



N P S O T

NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS

News

*Native Plant Society of Texas,
North Central Chapter Newsletter
Vol 29, Number 8, Sept 2017*

Texas Chapter of the Year

"Visit us at
ncnpsot.org and
www.txnativeplants.org"

September Meeting

Thursday, Sept 7, 2017,

6:30 pm

Rose Room

Deborah Beggs Moncrief

Garden Center

Fort Worth Botanic Garden

Tandy Hills Prairie and Prairie Notes

Program By: Don & Debra Young

Don and Debora Young are the co-founders of Friends of Tandy Hills Natural Area (FOTHNA) and stewards of a rare 160-acre indigenous prairie minutes from downtown Fort Worth. This new presentation titled, *PrairieNotes: Evolution of a Newsletter & Its Author*, takes a look at how Prairie Notes evolved from a letter of protest to a monthly newsletter.

President/Co-Founder: Don Young

Don is a native of Fort Worth and discovered Tandy Hills as a teenager. He and his wife Debora Young founded FOTHNA in 2004 as a way to increase public awareness of the park. The first Prairie Fest was held in their front yard across from the park in 2006. He enjoys writing the monthly FOTHNA newsletter, Prairie Notes, and hiking the hills with Debora and Olive the Prairie Dog. He and Debora work together in the art glass business he founded in 1973.

Archivist/Co-Founder: Debora Young

Debora is a native of Portland, Oregon. She is an artist/illustrator and has enjoyed big skies and tall grasses all her life. She works closely with her husband Don on FOTHNA activities and their art glass business. She is the author and illustrator of, *Prairie Wildflowers Illustrated*, first published in 2009 and updated in 2014.



Chapter Leaders

President — Kim Conrow
president@txnativeplants.org
Past President — Starr Krottinger
Vice President/Programs —
Ray Conrow
Recording Secretary — Karen Harden
Treasurer — Gailon Hardin
Hospitality Chair — Dave West
Membership Chair — Patti Maness
Events Coordinator — Dawn Hancock
NICE! Coordinator — Rozanna Francis
Plant Sale Coordinator —
Josephine Keeney
Education Chair — Theresa Thomas
Ways & Means — Josephine Keeney
Webmaster — Frank Keeney
Field Trips — Eric Johnson
Audit Committee Chair — Laura Penn
Speaker's Bureau — Gailon Hardin
Outreach Chair — Laura Penn
Parliamentarian — Martha Mullens
Facebook Manager — Sandra Fountain
Newsletter Editor — Troy Mullens
media@txnativeplants.org
Assistant Newsletter Editor —
Martha Mullens
Southwest Subcourthouse Garden Leaders
Gailon Hardin & Dawn Hancock
Hulen Regional Library Garden Leaders
Theresa Thomas & Bill Hall
Molly Hollar Wildscape Garden Leader —
Ann Knudsen
Publicity Chair — Vicki Gleason
NLCP Classes Coordinator —
Merita Knapp

Index

President's Corner, Kim Conrow	p. 3f
Frogfruit <i>Phyla nodiflora</i> , Flower of the Month by Josephine Keeney	p. 5
How Work Gets Done in an Organization by Dawn Hancock	p. 6
Special Note to Members (Please read)	p. 6
Activities for September-November 2017 by Martha Mullens	p. 7f
Links to other resources that may be of interest by Martha Mullens	p. 9
NICE! Fall Plant ~ Cenizo by Rozanna Francis	p. 10
Review by Martha Mullens of August Program: Bring Back the Monarchs by Cathy Downs ..	p. 11
August 3 General Meeting Minutes Submitted by Karen Harden	p. 12ff
Hulen Library Demonstration Garden Photos August 1, 2017	p. 15f
Will You Help Our Chapter? by Josephine Keeney	p. 17
Join the Plant Sales Team by Josephine Keeney	p. 18
5th Annual Flight of the Monarch Celebration Grand Prairie	p. 19
Clematis <i>pitcherii</i> in 3 stages of blooming photo by Dawn Hancock	p. 19
Upcoming Prairie Conference (and "blooming now")	p. 20
Join NPSOT, Mission Statement, Next Program	p. 21

News Flash

NCNPSOT Plant Sale.
River Legacy, Arlington
Sept 30, 2017
10 AM - 2 PM



Fulfilling our Mission

The mission of the Native Plant Society of Texas is to promote research, conservation and utilization of native plants and plant habitats of Texas through education, outreach and example. We achieve this through events, meetings, activities, communications, and donations. Your volunteer efforts and participation have a profound effect on the success of fulfilling our mission.

