

# Ozark Society Bulletin

WINTER 1973-74



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## **Front Cover:**

Winter Scene - Dug Hollow, Upper Buffalo Proposed Wilderness - Neil Compton



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## Caroline Dorman

When the new Ozark Society Chapter at Monroe, Louisiana, took the name "Caroline Dorman" last winter, the editors of the Bulletin wrote Christine Drane, Secretary of the Chapter for information regarding the significance of the name. Miss Drane sent two clippings, which by permission are reprinted in chronological order. Each conveys the same thought but supplements the other in information provided.

### Garden Alone

By J.L. Wilson of The Shreveport Times, published Sunday, December 26, 1971, a little more than a month after the death of Caroline Dorman.

The narrow, rutted little road into Briarwood twists and turns its way almost pensively through a forest of oak, pine, magnolia, holly and dogwood.

Unlike its sprawling, concrete counter-part, the super-highway which mindlessly devastates all in its path, the little dirt road carefully dodges a prize tree here, a wild shrub and a dainty outcropping of violets or other wildflower there.

Located in the extreme northern portion of the Kisatchie National Forest, Briarwood, until her death a few weeks ago, was the home and retreat of Caroline Dorman, nationally known naturalist, author, painter and educator.

That the little road into Briarwood so carefully avoids disturbing the natural environment is not surprising.

Doubtlessly, Miss Dorman, better known to her neighbors as "Miss Carrie," planned the little road. And her life work was aimed at assuring the preservation of the natural environment of Briarwood and similar natural forestlands throughout North and Central Louisiana.

In the 1920s, Miss Dorman, concerned at the destruction of Louisiana's virgin forests, led a movement to set aside a portion of the state's woodlands as a national forest.

Her efforts culminated in the creation of the vast Kisatchie National Forest and she is recognized by the Department of Interior as the "mother" of the sprawling nature preserve.

Fittingly, the 120 acres that compose Briarwood are located in a part of the Catahoula Division of the Kisatchie National Forest near the Reidheimer Community in Northeast Natchitoches Parish.

There are no great stone pillars to mark the entrance. Instead there is a humble, weathered signboard with the carefully lettered name "Dorman" and an arrow pointing the way.

The woodland environment of Briarwood can probably be best appreciated by walking — not driving — down the little road that gives access to its acreage.

Though traversable by auto, the road leads through a wonderland of nature in any season, much of which would be missed in a car.

There is the pungent smell of decaying logs, the clean, fresh smell of pine needles and the perfume of wildflower. Too there is the feel of the thick carpet of leaves on the forest floor and the sound of a thousand birds warbling as many tunes to the air.

Along the roadway are hundreds of plants native to the area. In addition there are plantings of rare and unusual species collected from throughout the South by Miss Dorman.

Briarwood boasts among other plants an almost complete collection of native azalea and many varieties of wild lilies and iris. And there are hundreds of other blossoms.

The little log house that served as home for Miss Dorman during the last 20 years of her life is nestled in a clearing planted with hundreds of colorful and unusual flowering trees and shrubs.

A screened-in porch across the rear of the house provides storage space for bird houses being repaired and potted plants needing some close attention. Miss Dorman's gardening apron is there where she left it with other odds and ends collected over a lifetime.

A few yards from the main house is a small potting house with a glassed-in front providing sunlight for a few citrus plants still struggling for life despite the absence of their keeper.

In a series of small patches surrounded by knee-high fences ("They were to keep out the rabbits," says a neighbor) Miss Dorman nurtured beds of wild iris and other herbaceous flowers.

Doubtlessly, it also was in these small enclosures that Miss Dorman captured the colors of wildflower that appear in her paintings.

A few yards down a steep hill to the west of the log house is an ancient longleaf pine perhaps more than three feet in diameter.

"She called it 'The Grandfather Tree,'" recalls one former visitor to Briarwood.

The tree, twisted into an almost spiral shape perhaps due to injury when a seedling, is one of few that escaped the axe blades of lumbermen in the early part of the century.

At the foot of the hill is a small pond with sphagnum bogs surrounding much of its perimeter.



Caroline Dorman

John C. Guillot

"I planned the pond so it would reflect full length my one huge longleaf pine, left over from the primeval forest," Miss Dorman wrote in "Natives Preferred," her book on plants native to North America. "There he stands in all his majesty with his portrait at his feet."

One of the rarest of plants at Briarwood grows in the sphagnum bogs, "Pinckneya pubens," acquired from W.W. Ashe, a noted botanist.

"He sent me several plants from Florida and they grew like magic — one blooming a little the third year," Miss Dorman wrote in "Natives Preferred."

In cataloging the plant life of Briarwood, she noted that the plant is a native of Florida but is rare even there.

Most of the flowering plants at Briarwood were known intimately to Miss Dorman.

She reproduced most of the plants in extremely detailed watercolor paintings and many of the books she wrote are illustrated with her paintings and drawings.

"Flowers Native to the Deep South," which gained Miss Dorman the acclaim of "Audubon of the Flower World," was written and illustrated by the naturalist.

During her lifetime, Miss Dorman wrote at least five major books, one dealing with the American Indian, one on bird life of Louisiana and the remainder on plant life.

Yet to be published is a book for which Miss Dorman provided illustrations, "Gardens in Winter," to be released next May by Claiborne Publishing Division in Baton Rouge. The author is Elizabeth Lawrence.

Through much of the 1920s, Miss

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



## GARDEN ALONE (Continued)

Dormon was employed by the Division of Forestry of the Louisiana Department of Conservation to spearhead an educational program, making her the first woman employed in forestry in the nation.

She was one of the first three women elected to the Society of American Foresters and while employed by the Division of Forestry, compiled and wrote "Forest Trees of Louisiana and How to Know Them," now considered an essential reference source by forestry experts.

In 1965 Miss Dormon was presented a doctor of science degree in forestry by Louisiana State University in recognition of her contributions in the fields of botany, horticulture and forestry.

She also was a recipient of the American Iris Society's Service award and the Garden Club of America's Elouise Payne medal for contributions to the field of botany.

Prior to her death, Miss Dormon took steps to assure the preservation of Briarwood.

The 120 acres of wilderness will be cared for by a nonprofit corporation to which Miss Dormon left most of her holdings.

## Briarwood

By Rick (Charles R.) Shinary,  
Associate Editor, Rural Louisiana  
published in the May 1972 issue of that magazine.

