



BAYOU BYLINE



November 2024

Calendar of Events

November

- 15-17 Camp and Hike at White Oak Lake State Park - contact Marian at marianehoward@comcast.net
- 19 Monthly Meeting at RRNWR - 6:30 pm - Election of 2025 Officers and slideshow recap of year's events
- 29 Post-Thanksgiving Paddle at Grand Ecore - contact Tammy at tjerni88@hotmail.com

December

- 7 Orienteering at Caney Lakes in Minden - contact Jenny and Gary at jandgman@bellsouth.net
- 8 Annual BCOS Christmas Party at the Red River National Wildlife Refuge - See enclosed flyer.
- 14 Camp and Hike at Chicot State Park - contact Jenny and Gary at jandgman@bellsouth.net

January

- 1 First Day Hike at Tom Merrill Recreation Area - contact Kim at kcox@bpcc.edu



TIME TO RENEW YOUR DUES FOR 2025!



Our monthly meetings are held at the Red River National Wildlife Refuge 150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA 71112.

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month. (except December) Program starts at 6:30 pm. Business meeting follows. Plan to join us after the meeting for food and socializing.



Election of officers for 2025 and Kim will present a slideshow recap of this year's events



**Bayou Chapter Ozark Society
Annual Christmas Party
Sunday December 8, 2024**

- Where: Red River Refuge
- What time: 5:00 pm - until??
- What will we eat: Bring a dish to share

What will we do: Enjoy great company and share the fun in
•a White Elephant Gift Exchange. We'll also have an Ugly
•Sweater Contest so wear the ugliest sweater you can find.
•Contact Persons: Sandy Roerig - sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu
Marian Howard - marianehoward@comcast.net



BCOS Meeting Minutes 10/15/2024

By: Secretary Jenny Hackman

Meeting was called to order by Grace E at 6:30pm

Presentation: Dawn Boyter- Geologist and environmental enthusiast with OFX Eco Solutions. Topic: Artificial Oyster Reef. LA has the largest loss of land of the US states. Oysters enhance the water quality and are a keystone species which impacts the entire ecosystem. They have been working with LA Tech to develop a geopolymer to be used for oysters to attach to in the water.

Motion was made to accept the minutes as written in the newsletter by Gary H and 2nd by Larry.



Treasurer Report as of September 30, 2024 by Cindy B:

Starting balance: \$8033.27

Add Receipts: River Rat donation: M Roberson \$625.00 - River Rat donation: T Jernigan: \$125.00

Total Receipts: \$750.00

Disbursements: River Rat Race: \$1000.00 (above \$750.00 and BCOS \$250.00) Total Disbursements: \$1000.00

Checking Balance: \$7783.27

137 paid members

Conservation Report by Sandy R: Spoke about dammed rivers. There were 90,000 dams and 85% of them are more than 50 years old. 2012 of the dams have been removed in the past 10 to 15 years.

Mark R mentioned that there is a new movie on Max called Caddo Lake

Wayne mentioned that the OWL is looking for some volunteer work to be done around the farm which is run by the Methodist Church. Trail maintenance, tree trimming and brush clearing needs to be performed. A date has not been set for this work.

Old Business:

Tammy J: River Rat Challenge had 15 BCOS participants and 6 of them were medal winners

Tammy J: Bodcau Wildlife and Fisheries Day: 162 people were put in kayaks and canoes. There were 25 BCOS volunteers who assisted in the various duties.

New Business:

Sandy R: Red River Wildlife Refuge is having their Fall Festival October 19. It will be from 9am until 2pm and if you work a 4 hour shift, lunch will be provided. You can sign up on BayouChapter.com

Upcoming Events:

October: Haunted Hike at Darbonne State Park – some trails are not in good shape. Contact person Kim C

November 9: All-Society Meeting at Queen Wilhelmena State Park Mena AR

November 15-17: White Oak Lake State Park Contact person Marian H

November 29: Post Thanksgiving Paddle at Grand Ecore in Natchitoches.

December 8: Christmas Party at the Red River Wildlife Refuge

Slate of Officers for 2025:

Treasurer – Cindy B

Secretary – Jenny H with Gary H backup

Chairman – Tammy J

Co-Chairman – Kim C

A Motion was made by Marian H and 2nd by Mark R. If there is anyone else interested in being nominated for an office, please contact Grace E

Door prizes were awarded and meeting was adjourned at 7:59pm.

River Rat Paddle Challenge 2024

By: Tammy Jernigan

BCOS once again participated in the River Rat Paddle Challenge on the Ouachita River on October 12, 2024 with 15 participants. We had a dedicated and enthusiastic group of paddlers. Mark, Cindy, Scott and Barbie were racers who were committed to a podium place. Others just wanted a decent finish. Some other unnamed paddlers decided a leisurely short paddle was a saner objective.

Saturday morning was cool and sunny. Due to various circumstances, we only had 10 paddlers actually take the water. Of those we had four DNQ's due to taking the short route (i.e. Cheating). Of our six racers, four came home with medals. We also had two members, Barbie Halbert and Dick Maxwell, receive Hall of Fame awards for five years of event registrations.

Medal Winners

1st - Cindy Brix - Kayak Short - 2:06 (in her brand new boat and 7:49 ahead of her closest class competitor)

1st - Barbie Halbert - Canoe Solo - 2:42 (she was not the only paddler in her class this year!)

2nd - Scott Jones - Kayak Very Short - 1:56 (with feeling in only two fingers!)

