

# Trinity Forks Native Plant Press

The Newsletter of Trinity Forks Chapter  
Native Plant Society of Texas

March 2011

## From the Prez

Greetings Trinity Forks members. We are getting ready for the Trinity Forks Native Plant sale at the Denton Redbud Festival Saturday, April 9, 2011. The sale hours are 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. As a bonus, we have a beautiful cedar arbor generously donated as a raffle item by Cathy Lustgarten's nephew from [www.3manproducts.com](http://www.3manproducts.com). Raffle tickets can be obtained from Laurie Hammett for purchase yourself or to sell to people you may know. Tickets are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00. We will also be selling tickets at the plant sale, and the drawing will be at 3:45 p.m. We need as many people as possible to help with our sale. This is our biggest outreach project of the year, with an opportunity to introduce many people to native plants. It provides them with one-stop shopping for lots of hardy native plants, which will support our ecosystem and, if appropriately situated, will provide low-maintenance beauty to their yards. It also is our major fundraiser for the year, which provides us with the ability to support like-minded organizations and our own programs such as NICE! and any future projects we want to start. Not many chapters have been blessed with such a successful sale as ours has become over the years due to our volunteers' hard work and the outstanding leadership of Cathy Lustgarten. So please consider volunteering to help with this endeavor. If you are new to the chapter do not think you will be unable to help since you do not know much about native plants yet. It is always an excellent learning opportunity and a wonderful place to find new plants for your own yard.

The chapter board voted to approve a \$5.00 per member donation to go toward the support of the state NPSOT Strategic Plan to raise funds for the Executive Director position.

The state NPSOT Symposium will be in Houston October 13-16, 2011 at the Westside Omni Houston Hotel. The annual symposium is always a very educational and delightful event. Put it on your calendar now and plan to attend.

We are also getting the finishing touches on our combined field trip with the Wichita Falls chapter on Sunday, April 17 to the LBJ Grasslands in Wise County. Kathy Saucier will be leading it. See

details on page 3.

Mike Mizell is planning a great tour of home gardens in the Denton area on the afternoon of Saturday, May 21. You won't want to miss this one. It will feature 5 very special Denton yards.

At the last chapter board meeting, a grant of \$1000 was approved to Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT) for digitizing plant specimens from their herbarium from Cooke County. This completes the digitization of all of the BRIT collections in the counties surrounding Denton County, a two-year project for our chapter. Wise and Montague counties were done previously, following Denton County. We are planning to have a field trip to BRIT in October.

The board also awarded a grant for up to \$400.00 for replacement plants for the TWU Benny Simpson Garden, to be planted during an upcoming work day on Saturday, April 2. Cynthia Maguire can use people to volunteer to help mentor the student volunteers for that project.

One more outreach project that we are planning is in Plano during PepsiCo's employees' Eco Week events. We are planning to participate in two of their activities. On Wednesday, April 20 they need tour guides for short walks along their Nature Trail. The tour times are from noon to 1:00 p.m. and 4:00-5:00 p.m. On Friday, April 22, Earth Day, we are going to help man a NPSOT information table along with other nearby chapters. The hours for that run from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please contact Marshall Fox at [xbfox@yahoo.com](mailto:xbfox@yahoo.com) or 940-627-2343 if you would like to help with either of those events. We might be able to arrange some carpooling over there.

*Marshall Fox, TF President*

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## THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM

### General Meeting – Thursday, March 24

“Water Conservation & the Role Native Plants Play in Water Conservation” will be presented by Bobbette Brasfield from Texas Conservation Alliance. Texas Conservation Alliance is the state affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation and has a 30-year history of work on water conservation issues. Ms. Brasfield is a native Texan from Grand Prairie. She earned a Master of Science Degree in Environmental Science from UNT. She has supported environmental education and conservation efforts for many years through the Texas Master Naturalist Program, Texins Dive Club, and U.S. National Park Service.

**NOTE: This month we will be meeting in the CFO Bldg, Rm. 203. This is the tall white bldg. located just SE of our usual location.**

## ... ANNUAL SPRING PLANT SALE

### WE NEED YOUR EXTRA PLANTS

We are very close to Plant Sale time!

I hope by now you have potted your extra plants, but if you haven't, do it **today**. Please don't wait until a week before the sale, or the plants will not look good.

Then email or call me ASAP and let me know what you have to donate for the sale. Contact Kathy Saucier at [gksaucier@verizon.net](mailto:gksaucier@verizon.net) or 972-492-4680.

