

the paddlefish ***the paddlefish***

Vol. 8 No. 9

Cypress Basin Texas Master Naturalist Chapter Newsletter

September 2016

Mission of the Texas Master Naturalist

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.

2016 OFFICERS

Stella Barrow - President

Betty Morgan - Vice President

Kristi Thomas - Secretary

Charles Gillis – Treasurer

Linda Richtsmeier – Membership Chairman

Pat Sawyer and Michael Mathews - Webmasters

Vanessa Adams Neace - Advisor

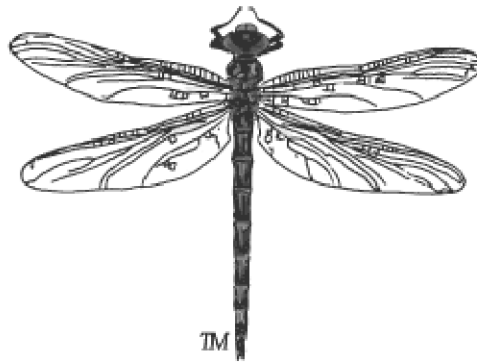
Doug Weir -Advisor

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Monday September 12 6:30 pm

Jefferson Transportation Center 305 E. Austin

Snippets from Stella



September 2016

Hello Friends!

Don't get out the pumpkin spice coffee and tea yet, but it surely is cooler than July and August.

The Red River Chapter is coming and plans are on-going for their visit on September 16 & 17. Will you be attending? Friday night, Dr. Carl Turner and Lee Eisenberg will be making presentations and if you haven't heard Carl's talk on Caddo and Lee's updated presentation on Caddo invasive species, it will be Advanced Training for you. 5:15pm at the Transportation Center for "Happy Hour", dinner around 5:45pm then the presentations. Saturday a tentative bird walk is schedule for early morning and lunch at Shady Glade. **PLEASE LET ME KNOW BY FRIDAY 9/9 if you will be attending Friday night for dinner and/or Saturday for lunch. Each meal is \$10.00; Friday night is BBQ and Saturday the choices are fish or hamburger meals.**

The Avinger Wine Festival is Saturday, September 17, too. Several of you have signed up to help with the recruiting booth. We'll have a small group discussion at the monthly meeting to finalize those details.

Then – the Moonvie, Outdoor Movie, etc. event is October 8. Several have signed up for that, too and we'll have a meeting to discuss details on Friday, 9/16 at the classroom, 9:30 am.

The Texas Invasives Citizen Scientist course is set for October 29, 8:15 am -4:00 pm at Collins Academy. Eventbrite is being set up for registration and seating is limited to thirty (30).

Finally, the winners of the National Fish and Wildlife Federation grant will not be announced until the first or second week of October. The NWR Friends of Refuge group has committed to funding the E-bird kiosk and the bird blinds. We will be setting up teams to begin planning for these projects. Busy fall and winter !!

Next meeting is Monday September 12, 6:30 pm at the Transportation Center. See you!

CYPRESS BASIN TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST MEETING
AUGUST 9, 2016
MINUTES

ATTENDING: 24 members – Kristi Thomas, David Skinner, Michael Mathews, Ted and Stella Barrow, Tom Walker, Steve and Susan Sedberry, Pam Andrews, Marge West, Becky Gullette, Floyd and Ellen Anderson, Nancy Rheay, Sue Simmons, Carol Fox, Roger Geiger, David and Vicki Gilliland, Mike Simon (guest), Sandra Hooker, Pam Watts, Jill Wright, and Phyllis Wilson, Charlene Franks, Frances George (guest).

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by President Stella Barrow. Guests with Roger and Charlene were welcomed. Stella passed around an article about David's impressive work in the pollinator garden.

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: Minutes from prior meeting were unanimously accepted with a motion by Sue, seconded by Susan.

TREASURER REPORT: Charles noted there was nothing new to report outside of what was in the newsletter, and there were no questions. Pam motioned, Floyd seconded, and the report was unanimously approved as presented there.

