

Outdoor
Nature Club

Nature Notes

January '06
volume 57 • number 5

our charter ...

Outdoor Nature Club
was established in
1923 as a nonprofit
organization with the
purpose of protecting
and conserving our
natural resources by
fostering an interest
in nature study

ONC

Outdoor Nature Club
P.O. Box 270894
Houston TX 77277-0894

our websites ...

OutdoorNatureClub.org
OrnithologyGroup.org

Marine Life Through Underwater Photography



ONC Special Program January 12

Presented by Frank and Joyce Burek, Texas Underwater Photo Society

Joyce and Frank Burek are wildlife photographers whose specialty is marine subjects. Photographing nature together for 40 years, they began recording and documenting the underwater environment after being diving certified in 1980. Since then, they have logged over 2,000 photographic dives and shot over 4,000 rolls of film. Their slide library has over 100,000 images in it, their digital library over 25,000. Originally photographing with Nikonos and housed film systems, they now shoot digital with Fuji S-2 camera systems and dual Ikelite A-100 strobes.

The Bureks will be presenting two digital programs at our January meeting. The first is "The Flower Garden's — A Taste of Texas." The program explores the marine life of Stetson Bank, East and West Bank of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary (FGBNMS) and the oil platform located within the sanctuary. The second program is "Two Different Worlds." With "Two Different Worlds" the Bureks explore our natural world. This scenic trip highlights the wonders of nature above and below the waves by comparing these two different areas of our planet. From the mountains to the prairies, from the forests to the deserts, from the streams to the oceans, from Lions to Lionfish the adventure continues.

Their photos have appeared in aquariums, calendars, brochures, books, magazines, newspapers and posters with numerous publishers including Audubon Society, National Geographic Society and the National Wildlife Federation. In 2000 NOAA recognized them for their photographic documentation of the FGBNMS with the Environmental Hero Award. Their work is featured in the current FGBNMS brochure and website.

Continued on page 3

Group Activities

Conchology

Saturday, January 26, 7:00 pm
Bayou Manor, 1st Floor
4141 S. Braeswood

Join our monthly meetings to share you photos and experiences with fellow group members.

Botany • Entomology

Saturday, January 7
TWELFTH NIGHT PARTY
Home of Calvin/Connie Blakley

Join us for potluck lunch, good food, good fellowship, and lots of talk about native plants. For additional information, contact the Blakleys (281-358-5407).

Ornithology (OG)

Monday, January 9
Bayland Community Center
Learning Corner: 6:30 pm

Confusing Female Ducks
Program: 7:00 pm

Birding the Lower Rio Grande Valley, by Martin Hagne, Valley Nature Center

OG FIELD TRIP

Saturday, January 21
Birding in Northeast Texas
Leader: Charles Easley

ONC Regular Meeting

Thursday, January 12
Bayland Community Center
7:00 pm Refreshments
7:30 pm Program

Marine Life through Underwater Photography, by Frank & Joyce Burek, Texas Underwater Photo Society. See Page 1 for details.

Upcoming in February

February 6
 OG Meeting, Breeding Warblers of East Texas

February 14
 Botany • Entomology Meeting
 Wildflower Photographs with Magnified Images

February 18
 OG Field Trip, birding Anahuac Area

February 18-19
 LTNS Visitors Weekend

February 23
 Conchology Meeting

LTNS Visitors Weekend

Saturday/Sunday, January 21-22
Saturday, January 21, Trash Pickup
 Winter in the woods provides the opportunity to study tree structure without all those leaves getting the way, and winter birds are easier to spot.

Trash pickup along our adopted highway, FM 945, will begin 9am Saturday morning and only takes about an hour. Afterwards, we'll try our luck at finding sparrows, hopefully Henslow's and LeConte's, in the meadows.

Weather permitting, there will be primitive camping in the Cove area. For more information about accommodations, contact Aaron Stoley.

**Trash Pickup along
 our adopted highway**

Saturday, January 21

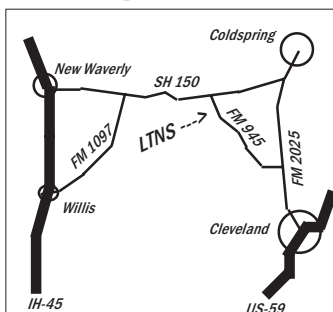
**Little Thicket
 Nature Sanctuary**

9:00 a.m.

