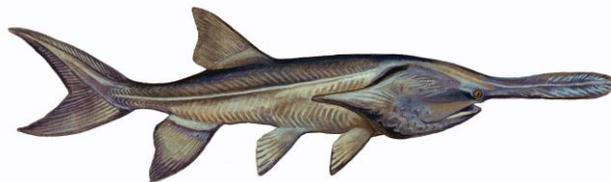




## THE PADDLEFISH



### Briefings from Becky

Here's a puzzle for you: Read the list of CBTMN activities (greatly generalized) and try to assign the descriptors that follow to the activities. Consider briefly sharing your "answers" at the May 13 meeting.

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1. FLOTILLA!
2. Public School Field Trips to CLSP and CLWMA
3. Presentations at schools (Earth day and other)
4. Pollinator/native plant gardens in schools, and communities
5. Bird blinds, trail maintenance at CLNWR
6. New class training/hosting
7. Sign making and installing

Ache-producing, Ahah! moments, Beautiful, Building things, Building kids appreciation of nature, Caddo, Calming, Camaraderie, Colorful, Compassion, Cooperation, Cooking, Creativity, Debating, Daring, Digging, Dirty, Dodging, Eating, Educational, Enlightening, Exciting, Invigorating, Fabulous, Friendly, Fresh Air, Goal-surpassing, FUN-Filled, Hard work, Mosquitos, Muddy, NATURE, Outreach, Planning, Raining, Rewarding, Setting Up/Putting Away, Training others (and ourselves), Ticks, Walking, Wet, AMAZING!

### Change of Venue May 13 Monthly Meeting

We are very grateful to the Michelson Museum of Art for offering us this opportunity.

PLEASE READ Carefully!

**Where:** Michelson Museum of Art Info:

216 North Bolivar Street  
Marshall, Texas 75670  
903-935-9480

<https://www.michelsonmuseum.org/>

**What:** Business meeting; Social, and AT

**Detail:** "Birds in Art" exhibit viewing and social; This is a juried show from the Woodson Museum in Wisconsin; <https://www.lywam.org/birds-in-art/>. The Michelson Museum will provide a docent AND refreshments.

**Time:** 6:30pm - 7pm Business meeting; 7:00pm Refreshments, exhibit viewing, docent presentation. (If you would prefer to come early, you could come at 6pm to start viewing the exhibit.)

**SPECIAL NOTE:** We will have a system before the meeting to get a good estimate of attendance so the Michelson can plan for the refreshments and seating.

