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BPA Welcomes New Board Members

We are pleased to announce the addition of several new members to BPA's Board of Directors. Please welcome this accomplished group of professionals and community leaders.

They include:

Marjorie Cohen - Attorney
Marjorie Cohen serves as Of Counsel to Wilson, Elser, Moskowitz, Edelman and Dicker, LLP. Before receiving her J.D. from The University of Texas at Austin in 2001, Marjorie was involved in environmental education as a teacher at Cy-Fair High School and in instructor roles at Houston Arboretum and Nature Center, Houston Museum of Natural Science and

It's Time for Trash Bash®2015

Once again, BPA will host Trash Bash® 2015 at Collins Park on Cypress Creek in far Northwest Houston. Set for Saturday, March 28, coordinators for the event include BPA Advisory Board member Brittany Tones of Terracon; BPA Executive Committee Director at Large Jim Robertson; BPA Vice President Bruce Heiberg; Education Director Amanda Brown and Executive Director Kathy Lord.

Volunteers will clean about 6 ½ miles of waterways, with a focus on Cypress Creek, Dry Gulley, Pilot Gulley, Spring Gully and adjacent areas. These include Kickerillo-Mischer Preserve, Cypress Creek Greenway, Meyer Park, Cypress Creek YMCA and Collins Park. It's a fun way to get involved in improving the environment, and high school students can earn community service hours for their participation. Individuals and groups are welcome.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. at the Basketball Pavilion at Collins Park, 6727 Cypresswood Dr. in Spring, with litter cleanup and removal of invasive species from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Lunch is served between 11 a.m. and noon to all volunteers.

Each year, the Texas Conservation Fund and Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) hold Trash Bash®, which has grown to 15 sites across the Galveston Bay Watershed with an average of 5,000 volunteers annually. In 2014 alone, 4,622 volunteers cleaned 157 miles of shoreline; collected 37.6 tons of trash and recycled 2,858 pounds of collected materials.

To learn more about BPA's Trash Bash® 2015 at Collins Park, visit us at bayoupreservation.org.

Eyes on the Bayou Makes a Mark with HCSO Clean & Green Program

BPA's Eyes on the Bayou Scout, Eric Ruckstuhl, has been hard at work supervising the HCSO Clean & Green program with inmate workers provided through the Harris County Sheriff’s Office, (Sheriff Adrian Garcia) in partnership with Harris County Precinct 4. In January and February, Eric and his crews could be found across the Houston area helping to make our parks and bayous pristine and healthy.

Eric has been working with the current HCSO inmate program for three years, leading the removal of trash and debris in area parks and along our bayous, in addition to taking out invasive, exotic plants that choke out natural vegetation. However, he was involved with another inmate initiative for several years prior to 2012. The HCSO Clean & Green partnership allows non-violent leading the removal of trash and debris in area parks and along our bayous, in addition to taking out invasive, exotic plants that choke out natural vegetation. However, he was involved with another inmate initiative for several years prior to 2012. The HCSO Clean & Green partnership allows non-violent inmates to perform valuable community service, which has been highly beneficial to both BPA and the Harris County Sheriff's Office.

Here is a summary of the most recent HCSO Clean & Green projects:
- 1-7 - Barker-Cypress Rd. Right of Way (ROW) and Bud Hadfield Park:

Website Update

Watch for the unveiling of our new website in the next two months, which has been spearheaded by designer Les Lee of e-Siteful, along with the Communications Committee. The site will feature an updated look and feel, more interactive features and will be easier to use on mobile devices. We
Earthwatch in Sri Lanka.

Amy Catherine Dinn - Attorney Amy Dinn is Co-Managing Member of the Houston law firm of Patel Ervin Dinn PLLC where her primary practice areas are general commercial litigation and bankruptcy litigation. A graduate of the Plan II Honors Program at The University of Texas at Austin, Amy also received her J.D. from UT. She is currently president of the Idylwood Civic Club and serves on the board of several nonprofits in Houston.

