

# Coastal Prairie Chapter Courier

May 1, 2021 Volume 9, Issue 5



*In This Issue:*

*Big Sit Highlights*

*Migration Magic*

*Journey of a Naturalist*

We are a group of trained volunteers who share our appreciation and knowledge of nature with the community through outreach, education, and conservation/restoration projects



## President's Message By Bert Stipelcovich

Fellow Chapter Members:

### Progress on the road to normal!

As the month of May rolls in, we roll on with good news about the pandemic.

"Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving." — Albert Einstein

Fort Bend County, on April 13, lowered its [COVID-19 community risk level](#) from orange "moderate/significant risk" level to yellow "low/moderate risk." This is great news! TMN program safety protocols and social distancing remain unchanged until further notice.

### Another jam-packed Chapter Presidents & Advisors meeting

At the meeting on April 26, a total of 12 topics were covered. The state [website has links to the recorded meeting, presentation, and meeting notes.](#)

A few of the more noteworthy topics included:

- Reviewed ["Return to Service Guidelines"](#)
- Pins update
  - All 2020 "Against All Odds" pins have shipped
  - 2021 recertification pins shipping soon
- Next [TMN Tuesdays](#) presentation May 11
- Next [Be the Change](#) presentation May 18
- [ONE YEAR LATER](#) – Texas Master Naturalist 'Nature Reflections' video diary project
  - Reflect upon how nature and specifically, the Texas Master Naturalist Program, has given you refuge or provided benefits in this past year.
  - Requesting 1-minute videos; please upload by May 31
  - Can count for Volunteer Service up to .5 hour (Chapter Administration)
- [2021 Annual Meeting](#) (October 21-24) planning underway
  - Meeting format — virtual, in-person, or hybrid — expected to be announced in May

Let me know if you have any questions about anything that was discussed.

### Moving forward

The 2021 Spring Class successfully completed initial training. Thanks to class hosts, co-hosts, guides, and mentors. And special thanks to Shannon Westveer, our New Class Director and VP, for doing such an excellent job. Planning continues for the 2021 Fall Class, and the roster is already filling up!

A [new purple martin gourd rack was installed](#) at Seabourne Creek Nature Park providing 32 additional nesting sites for purple martin families. Other projects at SCNP continue to move forward and gain momentum.

Continued on the next page---

### Table of Contents:

President's Message.....1

Membership Minute.....2

May Program.....2

VSP Opps.....3

Bird Hike.....5

The Big Sit.....6

Migration Magic.....7

Earth Day.....8

Journey of a Naturalist.....9

Purple Martin House.....11

Garden Group.....12

Long Point Trip.....13

iNaturalist Challenge.....14

Our Own Backyard .....15

Book Corner.....16

Lighter Side.....17

Website Photos.....18

Please send chapter events and nature-related articles, photos, and items of interest to the chapter to [Lynn Trenta](#) by the 28<sup>th</sup> of the month. Suggestions for the newsletter are also welcome. Thanks.

Lynn Trenta,  
Courier Editor

## President's Message *Continued*

The City of Rosenberg has invited our chapter to participate in two upcoming events: [FISH-tastic! Children's Fishing Tournament](#) (May 22) and [July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration](#). Expect more information soon from our VSP Director, Johanna DeYoung.

We continue to grow, adapt, and most importantly — have fun!

Continue to stay safe. As always, contact me with any questions, concerns, and suggestions.

All the best, Bert Stipelcovich [bert@coastalprairie.org](mailto:bert@coastalprairie.org) 713-540-2378

## The Membership Minute *By Jan and Kevin Kolk, TMN Membership Directors*



Congratulations to the following members who recently achieved certifications and milestones:

### Initial Certification:

- Karen Sebrsula-Long (Spring 2020)
- Hoiman Low (Spring 2021)

### 2021 Recertification (21 members recertified so far)

- Shannon Westveer
- Tracey Kolb
- Johanna DeYoung
- Marilynne Malone
- Paula Kolmar
- Nancy Jones
- Pradeep Sethi
- Robbin Mallett
- John Cooper



Recertification pins will continue to be mailed as they are earned until we are able to resume in-person meetings.

