

# Bayou Foliage

November 2000

A Publication of the Armand Bayou Nature Center Volunteers  
"Interested + Involved + Informed"

Vol. 18 No. 11

## LOOKING AHEAD

### NOVEMBER CALENDAR

#### Nov. 3

- Volunteer Board Meeting, 6 p.m.

#### Nov. 4

- Fall Festival - meeting I training session - Call or e-mail Polly Swerdlin
- Hanson House Garden, 9 a.m.
- Deadline for Bar-B-Que dinner sign up and payment

#### Nov. 9

- Hanson House Garden, 9 a.m.
- Volunteer Meeting - Auditorium, 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

#### Nov. 11 and 12

- Fall Festival, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Nov. 11th only -Catered Bar-B-Que dinner (prior sign up and payment required)

#### Nov. 23

- Closed Thanksgiving

### DECEMBER CALENDAR

#### Dec. 2

- Yuletide Gathering, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

#### Dec. 7

- Volunteer Board Meeting, 6 p.m.

#### Dec. 10

- Down on the Farm committee meeting, 4 p.m.  
(open to all)

#### Dec. 14

- Volunteer Meeting and Christmas Party



### ABNC VOLUNTEER MEETING

Thursday, November 9, 2000  
Nature Center Auditorium

- 6:30 p.m. - Snacks and Conversation
- 7:00 p.m. - Program: White-tailed Deer of ABNC
- 8:00 p.m. - Business Meeting
- 9:00 p.m. - Adjourn

#### WHITE-TAILED DEER

White-tailed deer are very common in our area, and even wander into the yards of nearby homes. We should be "experts" on these animals to satisfy the curiosity of our visitors. To help us become better informed, Mark Stewardship Coordinator, will present a slide program and discuss the biology of white-tailed deer. He will also discuss recent surveys that have shown a dramatic increase in the number of these deer and possible causes of the increase. He will explain how their increased population has an impact on the nature preserve as well as the deer, and options available to ABNC to manage the situation in the best interests of ABNC and the deer.



### VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Each month an ABNC Volunteer is recognized for this or her outstanding service to the Nature Center. This month's special volunteer is **Vicki Schuckhart**.

*She jumped right into teaching weekday classes, natural history and farm, and she is now into her second year of teaching an ALPHA class.*

Vicki is one of those rare Houstonians. She taught high school Biology and English off and on for fifteen years.

After retiring from the teaching profession in 1999, and already missing teaching, she completed volunteer training in September 1999. With a love for nature and animals Vicki quickly found her niche at ABNC. She jumped right into teaching weekday classes, natural history and farm, and she is now into her second year of teaching an ALPHA class. Vicki has also been a big help with special events, teaching for EcoCamp, and her specialty-girl scouts.

The education department of ABNC is very lucky to have such a hard working volunteer. On several occasions you can catch Vicki whistling while she works hard in the ABNC kitchen cleaning and organizing. She

is a woman of many talents.

Besides volunteering much of her time at ABNC, Vicki is also the mother of two daughters, a seventh grader and a ninth grader.

Thank you Vicki for all that you do.

---

## CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR NOVEMBER

None Scheduled

---

## M I N U T E S

### VOLUNTEER MEETING—OCTOBER 12, 2000

Meeting was called to order by Ed Adams, Chairman of the Volunteer Board.

Prior to the business portion of the monthly meeting, Stan Krauhs, introduced our speaker for the night.

The minutes from the September meeting, as published in the Bayou Foliage, were approved.

Judy Sharp, Treasurer, reported that current assets for October were \$1,801.58. Farmhouse donations now total \$1,119.00.

Stan Krauhs, Vice-Chair, reported that Saturday, October 14, Ray Parker would present a class on tree identification at 11:00 a.m. Also, next month's volunteer meeting will be presented by Mark Kramer on white tail deer. See "ABNC Volunteer Meeting" section of the Bayou Foliage for more details.

