



## Chapter Leaders

President—Theresa Thomas

*kayleet@sbcglobal.net*

Vice President/Programs—

Martha Mullens

Recording Secretary—Dawn Hancock

Treasurer—Gailon Hardin

*ghardin@flash.net*

Hospitality Chair—Sheila Franklin

Membership Chair—Laura Penn

Events Coordinator—Dawn Hancock

NICE! Coordinator—Patti Maness

Education Chair—Merita Knapp

Ways & Means—Josephine Keeney

Web Site—Frank Keeney &

Troy Mullens

Field Trip Coordinator—Patti Maness

Audit Committee Chair—Laura Penn

Speaker's Bureau Coordinator—

Speaker's Bureau—Gailon Hardin

Outreach Chair—Laura Penn

Parliamentarian—Otto Witt

Facebook Manager—Sandra Fountain

Newsletter Editor—John Darling

Southwest Subcourthouse Garden

Leaders—Gailon Hardin &

Dawn Hancock

Hulen Regional Library Garden

Leaders—Theresa Thomas & Bill Hall

Molly Hollar Wildscape Garden

Leader—Molly Hollar

# N N North Central Texas P e w s S O T

Native Plant Society of Texas, North Central Chapter Newsletter  
Volume 27, Number 9, October 2015

## The President's Corner Theresa Kay Thomas

### PLANT SALE! PLANT SALE! – OCTOBER 3, 2015

The fall sale is just around the corner. If you have not seen a flyer check out the Web site for all the details. Josephine, Gailon and all the members who have helped them have done another superb job.

The program for the October 1 meeting is the annual plant swap, so bring your plants. Josephine leads this time during the meeting. Don't forget to bring something for the raffle table, too.

At the September board meeting we voted to move to a large room for 2016. We will be next door in the Rose Room starting in February.

October 18-24 is Texas Native Plant Week. There will be a tour at the Southwest Regional Subcourthouse on Saturday October 24, and we will have lunch afterward. There will be more information at the next meeting.

A special thanks to board and members that continually support this chapter. What a group!

Gardening – *Forever*, Housework – *Whenever*

## October Meeting

Thursday, October 1, 2015, 6:30 pm

Orchid Room, Deborah Briggs Moncrief Garden Center  
Fort Worth Botanic Gardens

## The Annual Plant Swap

The program for October will be the plant exchange. It works like this: Everybody brings a native plant. We all form a circle with our chairs. Then each person tells something useful about his/her plant and puts it in the middle of the circle. After everyone describes his/her plant, then we each draw a number. The person who has #1 goes first and chooses a plant. Then #2 can choose a plant from the circle or "steal" the plant from #1. If #1 has to give up

Visit us at  
*[ncnpsot.org](http://ncnpsot.org)* and  
*[www.txnativeplants.org](http://www.txnativeplants.org)*

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## Plant of the Month Josephine Keeney

### Host and Nectar Plants Featured at the Fall Plant Sale

Saturday, October 3 from 10 till 2 in the Pavilion at Randol Mill Park in Arlington

Thinking about attracting more butterflies when you choose plants at the sale? Here's a partial list of plants to look out for:

**Butterfly Weed, *Asclepias tuberosa***  
**Milkweed Vine, *Funastrum cynanchoides***  
Monarch and Queen



**Mexican Plum, *Prunus mexicana***  
Tiger Swallowtail

#### Most Favored Nectar Plants for Butterflies

Autumn Sage, *Salvia greggii*  
Bluemist Flower, *Conoclinium coelestinum*  
Carolina Phlox, *Phlox carolina*  
Goldenrod, *Solidago canadensis*  
Gregg's Mistflower, *Conoclinium greggii*  
Flame Acanthus, *Anisacanthus quadrifidus*  
Frostweed, *Verbesina virginica*  
Prairie Phlox, *Phlox pilosa*  
Mealy Blue Sage, Henry Duelberg, *Salvia farinacea*  
Purple Coneflower, *Echinacea purpurea*  
Rock Rose, *Pavonia lasiopetala*  
Texas Lantana, *Lantana urticoides*  
Turk's Cap, *Malvaviscus drummondii*  
Western Ironweed, *Vernonia baldwinii*

**Zexmenia, *Wedelia texana***  
Bordered Patch



Find more native plant information at [www.texasstar.org](http://www.texasstar.org), a forum for Texas gardeners dedicated to the cultivation and propagation of Texas native plants.

