

# BRAZOS BEND BUNCH BUGLE

VOLUME 25, NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2013



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### LET'S HEAR IT FOR "FORT BEND GREEN"!

Fort Bend Green is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that submitted a grant application to the National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Association Program. Fort Bend Green was notified in November of 2011 that it has been selected for technical assistance.

Brazos Bend State Park is partnered with Fort Bend Green along with a few other local organizations to develop a recreation master plan for the Brazos River Corridor. The Brazos River is the largest waterway in Fort Bend County. The project would ultimately link the natural beauty of the area's wilderness by creating a series of parks, preserves, waterways, nature centers and trails.

For information go to [www.fortbendgreen.org](http://www.fortbendgreen.org).

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## JANUARY MEETING NOTES

*reported by Belinda DiMarcello*

**President Mary Lockwood** called the January 12 meeting to order. There were 21 volunteers, 4 staff members and 1 guest present. Mary expressed thanks to the Carpenters, Lindsay Kahn, Cindy Peterson, and Joe Southern for all the dinner items! The December minutes were approved as posted.

**Treasurer Bob Kowalewski** brought the December financial report. Our December financial results were good. We had a nice donation at the end of December and Gift Shop sales were above December 2011 due to credit card sales.

The following Purchase Requests were approved:

Patches and caps for VITs – from the Ramsayer Fund  
Replacement signs and additional round top posts - from Trail Maintenance Fund  
Two Stihl chainsaws – from the Ron Morrison restricted fund.

Bob reminded members who are making requests for funding to put the date on purchase requests and to state if a particular restricted fund could be used for it.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Wood and Maintenance. – Pete Hart and Chuck Duplant**

We may have to purchase wood in a few months as demand increases.

The Maintenance Crew reported 102 hours in maintenance. They have worked on the pocket prairie near the Observatory.

#### **Brazos Bend Education Building – Chuck Duplant and Barbara Keller-Willy**

The TPWD Architect is to provide drawings next week.

Barbara will volunteer 20-40 hrs per week as Director of Development and Fund Raising.

She will get us on a list for Federal employees to donate thru their paychecks.

Frank Billingsly (KPRC) will be a celebrity supporter for some of our science programs dealing with weather and water. Two National Weather Service Meteorologists are willing to help us.

She has also met with Fort Bend ISD since they were going to create their own location science center, and they lined up several big donors. Since this may not happen for Fort Bend ISD, these donors may want to donate to our new nature center.

BP will be required to donate to several environmental restoration projects, so we'll try to get on the list in some way.

She will also keep a list of possible "celebrity" supporters to present.

#### **Outreach - Judy Strauss**

Needville Library next weekend.

Sea Center TX – Feb. 23. Four to eight people will be needed to help on this one.

Brazoria Heritage Day – March 2.

See the Events Calendar on the web site to sign up.

#### **Gift Shop – Beth Debenport**

The physical inventory done in December showed some loss, mostly due to damaged items. The count of the little items (that might be carried off) were exact to inventory! Total sales were very good. We are getting new items in gift shop.

#### **Other News:**

**Blood Drive** is scheduled for March 6. We need 25 people to pre-sign up to donate blood. Send an email to Chuck with your name and phone number to get on the donor list.

There are two pieces of **legislation to fund state parks** thru the sporting goods tax. Please contact your state representative to support these. Barbara will draft a letter for all of us to use. We'll just have to sign it and mail it.

**Observatory** – we need more information in advance to help answer questions or to help promote their events. Mary will work with the Observatory on communication with the park.