The incredible Caroline Dormon was a Louisiana pioneer who never aspired to headlines, nor reveled in glory and who like her silent forest surroundings, lived in dignity and constantly sought to teach others of the beauty and charm of Louisiana's wildlife kingdom.

On November 21, 1971, she died at the age of 83, but death did not conquer her steady influence in this state. That influence, planted over the 120-acre parcel of land in northwest Natchitoches Parish where she lived for almost 60 years, has created the most amazing wilderness laboratory and art studio in Louisiana.

She lived to the rhythms of sun and season and became known internationally as a botanist, ornithologist, prizewinning horticulturist, painter and author of six books.

From the wildlands she called "Briarwood" her influence spread to the state capitol, it bloomed in the barren concrete desert of Washington and the talent of this wiry, energy-filled little woman was honored by scientists, authors and painters throughout the world.

But at home she was "Miss Carrie"

who lived next to nowhere, who detested cars (including her own), and who, if occasion required, could run big-footed hunters out of her sanctuary with the business end of a .410 shotgun or employ a broom to shoo plundering migratory birds away from feeders established for the benefit of resident birds.

She was a teacher equally at home in a classroom of chalkboards and chairs as one set beside a still pond under towering pines.

Miss Dormon displayed skill at putting things in their proper place and demonstrated that once by tearing up a \$3000 check she received from a Texas millionaire for some paintings of the Louisiana wild iris. At the time she had announced she was too busy writing a children's book on local Indian tribes to worry about less important things.

Through her tireless efforts over half a century her kingdom in Briarwood today contains the most complete assortment of native southern United States plants in their natural settings to be found anywhere.

Her gentle hands might point out a rare and delicate plant to be found nowhere else in the world for study by some child's intense gaze. Constantly, Miss Dormon tried to make others as aware as she of the beauty that surrounded them and of the boundless and endless charm of nature at work everywhere in Louisiana.

But she had a low threshold of tolerance for human lunacy and despised with a passion the wanton

destruction of nature. By far she was the state's first and perhaps greatest ecologist when that title was still to be found nowhere by a dictionary.

She was often called "the Modern Thoreau" by those who knew and respected her, and she was appointed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to the DeSoto Expedition Commission in 1935.

She lobbied actively and successfully to have Kisatchie National Forest established. She received a Presidential Citation for her dedicated work in conservation and at one time was head of the Louisiana State Parks Commission. While she never had any formal education in botany, she was recognized as a leading authority on Louisiana flora and received an honorary doctoral degree from LSU for her contributions to the science.

Miss Dormon was the first woman in the United States to be elected an associate member of the Society of American Foresters and the first woman to be hired by the Louisiana Forestry Office in 1921.

She accomplished a great deal in her lifetime, but her greatest dream, her most passionate undertaking, was one that could not be realized until after her death.

That undertaking was the preservation of Briarwood. She wanted to save it and yet somehow open it to the public, especially to the people of rural Louisiana. It was a combination of desires that was almost contradictory. It involved trust, invited disaster and, of course, it required extensive preparation. She died still



Caroline Dormon's Cabin Home — Rick Shinary



trying to find a way.

Today, Richard Johnson of Saline and the Caroline Dormon Foundation have taken up the load. Johnson, curator of Briarwood, is laboring to complete the work, trying to establish nature trails, working without pay, tirelessly at every opportunity, rebuilding and preserving the wonder of Briarwood. The Foundation, meanwhile, is coordinating, planning and raising money for the undertaking.

Johnson feels he's spent 20 years of his life preparing for the role he is playing at Briarwood. In fact, Miss Carrie once called him the "key" to the program. Miss Dormon often referred to him as her "adopted son", a distinction that arose, Johnson says, because "she figured I was like one of the squirrels. She couldn't run me off, so she just adopted me."

Working in close spiritual kinship with his mentor, Johnson learned how to identify every growing thing on the sprawling 120-acre tract Miss Carrie loved so much. He came to share that

love, supplying the manpower that the aging Miss Dormon could no longer give, and in the process learned how priceless the gift of wild beauty was. Like her he dedicated himself to its preservation and the fulfillment of her dream.

One of nine children, Johnson's early life was spent exploring the Briarwood forest until he knew every leaf and twig, and because his father had held many jobs to support his family, Johnson likewise became skilled in many fields. He was once a farmer, has worked as a carpenter and presently is an electrical technician with Martin Timber Company of Castor.

He also hopes to refurbish the old rambling Dormon home and will continue the awesome task of cataloging and labeling the more than 1,000 species of plants on the estate.

Anyone interested in donating time, labor or material can write to Richard Johnson, Route 1, Box 151, Saline. Persons wanting more detailed information about the

Foundation's work can contact Mrs. A.G. Sawdon, Route 1, Natchitoches. A lot of people, many who knew Miss Dormon personally, are trying to make a dream come true. They have many roles to play and many acts are yet to be played on the stage at Briarwood.



The remains of Three Pine Cabin where Miss Dormon painted and did much of her writing.

Mrs. Johnson (left) shows a visitor some of the natural beauty of Briarwood — a fine specimen of Southern Silverbell — Rick Shinabery

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Johnson carry on Miss Dormon's work — Rick Shinabery



## New Organization to Protect Rivers

Bill Painter, Acting Director ARCC

In March of 1973, a group of individuals from across the country gathered for a weekend in Denver to discuss what could be done to help preserve and protect our remaining free flowing rivers. Those present included canoeists, sportsmen and conservationists. At the outset, no one knew what would emerge from the meeting, but all shared a keen sense of urgency about the need for broad action both on the national and the state level. Out of the Denver meeting came a brand new national organization called the American Rivers Conservation Council (ARCC), dedicated to the goal of preserving and protecting America's wild, scenic and recreational rivers.

As the meeting proceeded, two sets of issues were identified as worthy of attention. First, there was the continued threat to rivers from water resources development. Damming, dredging and channelization are still destroying hundreds of miles of rivers each year, and thousands more would be lost if the plans of various government agencies and private concerns were executed. It was noted that Brent Blackwelder of the Environmental Policy Center and Tom Barlow of the Natural Resources Defense Council were already working full time at coordinating efforts aimed at stopping destructive water development projects of the Army Corps, Bureau of Reclamation, Soil Conservation Service and Tennessee Valley Authority.

