



# 97th Annual Texas Pecan Growers Conference & Trade Show



**July 15-18, 2018 • Embassy Suites & Conference Center, San Marcos, TX**

## Dear TPGA Members and Friends:

This year, we're headed back to the Embassy Suites and Conference Center in San Marcos, Texas! With hotel and conference center under one roof, it is hard to beat this convenient venue. And with free breakfasts and free manager's reception in the evenings, it is hard to beat the value! The hotel address is 1001 E. McCarty Lane, San Marcos, TX 78666.

In this letter, we'll give you a brief rundown of this year's conference and then give a more detailed listing on the following page. As conference approaches, we will also be emailing occasional notices and additional information to TPGA members. If you have not received an email from us recently, please email [pecans@tpga.org](mailto:pecans@tpga.org) and give us your current email address.

You can make your hotel reservations now by going online or calling the hotel directly. You must secure your reservation before June 22 in order to receive the discounted group rate. If you go online, go to this link— <http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/S/SNMESES-TPG-20180714/index.jhtml>—and use your group code TPG. Or you may call the Embassy Suites at 512-392-6450 and identify yourself as part of the Texas Pecan Growers group. The TPGA rate is \$153 for a single or double. Triple and quad occupancy rates are slightly higher. Our guaranteed block includes Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights only. Other nights may be reserved, based on availability.

At the 2018 conference, we're featuring a variety of new activities and speakers with the hopes of providing you with both an educational and entertaining experience. Before we get into the agenda though, we'd like to introduce our staff who will be handling conference. Conference attendees can go to any of our staff members for assistance: Blair Krebs, Executive Director; Evelyn Siegel, Office Manager; Catherine Clark, Managing Editor of Pecan South; and lastly our newest team member, Erin Diserens is Associate Director of Membership.

Our agenda for Sunday activities includes registration from 1 to 5 p.m. and a new TPGA Pecan Pairing Program meetup for growers at 4 p.m., followed by the Grand Opening Reception in the exhibit hall at 5 p.m. Dinner will be on your own. We encourage you to please check in and get your registration materials on Sunday afternoon.

The Mini Pecan Shortcourse, sponsored by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, will kick off Monday morning. The Shortcourse will feature a new question and answer session at the end. Have your questions ready for Texas AgriLife Specialists! They're excited to answer them. Our educational program will continue Monday afternoon and through Tuesday. The educational program will feature topics to help you manage and run your orchard and business, such as: talks on cotton root rot, scab disease, weed control, and feral hogs; a weevil and buyer licensing panel; and a series on understanding different markets and how to sell your pecans.

Throughout these sessions, you will receive updates from a number of pecan industry groups, including: the National Pecan Shellers Association, Pecan Industry Lobbyist Bob Redding, U.S. Pecan Growers Council, and the Texas Pecan Board. The American Pecan Council will also give an update on the marketing order with a Q&A session and breakout rooms to gather your input. Tuesday will also include the TPGA business meeting, updates and grower awards, and a crop estimation panel.

On Wednesday, we'll venture out to Smithville, Texas for the orchard tour. We'll make three stops at three different orchards. The tour will end with a drive-through of Pecan Grove Plantation and will include a barbecue lunch. We encourage everyone to take the provided bus because if you take your car, you will not be allowed to participate in the drive-through of the last orchard on the tour.

As for special events, we'll convene at the Pecan Museum of Texas in Seguin for a dinner and casino night on Monday evening. Be sure to reserve your tickets for this fun Monday event. Some refreshments will be provided, but you're welcome to bring your own. Buses will be available (separate ticket purchase required), and we encourage you to choose this option if you plan to consume any alcohol. If not, the Pecan Museum is an easy 15-minute drive from the hotel.

This year we also have two different special outings available. On Monday, we've added a Family Tour of Natural Bridge Caverns, which is a new event for children and families. All minors must be accompanied by an adult, and we do need a minimum number of participants to conduct the tour. Bus transportation is included. We also have a Spouse's Event on Tuesday—"A Day in Wimberley." Participants will depart the hotel by bus and be dropped off in Wimberley to enjoy the day however they wish. Wimberley is known for its quaint shops and local restaurants. The bus will bring participants back to the hotel in the afternoon.

