



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

A publication of the Armand Bayou Nature Center  
Volunteers

June 2002

Printing Compliments of Celanese

Vol. 21, No. 06

## look AHEAD

### June 2002

- 6 Volunteer Board Meeting, 6pm
- 11 Deadline Bayou Foliage, 4pm
- 13 Volunteer Meeting, 6:30pm
- 22 Night Hike (Marie Asscherick & Charles Buren), 7:30pm

### July 2002

- 4 Volunteer Board Meeting, 6pm
- 9 Deadline Bayou Foliage, 4pm
- 11 Volunteer Meeting, 6:30pm

### August 2002

- 1 Volunteer Board Meeting, 6pm
- 6 Deadline Bayou Foliage, 4pm
- 8 Volunteer Meeting, 6:30pm

## volunteer OF THE MONTH

Each month an ABNC Volunteer is recognized for his or her outstanding service to the Nature Center. This month we honor a group of volunteers and their efforts on the beautiful handmade quilt entitled "Spring at Armand Bayou Nature Center" that was auctioned off at the Center's annual Bayou Boil fundraiser.

The quilt was completed over a two year period and was worked on by ABNC quilters: Pat Bates, Marjorie Borey, Colleen Ecord, Joan Henderson, Carolyn Hicks, Barbara Hill, Joyce Roberts and Mary Ann Tucker.

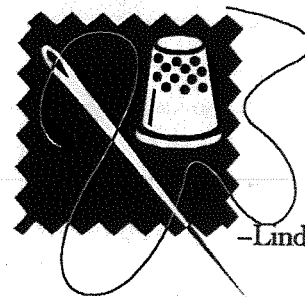
The Gulf Coast Quilters also participated including: Jessie Albrecht, Susie Johnson, Frances McDonald, Terry Morris, Peggy Mote, Donna Ross and Billie Wenzel.

The original appliqué design by Joyce Roberts features wildflowers and a blue heron that are commonly seen

in the spring at Armand Bayou Nature Center. The piecing design of the 72" wide by 82" long quilt was done by Peggy Mote and the quilting was done by Connie Hoke.

The wildflowers featured on the quilt include: Bluebonnets, Sharp Pod Morning Glory, Texas Paintbrush, Black-eyed Susan, Showy Evening Primrose, Blue-eyed Grasses, Many-stem False Dandelion, Indian Blanket, Bayou Violet, Downy Phlox and Verbena.

This quilt celebrates the unique aspects of the land and is a gift from the volunteers who spent many hours, weeks and months on the project. Thank you for all of your time and support.



-Linda Sumner

## 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 call Linda Sumner if you would like to purchase a shirt.

\$22.50 Short Sleeve

\$23.50 Long Sleeve

\$2.50 /shirt up charge for XXL

-Linda Sumner

281-474-2551

## abnc volunteer MEETING MINUTES

from meeting on May 9, 2002

The guest speaker was Dennis Jones, from the Brazos Bend Nature Center, who gave a talk on alligators.

Following the presentation, Chairman Stan Krauhs opened the business portion of the meeting.

Polly Swerdlin thanked all those who volunteered to help with the ExxonMobil picnic.

The minutes of the April 11 meeting were approved.

The Treasurer's Report (Ken Russell) was given in the current issue of the Bayou Foliage.

Area Reports:Vice Chair (Anne Tincher)

A speaker for next month's meeting is being sought. We will try to arrange a Saturday continuing education session with Robert Honig on Dragonflies and Damselflies. The dry weather has adversely affected mushroom growth, and Jim Crabbe's continuing education session was cancelled.

Weekday Outdoor Education (Jane Bingel) Activity continues to be very busy.

Weekday Farm (Stephania Rogers) Activity is routine. The coverage schedule is complete through May.

Weekend Trails (Odie Asscherick) There was only light interest in Trails during the ExxonMobil picnic, but thanks to those who stood by ready to help. Odie suggested that numbered trail markers be installed to identify points of interest.

Weekend Demos (Eleanor Stanley) Volunteers are always needed and welcome.

Outreach (Laura Bradley)

Upcoming program locations include NASA, Bay Day, and Clear Lake Methodist Church.

Interpreters and Greeters (Ruby Dilgren) Activities have been routine. Volunteers are needed and welcome.

Stewardship (Jim Callan) Marsh Mania, on April 27, was very successful. The ABNC volunteers transplanted California Bullrush grass from Cedar Bayou. This is a robust grass and should do well here. The widgeon grass season begins in two weeks. Prairie Friday turnouts have been very good and much transplanting has been done.

