

The EFCTMN Newsletter

October, 2007

Vol 8, No.10

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October Meeting at the Extension office. Social time 9:00 Am, Meeting 9:30 PM, 10/18/07:

Speaker: Camelia Maier, Ph.D., Texas Woman's University, Biology dept.

Title: "*Plant Research at TWU*". The talk will focus on Dr. Maier's research using native plants and other plants in the Denton landscape. She will touch on estrogens and mineral and wax depositions in plants as the main research topics in her lab. Plants contain estrogens but their functions in plants are not quite understood. However, the medical benefits of plant estrogens are well known. Since plants are stuck in soil and their nutrition depends on the uptake of water and mineral, they need to get rid of certain minerals which are found in excess in soils or are even toxic for plant tissues. Almost all plants on land deposit calcium and silica in specialized cells. To avoid water loss through the surface of their bodies, plants are covered with a layer of wax; therefore evapotranspiration occurs through specialized structures, stomata, which can be regulated depending on the physiological and environmental conditions of each plant species. Also, two other small projects are worth mentioning: chromosome determination in two species of trout lily (native plants) as a collaboration with members of the Native Plant Society - Trinity Fork Chapter and the symbiotic relationship between carnivorous plants and bacteria and fungi inhabiting their leaf-traps.

November Meeting at the Extension office (11/15/07). Social Time 9:00 Am. Meeting 9:30 AM.

Kay Crowe and Theresa Page, members of the Elm Fork Chapter of Master Naturalists, will be our speakers. They will discuss the City of Denton Benthic project and the Rainwater Harvesting seminar.

Election of 2008 Chapter Officers: The nominations committee has come up with a list of new candidates for 2008; these are: Alex Lieban, for chapter President, Lee Ann Jernigan for Vice President, Lynne List for Secretary and

George Kragle for Treasurer. Additional nominations are welcomed; individuals may be nominated from the floor at the October general meeting.

Please thank the five members who served on the nominations committee for 2008. They are: Joe Bain, Shirley Holland, George Kragle, Rob Roy, and Donna Wolfe.

Report Your Hours: This is a good time for everyone to make sure they have reported all their service and advanced training hours so far this year, using the proper form. Our chapter is funded by the State based on the number of service hours and advanced training hours, so it's important to report accurately and timely. For questions please contact any board member.

EFCMN Nature Photo Gallery: Exhibit will be moved to the Cupboard Natural Market in Denton for December. Please contact Cheryl Kesterson at greengardengal@yahoo.com for more info.

State Newsletter: If interested in subscribing to the State's Master Naturalist email newsletter, please go to <http://taex001.tamu.edu/mailman/listinfo/tmn> and sign up.

Service Hour Opportunities (SH)

Ray Roberts Lake Guided Nature Hikes: Guided Nature Hikes:

Isle du Bois Unit:

Saturday, Oct. 27 at 3pm (meet at Bluestem pavilion)

Guided Nature Hikes for School Groups:

Friday, Oct. 19, 9-11am, (80 third graders from Prosper ISD)

Thursday, Oct. 25, 10am-noon, Bluestem Trail (Frisco Home School group 80+ all ages)

Friday, Oct. 26, 9am-noon, (170 third graders from Prosper ISD)

Please contact Don Whited if you can help on

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any of these days. Are you new to trail guiding? That's ok, tag along with a more experienced guide and see how easy it is!

Email: Don.White@tpwd.state.tx.us

Or you can contact Jan Hodson, janhodson@ntin.net for additional information.

Clear Creek Work Day, October 24, 2007.

Yes, it's that time of the year again, time... to work in the wild. We will be working on the Fisherman's Trail area, putting the bridge back together and removing logs and other debris. To volunteer, contact:

Jan Thompson
972-757-5715c
frickthompson@aol.com

Isle du Bois Interpretive Center Grand Opening, Saturday, October 20.

