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NOV 11 1996

## Sabine River Authority of Texas

Volume 33

Depository Summer, 1996  
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### Elected Board of Directors

There is a new Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, due to the recent death of President Bo Lewis. The officers are now as follows:

- Nolton Brown, President (Bridge City, TX)
- Walta Cook, Vice President (Carthage, TX)
- Earl Williams, Secretary (Orange, TX)
- Jerry Stallworth, Secretary Pro Tem (Marshall, TX)
- Karen Hampton, Treasurer (Tyler, TX)

Joyce Hugman of Gladewater was sworn in Thursday, May 30, 1996 as the newest member of the Board of Directors for the Sabine River Authority of Texas.

Ms. Hugman was appointed by Gov. George W. Bush to fill the unexpired term of the late board member Bo Lewis of Pineland, and she was sworn into office by Gregg County Judge Mickey Smith.

Ms. Hugman was born in Galveston and studied at Southwest Texas State College in San Marcos. She has lived in Gregg County 38 years and has been active in local Republican organizations, and the Gladewater Chamber of Commerce.

She is the outgoing committee-woman for this area on the State Republican Executive Committee, has been to a national GOP convention and has been to every party state convention since 1982. Bush also named her to the Governor's Commission for Women.

## Cook Elected To Help Set Policy



The Toledo Bend Project Joint Operating Board (TBPJO) sets policy (where the two states are involved) for the operations of the Bi-State Toledo Bend Dam and Reservoir Project. TBPJO is composed of two members from the Sabine River Authority of Texas and two members from the Sabine River Authority, State of Louisiana Board of Commissioners, with the General Manager and Executive Director serving as Ex-Officio members. To fill the position left vacant by the recent death of Bo Lewis, the Sabine River Authority Board elected Ms. Walta P. Cook of Carthage to represent the Sabine River Authority of Texas along with longtime member, James E. Campbell of Center. ★

## Groundbreaking for Tawakoni State Park



Texas Parks & Wildlife officials and state officials moved the first shovelfuls of dirt, marking the official beginning of the Tawakoni State Park on June 7, 1996.

The park is estimated to cost \$2.8 million dollars, with the land being



provided by Sabine River Authority of Texas. The keynote speakers for the event were: John Yarbrough of Texas Parks & Wildlife, Texas State Senator David Cain, State Representative Bob Glaze, Representative Keith Oakley, former Senator Ted Lyons, and Texas Parks & Wildlife Executive Director Andrew Sansom.

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# New Channel Marking Buoys at Lake Fork

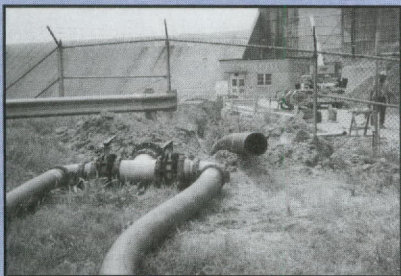
Authority personnel began placement of 13" diameter "can" style buoys in April of this year to mark existing boat lanes in Lake Fork Reservoir. The large white buoys are painted (banded?) with 2" orange reflective tape to increase their visibility. Approximately 100 buoys have been placed to mark the primary boat lanes in the reservoir and an additional 100 buoys are schedule for placement during the late summer and fall as the reservoir level recedes, allowing for safer placement of the buoys. The purpose of this buoy placement program is to provide for safer and more convenient navigation for the boating public visiting Lake Fork Reservoir, but boaters are warned that the buoys do not indicate or assure that the boat lanes marked by the buoys are free of stumps or other underwater hazards and especially during times of low and fluctuating reservoir levels. Attempts are made to place the buoys in the center of the cleared boat lanes, but meandering boat lanes varying in width from 50 feet to 500 feet make this difficult to accomplish and at best it gives the boaters an indication as to where the original boat channel was cleared. ★



## Tawakoni Water Saves Edgewood

*Edgewood's 1,284 residents were almost up a creek — a dry creek. The drought parching much of Texas has dropped their city lake to a critical level. The lake is the city's only source of water and relies on rain for replenishment. The city is now out of the woods, thanks to men working 24 hours a day for little less than three weeks. The crew built a pipeline to carry water to Edgewood from Lake Tawakoni.*

