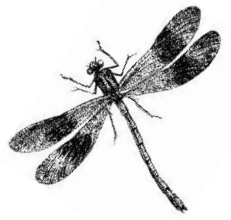




# *The Lindheimer Quarterly*

3<sup>d</sup> Quarter 2025



## **Lindheimer Chapter Texas Master Naturalist™ 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 25 Years of Service, Outreach and Education 2000 - 2025**



*Gulf Coast Toad  
Michael Laffey*

From the Editor

Throughout this newsletter, there are beautiful photos submitted by our members. Do you have any photos to submit? Please do! Send to [LindheimerMNContact@gmail.com](mailto:LindheimerMNContact@gmail.com).

--MJ McFarland, Editor

# Lindheimer Chapter 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

## Chapter Presidents Through the Years

<i>Year</i>	<i>Chapter President</i>
<i>2001</i>	<i>Darlene Welge</i>
<i>2002</i>	<i>Doug Dalglish</i>
<i>2003</i>	<i>Don Door</i>
<i>2004</i>	<i>Dan Madden</i>
<i>2005</i>	<i>Arthur Williams</i>
<i>2006</i>	<i>Arthur Williams</i>
<i>2007</i>	<i>Ray Laxson</i>
<i>2008</i>	<i>Diane Schaule</i>
<i>2009</i>	<i>James Daugherty</i>
<i>2010</i>	<i>David Reel</i>
<i>2011</i>	<i>Coco Brennan</i>
<i>2012</i>	<i>Coco Brennan</i>
<i>2013</i>	<i>Henry Hahn</i>
<i>2014</i>	<i>Richard Bradley</i>
<i>2015</i>	<i>Richard Bradley</i>
<i>2016</i>	<i>Jim Teeling</i>
<i>2017</i>	<i>Joel Dunnington</i>
<i>2018</i>	<i>Rich Nielson</i>
<i>2019</i>	<i>Rich Nielson</i>
<i>2020</i>	<i>Rich Nielson</i>
<i>2021</i>	<i>Rich Nielson</i>
<i>2022</i>	<i>Michael Buley</i>
<i>2023</i>	<i>Michael Buley</i>
<i>2024</i>	<i>Sue Sommer</i>
<i>2025</i>	<i>Sue Sommer</i>



Our thoughts and prayers are with all of those affected by the devastating flooding across Central Texas. Many personnel from our two sponsoring agencies, Texas Parks and Wildlife and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, as well as Texas Master Naturalist volunteers in the affected and neighboring chapters, are on the ground assisting with recovery efforts. We are thankful for and proud of everyone who is helping those in need in Kerr County and beyond.