Stephania Rogers, Week-Day Farm Coordinator, reported that she would be calling volunteers soon to fill November classes. Any new volunteer who would like to buddy with another volunteer should give her a call.

Ruby Dilgren, Week-End Trails Coordinator, is also eager to welcome the new volunteer class, and anyone interested in leading a hike should let her know.

Eleanor Stanley, Weekend Demo Coordinator, reported that she has two new volunteers helping on the weekends. Eleanor particularly needs help with Natural History Demos, and will be glad to give you the in-

formation to help you with your demo.

Jane Bingel, Outreach Coordinator, reported that Outreach will be tapering off just a little after October. She also expressed to the new volunteers and others that she would love to have some new help.

Ken Russell, Stewardship Coordinator, reported the bylaws are complete and have been available both on the internet and in the volunteer office. Ken next asked for a motion to approve the new ABNC Volunteer P laws. Motion passed.

Ken Russell, also said that any new volunteers interested in stewardship, should give him a call, to make sure they are on his calling list.

Kim Wasserman, announced that Vicki Schuckhart was volunteer of the month. To learn more, see the "Volunteer of the Month" section of Bayou Foliage.

Joan Henderson, Admissions Coordinator, requested new volunteers interested in helping out at the front desk to contact her. She especially needs help on Saturdays.

Joan, also requested that volunteers start thinking about plans for the Christmas Party. Any suggestions about entertainment, location, etc., please give her a call.

A special THANK YOU was expressed to both Jonathan Perez and Joan Henderson for putting together this last month's Bayou Foliage.

No report was given by Anne Tincher, Week-Day Outdoor Education Coordinator, or Christine Naspinski, Interpretations & Front Desk Greeter Coordinator.

Under upcoming events, Creepy Crawlers will be October 27 and 28. Polly Swerdlin reported that volunteers are still needed for Fall Festival. A sign-up sheet is located in the volunteer office. Also, it is encouraged to dress up in period costume, but it is NOT required.

However, wearing a khaki shirt would be the next best thing.

Under unfinished business, the volunteer roster is being updated so please check your information in the volunteer office. Also, Barbara Hill, chairperson of the nominating committee, reported that there are a few Volunteer Board positions which still need to be filled. These positions are: Secretary, Outreach Coordinator, Week-Day Outdoor Education Coordinator, and Weekend Demos Coordinator. Also, volunteers are needed for the Questionnaire Exit Form for Fall Festival. This requires someone to pass out a questionnaire, a bumper sticker, and to smile a lot. Anyone interested, please contact her.

Last of all, Jane Bingel is the chairperson of the new Ways & Means Committee. This committee will come up with new ideas to earn money for the volunteer organization, besides cookie sales, and the recycle bin. One idea is to have a "Breakfast for the Birds" for volunteers only, sometime around March. Other ideas, such as field trips, etc. will be discussed. If interested in joining this committee, please feel free to contact her.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary  
Martha Hood

## E V E N T S

### FALL FESTIVAL IS HAPPENING!

Fall Festival time is here! It's here! As it has been for 20 years now. ABNC needs everyone's help for this event. Volunteer sign ups are going well but there are still positions that need filling, so sign up to help if you can.

#### ICE CHESTS:

- \* We need extra ice chests for this event, so if you can loan one for the weekend it would be a big help.
- \* Label it clearly with your name so we can get it back to you. Bring them the week before the festival and leave them on the back porch of the Education Building.

#### BREAKFAST:

- \* Volunteers are needed to help provide breakfast for both Saturday and Sunday mornings. This is a big help to our own volunteers working the festival. It's also open to, and much appreciated by, the vendors and demonstrators who give of their time for the event.
- \* The sign-up sheet for helping provide breakfast is in the volunteer office.

#### BAR-B-QUE DINNER

- \* Deadline - November 4th is the deadline for signing up and paying for the Saturday night Bar-B-Que.
- \* Cost - \$5.25 per person for all the trimmings.
- \* Sign-up sheet and payment envelope - The sign-up sheet and payment envelope are in the volunteer office.

