



PACK & PADDLE



Spring "The challenge goes on. There are other lands and rivers, other wilderness areas, to save and to share with all.
March 2022 I challenge you to step forward to protect and care for the wild places you love best." - Dr. Neil Compton

The Ozark Society Climate Change Statement

By OS Climate Committee - Jennifer Ailor, chair, Steve Boss, Brian Thompson, Alice Andrews, and David Peterson

Climate Change is Here and Now

The science is undeniable. Climate change is real, and its impacts are all around us. While in the Ozarks may not see the rapid extremes taking place at the Poles, changes in our region are in play nevertheless. Accordingly, the Ozark Society, as a guardian of the Buffalo River ecosystem, has taken a position on climate change as it affects the national river and park and the greater Ozarks region in the Ozark Society's respective states.

Our Statement

The Ozark Society urges all who float, fish, hike, ride, hunt, recreate and farm in the Buffalo River watershed to be aware of the scientific consensus about climate change. Citizens also should be mindful of potential climate change impacts on our beloved river and the greater Ozarks Plateau. Among the potential impacts of concern are changing weather patterns, including floods and droughts, that could affect regional hydrologic balance to:

- Change forest ecosystems

- Increase influence of non-native, invasive species
- Alter pollinator populations for area crops, pastures, gardens and wildflowers
- Increase erosion and wash out riverside campsites
- Increase nuisance algae blooms
- Create low-dissolved oxygen levels in the river, affecting fish populations and other aquatic creatures
- Alter public access to and enjoyment of the river



The Ozark Society respectfully requests greater investment in public stewardship of our national river, including more investment in continuous scientific monitoring of changing conditions and more public commitment to mitigating potential negative impacts of climate change across the Ozarks.

Potential Action Steps for Ozark Society Members & Chapters

- Educate yourself from reputable sources about climate change impacts
- Identify and support organizations working to mitigate and adapt to climate change in your area
- Encourage your local, state and federal representatives to support and fund research studies and actions to mitigate and adapt to changes
- Get involved in citizen science projects that help identify trends and build a base of scientific knowledge about species impacts
- Involve your children, grandchildren and local schools in climate change projects

The OS Climate Change Committee is Jennifer Ailor, Chair, Steve Boss, Brian Thompson, Alice Andrews, and David Peterson

Feel free to provide comment to David Peterson at ospres@ozarksociety.net and consider joining the Climate Committee.

Ode to Alice J. Andrews

By Ozark Society LIFE member, Jim Liles

Alice Andrews, an artist and native of El Dorado, Arkansas, fell in love with Boxley Valley, on upper Buffalo River, more than thirty years ago. In the late 1980s she visited the offices of Buffalo National River, inquiring about the possibility of acquiring land in Boxley Valley. She wanted to know if she might be able to purchase a small parcel where she could build and settle there. We explained the complicated situation in Boxley, where the resolution of issues surrounding land ownership was still in the works.



By that time the National Park Service (NPS) had “turned the corner” in the management of Boxley Valley, determining that - after much consultation - the valley, with its multiplicity of historic (and prehistoric) assets, was on the wrong path to the future. Despite Congressional intent to leave Boxley as a “Private Use Zone,” many farms and homes had been acquired by “the

government” during the land-buying years, 1972 – 1982. Only a half-dozen occupied homes in the valley were not in federal ownership. Several of the homes acquired by the NPS stood vacant and neglected, their former owners having sold out and moved out of the valley. Included among those properties was an iconic 2-story house, referred to by the NPS as the “Casey-Clark House.” It was located on the north bank of Beech Creek, about ½ mile down a 1-lane dirt road running southwest of the Boxley Baptist Church. The last owners had sold their 112 acres to the NPS; however, like most residents in the valley, they’d retained a 25-year “use and occupancy right” to their home and land. While they continued to “run some cattle” on the farmland, they’d vacated their home of some 30 years and resettled near Osage, Arkansas. Their former Boxley home had stood vacant for about 12 years, but it was “tied up” by the Clark family’s retained right of use and occupancy. Alice would have to deal with the Clarks, and convince them to convey their legal interest to her, so she could acquire the property from the NPS. We were eager to help her in that effort, as the old place certainly deserved saving. A brief telling of its historical significance follows:

The story of the old home is as fraught with conflict and tragedy as any in the valley, having been built soon after the Civil War, “on the ashes” of the 1840s log home of Confederate sympathizers, Allsberry (“Berry”) and Phoebe (Whiteley) Casey—son and daughter of two of the earlier-arriving pioneer families on this stretch of Buffalo River. (Boxley Valley was called “Whiteley Mills” long before it acquired the Boxley name. Berry Casey’s father, Abner Casey built the first gristmill, circa 1840, and conveyed it, circa 1850, to fellow pioneer Samuel Whiteley, who established the valley’s first post office, “Whiteley Mills.” Samuel, father of Phoebe, operated the original gristmill until he was murdered in 1864.). Oral history suggests that the original Casey log house was torched during the Civil War, in revenge for the killing of Benjamin Casey, a Union soldier on leave to visit his family in the north part of Boxley Valley. (See book *Old Folks Talking* for the story of how Ben Clark had lain in ambush and slain members of the crew of men, including Berry Casey, returning from a day at the Bat Cave gunpowder works. The site of that tragedy is on the adjoining farm, visible

Ode to Alice J. Andrews....continued

across Beech Creek from the historic Casey house.)

Berry Casey's death and the home's destruction left widow Phoebe with six fatherless and homeless children; however, they somehow managed, through the remaining years of war and privation. Berry's surviving brothers rebuilt the burned home, and their work stands today, reflecting modifications made over 100 years of continuous occupation. (1957—1993, the Casey place was owned by descendants of the Union soldier who ambushed and killed the original house's builder.)

Back in 1993 Alice Andrews wasn't getting anywhere in her efforts to convince the owners of the Casey house over 20 previous years—and still holder of a legal interest in the old house—to convey that interest to her, so she could proceed to “buy back” the property from the NPS. I made a “leap of faith” by driving Alice to visit with the Clarks, in their new

home in Osage, Carroll County. While Bill remained disinclined to part with his legal ties to the old place, Bill's wife Charlene seemed to be getting on very nicely with Alice, as the two ladies quickly found common ground: Alice was a successful landscape artist and Charlene was a skilled amateur painter. She eventually succeeded in changing her husband's mind and they executed the documents to permit Alice to proceed with acquisition of the old Casey place. On October 22, 1993 she became the owner of 1.75 acres including the house, a nearby log smoke house and the flowing spring.

Alice didn't move in for a time, during which she had a geothermal heating/cooling system installed, and hired local craftsmen to renovate the structure, including rebuilding the chimney and fireplace. (Prior to Alice's arrival on the Boxley scene, NPS had repointed the chimney stones and brought in a contractor to

rid the 15-year vacant house of powder-post beetles, termites, etc.—it was enshrouded with a giant “balloon,” into which gas-heated air was pumped for hours. NPS also performed stabilization on the bank of Beech Creek, which threatened to undercut her deck. Photos of the Casey-Clark house, prior to Alice's ownership and after she began remodeling are shown on pages 96 and 148, *Old Folks Talking*, 3rd printing, 2006.)

Alice Andrews is credited with saving one of the more historic homes in Boxley Valley, turning the long-neglected house into a warm, welcoming home, while retaining its significant historic features, like the log-walls shown in one of above-cited photographs. We hope Alice's California-based sister will find a way for the historic “Casey-Andrews home” to continue to receive loving care. That would be a fitting memorial to Alice.

Joe Nix Remembers the Early Leaders of the Buffalo National River

By Dr. Joe Nix, Ozark Society Founding Member



It's been 50 years! Hard to believe that so much has changed. I can't help thinking about the large number of people who worked tirelessly to ensure some long-term security to the Buffalo. Of course, Neil Compton led the charge. Harold

Alexander provided a philosophical basis for protecting natural areas and free flowing streams. Harold and Margaret Hedges lived it. They carved out a place near Boxley which was a center for the movements. Margaret kept a