#TexasMasterNaturalist #TexasParksAndWildlife #AgriLifeExtension #TexasFloods

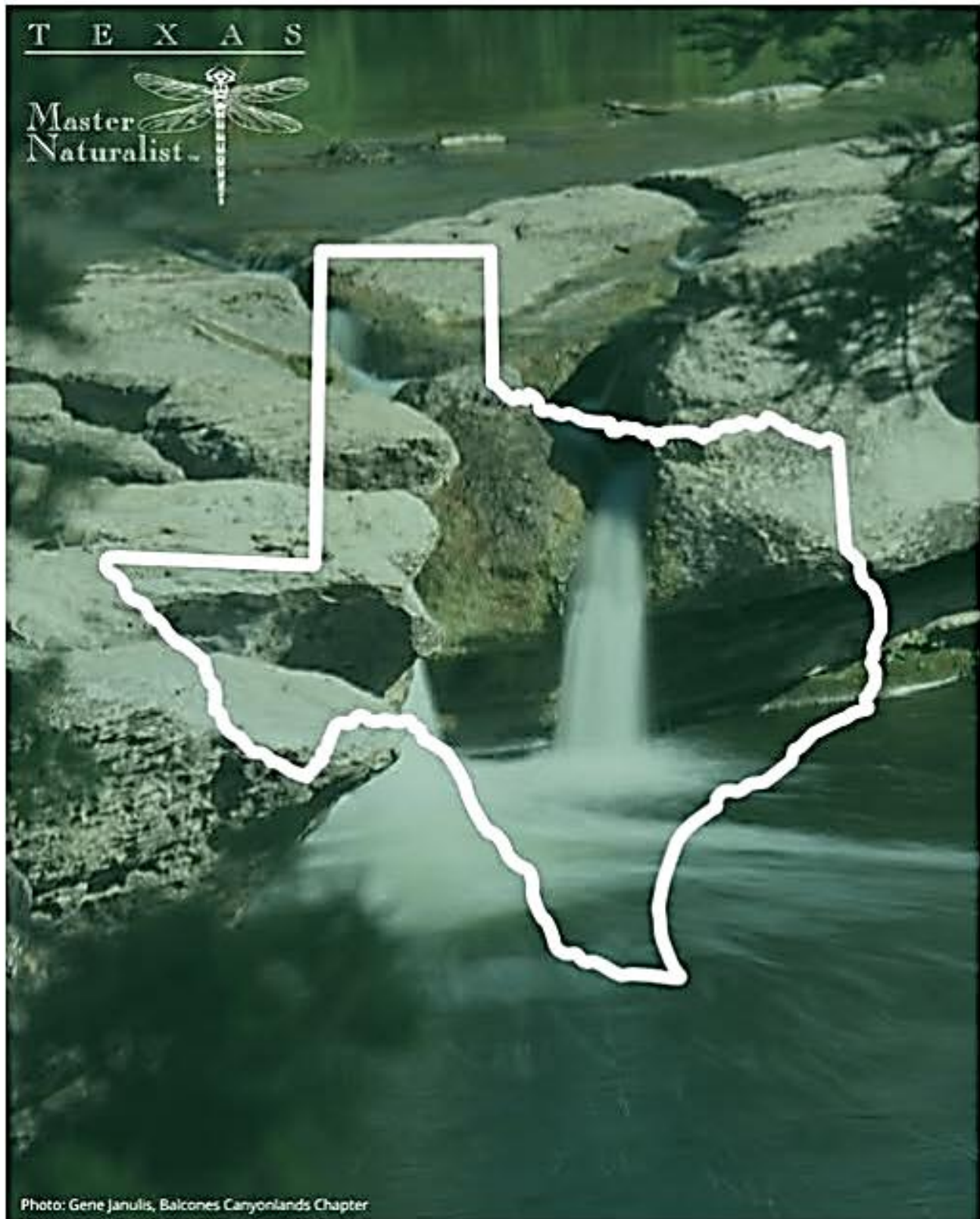


Photo: Gene Janulis, Balcones Canyonlands Chapter

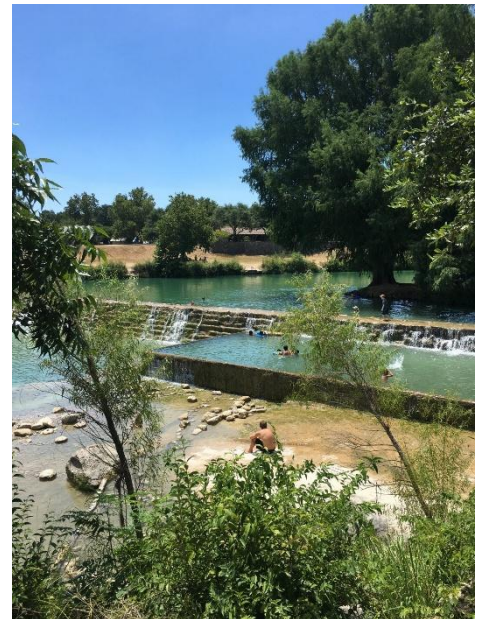




## *Volunteer Opportunities by Amy Sharp*

*The Lindheimer Projects Committee highlights volunteer opportunities in the Lindheimer Texas Master Naturalists newsletter! Sites are shared quarterly to inform the LMN about the breadth of ways to support our community.*

