

Spring 2023 • VOLUME 37, ISSUE 1

VISIONS

NAI SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

In this issue:

Who's Missing?

Page 2

2022 South Central Region Award Winners

Page 3

2023 South Central Conference Awards

Page 4

Stairway to Stewardship and Service Learning

Page 5

Conservation Educator of the Year-Missouri

Page 6

News from Neil

Page 7

State Reports

Page 8-15



VISIONS

Newsletter for NAI SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

Spring 2023 • VOLUME 37, ISSUE 1

IN THIS ISSUE

PG 1

- Table of Contents

PG 2

- Who's Missing

PG 3

- 2022 South Central Region Awards

PG 4

- 2023 South Central Conference Awards

PG 5

- Stairway to Stewardship and Service Learning

PG 6

- Conservation Educator of the Year-Missouri

PG 7

News from Neil

- Citizen Science - Wisconsin
- Earthy Flavor of Ice Cream
- Movie Review

PG 8-13

State Reports

- Arkansas, Page 9
- Kansas, Page 10
- Louisiana, Page 11
- Missouri, Page 12
- Oklahoma, Page 13
- Texas, Page 14

Some photos from
[Dreamstime.com](https://www.dreamstime.com)



Editor's Note:

We regret the delay in getting this article out. A busy Spring and the desire to get the best publication to you caused a delay in getting this out. We will strive to do better in the future. Please enjoy our Spring 2023 issue.

Who's Missing?

Well, we're back from the South-Central (Region VI) NAI conference. Hope everyone is rested, and more importantly, rejuvenated! If summer is your busy season, you've had a chance to relax (Ha!), or at least be busy with other types of duties.

But interp season is almost here again. For me, NAI [South Central Regional Workshop] is the shot in the arm I need to get fired up and ready to go. Hanging out with so many interpreter friends fill my gas tank and revs my engine so I'm ready. Are you?

I had an epiphany after the conference. I was honored to receive an award, along with many other talented, passionate interpreters. Recognition by our peers is a priceless gift. It got me thinking about other deserving interpreters. Several names from several states came to

mind. When have they been recognized? So, I looked it up.

This is where the epiphany came in. One name jumped out and knocked me upside the head... because it wasn't there! How could such an amazing interpreter not have received an award? That can't be right! Check the list again. Nope, not there.

I think it must have gone something like this: This person is so good, surely, they've received lots of awards. Thoughts move on to someone else. Before you know it, years pass, that person goes unrecognized, and we don't even realize it.

I, for one, am going to do my best to correct this particular "missing person" oversight. I challenge you, each one of you, to do the same. Look over past award winners. To make it easy, here are links to the lists for NAI, NAI National and AMI award

lists. Who's missing?

<https://nairegion6.wordpress.com/region-6-awards/>

https://www.interpnet.com/nai/Resources/Awards_Programs/Professional_Awards/nai/_resources/Professional_Awards.aspx?hkey=d69c3ff3-27df-45be-89d3-7be72b292632

<https://www.mointerp.net/awards-scholarships/past-ami-award-winners/>

With all of the problems in today's world, this is one we can fix. If you need help writing the nomination, reach out to others. Get it done now. After all, if we don't recognize our talented interpreters, who will? We need to take care of our own. I ask you again... WHO'S MISSING???

2022 South Central Region Awards



2022

Fellow - Lifetime Achievement
Janet Price



2022

Keeper of Interpretation
Neil Garrison



2022

Master Distinguished Interpreter
Rusty Scarborough



2022

Bob Jennings Meritorious Service Award
Kyle Thoreson (C)



2022

Outstanding Interpretive Volunteer
Jeanne Spencer (C)



2022

Richard Baldauf Outstanding New Interpreter
Josie Gunter (not pictured)



2022

Outstanding Interpretive Program
Amy Stephens (C) with Lauren Marshall (L) & Amber Myer (R)



2022

Outstanding Interpretive Special Event
Tara Humphreys (C)
TX Parks & Wildlife



2022

Outstanding Written Interpretive Article
Neil Garrison (C)

Janet Price (C) with past South Central Region Fellows (L to R), Donna Horton, Cyndi Cogbill, John Miller, and Neil Garrison



