

# Prairie Partner News

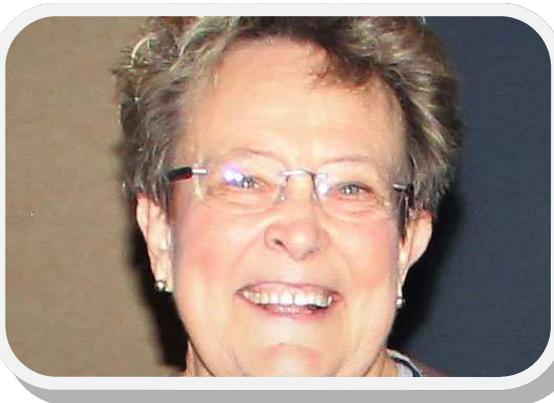
*A publication for and about Blackland Prairie Texas Master Naturalists*

WINTER 2017

*A new editor of Prairie Partner News will be coming your way in 2018. We welcome Greg Tonian, who will take the reigns of our publication beginning with the spring issue. It has been my pleasure to serve as your editor for the last five years. The newsletter began in 2012 as a few pages of volunteer and advanced training opportunities and has become a publication geared toward information and education. As my last act as editor, I have changed the title from "Update" to "News." Please continue to share your incredible expertise about nature with Greg (see pg. 2). He can be reached at [newsletter@bptmn.org](mailto:newsletter@bptmn.org). All the best to you and yours.*

—Mary Gazioglu

## **A Message from Chapter President Deborah Canterbury**



It seems like just a few weeks ago I was writing my first column, wondering what the heck I

was going to talk about and uncertain about my ability to lead with my limited knowledge of all things Master Naturalist and Blackland Chapter. What a wonderful experience it has been for me. You have embraced me and taught me so much.

The Board and I took your input from the goals setting meeting in 2016 and mapped out ways to address those desires. We threw in a bit of our own visions for the chapter as well. I will not belabor that in this column but will post an exit report under Members Area at the end of December. The bottom line is we are at a good point in our growth and we can sustain that tradition of vision the chapter has always had. The first slide at every meeting has been a word wall reflecting your desires, impressions of a master naturalist and your "wants" for the organization. To highlight just a few you wanted and we have provided:

Provide additional avenues of AT and Opportunity options that may be completed online or in a setting other than in the field.

Extend speakers to include state and national issues and original research.

Add quick vignettes to meetings about current events and requests for additional information.

Develop a feeling of family.

I will also repost the original list of goals and requests under Member Area.

As we transition into the fourth president for Blackland Prairie, please take to heart the rewarding responsibility of keeping the chapter operations strong. It should be a joy to serve on the board and lead projects. That joy can be achieved through more people working on a few duties rather than a few people wearing many hats and performing numerous duties for the good of the chapter. In other words, we need more than a precious few to provide leadership.

*(contd., page 2)*

## President's Message, contd.

I am continually awed by the number of hours spent in volunteer work given so freely to our partners and to various projects. I have worked with a lot of non-profits that are led by volunteers and this is the only one I have joined that I have stayed with for more than three months. You each have tremendous spirit and heart and your willingness to be satisfied with being the unsung hero and behind-the-scenes expert keeps the Blackland Prairie Chapter of Texas Master Naturalists one of the premiere chapters in the state.

A very dear mentor of mine, Gene Davenport, had some philosophies he led by as superintendent in Allen ISD and I tried to adopt them into my tenure as president.

Doing the right thing is easy. The hard part is figuring out what the right thing is.

There's two sides to a flapjack.

Don't move a fence until you know why that fence was put there in the first place.

You can only be as successful with your vision and mission for the organization as your membership can deliver. Bring them along as you walk beside them, not yell at them from so far ahead that they cannot hear you.

Thank you for your trust and support. A very special thank you to those who have served with me on the Board, who have kept me sane, who have gently boxed my ears when necessary, who have explained to me how we got to where we are, and who have never balked at the challenges I have presented for us to accomplish together. I am proud of all of my "feral cats."

We are that well trained cadre that works for the education about and restoration and preservation of our local eco-region. As my dad said, "Come on. Let's go kick rocks together and see what we can see." Keep stamping out ignorance, but be safe while you are doing it!

