



# Bayou Foliage

Vol. 12 No. 7 July 1994

A PUBLICATION OF THE ARMAND BAYOU NATURE CENTER VOLUNTEERS

## JULY ABNCV MEETING

THURSDAY, July 14

6:00 p.m. Picnic at the Farmhouse

The July meeting will be the traditional Summer Volunteer Pot Luck Dinner at the ABNC Farmhouse. Come join in the good food, quiet surroundings and enjoyable company. Bring a covered dish to share and be sure not to forget your own plate and utensils. It's a great opportunity, away from the hubbub of most volunteering situations, to catch up on what's happening with your volunteer friends and to make new friends. Don't miss this fun evening at the farm.

Tom

## JULY CALENDAR

- July 2 Deadline for reservations for the Chuckwagon Dinner
- July 7 Volunteer Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- July 9 **VOLUNTEER TRAINING ORIENTATION**, 9 a.m - 3 p.m.
- July 14 Volunteer Pot Luck Dinner at the Farmhouse, 6:00 p.m.
- July 15 *Bayou Foliage* deadline
- July 16 **CHUCKWAGON DINNER**, 6:30 p.m.
- July 30-31 **FARM DAYS**
- Aug. 13 Volunteer trip to Butterfly Pavilion, see page 2

## MAY VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

The Volunteer of the Month for May is Chris Bingham. I did not reach Chris to conduct an interview, but I know that she has been an active volunteer at ABNC for a number of years. She currently serves on the volunteer board as Weekday Farm Coordinator. Besides coordinating and teaching children's classes at the farm, she frequently does Farm Days demos and helps with major events. She has organized the children's crafts portion of Creepy Crawlers for several years.

Thanks, Chris, for all your efforts over the years.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- |                 |         |
|-----------------|---------|
| Lisa Bitticks   | July 1  |
| Carol Nemitz    | July 1  |
| Ruth Tucker     | July 3  |
| Jody McKinney   | July 5  |
| Ruby Dilgren    | July 8  |
| Judy Rosen      | July 11 |
| Carol MacGregor | July 12 |
| Nathan Rosen    | July 14 |
| Scott Cleaves   | July 17 |
| Paula Kennedy   | July 17 |
| Chris LaChance  | July 22 |
| Ellen Pendleton | July 25 |
| Tom Scarsella   | July 25 |
| Pat Doerr       | July 26 |
| Wanda Hayden    | July 26 |
| Wanda Brawley   | July 28 |
| Robin Sneed     | July 28 |
| Charlie Barrett | July 28 |

NOTE: I have heard comments from several volunteers lately about the selection of the volunteer of the month. Beginning in June 1993 the volunteer of the month has been randomly selected from all volunteers in good standing. This is not to say that any of the volunteers chosen have not been most deserving. It is an effort to streamline the selection process and to "spread the wealth around." Anyone who keeps their commitments and puts in their hours is a valuable asset to ABNC. This process allows those volunteers who do a steady, reliable job every month to be recognized and highlighted in the *Bayou Foliage*.

Paula

## CONDOLENCES TO RUBY

Please join me in expressing condolences to Ruby Dilgren on the loss of her mother-in-law who passed away in June. I know that Ruby was close to her and our sympathies go out to her.

Paula

If your birthday is not listed, or is listed incorrectly, please leave a note in the *Bayou Foliage* mailslot in the breakroom. Thanks.

## MINUTES

June 9, 1994, 7:00 p.m., Vice-Chair Tom Scarsella called the volunteer meeting to order. Our scheduled speaker had to cancel and will most likely speak at a later date. Tom proceeded directly to the business meeting.

The minutes were approved as printed in the newsletter.

There was no treasurer's report.

Suzi Howe, President of the Board of Trustees, gave us an update on plans for the Bayou Boil. She asked all volunteers to take flyers to businesses, churches, etc. to help with publicity. She also urged volunteers to donate auction items, if possible, and to support the nature center by attending the event.

