

The GLC Tidings

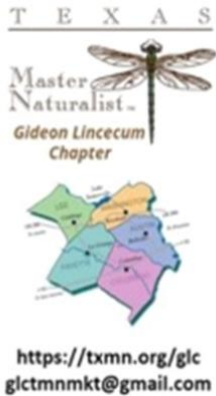
October 2024

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Our Mission

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



From the President



Sheri Wilcox

Fall is coming, creeping its way in by inches. It's a bit cooler in the mornings and evenings, giving us some respite from the heat of midday. Fall is the perfect time to enjoy some outdoor activities with your TMN friends.

The biggest advanced training event of the year is coming soon with the TMN 2024 Annual Meeting, scheduled for October 24-27 in San Marcos, Texas. Not only can you earn all your AT hours for the year at the annual meeting, but you can also learn what other chapters are doing and catch up with friends from across the state. Two of our chapter members will be presenting: Diana Kies, speaking about the endangered Attwater Prairie Chicken, and Ann Ray, speaking about inspiring volunteers.

I had the pleasure of witnessing Ann's hands-on encouragement when I joined her team to install the first set of our new plant signs at the Indian Creek Nature Area in Burton, Texas. These signs are designed to give visitors to our pollinator habitats more information about the native plants on display. Each has the common and botanical names, a QR code that takes visitors directly to the Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center's information for that plant, a brief description of the plant and its requirements for water, light, and soil moisture. We will see how well these signs hold up to our Texas weather. If successful, we will be installing them in our other pollinator habitats. After tracking down our plants and installing the signs, we enjoyed lunch together at a local Mexican restaurant. Be sure to stop by and take a look if you are traveling through Burton.

(Continued)

Newsletter Entry Deadlines

1st day of even Months

Send articles or photos to
glcnwsltr@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATES

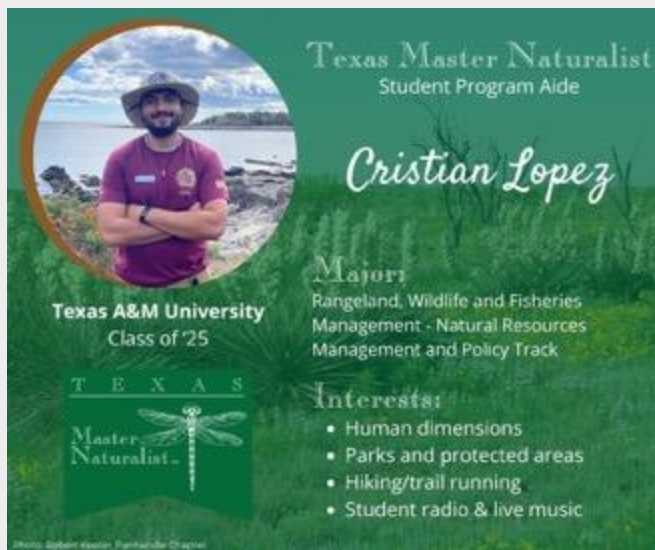
Board Meeting – Oct 18

Chapter Meeting – Nov 16

Our GLC Texas Waters group continues to meet monthly with the goal of creating some new volunteer opportunities focused on water stewardship. Our Texas Stream Team group is up and running, with six sites now being tested monthly, and one more coming online in the next month. Another team is working toward creating a river clean-up crew for our chapter. We will be working with the Lost Pines Water Conservation District to present a water fair for students that we will be able to adapt for use at other schools in our area. Last, but not least, we are working toward hosting a riparian evaluation training in cooperation with the Texas Stream Team to give landowners the tools to evaluate the health of and make improvements to their riparian areas. Join us for our monthly Webex meeting on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. to get involved.

Our education and outreach teams will be busy in October with many Fall events. Next up will be our Birds, Bees, and Trees event at San Felipe de Austin and a Fall Festival at Stephen F. Austin State Park, both on October 12. Our TMN Chapter also will participate in the Lake Somerville State Park Fall Festival on October 19. Reach out to Team Lead Wanda Anglin (featured in this issue) if you'd like to volunteer. These are just a few of our upcoming opportunities. Watch your email or check the chapter calendar for other volunteer and advanced training opportunities. Try one or try them all. You never know when you will find a new passion. I look forward to seeing all of you outdoors.

