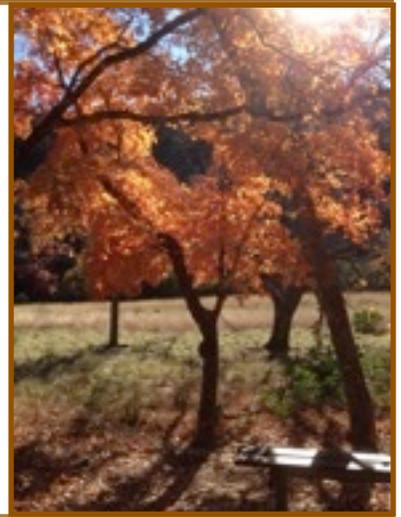


The Texas Star

Newsletter of the
Texas Master Naturalist
Hill Country Chapter

November 2015 Volume 13 Number 11



Lost Maples photo by Collete Nicholl

T E X A S



NOVEMBER 16 MEETING:

THE VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The November monthly chapter meeting will be held early in the month due to the upcoming Thanksgiving Holiday. We will have a special presentation by Michelle Haggerty, the Texas Master Naturalist State Program Coordinator, who will include several short videos in her explanation of the new Volunteer Management System (VMS). We will begin using this new system to report our volunteer hours on January 1, 2016. Please make plans to attend this very important meeting.

The monthly meeting of the Hill Country Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist is free and open to the public. Meetings are at the Upper Guadalupe River Authority's lecture hall, 125 North Lehmann Drive in Kerrville. Socializing begins at 6:30 p.m., and the program starts at 7:00.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE . . . Kathy Ward

Greetings!

Our Chapter Meeting is earlier this month, on November 16, so we can all enjoy a Happy Thanksgiving. Our Hill Country Chapter Advisor, Michelle Haggerty, will talk about the new Texas Master Naturalist Volunteer Management System that we will begin using in January. This new system will make it easier for the State Office to use our volunteer hours. We will also elect our new officers at this meeting and a printed copy of the revised Chapter Operating Handbook (COH) will be available for review. Chapter members are invited to attend our December 9 Board meeting to address any concerns or unanswered questions regarding the revised handbook before we vote on its adoption at our January 25 Chapter Meeting.

Congratulations to the Class of 2015 for finishing their training this month! They have already learned the new volunteer hours management process and can help us to use this system.

Don't forget to RSVP with a \$12 check by December 4 for the December 12 Holiday Party. Good food, good friends, and good fun await!

See you at the Chapter Meeting,

Kathy Ward
President, 2015 Hill Country Master Naturalist chapter

This Month We Honor



Initial Certification

Barbara Marquer, Kay Harter

Special Recertification

Kay Harter, Tyra Kane

2015 Recertification

Vern Crawford, Junior Hilburn, Gwynn Groggel Jackson,
Sharron Jay, Lenore Langsdorf, Garry Speir, Paul Stafford

Milestones

Kris Bobbitt, Carla Brady, Gwynn Groggel Jackson, Paul Stafford - Bronze Dragonfly, 250 hours

Brenda Fest - Gold Dragonfly, 1000 hours

Phyllis Muska - Polished Silver Dragonfly, 2500 hours



Congratulations to members who received awards at the October meeting.

From left to right: Rose Ellis, Ken Weber, Mary Frances Watson,
Ann Schneider, Glenn Randow, Cathy Downs, Kris Bobbitt

Congratulations to The Class of 2015



From Brenda Fest, 2015 Class Director

This class began its journey 12 weeks ago and during that time they have bonded and grown in so many wonderful ways. They are enthusiastic and engaged, and we are proud of them for all of their accomplishments. Throughout the class sessions they asked thought-provoking questions of the speakers and contributed their suggestions and ideas. The energy level was contagious. From the very beginning they were attending advanced training opportunities and participating in many different volunteer service projects. They were our Beta testers for using the online Volunteer Management System (VMS) for entering their AT and volunteer hours. As Class Director, I was able to monitor their activities. At the beginning of each class, we discussed their weekly participation in various ATs and Volunteer Service Projects. I was absolutely amazed at the level of involvement by this wonderful group. Throughout the week, I would see them at various HCMN sponsored events and projects. Wherever I went, I was greeted by one of the class members. By the end of training, the total number of volunteer hours was 850 and members attended 425 advanced training hours! What a wonderful beginning for such an enlightened group. Welcome aboard, Class of 2015!

