



Bayou Foliage

Volume 27, Number 3

March 2008

Look Ahead

MARCH

- 1 Stewardship Saturday
8:30 am
- 4 Outreach Procedures
class, 10–12
- 5 Reptile Handling
class, 10–12
- 8 HAS Bird Survey,
7:00 am
- 8 Reptile Handling
class, 10–12
- 13 Volunteer Board
meeting, 5:30 pm
- 13 Volunteer meeting,
6:30 pm
- 15 Senior Day
- 16 Stewardship Saturday
8:30 am
- 20 Deadline for April
Bayou Foliage
- 29 Trash Bash

When you are
finished with
this publication
please recycle it.

Thanks!

The Indians of Armand Bayou

Joan Few will present *The Indians of Armand Bayou* at the volunteer meeting on March 13, 2008. She invites everyone to come at 6:30 to participate in a walk to the areas of excavation.

It is a real honor to have this speaker and will be a "don't miss" event. The talk will present information that only Joan knows. She is the expert in this area.

She will also be collecting the artifacts that have been catalogued from the Armand Bayou midden. These will go to the Houston Museum of Natural Science for safe keeping.

Since 1989, Joan Few has been an adjunct professor of archaeology at the University

of Houston Clear Lake. She received her MA in archaeology from



the University of Houston and is on the nation register of professional archaeologists (RPA). Joan has served as President of the Texas Archeological Society, The Council of Texas Archaeologists, and The Houston

Archeological Society. Between 1990 and 1992, Joan, Dr. Mary Hodge, and UHCL stu-

dents excavated a Prehistoric Archaic shell midden on Armand Bayou.

Joan has spent the last 15 years doing 19th century industrial archaeology. Her book, "Sugar, Planters, Slaves, and Convicts," describes the history and archaeology of the Texas sugar industry.

Visit her web site at http://web.mac.com/joan_few

Next Month's Speaker

April 10

George Regmund and
Mary Alice Trumble:

Birding on the Amazon
River



Please help fill this chair.

**Armand Bayou
Nature Center
Volunteer Board
2008**

**Staff
Roster**

Step Up to the Plate!

Baseball Talk

It's the 3rd inning.
The bases are loaded
The crowd is on its feet
You weigh your options.
The team is counting on you.
You swing the bat.
You connect with a homerun!
The crowd goes crazy!
Your team stays ahead until the end of the game.



Translation

It's the 3rd month of the year.
The volunteer board is in place.
The volunteers are waiting for a leader.
You check out the responsibilities.
The volunteers need you!
You make the phone call.
You're the new Volunteer Chair.
The volunteers love you!
You lead the way until the end of the year.

Chair	OPEN		
Vice-chair	Rick Browning	281-990-0350	ricknlena5346@aol.com
Secretary	Jill Macomber	713-893-3039	jmacomber@earthlink.net
Treasurer	Eleanor Stanley	713-455-1502	no email
Admissions	Dewanna Norris	281-488-2276	dwn8@juno.com
Weekend demos	Jane Bingel	281-554-5069	no email
Weekend trail	Liz VanOrstrand	281-480-8296	lizvanorstrand@hotmail.com
Greeters/Interpreters	Ken Russell	281-488-0390	pacloon@aol.com
Weekday farm/OD ed.	Rebekah Gano	610-937-9751	bekah@gano.name
Outreach	Susan Kalafatich	281-461-9420	kalafatich@sbcglobal.net
Facilities	OPEN		
Stewardship	Ian Kress	281-333-9066	ian.kress@conocophillips.com
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Barbara Baxter	Ext 10	Megan McInnis	Ext 17
Eloise Harper		Heather Millar	Ext 14
Jimmy Hill	Ext 16	Dick Phelps	Ext 10
Lew Hornung	Ext 16	George Regmund	Ext 31
Mark Kramer	Ext 15	Sue Sutterby	Ext 11
Christine Mattox	Ext 20	Shauna Trevino	Ext 13

Email addresses are 'firstname'@abnc.org. Example: george@abnc.org

ABNC Volunteer Meeting Minutes February 14, 2008

Speaker: Jarrett (Woody) Woodrow, Jr.: Texas Coastal Wetlands - Conserving Habitat in a Changing Environment. This informative PowerPoint presentation covered the history, present, and possible future of Texas wetlands.

