

# Rolling Plains Chapter, Texas Master Naturalist

Monthly Meeting

Aug 2, 2022

7 pm Bolin Science Hall, Room 209, MSU and via Zoom

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

## Welcome Guests & Introduction

Eileen Vale, NRCS—Iowa Park. Ms. Vale spoke to the chapter about the diverse services the NRCS provides and its conservation practices.

Members attending: Alex Nelson, Lynn Seman, Debra Halter, Terry McKee, Larry Snyder, Judy Snyder, Kevin Seager, Norman Mason, Kim Mason, Laura Gillis, DeAnna Bullock, Eileen Vale (guest), Jason Young, Emilie Herinan (guest).

Via Zoom: Stephen Conor, Betty Bowles, Becky Trammell, Cedar Sanderson, Cindy Huckoby, Barbara Price, James Price, Bonnie Strickland, Jennifer Mitchell, Dana Cobb.

## Meeting Minutes & Financial Report

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

## Old Business

Saturday Hike at Copper Breaks State Park was a success with 11 participants.

## New Business

Officers and Chapter Volunteers for 2023

Hike committee chair—open

Hours Keeper—Debra Halter is the primary, Lynn Seman is the alternate.

Scrapbook/historian—open

Elections 2023-2025

Officer slate will be presented at the November meeting.

Open positions: president and treasurer.

November Chapter Meeting —The November meeting theme is “Resource Share.” Members are invited to share their favorite resource, i.e., best book, app, website, reference guide, inspiring article, etc. Each member who wishes to share should submit their resource recommendation to Alex Nelson by Oct. 24. Alex will compile the list to share with the chapter.

December Chapter meeting—Christmas Party: Coffee, Cookies and Christmas.

December 6 at 7:00pm

Letter Carriers Hall (clean up day Saturday, December 3)

Potluck Dessert (no meal). Members are invited to bring a favorite dessert to share.

Entertainment provided by TMN member, Kevin Scanlin, performing his “Bad Santa” act.

Photo and Art contest

Matching donations to River Bend Nature Center

Re-certifications: Congratulations to DeAnna Bullock

Milestone Awards: **Laura Gillis, 1500 hours of VT**

### **Updates from TMN state offices**

TMN Tuesday. Aug 9, 12:00.

“Connecting all Texans to Conservation through Meaningful, Engaging Interpretation.

Speakers: Craig Hensley, TX Nature Trackers Biologist, Tanya Homayoun, TX Nature Trackers Biologist, and chapter advisor for Balcones Canyonlands chapter.

Annual Meeting 2022: October 21-23, Houston, TX. Registration opened August 1, 2022.

Agenda and fees are available on the TMN website. Deadline for competition entries is September 30 for all photo and art competitions, project fairs, and video contests.

### **Committee and Project Reports**

Hike Committee:

August hike—TBA if you have requests contact Alex.

Horned Lizard Monitoring: Lynn Seman has details.

Water Testing: testing site TBA

### **Reminders**

Monthly Hikes: Saturday, August 20, LASP, 8AM

Monthly Bird Walk: August 13 at LASP, 8 AM. Meet at the dump station.

### **Partner Updates and Volunteer Opportunities**

The board committee plans to meet with all partner organizations to reacquaint programs and opportunities. The chapter will also consider partnering with WF Rail Trail.

River Bend Nature Center—

Midwestern State University—

Whiteside Museum— Opened the new Lindgren Hall for Ichthyology.

Comanche Springs— help with trail map and pollinator garden maintenance.

Lake Arrowhead State Park—Bird outing with Penny Miller, Saturday, August 13, 2022, at 8:00 AM. Meet at the dump station.

Copper Breaks State Park—has a full calendar for fall programming, including a Star Walk. Look at their site for details.

Wild Bird Rescue—new director hired. Volunteers are always needed.

### **More Opportunities of Interest**

Check the calendar on the state TMN and RPC’s websites for upcoming opportunities or events of interest. If you find anything you are interested in attending, let us know and we can inform other members.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
DeAnna Bullock  
Secretary

**Next meeting: September 6<sup>th</sup>** at MSU Bolin Science Hall at 7pm and Zoom.  
New certificates will be presented to the training class graduates.

**September Program:** Training for monarch tagging. The actual events happen in late September and early October. Timing depends on weather and flow of the migration. At least one evening event will be at Lake Wichita Falls.

**Volunteer/Advanced training for this meeting:** .75 hrs AT for presentation; .5 hrs for chapter administration.