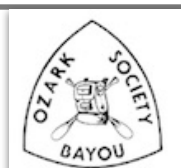




BAYOU BYLINE



October 2026

Calendar of Events

October

17 Red River National Wildlife Refuge Celebration -
10:00am to 2:00pm - contact Sandy at
sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu

20 Monthly Meeting at RRNWR - 6:30 pm

November

7 Camping at Crater of Diamonds in Murfreesboro,
Arkansas - Contact Misheal Burney at
mardigrasdogs@bellsouth.net

14 Ozark Society Fall Meeting at Buffalo Point -
contact Sandy at sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu

17 Monthly Meeting at RRNWR - 6:30 pm

21 Cross Lake Supermoon Paddle - 5:00 pm to 7:00
pm at Richard Fleming Park

27 Grand Ecore Paddle - contact Tammy Jernigan at
tjerni88@hotmail.com

December

5 Orienteering at Caney Lakes in Minden - contact
Jenny and Gary at gandjman2@gmail.com

6 Annual BCOS Christmas Party - 5:00pm - 8:00pm at
Red River National Wildlife Refuge - White Elephant
Gift Exchange and Ugly Sweater Contest - contact
Sandy at sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu

13 Monkey Trail Hike - 8:00am at Eddie Jones Park -
contact Marian at marianehoward@comcast.net

January

8-10 Camp and Hike at Indian Creek Recreation Area
and Wild Azalea Trail - contact Tricia at
triciagrayson@bellsouth.net



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.



Speaker is Chris Brown -
the Director of the
Centenary College and
United Methodist Church
of Louisiana Archives

BCOS Meeting Minutes - September 15, 2026

By: Secretary Jenny Hackman



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

Minutes were approved as written in the newsletter. Motion was made by Tricia G. 1st by Philip W and 2nd by Cindy B

Treasurer Report: Mark R reported Checking: \$6,607.08 and \$5.00 in savings. \$200 has been received for t-shirts and expenses for the River Rat Paddle. The tax id number has been changed so now under the Ozark Society and non-profit. There are 128 members.

River Rat Paddle swag is a packet of wildflower seeds with a business card reported by Tammy J

Tricia Reported on the Waterway clean-up. Keep Bossier Beautiful reported that there were 125 volunteers (9 were from BCOS) and a total of 3.95 tons of litter was picked up. The waterway clean-up is all month long. If you go out and pick up trash, let KBB know how much and where the litter was gathered.

Tricia was brainstorming on how to get more people engaged and how to make the active core group larger. What do people want to do? She thinks that personal invitations, lean harder into what makes BCOS different, and track who is involved and engaged. A suggestion was made to place a sign outside by the entrance at the RRWR to direct new comers to the meeting location. Another suggestion is to add names into the articles that are in the newsletter.

October 17th is Shake your tail feathers on Bayou Teche. Misheal B and Melissa L are going.

Past outings: Bayou Dorcheat paddle

Castle tree paddle which had about 50 people

Love our waterways

Tubing on the Caddo River on Labor Day

Upcoming outings:

River Rat Paddle this weekend and BCOS has a team of 13 people signed up to paddle

Bodcau Hunting and Fishing Day is September 26, shifts will be set up again. There are 3 stations for launch, registration and safety. We can clean up the rock area for Love our waterways. We will have membership applications at registration

October 3: Jefferson Camp weekend, contact Wayne K

October 10: Red River Paddle, contact Jerry B

October 17: Red River Refuge Celebration – we will have an area in the tent area for membership applications as well as having the kayaks and canoe instructions at the lake

Tammy J reported that the majority of the Cypress Bayou Paddle Trail signage has been put in place. There still needs to be a sign at the boat launch. There will be a grand opening of the trail in the near future.

BCOS Long sleeve T-Shirts will be ordered. There will be a front pocket logo with the alligator and the Get Outside and Play full back. The color options are cream and burgundy. The shirts are \$15. Orders are being taken for hats also which are \$15. Contact Sharon or Mark to place orders and to pay for the shirts and/or hats. The order is being finalized.