Use the following resource to know what the accepted species are and give me the **species name along with the common name**.

<http://www.npsot.org/TrinityForks/TrinityForksWeb/plants.html>

If your plant is not on this list, please contact me to seek approval from the committee.

In order to select our consignment plants from Painted Flower Farm and Shades of Green, we need to know what our members are bringing so we can obtain species we cannot get ourselves. **We need to know what you are bringing in order to make these arrangements with the nurseries.**

**Labeling your pots** – Please include common AND scientific names plus any growing information you can provide. For those with computers, try the Avery labels. You only need to type up the information for each species one time, copy and paste into the squares and print.

Then bring your plants to the Redbud Festival before 9:00 am. If you need to drive up to unload, cars must be out by 8:30 am. Be sure your pots are clean, labeled and watered.

*Kathy Saucier, plant sale inventory keeper*

### HELPERS ALSO NEEDED FOR THE SALE

We need a few people to help partially set up our outside booth between 3:00-5:00 p.m. Friday, April 8. On Saturday we need lots of members to help unload and deposit plants in their designated areas and price mark

them before the sale starts at 10 a.m. Then we need people to add up plant purchases so that people can check out quickly. We need people to help shoppers find plants that would work well in their particular situations. (We will have some reference books available.) We may need some people to help customers get their purchases to their cars. We need people selling the raffle tickets. After the sale we need some people to help clean up and sort out those plants that will be given to various groups, such as school outdoor learning centers. Contact Fonda Fox at [xbfox@yahoo.com](mailto:xbfox@yahoo.com), 940-627-2343, sign up on the clip-board at the March 24 chapter meeting, or just show up to volunteer. Some people like to volunteer for the whole day, while others may choose to come for a couple of hours. There are numerous tasks that new members can help with and learn more about native plants.

Besides volunteering your time or potted plants, we will have more seed envelopes in which to package seeds at the March meeting. These would need to be labeled with the Latin and common names. Some members may need more pots than they have on hand, and others may have an excess to share. You can go to

[TrinityForksNPSOT@yahoo.groups.com](http://TrinityForksNPSOT@yahoo.groups.com) to share that information. Another way to support the group is to bring snacks, drinks, etc. to share with the volunteers. You can do this whether you work the sale or not. We will have another clipboard for that at the March meeting.

Also, everyone PLEASE get some raffle tickets from Laurie Hammett for the beautiful \$300.00 cedar arbor and be selling them to family, friends, co-workers, etc. 3 Man Products, the donor of the arbor, will also provide free delivery up to 50 miles from Denton to the winner.

Our website has two flyers that you may want to print up and spread around on bulletin boards, to other groups, or to your friends or co-workers. These can be found on our website, [www.NPSOT.org/Trinityforks](http://www.NPSOT.org/Trinityforks). Click on Activities on the home page. You can click on garden arbor for the arbor flyer. You can click on Native Plant Sale for the plant sale flyer. We will also have some printed copies available at the meeting.

One other special need is for a person with a pickup, truck, or SUV to pick up plants from Shades of Green Nursery in Frisco or their growing farm in Tioga, 45 minutes from Denton, on Friday. Kathy Saucier would meet you there, or you could follow her to Tioga. She would oversee the loading of the plants. Then they would have to be delivered early Saturday morning for the sale. The same person would need to be responsible for picking up leftovers at the end of the sale and returning them to either location. Contact Fonda Fox if you could do that.

As an individual outreach project, why don't each one of us invite at least one person that we know to attend the sale. Who knows what seeds will sprout from that contact? I hope to see you at the sale!

Any group that you know of that might want to request some of our member-donated plants that didn't sell can contact Cathy Lustgarten by April 6 with a specific list of plant names and number that they would like to have at [drgoodrad@verizon.net](mailto:drgoodrad@verizon.net). *Fonda Fox, sale co-chair*

## EVENTS CALENDAR

**April 2 (Saturday) - Work day at TWU Benny Simpson Garden.** Cynthia Maguire can use people to volunteer to help mentor the student volunteers for this project. Please contact her if you can help out for a couple of hours that day, [cmaguire@twu.edu](mailto:cmaguire@twu.edu) or [cynthia.maguire@verizon.net](mailto:cynthia.maguire@verizon.net) or 940-594-6555.

**April 17 (Sunday) - Joint Field Trip with Wichita Falls Chapter to LBJ Grasslands**

Join us for a trip to see the Shooting Stars and other spring wildflowers at the LBJ National Grasslands north of Decatur, Sunday, April 17. Walking is moderate.

