

# **Texas Rabbit Breeders Association, Inc.**



**Annual Membership  
Meeting**

**April 1, 2023**

# Texas Rabbit Breeders Association, Inc. Annual Membership Meeting

## April 1, 2023, Order of Business

1. Meeting Call to Order - President Teresa De Sautell
2. Roll Call of Officers - Secretary Amber Tondre
3. Welcome Members, Special Guests - President Teresa De Sautell
4. Approval of April 9, 2022, General Membership Minutes - Printed on the following pages 3 - 4
5. Secretary Reports: Membership Report, Life Membership Report, Affiliated Clubs, Pages 5-6
6. Treasurer Financial Reports - Gay Sparks - followed by approval of Treasurer Reports. These reports are printed on pages 7 – 11, including 2021 FYE, TRBA Scholarship Fund Five Year Comparison Report, General Fund Five Year Comparison Report and Show Income.
7. Various Committee Reports: TRBA State Show Report and Financial - Gay Sparks, Equipment Inventory - Jeff Tondre, Newsletter - Amy Mersiovsky, Youth Committee - Jennifer Schimpf (see attachment pg.13), Promotional and Membership Services Committee – Griff Harris.  
**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE REPORTS ARE NOT BEING ORALLY PRESENTED AS THEY HAVE BEEN MADE AVAILABLE IN THIS PACKET. HOWEVER, MEMBERS WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS. THIS IS BEING DONE IN AN EFFORT TO EXPEDITE THE MEETING FOR THOSE WHO ARE PLANNING TO ATTEND THE BANQUET OR HAVE OTHER PLANS.**
8. Other Committee Reports: Are not available yet and will be sent to the TRBA BOD when they are received.
9. Old Business:
  - TRBA 2022 Fall Show - December 2 – 3, 2022 - Killeen, TX
  - TRBA 2022 State Show Belton, TX
10. Election: President, Secretary & Two (2) Director's offices are to be elected on odd years. Petitions were due by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Only one petition was received for President, Teresa De Sautell and one petition for Secretary, Amber Tondre. Two Directors petitions were received, Beth Manglberger-Hughes, and Amy Mersiovsky. You will find all biographies at the end of this pamphlet, Pages 15 - 18. They may be elected by acclamation.
11. New Business:
12. Any other Business for the good of the order:
13. Adjournment

Note: The order of agenda items may be adjusted as needed.

### ROLL CALL of OFFICERS

TRBA General Membership Meeting – April 1, 2023

President – Teresa De Sautell \_\_\_\_\_, Vice President – Tammy Wheat \_\_\_\_\_,

Secretary – Amber Tondre \_\_\_\_\_, Treasurer – Gay Sparks \_\_\_\_\_,

Director – Darrell Keil \_\_\_\_\_, Director – Suzanne Hemsath \_\_\_\_\_,

Director – John Terry \_\_\_\_\_, Director – Beth Manglberger-Hughes \_\_\_\_\_,

Director – Katie Finch \_\_\_\_\_, Past President/Advisor – Don Mersiovsky \_\_\_\_\_

## 2022 TRBA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

Bell County Expo Center — Belton, TX — April 9, 2022

President Teresa DeSautell called the meeting to order at 4:29pm. The following officers responded to Roll Call: President – Teresa DeSautell, Vice President – Tammy Wheat, Secretary – Amber Tondre, Treasurer – Gay Sparks, Director – Elise Geter, Director – Beth Manglberger, Director - Mary Jo Terry and Past President/Advisor – Don Mersiovsky.

President Teresa DeSautell opened the meeting by welcoming the membership and thanking them for their attendance. The minutes were published in the meeting packet and read by Amber Tondre and were approved by consent. Secretary reports (Membership, Membership Contest, Affiliated Clubs and Fairs) were given.

Griff Harris then stated that the Membership Committee is asking to increase the awards to \$30, \$25, and \$15.

