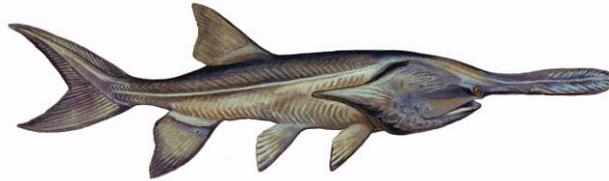




THE PADDLEFISH



Briefings from Becky

Yea, fall is here! We'll celebrate Monday, Nov 11 by having one of our always delicious Potluck Dinners at 6pm followed by a fairly short business meeting. We'll also celebrate as we award new certifications, recertification and milestones.

After the meeting the Barrows and I will provide some AT time (not more than an hour total) as we share some of what we experienced at the Annual Meeting in October at Rockwall, TX. Kay Lowery has agreed to give a presentation on iNaturalist at a future meeting. We hope that others who attended will share their favorite part of the meeting with the group. We also hope to begin thinking about possible field trips for chapter to visit other locations.

The board will meet before Christmas, but we will not have a chapter meeting until January. BUT your efforts will still be needed. Next Saturday is Youth Hunting at the Refuge. I'll be speaking with Erik Duerkop early this week to make sure we can still work at the classroom and admin buildings. I'll also confirm which, if any, of the trails we can access. It may be that we will want to schedule a different day. In addition, to our regular workday efforts we may be moving some stored items from the classroom building to the admin building. The Friends of CLNWR has agreed to let us move some of their stored furniture, etc into the admin building so that we can expand from our very cramped resource room into the adjacent. We thank the Friends and Erik for approving this move.

Can't wait to hear about your activities since our last meeting. Can't wait to enjoy that delicious food.

Happy Fall, Y'all!
Becky

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Dear TMN Friends,

Thank you so much for the visits, snacks, flowers and support during the most difficult time in my life. I'll never forget your kindness and friendship. Barry truly loved TMN and all its members, as do I.

Love, Caroline

**Cypress Basin Texas Master Naturalists
Minutes from October 14, 2019**

Call meeting to order — 6:31 p.m. by Becky Gullette

Roll call by SIGN-IN SHEET;

Questions about Sept. minutes? Approval? Stand approved.

Treasurer's Report? Wrong month on newsletter, per Tammi.

Cares and Concerns and Joys - Pam's mom, Beth's child, Barry...keep in mind how precious life is.

1. Cookbook Update — could have signing.
2. VMS —
3. Ongoing and possible chapter projects:
 - a. Trail maintenance at CLNWR — Sat Oct 19 at 9:00 a.m. Erik has arrows for trails.
 - b. CLNWR Trail familiarization — Becky
 - c. Bird Herd update — Kim Delony
 - d. Bluebird boxes at CLNWR — “Bluebird Buddies?” Sue Simmons
 - e. Paddling Trails Update— Kristi T, Barrows, Vanessa?
 - f. AT Field trips to other locations/other chapters events/etc.— ideas?
 - g. AT on “workdays”
 - h. Burn Benefit — Cal, Carol, Sheila, Linda, Becky
 - i. Water Testing Training — Participants report - Roger
 - j. Couch Mountain— no more from Vanessa until next year.
 - k. Traits Across Species' Ranges — will have survey in Jan. to get a feel for more involvement. Ideas for field trips? Send to CBTMN
4. Other volunteer opportunities
 - a. National Night Out in Marshall?? — Sedberry's, Barrows report
 - b. WEEVIL WOBBLE (Caddo Biocontrol Alliance) — participants report
 - c. LOP ? — Kristi - great event, participants very happy!
 - d. Morley Hudson workday — possibly Oct 26 (or in Nov if necessary) Clean storage room, other items.
 - e. Marion County Fair Oct 17, 18
 - f. Kay updated on what she's been doing. Roger is certified in fishing now TPWD, six hours training.
5. Updates on other volunteer activities.... Any member
6. OFFICERS for 2020 — Stella? Next meeting will be election.
7. Anything I left off -
8. Next meeting Nov 11 Potluck, last chapter meeting this year board will meet before year end.
9. Closing of meeting — adjourned with one hour VT plus travel

~Submitted by Kristi Thomas, Secretary

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

Beginning Bank Balance, 09/30/2019		\$12,607.47
Add Deposits: Memorials - Barry Hughes	\$ 500.00	
CBA Check (note 1)	400.00	
Member Dues	<u>25.00</u>	+ 925.00
Less Expenses: Project Learn	100.00	
Cookbook Project	1,264.01	
Flowers from CBTMN	<u>161.55</u>	<u>-1,525.56</u>
Ending Balance, 10/31/2019		<u>\$12,006.91</u>
.....		
Flotilla Funds	\$ 5,956.24	
General Funds	<u>6,050.67</u>	<u>\$12,006.91</u>

Note 1: EventBrite erroneously made a payment to CBTMN for \$400.00 that was actually owed to CBA. We have sent payment to CBA for \$400.00

Cookbook Report

Sales - 90 cookbooks. Fifty additional cookbooks purchased by Chapter for later sale, speakers, gifts, etc. Some additional sales have not been turned in.

Donations/Sponsorships		\$ 650.00
Cash Sales		1,780.00
Credit Card Sales		116.76
Cookbook cost		<u>-1,264.01</u>
Net Gain thus far		<u>\$1,282.75</u>

~ Submitted by Charles Gillis, Treasurer

Get your Texas Master Naturalist gear before the holidays!