**Plant of the Month** continued from page 2

**Host and Nectar Plants Featured at the Fall Plant Sale**

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**False Nettle, *Boehmeria cylindrica***  
Red Admiral, Question Mark

**Toothache Tree, *Zanthoxylum hirsutum***  
Giant Swallowtail



**Maypop Passion Vine, *Passiflora incarnata***  
Gulf Fritillary, Zebra Longwing



**Wild Petunia, *Ruellia nudiflora***  
Texan Crescent,  
Buckeye Butterfly



## Annual Quilt Raffle

NPSOT will have its annual quilt raffle at this year's symposium on October 15-18 in Austin. This year's quilt was hand-made using previous symposium t-shirts and donated by Tricia Hopkins of the Cross Timbers chapter. Tickets are \$2.00 each and the drawing will be held on October 18. Dawn will have tickets at our next meeting.

All of the money goes to the Ann Miller Gonzales Graduate Research Grant Fund and the Kate Hillhouse Undergraduate Scholarship Fund. These funds were set up to help college students seeking degrees in natural sciences that include research on native plants.

Many of you may not know that the number of students pursuing degrees in this field has dropped by half since 1988, and so it's imperative (not to mention one of our stated missions as a society) that we encourage more students to pursue degrees related to native plants.

### **Ann Miller Gonzalez Graduate Research Grants**

The Native Plant Society of Texas will award a research grant to a university graduate student for academic research related to Texas native plants and/or to conservation and restoration of native-plant habitats of Texas. The award will be up to \$2000 for the duration of the grantee's research project.

### **Kate Hillhouse Scholarship**

The Society will award up to \$1000 for the academic year to an applicant enrolled in an undergraduate program in biology, botany, horticulture, landscape design, or related field at an accredited university or college in the state of Texas who is pursuing a career related to Texas native plants and/or to conservation and restoration of native plant habitats in Texas.

## The President's Corner continued from page 1

his/her plant, then he/she chooses another from the circle. This process continues around the circle until everyone has a plant. A plant can only be stolen twice.

It is hilarious. If you have never been to one of these, you have missed a great deal of fun. You also learn a lot about each plant from some very informed people.

## Workdays

**Southwest Subcourthouse** on Granbury Road in Fort Worth: second Saturday and last Thursday of each month beginning at 9:00 am. Gailon Hardin and Dawn Hancock in charge.

**Hulen Street Regional Library** in Fort Worth: second and fourth Thursday of each month beginning at 8:30 am. Bill Hall and Theresa Thomas in charge.

**Molly Hollar Wildscape** at Veterans Park in Arlington: Wednesdays and fourth Saturday of each month 9:00 am – 12:00. Also, Tuesdays 9:00 am – 12:00 at the greenhouse in Randol Mill Park in Arlington.

## Executive Board Meeting Minutes: September 3, 2015 Dawn Hancock

President Theresa Thomas called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm. Executive Board members present were Treasurer Gailon Hardin, Secretary Dawn Hancock, Webmaster Frank Keeney, Plants Sales Chairperson Josephine Keeney, NICE! Chairperson Patti Maness, Education Chairperson Merita Knapp, and Hospitality Chairperson Sheila Franklin. Others present were Kim Conrow and Jim Thomas.

**President's Report:** President Thomas reported the need for the chapter to rent a larger room from the Botanical Gardens because attendance at monthly meetings has increased beyond the capacity of the present room. The Rose Room is available. Pattie Maness moved to rent the Rose Room at \$50 per month for the next year. Merita Knapp seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Gailon Hardin reported that because the Chase Branch Bank, with whom North Central Chapter has its account, had its computers down she could give only a partial report. She reported disbursements for 20 aprons for the Plant Sale at \$13.27 each to Red Dog Studios. She also reported that members could take in a shirt to have the North Central Chapter logo embroidered on for a cost of \$5.90. Ms. Hardin passed out cards for Red Dog Studios.



### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Education:** Chairperson Merita Knapp reported on the classes for the Native Landscaping Certification Program. Level I and Level III will take place at the Deborah Griggs Moncrief Conservatory in the Azalea Room at the Fort Worth Botanical Gardens. Level I is scheduled for October 31, and Level III is scheduled for November 7. Ms. Knapp also noted that the Society is reaching out to governmental organizations that have the use of plants as part of their mission to fill upcoming Level I NLCP classes because the first sources of participants (Master Gardeners, Master Naturalists, and NPSOT members) have completed Level I. A minimum number of class participants is required or a class must be canceled.

Ms. Knapp also reported that the state Society is investigating an educational project with TxDOT to install Monarch Waystations at Salado and Hillsboro rest stops on I-35. Volunteers to maintain the Waystations would come from nearby chapters.

**Field Trips:** Field Trips Chairperson Patti Maness announced that North Central Chapter will host a field trip October 24, 2015 to the native gardens at Southwest Regional Library and Southwest Sub-courthouse. Following the garden viewing, members will go to Luby's cafeteria on Hulen Street for lunch.

**Hospitality:** Hospitality Chairperson Sheila Franklin reported on the need for a back-up list of persons who can be called on to bring refreshments if a scheduled member cancels. The following members have agreed to be back-ups: Merita Knapp, Martha Mullens, Patti Maness, and Theresa Thomas.

**NICE!:** Nice! Chairperson Patti Maness presented the Plant of the Season which is Little Bluestem. She had an example of the plant on hand, donated by John Snowden. The plant was given to the plant sale after its demonstration.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

**Plant Sales:** Chairperson Josephine Keeney reported that the Randol Mill Park site for the fall plant sale is being mapped for the day of the sale.

There being no New Business President Thomas adjourned the Executive Board meeting at 6:15 pm.

## Regular Meeting Minutes: September 3, 2015 Dawn Hancock

President Theresa Thomas called the regular meeting of the North Central Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas to order at 6:30 pm on September 3, 2015.

Visitor Clair Brown and new member Susie Oughton were welcomed. Ms. Oughton is from Lake Highlands Chapter.

President Thomas called for corrections to the minutes of August, 2015. There were no corrections. Patti Maness moved that the minutes be approved as they appeared in the Chapter newsletter. Nancy Price seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.



Treasurer Gailon Hardin reported to the membership that the Chase Branch Bank's computers were down and she had no report. She also reported that aprons for the upcoming native plant sale had been purchased and logos attached. Ms. Hardin told members that they could get any shirt they had affixed with the North Central Chapter logo at Red Dog Studios for \$5.90.

### Committee Reports:

Events Chairperson Dawn Hancock called for more volunteers for EcoFest in Arlington on September 19. A sign-up sheet was circulated.

Hospitality Chairperson Sheila Franklin asked for members to sign up to back up providers for refreshments when the designated member has to cancel.

Field Trip Chairperson Patti Maness announced a field trip to the native plant gardens at Southwest Regional Library and Southwest Sub-courthouse to take place October 24; this will coincide with Native Plant Week. The trip will last from 9:00 until noon, followed by lunch at Luby's cafeteria on Hulen Street.

Education Chairperson Merita Knapp reported on upcoming classes of the Native Landscaping Certification Program. Members who wish to take the class may sign up on the state Web site or the chapter Web site. A minimum number of participants must sign up or the class will be canceled.

Nominations Chairperson Dawn Hancock reported on the progress of the committee. The committee consists of Ms. Hancock, Nancy Price and Melissa Inman. The offices requiring a nominee are President and Vice-president. Starr Krottinger accepted the nomination for President, and Kim Conrow accepted the nomination for Vice-



president. The slate of officers recommended for election is:

President: Starr Krottinger  
 Vice-president: Kim Conrow  
 Treasurer: Gailon Hardin  
 Secretary: Dawn Hancock

Nominations from the floor will be accepted with the approval of the nominee until the November meeting.

### Unfinished Business:

Plant Sale Chairperson Josephine Keeney announced the North Central Chapter plant sale at Randol Mill Park from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm on October 3.

