PRESIDENT’S REPORT

On August 11 we had a mid-afternoon meeting starting at 2:00 PM with a wonderful selection of desserts. The actual meeting started at 2:30 PM with a Staff Report by Steve Killian. We were all pleased to have Sharon Hanzik back at the park following a period of healing from lower leg surgery.

Ken Pollard, a Director of Texans for State Parks, gave us a presentation on this 501(c)3 organization that was incorporated in 1997. This is a state wide organization which is open to individuals, organizations, and businesses that are interested in our parks, historic sites, and natural areas in Texas. Many of our State Parks are members of this fine group. In the tight budget conditions that now exist, our State Park Systems needs strong support. I would encourage you to consider the objectives of Texans for State Parks and consider supporting their goals. You can learn more about Texans for State Parks at: http://www.texansstateparks.org/

The Nominating Committee, comprised of Diane Carpenter and Dave Armstrong, announced that the following have agreed to be on the 2012-2013 ballot.

President          Mary Lockwood
Vice-President     Glen Kilgore
Secretary          Belinda DiMarcello
Treasurer          Bob Kowalewski

We will vote on this slate of officers at our September 8 General Meeting.

Please remember that our October meeting is our annual picnic. The date is October 13 with a brief business meeting at 5:30 PM, the group picture at 6:00 PM, and a pot luck meal at 6:30 PM. This is a great time for all of us to visit and review the past year at BBSP.

Offie Walker
AUGUST MEETING NOTES
reported by Anna Dell Williamson

President Offie Walker called the August 11 meeting to order at 2:30 PM in the Dining Hall. There were 22 volunteers, 3 staff members and 1 guest present. The minutes of the July 14 meeting were circulated with the sign-in sheet. The minutes were approved and will be posted in the Nature Center. Offie thanked the members who brought dessert.

Special Reports: Staff members Steve Killian, Ted Stevens and Sharon Hanzik brought their reports (see page 3), and guest speaker Ken Pollard presented information on Texans for State Parks (see p. 4).

Committee Reports:
Treasurer: Bob Kowalewski reported that some grants have come in this month. The Gift Shop is doing well, and credit card sales account for 35-40% of sales. Wood sales are down. The tax report has been filed. See the July financial report filed in the Nature Center Volunteer Lounge.

Requests for purchase:
The following requests were announced:
- Accessories for the new police patrol bike, from the Ramsayer Exxon Fund.
- Self-propelled lawn mower, from the Superintendent’s general fund.
- A Kestral 3500 Weather Meter for the alligator research project. This will be left at the park when the alligator project is finished and may be used for predicting burns, reporting weather, etc.
- Corn for bait for the hog traps
- Posts to replace rotten posts on park boundary fence, from Park Equipment Maintenance fund.
- Three combination lock masters, out of Operations Budget.
- Repair NC radio repeater for better communications.

The following requests were approved:
- Tire and battery for ATV, out of Superintendent’s Fund
- Four tires for John Deere Gator
- Two radios to replace broken and lost ones for the work crews.
- Two dual accountable iron rangers for wood kiosks.

Training: Anna Dell Williamson reported that we have around 19 applicants for September training. We need more mentors, road tour guides, and participants to attend and bring food for the September 8 lunch. Please try to be there!

BBEEC: Chuck Duplant reported that we had a very valuable meeting with Gordon Bohmfalk from TPWD Infrastructure, and there will be more updates on that meeting.

Nominating Committee: Dave Armstrong and Diane Carpenter presented the following slate:
- President – Mary Lockwood
- Vice-President – Glen Kilgore
- Secretary – Belinda Dimarcello
- Treasurer – Bob Kowalewski

There were no nominations from the floor. The election will be at the September meeting.

