

## The Lindheimer Quarterly 3rd Quarter 2022



Ta						

	Table of Contents
Page	
2	Column by Mary B Wentzel
4	Photography Winners!
5	Dues
	VMS Codes
6	Chapter Information Page
7	2022 Class – Bamberger Ranch
8	Opportunities - GRSP and Fischer Park
	Education Center
11	Re-certs & Milestone Awards
13	Community Science
	The Electronic Lindheimer

### From the Editor:

Our officer elections for 2023 is next month. Here is our slate of candidates:

President: Michael Buley Vice President: Sue Sommer Secretary: Rob Kyrouac Treasurer: Don Epps

Also, the Class of 2022 will complete their training & become Certified Texas Master Naturalists! Congrats! The graduation ceremony, election vote and dinner will be held at the December Chapter Meeting.

MJ McFarland



# Take It or Leave It by Mary B Wenzel

Ghosts from the past...bwah ha-haha! "Yoda" has returned to haunt all of you kind souls

in the Lindheimer Chapter of the TMN
Program. Allow me introduce myself. My
name is Mary B Wenzel and I'm a founding
member of this amazing chapter from
2000 and first graduating class of 2001.
And as a very good friend and fellow TMN
told me several times: "Once a TMN

ALWAYS a TMN." It's a lifelong journey learning about how things work, live and grow in Texas nature. We all love it - don't we? We all have our special interests in this amazing program as we learn about the great state of Texas.

My interest is growing native plants and the intimate connection they have with supporting the environment and many living things that depend on them. I've learned that

knowing the land and taking the time to identify as many existing plants as possible will allow for

better decisions concerning the health of the area. From there, it's possible to attract and support wildlife more successfully. Build it and they will come...:) So, since we're on this journey together in some form or another, I thought I'd offer a few insights, stories and successes that I've experienced as a direct result of becoming immersed in the TMN program.

Here at Almosta Ranch, we decided to build a butterfly garden back in 2002. That's where we'll start. It was a big deal – especially back in 2000 when there weren't many native plants available commercially around this area. I found out 5 major lessons back then:



- 1) identify the existing desirable native plants BEFORE clearing;
- 2) build a fence around the garden to take the deer predation pressure off the vegetation;
- 3) plant native grasses and less palatable native flowering plants outside the fence and mix 'em up to add texture and interest;
  - 4) start small/build from there;
- 5) learn to propagate! Use at least 4 levels of vegetation to attract different species: large trees, understory trees, shrubs and various flowers and ground cover. Always provide water and occasionally supplemental seed (we provide sunflower seed).

So, with those "words of wisdom" I'll close with a small list of plants that have worked here for us:

### Understory trees:

Tx. Mock orange (Philadelphus texensis) Carolina Buckthorn (Frangula caroliniana) Texas Madrone (Arbutus xalapensis)

### Shrubs:

Agarita ((Mahonia trifoliata) American beautyberry (Callicarpa americana) Barbados cherry (Malpighia emarginata)

### Flowers:

Fall aster-lavender (Symphyotrichum oblongifolium) Mist flower-blue (Conoclinium coelestinium) Boneset-white (Eupatoriumperfoliatum)

Stay tuned...to be continued!



Photos of Almosta Ranch by Mary B Wenzel



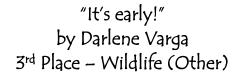
Texas Master Naturalist State Meeting

Two of our members entered the photographic contests at the state meeting and won!

CONGRATS!!!



"Bracken Bat Cave at Sunset" by Mike Poffenberger 1st Place – Scenery







### 2023 Chapter Dues

Members at the October Chapter Meeting approved **annual membership dues of** \$25.00 per member commencing in 2023. We've been needing a consistent source of income in order to support and expand the work we do.

**Payment is due by December 31, 2022**. If payment is not received by January 31, 2023, you will be moved to inactive status in the VMS. If dues pose a hardship, please notify President, Treasurer or Membership Director about assistance.