Welcome New Student TMN Program Aides



From Hannah Ferguson, TMN Program Support Specialist: *"We are excited to welcome these students to our team! For those attending the Annual Meeting in San Marcos, be sure to tell them hello and welcome!"*

State Information



#TMNTuesdays 2024



October 8, 2024 12-1 PM Chapter Project Fair

November 12, 2024 12-1 PM Topic TBA

December 10, 2024 12-1 PM Topic TBA

#TMNTuesday [#TMNTuesdays \(tamu.edu/tmntuesdays\)](https://tamu.edu/tmntuesdays)

[Register Here](#)



TMN Annual Meeting

October 24-27, 2024

San Marcos, Texas

For more information see the website,

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/2024-annual-meeting/>



TMN License Plate - Order YOURS Today!!!

ANYONE can purchase this plate and \$22 of each \$30 annual plate fee comes directly back to the Texas Master Naturalist Program for continuing our mission.

The plate is available for purchase on the website:

Personalized plate (\$70): <https://www.myplates.com/design/personalized/passenger/texas-master-naturalist/>

Non-Personalized plate (\$30): <https://www.myplates.com/design/background/passenger/texas-master-naturalist/>

Membership Memo



By Chris Morrison, Membership Director



There are quite a few of you who are close to qualifying for the 2024 recertification pin. Nine of you have more than 40 volunteer hours but haven't yet gotten the 8 AT hours you need. TMN Tuesday programs are recorded and may be watched for AT credit at any time during the calendar year they are presented. Access them on the TMN website, TMN Tuesday page.

It's not too early to pay your 2025 dues. They are \$25 per person, and you may pay them by check or cash mailed or handed to Treasurer Karen Dean or through the PayPal button on our GLC website.

So far in 2024, our chapter members have logged more than 5,200 volunteer hours and attended more than 1,400 AT hours. Pretty impressive!!

2025 Training Class Recruitment is Underway

We are ready to enroll students in the Class of 2025!

Our chapter website JOIN US page explains the process of "becoming a Master Naturalist" and links to our online application form.

Here's the direct link to get people started: <https://txmn.org/glc/becoming-a-master-naturalist/>

Please pass the word along.

T E X A S
Master Naturalist

Join us and become a Texas Master Naturalist

Gideon Lincecum Chapter Training begins
January 11, 2025

Learn more and apply online:
<https://txmn.org/glc/becoming-a-master-naturalist/>

LEE, WASHINGTON, AUSTIN, FAYETTE, COLORADO

Sp Adobe Spark

From the Vice President



Swee Leng Rapatz

What does a TMN-GLC Vice President do?

Duties - A TMN-GLC Vice President (VP) is primarily responsible for approving and communicating Advanced Training (AT) hours (in collaboration with members of the AT Committee), Chapter Meeting programming (aligning main speakers with Chapter Meeting AT topics) and securing locations for Chapter and Board meetings.

AT - Fifty-seven AT Opportunities, with durations ranging from 30 minutes to days, were identified, approved and communicated to members from January to October 1. The goal is to provide a wide-ranging menu of both free and paid virtual and in-person AT, so members can easily meet their annual 8 hours of AT requirements.

Chapter Meetings – The goal is to provide a variety of AT topics of interest or answer questions that are of importance to conservation. Another goal is to start conversations about topics we may not be paying attention to, raising more awareness about TMN interests.

I've received positive feedback about our July meeting which featured a moderated Q&A on Conservation Easements. Participants were Amber Arseneaux (NPAT), David Bezanson (TNC), Elisa Donovan (CPC), Robert Lehman (Legend Real Estate) and Randal Banik (Only One Sky Farm). The goal was to provide an opportunity for members to get questions answered and engage in conversations about the subject.

The September Chapter Meeting AT was an interpretive outdoor walk at Stephen F Austin Park (SFA Park) led by Jack Philley, a Volunteer Park Interpreter along with an introduction to the park by Venus Mercado, TPWD Park Interpreter. Thanks to Tom Shaunessy who helped with the initial introduction to the Park Manager. I had the opportunity to meet with Friends of SFA Park during the process of organizing the September meeting. How is this relevant? In addition to the TMN-GLC VP "official" responsibilities, a personal goal is to build new relationships with like-minded groups for future collaboration with TMN-GLC. Friends of SFA has offered to assist us with our TMN-GLC booth at the SFA Fall Fest on October 12. It's a "win" for TMN-GLC.

