



BRAZOS BEND BUNCH
BUGLE

VOLUME 18, NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2006

JANUARY MEETING NOTES

submitted by Anna Dell Williamson

Judy Strauss called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. There were 13 volunteers and 3 staff members present. Walt Bailey, Regional Interpretive Specialist, was a guest.

Steve Killian, David Heinicke and Sharon Hanzik brought their reports, which are printed elsewhere in the newsletter.

Beth Debenport reported on the **Gift Shop** inventory. For the year, there were very few in losses and good revenue. If you have suggestions for any new items, contact Beth or bring in a sample.

Bryan Leach called attention to the **maintenance report** in the newsletter.

Anna Dell Williamson reported on **volunteer training**. There are 13 VIT's. Some new activities have been added.

John Bradford brought the **Treasurer's report**. The following requests were presented and approved.

1. A request from David for funding for a climbing wall for Earth Day.
2. A request for owl pellets for Earth Day and other educational programs.
3. A request from Bryan Leach for funds for a one and a half ton floor jack for the Maintenance Yard to replace the non-working one.
4. A request from John for an electric branding iron to put "BBSP" on walking sticks, etc. It would be used by the Gift Shop and camp hosts making sticks for the Gator Shop.

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5. A request to transfer funds from the park emergency tractor rental fund to a new fund to maintain the new Kubotas.

Ken Debenport presented the **2006 Budget** proposal. Each section was passed as presented.

Old Business: We still need an outreach coordinator.

New Business: **Herb Mann** had hip surgery recently.

The Executive Committee granted inactive status to Rita Cooper and Angela Manna.

Sue Warden, Vice-President, announced her resignation. She is moving to Florida to help care for her mother. The Executive Committee appointed **Anna Dell Williamson** to fill the remainder of the Vice-President position. **Bruce Williamson** was appointed to fill the remainder of the Secretary position. The motion to confirm the appointments carried.

David announced that **John Bradford, Carol Ramsayer, Jane Minard, Bill Godley** and **Barb Tucker** will be sharing leadership of Saturday morning beginner bird hikes.

He thanked **Judy** for her leadership of the volunteer organization.

The meeting was adjourned. ♦

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hi, Everyone! Although the weather didn't want to cooperate, I had a wonderful weekend of camping with my 5 grandchildren (all under 6), my two daughters and their husbands, and some of their friends, and we even managed to NOT get ourselves thrown out of the Park! And even though I had promised my family that I was not going to do any volunteering for the weekend, that the weekend belonged to them, it just didn't happen! There were dogs off leashes, cars parked in the strangest places, "big" kids pushing around "little" kids on the playground, and so forth and so on! But it was a wonderful time, and a time much needed.



But getting back to the reality of volunteering, there are a few things that have been brought to my attention that need to be addressed again. Sometimes we may get so caught up in the "moment" that we forget what we were taught, or maybe even get that, "Oh, that rule doesn't apply to me" attitude. Here are just a few areas where we, as volunteers, may want to stop and re-evaluate our actions.

When you are out "just riding around" on the Gator or Kuboda, you are considered to be on trail patrol. Always carry a trash bucket and trash pick stick with you for picking up trash. This is a part of trail patrolling. And if you are headed to the Elm Lake area, take a couple of rolls of toilet paper along to put in the clevis moltrum restrooms. They seem to always be in need of paper. Our trails look great....lets keep them that way!

Under NO circumstance are visitors allowed to hold an alligator or snake or any of our other "critters". Nor are they to be allowed to touch around the head or mouth of any of them. Our "critters" are not pets, and, although it is unlikely, they CAN bite. One bite is all that it would take for us to have the privilege of handling these animals taken away from us forever. And what about our poor "critter", if it is suddenly thrown across the room or down on the floor, simply because it made a move that alarmed the visitor. Remember, handling these animals is a privilege which can and will be taken away from any one of us if we choose not to follow the rules.

Third, only a few volunteers working in the gift shop are marking the \$20, \$50, \$100 bills with the counterfeit detection pen. Remember, if we acquire a counterfeit bill and did not check it when it was presented to us, we, the volunteers, are the ones out that money. Please remember to check these bills when they are presented. The guidelines are in the drawer.

