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# The Grama Gazette

Newsletter of the Native Plant Society of Texas  
Garland Chapter

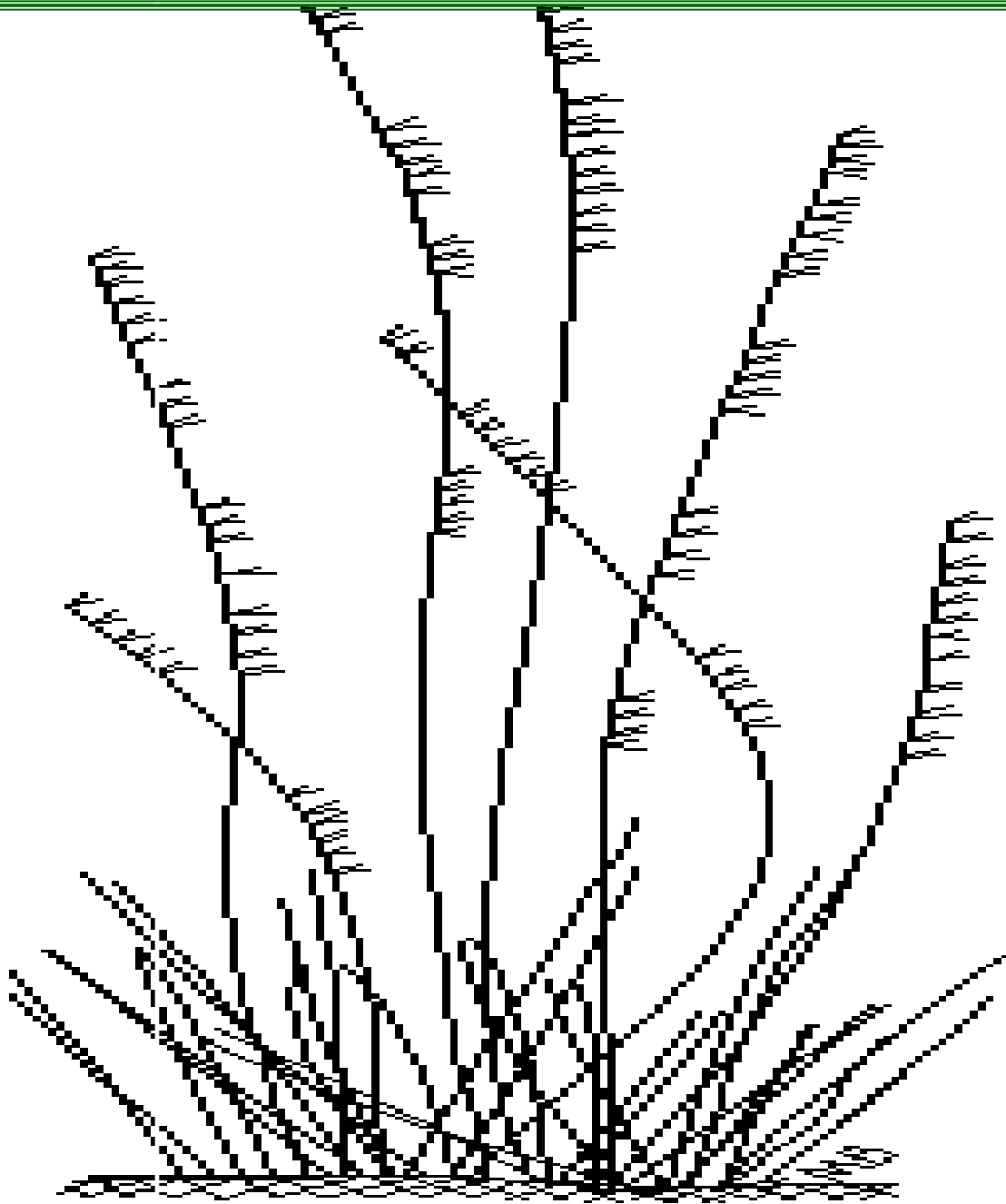
[www.npsot.org/garland](http://www.npsot.org/garland)

Volume XII Issue III

March 2010

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## Sideoats Grama

(*Bouteloua curtipendula*)

Enjoys full sun;

grows two to three feet tall with attractive seed heads on one side of the stem;  
attracts birds and butterflies;

Is the state grass of Texas

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# Community Events

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THURSDAY, March 18 7:00 PM

Giant Spiders by Stanley Schulz of the Tarantula & Arachnid Group - TRAC Free Thursday  
Join Stanley Schulz, co-author of The Tarantula Keepers Guide., and member of the DFW Tarantula & Arachnid Group, for a look at these mysterious creatures. Everyone is also welcome to enjoy nature crafts, animal encounters, and guided hikes over 4 miles of accessible trails.