2023 South Central Conference Awards



2023 Best Conference Presentation

Go presented by Danielle Bradley-Okay & Ben Horstmann



2023 Interpreter Quiz Winners

Dana Hoisington (MO), Rusty Scarborough (LA), Ken Forman (AR), Amber Myers, Emily Davis and Amanda Isenburg (KS), David Owen (TX), and Neil Garrison (OK)



2023 Brian Barnette Interpreter Quiz Top Score

Dana Hoisington (MO)



2023 Conference Scholarship Winner

Abby Harper with Dr. Mark Morgan



2023 Conference Scholarship Winner

Lauren Baker (R) with Jamie Hubert (L)



Stairway to Stewardship and Service-Learning

By Chris Edmondson

As professional interpreters we take the time to better understand how people learn. Our unique ability to bridge the connections between our visitors and the resources we interpret is definitely magical. With our words, actions, and interpretation, we weave a vision and an understanding. We build from the ground up with our tools: tangible, intangible and universal. We paint a landscape with our Principles. And we can write a theme in one complete sentence!

Many of us have been taught that one of the best ways to build that magical connection is through the Stairway to Stewardship. This learning pathway begins with CURIOSITY. Our visitors want to know what our program is about, what is going on. From attending a program, the visitor will satisfy their curiosity and become AWARE, thinking about the topic. After those wheels start turning, the visitor will build a better

UNDERSTANDING about the issue. Through understanding, they will start to CARE ABOUT the issue and work toward CARING FOR it, too.

We all know that the stairway is unlikely to be complete in one go. It often can be a slow process to ascend the stairs, one step or program at a time. Folks may take a step or two back before they make further progress. And there is absolutely nothing wrong with taking a step back to be able to take another step forward. Each person learns at a different pace, in a different way. What might work for you is not likely to work for me.

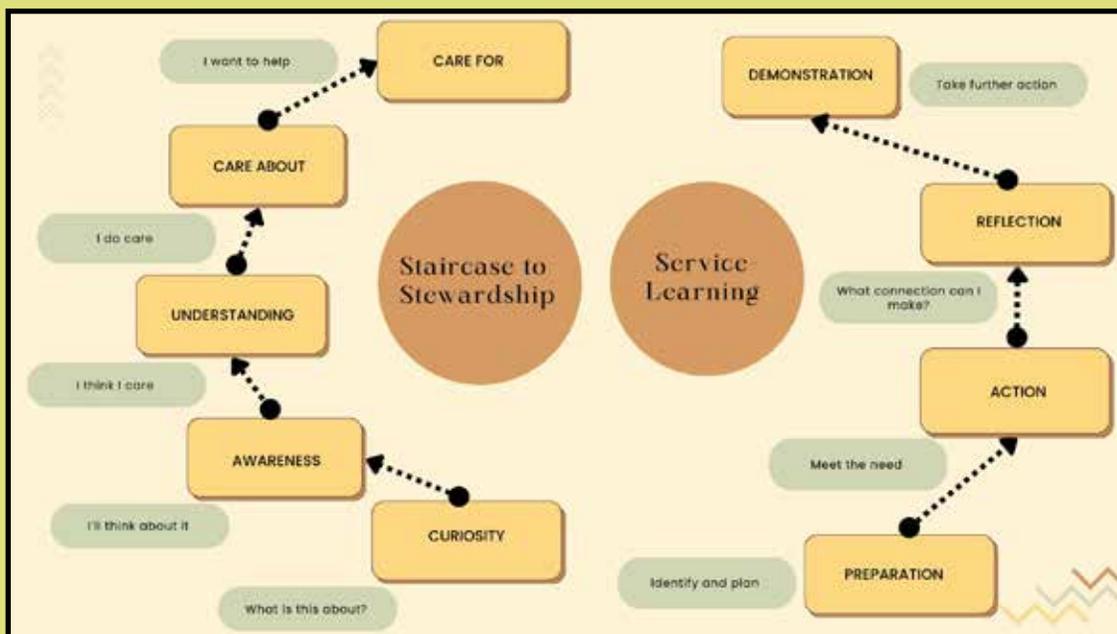
But what if we build on this Staircase? What if we can make side-steps, additions, or a shorter escalator step up? Building the bridging connection serves a higher purpose and if we, as interpreters, can more efficiently and elegantly help the visitor ascend the Stairway, I would

say that's a win all around.

