



***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.*

Guadalupe Master Naturalists Monthly Program and Meeting

Date: Monday, February 22 2021

Time: 7:00 PM **Program:** Jon Zeitler, Science and Operations Officer for the National Weather Service, Austin-San Antonio Forecast Office, will present a program on **Phenology -- the study of how plants and animals react to weather, daylight, etc.**

Jon has served the National Weather Service in Houston-Galveston, Rapid City, South Dakota, and College Station, Texas before coming to the office in New Braunfels. Before joining the NWS, Jon was a climatologist in Columbia, South Carolina, at Texas A&M University, and at Iowa State University.

Jon's professional interests are weather safety and preparedness, severe storms, and flash flooding. He is also a Certified Floodplain Manager.



8:00 PM **Chapter Meeting**

Due to COVID restrictions, the Chapter meeting will be available on Webex only. **To join the Webex meeting please sign on at 6:45.**

An email link will be sent

VOLUNTEER OPPERTUNITIES

Discover Nature Journaling

Date: Saturday, February 13, 2021

Time: staggered start times 9:30 - 10:00 AM

Location: Crescent Bend Nature Park, Schertz

Description: The 1-hour nature walks are designed to be socially distanced with no shared touching and staggered start times. At each naturalist-guided walk, parents will receive a free resource flyer of more nature activities, games, crafts and locations to use at home.



Leader: Kate Schnautz; **Assistants:** Nancy Masterson, Gayle Temple, Rebeca Leininger

Discovery Nature Education Series 2021

On Saturday Feb 13 Master Naturalists will hold Discover Nature Journaling at Crescent Bend Nature Park for families with children ages 5 to 12. The programs are focused on safety as nature walks guided by trained naturalists. Each 1-hour walk will have a different theme, in a small group, masked, with staggered starts 9:30-10 AM. Each month the Discovery program will have a parent engagement sheet to take home to explore nature in other parks or in the backyard.

March Discover What's Flying - Learn clues for looking at birds
April Discover What's Buzzing and Blooming - Have fun with flowers, bees and butterflies
May Discover The Forest – Every living thing plays a role in the forest
June Discover Clues and Traces – Find what animals leave behind
July Discover Horns and Thorns – Staying alive is tough

Attendance sign-in will be at two tables 10' apart. One table is for individual sign-in slips; the second table is drop-off for completed registrations. We plan to re-assess after 6 programs before we continue in the fall. We appreciate your help in advertising for these free and safe nature education opportunities for children.

To volunteer contact Nature Education chair Nancy Masterson at nsethermasterson@gmail.com

Citizen Science

Pollinator Garden at Park West

Date: Wednesday mornings, February 3, 10, 17, 24, 2021

Time: 8:30 AM

Location: Park West, 601 N. Vaughn, Seguin

Description: Help with general care and maintenance of the garden and the planting new plants as needed.

Leaders: Clara Mae Marcotte, Liz Romero





Forest Health

Dates: Thursdays – February 4, 11, 18, 25, 2021 [every Thursday through May, 2021]

Time: 8:30 – 11:30 AM

Location: Park West

Description: Come join us for outdoor workdays in February. Meet in the parking lot and wear gloves, work boots, long sleeves, long pants and a mask. Bring loppers or a handsaw.

During January, Guadalupe Master Naturalists met every Thursday morning at Park West for Forest Health workdays. What a difference they have made by volunteering weekly instead of twice a month as in years past! The hardy group has tackled some new areas of the park, protected heritage live oak trees by killing invasive Ligustrum plants under their drip-lines, planted native seeds in a recently cleared area, and bush-whacked into the deepest center of the forest to cut out Chinese Photinia and other invaders.



Eight chapter members have logged 72 hours in January alone for Forest Restoration in Park West. The Thursday volunteer days are not open to the public, but Master Naturalists are welcome. Project co-chairs Chris Dyess and Nancy Masterson follow safety guidelines and coordinate with the Seguin Parks Dept.