Attention - March 18 one of Trinity River Audubon Center Free Third Thursdays - no admission fee from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM.

Location - 6500 South Loop 12, Dallas, TX 75217

TRAC web site - <http://www.trinityriveraudubon.org>

Jim will be at TRAC at 10:00 AM for an informal nature walk. RSVP if you want to come along.

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SATURDAY - March 20 9:00 AM and 1:30 PM

Free Spring 2010 Dallas Water Utilities Water-Wise Landscape Seminars

Water-Wise Landscape Design 101 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Whether you have a new landscape or plan to update an existing area, it is critical to begin with a good design. This program teaches the principles of landscape design with an emphasis on how to create a beautiful landscape that will save resources - natural and financial!

Fantastic Plants for North Texas 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Using colorful photographs, Bonnie demonstrates the natural beauty of native and adapted plants that thrive in the North Texas region. Learn when, where and how to plant each of the recommended plants, their size and height at maturity, seasonal color, texture and more. This program provides information on trees, shrubs, vines, perennials, groundcovers and turf grasses.

Landscape designer and author Bonnie Reese will be the speaker at both sessions. The first 100 attendees at each session will receive a copy of Ms. Reese's book, "Common-Sense Landscaping." Attendees can also enter a drawing for a free 60-gallon rain barrel at the end of each session.

Making a reservation - Space is limited, please register online at [SaveDallasWater.com](http://SaveDallasWater.com) or by calling 214/670-3155. Let us know which seminar(s) you would like to attend, and how many will be attending in your group.

Location - Brookhaven College Performance Hall, 3939 Valley View Lane, Farmers Branch 75244

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SATURDAY, March 20 9:00 - noon

Cedar Ridge Preserve - Conservation in Action Workday

Come and join in the fun as we work in the butterfly garden and on the trails, and perform other chores. Water and snacks will be provided. Wear sturdy boots or shoes with good ankle support and bring gloves if you have them though we will also have some available. Bring a friend!

Location - Cedar Ridge Preserve, 7171 Mountain Creek Parkway, Dallas 75229.

Information - [www.dutubondallas.org](http://www.dutubondallas.org)

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SATURDAY, March 20 2:00 pm

TDG - Organic University - Vermicomposting

Worms play a vital role in cold composting. They can eat junk mail, paper bags, food scraps, and yard waste. Build your own worm bin. Great if you have a small -or no--outdoor space!

# More Community Events!

Location - Texas Discovery Gardens, Fair Park, Dallas

To register, call Barb at 214-428-7476 x 343 or email [Booking](#).  
For detailed questions, call Blake at 214-428-7476 x 340.

Cost - \$20, \$16 members

TDG Web site - [www.texasdiscoverygardens.org](http://www.texasdiscoverygardens.org)

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SATURDAY, March 20 1:00 p,  
River Legacy Living Science Center - Companion Planting & Organic Pest Control  
Organic gardening consultant Lucy Harrell will discuss complete insect and disease control in your landscape.  
Cost is \$5.

Location - River Legacy Living Science Center, 703 NW Green Oaks Blvd, Arlington, TX 76006

RSVP to : 817.860.6752

Information - [www.riverlegacy.org](http://www.riverlegacy.org)

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SUNDAY, March 21 2:00 pm

Monthly meeting of Garland Chapter of NPSOT - TBA

Location - Rohde's Nursery, 1651 Wall Street, Garland, North of 635, off Garland Road, 972-864-1934, Mapsco 29T.

