

**Texas Master Naturalist
Gideon Lincecum chapter Meeting
Winedale
September 16, 2017
Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by President Cindy Hobbs at 9:02 AM.
There were 42 members present.
The minutes from the July 25, 2017 meeting were approved as presented.

President Cindy Hobbs:

The nominations for next year's board will be presented and discussed today.
The scholarships for each county have been presented to the qualifying students.
Cindy wishes to thank our chapter representatives from each county for attending and presenting the scholarships.

Terry Rooney is representing us today at our booth at Monument Hill for Heroes Day. Thanks to Terry and everyone who helped set up the display.

The first Training Committee meeting was held on July 14th. Our Co-Chairs are Jeb Lapeyrolerie and Deb Hilton.

Welcome to new members Toni and David Mason who are transferring from another chapter. Toni is the new manager at Winedale.

Registration for the annual meeting is still open. One more person is needed to work full time in the bookstore.

Jenny Welch is the recipient of the first timer scholarship from the state for the annual conference.

The Christmas party will be on Saturday, December 2nd or Sunday, December 3rd. A venue is needed. Jeb suggested the SPJST. Nita is trying to get something in Burton.

Gift donations are needed from the chapter for the silent auction at the state conference. Charlotte von Rosenberg is donating a swing. Betsy Palkowsky suggested a dragonfly themed basket. Donna Mueller has several donations. Get all donations to Cindy H.

The 2017 Wild Texas Film Tour will be coming to Austin on October 10th, College Station on September 28th, and San Antonio on September 21st.

Go to www.wildfilmtour.com for information and tickets.

The Washington County Fair starts today. Dave Redden said volunteer slots are filled.

Dave Redden is resigning from the Advanced Training Chair position at the first of the year.

DIRECTOR/PROJECT REPORTS:

Washington on the Brazos: Dave Redden

The pollinator garden needs watering and weeding. The watering system is not working due to the lack of electricity. We need to get with Kathy Nolte to see what can be done to restore the electricity. Dave offered the use of his generator on a temporary basis, but a permanent solution needs to be found.

Vice President: Karen Woods

Karen is not present. Cindy read her report.

Today's Program will be on Ants by Wizzie Brown.

November's program will be "Top Ten Presentations": Top Ten Endangered Species, Top Ten Native Plants, Top Ten Reasons to be Outside. There is room for a 4th presentation if someone else is interested. The January program will be "Be Prepared as a Boy Scout".

Past President: Cindy Rodibaugh

The Mill Creek Watershed Stream Team is now an approved project. Linda Nations will be in charge of the program. Plum Creek and Mill Creek have both been approved by the state TMN for volunteer and AT hours since they are sponsored by TPWD and Agri-Life. See the website for more information.

Treasurer: Chris Morrison

We had a beginning balance of \$16,523.09 with income of \$5,885.79 and expenditures of \$3,013.04 for a balance of \$19,395.84. One person has paid for the class for next year. We continue to receive donations from the "Friends of Winedale" for the Winedale Pollinator Garden and we have received the Winedale Feed-A-Bee Grant. Chris noted that the Bill Deaton "First-Timer Scholarship" of \$200 is available for a first time state conference attendee. Chris reminded everyone that if you purchase items for the chapter, there are two forms available on the website under "Member Resources-Forms" for you to use. There is a form to give to the vendor when purchasing an item, so that you do not have to pay sales tax. The second form is to be used for reimbursement and is to be filled out and submitted to the treasurer with receipts.

Outreach: Betsy Palkowsky

Each county now has a trifold packet with brochures and a prospect form included.

You can take a picture with your phone of the names on the prospect form and send to Betsy to add to the prospect contact list. Upcoming events are posted on the Website. We now have 40 prospects for the class. Betsy is looking for someone to take outreach over next year. All materials are stored in Dropbox.

Training: Jeb Lapeyrolerie

We have a tentative calendar set up and 3 or 4 speakers committed.

Membership: Leada Dietz

It is important to report your hours. Here's why, eighty-eight members have reported 4701.08 volunteer hours and 614.83 AT hours thus far. The volunteer hours are worth \$108,141.40 to TPWD. We also documented interaction with 4,622 adults and children during this time.

