Leadership Summit 2019

Conservation — in the Heart of Texas

FEATURED KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

A Story to Tell

Chet Garner, The Daytripper

OTHER PRESENTATIONS:

The 86th Legislative Session: A Conversation

Sarah Schlessinger, Texas Water Foundation Rep. Erin Zweiner (District 45) Rep. Andrew Murr invited (District 53) Rep. Terry Wilson invited (District 20)

Total Solar Eclipse 2024: Community Preparation for a Natural Phenomenon

Angela Speck, University of Texas San Antonio

Drought Proof Texas: Land Restoration for Increased Water Infiltration and Improved Water Quality

Pete Van Dyck, Drought Proof TX

The Story of the Hill Country: The Role of News Media in Our Region

Bob Rivard, The Rivard Report Ken Cooke, Fredericksburg Standard Radio-Post

The Future of Water in the Texas Hill Country

Sharlene Leurig, Texas Water Trade

The Emergent Stories of the Hill Country: Rapid Fire Session

Speakers to be announced

Join us for breakfast, lunch, a networking reception, door prizes, & much more!





Chet Garner - The Daytripper

Chet Garner is the creator, host, and executive producer of The Daytripper, an 8-time Emmy-award-winning Texas travel show airing on PBS stations across the country. Born in Comanche and raised in Port Neches, Texas, Chet's love for storytelling began at a young age around the Boy Scout campfire and toting around his grandfather's VHS video camera staging elaborate productions in his backyard. Chet earned a degree in Radio-Television-Film from the University of Texas at Austin and went on to graduate first in his class from Baylor Law School. However, after practicing law for 3 years, he decided to follow his passions and simultaneously inspire folks to appreciate the beauty, history, and food of the Lone Star State. What followed was a crash course in travel, filmmaking, marketing, and doing whatever it takes to start a successful TV show. When not traveling Chet is at home in Georgetown, Texas with his wife and 5 children (10, 8, 6, 3, and 0) – although he's usually got them on the road too.



Erin Zwiener - Texas Representative, District 45

Erin Zwiener is an author, educator, and conservationist who is serving her first term in the Texas House of Representatives. Representative Zwiener serves on the Environmental Regulation Committee and Agriculture and Livestock Committee. Representative Zwiener is a member of the House Democratic Caucus, LGBTQ Caucus, Rural Caucus, Sportsmen Caucus, Farm-To-Table Caucus, Young Texans Legislative Caucus, Women's Health Caucus, and the Legislative Study Group. A fifth-generation Texan, Representative Zwiener is committed to fighting for Texas values including healthy communities, inclusivity, and common sense government. She believes that state government should serve all Texans because y'all means all. Representative Zwiener holds a Bachelor of Science in Natural Resource Conservation and a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing. She is a three-time Jeopardy! Champion and a member of the Long Riders Guild. Representative Zwiener lives in Driftwood with her husband Quincy, daughter Lark, a dog, three horses, a mule, and a potbellied pig.



Pete Van Dyck, Owner at Van Dyck Earthworks & Design LLC

Pete Van Dyck grew up in Oklahoma and then spent six years serving in the United States Navy. After his service with the Navy, he has relentlessly pursued a lifestyle of land restoration after realizing the connectedness of the health of the land, health of the water, and the health of humans. Using the GI Bill he attended a heavy equipment operator and construction course where he learned how to safely operate equipment and run job sites. Pete has attended many land planning design courses and farm design with world-renowned designers including Darren Doherty, Geoff Lawton and Mark Shepard. He has volunteered his services with the non-profit Earth Repair Corps to farmers and homesteaders all over central Texas, helping them to conserve soil, water, and money. Aside from his outstanding record of volunteerism he also runs a small business that specializes in soil and water conservation that has worked and consulted on over 100 sites around Texas since 2015. Now he lives in Blanco, Texas and is building a farm that will demonstrate how to regeneratively manage the land while making a sustainable profit. When not working to drought-proof Texas, Pete loves to read, swim, play guitar, and dream about healing landscapes on a broad scale.



Sharlene Leurig - Chief Executive Officer of Texas Water Trade

Sharlene Leurig serves as Chief Executive Officer of Texas Water Trade, a nonprofit with the mission of unleashing the power of markets and technological innovation to provide a future of clean, flowing water for all Texans. Ms. Leurig is a sustainable water finance expert with experience in long-range planning, infrastructure finance and water transactions. She specializes in distributed water infrastructure finance and environmental water transactions. In her position as Chair of the City Council-appointed task force overseeing implementation of the City of Austin's 100-year water plan, Ms. Leurig has been a consistent advocate for integration of distributed water resources into the city's water supply portfolio. By 2040, the City of Austin is now projected to have the largest supply of distributed water resources of any American city.



Angela Speck - Chair of Physics & Astronomy, University of Texas San Antonio

Angela Speck is a Professor and Chair of Physics & Astronomy at the University of Texas at San Antonio. She is also Co-Chair of the National Total Solar Eclipse Task Force, which works to prepare the nation for the total solar eclipse that will occur in 2024. She recently left the University of Missouri after 17 years there. Dr. Speck's academic career exemplifies the idea that there should be a strong synergy between the research, teaching, and service components of any faculty member's work. She has a doctorate in Astronomy from University College London.



Robert Rivard - Editor and Publisher of The Rivard Report

With his wife, longtime journalist Robert Rivard founded the member supported Rivard Report in February 2012. It is San Antonio's leading local online news source, serves as a community platform and has published more than 1,000 commentaries and stories submitted by readers from all walks of life in San Antonio.

Stay tuned for more details on speakers and programming updates on the 2019 Hill Country Leadership Summit: www.hillcountryalliance.org/LeadershipSummit

