



BAYOU BYLINE



January 2025

Calendar of Events

January

- 18 Hike at Logoly State Park near Magnolia, Arkansas - contact Tammy at tjerni88@hotmail.com
- 21 Monthly Meeting at RRNWR - 6:30 pm - Catherine Tolson will present a program on the first part of her Canadian adventure last summer.
- 25 Mt. Driskill Hike -10:30 am - contact person is Kim at kcox@bpcc.edu

February

- 1 Trail Maintenance at the OWL Center - contact person is Wayne at wkiefer59@gmail.com
- 15 Hike at Lincoln Parish Park - 10:30 am - contact person is Kim at kcox@bpcc.edu
- 18 Monthly Meeting at RRNWR - 6:30 pm
- 22. Hike at White Oak Lake State Park - tentative - contact Marian at marianehoward@comcast.net

March

- 1. Paddle at Backwater Jack's in East Texas - contact Teresa at teresacoats@rocketmail.com
- 8-9 Hiking weekend in Hot Springs - contact Jill Frost at jbeanfrost@hughes.net
- 15 Duck Pond Cleanup - contact Roy O'Neal
- 18 Monthly Meeting at RRNWR - 6:30 pm
- 22-23 Paddle/Hike at Hardware Lake/Wild Azalea Trail - contact Tammy
- 29. Paddle on Lake Bistineau - 11:00 am - contact is Tammy



Our monthly meetings are held at the Red River National Wildlife Refuge 150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA 71112.

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month. (except December) Program starts at 6:30 pm. Business meeting follows. Plan to join us after the meeting for food and socializing.



Catherine Tolson will present a program on the first part of her Canadian adventure last summer.

RENEW YOUR DUES FOR 2025!

First Day Hike at Bodcau - 1/1/25

By: Kim Cox

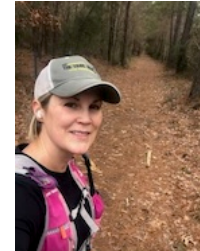
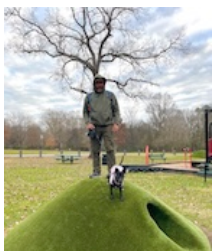
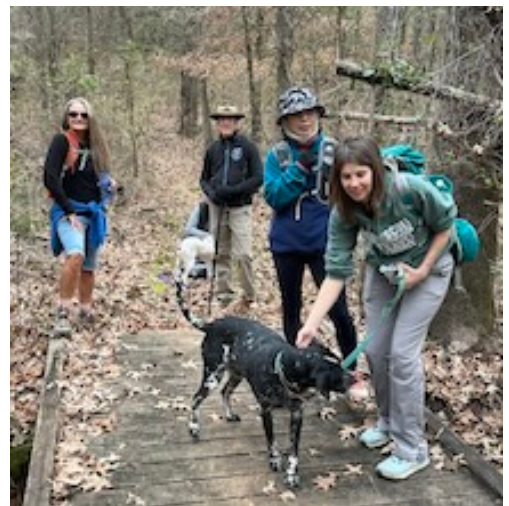
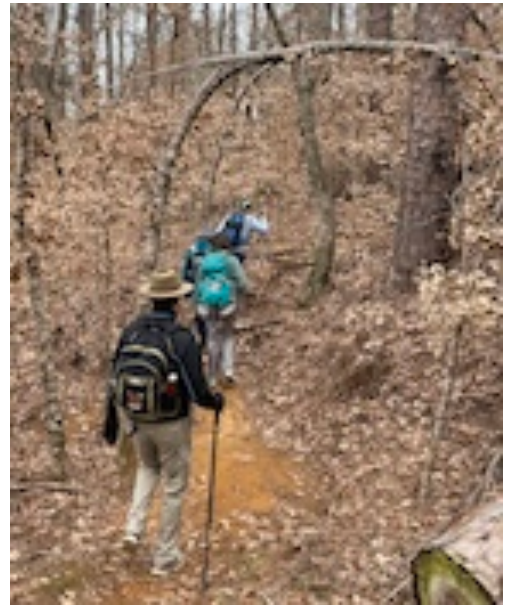
We had 25+ hikers (and a few 4-legged friends) join us for our First Day Hike at Bodcau on January 1, 2025! The weather was absolutely perfect as we enjoyed the 2.5 mile trek on the Durden Hills trails. We had awesome conversation and nature observations as we got those steps in that will set the stage for staying active and outdoors in 2025. Thanks to all who came out!! Happy New Year from the Bayou Chapter of the Ozark Society!!



Monkey Trail Hike - January 4, 2025

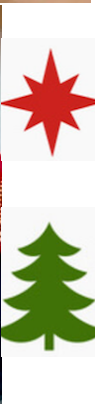
By: Marian Howard

9 BCOS members and 3 dogs met at 9:00 am on Saturday January 4th at Eddie Jones Park for a hike on the Monkey Trail. Tricia was doing a trail run so it was Melissa, Barbie, Mark, Tom, Gary, Scott, Uno and Marian hiking. We did a 4.8 mile loop. The trail was in great shape except for a few spots where the rain made the clay a little slick. Also, there is a small pond that was wall to wall salvinia that we all agreed was small enough that the salvinia could be managed better. The temps started off a little cool and breezy (even the chimps slept in) but once we got going, it was a great day to be on the trail! Perfect weather to get out and hike. We don't have many months in Louisiana where the weather is this pleasant for hiking so join us on our next hike!



