

The Texas Star

Newsletter of the
Texas Master Naturalist
Hill Country Chapter

April 2019 Volume 17 Number 4



APRIL 22 MEETING: All About CoCoRaHS



Bill Runyon, Texas CoCoRaHS State Coordinator, will provide background information about CoCoRaHS: the who, what, where, and why CoCoRaHS began. He will also discuss why it is so important here in Flash Flood Alley in protecting people's lives and how anyone can join to become part of the largest all-volunteer citizen-scientist rainfall observers group in the world.

The monthly meetings of the Texas Master Naturalist Hill Country Chapter are free and open to the public. We meet in the Upper Guadalupe River Authority Lecture Hall, 125 North Lehmann Drive in Kerrville. Socializing begins at 6:15; the program starts at 6:45.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Lisa Flanagan

Hello everyone! I hope you are getting good opportunities to go outside to enjoy this wonderful weather. I wish it could be like this all the time, but, alas, summer is right around the bend.

I visited the Pollinator Garden in Kerrville-Schreiner Park last week. If you have never been there, you need to put it on your list of things to do. Larry and his crew of volunteers have worked hard to clean it up, add more flowering plants, better define the walkways, etc. This is a banner year for the bluebonnets, completely filling the inner circle of the garden. Beautiful!

As I mentioned at our last Chapter meeting, we now have our donation button up and running again on our Hill Country Chapter website, following the request by a person wanting to donate to our chapter. This is a voluntary way for us to get more funds to run our chapter, rather than institute chapter dues. We will also have a donation jar on the check-in desk at each chapter meeting. Thank you, in advance, of any donations .

Please remember to use our wonderful website if you need a form of some kind, or to use the calendar. Chapter members can use it to find someone's phone number, address, or email. Our calendar is a wealth of information. Use it to find out about upcoming ATs and to use the posted info for codes, locations, content, and presenters. You can also find our financials and Board Meeting minutes on our website. And remember, you are welcome to attend Board Meetings. Thank you to Kristie Denbow, Webmaster, for making our website look so good and easy to use.

As was also mentioned at our last meeting, when posting your volunteer or AT hours, remember not to use acronyms. We have outside auditors who go over all records for all chapters to see if we meet criteria for matching grants to help our statewide organization. All chapters have their own list of acronyms, so we can't just hand the auditors a list of ours. Whatever it is, spell it out in full.

In closing, I wish you all the best Spring season and coming Summer months. Happy volunteering!



This Month We Honor



Initial Certification

Travis Linscomb, Janet Petrosky, Rae Tucker

Recertifications

Chris Anderson, Tom Collins, Marylein Davies, Rose Ellis, Vivian Fink, Cecilia Fuentes, Bob Hanson, Paula Harley, Veronica Hawk, Sharon Hixson, Molly Houck, Sandy Leyendecker, Pam Lienhard, Wendi Leonard, Robin May, Tara Randle, John Sloan, Rachel Thompson, Karla Trefny, Evelyn Vittone, Russell Vowell, John Walker, Kathy Ward, Morgan Williams, Deborah Windham, Hal Zesch

Milestones

John Sloan - Gold Dragonfly, 1000 hours

Rheda Boardman, Brenda Fest - President's Volunteer Service Award, 4000 hours



Congratulations on receiving a Milestone at the February meeting: Mackenzie Brown has given 500 hours of service. He is especially active with the Friends of the Guadalupe River State Park and Honey Creek State Natural Area as an interpretive guide and Board Member.



Congratulations to members who received awards at the March meeting:

From left to right: Catherine Gauldin, Robin Hale, Reggie Cox

The C.A.R.E. committee invites you to join fellow Master Naturalists for an informal social hour prior to our monthly meeting. Gather at El Sombrero, 303 S.Sidney Baker St. in Kerrville, at 4:30 and order dinner if you wish.