**BLANCO STATE PARK** Blanco SP is a small state park with swimming and fishing, wildlife viewing, hiking, and short term and weekend camping. The new park interpreter is offering more park programs and activities and two Texas Master Naturalists chapters are supporting this effort – the Highland Lakes Chapter and the Lindheimer Chapter.  
[tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/blanco](http://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/blanco)



### WHAT/WHEN

- *Site Work* – **2nd Thursday of each month** is a River bank cleanup and access project. Blanco SP is expanding or opening up more areas to access the two river sections for fishing and swimming. Done along with the park ranger staff. (About 2-3 hours weather dependent.)
- *Education/Outreach* –
  - **2nd Saturday of each month** will be a Fishing 101 program – there are two Angler Ed specialists leading this and support is needed for participants. (About 2 hours)
  - **4th Saturday** is planned for an educational discovery presentation by a Master Naturalist – new topics to be planned for each month. (1-2 hours, MN choice.)
  - Blanco SP has a goal of providing 'Homeschooling in the Park'. This project would provide education on 'Naturalist' topics and is in progress. Master Naturalists are great candidates to assist in this effort.

### WHERE

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

### WHY IT MATTERS

- Blanco SP is located within an hour of San Antonio and Austin. Providing structured education opportunities as well as park amenities that support learning would both grow the park as well as the minds of our youth.



### HOW TO GET STARTED!

- Contact Al Lillis
- 512-680-2580
- [sea\\_boat35@yahoo.com](mailto:sea_boat35@yahoo.com)

### For Fishing and Riverbank Cleanup

- Contact Butch Williams
- 512-767-5963
- [butchwangedu@gmail.com](mailto:butchwangedu@gmail.com)





# Calling all Nature Seekers

Do you enjoy animals, plants and outdoor exploration?

Join us for these fun, hands-on experiences!



## Project Highlights:

- **Age Group :**  
Specifically designed for youth, 13 – 18 yrs (must be enrolled in 4H)
- **Curriculum:**  
Includes classroom activities, guest speakers, outdoor explorations, special field trips, and volunteer projects.
- **Focus:**  
Aims to develop an understanding of local plants and animals, the natural and human history of the region, and encourage conservation efforts.
- **Hands-on Learning:**  
Emphasizes hands-on activities and fun, enriching, outdoor experiences.
- **Community Engagement:**  
Provides opportunities for young people to become involved in community conservation projects.

**Call or text to reserve your spot at the next scheduled date:**  
**Hazel McCarthy 830-515-9926 or Trish Coons 830-322-2200**

**Time:** 10am – 12 noon

**Dates:** September 20, 2025  
October 18, 2025  
November 15, 2025  
February 21, 2026  
March 21, 2026  
April 18, 2026

**Location:** Comal County  
AgriLife Extension Office  
325 Resource Drive  
New Braunfels, TX 78132

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

# Body Language of Wasps

Wasp body language is a complex system of signals that includes chemical signals, body language, vibrations, and visual signals. These signals are used to communicate various messages within the wasp colony, such as danger, food, and social hierarchy. Here are some key points about wasp body language:

- **Pheromones:** Chemical signals that transmit messages and coordinate activities within the colony. (1)
- **Body Language:** Includes raised wings, bent antennae, and body posture to signal aggression or submission. (1)
- **Visual Signals:** Such as dances to communicate food locations or nesting sites. (1)
- **Vibrations and Sounds:** Used to share information and signal danger. (1)
- **Aggressive Postures:** Raised wings, bent antennae, and body posture to indicate readiness to defend the nest. (2)

References:

1. [How Do Wasps Communicate? Unveiling the Secrets of their Social Language - bugpursuits.com](http://bugpursuits.com)
2. [How to Tell If a Wasp Is Angry: Signs and Behavior - Bug Domain](http://Bug-Domain.com)

Additional resources: [Paper Wasp Body Language - Trego's Mountain Ear](http://Trego's Mountain Ear.com);  
[How do Wasps Communicate? Uncovering the Secrets of Nature's Scary Insect.](http://bugpursuits.com)

Please note: This article was written using an AI program.

a comprehensive guide to

## Yellow Stripecy Things



**Carpenter Bee**

- acts like it's hot ☐ but can't actually hurt you
- has no concept of what glass is
- lives in your fence
- flies aggressively to try and scare you away



