A Message from the Chair and CEO

Shawn Hohnstreiter, Chair | Justen R. Noakes, CEO | Board of Directors

2016 TEXSAR in Review

2016 was a tremendous year of growth for TEXSAR: Texas Search and Rescue, and we are poised to embrace 2017 with a level of enthusiasm and capability the organization has never seen before. 2016 was dedicated to making the Member experience a rich and rewarding one for our members. Through dedicated work by our Executive Director Karen Knox and our Membership Committee, many new dimensions have been introduced to provide every member the support they need to continue to have a meaningful experience as part of TEXSAR. Systems are in place to ensure new or prospective members receive the information they need to navigate successfully through the TEXSAR on-boarding process, and hopefully, to create a strong bond within the membership. Closing out 2016, we have a record number of TEXSAR Members with over 273 Active Members who hold over 1,600 Member certifications...very impressive numbers.

As of December 31, 2016, TEXSAR members donated approximately 27,737 hours to help Texans in need. According to Independent Sector, a volunteer hour in Texas is valued at $25.11. That translates to $696,476 worth of time and services the members of TEXSAR donated to the citizens of Texas. In addition, members cover their own expenses for training and equipment, travel, and incidental expenses.

Another important aspect of the membership experience is participating in the activities they have trained for...Search and Rescue. 2016 was another banner year for deployments across this vast state we live in, with 48 missions assisting authorities from Alpine to Galveston to San Antonio to Dallas. We’ve covered literally thousands of miles serving the citizens of our State.

2016 was our inaugural year for the TEXSAR Search Party and what a tremendous event and success it was! Over 300 guests were in attendance and enjoyed food, fellowship, silent and live auctions, and of course, Rotel and the Hot Tomatoes. This was an amazing evening as we took a moment to reflect on 2015 and the Memorial Day Flooding, and to thank publicly those who support TEXSAR on an ongoing basis. Through many generous donations, TEXSAR raised over $60,000...simply humbling and amazing!

So many positive things happened to TEXSAR in 2016. Highlights include a new double decker trailer to haul two inflatable boats and equipment, a fire skid for our UTV, the kickoff of our TEXSAR Dive Team, an outstanding TEXSAR Training Weekend at McKinney Roughs, three crazy holidays on the Bolivar Peninsula, and a new Division in Corpus Christi.

2017 holds nothing but good things for this Team, as we will continue to focus on the Membership experience, growing our Team and honing our skills to provide the absolute best service to our Public Safety Partners. 2017 will no doubt have its challenges, but with every challenge comes a strengthening of skills and bonding of friendships. We value every Member of TEXSAR who so selflessly serves our Team and our Communities. Thank you to our donors, spouses and friends who make this crazy dream possible for all of us through your endless contributions of support, prayers and financial contributions. We could not do this without all of you.
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Mission Statement | Core Values

“Committing to service-above-self, perpetual training, and inter-agency cooperation to maintain a constant state of readiness for search, rescue, incident response and above all else, safety.”

Core values:

• Integrity and Responsibility

TEXSAR is founded on ethical behavior and values by our members and partners and our commitment extends throughout the organization as we interact with agencies, the public, and one another.

• Fiscal Accountability

We emphasize fiscal accountability by ensuring that all expenditures directly or indirectly reflect the trust placed in TEXSAR by its donors and grant providers.

• Teamwork

We maintain an environment of mutual respect founded on open, honest communication. We embrace the diversity of our team and individual perspectives in working together to achieve our common goals.

• Excellence

We achieve excellence through constant training and preparation as our members continually exercise their skills using the materials and equipment required to deliver the highest quality services possible in any environment.

• Training

TEXSAR will train and prepare to provide professional level skills and support to requesting agencies and communities. TEXSAR will act as a Volunteer Organization Active in Disasters in both the response and recovery phases of disasters and incidents.

• Operations

We will deliver service that meets or exceeds the requested assistance while ensuring the safety and well-being of our members and partners.
Board of Directors

TEXSAR wishes to thank the following Board members for their service during 2016.

- Justen R. Noakes, H-E-B Emergency Preparedness - CEO
- Shawn Hohnstreiter, Hohnstreiter Construction and Remodeling – Chair
- Chief Sean Ford, Sunset Valley Police Department – Vice Chair
- Jennifer Failla, Strada Wealth Management – Treasurer
- Michelle Nations, Community Volunteer – Secretary
- Brandon Goering, REAL-COMP Data and Marketing
- Dr. Tyler Jorgensen, Board Certified Emergency Physician
- Dawn Keller, Health, Slingshot Inc. and West Texas Team Leader
- Joe McComb, McComb Relocation Services, Corpus Christi
- Ed Norman, Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management - Community Preparedness Planning Coordinator
- Bill Sleep, Commitment to Coaching Inc.