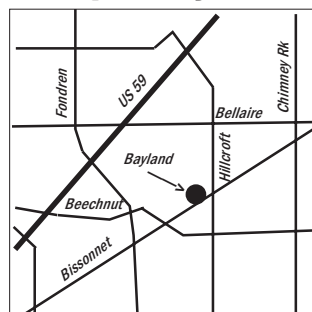
January 2006

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Map to LTNS



Map to Bayland



Contact Persons

Conchology
 Elizabeth Ruthven, 713-861-7301

Botany/Entomology
 Russell Jeffords, 713-504-9215

Ornithology
 Michael Williams, 713-228-9064

Little Thicket Nature Sanctuary
 Aaron Stoley, 713-781-1372

Membership Renewal

Member Category	Amount Enclosed
Regular	\$8.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____
Family	\$15.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____
Ornithology (OG)	\$14.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____
OG (2nd family member)	\$5.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____
Life Membership	\$250.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____
Donation, LTNS Sanctuary Fund	\$ _____
Donation, General Fund	\$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$ _____

Fill out form and return with your check to: **ONC, PO Box 270895, Houston TX 77277-0894**

Thank You!!

Donations ... Honor Gifts ... Memorials ...

Donations are always appreciated and gratefully acknowledged. Memorials and Honor Gifts are contributed to the Permanent Endowment Sanctuary Fund for Little Thicket Nature Sanctuary. Other gifts go to special projects designated by donors. Thanks, everyone, for your generosity.

Please consider making a donation with your dues renewal!

thank you

Leave a Legacy

Please consider including ONC in your will or estate plan. By so doing, you can help ensure that our sanctuary will be protected for future generations.

Underwater photography ... Continued from page 1

The Bureks are authors and publishers of three computer based marine identification CD-ROM products. Covering both marine plants and animals, each contains a marine identification guide plus pictures that can be viewed as a custom slide show.

- ***The Marine Life of the Flower Garden Banks NMS*** sells for \$20 and has over 420 images of 350 species. Unique photographs include the golden phase of the Spotted Trunkfish, Unicorn Filefish, Goldfaced Toby (a deep water puffer identified in 2003) and the beautiful Mardi Gras Wrasse (a fish new to science, discovered through the Bureks photographs — discovery paper to be released in 2006).

- ***The Marine Life of the Bay Islands of Honduras*** sells for \$30 and has 800 images of over 700 species. Species on this CD cover most of those found in the Caribbean. Unique photographs include the Filament Blenny and a Nudibranch presently unknown to science.

- ***The Marine Life of Indonesia*** sells for \$35, has over 1,450 images of over 1,100 species. Species on this CD cover many of those found in the Western Pacific. Photographs that make this CD of great interest are the Pygmy Seahorses, Crocodilefish, Clownfish, colorful nudibranchs and living shells.

Mark your calendars; you won't want to miss this beautiful program.

ONC Outdoor Nature Club
P.O. Box 270894
Houston TX 77277-0894

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Houston, Texas
Permit No. 1063

Nature Notes

published monthly September thru May

Editor

Connie Blakley
2007 Wilderness Pt, Humble 77339
email: connie@cblakley.com

Address Changes

Margret Simmons
6111 Bayou Bridge Dr, Houston 77096
email: msimmons@compassnet.com

Memorials

Sylvia McCrevey
2 Carlotta Ct, Houston 77074-7817
email: mccreveyj@netzero.net

Labels/Mailing

Russell Jeffords

Read *Nature Notes* in **COLOR** at
www.OutdoorNatureClub.org

Audubon prints – online auction

There's still time to place your bid for the set of Audubon prints being auctioned on our website, the result of a donation from Katrina Ladwig.

You can view the prints and check on the latest bid at our website, OutdoorNatureClub.org. There are several ways to place a bid:

- use the link on our website;
- send an e-mail to Auction_bid@outdoornatureclub.org giving your name and bid;
- send snail mail bids to ONC, PO box 270894, Houston, TX 77277;
- place a bid at the January 12 ONC meeting where the prints will be on display.

The bid closing date is noon, January 14, 2006, for Internet bids. For bids sent via mail, they must reach our PO Box by January 12, 2006. The successful bid amount will be posted on our website and the bidder notified to make arrangements for payment and pick up.