



THE PADDLEFISH

Briefings from Barbara

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The best tool our chapter has for communication is this very newsletter, The Paddlefish. Tami White has worked for years to ensure, monthly, the newsletter contains all the Chapter's most pertinent information. We owe Tami a collective hug for her hard work, her endless patience, and her creativeness that has made the Paddlefish something we all look forward to receiving and reading.

Tami has requested we find someone else to take over the Paddlefish, because, as we all know, life gets in the way and other needs must take precedent. I expect this is her last newsletter and hope all of you will express your gratitude for her heroic efforts on the chapter's behalf. I certainly will!!



For now, I will take over the task of gathering information and writing the Paddlefish. Caroline Hughes has agreed to edit it for grammar! If any of you are looking for a challenge and would like to try your hand at being the newsletter's new editor-in-chief, let me know. I would be happy to hand off this task.

Finally, I would like to entreat all of you to be aware of the extreme heat we will be experiencing this week. Please stay hydrated and cool!

Happy trails, y'all!

~Barbara Judkins, CBTMN President

August Meeting at Caddo Lake State Park - with AT!!!!

Come learn all about trees from the Tree Health Lady at our meeting Monday, the 14th, at CLSP in the dining hall at 6pm. Angela Anderson will address the issues that trees in our area are facing right now and touch on her experience with the emerald ash borers in local ash trees. Angela is a Certified Master Arborist and a Licensed Commercial Pesticide Applicator in both Louisiana and Texas. Come get some AT and ask her lots of questions - or she will ask YOU questions! There will be a short business meeting following her presentation.

TMN Welcomes Prospective New Members to Our Newsletter!

Look inside to find our meeting times and venues, volunteer opportunities, a list of officers, and much more.

Cypress Basin Texas Master Naturalists Financial Report for July 1, 2023—June 31, 2023

Beginning Bank Balance: 07/01/2023 **\$ 25,165.81**

Add Receipts: \$ 0.00 0.00

Less Expenses: Flotilla 24, reserve tent, etc. \$ 83.00 - 83.00

Ending Bank Balance: 07/31/2023 **\$ 25,082.81**

Flotilla Fund \$ 17,924.15

Trainee Scholarship Fund 600.00

General Fund 6,558.66

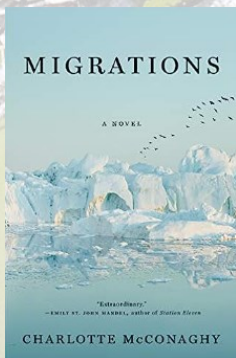
\$ 25,082.81

~ Submitted by Charles Gillis, CBTMN Treasurer

GCLA BBQ Needs Us

The Greater Caddo Lake Association of Texas is holding their annual BBQ fundraiser Saturday, September 2nd this year, at Crip's Camp. You can earn VT hours by helping with either the Friday evening set up or the actual event on Saturday. GCLA raises money for the sole purpose of "Keeping Caddo Lake Natural" by sponsoring lake clean ups, raising the weevils that eat the Giant Salvinia, and fighting off invasive industries that want to come build on the lake. Set up is at 6pm Friday, September 1st. They gather at 9am on Saturday to finish last minute table cleaning and food prep and start serving at 11. It's over when the food runs out - usually 12:45ish. Then there is clean up and tear down. Come work and then get yourself a heaping plate of brisket or chicken with sausage, beans, coleslaw, bread, dessert and drink for only \$15. Workers do not eat for free, as this is their only annual Fund Raiser. Hope to see you there!

TMN Nature Book Club



The next Nature Book Club selection is *Migrations*, by Charlotte McConaghy. It's a novel about a woman with a mysterious background who travels to Greenland to follow "the last Arctic terns in the world on what might be their final migration to Antarctica." The cover describes the story as "an ode to a disappearing world."

The discussion will be on Thursday, November 9, at 6:00 pm, at the refuge. Everyone is invited to join us. Contact Caroline Hughes at ca-hughes8@gmail.com with any questions.

