

TEXAS

Master Naturalist™



NEWS

Alamo Area Chapter

Volume 14, Issue 1

Events

Volunteer Opportunities

Education & Training

January, 2010

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Gary Trede

Happy New Year AAMN! As the new year begins also begins the tenure of your new board and committees listed in this newsletter. Most importantly, it is imperative to applaud the great 2009 accomplishments of last year's board led by Anton Hajek and Holly Camero. Thanks for your devotion and dedication to enhancing the Master Naturalist program both locally and statewide.

The 2010 board goals are:

- Promote the participation of the entire membership.
- Renew old friendships and create new ones.
- Provide more opportunities to serve the community.
- Define new directions for the organization.
- Enhance Master Naturalist visibility within our community.

The board, committees, and I will develop a strategic visionary plan, an operational social calendar for the coming year, and strive to enhance the recognition of AAMN accomplishments. We are looking to the general membership to participate in filling and providing input to our committees, taking the lead on Master Naturalist projects, but most importantly, to have fun!

We are looking to the general membership to participate in filling committees, taking lead on Master Naturalist projects and provide information to our committees on what you are doing out there.

The board and I look forward to serving you this year.*



January 13 Meeting Special Guest

John Prentice, member of AAMN Class #23 and recently retired from Texas Parks and Wildlife in Fishery Research will be the presenter at our January 13 meeting. John's marine ecology program is titled, "The Flower Gardens National Marine Sanctuary - What is it, Where is it, and Why is it there?"

This program is approved for advanced training hours.

Spring Class (No. 26) Thursday, February 25

Docents are always needed to help with the classes. Contact the training committee if you are interested. The schedule will also include one more outdoor field study day on a Saturday in March (TBA).

Applications are currently being accepted - please pass this information on to anyone you know who may be interested.

The application is available at www.alamomasternaturalist.org
Schedule on page 3

The Alamo Chapter Texas Master Naturalist Newsletter is published monthly for the members and friends of the chapter. News and information for the newsletter is always welcome.

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& Palani Whiting

Class 21
Nancy Brown
& Wendy Thornton

Class 22
Linda Painter Darst
& Jamie Daily

Class 23
Steve Guerrant
& Gary Trede

Class 24
John Wolcott
& Susan Hunnicutt

Class 25
Ron Tullius & Ivan Estes

Immediate Past President
Anton Hajek
tonyhajek@yahoo.com

NEWS FROM THE BOARD COMMITTEES

Projects to be reviewed for approval as a Master Naturalist activity must be submitted on the Submission for Activity Approval form. Forms can be obtained by contacting me, Pamela Ball, pball12@satx.rr.com, or from the AAMN website at www.alamomasternaturalist.org.

PLEASE REPORT YOUR HOURS !!

Reporting hours is easy with the new EXCEL spreadsheet that was developed for e-mail submissions or for mailing in your hours. It is available online at www.alamomasternaturalist.org.

Where to report your hours:

Last names A-M:

Wilt Shaw
104 Dove Meadow
Boerne, TX 78006-4222
E-mail : WShawjr888@aol.com

Last names N-Z:

Ling Yin Liu
4946 Dare Lane
San Antonio, TX 78217
Phone: 210-207-0021
E-mail: ling.liu@sanantonio.gov

DO YOU WANT YOUR PIN AWARDS? DID YOUR HOURS GET LOST???

A new committee of Alamo Area Master Naturalists is taking action in an attempt to provide members with award pins for hours earned. Some of our old records have been lost, especially regarding the 2002-2006 time frame. If you have records of hours earned during those years, we hope to hear from you so that we can complete our records.

John Wolcott jwolcott@satx.rr.com and Roy Yarnold royyarnold@sbcglobal.net have not only volunteered to assist you with this effort but will also serve as the clearing-house for information regarding reported hours, hours that have vanished and those that have gone unreported.