Through our various communications channels; meetings, classes, events, newsletters, websites, and social media there are opportunities to promote research, advocate for conservation and share plant and habitat knowledge. Your involvement in these invigorates the membership and public at large. You can learn, read, petition your local and state government, write posts or articles, explore habitats, share photographs, identify plants, and even become a speaker!

Just for example, there was a Chapter Facebook post about Texas Blue Bells being grown for our plant sale that needed foster care for a couple of weeks. Another member stepped up to help! How cool is that? Our internet presence makes working together and finding information so much easier, like the Plant Sale Flyer on our website: <http://www.txnativeplants.org/plantsale/index.php>

Our four demonstration gardens are maintained by volunteer work and supported financially by our Chapter. The gardens demonstrate the utilization of native plants in settings that can educate the public. Its interesting to explore the gardens. They are all really different.

This handy chart from our website, suitable for printing and putting on your fridge, lets you know when, where and who to talk to about working in one of our outstanding demonstration gardens.

- 1. Butterfly Garden at Fielder House**
 - Leaders are Josephine Keeney, Jane Oosterhuis, Charlie Amos
 - Fielder House 1616 W. Abram St., Arlington
 - Mondays 9am - noon
- 2. Molly Hollar Wildscape**
 - Leaders are Molly Hollar and Ann Knudsen
 - Wednesdays 9am - noon @ Veterans Park, Arlington
 - 1st Saturday each month 9am - noon @ Veterans Park, Arlington
 - Tuesdays 9am - noon @ the Greenhouse in Randol Mill Park, Arlington
- 3. Hulen Library**
 - Leaders are Theresa Thomas and Char McMorrow
 - Fort Worth Southwest Regional Library, 4001 Library Lane
 - 2nd and 4th Thursdays each month 9am - noon
- 4. Southwest Sub Court House**
 - Leaders are Gailon Hardin and Dawn Hancock
 - 6551 Granbury Road, Fort Worth
 - 2nd Saturday and last Wednesday each month 9am-noon

President's Corner Continued from Page 3

The Mayor's Monarch Pledge has done quite a bit of good work in getting local governments involved in learning about native plants and using them for the good of Monarchs and other pollinators. This is excellent conservation advocacy! It has however created a new category of gardens. We are having to learn how to help governments create native gardens and then maintain them with their own resources. These gardens must not be created only to be abandoned. We should develop guidelines and monitoring schedules that will be unique to each garden. The Forest Park Pool, White Settlement Municipal Complex, River Oaks Heritage Park, and the Waystation in Elmer W. Oliver Nature Park all support the Bring Back The Monarchs To Texas program. Even though they did not receive funding from the program, their purpose serves to help the species.

Conservation is at the heart of our mission. The State website has an excellent advocacy article <http://npsot.org/wp/story/2017/9867/>, and other articles on tree ordinances and park legislation. The NPSOT educates its members and the public about conservation issues and encourages people to act within their own conscience.

Our public education, through the Events Committee, is wrapping up for the year with the Fort Worth Home & Garden Show, YardSmart and Ecofest. Our Fall Plant Sale, helping to get those locally grown natives utilized in landscapes around the county, is September 30 at River Legacy Park in Arlington.

Our Chapter Newsletter has a calendar of Chapter activities and also things of interest happening around the area; for example Chapter Field trips or hikes where you can use iNaturalist that promotes research through citizen science.

The third week in October is Native Plant week. We do have Native Landscaping Certification Program (NLCP) classes scheduled but have yet to decide what other activities to do. The State Symposium is November 2-4 in Huntsville. I hope you are planning on attending. There is a Grassland Conference in Fort Worth in November the 14-16 that we have supported.

As you can see, our Society is not a one dimensional organization. There is a wide variety of things to do in support of our mission. Members have the choice to do however much interests them. Whatever you choose to do, know that it all adds up to good work that fulfills our mission!

It was an awesome year for Spring wildflowers. Lots of rain and good Texas sunshine. Send us your special Spring wildflower photo and a short paragraph for inclusion in the next issue.

Troy Mullens or Martha Mullens
media@texnativeplants.com

Shown at the right is a wildflower mix on a prairie glade of mixed sand and limestone.



Frogfruit, Flower of the Month.

by Josephine Keeney

Texas Frogfruit, *Phyla nodiflora*

Verbenaceae (Verbena Family)

What an amazing little groundcover this is!! Plant it and watch it take off in a hurry.

Frogfruit can grow in full sun or part shade to a height of six to twelve inches and make a wonderful ground cover, especially for places where other plants would be hard to manage, such as ditches, drainage areas and slopes. It can also be mowed.

