



# BRAZOS BEND BUNCH BUGLE

VOLUME 25

NUMBER 9

**The annual October Picnic has been moved back one week to Oct. 19, 2013.**

## September Meeting Notes

*Reported by Anna Dell Williamson*

**Mary Lockwood** called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. There were 22 members, eight Volunteers in Training, and three staff members present. Mary thanked Barbara Willy and Joe Southern for bringing food for the meeting night dinner.

The minutes of the August meeting were approved as posted.

### Committee reports:

**Bob Kowalewski** brought the Treasurer's report. The following requests for purchase were approved:

Outreach Banners (2), requested by **Steve Killian** for "Take Me Outdoors" events.

Weed eater and Lawn mower repairs, by **Jeff Orsak**

Battery for Park Police Officer Vehicle, by Jeff Orsak

Maintenance and replacement parks for patrol bike, by **David Heinicke**

Annual renewal membership to Access Online Scheduling Software, by Steve Killian

Banner for blood drive, by **Chuck Duplant**

A three-point hitch sprayer for tall grass prairie management, by Steve Killian. To control tree growth on the 500 acres of coastal prairie. The sprayer can be used with the tractor, allowing us to spray with a larger tank, for a longer period of time, and reduce maintenance expenses.

$\frac{3}{4}$  inch limestone to maintain trails at Elm Lake, 40 Acre Lake and Spillway, by Steve Killian.

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Bob brought the August financial report.

Bob also brought the Nominating Committee report. The following nominations were presented and accepted by acclamation:

<b>Mary Lockwood</b>	<b>President</b>
<b>Glen Kilgore</b>	<b>Vice-President</b>
<b>Woody Scott</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Melanie Jahn</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>Mike Sanderson</b>	<b>Member at large</b>
<b>Diane Welty</b>	<b>Member at large</b>

We need a resolution to the bank to transfer banking authority to the new officers. Mary Lockwood, Woody Scott and Nancy Lynn Jones were authorized to sign checks and make changes regarding the CDs we have on account.

**Nancy Lynn Jones** reported the sale of wood is higher than August last year.

**Beth Debenport** reported that the Gift Shop had the best August ever. We are open 7 days a week, accept credit cards, and are expanding our inventory and adding special items.

**Pete Hart** reported that the Maintenance crew works Tuesday and Thursday mornings, splits wood, collects downed wood, works in the pocket prairies, does trail maintenance and other general maintenance. Both men and women are welcome to work. We especially need more people on Thursdays. They usually work 8:00 a.m. to noon. In August, 68 people put in 207 hours.

**Cindy Peterson** asked when the Creekfield trail resurfacing will take place. Steve replied that when our current federal grant ends, we will request a grant for Creekfield. She also asked if staff knows about an ad from La Quinta Hotels that the company gives 10% back to parks. David will look into this possibility.

**Justin Bowers** baby is due, and we have been collecting money for a gift card. Cindy will be buying the card after the meeting.

**Anna Dell Williamson** announced that Assistant Editor Joe Southern will be editing the September issue.

Anna Dell reported that we started training with 14 VITs today, and 8 are at the meeting tonight.

**Beth Debenport** thanked Bob Kowalewski and **Belinda Dimarcello** for serving as Treasurer and Secretary the last 2 years.

Bob Kowalewski announced that the tax return and annual report are on a folder on the volunteer desk in the office for anyone interested in seeing it.

David announced that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Gator Run will be held October 27, and we will need some help. Last year we hosted 300 runners, and the group left us a nice donation.

The meeting was adjourned.

