



***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.*

**WELCOME
BACK!**

Guadalupe Master Naturalists Monthly Program and Business Meeting

Date: Monday, August 28, 2023

Time: 6:30 PM - Social/Visiting

7:00 PM - Program

8:00 PM - Business Meeting

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

Program: We are in for a wonderful program! Master Naturalist Haeley Giambalvo will be our guest speaker. Her comments: "For years, I was a novice flower gardener, starting with a set of container pots on the roof deck of our first condo in Chicago in 2005. While my plants in Chicago thrived in the mild summers, when we moved to San Antonio, Texas I struggled to keep anything alive! I spent way too much money on annuals that died once 100 degree temps hit.

I never gave much thought to the plants I chose at the nursery. I just picked flowers that looked pretty. I never considered where the plants originated from, or what ecosystem benefits they offered, such as feeding insects or conserving water.

Then I enrolled in the [Texas Master Naturalist program](#) in 2019 and I started to see plants with an entirely new set of eyes. I learned about the critical role that our native plants play as the basis of the food web, and how we've largely removed them from our landscapes, eliminating important food sources and habitat for our local insects and wildlife

I realized I had been gardening purely for aesthetics and my enjoyment, but what I needed to be doing was gardening for the planet. Once I realized I could make a real impact from my own yard, I was hooked! Since then, I've:

- Added over 50 Texas native plant species to my yard.
- Removed over 500 sq. foot of St. Augustine grass and replaced it with native plant beds.
- Seen my yard come to life with butterflies, bees, and birds!

I am now on the board of my local chapters of both the [Texas Master Naturalist program](#) and [Native Plant Society of Texas](#). I spend hundreds of volunteer hours each year helping plant and maintain Texas native plants in local natural areas, create pollinator gardens at local schools, and spread the word about native plants.

In 2022 [I published a book](#) to help other "native plant newbies" get started growing more native plants today. Since launching NativeBackyards.com in 2020, nearly one million people have visited the site to learn about growing native plants!"





Members who are able are asked to bring something to contribute to the refreshment table. It doesn't have to be anything elaborate or even homemade! Whatever you place on the table will be appreciated. The Chapter will provide drinks.

Kenneth Harvey and Deb Dedrick serve as coordinators at the Schertz meetings.

Enjoy greeting guests, meeting new members and Training Class students and visiting with each other after our summer break!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

No Discover program in August!



Discover the World of Insects will be the September theme.

Saturday, September 9 at Crescent Bend, Schertz

Monday, September 11 at Seguin Public Library, Seguin

Sign up with Jennifer Ehlers at ehlers@gvec.net or 830-305-1352

Pollinator Garden at Park West

Date: Monday, August 7, 14, 21, 28, 2023

Time: 8:30 – 10:30 AM

Location: Park West, 623 N. Vaughn, Seguin

Description: Our Pollinator Garden is a Citizen Science Monarch Observation site for Master Naturalists, adopted by the Guadalupe Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas, and an approved volunteer garden site for Master Gardeners.

Come dressed for gardening, bring water and your favorite weeding tools. We'll weed, see what's coming up, and make plans for any additions we might need this year.

Contact: Liz Romero, fleurromero@gmail.com

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. Page 3

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

Kirchoff Prairie Restoration Workday

Date: Saturday, August 19, 2023

Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Location: Kirchoff Family Farm, 1444 County Road 210, Floresville, TX

Description: Work and learn at the ongoing prairie restoration project at the Kirchoff Family Farm. Come when you can, leave when you're ready. Tools and LUNCH are provided by the Kirchoffs.

Contact: Don Kirchoff, 713-562-7681 donkirchoff@earthlink.com

Organizer: San Antonio Chapter of Native Prairies Association of Texas

Owl Prowl

Date: August 27, 2023

Time: 8:30 PM – 9:30 PM

Location: Crescent Bend Nature Park, 12805 Schaefer Rd., Schertz

Description: Join this fun event by sharing your knowledge with community members who come to learn about what creeps at night. Master Naturalists lead small groups using UV lights [see what glows for you!] and flashlights.

Contact: Carolyn Wolfer, wolfercdat@mac.com



TMNTuesday – “Management and Educational Activities for Community Ponds”

Date: Tuesday, August 08, 2023

Time: 12:00 – 1:30 PM

Description: Todd Sink, Ph.D. will cover educational and selective management activities TMN chapters can implement to both educate the public about management of water resources and improve the health of community ponds.

