



# B a y o u F o l i a g e

A publication of the Armand Bayou Nature Center Volunteers

July 2002

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Vol. 21, No. 07

## look AHEAD

### July 2002

- 7 Fall Festival Committee Meeting, 4:00pm
- 9 Deadline Bayou Foliage, 4pm
- 11 Volunteer Board Meeting, 6:00pm
- 11 Volunteer Meeting, 6:30pm

### August 2002

- 1 Volunteer Board Meeting, 6pm
- 4 Fall Festival Committee Meeting, 4:00
- 6 Deadline Bayou Foliage, 4pm
- 8 Volunteer Meeting, 6:30pm

## volunteer OF THE MONTH

This month we honor Merle Bunde.

Since becoming a volunteer at ABNC over 6 years ago, Merle has stayed very busy working in a number of areas. Merle has taught classes, acted as a greeter and trail guide on weekends, helped with major events and participated in Stewardship Saturday. But the bulk of the time he has donated has been in the maintenance area. When asked why he decided to become an ABNC volunteer he

said, "I retired and was looking for something to do, and I couldn't find anything I liked better. I'm a handyman at heart, so I especially enjoy working in maintenance." Merle also volunteers his time and talents to Habitat for Humanity.

Merle is such a genuine person and a dedicated volunteer. We're so glad to have his time and talents and especially his willingness to help. His hard work is truly appreciated.

-Linda Sumner

## a b n c VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

### *Aquatic Bird Diversity*

Date: July 11, 2002

Refreshments: 6:30pm

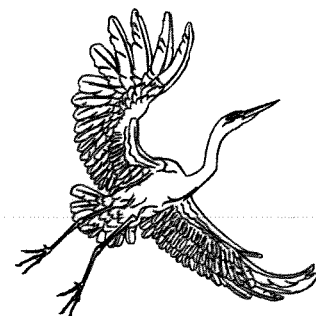
Program: 7:00pm

Dan Brooks, trustee on the Board of Armand Bayou Nature Center, will present a slide lecture featuring the diversity of aquatic birds in the Upper Texas Coastal Bend. He is Curator of Vertebrate

Zoology at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. Dan received his Ph.D. from Texas A&M studying the ecology of birds in Texas and the Neotropics. His Master's degree from Texas Tech focused on Neotropical mammalian ecology and natural history. In addition to serving on our Board, Dan serves on the Conservation Board for the World

Galliforme Association (based in the U.K.) and has co-authored / co-edited five books.

--Anne Tincher



## a b n c v o l u n t e e r M E E T I N G M I N U T E S

from meeting on June 13, 2002

The guest speaker was **Mark Kramer** of the ABNC staff, who presented a summary of the ABNC Five-Year Stewardship Plan.

Following the presentation, **Chairman Stan Krauhs** opened the business portion of the meeting. The updated volunteer roster will be mailed out soon. Stan noted that the status of the action items from the Volunteer Board retreat held in May would be in the next issue of the Bayou Foliage.

The minutes of the May 9 meeting were approved.

**The Treasurer's Report (Ken Russell)** will be given in the Bayou Foliage.

Stan read a letter of appreciation and support from former volunteer Janet Miller, who has moved out of state.

**Area Reports (Vice Chair-Anne Tincher):** The continuing education program on Dragonflies and Damselflies was held last Saturday. **Judy Sharp** will write a summary. The speaker for the July meeting will be Dan Brooks of the Houston Museum of Natural Science. He will present a program on Aquatic Birds in the Upper Texas Coastal Bend.

**Weekday Farm:** The coordinator position is vacant, and Stan asked for someone to volunteer for this job. A notice will also be posted in the Bayou Foliage.

**Weekday Demos (Eleanor Stanley):**

Activity is routine. A request was made from the floor for extra housecleaning help for the farmhouse during the hot summer months. It was pointed out that the coordinator and volunteers are already doing some of this, and perhaps it could be included in updated job descriptions.

**Stewardship (Mark Kramer):** This Saturday will be the final widgeon grass planting session, ending a successful two-year program. A system to identify fish in the widgeon grass aquarium is being developed. The Prairie Friday group has transplanted 1300 wildflowers, and they are constructing a shade house to protect some of the rare plants. The summer burn training session was completed. There are twelve new trainees, and we now have a total of 85 qualified volunteers.

**Admissions (Sally Hall):** Activity is routine.

**Fall Festival (Polly Swerdlin):** Monthly planning meetings are being scheduled prior to the deadline for Bayou Foliage articles. Activity chairpersons are needed. A sign-up board will be posted soon in the Volunteer Office.

