



THE PADDLEFISH

Briefings from Becky

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Well, this has been a busy spring and a beautiful one! Though storms have seemed frequent, we are grateful for the rain. AND we are grateful for each of you CBTMN members! You have stepped up to contribute your time, physical effort, creativity, talents and patience to the efforts of this chapter to make a difference for nature. You've helped promote appreciation, care and access to our beautiful Cypress Basin service area.

The Flotilla was amazing! Check out Stella's emails and articles in the newsletter for the details. This was our biggest Flotilla ever! Thank you Stella and Susan for being the leaders and inspirers of this event. Thank you to the all you "boots on the ground" that set-up, supervised, hosted, taxied and put it all away at the end.

Our Trail-of-the-Month at Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge for spring 2022 is a work in progress that has been successful and fun enough that we look forward to doing it again in the fall . Thank you to all who have attended prep days, participated and shared your efforts and ideas. A special thanks to advisor, Vanessa Neace. She has given much of her personal time to help us become more confident in our understanding of plant ID'ing and fire ecology.



We are beginning to make more progress on the new trail at CLNWR between the visitor center and the parade ground. Thank you to our folks who have put lots of effort into uncovering overgrown sidewalks and selecting the potential trail route. We also thank Vanessa Neace, Erik Duerkop, CLNWR manager, and John Fortune, President of Friends of CLNWR who have helped as well. There will be some other work days coming up very soon. Watch for the emails!

And we will not forget other projects like Adopt a Loop, Adopt A Paddling Trail, Bird Herd, Bluebird Buddies, Disc Golf at LOP and Linden City Park, and promotional events like Stage Coach Days. Lots of ways to serve. Be sure you take time to watch the [TMN Virtual Volunteer Fair for 2022](#) You can get hours for watching the program and you might be find projects you would be interested in.

And, don't forget our fun and AT excursions: May 14 Gregg County History Museum and Longview Arboretum and June 18th Clymer Meadow Prairie Preserve.

Thank you all for being YOU! It is great to be part of CBTMN!

~Becky Gullette, CBTMN President

"Live in the Sun. Swim in the sea. Drink in the wild air." – Ralph Waldo Emerson

**Cypress Basin Texas Master Naturalists
Financial Report for
April 1, 2022—April 30, 2022**

Beginning Bank Balance, 04/01/2022					\$ 14,797.91
Add Deposits:					
	Flotilla 22 (1)	\$6,164.00			
	Credit Card (1)	1,031.90			
	Teller Check (2)	<u>720.00</u>	\$7,915.90		
	Dues	125.00	<u>125.00</u>	+ 8,040.90	
Less Withdrawals: (3), (4)					
	Flotilla 22	\$ 321.72			
	Teller Check (2)	720.00			
	March Meeting	39.42			
	Bank Checks	27.00	<u>\$1,108.14</u>	- 1,108.14	
Ending Balance, 04/30/2022 (4)					<u>\$21,730.57</u>
	Flotilla Funds (5)	\$ 14,477.78			
	Trainee Scholarship Fund	600.00			
	General Funds	<u>6,652.79</u>			<u>\$21,730.57</u>

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- (1) Flotilla 22 and Credit cCard sales include registration, food, raffle, donation and auction.
 - (2) Teller check is for a withdrawal from the account for Flotilla day change and redeposited.
 - (3) There are outstanding Flotilla expense checks and invoices.
 - (4) A \$200 expense payment for the banner was made from cash sales on the day of the Flotilla
 - (5) A final Flotilla 22 report will be made when all outstanding EventBrite, checks and receipts are completed.

~ Submitted by Charles Gillis, CBTMN Treasurer

“A life with out love is like a year without summer.” ~Anonymus

Cypress Basin Texas Master Naturalists Minutes from April 11, 2022

Becky started meeting.

