

# CROSS TIMBERS CHAPTER

of the NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY of TEXAS\*\*\*\*\*

To Promote the Conservation, Research & Use of Native Plants & Plant Habitats of Texas through Education, Outreach & Example\*\*\*\*\*

## Greetings From the President

Spring is officially here! Let's have rain, but no severe weather, okay. It's sure greening up on our place and the weeds (oops I mean native flora) are growing. Bone up on your native plant selections so you can advise your neighbors on good choices.

Last months meeting was outstanding! The butterfly lady was excellent.

April's meeting will be on the trees of the cross timbers region. So come with all your questions about trees. May will be hummingbird month. What a lineup of speakers.

Thanks, Jan. Don't forget the trip to Dottie Woodson's place. It will be worth the trip!

The propagation seminar was well received and we learned a lot. Thanks to those of you that attended. Your support for the club makes what we do all worthwhile. Jan was quite the hostess and shared many of her plants with us, not to mention her cooking.

Duane Smith

## Plant Propagation Class

The Cross Timbers Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas (NPSOT) met at the home of Jan Daniels on March 22nd for a Plant Propagation Class taught by Plant Propagation Specialist Marilyn Sallee. The class toured Jan's lush property selecting a variety of plants to propagate. The native plants chosen included Texas Gold Columbine, Stork's-Bill, Western White Honeysuckle, Coral Honeysuckle, Coralberry, American Beauty Berry, and Carolina Buckthorn. Additional plants chosen included Rose of Sharon, mondo grass, lamb's ear, raspberry, and fig.

After a break with a delicious assortment of snacks prepared by Jan, the class resumed in the front yard under a large oak tree. Marilyn began with the basics of planting medium and care of newly propagated plants. Next she showed the class how to research the techniques used to propagate each plant. Then the class practiced these techniques on the cuttings taken from Jan's yard.

After a fun day of learning, the class loaded up their newly planted cuttings in hope of adding these plants to their properties.

Richard & Eileen Porter

## Meeting Minutes for March 13, 2008

Meeting was called to order by president Duane Smith at 7:00 pm.

Old Business: An information update was given by president on bender greenhouses, and plans can be discussed with anyone interested in building one.

Propagation seminar is scheduled for March 22 at the home of Jan Daniels from 10 am to 2 pm. Bring plants for cuttings and a sack lunch. Bill Hopkins will email directions to Jan's home.

A field trip is being planned at the home of Dottie Woodson on April 19 at 12:30pm. We are to meet at the greenhouse on Boat Club Road. Directions will be emailed.

New Business: Any changes in email address and such should be given to the state organization.

To clarify the status of Cross Timbers NPSOT, we are an educational group, not a garden club.

Drawing was held for plants that were brought. Speaker was Joann Karges and the slide presentation was on butterflies. It was a great program with lots of beautiful pictures and much information on butterflies.

Two books that were recommended for further study were : A Field Guide to Butterflies and Moths from St. Martins Press, and Butterflies of North America- Kaufman Focus Guide by Jim Brock and Kenn Kaufman.

Thanks Joann for such an informative presentation! Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Kate Measures, Secretary

Native Plant Sale On the south side of McKinney is one of Texas brightest jewels, "The Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary". They will have a Native Plant Sale , April 12 & 13. This is one of the best native plant sales in North Central Texas. Richard & Eileen Porter

Parker County Master Gardeners Assoc. Plant Sale Not all native plants but there should be enough to make it worth while to check out. It will be from 8 a.m. to about noon Saturday, April 12 at the Parker County Agricultural Services Building, 604 N. Main in Weatherford. Most of the Gardeners involved in this sale have experience in "Wildscaping".

**Landowners Workshop at Doss Heritage and Culture Center** This was an event sponsored by the Nature Conservancy of Texas. Several of our chapter members attended on a Saturday afternoon March 29<sup>th</sup>. We were presented with an incredible range of information from experts from a variety of organizations and agencies

The workshop was titled "Ranching for the Future". This was a first of its type in this area and very timely. Gene and Kathleen Walker own 285 acres close to the Brazos in south Parker County that goes back several generations.

They were concerned about the property being broken up into tracts after they were gone and were determined to protect its natural features. A "Conservation Easement" was worked out with the help the Texas Nature Conservancy. Gene and Kathleen were very pleased on how it all worked out for all of the family.

With the rapid urban growth and oil and gas development in the Barnett Shale the Walkers are an outstanding example of landowners who may want to keep family lands intact and protect the natural integrity of their land. As the Walkers have oil, gas and pipeline issues with their property they were nice enough to share with the participants some excellent information on how to set up a long term revenue plan for the family and still protect the surface areas of the property as well as the ground water.

Other topics included \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) Protecting our watersheds through sustainable grazing.
- 2) The rare species of our native prairies in this area.
- 3) The benefits of native grasses.
- 4) Fire ecology and the benefits of landowner cooperatives .
- 5) Healthy grasslands and wildlife management.

