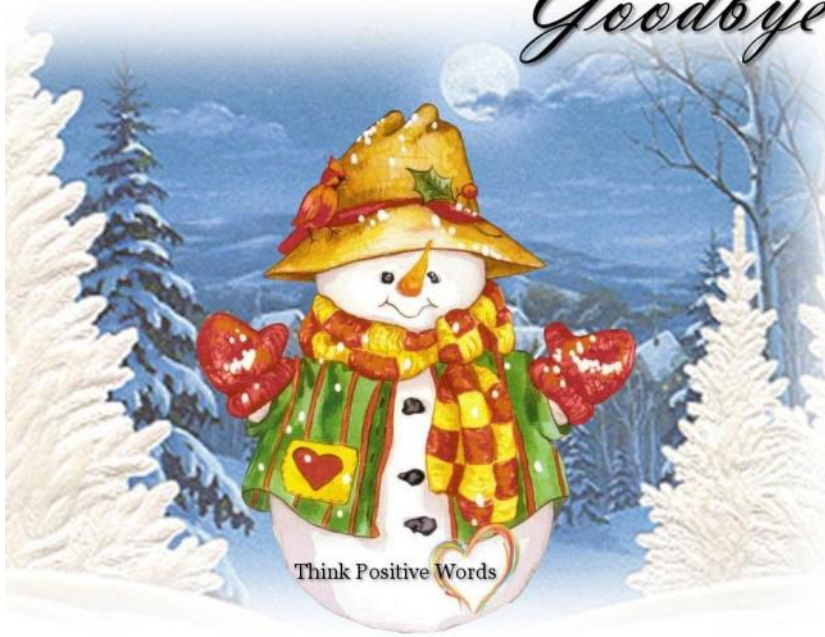


January 2019, Volume 20
Issue 1

Goodbye December



New Days will
give new hope
for the new month
has given new
opportunities
and promises in
January

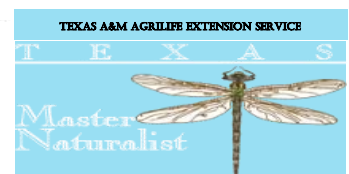


Naturalist News

PUBLICATION OF TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST, ELM FORK CHAPTER

On the web:
www.txmn.org/elmfork

On Facebook: www.facebook.com/TexasMasterNaturalistElmFork/



January 2019, Volume 20 Issue 1

Special Points of Interest

- ⇒ Christmas Party
- ⇒ Opportunities to keep you involved
- ⇒ Update on Native Plant art contest

Moon hiding behind Texas Native Post Oaks (*Quercus margaretta*)—*photo from Dorothy Thetford*

PUBLICATION OF TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST, ELM FORK CHAPTER

Naturalist News

Inside this issue:	
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*Mary Morrow presents "Elm Fork
Chapter Holiday Luncheon"*

Pages 4 through 8

2018 EFCTMN HOLIDAY LUNCHEON



Watch the
video on
youtube:

[https://
youtu.be/
fupZgWSBtts](https://youtu.be/fupZgWSBtts)

or Facebook
on our
private group
EFCTMN
Community
Information.



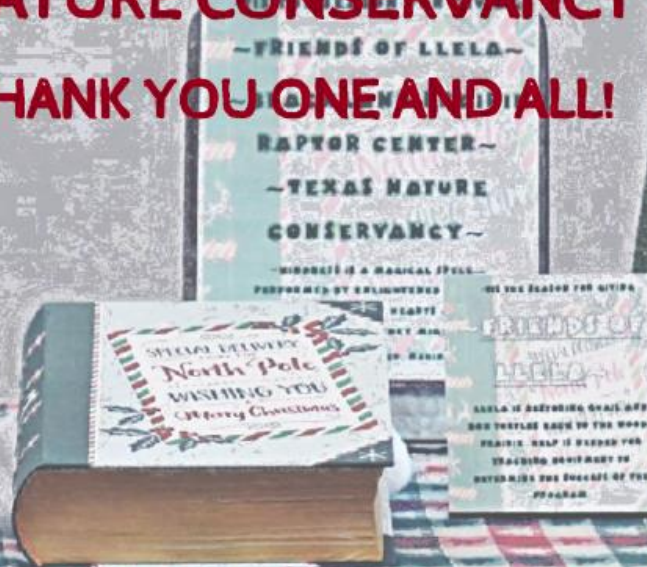
Tis' the Season

FRIENDS OF LLELA - \$335

BLACKLAND PRAIRIE RAPTOR CENTER - \$135

TEXAS NATURE CONSERVANCY - \$135

THANK YOU ONE AND ALL!



