



THE OAK & ACORN

BUILDING FROM THE GROUND UP

We are slowly but steadily working our way to a permanent home. The architects have been working on measurements of the Tucker House and will soon be producing a phased plan for the renovation. Preliminary ideas include

creating two classrooms, an office, a meeting room, an upgraded commercial kitchen, and storage. The facility committee and the board have visited the house again to provide additional input and become more familiar with the house and the surrounding area.

The Park Board has finished the parks master plan and is recommending that

the renovation of the Tucker House be the number one indoor priority. The Park Staff has been working diligently to make sure we stay on track with city codes.

There is \$85,000 in the 2004-2005 SPDC (Southlake Park Development Corporation) budget to begin the renovation with architectural plans, driveway resurfacing, parking lot spaces, and ADA accessibility. We are hoping to ask for an additional amount in the 2005-2006 budget. Be looking forward to future fundraisers in the quest for matching funds. Be looking too for opportunities to provide volunteer time with certain parts of the renovation.

A very special thanks to Dr. Ray Chancellor! Dr. Chancellor has been a wonderful supporter

of the Bob Jones Nature Center and the preservation of this special remnant of the Cross Timbers ecosystem and a delightful and informative bird hike leader. As well as sharing his knowledge about birds, he is sharing his

artistic talents with the Bob Jones Nature Center. He has donated a set of reproductions of his bird paintings to the Nature Center where they will be permanently displayed when the building is ready!

Be sure to put the upcoming hikes listed in the newsletter calendar on your calendar. Our guest speakers and hike leaders have been

wonderful. The Program Committee is also working on the Haunted Hike scheduled for October.

For more information on Bob Jones Nature Center, contact Emily Galpin, 817.421.5648.



Dr. Ray Chancellor has donated a set of reproductions of his bird paintings to the Bob Jones Nature Center. Look for them on permanent display when the building opens.

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Southlake's 2025 Plan.

One of the many reasons Southlake residents love our city is the great natural beauty with which this area is blessed. One of Southlake's greater challenges as it has developed is how to preserve those special areas that are not only beautiful but home to various species of birds and "critters."

The city's latest effort to save open space involves some significant changes to Southlake's Land Use Plan through the Southlake 2025 process. New land use overlay designations called Transition Districts 1 and 2 and the Rural Conservation District specifically call for development that

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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incorporates the preservation of significant tree stands, flood plain areas and environmentally sensitive features that Southlake has identified as being important to preserve.

Those individuals whose land carries the overlay designation of Rural Conservation will also be eligible to receive a conservation easement upon their property. A conservation easement gives the landowner certain tax breaks in exchange for a commitment to leave their property in largely a "natural" state into perpetuity. The new Land Use Map

identifies over 1000 acres as being eligible for this important designation and tax break opportunity. It is strictly the landowner's decision whether or not to apply for the conservation easement.

The Planning and Zoning Commission also recommended the preservation of part of Bob Jones Park as a Cross Timbers habitat. As many homeowners have discovered, the native trees of the Cross Timbers region, the Post Oak and the Blackjack Oak, don't seem to do very well under "civilized" conditions. Evidence of those trees dying as a result of development (even when attempts

are made to preserve them) is all over Southlake. This habitat would limit development to just a few walking trails and observation stations in order to preserve these wonderful examples of God's handiwork.

If you want to learn more about "Southlake 2025," you will find an entire section on the plan and process at www.ci.southlake.tx.us. 
-Debra Edmondson.

Ms. Edmondson is the current Vice Chair of Southlake's Planning and Zoning Commission and a former Council Member.

Hike Schedule:

Dress for the Texas weather, wear comfortable shoes and a hat. Sunscreen and bug repellent are suggested. Bring water, your camera, and binoculars.

"Through the Lens" with Paul Scudder, Professional Photographer
Saturday, July 9, 9 A.M.

"Owl Prowl" with Susi Steele, Rehabilitator and Tracker

Friday Night, August 19, 8 P.M.

"Best Friend" Hike - Dog and People hike

September, date and time to be announced

"Wings of the Night" - Haunted Halloween Trail

October 22, 5 to 8 P.M.

