



BAYOU BYLINE



January 2026

Calendar of Events

January

- 20 Monthly Meeting at RRNWR - 6:30 pm - Marian will present a program on her trip to Machu Picchu last September
- 31 Mt. Driskill Hike - contact Kim bpccptagirl@gmail.com

February

- 7 Orienteering at Eddie Jones Park - contact Jenny at gandjman2@gmail.com
- 14 Paddle at Lake Bistineau State Park - contact Jenny at gandjman2@gmail.com - Mardi Gras theme
- 17 Monthly Meeting at RRNWR - 6:30 pm
- 21 Duck Pond Cleanup - contact Roy O'Neal at royoneal2@gmail.com
- 28 Orienteering at Bodcau - contact Jenny at gandjman2@gmail.com

March

- 7 Paddle at Backwater Jack's on Big Cypress Bayou - contact Tammy at tjerni88@hotmail.com
- 14 Camp and Hike at White Oak Lake State Park - contact Marian at marianehoward@comcast.net
- 17 Monthly Meeting at RRNWR - 6:30 pm
- 21 Hike at Martin Creek Lake - contact Sharon at swindham1513@gmail.com

April

- 11 Hike and Ride Bikes in Little Rock - contact is Kim bpccptagirl@gmail.com
- 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.



Marian will present a program on her recent trip to Machu Picchu last September

Lake D'Arbonne State Park Hike

By: Melissa Leporati

On the morning of January 10th, thirteen BCOS members and one BCOS pup met at the boat launch at Lake D'Arbonne State Park in Farmerville for some outdoor exercise. As we set out on the Cypress Bend Trail, Wayne's granddaughter, Eden, and Tammy and David's granddaughter, Rylee, were eager to hunt for geocaches—if there happened to be any hidden nearby. A quick search on the Geocaching app revealed several caches tucked along the trail we were hiking.

For those unfamiliar, geocaching is a real-world outdoor treasure-hunting game that uses GPS to locate hidden containers—essentially using multi-million-dollar satellites to find Tupperware in the woods! In this global scavenger hunt, the containers can range from tiny waterproof matchboxes to peanut butter jars to large ammo boxes. The girls successfully found two geocaches during our hike. One was a tiny green aluminum capsule containing only a slip of paper for signing their names as proof of discovery. The other was an ammo box filled with “swag” (trade items). They happily swapped a miniature Scotch tape dispenser and a bouncy-ball eyeball for some Mardi Gras beads.

Aside from the geocaching adventure, we enjoyed a four-mile hike around the park's perimeter. The Cypress Bend Trail was clearly marked with white blazes, making it easy to follow. We got a good cardio workout on the hills, strolled down several piers to admire the lake views, and Jill even found Marian a cabbage. The hike took about two hours, and the weather cooperated nicely, with a bit of sunshine peeking through the clouds.

Afterward, we made the short drive to Gonzales Mexican Restaurant in Farmerville and gathered on their outdoor patio—thank you all for accommodating Luci! An outdoor heater kept things warm and cozy as we spent the next hour enjoying drinks, delicious Mexican food, and great conversation. It was a fantastic day spent with wonderful friends.



Last Day Hike - December 31, 2025

By: Marian Howard

6 BCOS members spent the last morning of 2025 hiking the Monkey Trail out at Eddie Jones Park. Temps were in the mid 30's when we started but quickly warmed up to the 50's. Doesn't get any better hiking weather than this!

We've been scouting out a few more trails in the area to add to the usual ones (Caney Lakes, Eddie Jones and Bodcau) we always hike. 1North Adventure Trails will be seeing a lot of BCOS members this year, both on the hiking trails and biking trails. And Coates Bluff is an easy hike right in the middle of Shreveport. Make sure you're keeping up with our email group so you can join us. It's great exercise and fun at the same time!



HAPPY NEW YEAR, BCOS!



First Day Hike - January 1, 2026

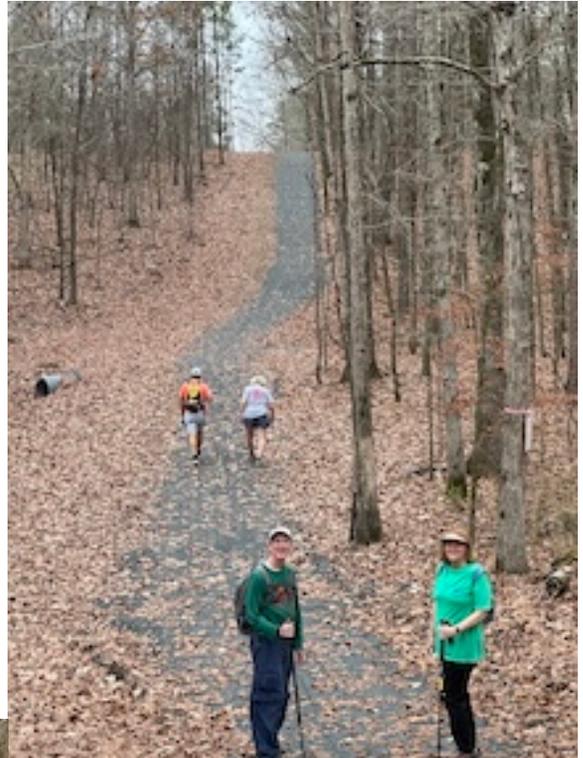
By: Kim Cox

16 BCOS members (plus some of their furry friends) got in a FIRST DAY HIKE at the Red River Wildlife Refuge on January 1, 2026. It was perfect weather for completing almost 4 miles along the green, orange, yellow, and chocolate trails. We spotted pelicans and other wildlife along Lake Caroline, enjoyed great conversation, and got our first day hike pins courtesy of the Friends of the Red River Refuge group. An awesome start to 2026. We're looking forward to having an adventurous year!!



Soda Lake Loop Hike at 1North Adventure Trails

Seven BCOS friends met up at 8:30am on Saturday December 27th to hike the Soda Lake Loop Trail at 1North Adventure Trails on Highway 1. It was warm and overcast and felt more like the summer than December but we still thoroughly enjoyed our 5 mile hike.



Bayou Chapter Ozark Society Officers - 2026

Chair

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Sharon Windham
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