

The Steward

Summer 2019

Highland Lakes Master Naturalists

Volume 10 Issue 2



Kestrel in watercolor by Gary Hampton

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Message from our President

By Susan Montgomery

Our Role as HLMN Members

My message to you this month has several purposes, which are meant to empower you as master naturalists. Most of us in HLMN strive to be the best naturalists we can be, so I'd like you to consider a few things re-

garding your role. Learning all we can, playing by the rules, caring about our environment and our partners...these are the things that help us make a difference.

While we all enjoy learning, the Advanced Training opportunities offered at the state conference are abundant and well done. Registration is currently taking place for the Texas Master Naturalist Conference in Rockwall in October. I encourage you to attend and expand your knowledge base. You will have lots of fun doing it! Hopefully this year HLMN will be well represented.

In regard to playing by the rules, we should each be familiar with the documents that govern our chapter. We have a Chapter Operating Handbook, Bylaws and Chapter Management Operating Protocols. Please peruse these resources. You may find out why we do some of the things we do. My personal philosophy is that if you have resources, use them and do your best to abide by them, or change them. Although I can't tell you that reading them will brighten your day, you will be able to support our chapter better. The role of the Directors and Officers is clearly spelled out. You may have learned some of this when you trained, but then it is easy to forget. I know this because I am one to forget more than I would like! Share your thoughts and ideas at board meetings. The HLMN Board is here to serve you. Not many naturalists enjoy the administrative responsibilities that come with being on the board. We all serve on the board to make the volunteer opportunities run smoothly and fairly. Please do your part

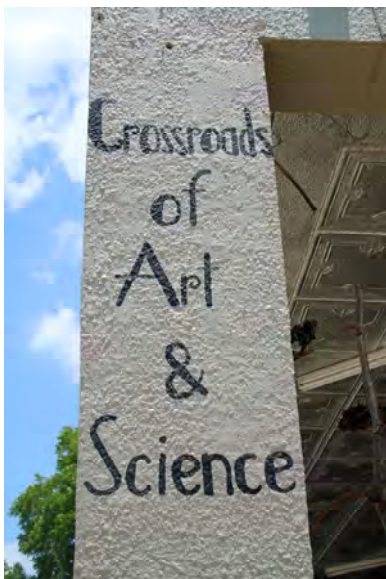
by stepping into a board position when needed. Help keep our chapter on track by knowing what our handbook and bylaws ask of us.

Challenge yourself to make one more change that helps the environment. My husband and I are attempting to eliminate the use of single use plastics in our lives as much as possible. We are far from perfect, but we have a lot less plastic to recycle just by making different choices. Last Fall's devastating flood heightened our awareness of the amount of plastic and Styrofoam that makes its way to our drinking water and the ocean. We decided to try to do better. If everyone of us does a little bit, the earth would be so much better off.

The last part of my message is about our partners. VMS shows that we give lots of love to the Fish Hatchery and Inks Lake State Park. We have many other places we help as well. However we need to increase our volunteer time at Pedernales Fall State Park and the Science Mill. These places are in Blanco County. We are the chapter that serves Burnet, Llano and Blanco counties, so we should be including these in our volunteer activities. Since Pedernales Falls is a part of TPWD which sponsors us, please help there if you can. The distance makes this park too far for some, but perhaps we can use the FOIL model to increase our participation at Pedernales Falls.

Thank you for being people that constantly strive to make the world around us a better place. As master naturalists, we are fortunate to have so many volunteer opportunities right here in the Highland Lakes area. Keep up the great work you are doing!

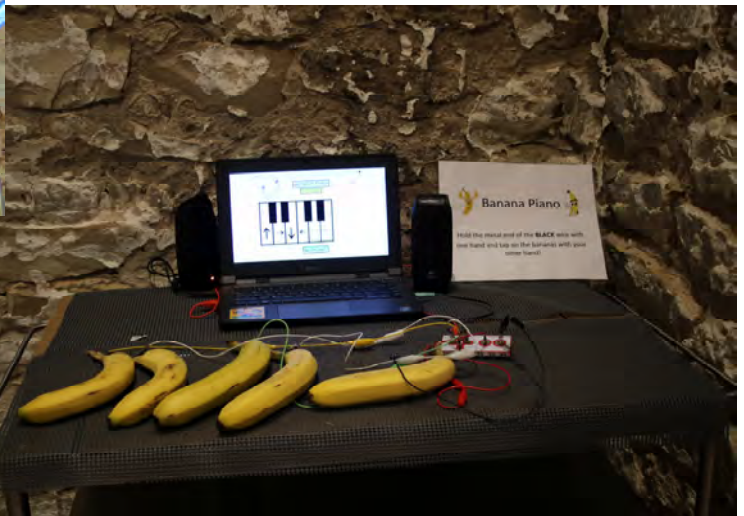
Wherever you are this summer, may you be cool, relaxed and happy!



Science Mill



Giant Robotic Hand



Make music with bananas?

Meet the Members:



Bob Caruthers **Class of 2013**

Where were you raised?

Raised in St Louis

What is your professional background?

Professional experience in finance, manufacturing, business consulting,
Licensed financial planner

Tell us about your nature-related passion or volunteer activity.

Love the outdoors Fascinated by Geology

Volunteer with DAV, Alzheimer's Assoc, work with Sr Citizens through church



Billy Hutson **Class of 2008** **2020 Class Coordinator**

Where were you raised?

