

## December 2023 Newsletter

**Boerne Chapter Native Plant Society of Texas  
Chapter Meeting  
Tuesday, December 5  
Cibolo Nature Center Auditorium  
6:00 - 8:00 pm Christmas Pot Luck Dinner\*  
8 pm Clean up\***

*\*Please bring a dish to share. Volunteers will be needed to help with set up and clean up of the auditorium.*

**You are invited to  
The Boerne Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas  
Annual Holiday Gathering**

**Join us for our pot luck dinner at the Cibolo Nature Center Auditorium on Tuesday, December 5 at 6:00pm.**

**The chapter will provide the main course of turkey and beef as well as non-alcoholic beverages.**

**Members are encouraged to bring a side dish, appetizer, salad, vegetables or bread. If you want to imbibe, please bring your favorite holiday spirits along with your Christmas cheer!**

### President's Message

*Merry Christmas Everyone!*

*It is hard to believe it is that time of the year already. It is true, at least for me, the older I get the faster the years go. I cannot believe it is Christmastime already. Seems that not too long ago, I was talking about the drought!*

*I hope everyone will come to the Holiday Pot Luck Dinner. Gary Rogers and Stu Brown really do a great job decorating and go out of their way to make sure the evening is very festive.*

*The pot luck dinner is a wonderful time to catch up with friends and enjoy the slide show of the "Year in Review" which highlights all of our activities in 2023. Who knows, you may even spot photos of yourself!*

*As always, you are welcome to bring a friend and introduce them to our wonderful group.*

*Also, I want to remind everyone that we will have a Chapter Meeting on Tuesday, January 2, same time, same location. Speaker TBD.*

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*

*Felicia Zeitman*

### Dates to Remember

**Tuesday, Dec. 5** - Chapter Christmas Dinner  
Cibolo Nature Center Auditorium @ 6 pm

**Saturday, Dec. 9** - Second Saturday Volunteer with Veronica Hawk  
Cibolo Nature Center parking lot @ 9 am

**Tuesday, Jan. 2** - Chapter Meeting  
Cibolo Nature Center Auditorium @ 6 pm

### Boerne City Campus Natural Area (BCCNA)

by Rachel Thompson

Recently, Eagle Scout, James Norman and members of his Boy Scout troop installed a large informational sign at Boerne City Campus Natural Area (BCCNA) and constructed two benches to be placed along the mulched trails. The sign is west of the Old Number Nine Trail behind the Patrick Heath Public Library and near the milkweed patch.

Thanks to James and his Boy Scout troop, a lot of curious hikers will now have a place to rest and can satisfy their curiosity about all the activity going on in the area!



On May 24, NPSOT and TMN members planted 300 milkweed plugs obtained through a Monarch Watch grant. There were good rains for several weeks after they were planted, but then the extreme heat and drought took over. Weekly hand watering seemed almost futile as we watched cracks in the ground get bigger and bigger.

**Plant Stats.** As of November 4, 2023, 98 of 130 zyzotes milkweed plants were identified and 35 of 175 antelope horn milkweed plants were visible. With more rain since the last count, we are hopeful that more antelope horn milkweed will have appeared.

### Native Landscape Certification Program

by Veronica Hawk

Our 2024 schedule for Native Landscape Certification Program (NLCP) is due the first week of January. We are seeking volunteers to assist us with the training.

All You need is to have taken the class and passed the test. For the Landscapes for Birds class, just attending the class is all that is necessary to teach the class. If you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact Veronica. [NPSOT-Veronica Hawk <veronica.hawk@gmail.com](mailto:NPSOT-VeronicaHawk@veronica.hawk@gmail.com)

### Second Saturday

by Veronica Hawk

Thanks to the help of 8 or so UTSA students, we are getting Bill's Garden into shape. The students helped us by planting small plants and trees that were generously donated by Kathy Webster and kindly delivered by Terry Lashley. The students learned how to plant and transplant forbs and trees.

We will continue working in Bill's Garden for some time. So, please join us Saturday, Dec. 9 at 9 a.m. We always need volunteers to help us plant, weed and water the garden.

For more information about Second Saturday, please contact Veronica Hawk, [NPSOT-Veronica Hawk <veronica.hawk@gmail.com](mailto:NPSOT-VeronicaHawk@veronica.hawk@gmail.com)



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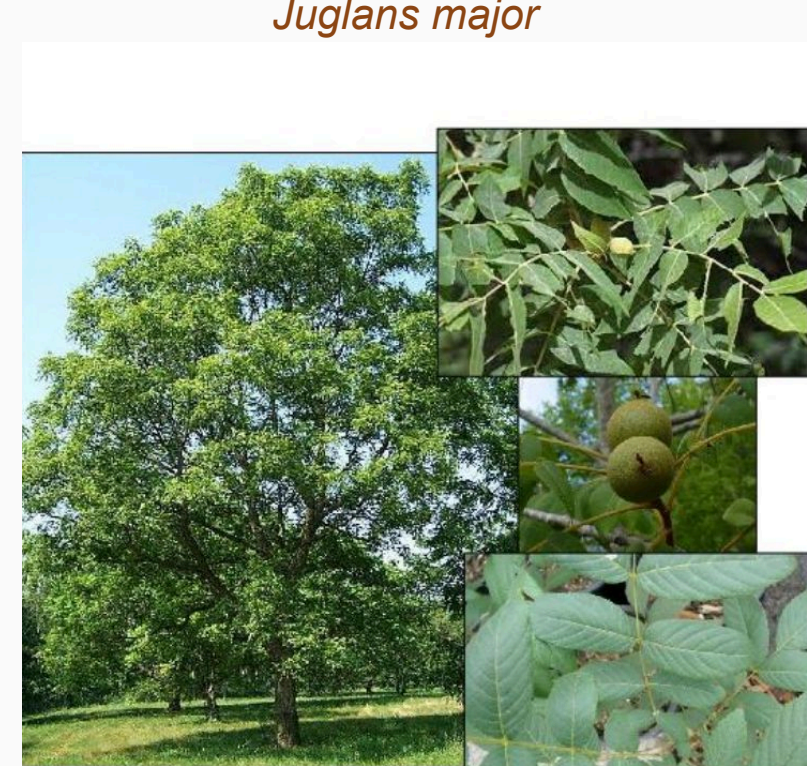
*Special thanks to all our contributors.*



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

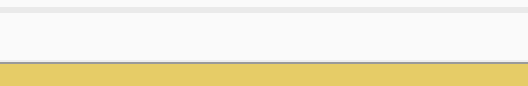
### NICE! Plant of the Month December

**Arizona Black Walnut**  
*Juglans major*



Photographs taken by: Page, Lee, Wait, Damon E., Bruce Marlin

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



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