

Gardeners of Blanco County

**Next Meeting: October 11, 2011
Pedernales State Park
7:30 p.m.**

**Coordinator/Refreshments: Diana Blackburn, Mary Nabers
Program: Night Sky—Star Gazing**

Our Program: from Chelita Riley

The Blanco County Master Gardener November evening meeting will be at Pedernales Falls State Park at 7:30pm.

Bill McDaniel, park superintendent will be hosting us. PFSP is one of the highest rated parks in the TP&W system.

We will meet at the bird blind where Bill will introduce us to the Park's highlights and the various programs that the Park puts on throughout the year. One of the newest programs/areas being developed is a star gazing area which will provide a special treat to those who are dark sky enthusiasts.

Bill is also interested in landscaping ideas for various areas of the park. What a beautiful venue to practice our trade. Volunteer hours, anyone?

http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/pedernales_falls/#nat

<http://www.chron.com/life/travel/article/Pedernales-Falls-1797566.php#page-1>

http://www.texasoutside.com/txorails/public/reviews/show_campground/10

<http://www.texashiking.com/Locations/ShowLocation.aspx?LocationID=1373>

FOUR INTERNS COMPLETE HOURS!

Great News! Four Interns have already completed their 50 required hours. Their refund checks are in the mail. (That ought to inspire some of the rest of the interns.) There are a couple of others that are really close to getting their hours. By working hard and volunteering for a number of projects including plant sales and the Blanco County Fair, these interns have completed the required hours and are getting refunds as well as the official pin stating that they are full fledged Master Gardeners:



Georgia Carroll-Warren
Carol DiQuillo
David Hamm
Carol Rankin

Dripping Springs Rain Water Revival Saturday October 8

<http://rainwaterrevival.com/>.. The festive day will be filled with informative and entertaining presentations by professionals and users of rainwater, water conservation-related business vendor booths, rainwater system displays, and plenty of experts to provide guidance and services. There will also be food booths, shopping, live music, plus much more!

In its second year, the Rainwater Revival supports the mission to spread the good word about rainwater harvesting and water conservation, the importance of which grows with our ever increasing population

New Slate of Officers: Vote at Oct. Meeting

The following slate of officers was presented in September and will be elected at the October meeting:

President: Betty Mucha
Vice President: Cindy Stomburg
Secretary: Georgia Warren
Treasurer: Keith McClellan

Nominating Committee Proposes Changes

The nominating committee (Jim Meadows, Carol Rankin, and Mary Nabers, in addition to placing names in nomination, proposed two changes in the by-laws:

1. The Secretary will be elected and the newsletter person appointed, separating the two jobs. The secretary will send a synopsis of the minutes in the newsletter.
2. A Program Committee will be appointed as an additional standing committee to help the Vice-President plan and secure programs and locations.

These two proposals will be presented and voted upon at the next meeting.

Sympathy

We were saddened to hear that Tricia Timmons husband Bill died. He had been ill for quite some time. Tricia and Bill were so gracious to let us have the September meeting at their ranch. Please send cards & prayers.

You have received an invitation from Tricia via Pat Owens to a celebration of the life of Bill Timmons to be held Saturday, Oct. 22 at 3:30 pm. Please RSVP to Tricia, and the link allows you to add a few words about Bill.

Brian and Shirley Loflin to Speak

The Loflins, who conducted classes for our intern twice, are speaking this Saturday, Oct. 8, at the Blanco Library on Hw. 281 as part of Author Day. You will remember their wonderful books on Texas grasses and Texas cacti. They have a new book on hidden treasures of Texas.

In addition to the Loflins, a mystery writer will speak, and Karen Valby, who wrote *Welcome to Utopia*. The day is FREE. Bring a sack lunch and enjoy three presentations by authors,



From Wayne & Martha Gosnell" <gosnelltexas@gmail.com>:

Here's the info on the November 19th Stars in the Park event at Blanco We'll have a promo tent set up at the Blanco Market Day on October 15 to create some buzz....telescopes on display, astronomical info, perhaps a sun scope in operation, event reminder cards. The Austin Astronomical Society has been great to support all this and we're looking forward to a fine event. All are welcome!

November 19, 2011

5:30 p.m.

Blanco State Park Pavilion

Park admission: \$4/adults (12 and under free)

Wayne is also going to try to come to our Oct meeting at pfsp.

Some Pertinent Information Relating to Recent Fire Disasters

The Blanco County Disaster Response Group's role in aiding central Texas wildfire victims is assembling burn buckets. They have already had an assembly day and are planning more. If you are interested in supplying fire recovery products or donating cash, contact: George Barnette, 868-0808, george@bnpr.com.

Burn bucket contents

Put in bottom:

- Tri-sodium phosphate (TSP) or pine-based cleaner
- Liquid household bleach (1 82-oz or 2 1-quart bottles)
- Household cleaner (12-16 oz bottle)

- Liquid laundry detergent (2 25-oz or 1 50-oz bottle)
(General washing solution: 5 tbsp TSP + 1 cup household cleaner per gal water)
Then add:
- Pair work gloves
- 2 pair latex gloves
- Scrub brush
- 18 re-usable cleaning cloths/wipes
- Dry cleaning sponge (about \$5 in art-supply stores; wipes soot off surfaces)
- 6 regular cleaning sponges
- Bottle vanilla extract (add 1 tbsp per washer-load of clothes to deodorize)
- 5 dust masks (preferably N-95)
- 24-bag roll of large, heavy-duty trash bags

And here's a note from Gretchen Sanders, one of our county agents:

Dear Blanco County Residents:

What would you take if you had 1 hour to leave your home in an emergency? What would you take if you only had 10 minutes?

The following link will help you prepare an evacuation "Grab and Go" Box before a disaster happens near you.

<http://texashelp.tamu.edu/002-protect/pdf/evacuation-grab-box.pdf>

In addition to paperwork, be sure and consider emergency food and water supplies:

<http://texashelp.tamu.edu/004-natural/pdfs/E-11-emergency-food-and-water-supplies.pdf>

(You may also consider adding items to both of these lists. My husband and I made a list this weekend that included scrapbooks, jewelry, and my son's momentos.)

As always, the Texas Extension Disaster Educational Network (EDEN) is available for to help you prepare for emergencies and disasters.

<http://texashelp.tamu.edu/>

Program Plans for the Rest of the Year

Oct. 11, 7 pm—Night Sky at Pedernales Falls State Park

Nov. 8, 2 pm— Patricia Michael on Permaculture Designing--Blanco First Baptist Church-- Patricia@PatriciaMichaelDesign.com

<http://www.patriciamichaeldesign.com>

Dec. 13, 7 pm—Holiday Party—Peggy Welch’s

Chelita has asked that the persons who sign up to provide refreshments also act as meeting coordinators. They will have these responsibilities:

Contact speaker and confirm any audio-visual or other needs

Get key and open facility if needed

Set up room (table and chairs)

Write a thank-you note to the speaker

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See you at Pedernales Falls State Park at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, October 11. Bring a friend to enjoy night sky instruction. Invite those who don't drive at night to carpool with you.