Due to the popularity of this hike, reservations are recommended -

*email cindyjo403@aol.com or call 817-329-4673

All hikes currently meet at Bob Jones Park Day Camp/Amphitheater Parking Lot: turn right off N. White's Chapel onto South Field drive into the park (it's just past the new Southlake Girls Softball Complex), follow road, bear to the right, then left. **There are no fees for the hikes.**

Look us up:

www.bjnc.org

JULY

S M T W T F S

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9th - "Through the Lens"

SEPTEMBER

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TBA - "Best Friend" Hike

OCTOBER

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22nd - "Wings of the Night"

AUGUST

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19th - "Owl Prowl"

The *Oak & Acorn* is published quarterly by the Bob Jones Nature Center, a 501c3 organization. For membership, comments and donations contact us at:

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Southlake, Texas 76092

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Volunteers worked hard trimming and cleaning up the trails at Bob Jones Park during a trail cleanup on June 4. The cleanup was organized by the Cross Timbers Equestrians and Mounted Patrol in celebration of National Trail Day.



19th Annual Tree Conference

Sponsored by;
Texas Urban Forestry Council
International Society of Arboriculture, Texas Chapter
Texas Forest Service

“Trees for the Future”

Date: September 28-30, 2005
Location: Waco Convention Center



Suzanne Tuttle



Volunteers Needed for Our Annual Haunted Hike

We only have four months until the “Wings of the Night” hike (Haunted Hike). The hike is on October 22 from 5 to 9 P.M. We are in need of many volunteers! If you are interested in helping in any of the following areas, please contact Laura Flaherty at 817-481-3382 or Cindy Gaither at 817-329-4673:

- Planning Committee
- Station Monitors
- Trail security
- Decroating
- Clean Up
- Costumed Trail Characters
- Egg Distributors
- Check In Station
- Tour Guides - Main Trail
- Tour Guides - Scary Trail

This is an excellent opportunity for teens needing community service hours for their organization. Everyone’s help is needed, invite a friend!

Look us up:
www.bjnc.org



Dr. Ray Chancellor



A BIG THANK YOU

We would like to thank our friends who lead our monthly hikes. Their knowledge and enthusiasm is appreciated so much.

Susi Steele - March: *Animal Tracks Hike*
Keith Martin - April: *Trees of the Cross Timbers Hike*

Suzanne Tuttle - May: *Wildflower Hike*
Dr. Ray Chancellor - June: *Birds of Bob Jones Park Hike*

Still to come:

Paul Scudder - July: *Through the Lens, Walk with a Photographer*

Susi Steele (again!) - August: *Owl Prowl*
TBA - September: *Best Friend Hike, People and Dog Hike*

The Changing Seasons at Bob Jones Park

Southlake residents who visited Bob Jones Park in April and May experienced a pallet of color. Rough leaf dogwood, prairie parsley, Indigo, firewheel, vervain, and penstemon all added to the rainbow of flower colors that was present. The many birds of the winter were donning their finest before heading northward to nesting grounds. Migrating Swainson thrushes, Baltimore orioles, and warblers added jewels to the spring festivities. The numerous emerging butterflies filled the air with their continuous kaleidoscope of motion and color.

With the large number of species of birds that packed their bags and headed north, the beautiful flowers at their peak, and the butterflies already emerging, one has to wonder if there is anything left to

birding tip:

Anywhere you go to watch birds, plan to stay a while. Pick out a place where you can look across an open space and have a good view of the tree tops. Then sit and watch quietly for at least 10 to 15 minutes. You'll be amazed at how many birds you will see in that short time!

see in the upcoming "dog days" of summer.

Surprisingly, spring just sets the stage for the next act – just as varied and perhaps even more beautiful. With new leaves everywhere, dappled shade subduing colors, and of course, the dense undergrowth that signifies the Cross Timbers region, the park visitor must look and listen with a different set of senses


The flower color pallet will shift to the yellows of summer with plants like bitterweed, bladderpod, yellow puff, partridge pea, and Texas sleepy aster. Maybe not the loveliest of names, but a close look will divulge their beautiful and intricate flower structures. Many are small and are easily missed by those looking just for the big showy flowers.