BCOS Annual Christmas Party

40 BCOS members braved the dreary wet weather on Sunday December 8th and met at the Red River National Wildlife Refuge for the annual BCOS Christmas Party. As typical for this group, there was plenty of good food and fellowship. We had the usual Ugly Sweater Contest and Guess How Many M&M's and added Christmas caroling to the agenda this year. Thanks to the many members who stayed and helped clean up and take decorations down after the party was over to Leave No Trace of a really fun evening at the Refuge!



HOPE ★ LOVE ★ JOY





Lost Woman Trail Hike - 12/21/24

12 BCOS members met at Caney Lakes outside of Minden at 9:00 am on Saturday December 21st to hike the Lost Woman Trail - Roy O'Neal, Wayne Kiefer, Gary and Jenny Hackman, Tom Thompson and Penny, Melissa Leporati and Luci, Kim Cox, Jill Frost, Wendy Caldwell, Sharon Windham and grandson Tucker and Marian Howard. Despite temps in the low 30's, we had a very comfortable hike. Several of us who drove down Hwy 80 to get there were treated to a barrage of fire trucks that we discovered was not en route to a big fire since we saw Santa Claus was riding aboard each one of them! And we thought Santa rode a sleigh and was pulled by reindeer! After the hike, we went to Los Compos in Dixie Inn and ate tacos and drank beer and enjoyed each other's company. Another fun filled BCOS outing!



Hiking
IS MY
Therapy



HAPPINESS
IS A DAY
Spent
HIKING



General Membership Meeting - Fall 2024

By: Sandy Roerig

The Highland Chapter of the Ozark Society hosted the Fall General Membership Meeting in the lodge at Queen Wilhelmina State Park, AR on November 9, 2024. Representing the Bayou Chapter were; Karen Pitts, Marian Howard, David Pitts, Cindy Brix, Roy O’Neal, Kim Cox, Grace Eyler, Steve Eyler and Sandy Roerig.

1. The first order of business was to elect Board officers for 2025-2026. President Brian Thompson presented the slate proposed by the Nominating Committee. The proposed slate of officers was:

President: Brian Thompson – incumbent

Vice-President: Carolyn Shearman – previously, the Membership Chair

Past President: David Peterson

Financial Chair: Neil Shipley – who has previously served as the Financial Chair of the Ozark Society Foundation

Recording Secretary: Tommie Kelly – Pulaski Chapter

Conservation Co-Chair: Alice Andrews – incumbent

Conservation Co-Chair: Tom McClure – incumbent

Education Chair: Fred Paillet – incumbent

Community Engagement Chair: Lowell Collins – incumbent

Membership Chair: Cindy Brix – treasurer of Bayou Chapter

Archive Chair: Stewart Noland – incumbent

Arkansas State Director: Laura Timby - incumbent

Arkansas State Director: Mary Schlatterer – incumbent

Louisiana State Director: Karen Pitts – incumbent

Louisiana State Director: Sandy Roerig – previously, the Recording Secretary

Missouri State Director: Dan Chiles – Schoolcraft Chapter

Missouri State Director: Curtis Millsap – previous Chair, Schoolcraft Chapter

There were no additional nominations from the floor. Luke Parsch (Highland Chapter) made a motion to close nominations and accept the presented nominations by acclamation. Charles Mullins (Pulaski Chapter) seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Brian then reviewed the recent activities of the Ozark Society.

2. Book Sales: The Ozark Society has ended its long-standing agreements with the University of Arkansas Press and all OS books are now available on Amazon or in the OS bookstore.

3. Membership Management System: The OS recently purchased a membership management software system that is now operational.

General Membership Meeting - Fall 2024 - continued

4. Conservation: Brian and Tom McClure have been meeting with Forest Service personnel on a regular basis and are generally pleased by the responses they have received from their meetings.

5. Pryor Center Project: Stewart Noland’s project to record interviews with people involved with the original “Save the Buffalo River” project needs to be translated into text. The interviews themselves are stored in the Pryor Center.

6. Sassafras Hiking Award: The Sassafras Hiking Award has already been award to 12 people who have completed hiking the (1) Ouachita Trail (2) Ozark Highlands Trail (3) Buffalo River Trail and (4) Ozark Trail. These trails cover about 700 miles. The list of recipients is on the OS website.

7. Buffalo National River: Several OS members met with the new superintendent of the Buffalo National River, Angela Boyers. There was a productive exchange of ideas, making an overall positive meeting.