However, after the water developers have been halted, there are still the land developers, who would readily destroy the wild and scenic character of a river for the sake of a profit. The Denver group felt that it was essential that more effort be placed behind the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, various state river protection acts, and other laws and actions which would preserve the last beautiful rivers and streams in their present state. At the time, no national organization had anyone working full time on river conservation, although there were scattered efforts on specific issues. It was decided that the American Rivers Conservation Council should set as its first priority the hiring of a staff to concentrate initially on federal and state wild and scenic rivers programs.

The Washington office would function at two levels. First, the staff would engage in direct lobbying in Congress, aimed at increasing the number of rivers protected by the National Wild and Scenic Rivers

System, and at improving the basic provisions of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Second, it would act as a clearinghouse for information on river preservation. This would involve collection of technical, legal and political information on rivers and river protection programs, and dissemination of such data to concerned groups and individuals throughout the country via a newsletter and frequent mail and phone alerts. It was also hoped that ARCC could help with the training of groups and individuals in the methods and tools available for river preservation.

The Denver group elected a steering committee of 13 persons, and from this an executive committee of 5 was picked. The executive committee was given the responsibility of setting up an office and getting the programs of ARCC underway. The committee selected Washington, D.C., as the location for the office, since this would allow direct contact with Congress and facilitate cooperation with Brent Blackwelder, Tom Barlow and representatives of other conservation organizations. In mid-April, Bill Painter was hired as acting director. Bill was previously director of the Washington Ecology Center, holds a Masters in biology and is a canoeist and fisherman.

In the ensuing months, ARCC has been involved in a number of issues and projects. In June, ARCC coordinated testimony of several groups before the National Parks and Recreation Subcommittee of the House Interior Committee. The subject of the hearings was the extension of the 5 year moratorium on water resources projects on rivers designated for study by the 1968 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The Committee also heard testimony on several bills calling for the addition of some 8 rivers to the official study category under the 1968 Act. The rivers were: the North Fork of the American in California, the Au Sable in Michigan, the Manistee in Michigan, the Shavers Fork in West Virginia, the Cahaba in Alabama, the lower Wisconsin in Wisconsin, a stretch of the Oklawaha in Florida, and a part of the Colorado in Colorado. In addition to supporting the extension of the moratorium and the designation of the new study rivers, ARCC also suggested several amendments to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act itself. The proposed changes were aimed at expediting the study process, which had to date resulted in the completion of only

three of the 27 studies ordered by the 1968 Act, and at broadening the protection given rivers in the study category and in the system. ARCC also made a quick survey of river enthusiasts from around the nation, compiling a preliminary list of 89 rivers considered as top priority candidates for future inclusion in the Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The list was submitted to the appropriate committees in both the House and Senate.

ARCC performed a similar role at hearings held by the Public Lands Subcommittee of the Senate Interior Committee on extension of the moratorium. The Senate also discussed bills that would add three rivers to the study category—the Au Sable, Manistee and lower Wisconsin.

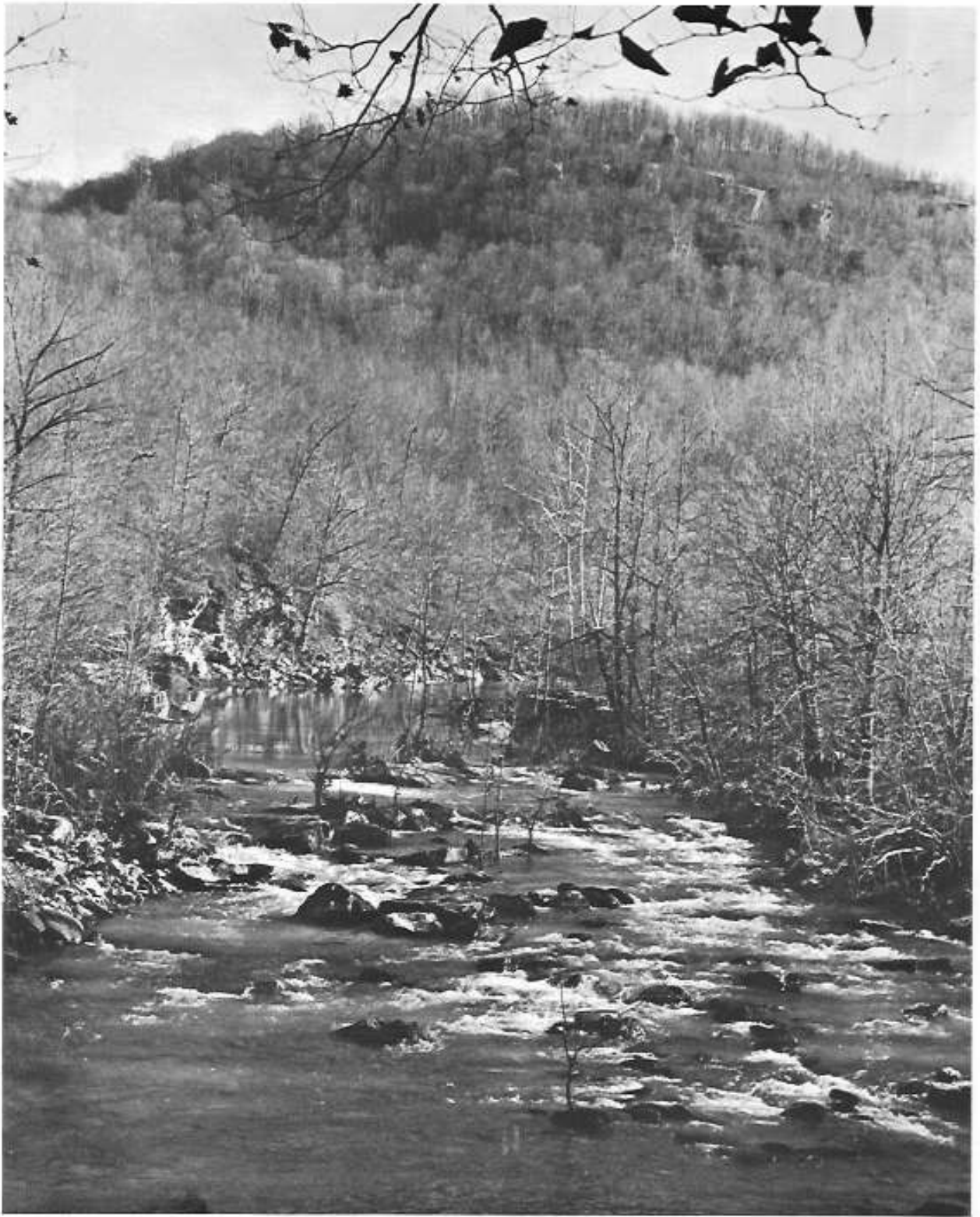
These bills were followed through subcommittee and on to full committee in both houses, and ARCC continued to push for the desired changes in the Act and the various study bills. At the time of writing, it appears that several of the proposed amendments will be passed into law, and that most of the study bills mentioned to this point will meet with approval.

