



PACK & PADDLE



Fall
October 2012

“The challenge goes on. There are other lands and rivers, other wilderness areas, to save and to share with all. I challenge you to step forward to protect and care for the wild places you love best.” — Dr. Neil Compton



Big Cypress Bayou in autumn

Autumn Movement

I cried over beautiful things knowing no beautiful thing lasts.

*The field of cornflower yellow is a scarf at the neck
of the copper sunburned woman,
the mother of the year, the taker of seeds.*

*The northwest wind comes and the yellow is torn full of holes,
new beautiful things come in the first spit of snow on the northwest wind,
and the old things go,
not one lasts*

- Carl Sandburg

SOCIETY OFFICERS: **President:** Bob Cross, (479) 587-8757, racross@uark.edu; **Immediate Past President:** Alice Andrews, (501) 219-4293, Alice209ok@yahoo.com; **Vice President:** Laura Timby, (870) 439-2968, ldtimby@ritternet.com; **Financial Chair:** Bob Ritchie, (501) 225-1795, britchiear@aol.com; **Recording Secretary:** Sandy Roerig, (318) 686-9481, sroeri@lsuhsc.edu; **Conservation Chair:** Acadia Roher, (501) 804-9618, acadia.roher@gmail.com; **Education Chair:** Charline Manning, (501) 221-1001, charlinem2@comcast.net; **Membership Chair:** TBA ; **Communications Chair / Editor, Pack & Paddle:** Carmen Quinn, (501) 993-1883, ccquinn23@yahoo.com.

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OZARK SOCIETY DEPOSITORY: Special Collections Division, University of Arkansas Libraries, Fayetteville, AR 71701, (501) 575-5577.

MEMBERSHIP: Dues for membership in the Ozark Society are: Individual and Family: \$15; Contributing: \$25; Sustaining: \$25; Life (one-time fee): \$200 under 65 years, or \$100 for those over 65.

Chapter membership adds to the fun of Ozark Society membership, but is not required. However, chapters do require membership in the Society. Their dues structure is as follows: **Mississippi Valley Chapter** of Cape Girardeau, Missouri: \$5; **Bayou Chapter** of Shreveport, Louisiana: \$10; **Highlands Chapter** of Northwest Arkansas: \$10; **Sugar Creek Chapter** of Northwest Arkansas: \$5; **Buffalo River Chapter** of North-Central Arkansas: \$10, or \$5 for email newsletters only; and **Pulaski Chapter** of Central Arkansas: \$10; **Student Membership:** \$5. Mail one check for both Society and chapter dues to: Ozark Society, P.O. Box 2914, Little Rock, AR 72203.





Ozark Society Fall Membership Meeting

*Come enjoy the beautiful Buffalo River in the fall;
Continue the anniversary celebrations!!!*

Friday October 19th

Board Meeting (open to all members)

7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Buffalo Point ~ Cabin #1

Bring a beverage and a snack and join us at 5:30 p.m.

Saturday October 20th

Buffalo Point ~ Pavilion #2

9am – 10am: Registration and Refreshments

10am – 12pm: Welcome and Ozark Society Business Meeting and OS Board elections

12pm: Lunch (on your own)

12:30 – 2pm: Life on the Buffalo

Join us as local residents recall life on the Buffalo River

Check out displays showcasing wildlife and early American life

2:00pm-on: Fun & Friends

~Enjoy a guided hike through Rush

~Explore Indian Rock House or another one of the great Buffalo Point trails

~Throw the Frisbee around, Play ball..

6pm: Potluck Dinner

7pm: Music and Dancing with Clancy and the Ragtags

Sunday October 21st

Buffalo River Clean Up

8:30am: Meet at Buffalo Point boat launch to load boats and shuttle return vehicles

Please contact Laura Timby by October 10th if you need a boat

ldtimby@ritternet.com

Lodge Rooms are available at Buffalo Point Concessions

870-449-6202 or www.buffalopoint.com

Campsites can be reserved at 877-444-6777 or www.recreation.gov

For other information contact Katie Murray at katimae@eritter.net



Lower Mountain Fork River Paddle

by Jerry Bertrand, Bayou Chapter

The day trip to the Lower Mountain Fork River near Broken Bow, Oklahoma, started for most of us early on the morning of Saturday, July 21, as we met in the Brookshire's shopping center parking lot on North Market in Shreveport. Some of our bunch went up the night before and spent the night and some rode over to Marshall to ride up with Lonie Hoppman, the trip leader. We caravanned to the put-in just below the Broken Bow Dam, unloaded our boats and gear, and waited for the shuttle to run.

As we waited, some of us were beginning to overheat so we decided to take a cooling-off dip in the river. Someone (Cathy?) showed us a nice little hole adjacent to the downstream side of the dam and it was cold!

Well, at first, anyway. It just took some getting used to because we had become accustomed to the heat.

