



The GLC Tidings

In this Issue

FROM THE PRESIDENT (CONT)	2
STATE INFORMATION	3
MEMBERSHIP MEMO	4
MEMBER PROFILES	5
ADVENTURES AND OBSERVATIONS	8
TEACHING MOMENTS	13
VOLUNTEERING HIGHLIGHTS	17
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES	19
THIS & THAT	20
UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES	21
CHAPTER RESOURCES	22

Our Mission

Volunteers dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources through education, outreach and service in our community.

March 31
APRIL NEWSLETTER
ENTRY DEADLINE

Send articles or photos to our
 Newsletter Editor, Betsy
 Palkowsky
bpalkowsky@outlook.com
glcnwsltr@gmail.com

From the President



Sheri Wilcox

Flexibility remains a constant in our lives as we continue to adapt to the ever-changing pandemic. Despite a last-minute change of venue caused by the closure of the Winedale Historic Complex, it was a pleasure to see so many of our members gather at Blinn College’s Rankin Agricultural Complex for our first meeting of 2022. Chapter member Chuck Babb’s presentation on emergency preparedness was thought-provoking. I know I went home and started thinking about how I could improve my own emergency preparations. I expect many of you did the same.

Our Volunteer Appreciation Event highlighted our chapter’s accomplishments during 2021. We can all be proud of providing over 5,600 hours of volunteer service to our community in 2021.

Our chapter is well positioned to build on our accomplishments in 2022. I want to thank our outgoing officers (Betsy Palkowsky, Mark Brown, and Linda Esco) and director (Donna Mueller) for their hard work and leadership. I also want to thank our incoming and continuing officers and directors for their willingness to serve our chapter. A complete list of officers and directors can be found on our website ([Members Area, Contacts and Communications](#)).

Our Class of 2022 training program launched January 22, 2022. We have a very impressive class of trainees, many of them friends and neighbors of current chapter members. Training directors Connie Shortes and Chuck Linton have assembled a wonderful program of speakers and topics. You can follow their journey on the website ([Join Us, Welcome to the Class of 2022](#)). Please offer them a friendly welcome to the chapter as you meet them volunteering at chapter projects with their buddies or attending upcoming chapter meetings. Graduation will be part of our May meeting.

From the President (cont)



I am honored to serve as your president for 2022-2023. Some ideas I would like to explore include:

- Leveraging knowledge and resources across projects – For example, we will be using the brochures created to showcase the plants growing at our Winedale pollinator garden to inspire a similar brochure of plants in our pollinator garden at Washington-on-the-Brazos. The new brochure will accompany packets of seeds collected from the garden that will be distributed at our booth at the upcoming Washington-on-the-Brazos Independence Day Celebration.
- Deepening relationships with partner organizations – We work closely with organizations with similar goals such as the [Fayette Chapter of the Native Prairies Association of Texas](#) and the [South Central Texas Prescribed Burn Association](#) and with the sites that host our projects such as [Stephen F. Austin State Park](#) and [San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site](#). We will be exploring ways to strengthen and broaden those relationships to provide meaningful opportunities for volunteer service to our chapter members.
- Providing more resources for our educational programs – Many of our members are passionate about education, especially youth education. But it can be intimidating to present an educational program if you have not done it before. We plan to provide additional resources to support our members such as objectives, background information, and training to show how the program could be presented.

Let me hear from you about what you love about our chapter and what we could do better. Together we are stronger than each of us alone.

I will end this message with the quote attributed to anthropologist Margaret Mead that I shared with our training class:

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

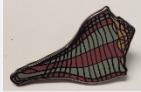
SAVE THE DATES

Board Meeting – 3/4/2022 – Winedale
Chapter Meeting – 3/19/2022 - Winedale



State Information

2022 Annual Meeting will be at the Omni Houston Hotel near the Galleria October 20 – October 23. They do not know if it will be an in-person or hybrid.



2022 Annual Recertification Pin Lightning Whelk (*Busycon perversum pulleyi*) The State Shell of Texas

2021 Annual Meeting AT recorded sessions

will be available to attendees through April 2022. Info on new access portal will be sent to registrants shortly.



