Texas State Aquarium Executive Committee

Larry Urban  Chair
Deneece Squires  Past-Chair
Julie Buckley  Treasurer
Rob Hall  Vice Chair
Judith Hawley  Vice Chair
Bruce S. Hawn  Vice Chair
Don Kingsbury  Secretary
Robert W. Maxwell, Jr.  At Large Member
Julie McNeil  At Large Member
J. Ted Oakley  At Large Member
George Finley  Appointed by Chair

Our Mission
The mission of the Texas State Aquarium is to engage people with animals, inspire appreciation for our seas, and support wildlife conservation.

Our Vision
To be a global leader in fostering support for the conservation of the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea.

Trustees
Joe Adame
Esperanza “Hope” Andrade
Barry Andrews
Libby Averyt
Newman “Tree” Baker, III
Allen G. Borden
Julie Buckley
Mary Campbell
Louise Chapman
Thomas Dobson
Elinor Donnell
John F. Dorn
George Finley
Laura Fischer
Pat Frost
Robert R. “Bob” Furgason
Eddie L. Garcia
Dos Gates
Rob Hall
Kim Hammer
Judith Hawley

Texas State Aquarium Leadership

Tom Schmid  President & CEO
Jesse Gilbert  Senior VP & Chief Operating Officer
Julio Flores, Jr., CPA  VP of Finance & CFO
Paul “Rocky” Kettering, CFRE  VP of Development
Leslie Peart  VP of Education & Conservation
Richard E. Glover, Jr.  Chief Marketing Officer
Nicole Andrade, SHRM-SCP  Director of Administration and Human Resources
Leon Burns  Director of Restaurant Services
Justin Sefcik  Director of Operations
Jennifer Vela  Director of Sales

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Trustee Emeritus
R. C. Allen
Charles Butt
Peggy Lasater Clark
Rich D. Tuttle
Arthur Zeitler

Advisory
Nelda Martinez
Sam L. Susser
Dear friends,

Warm greetings from the Texas State Aquarium. On behalf of our Board of Trustees and staff, we are pleased to present our 2015 annual report. Despite some significant challenges, 2015 was a remarkable year for us as we celebrated our 25th anniversary. We accomplished much to move your institution forward, thanks to your support, and we are excited to share some of those accomplishments with you.

We began 2015 with a major renovation to our Dolphin Bay exhibit; we are cognizant that while we add a major new wing to our existing building, we must also continue to invest in upgrading our existing facilities. New interpretive graphics allow us to tell stories about how we care for our dolphins, how we enrich their daily life, and most importantly, why it’s critical that they are part of our family here.

In April, we suffered a tragic loss of fish during a routine treatment for parasites. However, within a few months, thanks to the extraordinary generosity of this community and our colleagues around the nation, we quickly recovered from this event. We did file a federal lawsuit against the company that sold us the mislabeled chemical, and fully communicated all of this with the Aquarium community across the nation. Our hope is that our actions will help prevent this from happening anywhere else.

In September, Aquarium Outreach Manager Suraida Nanez-James traveled to the Pacific Ocean aboard the research vessel Falkor, along with Aquarium STEM Professional in Residence Dr. Will Sager, to study the world’s largest underwater volcano, Tamu Massif. Suraida conducted over 90 live ship-to-shore educational programs reaching over 4,000 students.

In October, we opened our newest temporary exhibition, Saving Sharks. Showcasing a number of small shark species, and highlighting the work of Harte Research Institute scientist Dr. Greg Stunz and the OCEARCH shark research team, this was our first exhibition focusing primarily on research and conservation work supported by our newly created Wildlife Care, Conservation and Research (WCCR) Fund program.

We reached the halfway point on construction of the new Caribbean Wing, and a tremendous grant from the State of Texas pushed our campaign total to over $40 million. We’re pleased to report that we are on track for our spring of 2017 opening.

After much collaboration and discussion with our Board of Trustees and staff, we have updated our mission statement: engaging people with animals, inspiring appreciation for our seas, and supporting wildlife conservation. Our newly adopted mission statement is driving us into 2016 and beyond as we work toward achieving our new vision – to be a global leader in fostering support for the conservation of the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea.

For over 25 years, you all have generated momentum for us, enabling us to transform the Texas State Aquarium into one of the top aquariums in the nation. Thank you for your support; we want to do more, and with your help, we can.

Tom Schmid
President and CEO

Larry Urban
Chairman of the Board
“...we want to show people how important sharks really are.”

– Jesse Gilbert
On October 13, 2015, the Texas State Aquarium held the public grand opening of its newest exhibit, Saving Sharks.

With support from OCEARCH, the Houston Museum of Natural Science, and the Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, the exhibit is designed to capture the hearts and minds of budding conservationists and lifelong shark fans, alike.

Guests have the opportunity to track tagged sharks in real time via the OCEARCH Global Shark Tracker, feel what it is like to be underwater with these apex predators via a full-sized diving cage, and even stand next to the past and present kings of the ocean: a life-sized Megalodon jaw and Great white shark replica. The engaging and interactive exhibit features a wall-sized map showing visitors what shark species dominate our Gulf of Mexico, a live shark touch area where visitors can feel and see bamboo and epaulette sharks, as well as various habitats where cat sharks and tasselled wobbegongs are on view.

As many shark species are in decline globally, the exhibit features information regarding threats such as shark finning and overfishing that many shark populations face and how humans can help to make a difference.

According to Aquarium Senior Vice President & Chief Operating Officer Jesse Gilbert, “This exhibit is at the heart of what we do at the Texas State Aquarium. We wanted to showcase the remarkable science being done in our area, and the conservation efforts that go into our everyday operations. Sharks provide a natural balance and equilibrium to the oceans that cannot be replicated – we want to show people how important they really are.”

Through its Wildlife Care, Conservation, and Research (WCCR) Fund, the Aquarium is a proud supporter of Harte Research Institute’s shark research and its scientist who work with OCEARCH in the Gulf of Mexico. Every year, the Aquarium directs a portion of its operating revenue to the WCCR Fund, through which it awards funding to programs that focus on species in the Aquarium’s living collection or the habitats that support those species.
On November 8, a Dollar Day record total of 11,305 enjoyed $1 dollar admission...
Making a Difference Locally and Beyond

The impact of the Texas State Aquarium is felt throughout Texas’ Coastal Bend, but most keenly in Corpus Christi and the cities most closely surrounding it. That impact goes well beyond the nearly $50 million economic impact the Aquarium contributes annually to the Corpus Christi area economy and touches the individual lives of many people and animals, as well as the health of our local environment.

The Aquarium earmarks a portion of its revenue every year to support a number of research and conservation projects both locally and throughout the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea through its Wildlife Care, Conservation, and Research (WCCR) Fund. Additionally, the Aquarium’s Second Chances Wildlife Rehabilitation Program cares for hundreds of animals every year, endeavoring to nurse those injured or ill animals back to health and to a point that they can be released back into their natural environment. So every time a guest pays for admission or buys a membership to the Aquarium, he or she is directly contributing to our efforts to save wildlife, preserve species, and positively impact the environment.

The Aquarium works cooperatively with local universities and other like-minded organizations on efforts, events, and projects designed to positively impact our local environment and the lives of the people and animals inhabiting it. It also offers programs such as Seafood Wars, which utilizes fun competitions between local chefs to teach about sustainable seafood and making wise choices for the ocean when you visit a restaurant or grocery store.

Beach cleanups, green practices onsite, and support of community events such as Earth Day Bay Day and the Sink Your Shucks oyster restoration project are just a few more examples of the way the Aquarium and its staff endeavor to make a positive impact on the local community and environment.

Community Dollar Days

Thanks to generous corporate partners H-E-B, Whataburger, and NavyArmy Community Credit Union, more than 28,000 members of the community enjoyed a day at the Aquarium for just $1 apiece again in 2015.