Gay discussed the TRBA State Show Report and financials for 2021. All reported information is printed in the Agenda booklet. The beginning balance for the 2021 fiscal year was \$28,065.44 with an ending balance of \$36,354.68. The beginning balance for the TRBA Scholarship Savings account was \$27,441.00 with an ending balance of \$27,385.09. The CD is in the amount of \$33,000. Gay asked that members donate quality animals and buy raffle tickets so support the scholarship fund, and to contact her if there are any questions.

Committee reports were given. Mike Botello gave the Audit Report, which was held March 26, 2022. Amy Mersiovsky gave the Newsletter report, stating that a newsletter is sent out every quarter, and she put together a Christmas edition this year.

Amy also gave the Scholarship report. She stated that applications are due July 1<sup>st</sup>, and that members may reapply annually if they are continuing their education. Scholarships in 2021 were awarded to Kellie Tondre, Kelly Terry, Rachel Wills and Peyton Kvalheim. She noted that applicants must ensure that their applications are complete. Teresa noted that students should contact their school secretaries or counselors early to ensure that they can receive transcripts in a timely manner.

Jennifer Schimpf gave the Youth Committee report, including an attachment. She stated that 65 youth participated in the Contests this year and that she was thankful for all of the volunteers she had.

Under New Business, reminders were given regarding the TRBA Fall Show.

Moving on to the Election, all eligible members should have ballots to vote for Director positions. Applicants are John Terry, Suzanne Hemsath, Elise Geter and Katie Finch. Mike Sutton, Tony Bell and Lori Ann Winston counted the votes. John, Suzanne, and Katie were elected to Director positions.

Don Mersiovsky asked about the status of the Cajuns vs. Cowboys show. Teresa explained the status. She also noted that Joel Petrus donated to the Scholarship Fund and the Raffle this year.

Happy Carver stated that the website has greatly improved since last year. Jeff Tondre, the Webmaster, stated that the site had over 5,100 visits in its first year. This number does not count multiple hits by the same visitor on the same day. He is trying to keep shows updated and will update membership. He stated that a portion of the website does contain all the newsletters, but that it is hidden for now. He

will revisit this decision with the Board of Directors.

Under New Business, Elise Geter proposed a By-law amendment to Article 1, Membership, suggesting that all TRBA memberships be due by January 31<sup>st</sup> of each year and pro-rating new memberships throughout the year. Tony Bell called Point of Order, stating that the proposition needed to be presented to the Board of Directors before being brought to the membership. Teresa confirmed what Tony stated and then read Elise's proposition. Lori Ann Winston briefly explained how sweepstakes works. Elise reiterated that memberships should be streamlined so that all members expire at the same time and there is no confusion with expiration dates. Gay Sparks noted that the past two years were very abnormal with Covid 19 and then the change in leadership, including in the secretary's office, but noted that things are finally getting back to normal. Tammy Wheat noted that members would not get full credit for their membership if they joined mid-year. Elise stated that she had researched other professional membership programs. Kristen Floyd asked if there was a way to put out a Sweepstakes spreadsheet to keep up with points easier. Sue Chapman asked how to prorate memberships and noted that points will still be "off" due to the sweepstakes running from January to December. Teresa stated that there has been forgiveness with memberships but that it is time to take responsibility for your own membership expirations. William Geter stated that this is not about one person failing, but it gives more structure and is an attempt to streamline the process. Gary Sparks called the question and stated that the motion needed to be voted on, and that there needs to be a 2/3 vote. Beth Manglberger-Hughes stated that this was a valid idea but that it is an incomplete amendment and does not allow for prorating. Michael Botello asked if the membership was voting on the motion to be considered and the answer was that they are voting to pass/fail by a 2/3 vote. Gay called for the vote. Teresa stated that there were 4 members in favor and 61 opposed. The motion failed. Teresa suggested that Elise rewrite the motion and present it again at a later date.

Gary moved to adjourn the meeting. Gay seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:32.

Respectfully submitted by Amber Tondre, TRBA Secretary.

