



View this email in your browser

Boerne Chapter Native Plant Society of Texas Chapter Meeting Tuesday, February 7 Cibolo Nature Center Auditorium 6:30 - 6:50 pm - Check-in & Hospitality 6:50 - 7 pm Announcements 7 pm - Program

Our Chapter Hospitality Chairman, Gary Rogers has a special treat planned for this month's chapter meeting. In celebration of Valentine's Day, this month's theme is "Valentine Hearts & Souls". The main dish will be meatballs with vegetarian linguine and tossed salad. As always, members are welcomed to bring a side dish.

Butterflies of the Kendall County Area presented by Ken Butler



Gulf Fritillary Agraulis vanillae (Linnaeus)

Photographic summary of the identifying field marks and basic behavior of the common butterflies (and a few rare ones) of Kendall County and the surrounding area.

Ken Butler is a retiree in Kendall County and earned BS and MS degrees in Geophysics from Texas A&M University. He is an avid photographer, Texas Master Naturalist, member of the Board of the Bexar Audubon Society, an obsessive birder, and is devoted to observing and documenting birds, butterflies, dragonflies and damselflies.



Letter from the President Pam Bransford



Dear Members,

We have good news! Bill Magner has volunteered to take on the Vice President position. We will hold a special election at the February chapter meeting to make it official. Wouldn't it be wonderful if someone stepped up and volunteered to be President-elect? Then we can vote on that position at the same time! Please let me know if you are willing; I can be reached at pamele.bransford@npsot.org or 830-431-6155.

Mark Your Calendar For These Events

- February 11 - Second Saturday Work Day at Cibolo Nature Center with Veronica Hawk.
February 25 - The Native Plant Society of Texas 2023 Spring Symposium is coming to Austin, Texas!
March 7 - Chapter Meeting. "Jumpstart Your Native Garden" by Veronica Hawk.
March 11 - Second Saturday Work Day at Cibolo Nature Center with Veronica Hawk.
April 4 - Chapter Meeting. "Seed Propagation" by Chuck Janzow.
April 8 - Second Saturday Work Day at Cibolo Nature Center with Veronica Hawk
April 22 - Spring Native Plant Sale, Herff Farm.
May 2 - Chapter Meeting. "Fireflies" by Ben Pfeiffer.
May 13 - Second Saturday Work Day at Cibolo Nature Center with Veronica Hawk.

Second Saturday Work Day at Cibolo Nature Center is a volunteer/learning opportunity to experience the native flora and fauna of the Cibolo Nature Center with Veronica Hawk. Volunteers meet in the parking lot at 9 a.m. This is "come and go" until 1 p.m. Volunteers are asked to bring their own water and snacks, gloves, hat and and favorite gardening tool.

Native Landscape Certification Program (NLCP)

NLCP is a series of day-long classes that teach best practices for native plant landscaping - including wildlife habitat gardening. Each class consists of an indoor training session and a plant identification section. We show you plants native to the local eco-region, illustrating their use in the landscape. You will also see common non-native plants which may take over our natural areas.

- March 15 - Level 3 in Leakey, Texas. This class is offered in partnership with the HE Butt Foundation Camp.
April 1 - Level 1 at Cibolo Nature Center.
October 14 - Level 3 at Cibolo Nature Center.
Level 4 - TBD. There are no prerequisites for this class.

For more information about the NLCP or to volunteer, please contact Veronica Hawk at veronica.hawk@gmail.com.

Save the Date Spring Native Plant Sale

The Boerne Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas is hosting its Spring Native Plant Sale on Saturday, April 22, 2023. Members are asked to consider donating native plants and/or seeds for the sale and/or volunteering to help work at the sale. You do not need to be a native plant expert to volunteer.

The 2022 Spring and Fall Native Plants Sales were especially successful because we had ~596 plants and ~80 different varieties donated by our member growers. For more information, please contact Kathy Webster at Katweb59@gmail.com.

Remembering Our Good Friend "Kip" Kiphart

by Delmar Cain

As many of you have learned Ridlon (Skip) (Kip) Kiphart died at his home in Florida on November 13, 2022. He was a dear friend to many of us in the Native Plant Society both in the Boerne Chapter and in several of the other Native Plant chapters as well. He was also known for his service and tenure as a Master Naturalist, having been in the first training class in 1998 of the North Texas Chapter.

After his retirement as a Cardiothoracic Surgeon he moved to Boerne and continued his interest in nature. He was especially interested in all projects and information concerning the conservation of monarch butterflies, including Monarch Watch and Bring Back the Monarchs.

He was on a first name basis with all of the nationwide experts in the field, including the late Lincoln Brower with whom Kip collected migrating monarchs for detailed data on what the monarchs were feeding. He started the Milkweed Monitoring Project at the Cibolo Nature Center that is still recording data on the Antelope-horns (Asclepias asperula) plants, monarch eggs and larvae in the plot.

We who knew him missed his stories, his wit and his opinions when he left to be with his family in Florida. But we still have the memories of his friendship.



NICE!

(Natives Instead of Common Exotics) (Natives Improve and Conserve Environments)

NICE! Plant of the Month February Sotol (Dasylirion spp.)



Photos taken by Braden, Al, and Anderson, Wynn

For more information about February NICE! Plant of the Month, click here



Our mailing address is: PO Box 1032 Boerne, Texas 78006

You are receiving these emails because you are a current or recent member of the Boerne Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas. You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.