## May Chapter Program “Bring Back the Monarchs’ Migration”

Angie Babbit of Monarch Watch will discuss what has contributed to the decline of monarchs, and what citizens can do to help conserve the species in their area.

This will be a Zoom meeting open to the public. Check back on the chapter calendar a few days before the meeting for the registration link.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.



\*\*\*Check out previous programs under the members' section of the Website. You will need to put in the new password. Check in Slack on the website channel to find it.



## Volunteer Service Projects Highlights

By Johanna DeYoung, TMNCPC VSP director

*It's spring in Texas and birds are in the air!!! With COVID-19 precautions in place and safety in mind, VSP opportunities continue to pop up!*

*A Texas shout out to Margo and Bill Johnson for hosting the Big Sit event on April 25. A whopping total of 82 species of birds were noted in Seabourne Creek Nature Park and the birders were out in force.*

*Reminder: Per TMNCPC Operations Manual, "...no more than 20 hours of VSP service outside of Fort Bend and Waller Counties may be counted toward member certification or re-certification." With TMNCPC's recent adoption of Wharton County, the preceding guideline pertains to Fort Bend, Waller, and Wharton Counties.*

### **CURRENT STATUS**

*New 4/13/2021: Fort Bend County moved from an Orange "Moderate/Significant Risk" to a Yellow "Low/Moderate" COVID-19 status. "Attend events only with proper physical distancing practices in place. Opt for small to medium size events (<50 people) to avoid large group settings. Continue good personal protective measure such as facial coverings and physical distancing. Consider events that are less crowded and have better controls to keep you safe, such as capped numbers of attendees and good cleaning practices."*

*3/29/2021: Texas A & M AgriLife Extension issued the following update:*

*"Texas Master Naturalist Program - Return to Service Guidelines*

*The following guidelines will direct how the Texas Master Naturalist Program will operate for the foreseeable future. Guidelines for all TMN activities:*

*It is very important to know and follow all federal, state, county and local COVID guidelines/restrictions before conducting TMN Activities. Beyond these the TMN program will have the following guidelines:*

- Virtual meeting platform tools should be used whenever possible.*
- For any indoor activity that does occur in-person, both volunteers and public participants are strongly encouraged to wear masks. The occupancy limit shall not exceed one person per 100 square feet of indoor public space to allow for 10 feet of social distance.*
- For outdoor activities, both volunteers and public participants are strongly encouraged to wear masks and social distance by at least 6 feet.*
- All multi-county TMN Chapters must consider each of their county's health ordinances when scheduling in person (face-to-face) events or meetings, the ability/inability for chapter membership to attend, and the equity of scheduling events in certain counties to the exclusion/inclusion of certain segments of the chapter."*

*3/2/2021: Texas Governor Greg Abbott issued Executive Order No. GA-34 noting changes in COVID-19 restrictions. These changes, which included lifting the mask mandate and opening businesses to 100%, took effect on 3/10/2021. Governor Abbott encouraged the continuation of wearing masks when maintaining a physical distance cannot be maintained.*

### **VSP Opportunities**

#### **1. City Nature Challenge 2021 - April 30 – May 3**

*Texas Parks & Wildlife, Texas Master Naturalists, the Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy and others invite you to a "fun challenge to see which city can document the most species. It is easy to participate by joining an event or making observations on your own using iNaturalist — [sign up on iNaturalist.org](https://www.inaturalist.org) and download the app for your device: [iNaturalist for iOS](https://www.inaturalist.org) and [iNaturalist for Android](https://www.inaturalist.org)."*

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## Volunteer Service Projects Highlights *(Continued)*

*TMN State Guidelines: "For outdoor activities, both volunteers and public participants are strongly encouraged to wear masks and social distance by at least six feet."*

*Fort Bend County is at Yellow COVID-19 Status: "Attend events only with proper physical distancing practices in place. Opt for small to medium size events (<50 people) to avoid large group settings." "Continue good personal protective measure such as facial coverings and physical distancing."*

*For more information and to get involved in Texas, go to [www.tpwd.texas.gov/naturechallenge](http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/naturechallenge).*

*[VSP hours to be recorded in VMS under "iNaturalist, eBird and Other Citizen Science: TMN Field Research Hours]*