Securing Meeting Locations – The top priorities are minimizing speaker travel time on Saturday morning and securing a no-fee location. Every effort is made to locate our Chapter meetings in each of the five different counties over the year. As of November 2024, we will have had Chapter meetings in Austin, Fayette, Lee and Washington Counties.

Our November 16 Chapter Meeting will be held at the Lee County Agrilife Building. Our featured speaker for AT, Lori Buffum, will share information about iNaturalist and its Impact on Biodiversity. We're hoping to use iNaturalist as a data collection tool for the Time to Restore Project (more information to follow).

Future Meetings- Dr. Humberto Perotto will present "Landscapes, Management, and Drones" at our January 18, 2025 meeting. We hope to schedule a training session on data collection for the Time to Restore Project during our March Chapter Meeting.

I'm grateful to report that Jim Weatherly has generously donated seven bluebird boxes for use as guest speaker gifts. Speakers are thrilled with their well-made cedar bird boxes!

September 2024 Chapter Meeting
Stephen F. Austin State Park



Business Meeting



AT Tree Walk

Advanced Training Opportunities

October 24-25 (Note: same dates as TMN State Meeting)

Topic: 2024 Land and Legacies Conference

Sponsoring Organization: Coastal Prairie Conservancy

Location: George Ranch Historical Park, Richmond TX

Fee: \$85 (landowners may claim a free ticket)

Registration and more information: <https://www.prairiepartner.org/2024conference>

Advanced Training: Record your AT Hours to: **AT: NGO Workshops and Programs on Wildlife Conservation and Land Stewardship.**

From the Communication Team

We are still collecting your feedback on our chapter newsletter, *The GLC Tidings*.

If you have not already responded, please take a few minutes to complete the survey by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SRLVLFV>

Your secure and anonymous responses will help guide us as the newsletter continues to evolve.

After you finish the survey, if you would like to send additional comments our way, feel free to contact either one of us by email.

Thanks for your cooperation!

Lori Buffum, TMN-GLC Communications Director buffumhl@gmail.com

Carol Gaskamp, TMN-GLC Newsletter Editor cdgaskamp@att.net

Volunteer Highlights

New Volunteer Opportunities for Local Events

October 12, 2024 (2 events)

San Felipe de Austin - Birds, Bees, and Trees

Centered on the map plaza, we will have displays and activities for the whole family.

- Lights Out Texas (leader: Carey Soderstrom) - talk to visitors about the importance of providing safe passage for the millions of birds migrating south
- Bird Identification (leaders: Karen & John Gardner)
- Bird masks (leader: Karen Gardner)
- Bird feeders (leader: Denise Turner)
- Bees and other pollinators (leader: Sheri Wilcox)
- Trees (leader: Frank Michel)? - nature walk focused on trees found at the historic site

We will set up beginning at 9:00 a.m. Activities will run from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. We could use 2-3 additional volunteers.

Stephen F. Austin Fall Festival

This will be our first visit to the fall festival. We will be teaming with the Friends of Stephen F. Austin State Park to provide informal educational displays.

- Lights Out Texas
- Bees and other pollinators (leader: Sheri Wilcox)
- Bird masks (leader: Karen Gardner)
- Bird feeders

- Skins and Skulls (leader: Jon Watkins)
- CSI animal tracks (leader: John Gardner)

Set up for this event begins at 4:00 p.m. We could really use some help with the set up because we will need to set up our canopies, tables, and portable lights. In addition, we could use 2-3 volunteers to interact with park visitors. The festival will run from 5:30 - 9:30 p.m.

These should be really fun events. If you want to volunteer for either or both of these events, please respond to Sheri Wilcox at glctmnpres@gmail.com.

October 19

We have a new GLC Education/Outreach Opportunity at the [2024 Lake Somerville Fall Festival!](#) The event will be held at the [Nails Creek unit](#). Volunteers are needed to assist with our display and interact with the public. Wanda Anglin volunteered to be the Team Leader for this new project.

To sign up for a shift:

- visit https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1li23vke_33aiSAsU0erF_JUAIv4bbmCf/edit?usp=sharing&oid=106023235918844047610&rtpof=true&sd=true
- Put your name in the first column
- Put an X in the shift(s) you would like to work.