Giving Back

The Aquarium has always been a generous supporter of other non-profits within Texas’ Coastal Bend and around the state, and 2015 was no exception. In 2015, the Aquarium donated 364 tickets and 73 membership to 255 worthy non-profits.
The Aquarium’s Flint Hills Resources Center for Excellence in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) Education had another strong year, reaching more than 65,000 learners of all ages through a diverse range of programming designed to engage, excite, intrigue, and challenge.

**Aquavision Distance Learning**

This year, Flint Hills Resources Aquavision Distance Learning received the Pinnacle Award of Excellence from the Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration (CILC), recognizing the continued quality of our STEM-based distance learning and the professionalism of our staff. Live from the field programming was implemented on a global scale this fall, when Manager for Distance Learning and Outreach Suraida James conducted 90 ship-to-shore connections from the Schmidt Ocean Institute’s internationally recognized research vessel, *Falkor*. James’ audience was comprised of 4,000 students and teachers in eight states, Portugal and the Bahamas, who were encouraged to someday join the ranks of ocean explorers. James was invited to manage outreach for the expedition by principal investigator and University of Houston scientist Dr. William Sager. Because of his commitment to the partnership and STEM education, Sager was named 2015 Flint Hills Resources Center for Excellence STEM Professional in Residence.

In addition to the *Falkor* broadcasts, Aquavision collaborated with the Aquarium’s Wildlife Care, Conservation, and Research (WCCR) Fund grant recipients to launch “Expert Chats”. These informal distance learning events allow students and educators to speak directly with scientists about current research focused on the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea.

**Intercession Camps**

After successfully implementing thematic summer day camps, the new approach was applied to camp design for the days preceding Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s Eve. A new, single-day mini-camp format was built around hands-on STEM process skills derived from conservation topics important to the Aquarium. A generous gift from the Port of Corpus Christi allowed us to expand accessibility by offering these camps at $10 per day, including lunch.

**Teacher Professional Development**

More than 400 educators participated in Center for Excellence STEM learning events. Workshops and opportunities to work side-by-side with STEM professionals were offered onsite and at conferences across the state.

---

**2015 Program Participants**

- Outreach
- Aquavision Distance Learning
- Camps
- Overnight Camp-ins
- Sealab Programs
- Teacher Workshops/Profess. Develop.
- Seafood Wars
- Onsite Programs

Total: 65,332

2015: 17,013

2014: 28,228

2013: 14,564

2012: 13,243

2011: 7,682

2010: 6,481
Overall, the Aquarium’s education programs served more than 65,000 learners in 2015.
Each year, the Aquarium awards funding to programs that focus on species that are native to the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea.
Wildlife Care, Conservation, and Research Fund

In 2013, the Texas State Aquarium established its Wildlife Care, Conservation, and Research (WCCR) Fund to further the Aquarium’s mission to engage people with animals, inspire appreciation for our seas, and support wildlife conservation. Each year, the Aquarium awards funding to programs that focus on species that are native to the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea.

The following are the Aquarium’s 2015 WCCR Fund recipients:

- **Sharks with Spectators III – Real-time, Global Tracking of Texas’ Marine Apex Predators for Science, Education, and Research**
  Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi – Harte Research Institute / Greg Sturz and Matt Ajemian

- **Waters for Wildlife: Monitoring the Use of Freshwater Ponds by Wintering Whooping Cranes**
  San Antonio Bay Partnership / Kiersten Stanzel

- **Genetic Composition of Immature Kemp’s Ridley Turtles in the Gulf of Mexico**
  USGS Southeast Ecological Science Center / Margaret Lamont

- **Improving Oso Creek/Bay, Corpus Christi Bay and Petronila Creek Water Quality**
  Texas State University – Meadows Center / Meredith Miller

- **Optimizing Coral Fragmentation Technique for Propagation**
  University of Texas at Austin / Mikhail Matz

- **Mapping Spotted Trout Spawning Habitat in Mission Aransas NERR**
  University of Texas Marine Science Institute / Brad Erisman

- **Migrating Monarch Butterflies’ Use of Offshore Oil Platforms**
  University of Texas Marine Science Institute / Tracy Villareal

Environmental Impact

The Aquarium endeavors to have a positive impact on our environment through a broad range of practices and initiatives both onsite and offsite. As part of our overall mission of conservation and education, the Texas State Aquarium formally launched its “Going Green” program in 2009. Our onsite green practices are extensive and focus on areas such as energy conservation, water conservation, recycling, environmentally-friendly restaurant operations, and landscaping. The Aquarium reviews its practices on a regular basis and makes changes to reduce its impact on the environment.

In addition, the Aquarium works hard at education and public outreach both on and offsite. These efforts include:

- Foster the awareness of Texas watersheds through the implementation of the Aquarium’s Keepers of the Coast program.
- Coordinate beach cleanups three times a year with the Texas General Land Offices Adopt-A-Beach program.
- Facilitate Project WILD, conservation-based curriculums through our educational programming.
- Facilitate Texas Parks and Wildlife’s Jr. Angler Program, which teaches children to be good stewards of the ocean resources.
- Coordinate and host World Oceans Day, Earth Day/Party for the Planet, and Green Halloween events yearly.
The Aquarium staff undertakes several cleanups of North Beach wetlands and streets every year. In 2015, staff removed over 1,000 pounds of trash, including tires, furniture, carpeting and other large items from the local environment.

Additionally, the Aquarium has adopted Packery Channel Park on Upper Padre Island and conducts periodic staff and volunteer clean-ups there. Stripes sponsored a summer cleanup of Packery Channel Park by the Aquarium’s Aquateen volunteers, at which 20 Aquateens picked up trash totaling 496 pounds.

More than 800 volunteers at Aquarium-hosted Adopt-a-Beach cleanups in 2015 removed 18,100 pounds of trash from the North Beach environment.

### Environmentally-Focused Events

Again in 2015, the Aquarium held several environmentally-focused public events designed to educate and inform guests about threats to the health of our local, regional and global environments, as well as inspire them to take actions to help take care of the environment – all while having a good time enjoying special activities and programming. Among the environmentally-focused public events held at the aquarium in 2015 were our Earth Day “Party for the Planet” celebration, Endangered Species Day, World Oceans Day, and Green Halloween.

**Second Chances Wildlife Rehabilitation Program**

Our Second Chances Wildlife Rehabilitation Program reiterated its value to local wildlife in 2015, releasing or transferring a record number of patients for a single year. A total of 258 patients were admitted for the year, 33 percent of which were rehabilitated and released back into their natural habitat, and 20 percent of which were transferred to other accredited animal facilities. This positive release rate included 32 different species of shorebirds and 15 species of raptors, making up a very high species diversity rate for the program.

Staff remarked on the high amount of species diversity seen in 2015, saying that the experience of treating so many different patients with differing anatomies, injuries, and illnesses also provided a great amount of experience and will help them going forward.

“It was also a notable year for in-house surgeries. The advanced technological equipment in the Second Chances Animal Hospital’s surgery suite allowed staff the opportunity to perform more surgeries and, ultimately, treat the medical issues of more patients.”

Manager of Wildlife Rehabilitation Laura Martinelli said 2015 was a major year for growth and for learning more about staff’s capacity to perform successful surgeries. Having more surgical instruments at their disposal also gives staff members the opportunity to take on “riskier” patients displaying more complicated medical issues.

“Staff remarked on the high amount of species diversity seen in 2015, saying that the experience of treating so many different patients with differing anatomies, injuries, and illnesses also provided a great amount of experience and will help them going forward.”

“The amount of work and progress we made in 2015 has already helped set us up for more success in 2016,” Martinelli asserted.

The most common bird species Second Chances staff sees are Laughing gulls, Black-bellied whistling ducks, Brown pelicans, and Great horned owls.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015 Statistics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>258 Patients Admitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86 Releases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47 Species Seen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Transfers to Other Institutions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Release of a Great horned owl**

**Release of Red shouldered hawk**
More than 800 volunteers at Aquarium-hosted Adopt-a-Beach cleanups in 2015 removed 18,100 pounds of trash...
Volunteers

Volunteers have always been a crucial part of the daily operations of the Texas State Aquarium and the positive experience our guests enjoy during their visits. As the Aquarium continues to grow and expand, the importance of the contributions of our dedicated volunteers is evident on a daily basis.