We are offering our quarterly sale of Texas Master Naturalist gear through our new online apparel store. Items offered include TMN short sleeve and long sleeve shirts, ladies cut shirts, and our newest shirt design – the “What Kind of Naturalist” shirts which debuted at our Annual Meeting last month to rave reviews! Also included this time are short sleeve polos with an option to customize with chapter name!

The online store will close on **Wednesday November 27th at 5pm!** Once closed, items ordered through the site will then be collectively produced and shipped. All items will be shipped by December 18th with arrival just before the holidays. Shipping is included in the price. There are **no returns or exchanges** – please review the sizing guide carefully! Please share this link with your fellow Master Naturalists~ <https://texasmasternaturalist.itemorder.com/sale>

The next quarterly store will open in February with shipment of items in mid to late March.

The rest of our merchandise in stock at the Bookstore is still available - <https://www.agrilifebookstore.org/category-s/1841.htm>



New “What Kind of Naturalist” Shirt

OFFICER ELECTIONS

Officer Election Information from Past President Stella Barrow

Hello All!

As Past President, it is my honor to put together a slate of candidates to be your officers for 2020. (Yikes, can you believe it?) I've canvassed several members to see who is interested in being your officers. It is ENTIRELY possible that I have not talked to everyone, so PLEASE reply to me if you have an interest in being on the roster as a potential officer. The officers will be elected at the November meeting. You have plenty of time to ponder and question officers about their duties to decide if you would like to be on the ballot. I've summarized some of the duties for your review. This is not an exhaustive list and I encourage each of you to review the by-laws for lots more information.

Roles of the officers:

President: Develops and distributes meeting agendas, presides of board and chapter meetings, sign all board approved documents, presents summary of previous year accomplishments at January meeting, communicate with the members as necessary, conducts email votes as necessary, submits articles for the newsletter, and "other duties as assigned" 😊

Vice President: Assist the president and fill in for absences of president, meets with the president and board (In September) to establish dates for upcoming year, serve as director or committee chair as requested by the president, participates in the annual financial review, "other duties as assigned". 😊

Treasurer: Receive all dues and monies and maintain them in the chapter bank account, pay bills upon receipt of statement or receipt, make a financial report at all board meetings, keep hard copy files of all financial dealings for 7 years, request board approval for all expenditures over \$500. "other duties as assigned". 😊

Secretary: Conduct all necessary chapter correspondence, record, publish and preserve minute from all meetings; monthly, board, etc., keep a record of attendance to ensure a quorum is present, maintain hard copies of minutes, "other duties as assigned". 😊

Here are the candidates for the 2020 CBTMN officers:

President: Becky Gullette

Vice President: Susan Sedberry

Treasurer: Charles Gillis

Secretary: Kim Deloney

Other nominations may be taken from the floor at the November meeting, Monday, 11/11 at 6:30 pm. If you are not interested in being an officer this year, but maybe next year - please let us know. We would love to have some "trainees" in the wings.

As always, you can reach me on my cell phone for additional comments and questions:

Stella Barrow

903-736-3063

Chapter Survey

Please help us as we begin strategically looking at our Chapter in the next year. Please answer the following questions and bring to the November 11 meeting. You do not have to put your name on it.

Why did you want to become a Master Naturalist?

How are you using your training?

Where do you do most of your volunteering?

What has surprised you most about the Master Naturalist program?

What type of activities would you be interested in participating in?

What type of activities would you be interested in leading others in?

What topics would you like to see advanced training on?

Would you be interested in taking a leadership (officer) role?

How can the Chapter help you?

Anything else that you can think that might help with planning please add here.

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

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

HELP NEEDED

Ranger Kelsey Johnson at CLSP has a great VT opportunity that will give you a chance to have some "fall fun". Kelsey always does a great job with her programs. On Friday, November 15th she is hosting approximately 100 4th grade students from Sam Houston Elementary in Marshall. The field trip will be from 9AM-1:30PM, including 40 minutes for lunch. She need volunteers to arrive at 830. She already has station leaders, but is in need of extra help. Looking for some interested in being a group leader. This would not involve any instruction. They would simply be leading their assigned group from station to station. If anyone is interested, please email Kelsey Johnson at Kelsey.Johnson@tpwd.texas.gov

Thank You!!

Hattie, the weevils and I want to send out a HUGE THANKS to TMNer's Becky, Jill, Pete, James and CBA board members Ashli and Robert for coming out to the greenhouse Saturday morning! We easily removed the shade cloth and the storage unit looks AWESOME! Hattie and I can actually *walk* in it to get supplies instead of feeling like we are doing an obstacle course. Maybe even more important is when we do go in there, we can actually find what we are looking for!

We didn't find any hidden treasure in the storage shed, but it was interesting looking at some of the odd stuff in there and wondering what the heck it was for. Best of all we had FUN, so hope more of you can join us for the next "work" day.

Hattie and Laura

Volunteer at Public Lands

Don't forget to volunteer at our public lands. Helping with ranger programs or just walking the trails and picking up limbs, reporting problem trail conditions, etc. is volunteer time. That activity is especially needed at Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge. Caddo Lake State Park, Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Lake O' the Pines, Atlanta State Park may have a number of fall opportunities. Though we really want to support our service area, Daingerfield State Park is not far away from some of our members.

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.