#TMNTuesday

Feb 8, 2022 ,12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CST
Seed Collections for Conservation

[#TMNTuesdays \(tamu.edu\)](#)



Virtual Volunteer Fair 2022

DATES – May 4th and 5th
Will be sending out Call for project proposals soon



Covid Guidelines have not changed

Follow local mandates/guidelines
Stay healthy

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



AgriLife Bookstore is now AgriLife Learn

Same customer service email learnonline@ag.tamu.edu
Not all TMN merchandise available yet, adding more soon

[Texas A&M AgriLife Learn | Courses, Publications, and Merchandise \(https://agrilifelearn.tamu.edu/s/\)](https://agrilifelearn.tamu.edu/s/)



Membership Memo



by **Chris Morrison**

Impact Data:

The member in charge (only one person from the group of volunteers) of an activity that involves interacting with the public, impacting new acreage, or creating new trails needs to fill in the information at the bottom of the survey form when logging hours for that activity.

Data requested may be estimated and includes number of acres impacted or miles of trail created. For public interaction, enter the number of adults, youths, males, females, and the race/ethnicity including White, Black, Hispanic, Asian, or American Indian.

This impact data is very important to our two state sponsoring organizations when they interact with legislators and the legislative budgeting process.

The Native Opportunities:

Remember that we have renamed some of our volunteer service opportunities to make it easier to find them in the VMS dropdown and to clarify which opportunity you should choose for reporting your service. These three all begin with native.

- **Native Plant Seed Collection and Sharing** – Members collect native seeds for the purpose of sharing them with other members, chapter projects, or other chapter activities. May include travel time for delivering seeds to other members.
- **Native Prairie Restoration for Fayette Prairie Chapter of NPAT** – Work done with the Fayette Prairie Chapter to restore native prairies. This used to be Fayette Prairie Chapter of NPAT and has been combined with the former Native Prairie Restoration project.
- **Native Seed Project for CKWRI** – This used to be called Coastal Prairie Native Seed Project. It includes work to maintain and harvest grass seeds at the Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute test plot near Bernardo. It also includes harvesting of positively identified native seeds from native stands of prairie at other locations within our chapter's area, packaging and tagging them, and supplying them to the CKWRI representative for use in their research.

AT Hours by Webinar:

The state is continuing in 2022 its Covid policy of no restrictions on the number of AT hours that come from webinars. Before the pandemic, you could only count 4 AT webinar hours for annual recertification and the other 4 had to be in-person attendance at a presentation.

The number of volunteer service hours for annual recertification has remained the same at 40.

Our Volunteer Hours Matter:

Thank you for your service and for logging your hours! Please get any remaining 2021 hours in VMS ASAP. Last year, our chapter members logged the equivalent of more than \$130,000 towards grants for our sponsoring agencies. Yay us!



Member Profiles

Patti Melton Brown

About Me

I grew up on a cotton-cattle farm in Mississippi. I am a retired Special Education teacher with a MS in Special (Education Learning Disabilities) with emphasis on emotional overlays. I worked in Nashville, TN, Des Plains, IL outside Chicago, Houston, Oklahoma City. I had various volunteer and board positions with the schools my children attended. I've been a volunteer at the Charity Guild of Catholic women in Houston since 2005. My husband Allen and I were Peace Corps Volunteers in Ecuador from 1974-1976 and toured many of the countries in South America while we were stationed there.



Allen retired in 2015, and we made the decision to move to our property outside Brenham in 2017. We have seventy acres and a Wildlife Exemption which keeps us very busy. Allen and I have been married for 49 years this June. We have three adult children and 4 grandchildren.



Why volunteer for Texas Master Naturalist

I grew up on a farm and loved everything outdoors. I thought I knew a thing or two about nature, but soon found I needed more specific directions for this different topography. While attending a New Landowners Summit, I saw the information boards and signup sheets for the next class of Volunteers.

I realized what a wonderful opportunity this would be to learn more and to give back.

TMN-GLC Projects

I work with Ann Ray and others at the Indian Creek Nature Area. Do highway cleaning on my own stretch of Texas highway and serve as the 2022-2023 Chapter Secretary; learning a thing or two about recording minutes at our board and chapter meetings, then compiling them into the proper forms for our records.



