

BAYOU FOLIAGE

Printing Compliments of Celanese

JULY 2000
Vol. 18 No. 7

A PUBLICATION OF THE ARMAND BAYOUNATURE CENTER VOLUNTEERS

"Interested + Involved + Informed"

E-MAIL
BayouFoliage@aol.com

July Calendar

- July 1 Stewardship Saturday (Start at 8:30 a.m.)
- July 1 Prescribed Burn Class (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)
- July 6 Volunteer Board Meeting (6:00 p.m.)
- July 13 Volunteer Meeting (6:00 – 9:00)
- July 13 *Bayou Foliage* Deadline
- July 15 Stewardship Saturday (Start at 8:30 a.m.)

ABNC VOLUNTEER MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2000
NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM

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

The speaker this month will be Lou Wheatcraft, one of our own ABNC Volunteers, he will be speaking about: "water use in the future". Here's a short summary of what he will cover.

A plentiful supply of fresh water is essential to the survival not only of the human race, but also of most living things on Earth. Yet, recent years have brought many examples of water stress, from falling water tables across the United Kingdom, to catastrophic droughts across Southern Africa and in many of the world's most significant food-producing regions. In the next forty to ninety years, the world population will double, but our water supply will not increase. Nations go to war over oil, but there are substitutes for oil. There is no substitute for water. "By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things." These are the words used in the baptismal rite in Lutheran services. But in our world, increasing numbers of people cannot assume they will be nourished and sustained. Within a few years, a water crisis of catastrophic proportions will explode on us -- unless we take action now. With 300 million people living in areas of severe water shortage today -- it will likely be 3 billion by 2025 -- water will clearly be either a devastating source of international friction or a hopeful occasion for international cooperation in the twenty-first century. There are answers if we act before we face the crisis.

Comments From the Chair

Let me begin by saying thanks to all who made our Volunteer Picnic a success, especially Ruby Dilgren. Reminds me of an old adage: "They said it couldn't be done, so she did it!"

When I discovered that the "Bayou Foliage" would not be published last month in time to alert everyone about the brief business meeting on June 10th, I panicked. But here comes Ruby to propose that we engage A.G. Bell's invention and get the work out quickly. It worked! We had forty-six people on site for a grand picnic indoors. Not what we anticipated, but no overbearing humidity, and no mosquitoes! Our creative staff of cooks spread a table with summer salads, melon, hot vegetables, rice, and a variety of pasta dishes, which satisfied one and all. Next came a large helping of pies, cookies, brownies, and cakes to complete a fine repast.

Only one would be guest was denied entry; a mother raccoon, who has obviously delivered recently, was attracted by the aroma of our fine feast and tried every door and window on the porch surrounding the auditorium with no success. After numerous failed attempts to join us, she waddled off down the newly installed boardwalk on the pond side of the Education Building. You could almost hear her growl her indignation that she couldn't order any carry out for her or her babies.



We concluded the evening with a brief (less than 12 minutes) business meeting, with reports from Ruby and myself. We also announced the name of our new Vice Chairman,

Stan Krauhs, Jr., the same person who was named our Volunteer of the Month by Kim Wasserman.

If we missed you, we hope to see you at our next regular business meeting on Thursday, July 13, when our own Lou Wheatcraft, will be our evening's speaker. Be there, please!

Minutes of the Volunteer Meeting June 10, 2000

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

The minutes of the May 2000 meeting will be reviewed and approved in July since the *Bayou Foliage* has not been received. Judy Sharp, Treasurer was absent; therefore, the Treasurer's Report will be given in July.

Ed Adams announced that Stan Krauhs had been appointed by the Volunteer Board to be the new Vice-Chair. An election by the volunteers followed. Ed commented that a recent Strawberry Festival Outreach in Pasadena had disappointing results, due to having been placed in the craft section rather than with the children's activities. The group from ABNC noted this in the Festival survey.

Since this was the June "Volunteer Picnic" meeting, Volunteer Board reports were kept to a minimum. Ruby Dilgren, Weekend Trails Coordinator, announced that Helen Hodges, President of the Board of Trustees, graciously volunteered to lead a trail in May. It was a pleasure to have Helen participate!