Recent Hill Country Naturalist Columns by Jim Stanley

- 3/2/19 How Do Trees Without Leaves Make New Leaves in the Spring?
3/9/19 “Saving the Water and the Soil Must Start Where the First Raindrop Falls”
3/16/19 Are We Smart Enough to “Improve” on Mother Nature?
3/23/19 Changes Observed as Winter Turns Into Spring
3/30/19 Ecosystem Services: Essential to Life but Almost Never Considered

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

From Claire Mitchell

We need TMN volunteers to come out on Thursday, April 18 from 9:00 to noon to help pull up the Malta Star Thistles from the headquarters office area at Albert & Bessie Kronkosky State Natural Area, 7690 Highway 46 West, Pipe Creek, TX 78063 (BD-01-B-RM). Please come out to help us get rid of these thistle plants. Wear appropriate clothing, bring gloves and water for yourself. There is no need to RSVP, just come on out!



NPSOT Boerne Chapter Monthly Meeting

On Tuesday, May 7, 6:30-8:30, Dr. Jimmy Black, President of the San Antonio Cactus & Xerophyte Society, will present “Cactus Native to the Texas Hill Country.” Social with light refreshments at 6:30; speaker at 7.

Cibolo Nature Center, 140 City Park Road

NPSOT Fredericksburg Chapter Monthly Meeting

On Tuesday, April 23, Kathy Lyles will be our speaker. Her topic will be “Eighteen Years of Native Plant Gardening in the Hill Country: Lessons Learned.” Social time with light refreshments begins at 6:30; program at 7.

Memorial Presbyterian Church, 601 North Milam Street

NPSOT Kerrville Chapter Monthly Meeting

No meeting this month; members will be on a field trip.

These chapter meetings are free and open to the public.

Training Classes Start in August - Apply Now!

If you would like an opportunity to participate in this unique learning opportunity, consider joining the 2019 Master Naturalist Class. You will be learning from people who are leaders in the fields of plants, animals, riparian lands, geology, soils, grassland, trees, climate, night skies and so much more. You will learn about the Hill Country – and the love these experts have for this unique area will be apparent in their presentations.

The Hill Country of Texas is a spectacular and unique part of our state. Have you ever wondered what your part could be in keeping it natural or helping it heal? The Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept. started the Master Naturalist program in order to train volunteers to participate in various projects and education programs. The classes will enable you to start on the road to becoming a Master Naturalist and volunteer on projects that interest **you**. You will gain the privilege of teaching others how to preserve the natural beauty of the Hill Country and its ecosystems.

The class meets for twelve Wednesdays starting on August 21. Ten of the classes are held at the UGRA Lecture Hall in Kerrville, one in Fredericksburg, and one in Boerne. The class size is limited to 40 people to assure the opportunity to have a great experience and get to know your classmates. When I took the class in 2016, I was prepared to learn a great deal about the Hill Country and how I could help with teaching and restoration efforts. I learned so much about where I live and how I can share what I learned with others by working in two butterfly gardens, native plants sales, and serving on the Board of Directors. Want to learn to lead a hike at Enchanted Rock, Lost Maples Natural Area, Honey Creek Natural Area, participate in a night skies program, help maintain natural gardens, volunteer in one of the nature centers in our 10-county chapter, and so much more? The class field trips will let you see for yourself all that goes on and how you can help.

Perhaps the most telling part of the depth of our presenters' commitment to our goals was the tears in their eyes as they shared their expertise with the class. They spoke of saving the horned toad, Ridley sea turtle, rare plants, geology, artifacts, etc. so that their children will be able see them in nature. You will hear some special people asking you to find a project you love and get busy while you still can. I will never forget these speakers and what they had to teach. If you would like more information, contact me at hillcountrymembership@gmail.com.

The deadline for submitting applications is June 30; the application is on our website, txmn.org/hillcountry. Tuition for the class is \$200, which includes the Text Book, Class Notebook, admission fees at the facilities where field trips are held (Selah Ranch, Honey Creek, Canyon Lake Gorge, and West Kerr Wildlife Management), Official Name Tag at Commencement, and all miscellaneous expenses. Do it for yourself and for your children. See you August 19 at the Welcome Reception!!!



Native Plant Society of Texas - Kerrville Chapter
&
Riverside Nature Center
invite you to...