## SEPTEMBER STAFF REPORTS

### Steve Killian, Park Superintendent



- Steve welcomed the new VITs attending the meeting and stressed how important the volunteer organization is to BBSP. He reported that August 2013 was the best August ever, and Fiscal Year 2012-2013 is the best fiscal year in visitation and revenue. That improvement can't be done without the volunteers.
- In August, trail work is ongoing. The TDCJ (Texas Department of Criminal Justice) crews worked on trails and removed hazardous trees in the campgrounds. They clocked 400 hours last month.
- We had the Green Tree Reservoir area aerially sprayed to remove tallow trees. It will be sprayed again in a year, then we will replant with native species. This is funded by a grant and by Ducks Unlimited.
- Water and electricity will be added to the 20 overflow sites at Headquarters. We will be adding 19 new picnic tables between the Nature Center and Elm Lake area. The tables will be on gravel pads, and there will be fire rings for picnickers to have fires.

### Sharon Hanzik, Naturalist and Volunteer Coordinator



- Thanks for your patience and cooperation with the shift to the new TPWD volunteer management system. Please log on and set up an account so Sharon can run the criminal background checks.
- School groups are asking about dates for this fall.
- The Volunteer Picnic is Oct. 19, in the Dining Hall.
- The annual Halloween programs will be the last weekend of October and will include a Friday night hike, programs on spiders, bats, and snakes, and other programs volunteers might want to present.

### David Heinicke, Naturalist and Park Police Officer



- Nov. 2, we will have a birds of prey program sponsored by Earthquest and presented by Steve Hoddy. The birds include falcons, hawks, owls, Andean condor and others. We will start advertising the program soon.
- Nov. 2 is the date for our third annual blood drive. More details will follow.
- FY-13 was the best year ever for the Nature Center. We had 80,500 visitors, compared to 76,000 last year.
- Oct. 12 is Astronomy Day at the George Observatory, 3-11 p.m. David suggested we might set up a spotting scope along the trail so that visitors to the Observatory might also learn more about what BBSP has to offer.
- Friday morning bird hikes start next week. Check the weekend schedule on the website to see when they are offered.
- BBEEC: David explained to the VITs that we are trying to get permission to build a new Nature Center at no cost to TPWD. BBSP representatives have met with Justin Rhodes, Regional Director, who met with Brent Leisure, Division Director. Brent will go to the Parks and Wildlife Foundation this week to see if they will work with us on the funding. An answer is expected in October.
- Slogans: At the August meeting, David asked members to submit suggestions for a slogan for the fundraising activities. He presented 12 suggested slogans, and the members voted for three, then he took the top three and members voted for the one they want. The winning slogan is "Dedicated to Learning, Appreciating and Protecting our Environment".

# Celebrations!

## October Birthdays

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

## October Anniversaries

Justin and Kate Bower  
Diane and Jerry Carpenter

## November Birthdays

Ray Anderson  
Nelda Gay (Emeritus)  
David Heinicke (Staff)  
Steve Killian (Staff)  
Curtis Parent  
Sarah Petrisky (Staff)

## November Anniversaries

Holly and Gene Haynes  
Mike & Paige Manley



## It's a girl!

Lydia Willow Bower, the daughter of Kate and Justin Bower, was born on Monday, Sept. 16, 2013, at 10:16 pm. She weighed 7 pounds and is 19.5 inches long. She has a head of dark fuzzy hair and long skinny feet, and she's doing great. We are amazed by this little person and can't wait to introduce her to many of you soon. This picture was taken at four days old in one of Lydia's calmer moments.



## A pad of my own!

A young alligator suns itself recently on a lily pad on 40-Acre Lake. (Photo by Colton Southern)

## Nature Center report for August 2013

Below are the totals of the various activities and attendance recorded for the Nature Center, hikes, and programs for August 1-30, 2013.