As most of you know, each year we award 'one of a kind' certification pins for those who achieve 8 hours of advanced training and 40 hours of volunteer service. This year that pin is a salamander.

Additionally, throughout the year, the milestone dragonfly pins are also awarded for 250 hours, 500 hours, and 1,000, 2,500 and 5,000 hours of volunteer service.

We know there are members who have reached these milestones, but because of lost records we do not have a true total of hours performed. If you have records, by year, of your volunteer hours, and if you feel that you have earned a milestone award pin which you have not received, please contact Roy Yarnold or John Wolcott. Perhaps you will be seeing your name in print in this newsletter in the next few months. Let's try to break the records set in 2008 for hours reported and number of members reaching recertification!

“..an enormous thank you...”

The Alamo Area Master Naturalists organization wishes to send an enormous thank you to Joann Smith, who will be stepping down as newsletter editor. Joann has been editor for over three-and-a-half years, churning out those newsletters on a monthly basis, non-stop. With the help of Jamie Daily and a few other MN who shared their stories and articles, Joann managed to make our newsletter the showcase it has become.

Joann joined the AAMN organization in fall of 2005, becoming a member of Class #17. Since then, she has been a very active and dedicated Texas Master Naturalist. In her private life, she also is dedicated to the Texas Master Naturalist mission.

We wish Joann all the best as she starts a new phase in her life. She will continue to assist with newsletter, acting as a mentor to Jessica Manley, our new designer. She will also be joining Cindy Sims as a member of the Programs Committee for 2010.

Joann, thank you for all the years of service you have given this organization as newsletter editor-in-chief. You have been a true, dedicated member of Alamo Area Master Naturalists since 2005. We look forward to seeing you on the trails. ✨

COMMITTEES

Activities Information

Pam Ball
pball12@satx.rr.com

Application Review

Holly Camero
chcamero@aol.com

Community Outreach

Pam Yarnold
pyarn@sbcglobal.net

Development

Thea Platz
210-696-8260
tplatz2@sbcglobal.net

Education / Training Committee

Pam Ball
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Cindy.Sims@sanantonio.gov

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susan.blaker@sanantonio.gov

Hospitality

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Jamie Daily
Jessica Manley

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Web Site

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Visit our web site at
www.alamomasternaturalist.org

FROM THE FIELD

The planting of 400 native plants at the city's Heritage Duck Pond Park on Saturday, December 19 was a volunteer project spearheaded by AAMN Scott Phillips of Class 23, with support from San Antonio City Arborist Michael Nentwich.

On December 15, I joined the "Invaders" at Rancho Diana, near Grey Forest, in their weekly efforts to eradicate non-native, invasive plant species. Rancho Diana is a beautiful wild area that is NOT open to the public.

Not only was the eradication effort successful, but I also found myself working side-by-side with MN classmates Kate McDonald and Judith Shockley, along with Lonnie Shockley and the coordinator of the "Invaders," the delightful Cheryl Hamilton. Jessica Manley is also a dedicated "Invader."

The group meets every Tuesday morning. The activity is approved for volunteer hours. You can also earn advanced training hours the first time out.

More information can be found on page 5.

If you have questions about any of these activities or events, please let me know. ✨

*Best wishes to you all for a happy holiday.
Ron Tullius, Class 25 Representative
210 739-2566 rvtullius@sbcglobal.net*

