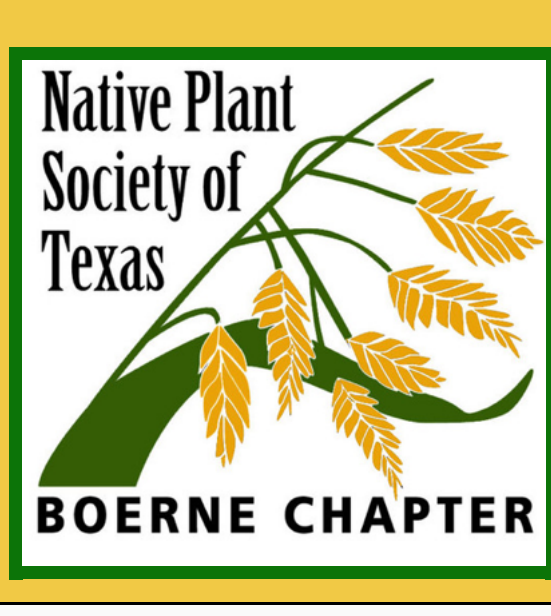


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## September 2023 Newsletter

**Boerne Chapter Native Plant Society of Texas  
Chapter Meeting  
Tuesday, September 5  
Cibolo Nature Center Auditorium  
6:00 - 6:45 pm - Check-in & Hospitality**

*"Welcome Back and Hopefully Autumn is Coming!"*

**Come and enjoy a variety of pizzas, tossed salads and fabulous desserts.**

**6:45 - 8:00 pm Announcements/Presentation**

### Rethinking Water

**Presenter, Mr. Bill Swantner**

*What are the homeowner's conservation responsibilities and what are the possibilities?*

Mr. Swantner was a music major at the University of Texas and a Divinity Major at the Lutheran Seminary of the Southwest in Austin. He is a retired Pastor from Hope Lutheran. He is a member of Bexar County Master Gardeners. Bill has studied the soils in the area and ways to enrich it. Concern for soil quality naturally led him into composting and, from there, into plant selection and propagation.

### President's Message

It's September and the first day of autumn is only three weeks away. Hopefully we will get some rain and the daily highs drop to the low 90's by then!

I am looking forward to seeing everyone next Tuesday, September 5 at our Chapter meeting when members will be presented with a slate of board officers for an election at the October chapter meeting. If you or someone you think would like to earn some of their master naturalist volunteer hours, this is a great way to achieve that. As a reminder, the positions that must be filled for this next 12 month term are President, President-Elect, and Secretary. Both Ron Scoggins and Bill Magner are continuing to serve into 2024.

Felicia, Bill and Gary Rogers are serving on the nominations committee, so reach out to them asap to get on their list. We also need someone to lead the hospitality committee for this next year. Contact Gary to get the details.

We have lots of other volunteer opportunities for students, student groups, and adults who appreciate the great outdoors, gardening projects and who especially want to learn about native plants. We have awesome project leaders in Rachel Thompson, Veronica Hawk, Kathy Webster, Gary Fest, Theresa Butler and many more so let them know you're interested.

A few people have been asking about the annual Big Tooth Maple (BTM) project for this Fall. Due to several factors, BTM availability is extremely low as Suzanne Young can attest. She continues to try getting some viable ones for our area. We'll get an update from her at a future chapter meeting.

Our NPSOT Chapter continues to thrive because of teamwork! Jump on in and help us remain one of the strongest chapters in Texas!

Pam Bransford

### Do you want to have more fun than a barrel of monkeys? Be with people who are smarter than a tree full of owls? Do you like to always be in the know?

Then you should consider being on the board of the Boerne Chapter, Native Plant Society of Texas! There are three board positions that are open, President, President-elect and Secretary.

You do not have to have a PhD in botany to be on the board just a desire to learn; and the good news, it is easy and there are plenty of other people to help you learn the ropes.

In all honesty, the board positions only take a commitment of a few hours a month...and you can be as involved as you want. Although the positions require very little time, they are important. OH! If you happen to be a Texas Master Naturalist, the volunteers hours can be counted toward TMN volunteers hours too! So, it is a two for one!

