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## **"A PRAIRIE CHICKEN IN EVERY PLOT"**

**VOLUME 33, March 2009**

1. Shelter is in and looks great. Thanks to Sara Simmonds for the great effort in all aspects of getting this shelter installed:
2. Trail completion. It is beginning to look like the grant monies will not be coming for the trail completion. We may need to see about doing it ourselves. And a thought that I have was to start on the east side where our current trail ends and run a new trail due west and then back south to the parking lot. This would accomplish a trail system for walking that does not require backtracking. It would also take us into more the heart of the ten acres. And also would cost less (less linear footage) than if we extended it to near the north end of the property.
3. Seed Gathering: Marc Pastorek is working with a group in New Orleans to establish prairie and wants to purchase the right to gather seeds from our ten acre site. Last year, we sold seeds for \$8000 with expense of about \$2500. I suggest that we sell the rights for say \$5000. There is also a possibility for small seed sale to the US Fish and Wildlife Service.
4. Have found a person who will mow the trails in Eunice for \$50 each time.
5. Hope to have the road at Duralde redone and the weed problem on the road and parking lot taken care of. We do have a \$3,000 grant to cover that.
6. Speaking of burning. Thanks to Malcolm for getting Eunice burned. Have been promised that Duralde will be burned soon.
7. Dawn and her daughter Baylie Newman are working on an educational power point presentation on the Cajun Prairie.
8. Newsletter: need help with articles etc for newsletter. WE might consider a digital newsletter only to save postage and work in getting it sent. Perhaps we could ask and only send to those who request a printed one

## **SO YOU WANT TO JOIN US OR RE-JOIN?**

Dues are \$20 per person, \$25 per family, and \$10 for students.

Make checks payable to Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society and mail to:

CPHPS/CO Patricia Lewis

262 CR 3062

Newton, TX 75966

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# **RAIRIE SPRING MEETING**

## **Saturday Apr 4, 2009**

**800 AM:** Tour and Maintenance at Duralde Restoration Prairie. Join us at any time after 8 and we will wander around and enjoy this site until about 930. Also bring loppers and we will remove the pine seedlings that are invading the prairie. Directions: Take La 13 north out of Eunice and after crossing a bridge, go about 1.5 miles and turn left onto La 374. If coming from the north on La 13, about 6 miles south of Mamou, just past the Fire Station, turn right onto La 374. Follow La 374 west and it will take a sharp right then a sharp left. After straightening out from the sharp left, go about 0.5 miles and turn left at the first double intersection. You will be turning left onto a gravel road that is Parish Road 6-29S. Parish Road 6-29S is about 2 miles from La 13. Follow Parish Road 6-29S and it will take a sharp right and then will start a sharp left but you will not turn at the left but drive straight into Duralde Prairie.

**10:00 AM** Eunice Restored Prairies; meet at the corners of Martin Luther King and East Magnolia and enjoy the best restored prairie in the United States. This site is north of U.S. 190 and east of La 13. For those of you coming from the north on La 13, turn left (east) at the first paved road (East Magnolia) to the east after you cross the railroad tracks in Eunice. Go a couple of blocks and the prairie is on your left. For those coming from the east on U.S. 190 turn right (north) at the first red/green traffic light and follow Martin Luther King Drive for a couple of blocks and the prairie is on your left. For those coming from the west on U.S. 190, follow U.S. 190 through Eunice and after crossing a railroad track, go to the next red/green traffic light and turn left onto Martin Luther King Drive (See above). For those coming from the south on La 13, when you reach the stop sign, turn right onto Maple Ave. Follow Maple for about 3-4 blocks and at the 2nd four-way stop sign, turn left onto Martin Luther King Drive. Follow this street across U.S. 190 and see above.

**11:45 AM till 1230 pm**, “Cajun Prairie Educational Program” by Dawn Newman and Baylie Newman at Jean Lafitte Center in downtown Eunice.

**1230 PM till 1:00 PM:** Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society meeting. Bring your ideas and suggestions

**1:00 PM:** Lunch on your own or picnic at Malcolm's. Malcolm and Gail invite you to sit around and enjoy lunch and a restored prairie and many irises. Not sure how many will be flowering as it is a little early.

### **Directions to Malcolm and Gail Vidrine:**

From the Jean Lafitte Center, go south on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, or 5<sup>th</sup> Street until you reach Maple Ave. Turn right on Maple Ave also know as Louisiana 91. Follow Maple Ave west out of Eunice. One of the last businesses along the way is the Eunice Slaughter House (the best boudin in Eunice, ask Peter). After you get into the country, you will go thru a sharp curve to the left, then one to the right, and then another left. After the third sharp turn, continue for one mile to the first double intersection and turn right onto Fournier Road. Malcolm and Gail are the first house on the right. Hint: it is the one with the prairie.