

## Wood Duck Whistler January 2024

### President's Message by Wanda Rauscher



Welcome to a new year-post 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the Texas Master Naturalist program and post 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary for Texas State Parks-the year of the total eclipse for our area April 8 and City Nature Challenge 2024 April 26-29 (for observations)! Monthly chapter meetings will continue to be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month with our first of 2024 to be January 25 at the Tyler Nature Center- social at 6:45, speaker at 7. For those interested in helping with our fall training class there will be a meeting prior to the chapter meeting, January 25 at 5:15, with Kay Jenkins 2024 Training Class Director. Our

February meeting will be virtual with a required RSVP prior to the February 22 date.

From the short business meeting at our December gathering we have me elected as President 2024-2025 and Bob Lumpkins elected as our Treasurer. Dues remain unchanged. Please send in your 2024 membership dues to assure the Chapter can pay its bills and fund its activities without having to spend time with fundraising.

Thanks to Bob Lumpkins and Carol Lanthrum for representing us at Smith County Commissioners Court on December 12. Our chapter had 83 volunteers participating in 38 projects totaling 6,271 volunteer hours of service and 993 hours of advanced training for 2023 as of December 1. I know the final total will be an even bigger number. Please get your hours entered!

### **ETCMN 2024 Dues are due January 31, 2024**

Individual Member: \$20

Family Members: \$35

Please make check payable to: **East Texas Chapter Master Naturalists**

Send payment to:

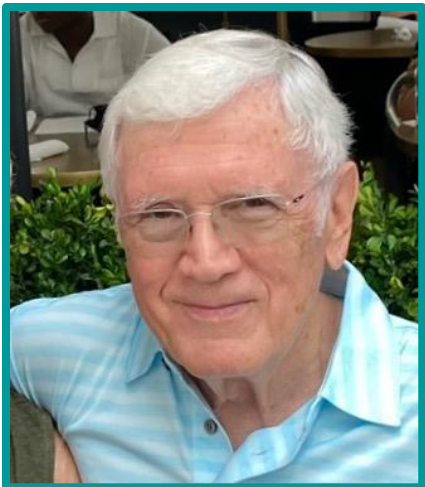
East Texas Chapter Master  
Naturalist (ETCMN)  
P. O. Box 131184  
Tyler, TX 75713



Donna Hamill – initial certification  
Patricia Gray – recertification  
Jim Walker – recertification

**Member Spotlight**  
**Ann Reynolds**

Paul Wick is the first member spotlight for the new year!



**WHERE WERE YOU BORN/RAISED?**  
I was born in Victoria, Texas, and spent the middle part of my childhood in Hamlin, Texas, where I learned to explore nature. I returned to Victoria where I graduated from high school.

**WHERE DO YOU LIVE NOW?**  
I live in Tyler now.

**WHAT IS/WAS YOUR CAREER? EDUCATION?**  
I received my B.A. degree from UT Austin and my M.D. from UTMB Galveston. After an internship at U. Mississippi Hospital in Jackson, I joined the Air Force as a captain and medical

officer. Then I returned to UTMB for a psychiatry residency. I practiced psychiatry in Tyler many years and am now retired.

**WOULD YOU CARE TO SHARE WITH US ABOUT YOUR FAMILY?**  
I am now widowed, losing my wife five years ago. We shared many wonderful years together and had two sons and a daughter, and now five grandsons.

**WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR HOBBIES?**  
I enjoy working around my farm where I have kept up an historic farmhouse built in pre-Civil War days. It is my getaway to be out in the pasture or woods or keeping up the house. I also enjoy gardening, as I am also a master gardener.

**TO WHAT DO YOU ATTRIBUTE YOUR LOVE OF NATURE?**  
Having sat in offices and hospitals for too many days, I always enjoyed my time outdoors.

**WHAT CLASS WERE YOU IN?**  
Class of 2018

**WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR FAVORITE VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE?**  
I regularly enjoy Feeder Watch using my backyard birdfeeder to view the variety of birds. I also keep i-Naturalist handy on my walks. I enjoyed camera tracking projects at my farm where I have recorded feral hogs, raccoons, opossums, squirrels, deer, and birds. I enjoyed my term as chapter president.