In October, both the House and the Senate held hearings on bills calling for addition of the Chattooga River in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. ARCC again testified and played a coordinating role. The Chattooga has already been approved by the House Subcommittee, and swift action is expected in the Senate as well.

The House hearings also covered bills that would add portions of the following rivers to the study category: The Clark's Fork, Snake, Green and Sweetwater in Wyoming, the Chama, Gila and San Francisco in New Mexico, the Sipsey Fork in Alabama, the Nolichucky in North Carolina and Tennessee, and the New in North Carolina and Virginia. Also before the subcommittee was a bill which would add five California rivers—the Smith, San Joaquin, Klamath, Trinity and Eel—directly to the system. Unfortunately, witnesses from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation (BOR) and the Forest Service called for postponement of action on all but three of the rivers—the Snake, Green and Sweetwater—until these agencies completed a study they were doing to determine priorities for the Wild and Scenic Rivers program. ARCC and other conservationists held that the delay was unnecessary. They pointed out that the Act has been in effect for 5 years, and that considerable study was undertaken in the years in which

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The Buffalo River immediately below the mouth of Whiskey Creek and above Dug Hollow within the proposed Upper Buffalo Wilderness Area. Note the blocks of Atoka sandstone sliding apart on the distant hill. The water is a greenish robin's-egg blue. —Neil Compson



photo by — Kirk Riley.

## Cadron Creek Winter Float Trip

By Kirk Riley

(from Profile of Hendrix College, Conway, Ark.)

About 15 miles north of Conway, flowing along Cadron Ridge, is Cadron Creek. It starts somewhere southwest of Heber Springs and continues flowing west for about 55 miles before running into the East Cadron Creek, about ten miles from Bono. It empties into the Arkansas River about 15 miles downstream.

Last winter, two foolhardy adventurers took on the challenge of a winter float down a stretch of the North Cadron from the Highway 65 bridge to the Bono Bridge. This is about an 11-mile stretch which has some great scenery, several sets of rapids and some long, lazy pools. The bluffs are beautiful and some are comparable in their own respects with the majestic bluffs seen on the upper Buffalo River.

The rapids and bends are quite a challenge, especially for an inexperienced floater. The long chutes can be exciting, particularly in mid-January when the water comes rolling over into your canoe soaking you from the waist down. The cold weather increases the challenge and adds further incentive to keep a canoe from turning over.

The idea of our float occurred to

John Ritchey and me as a whim one Sunday afternoon when there seemed to be little else to do (especially school work). We knew the snowfall would increase the beauty, and we found exactly what we had expected. All the bluffs were rimmed with icicles, many extending all the way to the water. Many of these icicles were six to eight feet long and eight to ten inches in diameter. The icicles added further to the challenge and hazards. Since the temperatures had warmed up above the freezing mark that day, many of the ice chunks were melting and falling off the bluffs into the water, 50 to 100 feet below.

Icebergs weren't limited to the bluffs. When our canoe came sweeping around the bends, and the current shoved us toward the opposite bank, we no longer found the tree limbs we expected to be able to duck and miss. They were—to our surprise—hanging ominously into the path of the current with a thick coat of ice. We were no longer able to brush by them painlessly.

Cold weather has a way of keeping many people from initiating such a venture, when actually this is the best time of year to take a float trip.

Almost assuredly there will be plenty of water in order to complete a good float and one isn't likely to run into many other floaters or campers. Of course, the floater must keep careful tabs on the water levels on many of the North Arkansas streams, for they are inclined to rise and fall from day to day.

There is now a pole at the Highway 65 bridge on North Cadron Creek, at which a reading of the water level may be taken. The best times to float the Cadron would be when the water is between 1.5 and 4 feet. When the water is too high, it wouldn't be a wise move to attempt a float trip down any of the several possible stretches on the Cadron and its tributaries. This could be extremely hazardous and could result in loss of property, mainly the canoe, or dampened spirits at the least. If anyone wishes to make a float and needs information on the water levels, it may be obtained from Dr. Tom Clark.

There are at least seven good floats possible on the Cadron Creek and one of its tributaries, the Cove Creek. The most challenging are the upper stretches of East Cadron Creek. The North Cadron has three good stretches that can be quite a challenge, especially to the beginner. The first float runs about seven miles from just north of Gravesville to





photo by — Kirk Riley

#### FLOAT TRIP (CONTINUED)

Highway 124. The second is about 15 miles, stretching from the 124 bridge to Pinnacle Springs, or three miles further to the 65 bridge. The last is from the 65 bridge to the Bono bridge, about 11 miles.

There are many opportunities for winter floating, not only on the Cadron, but also on many of the streams of North Arkansas. Hendrix students have the opportunity to use the canoes that were purchased by the

Student Senate last year. Ron McCaskill, assistant professor of physical education, is in charge of renting canoes and interested students may contact him. The chances of renting a canoe diminish drastically in spring due to their popularity.

(Robert T. Kirkwood described various floats on the Cadron in the Spring 1972 Ozark Society Bulletin)

#### FOOLING MOTHER NATURE

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission has reportedly used little egg-shaped containers used by one brand of panty hose to productively fool Mother Nature in the form of nesting geese. For two years now, the plastic containers have been filled with sand, sealed, and then traded for real eggs which are carefully placed in incubators. If the eggs are stolen without a convincing replacement the bird is likely to abandon her nest and move on. The replacement keeps the female happy with her first choice of nest until she finishes her clutch. Then technicians steal the dummies and cover the nest. Five days later, they uncover it and the bird returns to start the whole procedure again. Waterfowl production has nearly doubled with this method — at least with geese. Technicians aren't sure yet whether swans will be so gullible. *Conservation News*, National Wildlife Federation, Nov. 15, 1973

**TEXAS RIVERS AND RAPIDS,** Canoeing Guide to the Rivers of Texas, Publishers Ben M. Nolan and R.E. Larrimore  
Vol. I, 1972, \$3. Vol. II, 1973, \$3.25  
Texas Rivers and Rapids, P.O. Box 673, Humble, Texas 77338

These two comprehensive guides to twenty-six canoeable Texas streams are indispensable to anyone planning to explore them. Both volumes contain many black and white pictures of action and scenery with a few outstanding color plates on the covers.