Last but not least, if a board position is not for you then the Hospitality Chair position may be? The Hospitality Chairperson is responsible for coordinating the hospitality/social time before the Chapter meetings, making sure the room is set-up prior to the meetings and then torn down and the space cleaned up afterwards. Once again, there are plenty of volunteers who are always happy to help. You do not have to be professional party planner to do this.

So, please get off the sidelines, throw your hat in, grab your shovels and join the fun!

### Special Welcome to New Members

We're growing by leaps and bounds! Special welcome to new members: Elizabeth and Jake Bourbon, Maria and Alfredo Lozano, Gerry Plock, Jan K. Rider and Debra and John Walker.

### Fall Plant Sale Mark Your Calendars Saturday, October 21

by Kathy Webster

Our Fall Plant Sale is fast approaching! Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 21, 9 - 1 pm. Set up will be Friday, Oct 20, from 9 - 12 pm. Then that afternoon from 3 - 6 pm, we will have a *Members Only Sale* for Cibolo and NPSOT members. The Saturday plant sale will be open to the public on Saturday, October 21, from 9 - 1pm.

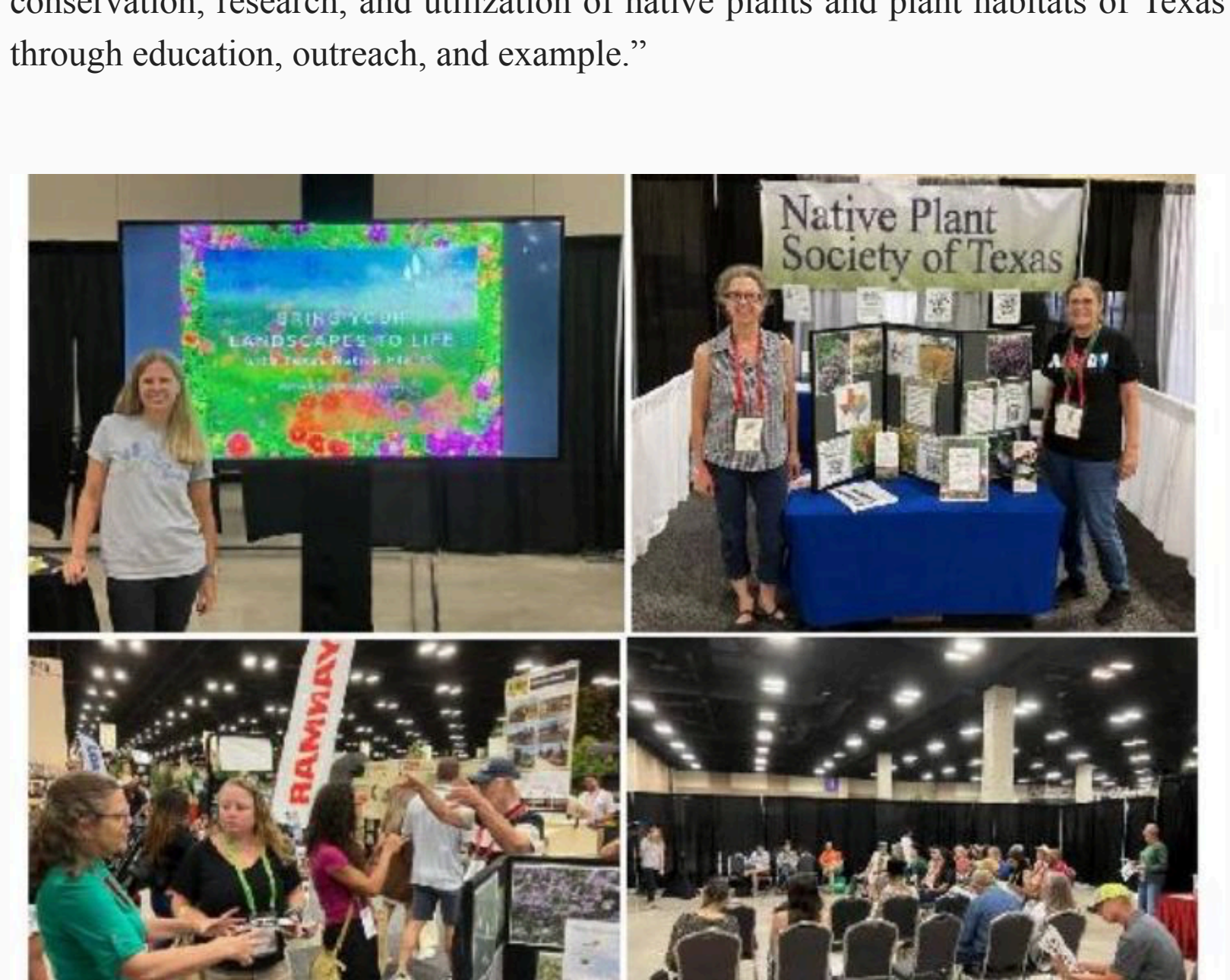
Given the drought conditions, we suspect fewer people will contribute plants. Please take some time to pot up volunteer native plants in your garden. In my garden, I have Texas Betony, Penstemons, Wild Petunia, Lyre Leaf Sage, Mealy Blue Sage, Salvia Coccinea, and Corona de Christo passionflower babies coming up alongside the mother plants. Now is the time to dig up those babies and transfer them to pots for the plant sale. Please call me if you need pots and I will help you get some. Kathy Webster at: 210-867-4656.