Committee Reports:

Bayou Foliage (Stan Krauhs) The upcoming issue of the Bayou Foliage will be the last one with Molly Ganter as Editor. Meetings have been held to transfer this responsibility to Jim and Sylvia Krzmarzick.

Volunteer Recognition (Ken Russell) Committee members are being recruited.

Volunteer Recruitment and Assimilation No one has volunteered to chair this committee. Anyone interested should contact Stan.

Bylaw Committee (Ken Russell) This committee was initiated to formulate proposals for future amendments to the Bylaws. Ken Russell is the Chairman. There has been no activity to date.

ABNC Staff Report (Linda Sumner):

The ExxonMobil picnic went very smoothly. Between 3000 and 3500 attended. The ExxonMobil planners did an excellent job, and the Nature Center

grounds were left in spotless condition.

They are interested in returning. Texaco is also interested in a similar event.

There has been tremendous interest in EcoCamp. 361 have registered to date. Additional team volunteers are badly needed. Please contact the Nature Center office.

Bayou Boil is scheduled for Saturday, May 11. Additional help is needed for setup on Friday and cleanup on Sunday.

The volunteers who have worked so hard on the Quilt Project have been named Volunteers of the Month. They are: Pat Bates, Marjorie Borey, Colleen Ecord, Joan Henderson, Carolyn Hicks, Barbara Hill, Joyce Roberts, and Mary Ann Tucker. The Quilt will be auctioned at the Bayou Boil.

Unfinished Business:

There is still an opportunity for someone to take a leadership role in planning a social event for the volunteers later this year.

Announcements:

The roster update has been completed. Rosters will be sent to all volunteers.

The Volunteer Board will participate in a Strategic Planning Workshop on May 19. Volunteers with ideas or issues are urged to pass these along to any Board Member.

A card was received from Barb Hill with her new address.

Stan adjourned the meeting at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Cooke

**exxonmobil FAMILY PICNIC THANKS**

THANK YOU, FOLKS! For all those who responded to our calls for help: many, many thanks. We had 19 "jobs" to fill, some requiring several folks, others just a few. 63 able-bodied volunteers and staff filled our portion very well. For ExxonMobil's part, Kristie Stombaugh and crew put on a great show. The Fun Company was a super bunch of kids who pitched the concessions, games and crafts. And didn't Luther's pile on the grub? Yum.

We certainly had a great time, despite the heat. Let's see: one "lost" parent, a couple minor medical problems, some last minute changes to confuse the public - and they still claimed to have enjoyed the day as they left. We learned a lot and if they ask next year we know it will be even better.

-Polly Swerdlin

Thanks to:

Melissa Aguilar	Marie Asscherick	Odie Asscherick	Chris Battan	Patsy Baukman
Jane Bingel	Jennifer Bingel	Marjorie Borey	Laura Bradley	Ann Brinley
Merle Bunde	Charles Buren	Marilyn Clark	Joe Clem	Richard Coleman
Jo Ann Corry	Kathleen Crabb	Jim Crabb	Charlotte Crook	Pat Davis
Ruby Dilgren	Emily Egan	Ruth Elder	Phillip Essenpreis	Jo Evans
Mary Garrett	Sally Hall	Sam Harwell	Rosemarie Heckmann	Vicky Hennigan
Susan Hesley	Velma Hope	Lew Hornung	Cherre House	Jacy Jarvis
Cathy Jett	Stanley Krauhs	Bonnie McKinley	Leroy McKinley	Ray Parker
Dick Phelps	Amy Price	Bonnie Price	Belinda Purdy	George Regmund
Stephania Rogers	Tom Scarsella	Judy Schaeffer	Lynn Shigekawa	Chuck Snyder
Eleanor Stanley	Linda Sumner	Anne Tincher	Cline Tincher	Mary Alice Trumble
Mary Ann Tucker	Fred Vickers	Irene Ward	Sandra Watters	Alan Wenger
Ian Wright	Nigel Wright			

**staff DIRECTORY**

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	Velma Hope
Webmaster	Richard Coleman

Phone 281-474-2551

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Web: [www.abnc.org](http://www.abnc.org)

**volunteer BUDGET**

Armand Bayou Nature Center  
Volunteers Treasurer's Report  
MAY 2002

Beginning Balance	\$3329.88
Expenditures:	\$ 38.50
Income:	\$ 58.52
Current Balance:	\$3349.90

## abnc VOLUNTEER INFO

THANK YOU TO  
TRAIL VOLUNTEERS

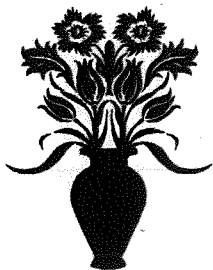
I would like to thank Merle Bunde, Jim Crabb, Ray Parker, Stan Krauhs, Marie Asscherick and Charles Buren for being on hand Saturday May 4th to guide the visitors along the trails during the ExxonMobil Picnic. It was a hot, humid day yet the trail guides were eager and willing. Thank you.

