

The Docent News



May 1998

For Tallgrass Prairie Preserve Docents

Gift Shop News

from Sue Wheeler

Don't forget that the new Gift Shop hours are 9:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. We will extend hours to 5 p.m. on May 16, and will add the third shift option on May 30!

Total sales for the month of March were \$3,148.50, bringing year-to-date sales to \$3,400.26, \$123 dollars more than during this period for 1997. We were open for 18 days in March!

As of this week (April 30) the Credit Card machine is plugged in at the gift shop! Please continue to accept cash or check as the preferred payment, but if customers inquire about using their credit cards (Mastercard and VISA only) the answer is yes! Procedures are posted and the red operations booklet is nearby, with a help number. Although the machine itself looks intimidating, only a few of the buttons are used in daily transactions. Let Sue or Mary know how you like this option, and if your customers appreciate it!

Visitation

from George Meyers

Six hundred and nine visitors signed in during the month of March, 204 from 31 other states, 17 from eight foreign countries and 388 from Oklahoma. 53.9% were first time visitors. Only two days showed no sign-ins, in spite of the "interesting" weather we had during this month.

Visitors from Texas, Missouri, Kansas and California led the list of states, with Ireland the leader among the foreign countries with five visitors.

1998 totals show visitors from 35 states and twelve foreign countries.

Welcome New Docents!

Our new docents have hit the ground running. Many of you may have already worked a training shift with one of our new people. This year's class, and home towns are:

John Beasley - Owasso
Dennis and Marian Bires - Claremore
Nancy Bobsein - Bartlesville

(new docents - continued)

Vicki Carpenter - Tulsa
Marilyn Clarke - Ponca City
Sue Coyle - Tulsa
Jan and Bob Hawks - Tulsa
Christie Kennedy - Tulsa
Jeri Maberry - Ramona
Steve McNamara - Tulsa
Kay Miller - Ramona
Connie Murray - Tulsa
Larry Myers - Tulsa
Missy Whitehill - Tulsa

Welcome!!

Calendar

May

- 9 Spring Wildflower ID at Preserve, 1 p.m.
- 16 Gift Shop Hours Extend to 5 p.m.
- 29/30 Conservancy Annual membership meeting and field trips, Woodward, OK
- 30 Third Shift (Sat./Sun.) starts

June

- 20 Heritage Day at TGP!
- 27 Butterfly Count at TGP!

October

- 3 Docent Appreciation Picnic

This 'N That

by Mary McIntyre
Education and Outreach Coord.

A special hello to our new docents. Their training is nearly complete, and many of them are now working beside you at the gift shop. A dozen of our new folk also attended trail guide training, and many will be assisting with that program, now in its second year.

This is baby bison time! Hope you've taken a minute to see these cute little ones when you're at the Preserve. Drive the bison loop and you're bound to catch a glimpse.

The committee working on the new gift shop/nature room has met again to review preliminary architectural sketches and estimates for turning the old shop/barn into our visitor center. We'll keep you posted as we know more. Work cannot begin until the new machine shop is completed and equipment has been moved. Your ideas are welcome!

Hope to see you soon -

Heritage Day - June 20

Extra docents are needed!
Our book sale in the yard is always successful! Contact Barbara Bates to sign up!!

Wildflower Training

Spring Wildflower ID training will be held on May 9 at 1 p.m. Kim Shannon, TNC OK staff person and botanist, will be our instructor. If you are interested in knowing names of plants and flowers, join us that afternoon! Bring hand lens, plant guides, sunscreen and insect repellent! Kim has also prepared a binder of plant information which is available for you to look through in the Docent Office. This binder will include information about current "bloomers". Check it out!

Trail Guide Program

Although we haven't promoted the guide program, several April and May requests for guides have kept us hopping. Two weekend guides have committed to regular days of service. Don Bruner will serve on the second Saturday of each month, and Van Vives on the fourth Saturday of each month. They are available as trail guide for families, groups or individuals. Thanks for making this commitment!

Several bus tours are on the calendar for mid and late June. If you can help as a guide or docent, please call Marilyn Keefer (918) 333-7761, or Barbara Bates (918) 298-7019.

The Docent News

Prairie News

from Harvey Payne,
Preserve Director, and
Bob Hamilton, preserve director of
Science and Stewardship

The biggest prairie news is --- babies! Over 92 of them have been counted so far, and nearly 200 are expected this year! The bison are in many scattered bands, and are frequently visible from various places on the bison loop or the main road just after entering the bison range.