In 2015, 156 active volunteers contributed more than 24,000 hours of their time to the Aquarium. That equates to more than $200,000 in value to the Aquarium, though their contributions go far beyond the monetary value. That total also represented a 22 percent increase in the number of volunteer hours contributed in 2014, partially thanks to the largest group of Aquateen volunteers the Aquarium has ever experienced.

In 2015, the Aquateen program transitioned to become more about STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) career exploration than in previous years. This included excursions to experience a number of careers and providing all second and third year Aquateens with True Colors student leadership training.

Male Volunteer of the Year: Jesse Rivera

Jesse has been volunteering with the aquarium since 2001 and has over 3,800 hours of volunteer time. He primarily spends his time at the Aquarium volunteering with our Fish & Herpetology and Wild Flight teams.

Female Volunteer of the Year: Diana Ixtlamati

Diana has been volunteering with the aquarium since 2012 and has over 700 hours of volunteer time. She spends her volunteer time at the Aquarium helping with our Second Chances Wildlife Rehabilitation Program.

Male AquaTeen of the Year: Richard Soyos

A second year Aquateen in 2015, Richard has been volunteering since 2014 and has over 500 hours of volunteer time.

Female AquaTeen of the Year: Audrey Heffley

Audrey began volunteering at the Aquarium as an Aquateen in 2015 and quickly made a positive impact. By the end of 2015, she had over 260 hours of volunteer time.
# Financial Summary 2015

## Attendance

| Attendance | 475,214 |

## Operating Revenues*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Admission</td>
<td>$4,974,612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitor Programs</td>
<td>$2,291,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Programs</td>
<td>$1,896,057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise Programs</td>
<td>$826,796</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total Operating Revenues | $9,989,165   |

## Operating Expenses*+

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries &amp; Benefits</td>
<td>$6,083,211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquarium Operations</td>
<td>$2,567,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of Goods Sold</td>
<td>$475,015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Interest</td>
<td>$14,519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>$550,702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Repairs/Equipment</td>
<td>$286,331</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total Operating Expenses  | $9,977,302   |

| Net Income From Operations| $11,862      |

## Fundraising Income*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Campaign Caribbean</td>
<td>$12,899,243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations, Grants &amp; Special Events</td>
<td>$484,132</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total Fundraising Income | $13,383,375  |

*2015 figures unaudited

+Total expenses does not include depreciation expense

## Operating Revenues

- 49.80% General Admission
- 22.94% Visitor Programs
- 18.98% Retail Programs
- 8.28% Enterprise Programs

## Operating Expenses

- 60.97% Salaries & Benefits
- 25.73% Aquarium Operations
- 5.52% Advertising
- 4.76% Cost of Goods Sold
- 2.87% Major Repairs/Equipment
- 0.15% Accrued Interest
In 2013, the Texas State Aquarium launched a $50-million capital campaign, Campaign Caribbean, to raise the funds for its 71,000-square foot Caribbean Journey expansion. The project will double the species and programming of our current facility and bring the sights, sounds and wildlife of the Western Caribbean to Corpus Christi in 2017.

Strong fundraising momentum continued in 2015, with the campaign surpassing the $41 million mark.

The largest contribution to Campaign Caribbean received to date came in 2015 with the signing of HB1 at the conclusion of the 2015 Texas Legislative Session. In HB1, the Texas State Aquarium was appropriated $9 million from the State of Texas to be applied towards the construction of our Caribbean Journey expansion. It was the largest grant or gift the Aquarium has received in its history.

“We are deeply grateful, and humbled, by this extraordinary commitment to our mission,” remarked TSA President & CEO Tom Schmid when the news was received. “As the ‘Official Aquarium for the State of Texas’ we have proudly carried the state name since 1987. To receive this funding, at this time, is just overwhelming. Our thanks go out to our local delegation; every single member was supportive of our request, and encouraged us throughout the legislative session.”

TSA Board Chairman Larry Urban also commented, “We are so grateful that our local delegation and our friends at Texas Parks and Wildlife have considered making these funds available to us. They clearly understand the profound educational and economic impact our Caribbean Journey expansion program will have on this region and the entire state.”

Other generous gifts received during 2015 included:

- $1,000,000 – Cheniere Energy, Inc.
- $500,000 – American Electric Power (AEP) Foundation
- $500,000 – John G. and Marie Stella Kenedy Memorial Foundation

Our vision has inspired many individuals, foundations, and corporations to invest in this project already. We continue to invite everyone in our community to participate in this exciting initiative as we forge forward towards reaching our $50 million goal. We will conclude the campaign with a celebration to recognize and honor all of our donors when we open the Caribbean Journey expansion in the spring of 2017.

For a complete listing of Campaign Caribbean donors, please see our complete Donor Honor Roll on page 16.
Belief is a crucial element of life for Patty and Hank Nuss. Whether concerning their Christian faith, their belief in building a better Corpus Christi, or in the importance of providing an engaging and educational space for children, many of these beliefs coalesced in their decision to support the founding, building, and continued growth of the Texas State Aquarium.

“We truly do believe in this city and saw the Aquarium as a significant development that would help put the city on the map,” Patty explained.

Fast forward 25 years, and Patty says she and Hank have only had that belief solidified in a booming tourist attraction, educational center, dynamic animal collection, wildlife rehabilitation hospital, and much more.

“Each aspect was so exciting to us,” asserted Hank, “it’s just something that really makes you proud of the city, and it’s very rewarding to see the growth happening.”

Avid travelers, the Nusses appreciate seeing much of the same wildlife with which they have scuba dived in tropical locales reflected in educational and informational exhibits from which visitors and children can enjoy and learn at the Aquarium. The Nusses also loved being able to see their own grandchildren attend the Aquarium’s summer SeaCamp and explore unique and hands-on learning opportunities that their support helped to provide.

The Nusses’ love and appreciation for nature helped guide them to choose the Aquarium as a recipient of their generosity, and the levels of giving offered made gifting and helping to build that future they envisioned easy, explained Hank. According to Patty, seeing developments like the incredible upcoming Caribbean Journey wing expansion come to life only lends to the satisfying feeling of experiencing that future come to fruition.

“Walking up and seeing that building and having been a part of it since its inception is very powerful,” Patty said with a smile. “We’ve only played a small part in making it happen, but it is so gratifying to see.”

From a giving perspective, Hank says they have gotten much more than they thought possible. He commented, “You don’t think of ROI on a charitable contribution, but this has been the most fulfilling return and the best investment we’ve ever made.”

An investment in belief, an investment in the future, and the investment in the belief of a better future; the Nusses personify what charitable giving is all about.
Campaign Caribbean

Campaign Caribbean, the capital campaign raising fund for our Caribbean Journey expansion project, continues to receive tremendous philanthropic gift support from many of our closest friends, with over $41 million raised to date. Various foundations, corporations, organizations and individuals have already invested in this project, and many more will be invited to be a part of this historical campaign. One point of pride for the campaign is the commitment of the Texas State Aquarium’s own staff – 100 percent of the Aquarium’s staff has financially participated in the campaign each of the past three years. Because of the generosity of all of our supporters in this campaign, we continue to move onward and upward.