## Cypress Basin Texas Master Naturalists Minutes from April 8, 2019

Becky called meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

1. Roll call by SIGN-IN SHEET; Sign-up sheets for hosting Training Classes;
2. New name tags; Volunteer T-shirts;
3. Questions about March minutes? Approval? Yes.
4. Treasurer's Report? Charles said not much activity, now more with Flotilla.
5. Newsletter/Publicity — Tammi asked for photos, snap and send to Cypress Basin TMN email. We will add to google drive and put on website.
6. VMS 45 day rule — Linda notified group that she cannot put in time after 45 days for any reason, would have to be extreme circumstance. If you are having trouble try to put in by 30 days out; make sure you select correct category because she cannot change that.
7. New name tags — Jill sent list around for new tags.
8. Signage Plotter/SignMaker — Stella reported on, cuts vinyl. Can make badges for new class members. If you need something just holler at them, Stephanie and Ted are going on the 20th. We really are giving back with that. Need to get a dedication in the papers.
9. Cookbook — Caroline reported did go with createmycookbook.com. If we do online for 100 pages are \$5.92 each, recommended sell for \$15. Put in for 90 black and white and 10 color pages. Will have soft front. Will email out links and you can submit a recipe directly on line, or email to her, or bring to a meeting. Need to set a date, committee would be good. Anyone interested in serving on that, see Caroline after the meeting.
10. Fred Dahmer Project — they haven't gotten back to her on the cost, waiting to hear.
11. Memorials (Jim Ingold, Donald Swafford) — still in the works, just stalled on deciding what will be best to do.
12. Volunteer Opportunities/New and Ongoing Projects
  - a. TRAINING CLASS!!! — food situation, as Jill said, need help on. Jill outlined presenters as also outlined in the newsletter. Break for picnic is at noon on the deck. Susan has three different opportunities for food this weekend, also have a need for side dishes to go with burgers at cookout for noon. If you plan to bring let her know what you plan to bring and that you will be there. At end will give trainees t-shirts and badges, please try to come.
  - b. Pollinator Pals at CLSP and CLWMA Meet at parking lot at FM 805. Becky gave details and Vanessa did, too. Ted suggested put signage up. 16th and 17th will be at CLSP and WMA both. Will split and a similar will happen the 23rd, 24th and 25th (Mayhaw and Boater Safely). All TPWD COOP grant for Pollinator Pals. Please read and make sure you know what you are volunteering for.
  - c. EarthDay at Hallsville ISD K-3d grade - Becky sent email from Margaret with Inland Fisheries and that will be the April 22nd. Kindergarten through 3rd grade, Skins and Skulls, 8 rotations, 30 minutes each, split with Margaret.
  - d. FLOTILLA!!!! - Stella, Susan updated. We are up to 170 preregistered. Closes on the 12th, have 15 kids, 14 mail-ins. Thanks for all boats, are fantastic. Sign up to send around for volunteer opportunities that day. Whoever wants to make cookies - two to a bag - please bring those. Parking will be a big deal. When decide and do a walk-thru, not sure what day yet. Might need a pontoon or paddle to be out there checking, might need a water presence. Sign-up sheet going around for volunteers and sizes for t-shirts. Will send an email out for donations for silent auction. If you have items please donate them no later than 4/23 at the classroom. Team will get together on 26th to decide what is what. Need table at launch site for questions. Will need someone at Shady Glade and Johnson's. Will set up Friday afternoon about 3:30. Registrants can start at 5:30.
  - e. New State Park Opportunities — Fill in while short-staff want to help fill in, Becky would like to know if we could plan some activities here and there and Brandon get on the website, set up Skins and Skulls, hikes, etc, so they could still put some activities on their website. She can be available this Friday from 1-4 for at least four people to go through some of her curriculum, or could go Sat. Email Becky if you are interested.
  - f. Bird Herd — and maybe Bluebird Buddies. Stella and Jill, no volunteers. Was feeding twice per week, curtailed in spring, then things fell apart with weather. Eric offered to feed, change in dynamic and have not been feeding the birds. Reintroducing need to feed the birds, folks to come out and feed. Water feature is up and that will help as an attraction. Pass around a sign-up sheet. If interested, put your name down and after the Flotilla could discuss.
  - g. Blue Birds at CLNWR — Hughes, Woodruffs, and Sue Simmons will take it in meantime. Sue set up clipboards with maps and place to input data. Vanessa said no need to build, there are 20 at the fire station.
  - h. NFWF Grant update — water will be there before long, final report has been done, per Charles. Nothing else to be done as far as paperwork.
  - i. new walking trail update — Ted walked the other day, cleaned up quite a bit, haven't worked on as harvesting wood.
  - j. Boat Road Markers and Paddle Trail Markers Update — were put up on Turtle Shell, we need to get pictures of them doing this.
13. LOP — Kristi updated regarding Frisbee Golf course, beautification projects coming up with the partnership with the Corps. Also want to walk the trails and is there a link that can be put in the newsletter.
14. Reports from participants in recent activities- Becky advised of other opportunities and when the Friends group is meeting.
15. Anything else?
16. Closing - Kay extend invitation 5/4 for Caddo Wildflowers Chapter sale. Lisa Egner will have on 18th of May, Lisa Egner will do two programs. Dismissed at 7:50

~ Submitted by Kristi Thomas, Secretary

## Cypress Basin Texas Master Naturalists Financial Report for April 30, 2019

### Amazon Smile

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), you need to select Cypress Basin Texas Master Naturalist to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. We will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) will result in a donation.