SPRING 2010 CLASS SCHEDULE

Date 2010	FIRST SESSION	Tab(s) in TMN Notebook Binder	SECOND SESSION	Tab(s) in TMN Notebook Binder	Location
Thursday, February 25	Intro, Icebreaker, History, Anton, Thea & Class Orientation	Unit 1 & 2 - Foreword, Intro to TMN & Texas Naturalists	Biodiversity & Basic Ecology Stephens Rufus	Units 3A/7 Ecology Ecosystems Concepts & Mgt	Texas AgriLife Extension Bldg
Thursday, March 4	Geology - Bill Ward	Unit 4A - Geology & Soils of Texas	Soils-Allen Collins	Unit 4B - Geology & Soils of Texas	Texas AgriLife Extension Bldg
Saturday, March 6	Intro to Invasive Plants in Natural and Riparian Areas	Contact: Cheryl Hamilton 9:00 - 11:00 AM	Intro to Invasive Plants in Natural and Riparian Areas	Contact: Cheryl Hamilton 11:00 - 1:00AM	Rancho Diana
Thursday, March 11	Hydrology - George B. Ozuna	Unit 17-Aquatic Ecology & Management	Insects - Molly Keck	Unit 11 - Entomology	Texas AgriLife Extension Bldg
Thursday, March 18	Plant Taxonomy - Karl Hagenbuch	Unit 8 - Nature of Naming	Reporting Hours- Roy Yarnold & John Wolcott: Volunteer Opportunities	Unit 21B -Volunteers as Teachers	Texas AgriLife Extension Bldg
Thursday, March 25	Patty Leslie Pasztor	Units 8/9 Ethnobotany	Inglets: Birds	Unit 10 - Ornithology	Texas AgriLife Extension Bldg
Thursday, April 1	Mammals - David Ribble	Unit 14 - Mammalogy	Sch. Yrd Habitats & Volunteer Conduct-Thea Platz	Unit 21A -Volunteers as Teachers	Texas AgriLife Extension Bldg
Saturday, April 3	8:00 - 12:00 AM		Ornithology Continues	Birding - Tom & Patsy Inglett	Mitchell Lake Audubon Center (MLAC)
Thursday, April 8	SARA Eagleland South Project Lee Marlowe	Unit 18 - Wetland Eco and Management	Archaeology - Wilson McKinney	Unit 15A - Archaeology	Texas AgriLife Extension Bldg
Thursday, April 15	Urban Forestry - Michael Nentwich & Mark Peterson	Unit 16 - Forest Ecology and Management	Threatened and Endangered Species- Terry Turney	Unit 3B-Ecological Concepts Continue	Texas AgriLife Extension Bldg
Saturday - Apr. 17	9:00 - 1:00 AM	Unit 9B - Plants & Ethnobotany	Janis Merritt @ Crownridge Eric Lautzenheiser @ Friedrich	Historical Info: San Antonio Natural Areas	SAPAR Natural Areas- FP/CR
Thursday, April 22	Reptiles & Amphibians Robert Perez	Unit 13 - Herpetology	Wildscaping & Urban Systems - Judit Green	Unit 20 - Urban Systems	Texas AgriLife Extension Bldg
Thursday, April 29	Law & Ethics - Richard Heilbrun	Unit 21C - Volunteer Conduct	Rangeland Ecology - Dr. Barron Rector	Unit 19 - Rangeland Ecology and Management	Texas AgriLife Extension Bldg
Saturday, May 1	9:00 - 10:50 AM	SABoG Tour - Thea Platz & Cindy Sims	11:00 - 1:00P	Graduation/ Potluck	AULD HOUSE @ SA Botanical Garden

✨ Submit your class or group activity by the 24th ✨ of each month for publication in the next issue.

Heritage Duck Pond



Ron Tullius, Michael Nentwich, Jeff Pilkinton, Rafael Brisita, and Josh Carter. Debbie Pilkinton and Lissa Martinez (not pictured).

Thank you to everyone who helped plan, recruit volunteers, deliver materials, and work the wonderful volunteer day. We planted, mulched, and watered over 300 trees and shrubs on the berm and spread five bags of grass seed throughout the park to help control erosion.

The neighborhood group played a key role in the placement of the trees and shrubs, allowing for greater involvement in a project that directly affects their neighborhood.