Information - [www.npsot.org/Garland](http://www.npsot.org/Garland)

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TUESDAY, March 23 7:00 pm

PTAS meeting - Guess Who's Coming to Dinner: spring neotropical migrant warblers by Dr. Doug Wood

Monthly meeting of Prairie and Timbers Audubon meeting

Dr. Wood is a associate professor of Zoology at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Location - Heard Natural Science Museum, McKinney

Information - <http://prairieandtimbers.org>

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THURSDAY, March 25 7:00 PM

NPSOT-Trinity Forks (Denton) meeting - "Cross Timbers"

Monthly meeting of the Trinity Forks (Denton) Chapter of NPSOT

Speaker - TBA

Location - Texas Woman's University, Denton.

More information, parking and directions <http://www.npsot.org/TrinityForks>

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FRIDAY, March 26 7:00 PM

NTMN - Amphibian Watch - Sunset Bay, White Rock Lake

Description - Come on out to White Rock Lake and help MN Barbara Turner with her Amphibian Watch. Actually, it's an amphibian "listen", since we ID the frogs by their croaks. Barbara sends data to TPWD for their statewide Amphibian monitoring efforts.

Location - Sunset Bay on east side of White Rock Lake. From Buckner Blvd, take Poppy to Lawther. Turn left and go to the parking near the dock. Come early: bring binoculars and look at the birds.

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# Even More Community Events!

SATURDAY, March 27 9:00 - 11:00 AM

Connemara Meadow - Habitat Walk with MN Rich Jaynes

Join TMN Naturalist and Environmental Scientist, Rich Jaynes, to explore and understand the management plans for the four habitat areas of the Connemara Meadow Preserve - a riparian zone along Rowlett Creek that is important as a wildlife corridor; the floodplain grasslands and wetlands in the lower meadow, the hedgerows along perimeter and interior fence lines established during agricultural use, and upland grasslands are located in the upper meadow which has a terrace system from earlier agricultural use

Location - Connemara Meadow, east side of Alma Rd just south of Bethany Dr

Please RSVP to [RSVP@connemaraconservancy.org](mailto:RSVP@connemaraconservancy.org)

Connemara web site - <http://www.connemaraconservancy.org>

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SATURDAY, March 27 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Take a Hike

Ft. Worth Nature Center - field trip with TMN Jeff Quayle

Join CTMN Jeff Quayle for a early spring walk at the Fort Worth Nature Center on the Canyon Ridge Trail. Some early spring blooming trees and shrubs we might see include Mexican Plum, Thicket Plum, Mexican Buckeye, Redbud, Skunkbush, Rusty Blackhaw and numerous other early spring blooming plants. This will be about a 3 to 3.5 mile hike with moderate difficulty.

Location - Ft. Worth Nature Center & Refuge - 9601 Fossil Ridge Road, Fort Worth, TX 76135 . Directions are on the web site.

Ft. Worth Nature Center web site - [www.fwnaturecenter.org](http://www.fwnaturecenter.org)

Please RSVP to Jeff at [s-quaylei@earthlink.net](mailto:s-quaylei@earthlink.net), Also for directions and a plant list the FWNC&R.-----

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*Please join us for our January meeting of the NPSOT, Garland Chapter,  
Featuring:*

**Susan Flanagan  
Dallas County Master Gardener**

*Presenting*

**“Native That Plants Open A World”**

March 21, 2010

Meeting/Question & Answer Time at 2 pm

Program begins at 2:30 pm

Rohde's Nature Store and Nursery

1651 Wall Street

Garland

972-864-4445

*Please bring a friend!*

# More Community Events!

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SATURDAY, March 27 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

NPSOT-Cross Timbers chapter - Annual Native Plant Sale – Clark Gardens (Mineral Wells)

Location - Clark Gardens Botanical Park, 567 Maddux Road, Weatherford, Texas 76088

Clark Gardens Web site - <http://www.clarkgardens.org>

NPSOT-Cross Timbers web site - <http://www.npsot.org/CrossTimbers/index.htm>

**Texas Discovery Gardens: 214-428-7476 or visit the website at [www.texasdiscoverygardens.org](http://www.texasdiscoverygardens.org)**

**Now open daily from 10 am to 5 pm** (with the exception of New Year's Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas). The last Rosine Smith Sammons Butterfly House & Insectarium admission is sold at 4:15 pm daily. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors, \$4 for children ages 3-11, and free for ages 2 and under.

