

Guadalupe Chapter

Texas Master Naturalist

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



October 2022

Vol. 9, Issue 10

Mission. *To develop a corps of well-informed volunteers to provide education, outreach, and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within their communities for the State of Texas.*

September Guadalupe Master Naturalists Monthly Program and Meeting

Date: Monday, October 24, 2022

Time: 7:00 PM Program;

8:00 PM Business Meeting

Location: Schertz Area Senior Center, 608 Schertz Parkway, Schertz

Program: Farming and Ranching for Wildlife Tax Valuation

Dr. Maureen Frank, Assistant Professor & Extension Wildlife Specialist in Uvalde County, organizes and teaches many advanced training sessions available to Texans through AgriLife. Dr. Frank will be speaking on one of her specialties, working with landowners to farm/ranch their land for all sizes of wildlife—insects to deer—to take advantage of tax valuation on their land.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

NATURE EDUCATION

Discover Dinosaur Tracks

Date: Saturday, October 8, 2022

Time: staggered start times 9:00 – 12:00 AM

Location: Crescent Bend Nature Park, Schertz

Leader: A leader is still needed

Volunteers: Gayle Temple, Laura Griffith, Renee Harvey, Melissa Moon, Justice Brown. Justice Brown. We welcome more volunteers. Please arrive at 8:30 A.M.

Need 2-3 more volunteers here

Contact: Rebeca Leininger rsleininger@gmail.com to volunteer



Date: Monday, October 10, 2022

Time: staggered start times 2:30 – 5:00 PM

Location: Seguin Public Library, 313 W. Nolte

Leader: Jennifer Ehlers

Volunteers: Kate Schnautz, Jim Dyess, Sharon Frels.

Please arrive at 2:30 P.M.

Need more volunteers here

Contact: Jennifer Ehlers ehlers@gvec.net to volunteer

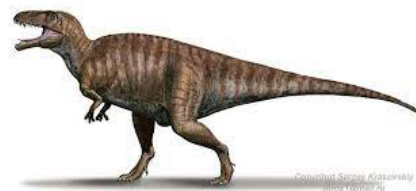


Iguanodon

Description: Participants will learn how to determine facts about 3 types of dinosaurs by examining their foot prints. They will learn their size, speed and diet requirements.

You may sign up here: [Signup Genius for Discover](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084ca5ae2fa6f49-discover6)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084ca5ae2fa6f49-discover6>



Acrocanthosaurus

Texas Agricultural Education & Heritage Center [The Big Red Barn]

Dates:

October 3 – Karnes & Wilson Counties
October 4 – Lavaca County
October 5 – Wilson County
October 11 – Goliad County
October 12 – Other

Time: Call Kay Willmann, coordinator at Big Red Barn

Description: Fourth grade students from Guadalupe and surrounding counties visit to learn about agricultural topics. Master Naturalists can volunteer at teaching stations that focus on environmental topics. The two we have helped with are **Water** and **Wildlife/Conservation/Natural Resources**. Contact Kay Willmann for specific teaching points.

Contact: Kay Willmann, 830-379-0933 redbarnseguin@gmail.com



Pollinator Garden

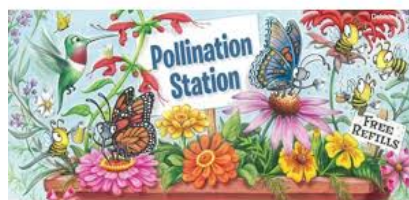
Date: Wednesdays, October 5, 12, 19, 26, 2022

Time: 8:30 AM

Location: Park West garden by splash pool

Description: Do your part to help the important pollinators! Help is needed to weed, plant, and nurture the plants our pollinators need. You might even spot a Monarch butterfly!

Contact: Clara Mae Marcotte at rcm.marcotte@gmail.com or Liz Romero at fleurromero@gmail.com for details about current happenings at the Pollinator Garden.



Pollinator BioBlitz at Bracken Cave Preserve

Date: October 7 – 23, 2022

Description: Multiple opportunities to participate from October 7-23. If you are already a Bracken volunteer please sign up on Volgistics. If you would like to come out for the BioBlitz but are not a Bracken volunteer please sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F45AEAB22A7FC1-texas>

During this bioblitz volunteers walk around the preserve and take photos of pollinators and flowering plants, then upload their findings to iNaturalist. This activity is open to any volunteers, and you use your phone camera (like me) or a digital camera. We [Bracken Cave Preserve] will provide training on the iNaturalist app for anyone who has never used it. BioBlitz opportunities will be advertised on the Volgistics calendar in the next couple of days so be on the lookout for them. Master Naturalists can report BioBlitz hours as VH according to your chapter's guidance.

