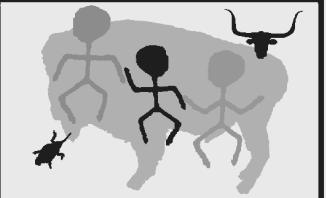


Friends of San Angelo State Park



VOL. 19

FALL 2021

NO. 4

FRIENDS TO GET A FREE PASS

New benefit for members

Beginning Dec. 1, 2021, all members of Friends of SASP will be able to visit the park free of charge once a year.

All members in good standing will be admitted with the regular \$4 person fee waived. The South Shore gate house will have list of current members to be admitted free. Passengers in their vehicle are also free.

Members can visit the bird blind, playground, have a picnic, visit the gift shop and enjoy the outdoors. A self-guided driving tour is being planned.

The new benefit is in addition to those already in place: 10% reduction on items in the Gatehouse Gift Shop, invitation to annual membership event with free dinner (usually a Fish Fry in the park), and the quarterly newsletter.

SAVE THE DATE CHRISTMAS PARTY

for

Friends and Park Staff and Guests

Sunday, Dec. 5 - 6:30 PM

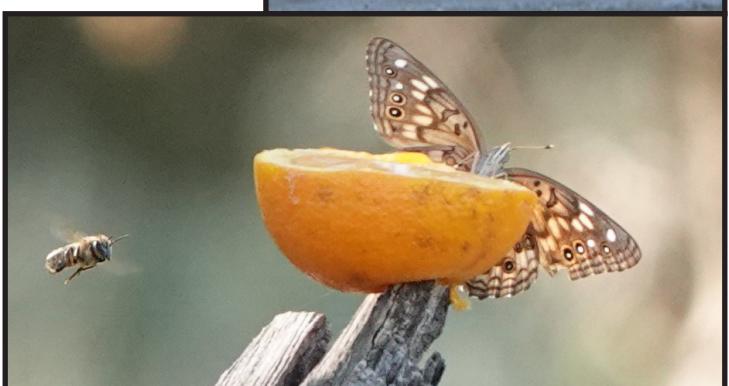
San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts

Mark your calendar and watch for details.

A migrating Painted Bunting stops for a drink of water.



Bee and butterflies like oranges.



Young Collard Peccary (Javelina) like to visit the Wildlife Viewing Area to pick up seeds off the ground

Photos by Jana Jenkins, volunteer bird feeder.

HUNTING IN THE PARK

Hunting is allowed at SASP on specific dates, assigned species and designated weapons

PERMITS ARE REQUIRED

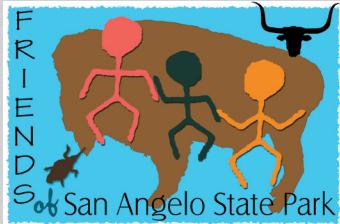
Species: Deer, Turkey, Dove, Quail, Javelina, Rabbit, Squirrel, Water Fowl, Feral Hog

SPECIAL REGULATIONS: All persons must perform on-site registration at the South Shore entrance to the park by signing in upon arrival. Hunting activities are restricted to only that portion of the park identified as being open to hunting by information posted at the registration station. Dogs may be used to hunt quail and waterfowl. See Prohibited Acts for further restrictions. Information for permits, dates, and species: call 325-949-4757

**ENTIRE PARK CLOSED For HUNTING - Oct. 22-25, Nov. 8-12, Dec. 3-6, Dec. 13-17,
Areas 1-7 and North Concho Campground Closed: Jan. 17-21.**

*The world is full of willing people;
some are willing to work,
the rest willing to let them.*

~ Robert Frost



Friends of San Angelo State Park

Board of Advisors 2021-2022

The Board of Directors is elected by the members to a three-year term.

Directors meet every two months to plan and coordinate activities and provide oversight of funds.