8. Regulation 5/6: Bills in the last Arkansas Legislative session moved permitting (Reg 5) from the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality to the Department of Agriculture. Reg 5 is now the Dept. of Agriculture Liquid Animal Waste Management System, Rule 7. This change means that there is no longer an opportunity for public comment on proposed permits and no way for the public to view nutrient management plans, inspection and violation reports, etc. Previously, under Reg 5, there was an opportunity for public comment. The OS is very concerned about this change and is trying to get water departments and other environmental groups involved in reversing this change.

9. Play Park in Mena: David Peterson described a recent proposal to use 9,000 acres of land between Queen Wilhelmina State Park and Mena for a Play Park. This park would include construction of 5 ‘ski lifts’, to be used as bike lifts, that would require the removal of many trees for construction of access roads. A 600-car parking lot is included. This is a big proposal that would have a big impact on the forest as well as the viewscape, especially from Queen Wilhelmina. The final decisions are in the hands of the Forest Service. The Ozark Society is requesting that no ski lift tower be constructed that would be near Queen Wilhelmina State Park and impact the viewscape. Comments from OS members are encouraged.

Janet asked about the relationship of OS with Arkansas Parks. Members of the OS will meet with the new director, Shea Lewis.

10. Youth Grants: Lowell presented updated information about the OS Youth Grants that had been initiated in 2020. So far, 33 projects have been funded, for a total of \$50,872 and 7,500 children in grades K-12 have participated. Eligible applicants include school teachers and small non-profit organizations. The current grant application period is November 1, 2024 through February 1, 2025. Applications must include hands-on participation by children.

Lowell also pointed out the need for continued funding of this program and the desire to fund projects throughout Arkansas as well as areas in Louisiana and Missouri in which the Ozark Society has a presence.

Meeting adjourned.



Bayou Chapter Ozark Society Officers - 2025

Chair

Tammy Jernigan
tjerni88@hotmail.com

Vice-Chair

Sharon Windham
swindham1513@gmail.com

Secretary

Jenny Hackman
jandgman@bellsouth.net

Treasurer

Cindy Brix
membershipchair@ozarksociety.net

Newsletter Editor

Marian Howard
marianehoward@comcast.net

Publicity Chair

Tammy Jernigan
tjerni88@hotmail.com

BCOS/Facebook Admin

Dee Jaye Teutsch
tdeejaye@gmail.com

Conservation Activities

Roy O'Neal
royoneal2@gmail.com

Conservation Reports

Sandy Roerig
sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu

Newsletter Publisher

Roy O'Neal
royoneal2@gmail.com

Ozark Society Officers - 2025

Louisiana State Director

Karen Pitts
tuffenufchuck@aol.com

Louisiana State Director

Sandy Roerig
sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu



Lost Woman Trail Hikers





The Ozark Society Membership Application/Renewal



Join us, or renew now! Dues are for one year, January-December, and they include a subscription to the Society's newsletter, *Pack & Paddle*. To join or renew, go online to the Ozark Society website at www.ozarksociety.net and click "MEMBERSHIP."

Or you can fill out this form and send it with a check written to "The Ozark Society." See below for our address.

Name(s): _____ Date: _____
 Address: _____
 City, State, and ZIP: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email 1: _____ Old Email (if changed) _____
 Email 2: _____ Old Email (if changed) _____

Please check one:

- New Member Start at **Section A** for your OS and Chapter Membership
- Renewal Start at **Section A** to renew your OS and Chapter Membership
- LIFE Member Start at **Section B** to renew just your Chapter Membership

Section A: Please specify both the Level of Membership and the Chapter you are joining:

Level: *(choose one)*

- Friend: \$30 = \$20 OS +\$10 Chapter
- Associate: \$50 = \$40 OS +\$10 Chapter
- Supporter: \$100 = \$90 OS +\$10 Chapter
- Sponsor: \$250 = \$240 OS +\$10 Chapter
- Patron: \$500 = \$490 OS +\$10 Chapter
- Benefactor: \$1000+ = \$990+ OS +\$10 Chapter

Chapter: *(choose one)*

- Bayou (Shreveport, LA)
- Buffalo River (North Central, AR)
- Highlands (Fayetteville, AR)
- Pulaski (Central, AR)
- Schoolcraft (Springfield, MO)
- Sugar Creek (Bentonville, AR)
- No chapter, all to central Ozark Society

Section B: For Members who wish to join more than one Chapter or Life Members renewing their Chapter Membership only

(Choose as many as you wish and add \$10 for each chapter)

- \$10 Bayou (Shreveport, LA)
- \$10 Buffalo River (North Central, AR)
- \$10 Highlands (Fayetteville, AR)
- \$10 Pulaski (Central, AR)
- \$10 Schoolcraft (Springfield, MO)
- \$10 Sugar Creek (Bentonville, AR)

Section C: Donations to our Funds

(Choose any amount)

- \$ _____ Conservation Fund
- \$ _____ Endowment Fund
- \$ _____ Legal Fund
- \$ _____ Youth Grant Fund
- \$ _____ Compton Scholarship
- \$ _____ Hedges Scholarship

My Total is: \$ _____

Please remit to: The Ozark Society, PO Box 2914, Little Rock, AR 72203.

You will receive a Thank You email from the Ozark Society. Please contact oscomms@ozarksociety.net for questions.