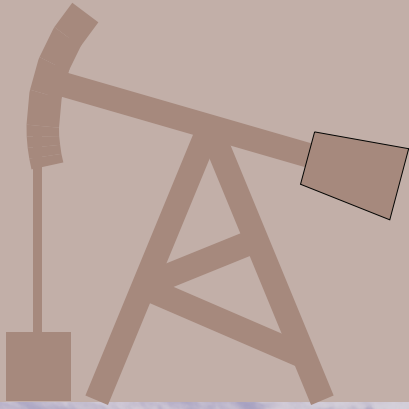


TEXAS LAND & MINERAL OWNERS  
ASSOCIATION



# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 23,  
NUMBER 2



INSIDE

UPDATE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THE ANYTHING BUT REGULAR 88TH  
LEGISLATIVE SESSION

POTENTIAL MEMBER COMMUNICATION  
TRANSITION FOR TLMA

UPCOMING DATES OF INTEREST

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL LEGISLATIVE  
SESSION FOR LAND AND MINERAL OWNERS

2023 STATEWIDE MEMBERS MEETING  
INFORMATION

[WWW.TLMA.ORG](http://WWW.TLMA.ORG)

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Chairman James C. Broussard**

*J.E. Broussard Heirs O&G, LP; LaBelle Properties Ltd.*

**Vice Chairman & Chairman-Elect  
Tom Daniel**

*Six Mountain Partners LP*

**Treasurer E.O. "Trey" Scott, III**

*Trinity Mineral Management*

**John D. Alexander, Jr.**

*King Ranch, Inc.*

**Carolyn Frost Keenan**

*Keenan Family Interests*

**Chairman Kimberley K. McTee**

*Catharine C. Whittenburg Trusts; Turkey Track Ranch*

**Barry Coates Roberts**

*Coates Energy Trust*

**Lorin Runnels**

*EIA Properties, Ltd. & Stag Holdings, Ltd*

**James P. "Rick" Walker, Sr.**

*Huisache Cattle Co., Ltd.*

**R. Neal Wilkins**

*East Foundation*

## **DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES**

**Dr. John S. Baen**—*Univ. of North Texas*

**Clay C. Cash**—*Triple C Properties LLC*

**Leslie el-Effendi**—*Catharine C.*

*Whittenburg Trusts*

**Amy Stieren**—*The Stieren Ranch*

## **ADVISORY DIRECTORS**

Joseph B.C. Fitzsimons

John B. McFarland

Howard P. Newton

George J. Person

Dr. Kitty-Sue Quinn

## **HONORARY DIRECTORS**

The Honorable Dolph Briscoe\*

Jack Hunt

Roger Welder

J.A. Whittenburg, III\*

The Honorable Cullen Looney

Doug Beveridge

Chaunce Thompson, Jr.\*

Morgan Dunn O'Connor

Lica Pinkston

Scott Petty, Jr.

George Tanner

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Jennifer Bremer

## **UPDATE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Happy Summer!

I hope you all are enjoying some time with family and friends. We were blessed with such a mild and wet May, but this June has really turned the heat on!

The legislative session was one for the books, literally, as you'll read in the coming pages. There's not a lot to report on the TLMA front because the "big" bills we were working on didn't pass. While that sounds negative, it's positive. Our efforts focused on ensuring the bills we negotiated were less harmful. I've outlined a few of the bills on page 4 of the newsletter.

Now that the regular legislative session is complete and the special sessions are extremely targeted issues, it's time to move on to membership development and event opportunities. I'll spend a large part of late summer traveling. I'll be at the NARO-TX Convention in late July. Then, in early August, I'll be at the Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course.

In between all of this, I'll be planning the 2023 TLMA Statewide Members Meeting. I'm working to secure some fantastic speakers and am excited for you all to hear what they have to say. I'll post the deadlines in the back pages, but it's never too late to register or sponsor! Sponsorships are for both underwriting the event as well as specific aspects of the day. We have set a lofty goal for this year, and can use all the support we can receive! I am extremely grateful for those who continue to sponsor year after year and look forward to welcoming new sponsors to our team.