On Saturday, June 15, 1996, raw water from Lake Tawakoni began pouring into Edgewood's critically low city reservoir through a ten mile long



pipeline that had been installed under emergency conditions to keep the city

from running completely out of water. The tie-in at the Lake Tawakoni spillway occurred on Thursday, June 13, after crews had worked through the night to

expose the 20-inch steel pipe that also provides water to Wills Point and South Tawakoni

W.S.C. The entire installation utilizing temporary in-line pumps and 10-inch high density polyethylene pipe was accomplished in less than three weeks by crews working 24 hours a day. It is expected to take approximately 60 days to fill the city lake to a comfortable level.

The Sabine River Authority worked with the City of Edgewood and its contractors regarding details for the spillway channel pipeline crossing and connecting the pipeline to the intake works at the spillway.

At a time when the Sabine River Authority has no water to sell in Lake Tawakoni and very little in Lake Fork Reservoir, it is fortunate that the Edgewood city officials had maintained an option agreement since 1983 to provide the city's now much needed supply of water from Lake Tawakoni. ★

## PARK

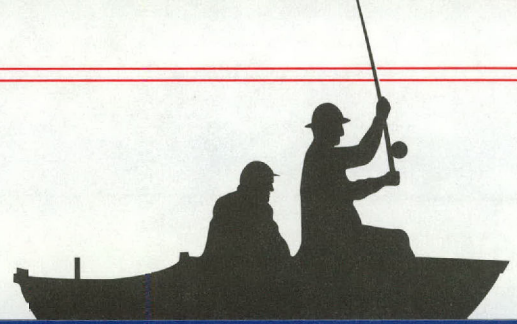
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The current Lake Tawakoni State Park master plan includes one trailer residence site, and a host site in the day-use area; a swimming beach/buoy system; basin-dredging; 25 picnic sites, grill and tables only; trails and site development; for overnight use, 70 multi-use sites (no tent pads); two host sites; 29 walk-in sites (min. sitework & tent pads); eight group trailer sites; restrooms, trails, site development and trailer dump station; an electrical system and waste distribution.

Pictured in ground-breaking ceremony on cover page are Melvin Parlow; Andy Sansom, Texas Parks & Wildlife Executive Director; Karen Springs, standing in for her husband Bobby Springs; Bill Estes, Wills Point

*Continue on Page 3*





# Get Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs

First Annual Youth Fishing Tournament  
held at Lake Fork Reservoir.

**O**n Saturday, June 1, 1996, the Sabine River Authority of Texas, Wood County Peace Officer's Association, and the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department sponsored the first annual Wood County "Get Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs" Youth Fishing Tournament at Lake Fork Reservoir.

Tournament rules allowed the taking of legal-sized fish of all species by kids from 2-1/2 to 16 years of age. On this particular Saturday a fishing license was not required to fish the waters of Texas.

Approximately 109 contestants registered to try their luck around the shoreline near the Lake Fork Division office. Volunteers, some professional fishing guides, provided free fishing trips for the kids. The Lake Fork Lady Anglers were on hand to help with registration and to bait hooks. Lunch

and soft drinks were supplied to participants at no cost as well as a free T-shirt to remember the day. Rain showers dampened the day but not the spirit of the anglers.

The awards ceremony was moved under cover where trophies were given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in the different age groups. All the contestants names were placed in a drawing for prizes donated by local merchants and the Wood County Sheriff's Department. Some of the lucky winners won bicycles, All-Star fishing rods, and other fishing tackle items. A good time was had by all and the end of the day plans for the 2nd Annual Kid Fishing Day were already being discussed. ★

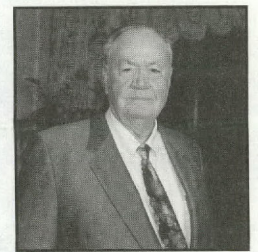


## PARK

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Economic Development Corp.; Bill Thomas, Tawakoni Basin Economic Development Corp.; Bob Glaze, State Representative; David Cain, State Senator; Keith Oakley, State Representative; Lee Lewinn, Quinlan Area Chamber of Commerce and Tawakoni Area Chamber of Commerce; Ted Lyon, former state senator; and Sam Collins, Executive Vice President and General Manager, Sabine River Authority. ★