—Odie Asscherick,  
Weekend Trail Coordinator

## CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

Do you know of a volunteer who is in the hospital or has lost a close family member? Your volunteer board thinks that as a volunteer corps we should send a card or plant as appropriate to fellow volunteers who find themselves in this situation. But we need you to tell us who are these volunteers.

If you know of someone, please contact Bill Cooke with all of the details. We want to show we care.



## MINUTE CORRECTIONS

Please make note of a correction for the Volunteer Meeting Minutes as printed in the May 2002 issue of the Bayou Foliage. The presentation on recycling was given by Pam Sanders, not Pam Mason as reported.

—Bill Cooke

WANTED: JELLY JARS AND  
MORE

The following supplies are needed for EcoCamp. Please drop them off in the volunteer office.

- 1/2 gallon paper milk cartons
- Brown grocery bags
- Cicada shells
- Empty vegetable and coffee cans
- Jelly jars with lids
- Newspaper
- Old candles
- Old magazines (all kinds)
- Paper towel tubes
- Pine Cones
- Plastic soda caps
- Shoe boxes
- Toilet paper tubes

Thank you.

NEW BAYOU FOLIAGE  
EDITORS

Sylvia and Jim Krzmarzick will be coediting this newsletter beginning with the July issue. Molly Ganter decided to step down to try other ventures. Thank you, Molly, for the great job you have done with the newsletter and getting it out on time.

This June issue will be Molly's last and she will transition the job to Sylvia and Jim. Molly will continue to be available to answer questions. Jim and Sylvia recently graduated in the spring volunteer training group and just in time. We thank them for taking on such a responsible task so quickly. I know everyone will support them.

—Stan Krauhs

—Linda Sumner

view from THE CHAIR

Esprit de Corps and the Volunteer Corps

Webster defines esprit de corps as "a sense of unity and of common interests and responsibilities." Suggested synonyms are camaraderie, bonding, solidarity, and fellowship. There is certainly a sense of unity and common interests among the members of the volunteer corps. Everyone does his or her best to ensure the nature center succeeds and customers are served. And yet there is still more to be done by the volunteer corps.

The pace of the nature center has quickened, with more activities involving an increase in customers and stewardship. To fulfill the mission of the nature center and to meet the challenges presented to the volunteer corps, change is needed. I have initiated 3 committees (see last month's



newsletter) to bring about some changes, and the volunteer board has identified and formed a Bylaws Review Committee now too.

But let's not forget the synonyms above that included camaraderie and fellowship. These

are just as important to the health of an organization as having a clear mission and working hard. Change is work, but that does not mean that we cannot have fun too. Who among you (I am excluding myself) are party people and would like to take charge of a social event?

We all agreed that June was too hot and buggy for a picnic, so what then, and when? I understand that in years past we have had picnics with outdoor games, and we could do that again in the fall.

Or maybe just an ice cream social on a Sunday afternoon with everyone bringing his or her favorite flavor. Contact me to express an opinion or volunteer to organize an event. All ideas will be considered.

—Stan Krauhs, Chair of the Volunteer Board

a b n c MISSION

Armand Bayou Nature Center's Mission is to connect people with nature by providing environmental education and preserving our three unique, vanishing ecosystems: an estuarine bayou, tall grass coastal prairie and woodland. Volunteers help the Armand Bayou Nature Center fulfill its mission of education and stewardship by:

- Serving as interpretive guides to lead public tours
- Providing natural and cultural history demonstrations for the public
- Instructing classes which introduce children to environmental and cultural subjects
- Helping with special events that have cultural, recreational, or educational significance
- Assisting with stewardship programs that maintain and enhance natural resources
- Providing additional services which support the operation of the center and its programs