We have a new group of VIT's joining us, so let's help them by following the rules ourselves and not teaching them bad habits. The rules of our organization were made for and by all of us; no one person has his own set of rules.

Thank you all for all you do. We have a very beautiful park because each and every one of you cares!

Judy Strauss ♦

STAFF REPORTS

STEVE KILLIAN



- 1 - **Creekfield Lake** work is progressing. We have cut down all the tall trees and poisoned the stumps. They can't be burned, so they have been piled up for habitat. Two basking islands near the piers have been formed. We used a bulldozer for a week to build them. The overflow structure has been sandbagged and we are waiting for rain. We will be keeping tabs on the rice growth. Jacking up the pier is on the list of things to do.
- 2 – The front quadrant of **Old Horseshoe Lake** was cleared last week. You can see the lake. We have shredded the wild rice in the lake.
- 3 – Trees were cut on the **south pipeline prairie**. You can see from the park road to the property line. We may burn when the ban is lifted.
- 4 – Tomorrow, the **new custodian**, Gary Beales, will start full time through the end of August. His responsibilities will include restroom cleaning, litter pick-up and minor restroom repairs.
- 5 - **Thanks for help** in removing part of a tree on the pocket prairie. We are removing selected trees on the prairie to provide less density for a healthy prairie. We keep in mind the ecology of the prairies and esthetics.
- 6 – The **lift station** final inspection is Wednesday.
- 7 – Wednesday there will be a pre-construction meeting at Texas Department of Transportation for the **Pilant Slough** structure project, which should begin soon.
- 8 – **Parking lot expansion** is planned for early summer
- 9 – In the **equestrian area**, the Fort Bend County Road and Bridge has dumped grad-all maintainer at the site to build an all-weather primitive campground. There are 20 sites, half pull-through and half back-in. There is a day use parking area by the house. There is water for horses, but not for drinking. There are four fire rings. We are working on getting a porta-potty or a composting facility. Campers are starting to come it.
- 10 – **Entrance fees** may go to \$4.00 soon. There has been no increase since 1998. Approval from Austin is pending.
- 11 – **Trail patrol** is very helpful. It shows the badge and deters bad behavior.

DAVID HEINICKE

David Heinicke brought his report. He introduced guest **Walt Bailey**, Regional Interpretive Specialist. He is coordinating an Interpretive Master Plan for parks. See him after the meeting for information.



The **Annual Bird Count** was December 17. In spite of the cold, 135 specimens were reported.

Next weekend Bryan and the work crew will **replace the flooring in the meeting room** with vinyl sheet flooring. The Hershey Foundation gave us a grant for \$1000.

David has applied to the **Trail Grant Program** for 180 tons of granite gravel and two Kubotas. They will be used in maintenance.

The first weekend in February there will be an **Angler Education Class**. Instruction will be by outside instructors.

Thanks to the volunteers for Christmas and New Year work. The park was filled with campers. Spring Break will be our next busy time.

Earth Day will be celebrated April 1. We will have a climbing wall. We have sponsors for \$3000. We need ideas for programs and exhibitors (not vendors.)

SHARON HANZIK

There was a full class for Interpretive Training January 13. The next class will be February 14. There are five or six slots available. Participants will be challenged to present a program.

As part of volunteer training, VIT's will take a two-hour trail tour on a gator. Drivers are needed for this activity. Dates will be worked out based on VIT requests.



The Brazos River Pickers will be performing on the first Saturday through April, maybe longer. There were 200 in attendance at the program last week.

Sharon will be out of the park February 16 to March 5.

The BBSPVO reported 16,545 volunteer hours for the fiscal year, Sept. 04 to Aug 05. For the calendar, year of 2005, we recorded 15, 107 hours.

OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY TO
MAUREEN GOODE
ON THE DEATH OF HER FATHER

CONGRATULATIONS



**to Dylan Lawrence
on the birth of**

Annabel Rose Lawrence

Friday, January 6, 2006

6 lbs., 6 oz., 20 inches long

(Dylan is a former volunteer who moved out of state.)

