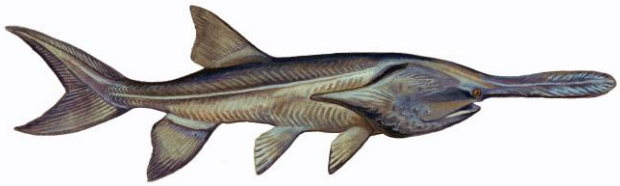
Cypress Basin Chapter – Texas Master Naturalist
Newsletter Vol. 11 No. 6 June 2019

THE PADDLEFISH



TEXAS Master Naturalist℠ Cypress Basin Chapter

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Briefings from Becky

By now you know that we have changed our June meeting to Saturday, June 8 so that we can celebrate with our 2019 Trainees as they complete their training and receive their certificates! Don't forget to RSVP to Susan's email where she requested that you let her know if you are coming and what you are bringing for the Potluck Lunch/meeting. Please try to be there by 11:30am.

After such a busy spring, it's nice to slow down a bit BUT we can't stop! The board met Saturday and discussed how to meet our ongoing chapter responsibilities as well as how we can accommodate for the usual East Texas heat and for the trips folks like to take in the summer.

SO here are some important dates and activity reminders (may not be totally inclusive)….

- June meeting is this Saturday instead of Monday.
- NO chapter meeting in July
- WORKDAY: Trail maintenance at CLNWR JULY 13
- RECIPE BOOK: Need recipes by July 15. If you are not comfortable using the CreateMyCookbook system. Send them to Caroline. We have folks who have volunteered to enter them.
- Bird Blind water feature work is ongoing.
- Blue Bird box maintenance/replacement ongoing.
- Paddling Trail sign maintenance ongoing.

In addition to the above, I know you won't forget about the various pollinator garden projects in the area and the help that might be needed at the state parks.

Looking forward to seeing you all this Saturday, June 8. **~ Becky**

BRING A RECIPE !!!

CHAPTER CELEBRATION PICNIC/MONTHLY MEETING
SATURDAY, JUNE 8th – 12 PM

We will be serving lunch to the new class and to all members who come for the monthly meeting. We are offering burgers, tacos, taco salad, and veggie burgers. We also need sides and desserts for this meal. Please let me know if you plan to join us for lunch so that we have enough food for everyone, and what dish you are bringing - please no chips, as we have LOTS left over from the flotilla.

Please have your lunch dishes at the Classroom at the Visitor's Center by 11:30AM Saturday. Stella could also use a couple more sets of hands preparing and setting out lunch - this will start about 10.

Cypress Basin Texas Master Naturalists
Minutes from May 13, 2019

Becky called meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

- Roll call by SIGN-IN SHEET;
- Sign-up sheets for hosting Training Class circulated.
- Questions about April minutes? Approval? Unanimous, stood approved as read.
- Treasurer's Report? See in newsletter. In June will talk about specific expenses. Ted moves, Unanimous approval.
- Cookbook - Caroline reported is set up and in state of dormancy awaiting recipes. She explained how to submit recipes, and we will need a lot. Deadline of August but can be pushed out.
- Certification of Dudley Swafford - Jill presented Dudley with certificate and other items.
- Memorials (Jim Ingold, Donald Swafford) - come see Becky after if you want to be involved with either of these memorials or have ideas.
    - She has info for Jim's plaque.
    - For Donald, we would like something we could visit. Start committee.
- Stella has check for Stephanie Price, to send around card.
- Phone Tree - Explains how phone tree works, last person in line confirms.
- Next meeting - June 8th was scheduled to be last, may have meeting. Will talk about projects.

Adjourned at 6:56 p.m.
.5 VT with individualized AT plus drive time

~ Submitted by Kristi Thomas, Secretary

VMS! VMS! VMS!

PLEASE don't forget to enter your hours in VMS in a timely manner. The state office is once again making some changes in that process. Our board is considering some more explicit local guidelines. You will hear more about that later <u>BUT, at this point, the best thing you can do for all involved is to enter your hours as soon as you do them or no later than 2-3 weeks after.</u>

Amazon Smile

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile smile.amazon.com, you need to select Cypress Basin Texas Master Naturalist to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. We will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

Cypress Basin Texas Master Naturalists Financial Report for May 31, 2019

Beginning Bank Balance, 04/30/2019				$ 5,819.91
Add Deposits:	Annual Dues	$ 25.00		
	Amazon Smile	24.63		
	Flotilla Cash	2,247.25		
	Flotilla Pre-registration	2,395.00		
	Flotilla Silent Auction	1,360.00		6,051.88
Less Expenses:	New Class Expense-Food	$ 158.61		
	Sign Maker Training	200.00		
	Flotilla 2019 Expenses	1,21 6.58		-1,575.19
Ending Balance, 05/31/2019				$10,296.50
			Flotilla Funds	$ 3,105.04
			General Funds	7,191.56
				$10,296.60

~Charles Gillis, Treasurer

Upcoming Events:

- Oct 5 - Weevil Wobble

2019 Meeting Dates

Aug 12
Sep 09
Oct 14
Nov 11

Fun Volunteer Opportunity

CoCoRaHS is a practical, enjoyable and useful activity. If you have an interest in weather and would like to help your local community, as well as scientists and others interested in precipitation, then CoCoRaHS is for you. It only takes a few minutes a day and gives you the chance to participate in real hands-on science. You'll be amazed at what you learn as you become more aware of the variable weather that impacts you, your neighbors, your state and our entire country.

