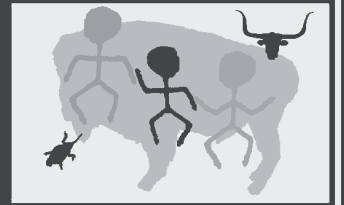


Friends of San Angelo State Park



VOL. 20

SUMMER

NO. 3

PARK PLAYGROUND UPGRADED

Long awaited upgrading and repair of the park playground has been accomplished.

One of the first features installed over twenty years ago in the newly designated state park was the children's play area on the South Side.

It has been a favorite spot for youth groups and school field trips. It weathered some while awaiting finances and TPWD permits for new equipment.

Recent support from FoSASP and labor from the park staff have given it a new and safer appearance.

Photo by Cheree Watts

Hay delivery is a treat for members of the Texas State Longhorn Herd as pastures wither with the prolonged drought.



*The world is full of willing people;
some are willing to work,
the rest willing to let them.*

~ Robert Frost



Friends of San Angelo State Park

Board of Advisors 2021-2022

The Board of Directors is elected by the members to a three-year term.

Directors meet every two months to plan and coordinate activities and provide oversight of funds.

Linda Ashton	Amanda Razani
Jana Jenkins	Brownie Roberts
Ruth Jordan	Laurel Scott
Gail Metcalfe	Sally Scott
Cindy Middleton	John Talley
Deola Mitts	Terry Wallace
Steve Nelson	Deborah Watson

Sandy Pedersen
Jarrett Miller - Park Superintendent

The Newsletter is a quarterly publication produced by Friends of San Angelo State Park, a non-profit corporation organized for the purpose of

- ensuring the future of the park by preserving it for future generations
- enhancing the quality of educational, interpretive and recreational opportunities in the park
- recruiting volunteers
- promoting regional support
- soliciting finances and resources for the perpetration of the park and
- soliciting and receiving gifts for endowments for the benefit of the park.

Ruth Jordan - Editor

Friends of SASP
3900-2 Mercedes
San Angelo, TX, 76901
ruthjordan@suddenlink.net



Published by Qs Printing and Design

From the Superintendent Jarrett Miller

For fifteen months now I have sat in the captain's chair of San Angelo State Park.

It has been quite the ride. We have overcome being short staffed multiple times, short on funding multiple times, a big freeze last winter, and ridiculous heat and drought this summer. And a pandemic.

We have made it through all that with many lessons learned and it has made us stronger as a team.

I feel that we have come a long way in my six and a half years at SASP. No doubt we have a very long way to go to reach my goals for the park. We will keep doing what we can, when we can, one thing at a time, as they say.

Thank you to all the park staff, friends group, volunteers, and general public for all your patience, understanding, and everything that you do to help us keep the park going day to day. It is very much appreciated.

See you in the park!

BOARD NOTES

Directors met in regular session in May and July.

- Approved payment for staff first aid training and purchase of Stop the Bleed kits for emergencies. \$700
- Reviewed financial report and budget review showing surplus income for the fiscal year.
- Learned total donations from San Angelo Gives \$5,570
- Volunteer hours for May – July totaled 241 hours.
- Approved purchase of hay for Bison and Longhorn herds to compensate for lack of pasture grass.
- Approved \$500 expenditure for painting the stage at North Concho Pavilion.
- Heard report of over a hundred visitors for Silver Bluebonnet Day.
- Approved seeking grant for proposed project to make Strawberry Trail ADA handicap accessible.
- Appointed committees for nomination of board members, annual meeting of members, fish fry, and volunteer awards for service.
- Accepted anonymous donation of \$1,100 for installation of ramps to permit small animals to escape being trapped in water troughs.

FoSASP Board of Directors consists of up to eighteen members and meets every two months at park headquarters to conduct affairs of the organization. FoSASP members are welcomed at the meetings. Currently three positions of the board are vacant. Any member interested in joining the board should call Deborah Watson, nominating committee chairperson, at dwatson@sahfondation.org.