Contact for Information: Mark deKiewiet, mark.dekiewiet@att.net 210-863-8024
Michelle Darnell, gmmembers@guadmn.org, 210.601.8957



- Pollinator BioBlitz participants **observe and identify pollinators.**
- All ages and abilities are encouraged to **find pollinators and nectar-producing plants, take photos, and share with friends!**
- **Share observations** by posting a photo or video to [Instagram](#), [iNaturalist](#), or the [Facebook event](#) page.
- Pollinator observation challenges and informative links will be emailed to all [registered](#) participants regularly to add to the fun.

Website and Registration: <https://tpwd.texas.gov/education/bioblitz>



Fischer Park Monarch Fall Festival

Date: Saturday, October 22, 2022

Time: 11:00 am – 2:00 pm

Location: Fischer Nature Center, 1946 Monarch Way, New Braunfels, TX 78130

Description: We would like to invite you to volunteer at our 8th Annual Monarch Fall Festival at Fischer Park. The focus of this event is family fun and community connections celebrating the fall migration of Monarch Butterflies through Texas. The 2019 festival had around 1000 people attend. We are looking for volunteers to help lead crafts, activities, and work the information table.

Contact: Samantha Morrison, Assistant Recreation Program Supervisor, PARD - Fischer Nature Center 830-221-4378 | SMorrison@newbraunfels.gov

If you would like to participate, please fill out the information below and mail to Samantha Morrison.

Monarch Fall Festival Volunteer RSVP

October 22, 2022 from 10am-3pm

Name:

Email:

Phone Number:

Address (Used for Annual Volunteer Appreciation Event Invitation):

If you are unable to attend the entire volunteer session from 10am-3pm please indicate what time you are available:

2022 Fall Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Cleanup Event

Date: Saturday, October 22, 2022

Time: 9:30am to 12:00 pm

Location: Meet at Irma Lewis Seguin Outdoor Learning Center - 1865 US 90, Seguin

Description: Bring your family, friends, and neighbors and come out to help keep the Geronimo and Alligator Creeks watershed beautiful by cleaning up the creeks and areas around them!

FREE T-SHIRT, BREAKFAST & COFFEE!

Information: <http://www.geronimocreek.org/Register.aspx>

Sign-up: <http://geronimocreek.org> or (979) 845-5366

Walk With a Naturalist at Crescent Bend

Date: Sunday, October 23, 2022

Time: 4:30 PM

Description: Come experience this fun adventure, discovering the wealth of nature and much more! Master Naturalists will lead a one-mile hike through Crescent Bend, sharing information about the park and it's natural environment.

Contact: Carolyn Wolfer, Crescent Bend coordinator, wolfercdat@mac.com

Guides needed for Walk with a Naturalist at Park West

Walks with a Naturalist are one-hour strolls providing an opportunity for the Master Naturalist guide to introduce the participants to the Master Naturalist Program, the park, and to share a few of the natural highlights within the park. The walks will start again on November 1st and will be on Tuesdays from 9 to 10 AM. The final walk will be December 13th.

Even if not available to guide, put them on your calendars and join with others in the exploration of Seguin's Park West.

During the walk, nature highlights shared in the past include:

- Impact of the invasive, exotic trees which took over the forested areas, and are being managed through the collaborative effort of Guadalupe Master Naturalists and the Seguin Parks Department
- An overview of the native plants that are slowly taking over areas that were cleared over the past 5+ years of the forest health invasive removal efforts.
- Animal habitats in the trees or on the forest floor.
- Common wildlife that maybe encountered.
- Spend some time at the pollinator garden then look for plants that seem to draw pollinators elsewhere in the park.
- Look at the change in soil type and vegetation along the abandoned natural stream channel of Walnut Branch on the north end versus the caliche and cobble-rich soils in the far south.
- Basically, anything you'd like to share that the audience may find of interest. The topic will not be publicized in advance so there is lots of flexibility to adjust to the audience's interests and to what is encountered the day of the walk.

An information packet has been developed and will be shared with the guides prior to the walks.

Please use the link below to sign up as a guide or, contact Jim Dyess coordinator of the Seguin Walks with a Naturalist.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A4DA8A723A02-guides>

Jim Dyess
713/206-6218

M. O. Neasloney Wildlife Management Area

Dates: Thursdays

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: 20700 SH 80 North, Gonzales, TX 78629 [halfway between Seguin and Gonzales]

Description: Craig Wagner and Nick Franzen invite Chapter members to join them at Neasloney WMA every Thursday. There are many, many jobs to be done to help our TPWD biologist Trent Teinert. If you are interested, **please contact Craig** at craigwagner31@aol.com or call Craig at 847-226-4375 for information. If not familiar with Neasloney, it is 100 acres located in Gonzales County, south of Luling, midway between Luling and Gonzales. The WMA is used primarily for wildlife ecology field tours by public school groups. Outdoor recreational opportunities include wildlife viewing, hiking and an interpretive nature trail.