Make checks payable to "Texas Master Naturalist Lindheimer Chapter" and mail it to the Treasurer at:

LMN Chapter Treasurer Don Epps 250 Northridge Dr New Braunfels, TX 78132

Payment may also be made at chapter meetings via check or cash.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact our President, Treasurer, or Membership Director.

Thank you for volunteering with LMN!

## Opportunity Codes for Documenting Your Hours in VMS

Do you wonder sometimes how to enter your hours into the VMS? Here's a guide! More info on the VMS here: Report Your Hours (txmn.org) Also, be on the lookout for Membership Chair Brian Trock's emails which explain the codes!

Code	Opportunity	Description	Examples		
AT	Advanced Training	Advanced Training that you attend as a participant	*Chapter/NPSOT/Lunch & Learn meetings *Project WILD (Instructor/facilitator tmg) *Cibolo NC/LBJWC/TMN/etc.		
СВ	Chapter & Program Business	Activities related to managing and running a Master Naturalist Chapter and its committees	*Board of Directors/Officers/Committee Chairs *Newsletter/website management *Management of chapter records *Hours or chapter reporting *Other chapter business		
FR	Field Research (Including Surveys)  Planning, leading or participating in data collection and/or analysis of natural resources where the results are intended to further scientific knowledge		*CoCoRahs •Banding and tagging *Project Feeder Watch, MLMP, water testing, etc.		
NPA	Nature/Public Access	Field-based activities that improve and manage the the public's access to natural areas or resources. Creating and/or maintaining nature trails, wildscapes, and/or interpretive areas	Developing new or improving existing: *Hiking trails *Gardens (interpretive, butterfly, habiscapes, etc.) *Wildlife viewing blinds *Wildscapes		
ОТ	Other	Animal Rescue Only	*Wild animal rescue		
PO	Public Outreach (Indirect)	Leading, organizing, or staffing an educational activity where participants come and go and are able to inquire on a variety of topics	•Discovery Center *Trout Unlimited *Festivals *Traveling Trunks		
RM	Natural Resource Management	Activities that improve the health of a natural area or resource. Natural resource management, restoration, rescue, and rehabilitation	*Invasive species or trash removal *Plant rescue *Restoring or improving natural habitat *Wildlife houses, towers, chimneys		
TG	Technical Guidance  Any work that provides written management recommendations to land owners and/or land managers		*Writing ecosystem management plans *Land Management Assistance Program (LMAP) *City/Community/Regional governments		
TR	Training and Educating Others (Direct)  Leading, organizing, instructing, or staffing an educational activity where participants have a planned learning objective and generally stay for the full event (i.e. a planned start and end time)		*Workshops *Presentations *Webinars *Chapter MN trainees/interns		



## Chapter Information Page



### 2022 CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

### **OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT Rich Nielson
VICE PRESIDENT Sue Sommer
SECRETARY Rob Kyrouac
TREASURER Don Epps

### COMMITTEES

**Standing Committees** 

Education – Joe Finneran, Ellen Petray, Judy Henfey Membership & Records – Brian Trock, Cheryl Trock (VMS) Outreach – Debbie Kyrouac

Projects & Opportunities - Jeanie Springer

#### **Subcommittees**

Trunks – Deb Kyrouac
Program to Assist Landowners – Elizabeth Olszewski
Community Recognition (VP) – Sue Sommer
Hospitality (VP) – Sue Sommer
New Class – President-Caroline Broderick
Photographer-Lesley Frowick

### COMMUNICATIONS

Director – MJ McFarland Out & About – Sara Riggs

### CHAPTER ADVISORS

Craig Hensley, Texas Parks & Wildlife, Wildlife Tracker Jason Mangold, AgriLife

## The Lindheimer Quarterly Newsletter MJ McFarland – Editor

Newsletter published quarterly by the Lindheimer Chapter, Texas Master Naturalist™ to communicate, educate & inform chapter members & the Hill Country Community. Current and previous issues of The Quarterly are posted on the website <a href="www.txmn.org/lindheimer">www.txmn.org/lindheimer</a>.