An unforgettable experience was, when a tornado hit the park as I was volunteering there.

**ADVICE FOR NEW MASTER NATURALISTS**  
There are many aspects of the naturalist program to enjoy. You may explore various activities to find what interests you most. There are activities to enjoy with others and activities to enjoy when you are alone with nature. So often I find myself asking, "What is that bird or insect or plant?"

## Tyler Nature Center Update

Kay Jenkins

On December 11, Ann Reynolds and I worked in the Wildscape weeding and planting new Pink Muhly Grass (*Muhlenbergia capillaris*). At that time, we noticed a deformity in the Giant Cone flower (*Rudbeckia maxima*) which is called



Fasciation. Fasciation is a malformation of plant stems commonly appearing as enlargement and flattening as if several stems were fused. It can be the result of hormonal or genetic factors. It can also be caused by pathogens (bacterial, fungal, or viral), insect damage, or animal damage.

**Please join us for the upcoming workday JANUARY 6, 2024 at 9:00 am.** Please RSVP to Kay so she can plan the work around the number of volunteers. Her email is: [kay-jenkins@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kay-jenkins@sbcglobal.net).

Bring the following:

- Gloves, hat, sunscreen and water to drink
- Knee pads or kneeling pad or towel to kneel on
- Shovel, rake, pruners, loppers, hoe
- 5-gallon bucket
- Pruners

## Wait! What?

**Ann Reynolds** – The largest urban forest in the United States is the Great Trinity Forest in Dallas Texas. The boundaries of the forest extend from the Santa Fe Trestle Trail near Corinth Street and Riverfront Boulevard within view of downtown Dallas, to just past IH-20, an eleven-mile stretch of land that basically follows the Trinity River. The Great Trinity Forest is home to groves of urban bottomland hardwood trees, rivaling New York City's Central Park in terms of size and recreational possibilities. Dallas' 6,000-acre Great Trinity Forest overshadows New York's 840-acre Central Park. The best way to explore the Trinity Forest and get a close up of the Trinity River is by hiking the Ned and Genie Fritz Texas Buckeye Trail.

**Dale Wade** - If the alluvium were removed from the Rio Grande Gorge in New Mexico, then it would be six times deeper than the Grand Canyon.

## Whooping It Up!

**Sharon Hanzik**

Have you ever been on a Whooping Crane expedition? If you haven't, I highly recommend it. I've seen them on more than one occasion at Aransas National Wildlife Refuge and near Goose Island State Park. Each time I am in awe observing North America's tallest bird species. They are quite majestic. I've been lucky



enough to have them fly directly overhead of the observation tower at ANWR. When I lived in

Fort Bend County, we even had a stray that migrated with a flock of Sandhill Cranes.

In early December this year I recently did a cautious double-take along Interstate 10 in Louisiana between Jennings and Crowley. There were at least 3 very tall white crane-like birds in a plowed field. At 70ish mph I thought they were most likely Wood Storks. I slowed down a little as there were a few more and I made an exciting, positive ID. I did not know about the non-migratory flock of 10 introduced in 2011 as juveniles to the White Lake Wetlands Conservation Area only a short distance to the south (permitted entry only). This flock now totals 85.

Historically, more than 10,000 whooping cranes once populated North America. However, due to habitat destruction and hunting, their population declined to an all-time low of 15 individuals in 1941, placing them on the endangered species list in 1967. Today, the population has increased to over 800 individuals, with the majority of them living in the wild. The largest flock, which winters in Texas, is also the only natural migratory flock. They have remained at a stable 543 count for the last several years.

The whooping crane stands approximately 5 feet tall with a wingspan of 7.5 feet and weighs approximately 15 pounds. They live in wetlands, marshes, mudflats, and wet prairie fields. They eat plant tubers, small mammals, blue crabs, amphibians, reptiles, and insects. They mate for life and are known for their unique courtship dances and displays. They perform these dances to attract a mate and strengthen their bond. The dance involves bowing, jumping, and flapping their wings while making loud calls. They also have a unique vocalization, which is a loud, trumpeting call that can be heard from miles away - hence their name.