This plant can tolerate drought and flood conditions, which make it ideal for our area.

It is semi-evergreen in North Central Texas and also very hardy and comes back reliably every year. It only goes dormant during hard winters.

The runners grow very fast and can cover a lot of ground in a short time, making it also suitable for hanging pots where it can trail and show off its lovely verbenaceae type flowers.

Butterflies love to nectar on the lovely little flowers and the leaves are larval food for the Phaon Crescent Butterfly.

Considering all these good points: Frogfruit should have a very special place in the yard and the butterfly garden.



TEXAS FROGFRUIT



ALSO KNOWN AS TURKEY TANGLE FROGFRUIT



PHAON CRESCENT BUTTERFLY

How Work Gets Done in an Organization

By Dawn Hancock

Organizations are created to meet some kind of goal. The organization may be one whose purpose is to ultimately make money for shareholders, or members of a family who founded the organization. Or the organization may be set up to fulfill a loftier goal. The North Central Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas, as you may have surmised, is in the latter category. However both types have to have members functioning to meet the goals of the organization. Money-making organizations hire CEO's, and often pay a lot of money to them to meet the organization's goal.

Here, in our Chapter, we have a noble mission that requires dedicated members to take on functions of the Chapter to meet that mission. They receive no salary, no shares in the company stock, no steps up the corporate ladder. In place of those valuable assets, volunteers are motivated by the mission. The purpose of the Native Plant Society of Texas is to promote research, conservation and utilization of native plants and plant habitats through education, outreach and example.

Part of the mission is to educate. Sadly, many members of the populace at large have forgotten, or never knew, that they are part of nature, and a duty to nature is to conserve it or to, at least, help restore it. So one of the critical jobs of our Chapter is to give education and guidance in conserving and restoring the natural habitat. North Central Chapter has used public events to this purpose. The volunteer in charge of communicating with events' organizers, to find volunteers for the event, and to be responsible for materials for an event is the Event Chairperson. I took on this job in 2009 and with a lot of help from other members of the Chapter, the function of the position was completed. The events range from small, such as two to three hour events at local colleges and universities, to large, like the three day home and garden show.

Now is time for me to step aside as the Chairperson of Events. I expect an enthusiastic member with new and fresh ideas will step forward to take up the mission of educating the public to the wonderful benefits of using Texas native plants in residential landscapes, on ranchettes, on farms, and large ranches. I have enjoyed my time as the Events Chairperson. I have met many good people in the North Central Chapter and enjoyed working with them all. This is the hidden benefit of being the Events Chairperson.

Won't you be the one to become the next Events Chairperson?

Special Note to Members:

At our September and October meetings, from 6:00 to 6:30, the Chapter of the Year Quilt will be set up as a backdrop for Member photos.

These will be used in our members only website section as a photo directory. Couples can pose together. Friends can too! You will receive an email copy of your photo for your own use.

Example of Kim and Ray to the right.



KIM AND RAY CONROW

Activities for September-November 2017

by Martha Mullens

September

September 2	10:00 AM-12:00PM Permaculture 101 BRIT *
September 2	1-3 PM Monarch Migration & Local Pollinators in Autumn BRIT*
September 3	1-2:30 PM FWNCR Patterns in Nature
September 7	6:30 PM NCNPSOT meeting: Tandy Hills by Don Young
September 10	1-2:30 PM FWNCR Late season wildflowers
September 11	6:00-7:00 PM Creating a Colorful Fall & winter Landscape Fort Worth Botanic Garden Registration required
September 16	9:00 AM-1:00PM Molly Hollar Wildscape Fall Plant Sale, Randall Mill Park Greenhouse, Arlington
September 23	1-2:30 PM FWNCR Monarch migration
September 27	BRIT Celebration of 30th Anniversary & 2017 International Award of Excellence in Conservation Gala Worthington Hotel, Fort Worth (reservations & tickets required)
September 29	Registration Deadline for TX Master Naturalist Meeting in Oct.
Sept 29-Oct 1	TX Outdoor Ed. Ass. Workshop HEB Camp Leakey, TX
September 30	10:00AM-2:00PM Plant Sale NCNPSOT, River Legacy Arlington

September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 9:00-11:00AM Nature Hikes (Ft. Worth Nature Center) led by Troy Mullens

October

October 5	6:30PM NCNPSOT Plant Exchange
October 7	10:00 AM-1200 PM Permaculture for Small Spaces BRIT *
October 7	1-3PM Know Your Natives: Native American Plant Use BRIT*
October 14	8:00AM-5:00PM NLCP-Level 1 Bob Jones Nature Center, Southlake (registration required, \$37 fee)
October 15-21	Native Plant Week (TBA tours at demonstration gardens)
October 28	8:00AM-5:00PM NLCP-Level 3 Bob Jones Nature Center, Southlake (registration required, \$37 fee for members)