Kim Wasserman reported that the education program has been very busy and very successful. She thanked everyone for their help. Stan Krauhs was announced as Volunteer of the Month.

Ephriam Dickson invited everyone to attend the Raptor Bird Exhibit dedication at 6 p.m. on July 21st. Please RSVP the Nature Center at 281-474-2551. Press coverage of the dedication will take place in the morning. Ephriam also mentioned that funding is being sought for the bison enclosure fence. The ABNC perimeter fence from Bay Area Park to Kirby is already being installed thanks to a generous \$25,000 donation from Precinct 2 Commissioner Jim Fonteno, and another generous \$42,000 anonymous donation from an ABNC Life Member.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary,
Martha Hood

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jim Callan	July 01	Cherre House	July 02
Kristen Knoedler	July 03	Jody McKinney	July 05
Leslie Edmondson	July 06	Ruby Dilgren	July 08
Joan Burt	July 10	Carol MacGregor	July 12
Ken Russell	July 15	Paula Kennedy	July 17
Katerina Grundy	July 19	Chris LaChance	July 22
Tom Scarsella	July 25	Wanda Hayden	July 26
Pat Doerr	July 26	Dan Pelletier	July 30

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 Stan Krauhs. Stan is originally from Indiana, but has resided in the Galveston area since 1975. Currently he works as purchasing agent at a local chemical plant.

Stan has been a supporting member for many years and became an ABNC Volunteer in February 1998. He described himself as an environmentalist, likes outdoors and nature and lucky for us only lives 10 minutes away. His full time job keeps him busy during the week, but you'll see Stan out on the trails most weekends educating the public. Just recently he agreed to serve on the Volunteer Board as the Vice Chair. Stan will be a great addition to the Volunteer Board.

In the last two years, Stan proved to be a very talented and valuable volunteer. ABNC is very lucky to have him. Thanks for all your hard work!

THANKS!!!

A huge thank you to all of our great volunteers who have done weekend trails this year, and an extra special thank you to Helen Hodges, Board of Trustees President, who so graciously volunteered to do a trail hike in May. We understand Helen even did some hammering on the raptor cage!

Ruby Dilgren

FROM THE VOLUNTEER OFFICE

It's not too late to sign up for EcoCamp; there are still some spots available. If you have kids or grandkids between the ages of 4 - 13, call now and sign them up for a week of fun filled activities at ABNC (281-474-2551).

PRESCRIBED BURN CLASS

SATURDAY, JULY 1st, 2000

Mark will be offering a second volunteer burn training class for those of you that couldn't attend the first one. The class will be focusing on the use of prescribed fire at the Nature Center. Whether you are a long time blackliner or have never attended a controlled fire before, this will be an important class to attend. We'll be discussing fire ecology, fire behavior, laws and regulations, burning techniques, safety, and equipment use. We'll also light a small test plot if conditions are favorable. If you are interested in attending any future burns, please plan to attend. The class will help Saturday, July 1st, from 10 a.m. through 2 p.m. ATTENDING THIS CLASS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY FUTURE BURNS.

FROM THE STAFF

GEARING UP FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR

As EcoCamp ends, planning turns to the school year. Armand Bayou could not offer all of its wonderful programs without the dedication and talents of the weekday volunteers and coordinators.

Volunteers interested in learning how to instruct any of these programs can "buddy-up" and observe a class.

Here are some teaching tips to keep in mind when leading a class:

1. **Give an introduction** including your name, a little about Armand Bayou Nature Center and an overview of what the students will be doing.
2. **Prepare your students.** Let them know what you expect from them and what they can expect from you.
3. **Start your program out with a single focus.** This could be as simple as holding up a specimen and asking the students what they think it might be.
4. **Get to know your audience.** We can all make many assumptions about the experience and knowledge level of the students in our class, but a sure way to find out is by asking questions.
5. **Be honest.** If you don't know something, tell them you don't know. This will make students more comfortable about guessing and getting an answer incorrect. Allow the group share ideas of where to look for the answer.
6. **End the program with a review.** Asking the students questions of subjects covered in the class will not only serve as a review, but will also allow you to assess your program and see if you met your objectives.
7. **Enjoy yourself.** Remember why you volunteer at ABNC and have fun!

