

# The Texas Star



## Newsletter of the Master Naturalist, Hill Country Chapter

Julie Gibson

T E X A S



HILL COUNTRY CHAPTER

Rare, Endangered,  
and Threatened  
in the Four Counties.



**Tobusch fishhook  
cactus**  
*Sclerocactus  
brevihamatus*  
*ssp. Tobuschii*  
Bandera County

"...fortifying us  
for the work  
ahead."

April  
2010



Volume 8  
No. 4

### APRIL MEETING .... WATERSHED PLANNING AND PROTECTION



City of Boerne Watershed Coordinator Ryan Bass will speak on the **Upper Cibolo Creek Watershed** and present an overview of the watershed planning process within the state of Texas.

The 76 square mile Upper Cibolo Creek Watershed is located in southern Kendall County. Its boundaries,

land use, and historical and current impairments and concerns will be discussed.



Ryan heads the Upper Cibolo Creek Watershed Partnership and is responsible for developing a Watershed Protection Plan.

[www.ci.boerne.tx.us/](http://www.ci.boerne.tx.us/)

Join us at 7:00 pm, Monday, April 26  
at the UGRA Lecture Hall in Kerrville.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE .... John Huecksteadt



*HCMN Chapter Now a 501(c)(3) –  
What It Means*

Our chapter is now officially a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. I thought I would take a minute to describe to you what this means to the chapter and to you. I also thought it would be good for you to be aware of the proper terminology to use when referring to our charitable organization status.

The IRS granted "Hill Country Master Naturalist" charitable organization status in March under Section 509 (a)(2): *an organization that normally receives not more than one-third of its financial support from gross investment income and receives more than one third of its financial support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from the activities related to its exempt functions (subject to certain exceptions).*

Practically, this means the chapter does not have to pay federal tax as long as we maintain gross receipts under a certain amount. (We are a long way from that amount, by the

way.) Our treasurer does have to file a return each May, but it is in the form of an "e-postcard," and is really more a formality to let the IRS know our current income.

We began the march toward 501(c)(3) status over a year ago, at a time when the chapter's financial picture was less rosy than it is now. The idea was that if we became a 501(c)(3) we would be more attractive to benefactors, who could then deduct their contributions. Our financial picture is somewhat better now, but once the inexorable march toward charitable status began, it made no sense to retreat.

Further, and prerequisite to the IRS granting federal tax status, the chapter incorporated as a non-profit in the State of Texas under the HCMN By-Laws. So, it is with respect to the state that we are a "non-profit," while it is with respect to the IRS that we are a federal tax exempt charitable organization. Another

continued, page 2.

## THIS MONTH WE HONOR

| <u>Milestones</u>                               | <u>2010 Re-Certification</u>   | <u>Special First Year Re-Certification</u> | <u>First Year Certification</u> |
|---|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| <i>Gold 1,000 hours</i><br>Gracie Waggener      | <i>Wood Duck</i><br>Julie Clay | <i>Wood Duck</i><br>Stephanie Perry        | <i>Dragonfly</i><br>Bob Hansen  |
| <i>Brushed Silver 500 hours</i><br>Guy Harrison | Virginia de Wolf               |  | Jim Lindley                     |
|   | Betty Gardner                  | <u>2009 Re-Certification</u>               | Garry Speir                     |
|   | Sandra Magee                   | <i>Salamander</i>                          | Robert Spencer                  |
| <i>Bronze 250 hours</i><br>Norma Bruns          | Scott Magee                    | Guy Harrison                               |                                 |
| Ward Miller                                     | Bob McKinley                   |  |                                 |
|   | Lars Nielsen                   |  |                                 |

Watersheds come in families; nested levels of intimacy... As you work upstream toward home, you're more closely related. The big river is like your nation, a little out of hand. The lake is your cousin. The creek is your sister. The pond is her child. And, for better or worse, in sickness and in health, you're married to your sink.

Michael Parfit

Do you know?

Watershed Protection Plans (WPP) are locally-driven projects. The goal of a WPP is to protect healthy waterbodies from potential pollutant threats and to restore polluted waterbodies. The planning and development process integrates the viewpoints of all stakeholders in the watershed to create innovative solutions that benefit the community and the surrounding environment, promote a unified approach to seeking funding for implementation projects, and create a coordinated public communication and education program.

501(c)(3), continued.

prerequisite was to apply for and obtain an EIN (Employer Identification Number). It is this number you need to provide benefactors for their deduction reporting.

