

ANNUAL REPORT 2014



TEXAS STATE
AQUARIUM®



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Our Mission

Connecting people with nature and inspiring conservation of the Gulf of Mexico.

Our Vision

To be a nationally-recognized Aquarium leader in creating entertaining, educationally-enriching programming; conducting wildlife rehabilitation; and supporting conservation.





Greetings friends,

We are pleased to present our 2014 annual report. Like many companies, our annual report provides an opportunity for us to share information on our financial performance with all of you. As a mission driven, not-for-profit organization, our financial strength is vitally important; however, it is not why we exist. Simply put, we work each day to connect people with nature, sharing stories and engaging audiences – from pre-K on – about the incredible aquatic world just outside our door. Getting people to learn, to understand, to care, and ultimately to take action – that's our mission.

Five years ago, our Board of Trustees and professional staff crafted a new strategic plan. In order to more effectively engage our guests in the wonders of the Gulf of Mexico, we knew that we needed to improve and expand our exhibit program. We also felt the time was right to extend that journey of discovery into the Quintana Roo region of Mexico, and into the Caribbean Sea. The animals that ply the waters of the world do not recognize international borders. For us to comprehensively communicate our story, we felt we needed to venture beyond Texas and the U.S. Forming partnerships with like-minded conservation organizations in the U.S. and in Mexico will help broaden our reach, and help us more effectively engage our members and guests in our conservation mission.

In addition to expanding our exhibit program, our new Flint Hills Resources Center for Excellence in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) Education is completely reshaping how we engage students on-site, offsite at our SeaLab facility, and in schools via outreach and distance learning. And finally, our Wildlife Care, Conservation and Research (WCCR) program has provide critical funding – over \$180,000 in the last two years – for research and conservation work on species that are facing challenges in Texas and in the Gulf of Mexico. These funds come directly from membership, admission, and other earned revenue, meaning that by simply visiting the Texas State Aquarium, our members and guest are helping save wildlife.

Working together, engaging people to save species. It's what great aquariums and zoos all over the world are doing every day. Thank you for your help and support. Together, we can make a difference.

Tom Schmid
President and CEO

Larry Urban
Chairman of the Board





On April 9, the Aquarium held the grand opening of its newly renovated Nearshore exhibit. Construction of the dramatic \$735,000 redesign began in November 2013.

The Nearshore gallery is one of our original exhibits and is the first exhibit guests encounter as they enter the Aquarium - creating an introduction to the gradual deepening of waters as you tour the facility.

The Nearshore gallery portrays life at the shoreline, where sand dunes and mangroves meet shallow saltwater habitats. The gallery houses species both beneath and above the water—from cownose rays, flounder and spotted sea trout, to avian species like the roseate spoonbill, white ibis and green heron.

The new Nearshore gallery is a totally immersive and engaging area.

Many of the animals in the new Nearshore exhibit were brought to the Aquarium's Second Chances Wildlife Rehabilitation Program injured or ill, were rehabilitated and deemed not releasable, and now serve as ambassadors to their wild counterparts.

"This project is the first of many planned Aquarium exhibits which will take our visitors on a fully immersive journey into diverse habitats," said Jesse Gilbert, Vice President & Chief Operating Officer.





Charity Navigator, America's largest and most-utilized independent evaluator of charities, has awarded the Texas State Aquarium its prestigious 4-star rating for good governance, sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency. The Texas State Aquarium is one of only six aquariums in the nation to earn the 4-star rating.



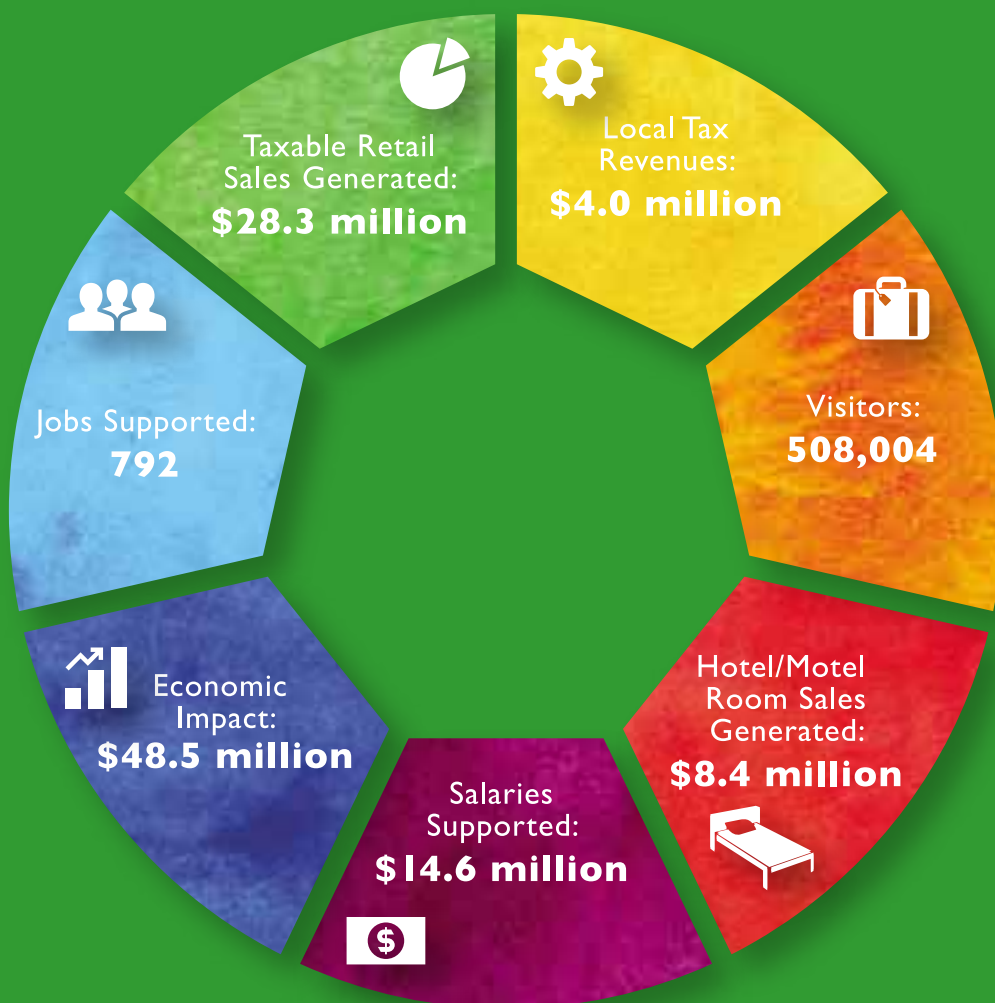
Economic Impact: \$441 Million Over Last 10 Years

Current Expansion Project Will Generate \$107 Million in Economic Activity

An economic impact study recently prepared by Impact DataSource of Austin, Texas for the Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation revealed that the Texas State Aquarium has contributed more than \$441 million to the Corpus Christi area economy over the last 10 years, including \$48.5 million in 2014.