Foundations
- American Electric Power Foundation
- Behmann Brothers Foundation
- The Brown Foundation
- Coastal Bend Combined Federal Campaign
- Coastal Bend Community Foundation
- The Fonrod Foundation
- Frost Bank Charitable Foundation
- Golden Rule Foundation
- The Greethey Family Foundation
- George & Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation
- Albert and Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation
- The John G. & Marie Stella Kenedy Memorial Foundation
- L’Aiglon Foundation
- The Larry & Pat McNeil Foundation
- Amy Shelton McNutt Charitable Trust
- Blanche Davis Moore Foundation
- Prichard Family Foundation
- Ed Rachal Foundation
- Earl C. Sams Foundation, Inc.
- Yvonne H. Simard Foundation, Inc.
- State Employee Charitable Campaign – Coastal Bend
- George Strake Foundation
- T.L.L. Temple Foundation

Corporations & Organizations
- AEP Texas
- Bacon Lee & Associates
- Bank of America Matching Gifts
- Cheniere Energy
- Flint Hills Resources, L.P.
- Fulton Construction/CoastCon Corporation
- Haas-Anderson Construction
- H-E-B Grocery Company
- Ed Hicks Family of Dealerships
- HOLT Companies
- Key Study Club
- Omni Hotels & Resorts
- Orion Drilling Company
- Pepsi Cola Bottling Company
- Mike Shaw Toyota/Mike Shaw Kia
- Susser Holdings, L.L.C. / Stripes
- Texas Parks & Wildlife – State of Texas
- Texas State Aquarium Staff
- ValueBank Texas
- The Dobson Family & Whataburger

Individuals
- Kathy & Joe Adam
- Chris & Robert Adler
- Phyllis Allen
- Hope & Ramiro Andrade
- Nicole & Tony Andrade
- Lana & Barry Andrews
- Libby Aveyt & Charles Kaffie
- Mike Bacon
- Renai & Michael Baker
- Michele & John Bond
- Nan & Allen Borden
- Jennifer Bowen
- Margie & James Brooke
- Julie Buckley
- Mary & Charles Campbell
- Michael Carman
- Louise G. Chapman
- Peggy & Bill Clark
- Debbie & Darrell Coleman
- Christine Davy Cone
- J. Robert & Janey Cone
- Patrick Robert Cone
- Lisa & Bramm Davidson
- Charles & Martha DeCou
- Nancy & Steve DeSutter
- Nora & Tom Dobson Family
- Paula & Rick Dodd
- Jeffrey & Kerry Dolan
- Elinor & Ben Donnell
- Lisa & John Dorn
- Sara & Allen Dunn
- Ann & David Engle
- Phyllis & George Finley
- Laura & Jon Fischer
- Julio & Starr Flores
- Lualhati Flynn
- Kelley & Pat Frost
- Gloria & Bob Furgason
- Elizabeth & John Galloway
- Berta & Eddie Garcia
- Samantha & Dos Gates
- Bridget & Bob Gayie
- Emma & Jesse Gilbert
- Zoe & Mark Gottlich
- Teresa & Danny Haas
- Audrey & Brian Hagemann
- Donald & Joan Hakepska
- Stacey & Rob Hall
- Kim & Matt Hammer
- Burt Hause
- Judy & David Hawley
- Nancy & Bruce Hawn
- Carrie & R. Scott Heitkamp
- Gloria & Ed Hicks
- Susan & Charlie Hicks
- Alison & David Hutchens
- Susan E. Hutchinson
- Jody & Fred Jennings
- Lee R. Jordan
- Donny Kasiri
- Jessica & Fred Kasiri
- Christopher Keating
- Thomas T. & Cora Keeler*
- Susan & Rocky Kettering
- Kathy & Flavius Killebrew
- LuAnn & Donald Kingsbury
- Sherry & Charles Kolb
- Roger & Trina Letoumeau
- Sonya & Brian Libby
- Judy & Fred Long
- Carole & Ed Martin
- Carroll Matthews
- Marybeth & Bill Maxwell
- Lou Adole & Bob May
- Lucy & Dick McCracken
- Vera McGonigle
- John & Mary Ann McGregor
- Paula & Larry McKinney
- Julie & Michael McNeil
- Crystal Mead
- Joyce & Mark Meyer
- Larry Meyers
- Josephine Miller
- Maureen Miller
- Sally & George Morris II
- Dorothy & George Munroe
- Patty & Hank Nuss
- Ted Oakes
- Rakshis Patel
- Leslie Pears
- Joyce & Richard Penland
- Mike Pusey
- Manha & Greg Robertson
- Dan & Trisha Richter
- Alice H. Sallee
- M. Stuart & Keleigh Sasser
- Christina & Michael Sasser
- Rene & Frank Scarnio
- Kim & Tom Schmid
- Walter & Mary Schumacher
- Josephine & Donald Seberg
- Nancy & Mike Shaw
- Toby Shor
- Jo Ann & Craig Smith
- Martha & Morgan Spear
- Elaine & Gordon Sper
- Deneese & Wayne Squires
- Karl & Jan Stein
- Barbara Anne & Kenneth Stephens
- Alan Stoner
- Celika Storm
- Michael & Amanda Stukenberg
- Robert Suggs & Russell Moody
- Catherine & Sam L. Susser
- Chris & Sue Swanson
- Blaire & Nathan Taggart
- Denise & Sergio Taveares
- Suzanne & Rich Tuttle
- Karen & Larry Urban
- Dean Walker Vohres*
- Sandra & Robert Wheeler
- Sylvia & Mark Whitmore
- Cherry & Bill Whittworth
- Lucy & Marion Williams
- Mark & Ashley Wilson
- Shifty & Kenneth Windhorst
- Linda & Charles Zahn
- Carol Ann & Art Zettler

2013-2015 Texas State Aquarium Staff (100% Participation)
- Jose Acevedo
- Megan Adams
- Karl Ahlers
- Kathryn & Robert Allen
- Chelsea Allen
- Macy Allen
- Latoya Allison
- Laura Amerine
- Nicole & Tobias Andrade
- Luckie Arevalo
- Sheri & Eric Ansipe
- Jerry Areola
- Alexis Amiga
- Lauren Attaway
- Lauren Ayala
- Ashley Bainbridge
- Susan Balltrup
- Reyna Banda
- Brandi Barnard
- Jose Bazan
- Jordin Beeman
- Brenda Bennett
- David Berkley
- Christie Berry
- Sarah Bethel
- Kay & Keith Bethel
- Robert Bidwell
- Cassey Blake
- Andrea Bugle
- Andrea Bolt
- Josh Bowers
- Amy & Justin Brandt
- Alex Braun
- Auburn Buehning
- Valerie & Leon Burns
- Ranee Butler
- Rachel Cabrera
- Lyia & Rafael Calderon
- Selena Cantu
- Michael Carman
Tiffany Castro
Clarivel Chavez
Christina Cisneros-Guzman
Christopher Clark
Marvin Cloud
Freddie Cloud
Eliot Covington
Madalyn Cox
Nathan Crider
Raymond Davis
Holley Day
Amber Diaz
Tassie & Ryan Dreier
Ryan Drum
Robert Durham
Buck & Sam Durham
Deborah Edwards
James Emerson
Erin Erben
Erik Eschenbrenner
Kristin Evans
Casey Floerke
Julio & Starr Flores
Tammy Flores
Jessica & Richard Frankenberger
Ernest Franklin
Allison Fulton
Chuck & Julie Galbraith
Roark* & Liz Gallagher
Perla Garcia
Luis Garcia
Carolyn Garcia
Johnny Garland
Laura Garza
Jesse & Emma Gilbert
Richard E. Glover, Jr. & Vernon E. Renegar, Jr.
Deborah Goggans
Andrea Gomez
Julie Gonzales
Megan Gonzales
Alyssa Gonzales
Tara Goode
Julie Gorman

100 percent of the Aquarium’s staff has financially participated in the campaign each of the past three years.

