



From Jan Deatheridge

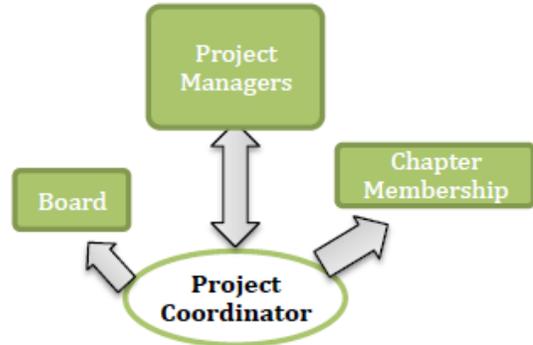
## Elm Fork Chapter

### PROJECT COORDINATOR Job Description

This important position within the chapter serves as a conduit between the Project Managers, Chapter Membership and the Board of Directors.

Our organization’s mission is enabled by this role so that our work can be accomplished efficiently and our members are able to use their time and talent effectively.

*To start a new project*, the PC receives the request from a member and reviews to determine if it is compliant with our mission. The criteria for compliance are provided in our Chapter Management and Operating Protocol Document. Upon initial review, the request form is presented to the Board, (usually by the member and PC) for discussion and approval. From there, it is given a new project number for VMS tracking. The member assumes the role of Project Manager.



Periodically, the PC requests and receives information from the PMs regarding their projects and keeps the Board and Chapter Membership updated as needed.

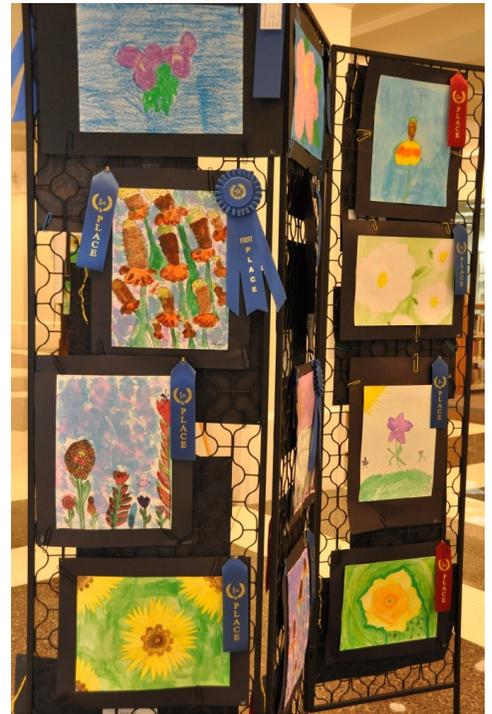
*For budget planning*, an annual or semiannual recap of project specific expense is reviewed and provided to the Treasurer. The PC discusses budgetary allocations with PMs for the upcoming year’s budget so they can plan accordingly.

*Chapter membership is informed* of the projects’ progress and volunteer needs. Project descriptions are furnished to the Webmaster who will post on the website so all members can learn more about what projects are available. The PC may be asked to help coordinate the PMs’ efforts for outreach at our Open House and with our Training program.

*PC attends Board meetings as a voting member* and participates in Chapter leadership.

*Skills that are helpful* include having an interest in learning about our many projects and the people who make them happen. This role allows one the unique opportunity to be at the hub of this meaningful wheel of our chapter.

*From Marilyn Blanton Project Manager Texas Native  
Plant Art Exhibition P-100513*



The Texas Native Plant Art Exhibition 2016 is on display now through the end of January at the Blagg-Huey Library at TWU. The library staff reports that it's one of their favorite exhibits. Here's a few photos from the library.