**Scott Kiester receiving
donations from EFC
members on behalf of
Friends of LLELA**







Coming Up

From Rita Lokie

PROGRAM AT JANUARY 17 MEETING WILL BE PRESENTED BY CHUCK SWATSKE

Chuck Swatske (Master Naturalist Class 2018) has had a life-long interest in the lives of snakes and other reptiles and amphibians. As a young fisherman in the streams of the Ozarks in Missouri, he encountered many species of both venomous and non-venomous snakes. Many times he shared the same stream banks with various species of snakes and observing these animals, he began to appreciate how interesting and beneficial snakes are to our ecosystem. Chuck will present the fascinating world of “North Texas Snakes” at the January 17, 2019 Elm Fork Chapter meeting at the Denton County Elections Building.

And you will have the opportunity to see some of our non-venomous North Texas snakes up close and personal.



- Learn about snake species and sub-species indigenous to North Texas and the State of Texas. Understand Snake Taxonomy, the science of defining and naming groups of biological organisms on the basis of shared character.
- Learn about 19 non-venomous and 4 venomous species of Texas Snakes, many of which you are likely to run into during your field work.
- Find out how to identify Texas Snakes and see maps of snake ranges which will show which snakes you will see in Denton County and surrounding counties.
- Understand the venomous snakes of Texas and North Texas, how to identify these potentially dangerous species.
- Learn about snake venom and how hemotoxic and neurotoxic venom affect the human body.
- What should you do and not do in the event you are in the field and someone is bitten by a venomous snake? Important info to know if you are out in the field.
- Discuss and dispel many snake myths that exist out there and learn how to talk with people about what is true and what is un-true.



- Find out the answer to the question (which you might be asked), What good are these snakes in Texas? Shouldn't we just kill them all?
 - Helpful resources to help you in learning about Texas Snakes
- You will have the opportunity to observe close-up a few snakes of North Texas.

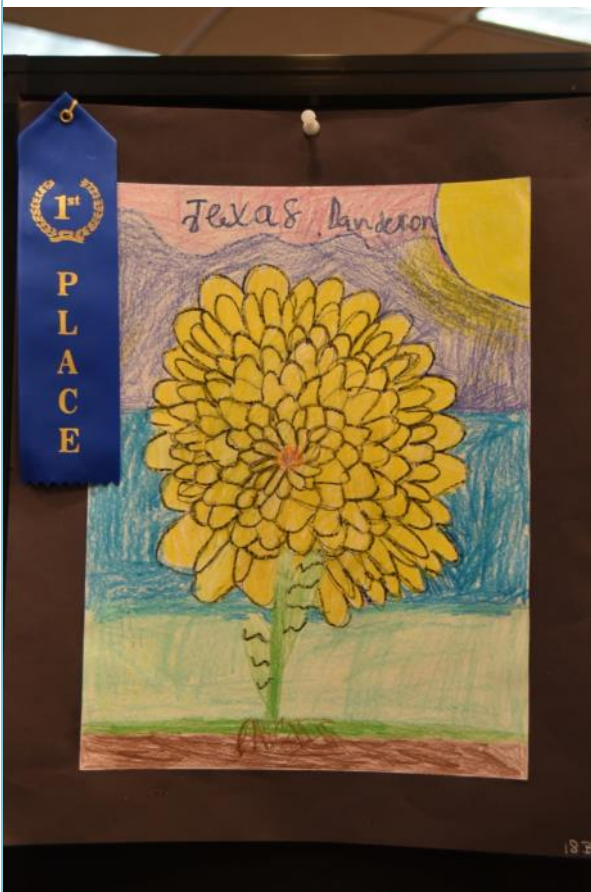
Projects In the Community

The Texas Native Plant Art Exhibition 2018

The artwork from the Texas Native Plant Art Exhibition 2018 is currently displayed at the TWU Blagg-Huey Library. Next month the exhibit will be at the Elm Fork Education Center in the EESAT Building at UNT. I hope you have an opportunity to see it. It will brighten your day!

Thank you,

Marilyn Blanton
Project Leader

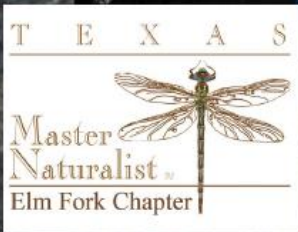




LET'S CELEBRATE LIKE IT'S 1999!

JOIN US IN THE YEAR 2019 TO CELEBRATE

EFCTMN'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY...



CLASS OF 1999




*North Lakes — Comes From the Gallery of
Jonathan Reynolds*

*Featuring Master Naturalist photographers—flora
and fauna as you see them*

APPROVED FOR AT

From Martha Peet: Starting Small with Pollinators is the third in the Bringing Nature Home series presented by Friends of LLELA. The three lectures will be AT. More info can be found on our website, http://llelafriends.org/starting_small_with_pollinators.aspx




Starting Small with Pollinators

Put your yard to good use!