Moreover, the study determined that the Aquarium's \$50+ million Caribbean Journey expansion, currently underway, will contribute an estimated \$107 million to the Corpus Christi area economy during its construction, including soft costs (design, engineering, etc.) and hard costs (actual construction), as well as pre-opening costs, animal acquisition, and fundraising costs.

Texas State Aquarium President and CEO Tom Schmid stated, "The Corpus Christi community embraced the Texas State Aquarium before it was even built, and business leaders here recognized the economic driver it could become. Our local community and visitors from all over the state and beyond continue to embrace our continually evolving educational and entertaining exhibits and programs, and that has allowed the Aquarium's contribution to our local economy to grow year after year. This report also demonstrates that the construction of the Aquarium's Caribbean Journey expansion will have an equally significant positive impact to the local economy."





Community Dollar Days

Thanks to our generous corporate partners, thousands of members of the community enjoyed a day at the Aquarium in 2014 for just \$1 each. On Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, 9,429 guests attended Dollar Day sponsored by Navy Army Community Credit Union. Another 4,622 enjoyed the Aquarium on February 23 thanks to longtime partner HEB. In November, 4,044 guests came to Dollar Day sponsored by the Whataburger. In December, HEB partnered with the Aquarium for a second 2014 Dollar Day, and 7,173 guests came to enjoy the day.



Community Involvement

The Aquarium's reach can be felt throughout the Corpus Christi community through the activities of our staff. The Aquarium is a member of the Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce, Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation, and Corpus Christi Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

Many Aquarium staff members have earned the designation of Certified Tourism Ambassador (CTA) through the Corpus Christi Convention & Visitors Bureau (CCCVB), and they use the knowledge gained through the training to act as ambassadors for Corpus Christi. Aquarium staff members also contribute their time and expertise to the CCCVB, serving on its Marketing and Attractions Committees. Staff also serve on the Board of Directors of the Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce and the Buccaneer Days Commission. In 2014, staff members participated in Rotary Club of Corpus Christi, Leadership Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi Human Resources Management Association, Greater Corpus Christi Hospitality Association, Young Business Professionals of the Coastal Bend, American Advertising Federation, American Fundraising Professionals, and Junior League, among others.

The Aquarium is a generous supporter of other non-profits within the Coastal Bend and around Texas,



donating in 2014 more than 800 passes, memberships or tours to qualified organizations and events. Recipients included Corpus Christi ISD, March of Dimes, City of Corpus Christi, American Cancer Society, American Diabetes Association, American Heart Association, American Red Cross, Big Brothers & Big Sisters, CHRISTUS Spohn Health System, Del Mar College, Texas A&M Corpus Christi, Epilepsy Foundation, Muscular Dystrophy Association and the Ronald McDonald House.

Flint Hills Commitment Fuels Shift to STEM Programs

2014 was an exciting year of change and growth for the Aquarium's education programs.

A driving force behind the rapid evolution of our programs was a groundbreaking partnership the Aquarium struck with Flint Hills Resources. On March 21, the Aquarium and Flint Hills Resources announced we were uniting forces to create the Flint Hills Resources Center for Excellence in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Education at the Texas State Aquarium. Focused through the familiar lens of environmental education, the Center places a powerful new emphasis on STEM practices and skills featuring the habitats and animals of the Gulf of Mexico that reside at the Aquarium. This new approach is designed to improve STEM teaching, learning, and career recruitment in South Texas and beyond – an issue of importance to the Aquarium, Flint Hills, and our local community.

The Center was made possible thanks to a \$1 million gift to the Aquarium by Flint Hills Resources, which has been the presenting partner for the Aquarium's distance learning program, *Aquavision*, since 2007 and a strong supporter of the Aquarium for over 25 years. The Center will work over the next five years to provide leadership in the STEM education community, empower staff and area educators with best and "next" practices, demonstrate excellence in STEM and environmental education through an emphasis on science process skills, double program participation from 60,000 to 120,000 learners per year; and produce measureable gains in environmental, marine, and general STEM literacy among all audiences.

"Our long-standing partnership with the Texas State Aquarium has helped students from all around the country learn about marine life and concepts tied to science, technology, engineering and math without having to leave their classroom. We are happy to be able to help TSA expand its programs and enrich the lives of twice as many students," said Valerie Pompa, vice president and manufacturing manager for Flint Hills Resources Corpus Christi. "We enjoy being able to help showcase the amazing natural resources that exist in our community."



Open Space meeting



Open Space meeting

Education Programs Reach Grows

The shift to an emphasis on STEM learning, as well as the continued effort to educate students about the conservation of our local environment and beyond, was met with enthusiasm. The Aquarium's educational program participation experienced substantial growth over the course of 2014, reaching 84,735 students of all ages, compared to 64,285 in 2013.



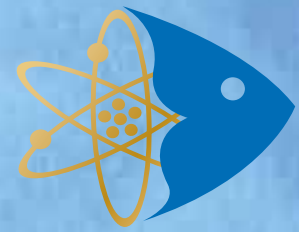
Aquarium Outreach education programs were able to reach the minds of about 26,000 students last year, doubling 2013 numbers.

The Flint Hills Resources Aquavision Distance Learning Studio at the Texas State Aquarium provides access to our animals and staff through web-based and videoconferencing technology. A wide variety of animals, from seahorses to sharks and alligators, are able to be featured front and center in the classroom.