November

November 2-4	NPSOT State Symposium, Huntsville (reservations)
November 4	10:00AM-12:00PM Seed Starting 101 BRIT*
November 4	1-3PM Grasses: Rodney Dangerfield of Vascular Plants BRIT*
November 9	6:30PM NCNPSOT meeting: The Rest of the Ecoregions of Texas by Troy Mullens
November 14-16	America's Grassland Conference, Fort Worth

*Note: All BRIT classes require pre-registration

Volunteer at our Demonstration Gardens

Fielder House Butterfly Garden 9:00AM-noon in September & October

1616 W Abram St, Arlington Leaders: Josephine Keeney, Jane Osterhuis, Charlie Amos

Mon.: Sept 4, 11, 18, 25 Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Molly Hollar Wildscape 9:00AM-noon in September & October

Veterans Park, Arlington Leader: Ann Knudsen

1st Sat: Sept. 2, Oct 7

Wed.: Sept 6, 13, 20, 27 Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25

SW Regional Library at Hulen 9:00AM-noon in September & October

4001 Library Ln, Fort Worth Leaders: Theresa Thomas, Char McMorrow

2nd Thurs. : Sept 14, Oct.12

4th Thurs.: Sept 28, Oct. 26

SW Tarrant Co. Sub Courthouse 9:00-11:00AM in September & October

6551 Granbury Rd, Fort Worth Leaders: Gallon Hardin, Dawn Hancock

2nd Sat.: Sept 9, Oct. 14

last Wed.: Sept 27, Oct. 25

Volunteer at BRIT 1700 University Dr, Fort Worth 76107

Director of Volunteers: jdonovan@brit.org

Herbarium trehman@brit.org

Education kwhitlock@brit.org

Library LVenhaus@brit.org

Research abyoung@brit.org

Press bbest@brit.org

Volunteer at the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge

9601 Fossil Ridge Rd, Fort Worth 76135

Volunteer Coordinator: Laura Veloz fwnc.org 817-392-7410

Volunteer Positions: Docent, Outdoor Conservationist (Natural Guard),

Restoration Greenhouse, Visitor Center Host, Special Events, Animal Care

Volunteer at River Legacy Park in Arlington

Volunteer Manager: Sherrie Ripple 817-860-6752 ext. 109

Look on website for opportunities: riverlegacy.org

Links to other resources that may be of interest. by Martha Mullens

BRIT is becoming a world-class botanical institution.

BRIT has acquired 472,00 herbarium specimens from the University of Louisiana and will transport them here during July and August. These specimens were collected in Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Texas. This acquisition will bring the total number of specimens at BRIT to nearly 1.5 million. The sheer number, as well as the outstanding facility at BRIT, makes it equal in quality to any in the nation. To read more about this go to brit.org.

Green Source DFW: Environmental News and Community Resource

Two articles in the Green Source DFW that may be of interest are: "Arlington recycler turns problem waste into eco-friendly products" and "Green Tip Guy: Feed the birds, bees in your garden". If you don't get emails from them, then check them out at info@greensourcedfw.org. Their emails contain articles and a calendar of events that may be of interest to NCNPSOT members and all conservation-minded individuals.

Friends of Tandy Hills Natural Area

Don Young graces us at least once a month in his Prairie Notes with his beautiful photos of wildflowers and prairie landscapes of Tandy Hills. If you aren't signed up to receive these, here is the link information@tandyhills.org. Check out the past issues in the archives too. Don will also be the speaker at the North Central NPSOT meeting September 7. Come join us and see his outstanding photos and hear about Tandy Hills, one of the last remaining remnants of prairie in our area.



Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge

FWNCR is comprised of over 3,600 acres of forests, prairies, and wetlands with over 20 miles of hiking trails allowing access to all of these natural features. It provides views of wildlife, wonderful landscapes, and close-up looks at the native flowers and grasses of the prairie, as well as the smaller critters that inhabit them. FWNCR is a division of the Fort Worth Park Department, but many of its activities and programs derive their support from the Friends of the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge. To learn more about FONC go to their website at <http://naturecenterfriends.org/>. To learn more about FWNCR and the programs it provides go to www.fwnaturecenter.org. Some of the programs provide learning experiences about bats, spiders, turtles, fish, insects, snakes, wildflowers, trees, and photography. You can subscribe to Bluestem News to keep you updated on what is happening, and Phenology is a calendar of events and programs.