### **Meet the New Editor of *Prairie Partner News*, Greg Tonian**



I have always been a naturalist, but being involved with the Blackland Prairie Texas Master Naturalists as a member of the 2017 class is something I had been wanting to do. It has been a godsend for my psyche.

My goal with the newsletter is to make it an outlet for all chapter members to share successes big and small. I would like also to provide a place for creative expression in the form of photos, prose, musings and more. I want it to be a resource for planning ahead. I will strive to come up with some fun features and share tips that will help us be better at what we do. Most of all, I want it to be a forum for all members to voice ideas and concerns that will be motivation for all of the readers of the newsletter to make a difference.

I could use some assistant editors as I embark on this new calling, so please reach out to me. I welcome everyone's input to make the newsletter something you are part of and that enhances your involvement with the chapter.

*Greg Tonian*

# 2017 Texas Master Naturalist Annual Meeting



1

Several of our fellow master naturalists were presenters at the Texas Master Naturalist Annual Meeting in Corpus Christi in October.

Dave Powell and Ed Ellerbee (1,2) not only presented warmly-accepted information, they gave their audiences something to laugh about.

Dave whipped up his crowd with enthusiasm before going to the nearest vacant lot to prove you can be a trail guide in any setting.

Ed presented a fake screech owl that everyone thought was real at first. Laurie Sheppard and Donna Cole (3,4) carefully looked through fish entrails for unwanted visitors in a parasite identification session.

Carol Clark, Greg Tonian and Melanie Schuchart (5) participated in a four day Master Volunteer Entomology Specialist training through AgriLife.

Greg (6) probably had the largest collection in the class. At least the one with the most variety and accuracy in pinning.



2



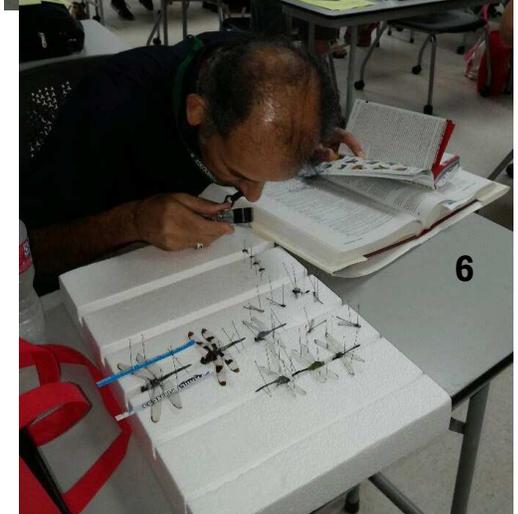
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# Snakes of Collin County, Part Two: Non-venomous Snakes and the Benefits of Urban Serpents

by David Mead



Few animals are met with such fear and hostility as snakes. While some are capable of delivering a venomous bite, the vast majority of snakes are non-venomous and pose no threat to man. In this article I would like to discuss a frequently encountered harmless snake in Collin County, and illustrate the benefits of having them around in the neighborhood.

Quite possibly the most common snake seen in the area is the Texas Rat Snake (or more recently the Western Rat Snake in some taxonomical circles). They are an incredibly adaptable species, and have found ways to live amongst our rapidly changing urban environment.

Attaining lengths of 4-6 feet as adults, these snakes often leave an impression on those who see them. They can be identified by their pattern of dark grey/brown-colored polygonal blotches that run the length of their body, often contrasted against a lighter background of grey in juveniles, or sometimes orange/rust in older animals. Large adults can be very darkly colored, sometimes obscur-

ing the pattern. Their head is mostly uniformly dark on top, with a whitish cream-colored chin. They can be distinguished from the other local Rat Snake, the Great Plains Rat Snake, in that the Great Plains Rat Snake is predominantly light grey with darker grey blotches, devoid of the orange coloration on the body and the dark head of the Texas Rat