We need lots of volunteers to help with the event. I will have a sign up sheet with slots at the general EFCMN meeting on Thursday, October 18. If you cannot make the meeting but still want to help, send me an email or call.

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The park has canopies and tables but we need some help getting them all set up and taken down. The setup crew needs to be there early. We need people to help setup the information tables. We need to get the grill in place and tables set up for food prep.

Setup crew needed: 8:00-10:00 a.m.

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I would like to have at least two people at each information table with one person responsible for picking up the materials for their table from the extension office Thursday after the meeting and taking it to and from IDB. I will be there to help get the materials together for the tables Thursday. The tables need to be staffed from 10:00-12:00. The setup crew will help with fetch and carry. You will need to be there

by 9:00 to get your tables ready. And stay a little after 12:00 noon to pack it all up.

Volunteers (to date) for information tables:
Soils - Cheryl Kesterson,
Plants - Theresa Page,
Insects - Jan Hodson,
Animal Tracks -
Butterfly/ Dragonfly Craft -
Fishing - Ken Hodson

Additional volunteers are needed.

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We will be serving hot dogs, chips, bottled drinks from 12:00 til it's gone. So, we need a food crew to setup, cook, and serve. Food Crew volunteers need to arrive at 11:30 a.m.:

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We need trail guides for Lost Pines Trail:
Trail Guides (9 am)- Paul Sleeper, Maxine Lindauer
Trail Guides (10:00) - guides needed.
Trail Guides (11 am)- Paul Sleeper, Maxine Lindauer

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We need a clean up crew to help pack up displays, take down canopies, etc.

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We need trail guides for Bluestem Trail (4:00 pm):

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We need a campfire crew. Doty Hiatt will be giving her bat talk at 7 pm. We need a few people to man the donations table and direct people to the campfire. (Doty has to charge for speaking, it is the way she gets funding to support her bat rehab center.)

Bat Crew needed (6:30-7:30).

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If you have something you would like to do that

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is not listed above contact me.
The weather is starting to be nice. It will be a great day to spend at the park.

Please sign up to help so we can make this a great event!

Jan Hodson,
janhodson@ntin.net
940-637-2702

LLELA Opportunity. We are busily preparing for our 4th and 5th grade field trip groups from Irving this semester, and have a need for some volunteer help. The 4th-graders are participating in a science lab, Homestead tour, and a heritage activity during their visits. I have hired part-time instructors to cover the science labs and heritage activity, but still need volunteers to lead the tours of the Homestead. I hope some of you will be willing to help with this.

Here's the job: for each date below, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. I need someone to lead 4 thirty-minute tours of the log house and outbuildings for about 30 4th-grade students. I have a script to guide your discussion, and will call a meeting of those leading the tours beforehand to make sure everyone is comfortable and on the same page. Please let me know if you can help and which dates you can cover; I'll get everyone in a schedule and organized. Here are the dates for this fall: Oct. 16, Oct. 22, Oct. 23, and Oct. 24, 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. each date.

Thanks,
Lisa Cole
Education Coordinator
Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Area
1801 N. Mill St., Suite A
Lewisville, TX 75057
972-219-3930
lisacole@unt.edu
www.ias.unt.edu/llela

EFCTMN Halloween Party. October 25, 7:00 p.m. at Clear Creek Natural Heritage Center.
The *Mistress of Darkness* needs "help" with the

upcoming MN Halloween Party. Would you like to bring food or drink? Are you attending and bringing someone with you?

Here are the directions to Clear Creek: Take I35 to Loop 288, go past the extension office to Hwy. 380, turn right onto Hwy. 380, go to the first light, make a left turn onto Cooper Creek. At the railroad tracks make a right and follow Mingo Rd. until it runs into Collins Rd. Make a left onto Collins Rd. Take that all the way to the entrance to Clear Creek Natural Heritage Center.