Cenizo, *Leucophyllum frutescens*: Texas sage, a purple-flowering shrub for sun

Description: Cenizo's many common names allude to its Texas origins, habit and flower color: Texas Sage, Texas Ranger, Texas Rain Sage, Wild Lilac, Purple Sage, Senisa, and Cenicilla. The *Leucophyllum* genus name comes from Greek: *leucos* (white) *phyllon* (leaf), referring to this woody bush's silvery, gray-green, one inch leaves. The Latin species name *frutescens* means shrubby. Cenizo is in the figwort family and is not a true sage. It is an extremely drought- and heat-tolerant West Texas native, found in nature in calcareous, rocky soils. Cenizo usually grows up to 6 ft tall and 6 ft wide, with occasional specimens reaching 8 ft tall. It has a bushy, loosely-branched form. It is evergreen, although it may lose some leaves in the winter, and is cold-tolerant to 5 degrees F.



Cenizo, Photos courtesy of Liz Moyer

Flowers and Seeds: Cenizo has 1/2 to 1 inch long, tubular, 5-lobed, medium-purple flowers that bloom from summer into fall. Typically, rains trigger Cenizo to flower prolifically; a reason another common name is Barometer Bush. Several cultivars with color variations exist: white-flowered 'Alba', lavender-blue blooming 'Rain Cloud', pinkish-flowering 'Green Cloud' with green foliage, lavender-blooming 'Sierra Bouquet' with whiter leaves, among them. After flowering, seeds form in valved capsules.

Planting sites: Full sun is best for Cenizo, although it will tolerate part-sun. It must have well-drained soil and should not be fertilized. Rich soil inhibits blooming and abundant moisture will shorten its lifespan. Cenizo may be grown in raised beds amended with crushed rocks.

Watering Instructions: Once established, Cenizo is maintenance-free and does not need supplemental water. Like many other native Texas plants, it will not tolerate "wet feet" and may rot over a wet winter.

Comments: Cenizo is popular for xeriscaping in Texas - it is a good choice for foundation planting and hedges, and is useful as a windbreak barrier or a screen. It is not unusual to see Cenizo as a sheared hedge, although light pruning to maintain a more natural shape may result in a healthier shrub. Cenizo can be grown in big pots as a large accent species. It is not susceptible to pests or diseases, except for cotton root rot, which well-drained soil discourages. It is said to be deer resistant. Cenizo may be propagated through seed or through cuttings. It is the larval host for the Theona Checkerspot and Calleta Silkmoth butterflies. Consider using Cenizo instead of non-native *Photinia* and *Nandina* species. Good companion plants for Cenizo include other xeric species, especially those with shapes that complement its bushiness. These include Blackfoot Daisy (*Melampodium leucanthum*), Zexmenia (*Wedelia texana*), Mealy Blue Sage (*Salvia farinacea*), milkweeds like Antelope Horn (*Asclepias asperula*), Gayfeather (*Liatris mucronata*), and Four-nerve Daisy (*Tetaneuris scaposa*).

Look for the NICE! Plant of the Season signs and information sheets on your next visit to a participating North Texas nursery. Thank you for using native plants in your landscapes. Written by Dr. Becca Dickstein

Plant of the Season, Sponsored by the North Central Chapter, Native Plant Society of Texas Operation NICE!
(Natives Instead of Common Exotics!) – Fall 2017

The presentation by Cathy Downs was both interesting, and informative. As the chairperson for the Bring Back the Monarchs to Texas (BBMT), she related her experiences as a Monarch Watch Conservation Specialist which proved both entertaining and enlightening. She discussed the Monarch Butterfly migration, the life cycle of the Monarch, the reasons for the decline in numbers, and the current efforts to restore major flyways through Texas, such as the Monarch Waystation near Hillsboro on I-35. Cathy raises monarchs and is a certified Monarch Larval Monitoring Project educator. She instructed us on raising milkweeds to host the larva, such as place taller plants nearby to hide the milkweeds so that spiders and predatory insects, like the praying mantis, can't readily find them. Birds and mammals will not eat the monarch adults or larva because of the toxicity in the milkweeds, but invertebrates seem unaffected by it. She also gave us tips about choosing native nectar plants for the migration of the adults. It was a very enjoyable program.



PHOTO BY TROY MULLENS

Monarch Butterfly

Monarch Butterfly
Stained glass statue
Lights on wildflowers

Gregory Ramos



MONARCH CATERPILLARS PHOTO BY MARTHA MULLENS

Ode to Monarch Butterflies

Orange and black,
Don't look back.
Move to your destination.

