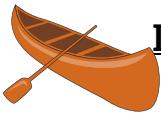




THE
PADDLEFISH
CYPRESS BASIN CHAPTER
TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST

2025 FLOATILLA

2025 Earth Day Paddling Flotilla is zooming towards us, just a month away! Circle 4/25 for setup and 4/26 for the big splash. Volunteers, we need you and your shirt sizes, plus if you're eyeing a cool commemorative mug. Got a painted canoe or critter? Let us know! Know a sponsor-ready buddy or business? We need their names and checks by 4/12. Let's make waves together!



If you painted a canoe or critter, please bring it to the April meeting.

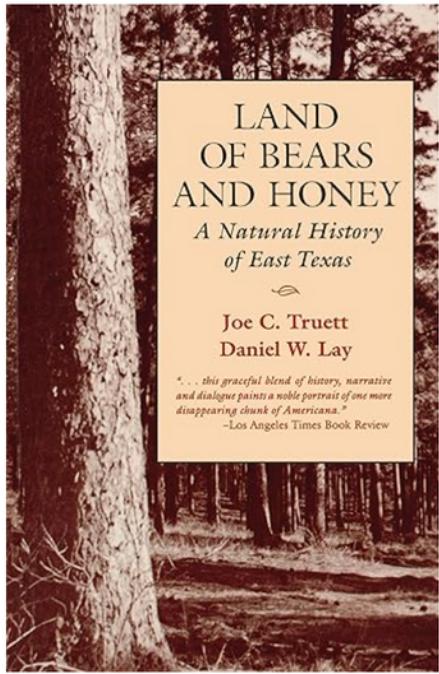


APRIL MEETING- APRIL 14TH AT 6PM



Join us at the Kellyville Community Center for the April Cypress Basin Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist. The address of the community center is 130 Kelly Park Road, Jefferson 75657. This is 4 miles west on Highway 49 of the Highway 59 and Highway 49 intersection in Jefferson. Hope to see you there!!

The generous Vanessa Neace has kindly offered to bestow her wisdom upon us with an engaging presentation at the April gathering in Kellyville. While the specifics of her topic remain shrouded in mystery, one can be assured it will be both captivating and enlightening.



BOOK CLUB

THURSDAY MAY 8TH AT 6:00 PM

Caddo Lake Wildlife Refuge Classroom
Caddo Lake Wildlife Refuge

Our next selection is *Land of Bears and Honey: A Natural History of East Texas* by Joe C. Truett and Daniel W. Lay. The discussion will be at the refuge on Thursday, May 8th at 6 pm. Please bring a lawn chair so that we will have the option of sitting on the deck

We will meet at 2:30 again for anyone interested in doing trail maintenance prior to the book club meeting.

EAST TEXAS FIRE AND NATURE FESTIVAL

Join Us for the First Annual East Texas Fire and Nature Festival!

Saturday, April 5, 2025 | 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

East Texas Nature Center

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and partners invite you to a free family-friendly event celebrating nature, fire, and the connection between the two! The East Texas Fire and Nature Festival features a day of hands-on nature activities, guided walks, fire education, and fun for all ages.

For more information or to volunteer--<https://tpwd.texas.gov/calendar/events/east-texas-fire-and-nature-festival>





CADDO LAKE ADVENTURE DAY

On March 15, 2025, Caddo Lake State Park hosted its second annual Caddo Adventure Day, inviting visitors to immerse themselves in the park's rich natural beauty through a variety of engaging activities. The event featured archery, fishing, canoeing, guided hikes, and educational exhibits, offering something for every outdoor enthusiast.

Pictured below are Cypress Basin Master Naturalists, Jane Ball, Teresa McKinney, and Stella Barrow volunteering at the event.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Cypress Basin Texas Master Naturalists

Financial Report for March 2025

Beginning Balance 2/28/25	\$28,941.11
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Deposits:	Annual Dues	\$125.00
	Flotilla Donations	\$2,500.00
Expenses:	Card & postage	\$21.07
	Flotilla	\$671.38
		\$1,932.55

Ending Balance: 2/28/25	
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Flotilla Fund	\$23,915.37
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Trainee Scholarship Fund	\$600.00
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General Fund	\$6,358.29
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Ending Balance 3/24/25	
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	\$30,873.66
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Teresa McKinney, Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP DUES

**\$25 PER INDIVIDUAL
\$40 PER FAMILY**

Mail checks- made payable to
Cypress Basin TMN

Mail to
PO Box 226
Karnack, Texas
75661

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY MEETING

CBTMN Chapter Meeting - March 10, 2025

Members present: Barbara Judkins, Keith & Teresa McKinney, Linda Richtsmeier, Steve & Susan Sedberry, Jane Ball, Becky Canter, Michelle Clagg, Trish Jones, Hattie Hackler, Vicki Gilliland, Phyllis Wilson, Kathy Koenig, Stella Smith, Herman Hazard, Laura Wilson, Mike Woodruff, Ted & Stella Barrow, Ellen Miller, Pam Andrews, Charles Gillis. No guests.

