



2011 ANNUAL REPORT



2012 Bob Jones Nature Center Photography Contest "Best of Show" • Duane Bender, Photographer

Bob Jones Nature Center • 355 E. Bob Jones Road • Southlake • Texas • www.bjnc.org

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

Saturday, June 2, 2012 • 6:00pm

Bob Jones Nature Center and Preserve • 355 E. Bob Jones Road • Southlake • TX

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Approval of 2010 Minutes**
3. **Treasurer's Report**
4. **Election of Board of Directors**
5. **Bylaw Vote**
6. **Awards and Recognitions**
7. **Announcements**
8. **Adjournment**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members and Friends,

On behalf of the Bob Jones Nature Center (BJNC) Board of Directors, I want to thank you for all your support in 2011. It was another successful year as BJNC continued to build awareness with Southlake residents and expand our outreach beyond the borders of Southlake.

During 2011 the Board of Directors, working with the City of Southlake, assisted in completing the Bob Jones Nature Center & Preserve Master Plan. This is the roadmap to a very exciting future and with which we can focus fundraising efforts on specific projects. The Board recently prepared an enhanced Business Plan to better compete for grants from all over the country and help us track our efforts in managing the Nature Center in the most efficient manner. We are still working with the City of Southlake on a plan that will turn the day to day operations of the Nature Center over to the Board of Directors and hope to see that become a reality in 2012.

The Board and committee volunteers held several special events during 2011 including a number of "Members' Events." Members and friends were treated to an afternoon tea featuring lavender goodies and a presentation about growing lavender from Lavender Ridge Farms. Another Members' Event featured Beekeeper Eric Luebbert who shared his passion for bees and beekeeping. During 2012, Luebbert will be overseeing a couple of beehives on the BJNC property, with future plans for an educational beehive. Look for *Bob Jones Nature Center Honey* in the not so distant future!

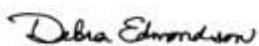
The most exciting event in 2011 was our partnership with the Fort Worth After School Program. We were able to offer a 4-week summer camp for 25 underserved middle and high school children from Fort Worth. Former Texas Ranger pitcher (and Southlake resident) Darren Oliver helped sponsor the camp. He provided cameras and tickets to a Rangers game for the kids and their families. *BJNC was on the big board at the Ballpark in Arlington!!* A \$5,000 grant from the Multicultural Arts Alliance assisted with materials and staff for the camp. BJNC Board member, Norm Lyons, a member of the Alliance, helped put the program together. We also received assistance from our corporate partner, Marshall Grain, located in Grapevine. Jim and Joyce Connelly, owners of Marshall Grain have been wonderful supporters of our efforts at BJNC.

Finally, Naturally Sweet 3 was our most successful fundraiser of the year. Jane Musser and Tamara McMillan, co-chairs for this year's Naturally Sweet 4, are busy planning our most exciting event yet!

This past March we partnered with *Cook's Children* for our 3rd annual trail run, Bird on the Run: The Year of the Turkey in honor of our flock of local turkeys who call the Nature Center Preserve home!

Come out to the Nature Center often to enjoy the beautiful grounds. We are so honored to have this 100-acre preserve in our backyards. Finally, be sure to "Save the Date" of *November 3, 2012*. It's Naturally Sweet 4. I hope to see all of you there!!

Respectfully submitted,



Debra Edmondson, President, Bob Jones Nature Center Board of Directors

2011 YEAR IN REVIEW

"There's a nature center in Southlake? I didn't know that?" "I just found out about the nature center and have lived here for (fill in the blank) years!" "How long have you been here? We just found out about you. It is beautiful out here!"

These refrains are oft repeated by new visitors and program participants at the Bob Jones Nature Center and Preserve (BJNCP). As we celebrate the fourth anniversary of the opening of the BJNCP, we continue to be surprised that people are still discovering this treasure in the heart of the DFW Metroplex!

