



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Animals Some People Love to Hate



One of the top 10 online lists has five of our park inhabitants on their fear list. Feral hogs did not make the top 10 list. The list is as follows: 1) parasitic worms, 2) snakes, 3) bees, 4) spiders, 5) bats

Arachnophobia seems to be a major one among our park visitors. However, the past two years has seen our lovable “eight-legged freaks” (so-called by Hollywood) on the decline in many areas of the park.

Feral hogs are in great abundance and their divots are everywhere. Recently the park has purchased a new trap system. It uses “hog psychology” to capture groups of hogs. The idea is that when two or three of the hogs wander into the corral trap to eat deer corn or some other type of bait, the trap door does not close on them. Instead, these few are allowed to return to their “friends” and pass on the word of free food. After a few such visits, the group grows in numbers. When the trap is full (around 20+ hogs), the trap door is closed. Such a trapping system is now in use at BBSP and is proving useful in capturing one of the non-native animals that park staff and volunteers love to hate.

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This issue edited by Anna Dell Williamson.

Feral Hogs
by Joe Southern



IN SYMPATHY

Our sincere sympathy goes to
Sharon Hanzik
on the death of her father.

Our thoughts and prayers are with her
and her family at this time.

Our sincere sympathy goes to
VIT Gary Mefford
on the death of his brother.

Our thoughts and prayers are with him
and his family at this time.

JANUARY MEETING NOTES

reported by Anna Dell Williamson

President Mary Lockwood called the January 11, 2014 meeting to order. There were 18 volunteers, 1 VIT and 2 staff members present. Thanks to **Ganene Steinhaus** for the salad, **Cindy Peterson** for the beans, **Rosie Zamora** for the brownies, and **Mary Lockwood** for the veggie chips. For future meetings, we will be sending out reminder notices to get more people to attend. The December 2013 minutes were approved as posted. **David Heinicke** and **Jacob Dement** brought their staff reports.

Treasurer Woody Scott brought the Treasurer's report. He brought the year-end report for 2013, which was a good year.

The following budget requests were approved:

- Renewal of our organizational membership in Texans for State Parks (Silver Level). TfSP is an organization that helps all state parks in Texas. Many park friends groups are members. They publish a quarterly newsletter on their website and meet once a year in February. Offie Walker attended the meeting last year and will attend again this year as our representative. You may join as a group or as an individual. Participation in TfSP shows our interest in all parks as a team player. Our park may be featured in the quarterly NL.
- 2-wheel dolly for the wood yard for carrying logs from the wood pile to the splitter.
- Quick Disconnect for the John Deere tractor. The existing system doesn't fit the tractor to the old shredder.
- 25 gallons of Roundup, to spray trails to keep the weeds down.
- Coarse River Sand, 14 tons, for bedding pipe and filling in holes.

Woody went over the Budget Proposal for year 2014. He reviewed changes in the budget from 2013, and pointed out the new items. The budget was approved as proposed.

Nancy Lynn Jones is resigning as Comptroller. The Organization thanks her for her years of service. The new Comptroller is Bob Kowalewski.

Anna Dell Williamson reported that training will start February 8. We expect 15-18 trainees.

Anna Dell reported that the **newsletter** will move to publication every other month, and Joe Southern will be editing the next issue.

Beth Debenport reported that the Gift Shop had a slow month due to the weather. She expressed her thanks for all who work during the week and on weekends. We appreciate all the help.

Judy Strauss brought the Outreach report. The Sea Center Texas event is February 22, and sign up will be on special events calendar.

Pete Hart reported that 35 volunteers put in 115 hours in Maintenance. We had lots of wood sales, planted more seeds in the pocket prairie by the Observatory, posted labels on plants, and other projects.

Chuck Duplant reported that wood sales were good between Christmas and New Years. We sold 44 cords of wood in 2013. Pete and the work crews cut, split, and bundled wood. The best month for 2013 was March (Spring Break), and the next best month was April (week of Easter). Helpers are welcome.

Announcement: Cindy Peterson and Diane Carpenter visited Jason and ABC Printing in Needville. We are changing vendors for the volunteer t-shirts and sweatshirts and are offering different types of clothing at competitive prices.

