

**Texas Master Naturalist - Hill Country Chapter**  
**Board Meeting**  
**April 20, 2011**

**Present:** Anne Cassidy, Steve Clyburn, Vern Crawford, Cathy Downs, Reidun Hilleman, Susan Longacre, Bob McKinley, Phyllis Muska, Lisa Williams

**Absent:** Koy Coffey and John Huecksteadt

Also attending: Karla and Floyd Trefny

President Phyllis Muska called the meeting to order at 1:45pm.

**Acceptance of Minutes for March Meeting:** Cathy Downs made a motion to approve the minutes from the March Board Meeting. Vern Crawford seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Cathy Downs presented the Treasurer's Report for March. Of the several stipend checks which have not been cashed, Bill Lindemann will donate his honorarium back to the Chapter and Bill Carr has yet to indicate whether he will donate his or not. Susan Longacre made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Reidun Hilleman seconded and the motion was carried.

**New Class:** Two applications have already been received for the New Class. Lisa Williams reported that she is ready to order the new class curriculum. These may be ordered through Texas AgriLife and Sonny Arnold who is the Associate State Coordinator for the Master Naturalist program.

Barron Rector is the only speaker who hasn't confirmed. However, Lisa will go ahead with the order. Andy Sansom has agreed to speak on aquatic ecology and Amanda Bragg will speak on soils.

On the first day of class, there will be a volunteer project display consisting of 12 booths, hopefully. Lisa will contact the project coordinators across our 4-county area to see who might be able to participate. This is an excellent way for the new class to learn about the chapter's volunteer projects.

**Stream Team:** This is a cross-county project, monitoring water quality. It will be assigned a code and Reidun Hilleman will act as the project coordinator. Josh Oyer, from Texas State University, San Marcos, River Institute has been coordinating the training classes. A Kerrville team is still needed. Floyd Trefny offered to coordinate this.

**Lowe's Resolution:** Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse has helped the Master Naturalists at the Butterfly Garden at Kerrville-Schreiner Park with a new watering system. The store manager gave us a substantial discount (\$300) for this sprinkler type system. This is an improved system over the old one which had been in disrepair for several years. Lack of adequate watering had affected the butterfly count. Floyd Trefny proposed that the chapter recognize Lowe's for their assistance with a resolution (which he had drafted) and a media release. Steve Clyburn made a motion to present the resolution to Lowe's extending our appreciation. Vern Crawford seconded and the motion was approved.

**Chapter Picnic:** The Chapter Picnic will be held on Saturday, June 25 at Cave Creek near Stonewall. Lunch will be at 11:00. Come earlier for birding and hiking. Some of the chapter members will

preview this site on May 12. Susan Longacre requested that the site details be sent to Kristi Denbow for the newsletter.

**A Riparian Summit** put on by the Nueces River Authority will be held in San Antonio on October 6. Nonprofit sponsors are being sought for \$500. Phyllis Muska felt that this was a little too much for our chapter to manage alone. It was suggested that we might split a sponsorship with another similar nonprofit organization such as a NPSOT chapter or another Master Naturalist chapter.

### **Officers' and Directors' Reports**

**Bob McKinley** reported on upcoming chapter meetings and speakers: At the April meeting, Gary Clark will speak on the Hawks of Texas. In May, Phillip Wright of the NRCS will speak on a project that is just being completed, the Honey Creek Dual Watershed Project. November and January topics are still open.

All who went, enjoyed the Bonenberger place, Bear Springs Blossom Ranch, and appreciated the Bonenbergers' efforts on their land. Bob McKinley suggested that we add it to our volunteer project list.

**Steve Clyburn** recommended having instruction during the new class training on accessing AT codes which are on the website. He has experienced quite a few instances where members do not know how to access the codes.

**Susan Longacre** commented that March, April and May are the busiest time of the year for the Communications Director. She also reported that all of the printing has been done for the new class as well as the LMAP bookmarks. The April chapter meeting information has gone out to the media. May chapter meeting information has been sent to the county helpers and will be forwarded to the newspapers on May 3. Bob McKinley is to be Susan's backup while she is out of the country. The press release for the new class will go out immediately.

Publicity for the Butterfly Garden at Kerrville-Schreiner Park is pending identification of the water sources and usage.

**Fundraising** will be discussed at the June meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.

The next meeting will be **May 18 at 1:30 PM at RNC Nature Lab.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Anne Cassidy  
Secretary