Contact: Chris Dyess at ced16123@gmail.com



Dates: Wednesday, February 3 and Thursday, February 4, 2021

Time: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Description: The Texas Master Naturalists is hosting its second Virtual Volunteer Fair with a series of 10-minute sessions highlighting projects by a variety of partner conservation agencies and organizations. Each day's sessions will be recorded and uploaded to our website post-event for those who cannot attend the live presentations.

The agenda for the event can be found on the [Virtual Volunteer Fair page on our website](#).

How do I join?

Registration is now OPEN to attend our Virtual Volunteer Fair! Register for either of the days or for both days **but registration is day specific** so make sure you sign up for the day you want to attend! You can attend any or all project proposal presentations on either of the days – come and go as you please! **TMN volunteers will earn Volunteer Service hours for attending all project proposal sessions – please use the “TMN Virtual Volunteer Service Fair” Statewide Project Opportunity for logging service hours.**

Use the following links to sign up for one or both days of the Virtual Volunteer Fair:

Event: Virtual Volunteer Fair 2021 - **Day 1**
Event address for attendees: <https://tpwdevents.webex.com/tpwdevents/onstage/g.php?MTID=e078f95b8237cc9fbe497458c30ae565a>
Date and time: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 9:00 am
Central Standard Time (Chicago, GMT-06:00)

Event: Virtual Volunteer Fair 2021 - **Day 2**
Event address for attendees: <https://tpwdevents.webex.com/tpwdevents/onstage/g.php?MTID=ed446d79da8b880fe3c118f2f5040ab8b>
Date and time: Thursday, February 4, 2021 9:00 am
Central Standard Time (Chicago, GMT-06:00)

How do I Sign up to Volunteer?

At the completion of EACH project presentation and again at the end of the event, we will share the “Project Volunteer Registration” survey link.

Texas Master Naturalist Volunteers will use the survey link to select which Service Project(s) they want to join. This survey will stay open for the month of February! Make sure and sign up early to ensure a quick turnaround time for our Project Hosts. From there, these Project Hosts will then reach out to you to get the projects kicked off. Please note that if a Project gets more volunteers than the Project Host can handle, he/she will make the call on how to manage the situation. Project service positions are not guaranteed.

Also note – some of the Projects in the Virtual Volunteer Fair are “place-based” opportunities, i.e. physical on public property service requests. Those should only be considered for approval by the local chapters within the direct ecosystem of that location/state park. Other volunteer opportunities are fully virtual and can be preformed by anyone across the state. Keep this in mind when you submit your Project Volunteer Registration surveys!

Great Backyard Bird Count

Date: February 12 – 15, 2021

Description: Each year people from around the world come together to watch, learn about, count, and celebrate birds. Connect to birds, to nature, and with each other. Birds are everywhere, all the time, doing fascinating things. Join us when the world comes together for the love of birds.

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

Simply **watch birds for 15 minutes or more, at least once over the four days**, February 12-15, 2021, and tell us what you see!



Pick **the best tool to use** for sharing your birds sightings:

- If you are **new to the count**, try using the [Merlin Bird ID app](#).

<https://www.birdcount.org/merlin-bird-id-app/>

- If you have **participated** in the count **before**, try [eBird Mobile app](#) or enter your bird list on the [eBird website](#) (desktop/laptop). <https://www.birdcount.org/ebird-mobile-app/>

- If you are **participating as a group**, see instructions for [Group Counting](#).

More information: <https://www.birdcount.org/>

2021 City Nature Challenge Bio Blitz at Bracken Preserve

Date: April 30 – May 3, 2021

Description: Planning is in progress for our next BioBlitz at Bracken Preserve. We will send details by mid April and will depend on where we are with the Covid-19 pandemic. The project name is already on iNaturalist and is **2021 City Nature Challenge BioBlitz at Bracken Cave Preserve**.

