



# BAYOU FOLIAGE

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AUGUST 2000 A PUBLICATION OF THE ARMAND BAYOUNATURE CENTER VOLUNTEERS

Vol. 18 No. 8

"Interested + Involved + Informed"

E-MAIL

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## August Calendar

- Aug. 3 Volunteer Board Meeting (6:00 p.m.)
- Aug. 5 Volunteer Saturday (Start at 8:30 a.m.)
- Aug. 10 Volunteer Meeting (6:30 - 9:00)
- Aug. 10 **BAYOU FOLIAGE DEADLINE**
- Aug. 12 Volunteer Saturday (Start at 8:30 a.m.)
- Aug. 17 ABNC Board of Trustees Meeting
- Aug. 19 Volunteer Saturday (Start at 8:30 a.m.)
- Aug. 19 Scaly & Slimy Weekend
- Aug. 20 Scaly & Slimy Weekend
- Aug. 26 Fall Festival Planning Meeting (2:00 p.m.)
- Aug. 26 Volunteer Saturday (Start at 8:30 a.m.)

## ABNC VOLUNTEER MEETING

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2000  
NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM

- 6:30 - Snacks and Conversation:  
Get to know one another
- 7:00 - Presentation
- 8:00 - Business Meeting
- 9:00 - Adjourn

I know everyone has been itching for our program for this month on "Mosquitoes, Their Lifecycle, and Prevention and Control Methods". Dr. Ray Parsons, Assistant Director for the Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services Mosquito Control Division, will present our program for August. Assisting him on this informative presentation on mosquitoes will be Rebecca Riley Education/Training Coordinator. Mosquitoes are a part of life for those of us living in the Houston area and wanting to enjoy the outdoors. The onset of warmer weather and rain reminds us of this reality. There is no preventive medicine but Harris County Mosquito Control carries out extensive efforts to control adult and breeding mosquitoes. Come prepared with questions and ask about those "old wives tales" that you were told about these pests. Find out which is truth and which are fiction.

## DONATION BOX FOR NEW STOVE

Money is being collected to replace the stove in the farmhouse, which has become a fire hazard. The donation box is located in the volunteer office.

## Fall Festival 2000

Preparations for this year's Fall Festival are underway and as always a great deal of assistance from ABNC Volunteers is needed. The event will take place on November 11 & 12, 2000 and will include all the traditional demonstrations and activities that have been a part of Fall Festival for 20 years.

A planning meeting will be held on August 26, 2 p.m., at the Nature Center. If you would like to be a chairperson for one of the activities at the festival, please attend this meeting. Sign up sheets for volunteering at the festival will be available in the volunteer office this month.

Volunteer participants in Fall Festival should plan to wear period clothing (turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century). Examples for women: long dresses, long skirts with long sleeve blouse, an apron if desired, prairie bonnets, and high-top dark shoes. Examples for men: overalls, jeans and suspenders, banded collar or chambray shirts, straw hat and boots.

The barbecue dinner is priced at \$5.25 this year including all the trimmings and will be held Saturday night. A sign up sheet for the dinner will also be in the volunteer office.

I have already received confirmations from several participants for this year and plans are progressing. Please help us make Fall Festival a success again this year.

### Chair

George Regmund

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Eric Duran	Aug. 01	Kathleen Helmore	Aug. 02
Cris Santiago	Aug. 03	Cathy Searcy	Aug. 05
Autumn Holland	Aug. 10	Susan Hesley	Aug. 14
Michael Vu	Aug. 15	Helen Burton	Aug. 15
Judy Sharp	Aug. 16	Robert Dell'osso	Aug. 20
Shawn Mazzetti	Aug. 20	Carl Cognata	Aug. 22
Bob Smither	Aug. 26	Brian Phillips	Aug. 28
Marsha Goss	Aug. 30		

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING JULY 13, 2000

Ed Adams, Chairman of the Volunteer Board, called meeting to order.

Prior to the business portion of the monthly meeting, Ed Adams introduced our speaker for the night. The minutes from the May and June meetings as published in the *Bayou Foliage*, were approved.