Saturday, December 19 was a shining example of what can happen when the community and Parks & Recreation come together. A huge thank you to Scott Phillips, Class 23 for spearheading this worthwhile cause. ✨

City of San Antonio

Parks and Recreation Department Natural Areas

January 2010 Stewardship Activities

Many of us associate January with new year's resolutions—new things we want to begin and old things we want to end. Endings and beginnings are happening in nature as well. It's pretty easy to find things ending—it is after all, winter. But if one looks or listens closely, one can observe beginnings too, like wildflower rosettes hugging the ground and great-horned owls nesting.



For more information or to volunteer, please call

Peggy Spring at 210-564-6402

or e-mail pspring@sanantonio.gov

www.sanaturalareas.org

Winter Naturalist Hike, Woodland Hills West

Thurs., Jan. 7 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Meet at the Woodland Hills West gate on Heuermann, just southwest of Friedrich Wilderness Park. Wendy and Jayne will take you on a hike to observe nature and apply observations to land management. This is a great way to get oriented to the natural areas and learn a little about what we do. Bring binoculars and any favorite field guides. We may lop a few junipers as well, so bring work gloves if you have them.

Golden-Cheeked Warbler Habitat Restoration at Woodland Hills West

Thurs., Jan 14 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Thurs., Jan. 21 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Thurs., Jan. 28 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Meet at the Woodland Hills West gate on Heuermann, just southwest of Friedrich Wilderness Park. Please bring work gloves if you have them.

First Saturday Hike: Friedrich Park

January 2 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

First Saturday Hike: Crownridge Canyon Natural Area

January 2 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.



Bare Branches! Second Saturday Hike: Eisenhower Park

January 9 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Take a walk with City Forester Michael Nentwich to explore our trees in winter. Learn how they can be used in urban situations and begin to think about trees you may want to plant this year. Free tree to the first 20 families!

www.sanaturalareas.org

Approved for volunteer hours if assisting with programs.



Deadline Extended!

2010 National Wetlands Awards Program

The deadline to submit nomination forms for the 2010 National Wetlands Awards Program has been extended to January 15, 2010! Nominations are available at www.nationalwetlandsawards.org. For more than 20 years, the National Wetlands Awards program has honored individuals who have demonstrated extraordinary dedication, innovation, and excellence in wetlands conservation. Recipients provide critical examples of how individual citizens across the country can, and do, make a difference in wetlands protection and restoration efforts.

The 2010 National Wetlands Awards Program will honor individual achievement in six categories: Education and Outreach; Science Research; Conservation and Restoration; Landowner Stewardship; State, Tribal, and Local Program Development; and Wetland Community Leader. Organizations and federal employees are not eligible. Award recipients will be recognized at a Capitol Hill ceremony in May 2010.

For more information on the program, contact Landon Yoder at **202-939-3829** or e-mail wetlandsawards@eli.org. You may also write to the National Wetlands Awards Program, Environmental Law Institute, 2000 L Street, NW, Suite 620, Washington, DC 20036. *

City Manager's 5k - Saturday, January 30!

There will be 250 trees to give away. They will be delivered to Koehler Pavilion in Brackenridge Park (by the San Antonio Zoo roundabout) at 7 a.m., and the event should be finished by noon.

Master Naturalists are needed to help with the Free Tree Giveaway. Contact Michael Nentwich at: michael.nentwich@sanantonio.gov for more information.

Cut out your special parking pass.

Approved for volunteer hours.



Koehler Pavilion Unloading Pass

Unloading at the Koehler Pavilion ends at 7 a.m.

INVASIVE PLANT ERADICATION AT RANCHO DIANA

Master Naturalists and members of the San Antonio Invaders Satellite invite you to join us in our efforts to eradicate invasive plants at Rancho Diana. To date, 30 volunteers have accrued over 300 volunteer hours, identified nearly 5,000 specimens of nine invasive species and eradicated over 5,000 invasive plants! Invasive plant species have included: Chinaberry, Chinese Photinia, Chinese Pistachio, Giant Reed, King Ranch Blue-stem, Indian Lantana, Ligustrum, Pyracantha, and Nandina.