Volunteers in Action

Trails at Refuge

Ted and Becky will get us back to work on the new trail near the visitor center when it gets just a "tiny" bit cooler. If you're an early riser, you can still get some VT and help check the status of trails by walking the trails, picking up limbs, reporting conditions, etc.

Flower Bed at Equestrian Check-in Center

Kathy Koenig is lead on the flower bed at the equestrian check-in station at CLNWR. She, Stella Smith and others reworked the bed. Kathy has been diligent about keeping it watered. However, when she went on Saturday none of the water sources were working. This has been reported to Erik and Kathy will bring water from home if needed.

Equestrian Check-in — Before



Equestrian Check-in — After

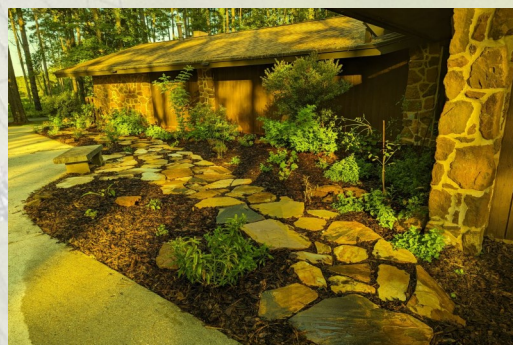


Flower Bed at Caddo Lake State Park Headquarters

Stella Smith and crew have been working to clean up and replant the garden at CLSP Headquarters. Though TMN provided the muscle, the planning and many of the plants. CLSP Superintendent Brenda Cooper worked with them to make sure the plants selected were approved by the state as native plants for this area.



CLSP Headquarters—Before



CLSP Headquarters—After

"Summer's lease hath all too short a date." — William Shakespeare

TRAINING CLASS UPDATE AND SCHEDULE

Please come help us welcome our 12 new trainees, Friday, August 18th, at the Refuge at 5:45pm, or Saturday, the 19th, at 8:30am at Daingerfield State Park!! See below for the presenters. We would love to see lots of members on both days, both to meet the new folks and support our speakers. We are asking for food both days. Snacks, sandwiches, finger foods, etc are good for Friday night and breakfast foods are requested for Saturday morning. A brown bag lunch will be needed for Saturday. We will not be offering coffee Saturday, since we are away from the Refuge, so bring your drinks accordingly. We will have plenty of cold water! We will have sign up sheets at the meeting Monday for food. If you will not be at the meeting and want to bring something, please contact Barbara at 214-766-2616 or email her at judkinsbr@gmail.com. Hope to see lots of friendly faces this weekend!!



Below is the schedule of presenters. Please note that all classes, except for Saturday, August 19th, will be at the Refuge. We have asked all presenters, except Micha Petty (herpetology) to include outdoor field time. Micha brings so many critters - it's as exciting as being outdoors!

Friday, August 18 6-9PM Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge 15600 FM 134 Karnack 75661 Orientation/Program Overview

Intro to TMN program - Caroline Hughes, Co-Training Director & Barbara Judkins, Chapter President

6:15-8:30 **Ecological Regions/Concepts/Ecosystems** (Units 4-6) – Penny Wilkerson, Wildlife Biologist, TPWD

8:30-9:00 **Volunteer Management System and How It Works** – Linda Richtsmeier, Chapter VMS Manager

Ethics and TMN Code of Conduct – Barbara Judkins, Chapter President

Saturday, August 19 8:30-5pm Daingerfield State Park (Dining Hall) 455 Park Road 17 Daingerfield 75638 (on TX 49 just north of Hughes Springs)

9am-12pm **Ichthyology** (Unit 14) – Tim Bister, TPWD, Fisheries Div.

