

Guadalupe Chapter

Texas Master Naturalist

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



March 2020

Vol. 7, Issue 3

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, March 23, 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 - “News from Lake Wobegon” We will be fortunate to again hear Clara Mae Marcotte’s amazing son, Edward. Dr. Marcotte is a Professor of Molecular Biosciences, College of Natural Sciences at the University of Texas in Austin. Information from the Marcotte Lab website describes their work as, “Our group studies the large-scale organization of proteins, essentially trying to reconstruct the 'wiring diagrams' of cells by learning how all of the proteins encoded by a genome are associated into functional pathways, systems, and networks. Such models let us better define the functions of genes, and to link genes to traits and diseases.” He is always a pleasurable young man to hear speak as the research going on in his lab is remarkable!



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

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

NATURE EDUCATION

Discover Clues and Traces

Date: Saturday, March , 2020

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: Crescent Bend Nature Park, 12805 Schaefer Rd., Schertz

Description: Animals survive best when they are hiding, and that's why we don't often see them. But they leave clues and traces behind: tracks, nests, and even bones! And they use camouflage to hide in plain sight.



Mark deKiewiet will lead with volunteers Tom Hardaway, Gayle Temple, Kim Lewis, Nancy Masterson and Seth Faught.



Date: Monday, February 10, 2020
 Time: 2:00 Home School children
 4:00 After School children

Location: Seguin Public Library, 313 W. Nolte, Seguin

Master Naturalists Larry White, Liz Romero, Kate Schnautz, Craig Sagebiel and Jennifer Ehlers will lead the activities.

Walk with a Naturalist – Park West Loop

Dates: Every Tuesday for 9 weeks

March 3	March 24	April 14
March 10	March 31	April 21
March 17	April 7	April 28



Time: 9:00 – 10:00 AM

Location: Park West, 601 N. Vaughn, Seguin; meet at Splash Pad

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.

Day of the Dogs

Date: Saturday, March 7, 2020

Time: 9:00 – 11:30 AM

Location: Park West, 601 N. Vaughn, Seguin

Description: Master Naturalists will supervise Texas Lutheran University students and they remove debris and old fencing.

Wear appropriate clothing.

Contact: Nancy Masterson if you have questions

Irma Lewis Seguin Outdoor Learning Center

Dates / Times Vary with school schedules.

Schedule attached to newsletter email!

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



24th Annual Birding Classic

The biggest, longest, wildest birdwatching tournament in the U.S.!

The Big Sit

Texas Parks & Wildlife magazine describes the Big Sit this way, “a category that caters more to the lounge-chair birding set” and as “a tailgate party for birders.” In the Big Sit, teams establish a 17-foot diameter circle and see how many birds they can identify from inside the circle in a single day. It’s one of the most popular and accessible categories of the Birding Classic.

Plans are currently underway for a Big Sit event at Palmetto State Park. Elaine Cowley will be our contact person so stay tuned for more information.

Tournament dates are April 15 – May 15, 2020 so the Palmetto event will occur within that window of time.

For more information: <https://tpwd.texas.gov/events/great-texas-birding-classic>

Bird Viewing Station Update

On February 7th several Guadalupe Master Naturalists gathered at ILSOLC to construct a Bird Viewing station and a water feature to attract birds. The weather was kind and we worked with an existing structure to complete a bird blind. We also built a concrete and rock water drip and cascading pool to attract birds and other wildlife.

We will schedule another workday to complete the bird feeders and do touch-up painting. Those participating were the Jim and Chris Dyess, Tom Hardaway, Nancy and John Masterson, Liz Romero, Pam Turner, David and Kay Pearson, Sherman and Joy Schlichting, Craig Sagebiel and Bobby and Elaine Cowley.

Another work day is planned for a date to be determined in March.

Report and pictures courtesy of Kay Robbins



Nancy and Kathy adjust the support so the drip hose has just the correct angle.



Tom and Craig working on the blind.

