

**TMN - GIDEON LINCECUM CHAPTER MEETING  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
WINEDALE HISTORICAL CENTER  
WINEDALE, TEXAS  
MAY 16, 2009**

1. President Dave Redden called the meeting to order at 9:15am and stated that anyone wishing to speak should use a microphone.

Those present are Jan Redden, Carol Montgomery, Mary Evelyn Sorrell, Susan Solari, John Moore, Jim Weatherly, Gene Luhn, Debbie Copeland Luhn, Judy Deaton, Cindy Rodibaugh, Jeremy Frazier, Jacquy Pearson, Raye Pearson, Larry Hilgers, Amy Davis-Jones, Cecil Rives, Martha Koslosky, Charlotte von Rosenberg, and Dave Redden.

2. Monterey White thanked Jan and Dave Redden for taking the minutes during the January and March board meetings. A motion by Cindy Rodibaugh to approve the March minutes was made and Monterey White seconded. The minutes were approved.

3. Executive and Operating Committee Reports

- There is no independent report from the president.
- Treasurer Larry Hilgers reports on the 2009 budget. He will send a detailed account by e-mail to anyone so requesting. Several budgeted items have been cancelled due to the swine flu, the economy, and other factors. Grants from Exxon-Mobil may not be available until mid-year. Susan Solari makes a motion to approve the budget and Cindy Rodibaugh seconds. The motion carries unanimously.
- VP Report - Randy Reddemann is not present.

4. Committee Updates

- Training Committee - Raye and Jacquy Pearson.  
Raye reports that 24 people signed up for the 2009 class, 22 completed the class, and 20 submitted evaluations. Dave Redden suggests that Raye pass on the evaluations to the next training committee chair and the board. Jerry Frazier asks Dave whether

there is a standing training committee chairman. Dave explains that there is not, and the next chair has yet to be determined. Ideally the chairman will come from the existing graduating class.

- Membership - Martha Koslosky

Martha reports that she has eliminated members wishing to be inactive in the chapter and that leaves 87 active members. 33 have completed hours for certification. Susan Solari certifies today. Monterey White, Cindy Rodibaugh, Jonell Parker, and Dave Redden have recertified for 2009.

Judy Deaton reports that she is working on a roster that includes members' photographs, their contact information, and possibly their area of interest within the chapter. This is not meant to be a substitute for getting to know fellow members by going to meetings, advanced training, and volunteer opportunities. Martha and Judy will work on this together.

Martha concludes by stating that all the member background checks have been turned over to Larry Pierce.

- Program Committee - Gene Luhn

There is a discussion on how well a program following the board meeting is working. An all-day session was based in part on the price of gasoline for those MN commuting from Houston. The original idea was that there would be a board meeting during odd-numbered months and a program open to the public during even-numbered months. There is also the option of having events in the evening and during the week. Further evaluation and discussion are necessary. The Program Committee will poll the chapter members on subjects for programs and best timing.

Currently planned programs are:

May 16 - dragonflies and damselflies

July 18 - uncertain.

September 19 - introduction to butterflies. Dan Hardy, Austin, will be the speaker.

November 21 - conservation easements, Don Steinbach, speaker.

October 3 - joint meeting with MG, WCWS, TWG, NPSOT, TBS.

- Advanced Training Committee - Bill Deaton was absent and there

was no report. Dave Redden reminded all members to join the state list server to keep up with all AT opportunities.

An unrelated discussion developed about the Top Tennessees programs. Development of Top Ten lists are considered Volunteer Service. Currently there are no hard guidelines on how these should be presented (format, content, verification). Redden suggested anyone wanting to pursue a Top Ten list of their favorite subject do so and we will develop more specific guidelines later.

If there is enough interest, we may volunteer to participate in a Houston toad watch during the months of February through May of next year. More details follow below.

- Host - Carol Montgomery and Jonell Parker. Carol reports that the graduation party on May 9<sup>th</sup> was a great success.
- History/Library - Cindy Rodibaugh  
Cindy reports that she has the Bennett recordings of all classes and some have already been loaned out. Gene Luhn has donated some excellent photographs for the scrapbook.
- Communications - Jan Redden  
Jan reports that she needs articles for the upcoming newsletter and requests that all committee chairs please submit any additional information that you have.
- Recruiting - Judy Deaton  
Judy reports that so far 19 people have expressed interest in taking the 2010 MN class. News releases go to all extension agents within our range of counties, local newspapers, and the WCWS newsletter.
- Volunteer Service Projects - Ed Koslosky  
Burton Cotton Gin nature trail. Carol Montgomery reports that May 30<sup>th</sup> is the next work day at Indian Creek. Post holes will need to be put in and mulch spread, as well as other work.  
Native Prairie Restoration. Cecil Rives/Charlotte Von Rosenberg. Cecil reports that signs for native prairie remnants are ready to go. A native prairie management tools and techniques brochure is ready to go to the printer. Cecil passes around a draft to show the board. We are looking into having a co-op for native prairie

restoration.

Brenham Elementary School prairie restoration efforts are on hold for the moment due to several factors. Other groups are involved. The poison put on existing invasives was not strong enough and will have to be re-applied. No planting can take place until next fall or the spring of 2010. The Herb Society finished the sensory garden.

Czech Heritage Property near LaGrange.

(Koslosky/Vogel/Fritcher/Grigsby/Rangel) Gene Luhn reports that Janet Rangel, who wrote grant applications for this project, has run into some environmental issues that need to be resolved. She would like to become involved in the trail around the golf course. Dave states that whenever the projects are ready to move forward, we can help.

Winedale Trails and Brush Clearing (Dillingham/Redden/Sorrell)

Plans have been approved and we are waiting for an ok to begin.

Winedale bluebird nest box trail (Weatherly/Eppler/Milenki)

Jim Weatherly has built 8 nest boxes for Winedale. A monitoring trail can be made. Brenham ES has next boxes up as well.

Chimney swift count.

Jonell Parker attended an extensive workshop to learn to build chimney swift structures. Currently the only count going on is at the LaGrange middle school. There are chimneys at Winedale that can be more thoroughly investigated to see if chimney swifts might use them.

Pioneer Unit of Texas Herb Society.

This group maintains herb gardens at McGregor House in Winedale. Belinda Weatherly volunteers with this group.

4-H WHEP.

Dave Redden and Joy Nutt are sponsors for the Washington County group. They met yesterday and plan to go to competition next year.

Top Tanners.

This was discussed earlier. Susan Solari and Randy Reddemann need to coordinate this.

Curly Q Refuge.

Linda Behrend was not present.

- Potential Projects

Houston Toad watch with USFWS.

Primarily in Fayette, Austin, and Colorado counties. February through May. Two people at night, with GPS, on a prescribed route. Twelve stops to listen for toads calling. Equipment and training will need to be provided to us. Interested persons should contact Dave Redden to get training.

Monofilament fishing line recycling. This is primarily a coastal project. Gene Luhn will look into possible support at Fayette Lake.

Bluebird trail monitoring at BES. Susan Solari is working with Larry Pierce to get the monitoring system set up.

New opportunities for service. We are always open to any input or suggestions.

5. Other Old Business. Short discussion of possible thank you gifts to speakers. Jacquy and Raye Pearson gave packages of coffee or tea. Martha Koslosky suggested giving a GLMN patch. Giving a gift certificate to each speaker was suggested, but nothing was decided.

6. Other New Business. None

7. Next meeting will be July 18<sup>th</sup> at Winedale.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 11am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Monterey M. White, secretary