



Town Lake Trail Foundation

# TALKIN' TRAIL *and other good stuff!*

Spring 2007

## Town Lake Trail Foundation Wins 2006 KAB Beautification Award

Keep Austin Beautiful, a nonprofit agency that aims to encourage the city's residents to better their community's environment, awarded Town Lake Trail Foundation with the Beautification Award for the improvements done on the Town Lake Hike & Bike Trail. In 2006, Dan Garrison, past executive director, received the 2005 KAB Individual Achievement Award. Thanks to John Morgan and Nikki Kreuger of Freescale, Raza Abbas, Marc Gurrola, and Randy Newman of Cricket Communications, Shaun Elizabeth Hopson and Sandy Maxwell of Texas Realty Capital, Will Pickens of Larson Burns and Smith, Curt Arnette of Sitio Design, and Betty and Jim Wilson for sharing the momentous occasion with us.

## Lady Bird Johnson Adopt-a-Garden Program

On February 3, TLTF held its fourth annual auction to place gardens on the trail with adopters. All 24 gardens are now adopted. We maintain a waiting list for those who missed the auction (contact [sara@townlaketrail.org](mailto:sara@townlaketrail.org) for program information).

The Downtown Austin Neighborhood Association is among the 2007 class of adopters. Says DANA representative Jim Furrow, "TLTF is a really great group. We are very happy we were able to acquire the garden and look forward to the design phase." Kudos to adopter Mary Arnett, who secured a grant from Austin Energy targeting the Holly St. neighborhood to make significant



improvements to a garden just west of Longhorn dam on the north side of the lake. Mary transformed the circular stone garden with benches, boulders, graceful plantings, and restored the view to the lake by the removal of invasive trees and vines.

TLTF is grateful for the ongoing cooperation of the Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) in offering this program to the public. Special thanks to Darla Evans for helping make it a success.



Thank you to Gilbert's Gazelles for sponsoring the 9 and 9 1/2 mile markers!

## Clean Sweep

On March 31, the Town Lake Trail Foundation will partner with Keep Austin Beautiful (KAB) for the annual citywide Clean Sweep. TLTF volunteers will pick up trash and remove debris of all sorts along the Town Lake Trail, from MoPac to Longhorn Dam. Register now at [keepaustinbeautiful.org](http://keepaustinbeautiful.org) to get a spot at a Trail location.

## Bricks at Lou Neff Point

Our Lou Neff Point brick campaign, launched in November 2006, has been going strong. Proceeds from brick sales will work toward improving your Trail. We expect to install our first batch of bricks in early spring, and will notify buyers once an installation date is set. We are all eager to see them in place! There are still bricks available, but when they are gone, they are gone. Buy a commemorative brick at [townlaketrail.org](http://townlaketrail.org).

## Texas Realty Capital Donates \$25,000 for Healthy Trees



Texas Realty Capital, under its "Funding the Future" program, selected TLTF and CASA of Travis County to receive its first annual charitable contributions. "We're happy to help TLTF improve the Trail, making the community such a unique and fantastic place to live, work and play," said John Morran of Texas

Realty Capital. "Zilker Bluffs Tree Planting is a valuable addition that Austin's citizens and visitors will be able to enjoy for years to come." Each organization received \$25,000 marking TRC's commitment to support locally based charities that focus on Central Texas' youth, environment and services. The generous contribution helped us complete the Zilker Bluffs Tree Planting, part of Healthy Trees for the Trail.

The Healthy Trees for the Trail program restores the natural woodland habitat of the Town Lake ecosystem and protects the health of the trees along the Town Lake Hike and Bike Trail. Over the last 40 years, the introduction of non-native plant species combined with the urbanization of this area has resulted in an ecosystem with diminishing biodiversity. Without natural controls such as floods and fire, these woodlands along the Trail have the potential to lose their beauty and functionality as native habitat. Introduced plants such as privet, Chinese tallow, chinaberry, bamboo, and giant reed grass are spreading along the Trail, crowding out native species important to birds and other wildlife for food and shelter. Aggressive grapevines are shading out large specimen trees that help make the Trail a special place. We are planning work days for the spring. To volunteer, email [volunteers@townlaketrail.org](mailto:volunteers@townlaketrail.org).

### Zilker Bluffs Tree Planting & Adoption

The stars aligned over the Zilker Bluffs tree planting project in November and December, when every component of the first phase rapidly fell into place. TLTF contracted to have 27 oaks and cedar elms planted on the perfectly shaped berms, designed by Sitio Design and constructed by Pitts Construction.