## **TRBA 2022 / 2023 MEMBERSHIP**

The TRBA as of March 31, 2022, had a total of 679 active members and as of March 15, 2023, had a total of 792. The following is the total breakdown of numbers of TRBA Memberships as of March 15, 2022.

### **March 2022**

101 Life members  
34 Husband/Wife members  
150 Single members  
256 Family members  
138 Couple - Same address members  
679 Total members

### **March 2023**

103 Life members  
35 Husband/Wife members  
171 Single members  
325 Family members  
158 Couple - Same address members  
792 Total members

TRBA Life Memberships Awarded March 2022 – March 2023

Kelvin Rueb

## **TRBA Affiliated Clubs 2023 (26)**

### **ALL BREED CLUBS**

*Alamo Area Rabbit Club*  
*Blackland Prairie Rabbit Breeders Assn.*  
*Johnson County Rabbit Breeders Assn.*  
*Llano Estacado Rabbit Breeders Assn.*  
*Mid-Tex Rabbit Breeders Assn.*  
*Southwest Rabbit Breeders Assn.*  
*Southwest Regional Rabbit Breeders Assn-TX.*

### **FAIRS:**

*Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo*  
*Southwestern Expo & Livestock Show*  
*State Fair of Texas*

### **BREED SPECIALTY CLUBS**

*Lone Star Cavy Club*  
*Lone Star Polish Rabbit Fanciers*  
*Southern Palomino RBA*  
*Southern Classic RSC*  
*Texas Californian Rabbit Specialty Club*  
*Texas Flemish Giant Specialty Club*  
*Texas Lop Rabbit Specialty Club (French & English)*  
*Texas Mini Lop Rabbit Breeders Club*  
*Texas Mini Rex Rabbit Club*  
*Texas New Zealand Rabbit Club*  
*Texas Rex Rabbit Club*  
*Texas Satins (Satin & Mini Satin)*  
*Wooly Lovers of Texas (Jersey Woolies)*  
*Texas Dutch Rabbit Club*  
*Texas Holland Lop Rabbit Club*  
*Texas Tan Rabbit Specialty Club*

## **TRBA Membership Contest Results 2022**

MEMBERSHIP CONTEST The TRBA conducts a membership contest each year which runs from January 1 through December 31. Only TRBA members may participate, and only new memberships will be considered for credit - no renewals. A minimum of five (5) new members is required to be eligible for an award. Awards are: First place - \$50.00, Second place - \$30.00, Third place \$20.00. Write your name on the bottom of the TRBA membership application to receive credit. A contest total is printed in each newsletter. Contest winners will be printed in the Jul/Aug/Sep Newsletter.

The winner for 2022 is Kristen Floyd who signed up 10 new members. Second Place was Colleen Saunders with 6 new members. Third Place was Kellie Tondre with 5 new members. Congratulations!

## 2023 TRBA TREASURER REPORT

### 2022 STATE SHOW

#### Income

Arts & Crafts	\$ 515.00
Banquet	\$ 5,041.00
Entry Fee	\$ 29,392.00
Ways & Means	\$ 1,627.00
Total Income	\$ 36,575.00

#### Expense

Banquet Cost	\$6,090.00
Building Rent	\$5,324.00
Insurance	\$172.85
Judge Fees	\$6,341.00
Judge Travel & Lodging	\$5,649.86
Meeting	\$125.08
Sanction Fee	\$1,539.00
Show Awards	\$4,472.00
Postage	\$73.59
Supplies	\$1,465.28
Total State Show Exp	\$31,252.66
NET PROFIT	\$ 5,322.34

#### Youth Fund

Interest	116.20
FW Auction	\$ 2,457.50
State Show Raffle	\$ 2,600.00
Memorial Donations	\$ 550.00
Petrus Donation	\$ 1,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 6,723.70

