



BAYOU BYLINE



November 2019

Calendar of Events

November

- 16 Chimp Haven Discovery Day in Keithville. Admission \$10. Lunch and Hike after.
- 19 Monthly Meeting - Speaker is Jeff Sibley, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Biologist Manager. Jeff will speak about Louisiana's scenic stream program
- 23 Duck Pond Cleanup. Time and meeting place will be posted on BCOS and announced at the November meeting. Contact Roy O'Neal at royoneal2@gmail.com or 318-272-0259

December

- 6 Bonfire at Red River Marina. Hang out, roast hotdogs and have a bonfire. Show time at 5 or after. Bring a chair, food and a cooler.
- 8 Bayou Chapter Annual Christmas Party at the Red River Refuge. Contact person is Sandy Roerig at SRoeri@lsuhsc.edu or 318-686-9481
- 12 Planning Meeting - 6:30 pm at Heroes on Airline Drive. Everyone is encouraged to come out and help plan upcoming events. Heroes is located 4.7 miles north of I-220 and Airline on the right side of the road, just down from Johnny's Pizza.
- 13-15 Camp, Hike and Paddle at White Oak Lake State Park, Bluff City, Arkansas. Contact person is Tammy Jernigan at Tjerni88@hotmail.com
- 31-Jan.1 Camp, Hike and Paddle at Bodcau Bayou – Tom Merrill Recreation Area. Contact person is Tammy Jernigan at Tjerni88@hotmail.com

January

- 21 Monthly Meeting - Speaker TBA



Our monthly meetings are held at the Red River National Wildlife Refuge 150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA 71112.

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month. (except December) Program starts at 6:30 pm. Business meeting follows. Plan to join us after the meeting for pizza and socializing.



Jeff Sibley, LDWF, will speak about the state's scenic stream program and share resources that may be available to clear storm damage on Bayou Dorcheat. Jeff has been instrumental in Louisiana's fight against salvinia on Lake Bistineau.

BCOS Meeting Minutes - October 15, 2019

By: Sandy Roerig (for Secretary Gary Hackman)

The regular monthly meeting of the Bayou Chapter, Ozark Society was held on October 15, 2019 at the Red River National Wildlife Refuge. Fifteen members and 4 guests were in attendance. Chairman Wayne Kiefer opened the meeting at 6:30 pm. He welcomed everyone to the meeting. He thanked Marian for her excellent work on the newsletter.

The minutes of the July meeting had been published in the August Bayou Byline. Dick Maxwell made a motion to approve the minutes as published. Sandy Roerig seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Treasurer Dick Maxwell reported that there is \$4,277.15 in the bank account.

Tom Goleman had nothing new for publicity.

Sandy Roerig provided a conservation report on Monarch butterflies.

Wayne reported on the latest Bayou Chapter activities

1. At the Bodcau Dam Wildlife and Fisheries Day on September 28, 18 Bayou Chapter members assisted in putting 163 event visitors in canoes or kayaks so they could enjoy a paddling experience.

2. On October 11 and 12, Bayou Chapter members (12 and 16, respectively) performed trail maintenance on several miles of trails at the Outdoor Wilderness Learning Center.

The program was presented by Charles Kirkland on safety in the outdoors. Charles is President and CEO of Solo Wilderness Medicine and has many years of experience as a medic in National Parks, the military and mission trips. His talk focused on preventing, recognizing and treating hyperthermia and hypothermia.

Old Business: Wayne stated that finishing the project of marking the paddle trail in Lake Bistineau is on hold until the lake water rises.

Upcoming Events: Wayne mentioned the Red River National Wildlife Refuge Celebration on October 19, the LOVIT hike in Arkansas on October 26, the Red River Clean-Up on November 2, the All Society meeting in Arkansas on November 8-9, a paddle on the Red River on Veterans Day, November 11, a visit to Chimp Haven on November 16 followed by a hike at Eddie Jones Park and a Duck Pond Clean-up on November 23.

Tom mentioned that Webster Parish has an app for tourism. He asked members to contact him if they see it and the Bayou Chapter is mentioned.

Roy O'Neal mentioned that the chapter needs to have a few child-size PFDs for events in which families use our boats. He estimated they would cost about \$25 each and will do some research on this issue.

New Bayou Chapter member Marshall Kelly announced that the Shreveport Hikers will meet at 6:30 am for a hike at Atlanta State Park, in Texas. All are welcome to participate.