PROGRAMS	TOTALS AUGUST
<b>Nature Center attendance</b> August 2013 - 4,086 August 2012 - 3,591 August 2011 - 3,000 August 2010 - 3,243 August 2009 - 4,542 August 2008 - 3,985 August 2007 - 2,788 August 2006 - 2,415	Saturdays (5) - 1,979 High, 544 (8/31) Average: 396
	Sundays (4) – 883 High, 256 (8/4) Average: 221
	Weekdays (22) - 1,224 High, 112 (8/12) Average: 56
<b>CREEKFIELD HIKES</b> (9)	86, Average: 10
<b>SNAKE PROGRAM</b> (3)	95, Average: 32
<b>CHILDREN'S STORYTIME</b> (4)	65, Average: 16
<b>ALLIGATOR PROGRAMS</b> (6)	91, Average: 15
<b>GEOCACHING</b> (4)	37, Average: 9
<b>PONDLIFE</b> (2)	
<b>OWLS</b> (1)	56, Average: 28
<b>OTHER PROGRAMS</b> (9): Birds (2), Wildlife Viewing (2), Photo Walk (1), Reptile (1), Mammal (1), Armadillo (1), Nature hike (1)	9, Average: 9
<b>TOTAL VISITORS SERVED IN HIKES AND PROGRAMS</b>	173, Average: 19
<b>VOLUNTEER HOURS</b>	612
<b>PARK ATTENDANCE FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013</b> Park — 239,052 NC — 80,504	Interpretation = 482 Maintenance/Other = 367.5 TOTAL = 849.5



## BLOOD DRIVE

Our next blood drive will be Saturday Nov. 2, 2013, in the NC parking lot. Thanks to all who worked or donated at the last drive. If you know you can donate that day, contact Chuck Duplant at [cduplant@msn.com](mailto:cduplant@msn.com).

## MAINTENANCE REPORT

### Wood Yard:

Split and bundle wood, clear blow-downs

### Mowing and Landscaping:

Collect wild rye seeds and other seeds for pocket prairies

### Trail Trimming and Trail Maintenance:

Trail maintenance and patrol, clear blow-down tree, haul trail dirt

### Equipment Maintenance:

Routine maintenance

### Pest Control:

Treat Chinese tallow trees, treat dewberry vines

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 5	Landscape photography Photo-walk, 5 p.m., meet at Nature Center Brazos River Pickers, 5 - 7 p.m., Amphitheater
October 12	Astronomy Day, 3 - 11 p.m., George Observatory Budget and Executive Meetings, 3 p.m. Regular Business Meeting, 5:30 p.m. (Supper, 5 p.m.)
October 18	Bird Watching Hike, 8 a.m., 40-Acre Lake restroom area
October 19	Volunteer Picnic, Dining Hall. Photo at 5:30, meal at 6.
October 27	Third Gator Run
November 2	Blood Drive, NC Parking Lot, time to be announced Bird photography Photo-walk, 3 p.m., meet at Nature Center Birds of Prey Program, Earthquest, NC lawn, Brazos River Pickers, 5 - 7 p.m., Amphitheater
November 8	Bird Watching Hike, 8 a.m., 40-Acre Lake restroom building
November 9	Budget and Executive Meetings, 3 p.m. Regular Business Meeting, 5:30 p.m. (Supper, 5 p.m.)
November 22	Bird Watching Hike, 8 a.m., 40-Acre Lake restroom building
December 7	Photo Walk: Landscape Photography, 3 p.m., Nature Center Bird Blizzard at Sunset, 5 p.m., 40-Acre Lake Observation Tower
December 6	Bird Watching Hike, 8 a.m., 40-Acre Lake restroom building
December 7	Landscape photography Photo-walk, 3 p.m., meet at Nature Center A Simple Christmas, 3 - 7 p.m., Nature Center grounds Brazos River Pickers, 5 - 7 p.m., Amphitheater
December 14	Annual Christmas Bird Count Budget and Executive Meetings, 3 p.m. Regular Business Meeting, 5:30 p.m. (Supper, 5 p.m.)
December 20	Bird Watching Hike, 8 a.m., 40-Acre Lake restroom building
December 21	Bird Blizzard at Sunset, 5 p.m., 40-Acre Lake Observation Tower





### **Three squares**

A rare moment of sharing: Three black vultures and one dismembered squirrel. Photo by Jaci Elliott



