



Riverside Nature Notes

The Riverside
Nature Center

Volume 16
May, 2006

UPDATES, UPDATES, UPDATES!!!

Wonderful Words from Wanda, RNC's Librarian



There are several things I want to update you about, so that's what you'll find in this article.

UPDATE #1:
Earth Day 2006 was a real hit!

We had activities planned from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m., and we had people there ALL day! The NPSOT Plant Sale was most popular! We had very few plants left over, and the stream of folks making purchases was very steady all day! I hope you saw the picture of the snake presenter on the front page of the KDT. We had a large crowd, and that program started at 2 p.m. We made a little money on this event, but more importantly, we were successful in promoting native plants and educating our community in a wide variety of nature-related topics!

UPDATE #2:

Our next major event we are calling "Some Enchanted Evening Dinner" also known as SEED! Aren't acronyms fun? The reasons we created this event are basically twofold—1. As we expand RNC's programming and staff, of course, we need more money! Hence, this event's focus will

be on raising funds; 2. We had been depending on 2 events (i.e., Earth Day and Down By the Riverside) for our main fund raising events, and both of these are weather-dependent! If we had 2 bad weather days, we'd be up the proverbial creek! The SEED event is scheduled for October, so further updates will be coming!

UPDATE #3:

Don't forget! Our Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon is scheduled for June 8th from 11:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m. at Mamacita's! We want to let all of you very hard-working, wonderful folks who help make RNC work and run smoothly, how much we appreciate you! Please be sure to call us if you CANNOT attend (it's on your invitation to RSVP Regrets only), as we need as accurate a count as we can get for the restaurant!



Let us whet your appetite with some suggested titles that are available in the Library at Riverside Nature Center. Books and/or videos may be checked out by any member of Riverside.

Have you just built a new home, and you want to landscape with native plants? How about *LANDSCAPING WITH NATIVE TEXAS PLANTS* by Sally Wasowski and Julie Ryan (635. 9). If you are interested in gardening but don't have much space, take a look at *THE SMALL GARDEN BOOK: A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO SUCCESSFUL GARDENING IN SMALL SPACES* by Peter McHoy (635). The author, Lola Oberman, with her wonderful essays in *THE PLEASURES OF WATCHING BIRDS* will convince you to become a birdwatcher (598.07), and then you can check out *THE BIRDER'S GUIDE TO BED AND BREAKFASTS, UNITED STATES AND CANADA* by Peggy van Hulsteyn, in order to plan a marvelous birding trip (598.07).

Should you want to identify some critters showing up in your yard, you might want to check out the video, "BACKYARD WILDLIFE," VC #9, or George Harrison's "BIRDS OF THE BACKYARD: WINTER INTO SPRING," VC #20.

Come take a look in the Library the next time you visit Riverside, and avail yourself of some good reading and/or viewing. There is a catalog cabinet in the Library that cards the books by SUBJECT and TITLE/AUTHOR. The books are arranged on the shelf by the Dewey Decimal System—you remember that from high school, right? Enjoy!



RNC's Volunteer of the Month, Cheryl Smith

Welcome to New Members At RNC!!

Cheryl Smith grew up in Tulsa, Oklahoma. This is where she attended school and graduated from high school. She then moved to San Antonio to attend Trinity College and received her degree from Trinity in Geology. While at Trinity she met her husband, Boyd. He moved to Hunt to become a counselor at Camp La Junta. In 1986, after graduating from Trinity, Cheryl moved to the Kerrville area to marry and join her husband. She was hired to be the office manger for Camp La Junta. After a few years, Cheryl and Boyd became the owners as well as the Directors of Camp La Junta. The camp's website (which Cheryl & Boyd created themselves) is www.lajunta.com. Be sure to check it out! You'll see all the wonderful activities that go on at this great summer camp for young boys. Cheryl and Boyd also have two of their own boys, ages 12 and 9, who attend Hunt schools.

One of Cheryl's passions for the past 15+ years has been teaching aerobic classes. Actually, she is a Certified Aerobics Instructor and Weight Trainer. She is now working on getting Yoga Certification too. She teaches group fitness classes at The Center for Fitness as well as weight and strength training. She teaches yoga at their camp. However, her talents and interests don't stop there. She also enjoys singing with the First Presbyterian Church Choir, snow skiing and horseback riding.

Cheryl became involved with RNC during her 8 years as a member of the local Junior Service Guild. RNC became one of her service projects, and her love of the outdoors and gardening has kept RNC a part of her life. She and Boyd actually created Riverside's website. If you have not already done so, please check out their impressive work at www.riversidenaturecenter.org. The website is beautiful and looks very nature-like! However, the work didn't end with the creation of the website. It also included constant updating of the ever changing planned activities, field trip curriculum offerings, photographs, etc., etc., etc! Cheryl gets especially busy right before and during La Junta's summer camps, but she NEVER complained or balked at what she was asked to do. Thanks SO MUCH for all your hard work and your patience, Cheryl (& Boyd)! You have certainly helped RNC grow!

- Mr. & Mrs. Ron Aimonetti
- Mr. & Mrs. Dwight Brown
- Mr. & Mrs. Carter Crain
- Becki Howard
- Linda Mauer
- Mr. & Mrs. Richard E. Redmond
- Mr. & Mrs. William Stone
- Carla Wheeler

A Very Special THANK YOU for the Gift goes to...