Volume I describes eight rivers and Volume II eighteen. Volume I is of especial interest because of the

descriptions and logs of the Brazos and Rio Grande River, the two Texas streams most widely publicized. After one has read *Goodbye to a River* by John Graves, anything further about the Brazos will have a nostalgic quality. During the past few years there have been several magazine articles and pictures featuring the awe inspiring Santa Elena Canyon of the Rio Grande.

There are several articles on outdoor cookery, clothing, canoes, rules of the river, etc., and a minor amount of advertising of services and supplies available for the canoeist.

J.M.C.

**THE ARKANSAS WOODS** are filled with the sights of our time — a beer can, a pop bottle, an old tuna fish can, an automobile tire, a wornout boot, crumpled paper, somebody's sock, photographic debris from those who would film the beauty of nature. If you can carry it in... you can carry it out.

# Park Service Role is Discussed

By Sam Powell

Tulsa Daily World, Dec. 2, 1973

SANTA FE, N.M. — For the first time in its history, the National Park Service is finally coming to grips with the realization that there must be "carrying capacities" for the areas it manages.

This was one of the most important of many new theories and management philosophies discussed here last week at an organizational meeting of a citizens' advisory committee for the southwest region of the National Park Service.

Nine persons from five states were named to the committee, which is a new concept in citizens' involvement recently instituted by the Park Service. Besides myself, the other Oklahoma representative is David Strickland of Muskogee. Also attending this first meeting were Dr. Neil Compton of Bentonville, Ark.; Leslie Bowling of New Orleans; J. R. Singleton of Austin; Bob Burleson of Austin; and Dr. Bertha Dutton of Santa Fe. (Editors note: Members not attending were: Charles T. Bernard of Earle, Arkansas and Claude DuVall of Houma, Louisiana.)

We were here to listen to the Service's southwest region top employees, and get an idea of some of the problems facing them now.

"We are beginning to realize that we must start setting some sort of 'limit' on an area," regional director Frank Kowski told us during a daylong meeting at Southwest Regional headquarters offices in Santa Fe. "While our analysis of a carrying capacity may be too low for some people, we have seen situations arise at other parks in recent years which are detrimental to the whole idea of a national park."

Kowski was referring to some of the notorious traffic jams, terribly crowded campgrounds, and other headaches which have plagued such famous parks as Yellowstone and Yosemite.

"We think that the time is right to really start sharing our problems and hopes for the future with the general public," Kowski went on. "That's the reason for the creation of such a committee. Your ideas and suggestions and actual recommendations will carry a lot of weight in saying what happens in this region in the coming years."

The Southwest Region — comprised of Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, and a portion of northeastern Arizona which is Navajo Indian Reservation — was the last of nine national Park regions to get such a committee. These citizen groups will work in conjunction with

the Sec. of Interior's National Advisory Board for Parks, made up of 11 private citizens.

"We have been working in a vacuum for too many years, and now we're trying to do something about it," said Robert Landau later in the session. Landau is a Park Service lawyer from Washington D.C., who has had responsibility for setting up the nationwide network of volunteer committees.

"We're hoping to build a new national base of management policy, furnished to us by the people. We want to know what they want done with their Parks, how they are used, and how they are managed in the coming years," Landau commented.

All of the park officials who spoke were quick to point out that a definite trend for the future would concern the possibility of limiting actual number of visitors to certain areas. Several officials said that the day may come when the more famous and popular parks may have to be managed on a "reserved" basis, with tourists getting reservations ahead of time before a vacation, through a central clearing house.

This probably won't be much of a problem this coming year though, as officials feel the energy crisis is going to have an effect on numbers of park visitors, all across the country.

"Isolated areas, way out in the western states, may see very few visitors all next summer, but we think our parks back east, near the major metropolitan areas, will feel a terrific crunch," Joe Rumburg pointed out. Rumburg has been picked to be the new southwest regional director, replacing Kowski who is retiring in a couple of months. Rumburg has been stationed at Service headquarters in D.C. for the past few years, serving as assistant director for visitor services, so he knows what he's talking about in that area.

Wilderness, and all it stands for, is also going to become increasingly important to the Service in the coming years. That is why Interior Secretary Rogers C. B. Morton recently urged Congress to take action on a backlog of wilderness proposals.

Of almost six million acres previously recommended for wilderness designation on land managed by the Interior, Congress has acted affirmatively on only about one-twentieth of the total. The new areas proposed are in 12 units of the National Park System and National Wildlife Refuge System. Large acreages are here in the southwest,

including the Big Bend Park and Bandelier National Monument in this region. The Department hopes to acquire more than 500,000 acres in the former area, which is a beautiful, mountainous area in Texas's Big Bend country bordering Mexico.

The continuing rise in land prices, and the mounting cost of land acquisitions, is one of the major problems facing the Park Service, we learned. An example of this is in nearby Arkansas, where the Buffalo National River, while already being a worthwhile and important addition to the Region's national areas, is still not complete. The Park Service hopes to acquire additional land to protect the complete river system, and this will require additional national legislation authorizing such acquisitions.

National and scenic rivers are also beginning to share a larger role in the Park Service's plans for the future. Studies are underway at this time down in Texas, concerning the preservation of the Rio Grande. A study for the possible inclusion in the wild and scenic rivers system was made on the Rio Grande from approximately 16 miles upstream from Mariscal Canyon in Big Bend National Park, to the headwaters of Amistad Reservoir. The study team was composed of representatives from Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, Park Service, International Boundary and Water Commission, Forest Service and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

"We're small, as governmental agencies go," Frank Kowski noted during the meeting. "But, I think we serve an important purpose for the millions of Americans who cherish their history, the outdoors, and the natural scenic areas of this huge country. We have had a lot of criticism in recent years — some certainly justified — but I believe we made our first real step forward several years ago when we came up with a slogan, 'parks are for people.'"