This new group of HCMN members, who have been using the system for over two months, will be helping the rest of the chapter members in January as we begin to use the online VMS. Here are a few of their comments about using it:

- I thought VMS was very easy to use and extremely user-friendly. I've had no problems with it.
- I could enter my activities at any time (usually did it right away so I wouldn't forget) and then check results.
- Once I followed the instructions, used the correct password, and entered my time a few times, it became easier.
- The only confusion is making sure we chose the correct one when some projects have various options.
- After some guidance, the VMS site was easy to use.
- Intuitive and easy to learn.
- I love VMS! I can look at every training I have gone to, and see all my hours in neat rows.

Join us at the November 16 Chapter meeting with Michelle Haggerty, our Chapter Advisor, as we roll out our new Volunteer Management System. Chapter members will be given their VMS User ID and passwords. This will help us as we begin to use the VMS system in January.

Our 2015 Holiday Party will be held on

December 12, 2015 11:30 to 2:30

at the YO Hotel in Kerrville

\$12 is all-inclusive for your meal

*Menu: Vegetarian, or Turkey/Dressing with two vegies, hot rolls, and dessert
(indicate choice at time of Payment)*

Please make your reservation by December 4. You may pay at the Chapter meeting on November 16, or mail it to our PO Box 293972, Kerrville 78029, to be received by Dec. 4. Cash or check only, no refunds

THERE WILL BE A LIVELY, COMPETITIVE GAME, TO BE REVEALED AT THE PARTY

SEE YOU THERE!

From Pam Lienhard

Butterflies, Milkweed, and Migration at the Kroc Center



Monarchs took the stage as Cathy Downs and Gracie Waggener led a program at the Kroc Center after-school nature program on October 15.

Using a Monarch hand puppet, Cathy introduced 21 first and second graders to butterflies, milkweed and migration. The students colored Monarch sheets and then received Monarch rings, fashioned from pipe cleaners which twisted about their fingers and then curled out to replicate antennae.

After receiving instructions on proper use of a butterfly net, the students went outside to test their skills. Enthusiasm reigned as they caught crickets, grasshoppers, dragon flies and many butterflies. They had a great time and were reluctant to stop even when their parents came to pick them up.

One boy commented, "Catching butterflies is more fun than playing video games." We couldn't agree more; as Cathy said, "That's why we do it"!



Assisting with the program were Master Naturalists John Sloan and Mary Frances Watson, together with Chris Lienhard, Pam Lienhard, and Debbie Windham, who are members of the Hill Country Chapter Class of 2015.



Created through collaboration: [University of Texas at San Antonio](#), [Schreiner University](#), [Texas Tech University](#), [Texas Public Radio](#) and [Hill Country Alliance](#)

Stories About Water: Narratives that Remind us of our Personal and Collective Connections to Water.

Water, essential for life, is our most precious and valuable natural resource. As such, it holds a special place in the stories we tell about our human experience. Storytellers will recount the ways in which water impacts the human experience and, thereby, help us better understand why water remains such an important issue in our lives.

The Texas Water Symposium provides perspectives from landowners, policy makers, scientists, water resource experts and regional leaders.

Join us as we explore the complex issues and challenges in providing water for Texans in this century.

Each session is free and open to the public. The hour-long program begins at 7:00 pm, followed by discussion time with Q&A. The events are recorded and aired on Texas Public Radio one week later.

Stay informed about future programs by subscribing at www.hillcountryalliance.org

Listen to past shows online at: <http://tpr.org/people/texas-water-symposium#stream/0>

Photo: Red-eared sliders in Quinlan Creek
Photographer: Cynthia Owsley

Thursday, November 12, 2015

Schreiner University – Cailloux Campus Activity Center Ballrooms
Doors open at 6:30
Program 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Moderator: [Dr. Charlie McCormick, Schreiner University Provost & Folklore Scholar](#)

Storytellers:

[Dr. David Taylor, Visiting Assistant Professor of Sustainability, Stony Brook University](#)
[Dr. Fred Stevens, Professor of Biology \(retired\), Schreiner University](#)
[Joe Herring, Jr., Kerr County and Hill Country Historian, Columnist](#)

Water is intimately connected to the human experience. It weaves into and out of our individual and collective human lives. Precisely because it is so interwoven in our lives, water frequently becomes part of the most important narratives that we tell about ourselves and our human experience. Water is there at the moment of creation; it is there at the moment of devastation; and it is there as we navigate the more subtle moments of our lives.