Favorite thing about being a Texas Master Naturalist

I appreciate the professionalism and degree of dedication I have found with all the volunteers I have met so far. This is a group of highly educated and remarkably accomplished people. There are extreme differences in the backgrounds of the volunteers, but the hearts are all for the "Greater GOOD" of the land and creatures we encounter.



Favorite critter

The Bluebirds I lovingly watch and count each year. I feel like a true “mother hen” from January until the last nest is emptied in May!

Favorite place in Texas

Right where I am. I was walking by the backdoor last week and just happened to stop in my tracks at the sunset. I am completely in awe of the skies here at sunset. It is indescribable and breathtaking. I feel extremely fortunate to experience this on a regular basis and try to share it with family and friends.

Favorite big trip

National Parks: Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon, Petrified Forest, Sunset Crater Volcano, Painted desert, Wupatki and Zion. Allen and I bought an RV last year and have spent many days trying to take in God’s artwork at these parks. We have an RV trip planned for early February to Big Bend, which we have not visited since 1989.



Mark Brown



About Me

I was born in Houston and grew up in Jersey Village which was just outside of Houston. I graduated from Cy Fair High School in 1973 which was a very rural district at the time, the district now has 10 high schools. I graduated from Sam Houston State University in 1976. I worked in Houston in construction related fields my entire career. I retired in 2014 and I was in the 2015 Master Naturalist class with Ann Ray.

I am married to Cheryl. We don't have kids, but we do have two indoor cats. We live in Ammannsville which is just south of La Grange. We were awarded the Lone Star Land Steward Award from TPWD in 2017 for the Blackland Prairies and the Fayette Co Soil and Water Conservation district Wildlife Conservationist Award in 2019. Later that year we were awarded the region three runner up for the Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Texas.

Why volunteer for Texas Master Naturalist

I have met many Master Naturalists while working with the South Central Texas Prescribed Burn Association (SCTPBA), our prescribed burn group and became interested in the program. I always want to learn more about wildlife habitat and habitat management.

TMN-GLC Projects

I am the lead for the burn association, the Fayette Chapter of the Native Prairie Association of Texas (NPAT); where we do cooperative workdays for habitat management on each other's properties. Additionally, I co-lead working with Caesar Kleburg Wildlife Research institute test plot near Cat Spring; where chapter members help maintain the test plot they use to determine the best types of native plants for our area

Favorite thing about being a Texas Master Naturalist

A wonderful group of like-minded individuals who are working to learn more about wildlife and all that it entails. I also like sharing that knowledge with the rest of organization.

Favorite critters

Snake: Coach Whip, Bird: Dickcissel, Insect: Monarch, Plant: Maximillian Sunflower.

Favorite place in Texas

Fort Davis Texas

Favorite big trip

Ireland, Yellowstone, Custer Battlefield, Czech Republic.



Adventures and Observations

Exploring Southwest Texas

by **Cindy Rodibaugh**



My husband and I recently took a road trip to Van Horn and saw the magnificent Guadalupe Mountains National Park peaks. This is one of the signal peaks.



After a short visit to the park visitor's center that has great displays of wildlife and habitat, we turned back east and south past the McDonald Observatory, through Fort Davis, Presidio, and along the Rio Grande to Big Bend National Park.



East of Presidio the river is barely or not visible in some places.

Back in town we enjoyed brick-oven baked pizza and sampled the Crazy Water (for sale by the bottle or five-gallon jugs).



This chaparral hopped up on the stonewall outlining the patio adjacent to the Big Bend Lodge dining room. They are interesting birds. It got distracted by a dog that accompanied his master onto the patio and I lost him.



Please excuse the waste station in the center of the photo. The gap between the high rocks is called "The Window" and it's a 5 mile hike from the lodge but the view (I've been told) is worth the hike—I didn't make it that far.





Palmetto State Park

by Nita Tiemann

A couple of weeks ago our camping group went to [Palmetto State Park](#) near Luling. The park was built in the 1930s by the CCC.