### **How to CONTACT**

Email: LindheimerMNContact@gmail.com

Website: <a href="https://txmn.org/lindheimer">https://txmn.org/lindheimer</a>

**Facebook:** https://www.facebook.com/txmn.lindheimer/

Snail Mail: Lindheimer Chapter c/o Comal County AgriLife 325 Resource Dr.
New Braunfels, TX 78132

### 2022 MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETINGS

January 24 "Madrone Trail" with Susan Bogle
February 17 "Don't Mess w/Texas Bees"
with Charlie Agar
March 17 "Native Seeds" with George Cates
April 21 "Heritage Museum" with Janice Epps
May 19 Iliana Peña, Texas Wildlife Association
June 15 The Composition of Soil with Darla Reid
July 21 Dinosaurs of Texas with Arthur Williams
August 18 "Trees of Texas" with Doug Dalglish
September 15 Dinosaurs of Texas w/Arthur Williams
October 20 "Headwaters" w/Lauren Strack
November 17 "Honey Creek Cave" w/Michael Cicherski
December: Date TBA

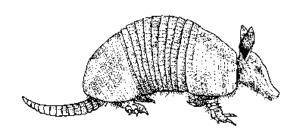


- January 24 February 28 March 28 April 25
- ●May 23 ●June 27 ●July 25 ●August 22
- September 26 October 24 November 28
- December 26

#### **Board Minutes available at:**

https://txmn.org/lindheimer/chapter-info/lmn-board-members/lmn-board-minutes-archive/





## 2022 Class: Nine Banded Armadillos

## Field Trip to Bamberger Ranch Photos by Lesley Frowick





















## LMN Chapter Volunteer Opportunities: Guadalupe River State Park Discovery Center

Photos by MJ McFarland







To volunteer: Email Jessica Bergner jessica.bergner@tpwd.texas.gov



## NEW Volunteer Opportunity: Fischer Park Nature Education Center

### FISCHER PARK NATURE EDUCATION CENTER

#### Hours:

Monday-Saturday: 10am-5pm Sunday: 12pm-5pm

### Contact Us:

830-221-4378

### Address:

Fischer Park Nature Education Center 1946 Monarch Way New Braunfels, TX 78130



From Holly Platz, Recreation Programs Supervisor, Fischer Park Nature Education Center:

Thanks so much for your interest in volunteering at Fischer Park! I have been the Supervisor here since May 2022, and our volunteer program is still very young. I'm looking forward to building a strong volunteer team here! I am open to your ideas and suggestions, but below are our current opportunities. Please note that all regular volunteers, even Texas Master Naturalists, must complete a background check with the city. It's a simple online form and there is no cost to you.

Educational Programs: Saturday programming (kids and adults):

 Lead or assist with a variety of educational nature programs. The below programs generally take place on Saturdays, but sometimes are offered to private groups during the week. Time commitment varies but is generally between 2–3 hours.

### Some of options include:

- Archery 101: Assist with instruction, set-up, tear-down. Generally the 3rd Saturday of the month,
   time varies with the season. NASP or Archery-USA certification required. NO VH fun only
- Birdwatching 101: Held 2 Saturdays each season.
- Fishing 101 (freshwater fishing license required): Generally the 2 nd Saturday of the month, time varies with the season (not held in February).
- Garden Volunteer Day: Assist visitors in caring for our Monarch Waystation and Pollinator Garden. 1st Saturday of the month, in the morning (not held in December, January, or February)
- Kayaking 101: CPR/First Aid and/or Water Rescue certification preferable, but not required. Generally 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month, time varies with the season (March through October). NO VH fun only
- Night Hikes: Held 2–3 times each season on the 1st Saturday of that month; time varies with season.