SPRING 2019
Native Plant Sale



& Festival
Saturday
April 20th
9am - 2pm
Free Family Fun

At Riverside Nature Center

- Native Plants selected to thrive in our climate & soil
- Plant experts to answer questions & offer advice
- Save! One day tax-free shopping for plants & gifts

All net proceeds benefit RNC & NPSOT education efforts.



Raffle

\$5 tickets * 5 for \$20

Family Activities

Bean Bag Toss * Face Painting
Photo Op * Arboretum Walk

Informative Displays

Ask the Plant Expert

Hill Country Master Naturalists

Hill Country Master Gardeners

UGRA- Water Quality & Conservation

Pollinator Garden Assistance & Recognition Program

Riverside Nature Center

NPSOT-Kerrville Chapter

Hill Country ReLeaf



Check Website for Details



830-257-4837

www.riversidenaturecenter.org

150 Francisco Lemos Street • Kerrville, Texas 78028



Saturday, May 4th
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

KENDALL COUNTY

FAIRGROUNDS

1307 River Road, Boerne

\$5 ADMISSION PER PERSON

Cibolo Nature Center & Farm

MEMBERS PRE-SALE

Friday, May 3rd

5:00 - 7:00 pm

Sip & Shop with Us

When you Join Online
or at the Event

Information | nature@cibolo.org | 830.249.4618

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



Riverside Nature Center & UGRA presents:
EduScape Talk & Tour

The UGRA EduScape is a landscape pathway that will show you numerous examples of water conservation and stormwater detention practices.

The EduScape Talk & Tour will feature presentations by leading experts, followed by a tour of the EduScape.

April 16th * 1pm * Billy Kniffen

Join us to discuss how "Every Raindrop Counts." Billy will also cover rainwater catchments & rain gardens, & how they can be used.

May 23rd * 1pm * Pam Umstead

As a member of the Master Gardeners program & a member of the EduScape construction team, Pam will teach on pervioushardscapes & the benefits of Xeriscapes.

June 25th * 10am * Znobla Wooten

Using her knowledge from Native American Seed, Znobla's talk on native plants & wildflowers will help you to choose the perfect flowers for your landscape.

August 15th * 10am * Dr. Chrissie Segars

As a turf grass specialist, Dr. Segars will talk about the benefits of using turf grass in your landscape & different ways they can help the environment.

September 4th * 10am * Pete Van Dyck

Would you like to know more about permaculture or contours & swales? Pete will explain what these are & how to utilize them in your landscape.

All Talks & Tours will be held at UGRA
125 Lehmann Dr. #100

RSVP to:
Riverside Nature Center
(830)257-4837
rnc.kerrville@gmail.com
Spaces are limited



Volunteers at Work, Kerrville-Schreiner Park Pollinator Garden, April 4.
New volunteers are welcome any and every Thursday morning.

The Upper Guadalupe River Authority's EduScape Receives the Texas Water Development Board's Texas Rain Catcher Award

Austin – (March 28, 2019) – The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) announced today the recipients of its annual Texas Rain Catcher Award, a rainwater harvesting competition and recognition program. The Upper Guadalupe River Authority's EduScape was recognized in the educational/governmental category.

The TWDB's Texas Rain Catcher Award recognizes excellence in the application of rainwater harvesting systems in Texas, promotes rainwater harvesting technology, and educates the public on this important water-saving practice.

The Upper Guadalupe River Authority's (UGRA) EduScape, located on the grounds of UGRA's Guadalupe Basin Natural Resources Center in Kerrville, Texas, was designed as a teaching tool and is open to the public for organized and self-guided tours year-round. The EduScape includes rooftop rainwater collection, air-condensate collection, and managed stormwater collection. The rainwater and condensate are stored in a 30,000-gallon collection tank, a 3,000-gallon condensate collection tank, and a 50-gallon rain barrel.

The EduScape includes 33,000 square feet of water-conserving landscaping that was converted from traditional, high-water-use turf-grass monoculture. In addition, it includes 15 water-saving features and 30 interpretative and water conservation tip signs. A quarter-mile walking trail allows visitors to explore all the features of the EduScape.

