Docent Awards Given!!
Congratulations to those who received docent awards for their work! These cumulative awards were presented at the Docent Awards Picnic on Oct. 3. If you couldn’t be there, and find your name listed, contact Mary about picking up your beautiful award! You may also pick them up at Reorientation in the spring, or by visiting the Tulsa office.

Honorees achieved a new level this year. There are many of you who are working your way up, and received your current level award last year. The level indicates that between September of last year and Aug. 31 of this year you were within the given level.

Those honored for serving FORTY shifts during their career as a docent were: Sue Wheeler and George Meyers.
THIRTY shift awards (30-39 shifts served) were received by: Marilyn Keefer, Iris McPherson, Liz Medley and Stu Marshall.
TWENTY shift (20-29) honorees are: Doris Mayfield, Bob and Mary Reeves, Van Vives, Dorothy Buck, William Mosier, David Turner, Nyla Woody, Randy Woody, Carolyn Mathews, George McCourt, Bill Rinehart, Vera Meyers and Dan Vinyard. TEN Shift awards (10-19) were earned by: Barbara Bates, John Fisher, Linda Anderson, Don Bruner, Judy Barto, Wayne Middleton, Nune Richards, Joanne Colbert, Sally Baker, Tom Clark and Judy Kishner.
FOUR shift (first level, 4-9 shifts) pins were earned by: John Colbert, Robyn Stroup, Carl Wilhite, Perry Crampton, Herb Skidmore, Marilyn Clarke, Bob and Jan Hawks.

Congratulations to all of our award winners. Your support of the prairie and the Conservancy’s work there is a noble effort! Your suggestions for improving the experience are always welcome. Give Mary a call! (585-1117)

Gift Shop News
from Sue Wheeler
Gift Shop sales for the month of September totaled $3,862.95. We had no sales (no visitors!) on one day and were closed one day for lack of a volunteer. Last year’s total for the month was $5,161.79.

This brings our total sales to date to $35,498.59. At this time last year, sales totaled $37,628.96.

NOTE: Although the season ends officially on Nov. 15 with inventory, we would like to stay open on weekends into December, weather permitting. If you are interested in working during this extended period, please call or email Barbara Bates and reserve your day. Shop hours will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

SALE!!! Remember, during the month of November, docents receive a 20% discount on items in the gift shop! Do your Christmas shopping early and help fund the new shop!!
Visitation
from George Meyers

"WOW! Again, as the temperature stayed up (one of the hottest Septembers recorded), fewer visitors signed our visitor log. 884 visitors signed in, down 14.3% from last year.

"Twenty-three visitors came from ten other countries, 333 from 38 other states and 528 from Oklahoma.

"Year-to-date figures total 8184 visitors, 2821 from 49 other states and the District of Columbia. Visitation is down about 15.9% from last year.

"62.9 percent are first time visitors, according to the registration sheet. Comments were complimentary. Docents are doing a great job!

"Saturday and Sunday are still the most popular days, followed by Thursday and Monday this month! Mid-day was the most popular time to visit."

Roundup Video
Remember the video of the 1997 bison roundup made by docent Bill Rinehart? I have five copies available for docent purchase. Copies are $10. Let Mary know if you want one.

Prairie News
from Harvey Payne, Director,
Tallgrass Prairie Preserve

- As of Oct. 19, the herd was slowly moving into the "Spring" trap (720 acres, just north of the headquarters) as the Roundup began.
- The bison have their winter coats and are in prime condition!
- We're getting closer to the construction phase of the new gift shop/nature room. Bill Dinger has prepared final plans and will be completing cost estimates. $35,000 has been received in donations, and profits from gift shop sales in 1998 will be added to this to fund the work. Some additional fundraising may be necessary.
- Many asters are blooming! Also, the sumac is beautiful!

Reason Seven to Save the Diversity of Life --
Living History Books (The Heritage Factor)

We will never recapture the Virginia that greeted John Smith, where oysters formed reefs that rose above the surface of the Chesapeake Bay, and rockfish were so plentiful that settlers scooped them from the water in frying pans. Where the Dismal Swamp spanned hundreds of square miles, longleaf pine ruled the coastal plain, and hardwood forests stretched unbroken across the Piedmont and the Blue Ridge. But we can and should preserve examples of these characteristic landscapes. They help us to understand the past and the people that shaped us, and in turn are a legacy we can hand to our heirs.
Docent Evaluation

Enclosed with this newsletter you will find the annual Docent Evaluation. This is your chance to let us know your thoughts about the program and offer suggestions for next year.

This evaluation also includes your first opportunity to commit to serving as a docent in the coming year. Checking YES on this form keeps you on our mailing list for the coming year. You will receive newsletters during the winter and information about spring Reorientation and work schedules. It will also keep you informed about Spring Workdays as we prepare to open our NEW SHOP!

When you make your commitment to us for 1999, we expect you to commit to at least two shifts to be considered active.

We are depending on you to show up. NO SHOWS will be contacted and dropped from the program after a second offense. If you have an emergency and cannot find your own replacement, please let someone know as soon as possible.

I hope you will be a member of our docent family in 1999!

DON'T FORGET TO SEND IN YOUR EVALUATION!!
# November 1998

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
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|        | *      | *       | *         | *        | *      | Bill Dinger  
|        |        |         | Marilyn Keefer  
|        |        |         | Dave Dolcater  
|        |        |         | Linda Anderson  
|        |        |         | Stu Marshall  
|        |        |         | George Meyers  
|        |        |         | *         | *        |        |
| 8      | 9      | 10      | 11        | 12       | 13     | 14       |
| Marilyn Clark  
|         | Jan Hawks  
|         | Bob Hawks  
|         | George McCourt  
|         | *         | Roberta Wherritt  
|         |         | Judy Barto  
|         |         | Randy Woody  
|         |         | Nyla Woody  
|         |         | *         | *        | Al Medley  
|         |         |         | *        | Liz Medley  
|        |         |         |         |         |         |
| 15     | 16     | 17      | 18        | 19       | 20     | 21 SHOP OPEN |
| *Reg. Season Ends*  
| DO INVENTORY  
| Sue Wheeler  
| Doris Mayfield  
|         |         |         |         |         | *        |
| 22 SHOP OPEN  
|         |         |         |         |         |         |
| 23     | 24     | 25      | 26        | 27       | 28 SHOP OPEN |
|         |         |         |         | *        |         |
|         |         |         |         |         |         |
| 29 SHOP OPEN  
|         |         |         |         |         |         |
| 30     | Dec. 5 Sat.  
|        | *        | Dec. 6 Sun.  
|        | *        | Dec. 12 Sat.  
|        | *        | Dec. 13 Sun  
|        | *        | *        |

## Shop Open
- Nov 22
- Nov 29

## Shop Closed
- Nov 1

Phone: (918) 298-7019  
(E-Mail: bates@webzone.net  
(Leave your name and phone number on the answering machine)  
Shift Hours: 10 am - 4 pm  
RETURN THIS TO: Barbara Bates  
5642 E 113 St  
Tulsa OK 74137