### **2. Seabourne Creek Nature Park (SCNP):** *The Seabourne Volunteer Days have resumed.*

*TMN COVID-19 Precautions: "For outdoor activities, both volunteers and public participants are strongly encouraged to wear masks and social distance by at least six feet."*

*Fort Bend County COVID-19 Precautions: "Attend events only with proper physical distancing practices in place. Opt for small to medium size events (<50 people) to avoid large group settings."*

- For bump ups, prairie planting, nursery maintenance, and/or trail maintenance, please contact Jerry Trenta, Seabourne director (713-898-4769/[jerrytrenta@txtrentas.com](mailto:jerrytrenta@txtrentas.com))*
- For demo garden work please contact Lynn Trenta, (832-646-4769/[ltrenta50@gmail.com](mailto:ltrenta50@gmail.com))*
- For bird sanctuary work, please contact Bill Johnson, (281-734-3349/[rxrelo@aol.com](mailto:rxrelo@aol.com))*
- For butterfly garden work, please contact Katie Sallean, (713-502-5701/[katie@coastalprairie.com](mailto:katie@coastalprairie.com))*

*[VSP hours to be recorded in VMS under the category "SCNP-7 Habitats Public Access: TMN Report Hours"]*

### **3. Seabourn Garden Group Zoom meetings** *and field trips include the education committee meetings (signage is under this), and program meetings that offer information for members. For those interested, please contact [Jan Kolk](#), [Lynn Trenta](#), or [Katie Sallean](#). [VSP hours to be recorded in VMS under the category "SCNP-7 Habitats Public Access: TMN Report Hours"]*

### **4. Texas Master Naturalist's 2021 Virtual Volunteer Fair:** *This fair provided overview and ideas for VSP projects. If you did not attend the two-day sessions conducted earlier this month, (February 3-4), you can still view these sessions. The recording of the Virtual Volunteer Event is posted to the TMN website: <https://txmn.tamu.edu/virtual-volunteer-fair-february-2021/>.*

*A Project Volunteer Registration is available at the completion of each project proposal.*

*The VSP hours can be accrued by viewing these sessions, and by following up with the volunteer opportunities.*

*[VSP hours to be recorded in VMS under the category: "TMN Virtual Volunteer Service Fair: TMN Report Hours"]*

*Please continue to check the website calendar, Slack, and the TMNCPC Members Only Facebook page for VSP updates. If there is no existing VSP description fitting a potential VSP opportunity, please request and complete an VSP Proposal Form. In turn, the VSP Committee, Terri Hurley, Lynn Trenta, and Johanna DeYoung, will review the proposal and determine if it qualifies as an VSP opportunity.*

*If you are aware of VSP opportunities or have questions about VSP opportunities, please contact Johanna DeYoung (832-689-4877/[johanna@coastalprairie.com](mailto:johanna@coastalprairie.com)).*

## Birds, Birds, Birds!

### April Seabourne Park Bird Hike *By Hoiman Low and Ute Welk*

*Photos by Hoiman Low*

*The April Seabourne Park Bird Hike was a great success with about two dozen participants.*

*Among 50 bird species observed, the most exciting was a Least Bittern spotted and photographed in the Wetlands area as it is a new bird for the Park!*



*Other notable birds were Lesser and Greater Yellowlegs, Black-necked Stilt, White-crowned Sparrow, Swainson's Hawk. The icing on the cake were more than 300 American White Pelicans flying over right at the end of the hike. The next bird hike is planned for Wednesday, May 5 at 8 am. Please join us!*



## The Big Sit at Seabourne Creek Nature Park

What a fabulous day for a Big Sit! [@Margo J](#) and Bill Johnson were the BEST coordinators and hosts ... stayed the whole day, 7-to-7. I believe the count within the circle approached 80 species (updated to 82.) Highlight for me was pishing the marsh wren to chatter in the wetlands for those in the circle to hear (without the morning wind making it difficult), and [@Nathan Cross](#) spotted the anhinga waaaaay up in the sky late in the day. Wonderful time to be with fellow TMN's outside. Just what I needed! Shannon Westveer via Slack. The e-bird list for species observed on the Big Sit day can be found at <https://ebird.org/checklist/S86498650>