FEBRUARY MEETING NOTES

President Mary Lockwood called the meeting to order on February 8, 2014. There were 16 volunteers, 7 VITs and 2 staff members present. Thanks to **Judy Strauss** and **Woody Scott** for stew and cornbread, **Cindy Peterson** for macaroni salad, and the **VIT Orientation lunch** for dessert. The January meeting minutes were approved as posted.

David Heinicke and **Jacob Dement** brought their staff reports.

Treasurer Woody Scott brought the Treasurer's report. We did well in January.

The following requests for purchase were approved:

- 126 bags of Quikcrete to pour under fire rings in primitive premium campsites and 25 treated boards.
- 1 breaker hammer Kit (Electric Jackhammer) and 2 chisels for demolition of concrete tables at the fish cleaning stations.
- 1 Infrared Digital Scouting Camera for hog trapping
- Corn for hog trapping
- 2 packages Lithium Batteries for hog trap camera
- Supplies to replace cover over the wood splitter with larger one to expand to 'Gator shed.

Beth Debenport reported that the Gift Shop is doing well and thanked volunteers for their support.

Anna Dell Williamson welcomed the VITs attending tonight and reported that there are 12 VITs attending training class.

Judy Strauss reported that there are several Outreach activities coming up. The biggest is Prairie Heritage Day, March 1. The events are on the Special Events Calendar.

Pete Hart reported that in January, volunteers put in 156 hours on Maintenance projects. An average of 2 to 8 volunteers work Tuesdays and Thursdays, and the Friday work crew is planting seeds and trimming trails. Volunteers and VITs are invited to come out Tuesdays, Thursdays or Fridays to join the crew. The Maintenance crew will work on building a cover for the splitter in the wood yard. The four-seater Gator is broken down, and the mechanic will be working on it.

JANUARY / FEBRUARY STAFF REPORTS



JACOB DEMENT, ACTING SUPERINTENDENT/LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

January Report

We have had 2 youth deer hunts, and 3 deer and some hogs were removed. The new hog trap was set up recently, and we are excited to be seeing hogs entering the two traps we have set up.

Personnel information:

- The job of BBSP Park Superintendent has been posted, and we should have a new superintendent by March 1. Posting ends on January 20, interviews will take place in early Feb, then the selection will be made.
- We have filled a position for **Admin 3, Assist Office Manager**. Amanda Elsworth started Jan 1 and did a project as an intern, then moved up to part-time, then full-time clerk, and now Admin 3. She has finished the project, which was to post pictures of every feature in the park (buildings, campgrounds, picnic tables, etc.) on Google Earth. She also put in all the GPS coordinates. It has been a big project.
- Positions for a clerk and a full-time park store manager will be filled soon.

Park Activities:

- ◆ We are looking into creating a third entrance lane at Headquarters for visitors with park passes and volunteers for busy weekends. We are also working on getting an automatic front gate, with a code for volunteers and staff, that would open automatically for departures.
- ◆ The updated woodyard shed is in the process of being approved for construction.
- ◆ This was not the best December ever, but close to the best. January is up for this year so far.
- ◆ Volunteers setting out small hog traps should coordinate with JT before setting them out.

February Report

Thanks to the VITs for coming to the meeting and for wanting to volunteer. January 2014 was the best January ever.

Personnel information:

We are currently down 4 staff members in Headquarters. We are hiring 3 staff members, hopefully this month. There are openings for the park store manager, a seasonal position from March to May or June, and a full time Customer Service Representative. The Park works with employees needing a flexible schedule, such as students.

Park Activities:

It was a quiet month as far as law enforcement is concerned. There were a few speeding problems, but, no major incidents. Hog trapping has been successful. We had 15 hogs in the first trapping attempt.

DAVID HEINICKE, PARK NATURALIST, LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

January Report

Upcoming Events and Volunteer Opportunities:

- Sunday, February 2, we will host the Third Annual Keep on Truckin' marathon. We will need help laying out the course, watching for injuries, etc., The track will go around Elm and 40-Acre Lakes to the Yellowstone Landing.



