

## RECERTIFICATION ALERT

You have until December 31st to get your required 40 hours of VT and 8 hours of AT to qualify for this year's recertification pin, which is the greater roadrunner. Susan is watching everyone's hours closely and is ordering pins, so please be prompt in entering your hours, to ensure you get what's coming to you!! Your total hours appear at the bottom of your "view my log book" page on VMS, or you can contact Ellen at [ellenbrianamiller@gmail.com](mailto:ellenbrianamiller@gmail.com) and ask her.

# Location Change

## NOVEMBER MEETING

Due to the government shutdown and the fact that the admin building on the refuge is a federal building, we are not able to get in it right now. Our November meeting on the 10th has been moved from Karnack to Kellyville. The meeting will begin at 6, and Ellen Miller will give us a little AT, speaking on the night herp hikes at the local State Parks. Hope to see lots of folks there, as this is our last meeting of the year!



## GREAT DAY AT ROCKY TOP TREE FARM

Thanks to Charles and Sue Snowden for hosting a group of Texas Master Naturalists at their Rocky Top Tree Farm. Nineteen of us—including four enthusiastic youngsters—enjoyed a guided tour and nature walk, learning about local plants, farm history, and even how to core a tree to determine its age.

The weather threatened, but we stayed dry and wrapped up the day with a delicious lunch of pulled pork, riblets, and Dutch oven cobblers prepared by Charles. A wonderful day of learning, laughter, and fellowship!

## MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

8/29 At Cumberland Church in Jefferson, TX, there will be a musical presentation by a children's orchestra from Arlington, TX.

The Flotilla date for 2026 has been set for April 18th, 2026. Stella will again be heading the planning committee. Planning meetings will begin in January.

When entering your information for your volunteer time Ellen has been instructed not to use any acronyms and therefore she requests that no acronyms be used when describing your volunteer activities. The only three acronyms accepted are TMN, TPWD and VMS. Everything else needs to be spelled out.

Jane Ball is our newest member of Cypress Basin Master Naturalist.

Caroline reported the book club will gather on October 30, 2025 at 6:00 to discuss Tales From a Rogue Ranger. She requests that everyone bring a lawn chair in case the Refuge classrooms are still shut down due to the federal government shutdown. In addition, she will sponsor a trail maintenance volunteer activity that same day at 2:30. Please come prepared clothing wise to work on the trail and in addition bring a lunch to eat. If you work on the trail then you can also count your travel time in your total volunteer and AT time!

In addition, Martin Creek State Park has asked Cypress Basin MN for volunteer help with clearing some brush at the park. Barbara Judkins, judkinsbr@gmail.com, will be the contact for further information on this volunteer opportunity if you are interested.

Another very interesting AT opportunity is coming up on 10/25/2025 at Charles Snowden's tree farm from 10 to 12:30. Food afterwards, and please contact Roger to determine if any other food needs to be brought to the pot luck. The AT presentation for the night was on recycling opportunities locally in Marshall and Jefferson. Terracycle.com was mentioned as a great site for all things recycle. Plastics #1, #2, #5 can be recycled, Sams has a bin for plastics in their parking lot in Longview. For plastics like grocery bags or paper towel bags can be recycled at Walmart/Krogers. Walmart will also take old eyeglasses. Electronics can be taken to Staples in Shreveport or possibly city may take on a bi-annual basis, call your local trash service to see. Glass can be recycled in Longview behind the fire stations, #2 at Eastman Rd, #3 at Birdsong, and #7 at Gilmer Rd.

The best thing is to minimize your use of plastics as much as possible.

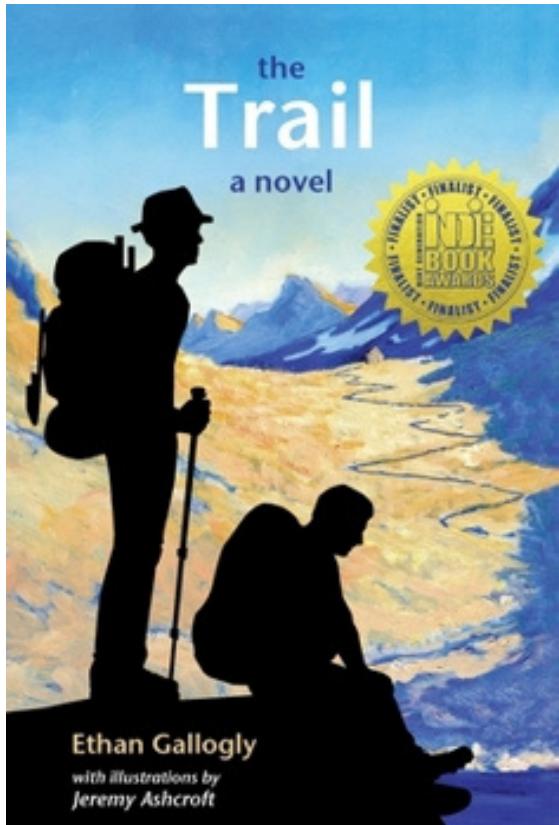
Aluminum cans are easy to recycle and you can turn them into a metal recycling place for money. Or you can take them to Pet Place in Marshall and they will turn them into animal food for their animals.

The Rotary Club of Jefferson will take electronics from 9-12 at the National Bank site on 11/15.

The next meeting will be at Caddo Lake State Park at 6:00 pm on 11/10.

# BOOK CLUB

THURSDAY JANUARY 8TH AT 5:00 PM



Caddo Lake Wildlife Refuge Classroom  
Caddo Lake Wildlife Refuge

When Gil, recently fired and still grieving his father's death, reluctantly agrees to hike the 200-plus-mile John Muir Trail across California's Sierra Nevada with his dad's old hiking partner Syd—who's frail, ill, and secretive—he expects little more than a month of discomfort. Instead, the journey turns into a profound adventure of survival, introspection and transformation. As Gil and Syd push through rugged terrain, unexpected mishaps and new friendships, Gil gradually confronts his guilt, fear of the wilderness, and desire to live for something more. Meanwhile, through Syd's storytelling and trail history, the mountains themselves become a living metaphor for healing, belonging and purpose

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Cypress Basin Texas Master Naturalists

Financial Report for October 2025

### MEMBERSHIP DUES

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

Mail checks- made payable to  
Cypress Basin TMN

Mail to  
PO Box 226  
Karnack, Texas  
75661

Beginning Balance 9/24/25		\$32,473.96
Deposits:		
Dues		\$75.00
Expenses:		
Trophy Plus		\$62.50
Flotilla Fund		\$25,968.88
Trainee Scholarship Fund		\$600.00
General Fund		\$5,917.58
Ending Balance 11/1/25		<b>\$32,486.46</b>
Teresa McKinney, Treasurer		



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](mailto:caddomama@gmail.com)) or Caroline ([cahughes8@gmail.com](mailto: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

Ellen Miller  
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