

## EVENTS

**December MEETING**  
**Date: 12/16/2010**  
**Social: 10:00 a.m.**  
**Meeting: 10:30 a.m.**  
**Location: Ben E. Keith Beverages  
Hospitality Room**

January BOARD MEETING  
Date: 1/13/2011  
Time: 9:30 a.m.  
Location: Extension  
Office Conference Room  
Board meetings are open to members

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2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Elected  
President: George Kragle  
Past President: Dave Rowley  
Vice President: Rob Roy  
Secretary: Marian Kester  
Treasurer: Amanda Cowan  
2009 Class Rep: Doug Chadwick  
Member-at-Large: Susan Pohlen

Appointed Chairs/Other  
Training: Shirley Holland  
Publicity: Wanda Odum  
Projects: Susan Pohlen  
Communications: Monica Chaffin  
Webmaster: Sharon Barr  
Editor: Rob Roy (Interim)

*December EFCMN  
Meeting*

## Faaaa la la la la la

Yes, it's almost Christmas and time to sing out and attend the annual Texas Master Naturalist's Christmas Party, **December 16, 2010.**

This year the party will be at the Ben E. Keith Hospitality Room, the time is **9:30 – 1:00**

We will have our general meeting first and then progress onto our Christmas party.

This year we will have "Potluck" so please bring your favorite dish (salad, casserole, or dessert) and share it with your fellow Master Naturalists. A ham and a turkey breast will be provided by the chapter. Bring a wrapped gift of under \$10 value for the round robin gift exchange.

If you have any questions please contact:

Betty Mullenweg [bmullenweg@aol.com](mailto:bmullenweg@aol.com)  
or George Kragle [gkragle1@verizon.net](mailto:gkragle1@verizon.net).

**No alcohol allowed! Also, do not bring any coolers with a beer name or logo except Budweiser!**

## DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO PARTY

The building is at 2801 North I-35, Denton 76207 for those with GPS or Googling the map. On the front south end of the building is BEN E. KEITH sign. On the front north end of the building is BUDWEISER sign. Please DO NOT park in any area and/or spot where there is a 'name'. Additional parking is available in the south parking lot.

**Coming in on Hwy 380 from east or west** turn south on North I-35 and stay on the service road. After passing Oak Street, the building will be on your right.

**Coming in on I-35E or I-35W** go north all the way to the Hwy 380 exit. After exiting there, make the u-turn back to the south under the bridge. Stay on the service road. After passing Oak Street, the building will be on your right. This is a bit out of the way, but offers the least opportunity for getting lost.

**No alcohol allowed! Also, do not bring any coolers with a beer name or logo except Budweiser!**

## *Last Month*

Steve Campbell, Aquatic Education Specialist, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department North Texas Education Center, Grand Prairie, Texas, gave us an overview of TPWD as well as talk about some of the things not well known.

## *Down the Road*



## Upcoming Chapter Meetings

**January 20th - Annual Awards Meeting** will be held in the Extension Office Conference Room starting at 9:00 a.m. with a social time followed by awards and other recognitions to members

**February 17<sup>th</sup> - "Corps of Engineers Lake Operations and Management"** will be presented by Mr. Eric Pedersen, Deputy Operations Project Manager, Trinity Regional Project, US Army COE-Fort Worth District.

**March 17<sup>th</sup> - "Stream Restoration"** will be the topic of our speaker, Mr. Kenneth Mayben, Zone Engineer, USDA-NRCS.

## Upcoming Chapter Field Trips

**January 12<sup>th</sup>** (Wednesday) trip to the Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge. Information will be available at the Christmas party and an email will be sent later this month with details.

**April 6<sup>th</sup>** (alternate 5/4 in case of bad weather) trip to the LBJ Grasslands. More details will be provided later.

Both will be all day events with a “picnic lunch” involved (BYOL&D.) These also will count as AT so you can get a jump on earning AT hours in 2011.

## *Election of EFC Officers for 2011*

The following officers for the 2011 year were elected during the **November 18, 2010** general meeting of the chapter.

President – George Kragle  
Vice President – Rob Roy  
Secretary – Marian Kester  
Treasurer – Kay Crowe  
Member-at-Large – Doug Chadwick  
2010 Class Rep – Deborah Estes (elected by class; non-voting until certified)

## *2010 Class*

Eighteen members of the 2010 class completed at least 60 hours of training and are now graduate interns. Several others are lacking just a few hours to complete and have until 12/31/2011 to finish. Many are involved in projects already.

## *Back Table*

Look for project, AT, and other handouts on one of the tables in back of the meeting room including info on the trip to Hagerman NWR.



## *Major Milestones Reached*

The following members were announced during the November meeting as having reached a major milestone as a Master Naturalist. **Congratulations to each one!**

**3000** service hours

**Dorothy Thetford**

**250** service hours

**Liz Williamson**

## *Certified in 2010*

Congratulations to the following members who were announced during the November meeting as having certified as a Master Naturalist for 2010.

**Diana Hatch**

**Don Morrison**

**Fritz Poppe**

**Susan Tartaglino** (class of 2009)

**Donna Wolfe**

The following individuals (2009 class) were recognized for receiving their initial certification as a Master Naturalist.

**Diana Block**

**Susan Tartaglino**

## *News from the State Office*

**We have to report our fourth quarter hours along with our annual report in early January 2011.**

We still have several members who are slow in reporting their volunteer time. So if you are one of those folks, please get caught up and stay current. Also, **everyone please sign each sheet of yours** in the book. This is another new state requirement to substantiate the hours the chapter reports.



## *Note from Our President*

### MN Survey in Review

With the year drawing to a close, I wanted to take this opportunity for a final review of the chapter survey. I hope this answers any questions you have regarding the purpose and/or any intended action resulting from the survey results.

