

# Rolling Plains Chapter, Texas Master Naturalist

Monthly Meeting

April 5, 2022

7 p.m. Bolin Science Hall, Room 209, MSU and via Zoom

The meeting was called to order by President Laura Gillis at 7:00.m. The meeting agenda, previous month's meeting minutes, and financial reports were presented to the members via email before the meeting.

## Welcome Guests & Introduction

Kimberlee Howell, Woodland Ecologist for TAMU Forest Service, Mineral Wells, presented "Changes in the Rolling Plains."

Members attending: Carl Brown, Larry Snyder, Judy Snyder, Kay Murphy, Lynn Seman, Laura Gillis, Tiffany Herring, Jim Masouka, Sandy Underwood, Terry McKee, Dian Hoehne, Debra Halter, June McKee, Joy Parsons, Rebecca Milnnas, Judy Maness, Sharon Hyde,

Via Zoom: Linda Price, Penny Miller, Alex Nelson, Deborah Harrelson, Warren and Sue King, Paula Savage, Becky Trammell, Allen Brejer, Lisa Winkles, Glenna Pickens, DeAnna Bullock.

## Meeting Minutes & Financial Report

March meeting minutes were presented and accepted unanimously. The financial report was presented and accepted unanimously.

## Old Business

T-shirts—TNM state office provided a special 20th Anniversary logo design. Send orders to RPC email account or deanna@dfwentworkign.com. Last chance to order.

Bluebird box Project at LASP: This project is on hold for now. When L at the state park is ready, RPC is ready to begin.

## New Business

New certifications: Congratulations to Debra Halter, Carl Brown, and Alex Nelson.

Milestones: 250 VT hours: Alex Nelson & Linda Price; 1000 VT hours: Judy Snyder; 1500 VT hours: Paula Savage; 4000 VT Terry McKee! Service Against All Odds pins awarded to members doing AT during the Pandemic.

Training Class update: Training Class 2022 field trip: Electro fishing at Lake Wichita with 7 attendees. Next field trip, April 30<sup>th</sup> Wildflowers with Paul Dowlearn, Dian Hoehne and Laura Gillis, Wichita Rail Trail, See calendar for parking

City Nature Challenge–April 29-May 2nd: Look for the link to sign up for the project. Members participating will need to sign up with the CNC Eventbright.

RBNC CNC Challenge: April 30, from 9am to 4 pm: RPC will have a booth set up at River Bend Nature Center to help people sign up and use iNat. Volunteers needed. Signup sheet is at the front or email a board member.

Nature Nerds Swap Meet/Garage Sale: Clean out your naturalist books and gear, bring it to the May meeting to sell or swap.

Member Contact Lists: a member roster will be shared with chapter members, everyone will have an opportunity to opt-out, otherwise it will be shared with chapter members.

## **New Project Opportunity**

### Bluebird boxes at Lake Arrowhead State Park

L Clepper presented the bluebird box project to the chapter. There are multiple bluebird boxes in disrepair that need to be replaced. L also wants to install additional boxes on the trails. The group discussed how to accomplish the project. The project will be done in phases: 1st repair/replace bird boxes; 2nd map locations with GPS; 3rd monitor and collect data on bird populations.

## **Reminders**

Dues are due: \$15 for individuals; \$25 for couples. For payment, see Lynn Seman.

Volunteer and Advanced Training Hours: Record all hours ASAP. Check the chapter calendar for upcoming opportunities.

Check Chapter Calendar for new training and volunteer opportunities.

Hikes: Next Hike April 30<sup>th</sup> Wildflowers & Nature journaling 9-12am. Training Class field trip Paul Dowlearn, Dian Hoehne and Laura Gillis, Wichita Rail Trail, See calendar for parking info.

## **Partner Updates & Reports**

River Bend Nature Center–Volunteers needed; contact Lynn Seman to sign up.

Midwestern State University–Regional Science Fair. Alex Nelson judged RPC's behalf. Water Testing and Wild Pigs project won the RPC award. Students received certificates and gift cards.

Whiteside Museum–The museum is ready for volunteers. Teacher training digs are open for members to attend, but you must sign up.

Comanche Springs– bluebird boxes and a new table were installed.

Lake Arrowhead State Park–Adopt a Highway trash pickup April 3-9.

Copper Breaks State Park–

Wild Bird Rescue–looking for volunteers before baby bird season. Contact Lynn for info.

## **Other opportunities of interest**

Check the calendar on the TMN website for upcoming opportunities.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DeAnna Bullock

Secretary

**Next meeting: May 3, 2022**, MSU Bolin Science Hall or on Zoom. Program: Nature Nerd Swap Meet/Garage Sale

**Volunteer/Advanced training for this meeting:**

.75 hr AT for presentation

.75 hrs for chapter administration