

FIELD JOURNAL



SHARING WITH FELLOW CAMNER'S

Isn't this an amazing image? Al Janelle, one of our very multi-talented members took this picture last week and agreed to let me share it with you all. He told us that he took a photo of the cute little arachnid that keeps Debbie company when she feeds the fish. "It has been hanging out on a particular rock at the edge of the streambed for several days now. It decided to move away from its observation perch when I aimed my camera at it. It crawled away very slowly into the ferns and I was lucky to get a crisp shot. Pretty neat."

Al often shares his images with several of us and I know he isn't the only one of us who sees some incredible things

in their yard. So, next time you see something wonderful please share with the rest of us CAMNers.

While still on the subject of sharing I need to ask you all for your help. Dena has done a wonderful job this year as editor but she wants to get back out into the field. This means that there is a wonderful opportunity out there for one of you. If you would like to take over the *Field Notes* or just help out then please contact me as soon as possible so we can get you started. We currently use a Mac for the layout but this can be changed if you are a PC user. Come on and show us your artistic side!

Christine Powell

Meeting

November 18,
2009

6:30 p.m.

Austin Nature
and Science
Center



Jewell Pollard: "Texas Native Americans" includes lore, facts and artifacts. Jewel will mesmerize you with tales of Central Texas Native American history and a display of artifacts. Learn how to start a fire by rubbing sticks together, how to grind meal between stones, and what types of arrowheads are used for hunting.

CAMN Board Meeting

Join the Board of Directors for a spirited discussion about CAMN business on November 4, 2009 at 6:45pm. Meetings are held at the AOMA Campus, 2700 W. Anderson Ln., Ste. 512 Austin, TX 78757. Contact any Board Member for details. The Board meets on odd-numbered months only.

Volunteer and Advanced Training Opportunities

Visit the CAMN website at www.camn.org and log in to the CAMN Volunteer Calendar to start fulfilling those volunteer hours.

Image courtesy of Al Janelle

Cammie Wins Second Place

The following note was sent to Simonetta by Steven Brueggerhoff for the CAMN entry into the Scarecrow contest at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center:

“I wanted to thank you so much for the Capital Area Master Naturalist’s participation with our Scarecrow Contest at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. We had public voting on a day for each entry, and the results are in for the contest:

First Place: Flora Fancy, exhibited by the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center Flower Ladies

Second Place: Cammie, exhibited by the Capital Area Master Naturalists

Third Place: TADD Fuse, exhibited by the City of Austin Watershed Protection Department

Fourth Place: Ferny O’Grotto, exhibited by Westcave Preserve



Your organization had great exposure with this exhibit for over 2 weeks in the gardens at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. You especially had wonderful exposure during our 4th annual Goblins In the Garden event held on Sunday, October 25th. We had 1,466 people enjoy your scarecrow over a 3 hour event period. I will continue to provide promotion for your organization through our website; we are still getting images together from Goblins In the Garden and look for our thanks for your support at [URL: http://www.wildflower.org/goblins/](http://www.wildflower.org/goblins/) toward mid-week. Included within this email are pictures of Cammie as well as the rest of the contestants.”

We hope you all got to see Cammie while she was at the Wildflower Center and we hope we can make this an annual event.



The Simple Beauty of Sparrows

Coming from the Anglo-Saxon word ‘spearwa’ and literally meaning ‘flutterer’, sparrows often conjure up images of the ubiquitous and non-native House sparrow and the House finch, which isn’t a sparrow at all. While most sparrows are generally small to medium brown birds with streaks, the differences between sparrows can best be determined by their relative size, head markings, and habitat.

All sparrows have conical bills that they use to shell seeds, a primary component of their diet year-round, but especially so in the winter months. There is little difference between the males and the females in terms of appearance, but males are on average larger than females. As a group, most sparrows are birds of grasslands, prairies, and marshes, and seem to prefer weedy fields and woodland edges in the winter. Of the sparrow species that migrate, none travel further than the southern United States or northern Mexico.

One of our most common winter sparrows is the Chipping sparrow (upper right). Small and slim, with a long notched tail, rusty cap, white stripe over the eye and a black line

through the eye, this sparrow moves in loose flocks and frequently feeds in short grass and open woods. While still fairly abundant, this sparrow is declining in numbers, mainly due to habitat destruction, and winters in the southern part of the United States. When first identified in 1810 by an American ornithologist, it was nicknamed ‘the social sparrow’ for it was easily approached and associated with human habitation.

A fairly large sparrow, the White-crowned sparrow (below left) is distinguished by its black and white striped head, unmarked gray breast, and dark pink bill. It is found in large groups in thickets and weedy areas, foraging on the ground. Discovered in 1772 by a German naturalist, this sparrow was originally named the ‘white-eyebrowed bunting’, for in the Old World, sparrows were usually called buntings.

