



VOLUME 18, NUMBER 2

MARCH 2006

FEBRUARY MEETING NOTES

submitted by Bruce Williamson

President Judy Strauss called the meeting to order. The minutes of the January meeting were approved as posted in the volunteer lounge.

REPORTS:

Outreach: Tom Prentiss and **Maureen Goode** will represent the BBSPVO at the Needville Health and Safety Fair. They will take alligators and snakes, in addition to the usual display items from the exhibit collection.

Gift Shop: Beth Debenport reported that the Gift Shop will be open 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. on February 20th, Presidents' Day, and Monday through Friday of both weeks of Spring Break, March 6th to 11th, and March 13 - 18th, in addition to the regular hours other days. Volunteers are needed to sign up for both the Nature Center and the Gift Shop for these extended hours.

Superintendent Steve Killian and **Interpretive Ranger David Heinicke** brought their reports, which are published below.

Maintenance: Bryan Leach referred volunteers to the newsletter for the January maintenance report. There are work crews every Tuesday and Thursday. If you want to participate, meet at the Nature Center at 8:30 A.M. on those days. Bring your own lunch.

Training: Anna Dell Williamson reported that we tried new things this year in training, and they worked very well. VITs are now doing assisted training and need the other volunteers to provide opportunities.

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Treasurer: John Bradford gave the treasurer's report, including the monthly and year to date figures and a ten year history of the organization's income and spending on the park. The following purchase requests were presented:

Two new batteries for the portable drill.

Restart the birdseed fund.

Visual aids for the nutria program.

Wood and hardware for a boardwalk to the prairie platform.

The cost of refinishing the upstairs floor that was not covered by the Hershey Foundation grant.

A digital audio repeater for the venomous snake area, like the one used for the alligator and wild bird displays.

Two programmable thermostats for the Nature Center (upstairs and downstairs).

Earth Day Budget.

There was discussion about purchasing an electric scooter for volunteers with mobility problems to use when providing visitor services, such as leading hikes and conducting programs on the trails. No decision was reached on this topic.

The meeting was adjourned. ♦

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I really tried hard to get the "perfect picture" to help show just how our volunteer organization works together, but with my simple little camera, the beauty of friendship and working together just couldn't be captured this time.



Just a few blocks from my house is a field that I pass every day going to work. On some days there is a "family" playing and working together, much like our "family" here at Brazos Bend State Park. To the eye, they are different on the outside, but on the inside, they are all working towards the same goal in unity. This family that I see in the field is a family of about 6 or 7 chickens, 2 roosters, and one duck!

They are all out there together pecking at the ground, gathering their meal. They move in a group, yet not one steps on the other nor tries to infringe on the others' territory. Each one has his own mission and even tho one may feel that he is a bit "better" at what he is doing than another, he never lets it be known that he may feel this way, as it is important to all that everyone feel equal when working together and achieving their mission.

Let's make sure that we work together with this much love, respect and consideration for each other as we go through our daily tasks as volunteers, never trying to steel another's "glory", nor thinking that we "can do it better" or that we are more important than another. The rules we have, our By-laws and SOP's, are for everyone; no one is so much better that they have their own set of rules. Let our visitors know (whether you feel it is true or not) that we all, as volunteers, are capable of doing our given tasks as well as another.

Alone we are simply alone! Together we are the Brazos Bend State Park Volunteer Organization!

Judy Strauss ♦



STAFF REPORTS

STEVE KILLIAN

Superintendent Steve Killian reported that the park is continuing the prairie reclamation. Most of that work is finished. Lake restoration is continuing, with one fourth of Old Horseshoe Lake opened up. All the wild rice has been removed from that lake.



The state highway signs for BBSP on highways 288 and 59 will be improved by adding icons for some of the services BBSP offers, such as equestrian trails, camping, hiking, and fishing.

The stabilization of Pilant Slough at Big Creek and the park road started on February first. They will put some of the spoilage in the breach on New Horseshoe Lake. The work should be finished in 45 working days.

The park has hired a new clerk for headquarters. She will start on February 15th. The park now has one ranger 3 and two ranger 2 slots. Steve will be taking Certified Interpreter training at Lake Houston, February 14-17. Steve will be conducting one interpretive program per month, and Dennis will be conducting one interpretive program per week.