In December 2016, TEXSAR member volunteers elected the following individuals to the Board of Directors for 2017 (one-year term).

- Justen R. Noakes, H-E-B Emergency Preparedness - CEO
- Shawn Hohnstreiter, Hohnstreiter Construction and Remodeling – Chair
- Jennifer Failla, Strada Wealth Management – Vice Chair
- Brandon Goering, REAL-COMP Data and Marketing – Secretary/Treasurer
- Jackie Dobson, Fund Racing Adventures
- Chief Sean Ford, Sunset Valley Police Department
- Dr. Tyler Jorgensen, Board Certified Emergency Physician
- Dawn Keller, Health, Slingshot Inc. and West Texas Team Leader
- Justin McInnis, Assistant Emergency Manager Coordinator, Hays County
- Joe McComb, McComb Relocation Services, Corpus Christi
- Ed Norman, Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management, Community Preparedness Planning Coordinator
- Deke Pierce, Travis County Sheriff’s Office
- Bill Sleep, Commitment to Coaching Inc.

Ex-officio Board members include Greg Fair, North Texas Team Leader, Laura Norman, Gulf Coast Team Leader, and Lauren Ratzloff, Coastal Bend Team Leader.

Executive Director is Karen H. Knox.

Advisory Members for 2017 are:

- Troy Kimmel, Owner/Meteorologist, KimCo Meteorological Services
- Bryan Kassa, The First Responder Network Authority/ US Department of Commerce
- Jeff Mundy, The Mundy Firm PLLC
- Martin Ritchey, Chief – Emergency Management Coordinator, Caldwell County
- Gene Robinson, RPFlightSystems, Inc.
Deployments | Statistics

TEXSAR: Texas Search and Rescue has been a significant leader in disaster response and recovery for more than a decade. TEXSAR serves all citizens of Texas and may only be deployed by the Governor; local, state and federal law enforcement; and relief agencies. We are proud to share the following statistics regarding our work during 2016.

- TEXSAR was called into action 48 times in 2016.

Deployments lasted from a few hours to several weeks in some cases, and covered the entire state from the Gulf Coast, to far West Texas, to North Texas. Some activations required one or two members, and others involved dozens of members, K9 teams, and incident command personnel. Some days we were handling two to three deployments at one time.

TEXSAR was called by Law Enforcement agencies, National Transportation Safety Board, The Texas Rangers, Texas Department of Public Safety, and offices of Emergency Management, to name a few.

The Independent Sector quantifies the value of a volunteer hour by state. The value of one volunteer hour in the State of Texas is $25.11. Using that figure:

- We estimate TEXSAR member volunteers gave approximately 27,737 hours of service to the citizens of the State of Texas during 2016, for a total value of $696,476.

- In addition, we estimate that each member spent between $150 and $5,000 of their own money on training, equipment, and deployment expenses. The average amount spent by each member is approximately $500, totaling $136,500.

- TEXSAR members’ donations total $832,976 worth of time and equipment dedicated to helping Texans.
# 2016 Deployments

## December
- **Missing Elderly Woman Search**: San Antonio, Texas (multiple days)
- **Missing Autistic Child Search**: Friendswood, Texas
- **Missing Woman Search**: Briggs, Texas

## November
- **Missing Autistic Child Search**: Pearland, Texas (multiple days)

## October
- **Missing Person Search**: Travis County, Texas
- **Harris County Search**: Conroe, Texas
- **Missing Person Search**: Alpine, Texas (multiple days)
- **Baytown Texas Search**: East Harris County, Texas
- **Acres Homes Search**: Harris County, Texas

## September
- **Travis County Search**: Steiner Ranch, Austin, Texas
- **Missing Person**: Hays County, Texas
- **Bolivar Labor Day 2016**: Galveston County, Texas

## August
- **Santa Fe Missing Person**: Galveston County, Texas
- **Hays & Caldwell County Standby**: Hays & Caldwell Counties, Texas

## July
- **Missing Person Search**: Hays County, Texas
- **Missing Dallas Officer Search**: Oak Lawn, Texas
- **Caldwell County Balloon Incident**: Caldwell County, Texas
- **Missing Person Search**: Hays County, Texas
- **Missing Elderly Female Search**: Lufkin, Texas
- **Missing Fishermen Search**: Burnet County, Texas
- **Bolivar Independence Day 2016**: Galveston County, Texas

## June
- **Jacob's Well Search**: Wimberley, Texas
- **Evidence Search**: Live Oak County, Texas
- **Missing Person**: Williamson County, Texas
- **Missing Elderly Man**: Friendswood, Texas
- **Hays & Caldwell County Standby**: Hays & Caldwell Counties, Texas

