



Bayou Foliage

June 2003

Printing Compliments of Celanese

Vol. 22, No. 6

look AHEAD

June 2003

- 5 Volunteer Board Meeting, 6pm
- 7 Possible Prairie Burn
- 10 Deadline Bayou Foliage
- 12 Volunteer Meeting, 6:30pm
- 14 Night Hike, 7:30-9:30
M. & O. Asscherick, C. Buren

July 2003

- 3 Volunteer Board Meeting, 6pm
- 8 Deadline Bayou Foliage
- 10 Volunteer Meeting, 6:30pm

August 2003

- 7 Volunteer Board Meeting, 6pm
- 8 Deadline Bayou Foliage*
- 14 Volunteer Meeting, 6:30pm

* - early deadline due to month beginning on Friday

June Program:

Host Plants for Butterflies

The June Volunteer Monthly Meeting will be a treat for all gardeners out there, whether you are a Master Naturalist or a Brown Thumb. Glenn Olsen from the Native Plant Society of Texas will share his ideas on plants that attract butterflies.

- Polly Swerdlin



volunteer of the MONTH

This June we recognize Alan Wenger as an outstanding volunteer. After working with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department as a Freshwater Biologist for 25 years, Alan retired and found his niche volunteering at the Nature Center.

"I actually planned it that way," Alan says, "The year I retired I began volunteering. I knew it was something I wanted to do."

Alan remembers when ABNC opened, but he got acquainted with the place through working with Parks and Wildlife. He was asked by the Nature Center's Director to stock Mae's Pond with fish!

Since becoming a volunteer, Alan has spent endless hours sharing his knowledge with visiting students by leading trail hikes, insect sweeps, and pond dipping.

"I enjoy showing the kids what they're learning in class. Out here, they can see and feel nature. You can't do that in a classroom."

Alan actually gave classroom teaching a try, but found it wasn't for him. "It takes a special person, like my wife, to keep up with the lesson plans and stay motivated for the kids. I like coming out here on my own schedule."

What does Alan do with the rest of his own schedule? "I spend time outdoors walking and observing nature. It refreshes me."

Alan is also involved with helping to coach the Special Olympics, at which his daughter competes.

When asked his thoughts on the Nature Center, Alan says, "It's one of the greatest things in my life. I am lucky to live so close by and be a part of it. And I get to

work with so many talented people."

Next time you see Alan, let him know how much we appreciate him and his dedication to our mission! And ask him to take you sweeping for insects . . . you may learn something!

- James Blueberry

abnc volunteer MEETING MINUTES

from meeting on May 8, 2003

There was no formal program for this evening. In its place, the volunteer pot-luck "Picnic at the Farmhouse" was held and began at 6:30 PM.

After the meal, Chairman Stan Krauhs opened the business portion of the meeting.

Minutes of the April 10 meeting and the Treasurer's Report were dispensed with, their having been published in the *Bayou Foliage*.

Area Reports:

None were given this evening. All upcoming events are published in the

Bayou Foliage, and volunteers are encouraged to read it on the ABNC website or the printed copy mailed to them personally.

Staff (James Blueberry):

James announced that Alan Wenger was named Volunteer of the Month.

Old Business/New Business:

There were no old business or new business items. Stan announced that James was leaving ABNC, effective May 31, for a summer job at Mt. Rainier. She

plans to return in October. On behalf of the volunteers, Stan presented James with an ABNC mug and a cake decorated with mountains, trees, and elk that was inscribed "Come back to us James." She said that she had learned much from the volunteers and would be back. We all wished her well.

Stan then adjourned the meeting for cake.

Respectfully submitted,
Stan Krauhs

Armand Yrametegui

This is the first of a series of articles from a biography about Armand Yrametegui, taken from The Houston Review: History and Culture of the Gulf Coast, Vol. XVII, No. 1, 1995. A very special thank you to Judy Sharp for passing this along to the Foliage!

The environmental movement in Houston in the 1960s owed much to the example and activities of Armand Yrametegui, curator of the Burke Baker Planetarium. Active in the preservation of open beaches, wilderness conservation, the defeat of an environmentally destructive and expensive water plan, and public education, he helped bring ecological awareness out of small groups of sportsmen and nature lovers into popular and political arenas. A shocking and brutal murder in 1970 cut short his flourishing

career, but his life and accomplishments inspired others to work for his same, fundamental objectives.

