



PADDLE TRAILS



THE OZARK SOCIETY
PULASKI CHAPTER



January-March 2014

www.ozarksociety.net

January 7, 2014

Janet Nye will present a program about the 2013 Whitney Classic, an endurance bicycle ride in Death Valley National Park.

Bring a Friend!

New Member – Welcome!

Lisa Gornatti

MEETINGS

First Tuesday, each month, at 7 p.m. in Room 65 of the Second Presbyterian Church, 600 Pleasant Valley Dr., Little Rock. Enter the church grounds on Pleasant Valley Dr. and park on the west side nearest I-430. Go upstairs and down the first hall on the right to Room 65.

PULASKI CHAPTER OFFICERS

Chair - Charline Manning
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Vice Chair-Frank Meeks
501-626-1011

fm1271@yahoo.com

Secretary/Treasurer – Margaret Bartelt
501-224-7472

gordstan@earthlink.net

Day Hikes/Outings – Steve Heye
501-455-2210

Heye@aristotle.net

Conservation Chair - Position Open

Paddle Trails Editor – Carmen Quinn
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Hike Report – Spring Creek to South Maumee On the Buffalo River Trail

By Steve Heye

The November Hike for the Pulaski Chapter was on the Western half of the new portion of the Buffalo Trail, Spring Creek to South Maumee. A total of 15 folks enjoyed a great fall afternoon on November 9 for a hike of about 5.5 miles.

This was everyone's first time on this piece of trail and we all were anticipating features that would rival the eastern half of the new portion of the trail. Though it did not quite live up to that, we did see some fantastic features.

The trail starts off like most trails in Arkansas. There were some bluff lines and vistas of the Buffalo River. The first good vista is from the top of the bluff across from the sandbar at Spring Creek. Several of us had camped on this bar during our annual canoe trips. The trail is on top of the bluff that is across the river.

We then worked our way down to Spring Creek and had to find a spot to get everyone across dry. After laying down some logs, we got everyone across the creek and then made our way down to the Buffalo to eat lunch.

After we ate, we made our way up the next bluff line and had some views of the river, but mostly saw standard Ozark Trail vistas.

With about two miles to go, the trail took us into an area that had several bluff lines that had great promise of waterfalls when the water is flowing. Some of these drops were up to 100 feet high. You climb out of this area to round a ridge and get one last look of the river before you come out on the South Maumee access road.

If you get the chance, the next time there is a rain of an inch or more in the Marshall area, drive down the South Maumee access road to the trail head (just before the drop off to the river) and take the 30 minute walk to the bluff area. There should be at least 5 falls of more than 60 feet going! This is an easy walk on the new trail and should be a fantastic falls area with easy access. However it is uphill walking back.

Overall, Ken Smith has created a great stretch of trail in the 11 mile piece that is open. We can't wait for the remaining 15 miles or so to open from Highway 65.

P.S.: Bob Hogg and I helped to blaze a possible trail route from the end of the existing trail at Hwy. 14 bridge up to the group camp area at Buffalo Point. If Ken Smith thinks this one mile portion is doable, you may be able to walk down to the campground in Buffalo Point in the future.



Ouachita Trail Work Day

By Pete Ireland

The fall work on our adopted section o the Ouachita Trail between Highway 9 and Nancy Mountain Shelter as successfully completed on November 17 thanks to help from Bob Hogg, Frank and Joan Meeks, Kimberly Morton and Terje Stoneman. Apart from some downed trees too large to remove without a chain saw, the trail is now in very good shape for the winter. Our next workday will be some time in the spring.



The Ozark Society Membership Application/Renewal

Join us or renew now! Dues are for one calendar year; they include a subscription to the Society's newsletter, *Pack & Paddle*, and conservation bulletins. New dues paid after October 1 are good for the following year.

Remit to: The Ozark Society, Inc. - P.O. Box 2914 - Little Rock, AR 72203 or go to www.ozarksociety.net and renew online.

Please check one: New Member: Renewal:

Specify both the type of membership and the Chapter you are joining:

1. General Dues: (Please Circle One)

Individual/Family: \$15

Contributing/Sustaining: \$25

Individual Students: \$5.00 (High school or college, if not included with family)

Life: \$200 (over age 65: \$100)
(This is for OS membership only-it does not include chapter membership.)