## Former President of Board of Directors and Prominent Citizen Dies



**O**tis H. "Bo" Lewis, former President of the Board of Directors of the Sabine River Authority of Texas, died Friday, April 26, 1996. Mr. Lewis was originally appointed to the Board of Directors in 1991 by Governor Richards. He was a retired Newton County's Precinct 2 Commissioner after 24

years and was also a member of Pineland Service Club.

He is survived by his wife, Ethel Lewis of Pineland; daughters, Sharon McMuller of Wasilla, Alaska, and Brenda Roden of Kirbyville; sons, Mike Lewis of Newton and State Representative Ron Lewis of Mauriceville, a step-son,

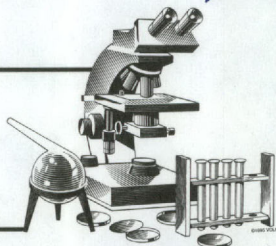
Edward Droptini of Lake Charles, Louisiana; sisters, Jean House and Ann Pasley, both of Ashdown, Arkansas; a brother, Lester Lewis of Ashdown; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

All of us who had the pleasure of knowing Bo Lewis feel we had our lives enriched by this special man. ★





## ESD Passes TNRCC QA Audit



The Environmental Services Division (ESD) was audited by the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) in July as part of the Texas Clean Rivers Program. The audit was conducted to ensure the sampling procedures and laboratory analyses were being performed according to the strict quality assurance guidelines established by the Clean Rivers Program. The guidelines require that all of the methods and procedures for sampling and analyses must be specified in a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP). The QAPP must be approved by the TNRCC and must be updated on an annual basis. The TNRCC has recently approved the third update of the ESD QAPP.

During the audit TNRCC personnel accompanied ESD field personnel for a sampling trip which included measuring routine field parameters, collecting dissolved metals samples using "clean sampling" techniques, and biological sampling. The "clean sampling" techniques, using specially prepared equipment and sample containers, are required to eliminate contamination when extremely small quantities of dissolved metals are being measured. Many of the metals can be detected in concentrations as low as one part per billion in a water sample and some can be measured as low as two tenths of one part per billion. That is equal to 0.0000000002 grams in one milliliter of water or about a grain of salt in an olympic-sized swimming pool.

The TNRCC personnel spent an additional day inspecting the laboratory including the biomonitoring facilities. The official results of the audit will be reported in the near future, but the preliminary results were very positive. ★

Happy Birthday Happy Birthday Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday

## NEWTON COUNTY— 150 YEARS OLD

On April 20, 1996, Newton County observed its 150th birthday. One of the events of the celebration was a parade around the courthouse square. There were over one-hundred floats and entrants in the parade depicting the history of Newton County from the Republic of Texas days to present time. Ribbons were given to the top two entries in each category.

The Toledo Bend Division participated in the parade by entering the boat used for buoy placement and maintenance decorated with red, white, and blue streamers and Texas Flags. Our entry won second place in the Commercial Division.

A fun time was had by all. ★

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday

## CONGRATULATIONS JAMES CAMPBELL

James Campbell, Sabine River Authority's Board of Director, receives Ralph W. Steen Memorial East Texan of the Year Award from the Deep East Texas Council of Governments. ★



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## New Motel on Texas Shores of Toledo Bend Reservoir

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**C**onstruction of a Super 8 Motel on the Texas Shores of Toledo Bend Reservoir was hailed as a new beginning for the "Sleeping Giant" during a ground breaking ceremony Saturday, June 8, 1996.

Construction on the \$1.5 million 44-room motel should be completed by year's end. The motel is being developed by Hemphill-based Sunrise Hospitality Corporation, which is headed by Leon Addicks, president. Other officers in the corporation include Carl Beall, vice president; Harry Johnson, secretary-treasurer; Kent Walker, director; and Ann Ussery, director. Pat Fussell of Fussell and Associates serves as the development and management consultant for the project.



