



# Riverside Nature Notes

The Riverside  
Nature Center

Volume 25  
February 2007

## GOOD NEWS: RNC Has Joined the 21st Century! BAD NEWS: Changes Email Address!



The office of the Riverside Nature Center has been undergoing many changes. One of the biggest changes (or is it two?) is that Joyce and I have new computers! They were ac-

quired via a grant from the Community Foundation of the TX Hill Country, and if you haven't seen them, they are wonderful! We needed to replace our other ones because they were no longer supported by the company that made them, and our computer guru, Rudi Winzinger, had recommended we replace them before they did something terrible—like crashing! Rudi then helped do the research on the best ones to get for the size and kind of support we need from our computers, and he even helped install some software (saved us some money), our letterhead, our membership database, our email set up, etc., etc., etc. , AND, he did it on the weekend so Joyce and I wouldn't be inconvenienced! What a trooper!!!

For awhile we trucked along pretty well, tweaking the set up, our security, adding more software, etc., and again, Rudi was there help-

ing every step of the way and reassuring us as we learned many new computer tricks. However, about 3 months ago, we were told that if we wanted to accept credit cards, we had to upgrade our accounting software. To make a very long story short, after we upgraded, we were told we had to have broadband to receive the automatic updates. We were off on another "adventure".

After researching the various companies in Kerrville to get the best deal/service, we decided to go with Road Runner. We then needed to do some internal wiring, so Rudi and Andy Pezez took care of it (and saved us more money). This part required climbing up into the attic, but since poor Rudi had just had shoulder surgery, Andy stepped up to the plate to assist us!

Riverside is now set up with new email addresses. My new email address is: [director@riversidenaturecenter.org](mailto:director@riversidenaturecenter.org). Now Joyce will also have an email address: [office@riversidenaturecenter.org](mailto:office@riversidenaturecenter.org). Please be sure to note these changes in your computer. Thank you, Rudi & Andy for your wonderful help in this journey!

## Earth Day Progress Report By Linda Karst Stone

Our plans are taking shape! **The Native Plant Society of Texas** will be selling many beautiful, **native Texas plants** to help with your Spring planting, as plants native to Texas will be healthier in our poor soil and near drought conditions. We have **speakers** who will inform and answer questions about the aquifer, water catchment systems, healthy land management practices, and more. Specific details will be in the next newsletter. The **kids** will also enjoy many activities including some that are educational and some that are creative!. The NRCS is allowing us to display their Rainfall Simulator and Little Blue Stem Grass exhibit, showing the effects of grazing. In choosing our theme this year (**Water: Our Future...One Drop at a Time**), we hope to educate everyone about this most precious resource. Please plan to come **Sat., April 21st from 8 am to 4 pm!**



# Meet Two of the New RNC Board Members



educational fields. He chaired the Budget Committee of the Presbytery of the New Covenant, and also served as Vice-President of the Brazos Presbyterian Homes, Inc home owners association. Sonny later became



Last September **Sonny Payne** was voted to be the new treasurer for RNC's Executive Committee Board! Sonny and his wife, Elaine, moved to Kerrville from Houston in February 2005, and built a home on Lower Turtle Creek Road which they subsequently named "Buckwood."

In 1964 he had received a BBA from UT at Austin, and eventually married and moved to Houston. Sonny was a risk management and insurance consultant specializing in the design and management of risk transfer and loss control programs for commercial and institutional clients, principally in the energy and edu-

President of the Metro Central Wastewater Treatment Plant, a joint powers facility in Houston.

Once in Kerrville, he became a deacon at the First Presbyterian Church, and he chairs the church's Disaster Preparedness Committee as well as the Adult Education Committee. Sonny has also found time to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Austin Seminary.

Sonny and Elaine have been members of Riverside since 2001. Their interests here include the restoration of native grasses in the TX Hill Country and tree diversity through proper land and wildlife management. Welcome, Sonny!

