



PACK & PADDLE



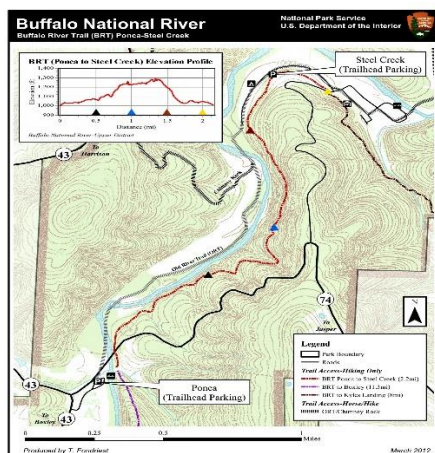
Fall "The challenge goes on. There are other lands and rivers, other wilderness areas, to save and to share with all.
September 2021 I challenge you to step forward to protect and care for the wild places you love best." - Dr. Neil Compton

Ozark Society Plans for the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Buffalo National River

By David Peterson, Ozark Society President

On March 1, 1972, Richard Nixon signed a bill making the Buffalo River the first National River in the United States. Now almost 50 years later, the Ozark Society is planning 5 major events in support of the 50th anniversary. Details will be posted on the Ozark Society website later.

BNR50 Hike Series: A series of hikes on the 134 miles of trails within the Buffalo National River (BNR) will be offered to the public beginning in fall of 2021 and extending throughout 2022. The Highlands Chapter of the Ozark Society (OSHC) will organize the hikes as part of its annually scheduled hiking season with a special focus on hiking within the BNR during this anniversary period. If you are willing to lead a hike, contact coordinator Brian Thompson at thompsonadd@gmail.com.



Buffalo River Float, Grinder's Ferry (Hwy 65, River Mile 95.2) to White River (River Mile 153.0), June 13-18, 2022: This 58-mile event is intended to involve more people than the usual semi-annual OS float for members only, with invitations to news media as well as friends, neighbors and celebrities that might not ordinarily float the river. We will travel in small groups (<15) with experienced leaders, and possible access to shorter sections for day trippers. Stewart Noland is coordinating trip leaders and logistics.

The Buffalo River Documentary: This film is based on OS archival material and interviews with regional environmental leaders, is scheduled for its premiere showing in March, 2022 in Bentonville, hometown of Neil Compton. See the Ozark Society Foundation link on the OS webpage for details as showings are announced.

Ozark Society coalition partners from the Buffalo River Watershed Alliance, Arkansas Canoe Club, and the National Parks Conservation Association is sponsoring a **two-day Buffalo River Celebration, May 9-10, 2022** for members of the **Joint Agriculture Committee of the**

Arkansas Legislature - an influential player in the protection of the river. There will only be a short float down the Buffalo from Tyler Bend to Gilbert, but with considerable other goings on. If you would be willing to host a member of the legislature down the river in your canoe on the 10th, you can contact me at ospres@ozarksociety.net.

OS Sponsored Float, April 5, 2022: Float from Tyler Bend to Gilbert for U. S. senators & congressmen, representatives and senators in the AR legislature, county judges, mayors, and others. This event is in its planning infancy, with coordinators Paul Means, Stewart Noland, and David Peterson.



Buffalo River Handbook Corrections

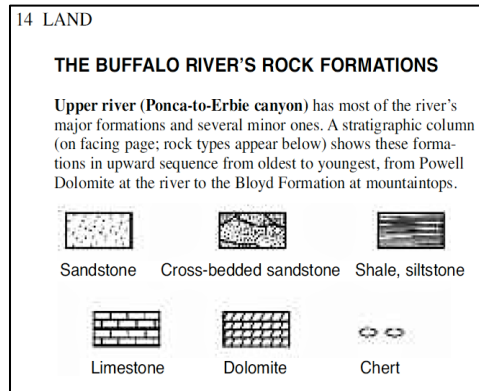
By Janet Parsch

Janet Parsch has asked that we publish this errata sheet of corrections to Ken Smith's 2nd Edition of the Buffalo River Handbook:

Buffalo River Handbook 2nd edition, 2018 Kenneth L. Smith

Corrections:

Replacement captions for rock formations on page 14



Page corrections

- p. 95, paragraph 3, line 2: change "414" to "429."
- p. 96, 4th line from bottom: change "409-417" to "424-432."
- p. 123, 10th line from bottom: omit "(see page 424)."
- p. 143, 9th line from bottom: change "(see page 424)" to "(870-439-2502, daily 8:30 – 4:30)."
- p. 227, 1st line below "Buffalo Point has been...": change "page 408" to "page 423."
- p. 437, In the Index: under "Birds," add "395" in boldface.

