TBFAA Works with Department of Public Safety to Appropriately Regulate Door to Door Alarm Sales - See Page 14
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Submitted articles contained in this newsletter are the expressed opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Officers, Directors, and Members of the TBFAA. The publisher of this magazine is not responsible for any errors or omissions in advertising or other advertising matters.

Texas Burglar and Fire Alarm Association, Inc., (TBFAA) is a non-profit organization of security professionals who have joined together to enrich the industry by providing membership training and representing the membership as a whole in the Texas Legislature, the Texas Private Security Bureau and the Texas Fire Marshal’s Office among many other programs.

The TRANSMITTER is published by the Texas Burglar and Fire Alarm Association, a Texas not for profit association.

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Brad Shipp 877-908-2322
Several years ago, former President Chip Bird started his own type of garden, and I am now seeing the “fruits” of his labor. I am speaking about his vision of TBFAA Chapters.

On March 14th, a meeting was held in the City of Pharr in the Rio Grand Valley that was coordinated by RGV Chapter leader Toby Bowen, and Kelly Ryan our Associate Director. The meeting was requested by the AHJ in Pharr to educate them on new technology the industry now incorporates for fire detection and reporting. The meeting had Fire officials from 7 cities in the Valley area, and several of the Chapter Alarm Companies. There were 5 vendors that showed new products, and new communication options for signal transmission.

The reports I have received from attendee’s have been wonderful, and several of the AHJ’s have asked for another training session in the next few months. One of the most important things the TBFAA does is providing training to our members, and now we have the opportunity to help our First Responders stay abreast of the changes in technology, and better understand our jobs in providing our customers the latest products and services. There will be a much more in-depth report in the next Transmitter about this meeting.

With the help of dedicated TBFAA members and vendors, Chip Bird’s garden is now producing its own type of fruit, and I can only say a heartfelt Thank You for his vision and leadership.

I strongly suggest that the local associations reach out to the their local AHJ’s to see if they too would like a “training session” on the latest technology being used in their jurisdiction.

“Someone’s sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago.”

Les Brown

Way to go Chip! Thanks to the seed you planted we all have it a bit easier.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central Texas Chapter</td>
<td>877.908.2322</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month (except Oct &amp; Dec) at 11:30 am</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Check website for locations and times</td>
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<tr>
<td>POC: Brandon Blevins p: 512.302.1181 e: <a href="mailto:service@granitesecurity.net">service@granitesecurity.net</a></td>
<td>ctc.tbfaa.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast Texas Chapter</td>
<td>877.908.2322</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meets quarterly in Longview Area. Plus local meetings will be held in various cities. Check website for times and locations.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>POC: Ty Edwards p: 903.593.9531 e: <a href="mailto:tye@ruddcontracting.com">tye@ruddcontracting.com</a></td>
<td>netc.tbfaa.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rio Grande Valley Chapter</td>
<td>877.908.2322</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corpus - 1st Tuesday of March, June, September &amp; December. McAllen - 1st Thursday of even months.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POC: Daryl Smith p: 956.973.1666 e: <a href="mailto:cmccaleb@securitydepotinc.com">cmccaleb@securitydepotinc.com</a></td>
<td>rgvc.tbfaa.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houston Gulf Coast Association</td>
<td>281.859.4569</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meets 2nd Thursday of the month 11:30 am - 1:00 pm at Cadillac Bar and Grill, Shepard @ I-10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>POC: Debi Ulmer p: 281.859.4569 e: <a href="mailto:debi@dispatchcenter.net">debi@dispatchcenter.net</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.HGCAA.org">www.HGCAA.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Texas Alarm Association</td>
<td>214.352.9352</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Thursday of each month at 11:30 am - La Hacienda Ranch - 17390 Preston Rd., Suite 100 Dallas, TX 75252</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POC: Brant Pierce p: 800.683.6773 e: <a href="mailto:Brant@SouthwestDispatch.com">Brant@SouthwestDispatch.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.NTAA.org">www.NTAA.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Texas Alarm Association</td>
<td>210.402.6262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meets 2nd Tuesday of the month at 11:30. Check website for locations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POC: Mike Schobel p: 210.564.2601 e: <a href="mailto:mschobel@asgsecurity.com">mschobel@asgsecurity.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.SouthTexasAlarm.org">www.SouthTexasAlarm.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Electronic Security Alliance</td>
<td>301.519.9237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NESA is a federation of state associations, including TBFAA, established to serve and promote the electronic systems industry at the direction of, and through its affiliated state associations.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>POC: Jordan Brown p: 800-542-7866 e: <a href="mailto:jordon@guardtronic.com">jordon@guardtronic.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.NESAUS.org">www.NESAUS.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>False Alarm Reduction Association</td>
<td>301.519.9237</td>
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<tr>
<td>FARA is an association of persons working in public safety False Alarm Reduction Units that exchanges information, influences legislation and establishes relationships and partnerships with other groups interested in false alarm reduction. TBFAA and NESA are associate members of FARA.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POC: Brad Shipp p: 301.519.9237 e: <a href="mailto:info@faraonline.org">info@faraonline.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.faraonline.org">www.faraonline.org</a></td>
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</table>
Calendar of Events