## May
- **Missing Persons Search**: Southeast Travis County, Texas
- **Missing Person Brazos River Search**: Weatherford, Texas
- **FAST Staging Request**: Caldwell County, Texas
- **Trinity River Search**: Hutchins, Texas
- **Wood County Cold Case**: Yantis, Texas
- **Bolivar Memorial Day 2016**: Galveston County, Texas

## April
- **Central Texas Weather Event**: Hays & Caldwell Counties, Texas

## February
- **Hays County Search/Training**: San Marcos, Texas

## January
- **Hays County Search**: Blanco River and I-35, Texas
- **Missing Person Search**: Dallas, Texas
Training Highlights

TEXSAR member-volunteers were offered ongoing training opportunities throughout the year. Membership meetings are held in conjunction with basic training and members are asked to attend a minimum of 50% of these sessions to be considered for deployments. In addition, TEXSAR offers certification workshops for members in different disciplines such as Ground Search and Rescue, Mantracking, Rescue Boat Operator, and Swiftwater Rescue. These certification courses are paid for by the member-volunteers themselves.

Members reside across the state from North Texas (Dallas based) to Central Texas (Austin based), from West Texas (Odessa based) to the Gulf (Galveston based), and the newest region to join TEXSAR in the Coastal Bend (Corpus Christi based). TEXSAR is the largest wildland search and rescue organization in the State of Texas and it continues to grow.

In April 2016, the TEXSAR Annual Meeting was held at McKinney Roughs Nature Park in Bastrop, Texas. 75 members from across the state gathered for three days of team building, training, and fellowship.

TEXSAR Training

- Major Training Certifications (2 days’ duration or more)
- Flood and Swiftwater Rescue (FAST)
- Ground Search and Rescue (GSAR)
- Mantracking

Medical Training

- Anaphylactic shock
- CPR
- Hypothermia/Hyperthermia
- Rescue Boat Operator (RBO)
- Vertical Response
- Wilderness First Aid
- Wildland Fire

- Blood Borne Pathogens
- Orthopedic Injuries
- Patient Packaging
All Purpose Training

- Child Advocacy
- Communications
- Evidence Collection
- Fitness & Fitness Pack Test
- Haz Mat & PPE
- Hydrology
- Incident Management Team & Incident Command
- Low Slope Evacuation
- Field Fitness

- Land Navigation & Maps
- Ropes & Knots
- Safety
- Snakes, Spiders, & Critters
- Swiftwater Bank Support
- Witness Interviews
- Alzheimer/Dementia
- Electric Shock Drowning
- UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle)
- Field Packs

In addition, TEXSAR member-volunteers participated in FEMA self-paced training programs that provide training and resources on the Incident Command System (ICS). All members are required to complete ICS 100, 200, 700, and 800. Advanced courses ICS 300 and 400 expand upon the basic information covered in the basic courses and prepares members for Command Leadership positions within the organization.

Training Venues

TEXSAR wishes to thank Sunset Valley City Hall, Camp Mabry, Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management, and Corpus Christi Office of Emergency Management for allowing TEXSAR to hold meetings and training sessions in their facilities.

TEXSAR's ultimate goal is to have its own training facility and equipment storage facility, combined in one building. The search for funding and a proper facility is in progress.
Executive Director’s Report

TEXSAR completed its first year with a part-time paid staff member, hired in November 2015.

Executive Director Karen H. Knox was able to put systems in place to ensure TEXSAR operates with accepted business practices within the business and nonprofit arenas.

She was able to realize financial accountability through QuickBooks software, allowing accurate financial tracking and reporting on spending and income. Along with that, she implemented use of best practice accounting forms such as expense reports and payment requests to ensure transparency of spending. Other general areas of nonprofit management that she structured include donation management and tracking, creation and implementation of a Fundraising Plan, and accumulation and organization of all corporate records including Board Minutes and corporate documents.

One of the challenges TEXSAR faces is agencies that can utilize our services are unaware of our existence. TEXSAR deploys at the request of local and state law enforcement, fire service and emergency management agencies, the Office of the Governor, and relief organizations. The counties that call on us on a regular basis are aware of our services, but there are a large number of agencies across the great state of Texas who do not know of our existence and how we can help them. For that reason, we approached the Sheriff’s Association of Texas and the Texas Association of Counties and asked if TEXSAR could attend their conferences to inform their constituents of our capabilities. Both organizations welcomed our presence and we were able to provide hundreds of law enforcement and state agency professionals with information on our services, capabilities, and assets. We believe that knowledge led to new counties calling on us for our services throughout the year.

TEXSAR received Unit Citations, Certificates of Appreciation, and Commendation letters for services performed in 2016. Some include:

- Martin Ritchey, Chief/EMC of Caldwell County, presented TEXSAR with a Unit Citation from the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for “Meritorious Conduct Responding to the Memorial Day Weekend Flood and All Saints Day Flood Events of 2015. Members of Texas Search and Rescue worked to preserve life and stabilize emergency conditions.” This was presented at the Annual Meeting held in April.

