

Welcome New Board Member, Mark Hinzman

Mark Hinzman dreamed of becoming a sportscaster. After receiving a certification in broadcasting from Brown College in Minneapolis, he landed a job at a small radio station in Wisconsin. He was disc jockey, sports director, news director and commercial writer. When reality set in (poor pay and bad hours), Mark moved on to corporate employment. But, he says, the skills he developed in radio have served him well in his sales and management roles.

As the newest member of TRP's board of directors (he joined in November), Mark will put those skills to good use. His focus will be on meeting with corporate partners and donors in pursuit of volunteer and financial support. Mark has followed the development of TRP for many years. With his retirement set for March, he was more than ready to come on board.

"One of the greatest gifts my parents provided to me was the gift and spirit of generosity," says Mark. "Be generous with your time, talents and financial resources! The timing is perfect, as in retirement I will have more time to give to TRP and other things I volunteer for."

A native of Wisconsin, Mark landed in Dallas in 1981 with no job and a single acquaintance. He quickly found a job selling yellow pages ads at GTE Directories. Two years later he moved to GTE Sprint, where he spent 22 years in regional sales, business applications and operations. He has spent the last seven years in sales management and business development for Samsung, retiring as senior manager, software and services.

Mark and his wife, Kathy, whom he married in 1984, have two daughters, both teachers in the D/FW area. The Hinzmans enjoy traveling, with primary destinations Europe and Alaska. Mark enjoys history, reading and sports. He shared Texas Rangers tickets for 26 years and has attended over 500 Major League Baseball games in 22 stadiums across the United States. He's also a passionate Green Bay Packers fan.

Mark has been an active member of King of Glory Lutheran Church for 34 years, serving in numerous council and other leadership positions. He currently chairs the gift acceptance committee of the church's foundation. He also serves on the board of the local synod's mission endowment fund, chairing a new legacy/planned giving program.

"I think the ministry and mission of the Texas Ramp Project are fabulous," Mark says. "TRP changes people's lives in a matter of hours."