We will take a detour from the typical topics of the Texas Water Symposium (i.e., the political and economic dimensions of water) to explore how water becomes embedded in the narratives that we tell about our everyday life and our communities. In doing so, we learn why it is difficult to be ambivalent about water and why water has been—and will remain—the stuff of history, legend, and stories.

Recent Hill Country Naturalist Columns by Jim Stanley:

10/9/2015 The Basics of Oak Wilt

10/14/2015 Two of Our Most Common Mammals

10/23/2015 Does it Matter How Rural Property is Managed?

10/30/2015 What Can You Plant That Won't be Eaten by Deer?

These and all other previous Kerrville Daily Times columns
can be found at www.hillcountrynaturalist.org

From Sharon Hixson

Nostoc

Shortly after a rainfall you may have sometimes noticed dark greenish blobs on the ground that you think look a little like seaweed, and you're not far off. It's called Nostoc, and seaweed and Nostoc are both a type of algae. Nostoc is a terrestrial blue-green algae (technically a genus of cyanobacteria) that is commonly found on the ground throughout the Hill Country. During dry periods it's barely noticeable and somewhat resembles clumps of dried chewing tobacco. But after a rain it swells up into a conspicuous jelly-like mass.



This group of organisms are known for its unusual ability to lie dormant for long periods of time and abruptly recover metabolic activity when rehydrated with water. Environments of Nostoc species are diverse and widespread over the globe; they have been found in soil, fresh water, and both extremely cold and extremely arid habitats. Their role as a nitrogen fixer in terrestrial ecosystems (which means they can convert nitrogen from the air into a form that can be used by other plants) allows them to maintain symbiotic interactions with other organisms, including fungi, lichen, mosses, and ferns.

Because Nostoc appears after a rain, it was once thought to have fallen from the sky; hence the popular names, star jelly, troll's butter, and witch's butter.

From Rob McCorkle

UBarU Camp and Retreat Center Named International Dark Sky Park

The International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) has named the UBarU Camp and Retreat Center in Texas an International Dark Sky Park. “The designation of UBarU is another great stride forward in the protection of dark skies in the Texas Hill Country,” said IDA Executive Director J. Scott Feierabend. “The new Dark Sky Park also demonstrates a new model for night sky protection by working with a private foundation to achieve a common goal.”

UBarU is a 57.5-hectare (142-acre) property in southwest Gillespie County, Texas, owned and operated by the Unitarian Universalist Friends Retreat Foundation. The Foundation is a nonprofit organization, affiliated with the Unitarian Universalist (UU) congregations of Texas and beyond, and received the land in 2001 from a resident Quaker community with the request that the Foundation care for the land as they had done for the benefit of the community and the Earth. Most of the land is subject to a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department wildlife management plan.

UBarU is situated in a part of the Hill Country that largely shields it from the light domes of Interstate 35-corridor cities from Austin to San Antonio. The designation of the UBarU is part of a broader movement in the Hill Country to protect night skies and includes the certification of a Dark Sky Community in Dripping Springs, a Dark Sky Park at Enchanted Rock State Natural Area, and improvements to lighting ordinances in cities such as Fredericksburg.

“Creating a Dark Sky Park on UU land is consistent with the Seventh UU Principle – respect for the interdependent web of all existence – and Unitarian values in general,” explained Roy Ellzey of the Foundation. “Attention to proper lighting and natural conditions at night dovetails well with other environmental efforts at UBarU such as using solar power, rainwater collection, recycling and habitat restoration.” As part of the IDA certification process, outdoor lighting at UBarU was improved and its impact on the night skies above the property reduced. Also, UBarU staff have delivered astronomy-themed programming both to registered meeting attendees at UBarU as well as to visitors from the public, including at recent Astronomy Weekend and Perseid meteor viewing events.

UBarU has established a relationship with Schreiner University in nearby Kerrville. The University will begin involving the camp and retreat center in its instruction and astronomy outreach efforts. UBarU has also reached out to the city of Kerrville itself, consulting with officials on the pending upgrade of the city’s municipally owned street lighting to LED. Kerrville officials are now aware of good lighting practices and have selected a fully-shielded, white LED street lighting system that emits less harmful blue light than originally planned.