BEST WISHES

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Peggy Farley
Bill Godley
Johnny Hite (VIT)
Sid Jones
Judy Strauss



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

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



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Glen and Maureen Kilgore

VOLUNTEER T-SHIRTS

We are going to place an order for the volunteer t-shirt with the emblem on front and back. We have a hooded sweatshirt with a zipper front available now. The order envelopes are in the gift shop workroom. The order will be placed after the February 11 meeting. Refer to last month's newsletter for colors, styles, sizes and prices.

Short sleeve t-shirts – \$7.00

Long sleeve t-shirts – \$8.00

Long sleeve sweat shirts –\$11.00

Sweatshirt with hood and front zipper —\$25.00 (2XL \$27.00, 3XL \$30.00)



MUSICAL PERFORMANCES

The **Brazos River Pickers**, an old-time bluegrass band, performed Saturday, February 4 at the amphitheater from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Glen Kilgore provided a story during intermission. The group will perform on the first Saturday of each month through April. Take your picnic supper, lawn chairs or blankets or sit in the amphitheater and enjoy this music.

Thanks

- 😊 to volunteers for help removing part of a tree on the pocket prairie
- 😊 to John Bradford, Bryan Leach and Anna Dell Williamson for help with the Gift Shop Inventory.
- 😊 to all the Gift Shop workers during 2005
- 😊 to Joan Jackson for working on the flowers around the Nature Center
- 😊 to John Bradford for last month's supper
- 😊 to David & the Thursday work crew for the new floor upstairs.
- 😊 to Anna Dell Williamson for accepting the appointment to fill the open Vice President position
- 😊 to Bruce Williamson for accepting the appointment to fill the open Secretary position
- 😊 to Anna Dell Williamson for taking over the responsibility of training for the upcoming VIT group
- 😊 to the volunteers for Christmas and New Year work.
- 😊 to Carol Ramsayer for collating and compiling the new volunteer manual, and for all the other help she has given
- 😊 to Richard Board for printing the new volunteer manual
- 😊 to everyone who has helped with volunteer training by driving for the road tour, speaking to the VIT's, preparing food, and presenting parts of the training program.

MEETING NIGHT SUPPERS

by Anna Dell Williamson

Thanks to **John Bradford** for bringing the meeting night supper for January. **James Blankenship** will be bringing supper for the February 11 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). Thank you to all those who have already brought a meal.♦

JANUARY MAINTENANCE REPORT

By Bryan Leach

Removed swing gates & hardware from both ends of Pilant Slough Trail
Hauled the roller to the wood yard
Removed the drag from the Pilant Slough Trail and disassembled it, putting the timbers in the wood yard
Unloaded 8 cords of purchased wood, split and stacked fire wood, tied wood, hauled tied wood to the racks
Watered all 23 newly planted trees
Cultivated around and fertilized all the small trees around the Nature Center
Trimmed 3 of the Mulberry trees by the Nature Center
Installed a concrete car stop in the pole barn, for the John Deere Gator
Lopped small limbs and thorns on the Red Buckeye Trail
Closed part of the Red Buckeye/Whiteoak Trail
Cleaned up the wood yard
Cut up downed trees on the Creekfield Forest Trail, at campsite 106, on the north side of the one mile stretch, and on the north side of Hale Lake
Worked in the flowers around the Nature Center on two different occasions
Changed engine oil & filter, transaxle fluid, drive belt and greased both Gators
Pressured washed both Gators, Kubota's and the tractor
Straightened up the maintenance shed and labeled and organized the chain saw blades
Started clearing yaupon trees and under growth from an area across from the 40 Acre Lake parking lot
Washed the seating area on the Gazebo at the Hale Lake point
Removed the floor covering and prepped floor, then installed a new linoleum and base boards in the upstairs room and hall in the Nature Center

In 2005 the volunteers logged 2340 Maintenance hours

IT'S TIME FOR EARTH DAY!

by Sharon Hanzik

April 1, 2006 marks the **16th anniversary** of our largest event. Seventy-five percent of funding for this event is through corporate donations. It will be business as usual but for all you new-comers here's what to expect. We will have booths, demonstrations, "hands-on" activities and educational programs for the general public. We have two large festival tents, a large tent for the volunteer organization, small tents for the wildlife demonstrations and bird, alligator and Creekfield hikes. We invite exhibitors from local, state and Federal conservation and environmental organizations. Last year we estimated over 3,500 visitors. If you have any ideas, would like to present a different hike, etc., or know of an organization that may be interested, please check with David. Our food vendor again this year will be Ray Anderson and Jacob Ramirez's scout troop.