The park is an amazing place and rich flora and fauna. It is bordered by the beautiful San Marcos River. There are wonderful walking and biking trails that ramble through ephemeral swamps and thickets of Palmettos (*Sabal minor*).



As you stroll along you feel like you might come upon a dinosaur or even a “swamp thing” which is kind of the park’s mascot. Stories have been passed down through the years by locals who swear they have heard the creature but somehow has never been seen. We kept a close eye out for it anyway.



There were several huge sycamore trees (*Platanus occidentalis*) diameters of ten feet or more, along the river and we were excited to see several sand paper trees (*Ehretia anacuna*) as well. Those were just a couple of the many species of trees we encountered.

Several of the trees were inundated with holes bored in them by yellow bellied sapsuckers (*Sphyrapicus varius*) or pileated woodpeckers (*Dryocopus pileatus*).





The park has many interpretive plaques of the native species of plants and animals. I was lucky to see an Eastern Gray Squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*).

If you want to see all the species that have been identified in the park just do a web search for the park or use the [iNaturalist website](#) for Palmetto State Park. It is very interesting.

A couple of great things about this park for me, besides all the wonderful nature we encountered, was that it is only about an hour from LaGrange and only five miles from Buccee’s in case you forgot your s’mores supplies.

Wonders of Winter Flowers

by Jaci Elliott



Every winter I sort of look forward to our first hard freeze (which this year was January 3) as it means our frost weed will be bursting at their vascular seams with artful icy designs.

I had never heard of these plants or this phenomenon before we moved to Texas, until my mother and I discovered them on a chilly morning walk (to try to get warm after camping out on our property overnight!) nearly 20 years ago. Mom died in 2007 but the memory of our discovery of frost weed always warms me up on an otherwise very cold day.



This year I noticed my firecracker plant also displaying these fleeting filigrees of frost.





Frosty Morning Frolic

by Jon Watkins

December's weather at our Washington County retreat was unseasonably warm. Instead of dressing in layers to guard against the wintriness I was, more often, reaching for a bandana to wipe the sweat from my face.

My wife and I had been waiting patiently for that first frosty freeze of winter but the month of December had so far failed to produce one. Christmas and New Year's Eve came and went as we greeted 2022 with renewed enthusiasm.



January 3rd began as most other mornings except that I had managed to sleep in a little past my normal waking hour. I was in the kitchen enjoying a mug of coffee when my wife appeared fully dressed including coat, hat, scarf and gloves. At her urging, I threw my heavy winter coat on over my loungewear, and we headed to the woods in our UTV. I checked my weather app as we approached the forest trails and found it to be 29 degrees which would be the perfect temperature for our morning frolic. As we drove slowly along the shaded woodland edges, we could see the frozen ribbons and petals in the distance.

Indeed, our reward this morning was observing the beautiful and unique ice sculptures produced by the Frostweed plant. When the air temperatures are freezing but the ground is still warm the plant's root system remains active. Moisture in these roots flows up into the stem where it freezes and the ice crystals are pushed out forming elegant clusters.



Frostweed, *Verbesina virginica*, is a native Texas perennial that ranges in height from 3 to 7 feet. The plants produce long, green, ribbon-like wings that run the length of the stem. This characteristic makes them easy to identify when they aren't in flower. The dark green leaves are oppositely arranged with rough surfaces and toothed margins. The dried leaves were sometimes rolled and used as tobacco by Native Americans. Frostweed is one of the few plants that bloom in late summer and continue blooming until frost. The large array of small white flowers is an excellent source of nectar for butterflies and other pollinators.

Perhaps it is not the most interesting plant in the forest but when the timing is just right the Frostweed plant will reward the observer with an intriguing display of the beauty found in nature.