The International Dark Sky Association, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Tucson, Arizona, advocates for the protection of the nighttime environment and dark night skies by educating policymakers and the public about night sky conservation and promoting environmentally responsible outdoor lighting. IDA established the International Dark Sky Places conservation program in 2001 to recognize excellent stewardship of the night sky. Designations are based on stringent outdoor lighting standards and innovative community outreach. Since the program began, 11 Communities, 30 Parks, nine Reserves and one Sanctuary have received International Dark Sky designations. For more information about IDA and the program, visit <http://darksky.org/idsp>. or contact Dr. John Barentine (Dark Sky Places Program Manager) at john@darksky.org; or 520-293-3198.

The UBarU Camp and Retreat Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit facility located near Mountain Home, some 18 miles west of Kerrville. It is on privately-owned land, but is available to the public on a fee-per-use basis. All access is by reservation. For more information, visit www.ubaru.org or contact ! Dr. Roy Ellzey (UU Friends Retreat Foundation), at rellzey@satx.rr.com or 210-637-9969.

From Daneshu Clarke

The Ninth Annual Harvest Moon Celebration at Muleshoe

On Saturday, October 31, we celebrated the Ninth Annual Harvest Moon Celebration at the Muleshoe Farm and Ranch Trust in Comfort. The Trust is part of Last Chance Forever, The Bird of Prey Conservancy, and is a HCMN Project. The event was coordinated by Roxanna Orrell; participants who helped set up the celebration were Last Chance Forever employees and volunteers from all over the country, including Hill Country Master Naturalists who regularly volunteer at Muleshoe.

Even after all the torrential rains Thursday, Friday, and into the night, we were blessed with a day of fun. Our attendance for the day was over 550 people. Families attended in droves and enjoyed the hayrides, owl walks, nature trail tours, blacksmith exhibition, spinning wheel exhibition, flint knapping and fossil presentations, and Celtic music, along with the Halloween costume and pie eating contest. John Karger had two shows of the beautiful birds of prey. A wonderful story teller charmed both children and parents through stories that taught them of long ago farms, families, and nature. There was also a presentation on medicinal and edible plants of the Hill Country, which was held in the farmhouse that was built in 1885. Every kind of vendor imaginable was there with delicious food.

We look forward to another year of progress at the Muleshoe Farm and Ranch Trust project and thank everyone who participated and came to enjoy the day with us.



Wild Pig Management Video Series

In an effort to further equip land managers battling feral hogs (wild pigs), the Wildlife and Fisheries Extension Unit recently released the Wild Pig Management 5 Part Video Series. Each of the videos were produced with goal of providing an in-depth overview of legal wild pig management techniques in Texas. Accompanying each video is a short survey that helps us track the impact our videos have on our viewers. The data from these surveys is very valuable to us.

We would greatly appreciate if you would take a few minutes to watch at least one of the videos and take the accompanying survey. Survey participants will be entered into a drawing for a wild pig management prize pack. There will be a separate drawing for each video/ survey. We are also offering a special prize for Texas Master Naturalists. Participants who indicate they are Texas Master Naturalists in the comment section of the survey will be entered into a drawing for Texas Master Naturalist gear. The merchandise drawing will only happen if we hit a minimum number of survey participants (50), so make sure to get your friends involved! Below is a list of video links and their accompanying surveys.

How to Corral Trap Wild Pigs

Video: <http://bit.ly/1Gvyh2J> Survey: <http://bit.ly/1PSpn1b>

This video explains how to construct and utilize one to the most successful tools available to wild pig managers, a corral trap. It also provides considerations for trap placement, gate selection, baiting techniques and post-capture handling of wild pigs.

Corral Trapping Wild Pigs: A Success Story

Video: <http://bit.ly/1LVNuH7> Survey: <http://bit.ly/1MpZXIW>

This video highlights a successful wild pig corral trapping effort. It provides an in-depth description of the trapping process and provides a rationale for each of the trapping techniques that was utilized.

Shooting Techniques for Wild Pigs

Video: <http://bit.ly/1OVnmSK> Survey: <http://bit.ly/1GvxNtH>

This video explains the tools and techniques involved in strategic shooting for wild pig damage abatement. The positive and negative sides of several shooting techniques are reviewed along with considerations, such as legalities, that should be taken into account.

How to Box Trap Wild Pigs

Video: <http://bit.ly/1RZEyEU> Survey: <http://bit.ly/1hY6ITW>

This video details the process of using a box trap to capture wild pigs. It also provides considerations for trap placement, deterring non-target species, baiting techniques, and handling both target and non-target captures.