Linda Ashton	Amanda Razani
Sarah Howell	Brownie Roberts
Ruth Jordan	Laurel Scott
Gail Metcalfe	Sally Scott
Cindy Middleton	John Talley
Deola Mitts	Terry Wallace
Steve Nelson	Deborah Watson
Sandy Pedersen	
Jerrett Miller - Park Superintendent	

The Newsletter is a quarterly publication produced by Friends of San Angelo State park, a non-profit corporation organized for the purpose of

- ensuring the future of the park by preserving it for future generations
- enhancing the quality of educational, interpretive and recreational opportunities in the park
- recruiting volunteers
- promoting regional support
- soliciting finances and resources for the perpetuation of the park and
- soliciting and receiving gifts for endowments for the benefit of the park.

Ruth Jordan - Editor

**Friends of SASP
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San Angelo, TX, 76901
ruthjordan@suddenlink.net**



Published by Qs Printing and Design

From the Superintendent

Jarrett Miller

Hello fellow park enthusiasts!

Feels like I just wrote one of these last weeks. Time has been flying by out here. Since last September, almost 87,000 people come through the gates. That is the biggest number of folks I've ever heard of visiting this park. That roughly averages out to 240 people per day. Hats off to the gatehouse staff for talking to and accommodating those people.

I would like to thank the FoSASP members or all your hard work and donations this summer. We were able to get an old compressor up and running that has been idle before I got here in early 2016. It was a much-needed addition to one of the shops at HQ.

We were also able to purchase a solar powered circulation pump for the wildlife viewing area. It is an effort to go green and conserve one of our most precious natural resources while still providing watering opportunities for the wildlife.

FoSASP has allocated funds for Holly-Days in the park. With your their help we will be able to host this fun-filled event again this year.

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers and park hosts that pitch in to keep this park operational. With all the rains this year, we couldn't have kept up with the mowing without y'all. I'm sure the campers and visitors appreciate the well-kept areas.

Our new Assistant Superintendent started October 13th! When Jim Cisneros left last September, I took over as Interim Superintendent until officially taking over as Superintendent on May 1. So, we have been without sufficient management for 13 months! I'm glad to finally have this position filled. Carey "Butch" Street has a lot to learn in very little time. Say hi if you see him out and about looking lost, maybe point him in the right direction.

By the time you're reading this we hope to have a new Custodian hired. The position has been mainly vacant for over a year now. Park hosts pitched in to help with those duties.

That is all I have for now. See you on the trail!

BOARD NOTES

Regular meeting of the FoSASP Board of Directors held in September approved several new projects, elected members and approved expenditures including purchase of fish for the pond, deer corn for the youth hunt, hangers for harvested deer, and a mountain bicycle for new Park Police Officer Roland Chevez.

FoSASP will support Holly-Days in the Park event with \$3,000 expenditure and volunteer help at the event. Directed by Ranger Bonnie Wallace the evening will include a light tour, campsite decoration contest, refreshments and Santa. (See page 8)

The Annual Meeting of Membership/ Fish Fry was cancelled will be replaced with a Christmas Party on December 5.

Ranger Claus Program for selected children will be held with a party and gifts at the park.

Boy Scout Eagle candidates who elect to accomplish a project in the park will be awarded a \$100 stipend.

Added benefit for FoSASP members will be one fee pass annually to the park was outlined by Sandy Pedersen, membership chairperson.

Almost 300 hours of volunteer service by members for June and July as reported by Cindy Middleton.

Election of board members whose terms expired was held. Returning members are Terry Wallace, Ruth Jordan, Cindy Middleton, Steve Nelson and Deborah WAtson. Larry McMurtry's resignation was accepted with regrets.

Donation of equipment worth \$500 was reported by Steve of Angelo Electric Motor.
Board positions are open for members.

To nominate call Deborah Watson. 325-262-65646

NEW ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT COMES ON STAFF



Carey (Butch) Street was recently selected as the Assistant Superintendent of San Angelo State Park. Butch grew near San Angelo in Coleman, Texas. He knows the area and people well.

"Family is everything to me," he says. He and wife Jerri Street have two sons, a daughter and four grandkids including one set of twins.