Separate from federal tax exemption is state tax exemption. We are still waiting for the State Comptroller to grant this exemption, although we expect it any day now. The request and application is based on our prior federal 501(c)(3) approval. When granted it will exempt us from paying sales tax for goods purchased for the chapter and charging sales tax for goods we sell (read "plant sales, clothing, signs, etc."). We now make an automatic 8% more for our efforts.

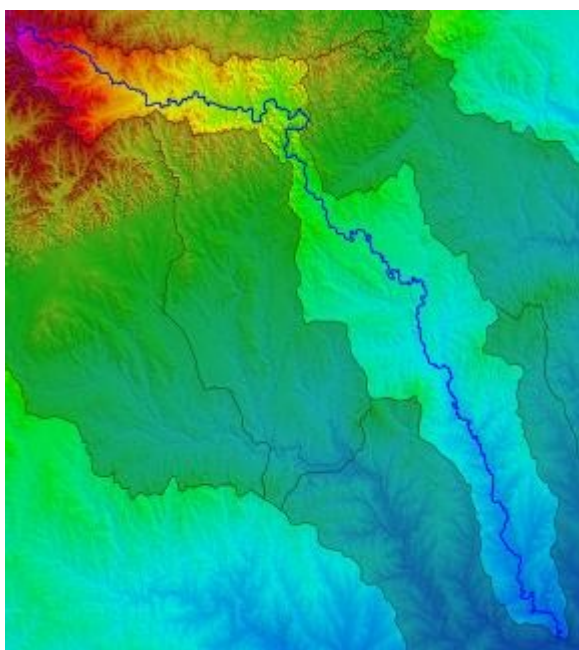
Finally, our 501(c)(3) provides that we can deduct mileage for volunteer activities - for some chapter members this deduction could be substantial. The rules are straight-forward, but I will not explain them here. Please follow the link below to read more.

[irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=216048,00.html](http://irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=216048,00.html)



**ADVANCED TRAINING .....Your chance to learn more**

- **THE GEOLOGY OF THE HILL COUNTRY AT 10-055**  
Tuesday, April 13, 11:30a.m., RNC, \$3 members/\$6 non-members.  
Presenter: Dr. Susan Longacre, Geologist, Hill Country Chapter member  
Susan shares her knowledge of the Hill Country landscape.
- **SPRING WILDFLOWER WALK AT 10-039**  
Friday, April 16, 9a.m.-Noon, CNC/Cavewater, CNC members \$20; non-members \$25.  
Presenter: Bill Carr, Texas field botanist, Texas Nature Conservancy  
Cavewater is a spectacular property that includes dry upland, shaded cliff and cypress-lined creek. It is a perfect place to see great diversity of spring wildflowers.  
Call 830-249-4616 to register. Limited to 20.
- **WEED AND BRUSH CONTROL AT 10-049**  
Friday, April 16, 9a.m., Ranger Creek Homeowners Association Building Boerne, Free  
Presenter: Dr. Bob Lyons, Range Specialist for Texas AgriLife Extension Service.  
Weed and brush control for the Hill Country with chemicals or mechanical means and a session on Prescribed Burning.  
For directions please call the Kendall AgriLife Office at 830-249-9343 or 830-331-8242.
- **BIRDING BY EAR WORKSHOP AT 10-040**  
Saturday, April 24, 7-10a.m., CNC, CNC members \$20; non-members \$25.  
Presenter: Tom Inglet and Patsy Inglet  
Learn how to use bird songs to locate and identify our Hill Country breeding birds.  
Call 830-230-5551 or 210-710-3981 for information.
- **RIPARIAN WORKSHOPS AT 10-052**  
May 4,5,6,7; 8a.m.; Various locations; Free  
One-Day Riparian Workshops - How do rivers work? Why do they move? Are floods bad? Is gravel natural? What keeps rivers flowing during drought? How can riparian function enhance wildlife habitat and sustain water on your land? Learn the hows and whys of river and riparian function.  
Registration required. Contact Sky Lewey slewey@nueces-ra.org or call 830-278-6810.
- **TEXAS INVADERS REFRESHER CLASS AT 10-053**  
Saturday, May 22, RNC  
Presenter: Travis Gallo, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center  
Learn to properly collect and report data for the Texas Invaders Project.  
Contact Phyllis Muska, [pmuska@windstream.net](mailto:pmuska@windstream.net), for reservations.