Aligned with the Texas Education Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), like all of the Aquarium's education programs, Aquavision lets teachers add high-quality curriculum to their units without leaving the classroom. A record-breaking 14,500 partook in the program in 2014, more than doubling the previous year's participation.

Aquarium Vice President of Education and Conservation Leslie Peart said the City of Corpus Christi's LatchKey After School Program played a large role in helping her department achieve such success, as did a grant the department received late in 2013 from the Ed Rachal Foundation to use with the LatchKey program.

"We can attribute the surge in Outreach and Aquavision participation to a renewed focus on Aquarium animals and the staff who care for them," Peart said. "Outreach and Aquavision provide affordable options when field trips are logistically impossible. The Ed Rachal Foundation grant and Flint Hills Resources make it possible to extend our reach and teaching even further."



STEM

FLINT HILLS RESOURCES
CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE
TEXAS STATE AQUARIUM

2014 Flint Hills Resources Center
for Excellence in STEM Education
Program Participation:

- 26,291 Outreach
- 14,518 Aquavision Distance Learning
- 809 Camps
- 1,371 Overnight Camp Ins
- 3,621 SeaLab Programs
- 236 Teacher Workshops
Professional Development
- 264 Sensational Sustainable
Seafood
- 37,679 Onsite Programs

84,789 Total

Wildlife Care, Conservation, and Research Fund

In 2013, the Texas State Aquarium established the Wildlife Care, Conservation, and Research Fund (WCCR) to further the Aquarium's mission of inspiring conservation of the Gulf of Mexico. Each year, the Aquarium awards funding to programs that focus on habitat restoration, wildlife management, conservation, and wildlife rehabilitation in the Gulf.

When the Aquarium announced its 2014 WCCR Fund recipients in October, President & CEO Tom Schmid remarked, "We are very excited to continue to offer this program and help further research and conservation projects of that can make a difference to the species and ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico. As a not-for-profit entity, we are acutely aware of how important grant funding is to projects, so we are thrilled to be able to offer this opportunity to others."

The following are the Texas State Aquarium's 2014 WCCR Fund recipients:

Sharks with Spectators II – Real-Time, Global Tracking of Texas' Marine Apex Predators for Science, Education, and Research

Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi—Harte Research Institute/Greg Stunz and Matt Ajemian

Citizen Science – Larval Blue Crab Monitoring Project

Mission-Aransas National Estuarine Research Reserve/Ed Buskey and Colleen McCue

Identifying Nesting Habitat for Texas Diamondback Terrapins in the Nueces Estuary with Implications for Other Texas Estuaries

Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi – Center for Coastal Studies/Aaron Baxter



Texas Stream Team Monofilament Finders

Texas State University—Meadows Center/Meredith Miller

Biomarkers to Assess Risks of Infectious Disease in Corals

University of Texas at Austin/Mikhail Matz

Validating Atlantic Tarpon Scale Chemistry to Track Migration in Texas Waters

University of Texas Marine Science Institute/Benjamin Walther

SCORE Foundation

Started in 2002, SCORE (SEXual CORal REproduction) has evolved into one of the leading coral conservation initiatives of scientists and aquarium professional from around the world. Texas State Aquarium staff periodically participate in SCORE field work in the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean.

Sarasota Dolphin Research Program

Chicago Zoological Society/Randall Wells, PhD



USA TODAY announced in August that the Texas State Aquarium was voted one of the ten best aquariums in North America through the USA TODAY 10 Best Readers' Choice Award for Best Aquarium in North America poll.





Keeping Our Beaches Clean

The Aquarium is the North Beach host and coordinator for the Texas General Land Office's Adopt-A-Beach cleanup program, an all-volunteer effort dedicated to preserving and protecting Texas beaches. Since the first cleanup in 1986, more than 476,000 volunteers have picked up more than 9,000 tons of trash from Texas beaches, some of it originating as far away as South America.

In 2014, the Aquarium hosted three North Beach Adopt-A-Beach cleanups, and provided participants free admission to the Aquarium for the entire day of the event. Throughout the year, staff members also volunteered their time to clean up North Beach and other beaches in the Corpus Christi area. In addition, the Aquarium staff and AquaTeen volunteer program conducted a massive beach clean-up at Packery Channel Park on August 1.



Green Halloween

The Aquarium hosted its second annual Green Halloween celebration on October 25. This conservation-based family event included costume contests, games and eco-friendly arts and crafts, an educational scavenger hunt for kids, and earth-friendly trick or treat candy.



Second Chances Wildlife Rehabilitation Program

For almost 20 years, our Second Chances Wildlife Rehabilitation Program has treated hundreds of injured or sick animals annually at our hospital, with the goal of rehabilitating and releasing them back into their natural habitat.

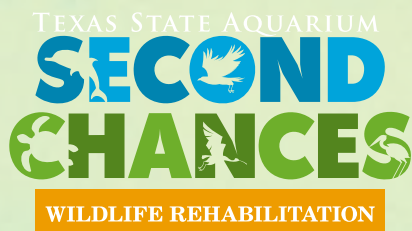
Each year, thousands of protected, threatened, or endangered species along the Texas coast become ill or injured. Some have been impaired by predators, diseases, or other natural causes; others have problems caused directly or indirectly by humans. This includes entanglement in fishing line, nets, or lures, collisions with vehicles and even illegal harassment and shootings.

When an animal is brought into the Second Chances Wildlife Hospital, Aquarium staff stabilizes the animal, evaluates its condition, and provides comprehensive medical treatment. Services range from simply providing a safe, temporary refuge for an exhausted migratory shorebird to acute medical care for an ill dolphin.

In 2014, the program rehabilitated and released nearly 70 birds back into their natural habitats and transferred three more to accredited AZA facilities. Overall, the Second Chances Animal Hospital saw 229 animals from 47 species over the course of the year.

"We're thrilled to see such a high number of releases," said Veterinary Technician Laura Martinelli. "We worked really hard last year, had a high number of patients, and it feels so good to see that reflected in the stats."

2014 was memorable for many reasons and releases, all of which Senior Wildlife Specialist Kelley Shutt says keep her and her staff going every day. "Those release numbers take away our bad days, and they give us such a sense of purpose," explained Shutt. "The numbers just help the spirit."