April

05  RGV- McAllen Meeting - McAllen
10  STAA Membership Meeting - San Antonio
10  TXBFAA Board Meeting - San Antonio
12  HGCAA Membership Meeting - Houston
16-17 Fire Prep Class - Dallas
17  Central Texas Chapter Meeting - Austin
18  NTAA CEU Training - Dallas
19  NTAA Membership Meeting - Dallas
19-20 Level 1 San Antonio - TriEd
27  Access Control - Level 1 Dallas

May

01-03  FARA Symposium - Albuquerque
03  NTAA Golf Tournament - Dallas
08  STAA Membership Meeting - San Antonio
10  HGCAA Membership Meeting - Houston
15  Central Texas Chapter Meeting - Austin
16  NTAA CEU Training - Dallas
17  NTAA Membership Meeting - Dallas
17-18  Level 1 - Longview
21  Residential Fire Alarm - McAllen
21-22  Fire Prep Class - McAllen
25  CCTV - Level 1 Houston
28  Memorial Day - Holiday

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“Change” is often defined as to make the form, nature, content, future course, etc., of (something) different from what it is or from what it would be if left alone.

This perhaps best describes the Regulatory Services Division and the former Private Security Bureau. The Private Security Bureau was established to regulate the private security profession in the state of Texas. This regulatory function encompassed licensure as well as enforcement of the Private Security Act. With the advances in technology and the growth of the industry, the bureau faced many challenges and opportunities to keep pace with the changes.

The industry and the Private Security Board both recognized that in order to provide services to licensees, the bureau would have to move forward.

The Department created the Regulatory Services Division which now encompasses various components of the agency, those being Private Security, Concealed Handgun, Motor Vehicle Inspection, Metals Regulation and the Narcotics Registration Program. Each of these programs is unique in its own fashion but have some similarities. Perhaps one of the most important of these is in the area of enforcement of the statute and rules that govern each entity.

The Texas Commission on Private Security transferred to the Department of Public Safety through legislative enactment in 2003. This transfer brought five commissioned peace officers to the agency to help with the enforcement of the Private Security Act.

The department and the Private Security Board quickly realized that enforcement would need to be a priority and authorized an additional twenty-five commissioned officers to assist with regulation. These Troopers made an initial impact by identifying unlicensed entities with the help of the regulated community. These Troopers were stationed throughout the state in order to provide enforcement presence in each region. The Department has received numerous compliments on the activities of these investigators.

Now that the Regulatory division has changed as previously mentioned, so has the enforcement capabilities of the division.

The Regulatory Division now has over sixty commissioned officers and over one-hundred fifty auditors, including supervisory personnel. These officers are tasked with the overall responsibility of enforcing all regulations pertaining to the aforementioned regulatory programs. This increase in manpower will enable the division to improve its response to unlicensed activity in all regulatory programs. The increase has also caused a change in the overall structure of the enforcement section and its capabilities.

The Compliance and Enforcement Bureau is comprised of three major districts throughout the state. These districts are located in Houston, Dallas and Austin. Each of these commands is further sub-divided into sub-districts located in Garland, McKinney, Houston, San Antonio, McAllen and El Paso.

As mentioned in previous board meetings, the division is also in the process of training additional personnel to handle routine inspection of companies as the need arises.

This additional support mechanism will allow the commissioned officers of the division to concentrate on unlicensed and criminal activity within the industry.

Continued on Page 9
Making Changes:  
The new face of regulation **Continued**

"In order to improve regulatory oversight and education, companies have multiple ways of contacting the RSD"

The Alarm industry is very unique and diverse as a regulated entity. Members of this profession are in constant contact with the public as well as governmental entities. Whether providing service with door to door sales or responding to calls for service, the industry plays a vital role in public safety and essentially homeland security.