8th Annual Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Clean Up Event

Date: Saturday, April 4, 2020

Time: 9:00 AM

Locations: Irma Lewis Seguin Outdoor Learning Center; Navarro High School Parking Lot; New Braunfels Airport

Description: Choose a location and cover the area, picking up the trash. Breakfast taco will be provided before you get to work. Trash bags will be provided and you will be rewarded with a t-shirt for your time and efforts.

Contact: Ward Ling at wling@tamu.edu or 979-845-6980
or register at the website <http://www.geronimocreek.org/Default.aspx>

Schertz Volunteer Fair

Date: April 16, 2020

Time: 5:30 – 8:30 PM

Location: Schertz Civic Center

Description: Various non-profit volunteer organizations will have tables where they can speak to attendees about their organizations and hopefully recruit new members/volunteers. This will be a wonderful opportunity for our Chapter to promote our Fall Master Naturalist Training Class.

City Nature Challenge 2020

Date: Saturday, April 25, 2020

Time: 1:00 – 4:00 PM

Location: Bracken Cave Preserve, 26101 FM 3009, Garden Ridge, TX

Description: Steve Jones has set up the event on SignUpGenius. If you plan to attend please put this event on your calendar and signup on SignUpGenius. You will receive a reminder a couple of days before the event. The SignUpGenius link is: [Bracken BioBlitz for the City Nature Challenge 2020](#). Before the event be sure you have iNaturalist app on your phone to record your pictures. You also need to turn "location" on during the time you are taking pictures. You can upload the pictures to the app when you get home. The project has been setup on iNaturalist as "**Bracken BioBlitz for the City Nature Challenge 2020**". You need to join the project so it will record properly.

Crescent Bend and Warbler Woods City Nature Challenge event

Sandi Wheeler is organizing City Nature Challenges at Crescent Bend and Warbler Woods. Dates and times will be published in the April newsletter or contact Sandi at wheelsS5683@gmail.com

FOREST HEALTH

Forest Health Volunteer Days

Date: 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

ADVANCED TRAINING

First Friday Bird Walk – Palmetto State Park

Date: Friday, March 6, 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

iNaturalist / Nature Trackers Training

Date: Monday, March 9, 2020

Time: 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Location: Irma Lewis Seguin Outdoor Learning Center

Description: Craig Hensley will be coming to conduct a half-day workshop on the iNaturalist/Nature Trackers programs. You will be taught how to use the program/app and be prepared to participate in the April BioBlitz [if you choose to participate in that event.]

Schedule:

8:30 AM - Start time / Introductions

8:40 - 10:00 AM - Introduction to Texas Nature Trackers, City Nature Challenge and iNaturalist

10:00 - 10:10 AM - Break

10:10 - 11:30 - BioBlitz outside to practice documenting plants and animals with phone app.

11:30 - 12:30 - Wrap up inside with website review and discussion of downloading images and more

Things to do before you attend:

1. Download the iNaturalist app onto your phone if you haven't already downloaded it;
2. Create an account – easy to do and can be done from app on phone or from the website on computer; [<https://www.inaturalist.org/>]
3. Once you have created the app, log onto account on **computer** through iNaturalist– go to **profile tab** and click on it. Then, find and click on **edit profile** and check the **time zone** – the default setting is Hawaii time – it needs to be set to Central time. **Very important to do this** in terms of data collection.
4. Beyond that, you should be ready to go.
5. Be sure you dress to be outdoors part of the time, using your app. **Be sure you bring your phone!!** You can also bring your laptop with you should you want to, for questions later in the training on using the website.

This is a wonderful opportunity to learn the skill of data collection using iNaturalist or to improve your skills if you are already using the app.

Please contact Tom at tehardaway@yahoo.com if you plan to attend so he will have a count of attendees.

You will receive four hours of Advanced Training for attending!!

Native Bees

Gudalupe County Native Plant Society

Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2020

Time: 6:30 PM social/refreshments; 7:00 PM Program

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

Description: Our own Mark de Kiewiet will present the program. Mark will explore the interdependence of native plants, native and non-native bees and other environmental factors. Mark keeps and studies bees, using them as a vehicle to understand nature's interdependencies. Mark is a Master Beekeeper and Master Naturalist and frequent speaker.