### Texas Nursery and Landscape Association

by Veronica Hawk

The Texas Nursery and Landscape Association (TNLA) held their 2023 Conference in San Antonio on August 9-11. The Native Plant Society of Texas was just one of 15 or so education oriented booths at the show. This is the first year that NPSOT had a table to interact with nursery and landscape professionals from all around Texas. Volunteers from 4 regional chapters participated, including Meg Inglis, Executive Director and Laura Legett, president of the Hill Country chapter. Clarence Reed, State VP, Affiliations and Advocacy attended, as did many members of the San Antonio chapter, led by Pam Peck, Chapter Vice President. Haeley Giambalvo, San Antonio member at large and the Boerne Chapter speaker last March, created informative flyers and an educational presentation. Haeley's talk informed TNLA members about the value of Native Plants and their value to the customers of TNLA members.

Regarding the results of attendance, Laura Legett wrote "Based on the conversations we had at our Expo booth, the demand for Texas native plants is strong, and we believe that it will continue to grow. We came away from the event with a very positive outlook and a renewed commitment to our mission to promote conservation, research, and utilization of native plants and plant habitats of Texas through education, outreach, and example."



### Dates to Remember

**September 5** - Chapter Meeting, Boerne Native Plant Society

**September 6, 13 and 20** - Volunteers will be meeting at 8 a.m., to work in the gardens at the Visitor Center, Main and Veterans Plaza. For more information, contact Rachel Thompson, [rjat@alumni.rice.edu](mailto:rjat@alumni.rice.edu)

**October 3** - Chapter Meeting, Boerne Native Plant Society  
Vote on new officers for the board

**October 14** - Native Landscape Certification Program (NLCP) Level 3 at Cibolo Nature Center. Fall 2023 Class Registration is now open. To register: <http://https://nativeplantsocietyoftexas.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/nativeplantsocietyoftexas/event.jsp?event=1554&>

For more information about the NLCP or to volunteer, please contact Veronica Hawk at [veronica.hawk@gmail.com](mailto:veronica.hawk@gmail.com).