One of my favorite ways to build on this Staircase is through Service-Learning. Service-Learning is learning through investigation and experience with a cycle of action and reflection. It works with four stages: PREPARATION, ACTION, REFLECTION, and then DEMONSTRATION. That does sound a little complicated so let's break it down. Preparation is learning about something. This is our curiosity. This is our awareness. This is our understanding. The issue is identified, and a plan is created to address it.

Action is actually taking action. Action right now, in the program. Action with hands-on activities. In Action, we meet the need of the is-

*See Stairway to Stewardship
Page 6*



Conservation Educator of the Year - Missouri

by John Miller

Conservation Educator of the Year - Kendra Swee is an Interpretive Resource Coordinator for the James Foundation at Maramec Spring Park.

Kendra is an exemplary leader in the field of interpretation and has breathed new life into the programs at Maramec Spring Park and area schools. She handles all outreach and educational aspects of the park, including tours, school groups, and social media. She supervises staff at both park museums and coordinates museum exhibits and leads program and development and design efforts. Kendra skillfully interweaves outside interests of the children into

programs to keep them engaged.

Prior to taking her position for the

James Foundation, Kendra was the Chief Park Naturalist for the Missouri Department of Conservation.



Stairway to Stewardship

from page 5

sue.

Reflection is trying to understand the connections that are made from our preparation and actions. These connections will likely be a visitor better connecting to the resource, but it could also be a more emotional connection. It could be a simple familial connection. It could be far more complex than I can describe here.

Demonstration is taking further action from what we have already completed. Visitors that enter this stage of Service-Learning are those that ascend the highest steps on the Stairway. These are the folks that take our interpretation and go out into the world and make a difference using it. They have answered our call to action and have exceeded it beyond our expectations.

If you thought that those four stages sound an awful lot like the Stairway to Stewardship, I would agree with you. There are a couple important points to make here though. These four steps can be accomplished during one visit or one program. Yes,

just in one program. But how can that be? If the program is designed with Service-Learning in mind, then it is more likely to be accomplished.

To build a successful Service-Learning program, remember that each of the stages are just as important as the others. While we can present the program with POETRY (your favorite Principles), we need the addition of Action and Reflection to ascend to the top.

Action is the fun part. This is where we get dirty, do crafts, catch macroinvertebrates, build a bluebird house, go birding, or pull garlic mustard. The key is in the Reflection. Be sure you end the program and activity with time to reflect and ask questions. Share how you reflect and what connections you have made. And ask the visitors to tackle that, too. Take a little time and think about what you, as a visitor, may reflect upon after the Preparation and Action stages as it relates to the topic or issue. Listen to what your visitors are willing to share.

Self-reflection is one of the most dif-

ficult things to address. Many folks spend much of their time avoiding reflecting on themselves, their thoughts, their experiences, and ideas. It is not easy and sometimes it can be uncomfortable. Stick with it. Work through it. You can do it.

These three stages will lead the visitor right onto the Demonstration stage. After attending your amazing program, working through Action and Reflection, they will be ready to share their connection and understanding with others. This may be through conversation and increasing awareness of others, but it could also be them becoming one of your best volunteers because they created such a personal and meaningful connection with the resource.

And after all, we're all here to help bridge that connection between the visitor and the resource. Let's take them by the hand to ascend the Stairway through Service-Learning and meet their higher purpose to become the best stakeholders they can be. Maybe we'll be able to learn a little something from them, too.

NEWS FROM NEIL

by Neil Garrison - Yukon, OK
South Central Oklahoma Rep



Citizen Science - Here is How it's Done in Wisconsin

SNAPSHOT WISCONSIN is a research project of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

A large army of volunteers man a statewide array of trail cams. The intent of the program is to gather video data of Wisconsin wildlife all

year long. Of particular interest is the "EXPLORE SNAPSHOT IN THE CLASSROOM" feature.