### **Liquid silver**

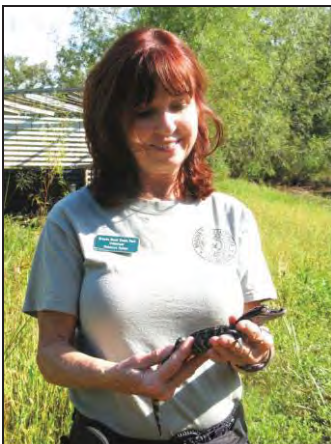
Water drops bead up on the lily and lotus pads — something that didn't happen too often this year. Photo by Jaci Elliott



**Saying goodbye:** Volunteers release the final four year-old alligators into the wild on Sept. 26. The four gators and their previously released siblings spent the past year helping educate visitors to the Nature Center about Brazos Bend's famous resident reptile.

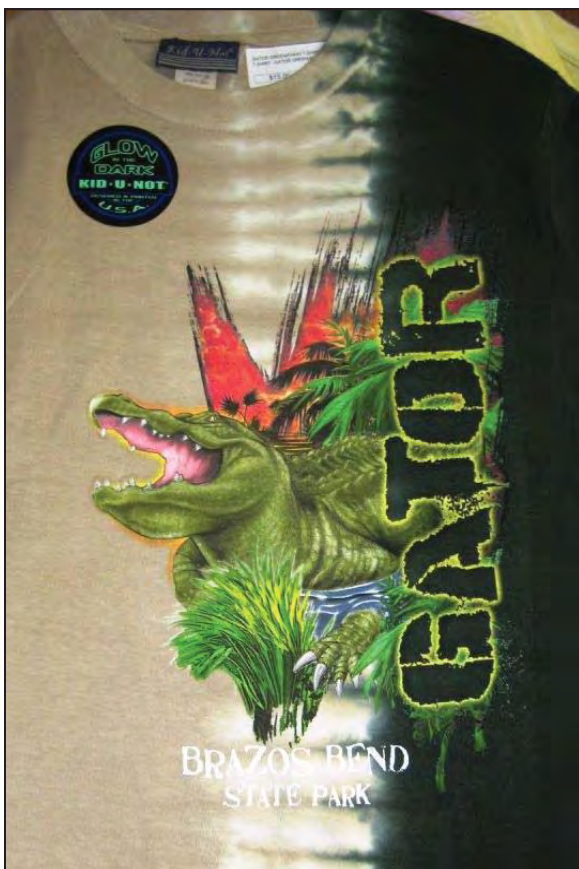


Releasing the final four baby alligators from the 2012-13 batch are (below, from the left) Rebecca Sykes, Theresa Jones, Joe Southern, and Holly Haynes.





## Gift Shop news



**New merchandise!** This and other T-shirts and assorted gift items are now for sale in the Gift Shop. New items are being added all the time. Come on by to check them out ... and get a snack and a drink while you're there!

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## If you have not already, register hours with TPWD

**By Sharon Hanzik**

With office staff help, we have successfully processed 60 volunteers and a handful of VITS. I am awaiting approval of background checks for most of these. We set up accounts for those without a computer or email. If you feel you need help with this, come out and we'll do it together but PLEASE make arrangements first.

Go to [www.brazosbend.org](http://www.brazosbend.org) members

register with [tpwd](mailto:tpwd)

You must click on the "apply to volunteer" link in blue.

(Continued next page)

## Glen Kilgore seeks assistance with Pond Life Program

On Saturday, Nov. 16, I will be doing a pond life program. As usual, this will be an all day affair with collecting in the morning, sorting and classifying in the early afternoon and the program itself starting at 2 p.m. and lasting until 4 p.m. Then there will be cleaning up and putting the equipment away.

I sure could use some help in the following areas:

**Collecting:** 9 a.m. – 10 a.m. -

Going out to Creekfield Lake and other lakes and scooping water up in buckets. Using nets to try to catch things. No knowledge of pond life is necessary, just willingness to get in or close to the water.