Photos by  
Hoiman Low

Standing L-R: Bill Johnson, Blair Margot, Mark Scheuerman (facing away, listening for birds), Robbin Mallett, David Goff, Johanna deYoung, Erik Wolf, Jan Kolk, Kevin Kolk, and Debbie McMullen engaging a visitor in conversation. Seated L-R: Ursula Cooper, John Cooper, Tina Kung, Tiffany Kung (Tina's daughter visiting from Pennsylvania), Marilyne Malone, Lisa Pasley, and a visiting dog. Not in the picture, but on the morning team: Pat Drilling, Ute Welk, Lynn Trenta, Susan Walther, Paula Kolmar, Shannon Westveer, Joanie Havlick, and Margo Margot



Photo by Eric Wolf



Photo by Robbin Mallett



Nathan Cross, Bill Johnson, Jean Greenhalgh, Jan Peterson, Pat Drilling, Ute Welk, Hoiman Low, Scott Westveer, Kneeling: Shannon Westveer



**Migration Magic** Text and Bird Photos by Robbin Mallett

Spring migration has been spectacular this year along the Gulf Coast, and Coastal Prairie Chapter members have enjoyed some magical migration experiences. We are fortunate to live near the Texas Gulf Coast and some of the most famous migration hotspots in the country. For new birders, the first visit to High Island or Lafitte’s Cove or Quintana on a “fallout” day is unforgettable. Experienced birders look forward all year to the magical months of April and May when millions of birds migrate through our area and provide the opportunity to see and photograph the flying jewels we call warblers along with thrushes, shorebirds, swallows, raptors and more. Enjoy these favorite migration memories:

**Robbin Mallett – an avid birder for six years**

One of the most surprising things I have learned as a birder is that timing is everything. You can visit a location and see nothing and return the next day (or even minutes later) to a birding bonanza. It’s all about being in the right place at the right time. Predicting the best time and place has become a bit more possible if you watch for favorable weather forecasts and check Cornell’s migration alerts (see [birdcast.info](http://birdcast.info)), but there is still a lot of luck involved! Saturday, April 17 was said to be one of the best fallout days on the coast around Galveston in 10 or 15 years. I went on Sunday and had a fabulous time at Corps Woods and Lafitte’s Cove. Birders also had some excellent days at my favorite hotspot - Cullinan Park - which is the best migrant trap in Fort Bend County. I hosted a Big Sit at Cullinan on April 24 and was thrilled that the team spotted 93 species of birds - just from the observation tower. That’s a pretty incredible total made possible by migrating species.

According to [The Happy Birder](http://TheHappyBirder.com) “bird fallout is when migrating birds must unexpectedly rest in one area due to inclement weather along their migratory route. Severely bad weather brings strong winds that require a lot of energy to fight through. Birds “fallout” of the migratory path to save energy and wait for better weather before continuing one with their migration.” <https://thehappybirder.com/what-is-bird-fallout-use-the-weather-to-see-more-birds/>

**Look for more birding experiences from chapter members in the June Courier**



Yellow-billed cuckoo



Tree swallows



Prothonotary warbler



Indigo bunting



## Online events planned for Earth Day Eve 2021

Text by Paula Dittrick, TMNCPC blogmaster,

Photos by Joyce Tipton, TMNCPC Spring 2021 intern, and Hoiman Low, TMNCPC member

The 2021 Earth Day theme was “Restore the Planet” as people celebrated on April 22. Online festivities started on April 21. First celebrated in 1970, Earth Day included events coordinated by [Earthday.org](http://Earthday.org) in more than 190 countries.

People have turned to nature for comfort and solace during the COVID-19 lockdowns. What might a trend of increased attention about the planet’s sustainability mean for Texas Master Naturalists?



National Geographic hosted an [Earth Day Eve](#) online celebration with musical performances and special appearances.

“Through the combined power of music and storytelling, you’ll leave uplifted, energized, and with a renewed commitment to living more lightly on the planet,” National Geographic said on its web site about its Earth Day Eve event.

National Geographic hosted an [Earth Day Eve](#) online celebration with musical performances and special appearances.