The "Earthy" Flavor of this Ice Cream is Sure to Please!

Some things you just can't get in stores. You have no other recourse but to make it yourself. Of what I speak is ice cream.

Yep! I said mushroom. It's not exactly the off-the-shelf flavor variety with which you're probably already familiar.

Space limitations don't permit me the liberty to launch into a detailed litany on the specific recipe and the D.I.Y. instructions. It's easy enough for you to do a little sleuthing on the internet and find that information yourself.

It's probably pretty obvious that I'm not talking about the run-of-the-mill flavors such as vanilla, chocolate or strawberry. If you're the adventurous sort, I'd issue a challenge; give mushroom ice cream a try.

There's a variety of mushroom called the chanterelle. It's the "go to" fungi for adding a most-noticeable (and decidedly-delicious!) flavor component to this frozen treat.

Chanterelle ice cream is sure to become your favorite dessert treat.

Cocaine Bear - Movie review

Opinions are like belly buttons. Everybody has one.

With that being said, let me share with you my "take" on this movie that recently debuted.

The movie production company offered up a description that saddled it with the moniker of "dark comedy." Hindsight is 20/20. I should have paid more attention to the fact that, although I am a fan of humor, the same cannot be said for

my views on horror. The combination of the two should have been a "red flag," but it was one that I chose to ignore. I mainly went because three of my friends waxed on enthusiastically about what they had witnessed on the big screen. I should have paid heed to the "belly button & opinions" cautionary note, but I did not.

I didn't like the movie. Where's the entertainment value in seeing human actors eviscerated? While I would guess that every one of us

has a copious supply of life-giving blood, I found it revolting to see same splashed around in an oh-so-graphic manner. Severed human limbs were tumbling willy-nilly all over the full extent of the movie screen. Call me prudish, if you must. I was not entertained.

So be it. That's my opinion. You may beg to differ. If you should leave the movie theater with a downcast demeanor, let me jump right in and say: "I told you so!"



State reports

Arkansas - Chris Pistole

Kansas - Lindsay Evans

Louisiana - Rusty Scarborough

Missouri - Michelle Soenksen

Oklahoma - Neil Garrison

Texas - Erin Holley



Leslie Patrick from Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission reports: A new exhibit at The Old State House Museum, “Forty Years in the Woods: the Botanical Drawings of Kent Bonar,” tells the story of naturalist Kent Bonar’s life in the forests of the Ozarks and features his beautiful illustrations of flora and fauna. Staff from the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission worked with Bonar and provided mounted specimens of sixteen native forest plants for the exhibit. Running through Summer 2024, the exhibit is free and might be of particular interest to interpreters visiting Little Rock during the National NAI Conference in November 2023.

Find more information at <https://www.arkansasheritage.com/old-state-house-museum/exhibits/current-exhibits> .



< Photo credit - Will Newton/AD-PHT

Ken Forman from Arkansas Game and Fish Commission reports that long-time facility director of the Arkansas River Nature Center, Kelly Mulvihill has moved up to the position of Assistant Chief of Education for the agency. Congratulations go out to her.

Renovation of the Jacob Wolf in Norfork Arkansas (Arkansas Heritage) is moving into Phase III. This nationally-recognized historic site is undergoing extensive renovation and updating visitor experience opportunities. This work, shepherded by Site Manager Marlon Mowdy.



Arkansas State Parks is celebrating a Big Birthday

The State Parks of Arkansas had their genesis in 1907 when officials from a lumber company were so impressed with the mountain’s beauty that they suggested it join the National Park System.

National Parks Director Stephen Mather agreed the property was striking and challenged Dr. T. W. Hardison to establish a state park system—an idea Hardison enthusiastically embraced. With land donations and Legislative support, Act 276 of 1923 was passed and Arkansas State Parks was born.

Happy Centennial to Arkansas State Parks - a beautiful idea beautifully shared.





Kansas welcomes a new state representative, Lindsay Evans. Welcome, Lindsay.