**Honeybee**

- is the bee that needs help the most
- excellent pollinator
- very friendly
- can only sting once



**Bumblebee**

- also pollinates stuff very well
- so fat it shouldn't be able to fly
- will let you pet it without getting agitated
- actually a flying panda



**Hoverfly**

- wears yellow stripecy uniform to scare you
- actually can't do anything to you
- hangs out in fields
- follows you if it likes you



**Paper Wasp**

- looks scary, but will only attack if provoked
- sting hurts like hell
- will chase you if you swat at it
- has no concept of personal space



**Yellow Jacket**

- wants your food and will fight you for it
- never leaves you alone
- will sting you just for the hell of it
- is just an ☐



**Cicada Killer**

- looks like Satan's nightmares
- exclusively eats cicadas
- can sting you, but usually won't
- still pretty terrifying



**Dirt Dauber**

- almost never stings anything except spiders
- builds nest in the ground
- hoards spiders in said nest
- coolest looking of the wasps



# Chapter Information Page

## 2025 MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETINGS



Meetings are held in-person  
every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday  
(unless otherwise noted)  
5:45 pm – 7:30pm

Sign-up to bring snacks:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084EABAF23A7F49-55530945-lindheimer>

2025 Board of Directors Meetings  
Every 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 5:00 PM  
Meetings are via Zoom  
All members welcome



Zoom Link:

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

Board Minutes available at:

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



## 2025 CHAPTER LEADERSHIP



### OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT**  
**VICE PRESIDENT**  
**SECRETARY**  
**TREASURER**

Sue Sommer  
Laurie Dugan  
Rob Kyroutac  
Don Epps

### COMMITTEES

#### Standing Committees

Education – Caroline Broderick, Director  
Membership & Records – Cheryl Trock, Brian Trock  
Outreach – Debbie Kyroutac  
Projects & Opportunities - Jeanie Springer

#### Subcommittees

Trunks – Deb Kyroutac  
Program to Assist Landowners (PAL) – Elisabeth Olszewski  
Community Recognition – Michael Buley  
Hospitality – Joni McGhee  
New Class Rep – Karen Meyer  
Photographer – Skyler Rightmire

### COMMUNICATIONS

Director – MJ McFarland  
Out & About – Sara Riggs



### CHAPTER ADVISORS

Pending

#### 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  
<https://txmn.org/lindheimer/whats-new>

### How to CONTACT Us

Email: [LindheimerMNContact@gmail.com](mailto:LindheimerMNContact@gmail.com)

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

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



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

All photos ©Darlene Varga



*Our Members:  
Out & About  
in the Community*



CRRC's Recreation Center  
23h · 🌐

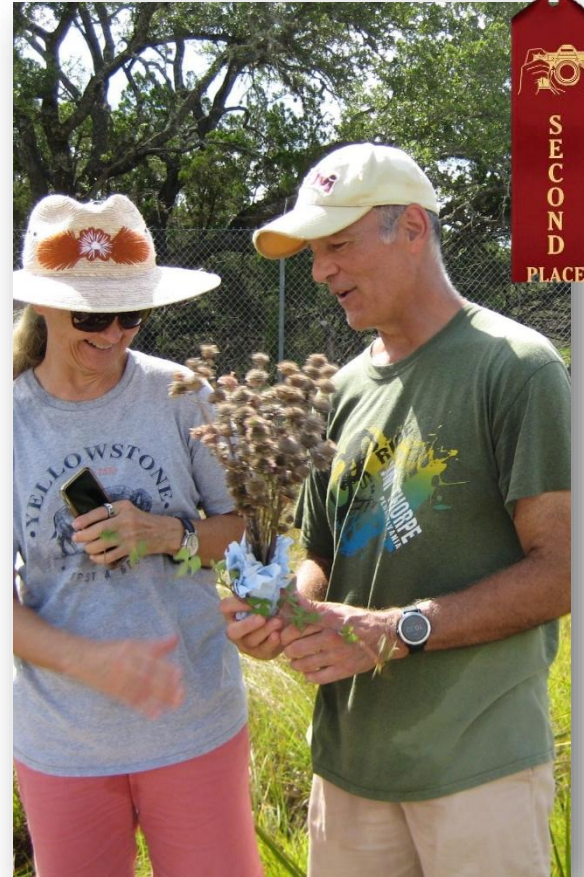
Thank you to the [Lindheimer Chapter Texas Master Naturalists](#) of the Texas Master Naturalists for an amazing Plants and Their Pollinators class! 🐝 It looks like everyone had a blast exploring the natural world.



CRRC Day Camp July 24, 2025 "Mammals"



# Communications Photo Awards – July 2025



1<sup>st</sup> Place – Bald Eagles – Susan Bogle  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Anniversary – Susan Bogle  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Fox – Kathy Nelson Laney

Ribbons are awarded to the members whose photos receive the most "views" on our FaceBook page each month. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place ribbons will be presented at the monthly meetings. All you have to do is submit your photos to [LindheimerMNContact@gmail.com](mailto:LindheimerMNContact@gmail.com). Your photo will be posted on our page. If you don't have a FB account – no problem! I can take a screenshot & send it to you so you'll know what it looks like!

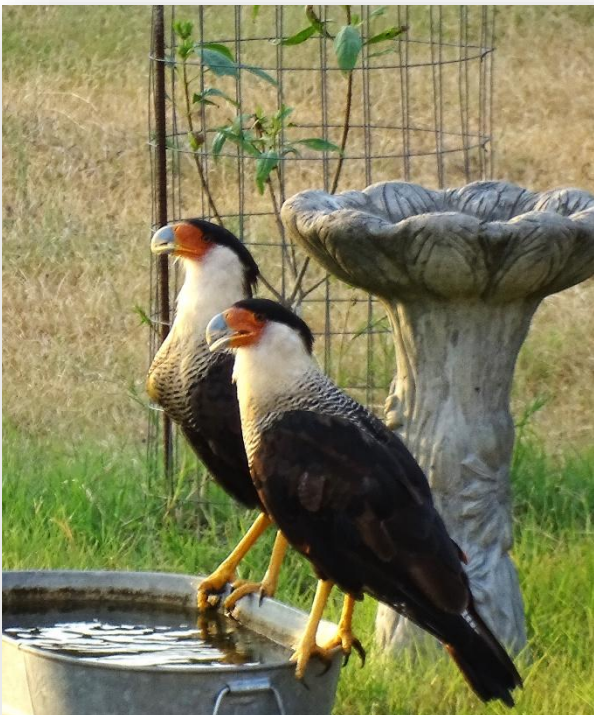
Thanks! Marilyn McFarland  
Director, Communications



# Communications Photo Awards – August 2025

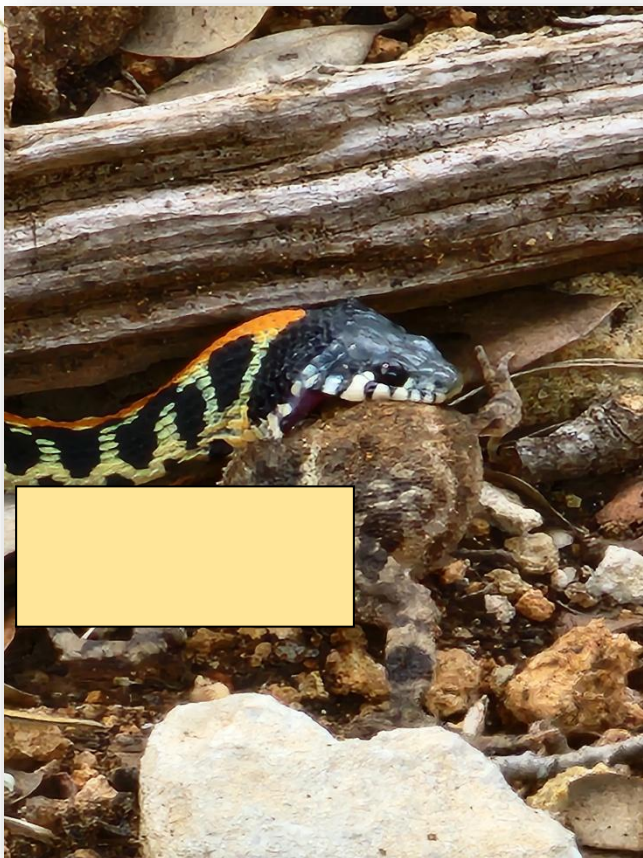


1<sup>st</sup> Place – Loran Wilson  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Loran Willson  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Edith Bergquist





