

December 2008



Friends' Focus- Garner State Park

Frio clean-up was work plus fun in September

Friends of the Frio sponsored the annual Frio River clean-up on the weekend after Labor Day. This is another of those "Let's get together, work and have fun," projects. Once again, volunteers came in good numbers and got the job done. Due to such a low river, and no summer flooding, there was not as much trash as in some previous years.

FOG began on Friday at the 1050 bridge and cleaned the river to the pavilion. On Saturday a much larger group of volunteers worked to Magers crossing (350 Bridge).

Friends of the Frio and Lions Club members furnished a barbecue dinner plus great door prizes for all participants from Leakey to Concan. Garner provided the Pavilion and FOG furnished the ice.

It takes all of the camps along the river and volunteers to keep the river clean and beautiful. Volunteer workers were surprised at how very low the river is, as they were able to see areas of the rock



Frio River clean-up volunteers rode on the FOG hayride trailer from Magers Crossing back to Garner Park.

bottom never before exposed that anyone could remember.

However, when workers came to an area where it was deeper and flowing good,

it was still that crystal clear beautiful river that everyone is accustomed to seeing. It is sad for all of the "River Rats" to see our Frio in such distress. The area had very little rain in September and October, and none in November.



The Frio river is low due to lack of rain.

Shady Meadows gets new playground equipment for children



Installation of the Park's new playground equipment was completed in October. It looks very good, and is being well used.

It is a joy to see children gathering around that site in Shady Meadows.

Friends of Garner State Park Mission Statement:

"The Friends of Garner State Park will solicit members and resources to exclusively support Garner State Park programs in preservation and management of environmental, historical, and cultural resources for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations."

River Region Bicycle Classic

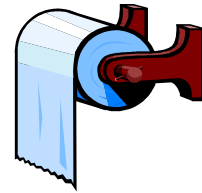


The River Region Bicycle Classic, October 11, 2008, was a tremendous success. Turnout of participants was larger than usual with over 400 riding our beautiful hills.

FOG, also, had a large number of volunteers to help prepare the spaghetti dinner for the riders and some guests. FOG volunteers have such good time doing service for the River Region group, and appreciate the great compliments received on the food. Thanks to all who came, cooked, set up and cleaned up the Day Use Group Shelter. This has become one of FOG's best money making projects.

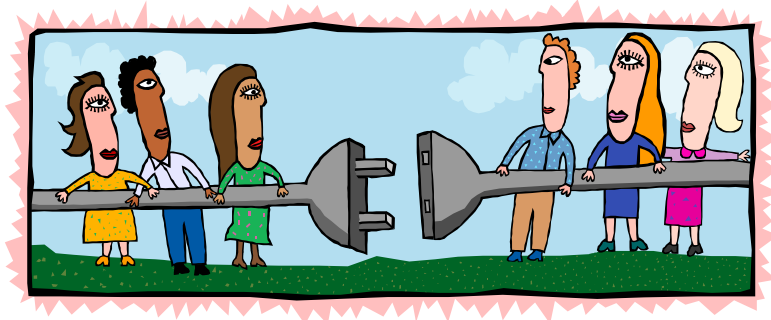
New restroom construction completed

Although there have been a few problems (that the park is currently addressing) the new restrooms in Pecan Grove and River Crossing are complete and in use.



Electrical repair closes Live Oak camping area

The Live Oak camping area is closed until Memorial Day 2009 due to an electrical problem. The electrical and water lines are being replaced, and the area should be back in use early next year.



Memorial planned for former FOG member, Glenda Zorn

Garner lost a great friend and volunteer with the death, November 3, 2008, of Glenda Zorn. Glenda was a FOG member since its beginning. She volunteered for wherever she could be of help in the park for many years. Everyone will probably remember her most as she worked at the entrance fee booth. Behind the scenes she assigned the volunteers, contacted park hosts, helped with park deer hunts, worked at headquarters when needed and rode many nights with former Park

Superintendent Craig Van Baarle, helping with security. She also helped another volunteer, Rhonda Farror, when accidents occurred.

Glenda resided in Katy, Texas and worked at Katy High School. She is survived by her husband, Philip; son Jeremy and his wife Lezlee; daughter Kristi; and one granddaughter, Leyna.

As a volunteer, Glenda spent the whole summer at Garner, and came back as often as possible to help with various projects. She will be greatly

missed. Condolences go out to her family, and all her many friends.

Plans are for the park staff to erect a bench at campsite 66 in her memory.



LEAVE A LASTING IMPRESSION AT GARNER STATE PARK

Monogrammed Brick Campaign

CONTACT INFORMATION
 Polly Royer - Brick Chairperson
 830-537-3125

Sponsored by: **Friends of Garner State Park**
 234 RR 1050
 Concan, Texas 78838
 a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization at <http://www.friendsofgarner.com>

Please print legibly

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

PAYMENT METHOD

Cash	
Check #	
Charge	

Number of Bricks _____ X \$50.00 = _____

\$25 FOG Membership for *\$20.00 = _____
 (*Special discount w/brick order)

Total Amount of Order/Enclosed = _____

INSTRUCTIONS: One character per space

3/4" letters - maximum of three lines with 11 spaces

Line 1											
Line 2											
Line 3											

3/4" Brick = \$50

5/8" letters - maximum of four lines with 15 spaces

Line 1														
Line 2														
Line 3														
Line 4														

5/8" Brick = \$50

1/2" letters - maximum of four lines with 18 spaces

Line 1																	
Line 2																	
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Line 4																	

1/2" Brick-\$50

Please allow 6 months for installation in the median outside the entrance to the park headquarters.