Volunteers are an essential part of what the Aquarium does every day. From helping keep our animals, plants and habitats healthy to greeting, entertaining, and educating guests, our devoted volunteers are one of the keys to being able to provide a superb guest experience. A total of 166 active volunteers accounted for more than 20,241 hours of work in 2014, which equates to more than \$197,000 in value. From our AquaTeens to people who have been giving their time and talents to the Aquarium for decades, we could not do everything we do without our fantastic volunteers.

AquaTeens Organize Packery Channel Park Clean-Up

On August 1, Aquarium staff and volunteers joined forces for an expansive beach clean-up at Packery Channel Park in an effort to rid the popular park of beach trash and debris. The clean-up was spearheaded by the Aquarium's teen volunteer group, AquaTeens, as part of their community outreach project.

"We know that this park sees heavy crowds during the summer, and in turn lots of trash, so the AquaTeens chose it as their clean-up area in an effort to rid the park of harmful marine debris, like fishing line and plastic bags," said Director of Human Resources Nicole Andrade.

Representatives from the City of Corpus Christi accompanied the group to aid in the clean-up effort and transportation of the collected trash to the appropriate disposal site.

Volunteer of the Year: Tina Slay

Some of our volunteers revel in the opportunity to meet and talk to new people every day, helping and teaching them, and introducing them to the wonders of the Aquarium and its inhabitants. For others, it is more about the animals. The Texas State Aquarium's 2014 Volunteer of the Year, Tina Slay, definitely fits into the latter category – her passion for the animals runs deep.

Tina began volunteering at the Aquarium in October of 2013, initially working with our Interpretation Department. However, it was clear from the beginning that her passion was for the sick and injured animals being treated by our Second Chances Wildlife Rehabilitation Program at our SeaLab facility. As a result, Tina eventually transitioned over to volunteer for the Second Chances program in June of 2014, where she has proven an invaluable asset.



Tina was nominated for Volunteer of the Year by Second Chances staff members, who cited her genuine care for the animals, her dependable, hard work and the way she always works to do the very best for the animals.

Not only can you see Tina hard at work at SeaLab helping nurse sick and injured animals back to health, but you can often spot her with a big smile on her face when Second Chances is able to release any of its patients back into their natural environment.

AquaTeens of the Year

Both of the 2014 AquaTeen Volunteers of the Year shared a willingness to help wherever and however needed.

Ryce Hailes

Much like Tina Slay, Ryce Hailes found herself drawn to the animals at the Aquarium. While she has shown a willingness to help in any area doing anything she is asked, she has gravitated towards the sea turtles of Tortuga Cay.

In her second year with the AquaTeen program in 2014, Ryce earned the opportunity to volunteer with the Aquarium's husbandry department working with fish, reptiles and amphibians, including the sea turtles. She did such a good job that the husbandry department kept her as a volunteer after the AquaTeen season concluded, and she continues to volunteer weekly.

According to staff, Ryce has a positive attitude and sets a great example to peers. She is also bright, pleasant to work with, respectful, and supportive. These are some of the reasons that she has also been selected as the only AquaTeen to serve on the Aquarium's Volunteer Advisory Committee, a group of volunteers representing different areas of the Aquarium's operations.



Grant Mays

When Grant Mays entered the AquaTeen program for the first time in 2014, he described himself as somewhat shy in social settings. Within just weeks of starting to volunteer, however, Grant found himself becoming much more comfortable and confident talking to strangers.

Grant chose to volunteer at the Texas State Aquarium because he was interested in a career in marine science, and he says the experience has only enhanced that desire.

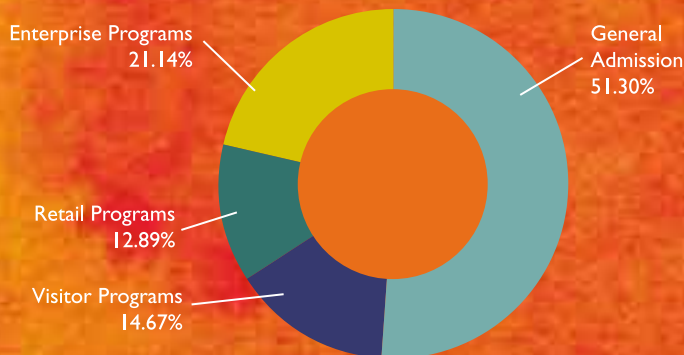
Aquarium staff describe Grant as kind, polite, helpful, intelligent, dependable, and willing to work at any station — always with a smile.

Attendance	508,004
Operating Revenues*	
General Admission	\$ 5,323,255
Visitor Programs	\$ 1,522,715
Retail Programs	\$ 1,337,590
Enterprise Programs	\$ 2,193,536
Total Operating Revenues	\$ 10,377,095
Operating Expenses**	
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 5,420,877
Aquarium Operations	\$ 2,504,868
Cost of Goods Sold	\$ 445,982
Accrued Interest	\$ 23,273
Advertising	\$ 495,921
Major Repairs/Equipment	\$ 222,294
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 9,113,215
Net Income From Operations	\$ 1,263,880
Fundraising Income*	
Campaign Caribbean	\$ 13,904,922
Donations, Grants & Special Events	\$ 353,194
Total Fundraising Income	\$ 14,258,115
Cash Position	
Operating	\$ 1,548,267
Development	\$ 10,085,567
Cash Reserves	\$ 2,153,929
Capitol Expenditure Fund	\$ 980,177
Endowments	\$ 2,783,034
Total Cash	\$ 17,550,974
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 420,172
Long Term Debt	\$ 324,130

