



Fall Symposium
October 16-19
Texarkana Convention Center
4610 Cowhorn Creek Road

- Accommodations
- Contests
- Floral Arrangement Contest
- Field Trips
- Plant Lists
- Proceedings
- RV Travel Guide
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Texarkana Convention Center and Hilton Garden Inn

A block of rooms has been reserved at the **Hilton Garden Inn** for \$89 per night plus tax for single or double rooms for up to two people. Make reservations by calling the hotel at 903-792-1065, or register on-line. The hotel address is 2910 S. Cowhorn Creek Loop.

Our symposium headquarters and the host hotel are newly built, both going online in late 2012. Headquarters will be the Texarkana Convention Center. Located at 4610 Cowhorn Creek Road—on the Texas side of Texarkana, just off Interstate 30—the spacious, environmentally friendly convention center boasts the prestigious LEED certification by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Conveniently adjoining the convention center is the host hotel, the Hilton Garden Inn Texarkana, also green-built. Each Hilton room offers a mini-fridge, microwave oven, coffee pot, flat-screen TV, free Wi-Fi and more. Shopping and dining abound within a mile or two of the convention center and hotel, though most meals will be provided with the symposium registration fee.

If you are traveling by RV, there are [\[weaver_popup_link href=http://npsot.org/vp/symposium2014/?page_id=114' h=750' w=400' scrollbars=false\]numerous campgrounds available](http://npsot.org/vp/symposium2014/?page_id=114)[\[weaver_popup_link\]](#).

Texarkana is located on Interstate 30, about 175 miles east of Dallas (just more than 2 1/2 hours) on the border with Arkansas. The convention center and host hotel are located 13 minutes from Texarkana Regional Airport, which is served by American Eagle Airlines, and 9 minutes from Amtrak's Texas Eagle station on the Arkansas side.

For more information
contact
State Coordinator
Pam Middleton
830.997.9272
state@npsot.org



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Photo Judging at the 2010 Symposium. Photo by Bill Hopkins



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There will be a Photo Contest at the Symposium and a Floral Arrangement Contest. [Go to Floral Arrangement Contest](#)

Photo Contest

All photographers are invited to enter a photo contest of images featuring Texas native plants and landscapes. Contest judging will be conducted during the symposium via a popular vote by attendees. Previous years' entries may be viewed in [the Society's SmugMug gallery](#).

Entries will be grouped into Professional and Amateur classes. If you've ever sold a photograph, you must enter the Professional division. Three subject categories may be entered: native Texas plants in bloom, native Texas plants not in bloom, and native Texas plants in natural or scenic landscapes.

1. Photographs entered must be of plants native to Texas.
2. Each photographer may enter a maximum of two mounted prints, either B&W or color, in each category for a total of six photos.
3. Photographs entered in previous contests are not eligible.
4. Mounted prints of your entries must be brought to the photo exhibit area at the symposium by noon on Friday, October 17.
5. Prints must measure from 5" x 7" to 8" x 10" inches in size.
6. Prints must be mounted on a firm backing such as mat-board or foam-board. Backing should be the same size as print. No framed or glass/acrylic covering is allowed.
7. In addition to the mounted print, a digital copy of the photo in JPG or TIF format must be emailed to photocontest@npsot.org no later than Saturday, October 4.
8. Winning photographs may be published on the Native Plant Society of Texas website and newsletter. Other entries may also be used similarly.
9. Only the original photographer may enter a photograph.
10. Photographs not meeting all requirements will be disqualified.

A PDF file may be downloaded and printed of the photo contest entry form, and attached to the mounted photo.

All photos entered become the property of the Native Plant Society of Texas. By entering their photos, contestants agree that their work may be used for displays, publications and/or educational purposes of Native Plant Society of Texas. Photographers will be credited for their work with each use.

Certificates will be given to the first place winners in each class/category combination. Winners will be announced and awards presented at the symposium dinner held on Saturday evening October 18. Winning photographs may also be posted on our website and published in the newsletter.

Designing With Texas Natives Competition Guidelines

The Native Plant Society of Texas invites all chapters and individuals to participate in a Designing With Texas Natives competition. Arrangements will be on display for viewing and voting on by all symposium participants. Arrangements may be dried or fresh. All plant materials used must be native to the State of Texas.

Arrangements may be taken to the registration table at the symposium on the day of your arrival and must arrive by 11 am on Saturday, October 18th.

Please fill out [Designing with Texas Natives Information Form](#) and turn it in with your arrangement when you bring it to Registration.

1. All plant material must be native to the Texas. Please submit a species list with your arrangement. Common names are acceptable.
2. Plant material may be dried or fresh
3. No artificial colorants, dyes, or paints are allowed
4. Container of your choice
5. Size:
 - Maximum width/Length—24" X 12"
 - Height—unlimited
 - No minimum size limits

Winners will be chosen by a popular vote of all Symposium participants. Certificates will be awarded to the first, second and third place winners. Winners will be announced and awards presented at the dinner on Saturday evening, October 18.

All arrangements will remain the property of the designer and must be removed from the banquet hall on Saturday night following the banquet.

For more information, email the Designing With Natives chairperson Ruth Loper.

For more information
contact
State Coordinator
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Photo judging at the 2010 Symposium. Photo by Bill Hopkins



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For more information, email the Designing With Natives chairperson Ruth Loper.

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Home—Field Trips

Field Trips

THURSDAY

#T1 Site: Mary Talbot Prairie, west of New Boston, Texas

Description: Just west of New Boston, Texas, not far from the frenetic hustle-and-bustle of Interstate 30, lies one of the rarest sites left on Earth—a prairie never plowed, simply left alone, in its native condition, mowed only for hay by the family who had been its keeper for generations. The Mary Talbot Prairie is 114.87 acres of pristine, virgin prairie bursting with diverse plant species. Now owned by the Natives Prairies Association of Texas, Talbot Prairie is a *Silveus* Droopseed Prairie, in reference to the rare *Silveus* Droopseed grass that is actually dominant there. Along with the Big Four (Big and Little Bluestem, Indiangrass and Switchgrass), more than 300 species of plants have been recorded on this tallgrass prairie that features wet and dry zones, mima mounds and sights and sounds that can only be experienced when standing amid its swaying grasses on a fall day. NPAT is graciously offering this field trip three times during the course of the symposium events so that as many people as possible might visit this prairie.