The poisonous snakes sign will be removed. Steve offered a thank-you to Bryan Leach and the maintenance crew for their work opening up Old Horseshoe Lake (live oak control). The deer hunters contributed funds for improvements to the hunting blinds. Steve plans to rent a Porta-Potty for the equestrian area, and solicit donations from the equestrians in order to maintain it. BBSP will increase the entrance fee from \$3.00 per adult to \$4.00 in one week. Most Texas State Parks charge in the range of \$3.00 to \$5.00. Steve is exploring putting amber strobe lights on the utility vehicles. ♦

DAVID HEINICKE

David Heinicke reported that the upstairs floor material was purchased with a grant from the Hershey Foundation. David offered thank-you to the two VITs who stayed for the meeting.



He asked for any new ideas the volunteers may have for Earth Day, including any vendors who fit in with the theme. He pointed out that there are flyers available to be posted in the local communities by the volunteers. Earth Day will be Saturday, April 1st, with a work party on Friday, March 31st. David also mentioned that Glen Kilgore has prepared a preview of a proposed program on Nutria, and that the park has a copy of the PBS video "Reflections on Texas," which features the Parks and Wildlife Department. ♦



BEST WISHES

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Elmer Aden
Willie Anderson
Rita Cooper
Russell Goodwine (VIT)
Joan Jackson
Ben Lohmer (VIT)
Herb Mann
Jennifer Parent



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Joyce Blankenship
Ken Debenport

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Glen and Maureen Kilgore



Congratulations to the September and February VIT's on their progress toward becoming full volunteers.

Thanks

- ☺ to **those who are helping** VIT's with their assisted training
- ☺ to **all who helped** with the new volunteer training program January 28, February 4 and February 11. The list includes Willie Anderson, James and Joyce Blankenship, John Bradford, Ken and Beth Debenport, Chuck Duplant, Bill Godley, Sharon Hanzik, David Heinicke, Carol Jones, Glen Kilgore, Steve Killian, Bryan Leach, Carol Ramsayer, Judy Strauss, Bruce Williamson, the mentors, and those who brought food for the orientation luncheon. (I hope I haven't forgotten anyone, my apologies if I have, Anna Dell)
- ☺ to **James and Joyce Blankenship** for providing the supper for the volunteers before the meeting.
- ☺ to **Tom Prentiss** and **Judy Strauss** for covering the Needville Health & Safety Fair outreach program.
- ☺ to **all the guys** that come out and work at the park on Tuesday and Thursday. I appreciate your dedication to making the park a better place to visit. (Bryan Leach)
- ☺ to **John Bradford** for helping me in clearing out the pond area by the old windmill (the one that talks to Peggy & me), and to **James Blankenship, John Bradford, David Heinicke,** and **Chuck Duplant** for cleaning up the mess and piles of trees that I left around the windmill pond....It really got cold that last Sunday! (Judy Strauss)

- ☺ to **Anna Dell Williamson** for the absolutely wonderful job she did with the latest training class, and to all that helped her. You did a fantastic job, Anna Dell. We all thank you!! (Judy Strauss)
- ☺ With deepest appreciation, I want to thank **those volunteers who held down the fort** during the weekend that I needed to be at the hospital with my father and at the same time David was off. You guys make all the difference in the world to us! It was so great to know that the park was in capable hands and we didn't have to worry. You took over the programs without hesitation. Our high standard of training is really paying off! Thank you to all those who made training such a great success! We have a very eager group of trainees ready to get involved. Let's show them why the BBSPVO is tops!! (Sharon Hanzik) ♦

MEETING NIGHT SUPPERS

by Anna Dell Williamson

Thanks to **James and Joyce Blankenship** for bringing the gumbo for the supper for the February meeting and to **John Bradford** for the January meeting supper. Judy Strauss will bring chicken spaghetti and salad for the March meeting. We will collect \$3.00 per person to cover costs. If you are willing to prepare a meal for a future meeting, please contact me by email (<awilliamson4@houston.rr.com>) or by phone (281-485-2843). No one is signed up after April. Thank you to all those who have already brought a meal. ♦



OUTREACH REPORT

reported by Judy Strauss

On February 25th, we had an outreach event at the Needville Health & Safety Fair - the first of its kind for Needville. I felt that it went quite well, and, although rather small, we had about 143 visitors pass through our booth to learn firsthand about our park and to touch a snake and a gator. Of course, you couldn't keep the kids away; again & again & again!

