

The GLC Tidings

August 2021

From the President

Betsy Palkowsky

It's summertime and things are really starting to heat up outside after a slow start (no 100 degrees in July). Don't over do it while tending to your projects and personal property. I want to see all of you at our in-person chapter meeting, September 18th.

Despite the heat there are still plenty of volunteer opportunities for folks either working on your own or on a project with other folks. Check out our [Events Calendar](https://txmn.org/glc/events/) (<https://txmn.org/glc/events/>) for the August and September lineup of project work, AT and recruiting sessions.

Chapter News

September 18 – Chapter Meeting

For now, our September chapter meeting will be in the Meadows Conference Room at Winedale for those of you that want to attend in person. I will also make this available via WebEx for those that do not want to attend in person.

We will have a seed exchange before and after the chapter meeting. Brings what you have to share. I also have TXDOT wildflower seed packets to share from Rebekah Dobrasko. Additional details on the agenda and status will be sent as that date draws near.

Increasing Dues Vote

After much discussion at the board meeting August 5th it was agreed we should raise our members annual dues to \$25.00 starting Jan 2022. A discussion on this topic, followed by a vote will be conducted as part of the September chapter meeting.

Two volunteers needed

Our chapter is hosting the **Photo, Art and Other Media Contest** for this year's annual meeting.

Sheri Wilcox and I need the help of two chapter members in September and part of October. Contact me, bpalkowsky@outlook.com, if you are interested in reviewing and organizing submitted entries. It's all online so this can be done from your air-conditioned home.

**A HOT
SUMMER
DEAL!**



Be cool and pay your dues!
Yours might be free!

Here's the deal:

- GLC dues for 2022 (currently \$20 per member) must be paid by December 30, 2021.
- Pay your dues by **September 18, 2021** and you may be the lucky early bird to win free dues for 2022.
 - Here's the link for ways to pay:
<https://txmn.org/glc/members-section/>

Advanced Training – September 18

What does 80,000 miles of roadway have to do with prehistoric cultures or pollinators?

Presented by Rebekah Dobrasko of TXDOT

TxDOT helps care for the state's natural and cultural resources in tandem with the vision of building a safe and efficient transportation system. TxDOT has archeologists, vegetation specialists, wildlife biologists, karst geologists and other environmental scientists that work to manage the resources that are important to communities – all before building roads. Learn more about some of the exciting research and programs from TxDOT, such as how TxDOT is the world's largest creator of bat habitat, or why certain plants are used in the Right of Way to help important pollinators. In addition, you can learn ways to get involved with TxDOT's environmental work, or how you can get involved in planning transportation projects with the environment in mind.

Rebekah is an environmental program manager and lead historian at the Texas Department of Transportation. She is currently project managing the Environmental Statewide Public Engagement Plan and the **Beyond The Road** campaign.

She holds a master's degree in public history from the University of South Carolina and an undergraduate history degree from Tulane University in New Orleans.

Her recent publications include a National Register of Historic Places nomination for the West Fifth Street at Shoal Creek Bridge in Austin, Texas, an article on Texas' FM road system, entries in the Society of Architectural Historian's *Archipedia* for buildings in South Carolina, an article on the historic African American L.C. Anderson High School in Austin, and a digital and permanent exhibit on equalization schools in Charleston, South Carolina. She received the Newcomb College (of Tulane University) Young Alumna Award in 2009 for her work researching and identifying segregated schools in South Carolina (<http://scequalizationschools.org>).

Rebekah serves as a committee member for Preservation Austin and for the National Council on Public History. She is an avid volunteer in her community and is also a member of the St. Martin's Lutheran Church choir. Currently, Rebekah is working with alumni to get state and federal recognition for the L.C. Anderson High School Yellow Jacket Stadium in Austin, one of the only black public high school stadiums constructed in the state of Texas.

State Information



Guidelines have not been changed since they were last issued. Masks and safe personal distances are encouraged when meeting or working on TMN events. Visit the state website for additional information.

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/welcome/covid-19-response/>

Bridging the Gap: Getting New Audiences Outdoors in the Rio Grande Valley



TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM

Be The Change.

This presentation takes a closer look into how nature centers in the Rio Grande Valley have successfully attracted new audiences to their programs. We take a closer look into how to create positive connections to non-traditional nature center visitors and how we can use what we have learned to reach out to new audiences in the future. Many of these concepts are universal and can be adapted to other groups and interests.