Bright and green,
Milkweeds clean.
Provide for the next generation.

by Martha Mullens

August 3 General Meeting Minutes
Submitted by Karen Harden

**NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF TEXAS – NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER
Fort Worth Botanical Garden Deborah Beggs-Moncrief Center**

President Kim Conrow called the meeting to order at 6:34 P.M. Visitors to the meeting were acknowledged and given raffle tickets.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the previous regular meeting were accepted as written.

Treasurer Gailon Hardin reported a bank balance of \$11,883.02 ending July 31, 2017.

The program for September will be a presentation on Tandy Hills, presented by Don Young.

Committee Reports:

Events – Chairperson Dawn Hancock announced two upcoming events.

YardSmart – a water conservation program hosted by the Fort Worth Water Dept. will be held on August 26th from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Fort Worth Botanical Gardens. Dawn needs two volunteers for this event.

Home and Garden Show – August 18-20, 2017 held at the Amon G. Carter Exhibit Hall, Will Rogers Memorial Center. The Home and Garden Show is a big event and several volunteers are needed. For members who volunteer, the Chapter will pay for parking, with a receipt, and will be admitted to the show at no charge on the day they volunteer.

Members who would like to help during either event, please contact Dawn Hancock.

******Dawn spoke briefly on the need for a member to step up and take on the position of the Event Chairperson for 2018. She is stepping down from this position.******

Education - In October there are two Native Landscape Certification Program (NLCP) sessions scheduled, both are at Bob Jones Nature Center in Southlake.

October 14th, Level 1 and October 28th, Level 3

Level 1 is a prerequisite for Level 3. Sign up is on the Native Plant Society State website. Volunteers are needed to host a successful program. If you are interested, please contact Theresa Thomas or Merita Knapp.

Meeting Minutes
Continued on Page 13

August 3 General Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Karen Harden

<Continued from page 12>

Plant Sale – Chairperson Josephine Keeney announced that the next plant sale is September 30th at River Legacy Elm Grove Pavilion in Arlington. She is in need of members to grow plants for and bring plants to the sale. Josephine had plants available for members to take home and nurture for the plant sale. If you are interested in being a grower, please contact Josephine Keeney.

There are three sizes of pots growers should use; 4” size, quart size, and half-gallon size. Gailon Hardin brought different sized containers to show how recycled plastic containers can be used for potting up plants. She demonstrated how to trim Rock Rose to make them fuller and shared how to get rid of powder mildew on Rock Rose. Add 4 teaspoons baking soda to one gallon of water and spray on plant. Planting deadline for the plant sale is August 15th. This will allow time for the plants to develop a good root system.

NICE! – Chairperson Rozanna Francis discussed how members could receive a 10% discount from the NICE! Nurseries using their NPSOT membership card. NICE! Nurseries are: Marshall Grain, Queen’s Bee, Stuart’s, Rendeta’s, Stegall’s Nursery, and Weston Gardens. The Fall Plant of the Season will be announced during the next meeting.

Demonstration Gardens – Garden leaders Gailon Hardin, Theresa Thomas, and Josephine Keeney all request volunteers to help with maintaining the gardens at the Southwest Sub-Courthouse Demo Garden, the Southwest Regional Library Gardens, and Molly Hollar Wildscape. If interested in helping at any of the gardens, please contact the garden leaders. Master Gardeners can earn volunteer hours from working in the gardens.

Outreach – Chairperson Laura Penn reported on the Chapter’s outreach over the summer. The Chapter pledged \$500 in support of signage for the Monarch Way Stations along I-35, where six signs are needed. She explained the signs are constructed of materials designed to last up to 10 years and come at a cost of \$2100 each. BRIT acquired 470,000 plant specimens from the Museum of Natural History at the University of Louisiana-Monroe due to the closing of the herbarium facilities there. The Chapter gave \$100 to help with the transportation of the specimens.

Membership – Chairperson Patti Maness reported there were 71 in attendance; 53 members and 18 visitors. One visitor, Sandra De Nijs, became a new member. Patti announced our Chapter had 210 members and was the second largest Chapter in Texas. A Houston Chapter beat us out by a few members. She reminded members they receive a membership card attached to their renewal or new membership email from the State Chapter. This card can be used to receive a 10% discount from NICE! Nurseries.

Meeting Minutes
Continued on Page 14

August 3 General Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Karen Harden

<Continued from page 13>

Hospitality – Kim received notice from Chairperson Dave West that he could not make the meeting. Kim sent out a plea for help and members were very gracious in their response. Kim thanked all the members who provided a variety of refreshments.

