

The Texas Star

Newsletter of the
Texas Master Naturalist
Hill Country Chapter
March 2017 Volume 15 Number 3



photo by Ben Eldredge

March 27 Meeting: Restoration Agriculture

T E X A S

Master
Naturalist™



Ben Eldredge, Director of Adult Education at the Cibolo Nature Center, will speak on using agriculture to create habitat instead of destruction. He has a degree in Environmental Studies and currently oversees citizen science programs, a significant program expansion to the neighboring Herff Farm, agriculture and land restoration education, and land stewardship of the nature center and farm's four habitats.

The monthly meeting of the Texas Master Naturalist Hill Country Chapter is free and open to the public. We meet in the Upper Guadalupe River Authority's lecture hall, 125 North Lehmann Drive in Kerrville. Socializing begins at 6:30; the program starts at 7:00.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Brenda Fest

Hello fellow Master Naturalists!

Spring is here and the Hill Country is coming alive as plants emerge to bring beauty for us and food for wildlife. It's time to clean your bird boxes for this year's cavity birds to lay eggs. It's also time to remove excess vegetation to let this year's perennials have room to grow and to remove some of the more invasive plants from beds to allow for the diversity in your pollinator gardens.

This past week I went on a hike to Honey Creek Natural Area. I listened to our guide, Bob Hansen--a fellow Hill Country Master Naturalist--tell a group of visitors that everything is connected. The water that flows from one creek to another affects the wildlife and plants and in turn affects everything else. I was proud as Bob reminded the group that this is one of the principals that Master Naturalists tell the public about. This is so simple and so true. Next month I will be helping teach one of the Native Plant Society classes, Introduction to Native Landscapes. This class helps to introduce the importance of using native plants in the landscape in creating a balanced ecosystem. And the more diversity of native plants you have the more diversity of wildlife will come. Yes, everything is indeed connected.

The Monarch butterflies have left Mexico and are on their way. They should be coming through the Hill Country in a few weeks. Our native milkweeds are ready. Many nectar plants are also getting ready to feed all the hungry butterflies--Monarchs as well as other pollinators.

The process for completing applications for fall training class has been revised and improved, thanks to the efforts of Larry Eskridge, Lisa Flanagan, and Kristie Denbow. Information and applications will be available on our website on April 1 through June 30. Please let folks know about our excellent training.

Join us at our March chapter meeting to hear Ben Eldredge, Director of Adult Education and Stewardship at the Cibolo Nature Center and Farm, speak about Restoration Agriculture.

Brenda Fest

This Month We Honor



Initial Certification

Marylein Davies, Mimi Stidham

Special Recertification

Joe Braly, Susan Clark, Reggie Cox, Elsa Roberts

Recertification

Chris Anderson, Stephen Bishop, Rheda Boardman, Kristine Bobbitt, Jane Crone, Rose Ellis, Larry Eskridge, Mike Foulds, Sarah Hilburn, Ruth McArthur, Kathy Ward, Gracie Waggener

Milestone

Bridget Langdale, Tony Cieszkiewicz - Brushed Silver Dragonfly, 500 hours

Congratulations to members who received awards at the February meeting:



Certification Awards,

From left to right:

Paula Harley,
Randy Fuentes,
Françoise Wilson,
Tom Harrigan,
David Davies,
Teresa Coleman



Milestone Awards,

From left to right:

Brenda Fest,
Jane Crone,
Chris Anderson,
Sandra McKinley,
Tom Harrigan,
Nina Stieler

Recent Hill Country Naturalist Columns by Jim Stanley:

- 2/4/17 Going...Going...Gone. Too Many Species at Risk
- 2/11/17 A Native Habitat in Our Backyard
- 2/18/17 Harbingers of Spring: Greenery in January
- 2/25/17 Ecology 101 for Hill Country Landowners

These and all other previous Kerrville Daily Times columns can be found at www.hillcountrynaturalist.org

Golden-cheeked Warbler
Endangered Species

Experience the Wild Side of
the Texas Hill Country!