Found in a variety of grassy habitats, and often in small flocks, is the Savannah



sparrow (below right). Streaked on both their back and their breast, Savannah’s have pink legs, yellow above the eye, a thin white median crown stripe, and a short notched tail. First described by a British ornithologist in 1790, it was called a ‘sandwich bunting’ due to the first specimens being collected from Sandwich Bay in the Aleutian Islands of Alaska.



Lincoln's sparrow (right) is a medium-sized bird with a rather short tail, broad gray stripe above the eye, buffy moustache stripe, and a buffy upper breast with crisp, blackish streaks. Found in winter in brushy edges of ponds and other moist areas, this sparrow was named by John James Audubon in 1833 after his research companion, Thomas Lincoln, shot the first specimen in Labrador.

Sparrows are gregarious and are often our most hardy winter visitors. Adorned in various shades of brown, gray, black, and white, they reflect the subdued hues of a winter landscape. Often dismissed as 'little brown birds' when seen with the naked eye, these birds invite closer inspection and are nature's way of reminding us that subtle colors and patterns can be beautiful, too!



Send your nature-related questions to naturewatch@austin.rr.com and we'll do our best to answer them.



Farewell to CAMN

Five years ago, in November 2004, I was an eager master naturalist novice, so happy to be sitting in the CAMN 2005 Class Orientation, though not knowing a soul there. Fast forward to November 2009 and I'm still a novice, but, oh, so much richer for having the opportunity and honor to have known and learned from so many of you and participated in my own small ways to build the CAMN network of volunteers and improve the natural worlds of central Texas.

As Mike and I head to the Denver, Colorado, area for the next phase of life, I thank each and every one of you for helping me grow in so many ways! May CAMN live forever!

Humbly yours,
Theresa Pella



Congratulations!

Andrea Hamilton, left (pictured with Lynne Weber) was just one of the several members of the class of 2009 who received their nametags after fulfilling all their obligations. Well done and let's all try to get our hours in soon!

New Vice-President

At the November Meeting of the CAMN Board of Directors, Christine Powell was elected to replace Theresa Pella as Vice President. A native of Ely, Cambridgeshire, but now living in Georgetown, Christine has been on the Board for three years as Communications Chair, with oversight of *Field Notes* and the chapter website.

FIELD PREP: BY CHERYL GOVEIA

Inside Austin Garden Tour, an Educational Opportunity for CAMN

We have all come to the Capital Area Master Naturalists (CAMN) from various routes. When I did the CAMN program this year I met many others that followed a path similar to mine: via the Travis County Master Gardener Association (TCMGA). I found out at nearly the same time in the fall of 2008 that I had both been accepted into the CAMN program for the following spring and was asked to be on the Inside Austin Gardens Tour (a biennial event sponsored by the TCMGA) for the following October. This left me with 13 months to get my property in shape, while attending the CAMN program and doing my volunteer duties to complete my certification. Last year provided me with the complex situation of dealing with both organizations in very different ways. I was exempt from volunteer work in the TCMGA because, as anyone who has ever opened up their yard knows, it takes hundreds of hours to prepare, not to mention dollars. But while I worked on this challenging endeavor, CAMN exposed me to new visions of interpreting a landscape while considering more ecological factors than I had previously. The Master Gardeners



consciously decided to frame the theme of their tour including gardens that are Certified Backyard Habitats with the National Wildlife Federation, and that is why I was asked to participate. To see about having your yard certified, follow this link: <https://secure.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife/certify.cfm?campaignid=WH09ASLP>

The tour took place Saturday, October 24th; the day before was open to garden club members, neighbors, friends and family for a preview. Several CAMNers showed up both days and it was wonderful to see their faces among the crowd. The attendance at my home on Saturday reached 620; the preview was attended by approximately 125. It was an exhilarating experience and I felt honored to have so many people express gratitude for opening up my space and the enthusiasm that built throughout the day was contagious. Vickie Blackman, who writes about herbs for Texas Gardener magazine presented two lectures from my culinary garden that were well attended, while Rosemary Russell of TCMGA presented three

walking tours entitled Conscious Gardening explaining the permaculture and habitat information regarding the various garden rooms and recycled artwork. I wondered around talking to people about “why” I did what I did and had many opportunities to answer questions about the various critter homes and constructed habitats. Our 2009 CAMN class decided to create both Solitary Bee and Screech Owl Habitats which have been in place in my yard (along with the locations we donated them to) since May of this year. I brought wood from my old 6 foot fence (it takes just one and a half planks to make the Owl house) kept one and gave the rest to be donated. I also ended up with several Solitary Bee Habitats and am happy to report that they are being used! There are many Screech Owl homes in my Crestview neighborhood and when we walk the dogs at sunset you can sometimes hear their call. The Bee Habitats were less well known to those who visited my garden and I was able to point them out, generating a lot of interest. I also made certain to point out



the Martin house and Bee Habitat that I had the church across the street install as well. Last year I organized a neighborhood street planting around the church and along our street using 17 trees donated by Tree Folks and we are on our way to having the church property certified as a wildlife habitat as well!

