

# *The Pines Post*

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

September – October 2009

## *Upcoming Events*

September 17<sup>th</sup>, Annual “Hot Dog” Supper and Meeting. Event starts at 6:00 PM at Buescher State Park in the Picnic Pavilion with the meeting after meal.



October 15<sup>th</sup>, Regular Business Meeting, Bastrop State Park Refectory Building, 7:00 PM.

October 24<sup>th</sup>, NatureFest, Bastrop Fisherman’s Park. 9am-4pm

*More to come...*



National Historic Landmark

## *A quick note about our Parks*

We covered quite a few subjects in our August meeting at Bastrop’s Refectory. Most are covered inside our Pines Post.

I would like to thank the members that came and helped clean chairs. As you know, a lot of our chairs were in bad shape. The cleaning made quite a difference and we are planning on getting the ones we didn’t clean in our October meeting.

Our annual “Hot Dog” supper is coming up this month. Make sure you set time aside to come to Buescher State Park and join us. Bring visitors and neighbors too! Everyone is welcome.

We still need volunteers to help with our booth at this year’s NatureFest. See the details inside and if you can help, it would be appreciated.

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

# News from the Park...

Hello, Friends!

Believe it or not, summer has been quite busy in the Lost Pines. We've had visitors camping, hiking, swimming and much more every day. In fact, we had over 1,000 people – just a fraction of our visitors – attend interpretive programs, fishing clinics and school field trips at the parks this summer. Hopefully those programs helped each of those individuals realize how important our parks are to Texas.

Fall should also be a busy season as people are trying to stay closer to home. We have a lot of large groups coming to use the parks, whether it's for an orienteering meet or a run. We also have a lot of exciting programs in store. Bring your kids or grandkids to Buescher and learn how to geocache. Want to learn how to take better pictures? Join a photography expert at one, two or all three workshops at Bastrop to find out about the inner workings of your camera and how your pictures can look professional. These programs plus many more will be happening through December. You can check the calendar on the Friend's group website for more information.

Hope to see you out there!

*Katie*



Bastrop & Buescher State Parks  
Park Interpreter/Volunteer Coordinator

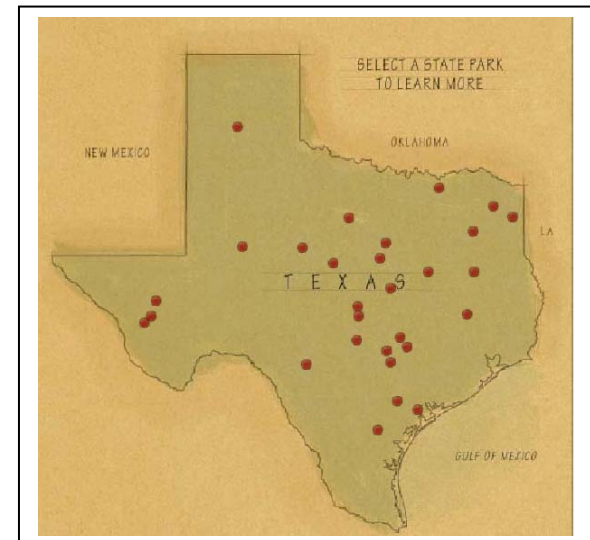


*Friends of the Lost Pines to Take part in NatureFest again...*

**October 24 – 9:00 to 4:00**, NatureFest at Fisherman's Park in Bastrop. Family friendly experiential nature based activities. Adults \$3 donation receive a bag, children 12 and under free. BISD Science Projects, rock wall climbing, archery, craft projects, Raptor show, Big Bass Tub, food, vendors, and live music. [www.VisitBastrop.org](http://www.VisitBastrop.org), 512-303-0904.

*If you can come down and help man the booth, contact us at: [cobbfarm@airmail.net](mailto:cobbfarm@airmail.net) and we will get you on the list!*

## *New Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept C.C.C. Website*



TPWD has a new website with CCC information about all the Parks in Texas built under that program. It is well done and has quite a bit of information and photographs available. Of course, this includes both Bastrop and Buescher State Parks. The website is located at: <http://www.texascccparks.org>

## More Fall Programs in the Lost Pines

### Evening Programs

### Bastrop & Buescher SP

Every Saturday night, Sept. 5-Dec. 5 (except Oct. 24)

**Fire in the Park** – Fire has helpful role in our ecosystem.

Sept. 12 & 26	8:00-8:45pm	Buescher Amphitheater
Oct. 17	7:30-8:15pm	Buescher Amphitheater
Nov. 14 & 28	7:00-7:45pm	Buescher Amphitheater

**Creatures of the Night** – What’s awake while we’re asleep?

Sept. 19	8:00-8:45pm	Buescher Amphitheater
Oct. 31	7:30-8:15pm	Buescher Amphitheater
Nov. 21	7:00-7:45pm	Buescher Amphitheater