- Birthday Parties (kids): Lead or assist with a 1-hour educational nature program during a scheduled private birthday party. Also assist with prep and tear-down. Time commitment generally 3 hours. Program themes include: Dino Dig, Fishing (Backyard Bass and/or "Real" Fishing), Butterfly Garden.
- School-aged Field Trips (usually K 5<sup>th</sup> grade)
   Lead (or assist with) an educational field trip station for a public, private, or homeschool group. Usually held in the morning many scheduled in spring, but some in fall as well. Field trips are usually 1–2 hours, so with set-up and tear-down, total time commitment is approximately 3–4 hours. All training and materials provided. Sample stations include Seed balls; Frog Food Chain Tag; Furs and Skulls; and
- Butterfly Garden.

### Wee Discovery Preschool (ages 3-5):

• Lead or assist with our weekly preschool classes. Each week has a different theme and includes indoor and outdoor time and hands-on activities. Program held every Tuesday 11 am – 12 pm during the school year. Total time commitment approximately 2.5 hours.

Maintenance Projects: Assist with a variety of maintenance tasks, including (but not limited to):

- Litter pick-up no VH
- Invasive species removal
- Working in/helping maintain our Monarch Waystation Pollinator Garden
- Carpentry or building/assembling items as needed
- Fishing pole maintenance/repair

### Citizen Science:

- eBirding and iNaturalist: Contribute to our knowledge of the natural resources of Fischer Park. I'm
- currently setting up a Project in iNaturalist, and plan to sponsor some Bioblitzes in the future.
- If you use iNaturalist, reach out to me about including your observations in the Great Texas Wildlife Trail
- maps West Guadalupe Loop.
- Social Media Content (including photos): Create educational social media content about the natural resources of the park. Original photos or videos are ideal, but not required.

### Special Events:

• Assist with park special events, including check-in/information stations, kids' activities, etc.

Thank you so much for partnering with us! Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely, Holly Platz Recreation Programs Supervisor Fischer Park Nature Education Center hplatz@newbraunfels.gov (830) 221-4375 (office phone)

Fischer Park: www.newbraunfels.gov/3379/Fischer-Park Volunteer Information: www.newbraunfels.gov/3421/Get-Involved

## Recertifications and Milestone Awards

2022 Recertification Pin – Lightning Whelk



# CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ACHIEVEMENT! THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

	Recertifications	Milestone Awards
January 2022	Susan Bogle, Judy Henfrey, Brian Trock Marilyn McFarland, Sara Riggs Rhonda Neel, Lois Ricci, Darlene Varga	<b>250 Hours:</b> MV Poffenberger, Mike Roberts, Karen Matson, Brenda Stoeck
February 2022	Ellen Anderson, Edith Bergquist, Joe Finneran, Jim Jameson, Ellen Petray, Patricia Porterfield, Jeanie Springer, Cheryl Trock	250 Hours: Judy Henfrey, Lisa Smith 1,000 Hours: Don Epps, Nancy Gray
March 2022	Don Bergquist, Ron Butts, John Davis, Jim Doyle, Erin Harrison, Deb Kyrouac, Valerie Lefebvre, Rich Nielson, Cathy Oberkampf, MV Poffenberger, Susan Sommer, Mary Williams	250 Hours: Aleta Meyer, Haley Faver, Mary Williams 500 Hours: Marilyn Garrison, Cathy Oberkampf 1,000 Hours: Beth Jameson, Rhonda Neel
April 2022	Don Epps, Haley Faver, Heidi Forgione, Lynn Jones, Rob Kyrouac, Aleta Meyer, Jane Miller, Lisa Smith	250 Hours: Toni Wayne, Ellen Petray, Patricia Porterfield, Margaret Olivier 1,000 Hours: Jim Doyle
May 2022	Heidi Case, Jane Finneran, Pat Fletcher, Gail Groves, Sarah Mato, Joni McGhee, Dana Murray, Evelyn Nielson, Mike Roberts, Brenda Stoeck, Teresa Turko, Linda Valdez	250 Hours: Steve Verschoyle 500 Hours: Susan Sommer
June 2022	John Corkill, Don Fletcher, Laird Ingham, Scott Ofsdahl, Robert Trott	250 Hours: John Corkill, Scott Ofsdahl
July 2022	Rich Bradley, Julie Crouch, Gretchen Ferrell, Harry Ferrell, Lori Largen, Debbie Subke	250 Hours: Dave Skasik
August 2022	Lynn Boyd, Vanessa Brown, Kathy Ofsdahl, Jack Olivier	250 Hours: Michael Buley
September 2022	Sandra Carson, Joel Dunnington, Henry Hahn, Beth Jameson, Margret Olivier, Dave Skasik, Melissa Skasik, Teresa St. John, Steve Verschoyle, Arthur Williams	250 Hours: Heidi Case 500 Hours: Heidi Forgione