#### Expense

Scholarship	\$ 4,500.00
Total Expense	\$ 4,500.00
NET	\$ 2,223.70

#### FALL SHOW

Entry Fee	\$ 12,327.00
Ways & Means	\$ 383.00
Total TRBA Fall Show	\$ 12,710.00
Fall Show Exp	
Awards	\$ 351.50
Building Rent/Clean up	\$ 600.00
Fall Show Sanction	\$ 1,239.00
Judge Fees	\$ 3,195.00
Supplies	\$ 829.24
Travel	\$ 1,955.15
Total Fall Show Exp	\$ 8,169.89
NET	\$ 4,540.11

GENERAL FUND 5 YEAR FINANCIAL COMPARISON REPORT

**JANUARY 1, 2021 - DECEMBER 31, 2021**

INCOME	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Affiliations	\$ 265.00	\$ 290.00	\$ 270.00	\$ 260.00	\$ 340.00
Bank Reconciliation					\$ 460.20
Donations General Fund				\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Fall Show Income	\$ 9,975.02	\$ 10,535.00	\$ 9,386.00	\$ 12,424.00	\$ 12,710.00
INSF Check Fees	\$ 35.00			\$ 105.00	\$ 35.00
INSF Check Reimb.	\$ 155.00				\$ 148.00
Late Show Report Penalty				\$ 14.65	\$ 75.05
Memberships	\$ 5,012.00	\$ 5,899.00	\$ 4,264.00	\$ 5,539.00	\$ 6,980.00
Newsletter Ads	\$ 490.00		\$ 145.00	\$ 175.00	
Sanctions	\$ 1,771.00	\$ 1,135.00	\$ 845.00	\$ 755.00	\$ 1,010.00
Show Fees	\$ 6,767.30	\$ 7,645.60	\$ 5,690.70	\$ 3,962.40	\$ 9,524.00
Rabbitry/Caviary Registrations	\$ 210.00	\$ 280.00	\$ 270.00	\$ 290.00	\$ 330.00
State Show Income	\$ 25,538.50	\$ 20,966.00	\$ (180.00)	\$ 27,511.96	\$ 36,575.00
Coop Rental					\$ 2,345.00
INCOME TOTALS	\$ 50,218.82	\$ 46,750.60	\$ 20,690.70	\$ 52,037.01	\$ 72,532.25
EXPENSES					
Equipment/Repair Expense	\$ 76.25	\$ 3,175.53	\$ 76.25	\$ 76.25	\$ 6,474.03
Fall Show Expense	\$ 5,286.33	\$ 5,600.94	\$ 6,972.14	\$ 6,791.18	\$ 8,169.89
INSF Check Amount			\$ 71.00	\$ 367.00	\$ 262.00
Legal & Professional Fees	\$ 153.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 390.00	\$ 46.50	
News Editor Compensation	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 1,125.00	\$ 675.00
News Printing/Mailing/Postage	\$ 1,318.59	\$ 863.10	\$ 297.23		\$ 6.07
Newsletter App/Permit Fees		\$ 105.53	\$ 127.79	\$ 282.98	\$ 675.97
Insurance	\$ 278.00	\$ 301.00	\$ 279.00	\$ 823.47	\$ 848.66
Office Equipment		\$ 1,813.89	\$ 305.52		
Office Supplies	\$ 1,034.68	\$ 1,162.08	\$ 670.65	\$ 972.37	\$ 1,119.99
Postage Expense	\$ 563.55	\$ 379.58	\$ 484.10	\$ 476.42	\$ 499.23
Sec Compensation	\$ 1,721.50	\$ 1,920.75	\$ 1,395.50	\$ 1,317.50	\$ 1,826.65
State Show Expense	\$ 21,913.63	\$ 21,143.93	\$ 1,431.63	\$ 24,358.14	\$ 31,252.66
State Show-Future	\$ 4,200.00	\$ -		\$ -	
Scholarship					\$ 4,500.00
Storage Expense	\$ 705.00	\$ 1,612.38	\$ 2,296.00	\$ 3,451.23	\$ 3,482.00
Sweepstakes Expense	\$ 1,989.12	\$ 1,530.00	\$ 1,632.00	\$ 4,193.20	\$ 2,484.00
Sweeps Chairman Comm	\$ 724.65	\$ 1,003.59	\$ 724.41	\$ 376.17	\$ 1,274.73
Telephone/Internet Expense	\$ 1,520.22	\$ 1,410.69	\$ 1,488.21	\$ 286.92	\$ 233.82
Treasurer Expense	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Youth Royalty Awards	\$ 581.58	\$ 636.61		\$ 768.44	\$ 758.99
EXPENSE TOTALS	\$ 44,466.10	\$ 45,384.60	\$ 20,366.43	\$ 47,212.77	\$ 66,043.69
Net Gain/(Loss)	\$ 5,752.72	\$ 1,366.00	\$ 324.27	\$ 4,824.24	\$ 6,488.56