Visitors looking for birds face a struggle just trying to see the birds as they move about the dense vegetation of the park. However, abundant rewards will come to the patient observer. Birds like the red-eyed vireo and white-eyed vireo will be singing from the dense foliage of the park. Yellow-billed Cuckoos, Summer Tanagers, and Great-crested Flycatchers will be roaming the oak tree tops.

The real color treats of summer will be the Indigo and Painted Buntings. The Painted Bunting with its blue head, red breast, blue tail, and iridescent green back, is considered by most the most beautiful bird in North America. Even though it is on the National Audubon Society Watch List because of lost habitat and parasitism by the Brown-headed Cowbird, Painted Buntings can be found most days claiming its territory by singing from the highest limb in the park. The Indigo Bunting, pure

electric blue, will also be found on the highest limb to declare its territory. Just to see either of these birds makes a park walk worth the trip.

If you can find one the honeysuckle patches in the park, look for the Ruby Throated Hummingbird. As you move into the grassy areas intermixed in the park, be sure to also look for the Black-chinned Hummingbird. Both will have "black throats" unless the sunlight is reflected at the right angle. Then the Ruby Throat will show red; the Black Chin will show an iridescent purple.

Take a morning or afternoon with the family and enjoy the beautiful summer stage that only Bob Jones Park can provide. Soak up the local nature by finding a quiet spot on the trail and just stand still or sit for a while. (NOT in a fire ant mound!) Doing so will allow you to hear things you never heard and see things you never saw. You may even realize, just as John Muir did, that Cottonwood trees can be identified by just listening to the music created by the breezes gently blowing through their leaves. Indeed, Bob Jones Park is special in the summer. Take a moment to enjoy this Southlake treasure.  -Ray Chancellor

susi's backyard

Here's a general list of what to do if you find an orphaned baby or any sick or injured animal or bird. The basic steps of initial wildlife rescue are always the same:

1. Protect the babies from predators while you assess the situation. Send everyone else inside and be quiet! Be conscious of how loud we must sound to sensitive little ears!

2. Warm the babies. When your safety isn't an issue, hold them in your hands to warm while another person readies a box or constructs a nest. Use caution with injured animals. Animals in pain and afraid frequently try to bite as a defense. If you're in doubt, don't put yourself at risk. Always use caution with skunks (duh), raccoons, and foxes, as they are high-risk vector species for rabies. When trying to help injured birds, beware of beaks and talons on predator birds, and the long beaks of wading birds like egrets. Be aware of the risks, and again, when in doubt, don't risk it—call for help

3. Don't pet them, just hold them. Don't put your face in theirs, or hold them close to your face. The only time wildlife sees something your size that close, it's about to be eaten for lunch

4. If the baby is bleeding, otherwise obviously injured, or cat-caught, call for help immediately. Cat-caught babies need antibiotics quickly. Cats have tons of nasty germs in their mouths. Without the proper medication, the babies will invariably die a painful death hours or days after being bitten

5. If the babies must be rescued, secure them in a size-appropriate box. Line the box with soft material like paper towels or toilet paper (no terrycloth towels—the loops catch little claws, and wild babies can break their own legs trying to get free), scrunching

some up so the babies have a place to hide. Punch small air holes in the top from the inside out, place the babies inside, and secure the lid to the box. Use rubber bands, because wild babies can be amazing escape artists.

6. Isolate and continue to warm the babies. Place the box half on a heating pad set on low, so the babies can move toward or away from the heat source, as needed. The babies should be behind a closed door in a dark, quiet room, away from children and pets. Resist the impulse to check on them every two minutes and stick your big old human face into the box. You're scaring them!

7. Never give wild babies anything to eat or drink until you speak with a rehabilitator, no matter how they beg. Each animal species has adapted to a specific diet, and being fed the wrong thing can kill the baby. Rehabilitators use exacting recipes, tested and analyzed by veterinarians and other rehabbers for their nutritional content, calories, and suitability, to feed young or recovering wildlife. Feeding them also requires knowledge of the anatomy of a particular species of bird, mammal, or marsupial to know how to get food or liquid into them without it going into their lungs. Fluid in a wild animal's lungs will result in pneumonia, which will cause their death 2 to 5 days later.