**The work is very satisfying,
and no prior experience or training is required.**

**We hope you can join us in January 2010
on one or more of the following dates:**

Tuesday, January 5
Tuesday, January 12
Tuesday, January 19
Tuesday, January 26

Volunteers meet outside the gate at Rancho Diana at 7:30 A.M. and conclude at 9:30 or 10:00 A.M.

Approved for volunteer hours.

If you are interested in joining us, contact Cheryl Hamilton at cryhm@hotmail.com or 210-342-9721.

It is important to e-mail or call by no later than 9:00 P.M. the night before if you will be joining us, as we enter Rancho Diana as a group.

Texas Master Naturalists:

For those of you who attended the 10th Annual Texas Master Naturalist Meeting and Advanced Training, the presentation given by John Davis entitled: "Texas Master Naturalists-- A Biologists Attempt to Value the Invaluable" is now available for download from the Texas Parks & Wildlife website at:
http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/land/programs/txmasnat/downloads/media/Value_of_TMNs.pdf

The file is large so be prepared for a slower download.

*Happy
Holidays!
Michelle &
Sonny*

Texas Master Naturalists:
A Biologist's Attempt to Value the Invaluable

- Professional Value
- Ecological Value
- Financial Value
- Personal Value



WILDLIFE TAX VALUATION SEMINAR 2010

Session 1: Overview & Property Inventory

Saturday, January 9
9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Session 2: Management Practices & Habitat Assessment

Saturday, January 16
9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Session 3: WTV History and Update on the Law, Application Procedures, & Putting It All Together

Saturday, January 23
9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Cost: Members \$80/person and \$100/couple; non-members \$100/person and \$125/couple. **Limit:** 35. Pre-registration required. Call 830-249-4616.



Do you have an agriculture tax valuation on your land? Are you interested in managing for wildlife? This in-depth seminar is especially for owners of less than 500 acres and emphasizes wildlife management for songbirds. Our presenters will help you gain land management knowledge, understand the history of this Texas law and fulfill requirements to qualify for a wildlife management tax valuation. Many participants complete the seminar with a concrete plan and are ready to apply.

Cibolo Nature Center
140 City Park Rd. Boerne, TX 830-249-4616
www.cibolo.org

Made possible in part by the Marcia and Otto Koehler Foundation.

“Aquifer-to-Zizelmann”

(A-Z) Clinic



Incourage all Master Naturalists who want to be an active part of our volunteer team at GCSNA to attend this clinic.

Friday, January 22

Tuesday, February 9

Saturday, February 20

Sunday, March 7

The “Aquifer-to-Zizelmann” (A-Z) Clinic is an all-day training that presents “Everything You’ve Ever Wanted To Know About Government Canyon State Natural Area.” It is provided to GCSNA staff and volunteers who will be in direct contact with our visitors. This clinic is not open to the general public, as it is aimed at training docents who will make a commitment to learning how to lead hikes and/or assist with interpretive programs and presentations at GCSNA. If you would like to be part of either group or learn more about them, please contact me directly.

Approved for advanced training.

John H. Koepke, Government Canyon SNA
210-688-9055; Ext. 291
John.koepke@tpwd.state.tx.us



By Anton Hajek

Most of December I avoided the hot tub fearing a cold night would bring on the flu and I'd miss my surgery. It is not so much missing the surgery as getting to pay the enormous deductible a self-employed person enjoys and losing time in the future. The surgery took 2.5 hours and was successful. Now I am recovering and that doesn't include hot tub time.