Updated 6/1/2007

Visitor Center gets new paint job



The Visitor Center got a new paint job, completed just before the Open House. The new colors are the same as those used on the Shady Meadows restroom, and are very pleasing.

Thanks to Superintendent Rick Meyers for locating the painter. FOG paid for the labor and the park furnished the paint. We appreciate everyone who helped in any way.



FOG Christmas 2008 open house held

FOG CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE was held on November 29, 2008. Each year, on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, the FOG Visitor Center hosts an open house. Interpretative Specialist/Park Ranger Frank Roberts' famous Christmas Wassail is served along with homemade cookies provided by FOG Board members. FOG was pleased with the number of visitors who came and enjoyed refreshments and did some Christmas shopping this year.

The Visitor Center has several new items including trail map bandanas, and a plentiful supply of new toys and books. By popular request, there is a new supply of long sleeved fleece shirts. They are monogrammed with 'Camp Garner State Park,' and are available in beautiful colors. "Texas Eagles" (buzzards) sold well. Also, a new line of jewelry has been added. Come by and enjoy the Visitor Center all year round.



FOG Visitor Center open house workers Chuck and Eunice Wilks, and Jan and Pat Donovan

Seasons
Greetings



Chuck Wilks and Pat Donovan hang Christmas lights.

Reminder: No FOG 2009 trail work planned

Attention all trail workday volunteers: There will be no organized FOG trail work day in 2009 because the park will be closed for a youth axis deer hunt the week of January 16.

Please plan to come help in 2010 on the Martin Luther King holiday weekend. The park staff assures FOG they will not schedule a hunt on our annual workday



Parc America Youthworks seeks volunteers for trail work

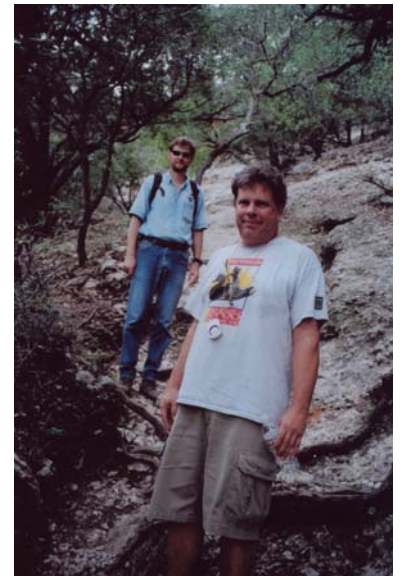


Above: Parc Smith checks for old CCC markers on the trail to Crystal Cave.

Right: State employees get in on the fun of scouting out a safe Crystal Cave trail.

America Youthworks, a youth group working in partnership with parks all over the nation, will be working on trails in Garner in 2009. They do excellent work building and rebuilding hiking trails. They hope to help make Crystal Cave trail a safer, less steep trail, following the old CCC markers.

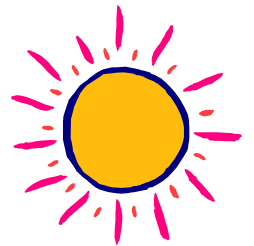
There is not a confirmed date yet, but volunteers are needed. American Youthworks, lead by Parc Smith, will greatly appreciate your support. It will not be an organized trail work day by FOG as in the past, but they plan to be in the park for a month. Please call FOG to get the latest information, and make plans to help.



Colorful Fall foliage abundant in Tri-Canyon area



Fall foliage has been especially colorful this autumn. Local residents and Lost Maples State Park personnel say it is the best in years. Experts credit this to the extremely dry weather we have experienced this year.



Friends' Focus



Friends' of Garner State Park
234 RR 1050
Concan, TX 78838
830-232-5999

FOG Officers

President – Hy Rabon
Vice President - George Foshee
Secretary – Mary Ann Abbott
Treasurer – Dawn Bell
Park Representative: Rick Meyers
Interpretive Ranger: Frank Roberts
Membership Chair: Jackie Thomas

Board Members

Chuck Wilks
Mark Manglburger
George Streib
Brent Kinard
David Hassell
Dub Suttle

FOG extends condolences to Park Superintendent Rick Meyers and his family due to the death of his father on December 6.

FOG MEMBERSHIP DUES: \$25 FOR A FAMILY MEMBERSHIP. PLEASE NOTE IF YOU WANT YOUR NEWSLETTER MAILED OR EMAILED. MEMBERSHIP ENTITLES YOU TO A 20% DISCOUNT WHEN YOU SHOP AT THE VISITOR CENTER.

I WANT TO BE A FRIEND OF GARNER STATE PARK– SIGN ME UP!
Annual membership dues \$25
Mail to: Friends of Garner, 234 RR 1050, Concan, TX 78838
Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
E-Mail: _____
Ph: _____
 Check here to receive your newsletter by E-Mail at the address you've indicated.