Anyone interested in protecting their property for the future use of their family and biological diversity should try to attend one of these workshops.

Presenters , Orgs. and business's included the following-Laura Johnson, Jim Eidson, Jason Wrinkle, David Bezanson all of the Nature Conservancy; Robert Potts of the Dixon Water Foundation; Amanda Neill and Bob O'Kennon of Botanical Research Institute of Texas; Ty Bartoskewitz biologist with Texas Parks and Wildlife; Ken Adair Attorney with Harris, Finley & Bogle; Bill Fuller a Parker County landowner of Fuller Capital Management, with NAI Huff Partners and underwriters of the workshop.  
Jerry Reedy

### **The Fort Worth Prairie a changing landscape**

The land west of Fort Worth is home to some of Texas' last large remnants of tall grass prairie. These ancient, never-plowed grasslands support rare plants, some found nowhere else on Earth. This prairie and wooded Cross timbers lie atop the Barnett Shale, one of the largest natural gas fields in the nation and a crucial source of revenue for area landowners. Spanning an estimated 5,000 square miles, the Barnett Shale is one of the most important geological features in the region and an integral part of the economy that supports millions of Texans. For many landowners, income from natural gas ensures continued land ownership and supplements revenue from ranching or farming. Income derived from the Barnett Shale helps maintain traditional land uses and preserves the rural character of the region by allowing landowners to avoid selling family ranches to residential or commercial developers.

Unfortunately, energy development impacts the natural resources—land, water and vegetation —that ranching and wildlife management depend on. Extracting natural gas puts tremendous stress on the land and the plants and wildlife it supports.

This pressure takes many forms. The first and most obvious is the fragmentation of intact lands. Gas wells are located on pad sites often as large as three to five acres. The roads constructed to service those wells must be large enough to accommodate multi-axle vehicles such as semi-trailer trucks. Ranches in the Barnett Shale area are further fragmented by pipelines constructed to support the gas wells. This fragmentation and increased vehicle traffic encourages the spread of unwanted invasive and non-native plant species, which can displace native grassland and impact wildlife, including desirable game species such as bobwhite quail. Fortunately there are working solutions and a variety of options to lessen the impact of these operations with smart, careful planning and consultation with knowledgeable professionals. The Nature Conservancy Guide for Texas Landowners

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### Plant of the Month: Western NC Texas

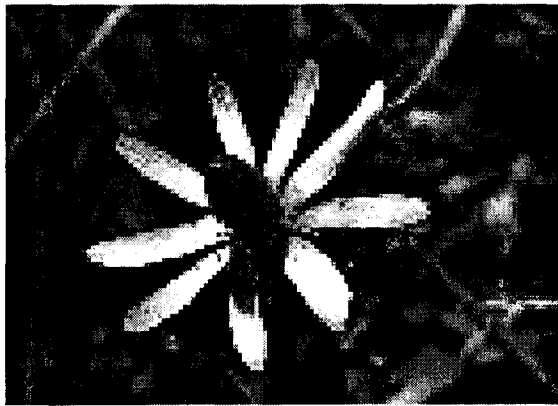
Genus: Anemone-----Several Possible Species or var.(1) heterophylla (2)berlandieri (3) edwardsiana (4) okennonii ---Common names: Windflower or Ten-petal Anemone from the Crowfoot family: Ranunculaceae

This pretty little single white flower has been blooming in my lawn this March among the dandelions. It is one of the most common wildflowers of the Edwards Plateau and other parts of central and northern Texas, and it is often the very first to bloom in the early spring.

The flowers, which vary from white to violet-purple within the same patch (white being the majority), can be seen scattered to abundant in grassy open areas, including roadsides and lawns. There is an excellent picture of a heterophylla on page 82 of Geyata Ajilvsgi's Field Guide "Wildflowers of Texas".

The flowers are usually solitary up to 1.3/4" across at the tip of stalk rising from tuberous rootstock. This perennial flower opens wide in the sun and will close on cloudy days.

Jerry Reedy



### CROSS TIMBERS Member Perks 10% discount at Stuart's Nursery

### CROSS TIMBERS Meetings

We meet Second Thursday of the month except July-Aug & Dec at the Harberger Hill Community Building 701 Narrow St. in Weatherford, Texas Social at 6:30 P.M.  
Come to Order at 7:00 P.M.

### STATE NPSOT OFFICE

Web Site [www.npsot.org](http://www.npsot.org)

OUR WEBSITE (case-sensitive)

<http://www.npsot.org/CrossTimbersChapter>

To retrieve the Newsletter Select @ and open with MS Word or PDF reader such as Adobe .

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—We welcome all news or stories from our members about native plants in the Western Cross Timbers area  
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**Editor**---Jerry Reedy

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[www.tpwd.state.tx.us/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/) has lots of information on native plants