

TEXSAR DISPATCH



TEXSAR members deploy again to Central Texas during July floods. TEXSAR never stops.

TEXSAR DISPATCH is dedicated to sharing the mission and passion of TEXSAR, as well as insight into its people.

July/August 2026
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From the CEO



July 2025 will forever be etched into the minds of many. The devastating floods in the Texas Hill Country affected people around the world — personally, emotionally and physically. Such things are not easily forgotten. I'd like to share an abridged version of the message that I sent to the entire TEXSAR team on July 2 of this year.

"Many of us will remember the floods that impacted the Texas Hill Country last summer. It's important that we acknowledge this time of tragedy. We all had different experiences, and we will all process them differently, and that's okay.

I cannot thank you enough for your sacrifice. You gave it your all to a purpose much bigger than any one of us. The impact of our volunteers, staff, and Board is nothing short of awe-inspiring. To those who joined TEXSAR after the floods, thank you for hearing the call and stepping forward to serve. We don't just respond during disasters that capture the world's attention, we also show up during someone's personal disaster. Those days are just as important.

Through one of the worst disasters many of us will ever see, we also recognize the good that came from such a difficult time. We have grown as a team and strengthened our organization to be ready for the next big call. We remain deeply grateful for our donors, families, and loved ones whose support makes this mission possible.

While we enter the holiday weekend, please stay safe and know that myself and our leadership team and I appreciate each of you more than you will ever know. Thank you for everything you do, and please take care of yourselves and those around you."

About two weeks after that message was sent, our members once again dropped what they were doing to respond to floods across four counties, with 100 members who served in search-and-rescue missions, and helped H-E-B distribute meals, water and cleaning supplies in Kerrville. You will find more statistics on pages 6-7 of this issue dedicated to those missions.

— Justin McInnis, President/CEO

News and Announcements

Search Party Update

It's official: we have our Presenting Sponsor!

A heartfelt thank you to the Adam R. Scripps Foundation for their continued support of the TEXSAR mission. We're honored to have them join us as the Presenting Sponsor of the 11th Annual TEXSAR Search Party, which will be held September 19 at The Renaissance Hotel in Austin..

Sponsorship opportunities are still available, but they won't last long. Join us for an unforgettable evening celebrating the volunteers, partners, and supporters who make our mission possible while helping ensure TEXSAR remains ready for the next call. You can find [ticket and sponsorship information here](#).

We can't wait to see you there! [Check out scenes from last year's event](#).

Welcome to the TEXSAR Family, Nulo Pet Food!

Our K9s are always ready to answer the call, whether they're training or searching for a missing loved one. We're grateful to welcome **Nulo** as a new partner and thank them for providing dog food for our K9 team.

Their support helps ensure our four-legged teammates have the nutrition they need to stay healthy, focused, and mission ready.

[Watch the video here](#) for a look at TEXSAR K9s and why these dogs are such an important part of the TEXSAR mission. Thank you, Nulo, for standing behind the TEXSAR mission.

Media Stories



ABC Austin (KVUE-TV): [Central Texas man recalls rescue efforts with his K9 during July 2025 flooding](#)

NBC Austin (KXAN-TV): [Volunteer K9 team continue to help with search and rescue 1 year after central Texas floods](#)



New Hire

TEXSAR has added a key position that is critical to its growth, expansion of services and support of volunteer members as they prepare for and respond to the call for service. Please join us in welcoming. [Rianne Sykes-Wenske, Assistant Director of Development](#)

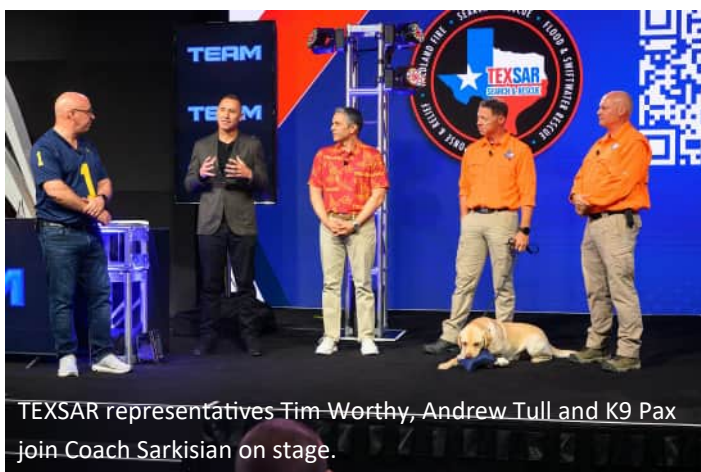
Development Corner

By Dion McInnis, Director of Development

Please take your time with this issue of TEXSAR Dispatch. Note what your support enables us to do for others. You can [donate](#) or contact me at Dion.McInnis@TEXSAR.org.

Spotlight on Supporters

GM Selects TEXSAR



TEXSAR representatives Tim Worthy, Andrew Tull and K9 Pax join Coach Sarkisian on stage.

TEXSAR recently benefited from the generosity of attendees at a recent General Motors (GM) event. More than \$49,000 was donated.

GM leaders understand that it takes a multitude of people performing at a high level of excellence to consistently adapt, innovate, produce and succeed. That is why their recent [34th Supplier of the Year](#) event held in Austin in May featured University of Texas head football coach Steve Sarkisian as their keynote speaker and TEXSAR as their local charity-of-choice to receive donations from attendees. The event honored more than 100 suppliers from 14 countries.