Hey everyone! My name is Lindsay Evans, I am an Animal Caretaker and Park Naturalist at Ernie Miller Nature Center in Olathe, KS. Working with animals and educating the public on the environment has been my dream since I was 9. Watching the OGs of interpretation, Steve Irwin, Jeff Corwin, and the Kratt brothers when they had their show Zoboomafoo gave me eager guidance. I remember sitting in the living room with my mom on one of our routine Sunday chill days watching all these presenters jump around on screen, travel to amazing places, experience every animal you can imagine, and sharing with other people their contagious awe and joy of nature! That moment is when it hit me to look up their official job titles, listed as conservationists, zoologists, biologists, and there it was, the word naturalist. I didn't even know what a naturalist did, but whatever it was, I wanted to do it!



Fast forward to now. It might not be the only thing I do but it is a huge part of my heart. I am grateful for NAI and all the people that are in my corner to help me be who and where I am today. I am excited to be in the role of Kansas Representative and I look forward to many exciting conversations and to being able to celebrate all your wins, stories, and experiences. Please contact me with whatever Kansas news you see fit to know! (p.s. just like there is no such thing as too much garlic while cooking, I don't think there is such a thing as too many exclamation points, lol!).

Kansas Report – Lindsay Evans

The Education Section of the Kansas Dept. of Wildlife & Parks is excited to announce the hiring of Amy Bousman as the Education Specialist, based out of the Shawnee, KS office. Amy comes to KDWP with over 20 years of experience in the field of outdoor education, including time in the formal classroom and teaching out in the natural world. She has her own business called ForageKC, where she shares her passion for teaching folks to understand, respect and connect with our natural world and what it has to offer through foraging and nutrition, plant identification, ethical harvesting, and conservation. She is an active contributor and instructor for the Kansas Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW) program with KDWP and other programs in the Kansas City area geared towards teaching people of all ages responsible activities in the out-of-doors. She holds degrees from Sinte Gleska University on the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota, in Fine Arts, Psychology and Native American Studies. She enjoys spending time with her two children and participating in and teaching about several outdoor activities. Amy began her work with KDWP on March 5th. - **Mike Rader**

Thank you to our neighbors in Missouri for a wonderful workshop in Columbia! Something I experienced that plan to take forward in my life and work: Nature Journaling! I had been curious for quite some time, and enjoyed the tightly packed, warm session, in a hotel room where I got to draw a mussel shell. Even without being outdoors in the fresh air, I experienced nature. - **Amber Myers**

The Great Plains Nature Center in Wichita was “Buggin’ Out” for Spring Break March 13th -17th! This event is coordinated by our AmeriCorps service member. Each day included a different themed program about bugs, a guided hike, and lots of crafts and activities. Guests got to explore pollinators, bug camouflage, edible bugs, decomposers, and aquatic bugs. A “Buggin Out” mission from Agents of Discovery helped people discover even more as they went out on

**KS Report continued
Page 11**

KANSAS REPORT

hikes. Over 1,000 people came to the Spring Break programs and learned how amazing and beneficial bugs are in our Kansas ecosystems. Pictures below. -**Emily Davis**



Ernie Miller Nature Center of Olathe, KS recently obtained a Digitalis Portable Planetarium. Programming plans include astronomy outreach programs from K-8, preschool astronomy programs, and unique stations for in-house special events. - **Amber Lamble**

I walked away with my cup overfilled from our regional conference. My favorite part is undeniably, the people that we get the opportunity to befriend! My heart is warm, and my face is strained from smiling and laughing so much. You all bring something so valuable to the table and I am honored to be working and learning alongside you. - **Lindsay Evans**



NO REPORTS AVAILABLE

Catch you in the Summer Edition

Send any State updates to your state representative or the *Visions* editors by the deadline posted on the publication information page.

MISSOURI REPORT

REPORT FOR MISSOURI...
By Michelle Soenksen

It is finally happening after many years of anticipation! **Leah Eden** reports that as of March 12, the Conservation Center at **Shepherd of the Hills Fish Hatchery** in Branson, MO will be closed to public visitation so that the old building can be demolished, and a new building can be built. The hatchery will still be producing fish for public stocking but will be closed to public visitation during construction. The construction process could take up to 2 years to complete. Interpretive staff will keep busy doing outdoor and off-site programs, virtual programs, helping other sites with programs and events, and lots of training.