Whooping cranes are ground nesters. They typically lay two eggs, but only one chick usually survives. The chick stays with its parents

for about nine months before becoming independent. Whooping cranes are also known for their ability to swim as hatchlings. These tawny-colored juveniles are often seen wintering with their parents.

Whooping cranes are not only an important part of North America's ecosystem, they also serve as a symbol of hope for conservation efforts. Stop putting it off. Plan a trip now to see them before they start their 1000+ mile journey back to their breeding grounds in late March to early April. And, while you're on the coast, enjoy one of their favorites, and mine, blue crab!



U.S. Fish and Wildlife, National Wildlife Federation, All About Birds

## Master Naturalists in the Community

### Kelli Ebel

What a Beautiful day to be at the Prairie Classroom to focus in on native birds with Madame (self-proclaimed) BirdNerd Sandy Tibbs, Master Naturalist Extraordinaire! We got a bit of background on several birds, such as the Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse,

Northern Cardinal, a variety of woodpeckers and sparrows and, a giggling favorite, the Yellow-rumped Warbler (aka Butter Butt). Sandy led the kiddos in the Carolina Wren

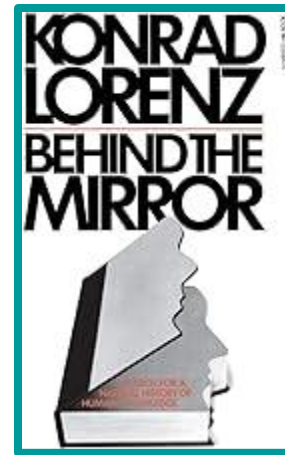


dance just before heading out on a birding expedition - bird sighting, bird hearing, bird habitat and noticing what birds eat. We sighted an American goldfinch, a yellow-bellied sapsucker (woodpecker), an eastern phoebe, various vultures, cardinals and a song sparrow all while the kiddos picnicked in the prairie.

## Book Reviews

**Lance Homeniuk**

Behind the Mirror by Konrad Lorenz, translated by Ronald Taylor, 1978. Harcourt Brace and Jovanovich, New York and London. Paperback, 261 pages.



The subtitle, A Search for a Natural History of Human Knowledge, seems to pigeonhole this as an anthropology or psychology text, But the author (do you feel an instinctive urge to follow his name?) is the famous Nobel Laureate who researched imprinting on Greylag geese. And authored scores of books and papers on animal ethology. From amoebas to humans, visiting every animal phylum, and returning to those geese, he traces the genetic and physiological roots of survival mechanisms – how they arise, how they function, and what happens when they malfunction. He is original, humorous, vivid, and bold. Though the translator has rendered the wording into comprehensible English, it is at a college level, at least. I found myself rereading and taking notes, not because it was so hard but because it is so important. I bet there are more little orange Post-it book marks in this little volume than in any of my textbooks! Of course, that implies I will be going back to it. Later, rather than sooner, if I can find the “second” volume he kept referring to.

I will spare you pages of quotes, but here are a few bullet points:

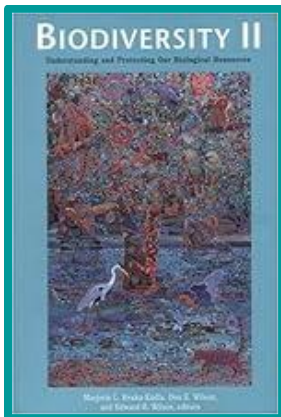
- Nature VS nurture is a useless argument... it is BOTH!
- No mind/soul and brain/body dichotomy... different aspects of the same
- Also, not structure VS function ... BOTH are essentially interdependent

- And the distinction between man and animal is likewise vapid ... we are all creatures, but humans are at a completely separate and higher level than the closest animals (critical thinking, morality, esthetics, spirituality, etc.)

BIODIVERSITY, 1988. Editor E.O. Wilson, Assistant Editor Frances M. Peters. Published by National Academy press, Washington, D.C. Paperback, 521 pages.



BIODIVERSITY II, 1997. Edited by Marjorie L. Reaka-Kudla, Don E. Wilson, and Edward O. Wilson. Published by Joseph Henry Press, Washington, D.C. Paperback, 530 pages.



