



Bayou Foliage

April 2006

Printing Compliments of Celanese

Vol. 25 No. 4

Look AHEAD

April 2006

8 Spring Wildflower
Tour w/Kathleen
Crabb, 9am-12noon

13 Volunteer Board Meeting,
5:30-6:30pm

13 Volunteer Meeting, 6:30-9pm

15 Deadline for *Bayou Foliage*

22 Earth Day at ABNC!

22 Birding and Breakfast w/
George Regmund. 7:00am

29 Lockheed Martin Picnic, 10-4

May 2006

6 Marsh Mania, 8:30-1:30pm

11 Volunteer Board Meeting,
5:30-6:30pm

11 Volunteer Potluck w/speaker,
6:30-9pm

13 Deadline for *Bayou Foliage*,
LAST ISSUE before the summer
hiatus, lets make it a good one!

13 Bayou Boil, 6-10pm

June 2006

2-3 Village Creek Overnight
Canoe trip

5 Ecocamp begins...



Volunteer of the MONTH

You see him every-
where- in the Heiman house,
the lab, the Admissions
building, on the trails, in
the bayou and flapping in
the prairie-he is none other
than **Phillip Essenpreis**, our
March Volunteer of the
Month!

Phillip began volun-
teering out here in the
spring of 2002, when he was
a mere lad of 16. When
asked what first drew him
to volunteer at ABNC he
simply responds, "I like na-
ture."

The only avenue of
volunteering he has yet to
engage in is facilities. He
has participated in Trash
Bash and Marsh Mania-"I
LOVE doing Trash Bash
and Marsh Mania," he says.
He has also been through
our burn training program,
and has flapped out some
fire on the prairie. Phillip
takes over for me at the
front desk when I need to

get away from the madness
for awhile.

He was one of the
original CP Chem teachers-
dipping for specimens in 49
degree weather, sweep net-
ting in 104 and doing trail
hikes in between.

His true passion how-
ever, is "working with ani-
mals, and teaching children
about them." He is always
there when we need someone
to do a reptile birthday-do we
do any other kind? He is one
of those volunteers that you
would swear live out here-
you see them so much. Vol-
unteers like Phillip are the
reason ABNC has continued
to flourish, may we continue
to see his smiling face for
many years to come! -jess



Pic taken by Ann Brinly



As I attempt to learn this new pencil game of Sudoku, it reminds me of the concept we "nature lovers" are always aware of - Everything is connected in the Web of Life. As you try to place numbers in the squares, you have to watch where they are in other squares and

not repeat them. Each time I thought I was close, another line up conflicted and had to be rearranged or another behind that one, and another...

As volunteers at ABNC, we are all interconnected, depend on each other, and make it all happen. I could not do my job as Chair without my team of Board members, the folks that handle tasks that need doing, or even those that just show up at each monthly meeting to enjoy the fellowship and speaker's instruction.

The Nature Center itself is dependant on sev-

eral entities besides the volunteers, staff and trustees. It depends on the City of Pasadena maintaining its promise not to allow the property to be developed. It depends on many donors for the capital to run the expenses. It depends on clean water and air from previous users upstream. It depends on visitors coming to enjoy the scenery and education.

It in turn provides all of us with our needs. It is a place to unwind, learn something new, and teach others what we know. It is a place for schools to send their pupils for valuable hands-on

experiences. It is a place for parents to share with their youngsters on weekends and special events.

It is a place that is special in so many ways for so many of us. Take real good care of it, and you will be rewarded.

Polly Swerdlin

Chair 2006

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3
7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1
5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4
8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2
6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

2006 ARMAND BAYOU NATURE CENTER VOLUNTEER BOARD

Chair	Polly Swerdlin	281-814-4606	pfollyred@yahoo.com
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Weekday Outdoor Education			
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abnc VOLUNTEER Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2006

Concrete Crushing Plant - Ned gave us information on the Air Permit applied for by Coastal Crushed Concrete (CCC). They are looking at putting in facility to crush 120 ton/hr of concrete across Red Bluff from our center. ABNC has asked for a contested hearing and also for a public meeting. Letters were sent out to interested nature center members and volunteers asking for them to also send letters. The latest rumor is that CCC may decide not to pursue the permit.

