabine River Authority (SRA/LA) Updates:

Update on Power Generation Contract

The Sabine River Authorities (SRA) of Louisiana and Texas along with three power companies, Entergy Louisiana, SWEPCO and Cleco have signed a new 5 –year power generation contract for Toledo Bend Reservoir effective May 1, 2018. The power companies now have presented the contract to the Louisiana Public Services Commission (LPSC) for their approval. The LPSC was involved in the agreement’s negotiation process. The SRA’s and the

power companies will operate under the terms of the new contract until the LPSC makes their decision. As of this newsletter publication, the LPSC has not yet approved the new contract.

Update on Spillway Repair Plans

The currently planned timeframes are:

2nd Quarter 2018: Bids were received from several construction firms in June. The second lowest bidder filed a protest. SRA decided to amend some terms of the requests for proposals and go out to bid again. A new bid package was sent July 24, 2018. A pre-bid meeting will be held on August 9, 2018 to answer any bidder questions. Final bids must be submitted by August 21, 2018. The SRA hopes to award the winning bid by the end of August.

3rd and 4th Quarters 2018: Mobilize for repairs, complete the underwater cement repair and refurbish the 20 inch pipes that provide water flow downstream during repairs.

4th Quarter 2018– 2nd Quarter 2019: Complete the concrete apron repairs and “rip rap” stone replacement.

The repair work is still planned to be accomplished under the normal lake operations within the generating pool range of 168 feet to 172 feet mean sea level. However, should abnormal weather patterns disrupt the construction schedule, a variance request may be requested from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). TBCAC will provide updates as the schedule proceeds.

Update on Water Sales

There are no negotiations underway for any new large water sales from Toledo Bend Reservoir.

New Bond Issue for Capital Improvements

The SRA Board of Commissioners approved a resolution for a new bond issue to cover future capital improvements. The new \$12 million bond issue that is being requested will refinance remaining funds from the prior 2011 bond issue and provide additional funding for future capital improvements. SRA financial advisers will work with various banks to structure the bond issue and come back to the board of commissioners for final approval.

New Sabine River Authority of Louisiana Commission Officers for 2018/2019

Chairman: Ned Goodeaux – Sabine Parish

Vice- Chairman: Stanley Vidrine – Beauregard Parish

Secretary: Estella Scott – Beauregard Parish

Sabine Parish Police Jury Passes New Litter Ordinance

The Sabine Leaders Against Litter organization has been active in raising awareness of our parish litter problem for over two years. TBCAC participates in this organization. The organization has also mobilized parish citizens to clean up area roads. One of the organization’s strategies has also been to encourage the passage of a Sabine Parish Litter Ordinance. On July 18, 2018, the Sabine Parish Police Jury unanimously approved a Litter Ordinance for the parish. This is a significant milestone and we applaud the Police Jury for approval of the new ordinance.

The ordinance defines and describes the mechanism to process litter tickets using Justices of the Peace and Constables.

The following subsections are defined:

- Simple littering (Fines range from \$100 to \$250 or 8 to 16 hours of litter pick-up plus court costs)
- Intentional Littering (Fines range from \$250 to \$1,000 plus court costs plus 8 to 80 hours of litter pick-up and 1 year suspension of driver’s license)
- Littering of Waters (Fines range from \$250 to \$1,000 plus court costs plus 8 to 80 hours of litter pick-up and 1 year suspension of driver’s license)
- Gross Littering (Fines range from \$500 to \$1,000 plus court costs plus 16 to 100 hours of litter pick-up and 1 year suspension of driver’s license and up to 30 days in jail)
- Commercial Littering (Fines range from \$100 to \$250 plus court costs)
- Advertising signs (Fines range from \$100 to \$250 or 8 to 16 hours of litter pick-up plus court costs)

Each law enforcement officer (Constable) upon issuing a citation or summons to an alleged violator of any provision of this ordinance shall deposit the original citation or summons or a copy of same with a court (Justice of the Peace) having jurisdiction over the alleged offense. If applicable, the citation or summons shall indicate that the alleged violator may admit liability and, in lieu of appearing in court, make the payment of the applicable fines, penalties, and costs to the appropriate court by mail.

The Chief Administrative Officer shall maintain or cause to be maintained in connection with every litter citation or summons issued by an officer under his supervision a record of the disposition of the charge by the court in which the original or a copy of the litter citation or summons was deposited.

Nothing herein shall be construed as prohibiting or interfering with the authority of a district attorney or other prosecuting attorney to dismiss a litter citation or summons or litter charge by entry of a nolle prosequi.

Whenever an alleged offender fails to appear before the judicial officer at the place and time specified in a citation or summons, the judicial officer of the court exercising jurisdiction shall immediately forward to the Department of Public Safety and Corrections notice of the failure to appear, with information necessary for identification of the alleged offender, and another date and time for the alleged offender to appear before the judicial officer.