In many ways the Master Gardener and Master Naturalist programs are very different. For example I can't imagine sitting through 4 hours of lecture on turf or chemical usage in a CAMN class (and I don't recommend it) and MG's probably wouldn't be willing to sit through scat lectures or examination...but when it comes to educating the public about pollinators and native plantings we can all agree upon the importance of protecting and promoting healthy habitats.



Note the sealed holes on the Bee Habitat which indicate usage! Go to http://www.xerces.org/wp-content/uploads/2008/10/nest_factsheet1.pdf for a leaflet on different Bee Habitats.



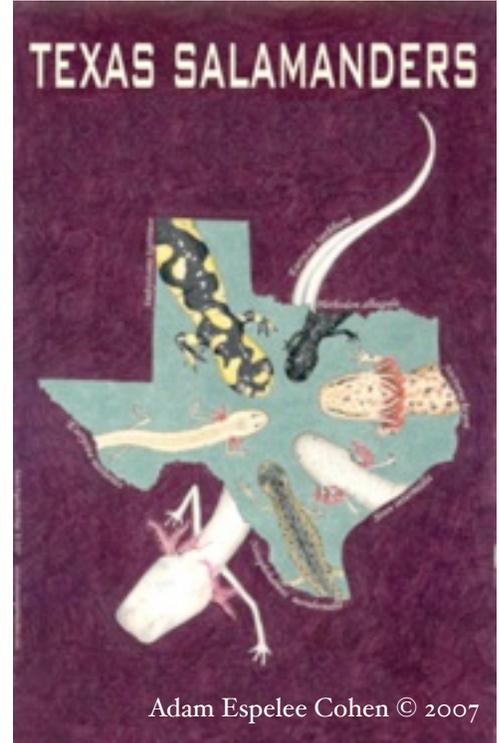
Marsha May Entertains!

At the October monthly meeting, Marsha May of Texas Parks and Wildlife provided an overview of the Nature Tracker programs the department oversees. These assemble data on key Texas species, gathered by a network of citizen scientists. CAMN was among the first partners that TPWD recruited for these programs, and many chapter members remain involved in one or more of the Nature Tracker programs. There is a watched species for every taste: programs currently include Texas Amphibian Watch, the Texas Hummingbird Roundup, Texas Mussel Watch (one of Marsha's focal interests), the Texas Black-Tailed Prairie Dog Watch, the Box Turtle Survey Project, the Tarpon Observation Network, and the Texas Horned Lizard Watch with its associated Hometown Horned Toads Essay Project. TPWD also cooperates in the Texas Spot-Tailed Earless Lizard Survey and Monarch Watch. For those who missed Marsha's fascinating presentation, details on all these programs can be found at http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/texas_nature_trackers/

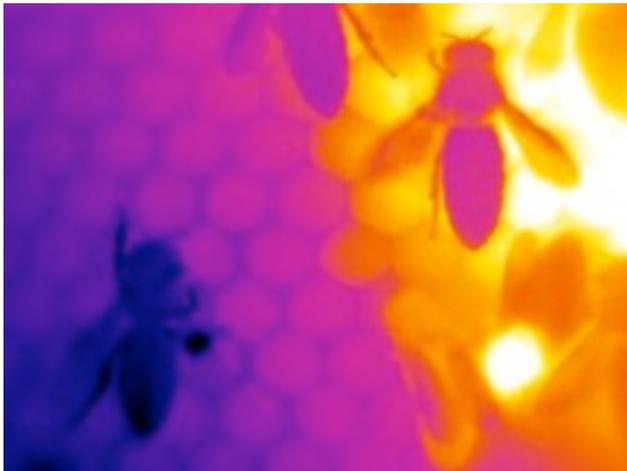
Texas Salamander Extravaganza

Wednesday, Nov 11th, 7:30pm:
Hayley Gillespie
Graduate Student, UT Austin

Hayley is a graduate student studying the ecology and behavior of the endangered Barton Springs Salamander (*Eurycea sosorum*) that lives right here in Austin. Texas is home to many species of salamanders including the giant black & yellow tiger salamanders, two-legged Sirens, waterdogs, spotted newts, slimy salamanders and a diverse group of permanently aquatic salamanders in the genus *Eurycea*, all very closely related to our Barton Springs Salamander. Come and learn about their incredible biology, how they survive in all kinds of habitats, and what's being done to conserve and protect these fascinating amphibians!