Another plant sale for native plants is the Molly Hollar Wildscape plant sale at the greenhouse at Randol Mill Park on September 26. Flyers for both plant sales were distributed.

There was no new business. President Thomas adjourned the meeting at 6:55 pm. We then heard a program entitled "Prairies" by RJ Taylor, Conservation Director for Connemara Conservancy Foundation, a Regional Land Trust.

## The Advantages of Waiting Dawn Hancock

One of my constant chores in the garden is weeding. Strangely, I don't mind weeding because I can solve the world's problems while I remove Bermuda grass and day flower. I marvel at the root system on these two forever weeds. I can hold them at bay but I cannot get rid of them.

Every so often as I am weeding I am just about to pull up a plant, but then I pause. What is this? I've never seen this before in my garden beds. What could it be? So, I remove my hand from the interloper and decide to wait. I'm curious to see what the mature plant will look like. Maybe Mother Nature gave me a gift of a plant I would like.

By waiting I have received cost-free three native plants that I have not seen at our nurseries. Last year it was *Monarda fistulosa*. The blooms on this plant are the typical tubular monard in a shade of pinky lavender. This is a perennial monard, unlike horse mint or bee balm, which are annuals.



The first year's growth was about a 12-inch mounding plant. The second year was a

whole nuther story. Maybe the spring rains had an effect, but my tidy last year's mound became a two and a half foot monster, but still very inviting in the shape of the mound and the prolific blooms.



This year while pulling out snail seed vine, I was about to give a handful a good yank, and then I noticed the leaves. This part of the vine showed leaves a little duller green and with a trilobed shape. After carefully inspecting the plant, I found small, almost insignificant, yellowish flowers along the vine. To me, they appeared to be somewhat similar to passion flower. Further investigation affirmed my guess: Mother Nature had blessed me with *Passiflora lutea*, one of the passifloras favored by the Gulf fritillary butterfly as a host plant for its larvae. Yippee!

Also, this year a "weed" appeared in garden that was saved from removal by its smell. Rubbing the leaves evoked the most definite, to me at least, odor of chopped green bell pepper. Well, I had to find out what that was so I didn't pull it. Several weeks

later it produced a flower that identified it as a weed... clammy weed, a summer annual that produces many seed pods filled with tiny black seeds to be sure you will have enough of the plant next year. The flowers attract both bees and butterflies, but the poor bees are completely stymied from getting to nectar by the multiple long stamens while the giant swallow tail and tiger swallow tail butterflies stand on their tippy toes on the stamens and drink enthusiastically from the nectar. Gailon Hardin warns me that I will regret keeping this plant because of its aggressiveness from seed, but right now it is worth keeping just for the insect show around the flowers.



So, fellow native plant gardener, the take-home lesson is to watch what you pull. It may be a plant you would welcome to your garden.

## Nominations Committee Report Dawn Hancock

This year's nominating committee is composed of three members chosen by Theresa Thomas and approved by the Executive Board. They are Dawn Hancock, Melissa Inman, and Nancy Price. Melissa offered her home as a place for the committee's meeting to find two officers, President and Vice-president.

Gailon Hardin agreed to stay in office as Treasurer and Dawn Hancock agreed to stay on as Secretary for one extra year.

The aim of the committee was to find willing candidates who either had not served in the past or who had only recently become more active in the Chapter. This aim was propelled by the need to have fresh perspectives guide the work of the Chapter.

**Starr Krottinger**, formerly Vice-president of the Chapter, agreed to take on the job of Chapter President if elected. Here is a little bit about her: Starr thinks she has been a member of North Central Chapter since 2012. She is a retired librarian, serving many institutions in that capacity. Her last employment as librarian was with Arlington Public Library, where she served for fifteen years. Starr is married to Ray, who is also a member of North Central Chapter. They have two grown daughters, Hannah and Rachel, and three grandsons. Their family is completed by two schnauzers and a mutt. Starr is also a Tarrant County Master Gardener in charge of native grasses in the Tarrant County Master Gardener dis-

play gardens at the Resource Connection. She is also an Arlington Master Composter and has completed training to become a Citizen Forester. Starr and Ray's home is in northern Tarrant County on the prairie, and she says being a lazy but conservative minded gardener led her to use Texas natives. Their one-acre tract contains almost exclusively Texas natives that require little water and none of the additional inputs needed by non-native plants.