I was raised in the country outside of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

What is your professional background?

I graduated from Penn State in Electrical Engineering in 1964, worked in aerospace design for 6 years and then got into the energy efficiency field till retirement in 2002.

Tell us about your nature-related passion or volunteer activity.

My nature related passion is more expanded than birds or flowers or bees or any one subject. Although I much admire the people that are fluent in those fields I believe that educating people in the broad aspect of the symbiotic connections between all the natural sciences helps them understand our world better. This is what I do all summer in Colorado with various non profits and what we try to do in our nature center. A physicist by the name of Werner Heisenberg wrote "what we observe is not nature itself, but nature that responds to our method of questioning.", thereby eluding to the fact that the more we are educated in (nature in general) the more we can understand it.



Bill McCartney
Class of 2018
2020 Class Coordinator

Where were you raised?
Omaha, Nebraska

What is your professional background?
Lawyer, corporate executive management.

Tell us about your nature-related passion or volunteer activity?
Trees.



Chris McCartney
Class of 2018
2020 Class Coordinator

Where were you raised?
North Platte, Nebraska.

What is your professional background?
Middle school art teacher, artist.

Tell us about your nature-related passion or volunteer activity?
Plants and bio-dynamic gardening



Fall Landscape Class

Register for "Native Landscapes for Birds" class to be held @ Inks Dam National Fish Hatchery, September 20 from 8:00 to 3:00 at the site listed below. Presenters are Linda O’Nan, Pat Campbell, and Sherry Bixler. Class size is limited, so register now if you want to attend. You do not have to be a NPSOT member to enroll. More information on registration site. Hope you join us!

<https://npsot3.123signup.com/event/registration/rvcxc>

Graduation Class of 2019 at Spicewood Community Center



Class Coordinators, Melissa Duckworth on the left and Susan Downey on the right.

Photo by Phyllis Hirsch and Kaye Barr





Haiku – by Paula Engelhardt

More Haiku Poems inspired by Paula's realm. The Japanese poems consist of three lines of five, seven, and five syllables, traditionally evoking images of the natural world.

Try writing some Haikus of your own.

Clouds

Dreamily gazing
High above me, clouds float by
Wish I, too, could fly

Feather

Floating on the wind
Released from a soaring bird
A feather finds earth

Wild Horses

A hoof paws the ground
Fire-breathing dragon snorts
It is a standoff

Wild Horses II

Hooves pound rhythmically
Mane and tail are streamers
Grace, power unite

Fire

Flames licking the air
Fire consumes its fuel
It wants to escape

Campfire

Campfire crackles
Flames dancing, embers glowing
Smoke tendrils climbing

Campfire II

Logs crackle and hiss
Marshmallows melt into goo
Sticky, yummy treat

Whooping Crane

Gliding on the wind
Touch down in a salty marsh
Looking for a meal

Whooping Crane II

Graceful white giant
Hastily eating blue crab
Life in the balance

Whooping Crane III

Beautiful white crane
You stir my soul, touch my heart
Grace under pressure

Whooping Crane IV

Pressure from all sides
The majestic Whooping Crane
Struggles to survive

Whooping Crane V

Black-tipped outstretched wings
Flapping, soaring, journey long
'Til you're home again

Fish Harvesting at Inks Dam National Fish Hatchery

By Phyllis Hirsch

The pictures here are showing how they are "harvesting" the catfish to move to another pond for breeding.



Kay Barr is stabilizing the bucket. She is in this year's HLMN class.

And then.....

Photos by Phyllis Hirsch



These are the 3 year old fish. They will be used as brood stock this year, along with the 4 year old catfish that are located a different pond. They partially drained the pond and used a large seining net to enclose the catfish in a smaller area. Once the large net is set into place, They use a smaller net to catch some of the fish. The fish in the smaller net are then caught in a net with a handle and loaded into the bucket you see in the pictures.

The fish are counted as they are put into the bucket (they are large enough to do this) and each bucket load is weighed. The fish are then moved to a large tank on one of the trucks and once the tanks are full, they are driven to a different pond to be released.

Fun Fishing at the Hatchery

Photos and captions by Paula Richards



Cris Faught caught a fish.



Jerry Stacy facing off with the catfish.



Grandpa Gary and his grandson (Above)



Kaye Barr showing off her catch (Above)



Look what Mary Ann caught
(photo to the left)

Lynn reeling in a big one.
(photo to the right)



New Class of 2019



Week 11 -

Westin Nowlin, PhD,
Professor at Texas State University in the Department of Biology
presenting on Aquatic Ecology
at Balcones Flying X Ranch.