THANK YOU SALLY AND DOWNTOWN LIONS CLUB

The San Angelo Downtown Lions Club has built a new stage at the North Pavilion and an extension to the Wildlife Viewing Center on the south side of the state park.

As a thank you, Sally Scott, Friends board member, donated \$100 to be a hole sponsor for the Downtown Lions' fundraiser golf tournament. The sponsorship will be noted on a sign on the golf course crediting FoSASP thus benefiting both organizations.

MEET THE NEW STAFF



HELLO, I'M TARA

I'm from San Angelo. I went to college in San Antonio and graduated with a Bachelor's of Science in Geology. I moved back to San Angelo. In April of 2022 I started working for SASP.

When I learned about the job opportunity at SASP I thought it would be a really good step towards a long term career with TPWD. Conservation is extremely important to me and now that I work for TPWD, I hope to expand my knowledge, skills, and abilities to help better serve our community by educating and providing as much information as possible. Being mindful of our natural resources and helping protect them will ensure that future generations have access to public lands.

I want to make our local community more aware of the park and what we have to offer since it's so close to town. There's something out here for everybody!

I've spent a lot of time hiking the trails here. Seeing the sunset from the Highland Range Overlook is one of my favorites. I've grown up spending a lot of time outside and in state parks throughout Texas. Getting to work for TPWD has been great!

I'm very happy to be here and look forward to seeing what the future holds!

I AM CHRISTIAN MARTIN



I started my job as a Maintenance Tech here at SASP in March 2022.

I was born and raised just about a hop, skip, and a jump away in Abilene. I moved to San Angelo in 2020 to attend Angelo State University. I am currently working on a Bachelors Degree in Border and Homeland Security.

I have wanted to work for TPWD as long as I can remember with hopes to continue on the Law Enforcement side as a Texas Game Warden. I love to hunt, fish and just be active whether hiking or playing sports. Anything I can do outside or to help others is where you will find me.

My ultimate goal here is to one day beat Stan's and Cheree's record fish and hang it on the wall. If you see me around, don't be a stranger!

**THANK YOU
GAIL METCALFE
SILVER BLUEBONNET DAY
SPONSOR**



I AM TYLER JARVIS

I was hired as a Maintenance Technician SASP in February 2022. I was born in San Angelo and raised in nearby Ballinger, Texas.

I moved to San Angelo in 2013 to attend Angelo State University. I graduated in 2017 with a Bachelor's in Natural Resource Management.

My free time is often spent with my family either fishing or looking for fossils and other prehistoric items!

I've had a dream of working outdoors for years and I'm finally getting the opportunity. I'm thrilled to work with such an amazing group of individuals at SASP.

**TEXAS
PARKS &
WILDLIFE**

**TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE
DEPARTMENT WILL BE**

100 YEARS OLD

IN 2023

**WATCH FOR CENTENNIAL
EVENTS
AND PUBLICATIONS
COMING SOON.**

VIEW BETWEEN THE EARS!

Spring Ride at San Angelo State Park



Texas Equestrian Trail Riders Association held their Spring Ride at San Angelo State Park.

It really seemed like we were going to cook for the weekend on Friday when the temperature was 104 degrees. But during Saturday night a cold front blew through dropping us to the 50's. Even some of the horses were shivering. Most riders were looking for coats, but we got a good ride in.

Saturday morning ten TETRA members saddled up and headed out to see the south side of the park. They rode thirteen miles in a round trip to "Five Point" where there is a water trough for horses and a place to take a break. On the way back to camp riders visited Armadillo Pavilion with its overlook and appreciated the improvement project to the area completed recently by an Eagle Boy Scout candidate, Chase Jackson.

During the evening meal riders had fun visiting, meeting new and old friends who share the love of horses and riding.

Only five riders braved the cold for the morning ride. Back in by noon folks could head home. We were proud of all. The group earned a thumbs up from the park staff for leaving campsites cleaned up with no trace of horses.

