



The Strand Line

Message from our President

One of the largest coastal conferences was held in Galveston from October 22 to October 24, 2007, at the Galveston Island Convention Center located on the Seawall. The Texas Chapter was very pleased to participate in this great event. It was a joint effort by the ASBPA and GLO with the theme: "Caring for the Coast: Protecting, Enhancing, Preserving". There were more than 100 speakers who talked about various coastal issues covering topics on new structural technology, knowledge about shoreline restoration projects, and current trends along the coast. There was a great exhibit program which lead into networking opportunities with public and private organizations and associations discussing their types of programs to combat erosion.

After the conference, the Texas Chapter had a quarterly meeting at the Convention Center. There were reports from the Technical, Communications, Membership, and Legislative Committees as well as a report from the GLO on CEPRA V, CIAP, and CMP funding programs for coastal erosion projects. One topic the Texas Chapter discussed is refuse on the beach, which comes in two forms - seaweed and trash. Texas coastal communities spend millions of dollars every year cleaning the beaches and we need a unified effort to bring the costs down and to seek funding help from Austin.

Seaweed is washed onto our beaches in the spring and finishes mid summer. If seaweed is not harvested properly,

our beaches could be damaged. There are new methods to remove the seaweed without massive loss of sand and minimal affect to the beach profile.

Trash is a major problem. Many of us are surprised in how the public leaves trash on the beach daily. We are delighted with the GLO's "Adopt a Beach" program twice a year that is very effective and moves tons of trash off the beach. It's the remaining 50 weekends that the coastal communities need to address in an effective method to have the assistance of the public to keep the beaches clean and to dispose of trash in a receptacle. The Texas Chapter through a new committee, Texas Clean Beaches, will work with the coastal communities to develop a program that engages the public to be more cognizant of litter and debris on the beach. The end result is when the public leaves the beach, they leave only their footprints. Since the entire State of Texas uses the beaches, we need funding from Austin to educate the public regarding the trash issue. We also need the help of TxDOT to advertise more frequently near the coastal areas "Don't Mess with Texas".

Again Texas coastal communities need to band together through the Texas Chapter as one voice in addressing the erosion and refuse problems of our shorelines.

— Jerry Mohn,
President of Texas Chapter ASBPA
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DUNE RESTORATION CLINIC

MARCH 22nd 10:00am to NOON

Galveston Island State Park

All Volunteers Welcome!!!

- Learn about sand dune ecology
- Experts from Texas A&M and University of Rhode Island present to answer questions.

THE TEXAS CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN SHORE & BEACH PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

A YEAR IN REVIEW WITH PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

WHAT WE ACCOMPLISHED IN 2007

- 80th Legislative Session, the Texas Chapter was involved in:
 - Securing the largest ever funds (\$18 million) for the Coastal Erosion Planning and Response Act (CEPRA) Cycle 5 program.
 - Increasing the funds from the Sporting Goods sales tax to the Texas Parks & Wildlife.
 - Supporting legislation not to increase wind-storm insurance rates for coastal properties.
 - Supporting HB 1602 which passed and stops frivolous lawsuits in Jones Act cases for dredging firms.
 - Providing support letters of request from various Texas Coastal communities for CEPRA V and CIAP funding.
- Worked with the General Land Office (GLO) on:
 - off shore sand sources
 - funds for shoreline restoration projects
- Worked with the American Shore & Beach Preservation Association (ASBPA) and the General Land Office (GLO) on the joint ASBPA/GLO Conference in Galveston, which had the largest attendance ever.
- Created a new Committee, Texas Clean Beaches Committee, to evaluate the best methods in handling seaweed and trash pick up programs.
- Supported the ASBPA Federal Legislative efforts
- Increased membership to over 150 verses 39 when we started in 2005. About 50 joined as a result of the Fall Conference.
- Obtained 9 corporate sponsors

