



# NCNPS News

Native Plant Society of Texas, North Central Chapter Newsletter  
Volume 24, Number 9, September 2012

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## The President's Corner Nancy Laine Price, PhD

Heard it through the grapevine that many of you braved the heat to hear Will McClatchy's excellent speech at the August meeting. At the September meeting you'll have the opportunity to hear about Rebecca Swadek's work regarding the Walnut Clay region of Texas (those neat little fossils) and the various flora that reside there.

The award-winning Josephine Keeney will lead the plant sale along with Gailon Hardin who is making the plant stickers and Patti Maness who is in charge of the big signs. Dawn Hancock and Starr Krottinger recently spent time at Gailon's bumping up plants into bigger pots. If you would like to help in any way with the plant sale, October 13, let Josephine know. Remember this year everyone who grows plants gets a share of the profits so even if you have only a couple of flats to sell, sign them up.

Speaking of Starr, she would like to send out a survey on what the members would like to hear from future speakers. Be thinking of interesting programs and watch for the surveys.

As part of Native Plant Week, October 20 will be a tour of demonstration gardens of native plants in our area: the Hulen Library, the Mollie Hollar Wildscape, and the Southwest Sub-Courthouse. See you in the gardens.

### Chapter Leaders

Nancy Price - President  
*nprice@uta.edu*  
Starr Krottinger - Vice President (Programs)  
Gailon Hardin - Treasurer  
*ghardin@flash.net*  
Theresa Thomas - Secretary  
Tracy Bryant - NICE! Coordinator  
Frank Keeney - Communications  
*webmaster@txnativeplants.org*  
Gailon Hardin - Southwest Subcourthouse Garden Leader  
Theresa Thomas - Hulen Regional Library Garden Leader  
Patty Maness - Hospitality & Field Trips  
Dawn Hancock - Parliamentarian  
Molly Hollar - Molly Hollar Wildscape Garden Leader  
*molly@thewildscape.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.*

Visit us at  
***ncnpsot.org*** and  
***txnativeplants.org***

## September meeting

Thursday, September 6, 7:00 pm  
Orchid Room, Deborah Beggs Moncrief Garden Center,  
Fort Worth Botanic Gardens

Program: Rebecca Swadek is our September speaker. She is a dynamic young lady who is currently Herbarium Collections Assistant – Field Botanist at BRIT. She has been with BRIT since 2009. Becca has recently completed her MS at TCU with a concentration in botany. Her thesis, *The Vascular Flora of the North Central Texas Walnut Formation*, will provide the material for her talk to us in September. Her study looks at the relationship between geological formations and the flora associated with them. Maybe that will answer why we can't grow what we want where we want it!

## Plant of the Month Josephine Keeney

Texas frogfruit, Turkey Tangle frogfruit, *Phyla nodiflora*, Verbenaceae

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 it makes 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.

Frogfruit is semi-evergreen in North Central Texas. It is 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 verbena-like flowers.

Butterflies love to nectar on the lovely little flowers and the leaves are larval food for the Phaon Crescentspot, Buckeye, and White Peacock butterflies.

Considering all these good points, frogfruit should have a special place in the yard and the butterfly garden.



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.

## Native Plant Workdays

**Southwest Subcourthouse** on Granbury Road in Fort Worth 2nd Saturday and last Wednesday of each month beginning at 9:00 am. Gailon Hardin in charge

**Hulen Street Regional Library** in Fort Worth 3rd Wednesday of each month beginning at 9:00 am. Evaline Woodrey in charge

**Molly Hollar Wildscape** at Veterans Park in Arlington Wednesdays and the first Saturday of each month beginning at 9:00 am (winter hours)

**Tuesdays at the greenhouse** in Randol Mill Park in Arlington beginning at 9:00 am

## Fall Native Plant Sale Josephine Keeney, plant sale coordinator

Our fall plant sale at the Botanic Gardens is coming up on October 13.

I am sure you know this is one of our best fundraisers, and we need all the help we can get to make it a great success.

You can donate native plants to the sale or get a share of the sale price. We would be most appreciative either way. Call or email me for details.

The plants need to be in the pots that they are going to be sold in by the first of September in order to give them time to make roots by the sale date.

Please let me know as soon as possible, what type of plants and how many of each, so Gailon can make labels for them and so that we can list them in our flyer.

You can also contribute by helping at the sale and if not, please come by and purchase some of our beautiful plants.

To those of you who have already promised to bring plants or to help at the sale, thank you very much, you are Earth Angels.

Please send me your list of plants as soon as you can. If you have questions please call me at 817-846-8585 or email me at [josephine@texasstar.org](mailto:josephine@texasstar.org)



## Thanks, Gailon



I am borrowing a small corner of your wonderful newsletter to say a special thanks to Gailon Hardin, Mother Earth in human form, for service to the community above and beyond anyone's expectations. Only 3 days after her return

*Left: Gailon explains the native plant landscaping around Arlington's City Hall at last year's Eco Fest.*

from a much-deserved vacation and still convalescing, Gailon was kind enough to address members of the Heart of Arlington Neighborhood Association on the subject of — what else? — native plants in the garden. Besides her obvious knowledge she was interesting, inspiring, warm, and funny; the audience loved her. Thank you, Gailon. Come back soon.