# STAFF REPORTS, JANUARY

reported by Belinda DiMarcello

## STEVE KILLIAN, PARK SUPERINTENDENT

Headquarters gift shop sales were up 33% over last year. We had a successful December deer hunt and are planning three for next year. Hogs were difficult to trap due to the large amount of acorns. Updating the park signs is progressing. The sign shop is on track for March. New trails are ready to go. Staff and volunteers have moved multiple downed trees. We continue to upgrade fishing here by stocking. 2000 rainbow trout were stocked in Horseshoe Lake. The new Parks Operations trainee, Chuck Hubbard, is here. New fire rings are being built for campers. There are plans to upgrade most trails. Elm Lake is full. 40-Acre still needs more water, so pumping may still be needed. Coke machines will be discontinued at the park. Drinks will be sold at both the volunteer gift shop and the headquarter's gift shop. Machines were not profitable. There are plans to add picnic, parking, and back-pack camping along some trails. Park host positions will be filled in March. Half of all labor at BBSP is by volunteers. Steve will be attending the Brazos River Corridor master plan meeting on Jan. 27 from 2-4 at the Observatory. This project is funded by the National Parks Service.



## JACOB DEMENT, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT



Jacob reported on some of the Law Enforcement issues we had in January.

## DAVID HEINICKE, INTERPRETIVE RANGER AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

Keep on Trucking Marathon will be on January 27. The sponsor will donate \$1000 for the Trail Maintenance Fund. Doris Mager will be here with her Birds of Prey Outreach program on Feb. 7 -10.

## SHARON HANZIK, INTERPRETIVE RANGER AND VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR:



School groups are already calling about summer programs. We have 17 VITS signed up for training on February 9, 16, and 23. Bruce Williamson is in the hospital. Sharon brought the Membership Report for 2012.



# 2012 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

8 people discontinued their membership, 10 volunteers are short on hours, and we gained 15 new members.

## Service Hours Report for 2012

### **48-100 hours**

46 members

### **100-200 hours**

26 members

### **200-300 hours**

Suzie Gann	Nelda Gay
Austin Hager	Linda Keltner
Glen Kilgore	Mike Manley
Carrie Sample	Mark Ostrowski
BarbTucker	Bruce Williamson

### **400-500 hours**

Jerry Carpenter	Beth Debenport
Pete Hart	Judy Strauss
Carl Franke	

### **500-600 hours**

Woody Scott	Ron Morrison
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### **800-900 hours**

Chuck Duplant	Diane Carpenter
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### **900 + hours**

Anna Dell Williamson

Thanks to ALL the volunteers for their work and support. Everyone's hours are very important.

## MAINTENANCE REPORT

### **Wood Yard:**

Split and bundled wood and filled kiosks  
Built wood racks at the wood yard

### **Mowing and Landscaping:**

Planted Inland Oaks and Turk's Cap seeds  
Cleared viewing area of downed branches

### **Trail Trimming and Trail Maintenance:**

Cleaned up blow-down limbs (Elm Lake Picnic Area)  
Installed bench on Creekfield Forest Trail  
Cleaned up around Live Oak tree at Creekwood  
Trimmed Red Buckeye Trail

### **Equipment Maintenance:**

Sharpened saw blades  
Repaired fire ant spreader and chain saws  
Obtained tractor parts  
Repaired Pole Saw



# CONGRATULATIONS



Joe and Colton Southern completed their training and are now full Volunteers. Be sure to welcome our newest members to the organization.



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jerry Carpenter  
Noel Duncan  
Devin Elster (Staff)  
Carl Franke  
Bill Godley  
Cole Ledman (VIT)  
Cindy Peterson  
Pam Tatge  
Judy Strauss



## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Willie Anderson (Emeritus)  
Rita Cooper (Emeritus)  
Joan Jackson (Emeritus)  
Herb Mann (Emeritus)  
Jennifer Parent

## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Robert and Shannon Aaron  
Dennis and Patti Akkola  
Suzie and Rick Gann  
Pete and Carol Hart  
Tom and Candice Kanak



## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Peter Guzman  
Rosemary and Bobby Kennedy  
Glen and Maureen Kilgore  
Lara Malone  
Dawn and Oscar Tejero

## BIRD BLIZZARD

*by Mike Sanderson*

Here is an image from the photo walk on February 2 that Laszlo Perlaky and I do on the first Saturday of each month. The theme was birds, and we were treated to this site as wave after wave of blackbirds went to roost for the evening. Many folks had headed to the Observation Tower, but I think we may have had the better experience on Elm Lake.