Mr. & Mrs. William Laing for their donation for TWO scholarships to RNC's Summer Camps Program!
NOTE: We're still looking for 2 more scholarships—one for each camp!

February Donations:

Paul Avery, Bill Crum, Angelo Falzarano, BW. Payne, and Marlene Pylate

March Donations:

Paul Avery, B.C. Bettinger, Brian & Jean Bondy, James Avery Craftsman, Medina Garden Nursery, Joyce Sandlin, Tim & Mary Ellen Summerlin, Texas Democratic Women

April Donations:

Anne Anderson, Geoffrey Anderson, Elena Brineman, Scott Brineman, James Doerr, Wes Dorman, Bill Dozier, Terry Hazard, Jamie & Jennifer Bone, Louise Klok, Jim & Ann Laughlin, Limestone Properties, Frederick Lockwood, Robert & Kim Lohmeyer, Stu Mitchell, Native Plant Society of TX, Andy & Laurie Pesez, William Petty, W. T. Sandlin, Jr., Donna Schloss, and Jim & Priscilla Stanley

**Photo Not
Available**



EARTH DAY THANK YOU!



Thanks to the following for donations:

Mary Ellen Summerlin, Jean Bondy and
Joyce Sandlin—Cakes, brownies, cookies

Parking Lot

Tom Rodriquez, city patrolman,
Jim Laughlin, Jim Gardner, Bill Hausler,
John Quinby, John Farmer, Jim Boman

Admission—Greeting Table

Joyce Sandlin, Kay Woodward, Woody
Woodward, Mary Boman, Diane McMahon,
Sue Hausler, Nina Wagner

Food Preparation

Richard Thornber & Shirley Mounsey

Food Cashiers/Helpers

Lenore Cleveland, Barbara Staggs,
Wanda Dobie, Jim Dobie, Selma Gibson

Plant Sale Docents

Cynthia Johnson, Sandy Pena, Priscilla Stanley,
Linda River, Scott Magee, Sandra Magee,
Maryallen Meriwether

Plant Sale Cashiers

Pam Lienhard, Jerry Brown, Jerri Workman,
Billy Campbell, Susan Tucek, Shannon Smith,
Barb Quinby, Sandi Kennedy, Edna Platte,
Laurie Pesez, Betty Gardner,
Courtney Qualtrough

Canoeing

Galan Graham, Ike Bailey, Bill Gibson,
Michael Grey

Friday Plant Pre-Sale

Pam Lienhard, Shannon Smith,
Angela Bailey, Julie Campbell, Priscilla
Stanley, Linda River, John Miller

Plant Experts Table

Bob Dewers, Jim Stanley

Floater & Kids Activities

Mary Ellen Summerlin, Karen Millikan, Jennifer Bone

Front Desk and The Store

Ann Laughlin, Cita Ann Ruthstrom, Maggie Tatum,
Ann Turner, Laurie Pesez, Margaret Van Landingham

Photography

Rudi Winzinger

Presenters

Susan Sanders, Bryant Saner, Rich Olivieri,
Conn Carson, Dale Denais

Hybrid Automobiles

Richard Redmond, Rich Olivieri and Ken Stoepel Ford

Antique Car Display

Hill Country Auto Club members: Phillip & Margaret
Koch, Bob & Mary Jane Pool

Wood Carvers & Helper

Angelo Falzarano, Doug Bresler, Larry Agold,
Bill Pintch

Setup and Cleanup

Barbara & John Quinby, Andy Pesez, Shannon Smith,
Jim & Priscilla Stanley, Angela Bailey, Jim Boman,
Gloria Olsen, Selma Gibson, Mary Ellen Summerlin,
Jay Keen, Richard Thornber & Shirley Mounsey

**Special thanks to Joyce Sandlin and Selma Gibson
for coordinating/contacting/acquiring our volunteers
for this special day !!**





The Riverside Nature Center

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Website: www.riversidenaturecenter.org

Office and Store Hours:
9AM– 4PM Monday— Friday;
10AM-3PM Saturday and Sunday
TREE TRAIL open daily DAWN to DUSK
FREE ADMISSION !!!

RIVERSIDE NATURE CENTER'S MISSION IS
TO FOSTER GREATER PUBLIC AWARENESS
AND APPRECIATION OF THE HILL
COUNTRY'S NATURAL RESOURCES
THROUGH EDUCATION, INFORMATION,
AND BY EXAMPLE.

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**COMING EVENTS
MARK YOUR CALENDAR !!**

June 8, 2006
**RNC's Volunteer
Appreciation Lunch,**
11:30 am—1:30 pm at
Mamacita's! There IS such a
thing as a free lunch! Come see!

RNC's Summer Camps
-Photography Camp
-Nature Adventure Camp
-Wilderness Camp
-Splash Camp
(see our website for more information
& the registration form)
**Send your child or grandchild
for a week of fun and learning!**

**'06 BROWN BAG
LUNCH & LEARN
Program Schedule**

Sept. 7th,
**Seeds: The Fruit
of the Matter**
**by Barbara Lowenthal
& Linda Riner**



Oct. 12th,
**Basic Birding:
How to Identify
Birds**
by Jay Keen