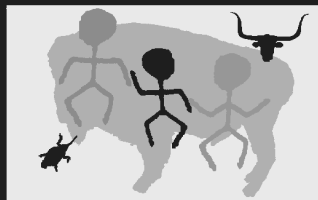


Friends of San Angelo State Park



VOL. 19

SPRING 2021

NO. 2

JARRETT MILLER IS SUPERINTENDENT



Photos by Cheree Watts and John Talley

"I am proud to be the new Superintendent of San Angelo SP," commented Jarrett from this new office.

"My duties officially started April 1, 2021, though I have been doing the job since last September when former Superintendent Jim Cisneros moved to Brazos Bend SP.

I am very humbled by the trust TPWD and the Regional Director have afforded me with this opportunity.

In the best interests of the property, visitors and volunteers and its constituents, I look forward to working with each of you to promote the mission of TPWD and State Parks for years to come."

See more comments from Jarrett inside.

Friends has made it a custom to provide new office chairs for staff, replacing raggedy leftover ones. We are happy to provide this new seat for Jarrett in his new office.



Comfy enough for a lunch break nap

SAN ANGELO BLUEBONNET DAYS

Held annually since 2003, the Free-to-Seniors morning out in the park was held differently 2021. Avoiding large group gathering and observing social distancing, the senior citizens had self-guided driving tour of the park followed by a picnic lunch.

"We enjoyed the drive, but missed the hayride," said a smiling visitor who reported that she comes every year.



Silver Bluebonnet Day Sponsors

Bryant Better Hearing

Chick-fil-A

Friends of SASP

San Angelo Gives!



Our Goal of \$4,000 was met and exceeded.
Thanks to all who contributed.

Especial thanks to Amanda Razani, board secretary, who spearheaded the event.

*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 2019-2020

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	Sandy Pedersen
Sarah Howell	Amanda Razani
Ruth Jordan	Brownie Roberts
Gail Metcalfe	Marilyn Russell
Larry McMurtrey	Laurel Scott
Cindy Middleton	John Talley
Deola Mitts	Terry Wallace
Steve Nelson	Deborah Watson

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 perpetration of the park and
- soliciting and receiving gifts for endowments for the benefit of the park.

Ruth Jordan - Editor

Friends of SASP
3900-2 Mercedes
San Angelo, TX, 76901
ruthjordan@suddenlink.net



Published by Qs Printing and Design

From the Park Superintendent

By Jarrett Miller – Superintendent



This is my first time writing to you as the Superintendent of San Angelo State Park and I'm sort of at a loss for words.

I started this adventure in February of 2016. If you would have told me at any point in those first couple years that I would be Superintendent one day, I would have just laughed and called you crazy.

Beginning as an Operations Ranger with additional duties in Interpretation, I have since officially held the positions of Additional Duty Safety Officer, Lead Ranger, Assistant Superintendent and held interim positions of Custodian, Customer Service Representative, Assistant Office Manager, Office Manager, and Herd Manager.

I applied at the park because it was close to the house, had great benefits, and a good retirement system. I wanted to work outside. The park afforded me that opportunity.

I did not even have intentions of staying long term, but something happened. I fell in love with the park, the job, and the people. So much so that even after working ten hours a day, six or seven days a week, I still go home, pick up my wife and son, the bikes or fishing poles. We come right back out here to hike, ride, fish or just drive around and look at the wildlife. There is always something that they haven't seen.

I am here if you need anything, have a question or maybe a suggestion to improve the park. Give me a call or stop by the office.

See you in the park!

Ranger Jade Begins a New Chapter with TPWD

From Jade Carter

I look forward to beginning my career as a Texas Game Warden. As I turn the page and begin a new chapter, I know that San Angelo State Park will still have a place in it. I'm grateful to have been able to work here and give thanks to the friends I've made along the way.

Being a team member of San Angelo State Park has been a great experience. I have done things that I wouldn't have been able to do at any other state park.

As I look back and think through my experiences starting in 2016, I wonder "Wow, that was only five years?" While I've been here a short time, I feel deep down that I've worked here for much longer.

Even before becoming a 'State Park', this area provided a great get-a-way for people of Texas and many other states who stop here while just traveling through, come to visit family that live in San Angelo, or stop here just to visit one of many Texas state parks.

For me, like some others, it has been a stone used to strengthen my foundation in a long career with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. I have cherished my time here and working with many people that have come and gone. I've worked among a great group of people including our park hosts and the Friends group.