- April 26, we will host the Houston Trailrunners, 50 mile race, and in December we will host a 100 mile race for bikes.
- Doris Mager will bring her birds of prey program back Feb. 7, 8, 9.

Announcements:

- ◆ David will be working at Big Bend SP the middle of February for the bike fest.
- ◆ The volunteer field trip to Moody Gardens will be January 21. Contact Sharon if you plan to attend.
- ◆ BBSP has been declared to have the Texas State Champion Texas Hawthorne tree by the Texas Forest Service. It is located on the Hale Lake Road, past the pavilion, near where the road makes a loop.
- ◆ The Christmas Bird Count, completed December 14, was led by Justin Bower and Bill Godley. One hundred participants identified 159 species in a 7.5 mile radius, which ties a record for us. This year was the 113th yr for bird counts in the US and the 25th time here. BBSP Emeritus Member Carol Ramsayer, who now lives in Vermont but still participates in BBSPVO, reported that their Bird Count started out at -1 degree and warmed up to 11 degrees. Thirty-three species were identified.

FEBRUARY REPORT

Thanks to the VITs for joining our training program and for attending the meeting.

Events:

- February 2 we hosted the Keep on Truckin’ marathon, which attracted over 200 runners. They gave us a nice donation for trail repair and maintenance. Other races are coming up in May and December.
- Spring Break is next month and will affect two weeks. We will need to decide which programs we’ll have and how activities will be divided.
- David is leaving for Big Bend to work in a bike event and will be out next weekend, Feb. 15 - 16.

Personnel information:

TPWD is ready to choose a new manager for BBSP. The interviews will be February 18. We have been requested to have one staff member (Sharon Hanzik) and one volunteer representative (Offie Walker) for the interview pool. There are four prospective candidates, including Jacob Dement and Chris Bishop.



BBSP Volunteers visited Moody Gardens for a “behind the scenes” tour. Among the places visited were the penguin habitat, where they met Chilly Willy, and the aquarium, where they got a view from the top. Photos courtesy of Mike Fisher.



CONGRATULATIONS AND CELEBRATION



Our newest members!
Congratulations to Anabelle Redman (left) and Rosie Zamora,
who have completed their training requirements and now are full volunteers.
Give them a warm welcome to the Volunteer Organization.

CONGRATULATIONS

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

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

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Glen and Maureen Kilgore
Dawn and Oscar Tejero

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Leah Malone
Richard Taylor (Staff)

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Christine (Kovach) and Mark Britain
Virginia and Charlie Harrison
Jim and Jacqueline North

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Suzie Gann
Virginia Harrison
Ethan Hoover
JT Kalina (Staff)
Dennis Keprta (Emeritus)
Krista Ledman
Carrie Sample
Dawn Tejero

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Jo Ann and Chuck Davis
Linda and David Heinicke

ANNUAL ATTENDANCE REPORT 2013

Attendance records for calendar year 2013 show the following:

Nature Center attendance: 74,152 visitors, or 30% of total park visitation
Park attendance total: 243,492 total visitors
Day use visitors: 190,427 visitors, or 78% of total park visitation
Overnight: 53,065 campers, or 22% of total park visitation

NATURE CENTER REPORT

DECEMBER 2013 / JANUARY 2014

Below are the totals of the various activities and attendance recorded for the Nature Center, hikes, and programs for December 1-31, 2013 and January 1-31, 2014. Both months had several cold and rainy days. December was closed 3 days for the annual deer hunt and Christmas Day. Volunteers and staff offered 33 programs and hikes in December and 35 in January.

