



BAYOU BYLINE



October 2020

Calendar of Events

October

- 17 Bodcau Hike - 9:30 am at Tom Merrill Recreation Area - contact person is Dee Jaye Teutsch
- 20 Monthly Meeting - 6:30 pm - indoors at our regular meeting place inside the Visitor Center
- 22 Duck Pond Cleanup - contact is Roy O'Neal
- 24 Darbonne Hike - Lake Darbonne State Park - contact person is Kim Cox
- 31 Halloween Paddle/Cookout at the Eylers - paddle begins at 4, cookout begins at 7

November

- 6-7 OWL Trail Maintenance in Dubach - contact is Wayne Kiefer
- 8 Fall Foliage Paddle at Bodcau - contact is Tammy Jernigan
- 14 Caddo Lake Event - contact is Marian Howard
- 17 Monthly Meeting - Speaker TBA
- 27 Grand Ecore Paddle in Natchitoches - contact is Tammy Jernigan

December

- 6 BCOS Annual Christmas Party. - 5:00 until... Time to start looking for that perfect White Elephant Gift!
- 12 Caney Lake Hike/Jambalaya Fest - Minden - contact is Marian Howard

January

- 1 New Year's Day Hike at Bodcau Tom Merrill Recreation Area- contact is Tammy Jernigan



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.



Meeting will be held
INSIDE the Visitor Center!
First indoor meeting since
Covid-19 turned our world
upside down!

BCOS Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2020

By: Secretary Gary Hackman

Perry Hill, in the absence of Wayne Kiefer and Tammy Jernigan, called the meeting to order at the Red River Wildlife Refuge pavilion with 24 in attendance.

The August, 2020 meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Dick Maxwell reported a balance of \$5,168.98.

Publicity – No report.

Conservation – Sandy Roerig reported on carbonfund.org whose mission is a zero-carbon world. One project of the fund is the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley Reforestation Initiative which aims to reforest at least one million acres throughout Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, and Illinois.

Old Business

Adoption of the children's area at the Red River Wildlife Refuge – Roy O'Neal reported on the recent cleanup of the area by BCOS. Sandy Roerig has asked Ranger Terry for a list of things needed for the area. It was decided that BCOS needs clarification of what the refuge is asking from us before voting to take on this project permanently.

Jenny Hackman brought up the problem of BCOS kayak use by nonmembers. It was decided to have the discussion on this at the next meeting when Wayne and Tammy are present.

Past Outings

The September 4 moonlight paddle was cancelled due to weather.

Dee Jaye Teutsch reported on a pop-up paddle on the upper Dorcheat Bayou.

Upcoming Events

October 3 – Roy O'Neal reported on the upcoming float on Dorcheat Bayou with the Webster Parish Tourism Bureau. BCOS members are needed to go alongside the inexperienced paddlers to make sure they don't have problems.

October 3 – Sandy Roerig reported on the upcoming All-Society Meeting at Lake Nixon near Little Rock. This will be a one-day meeting.

We need ideas for upcoming activities and events.

New Business

Sarah Philyaw discussed the upcoming kayak clinic on September 26 at the Red River Wildlife Refuge. Fourteen students have already signed up for the clinic. Sarah needs ideas for recommended books, websites, etc. for the students to get further instruction.

The meeting was adjourned.



Caddo Lake Paddle - September 19, 2020

By: John Fortune

On Saturday September 19th, Marian Howard and Jenny and Gary Hackman drove over to Caddo Lake for a paddle. They met Diane Jones, a friend of hers from California and me at our launching point on Pine Island Pond off Dorrough Road. It was a nice, cool, sunny, breezy, almost Autumn day.

We launched and paddled about 0.8 mi. to where Pine Island Pond joins Big Cypress Bayou and headed about 0.8 mi. upstream to Carney Canal. As we approached the mouth of Carney Canal, a fisherman commented on the bad odor which we had not experienced up to that point. When we entered the canal, it hit us. It smelled like a sewer, the water was a dark grey color and motor boats would leave a trail of foam. The lake had "turned over" as the expression goes. This is a natural phenomenon and there are several things that can cause this, wind and cooler weather among a couple. At the upper end of Carney, about 0.7 miles further, we hooked a left and went into Willowson's Woodyard and made about a one mile loop, finding our way back to Carney Canal. While in Willowson's Woodyard, there was no foul odor. From there we entered Carter Lake (and the odor) and paddled north about 1.25 mi. to Smith Slough. Smith Slough is about 0.65 mi. and is a pretty, shady, winding slough through a cypress and hardwood forest area that leads back to Big Cypress Bayou downstream of our launch site. At that point there was no more odor and we paddled about 1.25 miles upstream and through Pine Island Pond back to our point of origin. The whole trip took about 2.25 hours and was about 6.5 mi. long.