The Hill Country Master Gardeners, with input from Dr. Fouad Jaber of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, developed the design for the EduScape with the idea of including as many green stormwater infrastructure strategies as possible. The Hill Country Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists helps maintain the landscape, and the Riverside Nature Center conducts tours of the EduScape.

Volunteers are needed. Contact Reggie Cox at reggiemcox@gmail.com.



From Jeralyn Hathorn

The Great Texas Birding Classic, sponsored by Texas Parks and Wildlife, runs from April 15 to May 15. It is known as the biggest, longest, wildest birdwatching tournament in the US. Registration fees raise money for Texas bird and birding project conservation grants. All levels and ages of birders are welcome to participate.

There are 11 tournament categories that folks can participate in, one of which is a Big Sit. Big Sits are known as tailgating for birders! They will be hosted all across the state, including at The Lodges at Lost Maples—who will be sponsoring a team, the Purple Martinis. Because we are sponsoring the team there is no individual registration fee for our team members. We are inviting anyone who is interested in birding to be a part of our team. The first 20 participants to sign up will receive an event t-shirt provided by Texas Parks and Wildlife. Teams select a 17-foot diameter circle from which to bird. Team members can rotate in shifts or can be the same members all day. Birds identified and counted must be seen/heard from within the circle.

This is a regional tournament and we are located in the Heart of Texas West region (HOTW059). We are also an eBird hot spot and 97 bird species have been spotted/recorded at our site. Our event will begin at 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, April 24th and end at 11:59 p.m. Thursday, April 25th. You can sign up for a shift or stay the whole time.

We have a few cabins available for rent and tent camping will be available. A hospitality cabin will be provided. Some items team members might want to bring are: chair, binoculars, birding manual, camera, snacks, water, sun protection (lotion, hat, etc.) and rain gear (if necessary).

Tom and Patsy Inglet, who have given the "How to be a More Bird Friendly Master Naturalist" talk, will be on site to share their expertise. The Lost Maples Region, which includes Lost Maples State Natural Area, is a great place to bird, especially during the spring migration. Birders could easily participate in other GTBC tournament categories while in the area and use The Lodges at Lost Maples as their home base.

For more information on the Great Texas Birding Classic visit their web site <https://tpwd.texas.gov/events/great-texas-birding-classic> For more information or to sign up to participate in the Big Sit at The Lodges at Lost Maples, call Jeralyn Hathorn, 830-966-5178 or check us out on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/lodgesatlostmaples/>



Big Sit Location at The Lodges at Lost Maples



Woodhouse's Scrub Jay

Kerr County Soil & Water Conservation District Proudly Presents:
Cow Pokes & Land Folks Conference

Friday, May 3, 2019 8:00am - 4:00pm

Hill Country Youth Event Center ~ 3785 Hwy. 27 Kerrville, TX 78028

8:00 a.m. Registration– Coffee & Donuts Provided

8:30 a.m. Welcome & Introductions

8:45 a.m. Wildlife vs. Agriculture Valuations **Robert Newman & Annie Mitchell**

Kerr County Appraisal District

9:15 a.m. Oak Wilt & Ball Moss **Erin Davis**

Texas Forest Service, TAMU

9:45 a.m. Break **Event Sponsors**

10:00 a.m. Pesticide Laws & Regs **Vick Alexander**

Texas Department of Agriculture

11:00 a.m. Biological (Sheep & Goat) Weed Management **Dr. Reid Redden**

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

12:00 p.m. Lunch Brisket, Sausage, Twice Baked Potatoes, Green Beans, Roll **Riverside Catering**

1:00 p.m. UGRA Landowner Programs **Raymond Buck**

UGRA General Manager

1:30 p.m. What Can A Game Warden Do For You? **Game Warden Kenny Lee**

Texas Game Warden

2:00 p.m. Eminent Domain, Private Property Rights **Stephanie Bradley Fryer**

Stephanie Bradley Fryer PLLC

3:00 p.m. Plant ID Tour **Kelly Umphres, NRCS Range Specialist**

Richard Atkinson, NRCS Soil Cons.