Tom made a motion for the meeting to adjourn. Becky Evans seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 8:17 pm



Meeting
Minutes



Lovin' the LOVIT

By: Perry Hill

The weekend of October 23rd found a venturesome group of BCOS members and friends enjoying a cool but sunshiny day on the Lake Ouachita Vista Trail (LOVIT) just west of Hot Springs. The preceding day was wet and dreary, with a bit of light rain again on Saturday morning. But the hiking gods were good to us, and the rain stopped just in time for a mid-morning "ascent" on the east side of Bear Mt., near the Brady Mt. Resort. Temps were mid to upper 50s, just perfect for a stroll through the woods.

At our starting point, the trail climbed gradually upward for perhaps a mile or so before transitioning to a fairly straight, slightly undulating path that follows the ridge line of the mountain. It is a cleared, well marked trail that was surprisingly dry, considering rainfall from the day before. To the north side, we were treated to beautiful views of Lake Ouachita that could be glimpsed when there were breaks in the trees. As the morning progressed, we naturally clustered into a few smaller groups, as folks moved along at their own pace. The stretch of trail we were on was 10 miles from point-to-point, and runs east to west. None of us felt that adventurous on this particular Saturday, so we all hiked in as far as we wanted before returning to our start point. The day was topped off with a little lagniappe when Wayne and Robyn invited us to join them for eagle spotting lakeside at Mt. Brady Resort, where they had seen several on Friday. We didn't see any in flight, but spotted several from a distance that were nesting. Dean and Vickie, along with the two Ks (Kathe and Kathy), didn't have their fill Saturday, so they returned to the trail for a shorter hike on Sunday. They had the same starting point as Saturday, but hiked east up Brady Mt., instead of west up Bear Mt. Their report was that Brady Mt. may have been the prettier of the two sections.

As is typical of BCOS outings, the day was as much about sharing the adventure with friends as it was about being on the trail. There was the usual 'catching up' with those we haven't seen for a while, and lots of laughter. Kathy Kramer was outing leader and did all the leg work to organize the trip and coordinate with everyone. BCOS members who joined us were Grace and Steve Eyer, Brenda and Rick Miller, Ann Holbrook, Vickie Rech, Robyn Gillies, and Wayne Kiefer. It was a special treat to also have with us long-time friends and former BCOS members Kathe and Dean Miller (from Kilgore) and Cindy Fuller (still teaching at Henderson State College in Arkadelphia). One aspect of the outing that was NOT typical for a BCOS hike was the absence of a campfire, as no one was tent camping. Many in the group were enjoying overnight stays with others in the group that live locally, while two in the group found lodging at Brady Mt. Resort. Ann and Cindy may day trips to be with us.

For those of you who may be interested but were not able to join us, this is an easy trail within a reasonable drive within about a 3 ½ hour drive of Shreveport. (TRAVEL TIP: I had a *really* good pulled-pork sandwich at Bubba's Brew House, about 6 or 7 miles west of Pearcy on Hwy. 70.)

Kathy and I hope to return to this section of the LOVIT and make the 10 mile jaunt all the way across Bear Mountain to see what we missed on this trip, and there are other sections of the trail for us yet to explore. So stay tuned for future outings. We'd love to have you join us.



Ozark Society General Membership Meeting
November 9, 2019

by Sandy Roerig

The Ozark Society general membership met on Saturday, November 9 at the lodge in Queen Willhelmina State Park, AR. Sandy Roerig represented the Bayou Chapter. President David Peterson opened the meeting at 3:00 pm.

Tom Perry, President of the host Highlands Chapter, welcomed everyone and described the schedule for the weekend.

Ross Noland, Director of the Buffalo River Foundation, described a 40 acre property that the Foundation wishes to purchase. It is on Whiteley Creek and is bordered on two sides by the Buffalo River National Park. Nearly all the funds required to purchase the land have been acquired.

Luke Parsch provided a comprehensive discussion of proposed changes in the Ozark Society bylaws that had been approved at the August Board meeting. These changes are for Bylaws 10, 3 and 4 and mainly serve to match the current practices of the Society, clarify membership categories and establish duties for the officers. There was little discussion and the changes were unanimously approved by the members present.

David discussed an update of the C&H hog farm issue. Overall, the Ozark Society has spent around \$95,000 to support the shut-down of this operation. The State of Arkansas recently refused to renew the permit of the farm to operate. The final piglet has now been born on the farm and the workers are in the process of closing down the operation. The Ozark Society needs to remain vigilant on making sure adequate monitoring of soil and water is performed.

There was a discussion on protecting Arkansas Wilderness/Special Interest areas. Of special concern is the Blue Hole area which is supposed to be roadless but now has multiple roads that are being overused by ATVs.