Polly Swerdlin reminded all present of Keels and Wheels in Seabrook on May 3rd and 4th. Those who sign up will guard vehicles, and in return for ABNC help, a portion of the profit will be donated to us. Polly will email electronic sign-up information, and volunteers can also sign up in the volunteer office.

Sue Sutterby reported that ABNC is nearing the end of the search for an executive director. An animal care specialist and two part-time education people have been hired.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Jill Macomber
Secretary

Volunteer Board Meeting

Thursday, Feb. 14, 2008 @ 5:30 PM

Present: Rick Browning, Liz Van Orstrand, Dewanna Norris, Ken Russell, Rebekah Gano, Polly Swerdlin, Jill Macomber, Eleanor Stanley, Jane Bingel, Sue Sutterby
The meeting was called to order.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved. Eleanor Stanley reported that our current balance is \$3603.87. On January 31, Eleanor sent a check for \$584.61 for 13 tables @ \$44.97 each to ABNC for tables purchased and charged to the ABNC credit card. It was moved and carried that the treasure's report be accepted.

OLD BUSINESS

Rick reported that he and Polly are still trying to get someone to take over as chairperson. Jim Frantz has resigned as facilities chairman.

Ken Russell said that he thinks the budget should be published in *Bayou Foliage* as a reminder to the board and as information to the volunteers about what we have planned to do. The board agreed to have the budget published.

NEW BUSINESS

Polly Swerdlin reported that on Tuesday, Feb. 19, we should get our three new bison; also taking place on that day is the dedication of the Lyondell Basell Living Lab.

Senior Day is coming up on Saturday, March 15. Announcements are being sent to senior citizen centers by Harris County Precinct 2.

Polly reported on the orientation which took place last week as well as advanced training which is taking place this week. Approximately fifteen new

volunteers have participated already or will be participating this weekend. On March 5 and 8, reptile handling classes will be held.

March 29 is the Trash Bash. April 19 will be Earth Day.

Rebekah Gano suggested that there be signs somewhere near admissions to help direct visitors to various locations/activities. The Board agreed this would be helpful, and Rebekah will take charge of this project.

Jill Macomber suggested more than one membership card be given out for family memberships so that when purchases are made at Randall's or Kroger's, ABNC can get a percentage. Sue Sutterby said that more cards are available, but Kroger is introducing a new system soon that will eliminate need for a separate card. Randall's has a form that allows customers to choose up to three organizations to donate to. Jill suggested that this information be published in the *Bayou Foliage*.

If anyone has ideas for more training, let Rick or Rebekah know, and, if at least three people are interested, training will be held.

Joan Few, who has done work on Native American excavation and artifacts here at ABNC, will be the March speaker.

Liz reported February slots for trail hikes are filled and she is working on March.

Ken Russell stated that he is trying to update his list of interpreters/greeters and will contact any new volunteers.

Polly said the by-laws state that the volunteer roster should be updated in February. This has not been done for awhile. There are about 200 volunteers right now, but probably 40-50 will be eliminated if they have not completed the required 28 hours. Polly asked for help purging the list, and Rick and Jane volunteered.

Rebekah will be working part-time at ABNC with weekday education.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm.

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance		\$3598.87
Expenditures:		
November speaker	\$25.00	
Total Expenditures	\$25.00	
Income:		
Carfts	\$30.00	
Total Income	\$30.00	
Current Balance		\$3603.87



Armand Bayou Nature Center Film Contest



Call for Submissions

Grab your cell phone, digital camera, or high tech recording equipment and Go Outside!

- Films made with cell phones, digital cameras, or other equipment are encouraged as are live action, photo montage, animation, and other genres
- Portrayals of the filmmaker's view of the natural world
- Films from 30 seconds to 5 minutes accepted
- **Entries due by March 31, 2008**
- Films must be appropriate for general audience viewing



Armand Bayou Nature Center is holding a film contest along with our Earth Day celebration April 19 to encourage Bay Area community to celebrate our natural world through film. What does nature mean to you? What is your artistic vision of the world around us? How do you interact with the environment? The possibilities for interpretation of the natural world are as limitless as the universe.