**Don’t Worry, Be Flappy!** – Explore the world of flying creatures.

Sept. 5	8:00-8:45pm	Buescher Amphitheater
Oct. 3	7:30-8:15pm	Bastrop – Copperas Pavilion
Nov. 7	7:30-8:15pm	Buescher Amphitheater
Dec. 5	7:00-7:45pm	Bastrop – Copperas Pavilion



### Friends Project: Cleaning Chairs in the Bastrop Refectory!

After our August 20<sup>th</sup> Friends of the Lost Pines meeting, the membership cleaned about half of the chairs in the Refectory. We will clean the rest after an upcoming meeting. We were able to tell a marked difference right away!

## Come Join our Programs at the Lost Pines State Parks

### Beginner’s Guide to Geocaching

### Buescher SP

Learn to use a GPS unit to hunt for treasure in the woods. We’ll go over the basics of geocaching and find some practice caches. Then, you will have the opportunity to seek your first cache on Buescher State Park’s hiking trail. Bring your own GPS or borrow one of ours. Call ahead to reserve your space if you are borrowing a unit. Sept. 12, Oct. 17, Nov. 14, Dec. 12 2:00pm-3:00pm

### Snakes Alive! Reptiles of Central Texas

### Buescher SP

Ever touched a turtle or petted a snake? Get up close and personal with some common -- and not-so-common -- reptiles that live in the area, including snakes, lizards and turtles. At the amphitheater Oct. 10, 4:00pm-5:00pm

### Learn to Leave No Trace

### Buescher SP

Swing by our model Leave No Trace campsite to play games, take interactive quizzes and learn how you can have less of an impact on our parks. In the evening, come sit around our “campfire” and talk about your favorite outdoor memories. In the Lakeview Campground. Oct. 10, 9:00am-11:00am and 7:00pm-9:00pm

### Digital Photography Workshops

### Bastrop SP

All ages and experience levels welcome. Bring your own camera and attend one session or all three!

### Basics of Photography

### Sept. 19 Copperas Picnic Shelter

Do you own a digital point-and-shoot or SLR camera? Join our expert and learn how to use your camera’s settings and features. We’ll also cover the basics of photography, including light & composition. 5:30pm-7:30pm.

### Macro and Close-up Photography

### Oct. 17 Picnic Area

Learn how to capture nature’s smallest details. Using macro photography, you can take clear and compelling pictures of the tiny things, like leaves, flowers, pine needles and even butterflies. 5-7pm.

### Landscape Photography

### Nov. 21 Copperas Picnic Shelter

Find out how to capture the beauty that surrounds you during this workshop in landscape photography. 3:30pm – 5:30pm

### Coffee with a Ranger

### Bastrop & Buescher SP

Bring you own mug and join some of our rangers for a hot cup of coffee or cocoa. This is your opportunity to learn more about the park, ask questions or just enjoy a tranquil morning with a cup of coffee in hand. 9:00am – 10:00am.

**Bastrop State Park:** Sunday Sept. 6, Oct. 18, Nov. 22 At Picnic Area by Playground

**Buescher State Park:** Sunday Sept. 13, Oct. 4, Nov. 15, Dec. 6 At Lakeview Picnic Pavilion



## *Holiday in the Pines*

The date has been set for our 2009 Holiday in the Pines event. This year, we will be at the Refectory on Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. The exact times will be posted along with more details of this project in the next Pines Post.

## *Summer Fishing Program*

Bill Brooks gave the membership a review of this summer's program at both Parks. He said we served over 900 people at 8 events. There were several kids who got to catch their first fish. He thanked the Friends of the Lost Pines State Parks for their gift of \$250.00 this last year. The money was used for prizes and equipment used.



## *Emergency Water Supply*

Our Friends Group has purchased several cases of water for both Parks to be used in case of emergencies, such as lost campers, fire fighters and other problems. This has been a hard year with several emergencies and this will aid in keeping supplies on hand.



*Remember, our annual Hot Dog Supper and Meeting will be at Buescher State Park's Picnic Pavilion on Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, Starting at 6:00 PM...Guests and Members are all Welcome!!!*



## *Trail Run Update...*

Just a quick note to let everyone know, we have had a lot of interest in another trail run and are working to see if we can put one together this coming Spring (2010). More to come on this in later editions of the Pine Post.

## *Looking back almost 80 years...*



In this 1932 photograph, we see the area that would become part of Bastrop State Park before construction was started. As you can see, there is very little grass or trees. Erosion was a serious problem. Bastrop County was undergoing a drought and heat spell just like we are now. There had also been a lot of tree harvesting. This is why one of the first jobs for the CCC was planting trees.



*Above: CCC planting trees was one of the first chores for Bastrop and Buescher State Parks.*