



PACK & PADDLE



Fall
September 2022

“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.” - Dr. Neil Compton

Board Recommends Liability Waivers

By David Peterson, Ozark Society President

At the summer meeting, the Ozark Society Board of Directors passed a recommendation that the Ozark Society and its chapters implement the signing of liability waivers at all hiking and paddling events. These risk and liability waivers generally have three parts:

3. And finally they agree to **waive, discharge claims, and release from liability** the Ozark Society, its agents, assistants and other leaders from **any and all liability** on account of, or in any way resulting from, injuries and damages.



Citizens do not actually lose their right to access the legal system when they sign waivers of this sort, so what is the purpose? The signing and review of waivers before an event is useful “due diligence” for a well-informed hike or paddle, and a concept that can shield boards and workers of non-profits in court, at least in Arkansas. But this spring during a large, non-OS, group-hiking adventure in a steep watershed, two hikers decided to return to the trail head alone. One slipped and fell, eventually drowning. The

media was immediately swept with accusations of improper leadership. So, is there insurance to protect our leaders if we should find ourselves in such a case?

There is “directors & officers” general liability insurance, mostly covering employee relations, financial mismanagement and social misadventures with a maximum coverage of \$1,000,000 for about \$600 or so. How about injuries and damages during active events? Typically these cost about \$5-10 per person/per event. They tend to be a bookkeeping irritant, with only liability coverage, not actual reimbursement for injury by participants. The OS has used liability insurance offered by the American Canoe Association in the past, but didn’t find the costs and ACA membership requirement justified. We have no insurance at this time.



1. The participant attests that they are in good physical health and capable of participating in the hiking or paddling event, and that they understand that they may be exposed to a variety of hazards and risks, foreseen or not foreseen, that are inherent to the event, and that they have read and understood information made available by the organizers.
2. They acknowledge that the event is at the discretion of the event organizer who can exclude those deemed unable to properly participate, set age limits, deny pets, and determine group size. Participants assume personal responsibility for all risks associated with travel to and from an event. A participant who leaves early during an event or continues after the conclusion assumes all risks in the decision with no liability against the Ozark Society.

In Memoriam For Judy Emily Woltjen



Judy Emily Woltjen was born on May 18, 1939, in St Louis, Missouri, and passed on June 1, 2022 in Fayetteville, Arkansas. After graduating from Ferguson High School in Missouri, Judy attended nursing school and worked as a registered nurse for over 40 years. In 1957, she met a young second lieutenant in the Army that recently graduated from engineering school named Duane Woltjen. They started their journey together of deep love and adventure which included cave exploring, whitewater racing, canoeing, hiking, trail construction and conservation activism. Judy and Duane were

only one week away from their 63rd anniversary upon her passing.

In 1969, as a young mother, Judy testified at a United States Senate hearing on clean air. Her testimony was part of a movement that led to the landmark legislation now known as the Clean Air Act of 1970. This was just the beginning of Judy dedicating much of her life to conservation and preserving nature for all to enjoy. She lived a remarkable and exemplary life of faith, love, hiking, canoeing, and dedication to conservation. Judy, along with her husband and countless others, worked on preserving the rivers of Missouri and Arkansas. They also led the effort to construct a 32-mile addition to the Ozark Highlands Trail. She lived life to the fullest, impacting many with her passion for conservation and astute nursing skills.

Judy and Duane have two grown children, Mark and Brett. Judy was a proud grandmother of five and recently celebrated the newest addition to the family, a great-grandson.

Remembering Judy

By Kris McMillen

Billy (McMillen) and I first met Judy when we joined the trail construction crew of the Sylamore Section of the Ozark Highlands Trail. She was always so kind and such a hard-working lady. I mainly remember her in the kitchen at the group camp, always doing something. She always had us put bleach in the dish rinse water, which I thought was a great idea.

One time the crew went out to eat at Jody's in Fifty-Six, AR. As you know, Judy was a retired nurse. There was a very old man at the next table in a wheelchair. He started choking and Billy and Judy jumped up and they saved his life.

Filling the Gap in the Buffalo River Trail

By Mike Reed, Buffalo River Trail Coordinator

In a 2019 meeting, BNR expressed interest in extending the Buffalo River Trail to fill the gap between Pruitt and the Richland Valley. This would be about 29 miles of new trail so it represents another large project. Ken Smith laid out a rough route on paper in the '90's and this Fall Ken's Krew will put boots on the ground to begin scouting an actual route using Ken's work as the starting point. The general plan is to begin at the east end, in the

Richland Valley, where the new trail would intersect the existing BRT/OHT near the upriver end of "The Nars" and then work upriver as far as the Carver Bridge at AR-123 for now.

One potential downside is that in BNR's upcoming Comprehensive River Management Plan they might decide that this trail (and maybe others) should be multi-purpose - also open to bikers and equestrians.

Perhaps we'll have an opportunity to make our voices heard to preserve a good hiking experience. I've set up a website: <https://BuffaloRiverTrailCrew.org> where information about the project, announcements of work events, and progress reports can be posted and discussed. Information about Ken's Krew's semi-annual maintenance work on the Richland Valley to AR-14 part of the BRT is also there.

Saving Energy to Help Prevent Climate Crisis

By Dina Nash, Climate Committee

Saving energy involves cutting back on big-ticket items. For most people, we're talking about house and office, yard, car, food, appliances, errands and investment choices.

Start by making the decision to change your lifestyle. Then sign up for a free energy audit from your gas and electric utilities. The audits will tell you what needs to be fixed, tightened, insulated better or lighted (i.e., with LED bulbs). Then decide which of the following energy-saving tips to implement. You'll save money, reduce emissions and set an example for your children and grandchildren.

Yards - Reduce the square footage that is in grass or needs constant tending. Landscape cloth with mulch or gravel or



sand on top can be attractive and functional for reducing water, tillage, pesticides, mowing and other labor. Or turn your lawn into a pollinator garden. Mow with an electric mower to reduce emissions.

Houses - Live in the smallest house you can stand to live in or seal off unused spaces after consulting with your HVAC

experts. Many people, especially retired ones, have half a house they don't use except when a guest comes about six days a year. Heating and cooling it wastes utilities that emit CO2! Get light-blocking blinds or shades to reduce unwanted sunlight in rooms to keep cool. Weatherize any drafty windows or doors. Insulate your attic to the max!

Cars - Buy the smallest cars you can stand and the ones with the best gas mileage. Keep up with tire pressure, so you don't wear out your tires or create unnecessary mileage. If you can afford to, buy hybrid or electric vehicles. We rented a car recently, a Hyundai that got 40+ miles to the gallon, and it looked like a tiny clown car, but we actually carried two granddaughters in the back seat comfortably all over Glacier National Park. Then we paid dearly to sequester carbon from having flown 6,000 miles and driven 300.

Food - Buy locally produced food or food grown in the U.S. Buy food that is in season in this country, not food shipped from below the equator so we can have watermelon in January. Buy mostly fresh food. Make a list and buy what's on it, so you don't have lots of unused food sitting around. Make only one trip a week by car to the grocery store. Use your

microwave or steamer to cook things; the oven is a huge energy waster.

Appliances - Women, adopt hairdos that don't need a lot of electric gadgets to fix, and use a dryer the least possible minutes. Keep only one fridge, an ENERGY STAR-rated one that's more efficient than other models. Fridges and freezers use huge amounts of energy. Use low-water washers, and dry as many of your lightweight clothes



on a wooden rack or clothesline as possible. Save up enough clothes to make a full load, rather than washing several small ones. Cold water does as well as hot at getting things clean. The heat of the dryer kills most bacteria. Remember that when you save water, you save energy, because city water has to be chemically treated, pumped and stored. Also, dispose of wasted food by composting or throwing it away, not putting it down the disposer, where it has to be pumped and treated before putting into local streams.

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Saving Energy to Help Prevent Climate Crisis Continued

Set the thermostat at 68 for winter and 78 for summer, per the U.S. Department of Energy. In winter, drop the thermostat even lower when sleeping for more energy savings. Wear sweaters in the winter and use fans and light clothing indoors during summer. It often pays to install a mini-split air conditioner for one or two rooms that need conditioning, versus heating or cooling the whole house if you don't use your whole house most of the time. Solar on the roof or from a solar farm can help our carbon footprint and save money on utilities, too. Companies like Lumio (used to be Anchor Key Solar) offer a 25-year payment plan/loan, so you don't have to pay the full installation amount upfront.

Errands - Consolidate your errands. Carpool with a friend or

family when you can. Try to reduce your mileage by 10% a week by planning ahead and combining errands with your work commute.



Investments - Divest of oil, gas and coal stocks and companies that make equipment or ship goods for the fossil fuel industry. Make sure your portfolio is devoid of such stocks. There are conservation friendly funds if you research this enough; make sure they are sound investments. Sometimes a stock is

a great stock, and sometimes, like biofuels right now, they are in the tank. Ask your church and corporation to realign their portfolios for substitutes for fossil fuel investments.

Advocate - Write letters frequently to your conservative national legislators (that covers all of them in Arkansas) and state legislators about wanting more legislation to lower carbon emissions and to protect us from the heat waves that will make all of life stressed to the max! If you need facts or ammunition for those letters, go to the Climate Reality website, 350.org, or other such websites.

Small, individual changes like these, when practiced by many, add up to big collective changes!

Fall Trail Maintenance October 21-28, 2022

By Mike Reed, Buffalo River Trail Coordinator



Mark your calendar! The Ozark Society's Fall '22 maintenance session for the BRT/OHT will be October 21-28 so join us for a day, the weekend, or longer. We'll be camping at Tyler Bend in the main campground with no charge for our reserved sites. I anticipate setting-up camp on the

20th, working in the field 21st-28th, and packing up on the 29th.

Projects will include clearing unadopted parts of the trail (including the final link built in March '21) and perhaps scouting a potential reroute for a problem area.

You can get more information at: <https://buffalorivertrailcrew.org/btr-maintenance-camp-details/>

Contact me with any questions. Ultimately, if you want to participate, you'll need to RSVP

with me to get final details. merced@runbox.com.



My Personal Encounter with Asa Grey Disjunct

By Fred Paillet, Ozark Society Education Chair

The title of this piece prompts several questions. Who was Asa Gray, what is a disjunct, and why does he have one named after him? How did I manage to encounter his disjunct and what made it so personal? It all goes back to my earliest outdoor experiences in the woods of rural Connecticut. I grew up in a family that spent a lot of time in the outdoors fishing, hunting and just plain enjoying the scenery. When not actively out there, we were usually reading about the natural world in general, and especially the great north woods where my French-Canadian ancestors came from. Those interests eventually blossomed into a career as a geoscientist with the expectation that such a life would lead me to a career of outdoor adventure. And, so it did. I was delighted to have a job based out of Colorado with the Rocky Mountains at my doorstep, with projects all over the mountain west and even in Hawaii. But something was missing.

This was apparent as I became used to the rather monotonous conifer forests of the American west and northern Canada. Ranks of Engelmann spruce or lodgepole pine just did not have the variety of the woods I grew up in. Meadows full of wildflowers helped ease the monotony of the scenery. But I missed the textures and seasonal variation of the eastern deciduous forest. The attributes of our Ozark forests

include features I couldn't find in the mountain west. Things like the odor and crunch of thick leaf litter underfoot, the intricate pattern of moss and lichens on the infinitely variable bark textures of deciduous trees, and the carpet of spring ephemeral wildflowers that appear in those magical early spring months when sunlight streams through the bare branches of leafless canopies overhead. Golden aspens in Colorado were scenic but could not rival the variable palette of the color in our eastern fall foliage. So, it came to be that the Ozarks would be my adopted retirement home. This was as close to my grandchildren in Colorado as I could get and still find an eastern forest biome with a real outdoor environment and an attachment to a major research university.

Just enjoying our Ozark scenery ought to be enough for most folks, but my inner scientist always seemed to want to sneak out. That was especially so when I started to realize how unique our biologically diverse Ozark forests are in comparison to other forest environments around the world. Forests dominated by a single species of pine or spruce look about as monotonous as in Colorado whether they grow in the interior of Alaska or the suburbs of Novosibirsk. Those places where fire or other disturbance have replaced the conifers with

aspen or birch add a little more variety but it's still a mostly uniform forest with ranks of the similar trees seen in echelon. In Siberia, spruce is replaced by larch to similar effect except for a few days in the autumn when golden needles are about to be shed to provide a little extra color to the landscape. The big question for biologists was why there should be a few places with wonderfully diverse forests at temperate latitudes when such diversity was supposed to be the exclusive property of tropical rain forests. Why should places like the Ozarks be blessed with a dozen species of oak growing alongside several maples, hickories, ashes and all the others while most temperate forests are far less diverse?

Chinese Tulip Poplar and
Witch Hazel - 2008 field sketch
Hubei Province



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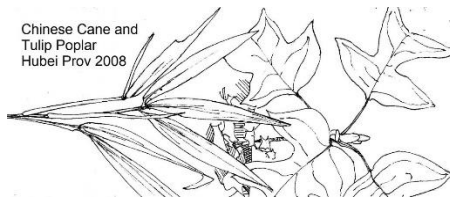
My Personal Encounter with Asa Grey Disjunct.....continued

That's where Asa Gray (1810-88) comes in. He was a Harvard botanist charged with the cataloging of specimens brought back from around the world by his extensive network of field collectors.

He noticed that explorers active in southeastern China were returning specimens that looked amazingly like species growing in our own deciduous biome. He received samples of tulip poplar, hickory, black gum, sweetgum, beech, witch hazel, and oak. The similarity with eastern American species was astounding and came to be known as the Asa Gray disjunct. That is, disjunct in the sense of a widely separated pair of strikingly similar botanical communities.

Geoscientists now know how this originated in a world subjected to drifting continents and cycles of climate change. Fifty million years ago North America, Europe and Asia were all clustered around the North Pole in a much warmer world with a single continuous forest extending around the top of the globe. Paleontologists call this the Arcto-Tertiary Forest. We think of deciduous trees as dropping leaves to avoid winter cold, but geologists think the deciduous habit may have developed to deal with winter darkness north of the Arctic Circle and not frigid temperatures. Photosynthetic reaction can operate in reverse (biologists call it respiration) providing a liability for leaves without benefit of light, so prolonged exposure to darkness would be a real problem for trees in

a warm Arctic. Recent investigators have been astounded to find fossil maple and oak leaves on Ellesmere Island deposited at about 80 degrees north latitude where there is nothing but ice and sparse tundra today. For reference, read about the desperate cold and starvation experienced by the Greely expedition (*Labyrinth of Ice* by Buddy Levy) when stranded on Ellesmere Island for three consecutive winters after 1881 to get a sense of how different the world was in the Eocene era. In the fifty million years since the Eocene period, climate change and glacial periods have greatly diminished the diversity of forest communities everywhere between two isolated outliers of that once widespread ancient forest.



Chinese Cane and
Tulip Poplar
Hubei Prov 2008

That great difference between Eocene and modern global temperatures belies the fact that the parameters driving Eocene climate were not so different from those that prevail today – except for the greenhouse-gas budget in the atmosphere at that time. Because the energy output of the sun's fusion furnace slowly increases as the radius of active combustion spreads outward over time, the solar power warming our atmosphere was slightly lower in the warmer Eocene. The distribution of land masses was not all the different, too, with the Atlantic already well on its way to

its present width. The ocean straits between North and South America had yet to close and ice cover had not made Antarctica the solar energy reflector it is today. Those relatively minor differences combined with the great difference in greenhouse gas content of the atmosphere clearly had profound consequences for life as it existed on our planet at that time. Is there a lesson here for us today?

My personal brush with Asa Gray's disjunct came in 2008 during a scientific exchange with Prof Zehao at the University of Beijing. We visited his field site in Hubei Province where he has carefully recorded all the trees and shrubs growing on his study plots. On my visit we saw hemlock, tulip poplar, magnolia, and chestnut, then several different beech, oak, and hornbeam species, with hazel, witch hazel, and a bamboo looking like our big river cane in the understory. Many of these were hardly different from related specimens we see in Arkansas today. Instead of grape vines interlaced in treetops, we saw kiwi vines with fruit hanging just out of reach above us. That made the fieldwork seem a little more exotic – along with the chicken heads and feet served in our Lo Mein dinner. This was a wonderful opportunity to see the dry academic teachings of geological theory related to the so distant past brought to real life in the here and now. That's what made it personal.

Ozark Society Fall Meeting October 21st-23rd

By Marian Howard and Sandy Roerig



Now is the time to make plans to attend the Fall General Membership Meeting that will be held **in-person this year. YEA!**

The Bayou Chapter will host this get-together for all Ozark Society members at beautiful **Lake Claiborne State Park, near Homer, Louisiana**. This is the same location as the 2018 Fall Meeting and we're hoping that many members show up to enjoy fun activities and fellowship with other Ozark Society members.

Attendance by all Ozark Society members is encouraged - this is the meeting where officers are elected for the next two years. Some key officers are retiring this year, so putting new officers in place will allow the Ozark Society to thrive into the future. Plus, it's a chance to meet members in other chapters and renew longtime friendships with chapter members who you don't see very often. There will be a **\$10 per person registration fee** which will include a Saturday morning ham, egg and biscuit breakfast and a commemorative bandana.

Accommodations:

The park offers 10 glamping sites – which are tents already set up on wooden platforms, plus 10 premium campsites, 67 improved campsites, 2 unimproved campsites and a primitive camping area. There are also 10 cabins that each sleep up to 8 people.

A big plus for this park is that anyone over the age of 62 gets **free** admittance to the park!

Please contact the park **soon** to make your reservations at **(318)-927-2976**

Schedule of Events

Oct 21 - Friday

Arrive and set up camp

6:00 pm – 9:00 pm – Board meeting – location TBA

Oct 22 - Saturday – Visitor Center

8:00 am – until – Registration for all attendees

8:00 am – 9:00 am – Breakfast – supplied by the Bayou Chapter

9:00 am – 10:30 am – General Membership meeting

10:30 am – noon – guest speaker on climate change

Noon – 1:00 pm – lunch on your own

1:00 pm – activities

Demonstration on making boudin by Tammy & David Jernigan

Hikes/bikes on park trails – leaders TBA

Paddling on Lake Claiborne – leaders TBA

Orienteering – Jenny & Gary Hackman

Dutch oven competition – (judges may be willing to accept bribes)

5:00 pm – pot luck dinner - including gumbo by Marian Howard

6:30 pm - 9:00 Southern entertainment – TBA

Oct 23 – Sunday

8:00 am – breakfast available – location TBA

Then, pack up and leave for home. Safe travels and looking forward to seeing you in October. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Sandy Roerig

sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu or Marian Howard marianehoward@comcast.net

Ozark Society Buffalo River Float June 13-18, 2022

By Marian Howard

Ozark Society Buffalo River 50th Anniversary Float - June 13-18, 2022. This year's Ozark Society Buffalo River Trip was a very special one. Not only was it the 50th Anniversary of the Buffalo River being designated as America's first National River but it consisted of two groups of like-minded individuals who shared a deep love for the outdoors in general and the Buffalo River in particular. The two groups - Cate's group and Stewart's group - got along great and shared equally in all of the chores that are necessary to make a week-long river trip successful. Cate's group consisted of Cate Davis Handley, Ken Leonard, Eric Bernheisel, JB Clark, Steve Harms, Becky Hartman, Hank Hartman, Steve Heye, Beth Keck, Jack Land, Marsha Land, Richard Owings, Norma Senyard, Peggy Bulla and Marian Howard.



Cate's Group

Stewart's group consisted of Rob Stine, Richard McFadden, Stewart, Ross, Ali, Willa, and Brady Noland, Larry, Carolyn, Andrew, Gavin, and Amelia Dillard, Laura Timby, Alice Andrews, John Slater, Pam and Mason Ellwood, Elizabeth Plummer, Jennifer McKinney, David Peterson and Roy Jutze. Seven of us were

present at the 25th Anniversary float back in 1997 - Stewart Noland, Ross Noland, Pam Ellwood, Alice Andrews, Hank and Becky Hartman and Marian Howard. What an honor to share the river with these Ozark Society members again. Neil Compton was at Tyler Bend seeing us off on that 25th Anniversary Trip and his presence was definitely felt at the 50th Anniversary Trip.

DAY 1 - Monday June 13, 2022 - Grinder's Ferry to Red Bluff - 7 miles. We met at Grinder's Ferry at 8:30 am after a great breakfast at Ferguson's. By the time we got the vehicles unloaded and the boats loaded, ran the shuttle to Riley's on the White River, ate lunch and then shoved off, it was 2:00 pm. The heat was oppressive, but everyone had a positive attitude and was glad to finally get on the river. The water level seemed to be sufficient as the big boats only drug in one spot. Everyone breathed a sigh of relief.

We arrived at Red Bluff at 4:45 pm, set up camp and relaxed, then got busy fixing supper - spaghetti with veggie sauce, salad, Texas toast and an oatmeal coconut Dutch oven dessert. We ate at 7:00, cleaned up the kitchen and sat around our "virtual" fire and chatted until dark. We had a Strawberry Full Moon and were serenaded all night by frogs, owls and whip-poor-wills and entertained by dancing fireflies.

DAY 2 - Tuesday June 14, 2022 - Red Bluff to Spring Creek - 13 miles. Whip-poor-wills serenaded us for over an hour before daylight,

encouraging everybody to get up early. JB had the coffee going by 6:00 am. Breakfast was pancakes and ham. We broke camp around 8:20 am. Picked up trash along the way - small animal trap, empty beer cans and pieces of clothing. Peggy even found an unopened can of Diet Coke that she would ice down and enjoy later. We stopped for lunch at South Maumee around noon. Saw a bald eagle flying above the bluff. Swam and relaxed for about an hour, then headed down river again. Arrived at camp around 3:20 pm. Set up para-wing and individual tents. Played in water for several hours. Dinner consisted of grilled chicken breasts and a corn casserole. John came over, along with Stewart, Alice, Laura and David. Sang songs for about an hour then everyone went to bed. Becky had run off copies of the "Butterbean Song" and everyone sang it as a tribute to Neil Compton.

DAY 3 - Wednesday June 15, 2022 - Spring Creek to Bice Bend - 12 miles. The sounds of whip-poor-wills and bull frogs penetrated the hot, humid air all night long. Everybody was up at 5:30 am. Breakfast was bagels, cream cheese and dried apricots. We shoved off at 8:30 am. Stopped at Dillard's Ferry - Hwy 14 Bridge about 10:30 for a quick swim and potty break. We didn't linger long because there was an abundance of construction and vehicle noises. We saw a dead blue crawfish on the bank. Not like the crawfish we cherish in Louisiana, but nonetheless, it was a crawfish. **Continued on page 9.**

Ozark Society Buffalo River Float.....continued

We shoved off at 10:45 and paddled down to Buffalo Point for lunch around 11:30. We had leftover grilled chicken wraps, chips, cookies and an ice-cold sports drink from the vending machine. We filled our water jugs and some folks even took a quick shower. Richard McFadden joined us at Buffalo Point. We arrived at Bice Bend at 2:45 pm and tried setting up our para-wing but the wind didn't allow it to go up. Sat around in the shade under a big Sycamore Tree. Saw an eagle soar above Ludlow Bluff, the highest bluff between the Appalachians and the Rockies at 590 feet, 30 feet taller than Big Bluff. It's more terraced than Big Bluff and is covered in vegetation, which may be the reason many doubted this 'later to be proven correct' fact. Bice Bend is at the start of the "duck head." Also known as Seven Mile Bend, this is an elongated oxbow that happens to resemble a duck's head from an aerial view of the river. Three of us - Beth, Marian and Eric - had sandal problems. With 3 days remaining on our trip, we had to do some serious patchwork to keep the soles on. Luckily, Cate was prepared for this and supplied us with Shoe Goo and we added globs of duct tape as well. We were successful in keeping them together the remainder of the trip but mine went in the trash can as soon as I got home. I figured 25 years was long enough on my Chacos and it was time for a new pair. Supper consisted of spinach lasagna, Texas Toast and pecan pie. We ate around 7:00 pm, finished cleanup a little after 8:00 and most folks went to bed early but some stayed up a while and visited.

DAY 4 - Thursday June 16, 2022 - Bice Bend to Smith Bottom - 11 miles. Up at 5:30 am this morning. Breakfast was Middle Fork Eggs and Chili with toasted English Muffins. Shoved off at 8:45 and arrived at Rush at 9:45. Dumped trash and filled water bottles. Walked in the cold creek that flows into the Buffalo at Rush. Richard McFadden left the group at Rush. It sure was nice seeing him on the river again. Interesting fact about Rush is that if you're not paying attention and miss it, you're in for a long, multi-day float through the Lower Buffalo Wilderness - a 24-mile section of absolute remoteness with no vehicular access or cell reception whatsoever until you've reached the confluence with the White River at Buffalo City. People have accidentally done that before although not paddlers who know the Buffalo inside and out like the Ozark Society paddlers. Pulled out and went down Clabber Creek at 10:30. Everyone did great but one kayak hit a rock and started taking in water so Stewart hoisted the kayak onto his raft and hauled it out the rest of the trip because they couldn't find the leak.

We stopped for lunch at 11:45 at Cedar Creek. Swam a little and headed downstream at 12:30. Just before we got to Smith Bottom, we watched a deer walk by all of our boats, seemingly unbothered by the number of boats and people watching him, swim across the river, jump up the bank and disappear in the woods. That was such an amazing experience. We arrived at camp at 3:00 and saw a Juvie bald eagle flying above the bluff. For supper, we had grilled pork

chops, potatoes with sour cream and cheddar cheese and brownies in honor of Willa Bear's 9th birthday.

DAY 5 - Friday June 17, 2022 - Smith Bottom to Elephant Head - 11 miles. Up at 5:30 am, JB and I were trying to figure out how we were going to have coffee this morning with the stoves giving us so much trouble. Hot coffee is necessary for some people before they can start their day. Luckily, Stewart showed up with small propane canisters and saved the day - hot coffee for breakfast, along with pancakes and ham. Shoved off a little before 8:30 and passed by Big Creek at 9:15. At 10:00, we were attacked by campers with water guns. Stopped for a swim break at 10:30 and decided to get further down the river before we had lunch. Shoved off at 11:15 and stopped for lunch at noon, got in the water, took a group picture (Cate's group), had good conversation and saw another bald eagle across the river, this time flying low into the trees.



The entire group at sunset

Back on the water at 1:30 and continued down to camp just past

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Ozark Society Buffalo River Float.....continued

Elephant Head. Before we got to camp, we stopped at High Burr Bluff and floated the rapid. The kids had a blast. Arrived at camp at 4:00, across from Trimble Bluff. Had supper at 7:00 - eggplant parmesan, quinoa with onions, carrots and celery and gingerbread cake. Set up a big circle and talked about the history of the Buffalo River and the Ozark Society, talked about how great it was having young children with us, how Mason was a big help and how we want to come back for the 75th Anniversary of the Buffalo River. Everyone went to bed around 9:30 with smiles on their faces after a beautiful week on the Buffalo River with a terrific group of people.

DAY 6 - Saturday June 18, 2022 - Elephant Head to Riley's on the White River - 4 miles. Up at 5:30 am again this morning. Had coffee, bagels with cream cheese and ham. Talked about the White River Crossing and what we all needed to do. Shoved off at 8:00 and got to the White River a little before 10:00. Crossing went

smoothly. We had to walk our boats across a small strip between crossings and the water was freezing cold. People loaded up their boats and gear at Riley's and headed home after a very satisfying week. Eric Bernheisel often paddled ahead of the groups and got to see many interesting critters before we scared them away. Among the wildlife that Eric witnessed were: countless cricket frogs, banjo frogs and bullfrogs, river otters, lots of deer, indigo buntings, water snakes, king snakes, cooter turtles, leatherback turtles, red ear slider turtles, crayfish, snorting hogs, fish crows, bald eagles, turkeys, turkey vultures, blue jays, red-bellied woodpeckers, pileated woodpeckers, northern flickers, American redstart, rain crows, northern parula, whip-poor-wills, Chuck-will's-widow, tufted titmouse, Carolina wren, Carolina chickadee, northern cardinal, white-breasted nuthatch, cliff swallow, blue heron, green heron, Louisiana water thrush, wood thrush, downy woodpecker and tree swallow. Now that's an

impressive list! I hesitate to start thanking people for fear of leaving someone out, but I have to mention Stewart Noland. He is the glue that put this trip together and made it function smoothly. It's a monumental task to prepare meals for 36 people for 5 days and he took care of every little detail. And the food was outstanding! And Cate Handley was an excellent group leader too! I can't thank her enough for allowing me to ride in her drift boat with her. Also, thanks to Wild Bill's for the shuttle and ice and Riley's Station for the takeout. And of course, all those who came before us who paved the way and for whom we are forever grateful.....Bill Stewart, Charline Manning, Alice Andrews and Stewart have led this trip for the past quarter of a century. What great leaders and friends! We thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Here's a 12-minute slide show of this year's Buffalo River trip.

<https://youtu.be/fhFxDYD3oQ8>

Ozark Society T-Shirts Are Back in Stock!

By Brittany Plouch and Chris Kline

Check out the short-sleeve Tees at our website!
We have some in Medium, Large, and X-Large.

Brittany Plouch will be receiving the orders and
Chris Kline will be sending out the Tees.

You can place your order at:

<https://www.ozarksociety.net/product/ozark-society-short-sleeve-shirt/>



Upcoming Election of Ozark Society Officers

By Lucas Parsch, Ozark Society Vice President

The fall meeting of the Ozark Society will take place at Lake Claiborne State Park in northwest Louisiana over the weekend (Fri-Sun) of October 21-23, 2022. One important order of business at the membership meeting on October 22 will be the election of officers to the Ozark Society Board of Directors. Positions up for election to a two-year term are: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Conservation Chair, Education Chair, Community Engagement Chair, Communications/Membership Chair-Editor, and Archival Chair. In addition, State Directors (i.e., board members at-large) for Arkansas, Louisiana, and Missouri will also be elected.

The Nominations Committee is seeking nominees and/or volunteers who are interested in serving on the Board of Directors by running for one of these important Ozark

Society positions. Interested persons should contact one of the following nominating committee members for more information:

Alice Andrews: alice209ok@yahoo.com or 501-912-4597

Luke Parsch: lparsch@uark.edu or 479-442-3817

Sandy Roerig: sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu or 318-686-9481

Brian Thompson: thompsonadd@gmail.com or 479-879-0688

A listing of current 2020-22 Ozark Society Board members can be found at

<https://www.ozarksociety.net/about-us/officers/> Duties of

officers can be found in the Ozark Society Bylaws

at [http://www.ozarksociety.net/wp-](http://www.ozarksociety.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/os-bylaws-9nov2019.pdf)

[content/uploads/2019/11/os-bylaws-9nov2019.pdf](http://www.ozarksociety.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/os-bylaws-9nov2019.pdf)

Ozark Society Foundation News

By Roslyn Imrie, OSF Youth Grants Chair

The Ozark Society Youth Grants for 2022-2023

The Ozark Society Foundation (OSF) is soliciting proposals for a Youth Engagement Grant to local organizations that are working with students in environmental and conservation efforts. Grants will go to organizations who encourage students to engage environmental awareness and conservation in the Ozark and/or Ouachita region. Successful projects range between \$1000 and \$3000 depending on the scope and needs of the project. Funds may be combined with other sources of funds to increase the size / impact of the project. To apply you must be affiliated with a 501c3 nonprofit or school located in Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, or the Caddo, Bossier, Webster and Claiborne parishes of Louisiana. These funds may not be used for administrative operating expenses, including but not limited to postage, billing, computer software or systems, rentals, paper goods, food/beverages, or social functions. Direct costs, such as paying teaching staff, is permitted only for nonprofits. Projects should actively engage students in conservation efforts that have tangible outcomes. Hands-on learning, service learning, community

projects, and advocacy is encouraged while listening to lectures or simply being taken outdoors is not what we will be looking for.

Grant Timeline:

- Applications open **Monday August 29, 2022**
- Deadline for applications is midnight on **Saturday October 22, 2022**
 - Award nomination concludes Sunday November 20, 2022.
 - Awards announced by December 1st at the latest
 - Award letters are distributed, signed and returned in early December
 - Funds are distributed after the award letters are signed
- Funds will be distributed in **December 2022**
- Grant checks must be deposited by **January 1st, 2023**
- Final grant reports will be due by **Monday November 20, 2023**.

Steve Heye Climbed Mt. Whitney!

By Steve Heye, Pulaski Chapter Outings Chair

If you have been following the adventures of Steve Heye in Pack and Paddle for the past few years, you will know that he has been attempting to climb the highest points in each state for quite a while now. One High-Point that has alluded him for two earlier tries has been Mt. Whitney in California. We just got word that Steve made it this time and Mt. Whitney at 14,505 feet (4,421 m) is in the win column! Steve will have the full story in the next Pack and Paddle but in the meantime, here are his pictures from the trail. Check out the glider in picture 3. Congratulations Steve!





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)

- \$ _____ The Conservation Fund
- \$ _____ The Endowment Fund
- \$ _____ The Legal Fund
- \$ _____ The OS Foundation
- \$ _____ The Compton Scholarship Fund
- \$ _____ The Hedges Scholarship 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 refer to www.ozarksociety.net/membership or mail your check including our Membership Form to: Ozark Society, P.O. Box 2914, Little Rock, AR 72203.