The Regulatory Services Division has tasked its Agents and Auditors the responsibility of making contact with alarm companies in order to provide information on auditing procedures, changes in administrative rules and strengthen communication.

The alarm industry is part of a vast private security profession and the positive exchange of information between the RSD and the industry is essential.

In order to improve regulatory oversight and education, companies have multiple ways of contacting the RSD. For example, companies can contact their local DPS Regional Office or the agency headquarters in Austin.

Companies can also contact their local TBFAA representative for assistance as these members are consistently involved in the improvement of the alarm industry and work with the division to improve regulatory oversight.

The Regulatory Services Division has made strides in efficiencies and enforcement regarding the private security profession. There is still much to be done regarding the improvement of the program and its operation.

The Regulatory Division will continue to work closely with members from the regulated community and the Private Security Board to further improvements in the profession. Please feel free to contact the division regarding questions concerning licensure or to report unlicensed activity. The Regulatory Division can be reached at 512-424-7710 in Austin or [www.txdps.state.tx.us](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/).
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Local Public Safety Updates

Courtesy of NESA

Dallas PD stops responding to retail thefts under $50
3.2.12 - Security Director News -
Dallas - The Dallas Police Department in February changed its policy for responding to shoplifting calls. From now on, the department will no longer routinely dispatch officers to shoplifting calls that involve merchandise valued at less than $50.
Lt. Scott Walton from the Dallas Police Department said that the policy to not dispatch an officer for shoplifting cases valued at less than $50 is not absolute. Officers will be dispatched if the shoplifter is in custody and has prior arrests on his or her record, he said. He couldn’t comment on why the policy change was made.

Houston Updates Fees & Application
2.10.12 - Effective immediately, please delete all former copies of the Houston alarm application and use the application. For More Information visit the City website - https://www.houstonburglaralarmpersons.org/Citizen/City/Houston/ATB_Login.aspx

Bexar County raises permit fees on home, business alarms
1.26.12 - San Antonio Express - San Antonio, TX - For the first time since 2004, Bexar County is increasing fees on alarm system permits for residences and businesses in unincorporated ... Effective Feb. 1, the fee for residential permits rises to $40 a year, up from the rate of $30 set eight years ago. Business permits increase to $100 annually, more than doubling from the long-standing rate of $35. Both groups have had discounted rates for renewals - $15 for homes and $25 for businesses — but those discounts won’t apply after Feb. 1.

TX: Copperas Cove Council amends burglary alarm system ordinance
11.16.11 - Killeen Daily Herald - Copperas Cove, TX - The City Council amended the city’s ordinance for burglary alarm systems to increase fines and clarify the appeals. According to the approved amendments, the city can now charge $50 for four to five false alarms, $75 for six to eight false alarms and $100 for more than eight false alarms in a 12-month period. The city also can now reject the use of an alarm system after eight false burglary or robbery alarms occur at the same location, according to the changes.
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Private Security Board / Public Safety Committee Update

Michael Samulin, TBFAA PSB Liaison

New “Hard Card” Pocket Card
The committee to coordinate the new “hard card” pocket card (of which I am a member) will continue to work on issues as the DPS new software is developed. This committee is also working on the proposed future requirement that all fingerprints be submitted to DPS electronically.

Manager’s exam
The PSB has also approved a policy that anyone can take the Managers exam even if they are not going to become the qualified manager immediately. The person taking the exam is responsible for retaining the required documentation provided after successful completion of the exam should they wish to become a qualified manager in the two year period from the date of passing the exam. If the person does not become a qualified manager within that two year period, their eligibility will expire and they will have to take the Managers exam again if they wish to apply as a qualified manager. This allows a company to have a “manager in waiting” if they so desire.

Door To Door Sales Rule
The Public Safety Commission had their meeting on Feb. 16, 2012 at the DPS headquarters in Austin, Texas. There were rules pending for the approval of the PSC for private security on the agenda, including our door to door sales rule.

The rules were crafted in response to legislation that was introduced last session to subject the alarm industry to regulation at the local level.

If the legislation passed alarm dealers would have to comply with individual requirements in each locality.

TBFAA successfully argued that regulation by DPS was more appropriate.

The rules were on the agenda as consent items meaning that there were no comments made during posting in the Texas Register, but at the last minute Col. McCraw received a letter from the lobbyist for Vivint objecting to the curfew time and the amount of the fine for violation of the rule.