We will also have our seventh Fundraising Raffle this year! The grand prize is \$5,000. As we have been doing, ticket sales will be limited to 200 tickets. Cost is \$100 each, but if you buy four, you get the fifth free. The winner will be drawn at the Grand Opening Reception on Sunday. You do not have to be present to win. All funds generated from the raffle will go to support pecan research and extension.

In another effort to raise money for pecan research and extension, we will also host a silent auction during the reception. You can donate items to the auction as a way to contribute to these efforts and promote your business. Another way to contribute to the conference and promote your company is through door prizes! If any of our members would like to donate door prizes, please let us know. You can call our office, make a note on your registration form or email [pecans@tpga.org](mailto:pecans@tpga.org).

*Please keep reading for more important details on each day's activities.*

**The Conference Breakdown:** Here's more information about the conference that you need to know!

## **REGISTER ONLINE**

In this packet, you'll find information about the upcoming conference as well as a registration form. We'd like to remind everyone that you are also able to register online at the following link: <http://www.eply.com/TPGA2018>. You can also find this link on the homepage of our website.

## **TPGA DUES**

Most TPGA memberships expire on June 30 (you can check your label on a recent *Pecan South* to confirm; 170630 means your expiration date is June 30, 2017). If so, please take this opportunity to renew your membership at the time you register for the conference. You will find a renewal form in this packet. If you are unable to attend the conference this year, you may still renew by filling out the attached membership form. We greatly appreciate your support.

Your dues support valuable research and promotion.

## **ROOM RESERVATION DETAILS**

TPGA has a discounted group rate at the Embassy Suites in San Marcos for the conference. You must secure your reservation before June 22 in order to receive the discounted group rate. You can make your hotel reservations now by going online: <http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/S/SNMESES-TPG-20180714/index.jhtml>. Once online, use your group code: TPG.

You may also call the hotel directly at 512-392-6450 and identify yourself as part of the Texas Pecan Growers group. The TPGA rate is \$153 for a single or double. Triple and quad occupancy rates are slightly higher. Our guaranteed block includes Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights only. Other nights may be reserved, based on availability.

## **ORCHARD TOUR ON WEDNESDAY**

On Wednesday, we will have the orchard tour from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Leaving the hotel at 8, we will start the tour by going to Smithville, Texas, which is about an hour away, to visit Keith Berdoll's orchard of young trees. From there, we will then visit David Brummitt's orchard that has middle-age trees as well as natives. We will end the tour at Gary Lehman's Pecan Grove Plantation with lunch. The bus will arrive back at the hotel in San Marcos at 2 p.m.

The cost for the tour includes the tour, lunch and bus transportation. You may drive your own car to each orchard, but be warned that you won't be able to partake in the drive-through of the last orchard on the tour. Or you can opt to take the bus from the hotel and you will be returned there promptly after lunch.

## **NATIONAL SCIENTIST MEETING**

The National Pecan Scientists Research & Extension Forum meets on occasion to exchange research and extension ideas and discuss academic matters pertaining to pecans in federal agencies and the state land grant system. The NPS R&E Forum is available to any state or private university faculty member, private research foundation or federal agency scientist with responsibility or interest in pecan research and extension. The NPS R&E Forum has held annual meetings for many years in association with the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists and American Society of Horticultural Science-Southern Region. That meeting was discontinued in 2018 in favor of meeting annually with one of the larger pecan grower conferences. Texas Pecan Growers Association is hosting the meeting in conjunction with their annual conference, July 15-18. The Forum will meet as long as needed, beginning at 5:15 pm on Tuesday, July 17th, and conclude with dutch treat dinner in San Marcos. A separate announcement/meeting outline is being sent to the National Pecan Scientists Directory E-mail Listserv. Questions about the event may be directed to Monte Nesbitt, coordinator, at [MLNesbitt@tamu.edu](mailto:MLNesbitt@tamu.edu); 979-862-1218.