Edwin & Rosanna Gossett
James & Hunter Green
Jessica Grumman
Heather Guerrero
Sonia Guzman
Richard Halemeister
Kara Hahn
Kimberly Hales
Carol Haley
Samantha Hardin
Rebecca Harris
Richard Harris
Amy & Aaron Harvey
Kyle Hascall
Jeanie Hayden
Sarah Helms
Autumn Henry
Francisco Hernandez
Nicholas Herrera
Allison Hilliard
Andrea Hinojosa
Debra Hoehel
Katie Howard
Sally Howden
Lisa Idoma
Margaret Issett
Lucas & Katie Iverson
Alexandra Ivey
Jason James & Sunaida Naney-James
Adam Jasso
Jay Jensen
Brittany Jensen
Caleb Johnson
Seth Johnson
Erin Kane
Rocky & Susan Kettering
 Roxanne Kiest
Patrick Kiest
Kaylee King
Allison Larsen
Brittney Laurel
Ester Lazo
Alexandra Lemon
Doug Lewis
Alexandra Little
Kevin Locke
David Locke
Caitlin Lohman
Analia Lopez
Consuelo Luna
Concepcion Mackovick
Lauren Maline
Hazel Mangans
Michael Martin
Laura Martineelli
Norma Martinez
Peggy Martinez
Glenda Martinez & Joe Sandoval
Emiliano Martinez
Caitlyn Martinez
Devina Martinez-Lopez
Jason Masur
Amanda Matlock
Nicole McCormick
Kelsey McFarland
Sean McLaughlin
Juan Melendez
Jason & Sarah Merry
Katherine Messer
Anthony Meyer
Kody Moore
Ruben Morales
Reggie Moreno
Mario Moreno
Janie Moreno-Cleland
Ramiro Morgan
Andrea Mounce
Stacey Murray
Michelle Neville
Lyndsay Newton
Budy Noriga
Tracy & Jack Nytrai
Christine Olarte
Sasha & Michael Orman
Stephanie Ortiz
Ruben Ortiz
Carina Osegura
Marcus Pacheco
Gregory Padia & Angie Sanchez
Ruben Palacios
Marcella Palreiro
Caroline Parker
Leslie Peart
Mathew Pena
Charles Perron
Nancy Pinkerton
Sarah Porras
Matthew Porter
Tori Povey
Samantha Pretorius
Elie Proctor
Ashley Quiroga
Veronica & Ricardo Ramos
Adriana & Marcial Reza
Thomas Riddle
Dylan Rios
Stephanie Rivera
Erika Rivera
Maria Rodriguez
Nicolas Rodriguez
Elena Rodriguez
Rudolfo Rodriguez
Ignacio Rodriguez
Anabel Roeder
Lisa Ruiz
Domingo Sainz
Guillermo Saravia
Carole Savage
Tom & Kim Schmid
Lauren Schneider
Alexandra Scholfield
Tara Schultz
Brianne Secorsky
Emily & Justin Sefcik
Kelley Shutt
Juan Silva
George Simpson
Jason Slade
Randy Slayton
Andrew & Kellie Smith
Paula Smith
Monica & Israel Soliz
Caleigh Bowder
Trey Soza
Logan & Alyssa Squiers
Rau & Robin Stech
Madeline Steininger
David Stelling
Victoria Stever
Allison Stewart
Lauren Stolarz
Katelein Stroman
Daniel & Sara Stuart-Rector
Robert Suggs & Russell Moody
Sean Sutherland
Yolanda Tanguma
Emily Taylor
Ryan Taylor
Amanda Taylor
Holly Thomas
Kelsey Thomas
Veronica Thompson
Amber Thompson
Madelon Thompson
Richard Throckmorton
Sarah Titon
Kelli Timms
Jazlyn Torres
Kirsti Tranoris
Natalie Trevino
Miranda Trevino
Jonathan Trevino
Stacy Trevino
Elizabeth Valdez
Jeanin Vasquez
Jennifer & James Vela
Imelda Villareal
Camie Virgo
Russell & Lima Voigt
Jillian Voss
Kendra Wall
Sean Walsh
Chelsea Watson
Lauren Wessel
Jennifer West
Emily Williamson
Mark & Cheryl Wolfe
Gabriela Zamora
Shannon Zastoupil
Sarah Zigmond

*deceased
President’s Council

The President’s Council is a group of philanthropic individuals who help ensure the continued growth and vitality of the Texas State Aquarium with annual contributions of $1,000 or more. These generous supporters are invited to exclusive receptions and exhibit previews throughout the year to help celebrate the Aquarium’s newest projects and meet our animal ambassadors up close. On October 13, 2015, the group was invited to a VIP preview of our new Saving Sharks exhibit, including a presentation from OCEARCH Founder and Chairman Chris Fischer. We cannot thank this group enough for their continued generosity and look forward to sharing many more exciting milestones to come.

Callie & Rajan Ahuja
Myriam & John D. Bell
Marilyn & Tom Billings
Harriet & Jim Blakey
John H. Boman
Cynthia & Roger Borgelt
Vanessa & Fred Braselton
Tom C. Brookshire
Louise G. Chapman
Nicolette & David Clark
Sandrea & James Copeland
MaryJane & Carl Crull
Martha & Charles DeCou
Lura & Thomas Dietze
Alyssa & Lee Dykes
Kent & Michaela Ellington
Jennifer Elmendorf-Lehman
LTC Henry F. Fey, USA Ret.
Flint Hills Resources, L.P.
Lualhati Flynn
Frost Bank - San Antonio
Jenny & Philip Skrob asz
Gloria & Bob Furgason
Berta & Eddie Garcia
Pamela & Ralph Meyer
Marybeth & Robert Maxwell
Lucy & Dick McCracken
Kim & Darryl Haas
Amy & Aaron Harvey
Christina Hawn
Laurel & Ken Herring
Gaylord & Susan Hoyt
Alison & David Hutchens, Jr.
Jody & Fred Jennings
Shawn Karaca
Ingrid & Rusty Little
Judy & Fred Long
Wallace Lundgren
Carroll Matthews
Marybeth & Robert Maxwell
Lucy & Dick McCracken
Pamela & Ralph Meyer
Amy & Aaron Harvey
Christina Hawn
Laurel & Ken Herring
Gail & Bruce Hoffman
Gaylord & Susan Hoyt
Alison & David Hutchens, Jr.
Jody & Fred Jennings
Shawn Karaca
Ingrid & Rusty Little
Judy & Fred Long
Wallace Lundgren
Carroll Matthews
Marybeth & Robert Maxwell
Lucy & Dick McCracken
Pamela & Ralph Meyer
Amy & Aaron Harvey
Christina Hawn
Laurel & Ken Herring
Gail & Bruce Hoffman

After-Hour and Private Events

8,928 event guests
74 private events hosted
1,310 birthday party attendees
43 birthday parties hosted
1,619 overnight camp-in attendees
43 overnight camp-ins hosted
AQUA Society

On November 17, 2015, the Texas State Aquarium hosted its annual AQUA event, a celebration for our most generous and longtime supporters. The AQUA Society was established in 2011 to recognize those individuals and organizations with cumulative gifts to the Aquarium of $25,000 or more.

At AQUA 2015, the society honored many returning and advancing supporters, and we welcomed 10 new inductees: Ann & David Engel, Betty Kemp, Carole & Ed Martin, Carroll Patton Matthews, Marybeth & Bill Maxwell, Mike Shaw Toyota/ Mike Shaw KIA, Omni Hotels & Resorts, Betty & Tom* Terrey, Dean Walker Vorhes*, and Yvonne H. Simard Foundation.

The evening concluded with the presentation of the Aquarium’s highest honor, the Golden Star Award, a distinction reserved for our most passionate and visionary supporters. Our 2015 recipient was longtime friend and champion of the Aquarium, Texas State Representative Todd Hunter.

Rising Tide Society

The Rising Tide Society (RTS) is a dynamic group of young leaders and professionals in our community who care about education, conservation, and furthering the mission of the Texas State Aquarium.

This year the group has supported the Aquarium through fun and engaging events like our 1st Annual Mini Gulf Classic Putt Putt Tournament, Turtles on Tap, and a SECORE presentation.

The Rising Tide Society uses events as a means to raise money to support the Aquarium. The past three years, the Rising Tide Society has specifically chosen to direct the funds it has raised towards the Aquarium’s Second Chances Wildlife Rehabilitation Program. In 2015, RTS raised more than $20,000 for the Second Chances program.
AQUA Society

The AQUA Society was established in 2011 to honor the Texas State Aquarium’s most visionary donors. Individuals, businesses, and organizations that have generously supported the Aquarium with cumulative gifts of $25,000 or more are recognized in this distinguished group. The Texas State Aquarium is grateful to the AQUA Society members for their commitment to further its mission to engage people with animals, inspire appreciation for our seas, and support wildlife conservation.

