

**HARP & SHAMROCK SOCIETY OF TEXAS**  
**P.O. BOX 15306**  
**San Antonio, TX 78219**  
[www.harbandshamrock.org](http://www.harbandshamrock.org)



January 10, 2012

*Dear Friends of the St. Patrick's Day Parade:*

On behalf of The Harp and Shamrock Society of Texas it is with a heavy heart that I write to tell you that we are unable to stage the St. Patrick's Day parade in 2012. The escalating costs of the parade of over \$12,000 for the permit, barricades, police, insurance and the reviewing stand and lack of city support and assistance make it impossible to continue this tradition.

Some of you have been with us for the full 44 years of our parade's existence and we know you will feel the loss of our annual expression of pride in our Irish heritage as strongly as we do. The history of the Irish in San Antonio is linked not only to the history of San Antonio itself but to your own history as a representative of the San Antonio community.

We are working to develop funding and sponsorship for future street parades. If you have contacts in the downtown business community, you could let them know that the parade is a crowd pleaser and an event that attracts not only the tourist community but represents many of the other ethnic groups that make up the story of San Antonio. It wouldn't hurt to let your Council Person know (see attached list) how much this small but community oriented parade means to you and your group, especially the children who have been the nucleus of our parade year after year.

We will continue our presence in the St. Patrick's Day celebration by maintaining our partnership with Paseo del Rio Association in dyeing the river green with a river parade as we have done for almost as long as we've had the street parade. We're also working on a fund raising Irish celebration at Beethoven Halle und Garten on March 17. We hope you will be able to join us for these two events. There will be more about these events on our website [www.harbandshamrock.org](http://www.harbandshamrock.org).

With the support of our city and business leaders downtown, we hope to be able to re-stage one of the longest running St. Patrick's Day Parades in Texas. In the meantime, we thank you for your participation all these years. You were the spirit and joy of our parade through rain, wind, cold and heat and occasional sunburn and we hope it was as exciting and joyous for you as it was for those of us in the Harp and Shamrock Society who worked on the Parade. We hope to see you again.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Dowd, Chairman  
Harp and Shamrock Society Parade  
Committee

HARP AND SHAMROCK  
SOCIETY OF TEXAS, INC

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Terence Peak

VICE PRESIDENT  
Kevin Dowd

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IRISHMAN OF THE YEAR  
Bill Merriman

**HARP & SHAMROCK SOCIETY OF TEXAS**  
**P.O. BOX 15306**  
**San Antonio, TX 78212**  
[www.harpandshamrock.org](http://www.harpandshamrock.org)



San Antonio City Council (by District)

HARP AND SHAMROCK  
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IRISHMAN OF THE YEAR  
Bill Merriman

<u>Mayor</u>	Julián Castro	(210) 207-7060	<u><a href="#">e-mail the Mayor</a></u>
<u>District 1</u>	Diego M. Bernal	(210) 207-7279	<u><a href="#">e-mail District 1</a></u>
<u>District 2</u>	Ivy R. Taylor	(210) 207-7278	<u><a href="#">e-mail District 2</a></u>
<u>District 3</u>	Jennifer V. Ramos	(210) 207-7064	<u><a href="#">e-mail District 3</a></u>
<u>District 4</u>	Rey Saldaña	(210) 207-7281	<u><a href="#">e-mail District 4</a></u>
<u>District 5</u>	David Medina, Jr.	(210) 207-7043	<u><a href="#">e-mail District 5</a></u>
<u>District 6</u>	Ray Lopez	(210) 207-7065	<u><a href="#">e-mail District 6</a></u>
<u>District 7</u>	Cris Medina	(210) 207-7044	<u><a href="#">e-mail District 7</a></u>
<u>District 8</u>	W. Reed Williams	(210) 207-7086	<u><a href="#">e-mail District 8</a></u>
<u>District 9</u>	Elisa Chan	(210) 207-7325	<u><a href="#">e-mail District 9</a></u>
<u>District 10</u>	Carlton Soules	(210) 207-7276	<u><a href="#">e-mail District 10</a></u>