Joe Nix Rememberscontinued

journal but it was lost in a fire that destroyed their home. Joe and Maxine Clark served as editors of the "Ozark Society Bulletin" which held that organization together. John Houston was a journalist who ultimately lost his job because he supported BNR. Jane Stern provided strong support for saving the Buffalo in the Pine Bluff and Little Rock areas. Ed and June Freeman were owners of the "Pine Bluff Commercial" which provided strong support for BNR through the writings of one of their reporters, Harry Pearson. Everett Bowman worked to help build support for BNR in the Little Rock area. Hubert and Mary Virginia Ferguson were very active in support of BNR and ultimately took up residence near Ponca. Evangaline Archer was a charter member of the Ozark Society and was instrumental in getting national recognition for BNR. She published a support letter for Buffalo in *SCIENCE*, an internationally recognized journal of science. Rose Hogan served as Secretary of the Ozark Society and provided solid support for BNR. Tom McRae kept political channels open for involvement of the State of Arkansas ultimately supporting BNR. Ken Smith wrote

"Buffalo River Country" which initiated much of the support for BNR. Ken also provided communication avenues between the Ozark Society and the National Park Service. H. Charles Johnson inspired many who learned to love the Buffalo.



Of course, I should mention J. William Fulbright, John L. McClellan, Wilber Mills, and John Paul Hammerschmit. George Fisher's cartoons played a significant role in maintaining the image of BNR. Clayton Little of Bentonville helped a lot in early years of stream preservation. David Pryor was also active in supporting BNR.

And, we must not forget Governor Orval Faibus. His letter rejecting the Corps of Engineers plan for two dams on the Buffalo will stand as one of the most important events

which saved the it. Andrew Halsey guided Arkansas Game and Fish to support BNR. Tom Foti, originally from Pine Bluff was also a strong supporter. The State Committee on Stream Preservation which was started by Governor Faibus, provided a lot of support through then Department of Planning (no longer in existence).

Of course, there were many others who were vital in saving the Buffalo. I wish I had started this list while I still had a little memory. Please forgive me for my omissions. Needless to say, this group of people turned out to influence me, both personally and professionally.

The Ozark Society started out with a focus on the Buffalo River but it also played a role in helping protect other Arkansas rivers including, Mulberry, Big Piney, Kings, Spring, Lee Creek, Saline (eastern Saline), Illinois Bayou, Cossatot, Strawberry, and others. I think much of its successes were fueled by trying to teach people to love our natural environment of free-flowing streams, wilderness areas, and that quiet places in the heart of each of us where we paused at one time and contemplated our place in nature.

Big Bend National Park Trip December 2021

By Stewart Noland, Ozark Society Archive Chair

Having turned down two opportunities to go to Big Bend in the mid-1970's, saying at the time I could go later, I finally made my first visit to Big Bend with hiking and paddling friend Marcell Jones in early December 2021. Big Bend is an 801,000-acre national park located in southwest Texas, that was designated a national park in 1944. The southern border of the park is formed by the Rio Grande River and the border with Mexico. Elevations in the park range from about 2000 feet at the river to over 7800 feet at Emory Peak in the Chisos Mountains.

Big Bend is an approximate 14-hour drive from central Arkansas. We chose to stay in the Chisos Mountain Lodge in the middle of the park, and we were glad we did as it minimized our driving times and put us close to the hiking that we wanted to do. There also is a campground in the Chisos Basin

that provides the same conveniences.



The Chisos Mountains are located in the middle of the park, and create the circular Island in the Sky effect. The Chisos Mountains support a wide variety of vegetation and animals including sheep, bears, Sierra del Carmen deer, and javelinas. We were fortunate to see all of these animals.

On our arrival day we hiked the Lost Mine Trail. Day 2 we

took a car tour to the downstream end of the park. From there we hiked the Boquillas Canyon Trail and a portion of the Marufo Vega Trail before visiting the hot springs near Rio Grande Village. Day 3 we hiked the South Rim Trail, gaining over 2,000 feet in elevation. Day 4 we were back on the road visiting the upstream end of the park, including Cattail Falls, Burro Mesa, Mule Ears, Santa Elena Canyon Trail, Terlingua, and Lajitas. Day 5 we were back in the Chisos hiking the Window Trail and a portion of the South Rim Trail. Day 6 we headed home.

Big Bend is a hiker and backpacker haven. We met folks from more states than you can imagine. Although the Rio Grande was way too low for a river trip, which we were prepared for and wanted to do, we enjoyed the trip and were fascinated with the Chisos Mountains.

Mount Whitney Again!

