



# BAYOU BYLINE



## February 2025

### Calendar of Events

#### February

- 15 Hike at Lincoln Parish Park - 10:30 am - contact person is Kim at [kcox@bpcc.edu](mailto:kcox@bpcc.edu)
- 18 Monthly Meeting at RRNWR - 6:30 pm - Steve from Steve's Snaketuary will bring snakes and people can hold them and take pictures with them.
- 22 Hike at White Oak Lake State Park - will be rescheduled at a later date

#### March

- 1 Paddle at Backwater Jack's in East Texas - contact Teresa at [teresacoats@rocketmail.com](mailto:teresacoats@rocketmail.com)
- 8-9 Hiking weekend in Hot Springs - contact Jill Frost at [jbeanfrost@hughes.net](mailto:jbeanfrost@hughes.net)
- 15 Duck Pond Cleanup - contact Roy O'Neal at [royoneal2@gmail.com](mailto:royoneal2@gmail.com)
- 18 Monthly Meeting at RRNWR - 6:30 pm
- 22-23 Paddle/Hike at Hardwater Lake/Wild Azalea Trail - contact Tammy at [tjerni88@hotmail.com](mailto:tjerni88@hotmail.com)
- 29 Paddle on Lake Bistineau - 11:00 am - contact is Tammy at [tjerni88@hotmail.com](mailto:tjerni88@hotmail.com)

#### April

- 5 Athens-Big Fork Trail Maintenance - contact Roy at [royoneal2@gmail.com](mailto:royoneal2@gmail.com)
- 11-13 Mount Magazine State Park honking weekend - contact Kim at [kcox@bpcc.edu](mailto:kcox@bpcc.edu)
- 15 Monthly Meeting at RRNWR - 6:30 pm
- 19 Black Bayou Refuge Hike/Paddle - contact is Melissa at [melissa\\_axb@yahoo.com](mailto:melissa_axb@yahoo.com)



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.



Steve from Steve's Snaketuary will bring snakes and people can hold them and take pictures with them.

**BCOS meeting Minutes January 21, 2025**

By: Jenny Hackman

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Tammy J

A wonderful presentation was provided by Catherine Tolson with some assistance from Marian on their Canada trip summer 2024 in the Northwest Territories

Minutes were approved for the November minutes as printed in the newsletter, 1<sup>st</sup> Wayne and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sharon.

L Green sent a thank you letter to BCOS for their donation to her animal rescue

There are 88 total members for 2025, if you haven't renewed your membership yet, it is time to do so.

Tammy J has been working on Bayou.com due to some issues that have occurred. She and Kim C are working on the blog and the website. If you have a password problem, let Tammy know and she can assist you.

Past Outings: Logoly State Park (Arkansas) is nice park and close to home

Committees to be tabled due to time:

Communication, Gear/Swag, annual trip

Upcoming Outings: Mt Driscoll led by Kim COWL Center January 31-February 1 at the equine therapy farm: trail maintenance. You can stay in the bunk house. Details to follow on email.

Door Prizes: deer sausage and suet feeder provided by Kim C

Treasure Report was provided by Tammy: November ending balance \$7,826.95 and December ending balance \$7324.03 (brief due to time constraints)

Written Treasure Report provided by Cindy B:

**November Report:**

Checking starting balance: \$7,716.95

Added Receipts: Membership \$110.00

Checking ending balance November 30, 2024: \$7,826.95

Savings balance \$5.00

Note: \$1696.00 is earmarked for Athens Big Fork Historical Marker

**December Report:**

Checking starting balance December 1, 2024: \$7,826.95

Disbursements Total: \$502.92. (Printer: \$162.17, River Bandit Wildlife Rescue -Leslie Greene: \$250.00, Website site – Wix: \$90.75

Checking ending balance December 31, 2024: \$7324.03

Savings balance \$5.00

Note: \$1696.00 is earmarked for Athens Big Fork Historical Marker

Conservation Report by Sandy R: Methane Satellite: monitors methane levels around the world to calculate methane pollution.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10.

## Tribute to a Beautiful Friend

By: Grace Eyer

Our dear friend and longtime member of the Bayou Chapter - Vannie Edwards - passed away on January 28, 2025 at the age of 87. He and his wife Bobbie, originally from Louisiana, retired in Norman, Arkansas and continued to be members of the Bayou Chapter.

