



Bayou Foliage

Volume 16 No. 12 December 1998
A publication of the Armand Bayou Nature Center Volunteers
"Interested + Informed + Involved"

December Calendar

- 5 Stewardship Saturday (Trail, forest, facilities)
- 5 **YULETIDE**
- 6 Volunteer Board Meeting, 4:00
- 10 Volunteer Meeting
- 10 *Bayou Foliage* Inputs Due
- 19 Stewardship (Prairie and marsh)

Happy Birthdays!

Polly Swerdlin	12/6	Mary Alice Dunn	12/7
Ron Natole	12/8	Susan Cunningham	12/9
Justin Owens	12/9	Jim Edwards	12/12
Judy Huston	12/19	Mary Alice Trumble	12/21
Sue Miller	12/23	Linda Byrd	12/26
Gean Thomas	12/26	Penny Woodward	12/27
Cliff Meinhardt	12/29	Eleanor Stanley	12/30

**PRINTING COMPLIMENTS
OF CELANESE**

ABNCV MEETING
Thursday, December 10, 1998
ABNC Auditorium

6:30 - Pot luck dinner followed by brief business meeting and our gift exchange.

Our meeting this month is the annual Christmas potluck dinner followed by a brief meeting and the gift exchange. Please bring an appetizer, salad, or dessert to share. A meat dish, iced tea and coffee will be provided. If you prefer something other than tea or coffee, feel free to bring your own liquid refreshment. Remember also to bring your own plates, cups, silverware, and napkins. The suggested price range for the gift is about \$5.00. Please join us for a relaxing and enjoyable evening.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

FARM TOOL CLASS!
10:00 a.m., Saturday, December 12th
ABNC Woodshop

Have you wanted to know more about all those tools in the woodshop at the Nature Center? What they are called? What they are used for? If so, this class is for you. Tom Scarcella, one of our own volunteers, will be the instructor.

MEDICINAL HERBS!
10:00 am, Saturday, January 9th
ABNC Auditorium

If you are interested in medicinal herbs, this program is for you. Lana Sims of "Herbs & Such" of Pasadena will give a presentation entitled "The History of Medicinal Herbs". She will explain what they were used for many years ago and how they are used today. She will also provide handouts to those attending.

The sign-up sheets for these programs can be found in the breakroom.

Jean Kruse

Due to the cancellation of Fall Festival, the date for the drawing of the winner of the Quilt Raffle has been changed. The drawing will take place during Yultide on December 5, 1998.

MINUTES OF THE ABNCV MEETING
Thursday, November 12, 1998

Jean Kruse introduced our speaker, Winnie Burkett, who gave a presentation on Colonial Water Birds of Galveston Bay. Helen thanked Jane Bingel and Eleanor Stanley for the refreshments. The business meeting was called to order, and the minutes of the October meeting were approved as published in the *Bayou Foliage*. Helen read the Treasurer's Report which reflects the checking account balance of \$2,226.93, savings of \$609.63 for a total of \$2,836.56. Mary Alice announced that the Volunteer of the Month for October is Shirley Potter, who organizes the monthly mailings of *Along The Bayou*. Mary Alice reported that we need help in setting up for Fall Festival. The volunteers were reminded to pick up their food tickets when checking in. Mary Alice also said help is needed with a birthday party on November 28. George Regmund reported that the nature center is looking for a co-director to handle administrative duties and to focus on increasing membership. He also announced that the new fence is up, that the equipment shed is under construction, and that 5 varieties of prairie grasses have been relocated to ABNC from a prairie site in Pasadena which will soon be destroyed.

Barb Hill announced the slate of names which the Nominating Committee is presenting to serve on the 1999 Board. They are Chair: Susan Williams; Vice Chair: Jean Kruse; Treasurer: Georgia Colyer; Weekend Demos: Polly Swerdlin; Weekend Trails: Cris Santiago; Weekday Trails: Ed Adams; Secretary: Linda Hamlett; Stewardship: Ken Russell; Admissions: Hanna Drago; Weekday Farm Coordinator: Carolyn Sue Manley; Interpretation Coordinator: Ruby Dilgren; Outreach: Jane Bingel. The Board has appointed Andrew Hamlett to be the 1999 Editor of the *Bayou Foliage*.

Jean Kruse discussed upcoming continuing education classes, which will include Farm Tools on December 12 and Medicinal Herbs on January 9. The December meeting will include a brief business meeting and the traditional potluck dinner and gift exchange. Helen Burton is checking into the possibility of offering a First Aid/CPR class in February. We have received bulbs and will sell them at Fall Festival and Yuletide. A few volunteers are needed to sell cider and cookies during Yuletide. Ed Adams provided information on the canoe trip he will guide on December 5. Breakfast will be served and he will be decorating the canoes. Colin Shackelford reported that the Hansen House landscaping project is getting organized and that planting will begin in January. Anyone interested should attend the November 19 organizational meeting. A sparrow survey will take place December 12, and anyone interested may participate.

Respectfully submitted,
Patsy Cashion

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

BAYOU FOLIAGE EDITOR

The ABNC Volunteer board has appointed Andrew Hamlett as new editor of the *Bayou Foliage*. Thank you for volunteering Andrew. I'm sure you will do a wonderful job. It is so refreshing to hear your enthusiasm about the position!

CHRISTMAS PARTY

We will have a pot luck dinner again this year at the December volunteer meeting. I hope all of you can come and join in the fun. Bring a covered dish that will serve from 8 to 10 people. The volunteer board has authorized the use of volunteer money to buy meats. Please bring your own plate and silverware, and if you want something to drink other than tea, please bring that too. After dinner we will draw for gifts and are asking you to bring a wrapped gift that costs no more than \$5.00.

Helen Burton

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

FARM TEACHERS

FARM LIFE (4)

February 3, 4, 5 10-11:30 am

HANDS-ON-HISTORY (2)

January 15 10-12 noon

WEBELOS FORESTER/NATURALIST BADGE (4)

January 23 10:00-3:00 pm

The number of teachers needed is listed in parentheses.

Please call me if you can help with any of the above. Thanks.
Mary Alice

**ARMAND BAYOU NATURE CENTER
QUILTING BEE**

The Quilting Circus will be meeting to decide on a quilt design for the 1999 Fall Festival Raffle Quilt. We invite all you want-to-be quilters to join us as well as the veterans. Please join us January 14 and January 28 at 11:00 a.m. in the Heimann House.

Fall Festival Message

It finally happened...a complete rainout for Fall Festival. Although we are all disappointed we have been very lucky. This, our 18th festival, was the first complete rainout, and when you're dealing with Texas's crazy weather, we'd have to say we've been extremely fortunate. Even though we didn't get to hold the festival, a lot of people put in numerous hours of work. First of all, we'd like to thank the activity chairs for agreeing to serve in this position and for the time spent not only in preparation, but in numerous phone calls to inform volunteers of the cancellations. We hope this doesn't discourage you from volunteering to help again next year. Those people were: Irene Ward, Pat Doerr, Judy Huston, Carol MacGregor, Helen Harger, Polly Swerdlin, Marsha Goss, Christine Ribeiro, Paula Kennedy, Susan Hesley, Paula Thorson, Barb Hill, Stephania Rogers, Tom Scarsella, Lou Wheatcraft, Jim Edwards, Roland Borey, Jim Callan, Ed Adams, Ross & Scot White, Joan & Paul Brunkow, Patsy Baukman, Eleanor Stanley, Eleanor Haskew, Cynthia Jennings, Shirley & Drew Potter, Ann Brinly and Linda & Andrew Hamlett. Secondly, we'd like to thank all the staff who spent many hours in numerous ways to prepare for this, our largest event. Mark, Patrick, Jonathan and George spent more time than any of you realize in doing much of the physical labor necessary in preparing the grounds, equipment, etc. Patrick, along with his significant other, Chris Rash, and supervolunteer, Ann Brinly, drove 300 miles to buy sugarcane, strip it in the field and bring it back. Sandy, who is now thoroughly initiated, fielded hundreds of Fall Festival questions over the phone. And Christine and Lynn did their share of behind-the-scenes jobs to prepare for the event. Most of all, we'd like to thank the hardworking Fall Festival planning committee for their months of meetings and work in making this what would have been the best festival ever. A huge thanks to Christine Ribeiro, Jim Edwards, Jim Hawkins, Roland Borey, Jean Kruse, Melissa LaChance, Becky Brignac, Paula Kennedy and Jim Callan, who along with his wife, Jana, went above and beyond what was expected when they spent most of Saturday cooking and preparing for our barbecue dinner on Saturday night. Thanks to all of you. You are an incredible group of people to work with."

*Fall Festival '98 co-chairs
Chris LaChance & Mary Alice Trumble*



VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH SHIRLEY POTTER

Our volunteer of the month is Shirley Potter. Shirley, along with husband, Drew, has been an ABNC volunteer since 1997. They both have been a big help with many of our numerous bulk mailings, but Shirley has recently taken on the task of phoning volunteers to get a work crew together for preparing *Along the Bayou* for mailing. Not only that, she brings refreshments to keep the volunteers well fed while working, a thoughtfulness greatly appreciated. Without behind the scenes work like this we would be at a loss to get out the newsletter to our members. Shirley also co-chaired the membership/volunteer information booth that was to have been at Fall Festival this year. Thank you Shirley for all you do for ABNC!

NOMINATIONS FOR THE ABNC VOLUNTEER BOARD OF DIRECTORS Submitted November 12, 1998

The following volunteers are being nominated for their second, one-year terms:

Vice Chair, Jean Kruse; Treasurer, Georgia Colyer; Admissions Coordinator, Hanna Drago; Interpretation Coordinator, Ruby Dilgren; Weekday Trail Coordinator, Ed Adams; Weekend Trail Coordinator, Cris Santiago; Weekend Demonstration Coordinator, Polly Swerdlin

The following volunteers are newly nominated to these one-year positions:

Chair, Susan Williams; Secretary, Linda Hamlett; Stewardship Coordinator, Ken Russell; Weekday Farm Coordinator, Carolyn Sue Manley; Outreach Coordinator, Jane Bingel

The slate of nominees will be voted on at the December general meeting.

*Respectfully submitted, The 1998 Nominating Committee
Ann Brinly, Eric Duran, Barbara Hill, Jody McKinney,
Ramon McKinney*

Many of our fellow volunteers at ABNC spend many hours on the telephone in an effort to find people to help out with special events, stewardship projects, demos and mailings or to act as guides or interpreters. Their tasks would be much easier if we would all remember to respond to any phone messages we might receive from them. It doesn't take much time, and it will make the jobs of your friends at ABNC much easier. Thanks.

ENVIRONMENTAL NOTEBOOK

Industrial Ecology, Part 1

By Lou Wheatcraft

In this series of articles, I am focusing on the value and importance of sustainable development. This article serves as an introduction to eco-efficiency and industrial ecology.

"The green economies and lifestyles of the twenty-first century may be conceptualized by environmental thinkers, but they can only be actualized by industrial corporations. Industry has a next-century vision of integrated environmental performance. Not every company is there yet, but most are trying. Those that aren't trying won't be a problem in the long term, simply because they won't be around long-term. That is the new competitive reality." Edgar Woolard, CEO DuPont, 1990^[1]

THE ISSUE

As the Earth's population increases, and industry expands to support this population growth, the issues of resource depletion, pollution reduction, and waste minimization are becoming more important. I propose that a solution to these issues can be found in the concept of Industrial Ecology which is based on achieving long-term sustainability, not just through minimizing waste, but also with the goal of eliminating waste.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ISSUE

The importance of this issue was brought to global center stage during the Rio Earth Summit. A major outcome of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit was Agenda 21 which highlighted the potential risks to ecology and long-term economic development created by past and current industrialization practices. Agenda 21 stressed the need for fundamental changes in order to conserve natural and biological resources, limit pollution, and to pay greater attention to the issue of sustainable development. Agenda 21 states: "Achieving the goals of environmental quality and sustainable development will require efficiencies in production and changes in consumption patterns in order to emphasize optimization of resource use and minimization of wastes."^[1]

Government regulations have mainly focused on controlling pollution and waste to minimize the impacts to human health and the environment. But that is a short term "Band-Aid". Industry must step forward and not just control pollution and waste but must also reduce, minimize, and eliminate pollution and waste as much as possible. Industry must do this, not because of government regulations but because it is good for business, it is good for the stockholders, it is good for their customers, and it is good for the environment. As stated on a recent PBS series called "Planet Neighborhood"; "Corporations are coming to a

radical new conclusion - one that is not about [government] regulations. What is good for the environment is what is also good for business because environmentally intelligent technology can take us from a strategy of tragedy to a strategy of hope. It can do well by doing good and that can benefit ourselves, our business, and the environment."

An out growth of Agenda 21 is the concept of "eco-efficiency" used to describe activities that create economic value while continuously reducing ecological impact and the use of resources. "Eco" encompasses both ecological and economic resources, "efficiency" says we should make optimal use of both. DeSimone and Popoff^[1] emphasized that we have to do more with less - reduce waste and pollution, and use less energy and raw materials. This is not only good for the environment but it is good business and translates directly into bottom-line benefits for industry. Eco-efficiency focuses on creating additional value by better meeting customer's needs while maintaining or reducing environmental impacts. An ultimate goal of eco-efficiency is sustainable development such that economic growth does not deplete irreplaceable resources and does not destroy ecological systems.

WHAT IS BEING DONE TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE?

The issues of sustainability and protecting the environment as part of good business practices are being addressed in many ways. The implementation of the concept of eco-efficiency draws on the insights of other existing business and environmental approaches such as total quality management, pollution prevention, waste minimization, and design for the environment. An important outgrowth of these approaches is the concepts of "industrial ecology" and product "life cycle assessment".

In next month's article I will focus on defining just what industrial ecology is.

Bibliography: - 1. "Eco-Efficiency, The Business Link to Sustainable Development"; Livio D. DeSimone, Frank Popoff; MIT Press, 1997

*A Joyous and
Peaceful Season*

VOLUNTEER DUTY SCHEDULE

In an attempt to take some of the load off of 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 INTER.	FARM DEMO	NAT. HISTORY DEMO
Sat. 12/5	Autumn Holland	Brad Hallmark	Paul Brunkow	Christine Ribeiro	Susan Hesley (Yarn Dolls)	--
Sun 12/6	--	Cris Santiago	Ken Russell	Stephania Rogers	Tom Scarcella (Wood Shop)	Dick Benoit (Birds of Prey)
Sat. 12/12	Jim Crabb	Ray Parker	Jean Kruse	Larry Kruse	Stephania Rogers (Ropemaking)	Marilyn Clark (Squirrels)
Sun 12/13	--	Martha Hood	Merle Bunde	Eleanor Stanley	Ann Brinley (Quilting)	Jim Crabb (Mushrooms)
Sat. 12/19	Louise Peck	JoDana Jones	Joyce Roberts	Jane Bingel	Emily Egan (Weaving)	Ann Tincher (Pond Life)
Sun. 12/20	--	Merle Bunde	Cindy Eppelheimer	Marsha Goss	Mary Ann Tucker (Basket Weaving)	Eleanor Stanley (Reptiles)
Sat. 12/26	--	--	Gerl Ross	Polly Swerdlin	Irene Ward (Wood Stove)	Pat Grimes (Snakes)
Sun. 12/27	--	Marianne Phillips	Doug Barfoot	Eleanor Haskew	Stephania Rogers (Butter Churn)	Polly Swerdlin (Turtles)

1998 VOLUNTEER BOARD

	Home	Office	Home	Office
Helen Burton	281-474-7133		Hanna Drago	Admissions 281-326-4149
Jean Kruse	281-486-0787		Polly Swerdlin	Weekend Demos 281-488-8193
Patsy Cashion	281-485-2681	713-652-1099	Cris Santiago	Weekend Trail 281-471-0979
Georgia Coher	281-996-7888	-- Vacant --	-- Vacant --	Weekday Farm
Chuck Snyder	281-480-1550		Ed Adams	Weekday Trail 713-946-2754
Ruby Dilgren	281-488-1727		Susan Williams	Newsletter 281-487-3033
Michael Vu	281-471-1114			713-743-8863

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