How to Snare Wild Pigs

Video: <http://bit.ly/1Wgv4pp> Survey: <http://bit.ly/1XwL9Kh>

This video demonstrates how to install three different snare sets (fence, trail, and drag) for wild pigs. It also highlights strategies for minimizing non-target captures and ensuring proper snare deployment.

Also make sure to check out our Facebook page for the most up to date information on our videos, blogs, and publications! <https://www.facebook.com/FeralHogCoP?fref=ts>

Thanks for your help!

The View From Rusty Bend



Poem, essay, and image by Lucy Griffith Copyright 2015

Early Riser's Prayer

*On the porch. In the dark.
Shooting stars and owl songs
tend my awakening.*

*Still dark. Still cool.
Dew drops on a tin roof:
tiny lying hints of rain.*

*Armadillos stir dry leaves
The earth breathes light,
and I sip a cup of dawn.*

October light returns to Rusty Bend, limning the trunks of the trees with a soft radiance, painting perfect shadows. October is an invitation to see the world in a new "slant of light."

As the persimmons relinquish their leaves, sounds travel. The neighbors' kid goats sound like a nursery of newborns. Eerily human. I step outside and hear the elegant bugle of a few Sandhill Cranes high above. Too close to the sun to see, but their call evokes a powerful, primitive response in my chest. Is it because they are so ancient? I feel the same when the roadrunner pounces on the porch. Like a tiny Velociraptor, he seems from another wilder time. When the armadillo waddles by, the dinosaur park is complete.

I hear a rustle of wings and see a flock of scissortails heading south; the shorter tailed young ones scattered out behind. They murmur strangely as they fly, the whispery chatter of a hectic market. As the scissortails depart, the towhees arrive, with their characteristic harsh mew from the bushes. They are boisterous and bold. A harbinger of autumn.

One afternoon, I fill a trough with warm water for a bath on the porch. It makes for a perfect blind. A mockingbird lands a foot away and cocks his bright eye at me. The goldfinches are close enough to touch. I see their eyelashes. I sit till the water is cold.

I have taken to climbing into the hammock at dusk on these mild evenings. From my cradle net, I watch the moon set, a sliver of opal. I hear a fox trot his territory with his strangled bark. I let it all in.

At last the rains return. Every drop disappears into our thirsty ground. The scents are so rich, it's as if I'm on another continent. The grass greens right up. The deer stop their desperate struggling searches for tender shoots. They abandon the decimation of my container plants. Relief on all fronts.

I find myself hitting the pause button many times each day. The fragile tumble of a leaf transfixes me. A season of release. What will I let go? What will you?

Lucy Griffith, PhD co-manages the Rusty Bend Ranch with her husband, Andy Robinson. When she is not on a tractor named Ruby, she practices Clinical Psychology. When the tractor isn't running, Andy is fixing it or building something straight and true. Both Lucy and Andy are certified Master Naturalists from the Class of 2013. Comments welcome at doctorluz@hctc.net

Advanced Training

TUESDAY, NOV. 10-THURSDAY, NOV. 12 9AM-5PM CIBOLO NATURE CENTER, BOERNE

AT15 228 RESTORATION AGRICULTURE DESIGN WORKSHOP: THEORY AND PRACTICE

Mark Shepherd, farmer/entrepreneur/author, will present this workshop on the intentional restoration of healthy, functional ecosystems as the context for economically-viable farm and ranch operations. Tuition: \$325 for the three-day workshop; includes lunch. To register and for further information, go to www.Cibolo.org

TUESDAY, NOV. 10 11:30AM-12:45PM RIVERSIDE NATURE CENTER, KERRVILLE

AT 15-232 FRESHWATER MUSSELS

Bring a sack lunch and hear Bob Howells, fisheries research biologist, speak on these natural biofilters. Cost: RNC members, \$8; nonmembers, \$10; free for those becoming members at the talk. For more information, call RNC at 830-257-4837.

TUESDAY, NOV. 10 5:30PM-6:30PM UPPER GUADALUPE RIVER AUTHORITY AUDITORIUM, KERRVILLE

AT15-247 LIVING WITH WILDLIFE NEIGHBORS

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the city of Kerrville and the Upper Guadalupe River Authority will host a workshop to discuss the interaction between people and wildlife in Kerrville. This workshop is open to anyone interested in hearing experts discuss how humans should cohabit with the different species of wildlife that live in our city and backyards. Free.