3rd - Mark Robinson - Kayak Medium - 1:38 (beat his nemesis Tommy Williams by 5 seconds)

Mark was also given the Big Cheese award for his smack talk and generous sponsorship support.

Honorable mention

Haley Robinson - only her fourth paddle ever and she completes the RRPC in a time of 2:41. She came from New Orleans for this event so she drove the farthest as well.

Becky Jutze - finished 9th in her class with a time of 3:06 with the most decorated and probably heaviest pirate booty boat.

Melissa Leporati - for housing some of us and setting up the Rat-Toufee table with a caldron of tasty RRPC teams.

Kim Cox - for leading the reduced route revelers. Best idea evah!





BAYOU BANDITS



HALEY AND DAD MARK MELISSA'S RAT-TOUFEE



Halloween Hike at Lake D'Arbonne State Park

By: Kim Cox

10 BCOS members (and Luci!) met Saturday morning October 26th at Lake D'Arbonne State Park near Farmerville. We hiked 4+ miles of park trails including the "spooky trail" decked out with Halloween animatronic dolls (which always give Luci a thrill). The weather was a bit warm but we really enjoyed the peaceful woods and each others company. The group enjoyed a pit stop at Kim's cabin at the halfway point of the hike for snacks and then had a nice post-hike picnic lunch in the park pavilion. This hike has become an annual tradition that we look forward to continuing. Make plans to join us next year!



Red River National Wildlife Refuge Celebration 2024

By: Sandy Roerig

The Bayou Chapter of the Ozark Society supported the annual National Wildlife Refuge Week by participating in the Red River NWR Celebration on October 19, 2024 in Bossier City, LA. Twelve BCOS members facilitated visitors experiencing paddling canoes or kayaks on Lake Caroline. During the 4 hour event, a total of seventy eager participants were fitted with Personal Flotation Devices, given brief paddling instructions, assisted into waiting boats and set loose on the lake. After maneuvering around a bit of plant material, boaters found open water and paddled away. BCOS members in safety boats kept a keen eye on all the boaters, providing any necessary paddling tips and monitoring for any problems (fortunately, no one took a swim). Participants returned to the dock with big smiles and reports of a fun time. The warm (not hot), sunny weather with little wind supplied perfect paddling conditions. It was a great day to be out on the water and spending time with friends.



**B
C
O
S**



Backwater Jack's Paddle Weekend on Big Cypress Bayou

By: Cindy Brix

Four BCOS members (Cindy Brix, Marian Howard, Teresa Coates, and Mark Robinson) participated in a popup/recon paddle event lead by Steven Loesch and the DFW Paddle group the weekend of November 1-3. Twenty four boats participated in a Friday night paddle on Clear Lake trail. We were advised to use our red headlights, in order not to blind other paddlers. I'll just say, you either loved the night paddle, or you didn't! On Saturday morning, Cindy, Marian, and Mark decided to paddle the Clear Lake trail (2 miles, 1 hour) once again in the daylight. We also paddled the Benton Lake trail (2.5 miles, 1.5 hours) in the rain. On Sunday morning we paddled the Old River II trail (3 miles, 2 hrs).

We all agree this was a very successful recon paddle. We definitely want to plan a BCOS event here in the near future. Join us. You'll be glad you did!



Bayou Chapter Ozark Society Officers - 2024

Chair

Grace Eyler

bayouchair@ozarksociety.net

Vice-Chair

Kim Cox

kcox@bpcc.edu

Secretary

Jenny Hackman

jandgman@bellsouth.net

Treasurer

Cindy Brix

membershipchair@ozarksociety.net

Newsletter Editor

Marian Howard

marianehoward@comcast.net

Publicity Chair

Tammy Jernigan

tjerni88@hotmail.com

BCOS/Facebook Admin

Dee Jaye Teutsch

tdeejaye@gmail.com

Conservation Activities

Roy O'Neal

royoneal2@gmail.com

Conservation Reports

Sandy Roerig

sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu

Newsletter Publisher

Roy O'Neal

royoneal2@gmail.com

Ozark Society Officers - 2024

Louisiana State Director

Karen Pitts

tuffenufchuck@aol.com

Louisiana State Director

Roy O'Neal

royoneal2@gmail.com

Ozark Society Secretary

Sandy Roerig

sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu





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 and click "MEMBERSHIP."

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) _____

Please check one:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Member | Start at Section A for your OS and Chapter Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal | Start at Section A to renew your OS and Chapter Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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)

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend: | \$30 | = \$20 OS + \$10 Chapter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate: | \$50 | = \$40 OS + \$10 Chapter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter: | \$100 | = \$90 OS + \$10 Chapter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor: | \$250 | = \$240 OS + \$10 Chapter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron: | \$500 | = \$490 OS + \$10 Chapter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor: | \$1000+ | = \$990+ OS + \$10 Chapter |

Chapter: (choose one)

- | |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bayou (Shreveport, LA) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buffalo River (North Central, AR) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Highlands (Fayetteville, AR) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pulaski (Central, AR) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Schoolcraft (Springfield, MO) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sugar Creek (Bentonville, AR) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 | Bayou (Shreveport, LA) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 | Buffalo River (North Central, AR) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 | Highlands (Fayetteville, AR) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 | Pulaski (Central, AR) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 | Schoolcraft (Springfield, MO) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 | Sugar Creek (Bentonville, AR) |

Section C: Donations to our Funds

(Choose any amount)

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ | Conservation Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ | Endowment Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ | Legal Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ | Youth Grant Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ | Compton Scholarship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ | Hedges Scholarship |

My Total is: \$ _____

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

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