CoCoRaHS is an acronym for the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network. It is a unique, non-profit, community-based network of volunteers of all ages and backgrounds working together to measure and map precipitation (rain, hail and snow). By using low-cost measurement tools, stressing training and education, and utilizing an interactive Web-site, our aim is to provide the highest quality data for natural resource, education and research applications. Please visit the CoCoRaHS Web page at https://www.cocorahs.org/

Identifying Juvenile Giant Salvinia

This time of year juvenile giant salvinia is easy to confuse with Frogbit. Frogbit is generally more heart shaped and a darker green as the plant matures, but new leaves (as pictured) are very similar in color to Salvinia. Salvinia has a more oval leaf and the top feels fuzzy, whereas Frogbit is smooth on top. If you are still not sure, flip the plant over and Frogbit will have what feels like a blister right where the stem attaches to the leaf.
(Courtesy of Laura Speight, Caddo Biocontrol Alliance)

Salvinia on top, Frogbit on bottom.

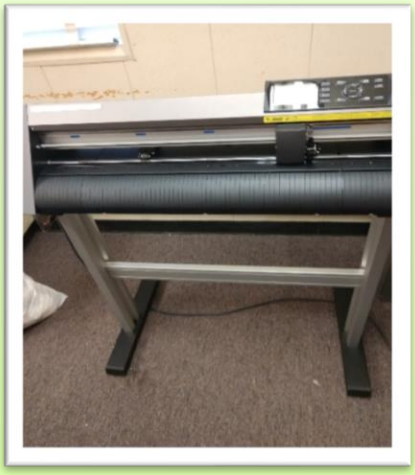
Work Day

Trail maintenance at CLNWR JULY 13

More info to come

Qe6000 Vinyl Cutter

This the vinyl cutter and laptop that was purchased with Flotilla Funds to assist with making signage for events, paddle trails, decals and even stickers!! The possibilities are endless!



Please share pictures and updates of any presentations, field trips, etc that is going on! We also can use interesting articles you come across. You can email them to cypressbasintmn@gmail.com

2019 Training Class Update!

At the May 13th monthly chapter meeting, we happily presented Dudley Swofford with his certification, pin, badge and t-shirt. We all can agree that, despite every obstacle, Dudley persevered through trials and tragedies to complete his certification requirements within the time frame that the state mandates. We all join in congratulating Dudley on his accomplishment. We are so happy that he is a member of our chapter! Bravo, Dudley!!!

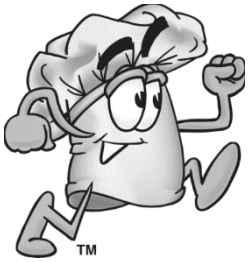
Dudley Swofford presented with his certification, pin, badge and t-shirt.

Our final training day for the 2019 class is Saturday, June 8th. The morning presentation in the Admin. building of the Caddo Lake NWR is on Plants and will be led by Dr. Vanessa Corriher-Olson, Associate Professor and Extension Forage Specialist at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research Center in Overton. The class runs from 9-11:45 am. Our trainees will enjoy a picnic lunch and fellowship with our chapter members on the deck of the Visitor's Center, starting about noon. We will have a brief June chapter meeting during this time and award our new trainees who have completed the 40 hours of initial training with their name badges and t-shirts. Following the picnic, we will resume training with an afternoon class in the Admin. building on Wetland/Forest Ecology/Mgmt. Our presenter will be Ricky Maxey from the Lake O' the Pines Army Corps of Engineers. The class will run until about 4:45. We all join in extending a warm welcome to our eleven new initiates, and we look forward to working with them throughout the year.

-- Jill Wright, New Class Director

CreateMyCookbook

Our CBTMN cookbook has been set up on createmycookbook.com, and Carolyn Hughes need lots, and lots of recipes. Please click here to add recipes to the book, or if you prefer, bring your recipes to the next meeting, and she will be happy to type them in. She has set up the following categories, so if you type in a recipe, please type in the category in which the recipe belongs:



Appetizers and Beverages
Soups, Salads, and Vegetables
Main Dishes and Casseroles
Meat, Poultry, and Seafood
Breads and Rolls
Pies, Pastry, and Desserts
Cakes, Cookies and Candy

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

Join the Bird Herd!

Looking for volunteers to help maintain the bird blinds at the refuge. As part of the blinds there is a need for the birds to be fed! If you would be interested in being part of the team to rotate and keep the feeders filled, please contact Stella,

Upcoming Events

The Weevil Wobble, a 5k run to directly benefit the Caddo Biocontrol Alliance, is planned for October 5.

Volunteer Opportunities

We are seeking volunteers to assist Texas Parks & Wildlife staff at multiple outreach events across Texas coming up this Summer & Fall.

No experience necessary – just follow the links below to sign up:

Juneteenth Celebration at Mexia - 15 June

Opening Weekend of the State Fair of Texas in Dallas

Baytown Nurture Nature Festival - 13 October

Austin Powwow - 2 November

Feel free to share this email with friends.

Hope you can join us!

Lacey Estus, CMP

Outreach & Recruitment Manager

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Lacey.Estus@tpwd.texas.gov

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