Suzi also asked for volunteers to help with quilting our very special quilt that we raffle during our Fall Festival. She is also looking for organizations, meetings and/or locations where the quilt can be viewed by potential raffle ticket buyers.

Bill Howe, Stewardship Coordinator, reported that the nature center has received a grant for \$10,000 from the Bay Area Assistance League to convert the greenhouse into teaching areas which are needed for the weekday classes. Bill needs helpers for the marsh restoration project; a snow fence is installed and trapping sediment behind it as the first step in the restoration process. He also needs helpers to level out the service road which will eventually be paved. Bill reported that 50 acres have been sprayed with Grazon to control tallow trees. Thanks to Dr. Tom Godwin and his helicopter for his help in this new effort in our continuing battle to rid the nature center of these invading trees.

Wanda Hayden, Admissions Coordinator, announced a new opportunity in July only, to work at the admissions desk on Fridays, all day or half days. Marsha will be doing Christine's work during her maternity leave. Please contact Wanda or Marsha if you can help out.

Barb Hill, Weekday Trail Classes Coordinator, reported that we had served 1100 children in 33 classes since January. This summer we will need volunteers for weekday classes occasionally.

Our next meeting will be our annual picnic. Bring a covered dish to share and your own plate and utensils. Everybody come!! July 14, 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was then adjourned and most stayed to see a video shown recently on Channel Eight called "Ribbons of Life", about four natural waterways in the Houston area. Of course one of those waterways featured in the video is Armand Bayou, with George Regmund in the Bayou Ranger.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### VOLUNTEER TRIP TO BUTTERFLY PAVILION

On Saturday, August 13, Phyllis Louderback has planned a trip to visit the new butterfly pavilion at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. I understand that the variety, vast numbers and beauty of these butterflies flitting around the pavilion is a "sight to behold."

Come join us and enjoy the butterflies, the museum and an "on-our-own lunch" at one of the nearby eateries or in the museum itself.

We meet in the ABNC parking lot at 9:30, Saturday, August 13th and carpool to a day of fun and camaraderie. I hope you all can join us.

If you need more information call Phyllis at 488-7884.

Jane

### BAYOU STORE - A FINANCIAL REPORT

The volunteer gift shop committee grew like topsy. Paul Bowles appointed me chair and helped immensely with his extensive experience in retail. We assumed responsibility in May 1992. Many people at different times helped in various capacities. Thanks to all, too numerous to name accurately.

From May, 1992 to June 9, 1994 our net profit was \$16,753.02. (I had hoped for 20K.)

A few items will be kept in stock behind Marsha's desk. George decided that he, Marsha and I will take care of the store.

The following items are available for a donation:

2 lanyard lock kits for TG-12LL and TG-12 martin houses.

1 winch and hardware kit for a castle martin house.

Grace Lear

## NEW OSPREY T-SHIRTS ARE IN!

PRINTED ON UNBLEACHED  
NATURAL COTTON.

THEY LOOK GREAT!

BUY ONE (OR TWO OR THREE OR  
FOUR) TODAY!

## MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND THANKS

### QUILTERS HARD AT WORK

Cutting, piecing, marking and basting on our dragonflies quilt is now complete. All that is left is to quilt. Your chances for winning the quilt of dragonflies improves dramatically if you help work on the quilt. Novices and experienced quilters are welcome. Post this schedule so you too can be included on this fun project. (We may gossip about you if you aren't there to defend yourself.)

The money from the quilt raffle goes into the ABNC operating fund to help pay for day-to-day expenses. Please join the Bayou Quilters as we work on the 1994 ABNC raffle quilt.

Sat., July 9, 9:00 - 12:00, at ABNC

#### FARM DAYS:

Sat., July 30, 1:00 - 4:00, at ABNC

Sun., July 31, 1:00 - 4:00, at ABNC

#### FARM DAYS:

Sat., Aug. 27, 1:00 - 4:00, at ABNC

Sun., Aug. 28, 1:00 - 4:00, at ABNC.