The Resilience of Wintering Butterflies

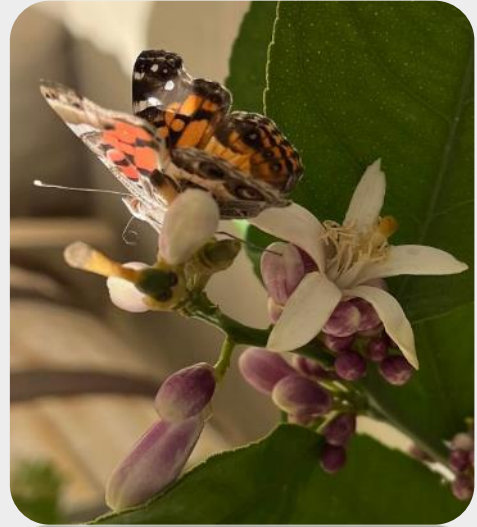
By Lori Buffum

Here in South Texas, as soon as the sun comes out and warms the air, the winter butterflies sail about seeking whatever forage they can find.

American Lady butterflies (*Vanessa virginiensis*) are regular visitors to our Meyer lemon tree. I often see sulphurs (*Phoebis sennae*) flitting among the pansies.

So, where are they when it's freezing and cloudy? Butterflies that remain in cold-winter areas as adults find safe places to rest, like cracks in rocks or tree bark or leaf litter, and enter a state known as diapause. It's kind of like a hibernation for bugs.

Butterflies shut down all their non-essential systems like reproduction and slow their metabolism dramatically. Special chemicals in their bodies work as anti-freeze, and the butterfly remains dormant. What a delight to see them and know that there is enough protective habitat around us that the butterflies can shelter during freezing, cloudy periods and show their colors again in sunshine.



Teaching Moments

2022 Training Program Begins – Welcome Trainees



Saturday, January 22nd at the Randolph Community Center in La Grange, the journey began for the 15 members of our 2022 Training Class. Connie Shortes, Training Director, ably managed the hybrid class as 6 of the students signed in remotely.

More than a dozen chapter members gathered with the class to meet their "buddies", talk about projects, and present on a variety of topics to orient the students to the TMN program. It was a great day!

New chapter members

Austin County - Alan Atchley, Frank Michel

Colorado County - Cindy Ferguson, Greg Mills

Fayette County - Tim Baker, Wendy Hiester, Terry Hill, Matt Holdeman, Frank Jaquier, Barry Zeluff

Lee County -Mike Morton

Washington County - Michelle Bramblett, Babette Hale, Tressie Roark, Debra Salcedo

“When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.”

— ALDO LEOPOLD, *THE LAND ETHIC*





The Three Ps of First Aid

by Chuck Babb

Would you know what to do if you encountered one of these accidents in a remote area during a nature hike or even a TMN workday or at home?????

The Three Ps of First Aid



- **Preserve Life:** As a first responder to any situation, your first priority should be to preserve life
- **Prevent Deterioration:** Do what you can to keep the victim in stable condition until medical professionals arrive. ... or you have to evacuate them because of their condition worsening before help can respond.
- **Promote Recovery**

For more information check out these YouTube videos

- NOLS Wilderness Medicine – Wilderness First Aid Promo <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J83URt32nx8>
- Stop Bleeding Trail First Aid <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g4TrO7ggdrQ>
- Wilderness First Aid Tips and Tricks <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nnUQHKZqkqw>
- The Essential First Aid kit content <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-wuQYoRtzNI>

Websites with additional information

- American Red Cross <https://www.redcross.org/>
- Disaster Preparedness <https://www.ready.gov/>
- Wilderness First Aid Classes <https://www.nols.edu/en/wilderness-medicine/courses/get-certified/>

Get Trained! Be Ready!





Our Grand Bluebonnet Project

By Ken English

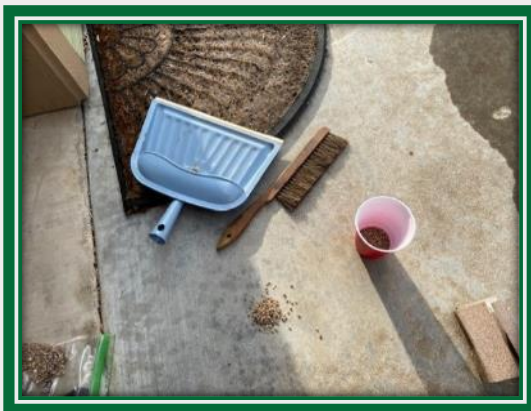
When my wife, Linda, and I bought our property in 2004, we were excited to see a large area of bluebonnets emerge in our creek bottom. Each subsequent spring, the bluebonnets not only reappeared, but seemed to expand their coverage. Our grandson, about 4 years old at the time, complained about walking through them because they were so thick.