Wyatt James Dowling - With a Ph.D. in political science from Boston College and a J.D. from The University of Texas at Austin, Attorney Wyatt Dowling is an associate with the law firm of Yetter Coleman LLP. He is a member of the "Lawyers Against Waste" committee of the Houston Bar Association, which is devoted to improving the environment in Houston. Additionally, Wyatt represents its income clients in the preparation and execution of estate planning documents on a pro bono basis.

Jana Friederick - Jana currently serves as Business Development Manager for Rockwater Energy Solutions. The company is a provider of fluids and environmental solutions to address the water, stimulation, fracturing, fluids and production needs of customers in the U.S. and Western Canada. She received an MBA in marketing from the University of New Orleans and an undergraduate marketing degree from Indiana University’s Kelley School of Business. Affiliations include the Society of Petroleum Engineers and Women in Energy.

Penny Loyd - Penny is Vice President of the Loyd Charitable Foundation and holds several prestigious nonprofit board positions, including President of Houston Children's Charity and as a member of the executive boards of the Annette Caldwell Simmons School of Education at SMU and the Partnership for Baylor College of Medicine. Her professional career spans banking, the computer industry, insurance and the foreign service. Penny was educated at Southern Illinois University and St. Louis University and St. Louis.

The crew continued its removal of invasive, encroaching Chinese Privet from the edge of the road ROW along Barker Cypress near Cypress Creek. At Bud Hadfield Park, nine inmates and one officer, Deputy Donald Dehnert, removed approximately 35 cubic yards of Chinese Privet and Ligustrum. Two young men who were playing disc golf thanked Eric for the work.

- 1-14 - Meyer Park: Restoration work began in Meyer Park in January 2014. With the nine-man crew and excellent access, about 40 cubic yards worth of invasive, exotic plants were removed. It took two gallons of herbicide to treat the multiple stumps and root flares. This is the beginning of a long, on-and-off work schedule to restore habitat in one of the great Harris County Precinct 4 anchor parks along Cypress Creek.

- 2-11 - Harwin Park (Brays Bayou): This was a joint effort with Houston Parks and Recreation Department (HPARD) in Harwin Park along a tributary of Brays Bayou near Art Storey Park. The crew removed invasive, exotic plants from wild areas, in addition to several trees. Along with the five-man inmate crew led by Deputy Dehnert, HPARD provided a dump truck for loading. The two loads equaled about 60 cubic yards of cut material.

- 2-11 - Terry Hershey Park (Langham Creek): This follow-up workday along the east bank of Langham Creek with eight crew members was led by Deputy Dehnert, Eric and BPA Water Quality Director Steve Hupp. The crew did more fine detail work this time, removing small Chinese Privet, Ligustrum and a large amount of Japanese Honeysuckle Vine. It’s estimated that one or two more workdays are needed for the removal of the remaining invasive, exotic plants along the east bank, from I-10 to the Addicks Reservoir Spillway.

- 2-18 - Barker-Cypress Road ROW and Telge Park: Eric’s crew had another split workday between the Barker Cypress ROW near Jarvis Road and Telge Park. The removal of the Chinese Privet has made a

HCSO Clean & Green Crew at Terry Hershey Park

HCSO Clean & Green Crew works on Telge Park

BPA board members and supporters mourn the passing of our friend Bill Bradshaw on February 21, past president of the Bayou Preservation Association and also of The Park People. As a registered landscape architect/contractor, Bill garnered accolades for many of his projects in Harris and Galveston counties, along with national recognition from the White House. He held degrees from California State Polytechnic University and Pepperdine University. An avid hunter and photographer, Bill is survived by his wife Deanna, son Edward, two grandchildren and several other family members. Our condolences go out to his entire family and his many friends.

Annual Meeting, Award Presentation Set for May

BPA members are invited to attend our Annual Meeting in May at the Memorial home of BPA board member Mike Hendrux and wife Gail. (Date to be announced.)

The highlight of the evening will be the presentation of the Terry Hershey Bayou Stewardship Award to a person or organization recognized for demonstrating an exemplary commitment to and stewardship of a Houston-area bayou or bayous through conservation, preservation, restoration, advocacy or other proactive means.

BPA established the Terry Hershey Bayou Stewardship Award in 2010 in honor of Terry Hershey, co-founder of the Bayou Preservation Association. If you would like to nominate someone for this award, contact us at 713-529-6443 for a nomination form, which is due by April 10. More information about the meeting is forthcoming.

