



PADDLE TRAILS



THE OZARK SOCIETY
PULASKI CHAPTER



April-June 2014

www.ozarksociety.net

April 1, 2014 Program

Scott Owen of Terra Aquatica Environmental, LLC and Bill Richardson of Wetland Consultants, Inc., on understanding White Oak Bayou.

Bring a Friend!

New Member – Welcome!

Kay Ewart
Georgia Harris

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
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Secretary/Treasurer – Margaret Bartelt
501-224-7472
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Day Hikes/Outings – Steve Heye
501-455-2210
Heye@aristotle.net

Conservation Chair - Position Open

Paddle Trails Editor – Carmen Quinn
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Village Creek State Park Trails: Hike Report By Carmen Quinn

The Chapter's outing for March took place at Village Creek State Park near Wynne. It was a beautiful day for a hike - temperature just right, bright sunshine, good company. The weather had warmed up quite a bit from our bad weather earlier that week. The sign on the Visitor Center door at the park said all trails were closed due to snow and possible debris in the trail, but we got the OK from the Park staff to go ahead with our plans. There was significant snow still on the ground which added to the beauty of the scenery; unfortunately it also added a degree of difficulty to the hike.

We hiked on sections of different trails in the park, including the Austell Trail and the Lake Dunn Trail. This is actually a portion of the Trail of Tears. Called the "Memphis to Little Rock Road" it was completed in 1829 and provided the first improved route between Memphis and Little Rock. It was a major part of Indian

removal for Choctaw, Chickasaw and Muscogee (Creek). The route is part of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail.

After walking across a rickety wooden bridge, the group stopped for lunch and planned two return routes to the trailhead. Due to extremely soggy trails and mud, a few of the hikers wanted to take a shorter trail back, and wait for the rest of the group at the Visitor's Center. It turned out the trail thereafter was so flooded and muddy that most of the group took the shorter route. But luckily the weather was warm enough that even wet feet were not too uncomfortable.

So we walked approximately 4 miles instead of 6; and many people, including me, rolled up soggy pant legs on the way home. But no complaints from this hiker. It was wonderful to be out in the woods after a year of recuperating. And any day in the woods is a good day.



The Pulaski Chapter will host the Spring All-Society Meeting at Tyler Bend, and we need volunteers from our Chapter to help with registration, breakfast on Saturday, and also setup for potluck that evening. Please contact Charline if you can help - 501-351-7348 or Charlinem2@gmail.com.

The emphasis for this meeting is on fun - hikes, canoeing and recreation, not on business. Group camp sites 3& 4 are reserved for April 11 & 12. There will be hikes and float trips on both April 12 and 13, starting at 9 am at the Pavilion. There will be a light breakfast on Saturday morning, and potluck supper on Saturday at the pavilion, starting at 6 pm. After the potluck we will have each Chapter perform a skit. So put your heads together and let's see who can do the best! The skits will be followed by musical entertainment.

Upcoming Events

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

March 29 - We are meeting at 10 a.m. at the Maumelle Wetland Trail, which is by the ball fields off of Country Club Parkway in Maumelle. This is a GREAT opportunity to learn more about the wetlands of White Oak Bayou. Parking is available at the ball fields, and the trail head is marked with signage. The trail is pretty easy walking. We should be finished around or before noon, and the weather is projected to be lovely! Please feel free to email allyn.fuell@gmail.com or call Allyn at 870-834-6787 if you have any questions.

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. See notice above.

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. 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.