**ABNC Staff Report (Linda Sumner):** The air conditioner will be replaced in the auditorium this week. Construction of the bison viewing platform is underway. Fall Festival planning has begun. Sam Harwell is the ABNC staff

contact. Polly Swerdlin is the Volunteer Leader. EcoCamp currently has 635 registrants, compared to 555 last year. Volunteers have responded well to the EcoCamp supply request. A revised list of needs will be published in the Bayou Foliage.

**Merle Bunde** was named **Volunteer of the Month.**

**Committee Reports: Bylaw Committee (Ken Russell)**

Ken, Ruby Dilgren, and Roland Borey are the members of this committee.

Plans are to publish proposed changes in the August Bayou Foliage in preparation for a vote at the September volunteer meeting.

**Unfinished Business:** A chairperson is needed for the **Recruitment and Assimilation Committee.** No one has yet volunteered to chair a social event prior to the December party.

**New Business:** There was no new business. A comment was made from the floor about the 25-cent charge for paper maps. However, the system of providing returnable laminated maps seems to be working effectively.

Chairman Stan Krauhs adjourned the meeting at 8:25 PM.

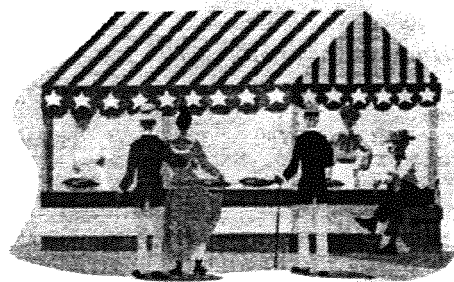
Respectfully submitted,

Bill Cooke

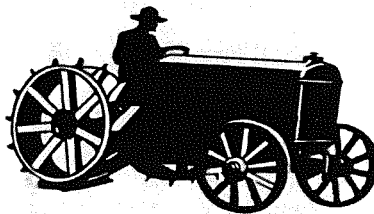
fall FESTIVAL 2002

Folks, it's time to get ready, and we need some chair people to attend the next meeting: July 7 at 4pm in the interpretive building. Here's a list of the activities, as of June 11th, where we still need leaders:

- Butter Making
- Games
- Pie Eating Contest
- Scarecrow
- Syrup Making
- Yarn Dolls
- Candle Making
- Hoe Cakes
- Quilt Squares
- Seed Mosaics
- Volunteer Booth
- Canoes
- Information Booth
- Rope Making
- Soap Making
- Wash Day



There will be the usual signup boards in the volunteer office on the wall, so please stop by to find a spot for your name. Thank you for your time.



Fall Festival Committee:

Jane Bingel, Sam Harwell, Joan Henderson, Tabitha Holt, Lew Hornung, Polly Swerdlin, and Fred Vickers.

extra K H A K I S H I R T S

In an effort to make obtaining khaki ABNC shirts easier, extras were purchased with the last order. Please contact Linda Sumner if you would like to purchase a shirt.

- \$22.50 Short Sleeve
- \$23.50 Long Sleeve
- \$2.50 per shirt up charge for XXL

- Linda Sumner  
281-474-2551

website OF THE MONTH

Patuxent Bird Identification InfoCenter

<http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/id/framlst/infocenter.html>

This site is a great tool to help with the identification of our feathered friends. It is provided by the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center of the United States Geological Survey. In their own words, "we present photographs, songs, videos, identification tips, maps, and life history information for North American birds." This user-friendly site also provides taxonomy information, a glossary, and even pictures of eggs for some species.

## a b n c VOLUNTEER INFO



### PRAIRIE DEMO TO BE PREPARED

There is one area of our nature center that is unrepresented to the public and that is our prairie. So the Volunteer Board decided to prepare a Prairie Demo for presentation to the public on weekends or other appropriate times. I have volunteered to coordinate this effort. Because I am neither an expert on the prairie or on preparing or giving demos, I need some help. If you are knowledgeable in either of these areas please contact me. My e-mail is [brad9@flash.net](mailto:brad9@flash.net) and my phone number is 281-992-2604.

-Laura Bradley

Outreach Coordinator

### HELP WANTED: WEEKDAY FARM COORDINATOR

The position of Weekday Farm Coordinator is open. The primary responsibility of this individual is to call volunteers to fill teaching positions for schools making field trips to the nature center. Stephania Rogers has held this position and recently has been covering it for Tabatha Holt, who is unable to continue. Stephania has developed a call list of volunteers interested in and willing to teach farm classes. She will continue to teach classes, too and feel free to call her for additional information. If you have a few hours a month to make the calls and possibly teach a class or two, please contact Stan Krauhs, Volunteer Chairman (day 713-307-3452, evening 281-470-2744).