The hard freeze of December 4 was interesting. Many plants wilted or fell over. I'll bet they come back. If not, the nurseries accept my money. I encountered a young, thin, short, rattlesnake in the garden at 3 p.m. on the fifth. Silly me, I thought it was too cold for those critters. Apparently it was too cold for it to avoid a shovel. As a Master Naturalist I always am tortured when I take out a predator. My wife, raised to kill all snakes, begrudgingly accepts the survival of a few I can proclaim non-venomous. I ask her when was the last time she knew of someone being bit, much less dying from a rattlesnake. Even though she has no answer, she demands the death penalty. That she is a St. Mary's graduate, home of the Rattlers, engenders no clemency. I should probably get a pair of snake tongs (that I can locate and return with before the snake disappears) and just move the offensive snake to ... how far? And would it survive? Maybe I can blame this on organized religion as snakes have had bad PR since the serpent in the garden. Last Summer I was putting out mice/rat bait almost as fast as they could consume it. An unseen snake with a healthy appetite would have been welcome.

There must have been a gentle freeze earlier in the hill country that I missed, as a trip to find frost flowers was for naught. On the trip I saw only a young buck, and a doe. The drought has decimated the deer herd. Hopefully our recent rains will bam it back up in three years.

After three years of writing about the drought, it is strange to deal with the wet, and the mud. Driving the truck into the field to dump deer carcasses is a challenge. The coyotes and caracaras don't care if I slip, slide or get stuck delivering the bones but my wife prefers the dump site to be far from the house.

Master naturalism may be changing. Usually when reviewing class applications, we look for people to be worker bees or leaders. Both Calvin Finch and Richard Heilbrun suggested becoming a master naturalist just for the knowledge. Not that I think some folk don't do just that. I just don't want to promote the idea. However, that idea does present an opportunity for workshops, adult education classes, and perhaps even an organized speaker's bureau. How about that for a new year's project? *

YEAR END REPORT OF HOURS

Hard to believe that 2009 is behind us, but we have again set records for the number of hours submitted and the number of AAMN members earning award pins. A complete listing of everyone who has earned pins in 2009 will be published in the February newsletter when all reports of hours have been received. The names of members recently earning pins are published in the adjacent column.

Some of you have not yet reported your 2009 hours. Please turn them in as early as possible, for they must be reported to the Master Naturalist state office by January 15th. We are reporting to the state hours earned from December of 2008 through the end of November 2009, unless you were in class 24 or 25 and working to complete your initial certification. In that event you may report your hours through the end of December.

Wilt Shaw and Ling Yin Liu are working diligently to complete the 2009 postings and to begin posting hours for 2010. Any hours of volunteer time earned during December of 2009 will be counted as being earned in 2010.

If you are not yet using Google Docs, please make an effort to do so. Ling and Wilt will help you begin using this simple system and Roy Yarnold is available for continued assistance. If you have questions about using Google Docs, please contact them at ling.liu@sanantonio.gov, wshawjr888@aol.com and royyarnold@sbcglobal.net. Many of you are already using Google Docs and it has streamlined the process significantly. *

NAME	AWARD	CLASS #
Recertified 2009		
Brisita, Rafael	salamander	22
Duncan, Lucas	salamander	21
Manning, Ron	salamander	24
Morris, Lee	salamander	20
Initial Certification		
Gaskin, David	dragonfly	25
Hunnicut, Susan	dragonfly	24
Stacy, Megan	dragonfly	24
Advanced Hours Awards		
Hajek, Anton	2500 Hours	1
Pieper, J.W.	2500 Hours	13
Gonzales, Josie	1000 Hour	13
Pulis, Rick	500 Hour	21
Ratcliffe, Lindsay	250 Hours	21
Thornton, Wendy	250 hours	21

COMMUNITY OUTREACH CALENDAR

By Pam Yarnold

Get involved!

The Community Outreach Committee needs volunteers for the AAMN table at several upcoming events.

San Antonio River Authority's 2nd Annual
GET OUTDOORS EVENT
Saturday, March 6, 2010
10 AM-2 PM

THE NPSOT-SA'S NATIVE PLANT DAY
Saturday, March 20, 2010
Eisenhower Park
The main purpose of this event is to educate the public on the value of native plants and the necessity for the preservation of natural areas.