Wanda will email volunteers who sign up to confirm details about what activities will be offered at the event.



Water Monitoring on the Middle Yegua Creek

Contributed by Georgia Canfield

Five members of our chapter's Texas Waters Group, Sheri Wilcox, Wanda Anglin, Maria Dahlberg, Sheril Smith and I, attended the Texas Stream Team Standard Core Training in June. Sheril and I live in Blue, North Lee County and wanted to monitor the Middle Yegua Creek near our homes. We were loaned a test kit and planned to begin as soon as possible. First, we had to identify locations for testing that were accessible and not currently monitored by others.

The Middle Yegua Creek is the subject of a proposed Water Protection Plan being developed by Texas A&M Agrilife Extension. Sheril chose a spot two miles from her house at a bridge on County Road 306. This site is adjacent to property on which developers plan to build a giant Liquid Natural Gas Plant. Sheril's request to monitor the site was approved by the Stream Team.

Before testing water at the official site, we did a practice run using water from a tributary of the Middle Yegua Creek that runs through Sheril's property. The first steps in testing are simple: observing the environment: including weather, noting characteristics of the creek such as color, flow and odor, air and water temperature, and then collecting the sample in a bucket. A little more complex is using the Secchi Disc, which measures water clarity. We lowered the disc into the water on a long rope and noted the measurements, marked in meters on the rope, when the disc disappears from sight and when it

reappears. Being average Americans, we were not sure about the metric system and had to look up meters vs. feet to understand what we were looking at. I hope that, if we learn nothing else, we might learn the metric system before we are done with this project.

The next steps required pouring some of the sample into smaller containers and adding chemicals. I am no chemist but, fortunately, Sheril has a background in science and seemed to know what she was doing. The first test is for total dissolved solids and conductivity; this is used to determine the quantity of dissolved materials in the water. The second test is for dissolved oxygen, to determine the amount of oxygen available for aquatic life. The third test is for PH, to determine the acidity or alkalinity of the water. These processes involve adding drops of various chemicals to the sample and waiting for the sample to change colors. Kind of fun! This first time we were confused about which containers were the right ones for each test and were about to give up, when Sheril discovered that the online instructions we were using had photos! So, we were on our way. It was slow going but we finished all tests in a few hours.

I had chosen a site about 8 miles from my home on FM 1624. On July 29, I photographed that site and submitted the pertinent information to the Stream Team for approval for monitoring.

On August 15, we tested the water at our actual approved site on CR 306. We were still slow but felt more confident and submitted our results to the Stream Team.

On September 19, Sheril and I went back to the CR 306 site and completed all the tests in 2 hours. By this time my request to monitor the FM 1624 site had been approved. The next day, we tested the water at that site. Based on the parameters provided by the Stream Team, both sites were within normal range although the numbers were very different. The FM 1624 site is much shallower than the CR 306 site and we think that might have made the difference.

We will monitor both sites around the same time each month and expect to become more efficient. We look forward to doing this in cooler weather.



Gathering Sample



Testing Sample



Indian Creek Project Update

Contributed by Ann Ray



Some of our chapter's new versatile signage was created by President Sheri Wilcox and about 20 signs were installed in Burton at Indian Creek Nature Area by several volunteers in September. This will be a test area to see how our public responds to the signs and how weatherproof they are.

Adventures & Observations



Newly Found Gems Contributed by Jon Watkins

We have had our place for 12 years but always seem to "find" new and exciting things when working or playing around the farm.

The first new treasure we observed recently is a vine hanging on a fence line among a cluster of "snow-on-the-prairie". iNaturalist suggested that this plant is "honey-vine climbing milkweed". The iNat observation was quickly confirmed. As a vine, this plant can be aggressive in a garden yet remains a great host plant for Monarch butterfly larvae.

Our next new treasure is Mexican Primrose-willow, a large colony of beautifully yellow flowered plants growing in a frequently wet area. NPSOT identifies the habitat of this beauty as "wetland or riparian".

We wait with great anticipation for our next glimpse of creation.