Website for City Nature Challenge - <https://citynaturechallenge.org/>

ADVANCED TRAINING

Training – iNaturalist Guides

Date: Saturday, February 6, 2021

Time: 3:00 PM

Location: Virtual; link to be sent



Description: from Seth Faught, organizer: I offered putting on training for the iNaturalist Guides and a few people stated they would be interested, so I wanted to see if those interested (and any others) would be ok with February 6, 2021 at 3pm. All that are interested, please email me with your iNaturalist account name so that I can do a roster. I would also like to know what area you would like to be part of (Warbler Woods, Crescent Bend, Park West, etc.).

I am new to the guides and those going through the training with me will be my first group. My hope is to give a quick understanding of what the guides do and then go directly into a semi hands-on training. This will be virtual and count as AT for everyone attending.

My "How To," just to give everyone an idea of how it works, is attached to my January 25 email. Thank you to everyone expressing interest.

Contact: Seth Faught SRFaught@msn.com

TMNTuesdays

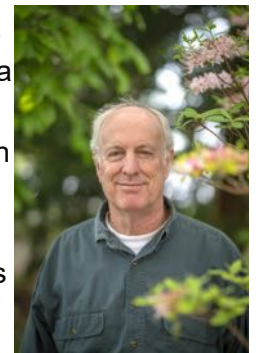
Date: Tuesday, February 9, 2021

Time: 12:00 PM

Location: Virtual

Description: 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 event (sometimes including some fantastic new and returning guest speakers). More information about each of these monthly events can be found below – <https://txmn.tamu.edu/tmntuesdays>

February's focus is all about "Nature's Best Hope." Particularly, how we humans are nature's best hope by doing something as simple as turning your yard from an ecological desert into a thriving native oasis. Dr. Doug Tallamy (pictured right) will not only provide the information about his experiences, but he'll also discuss practical tools that each of you can implement in your own backyards, whether you're a Texas Master Naturalist or not. Interested in these grass-root approaches to conservation at the local level? Want to help native species by creating wildlife corridors in your own backyard? Then this #TMNTuesday seminar session is for you!



[Doug Tallamy](#) is a professor in the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware, where he has authored 103 research publications and has taught insect related courses for 40 years. Chief among his research goals is to better understand the many ways insects interact with plants and how such interactions determine the diversity of animal communities. Doug has received many awards for his work, and his new book 'Nature's Best Hope' is a New York Times Best Seller.

Native Plant Society of Texas – Guadalupe Chapter



Date: Tuesday, February 9, 2021

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: ZOOM

Description:



Judit Green will speak on **"The Top 20 Central Texas Native Plants for Birds"**. Join us for this Top 20 countdown to the most valuable native plants that will draw birds to your Central Texas backyard. Many of the plants highlighted are shrubs and trees that serve as valuable food sources, shelter and nesting opportunities. Birds are some of the easiest wildlife to attract, so why not get started with a new and fun gardening project!

Judit is one of our favorite Training Class presenters so this is a presentation you will want to hear. If you are not a member of the Native Plant Society, contact me [Marilyn] and I will forward the ZOOM link to you.

Texas Stream Team

Standard Core Water Quality Citizen Scientist Trainings

Dates/Times: February 13 | 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

February 21 | 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

February 27 | 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Location: Not provided; email bobcatsreamteam@txstate.edu to request information

Description: Standard Core monitoring involves performing tests for parameters such as conductivity, dissolved oxygen, pH, total depth, water and air temperature, and water transparency using a chemical Standard Core kit. In addition to these parameters, Standard Core citizen scientists also conduct various field observations. Register ASAP due to limited seating.

RSVP by emailing bobcatsreamteam@txstate.edu or go to the calendar at <https://teamup.com/ksos37y3n9acgt5pk5>, select the date and filling out the form on the link.



