

# TOWN NEWS



## Dallas Chapter – April, 2023

### APRIL MEETING

Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>

Dale Dickerson's home

1424 Parkwood Dr.

Carrollton, TX 75007

(214) 850-3979

No May Meeting  
Scheduled

June Meeting

Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>

Ann Meyer's home

6918 Kenwhite Dr.,

Dallas, TX 75231

(214) 683-5409



TOWN enjoying  
Mineral Wells State  
Park and Clark  
Gardens



(Top) Sharon relaxing at Clark  
Gardens. (Middle) Hiking with  
new members, Marie and Barbra.

(Below Left) The Fabulous Guinness Dinner Team. (Right) Getting lost in the trail.

## TOWN March meeting

TOWN members gathered again in March at the home of Karen Turbeville, and as usual, she treated them not only with a great presentation on her trip to Patagonia in Chile, but also with a delicious HOT DOGS dinner, popcorn and cookies. The meeting was co-hosted by Karen King, who also explored with Karen this incredible location. Below two of the many extraordinary pictures they took on the trip, the one on top, on a gorgeous morning, with the moon shining above the Payne Torres.

The one below, of a reflection of the Andes on a clear beautiful lake.



*Cont-(Top L) Meeting hosts, Karen Turbeville and Karen King. (Top R) Dale, Rene and Allison enjoying the weather and a drink in the patio. Bottom left- Dale enjoying a delicious hot dog; co-host, Cali the Cat; and our newest member, Barbra Fliege who drove all the way from East Texas to join our meeting. Welcome Barbra!!*



## CAMPING AT FT RICHARDSON WITH FW TOWN

**Submitted by MJ Steele**

Several TOWN Dallas campers met up with our Ft. Worth TOWN friends and camped in February at Ft. Richardson in Jacksboro. Shirley, Melissa, and MJ had a terrific time meeting and camping with these Ft. Worth ladies. We took short, medium, and long hikes during the day. Before dinner we all learned and experienced Tai Chi. Most of us went into Jacksboro to a local hamburger joint for lunch. The place was fabulous!

One night all 16 of us went into town for dinner. An afternoon tour of Ft. Richardson taught us many interesting facts about the way of life a couple of hundred years ago. Because it was cold at night, we had fun playing games in one of the cabins. We laughed so hard, we had tears! We have new friends now and looking forward to camping with them again.



**Melissa, MJ and Shirley.**

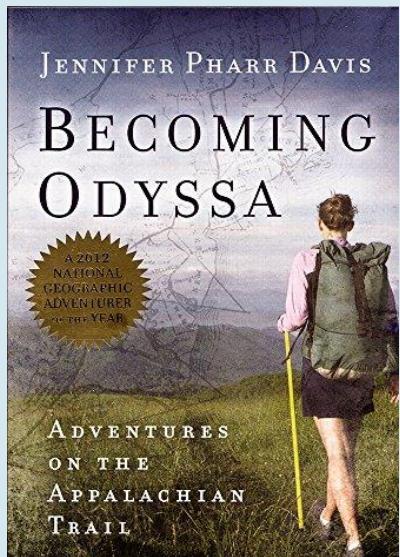


**FW Town members, Maggie and Susan. MJ, Melissa and Monty.**

## BOOK REVIEW

Submitted by Suzi Murphy

**Becoming Odyssa; Epic Adventures on the Appalachian Trail, by Jennifer Pharr David**



After graduating from college, Jennifer isn't sure what she wants to do with her life. She is drawn to the Appalachian Trail, a 2175-mile footpath that stretches from Georgia to Maine. Although her friends thought she was crazy, she sets out alone to hike the trail, hoping it will give her time to think about what she wants to do next.

The next four months are the most physically and emotionally challenging of her life. She quickly discovers that thru-hiking is harder than she had imagined: coping with blister and aching shoulders from the 30-pound pack she carries; sleeping on the hard wooden floors of trail shelters; hiking through endless torrents of rain and even a blizzard.

