



Society for Ecological Restoration Texas Chapter



Restoration Update

November, 2014

In This Issue

TXSER Newsflash
2014 Conference Wrap-Up
Member Spotlight

Quick Links

[1/4ly Newsletter Archive](#)

[Monthly Update Archive](#)

[Ecological Restoration
Briefs Archive](#)

[More About TXSER](#)

[More About SER](#)

TXSER Board of Directors

President
Charlotte Reemts

Vice President
Kelly Lyons

Secretary
Leslie Dietz

Treasurer
Colin Shackelford

North Texas Rep.
Michelle Villafranca

East Texas Rep.
William Forbes



TXSER Newsflash

SAVE THE DATE!!
November 13-15, 2015
TXSER'S 20th Annual Conference
San Antonio, Texas

2015 is a big year for TXSER as we celebrate 20 years of being a source of scientific information and expertise concerning ecological restoration in the State of Texas. Our 2015 Annual Conference will be a celebration of achievements and a look toward what the future holds for ecological restoration in the State. The conference will be held November 13-15, 2015 in San Antonio, Texas on the campus of Trinity University. Please check our website and facebook page for updates on conference plans.

Welcome Dr. Bradley Hoge!

We would like to welcome Brad Hoge to the TXSER Board of Directors. Hoge is an Assistant Professor of Natural Science at the University of Houston Downtown and Director of the Houston Urban Network for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (HUNSTEM). He is an expert on the role of diatom communities in lakes, streams and estuaries along the upper Texas Gulf Coast. Hoge will serve as one of two TXSER Coastal Representatives on the Board, representing areas from Houston northwards. Welcome Brad.

South Texas Rep.
Eric Grahmann

West Texas Rep.
Katherine Crosthwaite

Central Texas Rep.
Ingrid Karklins

Coastal Texas Rep.
Mary Edwards

Coastal Texas Rep.
Bradley Hoge

Chapter Coordinator
Gwen Thomas

TXSER
info@txser.org
(469) 321-4883

Employment Opportunities & More

For up-to-date
announcements of positions
open in ecological restoration
and environmental science,
visit our website at:
[Job Postings](#)

We also post a wide range of
articles on ecological
restoration issues as well as
job and volunteer
opportunities on our
Facebook page at:
[TXSER Facebook Page](#)

SAVE THE DATE!!

**Celebrate TXSER's
20th Anniversary**

at our

2015 Annual Conference

2014 Conference Wrap-Up

Excellence in Ecological Restoration Award - The 2014 Excellence in Ecological Restoration Award was awarded to Dr. Bonnie Warnock, Associate Professor of Range Science and Department Chair at Sul Ross State University. TXSER and SER-SW Board Presidents, Charlotte Reemts and Laura Norman, presented the award stating:

"Bonnie Warnock grew up on a ranch and still runs a ranch with her husband. She received her B.S. in Range Science from Sul Ross and became interested in how ecosystems function and how to repair them. She went on to receive a M.S. from Sul Ross in Range and Wildlife Management and a Ph.D. from Texas A&M in Soil Science with an emphasis on Restoration. She returned to teach at Sul Ross in 2001 and serves as Department Chair of Natural Resources. She received an outstanding teaching award for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Those teaching skills were evident during the field trip that she led to the O2 Ranch. During the field trip, she explained the long process of restoring degraded rangelands with all the lessons learned along the way. Dr. Warnock is currently working to develop a degree and certification program in sustainable ranch management, a program funded by the Dixon Water Foundation. The first students will enroll in 2015. These students will, no doubt, benefit greatly from both her teaching skills and her on-going restoration research."



Charlotte Reemts presents Bonnie Warnock with the 2014 Excellence in Ecological Restoration Award.

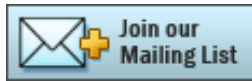
Student Awards - Student awards were handed-out for Best Graduate and Undergraduate Presentation and for Best Graduate and Undergraduate Poster.

**Scheduled for:
November 13-15, 2015**

**On the campus of:
Trinity University
in
San Antonio, TX**

Best Graduate Presentation - Leah McIntosh, University of Texas, Brownsville for her presentation entitled: "Indicators of Ecosystem Development in Resaca Restoration Based on the Macroinvertebrate Community."

Best Undergraduate Presentation - Kristen Schultz and Amy Adams, Trinity University for their presentation entitled: "Modeling the Competitive Dynamics Between Native and Invasive Grasses Under Varying Light Conditions."



