



Four Seasons
NEWSLETTER



Established 1981 • Supporting Area Parks • Spring 2010

Celebrate San Antonio Named Top 50 New Year's Destinations



Photo courtesy of the City of San Antonio

IN THIS ISSUE

A Message from the President

Friends of the Parks News

Calling All Artists

Around the Corner,
Fest of Tails & Fiestas Fantasias!

Thanks to our CelebrateSA
Sponsors:



Helping Here.



The largest and most successful New Year's Celebration in the state promotes San Antonio as a world-class New Year's destination. Celebrate San Antonio jumped from #34 to #25 on Priceline.com's "Top 50 New Year's Destinations."

This puts San Antonio between Oahu (#24) and Fort Lauderdale (#26). In 2005, Priceline.com ranked downtown San Antonio for the first time in its top 50 New Year's Eve destinations at #34, between Sydney, Australia and downtown Los Angeles.

The San Antonio Parks Foundation views this ranking as another milestone for San Antonio and for the event itself. Additionally, there is no other New Year's Eve event of this size, with fireworks and offered free to the public in the state, and no other Texas destination can be found on Priceline.com's Top 50 New Year's Eve party spots.

Visitors from Michigan and Texas Tech attending the Alamo Bowl joined the more than 250,000 excited revelers gathered

downtown for Celebrate San Antonio to usher in 2010. As the clock struck midnight and the Valero Fireworks Extravaganza exploded into the sky, the New Year was met with wishes for a prosperous, healthy and safe new year.

Thanks to Celebrate San Antonio's corporate sponsors, **KENS-5, Budweiser & Silver Eagle, Valero, H-E-B, and Rio San Antonio Cruises**, along with the **City of San Antonio**, the Texas-sized bash was an enormous success.

Other partners included **San Antonio Express-News, City of San Antonio Convention and Visitors Bureau**, and our hotel partners – **Marriott Plaza; Marriott Riverwalk and Rivercenter; Westin Riverwalk; Crockett Hotel; Menger Hotel; Sheraton Gunter; Radisson Market Square; El Tropicano Riverwalk; and Hilton Palacio Del Rio.**

Many, many thanks to each partner and city department who did their part to ensure the continued success of Celebrate San Antonio! 🍀





Dear Friends:



With the dawn of a new decade, we here at the Parks Foundation will be working diligently to complete our largest and most challenging park project to date, the Restoration of the Japanese Tea Garden.

The Parks Foundation's restoration efforts officially began in May of 2007 with the repair of the ponds and signature waterfall, and also included the installation of a sophisticated recirculation system to provide a safe habitat for the Koi and aquatic plants. In March of 2008 the

Grand Re-Opening of the Gardens brought back more than just visitors, it brought back memories of those who once lived, worked and played at the Tea Garden.

Last year, with the help from many generous donors, the Parks Foundation began the next phase of the project which includes the adaptive reuse of the historic two-story brick structure that was once home to the Jingu family. Construction is expected to be completed this summer and we look forward to sharing this newly-renovated space with you.

While funds for the renovation phase have been raised in full, the project is still in need of \$100,000 worth of construction design elements. These design elements play an important role in adding visual interest and appeal to the space. Any organization or individual interested in financially supporting the Japanese Tea Garden renovation project, please call the San Antonio Parks Foundation at 210-212-8423.

Lila Cockrell
President



The San Antonio Parks Foundation receives no government or city funding. We depend on your contributions to continue our work for your parks. Call 210-212-8423 to see how you can contribute today!

Calling All Artists!

The San Antonio Parks Foundation is seeking local artists to submit an original work of art for the **2010 Jazz'SAlive Commemorative Poster**. The 27th Anniversary of Jazz'SAlive in Travis Park, scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, September 18th & 19th, is a free two-day festival featuring national, regional, and local Jazz musicians.

Each year the Parks Foundation chooses a local artist to submit an original piece that depicts the look, feel, and energy of Jazz'SAlive. The selected image will be featured on the commemorative and promotional posters, t-shirts, hats, bags, and koozies.

