

Watch where staple goes!

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



June 2004

Printing Compliments of Celanese

volunteer OF THE MONTH



Eleanor helps Stephanie Rogers at the 2003 Fall Festival.

Events Committee

The Events Committee has dwindled some, but plans are still being made to plan our major affairs better year-round. That being the case, we need to have more participation, but it's not always convenient for folks to attend yet another meeting. I am proposing that it be done via e-mail and/or phone calls. I will still attempt to meet whoever wishes to visit in person each month. For the next one, I have selected Wednesday June 2 at 4pm, classroom 3. Catch me at my email: pfollyred@yahoo.com or cell phone: 281-814-4606.

Briefly, as it stands for each event:

Fall Festival needs a theme, this year it will be "Step Back In Time to 1904". I will be researching libraries nearby for the history of that year in this community. If anyone has anything to contribute, it will be appreciated. Also, we need 4 Fall Festival Planning Committee Chairs: Publicity, Logistics, Food, and

and Signs.

Creepy Crawlers would still be a staff coordinated event, but the volunteers suggest that the ever-popular cookie decorations be returned.

Yuletide will be a two location affair; Ed Adams in charge of the decorations of the auditorium for our Christmas Dinner meeting as usual, and Jane Bingel in charge of the decorating of the Farmhouse. We propose that admission be free that one Sunday, and our visitors be encouraged to join in the songs, decorating, and refreshments.

Earth Day 2005 needs a lot more displays, demonstrations, and publicity. The Girl Scouts did a fine job this year. We invite the Master Naturalists to create a booth or display, and any other groups who might be interested in having an outlet.

Announcing:

We now have a NEW Rope Maker! It is the same shape and size of the original, except there are only 3 hooks. Come out to the wood shop and check it out. (Cont'd p.2)

Nip in the Bud

Deadline for the July Foliage is Noon on Friday, June 11th. You can send your articles by e-mail (dsgonzalez312@hotmail.com) postal mail (312 W. Ellaine, Pasadena, TX 77506) or phone (713-473-4324). Please note, when possible I will preserve your format. If you wish to discontinue the Foliage by mail, please notify Odie Asscherick (832-721-8094). This will save ABNC postal costs.

View the Foliage online at

www.ghg.net/beyer/ABNCooolunteers/home.htm.

Danny

June Speaker: Don Richardson

What Makes a Bird a Bird?

Don grew up south of Buffalo New York, enlisted in the Navy, and saw his first sea bird, a Wilson's Storm Petrel, from a surfaced submarine. Birding struck his fancy after his 20 year Navy career, and he became active in the Pensacola Florida Audubon Society, presenting nature programs. Don arrived in Houston in 1980 and became active in Houston's Ornithology Group. He has been their chairman, and teaches beginning birding classes, presents programs and lectures, leads outings, and all around busy guy. Don has authored bird articles for the magazine "Texas Birds" and the Houston OG's publication "The Spoonbill".

Don is a repeat speaker for us, having been

(Continued from p.1)

Video Tape Library

It is located opposite the book library in classroom 1. There is a notebook on one of the shelves that has them all listed alphabetically and numerically, plus a page up front to list which tape you are borrowing. Please scratch out your entry as you return it. That's it. Can I make it any easier? I have added a new one recently, a 35 minute taping of Lew Hornung's March Class about the Farmhouse Wood Stove.

Door Prizes

At the end of the business section of our monthly meetings, there will be awarding of door prizes. They aren't fancy or expensive, but will usually be in tune with a theme for each month. In April, the lucky winners found a number under their seat, and received Easter related items. Next time, it may be a raffle ticket; may be those who are wear a certain color. Our ulterior motive, I admit, is to keep folks' attention and attendance through the dry, but important business portion.

Polly Swerdlin

The official closing time of the Nature Center is 5 PM, and all guests should have departed by that time. But when there are cars in the parking lot, someone on the ABNC Staff must check the trails and the premises. A person might be injured or disabled, so this cannot be ignored. It can take quite a while to be sure that no one is locked inside and this delays a Staff member from leaving at a reasonable time. Sometimes the vehicle belongs to one of the several Volunteers who have been allowed to have a key to the front gate for a specific reason. If you are one of these, a special bright yellow card has been prepared for you to attach to your inside mirror to indicate that you have a key. This will help reduce the time required to check out the situation at closing time. You can get a card from me or from the front desk. Thanks for you cooperation.