Bruce and Adrienne Bebow, members of the 2020 Training Class, learn water testing at the Seguin Outdoor Learning Center during their final class.

Coastal Shorebirds: World Travelers, Winter Texans

Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Location: Virtual Webinars

Description: Patsy Inglet, local birding enthusiast, Texas Master Naturalist, and President of Bexar Audubon Society leads this online workshop to help you better know the birds relying on Texas's coastal habitat in the winter. The shorebirds we see in Texas represent the ends of the earth—visitors from lands we may never see. And they stitch our planet together with their Olympian efforts—some crossing several continents on their journeys. That certainly makes them **World Travelers**.



Many shorebirds spend the winter along the Texas Coast, and that makes them **Winter Texans**. Some of the wintering shorebirds do not come inland. That gives all Texas birders a great excuse to go to the Gulf Coast to see the shorebirds that winter there, and it helps if we study before we go.

Whether you are planning a trip to the coast soon, or simply hoping to expand your birding knowledge, you will learn key identification points for 14 species of shorebirds commonly seen on the Texas Coast. Patsy's presentations always entertain while building birding confidence in participants!

Fee: \$5.00

Website: Sponsor – Mitchell Lake Audubon Center <https://mitchelllake.audubon.org/events/coastal-shorebirds-world-travelers-winter-texans>

February Advanced Training [AT] and Volunteer Time [VT] Opportunities

Monday, February 1

4:30pm

AT - Birding for Fun, Virtual Beginning Birding classes

Tuesday, February 2

8:00am

VT – Neasloney Wildlife Management Area Workday

Wednesday, February 3

AT – TMN 2021 Virtual Volunteer Fair

2:00pm

AT- Seaside Chats: Feral Hogs and the Watershed

Thursday, February 4

AT – TMN 2021 Virtual Volunteer Fair

8:30am

VT – Park West Forest Health

9:00am

VT – Headwaters of the Comal Workday

12:00pm

AT – From Industrial Site to Trail Destination

12:00pm

AT – Bats and Water Webinar

Saturday, February 6

9:00am

AT – Honey Creek Hike at Guadalupe River State Park

9:00am

VT – Workday for Headwaters at the Comal

1:00pm

AT WEBINAR – Plants for Pollinators- VIRTUAL – NEW!

Monday, February 8

4:30pm

AT - Birding for Fun, Virtual Beginning Birding classes

Tuesday, February 9

AT - TMN Tuesday

8:00am

AT - Birding Tours

Wednesday, February 10

10:15am

AT - Top 10 Blooming Trees for Your Landscape

1:00pm

AT - Texas Aquatic Science Free Virtual Workshops

Thursday, February 11

8:30am

VT - Park West Forest Health

9:00am

VT - Headwaters of the Comal Workday

10:00am

AT - City Nature Challenge: Using iNaturalist for Science and Learning

12:00pm

AT - The Catalytic Impact of Trails

Friday, February 12

9:00am

AT TWS - 2021 Urban Riparian Symposium

10:00am

AT - Choke Canyon Bird Walk - AT

Saturday, February 13

9:00am

AT - Honey Creek Hike at Guadalupe River State Park

9:00am

VT - Workday for Headwaters at the Comal

11:00am

AT - Great Backyard Bird Count (Virtual)

1:00pm

AT - The Science of Pollination- VIRTUAL – NEW!

Monday, February 15

4:30pm

AT - Birding for Fun, Virtual Beginning Birding classes

Wednesday, February 17

12:00pm

AT - NDAL Webinar: Bird-friendly Home Landscapes

Thursday, February 18

8:30am

VT - Park West Forest Health

9:00am
VT - Headwaters of the Comal Workday

6:30pm
AT TWS - 2021 Texas Waters Webinars
Friday, February 19

10:00am
AT - Native Plant Walk
Saturday, February 20

7:30am
AT-Hornsby Bend - Monthly Bird Walk

8:30am
AT - Explore the Canyon

9:00am
AT - Honey Creek Hike at Guadalupe River State Park

9:00am
VT - Workday for Headwaters at the Comal
Sunday, February 21

9:00am
AT - Honey Creek Hike at Guadalupe River State Park
Monday, February 22
Guadalupe MN Chapter Mtg