Birding for Endangered Species
Nature Talks, Walks & Demonstrations

Bring the whole family for
educational and entertainment
activities focusing on the unique
wildlife features of the
Texas Hill Country

Photo Workshop - Trade Show & More

Black-capped Vireo
Endangered Species

Lady Bird Johnson
Municipal Park is
located three
miles south of
Fredericksburg on
State Highway 16

Set your GPS for:
LAT: 30.2392
LON: -98.9091

Lady Bird Johnson
Municipal Park
Fredericksburg, TX

A Project of the Friends Of Fredericksburg Nature Center

www.wingstx.org

Like us on
Facebook

7th Annual
WINGS
OVER THE
HILLS
Nature Festival
April 28-30, 2017

Special Guest Dorian Anderson
"Biking for Birds"



NPSOT Boerne Chapter Monthly Meeting

On Tuesday, April 4, Jim Stanley, author and Master Naturalist, will discuss the critical importance of native bunch grasses for the health of the Hill Country native habitat.

Socializing at 6:30pm, program at 7pm

Cibolo Nature Center, 140 City Park Road, Boerne

NPSOT Fredericksburg Chapter Monthly Meeting

On Tuesday, March 28, Rebecca Leonard, the founder of Lion Heart Places, will speak on "Designing Your Landscape."

Social at 6:30pm, program at 7pm

Fellowship Hall of Memorial Presbyterian Church
601 North Milam Street, Fredericksburg

NPSOT Kerrville Chapter Monthly Meeting

On Tuesday, April 11, at 1:30pm, Patsy Leslie Pasztor will speak on Ethnobotany, the human uses of native plants for food, medicine, and fibers, as well as their beneficial uses for wildlife.

Riverside Nature Center, 150 Francisco Lemos Street, Kerrville.

All of these programs are free and open to the public.



The Hill Country Chapter of Texas Master Naturalists will go on line with the application for membership in the Class of 2017 on April first. The deadline for application will be June 30.
For more information, go to our website (txmn.org/hillcountry) and follow the links under "Become a Master Naturalist."



Chapter members are welcome and encouraged to attend and contribute to Board of Directors meetings. The board meets at the Riverside Nature Center at 2:30 on the Monday of the chapter's monthly meeting.

From Bridget Langdale

CARE Update

The committee on Awards, Retention, and Engagement (CARE) was active at the Texas Master Naturalist monthly meeting in February.

Fourteen people came to the Pre-Meeting Gathering at Mamacita's to meet new people, reconnect with friends, and share ideas on where to volunteer. We started gathering around 4:30 and stayed to a little after 6:00. Afterwards, we heard a lot of "we had a great time before we headed over to monthly meeting" comments.

Starting shortly after we left the restaurant, members and guests were greeted at the door of the Lower Guadalupe River Authority building or just inside by members of the CARE committee, all of whom wore green bandanas to distinguish themselves. These committee members reminded all who were to receive awards to go directly to the photography room for picture-taking.

Members who would be recognized at the start of the meeting for being recertified or reaching a milestone had been interviewed in the previous weeks on their thoughts about being a Master Naturalist and where they offer their volunteer hours. This information, plus the pictures taken in the photography room, will be sent to these volunteers' local newspapers. In this way, we will let communities know about their neighbors who give back to their communities through their volunteering. Our intent, in this new program, is two fold: to thank members for making a difference in their community and to gain some publicity for TMN.

At the March meeting, awardees will be photographed from 6:30-6:45. We'll ask them to line up at the right side (when facing the front) of the lecture hall just before 7:00. Each person will be recognized, a group picture will be taken, and then the speaker will be introduced.

Members of the CARE committee are Tony Cieszkiewicz, David Davies, Marylein Davies, Cecilia Fuentes, Bridget Langdale (chair), and Debbie Windham. For more information, please contact Bridget Langdale at bsl@rabbit66.com.