2023 Certification Pin "Texas Ecoregions"



## 2022 Monthly Meetings













Lindheimer Chapter Texas Master Naturalist Program

Monthly Chapter Meeting



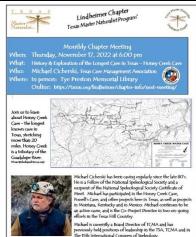






Lyons Book, Analysis Mangapa, he from with Federal and of the Cross and 2027. Start sheet of waterine propose in the plant will not extension programming and after maintenance sheeted a manhestic program white created of time 30 period price and also created an implicate or some field in project. Hope and care-distinted indeptional programs for 40 gain on a reversely of steps in bulley excluding, created programs for all again on a reversely of steps in bulley excluding, created programming and yeaps for the properties of the second programming and yeaps for high production and the second programming and yeaps for high production and the second programming and yeaps for high production and the second programming and yeaps for high production and the second programming and years for high production and the second programming and years for high production of the produc

Next Meeting: November 17, 2022



## Contributing to Community/Citizen Science: /Naturalist.org



Photo of endangered Golden Cheeked Warbler by LMN member Brian Trock

"Community Science" (formerly "Citizen" Science) is the participation of non-scientists in scientific research. As naturalists, many of us already participate in community science projects that contribute to the body of scientific knowledge about plants, animals & insects: butterfly surveys, bird counts, plant identification. And we take pictures – LOTS of pictures! Each picture is an observation and represents an opportunity to increase the scientific knowledge of what, where & when. One of the largest community science projects is iNaturalist, a world-wide, on-line database of observations provided by community scientists like Master Naturalists.

"If enough people recorded their observations, it would be like a living record of life on Earth that scientists and land

managers could use to monitor changes in biodiversity, and that *anyone* could use to learn more about nature." How to get started? Go to <a href="www.inaturalist.org">www.inaturalist.org</a> and sign up!

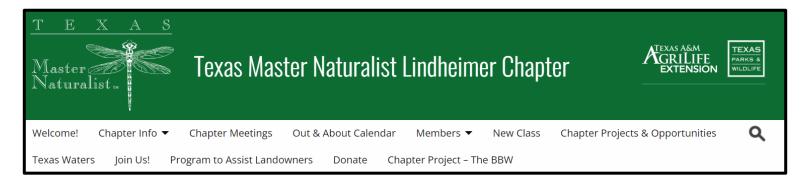
Here are the inaturalist numbers as of October 31, 2022. Take a look at Comal County!!!

Location	Observations	Species	Observers	
World	119,953,373	400,811	2,453,064	
Texas	6,987,280	25,997	132,490	
Comal County	98,444	4,565	4,485	

## The Electronic Lindheimer



Website: <a href="https://www.//txmn.org/lindheimer/">www://txmn.org/lindheimer/</a>



Facebook: www://facebook.com/txmn.lindheimer

Ops & Info: Weekly email with news, announcements, and AT/VH opportunities sent to your email every Sunday.