Vannie was loved by many. He originally taught and coached in the Louisiana public school system. He began coaching gymnastics and was very successful at mentoring world class gymnasts at the college level and became a successful Olympic coach in the 1960's.

Their guest cabin in Norman, the "Peek House," was generously made available to us for many years. If the water was up in the Ouachita or Caddo rivers, we'd head up there and spend the weekend at the Peek House and share meals, stories, campfires and just enjoy spending time with each other. He and Bobbie loved the Bayou Chapter and the Bayou Chapter loved them back. Vannie always led a prayer gathering on Sunday mornings before heading out on our activity or road home to realize how blessed we were and to strengthen our bonds with each other.

In the fall each year, Vannie would invite us up for the "Autumn Olympics." It was a weekend of fun activities with confidence and trust building games. Part of this was rappelling down a "bunny" slope and a vertical slope on nearby hills. Many of us would never have experienced this without his instruction and encouragement. He also shared similar experiences with troubled teens and other groups that were in need of some direction.

Vannie loved paddling, hiking and all things outdoors, always giving God the glory as the Creator. His faith in Jesus was the most important thing in his life and from this faith flowed his generosity of spirit and love for others. More than anything, Vannie was an unbelievable encourager to so many. He will be greatly missed and those of us who spent time with him feel incredibly blessed to have called him our friend. We love you Vannie!



**REST IN PEACE DEAR FRIEND - YOU LIVED A BEAUTIFUL LIFE!**

## Hiking at Logoly State Park

By: Tammy Jernigan

Nine lovely ladies (because we all know that Melissa's Lucy is a lady) met at Logoly State Park in Arkansas on Saturday January 18. The park, located just north of Magnolia, is the first environmental education park in Arkansas. Park interpreter Heather met us at the Visitor Center (a LEED certified building - see bottom of this article)) and told us about the origins of the park's name, the proper pronunciation, and about the trail changes being made. She also instructed us on the use of iNaturalist, an application that allows for peer-reviewed observations. Heather was very responsive, informative and is a great asset for Arkansas State Parks.

The park was named after the original owner's family names by taking the first two letters of each of the three family names. The proper way to say Logoly is Lo-GO-Lie. The trails are currently being revised to allow for all-terrain electric wheel chairs. This was just slightly problematic as the trail maps weren't entirely accurate, but very nice trail markers led us the right way.

The area has a deep history. It used to be a healing destination in the late 1800s and early 1900's for the springs in the area. The original pool structure, where people would come by wagon or rail to soak in the magnesium-rich waters, was still in place - although the water table has dropped thus no springs for us to play in.

The park land was then leased for 99 years and \$10 to the Boy Scouts for a campground. In 1978, 368 acres was dedicated for Logoly State Park.

We hiked almost three miles of nicely maintained trails. Information markers were located throughout the trail system. We worked up such an appetite hiking and observing that we fled south to Emerson where we dined at the Smokin' Bull restaurant. They accommodated us with patio seating and heaters so Lucy and her special egg could join us for lunch. For the rest of us, shrimp and grits, Bull-ritos, fried mushrooms, and onion rings were all deemed calorie free!

Everyone proclaimed the day as a success. The excellence of being outdoors was only exceeded by the quality of the company!

\***LEED** is an acronym that stands for **Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design**. LEED is recognized worldwide as a symbol of excellence in green building and is administered by the United States Green Building Council. There are four levels of achievement in the LEED rating system: Certified, Silver, Gold and Platinum. Criteria to earn each rating includes, sustainable site development, water efficiency, use of regional materials and on-site renewable energy generation.



**Mt. Driskill Ascent - Saturday January 25, 2025**

By: Kim Cox

15 (young and old) BCOS hikers + Luci tackled Driskill Mountain near Arcadia, LA on Saturday morning January 25th! The day started out pretty chilly and windy but warmed up to become perfect weather for a day outside. We ascended on the False Mountain trail and enjoyed a snack at the beautiful Driskill peak overlook, then descended the main trail, finding a geocache treasure along the way. Overall this was a pretty short hike of less than 2 miles but it was very scenic, well maintained, and a perfect day hike location - plus you get the bragging rights of saying you climbed the tallest Louisiana mountain! After the hike we enjoyed lunch in Arcadia before heading home. Another successful BCOS outing. Join us on our next adventure!





