

The Docent News



For Tallgrass Prairie Preserve Docents

Feb. 1999

Gift Shop News

from Sue Wheeler

John Fisher, Gift Shop bookkeeper, has completed the profit and loss statement for 1998. The complete statement will be available for you at the Reorientation meeting on March 13.

Net profit for the operation during 1998 was \$16,738.75.

Although our gross receipts were slightly higher in 1998 than in 1987, our net profit was slightly less. This is due to the purchase of the Credit Card Machine and the monthly service fees which we pay to provide this service.

MORE "LOST" BOOKS!

We continue to have a problem with disappearing books in the gift shop. This year's list of books which disappeared from the shop but were not paid for includes 41 titles and 47 books. The cost of this lost inventory was \$322.12.

Calendar

February

- 5 Recruitment - Glenpool
- 6 Docent Council, 10-12 am
- 9 Recruitment - B'ville
- 18 Recruitment - Tulsa
(Barbara Bates' home, invite only)
- 22 Recruitment - Ponca City
- 27 Speaker's Training, 1 - 4 p.m.

March

- 13 Reorientation
- 14 Gift Shop Opens
- 20 New Docent Training I
- 27 New Docent Training II
- 28 Trail Guide Training

April

- 17 Spring Workday -
Litter pickup
- 24 Spring Wildflower ID and
Wild Hog Creek Hike

June

- 4,5 Annual Meeting, Beavers
Bend State Park
- 19 Heritage Day, Tallgrass
Prairie Preserve

October/November

- tba Appreciation Dinner and
Tenth Anniversary Event!

Calendar Notes

February is recruitment month! Members of the Docent Council are heading up these events. If you want to be involved in your area, contact Mary, 585-1117.

The Tulsa event on 2/18 is open to folks by invitation only. If you know of someone in the Tulsa area who would be a good docent, you may invite them to attend. Make reservations with Mary prior to 2/16. Thanks!

March is training month and OPEN SHOP month! Please respond with your RSVP card for Reorientation when you receive it.

WANT LIST

We're look ahead to moving into our new shop in the spring! Don't throw IT away! Could we use it in the shop? We still need: CD/Cassette player, stools, bar seats, kitchen table and chairs, lamps, small tables, chairs... etc! Ask Sue first!

Visitation

from George Meyers

"289 visitors signed the register in December, down about 30.7% from December 1997. Five were visitors from other countries, 81 from other states and 203 from Oklahoma.

"Year-end totals were 10,273 visitors, 3447 from 49 other states and the District of Columbia; 6473 from Oklahoma; 4 from Puerto Rico; and 349 from 48 other countries. 60.3% of our visitors were first timers. Total visitation is down 14.5% from last year.

"For the five year period of 1994 through 1998:

Total visitors: 57,884

Visitors from 50 other states: 17,209

Visitors from US possessions: 18

Visitors from Oklahoma: 39,257

Visitors from 76 other countries: 1,410

"Saturday and Sunday were the heaviest visitor days. Mid-day was the most popular time to visit. Some visitor comments indicated disappointment that the Gift Shop wasn't open!"

New Shop Fixtures! (thanks to Renberg's Store Closing...)

Gift Shop Manager Sue Wheeler took advantage of the closing of Renberg's Department store in Tulsa and attended an auction, purchasing a counter for the shop, tables and shelving at bargain prices! When we were invited to pick up free remains, Sue and company went back and gathered even more items. She and Doris Mayfield continue to come up with items for the shop. Way to go! Special thanks to Dave Dolcater and Tom Clark for assisting with moving the items to Doris' garage, where they are stored pending pickup and transport to the Preserve!

84 Docents Return!

Welcome back to 84 of you who have recommitted to the program! We're planning on the best year yet, with the opening of our new visitors' center (formerly the gift shop and adjacent nature room!) Exciting things are in store for us as the preserve and its programs continue to grow!

Plan now to attend Reorientation at the Pawhuska Senior Citizen's Center on March 13 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

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Notes from the Preserve:

- Work on the new Visitors Center is progressing. The concrete stem walls have been poured and the concrete floor will be poured soon.
- The bison are ranging the preserve in many scattered bands of 25 or more.
- The cowboys have been completing the fence for the newest addition to the bison unit. They will soon start work on another expansion to the bison corral.
- This has been a dry winter.
- Cattle are now being stocked in the leased range areas.
- Rough-legged hawks and eagles are wintering at the preserve.
- Volunteers will be needed for a spring cleanup day! (See calendar for April 17!)

Speakers Training

Many docents are also members of our volunteers speakers bureau. (After all, you're already an expert!!!)

If you would like to learn more about the two slide shows which are available (Tallgrass Prairie Preserve and Oklahoma Nature Conservancy - Statewide). Plan to attend Speakers Training on Feb. 27 from 1-4 p.m. at the Tulsa office.

Slide programs feature a complete script with information about each and every slide. Choose what you want and have time to say.

Tom Clark serves as coordinator for the speakers bureau. Mary receives calls in the Tulsa office, then notifies Tom about the requested date. Tom finds a volunteer to give the program, usually several weeks ahead of time.

The Speakers Bureau will be promoted during the month of February. Letters about our program will go to Tulsa area clubs and organizations. If you live elsewhere in the state and would like to give programs in your area, help us by putting together a list of contact names for a similar mailing in your community. Please give Mary a call if you are interested, 585-1117.

Calendars Included!

This News contains your first opportunity to sign up for docent shifts in March and April! Barbara Bates returns as our scheduling assistant, with Linda Anderson serving as helper.

Please fill in your first and second choice of shifts each month and return the calendar to Barbara, or you may contact her by phone or email. You will receive a reminder card about a week before your scheduled shift.

Reason Ten - Why Save the Diversity of Life - -

Why Risk It?

(The Practical Factor)

Some species appear to be "keystones in the arch," supporting entire ecosystems, like the sea otter in the Pacific coastal ecosystem.

When they disappear the web of life begins to unravel, as complex interrelationships of predator and prey are lost. It makes no sense to lose now, through apathy or greed, something that we might one day realize was vitally important. After all, extinction is forever.

Do you have an email address? If you want your email address listed with your street address on the 1999 roster, please email me before March 1 at MMcint2415@aol.com.

MARCH 1999

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Sue Wheeler Doris Mayfield	15 Loretta Vives	16 * 1st *	17 Barbara Bates * Znd	18 Randy Woody Nyla Woody	19 Loretta Vives *	20 * *
21 * *	22 * *	23 * *	24 Roberta Wherritt Judy Barto	25 Bill Rhinehart *	26 * *	27 * *
28 * *	29	30 * *	31 Dave Dolcater *			

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

Shift Hours: 9:30am - 5 pm

APRIL 1999

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 * *	2 * *	3 * *
4 * *	5 * *	6 * *	7 * *	8 * *	9 <i>Liz Medley</i> <i>Al Medley</i>	10 * *
11 *	12 * *	13 * *	14 <i>Roberta Wherritt</i> <i>Judy Barto</i>	15 <i>Nyla and Randy</i> <i>Woody</i>	16 * *	17 * *
18 * * *	19 <i>Loretta Vives</i> *	20 * *	21 * <i>1st</i> *	22 <i>Bill Rinehart</i> *	23 * *	24 * *
25 * * *	26 * *	27 * *	28 <i>Dave Dolcater*</i> * <i>2nd</i>	29 * *	30 * *	31 * *

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