This was my first trip to the Lower Mountain Fork and I didn't know what to expect except that I had been told it was clear water with a rocky bottom and lined with cypress trees. Also that there would be two miles of moving water followed by two miles of flat water. It was exactly that but the words didn't convey how pretty it is and how very picturesque!

As my aluminum canoe was not an appropriate boat for the river's rock bottom, Harvey was kind enough to loan me a sit-in kayak and transport it to and from the river for me. Thanks, Harvey! I had only been in a kayak once prior to this. That was a sit-on-top and I was only on it for a few

minutes and on flat water at that.

When we finally got into our boats and started downriver, it was noon. You could see thirty to fifty boats or tubes in view up and down the river at any given time. Judging from that and given our late start, Lonie guessed that there may have been a thousand people on the river that day.

Sherry Hoppman had informed us that lunch would be at Presbyterian Falls. When we pulled up to a large rock in the middle of the river around one o'clock, we found several of our group already snacking. I had no idea how far it was to Presbyterian Falls so decided to eat part of my lunch.

The rock turned out to be a pretty good place to regroup and plan the next stretch of river. Some of our group had already passed there but most of us stayed until the majority of our party had caught up.

The next stretch of river proved to be most interesting. While most of the group went to the left, some of us decided to go down river right and take some falls. Lonie and Adam promised that it would only be a two or three-foot drop. When we got to the falls, we found several smaller falls, none of which was more than a foot each, but they were strewn with rocks that kept hanging us up.



Lonie Hoppmann & Joe Goodwin

(Continued next page)



(Lower Mountain Fork Continued)

I took on quite a bit of water at one point but Christina actually capsized twice. Just upstream of one of the little drops, a rock caught my bow and the current took me through that chute backwards. What fun!

We finally came to a couple of big rocks crossing the river that provided a good chute that had a drop of between one and two feet with no hang-ups. Lonie was poised as a safety boat giving Christina advice and we cheered as she came through it without a hitch. Adam, Lisa, and a few others paddled back up to it from the downstream side to play in it for a little while.

The next stop turned out to be our designated lunch spot, Presbyterian Falls. It was a good two-and-a-half-foot drop. Sherry and her sister Mary had positioned themselves on a large rock just downstream of the falls to shout advice on the best spot to shoot through it and to take pictures of us coming through. Presbyterian Falls was the best place in the river to practice in the current and eddies and it was such fun that I pulled the boat back upstream and went through



Joe Goodwin

it again. It was also an excellent spot to pull up into the shade and watch the antics of the less experienced. I was amazed at the number of folks that managed to turn over in the falls. I got out of the boat and sat in the cool water and finished the rest of my lunch while I watched.

Downstream from there was the second half and slower part of the river which required paddling to make any headway. It was mostly uneventful except for the pleasant conversations, the nice scenery, and the rope swing. Yes, the rope swing! I didn't swing from it myself, I was too busy watching and taking pictures.

Next was a hundred yards or so of shallows that threatened to make us get out and drag the boats, but we

managed to use our paddles to push our way through them.

Too soon for me, we reached the take out. Here we got another glimpse of how crowded the river was. There were many vehicles in the dirt road under the bridge and parked nearby plus lots of folks swimming in the river under the bridge and lounging around.

By my count, we had thirty-nine paddlers in our group on the river. Twenty-one of us met in Broken Bow at Pappa Poblano's Mexican Café where we found out that Brian Adam's fortieth birthday had arrived four months early, thanks to Adam Willard telling the staff that it was Brian's birthday. The food was excellent!

We all had a very good time, and I for one can hardly wait for the next trip there. I enjoyed every minute of it!



Lonie Hoppmann and Victoria Provenza



COME, VISIT, AND ASSIST YOUR TRAILBUILDERS!

Trailbuilders will be camped at South Maumee on the Buffalo River from October 11 to November 3, and you're welcome to join them any time. All you need to do is bring your own tent, sleeping bag, food, and dining utensils. Most of our camper/trailbuilders will be from outside Arkansas--volunteers sponsored by the Sierra Club (Oct. 14 - 20); American Hiking Society (Oct. 21 - 27); and our trailbuilders' Alumni group (Oct. 28 - Nov. 3). We'll build trail in an isolated, scenic area around Rocky and Little Rocky Creeks a few miles upriver from South Maumee. So here's your chance to see new country and help us build the trail. For further information, contact Ken Smith, trailsmith1@yahoo.com or 479-466-7994.

SOME FACTS ABOUT THE BUFFALO RIVER TRAIL PROJECT:

- Year that trail was originally proposed: 1967 (in plan for proposed National River)
- Years that construction has been underway: 7 (2005 - 2012)
- Total length of project: 28 miles (U.S. 65 to Highway 14)
- Number of trailheads, at drivable roads: 7 (allowing for shorter day-hikes)
- Number of areas along total trail having high overlooks of river: 24
- Number of places along total trail offering access to river: 15
- Miles of trail built to date: 16 (with 11 miles now open to public)
- Number of weekend volunteers involved: 100 (approximately, coming from AR, MO, and OK)
- Number of week-long volunteers: 100 (approximately, coming from 34 States of U.S.)
- Number of foreigners who have helped build trail: 1 (from Guernsey, Channel Islands)
- Number of Boy Scout monuments to see: 1 (on side trail to Red Bluff)

...And there is more, besides.