**Kim Conrow** agreed to be Chapter Vice-president if elected. Here is a little bit about her: Kim has been a member of North Central Chapter since 1997. After retiring from teaching as a high school science teacher, Kim invested her energy in keeping her home on the Fort Worth prairie as close as possible to its original native flora and in raising her son Adam who is now 21 and a student at Texas Tech. Adam is an Eagle Scout whose culminating project was designing and installing a native plant garden at Bicentennial Park in Crowley. Husband Ray is also a North Central Texas Chapter member who retired from Alcon as a synthetic organic chemist. Now Ray is enjoying becoming a Master Naturalist, which puts him in good company with many of our mem-



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## Nominations Committee Report *continued from page 8*

bers who are also Master Naturalists.

**Gailon Hardin** has been the Chapter's longtime treasurer and has agreed to fill that position again if elected. Here is a little about Gailon. She has been a member since 1999, she thinks — in other words too long to remember. Before retiring in 1999, she worked in several capacities for Texas Electric Service Company. Her last task for TESCO was to supervise the change to digital accounting, which she finds amusing considering her ongoing battle with her personal computer. After retiring, besides joining North Central Chapter, she became a Tarrant County Master Gardener, a Master Naturalist, and a Master Composter. Gailon is a member of the speaker's bureau for TCMG, specializing in talks on water conservation and how Texas native plants fit into a waterwise program and enhance the ecosystem. Gailon is a propagation spe-

cialist, which serves her own needs and the Chapter's need for Texas native plants for our plant sales. Gailon lives on nearly one acre of Cross Timbers with her pools Chile Penquin and Sumac. She has converted this acreage from St. Augustine lawn to Texas natives, hence her need to be an excellent propagator.

**Dawn Hancock** has agreed to undertake a second year as Chapter Secretary if elected. She became a member of the Chapter soon after its formation, left to devote time to teaching, and returned in 2003 after retiring as a high school science teacher. Dawn remembers establishing early Texas native gardens at North Richland Hills Post Office, Southwest Regional Library, and Green Mama's. She has also spent time in the research labs at the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Dallas and as a parttime instructor in Human Anatomy and Physiology at Tarrant County College. Dawn's interest in Texas native plants is an extension of her lifelong love of gardening. Dawn is married to Tom, a retired cabinet-maker and has one son, Jeffrey, and two grandsons.

This is the slate of officers you will be voting on in November. Other nominations can be made from the floor with the permission of the person being nominated.

### *Celebrate Texas Native Plant Week*

#### **NPSOT Field Trip**

Saturday October 24  
9:00-12:00

***Native Plants =  
Healthy Habitats***

Our fall field trip is to the Native Gardens at the Southwest Sub-Courthouse and Southwest Regional Library. We will meet at the Sub-Courthouse at 9:00. Gailon Hardin and Dawn Hancock will give us a tour of the garden. We will then head to the library where Theresa Thomas and Bill Hall will lead the tour.

After the tour we will have a Dutch treat lunch at Luby's Cafeteria.

Hope to see you all there.

**Southwest Sub-Courthouse  
6551 Granbury Rd  
Fort Worth TX 76133**

**Southwest Regional Library  
4001 Library Lane  
Fort Worth, TX 76109**

Located on South Hulen Street  
6 blocks north of SW Loop 820  
at the corner of South Hulen  
and Briarhaven Road.

**Luby's Cafeteria  
5901 S. Hulen  
Fort Worth, TX 76132**

RSVP to Patti Maness or sign-up at the October NPSOT meeting

[jim.maness@sbcglobal.net/](mailto:jim.maness@sbcglobal.net/)  
817-275-0477



## Next Meeting

Thursday, October 1  
7:00 pm  
Fort Worth  
Botanic Gardens

*The Annual Plant Swap*

Visit us on the Web  
at  
[www.txnativeplants.org](http://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.

John Darling, Editor  
[newseditor@txnativeplants.org](mailto:newseditor@txnativeplants.org)