Contact: Nick Franzen, nhfranz204@gmail.com

Craig Wagner, craigwagner31@aol.com or 847-226-4375

Trent Teinert, trent.teinert@tpwd.texas.gov or (830) 424-3407

Warbler Woods Bird Sanctuary



Dates/Times: Vary

Description: Assist with filling feeders, clearing brush, building owl boxes, general maintenance, golf cart repairs/maintenance

Location: Warbler Woods, 19349 Old Wiederstein Rd, Cibolo, TX

Contact: Sandi Wheeler at wheels5683@gmail.com for current opportunities

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

What is it? Program Chair for GMN

When does it start? Start scheduling programs now; officially take over in January

How many hours does it take? An hour or so of phone/email time to schedule each speaker, plus another hour or so the day of the meeting

Do I have to set up the computer and OWL? No. That will be done by a tech person.

Does someone tell me who to schedule? No. You get to choose whom to schedule. Members often suggest someone of interest to them. You can use that person or find someone else.

Is this a solo job? Not necessarily. Some previous chairs have chosen to do all the job themselves, but you can choose members to be on the committee to help you. Totally up to you?

Do I need to be a full-time member? Yes, you need to be a currently certified member of GMN. If you are in the training class and interested, ask the new chair if you can be of help.

How do I say 'yes'? Contact Chris Dyess by text: 713-816-9499 or email: ced16123@gmail.com



ADVANCED TRAINING

TMN Tuesdays Project Fair Contest

Date: Tuesday, October 11, 2022

Time: Save 9am-1pm tentatively in your calendars. We will update the time of October's webinar soon.

Description: Program will showcase the "best of the best" Texas Master Naturalist projects from all over the state. List of projects coming soon! We are so excited to share the great projects our members have been working on.

Website for information: <https://txmn.tamu.edu/tmntuesdays/>

Hummingbird Hotspots Guadalupe County Chapter, Native Plant Society

Date: Tuesday, October 11, 2022

Time: Social – 6:30; Program – 7:00

Description: Presented by Kathleen Scott



Love watching those little jewel-colored birds zooming around? Now is a good time to start planning for their return next March by making your own hummingbird hotspot.

Kathleen Scott is a 20+ year wildlife gardener. She has created large and small habitat gardens, certified by the National Wildlife Federation, and in the process has made almost every mistake possible. She has learned to design habitat gardens for birds and plants that grow well in this area. Her articles on habitat gardening have been published in the San Antonio Express-News, and her wildlife gardening talks draw folks from all over Central Texas.

Location: St. John's Lutheran Church, Marion, TX

Directions to St John Lutheran Church: From FM 78 turn south on FM 465. The church is just past Marion Middle School on the right. From IH 10 go north on FM 465 toward Marion; the church is on the left

Fire Resistant Landscaping
Williamson Co. Native Plant Society

Date: Thursday, October 13, 2022

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: **To attend via Zoom,**

register at <https://npsot-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMpf-GtrzgoHtDfyLdyul4Lew282yVY1D4H>

Description: A fire smart landscape isn't necessarily the same thing as a well-maintained yard. This type of landscape uses fire-resistant plants that are strategically planted to resist the spread of fire to your home. Fire resistant plants are great in Texas because they are often drought tolerant, too.

Website: <https://npsot.org/wp/wilco/>

Texas Stream Team Training - Citizen Scientist
Standard Core Water Quality



Date: Sunday, October 23, 2022

Time: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Location: Spring Lake House Conference Room 107; 201 San Marcos Springs Dr, San Marcos, TX

Description: Standard Core monitoring involves performing tests for parameters such as conductivity, dissolved oxygen, pH, total depth, water and air temperature, and water transparency using a chemical Standard Core kit. In addition to these parameters, Standard Core citizen scientists also conduct various field observations.

This training is open to the public (14 yrs or older, minors must have a guardian present); however, spots are limited.

No prior experience necessary, all materials provided, and free of cost to all!

Location will be within the city of San Marcos (determined a week prior) at either:

- Meadows Center property,
- a City of San Marcos public park,
- or River Foundation property.

We will learn indoors, outdoors, and along shorelines, so please come prepared for the environment & weather! Training locations are generally accessible but may require participants to move over dirt track, trail, & shorelines. All locations have free parking within a 3-10 minute walk from our initial meeting location.

Contact: To find out more information or reserve a spot, please contact:

Adam Berglund (Coordinator - San Marcos River Rangers) RiverRangers@SanMarcosRiver.Org

RSVP by emailing bobcatstreamteam@txstate.edu

Website for information: <https://teamup.com/ksos37y3n9acgt5pk5/events/1110553802>

Making iNaturalist Observations Even More Useful

by Elaine Cowley

In late 2020, Texas Nature Trackers (TNT) biologist, Craig Hensley requested assistance for an iNaturalist project through the first TMN Volunteer Fair. Seth Faught and I participated initially by reaching out to observers of Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN). We requested two things of those recording observations: 1] that observations be put into the appropriate TNT project and 2] location accuracy be improved or added.

As of the first of the year, and now as an ongoing effort, volunteers were made curators for the projects in order to verify the observations. Once verified, these will be added to the Texas Natural Diversity Database, which is used to track locations of the SGCN. These observations are valuable for understanding the distribution of these species which is necessary to support conservation efforts.

There are twelve TNT projects. The most used are Birds, Herps, Bees and Wasps, Mammals, Milkweeds and Monarchs and Fishes of Texas. Seth and I are both curators in the Birds of Texas Project. All observations are welcome, not just SGCN. If you are interested in more detail on ones listed as SGCN, you can go to:

https://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/wild/wildlife_diversity/nongame/tcap/sgcn.phtml

Of interest, what I thought were fairly common species, such as Painted Buntings, are included because there have been noted population declines from historical counts. There are also ones that are recovering such as the Brown Pelican along with uncommon ones like the Golden-cheeked Warbler.

How you can help?

First, if you have not previously joined a project you can do so by going to:

https://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/wild/wildlife_diversity/texas_nature_trackers/projects/

Below the project picture, click on “Join this Project”. Join as many or as few as you want. After joining, you can select the project in iNaturalist to add your observations. If you would like to add previous ones, go to your observation. Select the name under your project tab which then links your observation.

Once added to the project, while the observations may still be used when one of the curators “agrees” with the ID, they are much more useful if the accuracy is less than 500 m. You can find this location data by clicking on Details below the map. You can improve your accuracy at the time you enter an observation and you can also go back to old ones. Not all cameras record a location or some are greater than 500 m and others, even though they appear to have a location, are “Not recorded”.

To improve/add accuracy:

- ◆ Go to observation
 - ◆ Click on Edit
 - ◆ On map zoom in until you see a circle
 - ◆ Click on Circle and it should allow you to enlarge or shrink size (smaller is better)
- OR
- ◆ Click on Edit
 - ◆ Where it shows Lat/Lon (above map)
 - ◆ Change information in block labeled Acc (m)

As an FYI, there is also a project set up for Palmetto State Park for the “Adopt-A-Loop” project. Just join Adopt-A-Loop, add observation and then under Field, select Place of Observation and the site number, CTC 029. Also if you do observations at Palmetto SP, please consider joining that project.

If you have any questions, please contact me at ecowley@gvvc.com. Thanks for considering this!

Palmetto State Park Bird Walk

Date: Saturday, October 15, 2022

Time: 8:30 am

Location: CCC Pavilion, Palmetto State Park, 78 Park Road 11 South, Gonzales, TX

Description: Join Guadalupe Master Naturalist Elaine Cowley and learn to identify many of the birds inhabiting Palmetto State Park.

Note: Day-pass required. Check-in at Headquarters.

Contact: Samantha Gonzalez, (830) 672-3266, samantha.gonzalez@tpwd.texas.gov

CHAPTER NEWS

Congratulations

Recertifications

Marilyn Anderson
David Benbow
Pam Sagebiel

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Send announcements and news items for distribution in the newsletter to Marilyn Anderson, MarilynA@access4less.net, by Friday, October 28 for the November, 2022 issue

Officers:

President – Mark de Kiewiet	mark.dekiewiet@att.net
Vice-president – John Barrington	freedom516@yahoo.com
Secretary – Chris Dyess	ced16123@gmail.com
Treasurer – Craig Sagebiel	prcraigsagebiel@yahoo.com

Committee Chairmen:

Program – Chris Dyess	ced16123@gmail.com
Training Class – Pam Sagebiel – Seguin class	pjsagebiel@yahoo.com
Michelle Darnell - Schertz class	mdarnelltex@gmail.com
Nature Education – Jennifer Ehlers - Seguin	ehlers@gvec.net
Rebeca Leininger - Schertz	rsleininger@gmail.com
Citizen Science – Tom Hardaway	tehardaway@yahoo.com
Advanced Training – Cinde Thomas-Jimenez	cindetjimenez@gmail.com
Communications – Bruce Bebow	bbebow@gmail.com
Newsletter – Marilyn Andeson	MarilynA@access4less.net
Membership – Michelle Darnell	mdarnelltex@gmail.com
Fund Raising – Craig Sagebiel	prcraigsagebiel@yahoo.com
Hospitality – Mary Styblo	drstyblo@hotmail.com

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