Leaders: Native Prairies Association of Texas members

Website:

http://texasprairie.org/index.php/npat_prairies/location/mary_talbot_prairie/

Distance: About 30 miles west of hotel/convention center

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Start time/Duration: 2-4 p.m.

Max # of Attendees: N/A

Fees: None

Transport Mode: Member auto

Facilities: None, but city of New Boston is less than 8 miles away

[Mary Talbot Prairie Plant List](#)

[Directions to Mary Talbot Prairie Parking](#)

#T2 Site: Miller County Sandhills Natural Heritage Area, south of Texarkana, Ark.

Description: One of the few remaining examples of relatively undisturbed sandhill vegetation in southwestern Arkansas, Miller County Sandhills Natural Area is marked by rolling hills and sandy soils. The dry sandy soils on the 274-acre property support a distinctive flora, which includes a number of species characteristic of similar sites in East Texas. The mixed habitats include open, sandhill grasslands; wooded and open seeps; pine forest; and oak woodlands marked by a number of "scrub species." This natural area, which is owned by the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission and the Nature Conservancy, supports more rare plant species than any other area in Arkansas' System of Natural Areas.

Leader: Joe Stuckey, retired anatomy-physiology professor, self-taught botanist, member: Arkansas Native Plant Society, Texarkana Audubon Society

Website: www.naturalheritage.com/natural-area/miller-county-sandhills/

Distance: 26 miles south of hotel/convention center. Natural Area is 1.5 miles from Texas border when driving northeast from Atlanta/U.S. 59; about 16 miles from Texas border when driving south from convention center.

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Start time/Duration: 2-4 p.m.

Max # of Attendees: N/A

Fees: None

Transport Mode: Member auto

Facilities: None. Last stop from southwest is Atlanta, 12.8 miles away; from north is Texarkana, about 20 miles away.

[Miller County Sandhills Natural Area Plant List](#)

#T3 Site: Walter B. Jacobs Memorial Nature Park, north of Shreveport, La.

Description: This is a 160-acre nature park within a pine-oak-hickory forest. Owned and maintained by Caddo Parish, La., the park features 5 miles of assorted crisscrossing nature trails, including a handicapped-accessible trail. Habitats range from forest to wetland to wildflower meadow. See a dwarf palmetto (*Sabal minor*) colony, along with a paw-paw (*Asimina triloba*) patch and massive examples of river birch (*Betula nigra*). An air-conditioned interpretive building offers visitors such educational opportunities as a plant room to teach children plant ID and use of dichotomous keys, a live animal room and numerous hands-on displays in the main room. A birds-of-prey aviary allows visitors an up-close view of an American bald eagle, several species of rescued owls and more. Other attractions include a deer pen, butterfly garden and picnic area.

Leader: Rusty Scarborough, senior park naturalist/park manager

Website: www.caddo.org/Facilities/Facility/Details/Walter-B-Jacobs-Memorial-Nature-Park-6

Distance: 75.8 miles south of hotel/convention center. Park is about 11 miles from Texas border, north of I-20.

Level of Difficulty: Easy to moderate hike. Walking shoes or boots, along with long pants, are strongly encouraged because poison ivy abounds near the trails. Bug spray, which the park offers, is encouraged because of chiggers.

Start time/Duration: 2-4 p.m.

Max # of Attendees: N/A

Fees: None

Transport Mode: Member auto

Facilities: Inside interpretive building

[Walter B. Jacobs Nature Park Plant List](#)

FRIDAY

#F1 Site: Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Karnack, Texas

Description: This refuge only opened to the public in September 2009, on land that was once the site of an Army ammunition plant, yet it protects some vastly important ecosystems, and its wetlands also support one of the most diverse plant communities in Texas, including cypress trees nearly 400 years old. Administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge is home to a number of wildlife and plants species listed as rare or threatened, and the wetlands of Caddo Lake are important to migratory bird species within the Central Flyway. This field trip aboard chartered bus will begin with a driving tour of the property, guided by Vanessa Neace, wildlife biologist with the adjacent Caddo Lake Wildlife Management Area. The tour will make stops along the way for short hikes to such sites as one of the highest quality old-growth bottomland hardwood forests remaining in the southeastern United States, the bottomlands along Harrison Bayou. Variable water levels and the creation of the ammunition plant in the 1940s have helped keep the 750 acres of bottomland forest safe from harvesting. Other stops include two highly disturbed signal test areas. The years of regular fire and other disturbances in the test areas have resulted in diverse native plant response, which include longleaf pine specimens that were planted by officials in the Department of Defense several decades ago. The tour also will include learning about ongoing shortleaf pine restoration efforts and the challenges posed in Northeast Texas. A final stop will allow field trip participants to browse the refuge visitors' center to learn more about the efforts to return the refuge to its pre-settlement condition and the Ramsar Caddo Lake Wetlands Visitors' Center to learn why Caddo Lake was designated a "Wetlands of International Significance" under an international treaty signed by more than 150 nations. Time permitting, a wildlife viewing trail across from the visitors' centers is an easy hike to view numerous wildflowers, trees and shrubs. AS AN ADDED BONUS, on the one-hour trip down to the refuge, #F1 participants will get to hear the legendary Harriet Page Potter Ames—"the Bravest Woman in Texas"—relay her story of life in the East Texas wilderness near Caddo Lake during the time of the birth of the Republic of Texas. Thanks to a project based on the historical novel "Love Is a Wild Assault" by Elite Hamilton Kirkland, an actress from Theatre Northeast of Northeast Texas Community College will portray Harriet Potter as she tells of her adventures and experiences during the violent and tumultuous era of Texas' birth. Kirkland based her 1920s novel on the actual memoirs kept by Potter.



