



# BAYOU BYLINE



December 2025

## Calendar of Events

### December

12 Hike Sugar Cane Trail at Caney Lake in Minden. Meet at 8:15am at Nicky's by the Race Track to caravan or 9:00am at the boat ramp at Caney. Cost is \$5 per car- Contact Marian at [marianehoward@comcast.net](mailto:marianehoward@comcast.net)

14 Hike at Red River National Wildlife Refuge - meet at 8:00am in parking lot - contact Marian if you plan to attend

### January

1 New Year's Hike at Bodcau - contact is Kim at [kcox@bpcc.edu](mailto:kcox@bpcc.edu)

2-3 Wild Azalea Trail Hike - Details TBA

17-19 Arkansas Hiking Weekend - Details TBA

20 Monthly Meeting at RRNWR - 6:30 pm

### February

17 Monthly Meeting at RRNWR - 6:30 pm

### March

17 Monthly Meeting at RRNWR - 6:30 pm

### April

21 Monthly Meeting at RRNWR - 6:30 pm



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.



No December meeting!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

**BCOS Meeting Minutes - November 18, 2025**

By: Secretary Jenny Hackman

Meeting was called to order by Tammy J. at 6:30 pm

Visitors were welcomed.

Minutes were approved as written in the newsletter by a motion made by Barbie and 2nd by Grace. No one opposed.

Treasure Report: Prepared by Cindy B

CHECKING BALANCE AS OF October 01, 2025: \$ 6,300.23

Add Receipts:

Deposit: T-shirt and Caps: \$390.00

Deposit: T-shirt and Caps: \$140.00

Total Receipts: \$530.00

Deduct Disbursements: \$0.00

CHECKING BALANCE AS OF October 31, 2025: \$6,300.23

SAVINGS BALANCE AS OF September 30, 2025 \$5.00

NOTE: \$1,696 of the checking balance is earmarked for Athens Big Fork Historical Marker

**MEETING  
MINUTES**

Presentation by Randy "Batman" Fulco. Randy spoke about his bats and bat houses that he builds. He reports that bats eat about 1000 mosquitoes per hour. The houses that he builds are a 2'x2' minimal. He recommends that the houses be placed between 12-14 feet high. It takes 2-3 years for bats to find it. The bats use an echo location. He reports that the houses face south to southeast. He suggests that 2" holes be drilled into the interior boards, but not lined up. This allows for the bats to move around and helps with air circulation. The houses that he builds are made of 3/8 plywood. He makes the back 30" long to allow for a 6" landing zone. He places a 3/4" spacer between the 2'x2' boards. He paints the houses light brown so that the houses don't get too hot. He uses untreated wood made of pine or cedar. Don't paint the inside of the houses. He reports that the bats can fly up to 100 mph and that they fly hundreds of miles a night and return. Bats help with pollination. There are 300+ species of bats and in the TX and LA area there are 3 types. He reports that the pole needs to be within a 1/4 mile of water and 20 to 30' from the woods. He puts a shingle roof on the top. He reports that the spacers need to be replaced about every 6 years. He has 3 bat houses.

Announcement by Gary Knippers from KBB. KBB has trees that they have been trying to give away the past 2 weekends. He reports that this is in honor of Arbor day. He still has some trees. He preposes that cypress trees and a redbud tree be planted near the beach area as a memorial to Dick Maxwell. Sandy mentioned that this will need to be discussed with the Friends group and the master gardener.

Wayne K made an announcement about the Memorial service for Dick Maxwell. It will be on Friday 5-7 pm at Roseneath on Airline.

Lake Bistineau: the gates are now closed and it is now filling up.

Membership Renewal is now being generated by the software. There is now a 3 year renewal option. If you renew the month prior to the expiration date, the expiration date remains the same

Cypress Lake boat launch on highway 162 will be building a kayak boat launch

Grace E gave an update on the Athens-Big Fork Historical Marker. It has gotten approved. The sign is now being made and will be shipped to the Big Fork Mall. The local running club in the area will be placing mile markers on the trail. The marker will be on Highway 8. The running club does trail maintenance on the trail also. The running club has raised \$1400.00 to help with the sign and mile markers. The running club has asked if we would split the cost of the marker and the mile markers and have their name on the marker also. A proposal was made by Sandy R that BCOS and the running club split the cost of the marker and mile markers. Second by Wayne K. Discussion was had regarding the signs will be cemented into the ground for the mile markers and the historical marker. The entire cost at this time for the total project is \$2,607. The motion was approved. None opposed.

The children's play area at the Refuge was cleaned up. Tammy sent a proposal for the area to the ranger and the Friends group. It was suggested that the entrance sign be hung, an upgrade to the count and sort area, a fishing area have a canoe with fishing poles with a magnet for a lure and life jackets be place close by, a habitat be built by Bossier BISTIL possibly with cubbies to place unique items found in the area, a tree house with wind chimes made from bamboo, the stage have a backdrop for kids to do skits with costumes that are available in the store, the hollow cypress log is still there, that the balance beams area also have some wood rounds for the kids to walk on, that a rope spider web be placed in the area, there are animal print stepping stones, a swing hanging from a tree limb be placed in the gathering area, and the eagle scout table is still in good shape. If you have any additional ideas, please reach out to Tammy. J

**Conservation Report:** presented by Sandy R. Sandy spoke about Wellborn Jack and his love for the Caney Creek Wilderness. A wilderness area as per the 1956 National act states that there be no permanent buildings, no paved roads, no motor vehicles and no trails be present. There are 3 Wilderness areas in LA. Wellborn Jack fell in love with the Caney Creek Wilderness when he went down in the area while in the armed forces. He had to hike out. He later did pro bono work to save the Caney Creek Wilderness Area.

T-shirts are still available. If you paid for and/or placed an order for a shirt, please get with Marian asap. Shirts that were pre-ordered and not picked up will be place in the for sale items. The t-shirts are \$10 each and we have green and orange shirts in all sizes.

December 7th is the Christmas Party and will be held at the refuge at 5 pm. Bring a pot luck dish, white elephant gift and wear an ugly sweater.

**Past Outings:**October 24-26: ALTOS and BCOS campout at Lake Claiborne State Park. ALTOS is hosting an orienteering meet at Lake Claiborne. If you didn't come, you missed a good time.

Athens Big Fork Trail Maintenance: Nov 1. Camping was at Daisy State Park. Mark lead the effort. There were 5 who turned out. A lot of work was done.

Ozark All Society Meeting is November 8-10 in Bentonville, AR.

November 13-15: White Oak Lake State Park – There was a large group who had a lot of fun.

**Upcoming events:**

Nov 22 Hike at Dangerfield State Park in Allen, TX. Contact Jill F.

Nov 28 Hike at Caney Lakes in Minden, contact Marian H

Nov 29 Hike at Eddie D Jones in Keithville, contact Marian H

Dec 6 Hike at 1 North, contact Kim C

Dec 6 Orienteering Meet at Caney Lakes in Minden, contact Jenny

Dec 7 Christmas party and election of new officers. The slate of officers is Tammy Jernigan Chair, Sharon Windham Vice Chair, Jenny Hackman Secretary, Mark Robinson Treasurer. A motion to accept these officers was made by Marian and 2nd by Kim. Motion passed, none opposed.

Door prizes were awarded. Kim's dad provided a wonderful load of fresh vegetables, fruit and seeds.

Meeting was adjourned.



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## **Daingerfield State Park Outing**

By: Jill Frost

Twelve BCOS members + one visitor/potential member rustled some leaves in Daingerfield State Park in Texas Saturday the 22nd. It was perfect hiking weather and activity in the park was busy. No wildlife on the trail was really sighted...could be they were scared away by all the light banter and conversation we brought to the piney woods. We did hear a duck or two quacking as we made our way around the lake (Little Pine Lake, Sandy). After that 2.8 mile trek on Rustling Leaves Trail, we took on the .8 mile Mountain View Trail. We reached the peak, admired the scenic view and enjoyed charcuterie in Ziploc bags. This trail was reminiscent of Mount Driskill in Louisiana, and at the same elevation.

After saying goodbye to the park, we drove thru Jefferson, TX stopping for different flavors of peanut butter and cigars (not to be consumed the same way or at the same time). Then we experienced the Bear Creek Smokehouse Compound run by many members of the Shoults family. We ate BBQ, shopped the general store and visited "pardoned" livestock outside, including Wilburt the pig.

