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Banner photo is a Seed Stripper used to grab seeds and throw them into a hopper for distribution elsewhere;

Calendar at a Glance

- May hours due, June 5
- Nat'l Trail Day, Mother Neff, see page 15
- Graduation and "Creekology", June 10, see page 17
- Miller Springs Work Day, June 12, 8:30
- Conservation Expo, June 12, see page 16

Restoring Blackland Native Prairie

- Mary Odom

On the morning of April 25, 2014, about thirty people joined Mickey Burleson for an educational walk through a part of the 500 acres of Blackland Prairie that she and her late husband, Bob Burleson (1937 – 2009), restored on their land outside Temple.

Mickey graciously hosted the event for members and trainees of our Central Texas Chapter, Texas Master Naturalists (TMN), members of the TMN El Camino Real Chapter, staff from the Blackland Research Center, a few Central Texas Master Gardeners, and friends of our chapter who share our interest in learning about native prairie restoration.

Also participating, were two Private Land Biologists from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and a journalist affiliated with that agency. The walk began in a grove of trees on Mickey's land just off Berger Road in east Bell County.



Lynn Fleming and Mickey Burleson, long time friends of nature.

Continued on page 5...

Chapter Motto
**Earth Day,
 Every Day**



From the President's Pen

Graduation time is abundant for me right now. My son is graduating from high school, my daughter graduated from Texas A&M in December and now, it is time for our latest Master Naturalist class to graduate!

We started out with sixteen enthusiastic students ready to learn and we ended up with sixteen just as enthusiastic students seven weeks later. So enthusiastic that they wanted to add some more training days! Several have already accumulated advanced training hours and scooped up some volunteer hours as well. This group is rolling!

Our trip out to Fort Hood this year had to be my favorite training day. We not only spotted a Golden Cheeked Warbler, but a Black Capped Vireo as well. Two endangered species in one location—woo hoo! The cool archaeological artifacts were so interesting. Did you know that Fort Hood had a German prisoner of war camp where they held the Nazi S.S. And I believe that Daniel Gardner was the best atlatl thrower of the bunch.

We didn't get to catch any fish in Nolan Creek for ichthyology because it was roaring after the rain and the bucket just about drug me in while I retrieved a water sample. I have to admit, Dan Flores had about the most true to life "vision" for his waterfront property. He was going to build a huge stadium that would house the Dallas Cowboys AND Texas Aggies under the same roof with runoff from the parking lot draining directly into the creek. Look out downstream....

This year, we added some new speakers to the lineup and I thought they did an amazing job. Every year the



training just keeps getting better. We are so fortunate to live in an area that is rich in excellent speakers.

What a diverse group in our sixteen students....from retired teacher to ham radio operator to social worker, but all linked together for their love of nature and thirst for knowledge. Thank you each and every one for coming to class eager to learn and explore new things. I am looking forward to working with you all and getting to know you even better. - Lynn

Above: Last class – out at Miller Springs with our own Dr. Rock – Ray Kazusco! Left: Daniel was a quick study with the atlatl. Woolly Mammoths watch out! Below: Dan with a Plan. Jean's not too sure and Joe is giving it some serious thought.



Martin Time - My Favorite Time of Year

- Jean Flores

This Spring marks my fifth year as a Purple Martin Landlord. The joy these gorgeous birds bring me each year is indescribable. Several of my neighbors now get excited when they see their first Purple Martin each Spring. Last year, my son texted me on his way to school to say, "Mom, go outside and look up!" There they were! Friends laugh at me as we'll be visiting in the house and I suddenly run outside because I've heard that familiar song. Everyone I introduce them to falls in love with them.

I've met countless people that tell me they put up a



house, but it just gets taken over by House Sparrows or that the Purple Martins just don't come. Learn as much as you can before you put up that house. The Purple Martin Conservation Association (PMCA) is a great place to start. There is no way I could write in this short article all there is to know, but I'll try to give you some main points.