Work with experts to learn what you can do to protect the pollinators who make your backyard their home.

Keynote Speaker


Featuring



Daniel Cunningham
Texas A & M Agrilife
Research
Horticulturist
@TXPlantGuy





Liz Moyer
Native Plant Society
Texas Master
Gardener



Monika Maeckle
Founder and Director
of Texas Butterfly
Ranch

Lewisville ISD Career Center East
2553 FM 544

Sat., Jan. 19th  Register today at LLELAFriends.org  9 am-1pm

Of Interest

AT Opportunities (for details go to Elm Fork Chapter website—www.txmn.org/elmfork)

January 19 – [Starting Small with Pollinators](#)

February 9 – [Bird Walk with Scott](#)

February 9 – [Growing Up WILD](#)

February 16-17 – [Lone Star Trail Building School](#)

May 29-30 – [WET and WILD Summer Camp for Educators](#)

Ongoing AT Opportunities

[2018 Monarch Conservation Webinar Series](#)

[Cornell Lab Bird Academy](#)

[Raptor Rapture Online Course](#)

Any of the [Native Landscape Certification Program](#) Classes offered by the Native Plant Society of Texas

SWAt Meetings – Fourth Thursdays 9:30 am

Friends of Furneaux Creek Nature Trail – Fourth Monday 7 pm

Pre-approved webinars

Habitat Restoration Fundamentals: Time-tested approaches and new advancements in creating monarch butterfly habitat (Eric Lee-Mäder, The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation) –

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gij_gjCsGHQ&feature=youtu.be&list=PLZb5DyVcCk955KOKL4J_Ca7aVmzBbM7pr

On the Wings of Monarchs: A 10,000 foot view of species conservation – <https://fws.rev.vbrick.com/#/videos/fc559008-1640-457e-933c-90d868147dfa>

Meadow Establishment in the East (Larry Weaner, Larry Weaner Landscape Associates; Ann Aldrich, Dumbarton Oaks

Park Conservancy) <https://monarchjointventure.org/resources/monarch-conservation-webinar-series> (No direct link, but it is on the page towards the bottom.)

APPROVED FOR AT:

SKYWARN TRAINING

Saturday March 2, 2019 in Denton, TX

TWU MCL 101; 9-12 noon (basic); 1-4:30 p.m. (advanced)

<https://www.weather.gov/fwd/skywarnsch?sptrsch>

Coffee with the Birds

**NOT APPROVED
FOR AT:**

Wednesdays, January 9th–February 27th,

8:00am–10:00am

Biodiversity Education Center | 367 Freeport Pkwy, Coppell, TX
75019

Introducing, Coffee with the Birds, a new morning visitor opportunity hosted by the Biodiversity Education Center. This is for anyone looking for a peaceful way to start the day. Enjoy a quiet morning cup of coffee while watching the birds that frequent our bird feeders and learn a bit about a new bird each week. Coffee and binoculars will be provided.

Birding for the Birds and Tool Time are APPROVED AT



CULTIVATE YOUR GARDENING SKILLS

This series of classes is designed for gardeners of all levels. The classes are stand alone so that you may attend as many as you like. One thing is for certain, each will provide instruction for your own garden.

All Classes are Free and Open to All
7:00 pm
Farmers Branch Community

Coffee with the Birds

CONTRIBUTION TO THE ROSE GARDENS .

972-247-4607

- ➔ **JANUARY 8 Birding for the Birds Steve Romaine**
Bluebird.....Blue Jay ever wonder who is flying around the yard. Master Naturalist, Steve Romaine has identified over 50 different birds right here in Farmers Branch. Come learn about the feathered friends in your own backyard.
- JANUARY 15 Pots in Small Spots: Container Gardening Patrick Dickinson**
Gardening in containers is a great way to grow your horticulture skills! If you have a small yard or patio that needs a pop of ornamental color, are frustrated with the poor soils on your property, or just simply don't have the space to grow your fruits and veggies, then give container gardening a try. Patrick Dickinson, Horticulturist with Texas A&M AgriLife's Water University will present.
- JANUARY 22 Japanese Maples for the Landscape & Bonsai Scott Hubble**
Skinny Dragon Shantung Maple, Germaine's Gyration and Red Spider Web are all selections of Japanese Maples. Metro Maples owner, Scott Hubble will share his extensive knowledge of maples so you can select one of these gorgeous trees suitable for our North Texas soil and climate.
- ➔ **JANUARY 29 Tool Time Tim Allsup**
The proper tool and correct care is essential to the enjoyment of gardening. Tim will take the mystery out of the subject and demonstrate the art of restoring and keeping the edge. Consider bringing your pruners and giving it a try. Some supplies will be available for you to use.