TBCAC Trash Pick-Up: The TBCAC had a great turnout on Friday, June 15 to pick up litter along their adopted part of Highway 191. A whopping 30 bags were collected. TBCAC urges everyone to do their

part in keeping Sabine clean. Pictured from left to right are Joe Cicardo, Carolyn Dove, Deb Pennington, Jennifer Wheeler, Jim Mifflin, Bill Galligan, Dan Battarbee, Randy Pennington, Gary Moore, Mitzie Galligan and Linda McCormic. Participants not pictured were Harry Stafford, James Edwards, Gary and Roya Bell.

Sabine Long Range Water Plan to be Presented
(Excerpted by permission from The Sabine Index)

The leaders of various business and civic organizations, including TBCAC, have been invited to join state Senator Gerald Long and the Sabine Parish-Wide Water Committee at the Zwolle Festival Grounds building on August 9, 2018 at 5:30PM for a fish fry and meeting that will have the Sabine Parish Long Range Water Plan presented by Meyer and Associates, Inc. Consulting Engineers. Senator Long established the committee to address needs in the parish as a result of a water outage that lasted on Toledo Bend for two days over the July 4, 2009 holiday. Seven tourist accommodation facilities including Cypress Bend Resort and 475 households were without water. The committee was chartered by the Sabine Parish Police Jury.

Senator Long was successful in obtaining emergency funding for \$300,000 for a parish-wide study. Meyer and Associates finalized the results with assistance from the committee members.

We will provide more details regarding the Sabine Parish Long Range Water Plan in future publications of the TBCAC newsletter.

Toledo Bend Reservoir Remains Strong In Bassmaster's Top 100 List
(Excerpted by permission from The Sabine Index)

Toledo Bend Lake remains strong in the 2017 listing for Bassmaster Magazine's Top 100 Bass Lakes in the Nation. The lists were arranged differently for 2017. The United States is divided into four regions for purposes of the recognition - Central Division, Northeastern Division, Southeastern Division, and Western Division. Toledo Bend Reservoir is in the Central Division. Each region has 25 lakes listed in order of deserved acknowledgment as determined by wildlife biologists, outdoor writers, pro anglers and representatives from across the U.S. that serve on a thirty member final selection committee. A Top 10 Best Bass Lakes list was also presented for the Nation. The entire list can be viewed in the July/August 2017 edition of Bassmaster Magazine or online at <https://www.bassmaster.com/news/2018s-best-bass-lakes-revealed>.

The #1 lake in the top 10 Best Bass Lakes in the Nation is Sam Rayburn Reservoir in Texas.

Three of the national top 10 lakes – Sam Rayburn, Mille Lacs Lake in Minnesota and Lake Falcon in Texas, were also the top three lakes in the Central Division. Toledo Bend was ranked #4 in the Central Division. The recognition puts the local lake in a strong position for continued interest nationwide. With Sam Rayburn being #1 in the nation and Toledo Bend scoring high, many anglers will take advantage of fishing both lakes while in the area.

According to the tournament list on www.toledobendlakecountry.com, there are 25 scheduled fishing tournaments remaining for 2018 out of the 100 scheduled for the entire 2018 season. Many are already rescheduling for events in 2019.

Good fishing equates to a strong tourism economy for Sabine Parish. Website visits to www.toledobendlakecountry.com are up 56% as of June 30, 2018 over the same period for 2017 with 114,732 people looking to book cabins, rooms, RV's and fishing guides.

Remember: You can help us save money by providing your e-mail address as a means of receiving your copy of the newsletter. You can list your e-mail address with your dues, or drop us a line at tbcac3@gmail.com. Every newsletter that we can send out via e-mail helps to save \$\$.

Help Us Grow Our TBCAC Membership: If you know someone who is not a member, give them a membership form and ask them to join. The TBCAC is a Civic & Educational Organization, dedicated to making the lake and surrounding community a true “Sportsman’s Paradise” and the retirement destination of choice for people from all walks of life. **JOIN US TODAY!** *We need your support!* And visit our website at www.tbcac.net Questions? E-mail us at: tbcac3@gmail.com.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

For new members, or RENEWAL form for existing members.

Annual membership is \$20.00 per single, \$30.00 per couple. *Not tax deductible under IRS rules.*

Name:	_____	Spouse:	_____
Address:	_____	City, State:	_____
Zip:	_____	Home Phone	_____
		Lake Phone:	_____
Occupation:	_____	E-mail Address:	_____
Dues amount:	_____	Donation enclosed:	_____

* Providing an e-mail address allows us to quickly send you the Toledo Bend Alert electronically, keep you informed and save printing and postage costs.

With your paid membership, you’ll receive our periodic newsletter, the “Toledo Bend Alert.”

Make check payable to: TBCAC and Mail to: TBCAC, P.O. Box 983, Many, LA 71449.