1-4:30pm **Plants** (Unit 11) – Vanessa Neace, TPWD Wildlife Biologist, Manager WMA Caddo Lake

4:30-5pm **Training Wrap Up**

Friday, September 15 6-9pm Refuge

6-8:30pm **Archaeology** (Unit 2) – Shannon Smith, Texas Historical Commission, Site Manager and Archaeologist

8:30-9pm **Trainee Informational Tidbits**

Saturday, September 16 8:30am-5pm Refuge

9am-12pm **Weather and Climate** (Unit 8) – Josh Marcisz, Meteorologist for KTAL TV in Shreveport

1-4:30 **Ornithology** (Unit 12) – David Brotherton, Birder Extraordinaire and author of 100 Birds of Morris County

4:30-5pm **Training Wrap Up**

Friday, October 6 6-9PM Refuge

6-8:30pm **Rangelands & Grasslands** (Unit 20) – Carly Aulicky, PhD, NTX Outreach and Stewardship Director, Native Prairies Association of Texas

8:30-9pm **Trainee Informational Tidbits**

Saturday, October 7 8:30-5pm Refuge

9am-12pm **Forest Ecology and Management** (Unit 17) – Ricky Maxey, Retired Army Corps of Engineers, LOP

1-4:30pm **Herpetology** (Unit 15) – Micha Petty, President, Louisiana Exotic Animal Resource Network

4:30-5pm **Training Wrap Up**

Friday, November 3 6-9pm Refuge

6-8:30pm **Entomology** (Unit 13) – Allen Smith, Texas Forest Service

8:30-9pm **Trainee Informational Tidbits**

Saturday, November 5 8:50-5pm Army Corps of Engineers Office, 2669 FM 726, Jefferson 75657

9am-12pm **Laws & Ethics/Volunteers as Teachers/Citizen Science** (Units 22-24) – Boyd Sanders, TPWD

12-1:30pm **Hamburger cookout served to all by our fabulous TMN chefs**

1:30-4:30 **Historical Naturalists of Texas** (Unit 3) – Barbara Judkins, Texas Historical Commission, Site Manager of Starr Home in Marshall

4:30-5 **Training Wrap Up**

****Be prepared for some outside field study (closed-toed shoes/comfortable seasonal clothing/layers). We will provide sunscreen and bug repellent when needed. Please bring a sack lunch for Saturdays. We will have coffee and water.**

Please call Susan Sedberry at 972.890.3620 or Caroline Hughes at 903.821.4264 with any questions.

ATTENTION NEW TRAINEES!!

Caroline and Susan will have the new class curriculum textbook available to either "check out" or purchase at the August meeting. Each student will need to have one - they are \$70 or they can be borrowed for the duration of the classes. If you aren't planning on attending the meeting, the books will also be available the first night of classes. August the 18th is right around the corner!!

Volunteer Opportunities

2023 OFFICERS:

Barbara Judkins
President

Susan Sedberry
Vice President

Laura Wilson
Secretary

Charles Gillis
Treasurer

Caroline Hughes
Susan Sedberry
Training Co-Directors

Laura Wilson
Class Rep.

Linda Richtsmeier
Membership Director

Vanessa Adams
Neace
Advisor

Doug Weir
Advisor

Join the Bird Herd!



Volunteers needed to maintain the bird blinds at the Refuge.
Please contact Barbara Judkins

Join Bluebird Buddies



Volunteers to help maintain the bluebird houses and counts.
Please contact Sue Simmons

Please share pictures and updates of any presentations, field trips, etc. that is going on! We also can use interesting articles you come across. Email them to

cypress-basintmn@gmail.com

In Need of AT?

Remember that out of the 8 hours of advanced training required each year, only 4 can be online except the current year TMNTuesdays.

Here are a few good online options:

#TMNTuesdays

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/tmntuesdays/>

Forestry and Natural Resources Webinars

<http://forestrywebinars.net/>

Conservation of Natural Resources

<http://www.conservationwebinars.net>

Natures Notebook

<https://www.usanpn.org/nn/webinars>

Texas Wildlife Federation

<https://www.texas-wildlife.org/webinars>

Cornell University

<https://academy.allaboutbirds.org>

2023 Meeting Dates

August 14th - Caddo Lake State Park
September 11th - Jefferson Transportation Center - **POTLUCK!!**
October 9th - Marshall Central Fire Station
November 13th - Caddo Lake State Park
December - no meeting



"One must maintain a little bit of summer, even in the middle of winter." - Henry David Thoreau

Follow us:



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