The only exceptions to the above initial rescue steps are bats. **Never, never touch a downed bat.** If you get bitten, you *have* to get vaccinated for rabies, and all for nothing, because the bat has to be killed to test it for the disease. If a bat gets loose or is found in a

Rescue Central

If you find a wild animal in distress, **you can call Susi Steele at any time day or night.** She can either come get the animal or direct you to the most appropriate rehabber for the injury/animal. **She loves getting these calls.**

Here's the order of the phone numbers to use:

1. Office 817-748-8106 Monday-Friday from 8 am to 5 pm. Leave a message if I've stepped out, but don't wait longer than 15 minutes for me to call back. Go to the next number.

2. Pager 817-407-3213 I'll call as soon as I get the page. If I haven't called within 15 minutes, I didn't get the page. Occasionally, the paging system goes down. Don't stop—keep going! An animal's life may depend on you!

3. Cell 817-235-7462 If I don't answer or call back within 10 minutes, call the next phone number.

4. Alternate cell 817-308-2325 Don't be alarmed if a nice man answers. His name is Bob, and he'll know where I am. If I don't call back within 10 minutes, call the next phone number.

5. Home 817-551-6505 Again, if I don't answer or call back within 10 minutes, don't stop! Start over. When I'm out of town or otherwise unavailable, you'll hear voice messages giving you the number to a local rescue group's hotline. They'll call you back within 10 minutes. Really!

room where there has been an unsupervised child less than three years of age, or a person of any age who's developmentally disabled, that person will probably have to get post-exposure vaccinations as well. Although there was a case widely reported last year where a patient survived, the CDC has not changed its position that once symptoms appear, the rabies exposure event is always fatal.



Call me anytime! -Susi Steele

“POLLINATOR PARTNERSHIP” EXHIBIT AT SOUTHLAKE LIBRARY

The Pollinator Partnership exhibit, developed by B.R.I.T. – Botanical Research Institute of Texas – and the Fort Worth Botanic Garden will be on display at the Southlake Library through mid-July. Developed with funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and with support from the Fort Worth Botanical Society and the Fort Worth Garden Club, the exhibit addresses the amazing plant and pollinator relationship. Highlighted are some of the most common Texas pollinators – bees, humming-birds, butterflies and moths, and bats; the ecological services pollinators provide to us in our daily lives; the threats to pollinators and native plants, and what can be done to protect and re-establish native plants and pollinators.



The Pollinator Partnership Exhibit is on display in the Southlake Public Library through mid-July.

Pollinators are critical to 90% of the world’s flowering plants and thus are responsible for a significant portion of the world’s food crops, fibers and even medicine. They are a valuable natural resource on earth and have an essential role in maintaining earth’s balance. Unfortunately, there has been a decline in the numbers of certain kinds

of pollinators and the native plants on which they depend.

The panels which are on display through mid-July are available in Southlake thanks to Amati Gallery, Bob Jones Nature Center, Keep Southlake Beautiful, the City of Southlake Library and the parks and Recreation Department.

BOOKS FOR NATURE LIBRARY APPRECIATED



Girl Scout Troop 4069 would like to thank everyone who has so graciously donated books for the BJNC nature library. We are busy sorting and preparing the books for the opening of the Nature Center. We would like to especially thank Carolyn Morris, Cindy Gaither and Kirsten Ward for the donation of new books from the suggested book list in the last issue of the *Oak & Acorn*. Thank you again for your generosity.

Thank you to our most recent donors:

Randy and Kathy Hill
Amati Gallery

Look us up:

www.bjnc.org

How to make Dried Flowers

Here is an easy way to dry flowers using safe materials you may already have at home. A mixture of borax and cornmeal acts as a dessicant that absorbs moisture from the flowers.