Coming in December:
SLEEP and the plight of a weary honey bee



Wednesday, Dec 9th, 7:30pm:
Barrett Klein
Graduate Student, UT Austin

SLEEP and the plight of a weary honey bee
Sleep is something we can all relate to, but are hard pressed to define. We spend a third of our lives asleep and we have little understanding why. Why do you sleep? Is it for the same reason an insect sleeps? Join me for a foray into the realm of dreams, of different electrophysiological states, and of sleeping insect societies. (some of my work with honey bee and paper wasp sleep: www.pupating.org)

Did You Know?

Several CAMNer's have said they would like to talk to other CAMNers on line—Well, we have an app for that! Go to our Yahoo site where you can chat up a storm: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/camn/> Give it a try and see what you think. We have had this site for a long while so we can all keep in touch if we want. Having a Facebook page has been suggested but there are complications to that. If, however, it is something the majority of you would like, then we could work on the idea and clear it through the CAMN Board. Please contact me and let me know your thoughts (Christine Powell).

Visit the CAMN yahoo group

Friday Evening Volunteer Presentations—Group A

One of the best things about the Texas Master Naturalist conference is the opportunity to find out what the other chapters are doing and build on their enthusiasm. On Friday, I got to hear about projects coordinated by the Elm Fork, Hays County, and Trans Pecos Chapters.



The Elm Fork Chapter “Trails of Denton County” project is a wonderful project for those who are computer savvy and prefer to do their outreach without much direct contact with people. Don’t get me wrong, this is real outreach that will help get people out enjoying nature in Denton County. It’s just that the developers don’t have to have a lot of contact with the public. Ron and Joanne Fellows along with others in the Elm Fork Chapter TMN used the free tools provided by Google to provide information about nature trails in Denton County on the web. They have just about anything you could want—trail maps created using GPS tracks and Google

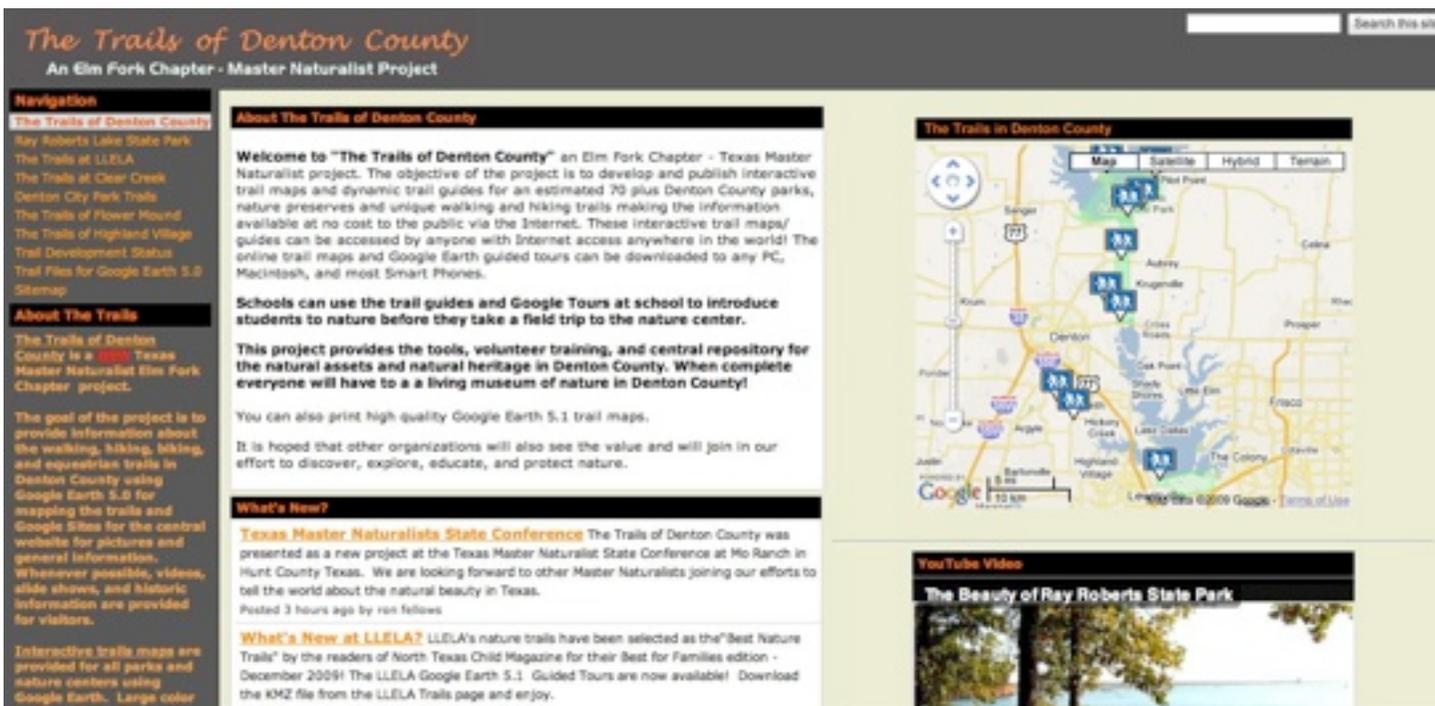
Earth, interactive trail guides that work on your smart phone, and photo slide shows of the parks and trails. There is probably more that they just couldn’t cover in a 20 minute presentation. There are still trails and parks that need to be added but they have a lot of material available.