Like us on Facebook 



Leah McIntosh



**Kristen Schultz & Amy Adams
with Matt Grabau**

Best Graduate Poster - Melody Sain, University of Texas, Tyler for her poster entitled: "Testing Whether Ecological Differentiation Supports the Taxonomy of Three Hibiscus Species in Northeast Texas."

Best Undergraduate Poster - Austin Phillippe and Elizabeth Van Horn, Trinity University for their poster entitled: "Assessment of Cedar (*Juniperus ashei*) Removal on Native Grassland Re-establishment in the Texas Hill Country."



Elizabeth Van Horn &
Austin Phillippe

Congratulations to all!!!

For more information on the
2014 TXSER & SER-SW Conference,
check these site links:

[Conference Powerpoint Presentations](#)

[Conference Photos](#)

Outside Blog Reflections:

From the Land Ecology Blog:
[Restoration As Big As Texas](#)

From the Roaming Ecologist: [Healthy Land Ethic Blog](#)



Melody Sain

Member Spotlight

Name: Jill Nokes

City: Austin & Loyal Valley, Llano, Texas

Affiliation: Hill Country Land Trust (board member)

Briefly describe your ongoing efforts/ interest in ecological restoration:

My involvement and experience in restoration has been indirect and varied. I was fortunate to begin my career during the early days of the native plants movement, and my books reflect those early opportunities. Most of my career has been devoted to providing residential and commercial clients with naturalistic landscape design using native and adapted plants.



Jill Nokes in her natural environs.

About ten years ago I expanded my design practice to work with people who had purchased rural properties. The initial consultation would focus on the space around their house, and then when the clients were willing, the scope of work expanded to help them improve stewardship practices throughout their property. Most of this work was presented within an experimental



Prickly Pear Cactus (*Opuntia littoralis*)
Photo Credit: Google Photos

framework, as anyone in TXSER knows, it's often impossible to guarantee outcomes when the weather patterns are so uncertain. In 2006, I became active and eventually served as president for the Austin Parks Foundation (APF). APF has been a leader in helping develop public/private partnerships to improve the ecological management of Austin's tremendous asset of parks and greenbelts. As the population of Austin grows, the former policy of benign neglect was clearly taking its toll. In 2009, my family purchased property in southwest Llano County, and we have worked steadily to gain intimate knowledge of our land, and to attempt to improve conditions there. We have

received four grants for conservation work, and I have a blog - [Nokes Landscape Design](#) - that reports on what we are doing which is linked to the TPWD website on the Private Lands and Public Hunting page. Currently I am on the board of the Hill Country Land Trust, where I get to work with landowners via monitoring visits and helping them with Stewardship Plans, so that their CE property is in better shape when they pass it along than when they first bought it. At least that's our hope!

Describe your favorite outdoor activity. I know this sounds fake, but I really enjoy clearing brush and prickly pear and watching the ensuing changes.

What is your favorite Texas plant and/or animal? Right now I'm super focused on the horned lizard. We have ideal habitat for these little guys, and we are working to keep improving our grasslands to make them even more hospitable to harvester ants and horned lizards.



Texas Horned Lizard (*Phrynosoma cornutum*)
Photo Credit: TPWD

The Society for Ecological Restoration, Texas Chapter promotes ecological restoration as a means of sustaining the diversity of life on Earth and re-establishing an ecologically healthy relationship between nature and culture.

Become a member today!

[Click Here to Join Us!](#)

Join the Texas Chapter of the Society for Ecological Restoration. Chapter members receive valuable benefits including:

the opportunity to network with restoration practitioners and enthusiasts;
discounts to our Annual Conference, an opportunity to share and learn;
invitations to attend volunteer workdays around the state; and,

monthly updates and quarterly newsletters with articles and notices about regional events that allow you to connect to the local restoration community.

Chapter membership fees of \$15 support chapter administration. The TXSER Board of Directors consists of volunteers who share a passion for furthering ecological restoration in Texas.

Joining SER links you with a global restoration network. SER member benefits include:

- SERNews quarterly newsletter;
- discounts on journal publications;
- discounts to SER World Conferences;
- discounts on SER Career Center;
- access to Restoration Project Showcase;
- access to a searchable, online member directory, and,
- promotional opportunities through the SER Calendar of Events and Restoration Project Showcase.

To become a member visit: **www.ser.org/membership**

Be sure to click the Texas Chapter as your Chapter Affiliate. We look forward to having you join us!

[Forward email](#)



This email was sent to gmthomas_eco@fastmail.fm by gmthomas_eco@fastmail.fm | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



Society for Ecological Restoration, Texas Chapter | 5606 Southamptton Drive | Richardson | TX | 75082