# NATURE CENTER REPORT JANUARY 2013

*Below are the totals of the various activities and attendance recorded for the Nature Center, hikes, and programs for January 1-31, 2013. We had 2 holidays, 1/1 and 1/21. Cold, rainy weather slowed down attendance some, but we also had some great attendance days.*

PROGRAMS	TOTALS JANUARY
<b>NATURE CENTER ATTENDANCE</b> Jan. 2013 - 5,082 Jan. 2012 - 5,010 Jan. 2011 - 4,078 Jan. 2010 - 4,710 Jan. 2009 - 5,143 Jan. 2008 - 4,197 Jan. 2007 - 4,577	Saturdays (4) - 2,140 High, 822 (1/26) Average: 535
	Sundays (4) - 1,854 High, 634 (1/20) Average: 197
	Weekdays (23) - 1,088 High, 351 (1/21) Average: 47
<b>CREEKFIELD HIKES (7)</b>	101
<b>CHILDREN'S STORY TIME (3)</b>	42
<b>GEO-CACHING (2)</b>	50
<b>SNAKE PROGRAM(5)</b>	75
<b>BIRD HIKES (6)</b>	182
<b>OUTREACH(1)</b>	71
<b>WILDLIFE VIEWING (2)</b>	213
<b>ALLIGATOR PROGRAMS (4)</b>	97
<b>OTHER PROGRAMS (4):</b> Armadillo, Owl, Video	53
<b>TOTAL VISITORS SERVED IN HIKES AND PROGRAMS</b>	870
<b>VOLUNTEER HOURS</b> Membership total for 2012 = 17,632	Interpretation = 954 Maintenance/Other = 197  TOTAL HOURS = 1,151
<b>PARK ATTENDANCE</b> (Percentage reflects the percentage of total visitors in each category.)	Total 16,514 Day use 12,487 (76%) Overnight 4,027 (24%) NC Visitors 5,082 (30%)



Doris Mager returned to Brazos Bend this year to present her Birds of Prey program. Unfortunately, a bad fall a few weeks ago prevented her from presenting the normal program, but she did set up a viewing area in the Nature Center Prairie Room where visitors could see the birds and talk with her about them. This was a very popular program, bringing lots of visitors into the Nature Center, February 7, 8, and 9.

*Photo by Joe Southern.*

# SPECIES PROFILE: CRESTED CARACARA

by Paige Norwood



**Note:** I present this piece as a tribute to Doris Mager as well as an In Memoriam to her Crested Caracara, "Cara" (pictured at left). Ms. Mager entertains and informs audiences about the importance of various birds of prey – and amazingly, her life's purpose was happened upon by accident. This past summer, her dear caracara passed away after 36 years on this Earth. This profile is my way of saying - Cara, fly free.

**Name:** Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*) – so named for the sound they make.

## What do they look like?

Hawk like silhouette in the sky. Large, long legged raptor. Short, sharp downturned beak; black cap with a crest at the rear. Pale, almost white back and sides of neck; red-orange skin on face. Black body which extends to the legs. White tail ending in a wide black tip. Also, white patches at the ends of dark wings. Faint barring also appears on the upper back and breast. The feet resemble a falcon but *the talons are flatter allowing the bird to walk or run on the ground - which is unlike most other raptors.*



Juveniles are similar to adults but are tawny brown, with a buff colored, non-white face with streaks. They do not have barring.

*Did you know? Caracaras throw their heads back until it touches their shoulders and will emit their "cah-ra cah-ra" cackling cry.*

## Where are they found

In the United States: Arizona, Texas and Florida. They extend to Central and South America.

*Did you know? In Central and South American folklore and legends, they are often called, "Mexican eagles." They also often hang around vultures, but they are members of the falcon family.*

## Habitat

Open country, such as pastureland, developed areas, or semi-desert lands. May also be found in arid and moist environments. They are classified as "threatened" in Florida due to development and climate change.