Initial certification: Marcia Braun

Recertification's: Carol Daniels, Leada Dietz, Cindy Rodibaugh, Sheri Wilcox
500 Hours: Karen Woods

Advanced Training: Dave Redden

Dave is stepping down and would like someone to take over at the first of the year. Most things sponsored by TPWD and Agri-Life usually qualifies as AT. Topics should be above and beyond what was covered in our training classes.

Adopt-A-Highway: Dave Butler

We had previously discussed having a section of highway in each county. Dave Redden commented that they tried it in Washington County through The Wildlife Society, and it was not well supported. Cindy Rodibaugh commented that it is an aid to plant I.D. President Cindy did not think we had the manpower in some of the counties to support it at this time. Wednesday, October 4th at 8:30 is the next date for clean-up. Meet in Rutersville at St. Johns Church. Dave Butler added that we always have a good response with at least 6 people showing up in Fayette Co.

Prairie: Charlotte von Rosenberg

Now is "prairie time". The big four grasses should be in bloom soon. Watch google groups and the website for prairie tours and seed collection. If you happen to be in Washington County, call Charlotte to visit Quebe Prairie. There is a short window of time (four weeks) to collect seed.

Brenham I.S.D. Carol Paulson

Carol has not heard from Natalie James on dates for B.I.S.D. Dave Redden says that Bryan Roberts of TWA (Texas Wildlife Association) is trying to set dates for the L.A.N.D.S Program which includes: The Quail Field Day, the Pluck Dissection, and the Water Field Day. If you are interested, contact Carol Paulson or Dave Redden.

Indian Creek: Judy Deaton

Judy was not present. Cindy Hobbs would like to know if the sign was painted.

Monument Hill: Karen Woods

Karen was not present. President Cindy gave Karen's report. Texas Heroes Day is taking place as we meet. Karen reports that there is no damage to the trails from the rain. The process for the second stage of signs has begun. The next workday will involve removal of invasive Chinaberry trees.

Attwater: Terry Rooney

Debra Healy reported that the flooding from Harvey was not as bad as the previous flood. Over 20 female prairie chickens have survived the flood: however, it is still too wet to begin work there. Terry has arranged for us to work on the garden at the visitor center once a month. Dates will be posted on our website.

Winedale: Betsy Palkowsky

The pollinator garden is complete and doing well. The plant I.D. signage is in the process. Jerry Gips is in charge of the signs. We are also working on a plant brochure for visitors.

The Gideon Lincecum monument was scheduled to be moved on August 21st. However, the monument was dropped and broken by the mover and cannot be repaired. We are working with a vendor to get it replaced.

Nominating Committee: Cindy Rodibaugh

The Slate: President – Betsy Palkowsky

Vice President - Earl Mills

Secretary: Linda Esco

Treasurer: Leada Dietz

Cindy Rodibaugh thanks the other committee members for all their work:

Charlotte von Rosenberg, Chris Morrison, and Leada Dietz.

The election will be held during the Nov 2017 meeting.

Other Business:

Patrick Dunne commented that we had gotten the \$5000 check from Bayer for the Feed-A-Bee program. The main use is to be for a food source for bees. Also, he wanted to note that the Friends of Winedale have been very generous with their donations. He just received a promise of a donation of another \$1000 from one of the Friends of Winedale. Cindy Hobbs thanks Patrick for all his hard work.

Debra Healy asked if we would want to make a donation to help the hummingbirds in the Rockport area. We would need to investigate the proper recipient. The Master Naturalists chapter of the area was recommended as the recipient or the Hummer Festival. Chris Morrison moved that if we found the proper recipient we could donate up to \$200 for the hummingbirds. The motion passed. Debra H will research.

Donna Mueller wanted to thank the liaisons for each county scholarship:

Washington County: Jim Wilson and Judy Deaton

Colorado County: Mary Ann Peach

Lee County: Debra Namken

Austin County: Linda Esco

Each scholarship recipient received \$500. They will each speak at the next chapter meeting on their progress.

The next meeting will be November 18th.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:18 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Debbie Copeland.

