

Texas Master Naturalist  
*El Camino Real Chapter*  
Chapter meeting – April 9, 2020, Zoom

**Zoom instructions:**

1. Click this link: <https://agrilife.zoom.us/j/5347404689> (it works on the phone or on your computer)
2. If prompted, enter the meeting ID 534 740 4689 (you probably won't have to)
3. You may be asked to download the Zoom app, so go ahead and do that.
4. You should be in the meeting. On your computer: To share your video, go to the bottom left and click the camera icon. The microphone icon down there lets you mute your microphone.
5. Others in the meeting can help you if there are other questions. Some people need to dial in on the phone separately, if their microphone doesn't work well.

**Eat and socialize** Eat whenever you want to, just don't chew loudly.

**Chapter Meeting: 6:00 pm**

**Open: 6:01**

**President Report** (Sue Ann Kendall): Update on Master Naturalist Program Status.

- Sue Ann has been attending monthly meetings for Chapter Presidents, and participates in an online group for sharing information among chapters. Kathy Lester is in touch with fellow New Class Facilitators in similar ways.
- No in-person meetings or other gatherings until further notice (May 4 at earliest).
- Chapters are encouraged to meet on Zoom, using the account provided to us.
- Initial certification requirements are not changed: 40 hours Basic Training and 40 hours volunteer service. The requirements for field trips are waived, however.
- There is NO change to the requirements for recertification, though now up to 100% of the 8 hours of AT can be done online, if approved by the Chapter. There are many options for volunteer hours, including writing brochures, writing blog articles, creating website materials, and observing and validating observations on eBird and iNaturalist.

**Vice President Report** (Donna Lewis): Upcoming Chapter Meeting presenters and other topics, as revised by the current situation. Mike Conner and Donna will talk to the Toad people about doing next month's meeting and future meetings.

**Secretary Report** (Jackie Fields): Approve February minutes. There was no meeting in March. Pamela Neeley moved to accept, and Mike Conner seconded.

**Treasurer Report** (Michael Conner): \$5270.10 in the bank. Possibility of electronic dues payment. He can deposit checks electronically. You could send a picture of your check (front and back) and send it to him for deposit.

We have 35 paid members, and over half are on the call.

## **Committee Reports**

*Communications:* Don Travis. Send Don your email announcements, and send Sue Ann blog articles. We have been getting some great blogs!

*Host:* Sherry Colley. We are storing all the Master Naturalist items safely at the Hermit Haus. If anyone needs anything, Sue Ann can put them in the carport to be picked up.

*Membership:* Lisa Milewski.

Awards for April:

- Recertification - Catherine Johnson
- Milestone - Larry Kocian - 250 Hours

All 2020 Recertifications:

- Cindy Bolch, 3/12/20
- Sherry Colley, 3/12/20
- Ann Collins, 3/12/20
- Linda Jo Conn, 3/12/20
- Joyce Conner, 3/12/20
- Sue Ann Kendall, 3/12/20
- Kathy Lester, 3/12/20
- Donna Lewis, 2/13/20
- Lisa Milewski, 3/12/20
- Pamela Neeley, 3/12/20
- Don Travis, 3/12/20

Please keep reporting your hours.

*Advanced Training and Volunteer:*

Class: Kathy Lester. The class members decided to postpone finishing the class until meetings can be held in person. Class members are welcome to attend Chapter Meetings, do advanced training, and continue to accumulate volunteer hours.

AT: Pamela Neeley. See Resources at end of the agenda for where you can find many online trainings that may count for Advanced Training hours. Note that ALL AT WEBINARS AND OTHER ONLINE TRAININGS MUST BE APPROVED BY PAMELA. This applies to things sponsored by TPWD or AgriLife; it's still up to the chapter to approve activities.

Tonia Homayoun will reschedule her introduction to Bioblitz training for when we can meet in person again.

*State Representative:* Linda Jo Conn. The March iNaturalist observation of the month (see page 3).

### **Old Business:**

- Are your dues paid?

### **New Business:**

- Project Reports: Any teams working on projects share their news.
  - Catherine Johnson: Wildscape Girl Scout project will have mason bee nests, which Sam Jolly is making. They are getting lots of donations. All the chickens sold out! Milkweed will be available

from Monarch Watch. No shipping on her free ones, and she will buy more. Let her know if you want any milkweed (different types).

- Joyce Conner has a group working on a brochure, and they will have a draft sometime soon.
- Donna: Big storm. It affected lots of us.
- Should we mail people who have re-certified their pins and certificates? Yes, we will do it.
- Discussion of Zoom format used in this meeting: Yes, we will continue.
- Other questions and comments.

#### Nature Stories:

- We will remember what the stories were.

**Adjourn:** Donna Lewis motions to adjourn, Mike Conner seconds.

#### Hours:

NO Advanced Training Hours for this meeting  
1.25 hour VT: Chapter Meeting

#### iNaturalist Observation of the Month



**Texas Baby Blue Eyes**  
*Nemophila phacelioides*

Research Grade

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/39998901>

**Carolyn Henderson**      **chenderson**

ECR **WOW!** INATURALIST.ORG  
OBSERVATION OF THE  
MONTH AWARD  
MARCH 2020

## Resources

Agrilife Coronavirus page: <https://agriflifeextension.tamu.edu/coronavirus/>

Master Naturalist Program updates: <https://txmn.org/covid-19-response/>

TMN Events Calendar: <https://txmn.org/events/>

BRIT Workshops: <http://www.brit.org/online-educational-resources>