- Erik Grosol and Rolando Garcia of the National Transportation Safety Board sent a letter and Unit Citation for “Meritorious Conduct Responding to the Maxwell Hot Air Balloon Accident” and expressing “sincere thanks for the time, effort, and professionalism exhibited by TEXSAR” at the Hot Air Balloon incident on July 30, 2016 in Caldwell County.

- Detective Darrell Gibson of the Travis County Sheriff’s Office presented a Certificate of Appreciation to TEXSAR for their outstanding K9 team work on a case. “TEXSAR did an awesome job in confirming information and locating the victim. We value what you bring to a case.”

- Police Chief Steve Perry, Hutchins Police Department, thanked TEXSAR for our assistance in searching for a missing person. “...your team members were professional, knowledgeable, and assisted without hesitation.”
Another way we realize the extent of our reach is with support from groups who host fundraising events to benefit TEXSAR. The Lost Creek Dad’s Club (Austin) held a Chili Cook-off on a rainy Saturday in April and presented TEXSAR with a check for $20,000. Because of that donation, we designed and built a state-of-the-art stacked trailer with storage that will enable us to haul two inflatable rescue boats and equipment to any deployment.

TEXSAR also received a $15,000 grant from Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation. These funds were used to add a wildland fire skid unit to the UTV they previously donated. Says Chairman Shawn Hohnstreiter, “The wildland fire skid unit for our UTV will drastically increase our wildland fire team capabilities. This is the first piece of apparatus to aid our certified personnel that are prepared to work the fire line. The majority of fire departments do not have this lightweight and highly maneuverable asset to supplement their off-road capabilities in the rugged Texas terrain. With TEXSAR serving the entire state, this is an amazing asset that departments can call upon as a force multiplier. In addition, this unit increases our rescue capabilities for patient transport in remote areas.”

For the first time, TEXSAR applied and was accepted to participate in the State Employees Charitable Campaign and Combined Federal Campaign (SECC/CFC). Between September and December 2016, Central Texas TEXSAR members manned tables at “fairs” where state and federal employees learned about our services and were given the opportunity to support TEXSAR through one-time or monthly donations. The extent of this effort will be realized in February 2017.

TEXSAR members also honor those in Law Enforcement who have lost their lives in the line of duty. For each fallen brother and sister, TEXSAR makes a donation on behalf of our members.

One of the biggest funding achievements was the premiere TEXSAR Search Party Gala held in October. Over 300 guests gathered at Creekside Austin in Driftwood, Texas to support TEXSAR. Proceeds from sponsorships, silent and live auctions, and ticket sales exceeded $60,000. Videos depicting TEXSAR members in action, along with a letter from flood survivor and new lifetime member Jonathan McComb, highlighted the true spirit and vision of TEXSAR: Texans Helping Texans. The next TEXSAR Search Party will be held September 30, 2017.

Outreach is another aspect of TEXSAR and we had several opportunities this year to present to groups. In Austin and North Texas, TEXSAR members met with Boy Scout troops and gave tips on wilderness safety, survival, search and rescue. They were shown equipment including a Personal Floatation Device (PFD) and helmet for water safety, what to carry in a well-stocked backpack when in the great outdoors, how not to get lost and, most importantly, what to do if one does become lost. The best received demonstration was “10 ways a garbage bag can help in a survival situation, showing how to turn it into such items as a poncho, a tent, rain catcher, sunshade. We also spoke to Rotarians, state agencies, and civic groups. Our personnel continue the tradition of volunteering at the Austin Rodeo.

On the social media front, TEXSAR will launch a newly designed website in 2017. Our social media platforms – principally Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn – are maintained and active. We received a grant from Firespring.com that will help us strengthen our presence on social media. We hope to engage an intern to manage our social media accounts.

“This has been an amazing – busy and sometimes trying – year as the Executive Director of TEXSAR. I am continually amazed, but not surprised, at the dedication and compassion every TEXSAR member has for service to their fellow Texans. Heat, cold, rain – none of these elements deter the determination to find, save, rescue anyone in peril. When the rescue turns to recovery, each and every member is saddened that the results were not different. They never give up or give in. I have seen members covered in poison ivy, exhausted from heat and exertion, drenched from the elements, and they all keep “going back in.” Knowing the dedication of time and effort TEXSAR members give, I am humbled and honored to serve as their first Executive Director.
Regional Teams Reports

Gulf Coast (Laura Norman, Team Leader): The Gulf Coast Team had a busy 2016 with local activations in Harris, Fort Bend, Galveston, Brazoria, and Montgomery Counties. In addition to providing resources for missing person cases, the Gulf Coast division provided Bleeding Control training for the Fort Bend County Sheriff’s Patrol Deputies and worked as force multipliers in Galveston County during the Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Labor Day holidays.