2. Chapter Dues: (you may choose more than one)

Bayou Chapter - \$10 (Shreveport, LA)

Highlands Chapter - \$10 (N. West AR)

Buffalo River Chapter - \$10 (\$5 for email newsletter only) (N. Central AR)

Mississippi Valley Chapter - \$5 (Cape Girardeau, MO)

Sugar Creek Chapter - \$5 (Bentonville Area)

Pulaski Chapter - \$10 (Central AR)

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____
(Home) (Work) (Cell)

Address: _____

Email: _____
(if your email has changed, please let us know the old one to be deleted)

Please send newsletters to my email address instead of by U.S. Mail

Total Amount Enclosed: _____
(Please specify above which type of membership and which Chapter you are joining)

2014 Upcoming Events

Contact Steve Heye, 501-455-2210 or Heye@aristotle.net for information about hikes.

January 7 – PC Meeting. Janet Nye will present the 2013 Whitney Classic, an endurance bicycle ride from Badwater in Death Valley National Park to the end of the Whitney Portal Rd. On Mt. Whitney.

January 11 – Ozark Highlands Trail – Fairview to Chancel. Easy. We'll take a hike west from Fairview (Hwy.7) and explore the upper reaches of Hurricane Creek. We'll hike about 6.5 miles down to Chancel. Meet at McDonalds in Morgan at 8 am; wear good shoes and bring a lunch.

February 4 – PC Meeting. Program by Scott Owen of Terra Aquatica Environmental, LLC and Bill Richardson of Wetland Consultants, Inc., on understanding White Oak Bayou, a wetland in Pulaski County. Learn about the watershed and management plan.

February 8 – White Oak Bayou, North Little Rock – Easy. Bill Richardson will lead us through the bayou on a couple of miles of trail. More details on start time and meeting place when they become available.

March 4 – PC Meeting. Program to be announced.

March 8 – Village Creek State Park Trails – Easy. We'll head east for a hike on Crowley's ridge. The hike will include a swinging bridge and historical old roadways, 6 miles total. We will carpool from the NLR Walmart on McCain Blvd. and head over to the park. Be there at 8 am. Bring a lunch and good shoes or boots.

March 22 – Paddle at Grassy Lake. Paddle the new Grassy Lake Water Trail in the Bell Slough Wildlife Management Area. Travel east on Grassy Lake Road which is off of Highway 365 just south of Mayflower. (An Arkansas Game & Fish sign is at the intersection.) Go under I-40 & turn right at the stop sign. Cross Palarm Creek and immediately turn left into the parking lot. Meet at 9 AM. We will then caravan to Grassy Lake. This is a flatwater trip. No current but quite a bit of maneuvering as we follow the winding trail through the trees. Contact Margaret Bartelt: 501.224.7472 or gordstan@earthlink.net

April 5 – Blue Hole near Hector. Easy to moderate. One of our favorite places to go, Blue Hole should be full of early wild flowers and if the rains have been good, waterfalls! Meet at McDonalds in Morgan at 8 am; wear good shoes and bring a lunch. There will be some wet spots, so be prepared.

April 12-13-OS General Meeting. More information to follow, but save the date.

May 10 – Hot Springs Area Trails – Easy. We'll explore some of the trails around the national park near downtown Hot Springs. I'll have a list of trails to hike and we'll pick one or two to do for about 4 or 5 miles. Good shoes and a lunch. Meet at the Bryant Walmart at exit 123 at 8 am to carpool.

July 13 – 19: Colorado Trip. The campground reservations have been made at the Cascade Campground in the Collegiate Peaks area of the San Isabel National Forest. The campground is located on County Road 162 west of Nathrop, Colorado. The trip is limited to 60 people so if you want to go you need to send in your reservation in by June 1, 2014

You should plan to arrive at the campground by mid-afternoon Sunday July 13. The first meal will be that evening. All meals will be provided through dinner on Friday July 18 as part of the trip. If you prefer motel accommodations to camping, you can make reservations at nearby Mount Princeton Hot Springs Lodge, 15870 County Road 162, Nathrop, Colorado, 719-395-2361. Meals at the campground will be provided for all trip participants, regardless of whether you are camping or staying at the lodge.

You must be an Ozark Society member to participate in this trip. You can join by sending \$15 annual dues along with your registration. Confirm your place on the Colorado outing by sending a check made out to the Ozark Society for the trip fee of \$150 for campers and \$100 for non-campers to: Bob Ritchie, 707 Pleasant Valley Dr. #10, Little Rock, AR 72227. If you have questions concerning the Colorado outing, contact Stewart Noland at bosshq@aol.com or 501-666-2989.