- * Introduced Penny Wilkerson TPWD. She spoke on American Black Bear. She discussed hot spots and zones and areas where bears live and roam in Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas. She encouraged reporting any sightings to INaturalist. If you come upon a bear get as big as you can waving arms. and yell loudly. She handed out her cards
- * Minutes not reported in March.(Pam absent)
- * Stella reported on flotilla
 - * Has silent auction items.
 - * 4/21 4pm finalize silent auction and raffle 4/16. Stuffing bags. 11am
- * BECKY reported TOTM for march.
 - * Will be talking to radio stations.
 - * Week of event can advertise 5times a day for \$10.
 - * Next one is Hope Cemetery Trail on April 30.
 - * May 28th Starr Ranch Trail on east loop
- * Volunteer Opportunities
 - * AT Gregg County Museum of Caddo Relics.
 - * MAY 14, TMNT Tuesdays April 12, May 10.
 - * VT STAGECOACH DAYS, MAY20,21,22
 - * VIRTUAL VOLUNTEER FAIR MAY 4,5
 - * Bluebird buddies, bird herd, ASL, APL
 - * Vanessa spoke on Clymer Meadows.
 - * Prairie meadows Possible May 21 or June18th field trip.
- * Becky reminded members that state says AT may come from online presentation as long as they include Q&A. They will also allow #TMNTuesdays to count live online or recorded.
- * Grit and determination pins will be given.
- * Susan and Caroline handed out pins to New members and recertification
- * Roger asked for volunteers for Linden planting native plants.

Meeting adjourned

VT - 45minutes for meeting Set up - 30 minutes AT - 1 hour

May Monthly Meeting

Our May 9th meeting will be held at the Main Fire Station in Marshall, 601 S. Grove Street. There is limited parking around back (the driveway is on the left side of the station as you face it). There is some parking in front of the station and the front door will be unlocked just before 6:30. Take a left inside the front door, then take a right into the kitchen area and the meeting room is just through the kitchen. Overflow parking is across the street in front of the old Life Center. If you run into any problems, call Becky at 903-692-3813. Hope you can make it!

"In every walk in nature one receives far more than he seeks." – John Muir

10th Annual Earth Day Flotilla Was A HUGE Success

A big **THANK YOU** to Stella, volunteers, sponsors, crafters and participants! Each of you played an integral part in the huge success of the 10th Annual Earth Day Flotilla. The many hours of preparation, coordination, crying, whining and prayers paid off. Words cannot express the gratitude that the Cypress Basin Chapter has for each one of you. Additionally the funds that were raised will continue a legacy long after this event in developing new and maintaining current recreational benefits of Caddo Lake. There were many newcomers to Caddo who came because of the Flotilla and vow to return again. To the sponsors, we say thank you for believing in us and partnering with us. We look forward to next year and will begin planning it soon. Additionally, if anyone has any ideas, comments, suggestions for future Flotillas please send an email to 22flotilla10@gmail.com and again **THANK YOU !!**





Holly Lake participants launching from Johnson's Ranch. Photos by Vicki Gilliland

CADDO LAKE EARTH DAY FLOTILLA SPONSORS - 2022

 <p>\$250- \$499</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dallas Caddo Hunting & Fishing Club Friends of Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge Gecko Pest Control Greater Caddo Lake Association, TX Hear's Cottage Panola College Port-A-Jon Smoothie King Taylor Mechanical Contractors, LLC 	<p>City of Uncertain</p> <p>Shady Glade Marina & RV Park</p> <p>\$500 +</p> 	 <p>\$1- \$249</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brownrigg Insurance, Patrick Rhodes Caddo Cabins, Jay & Patti Webb City of Jefferson Collins Academy Malae Harris
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A big THANK YOU! to all our Sponsors!

Thank you to all who donated, helped and participated in the 10th Annual Flotilla. Each of you has a part in maintaining the legacy of Caddo Lake



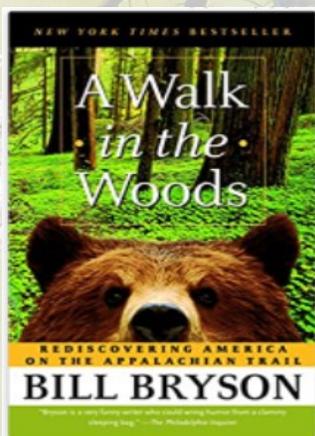
CBTMN's Trail-of-the-Month Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge May—Starr Ranch Trail

May 28 will be featuring Starr Ranch Trail. Becky will have several trainings in advance. Volunteers are needed to host on the deck and on the trail. Contact Becky Gullette, by email beckygullette71@gmail.com if interested in helping. All skill levels accepted and needed!