Website: <https://txmn.tamu.edu/tmntuesdays/#august>

2023 Annual Meeting – A Great AT Opportunity



Get excited for our **Texas Master Naturalist 2023 Annual Meeting** – to be held **Thursday, October 12th through Sunday, October 15th** this year at the southernmost point of the South Texas Plains ecoregion, surrounded by mesquite and prickly pear brush country in **McAllen, Texas**.

There are 20 Field Trips and over 100 seminar sessions along with an all-day Field Trip to the East Foundation's El Sauz Ranch to view the Annular Solar Eclipse, eat lunch, listen to speakers, and participate in field-based advanced training sessions. The El Sauz Ranch hosts a unique diversity of landscapes and land management practices with active sand dunes, thornscrub brush, ocelots, an active cattle herd, university research projects, burn management plans, and so much more.

The Texas Master Naturalist Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for the Texas Master Naturalist volunteers from around the state to gather,

participate in hands-on educational seminars, and receive all their Advanced Training requirements for the year in one weekend. It's also an opportunity for program participants and supporters to network, share new ideas, and to learn from chapters in different regions of the state.

All the information you need is on the Statewide website at this link:

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/2023-annual-meeting/>

Chris and I have attended several state meetings. It is a great opportunity to get exposed to new topics and approaches used by other chapters as they volunteer as Master Naturalists around the state. Sign up starts the first week of August and the Field Trips fill up quickly.

Call me with questions: Jim Dyess 713-206-6218

Guadalupe Chapter of Native Plant Society of Texas

No Meeting in August



“Native Orchid Conservation Across Texas”
Williamson County Chapter, Native Plant Society of Texas

Date: Thursday, August 10, 2023

Time: 7:00 – 8:30 PM

Location: ZOOM – Register at <https://npsot-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEkuquqDwiGtMplIMLfLMWhJLUdNx2kMX#/registration>

Description: From the Pineywoods to the Chihuahuan Desert, various species of orchids inhabit a number of dwindling habitats across Texas. Learn of Adam Black's collaborative adventures and challenges tracking down and pollinating the state's rarest species for conservation purposes.

Website: <https://npsotwilco.org/event/npsot-wilco-chapter-meeting-native-orchids-with-adam-black/>



In-House Advanced Training and AT Field Trips

This year we set the goal of using the knowledge and skills within the chapter by having more in-house AT opportunities and AT Field Trips. Thanks to John Barrington for the astronomy and trees programs, Tom Hardaway for the herpetology field trip and Carolyn Wolfer for arranging the program at the Kirchoff Family Farm to learn about prairie restoration'

It's time to make plans for AT events starting in September. Please contact me if you have an interest in organizing an in-house AT program or field trip. You can use the new at@guadmn.org email address or jnd16123@gmail.com.

Advanced Training Guidelines updated

The Chapter website has been updated to provide additional guidelines to help in identifying acceptable Advanced Training events. Also there is an email address set up that will go directly to the Advanced Training committee. Please check out the updated web page at: <https://txmn.org/guadalupe/gmn-training/advanced-training/>

The email address is: at@guadmn.org.

Jim Dyess, jnd16123@gmail.com 713/206-6218

Join The Nightlife Field Workshop August 29 – September 3, 2023



Experience the amazing world of bats in this hands-on workshop with leading experts Merlin Tuttle, Janet Tyburec, and Troy Swift. Learn bat house building, bat capture methods, echolocation recording, sustainable agriculture, and much more. This year, Janet is conducting an acoustic training for identifying Central Texas bats! as an add-on opportunity. Advanced Training will be allowed for the times in lectures and on field trips

Daily schedules and more information at: [Join the Nightlife Field Workshop](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/join-the-nightlife-2023-tickets-632197879877) or type in this link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/join-the-nightlife-2023-tickets-632197879877>

Cost is \$485 plus lodging and some meals. Lectures only are \$125/day

Jim Dyess, AT Committee

August AT & VT Opportunities

T E X A S



Visit txmn.org/guadalupe/calendar to register or learn more about each opportunity listed below. Check back often---new items added as we hear about them.
Need to add an event or report a change? Please send information to gmnca1@guadmn.org.

VT-Volunteer Time

Wednesday, August 2

8:00am – 10:00am VT Bioblitz at the Headwaters

Thursday, August 3

8:00am – 10:00am VT Paths and Swales

Saturday, August 5

8:00am – 10:00am VT Native Tree Care

Saturday, August 12

8:00am – 10:00am VT Invasive Species Removal Work Day

Thursday, August 17

8:00am – 10:00am VT Native Tree Care

Friday, August 18

8:00am – 9:30am VT Early Birding at the Headwaters

Saturday, August 19

8:00am – 10:00am VT Bioblitz at the Headwaters

9:00am – 4:00pm AT/VT Kirchoff Prairie Restoration Workday (In person)

Thursday, August 24

8:00am – 10:00am VT Native Seed Volunteer Day

Friday, August 25

8:00am – 10:00am VT Erosion Control Work Day

Saturday, August 26

8:00am – 10:00am VT Paths and Swales

Sunday, August 27

8:30pm – 9:30pm AT/VT Walk With a Naturalist (In person)

Thursday, August 31

8:00am – 10:00am VT Restoration Work Day

AT – Advanced Training

Thursday, August 3

9:00am – 10:30am AT Scenic Overlook Nature Hike (In person)

Saturday, August 5

9:00am – 11:30am AT Honey Creek Hike (In person)

Sunday, August 6

8:00am – 11:00am AT Guided Bird Tours (In person)

9:00am – 11:30am AT Honey Creek Hike (In person)

Tuesday, August 8

12:00pm – 1:00pm AT TMN Tuesday (Webinar)

Wednesday, August 9

6:30pm – 7:30pm AT One Water and Water Conservation (Virtual)

Thursday, August 10

9:00am – 10:30am AT Scenic Overlook Nature Hike (In person)

Saturday, August 12

9:00am – 11:30am AT Honey Creek Hike (In person)

Sunday, August 13

8:00am – 11:00am AT Guided Bird Tours (In person)

9:00am – 11:30am AT Honey Creek Hike (In person)

Monday, August 14

All day AT Texas Plant Conservation Conference 2023 (In person) (Day 1/2)

Tuesday, August 15

All day AT Texas Plant Conservation Conference 2023 (In person) (Day 2/2)

Wednesday, August 16

6:30pm – 8:00pm AT Aquatic Invasives (Virtual)

Thursday, August 17

9:00am – 10:30am AT Scenic Overlook Nature Hike (In person)

6:00pm – 7:30pm AT LMN Chapter Meeting (In person or virtual)

Saturday, August 19

9:00am – 4:00pm AT/VT Kirchoff Prairie Restoration Workday (In person)

9:00am – 11:30am AT Honey Creek Hike (In person)

Sunday, August 20

8:00am – 11:00am AT Guided Bird Tours (In person)

9:00am – 11:30am AT Honey Creek Hike (In person)

Thursday, August 24

9:00am – 10:30am AT Scenic Overlook Nature Hike (In person)

Saturday, August 26

8:00am – 10:00am AT Beginner Bird Walk (In person)

9:00am – 11:30am AT Honey Creek Hike (In person)

Sunday, August 27

8:00am – 11:00am AT Guided Bird Tours (In person)

8:30pm – 9:30pm AT/VT Walk With a Naturalist (In person)

Thursday, August 31

9:00am – 10:30am AT Scenic Overlook Nature Hike (In person)

FLEX-Flexible Schedule VT

All month – these opportunities need volunteers for projects throughout the month. Contact the point of contact to arrange a day that fits your schedule.

FLEX Neasloney Wildlife Management Area

FLEX Warbler Woods Bird Sanctuary

AT=Advanced Training, VT=Volunteer Time, FLEX=Flexible Schedule VT

Developed by Renee Harvey

Training Class News

We are excited our first class will begin on Tuesday, August 8. A wonderful group of presenters will again be teaching our students and several great field trips are on the schedule.

John Barrington is leading as Class Coordinator with his able assistant Tom Hardaway. Susan Hanks and Mary Habib are also help with the classes. We are anxious to get to know our ten students and welcome them as new Master Naturalist.

Chapter News

Owl Prowl

(Walk with a Master Naturalist at night)



Carolyn Wolfer leads the 'Walk with a Naturalist' in Schertz at Crescent Bend Nature Preserve.

During the cooler months, this takes place in the afternoon as a walk on the 4th Sunday. During the hot months, this is night walk. The City's recreational Lead Sydney Paredes along with Master Naturalist organizer Carolyn Wolfer changed the name to Owl Prowl and the event has, since then, been booked out!

The event meets in the park at 8:30 pm equipped with Black Lights (UV lights), flash lights, walking shoes and bug spray. The public is checked in and briefed on behavior during the walk, how to discover and what to expect. The participants are divided up into small groups each with a GMN as lead and 'released' into the park.

The walk is along one of the one-mile long paths, and as Carolyn mentioned, 'we battle to complete the walk in under an hour, typically 1 ½ hours' due to the many stops and resulting discussions. The GMN volunteers share their interest's and fields of expertise making each walk and group different.

At the end of the walk we all come together and share our observations and techniques for discovering the night creatures. The Scorpions and Stick insects are a great hit among the kids; the adults, not so much!



The Gault Archaeological Site - AT Visit

By Mark deKiewiet

Jim Dyess lead a group of GMN members to the Gault archaeological site, an extensive, multicomponent site located in Florence, Texas for an AT visit. It bears evidence of almost continuous human occupation, starting at least 16,000 years ago—making it one of the few archaeological sites in the Americas at which compelling evidence has been found for human occupation dating to before the appearance of the Clovis culture



The Gault site contains strata which date from 16,000 years ago to today. A reason for this intensive and almost continuous occupation appears to be the site's location adjacent to two different but resource-rich ecosystems (the uplands of the Edwards

Plateau and the lower Blackland Prairie) where water from Buttermilk Creek was available even in drought years, and where a wide variety of local food resources was concentrated. Another is that Gault was also a quarry site, where good quality Edwards chert toolstone (the Edwards Plateau is geologically one of the largest chert bearing formations in North America) was readily available, weathering out of the banks of both modern and ancient watercourses

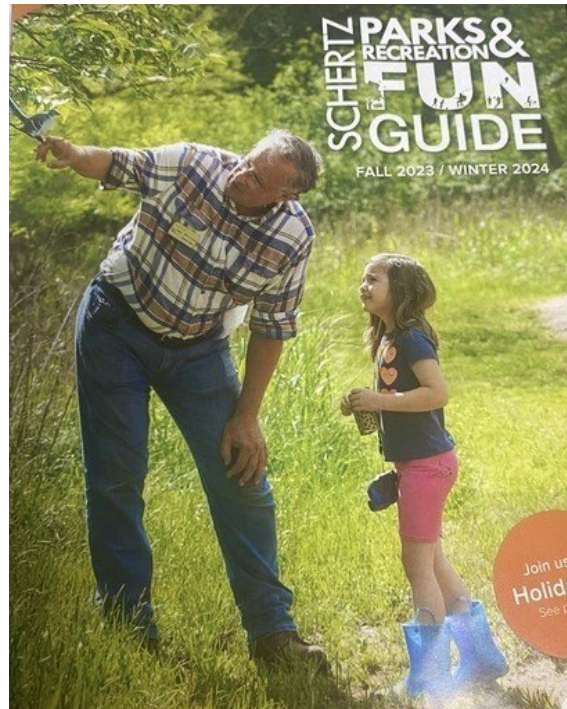
The 650,000 artifacts at the site calls into question the traditional view of Clovis groups as highly mobile, dedicated big game hunters. Additionally, faunal material from the Gault site includes an array of large, medium-sized and small game such as mammoth, bison, horse (yes, there were horses in Texas before the Ice Age), deer, rabbit, birds, and turtles suggesting a generalized diet.

One of the most significant finds at the Gault site is that it is one of only twenty mammoth kill sites in the United States. A spear tipped with a Clovis point and hurled from a spear thrower could have easily taken down the largest Stone Age beasts



Relationships Pay Off

The relationships developed by Nancy Masterton with the City of Schertz Parks and Recreation has, over the years, paid off for both organizations. The city markets the various Guadalupe Master Naturalist programs that take place in the Crescent Bend Nature Preserve. Our Chapter, in return, is able to carry out one of its missions to stimulate interest and care for nature and educate the population through outreach programs. Here is a picture taken during "Discover What's Flying."



Thanks to Bruce Bebow for the treasury of wonderful pictures on our ChapterFlicker account.

To see what our members have been up to go to

https://www.flickr.com/photos/tmn_guadalupe_chapter/

You'll be impressed!

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Send announcements and news items for distribution in the newsletter to Marilyn Anderson, MarilynA@access4less.net. by Friday, August 28 for the September 2023 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 – Laura Griffith	ljgriffith528@gmail.com
Training Class – Michelle Darnell	mdarnelltex@gmail.com
Nature Education – Jennifer Ehlers	ehlers@gvec.net
Citizen Science – Sandi Wheeler	wheels5683@gmail.com
Advanced Training – Jim Dyess	jnd16123@gmail.com
Communications – Bruce Bebow	bbebow@gmail.com
Newsletter – Marilyn Anderson	MarilynA@access4less.net
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