<b>abnc VOLUNTEER BUDGET 2002</b>
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<b>Income</b>	
Paper Recycling	400.00
Cookie Sales	600.00
Arlan's Market(1% Donation	40.00
Volunteer Booth(Fall Festival	300.00
Total	\$1340.00
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Postage(Bayou Foliage)	475.00
Bank Service Charge	24.00
Administrative/Supplies	50.00
Social Gatherings	100.00
Contingency(Cards, Gifts, etc.)	150.00
Gifts for Speakers	50.00
Nets(For ABNC Classes)	400.00
Recognition Plaque for Farmhouse Stove**	60.00
Total	\$1309.00
Assets on 2-28-02	3719.46
Proposed Income	1340.00
	\$5059.46
Proposed Expenditures	\$1309.00
Balance	\$3750.46

Budget approved by the Volunteer Board April 2002 \*\*Amended

<b>abnc STEWARDSHIP</b>
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Spring is a time of continuous activity in the Stewardship Department. **Trash Bash, Earth Day and Marsh Mania** are all squeezed into just a few weeks. I would like to say thank you to everyone who went the extra distance and helped make these spring events a success.

The Armand Bayou annual cleanup day, **Trash Bash** took place on March 23rd. Most of the storm water debris that is in Armand Bayou enters as roadside litter. After big rain events the trash is carried into the bayou with the runoff water. With last year's floodwaters from the Allison storm, there was ample trash to be collected. A total of 256 volunteers participated. A total of 7,800 pounds of debris was collected. Some of the more interesting items removed from the bayou included several large appliances, a lawn mower, and 19 tires.

**Earth Day** was held on April 20th. Volunteers went all out by offering a wide assortment of demos, guiding trail hikes, prairie talks, canoeing on May's Pond and assisting with pontoon boat rides. A total of 292 visitors came to enjoy the festivities. **Marsh Mania** took place April 27th. **Marsh Mania** is the single largest marsh restoration day of the year on Armand Bayou. Ninety-two volunteers waded into Armand Bayou to create approximately one half acre of marsh. Over 1500 stems of California bulrush were planted in less than two hours!

Again, **thank you** to every one who helped make these events a success.

--Mark Kramer

**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, Ruby Dilgren	FARM INTERP Coordinator, Ruby Dilgren	FARM DEMO Coordinator, Eleanor Stanley	NAT HISTORY DEMO Eleanor Stanley
SAT 6/1	Anne Tincher	Charles Buren	Judy Schaefer	Jane Bingel		Ruby Dilgren Bats
SUN 6/2	NO TRAIL SUN AT 11:00 AM	Marie Asscherick	Ken Russell	Anne Prosser	Mary Ann Tucker Basket Weaving	Eleanor Stanley Reptiles
SAT 6/8	Jim Crabb	Ray Parker	Paul Brunkow	Joan Brunkow	Joyce Roberts Quilting	Marilyn Clark Hummingbirds
SUN 6/9	NO TRAIL SUN AT 11:00 AM	Betty Snider	Betty Snider	Polly Swerdlin	Polly Swerdlin Stereopticon	Zel Arbuckle Snakes
SAT 6/15	Melanie Weisman		Pat Bates	Paula Thorson	Stan Krauhs Rope	Anne Tincher Microworld
SUN 6/16	NO TRAIL SUN AT 11:00 AM	Marie Asscherick	Dina Supple	Jim & Diane McMahon	Tom Scarsella Blacksmithing	Hilary Gibbs Study Skins
SAT 6/22	Patty Pennington	Charles Buren	Joyce Roberts	Susan Hesley	Chris Bingham Stereopticon	Eleanor Stanley Reptiles
SUN 6/23	NO TRAIL SUN AT 11:00 AM	Merle Bunde	Dina Supple	Eleanor Stanley	Emily Egan Spinning	Polly Swerdlin Animal Tracks
SAT 6/29		Charles Buren	Joe Bryan	Chris Bingham	Stephania Rogers Rope	
SUN 6/30	NO TRAIL SUN AT 11:00 AM	Marie Asscherick	Pat Bates	Stephania Rogers		Robin Storm 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	Tabatha Holt	281-922-6939	odieboy@compuserve.com
Weekday Outdoor Educ	Jane Bingel	281-554-5069	
Outreach	Laura Bradley	281-992-2604	brad9@flash.net

**Bayou Foliage**

Editors (new)	Jim & Sylvia Krzmarzick	281-557-2502	sykyi@ev1.net
Editor (outgoing)	Molly Ganter	281-484-5021	gantclan@aol.com
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 or Sylvia Krzmarzick (see above).

A publication of Armand Bayou Nature Center Volunteers  
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**Address Correction Requested**

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