Photo by Rob Sproul

White Wing Dove Banding

By Linda O'nan

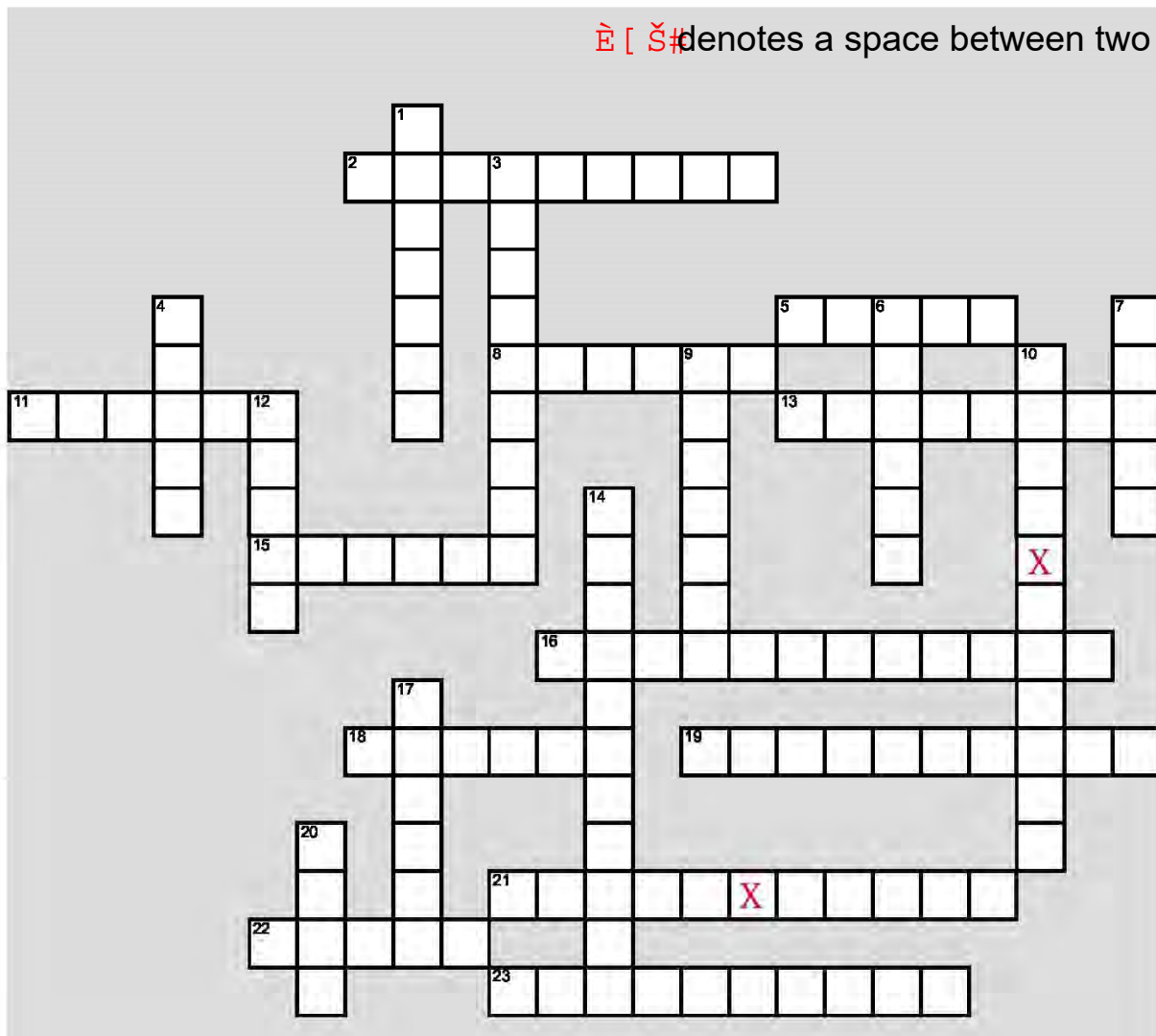
Jerry Stacy is banding his first White-winged Dove of the season. Jerry records the birds' molt and whether it is this year hatch or one of the past years. He records the band number he places on the right leg. Occasionally he catches birds he has banded in the past. This data is sent to Texas Parks & Wildlife. The season runs from June 1st to August 15th. Jerry has been banding the birds for Texas Parks & Wildlife in excess of seven years



Bees

By Samm Luedecke

È [Š# denotes a space between two words.



Across

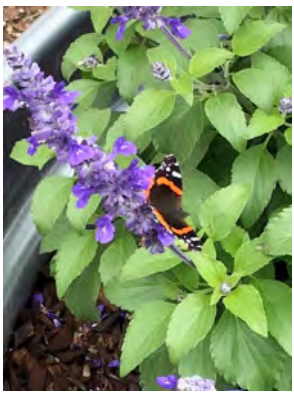
- 2** Nest in soft wood
- 5** Travelers
- 8** Bees have distinct head, ____ & abdomen
- 11** Metallic Hairy Belly Bee
- 13** Digger, miner, chimney or ____
- 15** These bees have been known to chase people for over a 1/4 mile once excited
- 16** Large-headed resin bee is a member of this family
- 18** Cleptoparasites, don't collect pollen fro brood
- 19** Oil-collecting, semi-social
- 21** Metallic green
- 22** Not king
- 23** Striped Hairy Belly Bee, carders

Down

- 1** Lack pollen ____
- 3** Ground or cavity nesters, colletidae
- 4** Fertile male honey bee
- 6** Striped abdomen, solitary, ground nesters
- 7** Non-native, amber to black, stripes on abdomen
- 9** Largest genus in the family of Andrenidae
- 10** Can be easily mistaken for a wasp
- 12** Beekeepers may use to calm bees
- 14** Order of wasps, bees and ants
- 17** Medium to large, robust shape, black and yellow bands
- 20** Bees have ____ wings (two pairs)