Announcements:
- Diane Carpenter reminded us that we need to link our Kroger cards to the donation program. The forms are in a folder by the printer in the office. BBSP will get a percentage of sales based on use of our code in the Kroger cards. Steve said they will distribute information from Headquarters.
- Bruce and Anna Dell Williamson invited the membership to their 50th Wedding Anniversary celebration on Saturday, Aug. 25, at the Dining Hall.
Brochures from Texans for State Parks were distributed. Chuck Duplant proposed we discuss joining TfSP at the September meeting and vote in October.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.

AUGUST STAFF REPORTS

STEVE KILLIAN, SUPERINTENDENT

Good news:
This fiscal year, September 1, 2011 to August 31, 2012, was a record year for revenue. We can’t have that kind of increase in attendance without the Volunteer Organization.

Activities and information:
♦ Sharon Hanzik is back from her foot surgery.
♦ We have had several changes in the staff. (See article, p.)
♦ It has been too wet to install the gravel. Now that it is drying out we plan to get the gravel delivered and installed.
♦ Resource management work continues
  ▶ Spraying for exotic vegetation
  ▶ Hog trapping continues, getting 20 per month.
♦ Expanding campsites
  ▶ 2 new campsites for hosts near overflow
  ▶ 20-amp electricity in overflow.

Volunteers have donated 20,000 hrs, and hosts have donated 12,000 hours. Those numbers are growing.

TED STEVENS, MANAGEMENT TRAINEE

Goodbye, and thank you for two years of enjoyable learning, and for what you do on a daily basis for the park. I have enjoyed working with an incredible group of dedicated people who come out on their own time to educate people about the outdoors. You are creating memories and changing lives. Visitors get a better understanding of how important wild space is.

Ted Stevens
Moving On
Thank you to David for all he did while I was out.

Recent events:
- New critters
  - 25 baby alligators hatched
  - 8 rat snakes hatched
  - We acquired a new Hognose snake. The old one died after 5 years.
- The new sign for the NC is in and needs to be installed farther up the road.
- The Hognose needs toads. If you can collect toads, bring them in.

David will be off next weekend, and Sharon will need help with programs, because she is filling in at HQ right now. Carl Franke is taking over the Geocaching program that Ted Stevens started.

STAFF CHANGES

BBSP has had several personnel changes this summer and is in the hiring mode for a Park Operations Trainee and two part-time weekend clerks at Headquarters. We hated to say “Good-bye” to four of our staff persons, but they have moved up and moved on to other things.

Ted Stevens, Park Operations Trainee, has been hired as a park police officer at Big Bend Ranch State Park. He is starting his peace officer training in Fort Worth, after which he will go to work at the ranch.

Melissa Moody, Assistant Office Manager/Gift Shop Coordinator, left for a position at Inks Lake State Park as assistant park store manager.

Lisa Wells, fee collector, left for a job with Lamar Consolidated School District. She wanted to be able to spend time with her only daughter, who just started Kindergarten. No more working weekends.

Denise Wilkes, fee collector, moved to Ft. Worth.

While we are sorry to have folks leave, we are happy to say “Hello and Welcome” to two new positions in Headquarters.

We hired our unpaid summer intern, Amanda Ellsworth, to work in the office as a part-time fee collector. She will also be attending Texas A & M, Galveston, studying marine biology.

The new Assistant Office Manager / Gift Store Manager is Sarah Garcia. Help welcome Sarah to our Park Team. She transferred from Dinosaur Valley State Park and started on September 10, 2012. Her enthusiasm is so very obvious. Please stop by and introduce yourself when you get a chance.
TEXANS FOR STATE PARKS

Ken Pollard, a TPWD retiree who worked as Outreach Director, including the Buffalo Soldier program, attended our meeting today and brought information on Texans for State Parks, an organization whose aim is to support and improve State Parks. Individuals, corporations or groups can join.

Recent activities include legislative actions, providing pay for summer hires, promoting parks on its web site, documenting special events, helping new parks get started, matching grants with the State Parks Foundation, participating in park fund-raisers and other special events. The organization recently saved seven state parks from being closed. Our own Management Trainee Ted Stevens was part of the hiring helped by TfSP in 2009.