**Sorting and Classifying:** 10 a.m.- 1 p.m.

I need at least one person for the very important job of bottle manager. The bottle manager is responsible for keeping track of which jars and vials contain what, and when a specimen is discovered, producing and opening the correct bottle so it can be placed inside.

Multiple sorters needed to go through the water and vegetation collected in the morning to find the specimens and put them in bottles. Looking at <http://brazosbend.org/florafauna/pondlife/start.shtml> is recommended to get familiar with what we are likely to find. Magnifying glasses, rubber gloves, and forceps provided.

**Set Up:** 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Setting up 3 tables, Placing microscopes and magnifying viewers on the tables. Putting slides in the microscopes and taping labels in front of each exhibit.

**Program:** 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

**Greeter** to tell people how the program works and count people coming in. Clickers provided.

**Mystery table** - Check the answer sheets and give out the stickers for correct answers.

**Interpreters** - Go around the tables and answer questions or just present interesting information. Interpreters should be familiar with the material in the web site so that they can talk about the exhibits.

**Clean up:** 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Put microscopes and magnifying viewers away, Wipe out slides, Remove labels from tables and put away. Wipe down tables.

If you are interested, please email me at [hgilgo@yahoo.com](mailto:hgilgo@yahoo.com) and let me know what you want to do. Thanks to all volunteers.

Fill out everything with an \*

Do not worry about the past experience, interests, etc.

Criminal background information is required for anyone age 18 and up and must have drivers license number and accurate information or it gets sent back to me. Please proof it carefully.

Everyone needs a profile - including minors. Minors do not need to fill out the background info but must click on the link for alternative workforce waiver and have parent or guardian sign it and bring to me.

Current members should have this on file already. VITs do not. We will give this to you at the end of training. Once you receive the thank you message for signing up look on the right side of the page for "choose an opportunity" link. Click on it and choose Brazos Bend State Park Volunteer Organization. This should complete your application.

Make sure you keep track of your username and password that you created for this account.

If you have already set up an account please don't set up another one.

Current members only - VITs do this once they have completed training

You will need to go in at the end of every month and record ONLY your Austin monthly total. Choose something from the menu that best represents your overall hours - i.e. maintenance, interpretation

Go to [www.brazosbend.org](http://www.brazosbend.org) - members - there is a tab for log-in report hours with TPWD.

Since you have BBSPVO membership hours you will also continue to record hours on your timesheet as you have always done.

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## Welcome New VITs!

The new VIT candidates are on their way to becoming volunteers for Brazos Bend State Park. On their second Saturday of training they experienced a refreshing rain while on the prairie hike. This did not dampen their spirits and enthusiasm.

The class this year consists of eight adults and four youths. Our own Marilyn Vossler is sponsoring her granddaughter, Nina. We also have the Baregala/Lopez Family of four, Dasu, Magda, and daughters Nikita and Prakrita. Magda was the director of a national park in Guatemala. Another VIT is Rosie Zamora who was instrumental in the founding of Houston Wilderness. Other VIT class members are James Murphy, Arshad Hassan, Amanda Roby, Cynthia Peet, Anabelle Redman, and Michael Matta. Enjoy your training and the wonderful experiences that await you!

*Mary Lockwood, President*

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## Birds of Prey program coming Nov. 2

