



***Mission.** To develop a corps of well-informed volunteers to provide education, outreach, and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within their communities for the State of Texas.*

CHAPTER MEETING

Guadalupe Master Naturalists Monthly Program and Meeting

Date: Monday, January 27, 2020

Time: **5:30** – **Board of Directors** meeting

6:30 - Social Time: Bring your favorite treat to share. Drinks will be provided.

Earn *volunteer time* by assisting in the pre-meeting room set-up and/or helping with the after meeting clean-up! Mary Styblo is organizer.

7:00 – Program - Ben Pfeiffer will speak on “Fireflies of Texas: How to Identify Unique Texas Species.” Firefly Conservation & Research is a nonprofit organization founded in 2009 by Ben Pfeiffer, a firefly researcher, and Texas-certified master naturalist with a degree in biology from Texas State University. Ben is also a beekeeper and certified-naturalist with Texas Parks & Wildlife. Currently, Ben is working on an exhaustive catalog of Texas and Southwest firefly species. He is working to document their natural history such as life cycle, behavior, live photos for ID purposes, flash patterns, and species diversity studies.

Learn more from his website <https://www.firefly.org/ben-pfeiffer>

Location: AgriLife Extension, 210 E. Live Oak, Seguin, TX



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

NATURE EDUCATION

Discover Early Texans

Date/Location: Saturday, January 11, Crescent Bend Nature Park

Time: 10:00 AM

Description: The 1-hour program will follow a day in the life of a Tonkawa Indian child.

More volunteers needed! Please contact Nancy at nsethermasterson@gmail.com

Date: Monday, January 13, Seguin Public Library

Time: 2:00 Home School children

4:00 After School children

The volunteer roster is full. Thank you all.

Discover Series for 2020 at a Glance

2020 Calendar of Master Naturalist Nature Education Opportunities

**Second Mondays at Seguin
Public Library, 313 W. Nolte St.
2 PM Homeschoolers
4 PM Afterschoolers
For information call 830-401-2422**

**Second Saturdays at Schertz
Crescent Bend Nature Park, 12805 Schaefer Rd
10 AM Jan-May, Sept-Nov
9 AM* June and July
Register with Schertz Parks Dept.
210-619-1850**

- Jan 11 & 13 Discover Early Texans
A day in the life of a Tonkawa child
- Feb 8 & 10 Discover What's Flying
Learn clues for looking at birds
- Mar 13 & 14 Discover Clues and Traces
Find what animals leave behind
- April 11 & 13 Discover What's Buzzing & Blooming
Functions of flowers, bees and butterflies
- May 9 & 11 Discover Dinosaurs
Dinosaur tracks tell tales.
- June 8 & 13* Discover What's Swimming - 9* AM start with dip-nets, capture invertebrates
- July 11* & 13 Discover Rocks - 9* AM start
Senses and sediments on earth's building blocks
- Sept 12 & 14 Discover A Bug's World
Our world would be different without bugs
- Oct. 10 & 12 Discover Horns and Thorns
Staying alive is tough
- Nov. 2 & 14 Discover Nature Journaling
Real naturalists record and remember

We are developing new programs for 2020! Master Naturalist programs follow the Interpretative Outline format and develop a theme that is one sentence with an interesting message or opinion. It is not just a topic. For example; "Dinosaur Tracks" is a topic. "Dinosaur tracks tell tales" is a theme. We always stay mindful of our goals: Our discovery programs should enhance families' love of the outdoors. The teams will train volunteers a month or more before the program is presented. Contact the team leader to get involved:

- Dinosaurs (May) - Michelle, Nancy and Gayle
- Horns and Thorns (October) Tom, Kathy P, Chris
- Nature Journaling (Nov) Kate, Nancy, Kay, Mark

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Irma Lewis Seguin Outdoor Learning Center

Dates / Times Vary with school schedules.

Description: Share your love of nature with school-aged children from surrounding districts and private schools. You will be provided with the developed lesson plans.