Armand's unusual last name (pronounced ear-ah-MAT-ah-ge) is Basque, containing a lyrical symbolism entirely appropriate to a conservationist: the inspiration or exhilaration a person receives when he reaches the top of a mountain and looks down on an impressive sight. His father's parents moved from Spain's Pyrenees to Mexico City. In turn, his father Casimiro immigrated to Houston, settling in a Mexican American neighborhood on the north side and working as a machinist with the Southern Pacific Railroad. His mother's family had deeper roots in Mexico, in the Monterrey area, yet she and her family had to flee north during the Mexican revolution. In Houston, she and Casimiro met and married, rearing two sons,

Armand (born March 2, 1923) and Hector.

With a mother having deep family ties in Mexico and a father of Basque descent, Armand's Hispanic heritage was clear. He grew up in a Mexican American neighborhood and spoke fluent Spanish. But he was also a native Texan and even a native Houstonian. All of these ethnic distinctions probably did not play a large part in Armand's outlook or activities. A man of his warmth and universal interest in all creatures must have been at least intuitively conscious of how such emphases can sometimes sharpen differences and deepen isolation, but to Armand, people were people, taken on their own terms, without preconception.

Continued in next month's Bayou Foliage.

upcoming CALENDAR**Continuing Ed**

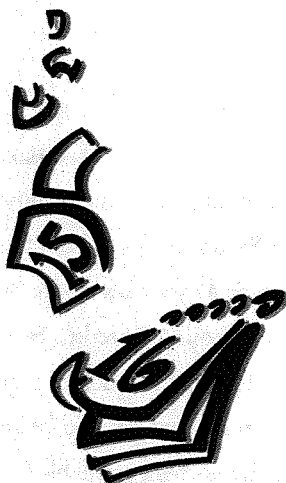
June 12	Host Plants for Butterflies	Glenn Olsen
July 10	Tallow Mulching Project	Candy Donahue
August 14	Brazoria Nat'l Wildlife Refuge	Tom Schneider
September 11	Wildlife Rehabilitation	Sharon Smaltz
October 9	Mosquitoes & West Nile Virus	Ray Parsons

Events

June & July	EcoCamp
July 26	Staff/Volunteer Luncheon
August	EcoCamp
October 18	Staff/Volunteer Luncheon
October 24-25	Creepy Crawlers

Classes & Trips

June 7	Prarie Burn
September TBD	Animal Handling
October 4	Field Trip to Katy Prarie
October Saturdays	New Volunteer Training
December TBD	Prarie Burn

**2003 VOLUNTEER BOARD**

Chair	Stan Krauhs	281.470.2744	krauhs@wt.net
Vice Chair	Polly Swerdlin	281.814.4606	pfollyred@yahoo.com
Secretary	Bill Cooke	281.480.2441	billcooke@msn.com
Treasurer	Eleanor Stanley	713.455.1502	
Stewardship	Kristen Knoedler	281.532.3610	kknoedler@dpisd.org
Greeters/Interpretors	Judy Schaefer	713.472.5688	schaeferjws@aol.com
Admissions	Anne Prosser	281.461.7338	anne_prosser@msn.com
Weekend Demos	Stephania Rogers	713.473.4324	
Weekend Trail	Odie Asscherick	832.721.8094	ABNCweekendtrail@aol.com
Weekday Farm			
Wkday Outdoor Educ.	Jane Bingel	281.554.5069	
Outreach	Ed Adams	713.946.2754	
Facilities	Chuck Snyder	281.480.1550	chuck-snyder@houston.rr.com

Volunteer Page

Webmaster	Bob Beyer	281.990.6183	bbeyer@houston.rr.com
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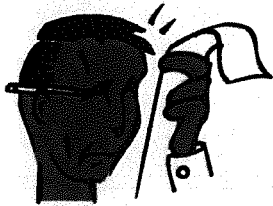
Editors	Jim & Sylvia Krzmarzick	281.557.2505	sylkyj@ev1.net
Circulation	Odie Asscherick	832.721.8094	ABNCweekendtrail@aol.com

If you have articles for the *Bayou Foliage* you may phone or email them to Jim and Sylvia.