Artist rendition of Shepherd of the Hills >



Jesze Doleh from **Thousand Hills State Park** shares her experience at the NAI Conference in Columbia, MO. "The long wait for this conference was well worth it! I learned so much from my sessions and got to experience learning through dance, puzzles, videos, brainstorming sessions, and so much more. Not only did I bring back new ideas, but also possibilities for future collaborations and opportunities to continue working with the amazing interpreters I met at the conference. I am grateful to be a part of the South Central Region!

John Miller shares the exciting news of **Kendra Swee** receiving the Conservation Educator of the Year Award! Kendra Swee is an Interpretive Resource Coordinator for the **James Foundation at Maramec Spring Park**. Kendra is an exemplary leader in the field of interpretation and has breathed new life into the programs at Maramec Spring Park and area schools. She handles all outreach and educational aspects of the park, including tours, school groups, and social media. She supervises staff at both park museums and coordinates museum exhibits and leads program and development and design efforts. Kendra skillfully interweaves outside interests of the children into programs to keep them engaged. Prior to taking her position for the James Foundation, Kendra was the Chief Park Naturalist for Missouri State Parks.

Kendra with CFM Award (center) and Executive Director of CFM Tyler Schwartze. >



Megan Froemling, Lead Interpreter at the **Saint Louis Zoo**, shares her experience from the NAI Conference in Columbia, MO. "A trio of interpreters made the trek to Columbia to present and learn at the regional conference. I had a fantastic experience sharing about Escape Rooms and really appreciated the enthusiastic audience. We got some great feedback and even advice to improve one of our escape puzzles. While we were only able to stay for a day, the morning keynote was entertaining and gave advice that we are definitely putting to use. The three of us ventured to different sessions and all came back with great ideas to test out. Many thanks to the organizers and presenters for a great experience."

Megan Froemling, Saint Louis Zoo, reports that the Escape Rooms discussed in Columbia are available for booking! Escape the Zoo: Wildcare Edition has a new route being unveiled this year and the all-new Escape from Dinoroarus is available for families. These programs were a lot of fun to design and hosting them is usually smiles and laughter all around. We are looking forward to a fun summer feeding stingrays, unearthing dinosaurs, and facilitating a new experience to be revealed to the public soon. Best wishes for a successful 2023 to all!



Amanda Markey stepped down as Oklahoma representative. We thank Amanda for her contributions and help as part of the region's board. Neil Garrison has stepped up to fill that position.

Neil submitted the following report:

Are there new and innovative ways to do interpretive programming?

The **National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum** (Oklahoma City) answered that question with a resounding "YES!" In the months of March and April, the museum encouraged their visitors to do an exploration of the ways that we play western.

"You Have Died of Dysentery" was the intriguing title of their hands-on public programming. It featured the Oregon Trail video/computer game that examined the often-dark realities of early-day western history.

What can a half-million dollars buy? In Oklahoma City, it will fund a whole new bunch of community gardens that will be scattered over several municipal parks. The Oklahoma City Parks and Recreation Department is funding this project with voter-approved general obligation bonds.

Oklahoma State Park Naturalist Frank Griffith and the **Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma** invited me to go down to the southeastern corner of Oklahoma in order to do a flintknapping (stone arrowhead) demo at the Wright City Elementary School. Initially, it was planned for just a couple classes of 4th and 5th graders, but when the students' parents got wind of what was up, they insisted that I stick around and do an evening program so that they might attend. The events were well-received and were a lot of fun.

The date was a very cold and very snowy morning on November 27th of 1868. The U.S. Army's 7th Cavalry launched a very notorious attack on a sleeping village of the Cheyenne people in what is now western Oklahoma. The 7th Cavalry's equally-notorious leader was Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer. The National Park Service established the Washita Battlefield National Historic Site there in 1996. Cheyenne tribal leaders have petitioned for a name change. The suggestion that it be assigned a new name that better reflects the true history of the place: i.e., the tragedy was a "massacre," not a battle. In 2022, no less than seven Oklahoma place names were changed at the behest of U.S. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland (because the original place names were deemed to be racially insensitive). Here's hoping that the Washita Massacre will get a much-needed name change.

