

**ARLINGTON
CONSERVATION
COUNCIL**

POSTOAK

WORKING TO CONSERVE ARLINGTON'S NATURAL RESOURCES
VOLUME 14, NUMBER 7

JULY – AUGUST 2013

www.arlingtonconservationcouncil.org

August Meeting

Converting Grass and Invasives to Texas Native Plants

Josephine Keeney,
Native Plant Propagator at the Greenhouse,
Volunteer at the Molly Hollar Wildscape,
and member of CTMN & NPSOT

Wednesday, August 7, 7 pm
Fielder Museum, 1616 W. Abram St
(corner of Fielder and Abram)



Before



After

Frank and Josephine take you through the removal of the invasive species, methods of blocking their return, and the finding, propagating and planting of Texas native plants.

This project focuses on how to preserve the native flora, make your yard beautiful, and provide habitat for birds, bees, and butterflies. This method conserves water, fossil fuel, and labor; it also reverses air pollution. While this is not a true restoration project, it does incorporate 148 different species from all over Texas, including some that are indigenous to our immediate area.

Bits & Pieces

Trick or Treat

They're everywhere! Suddenly it seems that we're innundated with Halloween pennants foraging at New York Ave Prairie and hanging out at SW Nature Preserve. We hear complaints about low dragonfly numbers in areas sprayed for mosquitoes and are reminded that those chemicals kill more than mosquitoes.



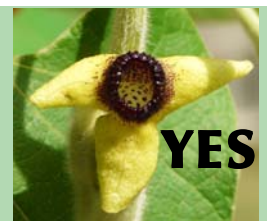
Today's Inspirational Moment



Living wild species are like a library of books still unread. Our heedless destruction of them is akin to burning the library without ever having read its books.

John Dingell

Don't Plant This, Plant This



Want to attract Pipevine swallowtails? Don't plant Pelican flower (or giant Dutchman's pipe). Female butterflies get proper chemical cues from the plant to lay eggs on it, but the plant is too toxic for the larvae, and they die after feeding for a few days. Unfortunately, many retailers market the plant as one "for the butterflies."

The best choice is our native species, woolly Dutchman's pipe. This twining vine has huge leaves and can grow to heights of 25 feet or more. While not often found in the area nursery trade, Texas Discovery Gardens at Fair Park sells it at its semiannual plant sales; the next sale is Nov. 6 (www.TexasDiscoveryGardens.org).

From the Dallas Morning News, Aug 26

From the President Danny Kocurek

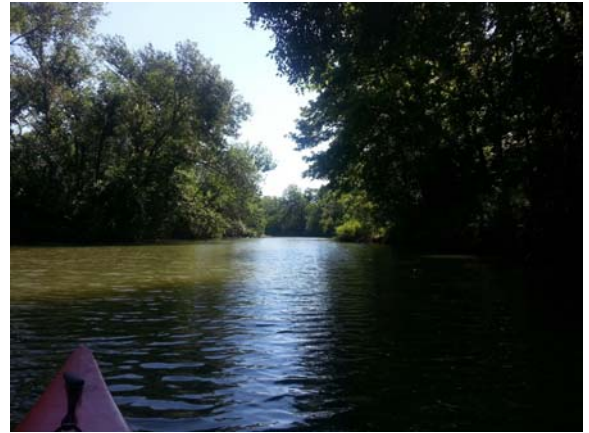


Finding Wilderness in Arlington

I am always looking for wilderness to explore in Arlington and amazed at how easy it is to find. Partly I do this because my children like it, but mostly because I love watching them explore unknown

places. The easiest way to do this is to head towards a creek, of which Arlington has many. Children love to see how close they can come to the water without falling in. They always fall in eventually, but the excitement is still there. They can spend hours looking for fish and crawdads, finding really cool sticks and making huge splashes with the biggest rocks they can lift.

