

Meeting of the Texas Master Naturalist

Local Chapter Coordinating Committee in Milam County

Saturday Aug. 4, 2007 at Jim and Mary Waldson's Home in Gause, TX

Those present:

- Mike Mitchell, Milam County Game Warden
- Ann Collins, Brazos Valley Member
- Mary Waldson, Brazos Valley Member
- Jim Waldson, Brazos Valley Member
- Lucile Estell, Milam County Historical Commission
- Katherine Bedrich, Little River Basin Master Gardener
- Paul Unger, Little River Basin Master Gardener
- Nancy & Jeff Soechting

Discussion on place, time and dates of program.

Tuesdays from 8:30 - 11:30am; starting in Jan/ Feb at the Cameron Chamber of Commerce were agreed upon.

The Master Naturalist program consists of:

40 class hours - first year

40 volunteer hours - first year

Each year after:

8 hrs. on going education

40 hours volunteer

The Texas Master Naturalist is a part of the Texas Cooperative Extension and the Texas Parks and Wildlife.

The Phase I Petition was discussed.

- a. The geographic boundaries served by this chapter will be within Milam County.
- b. Letters of support have been received from Texas Cooperative Extension County Agent and area Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.
- c. Five partnerships have been recognized and other organizations will be approached in the next two weeks.

The five are:

- Texas Cooperative Extension
- Texas Parks & Wildlife
- Natural Resources Conservation Service - Charles Wade
- Ducks Unlimited Chapter #259 - local chapter
- ALCOA Rockdale Operations

d. Local Coordinating Committee Volunteers are:

- Lucile Estell
- Jim and Mary Waldson
- Paul Unger
- Katherine Bedrich

e. Two members are needed to attend Local Chapter Coordinators' training program within the next 2 years.

f. The name El Camino Real Master Naturalist was chosen for the chapter; with the tree frog as the logo.

The Phase I Petition needs to be completed within the next two weeks.

A media release will be issued by Mike Mitchell.

A couple of general interest meetings to recruit students will be held.

The Phase II Petition will be discussed at the next meeting.

Next meeting scheduled for:

Saturday, August 18th, 10am - noon at the Lucy Hill Patterson Memorial Library in Rockdale.

Submitted by Katherine Bedrich