Here is a two-fer. Both tomes are edited by the grand old man of American Ecology. They consist of papers presented at major conferences sponsored by the National Academy of Sciences and the Smithsonian Institution. Important for nonscientists and scientists each contains dozens of articles organized into 13 and 6 parts, respectively. For example, chapter 55 of volume 1 is titled "A Christian View of Biodiversity" and makes a

convincing case that the Biblical injunction to dominate nature implies more of nurturing and stewardship than kill and destroy.

The second volume was owned by a student named 'Walthner' who made free use of highlighters throughout. On the one hand that makes it easier to scan and find significant information as well as factoids. On the other hand, it tempts the reader to lazy or superficial reading. How many times have I been guilty of reading while fatigued or distracted and later realizing that the impressions I took away were at variance with what the author actually wrote and intended. There have been a few 'AHA' moments (very few I confess) when I saw through the words to the underlying truth. But most often it was misreading or mis-imaging the words. Does anyone else see in their mind's eye what they read?

## Blackhawk Creek Trails Courtney Jennings

I would like to share about a terrific hidden gem in Whitehouse, Texas. The Blackhawk Creek trails can be found off of Patrick Drive. They're primarily used by mountain bikers, but are a great treasure for hiking and observing nature as well. I have really enjoyed watching these trails form since the beginning and the way it has brought so many members of our community together.



It is 100% maintained by volunteers, and what a great set of volunteers it is! The Parks and Recreation Foundation is comprised of

amazing leaders in our community who have really put their hearts into this project. The number of hours they have committed to making these trails a family friendly, fun, and safe place for our residents and visitors is staggering.

I'm told it's a lot of fun for a quick ride on a mountain bike, but my favorite is definitely hiking the trails slowly, to see the many different natural elements the trails have to offer. In my own exploration, some of my favorite finds include horsemint (*Monarda punctata*), black-eyed Susans, (*Rudbeckia*) American beauty-berries (*Callicarpa americana*), a plethora of wild mushrooms, and even wild rabbits. As a homeschooling mom, these trails have inspired many nature studies for my kids. Often, they ask for their entire school day to take place at one of the picnic tables located along the trails. The tables and benches along the trail make for great observation spots, as well as the perfect places for picnics.

In addition to the tables and benches placed along the trails, the Parks and Recreation Foundation has recently commissioned the construction of a pavilion near the parking area. This pavilion was dedicated back to the city in a ceremony on September 30th. Between the pavilions, picnic tables, and the now approximately 5 miles of trails, this is a great spot for a day with the family or just a day with nature.

## Tyler State Park

### Lance Homeniuk

Location: FM 14, 5 miles north of I 20; a 30-minute drive from Kilgore.

Area: 985.5 acres; 64-acre lake

One of the Civilian Conservation Corps parks constructed during the 1930's. Some structures still remain. Mostly piney woods but a blackjack oak savannah has been restored. Periodic prescribed burns are

carried out (area between entrance and bathhouse parking lot recently burned)

Camping: 5 campgrounds - 97 sites for RVs or tents, 29 screened shelters and 6 Cabins

### Features:

**New Headquarters Building** - it was due to open in October but the projected date is now in March.

**Pavilion**, group picnic shelter is being renovated with the addition of a wheelchair ramp and retaining wall.

### Amphitheater

### Bath house

### Swimming platform

**The Silver Canoe Store** - fishing tackle loaner program, Jr ranger journals, fishing gear, snacks, lots of souvenirs!

**Rentals** – canoes, kayaks, paddleboats, john boats, standing paddleboards

### Playgrounds

**35 Picnic sites** Some ADA accessible sites

### Activities:

**Fishing** - 3 fishing piers, tackle loan program, trout were stocked in the fall and a restocking will take place in January

**Hiking** - 13 miles of trails Whispering Pines: 1.0 miles, CCC wading pool, waterfall (the upper trailhead is being relocated to across from the new HQ bldg.