**Texas Discovery Gardens unveils new exhibit, “The Nature of Flowers,” by local artist Sharen Chatterton**

Join us for a stroll through a garden of vibrant flowers and butterflies—captured on canvas—with the inaugural exhibit for local artist and gardener Sharen Chatterton.

Chatterton paints almost exclusively in acrylic, utilizing the bright colors to create garden scenes full of life. Her effervescent paintings draw viewers in and encourage them to leave with a smile. Both kids and art lovers will enjoy looking at colorful butterflies and flowers, in addition to the occasional still life.

**Opening Reception: March 26, from 6 pm to 8 pm.** Admission to the opening reception is complimentary. The butterfly house will be closed.

**When:** March 22 through July 31, 10 am to 5 pm

**Where:** Texas Discovery Gardens ' Gallery

3601 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Dallas , Texas 75210

Enter Fair Park through Gate 6

**Cost:** Garden and Butterfly House admission is \$8 adults, \$6 seniors (age 60+) and \$4 for children (Ages 3-11).

## **Artist Statement:**

Two of my favorite things are gardening and creating art. I love the colors, the smells, and the peace and solitude that my time spent in the garden and in front of a canvas brings to me. I endeavor to express my love of nature in each of my pieces. I try to capture the beauty created by an undeniably talented God. I am a painter of smiles; each piece I create has to have that smile factor. When people look at the piece, it should make them smile--glad to be alive to enjoy all the beauty that is around them. There is such brilliance and beauty in all of nature. I attempt to capture these beautiful creations on canvas. My hope is that my paintings will not only inspire you to smile each time you view them, but that they will inspire you to be a better steward of our earth. Enjoy my humble attempt to capture the beauty around me.

--*Sharen Chatterton*

**Spotlight on Artwork:** One of our favorite pieces is “Just a Little Koi,” a mixed media with acrylic, watercolor and collage. The koi are handmade out of individual pieces of archival paper. Each piece of paper is hand cut to make each scale, fin and eye. Orchids, a favorite houseplant of Sharen’s, are painted in watercolor and affixed to the canvas. The background of the canvas is done in acrylics. The piece means a lot to Sharen because it incorporates two loves: her orchids that she grows year-round and her koi pond.

