



Bayou Foliage

Vol. 12 No. 9 Sept. 1994

A PUBLICATION OF THE ARMAND BAYOU NATURE CENTER VOLUNTEERS

OCTOBER CALENDAR

- Oct. 6 Volunteer Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Oct. 9 CONTINUING ED: NIGHT HIKES 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- Oct. 13 Volunteer meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Oct. 15 CONTINUING ED: POND ECOLOGY, 10:00 a.m.
- Oct. 15 *Bayou Foliage* deadline
- Oct. 28-29 **CREEPY CRAWLERS**
- Oct. 29-30 **FARM DAYS**

AUGUST VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

The Volunteer of the Month for August is Pat Doerr. Pat trained as a volunteer six years ago and is very active in birding activities including leading dawn walks and giving demonstrations on feathers, owls and bird adaptations. She served on the Volunteer Board as Demonstration Coordinator in 1992 and 1993. This year, she contributed greatly to the success of the Bayou Boil in June by serving as co-chair for the auction. A truly dedicated volunteer, Pat says "My association with ABNC provides me with so much -- the chance to commune with nature, continual self-improvement from hands-on learning and experience, and contact with fine people (staff, volunteers and visitors). At ABNC it's a kinder, gentler world."

Thanks, Pat. You are an exceptional one of those "fine people."

OCTOBER ABNCV MEETING

THURSDAY, October 13

- 6:30 p.m. Coffee and Conversation
- 7:00 p.m. Program - "Pharmacology: A Discipline of Murder, Magic and Medicine" by Dr. Robert Newman of M. D. Anderson Cancer Center.

The speaker for our October meeting will be Dr. Robert Newman from the Clinical Investigations Department of M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. The program is on drugs from unique and irreplaceable sources. The program may begin a little late as Dr. Newman has quite a distance to get to ABNC. (I hope we have a good turnout. This looks very interesting!)

I would like to thank Doug Myers for a very interesting program in September. Doug has been a friend of the Nature Center for a long time and his continued good will and interest are appreciated. Thanks again, Doug.

Tom

FALL FESTIVAL

The Fall Festival sign-up sheets are ready and awaiting your signature. Come in and schedule yourself for a fun-filled weekend and a wonderful opportunity to help ABNC. We are asking all volunteers to dress in turn-of-the-century costume. Keep it simple: ladies, long skirt and blouse; men, jeans and shirt (most men at this time wore white shirts.) If you've never worked at Fall Festival and need more information about each event call Jane Bingel (554-5069). If you've already signed up, but need instructions for your particular event, the training will be Nov. 5 beginning at 9:30 a.m. A more complete schedule will be in the next *Bayou Foliage*. As always, we need lots of volunteer help to make this major event a success. Please consider signing up for as much time as possible. Remember, you are getting the chance for a prime slot by signing up early. If we still have openings to fill two weeks before the festival, we will be phoning all volunteers who have not signed up. Thanks for your help.

Mary Alice

CREEPY CRAWLERS: Volunteers and Lanterns Needed

Creepy Crawlers is Friday, October 28 and Saturday, October 29 from 6:00 - 9:30 p.m. If you would like to help with this FUN event, call me at 532-1192. We can always use more volunteer help.

As in part years we are dependent on volunteer-loaned lanterns for lighting for this evening activity. If you have a battery-powered, Coleman or propane lantern that we can borrow for a few days, please drop it off at the Nature Center by Friday, October 28 before 5:00 p.m. Be sure it is clearly labelled with your name and that it has fresh batteries or is filled with fuel.

Thanks.

Tom Scarsella

MINUTES

Sept. 8, 1994, 7:05 p.m., Jane Bingel, chair, called the meeting to order. Tom Scarsella, vice-chair, introduced Doug Myers, who presently works for the Texas General Land Office, as our speaker, whose topic was Marsh Restoration--The Big Picture. Doug had his hallmark bucket with him, loaded with marsh plants and animals. Besides enjoying a very informative and interesting presentation, the volunteers, in attendance, earned one and one-half hours of continuing education credit.

Jane then proceeded directly with the business meeting. The August minutes were approved as printed in the *Bayou Foliage*. Harvey Louderback, treasurer, reported \$557.75 in the savings account and \$1679.05 in the checking account. We made \$65.65 at our August cookie sale. We will probably be spending the \$500 we committed for the new rug in the auditorium within the next month.

Sue Miller, Weekend Trail Coordinator, reported that she has several special groups requesting trail guides on the weekends and that she needs several guides on Sat. Sept. 24, for a large group.

Bill Howe, Stewardship Coordinator, reported that work is proceeding on the bird blind and that volunteers have the opportunity to work with a professional carpenter.