Fundraising - Ned gave a talk on tips to keep in mind while an organization is raising funds.

Our Care List Joan Brunkow fell and damaged her face and teeth.

Old Business

Secretary report - minutes were approved

Treasurer report - There was \$2518 in the treasury at the end of January. Report was approved. We have not received much money from paper recycling since November.

Memorials - The nature center has received about \$3500 in memorials. We are buying trees for the bird blind that will attract birds.

Events committee - There will be a meeting on Sunday, March 12 to plan Earth Day.

Earth Day will be April 22. Lockheed Martin will have a picnic on April 29. Regular visitors will not be charged admission that day.

Continuing Education

-March 18 - Owl Prowl and Weekend trails training.

-March 25 - 9:30 am farm and 10:30 mushrooms

-April 8 - Spring Wildflowers

-April 22 - Birding/Breakfast limited to 14 people

-June 3-4 Village Creek Canoe trip limited to 16 people

-Charles Pace is available for farm building/farm furniture building. No date scheduled yet.

-Picnic in May - normally not a speaker for this, but we voted to have Sandy Parker who was unable to speak in March due to an illness speak in May.

Staff Reports

Volunteer of the month - Philip Essenpreis is the volunteer of the month. "Willing to do anything and everything."

Farmhouse repairs - the house has been leveled. We now have \$10,000 to use to fix the rest of the house. Porch on kitchen side is the next step. Activities at the house could be disrupted while the repairs are underway.

Bayou Boil - The caterer will supply the waiters.

Trustees - A policy on big groups using the nature center is being developed.

Area Reports

-Admissions/greeters - openings for April Weekend Demos - no report

-Weekend Trails - Need help on Earth Day. Training for Owl Prowl and Trails will be provided on March 18

-Weekday outdoor - no report

-Outreach - Jesse Jones Park Outreach More than 1000 people were there.

-Facilities - The attic in the greenhouse is complete. The garden fence at the Heiman house is almost complete. Work on the porch is about to begin. The trustees will meet with the facilities crew to discuss future projects.

-Stewardship - March 25 is Trash Bash

-Foliage - deadline is 4:30 Sat.

Treasurers Report

Beginning Balance		\$2597.71
Expenditures		
Bank Service Charge	2.00	
Foliage (January)	33.00	
Foliage February)	34.00	
Sympathy Cards	10.67	
Total Expenditures	79.67	
Income		
Total Income	0	
Current Balance		\$2518.04

Staff DIRECTORY

Executive Director	Ned Van Maanen	ext:11	ned@abnc.org
Associate Director	Candy Donahue	ext:18	candy@abnc.org
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Visitors Services	Dick Phelps	ext:10	
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Facilities/Custodian	Jim Witherspoon	ext:16	jim@abnc.org
Animal Caretaker/Lab	Jess Shively	ext:17	jessica@abnc.org

The Hognose's Are Here!



Hognose's, which are thought by many to be much heartier and easier to keep in captivity.

Western Hognose's are often thought to closely resemble rattlesnakes—they are a physically impressive snake without having all troublesome venom!

They will certainly be welcome additions to ABNC, as the snakes we have currently are having to endure almost constant usage for outreaches, birthdays, and field trips, not to mention demos.

The new snakes are a pair, male and female, so who knows what may happen...

Meet one of the two new Western Hognose snakes coming soon to a lab and admissions building you know so well!

After the recent death of our infant Eastern Hognose, it was decided that our next hognose attempt should be made with adults. These are also WESTERN

What's Happening at ABNC?

The New Class-Volunteer Orientation, February 18, 2006

Welcome the new class of 2006! 23 new volunteers joined our ranks on February 18th: Charles Armbrust, Don Benko, Ruth Burgess, Lillie Campbell, Sharon Cayer, Liz Cravey, Roemehl Dewey, Lucinda Dillon, Katja Fischer, Charlotte Gogola, Tracey Howell, Susan Kalafitch, Prashanth Konamar, Barbara and Ian

Kress, Mike Miller, Theresa Monaco, Sylvia Prather, Laura Shipman, Sandra



Sjoberg, Ann and Ron Whitener, and Katherine White. Make sure if you see any of these folks around you heartily welcome them and tell them how happy you are they decided to offer their time and talents to Armand Bayou Nature Center!

Village Creek!!!