The project requires a variety of skills in addition to the computer work. Trail walkers had to cover all the ground creating the GPS tracks. Photographers visited each area to get shots of the wonderful scenery. Research was done on the history of the parks. If you, like me, are starting to think about “Trails of Travis and surrounding Counties” consider the time commitment. Ron and Jeanne got both their 500 and 1000 hour pins at the conference and they have many more people involved in the project.

Visit the site by Googling ‘Trails of Denton County’ or entering the following link: <http://sites.google.com/site/trailsofdentoncounty>



The Hays County Chapter has a wonderful project right in our backyard, the Land Management and Water Conservation Project at Onion Creek. If you like to do work in the field with plants this is for you. In fact, some of you may have done some work on this with the City of Austin. Hays Master Naturalists are working with City of Austin staff to improve the 2000 acres the city owns over the Edwards Aquifer in Hays County. They are promoting the development of a sustainable ecosystem by working on grassland development, removing invasive species and restoring riparian habitat. This is a huge project with many different field tasks from seed collection and nursery work to tree cutting. If you are interested in helping with this project, go to the Hays Chapter web site at <http://haysmn.org/> and pick up the Approved Projects PDF. Page 2 has some information about the project and



Friday Evening Volunteer Presentations—Group A

contact information for the coordinator, Tom Watson.



The Trans Pecos Chapter is cleaning up in El Paso, literally. For those of you not familiar with the area, the Trans Mountain Highway (Loop 375) runs through the Franklin Mountains for 9 miles just north of the city, connecting Interstate 10 to U.S. Highway 54. Trans

Mountain borders the Franklin Mountain State park for several miles and is a very scenic drive. In addition to adopting a two mile stretch of the highway, the chapter has organized cleanup of the entire roadway twice a year.

They have done several things to make this more than just trash pickup on their part. They have involved other community organizations and businesses. Over 100 people participated in the last

cleanup. They go through the items picked up to separate the recyclables. They get about 3 bags of recyclables for every 12 bags retrieved from the roadside. They even have Advanced Training available when they work on their Adopted Highway portion. Once they had geologist at various points on the road discussing the rock layers visible at that location.

Several members of the Trans Pecos Chapter during one of the "cleanup" events.



And who wouldn't want to volunteer in such amazing surroundings!

Images courtesy of the Trans Pecos Chapter.

FIELD PREP: BY AMANDA WALKER

2009 Texas Invasive Plant & Pest Conference

On November 13 & 14, 2009, the Texas Invasive Plant & Pest Council will host the third statewide invasive species conference at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas. Building off the 2005 and 2007 conferences, the 2009 conference will be a professional level meeting including keynotes, concurrent sessions, posters, field trips and symposia. This conference is designed to serve scientists, land managers, state and federal agencies, local governments, the green industry and other professionals interested in invasive species issues in the state of Texas.

Call for Papers

This notice serves as a call for abstracts and all stakeholders are invited and encouraged to present some aspect of

their work in a contributed presentation or poster. Abstract submission will be carried out online at http://www.texasinvasives.org/conference/abstract_insert.php and all abstracts must be submitted by October 12, 2009. Abstracts and final program will be available at www.texasinvasives.org prior to the meeting and hard copies will be distributed at the conference to registrants.