PROGRAMS	TOTALS DECEMBER 2013	TOTALS JANUARY 2014
NATURE CENTER ATTENDANCE 2014 Jan. 5,576 2013 Jan. 5,082 / Dec. 3,432 2012 Jan. 5,919 / Dec. 4,750 2011 Jan. 4,078 / Dec. 3,864 2010 Jan. 4,710 / Dec. 4,841 2009 Jan. 5,143 / Dec. 2,999 2008 Jan. 4,197 / Dec. 3,600 2007 Jan. 4,577 / Dec. 4,285 2006 Jan. N/A / Dec. 4,286 2005 Jan. N/A / Dec. 2,410	Saturdays (4) - 967 High, 526 (12/28) Average: 242	Saturdays (4) - 2,362 High, 718 (1/4) Average: 619
	Sundays (4) - 1,110 High, 493 (12/29) Average: 123	Sundays (4) - 1,814 High, 507 (11/3) Average: 354
	Weekdays (22) - 1,355 High, 298 (12/27) Average: 66	Weekdays (23) - 1,373 High, 455 (1/20) MLK Day Average: 98
CREEKFIELD HIKES (6 & 6)	54, average: 9	72, average: 6
SNAKE PROGRAM (4 & 4)	61, average: 15	82, average: 21
CHILDREN'S STORYTIME (2 & 4)	30, average: 15	54, average: 14
BIRDS (8 & 5)	80, average: 12	91, average: 18
ALLIGATOR PROGRAM (2 & 5)	12, average: 6	76, average: 15
OUTREACH (1 & 0)	260	
WILDLIFE VIEWING (2 & 4)	35, average: 18	315, average: 79
GEOCACHING (2 & 2)	23, average: 12	28, average: 14
OTHER PROGRAMS (16): Predators (1), Photo Walk (1), Owls (3), Armadillos (1), Raccoons (1), Mammals (1) Creatures of night (1), bike hike (1), 1 st day hike (1)	126, Average: 13	128, average: 32
TOTAL VISITORS SERVED IN HIKES AND PROGRAMS	696 in 33 programs, average program, 21	835 in 35 programs, average: 24
VOLUNTEER HOURS	Interpretation = 1249 Maintenance = 297 TOTAL = 1546	Interpretation = 938.5 Maintenance = 421 TOTAL = 1359.5
PARK ATTENDANCE (Percentage 1 reflects the percentage of total visitors in each category.)	Park Total 12,788 Day use (78%) 9,935 Overnight (22%) 2,853 NC (27%) 3,432	Park Total 21,359 Day use (81%) 17,256 Overnight (19%) 4,103 NC (26%) 5,576
TOTAL NC 2013 74,152	TOTAL PARK 2013 243,492	

MAINTENANCE REPORT

DECEMBER 2013, JANUARY, FEBRUARY 2014

Wood Yard:

- Clear blowdown trees on several occasions
- Split and bundle wood
- Clear barrel debris from wood yard
- Building a shelter for the splitter in wood yard
- General Maintenance
- Repair drain pipe

Special Projects:

- Collect and plant 40 Little Bluestem Plants.
- Plant Indian Grass on Creekfield Prairie
- Plant rye grass seeds
- Plant seeds on Pocket Prairie
- Pick up and deliver Indian Grass and Little Bluestem



Members of the February 2014 VIT class assist with trail trimming. Murph Murphy, Anabelle Redman, Cynthia Peet, Michael Matta, and the Baregala family (Dasu, Magda, Prakiti and Nikita) completed their trail trimming training. Photo courtesy of Carl Franke.



**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND,
THE RAPTORS RETURN!**

BIRDS OF PREY PROGRAM

presented by
EarthQuest

Saturday, March 29th, 2014
at 11:00am and 3:00pm

Take advantage of this rare opportunity to see these magnificent birds of prey up close. Watch as a Peregrine Falcon reaches speeds of over 150 miles per hour in a dive. View the effortless soaring of a hawk as it flies only inches above your head and marvel at the Andean Condor with a wingspan of nearly 10 feet!

Steve Hoddy, Master Falconer and environmental educator will provide information on these magnificent birds, their habitat and how we can responsibly interact with nature.

Program is free of charge with regular park admission. Donations will be accepted and will go to EarthQuest. Program will be held on lawn area in front of the Nature Center. Bring blankets, sit on the grass or bring lawn chairs. Program subject to cancellation due to weather.

THANK YOU

To My Very Large Extended Family, from Sharon Hanzik

I appreciate the fern, flowers, cards and messages expressing your condolences about the passing of my father. For those who were able to attend the service, I thank you.
With Sincere Gratitude,

to Joe Southern and Nelda Gay for editorial assistance with this issue of the newsletter.