11TH ANNUAL EARTH DAY CELEBRATION
at Northwest Vista College
Thursday, April 8, 2010
9 am-2 pm

KING WILLIAMS FAIR-GREEN ZONE
Saturday, April 24, 2010
10 AM-6 PM

If you can help at the table or in some other area, please contact:
Pam Yarnold
AAMN Community Outreach
pyarn@sbcglobal.net
210-497-1088

Participation in these events as a representative of Texas Master Naturalists is approved for volunteer hours.



A Resource for Texas Master Naturalist Volunteer Projects

Now in one location you can find Educator Resources for the Gulf of Mexico Region!

Visit www.gulfallianceeducation.org/educator_resources.php to find lesson plans, maps, data and a media center (featuring videos and podcasts)!

These pages will continue to be updated. Most lessons have standards listed and the rest are on the way. If you have any comments in regards to these pages please e-mail goma@disl.org. *

Riverwalk Garden in January
The Riverwalk Demo Garden group will meet at **9:00 Friday Jan. 8, 2010.**
New volunteers always enthusiastically welcomed and appreciated!
The garden is located at the corner of Aubrey and Old Guilbeau, north of Durango on the west side of the SA river.
Contact: Lan Eng lanbceng@gmail.com
Approved for volunteer hours.

Community Outreach



Girl Scout Troop visits Friedrich Park lead by Master Naturalist Trail Guide, Prem Nored

MEDINA RIVER NATURAL AREA SECOND SATURDAY PROGRAMS

January 9, 2010 9am-11am
Peregrine Falcons and the Art of Falconry

Medina River Natural Area is located at 15890 Highway 16 South. For more information or to RSVP for any event call 210-624-2575. Suggested donation for all events is \$3/individual or \$5/family.

Matt Reidy, Wildlife Biologist for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, will provide information on the peregrine falcon and their adaptations for survival, the natural history of the peregrine falcon, the endangered species act and why the peregrine falcon was in trouble, and information on the sport of falconry. *

www.sanaturalareas.org

Great site for Texas Native Plants - http://www.sbs.utexas.edu/bio406d/PlantPics_archive.htm





Basic info:

- 2nd annual event
- Saturday, March 6, 2010
- 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Mission San José (6701 San José Drive)

History:
The first event held in January 2009 drew close to 5,000 visitors. More than 50 participating agencies and organizations provided hands-on learning demonstrations, exhibits, presentations and information related to environmental education and area outdoor activities. The first 1,000 children received an Explorer Backpack loaded with giveaways; additional free environmental and outdoor giveaways and door prizes were distributed throughout the day.

Purpose:
Get Outdoors! is a free event designed to provide both environmental education information and outdoor recreation opportunities to the greater San Antonio community with the target audience being children (K-12) and their families/guardians.

How do I get Involved?

1. Participating agencies/entities will be provided space for a booth to disseminate appropriate information related to environmental education and outdoor activities (located either locally or regionally). Tables and chairs will be provided.
2. There will be scheduled educational demonstrations held throughout the day. Agencies/entities wishing to hold one of the "scheduled" demonstrations should submit their idea immediately so that a master schedule can be created and promoted.
3. 1,500 Explorer Backpacks are scheduled to be given away at the 2010 event. Additional environmental and outdoor giveaways will be distributed throughout the day as door prizes. Agencies/entities wishing to donate door prizes should submit their donation idea immediately upon accepting the invitation to participate in the event so that a master schedule can be created and promoted.




Contact Laura Waldrum at (210)302-4247 with the San Antonio River Authority to register your organization for more information and to sign up your organization for Get Outdoors!

Master Naturalists are volunteers dedicated to the conservation, preservation and restoration of our natural resources, promoting ecological education for all ages.



The Alamo Area Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists gratefully acknowledges the support of our sponsoring organizations:



Spring 2010 classes now forming - find the application at: WWW.ALAMOMASTERNATURALIST.ORG

Master Naturalist
P.O. Box 690356
San Antonio, Texas 78269
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED