

TOWN



NEWS

Dallas Chapter – May, 2023

**NO MAY MEETING
SCHEDULED~~**

June Meeting

Monday, June 12th

Ann Meyer's home

6918 Kenwhite Dr.,

Dallas, TX 75231

(214) 683-5409

No July Meeting

Come to the "King

*Ranch" for a pool party
instead!*

Sat. July 8th

Karen King's home

247 Barnes Bridge

Sunnyvale, TX 75182

(214) 356-0170



TOWN RETURNS TO CAPROCK AFTER TEN YEARS!

Caprock Canyons History

From Caprock Canyons and Trailway State Park Website

**Many prehistoric and historic cultures have passed
through this broken country.**

Earliest visitors

Several Native American cultures made their homes in the scenic canyons here. This includes the Folsom culture more than 10,000 years ago. Paleolithic hunters, associated with the Plainview culture, lived here from 9,000 to 8,000 years ago. Only slight traces of these people have been found. Hunting and gathering cultures emerged as

the climate became drier. They dined on smaller animals and plants. The Archaic period lasted from 8,000 to 2,000 years ago. Artifacts from this period include boiling pebbles for heating food, grinding stones for processing seeds, oval knives, and corner-notched or indented dart points. Arrow points and pottery appeared during the Neo-Indian state. In the latter part of this period, 800 years ago until the Spaniards arrived, groups established permanent settlements and grew some crops. They traded Alibates flint for pottery, turquoise and obsidian from the Puebloan groups to the west.

Spanish exploration



Spanish explorer Francisco Vázquez de Coronado crossed these plains in 1541. Spanish colonies in New Mexico appeared around 1600. Trade between Plains Indians and New Mexicans gradually grew. The Plains Apache, present when Coronado arrived, acquired horses and became good buffalo hunters. The Comanche arrived in the early 1700s, displacing the Apache. They dominated northwestern Texas until finally subdued in

the 1870s. Trade prospered during the Comanche reign. New Mexican buffalo hunters (ciboleros), and traders (Comancheros) visited often. Las Lenguas Creek, a few miles south of the park, was a major trade area. A site on Quitaque Creek has produced artifacts from what may have been a cibolero camp.

Cattle country



Anglos arrived after 1874. Settlers organized counties and established ranches. Famed cattleman Charles Goodnight moved cattle into Palo Duro Canyon in 1876. In 1882, he bought vast areas of land for John G. Adair. This land became the noted J. A. Ranch. The current park land was part of the purchase. The railroad extended into this area in 1887. By

1890, the town of Quitaque, population 30, was a regular stage stop. More settlers arrived in the early 1900s seeking suitable farm land. Most of the broken country, however, remained ranch land.

A park is born

Most of the land that lies within park passed through the hands of several owners after Adair. Theo Geisler purchased the land in 1936. He died on Aug. 15, 1969. The state purchased the land in 1975, and named the park's Lake Theo after Geisler. Caprock Canyons State Park opened in 1982. It is 100 miles southeast of Amarillo in Briscoe County. The park has 15,313.6 acres, including the 1,217-acre Trailway.

The Trailway

Explore the Caprock Canyons Trailway for a day trip or for a longer excursion. The trail is open to hikers, bikers and horseback riders.

The Trailway stretches from the west, at South Plains on top of the Caprock Escarpment, to the east at Estelline in the Red River Valley. It spans three counties (Floyd, Briscoe and Hall), crosses 46 bridges, and passes through Clarity Tunnel, one of the last active railroad tunnels in Texas.

Access the Trailway from the park, at various road crossings, and near towns. Pay entry fees at trailhead self-pay stations or at park headquarters.

Exploring the Trailway

The Trailway is broken into shorter segments, ranging from 5 to 12 miles long (one way). Solid decking and side rails on trestles allow easy bridge crossing for all users.

