

2017 LGS FIELD TRIP



ONE-DAY FIELD TRIP TO THE ATCHAFALAYA BASIN IN LOUISIANA

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2017 (no April Fool's!; rain date – April 2nd)

ATTENTION: Potential Field Trippers, a unique opportunity! Coerte Voorhies Jr., one of the original founding members of the LGS, has agreed to guide us through “the Basin” and give us his perspective on the natural, human, and cultural history of the area (see abstract and biography below). Space is limited so sign up soon!

MEET: We will leave from the parking lot at Hilton Garden Inn on Congress St.

TIME: Departure at 9 AM (or sooner if everyone arrives); return after tour.

ITINERARY: Drive east on I-10 to Butte la Rose/rest area/exit 121 where we will meet Coerte and his son Kim at the boat launch for the guided tour.

DETAILS: boat launch at 10 AM for a three hour trip; lunch in parking area upon return from boat tour around 1 PM; please wear appropriate field gear.

COST: \$100.00, includes transportation to and from boat launch, guided tour, lunch, and a brief guidebook. Payments may be made on the LGS website: deadline for payment – March 15th.

Any Questions or Problems: CALL OR E-MAIL:

Tim Duex

337/482-6222 or 254-0656

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The Atchafalaya Experience: Flora, Fauna, & Geology Coerte A. Voorhies, Jr. and Kim B. Voorhies

Abstract: Louisiana's answer to the Grand Canyon is the Atchafalaya River Basin. The name "Atchafalaya" comes from Choctaw for "long river". Stretching 137 miles from near Simmesport to the Gulf of Mexico, the Atchafalaya River is America's largest river swamp. It contains almost one million acres of America's most significant bottomland hardwoods, swamps, bayous, and backwater lakes. It ranks among the top ten wilderness areas in the United States. Vistas have the appearance of a pristine cypress and mixed woods swamp. On any given day, one can see beaver, nutria, otters, mink, deer, squirrels, many different species of birds, snakes, frogs, alligators, and more.

Biography: Coerte Voorhies, Jr. is a consulting geologist (semi-retired) and has knowledge of the geology, history, geography and the various ethnic cultures of South Louisiana. Mr. Voorhies is a founding member of the Lafayette Geological Society. Kim Voorhies is retired military and has hunted and fished, as well as accompanied his father, throughout the marshes and swamps of South Louisiana for many years. The Voorhies are a father-son team and have many years of experience within the Basin, and are knowledgeable of the fauna and flora of the south Louisiana ecosystems. Together, they own and operate The Atchafalaya Experience - A Swamp Tour. They reside in Lafayette, Louisiana.