By Steve Heye, Pulaski Chapter Outings Chair

Last year's Ozark Society trip to the John Muir Trail and Mt. Whitney was a success for all but Robert Ordeneaux and trip leader, Steve Heye. Steve had to pull out when a case of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever took over. Steve, however is determined to make it to the top of Whitney this summer. He is looking for two others to join him on the backpack adventure.

Steve has procured permits for three to hike the Sierra's around Whitney. He has a permit for sure to hike August 21 to August 26 from

the Cottonwood Pass campground, using the Pacific Crest trail to the John Muir trail and on to Whitney Portal. 35 miles total over 6 days. That's only 6 miles a day on average, so this means time to enjoy the area from camp.

Steve has another line running for a permit to hike Whitney. He has entered a lottery that would allow the group of 3 to hike directly from Whitney Portal up to the top and back to the Portal over 3 or 4 days. Should Steve win the Lottery, this will be the itinerary for the group's

hike in place of the hike from Cottonwood to Whitney Portal.

The dates to start are various days from mid-July to early August. Steve will know if he won a lottery permit on or about March 24th.

If you are interested in possibly joining Steve, email him: Heye@aristotle.net and let him know. There will be room for just two, so let him know soon. Training hikes will begin in April and all are invited whether you're going to California or not. We had fun last year and we will this time as well.

Buffalo National River 50th Anniversary Activities

By Stewart Noland, Ozark Society Archive Chair

JUNE 13-18, 2022:

In further celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Buffalo National River and 60th anniversary of the Ozark Society, the Ozark Society plans to conduct a float trip from Highway 65 to the White River, from June 13 – June 18, 2022.

Who is going: There will be several groups of about 15 persons per group. Each group will have a common kitchen and food. Participants will need to provide their personal gear and boat. The boat must be capable of carrying some group gear.

Shuttling: Trip participants can shuttle their own vehicles or call Wild Bill Outfitters at 870-449-6235, to arrange a car shuttle from Highway 65 (Grinder's Ferry) to Riley's Station on the White River.

Cost: The cost for this trip is \$150 per person, not including vehicle shuttle cost, boat fee, or personal gear. The cost of the shuttle is \$100 per vehicle, and remember to identify yourself as a participant in the Ozark Society float when you book your shuttle with Wild Bill. Payment for the shuttle will be made from the individual to Wild Bill. The take-out fee at Riley's Station is \$6 per boat payable to Riley's when we take out.

Alternative Plans: As an alternative, Steve Heye will lead a group wherein each participant will provide his/her own food. The cost for this trip is \$60 per person, not including vehicle shuttle cost, boat, or personal gear.

How to Sign-up: To secure a spot on the trip please mail a check for the trip fee (either \$150 for the community trip or \$60 for the individual trip) to: Ozark Society, P.O. Box 2914, Little Rock, AR 72203 with the **Buffalo River Trip 2022 Information Form** available www.ozarksociety.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Buffalo-River-Trip-Form-2022.pdf.

Contact: Please direct questions to Stewart Noland at 501-831-9908, or stewartnoland51@aol.com.

Meet Kris McMillen

By Kris McMillen, NEW Buffalo River Chapter Chair

I wanted to introduce myself. I have agreed to be Chairman of the Buffalo River Chapter—taking over from Laura Timby, who I understand has had this position for some 20 years—doing a fantastic job and for which I'm sure everyone is most grateful. A big THANK YOU and best wishes to Laura in any new endeavors.

Here's a photo of me and my husband, Billy (I'm the one on the right!!) since we are sort of a matched set being married for over 50 years. We are hikers and bicyclists. We are originally from Texarkana. We have moved around in our lives with work and had a home in Hot Springs Village for 14 years after retiring. We lived on the road in our fifth wheel camper for 8 years before moving

to Gassville, AR just outside Mountain Home.



We had always wanted to live in the Ozarks and now we are here and love it! We still travel in the summer and fall months—hiking, and bicycling Rails to Trails all over the country.

We belonged to the Ozark Society many years ago and used to go on the Colorado trips. We

recently rejoined and have been hiking with the chapters in addition to our own weekly weekday hikes, which I will announce to everyone soon. We have great admiration for what the Ozark Society stands for, has accomplished and will accomplish.