TRBA SCHOLARSHIP FUND ACCOUNT - FIVE YEAR COMPARISON REPORT  
 JANUARY 1 THRU DECEMBER 31, 2022

	1/1/2018 12/31/2018	1/1/2019 12/31/2019	1/1/2020 12/31/2020	1/1/2021 12/31/2020	1/1/2022 12/31/2022
INCOME:					
Beginning Balance January 1	\$17,784.34	\$20,197.59	\$23,920.87	\$27,441.00	\$27,391.79
Dublin National Bank Interest	\$160.75	\$325.28	\$295.13	\$107.28	\$116.20
Ft Worth Auction - Donation	\$2,181.50	\$2,250.00	\$2,360.00	\$2,284.81	\$2,457.50
Memorial Donations	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$865.00	\$300.00	\$550.00
State Show Rabbit Raffle	\$2,221.00	\$1,898.00	\$0.00	\$2,352.00	\$2,600.00
Donation O Petrus					\$1,000.00
Fiscal Year Income	\$4,663.25	\$4,473.28	\$3,520.13	\$5,044.09	\$6,723.70
			\$27,441.00	\$32,485.09	\$32,485.09
DISBURSEMENTS:					
Scholarships Awarded	\$2,250.00	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$3,750.00	\$4,500.00
Youth Contest Exp				\$1,350.00	\$0.00
Fiscal Year Disbursements	\$2,250.00	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$5,100.00	\$4,500.00
CHECKING ACCT. FYE BALANCE	\$20,197.59	\$23,920.87	\$27,441.00	\$27,385.09	\$34,115.49
DUBLIN NATIONAL BANK CD	\$33,000.00	\$33,000.00	\$33,000.00	\$33,000.00	\$33,000.00
SCHOLARSHIP FUND BALANCE					
(CD AND CHECKING ACCOUNT)	\$53,197.59	\$56,920.87	\$ 60,441.00	\$60,385.09	\$67,115.49

## 2022 TRBA TREASURER REPORT

### Income

Donations	\$2000.00
Affiliation Fees	\$340.00
Membership Dues	\$6980.00
Rabbitry/Caviary Reg	330.00
INSF Collections	183.00
Sanction Fees	1010.00
Show Fees	9599.05
State Show	34948.00
Fall Show Entry Fee	12327.00
Ways & Means	2010.00
Coop Rental	2345.00
Journal Entry	460.20
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>72,532.25</b>
<b>NET</b>	<b>6488.56</b>

### EXPENSE

License & permits	\$909.79
Facilities and Equipment	\$9,956.03
Fall Show	\$8,169.89
Insurance	\$848.66
INSF check	\$262.00
Office Supplies	\$1,119.99
Postage	\$499.23
Secretary Commission	\$1,826.65
Treasurer Commission	\$1,500.00
State Show Exp	\$31,252.66
INSF check	
Sweepstakes Awards	\$2,484.00
Sweepstakes Pointskeeper	\$1,274.73
News Editor Fee	\$675.00
Postage - Mailing News	\$6.07
Scholarship	\$4,500.00
Royalty State Show	\$758.99
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$66,043.69</b>