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Leader: Vanessa Neace, wildlife biologist, TPWD, Caddo Lake Wildlife Management Area
Website: www.fws.gov/refuge/Caddo_Lake/about.html
Distance: 60.2 miles south of hotel/convention center
Level of Difficulty: Easy to moderate. A chartered bus will tour the grounds, with stops along the way for optional hikes to various sites. A walking trail across from the visitor's center is an easy hike. Boots and bug spray are suggested.
Start time/Duration: 1-5:30 p.m.
Max # of Attendees: 53
Fees: None
Transport Mode: Chartered bus
Facilities: Onboard bus and at visitor's center at refuge
[Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge Plant List](#)

#F2 Site: Caddo Lake State Park/Graceful Ghost boat ride, Karnack, Texas
Description: This field trip option is chock full of adventure. A chartered bus will carry participants to Karnack and shuttle them to various destinations. Participants will split their time between hiking the 3/4-mile nature trail at scenic Caddo Lake State Park and taking an optional ride on a steamboat across a part of hauntingly beautiful Caddo Lake. Caddo Lake State Park, built in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps, highlights the famous lake for which it's named. One of the world's natural treasures, Caddo Lake is the only naturally formed large lake in Texas. The hiking trail covers a range of habitats, from bottomland hardwood forest to upland pine-oak-hickory forest. You'll see a colony of paw-paws (*Asimina triloba*), along with numerous ferns, fall wildflowers and much more. The Graceful Ghost paddlewheel steamboat is a replica of an 1890s excursion steamboat and is the last known operating steamboat in the U.S. The boat ride will be an additional \$16 for those who choose to ride, collectible at the ticket office. The field trip will begin at park headquarters, where an interpretive center offers information on flora and fauna found at the park and displays on how the lake was formed, about the Caddo Nation that once lived in the area and the CCC that built the park. Half of the field trip group will then proceed onto the trail, while the other half will embark on the boat ride, at a site outside the park. At the end of each, the two groups will trade places, with each having an opportunity to walk the trail and ride the steamboat. (Those who elect not to ride the boat may take advantage of the park's attractions for the afternoon.) AS AN ADDED BONUS, on the one-hour trip down to the park, #F2 participants will get to hear the legendary Harriet Page Potter Ames —"the Bravest Woman in Texas"—relay her story of life in the East Texas wilderness near Caddo Lake during the early years of the Republic of Texas. Thanks to a project based on the historical novel "Love Is a Wild Assault" by Elithe Hamilton Kirkland, an actress from Theatre Northeast of Northeast Texas Community College will portray Harriet Potter as she tells of her adventures and experiences during the violent and tumultuous era of Texas' birth. Kirkland based her 1959 novel on the actual memoirs kept by Potter.

Leader: Mia Brown, park interpretive specialist
Websites: www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/caddo-lake, www.gracefulghost.com
Distance: Park: 58.8 miles south of hotel/convention center. Boat: 1.8 miles north of park.
Level of Difficulty: Moderate—trail does have some steep hills and steps. Bug spray is encouraged because of chiggers.
Start time/Duration: 1-5:30 p.m. (Trail will take 1½-2 hours, boat ride lasts ¼ hours, plus boarding time.)
Max # of Attendees: 53
Fees: \$16 fee to ride paddleboat (optional) (pay at boat)
Transport Mode: Chartered bus
Facilities: Onboard bus and at park
[Caddo Lake State Park Plant List](#)

#F3 Mary Talbot Prairie, West of New Boston, TX
Just west of New Boston, Texas, not far from the frenetic hustle-and-bustle of Interstate 30, lies one of the rarest sites left on Earth—a prairie never plowed, simply left alone, in its native condition, mowed only for hay by the family who had been its keeper for generations. The Mary Talbot Prairie is 114.87 acres of pristine, virgin prairie bursting with diverse plant species. Now owned by the Natives Prairies Association of Texas, Talbot Prairie is a *Silveus*' Dropseed Prairie, in reference to the rare *Silveus*' Dropseed grass that is actually dominant there. Along with the Big Four (Big Bluestem, Little Bluestem, Indiangrass and Switchgrass), more than 300 species of plants have been recorded on this tallgrass prairie that features wet and dry zones, mima mounds and sights and sounds that can only be experienced when standing amid its swaying grasses on a fall day. Participants will then return to the convention center parking lot between 4:30pm-5:00pm to board a bus to dinner in Karnack and hear local historian, Bob Vernon, tell about how the geography and destiny of East Texas and its people were changed by a log jam. (NOTE: This is a repeat of #T1.)
Leader: Native Prairies Association of Texas members
Website: http://texasprairie.org/index.php/npat_prairies/location/mary_talbot_prairie/
Distance: About 30 miles west of hotel/convention center
Level of Difficulty: Easy
Start time/Duration: 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Max # of Attendees: 17
Fees: None
Transport Mode: Member auto/carpool, must return to convention center to board bus 4:30-5:00 p.m. for dinner in Karnack
Facilities: None, but city of New Boston is less than 8 miles away.
[Mary Talbot Prairie Plant List](#)

#F4 Red Slough Wildlife Management Area, South of Haworth, OK
If you're a birder, this is the field trip for you. Red Slough Wildlife Management Area, just over the border in Oklahoma, features a series of lakes and wetlands teeming with birds and other wildlife. Covering 7,800 acres and intersected by Push Creek, this WMA offers habitat that consists of reclaimed rice farm fields, bottomland hardwoods, small areas of open prairie, replanted hardwood areas and seven reservoirs that cover 397 acres. Several lookout platforms allow visitors to enjoy elevated views of the reservoirs and their wildlife. Some 305 species of birds have been recorded at this WMA, which is jointly managed by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, U.S. Forest Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. A recipient of the prestigious National "Taking Wing" Award for habitat restoration, Red Slough also has a waterfowl refuge. You'll see such varied species as American lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*) in abundance in some of the small lakes, carnivorous bladderwort (*Utricularia gibba*) in the wetlands, a near-solid groundcover of dwarf palmetto (*Sabal minor*) in the bottomlands, roughleaf dogwood (*Cornus drummondii*) on the levees and numerous shrubs and wildflowers in the prairie areas. Besides a plant species list, attendees of this field trip will be given a bird species list. Field trip leader David Arbour expects our October field trips to be a good time to spot numerous migrating bird species. Participants will then return to the convention center parking lot between 4:30pm-5:00pm to board a bus to dinner in Karnack and hear local historian, Bob Vernon, tell about how the geography and destiny of East Texas and its people were changed by a log jam. (NOTE: This Field Trip also is offered on Sunday morning.)
Leader: David Arbour, biologist's aide, Red Slough WMA
Website: www.wildlifedepartment.com/facts_maps/wma/redslough.htm
Distance: 54.1 miles northeast of hotel/convention center, just more than 1 hour. WMA is located about 8 miles total across Texas border.
Level of Difficulty: Easy—this will be driving over sometimes rough or boggy terrain, with stops for hikes to various sites of interest.
Start time/Duration: 12:45-3:00 p.m.
Max # of Attendees: 17
Fees: None
Transport Mode: Member auto/carpool (truck or SUV suggested), must return to convention center to board bus 4:30-5:00 p.m. for dinner in Karnack
Facilities: None. Closest town is De Kalb, Texas, about 22 miles to the south on U.S. 82, just east of intersection with U.S. 259
[Red Slough Wildlife Management Area Plant List](#)

