

FRIENDS OF THE WICHITAS

OCTOBER 2011

SEPTEMBER NOTES:

FIRE! Pretty well describes our month. The largest fire in Refuge history started on Sept. 1st. and burned 40,000 acres in and around the Refuge. Destroyed 11 homes and evacuated many more. No human lives were lost, and only a few animals were killed. Then on Sept. 25th a fire broke out near Panther Creek area. About 350 acres were burned.

Our Longhorn Auction went well bringing in over \$62,000



The Refuge as well as the Friends set up booths at this year's Outdoor Expo in Guthrie. If you have never been you are missing a great outdoor experience! Also this month was the Comanche County Free Fair.



We had to cancel our quarterly Members Meeting because of the fires.

Also in Sept. we had National Public Lands Day. Great turn out. About 100 volunteers worked on Saturday and collected 40 large bags of litter from the recently burned area. Bar S and the Friends donated lunch for all.

Our Elk tours were canceled until Sept. 22nd. due to the fire. We are back at it now and the elk are starting to talk. We had to cancel our Orientation Tour and 5 others. Our tours were a low priority during these fires. The wildlife and their habitat are the no. 1 priority. Sorry if you missed a tour. I know you understand.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Our Members Meeting now is scheduled for Oct 8th at the E.E. Center at 11am. This will be a pot luck event. Bring a dish and come have a good time. We will provide drinks.

" Every moment in life is a snapshot. Capture the ones you can, Relish in them all."

UPCOMING EVENTS CONTINUED:

"Remember if you want to Drive, Lead, Assist on a tour, or help out at the Auctions contact Donna Phillips at 580-429-2197 We would love to have you!"

The week of Oct. 9th - 15th is National Wildlife Refuge Week. We are going to be working on the Burford Trail all week. If you have never been down this trail it is on the east side of Burford. Starts near Panthor Creek and goes to the Dam of Burford. We really could use your help for a day or all week. Come out and help us restore this hidden treasure that the CCC built in the 1930's. If you have questions call Bobby Williamson at 580 574-0661. A group called the Oklahoma Outdoor Network will be helping us with the maint. They do trail work around our state and they are Dutch Oven cooking on Saturday the 15th for all.

Our Bison Auction is on the 27th this month. Hope to see ya'll there! It is a great time to meet and visit with fellow members. Auction begins at noon . We set up about 9am.

The 28th at noon is our staff luncheon at Headquarters. If you would like to come out and visit with the staff and enjoy a lunch, call Donna at the Visitors Center and RSVP by the 15th if you will be attending. That way we have a good head count.



TRASH PICK-UP:



This months trash pick-up is on October 11th. We meet at the Visitors Center at 9am and stay out about 2 or 3 hrs.

Bring a lunch and make a day of it. I'll bring drinks, grabbers, bags, and vests.

If you have questions call Bobby Williamson at 580-574-0661.

HIKING:

We are still hiking on Saturdays.

the burned areas and it's easy to move

Once we green up it is going to be beautiful.

branches from 2 winters ago are gone. The heat

Still a good idea to bring sunscreen, hat, water and

lite jacket. Lets see what we can find out there! We leave from the Visitors Center at 9am. It's free just show up!



We have been out in around off trail.

The downed

has let up.

maybe a

HIKING CONTINUED:

Also the Mountain Boomers hike on the second Monday every month. These are free hikes also. Just show up at the Visitors Center by 9am.



FROM THE BOOKSHELF:

Anyone looking for a ready reference to identify plant species in Oklahoma should look to the **"Field Guide to Oklahoma Plants"** Commonly Encountered Prairie, Shrubland, and Forest Species (Second Edition) by Ronald J. Tyrl, et al. As stated in the introduction Botanically, Oklahoma is a remarkable state! Within its borders, 173 families , 850 genera, and 2465 species of vascular plants can be found. The first chapters give an overview of the ecogeography of Oklahoma and the plant vegetation types present in Oklahoma. The plants are then broken down alphabetically into four groupings: Graminoids (grasses), Legumes, Forbs, and Woodies. Each species description includes the scientific & common name, plant description, diagnostic characters, taxonomy, distribution, ecology, and economic & wildlife significance. Accompanying each species are beautiful line drawings of the visible plant, its roots, flowers, and seeds. This book is for anyone working with or simply enjoying the plants of Oklahoma.

General Information:

Remember to wear either blue denim or the new polo shirts when helping on the tours.

Remember to fill out a volunteer form and give it to D'Ana Mallow at the Visitors Center.

You may purchase a F.O.W. patch for the sleeve and after 50 hrs of service the refuge will provide a volunteer patch.

If you are helping on the tours you will be provided with a name tag.
Call Paula Irwin at (580)-355-6029 and she will order it for you.

F.O.W. OFFICERS

President:	Jim Stone	405-620-4717	jim@belleislerrestaurant.com
Vice President:	Donna Phillips	580-429-8669	
Secretary:	Bobby Williamson	580-574-0661	bwjeeper@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Helen Riley		
Parliamentarian:	Bill Sparks		

Visitors Center phone number: (580)-429-2197

Your Membership Card entitles you to a discount at the Visitors Center Bookstore

If you did not receive a members card when you joined you can contact Bobby Williamson or pick one up at the Visitors Center front desk.

The E.E. Center is just west of the Visitors Center. Turn left at the Environmental Education Center sign.

Check us out on the internet at :
"WWW.friendsofthewichitas.org"

THE LONGER YOU LIVE... THE OLDER YOU GET!



It's Time to Renew Your Membership!

Membership Categories

Individual (per year)	\$25.00
Family (per year)	\$40.00
Sponsor (per year)	\$250.00
Lifetime	\$500.00

Membership Application

Mail to: The Association of Friends of the Wichitas
P.O Box 7402
Lawton, OK 73506

Please RENEW my _____ Membership in the Association of Friends of the Wichitas

Enclosed is a contribution of _____ to help further the goal of the Association of Friends of the Wichitas.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____



If you believe this notice to be in error, contact me at: 580-574-0661 or Email me at: bwjeeper@yahoo.com Bobby Williamson

October 2011

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE WEEK OCTOBER 9TH - 15TH.

OCT.
HIKES:
9AM VC

1ST

8TH

15TH

22ND

29TH



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 ELK TOUR 5:30PM
2 ELK TOUR 5:30PM	3	4	5	6 ELK TOUR 5:30PM	7	8 ELK TOUR 6:30AM Members Mtg.
9 ELK TOUR 5:30PM	10 COLUMBUS DAY MTN BOOMER HIKE 9AM VC	11 TRASH DAY! 9AM VC	12	13 ELK TOUR 5:30PM	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Buffaalo Auction	28 Staff luncheon	29
30	31 HALLOWEEN 					