Registration

Regular Registration (\$120 Early, \$150 on or after November 2, 2007)

Student Registration* (\$40 Early, \$50 on or after November 2, 2007)

To register visit: <http://www.texasinvasives.org/conference/conference09.php>

Conference Committee

Program Chairs: James Bergan (jbergan@TNC.ORG) and R. Deborah Overath (Deborah.Overath@tamucc.edu)

Local Host: Kelly Lyons (Kelly.Lyons@Trinity.edu)

Sponsors and Exhibitors: Damon Waitt (dwaitt@wildflower.org)

Registration: Marilyn Good (mjgood@austin.rr.com)

Communications: Scott Walker (swalker@pirnie.com)

Field Trips and Continuing Ed: Jim Houser (jhouser@tfs.tamu.edu)

FIELD PREP: CITY OF AUSTIN

BCP Hike and Lecture Series

Birding By Impression

Saturday, November 21, 2009 8:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Balcones Canyonlands Preserve – Former WTP₄ site
3 hour hike, moderate, 12 and up
Located near intersection of River Place Blvd.. and FM 2222

“Birding by Impression” is a holistic approach to identification that has been employed by indigenous people throughout the world for thousands of years. This technique, sometimes called “right-brained birding,” uses the fundamental characteristics of shape, size, structure, behavior, voice, and habitat to identify birds. With practice, you will not only be able to rapidly identify more species of birds, but also build a greater sense of awareness of the natural world. This technique is probably best summed up by the Nobel prize-winning Chilean poet, Pablo Neruda, who said, “Bird by bird, I’ve come to know the earth.”

This hike will pass through a variety of terrain that will start on a rocky plateau, before descending a slope of rich wooded golden-cheeked warbler habitat. Further explorations will reveal meadows and a stream containing Jollyville-plateau salamanders before ascending back to road. Some of this hike will take place off-trail. Participants should be ready to hike over steep rocky terrain covered with vegetation. Due to the terrain and pace, this hike is intended for audiences 12 and up. All youth must be under parental supervision at all times and participants under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Participants must bring adequate drinking water and wear sturdy, closed-toe hiking shoes and long pants in order to participate in the hike.

Please note that portable bathroom facilities will be available on site, but sinks and running water will not.

Changing Hill Country Landscapes: A Historic Perspective

Saturday, December 5, 2-3 p.m.

BCP Hike and Lecture Series hosted by the City of Austin
Austin Nature and Science Center at 301 Nature Center Drive in Zilker Park
Visit www.ci.austin.tx.us/ansc/ for map and directions.

How did the Hill Country landscape look before European settlement? Has it changed since then? Help us unravel the mystery as we travel back in time and explore eyewitness accounts from 1700 to 1900. We’ll also investigate the “cedar-chopper” culture and its effects on our landscape, and we’ll discover clues ecology has left us as windows to the past. Lisa O’Donnell, City of Austin BCP senior biologist, will lead this fascinating investigation and discussion.

No registration required.

Conducting Bats and Bridges Surveys

This was a Texas Master Naturalist advanced training session at the 10th Annual Statewide Meeting held October 23-25 at Mo Ranch in Hunt, Texas.

Mylea Bayless of Bat Conservation International and Bob Gottfried of Texas Parks and Wildlife's Diversity Program have teamed up to organize a state wide Bats and Bridges Survey. Most people in Central Texas are aware of the huge colony of Mexican free-tailed bats that live under the Congress Avenue bridge in Austin and of the bats under the McNeil bridge in Round Rock. Bat Conservation International and Texas Parks and Wildlife are aware of other bridges around Texas where bats live. However, Texas is a huge state and these organizations do not have the time or staff to do periodic checks of the known bat bridges or to investigate other bridges. So they are hoping to organize a group of volunteers statewide who can check out bridges in their areas. The volunteers would survey the bridges at least twice a year for the presence of bats. One visit would be during the winter months and one visit would be during the summer months. This way knowledge will be gained about seasonal populations and whether or not a bridge has been abandoned by the mammals. The other part of this project involves checking out bridges that these organizations do not know about. Homeland Security policies keep the Texas Department of Transportation from giving out locations of and construction types of the bridges in the state.

2010 is the pilot year for this project. Knowledge gained will be shared with the Texas Department of Transportation and will help in the construction of bat friendly bridges (or at least not "bat unfriendly" bridges). The information

will also be helpful when existing bridges need to be repaired or demolished. Perhaps the demolition could be done when the bats have left for the winter or when nurseries are not present. This survey will not only help in the conservation of bat colonies in Texas, but will benefit the safety of bridge workers. It would be good for a repair crew to know whether or not they will encounter bats when they get up under the bridge girders.

