

The Docent News



For Tallgrass Prairie Preserve Docents

September 2000

Visitation – July

from George Meyers

1,231 visitors registered in July, up 1.6% from July 1999. 41 foreign visitors signed in, with France (8), Canada (6), Germany (6), England (4), Columbia (4) leading in number. 524 visited from 33 other states with Texas (90), California (43), Florida (41), Missouri (35) and Kansas (31). 666 Oklahomans signed in. 68% of the foreign visitors were first-timers, along with 71.4% from other states, and 56.8% of Oklahomans.

In July more visitors came on Saturday followed by Sunday and Monday. Again mid day was the most popular time to visit, though 24% visited in the afternoon before 5:30 p.m., an additional 6% came after 5:30 p.m.

Comments were very favorable, some were delighted to see the bison and impressed with the Preserve, "Impressive", "Wonderful", "Keep up the good work", "Volunteers helpful". Two Frenchmen commented "Formidable" and "Superbe". Keep up the good work in informing the visitors.

New Communications Coordinator

Grant Gerondale, former photojournalist for Channel 6, Tulsa, has joined the Oklahoma Chapter staff as the new Communications Coordinator. Grant will be working to expand the media exposure that the chapter receives, as well as to create new information pieces.

Gift Shop News

The Gift Shop sales:

7,861.83	July 2000
7,405.50	July 1999
<u>816.33</u>	Increase in Sales
34,794.78	2000 Year to Date
31,465.54	1999 Year to Date
<u>3,329.24</u>	Increase in Sales

Bison Roundup Docent Day

The afternoon of October 26, from 1 –4 p.m., has been set aside for docents to view this year's Bison Roundup. If you are interested in attending as part of our afternoon group, please contact Mary Coley, 585-1117! All roundup visitors must be hosted as part of a group, so if you are interested in coming this year, please make your reservation!

Calendar

September

- 8-9 Okla. Academy of Science Meeting, Osage Hills/TGP
- 14 Open House at new Office 2727 E. 21st St., Suite 102
- 15-17 Bartlesville Indian Summer Celebration (Volunteers needed)
- 22 Prairie Road Crew
- 23 General Members Field Trip to Tallgrass

October

- 19 Prairie Road Crew
- 26 Docent Day at Roundup 2000 (1 pm to 4 pm)
- 26-29 Expo Square (Tulsa) Kid's World 2000 Event (Volunteers needed)

November

- 11 Docent Picnic

Open House at our New Offices!

from Mary Coley

Come see our new "digs!" Open House has been set for Sept. 14th from 5-7 p.m. at 2727 E. 21st St., in the Midway Building, first floor, suite 102. (Directly north of Border's book store, and just west of the Broken Arrow expressway on 21st Street, between Harvard and Lewis.)

Iris McPherson – "Volunteer"

Volunteer Coordinator

Iris McPherson, Perkins, has offered to help Mary Coley re-organize the statewide volunteer program. Iris will put her many years of computer experience to work organizing a data system for all volunteers. Once organized, the system will allow us to generate reports showing who is interested in what type of volunteer work in what area of the state. Thanks, Iris, for taking this new duty on!

Docent Fall Opportunities

by Dick Baker

All Docents and guests are welcome to join the Prairie Road Crew for the fall season. We are scheduled to clean the roadways on Friday, September 22 and Thursday, October 19. Several of you have commented that you would like "to get in on some real outdoor action ... like painting the corrals." These days will be your fall opportunities to not only visit the ditches but also to get your hands in the paint buckets, if that is your desired outdoor action. Those, who would like to join in the PRC for either of these days, for either cleaning or painting, call Dick Baker @ (918) 747-2495, for the details.

Ancient Crosstimber Field Trip: November 18th

Want to see the New Ancient Crosstimbers Preserve site west of Tulsa on Lake Keystone. Mark your calendar for November 18th! Get on the list by calling Belinda at 585-1117.

Field trip fee is \$5.00.

Prairie News

from: Bob Hamilton

- Summer burns to be conducted late August to mid Sept.
- Spring calves have all turned to adult brown color now.
- Building new pens & trap at bison corral; spot spraying sericea lespedeza.
- The prairie is very hot and dry.

EVENT VOLUNTEERS BADLY NEEDED!!!

Sept. 15 –17 in Bartlesville at the Indian Summer Celebration. Three hours shifts available from 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. (4 p.m. last day)

October 26-29, Kid's World 2000 at Tulsa's Expo Square. International children's festival. Three hour shifts available, 9 a.m. to 5 or 8 p.m. (6 p.m. last day)

To help with either event, call Belinda at 585-1117. Recruit your non-docent friends!

George McCourt – Editor Extraordinaire

George McCourt, Bartlesville, has taken on the role of Editor for the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve Guide sold at the Visitors Center. George promises that the new version of the guide will focus on the Conservancy's work exclusively, with information on other topics to be focused on in other flyers that he will pull together. Thanks, George, for taking this project on!

Volunteers --- Take the Initiative with Our Visitors!

They may not approach you with questions, so you need to approach them! Leave the safety of the counter or the porch and strike out into unknown territory! Engage visitors in conversation, supply information, and questions will come! This is what you are trained for, and why you volunteer!

REMINDER TO ALL VOLUNTEERS:

Please LOCK the Cash Drawer and the DOOR

when you leave!! We are frequently finding them left unlocked! Take your time when you close to be sure that our security procedures are followed! Thank you!