**Prairie nymph (*Herbertia lahue*) are widespread this spring. This plant, also called *Herbertia Herbert’s iris*, bloomed in Brazos State Park Photo by Joyce Tipton**



Visitors to Brazos Bend State Park often see White-tailed deer. Photo by Hoiman Low

One group advocated for more education about climate literacy in schools. [Education International](#) hosted “Teach for the Planet: Global Education Summit” on April 21, which was streamed on [Earthday.org](#).

This summit focused on the role of educators in addressing climate change. Education International wants climate change lessons to become a standard part of school curriculums worldwide.

The group wants climate-change education discussed at a United Nations Climate Change Conference scheduled for November 2021 in Glasgow. In addition, Education International also hopes climate-change education can be incorporated into the Paris Agreement.

Separately, United States President Joe Biden convened a global climate summit on Earth Day 2021.

**Journey of a Naturalist** *By Lucy Randel (TMNCPC spring 2021)*



*Over the course of the last year, I had the opportunity to apply my varied naturalist trainings to a public project when I realized the homeowners association (HOA) committee I was part of could influence planting by Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) in our neighborhood. I also learned that imagining a restored natural area may not address many real-life challenges; in this case the project is adjacent to active freeway service roads and the entrance to a large subdivision.*

*The journey began when I came across a Facebook post about a flood control project that had a natural restoration. I engaged my networks to get connected with someone involved with that project. My timing was good and after limited discussion, areas of prairie grasses and wildflowers in the detention basin interiors were incorporated into the landscape architect's plans for the new site. The plan was publicized and I felt a sense of accomplishment. And then I got involved with the details with the HOA and found myself in a research project on trees.*

*In my enthusiasm to introduce prairie grasses, I had not looked at the big picture of the entire site that had been disturbed. My fellow committee members pointed out line of sight issues for traffic, an entire median that had been cleared with no restoration planned, and the abundance of car parts and trash already falling into the dry bottom detention basins. Modifying the tree planting scheme to better cover the entire area took precedence, while prairie discussions stalled.*

*Once I started looking at trees, I saw an opportunity to increase diversity and create a more bird friendly habitat. In the initial proposal, cedar elm, loblolly pine and bald cypress comprised 78% of the total tree count. Although oaks were dominant among the mature trees removed, they accounted for less than 10% of the replacements. Understory trees, which provide an additional habitat layer, were absent, as they are from many public right of ways. Diversifying would make the project as a whole better able to withstand challenges that may damage individual species such as drought, floods, diseases like oak wilt or Dutch elm disease, and insects like emerald ash borer.*

*Continued on the next page-----*



*The top bank was planted with loblolly pines, sweet gum and wax myrtle*

## Journey of a Naturalist *(Continued)*

*I researched and pulled together comments on the plan expecting a discussion, only to get caught in a bureaucratic stalemate over maintenance that ended at the edge of the planting window. With the landscape architect long gone from the job, my markups were quickly converted to a new planting plan that did not exactly translate in the field. And then a few weeks later, someone noticed some of the trees were too close to a related project in the works with Houston Parks Board and would need to be relocated.*

*The first planting phase has been in the ground more than a month, and so far most are still alive, though one tree in a visible area “disappeared” shortly after planting. The plan includes 11 species of shade trees, two small ornamental trees and two shrubby species, compared to nine shade trees in the original proposal. The diverse species will provide visual interest by seasons, screens from highway views, and habitat for birds and butterflies.*



Wax myrtle  
understory planting

### Tree Resources

Digital planting guide for riparian corridors of SE Texas

[https://www.bayoupreservation.org/BPASite/media/BPA/Education/Resources/BayouPlantingGuide\\_2014.pdf](https://www.bayoupreservation.org/BPASite/media/BPA/Education/Resources/BayouPlantingGuide_2014.pdf)

Detailed fact sheets for 680 tree species

[https://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/database/trees/trees\\_scientific.shtml](https://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/database/trees/trees_scientific.shtml)

Fact sheets from US Forest Service including succession, associations and fire effects

<https://www.feis-crs.org/feis/faces/SearchByOther.xhtml>



## Seabourne Sightings and Projects

### Purple Martins Get a New Home

Photos by Garrett Engelhardt, TMNCPC chapter member

<https://www.facebook.com/garrett.engelhardt.7/videos/10221641181753027>

The purple martins at Seabourne Creek Nature Park are moving into a their new home, thanks to Sal Cardenas, Garrett Engelhardt, Bert Stipelcovich and Jerry Trenta.