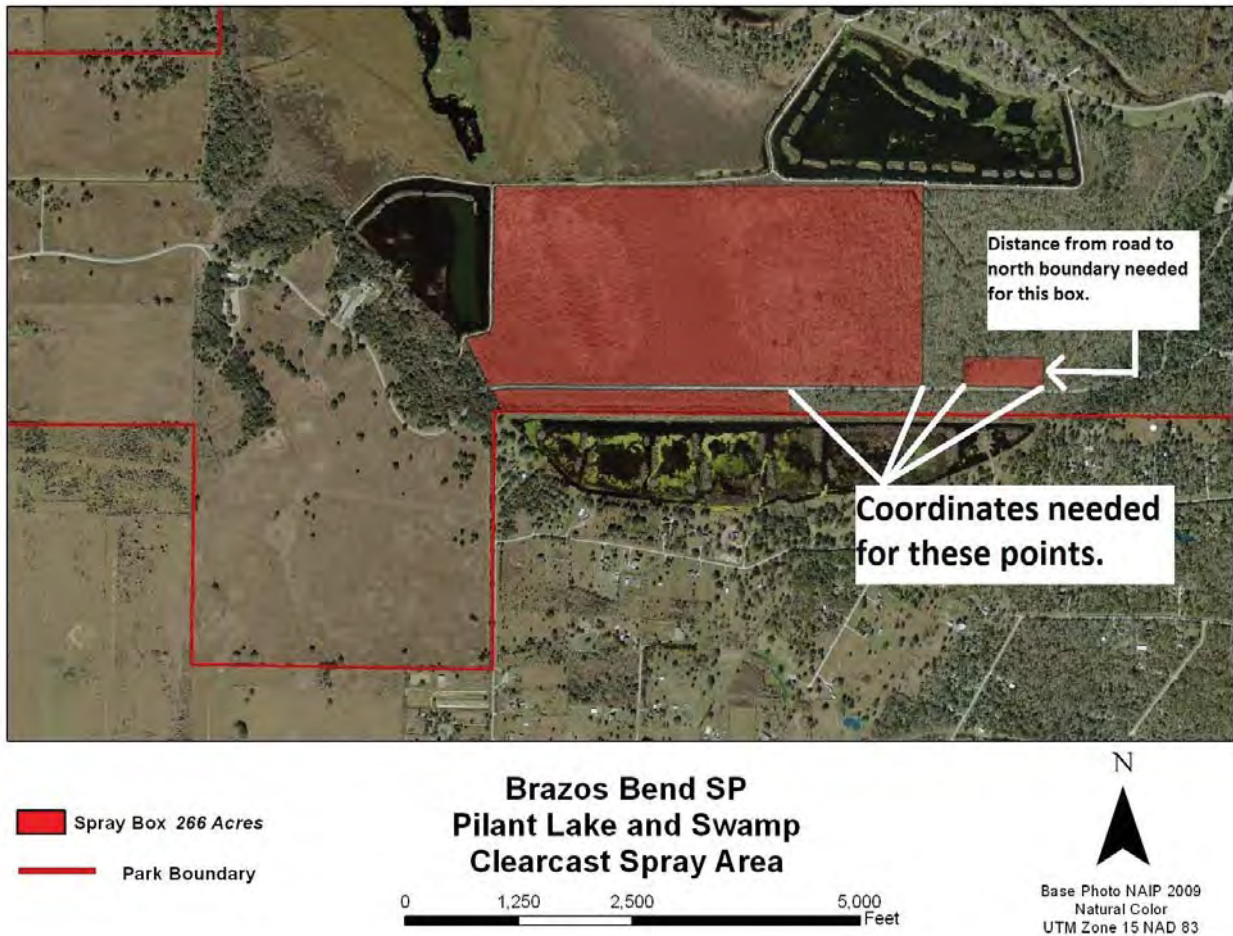
Imagine a falcon diving at speeds of over 150 miles per hour as it chases a trainer's lure; hawks on the wing soaring mere inches above your head; an Andean condor with a wingspan of more than 10 feet! You can see all this and much more at Brazos Bend State Park on Saturday, Nov. 2 at 2:30 p.m. For one day only master falconer and environmental educator Steve Hoddy, founder of EarthQuest, will present a Birds of Prey Program to the public.

"Our primary mission is to educate the public about our environment and wildlife. We delight in bringing a greater understanding of nature to park visitors of all ages" said Hoddy.

The program will be held in the lawn area in front of the park's nature center. The program is free of charge with regular park admission. Donations will be accepted and will go to EarthQuest.

For more information visit our website at [www.brazosbend.org](http://www.brazosbend.org) or call the park at 979-553-5101.