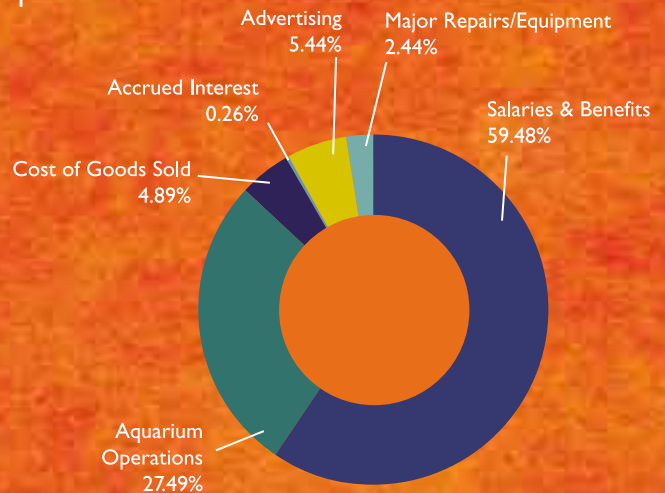
*2014 figures unaudited

**Total expenses does not include depreciation expense

Revenue 2014



Expenses 2014



Campaign Caribbean 2014 Progress Report

The Texas State Aquarium is bringing the sights, sounds, and vibrant wildlife of the Western Caribbean to the shores of Texas by adding a new \$50 Million *Caribbean Journey* building that will double the size, species, programming of our existing facility.

This will transform the Aquarium from a leading regional aquarium and top tourism attraction for South Texas to one of the premiere aquariums in the nation. The Texas State Aquarium will be a major tourism destination for the entire state of Texas, as well as a nationally recognized leader in creating entertaining, educationally-enriching programming, advancing conservation efforts, and showcasing marine research.

Campaign Caribbean, the capital campaign to for this project, is the largest philanthropic endeavor the Texas State Aquarium has ever undertaken. It is also one of the most successful fundraising campaigns, with more than \$27.6 million raised through the end of 2014.

Our vision has inspired many individuals, foundations and corporations to invest in this project already, and soon everyone will be invited to participate in this initiative. Our goal is to complete the capital campaign during the construction period over the next two years, with a celebration planned to recognize and honor all of our donors when we open the Caribbean Journey building in the spring of 2017.

2014 was a banner year for fundraising at the Texas State Aquarium, with nearly \$14 million received in gifts and pledges specifically dedicated to Campaign Caribbean. Approximately half of that support in 2014 came from corporate philanthropy, with major gifts received from longtime partners that have been with us from the beginning, like Flint Hills Resources, Whataburger, Inc., H-E-B, HOLT Companies, Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company, and Valero, as well as one of our more recent major supporters, Orion Drilling Company, LLC. For a complete list of Campaign Caribbean donors, please see our complete Donor Honor Roll on page 18.



H-E-B Presents \$3 Million Lead Gift as Caribbean Journey Project Publicly Announced

Coinciding with the public announcement of its Caribbean Journey project on June 25, the Aquarium also announced that H-E-B donated a lead gift of \$3 million to Campaign Caribbean. H-E-B's gift helped the campaign reach the crucial midway point to the \$50 million goal, enabling the Aquarium to move forward with planning groundbreaking before the end of the year.

Rob Hall, Group Vice President of H-E-B Gulf Coast Region stated, "The Texas State Aquarium is one of the most significant educational resources in our state. H-E-B is pleased to continue our partnership with the aquarium because we believe this investment represents our passion for education and our commitment to the communities we serve."



Valero Contributes \$500,000

On September 4, the Texas State Aquarium announced another significant gift for Campaign Caribbean as continued partner Valero contributed a generous \$500,000 gift to the campaign. The major gift will sponsor the new entryway into the Caribbean Journey experience.

"For more than three decades, Valero has been committed to the Coastal Bend Region through the jobs we create and the contributions we invest in our community," said Dennis Payne, Vice President and General Manager, Valero Corpus Christi Refineries. "Today's gift for the Texas State Aquarium is another demonstration of our commitment to Corpus Christi, especially causes that focus on education and environmental sustainability. It's Valero's hope that this new entryway will usher in a wave of excitement for tourists, residents, and businesses across the state."



Whataburger Donates \$1 Million to Sponsor First 4D Theater in Coastal Bend

On October 27, the Texas State Aquarium announced another significant gift for Campaign Caribbean as longtime partner Whataburger donated a gener-

ous \$1 million gift earmarked for the naming of a 4D theater in the Caribbean Journey experience – the first theater of its kind south of San Antonio.

“Whataburger and the Dobson Family are proud to support the construction of the 4D theater, which will be named after our mother and the woman who grew Whataburger into the company it is today, Grace Dobson. She had a deep personal commitment to the Corpus Christi community and incredible passion for this place,” said Whataburger Chairman and TSA Board Member Tom Dobson. “I know she would be very proud.”



Groundbreaking

On December 10, 2014, Texas State Aquarium staff and Board were joined by elected officials and area leaders to celebrate the groundbreaking ceremony of its \$50 million Caribbean Journey addition – the largest expansion in the Aquarium’s 24-year history. Speakers at the public groundbreaking ceremony held on the Aquarium’s lawn included State Representative Abel Herrero, Corpus Christi Mayor Nelda Martinez, Aquarium Board Chair Deneece Squires, and Aquarium President and CEO Tom Schmid.

“This is truly a historic milestone for the Aquarium,” said Aquarium President & CEO Tom Schmid. “Over 25 years



ago, our founders had a vision to take our guests on a journey from the Gulf of Mexico into the Caribbean Sea. Today, we begin construction on the final phase of the original master plan, and once open in 2017, this expansion will complete that vision. We will have one of the nations’ great Aquariums right here in Corpus Christi.”

