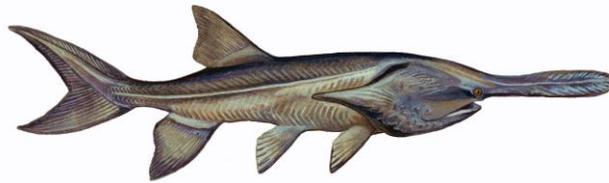




# THE PADDLEFISH



## Briefings from Becky

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Meeting Minutes	2
Feb Financials	3
Flotilla Update	3
Quarterly Meeting Info	4
Training Schedule	4
Training Class Update	5
Volunteer Opportunities	5
Monarch Watch	5
Chapter Officers	5

Wow! February went by fast! But here it is, Mar 3, and we are expecting a stretch of days with more consistently cold days than we've had all winter! Should help with knocking back the salvinia!

We had another great training weekend in Feb with presentations by Vanessa Neace and Boyd Sanders of TPWD and Todd McMakin, Sr. Archaeologist and owner, StonePointServices, Inc. Tyler, TX. And, once again, wonderful support from you current members! In spite of the dreary weather we had an informative and enjoyable weekend. Looking forward to our March training weekend.

Barry and Caroline Hughes and Pam Watts assisted in the Pollinator Pals Projector at Jefferson ISD. Barry got his picture on the front page of Section B, Longview News-Journal, Sunday, March 3. Great article to read about our teaming up with the Collins Academy and Ecoverdant as they continue this great TPWD grant.

Hopefully, it will be a bit warmer when some of our new trainees, Greta Wright, Patsy Lancaster, Brinda Mandella, Liz Avis work with the Garden Club in Hughes Springs to promote pollinator gardens at Hughes Springs ISD.

Pam Watt got to stay inside to present a program on CBTMN to the Jesse Allen Wise Garden Club in Jefferson and we're glad she did!

Please keep us updated on various projects with which you might be involved. Feel free to submit pictures and short articles to the publicity committee.

Make an effort to attend our Quarterly Potluck and AT meeting on Monday, March 11 at Kellyville AgriLife Building. (See article below).

Lots of projects coming up!

— Please reference the email of Feb 26 and try to help out at CLSP during their busy Spring Break Weeks! OR count some as AT!

— Still awaiting more information about volunteer opportunities in March and April that involve assisting with Jefferson ISD field trips to CLSP and CLWMA.

— Hopefully the weather will start improving and we can get back out to work trails at CLNWR and to finish work on the NFWF grant

— Flotilla! Flotilla! Flotilla!

— Texas Stream Team training

See you March 11.

Becky

### 2019 Meeting

#### Dates

- Mar 11
- Apr 08
- May 13
- Jun 10
- July 08
- Aug 12
- Sep 09
- Oct 14
- Nov 11