## What do they eat

Carrion (carcasses); insects; small and occasionally large vertebrates, such as birds, reptiles, young alligators, fish, amphibians, and mammals; eggs; crabs

## Where do they nest? How many young do they have?

They nest in trees or on tops of cacti. They typically lay 1-4 eggs; both male and female sit over the eggs for 28 days. Young chicks are covered with down and fledge after eight (8) weeks.

## Resources

"Cara" photo courtesy of Jerry Carpenter

Crested caracara photos courtesy of Greg Lavaty

*Audobon's Crested Caracara: Multi-Species Plan for Recovery.* (n.d.). Accessed on January 16, 2013 via URL: <http://www.fws.gov/verobeach/MSRPPDFs/AudubonsCrestedCaracara.pdf>

Lavaty, Greg. (n.d.) *Crested Caracara* (PBase gallery). Accessed on January 16, 2013 via URL:  
[http://www.pbase.com/dadas115/crested\\_caracara](http://www.pbase.com/dadas115/crested_caracara)

Morrison, J. L. 1996. *Crested Caracara* (*Caracara plancus*). In *The Birds of North America*, No. 249 (A. Poole and F. Gill, eds.). The Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, PA, and The American Ornithologists' Union, Washington, D.C.

National Wildlife Refuge Association. (n.d.). *Crested caracara*. Accessed on January 18, 2013 via URL:  
<http://refugeassociation.org/wildlife/birds/crested-caracara/>

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology.(n.d.). *All About Birds: Crested Caracara*. Accessed on January 17, 2013 via URL:  
[http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Crested Caracara/id](http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Crested_Caracara/id)

THANK YOU

- ☺ to **Carrie Sample** for counting and compiling the attendance information from the guest register
- ☺ to **Jerry and Diane Carpenter, Lindsay Kahn, Cindy Peterson, and Joe Southern** for all the dinner items for the January meeting
- ☺ to **Rick Dashnau, Barbara Keller-Willy, Mike Sanderson and Paige Norwood** for articles and photos for the newsletter.

From Anna Dell Williamson

- ☺ to **Diane Carpenter, Nelda Gay, Holly Haynes, Sandy Jespersen, Mary Lockwood, Glen Kilgore, Nancy Partlow, Diane Welty, and Barbara Keller-Willy** for helping with the preparation of the new training manuals
- ☺ to **Nancy Bailey** for printing the Creekfield Hike Guide, the Training Manuals and other training materials.
- ☺ to **Suzie Gann** for organizing the VIT luncheon and to **Diane Welty** and others for setting up and serving
- ☺ to **everyone** who brought food for the training luncheon
- ☺ to **Mike Fisher, Mary Lockwood, Adrian Michel, Mike Ostrowski, Cindy Peterson, Carrie Sample, Michael Sanderson, Woody Scott, Joe Southern, Judy Strauss, and Rebecca Sykes** for agreeing to be mentors to the VITs.
- ☺ to **Jaci Elliott, Mike Fisher, Hannah Meddaugh, Mike Sanderson, Bob Schwartz, Woody Scott, Rebecca Sykes, and Diane Welty** for driving VITs on the Road Tour.
- ☺ to **Sharon Hanzik, Steve Killian, and Mary Lockwood** for taking part in the presentations for the Orientation program for VITs.
- ☺ to **Candice Kanak and Sharon Hanzik** cleaning up the lounge and classroom for training.
- ☺ to **everyone** who helped behind the scenes to get ready for February training. It takes everyone to put on a good training program. If your name inadvertently didn't get mentioned above, please know that your help was appreciated.

### GET WELL WISHES

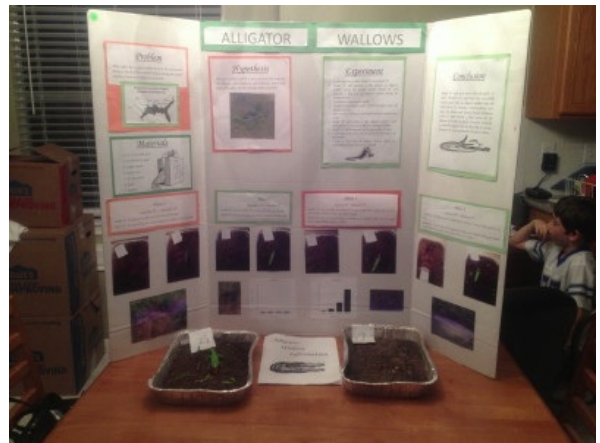
Belinda DiMarcello has broken her left foot. Best wishes for a speedy recovery.  
Bruce Williamson has been on the sick list for a couple of months and is finally starting to get better.



