

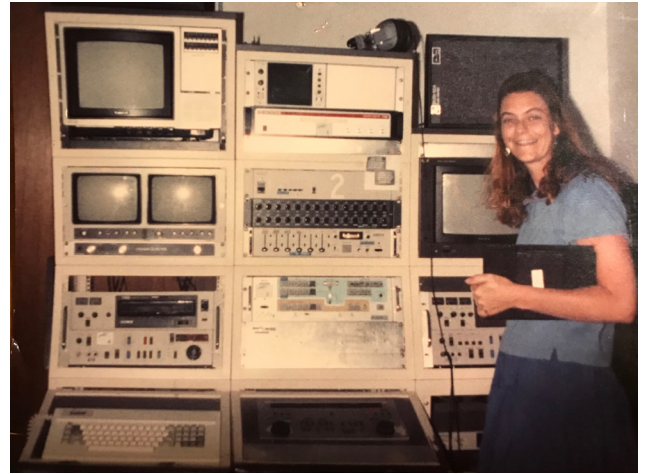
JENNY CLARK

Austin Community Television

Video Producer 1988-1995

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Even with a strong SOS Ordinance to protect the watershed from development, the battles to preserve our waterways persist... Children's nature education is my hope for the future.”



I produced video programs about environmental issues for Austin's public access television channels (ACTV) from 1988-1995. In 1999 I donated all of my video programs and related documents to the Austin History Center. It is housed in the "Jenny Clark Video Collection."

I began wanting to educate TV viewers about recycling, something non-controversial and simple for the public to do. Later, I focused on the protection of Barton Springs. I would often have a summer evening swim in the 68 degree waters to cool my body for a restful night.

I was interested to learn why the pool was closed for swimming so often. Local environmental activists with Earth First! introduced me to Tim Jones as the best field investigator. I videotaped his explorations of pollution sources in the sensitive Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer recharge regions, ultimately producing sixteen Ground Truth Investigations programs.

I documented the history of development fights over the Barton Springs recharge zone, including benefits, music, poetry, political rallies, meetings, press events and lectures from the experts about the complex issues. A series of public forums by We Care Austin features speakers and audience questions about the landfill, endangered species and on-going political battles to protect Barton Creek.

During the years of the Save Our Springs Ordinance election, my programs helped to educate the public about the unique hydrology of Barton Springs and Barton Creek. Some shows explained the terms used in the ordinance, like "impervious cover" and the "Edwards Aquifer". The SOS citizens initiative ordinance won by 64% in 1992.

Even with a strong SOS Ordinance to protect the watershed from development, the battles to preserve our waterways persist. I remain a supporter of organizations that promote nature education and protection.

Children's nature education is my hope for the future. I was so thrilled to discover environmental troubadour Bill Oliver and his songs about nature for kids. I recorded Bill Oliver at an elementary school in a skit with Mother Earth about recycling created by Ecology Action. Years later, it was fun to make the documentary I Sung for the Springs: The Making of Barton Springs Eternal, A Musical Petition (1992 edition). Austin's best local musicians sang and played the verses of Bill Oliver's beloved song.

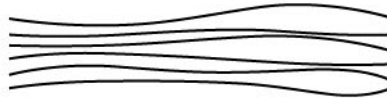
JENNY CLARK CONT'D



Truly, even small steps can improve the environment. I always take reusable bags to the grocery store and refuse single-use plastic bags. Homeowners can plant beautiful native landscapes in their yards to reduce the spread of invasive species and support native wildlife.

When we value the wonders of nature around us, it helps all of us to be better stewards of the land.

BARTON CREEK



TIME STREAM