\$30.00 Early Bird Special \$45.00 At the Gate

5 CEU's (Pesticide Lic.) 7 hours A.T (Master Naturalists)

Please make checks payable to Kerr County SWCD Mail to: 2104 Memorial Blvd. Ste. 103, Kerrville, TX 78028



TWA PRESENTS
WOMEN OF THE LAND
MAY 3-5
FROM THE GROUND UP
Welder Wildlife Refuge | Sinton, TX

Workshop will focus on the study of healthy habitat principals that work to support healthy wildlife populations, agricultural practices and water.

WWW.TEXAS-WILDLIFE.ORG

Wildlife Conservation Camp

Now Accepting Applications

July 7th - 13th, 2019
Clear Fork Ranch
Albany, Texas

The Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society's Wildlife Conservation Camp is designed for high school students who have completed 9th grade. Hands-on, outdoor activities such as wildlife and plant ID, habitat management techniques, land stewardship, hunter safety, shooting sports, fishing, wildlife research, and more, are led by wildlife professionals in Texas.



WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION
CAMP

Find applications at www.wildlifecamp.tx.org • Due May 1st, 2019
For more information, contact Thomas Janke at wildlifecampdirector@yahoo.com



Celebrating 26 years in 2019!



REGISTER NOW!

JOIN US to explore the connection between prairies and water at the **25th North American Prairie Conference: Healthy Prairies, Healthy Watersheds** to be held June 2-5, 2019 at the University of Houston – Clear Lake.

The conference is bringing together prairie experts from across the nation, including **Carol Davit, Dr. Reed Noss, Dr. Dwayne Estes, and Chris Helzer** for the conservation and restoration of North America's legacy landscape.

Conference **field trips** will explore the biologically diverse **Texas Coastal Prairie region** with additional opportunities to visit the newly designated Texas Institute for Coastal Prairie Research and Education and the Armand Bayou Nature Center.

For more information, visit northamericanprairie.org.





CIBOLO
Nature Center & Farm

WILDLIFE FIELD RESEARCH WEEK

MAY 6TH-MAY 11TH, 2019



JOIN A COMMUNITY | CONTRIBUTE TO SCIENCE | KEEP TEXAS WILD

Register on GivePulse: <https://givepulse.se/ibqvp>

Cibolo Nature Center & Farm
140 City Park Road
Boerne, TX 78006

MORE INFO: DONNA@CIBOLO.ORG | WWW.CIBOLO.ORG

Learning About Archeology at the Kroc Nature Study Program

Steve Stoutamire is a renowned archeologist who has studied the lives of people who lived 7000 to 8000 years in the past. In this part of the world Native Americans made their own tools to hunt deer, buffalo, and other animals in the wild. Steve had a table set up and covered with artifacts (and replicas of some) so the 26 first and second graders could check them out one at a time and they could be passed around the room. The spear trimmed with buffalo fur was a very handsome piece. He showed an atlatl which was a special tool that assisted the hunter to make an arrow go much further. He also showed them a collection of arrow heads that had been made from flint and became deadly weapons. Buffalo skin was used to tie the arrow head to the arrow. A screen that could be held as a protective brace was fascinating to the students. Master Naturalists Teresa Coleman, Martha Miesch, and John Sloan, along with volunteer Patty Scrafford, assisted with the presentation.



The students used a metate or grinding stone with a mano stone to take turns at grinding black eyed peas that substituted for a bean the Native Indians would find in the fields—not in HEB. Everybody had a turn with the grinding stone and the hunting weapons and tools were passed around so everyone could examine each of them closely.

There is no doubt that these students learned some new things about archeology. Some of them gave Steve a hug before they lined up to leave the classroom and all gave him a round of applause.



WELCOME

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.

