

**From:**

**NATURALIST NEWS**  
Texas Master Naturalist  
Elm Fork Chapter  
Texas A&M AgriLIFE Extension  
Joseph A. Carroll Building  
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Denton, TX 76201-9026



**TO:**

**FRIENDS AND FAMILY**  
**OF ELM FORK CHAPTER**



## FAMILY LETTER—YEAR 2013

*From President, Susan Pohlen*

### SUSAN'S SPIN



**T**his year has been an interesting journey with high points and low points, some new things, some tweaked things, and even some same things. We got off to a fresh start at our new location, our first big change for the full year to come.

We had several historical highlights, including the celebration of Ron Fellows reaching 5000 service hours, and having the largest number of visitors ever at our Roundup/Open House meeting. Another highlight was the LLELA Pollinator Garden taking second place at the state annual conference.

The low points, of course, were the farewells to so many of our Elm Fork family this year. LaNae Colchin and Randy Kimball passed permanently from our lives. Many other members moved great distances this year: Dale and Deborah Meyer, Andy Krofina, Owen and Lynne Richards, Paula McCormick, and Carol Fegan – we wish them well on their new journeys.

We tweaked quite a few things this year including the Operating Handbook, Bylaws, our name tags, and the name of our newsletter. We even tried to change the name of Roundup, but we couldn't seem to settle on a new name. We also tried some new things, including a chapter vision, long term goals, and a new elm leaf pin to help recognize member milestones.

And if that's not enough for a recap of the year, don't forget about our role in the first Texas Master Naturalist regional conference in North Texas, and also hosting the silent auction at the state conference. Elm Fork Chapter made a significant impact at both conferences.

Now I'm certain I've left out some things, but hopefully most of you will agree that we've had a pretty full and exciting year. I thank you all for the opportunity to make the journey as president this year. I am most grateful to all the other Board members and committee chairs for their constant support and hard work this year. I could not have asked for a better team of individuals to support the chapter and me.

Now, as I pass the torch to the new team, I ask each of you to keep in mind how you can support the Board of Directors in the years to come. They will work hard for you behind the scenes, so please give them your support when you have the opportunity.

Sincerely,

*Susan Pohlen*

# Family gets first bragging rights and awards for jobs well done

*Photos courtesy  
Gregory Anderson*



**Susan Pohlen and Jan Deatherage showing award for Pocket Pollinator Garden from conference**



**Larry Brennan—  
1500 hours**



**Raquel Bryson—250 hours**



**Recertification—Susan Myers, Fritz Poppe, Jean Chaka, Peg LaPoint, C J Solberg and Kay Crowe in front**



Let's extend those  
as one of our own

braggin' rights  
saves the day

with "a program in waiting"



**Rob Roy**—class of 2005— Rob has served as Elm Fork Chapter's vice-president and president; is currently the membership chairman and a chapter mentor; is a world traveler with multiple careers under his belt; and, last but not least, is a gentleman extraordinaire. Rob polished up the presentation he carried on a flash drive in his pocket all during his presidency in case of a presenter emergency; and at long last he held the spotlight for the November general meeting with his incubated, perfected program.

*Photo courtesy  
V. & J. Elliott*



Family helping family—thanks Rob