I'm looking forward to meeting everyone and hoping some members will step forward and offer to give me some assistance with the day-to-day organization tasks (such as Treasurer) and especially I hope for some hike, float trip, trail maintenance and maybe bicycle ride leaders. I would be available to help with organizing those activities.

See you soon, Kris

The Fate of Arkansas's Upland Forests as seen from Hawksbill Crag

By Fred Paillet, Ozark Society Education Chair

Many naturalists throughout the range of the eastern deciduous forest biome have wondered what the undisturbed forest experienced by the first colonists in North America might have looked like. This question is closely tied to the desire by many ranging from the likes of Henry Thoreau to modern landscape architects to have the spiritual experience of the "forest primeval". Sort of like returning to the Creator's Garden of Eden. It would seem that all one needs to do is nothing – just let nature take its course and the forest will recover according to nature's own plan. It has been more than a century since many parts of the Ozark plateau have been logged. To the consternation of ecologists nothing like a return to the admittedly poorly-documented pre-settlement forests seems to be happening.

How do we even know what the pre-settlement forests were like? The best measurable answer comes from the original land office survey of ranges and townships starting from the famous Louisiana Purchase benchmark (tri-point intersection of Lee, Monroe, and Phillips Counties, Arkansas). Townships were marked by corners identified by witness trees. Surveyors recognized that corner markers might not remain in place – or be displaced by land speculators. So, they recorded the distance (in survey chain links), compass heading and species identity of several trees around each corner. That formed a deeply rooted and recognizable geometric pattern that would be hard to tamper with. Assuming we can trust the botanical ability of surveyors,

witness trees give an effective sample of trees growing in the Ozarks around 1820 when the forest was largely uncleared. This data shows clearly that the forest was mostly of oak – 70% divided equally into red and white varieties. Pine and hickory were another 5% each and then maple, ash and chinquapin comprising much of the rest. Not too different from the oak-dominated forests we see when driving through the Ozarks.

The problem with this information is that ongoing monitoring of Ozark forests repeatedly shows that so-called mesic species are actively replacing oaks and hickory in our local forests – and in most locations with oak-hickory forests throughout the southern Appalachians. Mesic species are those varieties that are found in protected ravines and stream bottoms where moisture conditions act to favor their reproduction. They replace themselves with the ability to grow in deep shade so as to come up beneath established trees of the same variety such as maple and beech that cast deep shade. Oaks cannot compete in that environment because they are adapted to more abundant light and expect to replace older trees when they are felled by disease or wind. To the consternation of foresters, mesic tree seedlings are seen to expand out of their ravine strongholds to become established under more commercially valuable oaks, hickories and pines. These trees are ready to shade out oak seedlings when the existing trees are removed by loggers or windstorm.

This "mesification" process has been a real concern to the timber

industry. But just as much a concern to ecologists who see this as an unnatural change in the trajectory of future Ozark forest ecosystems.

The oak replacement problem has been a major driving force behind the movement to return fire to our ecosystem. The idea is that light ground fires will destroy thin-barked mesic seedlings while the thicker bark and resprouting ability of oaks and hickories let them survive. Some worry that the effect of long-term fire suppression cannot be reversed. Once beech, maple and cucumber tree saplings become big enough they can survive light fires and then serve as additional outlying seed sources for further spread away from their natural enclaves. Forestry research stations in Arkansas and beyond are actively investigating management techniques such as selective harvest regimes or creation of patchwork openings to favor oaks over mesic species. Environmentally concerned citizens need to be aware of that so called "mesification" problem and how well-intentioned programs to address the issue will someday influence the forests we all enjoy.

One of the most important things a concerned outdoors enthusiast can do is get some first-hand experience of the mesification problem. This can be done at familiar overlooks such as Magnolia Falls near Jasper and Hawksbill Crag in the Upper Buffalo Wilderness. These are locations where deep mesic ravines meet the upland oak, hickory and pine dominated forest. You can stand on these overlooks and gaze over uninterrupted forest for a view

Upland Forests....continued

essentially identical with what the first visitors to the Ozarks (such as Henry Schoolcraft in 1812) saw when they came through the area. We know that is so because the forest overstory today is composed of the same oaks and accessory species as documented by witness tree surveys (see chapter 5 in *Ozark Forest Forensics* for a more in-depth discussion of pre-settlement forests in Arkansas). It's certainly worthwhile to look out from such a crag over uninterrupted woodland to get the feel of what the view was like for early Ozark explorers. But take the time to examine the forest as you walk down to the actual overlook. Look to see how much beech and maple is growing under the oaks and hickories. The mesic

species are especially easy to spot in the winter when they retain nearly all of their shriveled and brown leaves while the branches overhead become bare. How far away from their natural home have they expanded? How likely are they to succumb to a low-intensity ground fire consuming fallen leaves and small woody material? What can possibly be done to reverse this process? Does it matter (apart from the economics of the forestry industry) what kind of trees compose a naturally functioning ecosystem? In doing so you will be matching wits with some of the most learned forest ecologists in the world.