From Debbie Windham

A Visit to the Mason Mountain Wildlife Management Area

Mason Mountain is an island in the landscape. The mountain displays fireworks of colors from the pink domes of granite rock, green emerging springtime tenders, red and blue of the famous Hill Country flowers, and the black, brown, and white of the ranging wildlife. What a unique and special place this is.

Three biologists who work at Mason Mountain gave a private tour to members of the CARE committee on March 8. They explained the specific problems and exciting new successes of the projects they are tackling and the team talked about Master Naturalists' role there. The biologists are exploring new opportunities that we may have.

The area is still closed to the general public; access is limited and requires a permit. But we hope to work on future additional projects. Pictured here, examining a constructed wildlife water source, are (left to right) Jeff Foreman, Bridget Langdale, Debbie Windham, Marylein Davies, David Davies, and Mark Mitchell.



photos by Tony Cieszkiewicz

From Tony Plutino

Volunteering at the Mason Mountain Wildlife Management Area

Volunteering at MMWMA provides an exciting opportunity for Master Naturalists to experience in depth a place that few get to visit. Opportunities abound to learn a great deal about the science of habitat management, study Texas Hill Country flora and fauna (some exotic), experience the town of Mason and the surrounding Hill Country and, of course, earn volunteer and advanced training hours if seeking initial certification or re-certification.

Our primary project is assisting Mark Mitchell, MMWMA Manager, and Dr. James "Jim" Gallagher, TPWD Biologist in the MMWMA's ongoing Quail Management Study by collecting vegetation data as it relates to Quail habitat. Attending one of the series of orientations (May 5 & 6; June 2 & 3) will give each volunteer the basic tools needed to be a partner in this ongoing program.

The data to be gathered is simply the flora structure along a specified transect line within each of 72 rotational burn plots. The data about plant structure, from the tree canopy down to ground level, will be entered by volunteers into a tablet and then into a master database. MMWMA staff will then combine this data with quail counts in an effort to learn more about optimal quail habitat and quail management techniques with the ultimate goal of sharing this information with land owners, land managers and other scientists. For further information, contact the Project Coordinator, Tony Plutino, at tonyplutino@gmail.com.

From Eileen Gotke

Texas Parks and Wildlife Recognizes Old Tunnel State Park Volunteers

A group of Old Tunnel State Park volunteers have received an award from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. This "Stars in the Parks" volunteer award is based on the trail work they completed at Old Tunnel. There were 96 Texas state parks competing for the award. Old Tunnel State Park superintendent Nyta Brown presented the award plaque at the March 4th Old Tunnel 2017 orientation



From left to right: Warren Ferguson, Myrna Langford, Linda Plevak, Dale Bransford, Bob Wiedenfeld, Sarah Hilburn, Barbara Jansen, Lisa Williams, and Eileen Gotke. Also honored, but not pictured: Ric McCormick.

Photo by Nyta Brown

From Sharon Hixson

Spring Native Plant Sale & Earth Day Festival

Saturday, April 22, 2017, 9am - 2pm

Co-sponsored by

Riverside Nature Center & Native Plant Society of Texas - Kerrville Chapter

Our expert volunteers are gathering beautiful plants native to our region. These wildflowers, shrubs, grasses, and small trees are sourced from local growers. Native plants require lower maintenance – saving you time and money. Plus, they create habitat and food for native wildlife – including songbirds, butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds. Come early for the best selection! Experts will be available to answer questions and to help you select plants that will thrive in your particular landscape conditions.

All net proceeds benefit RNC and NPSOT education efforts. Enjoy tax free shopping at this special Earth Day event. Members of RNC and NPSOT can enjoy a preview sale on Friday April 21 from 4:30-6:00pm. Non-members can join either or both of these organizations at the pre-sale.

Our featured speaker, Znobla Wootan from Native American Seed, will be sharing her experiences with encouraging and preserving pollinators. Check on our website for additional details on displays and fun kids' activities.

We could not do this without our wonderful volunteers.