OS Life Member Jan Muetzel is turning 95!

By Carolyn Shearman, Communications Chair



Recently I was checking up on some of our Ozark Society LIFE members and got into a cool email exchange with Jan Muetzel who lives in Rogers, AR. She will be 95 on September 18th and she is still one of the busiest gals I know. She regularly swims in the Buffalo River – never alone! As a life-long swimming enthusiast, she has funded an experimental program at the Boys and Girls Club in Rogers that taught many area children to swim. And, for the past 9 years she has helped sponsor the Walk to End Alzheimer's to honor her husband Dean who died August 2020.



This is Joyful Jan and her partner Lively Linda getting ready for the Alzheimer's walk

As a recollection of OS founder Neil Compton she said, "*The Ozark Society likes to inspire folks to get moving. Dr. Neil Compton used to take us on long hikes. Maybe that is why my husband Dean lived to be 94 years old. His two Brothers and Sister all died years ago.*"

Might have something to do with your active life too Jan!

She signed her emails to me, "*Swimcerely, Joyful Jan Muetzel!*"

In Memoriam – Bob Lovett

By Loring Bullard, Schoolcraft Chair



Bob Lovett was a tree-hugger in the purest sense of the word. He loved pine trees, but he loved his wife and his family so much more. He loved life, in fact. Unfortunately, the Ozark Society lost a lifetime member and the world lost a cherished citizen in April of this year. Bob is survived by his beautiful wife, Priya, his sister, Susan, five children and ten grandchildren. A poem by Tyler Gregson displayed at his memorial service perfectly suited him. It read, in part; “Let the hours fill with adventure, and my legs ache from the wandering; I was built for this, and I’ve no use for staying so still.” A wanderer, an adventurer, an intrepid backpacker, a trekker, a family man and good friend—he was all these, but so much more.

Friends called Bob “a friend to man,” and it’s true. He loved to bring people together. He was never critical of others, but really listened to them, patiently, and was interested to hear what they had to say. In conversation, it was

never about him; but about you. He had a magical way of bringing out the best in others. His friends noted that he was “genuinely funny,” a “phenomenal story teller” and “savored life; enjoyed it, and always saw the humor in it.” Bob loved the idea of new discovery. He was interested in and enthusiastic about nearly everything, especially a new adventure. When he went with friends to Hawaii, and was told by the rental car agency places where they couldn’t take the vehicle—no surprise; that was the first place he headed.

His intellect was astounding, and he was a superb naturalist. His curiosity knew no bounds. Bob would come back from worldwide treks and make presentations containing the scientific names of every wildflower he had encountered. He was also a meticulous scientist, perhaps relating to his twenty-five years as a pathologist at Cox Medical Center. He brought that same level of scientific scrutiny to any subject that interested him, from pine trees to springs to wildflowers to fishing tackle. His dad was a doctor in Scottsbluff, where he grew up, and was quite a fisherman. Bob inherited his dad’s tackle collection but years later decided to give it away. But when he presented it to a friend, every lure he picked up, every bit of tackle, provoked another

fascinating story about its origins or history.

Perhaps best of all, he was a kind-hearted humanitarian. When he went on an adventure, a vacation, backpack or trek, he talked to everyone he met, no matter how rich or poor they were. His friends were always looking for him because he had wandered off to talk to someone. On one trip to India, he befriended a young girl with a handicap, then actually assisted her in getting a college degree. He even amazed a friend by resuscitating his dog that had nearly drowned in an overturned canoe. During his long life, he touched so many other lives that his wife, Priya, lost track of them. Now she’s receiving hundreds of letters from people whose lives he touched “in ways that I never knew about.” That’s a legacy to admire.

In 1970, Bob began planting pine trees on fourteen acres he owned on Pearson Creek, a beautiful spring-fed stream east of Springfield. That enterprise grew into the Lovett Pinetum Charitable Foundation in 1997, which now administers the 108-acre pinetum on Pearson Creek along with a smaller one in Angelina County in southeastern Texas. Today, the collection has over 4,000 trees of more than 100 species. For more information about his life’s work, visit <https://lovettpinetum.org>. His fabulous pines, along with the rest of us, will surely miss him.