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

- Grounds and building prep the day before (large tents are set up by the company we rent from)
- 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)

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.

EARTH DAY KIDS ACTIVITY BOOTH

by Sharon Hanzik

Greetings! I am beginning my search for help for the activity booth. So far, I know we'll be making pony-bead coral snakes, but I have not decided on the other activities. Maybe something with a mammal or insect theme. If you have any ideas that don't take too much prep time let me hear them. If you can help out for at least one two-hour shift, I'd greatly appreciate it. The amount of help I receive determines what all we'll be able to do. You will know the activities in advance so that you can learn some fast facts about the subject. The booth shifts are 9:00 - 11:00, 11:00 - 1:00, 1:00 - 3:00 and 3:00 - 5:00. We will be under one of the large tents again this year. David has requested NO RED TENTS! Hope you can help!

NEWSPAPER EDITORIAL ON PARK BUDGET NEEDS

summarized by Anna Dell Williamson

This editorial from the December 15, 2005 *Corpus Christi Caller Times* is a commentary on a visit by Texas Parks and Wildlife Director Walt Dabney before a coastal issues forum convened at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Headlines state: "Draconian funding cuts take toll on state parks. Penny-wise, pound-foolish decisions by heedless lawmakers have brought a once exemplary system to the brink of ruin."

Dabney reported that the entire Texas' state parks system is in serious jeopardy. The system's budget was \$50 million for 2002; by 2005, the figure had risen to \$51 million. For 2006, however, spending was cut to \$49 million. And when you figure that operating costs of utilities, fuel, contracts, vehicle repairs and personnel costs have increased significantly, you have a system that's \$7 million in the hole. In his presentation, Dabney showed photos showing monuments, rest stations and other facilities in stages of advanced dilapidation. He also pointed out that his agency has had to eliminate 73 job slots: That translated into 39 layoffs, plus 34 existing vacancies unfilled.

Spending for the parks system accounts for an very small portion of the total state budget. According to the Texas Coalition for Conservation, the state parks' budget totals less than one-tenth of 1 percent of the state budget. A share of the Texas sporting goods tax - frozen for the last decade at \$32 million - is reserved for state and local park grants. But that modest sum has been relentlessly chipped away by legislators in the name of balancing the budget. And unfunded legislative mandates have further drained resources needed by the parks system.

The author states the following: "True, there are many urgent needs facing the state. Such issues as health care for children, protective services for children and the elderly, and, of course, public education claim the highest priority. But we must not turn our back on the parks system, especially since ours is becoming an increasingly urbanized state. The parks and historical sites of Texas are a crucial link to our past and our future. Their present plight is, as Dabney put it, 'an embarrassment.' Texans can, and must, do better."

Ed. Note: The users of the parks, not the employees, are the only ones who can make it clear to the Legislature that they want a quality park system. We as volunteers can speak as individuals and let the legislators know how we feel about this situation. You are encouraged to express your personal opinion to your legislator regarding this issue. Please remember that this must be done as an individual, not as a spokesperson for our organization. Our 501(c)3 status with the IRS prevents the organization from participating in any sort of political activity.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

by Anna Dell Williamson

Volunteer training began January 28 with orientation and lunch. It included a tour of the Nature Center and of park roads. On February 4, our 13 new VIT's learned about park history, regulations and volunteer conduct. They took a Creekfield Hike and learned to handle live animals. On February 11 they will visit maintenance and the wood yard for instruction, practice a Creekfield hike, hear about the volunteer activities and park calendar, and go on a prairie hike. Then they will begin their assisted training, which will include a Gator tour of the trail system and work in the required membership areas - Nature Center, Gift Shop, woodyard, water station and Creekfield Hike. I appreciate all the help with classroom training, and now we will need help from each of you as the VIT's learn the ropes in the various areas. Please welcome them and help them all you can.