### 2021 TRBA FYE

<b>Income</b>	
Donations	\$ 2,000.00
Affiliation Fees	\$ 340.00
Membership Dues	\$ 6,980.00
Rabbitry/Caviary Registrations	\$ 330.00
Sanction Fees	\$ 1,010.00
Show Fees	\$ 9,524.00
Late Fees	\$ 75.05
INSF Fees	\$ 183.00
State Show Entry	\$ 34,948.00
Fall Show Entry Fee	\$ 12,327.00
Journal Entry	\$ 460.20
Coop Rental	\$ 2,345.00
Ways & Means	\$ 2,010.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 72,532.25</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
License & permits	\$ 629.47
Business Registration Fees	\$ 46.50
Equip Rental and Maintenance	\$ 3,482.00
Facilities and Equipment - Other	\$ 76.25

Fall Sanction Fee	\$	1,239.00
Fall Show Awards	\$	351.50
Fall Show Building Rent	\$	600.00
Fall Show Judge Fees	\$	3,195.00
Fall Show Supplies	\$	829.24
Travel & Lodging	\$	1,955.15
INSF Check	\$	262.00
Insurance - Liability, D and O	\$	848.66
Office Supplies	\$	1,119.99
Postage, Mailing Secretary	\$	499.23
Secretary Commission	\$	1,826.65
Web Host	\$	233.82
Treasurer Commission	\$	1,500.00
State Show	\$	31,252.66
Pointskeeper Fee	\$	1,274.73
Sweepstakes Awards	\$	2,484.00
News Editor Fee	\$	675.00
Newsletter Postage	\$	6.07
Royalty State Show	\$	758.99
Scholarships	\$	4,500.00
Equipment Repair - plywood	\$	6,397.78
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>66,043.69</b>
<b>NET</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>6,488.56</b>

## **COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

### **TRBA Equipment Committee Report**

The primary equipment includes the judging tables housed in a bumper pull trailer and the overnight cooping housed in a semi-trailer, and two additional semi-trailers. All trailers are stored at the Bell County Expo Center.

The TRBA judging coops are in good shape and are being used at the State Show and Fall Show. Minor repairs were completed at the Fall show.

Overnight cooping was used for the first time in almost a decade for the six breed National Show in Belton at the end of April 2022. The TRBA overnight cooping is mostly in shape. A percentage of coops continues to show some rust that occurred prior to being relocated during the 2019 workday to the newest trailer. Most of the new cooping, purchased in 2020, and all the new plywood, purchased in 2022, has been added to the newest trailer. The newest trailer was full prior to being able to get all the new cooping into the trailer. The cooping that did not fit remains in the Expo Center shed. The wood storage boxes the cooping is held in are deteriorating, with the bottoms falling out of a few. I would expect some repairs to the boxes will be needed the next time the cooping is used, currently planned for Spring 2024. The committee will need to meet to reach an agreement on the extent of the anticipated repairs.

Financials on the new plywood of the rental income has not been made available.

Jeff Tondre

---

### **TRBA Corporate and Club Rules**

There were no changes to the rules of the organization submitted to the committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Bell

## TRBA Youth Committee Report 2023

The Texas RBA Youth Committee hosts the State Show Youth Contests that determine State Teams for Nationals, hosts educational programs, and strives to inspire the youth in our hobby.

### Youth Participation Trends

The following reports the growing number of youth contest participants at Texas State Show.

	2018	2019	2021	2022	2023
Royalty Contestants	22	22	22	27	TBD
Total Contestants	48	54	60	62	TBD

The following table reports the number of Texas youth competing at ARBA Conventions. With 2023 being the 100<sup>th</sup> ARBA Convention and centrally located, we estimate number of Texas youth attending will be about the same or higher than those the number of attendees in 2021.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
Location	Portland, OR	Del Mar, CA	Indianapolis, IN	W. Springfield, MA	Reno, NV	Louisville, KY	Reno, NV
Number of Contestants	6	15	14	9	15	25	20
% Of Total State Show Contestants	14%	28%	24%	19%	28%	42%	32%

### ARBA National Contests

Texas had a relatively high number of youth contestants that participated at the ARBA Convention contests for the location in Reno in 2022. The TRBA Youth Committee hosted several Zoom Study Sessions prior to ARBA Convention.