If you want to help, contact Sharon Hixson at sharonhixon859@yahoo.com
or call the RNC office, 830-257-4837.

South Llano River State Park
Texas Tech Outdoor School and
Mason Star Gazers
invite you to our first
Star Party

as an
International Dark Sky Park
Saturday, March 25th from 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Held at the South Llano River State Park
Walk-in Campground parking lot
(park at overflow lot across from campsites 18 and 20)

Join us for this special evening! We'll act out the legend of Perseus, find our way around the night sky, and look through telescopes at celestial objects. We'll also find out what the new Dark Sky Park designation means for our park, and what the park is doing to protect its dark skies for people and wildlife. Bring a lawn chair and a red light flashlight. All ages are welcome!

Program is free with park entrance fee —
\$5 per person ages 13 and up; kids 12 and under are free!
Please stop by Park Headquarters to obtain entrance permit.



THE CIBOLO NATURE CENTER & FARM PRESENTS

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

- PETTING ZOO
- EGG HUNTS
- DOG & PONY SHOW
- FACE PAINTING
- CRAFTS
- CARNIVAL GAMES
- BUNNY PHOTOS
- AND MORE!!

WORKSHOPS

- BACKYARD CHICKENS
- VEGETABLE GARDENING
- BEE KEEPING
- NATIVE LANDSCAPING
- INTRO TO PERMACULTURE
- HERFF FARM HISTORY
- GARDEN TOURS
- AND MORE!!

SPRING FAMILY FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, MARCH 25TH 10AM - 2PM

\$5 PER PERSON | \$10 PER FAMILY | FARMER'S MARKET FREE

REGISTER ONLINE: WWW.CIBOLO.ORG

33 HERFF ROAD, BOERNE, TX

Wanted: Spotted Skunks



What: All observations of Spotted Skunks, statewide. Current, recent, and historical encounters sought.

Information Wanted: Location, date, pictures (if available), and a short description of the encounter. If a roadkilled animal: photograph and salvage any part possible. Call number below for further instructions.

Contact: Robert Dowler at skunk.project@angelo.edu or 325-486-6639.

For immediate response, Clint Perkins at 318-623-1678; <http://www.inaturalist.org/projects/spotted-skunks-of-texas> .



Department of Biology, Angelo State University, San Angelo, TX 76909

From Martha Miesch

Studying Water and the Guadalupe River at the Kroc Nature Study Program

Our favorite water specialists from the Upper Guadalupe River Authority, Tara Bushnoe and Travis Linscomb, had a lot to teach the students in the after school program on the subject of water. Travis set up some great pictures of the Guadalupe River and Tara posed questions and supplied responses about the beautiful river that flows through their hometown.



The pictures gave an opportunity to show the students the water treatment plant near a major dam and helped them consider some of the ways river water can be polluted by human interference, such as run-off and trash. They learned the importance of drinking water as a major factor not only for human life but for plant and animal life as well. They also saw pictures of cliffside springs and an illustration of how waterways in the state connect. The students listened attentively, and both asked and answered questions. Then we separated into two groups.



One group gathered along two large tables loaded with various art supplies, including blue paper cut to resemble waves in water. They created pictures using various art supplies of their choosing. Master Naturalists Jill Bowen, Chris Leinhard, Pam Leinhard, Martha Miesch, and John Sloan helped the students to create river pictures.

The second group accompanied Tara and Travis to another area of the classroom and learned how to identify clean water and to use test tubes in measuring cloudy, unclean water. We anticipate that they will consider what they learned the next time they turned on a faucet or drank water at their homes that evening.



The View From Rusty Bend



Granddaughters on the Guadalupe

Weightless

*When I fly in my dreams
I glide as a Northern Harrier
low to the savannah.
A hawk that lifts and soars*

*liquidly,
drifts over fences,
tangles of prickly pear,
carving gravity.*

*A most graceful raptor,
Manta Ray of the prairie,
swimming through the sky,
swaying softly side to side.*

I hear a waltz.