People of all ages are encouraged to create and submit films for judging and possible inclusion in this contest. Films shown are eligible for awards, which will be presented at 3 pm on April 19 in our auditorium.



For complete submission details & artist's application contact:

Polly Swerdlin
Cell: 281-814-4606
polly@abnc.org

or
Armand Bayou
Nature Center
PO Box 58828
Houston TX 77259-0828

Phone: 281-474-2551
Fax: 281-474-2552
abnc@abnc.org
www.abnc.org

Grab your cell phone, digital camera, or high tech recording equipment and Go Outside!





Armand Bayou Nature Center Film Contest



Submission Rules

Entry Information

1. All entries must be accompanied by a complete Entry Form and 3 CD/DVDs of the film.
2. Entries must portray the filmmaker's vision of the natural world and/or environmental issues, preferably involving ABNC.
3. All genres are welcome: documentary, narrative, experimental, comedy, animation, music video, etc.
4. Entries from all age groups are welcome, including youth-produced projects.
5. All music and other rights must be cleared for the intended use; copyrighted music or materials must have written permission from the copyright holder.
6. Film content must be acceptable for viewing by a general audience.
7. Films must not have been debuted in other venues prior to or during the Film Festival.
8. Limit one submission per filmmaker.
9. Films must have been made within the last two years.
10. Running time for entries is 30 seconds minimum and 5 minutes maximum.
11. All entries must be received by Armand Bayou Nature Center by March 31, 2008.
Submission may be mailed or hand-delivered during the Nature Center's regular business hours.
12. There is NO ENTRY FEE.

Confirmation & Return

1. Confirmation of receipt will be provided only if a self-addressed stamped postcard is included with the entry.
2. Materials will be returned only if an appropriate self-addressed, stamped mailer is included with the entry.

Selection Process

1. Selection process: all films will be reviewed by the jury panel, which will include representatives from the Nature Center and the art world. Decisions of the judges will be final. Entries will be judged on:
 - a. Content – clarity and coherence, originality, appropriateness for general audiences.
 - b. Technical aspects – editing, image quality, sound quality
 - c. General aspects – interpretation of theme, audience impact
 - d. Other – the jury may consider other factors, including but not limited to type of equipment used to make the film and filmmaker's age.
2. Prizes will be awarded among those films selected for inclusion in the Film Festival.
3. Notification of acceptance into the Film Festival will be provided by letter by April 12, 2008. Prize winners will be announced at the Festival.

Submission of entry confers automatically all rights, without fee or penalty, to Armand Bayou Nature Center to present the film on any and all platforms without limitation. Organizers, jurors, Armand Bayou Nature Center staff, Board members, Volunteers and others associated with the Film Festival accept no liability or responsibility for illegal, harmful, or defamatory acts represented in the films.

Film Festival officials reserve the right to reject any and all films submitted, and to cancel or decline to show the Festival if suitable entries are not submitted.



Armand Bayou Nature Center Film Contest Entry Form Please Print Clearly



Filmmaker's Name

Address

E-mail

Telephone

Filmmaker's Age 13 and under 14-18 19-25 26 and up

Film Title

Running Time

Film taken using

Please attach a **brief** description of the film, its actors, and/or artist's statement.

I have read and understand the complete rules of the Armand Bayou Nature Center Film Contest.