Texas Rangeland: Changes Driving Issues, Then and Now Lindheimer Chapter – Texas Master Naturalist

Date: Thursday, March 19, 2020

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

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

Description: Dr. Barron Rector will speak on rangeland management and how changes have occurred over the years.

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

Creating Hummingbird Hotspots

Date: Saturday, March 7, 2020

Time: 10:00

Location: Wild Birds Unlimited, 1659 SH 46, New Braunfels



Description: Speaker Kathleen Scott [Gardening writer and blogger, Master Gardener and member, Lindheimer Texas Native Plant Society] will provide tips on how to draw hummingbirds to your gardens.

Lunch and Learn: Native Texas Pollinators - Bees, Wasps, and Flies

Date: Thursday, March 5

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Location: San Antonio Botanical Garden, 555 Funston Place, San Antonio

Entomologist Molly Keck will highlight lesser known native Texas pollinators, the important role they play in maintaining and pollinating the landscape plants, and the challenges these species face. Class includes an identification walk in the garden. Sponsored by San Antonio Water System. Fee: \$10 with lunch, \$5 without lunch (\$9/4.50 member)

Instructor: Molly Keck, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Program Specialist in Integrated Pest Management and Board Certified Entomologist

<https://www.sabot.org/education/adult-classes/gardening-waterwise/>

Ethnobotany of the Plants on the South Texas Trail

Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2020

Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: San Antonio Botanical Garden, 555 Funston Place, San Antonio

Description: For thousands of years, people survived and prospered in the sometimes-harsh environment of South Texas through their knowledge and use of native plants and animals. Learn how the plants commonly found in South Texas were used for culinary, medicinal, ceremonial and home arts purposes. This class includes a tour of the South Texas Native Trail and a tasting of some traditional and non-traditional foods made from native plants. Sponsored by San Antonio Water System.

Fee: Free to the public; [registration required](https://www.sabot.org/education/adult-classes/gardening-waterwise/). <https://www.sabot.org/education/adult-classes/gardening-waterwise/>

Instructor: Gary Poole, Conservation and Adult Programs Specialist, San Antonio Botanical Garden; Master Naturalist; Native Plant Society of Texas, member

Creating a Water Conserving Landscape

Date: Thursday, March 19, 2020

Time: 9:00 – 10:00 AM

Location: San Antonio Botanical Garden, 555 Funston Place, San Antonio

Description: Discuss the benefits of low water landscapes in San Antonio, the seven principles of xeriscape design, the proper use of irrigation system controllers, and the water conservation and coupon programs available through the San Antonio Water System. There will be plenty of time to ask questions about personal landscapes and plant choices.

Fee: Included with membership or general admission (\$15 – \$12); registration required

Instructor: Gary Poole, Conservation and Adult Program Specialist, San Antonio Botanical Garden

<https://www.sabot.org/education/adult-classes/gardening-waterwise/>

Native Milkweed Propagation

Date: Saturday, March 21, 2020

Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: San Antonio Botanical Garden, 555 Funston Place, San Antonio

Description: Add some plant diversity to your gardens! Learn about the appearance, characteristics, growing, and propagation techniques of milkweeds native to Central Texas. This workshop includes a lecture and hands-on preparation of seeds. Participants will plant and take-home milkweed seeds prepared for germination and propagation. Sponsored by San Antonio Water System.

Fee: \$20 (\$18 member)

Instructor: Cleve Powell, native plant propagator

<https://www.sabot.org/education/adult-classes/gardening-waterwise/>

Monarch Fest

Date: Saturday, March 28 - 29, 2020

Time: varies with day.events

Location: San Antonio Zoo, 3903 N. Sr. Mary's, San Antonio



Description: The San Antonio Zoo is again hosting a two-day festival celebrating all things monarchs, milkweed, and migration! Receive free native milkweed and native nectar plant seeds, participate in fun games and crafts, and learn how you can help end the extinction of the monarch butterfly. Monarch Fest Admission included with single day tickets. FREE for Annual Pass holders.

