

PPLT Gratitude

- Thank you to David Vogel for over 10 years of service as a board member and officer. He will be missed!
- Sincere appreciation to the Strategic Planning Team for their time and commitment to lay the foundation for a successful roadmap for PPLT: Maria Alonso, Board President; Donna Benson-Chan, Strategic Plan Consultant; Nikki Krueger, Development Director; Melanie Pavlas, Executive Director; Carolyn Vogel, Founder/Stakeholder. And to Luci Cook (Board Secretary), David Vogel (former board member) and Courtney Young (staff) for joining the Team for the planning session.
- Tons of thanks to Louise Ridlon, Roberta Coffin, Melanie Pavlas and Nikki Krueger for creating fundraiser pages for us during Amplify Austin!
- PPLT Trailblazers- we've launched a new volunteer program to help us maintain trails at the Colorado River Refuge. Huge thanks to Scott Cheek and Patrick & Rachel Duer for providing much needed mowing!
- Thank you to Arlene Kalmbach for her year of service as a board member. She will be leaving in June.
- We just hosted our last nature class with our Homeschool partners on May 17. Thank you to our teachers Louise Ridlon, Bill Brooks (former Board Member), Marianna Hobbs, Kim Iberg and Alysa Jaouin for providing these fun, educational opportunities for over 50 kids in our area.
- Loads of thanks to over 30 Austin Adventurers for volunteering 140 hours since February. If you convert that to dollars, this team has donated service time worth \$3,500! This group should feel incredibly proud.

Thank You Donors!

<\$50 Advocates

Julia Akin
Keith Andren
Aviel Belinko
Bill Brooks
Karen Cudzilo
Elizabeth Freedman
Rachel Halls
Jackie Hardee
Kim Iberg
Diana Jones
Nikki Krueger
Ron Laby
Cynthia Leigh
Jeanne McConnell
Marc Miller
Celine Osborn
Melanie Pavlas
Sally Scott
Michael Speck
Margo Sutton
Mary Zeitler

\$50-\$200 Patrons

Donna Benson-Chan
Elizabeth Dailey
Antonio Hernandez
Roxanne and Elvis Hernandez
Alan Jaeger
Janice Kiker
Leroy Knippa
Harold Kutschke
Rev. Robert Long
Ronald Martin
Albert Pecore
John and Elizabeth Thrift
Judy Turner
Carolyn Vogel
Linda Welsh

\$200+ Partners

Clay Imports
Roberta Coffin
Shawn and Melissa Cooper
Rachelle and John Cyrier
Elizabeth Pullman
Louise Ridlon

Board

Maria Alonso, President

Luci Cook, Secretary

Wilynn Formeller, Treasurer

Arlene Kalmbach, Board Member

STAFF

Melanie Pavlas, Executive Director

Nikki Krueger, Development Director

Courtney Young, Stewardship and Volunteer Manager

NOTES FROM THE PRESERVES

Yegua Knobbs Preserve

- ◆ PPLT welcomed a group of ranchers from Down Home Ranch for a field day this past January. An educational hike was led by Lost Pines Master Naturalists.
- ◆ Students from Texas State University continue research at YKP on a vegetation census and Tufted Titmouse songs (also being conducted at Billig).
- ◆ Volunteers Kathy McAleese, Louise Ridlon and Anna Stalcup performed breeding and wintering bird surveys for us at both YKP, CRR and Billig. A huge “tweet out” to them for gathering this important data!
- ◆ Interested in visiting the Knobbs? Groups may send requests to melanie@pplt.org. Individuals are encouraged to check our website for field days when the preserve is open to the public. At this time, we unfortunately do not have the human resources available to open the preserve up for individual requests.

Billig Ranch

- ◆ We have started preparing the seed bed for our next native prairie restoration project on 145 acres. This Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program project will benefit our native pollinators, like the Monarch butterfly. We will plant seed this Fall. Our previous two prairie restoration projects are supporting large stands of Indiangrass, little bluestem and other natives. We are excited about these successes!
- ◆ UTSA continues its research on native milkweed at Billig, including vegetation transects set up in our previous and current prairie restoration areas that will provide data on that progress.



Anna, Kathy and Louise counting birds at YKP



Billig Ranch

Colorado River Refuge

This spring the Colorado River Refuge is full of vines, visitors, and volunteers.

- ◆ Over 50 local students and families joined us for Pines and Prairies sponsored nature classes at the CRR where we investigated native species and practiced observation and recording skills. See Page 5 for more photos.
- ◆ Mitigation of the Two Bridges Trail Head is underway! You can see check dams, contour markings, water cuts and overflowing fill as you hike by. Please be mindful of the work and walk along un-eroded paths. We are looking for volunteers to help with this project, see our request below.
- ◆ A 'Trail Blazer' program has begun at the CRR. Friends and neighbors are signing up to help maintain trails and keep an eye on the refuge. If you love the CRR or live nearby please consider joining!



Volunteer With Us!

Work with the land you love

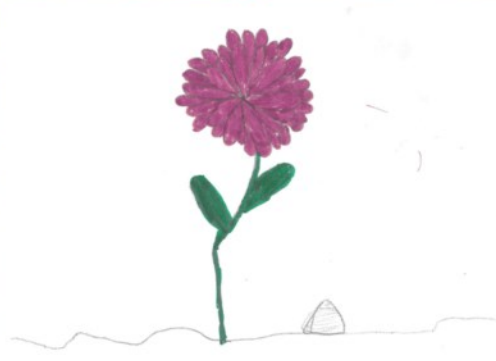
We are growing our volunteer program this year and are offering varied opportunities for groups and individuals. If you are interested in trail building or maintenance, outreach, teaching, land stewardship, or anything else- let us know, we would love for you to join us!

Email courtney@pplt.org for more information.





2018 Spring Nature Classes



Birds and their
Amazing
Adaptations

The 100ft Hike

Texan Amphibians
and Bugs



PO BOX 737
1018 MAIN STREET, STE B
BASTROP, TX 78602



OUR VISION:

**Protecting Land
Connecting People to Land
Inspiring a Land Legacy**

OUR MISSION:

To protect natural and cultural resources and promote sustainable agriculture through education and the protection of open space in Central Texas.

Get involved

- Interested in becoming a volunteer with PPLT? Contact Courtney Young @ courtney@pplt.org or 512.663.3893 for more information.
- Purchase a gift at our online store @ pplt.org/pplt-store/
- Help PPLT conserve open space, family lands and wildlife habitat, and provide educational tools and assistance for the benefit of people in our communities by making a financial contribution @ www.pplt.org