# Communications Photo Awards – September 2025



1<sup>st</sup> Place – Cindy Goodrum  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Sue Sommer  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Caroline Brodrick





# Web & Facebook Stats

2025 Facebook										Web	Web
Month	#Posts	Total Views	Page Follows	Most Popular Photo #1	Views	Most Popular Photo #2	Views	Most Popular Photo #3	Views	2025	2024
January	22	5,812	895	Birds - Dugan	542	Kestrel - Bergquist, E.	535	2025 Class - Broderick	416	3,422	3,357
February	18	6,844	896	Warbler - Bergquist, E.	396	Mushroom - Kimball	347	Bird Array - Bergquist, E.	318	1,854	2,385
March	21	13,882	899	HEB Grant - Andrews, C.	5,214	HEB Grant - Bogle, S.	875	Barred Owl - Wilson, L.	846	2,145	4,034
April	23	5,903	919	Purple Leatherflower - Buley	439	Red Leatherflower - Buley	355	CaraCara - Epps D.	269	2,265	3,949
May	27	9,567	923	Rattlesnake - Tim Killam	1,080	MTPG - Sue Sommer	921	Cottonmouth - Cindy Goodrum	450	1,849	3,752
June	21	10,516	929	Bats - Broderick	765	AgriLife Garden - Kyroutac	730	Spiny Lizard - K. Moore	611	1,671	3,432
July	26	19,842	935	Bald Eagles - Bogle	3,158	Perazas - Bogle	2,768	Fox - Laney	2,561	1,569	3,548
August	15	12,810	938	Rattler L. Wilson	2,814	Foxes L. Wilson	792	CaraCara - E. Bergquist	519	Not available	3,311
September	16	9,656	941	Snake/toad Goodrum, C.	762	MTPG - Sue Sommer	704	Vulture Bergquist, D.	693	1,849	4,060
											3,981
											3,334
											3,664
<b>Total YTD</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>94,832</b>								<b>16,624</b>	<b>42,807</b>





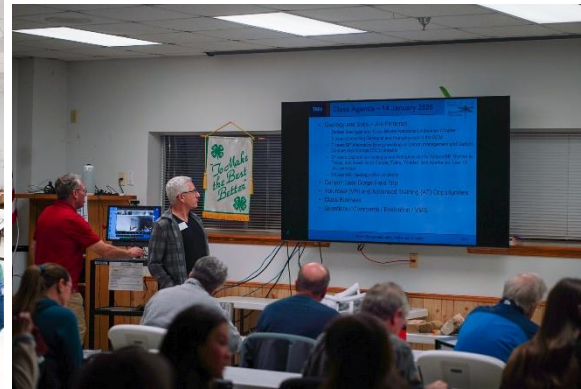


## 2025 Class: Painted Buntings

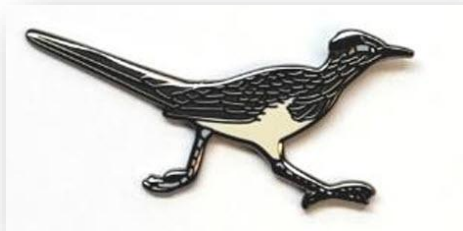
Top row: Sue Sommer  
Bottom row: Skylar Rightmire



Twenty-five members of the community have committed to the year-long training to become Certified Texas Master Naturalists!