### THE CIBOLO CREEK WATERSHED

Cibolo Creek originates in the hills 10 miles northwest of Boerne, near the junction of Upper Cibolo Road and Ranger Creek Road at about 2,000 feet above sea level. The creek travels 50 miles in an easterly direction, to a point about three miles north of Natural Bridge Caverns, where it turns to flow in a southeasterly direction.

For the next 13 miles, Cibolo Creek passes through the Edwards Outcrop (Balcones Escarpment) to a point about one mile west of Bracken. The remaining 90 miles of Cibolo Creek are within the Coastal Plains, joining the San Antonio River 1.5 miles east of Panna Maria, at an elevation of 225 feet above sea level.

The slope of the creek bed drives its waters downstream. The slope gets milder the further it is from its source. For the first 10 miles of Cibolo Creek's travel, near Boerne, the slope is about 1.0 percent, while the final 10 miles, near Panna Maria, have a slope of about 0.1 percent. The average slope is about 0.2 percent. <http://beartx.org/bear-13.htm>

## FOUR COUNTY FACTS

## BANDERA

*More historic settlements.*

J. P. Rodriguez Settlement  
(Polly, Privilege)  
Lakehills (Upper Medina Lake)  
Medina  
Pipe Creek

## GILLESPIE

Cherry Spring  
Christel  
Crab Apple  
Dearing (Schussler)  
Doss (Doss Valley, Lange)  
Eckert (Nebo)  
Fredericksburg  
Grape Creek (Luckenbach)  
Grapetown  
Harper  
Hennen (Morris Ranch)  
Hilltop  
Hondo

## KENDALL

Fair Oaks Ranch  
Grapetown  
Hastings (Mineral Springs)  
Kendalia  
Kreutzberg  
Lindendale  
Middletown  
Mount Alamo  
Nelson City

## KERR

Ingram  
Japonica (Jessamine)  
Jessamine (Japonica)  
Kerrville (Kerrsville, Browns-  
borough)  
Kerrville South  
Legion (Oak Park)  
Mount Wesley  
Mountain Home (Eura)  
Pebble

When I was accepted to the program in 2007, my only goal was to complete all those classes without missing any of them. Little did I know that a year later I would be asked to serve on the board of directors. The decision makers! Those with their fingers on the pulse of the chapter! Who me? Are you kidding? What were they thinking!

Even with a few less than perfect minutes in the beginning, I was not fired. I am still on the board of directors, now serving my second term as the Chapter Secretary.

So, what does the Secretary do anyway?

The Secretary keeps the attendance records at board meetings. Yep, just like in school. This is actually to show that there is a voting quorum in attendance.

At every board meeting, the first item on the agenda is the Approval of the Minutes. That's me, up first.

The week before the meeting, the minutes from the previous month are sent out to all board members to read, send corrections, and then be edited before the meeting, so that approval is usually done quickly. When the minutes are approved, they are sent to the webmaster and the two Chapter Advisors. Our advisors are Roy Walston from Kerr County AgriLife Extension Office and Mike Lloyd from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. The minutes are also printed and filed in the Archive Book. I have two Archive Books; both go to all meetings. The books contain past minutes, Chapter Policy, and documents that are sometimes needed when questions arise.

Now the real fun starts.

The next one and one half to two hours, the Secretary writes madly trying to keep up, and keep straight names, initials, dates, and acronyms of every wildlife and conservation organization in the state of Texas that are flying around the table. Really fast. That's the down side.

The up side is I get to work with a group of people who know all those names, dates, and acronyms for all those organizations.

Once the meeting is over, all those scribbles that look like initials are used to again write the minutes, which are then sent out and corrected, and the whole cycle starts over again.

Next year there will be a new Secretary; my term will be over. So if you get a phone call, or are asked to serve on the board, or any of the chapter committees, do not hesitate to say, "Yes," to the opportunity to work with and get to know some of the chapter's best!

Respectfully submitted,  
Gracie Waggener  
Secretary

by Christina Williams

The black-capped vireo, *Vireo atricapillus*, (BCVI) was designated an endangered species by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1987 due to parasitism and habitat reduction from fire suppression.

The BCVI is a small, insect-eating, neo-tropical songbird that visits central Texas between

March and August.

Mature males are olive green above and white below with faint greenish-yellow flanks. The crown and back of the head is black with a partial white eye-ring. The iris is brownish-red and the bill black.

