

# CROSS TIMBERS MASTER NATURALIST NEWSLETTER

T E X A S

Master  
Naturalist™



**March 2023**

## NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN



## HAPPY EARTH DAY



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## President's Pen

### Sharon Hamilton

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**Ever wonder what CTMN Board members do?** What their duties and responsibilities are? Who makes decisions for our chapter—a committee, the Officers, the entire Board, or the President herself?

Duties of all board members include adhering to the TMN Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct [see <https://txmn.tamu.edu/chapter-resources/chapter-documents/>]; maintaining confidentiality when dealing with individual member issues; striving to further the Texas Master Naturalist mission in everything one does; communicating effectively with the state office; remembering that every chapter and every member represent the public face of the TMN Program and its sponsoring agencies; and serving as a model of leadership while recruiting and developing new leaders for the chapter.

Responsibilities of the Board include having the authority to conduct the chapter's business as defined by the Bylaws; overseeing committee work; honoring expenditure limits set by the chapter; voting on an annual budget, new projects, and other issues that arise; setting dues; retaining records; and training new chapter leaders as they move into leadership positions. We hold monthly Board meetings via Zoom, usually on the first Monday of each month.

**Duties of each officer and Director are specified in the Chapter Operating Handbook.** Cross Timbers Chapter has been fortunate to have many individuals who have served, often behind the scenes, giving significant time and effort to various aspects of supporting the chapter. Time spent on chapter administration earns Volunteer Hours toward recertification.

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## President's Pen

### Sharon Hamilton

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### Cross Timbers Chapter needs you!

We have three openings:

**Communication Director**, who will oversee various volunteers and committees with producing chapter communications for publicity, outreach, our website, our newsletter, and social media.

**Information Technology Director**, who will ensure that a method is in place for maintaining the chapter's paper and electronic records and that we follow the state's records retention policy; maintains a secure list of all websites, social media platforms, email distribution lists, and any other tools the chapter uses to conduct business. The IT director will organize the technology and personnel for hosting hybrid meetings.

**Outreach Director**, who will organize Chapter participation in various external events, such as the FW Nature Center's NatureCon day, River Legacy Science Center's Earth Day, Keep Fort Worth Beautiful Earth Party, and the FW Stock Show's Kids Gone Wild event.

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## President's Pen

### Sharon Hamilton

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You can make even more of a difference in our chapter's success and hope you will consider taking on one of these Director positions. Contact Sharon Hamilton at [president@ctmn.org](mailto:president@ctmn.org) or Mary Beth Lampe at [vp@ctmn.org](mailto:vp@ctmn.org) with questions or to volunteer!

We have one remaining Governing Document to vote on at our March 20 meeting, the **Chapter Operating Handbook**. If you are an active member or trainee, you should have received an email including the entire 16-page **Handbook** for you to read before voting.

If you did **not** receive the email or the attachment, please contact Sharon at [president@ctmn.org](mailto:president@ctmn.org) to receive a copy.

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## March 2023

### Monthly Announcements

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#### **March 20 Awards Meeting at the Fort Worth Botanical Gardens:**

Our upcoming meeting on March 20, 2023 will be held in person only, from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Social time will start at 6:30 pm. We will be recording the meeting for later viewing as well. This meeting is an exciting one as we will be doing our awards and recognitions for 2022. There will be not be a speaker at this event so it will not count for AT hours. Cake and refreshments will be served. Hope to see you all there.

#### **To all Members:**

**Your hours matter. Please record them within 45 days of service.**

Hours may qualify as \$74 worth of matching funds so the State of Texas can receive money from the Federal Government. Let's get our tax dollars back in Texas!

#### **Looking for the monthly Calendar of Events?**

**Please go to <https://txmn.org/crosstimbers/events-calendar> for a readable, upgraded calendar**

Help us include as many Master Naturalist activities as possible to our online calendar.

If you have CTMN items to add or corrections, contact Mary Beth Lampe at [mblampe@gmail.com](mailto:mblampe@gmail.com)

Thank you!

## 25th Anniversary Storytelling Project



The Texas Master Naturalist program needs your help! To celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Texas Master Naturalists, they are hosting a year-long storytelling project to highlight the wonderful TMN members and their conservation volunteer work across the state.