I believe that San Angelo State park will continue to improve, grow, and retain its unique ability to provide opportunities for hunting, fishing, hiking, bicycling and, and horse riding. There are not many parks out there that support all of these.

I would like to thank everyone for the support and guidance that they have given me while this chapter of my life ends and another begins.

Hello Friends,

I'm John Emler, a new ranger at San Angelo State Park. I started in February and love it so far.

A little bit about me.

I grew up right here in San Angelo. I'm a graduate of Lake View High School. Go Chiefs! With my wife, I am raising our three children here. I am a member of Grape Creek VFD as a Firefighter and EMT. I enjoy fishing, hunting, and, really, anything outdoors. To be outside is part of the reason I applied for the position.

I never knew much about what SASP had to offer until I started working here even though it opened when I was a freshman in high school. Working here, I get to learn about the park every day. I think that is one thing that keeps me wanting to come to work.

I love to come out and see the abundance of wildlife every morning. Now that it's spring, I love seeing the different wildflowers blooming and the life that they bring.

I never knew how many people really enjoy coming to the park on a daily basis. People from every walk of life come out to enjoy the trails, whether hiking, biking, or horse back riding. Folks from all over the country have been here numerous times and keep coming back.

I hope I can add something to everyone's experience here at SASP and make everyone's stay what they hope it will be.

I look forward to meeting new faces every day.

Find me working and introduce yourself on your next visit.



STAFF DIRECTORY

Superintendent	Jarrett Miller 325-277-3258
Asst Superintendent	Vacant (should post soon) 325-277-6348
Office Manager	ChereWats 325-947-2687
Lead Ranger	Vacant (posting closes mid-May) 325-949-4757
Interpreter	Bonnie Wallace 325-949-4757
Asst Office Manager	Kari Carreon 325-949-8935
Operations Ranger	Mike Sharpsteen 325-949-4757
Operations Ranger	Matthew Geisel 325-949-4757
CSR	LaFonda Birdcreek 325-949-4757
CSR	Vacant (should start June 1st) 325-949-4757
Custodian	John Emler 325-949-4757
Park Police	Vacant (should be here in August) 325-277-6086

Board notes

Because of Covid restrictions the Board of Directors did not hold the March meeting. However, emails have allowed business to be carried on as needed:

- Fish pond stocked with trout on schedule.
- Gift shop sign replaced
- Outdoor vending, drink machines and gift shop sales revenues were received.
- Birds were fed on schedule.
- Playground repair was investigated and accomplished.
- Memberships were renewed
- New chair purchased for Jarrett Miller as he moved into the superintendent's office.
- Expenditures were approved for gifts for departing staff.
- Silver Bluebonnett Day was held as a drive-through with a picnic lunch.

Regular meeting scheduled for May 18 will be held face-to-face with some catching up to do including:

- Plans for repairing the Wildlife Viewing Station.
- Review of financial status after the long Covid-forced closing.
- New projects in the park.

VIEW BETWEEN THE EARS!

by Cindy Middleton

SASA equestrians hosted the riders from Texas Equestrian Trail Riders Assoc (TETRA) recently for a guided ride, potluck supper and a silent auction. benefiting our Friends group.



Riders watered their horses in the North Concho River and splashed around a bit.



Fearless leader, Linda Ashton, led 17 riders through the park, by blazing her own trails in the area across RR2288 known as Area 6-7.





Lunch and rest break was at Brown's Crossing, a natural ford on the North Concho River where the Butterfield Stage crossed in days gone by.



Last stop was a visit to respects to Dave Macey at his 1847 gravesite on the ridge above the river. Linda told Macey's as much as is known about the mysterious site. She also explained how the Native Americans used the site to stampede bison over the steep ridge for slaughter.



Everyone had plenty of good eats and visiting at the potluck supper. Bidding wars on the silent auction items amazingly raised \$436.00 donation to FOSASP.

Volunteers owed a big thanks are Linda Ashton, organizer extradinair; Sharon Olson, food maestro; and Cindy Middleton for "pulling drag" leading the Sundays ride.

Thanks also to all the visiting TETRA riders who came to support this ride.



New Sign Invites Shoppers into Gate House Store

Thanks to Steve Nelson who has done the ground work, a bright new sign invites visitors to come inside the gatehouse to shop from the array of SASP related items. The new sign replaces the old unattractive one.



The array of SASP-related items includes shirts, patches, caps, visors, mugs, pins, magnets, walking sticks, nature booklets, toys, bandanas, earrings, postcards and more.

Proceeds from the store benefit FoSASP and provide support for this park.

