

The Docent News



For Tallgrass Prairie Preserve Docents

Jan./Feb. 1998

Gift Shop News

from Sue Wheeler

During November, gift shop sales totaled 2,168.25, bringing total sales to date to \$43,714.87, compared to \$35,879.57 for last year!

Docent Council Update

Next meeting: Feb. 7 from 9:30 until 12 noon.

All docents are welcome to attend. Comments, questions and concerns are welcome. The Council is hard at work revising the program and addressing your needs. The Council will meet mid-season this year to assess the program at mid-point. For more information, call Mary at 585-1117.

Speakers' Bureau Training Time

Mark **Feb. 7** on your calendar if you're interested in being trained as a volunteer speaker! 1-4 p.m. at the Downtown Tulsa office. Join our busy team! To sign up, call Mary at 585-1117.

Visitation

from George Meyers

During October, 1304 visitors came to the Preserve, 336 from 37 other states, 41 from 10 foreign countries and 927 from Oklahoma. 62 percent were first time visitors.

In November, 577 visitors came, 203 from other states, 12 from five foreign countries and 362 from Oklahoma. 63.1 percent were first time visitors.

In December, we had 417 visitors. 134 from 26 other states, 11 from four foreign countries and 272 from Oklahoma. 62.6 were first-time visitors.

Yearend totals:

Total visitors: 12,030

Foreign visitors: 395

OK visitors: 7344

More info will be available at reorientation.

This issue is a combined Jan-Feb issue. Hope you had happy holidays!

Calendar

February

- 3 Ponca City Recruitment
- 7 Docent Council Meeting (9:30 a.m. - 12)
Speakers Bureau Training (1-4 p.m.)
- 10 Bartlesville Recruitment
- 24 Tulsa Recruitment

March

- 14 Re-orientationn - Pawhuska - 9:30 a.m.
- 28 New Docent Training - 1

April

- 4 New Docent Training - 2
- tba Trail Guide Training

Jan. 24 - Catch This - National Geographic Special on NBC at 7 p.m., "Don't Say Goodbye" takes viewers on a rousing roadtrip across the U.S. to deliver an emergency message: Conserve habitats or lose America flora and fauna forever! I'll be tuning in, hope you will be, too. Suggest it to your friends!

Recruitment

Check the calendar for dates of recruitment events, and call the office to volunteer to assist at one near you!

This year's Tulsa recruitment event will be an "invitation only" reception at the home of docent Barbara Bates on Tuesday, Feb. 24 from 7-9 p.m. Invite your interested friends. Call 585-1117 and give the name of the person attending. An invitation with time and place will be sent to them.

Space permits only a few "host" docents to attend, but please check with the office if you'd like to come with your friend. RSVP by Feb. 20, please.

This 'N That

by Mary McIntyre
Education and Outreach Coord

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at Docent Reorientation, March 14! Some exciting changes to tell you about - so plan to be there!

We are starting the season with 90 docents! Many of you have already committed to a regular shift, and that helps us so much! If that's not possible, return your calendar to Barbara Bates to set your time!

I'm always glad to hear from you, so call anytime!

Mary

Notes from the Prairie

from Harvey Payne and Bob Hamilton

- The bison are currently grazing in small bands all over the Preserve!
- Site preparation has begun on the new garage project, to be located just north of the current barn.
- A committee has been formed to consider turning the old barn into a visitors center, where the gift shop, docent office and nature exhibits will be located.
- The TU Board of Directors has approved the TU Research Center project, to be built east of the Stucco (Barnard) house at the Preserve. This building will provide research labs and dorm facilities and will be used by other universities as well as TNC.
- Controlled burns were made on Dec. 17 and 18.
- Volunteer needs include: Cleanup and Trash pickup! A Workday will be set for Spring (April) for this purpose.
- Gift shop proceeds purchased twelve heifer calves from TNC's Niobrara Valley Preserve in Nebraska. A total of 42 heifer calves and one yearling bull were purchased for the herd this fall.

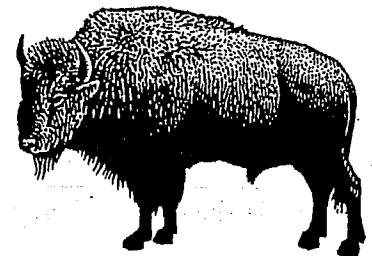
VISIT THE TGP!!!

The Docent News Fill Out Those Calendars!

You will find shift calendars for March, April and May in this mailing. Remember to fill in your first and second choices of shifts in any blank shift spot, then mail your calendar back to Barbara Bates, scheduler, at the address on the calendar. You will be sent a reminder card as the shift draws near!

Self Assessment

Enclosed in this mailing is the Docent Self Assessment which we began using last year. This survey is for YOUR information. Take a minute to review the questions and think about your docent experience. Considering these questions carefully can add to your docent experience, and also help us improve your volunteer time! If you would like to share this information with me, send it on to the office (the address is stamped on the back) or bring it with you to reorientation. Thanks!



NOVEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26 Linda Irwin John Fisher	27 Bob and Mary Reeves	28 Herb Skidmore Perry Crampton Doris Mayfield	29 Laban Miles Perry Crampton	30 Barbara Bates Edith Haraughty	31 Van and Loretta Vives	1 Marilyn Fugate Jo Brooks
2 Mary Cumming Carol Redford	3 Dean and Mary Ellen Johnston	4 Sandy Frazier *2.	5 Roberta Wherritt Judy Barto	6 Bill Rinehart Marilyn Keefer	7 Doris Mayfield Stu Marshall	8 Bill Dinger Renel Johnson
9 John Fisher Don and Barbara Sweeney	10 Bob and Mary Reeves	11 Al and Liz Medley	12 Dave Dolcater Judy Kishner	13 Laban Miles Linda Anderson	14 Edith Haraughty Randy and Nyla Woody	15 Sue Wheeler George and Vera Meyers shop closes for season
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Is your name listed on this calendar? If it is, check your calendar, mark the date down, and show up at the Preserve! To change a day, or schedule a day, call Shirley Miller at 918/836-5349. A postcard will arrive to confirm your work shift. Thanks!