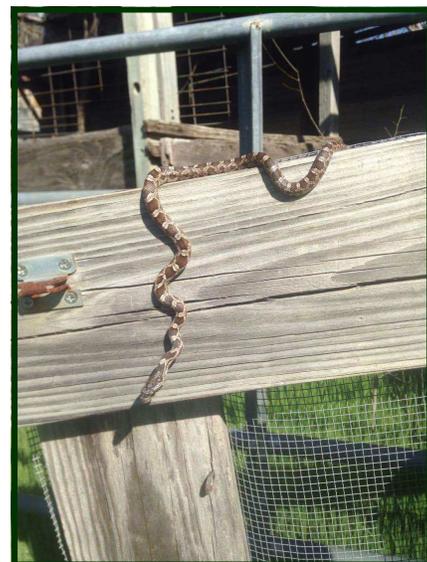
Snake. The Great Plains Rat Snakes are also usually restricted to more rural areas with some grassland and prairie habitat intact.

Rat Snakes feed chiefly upon rodents, making them an excellent neighborhood guest. In the absence or scarcity of other natural predators in suburbia these snakes are among the best forms of rodent control around human dwellings. Some individuals may feast on an entire nest of rodents in a single sitting.

Despite their large size, even the largest of adults are incapable of causing any real

harm to people. They can be defensive, and will try very hard to convince you that they are dangerous, and will attempt to scare you away. Upon being discovered they typically try and quickly flee the scene, but if they feel cornered they will rear the upper portion of their body off the ground, possibly lunging at their perceived threat, and will often rattle their tails against leaves and other objects, creating a sound similar to a rattlesnake. They will only bite if restrained, and may also excrete a foul-smelling musk to further convince you to not eat it.

Texas Rat Snakes mate in the late spring, and females lay between 12-20 eggs which hatch in the early fall. The young are self-sufficient from birth, fully capable of hunting prey and fending for themselves from day one.



## Master Naturalist Helping Master Naturalist *by Tony Manasseri*



Most of us are involved in helping our community in various ways while logging precious hours for our certification and the state's financial incentives. This is all exceptional work that all BPTMN's are very proud of.

I would like to draw your attention to a piece of work that is not sponsored by our organization and no hours are reported to the state; Master Naturalist helping Master Naturalist. **Bradley Bartlow, class of 2017**, visited our farm during one of the required field trips. During my discussion about our farm he picked up on a comment I made about my wife and I having difficulty keeping up with some of the chores. After the tour he was kind enough to volunteer his time helping with some of the most difficult tasks around the farm. That discussion happened months ago, but when I called him he showed up the following week to help.

Taking care of a veggie garden is relatively easy if you stay on top of things. However, after a long hot summer the soil tends to "tighten" up and needs to be refreshed for the start of a fall/winter crop. Weeding, tilling and composting is required.



We use raised beds, so a roto tiller is not a good option. Tilling by hand is tough on your back and arms but is the best way to start the process. After the soil is free of weeds and loose, we refresh the nutritional component of the soil by screening and adding organic compost to the beds—another job that is tough on your back and arms. Bradley was by my side with all his youth and strength going directly to the task. I couldn't tell him enough how much we appreciated his help.

Although he said he expects nothing in return, I hope we are able to have enough to share with him the "fruits of his labor." Thank you Bradley for your help and for giving me another reason to be proud of knowing a master naturalist like yourself.

### To My Master Naturalist Friends,

Many of you might have heard that while celebrating my birthday with the grandkids in Missouri, I got the worst and best birthday gift of my life—a heart attack! I included "best" in that sentence because I'm still here. From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank so many of you who have sent messages of support. I am honored and humbled by your thoughts and actions. Most of all, I have to thank my wife, Mary Ann, for more things than I can describe. Right behind her has been Bill and Fran Woodfin, checking on me daily, offering medical advice and being the best friends a family can have. And so many others...

My condition has been complicated from day one by a congenital lung disease that I have had all my life. Many of the drugs we have tried to assist my heart repair have negatively affected my lungs, and vice-versa. The doctors are still trying to find the right balance for me.

I try to live a healthy lifestyle through a clean diet, growing much of the organic food we eat and plenty of exercise. I also see several doctors during the year, but none of that is a guarantee. Age and genetics have a big impact on our lives. Please don't let anything that has happened to me affect your own views of keeping healthy. The doctors have told me that not everybody survives a massive heart attack similar to mine. So, being healthy didn't prevent a heart attack, but it may have saved my life.