So, the good news? We are making progress! A Master Plan was approved by the City of Southlake during 2011. The plan will direct much of the development and enhancement of the Preserve and future programming. What will be critical is developing funding for projected stages.

Our vitals are increasing. The 2011 statistics demonstrate an increase in a number of areas, including classroom and special event numbers and volunteers and volunteer hours. We feel the main reasons for the growth are three-fold: the passion and dedication of the instructors; the passion and dedication of the volunteers from board committee work to the care and oversight of the butterfly garden, native Texas garden, compost demo area; and the passion and dedication of a Board of Directors providing the leadership critical to ensuring organizational stability.

THE INSTRUCTORS

Through our working relationship with the City of Southlake, the BJNC educators continue to contract their services through the City (the BJNC organization receives 10% of the class fee for coordination and supplies). In addition to their fee paid classes, the instructors give many, many hours of volunteer time to the Nature Center!

Monica Hutchins is one of the original instructors when the Nature Center opened in April 2008. With a Masters in Education, Monica's Young Explorer classes for pre-schoolers were typically at capacity with many days having waiting lists. Her classroom is a delight



for the young participants (and those visitors who wander down to her classroom.) Along with her Adventure Club, she is camp co-director for Camp Summer Oaks, assisted with large school groups, was a birthday party facilitator, while serving on the Board of Directors, and co-chairing of the Education Committee.

Michelle Sager was instrumental in expanding classroom and volunteer participation. With her home school, scouting, and wildlife rehabber experience and training, she has developed and grown the Toddler Thursday program, the home school program, the scouting programs, the school group programs, teacher training workshops, and a new program, "Grand and Me." Her corporate experiences in human resources and finance have been invaluable.



Bruce Rosenstiel took the lead in developing nature photography classes, the BJNC Camera Club and promoting the BJNC Photography Contest. Both of those activities are proving to be an invaluable resource for the Nature Center. The Camera Club solidifying an active base of members. Serving on the Board of Directors, Bruce is the Treasurer as well as co-chair of the Education Committee.

Rosemary Hutchins and Camp Summer Oaks are a Southlake tradition. Celebrating 25 years in 2011, for the last four years the camp has been at the Nature Center. Camp Directors Rosemary and Monica Hutchins have offered a hands-on, discovery-filled science and nature experience to a generation of campers some of whom are now sending their children.

Three classes also offered this past year were Square Foot Gardening by Julie Whitis; College Station-based Primitive Texas' Edible Wild Plants with director Mark Suter; and Nature Art Journaling Class with Sharen Chatterton.



We would like to acknowledge the instructors who committed to offering additional specialized classes during the year, including Lauren Green, Nancy Musgrave, Julie Whitis, Cindy Featherstone, and Heather Foote presented opportunities for a number of creative and exciting classes for elementary age through adults.

THE VOUNTEERS

Volunteers, of course, are critical to the success of the Nature Center. In 2011 over 150 volunteers (including docents, special activity volunteers, special events, and Camp Summer Oaks) gave 2,946 hours (these numbers are what were recorded and probably represent about 40% to 50% of the actual number of hours.

BJNC Docents

The first Docent Training program kicked off in January with 16 volunteers completing the course. The purpose of the Docent Program was to prepare volunteers with more in-depth information about the natural history and human history of the Cross Timbers ecosystem. A number of experts from across the Metroplex shared their time and knowledge over a 6-week training period. The docents' leadership and participation over the year made a significant contribution to the programs offered at the Nature Center and gave us a kick start to creating a knowledgeable and "take charge" volunteer force. Docents have been involved in assisting at events and performing improvement tasks in the facility and around the preserve. Through the leadership of Sandi Rosenstiel and Martha Davis, the program is being fine tuned and enhanced.

Community Groups

Several groups who helped out during the year included Gateway Church AMPED Youth, Dawson Middle School Helping Hands Students, and Cub Scout Pack 402. The Pack also celebrated the City of Southlake's official Arbor Day Ceremony to complete the City's Tree City USA requirements.