George Regmund, Director, introduced Mary Alice Trumble in her new full-time position as Educational Coordinator. He also reported that the mitigation project to enlarge and create new wetlands at ABNC has finally gotten all the necessary approvals, and we have a good chance of getting the work done this fall, if the weather permits. ABNC will man a booth at a special children's day at Greenspoint Mall; George would like a few volunteers to help. He announced that Pat Doerr is Volunteer of the Month for August.

Jane reported that the Volunteer Board is recommending that we withdraw the proposed bylaw amendment regarding the number of meetings per year, at this time. A motion to withdraw the amendment was seconded and passed.

Jane then asked for nominations for the nominating committee. The following volunteers accepted nomination: Ed Adams, Phyllis Louderback, Mary Alice Trumble, Irene Ward, Lou Wheatcraft. A motion to accept the candidates by acclamation passed.

Jane announced that a new Art Show Coordinator is needed for next year, as Sanda Bauer is moving away.

Ruby Dilgren has graciously volunteered to do a telephone survey on reasons for poor volunteer meeting attendance.

Jane congratulated Ivy Kaminsky and Tom Burt who have met the criteria to become full fledged volunteers by turning in their completed and signed

volunteer-in-training forms.

Tom Scarsella, Chairman of Creepy Crawlers, announced another committee meeting for Sept. 15. Sue Miller is lining up volunteers to man the trail as guides or as costumed characters.

Mary Alice Trumble and Chris LaChance, Co-chairs for Fall Festival, announced that the use of two 28-passenger buses has been donated for Fall Festival weekend. They requested that all volunteers dress in costume for the event. For example, a blouse and a long skirt would look like the proper attire for a turn-of-the-century farm woman. Saturday's barbecue will be catered and cost \$3.25. Training for all Fall Festival crafts will occur before the event. SIGN UP NOW. Everybody gets involved for Fall Festival, not just farm volunteers.

Harvey Louderback announced that the first weekend in December has been reserved at Brazos Bend State Park for our annual volunteer campout. Signups are invited; the cost will be \$6.

Mary Alice Trumble, Educational Coordinator, asked all the volunteers to fill out a survey on volunteer training, as she is planning the training program for next spring. She also asked volunteers to help advertise the Sept. and Oct. children's programs by posting flyers in libraries and churches, as the classes are filling slowly.

The next meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 13.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Anne Tincher,
Secretary

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Wil Paxton	Oct. 1
Blanca Noel	Oct. 2
Maria Ramirez	Oct. 3
Becky Brignac	Oct. 7
Barbara Neal	Oct. 9
Bill Howe	Oct. 15
John Bauer	Oct. 16
Colleen Ecord	Oct. 18
Grace Lear	Oct. 18
Bob Arnette	Oct. 21
Robin Griffith	Oct. 23
Ed Rouse	Oct. 23
Al Stock	Oct. 25
Janet Martinez	Oct. 27
Winnie Burkett	Oct. 28
Bob Hendrix	Oct. 30
Pat Walker	Oct. 31

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONTINUING EDUCATION: NIGHT HIKES, POND ECOLOGY and REPTILE HANDLING

If you've always wanted to lead a night hike but were unsure of how it's done, now's your chance to find out. George Regmund will be teaching a continuing education class on "everything you ever wanted to know about night hikes." He will give basic owl information, teach us how to use the owl tapes, take us on an actual night hike and brief us on the logistics of letting the visitors in, locking the gate, turning off the lights, etc. The training will be Sunday, October 9 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Come prepared for mosquitoes, wear comfortable shoes and bring a flashlight. Please call Mary Alice at ABNC or Tom Scarsella at 532-1192 to sign up for the training.

Doug Myers will be leading a continuing education class on "Pond Ecology" on Saturday, October 15 at 10:00 a.m. If you heard Doug's program at the last volunteer meeting you know this is a training session not to miss. Doug has so much information to share and can do it in such an enjoyable manner, I'm sure many of you will want to attend. There will be a sign-up sheet in the lobby next to the volunteer log book.

Another exciting training coming up this fall will be done by Sterling Heller on Saturday, November 19. (You will have recovered from Fall Festival by then.) Sterling, who is also a very busy volunteer at the Houston Zoo, will be showing us the proper way to handle reptiles for classes and demos. If you've never done a reptile class or demo because you were afraid you didn't know how to deal with the animals, then plan to attend Sterling's training from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. A sign-up sheet will be in the lobby next to the volunteer log book.

Mary Alice

FLYER DISTRIBUTORS NEEDED

Flyers for Creepy Crawlers and Fall Festival need to be distributed in the outlying communities. It is a big task, but many hands can make it a light job. I could sure use your help. Please call me at 488-7884.