North Texas (Gregory Fair, Team Leader): The North Texas Team held two GSAR1 training events during 2016 and helped in the search for the missing Southern Methodist University officer swept away by floods on Turtle Creek in Dallas.

West Texas (Dawn Keller, Team Leader): 1/3 of Texas’ land mass and 2% of the state population. The West Texas Team has spent a considerable portion of 2016 growing ranks, with members from Sweetwater to El Paso, and training in core areas. Pack Testing, Mantracking, Ground Search and Rescue techniques including evidence/criminal investigation searches have been taught and practiced in the austere conditions that are part of the West Texas ecosystems. Physical conditioning and strength training have been the focus for a number of members and there is a great deal of pride in the group’s stamina for long days. The search for Zuzu Verk in Brewster County was a tremendous effort by TExSAR traveling from as far away as South Texas--every TExSAR division was represented in this large scale search that remains open at the end of 2016. West Texas TExSAR, and all of TExSAR, remains committed to the Zuzu Verk search and to support of our Law Enforcement Partners in 2017 on additional missing persons’ cases.

Central Texas (Shawn Hohnstreiter, Team Leader): The Central Texas Division had another year of explosive growth, gaining many talented members who bring lots of experience and devotion to the team. Central Texas members found themselves traveling to searches all across this vast state from the shores of Galveston to the desert of West Texas. From tracking the lost, covering thousands of miles in searches, staging for water rescues to documenting the hot air balloon tragedy, our members stand ready for anything this diverse state throws at them. We provided training for our members that includes land navigation and maps, UAV, low slope evacuation, electric shock drowning, how to administer an EpiPen, and how to interact with Alzheimer’s patients.

We hosted an amazing annual meeting and training, as well as the first annual Search Party with terrific results. We are excited to have made great progress on planning 2017’s event and look forward to seeing you there. Together with our partners and supporters, TExSAR will lead the way into 2017 and provide hope and comfort for many of our fellow Texans in their darkest of hours.

Coastal Bend (Lauren Ratzloff, Team Leader): The Coastal Bend team was formed in January 2016 and quickly grew to 21 active members. These members have participated in deployments across the state from Bolivar Peninsula to West Texas, and have been active in trainings. We look forward to continued growth and stand ready for the next incident.
Financial Position

TEXSAR ended 2016 in healthy financial standing. Due to continuing monetary donations received from individuals, families, foundations and corporations, TEXSAR met all financial obligations and maintained strong working capital.

TEXSAR maintains three bank accounts at Wells Fargo; Savings, Checking, and Deployment. At year-end 2016, our combined banking account balance was $136,916.71. TEXSAR estimates the value of its equipment inventory to be $685,636.00.

With the increased budget for 2015, TEXSAR filed our first full 990 tax return. We will again use the professional accounting firm of Montemayor Bratton Binder PC to prepare and file this tax return and all other forms and documents.

- To ensure the public knows TEXSAR is committed to handling charitable donations and running the organization as professionally as possible, we maintain our presence on GuideStar, the nation’s largest repository of information about nonprofit organizations. By sharing comprehensive information to ensure TEXSAR’s commitment to public transparency, we have maintained the gold seal designation.
- TEXSAR maintains a profile on GreatNonprofits, a partner website of GuideStar.
- TEXSAR continues to communicate regularly with the public and its supporters via e-newsletters and informational emails. Using iContact, we distribute several e-newsletters and e-notification to an ever-growing list of supporters. Links to each newsletter are on the TEXSAR website.
- TEXSAR participated in two annual giving days, #GivingTuesday (national) and Amplify Austin (Central Texas). Profiles were created for TEXSAR on both platforms, making implementation of campaigns easier going forward. TEXSAR implemented a new online donation platform, iGiveHere.

TEXSAR's future depends on identifying and securing financial support from current and new individual, corporate, foundation, and other contributors. Extensive prospect research continues. We anticipate submitting grant proposals for equipment, training, event sponsorship, and other projects throughout 2017.
TEXSAR wishes to thank the following individuals, companies, and foundations for their generous contributions. Those marked with an asterisk (*) provided in-kind contributions as well. Texas Search and Rescue also wishes to thank those donors who have asked to remain anonymous.