Blackjack Nature Trail: .3 miles, bird blind

Lakeshore Trail: 2.1 miles, dam, beaver pond, boardwalk

**Mountain biking** – A loop, B loop, C Loop, D Loop, EZ Loop

**Boating** - boat ramp

### Swimming

### Geocaching

**Birding, wildlife watching** – a Tyler State Park birding checklist is available (15 species identified at the bird blind on our last visit)

## Christmas Bird Count – Longview

Mark Edmund

This year is the 124<sup>th</sup> year for National Audubon to conduct Christmas Bird Counts. For this year's event there are approximately 2,100 count circles across the US, Canada and several Latin American and Caribbean countries. Locally, the 35<sup>th</sup> Longview Christmas Bird Count was held Saturday December 16, 2023. Twenty-four observers covered the count circle that is centered on the intersection of the main runways at the East Texas Regional Airport. East Texas Master Naturalists participating in this year's Longview count were: Ann Reynolds, Sandy Tibbs, Lance Homenuik, Kris Homenuik, Crystal Mann, Amanda Henderson, and Mark Edmund. The day started with cloudy skies, some slight showers and a morning low of 52° F. The skies started clearing around mid-morning and the birding improved as the day went on.

Our count total was 104 species. That was one below the 105-specie average for the past 10 CBCs. Even though we came close to 10-year specie average it was definitely a different mix of birds. This was a very good year for waterfowl with the count ticking off every species of duck while setting new highs for Ring-Necked Duck (406) and Northern Shoveler (218). We also set a new high for Great Egret with 74 recorded. Other high counts included Northern Flicker (93), American Kestrel (29) and Eastern Phoebe (71). Both kestrels and phoebes were severely impacted during Winter Storm Yuri in February 2021 and it is heartening to see their numbers rebound.

As great as some of the birding was there were species with low totals to offset them. We only recorded 13 Brown Thrashers (versus our high of 62). The Longview count has consistently been one of the top counts for Brown Thrasher across the US and we had hoped to be ranked high again this year. Great Horned Owl was another disappointment with no individuals recorded. David Brotherton and I think that the morning

drizzle and overcast skies contributed to the lack of a 'morning chorus' and the low count totals seen for these and several other species. The Longview count also recorded several species that had not been seen in 20 to 30 years. Two parties (including one comprised of Sandy Tibbs, Bonnie Edmund and Mark Edmund) recorded White Ibis, a species that may be seen casually in summer and very rarely in winter. White Ibis has been seen once on the count (in 2004) and once as a 'count week' bird (in 1999). Another party (including Candy Troop, Lisa Evers, Justice Bishop, and Ann Reynolds) brought in an American Bittern. This was the first American Bittern recorded on the count since 1991! Lastly, David Weaver reported an Anhinga which was last recorded on the 2004 count.



Photo courtesy David Brotherton



## Birding Classic Mid-Year Updates

Happy holidays! As the first of two surprise updates this holiday season, learn more about some great records set during the 2023

Birding Classic. In the coming weeks, we'll unveil surprise number 2: the 2024 Birding Classic artwork. Stay tuned for that!

As previously reported, the official team standings for the 2023 Birding Classic are posted on the [Birding Classic website](#). We recently updated the full history of team standings year-to-year, and the 27th event showed some amazing records set!

## HISTORIC WINNING TOTALS

With 202 teams and more than 1,100 birders, records were set in seven different tournament categories and tied in another. Way to go, teams! We can't wait to see next year's totals!

### Tournament Records Set in 2023

#### **Adult Regional: Prairies and Pineywoods West (Intact Flock)**

The Wellborn Warblers broke their own record from 2019 with a new total of 127 species!

#### **Adult Regional: Prairies and Pineywoods West (Dispersed Flock)**

The Lost Caws won with 128 species counted, breaking last year's record in this category.

#### **Adult Regional: Prairies and Pineywoods East (Intact Flock)**

No Kolaches for Old Crows won with 103 species, busting a record set by a previous iteration of this team back in 2021!

#### **Adult Regional: Prairies and Pineywoods East (Dispersed Flock)**

The ET Twitchers hit a grand total of 148 with their dispersed flock around the region, unseating their own previous record set in 2021.

#### **Roughwings: Heart of Texas East**

The Chickasaw ChildWREN knocked out the previous record from 2021 with an overall total of 94 species for their birding day!

