

April 2019

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# Cross Timbers Master Naturalist Newsletter

## Plant of the Month: Coralberry– Josephine

Coralberry, *Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*

Caprifoliaceae (Honeysuckle Family )

What a lovely and adaptable shrub Coralberry is!!

Its native habitat is greatly varied and its range is very widespread, covering the Eastern U.S. from New York to Texas. It can grow in thickets, open woodlands, river banks, and many other places but here in North Central Texas it prefers the Post Oak woodlands and Savannas.

The average height is one to three feet, but it can reach six feet under favorable conditions. It prefers part-shade but can live in full shade and is not picky about soil, being able to grow well in sand, loam, or clay. It does not require much water to be happy and is able to thrive with minimum watering or just rainfall.

Although this shrub is deciduous it is almost evergreen as it loses its leaves late in the season and greens up early in the spring with lovely lime green leaves.

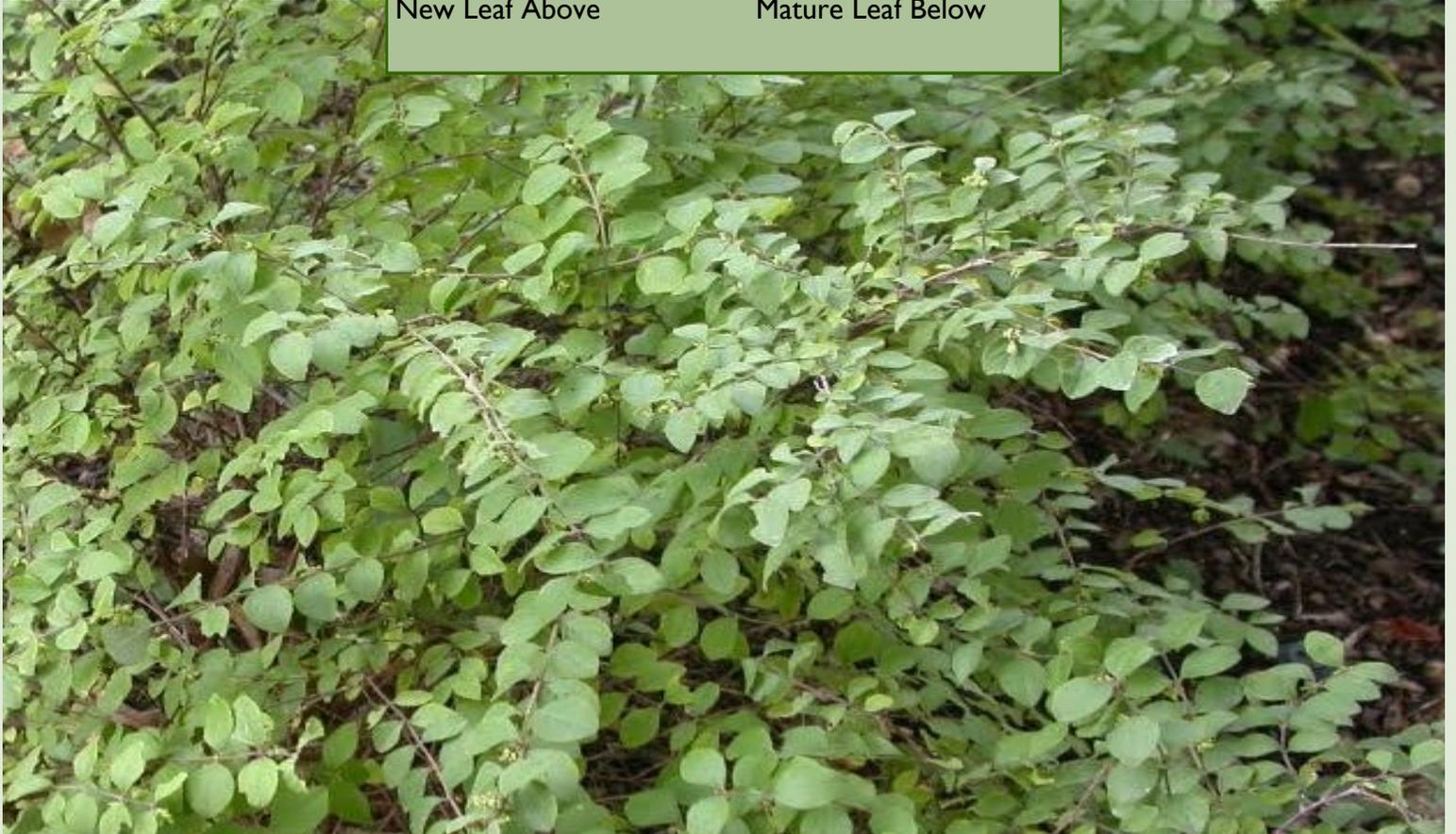
The flowers are inconspicuous and the most outstanding feature are the berries which hang in there through the fall and winter. That is of course if the songbirds, ground birds, small mammals, and browsers who use this plant for food, let them last that long.