Officer nominations are being accepted through next month. A vote on officers will occur during the November meeting. Volunteers are still being accepted.

November 13-14: All society meeting at Buffalo Point near Yellville, AR. It is a good place to find out information regarding all of the chapters.

Tommy Noble Webster who moved to South Dakota had an accident while mountain biking and has a go fund me page. If you are inclined to help it will be appreciated.

Kids Trail Area has been sprayed and should be getting another load of blue mulch.

If you have a suggestion for speakers they are being accepted

Bike Shreveport is having bike rides at Marilyn's on Wednesday evenings. Flugers also sponsors a bike night.

Conservation Report: Gary H spoke about the Space X project in Pecan Island, LA

This will be the largest star base, 130,000 acres. Most of the area will be left in marsh land. This location was chosen because of the need of natural gas for the rocket propellant. There will be a dozen launch towers. Three to four launches will occur each day. This area is located next to several wildlife refuges. There will be some studies on the effects to wildlife. There will also be a coastal restoration protection.

Sandy spoke briefly regarding water management in the state of LA. There is no specific monitoring of water use. Currently, there is a patchwork set of laws regarding the use of water. There is no determination of how much is available and how much is being used. There is surface water and ground water. Surface water can be withdrawn without monitoring. Water rights are public. Caddo Lake is a Ramsar site to protect ground water.

A door prize was handed out and then the meeting was adjourned at 7:58pm.



Bayou Chapter Ozark Society

Annual Christmas Party



Sunday December 6, 2026



Where: Red River National Wildlife Refuge

When: 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Pot Luck Supper - Bring a dish to share

We'll have an Ugly Sweater Contest and a White Elephant Gift Exchange!!

Contact Persons: Sandy Roerig

sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu

Marian Howard

marianehoward@comcast.net



National Hunting and Fishing Day - 2026

Twenty two BCOS members (David and Tammy, Rylee, Wayne, Barbie, Mark, Tom, Becky and Larry, Brandon, Marian, Sandy, Anne, Roy, Jill, Kim, Phillip, Sharon, Cindy, Marshall, Misheal and Cheryl) showed up at Tom Merrill Recreation Area at Bodcau Bayou on Saturday September 26th to participate in National Hunting and Fishing Day 2026. We put over 200 kids and adults in kayaks from 9:00am to 2:00pm with a pretty constant flow of people wanting to get on the bayou. Thanks to all who came out and gave up their Saturday to share our love of the outdoors with kids of all ages!

**BCOS**

River Rat Paddle Challenge - Episode 10

By: Tammy Jernigan

Our Bayou Bandits did great at the 10th Annual River Rat Paddle Challenge on Saturday September 19, 2026, on the Ouachita River in West Monroe, Louisiana. We're so proud of their effort and our team support of the ACE School and the Kiroli Foundation. Special commendation goes to Mark Robinson for getting us center sponsor on the event t-shirt. Great job team!!

**BCOS ROCKS!!!**

BCOS Members Pitch In for Love Our Waterways

By: Tricia Grayson

Ten Bayou Chapter members rolled up their sleeves for this year's Love Our Waterways cleanup, a Keep Louisiana Beautiful initiative made possible locally through Keep Bossier Beautiful and Shreveport Green.

BCOS volunteers joined others from across the community, spreading out to tackle litter at Richard Fleming Park/North Cross Lake, near the American Legion on Cross Lake, along South Lakeshore Drive and at the East Kings Highway duck pond.

Representing BCOS were Tricia Grayson, Cheryl Webb, Mark Robinson, Melissa Leporati, Gary Knippers, Marian Howard, Scott Grayson, Sharon Windham, Phillip Waters and Brandon Henry. Together, they contributed 40 volunteer hours to the effort.

And the results across the entire Love Our Waterways initiative were impressive: 120 volunteers collected 3.95 tons — 7,900 pounds — of litter in just four hours. That adds up to 480 cumulative volunteer hours and, for a little fun with the numbers, an average of nearly 66 pounds of litter collected per volunteer!