LMN Class of 2025 Schedule					
		Date	Topic	Presenter	Book Unit(s)
January	Orientation	7 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Orientation	Education team & Chapter Board members	
	Class 6-9pm	14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Geology	Joe Finneran LMN	7
February	Class 6-9pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Weather	Paul Yura – NOAA	8
March	Class 6-9pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Archaeology	D Clark W- Gault School of Archaeology	2, 22
	Gorge Field Trip	8 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Geology	GBRA/GPS	
April	Class 6-9pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Apr	Ecology	John Herron – ret TPWD/TNC	4, 5, 6
	Honey Creek Field Trip	12 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Ecology	Nancy Gray – Friends of Honey Creek	
May	Class 6-9pm	6 <sup>th</sup> May	Birds	Tom&Patsy Inglet – Bexar Audubon / AAMN	12
	Crescent Bend Field Trip	10 <sup>th</sup> May			
June	Class 6-9pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> Jun	Botany	Debbie Kyrouac – LMN / NPSOT	10, 11
July	Class 6-9pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Jul	Mammals	Dr Pamela Owen – UT	16
	Bracken Field Trip	6 <sup>th</sup> Jul		Fran Hutchins – BCI	
August	Class 6-9pm	5 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Entomology	Molly Kedk – AgriLife Extension IPM specialist	13
September	Class 6-9pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sept	Grassland ecology	Doug Dalglish – LMN	17, 20
	Bamberger Field Trip	6 <sup>th</sup> Sept		April Samsom – Bamberger Ranch / Selah	
October	Class 6-9pm	7 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Herpetology	Ryan Collister – Government Canyon SNA	15
	Meadows Center Field Trip	11 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Wetland ecology	TX State Education Dept	
November	Class 6-9pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Water Resources	Lauren Willis – GBRA	9
December	Class 6-9pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Urban ecosystems	Debbie Kyrouac – LMN / NPSOT	
	Graduation	18 <sup>th</sup> Dec		at Tye Preston Memorial Library	



# Chapter Recertifications and Milestone Awards

2025 Recertification Pin – Greater Roadrunner

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!  
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ACHIEVEMENT!

	Recertifications	Milestone Awards
Jan	Ellen Anderson, Susan Bogle, Ron Lucik, Jeanie Springer, Brian Trock, Darlene Varga	250 HOURS: Ricky Corbell, Rosemary Melody
Feb	Don Bergquist, Edith Berquist, Caroline Broderick, Trish Coons, Don Epps, Wendy Harter, Tom Petray, Lois Ricci, Cheryl Trock	250 HOURS: Wendy Harter 1,000 HOURS: Trish Coons, Dave Wright 5,000 HOURS: Lois Ricci
Mar	Carolyn Andrews, Richard Andrews, John Davis, Marian Henderson, Wendy Hill, Jim Jameson, Tim Killam, Anne-Marie Kimball, Deb Kyroutac, Jane Miller, Rhonda Neel, Ellen Petray, Mike Poffenberger, Amy Sharp, Teresa Turko	4,000 HOURS: John Davis 
April 	Tom Jones, Judy Henfey, Patricia Porterfield, Lisa Smith, Teresa St. John, Rich Nielson, David Meyer, Marilyn McFarland	250 HOURS: Thomas Oldham 500 HOURS: Pat Carnes
May	Keith Landry, David Gruener, Christine Gruener, Joni McGhee, Jim Doyle, Evelyn Nielson, Susan Sommer	250 HOURS: Tim Killam, Anne-Marie Kimball 500 HOURS: Margaret Oliver 1,000 HOURS: Caroline Broderick
June	Linda Bolano, Ron Butts, Heidi Case, Julie Crouch, Nancy DeMarco, Harry Ferrell, Pat Fletcher, Rob Kyroutac, Tom Oldham, Mike Roberts	250 HOURS: Laurie Dugan 
July	Gretchen Ferrell, Don Fletcher, Gail Groves, Tommy Lanier, Lori Largen, Kelly Stinnette, Dwaine Vann	1,000 HOURS: Mike Roberts
August	Lauri Gleaves, Vanessa Brown, Brenda Stoeck, Pat Carnes, Howard Grove, Scott Ofsdahl, Christy Martinez, Marcia Kelly	1,000 HOURS: Ron Lucik



Members receiving pins & milestone awards at monthly meetings





# Monthly Chapter Meetings

July  
No meeting!