They want to know! What inspired you to become a TMN member? Do you have a favorite TMN in-the-field memory? What has been your most meaningful project, community outreach, or conservation event? What does nature mean to you? Use these questions as inspiration for your creative brainstorming or feel free to use them as a direct prompt.

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## 25th Anniversary Storytelling Project

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You'll have two options to share your experiences as a Master Naturalist in one of these ways:

(1) **A video** (around 1-3 minutes) that can be a selfie or can be an interview by someone else. The interviewer does not need to be a master naturalist.

(2) **In writing** (written story and/or poetry).

Please choose one format per story. You're welcome to share more than one story if you'd like to try each format (just submit the form again!). To submit your story, please fill out the form [here](#).

Tips on writing down your experiences:

- Find a nice quiet place to write and let your ideas flow out onto the page for a few minutes without self-interruption.
- When you're ready to put on your editor's hat don't forget to spell check your work.
- Keep stories short and sweet, for example no more than 1 page in Word/google doc.



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## 25th Anniversary Storytelling Project

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Tips on taking a great selfie video:

- Be sure to wear your favorite TMN regalia (hats/ patches/t-shirts/sweaters etc.) if you have them, when recording.
- Find a nice nature spot outside for a backdrop.
- Notice what sounds and noises surround your spot. Try to avoid, if possible, any sounds that may make it difficult for the microphone to catch your words (for example traffic noise and/or windy days).
- Have a good light source. When outside, mornings and evenings can give you a nice soft light good for videos.
- If it helps you to stay on track, write down your thoughts before recording and have your notes close at hand.



You'll be able to find the stories on the Texas Master Naturalist state website and social media channels throughout 2023. Thank you for all you do this year and every year as a Master Naturalist volunteer!



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## 25th Anniversary Storytelling Project

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Do you like listening to stories?

Are you willing to interview some of our long-time Master Naturalists?

Do you want the opportunity to create articles and/or videos for the TMN 25th Anniversary Story-Telling Project?

### **HELP CROSS TIMBERS CHAPTER REPRESENT!**

Contact Sharon Hamilton at [president@ctmn.org](mailto:president@ctmn.org) or 817-999-9233 if you are willing to capture our chapter's history.

For more information about this project, see <https://txmn.tamu.edu/25th-anniversary-storytelling-project/>.

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## Volunteer Opportunity

### Glenwood Park's Earth Day Event

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### Volunteers Needed for FW Glenwood Earth Day Park Cleanup, April 22, 2023

CTMN will host a table at Glenwood Park's Earth Day event. Earn volunteer hours while sharing your love of nature and telling visitors about the amazing Texas Master Naturalist program!

If you are able to participate as a volunteer;

Contact Bill Collins at [whc6845@yahoo.com](mailto:whc6845@yahoo.com)

or

Sharon Hamilton at [president@ctmn.org](mailto:president@ctmn.org)

## Volunteer Opportunity Glenwood Park's Earth Day Event



Earth Day  
Park Cleanup

**HELP CREATE A CLIMATE-SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD!**

**JOIN US FOR:**

- DOOR PRIZES
- NATURE ACTIVITIES
- MOBILE HEALTH UNITS
- COMMUNITY RESOURCES
- VOTER REGISTRATION
- OPEN FORUM ON PARK IMPROVEMENTS

**SATURDAY, APR. 22**

**9 A.M. - 12 P.M.**

GLENWOOD PARK  
900 S RIVERSIDE DRIVE



Harris College  
of Nursing & Health Sciences

Nursing

Sponsored by the Fort Worth Climate Safe Neighborhood Coalition  
Historic Southside Neighborhood Association; TCU; Community Frontline; Tarrant County Public Health; City of Fort  
Worth Community Engagement, Park & Recreation, & Police; RxPLORE; Cross Timbers Master Naturalist Chapter

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# 2023 Dues are Due!

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You can pay on the [ctmn.org](http://ctmn.org) website, bring a check to the meeting, or mail a check to our treasurer at:

Dee Ann McGinnis  
2843 Co Rd 3838  
Bridgeport, TX 76426

Please note, that the membership cost is now \$25.

Thank you for your continued support of our program.



**\*Cash or Check Only\***

**Parker County Master Gardener  
Association's**

**ANNUAL PLANT SALE**

**\*\*Bring your own cart or wagon!\*\***

Bring your plant gardening questions to our "Ask a Master Gardener" table!  
Exciting Raffles again this year!