What never ceases to amaze me is how I can drive over places for years without realizing they are there. Recently I went exploring the south end of Lake Arlington in a kayak. I have driven over Village Creek hundreds of times and never even thought about it being there, much less being a place one could paddle. As I headed south under the I-20 bridge, the city quickly disap-



peared. There was no car noise and very little sign of "civilization." There were fish jumping, turtles sunbathing and a ridiculous number of large birds that I felt I should have known the names of. It took a half hour of pretty serious paddling to

continued on page 8

THE POST OAK

Published 10 times a year by the
Arlington Conservation Council
P.O. Box 216, Arlington TX 76004-0216.
acctexas.org

John Darling, Editor
1316 S. Pecan St., Arlington TX 76010
817-274-1077
1darling@sbcglobal.net

Contributors

Julia Burgen, Kevin Donovan,
Jim Duncan, John Dycus,
Molly Hollar, Frank Keeney,
Danny Kocurek, Jan Miller,
Wesley Miller, Peggy Quinn,
Dick Schoech, Justin Snasel,
Don Young

Proofreaders Grace Darling,
Marian Hiler

Join us today!
Use the handy
application form
on the back page

The *Post Oak* will not knowingly accept sponsors who are deceptive, misleading, or expressly incompatible with our mission. The *Post Oak* does not endorse, advocate, or guarantee any offer, viewpoint, or representation made by its sponsors.

r

redenta's

garden shops
landscape design

arlington

817.451.2149

dallas

214.823.9421

landscape

817.469.6786

www.redentas.com

"an experience in gardening the way it was meant to be"

GOOD WORK. ON TIME.

J

D

Y

C

U

S

3607 Shady Park Drive
Arlington, TX 76013
(817) 277-2138
john@xdycus.com

LAW OFFICE OF
SHANE GOETZ

1304 WEST ABRAM STREET
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76013
SHANEGOETZ@SBCGLOBAL.NET

LOCAL: 817-274-2905
METRO: 817-265-2902
FACSIMILE: 817-861-8909

Herb 'n Health

Natural Foods Market & Herb Shoppe

3739 E. Lancaster St. Ft. Worth Tx. 76105
Karen Foley 817-535-1152

Thanks A.C.C. for working to
conserve Arlington's
natural resources.

m|m|a

mycoskie + mcinnis + associates
civil engineering surveying landscape architecture planning
www.makm.com
817-469-9671

New York Avenue Blackland Prairie Park Jan Miller. Photos by Wesley Miller



Native Texas Bees

You may be aware of the decline of the non-native European honeybee, but native Texas bumblebees are also in decline. At a recent North Texas

workshop, Texas Parks and Wildlife invertebrate biologist Michael Warriner explained the importance of Texas' native bees, their identification, management of habitats for their benefit, and documentation of sightings.

While native bees are important to agriculture, they're also the primary pollinators for native plants, ensuring the plant diversity that they depend on and which in turn ensures diversity and resilience of natural habitats like prairies. Native bees need a continuation of at least three different pollen and nectar plants throughout their annual life cycle that runs from March through November.

That's something prairies do well: Take a look at Wes' photos this month to see *Dalea multiflora* (white prairie clover), *Vernonia baldwinii* (western ironweed), *Silphium radula* (rosinweed), and many more, all great examples of the varying shapes and colors that attract bees.

Prairies may also supply heavy thatch that is favored by native bumblebees for nesting and overwintering. Still other types of bees may nest in unmulched bare soil or in dead wood.

Management practices to avoid disturbance of native bees may include:

- burning or mowing (at >6-8") only in winter months, when bees are less active



- providing refugia for bees and other insects by burning or mowing only part (30-50%) of the site at one time
- allowing intervals of 3-5 years between treatments to allow populations to recover
- no use of insecticides (e.g. neonicotinoids)

While these practices are applicable to prairies or other natural habitats, they can also be adapted to urban landscapes.



Michael also noted a considerable lack of data on native bees in Texas, with no bumblebee records for many counties, and he's working to remedy this. If you'd like to help with this project, it's not necessary to identify the bees. You can send him the location of sites where bumblebees have been sighted (especially in counties with no prior records). You might also try a new citizen science approach, which uses a smartphone app

to upload photos and locations; see Bumblebee Conservation Initiative at <http://inaturalist.org>.

(I-naturalist offers many citizen science programs; select one or start your own.)

For more information, see Michael Warriner's websites:

www.texasnativebees.com

www.texasbumblebees.com

See also: www.xerces.org

<http://www.xerces.org/pollinators-south-central-region/>

And a book: *Attracting Native Pollinators*.

3rd Saturday Prairie Stewards workday ON SUMMER BREAK. See you on the prairie this fall!

Location: New York Avenue Blackland Prairie, about 1 mile south of IH-20 in Arlington. From IH-20 take Collins exit and drive east on service road to New York Ave. Drive past the preserve, make a U-turn and park on the south side by the fence.