#F5 White Cliffs Natural Area, Northeast of Ashdown, AR
See the Texas Hill Country just over the border in Southwest Arkansas! Because of a large

outcrop of Annona chalk, Arkansas' White Cliffs Natural Area features vegetation, such as ash juniper, characteristic of that found on Texas' Edwards Plateau. A 100-foot-high chalk bluff overlooking Little River gives the natural area its name. The mostly wooded nature trail leads hikers through relatively unique area topography characterized by knolls, ridges and ravines. This property, owned by the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, showcases the largest and least disturbed Arkansas occurrences of chalk woodland. Participants will then return to the convention center parking lot between 4:30pm-5:00pm to board a bus to dinner in Karnack and hear local historian, Bob Vernon, tell about how the geography and destiny of East Texas and its people were changed by a log jam.

Leader: Peter Loos, Native Plant Society of Texas past state president
Website: www.naturalheritage.com/natural-area/white-cliffs/
Distance: 38 miles north of hotel/convention center
Level of Difficulty: Easy to moderate, with paved section of ADA-accessible trail
Start time/Duration: 12:30-3:00 p.m., about 1.75-mile trail
Max # of Attendees: 17
Fees: None
Transport Mode: Member auto/carpool, must return to convention center to board bus 4:30-5:00 p.m. for dinner in Karnack
Facilities: Available in picnic area downhill from trailhead parking lot
[White Cliffs Natural Area Plant List](#)

SUNDAY MORNING

#S1 Site: Private Property of Pam and David Adams, south of Atlanta, Texas

Description: This 35-acre property owned by NPSOT member Pam Adams and her husband, David, has had 114 species of native plants cataloged on it so far. The land, which has been in Pam's family for at least 45 years, features a pond, bog area and hilly, wooded uplands. Black Bayou runs along the back of the family's property line. The pond was dredged and enlarged three years ago, but maintenance generally is restricted to "brush-hogging" the area around the pond twice a year, allowing the abundant native plants time to flower and reseed. Pam's yard around their home is landscaped mostly with native plants and is highlighted by a picturesque potting shed built for her by David.

Leader: Ron Loper, Ruth Loper, Sonnia Hill—members/past presidents: Tyler Chapter (Ron is past state president)
Distance: About 29.2 miles southwest of hotel/convention center (Trip home: About 2.7 miles north to U.S. 59 in Atlanta)
Level of Difficulty: Easy to slightly moderate—the area is hilly and includes a bog area. Boots and bug spray are suggested.
Start time/Duration: 10 a.m.-noon
Max # of Attendees: N/A
Fees: None
Transport Mode: Member auto
Facilities: City of Atlanta is less than 3 miles away.
[Property of Pam and David Adams Plant List](#)

#S2 Site: Black Mountain Gardens, south of Daingerfield, Texas

Description: Less than a mile off U.S. 259, sits Black Mountain Gardens—Northeast Texas' only retail nursery specializing in native plants. Located midway between the towns of Daingerfield and Lone Star, Black Mountain Gardens is nestled in the side of a hill known locally as "Black Mountain." Co-owners Belinda McCoy McLaughlin and her mom, Margie McCoy, opened the nursery in 2011 on land that was once Margie's parents' farm. Belinda has created display beds for Black Mountain Gardens in the yard where her grandmother first began teaching her to garden when Belinda was a child. Butterflies, hummingbirds and blooms abound in the casual setting of this country nursery featuring native trees, shrubs, vines, grasses, groundcovers, perennials and annuals, along with heirlooms and herbs. (Members will receive a 10 percent discount on any purchases made during this field trip.)

Leader: Belinda McCoy McLaughlin, co-owner, past state president
Website: www.blackmtngardens.com
Distance: 66.4 miles southwest of hotel/convention center (Trip home: 23.6 miles northwest to I-30 in Mt. Pleasant, 41 miles south to I-20 in Longview)
Level of Difficulty: Easy
Start time/Duration: 10 a.m.-noon
Max # of Attendees: N/A
Fees: None
Transport Mode: Member auto
Facilities: Available on property

#S3 Site: Royal Hills, Private Property of Royal Tyler, east of Vivian, La.

Description: This 153-acre private property in Northwest Louisiana typifies a common use for land in the great southern pine forest—it's being used as a pine plantation. However, landowner Royal Tyler, an experienced land manager with a degree in forestry, also is a naturalist who takes a proactive approach to managing his land for native plants and wildlife. He and his wife purchased the property in 2005 after it had been planted heavily in pines in 2000. After a drastic thinning and a cool burn several years ago, the land is now beginning to generate a diversity of native plant species across its habitats, which range from wooded sandhill uplands to open wildflower/grasslands to bottomlands. Areas that Royal is managing for wildflowers are being allowed to regenerate naturally. The property also includes about 25 acres of cypress creeks with a couple of large seeps. After removing undesirable species, Royal is now seeing generation of varied native creek-side vegetation, including Jack-in-the-pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*) and numerous native fern species. The property is easily accessible by a series of roads and trails Royal built and maintains. Amenities include a camp house with screened-in porch, air conditioning and bathroom facilities.