Constructed in 2018, the walls of this pavilion are all that remain of the old

TMNer Pamela Andrews wants to know: “How many TMNers does it take to load a truck?”



TMN Nature Book Club

The TMN Nature Book Club has been formed. We are currently reading *A Walk in the Woods*, by Bill Bryson and have set the week of May 9 to be finished with the book. Book Club will be Wednesday, May 25, at 6:00 pm. It will be at the refuge on the deck or in the classroom. Please bring a sack dinner. Anyone is still welcome to join us. Please contact Caroline if you would like to join or need more information: cahughes8@gmail.com.

Flotilla Through The Years



Earth Day Regatta 2014



Earth Day Regatta 2015



Earth Day Flotilla 2017



Earth Day Flotilla 2018



Earth Day Flotilla 2019



Earth Day Flotilla 2020

The Flotilla was cancelled in 2016 due to flooding and 2020 for Covid. I didn't find pictures for 2012-2013 and 2021.

"Spring being a tough act to follow, God created June." – *Al Bernstein*

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Susan Sedberry
Training Co-Directors

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Linda Richtsmeier
Membership Director

Vanessa Adams
Neace
Advisor

Doug Weir
Advisor

Join the Bird Herd!



Volunteers needed to maintain the bird blinds at the Refuge . Please contact Barbara.

Join Bluebird Buddies



Volunteers to help maintain the bluebird houses and counts. Please contact Mike Woodruff

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 cypress-basintmn@gmail.com

"It was for the best, so Nature had no choice but to do it." – *Marcus Aurelius*

Join Us For A Field Trip!

Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 14th, for a field trip to the Gregg County Historical Museum for a guided tour, then on to the Longview Arboretum for an outdoor lunch and a tour by Jan Barth, a TMNer from the East Texas chapter, who volunteers there regularly.

Bring a sack lunch and we will meet at 9AM at the Kroger parking lot closer to Highway 59 (kind of across from the Circle Y Liquor store) and work out carpooling. We will leave for Longview about 9:20. We probably won't be at the Arboretum much more than a couple of hours. Be sure and bring a hat and sunscreen for the Arboretum.

For those of you already in the Longview area, we plan to be at the museum by 10 when they open, and at the Arboretum by about noon, as our tour with Jan starts at 1PM.

If you haven't already, please let Susan know that you will be joining. She needs a head count for both places. You can text or call her at 972-890-3620 or email wssedberry@sbcglobal.net.

2022 Meeting Dates

May 9 – Marshall Fire Station

June 13 – Caddo Lake State Park

Aug 8– Kellyville

Sept 12 – Potluck at Transportation Center

Oct 10 – Marshall Fire Station

Nov 14 -Caddo Lake State Park

Dec – No meeting



Join us Tuesday, May 10th at 12:00pm CST to welcome our own Richard Heilbrun, presenting: **Crossing the Finish Line: Recovering America's Wildlife Act**

A bill winding through Congress is about to cross the finish line, and we need to mobilize the entire conservation community. Every TXMN has a role to play here, as Recovering America's Wildlife Act would bring \$55 million each year to Texas, and \$1.3 billion nationwide for fish, wildlife, and nature education. This is huge, transformational funding that could reverse species and habitat declines, and finally address nature deficit disorder by investing in nature education and getting more people outside. We need your help to cross the finish line this month, and help us secure the future of 12,000 species of concern! Richard Heilbrun, from the TMN State Program, will discuss what is needed in this final push, and how it will benefit rare species and TMN chapters specifically. This bill won't get passed unless we all get involved!

Follow us:



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