This all changed in 2010 and 2011.

The drought during those years devastated our bluebonnet patch, wiping it out. In the following years Linda and I tried reseeding the plants multiple seasons with little to no results. In 2020, we decided to research the best methods for preparing wildflower seeds for success. I had repeatedly heard that bluebonnet seeds needed to be scarified to increase the chances for germination.

Remembering my training as a Master Naturalist, I had learned that wildflowers required close attention to the process of preparation and planting of the seeds. Drawing on the resources of the [Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center](#), we began our research to find a way to increase the success rate of our seed planting and germination. We discovered that one of the tips for bluebonnet seed germination was to freeze the seeds overnight then pour boiling water over them the next day allowing the seeds to soak for a couple of hours.



In May and June of 2020, we harvested a number of seed pods from volunteer bluebonnet plants in our front yard. These seeds spent the summer and fall in a paper sack drying out and popping open. Seeds were then collected from the pods and the bottom of the bag for planting. In order to determine which seed preparation worked best, we split the collected seeds into three equal piles. One pile was left untouched, one pile was scarified on our concrete drive with sandpaper. The last pile was frozen then soaked with boiling water.



After mowing the grasses on our planned bluebonnet bed then scraping the ground bare, we were ready to proceed in November 2020. The target planting ground in our creek bottom was divided into equal areas and the seeds planted.



As the little plants emerged in the spring 2021, we placed flags on each one to keep count. That effort produced approximately 110 new plants, 83 of which were the freeze/soak method of preparation. We were so excited!

Building on this success, we collected more seeds the spring of 2021, prepared them by the freeze/boil & soak method, and planted them in November. Walking our creek bottom this afternoon, I am finding new little bluebonnets sprouting in new locations. I think we will be continuing this effort in the upcoming years!



Volunteering Highlights



Washington on the Brazos (WoB) Project

by Julie Itz

After a night of temperatures below freezing, it was a cold, but sunny January morning, (Jan. 22) when Annette Holdeman, Tim Rackley, and David & Julie Itz met to work in the pollinator garden.

Wintertime has obviously arrived with the plants frozen back and seed heads empty, so we worked to trim back the dead wood and searched for unwanted plants to dig out, such as the many oak seedlings. In spite of looking “dead”, the garden is actually slowly greening up for Spring!



Annette Holdeman, David Itz and Tim Rackley

The Cherry sage and Giant coneflower show how the cold weather has nipped them back, and the Maximillian sunflower shows why we have such a struggle containing its growth during the summer and fall. But even now, there are surprises in the garden.





We'll have a bumper crop of Bluebonnets this spring. The showy Standing cypress will inspire lots of photographs this coming spring and summer.



The 2022 Texas Independence Day Celebration at WoB is scheduled for February 26 and 27. Please put that weekend on your calendar. Come to the park as a visitor or as a volunteer, to staff our chapter's booth. It's a great opportunity to talk to visitors about the Master Naturalist program and encourage them to consider planting pollinator plants to attract butterflies to their gardens. It's also a great way to get to meet other chapter members who are also volunteering in the booth.



Judy Deaton



Barbara Boucher

We welcome chapter members to join us for our regular workdays throughout the year.



Volunteer Opportunities



Backyard Bird Count - Citizen Science

by Lori Buffum

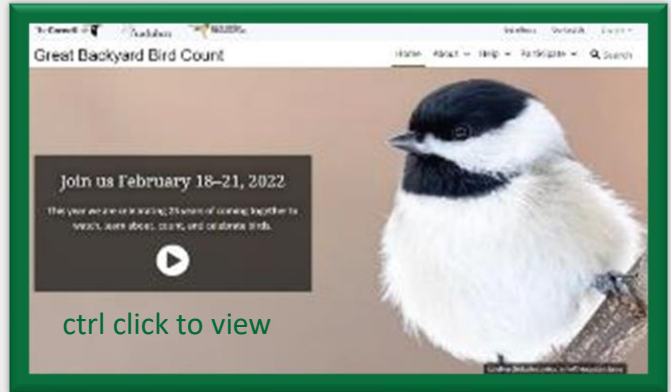
Calling all bird lovers! Whether you are just a casual bird watcher or an expert birder, you can be part of this global event.