Leader: Royal Tyler, owner, member: Louisiana Native Plant Society
Website: www.flickr.com/photos/royalhillsphotography/sets/72157633978184374/
Distance: About 57.4 miles, just more than 1 hour south of hotel/convention center (Trip home: About 32 miles south to I-20 in Shreveport, La.; 34 miles west to U.S. 59 in Jefferson, Texas)
Level of Difficulty: Easy to slightly moderate—this tour will be driving over roads the land owner has cut through wooded terrain, with stops for hikes to various sites of interest, including boggy areas.
Start time/Duration: 10 a.m.-noon
Max # of Attendees: N/A
Fees: None
Transport Mode: Member auto
Facilities: Available on property

#S4 Site: Red Slough Wildlife Management Area, south of Haworth, Okla.

Description: If you're a birder, this is the field trip for you. Red Slough Wildlife Management Area, just over the border in Oklahoma, features a series of lakes and wetlands teeming with birds. Covering 7,800 acres and intersected by Push Creek, this WMA offers habitat that consists of reclaimed rice farm fields, bottomland hardwoods, small areas of open prairie, replanted hardwood areas and seven reservoirs that cover 397 acres. Lookout stations allow visitors to enjoy elevated views of the reservoirs and their wildlife. Some 305 species of birds have been recorded at this WMA, which is jointly managed by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, U.S. Forest Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. A recipient of the prestigious National "Taking Wing" Award for habitat restoration, Red Slough also has a waterfowl refuge. You'll see such varied species as American lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*) in abundance in some of the small lakes, carnivorous bladderwort (*Utricularia gibba*) in the wetlands, a near-solid groundcover of dwarf palmetto (*Sabal minor*) in the bottomlands, roughleaf dogwood (*Cornus drummondii*) on the levees and numerous shrubs and wildflowers in the prairie areas. Besides a plant species list, attendees of this field trip will be given a bird species list. Field trip leader David Arbour expects our October field trips to be a good time to spot numerous migrating bird species. (NOTE: This is a repeat of #F3B.)

Leader: David Arbour, biologist's aide, Red Slough WMA
Website: www.wildlifedepartment.com/facts_maps/wma/redslough.htm
Distance: 54.1 miles northeast of hotel/convention center, just more than 1 hour. WMA is located about 8 miles total across Texas border. (Trip home: 37 miles south to I-30)
Level of Difficulty: Easy—this will be driving over sometimes rough or boggy terrain,

with stops for hikes to various sites of interest.

Start time/Duration: 12:45-3 p.m.

Max # of Attendees: N/A

Fees: None

Transport Mode: Member auto (truck or SUV suggested).

Facilities: None. Closest town is De Kalb, Texas, about 22 miles to the south on U.S. 82, just east of intersection with U.S. 259.

[Red Slough Wildlife Management Area Plant List](#)

#S5 Site: Mary Talbot Prairie, west of New Boston, Texas

Description: Just west of New Boston, Texas, not far from the frenetic hustle-and-bustle of Interstate 30, lies one of the rarest sites left on Earth—a prairie never plowed, simply left alone, in its native condition, mowed only for hay by the family who had been its keeper for generations. The Mary Talbot Prairie is 114.87 acres of pristine, virgin prairie bursting with diverse plant species. Now owned by the Natives Prairies Association of Texas, Talbot Prairie is a Silveus' Dropseed Prairie, in reference to the rare Silveus' Dropseed grass that is actually dominant there. Along with the Big Four (Big and Little Bluestem, Indiangrass and Switchgrass), more than 300 species of plants have been recorded on this tallgrass prairie that features wet and dry zones, mima mounds and sights and sounds that can only be experienced when standing amid its swaying grasses on a fall day. (NOTE: This is a repeat of #T1 and #F3A.)

Leader: Native Prairies Association of Texas members

Website:

http://texasprairie.org/index.php/npat_prairies/location/mary_talbot_prairie/

Distance: About 30 miles west of hotel/convention center (Trip home: About 3 miles north to I-30)

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Start time/Duration: 10 a.m.-noon

Max # of Attendees: N/A

Fees: None

Transport Mode: Member auto

Facilities: None, but city of New Boston is less than 8 miles away.

[Mary Talbot Prairie Plant List](#)

For more information
contact
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830.997.9272
state@nosot.org



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[Home](#) → [Plant Lists](#)

Plant Lists

Click on a field trip name to download a plant list:

[Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge Plant List](#)

[Caddo Lake State Park Plant List](#)

[Mary Talbot Prairie Plant List](#)

[Miller County Sandhills Natural Area Plant List](#)

[Property of Pam and David Adams Plant List](#)

[Red Slough Wildlife Management Area Plant List](#)

[Walter B. Jacobs Nature Park Plant List](#)

[White Cliffs Natural Area Plant List](#)

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4610 Cowhorn Creek Road

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Proceedings

You can download a pdf copy of the Symposium Proceedings. A limited supply of printed copies is available through our State Office.

npsot.org/SP/SymposiumProceedings_2014.pdf



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RV Travel Guide
Clear Springs Campground (Public Corps) 903-838-8781
Mallard Bay (Public Corps) 903-832-9161
Shady Pines RV park 10010 West 7 th Hwy 67 South, Texarkana 903-832-1268
Piney Point (Public Corps) Wright Patman Lake 903-838-8781
Rocky Point (Public Corps) 903-838-8781
Texarkana KOA 800-467-5521

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[Home](#)—[Silent Auction](#)



Tricia Hopkins donated this quilt to be raffled at the symposium. The blocks include painted images of all 50 state flowers, plus a few more.



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As in years past Symposium 2014 will feature a silent auction and a raffle to raise money for the Kate Hillhouse Scholarship Fund which endows undergraduate scholarships.

Raffle tickets will be available from chapter presidents before the Symposium this year and will also be available during the Symposium. The winning ticket will be drawn at the Awards Banquet.

Donations to the Silent Auction are open to anyone – individuals, chapters, and businesses. Just about anything can be donated. Whether it is a favorite native plant book, a plant, a gift certificate to a restaurant or B&B, a birdhouse, seeds, seed balls, garden ornaments, or a treasure of your own making, your donation contributes to a good work.