His hobbies include hunting, fishing, kayaking, boating, and camping.

He has been a certified Texas peace officer for 31 years and comes to us from the Brewster County Sheriff's Office. He was a full-time deputy stationed on the Rio Grande between Big Bend National Park and Big Bend Ranch State Park in Terlingua, Texas. Because of his proximity to both parks, he was able to provide mutual aid assistance in search and rescue situations as well as human and narcotics smuggling interdiction.

Butch plans on getting to know all the employees and volunteers of San Angelo State Park as well as hike, bike, and horseback ride on all the trails to familiarize himself with them.

He is excited to be a part of the team and to help make a visit to SASP a wonderful experience for all who come.

Rolando Chavez is the new Park Police Officer

"I am originally from South Texas but have been living in San Angelo for the last 5 years" Roland said. "I graduated from the academy in June and I am excited to serve the community."

After many of been trying to join the Texas State Parks team. He is excited to serve in a law enforcement capacity and educate the public.

"I first found out about San Angelo State Park in 2016 and all the opportunities it provides for outdoor recreation," he said. "I knew I could do so much more at the park than just being a visitor. I am looking forward to begin working at San Angelo State Park."

San Angelo State Park

Staff Directory

Jarrett Miller Park Superintendent

Carey "Butch" Street Assistant Park Superintendent

Cheree Watts Office Manager

Kari Carreon Assistant Office Manager

Stan Tinnin Lead Ranger

Bonnie Wallace Park Interpreter

Rolando Chavez Probationary Park Police Officer

Adam Sauceda Customer Service Representative

Amanda Schraeder Customer Service Representative
South Shore Gatehouse

Mike Sharpsteen – Park Ranger

Matt Geisel – Park Ranger

To telephone any of the staff,
call 325-949-4757. Listen for extension numbers.



Rolando tries the new mountain bike purchased for his use for trail surveillance or search and rescue events.

The bike was purchased by FoSASP.

VIEW BETWEEN THE EARS!

by Cindy Middleton
An awesome autumn Saturday saw an awesome turnout!

The 2021 Monarch Trail Ride benefiting the Friends of San Angelo State Park.



Forty –three riders saddled up and hit the trails on the park’s south side. After braving some rocky ups and downs along Tasajilla Flats, Roller Coaster and Potts Creek trails, riders stopped for a lunch break at Armadillo Flats. They headed back to camp at Chaparral Pavilion via the Burkett Trailhead on Winding Snake and Red Dam Loop trails for a total or eleven miles.



After a tasty potluck supper and silent auction, all enjoyed visiting around a campfire. Sunday morning was another gorgeous day with thirty riders mounting up for a short six-mile ride.

Thank you to Friends group members Judy Hight, Linda Ashton, Sharon Olson, Cindy Middleton and Gail Metcalfe for putting this ride together.



Thanks to all who rode and brought auction items and bought auction items and made donations, we raised over \$1,900!



Cindy Middleton, Linda Ashton and Sandy Doss led forty-one riders

OVER THE BARS

By Steve Nelson

Slick Rock Trail

The fifty miles of trails in San Angelo State Park have varying terrain and names. Trail names are assigned randomly for plants, wildlife. For example, Tasajillo Trail, Winding Snake, and Roadrunner Trail. Some are named for people – like Talley Valley or Lanky Lackey Trail.

Some, like Slick Rock Trail, are named for natural features. A rock formation located near this trail is one of the most unusual features in the park. The trail, while not very long, winds through the area and is worth the effort.

I am not an expert on rock formation, so I can't tell you the type of rocks it is, but I can tell you that it is north of the Riverbend area and south of the Big Hill.

Maps showing the parks trails and their names are available at the gate house.

Photos by Steve Nelson.



Jeffery White rode his bike and stopped for a look at the unusual rocks.



COLTON ROWE IS EXOFICIO MEMBER OF FoSASP BOARD.

"Hello! My name is Colton Rowe. Through my involvement in Angelo State's Honors College, I have been blessed with the opportunity to participate as a student advisor on the Friends of San Angelo State Park Board.