money MATTERS

Armand Bayou Nature Center
TREASURER'S REPORT
 May 2003

Beginning Balance **\$2963.48**
 Expenditures:
 Bank Service Charge: 2.00
Total Expenditures
 \$2.00
 Income:
 R. & M. Borey 60.00
 Paper Recycling 0.00
Total Income
 \$60.00
Current Balance **\$3021.48**



Paper Chase

Look! In the report to the left! It's a bird! It's a plane! No, unfortunately it's another big fat goose egg for newspaper recycling income. It would be great to say that many great ideas to increase this revenue stream poured in after last month's entreaty, but it would be a lie. Also disappointing was the discovery of several cardboard boxes in the dumpsters that had not been broken down, wasting a lot of space. Please remember to bring your papers to ABNC and break down those boxes!.

- Jim Krzmarzick

Continuing Ed Opportunity

Continuing Education is now expanding to be in your control. You can spend some of your Saturdays with Tom Scarcella, Ray Parker, Mark Kramer, or Chris Batten. Or you can learn at your own pace by checking out a videotape for a month and writing a review for a one hour CE credit. Sam Harwell and others agree that it's of no value if nobody uses the fine collection of tapes we have on hand. Several of the tapes are copied from TV programs and need to be better identified. I will pick a few good ones for each meeting, and have them available for a lending library of sorts.

-Polly Swerdlin

staff DIRECTORY

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|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Executive Director | Sam Harwell |
| Director of Educational Development | Pat Slaughter |
| Education Program Manager | Mary Coleman |
| Director of Development | Lynn Shigekawa |
| Stewardship Coordinator | Mark Kramer |
| Volunteer Coordinator | James Blueberry |
| Senior Naturalist | George Regmund |
| Visitor Services Coordinator | Jo Evans |
| Front Desk | Dick Phelps |
| Animal Collections Assistant | Chris Battan |
| Facilities Coordinator | Ken Lester |
| Accountant/Marketing | Terri Wimberly |

Phone 281-474-2551

Email: abnc@ghgcorp.com Web: www.abnc.org

abnc volunteer DUTY ROSTER

If you have to cancel, please do your best to find your own replacement. If you can cover for any blank slots below, please call the coordinator for that event. When you arrive at ABNC for your duty please check in at the front desk with Jo Evans. Thanks!

DATE	11:00 TRAIL Coordinator, Odie Asscherick	2:00 TRAIL Coordinator, Odie Asscherick	GREETERS Coordinator, Judy Schaefer	FARM INTERP Coordinator, Judy Schaefer	FARM DEMO Coordinator, Stephania Rogers	NAT HISTORY DEMO Stephania Rogers
SUN 6/1	NO TRAIL SUN AT 11:00 AM	Marie Asscherick	Ken Russell	Paula Thorson	Mary Ann Tucker Basket Weaving	Zel Arbuckle Snakes
SAT 6/7	Jo Ann Carr	Ray Parker	Paul Brunkow	Joan Brunkow	Tom Scarsella Blacksmithing	Marilyn Clark Hummingbirds
SUN 6/8	NO TRAIL SUN AT 11:00 AM	Merle Bunde	Betty Snider	Polly Swerdlin	Stephania Rogers Buttermaking	
SAT 6/14	Anne Tincher	Kelli Glenn	Linda Watts	Rich Watts	Jane Bingel Corn Husk Dolls	Ed Adams Ropemaking
SUN 6/15	NO TRAIL SUN AT 11:00 AM	Marie Asscherick	Joe Bryan	Paula Thorson	Irene Ward Rope Making	Patsy Cashion Lizards
SAT 6/21	Polly Swerdlin	Pat Doerr	Joyce Roberts	Jane Bingel	Polly Swerdlin Stereocards	Ruby Dilgren Butterflies
SUN 6/22	NO TRAIL SUN AT 11:00 AM	Stan Krauhs	Pat Bates			Eleanor Stanley Reptiles
SAT 6/28	Patty Pennington	Joe Bryan		Eleanor Stanley		Marilyn Clark Lizards
SUN 6/29	NO TRAIL SUN AT 11:00 AM	Melanie Weisman	Pat Bates		Irene Ward Ropemaking	Anne Tincher Microworld

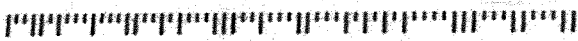
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