Please bring auction items with you to the symposium. During the symposium, donations will be accepted Thursday evening through Saturday afternoon.

Download the donation form or call the State Office at 830-997-9272 to receive the form by mail. Fill out the form to let us know in advance about the items you will be donating. Forms will also be available at the symposium. Send an email to silentauction@npsot.org so that the committee knows how to plan space for the silent auction items.

If you will not be at the meeting or if transporting items is a problem, send the items along with a donation form to the State Office (320 W. San Antonio St., Fredericksburg TX 78624) by Friday, October 10.

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Home—Schedule

Texarkana Convention Center
October 16-19, 2014
Program Schedule

Subject to change without notice / Updated schedules available at symposium

Thursday, October 16			
Time	Event	Speaker	Location
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Inbound Field Trips		
12:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Exhibits and Vendor Set-up		CMR C
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Registration and Check-in		SE Hall
	Speaker Check-in		SE Hall
	Delivery of Silent Auction Items to Auction Receiving Area		CMR C
	Delivery of Flower and Plant Arrangements		
	Delivery of Photos to Photo Contest Area		
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm	Welcome Reception - Hamburger Cookout		Patio
	50 Years of Bluebirds and Nature in Nesting Boxes	Keith Kridler	CMR B
Friday, October 17			
Time	Event	Speaker	Location
6:30 am - 8:00 am	Breakfast		CMR B
7:00 am - 11:00 am	Registration and Check-in		SE Hall
	Speaker Check-in		
	T-shirt Sales Open		
	Exhibits and Vendor Area Open		CMR C
	Delivery of Silent Auction Items to Auction Receiving Area		
	Delivery of Photos to Contest Area—entry deadline: 11:00 am		
Friday General Session			
8:00 am - 8:15 am	Welcome and Introductions	Hopkins	CMR B
8:15 am - 9:00 am	Ecoregions of the Four Corners Area	Singhurst	
9:00 am - 9:45 am	Tallgrass Prairies of NE Texas	White	
9:45 am - 10:00 am	Break		
10:00 am - 11:00 am	State Board Meeting		HMR 1
11:00 am - 11:30 am	Field Trip participants pick up lunches and board buses for #F1-#F2		South Hall
11:30 am - 6:30 pm	Field Trips (#F3-#F4-#F5 travel in personal vehicles)		
5:00 pm	Field Trips #F3-#F4-#F5 participants' bus leaves Texarkana for Karnack		South Hall
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Dinner in Karnack		Big Pines Restaurant
7:30 pm	Back to Nature: Returning to My Roots	Greg Grant	
Saturday, October 18			
Time	Event	Speaker	Location
6:30 am - 8:00 am	Breakfast		CMR B
7:00 am - 10:30 am	Registration and Check-in		SE Hall
7:00 am - 5:00 pm	Silent Auction Open for Bidding		CMR C
	Exhibits and Vendor Area Open		
Saturday General Session			
8:00 am - 8:15 am	Announcements		CMR B
8:15 am - 9:00 am	Remnants in a Primeval Forest	Liggio	
9:00 am - 9:45 am	Flora of Northwest Louisiana, Part of the Caddo Homeland	Allen	
9:45 am - 10:00 am	Break		
10:00 am - 10:45 am	Ferns of Texas: Why the Lone Star State Is So Special	Diggs	
10:45 am - 11:45 am	Bottomland Hardwoods	Van Kley	
11:45 am - 12:45 pm	Lunch/Annual Meeting		CMR B
12:45 pm - 1:15 pm	Chapter Leaders' Meeting	Perz	Green Room
1:15 pm - 1:30 pm	Break		
1:30 pm - 2:15 pm	Breakout Session 1		
	Ornamental Native Plants for Four Corners	Loos	HMR 1
	The Chapter Workshops: What Are We Learning?	Perz & Childs	CMR 3
	Twenty-Five Years in Texas: Remarkable Plants, Enchanting Discoveries	Holmes	HMR 2

2:25 pm - 3:10 pm	Breakout Session 2		
	Butterflies: Creating Habitat They Love with Native Plants	McCoy McLaughlin	HMR 1
	Grants Can Help Fund Your Chapter's Projects	Carter	CMR 3
	Virtual Herbarium	Pena	HMR 2
3:20 pm - 4:05 pm	Breakout Session 3		
	The Red River's 'Great Raft' - How the geography and destiny of East Texas and its peoples were shaped by a log jam	Vernon	HMR 1
	Steps to Starting the Native Landscape Certification Program in Your Area	Inglis	CMR 3
	Monarchs	Kiphart	HMR 2
4:15 pm - 5:00 pm	Breakout Session 4		
	Trees & Drought	Cooper	CMR 3
	Mushrooms of East Texas	Lewis	HMR 1
	Restoring and Managing Forests to Pre-Settlement Conditions in Tyler State Park	Jenkins	HMR 2
5:30 pm	Flower and Plant Arrangement Closes		CMR C
	Silent Auction Bidding Closes		
	Exhibits and Vendor Area Closes		
	Photo Contest Voting Ends		
6:15 pm	Silent Auction Check-out Begins		
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Social Hour - Cash Bar		CMR B
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Awards Banquet		
	A Standing Miracle: George Washington	Morris	

Sunday, October 19

Time	Event	Location
8:00 am - 10:00 am	T-shirt Sales	SE Hall
8:00 am - 12:00 pm	Exhibits and Vendor Tear-Down	CMR C
10:00 am	Outbound Field Trips begin—Please check travel times so you will arrive at FT site before 10 am	

CMR = Convention Center Meeting Room

HMR Hotel Meeting Room

Map of Meeting Rooms



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Biographies of speakers and workshop presenters

Dr. Charles Allen is a Senior Botanist with Colorado State University stationed at Fort Polk, Louisiana. He and his wife Susan own and operate Allen Acres B&B, a nature oriented paradise in west central Louisiana where he organizes and leads many area field trips. Charles is a retired Professor of Biology from the University of Louisiana at Monroe and a charter member and past President of the Louisiana Native Plant Society (LNPS). He has been a member of NPSOT since 2002 and has attended all symposia since. He is the coauthor of *Edible Plants of the Gulf South* and has presented plant talks and walks to many groups not only in Louisiana but also in Kansas, North Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Texas. He is also the coauthor of *Wildflowers of Louisiana* plus *Trees Shrubs and Woody Vines of Louisiana* and *Grasses of Louisiana*, 3rd ed.