Phyllis Louderback

NOMINATIONS REQUESTED

The nominating committee requests your input for nominations for each of the Volunteer Board positions for 1995. If you have someone that you think would be a good candidate for one of the positions, please call one of the members of the nominating committee: Lou Wheatcraft, chair (486-9481), Ed Adams (946-2754), Irene Ward (992-3912), Mary Alice Trumble (474-2551) or Phyllis Louderback (488-7884). Your input is needed and appreciated.

CHANGES IN WEEKEND FARM DEMO DAYS:

1. If you are a regular weekend-farm-demo volunteer, you will hear about this in your monthly call from me. We have decided that the public would appreciate seeing a farm demo on whichever weekend afternoon they are able to visit ABNC. So... starting in November, we will have one or more volunteers at the farm site every Saturday and Sunday.

2. Some demos can go on "continuously" for three hours, meaning whenever there are visitors to watch or participate. Examples of these are rope making, wood shop, needlework, etc. Other demos are "active" for a limited amount of time: butter churning and cheese making come to mind. Starting in November, we will set definite times for these demos, so that the public can plan to be there to watch, and perhaps participate in, the activity.

Hilary Gibbs

HOW'S THE GARDEN

The seed came up! Most of the mustard greens, many of the broccoli and a few cabbage and Brussels sprouts did. The rain and cloud-cover have been helpful. This month we plant carrots, lettuce, collards, radishes and bush Lima beans. The fall tomatoes are thriving.

We always need weeders. The pathways used to be soil, not weeds. Where the plants are seedlings, you can tell the beds from the paths because the beds are mostly brown and the paths are very green. This situation needs to be reversed! Much can be accomplished in a short half-hour.

There is a job for someone who prefers to work sitting on the farmhouse porch. Ask me about it!

Hilary (326-6330)

YOUR PHONE WILL BE RINGING

Before the Volunteer Board proceeds with a bylaws amendment to reduce the required number of meetings per year, we would like to know why you have not been attending. Ruby Dilgren has graciously volunteered to conduct a telephone survey of all volunteers to ask just that. If you can give her a hand with the phoning, please let her know. When you do get that phone call, please help us out. We can't make the meetings more appealing if we don't know what you want and don't want. Thanks.

DON'T INTERRUPT, PLEASE

When Marsha or the Info. Services Interpreter is helping visitors with information about ABNC, or conducting a business transaction, please don't interrupt. The public deserves their undivided attention.

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND THANKS!

ANNUAL VOLUNTEER CAMPOUT

The traditional campout at Brazos Bend State Park is set for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, December 2-4. George Regmund will join us Saturday night for a campfire sing-along, then lead us on a bird walk Sunday morning.

Set up your tent or bring your van or campers and bird, hike, bike or do whatever pleases you. Come by yourself or bring a volunteer buddy. There are usually tents to share. Saturday night we enjoy a hot dog roast which is provided, but the other meals are each individual's responsibility.

Come on Friday or come on Saturday, but join us for a relaxing back-to-nature experience. If you haven't come before, join us this year. Sign up starts Wednesday, November 2. There will be a clipboard at the Nature Center reception desk, but a check will confirm your reservation.

Cost is \$6 per person to be sent to me at 14918 Tallow Forest Ct., Houston, TX 77062. Make checks payable to "ABNC Volunteers." There is also a \$5 fee per day per vehicle entrance fee to the park unless you have a Texas Conservation Passport (an annual pass to all Texas State Parks.)

Phyllis Louderback (488-7884)

TO WEEKDAY TRAIL VOLUNTEERS

Please put on your thinking caps. To enhance and expand the insect program, we need your help. We would like to provide a pre- and post-field trip test to the registered classes. We would also like to provide some activities in the insect program for rainy days. What is your pleasure? What bits of information do you think should be reinforced? Please write, phone, fax or smoke signal Jane Bingel or Mary Alice Trumble.

Grace Lear has graciously (excuse the alliteration) accepted the job of scheduling the weekday trail volunteers while I do a little traveling this fall. Gracias, Grace.

There is a group of two hundred children coming from Baytown for one half day on October 7. Please be generous with your time as it will require many volunteers. Thanks.

Barb Hill

VOLUNTEER MANUALS AVAILABLE

The Volunteer Manual has been updated several times over the last few years. If you trained more than a year or two ago you may want a complete new copy. We are offering copies of the entire manual, without binder, for \$3.00. Just leave a note in the *Bayou Foliage* mailslot in the breakroom with your money and I'll get one to you.

Paula Kennedy

NEW ART SHOW CHAIR NEEDED

Sanda and John Bauer are moving to Austin. (Austin's gain is definitely our loss!) Sanda has been Student Art Show Chair for many years. A replacement is needed. If you have an interest in promoting student art and would be willing to take on the ABNC art show, please contact Jane Bingel.