TfSP represents all state parks. This is an all-volunteer organization and trips and expenses are covered by the volunteers. Members are Friends groups and individuals. TfSP is an umbrella organization for Friends, etc. It is a 501(c)3 Organization whose only funding comes from donations and grants. The newsletter, the Voice, is posted on the web site and brochures are available. They can help with web site and Facebook promotion of events in parks and assist with the planning for these events. For example, for the bison release at Cap Rock SP last year, this organization helped by using the Buffalo Solider reenactors and the Texas Trail Raider’s organizations to cover food and provide trail ride staff. This activity got TPWD involved to assist the park with the event.

When a park is going to be featured by TfSP, planning starts nine to twelve months ahead. President John Cobb will spend several days at the park to learn how to help the park and what actions need to be taken. Donated funds go directly to the Volunteers, where it’s needed.

Questions and answers:

- Q: How does TfSP make contacts with legislature?
  A: TfSP works with legislature 24/7. Members have unique contacts and talents, and try to keep parks on the Legislators radar, by representing and speaking for the people interested in preservation and conservation.

- Q: Do you see possible improvements in funding in the future (the next 4 years)?
  A: Funding is going to be tough. The biggest problem is to protect from future park closures and staff loss.

- Q: What are the chances to get the “opt in” fee for vehicle registration changed to an “opt out” fee?
  A: TfSP is addressing that issue.

- Q: How can TfSP help us with the new BBEEC?
  A: Stay in touch with the President. TfSP can do marketing after we get permission from TPWD to begin fundraising. They can keep legislators informed. We also need to contact our own legislators about this. TfSP will do what they can. It is a tough situation now, with the main focus on closures, staff, and funding. Volunteers can speak to legislators when State Park staff can’t. They are encouraged to be the voice of the park.

BBSPVO ANNUAL VOLUNTEER PICNIC

October 13, 5:30 PM, Dining Hall
Meeting, Group Photo, Potluck Dinner
Bring casserole and side or dessert to share
Brisket for your enjoyment
CONGRATULATIONS

Mike Fisher and Robert Zurawski both finished their training requirements and become members of the volunteer organization. Also shown is Barbary Willy, who finished requirements earlier, but her picture was not available until this issue. Be sure to meet and welcome these new volunteers.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Gary Bialas (Staff)  Holly Haynes
Jim Calvert            Linda Oden Heinicke
Ron Dearman            Patty Henry
Allen Elster (Staff)   Tina Ibarra (Staff)
Barry Eversole (Staff) Mike Manley
Frank Gregg (Emeritus) Sammie Miller
Christian Guzman       Paige O’Neal

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Dave and Gay Armstrong
Jim Calvert
Jaci Elliott
Kent and Debbie Fewell
Eddye and Sam Grizzaffi
Jim and Patricia Hiett
Don and Marilyn Vossler

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Debbie Fewell
Mozelle Franklin (Emeritus)
Buddy Franklin (Emeritus)
Pete Hart
Tom Kanak
Nicole Olson

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Justin and Kate Bower
Diane and Jerry Carpenter

THE BRAZOS RIVER PICKERS

The Pickers will perform another season at BBSP starting October 6 and will play the first Saturday of the month through April 6, 2013.
from Sharon Hanzik: I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the volunteers and staff for taking care of the Nature Center, volunteer and interpretive activities while I was away. It was a comfort knowing that I need not worry about anything. You've also provided a great relief covering everything on those Saturday's while David is away and I am working at HQ. No worries there either.