Due to a scheduling conflict, we will be moving the location of the cocktail reception. Please stay tuned for more information on our new location!

Look for me at the coming events, say hi, and most importantly, bring your friends by to sign up!



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

## THE ANYTHING BUT REGULAR 88TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Early last fall, there was a sense of hope returning to the 88th Legislative session. It was to return to what we, those who work here everyday, perceive as “normal” following a nearly 100% virtual 87th legislative session in 2021. Not only were we sorely mistaken, but I don’t think anyone would have imagined the 88th session went as it did. The 88th Regular session was far from regular, and records continue to be broken.

The “big three” - governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker—were all re-elected. Chairman appointments in both the House and Senate were uneventful.

During his inaugural and State of the State addresses, Governor Abbott outlined his priorities. Lt. Governor Patrick and Speaker Phelan followed shortly after. The major issues aligned, however, the methods to accomplish these priorities would prove to be the sticking point. A session that started out hopeful for most, quickly turned and reality set in.

This session found a different pace than the past. The Senate began passing priority bills very early in the session. The House moved at a slower pace, but still passed bills, and did most of the work in the last 30 days. It is important to note that none of the emergency items set forth by the governor were not passed in the first 60 days as constitutionally allowed.

Record number 1 of the 88th legislative session occurred the day before session began. Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced a historic budget surplus of \$32.7 billion dollars. With that large of an expected surplus, the legislature would be able to fund a very strong base budget, special projects, agency requests and provide property tax relief to Texans.

Record number 2, came on day 60 with a record number of bills being filed. The final bill count for the 88th regular session is 8,345—5,619 House Bills and 2,726 Senate Bills. This is the first time there were over 5,000 house bills filed.

In addition to policy issue debates, in late April, the House General Investigating & Ethics Committee announced it received a complaint regarding inappropriate behavior between a member and staffer. After an investigation, scathing report, and vote in the House of 147-0, Bryan Slaton was expelled from the Texas House of Representatives. This is the first time since 1927 a member has been expelled.

Then, in late May, the House General Investigating & Ethics Committee announced that, following a months long investigation, they planned to hold an impeachment vote on Attorney General Ken Paxton. On a Saturday afternoon, the House of Representatives voted to impeach Attorney General Paxton. In late June, the Senate announced the date and rules for the impeachment trial. The trial will begin on September 5, 2023.

The last week of session is always full of deadlines, compromises and threats of a special session. However, this session seemed to include many priority bills and big ticket items—including property tax reduction and electricity market design. The Senate was firm in wanting an increase in the homestead exemption and the House was firm in appraisal caps.

At the stroke of midnight on the 139th day, no deal was made. On the 140th and final day, the House and Senate adjourned, and were called back a few hours later with the first special session proclamation from Governor Abbott to address property taxes and border security. The House came back, passed both bills, and promptly adjourned sine die. The Senate remains in session.

## THE ANYTHING BUT REGULAR 88TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION CONT.

The Governor has promised as many special sessions as needed to pass a property tax reduction. The First Called Session ends on June 28.

June 18—the 20th day following the end of the regular legislative session—is the final day that the Governor can veto a bill or else it becomes law. In total, Governor Abbott vetoed 76 bills—the second most in Texas history. Former Governor Rick Perry holds the record with 83 vetoes. The vast majority of the vetoes came in the last 3 days of the veto period.

So, while the regular session adjourned, we're back in session, and there are still a lot of very important decisions to be made by lawmakers.

## POTENTIAL MEMBER COMMUNICATION TRANSITION FOR TLMA

Earlier this year, TLMA announced the debut of a monthly electronic newsletter in addition to the quarterly printed newsletter with the intent to transition away from a quarterly newsletter to annual magazine.

Over the years, we've found that information is coming at a much faster pace and in greater quantities than a quarterly newsletter can allow us to distribute effectively. For example, an article distributed in January may be stale by March when the newsletter is distributed.