Thank Ya!
Jan Thompson
frickthompson@aol.com
972-757-5715

Phorid Fly Studies: 10 a.m., Wednesday, October 24 and Thursday, October 25. This is an ongoing field research study on the spread of the Phorid fly. We will be driving 20 plus miles each of those days, therefore, plan for 3-4 hours each day. If interested in this learning and service opportunity, please contact: Katy Hammon 254-739-2124 bkhammon@sbcglobal.net

LLELA Projects Need Volunteers. I would like to thank those who have helped us with our prairie seed collection efforts. You have helped to make a difference. The year isn't over yet and some of the really intense collecting has yet to come (the warm season grasses), so keep up the good work.

I would like to challenge more Master Naturalists to join our prairie cause. In our efforts to restore prairie at LLELA we are having a big fight on our hands. We are trying to beat back 50+ years of woody encroachment. To this end we are employing a variety of techniques. We are observing a gradual change back to prairie but being the humans that we are, we want to see it happen faster! The best method to ensure that the existing trees are eliminated where we don't want them is...**HERBICIDE!!!!**

We, unfortunately, can't seem to find enough time to spray to achieve the results we desire. We want to really start knocking out the trees

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on our prairie. Our dozer lines have too many small trees coming up to count. These are coming from severed roots as well as newly exposed seeds. In the bison range, our rotational grazing is leaving all of the small trees exposed as the bison herd is moved to the next grazing section. This is an ideal time to strike since the other vegetation has been either trampled or eaten. We also have our prairie research plots that really need help as well as some more open areas that we are fighting to keep open.

So heed the call to arms!! Come out and help us fight the prairie's enemy! Regardless of when you can come and fight we can get you back to the battlegrounds. Weekends, weekdays or even evenings, once we have you geared up and briefed on the battle plan, it is fire at will!!!

The biggest part of this challenge is... I want to see NEW faces! Those who are actively involved with one of our other projects (seed collection, log house guide, trail guides, etc...) don't stop! Work on those projects so you become really good. I want to see new faces, I know that there are A LOT more Master Naturalist out there and I am challenging them to come out and get a feel for LLELA.

Thank you,
Richard Freiheit
Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Area
Restoration Manager
(214) 563-6414
freiheit@unt.edu

Old Alton Bridge. CleanUp. Thursday, November 1, 9:00 a.m.--til the bridge looks beautiful! The Natural Guard of the Old Alton Bridge will gather to clean and clear after Halloween. Did you know the Old Alton Bridge, built in 1884, is haunted? Bring gloves and wear boots.
Carolyn Norgaard
940-241-1435

Last 2007 Class Day: 9:00 a.m. at 2719 Harlee Court, Denton. November 13. This year we are doing something different by having the end of class, lunch, and final events at my house. We will need some help setting up tables, etc. You don't need to stay for the

class event, if you don't want to. Contact:
Cheryl Kesterson
greengardengal@yahoo.com

Installing an Outdoor Learning Area at Sam Houston Elementary School: 8 a.m. - 12 noon. October 22. Location: On Teasley Lane and Lillian Miller Blvd., behind CVS Pharmacy. We need all the help we can get. If anyone is handy with tools and willing to help, please contact:
George Kragle
940-483-9894
gkragle1@verizon.net

Newsletter Articles (SH): You can receive service hour credit for the time it takes you to research and write articles for the EFCMN newsletter. Articles must pertain to Chapter interests and cannot be political in nature. Furthermore, copyrighted materials cannot be used without the original author's written permission. Send submissions to Theresa Kavi at TLKavi@earthlink.net

EFCMN PUBLICITY: Lin Weinberg is our new contact for Denton Connection magazine. If you have master naturalist-related activities or projects that are OPEN to the public, please help publicize EFCMN by writing an article for publication in the magazine. Send copy-ready articles to Lin at:
lcweinberg@verizon.net

Project List (SH): There is a project list online at our webpage www.efcmn.org. Just about any of these projects can probably use your help. Please get in touch with the contact person listed on the list if you would like to help out.

