
Fwd: CCCA February 2024 Conservation Insider

Comal County Conservation Alliance <info@comalconservation.org>
To: Comal County Conservation Alliance <info@comalconservation.org>

Wed, Mar 6, 2024 at 1:01 PM



Conservation Insider

February 2024

Hello, CCCA Friends, Partners, and Volunteers,

How about this RAIN!!!! After such a prolonged period of drought. I almost forgot the sound of rain hitting my metal roof. This edition of the Conservation Insider is filled with excitement and stories of how Comal County Conservation Alliance is advancing conservation across our communities. As you read about our work, I hope you consider how you can engage with our group. As we work to bring our communities together to preserve land, water, and wildlife we need you more than ever.

We need your help building a coalition of like-minded community members who support common sense conservation measures that work to ensure the natural systems that fuel our economies and sustain our communities forever.

Remain steadfast in your efforts to support conservation here at home.

Volunteer your time too, **Donate** in support of, **Speak Up** on behalf of, and **Explore** the incredible natural systems that define our communities. The Hill Country needs you. If you feel like I do, that we need to protect these incredible resources now, then please consider joining our **Comal Outsiders**, a special group of donors providing vital ongoing support, by making a recurring donation in support CCCA on our website today!

Ryan K Spencer
Executive Director
Comal County Conservation Alliance

Give Now

CCCA NEWS

Live Oak Planted at Landa Park to Honor Former CCCA Board President



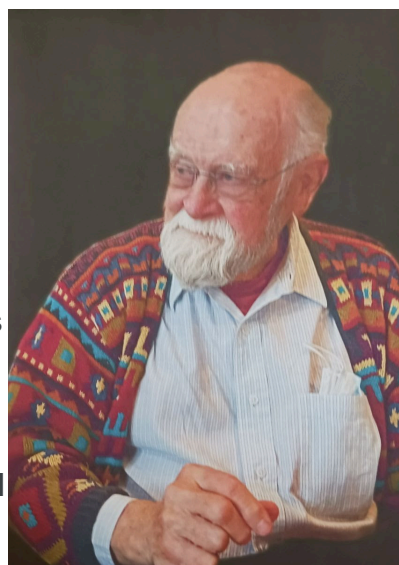
On January 25, CCCA's board, staff, and volunteers gathered in Landa Park to honor former board President and CCCA founding member, Elizabeth Bowerman, by planting and dedicating a tree in her honor. In Executive Director, Ryan K. Spencer's words, "This live oak, the longtime symbol of strength, endurance, and our work couldn't be a more appropriate commemoration of your efforts."

[Click to Read More](#)

Board Spotlight: Frank Dietz, Director at Large

Join us each month as we learn more about our board, their motivations, and their dreams for the future of Comal County Conservation Alliance.

This month we spoke with Frank Dietz, Director at Large. Prior to bringing his board skills to CCCA, Frank served nearly a decade and half as Executive Director of an ecumenical statewide nonprofit that worked common religious issues, ten years as Chair of the Board at Huston-Tillotson University in Austin, on national religious and service efforts, and worked with another global effort commission.



How long have you lived in Comal County and what brought you here?

We built our retirement "contemporary barn haus" on the upper back end of Twin Oaks Pantermuehl Ranch in 2004-5. Retirement began on Thanksgiving of 05. Our move-in was in Spring of 06 as construction and permit delays held us up modestly. Karen accessed her small piece of the TOPR legacy as we settled in with an initial agenda to establish a friendly haus environment to age in welcoming others and our "grands" while establishing a friendship with wildlife and pasture life surrounding us. The native flora and fauna have gifted and challenged us ever since.

What do you love most about the Hill Country?

[Click for full spotlight.](#)



Looking for a way to help protect Comal's rivers and springs?

Preserving Comal County's natural beauty and rural character is a job for the whole community. Won't you join the effort? CCCA is looking for volunteers to help advance the conservation work in Comal County by helping CCCA in one of the following areas:

- Event Planning
- Website Maintenance

Interested candidates should submit their contact information and interests here: [Become a Volunteer](#)

OR


Support CCCA's effort to the effort to preserve land, water, and wildlife in Comal County by making donation today!