Congratulations to OKC's **Fenton Road**. He was the recipient of the Keep Oklahoma Beautiful "Lifetime Achievement Award." Fenton is the Assistant Director for the Land Protection Division of the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality.

Stephen Seals is a historical re-enactor/interpreter from Colonial Williamsburg

**OK Report continued
Page 14**

OKLAHOMA REPORT

(i.e., Virginia). He was in Oklahoma City on January 27th. He did a re-enactment portrayal of the U.S. Revolutionary War hero and spy at the Oklahoma History event.

Route 66 is also dubbed “The Mother Road.” The centennial celebration for this historic route is planned to take place in 2026. (Mark your calendar!) The Route 66 bridge that spans Oklahoma’s South Canadian River was featured in the movie “The Grapes of Wrath” (starring actor Henry Fonda). (The movie was released in 1940; the movie was a film adaptation of John Steinbeck’s novel about the Great Depression.)



Rachel Driskill, Educator/Interpreter of Texas Historical Commission-Starr Family Home State Historic Site informs membership about their spring events:

Starr Spring Market Fair

Spring has finally sprung, and what better way to celebrate than by supporting local businesses at the Starr Spring Market Fair hosted by the Starr Family Home State Historic Site in charming Marshall, Texas. Join us on April 15 from 10 am-2 pm for a day filled with shopping from talented local vendors and artisans, relax under the shade of a tree while listening to music, or enjoy Victorian lawn games. Don’t forget to tour the beautiful Maplecroft home, open from 10 am-4 pm. And of course, there will be delicious food trucks available to fuel your fun-filled day. Make sure to mark your calendar and join us for a delightful celebration of spring and community. Support local!

Tea Series – Part Two

Starr Family Home presents The Victorian Tea Series. Join us for part two as we explore and discuss Victorian Flower codes and calling cards. Come alone or bring friends. Tea and light refreshments will be served. Reserve your seat for Saturday, April 29, 2023, 10:30 am-12 pm. Due to limited seating, registration is required. Please call (903) 935-3044.

HeART of Marshall

Join us at the Starr Family Home State Historic Site on Saturday, May 7 from 4-7 pm for the HeART of Marshall art exhibits – a celebration of the incredible talent found right here in East Texas. The exhibit will be divided into three parts, each showcasing different aspects of the local art scene. Historical art and photography by local artist, Barbara Tyler will be displayed in the stunning Victorian Mansion, Maplecroft, while Trinity Episcopal School art will be displayed on the beautiful North Lawn. And in the Blake House, we are proud to feature the works of two outstanding East Texas artists, Patty Lovelace and Mileah Lorenz, who use multiple mediums to create their one-of-a-kind works of art, bringing their unique perspectives to life through stunning pieces that will mesmerize you with their use of color, texture, and depth.

In addition to showcasing the incredible talent of East artists, the HeART of Marshall art exhibit at Starr Family Home State Historic Site will also feature a unique and personal aspect – art of family history. Using multiple mediums, and stunning artifacts, the Starr Family Home paints narrative art that tell the stories of their own families and ancestors.

**TX Report continued
Page 15**

TEXAS REPORT

These pieces are both visually stunning and emotionally powerful, offering a glimpse into the lives and histories of the people who have shaped our community. Don't miss this unforgettable event filled with beauty, creativity, and inspiration. Mark your calendars for May 7 and join us for an evening of art and culture that you won't miss! This is a can't-miss event for anyone who appreciates creativity, culture, and the rich history of our community. Come experience the HeART of Marshall and the artists who have brought their unique perspectives to life through their work, both as a celebration of their talent and a tribute to the enduring legacy of East Texas.

Movie Night

Looking for an unforgettable way to kick off your summer? Look no further than the Starr Family Home's outdoor movie showing Disney's ENCANTO! On Friday, June 2, grab a chair and a comfy blanket and head over to the Starr Family Home for a fun-filled evening under the stars.

And the best part? Admission is free! So, bring your family and friends for a magical night of movie watching, as we feature the latest hit from Disney's beloved lineup.

But that's not all! Starting at 6 pm, a food truck will be available for purchase, providing delicious snacks and treats to satisfy any craving.

