



The Lindheimer Quarterly

2nd Quarter 2023

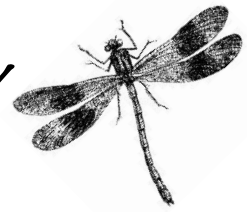


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From the Editor:

We are passionately committed to serving as stewards of our natural world, protecting and preserving it for generations to come. Since founding in 2000, Lindheimer Chapter Texas Master Naturalist™ members have contributed over 220,000 Volunteer Hours to Comal County and the inhabitants of the Texas Hill Country! In 2021 (despite limitations of COVID-19), we had 203 active members (including 23 in-training) who contributed 18,810 Volunteer Hours and earned 2,580 Advanced Training Hours.

MJ McFarland



Community Naturalist Award 2022 – Jack Downey by President Michael Buley



Jack Downey is the recipient of the Texas Master Naturalists' Lindheimer Chapter 2022 Community Naturalist Award for his outstanding contributions as the Program and Restoration Coordinator for Headwaters at the Comal. Jack is fully committed to his mission of restoring and protecting the springs and headwaters of the Comal River, and teaching others the importance of doing the same.

Jack was presented the award at the monthly chapter meeting on August 17, 2023. He was nominated by President Michael Buley and voted on by the Board of Directors.

Jack amassed a remarkable volume of engagements with community members of all ages. He coordinated and led more than 2000 volunteer hours in diverse activities including Headwaters site maintenance, education and outreach, training, citizen science, and the Texas Stream Team program. Many of these hours trained, developed and employed our own Lindheimer Master Naturalists. Jack coordinated and conducted a broad range of educational activities to include 107 Adult Education programs for more than 700 visitors, 23 formal and informal youth education programs for more than 800 students, and 4 community events welcoming more than 800 visitors.

Always looking for ways to extend his reach and share his naturalist message more broadly in our county, Jack took the watershed curriculum directly to students in local elementary schools. He judged the Freiheit Elementary School Science Fair and installed a butterfly garden at the New Braunfels Kids Club. Jack coordinated 2 Eagle Scout Service Projects at the Headwaters site, and began monthly birding meet-ups at Headwaters.

Recognizing the value of building alliances with like-minded organizations across Comal County, Jack worked on a year-long project with the 2022 Lindheimer Master Naturalist training class, the Texas Conservation Corps, and other community members on a USFW grant to minimize sediment infiltration into the upper Comal River. He also co-hosted two "Introduction to Native Landscaping" classes along with the New Braunfels chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas (NPSOT).

I encourage you to spend a morning with Jack at Headwaters at the Comal...preferably a morning when the temperatures moderate and the rain returns. Let Jack take you on a walk along the trail that winds through Headwaters & witness the progress made. Better yet, accompany & assist Jack while he gives an educational tour of Headwaters to a class of 30 2nd Graders - you'll get it!

Program to Assist Landowners

By Elisabeth Olszewski, PAL Director

The Program to Assist Landowners (PAL) has made excellent progress in 2023! The beloved Arthur William retired from his role as Director of the program in late 2022, passing the torch to Elisabeth Olszewski, Alamo TXMN transfer. Since then, the program has been restructured and re-equipped with volunteers including Susan Bogle, Joel Dunnington, Christy Martinez, and Caroline Broderick, who all underwent the first rebooted training class in June of this year.









Sample photo of soil erosion

PAL has conducted fifteen site visits since January. Each site visit includes a walk-about of the property, along which volunteers listen to the landowner's goals and observe the property's areas-of-concern first-hand. Topics extend from native species establishment to land remediation including invasive species removal, water collection systems, wildlife habitat maintenance, etc.

The PAL volunteers are important public representatives of the Texas Master Naturalist Program, inspiring ecological ideals in Comal County residents via the primary avenue Texas land and wildlife can be protected—private property.

Top 6 invasives according to www.texasinvasives.org/

SPECIES	FED	TDA	TPW	IMAGE
<u>Allanthurus altissima</u> Tree of heaven Simaroubaceae (Quassia-Wood Family)	●	●	●	
<u>Arundo donax</u> Giant reed Poaceae (Grass Family)	●	●	●	
<u>Bothriochloa ischaemum var. songarica</u> King Ranch bluestem Poaceae (Grass Family)	●	●	●	
<u>Broussonetia papyrifera</u> Paper mulberry Moraceae (Mulberry Family)	●	●	●	
<u>Centaurea melitensis</u> Malta star-thistle Asteraceae (Aster Family)	●	●	●	
<u>Colocasia esculenta</u> Elephant ears Araceae (Arum Family)	●	●	●	

For more information on requesting an evaluation of your property, please follow the link and complete a request: txmn.org/lindheimer/program-to-assist-landowners/



Lindheimer Chapter MN trainees in 2019 take a field trip to learn about PAL. Photo by E. Harrison

Chapter Information Page



2022 CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT Michael Buley
VICE PRESIDENT Sue Sommer
SECRETARY Rob Kyrouac
TREASURER Don Epps

COMMITTEES

Standing Committees

Education – Ellen Petray, Judy Henfey, Caroline Broderick, Tom Oldham, Marc Rashinski
Membership & Records – Cheryl Trock, Brian 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- Pending
Photographer-

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 www.txmn.org/lindheimer.

