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## DAR presents Conservation Award to Caudill

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DAR members and guests met at the Memorial home of hostess Leewood Woodell for the April program, directed by Jamie Barrere, regent of the John McKnight Alexander chapter.

Speaker Tricia Rosencranz gave her research on cosmetics in the 18th century, showing that makeup and dress simplified after the American and French revolutions.

A high point of the program was presentation of the Conservation Award given to Claire Caudill. Presentation speech was made by Sarah Powell, with Mary Lynn Kennedy on the award committee.

As Sarah Powell noted in her lively talk, the Conservation Award to Caudill was well deserved:

"When you drive down Allen Parkway and look north at Buffalo Bayou and you see people jogging along the trails or just enjoying the day, think of Claire Caudill.

"When you approach the downtown area at night and turn along 45 to Allen Parkway and see the pretty blue lights on the bayou, think of Claire.

"Like Memorial Park and the fact that it is not broken up by bicycle trails? Think of Claire.

"Claire Caudill has spent a lot of her days fighting for green spaces in Houston. And she is not even a native."

"Claire grew up in Austin and attended Wellesley College for two years and transferred to the University of Texas where she received a BS in biology. She moved to Houston, met and married Dr. John Daudill, a pediatrician, and they have a daughter Anne.

"She was on the Conservation Committee in the Junior League and was asked to represent it at a community meeting to discuss a restoration project for Buffalo Bayou for a sesquicentennial celebration — and she was hooked.

"As a result of that meeting, she became a founding member of the Buffalo Bayou Coalition which led to joining the Bayou Preservation Association, a non-profit that seeks to restore all the bayous in Houston. Some day, thanks to Claire, maybe we might see blue water in our bayous.

"She is a member of the Garden Club of Houston and has served as its Conservation Chair. She has also served on a variety of committees for the Garden Club of America and has just finished her tenure as Chairman of the GCA Conservation Committee.

"She is on the Memorial Park Conservancy Board and raised the money to prepare the first master plan for the park. She is a Lifetime Member of the Conservancy Board.

"As you can see, she has spent a lot of time working to make Houston a better place to live. And if that isn't all, she practices what she preaches. She does not mow her front yard. It is entirely planted in native plants that require little water and help to replenish the soil. And it even looks good! Let's hear a little applause for Claire Caudill."



DAR regent Jamie Barrere awarding Claire Caudill the Conservation Award.