Henry Shreve's Great Dam Removal Experiment of 1831

By Fred Paillet, Education Chair

Removal of obsolete dams to restore watersheds to their natural working conditions is a major topic these days in environmental news. Many of us think of such dams as local perturbations on a stream that act as sediment traps and impediments to the natural migration of aquatic life. Fine-grained silt particles in the sediment collecting behind the dam retain a potentially dangerous reservoir for fertilizer and pesticide chemicals washing in from fields and residences. But the situation is much more complicated than that because the function of streams as sediment transport systems depends on a delicate equilibrium that extends over the entire length of the watershed. You can see how this works by recognizing that the force moving sediment is given by the slope of the streambed. If a location has more force available than needed, the extra force will allow the water to eat away at the banks to create meander bends. This, in turn, effectively lengthens the channel to reduce the slope. If there is not enough slope to move the sediment, then gravel-bar deposits will build up producing a braided streambed with an increased slope and an increased sediment load capacity. Of course, the process is a lot more complicated than that. Much of a river's sediment load is temporarily stored between high-water events, so the equilibrium is maintained only as averaged over decades of fluctuating flow rates. Yet it remains clear that a change to one single stretch of river can impact the entire watershed

through the way that sediment is moved from headwaters to outlet along the integrated system.

One of the greatest dam removals of all time occurred in the 19th century in our midcontinent region. That was when army engineer Henry Shreve supervised a team removing the great raft of timber that blocked the middle section of the Red River in Louisiana starting in 1831. The intent was to allow routine navigation to reach cotton plantations being settled all along the river up into Arkansas and beyond. Grateful settlers named the city of Shreveport in Henry's honor. They appreciated opening up the region to regular steamboat transport, but improved navigation was just one of many profound changes to the river that resulted from dam removal. We can document these changes because there are a pair of eyewitness reports on the pre-removal condition of the river from the leaders of the Freeman-Custis expedition sent to explore the Red River by President Jefferson in 1806.



Sketch based on appearance of Red River in 1873

The expedition set out from the Mississippi in May and returned in September when confronted by a much larger armed Spanish force just above where the river now enters Arkansas. They reported a

great raft of timber blocking the river for more than 100 miles, forcing the party to navigate through bayous and swamps on the northeast side of the river. My sketch is taken from a historic photo of a section of the raft that had re-developed before 1873 when TNT was used to open the river for good and gives a sense of what the original raft might have looked like. The 1806 report described the raft as a series of log jams hundreds of yards in extent, rising 2-3 feet above river level and extending all the way to the bottom of the channel. Shrubs and clumps of grass were growing on top of the logs and a horse could be ridden across in a few locations. But this was not a case of a person walking across the river and not even knowing it was there as reported in some descriptions. The Freeman-Custis reports describe moving their boats through a maze of narrow channels where chutes of fast-moving water ran through the trees alternating with large, shallow lakes studded with cypress and ash trees. The chutes were evidently transient waterways carved by the pent-up water behind the series of rafts, and the resulting current was a major challenge in moving the boats upstream in these confined channels. This is a far different environment than what we see in this part of the Red River valley today.

Once the timber dams were removed from the river there was a profound and permanent change in the entire ecosystem.

Continued on next page.

Henry Shreve's Great Dam Removal Experiment of 1831...continued

Freeman and Custis had reported vast wet prairies on the south side of the river studded with large lakes. With the raft removed, channels were incised into these prairies and the lush lakes dried up. The Great Swamp on the northeast side of the river completely disappeared.

Texarkana historian Cole-Jett describes how the change in the landscape wrought by Shreve profoundly altered the way of life

for those Caddoan natives still living in the valley. Deep bayous that had once provided access to shipping for cotton plantations located away from the river were no longer navigable. The river itself with its sediment load derived from arid Texas uplands could not be navigated during periods of low water. This great experiment presents an instructive example of the major changes – intended and unintended – that

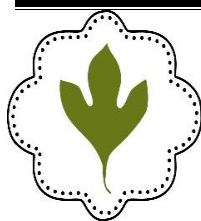
can be wrought by affecting a single section of a river or stream channel. References:

The Red River Valley in Arkansas – Gateway to the West, Robin Cole-Jett, 2014.

Southern Counterpart to Lewis and Clark – The Freeman-Custis Expedition of 1806, Dan L Flores ed, 1984.

Ozark Society Foundation News

By Marvin Schwartz, Ozark Society Foundation Chair



The OZARK
SOCIETY
FOUNDATION

The Ozark Society Foundation has three projects in active status, each one involving board members and dedicated community volunteers:

Youth Grants: Based on the success of the first-year program, OSF Board member Roslyn Imrie and a committee of local environmental educators launched Year 2 of the Youth Grants program. The program will engage youth in active environmental projects. Grant proposals may be submitted from schools and nonprofit organizations in the Ozarks region (Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Louisiana). Project funding between \$1,000 and \$3,000 will be awarded based on the scope and needs of the student activity. Up to ten projects may be funded. Applications will

be accepted from August 23 to October 16, 2020. Award notification and funds distribution will occur by December 2020. Projects will have one year to complete their objectives. Final grant reports will be due by November 2022.