The high-energy event, modeled after the ESPN Game Day format, brought together the top suppliers who make GM's success and world-class vehicles possible. Of their more than 20,000 suppliers, the best-of-the-best were celebrated over the course of several days.

Much of what makes TEXSAR's success possible aligns with key foci of the event: innovation and training.

As part of TEXSAR's involvement, Board Chairman Andrew Tull and Central Texas Division Leader Tim Worthy had their moments on stage with Coach Sarkisian. They were accompanied by K9 volunteer Pax.

GM attributes much of its success to the same thing that TEXSAR does – relationships.

TEXSAR President/CEO Justin McInnis said, "We are honored and humbled to be chosen as the beneficiary of donations made by GM's top suppliers. We share GM's commitment to innovation and training. The tremendous growth that we are experiencing in the number of members, the multitude of agencies requesting our services and the many donors committed to ensuring TEXSAR's readiness and responsiveness are because of what GM celebrates, too – relationships. We take their support as affirmation of our work and, on behalf of everyone in the TEXSAR family, many thanks."

MPU Updates

By Patrick Turck, Director of TEXSAR Missing Persons Unit

The TEXSAR Missing Persons Unit (MPU) has experienced an exceptionally active summer, supporting law enforcement agencies with missing person investigations, searches, recoveries, and cold case reviews. All four volunteer MPU investigators are currently assigned to active cold case investigations and most recently, the MPU received a request for assistance from outside of the United States.

During several recent missions, TEXSAR personnel strengthened relationships with new agency partners, who specifically recognized the professionalism and effectiveness of our ground searchers and K-9 teams.

This summer also took TEXSAR beyond state lines. At the request of law enforcement, our team deployed to

Louisiana to assist with a remote search operation where heat indexes exceeded 110 degrees on both operational days. Despite the challenging terrain and extreme conditions, our volunteers maintained an exceptional level of performance throughout the mission and successfully assisted the requesting agency.

The MPU also supported an ongoing investigation, conducting multiple searches. While details remain confidential, the mission highlighted the value of TEXSAR's specialized search capabilities in support of law enforcement investigations.

Throughout June and July, TEXSAR and the MPU helped recover five individuals and locate two missing people who are now safe. Every deployment reflects why our members dedicate countless hours to training: to provide professional resources to requesting agencies and, whenever possible, help bring answers to families.

BeforeDuringAfter

By Michael Rojas, Director of BeforeDuringAfter

Outreach to communities and organizations around the state has been busy and well received. Traffic to the BeforeDuringAfter website continues to grow, and interest is accelerating as more organizations come to see BeforeDuringAfter as a partner, not just an information source.

A few highlights that reflect the growth and development of the program include:

- Presented and engaged with 500+ small businesses, expanding awareness of resilience and preparedness resources.
- Initiated a BeforeDuringAfter Emergency Management Pilot with several counties.
- Advanced disaster communications support initiatives within the Agriculture and Public Health sectors.
- Initiated mental health support conversations, initiatives, and engagement.

- Began multiple strategic partnership conversations focused on future “blue sky” events designed to support local businesses and communities before disasters occur.
- Provided technical assistance to several counties to enhance small business resilience, community preparedness, and local emergency management capabilities.



BeforeDuringAfter was the topic of a recent presentation in Graham, TX.



BeforeDuringAfter has a new marketing page to introduce the resource to others. Click [here](#) to view it.

Once again, July brought devastating flooding to Central Texas. TEXSAR responded to agency requests for assistance in Kerr, Kendall, Uvalde, and Zavala counties, with 71 volunteers deploying in support of search-and-rescue operations. In addition, 29 members of the TEXSAR Community Support Team assisted the H-E-B Disaster Relief team with food and water distribution, helping serve more than 4,000 families impacted by the flooding.





You can support our missions by donating [here](#). Do you have a desire to help others with service above self? Learn more about joining TEXSAR [here](#).

“Everyone must work to live, but the purpose of life is to serve and to show compassion and the will to help others. Only then have we ourselves become true human beings.”

~ Albert Schweitzer

TEXSAR had a strong presence at the recent Tour de Boerne Texas Hill Country Bike Ride event.



TEXSAR members provided support of various types at the recent Tour de Boerne Texas Hill Country Bike Ride event.



TEXSAR's BeforeDuringAfter program recently presented at the Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce, sharing the important resource created to support resilience for Texas small businesses.





TEXSAR has established an important peer-to-peer mental health program under the guidance of Dr. Tania Glenn, PsyD. The volunteers recently completed their training.



TEXSAR member Teri Callaway, with K9s Hootie and Finn, was recently interviewed by KXAN News.



TEXSAR members were invited to a meet-and-greet at EXMAR Offshore where they were able to share more about TEXSAR's activities.



A recent training session in the Central Texas Division was standing-room only. Training is at the core of member preparedness and safety.

Important Links: Stay in Touch!

[Become a Member](#)

[Donate today!](#)

[Service Above Self Monthly Donor program](#)

Social Media: [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [X](#), [YouTube](#)

[20 Years, 20 stories: TEXSAR's 20th Anniversary Celebrated Through Stories of Its Members](#)

["Ready for the Call" video](#)

www.TEXSAR.org



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secure your
sponsorship or
tickets early.**

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