-Stan Krauhs

### STILL RECRUITING

Two other non-elective leadership positions are open. We are still looking for a Chair for the Recruitment and Assimilation Committee. I will support the Chair as a member of the committee because I see it as most important to the continued health of the volunteer

corps. We also still need a volunteer to coordinate a social event. I will sign up as a member of this committee, too, because I think we should get together for no particular purpose other than to have some fun before Christmas!

-Stan Krauhs

### POLLY SWERDLIN TO COORDINATE FALL FESTIVAL

A big thanks to Polly Swerdlin, who has agreed to be the lead volunteer for Fall Festival again this year. Polly has already begun to get committee chairs and hold committee meetings. Please call her now if you are interested in volunteering early, or you may wait and be called upon later. Polly did an excellent job last year and wanted to build on her experience by doing it again. That's the spirit, Polly!

-Stan Krauhs



## continuing ED PROGRAM

A fascinating Continuing Ed program on dragonflies and damselflies was presented to ABNC volunteers by Bob and Maggie Honig on June 8. Bob is the author, along with Richard Orr and Bob Behrstock, of an article entitled "The Dragonflies and Damselflies of Houston, Texas, and Vicinity," which can be accessed through the excellent Texas Gulf Coast Birding & Naturalist website, [www.io.com/~pdhulce/](http://www.io.com/~pdhulce/). Click on "Odonata Links" to view the article.

Bob spent the first 1-1/2 hours introducing us to these winged creatures by means of slides, a video (recorded from Japanese TV, thus no sound!), and descriptions of the life cycles and habits of the different species. We learned that, although Damselflies and Dragonflies both belong to order Odonata, Damselflies (Zygoptera) are more fragile, smaller, and not as good at flying, while Dragonflies (Anisoptera) are stronger, larger, and much better fliers. Other distinguishing characteristics are that Damselflies hold their wings together above their backs, their forewings and hindwings are the

same size, and they have elongated heads. Dragonflies, on the other hand, hold their wings out to the sides of their bodies, their forewings and hindwings differ in size, and they have rounder heads.

Following the indoor presentation, we searched the boardwalk area and May's pond for live specimens. Due to the fact that it was a hot, sunny day we had good results. Although we did not see any Damselflies, we were able to observe 12 different species of Dragonflies. These included Eastern Pondhawk; Blue Dasher; Carolina and Black Saddlebags; Widow, Slaty, and Needham's Skimmers; Common Whitetail; Eastern Amberwing; and Four-Spotted, Calico, and Halloween Pennants. If you think their names are colorful, you should see the real thing! For example, the Halloween Pennant, as one would suspect, is black and orange and spectacularly marked. If you plan to try to observe dragonflies yourself, a pair of close-focusing binoculars will prove very helpful.

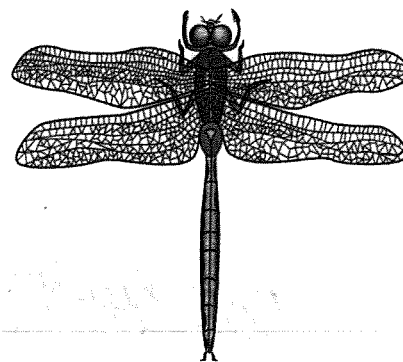
If you are interested in obtaining a field guide to Dragonflies, the

Honigs recommend the book "Dragonflies Through Binoculars" by Sidney Dunkle. This guide is a manageable size and covers all of North America.

In addition to a sizable number of volunteers participating in this program, we were glad to have ABNC Board President Cliff Meinhardt in attendance also. The volunteer group welcomes and encourages Board members to become involved in our activities.

Many thanks to Anne Tinchler for arranging this excellent Continuing Ed program for us. If you have suggestions for other speakers or topics you would like to see presented, please call Anne at 281-486-5167 or email her at [annealone3@yahoo.com](mailto:annealone3@yahoo.com).

-Judy Sharp



volunteer BUDGET

Armand Bayou Nature Center  
Volunteers Treasurer's Report  
JUNE 2002

<b>Beginning Balance</b>		<b>\$3349.90</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>		
Postage - Bayou Foliage (May 2002)	33.34	
Bank Service Charge	2.00	
	<b>Total Expenditures:</b>	<b>\$35.34</b>
<b>Income:</b>		
Cookie Sales (Down on the Farm)	152.90	
Bayou Foliage Postage (Patsy Cashion)	5.00	
	<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>157.90</b>
<b>Current Balance:</b>		<b>\$3472.46</b>

staff DIRECTORY

a good TEAM MAKES A FARM

Executive Director	Sam Harwell
Director of Education	Linda Sumner
Director of Development	Lynn Shigekawa
Stewardship Coordinator	Mark Kramer
Volunteer Coordinator	Linda Sumner
Senior Naturalist	George Regmund
Visitor Services Coordinator	Jo Evans
Front Desk	Dick Phelps
Animal Collections Assistant	Chris Battan
Education Coordinator	Melissa Aguilar
Facilities Coordinator	Ken Lester
Accountant	Pat Slaughter Linda James Velma Hope
Webmaster	Richard Coleman