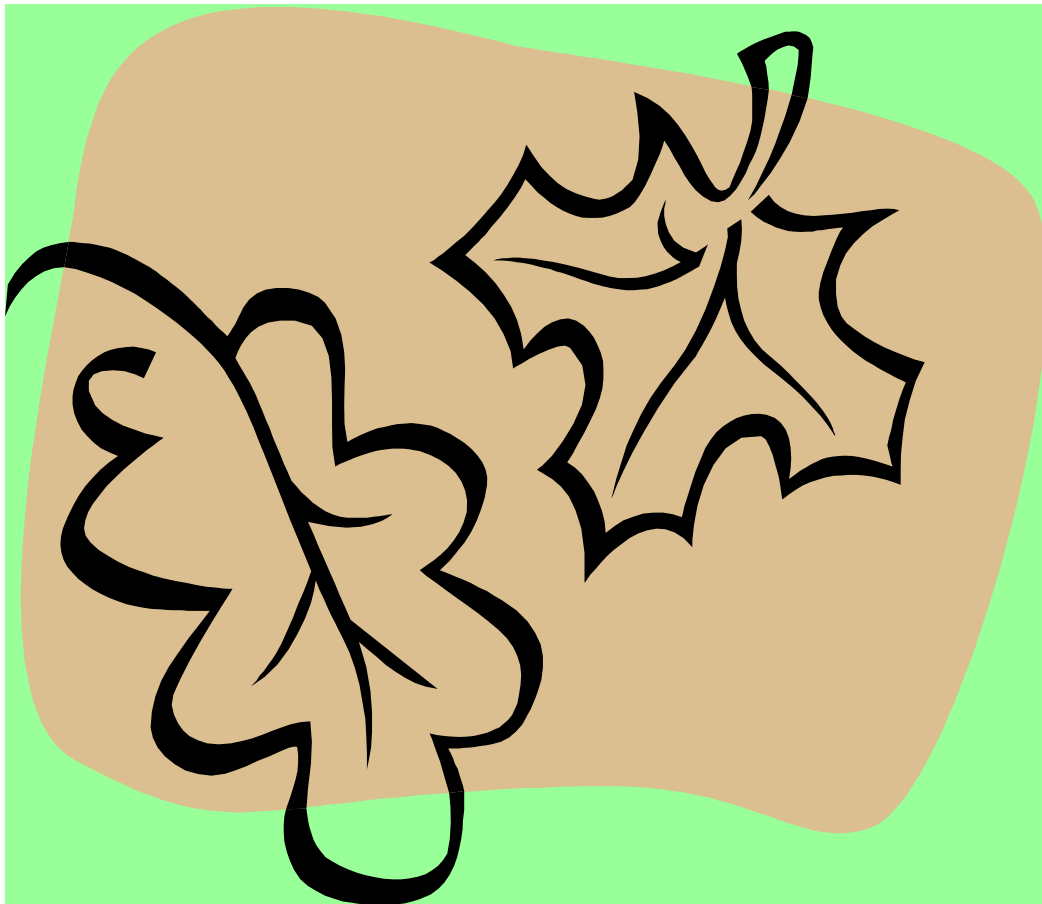
# Minutes of the February Meeting

The Garland Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas met on February 20, 2010 in the little red barn at the site of Rohde's Nursery and Nature Store. In Darrell Dixon's absence, Susan Anderson brought the meeting to order and asked for any old business that needed to be discussed. The Treasurer, May Foreman, reported there was no change in the balances from last month. Antonia Messina-Gates asked if we will have our traditional picnic in April. This has not been decided; hopefully we will know by next month. Susan welcomed our many guests from Eastfield Community College Biology.

Susan introduced our speaker, Mark Pyle, Director, DFW Herpetological Society. Mark gave a very interesting presentation on Snakes in Texas. He explained the difference between the definitions of poisonous and venomous. He provided web sites and suggested books for further identification questions. His slide presentation included fantastic pictures of each of the snakes that he discussed and their general habitat. He brought many live examples of the non venomous snakes, so we could see first hand what they looked like. Finally, he covered the recommended actions in case of a venomous bite.

Mark suggested the following books: Texas Snakes, Lone Star Field Guide by Alan Tennant and Texas Snakes by John E. Werler and James R. Dixon and. Check out the following web sites: [www.kingsnake.com/dfw](http://www.kingsnake.com/dfw); and [www.dfwherp.org](http://www.dfwherp.org). He said we could send pictures for identification to [contact@dfwherp.org](mailto:contact@dfwherp.org). Mark generously answered the many questions that followed.

Following the presentation, the meeting was adjourned.



## Join the Native Plant Society of Texas

Membership is renewable annually and extends for a year from the date we receive your original payment. If you wish to join or renew your membership, mail this form and the appropriate remittance, to:

**Native Plant Society of Texas  
P.O. Box 3017  
Fredericksburg, TX 78624  
830/997-9272**

[http://www.npsot.org/application/join\\_npsot.html](http://www.npsot.org/application/join_npsot.html)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student.....\$15.00                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior citizen (65+).....\$20.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Couple (one member 65+) ..... | \$30.00   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual .....                     | \$25.00   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family.....                          | \$40.00   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Group.....                           | \$50.00   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron.....                          | \$100.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor.....                      | \$250.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting.....                      | \$500.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate.....                       | \$1000.00   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime.....                        | \$1000.00   |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Affiliation GARLAND \_\_\_\_\_

New  Renewal  Address Change

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

For IRS income tax purposes, the full amount of your NPSOT membership dues is tax-deductible as a charitable contribution.

*The purpose of the Native Plant Society of Texas is to promote the conservation, research and utilization of the native plants and plant habitats of Texas, through education, outreach and example.*



# Rohde's

Nursery  
& Nature Store

Thanks to our host Greg and the staff at Rohde's. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Rohde's  
1651 Wall Street  
Garland, TX 75041

972-864-1934 , 800-864-4445,  
fax 972-864-0128

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## Chapter Leadership Team

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**May Foreman, Treasurer**  
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