Thank you to the Park Staff for all the help in getting this event put together. Another big Thanks to the gals who volunteered to have this event at the park: Sharon Olson, Cindy Middleton, Gail Metcalf. Thank you, Thank you.

Proceeds from the ride, meal and auction were donated to FoSASP.

Happy Trails, Y'all. Be safe in the heat.

Cya on the trail, Linda Ashton



BETWEEN THE BARS

The 2022 Texas Police Games

BY STEVE NELSON

The 2022 Texas Police Games were held in San Angelo. Multiple athletic competitions were held in various venues. The Bicycle Race event utilized the trails on the north end of San Angelo State Park.

"I volunteered as a course marshal through San Angelo Bicycle Association," said Steve Nelson, FoSASP board member. "Several of us donned bright green shirts and were positioned along the trails. Riders did two laps on the five mile course."

"The park's "big hill" is hard to cycle up once, but to do it twice was exhausting."

Texas Police Games are well organized competitive events that enable commissioned police officers, firefighters, military (active and retired) the opportunity to compete with fellow officers. The games promote good physical condition through competitive athletic games and foster physical fitness and comradeship among peace officers since 1974.



Hiker moved to save Wildlife

A frequent visitor/hiker to SASP concerned about the critters has provided equipment to prevent drownings in water troughs.

The visitor (who insists on remaining anonymous) witnessed the demise of a skunk in one of the troughs. He researched, ordered, and paid for the escape ramps for every trough. There are many troughs and the ramps were not inexpensive.

"The skunk's death motivated me to find out about these ramps," he said "and for what it's worth, I noticed the ramps already saved a few bees and wasps from drowning in one of the tanks."

Ranger Mike Shapersteen installed the ramps and provided the photo.

Spotlight On a Volunteer

Linda Ashton

By Laurel L. Scott

Linda Ashton, vice president of Friends of San Angelo State Park, was a fan of riding the trails even before the state park was created in 1995 from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers property.

"I'd gone there before it was ever a state park, riding dirt bikes," Ashton said. "We used to have motorcycle races out there before everything got locked up. Those trails were not the same as the trails we have now. They're much better now."

Born and raised in Santa Cruz, Calif., Linda's first love was riding horses. "My parents raised and showed Arabians and did trail rides," she said.

Linda came to Texas in 1972 and settled in Water Valley.

"I got here as quick as I could," she said. "I've been here longer than I was in California. I consider myself a Texan."