This shrub makes an excellent plant around the home foundation and can be used to replace the invasive Nandina. Used as a ground cover it also presents a very lovely sight when planted in a natural setting.

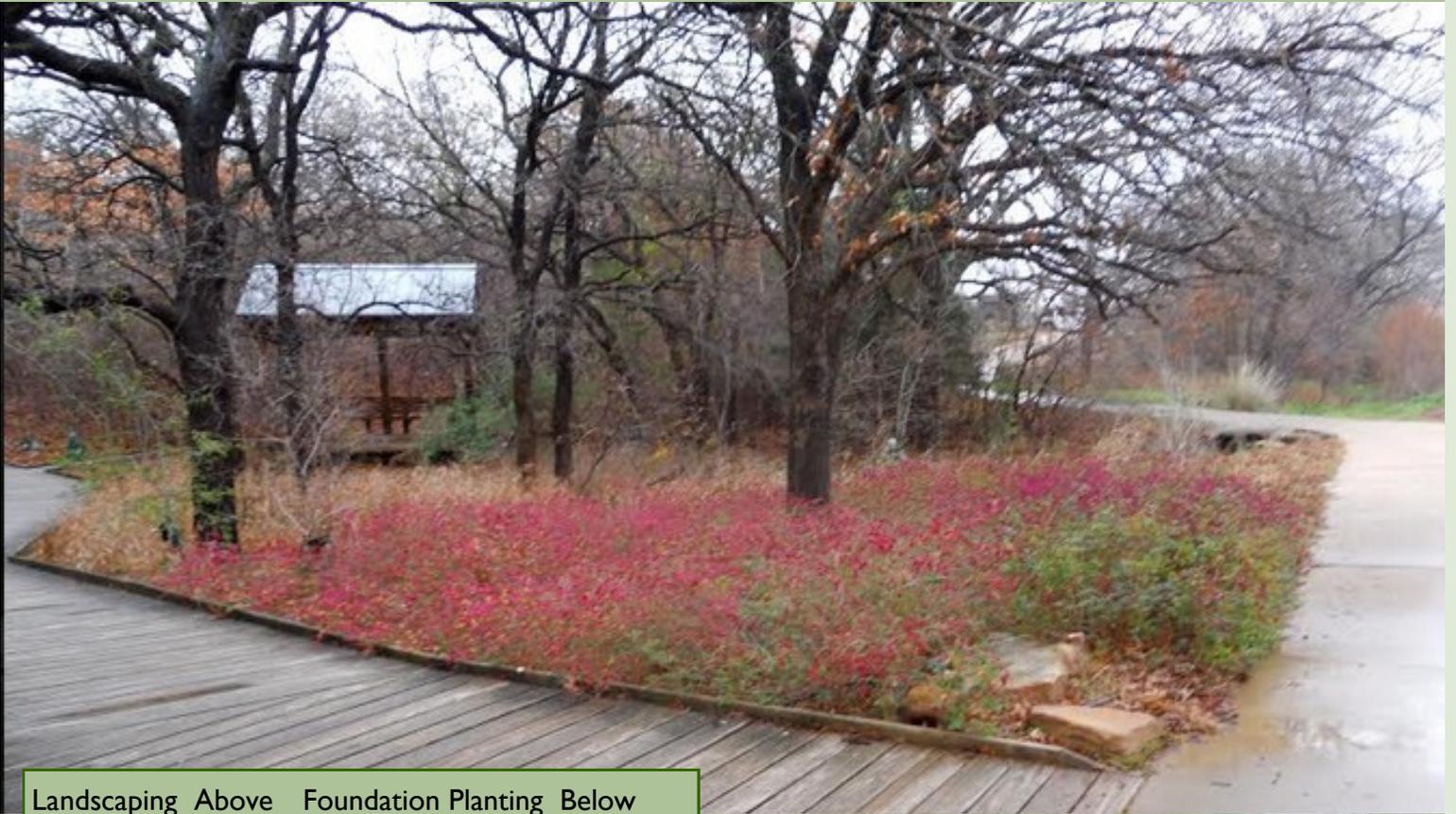




New Leaf Above      Mature Leaf Below



# Plant of the Month– Coralberry: Josephine Keeney



Landscaping Above Foundation Planting Below



## Get to Know a Member– Avon Burton: Carol Marcotte

### How and where do you volunteer?

Canoe Fest and the Greenhouse at the Fort Worth Nature Center, Fort Worth Botanic Gardens and BRIT various events, currently Butterflies in the Garden.

I am also a Master Gardener and volunteer with their projects. One of my favorites is tending the garden at Union Gospel Mission with a dozen other regular volunteers.

I learn AT from Fort Worth Nature Center, I really love their Evergreen Program which includes Yoga on the Boardwalk, Art in the Park, and guided hikes. I also learn from the meetings of other organizations such as Native Plant Society, Sierra Club, and NPSOT (Native Prairie Association of Texas).

### What are some fun facts about you?

I became a grandmother at 38. My grandchildren range from age 1 1/2 to 23 years old.

I retired in 2019 so every day I get to go play with my naturalist and gardening friends.

### What is your favorite activity?

Yoga.

Hiking with iNat to help me identify what I am seeing.

The Great Backyard Bird Count peaked my interest in observing birds in my own backyard.