That's right folkies and folkettes-it's time for the Village Creek Overnight Canoe Float Trip through the Big Thicket Sandy Lands Sanctuary of East Texas-whew, you think this is a run on sentence (sorry all you former grammar school

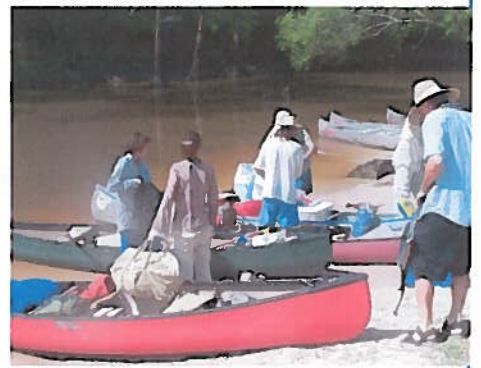
teachers)? These are pics from last years trip (which sooo many of you missed out on). This trip is the annually scheduled one, so there will hopefully be some sign-ups from the public as well! Ed has already been conjuring up delicacies like cinnamon raison French toast, and creamy fettuccini alfredo! And you know if Mark "the fisherman" Kramer is going there will be some freshly caught fish involved! You know you want to-so sigh up!

When? June 2-3, 2006 (Fam Saturday-3pm Sunday)

Where? Meet at ABNC and carpool to East Texas

Cost? For all you lovely people, \$75 smackers

Who to call? Jess to schedule 281-474-2551



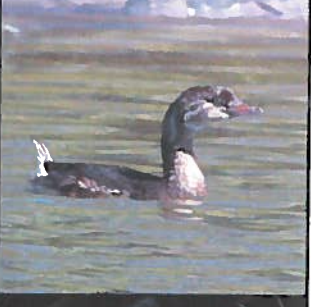


Earth Day 2006

at Armand Bayou Nature Center
Saturday, April 22—from 10am-4pm

FREE ADMISSION!

- Guided Trail Hikes
- Farm Demos
- Reptile Demos
- Face Painting
- Recycling Info
- Pet Adoptions
- Volunteer Bake Sale
- Pontoon Boat Rides
- Native American Flute Circle from 12-3pm
- Gulf Coast Turtle and Tortoise Society
- Wildlife Rehabilitation



What's Happening at ABNC?

MARSH MANIA 2006!

May 6, 8:30-1:30pm

Come jump in the bayou for the 8th annual Marsh Mania, coming to a nature center near you!

Approximately 3,000 propagules will be planted this year by the maniacs of Armand Bayou

Planting continues until noon, after which yummy hot dogs and accompaniments will be provided, as well as Bayou-tastic music courtesy of the Bayoupheliacs!

To register call Galveston Bay:

281-332-3381

Or for more info contact Mark

mark@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 Martha Hood 281-286-6746	2:00 Trails Martha Hood 281-286-6746	Greeters Eleanor Stanley 713-455-1502	Farm Interpretation Eleanor Stanley 713-455-1502	Farm Demos Paula Thorson 281-474-3153	Natural History Paula Thorson 281-474-3153
4/1	Stan Krauhs	Anne Tincher		Jane Bingel		
4/2		Gaye Batiz	Ken Russell	Polly Swerdlin	Mary Ann Tucker Baskets	
4/8	Jim Crabb	Joe Bryan	Mary Garrett	Joyce Sens	Frank and Joyce Sens Rope	Ed Adams Reptiles
4/9		Merle Bunde	Pat Bates		Chris Bingham Stereoscope	
4/15		Ray Parker	Sylvia Prather			Ruby Dilgren Alligators
4/16						
4/22	Susan Hesley	Melanie Weis- man			Ray Parker Wildflowers	Carl Cognata Reptiles
4/23		Marie Asscherick	Pat Bates	Paula Thorson	Stephania Rogers Rope	Zel Arbuckle Snakes
4/29	Martha Hood		Paul Brunkow	Joan Brunkow	Jane Bingel Cheese	Polly Swerdlin Adaptations
4/30		Bonita Pernel	Judy Schaefer	Stephania Rogers	Tom Scarsella Blacksmithing	Eleanor Stanley Reptiles

A publication of Armand Bayou Nature Center Volunteers

Bayou Foliage

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