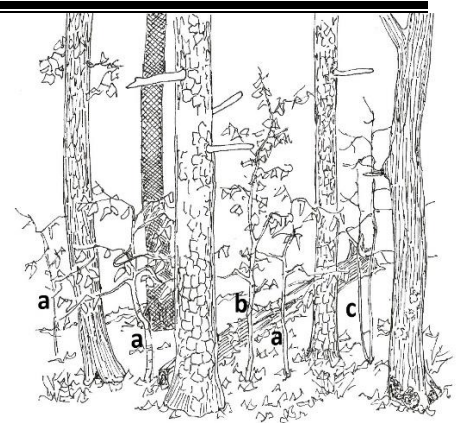


Illustration in *Ozark Forest Forensics* showing the appearance of oak and pine upland forest some distance from Magnolia Falls where mesic tree saplings – beech (a), sugar maple (b), and cucumber tree (c) – are infiltrating the understory and ready to take control of the landscape when the overstory eventually gives way.

Ozark Society Foundation Update

By Marvin Schwartz, Ozark Society Foundation Chair



The OZARK
SOCIETY
FOUNDATION

First River: How Arkansas Saved a National Treasure”

In 1962, a group canoeing and camping trip on the Buffalo River included a special guest. U. S. Supreme Court Justice William Douglas had come to Arkansas to float the river after seeing a captivating photograph in *Time* magazine of a Newton County site known as Big Bluff.

Douglas’ float trip was arranged by a small group of outdoor enthusiasts with big hopes for the river. The group, which included the Bentonville physician Neil Compton, hoped their important guest might support their vision of protecting the narrow free-flowing stream that wound through the towering limestone bluffs of north central Arkansas.

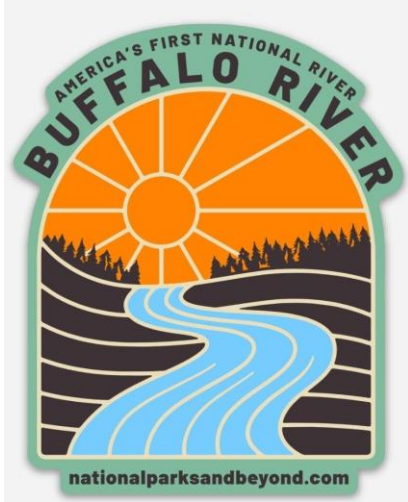
Douglas was deeply impressed by what he saw. His comments, recorded by Compton and others who became the founding members of the Ozark Society, gave strong affirmation to a conservation effort that continues to this day.

“You cannot let this river die,” Douglas stated. “The Buffalo River is a national treasure worth fighting to the death to preserve.”

As a result of the vigilant efforts of concerned citizens, the Buffalo River has been preserved and has achieved the protected status of a National River, the first of its kind in the nation. This year, Arkansas and the National Park Service (NPS) will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Buffalo National River with a series of public events. One of the planned NPS events will be a naturalization ceremony.

Ozark Society Foundation Update....continued

Imagine the pride those new U. S. citizens will feel as they swear allegiance to our flag with the beautiful Buffalo River flowing behind them.



In coordination with the NPS and in recognition of its own 60th anniversary, the Ozark Society has produced a new documentary film titled “First River: How Arkansas Saved a National Treasure.” The documentary will premiere in Bentonville, AR and Springfield, MO in March. At that time, it will be made available for streaming through the Ozark Society website (www.ozarksociety.net). The film will also be distributed to schools, museums, and organizations. The Ozark Society website will also offer a Q&A page to guide viewer discussion of the film and a lesson plan aligned with Arkansas Department of Education standards for secondary school teachers. These resources will be provided as a free public service by the Ozark Society.