GENERAL ITEMS: OLD BUSINESS

RED RIVER CHAPTER VISIT: Dates of September 16th and 17th have been confirmed, will finalize details for bird walk, pontoon boats, and Susan to head up food committee. Pontoon boats covered. Encompasses eve of 16th, and morning through noon of 17th. Per Susan, Friday night dinner here, \$10 per person, everyone pay for selves. Shade Glade Cafe reserved for Sat. Will need to let Susan know if coming. Carl to present, possibly Lee Eisenberg. Bird walk - Michael, Kristi, Becky, Nancy, Tom, Sandra, Phyllis. Start at 8 at refuge. Lunch will be 11-11:30 at SG, with pontoon on lake after. On their own Sat. night. Captains get together and decide on route. Michael to send email details.

PHOTO TOUR/CLASS: Set date for second class on Oct. 15, week after moonvie, week before annual meeting. 9 a.m. at the refuge.

EAB STATUS: Let's find those wasp nests! Look in early morning before ten o'clock, unused baseball fields, very important to ID and capture. Call Allen ASAP if you think you have found one.

FISHING LINE PROJECT: Roger's info - <https://mrrp.tamu.edu/downloads/MRRP-Volunteer%20Agreement.pdf>
More info - only take mono, not braid, will recycle. Fill out form on site, then they will send you all the decals and stickers that go on outside of bin, brochures, then build bin, really easy out of PVC. Will send email. Michael will put on website. If enough interest, could have a workday to build bins.

SIMPSON LAKE WATER TEST PROJECT: Roger gave a presentation with all details. Eagle Landing Lake, 120 families, Avinger, 250 acre lake, ten miles of shoreline. As community have decided to keep track of lake environment. Have asked if TMN can help, been approved, need people to take water samples. Many other avenues for training and education down the road; right now, trying to get sampling equipment and methods nailed down. Stella will put on VMS site.

OCTOBER MOVIE NIGHT AND MOON GAZING: Educational opportunity. Set for October 8th. Steve and Susan going through GCLA archives, old Longhorn Army Ammunition plant.

NEW BUSINESS

HOURS FOR 2016 CERTIFICATION AND RECERTIFICATION: 11/14 deadline, 40 hours volunteer 8 hours AT. Reminder from Linda need completed by mid-Nov., in order to get pins ordered. There are some webinars on Texas Parks and Wildlife, can only get 4 hours this way.

RECRUITING BOOTH AT AVINGER WINE FESTIVAL: September 17, \$35 cost, need commitment , Pam and Roger to take shifts. Opens at 10, set up at 9:30 a.m.

SPONSOR AN [INVASIVES.ORG](http://invasives.org) CLASS: Potential dates - Sept. 24, Oct. 22 and 29th. Angela asked sponsor class, get certified, app for phone, goes into database. Any interest in class - 10/29 - tell Stella before next month meeting, will get group together to talk about.

Becky said that Camp Fern was better this year, something to think about for next year. One other thing and up to executive committee to approve - Higginbotham and Crawl have developed online courses, game and fish university, partnering with Panola and hope at some point to be full credit. Might be approved for AT. She will make sure get more info.

ANNUAL MEETING: Coming up October 21-23, Conroe. Are sponsoring a coffee break. Carl and Lee will present. It is never this close, so everyone who can, is urged to attend.

NEW CLASS: Can you recruit one student? Jill and the Turners will be taking over for Betty, and anticipate there will be another in January. Will give more info by next meeting. Michael will be working on recruiting materials.

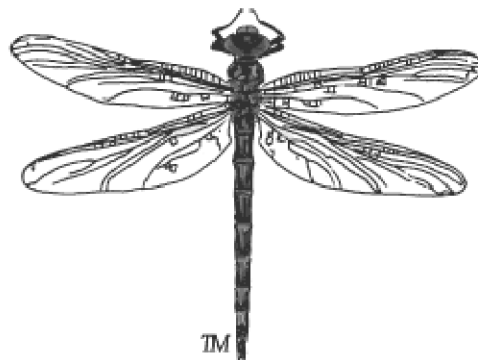
ADJOURNMENT: at 7:32 p.m.