<https://sazoo.org/zoo-events/monarch-fest/>

CHAPTER NEWS

Newly Certified Master Naturalists



Congratulations to Class 5 member **David Pearson** for completing his initial certification! President Tom Hardaway, center, presents David with his certificate and congratulates Trina Martin for re-certification.

Guadalupe Master Naturalists Volunteer at Insect EXPO

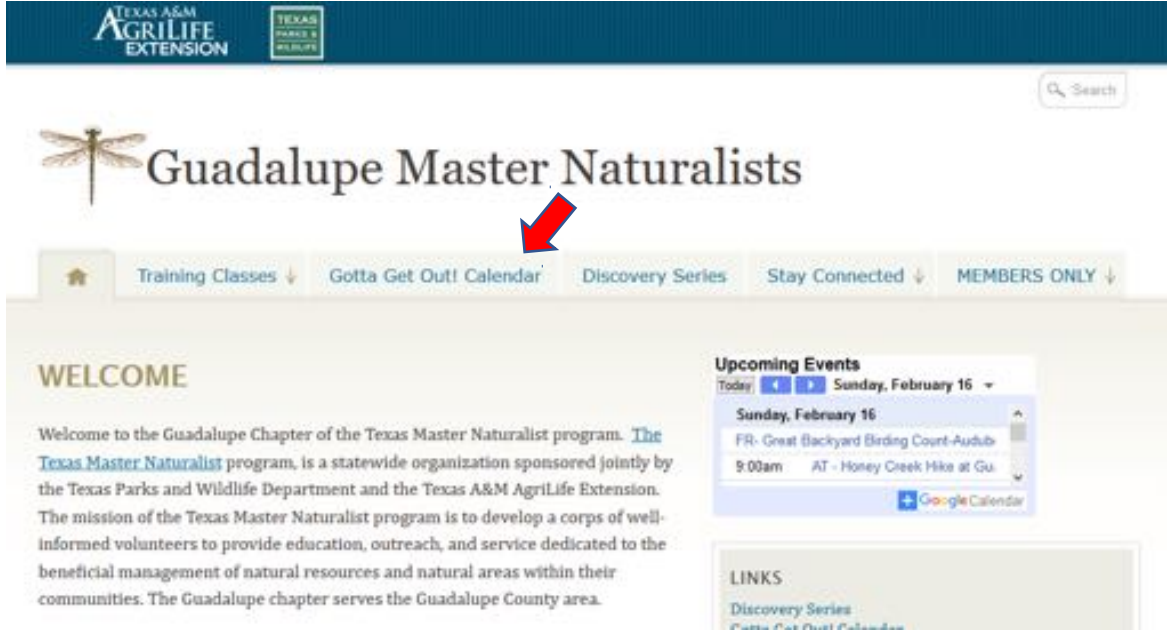
Comal Master Gardeners hosted the Insect Expo for 4th grade students at McKenna Events Center. Several Guadalupe Master Naturalists volunteered to help at the multiple learning stations. I had great fun introducing the children to the Madagascar Hissing Roaches! Sadly, none of them hissed for us; guess they enjoyed the stroking of their backs.

Janet Magee taught insect life cycles and helped the students make a life cycle wheel. Gail Temple and I both worked the pheromone table. Mark, of course, did his bees. Pam Turner, Kay Robbins and Michelle Darnell also taught a different stations.

