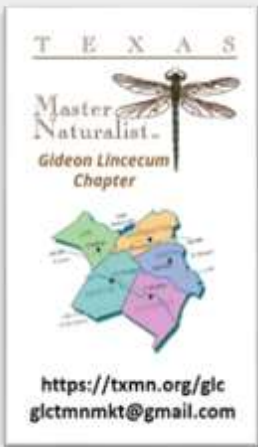


The GLC Tidings

April 2023

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Our Mission

Volunteers dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources through education, outreach and service in our community.

Newsletter Entry Deadlines

1st day of even Months

Send articles or photos to
glcnwsltr@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATES

Board Meeting – 05/5/2023

Chapter Meeting – 05/20/2023

From the President



Sheri Wilcox

Dr. Merlin Tuttle delighted all of us with his fabulous photographs and expansive knowledge of bats during our March meeting. If you were not able to attend the meeting, his presentation will be going up on our YouTube channel shortly. I have heard Dr. Tuttle speak on several occasions and each one is different and equally fascinating. We also heard the first of our Class of 2023 presentations. Scott Maddox spoke about our native yaupon holly. Look for his recipe for yaupon tisane elsewhere in this issue.

Our training class is more than halfway through their introduction to the Texas Master Naturalist program. I have had the pleasure of joining them for some of their classes and field trips. They are a group of diverse interests who are already making a difference in our chapter's activities.

Our May meeting will be a good one. Our AT program will be on purple martins, presented by Coastal Prairie Chapter members Bert and Jean Stipelcovic. We will have several more class presentations and, of course, our Class of 2023 graduation.

Spring is truly upon us with all that means for outdoor activities. There is a TMN activity for everyone to enjoy. All of our pollinator habitat gardens are blooming with spring wildflowers. Join one of our workdays to help spread the word that native plants are both beautiful and integral to our ecosystem.

Our information educational programs are in full swing. For the first time, we are hosting a booth at the Independence, Texas Historic Building Tour. Denise Turner and her crew are teaching families how to support our native birds. The kids really enjoy the opportunity to make pinecone bird feeders. The peanut butter really flies.

Upcoming events are the Burton Cotton Gin Festival and the Honeybee Jubilee. Ken English will be requesting volunteers for these upcoming events. And our more formal educational program is in full swing this spring. We will be presenting at Agricultural Safety Days in several of our counties. We will be volunteering at field days in both Brenham ISD and Giddings ISD this spring. Watch for requests for volunteers for all of these events.

From the President (continued)

Each one of you is making a difference in our community when you volunteer in one of our projects.

Annual Meeting

Looking ahead, our state leadership is busy planning our annual TMN meeting. This year's meeting, celebrating the 25th anniversary of the TMN program, will be held in McAllen, Texas. The dates are October 12-15, 2023, a little earlier than normal to coincide with the annular solar eclipse that will be visible in south Texas.

Unlike prior years, lodging will be reserved separately from the conference, which will be held at the McAllen Convention Center. Lodging reservations can now be made for the conference. There will be a choice of five hotels, three of which are within walking distance through a shared parking area and two of which are a short drive away.

The link for more information is: <https://txmn.tamu.edu/2023-annual-meeting/>.

The **highlight of the meeting** promises to be an all-conference field session to a viewing site for the annular solar eclipse.

I hope to see each of you at one or more of our upcoming events.

Sheri



We appreciate you!

We celebrate you!

We have so much to look forward to with you!

You make a difference!

You make everything possible!

Thank YOU!

Michelle Haggerty and Mary Pearl Meuth
Texas Master Naturalist Program Coordinators

Gideon Lincecum Chapter Board Members

State Information

#TMNTuesday [#TMNTuesdays \(tamu.edu/tmntuesdays\)](https://tamu.edu/tmntuesdays)



April 11, 2023, 12:00 p.m. CST

Conservation of Insects! with Wizzie Brown

The presentation will cover what people can do to help promote the conservation of insects and other arthropods, within their own backyard.

[Register here!](#)



[2023 Annual Meeting](#)

Get excited for this year's Annual Meeting – to be held **Thursday October 12 through Sunday October 15th** at the southernmost point of Texas' South Plains ecoregion, surrounded by mesquite and prickly pear brush country in **McAllen, Texas**.

[2023 Annual Meeting https://txmn.tamu.edu/2023-annual-meeting/](https://txmn.tamu.edu/2023-annual-meeting/)



[25th Anniversary Storytelling Project](#)

To celebrate our 25th Anniversary, we are hosting a year-long storytelling project to highlight our wonderful TMN members and their conservation volunteer work across the state.

We want to know! What inspired you to become a TMN member? Do you have a favorite TMN in-the-field memory? What has been your most meaningful project, community outreach, or conservation event? What does nature mean to you? [Learn More https://txmn.tamu.edu/25th-anniversary-storytelling-project/](https://txmn.tamu.edu/25th-anniversary-storytelling-project/)



Order YOURS Today!!!

ANYONE can purchase this plate and \$22 of each \$30 annual plate fee comes directly back to the Texas Master Naturalist Program for continuing our mission.

The plate is available for purchase on the website:

Personalized plate (\$70): <https://www.myplates.com/design/personalized/passenger/texas-master-naturalist/>

Non-Personalized plate (\$30): <https://www.myplates.com/design/background/passenger/texas-master-naturalist/>

Membership Memo



By Chris Morrison

Congratulations to members who have earned pins since December.

Initial Certification

Green Dragonfly Pin and Certificate

Barry Zeluff

Class of 2022

Recertified for 2023

The Texas Ecoregions pin

Chuck Babb

Lori Buffum

Karen Gardner

See Leng Rapatz

John Watkins

Sheri Wilcox

250 Hours All-Time Milestone

Bronze Dragonfly pin

David Hessel

500 Hours All-Time Milestone

Pewter Dragonfly pin

Mark Brown

1,000 Hours All-Time Milestone

Gold Dragonfly pin

Marcia Braun

CHECK YOUR PROFILE - Please go to your VMS account and look through your PROFILE. You'll see the icon on the bottom of your Dashboard page. Several of you have moved, changed your email address, your emergency contact info isn't correct, or other things. Please go through everything and check it again.

DESCRIPTIONS OF VMS ENTRIES –

- Each entry has to stand on its own, because the approver or auditor that looks at it may not have looked at your previous entries. If you are working on a presentation, for example, and you have several days of work to log, you can't just say "same as yesterday's entry" for subsequent entries after you have put in the first day's work.
- You can only use 255 characters, including spaces, in your description. It will let you keep typing, but it will cut off what it records in VMS after 255 characters. Please limit your description to important facts. The description should say enough so we can tell what you did relates to the opportunity title but does not need tiny details of all your activities that day.
- When you add travel time to your volunteer hours, please put "plus travel" at the end of the description of what you did.

CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPPORTUNITY – Please take a moment before you start an entry to verify that you are on the right screen for the opportunity you are entering. The top of each entry screen will have the name of the opportunity and a description of what that opportunity includes. Make sure you're entering your time on the correct screen.

Adventures and Observations

The Mighty Mushroom

By Jaci Elliot



All too often we regard mushrooms as the fast growing and ephemeral reproductive parts of fungi that they normally are. For example, my youngest nephew thoroughly enjoys punting our property's puffballs and parasola agarics. Yet, with how quickly our yard's fairy rings literally pop up overnight, it has been surprising for me to observe the relatively slow progress and longevity of the unusual and mighty mushroom below.



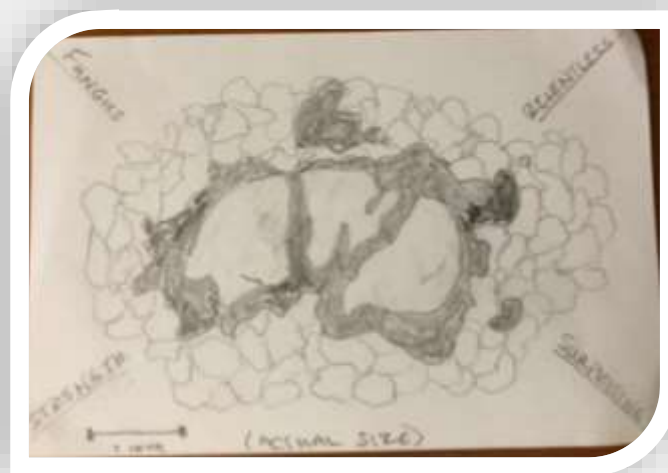
November 13, 2022



November 28, 2022

Note: The shoe is mine and has not grown at all between the two dates, contrary to the scale in the photos.

During our January chapter meeting Lori Buffum shared with us a presentation on journaling. Here is what I was inspired to draw, during that session, based on the mushrooms on our property.



When I searched to find out more about such fearsome fungi, I stumbled upon (groan) the following story by Karen Hill of Evergreen State College in Olympia, WA. She writes: Toadstools that force their way up through asphalt are probably ink-cap mushrooms (*Coprinus*) growing on buried plant debris.

They are pushing upwards because their stalks function as vertical hydraulic jacks. The upward pressure comes from the turgor pressure of the individual cells making up the wall of the hollow stalk of the mushroom. Each individual cell grows as a vertical column by inserting new cell wall material uniformly along its length. The major structural component of the cells is a shallow helical arrangement of fibers of chitin winding round the axis of the cell.

These chitin fibers are embedded in matrix materials, making the wall material like a carbon fiber composite. Chitin is an exceptionally strong bio-polymer, also used by insects for their exoskeletons, and gives immense lateral strength to the fungal cell wall, so that internal pressure is confined as a vertical column. Water enters the cell by osmosis, and the resulting turgor pressure provides the vertical force that allows the mushroom to push up through the asphalt.

This phenomenon was first investigated 75 years ago by Canadian mycologist Reginald Buller, who measured the lifting power by loading weights onto a mushroom that was elongating inside a glass tube. He calculated an upwards pressure of about two-thirds of an atmosphere.

The cells have a gravity-sensing mechanism that keeps the mushroom exactly vertical. A mushroom that is put on its side will rapidly reorient to grow vertically again.

Two inches of asphalt is nothing to the muscular mushroom.

According to Buller: "One large shaggy ink-cap (*Coprinus comatus*) discovered in Basingstoke, England, lifted a 75 by 60 centimeter paving stone 4 centimeters above the level of the pavement in about 48 hours."

Maybe the incredible ink-cap is just another reminder that we cannot truly control nature, and that she has the final say in "permanence".



Birds Count By Marvelyn Granger

We found our property in Austin County one year ago, making a long-anticipated shift from the city in pursuit of our own version of Green Acres. I am welcomed each morning by the chatter of a bird symphony. Sounds of the bird dating life, followed by mamas watching and teaching their little ones on the playground, and the feathered travelers passing through our seasonal ports. I initially could not discern one chirp from another but the eBird app put me well on my way toward some familiarity with the wide variety of calls, behaviors, and costume colors.

In my initial attempts at using the eBird app, I was immediately faced three skills I needed to hone; attention to detail, learning what makes sense, and estimating population counts.

One of my first efforts went like this:

Checklist Added

Common Name: Yellow-rumped Warbler (Audubon)

Scientific Name: *Setophaga auduboni*

When/Where: My pecan trees and meadow, Austin County, January/February 2023.

Fun fact: There were so many of them, I told my daughter there must be at least a hundred at any one time. I thought it was impossible to count them as they flitted from the trees to the ground and back again. They reminded me of kids at the park, breaking away briefly from a game of tag to take a quick bite of lunch on the ground, then back to the game of flying around the yard and chasing up the tree.



When I entered them into eBird with my estimate of 100, it indicated that was highly unusual — I think it said something to the effect of “No way! Really? We are dubious.” So, I backed off my estimate since I didn’t know of a way to confirm this and I am too new to confidently stick to such a claim right off the bat. For the moment I agreed to a more modest claim of 50 with the caveat that I may have been seeing double.

eBird Checklist (Improved)

Common Name: White-Crowned Sparrow (immature)

Scientific Name: *Zonotrichia leucophrys*

When/Where: My pecan trees, Austin County, February 2023.

Fun fact: This was to update my first list above. I determined the app was correct in questioning my first “count.” Most likely the Yellow-rumped Warblers were amongst these White-crowned Sparrows. I learned that there is most likely way more sparrows than warblers, although the behavior and seasons are similar. Hopping around my tall grasses and then swarming back up to the tops of the pecans, it was difficult to differentiate them outside my kitchen window while I hugged my morning coffee.



I heeded eBird’s challenge to my assumption. While birds of a feather do flock together, they can also share the playground with a slew of birds with similar features. I am now paying closer attention to the details, identifying when there might be more variety. I further discovered the varying color patterns of the males, females, and younger immature birds of the same species.

I am also becoming familiar with which birds might be more abundant in my area. Before using eBird, I would not have known it was unlikely I saw so many Yellow-rumped Warblers, but perfectly reasonable to see that many White-Crowned Sparrows. It helps to estimate a population when armed with a reasonable guess.

Lastly, I learned how to better estimate population counts, which is where this lesson plan started.

Imagine you are at HEB during grackle season. If you see 15 of these black birds on one car and estimate there are 200 cars parked in the lot, you can further estimate there are 3,000 birds on that lot with stock in the carwash industry. This still seems like a gross under-estimate when you are trying to get to your car unscathed, but we will go with this for the purposes of the lesson.

Similarly, I can count the number of warblers on the left side of one of my pecan trees, which is where they seem to prefer perching. I double this, assuming there is a relatively similar number on the other side and then multiply by four to account for my other pecans in the same area. I would then estimate the number in my yard, which would probably more closely match a number eBird would have considered reasonable.

Teaching Moments



Yaupon Holly's Unique History in North America

By Scott Maddox

The yaupon plant is North America's only known native source of caffeine. It was called "cassina" by the native Timucua tribe that lived in southern Georgia and northern Florida and was used to make a tea dubbed "black drink" by Spanish explorers (because of the tea's dark hue).



PREPARING BLACK DRINK. (LAFITAU, 1723)



Yaupon, Cassina - *Ilex vomitoria*

According to research conducted by Dr. William Merrill of the Smithsonian, the shrub was consumed by almost every Native American tribe who lived among it. When picked, roasted, and boiled, the leaves yield a dark elixir with a fruity and earthy aroma and a smooth flavor. Yaupon leaves' perfect ratio of stimulating xanthines such as caffeine, theobromine and theophylline release slowly into the body, and provide a jitter-free mental clarity and an ease to the stomach.



16th-century engraving by Jacques le Moyne of a Timucua ceremony involving the black drink

Yaupon 'tea' with its caffeine content (similar to black tea) was linked with spiritualism and medicine for Native American tribes, including the Creek, Timucua, Chitimacha, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Cherokee, Apalachee among many others.

The most widely distributed descriptions of its use come from European explorers such as Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca, who identified yaupon while exploring the Texas coast in 1542, and English-Jamaican merchant Jonathan Dickinson, who observed several yaupon ceremonies in Florida after being shipwrecked in 1696.

Though it was also consumed as an everyday, energizing beverage among Native Americans, yaupon was commonly associated with purification and was incorporated into men's-only rituals that often involved fasting, drinking vast quantities, and vomiting to cleanse the body and mind.



Apparently, the oldest-known evidence of yaupon consumption comes from the Cahokia Mounds in Illinois, where the black drink's residue was identified inside ornately decorated ceramic vessels dating to 1050 AD. Cahokia was a massive settlement estimated to be 50,000 people near the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers. It was the largest prehistoric settlement in North America, north of Mexico, and their use of yaupon tea in ceremonies indicates that they had active trading interaction with Indians in the south and southeast.



As Europeans continued to explore and colonize the southern United States, they frequently encountered yaupon tea and often assimilated it into their own lives. At the Spanish outpost of Saint Augustine in northern Florida, yaupon was consumed to such an extent that in 1615, botanist Francisco Ximenez noted that, "There is no Spaniard or Indian who does not drink it every day in the morning and evening...it is more of a vice than chocolate in New Spain [...] any day that a Spaniard does not drink it, he feels that he is going to die." In 1709, naturalist John Lawson described how yaupon tea is prepared and wrote how it was "preferred above all other liquids."

In his book titled *Black Drink*, which explores the history of yaupon, anthropologist Dr Charles Hudson noted that by the time of the American Revolutionary War (1775-1783), yaupon was grown on colonial farms, consumed widely in towns across the US South and traded to Europe where it was popularly sold in London as South Seas Tea and served in Parisian salons as Apalachine.

By the mid 1700's yaupon tea was one of the largest exports out of the Colonies, falling just behind lumber. However, yaupon's success as an international beverage was not to last.

In 1783, German botanist Johann David Schöpf recorded in his diaries that the naturally sweet alternative to traditional black tea had become so popular by the 1780s that the East India Company deemed it a threat to their control of the tea market. Due to their influence, England limited yaupon imports into Europe.





In 1789, William Aiton, royal botanist to King George III, gave yaupon its controversial scientific name, *Ilex vomitoria*. While some believe that Aiton's nomenclature reflected yaupon's ritual consumption among Native Americans, others believe it was a politically motivated smear campaign to further squash the threat to the English tea trade. It is also believed that Aiton was being partially funded by the East India Company at the time. Whatever his underlying motivation, Aiton's unsavory naming tainted yaupon's reputation and instilled a lasting fear of unwanted side effects.

By the mid-1800s, yaupon's popularity in the US further declined as it became associated with poor, rural communities who could not afford to import traditional Chinese tea. The plant's connection to Native American communities also diminished, as tribes were either wiped out or relocated to regions where yaupon didn't grow. The tea became largely forgotten in the United States by the 1860s and it has remained largely unknown ever since.

About ten years ago several individuals independently researched the resilient yaupon and were shocked to discover that it not only brewed a tasty, caffeinated drink, but was also a central character in a largely forgotten story. Guided by a curiosity for botany and an interest in history, Abianne Falla and Byron White unexpectedly found themselves on parallel journeys to revive the ancient beverage, with Falla starting Cat Spring Yaupon, in 2013, and White founding Yaupon Brothers in Edgewater, Florida, in 2015.



Today, yaupon continues to grow in popularity as additional startups have begun selling and promoting the historical beverage. There is now a American Yaupon Association that is promoting yaupon as a sustainable alternative to imported coffee, green tea, and other caffeinated beverages. It has an inherently low carbon footprint (due to less intensive transportation) and can be sustainably wild-harvested or grown in the US.

How to Make Yaupon Tea (aka tisane)

It doesn't take long to make up a batch of yaupon tea for brewing.

- The first thing you do to make your own yaupon tea is to make sure you can correctly identify yaupon, [iNaturalist](#) can help.
- Then you start stripping leaves from the branches. We do this by hand with a bare thumb and forefinger approach. Using gloves your fingers tend to slip past the leaves instead of actually stripping them. It will turn your fingers green! We usually harvest between a pint and a quart or so at one time.
- The next step is to rinse the leaves well in a colander and spread them to dry. We spread them out on a cookie sheet or two and roast in a 350 degree oven for 20 minutes and leave them in oven until it cools.
- After they cool, we grind them in a coffee maker and store the ground tea in a mason jar(s).
- We use one heaping tablespoon of the crushed leaves in a tea steeper in a full tea kettle of boiling water. We let it steep until it cools to room temperature and then keep it in a pitcher in the fridge



Education Team Update By Karen Gardner

Recently, Peggy Cadenhead and Karen Gardener spent time organizing educational materials that belong to the chapter. Once we have a formal list and templates/guidelines I will be soliciting chapter members to help update these. Right now, we have a couple of new programs that can be used as needed these are: Linda Esco's bingo game: *Endangered in Texas* and The Gardner's presentation on *Urban Wildlife* and another on *Bees, Spiders and Monarchs* for.

Lori Buffum, Jon Watkins, John and Karen Gardner participated in a series of natural history lessons for 7th graders at Burton ISD. This was in conjunction with Stephanie Damron biologist for Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). We spent two days a week for three weeks teaching various topics: *Skulls and Skins*, *Endangered in Texas*, *Honeybees*, *Spiders and Monarchs – Chemists, Architects, and Navigators*.

In February, several Chapter members completed a training on the TPWD curriculum for **Project Wild**.

This is a large manual of school based educational activities for a wide variety of natural history topics.



Save the Date

On **Saturday, May 13th** our chapter will be hosting the [Project Wild course: Flying Wild](#) in the New Ulm area. One of our chapter members has offered his cabin with RV hookups for our facilitator. We will be using his covered porch for our class and there is a full bathroom available. This is a beautiful property with space for us to practice our games and activities that we learn during the course. We are currently working on specifics for the workshop.

What we do know:

Cost: Approximately \$65 for two course manuals we are working on procuring funds for these manuals

Food: the chapter will provide vegetable soup, salad and bottled water. We encourage everyone to bring other items for lunch (details soon) and your own snacks (it will be a long day).

Site: Address and directions will be sent when registration goes live in about 2 weeks

Class Size: The number of registrants will be limited due to the classroom size

For more information:

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/education/project-wild/growing-up-wild-overview>

<https://www.fishwildlife.org/projectwild/flying-wild>



Volunteering Highlights

Inaugural Birding Day at San Felipe

By Karen Gardner

Chapter member Frank Michel's involvement with the San Felipe de Austin Historical Site as well as our chapter led the chapter to hosting the first **Inaugural Birding Day at San Felipe** on Sunday, Feb. 19th during the Great Backyard Bird Count weekend.

There were 11 chapter volunteers and approximately 30 park participants. Sheri Wilcox created a fully illustrated birding list for attendees to use while looking for and identifying birds. The hand-out made the experience more engaging for everyone.

Denise Turner and Sheri Wilcox did some family activities with creating bird feeders from pinecones, peanut butter, bird seed and string. Carey Soderstrom, a new trainee, also came to help. The San Felipe Site Director participated all day and talked with us about future plans to include more birding days and potentially working with them on researching infrastructure like trails, observations sites, and bird blinds. Marcia Braun, who had just come back from an international birding trip, came along and offered to be a resource for future planning.



John Gardner, Chuck Babb, Carey Soderstrom, Patti Brown, Karen Gardner, Marcia Braun, Deb Miller, Scott Maddox

Scenes from our eighth session at Bellville Family Science Night





Fayetteville City Park By Karen Bookout

We have established 7 raised beds and have irrigation supplies to supply water. This was just in time because we have won a \$500 grant from the Native Plant Society of Texas to purchase native plants. We still have plans to treat one area that will be eventually planted with native grasses. Contact me if you are interested in helping out one day a month.

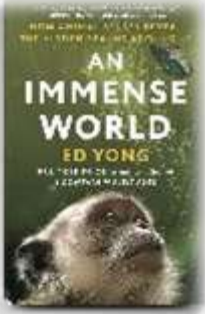
Indian Creek Nature Area

Ann Rays dedication to this park is nothing short of amazing. Her efforts, along with many other chapter members, have transformed this park over the last few years. Thank you, Ann (Betsy Palkowsky).



It's so satisfying to cut down more giant ligustrum trees

This & That



Book recommendation by Connie Shortes

Have you read....?

An Immense World:
How Animal Senses Reveal the World Around Us
by Ed Yong

Mr. Yong presents the most interesting and current scientific research we have on how our fellow creatures take in the world around them. Did you know that pollinators can see UV light, and flowers (that look similar to us) have dramatic UV patterns that advertise to pollinators, drawing them in like neon signs? And birds also have UV patterns on their wings according to their gender, so even male and female birds that look alike to us, look quite different to each other. In fact, Yong points out that most creatures that can see color, can see UV light. We are the weird exceptions, the species with what you might call a "sensory disability."

Yong looks at many different animal sensoriums, from echo-locating bats to animals whose entire sensory world is made up of exquisite sensitivity to the slightest vibrations and movements around them. Reading it, you become acutely aware of yourself as part of a particular species, groping through the world with our somewhat limited perception, simply getting along among other amazing creatures in the world. This is a useful shift in perspective, especially in a world where we are losing species diversity at an alarming rate. Highly recommend!

Urban Gardens Are Good for Ecosystems and Humans

Feb 07, 2023 - University of Texas News

Here's an interesting article on a new study that has found that urban gardens are beneficial for biodiversity and good for humans.

[Urban Gardens Are Good for Ecosystems and Humans](https://www.utexas.edu/news/2023/02/07/urban-gardens-are-good-for-ecosystems-and-humans/)
[UT News \(utexas.edu\)](https://www.utexas.edu/news/2023/02/07/urban-gardens-are-good-for-ecosystems-and-humans/)



Volunteer Opportunities

Spring into Outreach

by Karen Gardner

There are several **County Ag Safety Days** coming up and we will need plenty of volunteers:

Colorado County	Wednesday, May 10
Washington County	Wednesday, May 17
Lee County Wildlife Day	Friday, May 19th
Austin County	Tuesday, May 23 rd

Joy Nutt, Interpretive Ranger with TPWD has asked the chapter for assistance with a re-start of outdoor classroom activities at Lake Somerville. The chapter was involved with the program in the past through our relationship with Brenham ISD. First session is scheduled for this **May 15 at Nails Creek State Park** where we will be teaching Krause Elementary 3rd graders from Brenham.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of these activities contact: Karen Gardner, <mailto:glctmnedu@gmail.com>, 281-744-6420

Events Calendar Snapshot

April 2023

- April 8 @ 10:00 am - 4:00 pm [Independence, Texas Historic Buildings Tour](#)
- April 11 @ 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm [TMN Tuesday](#)
- April 15 @ 8:00 am - 5:00 pm [Burton Cotton Gin Festival](#)
- April 18 @ 8:00 am - 10:00 am [La Grange Agrilife Extension Bldg. Native Plant Landscape Workday](#)
- April 20 @ 9:00 am - 11:00 am [Indian Creek workday](#)
- April 20 @ 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm [Texas Waters Webinar](#)
- April 22 @ 9:00 am - 11:00 am [Washington-on-the-Brazos Historic Site workday](#)
- April 28 - May 1 [City Nature Challenge 2023](#)

May 2023

- May 2 @ 8:00 am - May 3 @ 5:00 pm [Save the Date – Virtual Volunteer Fair](#)
- May 5 @ 9:30 am - 11:30 am [TMN GLC board meeting](#)
- May 6 @ 8:00 am - 5:00 pm [Honey Bee Jubilee – Save the Date](#)
- May 6 @ 9:00 am - 4:00 pm [NPSOT Landscape Certification Program Level 1 Introduction to Native Landscapes](#)
- May 16 @ 8:00 am - 10:00 am [La Grange Agrilife Extension Bldg. Native Plant Landscape Workday](#)
- May 18 @ 9:00 am - 11:00 am [Indian Creek workday](#)
- May 20 @ 9:30 am - 1:00 pm [TMN GLC chapter meeting](#)

Helpful References

Books

- National Wildlife Federation(R): Attracting Birds, Butterflies, and Other Backyard Wildlife, Expanded Second Edition, by David Mizejewski
- Native Host Plants for Texas Butterflies: a Field Guide, by Jim Weber, Lynne Weber, and Roland H. Wauer (There is also one for moths)
- Native Texas Plants: Landscaping Region by Region, by Sally Wasowski and Andy Wasowski
- Wild Edible Plants of Texas: A Pocket Guide to the Identification, Collection, Preparation, & Use of 60 Wild Plants of the Lone Star State, by Charles W. Kane (This includes non-natives)

Online Resources

- Bumble Bee Watch: <https://www.bumblebeewatch.org/>
- Ecoregions of North America: <https://www.epa.gov/eco-research/ecoregions-north-america>
- Ecoregions of Texas: https://tpwd.texas.gov/.../pwd_pl_w7000_1187a/media/1.pdf
- The Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center: <https://www.wildflower.org/>
- National Wildlife Federation: <https://www.nwf.org/>
- Native American Seed: <https://www.seedsource.com/Default.asp>
- Native Plants by State: <https://nativebackyards.com/native-plants-by-state/>
- Native Plant Society of Texas: <http://npsot.org/wp/>
- Native Plant Society of Texas - Plant Lists By Region: <https://npsot.org/wp/resources/plant-lists-by-ecoregion/>
- Native Prairies Association of Texas: <https://texasprairie.org/>
- Plants for Birds – Audubon <https://www.audubon.org/plantsforbirds>
- Texas Butterfly Ranch: <https://texasbutterflyranch.com>
- Texas Invasives: <https://www.texasinvasives.org/>
- Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation: <https://xerces.org/>

Newsletter Index

<https://txmn.org/glc/whats-new/newsletters/>

So much to learn but hard to get to it. Here's an easy way to find information about articles for newsletter issues from 2018 through the 2022. For each article, the index cites the subject, title, author, and the hyperlink directly to the issue published found on the chapter website.

SUBJECT	TITLE	AUTHOR	DATE
American Green Frog	Tiny-Tiny	Deaton, Judith	2021-10
American Lady Butterflies	The Resilience of Wintering Butterflies	Buffum, Lori	2022-02
Ants	Can we do without them? Solenopsis of Fire Ants	Deaton, Judith	2018-03
Ants	Crossing Paths with History--And ants	Michol, Frank	2022-06
Aquatic Plants	Report on Wildlife & Fisheries Academy	Hobbs, Donna	2018-03
Bastard Cabbage	Be on the Lookout-- Invasives in our area	Itz, Julie	2022-04
Bees	'Bee Surprised'	Buffum, Lori	2018-07
Bees	Carpenter Bees – Look like bumble bees	Redden, Dave	2018-09
Bees	Toxic Bee-Killing Hitchhiker Beetles (! Know, Right?)	Holzer, Chris	2018-06
Bird	Texas Master Naturalist are Never Just "On Vacation"	Buffum, Lori	2019-07
Birds	Audubon's "Lights Out" Program	Rooney, Terry	2019-01
Birds	Birding on the Beach in Mexico	Buffum, Lori	2019-09
Birds	Chance encounter with wood storks	Greene, Vicky	2022-10

Chapter Resources

Officers for 2023

President – [Sheri Wilcox](#)

Vice President – [Norbert Dittrich](#)

Secretary – [Patti Brown](#)

Treasurer – [David Hessel](#)

Board Members

Advanced Training Director – [Norbert Dittrich](#)

Communications Director – [Lori Buffum](#)

Marketing Director – [Ken English](#)

Membership Director – [Chris Morrison](#)

Training Class Director – [Connie Shortes](#)

Volunteer Service Projects Director – [Jaci Elliott](#)

Education Director – [Karen Gardner](#)

Chapter State Representative – Sheri Wilcox

Immediate Past President – Betsy Palkowsky

Advisor – [Kara Matheny](#) (Washington County Texas AgriLife)

Committees and Contacts

Hospitality Chair – Nita Tiemann

Newsletter Editor – [Betsy Palkowsky](#)

Website Editor – [Sheri Wilcox](#)

Grants and Donations Chair – [Mary Ann Butler](#)

Volunteer Project Leaders

Adopt-a-Highway – Mary Ann Butler and Jaci Elliott

Agricultural Safety Days – Karen Gardner

Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR – Susan Vanderworth

Colorado River Watch – Annette Holdeman, Nita Tiemann

Family Science Nights – Lori Buffum

Indian Creek Nature Area – Ann Ray

LaGrange AgriLife Building Native Plant

Landscape – Cindy Rodibaugh

Monument Hill State Historic Site — Karen Woods

Prescribed Burning – Mark Brown and B.R. Koehler

Schubert House Pollinator Project – Karen Woods

Stephen F. Austin State Park – Tom Shaughnessy

Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site –

Julie Itz and David Itz

Winedale Trails and Pollinator Garden – Jan Hughes and Rhonda Schneider

Sponsor Contact

Each county has its own TPWD Biologist and Texas AgriLife Extension agent. We work closely with these sponsors.

Use the following links to access the main county contacts working with our chapter.

[*Austin County*](#)

[*Colorado County*](#)

[*Fayette County*](#)

[*Washington County*](#)

[*Lee County*](#)



- **Our Chapter Website** <http://txmn.org/glc>
- **GLC Facebook Group** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/21969044537/>
- **Volunteer Management System**; log your hours <https://txmn.tamu.edu/chapter-resources/tmn-vms-users>
- **Texas Master Naturalist Program Website** <https://txmn.tamu.edu/>
- **Texas Master Naturalist Listserv**; get notices about activities across the state <mailto:TMN@LISTSERV.TAMU.EDU> [LISTSERV - Subscription](#)

Contact Us

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