The primary purpose of “First River” is to inspire awareness and

engagement in conservation issues to preserve of the Buffalo National River, Arkansas wilderness areas, and other unique natural resources. The level of public activity in these natural areas has never been stronger. With nearly 1.5-million annual visitors to the Buffalo National River and growing usage with approved parking, camping on gravel bars, climbing, hiking, and ATV riding, the delicate natural balance of the river’s healthy ecosystem will continue to be strongly challenged.

Fifty years ago, the rallying cry of “Save the Buffalo” kept our national treasure from being dammed and led to its current park status. In recent years, livestock production, specifically a large-scale hog farm, has been permitted to operate in the river watershed. Conservation activists, the Ozark Society among them, waged a strong campaign, with “Save the Buffalo Again” as their modern motto. The campaign ended with a costly public buy-out of the hog farm and clean-up operations on the site.

There are no easy answers to these challenges. Public and private interests must be given fair hearing. Decisions must be reached by informed citizens. The Buffalo National River itself occupies only 11% of an expansive watershed area that includes portions of nine Arkansas counties. The vast majority of that land is in private ownership and not subject to

federal regulations. Plans for new uses of the area’s natural resources will certainly arise.

The Ozark Society motto of “Recreation, Education and Conservation,” symbolized by the three-lobed sassafras leaf, offers a process. We encourage people to enjoy our natural areas, to learn about them and become involved in their protection.

“First River” is more than an educational film, more than a display of beautiful natural areas. The film informs viewers of past efforts while encouraging their present-day involvement. Ozark Society founder Dr. Neil Compton left us these inspiring words: “The challenge goes on. There are other lands and rivers, other wilderness areas, to save and to share with all. I challenge you to step forward to protect and care for the wild places you love best.”

Jimmy Driftwood, another Arkansas National Treasure, spoke of the Buffalo National River as “Arkansas’ gift to the nation, and our nation’s gift to the world.”

We are the guardians of this precious gift, an awareness that must be reinforced throughout this anniversary year and into the future.

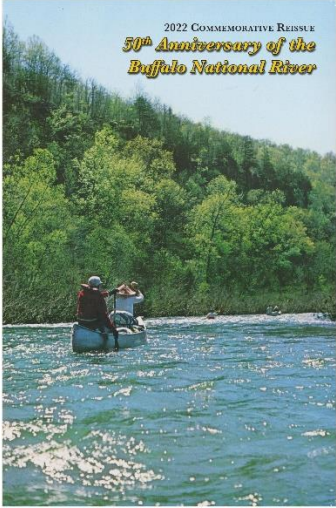
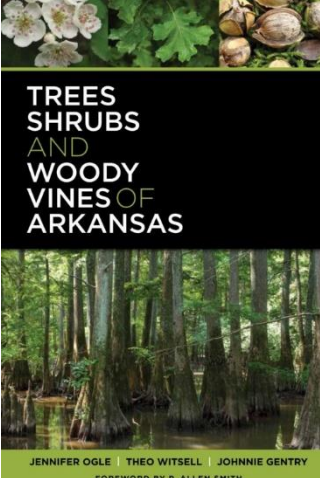
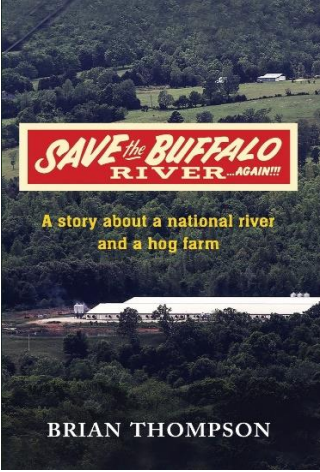
This article appeared in the Arkansas Democrat Gazette February 26, 2022.

Marvin Schwartz can be reached at osfchair@ozarksociety.net

Our Favorite Books in the OS Bookstore Right Now!