Chairman Polunsky referred the rule back to the PSB for review and PSB Chairman Chism is going to call a special meeting of the PSB to make some minor changes to the language.

Helwig Elected TLA President/ Jackson Takes Over as HGCAA Rep

Debi Ulmer, HGCAA

It is with great pride that I announce that John Helwig has been elected as president of the Texas Locksmiths Assoc. John has served as the Vice President of HGCAA for 5 consecutive terms and HGCAA Director to the TBFAA Board of Directors and 2 terms on the Legislative Action Committee. John and I have discussed his time constraints and we have decided that in the best interest of all parties concerned he will relinquish his seat as HGCAA Director to TBFAA.

The HGCAA Director is appointed by the president, if the president serves in another voting position on the TBFAA Board of Directors. After much consideration, I have selected Amanda Jackson. Amanda has served HGCAA for the past 4 years first as Secretary and the remaining time as Treasurer and has the experience of operating an alarm company from sales, service, installs and management so she will be able to cast our vote based on first hand knowledge.

Next time you see either of these two please offer your congratulations to John and condolences to Amanda!
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Check your Listing on Website

Brad Shipp, TBFAA

TBFAA has launched a new website with an updated look and improved organization. The new site allows everyone to see all the pages in the site, but some pages that contain information for TBFAA members will require a user name and password in order to be viewed.

We have tried to enter the main contact for each paid member into the list on the website.

To check to see if you are listed in the member directory—visit the Member Directory tab under the TBFAA tab.

If you would like to change the information in your directory listing visit the Your TBFAA Profile page under the TBFAA tab.

If you have not signed up for a user name and password you will need to fill out an application form (no payment required).

To signup -

1. Go to the Join TBFAA under TBFAA tab.
2. Select the Existing member option
3. Complete the form

You will receive a confirmation email within 72 hours of completing the online registration process.

Texas Association Updates

TBFAA – CTC - The Central Texas Chapter continues to meet monthly with various speakers. Nathan Barney took over the position as Vice President and has secured speakers for his first meetings. Vendors continue to support the Chapter with donations for the drawings.

RGV-TBFAA – Rio Grande Valley Chapter – Corpus Christi – 1/31/12 - Meeting was held by new RGV-TBFAA Vice-President Toby Bowen. Our speaker was Mitch Reitman of S.I.C. Consulting. Mitch did a good job of informing everyone about the tax rules and laws.

RGV-TBFAA – Rio Grande Valley Chapter - McAllen Meeting – 2/2/12 - This meeting was also very well attended. Mitch was our speaker and did a great job as he did in Corpus two days before. This group is doing well with more interest each meeting.

HGCAA – Houston Gulf Coast Alarm Association Meeting - 12/8/11, 1/12/12 @ 2/9/12 - All the monthly meetings were well attended and as always the Houston Police and fire departments were represented. Rodney Hooker was the speaker at the December meeting and brought everyone up to date on things going on in our state. In January, Rhett Buck an Attorney and CPA briefed us on the Franchise Tax dilemma. In February, Mike Monsive – ASAP spoke about Surviving the PSB audit. Jeff Bright, spoke of victories in the legislative session and Mike Samulinn spoke about requirements for door to door sales in each city/town.

STAA - The South Texas Alarm Association under President Mike Schobels holds regular monthly meetings at Clear Spring Restaurant. The association will continue to support various charities. Duane Cruz of the San Antonio Alarm Section was awarded up to $1,000 in financial support to attend the FARA Symposium in Albuquerque this May. Mitch Reitman of S.I.C. Consulting was the February guest speaker and went over changes in tax law and what to expect in 2012. STAA Annual Golf Tournament is scheduled for May 10th.

TFAA – Texas Fire Alarm Association - 2/8/12 – TBFAA VP - Roy Horn spoke about his roll with TBFAA and about all the activities that happen within the TBFAA that are very beneficial to the TFAA. Mark Gilmore said that the TFAA would donate another 5,000 dollars to the TBFAA this year.
STAA Works to Increase Compliance

By Mike Schobel, President – South Texas Alarm Association

The South Texas Alarm Association in conjunction with the San Antonio Police Department has formed a committee to explore ways to increase permit compliance from consumers with alarms installed in their homes. The members of the committee from STAA are Moe Orian, Mike Samulin, Sarah Salazar, and me. Various civilian employees of the San Antonio Police Department including Duane Cruz, Supervisor of the Alarms Office and Stephen Gaffigan, Assistant Police Director are also members of the committee. A number of meetings occurred and a major sticking point was the insistence by the Assistant Police Director that alarm companies collect permit fees from their customers and subsequently procure the permit. The STAA committee members consistently voiced their disapproval of such a measure on numerous grounds. Most prominent among the issues was that we did not want our members to have a fiduciary relationship with the City. Ultimately, a letter from the STAA drafted by the STAA attorney was sent to Mr. Gaffigan as well as the Assistant City Attorney outlining the STAA’s reasons for opposing the collection of permit fees by its membership. A short meeting was held between the Mr. Gaffigan and me in which the Assistant Director completely agreed with the Association’s assertions and the issue has been dropped.