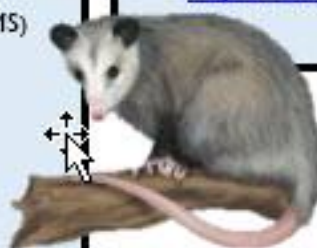
How to CONTACT

Email: LindheimerMNContact@gmail.com

Website: <https://txmn.org/lindheimer>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/txmn.lindheimer/>

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



2022 MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETINGS

Meetings are held every 3rd Thursday at
Tye Preston Memorial Library
5:45 pm – 7:30pm

Attend in person or online:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7461036858>

2022 Board of Directors Meetings
Every 4th Monday at 5:00 PM
Meetings are via WEBEX
All members welcome

Find the WebEx link under Members (password protected) [Members \(txmn.org\)](http://Members.txmn.org)

Board Minutes available at:
<https://txmn.org/lindheimer/chapter-info/lmn-board-members/lmn-board-minutes-archive/>



...more Chapter Info

Members at the October 2022 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, 2023. If payment is not received by January 31, 2024, 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!

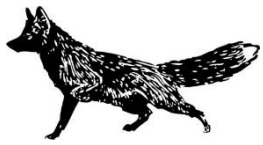
Opportunity Codes for Documenting Your Hours in VMS

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 \(txmn.org\)](http://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 trng) *Cibolo NC/LBJWC/TMN/etc.
CB	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 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, habitats, etc.) *Wildlife viewing blinds *Wildscapes
OT	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

2023 Class: Gray Foxes

New Class Training Schedule

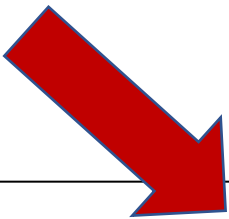


Thirty members of the community have committed to

the year-long training to become a Certified Texas Master Naturalist. One of our largest classes in years, this 25th class is active and engaged in learning about the natural world of the Texas Hill Country. The class chose "Gray Foxes" as their group name.



DATE / TIME	ACTIVITY	INSTRUCTOR	LOCATION
10 Jan 2023 - 6:00 to 8:30 PM	New Class Orientation	New Class Director and Coordinators., Member from BOD	Agrilife Center
	VMS Training	Cheryl Trock	
17 Jan 2023 - 6:00 PM	Weather & Climate	Paul Yura (NOAA)	Agrilife Center/Zoom
7 Feb 2023 - 6:00 PM	Archaeology	Clark Wernicke (TSU)	Agrilife Center
7 Mar 2023 - 6:00 PM	Geology and Soil	Joe Finneran (LMN)	Agrilife Center
11 Mar 2023 - 1:00 PM	Canyon Lake Gorge	Gorge Preservation Society and GBRA	Canyon Lake
4 April 2023 - 6:00 PM	Ecology, Ecosystem Concepts & Management	John Herron retired TNC & TPWD	Agrilife Center/Zoom
15 April 2023 - 10 AM	Honey Creek Nature Area	Nancy Gray Friends of Honey Creek	Guadalupe River State Park
9 May 2023 - 6:00 PM	Ornithology	Tom & Patsy Inglet (AAMN/Audubon)	Agrilife Center/Zoom
13 May 2023 - 9:00 AM	Birding at Crescent Bend Park	Tom & Patsy Inglet (AAMN/Audubon)	Schertz, TX
6 June 2023 - 6:00 PM	Botany and Taxonomy	Debbie Kyrouac (LMN, NPSOT)	Agrilife Center/Zoom
11 July 2023 - 6:00 PM	Entomology	Craig Hensley (TPWD)	Agrilife Center/Zoom
1 Aug 2023 - 6:00 PM	Mammalogy	Pamela Owen (UT Austin, TMM)	Agrilife Center/Zoom
5 Aug 2023 ~ 6:00PM	Bracken Cave Bat Flight	Fran Hutchins (BCI) Don and Edith Berquist (LMN)	Garden Ridge
5 Sept 2023 - 6:00 PM	Native Grassland Ecology and Restoration	Doug Dalglish (LMN)	Agrilife Center/Zoom
9 Sept 2023 - 9:00 AM	Bamberger Ranch Preserve	April Sansom (Selah)	Johnson City
3 Oct 2022 - 6:00 PM	Herpetology	Craig Hensley (TPWD)	Agrilife Center/Zoom
7 Oct 2023 - 10:00 AM	Meadows Center	(TSU)	TSU San Marcos
7 Nov 2023 - 6:00 PM	Water Resources	Cinde Thomas-Jimenez (GBRA)	Agrilife Center/Zoom
5 Dec 2023 - 6:00 PM	Urban Systems: Xeriscaping	Joel Dunnington LMN	Agrilife Center/Zoom
21 Dec. 2023 - 5:30 PM	Graduation		TPM Library
			18 Classes/Field trips