#### FALL FESTIVAL PROCEDURES

- \* Volunteer parking for the event will be inside the service gate past the paved parking area, on the grass adjacent to the farm (weather permitting). If conditions are wet, volunteers can park in the main ABNC parking lot. We would like for you to park on the grass if possible so the paved area would be available to the visitors (besides, it's closer to the farm).
- Information tent: Please remember to go to the information tent first when you come to work at the festival. We need you to sign in there and get tickets for free soft drinks.
- Setting Up: We need help setting up for the festival and cleaning up after it. There will be a work party for general set-up on Friday, November 10, starting at 9 a.m.
- Clean Up Day: Much of the equipment and materials from the festival are returned and put away on Monday, November 13-clean up day! We will meet at 9 a.m., and could really use your help.
- Fall Festival Attire: Most importantly we want to see your smiling faces participating in this event either in period clothing or your ABNC khaki shirt. If you want to help make this festival more authentic some examples for period dress are as follows: long dresses, long skirts with long sleeved blouses, an apron or bonnet and high-topped dark shoes for women; overalls, jeans with suspenders, shirts with banded collars or chambray shirts, straw hat and boots for men.

Thanks for your commitment to help make our twentieth Fall Festival a great success!

George Regmund  
Fall Festival Staff Chair

## OTHER BUSINESS

### RECYCLING UPDATE

According to updated information received from Donohue Recycling on October 5, they no longer accept phone books in their recycling bins, which they now call "Paper Retrievers." In addition, they don't encourage putting cardboard in the bins. Cardboard is lightweight and doesn't earn as much money for us as newspapers and magazines. If cardboard is placed in the bins, it must be flattened. Otherwise it takes up too much space.

The current list of acceptable items for the Paper Retrievers is as follows: newspapers, magazines, shopping catalogs, advertising inserts, mail, office papers, colored paper, notepads, envelopes and flattened cardboard.

Judy Sharp, Treasurer

### GEORGE REGMUND ANNOUNCES A NEW WORK SCHEDULE

Beginning in October, everyone will be seeing a little less of me around ABNC. After 25 years of working here at the Nature Center, I have begun to consider how I should use my upcoming retirement years. There are many things I would like to learn about and do. I still have my mother and brother and feel the need to spend more time with them. So, I have requested that my work time here at the Nature Center be reduced to three days per week. The days that I will be at work will vary depending on activities here.

---

*I still have my mother and brother and feel the need to spend more time with them.*

---

This change in schedule is at my request. I am pleased to have the additional "off" time which is such a premium commodity today, and plan to use it doing the things I enjoy as well as spending time with my family. The Board of Trustees and Director of ABNC have been very thoughtful in allowing me this flexibility.

George Regmund

---

## FROM THE VOLUNTEER OFFICE

### Supplies Still Needed

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

## BAYOU BANTER

### THANK YOU

A huge "Thank You!" to Jonathan Perez and Joan Henderson for the marvelous job they did on the October Bayou Foliage. The newsletter looked terrific and was received by the volunteers super early.

*Thanks for all your hard work! Ruby Dilgren*

### SAVE THOSE BOXES

With Christmas coming soon, many of us will have empty Christmas card boxes. If you have any with clear plastic tops, please leave them in the large plastic bag in the Volunteer Office. These will be used to display insects.

*Thanks! Ruby Dilgren*

### WEEKEND TRAIL GUIDES

Thanks for all your help during the year. May I please remind you to fill in the Trail Survey forms at the front desk after you do a trail. The forms will help ABNC determine how many people want to take a trail hike and if there might be a time/weather preference.

Also, there are other materials in the folder that you might find helpful. Help yourself.

If no one wants to take a guided trail, would you be interested in clipping eye-pokers or perhaps gathering "foreign" objects while enjoying a walk? (Please Front Desk about supplies).