At this workshop information was provided on which types of bridge

At the end of the workshop Mylea led a mini fieldtrip walk to the highway bridge over the river near Mo Ranch. There were no bats under this bridge but she talked about what to look for as possible evidence of the presence of bats (smell, staining, guano). She also talked about where on the bridge a bat box should be located. The bat box would need to be located where people couldn't easily reach it or be affected by the droppings. It should be up high and situated to give the bats a clear flight path to and from the box. Besides information, the workshop

participants took home safety vests, orange traffic cones and sample survey forms. They also received computer discs with Google Earth maps of known bat inhabited bridges in their respective counties or areas. Survey protocols will be sent to the workshop participants. Mylea and Bob are reaching out to chapters of Texas Master Naturalists to get help with this survey. This could be approached as a chapter



construction are likely to house bats. For example, bridges constructed with steel girders are not likely to house bats. These bridges get too hot and expand and contract too much. There were some tips on safety. The main tip was not to check under a bridge if heavy traffic would put you at risk. It is advisable to do your surveys in pairs, not alone. Volunteers will be required to sign a Release of Liability form. It was suggested to use a red filter on flashlights so as not to disturb any bats roosting under bridges. Several species of bats have been found under bridges, but the volunteers will not have to know how to identify the bats by species.

project or as an individual personal project. If you are interested in volunteering for this project contact Mylea Bayless at Bat Conservation International (phone # 512-327-9721 ext.34; e-mail mbayless@batcon.org) or Bob Gottfried at Texas Parks and Wildlife (phone # 512-389-8744; e-mail bob.gottfried@tpwd.state.tx.us). CAMN members Betty McCreary, Christine Powell, and Jim Weber attended this presentation and will be conducting surveys if you want to help. <http://www.batcon.org/index.php/what-we-do/bats-in-bridges.html>

What's in a Native-Plant Name?

Lindheimer's senna, Engelmann daisy, Drummond phlox, Ashe juniper, Wright lip fern. Lots of native plants of this area are named after men. Who are these guys whose names will live in posterity, forever connected to the common and scientific names of certain species of Texas plants?

Most are men who had a prominent role in the history of botany in Texas. For brief discussions of these early botanists see the concise history of Texas botany in *Illustrated Flora of North Central Texas* by Diggs, Lipscomb, and O'Kennon. "The Handbook of Texas Online" is a quick reference for a few further details on early plant collectors in Texas.

The first person to make extensive plant collections in the area that became Texas was Jean Louis Berlandier, who was trained as a botanist in Geneva. When Berlandier was in his early twenties, his patron, the foremost Swiss botanist Augustin de Candolle, sent him to make botanical collections in Mexico. He arrived in Vera Cruz in 1826, and for the next three years he collected plant specimens from Mexico City to San Antonio, then in northern Mexico.

Berlandier also compiled notes on animal species and made ethnological studies on over forty North American tribes. In 1829 he settled in Matamoros, where he became a physician. During the Mexican War, he was in charge of hospitals in Matamoros. Berlandier continued to make collections of plants and animals in Texas and Mexico. He drowned in a river near Matamoros when he was in his mid forties. Berlandier is honored in the scientific names of several species of animals and plants. The genus *Berlandiera* (greeneyes) is named for this early botanist. The Hill Country species is *Berlandiera texana* (Texas greeneyes).

Thomas Drummond also studied plants in this area before there was a Republic of Texas. Drummond was born in Scotland about 1790. He followed his father and older brother James into horticulture and botany. In 1825 he was made assistant naturalist on Sir John Franklin's second expedition to Arctic America. Drummond was assigned to make botanical collections in the wilds of the Canadian Rockies (Mount Drummond and the Drummond Icefields are named for him). On returning to Scotland he became the first Curator of the Belfast Botanical Garden.

Top: *Berlandiera betonicifolia*, Texas greeneyes.

Center: *Anemone berlandieri*, Tenpetal thimbleweed, Ten-petaled anemone, Wind-flower.

Bottom: *Calylophus berlandieri*, Berlandier's sundrops, Square-bud primrose, Sundrops.



Drummond made a second trip to America in 1831 to collect specimens from the United States. In time, he made his way from New York to New Orleans. Apparently he was inspired to travel to Texas by reports of the botanical collection made by Berlandier. In 1833 he went by ship from New Orleans to the Texas coast. Drummond survived floods, sickness, and other hardships to spend twenty-two months collecting plants from Galveston to the Edwards Plateau. He is reported to have collected about seven hundred and fifty species of plants and one hundred and fifty species of birds. His specimens from Texas were the first to be widely distributed among museums and scientific institutions of the world. In other words, Drummond put Texas on the botanical map!

He intended to return to Scotland to bring his family back to Texas. En route, he collected in Florida and Cuba. He was sick with fever when he left New Orleans and died in Havana, Cuba, in 1835.