FALL FESTIVAL VOLUNTEER DINNER

The Martyn Farm Fall Festival is so important to the Nature Center. We all want to see the Nature Center survive and thrive, so if we each do our part and contribute some time and energy this will be another great event. Lets all come out to Fall Festival and work together, and then enjoy a wonderful barbecue dinner on Saturday night, November 12. The cost is a nominal \$3.25 per plate and the volunteers and artisans will eat heartily after a full day of activities.

Please sign the clip board at the reception desk and give your money to Marsha or call me. Reservations must be made by Sunday, November 6.

Phyllis Louderback (488-7884)

ADDITIONS!

Congratulations to the following volunteers on the new additions to their families:

Margaret Frick - Daughter
Mary Ann Tucker - Grandson
Marsha Allen - Granddaughter
Mary Beth Pinkerton - Son

ROSTER CORRECTIONS

Bill Kossack
2 Quiet Acres
Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889
(908) 534-5425

Chris LaChance, work - 334-7345

Tom Burt, home - 335-7717, work - 338-2870

Eric Franklin, home - 480-6496

An Rockett has moved to Washington DC.

Shannon Bedford has gone inactive.

Welcome to full volunteer status:
Ivy Kaminsky and Tom Burt

Chris Davis (home - 471-6644) and Jonathan Perez (home - 477-4901) were accidentally left off the roster. They are full volunteers.

The correct spelling of Ramesh's last name is Dhanaraj.

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. 10/1	Ruby Dilgren - Skulls	P. & V. Greenfield	.....
Sun. 10/2	Hilary Gibbs - Study Skin Prep.		Eric Duran
Sat. 10/8	Joe Bryan	.....	Jennie Plunkett - Bayou Critters Eric Duran - Local Amphibians	Irene Ward	.....
Sun. 10/9	Kelly Kearns	.....	Joanna Wactor - Arthropods	Chris Bingham	Ellen Pendleton
Sat 10/15	David Abusi (1:00) Ray Parker (1:00)		.....	Pat Grimes - - Bats	Penny Woodward	.....
Sun 10/16	Melanie Weisman (noon)		.....	Eleanor Stanley - Reptiles	Martha Murries	Debra Crowe
Sat 10/22	Susan Hesley (10:00) James Crabb (10:00)	.....		.....	Sterling Heller - - Reptiles	Jane Bingel	.....
Sun 10/23	Sally Houk	.....	Zel Arbuckle - Snakes	Eldine Owens	Ellen Pendleton
Sat 10/29	Joe Bryan	Al Stook		FARM DAYS: Laura Hendrix - Butter Churning S. & P. Rogers - Washday Ed Adams & Eric Franklin - Blacking the Wood Stove Bob Hendrix - Farm Life	Pat Doerr - - Owls		.....
Sun 10/30	Judy Mayes		FARM DAYS Tom Scarsella - Blacksmithing Karen Lon - Wood Shop Mary Ann Tucker - Basket Weaving Chris Bingham - Cheese Making	Pam Christie - Pond Life		.....

IF YOU CAN FILL IN ANY OF THE BLANK SPOTS IN FARM INTERPRETER OR INFO. SERVICES INTERPRETER, PLEASE CALL GRACE LEAR AT 486-4141.
 WE CHANGE TO CENTRAL STANDARD TIME ON OCTOBER 30. THERE WILL BE NO NEED FOR LATE CLOSING VOLUNTEERS ON SUNDAYS UNTIL SPRING.

FROM THE NEW EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Thanks to all the volunteers who have congratulated me and wished me well in my new position as Education Coordinator. I am looking forward to working with many of you, as I have done for a long time, in a slightly different capacity. Since becoming interim coordinator in May I have been going full-speed. Now that I've been hired full-time I don't expect things to change, but I am truly looking forward to the challenge. I am especially excited about working on volunteer training and continuing education. If I can be of help in any way, please don't hesitate to call.

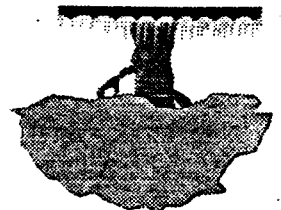
Mary Alice

P.S. Attached to this issue of the *Bayou Foliage* is a questionnaire on Volunteer Training. Please complete it and either place it in my mailslot at the Nature Center or mail it to me at ABNC, P. O. Box 58828, Houston, TX 77258. Thanks.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

8500 Bay Area Blvd.
P.O. Box 58828
Houston, Texas 77258
713-474-2551

ARMAND BAYOU NATURE CENTER



TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

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