To Mike Fisher and Carl Franke for photos for the newsletter.

To Joe Southern for the new logo for the Brazos Bend Bunch Bugle.

To all who help in the Gift Shop, weekends and week days.

To Nancy Lynn Jones for 4 years service as Comptroller.

To Bob Kowalewski for accepting the appointment as the new controller.

To Pete Hart and the Maintenance crew for all of their hard work in the wood yard and elsewhere in the park.

FIRST DAY HIKE, RIDE ARE BIG HITS

By David Heinicke

Brazos Bend's First Day Hike and Bike ride were huge successes! With great publicity from TPWD (Thanks Karen Blizzard!) and a press release and photos from Brazos Bend, the turnout for the First Day programs were better than expected.

We had 80 people show up for the hike! In anticipation of a large crowd, we had three hike leaders (staff and volunteers) on hand and divided the group into smaller groups and did a one-mile interpretive hike around 40 Acre Lake with three groups.

In the afternoon we offered a guided 10-mile bike ride into some of the less-visited areas of the park. Twenty-one riders showed up for the ride to explore the back of the park and the trails along the Brazos River. Most had never ridden these trails before and saw areas of the park that they had not seen. The bike ride was led by park staff with volunteers assisting.

All in all the First Day Hike and Bike Ride were a huge success! Many of the hikers had never been to the park before and some said they had never been on a "real hike" before. What a great way to start off the New Year!

Lots of attention

by Susanna Taylor, Administrative Technician IV

As these visitors came into the park they all were very upbeat and enthused to be able to attend these events. We were getting a lot of calls during the week on these events, so information was out there for them. Kudos all the way around! Let's do it again next year, the timing and theme was perfect.



Participants of the First Day Hike make their way around 40 Acre Lake. Photos by Chuck Duplant.



Ready to ride! Cyclists prepare for a 10-mile ride during the First Day Bike Ride. Photo by David Heinicke.



DORIS MAGER BIRDS OF PREY PROGRAM

On February 8, Doris Mager and her birds of prey returned to BBSP for a weekend. Doris introduced her birds to visitors in a program in the Dining Hall and also in the Nature Center throughout the day.



Photos by Carl Franke



THOSE BLINKIN' SNAKES?

By Nelda Gay

Every now and then, a visitor in the Nature Center will ask if snakes have eyelids, their interest peaked by those little transparent-looking ovals that look like some type of membrane or covering that might be from a small reptile's eyes. Are they from a snake? They look as though they could be.

So, with consultation with David Heinicke, here is his explanation that we can pass on to visitors.

Snakes do not have movable eyelids. That's one of the things that separate them from most lizards. (Remember, not all lizards have legs.) The snakes' eyes are covered with a clear round scale that is part of their skin and is shed when they shed their skin. This clear eye scale helps protect the eye from damage as well as holding moisture in the eye.

There is a small plastic container in the front desk with a sample of these scales in it. Thanks, David, for clearing up our vision about it.



Photo sent by Joe Southern

VENOM, SNAKES AND LIZARDS

by Rick Dashnau

Pit Vipers = hemotoxic venom

Elapids (like coral snakes) = neurotoxic

Right? Not always...

Those of us who do interpretation for the park enjoy sharing information about the various plants and animals in the park. Among the most popular (or at least the most asked about) animals are alligators and snakes.

When talking about nature, we (most of us) try to use information that we have researched or that we have been taught in various classes. We will sometimes make general statements, which are tools for a quicker path to understanding. Sometimes, however, further studies have shown that some of the definitions that we have learned in the past have become a bit less sharp over time--as further studies bring more information to light.

A personal example: Ever since I was a youngster, I've been interested in reptiles, and I'd read and looked through many books and field guides. For the longest time, I knew that although there were many species of venomous snakes, there were ONLY TWO venomous lizard species in the entire world (Gila Monster, Mexican Beaded Lizard). Not too long ago, that was proven to be untrue. There are others.