Many plant names commemorate Thomas Drummond, but probably the best known in this area is the Drummond phlox (*Phlox drummondii*). Several others who collected botanical specimens in Texas (Lindheimer, Roemer, Wright, Buckley, and more) also are honored with native-plant namesakes. In future columns I'll write about some of these other men. And what about women? Are there any plants named for female botanists?



It is not commonly known that one of Texas' most beautiful wildflowers has been prized in Europe as an "exotic" cultivated garden flower for nearly one hundred and fifty years. In 1835, botanist Thomas Drummond collected the seeds of this annual wildflower in an area where a red-colored variety overlapped with a pink-flowered form. This collection of wild seed was sent first to Great Britain and later was distributed to nurserymen in several European countries. About two hundred true breeding strains were developed from this single collection of seed, including red, pink, white, lavender, maroon, coral, pale pink, and the mixtures of these colors, with the central "eye" of the flower differing in color from the outer color of the petals.

LBjWC



Above: *Phlox drummondii*, Annual phlox, Drummond phlox, Phlox

Below: *Clematis drummondii*, Drummond's clematis, Old man's beard, Texas virgin's bower, Goat's beard.

Right: *Scutellaria drummondii*, Drummond's skullcap.



Bill Ward of the Boerne Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas has kindly allowed me to reproduce this series of articles. Please let me know if you do so I can send on your thanks to Bill.

Images: LBjWC

FIELD VIEW: BY CHRISTINE POWELL

Ageratina havanensis (Shrubby boneset, White mistflower)



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[Melissa MacDougall](#)

Board of Directors

According to the CAMN By-Laws, our Board of Directors consists of the Officers and the Chair of each Committee.

If you have concerns you wish the Board to consider, please contact one of the Board members via email or show up at a Board Meeting.

CAMN Board Meetings are held on the first Thursday of odd numbered months at: 6:45 p.m. at the Academy of Oriental Medicine at Austin, 2700 W. Anderson Lane, Suite 204, Austin, TX 78757.

The agenda for the next Board Meeting is available here.

Got info for the Field Journal?

Send info, photos and articles for publication in the *Field Journal* to: camnnews@gmail.com. **Deadline for submission is the 27th of each month.**



Committees

Administrative

Contact: [Beck Runte](#)
 Maintains database of students and alumni, including names, addresses, class attendance, volunteer hours earned, and advanced training completed.

Communications

Contact: [Christine Powell](#)
 Web page: [Christine Powell](#)
 Field Journal: [Dena Roberts](#)
 Press releases: [Kelly Bender](#)
 Responsible for the Internet web page and press releases.

Curriculum

Contact: [Kris Thorne](#)
 Develops the CAMN curriculum, as well as plans the lectures, activities and field trips for each class.

Advanced Training

Contact: [Joan Singh](#)
 Plans, coordinates, and approves advanced training opportunities.

Programs

Contact: [Sally Scott](#)
 Plans, and coordinates, meeting programs.

Field Trips

Contact: [Joan Singh](#)
 Plans and coordinates field trips

Food & Fun

Contact: [Cindy Durand](#)
 Facilitates the social aspects of CAMN including the Certification Ceremonies and holiday celebrations.

Volunteer Opportunities

Contact: [Julia Osgood](#)
 Develops criteria to determine whether volunteer opportunities may be counted for CAMN credit. Reviews, approves, and publicizes opportunities.

Ad Hoc

Education Partners: [Jeri Porter](#), [Jessica Wilson](#), [Simonetta Rodriguez](#), [Lynda Blakeslee](#), [Marilyn Kircus](#)
 Seeks and applies for grants to boost our outreach efforts.

Outreach Committee

Contact: [Stuart Bailey](#) Promotes CAMN

NatureSmart Family Committee

Contact: [Peggy A. Murphy](#) Promotes CAMN

Sponsors/Partners

Mission Statement

To develop a corps of well-informed volunteers to provide education, outreach, and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within their communities.

Members of CAMN are dedicated to the conservation, preservation, and restoration of our natural resources. To that end, we encourage and support trained Master Naturalist volunteers in Austin and Travis County in providing community programs and projects that increase appreciation of our natural environment and promote, protect, and preserve native flora and fauna.

[Austin Nature and Science Center](#)

[Texas Parks and Wildlife](#)

[Texas Cooperative Extension](#)

[Lower Colorado River Authority](#)

[Austin Sierra Club](#)

[The Nature Conservancy of Texas](#)

[Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center](#)

[Wild Basin Wilderness Preserve](#)

[Hornsby Bend Center for Environmental Research](#)

[Bat Conservation International](#)

[Native Plant Society of Texas](#)

[Travis Audubon Society](#)

