

# CROSS TIMBERS CHAPTER

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

## Greetings From the President

Hello Everybody!

The Newsletter is late this month because the President over committed and let the end of the month sneak up on him! Other than that, I hope all is well in your neck of the woods. Fall has fell at our place. The trees are starting to turn and the Beauty berry is showing signs of settling into winter. The Carolina Buckthorn are covered in seeds and the deer are putting on their winter coats.

It appears all is going well with the Symposium in the Big Thicket, and the plans are progressing for the next two Symposiums in North Texas. There will be plenty of opportunity to get involved as time progresses.

Our program for October will require a little walking around the Harbarger Hill Community Center. Earl Hogan will be doing a walking tour showcasing the native plants around the center.

We are reinstating the "plant raffle". Bring a native plant if you can to help the club. (Even if you have to imitate your president and go by Stuarts Nursery and buy it.)

It appears that the Nominating Committee has come up with a slate of officers that will be presented at the October meeting and voted on at the November meeting. Please be involved.

I'd like to thank everybody for allowing me to serve as president these last two years. A special thanks goes to all the officers. I know you were all busy and had a lot on your plate, but you gave of yourself and your time to make these past two years a success. Now it's time to look to the future. We have sown the seeds of the native plant message: now it's time to water it, cultivate it and watch it spread throughout our community. We educate ourselves and then educate others!

See you on Thursday, October 9th!

Duane

## Meeting Minutes for September 11, 2008

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice President Jan Daniels. Jan introduced Master Naturalist Marilyn Sallee, who presented the program for the evening. Marilyn gave a very informative slide show and valuable information on invasive plants of Texas. She is coordinator for the Cross Timbers Invaders, a Texas Invaders Program administered by the LBJ Wildflower Center. A question and answer session followed, and all agreed it was a very interesting and educational presentation.

After a short break, we reconvened at 8:00 for the regular business meeting.

**Old Business:** We were reminded that the election of officers for the coming year will be held in November. Eileen Porter and Helen Sisney volunteered to serve on the committee and seek those willing to serve.

**New Business:** The 2009 symposium will be hosted by Wichita Falls, and we discussed the idea of a day trip or two for various events. The 2010 symposium will be held in

Denton. As was noted in September's newsletter, a meeting was held in August to discuss "How to on Symposium 2010. Jan and Eileen attended and many areas were covered on how to get our message out to the public.

Details for programs for the remainder of the year and into 2009 were discussed. Several events are on the agenda, including a nature hike in October and a presentation on rare plants of Texas in November.

Jerry Reedy resigned as newsletter publisher but will continue to serve through November 2008.

Linda Morgan will continue as Treasurer for another year but requested assistance as necessary.

**Announcements:** A sign up sheet was on the table for those who will attend the luncheon and tour of Clark Gardens (for free) in April 2009. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Kate Measures, Secretary  
Rare Plants of Texas

Co-author to Speak at Cross Timbers Chapter of NPSOT

The Cross Timbers Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas (NPSOT) is pleased to present a program by Jason Singhurst, the co-author of the recently published Rare Plants of Texas. The meeting is Thursday, November 13th at the Harberger Hill Community Building, 701 Narrow Street in Weatherford at 6:30 pm. Non-members are welcome and light refreshments will be served.

In an overview of the Rare Plants of Texas, Jason will present who funded the book and why Texas Parks and Wildlife Department initiated the project. He will lead a discussion of several rare plants in north Texas, their biology and habitat restrictions. Then he will inform the audience what they can do to gather information and conserve rare plants and the biodiversity of the Texas flora.

Jason Singhurst received a B.S. and a M.S. in Agricultural Science from Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas. He has conducted field-oriented research on the vegetation ecology of the West Gulf Coastal Plain for the past 14 years.

His expertise includes natural areas inventory, plant community ecology, plant taxonomy, land management, and field surveys in eastern Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Kansas. He has served as a botanist/ecologist in Texas for the past 12 years with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. He has described two plant species new to science that are endemic (restricted) to Texas. Mr. Singhurst has in-depth experience with vegetation mapping, aerial photo-interpretation, descriptive vegetation classification, and natural resource surveys on public and private lands. He has extensive field knowledge and experience with rare plant species in Texas. He has published over 40 scientific publications and in 2008 co-authored a book on Rare Plants of Texas.