**October 20** - Set up for Fall Plant Sale, Herff Farm, 9 - 12 pm  
Members Only Fall Plant Sale, Herff Farm, 3 - 6 pm

**October 21** - Fall Native Plant Sale, Herff Farm

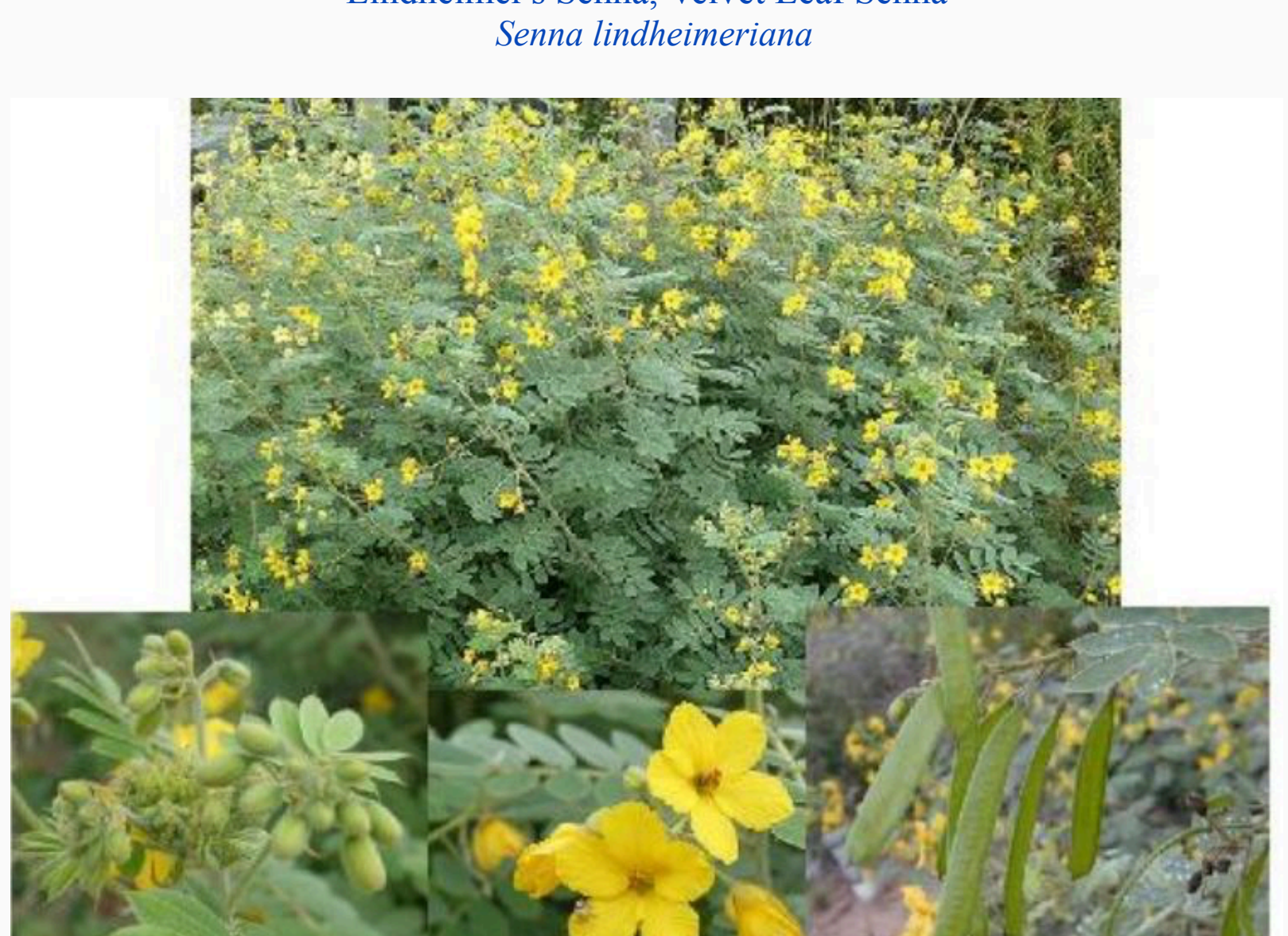
*Special thanks to all our contributors.*



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

**NICE! Plant of the Month July/August**

Lindheimer's Senna, Velvet Leaf Senna  
*Senna lindheimeriana*



Photographs taken by: Lee Page, Joseph A Marcus

For more information about Septembe NICE! Plant of the Month, click [here](#)



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