This year, February hosted rare events. First, Rusty Bend became an unexpected construction zone. A weird series of early warm days kicked off a flurry of nest building. Canyon Wrens have resumed possession of our porch and after several days of test nesting on various rafters, they achieved agreement on the one outside our window. It's hard to not anthropomorphize these critters. Their long beaks seem to signal intention more than other birds. We imagine conversations that keep us amused. The day starts with a conference on the woodpile, much like early morning scenes at building sites all over the county. But no Big Gulps or foil-wrapped tacos.

After convening at the woodpile and much singing, one wren stations herself at the nest while the other brings sticks for discussion. Sometimes a stick is comically huge; he lugs it up and places it. She chirps. He moves it. She chirps. He moves it again. Long chirp. Done. And he's off for the next piece.

As things progress and the nest is five or six inches high; interior decorating begins. For hours, she brings up soft shredded mulch from the flower bed. One long piece is hard to make behave. She stuffs it, poke, poke, poke, her little fanny wagging. And it sticks out. She moves it, stuff, stuff, stuff. It still sticks out like a bad hair day, and now a third time she tries to get it to stay where it belongs. Finally, with apparent disgust, she tosses it overboard.

Then, it is time for finishing touches. Interior trim, so to speak. We look on the porch railing and there he is, with a mouthful of alpaca from my nest material basket. A mouth FULL. Like he is carrying a roll of cotton candy, almost as big as he is. He hops around, does a few deep knee bends, and flies up to the nest to gift her with his fluffy bounty. "Honey, look at THIS!"

This February was also special for a rare sighting--granddaughters from Denmark. They asked to go for a hike and look for bones almost as soon as they hit the ground. We gathered our hiking sticks and headed for the river.

continued on next page

My lovely little naturalists in training. They remembered the good ants and the bad ants. They speculated on whether the skull of a little creature indicated a meat eater or a vegetarian. They saw fish in the grooves of the river. They made a bone belt for their little sister. They soaked up sunshine as if they were starved for it; the light so bright, they squinted for days.

I taught them some new grasses. One they called “Hairy Grandma Grass.” I’ll never think of it as Hairy Gramma again. We took an enchanted hike one foggy morning. The girls were entranced by the spider webs and invented names for them: basket, hole in the ground, ladder! Another day, we went “brush poppin’” off the ranch roads, since I figured the snakes were still hibernating. They loved picking trails through the brush and finding bones in the motts. Said one, “Buella, if I was a deer and I was going to die, I would crawl right in here.” Deep thinker, that one.

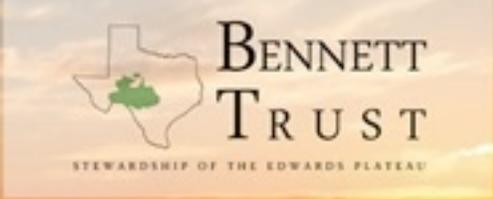
The oldest got her first driving lessons in our buggy; the smile of satisfaction on her face, priceless. Perhaps Rusty Bend is a good place to learn new things: to expect magic around each corner and to understand that, with practice, and freedom, a girl could learn to fly.



Granddaughters, fog, spider web

Poem, essay, and images by Lucy Griffith Copyright 2017

Lucy Griffith, PhD co-manages the Rusty Bend Ranch with her husband, Andy Robinson. She also writes poetry and her muse is a tractor named Ruby. Both Lucy and Andy are certified Master Naturalists from the Class of 2013. Comments welcome at doctorluz@hctc.net.



Protecting the Natural Resources
of the Edwards Plateau

Fourth Hill Country Land Stewardship Conference
April 20-21, 2017
YO Ranch Hotel & Conference Center
2033 Sidney Baker St., Kerrville
Hosted by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
For more information and to register, please visit:
bennetttrust.tamu.edu

Advanced Training

SATURDAY, MARCH 25 9AM-3PM WACO CONVENTION CENTER, 100 WASHINGTON AVENUE, WACO
AT17-042 BLUEBIRD SEASON KICKOFF

The Texas Bluebird Society, an all-volunteer grassroots organization, will show how to help bluebirds and other native cavity-nesting birds by increasing nesting sites while sustaining and increasing their food supply. To register, go to www.txblues.org/2017event.