## CBTMN Meeting Minutes January 14, 2019

1. Becky called to order at 6:35 p.m. — brief explanation of meeting location change. Danielle from Tourism office had notified they would be charging \$100 per meeting (discount rate for NP) and since Brandon (interim at CLSP) had offered we took them up on offer this time. Won't be permanent fix, investigating options.
2. Roll call by SIGN-IN SHEET; Sign ups also to host Training Classes
3. Questions about Nov minutes? Approval? Unanimously approved.
4. Treasurer's Report? Charles Gillis went over annual financial report, copy in newsletter. \$2,000 - \$3,000 in operating expenses each year. Taking dues, will bring receipts next meeting and have them on a table at door, too many folks to try to hand out tonight.
5. Newsletter/Publicity — Tami White, Rayla Dickinson will be working together, we need more publicity on all that we do. Just snap pic as things happen, caption it, and send it to Tami or Rayla. Need more of this kind of thing all along instead of just at big events.
  - a. deadlines, format, etc.
  - b. pictures, pictures with good metadata
6. Volunteer Time/Advanced Training Time Linda wasn't at meeting, Becky went over criteria, said to shoot Linda a message with questions as volunteer projects can be confusing. Bottom line if you have 8 hours of AT and do more, some of that can count as volunteer hours.
7. Volunteer Opportunities/New and Ongoing Projects
  - a. Weevil Wrangling — Laura Speight appreciates what we do and can't do what they do without us. Trying to find ways to work better, will start having a Sat. workday every month, get FB page. Passing sign-up sheet, can send group email and streamline. Smaller releases, more often, maybe every other Tues. and at least one on weekend. Ideas - jars for donations, being tested now. Weevil Wobble 5K at Shady Glade area, possibly in October, microbreweries involved, could be big fundraiser.
  - b. Great Texas Birding Classic 2019 — Vanessa Neace detailed and passed a sign-up sheet around for interest, will get more info, answer questions. Low attendance rate in our area so good opportunity and lots of fun, helps learn.
  - c. Fred Dahmer Project — Explained slide conversion project, needs to be digitized. More will be known about quality, content, quantity - email Pat Sawyer when find out how many
  - d. NFWF Grant update — Ted Barrow, Charles Gillis, Pete Wright — not much to report, loggers have been in and so wet.
  - e. new walking trail — Ted Barrow, Charles Gillis, Todd Dickinson - same as above.
  - f. Boat Road Markers and Paddle Trail Markers Update — Ted and Vanessa introduced Molly Sullivan and her mom Paula Tefteller from Gilmer. Molly is doing her Gold Scout project by restoring/adding paddle trail markers. Met with board before meeting. Vanessa suggested bigger signage and marking trailheads with "start here". Kristi will be mentoring and point of contact for questions, etc.
  - g. New Training Class — Jill Wright, Susan Sedberry - have eleven as of today, with shutdown not sure how all will work but it will work out. Will be on website and newsletter. Per Jill, 60-75% are the same presenters, good news is you can count as AT even if you saw the same presenter last year. Signup sheets for hosts, be sure to come out and support the new group.
  - h. Flotilla April 27 Ted Barrow - Stella not here, she took pics of a bean bag toss, has idea for "weevil bag toss" at Flotilla, more to come.
  - i. State Park Opportunities — Caroline and Barry Hughes detailed how much fun to help Kelsey and others at CLSP during spring break, they get slammed.
  - j. Lake O' the Pines — Stacey Coester at LOP may have opportunities in spring on LOP to help.
8. Next OUTREACH: March Paddling day at CLWMA — Vanessa Neace and Kristi Thomas - possibly could have 3/9.
9. Update on permit requirements at our public lands - each paddler over age of 17 must have LPU permit, Vanessa explained the diff between LPU and APH. Decided will require more discussion in light of the fact that on NWR will require permits, not sure how all of this will work.
10. Quarterly Potluck and Advance Training. "Mammals"
  - a. Presentations will be limited to 1 hour including Q & A
  - b. Ideas for presenters? Becky informed to be thinking about.
11. FUTURE:
  - a. PROJECT TRAINING: ViAnn Sawyer and Betty Morgan, other types?
  - b. Ongoing considerations: IDEAS? Fund Raising? Varied outreach activities at CLNWR, State Park, WMA (small events; paddling trail hosts/guides, improved publicity about what we can do for schools, churches
12. Other participation, sharing, support opportunities
  - a. REMEMBER: You can ask for photos, articles, relevant announcements to be placed on FB and website -- for now you would submit to cypressbasintmn.org so leadership board can review; Tami White maintains FB and website, Tami White and Rayla Dickinson will be doing newsletter together.
  - b. Members:
    1. submit articles from other sources, original work
    2. Observations, journal excerpts, poems, photos.
    3. PLEASE email content to
      - a. Tami and/or Rayla or
      - b. cypressbasintmn@gmail or
    4. to one of the leadership board
13. Anything else? Charles made a plea for help for the Friends of Caddo Lake association, has no operating board, need a PI person, someone to handle membership. Several members of TMN who are members of Friends said they never receive meeting notices, sporadic. Part of Problem. As it dovetails nicely with all we do at CBTMN, Charles asked for members to give thought because we really don't want to let this organization die. Just received \$10,000 Donation, has funds, just need leadership.