Aqua Visionary
$1,000,000 and up
AEP Texas
The Brown Foundation, Inc.
The Dobson Family & Whataburger
Earl C. Sams Foundation, Inc.
Ed Rachal Foundation
Flint Hills Resources, L.P.
The Greshley Family Foundation
Janet* & Edward* H. Harte
H.E.B.
Houston Endowment, Inc.
Josephine* & Donald* Seberg
T.L. Temple Foundation

Aqua Ambassador
$500,000 to $999,999
Blanche Davis Moore Foundation
Krege Foundation
The Meadows Foundation
Occidental Chemical Corporation - Dallas
Valero Energy Corporation
The Wortham Foundation

Aqua Steward
$250,000 to $499,999
Amy Shelton McNutt Charitable Trust
Arney Foundation
Louise G. & John* Chapman
Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program
D. D. Hachar Charitable Trust Fund
Education Service Center, Region 2

Georges & Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation
Gloria & Ed Hicks
Hoit Foundation
The John G. & Marie Stella Kenedy Memorial Foundation
Estate of Katherine Ann Johnson*
Wayne A. Johnson & Family
Bonnie Pereida*
Robert J. Kleberg, Jr. and Helen C. Kleberg Foundation

Deniece & Wayne Squires
Estate of Dean Walker Vorhes*

Aqua Conservator
$150,000 to $249,999
American Bank
Barry & Lana Andrews
Betty* & Joe* Balia
Mary & Charles Campbell
Coastal Bend Community Foundation
Lisa & John Dorn
James R. Dougherty, Jr. Foundation
Fulton Construction/Coastline Construction
Howard Hughes Medical Institute
Junior League of Corpus Christi
The Larry & Pat McNeil Foundation
Oceaneering International, Inc.
Port of Corpus Christi
Prichard Family Foundation
Alice H. Sallee
Cella Storm

Aqua Guardian
$100,000 to $149,999
Amon G. Carter Foundation
Andrews Distributing Company
Behmann Brothers Foundation
Marilyn & Thomas Billings
Cesar Kieberg Foundation for Wildlife Conservation
Calhoun McCord Carpenter*
CITGO Petroleum Corporation
Coca-Cola Enterprises, Inc.
Corpus Christi Caller-Times
Equinor Exxon USA
Phyllis & George Finley
Foley’s Department Store
Fondren Foundation
Gaylord & Sue Hoyt
Institute of Museum and Library Services
Thomas T.* & Cora T.* Keeler
London Broadcasting Company, Inc.
Lou Adele & Bob May
Mcmains* & Constant
Navy Army Community Credit Union
Dennis O’Connor*
Oridon Drilling Co., LLC
Pepsi-Co Bottling Co. of Corpus Christi
Saltwater-Fisheries Enhancement Association
Strake Foundation
The Sussex Family & Stripes
Teta Second Nature

Aqua Fellow
$50,000 to $99,999
Acoa Foundation
Bank of America
Basic Industries of South Texas, Ltd.
Bay Ltd., A BERRY Company
Coastal Conservation Association - Texas Charity League
Chineere Energy
Peggy & Bill Clark
Corpus Christi Exploration Company Foundation
Judy & John Creveling
Corpus Christi Independent Cattlemen’s Association
Martha & Charles DeCou
ExxonMobil Foundation
Fischer Foundation
Global Giving Foundation - Pepsi Refresh Project
Golden Banner Press
Green Mountain Energy - Sun Club
Herndon Plant Oakley Ltd.
IBC Bank
The Joan and Herb Kelleher Charitable Foundation

Lee Jordan
May “Topsy” King*
William B.* & Maureen Miller
NationsBank
Patty & Henry Nuss
Omnit Hotels & Resorts
Prosperity Bank
Reliant, an NRG company
Kohele & Stuart Sasser
Kim & Tom Schmidt
Scraps Howard Foundation
Snyder & Associates
State Farm Youth Advisory Board
Denise & Sergio Tavares
Estate of Margaret Turnbull*
United Airlines
Karen & Larry Urban
ValueBank Texas
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A

Aqua Patron
$25,000 to $49,999
AGJ CM, Inc
Peggy & Avinash Ahuja
Dan Alfaro & Associates
Helen & R. C. Allen
Allen Samuels Chevrolet
Arco Foundation
BBVA Compass
Beaumont Foundation of America
John Boman
Borden Insurance
Billie & William* Carl
Rita & Bill* Clements
Copeland’s Inc.
Corpus Christi Hooks Baseball Club
Elon & Ben Donnell
Jan & Jerry Dorsey

Anna & David Engel
Ferrell/Brown & Associates, Inc. - Architects
Maxine & Lucien* Flournoy
Luahathi Flynn
Frost Bank
Gloria & Robert Furgason
Paul & Mary Haas Foundation
Haggard Foundation
Harry W. Hamilton Foundation
Joni & Nick Harrel
Albert & Ethel Herzstein
Hillcrest Foundation
John Holmgreen
Susan Hutchinson & Owen Hopkins*
Hygeia Foundation
Corpus Christi Produce Company, Inc.
Lady Bird Johnson*
Lynda & Harris Kathie

Florence & Richard* King
Laredo Independent School District
Barbara & Joe Lewis
Carole & Ed Martin
Carroll Patton Matthews
Marybeth & Bill Maxwell
Lucy & Dick McCracken
Julie & Michael McNeil
Crystal & Rick* Mead
The Curtis and Edith Munson Foundation
Michael* & Karen O’Connor
Outback Steakhouse
Padre Staples Mall
Marjorie Parks*
Robert J. Patterson
Joan* & Bernard Paulson
Beverly & Paul* Pearson
Carolyn & Daniel Pedrotti & Family
Holand Peterson
Clayton & Billie Ponsin
Lev* & Ella Prichard
Quadrant Productions
Republic National Distributing Company
Sam Kane Beef Processors, Inc.
Rene & Frank Sciano, III
Mike Shaw Toyota/Mike Shaw KIA
T.S.* & Virgie* Schiess
Barbara & Jerome Silverman
William K. Snyder
Nelda C. and H. J. Lutcher Stark Foundation
Daryl & George Tanner
Betty & Tom* Terrey
Texas General Land Office
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
TGS NOPEC Geophysical Company
Time Warner Cable
TOR Minerals International, Inc.
TXU Energy Corporation
Waller Leshin, L.L.P.
Patsy & C.C.* Wimmer
Yvonne H. Simard Foundation
Arthur & Carol Zeller

Reflects giving through August 31, 2015. Names in bold are new and advancing members.

* deceased
Aquarium Partners

Aquarium Partners are a special group of donors who believe in our mission and provide ongoing annual support of the Aquarium’s operations. Their generosity makes a difference every day at the Texas State Aquarium, while these companies and their employees enjoy great tangible and intangible benefits in return.

$20,000 and up
Cheniere Energy Inc.
Flint Hills Resources, L.P.
Green Mountain Energy
H-E-B
Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co. of Corpus Christi
Port of Corpus Christi
Valero Energy Corporation
Whataburger, Inc.

$15,000 - $19,999
CITGO Petroleum Corporation
Corpus Christi Hooks
Ed Hicks Imports
Kill TV 3
London Broadcasting, Inc.

$10,000 - $14,999
AEP Texas
Bay Ltd., A BERRY Company
Navy Army Community Credit Union
Stripes Convenience Stores

$2,500 - $9,999
The Bend Magazine
Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation
Devary Durrill Foundation
Frost Bank – Corpus Christi
Gentry Company
Orion Drilling Company, LLC
Republic Services, Inc.
Rock Engineering

Up to $2,499
American Bank
Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce
Corpus Christi General and Implant Dentistry
NuStar Energy, L.P.
Pattern Gulf Wind
Quadrant Productions
ValueBank Texas

Rising Tide Society

The Rising Tide Society is a dynamic group of young leaders and professionals in our community who care about service, education and conservation. Since 2012, this group of young supporters has helped to further the mission of the Texas State Aquarium as members and donors through fun, educational and exciting events where they can network with likeminded individuals.