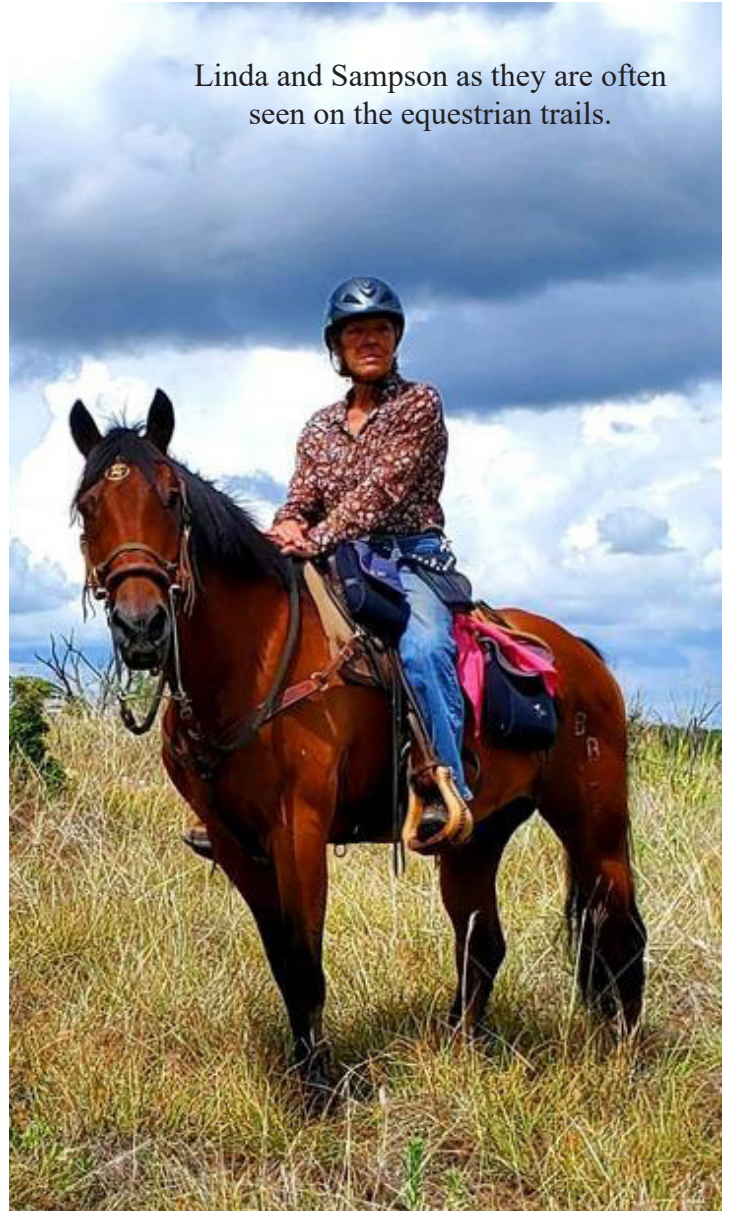
Her interest in riding motorcycles and dirt bikes was a natural extension of her work interests. "I was a motorcycle safety instructor for twenty years for the state," she said. "When I was working, I was the coordinator for Crime Stoppers for twenty-eight years, a civilian position working with the San Angelo Police Department."

In 2006, she got back to her love of horses. "I went on the first trail ride, a precursor to the Monarch Trail Ride, though it wasn't at the park," Linda said. "That's how I met a lot of the gals in FoSASP who are riders: Liz Jones, Gail Metcalf, Ruth Jordan, and Judy Hight." She's had her trail horse, Sampson, since 2006. As a member of TETRA (Texas Equestrian Trail Riders Association), she has organized several TETRA trail rides at SASP.

Judy was chairman of the Monarch Trail Ride, which was created as a spring fundraising event for Friends. When Judy wanted to pass the job on, she asked Linda to take over. She said yes.

Linda became chairman of another annual event, Silver Bluebonnet Day, the same way, saying yes. She also handled public relations and membership chairman roles before be-

Linda and Sampson as they are often seen on the equestrian trails.



coming vice president.

She lives in the Tom Green County community of Quail Valley with her husband of 26 years, Terry.

In 2020, she had a rough year with a health crisis, but she is fully recovered now.

"The Friends group was a big support," Linda said. "They got me out and back on horseback as soon as possible."

Linda, coordinator for Silver Bluebonnet Day event for senior citizens, greeting some of over one hundred guests who arrived for the picnic lunch, exhibits and self-guided driving tour.

Photo by Sandy Pedersen



FRIENDS OF SASP

Roger and Annamargaret Anderson
 Linda Ashton
 Ray and Judy Benton
 Lea Beyerlein
 Robert Bluthardt
 Gary Bowers
 Arelle Brininstool
 Wanda Brothers
 Cary Brown & Sue Wetzel
 Joan and FG Brown
 David Busker
 Theresa Cain
 Caroline and Bob Carpenter
 Jerry and Christi Chambers
 Ilene Cooper
 Christopher Daniels
 Laurie Jean Dickmeyer
 Martha Dolliver
 Mary Ellen Douthit
 Esther Douthit
 Dorothy Douthit and Lisa Truesdell
 Rebecca Duncan
 Shane Dunlap
 Lisa Freeman
 Mary Golder
 Laurie and Mike Hampton