Meet at the Cracker Barrel Restaurant parking lot in Denton (on I-35 just north of Hwy 380) at 1:15 p.m. to carpool or caravan or at the Forest Service office on Hwy 287 in Decatur by 2:00 p.m.

Please RSVP for this trip by contacting Kathy Saucier at [gksaucier@verizon.net](mailto:gksaucier@verizon.net) or 972-492-4680 and provide a phone # in case we need to cancel due to bad weather. Rain date is May 1, same meeting places/times.

**May 21 (Saturday) - Home Garden Tour -** We have 5 outstanding yards in Denton lined up to tour. You won't want to miss it. More details next month.

## RHYME THYME

I have asked Marilyn Blanton to spice up each issue our newsletter with one of her delightful poems about a native plant.

I'm a very lovely, small native tree  
I have heart-shaped leaves and I'm pretty as can be  
Even before my fresh, new leaves appear  
My pinkish-purple blooms announce spring is near  
You'll find me planted all around town  
And blooming wild and lovely in the woods I'm found  
There I often grow as an understory tree  
I'm an attractive member of the legume family  
My clusters of pea-shaped blooms attract lots of bees  
And you can eat them, too, sauteed or in a salad,  
if you please  
After my flowers have fallen and finished their show  
Small green seed pods start to develop and grow  
At summer's end they'll be several inches long,  
dry and brown  
Holding little flat seeds that will sprout after they fall  
to the ground  
What tree am I?

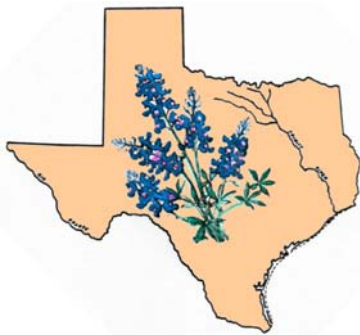
*Answer:* Redbud

*Marilyn Blanton*



*Redbud in blossom by Marilyn Blanton*

Native Plant Society of Texas  
Trinity Forks Chapter  
P.O. Box 425491  
Denton, Texas 76204



*Red Columbine (Aquilegia canadensis) &  
Golden groundsel (Packera obovatus)*  
by Mike Mizell

March 2011

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### Trinity Forks Contact Information

**President** - Marshall Fox, 940-627-2343  
[xbfox@yahoo.com](mailto:xbfox@yahoo.com)  
**Pres. Elect** - Cecil Carter, 940-321-9527  
**Secretary** - Fonda Fox, 940-627-2343  
**Treasurer** - Fritz Poppe, 940-387-9351  
**Past Pres.** -- Camelia Maier, 940-566-7913  
**Ways/Means** - Cathy Lustgarten, 972-306-1088  
**(replacement needed)**  
**Membership** - Jennie Wojtaszek, 817-247-8823  
- Laurie Hammett, 940-383-3287  
**Programs** - Cecil Carter, 940-321-9527  
**Publicity** - Cecil Carter, 940-321-9527  
**Education** - Marilyn Blanton, 940-387-4353(B)  
**Outreach** - Dorothy Thetford, 940-382-9344  
**Hospitality** - **OPEN (need a volunteer)**  
**Field Trips** - **OPEN (need a volunteer)**  
**Historian** - **OPEN (need a volunteer)**  
**Webmaster** - Lon Turnbull, 940-323-8999  
**Newsletter** - Mike Mizell, 940-382-8551  
[birdmizell@msn.com](mailto:birdmizell@msn.com)  
**NICE! Coordinators:**  
Kathy Saucier, 972-492-4680  
Marilyn Blanton, 940-464-7775(H)

**Website:** [www.npsot.org/TrinityForks](http://www.npsot.org/TrinityForks)

### Membership Corner

We give a big 'Thank You' to all these folks who became new or renewed members in Trinity Forks in the past month and hope to see you at the next meeting. You are what makes Trinity Forks special!

Cynthia & Patrick Maguire, Denton

Curtis & Carolyn Gold, Denton

*Trinity Forks Chapter of NPSOT meets on the fourth Thursday of January through May and September and October. Sign-in, social time with refreshments, educational displays, etc. start at 6:30 followed by the program at 7:00pm. **This month we will be meeting in the CFO Bldg, Rm. 203. This is the tall white building located just SE of our usual location.***

*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.*