Cecil Carter has experience in both writing grants and administering a grant fund. He is currently V.P. Finance. He has also been president of the Trinity Forks Chapter. Cecil also serves on five other non-profit boards.

Lonnie Childs is a retired business executive currently pursuing his life-long interest in history and nature. He is the immediate Past President of the Society.

George Diggs is a botanist and evolutionary biologist who has taught for more than 30 years at Austin College in Sherman. His research interests include the flora of Texas, evolution as it relates to human health, biogeography, and the systematics of the Ericaceae (the blueberry family). He has co-authored four books and more than 30 scientific articles. In his research he has traveled to all seven continents.

Walter C. Holmes, a native of LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in botany from Louisiana Tech University and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in botany from Mississippi State University. Currently, he is Professor of Biology at Baylor University. During the Viet Nam era, he served as a naval officer and pilot. In 2000, he was awarded a senior research fellowship at the United States National Herbarium of the Smithsonian Institution. Walter, and his wife Nan, live near Robinson. He enjoys gardening, outdoor sports, traditional carpentry, cooking, raising chickens, playing the ukulele, and spending time with his grandchildren.

Meg Inglis was recently hired to coordinate the implementation of the Native Landscape Certification Program throughout Texas. She is an active member of the Austin Chapter. She is also a Hays County Master Naturalist and enjoys restoring her 2-acre property near Dripping Springs.

Kay Jenkins has a B.S. and M.S. Forestry from Stephen F. Austin State University, M.S. Environmental Science from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. She began working for Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in 1998, first as a coastal ecologist with the Coastal Fisheries Division and in 2005 as a natural resource specialist for the State Parks Division in south Texas and since 2008 in northeast Texas.

Ridlon “Kip” Kiphart, a Monarch Larval Monitoring Project Trainer and a Monarch Watch Conservation Specialist, has been giving monarch workshops and presentations throughout Texas since 2002. He is past president of the Boerne Chapter of NPSOT and has been awarded the Presidential Volunteer Service Award from the President's Council on Service and Participation in 2008, the Cibolo Nature Center Stewardship Award in 2012 and the Texas Master Naturalist 10,000 Service Hours Award in 2012.

Keith Kridler is co-author of *The Bluebird Monitor's Guide*, a Cornell Bird Library Guide published in 2001. A founding member of the Lake Country Chapter, he also is a charter member of Cypress Basin Master Gardeners in Titus County (Mt. Pleasant). He was a co-founder of the Texas Bluebird Society and has served on its board and as an officer and is now a life member. In addition, he is a charter member, and now life member, of the North American Bluebird Society and has served on its board and as vice president. He also farms daffodils and has served as vice president of the Texas Daffodil Society.

David P. Lewis is a retired chemist and dedicated mycologist, with a B.S. and M.S. from Lamar University, where his master's thesis was based on a study of East Texas mushrooms. Currently a research associate with the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago and an honorary staff member of the Tracy Herbarium at Texas A&M University, he's also the Fungal Taxonomic Working Group leader for the Big Thicket National Preserve All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory. President of the Gulf States Mycological Society since 1998, he has led many mushroom walks, looked for new fungal records for the Gulf coast and offered his fungal knowledge to many naturalist groups. In his mycological papers, David has described many species new to science, and is proud to have had several named for him. In return, David has received The North American Mycological Association's award for contributions to amateur mycology, and the R.E. Jackson Conservation Award from the Big Thicket Association. He and his wife Patricia, whom he met at a mushroom foray, live on 60 forested acres in Newton County, where they enjoy plants, fungi and wildlife.

Joe Liggio is a plant ecologist and environmental consultant. He and his wife, Ann, wrote *Wild Orchids of Texas*, published in 1999 by the University of Texas Press. He is a nature photographer and writer and has been published in various magazines including *Texas Highways*, *Texas Parks and Wildlife Magazine* and *Orchids*, the American Orchid Society magazine. He is currently on the board of directors for the Watson Rare Native Plant Preserve.

Peter Loos is a botanist at heart, a horticulturist by trade, and a plant ecologist in his spare time. His professional experiences and a master's degree from Stephen F. Austin State University have contributed to his extensive knowledge of Gulf Coast native plants and related ecological issues. Peter is unyielding in his promotion of biodiversity and belongs to many conservation and green industry organizations.

Belinda McCoy McLaughlin is co-owner of Black Mountain Gardens, a nursery featuring natives, heirlooms and herbs and located outside Daingerfield. A 20-year member of the Society, she is a co-founder of four chapters—Northeast Texas, Caddo Wildflower, Four Corners and Lake Country. She has served on numerous state committees and has received the Benny J. Simpson Fellows Award for service to the Society. Belinda has been a certified Texas Master Gardener since 1998 and has instructed Master Gardener classes all across Northeast Texas and into Arkansas. A native and current resident of Daingerfield, she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism from Texas A&M University in College Station. Belinda has been a newspaper editor, a columnist, a freelance book editor, a freelance magazine writer, a garden speaker and a continuing education instructor. She has been sharing her passion for native plants with audiences and anyone else who will listen since starting that first chapter in 1995.

Raul V. Pena and his wife bought some property here in the Texas Hill Country 18 years ago. Within the first two years they identified over 200 different wildflowers on our land. At that time virtual herbariums were almost useless for identifying plants because they were nothing more than a collection of pictures grouped by family. The other resource was flipping through the pages of wildflowers books until you found a picture that matched your plant. That was what motivated me to develop a search engine that anybody could easily use to identify wildflowers. This was about the time that Barbara Lowenthal was compiling taxonomic descriptions of plants for the Riverside Nature Center in Kerrville. With these descriptions and pictures donated by over 47 members of the Native Plant Society and the Texas Master Naturalist Program, he was able to develop a relational database with a user-friendly interface that allows anyone to select characteristics they see in a plant to identify it. Although his degree is in Biology, he spent most of his career with



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Shell Development in software support and a software development group. He and his wife are long term members of the Kerrville Chapter.