Signature

Date

Mail completed entry form, along with 3 copies of your CD/DVD, to:
 Armand Bayou Nature Center
 Film Festival
 PO Box 58828
 Houston TX 77258-0828

All entries must be received by March 31, 2008

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Whether she is feeding the alligators, turtles, snakes or lizards, Jessica Collier shows, to quote Sue Sutterby, “quiet responsibility and dependability.” Jessica is a native of Texas City and found out about the nature center by surfing the web as a part of her interest in alligators. When Jessica found out we had alligators in the bayou, and even better, baby alligators in the lab, she quickly signed up as a volunteer, took the animal handling class and now regularly cares for our resident reptiles. “I think they’re



Jessica Collier with one of her “adopted” alligators

cool. I love watching them,” says Jessica. Observing Jessica work with her charges, talking patiently and quietly while dropping mice and crickets into cages, we are thankful that she has come on board. Jessica’s work doesn’t stop with the animals in the lab. She has found her way to weekday education where she buddies with children’s classes and demonstrations. When she is not here, she can be found volunteering at school with her two children or at home with her husband.



If you receive Bayou Foliage by email, please let us know if your email address changes.

Send changes to matrumbler@verizon.net

Welcome New Volunteers Class of February 2008

We are proud to welcome the following people into the ABNC Volunteer Organization:

Madeleine Barnes

Rea Inglis

Edda Scott

Becky Barton

Cathy Koenig

Terry Spruell

Dorri Hancock

Jill Macomber

Kathie Stocker

Jessica Hoffmeister

Bob Mills

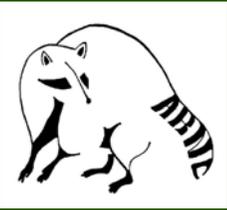
Annabel Trudeau

Manouela Holst

Theresa Rogers

Daniel Wood

ABNC Volunteer Duty Roster—January



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

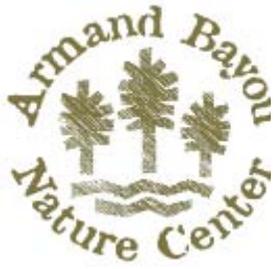
	10:00 Trails	2:00 Trails	Greeters	Farm Interpretation	Farm Demos	Natural History
DATE	Liz VanOrstrand 281-480-8296	Liz VanOrstrand 281-480-8296	Ken Russell 281-488-0390	Ken Russell 281-488-0390	Jane Bingel 281-554-5069	Jane Bingel 281-554-5069
3/1	OPEN	OPEN	Martha Hood	Dottie Evans	Ed Adams Wood Stove	Polly Swerdlin & Catherine Koenig -Tracks
3/2		Marie Asscherick	Ken Russell	Polly Swerdlin	Jane Bingel Cheese	Zel Arbuckle Snakes
3/8	OPEN	Cris Santiago	Paul Brunkow	Joan Brunkow	Jack Chandler Rope Tom Scarsella Blacksmith	Hilary Gibbs Pond Life
3/9		Liz VanOrstrand	OPEN	Eleanor Stanley	Lana Sims Herbs	Charlotte Gogala Snakes
3/15	Gaye Batiz	Ray Parker	OPEN	Paula Thorson	Susan Hesley Yarn Dolls	Jack Chandler Reptiles
3/16		OPEN	Jessalyn Ballard	Jane Bingel	Helen Harger Cheese	Eleanor Stanley Reptiles
3/22	OPEN	Ann Tincher	OPEN	Jane Bingel	Ray Parker Rope	OPEN
3/23		OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	Polly Swerdlin Stereoscope	Odie/Marie Asscherick; Catherine Koenig
3/29	Jill Macomber	Melanie Weis- man	OPEN	OPEN	Paula Thorson Cheese	Rebekah Gano Pond Life
3/30		Karen Sutera	OPEN	OPEN	Jane Bingel Yarn Dolls	Chris Battan Birds

2008 Volunteer Budget



ABNC Gift	\$1,000.00
ABNC Education (Eco Camp)	\$500.00
Mailing March Roster	\$35.00
Speaker's Gifts (6)	\$150.00
Cards	\$15.00
Recognition Committee	\$200.00

Total **\$1,900.00**



**Armand Bayou
Nature Center Volunteer Newsletter**

P.O. Box 58828
8500 Bay Area Boulevard
Houston, TX 77258
Phone: 281-474-2551
Web: www.abnc.org

Reconnecting People With Nature

We're on the Web!
www.abncvols.org

*Bayou Foliage
deadline is the
3rd Thursday of
each month.*