HLMN Projects

Spicewood Elementary Outdoor Classroom



Lori Rempe, a 4th grade Science teacher at Spicewood Elementary, received a grant to start an outdoor classroom, a butterfly & Hummingbird garden. She reached out to our chapter last September for help. Martelle Luedecke and Samm Luedecke began working on the project before school started in the fall 2018 helping to create a plan for the strip of land between the classrooms that was to be used. Discussions such as lighting, soil, traffic, and goals incurred. A flexi-



ble plan was made. Now the students and teachers would have a “syllabus”. Once school started, Phil Wyde gave a presentation to the class one October Friday morning on native plants. The Outdoor Classroom received donations such as a water collector, seeds, containers and plants to transplant. Throughout the year the students studied native plants, soil conditions, water cycle and entomology. As the April PLANTING date arrived, Evelyn Nugent recruited helping hands. Evelyn Nugent, Debbie Kennedy, Pam Green and Martelle Luedecke assisted transplants with the class and said that the students loved the plants so much that they gave them names. These photos display the fruits of their labor.





Texas Brigades

This is the eighth year that HLMN has supported individuals for the Texas Brigades Program. It all started when President Phil Wyde reported, during a Board Meeting in 2011, that HLMN had a request from an individual for support to attend the Texas Brigades Bass Camp. Wade Hibler explained that there were four Texas Brigade camps that were extension-supported. Wade also reported his office has some funds and other agencies also might help. Members Ray Buchanan, Sherry Bixler, Mike and Sammye Childers, and Ed Myatt suggested we set up a scholarship fund and donate \$200.00. Billy Hutson suggested that HLMN set up a separate scholarship fund for applicants in the future. In 2017, President Cathy Hill suggested we support two campers at \$500.00 each and it was approved by the Board.

As we continue to support the Texas Brigades program, this is the Brigade that we supported for 2019 at the suggestion of Martelle Luedecke. Also below is his thank you note to our group.

David Wolff, 2019 Recipient of the Texas Brigade grant from HLMN



Group Photo of South Texas Bobwhite Brigade at Buck Horn Creek Ranch

Dear Ms. Martelle Luedecke

Thanks for supporting me to be able to go to the South Texas Bobwhite Brigades. I had a wonderful time learning about plants, gun safety, marching and the bobwhite solute. I was a little nervous to talk in front of all the people about my silver bullet. But now I over came my fear about talking in front of all the people. Once again thank you I really appreciated it to go to the camp.

*Sincerely
David Wolff*

Project Update

By Vicki Adcock and Becky Breazeale

In the fall of 2018, Highland Lakes Master Naturalists approved a project to create a pollinator garden at the Church of Horseshoe Bay, Horseshoe Bay, Tx. Since its inception, the Highland Lakes Master Gardeners have joined forces with the team of Highland Lakes Master Naturalists on this project. The team of gardeners, lead by Vicki Adcock, created the Pollinator Garden and it has recently been certified as a Monarch Waystation .



The project has added over 60 native plants that includes early and late blooming host and nectar perennial plants. Fifty milkweed plugs were recently added to the garden. Vicki announced that the milkweed is finally taking hold and has probably doubled in size in two weeks! The milkweed plugs were provided through a grant from the Natural Resources Defense Councils' Green Gifts Program. NRDC is a not for profit organization that protects the planet – its people, plants, animals, and natural systems. [Natural Resources Defense Council Green Gifts program](#)

Vicki has also reported that the Garden is open to the public and is providing education to the community of best practice gardening to increase monarch, bee, and other pollinator populations. Recently a book club attended an educational garden tour led by Vicki. A Community-wide Open House was held at the Church at Horseshoe Bay in May where Highland Lakes Master Gardeners Cynthia Clinesmith and Louise Suhey and well as Highland Lakes Master Naturalists Sondra Fox

and Betty Cruikshank were in the garden to answer questions about the plants and establishing a pollinator garden.

Future plans include volunteers engaging youth groups from the area to have a nature work experience in the garden to develop an understanding of the importance of pollinators and their environment. Also, the project plans to provide schools with educational tours that showcase the butterfly lifecycle and the value of pollinators and the plants to support them. If you are interesting in volunteering for this project, contact Vicki Adcock at txrunner@att.net.



Photos by Vicki Adcock

Above: Open House

Top right: Volunteer Gardeners

Bottom Right: Garden Tour

Selah, Bamberger Ranch Project



Jared Holmes on the left is the staff Biologist at Bamberger Ranch. Volunteers work under his direction. On the right is Drew Nealey, Intern. Photo by Rob Sproul at Turkey Hollow.

Inks Dam National Fish Hatchery Landscape Project

After multiple rainy starts, we finished up the landscape project at Hatchery headquarters. Thanks to hard work of Jerry Stacy, Linda O'nan, Diane Mitchell, Cris Northrup, and Kaye Barr, we finished spreading gravel, installed plants & metal edging, placed weedblock and hauled mountains of mulch (Jerry was a beast). Needed a bit more mulch, but job looked great. Linda O'nan



Garage Sale - The Fundraiser



Above: Carole Hess and Bill Nabors.



Above: Rob Sproul and Don Hill



Above: Vicki Adcock and Eva Hobbs.

Right: Rob's Garage - awaiting the Sale.
Photos by Rob Sproul





Left: First truck load heading to Burnet Square.
Photo by Rob Sproul



Right: HLMN Booth at Burnet Square Citywide
Garage Sale



Left: Shoppers and Rob's wife as cashier.
Photo by Rob Sproul



Right: Rob Sproul and wife. Rob says his wife
taught him everything he knows about Garage
Sales.