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/bethechange/>

Event:	Be The Change – August – Bridging the Gap
Event address for attendees:	https://tpwdevents3000.webex.com/tpwdevents3000/onstage/g.php?MTID=e444c756294e5982a609aae221143e976
Date and time:	Tuesday, August 17, 2021 12:00 pm Central Daylight Time (Chicago, GMT-05:00)

Hybrid Meetings

- **September 2nd – 12pm – 1pm**
- **Tips, Tools, and Hacks for Hosting Hybrid Meetings**
- **John Chivvis - Virtual Engagement Specialist | Texas A&M AgriLife Events**
 - While we have become more used to virtual and hybrid meetings, successful ones are those that offer attendees increased engagement and a higher quality experience. Join John Chivvis, AgriLife Events Virtual Engagement Specialist, as he talks about his experience with virtual and hybrid events ranging from broadcasts and livestreams to webinars and demonstrations. With that he will talk about best practices when planning and producing your event, rethinking technology for increasing engagement and interactivity, and being creative to enhance the overall experience whether in person or online.
- **Who?**
- New Class Directors
- All Chapter Leaders



Additional information on this lecture will be sent out via the TMN Listserv

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/virtual-volunteer-fair-august-2021/>



- August 31st & September 1st 2021
 - Tentative - sessions in mornings . . .
- Launching Agenda & Registration for WebEx Events – **August 16th**
- <https://txmn.tamu.edu/virtual-volunteer-fair-august-2021/>

TMN Annual Meeting



Registration has begun **22nd Texas Master Naturalist Program Annual Meeting**, an event to gather, learn and celebrate another year of the Texas Master Naturalist Program.

This year's meeting will be a **HYBRID Event** – both online and in-person at the Dallas/Fort Worth Airport Marriott in Irving, Texas.

The event will be held the weekend of **Thursday October 21st through Sunday the 24th, 2021** VISIT THE [STATE WEBSITE](#) FOR DETAILS AS THINGS ARE A BIT DIFFERENT FROM PAST ANNUAL MEETINGS.

NOTE: Registration has gone up in price by quite a bit and in-person attendance is limited to the first 400 registrations.



Click Here
to Register

Be a Part, Be a Sponsor

Once again, we are seeking sponsorships for the Texas Master Naturalist 22nd Annual Meeting. In addition to general meeting sponsorships, we are also seeking sponsorships for specific portions of our first ever HYBRID event.

Sponsors receive special recognition outlined for each level, such as:

- Recognition during the Awards Ceremony (all levels)
- Banners with sponsor names/logos on our app and event website (Ecologist and above)
- Recognition in speaker presentation slides (Steward and above)
- Reserved tables at our awards dinner (Conservationist and above)
- Organization highlight page on website (Naturalist)

Spread the Word

Perhaps you or someone you know is interested in sponsoring a part of this year's meeting. <https://txmn.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/2021-Sponsorship-Flyer.pdf>



Gideon Lincecum Chapter Texas Master Naturalist™

NEWS

August
2010

NATIVE PRAIRIE REMNANT RECOGNITION

In cooperation with our partners, Texas Parks and Wildlife and Texas AgriLife Extension Service, our chapter is taking the lead on a program to recognize landowners who have protected portions of the Tallgrass Prairie ecosystem which used to cover millions of acres stretching from Texas to Canada. If this program is successful, it may expand to the rest of the state.

A native prairie remnant is a portion of land that has never been plowed or used for crop farming; it has not been overly grazed or otherwise used in ways that would destroy the native plants and animals that live there. Historically many of these remnants were saved from other use by serving as hay meadows for the farm animals that were used to work the land before the widespread use of motorized equipment.

The July 9 *Managing for Wildlife and Livestock Symposium* in Cat Spring was the occasion to recognize five landowners in the four counties of Austin, Colorado, Fayette, and Washington. Charlotte von Rosenberg, leader of the Native Prairie Project, made the official presentations on behalf of the chapter. Each landowner received a gate sign and framed certificate.

The first five landowners to be recognized for their conservation efforts in protecting this land are:

- Fred and Bernadine Blum of Burton, Washington County
- Frank and Vickie Monk of Bellville, Austin County
- Jim and Belinda Weatherly of Industry, Austin County
- Bert and Wilda Pecore of Round Top, Fayette County, and
- Bill and Charlotte von Rosenberg of Brenham, Washington County



Charlotte von Rosenberg made the presentations. Below are Frank Monk, Fred and Bernadine Blum, Bert and Wilda Pecore and Jim and Belinda Weatherly.



Resources

Chapter Resources Keep You Informed, On Track, and in Touch

- Gideon Lincecum Chapter Website <http://txmn.org/glc>
- GLC Facebook Group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/21969044537/>
- Volunteer Management System: Go to the state website to log your volunteer and advanced training hours: <http://txmn.org/tmn-vms-users/>

State Resources Expand Your Horizons

- Texas Master Naturalist State Website <https://txmn.org/>
- Texas Master Naturalist Listserv ; get notices about activities across the state https://txmn.org/staying-connected/sign-up-for-tmn_listserv/

Submit your articles and/ or photos, items to our newsletter editor

glcnwsltr@gmail.com