# SCIENCE FAIR PROJECT

Helen Wright reports that her son and BBSP volunteer Alejandro won third place at the Science Fair out of 150 participants. He was told by the judges that they had never seen such an original project and was asked about the importance of alligator wallows. Alejandro's family is very happy about the outcome of the project, especially since his project got completely destroyed during the move, and he had to pull it together at the last minute!

Helen says, "I can only thank you all for the time and dedication you have given us. You all had a hand in this!"



## PROJECT WILD TRAINING

*by Barbara Keller-Willy*

**Project Wild Aquatic (Basic class)** is scheduled on February 21, 2013, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Nature Center. The cost is \$25 per person. You will need to bring your own lunch or order from Craft's. Snacks will be provided. Mary Holler, a Cradle of Texas Master Naturalist and retired educator, will conduct the basic training, which is also a prerequisite for Facilitator training. You will receive all Aquatic Wild training materials and manual as part of this course.

**Facilitator Training** has been scheduled for March 18, 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM and March 19, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM at Brazos Bend State Park. Both days are required, as well as the Project Wild basic class above. There is no cost for this training; however, there is a volunteer commitment to deliver one training in your region per year. You will need to bring lunch or order from Crafts. Snacks will be provided. Kiki Corry, Project Wild Coordinator, TPWD, will deliver this training and issue your certification. You will receive all facilitator materials and manual plus one more Wild training of your choosing.

To register for these classes you will need to sign up at <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/calendar/project-wild-growing-up-wild-workshops>. Registration is on a first come basis. For more information, phone 281-265-4500.

The next two links provide information about the scheduled classes.

[http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/project\\_wild/aquatic\\_wild.phtml](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/project_wild/aquatic_wild.phtml)

[http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/project\\_wild/befacilitator.phtml](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/project_wild/befacilitator.phtml)

## WE HAVE VISITORS

*by Carrie Sample*

Our Nature Center at Brazos Bend had visitors from 50 different foreign countries sign our guest register in 2012. The winning country this year is...England with 117 visitors. Coming in second and a relative of England is Canada with 101. No one from Hawaii, yet further away is Australia with 29 visitors and New Zealand with 8. (Guess they would like to trade their hopping kangaroos for our more sedate alligators!) European countries such as Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Holland, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Scotland, Sweden, and Switzerland all had a fair amount of representation. The Asian countries were also here, just not as many. Even South America had several visitors stopping by. The continent of Africa had fewer visitors than the others. (Sure glad they left their hyenas, crocodiles and lions at home!)

Our winning state for number of visitors was California. Just behind California was Utah, Washington, Wisconsin, New York, Minnesota, Colorado, Illinois, and Indiana. (Guess they were trying to escape the cold!) Visitors managed to trek here all the way from Alaska! The losing states (with no visitors) were Connecticut, Hawaii, Nevada, and New Hampshire.

# TALK ABOUT THE WEATHER

by Barbara Keller-Willy

An exciting new weather related program is scheduled for a May 2013 kick-off at BBSP. The weather program will begin with a Davis weather station installation. The wirelessly transmitted data will be stored and accessible for schools, students, and amateur meteorologists.

Interested residents, volunteers, and local emergency personnel are invited to participate in SKYWARN® storm spotting training at BBSP, conducted by the NOAA. SKYWARN® storm spotters are part of the ranks of citizens who form the Nation's first line of defense against severe weather. Find more information about this program at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/skywarn/>

Our weather weekend will include weather science related activities, such as thunder tubes, making snow, etc., for visitors. Guest meteorologists will conduct training and activities. Watch our May weekend calendar for this exciting weather schedule.