Placement of the house/gourds is everything. The site needs to be clear of trees for at least 40 feet so they have a clear flight path in. They like to be near human housing, which is great because then you can enjoy them easier. You have to be willing to work at it in keeping the predators away. You have to be vigilant in keeping the House Sparrows (HOSPs) and Starlings out. I've kept the Starlings at bay by buying gourds with special entrances, but there are also plates that can be added to houses that do the same thing. Here in the South, the Starlings are sometimes smaller and I had a couple breach the entrances a couple of years ago. I fixed that by gluing squares of coroplast (plastic sign board) to the porches. It raised the level just enough, and made it slick enough, that the taller Starlings can't get it because their legs are too long and the slickness prevents them from shoving themselves in. Unfortunately, the only way to keep the HOSPs out is to be their worst enemy, and it can take a lot of work for a month or so. Once the Purple Martins have taken all of the gourds, I can let down my guard a bit because the Purple Martins help keep the HOSPs out. I still keep an eye on them, but there are days in the Spring that I have to pull the rack down three times to pull out a HOSP nest and destroy any eggs that they may lay.

This year is my best yet. I have a full "house". For the first time I have a nesting pair in every single gourd. The nestlings started to hatch on 7 May and we are having a blast checking on them each day to make sure all is well. Sometimes the half of a hatched egg will cover another egg, making it harder or impossible for the baby in there trying to get out. This is called capping, and I am careful to look for this while doing nest checks. Sometimes it's necessary to do a nest change if there is a mite problem, but so far this year, fingers crossed, I haven't had to do that. I hate having to handle the babies as they are so fragile the first several days.

Continued on next page...

Martin Time...continued

As I write this, we have 24 adults, 36 young, and 28 eggs yet to hatch. That's A LOT of birds on a little 12-gourd rack! It is amazing to see how much they change in just a few short days, and I'm always stunned that in just a few months they will fly back to Brazil and points South. Incredible little birds and I'm already starting to miss them as I know they won't be around much longer.

If you are looking for something very moving to see, head down to Austin one evening in late July/early August to the old Highland Mall just East of I35, off of Airport Blvd. Head to the North side of the mall. In the parking lot across the street from the Wells Fargo Bank there are three trees (right in line with Jonathan Drive). Set up your lawn chairs and get ready for a show. Thousands and thousands of Purple Martins arrive at sundown as they roost together to get ready for their long journey back home. There are so many of them, you can feel the wind from their wings. Truly, it is far more moving than the bats under Congress Bridge.

I'm willing to help anyone out with advice or a visit to your colony to see what might be wrong if you are having troubles. I can be contacted at: danandjeanflores@aol.com



Capped Egg - Unhatched egg covered by newly hatched shell.



After 2nd year female (l) and male (r)

Editor's Note: Check out Jean's new blog at: <http://scottishlamb.typepad.com/nature/>

Photos by Jean Flores

Spring is Here!

- Crystal Fisher, former BCMG

Oh, look what my friend, Sharon Vick found on the aloe vera plant while she was pulling weeds in a flowerbed.

A Copperhead. Good thing neither she nor her dogs got any closer. We've all been told that this is the time of year to see them out moving. So, be careful when you are walking through debris.

Photo by Sharon Vick



Restoring Prairie...continued

Mickey explained that over the years the original native prairie in Texas has been adversely impacted by the plow and urban development. Highways and subdivisions are gobbling up more and more of the Blackland Prairie in Central Texas. Today, less than one percent of native prairie in Texas survives.

Beginning decades ago, Bob and Mickey made a commitment to the restoration of the Blackland Prairie on their land in Bell County. After much planning and research, followed by years of col-



lecting, preserving, and planting seeds of native plants, they successfully restored several hundred acres of prairie. According to the Blackland Research Center, restored native prairie is not only pleasing to look at, it has other values: water conservation, grazing for livestock, erosion control, and habitat for wildlife, including bobwhite quail.



Above: over 30 nature walkers gathered to learn about Mickey's decades of restoration experience; left: Mickey Burleson identifies prairie plants; below: Joe Dorn documents the day; Freelance Journalist Robert Fears from Georgetown, Chris Harper and Doug Phillips of U.S. Fish and



Wildlife and Tony Owen from Blackland Research join the group.

Continued on next page...

Restoring Prairie...continued

Today, Mickey continues the native prairie restoration with management techniques that include controlled burns to discourage invasive plants.