Proceeds help fund horticultural, educational, & local projects in Parker Co.

**Saturday 8AM-1PM  
April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**First Monday Trade Days Grounds  
at Heritage Park-Animal Area  
317 Santa Fe Dr.  
Weatherford, 76086**

*Pollinator Plants,  
Grasses, Annuals,  
Perennials,  
Vegetables,  
Herbs, Roses,  
Succulents, and MORE!*

Visit us at [www.pcmg-texas.org](http://www.pcmg-texas.org)

Email - [pcmgatx@gmail.com](mailto:pcmgatx@gmail.com)

Facebook - Search *Parker County Master Gardeners*

Thank you for your  
support!

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## Nominations Needed

### Bill Collins

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With an organization like the Cross Timbers Master Naturalists, we utilize about a dozen people to make sure everything gets done. (Meetings, speakers, documentation of volunteer and advanced training hours, organizing and executing an annual 10 week training program, outreach programs, and special events).

Every two years we go through the process of making sure we have the right people in place on our executive committee for the next two years. This year the positions of president, vice-president and secretary are to be filled.

Please consider stepping up and running for one of these positions. For information about duties of these positions, please see the recent Chapter Operating Handbook that was sent you by Sharon Hamilton.

If you are interested and need more information, please contact, Sharon at [president@ctmn.org](mailto:president@ctmn.org) or Bill Collins at [whc6845@yahoo.com](mailto:whc6845@yahoo.com).

March 2023

## CTMN volunteers needed!

Come and explore Fort Worth's Glenwood Park, either by participating in our BioBlitz or by sharing information about Texas Master Naturalists at our CTMN table!

Contact Bill Collins at [whc6845@yahoo.com](mailto:whc6845@yahoo.com) for more information or to sign up!

*Hosted by Texas Master Naturalists, Cross Timbers Chapter*



EXPLORE AND LEARN ABOUT THE VARIOUS ANIMALS, PLANTS  
AND OTHER ORGANISMS THAT CALL GLENWOOD PARK HOME

**SATURDAY, APR. 1**  
**9 A.M. - 12 P.M.**  
GLENWOOD PARK  
900 S RIVERSIDE DRIVE





The Cowtown Great American Cleanup is our largest annual litter cleanup and beautification event of the year. In 2022, Cowtown Cleanup volunteers removed over **100,000 pounds of trash** from our city!

Join Keep Fort Worth Beautiful for the 38th Annual Cowtown Great American Cleanup on **March 25, 2023** and work with thousands of volunteers across the city. Schools, churches, businesses, families and individuals are all welcome to join!

**Back again:** Volunteers are invited to join KFWB at Trinity Park (2401 University Dr. Fort Worth, TX) for **Earth Party** immediately following the Cowtown Cleanup! Volunteers will find entertainment, Earth-themed vendors, pet adoptions, entertainment and a free hot dog lunch

[Register now!](#)



## CTMN Board Members

- SHARON HAMILTON - PRESIDENT
- MARY BETH LAMPE - VICE PRESIDENT
- GLENDA WALKER - SECRETARY
- DEE ANN MCGINNIS- TREASURER

## CTMN Chair Members

- DEBBIE STILSON - MEMBERSHIPS
- SHARON HAMILTON - OUTREACH
- MELINDA WOLFINBARGER - EDUCATION
- THERESA THOMAS - VOL SERVICES AND AT HOURS
- SANDY THORNBURGH - HOSPITALITY
- THERESA THOMAS - RECORDS
- EVAN VAUGHN - NEWSLETTER
- FRANK KEENEY - WEBMASTER
- ERIKA SWYRYN - CLASS OF 2022 REPRESENTATIVE

### Citations

- "COVER PAGE" PHOTOS - GLENWOOD PARK PHOTO - <https://fortworthreport.org/>; NOMINATION GRAPHIC - <https://www.miamidade.gov/>; CLEANUP PHOTO - <https://honors.ls.wisc.edu/>; EARTH DAY GRAPHIC—<https://www.istockphoto.com/>
- "EARTH DAY CLEANUP" - PHOTO - TCU
- "ANNUAL PLANT SALE" - PHOTO - TEXAS MASTER GARDENERS