TUESDAY, NOV. 10 6:30-7:30PM HILL COUNTRY YOUTH EVENT CENTER, KERRVILLE

AT15-231 BEEKEEPING SEMINAR

Double L Feed and Texas A & M AgriLife Extension are presenting this seminar. Call Double L Feed at 830-367-4100 to reserve your seat.

THURSDAY, NOV. 12 - SUNDAY, NOV. 15 TRINITY UNIVERSITY, SAN ANTONIO

AT15-207 TXSER 2015 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The conference celebrates the twentieth anniversary of the Texas Society For Ecological Restoration. For further information, contact Gwen Thomas at gmthomas_eco@fastmail.fm. To register, go to <http://chapter.ser.org/texas/2015-txser-conference>.

FRIDAY, NOV. 13 9AM-5PM HILL COUNTRY UNIVERSITY CENTER, FREDERICKSBURG

AT15-204C SOIL TALK SERIES: FINANCIAL STABILITY

Peggy Sechrist and Walt Davis will speak on how agricultural enterprises can manage for improved soil function and greater profit. Lunch is provided for the first 25 persons who RSVP; others are encouraged to bring their own brown bag lunches. RSVP to soilforwater@ncat.org.

MONDAY, NOV. 16 7PM UPPER GUADALUPE RIVER AUTHORITY AUDITORIUM, KERRVILLE

AT15-233 VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (VMS)

Michelle Haggerty, Texas Master Naturalist State Program Coordinator, will speak at our monthly meeting. She will explain the new Volunteer Management System (VMS). This is a very important meeting for the Hill County Chapter members, since we will begin using this new system to report our volunteer hours on January 1, 2016.

MONDAY, NOV 16 8:30-10:30AM HILL COUNTRY STATE NATURAL AREA, BANDERA

AT15-241 BIRDS OF A FEATHER

Join us for our monthly guided bird walk with Ranger Leanne Beauxbeannes and Texas Master Naturalist Scott Magee. Beginners or experienced birders are welcome. Come to teach or learn. Bring binoculars, birding guides, comfy/sturdy shoes, hats, layered clothing, and water. Plan on a two hour guided walk and then bring a picnic and stay for as long as you like to enjoy our 5000 acre natural area for the day on your own. Come early to register. Regular Day-use fees apply; Texas State Park Pass - no charge for everyone in vehicle. Seniors 65+, \$3 with Bluebonnet Pass. Adults, \$6. Kids 12 and under are always free. Your RSVP is appreciated; call [830 796-4413](tel:8307964413)

SATURDAY, DEC. 12 9AM-1PM CIBOLO NATURE CENTER, BOERNE

AT15-245 WINTER SPARROWS AND WRENS WORKSHOP

Attendees will learn field identification points, including subtle differences in patterning and flight patterns. Birders Tom and Patsy Inglet are presenting this workshop for intermediate birders who want to become more proficient at field identification of winter sparrows and wrens. The workshop will include a classroom presentation and time in the field. Cost: CNC members, \$15; nonmembers, \$20; free for participants in the Winter Prairie Bird Survey.

**The newsletter's publication schedule does not allow listing all AT events in each issue.
Check the chapter calendar on our website for additional Advanced Training opportunities.**



We meet on the fourth Monday of most months (but on the third Monday in November, and not at all in December) at 7:00 PM in the Upper Guadalupe River Authority Lecture Hall at 125 North Lehmann Drive in Kerrville.

Join us at 6:30 for our social half-hour.

Everyone is welcome.

Texas Master Naturalist 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.

Board of Directors 2015

- Kathy Ward -- President
- Paul Person -- Vice President
- Sarah Hilburn -- Secretary
- Diane McMahan -- Treasurer
- Liz Ross -- Advanced Training Director
- Bob Wiedenfeld -- Communications Director
- Lisa Flanagan -- Membership Director
- Pat McCormick -- Volunteer Service Projects Director
- Brenda Fest -- 2015 Class Director
- Judy Gausnell-- 2014 Class Representative
- Vern Crawford -- Immediate Past President

The Texas Star is a monthly publication of the Hill Country Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist Program. News, essays, comments, and ideas are welcome.

Please email them to:

Lenore Langsdorf, Editor
LenoreLangsdorf@gmail.com

The Hill Country Chapter does not recommend or endorse organizations or commercial sources mentioned in our newsletter. The opinions expressed are those of the authors and editor.



Questions about our chapter?

Email Lisa Flanagan,
Membership Director
hillcountrymembership@gmail.com

