



ADVANCED TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

RUNNING OUT:

TEXAS' WATER CRISIS AND THE PATH FORWARD



OCTOBER 8



7 P.M. CT



IN LONGVIEW AND ONLINE

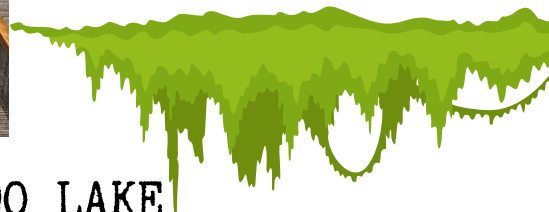
This advanced training opportunity is available both in person and online. Visit <https://runningouttexaswatercrisis.splashthat.com/> for more information.

OCTOBER MEETING

Kellyville is the location of our October 13th monthly meeting. This facility is located at the Marion County AgriLife Extension Office, 130 Kelly Park Road, Jefferson 75657. The meeting starts at 6pm, with set up being at 5:45. We are putting together an AT presentation on household recycling in the Marshall/Longview area. Hope to see you there!



CONGRATS TO OUR NEWEST CERTIFIED MEMBER MICHELLE CLAGG



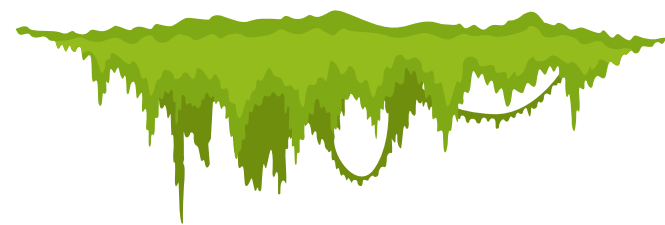
SPOOKY SWAMP SECRETS OF CADDO LAKE

As the mist rolls across Caddo Lake at dusk, it's easy to understand why this mysterious East Texas treasure has inspired ghost stories for generations. The bald cypress rise like sentinels from dark, still water, their moss-draped limbs swaying in the slightest breeze — and if you listen closely, you might just hear whispers of Caddo's haunted past.

Locals speak of The Weeping Woman, a ghostly figure said to wander the foggy shores, crying for a lost Civil War-era lover. Fishermen tell tales of phantom paddleboats gliding silently through the mist — echoes, they say, of the Mittie Stephens, a 19th-century steamboat that caught fire on the lake, claiming dozens of lives. On moonlit nights, some even swear they see the flicker of lanterns drifting across the water, where no boats can be found.

According to Caddo legend, the lake itself was born from a prophecy. A tribal chief foresaw a great flood that would cover the land, and soon after, the earth shook — perhaps during the New Madrid earthquakes of 1811-1812 — and the bayou filled with water. Some say the spirits of that ancient upheaval still linger beneath the surface.

Whether you believe in ghosts or not, there's no denying that Caddo Lake holds a magic all its own. Its beauty and mystery remind us that every ripple carries a story — and every shadow hides a secret.



UPCOMING AT OPPORTUNITY: TREE FARM TOUR

Mark your calendars! Roger Geiger has arranged a tour of Charles Snowden's tree farm near Atlanta on Saturday, October 25th, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Charles' farm was recently recognized as the Outstanding Tree Farm of 2025 by the Texas Forestry Association. Earlier this year, Roger attended a tour there and found the farm's history and natural beauty to be especially fascinating.

Transportation will be needed on-site. Charles has a side-by-side available, and we can pull a trailer with benches or hay bales if possible—but we will likely need additional options to get everyone around the property.

If you'd like to join this unique experience, please contact Susan at caddomama@gmail.com.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

CYPRESS BASIN TMN CHAPTER MEETING - SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

The following members were present at the Marshall Library: Ellen Miller, Steve & Susan Sedberry, Michelle Clagg, Teresa McKinney, Ted Barrow, Stella Barrow, Linda Richtsmeier, Barbara Judkins, Laura Wilson, Roger Geiger, Kathy Koenig, Pam Andrews, Jim Meyer, Becky Gullette, ViAnn & Pat Sawyer, and Caryn Duncan. **Guest:** Valerie Wilson

Meeting was called to order at 5:55 by President Barbara Judkins.

Joys & Concerns: Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families and friends of our members Herman Hazard and Ellen Anderson....we are so sorry for your losses...they will be missed.

Our prayers go out to David Gilliland to have a full recovery from his recent surgery. Barbara announced that she will be retiring in March 2026....congratulations!

Congratulations to our newest certified member Michelle Clagg!

Treasurer's Report and Minutes are published in the Paddlefish Newsletter. Teresa asked that anyone delinquent in dues, please settle up as soon as possible.