Note: Standard service hours are available at any time at the Fort Worth Nature Center, BRIT, LLELA and at LISDOLA. It is highly recommended that you contact these sites and let them know you want to help out before you go there. Please see the Fort Worth Nature Center's calendar at www.fwnaturecenter.org, and BRIT's website at www.BRIT.org for details about their service opportunities. You can also contact Rica Potenz at 972-874-7514 about

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service opportunities available on an ongoing basis at Lewisville Independent School District Outdoor Learning Area (LISDOLA).

Ongoing bird talks at the LBJ grasslands count as AT. Please contact Mary Curry at mary@lookingout.net for more info.

Advanced Training Opportunities (AT):

Butterfly Workshop: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. November 10. Presenters are: Jill Nugent, UNT, and Mary Barnes, EFCMN. Location: Texas Cooperative Extension 306 N. Loop 288 Ste 222 Denton, TX 76209 940-349-2883

"Butterflies and The Plants That Attract Them" will be presented by Mary Barnes, Master Naturalist, Elm Fork Chapter, at 6-7 p.m., October 18 at The Shades of Green Nursery, 8801 Coit Rd, Frisco, TX.

Activities of Interest: May qualify for AT

Trinity Forks Chapter of the Native Plant Society: Meets on the fourth Thursday of January through May and August through October.

Time: 6:30 pm for socializing and viewing of educational displays in the Second Floor Lobby; 7:00 pm for start of meeting in Room 301.

Place: The Administration and Clock Tower (ACT) building at the Texas Woman's University in Denton, Texas, at 304 Administration Drive, between Bell and Oakland Streets. A map of Denton and the TWU campus is on our chapter website: www.npsot.org/TrinityForks (then click on **Meetings**).

Cynthia Maguire

Past President, Trinity Forks Chapter of NPSOT
cynthia.maguire@verizon.net
940-594-6555

Ray Roberts Lake State Park Fall 2007:

Stargazing Parties: Isle du Bois Unit; dusk - 11pm; Saturdays, Nov. 10 & Dec. 8

Campfire Programs: Isle du Bois Unit: 7-8 p.m. Lost Pines Trail Interpretive Area:
Sat., Oct. 20 "Bats Alive: The Real Story"
Sat., Nov. 3 "Birds of North Texas"
Sat., Nov. 17 "We Are Mammals"

Campfire Programs: Johnson Branch Unit: 7-8 p.m., Oak Point Amphitheater: Sat., Nov. 10, "What's Bugging You? Presented by, Jan Hodson, Texas Master Naturalist, Elm Fork chapter. She will talk about collecting and identifying different insects found in the area.

Call Don Whited for questions: 940-686-2080

Earthkind Online Modules (AT): If you are short on advanced training hours, we now have a way for you to earn 4 hours of AT from the comfort of your own home. Go to <http://earthkind.tamu.edu/EKOnlineModules.html>, complete all three Earthkind modules online ("Roses" is not available) and pass the quiz at the end of each of the 3 available sections. Once the 3 quizzes are passed, please print out the certificates of completion to attach to your service record when you go to record your 4 hours. If you are already getting credit for these modules as a Master Gardener, you may not also get credit for the same modules as a Master Naturalist.

The Armchair Master Naturalist by Theresa Kavi:

"Conservation for the People." The authors, Peter Kareiva and Michelle Marvier, (Sci. Am. October, 2007, p. 50) suggest that, "Pitting nature and biodiversity against people makes little sense. Many conservationists now argue that human health and well-being should be central to conservation efforts." This is a fascinating and thought-provoking article, highly recommended. Contributed by: Theresa Page, EFCMN.

If you know of any good books, movies, webpages or art exhibits that feature nature, email me at TLKavi@earthlink.net and I will try

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to pass on your suggestions to our fellow members.

Final Notes: Submit photos or newsletter articles to Theresa Kavi, Newsletter Editor at News@EFCMN.org. Our webpage address is www.EFCMN.org.

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