Females are similar appearance but with the plumage on the back of the female being duller than the male.

BCVIs breed from Oklahoma south through central Texas, west to Coahuila, Mexico and into the Trans-Pecos. In Texas, BCVI habitat is highly variable with regard to plant species, soils, temperature, and rainfall; however, they are all similar in vegetation structure (i.e. "overall look"). BCVIs require broadleaf shrub vegetation, such as Texas oak, Lacey oak, shin oak, live oak, mountain laurel, evergreen sumac, skunkbush sumac, flameleaf sumac, redbud, Texas persimmon, Mexican buckeye, elbowbush, Ashe juniper, and agarita.



The vegetation must extend from the ground to about six feet or more in height to provide nesting cover. Typical nesting habitat is in shrublands and open woodlands with a distinctive patchy structure covering about 30 to 60 percent or greater of the total area. The shrub layer is often combined with an open, sparse to moderate tree canopy with

grass or bare rock separating the clumps of shrubs and trees. In central Texas this habitat is often regrowth from disturbances such as clearing, fire, and browsing.

BCVIs winter on the Pacific slopes of Mexico in shrublands and open woodlands with

a similar distinctive patchy structure like that on the breeding grounds.

There are several places to see BCVIs in central Texas: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's

Kerr and Walter Buck Wildlife Management Areas and Lost Maples State Park, and the National Park Service's Big Bend National Park.

Additional information on the BCVI can be found at [fws.gov/endangered/](http://fws.gov/endangered/) and/or [tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/huntwild/wild/species/non game/](http://tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/huntwild/wild/species/non_game/).

Christina is a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Biologist working in Austin. She is a chapter member and daughter of Susan Longacre, our Director of Communications.

Contact Christina at

[Christina.Williams@fws.gov](mailto:Christina.Williams@fws.gov).







Many members earned recertification in March. Diane McMahon, Joseph Bergmann, Tom Collins, Barbara Lowenthal, Cynthia Johnson, Floyd Trefny, Karla Trefny, Cathy Downs, Robert Spencer, Gracie Waggener, and Michelle Haggerty from the State Office. Koy Coffey acted as photographer; she also earned initial certification.

**SHOW US YOUR SIGN!**



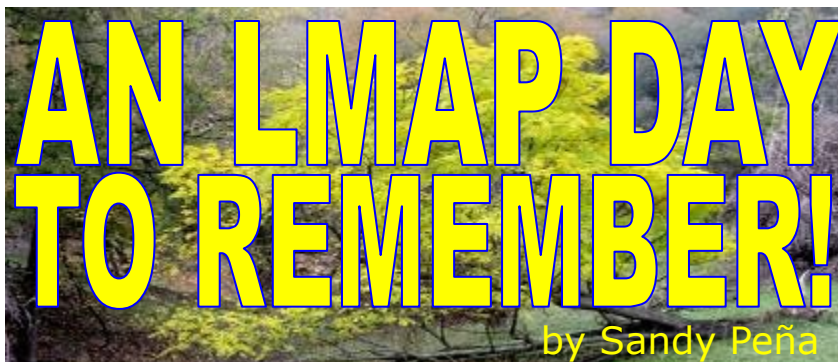
Cynthia Burgin, at Last Chance Forever, Kendall County



Tom Collins, Bandera County



As most of you know, our chapter's [Land Management Assistance Program](#) (LMAP) volunteer project offers site visits to interested property owners who want to learn more about their land and how to better manage it. LMAP teams have visited over 230 properties in the past five years, and the demand for our service continues to grow.



I was invited by Jan Wrede of the [Cibolo Nature Center](#) to organize a group of LMAP site visits for landowners in the Upper Cibolo Creek watershed. These visits were requested by the Upper Cibolo Landowners Association (UCLA). The UCLA was founded three years ago by property owners who wanted to protect and preserve the natural beauty of the headwaters valley of the [Cibolo Creek](#) where they live. (This organization is one of the stakeholders in the City of Boerne's Watershed Protection Plan that you will hear more about at this month's chapter meeting.) UCLA President David Pipes and I put together a one day marathon LMAP consisting of three site visits for five property owners on March 27.