Sal Cardenas, Bert and Jerry Trenta cemented the ground stake in for the rack to support the multi-dwelling apartment homes. Then Garrett Engelhardt and Bert Stipelcovich installed this beautiful structure for our wonderful purple martins a bit later in the week.



**Seabourne Volunteering** By Jerry Trenta, Seabourne Director



*It is continuing to be a busy spring with lots to do at Seabourne Park. We've started up a tree watering schedule for the newly planted trees in the park. Using our touring cart with a water tank with hose attached; it's an easy and fun VSP activity to do. Just ask Bill and Margo Johnson who spent part of last Wednesday morning zipping around the park giving our new trees a healthy drink of water. We are doing this on Wednesdays and Saturdays. You can sign up on SignUpGenius using <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C45AAAE2AA3FB6-scnp>*

*The plants in the nursery still have a month or so of growing out before we start planting. There are still several propagation trays in the greenhouse that will need to be bumped up to gallon pots. We have small 1lb. bags of Indiangrass and Big Bluestem seeds that we would like to use in some of the hog damaged areas of the prairie.*

*There is a pile of road base material at the bird sanctuary that needs to be wheelbarrowed into the hog-damaged area under the bird feeder. Please see Bill Johnson for specifics.*

*We are continuing to expand the prairie paths deeper into the restoration area and continuing our de-treeing efforts across the entire prairie area between the two tree lines.*

*We are about to start a couple of projects in the Butterfly garden in the next few weeks to months. One is to install a cedar stake arbor for the honeysuckle. The second is either adding a layer of stone to the edge stones along the pathway in the garden or digging up the pathway and lowering it several inches and adding drains. We might end up doing both after we see how things work out once we start working on the path.*



**Seabourne Garden Group's Field Trip** *By Lynn Trenta, Courier Newsletter editor*



*On Thursday, April 22, Earth Day, members of the Seabourne Garden Group (SGG) and other chapter members toured Mark and Drea Morgenstern's property.*

*We began our tour by walking into his back field which was filled with beautiful green milkweed and found a big Monarch caterpillar chopping away on a milkweed.*

*The field was filled with green milkweed, already blooming and a few Monarchs flitting around them.*

*A myriad of wildflowers was also in bloom and we stopped off and on to have Mark identify these spring beauties.*

*We circled back to the Morgenstern's house and after a short break and snack, along with a bit of conversation, we headed over to the tables of native plants to see what we could take home with us. A good time was had by all!*

**Lauren Simpson to Speak Via Zoom at SGG Meeting May 20 - 1 pm**

*May 20 - Lauren Simpson will be talking to our group at 1 pm via Zoom and it is on the chapter calendar to allow other chapter members to attend.*

*Contact [Lynn Trenta](#) or [Pam Jones](#) if you want to go to the meetings, be included in updates or come help us out at the Seabourne Gardens. We would love to have you join us!*



**Photos by Paula Dittrick**



**Photos by Lynn Trenta**



# Spring 2021 Class Long Point Ranch Field Trip

By Hoiman Low and Ute Welk, New Spring 2021 Class Members

On April 10, the new class and other CPC members attended the ornithology field trip to Long Point Ranch.

Mary Ann Weber from Houston Audubon and Tania Homayoun from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department were our trainers, accompanied by avian ambassadors Mississippi Kite, Purple Martin and Barred Owl.



Photo by Shannon Westveer



Photo by Naomi Brown



Photo by Hoiman Low



Photo by Robbin Mallett

Thanks to our Long Point Ranch hosts, a people-hauler wagon took us to the rookery where we saw various nesting egrets and herons, as well as hawks and other birds, alligators, butterflies, dragonflies and a variety of other insects.