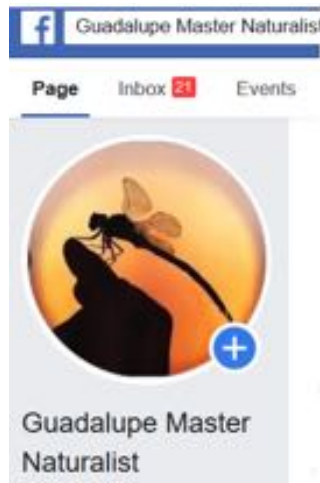
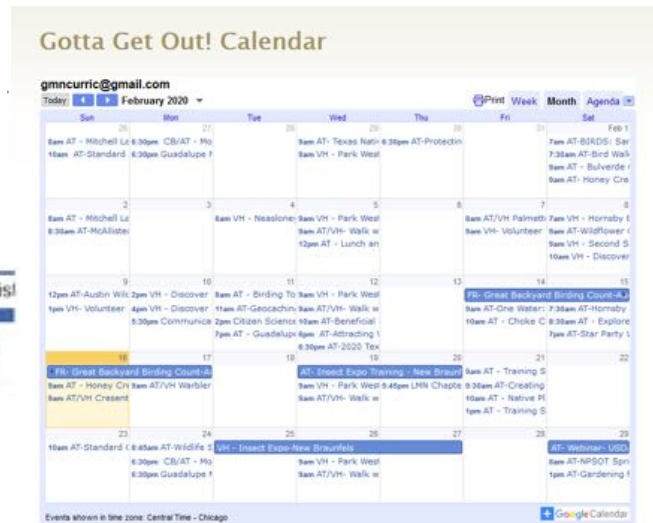


CHECK OUT OUR CHAPTER WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE

Guadalupe Master Naturalist Webpage <https://txmn.org/guadalupe/>



To enlarge the Calendar,
to be able to see the entire month,
click on the
Gotta Get Out! Calendar tab



Guadalupe Master Naturalist on Facebook
Like our page on Facebook this will give
you up to date **opportunities as they become available.**

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Training Class: The Training Class committee met on Tuesday, February 4. The Fall 2020 course will start on Tuesday, August 11 from 6:00 – 9:00 PM. The class will be held in Schertz but the exact location has not been determined yet.

Members agreed to serve on various Sub-committees. Marilyn Anderson will serve as Committee chairman and the sub-committee members are:

Class Coordinators – Sandi Wheeler and Michelle Darnell
Advertising/Marketing – Nancy Masterson and Kathy Pearson
Speakers – Marilyn Anderson
Potential students - Kathy Pearson
Supplies – Larry White
Attendance – Michelle Darnell
Student Information – Sandi Wheeler and Michelle Darnell
Class Monitors – Sandi Wheeler
Class Information – Marilyn Anderson
Self-selected Activities – Michelle Darnell and Kathy Pearson

With this wonderful group of Master Naturalists leading, we are sure to have a successful Training Class.

Communication Committee: Meeting on February 10, members of the Communication Committee discussed the various functions of the committee. Michelle Darnell accepted the position of committee chairman. Directing the many components of the committee will be:

Newsletter and Internal and External communications – Marilyn Anderson
Facebook – Kathy Pearson, Trina Martin and Mark de Kiewiet
Chapter Website and Calendar – Michelle Darnell, Kathy Pearson, Kay Robbins
Nature Rocks – Mark de Kiewiet
National Public Radio – Kim Lewis

Citizen Science: Members of the Citizen Science committee met on February 11. Chairman Tom Hardaway went over the various citizen science projects our Chapter is currently sponsoring. Possible future projects were also discussed.



Pam

Pam Sagebiel created a wonderful Chapter Directory and had them available at the February Chapter meeting. I have already used mine several times! We appreciate the effort she invested in making the Directory for the Chapter.

NEXT NEWSLETTER

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

Deadline for next issue – Friday, March 27 for the April 2020 edition.

Officers:	
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
Committee Chairmen:	
Program – Clara Mae Marcotte	rcm.marcotte@gmail.com
Training Class – Marilyn Anderson	MarilynA@access4less.net
Nature Education – Nancy Masterson	nsethermasterson@gmail.com
Citizen Science – Tom Hardway	tehardaway@yahoo.com
Advanced Training – Cinde Thomas-Jimenez	cthomas-jimenez@gbra.org
Communications – Michelle Darnell	mdsarnelltex@gmail.com
Membership – Michelle Darnell	mdsarnelltex@gmail.com
Fund Raising – Craig Sagebiel	prcraigsagebiel@yahoo.com
Hospitality – Mary Styblo	drstyblo@hotmail.com

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