I asked John Huecksteadt, Phyllis Muska, and Dan Behringer to join the team and take on the challenge of this unique situation. In addition, David Pipes invited Rufus Stephens, a Texas Parks and Wildlife biologist, to join us and to speak to the landowners at lunch. Anne Adams and chapter member Ben Eldredge, both from the Cibolo Nature Center, joined us as well.

At 9:00 a.m. on the appointed day, we four arrived at the first property on Cibolo Creek near Boerne Lake. A large group of UCLA members greeted us warmly and treated us to coffee and pastries - fortifying us for the work ahead. This first property, some 120 acres, has been in the family for generations. Nearly 90% of it is now under conservation easement. The property owners asked us to look at their pasture and riparian areas in particular. We walked the land with them for about two hours, identifying forbs, trees, and grasses while making notes of issues to address in our LMAP report.

The second property was farther up Cibolo Creek, much closer to its headwaters. This property consists of a large riparian area, high above which is a large "bench" area of relatively flat land. Here the landowner has cleared a lot of [cedar](#) for living space and outbuildings. At the back of the bench area the land rises sharply several hundred feet. It consists of a closed canopy of cedar and deciduous trees that has attracted a number of nesting [golden-cheeked warblers](#). The creek has a healthy riparian vegetative area with only a few non-native species such as [ligustrum](#) and [tree-of-heaven](#).

Continued, page 8.



At the beaver dam.

LMAP, continued.

After walking this property, the group sat down to a delicious lunch provided by the UCLA. Rufus Stephens talked to us about many aspects of land management, including riparian vegetation and dealing with deer and exotic populations. Then, David Pipes surprised us with a very generous donation of \$300 to our chapter from the UCLA!



Lacey oak, *Quercus glaucoides*

We then headed up to the third property, at an elevation of about 1,800 feet. We found the typical rocky terrain with shallow soils and an amazing amount of cedar. The family patriarch said he had been cutting cedar for more than 50 years and still had a ways to go. After seeing large quantities of yellow buck eye and Lacey oak trees on top, we got into trucks and headed down a steep road that dropped about 200 feet to a large pond. Last year's drought had completely emptied the pond, but thanks to recent rains, and a large beaver dam, the pond has recovered. Rufus assured us that beaver are indeed native animals, but kind of a mixed blessing: they help raise the water level for waterfowl, but they also take out some trees.

By late afternoon our team completed our marathon LMAP with the heartfelt thanks of all the landowners. It was a long day, but we felt so rewarded by this unique opportunity to offer our knowledge and enthusiasm to people who truly desire to protect and preserve their watershed. We hope there will be many others like them to come!



Texas Beaver

from Robert Spencer



Easter morning I heard a raspy peep peep sound and looked up in our trees to see what kind of bird made such a call. Then, to my surprise, I spied a large bird with a long neck, bright red-orange duck bill, medium brown back, black underbody, red legs, and a crew cut mane. I have seen these ducks sitting on a fence wire on a road that I run about a mile from my house. I recalled from my past investigation that this bird is a Black-bellied Whistling-duck, *Dendrocygna autumnalis*, (formerly called a Tree Duck) and probably at the northern extent of its range.

[allaboutbirds.org/guide/Black-bellied Whistling-Duck/id](http://allaboutbirds.org/guide/Black-bellied%20Whistling-Duck/id)



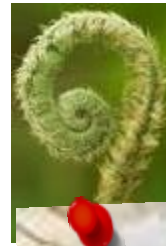


## Texas Master Naturalist Hill Country Chapter

# Website Tip of the Month

Our Hill Country Chapter dates back to 2002, and the first issues of the Texas Star, our chapter newsletter, appeared in 2003. All of the back issues (2003-2010) are available on our website, <http://grovesite.com/tmn/hcmn>. You can download any issue from the site by selecting 'Back Issues' below the Newsletter option on the main menu. Then just scroll to the month you want and click on the title to bring it up on your screen. Note that most issues are in .pdf format, so you'll need Adobe Acrobat Reader. A few of the older issues are in Microsoft Word (.doc) format.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions concerning our website, contact our webmaster Phyllis Muska, [pmuska@windstream.net](mailto:pmuska@windstream.net) or Communications Director Susan Longacre, [SusanLongacre@chevron.com](mailto:SusanLongacre@chevron.com).



### HEY, WHAT IS THAT ?

Be the first to identify the photo below and the psychedelic dragonfly is yours next month.

[ENTER TO WIN!](#)



We had some good tries, but no one correctly identified the photo. It is the **pollen basket** or corbicula, a part of the tibia on the hind legs of the honey bee.