PROGRAM OF WORK FOR 2008

- Adopt a resolution to support the ASBPA Legislative efforts
- Encourage Texas Coastal Communities to adopt a similar resolution to support the ASBPA Legislative Agenda
- Pass the WRDA Bill
- Secure funding sources for shoreline restoration projects
- Work with the Texas coastal communities in submitting project goal summary's for the Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) and CEPRA
- Find a funding source for the Coastal Protection and Improvement Bill to introduce during the 81st Legislative session.
- Be an advocate for any issue or concern of Texas Chapter members
- Facilitate meetings and secure funding with State and Federal agencies on beach and marsh restoration projects
- Develop a legislative agenda for the 2009 81st Texas Legislature
- Increase membership and retain members
- Revise Articles of Incorporation to reflect the Texas Coastal Communities
- Elect Officers and Board Members
- Hold quarterly meetings for the Texas Chapter
- Build a new website
- Seek five new corporate sponsors

NEW JETTY DESIGN FOR THE MOUTH OF THE COLORADO RIVER MATAGORDA COUNTY, TEXAS

The Galveston District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is designing a new jetty in support of a reliable shallow-draft channel at the Mouth of the Colorado River (MCR), TX. The Mouth of Colorado River is located on Matagorda Peninsula approximately 90 miles southwest of Galveston. A weir jetty system was installed at the MCR between 1988- 1990 which was designed to allow sand to flow into a sediment trap where it could be safely dredged in the lee of the jetties. A sediment training structure was built in 2003 to improve the sediment trapping function but it only temporarily reduced shoaling of the inlet. The site has since experienced excessive sediment shoaling that has denied full project features to navigation channel users.

An upcoming report to be published by the USACE Engineering Research and Design Center concluded that the existing jetties at the MCR are not performing as intended primarily because (1) the Colorado River was diverted to Matagorda Bay in 1992 as part of an environmental restoration project, reducing hydraulic forcing through the inlet, (2) the jetty spacing of (1370 ft) appears to be too large and the weir

section is too long. The preferred solution is to construct a new east jetty parallel to and 500 ft from the west jetty. A presentation by Dr. Ernest R. Smith at the 2007 ASBPA national conference showed that continued bypassing of sand from the east to the west around the jetties will be required to prevent significant interruption of sediment transport along that section of Coast.

The Galveston District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) plans to finish final design and required environmental/regulatory documentation of the new jetty by spring of 2008. Construction is planned to start as soon as funding is available.

— Rob Thomas



TEXASASBPA

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***Preserving and Enhancing the
Texas Coast***

Visit us online at:
www.texasasbpa.org

The American Shore & Beach Preservation Association recognizes that the shores, beaches and other coastal resources of America provide important quality-of-life assets within the reach of the largest possible number of people in accordance with the ideals of a democratic nation. This Association is dedicated to preserving, protecting and enhancing the beaches, shores and other coastal resources of America.

The Texas Chapter of ASBPA is dedicated to fulfilling this mission in the State of Texas. We are a member based advocacy organization. For more information on becoming a member, becoming a corporate sponsor, or becoming more active with the organization, please contact Jerry Mohn at the address to the left.

Please remember to visit our website at www.texasasbpa.org for more frequent updates on coastal happenings and the Texas Chapter of ASBPA. If you have information to submit for the website or newsletter please contact Jerry Mohn.

***Corporate Sponsorship costs
\$500 and provides for
recognition on Chapter website
and all publications & events.***

Upcoming Events

February 2008

- Feb. 27-29, 2008: ASBPA's 2008 Coastal Summit Conference
Washington D.C.
www.asbpa.org

July 2008

- Jun. 29-July 3, 2008: TCS 2008
The Coastal Society's 21st International Conference, Redondo Beach, CA
www.thecoastalsociety.org

September 2008

- Aug. 31-Sept. 5, 2008: ICCE 2008
International Conference on Coastal Engineering, Hamburg, Germany
[/icce2008.hamburg.baw.de/](http://icce2008.hamburg.baw.de/)

October 2008

- Oct. 11-15, 2008: 2008 RAE Conference
4th National Conference on Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration
Providence, Rhode Island
www.estuaries.org

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BE HEARD, BE PUBLISHED!

The TXASBPA Newsletter staff challenge our readers to submit articles for publication.

GUIDELINES:

- 500 to 1000 word articles (pictures welcomed)
- Word format (Garamond @ 10 font)
- Ensure permission to publish is granted.