★

$20,000 and Larger

Richard Belliveau

Hohnstreiter Construction & Remodeling*

Lost Creek Dad’s Club

★

$10,000 - $19,999

Cruising Kitchens*

Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation

Jeffrey M. Turk*

★

$5,000 to $9,999

H-E-B

Heritage Ranch

Michelle Nations
$1,000 to $4,999

CenTEX Independent Electrical Contractors
  Carine Chalfoun
Chapman Woodworks
  Donna DiCarlo
  Dave Drayer
  Early Alert
Jennifer Failla & Joshua Hoffman
  Get You in Shape
Horizon Printing*
  ionDesign
  Kelly Janysek
Liliana & Sean Jones
John B. Knox, CPA, PC
  Rachel Lindsay
  David Loeb
McBee Family Foundation
  PowerHouse Energy
REAL-COMP Data and Marketing
  Kit & Roberta Riley
  Martin Ritchey
  The Stewart Law Firm
SunCoast Resources
Texas A&M University Corpus Christi
  Phillip Taylor
  Anne Vrba
Maritza & Darryl Wong
**200 to $999**

Andy Anthony
Andrew Assir
Melinda & Bill Barber
Ron Beauford
Michael Bradley
Doug Bradshaw
Ken Burger
Deberah Cain Trust
Gregory Casey
Monica Cooke
Cirrus Logic
Wills Conley
Thomas Cross
Cristen & Alan Daniel
Tricia & Floyd Davis
Dell Employee Engagement Fund
Jackie & Steve Dobson
Elaine Edwards
Mary & Jim Frye
Brandon Goering
Carolyn Greene
Lyndall Groos
Kim & Troy Hargroder
Dianne & Robert Harris
Margaret & Paul Hinkley
Howry Breen & Herman, LLP
Joe Huston
Ken Jamilosa
Tyler Jorgensen
June & Matt Julian
Karen Knox
Cathy Kubica
Kate Mackie
Paul Martin
Lynn Marie May
Jonathan McComb
Charles Moore
Sandy Morris
Ralph Munoz
Justen Noakes
Michele & Mike Ploch
Allen Robinson
Diana & Mark Seery
Bill Sleep
Barry Spotts
Jeremy Stillman
Erik Strelnieks
Matt Tomlinson
Travis County Kennel Club
United Health Group
James Wesselski
Bo Wingo

**$100-$199**

Christi Adams
Dorothea Adams
Erica & Hobbs Allison
Mehmet Atesoglu
Mark Bohling
Terri Bornsen
Toni Turner & Jim Bruseth
Ricky Carothers
Jamie & Tim Doty
Stacey & Guy England
Andrew Fitch
Dot & Chris Garbe
Brenda Gerland
Margaret Huston
Maria & George Johnson
John Khosravani
BB Knox Family Fund
Jennifer & Darrin Larson
Mary & Joe McComb
Mary Ann & John McGregor
Julie & Mike McNeil
Andrea & Steve Moynihan
Laura & Ed Norman
Payal Pandey
Denise Schneyer
Dave Shearer
Richard Soule
Pam & Mike Spann
Peter Steppe
Chris Vetromile
Aaron Ward
Sarah Warner
Gary Whittington
Candy York
Agencies and Organizations

TEXSAR wishes to thank the following organizations with whom we worked in 2016.

- Alpine Police Department
- Balcones Wildland Preserve
- Brewster County Office of Emergency Management
- Brewster County Sheriff’s Office
- Caldwell County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
- City of Corpus Christi Office of Emergency Management
- City of Sunset Valley
- Galveston County Office of Emergency Management
- Galveston County Sheriff’s Department
- Hays County Office of Emergency Management
- Nueces County Office of Emergency Management
- Texas A&M Forest Service
- Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM)
- Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
- Travis County Sheriff’s Office
- Texas Rangers
- Williamson County Office of Emergency Management

TEXSAR also maintained memberships with the following during 2016.

- Capital Area Council of Governments
- State Firemen’s and Fire Marshals’ Association
- Texas Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster
TEXSAR Member Volunteers

Our members define TEXSAR. Their continued dedication to the mission and the vision of *Texans helping Texans* goes beyond the time they spend in continued training and the financial commitment, it goes to compassion and caring and the innate desire to help people in need. On Christmas Eve 2015, a call went out to the members for a lost person in Lufkin, Texas. 35 members responded that they were available to search that evening and the next day. Thank you does not begin to say what these people and their families give.

