



# *The Pines Post*

*Newsletter of the Friends of the Lost Pines State Parks*

**November-December 2009**

## *Upcoming Events*

*November, no meeting because of Thanksgiving.*

*December 13<sup>th</sup>, (Sunday)  
“Holiday in the Park” at the Refectory at Bastrop State Park from 1:00 PM until 6:00 PM.*

*January 14<sup>th</sup>, Meeting 7:00 PM at Bastrop State Park Rectory Building.*

*February 18<sup>th</sup>, “Souper Supper” at Bastrop State Park Refectory Building.*

**Have a Safe and Happy Thanksgiving**



**National Historic Landmark**

## *A quick note about our Parks*

Inside, you will find information about our new Friends of the Lost Pines Shirts. We have several sizes of both the Tee Shirt and the Henley available at our “Holiday in the Parks” event in December.

Also, we would like to add our Kudos to Jamie for her promotion to Park Superintendent at Lake Somerville State Park. Their gain, our loss!

We are trying to arrange some outdoors type programs for our upcoming meetings starting in January. We will keep you informed as soon as we confirm our schedules.

We will have a short meeting during our December Event. If you can make it, we will need help setting up, operating the event and cleaning up afterwards. Hope to see you there.

**John E Cobb**  
President  
Friends of the Lost Pines State Parks



### *Our Trails Need Help...*

The Central Texas Trail Tamers (a local 501C-3) will be working on the trails at Bastrop State Park the weekend of November 28 and 29, the weekend of December 5 and 6 and the days in between. Volunteers can come for the day or the week and can camp any of all of the project period. Details will be posted on the park headquarters bulletin board and on the calendar at [trailtamers.org](http://trailtamers.org). Let's give them a hand if you can.

## *From the Archives*

*Buescher Open for Business by the Texas State Parks Board  
Labor Day, 1940*

### BUESCHER AREA OPENED:

Secretary Quinn reported that the Buescher area of the Bastrop-Buescher State Park was officially opened on Labor Day, September 2, 1940. Lighting in the main building, it was reported had been installed and the area in general cleaned up and made presentable. No operator had been secured for the park as no funds are available for operating it through State management. It was agreed to continue operation of this area as a part of the Bastrop State Park until funds are made available by the Legislature. Mr. Ash suggested that consideration be given to the separation of the two areas and that each be considered a separate park. One to be known as Bastrop State Park and the other as Buescher State Park.

## A Note from the Parks

Hi Friends –

After a long and hot summer, it seems we have finally arrived at fall. I saw our first bits of fall color in the parks this week: bright red Virginia Creeper climbing up the pines at Bastrop and red-orange leaves of tree dotting the edge of the Buescher lake.

The rain has treated us well in the past few weeks. The lakes are up, creek beds wet and wildlife happy. Kayaking on the Buescher Lake is a whole different experience this week as compared to a few months ago. Our visitors are relishing this change in weather, too. Just a few weeks ago, a family of campers perched at edge of the lake and actually watched it rise over a couple of hours. With the rain also have come cooler temperatures, appreciated by visitors and staff alike.

We've got all kinds of events happening at the parks in the next two months, so stop on by if you'd like to learn how to geo-cache, take a night hike or experience a Leave No Trace campsite. More information can be found on the Friends website or our official websites.

See you out there!

*Katie*

Bastrop & Buescher State Parks  
Park Interpreter/Volunteer Coordinator



*Left: The Cornerstone of the Entrance Building at Bastrop State Park. Although it is in plain sight, most people never take the time to see this Stone. It is located on the back of the building (on the Park side) at the Entrance to the Park.*



*Welcome Rains have helped with our Lakes...*

October and November has brought cooler weather and very welcome rain. Our lakes were beginning to dry out. As you can see in this photo of the Lake at Bastrop State Park, we are in much better shape!

## *Our New Friends of the Lost Pines Shirts are here!*



We have our new shirts in stock now. They are \$10.00 for the Tee-Shirt and \$15.00 for the Henley Shirt. We can special order the Polo shirts for \$25.00 each, but do not have any of those in stock at this time. Come to Holiday at the Park if you want one!

## Mark your calendars...

### ***HOLIDAY IN THE PINES***

Come join the Friends of the Lost Pines State Parks for a day of pine-rafting family fun!



Sunday - December 13, 2009

From: 1:00 till 6:00 pm

At the Bastrop State Park Refectory

We will have pine cones, clay pine trees and pine cookies and more to decorate.

Refreshments will be served.

Santa from 3:30 - 5:30

Donations needed and appreciated!

Suggested \$3 - \$5 per child.

While you are at the Park, "Take a Hike" on one of our hiking trails.

Thank you!

All the Friends of Lost Pines State Parks

We will need help again this year for our Holiday Event at the Park. If you can help, be at the Refectory no later than 12:00 Noon on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>... We will need help with serving drinks and treats, making cookies, treats, etc., and with the visitors. Please give us a hand. Contact Faye Cobb at 512-332-0371 if you can help.

## Congratulations are in Order

Jamie Hackett, our Buescher State Park Manager has been promoted to the Complex Superintendent of Somerville State Park and will be reporting there on December 1<sup>st</sup>. This is great for her, but we have mixed feelings because she has done such a great job at Buescher. We will really miss her and hope for the best in her new position.

# NATUREFEST™

CELEBRATING OUR RIVER



*NatureFest 2009 was a booming success. We had John Cobb, Faye Cobb, and Marty Goldfarb manning our booth at this year's event. There was a steady stream of visitors all day long. In the State Park's area, our Staff showed wildlife scat from the Park. It was a big hit with the kids! This year, we set up near the Stage area and the Park stayed in the river bottom. Everyone had a good time and the weather was perfect for an outdoor event.*



*Right: A giant mushroom by the Buescher State Park's Picnic Pavilion drew everyone's attention at our Hot Dog Supper in September. The late rains and lower temperatures brought out many of these at both Parks.*



## *Our Shop at Bastrop State Park*

Our shop is in desperate need of a new roof. It looks like we have been approved for this and other needed repairs this coming year. This is a Historic Building, built by the WPA after the fire destroyed our original CCC building in the early 1940's. We do sign work for all our State Parks in this complex. In the past, most of the furniture for most of our State Parks was fabricated in this shop. The building itself is built on the same lines as the late 1800's U.S. Army Quartermaster Warehouse buildings. We will keep you informed about the future repairs on this landmark.



*A side view of the Bastrop State Park Historic Shop Building*