



NN Editor, class
2005

Rita Lokie, class 2013



Denise Remfert, class 2015



Jonathan Reynolds, class
2014



Judi Elliott, class 2009



Jan Deatherage, class 2011



Brenda Maston, class 2015



Mary Morrow, class 2014



Susan Pohlen, class 2007



Alex Lieban, class 2005



Bob Ross, class 2013

Updates

From Dave Rowley

"Carol and Dave Rowley thank all of Elm Fork Master Naturalists whose mailed notes of sympathy, emails, and Facebook posts were so very important to us in our dealing with the recent passing of our beloved son Scott in Seattle. We were truly deeply touched by such caring."

April Meeting Program, Monarch Waystations, Will Be Presented By Carol Clark

Carol Clark is an amateur botany enthusiast, a Texas Master Naturalist, and a longtime member of the Native Plant Society of Texas. She is now a Conservation Specialist with Monarch Watch, and a member of the Bring Back the Monarchs to Texas committee. She also co-administrates the Texas Native Bee Co-op Facebook page for Texas Parks and Wildlife. She and her husband own and operate Clark Haven Farm, a wildlife preserve and custom wildflower seed business in Cooke County. Carol grew up with a nature photographer father and wildlife artist brother, and has spent much of her life looking around in the great outdoors. Her favorite things to do are leading discovery walks in local natural areas, and finding and photographing interesting plants and insects.



From Rita Lokie, Program Coordinator

DEADLINE for Naturalist News submissions is the day before Board's regular monthly meeting. May deadline is May 11.

Of interest at BRIT

Upcoming BRIT Brown Bags:

From Jeanne Erickson

April 26, 2016 - Dwayne Estes: The Pennyroyal Plain Prairie: A vision for restoring a forgotten ecosystem

May 3, 2016 - Dan Caudle: Acadian Adventures - Natural Resource Management in Cajun Country

May 10, 2016 - Denis Benjamin: The edibility of wild mushrooms; some common adverse reactions - incidence and mechanisms

May 17, 2016 - Brooke Best: Up There in the Air: BRIT's Living Roof

May 24, 2016 - Jason Best, Tiana Rehman, & Peter Fritsch: Out of the Cabinets: characterizing the contents of the BRIT herbarium

May 31, 2016 - Peter Fritsch: Cryptic species in North American redbuds (*Cercis*) and the search for Madrean-Tethyan links

* For detailed information go to: <http://www.brit.org/events/lecture-series>

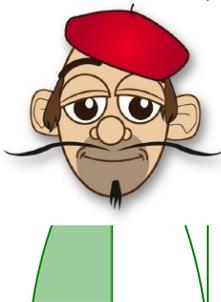


Prairie Day at BRIT on May 14

Right around the corner on May 14 is Prairie Day, and we need your smiling face to welcome and engage visitors! We will need at least 20 volunteers to make this day a great success. All of the training and details you need will be provided; you just need an interest in our mission and an enjoyment of talking with people! Some of the duties include greeting, helping our vendors, and assisting with children's activities, all fun ways to connect plants to people.

From Becky Bertoni

Calling all artistes!



We most often think of photographs for the Naturalist News, but I know in our chapter we have many artists—professionals, accomplished amateurs, and beginners. Please, if you have nature creations that we could include in Naturalist News, send me a photo. It can be oil, watercolor, drawings, etc.—whatever your medium. I would really like to start a section featuring your work.

From your editor



Trailblazing Women Leaving Their Mark at Interior

In honor of Women's History Month, we're celebrating pioneering women in the field of conservation. Throughout Interior's history, trailblazing women challenged the status quo and made substantial contributions to society.

Take **Rachel Carson** -- a former U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service employee -- who worked to keep our waters healthy by exposing the dangers of DDT in her famous book "Silent Spring." Her work as an educator, scientist and writer mobilized America's modern environmental movement. Today, Carson's intrepid spirit lives on at Interior with inspiring women who continue to make history and shape our relationship with nature.



U.S. Department of the Interior <info@updates.interior.gov>



Why is it a good idea to make sure your hours are logged under the correct opportunity?
Why is it a good idea to make corrections to your entries?
Why is it a good idea to check your emails occasionally that are from EFCTMN VMS team members?



All the questions have the same outcome - some are for the good of the chapter and some are for your benefit...some are for the sanity of the hours-checkers.

The chapter reports hours monthly and annually to the AgriLife office, Denton County and TPWD. We have 43 service projects, which makes for a very healthy chapter ~ it indicates we have a wide variety of talents to offer in one of our three counties our chapter represents and some projects extend in to other parts of Texas. If we don't have hours logged for projects it is no longer necessary to support that project ~ the main indicator is the number of hours we log towards a project and the only way to record hours is VMS. No Hours=No Project.

We love to hear your suggestions for VMS and meet monthly to discuss your ideas and ones on our wish list (we have to input our hours in VMS also). We take these to the TXMN VMS team to consider for Samaritan updates. All are probably possible, but may cost a lot of money to have changed - so we make the best of it. Keep your suggestions coming, improvements are happening every month.

We welcome a new member to the EFCTMN VMS team - Denise Thompson (class of 2015) - she is in training learning how to approve hours, manage reports, etc.



VMS Mary Morrow (A-M) and Brenda Wellenreiter & Irene Hanson (N-Z) are the primary hours-checkers with Mike Hatch and Van Elliott helping when needed and auditing approved hours.

We have seen a TREE-mendous amount of improvement in hours entries this month ~ THANK-YOU for making it easy.

VMS STATS MARCH YTD:
 Service Hours Logged: 5552
 Advanced Training Hours Logged: 588
 Opportunities with hours: 52, includes service and AT
 123 of 142 active members have hours logged




IF YOU RECEIVE AN EMAIL THAT SAYS 'VMS HOURS CORRECTION' TAKE A LOOK...IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS OR QUESTIONS, YOU CAN EMAIL THE VMS TEAM AT EFCTMN.VMS@GMAIL.COM.