I would like to thank Tom Prentiss for helping me man the booth for the event. We both really enjoyed it, and met a bunch of really nice people; many of whom said they will see us on Earth Day! Thanks, again, Tom! I couldn't have done it without your help! ♦

YOU KNOW YOU'RE A BBSP VOLUNTEER WHEN...

Ed. Note: (This is a just-for-fun activity Contributions to this column are appreciated.)

you know every curve in 762, or every bridge over bayous and rivers on 1462

you know where Pier 36 is

your children/grandchildren own most of the toys from the Gift Shop and at least one t-shirt each



CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BOOTH

by Sharon Hanzik

I need egg cartons for a kids craft for Earth Day. I would prefer the paper ones, but I'll take what I can get. If you would please cut the cartons into 4, 3 cup sections for caterpillars, this will save me a lot of work.

I am still hoping to hear from a few folks who are interested in staffing this booth. We will be doing pony-bead coral snakes, egg-carton caterpillars with metamorphosis flash cards, and leaf rubbing. If I can get enough help, I'll need three people for each two-hour shift from 9- 5 or until we run out of supplies. If I don't have enough help, we'll operate shorter hours.

SIGN-UP SHEET IN LOUNGE

Sign up to help with Earth Day activities. There are sign-up sheets in the lounge for all activities. It is a fun event, and you can also have time for visiting the exhibits and taking in the activities.

We will need all the volunteer help we can get for the following:

- Grounds and building prep the Friday before (March 31)
- Exhibitor set-up assistance from 7:30 – 9:00 the day of the event
- Roving event assistance
- Event announcer
- Hike leaders (more than one for some hikes)
- Demonstration help (2 hours each at different times)
- Volunteer booth help (2 hour shifts from 9 – 5)
- Kid's corner activity booth help (2-hour shifts from 9 – 5)
- Volunteer led programs (let David know in advance what you want to do)

And let's not forget that the regular duties also need to be covered (nature center, gift shop, water station, wood supply, and trail patrol). We will have sign-up sheets in the lounge for all activities.

PRAIRIE VIEWS

by Dennis Jones

If you have passed the prairies recently you may have noticed a difference in their appearance. They look better. Prairies are an integral part of our overall park ecosystems and for the most part are easily overlooked when compared to stately, moss draped, Live Oaks and alligators. Unfortunately less than one percent of our prairies, the largest ecosystem in North America, remains untilled, undrained, or undeveloped. Of that one percent left, ten percent (or .001%) is wetland as well as prairie.

Our prairie is the only inland coastal prairie remnant in the entire Parks and Wildlife system (or put another way, open to the public). Budget cutbacks, staff shortages and benign neglect exacted a toll on the prairies here, and we will be years in recovery. Along with a new manager came a renewed interest in resource management. Priorities shifted and budgets shuffled to make available resources and manpower to get the prairies turned in the right direction.

For those of you that might wonder how the prairies are different, allow me to explain. Several years ago the park prairie was beginning to look like a miniature forest. The woody vegetation was crowding out the grasses in an ongoing 25 million year struggle between these two major ecosystems. Natural fire, which once kept the forest in check and the prairies healthy, became non-existent. The threat of property damage and lawsuits curtailed the use of prescribed or controlled, manmade fire. The few operational dollars available were directed toward maintaining our sagging infrastructure within the parks and making sure the restrooms were as clean as we could keep them with a dwindling staff. Exotic vegetation (Chinese Tallow, McCartney Rose, etc.) introduced from around the world as well as native forest "pioneer" plant species (persimmon, Baccharis spp., etc.) began to establish themselves in the prairies in ever greater numbers while our attention was directed elsewhere. In a very short time the situation had literally grown beyond our limited ability to prevent it. And so the prairies seemed to be lost.

Several years ago, the City of Sugar Land needed to expand their local airport. To do this they were going to have to affect a nearby wetland. As a result, they were obliged by law to assist in the creation of a new wetland somewhere else. That somewhere else was Brazos Bend State Park. Work was begun on a piece of prairie near FM 762 to reclaim it as the "wetland prairie" it had once been. (It was drained and made dry prairie prior to there being laws to prevent such actions). Along with the creation of this wetland came dedicated funding that specifically allowed us to buy equipment, chemicals, and manpower that under any other circumstance would not have been possible. (TPWD factoid: the state legislature appropriates the equivalent of one penny per person, per year, to State Parks.) As a result of this windfall we were able to begin our reclamation of our inland coastal prairie, with renewed vigor.