The chosen artist will receive \$500, 100 of the 250 signed and numbered prints, and will be honored at the Friday evening "Starlight Salute to Jazz'SAlive" gala.

Oil and water color illustrations will be accepted, and artists must live within 75 miles of San Antonio. The deadline for submissions is May 1, 2010. Past poster artists include Robert Tatum; Aaron Harvey; Claudette Hopkins; and Patti Schmerhorn to name a few.

Jazz'SAlive is co-sponsored by the San Antonio Parks Foundation and the City of San Antonio. Underwriter of the Jazz'SAlive poster is H-E-B. More information can be obtained at www.jazzsa.org.



Kim Harle, Community Relations, H-E-B and 2009 Jazz'SAlive poster artist, Patti Schmerhorn

New President for Friends of the Parks

The San Antonio Parks Foundation, and its affiliate organization Friends of the Parks, is pleased to announce the election of



Marcie Ince, newly elected President of Friends of the Parks

Mrs. Marcie Ince as the new president of Friends of the Parks effective January 1, 2010.

Ince is eager to get started. She brings her vast knowledge of fundraising, passion for advocacy, and her "get things done" attitude to the organization. "San Antonio deserves first-class parks and I am hoping everyone will join us in this very important crusade. Only by preserving our past can we build a strong future," says Ince.

The San Antonio Friends of the Parks was established in 2003 as a citizen's organization dedicated to advocating for the expansion, enhancement, and protection of San Antonio's parks under the guidance of the non-profit San Antonio Parks Foundation. "The Parks Foundation is excited to have Marcie as the new Friends of the Parks president. With her enthusiasm and commitment to parks, she is the perfect choice to take the organization to the next level," says Lila Cockrell, president of the San Antonio Parks Foundation.

Since its inception, the group has established the annual "Fest of Tails" kite festival and dog fair, developed a committed group of enthusiastic volunteers who participate in hands on parks projects throughout the city, and has spearheaded the planning and development of the Japanese Tea Garden restoration project.

For more information on becoming a member of Friends of the Parks call 210-212-8423, or visit www.safriends.org.





A Walk in the Park for the Fourth Annual Kite Fest & Dog Fair



Junior League pictured with the 140 feet long Purple People Eater.

Fest of Tails, the annual family and dog friendly event produced by Friends of the Parks, returns to McAllister Park on **Saturday, March 20th**. This event welcomes kite and dog enthusiasts from near and far. The **free event** features something for every member of the family. Highlights include music, arts and crafts, a pooch parade, and a sky full of multihued kites!

Fest of Tails was initiated by Friends of the Parks to demonstrate to the local community firsthand how much fun a family day in the park can be, and to increase awareness of our ever-growing San Antonio parks system through community involvement. Since its inception in 2007, the event has grown by leaps and bounds to an annual attendance of hundreds of dog lovers and kite aficionados. Marcie Ince, president of Friends of the Parks, says, "There is no simple pleasure that is shared with family and friends, than the simple act of flying a kite. We are looking forward to everyone enjoying the festival as well as a beautiful day in McAllister Park."

Fest of Tails is a free event and will include a full day

of family friendly, as well as four-legged friendly, activities such as kite-making with master kite makers, acrobatic kite flying, a 50 yard dash for children ages 12 and under, and a mass accent of all kites! Fest of Tails will take place on March 20th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at McAllister Park.

For those who are nuts for mutts, be sure to bring your pooch in their favorite costume and participate in the popular pooch parade. Prizes will be awarded for best dressed dog and dog that most resembles its owner (or vice versa!). While you and your pooch are having a ball, be sure to also take advantage of the 1.5 acre fenced dog park located on site of the festival.

In addition to food and beverage booths, information on pet registration and pet adoption services will be available and pet supply vendors will be on hand with all the latest in animal care and grooming.

