Texas Master Naturalist
Gideon Lincecum Chapter
July 17, 2021 Chapter Meeting
Virtual

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 by President Betsy Palkowsky but due to technical difficulties Lori Buffum continued the meeting.
34-36 members were logged on after Introduction of the Scholarship winners.

Chris Morrison –Membership was asked to report the most recent awards. There were 6 to share.

3 were new members who acquired initial certification which includes 40 volunteer hours and 8 Advanced training hours.
Class of 2020 Joanna Hagler
Class of 2021 Chuck Linton and Tim Rackley
2 members Mark Brown and Nita Tieman earned 1000 hour pins
Jaci Elliot earned the GOLD DRAGONFLY

Chris reminded the chapter that projects need help in the summer months. Federal audit mandates that hours be reported within 45 days of service. TPW receives $23.00 for each hour recorded. Make certain you are recording the correct opportunity tab each time to ensure the proper credit goes to that service.

Ken English has an opportunity for manning booths for recruitment at New Landowner meetings and Agrilife programs. Be certain to put who the program was sponsored by in the description. Administrative drop down is recruiting with the main purpose to educate so it is Educational Outreach not Recruitment. Any questions on how to input your service hours please call Chris.

Vice President- Mark Brown

Advanced Training Topics are:

September- Rebekah Dobrasko from the Texas Department of Transportation
November- Taylor Asher Ducks Unlimited on duck and water fowl Habitat

Work days with Doug in Cat Spring start at 7 to 10-11 this Thursday July 22, 2021. Doug asks to members collect seeds and bring to him looking for local E types of Native grasses.
There will be a meeting with Meghan Clayton on Grazing management coming up.
Wildlife Rehab Center In Houston is asking for people to translocate wildlife to their properties. They are now allowing the opportunity to transport injured animals to the Houston facility. Call for more information.

Treasurers David and Lori Hessel

Cash Balance is $15,807 as of June 30, 2021. David noted this was before the Scholarships were honored. After the scholarships are deducted that will leave a balance of around $10,000. This is an on track balance and all other expenses have been paid to date. David suggested that we may need to fundraise in the future to help augment our funds. Lori Buffum reminded members that all dues for 2022 are due by December 31,2021 but it is extremely helpful if they come in sooner.

Address was given to send dues at any time.

1305 East Bluebell Road Suite 104
Brenham Texas 77833
David also suggested using the link In the newsletter or on the website to pay dues directly.

Ann Ray asked the question that since we are totally nonprofit when would we run out of funds to operate. Lori Hessel reported that we are running at about a $5,000 deficit each year. David reported that expense run rate is $11,500 yearly and budgeted revenue is $5,000

yearly so we are still comfortable with cash but planning for the future in possibly needing fundraising.

Donna Muellar stated that fundraising is a great deal of work. Past examples were mentioned.

ANN RAY INDIAN CREEK Project Administrator

BWI in Schulenberg suggested using erosion control blankets to help to erosion at Indian Creek. Each blanket costs $57.00 and Master Naturalist and Texas Home land owners can purchase for this price. Lori Buffum praised Ann for extensive work on Indian Creek. Ann asked for 10 volunteers to pick up glass on Monday July 19 and ideas for native plants to add.
The question was asked if Ann intended to remove all ligustrum from the Creek area.
Ann's answer was that it depended on the volunteers she had.

Ann mentioned that anyone can go and work even on a day she isn't there. Move the ligustrum that has been cut to the burn piles.

Donna Muellar suggested we use Eastern gamma grass which has a 6 foot root system and does not erode with rain.

JAN HUGHES Project Administrator at WINEDALE

Jan reported that we are once again allowed to use WINEDALE for meetings.

Lori Buffum reported we have a lot going on in the GL Chapter and also statewide. There are many service opportunities to please send photos with caption or a book review to Jamie Manning and you will receive volunteer hours for your time when submitting to the newsletter.

Next meeting is Saturday September 18th 2021 VENUE to be announced later.
Meeting adjourned at 12:55

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Brown

DONNA MUELAR Chair for the Scholarship Committe introduced the 5 scholarlship recipients for this year 2021

Washington County is Jacob Counts
Austin County is Lee Michelik
Colorado County is LeRoy Stovnach III
Fayette County is Taylor Limbaugh
Lee County is Kailey Burgdorf

These 5 young people are intelligent, motivated and extremely capable members of our communities. They were all very appreciative of the additional funds they were given to offset their college expenses.