Phone 281-474-2551

Email: [abnc@ghgcorp.com](mailto:abnc@ghgcorp.com) Web: [www.abnc.org](http://www.abnc.org)

"The search for human history is as absorbing as the search for natural history. I am interested in men as well as in the land they occupy and share with its wild things. What a man does to his land determines the destiny of the wildlife on it just as surely as it determines his own. And the concern of the hundreds of farmers I have known in my lifetime for the wild things of their acres has shown me that they care, simply for the pleasure of seeing and hearing the dove, the deer, and the quail from day to day."

-John K. Terres

*The Walking Adventures of a Naturalist*  
(taken from page 85 of Armand Bayou Volunteer Manual)

**abnc volunteer DUTY ROSTER**

In an attempt to take some of the load off the Coordinators, and to help cut down on our "no show" rate the Bayou Foliage will print a monthly list of folks who have volunteered for various assignments. If you are scheduled for a particular duty and you are unable to attend, please find your own substitute. You may be able to trade weekends or swap a day with someone who has another duty during the month. Use the roster below to find your substitute. Please inform the ABNC desk and the activity coordinator if you trade assignments. Also, if you can fill in any of the blank spots, please call the appropriate Coordinator. When you do your assignment please check in at the front desk with Jo Evans. Thank you.

DATE	11:00 TRAIL Coordinator, Odie Asscherick	2:00 TRAIL Coordinator, Odie Asscherick	INFO SERVICES Coordinator,	FARM INTERP Coordinator, Ruby Dilgren	FARM DEMO Coordinator, Eleanor Stanley	NAT HISTORY DEMO Eleanor Stanley
SAT 7/6	Anne Tincher	Charles Buren	Paul Brunkow	Jane Bingel	Stephania Rogers Rope	Carl Cognata Reptiles
SUN 7/7	NO TRAIL SUN AT 11:00 AM	Marie Asscherick	Ken Russell	Anne Prosser	Mary Ann Tucker - Basket Weaving & Tom Scarsella - Woodshop	Hilary Gibbs Taxidermy
SAT 7/13	Jim Crabb	Ray Parker	Dina Supple	Joan Brunkow	Eleanor Stanley Quilting	Pat Doerr Hummingbirds
SUN 7/14	NO TRAIL SUN AT 11:00 AM	Betty Snider	Joe Bryan	Polly Swerdlin	Polly Swerdlin Stereopticon	Patsy Cashion Lizards
SAT 7/20	Melanie Weisman		Ruby Dilgren	Paula Thorson	Eleanor Stanley Knitting	Marilyn Clark Lizards
SUN 7/21	NO TRAIL SUN AT 11:00 AM	Marie Asscherick	Judy Schaefer	Jim & Diane McMahon		Anne Tincher Microworld
SAT 7/27	Patty Pennington	Charles Buren	Dina Supple	Susan Hesley	Jane Bingel Cornhusk Dolls	Ruby Dilgren Spiders
SUN 7/28	NO TRAIL SUN AT 11:00 AM	Merle Bunde	Pat Bates	Eleanor Stanley	Polly Swerdlin ?	Kristi McCulloch Insects

**2002 VOLUNTEER BOARD**

Chair	Stan Krauhs	281-470-2744	krauhs@wt.net
Vice Chair	Anne Tincher	281-486-5167	annealone3@yahoo.com
Secretary	Bill Cooke	281-480-2441	billcooke@msn.com
Treasurer	Ken Russell	281-488-0390	pacloon@aol.com
Stewardship	Jim Callan	281-824-9411	jpcallan@shellus.com
Info Serv & Interp	Ruby Dilgren	281-488-1727	
Admissions	Sally Hall	281-282-0036	sallyh15@juno.com
Weekend Demos	Eleanor Stanley	713-455-1502	
Weekend Trail	Odie Asscherick	832-721-8094	doctorodie@webtv.net
Weekday Farm			
Weekday Outdoor Educ	Jane Bingel	281-554-5069	
Outreach	Laura Bradley	281-992-2604	brad9@flash.net

**Bayou Foliage**

Editors (new)	Jim & Sylvia Krzmarzick	281-557-2505	sylkyj@ev1.net
Circulation	Odie Asscherick	832-721-8094	doctorodie@webtv.net

If you have articles for the Bayou Foliage you may phone or email them to Jim and Sylvia Krzmarzick (see above).

A publication of Armand Bayou Nature Center Volunteers  
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Houston, TX 77258  
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