Photo by Sharon McBride

Members Say..

Robin England suggested that we poll members and ask them to complete the following statement:

"You might be a Texas Master Naturalist If...."

... formal wear means your new snake-proof boots and North Face shirt - Robin England

....you try to ID plants going 70 mph - Linda O'nan

... you absolutely are Interested in nature, wildlife, flora, fauna, and learning as to the bounty of all that's out there. We are stewards of preserving the nature in our unique area. We are "ever learners" as nature changes like the seasons and the wind. Everyday is a bounty of education. We pass this knowledge on to future generations and our hope is we leave a positive imprint for future generations.- Grethen Pachlhofer

...you respond to an inquiry about a very large snake making himself comfortable at a neighbor's home with "it's a beauty (Harris Greenwood's response to Vicki Adcock's ID inquiry).- Vicki Adcock

...If you have the horny toad license plate on your car

If you wear a necklace of award pins as jewelry.

If you wear dragonflies or fish as earrings

If your yearly vacation is hiking, helping our environment and learning about geology or flora and fauna.- Lyn Davis

...while photographing wildflowers you stop to take pictures of some interesting scat. - Matt Carley

...1)) stop to help a common snapping turtle cross the road.

2) in the early morning, glance up to the tops of utility poles hoping to see a Red-tailed Hawk.

3) see habitat where others see weeds and leaf litter.

4) visit a garden on an early spring morning and wonder where are all the bees, butterflies and birds. - Mary Lott

....when you have trash bags, gloves, and your permit to transport for educational purposes even in your daughters' cars, because you never know when and where that perfect roadkill specimen will be. ~ Martelle

Starling, Grackles, and Squirrels, Oh My

By Becky Breazeale

I am not saying that these critters are bad, I am just saying they can be gluttons at the bird feeder. There may be a solution in sight – Safflower seeds. These seeds come from a thistle like plant (*Carthamus tinctorius*) grown around the world to make cooking oils. Safflower seeds have a hard white shell which has a bitter taste. The meat is rich in protein and fat. It is the bitter taste that offends Starlings, Grackles, and Squirrels.

Bird & Blooms Magazine suggests offering the seeds in a platform or hopper feeder with a tray. The magazine also recommends only putting out safflower seeds at first. It reminds readers to be patient until the titmouse, chickadees, finches, and woodpeckers develop a taste for the seeds.



Safflower seeds are becoming more popular and are easier to find online and in stores. Google search results were Amazon, Ace Hardware, and Tractor Supply. Buy a small bag at first to see how your neighborhood birds like the seeds (or not).

“Safflower Seeds”, *Birds & Blooms*, Harlan, IA, May, 2019
<https://www.thespruce.com/safflower-seeds-385835>

Wildlife Viewing Stations !!



Blacno Viewing Station, photo by Karyn Parker



Pedernales Falls State Park...with middle schoolers sometimes you see more than birds at the Bird Blind! Patricia Campbell , do you see your woodpecker nest?

Inks Dam National Fish Hatchery



Photos by Karen Lundquist

Granite Shoals Wildlife Viewing Station

By Fredi Frankie



Open House 04/30/2017



After the flood of 10/12/2018

Whether to volunteer or simply check out here are the addresses:

Blanco State Park:
101 Park Road 23
Blanco, TX 78606

Latitude: 30.093082
Longitude: -98.423845

Inks Lake State Park
3630 Park Road 4 West
Burnet, TX 78611

Latitude: 30.737356
Longitude: -98.369007

Granite Shoals Viewing Station
2221 Phillips Ranch Rd
Granite Shoals, TX

The trail and wildlife viewing facility are located on the Granite Shoals municipal complex .

Science Mill
101 S Lady Bird Ln,
Johnson City, TX 78636

Lady bird Johnson Wildflower Center
4801 La Crosse Ave
Austin, TX 78739

In the SOIL

Herbs

Are your herbs in full swing? Now is the time to harvest them. Cut your herbs in mid-morning, best flavor time. Remove any that aren't just right (dead, wilted...) Now you have several options of what to do with them once they are harvested. If you choose to dry your herbs you can either air dry or oven dry. To air dry tie the ends of the branches together, depending on size about 4-5 branches. You can use twine, or a rubber band to hold the branches together. Slide a paper bag over the herbs. Poke a few holes in the bag for ventilation. The paper bag helps keep as much of the flavor in the leaves as possible during the drying process. Hang in a warm (not hard to find in August) ventilated room (not the tool shed.) Your herbs will be ready in 1-2 weeks. To oven dry, place the leaves of your herbs on a cookie sheet. No need to grease and flour the pan. Place pan in the oven 170 degrees or the lowest temperature your oven has for warm. Leave the door open. 2-4 hours later your herbs will be dried. Whether you oven dry or air dry, you will know your herbs are ready when they crumble easily. Store whole dried leaves in an air tight container, label and date.

If you have a dehydrator, go for it.

Another option, Ice Cube trays! Two different forms of this herb preservation. For herbs like basil, and rosemary, aromatic herbs that we often use to sauté with, we chop the herbs up like you were about to cook with them. Place the chopped herbs into ice cube trays. You can either put them in separate cubes or combine them. Fill the ice cube tray half way with olive oil and freeze. Then when it's fall or winter, you can pop out a cube and sauté away with your home-grown fresh herbs. Make sure to label and date them. P.S. if you like to make fresh pesto, you can put your basil and olive oil in the food processor. Combine and then scrape into the ice cubes. Don't add your lemon juice though. Lemon juice counteracts the olive oil in the freezing process and the ice cubes are sloshy. Little ones could knock it over in the freezer and make a mess.