By making this transition, we will be able to distribute more articles, longer articles and in a more timely manner. The magazine would be distributed at a time that would allow for the inclusion of all Statewide Members Meeting Materials.

We believe that a vast majority of our members have access to email communications, however our goal is always to **BEST** serve you. If you have any reservations or concerns about the transition, please email [execdir@tlma.org](mailto:execdir@tlma.org).

## UPCOMING DATES OF INTEREST

July 26-29, 2023—NARO-TX Convention, San Antonio

August 7-9, 2023—TAMU Beef Cattle Short Course, College Station

August 9, 2023—Final Day to Increase Membership Level to Attend Cocktail Reception

August 22, 2023—RRC Open Meeting

September 14, 2023—Final Day to Sponsor Meeting and Be Included in Printed Materials

September 22, 2023—RRC Open Meeting Early Registration Ends

Wednesday, October 4, 2023—2023 TLMA Statewide Members Meeting Cocktail Reception, San Antonio

Thursday, October 5, 2023—2023 TLMA Statewide Members Meeting, McNay Art Museum

Registration for all of these events are available online.

The RRC open meetings can be viewed online at [https://www.adminmonitor.com/tx/rrc/open\\_meeting/](https://www.adminmonitor.com/tx/rrc/open_meeting/).



## ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL LEGISLATIVE SESSION FOR MINERAL OWNERS

This session, while unpredictable on many fronts, was the best for land and mineral owners than in quite some time.

I feel a little bit like a broken record, but I am extremely proud of the progress that TLMA has made in our legislative impact in the past few years. Below is a condensed list of bills that impact TLMA members. This is not a comprehensive list, but you can find a list of all the bills we tracked online.

### Carbon Sequestration

SB 2107 by Senator Robert Nichols (HB 4484 by Chairman Greg Bonnen)—Relating to the ownership of the pore space underlying the surface of land. The negotiations for SB 2107 began in the early fall of 2022. The bill began with provisions including pore space ownership, integration (forced pooling), and liability transfer affecting land and mineral owners. After months of negotiations, Senator Nichols chose to move forward a bill that only defined pore space and designated the surface owner as the pore space owner. The condensed version of the bill passed the Senate, was referred to the House Energy Resources Committee, but was never heard in the committee. **Failed due to lack of hearing in House Committee.**

HB 4557 by Representative Drew Darby—Relating to liability for capturing and storing carbon dioxide. This bill would release all involved parties in carbon sequestration from a significant amount of liability. TLMA opposed this bill and testified against it, along with many other landowner associations. This bill passed out of the House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence Committee and was heard on the House floor. A rule violation, also known as a point of order, was called, and Representative Darby chose to postpone the bill until January 2024. Representative Darby filed the omnibus bill, but there were other versions of the bill that were also filed. **All bills failed.**

### Geothermal Energy

SB 785 by Chairman Brian Birdwell (HB 1336 by Representative Drew Darby) - Relating to the ownership of and certain insurance policy provisions regarding the geothermal energy and associated resources below the surface of land. As the geothermal energy industry develops in Texas, the industry felt they needed clarification on who owned that energy. The bill designated the surface owner as the owner of geothermal energy. TLMA supported this bill and was highly influential in the language that passed. There were other interested parties that wanted to add harmful provisions. **Effective immediately (6/18/2023).**

HB 4256 by Representative Andy Murr—Relating to the establishment of a grant program to plug leaking water wells in certain counties. HB 4256 creates a grant program to begin plugging leaking water wells, not specifically P-13 wells. **Effective immediately (6/18/2023).**

Additional bills of interest to land and mineral owners that passed are the right to farm bills and constitutional amendment. The constitutional amendment, HJR 126 by Representative Burns and Chairman Charles Perry will be on the ballot during the November election.

## 2023 STATEWIDE MEMBERS MEETING INFORMATION

We hope you will join us at the 2023 TLMA Statewide Member's Meeting! The day long meeting will be held at the beautiful McNay Art Museum in San Antonio. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. but registration and exhibitor booths will open at 8 am.