Documentary Film: The film production crew, West Creative Group of Springfield, MO, is busy creating initial scripts and first-draft footage after an active half-year of research, interviews, and site shoots. A diverse committee of OS/OSF board members and community volunteers are reviewing the work in process. The film (yet unnamed) will be a 53-minute documentary that tells the history of public policy issues relating to the Ozarks and the Buffalo River. The story will encompass issues from the 1960s to the present day. The film is scheduled to be completed by the end of this year, and premier

showings at several sites will begin in March 2022.

Sassafras Award for Excellence in Environmental Writing: With its submission period closing in July, the OSF Sassafras Award received more than a dozen submissions in its first year. The manuscripts are currently being reviewed by the award committee to select the top choices. Finalist judge Davis McCombs, director of the UA Creative Writing Program and a former park ranger at Mammoth Cave, will select the award winner. The selection announcement and prize ceremony will be held in spring 2022.

OSF took the precaution postponing an August 14 public program by the authors of "Trees, Shrubs, and Woody Vines of Arkansas." A Little Rock program will be rescheduled when all parties are more confident in public health issues.

Continued on next page.

Ozark Society Foundation....continued

The book continues to receive outstanding reviews from media and comments from national experts.

As an example, here is a recent note received from Dr. Peter Raven, a Missouri scientist considered one of the premier botanists in the nation.

Dear Theo:

Thank you so much for your fine book, "Trees, Shrubs, and Woody Vines of Arkansas". What a nice piece of work, and how much it will mean to the people of the

state! It's really by means of books such as it that people learn about and become interested in their natural heritage, and in Arkansas, it's a very special one! Keep up your fine work in plant identification and conservation, and let me know if I can ever do anything to help!

*Very best wishes,
Peter H. Raven, President Emeritus
Missouri Botanical Garden*

As always, the work of a nonprofit includes a great deal

of behind-the-scenes detail and dedicated effort by board members. Susan Young continues to develop a comprehensive document storage system. Other OSF board members have been responsible for financial structures, including creating an Endowment Fund and an investment account. The board has also established a formal Publication Policy to guide decision-making regarding future books.

The Buffalo River Trail - Fall 2021 Work Session

By Mike Reed, Buffalo River Trail Coordinator



The Fall '21BRT work session will be October 22-29, and Tyler Bend will be our base of operations, as usual.

Likely projects will include inspecting the construction work near Little Rocky Creek that was completed in the spring, building some steps in the next hollow downstream from the spring work area, and maintenance of older trail. NPS provides the tools but

you can bring your own if you prefer.

Participants should bring mask(s), hand sanitizer, food, water containers, creek-wading shoes, work gloves, safety glasses, and a day pack to carry all your stuff.

Additionally, if camping with us at Tyler Bend, then in addition to the obvious shelter and sleeping accommodations you should have raccoon-proof food storage, cooking & eating utensils (including stove), a chair for sitting around at camp, headlamp or flashlight.

I'm currently planning to resume our group meals so if you can join us for the week, or most of it, there is an option to pay \$50 into a fund to cover food and camp expenses and then participate in our group

meals (Sunday dinner through Saturday breakfast). There is also a 3-day option for \$35.

We'll be following some form of "pandemic protocol" so contact me at merreed@runbox.com for additional information on that or other questions.





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
- \$ _____ OS Endowment Fund

My Total is: \$ _____

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

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



Ozark Society
P.O. Box 2914
Little Rock, AR 72203

Please Note: If you would like to receive *Pack & Paddle* ONLY by email, not through US Mail, please contact Carolyn Shearman at oscomms@ozarksociety.net.

The Officer, Director, and Chair List

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BUFFALO RIVER TRAIL COORDINATOR: Michael Reed, mereed@runbox.com
OZARK SOCIETY STORE: Brittany Plouch, outreach@ozarksociety.net.
OZARK SOCIETY ARCHIVES: Stewart Noland, bosshq@aol.com.
OZARK SOCIETY DEPOSITORY: Special Collections Division, University of Arkansas Libraries, Fayetteville, AR 72701, (479) 575-5577.
MEMBERSHIP: Dues for membership in the Ozark Society include the overall Society and one Chapter of your choice. The levels are Friend \$30; Associate \$50; Supporter \$100; Sponsor: \$250; Patron \$500; and Benefactor \$1000+. You can join more than one Chapter however, by just adding an additional \$10 for each extra one. Please renew online at www.ozarksociety.net/membership or mail your check including our Membership Form to: Ozark Society, P.O. Box 2914, Little Rock, AR 72203.