



The Nature of Milam County

Mammal Group meeting
July 20, 2015
Meeting place: The Apple Tree in Cameron

Members present: Cindy Bolch, Pamela Neeley, Katherine Bedrich and Janice Johnson.

Discussion was held regarding a trip to look at bats at McNeil Road Bridge in Round Rock. The trip is planned for Friday, August 21, 2015, with arrival at the bridge planned for 8 pm. Carpooling will leave from the Wal-Mart parking lot in Rockdale at 6:30 or 7 pm. Those attending should bring a chair, water, binoculars, camera and hat. More details will be discussed at the August general membership meeting. All Chapter members are invited to attend. Contact person is Cindy Bolch.

Members participated in a track identification project. Katherine distributed two Texas Tracks identification guides.

Katherine presented sample tracking cards she made using various techniques and colors of paper. Members discussed options for the tracking cards and decided to list the common name and scientific name on the front of the card, use filled in print on the track, and include information on the back of the card, including the scientific meaning of the name, possibly a picture of the animal, and possibly a tree showing the Class, Order and differences to help in identification.

The group plans to have a slideshow ready to present to the entire Chapter next year, including information sheets and photographs we have taken. A mammal presentation may also be made to The Apple Tree next year.

Members were reminded that there will be a program on I-Naturalist on Friday, August 14.

Members compared different features of voles, shrews, mice and rats.

The next meeting will be in September or October, with details to be determined.

Notes submitted by:
Janice Johnson