On the walk, Mickey pointed out and discussed the variety of grasses, forbs, and wildflowers that grow on the restored Blackland Prairie. She noted that the native Little Bluestem grass, a signature plant of the prairie, is thriving, but threatened by the invasive King Ranch (or KR) Bluestem, a species that is not native to North America. The KR Bluestem variety “songarica,” was developed for grazing by the King Ranch, but it spread to other parts of Texas and for many reasons it is not a desirable plant. Of particular interest was Green Milkweed, “*Asclepias viridis*,” a plant not previously known to some of the group. Appropriate to the natural setting, migrating Snow Geese presented a visual and vocal show that the group enjoyed. A Caracara that frequents the area did not make an appearance



during our walk, but several turkey vultures did, along with some White-wing doves.

Following the walk, those who brought their lunch enjoyed a picnic with Mickey in the same shady grove of trees where the walk started. We all appreciated the opportunity to walk the land with Mickey and enjoy the native Blackland Prairie that she and Bob worked diligently to restore. It was an occasion to be remembered. Outings like this remind us that how we manage our land is going to be critical to our natural resources.



Photos by Zoe Rascoe

Top: A mystery flower—who knows what this is? Don Wyatt, Louann Hight, Tina Mazur, Mary Ann Everett and Marlene Maciborski; lunch break - Peggiann Jones, Daniel Gardner, Sarah Dorn and Cindy Allen; left: Mary Odom checks her wildflower field guide.

Earth Day Event in Belton

Top left: Richard and Marilyn set up for the Creek Critters booth; top right: Ray Hughes and Sue Valdez show the Incredible Journey of Water using beads. Those MN's participating were: Yvonne Eele (Belton Earth Day Committee Member), Richard



McCarthy Marilyn Whitworth, Sue Valdez, Ray Hughes and Gail Hughling.

Photos by Zoe Rascoe

Salado Creek Critters

- Marilyn Whitworth

Lisa Nix, Principal of Tom Arnold Elementary School Salado, requested Marilyn Whitworth and Richard McCarthy provide a presentation on Creek Critters to a group of seven children in the Gifted and Talented Program. She had seen our presentation at Salado Earth Day in April. We presented macro invertebrates and dip netting instructions to the group May 22, 2014 on Salado Creek. The children were able to see and net a wide variety of macro invertebrates (crawfish, various water beetles, water mites, pouch snails, orb snails, leeches, damselfly larva, and adult damselfly). They also netted some vertebrates (various minnows and tadpoles). The children learned that the diversity of the creek critters they

caught indicate the health of the stream.



Each student was given a packet that included a chart indicating at what level in the stream fresh water macro invertebrates are commonly found. They also received an Identification Guide to Fresh Water Macro Invertebrates.

Left Photo by Lisa Nix, photo above by Marilyn Whitworth.

Angler Ed News

- Ursula Nanna

Pace Park Earth Day

April 25, 2014 was the day to be at Pace Park in Salado for their annual Earth Day celebration.

The Angler booth was among Richard Mc Carthy and Marilyn Whitworth's Stream Team and Kathy Cantu's Knots and Tackle while Ursula presented some ways to keep safe around and on the water.

Other attractions, of course, were the hot dogs and burgers or getting a \$10 massage after buying jewelry and petting the chicken.

Killeen Daily Herald actually put the CTMN group on youtube for all the world to see.

Nature Festival at Milam County

What a day as 8 of us travel to the Nature Festival, April 12, 2014. In April's usual flare, the winds were up to a good speed, but we have learned to manage this trivial challenge.



Casting is ALWAYS the big attraction and Kathy Cantu demonstrated her knots while Lyna Pitts, Liz Pool, Don Wyatt, and Ursula presented Fishing Safety and Bait and Lures.



Although the public turn-out was small, we had a great time and actually got to visit some of the attractions ourselves.

Waco Wetlands

On April 17, May 7th and 8th bus-loads of youth from area schools were introduced to the Waco Wetlands.

These 3rd graders were given the unique opportunities only the Wetlands present as they dip-netted, learned water was sticky, participated in a variety of water experiments and won contests.

Many of these youth had never been outside their given living area and today they experienced the water, woods, and wildlife for the 1st time.....what an experience for them... what an experience for us to share what we almost take for granted...the blessings of outside.



Skipcha Elementary Family Night

CTMN shared a table with the Highland Lakes Chapter of MN on May 23rd. Ursula presented knots and tackle, Freddie, and her well trained composting worms. The kids just love to get into whatever we have for hands-on. Highland Lakes gave out volumes of information on our State Parks.

