



Association of Friends of the Wichitas

Monthly Bulletin

June, 2007



**1907-2007: The Centennial Celebration of both
Oklahoma Statehood and the return of the Buffalo to the Wichitas**

April Notes

*The wildflower orientation was a wonderful success, a beautiful day, an interested group of attendees, and thousands of beautiful flowers! What more could you ask? Helen Riley made sure everyone had the opportunity to see and learn about the flowers at each stop. At a stop near Quanah Parker Lake we saw over 20 species of flowers! If you did not make the orientation or one of the tours you really need to drive through the refuge. All of the rain brought out wildflowers in numbers that are extraordinary! Thanks to Helen, Jack and the tour assists that have helped bring this tour to the public.



*This month's business meeting program featured our Liaison, Lori Jones (pictured above), who presented a video on "Partnerships that Work". With the current management policies at the refuge volunteers are even more important. There are many roles for volunteers and if you are interested in going beyond what FOW does as an organization be sure to contact Lori at the VC.

*FOW donated some prize money and helped to make prizes available for all of the Jr. Duck Stamp winners this year as we have in the past. The contest demonstrated that we have a lot of very talented youth in this area.

UPCOMING EVENTS

*June brings the Bison Tours and a set of our Stars Tours. Check the calendar for places to volunteer. Assists are still needed on several tours. Even more important, Saturday June 2 at **6:30 AM**, the orientation tour will leave the Visitor Center Parking Lot. Anyone who has been on an early morning tour will testify to how awesome the early morning is on the refuge and even more on the "loop". It sounds early but set your alarm and come on out it should be worth the effort!

*The June business meeting on the 20th will feature Mike Husak with information on Butterflies of the Wichitas. It should be a great program. The meeting will be at 7PM at the Lawton Public Library.

*The August Tech Day is in the planning stages but we do know that part of the day will be at the Quanah Parker EE Center so that all members will have an opportunity to see and enjoy the wildlife mounts that have been donated to FOW and are being used in EE Programs. Part of the day will be at the Visitor Center to orient members who lead tours because all of our materials have been moved to the Visitor Center. If you

have suggestions of things that need to be included in the August Tech Day please email us at: contact@friendsofthewichitas.org

*Volunteers are needed to fill upcoming Bison Tour and Star Tour slots. The calendar will be available for sign up at the tour orientation or you can volunteer by calling Donna Phillips, Vice President of FOW.

*We still need volunteers to present or assist in finding presenters for program for the October and November meetings this year. If you have suggestions or are willing to volunteer, please contact Donna Phillips.

*The Visitor Center has new hours: It is currently open from 8 AM to 6 PM 7 days per week. They are looking for more volunteers to help man the center. Contact Lori Jones.

SPECIAL THANKS TO JOHN JOHNSON FOR HIS WORK ON THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER!!!

FOW IS ON THE WEB!

A chance to "GO GREEN" is available. If you want to pick up your monthly bulletin and calendar from the web rather than snail mail, let us know. www.friendsofthewichitas.org

General Information

Uniforms for drivers, tour leaders and assistants are light blue "denim" type shirts. You may purchase a FOW patch for the sleeve and after you have completed 50 hours of service the refuge will provide a volunteer patch for the other sleeve. You will need to sign a volunteer agreement with Dana Mallow at Refuge Headquarters.

If you are helping in any way on the tours you will be provided a nametag. Call Paula Irwin at (580) 355-6029 and she will order one for you.

OFFICERS

President: Orville Ducheneaux
 Vice President: Donna Phillips
 Treasurer: Helen Riley
 Secretary: Katherine Hunt
 Parliamentarian: Richard Jarrell

Refuge headquarters (Lori Jones): 580-429-3222

Don't forget your membership card entitles you to a discount at the Visitor Center Bookstore. Show your card and get a discount on your bookstore purchases