Texas Master Naturalist

El Camino Real Chapter

August 26, 2014 – County Road 429

*Floridus Milamexa*

Members: Linda Jo Conn, John Pruett, Rusty Thomas, Katherine Bedrich

Members met at the intersection of Hwy 908 and County Road 429 at 8:00am.

A short drive up CR 429 (north) a buffalo gourd was spotted. Upon stopping, the group found several plants. Observation and identification was discussed and noted.

Another stop by a group of trees found hackberry (Texas sugarberry), chittamwood (gum elastic) and other plants for identification.

At the San Gabriel River, small clusters of Eve’s Necklace, Western Soapberry, and Turk’s Cap were identified. Grasses and other plants were listed. Some Eve’s Necklace seeds were collected.

John has the plant list, Linda Jo and Katherine photographed flora, Rusty listed the fauna – which included eastern cottontail, cardinals, mourning dove and nest; and a water moccasin the team watched while it was surveying its watery territory.

Next field trip: Wednesday – September 10th – 9:00am at Katherine’s. We will take a field trip to Big Elm Creek and observe the fauna in the area. Afterwards we will “key” out the jasmine that is at the Creek road.

