

**Board of Directors**

Jim Mifflin  
*President*  
Harry Stafford  
*Vice President*  
Ted Dove  
*Secretary*  
Mitzie Galligan  
*Treasurer*  
Eason Dowden  
Dan Battarbee  
Ramona Moore  
Chuck Soileau

# TOLEDO BEND ALERT

## *April 2019*

### **Toledo Bend Citizens' Advisory Committee**

To Educate and Activate

[www.tbcac.net](http://www.tbcac.net)

[tbcac3@gmail.com](mailto:tbcac3@gmail.com)

**Next TBCAC SOCIAL 7:00 - 8:30PM Tuesday, June 11, 2019**

**Our Next TBCAC Quarterly Membership Meeting and Dinner** will be held on Tuesday, June 11, 2019 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the designated month.

The guest speaker for that meeting will be announced at a later date. The June social entrée will be beef brisket with brown gravy. 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.

**2019 Calendar of Meetings:** Be sure to “*save the date*” for the upcoming 2019 Socials:

June 11

September 10

November 12

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

### **Board Member Election:**

At the last TBCAC membership meeting and social on March 12, 2019, the membership present at the meeting voted for new three-year terms on the Board of Directors for Dan Battarbee, Mitzie Galligan and Jim Mifflin.

**Board Meetings:** The Board normally meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of even numbered months at 2:00 pm at the SCOA-Toledo Town location. The April 2019 Board Meeting had to be scheduled for Thursday, April 18 at 2:00PM. The Board welcomes all members to attend these meetings. Please contact TBCAC president Jim Mifflin if you are interested in attending that board meeting and he will provide directions to the meeting location. The detailed minutes of all Board of Directors meetings are posted on the TBCAC website at [www.tbcac.net](http://www.tbcac.net).

**Lake Level as of 3/31/2019:** The lake level for Toledo Bend is reported to be 170.35 feet above mean sea level, as measured near the dam by the National Weather Service automated gauge. 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](http://www.srala-toledo.com) and click on the National Weather Service link.

### **Sabine River Authority (SRA/LA) Updates:**

### **Update on Spillway Repair Plans**

The spillway repairs were progressing well until the heavy rains of November, December and January caused the lake level to rise well above normal and required spillway gates to be opened. The contractor working on repairs had to cease repairs and remove all their equipment below the spillway. At that point,

the repairs were about 18% complete. As of the SRA/LA Board of Commissioners meeting on March 28, 2019, the plan is for the contractor to begin re-mobilizing in early April 2019. Normal Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) generation guidelines require no power generation below 170 mean sea level (msl) from April 1 – April 15 and 171 msl from April 15 – April 30. SRA/LA is seeking a temporary variance to allow power generation for April down to the 168 feet mean sea level in order to try to get the lake to 168msl for a safety net for spring rains. This level would help to avoid any spillway use during the time of construction. The current plan calls for the completion of concrete apron repairs by mid-July 2019. Rip-rap replacement would continue through September 2019.

We will provide more information as time progresses.

### **Update on Water Sales**

No specific proposed water sale is currently planned.

**Sabine River Authority Operations Summary for 2018:** SRA Executive Director, Warren Founds provided the following interesting information to TBCAC.

For the year January 1 – December 31, 2018 (with comparisons to 2017, 2016 and 2015):

Reservoir Elevation:	Dec. 31, 2015	172.91 msl
	Dec. 31, 2016	168.07 msl
	Dec. 31, 2017	167.86 msl
	Dec. 31, 2018	172.85 msl
Total Inflow to the Reservoir:	Full Year 2015	7,948,940 acre feet
	Full Year 2016	7,448,880 acre feet
	Full Year 2017	2,798,430 acre feet
	Full Year 2018	6,324,430 acre feet
Total Water Released at Dam: (Includes generation and spillway)	Full Year 2015	7,170,910 acre feet
	Full Year 2016	8,291,220 acre feet
	Full Year 2017	2,834,560 acre feet
	Full Year 2018	5,509,600 acre feet
Rainfall Measured at the Dam:	Full Year 2015	65.92 inches
	Full Year 2016	61.27 inches
	Full Year 2017	66.98 inches
	Full Year 2018	68.12 inches
Hydropower Produced:	Full Year 2015	333,092 megawatts
	Full Year 2016	227,921 megawatts
	Full Year 2017	146,019 megawatts
	Full Year 2018	266,448 megawatts

Summary: Over the last four years annual rainfall has been well above average and inflow to the lake has equaled or exceeded outflow in every year except 2016. In 2016, extremely heavy spring rains caused the lake to reach its highest level ever and required all operating spillway gates to be opened for extended periods. These overall conditions have resulted in above average lake levels in almost all seasons, in spite of heavy power generation in three out of the four years.