MONDAY, MARCH 27 9AM-12PM 2886 TX16 N, MANSFIELD PARK, BANDERA
AT17-092 WHITETAIL DEER MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Topics will include Harvest Management, Spikes, How to do Boone and Crockett Scoring, and How to Manage Whitetail Habitat. Ryan Reitz and Evan McCoy with Texas Parks & Wildlife are the instructors. Free; RSVP to 830-796-7755 or go to Bandera-TX@tamu.edu

MONDAY, MARCH 27 7PM UPPER GUADALUPE RIVER AUTHORITY LECTURE HALL, KERRVILLE
AT17-088 RESTORATION AGRICULTURE

Ben Eldredge, Director of Adult Education at the Cibolo Nature Center, will speak at the monthly chapter meeting on using agriculture to create habitat instead of destruction.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30 8-9:30AM ENCHANTED ROCK STATE NATURAL AREA, FREDERICKSBURG
AT17-069 LOW ALTITUDE VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE TRAINING

The goal of this training is to assist and educate visitors at the park entrance and at the foot of the trail. Volunteers are requested to familiarize themselves with the park online before the training. The training will provide additional information about the park's environmentally sensitive areas such as vernal pools and policies to protect those areas. Training sessions will continue on Thursday mornings during April and May. For further information, call Chris Anderson, 830-998-8559 or go to sligo.canine@gmail.com.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30 7-8PM WEBINAR

AT17-086 COCORAHS TRAINING AND INFORMATIONAL SESSION

This webinar is for both new and seasoned observers. Nolan Doesken will address basics of measuring and reporting; time will be devoted to answering questions from the audience. All attendees will be muted but will be able to type in questions. The webinar website is <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2931730488751255810>.

TUESDAY, APRIL 4 6:30-8PM CIBOLO NATURE CENTER, BOERNE (CNC)
AT17-093 NATIVE GRASSES AND HEALTH OF THE HILL COUNTRY

Jim Stanley will explain how native grasses are essential to the fertility and health of the soil, to preventing erosion, and to capturing and holding water. He will also show some of the most common Hill Country grasses and discuss their characteristics.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5 9AM-4PM KERR WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA, HUNT

AT17-058 POLLINATOR MANAGEMENT ON PRIVATE LANDS & 1-D-1 TAX VALUATION WORKSHOP

Advance registration is required; contact Ben Hutchins, 512-389-4975 or 512-212-0230, or go to ben.hutchins@tpwd.texas.gov.

THURSDAY, APRIL 6 8-9:30AM ENCHANTED ROCK STATE NATURAL AREA, FREDERICKSBURG
AT17-069 LOW ALTITUDE VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE TRAINING

See Thursday, March 30 listing (above) for details.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8 9AM-12PM CIBOLO NATURE CENTER

AT17-084 HARVESTING RAINWATER AND SOLAR ENERGY

John Kight, engineer, rainwater catchment and solar panel owner, gives the latest technological information and practical advice about design and materials. Tuition: members \$25 per person; non-members \$35. Pre-registration is required; go to <https://ciboloorg.presencehost.net/experience/events/calendar.html/event-form/harvesting-rainwater-registration/20353/tickets>.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12 9:30AM-2:30PM DON STRANGE RANCH, 103 WARING WELFARE RD., BOERNE
 AT17-096 GARDEN GOURMET

Bob Webster, host of the KTSA Garden Show, will speak on preserving and serving the harvest as part of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service's statewide Backyard Basics initiative to help Texans learn how to grow, prepare and preserve their own food. The program will include various hands-on workshops and an "Ask the Expert" station. Cost: \$55, including lunch, refreshments, and all instructional materials. To register, go to <https://gardengourmetdonstrangeranch.eventbrite.com> before April 10.