## Cypress Basin Texas Master Naturalists Financial Report for February 28, 2019

*"It is time to pay 2019 dues - \$25 per individual or \$40 per couple.*

*You can mail dues to Charles Gillis, 709 Lovely Road Marshall, TX 75672 or pay at monthly meeting.*

*Checks can be made to CBTMN."*

<b>Beginning Bank Balance, 01/31/2019</b>		\$12,192.74
Add Deposits:		
Amazon Smile	\$ 22.60	
Annual Dues	315.00	<u>\$ 337.60</u>
Less Expenses:		
New Class Expense	\$ -84.13	<u>-84.13</u>
<b>Ending Balance, February 28, 2019</b>		<u>\$12,446.21</u>
Flotilla Funds	\$7,890.16	
General Funds	<u>4,556.05</u>	<u>\$12,446.21</u>

Notes:

1. Did you know that Amazon contributes to non-profit organizations such as ours? A percentage of your purchases can be given to an activity of your choice at no cost to you. Our chapter has received \$108.76 since we registered with Amazon. If you purchase from Amazon and have not selected a recipient, please consider our chapter. It's easy- just go to <http://smile.amazon.com/about> for instructions.
2. We still have a few outstanding dues. You can mail to Charles Gillis, 709 Lovely Road, Marshall, TX 75672, or see me at the next meeting.

Charles Gillis  
Treasurer

## 2019 Annual Flotilla

Hope you have saved the date! It will be at Shady Glade RV Park & Resort again. (Need to give them real credit this year).

I'd like to add one or two kid friendly activities. What can you do?

1. START LOOKING FOR SPONSORS RIGHT AWAY.
2. Paint a canoe.
3. Paint a Bean Bag Toss board. Butterflies, birds, turtles, etc. I have picture examples.
4. Sew some "cutie pie" bean bags. Butterflies, birds, turtles, bunnies, etc. See me for size details.
5. Different focus on silent auction and drawings this year.
  - a. Would like several really nice large items for both instead of so many smaller items.
  - b. We got feedback from last year. So, if you can gather some items, let me know. We can talk.



More info after we have a couple of organizational meetings.

THANKS EVERYONE! Bigger and Better!!

Stella

## It's time for the Quarterly Potluck

### Upcoming Events:

- Mar 11 Monthly Meeting Potluck
- Mar 16 Work Day
- Apr 8 Monthly Meeting
- Apr 13 Work Day
- TMN Trainee Training Apr 12-13
- April 27 Annual Flotilla

### MARCH 11 QUARTERLY POTLUCK and AT and RECIPES (not for cooking possum!)

Did anyone ever accuse you of “playing ‘possum”? Come to our quarterly potluck on March 11 and hear Vanessa Neace present an interesting program on North America’s only marsupial, the Virginia opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), commonly known as the North American opossum. You may love them or not BUT you can’t deny that they are tenacious, wily and interesting animals.

Setup for VT will begin at Kellyville AgriLife at 5:30 with supper being served at 6pm. A short meeting will be held at 6:30pm followed by the AT presentation which will be limited to 1 hour including question/answer time.

If you are willing to share your recipe(s) for the delicious food you bring, it would be great to get copies of those recipes that night as we continue to consider the possibility of creating a CBTMN cookbook. (Look for the survey in the newsletter!)



## Upcoming Training Schedule

**Our next training weekend is on March 22-23. All classes will be held at the Refuge Headquarters Building.**

**Topics will be:**

- **Mammalogy with Ricky Maxey on Friday (6-9 pm);**
- **Ichthyology with Tim Bister on Saturday (9-12);**
- **Entomology with Dr. Tony Bosworth on Saturday (1-4:30ish).**

**\*Be prepared for outside field study (closed-toe shoes/comfortable clothing/hat/gloves/coat). We will provide sunscreen and bug repellent when needed. Please bring sack lunch for all Saturdays, except on April 13th.**

**Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge Address: 15600 Hwy 134 Karnack, TX**

**\*\*This location may change-we will update as necessary**

**We need hosts and members to bring food items for training days! Signup Sheets will be circulating at monthly meeting.**

*Can be counted as Volunteer Time!*

## 2019 Training Class Update!

Our eleven trainees returned to the Headquarters Building at Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge on February 22nd and 23rd to fulfill the next ten hours of their initial training. We had a great weekend of presenters, topics and FOOD, and they are now half way through their initial training requirement! Our newest members have been raving about all the delicious treats our members have been supplying them and have expressed their gratitude to our chapter for the bountiful meals and treats. Members who contributed as meal hosts this month were: Pam Adams, Stella Barrow, Jennifer Bean, Rayla Dickinson, Vicki Gilliland, Sandra Hooker, Kay Lowry, Diann Mabus, Nancy Rheay, Linda Richtsmeier, Susan Sedberry, Diane Turner, Phyllis Wilson, Mike Woodruff, and Jill Wright. Also, a thank you goes out to Pete Wright as well, for being the training class historian and taking photos of the activities and presenters.