## RECAP OF CONFERENCE AGENDA

*With exception of special events, all activities are at the Embassy Suites.*

### **Saturday, July 14, 2018**

3 p.m. TPGA Board of Directors Meeting

### **Sunday, July 15, 2018**

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Trade Show Setup (Not open for viewing until reception time)

10 a.m. Texas Pecan Board Meeting

1-5 p.m. Conference Registration

4 p.m. TPGA Pecan Pairing Program Meetup

5 p.m. Trade Show Grand Opening/Reception in Exhibit Hall;  
State Pecan Show on view and Fundraising Raffle drawing

### **Monday, July 16, 2018**

8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Registration and Trade Show; State Pecan Show open

8:30 a.m. Mini Pecan Short Course, *sponsored by Texas AgriLife Extension*

9 a.m. Olde Pecan Bookstore opens

10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Family Tour at Natural Bridge Caverns (*Ticketed event*)

Noon Lunch on your own

Noon TPGA Research & Extension Committee Lunch (invited guests)

1:30 - 5 p.m. Educational Program

6-10 p.m. Dinner and Casino Night at Pecan Museum of Texas in Seguin  
(*Ticketed event*)

### **Tuesday, July 17, 2018**

8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Registration and Trade Show; State Pecan Show open

8:30 a.m. - Noon Educational Program

10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Spouse's Event: A Day in Wimberley (*Ticketed event*)

Noon Lunch on your own

Noon Olde Pecan Bookstore closes

1:30-5 p.m. Educational Program

5:15 p.m. National Pecan Scientist Meeting

Evening On Your Own

### **Wednesday, July 18, 2018**

8 a.m. Orchard Tour (*Ticketed event*)

*Plan to depart from the hotel by 8 a.m. either by car or by bus. (Your ticket price for this event includes bus transportation; you may drive your own car to the orchards but will be unable to participate in the drive-through at the last orchard.)*

\*\* The full conference agenda will be released on June 1, 2018 via email and our website, [tpga.org](http://tpga.org). \*\*

**Online conference registration: <http://www.eply.com/TPGA2018>**

Texas Pecan Growers Association  
4348 Carter Creek Pkwy., Ste. 101, Bryan, TX 77802  
979-846-3285; fax 979-846-1752  
email: [pecans@tpga.org](mailto:pecans@tpga.org) • [www.tpga.org](http://www.tpga.org)

# Texas Pecan Growers Association's 98th Annual Conference & Trade Show

*July 15-18, 2018 • Embassy Suites & Conference Center, San Marcos, Texas*

## REGISTRATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

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

Names of all attendees (for name badges): \_\_\_\_\_

### Conference Registration Fee

(Only two adults of same family per registration)

**Check one:**

\_\_\_\_\_ TPGA MEMBER, \$110  
Early registration discount (prior to June 20)

\_\_\_\_\_ TPGA MEMBER, \$130  
Registering after June 20

\_\_\_\_\_ TPGA NON-MEMBER \$140

*\*\* (Confirmed exhibitors do not pay a registration fee) \*\**

### 2018-2019 Membership Dues

*(Please fill out the attached form)*

### TPGA Pecan Pairing Program

*(Please check box if yes)*

We know how hard it is to grow pecans, and with all the variations in Texas management, it can be helpful to have another grower to turn to.

This new opportunity offers you the chance to be paired with someone from your region. Participants will meet up on Sunday at 4 p.m. before the Grand Opening Reception.

If interested in being connected with another grower in your region, check this box!

## Tickets for Special Events

| <u># of tickets</u>      |   | <u>Amt. Enclosed</u> |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>DINNER &amp; CASINO NIGHT at Pecan Museum, Seguin, Monday, July 16</b> at 6 - 10 p.m.<br>Some refreshments provided, but you're welcome to bring your own. <u>\$40 per ticket</u><br>Bus from hotel available—purchase ticket separately below.    | _____                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>BUS TRANSPORTATION for Casino Night, Monday evening.</b> <u>\$15 per person</u>  | _____                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>FAMILY TOUR at Natural Bridge Caverns, Monday,</b> from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Cost includes bus transportation and admission. Minors must be accompanied by an adult; need a minimum number of participants to conduct the tour. <u>\$35 per person</u> | _____                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>SPOUSE'S EVENT: A Day in Wimberley, Tuesday.</b> Depart by bus at 10 a.m. and return at 3 p.m. Transportation provided, participants can enjoy an free day out and about. <u>\$25 per person</u>   | _____                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>ORCHARD TOUR, Wednesday morning,</b> includes lunch, tour and bus. <u>\$25 per person</u>  | _____                |