Chris Klein, Community Engagement Chair, (Highlands Chapter) gave a report on the Young Naturalist program that she initiated in the fall of 2018 in the Fayetteville area. She developed partnership with the University of Arkansas, Master Naturalists and the local Audubon Society. This program, targeting 7-9 year-old children has been very successful in attracting participants. Chris is happy to help other chapters that may want to start a similar program in their area.

David announced that the Neil Compton Awards will be awarded to Bob Cross and to Bill and Dana Stewart. He described the contributions of these long-time members to the missions of the Ozark Society.

David stated that Fred Paillet's new book *Forest Forensics* is selling well. So far, 155 copies of the original 300 copies printed have been sold.

Carolyn Sherman, Communications/ Membership Chair, provided a report on the membership. There are currently around 900 members, distributed about 50/50 between annual members and life members. She needs articles for the next issue of the *Pack and Paddle*.

David recognized Janet Parsch, President of the Ozark Society Foundation Board, whose 10-year and 6 month term on the Board has ended. He thanked her for all her excellent work on the Board. Janet then gave an update on the OS Foundation Board. The current Board members are Ken Leonard and Marvin Schwartz, who are co-chairs, and Rex Robbins. At least two additional Board members are desired. The Foundation is considering publishing an updated revision of the trees book. The Foundation administers both the scholarships, the Neil Compton Scholarship (\$5,300 per student) and the Hedges Scholarship (\$5,000 per student).

David announced that there will be a Colorado trip this year and information will be available on the Ozark Society webpage. The Salmon River rafting trip is full.

Laura Timby volunteered the Buffalo River Chapter to host the spring general membership meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm

Wayne's Corner

By: Wayne Kiefer



GREAT volunteers we have! On the 11th and 12th of October BCOS did an outstanding job of community service once again. The Outdoor Wilderness Learning (OWL) center asked us to help clear trails at their ranch in Dubach, La. So on Friday we had 12 people come and clear horse, bike and hiking trails that had been overgrown. For almost 3 hours we chopped and trimmed live and dead vegetation to permit unrestricted passage for horses and riders. Some of the trails would need to be wide enough for "safety walkers" next to the horse but tall enough so the riders' heads weren't in the trees.

That evening we had steak dinner with smores for dessert. Ten people spent the night there in the outstanding facilities they provided. The bonfire entertained us. Some folks played with the goats or some of the over 20 horses they keep for equine therapy. Saturday was more of the same. Sixteen people from BCOS and 2 OWL staffers hit the trails hard. We cleared many more trails with chainsaws, loppers, pole saws and even Dick on his weed whacker. The OWL provided lunch for us. Samantha, the OWL director was a wonderful host who also gave each volunteer a jar of OWL salsa they make. I can't say enough about how hard everyone worked. Their staff was shocked at how much we accomplished each day. Many of our group have asked about going back to do more. It was an outstanding success thanks to all our folks who came. We have showed what caring people we are who aren't afraid to get dirty or tired. My personal thanks to each of you who came. It was a beautiful place and for a great cause. You are the best!!

On the 23rd of November we have our semi-annual Duck Pond Cleanup on Kings Highway. Time and meeting place will be posted on BCOS and announced at the November meeting. We have a twist to the day... Life Share Blood contacted us to see if they could partner with us that day. They will be sending a mobile lab to the location for a blood drive. Our Facebook page attracted them to our "following" and hope to partner with us in a small way. Saturday November 23rd come on out at 8:30am for the cleanup and maybe donate a very important pint of blood to save a life.

Classy Ads and Other Important Stuff

If you have any **equipment** you want to sell or give away, get in touch with Roy O'Neal. 318-272-0259 or royoneal2@gmail.com or just bring it to the upcoming meeting.

Dry bags for sale: XL Green Seal Line Baja 55 HD bag barely used \$15. Also XL Blue Seattle Sports Super Sack 34" L by 16" W for \$10. Email Marian if interested marianehoward@comcast.net



Red River National Wildlife Refuge Celebration

By Sandy Roerig

Members of the Bayou Chapter of the Ozark Society once again assisted in the annual celebration at RRNWR, held on October 19, 2019. It was a beautiful, warm, sunny day as members gathered around 8:30 am on the duck banding site - the small sand beach across Lake Caroline from the Visitors Center. The water at this site is shallow and somewhat clear, so is an ideal site for launching canoes and kayaks.