Final ice cube tray option: Gather your mints. Chop them up and place in ice cube tray. Cover with water. Place in freezer. LABEL and date. Then when you are serving iced tea, pop out a mint cube for each glass. Yummy flavor of fresh mint. You can also use the mint cube to cool down a cup of hot tea. If you are growing chocolate mint, save for hot cocoa days.

Gentle Reminders:

MULCH, mulch and mulch.

Our fine feathered friends who help keep the bugs away need watering too. Clean your hummingbird feeders often.

Spring showers bring wildflowers. Wildflowers provide for the bees. Bees make honey...yummmm.

Flavored honey

First, honey should be local to you to have the best health benefits. We prefer using dried herbs. When flavoring honey with fresh herbs or flowers refrigeration is required.

So, let's get started. Begin with clean, dry mason jars. The ratio of flavoring to honey is 3-6 teaspoons of herbs or spices to 1 cup of honey. We chose cinnamon and cloves for our first batch. There is an endless variety of combinations. Place the spices in the jar. Ladle your honey in. Wipe the edges, don't want to attract any pests. Place the lid on the mason jar. Set in a warm window for about a week to infuse. Each day gently shake. And presto, you now have homemade infused honey!! Label, date and decorate. On a side note, this process works for flavored olive oils as well.

Future erosion control

In the past several years we have received torrential storms after a hot dry summer. When the rains come the water flows. Often washing away nutrients and topsoil, sometimes moving rocks. Keeping in compliance with your local water restrictions, water in spots where the water will flow. For instance, we have gullies in our drives after the rains. Watering now, on the sides of the drive, especially where the water enters as a stream, creates a stronger root matrix along the edge. The stronger root matrix strengthens the ground. Also, the watering results in higher grass, forbs and roots. Their physical height and presence, along with the reinforced root matrix will help to dampen the velocity of the water flow when the rains come.

Until the rains come, slow drip your trees. Water in the mornings or evenings when the evaporation will be the least. Soaker hoses and drip lines work best in this heat.

Fall Garden Planting

Is your fall garden plot ready? Beginning of August is a good time to get started.

Vegetables to plant:

Beans, bush - Blue Lake, Concador (yellow), Commodore Improved (Kentucky Wonder), Contender, Greencrop, E-Z pick, Jade, Maxibel, er, Royal Burgundy, Tendercrop, Topcrop

Beans, Lima-Fordhook 242, Henderson Broccoli-green,

Brussel sprouts-Royal Marvel

Carrots-Imperator 58, Danvers 126, Little Finger, Nantes, Napoli, Nelson,

Cauliflower-Snow Crown,

Chard, Swiss-Bright lights, Ruby Red, Verde de Taglio-Italian Chard, Collards-Vates, Blue Max, Georgia, Corn, Sweet-Funks Sweet-G 90, Honeycomb, Merit,

Cucumber-(pickling)Calypso, Carolina, (slicing)-Diva, Fanfare, Slice Mas-Poinsett, Salad Bush, Sweet Slice, Sweet Success

Lettuce (leaf) Crawford Re-seeding, Simpson Black Seeded, Red Sails

Mustard-Tendergreen II, Florida Broad Leaf

Parsley Italian and Curly leaf

Peas, Southern (cowpeas)- Excel, Texas Pink Eye

Potato, Irish, White Kennebec, Red LaSoda, Red Pontiac

Radish-Red Prince, Champion, Cherry Belle, White Icicle, Easter Egg, Daikon

Turnip-Royal Globe, White Lady, Toyko Cross, Turnip Greens 7-Top

Brussel Sprouts, Broccoli, Cabbage and Cauliflower work best as transplants rather than from seed for August plantings in our area.

Lots to choose from! Grab your water bottle and let's get our hands dirty in the soil.



Provid-



ter,



2019 Recertification – Warbler Pin

Sherry Bixler, Marvin Bloomquist, George Brugnoli, Ray Buchanan, Pat Campbell, Nadine Cowey, Sharon Drake, Minnie Eaton, Cris Faught, Judy Haralson, Pat Harrell, Steve Harrell, Cathy Hill, James Howell, Billy Hutson, Sue Kersey, Karen Lundquist, Sharon McBride, Susan Montgomery, Linda O’Nan, Stephen Scheffe, Jerry Stacy, Terri Whaley, Phillip Wyde, Fred Zagst, Kay Zagst

2500 Hour Pin

Sherry Bixler



1000 Hour Pin

Cris Faught
Phyllis Hirsch
Martelle Luedecke





500 Hour Pin

Morgan Beck
 Kathy Griffis-Bailey
 Suze Jernigan
 Susan Montgomery
 Cris Wolff-Northup