Judy Sharp, Treasurer, reported that current assets for June were \$2,326.73 and for July total \$2,335.25.

Anne Tincher, Week-Day Trails Coordinator, reported that a few new classes will be offered in the near future. Also, the Karankawa trail is now open.

Stephania Rogers, Week-Day Farm Coordinator, reported that 1152 students have participated in the weekday farm program this last school year.

Jane Bingel, reported that NASA/Johnson Space Center has invited ABNC to participate in their "Health and Safety Program" on October 18<sup>th</sup> from 10 am - 4 pm. This will be great publicity for the Nature Center.

Ken Russell, Stewardship Coordinator, reported that a lot of marsh work has been done lately. The next project will involve going over to HL&P on Cedar Bayou and prepping plants for the new marsh site on the west side of the property.

Ed Adams asked for volunteers to help with the next several months of mailings. Anyone interested in helping, please call Ed and let him know.

No report was given for Weekend Trails, Demos, Interpretations & Front-Desk Greeters, or Admissions.

Kim Wasserman announced that Martha Hood was the Volunteer of the Month. To learn more, see the "Volunteer of the Month" section of *Bayou Foliage*.

Kim reported that the teen volunteer program has worked 862 hours, and has been a great success. Kim reminded everybody that training begins on August 26<sup>th</sup> for new volunteers. Please feel free to come and participate. Also, there is now a comment box in the volunteer office. Comments are shared with the staff and the volunteer board.

Jonathan Perez, Animal Collection Manager, discussed and answered questions about the new inner loop project. Much help is needed to get all the work completed in the near future.

Patrick Hayes, Facilities Manager, reported that there are varieties of jobs that need to be done around ABNC, but volunteers are unaware of what they can do to help. To

alleviate any questions about these projects, there will be a book in the volunteer office listing items from which volunteers can choose. Next to the project listing will be an estimated time of completion so that one will have an idea of how long it will take to complete the project. If you can't finish what was started, that is okay.

Also, a published list of volunteer activities will be printed in the *Bayou Foliage*. Volunteers can look at the list for the upcoming month, and plan in advance to participate in projects that interest them. Any job that a volunteer feels needs to be done, which is not listed on the project sheet, should be logged in the volunteer office.

It was brought up by several of the volunteers that the stove in the farmhouse has become a fire hazard; therefore, no one should cook on it until it is replaced. Money was collected to buy a new stove.

Hanna Drago mentioned that the Board of Trustees will be having a membership drive before Fall Festival.

Under upcoming events, Creepy Crawlers will be August 19<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary  
Martha Hood

### *Volunteer of the Month*

Each month an ABNC Volunteer is recognized for his or her outstanding service to the Nature Center. This month's special volunteer is Martha Hood. She is originally from the Houston area. Can you believe a true Houstonian? Currently Martha works as a teacher at North Shore Senior High School.

Martha completed training in September 1996. You will always see Martha working hard during ABNC's major events like Creepy Crawlers and the Fall Festival. She is very active on the weekends doing trail and farm interpretation and greeting visitors at the front desk. Just recently she agreed to serve on the Volunteer Board as the Secretary. Martha has received many compliments on her organized and detailed way of taking the minutes. She is a great addition to the Volunteer Board.

Thanks Martha for all your hard work and dedication!

## From the Volunteer Office

### COMMENT BOX

Some of you may have noticed a comment box in the volunteer office. The staff is busy and not always available, so the comment box is an alternative way of communication. Please feel free to drop a suggestion, critique or comment in the box. These comments will be shared with the staff and volunteer board and addressed as soon as possible. For example: Staff answered the cry to move the beautiful red wood table out where people can enjoy it. Thank you for your support.

### SUPPLIES NEEDED

The Education Department is looking for more supplies. We need **box turtle shells** and **cicada molts**. If you see these items please collect them and bring them to the volunteer office. We use these items in our programs and they are not available for purchase.

Kim Wasserman

### SPECIAL THANKS

Even while EcoCamp was in full swing, we managed to host about 200 students from the East Harris County Youth Program all in ONE day!

I would like to extend a special "Thank You" to all of the great volunteers who helped on that exciting day.

Ed Adams

Jane Bingel (who was there in spirit)

Laura Bradley

Merle Bunde

Ruby Dilgren

Dottie Evans

Christine Hiscox

Cherre House

Ramon McKinney

Jim McMahan

Ray Parker

Stepahania Rogers

Vicki Schuckhart

Anne Tinchler

Alan Wenger

Danny Yancey

A very special thanks to Ruby, Christine, Ray and Jim who went beyond the call of duty and waited over an hour for the VERY late last group!

Great job everyone!  
Linda Sumner

## Stewardship Saturday

### IT'S TIME TO "GET BUSY ON THE BAYOU"

Right now is an exciting time at Armand Bayou Nature Center. We are growing and many projects are underway. A new bison enclosure, repairing the exterior of the pole barn and new education programs are a few examples. To reach our goals we need your participation in every aspect of the Nature Center. ABNC is now offering you an opportunity to drop in and get involved with an ABNC project and at the same time help us with our mission of environmental education and stewardship.

We are using the successful Stewardship Saturdays as a model for the new "Volunteer Saturdays". There will still be stewardship activities every first and third Saturday, but other opportunities in facilities, education, animal care, gardening and clerical work may be available on other Saturdays of every month. Look in the *Bayou Foliage* for a list of projects, dates and times. Note: projects, dates and times are subject to change.

"Volunteer Saturday" will begin August 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. in the ABNC parking lot. Sign up for a project and get going on it right away. Begin with a particular project and stay with it to its completion or help out with several different projects throughout the month. It's up to you - it's your day. Some projects may only require a certain amount of volunteers, so in that case it will be first come, first serve. Bring a sack lunch, we'll break for a picnic lunch between noon and 1:00pm. Some projects may continue after lunch. We look forward to seeing you soon.

### MARSH RESTORATION CONTINUES

Please join us for Stewardship Saturday activities on the first and third Saturday of every month. Restoration projects in August will focus on replanting several marsh sites in Armand and Horsepen Bayous. Wear OLD tennis shoes (no open toed shoes), OLD pants & shirt and a hat. We'll be going into the bayou to plant marsh grass, so you might want to bring a change of clothes for the ride home. This type of tidal marsh is important habitat to many types of fish, invertebrates, birds and reptiles. See "Volunteer Saturday's Project List For August" for dates and times.

### PRAIRIE PLANT MONITORING PROJECT

Please join us for our prairie plant identification classes: Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 - 11:00 am and Wednesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6 - 8 pm. Class will include grass, for and woody species ID, and we will also be collecting monitoring data. Information gathered during the classes will be used to further our prairie restoration efforts. Please wear long pants, a hat and bring a water bottle if you have one.

## ABNCV 2000 BUDGET CORRECTION

Please note the 2000 Volunteer Budget for 2000, which was published in the June Issue of the *Bayou Foliage*, was incorrect. We apologize for this. Here is the corrected 2000 budget, which was voted and approved by the Volunteers.

### INCOME

Cookbook Sales	50.00
Cookie Sales	800.00
Paper Recycling	<u>450.00</u>
<b>Total Budgeted Income</b>	<b>\$ 1,300.00</b>

### EXPENDITURES

Administration/Supplies	50.00
Entertainment/Refreshments	100.00
Cards/Gifts/Flowers	50.00
Postage	400.00
Bank Service Charges	18.00
Scholarships (2 EcoCamps)	350.00
Contingency ☺	<u>30.00</u>
<b>Total Budgeted Expenditures</b>	<b>\$998.00</b>

Present Assets (as of 3/31/00)	\$2,114.88
Proposed Income	1,300.00
Subtotal	3,414.88
Proposed Expenditures	998.00
<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$ 2,416.88</b>

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### THANK YOU

A huge "thank you" to all the wonderful volunteers who said "yes" when I called you to ask your help with weekday Farm Classes this year. Your great work was so appreciated. The classes couldn't happen without your help.

**Stephania Rogers**

## Volunteer Saturday's Project List For August

DATE	PROJECTS	TIME	CONTACT
August 5th	Project 1: Trail work Clearing Removal of old bridges Installation of culverts Placement of limestone in low-lying areas	8:30 am	Patrick
	Project 2: Stewardship – Marsh restoration See “Stewardship Saturday” for details	8:30 am	Ken Russel/Mark
	Project 3: Set up fresh water aquarium	8:30 am	Jonathan
August 12 <sup>th</sup>	Project 1: Carpentry Rebuilding the exterior of the Pole barn, south side and door Check condition of the Electrical and the Roof	8:30 am	Patrick
	Project 2: Prairie plant monitoring See “Stewardship Saturday” for details	8:30 am	Mark/Marissa
August 19 <sup>th</sup>	Project 1: Carpentry Rebuilding the exterior of the Pole barn, north side Continue inspection of this buildings condition	8:30 am	Patrick
	Project 2: Stewardship – Marsh restoration See “Stewardship Saturday” for details	8:30 am	Ken Russel/Mark
August 26 <sup>th</sup>	Project 1: Trail work Removal of old bridges Installation of culverts Placement of limestone in low-lying areas	8:30 am	Patrick

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- Meet in the ABNC parking lot at the project's designated time above (green house if it's raining)
- Dress appropriate for activity
- Sign up for an activity when you arrive, there may be a limit of volunteers for certain projects
- If you have never volunteered at ABNC, you must fill out appropriate forms
- If you're between the ages of 14 and 17 you must be accompanied at all times by an adult
- You're welcome to bring a water bottle and a snack
- Bring a sack lunch if you want to join the picnic
- Log your hours before you leave

# VOLUNTEER DUTY SCHEDULE - AUGUST 2000

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

**(DON'T FORGET SCALY & SLIMY WEEKEND - AUGUST 19 & 20)**

DATE	11:00 TRAIL	2:00 TRAIL	INFO. SERVICES	FARM INTER.	FARM DEMO	NAT. HISTORY DEMO
Sat. 8/5	Danny Yancey	Danny Yancey	Paul Brunkow		Stephania Rogers Rope Making	Ruby Dilgren Spiders
Sun. 8/6	--	Martha Hood	Ken Russell	Eleanor Stanley		
Sat. 8/12	Mike & Eildine Owens	Mike & Donna Nabors	Katerina Grundy	Susan Williams	Susan Hesley Yarn Dolls	Eleanor Stanley Alligators
Sun. 8/13	--	Stan Krauhs	Joan Shack	Polly Swerdlin	Polly Swerdlin Stereoscope	
Sat. 8/19	Louise Peck	Marianne Phillips	Mary Yurkovich	Jane Bingle		Pat Doerr Hummingbirds Runy Dilgren Snakes
Sun. 8/20	--	Ray Parker	Danny Yancey	Marsha Goss		Polly Swerdlin Amphibians Eleanor Stanley Alligators
<b>SCALY &amp; SLIMY WEEKEND</b>						
Sat. 8/26	Patty Pennington	Joe Bryan	Kelli Glenn	Stephania Rogers	Jane Bingle Corn Husk Dolls	Marilyn Clark Hummingbirds
Sun. 8/27	--	Stan Krauhs	Joyce Roberts			

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

## 2000 VOLUNTEER BOARD

	Home	Office
Ed Adams	713-946-2754	Joan Henderson
Christine Ribeiro	Chair 281-326-3574	Weekend Demos 281-286-7554
Martha Hood	Secretary 281-286-6746	Weekend Trail 281-488-1727
Judy Sharp	Treasurer 281-488-2762	Weekday Farm 713-473-4324
Ken Russell	Stewardship 281-488-0390	Weekday Trail 281-486-5167
Christine Naspinski	Interpretation 281-291-9513	Newsletter 281-487-1268
Jane Bingle	Outreach 281-554-5069	281-998-7317/Fax

email: [BayouFoliage@aol.com](mailto:BayouFoliage@aol.com)



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