I'm a second-year Honors student at Angelo State University. I am majoring in exercise science and minoring in biology with the hope of eventually enrolling in physical therapy school. I am also training under West Texas Rehab Center to become a volunteer for their wonderful hospice program. I was a competitive gymnast for 15 years. I enjoy hiking, camping, archery, and skating.

I am originally from The Woodlands, Texas, about 45 minutes north of downtown Houston. I got sick of the hustle and bustle around Houston and chose to move to San Angelo for university. After 18 months, San Angelo has continued to impress me with its amazingly welcoming community and plentiful opportunities. I am excited to spend more time with Friends of San Angelo State Park and continue to give back to the San Angelo community."

SPOTLIGHT ON A STAFF MEMBER

Cheree Watts

San Angelo State Park Office Manager

By Laurel L. Scott

A year after her hiring, Cheree Watts says she has found her “niche” as San Angelo State Park’s office manager. It’s a big niche, one that has allowed her to have an impact on nearly every aspect of the park.

“It is very fulfilling, the most rewarding job I’ve ever had and also one of the most stressful,” Cheree said. “There are so many people who rely on me and on Superintendent Jarrett Miller. I try to be his right hand. I have his back.”

Just weeks after starting work, a park customer service representative tested positive for Covid-19. “It was right before the Christmas holiday,” Cheree said. “In order to keep the park open, we had to man the gatehouse. Everyone who’d had contact with this employee had to quarantine through two negative tests. So I went down there to learn the reservations system. The Austin office might have had to fix a couple of things I did. I did a lot and I survived.”

Cheree brings a wealth of office administration experience to her job. A graduate of Forsan High School in Howard County, she worked years for the State Hospital in Big Spring and the Department of State Health Services, earning a number of promotions. Then she met her husband, Kenneth Watts of San Angelo, and took a job at the State Supported Living Center in Carlsbad.

“I’d been driving to Carlsbad every day from San Angelo, and I was tired of it,” she said. “I got a job closer to home but then Covid hit and left me unemployed. During that time, this position came open and I pounced.”

Kenneth is also the guide and inspiration for her love of the outdoors. A former oilfield worker, he is a fishing guide for O.H. Ivie Lake.

“He introduced me to bass fishing,” Cheree said. “He had me out on the boat, teaching me the catch and release method. From there, he put me in my first tournament. Somehow, I was the one always catching the fish, winning the money, getting the wall plaques.” “I didn’t realize how much I needed to be outdoors,” Cheree said. “I don’t even have to be catching anything.”

She has yet to go hunting but she is a supporter of the park’s hunting program, especially the youth hunts, and of all the other park opportunities to enjoy the outdoors.

She is enjoying being part of a team she admires and respects.

“I think that our crew is just top-notch,” Cheree said. “It’s not just me. It’s not just Jarrett. I am in awe of his knowledge of the park. I think you could blindfold him and put him anywhere out there and he would know just where he is. He’s a great leader, but we could not do what we do without our crew.”

Her Forsan High mascot was the buffalo and she now shares her love of the park’s herd whenever she gets a chance. “I try to always say the correct name, Bison,” she said. “I nerd out when it comes to what I call my babies.”

“This place is amazing,” Cheree continued. “I feel like I could be here seven days a week and I’d be OK with it.”



FRIENDS OF SASP

Roger and Annamargaret Anderson
Angelo Radio Controlled Airplane Club
Linda Ashton
Steven Baer
Ray and Judy Benton
Lea Beyerlein
Robert Bluthardt
Arelle Brininstool
Cary Brown
Joan and FG Brown
David Busker
Theresa Cain
Jerry and Christi Chambers
Ilene Cooper
Charlie and Marsha Crabtree
Jim Crawford
Christopher Daniels
Martha Dolliver
Mary Ellen Douthit
Esther Douthit
Dorothy Douthit and Lisa Truesdell
Forty-Something Cowgirls (Shelly Borgstedte)
Mary Golder
Frank Gully
Laurie and Mike Hampton
Jackie and Judy Hight
Patricia Hines