#### **Big Sit!: Prairies and Pineywoods West**

Lesser Mellowlegs took out the record they set (under a different team name) in 2022 by hitting 96 species at their Big Sit! this year.

#### **Sunrise to Noon**

The Sandhill Craniacs (sponsored by CenterPoint Energy) reached way back and bested their 2018 total with a new record this year, hitting 168 species for this half-day tournament!

#### **Big Sit: Upper Texas Coast**

Centerpoint Wirebirds (sponsored by CenterPoint Energy) also tied their own previous record in the Upper Coast's Big Sit! They totaled 141 species this year, equaling their record from 2021. Way to go!

Congratulations to all of these record-breakers! Make plans now to join us this coming Spring for fun, birding, more fun, and possibly some new tournament records.

Watch for upcoming information on the 2024 Great Texas Birding Classic.





*New!*

# Lakes and Pines Chapter

(Wood & surrounding counties)

If you have an interest in native plants & gardening that benefits our local wildlife, join us and bring a friend to our first chapter meeting of 2024!

**Wednesday, January 3rd, 2:00-3:30pm**  
**Bob Wells Nursery at Sorelle Farms**  
**975 County Road 2220 in Mineola**

Email us: [Lakes-and-Pines-Chapter@npsot.org](mailto:Lakes-and-Pines-Chapter@npsot.org)

Website: [npsot.org](http://npsot.org)



Presentation by Diana Black...

Find us:



Diana has been a NPSOT member since 2016 and is currently serving as President for the new Lakes & Pines Chapter. She supports & promotes gardening with native plants that help provide habitat & food for birds, bees, butterflies & other wildlife.

## Milkweed for Monarchs

Learn about the Monarch butterfly

- Life cycle
- Migration patterns
- Causes behind the decline in the population
- What steps can be taken to help rebuild the Monarch butterfly numbers.
- The importance of milkweed to Monarchs

Diana will also demonstrate how to prepare milkweed seeds for success in your gardens and landscapes. January is the month to stratify and prepare your milkweed seeds for early spring planting.

...Come join us!



**NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF TEXAS MISSION STATEMENT:** Promote conservation, research and utilization of native plants and plant habitats of Texas through education, outreach, and example.

This is what you have  
been waiting for!

## Tyler - Native Plant Society of Texas Meeting

**When:** Monday, January 8th, 2024, 2PM

**Where:** Tyler Nature Center (first building on the right)  
11942 FM 848, Tyler, TX 75707

**Why:** First formal Tyler Chapter meeting of NPSOT

**Who:** Business meeting and Presentation



Diana Black planting.

You will learn about the Monarch's life cycle, migration patterns, and causes behind the decline in population. Diana will demonstrate how to prepare Milkweed seeds to stratify for planting.



Native  
Plant  
Society  
of Texas

If you love native plants,  
you must attend!

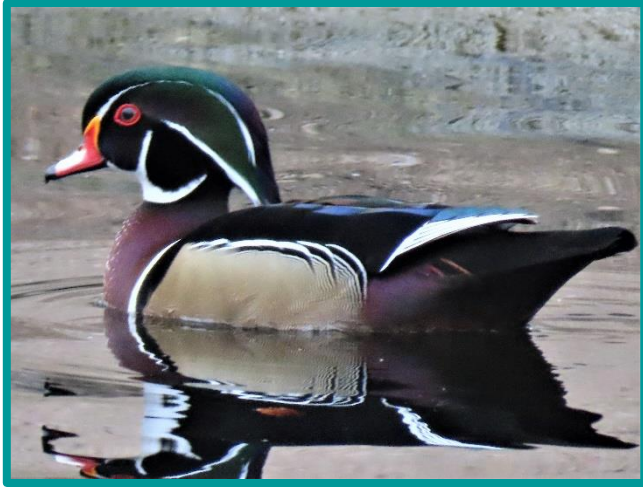


Photo courtesy Ann Reynolds

If you are interested in learning more about the business side of the chapter, all ETCMN members are invited to attend the quarterly chapter Board meetings. You can also access the Board meeting minutes on the chapter website under Members Only section, select Board of Directors and enter the current password.