Congratulations to Mike Talbott
Daughertys Will Serve as Gala Chairs
Bayou Preservation Association is thrilled to announce that real estate entrepreneur John Daugherty, and his wife Debbie Daugherty, will chair the fall 2015 BPA gala, set for Wednesday, September 30. The next steps are to secure a home for the event, develop a theme and begin the party planning.

Besides serving as Chairman and CEO of John Daugherty Realtors, John has been recognized for his extraordinary philanthropy and civic leadership throughout his hometown of Houston. He has received the prestigious Man of the Year Award from the Greater Houston Tax Coalition and the John E. Wolf Citizenship Cup award from the Houston Association of Realtors. The Friends of the Texas Medical Center named him as one of Houston’s most influential people. John’s board memberships and nonprofit volunteer work include an extensive range of medical, educational and cultural interests. Debbie is also involved in leadership roles in numerous charitable causes and events in Houston. We thank Debbie and John for generously donating their time and efforts to our gala.

Volunteers Work Hard on Greens Bayou, Parks
Bayou Preservation Association volunteers cleaned up most of the 2.5 miles of Greens Bayou between Thomas Bell Foster Park and Strickland Park with 13 warm-blooded, devoted paddlers who showed up in the cold, damp weather the morning of February 28. The group collected about four cubic yards of litter and illegal dumping debris, including a television, a tricycle, a shopping cart, two construction barrels and two tires. Additionally, they took advantage of the weather to clean “Spider Island,” while the native spiders were hunkered down from the cold. Spotted nearby was a nesting pair of bald eagles, seemingly looking down with approval as volunteers cleaned their hunting grounds.

The project was made possible in part by a grant from REI to the Bayou Preservation Association and support from the Greens Bayou Corridor Coalition, Bayou City Adventures, LJA Engineering and the Kayaking in Houston Meet-up Group. BPA’s Steve Hupp and Rico Torres of Bayou City Adventures oversaw the activities. Lunch was provided to the hard-working crew by BPA. The event concluded at 3 p.m. with the volunteers gratified about giving back to our bayous and parks. Our thanks go out to them!

Save the Date
Trash Bash© - March 28 - Details: www.trashbash.org - BPA is sponsoring the Collins Park location.

Earth Day 2015 - April 11 - Discovery Green - BPA will head up the Water Zone.

BPA extends hearty congratulations to Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) Executive Director and BPA advisory board member Mike Talbott for being named 2015 Engineer of the Year by the Texas Society of Professional Engineers. Mike has been a strong, visionary leader for HCFCD, having begun his career there 33 years ago. He received his B.S. in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University and an MBA from the University of Houston. Well done, Mike, and we wish you continued success!

Education Update
BPA will partner with Student Conservation Association (SCA) on a volunteer effort in Edith L. Moore Sanctuary on March 21 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Participants will tackle the Nature Garden, picking up creek debris, weeding, planting trees and more. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Snacks and water will be provided, but you are encouraged to bring a reusable bottle filled with water.

Long pants and closed-toed shoes must be worn for safety. If you have your own gardening or work gloves, please bring them as we have only a limited number. Otherwise, we will have all necessary equipment to complete the volunteer tasks. The event is limited to 75 people, so if you are interested in volunteering, please contact Amanda Brown, BPA Education Director, at abrown@bayoupreservation.org as soon as possible.
Cypress Creek On-the-Water Clean-up - Mercer Arboretum - September 12
(details TBA)

Cypress Creek Regatta - Mercer Arboretum to Jesse Jones Park - September 19
(rain date: September 26, 2015) details: www.cypresscreekregatta.org

Bayou Preservation Association | 713.529.6443 | bpa@bayoupreservation.org | http://www.bayoupreservation.org
2990 Richmond Avenue #500 | Houston, Texas 77098

BPA Mission
Protect and restore the richness and diversity of our waterways through activism, advocacy, collaboration and education.

BPA Vision
- No further degradation and ultimate improved visible water quality
- Successful stream restoration project
- One-Stop Shop for bayou information
- Better watershed management

STAY CONNECTED