This was Skipcha's 1st annual Family Night Out and we hope to present there again. Being outside truly lends itself to what we do and no one left inside.....

Brother and sister wanted to be seen as "fish heads" and enjoyed Freddie the Fish.



Safety Day News

- Ursula Nanna

Safety Day at Fort Hood

Ft. Hood Safety Day, April 26, 2014, is a giant event with wonderful steel bands from Shoemaker High School to all sorts of demonstrations including kangaroo pups, porcupines, birds and snakes. The 608 kids laughed and screamed as each animal was presented.

Angler Edu had contests about Fishing Safety while recycling booths and water talks and relay races were being held in the background.

It was an excellent day with a sponsored lunch and intercession activities going on till 7 pm !!!



Safety Day at Belton Expo

By the bus-load and the busses kept coming!!! Nearly 1387 students from various schools attended this annual Safety Day event on May 15th. Safety was taught from every aspect: internet safety, driving safety, safety for the disabled, snakes, fishing safety, water safety, and a whole lot more. Except for lunch, it was non-stop rotations of students eager to learn and to be thrilled and informed.

Liz Pool, Richard McCarthy, Marilyn Whitworth, Ursula Nanna, and their assistants presented Fishing Safety. As usual, our safety poster was well received and drew a lot of attention. The many safety items drew curiosity as most never considered drinking water or sun screen or pliers as part of anything to do with fishing safety-our most taught topic followed closely by knots and tackle.

So, we wrap up another year at Expo, exhausted but happy to have shared so much information with our young, budding youth.



Stream Team Training

- Richard McCarthy

Stream Team Core training was conducted May 17, 2014 at the Bob Gilmore Senior Center in Killeen. Will Butler from the Meadows Center, University of Texas San Marcos, was the instructor.

Instruction was conducted in three phases. Phase one and two were conducted in the classroom. These Phases consisted of, Introduction to the Stream Team Program, a demonstration by the instructor on the proper methods for obtaining water samples, testing for: dissolved oxygen (DO), pH, conductivity, and air, water temperature. Then following the instructors directions the students completed a hands on sampling of a tap water sample.

Phase three was conducted streamside on South Nolan Creek. A demonstration of a bucket grab for the water sample was conducted. Determining the clarity of the water by use of the Secchi Disc was also demonstrated. Field observations were discussed and recorded on the Environmental Monitoring Form. A sample of water from South Nolan Creek was taken back to the classroom for the students to perform all of the tests on their own. All students recorded their results on the Environmental Monitoring Form and compared their results with the instructors.

All students completed their sampling tasks with flying colors. Congratulations go to the following students: Vicki Zardiackas; Linda Williams; Joe Dorn; Sarah Dorn; Dana Hazelwood; Daniel Gardner; Rebekah Wyman; Jackie Bakker; and Christy Wade.

Many thanks go to Margo Coster, Director of the Bob Gilmore Senior Center, and her staff for providing the meeting room and support.



Photos by Richard McCarthy

2014 Class



Our Class Directory



Angela Cases



Cindy Allen



Dan Flores



Dana Hazelwood



Daniel Gardner



Israel Garza



Jacki Bakker



Jean Flores



Jeannie Milbery



Joe Dorn



Linda Williams



Marlene Maciborski



Pat Mielnick



Peggiann Jones



Sarah Dorn



Tina Mazur



<Student
Photograph>



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Photograph>



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Photograph>

CTMN Class of 2014

- Yvonne Eele

Peggiann Jones is the mother of two sons and a licensed clinical social worker. She is from Ohio and enjoys lake activities. She lives on Lake Belton. She is interested in Nature Therapy and the Beauty of Nature and enjoys hiking. She is interested in Birding activities and all of nature and the connections between the parts.

Tina Mazur is a recently retired scuba instructor and Girl Scout leader. She is involved in 4-H and equine breeding and training. She offers her expertise with party organization and project assistance. She would like to offer her knowledge in equine science and her 56 acres of farmland for events. Tina is interested in training and programs on geology, water, trees, and grasses.

Sarah Dorn is a retired high school teacher and a celestial navigator. She and her husband Joe look after 250 acres in Texas Wildlife Conservation Program. She is interested in gardening and has a green house.