One notable example is the Komodo Dragon. And this creature is another case of new information redefining general knowledge. For years, the Komodo Dragon was said to kill its prey with a single bite because its mouth was filled with toxic bacteria. This bacteria was said to be introduced into the wound, causing the prey to die of massive infection. Other folks decided to examine the Komodo Dragon in more detail and found...SURPRISE!...that it actually does have functioning venom glands. Not only that, but other lizards have venom glands as well.

Now, back to the subject of this article. A recent blog article in National Geographic describes a study where a single subspecies of North American Rattlesnake has hemotoxic venom as "usual", but members of *the same subspecies* found only 2 hours' drive away have *neurotoxic* venom! The original study is linked inside the article, but is behind a "pay wall"--you can see it for about 30 dollars.

Anyhow, the blog is here:

<http://phenomena.nationalgeographic.com/2014/01/27/rattlesnakes-two-hours-apart-pack-totally-different-venoms/>

For me...this is another interpretive statement I will modify (from the one in the subtitle for this article).



Photo sent by Joe Southern

BLOOD DRIVE



BBSPVO will be sponsoring another blood drive on April 12, 2014, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM in the Nature Center parking lot. Those wishing to help by working at the registration table may sign up on the Special Events Calendar. Contact Chuck Duplant for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 29	Raptor Program, Earthquest, NC lawn, 11:00 AM and 3:00 PM
April 4	Bird Watching Hike, 8:00 AM, 40-Acre Lake restroom building
April 5	Brazos River Pickers, 5:00 - 7:00 PM, Amphitheater
	Plant Photography Photo-walk, 5:00 PM, meet at Nature Center
April 12	Blood Drive, NC Parking Lot, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
	Budget and Executive Meetings, 3:00 PM
	Regular Business Meeting, 5:30 PM (Supper, 5:00 PM)
April 18	Bird Watching Hike, 8:00 AM, 40-Acre Lake restroom building
April 26	Houston Area Trails Runners BB Trail Race
May 2	Bird Watching Hike, 8:00 AM, 40-Acre Lake restroom building
May 3	Amphibian and Reptile Photography Photo-walk, 5:00 PM, meet at Nature Center
May 10	Budget and Executive Meetings, 3:00 PM
	Regular Business Meeting, 5:30 PM (Supper, 5:00 PM)
May 16	Bird Watching Hike, 8:00 AM, 40-Acre Lake restroom building
June 7	Bird Photography Photo-walk, 5:00 PM, meet at Nature Center
June 14	Budget and Executive Meetings, 3:00 PM
	Regular Business Meeting, 5:30 PM (Supper, 5:00 PM)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Sign up on the Special Events Calendar for these activities:

OUTREACH

Contact Judy Strauss, 281-389-8617 for more information.

March 20	University Branch Library Outreach 10:00 - 1:00
March 29	Children's Festival Outreach, 10:30 - 5:30
April 5	Katy Folk Life Festival Outreach, 8:30 - 4:30
April 11-12	Rosenberg Railfest, 8:30 - 5:30
April 26	Sugar Land Earth Day, 10:00 - 5:30

SCHOOL GROUP HIKES/PROGRAMS

April 9	Polly McRoberts Elem, 10:00 AM
April 10	Polly McRoberts Elem, 10:00 AM
April 11	Smith Elem, 9:30 AM
May 22	Huggins Elem, 9:30 AM
Jun 12	Fulshear Library 3:00 - 4:00, see calendar for contact person

Brazos Bend State Park

Texas Parks and Wildlife
21901 FM 762
Needville, TX 77461

☆☆☆☆☆

NEXT MEETING
SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2014
5:30 PM, NATURE CENTER

FIRST CLASS MAIL



REGULAR VOLUNTEER EVENTS

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

BRAZOS BEND STATE PARK VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION

VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION OFFICERS

President:	Mary Lockwood
Vice-President:	Glen Kilgore
Secretary	Melanie Jahn
Treasurer:	Woody Scott
Past-President:	Offie Walker
Members-at-Large:	Mike Sanderson Diane Welty
Comptroller:	Bob Kowalewski

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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**