Bill Cooke



Kroger Comes Through!

Terri Wimberly reported that ABNC had received a check from Kroger for over \$1000 this quarter from our Partnership Program! As a Volunteer, all you have to do is have your Partnership card scanned when you make a purchase. It costs you nothing, and the Nature Center benefits greatly. If you

Thanks ever so much to the brave souls who stuck it out during the soggy ExxonMobil Picnic! Early on, the pontoon boat rides were canceled due to the weather forecasts. Next were the canoes. We were still okay until about 11am when the heavens opened up, and the wagon rides were stopped. Even so, the kids enjoyed themselves immensely, of course, while adults ducked for cover of the tents. I think everyone would have gone home after lunch, except for the drawings being held at 2pm. By 3pm the busses were going back to the parking garage full of damp customers. Even with the weather forecasts warning folks, I saw several versions of rain gear; rain coats and umbrellas, umbrella hats, garbage or shopping bags, boxes, you name it. ExxonMobil had the usual midway games, air pressure slide and wall climb (until they were shut down for the downpour), Bingo, junk food snacks, and Luthur's catered BarBQ. Thank you, EM, it was as delicious and fun as before. My special thanks go to the folks who answered the short notice call. I apologize for not advertising it better. Next year (if they return) will be different. Polly Swerdlin

upcoming CALENDAR

Continuing Education

June 10	What Makes A Bird A Bird	Don Richardson
June	Nature's Pastels	Helen Harger
July 8	Jimmy Martyn Farm	Lew Hornung

Events

June, July, & August	Eco Camp
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Classes & Trips

June 5	Prairie Burn Class
July 10	Intro to Trail Boxes
July 24	New Volunteer Orientation
Sept. 7,9,11	Animal Handling
October 16	New Volunteer Orientation
October 23	Wood Stove Operation
October ?	Volunteer Field Trip

Cont. Ed Class Natures Pastels

If you love the colors and textures of nature and you would like to take them home with you--This class is for you. This is not a drawing class. It is a class to learn how to manipulate the medium of pastels so that you can make field notes or just copy the beauty of nature. You will start and finish a painting and hopefully want to do it again. It will be a step by step technique. This class is for beginners. Come, relax and have fun. We will paint on paper and if you do too badly, we can always start a fire. For a supply list call Helen Harger at: 281-478-6615

2004 Volunteer Board

Chair	Bill Cooke	281.480.2441	billcooke@msn.com
Vice Chair	Polly Swerdlin	281.814.4606	pfollyred@yahoo.com
Secretary	Bob Beyer	281.990.6183	txbob@houston.rr.com
Treasurer	Eleanor Stanley	713.455.1502	
Stewardship	Kristen Knoedler	281.532.0407	kknoedler@dpisd.org
Greeters/Interpreters	Judy Schaefer	713.472.5688	schaeferjws@aol.com
Admissions	Dewanna Norris	281.488.276	dwn8@juno.com
Weekend Demos	Stephania Rogers	713.473.4324	stephania312@w.connect.com
Weekend Trail	Stan Krauhs	281.470.2744	krauhs@earthlink.net
Weekday Farm	Jane Bingel	281.554.5069	
Weekday Outdoor Ed.	Vacant		
Outreach	Ed Adams	713.946.2754	
Facilities	Chuck Snyder	281.480.1550	chuck-snyder@houston.rr.com

Volunteer Page

<http://www.ghg.net/beyers/ABNCvolunteers/home.htm>

Webmaster	Bob Beyer	281.990.6183	txbob@houston.rr.com
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Bayou Foliage

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from THE CHAIR

May is big month for all of us at ABNC. In fact, there are a lot of Volunteers with tongues hanging out already and we aren't even halfway through the month as I write this. We started out with the Exxon-Mobil picnic. As you know, they do all the heavy work but we add a lot of interest with demos and canoes. Rubber boots were the order of the day due to the flooding rains. Nevertheless, ABNC estimated that 1000 guests came. The ones I saw were having a great time in spite of everything. I left late in the afternoon and passed one of their big tents with at least 3 inches of water on the ground. The tent was full of folks playing bingo!