 **FEBRUARY 23 Saturday Rose Pruning Clinic** 
Come out to the Rose Garden and learn how to prune roses or just come to help and spend time with other gardeners. Bring your leather gloves and pruners. 10 am – noon in the Rose Garden. 2610 Valley View Ln.

Architects of this Issue of Naturalist News



w odum, editor NN, class 2005

Mary Morrow class 2014



Becky Bertoni class 2015



Rita Lokie class 2013



Marilyn Blanton class 1999



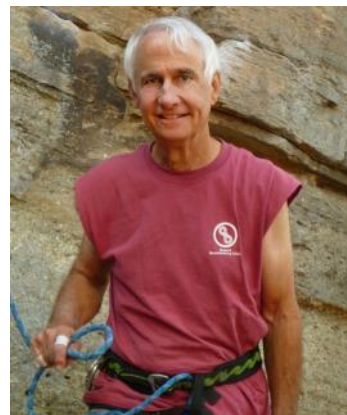
Judi Elliott class 2009



Martha Peet class 2012



Dorothy Thetford class 2001



Jonathan Reynolds class 2014



Almost the Final Word

How do icicles form?

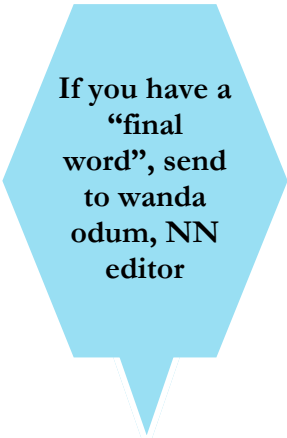
Icicles form on sunny days when the ambient temperature is below freezing. Heat from the sun melts ice or snow on surfaces to form water drips. A few drops refreeze to begin the base of the icicle, and as water continues to drop, the icicle grows in length.

For the water that drips from the roof to refreeze, it must dissipate heat into the atmosphere. The air surrounding the icicle forms an insulating buffer. This buffer is thicker at the top of the icicle, so the water moves toward the bottom of the structure, where there is less insulation, before it refreezes. This movement of water forms the thin sheet of ice that causes icicles to grow longer and thinner at the bottom.

As the ice crystals build up on the icicle, they take the shape of an inverted cup. Most of the time, this cup fills instantly with more cold water ready to form additional crystals. However, occasionally the cup fills with air; as more ice crystals form over the trapped air, it gives the icicle the characteristic cloudy look.

Once the sun is no longer shining on the snow to create water flow required for active growth, the icicle continues to change shape. At subfreezing temperatures, some of the ice transforms directly to water vapor in the atmosphere. The process causes smoothing of the outside of the icicle.

www.reference.com/science/icicles



If you have a
“final
word”, send
to wanda
odum, NN
editor



THANK YOU
TO ALL OUR CONTRIBUTORS
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. IT'S
YOUR NEWSLETTER!



Texas A&M AgriLIFE Extension
 Joseph A. Carroll Building
 401 W. Hickory Street
 Denton, TX 76201—9026
 940-349-2883

We're on the web:
www.txmn.org/elmfork

Our mission . . . *informed volunteers who provide education, and to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within our community”*

Our vision . . . *Elm Fork Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist is a primary source of information, education and service to support natural resources and natural areas today and in the future.”*

Regular Monthly Chapter Meetings
 9:30 a.m. preceded by a social time at 9:00 a.m. on the third Thursday of each month. Chapter meetings are open to the public.
 Next meeting on January 17, 2019
 January meeting at:
 701 Kimberly Drive
 Denton, TX 76208-6301
 Denton Elections Technology Services Bldg.

Board Meetings
 The Board meets each second Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m. The Board last met January 10, 2019. Next monthly Board meeting is February 7, 2019
 Monthly Board meetings are open to members.

Gratitude is the most exquisite form of courtesy.

Board of Directors

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD:

- PRESIDENT—Adelaide Bodnar
- VICE-PRESIDENT/PROJECTS—Robert McLaughlin
- SECRETARY—Katherine Wells
- TREASURER—Brenda Wellenreiter
- MEMBER-at-LARGE—Harriet Powell
- CLASS REPRESENTATIVES—Tim Trosper, Larry Duncan

Appointments:

- Communication: e-mail Donna Wolfe; website Martha Peet; Naturalist News Wanda Odum
- Outreach: John Williams
- New class directors (training): Fran Witte, Elise Spain
- Programs & Field Trips: Rita Lokie
- VMS director: Mike Hatch
- Membership: Mary Morrow
- Hospitality: Linda Cox
- Resource Room: President

ADVISORS:

- Janet Laminack, Extension Agent
- TPWD—Ricardo Torres

w odum –ballpoint pen