4:30pm
AT - Birding for Fun, Virtual Beginning Birding classes

6:30pm
Guadalupe MN Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, February 23

1:00pm
AT - 2021 Monarch Conservation Webinar Series

1:00pm
AT - Monarch Conservation Webinar Series
Wednesday, February 24

6:30pm
AT - Wildscaping: Creating Habitat in our Cities
Thursday, February 25

8:30am
VT - Park West Forest Health

9:00am
VT - Headwaters of the Comal Workday
Saturday, February 27

9:00am
AT - Honey Creek Hike at Guadalupe River State Park

9:00am
VT - Workday for Headwaters at the Comal

10:00am
AT - Texas Inspired Curriculum Workshop

1:00pm
AT - Color with Native Plants – VIRTUAL

9:00am
VT - Headwaters of the Comal Workday

To find out more details and register for these opportunities, visit the Calendar on our website, <https://txmn.org/guadalupe/>



Lindheimer Chapter Monthly Meeting



Where:	Thursday, February 18, 2021, 6:00 pm
Who:	Brett M. Parker – Hill Country Snake Removal www.facebook.com/bparker-snakeremoval
What:	Texas Snake Identification and Safety "Kill the fear, not the snake!"
Where:	Online via WEBEX Members: Login to our Members Area for the Link Nonmembers: Email LindheimerMMContact1@gmail.com



About the Presentation:

- Facts over folklore
- Importance of snakes in our ecosystem
- What species of both non-venomous and venomous snakes live in their area of Texas and how to determine their unique differences from a safe distance.
- What to do and what NOT to do if they or someone else is bitten by a snake and much more!
- Brings native snakes and a few non-native snakes to safely allow a "close encounter" if desired!

About Brett Parker:

Brett owns Hill Country Snake Removal, and is a Firefighter/Paramedic at Central County ESO No. 3 (Canyon Lake, TX / EMS). He has given numerous presentations on Texas Snakes, as well as safe handling procedures, to schools, groups and communities. Brett promotes the humane removal & relocation of snakes.



Condalia hookeri

by Clara Mae Marcotte



Condalia hookeri, known locally as brasil and bluewood condalia, is in the buckthorn family. This small evergreen tree or shrub is a native and probably not one that is normally planted in a residential lawn. Actually, I did not plant mine. It was already growing in my backyard when we bought the house. Since brasil is so good for wildlife, I left it alone. (Well, that and the fact that it is covered with thorns.) The name *hookeri* comes from William Jackson Hooker who was Director of Kew Gardens from 1841 to 1865.

There are two varieties of *hookeri*, *Edwardsiana* and *hookeri*, according to Wildflower.org. As near as I can tell from the literature, the main difference is that *hookeri* has green blooms and *Edwardsiana* has yellow. Bloom time is March to May. Both are perennial and can grow from 12 to 36 feet tall. The fruit is black and purple and edible.

This year I decided to trim the lower branches off my shrub and make it more tree like. As I write this, cut branches are boiling in a pot on my stove as several sources including *Plantae of the Rio Grande Valley* says that blue dye can be gotten from the wood. So far, there is no color change. Maybe in a week or two.

Trees, Shrubs, and Cacti of South Texas by Everitt and Drawe consider this plant good for wildlife. White-tailed deer browse the plant leaves which contain about 15 percent crude protein. The fruits are eaten by coyote, raccoon, quail, and several species of birds, as well as humans. At least one Internet source shows photos of children with brasil fruit-stained teeth. Browse value for cattle is low according to *Plants of Texas Rangelands*.