Campaign Caribbean

Campaign Caribbean, the capital campaign raising funds for our Caribbean Journey expansion project, continues to receive tremendous philanthropic gift support from many of our closest friends, with over \$30 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 two 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
Brown Foundation
Frost Bank Charitable Foundation
The Greehey 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 and 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.
T.L.L. Temple Foundation

Corporations & Organizations

Bacon Lee & Associates
Bank of America Matching Gifts
Coastal Bend Combined Federal Campaign
R.W. Dirks Petroleum Engineer, Inc.
Duro Bag Mfg. Co.
Flint Hills Resources, L.P.
H-E-B Grocery Company - Corpus Christi
Ed Hicks Family of Dealerships
Key Study Club
Mike Shaw Toyota/Mike Shaw KIA
State Employee Charitable Campaign - Coastal Bend
Susser Holdings, L.L.C. / Stripes
Valero Energy Corporation
ValueBank Texas
The Dobson Family & Whataburger

Individuals

Kathy & Joe Adame
Hope & Ramiro Andrade
Libby Averyt & Charles Kaffie
Renai & Michael Baker
Nan & Allen Borden
Julie Buckley
Mary & Charles Campbell
Michael Carman
Louise G. Chapman
Peggy & Bill Clark
Debbie & Darrell Coleman
J. Robert & Janey Cone
Lisa & Bramm Davidson
Charles & Martha DeCou
Nancy & Steve DeSutter
Paula & Rick Dodd
Jeffrey & Kerry Dolan
Elinor & Ben Donnell

Lisa & John Dorn
Ann & David Engel
Phyllis & George Finley
Laura & Jon Fischer
Lualhati Flynn
Kelley & Pat Frost
Gloria & Bob Furgason
Zoe & Mark Gottlich
Audrey & Brian Hagemann
Donald & Joan Halepeska
Stacey & Rob Hall
Burt Hause
Judith & David Hawley
Nancy & Bruce Hawn
Carrie & R. Scott Heitkamp
Gloria & Ed Hicks
Susan & Charlie Hicks
Susan E. Hutchinson
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Christopher Keating
Thomas T.* & Cora* Keeler
Kathy & Flavius Killebrew
LuAnn & Donald Kingsbury
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Sonya & Brian Libby
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Lucy & Dick McCracken
Vera McGonigle
John & Mary Ann McGregor
Paula & Larry McKinney
Julie & Michael McNeil
Joyce & Mark Meyer
Larry Meyers
Josephine Miller
Maureen Miller
Bob Miller
Donna & George Munroe
Patty & Hank Nuss
Ted Oakley
Joyce & Richard Penland
Mike Pusley
Dan & Trisha Richter
Alice H. Sallee
M. Stuart & Keleigh Sasser
Rene & Frank Scario
Walter & Mary Schumacher
Josephine I.* & Donald* Seberg
Nancy & Mike Shaw
Toby Shor
Jo Ann & Craig Smith
Deneece & Wayne Squires
Barbara Anne & Kenneth Stephens
Celika Storm
Michael & Amanda Stukenberg
Catherine & Sam L. Susser
Chris & Sue Swanson
Blaire & Nathan Taggart
Denise & Sergio Tavares

In May, the Beautify Corpus Christi Association (BCCA) presented the Texas State Aquarium with its Sustainability Award for the facility's attention to detail in its landscape and maintenance.

Suzanne & Rich Tuttle
Karen & Larry Urban
Dean Walker Vorhes*
Sylvia & Mark Whitmore
Shirley & Kenneth Windhorst
Carol Ann & Art Zeitler

2013 & 2014 Texas State Aquarium Staff (100% Participation)

Jose Acevedo
Kat & Robert Allen
Macy Allen
Laura Amerine
Nicole & Tobias Andrade
Sherri & Eric Arispe
Jerry Arreola
Alexis Arriaga
Lauren Attaway
Lauren Ayala
Lucy Balthrop
Reyna Banda
Kay & Keith Bethel
Sarah Bethel
Robert Bidwell
Casey Blake
Andrea Bogle
Andrea Bolt
Amy & Justin Brandt
Alex Braun
Leon & Valerie Burns
Ranee Butler
Rachel Cabrera
Lyia & Rafael Calderon
Selena Cantu
Clarivel Chavez
Marvin Cloud
Madalyn Cox
Holley Day
Tassie & Ryan Dreier

Ryan Drum
Buck & Sam Durham
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James Emerson
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Kristin Evans
Casey Floerke
Julio & Starr Flores
Jessica & Richard Frankenberger
Ernest Franklin
Allison Fulton
Chuck & Julie Galbraith
Roark* & Liz Gallagher
Carolyn Garcia
Jesse & Emma Gilbert
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Andrea Gomez
Julie Gonzales
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Richard Hafemeister
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Rebeca Harris
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Nicholas Herrera
Allison Hilliard
Andrea Hinojosa
Debra Hoekel
Lucas & Katie Iverson
Jason James & Suraida Nanez-James
Adam Jasso
Brittany Jensen
Caleb Johnson
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Erin Kane
 Rocky & Susan Kettering
 Patrick Kierst
 Roxanne Kierst
 Kaylee King
 Allison Larsen
 Brittney Laurel
 Ester Lazo
 Alex Lemon
 Doug & Diane Lewis
 Alexandra Little
 David Locke
 Kevin Locke
 Analilia Lopez
 Connie Luna
 Concepcion Mackovick
 Michael Martin
 Laura Martinelli
 Caitlyn Martinez
 Glenda Martinez & Joe Sandoval
 Devina Martinez-Lopez
 Amanda Matlock
 Kelsey McFarland
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 Juan Melendez
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Kody Moore
 Ruben Morales
 Reggie Moreno
 Janie Moreno-Cleland
 Stacey Murray
 Michelle Neville
 Lyndsay Newton
 Tracy & Jack Nyitrai
 Sasha & Michael Orman
 Ruben Ortiz
 Carina Oseguera
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 Gregory Padia & Angie Sanchez
 Ruben Palacios
 Leslie Peart
 Mathew Pena
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 David Stelling
 Victoria Stever
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 Elizabeth Valdez
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 Carrie Virga
 Russell & Irma Voigt
 Jillian Voss
 Kendra Wall
 Sean Walsh
 Jennifer West
 Mark & Cheryl Wolfe
 Gabriela Zamora
 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 April 8, 2014, the group was invited to a VIP preview of the newly renovated and immersive new Nearshore experience before the exhibit opened to the public the next day. We cannot thank this group enough for their continued generosity and look forward to sharing many more exciting milestones to come.

2014 President's Council Donors

\$4,000 and up

Saundra & James Copeland / Copeland's Inc.
 Kim & Matt Hammer
 Barbara & Joe Lewis
 Billie & Clayton Poenisch

\$2,000 - \$3,999

Manning & Kim Chapman
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 Meredith Morrill
 Rene & Frank Scanio, III
 Tom & Betty Terrey

\$1,000 - \$1,999

Peggy & Avinash Ahuja
 Callie & Rajan Ahuja
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 Paul Baria
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Betty Kemp
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 Marybeth & Bill Maxwell
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 Denise & Sergio Tavares
 Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
 Jerry & Rebecca Van Beveren
 Joanne & Peter Volpe
 Sylvia & Mark Whitmore



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 through fun and exciting events where they can network with likeminded individuals. Membership is open to people ages 21 and older who are interested in participating in a variety of networking and volunteer opportunities.



