NPSOT Meeting on March 3

For our March 3, 2020 meeting, we have Dana Wilson to speak on “Surviving and Thriving: Plant reproductive strategies that guarantee plants’ success.”

The meeting will be held in Laughlin Hall at the Heard Museum. Doors open about 6:30. The program starts at 7:15.

Upcoming NPSOT Meetings

For our April 7, 2020 meeting, we have Chase Brooke, Collin County Agricultural Agent to speak on “The Role of Agrilife.”

May 5, 2020 is our Annual Meadow Walk at The Heard. We will meet early – at 6 pm. A shorter walk will leave at 7 pm.

For our June 2, 2020 meeting, we have Lisa and Rick Travis to speak on “Tree Identification Fundamentals and Key North Texas Tree Species”.

Our Annual Stiff Creek Wildflower Walk will be May 2, 2020, starting at 9 AM. We will again start at the Laplante’s home, 4545 CR 412, McKinney. (See map on page 6.)

Following the walk, we will have a Potluck Brunch. Bring a dish. Refrigeration is available for the dishes as well as heating prior to serving.

The Garden Show Coming in March

The Collin County Master Gardeners Association 2020 edition of The Garden Show is coming soon to the Show Barn at Myers Park & Event Center in McKinney.

- Saturday, March 14 — 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
- Sunday, March 15 — 11:00 am to 5:00 pm

There will be educational and hands-on presentations, over 70 local vendors, speakers and entertainment, and tours of the Earth-Kind® Research and Demonstration Gardens.

We are scheduled to have a booth in conjunction with Monarch Watch again this year. We still need people to staff the booth on Saturday and Sunday, from opening until closing time. Experience is not necessary. We can easily train you! This event is always a fun one to work since there are so many interesting things to do, see, taste, and buy on your breaks.

Each year we have lots of high quality interactions with the public at this event, and the seed sales from this event both fund our chapter operations and get quality native plants out into local gardens. It’s one of our biggest funding opportunities for the year.

Native Plant Society of Texas – Collin County Chapter
Collin County NPSOT Newsletter

*The Heard Native Plant Sale Coming Up in April*

For over 30 years, veteran and novice gardeners alike have anticipated this rare opportunity to purchase plants from a huge selection of the best plants for North Central Texas gardens at the annual Spring Plant Sale. This year, we are offering natives, hard-to-find herbs, and well-adapted plants.

Volunteers from the Native Plant Society of Texas Collin County Chapter and the Blackland Prairie Master Naturalists will be available to help you select your new plants.

- The Heard Museum Members Only Pre-Sale will be available to Heard Museum members from 4-7 p.m. on April 17.
- The Spring Plant Sale will be open to the public, while supplies last, on April 18, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and April 19 from 1-5 p.m.

*At a Glance:*

- Native plants
- Hard-to-find herbs
- Well-adapted plants
- Native milkweed plants
- Nectar plants for butterflies, hummingbirds, and other pollinators
- All sales tax-free
- Get free information about the available plants
- Guests welcome to bring their own cart
- Proceeds benefit the Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary, a private 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

We will need volunteers for the plant sale, helping customers with their purchases, loading cars, and passing out information. We need one shift Friday evening, and two or three shifts on Saturday. And plan to be flexible due to weather variability.
Mexican Plum Tree

Barberry Bush

Nandina Bush
Capitol Pear Tree

Jonquils, Naturalized – Rescued from new road construction on a site where no trace of the home remained
Collin County NPSOT Newsletter

**NPSOT Raffle Quilt Tickets**

Each year NPSOT holds a quilt raffle to help fund the Ann Miller Gonzales Research Grant Fund and the Kate Hillhouse Scholarship Fund. This year’s quilt is a bright picnic quilt made mostly from 1930’s reproduction fabrics with four vintage Texas maps set in. It is machine quilted, and machine washable and dryable. It is 62” x 76”.

Tickets will be available at our May through October meetings at 1 ticket for $2, 3 for $5, 7 for $10, or 15 for $20.

**Emory Oaks, Anyone?**

The Davis Mountain State Park is looking for a source of Emory oaks (Quercus emoryi) to augment their population in the park. Big Bend NPSOT has already been contacted and they were not aware of any sources. Contact Wanda Olszewski (wanda.olszewski@tpwd.texas.gov or 432-426-3337) if you have any leads! Or, if you know of anyone who has knowledge of propagation of this species, that might be helpful as well.

**Doug Tallamy’s New Book**


In this new book, Tallamy takes the next step and outlines his vision for a grassroots approach to conservation. *Nature’s Best Hope* shows how homeowners everywhere can turn their yards into corridors that provide wildlife habitats. Because this approach relies on the initiatives of private individuals, it is immune from the whims of government policy. Even more important, it’s practical, effective, and easy—with specific suggestions you can incorporate into your own yard.

If you’re concerned about doing something good for the environment, *Nature’s Best Hope* is the blueprint you need. By acting now, you can help preserve our precious wildlife—and the planet—for future generations.

We have 11 copies, available for purchase at the chapter meetings.
Directions to Stiff Creek Walk: 4545 CR 412, McKinney

From the intersection of Hwy 5 (N McDonald St) and Hwy 380 in McKinney, go east on 380 about 1 mile to Woodlawn Ave (CR 331) where there is a Circle K service station on the northeast corner. Turn left and go 2.1 miles to the end of Woodlawn. Turn left on FM 2933 (no sign) and go 3.5 miles to CR 412. Turn right on CR 412 but it is more like going straight as FM 2933 curves to the left. Go about 1.2 miles and turn left into the driveway at 4545 CR 412. You can park along the driveway or in the pasture. You will see trucks and a flatbed trailer with hay bales for the wildflower walk.

Fran Woodfin  214 236-2944   Bill Woodfin  214 236-3044
Brigette and Brett Laplante  Hosts for the brunch.