- Adam Crispin
- AJ Collins
- Al Benson
- Alan Huddleston
- Alex Hutton
- Alex Perotti
- Allen Robinson III
- Amanda O’Malley
- Amy Shoe
- Amy Thomas
- Andrew White
- Andy Anthony
- Arnold Steed
- Bill Sleep
- Blake Guidry
- Bo Bowles
- Bo Carlin
- Bo Wingo
- Bobby Macpherson
- Brad Gwatney
- Brad Muirhead
- Bradley DeRoo
- Brandon Goering
- Brandon Lott
- Brian Boyd
- Brian Kassa
- Brian Sailors
- Brianna Acevedo
- Bruce White
- Bryan Bible
- Bryan Blakely
- Bryan Henson
- Bryan Poe
- Bryan Sky-Eagle
- Carine Chalfoun
- Carol Harper
- Carol Wilson
- Chance Berry
- Charlie Grove
- Cherie' James
- Chris Garbe
- Chris Scharff
- Chris Vetromile
- Christa Landowski
- Christi Adams
- Christian Torres-Lopez
- Christopher Boyce
- Christopher Osborne
- Clay Cobb
- Clayton Aldrich
- Connor Byer
- Courtney Brown
- Courtney Crawford
- Craig Trimble
- Danny Harris
- Dave Harris
- David Garcia
- David Unger
- Dawn Keller
- Dawn McGee
- Dawn Santangelo
- Deanna Worden
- Debbie Rich
- Derek Georg
- Derek Moreland
- Diane Morrow
- Don Gentry
- Donald Shuck
- Donis Rhoden
- Donna Fugitt
- Doretta Jenison
- Doris Clark
- Doug Bradshaw
- Doug Haggard
- Dustan Jesko
- Ed Norman
- Edie Wiley
- Ellen Humphert
- Eric Nagel
- Erik Jackson
- Fernando Gonzalez
- Fernando Moreira
- Floyd Davis
- Frank Lappin
- Frank Rich
- Frankie Hefley
- Garrett Minter
- Gary Jones
- Gavin Finlay
- Gay Crocker
- Glorie Ritchie
- Grant Taylor
- Greg Fair
- Greg Fuqua
- Greg Griffin
- Greg Roseberry
- Heather Garman
- Hector Padilla
- Holly Sailors
- Jackie Dobson
- Jackie Ruppert
- Jaime Carlin Jenkins
- Jake Saunders
- James Dodson
- Jamine Doty
- Jamie Going
- Jamie Hatcher
- Jamie Leigh-Powell
Jason Kihlberg
Jason Martin
Jason Pierce
Jason Samp
Jason Webb
Javier Hernandez
Jay Hoffman
Jeb Kaffaga
Jeff Burns
Jeff Ide
Jeff Turk
Jeffrey Stalder
Jennifer Blanton
Jennifer Failla
Jennifer Hrobar
Jennifer Myers
Jessi Galindo
Jesus Gomez-Arizpe
Jim Ashmore
Jim Dodson
Joe Huston
Joe McComb
Joey Hastings
John DeAngelis
John Gunnoe
John Khosravani
Johnny Nichols
Johnpaul Claeyes
Jon Parry
Jonathan McComb
Jonathon Smith
Josh Mintz
Joshua Hoffman
Jp Hominick
Judy Sybert
June Zhang
Justen Noakes
Justin Degrate
Justin McInnis
Justin Whitley
Kally Marbach
Karen Knox
Karen Martin
Kasey Jorgenson
Kelly Janysek
Kelly Noakes
Ken Jamilosa
Kevin McInerney
Kiersten Legge
Kimberly Morgan
Kirk Stolzenburg
Krystal Stalder
L.J. Cruz
Larry Dunn
Laura Norman
Lauren Ratzloff
Lee Hutchins
Lee Wedlake
Leroy Brown
Les Avant
Lin Avey
Lisa Dodson
Lisa Reyes
Lucas Leishear
Lynn May
Lynn Stender
Marcus Gellner
Mario Contreras
Mark Bohling
Mark Huff
Mark Mitchell
Mark Richardson
Martina Petrovic
Matt Morales
Matt Tomlinson
Matt Tracey
Matthew Bane
Matthew Maloney
Matthew Warren
Mauricio Gonzalez
Meg Hinkley
Megan Whitley
Melissa Frederick
Michael Bradley
Michael Brown
Michael Dikovitsky
Michael Redditt
Michael Tutton
Michelle Acevedo
Michelle Nations
Mike Pennington
Miki Schmeisser
Miranda Griffin
Misty Bradfute
Misty Cobb
Neil Summer
Nick Guerra
Niki Bender
Noel Lee
Pam Simek
Pam Spann
Paul Hinkley
Paul Olsen
Penny Goering
Philip Harralson
Philip Marley
Philip Taylor
Phree-Ranier Phillips
Rachel Lindsay
Ralph Munoz
Ram Torres
Randy Collins
Renee Hollie-Thigpen
Richard Belliveau
Richard Fleischer
Rob Naylor
Robert Harris
Roberta Riley
Rolan Rast
Ron Beauford
Ryan Stafford
Sam Lancaster
Sarah Baldner
Scott Brammer
Scott Luke
Scott Tiller
Sean Johnson
Sean Jones
Shawn Bodine
Shawn Hohnstreiter
Shawn Tracy
Sheila Dolbow
Stela Mocketzuma
Stephanie Dill
Steve Eckart
Steve Moynihan
Stuart Viney
Susan Rodenko
Susan Sybert
Suzanne Johnson
Tammy Robertson
TC Crippen
Terri Lucas
Thomas Couch
Thomas Fuqua
Tim Powers
Tim Ritchie
Tim Stevens
Tom Bell
Tom Brown
Tom Hanson
Tony Landrum
Travis Williams
Trice Humperd
Tricia Davis
Troy Youngblood
Tyler Jorgensen
Tyler Pankonien
Vince Devine
Wesley Howell
Will Boettner
Will Davis
Wyatt Talbot
Zack Czelada
Number of TEXSAR Member-Volunteers by Certification at the end of 2016:

- Active Members: 253
- Deployable Members: 186
- Ground SAR Technicians: 138
- K9 Handlers: 9
- K9’s: 13
- Flood and Swiftwater Technicians: 66
- Rescue Boat Operators: 21
- Vertical Rescue Technicians: 12
- Medical Personnel (EMT-B or greater): 24
- Incident Management Team Members: 19
- Wildland Firefighters: 23
- Structure Firefighters: 14
- Mantrackers: 24
- National SAR School Certified Search Planners: 7

TEXSAR Member-Volunteers by Region at the end of 2016:

- Central Texas: 135
- Coastal Bend: 19
- Gulf Coast: 28
- North Texas: 42
- West Texas: 13
- At Large: 16

In addition, TEXSAR has the following administrative committees. We thank our committee chairs and co-chairs.

- Logistics: Derek Moreland | Michael Bradley
- Membership: Jackie Dobson | Jamie Doty
- Technology: Charlie Grove
- Training: Bill Sleep
- TEXSAR Search Party: Suzanne Johnson | Sean Jones | Michelle Nations
TEXSAR K9 Team

The TEXSAR K9s continue to be one of the elite K9 Search and Rescue teams in the state. They have been instrumental in searching for and finding missing children and adults, searching for evidence at potential crime scenes, searching for victims of violent crime.

Dogs fall within two categories, HRD (human remains detection) and Live Find. Every K9 team in the unit dedicates many hours working with their dogs in agility, obedience, and scent work. They train weekly at different locations with different scenarios across the state. The teams travel thousands of miles each year, by car and plane, to seminars and certifications throughout the U.S. In 2016, three dogs certified in Trailing, six certified in HRD, and three certified in Air Scent.

In 2016, team units attended seminars in California, Arizona, Texas, Louisiana, and Virginia. They obtained certifications in Texas, Kansas, and Arizona.

Several members of the TEXSAR K9 unit also instruct at SAR seminars across the U.S. In 2016, that included Arizona, Louisiana, FACTS (Forensic Anthropology Center) body farm in San Marcos, Texas, and Virginia.

In May 2016, the K9 unit hosted its first SAR seminar, an HRD Water Seminar with participants from across the United States. K9s and their handlers learned about searching for drowning victims by shore and boat. K9s trained in this discipline can typically detect a victim more than 200’ below the surface of the water.

For 2017, we are hoping to grow our K9 unit from within as well as develop a working relationship with other local teams. We will continue to travel to seminars for learning and pursue National Certifications.

Our goal is to continue to have an elite K9 team, known throughout the law enforcement and Search and Rescue arena.

Meet some of our team:

- **Wink**
  Handler Jennifer Blanton

- **Orion**
  Handler Joe Huston

- **Seeker**
  Handler T. C. Crippen

- **Twist**
  Handler Jennifer Blanton

- **Gabe**
  Handler Diane Morrow

- **Crash**
  Handler Jennifer Blanton
Conclusion

2016 was a tremendous year of growth for TEXSAR as we established a solid foothold organizationally that will support the Team for years to come. We continue to grow our numbers, expand our outreach, better equip our members, and build our skills to provide the best volunteer experience for our Team and service to our Customers. We look forward to a productive 2017 as we continue to focus on our Members and ensuring we continue to provide a quality product to our Customers, while always maintaining our core values. We are eager and optimistic as we enter 2017 to continue our Mission of Texans Helping Texans!

TEXSAR looks forward to continuing its service to the citizens of Texas in 2017 and beyond. For information, please contact Karen H. Knox, Executive Director (karen.knox@texsar.org).

Texas Search and Rescue
P.O. Box 171258
Austin, Texas 78717
(512) 956-6727

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Photos:
Cover; Page 3: San Marcos River 2/2016  Page 16: Travis Co. Sheriff’s Office Citation
Page 5: Hot Air Balloon, Caldwell Co.  Page 19; 20 top: Alpine Search
Page 7; 8; 17: Annual Meeting 2016  Page 20: K9 Team