Here's where we stand at present. We have a long, long way to go. The prairies certainly look better than they did, but that is somewhat illusory. We have stunted and killed many woody plants on the prairie, but if we do not maintain our momentum, the prairies will revert to their old brushland appearance and possibly even get worse. A great deal of the woody vegetation is still there, it's just short and hidden by the grasses. We need to continue to shred, burn, and spot treat with herbicides the woody vegetation as we can. Once we get to a maintenance rather than reclamation stage we may be able to use only prescribed fire to maintain the prairies. We are not there yet, although that is our ultimate goal.

We must also address our fence lines. As long as the fence lines are overgrown with Yaupon, Chinese Tallows, oaks and other woody species the prairies will always be in flux. Animals feed on the seeds and carry them to every part of the prairie to begin the successional process all over again. The overgrown fence lines also provide wind breaks for the fledgling woody species and this improves their chances of successful establishment on the prairies. Prairies should be windy places and overgrown fence lines prevent that. (Trees don't like too much wind; recall what tree movers do when they transport trees...they cover the leaves if possible.)

The same goes for mature trees in the prairie as well. Many of the trees in the prairie were not originally there and function much like the fence lines do, as seed generators and wind breaks. We need to look at the early aerial photographs of the area and identify trees for removal. I know this may seem like heresy because we all like trees, especially oaks. Please remember that the predominant plant species on a prairie are grasses not trees. We have (or should have) plenty of trees in our historically woodland areas. As long as the prairie is heavily dotted with emerging forests we will not get the prairie in balance. That's not to say all the trees will be removed but trees less than a certain diameter will be considered for removal. (Trees are the difference in the definitions between prairies and plains.) The trees that remain need to clear of the underbrush that retards the function of fire. Fire will not usually kill the big, well established trees, it will only scorch the leaves and the tree will recover. It does remove the smaller, emerging woody plants under the trees that would create the aforementioned windbreaks (and seed banks) and ultimately start the reforestation process over again. I could bore you with more but I think you get the picture. Change is necessary if we hope to reclaim and maintain the prairies.

Recently, there has been a renewed interest in prairies by some of the BBSPVO volunteers at the park as well as master naturalists in the area. They will be conducting vegetative transects to determine where we are with the prairies and where we are going with our management practices. They will also hasten the process of prairie reclamation by collecting grass seed and moving them to areas that need recolonization. They may rescue native grasses that are slated destruction on off site locations, and much more I am sure. By comparison to other prairie sites in the general Houston area we are way behind in our efforts here. This new breed of volunteer will help foster a greater awareness of the prairies and bring us into closer cooperation other groups that are facing the same challenges we face.

As BBSPVO volunteers I would encourage you to consider getting involved in this reclamation effort. Your efforts will leave a truly lasting legacy for present and future generations of Texas. How many times can you say when asked; "What have you been doing" you can say "This weekend I helped save a vanishing ecosystem"? Thanks for reading all this and if you are interested in joining us to save our prairies contact Al Childs or myself and we'll get you involved. (I don't bite)

A GOOD DAY AT THE PARK

by Rick Dashnau

A recent Sunday was a good day at the park (but aren't they all?). I spent most of the day right in front of the Observation Tower. Greg Lavaty--one of the nicest people I've ever met--hung around there for most of the time also, and we saw all kinds of bird stuff.

David and John and the bird hikers got to see a bald eagle from 40-acre Lake pier. They were telling me about it--still during their hike--when the eagle made another appearance, and we got to watch it hovering at the height of the rice, and scaring the bejabbers out of various waterfowl.

The birders went on, and I moved to the tower, where Greg came up. Then, for no particular reason, Greg and I talked and just looked out over Pilant Lake. And we stayed there for about 4 hours.

During the day, the eagle came back, oh 5 or 6 times, I actually lost count. It seemed to always appear from the direction of the far treeline on Pilant Lake, and would fly up towards the Mile Stretch. HOW COOL IS THAT?

Anyhow, on one of its flybys, an osprey (identified by Greg) began to harrass the eagle, flying above it and dropping down. Finally, the eagle had enough, and flew up towards the osprey. They finally went out of sight over the far tree-line.

On one of the other fly-overs, the eagle passed over the Tower, started moving south over the 40-Acre Lake Trail, then turned and started plummeting down towards that corner of 40 Acre lake, seeming to be targeting something out in the water not far from the little footbridge with the sandbags. It had talons extended and dropped, but aborted--still high above the treetops--then turned and continued south.