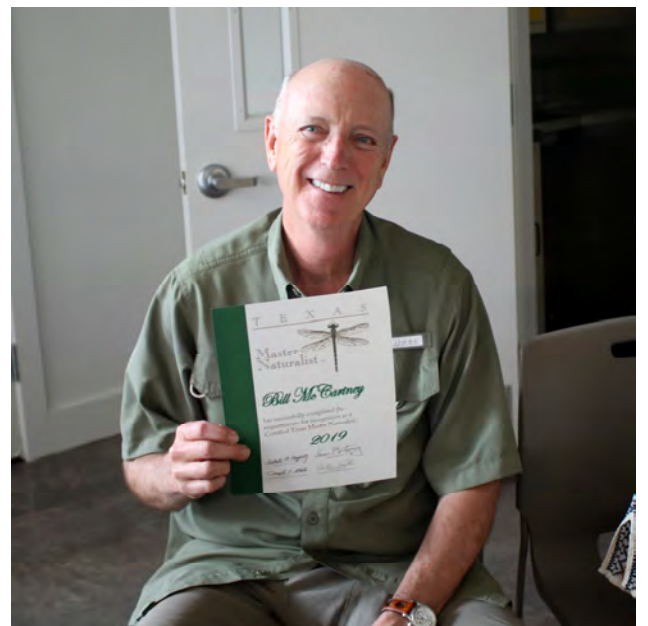
250 Hour Pin

Nadine Cowey,
 Stephen Harrell,
 Debbie Kennedy



Initial Certification – Dragon Fly Pin

Stephen Cowey
 Bernadette McFarling
 Terry Stracke
 William McCartney
 Jane Watson



HLMN Chapter Minutes

HLMN Chapter Meeting Minutes 3 April 2019

Call to Order: 1:30 pm

Minutes from the 6 Mar 2019 Meeting Approved.

Treasurer report for Feb and March approved.

Presentation: Stennis Introduced Monica Morrison "Texas Native Cats" www.wildlifealliance.org

Break for 15 minutes

Member Spotlight on Stephan and Patty Harrell from Blanco

Vicki Adcock needs volunteers for the Horseshoe Bay Pollinator Garden.

Fundraisers: Rob Sproul needs volunteers to help with the Garage Sale items he has collected for our first yearly fundraiser. Garage sale is 4 May on the Burnet Square. We need volunteers for cleaning and tagging of items 16 and 23 April. We need more good items to sell!

rip Committee Linda Brown spoke about the annual Fall Trip and this year it will be taken to Glenrose's Dinosaur State Park and Fossil Rim park. Melissa Duckworth talked about the trip to Annandale on 21 May and the different things you can do for the short stay there. Options of camping, hiking, museum, bat cave. It's \$15 per person and Annandale is a 10K acre ranch.

Banquet Committee: Lori talked about the Banquet. Several people like the Lakeside Pavilion but wanted to know the cost of Quail Point Lodge. All venues are about the same cost. We had felt that Thunderbird Lodge is too far in the country and not fair for many members south of Marble Falls to drive that far. However, several members wanted to place the Thunderbird Lodge back on the list to select from, so Lori has done that for the voting system. Lori has placed the menus and venues on Groups IO for EVERYONE to vote by replying to her for where we will hold the annual Banquet on 4 Dec 2019. Most votes win menu and venue. Also, please think about sharing of your talents, vacation homes, kayaks and the many things we have, with others so we can bid on their use as a fundraiser during the Banquet. If you have comments or questions about this query, PLEASE ask Lori Greco or another officer.

Volunteer Management Program: Marvin Bloomquist thinks that "Volunteer Sign Up" is a good place to start - and it's free. The person in charge of an event sends a link out to the membership. If there is interest in the event, the member will click the link to be added to the event and updates will be sent to that person who signed up.

GOP: Cathy Hill has 55 volunteers right now. New members are helping. Roughly 600-700 kids are expected.

ILSP: Easter Egg Hunt prep is 17 April at 0900 at the woodworking shed stuffing 1,800 eggs, followed by a volunteer luncheon at 12:00 and Chapter Board meeting is at 1:30pm. The Easter Egg Hunt is 20 April with arrival at 0830 to prepare area and until completion by 11. Easter Egg hunt is 10:00 am. Nature Preserve Cleanup at Cottonwood Shores with 18 people who assisted. Thank you so much from Susan and the residents. TMN State Conference: Please consider attending as it will be in Rockwall, Tx. Oct 2019 Next meeting is 1 May 2019 at 1:00pm Jacob Eickstead with TXDOT and the Wildflower program.

Members Present: 79 Visitors: 5
Typed by Lori Greco, Secretary

May

HLMN Chapter Meeting Minutes 1 May 2019

Call to Order: 1:00 pm

Minutes from the 3 April 2019 Meeting Approved.

Presentation: Stennis Introduced Jacob Eickstead with TXDOT and the Wildflower program.
Break for 10 minutes

Stennis and Kim announced that they will just about finish the year out as officers but will take considerable time to care for Kim's father in College Station. Mary Lott has volunteered to step in in Sep 2019 as the interim VP until Dec. Martelle will get a nominating committee together at the end of the year.

Member Spotlight on Bill Nabors

HSB Pollinator Garden: Vicki Adcock informed everyone that there will be a Garden Tour on 22 May and two of our members will be guides at the HSB Church of Christ. The HSB Beacon recently did a story on the Pollinator Garden.

GOP: Cathy Hill thanked everyone for their time, and GOP was success. There were over 700 kids and guides. One of the Park Hosts, Don Barrows made a nice 7-minute video of the stations.

