TCMA PASSAGES

FALL 2017 - VOL. 17, NO. 2

TCMA FUNdraiser big hit on Sixth Street

From staff reports

Texas cave conservation will never be the same after TCMA took over part of a nightclub in downtown Austin for a magnificent FUNdraiser, with 100+ people attending.

More than $4,000 was raised on September 30 at Buffalo Billiards on Sixth Street, where participants were treated to live music by the Gary Franklin Band, a buffet dinner - and more.

The Texas Cave Management Association (TCMA), the state's only non-profit organization dedicated to cave conservation, is an all-volunteer group that studies, preserves and manages a number of key cave resources.

TCMA leaders had been looking for innovative new ways to support conservation when the idea of "Save the Caves 2017" arose. With Lindsey Adamoski, our new fundraising chairperson, driving the effort, plans began taking shape over the summer. Lindsey and team asked local and regional companies and other corporate sponsors to attract support.

Drew Thompson, Lindsey Adamoski with a donation

Board member Drew Thompson agreed to serve as emcee for the fundraiser. In the photo above, Drew and Lindsey are excited to get a $1,000 check donated during the FUNdraiser.

Along with a Tex-Mex dinner buffet, the evening featured pinball, shuffleboard and pool.

Sponsors included Disney World, Chipotle, Alamo Drafthouse, The Round Rock Express, Chuy's, Astros, BCI/Bracken Bat Cave, Cave Skinz, Fiesta Texas, REI and more.

A number of businesses donated prizes for the extended raffle. Ticket purchasers did not have to be present to win.

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TCMA members support Hurricane Harvey victims

The Texas Cave Management Association was quick to reach out when Hurricane Harvey threatened the state's Gulf coast late this summer and then stalled over the Corpus Christi and Houston areas, dropping more than four feet of rain in some places.

The conservancy swiftly swung into action, creating a dedicated section on its new and improved website to help cavers and their families affected by the storm. Our president, Gregg Williams, issued the call: "Despite cavers being a resilient and well-prepared bunch,

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TCMA at TCR:

DON'T MISS our:

- **Members' meeting** at 9 a.m. Saturday, at the patio to the left of the main lodge house.
- **Breakfast** at 8:30 a.m. Sunday. Please bring plates, utensils - and a **$5 cash donation!**

Be sure to join TCMA if you're not a member. Stop by the TCMA tent and get to know us!

TCMA creates online financial aid for victims

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Harvey is likely to overwhelm many of them through sheer brute force. Those of us fortunate enough not to be severely affected are already looking for ways we may help. "Many have graciously opened our homes to folks that evacuated. It's not yet safe to travel east with supplies and tools to aid in the cleanup. In the interim, we should start preparing to help out as each of us is able. For many, the most significant impact we can have is through financial giving."

Gregg Williams

The TCMA set up a dedicated online platform for donations, with all funds to be disbursed via a committee to those in need. Some cavers confirmed their houses were flooded, and several are likely to be out of work during the long recovery period.

The link to provide assistance is: donations@tcmacaves.org. Watch for a report soon on results of the campaign.

6th Street

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Winners of the big raffles were: TCMA Lifetime Membership - Evan Strickland; Disneyland Tickets - Sean Hoyle; Fiesta Texas Package -Joe Mitchell; Date Night Package - Pam Campbell; Outdoor Package - Ann Scott; Family Night Package - Andrea Croskrey; Bat Lover's Package - Joe Ranzau; and Cave Lover's Package - Michael Gibbons.

Janet Fitzsimmons' raffle wins

Thanks to everyone who came out to help save caves - and to our volunteers for their hard work and support.

Upcoming events:
Robber Baron Cave open house, November 11
Check our website calendar for updates!

Texas Cave Management Association - a 501(c)3 nonprofit since 1986

Visit our *new, improved website!* http://www.tcmacaves.org/

***Passages* contributions:**
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Membership information

Membership Fees:
Regular - $15.00
Associate (Students under 21) - $10.00
Institutional (Non-profit) - $50.00
Corporate - $100.00
Life (Regular Rate) - $500.00

Joining is easy! Go online at www.tcmacaves.org - or send a check to:
Texas Cave Management Association Inc.
PO Box 7427
Austin, TX 78713

Officers
Gregg Williams, president
Jim Kennedy, vice president
Lindsey Adamoski, secretary
Joe Ranzau, treasurer
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Christi Burrell
Pam Campbell
Michael Cicherski
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Preserve Managers
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Ezells Cave – Michael Cicherski
Godwin Ranch – Andrea Croskey
Lost Oasis – Drew Thompson
Robber Baron – Joe Mitchell
Rolling Oaks – Bennett Lee
Amazing Maze, O-9 Well – Ben Hutchins
Avery Ranch – Matt Turner
Whirlpool – Rich Zarria
Wilcox – Freddie Poer
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