Joe Dorn has been a member of the Houston Cactus Society and Houston Orchid Society, the Texas Native Plant Society, and The Audubon Society. With his wife Sarah he takes care of 250 acres in the Texas Wildlife Conservation Program. He is a citizen volunteer with the Belton Police Department and has been involved with the Bell County Emergency Operations Center as the interface with the National Weather Service.

Jean Flores is the Mother of four boys and enjoys camping, purple martins, butterflies, and photography. She has done graphic art and work with children. Jean is interested in everything and would be interested in many training areas.

Dan Flores is married to Jean and the father of four boys and grew up on a cattle ranch. He likes to go horseback riding, hunting, fishing, and has worked with the Boy Scouts. His family has a 600+ ranch outside of Laredo. Dan has really enjoyed the training he

has received through the class and is looking forward to more of the same.

Cindy Allen is a retired librarian. She is interested in plants, especially "what deer don't eat", gardening, and if she has lots of prep time, public speaking. Cindy is interested in learning about creating wild-scapes to attract birds and other critters and identifying trees.

Angela Cases works for Temple Parks department where she coordinates volunteer activities. Her father is a meteorologist and Angela is interested in training and programs on Geology, Anthropology, and draught resistant plants.

Lin Williams lives in Kempner and owns 6 acres. She is a retired 5th and 6th grade science teacher. Lin is a pilot. She is interested in all of the life sciences, especially herpetology and ornithology.

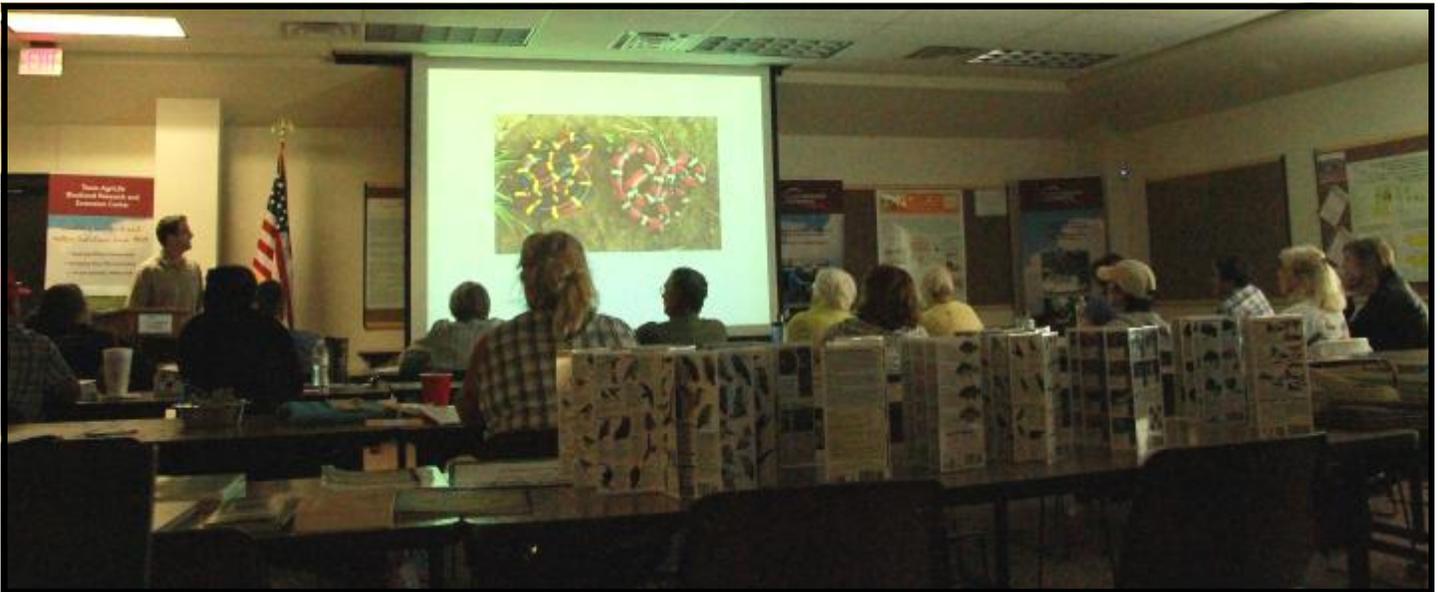


Geology class with Dr. Rock, aka, Ray Kozusko.