Unfinished Business

The By-Laws and Standing Rules Committee have worked tirelessly on revisions and updates. The By-Laws and Standing Rules will be emailed to members and posted on our website in the members only page. Kim asks members to review the updated documents and be ready to vote on them during the September meeting.

New Business

The Native Plant Society of Texas will hold their Fall Symposium on November 3-4, 2017 at the Sam Houston Memorial Museum in Huntsville.

Announcements

Letha Aycock, Master Gardener from the Hillsboro area, brought cans of seeds of Indian Blankets, Sunflower, and Black-Eyed Susans. Envelopes were available for those wishing to take a few seeds.

Hester Schwarzer brought books that were left over from a party given in honor of Molly Hollar. Molly wanted to share her resources with other gardeners. Members were encouraged to take a few books.

An unfortunate incident occurred that left a few Wasowski books slightly water damaged. The books were offered to the members for a donation.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Cathy Downs presented the evening's program, "Bring Back the Monarchs".

Hulen Library, NC NPSOT Demonstration Garden

August 1, 2017

Fort Worth Southwest Regional Library, 4001 Library Lane

Visit the Hulen Library for a book and find yourself in a lovely native garden reading it! There are several benches in shade and sun for resting, reading or contemplating the beauty that native plants bring to a landscape. These photos taken in August demonstrate the incredible hardiness of our natives.

WORKDAYS: 2nd & 4th Thursday, 9 to noon Come on out and help garden!

LEADERS: Theresa Thomas & Char McMorrow

Plants featured in photos by Kim Conrow:

Muhly grass (*Muhlenbergia* sp.)

Horseherb (*Calyptocarpus vialis*)

Eve's Necklace (*Styphnolobium affine*)

Mexican Plum (*Prunus mexicana*)

Tropical/Scarlet Sage (*Salvia coccinea*)

Zexmenia (*Wedelia acapulensis*)

Mealy Blue Sage (*Salvia farinacea*)

Frogfruit (*Phyla nodiflora*)

Rock Rose (*Pavonia lasiopetala*)

Feathergrass (*Nassella tenuissima*)

Maximilian Sunflower (*Helianthus maximiliani*)

Orange milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)

Rock Rose (*Pavonia lasiopetala*)

Can you find these plants in the photos on this page and the next?

Photos
Continued on Page 16



Hulen Library, NC NPSOT Demonstration Garden

August 1, 2017

Fort Worth Southwest Regional Library, 4001 Library Lane

Continued from Page 15



To see a world
in a grain of sand
and
heaven in a
wildflower

William Blake



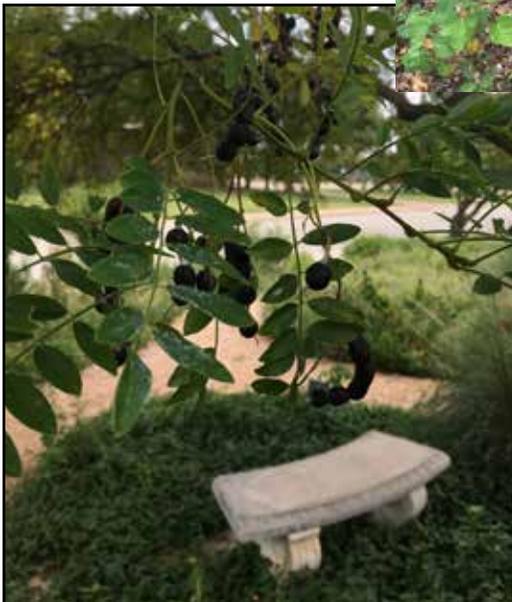
One person's weed
is another
person's wildflower

Susan W Albert



Where flowers bloom
So does hope.

Lady Bird Johnson



Magic exists.
Who can doubt it,
when there are
rainbows and wildflowers

Nora Roberts



Will You Help Our Chapter by Josephine Keeney

Dear Friends,

You may have heard that I want to cut back on my involvement with the Fall plant sale in 2018. The reason is the many projects that I am committed to, and I would like the fall season to be a little easier.

I volunteer at the Molly Hollar Wildscape every Wednesday and first Saturday and also lead a crew of 8 volunteers at the city greenhouse every Tuesday, where we raise the plants for the Wildscape and also the plants for the Wildscape sale which we have once a year and which is our only income. I have done this for 10 years and plan to continue as long as I am able.

Because the Wildscape sale and the NPSOT take place two weeks apart it is hard for me to lead the NPSOT fall sale. I plan to continue leading the Spring sale as long as I am needed.

Gailon and I are looking for a person who can train with us and be ready by Fall 2018 to lead the Fall Plant Sale. If you love Texas native plants, like to work hard and organize things and people, this is the job for you. You will have the satisfaction of knowing that you have helped to spread our message of conservation while at the same time helping our chapter earn the money needed to accomplish our many goals.

