



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

May 2004

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Volume 23, No. 5

look AHEAD

May 2004

- 6 Volunteer Board Meeting, 6pm
- 11 Deadline *Bayou Foliage*
- 13 Volunteer Meeting, 6:30pm
@ Farmhouse
- 15 Brazos Bend Field Trip

June 2004

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

change OF VENUE

The May 13, 2004 volunteer meeting will be a catered BBQ dinner hosted by the staff of ABNC for all of the active volunteers to enjoy. The dinner will be served at the farmhouse with games and prizes. Please bring one guest and RSVP to Donna (281)474-2551 or Donna@abnc.org. Participate in games from 6pm – 7pm, and dinner to follow promptly with the announcement of the volunteer of the month and the volunteer of the year honor. Please come and enjoy a dinner on the house.

- Donna Davis
Volunteer Coordinator

volunteer OF THE MONTH

Just about everyone knows that Eleanor Stanley has been a dedicated volunteer many years at ABNC. But, how many of you knew that she'll have 20 years of volunteer service this Fall? Eleanor dedicates much of her time to volunteer work and has even reached another milestone as a Docent at the Houston Zoo — 30 years! Eleanor started at ABNC, before there were structured programs, working in the farmhouse and coordinating classes. She has served on the Volunteer Board in several capacities and currently is our Treasurer. Her passion for the Nature Center's mission is shown in her dedication in so many ways...Thank you, Eleanor.

- Donna Davis

calling ALL TEENS

Hey 14 to 17 year olds - it is time to pick up and fill out your application to be an EcoCamp teen volunteer. We ask that you commit to two, one week sessions of EcoCamp. Camp starts June 1 and runs thru August 6. You will assist teachers with the campers and enjoy the great outdoors. There is no better way to spend your summer! Applications can be picked up in the admissions building or mailed to your home. Call me at 281.474.2551 to volunteer.

- Donna Davis

clean up AND CLEAR OUT

It's time for spring cleaning and we are having a garage sale. Donate your household items, clothing, craft projects, and miscellaneous oddities to help us raise money to concrete the shop bays in the facilities shed. The garage sale is May 22 and 23, 2004 from dawn until dusk. Drop off your items May 19 thru May 23, 2004 at the facilities yard. In addition to donations, we will need volunteers to supervise the sale both days. A sign up sheet will be made available to you at the volunteer desk. Thank you for your help and support.

- Donna Davis

volunteer MEETING MINUTES

Mark Kramer presented a very informative program concerning the restoration projects for the ABNC prairies and marsh restoration for the Bayou itself. He showed the dramatic changes which occurred since the early 1950's due to subsidence and the rapid infestation of tallow trees. He then reviewed the various restoration efforts and approaches used over the last ten years. Over one million dollars were spent during that period. Mark said that until additional resources are available, the emphasis will be on maintaining the progress made rather than continuing to restore additional acreage.

Following the educational program, Chairman Bill Cooke opened the business portion of the meeting. Donna Davis passed out Volunteer Information Questionnaires for attendees to fill out during the meeting. Minutes of the last meeting were approved with a minor correction to the amount of money collected during the Bird House auction. Treasurer Eleanor Stanley said that the Treasurer's Report would be published in the next issue of the Bayou Foliage.

Old Business:

Bill reported on the Senior's Day event. Although Volunteers were well prepared, busses were not available to pick up seniors and there were no participants.

The Media Day was a huge success. Diane Gillebaard, who chairs the Marketing Committee of the ABNC Board of Trustees, sent a thank you note for the Volunteer help. She acknowledged the enthusiasm and dedication of all Volunteers and especially thanked Ed Adams ("chef extraordinaire"), Joan Henderson, Chris LaChance, Kathleen Crabb, Ruby Dilgren, Carl Cognata, Jane Bingel, Stephania Rogers, Paula Thorson, Dick Benoit, Ray Parker, Laura Bradley, Anne Tincher, Ann Brinley, Chris Santiago, and Lew Hornung for their help in the event.

Mark said that the March 27 Trash Bash was the largest ever, with

475 participants.

New Business:

Jim and Sylvia Krzmarzick have resigned as editors of the Bayou Foliage because of growing personal commitments including their plan to begin graduate school studies this fall. Danny Saenz has volunteered to become the new editor and was introduced to the group. Jim and Sylvia will work with him to make a smooth transition.

Bill gave a brief report on Bayou Boil plans.

Lew Hornung announced plans for an ABNC garage sale to raise funds to concrete the bays of the maintenance barn. It will be held on May 22 and 23, and Volunteers are urged to donate items.

Vice Chair (Polly Swerdlin):

Polly reviewed the upcoming schedule and announced a meeting of the Events Committee on April 25.

Board of Trustees Report (Stan Kraubs):

Stan outlined recent discussions between the ABNC Board of Trustees and the Port Authority regarding management and restoration of property the Port will provide for mitigation purposes, assuming the project goes forward. Mark pointed out that since ABNC is not an advocacy organization, it takes no public position on issues such as this.

Staff Report (Donna):

Donna announced that Eleanor Stanley has been selected as the Volunteer of the Month. The Nature Center has provided a prime parking place for the Volunteer of the Month.

Donna outlined activities planned for Earth Day.

Area Reports:

Ed Adams said that Volunteers are desperately needed for upcoming Outreaches. Outreaches are scheduled at the San Jacinto monument and for the Boy Scouts at Reliant Center on April 24. A total of seven Volunteers are needed over a three day period to sup-

port the Strawberry Festival Outreach on May 14-16.

Kristen Knoedler announced details of the upcoming Marsh Mania.

Stan mentioned the resignation of one Volunteer who helped on Trails but has moved to the other side of Houston. Help is needed for Trails on Mother's Day.