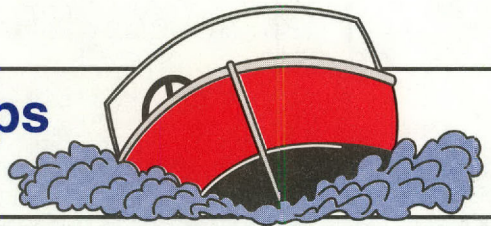
Among those speaking at the event were Sabine River Authority of Texas, Susie Montgomery;

Sabine River Authority, State of Louisiana, Linda Curtis-Sparks; Fussell Realty's, Pat Fussell; Sabine County Chamber of Commerce, Henri Trabuc; San Augustine Chamber of Commerce, Mary Jo Hanson; and Sabine Parish Chamber of Commerce, Bonnie Fox. ★

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## Making Boat Ramps Accessible

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**W**ith the continuing drought and falling lake levels, boaters are finding it difficult to launch their boats and navigate on Authority reservoirs

(The Authority reservoirs include Lake Tawakoni, Lake Fork and Toledo Bend Reservoirs). Due to the continuing drought conditions and unusually low lake levels, maintenance and operations crews at the Authority reservoirs have been busy



cleaning out and refurbishing boat ramps to assist the boating public in utilizing the reservoirs at these low levels. Even with added maintenance, some ramps have become unusable with the declining lake level. The Sabine River Authority reminds all boaters to be extremely careful because some areas that can ordinarily be traveled easily, may be very shallow and hazardous under present conditions. At the present time Toledo Bend Reservoir is down about 6-1/2 feet, Lake Tawakoni Reservoir about 7 feet and Lake Fork Reservoir about 3 feet. ★

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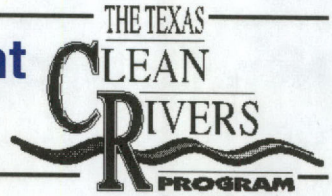




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## Draft of 1996 Assessment Report Released

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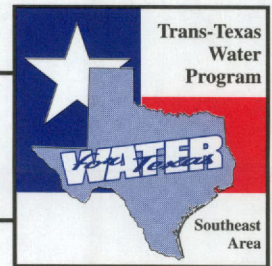


**T**he Texas Clean Rivers Program (TCRP) within the Sabine Basin, Texas, is a cooperative effort between SRA and the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC). The program's goals include the comprehensive assessment of water quality for the protection and improvement of water quality throughout the Sabine watershed. Although the assessment process is ongoing, we are required to submit a report of findings and progress biannually. The draft version of the 1996 Regional Assessment of Water Quality was released in July 1996. The 1996 assessment approach uses an integrated, systematic subwatershed approach to address water quality problems and solutions. Results from the analyses of the current and historical water quality data have been used to identify and prioritize the water quality issues in the Basin. A geographic information system is being used to evaluate the spatial relationships between the many factors that influence water quality. SRA's Internet site has allowed the SRA to function efficiently as a water quality data clearinghouse for TNRCC and other interested parties in the basin. Comments on the draft assessment report are encouraged. The report is available at <http://www.sra.dst.tx.us/>. The final report will be submitted to the Governor of Texas, the TNRCC, and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department on October 1, 1996. ★

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## Sabine Lake Conference

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**A** Sabine Lake "State of the Lake" conference will be held on September 13-14 at the Beaumont Hilton. The Sabine Lake conference, presented under the auspices of the Trans-Texas Water Program Southeast Area Study, is a response to the need for better information on the nature and condition of the Sabine Lake ecosystem. Participants will share data and information and explore opportunities to enhance the Sabine Lake system through improved water management. Sessions will include such topics as geology and climate, water circulation, tides, freshwater inflows, water quality, erosion and accretion, habitat and biological components, human uses, and management issues. Additionally the conference is intended to serve as a forum to obtain public input related to the Sabine Lake system. For more information about the conference contact Blackburn & Carter, 713-524-1012. ★

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