Progress is much slower than I anticipated. I'm walking but I still have days when it is painful to do so. I sure hope I am at full capability by October.

to Anna Dell Williamson and Beth Debenport for interviewing volunteer applicants and planning training.

to Jaci Elliott, Paige O'Neal, Carrie Sample, Offie Walker, Rick Dashnau for articles for the newsletter.

to Barbara Willy for her help in creating a procedure manual for the GS.

from Anna Dell Williamson: to everyone who helped with volunteer training - road tour drivers, mentors, people who brought food, help with setting up, compiling manuals, printing, presenting sessions, leading hikes, the list goes on. One person cannot do it. It takes the entire organization working together to provide a good training program. Special thanks for those who covered for me on the last Saturday when I was unable to make it to the park. Like Sharon said above, “No worries”.

I MET A PARK VISITOR

by Bruce Williamson

Beth Debenport, Anna Dell and I stopped for dinner on the way home from a day of working at the park one Saturday. Our young waitress, Lizzy, commented on my BBSP volunteer patch, and asked what we do at the park. I described a little of the long list of things volunteers do at the park, and the difference between Camp Hosts and Volunteers. She told me about her memories of visiting BBSP as a child, and said she wanted to work at the park. I suggested she would be happier as a ranger than as a volunteer, and she agreed.

She said she would like to take her boy friend out to BBSP and later on, her family. When I told her that Beth, Anna Dell, and I have been volunteers at BBSP for twenty-three years, she volunteered that she has probably seen us at the park. She also related her memory of attending a program on owls and opening an owl pellet. She also remembered when we had two owls in the raptor cage on the side of the Nature Center.

It’s nice to meet someone who shares with us her memories of BBSP and the impact the park, staff and volunteers have made on her life.

YOUR MOTHER DOESN'T LIVE HERE...

by Carrie Sample

The Dirt and Grime in the Nature Center

How many of you have had such a sign somewhere at work, reminding you to clean up after yourself! We do a fairly good job of cleaning up after ourselves in the Nature Center, but unfortunately there are no nightly custodians that we had at our places of work. The Nature Center needs to have a regular system of cleaning. This process is too large for one person, but possibly if we have 4 or more volunteers working together, the tasks would not be so large. When would be the best time for this event? Early Saturday morning or one late afternoon or evening...

If you would like to regularly or occasionally help with the cleaning, please e-mail me with the times that you would probably be available, csample0@comcast.net.
Below are the totals of the various activities and attendance recorded for the Nature Center, hikes, and programs for August 1-31. Heat and rain slowed down visitation, but we still broke records from last year in the NC and GS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programs</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nature Center Attendance</td>
<td>Saturdays (4) - 1428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High, 391 (8/25)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Average: 357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sundays (4) – 699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High, 278 (8/12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Average: 175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Weekdays (23) - 1464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High, 138 (8/7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Average: 64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creekfield Hikes (7)</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Story Time (4)</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snake (3)</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alligator (3)</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Programs (9):</td>
<td>Owls (2), photo walk, Crunch &amp; Munch, 40-Acre and insect hikes, photo walk, poison ivy and armadillo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Visitors</td>
<td>277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Served in Hikes and Programs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretation = NA</td>
<td>Maintenance = NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Hours = NA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park Attendance</td>
<td>Total 11,167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Day use 9,227 (83%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Overnight 1,890 (17%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NC Visitors 3,591 (32%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ALLIGATOR HATCHING REPORT

by Anna Dell Williamson

Friday afternoon, August 10. David Heinicke and Austin Hager were feeding the snakes when they noticed one of the alligator eggs in the incubator was hatching. David helped the baby hatch and determined that it was ready to come NOW, and the rest must be hatched today. So we contacted as many volunteers as we could by email, text, and phone. Headquarters alerted incoming visitors as to the blessed event.

Twelve volunteers and about 14 visitors gathered at the Nature Center picnic table and hatched 21 healthy-looking baby alligators. Three others were added to the neo-natal ICU because they were slightly under-developed and need watching. Thirteen of the eggs were not viable but were cleaned out to use as demo eggs for programs. By 6:00 everything was cleaned up, and the happy new “parents” left with photos of their “babies”.