After loading up the boats, Marian, Jenny, Gary and I went to the nearby River Bend Restaurant and had a nice meal outside on the upper deck.

The normal seasonal turning brown of the cypress trees won't happen for most of Caddo Lake this year. The looper worm has already turned the foliage on most of the trees brown. Fortunately, this does not kill the trees. a

We plan to do more paddles on Caddo Lake this fall. Hope you can join us!

**Caddo Lake - September 19, 2020**

Visit Webster Open Paddle October 3, 2020

By: Tammy Jernigan

BCOS co-hosted a paddle on Dorcheat Bayou with the Webster Parish Convention and Visitors Commission (visitwebster.net) on October 3.

A lot of planning and preparation went into this event by both Serena Gray, WPCVC Executive Director and several members of BCOS. Long story short, we had 135 attendees from as far west as Dallas and as far east as Monroe. We had solo kayaks, tandem kayaks, inflatable kayaks and canoes. Shuttles were provided to transport paddlers between the put-in and take-out sites. And at the end we had a fried fish lunch provided by Seafood Empire of Minden.

To say that this event was a success is an understatement! We have already added some new members as a result of this event and we're hoping for more. H2Go of Monroe has joined our group and offered to help with future instruction events. It was a great promotion and networking event for BCOS.

The next event sponsored by Visit Webster will be in May 2021. Mark your calendars now!



Pop Up Paddle on Bodcau - Sunday October 11, 2020

By: Tammy Jernigan

We had a fun and relaxing popup paddle on Bodcau Sunday Oct 11, 2020. David, Tammy, Dee Jaye and Zeke, Chris, Teresa, Colton, Susan and Bill enjoyed beautiful scenery, a sweet current and friendly company. We didn't break any land speed records from the Tom Merrill Recreation Area to the Twin Bridges but still completed an exploratory route in under three hours. Some leaves were already starting to change colors so we may have to move up our Fall Foliage paddle. We'll keep you posted.



Wayne's Corner

By: Wayne Kiefer



The planning meeting went very well last week. Thank you Sandy for having it at your house. Many events are planned for all areas. Hikes, paddles and community service is part of the next several months. NOW, COVID is still a concern so social distancing is hopefully still adhered too. You are the best judge of whether you should attend or not. Outside activities are excellent for our well being.

The OWL (Outdoor Wilderness Learning Center)center is doing trail maintenance by trimming trees, bushes and moving debris. . They have many trails needing work. Storms have damaged them badly. If you can find a day or both days to help it would be much appreciated. The OWL is a center for special needs therapy and is run by the Methodist church in Minden. Other groups may also use their facilities for outings also. They have about 30 horses and many other animals they use for therapy. Volunteers make up a large portion of the work force. We have done trail work there several times before with excellent results. Let me know if you have overnight plans so I can get bunk space. wkiefer59@gmail.com
For more info Google "OWL center in Dubach La" Nov 6th and 7th.

BCOS needs leaders!! We are looking at a couple ladies to take over and if you'd like to be part of the team let us know. We have had great participation this year considering the 2020 craziness. Tammy has kept many things on the calendar for paddles and Becky and Sara with hikes. A small bit of time donated to lead activities or organize is greatly needed. Please help us.

We have had many new members join recently. Great to have you with us. Now you old members step up and make them feel welcome. If you are at a meeting ...go say hi to someone you don't recognize ! We plan to be inside at the Refuge for our next meeting. Hope you can make it and bring a mask please. Take care and God Bless.



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.

Reminder - We're Back! BCOS members meet from 11:30 to 1:00 on Tuesdays at Pierre Bossier Mall Food Court. Everyone is invited to come eat lunch or just have a cup of coffee and enjoy each other's company. No need to let anyone know you're coming, just show up!