FoSASP members can take a 10% discount on items purchased at the gift shop.



A recently added item is the new SASP Bumper sticker.

OVER THE BARS

By Steve Nelson



Random bicycle racing on park trails is typically frowned upon. However, as an organized event, a race can bring hundreds of people to the park and the city of San Angelo.

The Texas Police games held the bike race here June 2016. The Chaparral pavilion was the center of the action.

In September 2018 the Texas Mountain Bike Racing Association (TMBRA) held a race here. Riders and family members stayed overnight



in the park. Friend's volunteers assisted with the event. I was asked to help with the expected rush as the park opened at 6 a.m. After the things slowed down I went to watch races. Jerry Middleton cooked over two hundred burgers. I tried to help him.

San Angelo Bicycle Association (SABA) holds the Six hours of the Dinosaur bicycle race in the fall. Racers do nine mile laps in teams or as solo riders.



Groups seeking to hold organized races must submit applications at safety plans and proof as insurance in advance.

The rest of the time take it easy, wear a helmet and enjoy the ride.

FRIENDS OF SASP

Linda Ashton
 Steven Baer
 Ray and Judy Benton
 Lea Beyerlein
 Robert Bluthardt
 Arelle Brininstool
 Cary Brown
 FG and Joan Brown
 David Busker
 Sean Buss
 Jim Crawford
 Charlie and Marsha Crabtree
 Christopher Daniel
 Martha Dolliver
 Mary Ellen Douthit
 Esther Douthit
 Dorothy Douthit and Lisa Truesdell
 Mary Noel Golder
 Frank Gully
 Laurie and Mike Hampton
 Jackie and Judy Hight
 Patricia Hines
 Sarah Howell
 Jana Jenkins

Liz and Jeanne Jones
 John and Ruth Jordan
 Jake Landers
 Kathy (Walker) 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
 Rick and Velma Ogan
 Sharon Olson
 Katherine Osborne
 Dee Osteen
 Pete and Sandy Pedersen
 CV and Marguarite Pickett
 Jackie and Kenneth Prescott
 Amanda Razani
 Shirley and Bob Reid
 Jeanette Kay Reviere
 Brownie Roberts

Marilyn Russell
 Laurel Scott
 Sandra Seifert
 Terry Shaner
 John Talley
 Bertha Darlyne Vieter
 Terry Wallace
 Polly Waterhouse
 David and Deborah Watson
 Rebecca Young

Sponsor Members

Bryant Better Hearing
 Chick-Fil-A
 Concho Valley Electric Coop
 Copeland Nationwide Insurance
 DeCoty Coffee
 Market Street
 Jody Gentry / Mediajaw Web Design
 San Angelo Garden Club
 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 _____

Mail to:

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

_____ Regular Member (\$25)

_____ Senior Member (\$20)

_____ Organization (\$35)

_____ Business Bronze (\$50)

_____ Business Silver (\$100)

_____ Family (\$40)

_____ Senior Family (\$30)

_____ Student & Military (\$15)

Additional Donation \$ _____



FRIENDS OF SAN ANGELO STATE PARK

3900-2 MERCEDES

SAN ANGELO, TEXAS 76901

TOURS IN THE PARK

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Saturday May 15 | Longhorn & Bison Viewing – 10:00 AM
Permian Track Hike - 2:00 PM- Gate 8-3
Permian Track Hike -4:00 PM - Gate 8-3 |
| Sunday May 16 | Wildflower Hike- 2:00 PM-Chaparral Pavilion |
| Saturday May 22 | Longhorn & Bison Viewing- 10:00 AM
On The Right Track – 2:00 PM - Chaparral Pavilion
On The Right Track - 4:00 PM- Chaparral Pavilion |
| Sunday May 23
ground | Trail of the Month Hike – 2:00 PM - Riverbend Camp- |
| Saturday May 29 | Longhorn & Bison Viewing - 2:00 PM |
| Sunday May 30 | Wildflower Hike - 2:00 PM - Burkett Trailhead |

For more information contact
Bonnie Wallace
Interpretive Ranger
325-949-8935

Information for future tours and evens 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>



PROUD PAPA

Newest member of the Texas
State Longhorn Herd at SASP

Photo by John Osterhout



Donations to Honor
the following were received through San
Angelo Gives.

Kent and Mary Shelton

Ruth Jordan

Laurel Scott, the birds

Eric Nagel

More Visitors Enjoy SASP

In the last twenty month, 43,526 visitors have been checked into SASP
During the fiscal year 2020-2021 the total increased almost five percent
over the previous year.