**Gloria Olsen** joined RNC's Executive Committee Board as Vice President in October, 2006. She is a native of El Paso, Texas but completed high school in Arizona. She has a bachelor's degree from Stanford University and a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. Following graduate school, she returned to Arizona, where she worked at Arizona State Hospital, as a psychologist in private practice, then at a Community Mental Health Center. In 1981, she completed her M.B.A. at Arizona State University, and from 1981 to

(cont'd on page 3)

**...new Board Member,  
Gloria Olsen**  
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1992 was Vice-President, then CEO of a 150-bed nonprofit psychiatric hospital. She became the Superintendent/CEO of Kerrville State Hospital in 1993, and retired from that position in January, 2006.

Dr. Olsen is a long-time member of The Nature Conservancy and the National Wildlife Federation, and enjoys vacationing in Montana at the Nature Conservancy's Pine Butte Ranch. During her time in Kerrville, she has served on the Board of the Kerrville Area Chamber of Commerce, Kerr Economic Development Foundation and the Community Trust Foundation of the Texas Hill Country. She is Vice-President of the Schreiner University Board of Trustees, and an Elder and Clerk of Session at First Presbyterian Church in Kerrville. She has also been a member of RNC for many years, and we are very pleased to have her serving on our Executive Committee Board!



**THANK YOU**

**\*To Sue Hausler** for her continued hard work on our internal displays in the Visitor Center!  
**\*To Barbara Staggs** for her conscientious, hard work on our monthly

newsletters—esp. on our volunteer of the month interviews and subsequent write-ups!

**\*To Karen Millikan** for her conscientious, above-and-beyond efforts caring for our 5 live critters—esp. our turtle boys who she even takes outside for a walk!

**\*To Susan Sander, Shannon Smith, Andy Pesez, and Julia Campbell** for the work on our Volunteer Training session held Feb. 17th **and to all those who attended!**

**\*To Joy Bradford** for her continued help with various tasks like decorating, purchasing/making food for various events, dropping off/picking up recycled ink cartridges, working with our new signs creator, etc., etc., etc.

**\*To Sonny Payne** for all his long hours & patience regarding our financial reports, credit card set up, & etc!

**\*To All the Volunteers** who have already contacted Joyce to sign up to help for Earth Day on Sat., April 21st!! There's still time to get your name on our most important E. Day Volunteer list—just call Joyce at 257-4837

**Welcome, New  
Members To RNC!!**

**Mary L. Jonason  
CW International, Inc.**

**A Very Special THANK YOU  
for the Gift goes to...  
Our January donors:**

**CW International, Inc.  
Gloria P. Olsen**





**The Riverside Nature Center**

**Riverside Nature Center**  
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Kerrville, Texas 78028

**Phone:** 830-257-4837  
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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!

### Other Important Events

**\*\*Sat., May 12th Book Review of  
*Water from Stone*** (The story of the  
Bamberger Ranch & Sponsored by Golden  
Eagle Landscaping in celebration of 25 Years)

**\*\*Sat., Apr 21st Earth Day  
Celebration & Native Plant Sale**

**\*\*Sat., Sept 15 SEED** (Some Enchanted  
Evening Dinner)

**\*\*Sat., Oct. 13 Down By the Riverside  
Festival & Native Plant Sale**

**\*\*Sat., Oct. 20 Rendezvous By the  
River** (A Celebration of Archeology)

### Brown Bag Lunch & Learn Series

Scheduled for noon to 1 p.m. usually on the 1st or  
2nd Thursday of the month.

Bring your sack lunch, and we will provide a drink  
and a tasty dessert!

**“Interesting Hill Country Insects”  
by Dr. Kim Lohmeyer  
Thurs., Mar. 8th, noon to 1 pm**

**Entry fee for these 2 pro-  
grams is \$5.00 for Adults—  
1/2 price for members!  
Kids 12 & under—FREE!!**

**RNC's next Star Party is set for Sat, March 3rd!**

The focus of this Star Party's programming and viewing  
will be our moon, In fact, it will be a FULL MOON that night!

Please mark your calendar for this event, and come learn amazing new things!