Participating is easy, fun to do alone, or with others, and can be done anywhere you find birds.

For all the details that will prepare you to be a citizen scientist, go to <https://www.birdcount.org/participate/>.

Hours spent on your participation in the Great Backyard Bird Count can be logged as Texas Master Naturalist volunteer service under the **VMS Category: Citizen Science (other)** (be sure to include Great Backyard Bird Count in the description).

Many of us TMNers participate every year and learn so much about our feathered friends. Join us this year!



Interested in starting a new project?

By Ann Ray

There is a one acre section of land owned by the City of Burton which is adjacent to our current Indian Creek Nature Area that could use some monthly TLC. This activity needs to be a separate project from the Indian Creek Nature Area project because of who owns the land.

Work would include:

- Edging around an existing enormous sycamore tree and a wax myrtle hedge in front of the water plant
- The pollinator garden could be extended,
- A path behind the water plant could be extended down Indian Creek
- Ligustrum could be removed
- A year old bald cypress could be cared for

For more information call or text Ann Ray (512)924-9003



This & That

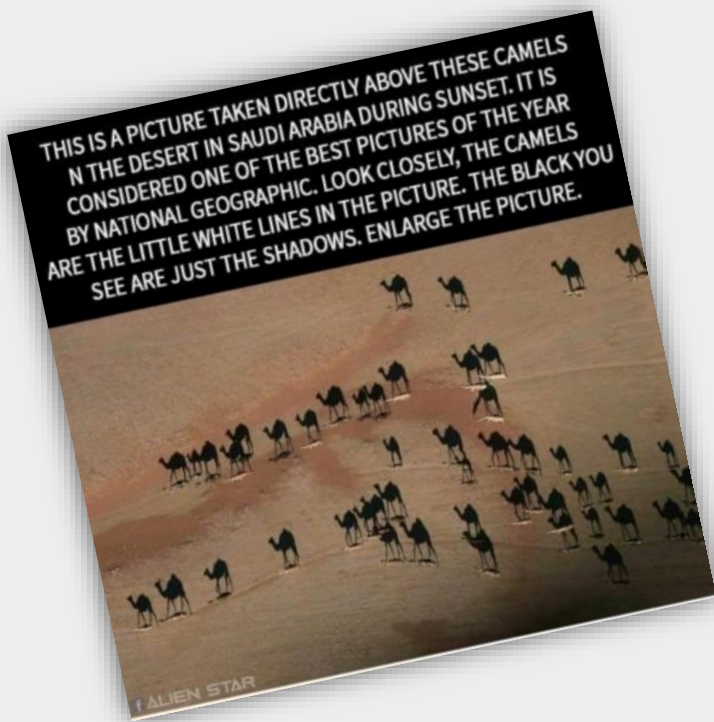
Excerpt from [TMN State Facebook page](#): New year, new license plate! Our friends, Karen and John Gardner, from the Gideon Lincecum chapter are sporting their new [#texasmasternaturalist](#) license plate, and you can, too!

Visit <https://txmn.tamu.edu/tmn-license-plate/> to find out more and order your own! If you have one, tell us below in the comments!



Here's an interesting article on the success of using old forest and range management methods to manage fires.