JOURNEYS WITH JACI

“HATCH-ing Time”

by Jaci M. Elliott

This year at Brazos Bend State Park, our reptilian egg timers went off right on schedule in mid-August. Producing broods of, first, 11 rat snakes (“snakelets” created by Ma and Pa rat snake of the Nature Center), then 21 American alligators, both sets of hatchlings emerged feisty, if not fierce, as Volunteer Austin Hager can attest, first hand.

Consider, for a moment, the earliest days for these miniature carnivores; go back to mid-April, when nests are built and eggs are laid. If you compare these scaly builders to their avian counterparts, we find our feathered friends “sitting on their nests” for a much shorter incubation period. And that doesn’t even come close, around Easter, to the incredibly quick incubation time given by small children eager to hatch chocolates or jelly beans from plastic, pastel-colored ova.

Really, other than to hide the location of laid eggs—forget building a mound to house and heat those leathery shells—our hot and humid Houston area summers (especially as this past July went on record for being the hottest month recorded ever) seem more than capable of complete incubation. And, with forty-two alligator nests located within the park, the scavenger hunt actually becomes the search for those nests themselves. Just make sure to check out the carefully researched map above the Nature Center’s desk, compiled this year by our gator expert, Cole Eversole.

While not renowned for their cuddliness, mother alligators, nevertheless, do demonstrate a “labor of love” to their offspring by vigilantly protecting their nests, delicately mouth-hatching their young and further staying with their offspring for the first year or two of life.

But “Hatch-ing” didn’t only occur in Texas this August with the arrival of the baby gators. No, (and it wasn’t lost on this writer) a variety of promotional peppers found in our local HEB and Kroger stores—those Hatch chile peppers—also suddenly appeared on the scene, green and about six inches in length. These peppers originate from the “chile capitol of the world”, otherwise known as Hatch, New Mexico, which also hosts the Hatch Chile Festival every Labor Day. Background checking for this story, however, did determine that the capsaicin-containing critters, when themselves bitten into, packed the more potent bite.
AUGUST MAINTENANCE REPORT

Volunteer hours reported: 320 hours

Wood Yard:
Split, bundled and delivered wood to the kiosks

Mowing and Landscaping:
Cut and collected trees cut by Power Company, delivered to wood yard
Mowed Live Oak Trail at Pilant Slough and mowed around Live Oak tree at 40-Acre Lake
Cleared Blackberry Vines from Hurricane Ike tree on Creekfield Trail
Cleared viewing area at the Mouse Trap

Trail Trimming and Trail Maintenance:
Cleaned up blow-down trees on White Oak Trail, Equestrian area, across from Headquarters, at the Nature Center, and at 40-Acre Lake
Trimmed Riverview Trail, Creekfield Forest Trail, and Pilant Slough Trail

General Maintenance:
Cleaned up debris at Overflow Camping

Pest Control:
Checked and set hog traps several times throughout month and repositioned hog traps to Elm Lake
Trapped 6 hogs
Treated invasive plants on Creekfield Lake and Creekfield Forest Trails, at Viewing Areas
Treated Chinese Tallow trees and Poison Ivy at viewing areas

Photo sent by Ron Morrison, 8/18/12: These are some blue dragonflies that followed us a little while we were working on the Creekfield trail.

GEOCACHING 101

Did you know that there are almost 100 Geocaches in Brazos Bend State Park? Can you find them all? Come join Carl Franke and park visitors to discover a new sport called Geocaching. You will use a provided GPS unit to find hidden treasure and learn how to play a game that can be played almost anywhere. It's great for kids and adults, no experience or equipment necessary! The first group met September 15. Additional dates are following:

- September 29, 2012 10:30 a.m.
- October 13, 2012 10:30 a.m.
- October 27, 2012 10:30 a.m.