The relationship between the STAA and the San Antonio Police Department is very strong. This disagreement and its ultimate resolution have likely made the relationship even stronger. The joint committee has now moved on to planning PR campaigns to increase the public’s awareness about the importance of procuring alarm permits in San Antonio.

It is the belief of the STAA that forging strong relationships between our industry and the municipalities within which we operate and keeping lines of communication open will benefit all involved.

TBFAA Thanks

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“IT IS THE BELIEF OF THE STAA THAT FORGING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN OUR INDUSTRY AND THE MUNICIPALITIES … WILL BENEFIT ALL INVOLVED.”

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By Jim Smith, Guaranty Insurance

Have you ever been in the situation where you have been asked to provide a certificate of insurance with "extra" or "unfamiliar" wording or endorsements and your agent couldn’t produce it?

First of all, they were just doing their job, since the Texas Department of Insurance defines a certificate as “a document, instrument, or record, including an electronic record, no matter how titled or described, that is executed by an insurer or agent and issued to a third party to the subject insurance contract, as a statement or summary of property or casualty insurance coverage.”. The request was probably for coverage you didn’t have on your policy or for a form that wasn’t appropriate to use.

This situation has long been a problem, most particularly in the construction business. Requests for certificates that indicate coverage that may not duplicate the actual coverage on the insurance policy have been a real source of contention between the certificate holder and the agent, with the insured (and usually the client or customer of the certificate holder) left in the middle.

Senate Bill 425, as passed by the Texas State Legislature and made effective January 1, 2012, establishes rules for the use and issuance of certificates of insurance. The final procedures for administering these rules continues to be developed, but the intent and actions are very clear.

In a nutshell, no certificates of insurance forms may be issued that have not been approved by the Texas Department of Insurance. Additionally, Sec. 1811.055 of the bill prohibits any person or organization from requiring an agent or insurer “to issue any other document or correspondence, instrument or record, that is inconsistent with (Sec. 1811).” Likewise, inserting references to other contractual documents other than the insurance coverage is prohibited. Penalties can be as much as $1,000. per violation.

To summarize, all certificate forms have to be approved, in advance. Agents and companies cannot put coverage or limits on the certificate that are not exactly what is in the policy itself.

Doing so, opens the agent or company up for a penalty of up to $1,000. per violation.

This is good news for you. No longer can you be “forced” to produce certificates with non-conforming language by owners and general contractors. Your agent should be able to help you with this if you are put in that situation.

Dealers and integrators will want to mark their calendars for Tri-Ed / Northern Video’s Technology Roadshow coming to Houston, TX on May 3rd. This free one-day event will be held at the Sheraton Houston Brookhollow, located at 3000 North Loop West in Houston.

The Roadshow includes a Tri-Ed / Northern Video IP training class, a variety of manufacturer training classes, and a tabletop Expo that runs throughout the entire day to give participants the flexibility of attending training or networking with manufacturers.

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Ramblings of a Convention Chair– Part 2

By Debi Ulmer
Dispatch Center, LTD

In my last article I touched on the subject of what it takes on the part of the committee and volunteers to make our convention a success. This time I will share with you what it takes by the membership and attendees to make it a success. The convention has to come full circle and without the committee there would be no convention to attend; without the exhibitors there would be nothing to see; and without you, the membership and attendees, there would be no reason for the event. Your attendance is a huge part of the equation.

When we look at venues for future convention sites the first thing that the hotel asks is what our attendance was last year. The same question is asked by suppliers, manufacturers and vendors when we start selling booths. Each person in attendance counts.

Once the venue is chosen the negotiations start and the number of rooms booked at prior events drives the price of the rooms, both for sleeping and meeting. Over the past 7 years, we have shown substantial growth and that helps to keep our room costs down. When you make your room reservation within our block of rooms you help defray the cost of the convention. When you choose to book outside our block you may save a few dollars but you run a chance of having to pay higher event fees next year. Here is an example: for each 50 room nights we book the hotel gives us one comp room which we use to accommodate our keynote speaker, special and honored guests.

