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## October 2023 Newsletter **Boerne Chapter Native Plant Society of Texas**

**Chapter Meeting** 

Tuesday, October 3

**Cibolo Nature Center Auditorium** 

RSS 3

Translate **▼** 

6:00 - 6:45 pm - Check-in & Hospitality 6:45 - 7:00 pm Announcements/Presentation 8 pm Clean up\* \*Volunteers will be needed to help with set up and clean up of the auditorium. Please come early or stay late to help. **Mycology 101: All Mushrooms are Magic** Presented by: Angelica Torres "Learn the basics of mycology and how fungi is in all parts of our life." Ms. Torres is a local mushroom farmer, and native, edible plant enthusiast. She is a recent graduate of the Alamo Area Texas

Master Naturalist Program and volunteers for the Central Texas Mycological Society. 2013 to 2015, she studied to become a chef at

**President's Message** 

It has been an honor to serve as the Boerne Chapter President these last twelve months. Going forward I will serve as past president and volunteered to serve as Treasurer since Ron Scoggins is stepping out of this role. Clearly, I have lots to learn if elected to this position, and look forward to serving our chapter in a different role. Since we will conduct the formal election of new officers at our chapter meeting

members. The ballot includes the following:

President - Felicia Zeitman President elect - Jane Jamison Vice president - Bill Magner Treasurer - Pamela Bransford Secretary - David Touchon Our Fall native plant sale is just around the corner so I hope to see many of you

Pam Bransford

Special welcome to new members: Jan Wrede, Teresa Williamson, Grant Lucas. **NPSOT YARD SIGNS!** Pre-order your NPSOT signs now! Native Plants

**EMBER** 

nscogg@gmail.com

## You'll be able to purchase and pickup these signs during the plant sale on

Native Plants...

Provide Wildlife Habitat Support Natural Ecosystems

Tolerate Drought and Freezes

October 21<sup>st</sup>. The price is \$20. These metal signs have pre-drilled holes for mounting on a fence, wall or stake.

There are 10 - "Grow" signs and 8 - "Member" signs available for purchase. If

you email Nancy Scoggins and she will put your name on the list!



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 **Fall Plant Sale** by Kathy Webster

Our Native Plant Sale is fast approaching! With the drought, we expect to have a

shortage of plants and higher demand than ever! If possible, please pot up some

We will set up for the sale on Friday morning, Oct 20th 9 am - 12 pm and have

the Cibolo and NPSOT "Members Only" Sale from 3 - 6 pm that day. The next

morning, Saturday, October 21, we will open the sale to the public from 9 - 1

We need about 20 more volunteers to work on Friday, Oct 20 and/or Saturday,

pots.)

pm. Hope to see you there!

As with all levels of NLCP we will learn to identify 45 native plants, 5 nonnative invasive plants with a one and a half hour plant walk.

### **The Native Plant Certification Program** (NLCP) Level 3 - Revised! By Veronica Hawk

Boerne Chapter volunteers will teach the third level of the Native Landscape

Certification Program on Thursday, October 14, 2023. This program will cover

Installation and Maintenance of Native Landscapes, how to plant different types

of native plants from choices, purchase and placement to spacing, healthy soils

and bed preparation, seeding, pruning and training young trees.

Oct 21. Please email Gary Fest to volunteer: <a href="mailto:garyafest@gmail.com">garyafest@gmail.com</a>.

• Partial Eclipse Begins: 10:20 a.m. • Total Annularity: 11:51 - 11:55 a.m. • Partial Eclipse Ends: 1:30 p.m.

From EclipseBoerne.org

need them on April 8 for totality!

Big News, Big Project The Boerne Chapter of NPSOT has been awarded an Apache Corporation Tree Program Grant for fifty trees to be planted at Borne City Campus Natural Area!

in areas that have been cleared of Ligustrum. The Boerne Parks Department has agreed to help dig the holes and provide mulch. Ryan Bass, Boerne City Arborist will supply caging materials. Planting will be late October/early November and will likely require more than one day as cages will need to be cut

Thank you Rachel Thompson for applying for this grant!

volunteers.

You Can Judge a Book by Its Cover

As part of our community outreach, the Boerne Chapter of the Native Plant

Society of Texas is partnering with the Patrick Heath Public Library to establish

a special book collection specifically on the Texas Hill Country's flora and

ahead of time. When the specific dates are chosen, a call will be sent out for

related books are available only online. The ultimate goal is to consolidate all the books into a special section in the library. And those books that are offered only online, to be replaced with hard copies. While the emphasis will be on native plants, historical descriptions of the Texas Hill Country along with contemporary discussions about the importance of

native plants are part of the information we want to make available to the public.

Wilt Shaw has graciously agreed to help organize our members

recommendations. So, please email your favorite book suggestions to Wilt at

wshawjr888@aol.com. We will forward this list to the library and work with

them to curate this "special" section. Stay tuned for more information and please

get your book suggestions to Wilt by Friday, October 15.