Fall Events and Outings

- October 2 – Pulaski Chapter Meeting: 7pm at 2nd Presbyterian, Little Rock.
- October 6 - Highlands Chapter hike at Hobbs State Park. Meet at Root school on Mission Blvd in Fayetteville by 8am, or 9am at Pigeon Roost Trailhead, one mile east of Hobbs State Pk. visitor center. Bring lunch, water, rain gear, and wear hiking boots. Call Fred Paillet for info, 479-935-4297 or 479-966-5601 cell.
- October 10 – Highlands Chapter Meeting : 7pm at First United Presbyterian Church, Fayetteville. Dr. Dory Zackry, Geosciences Dept. of UA will be the speaker on scenic areas for potential national monuments.
- October 13 - BR loop-Steel Creek to Jim Bluff, trail and bushwack, 8 miles. Meet at Root school on Mission Rd in Fayetteville by 8am, or 9:30 am at Steel Creek canoe launch. Bring water, lunch, rain gear and wear hiking boots. Call Terry Fredrick for more info, 479-442-3812 H or 479-422-7776 cell.
- October 14 – BR Chapter Hike to Grand Falls: Meet at Kyles Landing near the bathroom at 9am Oct. 14. **MUST WEAR ORANGE VEST** due to hunting season. 15 person limit, call Farrell Couch (after 6pm) to sign up. 479-200-2621.
- October 15 – 18 – Bayou Chapter: SE Missouri River paddle. Contact Louis Covington. 318-834-4771. louis cov@aol.com
- October 20-21 – Fall General Meeting (See page 3)
- October 26 – 28 - Bayou Chapter: Autumn Olympics at Fireside Station, Arkansas. Contact is Vannie Edwards, edwards.bobbie@gmail.com, or call 870-334-2706
- October 27 -
 - *Pulaski Chapter*: Backpack to lower end of Hurricane Creek Wilderness west of Pelsor. Contact Steve for more information. – heye@aristotle.net
 - *Highlands Chapter Hike #1*: Lost Valley and Hawksbill Crag trails; easy to moderate. Meet at Root School on Mission Blvd in Fayetteville by 8am for carpooling, or 9:30 am at Lost Valley near Ponca. Bring water, lunch, rain gear and wear hiking boots. Call Luke Parsch for more info 479-442-3817 H or 479-445-5104 cell.
- *Highlands Chapter Hike #2*: The Penitentiary. Trip is limited to 15 people and RATED DIFFICULT; REGISTRATION REQUIRED. Priority given to OS members who register by 10/21. Bring water, lunch, rain gear and wear hiking boots. Hikers must sign waiver. Contact Tammy Graham to register, summerbee@cox.net or 479-841-4109.
- November 3 - Pulaski Chapter: Swamp Paddle in Bayou De View. Contact Margaret Bartelt (email: gordstan @ earthlink.net) for more information.
- November 6 – Pulaski Chapter meeting, 7pm at 2nd Presbyterian, Little Rock. Presentation by Steve Heye.
- November 10- Bayou Chapter: Red River clean up. Contact Adam Willard, 423-1690 or ashleysbuilding@suddenlink.net.
- November 14 - Highlands Chapter Meeting. 7pm First Presbyterian Church, Fayetteville Dr. Fred Paillet, UA Geosciences Dept. “Twenty years of backpacking in wilderness Alaska.”
- November 17 – Pulaski Chapter Day Hike on Mt. Nebo Bench Trail. Contact Steve Heye, heye@aristotle.net, for more information.
- December 1 - Bayou Chapter Christmas Meeting at Red River Wildlife Refuge. Brenda Stephens, brendagstephens@yahoo.com or call 798-2684.
- December 4: Pulaski Chapter Christmas party. 6pm at Holiday House in Burns Park.
- December 8 - Pulaski Chapter day hike: Bushwack below Pedestal Rocks, and walk upstream to side creek that falls off of Kings Bluff. Appr. 6 miles. Bring a lunch, hiking boots and snacks. Contact Steve for more info, heye@aristotle.net.





The Ozark Society
P.O. Box 2914
Little Rock, AR 72203

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*Check out announcements, upcoming activities
and newsletters from other chapters.*

You can also submit your photos for display.

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Search for “The Ozark Society”

or click on website links.

If you wish to participate in Ozark Society outdoor events, please make note of the following statement and requirement:

I acknowledge that I understand the nature of this event and represent that I am qualified, in good health and proper physical condition to participate in the activity. I understand the risks to my person and property associated with the event. I agree to release from liability and not to sue the Ozark Society (including the individual Chapters of the Ozark Society) and their officers, directors, the event leaders, coordinators or instructors for any injury, damage, death or other loss in any way connected with the event.