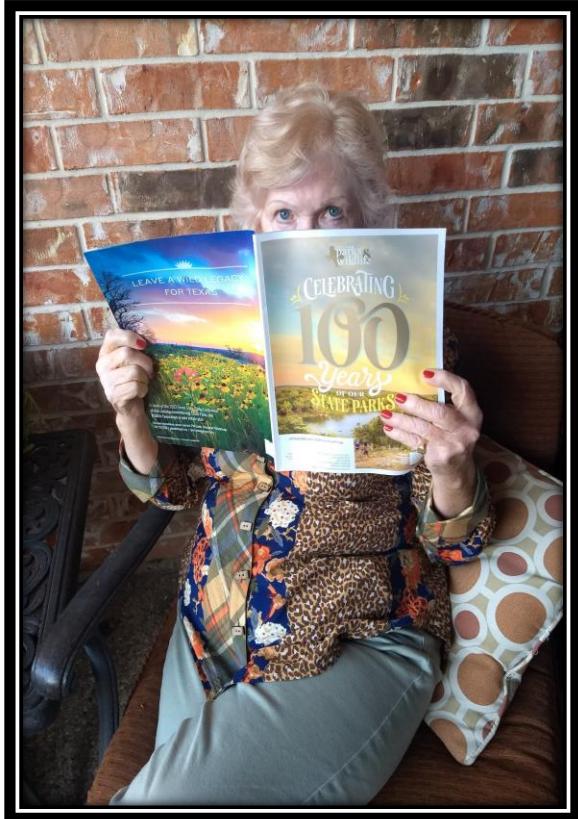


Left: Judy, Nancy, Faith, Rosie, Sherry and Sharon K, guarding Dale's afternoon nap at camp in Caprock Canyons in April 2013.

TOWN April meeting

TOWN members gathered again in April at Dale Dickerson's home. Dale and Rusty the kitty, welcomed us with a delicious snack buffet, great sandwiches and tasty beverages. We gathered to brainstorm for future outings and trips. We are very thankful to all members that have opened their doors to keep these meetings viable and fun!





We hope to see you in our next meeting!

WICHITA MOUNTAINS WILD REFUGE

About Us

Worn by time and nature, the Wichita Mountains loom large above the prairie in southwest Oklahoma—a lasting refuge for wildlife. Situated just outside the Lawton/Ft. Sill area, Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge preserves approximately 60,000 acres of mixed grass prairie, ancient granite mountains, and fresh water lakes and streams for the benefit of wildlife and the American people. Best known for its roaming herds of bison, longhorn, and Rocky Mountain elk, Wichita Mountains also offers quality opportunities for wildlife dependent recreation including fishing, bird watching, wildlife photography, hiking, camping, and kayaking.

What We Do

The National Wildlife Refuge System is a series of lands and waters owned and managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Wildlife conservation is at the heart of the refuge system. It drives everything we do from the purpose a refuge is established, to the recreational activities offered there, to the resource management tools we use. Selecting the right tools helps us ensure the survival of local plants and animals and helps fulfill the purpose of the refuge. The wildlife and habitats of the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge are managed using prescribed fire, grazing management, invasive species control, reservoir management, fish stocking, public use management, Wilderness management, and controlled hunts to manage wildlife populations.