"That slogan still holds true, but we now are entering an era when we must have a complete, overall, environmental planning approach for the management of any park, monument, river, or recreation area. It's taken us 100 years to come around to this approach, but we're learning more every day. I think our parks will be a better overall experience for the visitor in the coming years."

## Comments on National Park Service Advisory Committee

Dr. Neil Compton

The Southwest Regional Advisory Committee of the National Park Service described in Sam Powell's article, had its first meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico, on December 13 and 14, 1973. Bob Burleson of Texas, a well known conservationist, was elected chairman of the committee, and our own Dr. Compton, vice chairman.

From Dr. Compton's notes: We were most happy that the regional director, Frank Kowski and the staff at the Santa Fe Headquarters are positively and actively interested in developments in Arkansas and Louisiana. It appears the newly created Buffalo National River occupies their prime interest at present. Members of the Central Office visited Arkansas to check flood damage along the river and especially at the Buffalo River State Park during the big flood of Thanksgiving 1973. From them we learned much concerning the extent of the damage and offered suggestions of ways to rectify problems created by the flood.

The Buffalo National River has been embarrassed by the injunction made against it by Judge Smith Henley in Harrison last May. Further

developments within the park were prohibited by this injunction. The flood washed away the water system of the State Park and, as a result, a new well is needed but cannot be drilled until the injunction is lifted. This may make it impossible to operate this area of the Buffalo National River unless a water supply can be established.

It is understood the main obstacle to development is the lack of a suitable impact report from the National Park Service. Several have been prepared and none has been found to be satisfactory to the legal staff of the National Park Service. It is hoped that an acceptable impact statement will cause Judge Henley to lift the injunction. If the injunction is not lifted, the case will have to be appealed to some other court.

It was also learned that in the original bill creating the Buffalo National River moving costs were not considered. This means that the National Park Service has to use money appropriated for the purchase of land to assist relocating those who have sold their property. This has always been a policy with the National Park Service, and as a result funds for the purchase of land on the

Buffalo National River have been exhausted. Therefore, as it is now the National Park Service cannot take options on land where the owner desires to sell. This problem needs to be rectified as soon as possible so that the establishment of the park can proceed.

It is hoped that anyone interested in the problems of the Buffalo National river will avail himself of the opportunity to be present at the next meeting of the Advisory Committee for the Southwest Region of the National Park Service to be held at Buffalo River State Park April 16th and 17th, 1974. This will give all an opportunity to offer suggestions and to learn the latest about this important National Park project in Arkansas.

Ozark Society's New Years Float coming into Center Point on the upper Buffalo, January 1, 1973. Joe Clark.





**MISSOURI THE NO. 1 CAVE STATE**  
(Missouri Mineral News, January 1973)

Missouri apparently reaffirmed its "No. 1 Cave State" championship title with an official tally of 2,952 caves being recorded as of the close of 1972. The 228 caves added last year to the Missouri Geological Survey's official listing were well above the average annual discovery rate of 150 maintained for the past decade. When J. Harlen Bretz's authoritative work, **CAVES OF MISSOURI** was published by the Survey in 1956, only 437 caves were known. By 1967, the 2,000 mark had been topped and Missouri was a recognized leader in the number of caves. Extensive research over the past several years by the Missouri Speleological Survey in cooperation with State Survey geologists has expanded knowledge of the state's cave systems considerably.

Missouri caves occur in varied physiographic, structural and strati-

graphic settings with about 80 percent of them in the Ozark region and the remaining 20 percent in valleys and adjacent uplands along the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers. The largest caves in the state are in massively bedded Cambrian and Ordovician dolomites. Springs and sinkholes are surface expressions of underground solution and where they appear, caves are usually nearby. Caves come in all shapes and sizes, ranging from small, simple underground streamways to complex, three-dimensional mazes. Some reach lengths of 20 miles or so. Most are wet with the degree of wetness varying only from damp to completely water-filled. In fact, one cave in southeastern Missouri contains a lake that is more than 200 feet deep!

Cave making is still in progress, especially in the Ozark region where large sub-water table streams discharge as springs from waterfilled caverns. Geologically speaking, the present episode of cave-making is

probably as intense as in any previous cycle. Because caves are so intricately woven into the fabric of the state, they directly (or indirectly) affect a number of activities. Highways, dams, large buildings or other heavy structures might collapse if built over a cave. Imprudent waste disposal in a cavernous area could completely ruin the ground water. Thus, continued cave research is essential and extremely valuable in helping to maintain environmental quality.

Editor's note: If the speleologists have been busy, Missouri should report more than 3,000 caves at the end of 1973. Developers of housing projects in Northwest Arkansas should be aware that limestone and dolomite underlie that area and present to some degree the problems mentioned in the last paragraph.



**A CAVE COLLAPSE WITHIN A PRE-EXISTING SINKHOLE.** This occurred in a sinkhole area south of Salem, Missouri. In the area, several large depressions are ancient sinkholes which have filled with soil and debris to form basins which resemble the buffalo wallows of Kansas.

Before the most recent collapse pictured here, there was a

smoothly rounded, grassy basin which held water forming a pond. The farmer owning it, after a hot summer day, would take a refreshing swim. One evening, after a hot day in the fields, he came over the rim to find the plug out and the water gone. The sinkhole and the one preceding it are caused by the collapse of a cave roof near the surface.

## NEW ORGANIZATION CONTINUED

the Act was being drafted. They suggested that Congress go ahead with the rivers which they had established as priorities, and review any other rivers recommended by the Administration at the time when such a list was brought before them. An action alert has been sent out to ARCC members and affiliates across the country, calling on them to write their Congressmen, urging that they move ahead with the study bills.

In addition to efforts on bills related to the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, ARCC has also worked with those involved with the federal land use and strip mining legislation, trying to maximize the protection given to rivers by these important pieces of legislation. ARCC has been involved with the current legislation which would expand the federal flood insurance program—a step which would deal a severe blow to the building of various flood control structures.

The American Rivers Conservation Council has also been involved in field hearings held by the BOR and Forest Service on four study rivers—the Obed in Tennessee, the Upper Delaware in Pennsylvania and New York, the Gasconade in Missouri and the St. Joe in Idaho. ARCC staff, members and associates continue to monitor the studies on these and other rivers.

Another key function of ARCC is facilitating communication between groups, agencies and individuals concerned with state scenic rivers programs. The most successful and most promising state programs are being identified, and information on these is being distributed to other parts of the country. Data on state flood plain management programs is also being collected.