*This month try to identify what's hiding in the photo below!*

## Earth Day Celebration & Native Plant Sale

co-sponsored by Riverside Nature Center and the Native Plant Society of Texas – Kerrville Chapter.

Saturday April 17 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Speakers, Displays, Kids' Activities, and

More! Free Family Fun!





from Cynthia Burgin



Cynthia Burgin



## LAST CHANCE FOREVER

*The Bird of Prey Conservancy*



I can't believe the progress we have made in just two work days. That's what volunteers can do! I really want to thank the volunteers that have turned out and worked so hard. I think this is going to be a place everyone in the Hill Country Chapter can be proud of, and we certainly will benefit from the use of the facilities.

A Country Picnic and Dedication of the Mule Shoe Farm is scheduled for June 20. Activities will include the Birds of Prey Demonstration, Native Indian Dancers, a Mule Team, and many other fun things to do for families from the area.

Our next workday will be April 20 at 9:30a.m. Contact me if need directions. Look for the chapter sign out front. Cynthia Burgin, [cburgin@omniglobal.net](mailto:cburgin@omniglobal.net). Project KL-09-A.



Darin Potter repairs the barn door, as John Karger runs the tractor.



Myrna Langford - always ready to lend a hand.



Navarre, a captive bred falconer's bird.



The new home of LCF.



Karla Trefny puts her ranch skills to good use.





HELLO INVASIVE SPECIES.  
GOODBYE TEXAS.

Invasive species damage our ecosystem and cost the U.S. \$137 billion annually. In the Hill Country, some of the most troublesome invasive plants are ligustrum, nandina, giant reed, Chinaberry, tree-of-heaven, and Chinese tallow. These plants affect water quality, endanger native species, and threaten our area's biodiversity.

Many of you are familiar with the Invaders of Texas citizen science program sponsored by the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin. Several years ago our Hill Country Master Naturalist chapter participated in training to identify and document invasive plant species. After an initial spurt of activity by the class attendees, interest began to wane, and there have been very few new database entries by our group over the last year or so.

As project coordinator, I would like to see the group reactivate. We have scheduled a refresher class for May 22. The full-day class will be held at Riverside Nature Center and will be led by Travis Gallo from the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. A number of changes have been made to the way data is collected and reported, so whether or not you took the original class, this training will be helpful and informative. I hope you'll plan to join us in the training session.

In addition to documenting invasive species in the Wildflower Center database, we will introduce a management aspect to the project - hands-on control efforts in some of the parks and nature centers in our four-county area.

Take a look at the newly revised website, [www.texasinvasives.org/](http://www.texasinvasives.org/).

If you are interested in attending, please let me know so that I have some idea of the level of interest.

Phyllis Muska, [pmuska@windstream.net](mailto:pmuska@windstream.net). Project CC -10-A



[TPWD Horned Lizard License Plate Fund](#) supports Invaders of Texas Project. Show your support! Put a Horned Lizard plate on your vehicle and help conserve wildlife diversity by funding projects that help protect native species.



## Texas Launches New Invasive Species Website

<http://www.texasinvasives.org>

Texasinvasives.org is sporting a new user-friendly interface and new features like Eco Alerts by Region, where you can search Texas Ecoregions to see what species are a problem in your area; a Report It feature to help keep the worst of the worst out of Texas and social media like YouTube and FaceBook. The site is still home to the Texas Invasive Plant & Pest Council, the state-wide invasive species conference, the Invaders of Texas citizen science program, and an invasive plant database. The website also contains an interactive mapping application, downloadable invasive species publications and links to national, regional, and state invasive species resources.

from Cynthia Burgin

# A fungus among us!

One day last week as I drove into my driveway, I spotted these strange things on the rock wall just outside my car window. When I started looking I also noticed them under the trees on the hill beside the house. At first I didn't know that they were edible. After checking the internet and seeing all the hoopla about finding morels! in Texas, I called my neighbor, Diane McMahon (a fellow chapter member), and we started looking. Our first day harvest is pictured. At first we were willing to share, because we had not eaten any. After our first meal we became as selfish with them as any of the other 'shroomers' on the internet. We had a fun weekend looking. What a wonderful gift from Mother Nature right in the front yard.



from Sandy Peña

My husband and I have already gathered several dozen morel mushrooms on our land - these are the largest. This is only the second time in a decade that they have appeared. Morels require just the right conditions to spring up. Barbara Lowenthal and Cynthia Burgin have also found dozens on their land; in fact, Cynthia's latest count is 136!