SPRING IS HERE

by Sharon Hanzik

Presidents Day, February 20, is a busy day, if the weather holds. The center is scheduled open 9 - 5 and a Creekfield Hike is listed. There are hosts signed up but extra, more experienced help could be needed. The Gift Shop is wide open. No regular staff will be in that day, David's day off, Sharon on vacation.

Spring break is a busy time at BBSP. Because different school districts select different weeks for this holiday, we end up with at least two very busy weeks, and three busy weekends. This year most area districts are off either March 6 to 10 or March 13 to 17. According to Susie, we will have many reservations for those two weeks. The Nature Center is scheduled for full hours the first two full weeks of March. All time slots (9:00 to 5:00) and Creekfield have been added to the calendar for March 6 - 17. We'll have a Creekfield hike only if a leader signs up for it. We will be using hosts to keep the center open if volunteer members are not available.

Scout groups are calling like crazy. I have informed the large ones that it is hard for us to accommodate them, especially for indoor programs. However, remember that more than one person can sign up for Creekfield, and we'll need more than one most likely for every Saturday this spring. Remember that if there's only enough for one leader, the first person signed up gets preference, but that rarely happens on a springtime Saturday unless the weather turns bad.

VIT's will be signing up to train, and they will need your assistance. Thank you all - your help is greatly appreciated.

VOLUNTEERS AND HOSTS WORKING TOGETHER

by Anna Dell Williamson

As you are well aware, there are more volunteers at BBSP than the members of the BBSPVO. One group of these volunteers is the camp hosts. They have graciously agreed to help us keep the Nature Center open on week days from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. They come into the center and receive training on how to serve the public. Most of them are very enthusiastic about working the Nature Center.

It is very important for park staff to know that the center is covered every day, so they sign up the hosts about a month in advance. That does not keep any volunteer from signing up for the same slot. We can have two persons in the Nature Center for any shift. The Gift Shop is almost always available, and only members of the volunteer organization may work the Gift Shop. Don't forget that that is an important service as well. Please sign up as far in advance as possible, and don't feel that you can't come out if a host is on the calendar. All help is needed and appreciated.

CREEKFIELD LAKE IMPROVEMENTS OR “HOW TO MAKE AN OMELET”

by Dennis Jones

One of my many clichés is “you have to break a few eggs to make an omelet”. Recently at Creekfield Lake we made a really BIG OMELET. (No, we didn’t lay an egg!) Before I got here at Brazos Bend State Park many years ago Creekfield Lake was already experiencing tallow tree encroachment. Over time, numerous volunteers and I ventured out to Creekfield to do battle with the invader with little success. All that effort has changed now for the positive. The park staff, led by our bulldog of a park manager, Steve Killian, removed ALL the Chinese tallow trees from the north side of Creekfield Lake... permanently.

On each side of the lake, but mainly the west side, the tallow trees had moved out into the lake to the exclusion of everything else, at least 50 feet or more. They were so thick that you could not walk between them in some places, and to the trained eye they represented a massive wasteland. There were two obvious tree lines, the original hardwood tree line and the new Chinese tallow tree line. Now that tallow tree line is gone, once and for all.

The debris was pushed up into large piles (we rented a bulldozer) to be burned, but they were much too green to burn at this time. The piles were then rearranged to form “Habitat”! You should have seen all the little “dickie” birds that gravitated to those piles; they really seemed to like them. Mr. Frank Hoot used to tell me that a large pile of brush and wood like that was great nesting habitat for wood ducks and black bellied whistling ducks. I am sure the alligators will use them as well this spring.

The tattered water control device has been repaired, and once we get the necessary rain, old Creekfield Lake is going to look new once again. Although the depth of the lake has not been affected, now there will be spawning grounds of shallow water for the fish. We plan to stock the lake with perch, catfish and bass, as well as the rainbow trout in the winters of coming years. What a great opportunity that will be for our campers and park visitors!