### Upcoming Events:

- Oct 5 - Weevil Wobble

### 2019 Meeting Dates

May 13  
Jun 10  
July 08  
Aug 12  
Sep 09  
Oct 14  
Nov 11

Beginning Bank Balance, 03/31/2019.		\$12,341.60
Add Deposits: Annual Dues	\$ 64.33	
Flotilla 2019 Donations	1,995.00	
Flotilla 2019 Auction	276.37	
		+2,335.70
Less Expenses: New Class Expense:		
Name tags	\$ 86.50	
Food	52.39	
Speakers	<u>168.44</u>	\$ 307.33
Dahmer Project		1,850.00
Sign Maker, Lap top supplies		3,348.06
Flotilla 2019 Expenses		2,521.05
Withdrawal Flotilla Change		801.00
Bank Charge	29.95	<u>-8,857.39</u>
Ending Balance, 04/30/2019		<u>\$5,819.91</u>
Flotilla Funds	-\$ 629.95	
General Funds	<u>6,449.86</u>	<u>\$5,819.91</u>

Notes: 1. Several Flotilla checks and deposits have not cleared the bank as of April 30. The complete Flotilla 2019 Financial Report will be included in next month's report. Current Bank Balance as of May 8 is \$8,041.97 with the increase attributed to Flotilla 2019.  
2. Flotilla Funds were used for the Dahmer Project, Sign Maker and Laptop.

Charles Gillis, Treasurer

## Ready. Set. – Who wants to kayak Caddo Lake?

For nearly fifty members of the Holly Lake Ranch Kayak Klub, Saturday April 27th was an amazing day on Caddo Lake by participating in the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Earth Day Paddle Caddo Celebration, sponsored by Cypress Basin Master Naturalists, for the first time.

Whether you decide to paddle Caddo or any of the amazing lakes and waterways in east Texas just get started. There is nothing that compares to moving on top of the water with no noise from a motor, under your own power, and the only sounds you may hear are the subtle sounds of the water moving beneath you and the drops of water that drip from your paddle as they return to the lake. Oh, there's the laughter too.

To paddle Caddo is like no other on the water experience one could ever have. It's an amazing place to be respected, protected and revered. Thanks to all who helped make this outing an amazing memorable experience for all. (Excerpt from Holly Lake newsletter article by Tom Hunse)



## 2019 Annual Flotilla Update

I don't know what to add to what has already been said about this year's event. IT WAS SPECTACULAR! We pre-registered 177 paddlers and had only 6-7 cancellations. Most of those cancellations were picked up by people wanting to register late. Then I believe we had over a dozen walk ups. The weather couldn't have been more perfect! So, THANK YOU again – to every single one of you that helped with every little thing.

We learned some things, and that's a good thing. Number One: We must have more volunteers prior to and day of the event. Number Two: We must "divide and conquer" the duties into teams; i.e. T-Shirts, Sponsors, Transportation, Food, Silent Auction/Raffle, etc. There will be opportunities abounding for next year! Number Three: We spent a lot of money, but everything has been covered by the money we took in. Bad news – not much to add to the coffers this year. All in all – good day – good event – good people – GREAT VOLUNTEERS!

~Stella



## Photos from the Flotilla

Thank you to our great photographers that were out and about.

Click on individual names to view their photo albums.

[Kristi Thomas](#)

[Pete Wright](#)



*Please share pictures and updates of any presentations, field trips, etc that is going on! We also can use interesting articles you come across. You can email them to [cypressbasintmn@gmail.com](mailto:cypressbasintmn@gmail.com)*

## 2019 Training Class Update!

Mother Nature is not to be ignored! As master naturalists, we know to take heed of the forces of nature. No better example of this was displayed than on April 13th, the scheduled last day of training and picnic lunch for our 2019 trainees. We cancelled the classes and picnic due to the forecast of severe weather. Tornado Saturday was indeed an event and with it, flooding rains and winds.

We were able to hold our Friday evening class, however, with Dr. Roy Darville, who presented on the Water Resources of Texas. Water testing of the Harrison Bayou and inspection of water samples proved for a fun evening before the storms came. We have rescheduled the last two training sessions:

May 11 - 9am-12pm Dr. Marnie Erin - Forest/Wetland Ecology/Management – To Be Rescheduled!