## BALD EAGLE

by Rick Dashnau

January 13, 2013 was rainy and cold. While some people in Houston were running around in this nasty weather doing a marathon, or half of one, other people were walking around the trails at Brazos Bend State Park in this nasty weather hoping to see a River Otter or a Bald Eagle. Both predators have appeared at this time of year, especially during cold weather, and Otters have often shown themselves during or after rain. OK...maybe not "other people". Maybe it was just "me" out there. And there were a couple fishermen at 40-Acre Lake.

Anyway, after a couple hours walking, at about 10 o'clock AM, I was on the Elm Lake Trail between piers 2 and 3. I'd noticed that some of the groups of American Coots were clumping on the banks. I'd seen a large hawk watching over some of them, but that was at about 9 on the other end of the lake. Vultures were kettling in small groups, circling over head here and there.

I was facing North, when I looked up and towards the East at one of the large circling birds. It had caught my eye. Flat wing profile. A quick look through binoculars--EAGLE!! But it was circling high. I was able to snap two shots at full zoom--having to focus between shots. Then it was over the trees, circling West. I think I only had a few seconds of viewing time. But, I was able to crop the pictures, and they do show that it was a Bald Eagle. And that's good enough for me.



## WATCH YOUR HEAD!

The snake, not you. Hannah Meddaugh and the large rat snake got “connected” recently. A brief moment of inattention, and the snake slithered into Hannah’s belt loop, which was too small for it to crawl all the way through. Several volunteers came to help, and Cindy Peterson grabbed her camera. They were considering cutting the belt loop with scissors, but the scissors wouldn’t go into the loop without injuring the snake. The snake kept going forward and finally managed to pull all the way through.

Take Hannah’s experience as a reminder to always watch where the snake’s head is and to not let it near belt loops or other tight spots.



## CREEKFIELD FOREST TRAIL

*By Barbara Keller-Willy*

You've probably hiked our Creekfield trail, but have you hiked Creekfield Forest Trail lately? Under the guidance and vision of Ron Morrison, a group of dedicated volunteers are working to create several "outdoor room" experiences along Creekfield Forest Trail. The first "room", next to the George Observatory, is a pocket prairie. This area will include signage as well as interactive information for smart phone users. Benches invite visitors to view the splendor and ever-changing landscape of a prairie. Through a self-guided tour, visitors will also learn why it is important to preserve the remaining prairie habitat, and how they can create pocket and backyard prairies themselves.



The second area, currently in the design stage, will be the Oak room. The area begins with Live Oaks of various ages. The highlight of this cool and shaded area is a large fallen dead oak tree. Self guided activities in this room will include aging trees and the uses nature has for fallen trees. Benches will allow visitors to observe the red-shouldered hawk that frequents this room.

The "Vine Room" is another shaded area that invites visitors to stop and stand beneath or beside the various types of vines native to the Creekfield forest. Take a seat and explore the variety of wildlife that wander through this whimsical area.



In addition to the outdoor rooms, signage will identify trees and prairie grasses. Our wood sculpture garden is where the most interesting pieces of drift or decomposing wood will be displayed. Volunteers are asked to commit to group clearing and trimming to complete these rooms along Creekfield Forest Trail, which will eventually lead to the back exit of our newly planned BBEEC.