Cynachum laeve
(Honeyvine Milkweed)



Ludwigia Octvalvis
(Mexican Primrose Willow)

This and That

Texas Master Naturalists can earn volunteer service hours for participating in the eBird checklist project for October Big Day on October 12, 2024. All the details are spelled out at the eBird (CornellLab) website: <https://ebird.org/news/october-big-day-12-oct-2024>



During a BioBlitz, Everyone Can Be a Citizen Scientist



What's a BioBlitz? An opportunity to add your data to global conservation efforts in a particular category of animal/plant life. The Texas Pollinator BioBlitz runs October 11-27, and everyone across the state is encouraged to participate. For Texas Master Naturalists, it's a chance to earn volunteer service hours. Pollinator BioBlitz participants (all ages and abilities, solo or in teams) find, observe, and identify pollinators and nectar-producing plants, take photos, and then share the data on iNaturalist. Learn all the details here: [Texas Parks & Wildlife](#).

Reviews



A Naturalist's Reflections on the Hidden Life of Deer Contributed by Nancy Dunnahoe

A few Falls ago, Tayvis (TMN Class of '24) and I visited the Catskills Mountains. Our traveling tradition is to find a local independent bookshop wherever we go. So, while exploring a small village near the rolling hills of Bethel, New York, home to the historic 1969 Woodstock experience, we found a boutique book seller off the beaten path. There, I picked up a used copy of *The Hidden Life of Deer: Lessons from the Natural World* by Elizabeth Marshall Thomas, an anthropologist and New Hampshire land steward. I was drawn to its cover of a doe licking the ear of her daughter after a heavy snowfall.

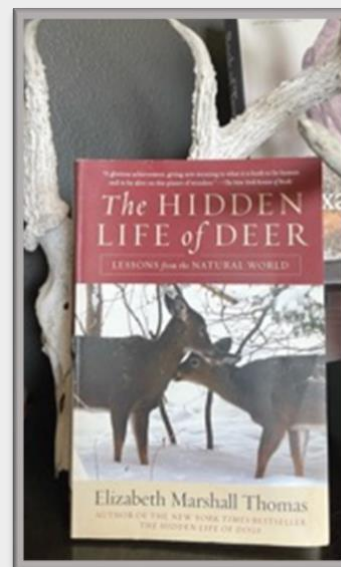
Thomas, the New York Times bestselling author of *The Hidden Life of Dogs*, spent time living in the Kalahari Desert, and seems to enjoy observing the surprises of animal social life, documenting what she calls the Old Ways and Old Rules. As with our canine friends, deer are just as common to see in our communities and have lived by Old Rules that have kept them alive for millions of years.

For 12 months, Thomas studied several groups of white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) near her family farm. Her visitations and commentary about deer challenge some of the presumed behaviors of a species that is monitored by Fish and Game in an effort to keep their numbers down. Thomas has a curiosity that goes beyond deer season literature, and she brings kindness and humanity to her written observations of the local whitetails as they try to survive bows, guns, cars and the harsh winters of New England.

The controversial question she asks the reader: Is it acceptable to help deer families survive a severe weather season, when oak trees have produced less acorns, by feeding them corn, (as she plans to feed the wild turkeys or other birds that visit her land)? Spoiler: she does this, and in the process she discovers how they protect themselves and how they feel about one another. In her epilogue, she writes about this symbiotic relationship: "I will try to protect the deer who live where I live, not because I think they are mine but because I know who they are...to gain that knowledge, I broke some rules, but these were rules of human intervention. By the rules of the deer, I probably did quite well." While biologists warn against the dangers of supplemental corn feeding, many of us can instead create delicious natural habitats of American Beauty Berry, Alabama supplejack, Persimmon trees and many more native plants and grasses.

Some interesting deer facts:

- White-tailed deer have been around since the Pliocene, about 3.5 million years.
- Deer's social lives are complex; there are highborn deer and low-status deer.
- An antler grows about a quarter inch a day inside a soft coating filled with arterial blood, a nourishing tissue known as velvet.



- By September, antler growth is complete, and the velvet falls off in strips.
- Daughters seem to stay with their mothers for as long as they can, offering company and comfort during new births.
- Fawns are the color of earth, spotted to look like dappled light, and blend right into their natural surroundings. They have no odor and are born to take responsibility for their own survival almost immediately by knowing how to hide in silence, flattening themselves in a secret spot in the woods while their mothers seek food, holding their breaths and lowering their heart rate to stay undetected – if you find a fawn hiding alone, chances are she wasn't abandoned. Let her be.