The member survey was intended to help the Board of Directors gain insight into the needs and desires of our Elm Fork Chapter members, in an effort to improve the overall value of the chapter, increase member participation, retain current members, and expand membership to new individuals. Forty seven members completed the survey.

The survey committee collected and tallied the data, and provided a summary to the chapter. An additional volunteer committee was formed from chapter members at large to review the survey results and provide a recommendation to the Board of Directors. The new committee was formed so that a fresh set of eyes could review the results and ensure an unbiased recommendation.

The survey results committee made three recommendations to the Board of Directors, and those recommendations were discussed at length. The first recommendation was to have more field trips to satisfy the desire for more social interaction and opportunities for advanced training. The current Board has

already begun scheduling field trips, the first being the very successful trip to the Heard Museum. You will see more details on field trips in the near future. The second recommendation was to have more clear cut guidelines regarding mentoring. The Board feels this has already been addressed, but that regular monitoring and feedback will ensure appropriate changes are made as needed. The final recommendation was to provide recognition to our members that reach milestones in the chapter, specifically five year increments, 5, 10, 15 years, etc. The Board agreed that we should recognize milestones, so you will see more about this in the near future.

The current Board of Directors is satisfied with the results of this survey. Please keep in mind that a survey is good for a specific point in time and that the chapter may have to make adjustments again in the future. Thank you once again for your participation in the survey process.

George Kragle

President, Elm Fork Chapter, Texas Master Naturalist



## TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST SCORES AGAIN

"Don't let the grass grow under your feet" is surely an adage familiar to Denton resident, Dorothy Thetford, pictured on the right with Ms. Janet E. Laminack, Denton County AgriLIFE County Extension Agent-Horticulture. A certified Texas Master Naturalist since 2001, Dorothy was recently recognized as the first member of the Elm Fork Chapter in Denton to have earned 3,000 volunteer hours for service to our community.

Many of those hours were accumulated through her association with city of Denton and Denton ISD. If Dorothy cannot be found leading nature hikes through Denton's city parks, she might be observed in the classrooms of local schools participating in the Science With Attitude (SWAt) project for training and encouraging DISD elementary teachers to engage students in outdoor environmental studies.

In addition to her Master Naturalists activities, Dorothy is a long term member of Trinity Forks Chapter of Native Plant Society of Texas where she serves as Outreach Coordinator. She provides native plant advice for DISD Outdoor Learning Area school gardens and other programs promoting use of native plants in personal and public landscaping designs. In her spare time she enjoys photographing, growing and experimenting with native plants in her personal garden.

As if all of this were not enough to keep busy, she provides monthly wildflower profile articles for Master Naturalists and Trinity Forks Chapter newsletters. In fact, many readers may remember the wildflower column that Dorothy wrote for several years for the Denton Record Chronicle.

Texas Master Naturalists, founded in 1998 under the sponsorship of Texas Parks & Wildlife and Texas A&M University, currently has 6,000 volunteers forming 42 chapters throughout the state of Texas. These volunteer workers have contributed a total of 1,226,173 hours statewide. The Elm Fork Chapter, formed in 1999 under the leadership of former Denton County Extension Agent-Horticulture, John Cooper, has contributed more than 61,000 of those volunteer hours to benefit communities of Denton county.

For more information about Texas Master Naturalists, please call 940-349-2883 or visit the website [www.efcmn.org](http://www.efcmn.org).

Submitted by:  
Wanda Odum



## Ray Roberts Update

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to all of you that donated your time at Ray Roberts this year! I know it can be difficult to know how to divide your time since we have so many demands for our time and so many great choices. This year you provided 261 hours of service at the Interpretive Center and also helped with eight Kids 'n' Nature programs, one Junior Angler program, six school groups and Doris Mager's Native Raptor program, thank you!

This should be my final message to you as Ray Roberts Project Manager, but you will still hear from me as the Project Committee Chair. We've seen things go full circle at Ray Roberts over the last few years. We started with just a few events at Isle Du Bois and quickly grew to the point of having multiple events on the same day at Johnson Branch and Isle Du Bois, along with staffing the Interpretive Center. Due to some personnel changes, we saw activities drop off at Ray Roberts midway through the year, but the Interpretive Center continued to draw in both visitors and new volunteers.

Next year I anticipate a gradual increase in events again at Ray Roberts, but that will depend partly on whether or not the park is able to hire one or more interpreters to help grow the programs. The Interpretive Center will break off into a separate project next year. Doug Chadwick will be the new Project Manager for the Interpretive Center, so watch for an update from him early next year. We will still need a Project Manager to oversee the other activities at Ray Roberts. If you would like to be the Project Manager for the other Ray Roberts activities please call me or send an email: (940) 686-5739; spohlen@verizon.net.

Thank you,

Susan Pohlen



### Excerpts from the *1945-1946 Texas Almanac*:

Denton County's population in 1940 was 33,658. In November 1943 the civilian population was estimated to be 32,344.

The Texas Landmarks section (page 93) included the following for Denton County. "At Denton on the campus of the Texas State College for Women is the statue to the Pioneer Woman."

Its regular term enrollment for 1944-45 was 2,496 while that of North Texas State College was 1,654. In the same period Texas A&M's was 2,157, UT had 8,794, and Texas Tech had 1,929. The average public school teacher's salary in 1943-44 was \$1,368.

The City of Denton (population 12,500) "had flour mill, brick plant, cheese plant, two creameries, underwear factory, ice factories, bottling plants, nurseries, food products (and) two hospitals."

Other towns included Pilot Point (1,122) which shipped 200,000 pounds of pecans annually, Sanger (1,000) and Lewisville (873 population.)