Spring burning is complete, and there have been no wild-fires on the preserve.

The new machine shop is about three quarters finished. Some weather delays have slowed this project.

The cowboys have been working on the Prairie Earth trail, as well as some fencing projects.

Turnout for the April 11 workday was slim. Some great volunteers worked very hard to pick up trash - but more volunteers are always needed in this area.

The wildflowers are appearing all over - as well as lots of new grass.

MAY IS

SPECTACULAR!!!!

MAY 1998

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 John Beasley *	2 Dan Vinyard Wayne Middleton Nancy Bobsan
3 John Fisher Robyn Stroup	4 Nune Richards *	5 George McCourt Doris Mayfield	6 George McCourt Sue Coyle	7 Linda Anderson *	8 Liz Medley Al Medley	9 Carolyn Matthews Dorothy Buck Marilyn Clarke
10 Don Bruner *	11 FM Carol Redford *	12 Mary Johnston Dean Johnston	13 Roberta Wheritt Judy Barto	14 Stu Marshall Judy Kishner	15 Phyllis Connally John Beasley Christie Kennedy	16 George Meyers Constance Murray John Beasley
17 Sandy Frazier Cheryl Kilpatrick Dennis Bires	18 Loretta Vives Van Vives	19 Barbara Bates Sue Wheeler	20 Joanne Colbert John Colbert	21 Nyla Woody Randy Woody	22 Dan Vinyard Barbara Strahm	23 Jo Brooks David Turner Betty Turner
24 Linda Irwin Edith Haraughty 31 William Mosier Linda Erwin *	25 Mary Reeves Bob Reeves	26 Carl Wilhite *	27 Iris McPherson Marilyn Keefer	28 Bill Rinehart *	29 Carol Eames Constance Murray	30 Barbara Jean Marashi Terra Groh Perry Crampton

RETURN THIS TO: Barbara Bates
5642 E 113 St
Tulsa OK 74137

Phone: 918 - 298-7019
(Leave your name and phone number on the answering machine)
E-Mail: bbates@webzone.net

AFTER MAY 14
SHIFT HOURS: 9:30 am - 5 pm

JUNE 1998

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 * *	2 * *	3 * *	4 <i>Linda Anderson</i> *	5 <i>Dan Vinyard</i> *	6 <i>Don Bruner</i> <i>Bill Dinger</i> *
7 * * *	8 * *	9 <i>Carl Wilhite</i> *	10 <i>Dave Dolcater</i> * <i>Marilyn</i>	11 <i>Doris Mayfield</i> *	12 <i>John Beasley</i> *	13 <i>John Beasley</i> * *
14 <i>Dennis Bires</i> <i>Marian Bires</i> <i>12-6 Cheryl</i> <i>Kilpatrick</i>	15 <i>Loretta Vives</i> <i>Van Vives</i> TG	16 <i>Barbara Bates</i> <i>Sue Wheeler</i> TG	17 <i>Stu Marshall</i> * <i>Erin</i>	18 <i>Randy Woody</i> <i>Nyla Woody</i>	19 * *	20 <i>John Fisher</i> <i>Marilyn Clarke</i> * *
21 <i>Laban Miles</i> * *	22 <i>Mary Johnston</i> <i>Dean Johnston</i>	23 * *	24 <i>Dan Vinyard</i> *	25 <i>Edith Haraughty</i> *	26 * *	27 <i>David Turner</i> <i>Betty Turner</i> <i>12-6 Terra Groh</i> <i>Perry Crampton</i>
28 <i>William Mosier</i> <i>Linda Erwin</i> * TG	29 * *	30 * *				

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JULY 1998

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 * *	2 <i>Linda Anderson</i> *	3 * *	4 <i>Independence Day!</i> * * *
5 * * *	6 <i>Mary Johnston</i> <i>Dean Johnston</i>	7 * *	8 <i>Dave Dolcater</i> *	9 <i>Doris Mayfield</i> *	10 * *	11 * * *
12 * * *	13 * *	14 * *	15 * *	16 <i>Randy Woody</i> <i>Nyla Woody</i>	17 * *	18 * * *
19 * * *	20 * *	21 <i>Barbara Bates</i> <i>Sue Wheeler</i>	22 * <i>Marilyn</i> * <i>Doris</i>	23 * *	24 * *	25 <i>Terra Groh 12-6</i> <i>Perry Crampton 12-6</i> *
26 <i>Marilyn Clarke</i> <i>William Mosier</i> *	27 * *	28 * *	29 * *	30 * *		

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