By Carolyn Shearman

Here are a few of our best sellers in the OS Bookstore right now: www.ozarksociety.com/store/

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">THE BUFFALO RIVER COUNTRY</p>  <p style="font-size: small; text-align: center;">2022 COMMEMORATIVE REISSUE <i>50th Anniversary of the Buffalo National River</i></p>	<p>The Buffalo River Country by Ken Smith \$22.00 Kenneth L. Smith Edited by Janet Parsch This 2022 Commemorative Reissue of <i>The Buffalo River Country</i> includes...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Foreword by Suzie Liles and Jim Liles, National Park Service (retired) • The complete text from the 3rd edition (1976) • “Past and Future” — The revised chapter from the three editions in 1967, 1970, and 1976 describes the status and progress on the legislation that created the Buffalo National River in 1972 • 13 maps and 150 photos
 <p style="font-size: small; text-align: center;">JENNIFER OGLE THEO WITSELL JOHNNIE GENTRY FOREWORD BY P. ALLEN SMITH</p>	<p>Trees, Shrubs, and Woody Vines of Arkansas by Ogle, Witsell, and Gentry \$29.95 This attractive, heavily illustrated field guide is the most comprehensive accounting of the woody plants of Arkansas ever published. The book will be a valuable companion for all who appreciate Arkansas flora in rural, urban, and wilderness areas. You will want to have a copy in your backpack as well as on your bookshelf.</p>
 <p style="font-size: small; text-align: center;">BRIAN THOMPSON</p>	<p>Save the Buffalo River Again by Brian Thompson \$16.95 “A massive industrial hog operation is quietly permitted and constructed near the Buffalo National River, the pristine crown jewel of the state of Arkansas. It is nearly complete by the time the public becomes aware of it, too late to do anything to stop it. This is the true story of how a small group of Arkansans stood toe to toe with powerful special interests, state and federal agencies, the state legislature, and two of the largest corporations in the world, all to protect the Buffalo National River for future generations. Ignored and disparaged, they lost every step of the way. ...Until they won.”</p>



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 mailing address.

Name(s) _____ Date: _____
 Address: _____
 City, State, and ZIP: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email 1: _____ Old Email (if changed) _____
 Email 2: _____ Old Email (if changed) _____

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* by email, not through US Mail, please contact Carolyn Shearman at oscomms@ozarksociety.net.

The Officer, Director, and Chair List

SOCIETY OFFICERS: President: David Peterson, ospres@ozarksociety.net; Vice President: Lucas Parsch, osvp@ozarksociety.net; Financial Chair: Kay Ewart, ozarksocietyewart@gmail.com; Recording Secretary: Sandy Roerig, sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu; Past President: Alan Nye, ainye@swbell.net; Conservation Chair: Alice Andrews, alice209ok@yahoo.com; Education Chair: Fred Paillet, education@ozarksociety.net; Community Engagement Chair: Brian Thompson osocialmedia@ozarksociety.net; Communications Chair: Carolyn Shearman, oscomms@ozarksociety.net.

STATE DIRECTORS:

ARKANSAS: Mary Schlatterer, schlatterer@yahoo.com; Jerry Dorman, simsdor@att.net;

MISSOURI: Jennifer Ailor, jailor65721@yahoo.com; Brenda Crites, bcsetirc@outlook.com;

LOUISIANA: Wayne Kiefer, wkiefer59@gmail.com; Catherine Tolson, catherine.tolson@comcast.net

CHAPTER CHAIRS: Bayou Chapter: Grant Perkins bayouchair@ozarksociety.net; Pulaski Chapter: Alisa Dixon pulaskichair@ozarksociety.net; Highlands Chapter: Tom Perry, highlandspres@ozarksociety.net; Buffalo River Chapter: Kris McMillen, buffaloriver@ozarksociety.net; Mississippi Valley Chapter: Brenda Crites, bcsetirc@outlook.com; Schoolcraft Chapter: Todd Parnell, schoolcraftchair@ozarksociety.net; Sugar Creek Chapter: Lowell Collins, ossugarcreek@gmail.com.

OZARK SOCIETY FOUNDATION CHAIR: Marvin Schwartz, osfchair@ozarksociety.net

BUFFALO RIVER TRAIL COORDINATOR: Michael Reed, mereed@runbox.com

OZARK SOCIETY STORE: Brittany Plouch, outreach@ozarksociety.net.

OZARK SOCIETY ARCHIVES: Stewart Noland, stewartnoland51@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; 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 see www.ozarksociety.net/membership or mail your check including our Membership Form to: Ozark Society, P.O. Box 2914, Little Rock, AR 72203.