## Ozark Society Board Meeting - November 10, 2024

By: Sandy Roerig



The Ozark Society Fall Board meeting was held November 10, 2024 in the lodge at Queen Wilhelmina State Park. Bayou Chapter members present were: Karen Pitts, Grace Eyler, Marian Howard, Cindy Brix, Kim Cox, Roy O'Neal and Sandy Roerig.

President Brian Thompson opened the Board meeting at 9:30 a.m. Minutes of the July meeting were unanimously accepted. The financial report was unanimously accepted.

### **Board Reports**

**Communications /Membership:** Brian reviewed the reports prepared by Carolyn Shearman that had been e-mailed to Board members. Carolyn noted that memberships are holding up well. She also noted that the new membership program does not require a login and password, making renewals very easy to accomplish. The program will also make monthly reports on memberships. Brian added that the new program will also send e-mail messages. Grace asked if rosters would be available. Carolyn replied that members who have access to the program can pull rosters off the list and download to Excel.

**Conservation:** Co-Chair Alice Andrews discussed a huge concern with Regulations 5 and 6. Oversight of Regulation 5 has been moved to the Department of Agriculture from the Department of Energy and Environment, and public notification is no longer provided on proposed changes.

**Conservation:** Co-Chair Tom McClure described where the proposed chair-bike lifts would be placed, in the proposed Trails at Mena project. Two of these lifts would be visible from the overlook at Queen Wilhelmina lodge. The Ozark Society is recommending that only two, instead of the proposed five, chair-bike lifts would be built. Also, the new roads that will be built for chair-bike lift access would require a bigger footprint of Forest Service land than is actually necessary. Brian noted that the final decision rests with Forest Service supervisors.

**Community Engagement:** Chair Lowell Collins announced that documents describing the Youth Grants program are available for members to use for soliciting applications.

**Archives:** Chair Stewart Noland reported that Bob Robinson has started a new series of articles in the Arkansas Gazette.

Brian stated that Stewart and Tom McClure have recorded interviews of individuals who had been involved in saving the Buffalo River. These recordings need to be converted to text for archiving. He asked the Board to allocate \$500 to pay someone to transcribe these recordings. A motion that the Ozark Society provide \$500 to cover the cost of transcribing the recordings was passed unanimously.

### **New Business**

**New Officers:** Brian announced the results of the election of Board Members for 2025-2026 that had been held at the OS General Membership meeting on November 9, 2024.

**Proposed Stipend Changes:** Brian described a proposed stipend for the Membership Chair. Brian then described the new membership process using the recently purchased software. He said that the process will require about two days every month. He suggested that the Chair be paid for diligence, accuracy and expertise and requested \$350 per month as a stipend. Grace made a motion to pay the Membership Chair \$350 per month. Motion passed unanimously.

**Lobbyist renewal:** Brian reviewed the current arrangement of lobbyist expenses being shared by four organizations, the Buffalo River Association, the National Parks Association, the Arkansas Canoe Club and the Ozark Society. The OS share is \$4,800 per year. Brian stated that Bill Stovall is doing an excellent job in representing the interests of these groups. A motion to continue to support the lobbyist passed unanimously.

**(Ozark Society Board Meeting - continued)**

Storage Unit Update: Brian explained that two canoes are currently kept in the storage unit and that space could be better utilized. The Pulaski Chapter is asking whether other Chapters could use these canoes, on a permanent loan basis. Grace asked for a description of the canoes. David replied that one is an Old Town and the other is a Ducker. Stewart volunteered to transport them to whatever Chapter could use them.

Increasing Membership Proposal: Stewart suggested that each Chapter could offer 20 free memberships to interested individuals. These new members would then be asked to pay for renewal memberships. Grace noted that the Bayou Chapter offers free use of its kayaks to members. Stewart stated the implementation of this idea would be left up to each Chapter. Brian said that when a potential member is identified, the Chapter could e-mail a completed membership form to him and he will verify their official membership.