**TOTAL \$\$ amt. for special events:** \_\_\_\_\_

*See back for more*

REGISTRATION FORM...continued

**Contributions**

*RAFFLE TO SUPPORT TEXAS EXTENSION & PECAN RESEARCH*

**Amt. Enclosed** \_\_\_\_\_

For the past seven years, the Texas Pecan Growers Association has included a raffle at each conference. All proceeds will go to Texas pecan research and extension. Some of the speakers you here from at the conference will directly benefit from this raffle. The grand prize is \$5,000. Ticket sales will be limited to 200 tickets for \$100 each. If you buy four tickets, you get the fifth free. You do not need to be present to win. **The drawing will take place at Grand Opening Reception on Sunday night.**

*FRED R. BRISON SCHOLARSHIP FUND*

This mailing is the only time each year we mention the \$1,000 Fred Brison scholarship presented annually by TPGA to a student in the Horticulture Department at Texas A&M University. If you are interested in contributing to our scholarship fund (or the TAMU Pecan Endowment), you may use this registration form to do so.

*TEXAS A&M PECAN ENDOWMENT*

These contributions go towards the effort to create a pecan endowment at Texas A&M University, which will support pecan research and the Texas A&M pecan program.

*SILENT AUCTION*

Funds generated from the silent auction will go to Texas pecan research and extension. Your contribution is not only for a good cause but can also help to promote your company or product. If you'd like to donate, please write a description of the item and give an estimated value. **Items will need to be mailed to our office or delivered to the Registration at conference before Sunday night's Grand Opening Reception.**

Item Description \_\_\_\_\_

Attribute this donation to... \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Value \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION!**

- 1. Registration fee \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Membership dues \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Total \$ amount for special events \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Scholarship/Endowment Contribution \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. **TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail this registration form, along with check or money order to:**

Texas Pecan Growers Association

4348 Carter Creek Pkwy., Ste. 101, Bryan, TX 77802 • 979-846-3285; fax 979-846-1752 • pecans@tpga.org

# TEXAS PECAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

## Membership

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

FARM NAME, if applicable \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: Some communications are only sent via email.*

COUNTY in which your pecans are grown \_\_\_\_\_

Do you sell pecans directly to the public?  Yes  No If so, do you wish to be listed on the  
 "Where to Buy Pecans" page at our website?  Yes  No

Do you offer any custom services, such as spraying, harvesting, cracking, grafting, etc.?  Yes  No  
 If so, please list: \_\_\_\_\_ May we share your name when we  
 receive inquiries for such services?  Yes  No

How many acres of Improved and/or Native pecans do you grow?  
 Improved: \_\_\_\_\_ acres Native: \_\_\_\_\_ acres

Membership Renewal

New Membership

No. of bearing trees

Dues rate

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 0-100  | \$50.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 100-500                                      | \$75.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 500-1,000                                    | \$110.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1,000-5,000                                  | \$250.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5,000-10,000                                 | \$500.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10,000 & up                                  | \$750.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Membership ( <b>non-grower</b> )  | \$120.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Scientist or Library Membership | \$30.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Out of State ( <b>non voting</b> )           | \$40.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign ( <b>non voting</b> )                | \$50.00  |

Method of payment:  Check  Credit Card

Card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail or fax or email to:**

Texas Pecan Growers Association  
 4348 Carter Creek Pkwy., Suite 101, Bryan, TX 77802  
 979-846-3285 • fax 979-846-1752 • e-mail: pecans@tpga.org  
 OR JOIN ONLINE AT: [www.tpga.org](http://www.tpga.org)