Thursday, April 13 8-9:30am Enchanted Rock State Natural Area, Fredericksburgh
 AT17-069 LOW ALTITUDE VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE TRAINING

The goal of this training is to assist and educate visitors at the park entrance and at the foot of the trail. Volunteers are requested to familiarize themselves with the park online before the training. The training will provide additional information about the park's environmentally sensitive areas such as vernal pools, and policies to protect those areas. Training sessions will continue on Thursday mornings during April and May. For further information, call Chris Anderson, 830-998-8559 or go to sligo.canine@gmail.com.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15 9AM-12PM CIBOLO NATURE CENTER, BOERNE
 AT17-062 LEVEL 1, INTRODUCTION TO NATIVE LANDSCAPES

The Native Landscape Certification Program (NLCP) is a series of day-long classes that teaches best practices for native plant landscaping – including wildlife habitat gardening. We show you native plants in their natural habitat, common invasive plants in natural areas, 45 native Texas plants recommended for your landscape, and five invasive plants to avoid. Cost, before April 14: \$37. For more information and to register, go to <https://s08.123signup.com/event/registration/nyvbq>.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20 8-9:30AM ENCHANTED ROCK STATE NATURAL AREA, FREDERICKSBURG
 AT17-069 LOW ALTITUDE VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE TRAINING

See Thursday, April 13 listing (above) for details.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22 CENTRAL TEXAS ELECTRIC CO-OP, 386 FRIENDSHIP LANE, FREDERICKSBURG
 AT17-063 LEVEL 1, INTRODUCTION TO NATIVE LANDSCAPES

Cost, before April 21: \$37. See Saturday, April 15 listing (above) for further details. For more information and to register, go to <https://s108.123signup.com/event/registration/npkqv>.

MONDAY, APRIL 24 7PM UPPER GUADALUPE RIVER AUTHORITY LECTURE HALL, KERRVILLE
 AT17-TBA CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

Johnny Arredondo, Wildlife Biologist from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept., will be the speaker at the monthly chapter meeting.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25 9AM-12PM ABK STATE NATURAL AREA, PIPE CREEK
 AT17-094 PRAIRIE VEGETATION SURVEY

This training is for new volunteers as well as a refresher for those who participated in 2016. The first hour will introduce materials and methods for the prairie vegetation survey and practice in identifying grasses and forbs; remaining time will be collecting in the field. For more information, go to aadams@wildblue.net.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27 8-9:30AM ENCHANTED ROCK STATE NATURAL AREA, FREDERICKSBURG
 AT17-069 LOW ALTITUDE VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE TRAINING

See Thursday, April 13 listing (above) for details.

The newsletter's publication schedule does not allow listing all AT events in each issue.

Check the chapter calendar on our website for additional AT.



We meet on the fourth Monday of most months at 7:00 PM in the Upper Guadalupe River Authority Lecture Hall at 125 North Lehmann Drive in Kerrville.

Join us at 6:30 for our social half-hour.

Everyone is welcome.

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.

Board of Directors 2017

- Brenda Fest -- President
- Craig Childs -- Vice President
- Kris Bobbitt-- Secretary
- Ann Dietert -- Treasurer
- Tom Harrigan -- Advanced Training Director
- David Davies -- Communications Director
- Lisa Flanagan -- Membership Director
- Claire Mitchell -- Volunteer Service Projects Director
- Reggie Cox -- 2017 Class Director
- Paula Harley -- 2016 Class Representative
- Kathy Ward -- Immediate Past President

The Texas Star is a monthly publication of the Hill Country Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist Program. News, essays, comments, and ideas are welcome.

Please email them to:
Lenore Langsdorf, Editor
LenoreLangsdorf@gmail.com

The Hill Country Chapter does not recommend or endorse organizations or commercial sources mentioned in our newsletter. The opinions expressed are those of the authors and editor.



Questions about our chapter?
Email Lisa Flanagan,
Membership Director
hillcountrymembership@gmail.com