Contact: Michelle Darnell at mdarnelltex@gmail.com or 210-601-8957 for schedule of opportunities

Native Prairies Association of Texas: Prairie Restoration Project Work Day (RM)

Date: Saturday January 18, 2020

Time: 8am – 4pm

Location: 1444 County Rd 210, Floresville, TX

Description: This is a recurring event, every third Saturday of the month. Additional work days can be scheduled to accommodate other volunteers' schedules at almost any time. Remove woody invasive species. Maintain three burrowing owl roost sites. Expand existing milkweed garden. Maintain three existing wildlife guzzlers. Repair five existing diversity plots. Re-start a three-table plant nursery This is an advanced prairie restoration project that has been underway nearly 10 years. There is much to learn about what worked and what did not work, including preparation prior to plantings, planting techniques, challenge of invasive plants, consequence of weather conditions at time of planting, impact of planting a 50'-wide green tree pollinator firebreak, etc.

Lunch is provided each work day, so **RSVP** is helpful in planning. Volunteers are encouraged to bring cameras and binoculars. There is much to see in addition to working.

Contact: Don Kirchoff at donkirchoff@earthlink.net or (713) 562-7681.

CITIZEN SCIENCE

Walk with a Naturalist

Dates: Every Wednesday, February - April

February 5	March 5	April 2
February 12	March 12	April 9
February 19	March 19	April 16
February 26	March 26	April 23
		April 30

Time: 9:00 – 10:00 AM

Location: Park West, 601 N. Vaughn, Seguin

Description: During this adult-focused activity, you will share your love of nature found in Park West. This program is intended to introduce adults to our Master Naturalist program and hopefully recruit students for our 2020 Training Class.

Pollinator Garden Winter Cut-Back with NPSOT volunteers

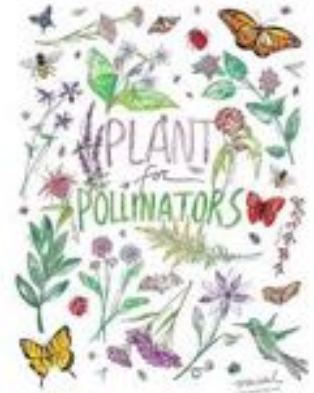
Date: Wednesday, January 22, 2020

Time: 8:30 -11 AM

Location: Park West

Description: On-going maintenance of garden. Wear long pants, long sleeves, boots. Bring water and tools.

Contact: Clara Mae Marcotte, rcm.marcotte@gmail.com, Liz Romero, fleurromero@gmail.com. Pam Turner, John Edson.



FOREST HEALTH

Forest Health Volunteer Days

Date: Starting January 8, 2020 [Every Wednesday morning]

Time: 8:30 -11 AM

Location: Park West, 601 N. Vaughn, Seguin

Description: Various projects. The committee has determined there are many work projects that need to be done. You are invited to join the group and help with restoring the Park West vegetation. Wear long pants, long sleeves, boots. Bring water and tools.

Contact: Chris Dyess at ced16123@gmail.com

Coming soon! The Irma Lewis Seguin Outdoor Learning Center is renovating its bird viewing station with input from Master Naturalists Nancy Masterson, Kay Robbins and Elaine Cowley. The structure is being modified and a water line installed for a bird drip. The ILSOLC will soon add a welcome station, signage and benches



Nancy, Kay and Elaine will announce a workday on a Saturday in February. We will need carpenters, wheelbarrow cement-mixers for the bird drip basin and feeder poles and anybody who just wants to help hang feeders!

ADVANCED TRAINING

First Friday Bird Walk – Palmetto State Park

Date: Friday, January 3, 2020

Time: 8:00 AM

Description: Join Park Ranger Jason True and Guadalupe Master Naturalist Pledge Elaine Cowley as they lead you exploring the bird populations found in Palmetto State Park. On the first Friday of every month, join park staff and see what you can see. From first time fledglings to seasoned eagle eyes, all are welcome.

Bring your binoculars, your bird book, comfortable shoes, dress for the weather and be prepared to be outside for about 3 hours. This is an open invitation for birders of all skills to come out and see what you can see.

Check-in at the Park HQ for the birding location.

Location: Palmetto State Park, 78 Park Road 11 South, Gonzales, TX

Contact: Jason True (830) 672-3266 jason.true@tpwd.texas.gov

What, How and Why of Forest Restoration at Park West!

Dates: Sunday, January 12 or Tuesday, January 14

Time: 1:00 - 2:30 PM

Location: Park West, 601 N. Vaughn, Seguin Meet the Splash Pad.

Description: Forest Health Initiative Training Learn about the Master Naturalist's partnership with the City of Seguin, the effect on forest health by selectively removing invasive plants and how to identify them. Program will be repeated twice so sign-up for either one.