Hoping to hear from you.
Josephine Keeney



Join the Plant Sales Team by Josephine Keeney

Dear Friends,

We hope that your plants have survived this terrible heat we have had. Gailon and I have been working very hard to keep our plants alive so we can have a good selection. Hopefully you have been working on your plants as well. All of us working together can make a great difference.

The Plant Sale is September 30th at River Legacy Park in Arlington, just three weeks after our September meeting, so it is very important that we be ready.

Gailon has designed a new worksheet for you to list the name of your plant, sizes and quantities. This will make it very easy for you to list your plants. Also if you have a new species, this will give us time to make new plant signs for it.

We hope to have a large selection of butterfly host and nectar plants to keep our local butterflies and pollinators supplied with the good food they need. The butterflies and other pollinators are all very scarce due to the mosquito spraying and other factors that have been going on all around us, and we need to help them to rebuild their numbers as much as we can.

We have a good number of people signed up to bring plants and to help at the sale, but we could use more.

It is not too late for you to join our Sale Team.



BUY MORE NECTAR PLANTS FOR OUR MONARCHS



PLANTS READY TO GO TO A NEW HOME

5th Annual Flight of the Monarch Celebration

Saturday, September 23, beginning at 10 a.m. at Grand Central in Grand Prairie.

You are invited to celebrate the annual migration of the monarch butterfly from North America to Central Mexico at “Flight of the Monarch”, a free community festival set for Sept. 23 near Highway 161 and Warrior Trail. The family event will feature three butterfly releases, children’s activities, and live music.



DATE/TIME:

Saturday, September 23, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

LOCATION:

Grand Central (located in between Warrior Trail and Arkansas Lane off State Highway 161 near The Summit and Central Park) 2975 Esplanade / Grand Prairie / 75052

- o Free parking and shuttle service for event guests is available at Dubiski High School.
- o ADMISSION/ACTIVITIES:
- o Free admission, open to the public
- o Monarch butterfly releases at noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.
- o Live Music
- o Kid Zone: Petting Zoo, Photos with Mater and Lightning McQueen, kids’ crafts, and activities.
- o Costume contest

FIND OUT MORE:

Call 972-237-8107 or visit grandfungp.com or Mae Smith fmsmith@gptx.org – 972-237-8107

Clematis pitcherii in 3 stages of blooming

Photo submitted by
Dawn Hancock



Blooming Now

Eryngo
Eryngium leavenworthii

Looks like
purple pineapples.



Upcoming Prairie Conference

To Make a Prairie

To make a prairie
it takes a clover and one bee.
One clover, and a bee.
And revery.
The revery alone will do,
if bees are few,

Emily Dickinson

AMERICA'S GRASSLANDS CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 14-16, 2017
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

The fourth biennial America's Grasslands Conference will bring together diverse stakeholders to discuss the conservation of America's grasslands. We are very excited to announce a new partnership for this year with the Southern Plains and Prairies conference that will include some regionally focused sessions.

CO-HOSTED BY
National Wildlife Federation
Coastal Prairie Partnership
Native Prairies Association of Texas
Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service

For more information, visit www.nwf.org/grasslandsconference

SAVE THE DATE!

Photo Courtesy of Chris Emory

October Meeting

**NC NPSOT
“Plant Exchange”**

**October 5,
6:30**

**Visit us on the Web
at
www.txnativeplants.org**

The purpose of the Native Plant Society of Texas is to promote the conservation, research, and utilization of the native plants and plant habitats of Texas through education, outreach, and example.

Join the Native Plant Society of Texas!

Become a member of the Native Plant Society of Texas. Membership is open to any individual, family, or organization. Membership is renewable annually and extends for a year from the date we receive your original payment. If you wish to join, please indicate your category of membership, then clip and mail this application with the appropriate remittance to:

**Native Plant Society of Texas
PO Box 3017, Fredricksburg, TX 78624**

<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$25	<input type="checkbox"/> Family (2 or more)	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior (65+)	\$25	<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Limited Income	\$25	<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$250
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$35	<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting	\$500
<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime	\$1200		

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

County: _____

Phone: _____

Chapter Affiliation: _____ **North Central Chapter** _____

E-mail: _____

**The North Central Texas
NPSOT News**

is a monthly publication of the North Central Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas.

For changes of address or information about contributing to the newsletter, please contact the newsletter editor. The deadline for submitting articles for inclusion in the newsletter is the 15th of every preceding month.

**Troy Mullens, Editor
media@txnativeplants.org**