At the time I collected this book, I wasn't familiar with the term "naturalist." Since I'm compelled to understand and respect the animal relatives we share wild spaces with, books like this have inspired me to become a Texas Master Naturalist.

As we enter deer season and deer families find shelter in my neighborhood, I will be thinking about the hidden lives of these mammals, who are one of nature's prime survivalists and are a joy to watch frolic through the prairie.



The Big Burn by Timothy Egan
Contributed by Betsy Palkowsky



Timothy Egan presents an interesting and easy to read synopsis of how the United States Forest Service came to be and the challenges faced by those trying to convince others of its purpose.

You will learn about the relationship between Teddy Roosevelt and the first leader of the forestry department, Gifford Pinochet. Inter-twined with the details of this relationship is the story of the great fire of 1910 in Montana and Idaho. The fire burned three million acres (4,700 sq miles) in North Idaho and Western Montana, with extensions into Eastern Washington and Southeast British Columbia.

You will be hooked right away by the storytelling of the many folks involved with or affected by the fire, the early forest service department and Pinochet's drive to create a conservation legacy.

Member Profiles

Jim Kelley, TMN Class of 2023

About Me: I am a retired science teacher with a degree in Wildlife Science from A&M ('84). Susie and I escaped Houston and moved to Austin County in 2022; I learn something new every day in the country.

Why did you pick TMN as an organization to volunteer with? Because TMN is a great collaboration between AgriLife and TPW; it was an easy choice.

What TMN Projects are you involved with:

I volunteer monthly at Burton's Indian Creek Nature Area, and I serve on the Training Committee and enjoy joining other volunteer projects when I can.

Favorite thing about being a Texas Master Naturalist:

My favorite thing is the camaraderie with the variety of folks who share the love for creation.

Favorite critter (or plant, insect, herp, fish, bird...):

Ruby-throated hummingbird

Favorite place in Texas:

Kenney, Tx

Favorite big trips:

Costa Rica cloud forests, Galápagos Islands and Philippines.



Carey Soderstrom, Class of 2023



I'm Carey Soderstrom, proud to be a Texas Master Naturalist in the Gideon Linsecum Chapter! For a little information about me, let's start with some numbers:

2 = Number of children I have given birth to (both girls).

3 = Number of ex-husbands (only two of my exes live in Texas).

4 = Number of grandchildren my children have given me (2 boys and 2 girls).

4 = Number of years I have been teaching English part-time at Blinn College in Brenham (Fall semesters only)

38 = Number of years I taught in public high schools before retiring (English, Biology, speech, reading, ESL, Sex Education).

67 = Number of years I have been blessed to live on planet earth (so far).

*As I had hoped, the Texas Master Naturalist training has brought me together with like-minded, nature loving, altruistic, knowledgeable, and fun-loving people. I have made friends!

*Currently, C.J. Claverie and I (both from the TMN Class of '23), are the co-project leaders for the Winedale Pollinator Garden. She is awesome! Please come pull weeds with us and teach us things on our workdays (2nd Friday of each month).

*I love trees and birds, hiking, and sitting in the dark looking up at the stars (when the light pollution doesn't obscure them).

* Big Bend is my favorite place in Texas, partly because I'm guaranteed to see the stars at night!

Wanda Anglin, Class of 2024

I grew up in a small rural Louisiana town near the Arkansas border. I literally grew up “in the sticks” sailing cow patty boats with notebook paper sails down the brook that trickled down the property line of our tiny house. As I try to relate what my childhood was like, I can only say that I felt kinship with Billy Colman, the protagonists of “Where the Red Fern Grows” (highly recommended read if you have missed it!).

I went off to college at Louisiana Tech and moved to Houston to “get out of the small town” and make a living that would help me travel the world.

Why did you pick TMN as an organization to volunteer with?

In the early 2000s, I remember sitting at my desk in downtown Houston and reading about the Texas Master Naturalist. I was intrigued and vowed someday to become a part of this group. I have always loved to volunteer and felt that this group focused on the natural world would offer me an outlet that I was missing. Over the 3-year period that I planned the dissipation of my marketing businesses to move into semi-retirement, I began following Texas Master Naturalist GLC on Facebook.