Marlene Maciborski grew up on a farm in Canada. Her background is in computers and she volunteers at Harker Heights Park and Recreation. She is a soccer coach to 8-9 year olds. She spent 6 years in Korea teaching English. Marlene is an outdoors person that likes Kayaking, cycling, running, and trail runs

Daniel Gardner was born and raised in Central Texas. He is interested in machines and has done gunsmithing and carpentry. He built a chicken coop

Continued on Next Page...



CTMN Class of 2014...continued

and is able to provide eggs to all his family. Daniel has three chain saws and is interested in clearing trails. He also has a game camera and likes to hunt, fish, and bird watch. Daniel also has a garden with a green house and fruit trees. He is interested in learning more about the wildlife in the area.

Dana Hazelwood owns a landscaping business with her husband and loves gardening as well as photography. She spent one year in Americorp mentoring elementary students as well as the community. She is interested in learning more about self-sustaining, aqua phonics and blackland projects.

Jeannie Milbury has a master's degree in special education and would like to increase her knowledge in the world around us.

Jacki Bakker is an avid gardener and an outreach coordinator/ Program assistant for the Mayborn Science Theater in Killeen. She has taught a variety of natural science classes for continuing education. She has workshop and program coordination experience. Jacki is interested in learning more about the vegetation near wetlands and in riparian zones as well as the soils in Texas.

Israel Garza is certified in Storm Water, Erosion and Sediment Control and Construction Site Inspections, as well as being

a Certified Floodplain Manager, and certified in Storm Water Monitoring and Sampling. Israel participates in pollution prevention outreach education for children and he coaches his daughter's softball teams. He could provide training on how to sample and test waterways that run through a property or is a concern.

Pat Mielnick was a researcher at Blackland Research Center for 10 years studying carbon fluxes. She taught Geology and environmental science at Temple College. She and her husband, Murray McCarley who works for the Corp of Engineers, own 8 acres east of Temple that has native landscaping. Pat is interested in prairie restoration and use of native plants in landscaping. Photos by Zoe Rascoe

Above: Herpetology class. Below: Ornithology class at Fort Hood where Golden Cheeked Warbler AND Black Capped Vireo were spotted.



April Awards!



- Zoe Rascoe

Above clockwise, Marilyn Whitworth is the first to recertify in 2014 and receives her Armadillo pin; Dale Hughling receives his 500 hour Milestone pin; Mary Odom, class of 2013 receives her Dragonfly



Certification pin; Patti Wyman, class of 2013 receives her Monarch Recertification pin; Yvonne Eele sorts through facts and myths about Poison Ivy for the audience at the April Meeting; Sue Valdez, class of 2013, receives her Dragonfly Certification pin.



EXPLORE BIRDING!
SATURDAY, JUNE 7TH
MOTHER NEFF STATE PARK
SELF-GUIDED HIKE STARTS AT 9:00 AM
WITH LAST HIKE STARTING AT 4:00 PM

*** Activities For Children * Tips For Beginning Birders *
Learn About The Golden-cheeked Warbler From
Biologist Gil Eckrich * Join A Discussion With Central
Texas Master Naturalists About Bird Beaks * Make
A Backyard Bird Feeder ***



**First 75 participants receive a special
birding package sponsored by the
Mother Neff State Park Association;
Dr. Pepper Bottling Company of Texas;
and Mars Chocolate North America.**



SPACEX

Is sponsoring the Door prizes of bird books, feeders, and a pair of binoculars to be drawn at the end of the day! While the exhibit and hike are free; there is a \$2.00 entrance fee to the park for each person 13 or older. For more information, call 254/853-2389.



Life's better outside.®

Will receive Volunteer hours

Oak Wilt & Tree Health • Fuels Mitigation and Prescribed Fire
Wildlife Tax Valuation • Land Management Operations & Water
Resources • Soil Health • Firewise & Native Landscaping

Bell County Conservation Expo

Thursday, June 12, 2014, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Bell County Expo Center
301 West Loop 121
Belton, TX 76513

**\$25 Registration, includes lunch.
Continuing Education Units (CEUs) available.*

Let us help you manage your own little piece of the Lone Star State.