Presentation at the Rising Tide Society's Turtles on Tap Happy Hour at Executive Surf Club.

In 2014, the Rising Tide Society hosted unique events such as Turtles on Tap and Shark After Dark, as well as getting together to participate in beach clean-ups and an oyster reef restoration project. Moreover, the Rising Tide Society was able to raise \$7,500 for the Aquarium's Second Chances Wildlife Rehabilitation Program through membership fees and sponsorships. The Society presented Aquarium COO Jesse Gilbert with a check for that amount in January of 2015.

The Aquarium would like to extend special thanks to the Rising Tide Society's Immediate Past President, Newman "Tree" Baker III, and its leadership team in 2014: Jason Gilbert, Jenna Vanzant, Loren Rock, and Michael Hunter.

AQUA Society

On November 5, 2014, 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 2014, the society honored many returning and advancing supporters, and we welcomed five new inductees: The Greehey Family Foundation, Josephine* & Donald* Seberg, Gloria & Robert Furgason, Clayton & Billie Poenisch, and Keleigh & Stuart Sasser.

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 2014 recipient was longtime trustee and supporter, Bruce S. Hawn.



Bruce Hawn (center) accepting the Golden Star Award with his family (left), Gladys Porter Zoo Director Patrick M. Burchfield, Ed. D., M.Sc, Aquarium Board Chair Deneece Squires, and Aquarium President and CEO Tom Schmid.

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 the mission of connecting people with nature and inspiring conservation of the Gulf of Mexico.

Aquarium Visionary

\$1,000,000 and up

The Brown Foundation, Inc.

Ed Rachal Foundation

Flint Hills Resources, L.P.

Janet* & Edward* H. Harte

H-E-B

Houston Endowment, Inc.

Earl C. Sams Foundation, Inc.

The Greehey Family Foundation

Josephine* & Donald* Seberg

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Aquarium Ambassador

\$500,000 to \$999,999

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Aquarium Steward

\$250,000 to \$499,999

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Amy Shelton McNutt Charitable Trust

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Aquarium Conservator

\$150,000 to \$249,999

American Bank

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Oceaneering International, Inc.

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Aquarium Guardian

\$100,000 to \$149,999

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Behmann Brothers Foundation

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The Larry & Pat McNeil Foundation

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Dennis O'Connor*

Saltwater-fisheries Enhancement Association

Celika Storm

Strake Foundation

The Susser Family & Stripes

Tetra Second Nature

Aquarium Fellow

\$50,000 to \$99,999

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Charity League

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Green Mountain Energy – Sun Club

Herndon Plant Oakley Ltd.

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ValueBank Texas

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Aquarium Patron

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Dan Alfaro & Associates

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Lisa & John Dorn

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TGS-NOPEC Geophysical Company

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TXU Energy Corporation

Welder Leshin, L.L.P.

Patsy & C. C. Winn

Arthur & Carol Zeitler

Reflects giving through August 31, 2014. 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

Flint Hills Resources, LP
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 Family of Dealerships

\$10,000 - \$14,999

AEP Texas
Bay Ltd., A BERRY Company
Navy Army Community Credit Union

\$2,500 - \$9,999

Ara's Midtown Café
The Bend Magazine
Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation
Devary Durrill Foundation
Gentry Company
Republic Services
Rock Engineering and Testing Laboratory, Inc.

Up to \$2,500

American Bank
Blackbeard's
Copeland's Inc.
First Community Bank, N.A.
Nustar Energy, LP
Occidental Chemical Corporation – Ingleside
Pattern Gulf Wind, LLC
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.

2014 Rising Tide Society Members and Donors

Jason Alaniz & Annette Davila
Ara's Midtown Cafe
Tara & Tree Baker
Alexis Balko
Alyssa Michelle Barrera
Victor Betancourt

Vijay & Pooja Bindingavele
Ted Blair
Natalie Brewster
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James Butler
Emily & Clayton Campbell
Michelle Carey-Charba & Randy Charba
Kevin Cazalas
Katherine & Derek J. Chang

Natasa & Christopher Davis
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Steve DeAses
Chris Dial
Gabriella & Christian Dohse
Mandy Durham
Greg & Holly Duvall
Michelle & Matt Ezell
Fajitaville Grille
Ashley Ferguson
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Fonzie Munoz Photography
Sarah B. Fox
Greg Freeman
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Aaron & Amy Harvey
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Michael Hunter
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Omar Lopez
Elizabeth & Dale Loveland
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Michael Mayer
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Alexis Newberry
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Rachel Pruneda
Patricia Quimby
Loren Rock
Rock Engineering & Testing Lab, Inc.
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Natalie Salinas
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Jennifer Scott
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David Stelling
Kristen & Robert Sterett
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Joshua Tijerina
Todd & Amy Twardowski
V Fit Productions
Gerald Vasquez & Edelia Trevino
Sean & Teresa A. Walker
Julie & Jay Wise
Roman Zuniga

The Texas State Aquarium has been named one of the 20 Best Aquariums in the U.S. by TravelChannel.com

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 our 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 Memory of Marguerite Conoly

Ann Anderson
Jeanne & Layne Birdwell
Diane & John Brenan
Joyce & Thomas Burke
Karen & Larry George
Laurie & Charles Gordon
Kim & Randy Hill
Laura & Danny Kent
Gayle & Phillip Neessen
Pat & Ed Noel
Kim & Bernard Seger
Danna & Bill Volk