# WHAT IS THIS?

by Barbara Keller-Willy



If you are a gardener planting spring bulbs and plants, you may run into this larva this month. Can you guess what it is? A bird recently followed my gardening at a pace of about 1 foot behind me which is unusual. I habitually toss the grubs I encounter to the outer edge of beds and place them on my platform feeder when I'm finished gardening. Did you know some insect eating birds can starve in as little as 45 minutes? This patent leather beetle larva seemed almost as large as the small bird that flew away with it. Although this beetle is a borer, a few don't usually mean you have a problem. Your mulch or leaf litter is simply their nursery.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 15	Guided Bird Watching Hikes, 8:00 AM, meet at 40-Acre Lake restrooms
February 16	Volunteer Training, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
February 23	Volunteer Training, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Texas Outdoor Family Weekend Outreach: Sea Center Texas, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
March 1	Guided Bird Watching Hikes, 8:00 AM, meet at 40-Acre Lake restrooms
March 2	BBSP Blood Drive, Elm Lake Pavilion, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Outreach: Brazoria Heritage Day 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Landscape photography Photo-walk, 3:00 PM, meet at Nature Center Brazos River Pickers, 5:00 PM
March 9	Budget and Executive Meetings, 3:00 PM Regular Business Meeting, 5:30 PM (Supper, 5:00 PM)
March 15	Guided Bird Watching Hikes, 8:00 AM, meet at 40-Acre Lake restrooms
March 23	Outreach: Children's Festival, Ft. Bend Museum, 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM
March 29	Guided Bird Watching Hikes, 8:00 AM, meet at 40-Acre Lake restrooms
April 5	Guided Bird Watching Hikes, 8:00 AM, meet at 40-Acre Lake restrooms, followed by optional "Migration Madness" trip to Quintana Nature Sanctuary, finish after lunch
April 6	Plant photography Photo-walk, 5:00 PM, meet at Nature Center Brazos River Pickers, 5:00 PM
April 12	Guided Bird Watching Hikes, 8:00 AM, meet at 40-Acre Lake restrooms
April 13	Budget and Executive Meetings, 3:00 PM Regular Business Meeting, 5:30 PM (Supper, 5:00 PM)
April 19	Guided Bird Watching Hikes, 8:00 AM, meet at 40-Acre Lake restrooms, followed by optional "Migration Madness" trip to Quintana Nature Sanctuary, finish after lunch
April 26	Guided Bird Watching Hikes, 8:00 AM, meet at 40-Acre Lake restrooms

## Brazos Bend State Park

Texas Parks and Wildlife  
21901 FM 762  
Needville, TX 77461

☆☆☆☆☆

**NEXT MEETING**  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2013**  
**5:30 PM, NATURE CENTER**

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**



### REGULAR VOLUNTEER EVENTS

Creekfield Hikes	Every Saturday and Sunday at 10:00 AM, led by volunteers
Photo Hikes	First Saturday of each month
Volunteer meeting	Second Saturday of each month at 5:30 PM, supper at 5:00 PM
Bird Hikes	See schedule in calendar

### BRAZOS BEND STATE PARK VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION

#### VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION OFFICERS

President:	Mary Lockwood
Vice-President:	Glen Kilgore
Secretary	Belinda DiMarcello
Treasurer:	Bob Kowalewski
Past-President:	Offie Walker
Comptroller:	Nancy Lynn Jones

#### NEWSLETTER TEAM

Editor	Anna Dell Williamson
Production Assistant	Bruce Williamson
Distribution	Carol Ramsayer
Web Master	Anne Shelton

The **Brazos Bend Bunch Bugle** is the newsletter of the Brazos Bend State Park Volunteer Organization, A.K.A. The Brazos Bend Bunch. It is distributed monthly to volunteers through the BBSPVO web site. For further information on this newsletter or the volunteer program, contact David Heinicke or Sharon Hanzik at Brazos Bend State Park, phone 979-553-5101.

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are the opinions of the author of the article and do not necessarily reflect the official position of Brazos Bend State Park Volunteer Organization nor of BBSP administration. The deadline for Newsletter contributions is the Saturday following the monthly meeting, if mailed to Anna Dell Williamson, or at the meeting if delivered to the park. (E-mail address: [awilliamson4@comcast.net](mailto:awilliamson4@comcast.net) or [newsletter@brazosbend.org](mailto:newsletter@brazosbend.org)). Notify Anna Dell (281-485-2843) well in advance of any events you want announced in the newsletter.

**IN THE END, WE WILL CONSERVE ONLY WHAT WE LOVE,  
WE WILL LOVE ONLY WHAT WE UNDERSTAND,  
WE WILL UNDERSTAND ONLY WHAT WE ARE TAUGHT.**

**BABA DIOUM, SENEGAL  
AFRICAN CONSERVATIONIST**