Despite the challenges of rain, fog and thunderstorms, we were able to meet Friday evening and Saturday and enjoy presentations on several topics. Friday evening, our chapter advisor and TPWD biologist, Vanessa Neace, covered Ornithology and treated us to many fascinating slides and videos of bird behavior. A bird brain is a fascinating work of nature! She also covered Land Stewardship - a topic we all share a passion for. Saturday morning started with a presentation by Boyd Sanders, Master Interpreter of Tyler State Park. Ask our trainees who the best soap bubble blower is! Boyd covered Volunteers as Teachers, Citizen Science opportunities, and Laws and Ethics. All pertinent topics, all initiating great class discussions. Finally, our afternoon presenter, Todd McMakin of Stone Point Services, Inc. in Tyler, led a class on Archaeology. Numerous artifacts and slides of locally significant archaeological sites perked the interest of our trainees. Todd finished the day introducing our trainees to a tool used by the earliest Americans - the atlatl, a spear thrower that significantly increased the success of the hunt for various game animals. I think everyone enjoyed their hand at the atlatl - and we have some pretty good arms in this group!

We are most thankful to all the professionals who take the time to lead classes on our TMN curriculum for our newest members.



*Our chapter advisor and TPWD biologist, Vanessa Neace, covered Ornithology.*



*Todd McMakin led class on Archaeology and finished the day introducing our trainees to a tool used by the earliest Americans - the atlatl.*

Volunteer Opportunities

OFFICERS:

Becky Gullette  
President

Susan Sedberry  
Vice President

Kristi Thomas  
Secretary

Charles Gillis  
Treasurer

Jill Wright  
New Class Director

Barry & Caroline  
Hughes  
2018 Class Rep.

Linda Richtsmeier  
Membership Director

Vanessa Adams Neace  
Advisor

Doug Weir  
Advisor

Spring Field Trips

Thursday, March 14- 8:30AM-1PM: Jefferson  
ISD 4th Grade

Number of Students: Approximately 100  
Location: Port Jefferson History & Nature Center  
(1-2 buses; sack lunches)  
Details: rotating classes through a series of 3  
stations focused on pollinators & habitat: collecting  
native wildflower seeds, planting native milkweed,  
learning about honeybees at the Observational  
Beehive

Friday, March 15- 8:30AM-1PM: JISD Primary  
Kindergarten

Number of Students: Approximately 100  
Location: Port Jefferson History & Nature Center  
(1-2 buses; sack lunches)  
Details: rotating classes through a series of 3  
stations focused on pollinators & habitat: collecting  
native wildflower seeds, planting native milkweed,  
learning about honeybees at the Observational  
Beehive

Thursday, March 28- 8:30AM-1PM: JISD 2nd  
Grade

Number of Students: Approximately 100  
Location: Caddo Lake SP (1-2 buses; sack  
lunches)  
Details: more detailed program info with Ranger  
Kelsey & 2 additional outdoor learning programs to  
follow later

Friday, March 29- 8:30AM-1PM: JISD 3rd Grade

Number of Students: Approximately 100  
Location: Caddo Lake SP (1-2 buses; sack  
lunches)  
Details: more detailed program info with Ranger  
Kelsey & 2 additional outdoor learning programs to  
follow later

Good news! Monarch  
overwintering  
population up 144%

World Wildlife Fund Mexico  
in collaboration with  
CONANP and the Monarch  
Butterfly Biosphere Reserve  
(MBBR) announced the total  
forest area occupied by  
overwintering monarch  
colonies today. Fourteen (14)  
colonies were located this  
winter season with a total  
area of 6.05 hectares, a 144%  
increase from the previous  
season:

[https://monarchwatch.org/bl  
og/](https://monarchwatch.org/bl<br/>og/)

6.05 hectares equal 14.9  
acres.(equals 11.3 football  
fields)

~ Mike Quinn, Austin

CARES and  
CONCERNS:

There are several of our  
members and families  
with serious health  
concerns. Some are not  
comfortable with  
sharing information at  
this time so please just  
say prayers and keep  
good thoughts for our  
CBTMN friends.

Are you  
interested in a  
CBTMN  
Cookbook?

Please go to  
[https://www.surveymo  
nkey.com/r/MS8CMS](https://www.surveymo<br/>nkey.com/r/MS8CMS)  
and answer a few  
questions! Or scan this  
QR with your phone or  
tablet.