VOLUNTEER HOURS: 1.0 hour

ADVANCED TRAINING: 0

PLUS YOUR TRAVEL:

Submitted by Kristi Thomas, Secretary



Cypress Basin Texas Master Naturalist

Financial Report for August 2016

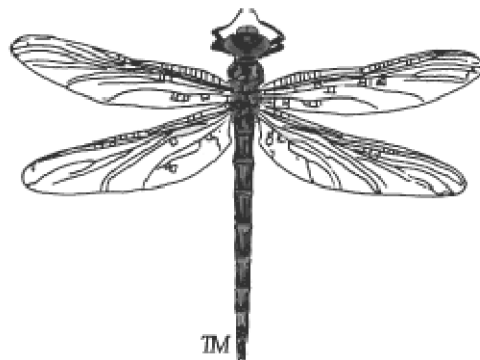
Submitted by Charles Gillis, Treasurer

Beginning Bank Balance 08/01/16	\$6,892.36
Less: Expenses	
None	
Add: Deposits (reimbursement for supplies bought for members)	<u>\$127.00</u>
<u>Ending Bank Balance, 08/31/16</u>	<u>\$7,019.36</u>

Dedicated Funds – Regatta	\$3,191.28
Undedicated Funds	<u>3,828.08</u>

Ending Bank Balance, 08/31/16 \$7,019.36

Note: Outstanding checks on the July report were cancelled by Texas AgriLife as they had miss-shipped and miss-billed. The supplies were re-shipped and members paid for their own supplies without chapter involvement.



WELCOME SIGHTS OF AUTUMN

The first noticeable sign of autumn appeared in my midst last week. As I flushed and refilled a birdbath a small scarlet red object glided through the air before me and fell at my feet. The leaf had fallen from the water tupelo towering above my head. Several of these trees adorn my property and their scarlet autumn brilliance are the reason they are my favorite trees.

If I wanted to begin a life list of butterflies this would be the time of year to launch the recording. The cooler weather has brought these magical beauties rushing forth to partake of the bounties of the many native trees, wildflowers and grasses which have flourished with all of the recent rain.

The Piney Woods abounds with butterflies and the Lake of the Pines and Caddo Lake proudly claim the rights to two classified specialties of the region. Specialties are species of special interest to butterfly enthusiasts. They include species not typically found in other parts of Texas or, sometimes, not found in other parts of the U.S. Specialties usually occur in only one or two regions of the state.

The Zebra Swallowtail is abundant in the Lake of the Pines area and is common in the Caddo Lake area. Larvae of this butterfly feed on pawpaw. The second specialty is the Southern Pearly-eye (a Satyr) which is commonly found in the Caddo Lake area but uncommon in the Lake of the Pines area. The larval food plant is the giant cane.

Brushfoots that can be seen in the area include Gulf Fritillary, Variegated Fritillary, Common Buckeye, Viceroy, Red Spotted Purple, and the only migratory butterfly, the Monarch.

Swallowtails in addition to the Zebra that can be found locally include Eastern Tiger, Spicebush, and Pipevine.

Skippers seen in this area include Fiery Skipper, Least Skipper, Ocala Skipper (especially in the autumn), and the White Checkered Skipper. Eastern Tailed-Blue is a Blue commonly seen on the Lake of the Pines. Red Branded Hairstreaks and Cloudless Sulphurs are common and abundant at times.

Situate yourself comfortably in a location with numerous native trees, wildflowers, and grasses; pull out your binoculars and field guide and enjoy the sights of autumn.

Two books that may be helpful in locating and identifying butters are:

- [Finding Butterflies in Texas: A Guide to the Best Sites](#) by Roland H. Wauer
- [Peterson Field Guides: Eastern Butterflies](#) by Paul A. Opler and Vichai Malikul

The newsletter editor is solely responsible for the content of this article.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 12: Cypress Basin Chapter Monthly Meeting 6:30 p.m.

September 16-17: Red River Chapter visiting with weekend activities planned

September 17: Avinger Wine Festival Recruiting Booth

September 17: Work Day cancelled

October 8: Moonvie at CLNWR

October 21-23: Annual TMN State Meeting, Montgomery

October 29: Texas Invasives Citizen Scientist class at Collins Academy 8:15-4:00

2016 MEETING DATES

January 11
February 8
March 14*
April 11
May 9
June 13*
July 11
August 8
September 12*
October 10
November 14**

*Pot Luck

** Family Social &
Awards

2016 WORK DAYS

January 16
February 13
March 19
April 16
May 14
June 18
July 16
August 13
October 15
November 19

Cypress Basin members are encouraged to submit articles for the monthly newsletters. Original articles of interest to members are greatly appreciated. Items for Events and Notices are welcomed. Submissions are due on the first Saturday of each month.

Contact Betty by email @ bgmorgan46@yahoo.com or mail to: 100 Lakeview Circle, Jefferson, TX 75657.