Team Texas Youth performed well at the National level in 2022:

- 13 Texas youth received awards
- Every Texas royalty contestant received an interview callback
- 2 royalty division placements
- 2 Individual Contest placements
- 2 Team placements
  - Quiz Bowl Team 2<sup>nd</sup> Place
  - Intermediate Judging Team 3<sup>rd</sup> Place
- 6 Application contest D4 Winners by Texas youth – Every division entered by Texas The TRBA Youth

Committee is dedicated to educating and promoting youth participation.

## TRBA Promotional and Membership Services

March 10, 2023

The Membership Services Committee has discussed several ideas that we would like to address.

One, was to increase the monetary amounts for the 2022 and forward contest. Requests have been placed on social media asking prospective members to join. We are running this as a test to see what response turns out. Amber is tracking these to give us numbers.

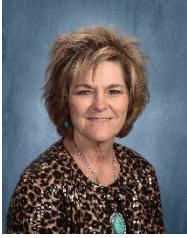
It has been discussed and sent to the BOD for discussion to have a booth at the 4-H Extravaganza, State FFA Convention, and Ag Teacher Conference. There would be pamphlets and educational material to be given out at each function pertaining to TRBA. We are in the process of gathering information and designing the pamphlets.

We would like for the membership to do these simple steps.

1. Ask new individuals if they are TRBA members.
2. Ask your Specialty cub members if they are a TRBA member.
3. Submit ideas to the Membership Committee. **gharritsu@gmail.com**

Thank you TRBA Members

## Candidate's Letter for President



To Texas Rabbit Breeders Association members:

Let this serve as my intention to apply to continue to serve as the Texas Rabbit Breeders Association president. I am completing my first term as TRBA president.

I feel that I have done a good job of being a communicator to the board as well as the membership of TRBA. I would like to continue to improve my skill set in making sure information is transferred to both the board and to the TRBA rabbit community. This job is ever changing and sometimes difficult for all of us to keep up!

Items I'd like to see improved: Memberships: We need to upgrade our software and make it more compatible with today's computers. Also make the membership online. This would help improve the speed of our services and to facilitate it faster. Websites: Continue to update our websites and to make information more readily available to the membership. Sweepstakes: Having our software updated would also help improve the process of gathering the sweepstakes information in a timely manner. Communication: This is vital to us all. The more we communicate together the better off everyone is.

I have been a TRBA member since 2012. I served two terms as a Director plus a partial term as director before being elected as President in 2021. I have also served as President for the Llano Estacado Rabbit Breeders Association (LERBA) for the past 8 years. Before I became involved in ARBA/TRBA/LERBA I gave a lot of my time to Texas 4H and FFA, serving on the board of directors, secretary, and an adult leader. I am a current District 4 state rep serving 2 terms and I have served on American Satin Rabbit Breeders Association on the judges committee.

Being a member of TRBA and now as president has been a great opportunity for me and I will continue to try and improve our overall services across the state.

Sincerely yours,

Teresa DeSautell

TRBA President

## Candidate's Letter for Secretary

January 30, 2023

Attn: Teresa DeSautell  
TRBA President

Let this serve as my intention to apply to continue to serve as the Texas Rabbit Breeders Association secretary. I am completing my first term as Club secretary. The transition was a challenge due to little support, but I have gritted through it and have settled into the position.

I am proud of my achievements, which include working on supplying information to modernize the website for better communication to the membership, working towards cleaning up the membership list, using the list to distribute newsletters, and in helping to grow TRBA shows by getting show information out in a timelier manner. I am also proud that I taught myself a program that I had never laid eyes on before, with absolutely no training. It took some time, and I will say that I am still finding the occasional new thing while using it that I hadn't figured out before, but I am able to serve our membership in this role.