### What advice do you have for fellow Master Naturalists?

Know that your efforts make a difference. Listen to other people's passion for inspiration.

## Photo Contest: Carol Marcotte

Entries must be submitted by **Friday, May 15, 2020**

Entries must be labeled with owners name, category and title of the work. All entries must be original work and submitted by a CTMN volunteer.

**Entries are limited to one per category per individual.**

- Photos must be Texas specific (i.e. taken in Texas)
- Photos can be color or black and white.
- Photos must be unframed and have no unnatural/extreme digital enhancements
- Submit your photo entry(s) to Cross Timbers Master

Naturalists.com/Facebook/Group/Photo Contest 2020 or email to

[carol@carolmarcotte.com](mailto:carol@carolmarcotte.com) or [mblampe@gmail.com](mailto:mblampe@gmail.com) \*Contest Committee reserves the right to place an entry into another category if

deemed appropriate. **Photo Categories:** (1) Plant life (with no

wildlife) (2) Wildlife (3) Birds (4) Scenic (5) Historical photo of members at work/play ( i.e. inaugural class, members then & now, early

projects in our history)

Judging will be done by a panel of three (3) impartial judges. **Winners will be announced**

**at the June 15, 2020 meeting** . If there are less than 3 entries in a given photo category , a placement ribbon may not be awarded.

Direct questions to Carol Marcotte, cell: (817) 793-3917 or email: [carol@carolmarcotte.com](mailto:carol@carolmarcotte.com)