Give Now

SAVE THE DATE

March Community Program "One Water in Comal County"

<https://www.comalconservation.org>




COMAL COUNTY
CONSERVATION
ALLIANCE

One Water in Comal County

Tuesday March 12
6:00 - 7:30 PM

One Water principles consider all water valuable-
stormwater, commercial, industrial, wastewater, drinking water;
finding new uses for existing water, including water re-use,
all designed to maximize water resources.



-Robin Gary
NBU One Water Coordinator

801 W. San Antonio St
New Braunfels, TX 78130
McKenna Events Center

WHAT: Robin Gary, **NBU One Water Coordinator** will join CCCA to talk about "One Water in Comal County"

WHEN: Tuesday, March 12, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

WHERE: McKenna Events Center, 801 W. San Antonio Street, New Braunfels, TX 78130.

Dinosaur Day 2024

Be sure to bring your family to Dinosaur Day and stop by our outreach booth for a kid-friendly, interactive demonstration on water recharge in the Edwards Aquifer.

DINOSAUR DAY THE HERITAGE MUSEUM OF THE TEXAS HILL COUNTRY

2024

An amazing educational event for kids & dinosaur lovers of all ages!

\$5 PER PERSON Tickets will be available the day of event.

DATE: SAT, MARCH 23
TIME: NOON TO 4 PM

Guest Speaker Thomas Adams from the Witte Museum, Dinosaur Trackway Tours, Fossil Ridge Tours, Activities for Kids, Food, Local Organizations, and much more!

The Heritage Museum of the Texas Hill Country
4831 FM 2673
Canyon Lake, TX 78133

theheritagemuseum.com
830-899-4542
museum@gvtc.com

WHEN: Saturday, March 23, 12:00 - 4:00 PM

WHERE: The Heritage Museum of the Texas Hill County



CCCA H-Z JANUARY COLUMN

"Lest We Forget: Precious Water is Vital!"

by Frank Dietz, for the H-Z February 3, 2024

How wondrous has been our recent drought-denting rainfall! With more winter in front of us, "it's fresh like Spring." The pastures and our yard where we live are finally green. May 2024 be notably wet.

My first Texas employment was in “Aggieland” located in Brazos County. Among many interesting folk was a young faculty person at Texas A&M who also served as a specialist with the Extension Service (now AgriLife). In a presentation to rural and small-town pastors the specialist spoke to us about “Aqua Amnesia.” As a native of New Orleans and years growing up on the Gulf Coast, I found it curious to hear about how frustratingly dry things can be in Texas. The presenter convincingly described the 1950’s of his adolescence when the A&M campus and much of Texas were scorched to a crisp with little vegetation surviving. He got a laughing response when he said, “our sacred Kyle Field where football rules was a standout exhibit of green amidst all the brown surroundings.” He pointed out that in the late 1960’s a vast hurricane had “greened up” just about everything. The concern he expressed was that measures that were undertaken during drought times and even legislation to address water deficits “evaporated” rapidly in a state of “aqua amnesia.” Many rushed back to old consumption practices for irrigation, drilling, industrial, and household uses as if it was a time for “no worry” going forward. We can hope that the recently dry riverbeds of our Texas Hill Country and dropping water tables will not be ignored going forward...

[Click to Read Full Article.](#)



IN OTHER NEWS

McKenna Foundation Seeks Community Input

The McKenna Foundation continuously strives to learn as much as possible about the community. How best to invest resources needs to be informed from multiple perspectives.

As part of this effort, the foundation is updating their community needs survey. Your input on this eight-item survey will help the Foundation shape future investments in area nonprofit organizations for the community’s benefit.

[McKenna Foundation 2024 Community Needs Survey](#)

GEAA Water Wonks Lecture #2

Don't miss Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance's Water Wonks Hour Lecture Series #2: "Use Of Comprehensive Models For Targeting Green Stormwater

Infrastructure." with speaker, Sheeba Thomas, San Antonio River Authority Senior Technical Engineer.

[Register to attend Water Wonks](#)

[Visit our website for more news you can use!](#)

Working to preserve land, water, and wildlife in Comal County!

Comal County Conservation Alliance

<https://www.comalconservation.org/>

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Thank you for being a FRIEND OF CCCA!

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newsletter using the share button below!



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Comal County Conservation Alliance

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Canyon Lake, TX 78133





www.comalconservation.org
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