So don't miss out on this opportunity to enjoy a fun and free summer night out at the Starr Family Home. The movie will start promptly at 7:30 pm, so arrive early to secure your spot and get settled in for an evening of pure entertainment.

We can't wait to see you there!

Ann Hobing, Guest Experience Manager with Park Board of Trustees of the City of Galveston would like to announce that their program Women in Coastal Science was selected as Winner of Houston-Galveston Area Council Parks and Natural Areas Award for Programming. According to Galveston County's The Daily News, "During a six-month discussion series called Women in Coastal Sciences, attendees can learn about these women, their projects and what led them to choose their careers" "When it comes to scientific pursuits, women can be marginalized or intimidated," Hobing said. "We want this series to help women share their journeys to success and fulfillment and to inspire other women to consider entering the science realm, too...From rescuing marine mammals and sea turtles to understanding the impacts of extreme conditions on our Gulf shores, these women will demonstrate the diversity of careers found here and will share their journeys in their fields of expertise."

Ben Horstmann, Region 2 Interpretive Specialist with Texas State Parks wishes to inform members that "Texas State Parks interpretation leadership hosted another successful Certified Interpretive Guide Training at Bastrop State Park on January 23-27. Thirteen people from all over the State of Texas learned from instructors and peers, taking new skills and techniques back to their sites to make meaningful connections with their visitors."

TPWD Certified Interpretive Guide Training class at Bastrop State Park held January 23-27, 2023 >

Ashley De Leon, Program Coordinator with Harris County Precinct 4, Parks Department would like to share that "HCP4's Parks Department is seeking qualified and passionate candidates for the on-site positions of Naturalist I and Naturalist II. These positions would be based at two nature centers within the county. Please visit the links below for respective job descriptions."



Naturalist I (entry level): <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/harriscountytexas/jobs/3947983/naturalist-i>

Naturalist II (experienced): <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/harriscountytexas/jobs/3948509/naturalist-ii>

NAI SOUTH CENTRAL REGION VISIONS NEWSLETTER

PUBLICATION INFORMATION



Visions Newsletter is the newsletter for South Central Region of the National Association for Interpretation (NAI). The South Central Region includes states of Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas. For Region 6 information go to www.nairegion6.wordpress.com. Board member email: NAISouthCentral@gmail.com. The national office for NAI is located in Ft. Collins, Colorado. Their website is www.interpnet.com.

Director

Amber Myers
Milford Nature Center
Junction City, KS

Publication Editors

Ken Forman, CIG
Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, Yellville, AR

Jerrel Geisler, CIG
Kickerillo-Mischer Preserve - HCP3, Houston, TX

Officers

Deputy Director

Pat Silovsky, Ed.D., CIG
Milford Nature Center, Junction City, KS

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Digital Communications

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Cedar Creek, TX

Committee Chairs

Scholarship & Professional Development

Larry Jo Edwards
Nueces Delta Preserve, Corpus Christi, TX

Awards

Lauren Marshall
Will Stephens Jr. Central AR Nature Center, Little Rock, AR

Membership

Jeanne Spencer, CIG

Elections

Robin Gabe, CIT, CHI
Arkansas State Parks, Little Rock, AR

NAI National Office

P.O. Box 2246
Fort Collins, CO 80522
970-484-8283
888-900-8283

State Coordinators

ARKANSAS: Chris Pistole, CIG, Hobbs State Park-Conservation Area, Rogers, AR

KANSAS: Lindsay Evans, Ernie Miller Nature Center, Olathe, KS

LOUISIANA: Rusty Scarborough, CIT, Walter Jacobs Memorial Nature Park, Shreveport, LA

MISSOURI: Michelle Soenksen, CIT, CIG, Sam A. Baker State Park, Patterson, MO

OKLAHOMA: Neil Garrison, Martin Park Nature Center (Retired), Oklahoma City, OK

TEXAS: Erin Holley, CIG, Cedar Creek, TX

To email a board member: NAISouthCentral@gmail.com

DEADLINES FOR VISIONS ARE:

Spring: March 20 • Summer: June 20 • Fall: September 20 • Winter: December 20