Hugs to all of you,

**Tony Manasseri**

Tony can be reached at: [tony.manasseri2@gmail.com](mailto:tony.manasseri2@gmail.com) or  
6159 FM 543, McKinney, TX 75071

P.S. We have many, many friends and neighbors helping to take care of the farm, so we are in good shape.

# MEMBER PROFILES

*Meet two BPTMN members who contribute to our group and community.*

*by Greg Tonian*



**Carol Clark**

**Where did you grow up?** I grew up in the lakes, woods, and fields of Pitman, New Jersey.

**Where have you spent most of your life?** Mostly New Jersey, but Texas is catching up!

**Childhood hero?** Gerald Durrell who wrote a gazillion fantastically funny books about animal collecting. I used to laugh until I cried reading them curled up next to the heater vent early on a Saturday morning.

**Naturalist mentor/hero?** Sally Evans, Jim Varnum and Shirley Lusk have all been tremendous helpers and inspirations. Sally and Jim believed in me, introduced me to other people, and pointed me in the right directions so many times! Shirley, with her encyclopedic knowledge of North Texas plants, showed me that it was possible to learn a lot quickly if I used the right tools.

**What is/Was your vocation?** I am a private tutor for SAT/ACT, Chemistry, Physics and Math through Calculus. I also have a small wildflower seed wholesale business, and am probably the largest wholesaler of handpicked milkweed seeds in Texas.

**Who/What led you to the love of nature and when?** I can't remember not loving plants and animals. My father was a well-known nature photographer in our area though, and we would take long trips to visit beautiful national parks, national mon-

uments, and state parks during the summer. Those childhood trips, spotting the target animals for dad, were the best times ever. I've been playing with plants, bugs and creatures since I could move fast enough to catch up with them. My parents let me use the family rowboat on the lake out back when I was only in third grade.

**When did you become a Master Naturalist and why?** I trained with the class of 2010 because my best field buddy, Jim Varnum, said I really needed to. I wondered why I needed to since I was already leading a lot of nature walks. He said "You will find all your people there", and he was right. The training exceeded all my expectations, and there was a lot to learn from our trainers.

**What kind of volunteering are you doing and prefer most as a master naturalist?** I sort of live at the crossroads of native plants and the animals that use them. I do a lot of public speaking and education of both adults and children. Since I am a Monarch Watch Conservation Specialist, a lot of my work revolves around Monarch Butterflies and the plants they need, but my other loves are native plants and native bees, so I work in those realms as well. I have about 14 different PowerPoint programs that I've done for various groups. One of my favorite kinds of volunteer work is helping people survey their existing plants and making recommendations of what kinds of changes they can make to benefit birds, bees and butterflies. I love connecting people with the seeds and plants they need for restoration work, and donate a lot of seeds for that purpose. Recently, I joined the board of STEAMGrown Gardens, a brand new non-profit dedicated to donating turnkey Monarch gardens and curriculum to Title 1 schools. I've been active on the Heard Museum's Plant Sale Committee for a few years now, and always enjoy working at the sale helping people understand the plants. I do the plants and prairies training for some Master Naturalist chapters. In my spare time, I am a co-admin for the Texas Native Bee Co-op Facebook page, set up by Texas Parks and Wildlife.

**Family, Husband:** Richard, also a Master Naturalist. We have three grown children who were doomed from the start. They are all engineers.

**Do any of your family members share your love of nature as well?** My youngest daughter can't pass flow-

## Carol Clark, *contd.*

ers without checking them out. She's afraid she might be turning into me. My oldest daughter calls to report on birds she has seen in her yard since she now has her own yard and binoculars. My son just thinks it is super weird that I have vials of bees in the fridge some days. Richard helps with all my wacky nature projects, like milkweed drying racks, and the two of us try to share the maintenance duties at our private wildlife refuge, Clark Haven Farm. He runs the chainsaw, the mower, the brush blade, and the shovel, and I "supervise" a lot.

**Any other hobbies?** I have been a hand weaver and have sewn more prom dresses and color guard flags than I care to remember. Currently, I'd like to indulge my photography hobby more frequently.