Different sources consider the brasil to be evergreen, semi-evergreen, or deciduous. Mine still has leaves. The flowers are hermaphrodite with both male and female flower parts (like tomatoes and hibiscus), and are unlike monocious plants (such as corn) that have both male flowers and female flowers, or dioecious plants where male plants have male flowers and female plants have female flowers (such as mulberry, holly and asparagus). Brasil is easily propagated from seed. The wood of the tree has a dense heartwood in a brilliant red color, according to John Wagman from *Plantae of the Rio Grande Valley*, and can be used to make many items.

Congratulations



**Rebeca Leininger and
Adrienne Bebow
for completing the
requirements for their initial
Certification!**



**Way to go Class of 2020.
Five of the twelve have completed
their Certifications!**

Hats off for a job well done! These Master Naturalist all worked hard and received their certification for 2020; that is at least 40 volunteer hours and 8 AT hours. **GREAT JOB!**

Anderson, Marilyn
Barrington, John
Bebow, Bruce
Benbow, David
Benbow, Deborah
Cowley, Bobby
Cowley, Elaine
Darnell, Michelle
de Kiewiet, Mark
Dyess, Chris
Dyess, Jim

Edson, Francine
Edson, John
Faight, Seth
Hardaway, Tom
Magee, Janet
Marcotte, Clara Mae
Martin, Trina
Masterson, Nancy
Pearson, Kathy
Robbins, Kay

Romero, Elizabeth
Sagebiel, Craig
Temple, Gayle
Tripp, David
Turner, Pamela
Wagner, Craig
Wheeler, Sandi

We would also like to recognize our members who have completed 250 volunteer hours sense they joined the Master Naturalist program

Sandi Wheeler Daryl Styblo Trina Martin Sharon Frels

Then we have our members who have completed 500 volunteer hours sense they joined the Master Naturalist program

Mark de Kiewiet Michelle Darnell Clara Mae Marcotte Craig Wagner

Lastly, we need to recognize our members who have completed 1000 volunteer hours sense they joined the Master Naturalist program

Marilyn Anderson Pam Turner

Rest in Peace, Dear Friend



For those of you who did not get to meet or get a big "bear hug" from David Pearson, Training class of 2019, you don't know what you missed! He was an amazing guy who always had a big smile to share.

Note from Kathy Pearson, also class of 2019, "David left this world Friday, peacefully and pain free. Our hearts are broken and our spirits are crushed. We never would have anticipated this journey but I was able to walk through it with him. For this I am grateful. He is our Super Dave! Heaven gained one bad ass angel!! ❤️ Services are pending and we will share more soon."

Please keep Kathy and family in your prayers.



CHAPTER BUSINESS



**Membership
Dues**

It's that time again!

\$25.00

If you haven't paid dues, please mail to:
**Craig Sagebiel, Treasurer
Guadalupe Master Naturalists
4567 Luther Rd.
Seguin, TX 78155**

NEXT NEWSLETTER

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

February 26 for the March 2021 issue.

Officers:

President – Mark de Kiewiet	mark.dekiewiet@att.net
Vice-president – Jennifer Ehlers	ehlers@gvec.net
Secretary –	
Treasurer – Craig Sagebiel	prcraigsagebiel@yahoo.com

Committee Chairmen:

Program – Chris Dyess	ced16123@gmail.com
Training Class – Pam Sagebiel	pjsagebiel@yahoo.com
Nature Education – Nancy Masterson	nsethermasterson@gmail.com
Citizen Science – Tom Hardaway	tehardaway@yahoo.com
Advanced Training – Cinde Thomas-Jimenez	cindetjimenez@gmail.com
Communications – Michelle Darnell	mdarnelltex@gmail.com
Membership – Michelle Darnell	mdarnelltex@gmail.com
Fund Raising – Craig Sagebiel	prcraigsagebiel@yahoo.com
Hospitality – Mary Styblo	drstyblo@hotmail.com



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

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