## **Petition to Reduce Bass Retention Limits on Toledo Bend Reservoir**

A petition was presented to the SRA/LA at their Board of Commissioners meeting on Thursday, March 28, 2019. The petition was started by a concerned lake citizen on the change.org website. In about one month, the petition garnered over 4,000 signatures.

The current daily retention limit is 8 bass of at least 14" length. The petition calls for a reduction to 5 bass of at least 14" length. The supporters of the petition feel this change will improve the average catch rate by increasing the overall fish population.

Villis Dowden, Biologist Manager for the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries indicated to the Commissioners that scientific population studies conducted in three year intervals show that the bass population in all size categories within the reservoir has not changed significantly since 2000, when the retention limit was 10 bass of at least 14" length. Studies seem to indicate that the recreational harvest is not a significant factor affecting the bass population. Weather conditions, including annual rainfall and lake habitat conditions are far greater factors than the annual recreational harvest of bass.

After much discussion, the Board of Commissioners decided that, even though the proposed retention limit reduction might not substantially improve the fish catch rate, it also probably would not have an adverse effect on the catch rate. They approved the development of a resolution that would recommend a reduction of the retention limit from 8 to 5 bass of at least 14" length. That resolution will be voted on by the Commissioners at their next monthly meeting on April 25, 2019 at 1:00PM at the SRA/LA main office at 15091 Texas Highway, Many, LA 71449.

If the SRA/LA approves the retention limit reduction, it would still have to be submitted to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources for final approvals.

## **TBCAC 2019 Membership Renewals**

We thank you for your loyal support of the Toledo Bend Citizens' Advisory Committee (TBCAC). Your support enables us to continually monitor proposed legislative proceedings or planned governmental actions that could affect the communities surrounding Toledo Bend Reservoir. The article in our February 2019 newsletter regarding the workings of the Louisiana Water Resources Commission is an example of how TBCAC researches issues relating to the preservation of Toledo Bend Reservoir. The February newsletter also has a list of our accomplishments for 2018. The February newsletter can be accessed at [www.tbcac.net](http://www.tbcac.net).

The TBCAC will support public agencies when they act in the best interests of our communities and vigorously oppose them when they do not.

It is very important that we maintain a large membership since there is always strength in numbers.

**Soon, we will be purging our membership list which is used to mail out our newsletter. We do not want anyone to miss out on news related to the Toledo Bend area. We urge everyone to renew their membership as soon as possible.**

If you are not sure if you have paid your 2019 dues, please contact our treasurer Mitzie Galligan at (318) 590-0975. A renewal application is also attached below. We sincerely hope we can depend on your continued support.

## TBCAC Adopt-A-Road Program – Trash Pick-Up



Pictured above (left to right): Jim Mifflin, Harry Stafford, Carolyn Dove, Ted Dove, Mitzie Galligan and Steve Brown.

The Toledo Bend Citizens' Advisory Committee (TBCAC) has held two Adopt-A-Road trash pick-ups this year. The first pick-up was on Saturday, February 16, resulting in 26 bags of trash collected. The second pick-up was on Saturday, March 23, as part of the parish-wide Trash Bash. That trash pick-up resulted in 9 bags of trash collected. The area assigned to the TBCAC includes both sides of Hwy 191 South, from El Camino Rd. to Cypress Bend Dr. The area of trash pick-up is about 1.47 miles.

## **Community Center Upcoming Events -**

### **Movies in Many (free admissions, cokes and popcorn \$1.00 each)**

April 6-Rooster Cogburn

April 20-Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory

### **Music in Many (ticket prices vary)**

April 13-Brandy Roberts

### **Other Local Entertainment & Events -**

Live music at Gilligan's Crawfish & Grill, 44 Spring St, Many, LA.

All nights are BYOB. There is a small cover charge for the band.

April 6, Gus Johnson & River Katz

April 13, Richard LeBouef

April 20, Kevin Young & Rose Down Rockers

April 27, Leroy Thomas & The Zydeco Road

**Music on the Square at Historic Fisher Opera House –April 27, Starts at 5 p.m.**

**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](mailto: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](http://www.tbcac.net) Questions? E-mail us at: [tbcac3@gmail.com](mailto: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.*

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

\* 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.