After our meeting last year, we found hosting the exhibitor spaces in the meeting room was beneficial for everyone. We have already reserved the maximum number of exhibitor spaces and have a waiting list, but if you're interested, please email [execdir@tlma.org](mailto:execdir@tlma.org). *There are still an unlimited amount of sponsorship opportunities available.* Help us by sponsoring breakfast, the afternoon break, educational opportunities, and more!

An agenda, including any proposed bylaw changes, will be provided in the next newsletter, but will be available on the website and announced via email.

**Registration is open.** A registration form is available on the following page. You may register online at - [www.tlma.memberclicks.net/2023smm](http://www.tlma.memberclicks.net/2023smm).

If you would like to attend the cocktail reception, the deadline to increase your dues is August 9. Email [info@tlma.org](mailto:info@tlma.org) for more information.



**WE HAVE MOVED!**

The 2023 TLMA Statewide Members Meeting host hotel is **HOTEL** Estancia del Norte San Antonio, a Tapestry Collection by Hilton.

37 NE LOOP 410, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78216

The deadline to reserve a room under our hotel block is **Monday, September 4, 2023** and a link is available online.



*Sponsors*

**2023 STATEWIDE MEMBERS MEETING**

*Exhibitors*

Barron, Adler, Clough, & Oddo, LLP  
Bissett Ranch Partnership  
East Foundation  
Huisache Land & Minerals  
Petty Group, LLP  
Uhl Fitzsimons

Argent Mineral Management  
MineralWare  
RL Royalty Consulting  
Uhl Fitzsimons  
Valor Mineral Management

**LUNCH IS GRACIOUSLY PROVIDED BY CALDWELL, EAST AND FINLAYSON**

# REGISTRATION FORM



**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2023 MCNAY ART MUSEUM, SAN ANTONIO**

The Texas Land & Mineral Owners Association will host the 2023 Statewide Members Meeting in-person at the McNay Art Museum in San Antonio this fall. The meeting is an all-day event featuring outstanding speakers who present information on a variety of topics affecting your land and mineral interests. You will have the opportunity to meet fellow TLMA members, connect with old friends, and share stories over breakfast and lunch. In addition, attendees can visit with select exhibitors who offer products or services related to land and mineral ownership.

### Registration Information

Registration for the TLMA Statewide Members Meeting is available online at [www.tlma.org](http://www.tlma.org) or by mailing this form with your check to TLMA. You may also pay by credit card over the phone by calling TLMA at (512) 479-5000.

The registration cost listed for non-member registrants includes a one-year TLMA membership at the Individual level. If you would like to join at a higher level, please include the additional amount and the level at which you'd like to join in the memo line of your check.

#### Early Registration Prices: (before September 22)

Individual Member	\$125
Non-Member	\$190

#### Registration Prices: (after September 22)

Individual Member	\$135
Non-Member	\$200

### 2023 TLMA Statewide Members Meeting Registration

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Organization/Ranch Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to TLMA and mail to 1005 Congress Ave., Suite 360, Austin, TX 78701

**TEXAS LAND & MINERAL OWNERS ASSOCIATION**  
**WWW.TLMA.ORG**  
**1005 CONGRESS AVE. STE. 360 AUSTIN, TX 78701**



Texas Land & Mineral Owners Association  
1005 Congress Avenue, Suite 360  
Austin, TX 78701

### TLMA Membership Information Form

I would like to join TLMA     I am a member, please update my contact info

*Please return to: TLMA, 1005 Congress Ave., Suite 360, Austin, TX 78701*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization/Ranch Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Referred by \_\_\_\_\_

#### Don't forget!

If there is a change in your contact information, update TLMA and avoid delays in receiving your newsletter, renewal, and other correspondence.

To update your member information, call Robbie at (512) 479-5000, mail in this form, or log in to your member account online at [www.tlma.org](http://www.tlma.org).

Find more information, join TLMA, or renew your membership online at [www.tlma.org](http://www.tlma.org)