Photo by Shannon Westveer



Photos by Robbin Mallett



Photo by Hoiman Low

## iNaturalist City Nature Challenge Goes Through May 3

The Houston-Galveston City Challenge webpage can be found at <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/city-nature-challenge-2021-houston-galveston>



# WE'RE IN!

T E X A S

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COASTAL PRAIRIE  
CHAPTER



## In Our Own Backyards and Other Places

### Indigo Buntings Are Migrating *Photos and Text by Diane Eismont*

*Beautiful blue indigo buntings are now migrating through here in summer plumage! This year I saw my first one on April 6.*

*They come through Texas every year April/May and September/October as transients, over the eastern part of the state. They winter from central Mexico to Panama and the West Indies.*

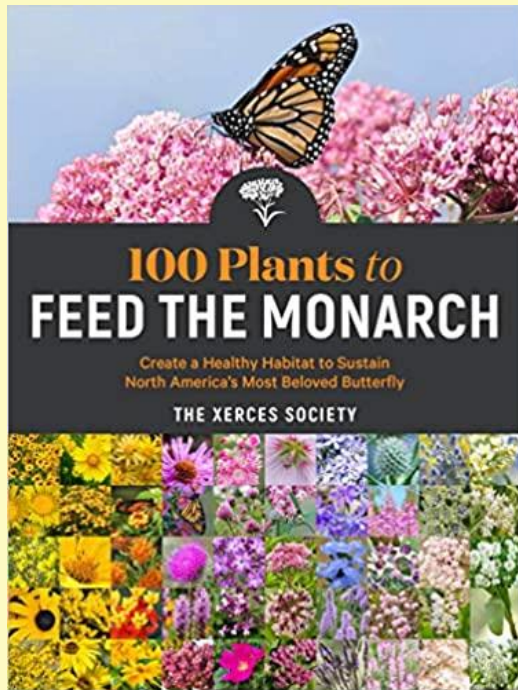
*Females are plain brown-striped and look like sparrows. Male winter adults and second-year males are bluish with brown on the back and wings. They eat insects, weed seeds, wild berries and grains and come to feeders for mixed seed and thistle seed.*

*One photo shows a male indigo bunting with a pair of northern cardinals. The other photo shows a male rose-breasted grosbeak, which species often appears with the indigo buntings during migration, two male buntings, and a small brown bird, which is a female indigo bunting.*



## The Book Corner

Review by Linda Rippert



*I recently learned about a new book put out by Xerces called "100 Plants to Feed the Monarch." It has tons of information and includes the Latin name and a discussion of the plants, where they like to live, how much moisture they want, bloom time, Flower color, Height of the plant, and availability by region. The pictures are fantastic too.*

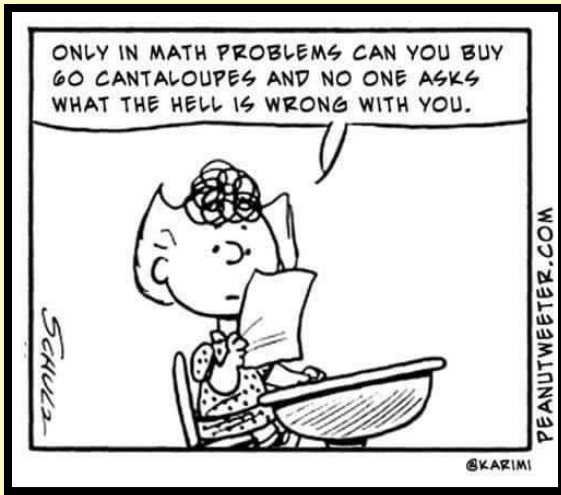
*This book is available on their website at a higher price, but the book I received when I got my copy has \$16.95 on the back, so it ought to go down to that price whenever they decide to come out with the book for everyday readers. (Editor's note: I found it on Amazon for \$13.95)*

*You can also go to their site and read about it and learn a lot. Each plant is described well, and its uses are listed, its native range is mapped on the page, and it tells what additional milkweed or moth, etc. that uses the host plant for nourishment.*



