

March 2023

Paddle Trails

The Ozark Society Pulaski Chapter



ozarksociety.net

Pulaski Chapter Meetings

MARCH MEETING

Date: Tuesday, March 7

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: 2nd Presbyterian Church,
Room 62

Zoom Link: bit.ly/pulaskichapter

(additional info in newsletter to the right)

Pulaski Chapter Officers

Chair – Emily Roberts

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Vice Chair – Mary Beth McDonald

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Treasurer – Charles Mullins

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Outings – Steve Heye

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From the Desk of the Chair...

By Emily Roberts

Hi everyone,

Hope you've all had a chance to get outdoors lately, feel the sunshine, and see the first spring flowers emerging! Here are some upcoming events, in addition to our outings, to keep on your radar:

Saturday, March 11

Keep Little Rock Beautiful City Wide Cleanup Day

- Trash pickup with the Central Arkansas Master Naturalists at Benny Craig park – *info at* www.keeplittlerockbeautiful.com/event/camn-boom-blast-5/
- Lake Maumelle shoreline cleanup with Central Arkansas Water – 9am-1pm – *if interested, please email Raven Lawson at* raven.lawson@carkw.com

Thursday, April 20

Ozark Society booth at UALR Earth Day event – 10am-2pm

- *If you are interested in helping table this event, please email Martha Nixon at* marthanxn@gmail.com

Saturday, April 23

Ozark Society booth at CALS Children's Library for the Bringing Nature to Your Yard program – 10am-2pm

- *If you are interested in helping table this event, please email me at* ospulasichapter@gmail.com

I look forward to seeing some of you at the next chapter meeting!

Emily Roberts

Speaker Update

Leslie Patrick will speak about "Ecoregions of Arkansas" at the meeting on March 7th. She works for the Natural Heritage Commission in Education and Outreach and is highly recommended by our own Emily Roberts.

Thank you to all who have been submitting suggestions for speakers for our meetings. I am working on lining up the speakers for 2023.

Mary Beth McDonald
Vice-Chair

Outings Update

The February hike for Pulaski Chapter took place on the 11th to the Sylamore Trail in North Central Arkansas. Six members from Little Rock met with three from the Mountain Home area at the Gunner Pool campground, just outside Fifty-Six. We left a car here and pooled over to our start at Barkshed campground. Our hike would be along the north bank of the Sylamore Creek downstream to Gunner Pool, not quite five miles.

For a majority of the hike we walked above the stream, along hillsides and cliff faces. The hike is a very visual one as several bluff lines come in to play. We saw many overhangs and a couple of non running waterfalls and views of the white water on the stream below us from cliff overlooks.

It was a cool, but sunny day, and the conditions were very enjoyable. We made good time and completed the hike around two. The car retrieval took forty minutes and while that was going on, those left behind explored the Gunner Pool campground. There is an old WPA dam and pond here on a side creek and the actual Gunner Pool on the Sylamore just upstream from the camp. This is a great swimming hole in Summer. *Photos of the hike are on the Ozark Society website, look under Chapters and outings and click on Pulaski.*

The March hike will be about the same length, but a bit closer to Little Rock. On March 11 we will meet at 8 am at the Chik-fil-a next to Bass Pro in SW Little Rock. We will then carpool over to the Lovit Trail, west of Hot Springs. Our hike will start and finish on Hickory Nut Mountain. We will follow the trail along a stream down the mountain to an abandoned road for the climb and view on Hickory Nut Mountain. Hope you can make it out for a great early spring hike on 3/11.

Don't forget the car camp on 4/14 to 4/16 at Ozark campground, north of Jasper. Canoe, day hike, and car camp with fellow Society members. Do it all or stay in camp, it will be a fun weekend. And meals can be just ten minutes away in Jasper.

Lots of fun things ahead yet this spring. We have the hike in Memphis in May and an overnight float on the Buffalo in June. Come on out for some outdoor fun!

Steve Heye
Outings Chair

PULASKI CHAPTER OUTING SCHEDULE WINTER/SPRING 2023

MARCH 11 - LOVIT TRAIL – HICKORY NUT MT. LOOP - MOD. 5 MILES.

We will walk a loop from the top of Hickory Nut Mt. down the Lovit trail and back on abandoned county roads. One big hill at the end. Be at Chik-fil-A near Bass Pro at 8am to carpool down. You will need boots, lunch and water.

APRIL 14, 15 & 16 – OZARK CAMPGROUND CAR CAMP AND DAY HIKES – EASY

We were rained out last fall, but let's try this spring. We will gather at the Ozark Campground on the Buffalo, north of Jasper, for a car camp. Some of us will come up Friday night, the rest on Saturday. Town is 10 minutes away, so you don't have to cook if you don't want to. There are two planned day hikes on the BRT. The 1st from Ozark to Pruitt (2.6 m) and then the Mill Creek Loop (1.5 m) on Sat. at 10. On Sunday we will hike from Ponca to Steel Creek (2.6 m). If you just want to hang out in camp, that's fine too! Come have some fun and fellowship. Look for the Banner in the campground.

MAY 6 – BIG RIVER PED. BRIDGE AND BEALE STREET (MEMPHIS) EASY 5.5 MILES

Spend a spring day walking on a historic bridge and having lunch on Beale Street. Its been one of our favorite hikes, even though its urban. We start from the W. Memphis end of the bridge and cross over the Big Muddy then on to Beale for lunch. We meet at the trail head off Exit 1 of I-55 in W. Memphis. Take I-55 to Memphis. After exiting, take a left to Dacus Lake Rd. to the parking. Be there by 10:45. It is a 2 ¼ hour drive from Little Rock. Hike begins at 10:45, bring good shoes and some water. Great Hotels nearby in West Memphis. Contact Steve to form carpools, Heye@aristotle.net

JUNE 10 & 11 – OVERNIGHT FLOAT ON THE BUFFALO – LOCATION TO BE NAMED.

We tried last fall, lets try this spring to do an overnight float on our favorite river. We will announce the stretch we'll float just before or at the June Chapter meeting on June 6. Stay tuned or check the Calendar section on Ozarksociety.net for updates. Bring your own boat and meals. Rentals available.

Always looking for new places to go. Let me know one of your favorites.

Steve's contacts: 501-455-2210 or Heye@aristotle.net.