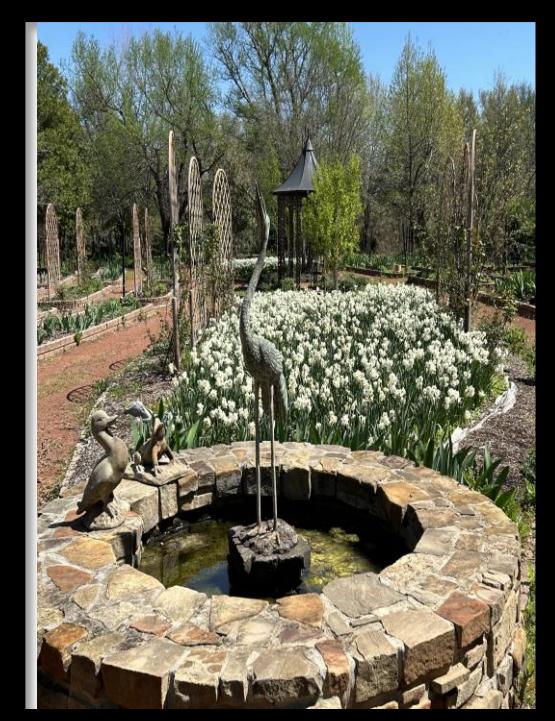
With every step she takes, Jennifer transitions from an over-confident college graduate to a student of the trail, braving situations she never imagined before her thru-hike. The trail is full of unexpected kindness, generosity, and humor. And when tragedy strikes, she learns that she can depend on other people to help her in times of need.

The author holds endurance records on three long-distance trails. In 2008 she also became the fastest woman to hike the Appalachian Trail, averaging 38 miles a day. She has written for Trail Runner magazine, Away.com and contributes to other publications. She is the owner and founder of Blue Ridge Hiking Co. in North Carolina.

## MINERAL WELLS STATE PARK CAMPING TRIP AND VISIT TO CLARK GARDENS

A group camping at Mineral Wells, had the opportunity to visit this hidden gem, minutes away from the State Park. The weather was gorgeous and the garden's beauty surprised most of us. Clark Gardens was built by Max Clark and his wife in 1972, after their eldest daughter wanted a garden wedding. Max Clark, 92 years old, still lives and works in the property. The G Scale Model train was also running and it was so delightful to see them run through its designated garden area. The gardens maintain a great website and it contains the following information.

"The Mission at Clark Gardens is to inspire and demonstrate the many rich horticulture and nature-based possibilities of North Texas to tourists and residents alike. This breathtaking 50-acre oasis awakens the senses, stirs the spirit and relaxes the mind. From the first spring blossoms to the colorful fall, there is a sense of magic. Wheelchair accessible pathways wind through the gardens. Waterfalls sparkle in the sunlight, splashing down into ponds and lakes where black and white swans, along with other waterfowl, glide in the shimmering waters. You may see peacocks strutting, or get a glimpse of blue herons or great egrets swooping down, their huge wingspans casting shadows over the lakes. Join us and experience the beauty of nature, all four seasons of the year".





## At Campground...



## **INK LAKES SPRING CAMPING TRIP**

**Submitted by Shirley Meurer**

Inks Lake State Park is a beautiful park and is the top choice for TOWN Dallas to kick off the camping season. We hiked the small canyon at Devil's Waterhole and due to the rainstorm we endured on Thursday evening, we were able to see the scenic waterfalls upstream of the lake.

We visited the bird blind and hiked to the overlook where the brave or foolish can jump into the lake's deep hole. Allison, Debbie and Lois couldn't resist the sparkling blue water and the new kayaks the park has for rent. It was fun to spot the bluebonnets and other wildflowers which were just beginning to bloom when we arrived and increased in numbers every day.

Enjoy the memories... (Good ones and bad ones!)





# TOWN ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED-2023

## Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> to Sun., May 7<sup>th</sup>

### **Caprock Canyon State Park**

Contact info: Gilani, [alliekat33@hotmail.com](mailto:alliekat33@hotmail.com)  
Lois Jacobs, [loisjacobs@hotmail.com](mailto:loisjacobs@hotmail.com)

Text Allison at 214-728-5752 Check out this link for lots of great info: [A Guide to Caprock Canyons State Park, TX Hiking, Camping & Tips.](#)

## Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> to Sat., May 13<sup>th</sup>

### **Wichita National Wildlife Refuge**

Contact Nancy Lee at [nlee002@tx.rr.com](mailto:nlee002@tx.rr.com);  
[https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Wichita\\_Mountains/activities/camp.html](https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Wichita_Mountains/activities/camp.html)

## Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>

### **Day of fun on Cedar Creek Lake**

Hosted by Mary Nester and Mar Burris  
2182 Hickory St., Mabank, TX 75156  
214/316-8960.

## Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup>

### **Pool Party at the King Ranch**

Karen King is inviting TOWN members to her home/ranch.  
247 Barnes Bridge, Sunnyvale, TX 75182  
(214) 356-0170 . More details to come.

## Saturday, August 12th

### **Traditional Swimming & Kayaking on Cedar Creek Lake**

Hosted by Mary Nester and Mar Burris  
2182 Hickory St., Mabank, TX 75156  
214/316-8960. More details to come.