During the three days of the convention, we spend approximately $50,000.00. Yes, you read that right. That includes lodging for special speakers and honored guests (the board pays their own way), meeting rooms, food, and entertainment. It does not include any alcohol, which brings about another $6,000.00 of revenue to the hotel, which is paid by those who choose to partake. The food is the king’s ransom. Hotel food isn’t cheap and they are very proud of their service. A staff gratuity of 19% is added to everything. I know that number is startling and every year it gives the poor treasurer heart palpitations and possibly high blood pressure. We spend about $160.00 per person so that is why we have to charge a food or attendance fee of $125.00; your membership fees and exhibitors’ fees offset the rest. The convention is for the benefit of the membership and that is why there is a higher fee for non-members. Your membership dues do not offset their food fees. People who are in our industry didn’t understand why they had to pay for their significant other, who isn’t in the industry, to attend so several years back we changed the “attendance fee” to the “food fee” hoping this would clear up the question. We also get asked why the exhibit floor isn’t free to all who want to attend. The buffet we serve on the convention floor accounts for about one-third of the cost of the food fees.

Last year, when we stationed guards outside the entrance door to the exhibits, it was startling to see just how many people tried to walk in without paying, which is why it is so important to wear your badge at all times. This year the guards will be back and their services were donated by TOS Inc.

Our exhibitors come from all over the country and have travel expenses to get to Galveston so we try to keep our booth fees reasonable. In doing my 2012 research, I found that we have one of the lowest costs for booths. Our exhibitors still have to add in the food fee for each person they will have working their booth and they have the cost for advertising giveaways. Several of our exhibitors sponsor different events during the convention and all donate prizes to be given away or auctioned off. The costs add up quickly for them and you, as an attendee, can help them by remembering who supports your association when it comes time to buy for your company. If your supplier doesn’t exhibit at or sponsor TBFAA, please ask why and share the answer with us.

This is your convention so please attend it. The elections are held at the annual business luncheon and those elected will be your voice in the industry for the next year. For the alarm companies outside the local association areas, you’re not alone. This is the time to be present and make your voice heard and your vote count.

Besides, it is wonderful to see old friends again each year and perhaps make a few new ones. I hope to see you there this year.
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www.tri-ed.com
New: Galveston Island's Historic Pleasure Pier

By: Galveston Island CVB

In Summer 2012, Galveston Island will bring the glory of its famous past into the present with the opening of the Historic Pleasure Pier. The amusement park, reminiscent of the pleasure pier that was built on the island in the 1940s, will include 16 rides, a full-service restaurant, midway games, shopping and live entertainment. A project of Landry's Inc., the pier is located on the Gulf of Mexico off Seawall Boulevard at 25th Street where a pleasure pier stood from the early 1940s to 1961. The Flagship Hotel stood on the pier from 1965 to 2011.

Developed by Tilman Fertitta of Landry’s, the Galveston Island Historic Pleasure Pier is envisioned to become a preferred family destination with the same greatness as Chicago’s Navy Pier, Santa Monica Pier and Coney Island’s Luna Park. Plans to revive and rename the property, the Galveston Island Historic Pleasure Pier, include developing a first-class, themed amusement park, reminiscent of another historic landmark, Galveston’s Electric Park.

Traditional rides will include a 36-foot diameter, double-decker carousel and a 100-foot tall Ferris Wheel, and for the more adventurous, a steel roller coaster with a 100-foot vertical climb, 200-foot tall swing recognized as the highest ride in Texas and classic bumper cars for adults and children. Amusements as well as the restoration of the historical element of the Pier are anticipated to bring back memories of what the destination was known for in the late 1940s.

Through the reinstatement of the Pier, Landry’s hopes to reignite interest, promote economic growth and bolster civic pride thereby attracting a new generation of Galvestonians and tourists.

"Much of our plans for redeveloping the Pier are inspired by the people and places that define Galveston’s rich heritage. We intend to perpetuate that vision with Pleasure Pier and create a lasting legacy for future generations," stated island native Tilman J. Fertitta, sole owner, chairman and CEO of Landry’s. The concept of the Galveston Island Historic Pleasure Pier, a premier waterfront entertainment pier, was developed by Fertitta.

The approximately 1,130-foot pier extends over the Gulf of Mexico situated on 25th Street and Seawall Boulevard in Galveston, Texas.
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