Visit http://www.geocaching.com/ to discover that geocaching is a free real-world outdoor treasure hunt. Players try to locate hidden containers, called geocaches, using a smartphone or GPS and can then share their experiences online.
The 17th Annual Brazos Bend Butterfly Count will be held on Sunday, October 7, 2012. We would love to have you join us. Meet at the 40-acre Lake parking lot at 9:00 am. Everyone is invited and no experience is required. Beginners will be paired with experienced counters. The extra eyes are very helpful and it is a fun way to learn to identify our local butterflies.

This citizen science project is one of several annual butterfly counts in the Houston area (and many more nationwide). Participants divide into small groups and patrol areas within BBSP and vicinity counting all species and individual butterflies they see. We gather at the Elm Lake picnic ground at 12:30 to tally our preliminary results and eat our sack lunches. Those who wish to count in the afternoon may patrol other areas inside and outside the park within the official 15-mile count circle and email their results to us.

Bring lunch, drinking water, mosquito repellant, sun protection, and (if you have them) butterfly field guides and close-focusing binoculars. Cameras are also helpful to assist in identification. There is a $3.00 per person North American Butterfly Association fee to participate. The Park entry fee will be waived for those who stop at headquarters and identify themselves as participants in the count.

Our first count in 1995 tallied 392 butterflies of 30 species. The record count of 2001 found 5340 butterflies of 57 species. Last year, in spite of the extreme drought, we saw 166 individuals of 24 species, including significant numbers of Gulf Fritillaries, Little Yellows, Common Buckeyes and Southern Broken-dashes.

For additional information contact count compilers Rich and Sandy Jespersen at richj@consolidated.net. Photo of a Julia Heliconian on Frostweed, on White Oak Trail by Chuck Duplant.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 29</td>
<td>Geocaching 101, 10:30 AM, meet at Nature Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 6</td>
<td>Brazos River Pickers, 5:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Landscape Photography Photo Walk, 5:00 PM, meet at Nature Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 7</td>
<td>17th Annual Brazos Bend Butterfly Count</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 13</td>
<td>Geocaching 101, 10:30 AM, meet at Nature Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Budget and Executive Meetings, 3:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual Volunteer Picnic, Dining Hall:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meeting: 5:30 PM; Group picture: 6:00 PM; Potluck Dinner: 6:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 19</td>
<td>Guided Bird Watching Hikes, 8:00 AM, meet at 40-Acre Lake restrooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 27</td>
<td>Geocaching 101, 10:30 AM, meet at Nature Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 28</td>
<td>Brazos Bend Gator Run, 7:00 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 3</td>
<td>Brazos River Pickers, 5:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 9</td>
<td>Bird Photography Photo Walk, 5:00 PM, meet at Nature Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 10</td>
<td>Guided Bird Watching Hikes, 8:00 AM, meet at 40-Acre Lake restrooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 23</td>
<td>Guided Bird Watching Hikes, 8:00 AM, meet at 40-Acre Lake restrooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 1</td>
<td>A Simple Christmas, Nature Center lawn, 3:00 - 7:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brazos River Pickers, 5:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 7</td>
<td>Landscape Photography Photo Walk, 5:00 PM, meet at Nature Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 8</td>
<td>Guided Bird Watching Hikes, 8:00 AM, meet at 40-Acre Lake restrooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Budget and Executive Meetings, 3:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Regular Business Meeting, 5:30 PM (Supper, 5:00 PM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 15</td>
<td>Guided Bird Watching Hikes, 8:00 AM, meet at 40-Acre Lake restrooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 15</td>
<td>28th Christmas Bird Count, 6:30 AM to dusk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 21</td>
<td>Guided Bird Watching Hikes, 8:00 AM, meet at 40-Acre Lake restrooms</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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: Offie Walker
Vice-President: Mary Lockwood
Secretary: Belinda DiMarcello
Treasurer: Bob Kowalewski
Past-President: Carrie Sample
Comptroller: Nancy Lynn Jones

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Editor: Anna Dell Williamson
Layout: Cynthia Morales
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> or <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