WAY TO GO, Gray Foxes!!!!

Just halfway through the training year (July 2023), 22 trainees (79%) have obtained their 40 VH & 8 ATH, meeting their first year requirements!



Chapter Recertifications and Milestone Awards

2023 Recertification Pin – Texas Ecoregions

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ACHIEVEMENT!
THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

	Recertifications	Milestone Awards
January 2023	Ellen Anderson, Susan Bogle, Brian Trock	500 Hours: Ellen Petray, Mike Poffenberger 2,500 Hours: Ellen Anderson 20,000 Hours: Susan Bogle Wow!!!!
February 2023	John Davis, Judy Henfey, Jane Miller, Rich Nielson, Ellen Petray, Mike Poffenberger, Lois Ricci, Sara Riggs, Jeanie Springer, Cheryl Trock, Darlene Varga	250 Hours: Teresa St. John
March 2023	Don Bergquist, Edith Bergquist, Ron Butts, Joe Finneran, Christy Martinez, Evelyn Nielson, Cathy Oberkamph	
April 2023	Caroline Broderick, Heidi Case, Don Epps, Gail Groves, Jim Jameson, Deb Kyrouac, Rob Kyrouac, Marilyn McFarland, Aleta Meyer, Rhonda Neal, Teresa Turko	250 Hours: Caroline Broderick 500 Hours: Teresa Tyler
May 2023	Jim Doyle, Joel Dunnington, Thomas Oldham, MV Poffenberger, Mike Roberts, Susan Sommer, Wendy Hill	250 Hours: Vanessa Brown 500 Hours: Gretchen Ferrell, Mike Roberts
June 2023	Michael Buley, John Corkill, Craig Dillon, Jane Finneran, Don Fletcher, Pat Fletcher, Lori Largent, Joni McGhee, Lisa Smith, Teresa St. John	250 Hours: Lynn Boyd, Tanya Marroquin 500 Hours: Debbie Subke 1,000 Hours: Susan Sommer
July 2023	Don Blake, Julie Crouch, Harry Ferrell, Rosemary Melody, Margaret Oliver, Patricia Porterfield, Debbie Subke, Toni Wayne	2500 Hours: Cheryl Trock

LMN MEMBERSHIP REPORT JULY 23, 2023

Cheryl Trock, Membership Director

Membership: 192 (163 active, 28 in-training, 1 advisor)

Training Class#25, Gray Foxes: 28

Transfer to Inactive: 2 (moved out of state)

VMS June:

137 members submitted hours:

VH: 1,875 ATH: 185 Initial Training Hours: 87

871 approved entries

VMS YTD:

176 members submitted hours.

VH: 12,817 ATH: 1,812 Initial Training Hours: 732

6,406 approved entries

July Chapter Meeting: (35 TPML) (23 ZOOM) 58 attended

Impact June - April

Adults: 1,205 Youth: 595

Impact Data YTD

Adults: 8,951 Youth: 9,107

Contributing to Community/Citizen Science: iNaturalist.org



Photo of gray fox by Mike Poffenberger

“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 www.inaturalist.org and sign up!

Here are the iNaturalist numbers as of **8/3/2023**. Take a look at Comal County!!!

Location	Observations	Species	Observers
World	151,595,131	431,733	2,758,436
Texas	8,451,155	27,119	150,016
Comal County	125,018	4,874	5,324



The Electronic Lindheimer

Website: www://txmn.org/lindheimer/



Welcome! Chapter Info ▾ Chapter Meetings Out & About Calendar Members ▾ 2023 Class

Chapter Projects & Opportunities Texas Waters Join Us! Program to Assist Landowners Donate Current Chapter Initiatives ▾

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

Ops & Info: Weekly email with news, announcements, and AT/VH opportunities sent to your email inbox every Sunday. If you haven't been receiving the email, notify Sara Riggs at lmnoutandabout@gmail.com.