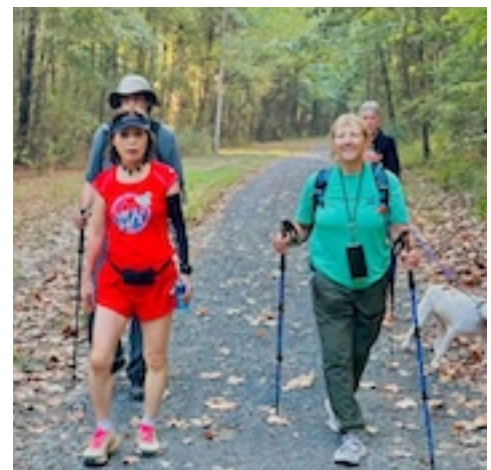
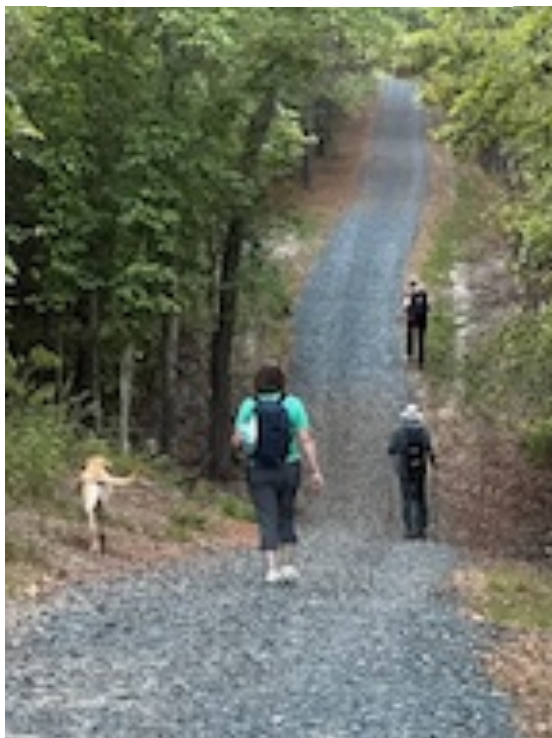
Thank you to our BCOS members who gave their Saturday morning to help care for the waterways and natural spaces we all enjoy. It was a great example of putting the Ozark Society mission — protecting wild and scenic rivers and the natural places around them — into action right here at home.

**Trash is Gross!!!**

Sunrise Hike at 1North Adventure Trails

By: Marian Howard

5 peeps and 2 pups met just before dawn Saturday morning September 19th at 1North to hike the 4.6 mile Soda Lake Loop Trail. The temperature was a cool 70 degrees and very pleasant hiking conditions. Great exercise and conversation. Fall is definitely just around the corner. Time to "Get Outside and Play!"



Bayou Chapter Ozark Society Officers - 2026

Chair

Tammy Jernigan

bayouchair@ozarksociety.net

Vice-Chair

Sharon Windham

bcos@ozarksociety.net

Secretary

Jenny Hackman

jandgman@bellsouth.net

Treasurer

Mark Robinson

membershipchair@ozarksociety.net

Communications Chair

Tricia Grayson

triciagrayson@bellsouth.net

Conservation Chair

Sandy Roerig

sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu

Conservation Liaison

Roy O'Neal

royoneal2@gmail.com

Activities Chair

Kim Cox

bpccptagirl@gmail.com

Ozark Society Officers - 2026

Louisiana State Director

Karen Pitts

tuffenufchuck@aol.com

Louisiana State Director

Sandy Roerig

sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu

October Monthly Meeting Guest Speaker

Hello BCOS members!

Speaking at our next meeting is Chris Brown - the Director of the Centenary College and United Methodist Church of Louisiana Archives. He is an archivist, instructor and U.M.C. Archives Director.

Chris teaches history and archival courses, preserves Methodist and Shreveport history, and recently celebrated 20 years of service at the college.

Chris is actually a member of BCOS.

Plan to join us for a fun stroll through history and learn some interesting facts about the history of BCOS!

See you at the meeting on Tuesday October 20th!

Vice Chair Sharon Windham