

Texas Master Naturalist
El Camino Real Chapter
Chapter meeting – August 13, 2020, Zoom

Attendees: Connie Anderle, Linda Jo Conn, Joyce Conner, Mike Conner, Catherine Johnson, Janice Johnson, Sam Jolly, Sue Ann Kendall, Larry Kocian, Billy Lambert (speaker), Kathy Lester, Donna Lewis, Liz Lewis, Dorothy Mayer, Pamela Neeley, John Pruett, Alan Rudd, Phyllis Shuffield, Debbie Sorensen, Patrick Still, Kim Summers, Jackie Thornton, Cindy Travis, Don Travis (24)

Please let us know if you were there and Sue Ann missed writing your name down!

Eat and socialize: 6:00 – 6:15 Eat whenever you want to; this is just time to get everyone all settled in.

Program: 6:15 pm – 7:40

Billy Lambert of Texas Parks and Wildlife talked about deer management. Great presentation with good questions and comments.

Chapter Meeting after presentation

President Report (Sue Ann Kendall):

- Master Naturalist program update.
 - Numbers of participants in meetings 50 at 50% capacity, with PPE. Maybe we can meet in person? Will discuss at Board meeting.
 - Changes to guidelines about observations. Observations on your own property not allowed for iNaturalist or eBird. If they go into an approved project, however, they are okay, we think. Suna is checking with Mary Pearl.
 - Board meeting is scheduled for next week to go over these and other topics. Let Sue Ann know if you wish to be an observer and she will send you a link. You can also suggest discussion topics.
- Conference will be virtual, Wednesday through Saturday, October 14-17. Here is the link to register: [CLICK HERE](#)

Vice President Report (Donna Lewis): Upcoming Chapter Meeting presenters and other topics. She is having trouble finding Zoom speakers, but she will get some.

Secretary Report (Jackie Fields or Sue Ann Kendall): Approve July minutes. Pamela Neeley moved to approve; Donna Lewis seconded.

Treasurer Report (Michael Conner): Had an expense, to print the Predator and Prey Brochure. Joyce and Don got the cost down to \$150.76. When approved, we can get the same deal to reprint last year's brochure.

Committee Reports

Communications: Don Travis. Send Don your email announcements, and send Sue Ann blog articles. Don is sending out email!

From Don: I was in contact with the communications person with Little River Basin Master Gardeners and we agreed to share various announcements with each other based on appropriate content.

I get quite a variety of notices on pollinators, wildscapes, native plants and include LRBMGA@gmail.com, for her to forward to her distribution list, and she does that same for us on general Nature topics. So those of you who may be members of both may see duplicate emails on occasion.

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 June:

Recertification for 2020:

Larry Kocian
Sharon Sweet
Wesley Sweet

Year to date

43 volunteers

3107 VE

506 AT

July

22 volunteers

287 VE

18 AT

Cumulative 2008 to July 2020

49 volunteers

51349 VE

6833 AT

Advanced Training and Volunteer: Class: Kathy Lester. There was a meeting for class leaders, but none of us could attend (it was in the middle of work). However, Kathy got the notes, so we are up to date. They do allow 50% capacity, 50 people. Maybe, we can have no speakers in person, though, so she will check on this.

AT: Pamela Neeley.

- 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. Other ways to earn service hours webinar.

State Representative: Linda Jo Conn – iNaturalist observation of the month – see below.

Old Business:

- Brochure on predators and prey has been approved. Joyce Conner showed it and we discussed how to distribute it far and wide. It needs to go in libraries, chambers of commerce, and other highly trafficked areas in Milam and surrounding counties. We will also add it to our website and blog, so people can print them out if they want to.

- Diversity committee. Will set up a meeting to decide what we will do to encourage all citizens of Milam County to participate in our activities. Others are welcome to join Sue Ann and John Pruett on the committee. Just let one of us know.

New Business:

- Project Reports:
 - Milkweed project is going well. The summer part is over. They are going to be planting some fall milkweed next.
 - Master Naturalists have been coming to the wildscape and helping out and observing. Donna Lewis says the wildscape is great and there is a lot of space to safely interact.
- Phyllis Shuffield: a great niece of early members would like to do a memorial to them and her naturalist relatives in Cannonsnap, two of whom were early members of our chapter. We will discuss what to suggest as a memorial at the Board meeting. Additional suggestions are welcome.
- Dorothy Mayer shared that Tim Siegmund has had a new baby and recently moved. Their middle child has Type 1 diabetes. Send him a friend request on Facebook! Don has sent Tim's note to the chapter.

Nature Stories:

- Carolyn Henderson's spider has laid eggs. Sue Ann shared the picture.
- Donna Lewis notes that the small gray birds in the air are Mississippi kites migrating through.
- Debbie Sorensen has had 30-40 bumblebees on her salvia plants.
- Pamela Neeley got a new app that helps her find the space station, and while looking for it in the dark, heard a really long coyote call live. It was amazing.
- Mike Conner discovered a well with an iron pipe on their land recently. They checked the depth of the water, and found a lot of green tree frogs in there, so they can't cap it. Frogs are our friends!

Adjourn: 8:45 Donna Lewis moved to adjourn, Dorothy Mayer seconded.

Hours:

Advanced Training Hours for this meeting 1.4

Volunteer Hours for this meeting 1 hour

VT: Chapter Meeting

See next page for ECR WOW! iNaturalist Award of the month.



Whip-marked Snout Moth

Microtheoris vibicalis

Research Grade

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/54359975>

Linda Jo Conn

connlindajo

**ECR WOW! iNaturalist.org
Observation of the Month Award
July 2020**

Observed during National Moth Week 2020

Drawn to LED porch light

1/4" grid