Dick Maxwell brought the Bayou Chapter kayaks and there was a trailer load of canoes plus paddles and personal flotation devices (PFDs) that are property of RRNWR already on site. Roy O'Neal, Marian Howard, Gary Hackman, Ken Harris, Stephanie Parks, Wayne Kiefer, Ann Gibson and Sandy Roerig unloaded the boats, set up a canopy, table and chairs, and were ready to assist people who wanted a paddle experience. Larry Moore and Becky Jutze brought their own kayaks and provided the essential safety boats.

Before long, people attending the celebration started arriving, usually via the golf cart shuttle vehicle. At first, there were only two or three at a time, but as the day went on, entire families with multiple children eagerly arrived.

First, participants were required to sign a waiver, then they were fitted with PFDs. What often followed was a discussion/negotiation on which boats the parents would allow their kids to paddle. The kids usually wanted to go out by themselves in a solo kayak, but some parents thought a parent should be in a tandem canoe with a child. In other cases, the kids were a bit reluctant, and the parent encouraged him/her to try paddling alone. Compromises were made and Bayou Chapter members provided basic instructions on how to safely enter a boat and handle a paddle. Then boats were then launched and the adventures began.

There was no time limit on how long people could stay out on the water and some eager paddlers did explore the lake for a long while. Others were content to just paddle out a bit, and come back, happy that they hadn't tipped over. The most fun was seeing all the big smiles on paddler's faces as they beached their boats at the end of their trip. Even those who were a bit hesitant at first, soon gained enough boat control that they were comfortable on the water and having a great time. Overall, 87 celebration visitors had a chance to experience a paddle sport. Most of them promised they would be back next year.

The celebration was scheduled to end at 2:00 pm, so paddlers were rounded up and boats were reloaded on the trailers, canopy taken down and paddles and PFDs reorganized. A lunch had been provided by the RRNWR, which members enjoyed in-between helping the paddlers.

Overall, it was a fun day to be outdoors, fulfilling two missions of the Ozark Society, education and recreation. We'll do it again next year!



Bodcau Pop Up Paddle

By: Tammy Jernigan

It appeared that Sunday, October 20, was to be the last super warm day of the year. What a great day to embark on a pop up paddle on a shaded swamp with cool water!

Tammy Jernigan, Wayne Kiefer and Matthew Grusler met up at the Bodcau boat launch to go in search of old growth Cypress trees. Most trees in this area are in the 100-200 year old range due to logging that took place from 1880 to 1930. Tammy relayed her recently gained knowledge on how to spot 200+ year old trees - sometimes size can be deceptive. We located several 400+ trees and the famed Zack Bursen tree (shown below) which is 700-800 years old. This old tree has a cypress knee nearby which is over six feet tall! It was identified and plaqued by the Louisiana Purchase Cypress Legacy Project in 2008. Our paddle lasted about two hours and was the perfect way to end a nice weekend.



Update on Lake Bistineau Paddle Trail

By: Tammy Jernigan

I met with Serena Gray from Webster Parish tourism, Tracie Ramey from Lake Bistineau State Park and professional fishing guide Homer Humphries on October 29 to discuss access to our new Lake Bistineau Paddle Trail. We surveyed the area and found that Clark's Bayou winds very near the beach area on the opposite side from the main boat ramp. We discussed several options to reach the water including a concrete ramp, a floating dock and a basic cleared path. The location would be an ideal launch point as it is close to parking and park amenities.

We all have some research to do before we get back together but this is an exciting project and could very well lead to the paddle trail being easily accessed year-round!

Dorcheat Paddle

By: Tammy Jernigan

In September, BCOS members took some Louisiana tourism officials on a paddle of Dorcheat. This event, organized by Serena Gray, successfully exposed these professionals to the beauty of Webster Parish's backyard. While paddling, we spoke of our love of the outdoors and our mission as an organization. Fast forward a couple of weeks and Brandy Evans with the Shreveport Bossier City Tourism Department contacted BCOS about providing kayaks for a team building event at Cypress Black Bayou Recreation Area. Any excuse for a paddle, right!

BCOSer's Wayne Kiefer, Roy O'Neal, Matthew, Barbie Halbert, Dick Maxwell and Tammy Jernigan arrived at CBB on November 1 with kayaks in tow. We filled every boat with some experienced and not-so-experienced paddlers. While lakes typically don't have the ambience of a bayou, Cypress does have some nice little inlets where paddlers can get out of the big water, enjoy some pretty scenery and have the chance to hone some basic paddle skills.

The SBCTD showed their appreciation by sharing their lunch with us and providing a donation of ten youth sized PFDs. We also have a mechanism now to post our public events to their website.

After the event, Ms. Evans contacted me to say that this retreat was their best ever and that participants were still talking about it – from the fun interaction to getting in the boats and out of their comfort zone – our presence was a big hit and I believe several new memberships will result.