TEXAS

Master Naturalist

Lindheimer Chapter

Texas Master Naturalist Program

TEXAS

Master Naturalist

Monthly Chapter Meeting

When: Thursday, June 19, 2025 at 5:45 pm

What: "Aquifers & Rain Harvesting"

Who: Dr. Larry Sunn, Rain Bees

Where: Mammen Family Public Library (in person only, no online)

Disclaimer: This event is not affiliated with or sponsored by the Bulverde Area Rural Library District or Mammen Family Public Library.

In this one-hour session, we'll discuss aquifer types, current Comal County water table levels, our two types of aquifers, common misconceptions about aquifers, rates at which groundwater moves through an aquifer, depletion and replenishment rates, and natural filtration. We'll then learn how to capture rain for potable or irrigation purposes. We'll discuss understanding rainwater needs, storing rainwater, assessing a rainwater collection area, filtering leaves & debris, water filtration, monitoring the water level, and caring for your system.

Get ready for the rainy season!

Rainwater Capture Workshop

June 19, 2025

5:45 pm - 6:45 pm

Mammen Family Public Library

1000 Mammen Road, Bulverde, TX 78109

Dr. Larry Sunn

Rain Bees

Speaker Bio:

A retired career Marine captain and a retired 25-year university professor of statistics and research from the University of Redlands, Dr. Larry Sunn consults free of charge with area residents interested in rain harvesting systems. Dr. Sunn served his community as a member of Comal County Groundwater Conservation District's Board of Directors from 2015 to 2023; he is currently a director on the board of The Center, an orthopedic surgery training facility, and he is on the board of directors of the Bulverde Community Park Association. He and his wife of 63 years have lived on the west side of Bulverde for the past 26 years. Informed early in his life that he could become whatever he wanted to become, Dr. Sunn chooses to be a Supreme Commander.

TEXAS

Master Naturalist

Lindheimer Chapter

Texas Master Naturalist Program

TEXAS

Master Naturalist

Monthly Chapter Meeting

When: Thursday, March 20, 2025

What: "Foraging in Central Texas"

Who: Doug Dalglish, Founding Member Lindheimer Chapter

Where: Tye Preston Memorial Library

Online: <https://bmn.org/lindheimer/chapter-info/next-meeting/>

Join us on Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 5:45 to hear Doug Dalglish on "Foraging in Central Texas." Doug writes: "Throughout most of human existence, people have been nourished and sustained by the plants around them. In the modern world, we've lost this direct connection to nature. Foraging is more than collecting food from the wild. Foraging is a way of connecting us to the rhythms of nature and reconnecting us to our own history."

Doug studied electrical engineering at Texas A&M, then made a career change to become a Presbyterian minister. Part of his work over the last 25 years has been land management over several church-owned properties in central and south Texas.

Doug is a founding member of the Lindheimer Master Naturalist Chapter and has been involved with the chapter since 2001.

15

## Contributing to Citizen Science: iNaturalist.org



Photo by Teresa Turko


"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](http://www.inaturalist.org) and sign up!

Here are the iNaturalist numbers as of October 15, 2025. Take a look at Comal County!!!



Location	Observations	Species	Observers
World	280,056,606	537,585	3,926,504
Texas	13,676,590	30,431	208,726
Comal County	223,986	5,999	8,210



### The Electronic Lindheimer

Website: [www://txmn.org/lindheimer/](http://www://txmn.org/lindheimer/) Take a look around our website to see what's available!

T E X A S

Master Naturalist™



Texas Master Naturalist Lindheimer Chapter

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE

Welcome!

Chapter Info ▾

Out & About Calendar

MESSAGE BOARD

Chapter Meetings

Join Us! Apply Here!

Members ▾

2025 Class

Chapter Projects & Opportunities

Outreach Opportunities ▾

Texas Waters Specialist

Program to Assist Landowners



Facebook: [www://facebook.com/txmn.lindheimer](http://www://facebook.com/txmn.lindheimer)