Sarah Howell
Jana Jenkins
MS Jernigan
Liz and Jeanne Jones
John and Ruth Jordan
Jake Landers
Kathy and Russ Libby
Patrick Malloy
Dean and Lisa McInturff
Larry McMurtrey
Travis and Irene Meitzen
Gail Metcalf and Wade Potts
Jerry and Cindy Middleton
Deola Mitts
Ed and Cat Nelson
Steve Nelson
John Olson
Sharon Olson
Katherine Osborne
Dee Osteen
Pete and Sandy Pedersen
CV and Marquarite Pickett
Jackie and Kenneth Prescott
Amanda Ranzani
Jeanette Kay Reviere
Brownie Roberts
Marilyn Russell
San Angelo Garden Club

Laurel Scott
Sally Scott
Saundra Seifert
Terry Shaner
Debra Sterling
John Talley
Bertha Darlyne Vieter
Terry Wallace
Polly Waterhouse
David and Deborah Watson
Joe Weaver
Linda White
Rebecca Young

Sponsor Members

Bryant Better Hearing
Chick-fil-A
Concho Valley Electric Coop
Copeland Nationwide Insurance
DeCoty Coffee
Fyzical Therapy & Balance Center
Jody Gentry Media Jaws
San Angelo Electric Motor Repair
Shelburne Financial Services
Texas State Bank
Western Vet
Zesch and Pickett Insurance

FRIENDS OF SAN ANGELO STATE PARK Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

_____ Regular Member (\$25)

_____ Senior Member (\$20)

_____ Organization (\$35)

_____ Business Bronze (\$50)

_____ Business Silver (\$100)

_____ Family (\$40)

_____ Senior Family (\$30)

_____ Student & Military (\$15)

Additional Donation \$ _____

Mail to:

**Friends of SASP
3900-2 Mercedes
San Angelo, TX 76901**



FRIENDS OF SAN ANGELO STATE PARK

3900-2 MERCEDES
SAN ANGELO, TEXAS 76901

TOURS IN THE PARK

October 29	7 PM	State Park Seed Stomp
October 30	9 AM	Face Masks of Nature
	11 AM	Longhorn & Bison Viewing
	2 PM	Jack-O-Lantern Scavenger Hunt
	4 PM	Campsite Crime Scene Mystery
October 31	10 AM	Compass Trick or Treat
	3 PM	Campfire Stories and S'mores
November 6	9 AM	Beginner's Guide to Bird Watching
	11 AM	Longhorn & Bison Viewing
	2 PM	On The Right Track
	7:30 PM	Red Light Stargazing
November 7	9 AM	Jr. Ranger Expedition Trek
	2 PM	UnBeaverable
November 13	9 AM	Bark Ranger Hike
	11 AM	Longhorn & Bison Viewing
	2 PM	Permian Track Hike
	4 PM	Permian Track Hike
November 14	9 AM	What's Bugging You?
	2 PM	Texas Small Mammal
November 20	9 AM	Gyotaku Fish Printing
	11 AM	Longhorn & Bison Viewing
	2 PM	Turkey Day Hike
	8 PM	Full Moon Hike
November 21	9 AM	Trail of the Month Hike
	2 PM	Playing O-possum
December 11	6 – 8 PM	Holly-Days At The Park
December 18	10:30 AM	Elf on the Trail Hike (4 th Annual)
	3:30 PM	Ornament Decoration
	7PM	Full Moon Hike
December 19	10 AM	Jingle Bells Rock the Trails Bike Ride
	2 PM	Holiday Card Crafting
	4 PM	A Cowboy Christmas Story and S'mores

Information for future tours and events can be found on these following media:

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE-SAN ANGELO STATE PARK

<https://www.facebook.com/SanAngeloStatePark>

Friends of San Angelo State Park <https://m.facebook.com/FriendsofSanAngeloStatePark>

San Angelo State Park (@sanangelosp)

<https://www.instagram.com/sanangelosp>



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