Southwest Nature Preserve now open!

Phase I development is now complete and the preserve is open. Check out the new parking lot, picnic tables, boardwalk and seating area around the lower pond. It's a beautiful spot to enjoy a late summer evening.

Location: just south of I-20 on Bowman Springs Road.

Wildscape Update John Dycus



Listen up, joggers. You won't have to high-step over hoses stretched across the sidewalk anymore, as determined mud movers Terry Gratton, Gordon and Joyce

Duty, Ann Trenton, and Beverly Crawford excavated tunnels for the hoses beneath the concrete. This was Terry's idea, and it greatly improves the irrigation system. Native plants need to be watered about three years until their roots grow deep enough to be drought resistant.

Terry oversaw the project, which involved considerable pick-axing and sweat equity. Gordon and Joyce brought their high-pressure water machine, and Gordon was chief in-the-mud strong-arm man to make it happen. Ann and

Beverly also got down and dirty as willing assistants.

Other significant improvements have come about recently, thanks to two healthy groups of volunteers.

The Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership crowd returned to haul off wild carrots (weeds!) so the Texas natives wouldn't get smothered. The HOBY kids also cleared a space for a bench in the shade so visitors can rest before going up the hill to the parking lot. Arlington Parks and Recreation has the bench ordered and will install it.

Employees from Keller Williams Realty weeded a large area and created trails, shoveling countless wheelbarrows of mulch and spreading it on the paths. Wildscape namesake Molly Hollar noted that all of this happened at high speed, with precious few (and short) water breaks.

Molly, who's perpetually in thank-you mode, expressed her gratitude to everyone and had a special tip of the sun visor for Mother Nature.

"To make it through this challenging third consecutive summer drought, we were blessed with the fabulous surprise gift of great rains during July to keep our not-yet-established plants from perishing. Once again, unexpected help comes to save the day and keep the wildscape moving ahead," she said.

"Our super hardcore volunteers are truly incomparable and fabulous and are making the vision of four acres of Texas native planted woodland beauty an exciting wildlife habitat, a demo area of conserving our natural resources, and a place where park visitors can connect with nature."

That's Molly for you.



Clockwise from upper left: Gordon Duty, HOBY volunteers, the new bench space, Terry Gratton, Joyce Duty and her machine, Beverly Crawford and Ann Trenton.



Another Big July 4th for ACC



**Second place
in the
non-commercial
division!**



The 2013 Solar Car Challenge **Jim Duncan**

The Solar Car Challenge began in 1993 as a high school extra curricular program named the “Winston Solar Challenge.” The program’s popularity has since grown rapidly and become its own non-profit entity. More than 65 schools in 20 states now take part in the Solar Car Challenge. Top teachers from across the country have put their minds together to make the Solar Car Challenge one of the most engaging and motivating high school science programs in existence today.

The Solar Car Challenge is designed to motivate students in science, engineering, and alternative energy. Students learn how to design, engineer, build, and race roadworthy solar cars. Workshops, curriculum materials, and on-site visits help support the teams. The end product of each education cycle is the Solar Car Challenge: a closed-track event at the world famous Texas Motor Speedway, or a cross country event designed to give students an opportunity to show the country the product of their efforts.

I’ll be riding the entire course as a judge. Fort Worth to Los Angeles at 35 mph. *Editor’s note:* The race started on July 23 from the Marriott Hotel across from Texas Motor Speedway. Eight days later it ended in Los Angeles. The winner was the Byron Nelson solar car, which traveled about 660 miles at an average speed of 21.63 mph.



Parks Department Harvests Rainwater **Justin Snasel**

The Parks Administration Building located at 717 West Main Street will be receiving a water harvesting tank to accent the existing drought tolerant, Texas native landscaping that was installed last fall. Funding for the

purchase and installation of this tank was provided by the Irrigation Impact Fund from Water Utilities. This funding comes from irrigation fees paid by the Parks and Recreation Department to Water Utilities.

The 10,000 gallon tank will capture water from the roof of the building and store it until it is needed to service the landscaping. A similar tank, though a different style, now serves the Community Garden. This tank will be galvanized ribbed steel like you might see on a Texas farm.