The visibility on the lake is greatly improved and this will help the bird watching there, which has diminished over the years due to the lake’s ever-spreading southern wild rice monoculture. Mr. Hoot used to say that the lake was once a great place to see wood ducks. Maybe now, it will be again. The depth is perfect for most of the “puddle ducks” that used to visit us in the winter. I expect to see them there again soon. How about those Creekfield Lake nature hikes on weekends? Now there will really be some interpretive opportunities.

It’s a funny thing about the park’s natural resources, they change so slowly and subtly you don’t notice the barn door is open until the mule is out. Over the years our resources have suffered as a result of budget cutbacks, too much or too little weather, benign neglect, different priorities, bureaucratic red tape and lethargy to name only a polite few. By the time the resources reached a critical point we had all gotten a little too complacent with invasive plant species, overgrown lakes, ragged prairies and a sagging infrastructure.

Even though we all have our different perspectives and opinions on how to manage our natural resources, there is one thing I am sure we have in common. We all care about the park. Some of us are conservationists, some preservationists (there is a difference), but we all want the park to be the best it can be for our visitors, as well as for all the native plants and critters that call this little piece of the earth home. Sometimes things will look bad, but the end result will be worth it. Remember the ugly duckling? Consider how prairies look after they are burned and what a miracle occurs when the rains come and the flowers and grasses are given an even chance to thrive.

The park has entered a new era of stewardship, and it will be a better place for everyone and everything as a result. Please join with me in the celebration of a NEW Creekfield Lake and a future of seeing Brazos Bend State Park setting the example for balanced stewardship and recreation for generations present and future. Thanks for your support.

PRAIRIE PROJECT '06

by Al Childs

The Brazos Bend State Park Prairie Project '06 had its first meeting on January 29 with a presentation on prairies by Dennis Jones and project details by Al Childs. Thirteen volunteers turned out from several Master Naturalist Chapters and our own Brazos Bend State Park Volunteer Organization. After the meeting, everyone met and surveyed the first of three prairie sites, designated as Prairie #1. Three transects were surveyed and since it was the first time, lasted about two and a half hours. Future surveys should take about half that. Three prairies will be surveyed four times this year to monitor vegetation, identify grass, soil moisture, etc.

The intent of the project is to provide a baseline of current prairie conditions and use that to plan future restoration projects. If the project is successful, it will be expanded to include the rest of our prairies. Some restoration projects that will be started this year are already being discussed by Dennis and Al. The surveys will be performed on the last Sunday of each month and anyone is invited to attend. Notification of restoration projects will be provided as they are available. Al would like to send a special thanks to all those who volunteered and to Sharon for allowing the use of the Nature Center classroom.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 10	Bird Hike, 8:00 AM, Forty-Acre restroom building
February 11	New Volunteer Training, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Regular meeting, 5:30 PM
February 12	Sunset Birdwatching, 5:00 PM, Observation Tower
March 4	Landscape photography Photo-walk #1, 5:00 PM Brazos River Pickers, Amphitheater, 6:00 - 8:00 PM
March 6-10	Spring Break
March 11	Regular meeting, 5:30 PM
March 12	Bird Hike, 8:00 AM, Forty-Acre restroom building
March 13-17	Spring Break
March 17	Bird Hike, 8:00 AM, Forty-Acre restroom building
April 1	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
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.



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

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

...your set of pictures of your new grandbaby also includes pictures of alligators and egrets

...your cap, name tag, fanny pack, binoculars, boots, and walking stick reside permanently in your car

...even a cold, rainy day at the park is better than a good day at the Mall.

Brazos Bend State Park

Texas Parks and Wildlife
21901 FM 762
Needville TX 77461

FIRST CLASS MAIL

→ **NEXT MEETING DAY AND TIME** ←
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 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

BRAZOS BEND STATE PARK VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION

VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION OFFICERS

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

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Editor	Anna Dell Williamson
Production Assistants	Bruce Williamson Terry Williamson

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