To RSVP, contact:
Bell Co. AgriLife Extension Services
(Checks payable to: Bell Crops Committee)
1605 N Main St., 102
Belton, TX 76513
254-933-5305
l-zoeller@tamu.edu
www.texasconservation.org

The Bell County
Conservation Expo
is sponsored by:

Central Texas
Conservation
Partnership

Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Texas A&M Forest Service, Texas
Parks and Wildlife, Natural Resources Conservation Service,
and Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board

Will receive Advanced Training hours

Announcements

Greetings, Master Naturalists!

Another milestone has been reached - all sixteen members of the 2014 Training Class will graduate on June 10th. Congratulations!

Our chapter celebration that evening will include an Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social, Graduation ceremony and a presentation on "*Creekology*" by our own Dr. Rock. The 2014 Graduates are encouraged to invite their families to attend.

- Zoe Rascoe

AT

CENTRAL TEXAS MASTER NATURALISTS

*Please join us as we honor our 2014 graduates with
an Ice Cream Social*

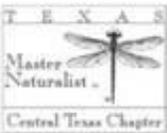


Tuesday, June 10, 2014
6:00 - 8:00pm

Temple Public Library
100 W. Adams Street
McLane Room—3rd Floor

Family Members and Friends of Graduates are Welcome

Followed by "Creekology" Presentation
By Dr. Ray Kozusko



Volunteers Needed for Mother Neff *(see page 15)*

Kathy Cantu and Liz Poole are putting on a birding program at Mother Neff State Park on June 7th and they are needing some additional volunteers to keep things running smoothly. This is National Trails Day so there will be a nice crowd at the park I'm sure. They will be doing activities from "Flying Wild" and need help along the bird trail. The time will be from 9 am to 5 pm so there are plenty of hours to help. **V**

Please contact Kathy Cantu for additional details and time slots. Kathy's email: kahycantu88@gmail.com

CTMN Events

- Yvonne Eele

Ongoing Volunteer opportunity: We are still in need of committee chairs for various Nature Fest Committees. If you would like to be a chair or would like to suggest someone either from CTMN or one of the surrounding chapters please contact Lynn Fleming. If you would like to be on a committee but not chair please also contact Lynn. lynn.fleming99@gmail.com

Standing monthly events

Salado Sculpture Garden Workday: 1st Mondays at 8:30 a.m. (contact Miriam Jordon, micom@gmail.com or Becky Denton beckydenton@embarqmail.com) **V**

Mother Neff State Park Workdays: 3rd Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. (contact Yvonne Eele, yeele@ymail.com) **V**

Nolan Creek Trail Maintenance: 5th Thursdays at 8:00 a.m. (contact Mary Ann Everett, everett.maryann4@gmail.com) **V** *There has been some confusion as to the days our chapter does Nolan Creek trash clean-up. We have changed from the months with 5 Mondays to those months with 5 Thursdays. The dates for Nolan Creek trash clean up are **July 31, and October 30.** If you would like to help at Nolan Creek, please arrive at Harris Community Center at 8:30 a.m. as that is where everyone is to congregate. Please let me know if you will be coming. Thank you. - Mary Ann Everett*

V Approved for Volunteer Hours
AT Approved for Advanced Training
MA Must Apply for approval of hours



Photos by Jean Flores of a baby Mockingbirds in her yard. For more photos, go to her blog at: <http://scottishlamb.typepad.com/nature/>

Newsletter Mission Statement

"Our mission is to inform and educate Master Naturalist members and the general public about our local environment and resources, and what we, as caretakers, can do to protect them."

Board of Directors

President: Lynn Fleming

Vice President: Jerry Lewis

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Membership: Linda Mahaffey

Historian: Liz Poole

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Newsletter: Gail Hughling

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Contributing Photographers: Zoe Rascoe, Marilyn Whitworth, Richard McCarthy, Ursula Nanna, Jean Flores, Yvonne Eele, Sharon Vick, Lisa Nix

Please send any news of events, articles or photos of what you're doing or what's going on in your yard or area to:

Terrie Hahn at moompie45@hotmail.com

Chapter Advisors:

Lyle Zoeller,
County Extension Agent, Natural Resources

Derrick Wolter,
Wildlife Biologist, Texas Parks and Wildlife

Below is a Black Bellied Whistling Duck in one of Terrie and Werner Hahn's Live Oak trees. We live a couple of miles (as the duck flies) from Lake Georgetown. First time we've ever had a duck in the yard!