Suzi Howe

### A FOND FAREWELL

Frances Cerbins recently moved to Maryland. She has been associated for eons with ABNC, and she has played many roles as a volunteer. Her quiet, gentle manner belied a person of professional competence and strong organizational ability. I enjoyed her puckish sense of humor. My husband and Frances worked together for several years on the Space Shuttle. He called her "a smart girl." Frances had many interests. The only thing I know she didn't enjoy was hunting snakes!

We'll miss you, Frances.

Grace Lear

### TRAIL REPORT -- SPRING 1994

Bravo, bravo, to all you willing weekday trail volunteers. Here is a breakdown of this spring's classes through the end of June. It's truly not much different than 1993, except that we did more children last spring; this spring we did a few more classes.

	Nature Discovery	Insects	Adapts.	Trail	TOTAL
1994:					
Classes	1	14	5	13	33
Students	12	575	236	363	1186
1993:					
Classes	5	11	8	4	28
Students	221	449	353	167	1240

Please note also there were three classes that cancelled with a total of 150 students. Our total numbers would have been on target with last year.

Volunteers, please, please write, phone, smoke signal what changes you want or if you want the programs kept the same. Give info to me or Mary Alice Trumble. Do you want changes in the program? Don't be silent. Thanks,

Barb Hill

### SECONDARY DIVISION OF ANNUAL ART SHOW A GREAT SUCCESS

This April/May the winning entries of the secondary schools entered in our 11th annual Art Competition were on exhibit in the auditorium at the Nature Center. Enjoyed by visitors and volunteers alike, the artwork expresses the awareness and more sophisticated ideas about nature and its preservation of the sixth through twelfth grade young people. Their works continue to show remarkable abilities.

Like other ABNC volunteer projects, its success was due to the dedicated assistance of a few special volunteers. Many sincere thanks to Grace Lear for mailing the art packets to the schools; to Marjorie Borey for registering entries and helping prepare them for hanging; to Wanda Hayden who assisted in mounting artwork on the display panels; and again to Grace Lear who helped "strike" the show, and prepare and package the entries for pick-up.

On May 15, the volunteers held a lovely reception, and the auditorium was full of young people, their parents, friends and teachers. Our judge, well-known local artist Evelyn Stebbins, attended and spoke to the visitors. Carol MacGregor managed the affair and set a beautiful "tea" table. She and assistant Jane Bock were hostesses at the reception. A big THANK YOU to the volunteers who made the yummy cookies for the event.

Lynn Shigekawa, a member of the ABNC Board of Trustees, graciously acting in George Regmund's stead, assisted in handing out ribbons to the winners and certificates to all who participated, and enjoyed mixing with the young people after the presentations.

The month of May, always a very busy time at ABNC, also had the wall "come tumbling down" in the auditorium. This change necessitated the display panels to be mounted on their companion standards/posts instead of being hung on the partition wall. Many, many thanks to Steve Jester and the "boys" (Eric, Jonathan and Michael) who hung them and prepared the room for our exhibit.

If you missed the exhibition, we are sorry, and hope that you plan to attend next year -- you will not be disappointed. The rest of us will miss the colorful achievements of the young people that brightened our walls for a while. Many visitors remarked how pleasing it was to see the display through the window as they came up the walk to the Center.

Many thanks again to all our helpers!

Sanda Bauer  
Art Chairman

## MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND THANKS

### A GOODBYE FROM SCOTT...

Dear ABNC volunteers:

If by chance you haven't heard, I have been offered and accepted a new position with the Clear Creek Independent School District as the manager of the district's new Science Resource Center which is being housed at Seabrook Intermediate School. Therefore, I have resigned my position as Education Coordinator at the Center effective May 25th. Working at ABNC has been a very valuable experience for me and I owe much of my success to the volunteers who so diligently assisted me. I would like to especially thank Mary Alice Trumble, Ruby Dilgren and Joanna Wactor for their dedication and unending support.

I hope my work at the Center was beneficial and may perhaps influence the direction of the Education Department in the future. Once again, I am very grateful for your support and wish you all continued well-being and success.