Dennis Perz is a member of the Williamson County Chapter. He currently serves as VP – Chapter Liaison and is a member of the NLCP Steering Committee. He is a retired engineer and resides near Georgetown.

Dr. James Van Kley is originally from Grand Rapids, Michigan where he received his B.S. degree from Calvin College. He received his M.S. degree from Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan and obtained his Ph.D. in Forest ecology from Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana. He currently teaches Biology at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas where his courses include Botany, Local flora, Plant taxonomy, Plant ecology, and Aquatic vascular plants. Dr. Van Kley's research focuses on patterns of vegetation across the east Texas landscape and how these patterns relate to environmental and biotic factors. His studies include the development of an ecological land classification system for the National Forests in Texas and Louisiana, observing changes in wetland vegetation at northeast Texas' Caddo Lake resulting from the invasion of non-native species (giant salvinia, water hyacinth, alligator weed and Chinese Tallow tree); and patterns of diversity of Mycorrhizal fungi in East Texas forests in relation to the plant community, seasonality, habitat type, and host plant. Dr. Van Kley is curator of the ASTC Herbarium at SFASU, which includes nearly 80,000 specimens and he maintains the *Pineywoods Plants Digital Gallery* website which aims to photographically document the region's native and naturalized plants.

Bob Vernon is a physical chemist and microstructures researcher, whose retirement avocations include service as a Texas Historical Commission Archeological Steward and Chairman of the Cass County Historical Commission. His pursuits include cartography, overhead imagery analysis and the discovery and mapping of abandoned trails, traces, roads and railways. His interest in native plants focuses on those upon which prehistoric people and historic settlers depended for sustenance and medicine.

Matt White teaches American History at Paris Junior College. He is the author of *Prairie Time and the Birds of Northeast Texas*. He is an unabashed wildflower enthusiast and advocate for native plants and native landscapes.

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[Home](#)—[Vendor/Exhibitor](#)

Tentative schedule of activities for exhibitors and vendors

- Thursday, October 16, 12:00 noon vendor/exhibit setup begins
- Friday, October 18 7:00am-11:30am vendor/exhibits area open to attendees
- Saturday, October 19 7:00am-6:00pm vendor/exhibits area open to attendees
- Sunday, October 20 Please clear the exhibits area by 12:00 noon.

[Download the Application.](#)

Pricing information for exhibit and vendor space

- Unstaffed Educational Display: No fee. One (1) 6-ft. skirted table will be provided.
- Staffed Educational Exhibit (no sales): \$60. 6 ft. x 6 ft. space with one skirted table and a chair. (Breakfast and lunch for one person included).
- Vendor: \$120 6 ft. x 6 ft. space with one skirted table and a chair. (Breakfast and lunch for one person included).
- Sponsors will be provided space according to their sponsorship level.

Notes:

1. For Staffed Educational Exhibits, Vendors, and Sponsors ONLY, registration fee includes morning and noon meals for one (1) person on Friday and Saturday.
2. Please indicate electrical or other special requirements on the application form.
3. Additional space is available. Please contact us for pricing.

Deadline for applications is October 1, 2014.

For inquiries or more information, please contact [Kay Lowery](#)

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[Home](#)—[Workshops](#)

Workshops

Workshops are presented in four time periods of 45 minutes each. See the schedule for times. You can register for one workshop in each time period.

A1 Peter Loos, Ornamental Native Plants for Four Corners

Peter Loos, is a botanist at heart, a horticulturist by trade, and a plant ecologist in his spare time.

This presentation and accompanying paper will address some of the plants native to the four corners region (that is, the Texarkana area) that are worthy for usage in ornamental horticulture as landscape plants. Although several species are well known and widely used, a majority of them have been over looked or just not utilized in gardening. With an ever increasingly popularity of our native flora has come the increased availability of material through responsible nursery growers. The presentation/paper will cover only a partial list of the flora native to the region. The plants/paper will be broken down into five categories, they being: Trees, Small Trees, Shrubs, Grasses/Sedges, and Herbaceous Species.

A2 Dennis Perz & Lonnie Childs, The Chapter Workshops: What are we learning?

Dennis Perz is the VP Chapter Liaison and Lonnie Childs is a former state president.

We set out to travel to as many chapters as practical to gather responses to two questions: member's personal needs from the Society and member's expectations about what the Society needs to accomplish. Several workshops have already been held around the state. This session will summarize what we are learning, what we are doing about the results in the short term, and what the longer term implications may be.

A3 Walter C. Holmes, Twenty-five Years in Texas: Remarkable Plants, Enchanting Discoveries

Walter C. Holmes is Professor of Biology at Baylor University.

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[Home](#)—[Workshops](#)

Workshops

Workshops are presented in four time periods of 45 minutes each. See the schedule for times. You can register for one workshop in each time period.

A1 Peter Loos, Ornamental Native Plants for Four Corners

Peter Loos, is a botanist at heart, a horticulturist by trade, and a plant ecologist in his spare time.

This presentation and accompanying paper will address some of the plants native to the four corners region (that is, the Texarkana area) that are worthy for usage in ornamental horticulture as landscape plants. Although several species are well known and widely used, a majority of them have been over looked or just not utilized in gardening. With an ever increasingly popularity of our native flora has come the increased availability of material through responsible nursery growers. The presentation/paper will cover only a partial list of the flora native to the region. The plants/paper will be broken down into five categories, they being: Trees, Small Trees, Shrubs, Grasses/Sedges, and Herbaceous Species.

A2 Dennis Perz & Lonnie Childs, The Chapter Workshops: What are we learning?

Dennis Perz is the VP Chapter Liaison and Lonnie Childs is a former state president.

We set out to travel to as many chapters as practical to gather responses to two questions: member's personal needs from the Society and member's expectations about what the Society needs to accomplish. Several workshops have already been held around the state. This session will summarize what we are learning, what we are doing about the results in the short term, and what the longer term implications may be.

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