June 8 - 9am-12pm Dr. Vanessa Corriher-Olson - Plants

Following the June 8th morning training, we have rescheduled our chapter picnic on the deck of the Visitor Center at the Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge from 12-1:15 pm. We hope Mother Nature approves of this rescheduled date! Our 2019 trainees have worked hard and will be presented with their name badges and T-shirts at this picnic lunch. We hope as many of you as are able, can make this picnic lunch honoring our newest chapter members.

-Jill Wright, Training Director



*Ricky Maxey, Army Corps of Engineers, Lake O' the Pines engaged the trainees on a Mammalogy class.*



*Dr. Roy Darville presented on the Water Resources of Texas.*

## Create My Cookbook

Our CBTMN cookbook has been set up on [createmycookbook.com](http://createmycookbook.com), and Carolyn Hughes need lots, and lots of recipes. Please click [here](#) to add recipes to the book, or if you prefer, bring your recipes to the next meeting, and she will be happy to type them in. She has set up the following categories, so if you type in a recipe, please type in the category in which the recipe belongs:



Appetizers and Beverages  
Soups, Salads, and Vegetables  
Main Dishes and Casseroles  
Meat, Poultry, and Seafood  
Breads and Rolls  
Pies, Pastry, and Desserts  
Cakes, Cookies and Candy



### OFFICERS:

Becky Gullette  
President

Susan Sedberry  
Vice President

Kristi Thomas  
Secretary

Charles Gillis  
Treasurer

Jill Wright  
New Class Director

Barry & Caroline  
Hughes  
2018 Class Rep.

Linda Richtsmeier  
Membership Director

Vanessa Adams Neace  
Advisor

Doug Weir  
Advisor

### Severe Weather Tips

The good news is that you can survive a tornado! Even on the western fringe of tornado alley, chances are you will never experience a direct hit by a tornado. However, being prepared is critical. By following these simple guidelines, you can protect yourself and your family from nature's most violent storm.

No matter where you are, use these basic guidelines for tornado safety. Refer to other sections of this guide for more details on staying safe in specific locations and circumstances.

#### The most important things to remember are:

**GET IN** - If you are outside, get inside. If you're already inside, get as far into the middle of the building as possible.

**GET DOWN** - Get underground if possible. If you cannot, go to the lowest floor possible.

**COVER UP** - Flying and falling debris are a storm's number one killer. Use pillows, blankets, coats, helmets, etc to cover up and protect your head and body from flying debris. For more information and to read the rest of the article go to

<https://www.weather.gov/ama/severesafetytips>

### Training Opportunities

You are Cordially Invited



#### Texas Heritage Garden's Annual Gardeners' and Naturalists' Open House and Conference

**When:** Saturday, May 18, 2019

**Where:** Texas Heritage Gardens, 365 FM 130, Linden, Texas 75563

**What time:** 9 until 4 or come and go Refreshments with homemade ice cream

Three presentations will be provided Native and Non-native plants, perennials, bulbs, tree, shrubs, and seeds will be for sale to help with the event expenses.

\*\*Plant sale starts at 9 and goes on all day

**Contact:** Lisa at 903.738.5120  
daylilylady12@gmail.com

#### Itinerary

**9:30** Hummingbird feeders by Robert Grant Agrilife Extension Agent

**10:30** Luring Hummingbirds to your Garden by Lisa Egner  
**11:30** Exchange Ideas

**11:45** Lunch/Ice cream/Refreshments

**1:30** Hummingbirds: Our Jeweled Fliers by Lisa Egner

**2:30** Question/Answer session



### Join the Bird Herd!

Looking for volunteers to help maintain the bird blinds at the refuge. As part of the blinds there is a need for the birds to be fed! If you would be interested in being part of the team to rotate and keep the feeders filled, please contact Stella,

#### When a TORNADO WARNING is Issued

#### "Get In, Get Down, Cover Up"

##### 1. Get In

Get into a sturdy building and put as many walls between you and the outside as possible.



##### 2. Get Down

Get as low in the building as possible - the basement or the lowest floor.



##### 3. Cover Up

Flying and falling debris are a storm's number one killer. Use pillows, blankets, helmets, etc. to cover up and protect yourself.



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