There are some very interesting volunteer opportunities available to help this Citizen Science Project with data collection. On Thursday, October 12, the

Prairie Vegetation Survey will do transects from 8 am - Noon. Due to the

drought conditions this summer, these surveys should be relatively quick. This is

great way to practice your knowledge of grasses, forbs and prairie woody plants.

The Riparian Woody Survey Team needs some help on Thursday, October 12

from 8 - Noon for setup only. On Friday, October 13, join veteran team leader,

Wilt Shaw from 8 - Noon and practice your tree ID skills in 3 transects across

the creek. There will be lots of volunteers this year, so come out and enjoy plant

**Boerne City Campus Natural Area** Update by Rachael Thompson

identification with nature-minded individuals!

P.S. Lunch is always included!

for the monarchs.

planning to place a couple of benches on the property. The milkweed plugs that we planted in May got off to a great start because of all the rain we were having around that time. The zyzotes plants were outgrowing their covers. But then came the prolonged high temperatures and no rain a.k.a drought.

Terry Lashley has faithfully watered weekly and hopefully the roots are

surviving. We will not know for sure until next spring. The green comet

milkweed which was already on the property, is surviving and blooming, waiting

One of our Boerne Boy Scouts is going to be placing a sign by the Old Number

Nine Trail just above the milkweed patch as part of his Eagle Scout Project. This

informational signage will explain the project to trail walkers, many of whom

inquire about what we are doing when we are watering the milkweed. He is also

Volunteer, Terry Lashley watering. Lee Marlowe with the San Antonio River Authority walked the property and made several helpful suggestions. Straggler Daisy was suggested as a ground

cover on bare ground near the amphitheater to help control erosion long with

"girdling" some of the invasive trees to kill them but preserve the snag. This has

not worked for her with Chinese Tallow but should be successful for the larger

**Maples For Boerne** by Suzanne Young Due to the current drought and shortage of 5-gallon Bigtooth Maple trees, we have suspended our tree giveaway.

Boerne NPSOT - Newsletter - Lorraine Popp, llpopp4@gmail.com, Felicia Zeitman, fzbranek@gmail.com. Boerne NPSOT - Facebook & Instagram - Sue Roddy, Hill Country Master Naturalist - Newsletter - Lenore Langsdorf,

Volunteers are needed to come early to the Chapter meeting to help with hospitality and room clean up! Special thanks to all our contributors.

(Natives Instead of Common Exotics) and

(Natives Improve and Conserve Environments)

**NICE! Plant of the Month October** 

**Possumhaw holly** 

*llex decidua* 

Le Cordon Bleu in Los Angeles.

on Tuesday, October 3, please plan to attend and bring a snack to share with

there. Please tell your family, friends and neighbors about the sale! More details follow. **Special Welcome to New Members** 

 Maintain Biodiversity Thrive without Fertilizers or Pesticides

https://nativeplantsocietyoftexas.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/nativeplantsociety For more information about the NLCP or to volunteer, please contact Veronica

native plants from your landscape. If you do it in the next few days, they will have time to get established before the sale on Oct 20 & 21. Please help us in our mission to get more native plants out in the community. The public is very interested in finding drought-tolerant species. (Let me know if you need plastic

With planning comes opportunity! We will have our plant walk and lunch during the annular solar eclipse between 10:30 and 12:45 so there will be No FOMO! We will have eclipse glasses but bring yours if you have them – you'll certainly

Annular Eclipse- Saturday, October 14, 2023

In order to enhance the bird habitat, we requested mainly understory trees to use

Tree Embracing sustainability, one tree at a time. Join the movement! #PlantATree #ApacheLovesTrees @ApacheCorporation

fauna. Currently, the library has books related to the Texas Hill Country's ecology, however, these books are shelved in the "Texana" section. Other

It's Wildlife Field Research Days at the Cibolo Nature Center! by Veronica Hawk

The incredibly hot temperatures have discouraged much work at BCCNA this summer and early fall, but there are some things going on, and a BIG project coming up.

Chinaberry trees. A test tree has been girdled.

# Hill Country Master Naturalist - Calendar and ATs - Dale Bransford,

We did award the Villas of Hampton Place HOA a \$1,000 donation to help plant

more large Bigtooth Maples by their subdivision's front entrance along the IH-10

Frontage Road. Last year, the HOA planted seven large Maples and are adding

more this year. The Maples can be seen along the fence line when taking the

Johns Road exit and before the entrance to the Best Western Hotel. These

**Contacts for Media Postings** 

Boerne NPSOT - Website - Theresa Butler, theresabutler722@gmail.com,

Maples have been well cared for by the HOA's landscaper.

Mackenzie Brown, mbrown@trinity.edu.

sueroddy23@gmail.com.

jdb.txn@gmail.com.

keeley.porter@gmail.com

lenorelangsdorf@gmail.com.

Alamo Master Naturalist - Calendar and AT's - Keely Porter,

This email was sent to theresabutler722@gmail.com

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Photographs taken by: Ray Mathews and Lee Page For more information about October NICE! Plant of the Month, click here