There are a number of special projects that have happened because volunteers took on the leadership:

Teen Work Days

To take advantage of the teens that call to perform community service at the Nature Center, we established periodic Teen Work Days.

Native Texas Landscape

Under the leadership of Nancy Searl and Sharon Duquemin, the Tarrant County Master Gardeners continued to maintain the native Texas, drought-tolerant landscaping around the building and it continued to thrive and look beautiful. They also care for the entrance area.

Plant Survey

In the fall of 2011 a UTA student, Michelle Swan approached us offering to provide a project for approved college credit. Her project took survey begun by Master Naturalist Jim Varnum, and expanded the information. Her research expanded the information that will be available in the future to visitors. Her project was to continue into spring semester 2012.

Bluebird Nestbox Monitoring

Jan LaPine and Sandy Cavanaugh finished up a second year of monitoring the ten bluebird nestboxes along the Bluebird Trail. Once a week from the end of February through the beginning of August, they recorded their observations into the National Bluebird database. In 2011 there were five bluebird nests with a total of 20 eggs/babies and 5 titmouse nests with a total of 29 eggs/babies.

Compost Demonstration Area

Charlie Shiner has almost single-handedly kept the Compost Demo area going. Coming early in the morning he mixed, watered, added to, and screened the great compost that his boxes created. He offered a monthly compost workshop with 25 new composters attending over the year. Youth Award Projects



A number of projects were contributed through the Boy Scout Eagle Scout and the Girl Scout Gold Award Programs. Both youth award programs

require over 60 hours of project development as well as a leadership component.

Eagle Scout Candidates

- Aashish Moorani: set up viewing benches on the Bluebird Trail.
- Nathan Zeigler: mulch donated and mulched the entry trails of the Preserve.
- Reid Long: built an educational kiosk for butterfly garden.

Gold Award Candidates

- Delaney Sager: created three field guides on mammals, birds, butterflies.
- Evelyn Freeman: built a native tree/leaf display.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMITTEES

The continuing strength of an organization is in its board leadership. Organizational, event, and program development are most efficiently accomplished using a strong committee structure.

As the year developed so did the committees. The most active committee of the Board has been the Education Committee with co-chairs Bruce Rosenstiel and Monica Hutchins. The committee developed the program calendar to integrate the classes, programs, and events to be implemented during the year. The committee was critical in integrating and testing new classes, planning, implementing programs and exhibits, and promoting special activities, including:

• **Classes**

Throughout the year, almost 2,800 attendees participated in a variety of scheduled and custom classes, youth group programs, and birthday parties for toddlers through adults.

• **Camp Summer Oaks**

Last year 344 campers attended camp. The BJNC organization worked with the Camp Summer Oaks program by recruiting and training teens as camp volunteers. While assisting the teachers, the teens are also learning about nature and science. Last year 42 teens gave a total of 1,274 hours for Camp Summer Oaks.

• **Additional Programs and Activities**

BJNC Camera Club (on-going)

The Camera Club offers opportunities for photographers of all ages to learn more about the art.

• **Exhibits (on-going)**

Four exhibits were displayed during 2011: "Surviving Winter: Animal Strategies for



Adapting;" "Cynthia Ann Parker and Quanah Parker: Two Lives in Two Worlds" (in conjunction with the Southlake Historical Society); "Hummingbirds," and "Creatures of the Night." Volunteer and city staff support was critical to creating the exhibits.

2011 Photography Contest (on-going – Deadline March/April)

The 2011 Photography Contest boasted 20 entrants and 121 photographs.

• **Southlake Ornithological Society Bird Walks (on-going)**

Scheduled and led by Dr. Ray Chancellor, the bird walks were promoted through BJNC.

• **Bird on the Run: the Year of the Road Runner (April)**

The 2011 Bird on the Run celebrated the Road Runner with over 125 runners in the 4 Mile and 1 Mile trail runs. The Northeast Tarrant Amateur Radio Club, the Southlake Mounted Patrol, and the Grapevine Runners and Walkers provided technical and safety support for the run.