<https://reasonstobecheerful.world/grazing-animals-in-forests-prevent-wildfires/>



Contact B.R. Koehler to learn how easy it is to make the bird guard. Read his article; "CoCoRaHS Rain Gauge Crown Bird Guard" Here [2020 9 TMNGLC Tidings-WEB.pdf](#) (txmn.org)



Upcoming Opportunities

THIS IS A SNAPSHOT FROM OUR [EVENTS CALENDAR](#) – CONTACT THE PROJECT LEADER OF THESE PROJECTS TO VERIFY DATES AND START TIMES

February 5 @ 9:00 am - 11:00 am

[Wildlife Tax Valuation and Land Stewardship 101 Workshop](#)

VMS opportunity: **AT:** Cibolo Center for Conservation programs and workshops 3 Zooms and 1 in person tour. Instructed by Rufus Stephens, wildlife biologist, ecologist, and author of Attracting Birds

February 8 @ 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

[TMN Tuesday](#)

VMS opportunity: **AT:** TMN Tuesday On the Second Tuesday of each month at the noon hour (12PM Central Standard Time), the TMN State Office will offer an hour-long virtual advanced training

February 12 @ 9:00 am - 11:00 am

[Wildlife Tax Valuation and Land Stewardship 101 Workshop](#)

VMS opportunity: **AT:** Cibolo Center for Conservation programs and workshops 3 Zooms and 1 in person tour. Instructed by Rufus Stephens, wildlife biologist, ecologist, and author of Attracting Birds in the...

February 17 @ 9:00 am - 11:00 am

[Indian Creek Nature Trail Workday](#)

Burton Cotton Gin Museum 307 N. Main, Burton, TX

VMS opportunity: Indian Creek Nature Area Workdays are scheduled for the third Thursday of every month

[Caesar Kleburg Native Seed Project](#)

VMS opportunity- Caesar Kleburg Native Seed Project. The monthly scheduled work day will be the first Thursday of the month. We will meet at the front gate at 8 am.

February 17 @ 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

[Family Science Night](#)

Bellville Junior High School

VMS opportunity: Education (informal) Volunteers are needed to interact with the kids and families around the bug bingo and mammals scat/tracks display.



Chapter Resources

Officers for 2021

President – [Sheri Wilcox](#)

Vice President – [Norbert Dittrich](#)

Secretary – [Patti Brown](#)

Treasurer – [David Hessel](#)

Board Members

Advanced Training Director – [Norbert Dittrich](#)

Communications Director – [Lori Buffum](#)

Marketing Director – [Ken English](#)

Membership Director – [Chris Morrison](#)

Training Class Directors – [Connie Shortes & Chuck Linton](#)

Volunteer Service Projects Director – [Jaci Elliott](#)

Education Director – [Joanna Hagler](#)

Chapter State Representative – Sheri Wilcox

Previous Past President – Betsy Palkowsky

Advisor – [Kara Matheney](#) (Washington County)

Committees and Contacts

Hospitality Chair – Nita Tiemann

Newsletter Editor – [Betsy Palkowsky](#)

Website Editor – [Sheri Wilcox](#)

Grants and Donations Chair – [Mary Ann Butler](#)

Volunteer Project Leaders

Adopt-a-Highway – Mary Ann Butler and Jaci Elliott

Agricultural Safety Days – Donna Mueller

Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR -Terry Rooney

Brenham ISD Outdoor Education – Lori Buffum

Colorado River Watch – open

Family Science Nights – Lori Buffum

Fayetteville Native Plant Project – Karen Bookout

Indian Creek Nature Area – Ann Ray

LaGrange AgriLife Building Native Plant Landscape – Cindy Rodibaugh

Monument Hill State Historic Site — Karen Woods

Prescribed Burning – Mark Brown and B.R. Koehler

San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site Native Plant Gardens – Mary-Helen Giles

Schubert House Pollinator Project – Karen Woods

Stephen F. Austin State Park – Tom Shaughnessy

Top Ten Presentation – Cheryl Karr

Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site – Julie Itz and David Itz

Sponsor Contact

Each county has its own TPWD Biologist and Texas AgriLife Extension agent. We work closely with these sponsors.

Use the following links access the main county contacts working with our chapter.

[*Austin County*](#)

[*Colorado County*](#)

[*Fayette County*](#)

[*Washington County*](#)



- Our Chapter Website <http://txmn.org/glc>
- GLC Facebook Group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/21969044537/>
- Volunteer Management System; log your hours <http://txmn.org/tmn-vms-users/>
- 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-tmnlistserv/>

Contact Us

1305 East Blue Bell Road
Suite 104
Brenham, TX 77833
(979) 277-6212