Door Prizes:

Polly distributed ten door prizes as part of a program to encourage more Volunteers to attend the entire meeting.

There was no further business, and Bill adjourned the meeting at 9 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Cooke for Bob Beyer

Armand Bayou Nature Center**TREASURER'S REPORT**

March 2004

Beginning Balance

\$4933.58

Expenditures:

Bank Service Charge	2.00
Total Expenditures	\$2.00

Income:

C. MacGregor - Postage	10.00
Feb. Recycling	61.10
Bird House Sale	62.00
Total Income	\$133.10

Current Balance

\$5064.68

u p c o m i n g C A L E N D A R

Continuing Education

May 13	Picnic at the Farmhouse	Staff
June 10	What Makes A Bird A Bird	Don Richardson
July 8	Jimmy Martyn Farm	Lew Hornung

Events

May 1	Exxon/Mobil Picnic
May 7	JSC Outreach
May 8	Bayou Boil
May 15	Marsh Mania
May 15	Pasadena Strawberry Festival Outreach
May 22	Yard Sale
May 22-23	Volunteer Campout
June, July, &	
August	Eco Camp



Classes & Trips

May 15	Volunteer Field Trip
May 29	Nature's Pastels
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

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	schaefejws@aol.com
Admissions	Dewanna Norris	281.488.276	
Weekend Demos	Stephania Rogers	713.473.4324	
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

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

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

f r o m T H E C H A I R

One of the rewarding aspects of my job as your Chairman this year has been the opportunity to meet new people and to begin to understand their contributions to Armand Bayou Nature Center. I am continually surprised and pleased to learn more about the knowledge, dedication, and sacrifice in terms of personal time that Volunteers and Staff share with those who visit our wonderful site.

But now I want to recognize a group who certainly aren't Staff and who aren't necessarily Volunteers in the usual sense. They are the ladies of the Assistance League of the Bay Area (called ALBA in short). We've lived in Clear Lake for almost twenty-five years and have been aware of the Assistance League for a long time. Like you, for years we've seen articles in the *Citizen* and elsewhere touting their fund raising activities for worthwhile causes. I've only recently become aware of their

significant contribution to ABNC.

ALBA is a service organization. One of the most important points we should all know is that they don't throw their valuable fundraising dollars at anything that they're not involved with on a working level. In 1989 they began helping ABNC Volunteers in the *Hands on History* program. ALBA is quick to give credit to Volunteers like Mary Alice Trumbull, Jane Bingel, Stephania and Paul Rodgers and Emily Eaton who gave them instruction. ALBA then expanded the program and began to sponsor financially disadvantaged schools and underwrite their transportation costs. Since 1995, ALBA has given *Hands on History* presentations to more than 4000 children. ALBA has a 15 person Committee, headed up this year by Sally Wiggington, to support this effort.

In recent weeks I've seen ALBA in action with children in the

Woodshop and the Farm House. It cannot help but warm your heart to see the enthusiasm, laughter, and joy from them as they learn about nature and long lost farm skills. What a gift.

ALBA has helped the Nature Center in other ways, including a grant of about \$4800 to refurbish the educational panels located in the greenhouse, and they funded the transformation of the greenhouse into a learning center.

So tip your hat the next time you come across one of these wonderful ladies at the Nature Center.

One last thing—a couple of years ago I got a copy of "Settings on the Dock of the Bay," which is a collection of recipes from ALBA. As a wannabe cook (no puns, please, on my name) it's absolutely great. If you don't already have it, find it. You'll love it. And it helps ALBA.

See you on the Bayou,
Bill

s t a f f D I R E C T O R Y

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 TRAIL Stan Krauhs	2:00 TRAIL Stan Krauhs	GREETERS Judy Schaefer	FARM INTERP Judy Schaefer	FARM DEMO Stephania Rogers	NAT HISTORY DEMO Stephania Rogers
SAT 5/1	ExxonMobil Picnic	ExxonMobil Picnic	ExxonMobil Picnic	ExxonMobil Picnic	ExxonMobil Picnic	ExxonMobil Picnic
SUN 5/2	No Early Trail on Sundays	Marie Asscherick	Ken Russell	Marjorie Borey	Mary Ann Tucker Basket Weaving	Chris Bingham Stereoscope
SAT 5/8	Charles Buren	Polly Swerdlin	Bayou Boil	Bayou Boil	Bayou Boil	Bayou Boil
SUN 5/9	No Early Trail on Sundays	OPEN!!!	Pat Bates	Polly Swerdlin		Eleanor Stanley Reptiles
SAT 5/15	Charles Buren	Kelli Glenn	Paul Brunkow	Joan Brunkow	Helen Harger Cheese Making	Carl Cognata Reptiles
SUN 5/16	No Early Trail on Sundays	Marie Asscherick	Philip Essenpress	Chris Bingham	Stephania Rogers Butter Making	Zel Arbuckle Snakes
SAT 5/22	Pat Doerr	Ray Parker		Rich Watts	Polly Swerdlin Stereoscope	
SUN 5/23	No Early Trail on Sundays	Joe Bryan	Pat Bates	Paula Thorson	Tom Scarsella Blacksmithing	Hilary Gibbs Pond Life
SAT 5/29	Stan Krauhs	Anne Tincher		Susan Hesley	Joyce & Frank Sens Rope Making	Ruby Dilgren Spiders
SUN 5/30	No Early Trail on Sundays	Merle Bunde	Philip Essenpress	Eleanor Stanley	Chris Bingham Stereoscope	Eleanor Stanley Reptiles

A publication of Armand Bayou Nature Center Volunteers

Bayou Foliage

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