On the GLC Facebook page, I saw the Volunteer Fair in 2021 and signed up to attend and found several opportunities to volunteer to create naturalist theme bingo games and translate several scavenger games and park publications from English to Spanish for 3 different parks. I also signed up for the LISTSERV emails and was soon a regular attendee at #TMNTuesdays!

I finalized plans to close my businesses at the end of October 2023, and applied for the TMN class starting in January 2024. The opportunity to meet so many exceptional leaders in their field and make new friends in our TMN GLC Class of 2024 was better than I had dreamed...and I had set high expectations.

What TMN Projects are you involved with:

- *Pollinator gardens at Stephen F. Austin State Park and Winedale.*
- *Great Backyard Bird Count*
- *Water Quality Monitoring and other Water Group activities*

Favorite thing about being a Texas Master Naturalist:

There are so many things I love about TMN, but one overriding factor makes every class, event, and volunteer activity amazing: Chapter members are very diverse in their experience and eagerly share and show interest in learning from others.

Favorite critter:

I have always loved dragonflies. They seem magical and fanciful. They are also a symbol of the best times of childhood...the summer!

Favorite place in Texas:

I am one who likes to experience new places and things, so I have not really formed a “favorite place” in Texas. The most visited is probably Rockport because it is my husband’s favorite place on Earth. But I am in love with my little 10 acres we purchased in 2020 and moved to in 2021. It sits in the Post Oak Savannah on the fringe of Blackland Prairie and Coastal Prairie.

Favorite big trips:

I hope my favorite big trip has not happened yet as I have some big ones on the horizon, but so far, it is a toss-up of two. The first was a trip to India that did not involve much nature but was mostly about what humans had created over history.

The second is a trip I recently completed that included four days of cruising in and around Greenland visiting two small towns. I think this trip was more impressionable to me than it might have been because of my recent TMN training. Greenland’s giant ice cap was fringed by a narrow band of first succession land...hardly any vegetation and no mammals or birds on land were seen. It was a majestic land of glaciers and stark mountainous landscapes that intrigued me, and except for a few volcanic experiences, was the only primary succession landscape I had ever seen. Its scale was unfathomable.



Calendar Highlights



GLC Tidings Newsletter Index

<https://txmn.org/glc/whats-new/newsletters/>

Find information about articles for newsletter issues from 2018 through the most recent. For each article, the index cites the subject, title, and author, and links directly to the issue published on the chapter website.

Chapter Resources

Officers for 2024

President – [Sheri Wilcox](#)

Vice President – [Swee Leng Rapatz](#)

Secretary – [Betty Scardino](#)

Treasurer – [Karen Dean](#)

Board Members

Advanced Training Director – [Swee Leng Rapatz](#)

Communications Director – [Lori Buffum](#)

Marketing Director – [Ken English](#)

Membership Director – [Chris Morrison](#)

Training Class Director – [Connie Shortes](#)

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

Education Director – [Karen Gardner](#)

Chapter State Representative – Sheri Wilcox

Immediate Past President – Betsy Palkowsky

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

Committees and Contacts

Hospitality Chair – Nita Tiemann

Newsletter Editor – [Carol Gaskamp](#)

Website Editor – Sheri Wilcox

Grants and Donations Chair – open

Volunteer Project Leaders

Adopt-a-Highway – Jaci Elliott

Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR – Susan Vanderworth

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

Schubert House Pollinator Project – Karen Woods

Stephen F. Austin State Park – B.R. & Charlene Koehler

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

Winedale Trails and Pollinator Garden – CJ Claverie and
Carey Soderstrom

Sponsor Contact

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

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

[Austin County](#)

[Colorado County](#)

[Fayette County](#)

[Washington County](#)

[Lee County](#)



- Our Chapter Website <http://txmn.org/glc>
- GLC Facebook Group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/21969044537/>
- Volunteer Management System; log your hours <https://txmn.tamu.edu/chapter-resources/tmn-vms-users>
- Texas Master Naturalist Program Website <https://txmn.tamu.edu/>
- Texas Master Naturalist Listserv; get notices about activities across the state <mailto:TMN@LISTSERV.TAMU.EDU> [LISTSERV - Subscription Management - LISTSERV.TAMU.EDU](#)

Contact Us

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