Time to renew dues for 2021! Send your \$30 renewal dues to Treasurer Dick Maxwell at: BCOS, P.O. Box 4693, Shreveport, LA 71134

October “Special” Days

Oct. 4 - Ryan Visor's birthday

Oct. 7 - Kristi Smith's birthday (Linda Miller's daughter)

Oct. 10 - Barbie Halbert's birthday (3 score and 4? You gotta be kidding)

Oct. 11 - David Pitts' birthday

Oct. 12 - Columbus Day

Oct. 23 - Steve Tolson's birthday (Catherine's better half according to Steve)

Oct. 24 - Rick Larned's birthday

Oct. 27 - Marsha Land's birthday

Oct. 31 - Dee Jaye Teutsch's birthday
Happy Halloween!



If we missed your special day, please let Roy know - royoneal2@gmail.com



Visit Webster Dorcheat Paddle - October 3, 2020



Open Letter To All BCOS Members

By: Wayne Kiefer, Chairman

To new members, old members and guests:

Since we have many new members and older members who have asked about our events and why we have so many community service activities, let me share. BCOS has three main areas of activities - Hiking, Paddling and Community Service/Conservation.

The first two are self explanatory. Hiking is mostly done in the colder months when we have less bugs, snakes and visibility in the woods is best. They can be local hikes of a few hours or set up for overnight stays with hikes each day. The paddles are more often scheduled in the warmer months. This takes into account water temps and wind conditions. The primary waters we visit have been flat waters such as lakes, bayous or slower rivers. This doesn't rule out white water paddles. We haven't scheduled those in the last few years but could.

The last area is community service, usually tied to conservation and clean ups. Some of the events are Shreveport Duck Pond cleanup, a couple hours about twice a year. The Red River Cleanup which is an annual event in November along the river waterways. This event was cancelled in 2020. Bodcau / Rt 157 boat launch area, a few hours about twice a year picking up trash. The OWL Center in Dubach, La. which involves clearing trails for horses, bikes and hikers used for therapy. This is a couple of days a year for several hours each day. We have also now partnered up with the Red River National Wildlife Refuge to adopt the Youth learning area of the grounds. This is new so hours and needs are being worked out.

The Conservation area sounds like a great deal of time and effort is expended. Truly we have a large number of members who highly enjoy these activities. That being said, this doesn't preclude other events from occurring on those days. If folks don't participate in the conservation area, they can schedule a hike or paddle on those days. Not everyone likes community service and that's ok and some folks feel the need to be at each event and that's fine too. If someone would like to lead an alternative activity on community service days just announce where, when and plan a separate event. I'm sure others will join you.

New Email Group for BCOS

By: Marian Howard

Yahoo Groups launched 20 years ago to connect people around shared interests. BCOS has been on Yahoo Groups since 2002 as our main means of keeping in touch with other members and planning activities.

Yahoo Groups has recently announced that they are closing down yahoo groups all together.

Dee Jaye and Tammy have transferred emails over to BCOS@googlegroups.com so that is what we will be using to communicate with each other from now on.

Each person can set his/her own email limits.

ALL MEMBERS will be able to upload pictures and files once again.

When emailing to the group from now on, you will use

bcos@googlegroups.com



Bayou Chapter Officers - 2020

Chairman

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

Vice-Chairman

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

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318-965-2320

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Conservation Activities

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Conservation Reports

Sandy Roerig
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318-686-9481

Ozark Society Officers

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Louisiana State Director

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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
☐ Benefactor: \$1000+ = \$990+ OS + \$10 Chapter

Chapter: (choose one)

- ☐ Bayou (Shreveport, LA)
☐ Buffalo River (Gilbert, AR)
☐ Highlands (Fayetteville, AR)
☐ Mississippi Valley (Missouri)
☐ Pulaski (Little Rock, AR)
☐ Schoolcraft (Springfield, MO)
☐ Sugar Creek (Bentonville, AR)
☐ No chapter, all to central Ozark Society

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 Schoolcraft (Springfield, MO)
☐ \$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
☐ \$ _____ OSF Legacy Fund

My Total is: \$ _____

Please remit to: The Ozark Society, PO Box 2914, Little Rock, AR 72203

You will receive a Thank You email from the Ozark Society. Please contact oscomms@ozarksociety.net for questions.