Collage of Collins' Ranch Windflowers.  
March 2010. Tom Collins, Bandera County.

## Chimney Swifts are Coming!

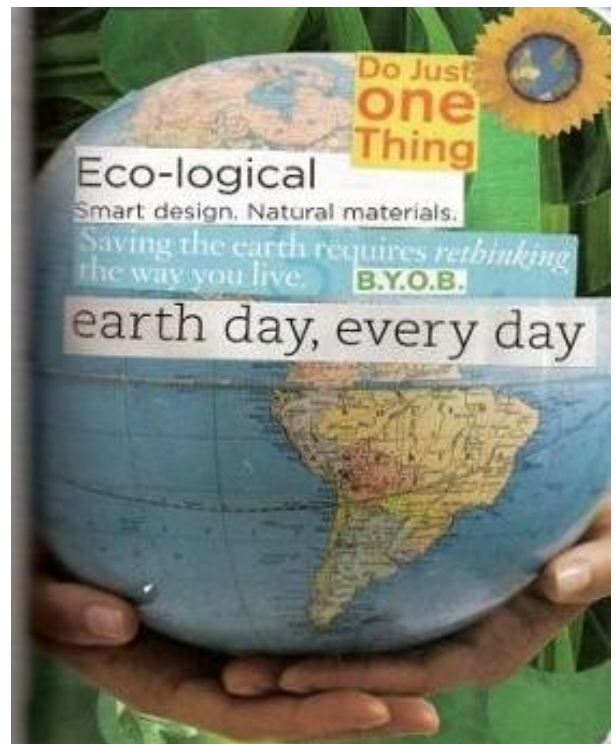


The first Chimney Swifts of the season have been sighted on the Gulf Coast returning from their wintering grounds in South America. As in past years we will be plotting the swifts' movements northward over the next few months. Please let us know when you see the first swifts in your area. This year's results will be posted on the Driftwood Wildlife Association website at [www.CHIMNEYSWIFTS.ORG](http://www.CHIMNEYSWIFTS.ORG).

## Guadalupe River State Park Opens Children's Discovery Center

A strolling spider expert in safari gear, guided nature walks, crayfish displays, bird-banding, and a live reptile show-and-tell are just some of the activities planned for Guadalupe River State Park's Earth Day celebration from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Saturday, April 24. The special day also marks the grand opening of the Children's Discovery Center.

The Children's Discovery Center, designed by the Texas Parks and Wildlife's Interpretive Services Department, encourages youngsters to look at the popular Texas Hill Country park's remarkable natural resources through the eyes of a scientist. [Guadalupe River State Park, tpwd.state.tx.us/newsmedia/releases/](http://tpwd.state.tx.us/newsmedia/releases/)



T E X A S

Master  
Naturalist™



Hill Country Chapter

FIND MORE INFORMATION  
ON OUR WEBSITE!  
[grovesite.com/tmn/hcmn](http://grovesite.com/tmn/hcmn)

### *Board of Directors 2010*

John Huecksteadt - President

Sandy Peña - Vice President

Gracie Waggener - Secretary

Cathy Downs - Treasurer

Steve Dodge - Director of Advanced Training

Director of Class Training

Susan Longacre - Director of Communications

Koy Coffey - Director of Membership

Priscilla Stanley - Director of Volunteer Service Projects

Laura Baker - 2009 New Class Representative

Jim Stanley - Immediate Past President

We meet the fourth Monday of each month (excluding December) at 7:00pm  
at **Riverside Nature Center**,  
150 Francisco Lemos Street in Kerrville.  
We welcome and encourage visitors.  
Please join us.



**Lindheimeria texana: Texas Star**

### Texas Master Naturalist 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.

#### *Questions about our chapter?*

Contact Koy Coffey  
Membership Director

[kcoffer@texas-wildlife.org](mailto:kcoffer@texas-wildlife.org)

830-792-3070

*The Texas Star* newsletter is a monthly publication of the Hill Country Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist program. News, comments, information, and ideas are always welcome. Please contact Kristie Denbow, [denbow@gvtc.com](mailto:denbow@gvtc.com).

T E X A S

Master  
Naturalist™



TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

*Agri*LIFE **EXTENSION**  
Texas A&M System