The Wood Duck Whistler is a monthly publication of East Texas Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist Program. News, essays, comments, and ideas are welcome. Please email them to Ann Reynolds at ann@etex.net.

Photos for Book Reviews are courtesy of Amazon. Unless otherwise noted, all other photos belong to the author of the article.

## Upcoming Events

**January 9, noon TMN Tuesday**

**January 6, 9:00 am - Wildscape Work Day,**  
Tyler Nature Center, RSVP Kay Jenkins

**January – 25, 6:30 pm** Chapter meeting, TNC

**January 20 articles for the chapter newsletter due to Ann Reynolds**  
**Reynolds.ann1@gmail.com**

**November 1-April 30** – Project Feeder Watch  
<https://feederwatch.org/about/detailed-instructions>

### IN THE COMMUNITY

**NETFO** – 1st Wednesday 6:30 pm, Alethea SS Classroom at Greggton UMC 1101 Pine Tree Road in Longview.

**Tyler Audubon Society**, 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 pm, St. Francis Episcopal Church, Education Room, 3232 Jan Avenue.

**NPSOT-Tyler** – 2nd Monday, 2:00 pm, TNC

**NPSOT** – Wood County – 1st Wednesday, 2:00 pm Sorrelle Farm, Mineola

**NPSOT** – Longview – 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2:00 pm, Longview Arboretum

**Tyler Audubon Society Field Trip** January 20 9:00 am, Lakeside Park Recreation Area on Lake O' the Pines – see TAS Facebook for directions.

### CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

**Tenaha (Lake Murval)** will be held sometime week of January 1 through January 5. Exact day will be set at a later time



## WHERE YOU CAN FIND US

You can find East Texas Chapter Master Naturalists here:

<https://txmn.org/etwd/>

<https://www.facebook.com/EastTexasMasterNaturalist/>

<https://www.instagram.com/easttexasmasternaturalist/>



<https://tpwd.texas.gov/>

Texas Master Naturalist – East Texas Chapter Monthly Chapter meetings are held the **fourth Thursday of the month at the Tyler Nature Center, 11942 FM 848, Tyler, TX 75707**. Meet and greet 6:45 pm; meeting at 7:00 pm.

Everyone is welcome.

Safety Guidelines from TMN: Safety is our guiding principle. Follow all federal, state and county guidelines for TMN activities. Virtual platforms are useful and should remain an important consideration for planning meetings and events. Masks and social distancing considerations are encouraged. (July 2021)

## ETCMN CHAPTER ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

**\*\*President: 2024-2026** Wanda Rauscher

**\*\*Vice President: 2023-2024** Cindy Smith

**Hospitality Co-Chairs: 2023** Caryn Vorsas, Joe Vorsas; Bonnie Edwards

**\*\*Secretary: 2023-2024** Carol Lanthrum

**Historian/Archivist:** TBD

- **\*\*Treasurer: 2024** Robert Lumpkins

**Immediate Past President: 2022-2023** Paul Wick

### DIRECTORS:

**Advanced Training (AT): Lead** - Beverly Guthrie with Amy Cumbie and Cindy Smith

**Volunteer Service Projects (VSH): Lead** – Dawn Bahr with Lance Homeniuk and Greg Marshall

**Community Education/Outreach:** Lance Homeniuk

**Speakers Bureau:** Greg Marshall

**Diversity and Inclusion:** TBD

**Training Class 2024:** TBD

**Membership:** Wanda Rauscher

**Volunteer Management System Director:** Lindsey Smith

### **Communications Support:**

**E-Blast:** Wanda Rauscher

**Newsletter:** Ann Reynolds

**Photography:** Lindsey Smith

**Public Relations:** TBD

**Social Media: Lead** - Greg Marshall, Dawn Bahr and Julie Davis

**Website:** Dale Wade

**State Representative:** Wanda Rauscher or appointed alternative

**2023 Class Representatives:** Natalie Curley

### **Chapter Advisors:**

**Clint Perkins – A&M Agrilife Extension Agent-Smith County**

**Boyd Sanders – TPWD Advisor**

**\*\* = Officers & Executive Board Members**

**Revised 12/30/23**