2015 Rising Tide Society Members and Donors

Tree & Tara Baker III
Houston Berger
Victor Betancourt
The Blow Dry Bar & Boutique
Borden Insurance
Natalie Brewster
Brewster Street Icehouse
Buckley & Associates, P.C.
Dominic Burch
William C. Bush
Caesar Kleberg Foundation for Wildlife Conservation
Derek and Katherine Chang
Michelle Corey-Chirba*
Caldyn Chupe
Marvin Cloud
Concrete Street Amphitheater
Cookies By Design
Corpus Christi Hooks
Monica Diaz
Hugh C. & Anne Dobson
Fajitaville
First Community Bank, N.A.
Ted Fowler
Courtney Gallion
Jason Gilbert
Julian Gold
Chris & Diane Grote
Jessica Hamilton
Amy Harvey
Jennifer Hohle
Brent S. Holt
Amanda M. Howeth
Veronica Hudlow
Michael T. Hunter
Brittany Johnson
Cecil Johnson

June’s Day Spa
Scott Kruse
Kristina Leal
M&J Photography
Shane Martin
William & Jaime McQueen
Mike Shaw Toyota
Meredith K. Morrill
Multi-Resorts at Puente Vista
Daniel Nash
Troy & Sarah Nicholson
David R. Norris, Jr.
P.F. Chang’s
PlainsCapital Bank
Tim & Julia Powers
Loren Rock
Rock Engineering and Testing Laboratory, Inc.
Matthew Rodriguez
Julie Romano
Adolfo Salan
Schlitterbahn Upper Padre
Scuttlebutt’s Seafood Bar & Grill
Craig M. & Barbara Sico
Jaycee Sleight
Deneecie Squires
Susann’s Custom Jewelers
Texas Sand and Resources
Town & Country Cafe
V Fit Training Center
Eric Villareal
Seth & Charity Watts
Whataburger
Jordan Wilson
The Woodhouse Day Spa

*deceased

Food & Beverage
Total: 144,914

103,737 beverages sold
11,408 hamburgers sold
11,690 hot dogs sold
18,079 pizza slices sold
Honor and Memorial Contributions

Memorial Gifts to the Aquarium respectfully remember a loved one or friend who has passed away, and Honor Gifts acknowledge someone making a positive impact on you or your community. All Memorial and Honor Gifts are acknowledged to the person(s) you designate so they are aware of the gift; the amount is, of course, confidential. You will receive a gift acknowledgement for tax purposes.

In Honor of Aimee Jasso
James Holt

In Honor of Amy Harvey
Shawn Karaca

In Honor Of Andrea Bolt
Randy & Diane Bolt

In Honor of the Animal Caretakers
Nicole Aguilar
Victoria Brown
Edward S. & Gloria Hicks
Mayor Nelda Martinez
Jordan Norman
Alex Ricard

In Honor of B.D. Holt
Anne Holt & Christian Schultz

In Honor of Brynn Devine
John & Margaret Devine

In Honor of Chris, Kyle & Chase Nored
Art & Maribeth Jennings

In Honor of Sue Ellen Cron
C. Thronos Cron

In Honor of Corinna Holt Richter
Anne Holt & Christian Schultz

In Honor of Wayne Squires
Mike & Betsy Carrell

In Honor of Early Clifford “Stuffy” Davis
Cleod Cheek

In Honor of Isla Annabel Loeb
Gail Geimer Loeb
Jonathan & Leslie Hart

Sam Loeb
Alice Loeb

In Honor of Jaime Nordgaard
Jaime Nordgaard

In Honor of Dustin Hadamek
Taren Blanchette
Harry E. & Gerry Carter
Cindy Dawson
Jodi Garza
Kim Guettler
Katy Macpherson
Katherine Mamot
Jacqueline Hadamek
Karen Wentz
Michael Wentz
Michelle Wentz

In Honor Of Judy Hawley
Dartwood Garden Club

In Honor of Lou Adele & Bob May
Marion E. & Lucy Williams, Jr.

In Honor of Lauren Attaway
Rusty & Ingrid Little
Mark & Ann Uhr

In Honor Of Maddox Cusenbary
Buck & Sam Durham

In Honor of Robert W. Maxwell
Gregory Maxwell

In Honor of Bill & Marybeth Maxwell
James T. Caryl Devlin

In Honor of Sam M. Durham
Deborah Camitta

In Honor of Shannon B. Sprayberry
Michelle Lopez

In Honor of Tom Schmid
Gayford & Susan Hoy

In Memory of Agnes Parker
Steven & Melanie Coleman

In Memory of Andrew Kevin Leal
Angela Leal

In Memory of Ann Davey Masters
Luke & Ann McGowan

In Memory of Barney Masters
Liliattrib Masters

In Memory of Beth Coleman
Steven & Melanie Coleman

In Memory of Carl O. McLean
Jim & Betsy McLean

In Memory of Catherine I. Trisler
Zachary Dacus
Chris Bratton & Lucy Myers
Richard & Jeannie Schafer

In Memory of Daniel Yanta
Steven & Melanie Coleman

In Memory of H.M. Coleman
Steven & Melanie Coleman

In Memory of Irving Braslau
Melissa Jones

In Memory Of James R. Lehman
Jennifer Elmgard-Lehman

In Memory of John A. Pluchinsky
David & Kathleen Pluchinsky

In Memory of Ruth & Joseph Sheinberg
Andrew J. & Leigh Sheinberg

In Memory of Lois & Fred Cronk, Jr.
Nicolette Grosser

In Memory of Lon Carterwright
Robert R. Granberry

In Memory of Lori J. White-Willis
David K. Willis

In Memory of Dale & Naomi Swineford
Sergio & Denise Tavares

In Memory of Owen R. Hopkins
Emily Sanford

In Memory of Patty H. Cage
Robert R. Granberry

In Memory of Peggy Duggar
Jennifer Skarpetowski

In Memory of Robert Veltman
Lynn Warren

In Memory of Ronald Haggard
Emily Hooper

In Memory of Ruth McConnell
Carleen Brooks

In Memory of William M. Parker
Steven & Melanie Coleman

Second Chances Wildlife Rehabilitation Fund

Supporters of the Second Chances Wildlife Rehabilitation Fund help the Aquarium to provide urgent care to stranded marine mammals, sea turtles, raptors, and shorebirds after they are discovered injured or ill in the wild, with the goal of rehabilitating the animals for release back into their natural habitat. In 2015, donors made a big difference in the lives of many sick and injured animals that come through our doors. Thanks again to our supporters for caring about animals who deserve a second chance!

2015 Second Chances Donors
Alice & Richard Ahlers
Starr & Boyd Bauer
Sally Bywaters
Kathleen Clark
Saundra & James Copeland
Zachary Dacus
Maria & Valentin Deleon
Deborah Edwards
Event Network
Peggy & Paul Feenster
Jennifer & Justin Fox
Lynn Freeborn
Rosanna & Edwin Gossett

Lara & Bill Gunn
Dollee & Tom Hunt, Jr.
Jeff Jensen
Elizabeth Love
Lisa Mills
Tara O’Neill
Pattern Gulf Wind LLC
Danette & Steven Plessala
The Rising Tide Society
Carole Savage
Thomas Sullivan
Elizabeth & Britt Villines
Annual Stewardship Fund

Our Annual Stewardship Fund donors help to make the Aquarium the very best it can be each day with gifts that support everything from the expert care and feeding of our animals to exhibit upkeep and world-class educational programming performed both onsite, offsite, and through distance learning programs. A portion of each gift also supports conservation research efforts throughout the region that positively impact the species and habitats represented at the Texas State Aquarium. We say thank you to each donor for his or her gifts, large and small, that ripple through the Aquarium in many ways, helping us to continually expand our educational reach and play an active role in wildlife conservation.

$20,000
Ms. Jennifer Elmendorf-Lehman

$500-$1,000
Coastal Bend Community Foundation

$101-$250
AmazonSmile Foundation
Cheniere Energy
C. Thomas Cron
William Huie, Jr.
Virginia & Nicholas Jevric
Sally Kleberg
Deborah & Glenn Nichols
Nancy Pinkerton
Sally Reigle & Marcus McDonald

$1-$100
Beth & Jesse Jones
Robbin Alexander
Association of Zoos & Aquariums
Milly & Edward Blumberg
Gerry & Harry Carter
Anita & Clayton Cates
Kishori & Prasant Chhotu
Leonard Connell
Cynthia & Steve Cox
Edward Derry
Caryl & James Devlin
Skipp Dinkler
Sylvia Earle
Debbie & Jamie Felgenhauer
Stefani Fitzgerald
Amy & Aaron Harvey
Sylvia & David Hejpenstell
Barbara Kearley
Riley Lester
Parkie Lance & Dina Hill
Francisco Martinez
Yvonne & Fagan Mason
Mary & Joe McComb
Susan & Thomas McCrone
Charlotte McElroy
Robin Neill
Network For Good
Bette & Jack Nichols
Wilma & Patrick Norrell
Sandra Pair
Marcia & Larry Pitkin
Lynnette & Victor Pinion
Elaine Richardson
Phyllis & Kenneth Roseman
Danette & Wade Stanley
Holly & Tim Stephens
Linda & David Strong
Janette & Efren Tejeda
Jaimee & Joshua Ulbrich
Michael Westergren
Joyce & Norman Wilcox
Michelle & Fred Williams
Kerry Yancy

A portion of each gift also supports conservation research efforts throughout the region...

Restricted Funds

In addition to unrestricted gifts that sustain the Aquarium’s broadest needs, many donors elect to contribute to specific areas, such as Second Chances Wildlife Rehabilitation Program, Sea Camp, and Weston’s Library, to name a few, providing additional funding for these important Aquarium components.

Aquateen Mentoring Program
Blanche Davis Moore Foundation
Stripes Convenience Stores

Educational Programs
Groomer’s Seafood
Port of Corpus Christi
Smallcakes: A Cupcakery
Jane & James Iymnak, Jr.

SeaCamp Scholarships
Coastal Bend Community Foundation
Navy Army Community Credit Union
The Reno Family

Weston’s Library
Cub Scouts Pack #296

Network For Good
Bette & Jack Nichols
Wilma & Patrick Norrell
Sandra Pair
Marcia & Larry Pitkin
Lynnette & Victor Pinion
Elaine Richardson
Phyllis & Kenneth Roseman
Danette & Wade Stanley
Holly & Tim Stephens
Linda & David Strong
Janette & Efren Tejeda
Jaimee & Joshua Ulbrich
Michael Westergren
Joyce & Norman Wilcox
Michelle & Fred Williams
Kerry Yancy
Recovery Funds

After the tragic fish loss suffered in April of 2015, the Aquarium launched a Recovery Fund to raise funds to be used to replace the portion of its animal collection that was lost. The following individuals donated to our Recovery Fund, led by Wayne and Deneece Squires’ Orion Drilling Company, LLC, which generously matched $45,000 in donations to the fund.

$45,000
Orion Drilling Company, LLC

$5,001-$10,000
Susan & Gaylord Hoyt

$1,001-$5,000
Martha & Charles DeCou
Dynasty Marine
Teressa & Daryl Haas
Kim & Matt Hammer
Kitty Hawk Middle School
Marybeth & Robert Maxwell
Jenny & Phillip Skrobaczyk
The Larry and Pat McNeil Foundation

US$ Lexington Museum on the Bay

$501-$1,000
American Ad Valorem Tax Consultants, Inc.
Gentry Company
Audrey & Brian Hagemann
Cathy Harrison
Ada Kemp
L. Gilbert Assessments & Treatment PLLC
Sally & Donald McClure
Pamela & Ralph Meyer
SimEx-Iwerks Entertainment
Calika Storm
Stripes Convenience Stores

$251-$500
Dawn & C. Randall Bissell
Janey & J. Robert Cone
Delaware Valley Reef Club
Elinor & Bon Donnell
Emma & Jesse Gilbert
Greater Houston Chapter of AAZK
Becky Hase
Paulette Kluge
Colleen & John McIntyre

$101-$200
Flour Bluff Independent School District
Maribeth & Art Jennings
La Palmera
Stevie & William Mellon
Kathy & Michael Pratt
Ingleside Independent School District

$1-$100
David Alyea
Matthew Anderson
Annie Oakley's Emporium
Rita & Allan Ameil
Ruby & George Baddour
Renai & Michael Baker
Patricia Barickman
Susan & Robert Barnard
Vincent Barra
Tracey Branson
Linda Callais
Alisa Campbell

Lynn & Donald Cates
Katherine & Derek Chang
Alissa & Brett Chapman
Phillip Ciskowski
Lisa Crow
Susan Davis
Rebekah Deichon
Paul Dods
Caryn Dodson
Evan Donahue
Gale & Robert Dunning
Barbara Enloe
Jacqueline Flores
Sara & Michael Gelullo
Heather Genovese
Jason Ginn
Richard Glover, Jr. & Vernon Renegar, Jr.
Ruben Gomez
Stacie Gonzales
Angie Grimm
Nancy & Dana Gunter
Peggy Hailey
Carol & David Harvey
Jacqueline Hein
Brenda & Jack Henning
Celeste Herrera
Emily Huang
Jeann & Marvin Huff
Daniel Hurbert
Cynthia Jimenez
Mary & Gerald Johnson
Tim Kepes
Carrol & Robert Kunkel
Misty Lemons
Trina & Roger Letourneau
Pam & Ramsey Longbotham
Joan Lunsmann
Rhonda Lynch
Sara Maliva
Dale Martin
Blane Mayeaux
Kathleen McBee
Frances & Robert Mims
Kathryn & Eddie Malpus
Rachel Neff
Tracie Nobles
Shelly Olowsky
Suann & Ralph Pyle
Christina Quinones
Rex Motel
Kristi & Bryan Roof
Christine Roznick
Melissa Rucker
Collette & Thomas Rye
Yurac Salazar
Deborah Scott
Linda Shirley
Josh Siegel
Cody Smiley
Mary Sutherland
Sue & Chris Swanson
Lorraine & John Taylor
Jennifer Thompson
Lauren Torpe
Maria & Paul Vranish
Sharon & John Vreeland
Kathy Wagner
Laurel Wehrman
Jo Vann & Charles Weichert
Lori Wendel
Robyn & Jared Wilhelm
Elaine & Dan Wilyard
Keith Wilson
Woodland Heights Elementary
Carin Wunneburger

The Texas State Aquarium received an outpouring of support from the AZA community after its fish loss in April of 2015. The following AZA institutions generously donated funds or animals towards our recovery and/or provided technical or other support:

Aquarium at Moody Gardens
Audubon Aquarium of the Americas
Dynasty Marine Associates
Landry's Houston Downtown Aquarium
Mote Marine Aquarium
National Aquarium
Newport Aquarium

Sea Life Grapevine Aquarium
Sea World San Antonio
Sea World San Diego
Shedd Aquarium
Vancouver Aquarium
Virginia Aquarium
Texas State Aquarium formed the Nautilus Society to encourage individuals to provide for the future of the Aquarium by including specific provisions in their estate plans. Nautilus Society members support the Aquarium in a number of ways through estate planning such as:

- A bequest in a will
- Charitable Remainder Trust
- Charitable Lead Trust
- Charitable Gift Annuity
- IRA charitable beneficiary designation
- Life Insurance policy charitable beneficiary designation
- Donation of residential or agricultural real estate
- Establishing an Endowed Fund to support a general or specific Aquarium program

**What are the benefits?**

Along with providing valuable support to the Texas State Aquarium, there are often significant tax benefits that accompany planned gifts. Depending on the type of gift, you may be able to take advantage of one or more of the following:

- Immediate income tax charitable deduction
- Minimize recognition of capital gain
- Minimize the imposition of the estate tax
- Partially tax-free payments for life

Every year the Texas State Aquarium hosts a special event to thank members of the Nautilus Society for their invaluable vision and generous support towards realizing and securing the Texas State Aquarium’s future. To learn more about planning your gift, contact the Development Department at 361-653-2660 or development@txstateaq.org.