VMS - Ellen reports that we are doing a good job with our entries...if you have questions, the best way to contact Ellen is by text or email.

Tour of Charles Snowden's Tree Farm will be on Oct. 25th from 10am to 12:30pm. Charles is graciously going to provide lunch for our group (pulled pork and cobbler)...members attending are asked to provide additional dishes and necessities. Please contact Roger if you are interested in attending.

GCLA Fish Fry Annual Fundraiser - Susan reports a successful event raising approximately \$9500, with 10 TMN's volunteering. Please consider helping out with the event next year!

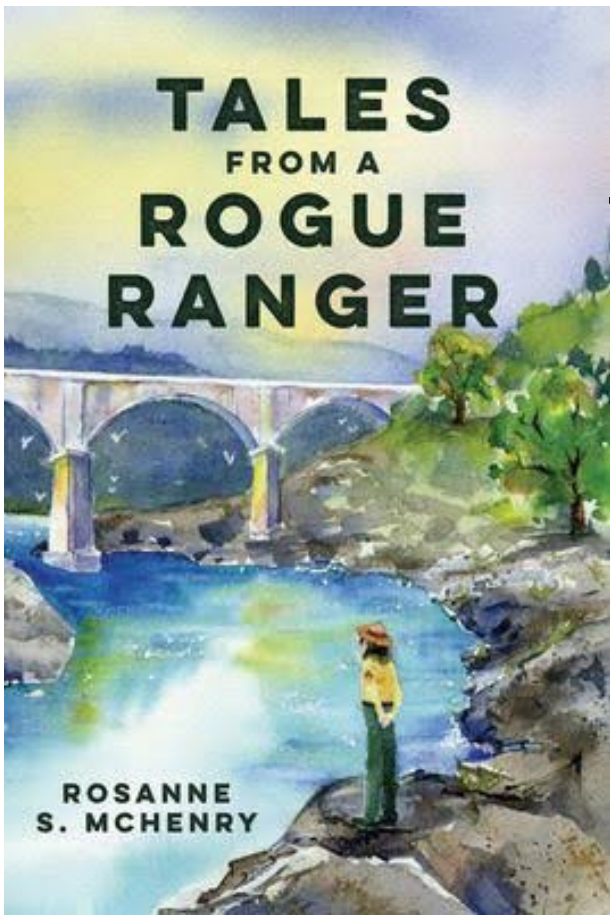
Advanced Training - ViAnn Sawyer presented on "Project Wild" and encouraged us to take the necessary classes to be able to present nature activities to the youth of the community. If interested, contact ViAnn for more information or go to <https://tpwd.texas.gov/education/project-wild>

Meeting adjourned at 6:35

Next Meeting: October 13, 2025 at Kellyville

VT: 15 minutes (.25) plus drive and set up time

AT: 30 minutes (.5)



BOOK CLUB

THURSDAY OCTOBER 30TH AT 6:00 PM

Caddo Lake Wildlife Refuge Classroom
Caddo Lake Wildlife Refuge

Our next Nature Book Club selection is *Tales from a Rogue Ranger*, by Rosanne S. McHenry, which relates the high and lows of the life of a park ranger. The discussion will be on Thursday, October 30, at 6:00 p.m. at the refuge.

For those who wish to join us, we will meet at 2:30 that day at the Visitors Center for an afternoon of trail maintenance.

Anyone is welcome to join us for trail maintenance, even if you do not plan to attend book club.

TREASURER'S REPORT

MEMBERSHIP DUES

\$25 PER INDIVIDUAL
\$40 PER FAMILY

Mail checks- made payable to
Cypress Basin TMN

Mail to
PO Box 226
Karnack, Texas
75661

Cypress Basin Texas Master Naturalists					
Financial Report for September 2025					
Beginning Balance 8/29/25					
					\$32,318.96
Deposits:					
		2025 Dues		\$155.00	
Expenses:					
				\$0.00	
Flotilla Fund					
				\$25,968.88	
Trainee Scholarship Fund					
				\$600.00	
General Fund					
				\$5,905.08	
Ending Balance 9/24/25					
					\$32,473.96
Teresa McKinney, Treasurer					



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			
January 14	February 11	March 18* <small>*Not a second Tuesday</small>	April 8
May 13	June 10	July 8	August 12
September 9	October TBA	November 18* <small>*Not a second Tuesday</small>	December 9
Save the dates for our 2025 #TMNTuesday lineup! <small>All webinars will be the second Tuesday of each month at 12pm CT with a few exceptions. Keep an eye on socials and emails for details!</small>			

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

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/>

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/>