Bayou Boil was the following Saturday. This year the tent was bigger than ever and a record number of tables were sold. This was my first

time and it was exhausting. A lot of Volunteers worked on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday to get everything set up. Then we had a large number of Volunteers actually working the event-serving tables, helping with the auctions, selling raffle tickets, and other things. Tom Scarscella, Jane Bingel, and Stephania Rogers did demos to entertain the guests before dinner. The Volunteers who served tables worked really, really hard. They are the "face" of the Volunteers at this event, and they did a great job making our guests feel pampered. (As they should, given the prices they paid.) We were fortunate again to have help from the Shell volunteer group, coordinated by Jim and Jana Callan.

Tonight, we were the ones pampered. ABNC staff provided BBQ, dessert,

and raffle prizes for the Volunteers at the annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. We had a good turnout, especially considering the weather. Polly Swerdlin was named Volunteer of the Year for 2003. Well deserved, Polly!!

Later this month we will have our first (I think) ABNC Yard Sale. We will be selling canoes, kayaks, tools, hardware, and other items to raise more money to complete the paving of the Maintenance Barn.

It's only May, but Fall Festival and Creepy Crawlers will be here before you know it!

See you on the bayou,

Bill

Armand Bayou Nature Center

TREASURER'S REPORT

By Eleanor Stanley

April 2004

Beginning Balance

5064.68

Expenditures:

Bank Service Charge 2.00

Bayou Foliage—March 35.15

Total Expenditures 37.15

Income:

Eleanor Stanley—

Crafts-Koozies-Pictures 70.00

Feb. Recycling 14.87

Total Income

84.87

Current Balance

\$5112.40

staff DIRECTORY

Executive Director	Sam Harwell	sam@abnc.org
Stewardship Coordinator		
Mark Kramer	mark@abnc.org	
Animal Collections Supervisor	Lauren Christensen	lauren@abnc.org
Volunteer Coordinator	Donna Davis	donna@abnc.org
Front Desk	Jessalyn Ballard	
Accounting	Terri Wimberly	terri@abnc.org
Director of Educational	Pat Slaughter	pat@abnc.org
Education Programs Manager	Shauna Trevino	shauna@abnc.org
Facilities Manager	Ed White	ed@abnc.org
Janitor (Facilities)	Jim Witherspoon	

Phone 281.474.2551

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. Thanks!

DATE	9:30 Trails Stan Krauhs	2:00 Trails Stan Krauhs	Greeters Judy Schaefer	Farm Interpretation Judy Schaefer	Farm Demonstrations Stephania Rogers	Natural History Stephania Rogers
Saturday 5th	Patt Doerr	Stan Krauhs		Jane Bingle	Stephania Rogers Butter Making	Eleanor Stanley Reptiled
Sunday 6th		Marie Asscherick	Ken Russell	Eleanor Stanley	Mary Ann Basket Weaving	Zel Arbuckle Snakes
12th	Stan Krauhs	Kelli Glenn 7:30-9:30 Owl Frowl Stan Krauhs & Marie Asscherick	Paul Brunkow	Joan Brunkow	Frank & Joyce Senz Rope Making	Ruby Dilgren Spiders
13th		Marie Asscherick	Pat Bates	Marjorie Borey	Tom Scarcella Woodworking	Hillary Gibbs Adaptations
19th	Stan Krauhs	Ray Parker	Phillip Essentpress	Paula Thorson	Jane Bingle Cornhusk Dolls	Ed Adams Rope Making
20th		Merle Bundy	Pat Bates		Helen Harger Cheese Making	
26th	Melanie Weisman	Charles Buren	Joe Bryan	Stephania Rogers		Irene Ward Lemonade
27th		Joe Bryan	Merel Bundy	Sandy Parker		Polly Swerdlin Adaptations

A publication of Armand Bayou Nature Center Volunteers

Bayou Foliage

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