• **Scout Earth Day Celebration (April)**

100 scouts, approximately 40 leaders, and 16 volunteers participated in the 2nd Annual celebration coordinated by Michelle Sager.

Texas Nature Challenge (May-August)



Sponsored state-wide by Agrilife Extension and the Texas Forest Service in partnership with participating nature centers, zoos, parks, aquariums and other nature related organizations in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, registered families and teams will be decoding clues, discovering parks, forests, historic sites and recreation areas across the region and participating in fun activities and challenges. Twenty-six teams from the region took on the BJNC mission.

• **AgriLife Water Conservation Program Series (March-September)**

This series offered various water conservation and sustainable landscape workshops including rain gardens, rain barrels, and irrigation ideas.

• Ollie's Greening Up (June-July)



Ollie's Greening Up was a partnership with BJNC, the Fort Worth After School Program, and Texas Rangers Pitcher Darren Oliver through the Texas Rangers Foundation to develop a pilot program of outdoor citizen-science and art experiences to promote environmental conservation for 25 middle and high school students from underserved communities. BJNC contracted with local artists **Sharen Chatterton** and **Christopher Blay** and photojournalist **Vernon Bryant**. **Marshall Grain Co.** and **Canon** were also sponsors.

• Harvest Hike (October)

Working with the City of Southlake Library and the Southlake Gifted and Talented Association, this fall celebration event drew approximately 600 attendees who enjoyed Storytelling, scavenger hunts, crafts, petting zoo, and even bats!

The **Marketing Committee** with Barbara Schlauch, Steve Oligmueller, and Beatriz Terrazas initiated the development of a marketing plan for the organization. Beyond press releases and flyers, marketing is critical to getting the word out about BJNC. The organization engaged its first intern who helped to develop a marketing calendar. The members' newsletter was reinstated as a value-added for membership and a BJNC Facebook page was developed and maintained by committee members.

The **Resource Development Committee** with Wanda Schafer, Norm Lyons, and Debra Edmondson developed a corporate sponsorship program that is being integrated with the marketing plan.

Under the leadership of Tamara McMillan and Monica Hutchins and committee members Michelle Sager and Sandi Rosenstiel, the goal of the **Merchandising Committee** was to re-invigorate Nature's Nest, the BJNC gift shop. Most of the efforts in 2011 were reviewing the inventory, initiating development of policies and procedures,

and making plans to move the gift shop area after the Naturally Sweet event.

The **Events Committee** worked in tandem with the Education Committee to plan for several Members' Events during the year. These events were planned to provide an education value-added benefit to membership as well as to offer an incentive for new members. Jennifer Myers, Tamara McMillan, and Debra Edmondson began pulling together a group of volunteers who are dedicated to making the events offered at the



Nature Center the most hospitable (and delicious) as a signature of the Bob Jones Nature Center. Those events included Passion for Purple with Lavender Ridge Farm, Liquid Gold with beekeeper Eric Luebbert, and the Art of the Bird: Brunch with the Raptors featuring the Blackland Raptor Center and art instruction by Monart, an art program for youth and adults.

The **Naturally Sweet 3 Committee**

chaired by Debra Edmondson assisted by Tamara McMillan, Jane Musser, Bruce Rosenstiel, Betsy Thomas, Betsy Montoya, and Lisa Spraggins had the best year yet.

Thanks to Silent Auction co-chairs Betsy Montoya and Lisa Spraggins, the auction was a great success with over 130 items donated. The sponsors, chefs, artists, decorations, and the entertainment all contributed to creating a memorable evening at the Preserve.



Be looking for more development on the Master Plan in 2012 as the Bob Jones Nature Center continues to preserve, conserve, and educate!

