NPSOT Meeting on February 4

For our February 4, 2020 meeting, we have Brandon Belcher of the Texas Nature Conservancy, Clymer Meadow coming back, and this time to speak on “Erosion Control and the Impacts it has on Restorations”. Brandon is a dynamic speaker.

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

We’re Considering a Spring Garden Tour

If liked the Fall Pollinator Garden Tour we held, there's an idea of doing a Spring Garden Tour. If you be interested in participating, contact Lorelei at lorstierlen@gmail.com.

Upcoming NPSOT Meetings

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

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, with the potluck brunch at noon. Watch this newsletter for details.
Collin County NPSOT Newsletter

The Garden Show Coming Up 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 will need people to staff the booth on Saturday and Sunday, from opening until closing time, and maybe one or two people to help set up on Friday. 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.

Carol Clark will also need some help packaging seeds for this event, since sales were strong at the McKinney Newcomer's Guide to Gardening event, and we are short on some types again. 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.

Carol will need to get things done and ready early for this so she can go play with her new grandbaby in Mobile! She's heading out the 22nd of February to wait for a leap year baby, due February 29th. So, ideally, seeds must at least be handed out for packaging before the 22nd. Richard will be home and able to receive finished items in her absence.

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.
**Collin County NPSOT Newsletter**

*NPSOT at McKinney Newcomer’s Guide to Gardening*

Sharla Stack, Valerie Dalton, Carol Clark and Richard Clark staffed a double table at the McKinney Newcomer’s Guide to Gardening event at the sparkling new McKinney stadium recently, and over 800 attendees kept them busy with questions about native plants and Monarch Butterflies. Seed sales were strong, and a fair amount of promotional literature was handed out.

**My Life – on the Wild Side? Part 2**

*by John Worley*

You might recall my story in the December newsletter, where I was recalling that my very old and very large German Shepherd, Remington, really liked to track down, catch, and eat Grub Worms, June Bugs, and Bees. I was hoping he would give up his foraging for insects. Well, as an update, I have to say that he hasn’t given up.

I was in my fenced Vegetable Garden, with the chain link gate closed, but not chained closed. While I was working between rainstorms to plant onions, Remington opened the gate and came in the garden with me. (Yes, that’s why I have to chain my gates closed.)

He kept pushing me out of the way so he could search for Grub Worms where I was digging. Of course, it’s too early for Grub Worms, as he found out, much to his disappointment.

On the plus side, my cat Trinity hasn’t brought any more geckos to me in bed at night!

Oh, well. Win some, lose some.

And, like I said in December: No, I also don’t think that my pets or I are exactly normal.

**Collin County NPSOT General information**

The Collin County chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas meets the first Tuesday of January through October, in Laughlin Hall at the Heard Museum. Unless otherwise noted, doors open before 7:00pm and the program starts at 7:15pm.

The Native Plant Society of Texas is a non-profit organization with the goal to promote the conservation, research, and utilization of the native plants and plant habitats of Texas, through education, research, and example.

Thanks for your support.

email: collincountynpsot@gmail.com
website: [http://www.npsot.org/CollinCounty/](http://www.npsot.org/CollinCounty/)

---

Native Plant Society of Texas – Collin County Chapter