November "Special" Days

Nov. 1 - Maurice Loridans' Birthday

Nov. 7 - John Joyce's Birthday

Nov. 11 - Veterans Day

Nov. 14 - Steve & Grace Eyler celebrate 21 years together.

Nov. 27 - Harvey Kennedy marks his 71st. (You gotta be kidding, Harv.)

Anne Crye Jackson's birthday

Nov. 29 - John & Cathy Joyce will have been a couple for 50 years. The big 50! Wow!

There has to be more days of importance, but these are all the Byline staff has knowledge of. Please let us know about yours.



LOVIT Trail near Hot Springs, Arkansas - October 23, 2019



Bayou Chapter Officers - 2019

Chairman

Wayne Kiefer
wkiefer59@gmail.com
318-676-9568

Vice-Chairman

Tammy Jernigan
tjerni88@hotmail.com
318-464-1752

Secretary

Gary Hackman
jandgman@bellsouth.net
318-965-2320

Treasurer

Dick Maxwell
Rmax62@comcast.net
318-734-7949

Newsletter Editor

Marian Howard
marianehoward@comcast.net
318-227-1974

Newsletter Publisher

Roy O'Neal
royoneal2@gmail.com
318-272-0259

Webmaster

Tammy Jernigan
tjerni88@hotmail.com
318-464-1752

Publicity Chairman

Tom Goleman
tgoldy@hotmail.com
318-751-6257

BCOS/Facebook Administrator

Dee Jaye Teutsch
tdeejaye@gmail.com
318-393-2523

Local Streams Paddling

Jack Land
jland1@bellsouth.net
318-423-1026

Conservation Activities

Roy O'Neal
royoneal2@gmail.com
318-272-0259

Conservation Reports

Sandy Roerig
sroeri@lsuhsc.edu
318-686-9481

Ozark Society Officers

Louisiana State Director

Dick Maxwell
bald.cypress@yahoo.com
318-734-7949

Louisiana State Director

Catherine Tolson
catherine.tolson@comcast.net
318-343-7482

Ozark Society Secretary

Sandy Roerig
sroeri@lsuhsc.edu
318-686-9481



The Ozark Society Membership Application/Renewal



Join us, or renew now! Dues are for one year, January-December, and they include a subscription to the Society's newsletter, *Pack & Paddle*. To join or renew, go online to the Ozark Society website at www.ozarksociety.net.

Or you can fill out this form and send it with a check written to "The Ozark Society." See below for our address.

Name(s): _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City, State, and ZIP:

Phone:

Email 1: _____ Old Email (if changed)

Email 2: _____ Old Email (if changed)

I would like *Pack and Paddle* sent to my home address instead of by email. (Default is email.)

Please check one:

- New Member Start at **Section A** for your OS and Chapter Membership
- Renewal Start at **Section A** to renew your OS and Chapter Membership
- LIFE Member Start at **Section B** to renew just your Chapter Membership

Section A: Please specify both the Level of Membership and the Chapter you are joining:

Level: (choose one)

- Friend: \$30 = \$20 OS +\$10
Chapter
- Associate: \$50 = \$40 OS +\$10
Chapter
- Supporter: \$100 = \$90 OS +\$10
Chapter
- Sponsor: \$250 = \$240 OS +\$10
Chapter
- Patron: \$500 = \$490 OS +\$10
Chapter

Chapter: (choose one)

- Benefactor: \$1000+ = \$990+ OS +\$10
Chapter
- Bayou (Shreveport, LA)
- Buffalo River (Gilbert, AR)
- Highlands (Fayetteville, AR)
- Mississippi Valley (Missouri)
- Pulaski (Little Rock, AR)
- Sugar Creek (Bentonville, AR)
- No chapter, all to central Ozark Soc

Section B: For Members who wish to join more than one Chapter or Life Members renewing their Chapter Membership only

(Choose as many as you wish and add \$10 for each chapter)

- \$10 Bayou (Shreveport, LA)
- \$10 Buffalo River (Gilbert, AR)
- \$10 Highlands (Fayetteville, AR)
- \$10 Mississippi Valley (Missouri)
- \$10 Pulaski (Little Rock, AR)
- \$10 Sugar Creek (Bentonville, AR)

Section C: Donations to our Funds

(Choose any amount)

- \$_____ General Conservation Fund
- \$_____ Legal Fund
- \$_____ Compton Scholarship Fund
- \$_____ Hedges Scholarship Fund
- \$_____ OS Foundation

My Total is: \$_____