2011 FINANCIAL REVIEW

Jan - Dec 11

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

Donations and Sponsorships	15,077.27
Fundraising	31,956.00
Gift Shop Sales	1,727.12
Membership Dues	<u>10,165.00</u>
Program Fees	<u>17,915.44</u>

Total Income

76,840.83

Expense

Administrative Expenses	11,246.83
Fund raising	14,823.25
Gift Shop Expense	1,163.13
Marketing Expense	<u>3,125.07</u>
Program Expense	<u>29,324.23</u>

Total Expense

59,726.68

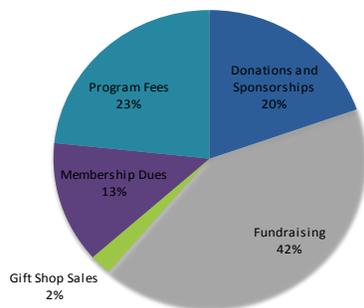
Net Ordinary Income

17,114.15

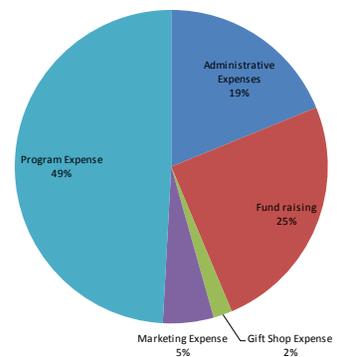
Net Income

17,114.15

Revenue Distribution 2011



Expense Distribution 2011



2011 LEADERSHIP AND SUPPORT

BOB JONES NATURE CENTER 2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS

President: Debra Edmondson
Vice President: Julie Landesberg
Treasurer: Bruce Rosenstiel
Secretary: C.D. Peebles

DIRECTORS

Ray Chancellor • Monica Hutchins • Peter Kao • Norm Lyons • Jane Musser • Jane Myers • Steve Oligmueller
• Wanda Schafer • Barbara Schlauch • Beatriz Terrazas • Al Zito

DIRECTOR EMERITUS

Dr. Bobby Jones

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Emily Galpin

BJNC EDUCATORS CONTRACTED THROUGH THE CITY OF SOUTHLAKE

Monica Hutchins
Rosemary Hutchins
Bruce Rosenstiel
Michelle Sager
Lauren Green
Sharen Chatterton

ALL THE BOB JONES NATURE CENTER MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS!

SPONSORSHIPS/DONATIONS

City of Southlake • Multicultural Art Alliance • Texas Rangers Foundation/Darren Oliver
James Landscaping • Marshall Grain Co. • SullivanPerkins • Star-Telegram / The Southlake Journal
Republic Services • Tivoli Wines • OurGreatCity.com • Julie & Pete Landesberg • Cook Children's Health System
Skipping Stone Studio • Tasti D-Lite • Barbara and Bill Schlauch • John Doty and Beatriz Terrazas
Cary and Lisa Spraggins • The Edmondson Law Firm, P.C. • Peebles Law Firm • 180Wellness • GameStop
Camp Summer Oaks • Emily and Henry Galpin • Kohl's • Alcatel-Lucent • Cindy Gaither • Canon
William and Susan Jones • Kathryn Lange Bertrand • Mark and Mickie Scalzo • Lee and Sally Simpson • Mary West •
Judy Jacobs • Randy and Kelly Wahl • Nico Scalzo Barbara Cutter • Ripu Singh • Gail McEnroe • Jane Musser
Tamara and Ken McMillan • David Turk

CITY OF SOUTHLAKE SUPPORT

Chris Tribble, Director of Community Services
Kerry McGeath, Deputy Director of Community Services
Kari Happold, Deputy Director of Community Services

All the Parks and Recreation Staff who support the facility, grounds, and programs!
including Holly Arnold, Kristen Buckreis, Diamond Kervin, Stacy Buller



Bob Jones Nature Center • 355 E. Bob Jones Road • Southlake, TX • 76092
817.939.1110 • www.bjnc.org • director@bjnc.org