In Memory of Bob Evans

Kaaren & Kirby Barker

In Memory of Susan Judge

Diane & John Brenan

In Memory of William E. Carl

Billie Carl

In Memory of Betty Schultz

In Memory of Naomi Swineford

Mary & Jimmy Clark

In Memory of Sue Ellen Cron

C. Thomas Cron

In Memory of Weston Conoly

Cub Scout Pack #296

In Memory of Janis Sullivan

Elinor & Ben Donnell

Marion & John Heldenfels

In Memory of Captain Daniel & Barney Flynn

Lualhati Flynn

In Memory of Ann Davey Masters

Sam & Buck Durham

In Memory of Chris Bratten

Jeanne & Rick Schafer

In Memory of Forrest Schindler

Mary Martin & Steven Schindler

In Memory of Connie L. Shields

Aquarium Docent 1990-2008

The Estate of Connie L. Shields

In Memory of George Zimmes

Susan Weaver

In Memory of Laffayette Willie

Griselda & Andre Willie

In Honor of Bill & Marybeth Maxwell

James & Caryl Devlin

In Honor of Leslie Peart

Esperanza Garden Club

In Honor of B.D. Holt

In Honor of Corinna Holt Richter

In Honor of J.B. and Corinna Holt Richter

Anne Holt & Christian Schultz

In Honor of Mr. & Mrs. William Clark

In Honor of Dr. Kittie Clark

In Honor of Mr. & Mrs. Will Clark

Sally Kleberg

In Honor of Lauren Attaway

Ingrid Little

In Honor of Lupe Ruiz (Momo)

Zachary Addison Bernal

In Honor of Denece Squires

Duro Bag Mfg. Co./Toby Shor

In Honor of Tom Hunt

Logan & Alyssa Squiers

Veronica Thompson

In Honor of Henry & Olivia Montez

Richard & Ruth Woolsey

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 injured in the wild, with the goal of rehabilitating the animals for release back to their natural habitat. In 2014, donors made a big difference in the lives of many sick and injured animals that came through our doors. Thanks again to our supporters for caring about animals who deserve a second chance!

2014 Second Chances Donors

Cylinda Chaisson
Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program, Inc.
Kris Dimlich
Monica & Scott Ellison
Event Network
First Presbyterian Church
Emily Ford
Michelle & Jeremy Goodman
Amy Greene
Anne Holt & Christian Schultz
Sue & Charles Jackson
Sherman C. Jones III - Hill College
Lee R. Jordan
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Diane Metz
Monday Forum

Orange Grove Intermediate School
Student Council
Pattern Gulf Wind, LLC
Leslie Peart
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Gene Power
Melissa & Richard Ricard
Rising Tide Society
Stephany Rodriguez
Bruce E. Rogers
San Antonio Area Council Girl Scouts
Troop 2531
Alyssa & Logan Squiers
Veronica Thompson
Christina Vences
Susan Weaver
Bob Whitley



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 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.

2014 Stewardship Fund Donors

\$500 and up

Micaela & Kent Ellington
Tina & Wayne Fagan
Susan & Martin Giesecke
Rebecca R. Kieschnick
Ingrid Little
Connie L. Shields*

\$250 - \$499

Cathy & Ron Barnard
Julia Bell
DCP Midstream Matching Gifts Program
Anne Holt & Christian Schultz
Catherine & Albert Rodriguez
Jeanne & Rick Schafer
Dee & Ted Stephens
Linda & Charles Zahn

\$150 - \$249

Kaaren & Kirby Barker

Brenda & Brad Blackwood
Billie Carl
Lois Chesney
C. Thomas Cron
ExxonMobil Foundation
Virginia & Nicholas Jevric
Sally Kleberg
Lynn & Jim Shiner
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Peggy and Jose Duran
Barbara Enloe
Esperanza Garden Club
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Rebecca Hagan
William & Betty Hathaway
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Celeste Hogan
Hedy & Delbert Hooper
Lorene & Robert Howell
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Bettye & Jack Nichols
Wilma & Patrick Norrell

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Renan Ramos
Elaine M. Richardson
Zachary Addison Bernal
Mary Martin & Steven Schindler
Lonnie & Jordan Schwirtlich
Robert Smith
Eugene Snouffer
Kim & L. J. Thompson
Leah Villarreal
Debra & Gordon Welch
Shirley* & Wilfred* Whiteside
Griselda & Andre Willie
Dolores Willis
David Willis
Joe E. Wirsching
Richard & Ruth Woolsey
Vernon Wuensche

**deceased*

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.

2014 Restricted Fund Donors

Aquarium Operations

Corpus Christi Gasket & Fastener, Inc
Julie & Chuck Galbraith

AquaTeens Mentoring Program

Corpus Christi Caller-Times/Scripps Howard
Foundation

Education – SeaCamp Scholarships

Anne Holt & Christian Schultz
Navy Army Community Credit Union
The Reza Family

Nearshore Experience Exhibit

Coastal Bend Community Foundation
Prichard Family Foundation

Weston's Library

Ann Anderson
Jeanne & Layne Birdwell
Diane & John Brenan
Joyce & Thomas Burke
Cub Scout Pack #296
Karen & Larry George
Laurie & Charles Gordon
Kim & Randy Hill
Laura & Danny Kent
Gayle & Phillip Neessen
Pat & Ed Noel
Kim & Bernard Seger
Danna & Bill Volk





TEXAS STATE AQUARIUM NAUTILUS SOCIETY

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:

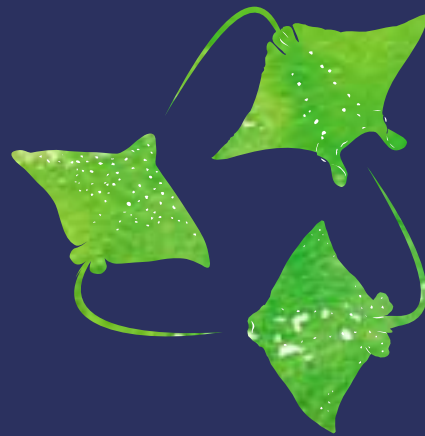
- Immediate income tax charitable deduction
- Minimize recognition of capital gain
- Minimize the imposition of the estate tax
- Partially tax-free payments for life

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, please contact Vice President of Development Rocky Kettering, Ed.D., CFRE at 361-881-1255 or rkettering@txstateaq.org.



Texas State Aquarium
2710 N. Shoreline
Corpus Christi, Texas 78402-1097
361.881.1200
texasstateaquarium.org



Texas State Aquarium Recycles