**Musical style preference?** Classical or jazz

**Favorite songs:** The troika from the Lieutenant Kije Suite, or Wedding Day in Trolldhaugen

**Favorite work of literature?** Lucifer's Hammer

**What book is on your nightstand now?** Bringing Nature Home

**Go to naturalist reference(s)?** Shinner's and Mahler's Illustrated Flora of North Central Texas

**Naturalist gear of choice?** Boots and heavy duty bug spray-and Benadryl

**Favorite foods:** Tea and chocolate

**What words of wisdom do you live by?** Don't wait for someone else or the government to take conservation steps. Start now at a size you can handle in your own yard or on any piece of land you have influence over. (This was something I actually said in a discussion with staff from Native American Seed, and I was surprised to see they had chosen my quote for a recent catalog.)

**If you were to live in another ecological region other than the Blackland Prairie for the remainder of your life, where would it be and why?** I've always been partial to tropical plants, so we'll go with a tropical lagoon setting here—tropical coral reef on one side, and rainforest on the other.

**Naturalist experience highlight?** One week I

led a prairie hike and a mother with two kids in shorts and sandals showed up. The kids were predictably grumpy when they were taken through tall scratchy prairie grasses and briars. I thought I would never see any of them again. The following week they showed up again, in jeans and sturdy shoes, and they ran ahead calling to another little boy who hadn't been there the previous week: "Come see what we found! It's Sensitive Briar, and we'll show you what it does!"

**What environmental concern do you feel most strongly about sharing with others?** I think habitat fragmentation and species loss are already massive problems, and likely to be much bigger issues than climate change. Progress in these areas will be hard won.

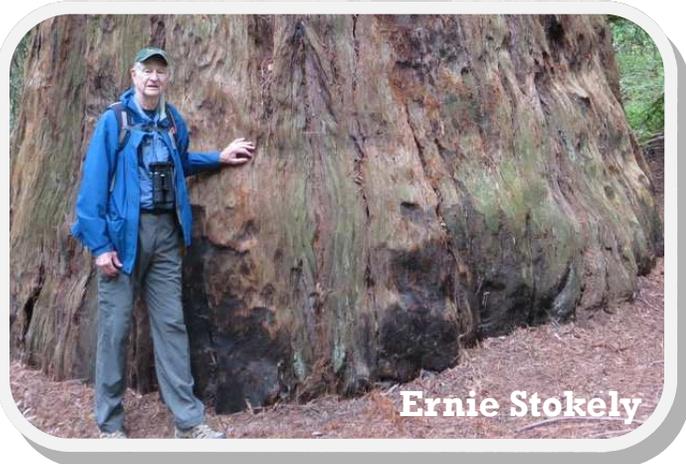
**Any crazy thing that you have done that you are most proud of or that we should know?** Most people would say we were crazy to have bought a worn out farm and turned it into a wildlife sanctuary. The wildlife disagree, and now it is a place where Texas Parks and Wildlife brings new park rangers to train, our management plan is used as a sample plan, and our plant list is used in college courses.



<https://xerces.org/2017/10/06/leave-the-leaves/>

# MEMBER PROFILES

by Greg Tonian



**My roots:** I grew up and spent 22 years in the Mississippi Delta in a small agricultural town, and there were 40 in my H.S. graduating class.

After leaving MS, I spent five years off and on in Europe, 22 years in Birmingham, Alabama, and 31 years in Dallas.

**Childhood hero?** Probably the Green Hornet or Spiderman, or maybe Johnny Lujack (Notre Dame QB)

**Naturalist mentor/hero?** No question here! E.O. Wilson!

**What is/Was your vocation?** 13 years as electrical engineer in industry, and remainder as biomedical engineer and researcher in various universities.

**Who/What led you to the love of Nature and when?**

I grew up in a rural place where all kids hunted and fished. I always loved being out in the fields and woods as a boy.

**When did you become a Master Naturalist and why?**

In 2014. I wanted to know much more about a broader set of topics from the natural world.

**What kind of volunteering are you doing and prefer most as a Master Naturalist?** Trail guiding at the Heard, LLELA, and Arbor Hill, plus other various volunteer gigs like leading a walk for the Richardson Parks Department each year.

**Family stuff:** My wife is Joan Keagy. I have two kids, one boy and one girl, and two stepsons and, together, they have provided three grandsons.