What You Need

- Small fresh flowers (picked late in the day are best for drying)
- Small cardboard box with low sides
- Cornmeal
- Borax (laundry powder, not the kind with added detergent or soap)
- Very small brush
- Clear glue

What You Do

1. Trim flower stems to about 2 inches long. Pour 1 inch of borax in the box, add equal amount of cornmeal and mix.

2. Gently bury the flowers with tops pointing downward and not touching each other in borax-cornmeal mix. Put the box in a dry place.

3. In a few days very carefully brush powder away from the flowers and take them out of the box. If any petals fall off, glue them back in place.



Categories

- Children - 12 years and under.
- Teen, - Ages 13 to 19.
- Adult - Novice.

Eligibility

- Entrants may participate in only one category.
- Only photographs taken at Bob Jones Park between April 1 - October 31, 2005 are eligible for the competition.
- All subject matter is eligible, however preference will be given to photos of nature, plants and animals.

Entry Fee

The entry fee is \$15.00. Submit check or money order made payable to the Bob Jones Nature Center. The entry fee includes entry of up to three (3) photos and an invitation to the winner's reception exhibit.

Deadlines

All photo entries must be received by October 31, 2005.

Photographs

- The entrants must have taken all photographs themselves.
- Entries may be taken with any brand of camera or film and developed by any photo lab. Slides will not be accepted.
- Each entrant can submit up to three (3) prints. Each entry will consist of a single

unframed, unmounted 8 X 10 color or black and white print.

•Each entry must have a Photo Contest entry form securely attached to the back top left side. Photocopies of the entry form are acceptable.

•Unlabeled entries will be disqualified.

Mail Entries to:

Bob Jones Nature Center
c/o Cindy Gaither
403 Valverde Ct.
Southlake, TX 76092
817-329-4673

•Entries will be judged primarily on the basis of general interest. Photographic proficiency and reproductive quality will also be considered. A panel of judges chosen from non-entrants of the community will provide judging. All decisions made by the panel are final.

•Contest winners will be notified by November 15, 2005.

Returns

Entries will not be returned or acknowledged. Photographs remain the copyright property of the photographer. However, the Bob Jones Nature Center reserves the non-exclusive right to use the images submitted for the contest for publicity, advertising, promotional, education and other purposes without obtaining further permission and/or compensation. The Friend of Bob Jones Nature Center will attempt to give credit to the photographer. A signature on the registration form constitutes acceptance of these terms.

Second Annual Photography Contest

To celebrate the natural wonders of the Bob Jones Park, The Bob Jones Nature Center is sponsoring its Second Annual Photography Contest. The contest is open to children, teens and novice photographers. It will run through October 31st, 2005. Additional entry forms are available at the City of Southlake Community Center at Bicentennial Park, Public Safety West Facility and East Facility, Alpha Graphics, BA Framers, the Southlake Library, and our new website bjnc.org.

Thank you to our sponsors: Amati Gallery, My Green Thumb, Clariden Ranch, Carolyn Morris and David and Debra Edmondson.

Winners' Prizes and Publicity

A First, Second and Third Place winner will be chosen in each category and one entry from any of the categories will be chosen for the Judges Choice Award. Prizes will be determined and awarded in each category. Only one prize will be awarded to an entrant. The winning entries will be framed or matted and exhibited at a winner's reception in November. Photos may also be shown at other locations throughout the year.

Bob Jones Nature Center

Please Print or type!

Photo Contest Entry Form

Name _____ Day Phone _____

Address _____ City, State _____ Zip _____

Signature _____

Check your Category:

Child - age _____

Teen (13 - 19)

Adult - Novice

Place one entry form on the back top left side of each print submitted. Mail entries with the \$15 entry fee to:

Bob Jones Nature Center, 403 Valverde Ct., Southlake, TX 76092 by October 31, 2005.



BOB JONES NATURE CENTER

- Please put me/us down as "Grounding Members" of BJNC!
- I am interested in becoming more involved. Please call me about vounteer opportunities.
- I wish to make a tax deductible monetary contribution. Enclosed is a check payable to BJNC for the amount of \$_____.

NAME _____

FAMILY MEMBERS _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____



Bob Jones Nature Center
P.O. Box 92044
southlake, TX 76092