Over 400 plants were installed in the new landscaping by Forestry and Beautification. New landscapes with Texas native plants have also been completed at local libraries, City Hall, Municipal Office Tower and numerous parks. It is anticipated that the tank will save the city 172,000 gallons of potable water during a typical year. This water would normally be routed to the storm drains and eventually undergo treatment only to be returned to the landscape as potable water. This tank will utilize our site water, bypass the expensive treatment process, and benefit the plants, which perform better with rain water.



O.S. Gray Natural Area Kevin Donovan

For a very long time ACC has been a strong advocate for preserving open spaces and natural areas in Arlington. Members have not only been advocates but have actively worked to help identify, develop, preserve and maintain some of Arlington's most beautiful, unique natural areas. Among the notable projects that ACC members have been involved with are the Blackland Prairie site, Southwest Nature Preserve, Crystal Canyon Natural Area, O.S. Gray Natural Area, and the Molly Hollar Wildscape at Veterans Park. As an ACC member and as an individual I've volunteered at or visited most of these treasures, but the one I'm most familiar with is the one I've chosen to write about for my first submission to the *Post Oak*.

In the fall of 1996, residents from the neighborhood surrounding the former O.S. Gray Nursery on Norwood Lane formed a group to lobby the city council to include the nursery property in the 1997 parks bond package. With the help of Arlington Conservation Council and citizens from all around the city, the council did include the property in the bond package, which passed in January 1997 by one of the largest majorities in city history.

The Natural Area is approximately 20 acres and is made up of two tracts of land: The former nursery is about 14 acres and the remaining 6 acres is the former homesite of the Rosser family. Both properties were purchased in 1997 to form the O.S. Gray Natural Area.

For nearly 40 years, beginning in the early 1940s, O.S. Gray was a highly cultivated nursery that specialized in pecan trees. Then, beginning in the early 1980s, the nursery was allowed to lie fallow for nearly 30 years until the city constructed a park there. O.S. Gray is a novelty in Arlington, a piece of property in the heart of the city that was vacant for nearly 30 years without any kind of development on it.

The Rossers lived on their portion of the land from 1942 until the city purchased the property in 1997. It is somewhat of a novelty as well: The Rossers left the northern part of their

property, except for several houses and outbuildings, pretty much untouched and by doing so preserved a nice patch of post oaks that are a remnant of the Eastern Crosstimbers.

It is interesting to walk through the former nursery now and see how nature has re-made the landscape. Native trees, shrubs, forbs, and grasses have moved in to fill the spaces between what were once orderly rows of pecans planted for nursery stock. Invasive species like privet have moved into and almost taken over the post oak forest at the western end of the area.



The Natural Area is also a place where birds and other wildlife thrive. Over the past several years more than 30 species of birds have been observed during the Great Backyard Bird Count and visitors have spotted bobcats, foxes, snakes, and rabbits.

Construction began in early 2010 and the Natural Area was dedicated in October of that year. Shortly after the park was dedicated, a group of O.S. Gray advocates that included ACC members and folks from the surrounding neighborhoods formed the Friends of O.S. Gray Natural Area. Its mission is

to "promote, support, enhance, and help maintain the O.S. Gray Natural Area." The group has worked in a partnership with the Arlington Parks & Recreation Department, neighbors, church groups, Boy Scouts, UT Arlington student volunteers, and interested citizens to fulfill its mission. Many of those interested citizens, and some of the park's best Friends, are ACC members who volunteer their creativity, time, energy, and good will on a monthly basis.

The Friends have built soft-surface trails to improve access to less developed areas, removed invasive privet, planted and maintained a butterfly garden, installed a native turf lawn and wildflower bed. They've hosted nature walks with Master Naturalists, a Geocaching event, participated with the neighborhood in National Night Out, sponsored a year-long photo contest in partnership with a local camera store, and had a booth at the Front Street Festival.

In 2011, the Friends, with the help of the Green Arlington Foundation, applied for and received a \$5000 matching grant from the Arlington Strong Neighborhoods Initiative. The grant money was used to hire a consultant to develop Vegetation Management Guidelines for the Natural Area. In March 2012, Halff Associates delivered the plan. The guidelines include a site history, an inventory of natural resources and management tools for prioritizing resources to allow the area's enhancement and guide volunteer efforts in the Natural Area.

Many of you ACC members reading this have volunteered at or visited the O.S. Gray Natural Area. For those who haven't, I invite you to take a stroll along the trails, venture out into the post oak forest, or walk through the meadow and view some of the birds and other wildlife that dwell in the park.

Come to one of the workdays on the second Saturday of each month and help enhance this oasis of nature, right in the heart of the city.

What is a Weed? Dick Schoech

What is a weed? The answer is trickier than you think.

Everyone hates weeds and conversations involving weeds at ACC are usually about how to get rid of them. So I thought weeds should make a good ACC newsletter topic. ACC members should be able to intelligently define and discuss weeds, right?

A Google search is a good place to begin to explore and research the world of weeds. Note, for the younger readers, we're ACC, so we're obviously not talking here about the popular TV show called *Weeds*. What are weeds? Google the term weeds and you find there is a Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) that is holding its annual convention in Vancouver BC in February 2014. Great place for a weed conference! The society's web site contains 18 pages of jobs and careers available for weed scientists. Surely, this site should be the



place to get a definitive definition of a weed. I searched the whole site and could not find a definition of a weed. One WSSA weed identification page has the avocado plant, *Persea americana*, listed. Avocados! They have to be one of the best plants on the planet if our household is any indication. I can't envision a world without guacamole and avocado sandwiches. Sadly, the WSSA provides no help in defining a weed. So, I gave up on Google searches and headed for some old-fashioned dictionaries. However, dictionaries are not much help either, as they define weed as: Noun — A wild plant growing where it is

not wanted and in competition with cultivated plants. I'm not sure how to tell the difference between a wild and cultivated plant, so this definition adds more confusion. Maybe the definition of the verb weed will help define the hated weed. Dictionaries typically say: Verb — Remove unwanted plants from an area, as in, "Honey, can you weed the flower bed today?" This example certainly suggests why we hate weeds, but what are weeds? How do we know what plants are to be weeded out? Looking through more dictionaries reveals that weeds are noxious, undesirable, unattractive, troublesome, and in a place where they are not wanted. I guess we are all weeds some times in our life, especially during the adolescent years. But there must be a better definition than dictionaries provide. Some plants have weed in their name, which can give us some clue as to what a

continued on page 9

Sustainable Water Use Julia Burgen

In mid-June the Fort Worth Star-Telegram queried its readers: "As Dallas-Fort Worth grows, how do we satisfy our water demands?" Readers were invited to respond to the following: "The Supreme Court's decision that Oklahoma doesn't have to sell water to the Tarrant Regional Water District means Fort Worth and Dallas may become very unpopular across North Texas. It puts more pressure on the thirsty big cities to increase supplies in ways like building the Marvin Nichols Reservoir near Mount Pleasant, where the project is very unpopular. Are we bad guys when it comes to water?"

All but one writer seemed to agree. Ten responses were selected and printed on June 24, 2013. Mine was first and then others from Fort Worth residents (5), Benbrook, Haltom City (2) and Azle.

The paper's subtitle for my piece was Sustainability is key. Here it is:

"Are we 'bad guys' when it comes to water use? An unequivocal yes. We're spoiled by a lifestyle that worked when the Texas population was reasonable in numbers. Even then, way too many looked at lush tropical areas and lusted after their appearance. Never again will we have sufficient rain for our grandiose ideas, given the number of people, businesses, transportation — you name it.

Sustainability is the operative word. We're no longer sustainable in terms of average rainfall. For landscaping we must use only native plants. Get rid of St. Augustine grass, magnolia trees, hybrid roses, etc. Commercial nurseries must stop aiding and abetting our sins and stock the natives — no St. Augustine!"

President continued from page 2

run out of water, and the whole way I kept saying to myself, "I can't believe this is here."

As I was paddling back, I decided that there might be others who were as clueless as me so I decided to try something. I am calling it "ACC Wilderness Adventures." That sounded much better than my first, and probably more accurate, thought, "Clueless City Folks Wandering Around the Woods Aimlessly." I will post the date and time on the Yahoo page and Facebook, but it will probably be a Sunday morning. The first will be a paddle up Village Creek. I'll provide the paddling necessities so all you need to bring is curiosity and a hat.

I hope you can join me. Regardless, I do encourage you to wander off your favorite trail next time you are out. It is hard to get really lost, but tremendous fun trying.

What is a Weed? continued from page 7



weed is. For example, ragweed is a plant that most people hate because it drives our sinuses crazy. Maybe weeds are plants that cause allergies or rashes. Can we conclude that horseweed must drive horses crazy? But wait, milkweed plants sold like hotcakes at a recent Master Naturalist meeting so having “weed” in a plant’s name offers little help in under-



standing what a weed is. Also, some nice plants get the weed label through no fault of their own just because of human activity. For example, sweet broom (goatweed) is a problem only in areas where other grasses have been killed by overgrazing. So having weed in a plant’s name provides no help.

Maybe looking at the characteristics of a plant that everyone hates would help define what a weed is. One hated plant is poison ivy. Some people get chills just looking at a picture of it. One of my most unattractive pictures from my childhood is me with poison ivy all over my face — why did my mother take that picture? Yet poison ivy is never listed as a weed except in Minnesota, Michigan, and Ontario. I am more confused now. Do local politicians like Governor Perry get to define which plants are weeds?



Further research makes clear that noxious weeds are a special type of weed. Wikipedia indicates that “a noxious weed is a plant species that has been designated by country, state, provincial, or national agricultural authority as one that is injurious to agricultural and/or horticultural crops, natural habitats and/or ecosystems, and/or humans or livestock.” So how do noxious weeds differ from ordinary weeds?

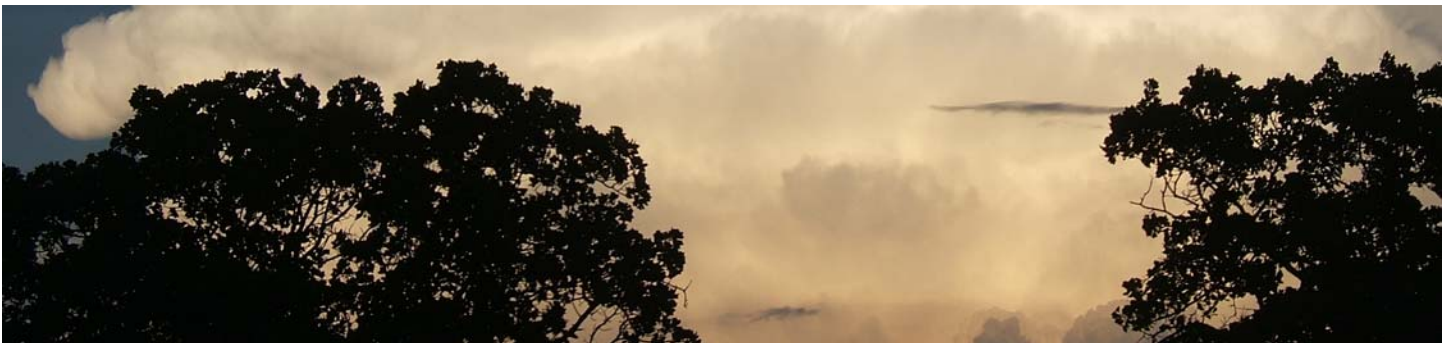
Since Wikipedia defined noxious weed, it might be the final step in discovering what a weed is. But wow, the definition of a weed is not simple so I quote it verbatim:

“Weed is an everyday term used in a variety of senses, usually to describe a plant considered undesirable within a certain context. The word — commonly applied to unwanted plants in human-controlled settings, such as farm fields, gardens, lawns, and parks — carries no botanical classification value, since a plant that is a weed in one context is not a weed when growing where it is wanted. Indeed, a number of plants that many consider weeds are often intentionally grown in gardens and other cultivated settings. Less commonly, the term is applied to any plant that grows and reproduces aggressively outside its native habitat. The term is occasionally used to broadly describe species outside the plant kingdom that can live in diverse environments and reproduce quickly, and has even been applied to humans.” (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Weed>)

So humans can also be weeds. What an amazing thought! The idea of pulling unwanted humans out by their roots is not a pleasant one. I think I will need to restrict this research to plants as weeds.

So, weeds must be plants that have characteristics that make people hate them and want to get rid of them. Privet is undoubtedly a big weed, but local nurseries must disagree because they sell it. I’m not finding a good definition of a weed.

Based on my research, I now propose my definition of the term weed to increase ACC members understanding. Weeds are plants your neighbors have in their yards in contrast to flowers, which are plants you have in your yard.



Fort Worth Prairie Park Don Young

Editor's note: The following is an excerpt from Don's excellent series, Prairie Notes, the newsletter of the Friends of Tandy Hills Natural Area. Learn more at www.tandyhills.org.

Over the years, the overarching message of these, now eighty, Prairie Notes has been simply this: Come on in. Once you get to Tandy Hills, you begin to Look Deeper, to observe the Horizontal Grandeur, to Zone Out to Zone In and to Stay Tuned In so that you can find your Mojo on the Meadow by smelling Le Parfum du Prairie and hearing the Message of the Milkweed. If you do all that you will naturally want to help us Keep Keeping It Like It Was.

If you fail to do these things on a regular basis you will fall victim to The Big Disconnect. Being disconnected from the natural world is VERY bad for you, the prairie, and the planet. A disheartening example of the side-effects of The Big

Disconnect was the recent decision by the Texas General Land Office (GLO) to sell the 2,000 acres in southwest Fort Worth known as Fort Worth Prairie Park. This very rare sister of Tandy Hills will now be buried under concrete for housing, shopping and parking.

There is no excuse for the shortsighted decision made by the GLO staffers though many excuses have been offered. They obviously suffer from Big Disconnect Syndrome. The GLO should be faulted for not doing more to save the land from development. Doing their duty to make a tidy profit for the state is not good enough.

When Texas legislators want something bad enough they can make it happen. Something smells rotten and unjust about the way GLO handled this case. Despite the herculean efforts of Great Plains Restoration Council to save and preserve the land, the greater good was not served.

Thanks to Our Last Speaker

At our June meeting Bonnie Bowman, O.S. Gray board member and past ACC president, presented the O.S. Gray Natural Area management plan to a full house. *(For more on the plan see page 6.)*

Bonnie made it clear that the Friends got their money's worth because the plan is a comprehensive document that includes not only management recommendations but also everything from history to ecology. Pictured below: Carrie Donovan, Bonnie, and Kevin Donovan.



The Wildscape Greenhouse Frank Keeney

The purpose of the wildscape greenhouse has traditionally been to provide plants for the quickly expanding Molly Hollar Wildscape at Veterans Park. Greenhouse volunteers strive to increase the diversity of the plants, as well as to beautify it while keeping the plant choices as local and as drought tolerant as possible.

The growing of plants started shortly after the wildscape was created. At the beginning it was done by volunteers at Molly Hollar's house. Many plants were grown there through the efforts of volunteers under Molly's leadership. Wonderful results were achieved as evidenced by the lovely photographs available in the wildscape archives.

As time went on and the wildscape expanded, the need for plants became greater. Fortunately, Arlington Parks & Recreation granted the wildscape permission to use a greenhouse at Randol Mill



Park to grow Texas native plants. One of the reasons for this was because native plants are very hard to find in the nurseries.

This wonderful opportunity led to many thousands of plants being grown there under the leadership of Molly Hollar and through the efforts of many dedicated volunteers.

Through the years many of the plants not needed for the wildscape have been sold to the public at plant sales. These sales have served to educate the public about Texas native plants while teaching water conservation through careful selection and growing practices.

The proceeds from these plant sales also contribute to the support of the native plant greenhouse, helping to purchase soil, fertilizers and sales supplies, so the greenhouse operation is now self sustaining.

Arlington Conservation Council Membership Application

Memberships are good for one year, renewable each January. Your dues go directly to our public education efforts.

Membership Information

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

First-year member \$10.00

Individual \$15.00

Family \$25.00

Supporting \$40.00

Sponsor \$100.00

Lifetime individual \$250.00

Other \$ _____

New member ☐

Renewing member ☐

How did you hear about us? _____

Make checks payable to Arlington Conservation Council. Mail to ACC, Box 216, Arlington, TX 76004-0216. Contributions and dues are not tax-deductible. Note: If you cannot pay, please let any board member know. The only available newsletter format is electronic, and it can be obtained via email and the Web site.

President Danny Kocurek
Vice President Roy Miliner
Treasurer Marian Hiler

Secretary Dick Schoech
Editor John Darling
1darling@sbcglobal.net

Board Members

Grace Darling	Frank Keeney
Kevin Donovan	Jan Miller
John Dycus	Callie Mitchell
Marianne Herrmann	Ed Pischedda

THE POST OAK

Arlington Conservation Council
PO Box 216
Arlington TX 76004-0216

Don't Forget!

Wednesday, August 7

7:00 pm

Josephine Keeney

**Converting Grass and Invasives
to Texas Native Plants**



Printed on recycled paper