Photo by Wayne Poorman

# The Lighter Side



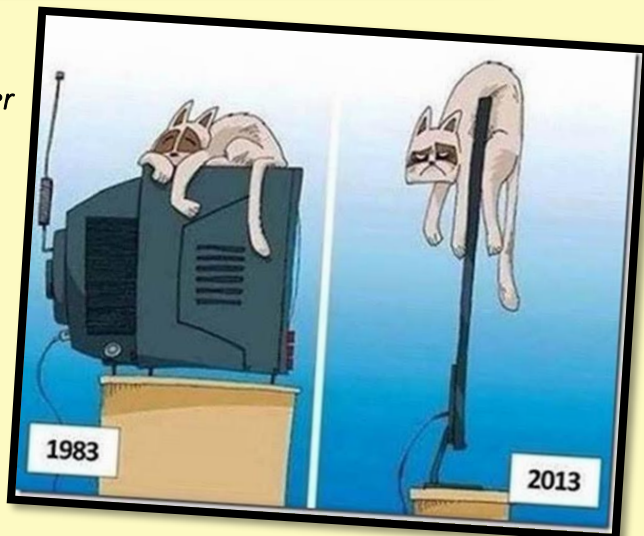
All in Books (Facebook)



John Donaho-Facebook



Jim Butcher



Just had to share.  
Now That I'm Older...

1. My goal for 2020 was to lose 10 pounds. Only have 14 to go.
2. Ate salad for dinner. Mostly croutons and tomatoes. Really just one big round crouton covered with tomato sauce, and cheese. FINE, it was a pizza...OK!?
3. A recent study has found women who carry a little extra weight live longer than men who mention it.
4. Kids today don't know how easy they have it. When I was young, I had to walk 9 feet through shag carpet to change the TV channel.
5. Remember back when we were kids and every time it was below zero outside they closed school? Yeah, Me neither.
6. I may not be that funny or athletic or good looking or smart or talented. I forgot where I was going with this.
7. I love aging, I learn something new every day and forget 5 other things.

Pass this along to anyone who could use a chuckle today

Pete Smalley-Facebook

TMNCPC 2021 Board Members

2021 Officers

- President [Bert Stipelcovich](#)
- Vice President [Shannon Westveer](#)
- Secretary [Susan Walther](#)
- Treasurer [Katie Sallean](#)

2021 Committee Directors

- Past-President [Jerry Trenta](#)
- Membership [Jan and Kevin Kolk](#)
- Programs [Gary Moore](#)
- Communication [Paula Kolmar](#)
- Volunteer Service Projects [Johanna DeYoung](#)
- Advanced Training [Ramona Ridge](#)
- New Class [Shannon Westveer](#)
- New Class Representative—[Jan and Kevin Kolk](#)
- State Representative [Jean Stipelcovich](#)
- Seabourne [Jerry Trenta](#)

Advisors

- [Clint Faas](#) Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
- [Stacie Villarreal](#) Waller County AgriLife
- [Margo "Mac" McDowell](#) (Chapter Coordinator)

We are on the Web!

See us at:

[www.coastalprairie.org](http://www.coastalprairie.org)

Photos Needed for Our Website Homepage!

By Terri Hurley, TMNCPC Webmaster



Seabourne Lake  
Photo by Pauline Zinn

Hello to all the great photographers in our chapter! Here's a great opportunity for your art to be highlighted on our website.

We need to start changing the main photo on the home page of our website. That's where y'all come in.

Please send me your photos of any nature subject so they can have the honor of being added to our homepage! Landscape format rather than portrait is needed.

Email to me at [terri@coastalprairie.org](mailto:terri@coastalprairie.org)

Our Chapter Facebook Page is at

[TXMN Coastal Prairie Chapter Facebook](#)

To post photos and information, email [Paula Kolmar](#) or [Robbin Mallett](#)

Also, share our chapter Facebook entries with your friends on your Facebook Page

We also have a **Chapter-Only** Facebook Page that allows chapter members to post items. You can join by going to the website below and clicking on "Join". The administrator will allow you access. This is for chapter members only.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1882734648662315/?ref=bookmarks>



Check out & subscribe to our Chapter's new YouTube Channel:  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfBuSOaMAOiFuiDHaiuNqTQ?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfBuSOaMAOiFuiDHaiuNqTQ?view_as=subscriber)



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Check out our Chapter Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/tmncpc/>

To post photos and information, email [Ramona Ridge](#)