*Thanks! Ruby Dilgren*

---

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU

In addition to her normal volunteering and board position, Ruby Dilgren took on the responsibilities of Weekday Outdoor Education Coordinator for the month of September when I was caught off guard by several requests for teachers and needed to be out of town. Ruby scheduled teachers for all the classes in September, arranged a continuing education class to train more teachers for pond pals, and scheduled teachers for some of the classes coming up in October and November.

*Thank you, Ruby,* for all your time spent calling volunteers and arranging the continuing education class.

Anne Tincher



## Fall Festival

**Please Volunteer.  
Everyone is needed  
for the largest fund  
raiser of the year.**

## VOLUNTEER SATURDAY'S PROJECT LIST FOR NOVEMBER

<u>Date</u>	<u>Projects</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Nov 4	Project 1: Stewardship project	8:30 a.m.	Ken/Mark
	Project 2: Fall Festival Set-up	8:30 a.m.	Patrick
	Project 3: Hanson House Garden	9:00 a.m.	Chris LaChance
Nov 10	Fall Festival Set-up	9:00 a.m.	George
Nov 11	FALL FESTIVAL		
Nov 12	FALL FESTIVAL		
Nov 13	Fall Festival Clean up	9:00 a.m.	George
Nov 18	Project 1: Stewardship project	8:30 a.m.	Ken/Mark
Nov. 25	Project 1: Pole Barn Repair	8:30 a.m.	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.
- Log your hours before you leave.

**VOLUNTEER DUTY SCHEDULE - NOVEMBER 2000**

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 and 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 11/4	Jim Crabb	Anne Tincher	Rita Barnes	Eleanor Stanley	Wood Shop Tom Scarsella	Anthropoids Ruby Dilgren
Sun 11/5		Melanie Weisman	Ken Russell	Stephania Rogers	Rope Jan & Dan Pelletier	Pond Life Zel Arbuckle
Sat 11/11	FALL FESTIVAL					
Sun 11/12	FALL FESTIVAL					
Sat 11/18	Louise Peck	Patty Pennington	Paul Brunkow	Chris Bingham	Quilting Joyce Roberts	Chuckwalla Eleanor Stanley
Sun 11/19		Merle Bunde	Joan Shack		Butter Stephania Rogers	Native Plants Violet Adovnik
Sat 11/25	Stan Krauhs	Marianne Phillips	Pat Bates	Paula Thorson	Cheese Jane Bingel	Pond Life Anne Tincher
Sun 11/26		Ray Parker	Christine Naspinski		Basket Weaving Mary Ann Tucker	

If you can fill in any of the blank spots, please call the appropriate coordinator. Thanks!

**2000 VOLUNTEER BOARD**

Name	Office	Home Phone	BAYOU FOLIAGE	Position	E-mail
Ed Adams	Chair	713 946-2754	Joan Henderson	Publisher	Hendrsn@texas.net
Stan Krauhs	Vice Chair	281 470-2744	Irene Ward	Co-Editor	
Martha Hood	Secretary	281 286-6746	Mary Yurkovich	Co-Editor	
Judy Sharp	Treasurer	281 488-2762	Rita Barnes	Reporter	
Ken Russell	Stewardship	281 488-0390			
Christine Naspinski	Interpretation	281 291-9513			
Joan Henderson	Admissions	281 291-0453			
Eleanor Stanley	Weekend Demos	713 455-1502			
Ruby Dilgren	Weekend Trail	281 488-1727			
Stephania Rogers	Weekday Farm	713 473-4324			
Anne Tincher	Weekday Trail	281 486-5167			
Jane Bingel	Outreach	281 544-5069			

1  
2  
3



100



**A Publication of the Armand Bayou  
Nature Center Volunteers  
"Interested + Involved + Informed"**

500 Bay Area Blvd.  
P. O. Box 58828  
Houston, TX 77258

www.abnc.org  
(281) 474-2551  
(281) 474-2552 - FAX  
abnc@ghgcorp.com

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