Programs are subject to change without notice and are dependent on weather.



## Aerial attack on Chinese tallow trees

In early September, we took another major step in resource management at BBSP. Working with our partners (Ducks Unlimited, US Fish and Wildlife Service and our Regional Resource Specialist), we aerially sprayed the Green Tree Reservoir with an aquatically approved herbicide call Clearcast.

Clearcast herbicide selects for the invasive, exotic Chinese tallow tree, which has become established in our park to the detriment of native species. The herbicide was applied by a fix wing aircraft.



The treated area (266 acres) will begin to show treatment effects by next spring and hopefully will kill at least 90 percent of the Chinese tallow trees. Retreatment may be necessary for complete control. Following treatments, we will replant the area with native trees.



## The VIT Class of September 2013

Kneeling: Murph Murphy and Dasu Beregala. Standing: Michael Matta, Arshad Hassan, Amanda Roby, Anabelle Redman, Magda Lopez, Nina Pederson, Rosie Zamora, Prakriti Beregala, Cindy Peet, Nikita Beregala.

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## THINK YOU KNOW ANIMALS? About Bullfrogs and Alligators

Sometimes on a guided hike, a visitor will hear a bullfrog and with excitement exclaim, “Listen to that alligator!”

Here is a summary of information about the bullfrog’s sound from the *Animals* book that can help the visitors identify and remember which sound belongs to which animal. It also explains how bullfrogs got the name.

The male bullfrog produces the deep bellow: “aaaaarrrrr,aaaarrrrr,” and can be heard up to a quarter of a mile. Cattle really don’t say, “moo,” but more like ”maaarrrrr” or “maaa-UHHH.” Bullfrogs sound like the bawling of a bull.

In contrast, we could compare the bellowing of an alligator to the sound of machinery starting up. The first time one Yankee visited the park (I confess), she wondered, “Now, how could a lawnmower be out somewhere in the middle of a marsh?”

**Submitted by Nelda Gay**

*With the author's permission, here is another bit of interesting information for visitors from Think You Know Animals?“, by Diana Oliver, copyright 2012.*

# From wild nests to living exhibits, baby gators have quite a journey at Brazos Bend State Park

*Story and photos by Joe Southern*

The summer drought that caused 40-Acre Lake to shrink several yards from its shoreline left a nest of 33 alligator eggs high and dry and apparently abandoned by the mother.

Volunteers at the park discovered the nest and after a period of observation and even attempts to lure the female gator, it was clear that any hatchlings would be too far from water to survive and likely not under a mother's protection which is so vital to their survival.

"All (the eggs) were collected as there was no water in the area and chances of abandonment or predation are high," said Sharon Hanzik, the volunteer coordinator and natural history interpreter for Brazos Bend State Park.

Instead of being lost to a sea of weeds and predators, the hatchlings will now face crowds of curious nature explorers as they take their turn on display in the park's Nature Center. As living exhibits, they replace yearling American alligators that are now free to their fate in the wilds of the park.

On Aug. 8, a small crew led by Park Naturalist David Heinicke hiked to the abandoned nest to rescue the eggs for incubation at the Nature Center. While volunteers kept watch in case the mother should return, Heinicke and volunteer Bob Schwartz carefully opened the nest and removed the eggs and nesting material.



Park Naturalist David Heinicke (left) and volunteer Bob Schwartz gather alligator eggs and nesting material from an apparently abandoned nest near 40-Acre Lake.



David Heinicke (left) and volunteers Jim Calvert and Colton Southern transfer eggs to the incubator tub.





(Top photo) Naturalist Sharon Hanzik displays the alligator eggs for park visitors. (Bottom photo) Some of the eggs begin to hatch.

Heinicke said the rotting vegetation that makes up the nest is vital to the survival of the embryonic alligators. The decomposing matter gives off heat which keeps the eggs warm. It also eats away at the hard outer shell, making it easier for the alligator to emerge when it is time to hatch.

