

My fellow TCC members;

I come to you today with an unpleasant request to address what I believe to be a serious matter. This issue has been going on for some time now and its time to put a stop to it.

Those of you that have been coming to TCC for some time are familiar with and maybe have been the target of accusations made by John Szewczyk in which he complains of the distressing situation of his mistreatment, being singled out, unfairly punished for following the rules and being the victim of a double standard.

Throughout the years, many of us have received John's long winded emails either directly or thru the Yahoo Groups ranting and raving with complaints, accusations and issues that mean nothing to many of us. Many probably open the email, see the length and just delete it. Unlike some people, I work 8 hours a day and do not want to come home to read a lengthy email from someone ranting and raving about something that means absolutely nothing to me.

When I become Land Management Chairman, now known as Facilities Coordinator, I have personally received numerous emails from John of how he is being unfairly treated, accusing me of allowing other people to get away with doing things but not allowing him, constantly bringing up the issue of the donation from PWA-HC for the bathroom project and most recent, his constant complaining that he is being evicted from the spot where his tent was.

To begin, after I became Land Management Chairman, John had acquired his trailer and was no longer staying in his tent. I requested, several times, he dismantle his tent since there was no need for it. Each time, he claimed it had items for the PWA run and did not have a place to store them. Each time, I had offered to assist him in either relocating his tent next to his trailer or setup another tent and assist relocating the items in the tent so it may be taken down. He kept declining my offer.

Out of the blue on April 13, 2007, I received an email informing me that the spot he was on belonged to the Houston Firedancers, from an agreement which was made between him and members of Firedancers SA and now I was forcing him off his club site because he was "upsizing from a tent to a trailer".

This being news to me, I went to the members he stated he made this agreement with as well as the Land Management Chairman at the time. No one recalled any agreement made with him. My question here is how can he claim this spot to be a club site when none of the Houston Firedancer members ever come out to the Landsite?

Now, in recent emails, he has been referring to the site as belonging to PWA-Holiday Charities. He states in an email that PWA-HC has donated thousands of dollars to TCC in money and supplies and hundreds of hours of labor and as a corporate member of TCC, PWA-HC should be entitled to that site. Now, my question here is which is it, a Houston Firedancers or a PWA-HC site?

Also John needs to be reminded that the two runs a year with over 100 campers he coordinates is costing TCC money by donating the use of the Landsite, electricity and propane.

There has never been a discussion of removing him from the site with the other members of Land Management. Until last Activity Weekend, his tent remained up. I believe I had given John a lot of leeway with that tent hoping the first aid station would be built soon allowing him to relocate the items in the tent and then take it down. In another email, he questioned why, way back before I became a member in 2000, was Hal and Jim allowed having a tent set up there and Ron Malone's trailer allowed there. If it was a permanent site back then, it should still be a permanent site now.

Recently, there was a misunderstanding between Stan and I, the misunderstanding which I admit was on my part concerning the spot currently occupied by Touch of Leather. After sending an email to the rest of the Land Management Committee members informing them of the misunderstanding and apologizing to them for my mistake, John immediately took the opportunity to seize on this mistake and begin his rampage of accusing TOL of trying to get around the rules, bringing up past issues, distorting the facts, coping text out of context from old emails and asks " Why should rules be bent, waived, ignored, skirted or interpreted certain ways for the ToL site and not other sites?"

Last Activity Weekend, he dismantled and discarded his tent. He sent out an email to the members of Land Management accusing some of the members, as well as myself, of evicting him from the site. This angered those members of Land Management. I was angered at the fact that John had finally crossed the line accusing his fellow Land Management Committee members of something that never happened. John was never given any ultimatum to move his tent nor were there any discussion between myself and other members of Land Management about taking action against John.

I know this is nothing new with John. He has done it before and will continue to act in a way that is unbecoming of an elected official of the Texas Conference of Clubs.

Because of these actions and accusations made by John, I do not believe he should remain a member of the Texas Conference of Clubs Land Management Committee. I hereby request that the Delegates of the Texas Conference of Clubs remove John Szewczyk from the Land Management Committee as his actions have generated reluctance by other members of Land Management to work with him. Furthermore, I am requesting the Delegates to insist he discontinue his tyrannical emails and verbal complaining as people do not want to come to the Landsite to here the distressing situation of his so called mistreatment.

Respectively submitted,  
Dale Arndt, Facilities Coordinator  
Texas Conference of clubs