Hope this helps. I look forward to another successful school year and my door is always open to discuss great new ideas! Thank you for all of the great things you do.

Linda Sumner



EDITOR'S NOTE

WHAT HAPPENED LAST MONTH ?

I'm not quite sure what to say about last month, other than I messed up. I had several things happen to me all at once last month including a very bad cold, and I just never could get the newsletter out. I sincerely apologize for that. I realize that because it was so late, several things either got missed or were too late to be of use. Again, I apologize. I really do love working on the newsletter; it's something I enjoy putting out and being a part of, but it does have to get out on time, and it will from now on, no matter what it takes. I also wanted to mention that the reason the newsletter was messed up in the way it was put together last month was done at printing.

For the past several months however, as I'm sure everyone has noticed, the newsletter has either been getting out right on time or a little late, with the exception of the June issue. That will stop. I realize as I'm writing this, that this issue of the *Bayou Foliage*, may be a little late as well. I've had some troubles getting it through all the channels in time, and have had a little trouble getting all the submissions as well. The duty roster for July, will again not be totally complete.

I plan to go over the problems I've been having with getting the newsletter out on time, at the Volunteer Board Meeting in August. I have to start making sure that the newsletter gets out on time every month before the new month. That is my top priority right now. I know it's getting frustrating with the newsletter not getting out on time; that will end. The August issue will be out on time. Again, I apologize for the newsletter not getting out on time.

As always, if you have any comments, ideas, or suggestions, please feel free to e-mail or call me. My number and e-mail can be found in the back of the newsletter in the duty roster.

Andrew Hamlett

THANKS

A huge thank you to all of you great volunteers who have done weekend trails this year, and an extra special thank you to Helen Hodges, Board of Trustees President, who so graciously volunteered to do a trail in May. I understand Helen even did some hammering on the raptor cage.

Ruby Dilgren

Upcoming Special Events

SCALY AND SLIMY WEEKEND
Saturday, Aug. 19 and Sunday, Aug. 20, 2000.

CREEPY CRAWLERS
Friday, Oct. 2 and Saturday, Oct. 28, 2000

VOLUNTEER DUTY SCHEDULE - JULY 2000

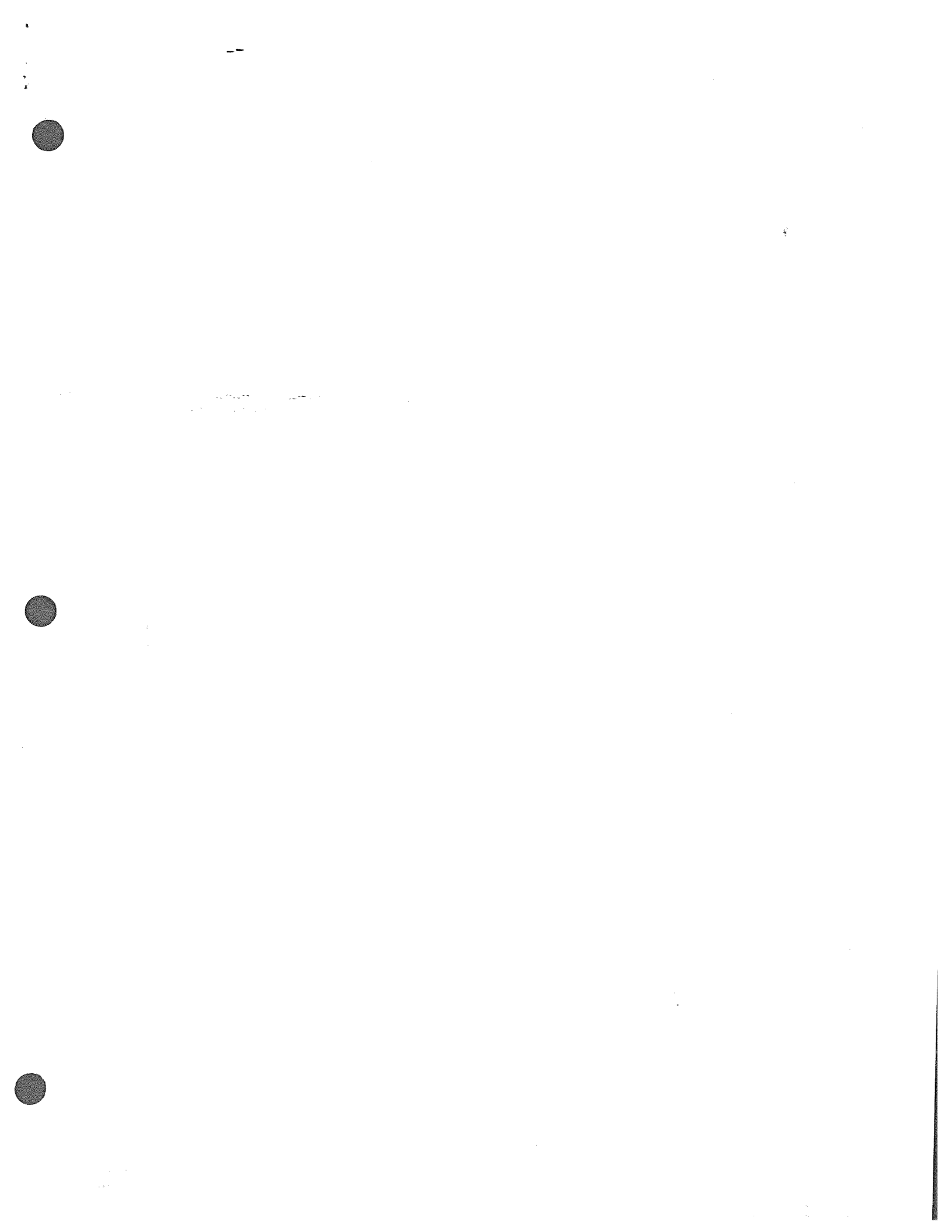
In an attempt to take some of the load off of the Coordinators, and to help cut down on our "no show" rate, a list of the persons who have volunteered for various assignments will be printed in the *Bayou Foliage* each month. If you are scheduled for a particular duty and you are unable to attend, please 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

