

## VOLUME 17, NO. 1 Spring 1999

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### Tools for Teaching Bat Conservation

BCI invites you to join us for our 1999 series of educator/interpreter workshops for members and nonmembers who would like to take the next step in educating the public about bats. Participants will gain the tools necessary to effectively dispel myths about bats and instill an appreciation for these amazing creatures.

This year's hosts are providing an ideal venue for the course at Selah, Bamberger Ranch--a 5,500-acre ranch known as the largest habitat restoration project on private land in Texas. Situated in the heart of the Texas hill country near Johnson City, the ranch features the famous chiroptorium, a man-made cave built to house up to a million Mexican free-tailed bats [BATS, Winter 1997 and 1998], with observation windows for researchers. All workshop participants will get to visit the cave and discuss the role such projects can play in the future of bat conservation.

Our day will be divided into a series of short lectures, demonstrations, and small working group activities, running from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm, with a one-hour break for lunch. In addition to learning BCI's most successful recipes for creating public programs, participants will review educational materials, learn how to facilitate several of BCI's new bat lesson plans, assist in the construction of a bat house, discuss bat habitat on a group hike, and learn about bats of different regions using habitat range maps. Everyone will receive educational handouts, a reference workbook, a discount coupon for BCI educational materials, a certificate of completion, and continuing education credit from the Texas Environmental Educational Advisory Committee.

As our fun-filled day draws to a close, participants will have the option of reconvening in the evening for a field trip, during which we will see bats in action and learn about some of the methods scientists use to observe bats in the wild.

The workshop registration fee is \$45, which includes all materials described above in addition to a hearty lunch at the ranch. We are able to bring you this opportunity at such a reduced price thanks to special support from the Bass Foundation.

Space is limited, so please register soon. Choose the most convenient session from the following dates:

**Friday, August 27**

**Saturday, August 28**

To register, or for more  
information, contact:

Janet Tyburec  
P.O. Box 86493  
Tucson, AZ 85754  
[jtyburec@batcon.org](mailto:jtyburec@batcon.org)



Participants at a 1998 educator's workshop in Pennsylvania use a museum specimen to learn how to identify local bat species. From left to right are Heidi Haertsch, Jenifer Rituper, and Susan Vollmar.

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- ▶ [Look for "Masters of the Night: The True Story of Bats" at these locations:](#)
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