**Do any of your family members share your love of nature as well?** Not so much.

**Other hobbies?** Computer programming, writing, reading, genealogy.

**Musical style preference?** Definitely folk and country/folk.

**Favorite song:** Iris Dement and John Prine – “In Spite of Ourselves”

**Favorite work of literature?** Any of Graham Greene’s or John Updike’s novels

**What book is on your nightstand now?** The biographies of Tycho Brahe and Galileo Galilei

**Go to Naturalist reference(s)?** iNaturalist, iBird Pro, Trees of Texas, several wildflowers of Texas books

**Naturalist gear of choice?** Light-weight hiking pants and shirt and low-cut hiking boots

**Favorite foods:** I love all foods but have recently lost all of my smell and taste due to a virus.

**What words of wisdom do you live by?** “Be prepared to change or become irrelevant!”

**If you were to live in another ecological region other than the Blackland Prairie for the remainder of your life, where would it be and why?** Foothills of the Rocky Mountains because I love the mountain climate.

**Naturalist experience highlight?** Having a 5<sup>th</sup> grade boy say to me once at the Heard after a one-hour walk, “Oh no! You mean it’s over already?!”

**What environmental concern do you feel most strongly about sharing with others?** I am very depressed about the way humans have over-populated the earth and their total lack of appreciation of their impact on the environment. I fear coming generations will come to understand better how interrelated everything is and what price is yet to be paid for our destruction of large pieces of the ecosystem.

**Any crazy thing that you have done that you are most proud of or that we should know!** Walking a large stretch of the Appalachian Trail on a week-long hike that was planned by an inexperienced backpacker is one of the dumbest and most forgettable things I have ever done.

# 2018 Master Naturalist Program

Please help us spread the word to potential 2018 master naturalist candidates.

2018 Certification Training Schedule	
Feb 7	<b>Welcome</b> <b>What is a Master Naturalist, Our Mission and Ethics -</b> <b>CMDR Michael Mitchell, TPWD</b> <b>Author of Chap. 22 in the TMN curriculum</b>
Feb 14	<b>Green Fire- Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic of Our Time, Intro: A Sand County Almanac</b>
Feb 21	<b>Blackland Prairie: Geology</b> <b>Diane Brownlee, Registered Professional Geologist</b>
Feb 28	<b>Blackland Prairie Ecology – Sam Kieschnick, TPWD Urban Biologist</b>
Mar 7	<b>Blackland Prairie Mammals and DFW Urban Wildlife – Brett Johnson, City of Dallas Urban Wildlife Biologist</b>
Mar 14	<b>Blackland Prairie Soils and Rocks - BPTMN members Dick Zartler and Lorelei Stierlen</b>
Mar 21	<b>What is a Plant and Plant Defenses – Dr. George Diggs, Austin College</b>
Mar 28	<b>Orinthology: Why They Fly</b> <b>Dr. Wayne Meyer, Austin College</b>
Apr 4	<b>Meteorology: North Texas Weather – Dr. David Baker, Austin College</b>
Apr 11	<b>Entomology: North Texas Insects</b> <b>Dr. Mike Merchant, TAMU</b>
Apr 18	<b>Trees of Collin County – a BPTMN facilitated tree walk about the Heard Wildlife Sanctuary</b>
Apr 25	<b>Aquatic Exploration and Water Testing – LuAnne Ray and BPTMN Texas Stream Team group</b>
May 2	<b>Flora and Fauna of the Blackland Prairie: Choose from a variety BPTMN guided tours</b>

## Top Ten Reasons to Become a Master Naturalist

- To gain an appreciation for and an understanding of natural environments
- To build new friendships and working relationships
- To impress your friends with your ability to analyze scat
- To increase your knowledge of the “ologies” – ecology, geology, entomology, ichthyology, herpetology, ornithology and more
- To create a wildlife haven in your backyard
- To receive in-depth training from recognized experts in the field
- To wear grubby clothes and get your hands dirty
- To help children and adults in your community learn about Texas’ natural resources
- To learn how to conserve resources through rainwater harvesting or composting
- To make a difference in our world – today and tomorrow