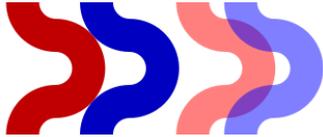


**From Van Elliott, Project Manager**

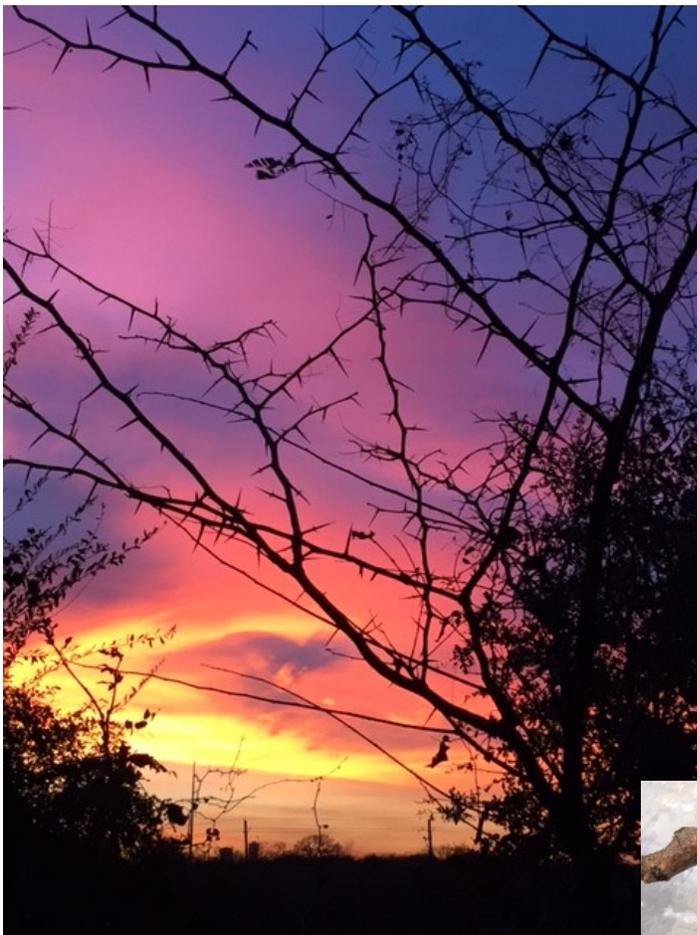
**Project 160211** - Ag Office MN Volunteers - 21 volunteers donated 1,109 service hours and provided assistance to 1,562 people.

**Project 151112** - Denton County Admin Complex - 7 volunteers donated 186 service hours. No contact info is collected on this project.

All of this work was assisting Denton County employees provide service to the citizens of Denton county.



**Learning Curve—Features**



**HONEY LOCUST  
(Gleditsia triacanthos)**

**As quoted from Benny J. Simpson's A FIELD GUIDE TO TEXAS TREES, this native tree can also be commonly called Sweet Locust, Thorny Locust, Sweet Bean Tree, Sweet Locust and Honey Shucks Locust.**

**The 12- to 18-inch-long fruit pods form in late summer and early autumn and are eagerly eaten by cattle, deer, and other animals.**

**The vicious three-pronged thorns of Honey Locust can sometimes be 12 inches long, although some trees are thornless. It occurs on rich soils in the eastern third of Texas.**



*Photos and article from Dorothy Thetford*

Guest contributor—Steve Houser

## Urban Forestry—in the City of Dallas?



A Department of Urban Forestry in the City of Dallas—are you kidding? Dallas is not known for being a tree friendly city, but with years of citizen persistence, Dallas has established a division of urban forestry! As you can imagine, those who have pushed for so many years are still dancing in the streets!

What does it take to change a pro-development, “keep the dirt flying” city? Persistence and a belief that if you push hard enough on a rock for a long time, it will eventually move. Being a group of stubborn, hard headed, pain in the arse volunteers...helps as well. The history of events leading to this accomplishment is long and somewhat contorted.

In 1986, the City of Dallas approved a landscape ordinance, and in 1994, a tree ordinance was passed and added to the Dallas development codes. A chief arborist and two staff arborists were hired for enforcement. Unfortunately, the tree ordinance allowed, and continues to allow all trees to be removed from a site, requiring mitigation (or replacement) for only top-rated tree species.

In 1995, a local hospital wanted to remove 70 large old trees including two very large bur oaks. A significant number of people took exception to the plans and formed the Dallas Historic Tree Coalition to oppose the project and encourage the preservation of trees. It was the first major public battle over trees in Dallas and the coalition purchased two full-page ads in the *Dallas Morning News*, put up billboards around the hospital, hired a hospital architect to review the plans, and ultimately preserved two-thirds of the trees, including the two big bur oaks. It was the first of a great number of battles over trees that persist to this day.

In 2004, the Dallas Historic Tree Coalition (now the Texas Historic Tree Coalition) successfully lobbied the city and the Texas Forest Service for assistance in hiring Dallas’ first urban forester. In 2005, the Texas Historic Tree Coalition successfully lobbied the city to establish the City of Dallas Urban Forest Advisory Committee (UFAC) as a permanent and integral part of city government. UFAC serves in an advisory capacity on matters of environmental stewardship, specifically concerning the urban forest by advocating sound arboricultural and forest management practices. The group of volunteer professionals provide proactive leadership for the development of public policy and serve to educate the public about the many benefits of a thriving urban forest.

In 2008, the city’s Quality of Life Committee, which contains half of the city council, was briefed on many tree and forestry related subjects including the dire need for an urban forestry department. The city council committee requested another briefing on how a new forestry division would fit into city government. UFAC met with all the council members on the committee and all but one, agreed to support the effort. It took a number of months to get back on the agenda in 2009. The city’s Park Department director and assistant director, along with UFAC provided a presentation. Unfortunately, the economy was taking a downturn and the council turned down the request.

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The rusty patched bumblebee, or *Bombus affinis*, is now the first US bumblebee placed on the endangered species list, the *Guardian* reports. [www.foxnews.com/science](http://www.foxnews.com/science)