Richard & Eileen

**PUBLICATION:** Fruitless Fall - The Collapse of the Honey Bee and the Coming Agricultural Crisis new book out, you may be interested

Many people will remember that Rachel Carson predicted a silent spring, but she also warned of a fruitless fall, a time when there was no pollination and there would be no fruit. That fruitless fall has nearly arrived as beekeepers have watched a third of the honey bee population mysteriously die over the past two years. Rowan Jacobsen uses the mystery of Colony Collapse Disorder to tell the bigger story of bees and their essential connection to our daily lives. With their disappearance, we won't just be losing honey. Industrial agriculture depends on honey bees to pollinate most fruits, nuts, and vegetables more than a third of the food we eat. Yet this system is falling apart. The number of these professional pollinators has become so inadequate that they are now trucked across the country and flown around the world, pushing them ever closer to collapse. By exploring the causes of CCD and the even more chilling decline of wild pollinators, Fruitless Fall does more than just highlight this growing agricultural crisis. It emphasizes the miracle of flowering plants and their pollination partners, and urges readers not to take for granted the Edenic garden Homo sapiens has played in since birth. Our world could have been utterly different and may be still. You can see a description of the book at: <http://www.rowanjacobsen.com/books/fruitless-fall> <http://www.rowanjacobsen.com/books/fruitless-fall>

**Bear Creek Ranch Fieldtrip (Parker Co.)**  
**Bear Creek Ranch -Tallgrass Prairie Fieldtrip Sponsors :** Cross Timbers Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist Program and Dixon Water Foundation  
**Location :** 2701 Bear Creek Road, Aledo, Texas (Parker County)  
**Date:** Saturday - OCT. 25, 2008  
**Time:** 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM  
**Leaders:** Robert J. O'Kennon (BRIT). Jim Varnum (TMN) and Dean Marquardt (TPWD private lands biologist)  
**RSVP IS REQUIRED**  
**Contact person - Nancy Smith, [nanscape@airmail.net](mailto:nanscape@airmail.net) <<mailto:nanscape%40airmail.net>> (Phone: 817-454-1033)**

**Directions :**  
From intersection of I-20 and Hwy 377 (Benbrook), Travel Southwest on Hwy 377 (thru Benbrook and Wheatland) 8.8 miles to Kelly Road, Turn RIGHT onto Kelly Rd, Travel North on Kelly Rd 1 mile, Turn LEFT onto Bear Creek Road, the Ranch Gate is on the LEFT, 2.5 miles from Kelly Road  
Number of participants is not limited at this time. Transportation will be provided to various sites.  
We will be walking on trails and uneven ground. Restroom facilities are available at the Ranch.  
Bring water, snacks, camera and wear boots, long pants, and cap or hat. You are welcome to bring lunch and eat at the ranch after the fieldtrip.

Come enjoy the beautiful tallgrasses and native plants on part of the beautifully scenic Fort Worth Tallgrass Prairie as we roam a 1700 acre working cattle ranch in Parker County. Experience a diversity of truly native habitats located 5 miles South of Aledo, Texas. The ranch includes streams, forests , and native tallgrass prairie. If time permits, we will explore all three habitats The ranch, known as "Bear Creek Ranch", is owned by the Dixon Water Foundation.

**GREAT PLANTS FOR A WILDSAPES LANDSCAPE**  
Jason McKenzie -Pineywoods Nursery  
**BIRDS OF THE UPPER TEXAS GULF COAST**

Glenn Olsen - Instructor, Houston Audubon Society, Native Plant Society

**WHAT WILDLIFE FOOD LOOKS LIKE**  
(A visual presentation based on Doug Tallamy's book "Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens")  
Flo Hannah -Senior Sanctuary Steward, Houston Audubon Society

**FEE:** \$30 per person (\$25 for Native Plant Society members) ; Registration deadline 10/6/08. Sponsored by the Native Plant Society of Texas-Houston and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Proceeds support school habitats, grants, education and more.

**Tallgrass Prairie Fieldtrip Oct 25th**  
Please consider this great fieldtrip. If you have not seen Bear Creek Ranch, you must go. Participants will ride a hay wagon to various sites on the ranch at which they will be lead by a botanist on a walk through a beautiful tallgrass prairie. Do not miss this unique experience.  
Eileen Porter

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**Leaders:** Botanist to be determined  
**RSVP IS REQUIRED**

**Contact person - Nancy Smith, (Phone: 817-454-1033)**  
**Directions :** From intersection of I-20 and Hwy 377 (Benbrook), Travel Southwest on Hwy 377 (thru Benbrook and Wheatland) 8.8 miles to Kelly Road, Turn RIGHT onto Kelly Rd, Travel North on Kelly Rd 1 mile, Turn LEFT onto Bear Creek Road, the Ranch Gate is on the LEFT, 2.5 miles from Kelly Road  
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### 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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### OFFICERS—

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