Along with the eagle flybys, we got to see a couple of sirens get eaten by a couple of great blue herons. The first siren was BIG. Greg spotted these. A king rail sauntered by. Sometime before that, some park visitors were talking to us, and one of them expressed disappointment at not seeing an American bittern. Not long after this comment (maybe 5 minutes??) Greg looked to the left, and an American bittern was doing the "ninja step" across the trail, going from 40 Acre Lake to Pilant Lake, and not more than 20 yards away. So, the no-longer disappointed visitors rushed over to see it.

Finally, I guess around 3 o'clock, Greg decided to go look at Horseshoe Lake, and I decided to head back to the Nature Center. I saw him stop at the culvert (yes, the one right by the tower) and squat down and start shooting (turns out he was trying to get a snipe), and I decided to try to shoot photos of the bittern. As I was

moving around a tree, I had a feeling, and I looked up. The eagle was making another pass, and was flying straight towards me; but still out at the edge of the clearing in the rice. I wanted to move back, and looked down to be sure of my footing. I looked up, and I'd lost sight of the eagle. I got back up on the trail quickly, and looked just in time to see the eagle flying over the trail on just the other side of the Observation Tower. I watched it go by, let my eyes track down, and there was Greg pointing his camera up. He GOT it! What a cool day!

Greg has posted pictures of some of this (my equipment just doesn't have the reach to get some of those shots), on his Pbase page. Look here: <http://www.pbase.com/dadas115/new>

There's an excellent shot of the eagle approaching and a flock of waterfowl taking off in the foreground. And lots of other excellent shots as well. There are some of the osprey bothering the eagle. There's some GREAT eagle flying shots. One of a siren's demise. All, just so cool!

Ok. I'll try to calm down now.



EXPERIENCES OF A NEW VOLUNTEER

by Johnny Hite

I recently went on my first extended hike. David led it (well, not officially, but he added a lot more than anyone else did) and I really enjoyed it. We started out on the Red Buckeye Trail, and David stopped to whistle at some birds. He made the call of a screech owl and intermittently added a noise like small birds fighting. Small birds love to fight, especially with screech owls. Quite a few small birds showed up to see what was going on.

We passed by a giant gall. Well, it was more than one gall, but they were all huge and all in the same spot. It was about two feet wide and tall. For those of you that don't know, a gall is the natural reaction a tree makes when a fly or wasp injects its egg into a tree. They are normally about half an inch across.

Then we went on the Whiteoak Trail. Along the way David picked up a little ball of dead leaves that was hanging from a tree. He opened it up and out crawled a bunch of baby Golden Silk Spiders. They started ballooning, or catching wind with a thread of silk, right off of his hand.

We stopped for lunch in an area called the Mouse Trap. They used to catch rodents there to keep tabs on the rodent population. Somebody once called it the Mouse Trap and it stuck. It is being discussed that we turn that area into a backpack camping area.

After lunch we took the Bluestem Trail to the Whiteoak/Blustem Trail and headed back to the parking lot. On the way David pointed out a leaf with a trail of white through it that got wider as it went. This is caused by a Leafminer. It eats a trail through the leaf on which it hatched. As it gets bigger its trail gets wider and eventually it pupates and flies off.

All through the hike David kept turning over rotten logs. He finally found what he was looking for: a Copperhead. He picked it up with his snake handling equipment and took it to the Nature Center. Back at the Nature Center, he released the Copperhead that had been on display and put the new one in the cage. Most likely it is still the one in there.

All in all the hike took about four hours. Everyone was tired, but we had a great time. I'm looking forward to the next one.

CONCERNED PUBLIC TO THE RESCUE OF TEXAS STATE PARKS

from Rick Dashnau

The Houston Regional Group/Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club and the Texas Coalition for conservation, in cooperation with the University of Houston-Downtown are co-hosting a forum on the issue of chronic underfunding of the Texas state parks and possible long-term funding options. The purpose is to give people the information they need to be effective advocates for our state park system.

This forum will be held on Friday, April 7, 2008, 8:45 AM to 3:45 PM at the Wilhemina Cullen Robertson Auditorium. Registration will begin at 8:00 AM. The cost of the forum is \$28, and includes continental breakfast, lunch, snack and an information book.

You can attend this forum and state your opinions as an individual. For more information, including a list of speakers and the registration, pick up a forum announcement in the Nature Center. This is an opportunity to learn more about the funding situation and what can be done about it.