Volunteers, many from Freescale, planted the smaller trees and grasses. Thanks to Brack Green of the Parks Department, the plantings received initial watering via special water trucks that deliver water under pressure into the irrigation pipes. And then the rains came! January enjoyed abundant rain that is getting our lovely trees off to the best possible start.

On March 3, volunteers from Marathon Real Estate will weed and fertilize. Later in the spring, phase two will see the planting of hundreds of plugs of Central Texas wildflowers and grasses, especially grown for TLTF by Madrone Nursery, San Marcos.



# MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



**SATURDAY  
MARCH 31**  
*Keep Austin Beautiful  
Clean Sweep*



**WEDNESDAY  
APRIL 25, 7 PM**  
**TLTF MEMBERSHIP SOCIAL  
CAPITAL CRUISES TOWN LAKE**



**SATURDAY  
JUNE 24, 7 PM (TENTATIVE)**  
**TLTF CASINO NIGHT  
RINGERS SPORTS BAR**



**THURSDAY  
AUGUST 2, 8:24 PM**  
*3rd Annual  
Moonlight Margarita Run*

We acknowledge with gratitude the generosity and assistance of the following Zilker Bluffs donors and partners:

## ***Underwriters***

Texas Realty Capital • Cricket Communications • Michael & Susan Dell Foundation

### ***Forest Stewards***

Green Mountain Energy, in memory of Debbie Fyffe  
Barbara and Kevin J. Barry  
Will and Mary Pitts

### ***Woodland Stewards***

Lynne Dobson, in memory of Grace Dobson  
Sara Moore • Heather Keating and Griffin Davis  
HealthCare Facilities Development Corporation  
Jeff and Kelley Burrus • The Laurel Foundation  
Chris Lowrimore • The Ship of Fools, Way to Go, Coach Al

### ***Grove Stewards***

Kelsey, Preston and Jackson Hughes • Sophie Beck  
Pam Blaine, in memory of Terry Tilton

### ***Project Partners***

City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department  
Austin Energy  
City of Austin Solid Waste Services  
Sitio Design, landscape architect  
Pitts Construction, Inc., construction

### ***Tree Stewards***

William Harwell • Margot & Grant Thomas, in memory of Graeme Baker • Tina Tzaperas & Ed Scotti, in memory of Jordan & Lola Scotti • Susan & Jim Rankin • David Powell, in memory of Jean Powell • Shaun Castille • John Taliaferro and Malou Flato • Jewel Arrington, in memory of Jack Arrington • Robert Patton • Bob, Diane, Luke, Colin, & Dylan Stonecipher, in honor of Adolph & Marion Krchnak • Ashley Adams • Kate McNallie, in memory of Trey Hooks

### ***Plant Stewards***

Brent Douglass • Liz Dunlap • Roseann Mandzuik • Chris & Celia Berry • Melinda Longtain • Stanley & Maurine Plettman • Dr. Al Lindsey & Dr. Carla Underhill • Eric Buehler • Candace Johnson, in honor of the Sarkesian family • Mary Cameron • Jenny & Bill Johnson • Susan Blount • JJ Innes • Rindi & Derek McDonald, in honor of Dylan, Cole, Maya & Georgia • Alma Kutruff, in honor of Phil & Sissy Schriber • Paul and Ellen Seals • Austin Association of Facility and Maintenance Engineers • Maggie & Joe Longley • Christina Chan & Jetta Todaro & Colette Knisely

## **UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP EVENTS** ***More information coming soon!***

**April 25**  
**TLTF Capital Cruise Social**



**JUNE 24**  
**TLTF Casino Night**



**August 2**

## **Board Member News**

After three and half years of fundraising, marketing and governance work with the Town Lake Trail Foundation, Kathleen Mabley has left Board of Directors to spend more time with her husband and (almost) 3 boys. "Working with TLTF from almost the beginning has been a highly rewarding experience. From our accomplishments on the Trail to the personal friendships, I'm lucky to have been a part of building this Foundation," said Kathleen. A past member of the Founder's Board, Kathleen will continue on the Foundation's Advisory Board.

### **If You Love the Trail, Show It!**

The Town Lake Trail Foundation depends on members like you for funding and support for key Trail improvements like the Lou Neff Point renovation and the new mile markers. We have great plans for the Trail but we need more members to help make them a reality. **Please forward this newsletter to friends and co-workers that love the Trail. Tell them to go to [townlaketrail.org](http://townlaketrail.org), register online and become a member of the Town Lake Trail Foundation today.**