Jackie and Judy Hight
 Patricia Hines
 Sarah Howell
 Jana Jenkins
 MS Jernigan
 Liz and Jeanne Jones
 John and Ruth Jordan
 Sheryl Kanaga
 Jake Landers
 Kathy and Russ Libby
 Patrick Malloy
 Dean and Lisa McInturff
 Larry McMurtrey
 Travis and Irene Meitzen
 Gail Metcalf and Wade Potts
 Jerry and Cindy Middleton
 Deola Mitts
 Ed and Cat Nelson
 Steve Nelson
 Sharon Olson
 Dee Osteen
 Pete and Sandy Pedersen
 CV and Marquarite Pickett
 Kay Pierce
 Jackie and Kenneth Prescott
 Amanda Razani

Jeanette Kay Reviere
 Brownie Roberts
 San Angelo Garden Club
 Laurel Scott
 Sally Scott
 Debra & Robert Shannon
 John Talley
 Thomas Taylor
 Rick Temple
 Lisa Tumlinson
 Bertha Darlyne Vieter
 Terry Wallace
 Polly Waterhouse
 Cynthia Watkins
 David and Deborah Watson
 Joe & Linda Weaver
 Linda White
 Robbie Wilson
 Martha Yarbrow
 Rebecca Young

Sponsor Members

DeCoty Coffee
 Jody Gentry / Media Jaws
 San Angelo Electric Motor Repair

FRIENDS OF SAN ANGELO STATE PARK Membership Application

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 Telephone _____
 Email _____

Mail to: **Friends of SASP**
3900-2 Mercedes • San Angelo, TX 76901

_____ Regular Member (\$25)
 _____ Senior Member (\$20)
 _____ Organization (\$35)
 _____ Business Bronze (\$50)
 _____ Business Silver (\$100)
 _____ Family (\$40)
 _____ Senior Family (\$30)
 _____ Student & Military (\$15)
 Additional Donation \$ _____

NOT FORGOTTEN - John Olson

Many Friends will remember John as a regular visitor and supporter of San Angelo State park.
 John often brought his wife Dorothy for outings in the outdoors and they were regular guests at the Annual Meeting and Fish Fry.
 John had many talents including making ceramic bird houses that he donated to the park.
 A substantial donation honored her passing in 2005 and was used to build the park's amphitheater.
 A perfect gentleman, John was 99 years old.
 Rest in Peace, Our Friend



FRIENDS OF SAN ANGELO STATE PARK

3900-2 MERCEDES
SAN ANGELO, TEXAS 76901

KARI IS A STAR



Occasionally park staff and volunteers are recognized for their exceptional service with the TPWD **Stars in Our Parks** award. Kari was nominated by a colleague. The following is excerpted from the nomination document.

As a fellow employee and a former CSR, I have learned a great deal from Kari about customer care and providing excellent service. During both the easy and hard times of the job.

Kari Carreon arrived at San Angelo State Park during a hard time. The park staff was dealing with challenges of the pandemic and facing an extended period of being shorthanded. As Assistant Office Manager, Kari faced the challenges, keeping the gatehouse staffed and running efficiently.

The staff at the gatehouse has received numerous compliments about their work, kindness, and doing a great job in solving campers' and visitors' difficulties.

Kari is an extremely hard worker and great team leader. She will never ask a fellow employee to do a task that she is not willing or prepared to complete.

Kari is not just compassionate and supportive to her direct team but the entire park staff and is eager to lend a helpful hand anyway she can in seeing that the park achieves its mission in providing visitors with the best possible experience.



**Sunday, Sept. 11 6:00
North Shore Pavilion**

Members, Park staff and their guests enjoy a meal, receive a report of the years accomplishments and elect board members. Visit with friends and park staff and enjoy an evening sunset gathering.

FOSASP members will receive invitation in the mail.

RSVP and more information, call
Cindy at 325-234-5247

New Friends Welcome!

Open Web Page