DATE	11:00 TRAIL	2:00 TRAIL	INFO. SERVICES	FARM INTER.	FARM DEMO	NAT. HISTORY DEMO
Sat. 7/1	Mary Barton	Michael & Donna Nabors				Ruby Dilgren Spiders
Sun. 7/2	--	Melanie Weisman				Eleanor Stanley Alligators
Sat. 7/8	Jim Crabb	Stan Krauhs			Jane Bingel Corn Husk Dolls	Eldine Owens Snakes
Sun. 7/9	--	John Siptak			Ann Brinly Bobbie Lace	Anne Tincher Microworld
Sat. 7/15	Louise Peck	Patty Pennington			Dan & Jen Pelletier Rope Making	Pat Doerr Bird Adaptations
Sun. 7/16	--	Ray Parker			Mary Ann Tucker Basket Weaving	Joanna Wactor Bats
Sat. 7/22	Mike & Eldine Owens	Marianne Phillips			Stephanie Rogers Stereoscope	
Sun. 7/23	--	Martha Hood				
Sat. 7/29	Betty Snider	Anne Tincher			Tom Scarcella Woodshop	
Sun. 7/30	--	Stan Krauhs			Emily Egan Spinning / Weaving	

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

2000 VOLUNTEER BOARD

	Home	Office
Ed Adams	Chair 713-946-2754	Joan Henderson Admissions 281-291-0453
Christine Ribeiro	Vice Chair 281-326-3574	Katerina Grundy Weekend Demos 281-286-7554
Martha Hood	Secretary 281-286-6746	Ruby Dilgren Weekend Trail 281-488-1727
Judy Sharp	Treasurer 281-488-2762	Stephanie Rogers Weekday Farm 713-473-4324
Ken Russell	Stewardship 281-488-0390	Anne Tincher Weekday Trail 281-486-5167
Christine Naspinski	Interpretation 281-291-9513	Andrew Hamlett Newsletter 281-487-1268
Jane Bingel	Outreach 281-554-5069	email: BayouFoliage@aol.com



Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Seabrook, Texas
Permit No. 632

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

ARMAND BAYOU NATURE CENTER
8500 Bay Area Blvd.
P O Box 58828
Houston, TX 77258
(281) 474-2551