MAINTENANCE REPORT FEBRUARY 2006

By Bryan Leach

Split and stacked fire wood, tied wood, hauled tied wood to the wood racks
Replaced the primary & secondary clutches and the belt on the 01 Gator
Finished the installation of the wench system for the spray skid at the wood yard
Treated fire ants around the Nature Center and Amphitheater
Removed blown down trees off the Bluestem/Whiteoak trail, and the River View trail

Cleaned up the wood yard
 Worked in the flowers around the Nature Center on two different occasions
 Changed the engine oil & filter and the transmission fluid and both filters on the K2 Kubota and also greased it
 Put trail topping over four exposed drain culverts on the Pilant Slough trail
 Removed a tree that was leaning across the trail between the spillway and Elm Lake
 Changed the engine oil in the splitter
 Removed a 12 foot by 4 foot piece of 6x6 wire, buried in front of Pier #4 on Elm Lake that was a trip hazard
 Installed two eye bolts on the 00 Gator to secure the spray skid in the bed when in use
 Repaired the hand rail and supports on Pier #1 on Elm Lake
 Ran a direct burial power cable to the pole barn and installed 4 receptacles and 2 florescent lights and a switch in the pole barn
 Removed the floor covering and prepped floor, then installed a new linoleum and base boards in the kitchen at the Nature Center
 Finished clearing yaupon trees and under growth from an area across from the 40 Acre Lake parking lot

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 4	Landscape photography Photo-walk #1, 5:00 PM Brazos River Pickers, Amphitheater, 6:00 - 8:00 PM
March 11	Regular meeting, 5:30 PM
March 12	Bird Hike, 8:00 AM, Forty-Acre restroom building
March 17	Bird Hike, 8:00 AM, Forty-Acre restroom building
April 1	Earth Day, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Plant photography Photo-walk.5:00 PM Brazos River Pickers, Amphitheater, 6:00 - 8:00 PM
April 8	Regular meeting, 5:30 PM
April 9	Bird Hike, 8:00 AM, Forty-Acre restroom building
April 14	Bird Hike, 8:00 AM, Forty-Acre restroom building
April 16	Easter Sunday
May 5	Bird Hike, 8:00 AM, Forty-Acre restroom building
May 7	Bird Hike, 8:00 AM, Forty-Acre restroom building
May 13	Regular meeting, 5:30 PM Bird photography Photo-walk #2, 5:00 PM.
June 2	Bird Hike, 8:00 AM, Forty-Acre restroom building
June 3	Close-up photography Photo-walk #1, 5:00 PM
June 4	Bird Hike, 8:00 AM, Forty-Acre restroom building
June 10	Regular meeting, 5:30 PM
July 1	Close-up photography Photo-walk #2, 5:00 PM
July 8	Regular meeting, 5:30 PM
August 12	Regular meeting, 5:30 PM
September 2	Amphibian and reptile photography Photo-walk, 5:00 PM
September 9	Regular meeting, 5:30 PM
October 7	Bird photography Photo-walk #3, 5:00 PM
October 14	Regular meeting, 5:30 PM
November 4	Landscape photography Photo-walk #2, 3:00 PM.
November 11	Regular meeting, 5:30 PM
December 2	Landscape photography Photo-walk #3, 3:00 PM
December 9	Regular meeting, 5:30 PM



Brazos Bend State Park
Texas Parks and Wildlife
21901 FM 762
Needville TX 77461

FIRST CLASS MAIL

→**NEXT MEETING DAY AND TIME**←
SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 2006, 5:30 PM

☆☆☆☆☆☆



REGULAR VOLUNTEER EVENTS

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| Creekfield Hikes | Every Saturday and Sunday at 11:00 AM, led by volunteers |
| Photo Hikes | First Saturday of each month |
| Volunteer meeting | Second Saturday of each month at 5:30 PM |
| Bird Hikes | See schedule in calendar |

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.

**BRAZOS BEND STATE PARK
VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION**

VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION OFFICERS

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| President: | Judy Strauss |
| Vice-President: | Anna Dell Williamson |
| Secretary: | Bruce Williamson |
| Treasurer: | John Bradford |

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@houston.rr.com). Notify Anna Dell (281-485-2843) well in advance of any events you want announced in the newsletter.

NEWSLETTER TEAM

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Editor | Anna Dell Williamson |
| Production Assistants | Bruce Williamson
Terry Williamson |