However, I feel there is work yet to be done. The membership database needs to be upgraded from 14-year-old software that is not entirely stable on modern computers. We need to upgrade our membership services to allow for online membership application and sanction payments. I feel the lack of an online payment system is a huge impediment to acquiring younger members, as so many do not write checks. This is a question I am constantly asked about by both new and renewing members. Online payments have been discussed for years, so I will require the support of the Board, maybe a nudge by the membership, and a financial institution that can support those improvements.

In summary, I joined TRBA in January 2011. I served two terms as a Director before being elected as Secretary in 2021. I also serve as Secretary for the Alamo Area Rabbit Club and am their Show Secretary, I am a member of the Mid-Tex RBA, Southwest Regional RBA of Texas, Southern Meat Pen Classic, and help support Clubs at shows across the state and beyond. I have also become an ARBA Registrar. Additionally, I am beginning my fourth appointment on the ARBA Advertising and Publicity Committee. Through my other positions and over the last two years I have learned the key duties of this position.

I do not believe that this position is intended to be a life appointment, but I am asking for your support for a second term. I will repeat my pledge to provide service to the membership with a smile.

Sincerely,

Amber Tondre  
TRBA Secretary



## Candidate's Letters for Director's Positions



My name is Beth Manglberger-Hughes and I'm running for a second term as Texas Rabbit Breeders Association Director. I would like to tell you a little bit about myself.

I have lived and taught school in Leakey, Texas for the majority of my life. Leakey can be referred to as south, central, west Texas. I was married to Mark Manglberger and we raised two children who showed rabbits in TRBA shows starting in the early 1990's and I feel it made a positive impression on our children. Once they moved on to college, Mark and I began showing in open. Although he is no longer able to stand by my side, I think he is still with me as I continue to raise our New Zealand Whites, Blacks, and Broken. We also showed Holland Lops, Californians, and Jersey Woolies over the years. I now have the joy of bringing my grandsons along and they show their New Zealand Whites and Holland Lops.

Over the years I have served as Secretary/Treasurer, Board Member, and President of the Texas Holland Lop Rabbit Specialty Club. As part of that responsibility I maintained financial records, membership lists, served as specialty show secretary many times, chaired meetings and worked behind many show tables taking comments.

I was Mark's helper by his side as he served as Director and President of the Texas New Zealand Rabbit Club. Part of my experience with that club was helping put in a bid for a National New Zealand Show and getting the bid. Responsibilities of the process that I helped with were doing the application, preparing a show portfolio, and printing show catalogs. I was also the editor of the quarterly New Zealand Newsletter for the Texas club.

Real County Livestock Association has chosen me since about 1998 to be the Rabbit Division Superintendent and I really enjoy working with the youth. I have worked with a couple of my rabbit friends and we are now planning our second annual Mark Madness Roaster Show. The first year was a great success and it makes me happy to see the passion the youth show for their rabbit habit.

Your vote of confidence in me for director of the Texas Rabbit Breeders Association would be greatly appreciated.

---



Hello, my name is Amy Mersiovsky. I am asking for your vote to become a TRBA Director. I have been raising rabbits since 1992. I have been a member of ARBA since 1994 and TRBA since 2000.

I have served the TRBA as the newsletter editor since 2019. I also serve as the TRBA Scholarship Awards Chairperson. In addition, I also serve as the ARBA Election Committee Chairperson and the National Rex Club Domestic Rabbit Reporter. I am also the President of the Texas Rex Club. I served on the committees for the ARBA conventions in Fort Worth and the National Mini Rex shows in 2005, 2009, and 2022. I worked hard on the 2020 National efforts that were cancelled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. I serve as the Mid-Tex RBA Treasurer and on the Bell County Youth Fair Auction committee. A special commitment is working on the Texas 4-H Rabbit Advisory Board.

I hope to serve the TRBA members on the board as an advocate. The board is responsible for serving the members by making decisions for the good of the order. In addition, timely communication from the board and committees is essential. We also need to have a strategic plan to grow and serve our members.

The TRBA has a strong and large membership. Our membership is diverse, and we need to continue to draw on the ideas of the membership to continue to grow.

---