Although most of ARCC staff time is spent dealing with scenic rivers issues, efforts are closely coordinated with those who are fighting disastrous water resources projects. ARCC has been heavily involved in the fight to prevent the Army Corps from putting a series of dams on the Potomac River system.

A number of projects are underway or being planned. A series of booklets dealing with the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, how to perform a study on a river, state scenic rivers legislation, tactics for promoting wild and scenic rivers and other topics are in various stages of preparation. Fact sheets on the relationship of new land use, strip mining and flood plain management laws will be produced when these laws emerge. It is hoped that funds can be found to sponsor

regional workshops for training of persons interested in river conservation.

Those interested in becoming involved with the American Rivers Conservation Council, and in receiving its newsletter and action alerts should write to ARCC, 324 C St., S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003.

## HOUSE REPORT CRITICIZES STREAM CHANNELIZATION

A report released 10-1-73 by the House Government Operations Committee scored the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) and the Corps of Engineers for ignoring the often adverse environmental effects of channelizing the Nation's waterways as a means of flood control. The charge is made in the Committee's report, "Stream Channelization: What Federally Financed Draglines And Bulldozers Do To Our Nation's Streams".

The report is based on wide ranging hearings held in 1971 and 1973, as well as comprehensive investigations, by the Committee's Conservation and Natural Resources Subcommittee. Rep. Henry S. Reuss (Wis.), the Subcommittee Chairman, noted that "channelization—or 'channel improvement', as it is often euphemistically called by Corps and the SCS—is an over-used engineering device." He said, "it has severely degraded the wildlife, water quality, recreational, and scenic values of thousands of miles of our Nation's waterways and nearby lands. It has caused widespread resentment among concerned citizens who have seen wetlands drained and wildlife habitat destroyed by the dredge bit and the dragline bucket."

The report also stated that:

—Many SCS and Corps guidelines and regulations have been adopted without an opportunity for public scrutiny, and have not been published in the Federal Register, despite Administrative Procedure Act requirements;

—Several large corporations, such as the Weyerhaeuser Company and the L & N Railroad, which have benefited from channelization projects, are not identified as beneficiaries in project reports or environmental impact statements made available to the public and Congress;

—Although, according to the Environmental Protection Agency, channelization "is a major factor in causing the deterioration of water quality by increasing sedimentation, eutrophication, and the accumulation of pollutants", the SCS has often not heeded EPA's water quality recommendations.

—SCS has not fully complied with

the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969;

—Since 1965, the Interior Department's Bureau of Outdoor Recreation has failed to use its authority to review SCS channelization projects, despite the Bureau's own statement that the effects of channelization on recreational and environmental values "have reached disastrous proportions".

—Delay by the Corps in adopting land acquisition measures, when first recommended by Federal and State wildlife agencies as a means of lessening channelization's adverse environmental impact, has increased Federal land acquisition costs and resulted in the loss of the mitigating lands to other purposes.

From National Conservation Report Oct. 12, 1973.

## OZARK SOCIETY PUBLISHES A NEW BOOKLET - Reprints of past

where-to and how-to pieces on canoeing, hiking, etc., in the Bulletin have been assembled into one publication that should be a best seller. Order yours from the Ozark Society, P.O. Box 2914, Little Rock, AR 72203 at \$1.50 each.

**DECALS and PATCHES** are available at the same address: decals, 2 inch, 50 cents; car window, 3 inch, \$1; and canoe, 7 inch, \$1.50. Patches, 3 inch, \$1; 4 inch, \$2.

## NEW YEAR'S FLOATS CANCELLED

The Ozark Society's Fourth Annual New Year's Float was cancelled because of bad weather and the possibility of the participants having difficulty in getting gasoline as they returned home during the holiday.

The Newsletter of the Ozark Wilderness Waterways Club of the Kansas City area reports that for the first time in eighteen years members of the Club did not wet a paddle on New Year's day because all local waterways were frozen or choked with floating ice. However, nineteen members frolicked in the snow at Shawnee Mission Park on New Year's Day in temperatures which did not get above 2 degrees.

## THE NARROWS ON ELEVEN POINT NATIONAL SCENIC RIVER

Ozark Society canoeists who have floated the lower part of the Eleven Point River are well acquainted with the Narrows and Mr. Morgan on whose land they have camped and enjoyed the beauty of the springs and surroundings. Our belated publication of the following is from **MISSOURI MINERAL NEWS** of June 1972.

One of Missouri's most attractive scenic properties, **The Narrows on Eleven Point National Scenic River** in Oregon County, is now being managed by the U.S. Forest Service. The property (which includes four springs and 178 acres of land) was purchased from Buford B. Morgan on April 10, 1972. Morgan, who has owned the Narrows since 1951, is reputed to be the largest supplier of aquatic

plants in the U.S. and the nation's only aquatic farmer. He grows 16 varieties of plants in the four springs — Blue, Morgan, Jones and Sullivan. **Environmental Note No. 3** in the December 1969 issue of **MINERAL NEWS** was concerned with water tracing from a sinkhole near Alton, MO., to two of these springs. Fluorescein dye placed in the sinkhole entered the underground drainage system and traveled 15½ miles to Morgan Spring. Surprisingly, Blue Spring which is only ¼ mile away did not receive any of the dyed water.

The Narrows, named for the steep, razorback ridge separating the Eleven Point National Scenic River and Frederick Creek valleys, includes one mile of frontage along Eleven

Point River and one mile along Frederick Creek. Oak, sycamore, walnut and pine grow along the slopes and hills, and willows line the streams. The entire area is to be maintained in a natural state with access by foot only. Vehicles will be permitted in a parking-picnic area on the ridge above Frederick Creek. Temporary facilities were to be ready for the public use by the opening of the recreational season on May 30.

Another tract within the National Scenic River boundary was acquired by the Forest Service in March 1972 from Mrs. Hattie Thompson. It has 188 acres of land and includes the **Boze Mill Spring**. Here, too, reports the **THAYER NEWS**, access will be by walking only.