Our Species

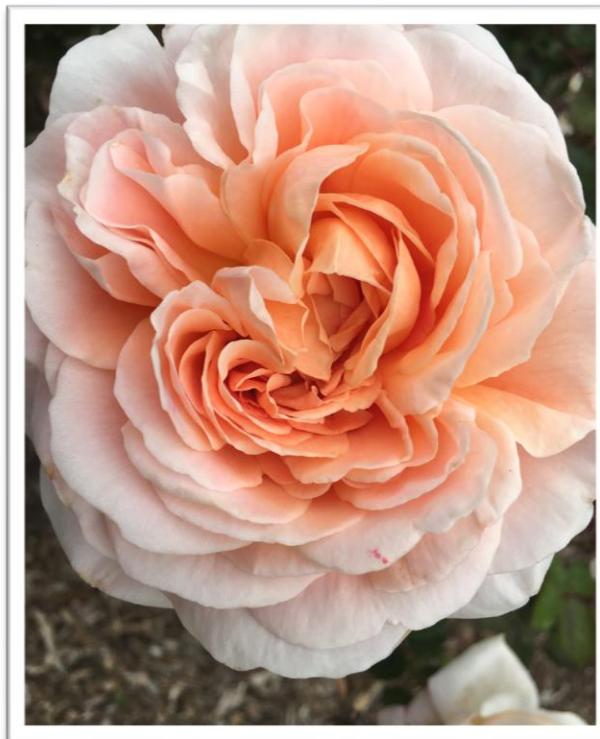
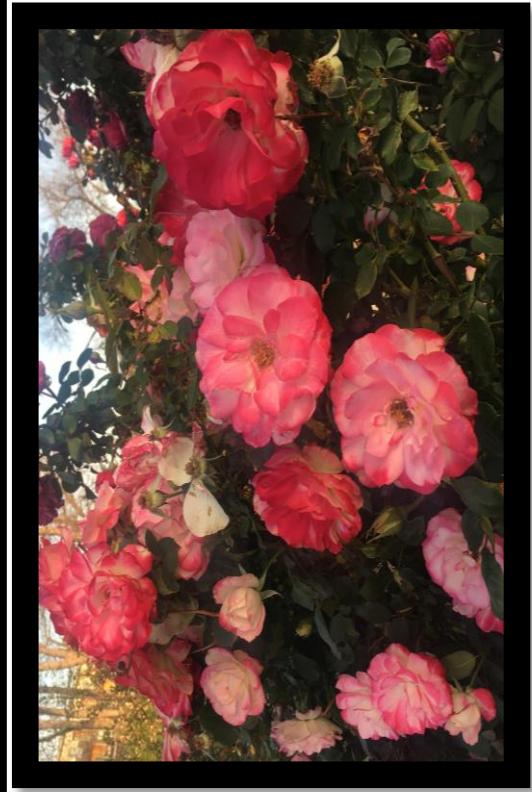
Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge is home to a whole host of animals—from large animals like the American bison to tiny prairie dogs and colorful “Mountain Boomer” lizards. The Refuge is also a great place for over 275 species birds to nest, feed, or rest during migration.



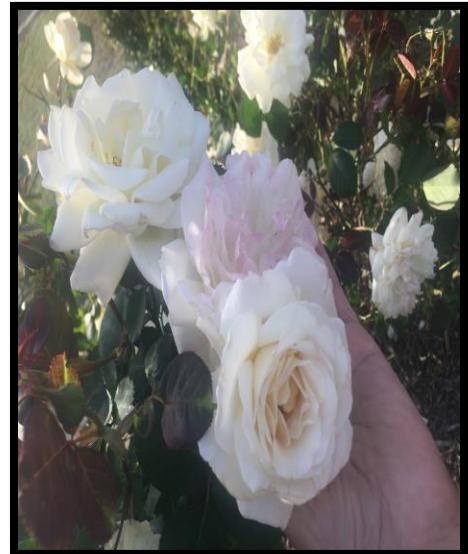
From Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge website

FARMERS BRANCH ROSE GARDEN IN SPRING!!!

As some of you know, I go on my daily walk at the Farmers Branch Rose Garden. Take a look at some of the rose species that bloom in this little small paradise. I always marvel at the sights and smells of this little hidden jewel. I hope you can identify all or some of them. There's a creek nearby and I got to see a Muscovy duck's nest inside an old tree. Plan to visit if you can!







TOWN ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED-2023

Wednesday, May 3rd to Sun., May 7th

Caprock Canyon State Park

Contact info: Gilani, alliekat33@hotmail.com
Lois Jacobs, 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 10th to Sat., May 13th

Wichita National Wildlife Refuge

Contact Nancy Lee at nlee002@tx.rr.com;
https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Wichita_Mountains/activities/camp.html

Saturday, June 3rd

From 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

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 8th

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 .

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.