Contact: email to Chris Dyess at ced16123@gmail.com. Sign up by Jan. 10th.

Put GMN-PW in subject line. (Rain dates Jan. 19 and 21; enrollees will be notified)

Guadalupe Chapter – Native Plant Society

The Fungus Among Us

Date: Tuesday, January 14, 2020

Time: 6:00 PM social/refreshments; 7:00 PM Programs

Location: St John Lutheran Church, FM 465, Marion, TX



Description: Presented by Jen Parilli. They aren't plants, they aren't animals, so why should we care about them? Fungi, humble and easy to overlook as they are, play a vital role in the ecology of South Central Texas. They are essential to the decomposition of organic matter and to nutrient recycling. They can also be both beautiful and delicious. Jen will teach us to find and recognize our local fungi, appreciate their roles in our ecology, and identify edible fungi – and the differences between them and toxic look-alikes.

Lindheimer Chapter – Texas Master Naturalist **Protecting Our Dark Skies**

Date: Thursday, January 16, 2020

Time: 5:45 PM – Social and Refreshments; 6:15 PM – Program

Location: Tye Preston Memorial Library, 16311 S. Access Rd., Canyon Lake.

Website: <https://txmn.org/lindheimer/>

Description: Holly Platz, TPED Interpretive Ranger at Guadalupe River State Park and Honey Creek State Natural Area, will speak on the importance of dark skies to people and wildlife, including migratory birds. Learn what state parks are doing to protect dark skies and what you can do in your own yard.

CHAPTER NEWS

Two New Chapter Officers Elected

At the Annual Meeting, held in conjunction with our December Christmas Party, the Chapter members elected Jennifer Ehlers to the position of Vice-president and John Edson as Treasurer. Thank you, Jennifer and John, for accepting these important offices in our Chapter. Also, to our out-going officers Trina Martin and Larry White, many thanks for your years of service to our Chapter.



Dues are due! If you haven't paid yours
please send to Treasurer John Edson
at 1508 Redbridge Dr., Seguin, TX 78155



2020 Committees

President Tom Hardaway reports many of you signed up for various committee duties at the Christmas Party. Two Committees need additional members.

The **Hospitality Committee** is responsible for setting up the table to receive refreshments brought by members to Chapter meetings. They also provide the drinks for the meeting and clean up the refreshment area after the meeting. Mary Styblo leads this committee.

The **Training Class Committee** needs a few more members. This committee is the lifeblood of our Chapter. Duties involve the planning of the next class and helping to monitor classes. Don't miss the opportunity to serve on this most important committee.

Contact Tom at tehardaway@yahoo.com

2019 Christmas Party



The serving table was loaded with many delicious dishes.



A good time was had by all.

Thanks to David and Kathy Pearson for serving a chairs for the Christmas Party!

Members of Fall 2019 Class

Your Master Naturalist t-shirts have arrived and will be available for pick-up at the January meeting.

Also, if you ordered a CoCoRaHS Rain Gauge at our last class and have not picked it up yet, they will be available at the January meeting. Any remaining after the January meeting will be made available to any Chapter member wanting to purchase one.



NEXT NEWSLETTER

Please send announcements and news items for distribution in the newsletter to Marilyn Anderson, MarilynA@access4less.net.

Deadline for next issue – Friday, January 31 for the February 2020 edition.

<u>Officers:</u>	
President – Tom Hardway	tehardaway@yahoo.com
Vice-president – Jennifer Ehlers	ehlers@gvec.net
Secretary – Sharon Frels	sfrels1@gmail.com
Treasurer – John Edson	johnledson@gmail.com
<u>Committee Chairmen:</u>	
Program – Clara Mae Marcotte	rcm.marcotte@gmail.com
Training Class – Marilyn Anderson	MarilynA@access4less.net
Tom Hardway	
Nature Education – Nancy Masterson	nsethermasterson@gmail.com
Citizen Science – Tom Hardway	tehardaway@yahoo.com
Advanced Training – Cinde Thomas-Jimenez	cthomas-jimenez@gbra.org
Communications – Marilyn Anderson	MarilynA@access4less.net
Membership – Pam Sagebiel	pjsagebiel@yahoo.com
Fund Raising – Craig Sagebiel	prcraigsagebiel@yahoo.com
Hospitality – Mary Styblo	

<https://txmn.org/guadalupe/>



The Texas Master Naturalist program is sponsored by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and Texas Parks and Wildlife