One of the oversized canoes operated on the Grand River by "Popeye" Casey whose camp was at Hwy 33 bridge near Chouteau, Oklahoma. The canoes were constructed of one eight inch steel plate and each was moved by an outboard motor operated from a mowing machine seat welded to the stern. The canoes had Indian names; this one being the **Pushmataha**. This picture was taken about 1950 before Fort Gibson Reservoir inundated the river. —Joe Clark



## OZARK SOCIETY ACTIVITY SCHEDULE LISTED BY CHAPTER

Each person desiring to attend an outing should notify the trip leader well in advance. Some trips will be limited to numbers attending in order to decrease the impact on fragile areas. Be sure to check with your trip leader just prior to the trip date to see if any changes have been made in the trip plans. The Energy Crisis may cause cancellation of some of the trips. Some chapters are reluctant to list their trips because of the Energy Crisis. If you belong to a chapter you will receive more detailed notices of your chapter activities.

### HAROLD HEDGES, OUTING CHAIRMAN

Activities listed before the mailing of the Bulletin are given for the record.

JAN. 5, 6, BAYOU: Glover River (Okla.) canoe trip — near Broken Bow, OK. This river is the last major free flowing stream in the Ouachita mountains. Canoe experience is necessary. Life jackets required. For information contact Dave Ginsburg, 522 Boulevard, Shreveport, LA 71104, ph. 318-422-1989.

JAN. 12, PULASKI: Exploratory day hike down the Upper North Fork of Illinois Bayou (Ozark Nat'l. Forest) between Pedestal Rocks and Victor Road. For details contact leader John Houston, 5413 S. Grandview, Little Rock, AR 72207, ph. 501-666-2276.

JAN. 12, 13, INDIAN NATIONS: Ft. Gibson (Okla.) lake canoeing. Artifact hunting on shore line and hiking in area. Base camp at Explorer Scout Base at lake. Entrance east off Hiway, 69 north of Wagner, OK, on White Horn Cove Rd. Go approximately 4-5 miles. Turn south at Explorer Base sign — continue on to Base. Trip leader, Bob Rench, 6303 East 4th Terr, Tulsa, OK 74112, ph. 918-835-1261.

JAN. 12, 13, SCHOOLCRAFT: Overnite backpack trip into the Devil's Backbone area of Mark Twain Nat'l. Forest (MO). Leader Larry Lambeth, 828 W. Seminole, Springfield, MO 65804, ph. 417-883-1105.

JAN. 19, TOAD SUCK FERRY: Day hike along Cove Creek. Bring your own trail lunch. For details contact leader Becky Farwell, Box 428, SCA, Conway, AR 72032, ph. 501-329-9315.

JAN. 19, HIGHLANDS: One day hike over mountain, Dutton to St. Paul. Meet at 9 a.m. at Dutton Post Office on Hwy. 16. Glenn and Helen Parker, Leaders, Dutton, AR 72226, ph. 501-677-2473.

FEB. 2, PULASKI: Day hike in Big Piney region in Ozark Nat'l. Forest. For details contact leader John Houston, 5413 S. Grandview, Little Rock, AR 72207, ph. 501-666-2276.

FEB. 9, 10, SCHOOLCRAFT: Overnite backpack trip in the Current River country of Ozark Nat'l. Scenic River Ways of S.E. MO. Leader, Bill Bates, 1630 Madaline, Springfield, MO 65804, ph. 417-883-5199.

FEB. 9, 10, INDIAN NATIONS: Canoe on Sand Creek (Okla.) water permitting. Base Camp at Osage Hills State Park (approx. 11 miles east of Bartlesville, OK on Hwy. 60). Trip leader, Mel Smith, 305 E. Morningside, Bartlesville, OK 74003, ph. 918-333-1071.

FEB. 16, TOAD SUCK FERRY: Day hike along Old Stage Coach Road. Bring your own trail lunch. Contact Becky Farwell, Box 428, SCA, Conway, AR 72032 or ph. 501-329-9315.

FEB. 16, HIGHLANDS: One day hike in headwaters area of Delaney Creek. Meet at Delaney Store on Hwy. 16 immediately east of Delaney Creek Bridge at 9 a.m. Dan and Mary Printup, Leaders, 622 Oakland, Fayetteville, AR 72701, ph. 521-2128.

MAR. 16-17 ANNUAL SPRING MEETING at the University of Arkansas Medical Center Auditorium, Little Rock. Schoolcraft Chapter, host.

MARCH 16, 17, INDIAN NATIONS: Canoe on Barren Fork (Okla.) water permitting. Alternate, Illinois River. Base camp at Eagle Bluff Campground, 10 mi. north of Tahlequah, OK on Hiway. 10. Trip leader Otto Behnfeldt, 2648 E. 2nd, Tulsa, OK 74104, ph. 918-939-1665.

MAR. 23, HIGHLANDS: One day hike in Wedington National Forest. Meet at 9 a.m. at Lake Wedington Park Headquarters. Dick Murray, Leader, 2006 Austin Drive, Fayetteville, 72701, ph. 442-8995.

MARCH 30, 31, TOAD SUCK FERRY: Canoe trip on Cadron Creek — possibly an overnite trip. Details from leader Becky Farwell.

MARCH 30, 31, INDIAN NATIONS: Canoe Indian Creek and Elk River (S.W. MO) water permitting. Alternate Big Sugar and Elk River. Base camp at Huckleberry Ridge State Park Forest Campground on Co. road K. NE of Pineville, MO. Leader Ollie Crosby, 4048 E. 52nd Pl., Tulsa, OK 74135, ph. 918-742-1134.

### DUES NOTICE

**OZARK SOCIETY DUES ARE PAYABLE JANUARY 1, 1974. PLEASE SEND YOUR CHECK TODAY TO Margaret Hedges, Care of Ozark Society, Box 2914, Little Rock, AR 72203**

Every effort is being made to hold down expenses of Ozark Society in order to maintain our present membership fees. We are concerned about rising costs and inflation. With higher postage rates and rising publication costs, Ozark Society expenses are increasing sharply. We urge you to pay your dues promptly and, if possible, increase your class of membership.

As we continue our present endeavors of protecting wilderness, natural areas and our remaining wild rivers we need your continued support; concerned, contributing conservationists will keep us active and solvent.

### DUES SLIP

Dues are for the calendar year. They are regular (and family), \$5; contributing, \$10; sustaining, \$25; life, \$100; Student, courtesy membership, \$1.00.

Please check: new member; \_\_\_\_\_ renewal \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Last name \_\_\_\_\_ first names of husband and wife \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ If Student—name of school \_\_\_\_\_