*Grace Darling, President, HANA*

## Invasive Plant Workshop Marilyn Sallee

Saturday, September 29, 10 am – 3 pm.  
Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge

Texas Invasive Workshop:  
Learn how to identify invasive plants and help prevent them from spreading in our community. During this workshop you will learn what is an invasive



plant, some of the common ones in our area and what steps can you take on your property to improve native species. Bring water and wear outdoor gear and bring GPS and camera if you have them.

FREE (with paid admission).  
Bring your own sack lunch.

Please call to reserve a spot:  
817-392-7410.

## Andy Wasowski

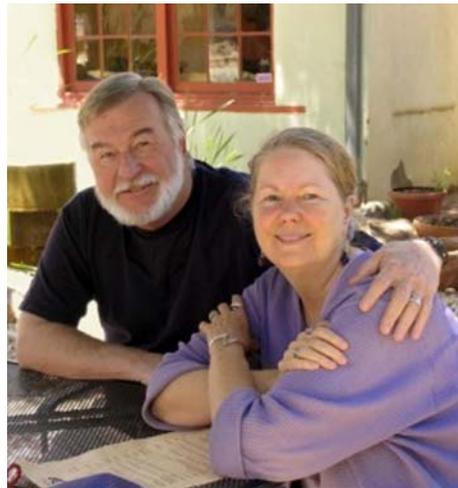
Although it has been a few years since they lived in Texas, Andy and Sally Wasowski were active in NPSOT before moving to New Mexico. Some may know them personally, others may not.

Please pass this on to those you think appropriate. *Carol Feldman*

Dear Friends of Andy Wasowski, As you may know, Andy Wasowski, 73, died peacefully August 1, 2012, in Taos, New Mexico, in the arms of his loved ones: wife, Sally Wasowski; daughter, Sora Brodie; and extended family friend, Martha Bonner. Andy had a reoccurrence of prostate cancer; radiation & chemotherapy over the past few months weakened him further, and he couldn't fight it. We will miss him dearly.

Andy spent 30 years in the advertising business, writing and producing TV commercials for top ad agencies in Los Angeles and New York, and later had his own agency in Dallas. During his career he received numerous awards, including the Clio, which is the advertising industry's Oscar.

In the mid-1980s, Andy took time off to help Sally write a book on landscaping with native plants. That book, *Native Texas Plants: Landscaping Region by Region*, is used today as a main gardening reference by many who love landscaping with natives. The



book sold more than 150,000 copies, and Andy never returned to the advertising business. He became a freelance writer and photographer specializing in gardening and environmental issues, and his articles appeared in many well-respected magazines. He especially loved writing his comic novel, *Sellin' the Sizzle*, based on his years in the advertising biz.

Together, the Wasowskis wrote 10 books on native landscaping. They were honored by the Native Plant Society of Texas in 2005 with an Award of Appreciation with Honorary Life Membership.

A group of Andy's friends and associates are going to make a memorial donation in his name to The Celebration Tree Grove (CTG) at White Rock Lake Park and thought that perhaps some of you might like to join us and do the

same.

Andy and his wife Sally lived in Dallas near White Rock Lake for many years before they moved to New Mexico. The Celebration Tree Grove is a lovely area at the lake filled with native trees that have been planted to honor, to remember, and to celebrate lake lovers past, present, and future.

Would you join us in remembering Andy in this beautiful, peaceful place? If our combined gifts total \$1,000 or more, a bronze plaque of remembrance for Andy Wasowski will be placed on the monument wall in The Celebration Tree Grove Plaza. All funds go toward reforestation and tree maintenance at White Rock Lake Park.

Attached are links to a two-page CTG brochure for information and a one-page CTG donation form. Mail your tax-deductible check to For the Love of the Lake (a 501(c)(3) non-profit) at the address listed on the donation form. Somewhere on the form and on your check (there is no official line for this) write "For Andy Wasowski."

At the bottom, under Please Notify, add  
Sally Wasowski  
PO Box 607  
Arroyo Seco, NM 87514-0607

Sally's email:  
[maggiemum@yahoo.com](mailto:maggiemum@yahoo.com)



**Next Meeting**

Thursday, September 6  
7:00 pm  
Fort Worth  
Botanic Gardens

**Rebecca Swadek**

*Flora of the  
Walnut Formation*

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

**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  
830-997-9272

<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$15	<input type="checkbox"/> Couple/Family	\$40
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Individual (65+)	\$20	<input type="checkbox"/> Group	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Couple (one 65+)	\$30	<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$25	<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$250
		<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting	\$500
		<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Sponsor	\$1000
		<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime	\$1000

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.

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