Sincerely,

Scott

### A GOODBYE TO SCOTT...

Many, many thanks to Scott Cleaves for all he did for the Education Department and ABNC. During the 14 months Scott was here he put in many 10- and 12-hour days with very few days off. In addition to the work he did at the Center, which often included more than education duties, he represented ABNC at meetings and expos around the city. His help to me in my position as chairman of the Board of Trustees Education Committee was invaluable. And last, but not least, he led us to the discovery of the exciting programs from The Institute for Earth Education, many which we hope to utilize here in the near future. Thanks again, Scott, for all you did. You will be missed. Best of luck in your new job at CCISD.

Mary Alice Trumble

---

## ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING ADMISSIONS DESK

### A GREAT NEW OPPORTUNITY!

#### **BUT IT IS TEMPORARY, SO PAY CLOSE ATTENTION SO YOU WON'T MISS OUT!**

Christine Barrett, the Nature Center accountant, will be taking a short maternity leave of absence, and Marsha Allen will be assuming most of Christine's duties. Therefore, the staff has asked us volunteers to man the Admissions Desk all day (9-5) each Friday in July and the first Friday in August. This can be broken up into two shifts -- one in the morning and one in the afternoon. If you choose to work the whole day, a lunch break will be provided.

(Please note this is in addition to the help needed at the desk during the regular Thursday staff meeting and Sunday late closing.)

If you feel you need further training, contact Marsha and then me for scheduling.

Who knows? Someday your children or grandchildren may ask, "What did you do during Christine's absence?"

Wanda Charline Hayden  
486-7566

## VOLUNTEER DUTY SCHEDULE

In an attempt to take some of the load off the Coordinators, and to help cut down on our "no show" rate, a list of the persons who have volunteered for various assignments will be printed in the Bayou Foliage each month. If you are scheduled for a particular duty and you are unable to attend, please use this schedule to try to find your own substitute. You may be able to trade weekends, or swap a Saturday for a Sunday with someone who has the same duty another time during the month. If you do trade, please be sure to call the appropriate coordinator and the ABNC desk to inform them.

DATE	11:00 TRAIL	2:00 TRAIL	INFO. SERVICES	FARM DEMO	NAT. HIST. DEMO	FARM INTERP.	CLOSE
Sat. 7/2	-----	-----		-----	Ruby Dilgren - Scorpions	Paula Thorson	-----
Sun. 7/3	-----	-----		-----	Eleanor Stanley - Reptiles	Marlyn Thompsen	Ellen Pendleton
Sat. 7/9	-----	-----		-----	Marilyn Clark - Feathers	Susan Hesley	-----
Sun. 7/10	-----	-----		-----	Jennie Plunkett - Bayou Critters	Eleanor Stanley	Mary Ann Tucker
Sat 7/16	-----	-----	Sally Houk	-----	Sterling Heller - Reptiles	Jane Bingel	-----
Sun 7/17	-----	-----	Arlene Leboe	-----	Hilary Gibbs - Study Skin Prep.	Chris Bingham	Ellen Pendleton
Sat 7/23	-----	-----	John Bauer	-----	B & L Hendrix - Bird Adaptations	Sanda Bauer	-----
Sun 7/24	-----	-----	Becky Brignac	-----	Jonathan Perez - Reptiles	Jane Bingel	Mary Ann Tucker
Sat 7/30	Ray Parker	Eldine Owens	Bob Smither	FARM DAYS: ABNC Quilters - Quilting Stephania Rogers - Washday Irene Ward - Butter Churning Eric Franklin - Woodstove Gay Smither - Weaving	Hilary Gibbs - Study Skin Prep.	FARM DAYS	-----
Sun 7/31	-----	Melanie Weisman		FARM DAYS ABNC Quilters - Quilting Hilary Gibbs - Ice Cream Sanda Bauer - Lemonade Mary Ann Tucker - Basket Weaving Steve Buckman - Farm Life	Anne Trncher - Microworld	FARM DAYS	Ellen Pendleton

IF YOU CAN FILL IN ANY OF THE BLANK SPOTS, PLEASE CALL THE APPROPRIATE COORDINATOR.