## 2018 Class Field Trips

- Feb. 10– Holifield Science and Learning Center
- Feb. 24– Connemara
- Mar. 17 – John Bunker Sands Wetland
- Apr. 7 – Blackland Prairie Raptor Center
- Apr. 18, 19, or 20 – Woodfin Farm TBD
- Apr. 22 – Parkhill Prairie w/Rich Jaynes

## How Do I Become a Certified Texas Master Naturalist?

- Tuition is \$150.
- Complete 12 Classes and 3 Field Trips
- Obtain a minimum of 8 hours of approved advanced training
- Complete a minimum of 40 hours of chapter-approved volunteer service

Applications available at [www.bptmn.org](http://www.bptmn.org)

## **Recertifications for 2017**

**Ron Bamberg  
Bebe Bodenhamer  
Brighid Brown  
Daisy Davis  
Nancy Davis  
James Dulian  
Lisa Edwards  
Louse Frost  
Phyllis Graham  
Georgette Guernsey  
Karleen Hoffman  
Richard Jaynes  
Rick Joosten  
Marcia Lucido  
Mittie McDonald  
Karen Mitchell  
Amy Monroy  
Robert Napper  
Michael Petrick  
Judith Rowe  
Ernest Stokely  
Nancy Taylor  
Mary Wise  
Richard Zartler**

## **Double-certifications from Class of 2017**

**Leah Beck  
Terry Comingore  
Logan Plunkett  
John Spencer  
Greg Tonian**

### **250 Hour Pins**

**Daisy Davis  
Marcia Lucido  
Lanisha Weaver**

### **500 Hour Pins**

**Elizabeth Clay  
Nancy Cushion  
Denise Dengler  
Susan Smith**

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by  
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email [newsletter@bptmn.org](mailto:newsletter@bptmn.org).

Past issues can be found on our website at:  
[http://bptmn.org/\\_BOARD\\_FTP/newsletter/](http://bptmn.org/_BOARD_FTP/newsletter/)

Other BPTMN communications are at:

Smugmug - <http://bptmn.smugmug.com/>  
Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/bptmnforum.bptmn.org>

The Mission of the Texas Master Naturalist program is to develop a corps of well-informed volunteers to provide education, outreach and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within their communities for the State of Texas.

The Texas Master Naturalist program is a partnership between the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Texas Parks & Wildlife and other local partners.



**Postal Mailing Address**  
(address to specific officer/person)  
**BPTMN**  
**P.O. Box 863175**  
**Plano, TX 75086-3175**

### **Upcoming BPTMN Meetings** **2nd Tuesday, 7 p.m.,** **Heard Museum Science Center**

#### **November 14: "*Prairies in Old Cemeteries*"**

**Candace Fountoulakis**, Plano resident since 1988, was born in Nebraska but came to Texas "as fast as she could." she is a Master Gardener and member of the Plano Garden Club. A board member of The Plano Conservancy for Historic Preservation, Inc., she enjoys preservation and restoration projects around North Texas and can often be spotted in old cemeteries.

#### **December 12: "*Preparing a Fossil Display for a Museum*"**

**Pat and Margie Kline**, fossil preparators. It took five years and creative, untried techniques to extract from what appeared to be just a huge glob of dirt the 34,000,00 year old tortoise (named Tootsie) that was found in the Nebraska Badlands. The result is probably the most complete presentation to date of this creature, and it is in our own Heard Museum.

### **Websites of Interest...**

#### **All About Birds:**

<https://academy.allaboutbirds.org/features/birdanatomy/>

**Blackland Prairie Texas Master Naturalist Calendar** <http://bptmn.org/calendar/>

#### **Cornell Lab of Ornithology -**

<http://www.birds.cornell.edu/Page.aspx?pid=1478>

#### **Earthkind Landscaping**

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/>

#### **Green Source DFW**

<http://www.greensourcedfw.org/>

#### **Ladybird Johnson Wildlife Center**

<https://www.wildflower.org/>

#### **Texas Aggi Horticulture**

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/>

#### **Texas Parks & Wildlife Updates**

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/>

**Texas Smartscape** <http://www.txsmartscape.com/>

**Texas Superstar Plants** <http://www.texasuperstar.com/plants/>