

NATURALIST NEWS

PUBLICATION FROM TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST, ELM FORK CHAPTER

February 2016

Volume 17 Issue 2



Tree frog bing.com

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Of things to Come



Asters—Brownwood State Park by Jonathan Reynolds

Asters are daisy-like perennials with starry-shaped flower heads. The plant's height ranges from 8 inches to 8 feet, depending on the type. www.almanac.com/plant/aster

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February Regular Meeting will Feature Annual Awards



Losing a Good Friend and Fellow Master Naturalist

By Dave Rowley and Dorothy Thetford

We have recently learned that Alex Lieban and his wife Gayle are planning a move to Denver to be closer to their daughter and granddaughter. Alex has been an active member in a lot of areas. Alex was in the class of 2005. He joined the Board as Vice President in 2007 and was our President in 2008 and Past President in 2009. He has been very active and a valuable asset to our chapter. Among other things, He has video taped our classes on many occasions and has been active a Clear Creek for several years.

Dorothy Thetford has this to say : “When I learned that Alex Lieban was planning to abandon our Elm Fork Chapter of Texas Master Naturalists, I was shocked. Yep, for six years our MN City Nature Hikes Committee hiked cub scouts, Webelos, girl scouts, home schoolers, DISD, UNT and TWU students, Denton County Probation teens, garden clubs, birders and anyone else who responded to the City Play Magazine advertisements....and we never took a hike without Alex Lieban's showing up. He didn't just show up, but he dominated every hike with his charm, wit, humor, tricks, and puns while giving personal attention to those 'little people' who showed an interest in trees, bark, seeds, leaves, beavers, animal tracks, scat, snake skins, moss or bird feathers, nor..., did he ever miss an opportunity to entertain me for a chuckle!

So, can we dare spare Alex and give him permission to leave us? No. In my opinion, he didn't play by the rules of the game and ask: 'May I?'

Sorry, Alex; forget that Colorado plan.”



Photo courtesy Dave Rowley