

February 2019

CTMN Board Members:

Bill Collins -President

Krista Huebner– Vice
President

Beverly Moore– Secretary

Gailon Hardin – Treasurer

CTMN Chair Members:

Carol Marcotte– Member-
ships

Kerry Newberry– Programs

Sharon Hamilton– Outreach

-VOL Service and AT Hours

Melinda Wolfinbarger Pajak
– education

Theresa Thomas– records

Mary Beth Lampe– hostess

Carrie Moore– newsletter

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Cross Timbers Master Naturalist Newsletter

Plant of the Month– Prairie Parsley : Josephine

Prairie Parsley, *Polytaenia nuttallii*, Apiaceae (Carrot Family)

Prairie Parsley is a lovely plant, and one of the few Texas Native Plants that are larval host for the Eastern Black Swallowtail. This plant is a biennial, and the seeds benefit from planting in the fall. It germinates in late winter to early spring, and likes sun to semi-shade being not particular about soil type. It makes a rosette in the spring, and the leaves are lush and beautiful.

In April or May it sends up a big stem with many side branches which develop into many lovely yellow flowers that offer nectar to butterflies and many pollinators.

This is a very worthwhile plant to cultivate for the beauty and usefulness that it offers.



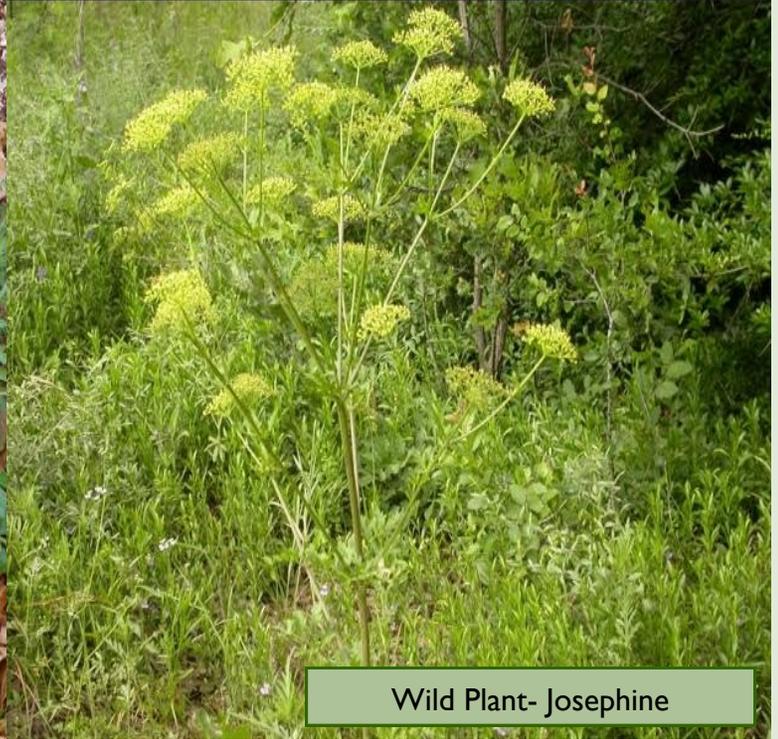
3-Leaf Rosette- Josephine



Male Eastern Black Swallowtail Ventral- Josephine



2-Leaf Rosette- Josephine



Wild Plant- Josephine

Caterpillar and flower- Josephine



Male Eastern Black Swallowtail Dorsal- Josephine



1) What year did you get certified as a TMN? Under what chapter did you attend classes?

I certified as a TMN in 2017 with the Cross Timbers Chapter.

2) At our August 19, 2019 chapter meeting you spoke about your work as Senior Aquarist at SEA LIFE Grapevine Aquarium. You talked about Grapevine's Sea Turtle Rescue Hospital. Is there anything you'd like to add or remind CTMN members?

I would just say to keep working to reduce your environmental impact at home.

3) How did you become a Senior Aquarist? Where did you obtain your degree(s)?

Lot's of hard work! I took the road less traveled, and one I don't suggest for those looking to get in the field. I actually didn't finish my degree, so I had to get to where I am by putting in my dues, and gaining a lot of experience. I started out working in the aquariums at Cabela's in Fort Worth, went to the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens, worked at an aquarium store, Rainforest Cafe in Grapevine, then landed at SEA LIFE. My experience, leadership qualities, and relationships that I built along the way certainly helped me get to where I am today.

4) Other than the sea life rescue, do you have any other passions?

My favorite organization to volunteer with, is the Trinity River Turtle Survey. Yes, it's still with turtles, but what is more important is: teaching the next generation of kids that scientific research on our local ecosystems is important. I also love to talk about what we're doing to people who come by on the Trinity River trails. When I let kids touch a turtle, it really makes their day!

5) What is your best advice for new CTMN members?

If the big, well known volunteer opportunities aren't clicking with you, that's ok! Look for opportunities that work for you. Use social media to find out what opportunities are happening in our area that you are passionate about! That's how I found out about the Trinity River Turtle Survey.



Get to Know a Member– Banjo Moore: Carol Marcotte

1. When did you complete TMN classes?

I became a CTMN member in 2014.

2. Where do you get most of your volunteer hours? and AT hours?

I help monitor the blue bird houses at Tierra Verde Golf Course and Refuge during the spring and summer season each year. I get most of the rest of my volunteer hours at The Fort Worth Nature Center when I'm off duty. I work at the Fort Worth Nature Center.

I get my AT hours by attending the CTMN monthly meetings and the NPAT (Native Prairie Association of Texas) meetings.

3. What is your main focus as a TMN?

My main focus is to help preserve our natural areas and the wildlife that live there. I do this by learning as much as I can about nature and passing along what I have learned to as many people as possible.

4. Do you have a favorite website?

I like The Fort Worth Nature Center website, iNaturalist app, and ANCA (Association for Nature Center Administrators) website.

5. What advice would you give to a new TMN?

The best advice I can give to a new TMN is to never give up on our environment. Stay involved in the meetings, and the volunteer work. Not only do you meet a lot of wonderful like-minded individuals, but you learn so much that you can pass on to others. And know that you are making a difference!

6. How did you get your name 'Banjo'?

I got the nickname Banjo from my dad. When I was born, my dad saw me in the hospital. He told my mom, I looked like a banjo. He told her I had a long neck and a round tummy. The name stuck.



New Year's Resolutions: Carol Marcotte

I asked these members what their New Year's resolutions are for 2020. Here are their replies:

Krista Huebner

My Master Naturalist goal for 2020, is to make this year be my highest volunteer-hour year.

Sam Kieschnick

One of my new years resolutions is to get better at 'tracking' -- I want to learn how to tell more of the animal tracks apart and some of the behaviors behind their signs. In May, I'll take a tracking class as well!

Troy Mullens

I resolve to photograph more plants from all angles. And along the way, get to know more plants and animals from the surrounding eco-regions.

Martha Mullens

I resolve to get more volunteer hours.

Jan Miller

There's SO much room for improvement but a big one is to log my vol/AT hours in a more timely manner! Sadly, I waste a lot of service hours by not logging them in time. AND ~~~ implement pollinator monitoring at Southwest Nature Preserve's 2 acre meadow restoration. Might anyone have any experience to share?

Coming Soon! Volunteer T-Shirts for CTMN

At the current time we do not have a quote on prices (this will come soon at the February Chapter Meeting), but we will soon be taking pre-orders for the CTMN Volunteer T-Shirt. Below is a picture of what the shirt would look like. The image will be on the front and the back so it is visible in either direction.



Park Docent Training for CTCP Prairie - February 29th
8AM-1PM

Master Naturalists are partnering with Chisholm Trail Community Center to bring more nature-based public education and community outreach opportunities to CTCP visitors and area neighborhoods. Planned activities currently include docent-led walks, trash pick-ups, and nature presentations.

The training on February 29th is intended to educate Naturalists on the history, flora, and fauna found here, as well as help prepare interested volunteers to serve as park docents. The training will include both indoor classroom-style and outdoor portions. Any and all are welcome - come join us to learn about the natural treasures of this area and how you can get involved!

Want to attend? RSVP at alchernosky@yahoo.com or 817-917-2750



This is a pic of the trash pick-up crew from January. Names of volunteers are, L-to-R: Chris Castoro, Avon Burton, Steve Smith, Glenn Butler, myself. Next trash pickup day is February 1st.

The Tarrant County Southwest Sub-courthouse has a Native Plant Demonstration Garden with about 10,000 square feet. It is one-quarter acre that gets very little help. We are looking for volunteers to help with the garden.

The Garden is located:

6551 Granbury Road
Fort Worth, TX 76133

Workdays second Saturday and last Wednesday

Winter hours 10am-1 pm
Summer hours 9am-12pm

Project Lead Gailon Hardin 817-475-0923 gailonhardin1@gmail.com

This counts for your CTMN hours.

Free Lecture at the BRIT- Brooke Byerley Best

Hello, local Master Naturalist chapters. Just a quick note to inform you all of a free upcoming event at BRIT that your members may be interested in.

BRIT Brown Bag Lecture Series

"How Beef Production, Biodiversity, and Habitat Preservation Go Hand In Hand" by Meredith Ellis from G Bar C Ranch

Tuesday, Feb 4th, noon to 1pm

Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT), Fort Worth

<https://bit.ly/2TF3USi>

Become a Citizen Forester to learn about trees and volunteer to improve our urban forest! Applications are now being taken thru February 10, 2020.

The Citizen Forester program is sponsored by the Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council, a not for profit organization focused on publicly owned trees. Once certified, volunteer time is spent in parks, along streets, in school yards, etc. We also provide talks to groups wishing to learn more about how they should better maintain their trees and provide other services that benefit trees and civic organizations responsible for them. The goal is to help communities reap all the benefits of trees in the urban environment in a responsible manner.

This program consists of ten sessions, held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from March 18, 2020 to December 16, 2020. The training days will start at 9 am and end at 4 pm with an hour for lunch.

Part of the training will be in the classroom and part of it will be in the field. Most of the classes will be held in the Master Gardeners Training Room at 1801 Circle Dr. in Fort Worth. A couple will be held at the Fort Worth Botanic Gardens. The field work will be held in various locations as convenient to the location of the classes as possible. Students will learn things like how to properly plant trees and then go plant trees.

Those who complete this training never look at a tree the same way again. We look forward to your participation!

Please go to www.ctufc.org to learn more about the Citizen Forester Program. Click the "Interested in Becoming a Citizen Forester?" button. If you are interested, click "Apply Now".

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact David Coke at david.l.coke@gmail.com or call 817-386-3235 or Bobbye Hitzfeld at bobbye55@outlook.com or 817-522-2058.

Butterfly in the Garden Volunteer Opportunity– Montana of BRIT

We will be hosting the return of the Butterflies in the Garden event this spring and need as many volunteers as we can recruit. Many of the butterflies in the exhibit are native to Texas so this event should hopefully qualify as a way for your members to earn volunteer credit for your program. If possible, would you please include the following blurb or the attached flyer:

The Butterflies in the Garden event will be returning this spring and volunteers will be needed every day from **February 29th through April 12th** to help with greeting, way-showing, and educating our guests. Volunteers are absolutely crucial to run help run the event and we won't be able to host it without your support. **Interested participants will need to attend our required training, which is scheduled for the following dates:**

Tuesday, February 4th

Saturday, February 8th

1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Please sign up for a training shift via the [GROW Volunteer Portal](#) or by emailing volunteer@brit.org.

Free Plants from BRIT- Theresa Thomas

The Botanic Garden, in conjunction with BRIT, has created a Pollinator Pathway between BRIT and the Garden Center. In evaluating our current plantings, we have found that we have an overabundance of a couple of plants. We hope that we can rehome some of these lovely natives in other gardens and prairies in the area.

The plants are Bushy Bluestem and Maximillian Sunflower, both of these are perennials

Contact Keith Brock at Christopher.brock@fortworthtexas.gov to set up a time to come out and get your free plants.



Now You Know: Carol Marcotte

Butterflies can taste with their feet.

~~~~~

Squirrels can't burp or vomit.

~~~~~

Animals with smaller bodies and faster metabolism see in slow motion.

(Russell McLendon, MNN.com, <https://www.mnn.com/earth-matters/animals/blogs/36-random-animal-facts-that-may-surprise-you>, August 19, 2014)

You are invited
to



CROSS TIMBERS CHAPTER
2019 AWARDS CEREMONY
AND 20TH CHAPTER ANNIVERSARY

FEBRUARY 17, 2020 @ 6:30 PM

FT WORTH BOTANIC GARDEN
3220 BOTANIC GARDEN BOULEVARD,
FORT WORTH

ATTENTION: Members who earned their Ocelot Re-Certification Pin in 2018, and did not receive their pin ~~~ let Carol know ASAP!

Please email carol@carolmarcotte.com or call / text (817) 793-3917.

Carol has your well deserved pin and you will receive it soon.

February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						I B, K, L
2	3 E	4 G, I	5 A	6 B	7	8 B, G, J
9	10 F	11	12 A	13 B	14	15 B
16	17 D	18	19 A, C	20 B	21	22 B
23	24	25	26 A, J	27 B	28	29 B, H

A– FWNC– Restorative Greenhouse from 9:30– 11:30 AM– this event is a reoccurring event every Wednesday

B– FWNC– National Guard– Outdoor Conservation from 9 AM to 12 PM– this event is a reoccurring event every Thursday and Saturday

C--Sierra Club Monthly Meeting, Fort Worth Botanical Garden, 6:30 pm. Please bring a pot luck dish. This counts for an advance hour of training. This is a reoccurring even every 3rd Wednesday of every month.

D– CTMN Monthly Chapter Meeting , this month is the Cross Timbers Chapter 2019 Awards and 20th Anniversary Celebration

E– CTMN Board Meeting

F– Applications due to become a Certified Urban Forrester (see page 7 of this newsletter for more details)

G– Butterfly in the Garden Volunteer Training (see page 7 of this newsletter for more details).

H– Butterfly in the Garden Volunteer Opportunity (see page 6 of this newsletter for more details)

I– Free Lecture at the BRIT (see page 6 of this newsletter for more details)

J– SWSC Work Day (see page 6 of this newsletter for more details)

K- Molly Hollar Work Day 9am -12 pm. Mini class 11:30-12pm on Plants and Propagation. This is a reoccurring event every 1st Saturday.

L– Trash Pick Up At Chisholm Trail prairie community center, meet front of the community center building at 7:30AM