Meeting began at 5:42 with an AT presentation by Hattie Hackler and Trish Jones on the Caddo Biocontrol Alliance...Great salvinia and the weevil green house project. At the end of the presentation, there was a call for volunteers to clean out the greenhouse on April 5th starting at 9:00 AM. The CBA is also looking for an additional board member. If interested in volunteering, please contact Hattie or Trish.

Cares, Concerns, Joys: We send our sympathy to Caroline Hughes on the loss of her mother-in-law.

Treasurer's Report and Minutes as recorded in the Paddlefish. Clarification on the start time of the meeting and as it was recorded in the Paddlefish.

VMS: Linda announced that VMS has added a new category "Associate" for members who have not met the requirements of "Active" membership. All members are welcome to attend meetings and activities regardless of status.

Caddo Adventure Day: March 15th, 10am-3pm. Teresa and Jane will be representing CBTMN. Any other members interested in volunteering, please contact Barbara.

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Flotilla: Stella reported 44 registrations (1 child). Please bring decorated canoes, etc to the next meeting. Sign up if interested in a souvenir cup...4 designs at \$7.75 each. Flyers were available for members to post in the area. Food for the Flotilla will include burgers, veggie burgers, and chicken strips. Members are asked to bring 1/2-1 dozen cookies, brownies, etc. The next Flotilla planning meeting will be on Saturday March 29th at 10:00 at the Refuge. As Flotilla information is posted on FaceBook, please comment and share.

Pin Presentation: Susan presented Herman Hazard with a 4000 hour VT award and also announced Herman's 5000 hour pin award.

Nature Book Club: The current selection is Grandma Gatewood's Walk by Ben Montgomery. The discussion will be held on March 27th at 6:00pm at the Refuge. Carolyn will arrive and lead a trail clean up from 2:30 until time for book club.

Various VT/AT Opportunities were presented.

Next Meeting: April 14th at Kellyville at 6:00 PM.

Bat Brigade: Last year's data is currently being analyzed. Placing of monitors will begin in April. Opportunity for VT-placing monitors at same locations as last year.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

VT: 30 minutes (.5)
AT: 30 minutes (.5)

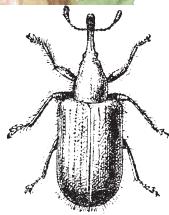
CYPRESS BASIN MEMBER ACHIEVES 5000 HOUR MILESTONE



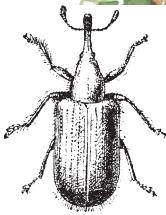
Introducing Herman Hazard, who has not only achieved his 2024 Recertification pin but also made history as the first member in our Chapter's 16-year existence to earn the prestigious 5000-hour volunteer pin. This remarkable pin features a gold dragonfly with a diamond at its center. Congratulations, Herman!

2025 TRAINING CLASS ANNOUNCEMENT

Caroline and Susan are looking for folks interested in taking our training class this fall. Please talk to your friends, neighbors, co-workers, anyone who you think might be interested! It will begin the weekend of August 15th, and be one weekend a month through November. Please be sure and get name, address, phone number and email address. We also need a co-chair for the coordination of food. Thanks so much for helping with this!!



Volunteers Needed!
Saturday April 5, 9am to noon
Caddo Biocontrol Alliance (the weevils!)
Morley Hudson Greenhouses
439 Cypress Dr. Uncertain 75661



Wear closed-toed shoes (knee boots preferred), sun protection, gloves, and bring water to drink, and nippers/clippers!



Online Webinar
Speaker Series
#TMNTuesdays

Join us on the 2nd
Tuesday of each
month at 12:00pm CT!*

*Some TMNTuesday dates and times are subject to change.
Join our Email Listserv to stay updated.

AT ALERT

Caroline and Susan are always looking for AT ideas for both meetings and field trips. If you would like to do a short presentation at a meeting, or have an excellent place you would like to make a field trip to, please let Susan (caddomama@gmail.com) or Caroline (cahughes8@gmail.com) know!



2025 Officers

Barbara Judkins
President

Susan Sedberry
Vice President

Laura Wilson
Secretary

Teresa McKinney
Treasurer

Caroline Hughes
Susan Sedberry
Training Coordinators

Lara Wilson
Class Representative

Linda Richtmeier
Membership Director

Vanessa Neace
Advisor

Doug Weir
Advisor

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/](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/>

2025 Meeting Dates and Locations

January 13 - Refuge

February 10 - Transportation Center,

Jefferson - Potluck dinner

March 10 - Marshall Library

April 14 - Kellyville

May 12 - Refuge

June 9 - State Park

July - no meeting

August 11 - Transportation Center,

Jefferson - Potluck dinner

September 8 - Marshall Library

October 13 - Kellyville

November 10 - Refuge

December - no meeting