“Probably one of the reasons crocodylians have been so successful is this hard-shell egg. Most reptiles, like snakes, turtles and lizards, lay a soft-shelled egg and it doesn’t put up with (outside stress),” he said.

At the Nature Center, Heinicke carefully removed the eggs from the carrier to the incubation bin. The bin was lined with nesting material and the eggs gently placed in the same orientation in which they were found.

“The embryo forms at the bottom and a little air bubble forms at the top,” Heinicke said, holding up an egg as an example. “There are some little blood vessels that form from the embryo down here to the blood vessel on top and there’s air that passes through the egg shell – almost like a Gore-Tex material – and that’s what oxygenates the blood.

“Then the blood vessels carry the oxygenated blood down to the embryo. That’s how it starts to grow,” he said.

Turning an egg can have lethal consequences to the tiny life inside.

“You have to keep reptile eggs oriented the same direction. What’s up needs to stay up. If you rotate them, they literally suffocate in the eggshell,” Heinicke said.

In the wild, when the mother hears the distinctive chirp of the babies, she will uncover the nest and begin breaking shells by gently squeezing them in her mouth. Unlike birds which must emerge on their own in order to be strong and healthy, alligators often need outside assistance.

The same goes for the incubated eggs. Some will hatch fine on their own. Others will need help. That’s where the naturalists and park volunteers make a difference. Once the egg shows signs of hatching – such as a cracked or broken outer shell – the staff and volunteers on hand help peel open the rubbery inner shell to allow the baby to be born.

Out of the nest of 33 eggs, 22 were born alive. The other eggs were duds that failed to form embryos. Of the 22, two were underdeveloped at



birth and later died. It took about two weeks for all the alligators to hatch. Hanzik said there is no consistency to hatching. Sometimes all of the eggs in a nest will hatch together and others – like the current batch – emerge a few at a time.

Alligators mate in the spring and lay eggs in the early part of summer. A female will lay 30 to 40 eggs on average. In late August and early September, the babies are hatched. Typically, about two-thirds of a nest of eggs will hatch. The babies begin life at the bottom of the food chain and most will be eaten by predators and other alligators within the first year. Approximately one or two in 100 alligators will survive to adulthood.

The captive alligator babies will spend the first year of their life in an aquarium in the Nature Center where park visitors can watch and even touch them while they learn about the reptiles from trained volunteers and park naturalists.

Some of the baby gators will be loaned out to other educational organizations. Though captive born, the alligators retain their wild instincts and are treated by staff and volunteers as the wild animals that they are. As they grow, they are gradually released back into the wild.

The few that stay in the aquarium for a full year will be nearly a foot long when their replacements are hatched the next year. After their time is up, volunteers set them free in the care of a female with young who will watch over them though as if they were her own. To learn more, visit Brazos Bend State Park, located southwest of Houston, or go on line to [www.brazosbend.org](http://www.brazosbend.org).



(Top left) A hatchling gets some assistance breaking through the inner shell. (Above) Saerah Miller helps hatch a gator. (Below) some of the hatchlings gather together in an aquarium. There they will stay until it is time to be moved to the display tank inside the Nature Center.



## Brazos Bend State Park

Texas Parks and Wildlife  
21901 FM 762  
Needville, TX 77461

### OCTOBER VOLUNTEER PICNIC

Saturday, October 19, 2013

5:30 p.m., Group Photo

6 p.m. Potluck Meal

Dining Hall



## REGULAR VOLUNTEER EVENTS

Creekfield Hikes	Every Saturday and Sunday at 10:00 a.m., led by volunteers
Photo Hikes	First Saturday of each month
Volunteer meeting	Second Saturday of each month at 5:30 p.m., supper at 5 p.m.
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
Assistant Editor	Joe Southern
Editorial Assistant	Nelda Gay
Production Assistant	Bruce Williamson
Distribution	Carol Ramsayer
Web Master	Anne Shelton

## FIRST CLASS MAIL

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