HELP WANTED

from Mary Coley

Adopt-A-Bison program (volunteer) manager

Location: Tulsa office.
Skills required: data entry, file management, organization skills. Time required: 8-12 hours weekly, except during November, December and January, when the position requires full-time attention. If you are interested in a larger role in our work, with a tremendous benefit to the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve, please contact Mary Coley or Deirdre McArdle (Development Director) at the Tulsa office, 585-1117.

New Web Site!

A new web site is up for the Oklahoma Chapter. Jerry Wagener (docent class of 2000) has put a lot of time and energy into getting it up and running. You can access the site at the following address and see it for yourself:
<http://www.tnc.org/oklahoma>
Contact Mary Coley if you have any suggestions or comments about this site.

Planning underway for Docent Award Day

Eric and Mary are busy planning a fun event for November 11 from 11:30 to 3. Since we are holding our Award day later in the season, our meal (an Indian Feast catered by Pawhuska IGA) will be served at noon at the Preserve. Entertainment is being planned! Expect your invitation/reservation card in early October if you have served the required three shifts by 10/1!

Docent Award/ Recognition System

An important part of our Docent Award Day is the presentation of service awards for the number of shifts served. Our tally begins once you have completed your official "intern" day with other veteran docents at the Preserve. **If you have worked the required three shifts by October 1, you will be invited to the Award Day.** Docent awards are cumulative over your years as a Docent. The recognized levels include: 4 Shifts, 10 Shifts, 20 Shifts, 30 Shifts, 40 Shifts, 50 Shifts, 60 Shifts and so on. This year, we expect to give several awards at the 60 and 70-shift levels for the first time!

If you have not yet worked the required three shifts, do so by October 1. We hope to be able to see you at the Award Day!

SEPTEMBER 2000

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Sue Wheeler Doris Mayfield	2 Karin Armstrong Jeff Armstrong * TG Jim Vester
3 Mary Cummins Carol Redford *	4 George McCourt Clara Swan Labor Day	5 Jim Thayer Ray Kelley	6 John Boxall *	7 * *	8 * *	9 Clara Swan Dorothy Buck * TG Don Bruner
10 Jo Brooks Liz Chandler *	11 Al Medley Liz Medley	12 Loretta Vives Van Vives	13 Roberta Wherritt Judy Barto Dave Dolcater	14 Shirley Inglis * TG Phil Winslow (1:00)	15 Susan Jackson Kim Hagan	16 Betty Turner David Turner * TG John Fisher
17 Jim Thayer * TG Tom Clark	18 * * TG Jenk Jones	19 Jim Vester *	20 Stu Marshall Pat Jaynes	21 * <i>Iris</i> * *	22 June Endres *	23 Shirley Inglis Bill Inglis * *
24 Nick Delgrosso Mark Conrath Sally Conrath TG John Boxall	25 Sally Conrath Mark Conrath	26 Jan Hawks Bob Hawks	27 Marilyn Keefer Iris McPherson	28 Bill Rinehart Linda Anderson TG Phil Winslow (1:00)	29 * *	30 Barbara Bates Gene Turner Sally Turner TG Phyllis Connally TG Brent Johnson

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

Weekends call - Ann Whitehorn 918-287-4238
Shift Hours: 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
(Stay until 5 if you can)

OCTOBER 2000

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Mary Cummings Carol Redford	2 George McCourt *	3 Clara Swan Sue Wheeler	4 John Boxall *	5 Sally Baker Dick Baker	6 * *	7 * * TG John Fisher
8 Gene Turner * *	9 Al Medley Liz Medley	10 Loretta Vives Van Vives	11 Roberta Wherritt Judy Barto Dave Dolcater	12 * *	13 Susan Jackson * TG Jenk Jones	14 Clara Swan Shirley Inglis TG Don Bruner
15 Nick Delgrosso Barbara Bates *	16 * *	17 Jim Vester Marian Bires	18 * *	19 * *	20 * *	21 Kim Hagan Phil Hagan TG Jim Vester
22 Jo Brooks Liz Chandler *	23 * *	24 * *	25 Marilyn Keefer *	26 Bill Rinehart Linda Anderson	27 * *	28 Betty Turner David Turner *
29 Peggy Sjoberg Gerald Sjoberg TG John Boxall	30 * *	31 <i>Iris</i> * * Halloween				

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NOVEMBER 2000

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 <i>Clara Swan</i> *	2 * *	3 * *	4 <i>Gene Turner</i> * <i>TG Jim Vester</i>
5 * * *	6 <i>George McCourt</i> *	7 * *	8 <i>Roberta Wherritt</i> <i>Judy Barto</i>	9 * *	10 <i>Susan Jackson</i> *	11 <i>Clara Swan</i> * *
12 <i>Barbara Bates</i> * *	13 <i>Al Medley</i> <i>Liz Medley</i>	14 <i>Loretta Vives</i> <i>Van Vives</i>	15 <i>Dave Dolcater</i> *	16 * *	17 * <i>TG Jenk Jones</i>	18 * * <i>TG John Fisher</i>
19 <i>Nick Delgrosso</i> * *	20 * *	21 <i>Jim Vester</i> *	22 <i>Marilyn Keefer</i> <i>Iris McPherson</i>	23 * * <i>Thanksgiving</i>	24 * *	25 * * *
26 * * *	27 * *	28 * *	29 * *	30 <i>Linda Anderson</i> <i>Bill Rinehart</i>		

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