501(c)4 Proposal: Brian suggested that the Ozark Society create a 501(c)4 to allow the organization to spend more money on political expenses, such as lobbyists. He said that this should be done soon, in case it is needed in the future – it may be useful in future controversies. It would cost \$3-4,000 to set up. Stewart suggested that this topic be discussed at the next Board meeting. There was a suggestion to form a committee to investigate this matter. Brian appointed Stewart, David and himself to the committee.

Winter Board Meeting: The winter Board meeting will be held on February 1, 2025 at the Peterson castle near Conway, AR. It will begin at 10:30 am. New officers will begin their terms on January 1, 2025.

**Chapter Reports**

Bayou Chapter: Chair Grace Eyler described Chapter activities of putting people in boats at the Bodcau Fish and Wildlife Day and the Red River National Wildlife Refuge Celebration. Several members participated in the River Rat race on the Ouachita River near Monroe, LA. A Christmas party will be held in December.

Buffalo River Chapter: Brian read the report that Chris McMillan had submitted. There are no plans for future meetings and the membership is widely scattered.

Highlands Chapter: Chair Tom Perry stated that hiking season has started, and weekly hikes have commenced. There have been good speakers at meetings, including talks on the Ouachita Trail, clean water, recycling and sustainability. The University of Arkansas Dean of Architecture gave a talk on Arkansas timber.

Pulaski Chapter: Chair Mary Beth McDonald described interesting speakers at Chapter meetings, including French Hill and a representative from Keep Arkansas Beautiful. The Chapter hosted a table at the Hillcrest Harvest Festival and received lots of interest, but no new people showed up at the next Chapter meeting. They also sold about \$300 worth of publications.

Schoolcraft Chapter: Curtis Millsap reported that the first Schoolcraft membership meeting of the conservation committee has been scheduled. A big issue is the plan for a local meat processing plant to dump waste in the river. No local control is currently allowed for waste disposal.

Sugar Creek Chapter: Chair Lowell Collins stated that Chapter members are coordinating events with the Highlands Chapter, but also has separate hikes. She added that usually Highland Chapter members participate in Sugar Creek Chapter events.

She also said that she plans to visit other Chapters to promote the Youth Grants program.

She also suggested that Chapter Chairs could get together at the Spring General Membership meeting to brainstorm about promoting OS events and membership.

Brian said that he would be happy to provide a program on the OS endowment at upcoming Chapter meetings.

Meeting adjourned.

### **Bayou Chapter Ozark Society Officers - 2025**

**Chair**

Tammy Jernigan  
[tjerni88@hotmail.com](mailto:tjerni88@hotmail.com)

**Vice-Chair**

Sharon Windham  
[swindham1513@gmail.com](mailto:swindham1513@gmail.com)

**Secretary**

Jenny Hackman  
[jandgman@bellsouth.net](mailto:jandgman@bellsouth.net)

**Treasurer**

Cindy Brix  
[membershipchair@ozarksociety.net](mailto:membershipchair@ozarksociety.net)

**Newsletter Editor**

Marian Howard  
[marianehoward@comcast.net](mailto:marianehoward@comcast.net)

**Publicity Chair**

Tammy Jernigan  
[tjerni88@hotmail.com](mailto:tjerni88@hotmail.com)

**BCOS/Facebook Admin**

Dee Jaye Teutsch  
[tdeejaye@gmail.com](mailto:tdeejaye@gmail.com)

**Conservation Activities**

Roy O'Neal  
[royoneal2@gmail.com](mailto:royoneal2@gmail.com)

**Conservation Reports**

Sandy Roerig  
[sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu](mailto:sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu)

**Newsletter Publisher**

Roy O'Neal  
[royoneal2@gmail.com](mailto:royoneal2@gmail.com)

### **Ozark Society Officers - 2025**

**Louisiana State Director**

Karen Pitts  
[tuffenufchuck@aol.com](mailto:tuffenufchuck@aol.com)

**Louisiana State Director**

Sandy Roerig  
[sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu](mailto:sandra.roerig@lsuhs.edu)



L  
O  
G  
O  
L  
Y



H  
I  
K  
E  
R  
S







## 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](http://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](mailto:oscomms@ozarksociety.net) for questions.