For further information on **Fest of Tails**, please visit www.festoftails.org or call 210-212-8423. 🍀



Dog Fair Contestants

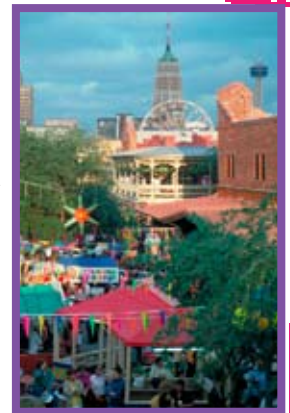
Fiesta 2010 Around the Corner

Families looking for a Fiesta event that is fun for everyone and easy on the pocketbook need to look no further than **Fiestas Fantasias at Market Square, brought to you by Budweiser.**

Fiesta in San Antonio has been around since 1891, and has evolved into a cultural celebration with many different colorful events, and the San Antonio Parks Foundation is proud to play a significant part in this wonderful citywide festival by offering quality entertainment for all ages **free of charge.**

Top Tejano, Norteno, Conjunto and International musicians will be showcased at this year's Fiestas Fantasias at Market Square. **This FREE Fiesta party goes strong all ten days from 10:00 a.m. to midnight daily, beginning Friday, April 16 through Sunday, April 25.**

Fiestas Fantasias, located in the historic downtown Market Square at 514 W. Commerce, is produced by the San Antonio Parks Foundation. Over forty food booths, offering a wide variety of items such as traditional Mexican cuisine, turkey legs, hamburgers, roasted corn and funnel cakes, will be available to choose from, as well as fresh fruit drinks, beer, sodas, water and margaritas. For a complete event schedule, visit www.fiestamarketsquare.org.



Special thanks to our friends at **Silver Eagle Distributors** and **Budweiser** for their presenting sponsorship of Fiestas Fantasias! 🍀



PARKS FOUNDATION



Four Seasons
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CALLING ALL ARTISTS!!!

Be a part of Jazz'SAlive
...on page 2

livegreenfest
COMING SOON
OCTOBER 2010

Fest of Tails in McAllister Park
March 20th

Read more on page 3




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Four Seasons Newsletter is an award-winning quarterly publication.
Editor: Teresa Keck • Production Manager: Belinda Marie Rodriguez • Art Direction: GRE Creative Communications

"Our parks belong to each of us, and they are natural places to learn, exercise, volunteer, spend time with family and friends, and enjoy the magnificent beauty of our great land." President George W. Bush

2010 Parks Foundation CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February

- 13 - COSA Park Naturalist 2nd Saturday Event, Eisenhower Park. 210-207-PARK
- 20 - Texas Society Professional Engineers "5k Run/Walk" Pavilion #2, McAllister Park, 210-372-9124.
- 20 - 25th Annual Tower Climb & Run, Tower of Americas. Registration at 6:30 am. 210-829-7267
- 27 - Viva Voluntarios, Medina River Natural Area. www.sanaturalareas.org, 210-624-2575.

March

- 6 - Get Outdoors!, Mission San Jose, 6701 San Jose Drive, 10:00 am, 210-302-4247.
- 13 - Luminaria, Arts Night in San Antonio, Downtown on Alamo Street. www.luminarias.org, 210-207-6960.
- 20 - Fest of Tails, McAllister Park (Starcrest Entrance). 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. www.festoftails.org, 210-212-8423.
- 27 - Basura Bash, Olmos Basin Park. www.basurabash.org, 210-858-8520
- 27 - Viva Voluntarios, Medina River Natural Area. www.sanaturalareas.org, 210-624-2575.

April

- 17 - Earth Day, Woodlawn Lake Park. 210-680-6867.
- 16-25 - Fiestas Fantasias, Market Square, 10:00 am - Midnight. www.fiestamarketsquare.org, 210-212-8423.
- 24 - San Antonio Roadrunner "Fiesta Fandango Run," Columbus Park. 210-240-8164
- 24 - Viva Voluntarios, Medina River Natural Area. www.sanaturalareas.org, 210-624-2575.

For detailed information, please visit our calendar at www.saparksfoundation.org/calendar.html.