I think everyone agreed it was a wonderful day to be with BCOS friends. It was also great to see a few faces we hadn't seen in a while!



**White Oak Lake Camping/Hiking Weekend**

By: Marian Howard

The weekend of November 14-16 was a perfect weekend for camping and hiking in Arkansas. Eighteen BCOS members camped Friday and Saturday nights and several others came up Saturday just for the day. We hiked the 4.2 mile Fern Hollow Trail Saturday morning, kayaked to the Arkansas Little Grand Canyon during the afternoon, had a gumbo supper Saturday evening and hiked the 1.6 mile Beech Ridge Trail after dark.

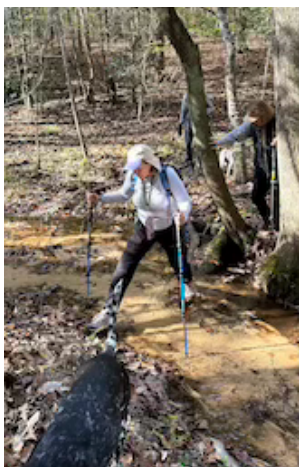
Sunday morning, we hiked the 3.6 Coastal Plain Trail and leisurely packed up and headed home after lunch. The leaf color was amazing, the temperature was perfect and the company was outstanding. Thanks to all who came and shared in the fun!



**Lost Woman/Clockwork Orange Trail Hike**

By: Marian Howard

Six Bayou Chapter members bundled up Black Friday morning for temps in the upper 30's and drove to Minden to hike the Lost Woman/Clockwork Orange Trail at Caney Lake - Tom Thompson, Kim Cox, Jill Frost, Cindy Brix, Melissa Leporati and Marian Howard. We had a great hike and it didn't take long to peel off the layers. A big thanks to Kim for leading us thru the parts of Clockwork Orange that didn't have any trail markings. All in all, we hiked about 5 miles in just over two and a half hours.



# Saturday at 1North Adventure Trails

By: Kim Cox

On Saturday December 6th, 14 BCOS members and 3 furry friends hiked the Soda Lake Loop Trail in Blanchard. The Red River Waterways Commission has done a fantastic job creating this 1North Adventure Trails park for biking and hiking. The weather was perfect for this 5 miles hike and the trail conditions were great. We will certainly be hiking these trails more in the upcoming months. Join us on the next one!



HAPPINESS  
IS A DAY  
Spent  
HIKING



## **Bayou Chapter Ozark Society Officers - 2025**

### **Chair**

Tammy Jernigan

[bcoschair@ozarksociety.net](mailto:bcoschair@ozarksociety.net)

### **Vice-Chair**

Sharon Windham

[bcos@ozarksociety.net](mailto:bcos@ozarksociety.net)

### **Secretary**

Jenny Hackman

[jandgman@bellsouth.net](mailto:jandgman@bellsouth.net)

### **Treasurer**

Cindy Brix

[membershipchair@ozarksociety.net](mailto:membershipchair@ozarksociety.net)

### **Newsletter Editor**

Marian Howard

[marianehoward@comcast.net](mailto:marianehoward@comcast.net)

## **Ozark Society Officers - 2025**

### **Louisiana State Director**

Karen Pitts

[tuffenufchuck@aol.com](mailto:tuffenufchuck@aol.com)

### **Louisiana State Director**

Sandy Roerig

[sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu](mailto:sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu)

## **Classy Ads and Other Stuff**

We have a new google groups email at [bayouchapter@googlegroups.com](mailto:bayouchapter@googlegroups.com). Make sure you're signed up so you can receive the monthly newsletters and the latest info on our events.

Happy Birthday wishes to the following BCOS members! (If you'd like to be remembered by your BCOS friends in the newsletter, please make sure Roy knows your birthday - [royoneal2@gmail.com](mailto:royoneal2@gmail.com))

Dec. 9. - Marshall Kelly's Birthday

Dec.12 - Marian Howard and Jack Land's Birthday

Dec.16 - Tricia Grayson's Birthday

Dec.29 - Bob Ordeneaux's Birthday