Fundraisers: Rob Sproul needs volunteers to help with the Garage Sale items he has collected for our first yearly fundraiser. Garage sale is 11 May on the Burnet Square. We need volunteers to take shifts for the sale on the Burnet Square. There is a lot of great stuff for sale!!! Please contact Rob Sproul to help out!!!

Trip Committee Linda Onan spoke about the day trip to Anondale Ranch with its 10,000 acres and there are openings for the date, 21 May. The cutoff day to attend will be 8 May at \$15 per person. Also, the annual Fall Trip this year it will be taken to The Glenrose Dinosaur State Park and Fossil Rim park.

Training Class Coordinators: Susan Downey presented Mary Grace Kuehne as the new class representative. They will be graduating 22 students on 23 May. The graduation will be held at the Spicewood Community Center.

Banquet Committee Lori Greco spoke to everyone about the decision to have Chicken Breast for the catered menu at \$20 per person and the Awards Banquet will be held at the Lakeside Pavilion. This was due to overwhelming response from the folks who voted for them. She is asking that members with talent please consider donating their talent or their blessing to the fundraising auction. IE: Kayaking, Brunch on the river, jewelry making, etc...

Volunteer Sign UP: Marvin Bloomquist reports that members aren't too happy with having to provide their phone number to the system, but he says just to place 111-1111 in there and it will work fine.

Recycling Program: Susan Montgomery asked the question about the recycling center truly separating and recycling the glass. Ann Cook will ask her Commissioner if Johnson City is doing that.

TMN State Conference: Please consider attending as it will be in Rockwall, Tx. Oct 2019 TMN is looking for presenters so if you are very passionate and knowledgeable about a topic and might like to present that at the State Level, please let Susan know.

Volunteer Opportunities: Camp of the Hills presented a few opportunities for us to volunteer. Projects: Evelyn Nugent presented her updated New Activity Request. There are Projects and ongoing Activities that don't cost money. Projects that cost \$250-\$1,000 will need approval from the Board. She will send out a link to members in the next few days. If you are interested in

starting a new project, you must submit the form once filled out, to her.

IDNFH: Phil Wyde mentioned the next National Free Fish Day on 1 Jun. He needs volunteers.

Blanco State Park: Marcy Westcott -The Park is participating in the 12 May Texas Birding Classic. They also have a goal to rebuild 4 shelters that swept away in 2015.

Next meeting is 5 Jun 2019 at 1:00pm Raptor Recovery with Ed Sones

Members Present: 75 Visitors: 0
Ended at 3:05 Typed by Lori Greco, Secretary

June

HLMN Chapter Meeting Minutes 5 June 2019 Call to Order: 1:00 pm

Minutes from the 1 May 2019 Meeting Approved.

Treasurer Report Approved

Presentation: Stennis Introduced Ed Sones, a raptor rehabber from Austin Break for 10 minutes

Susan discussed the VP position and that Mary Lott cannot take the position for 2020 due to family considerations. Martelle will get a nominating committee soon so please contact her if you want to nominate someone or would like to consider taking the VP position or any other officer position. You are more than welcome to shadow the current officers and see if that might be something you are interested in.

Member Spotlight on Dennis Ellison and Kaye Barr

Fundraisers: Rob Sproul informed the chapter that \$965 was raised from the garage sale on 1 Jun at the Burnet square. It had been rescheduled twice. He thanked everyone who volunteered.

Awards: Lyn Davis called up members who met criteria for recertification and volunteer hour milestones. She informed the recerts for 2019 that the Warbler pin is not available from "corporate" at this time. Sherry Bixler was awarded a pin for 2,500 hours!

Trip Committee: Also, the annual Fall Trip this year it will be taken to The Glen Rose Dinosaur State Park and Fossil Rim park. This three-day trip will cost \$70 but attendees will get to experience behind the scenes action at the Fossil Rim and Dinosaur State Parks. Limited to 48 people. Please contact George Brugnoli.

NPSOT: Melanie Huff discussed membership in the Native Plant Society.

Banquet Committee: Susan asked members to consider being a part of the Banquet Committee.

TMN State Conference: Please consider attending as it will be in Rockwall, Tx. Oct 18-20.

IDNFH: George Brugnoli informed the members of the next meeting on 12 Jun and that there will be free fishing after the meeting -about 1030 (catch and release to move fish to another pond) Please contact George, if interested.

Next meeting is 7 Aug 2019 at 1:00pm with Chase Curry will discuss Land Conservation with Oil and Gas Management.

Board Meeting is 10 Jun at 0900 at the AgriLife building.

Members welcome. Members Present: 71 Visitors: 9 Ended at 3:08
Typed by Lori Greco, Secretary



Barn Owl by Gary Hampton

Please submit pictures, articles, reports, stories, announcements, etc. to

becky_breazeale@yahoo.com

Photos should have captions and appropriate credits. The deadline for submissions for each quarter's issue are located on the HLMN event calendar. Or contact Becky and Martelle. Thank you to our new associate editor Samm Luedecke.

Thank y'all for all your hard work and contributions!!



T E X A S

MISSION



The Texas Master Naturalist program is a natural resource-based volunteer training and development program sponsored statewide by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

The mission of the program is to develop a corps of well-informed volunteers who provide education, outreach, and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within their communities for the state of Texas

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Photo by Phil Wyde

Ariel, painted by Gary Hampton and inspired by our speaker, Ed Sones, at the June Chapter Meeting,



Bees