The View from Rusty Bend



Agarita blossoms

The Florence Nightingale of Flora

*Browsing deer assassinate young trees
but Lady Agarita, those within the prickly safety
of your arms, survive, grow tall,
nursed to adulthood in all your seasons.*

*In autumn,
you sport the soft curling
of a rusty-edged green,
new growth pushing the old blue-green away.*

*In winter, you are showy, evergreen
with a tracery of hoar frost,
gracing our mantels
with hill country holly.*

*In spring, you honey the wind
with essence of vanilla. Your
ruddy buds open to lacy gold—
blossoms woven through your spiky nests.*

*Agarita, in summer, you ripen.
Crimson globes of tartness
flavor our drinks, color our jams—
sustain the birds, turkeys, foxes, raccoons.*

*Lady Agarita,
you run in my veins.
Do you inhabit my landscape?
No, I inhabit yours.*

March in Rusty Bend is a symphony of greens. If green could sing, imagine a slow building of sound. With each day a new movement, listen to the prelude of the limey Elbow Bush, then a chorus of Cedar Elm fills winter's dreary gaps with a green so pure it makes you squint. The Live Oaks are shedding their color, but just in time the Persimmons respond to watercolor the pasture with layers of jade. Then the singleton trees croon their solos, Mexican Plum one day, Mulberry the next. Shy Texas Ash comes in with a closing crescendo, their buds irresistible to Cedar Waxwings. Mad games of "I want that berry" ensue as the last fruits of Possumhaw vanish into the beaks of robins and mockingbirds.

Against this avocado backdrop, Andy and I enjoy whatever decides to fly by. One morning it's the Great Blue Heron we call the Block Creek Bomber. His steady, slow wingbeats a perfect demonstration of Bernoulli's principle. Lift and grace. Then we are abnormally thrilled by a turkey hen who marches straight to the feeding platform and hops up for some hi-protein chow. Male cardinals show off their prowess by tenderly feeding their mates only the most perfect of sunflower seeds. The best sight though, is a mature Bald Eagle flying up from the river right in front of us. One of those "did that just happen" moments that stay with you forever.

Now that it is warm, I like to sit on the porch at dusk. One night I am treated to the music of the Rusty Bend Trio. A grey fox is grabbing grasshoppers right in front of me, then does his cough-bark. Two tom turkeys roosting in the cypress tree answer with a gobble, gobble. Then from an oak motte, the pauraque sounds his long wolf whistle. And so it goes: cough-bark, gobble-gobble, wolf-whistle, repeat. Welcome, spring. Good night Rusty Bend.

Continued on next page



Cliff-side meditation

Poem, images and essay by Lucy Griffith Copyright 2019

Lucy Griffith, PhD co-manages the Rusty Bend Ranch with her husband, Andy Robinson. She also writes poetry; her muse, a tractor named Mabel. She has just completed the story of the Burro Lady of West Texas, told in poems. Both Lucy and Andy are certified Master Naturalists. Comments welcome at doctorluz@hctc.net.



Advanced Training

MONDAY, APRIL 22 6:45-7:45PM UPPER GUADALUPE RIVER AUTHORITY LECTURE HALL, KERRVILLE
AT19-115 "COCORAHS": BECAUSE EVERY DROP COUNTS

Bill Runyon, Texas CoCoRaHS State Coordinator, will give the background of CoCoRaHS and discuss why it is so important.

TUESDAY, APRIL 23 7-8PM MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, FREDERICKSBURG

AT19-096 18 YEARS OF NATIVE PLANT GARDENING IN THE HILL COUNTRY

Kathy Lyles will speak on her "Lessons Learned" as a native plant gardener.

TUESDAY, APRIL 23 1-2PM WEBINAR

AT19-116 INTEGRATED MONARCH CONSERVATION: TOOLS FOR RESEARCHERS

Laura Lukens and Jennifer Thieme from the Monarch Joint Venture will discuss the goals, structure, and uses of the Integrated Monarch Monitoring Program (IMMP), a national initiative to capture information about both monarchs and their habitats across geographies and land use types. Data will be used to update population and habitat models, as well as inform how habitat conservation efforts may influence population and habitat dynamics. Viewers will learn how researchers, conservation professionals, and citizen scientists can use the IMMP to meet their own objectives and information needs. Contact Information: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSctUT7Xec4gCLdC_8TSUVLBPbV7HFwax7e4p3llvfdBlr4o2w/viewform.

TUESDAY, APRIL 23 6:30-7:30PM WEBINAR

AT19-038 THE REILLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STORMWATER RETROFIT

Staryn Wagner, Environmental Scientist, will discuss the campus-wide approach to capturing stormwater runoff and keeping it onsite and available for education and multiple uses. For further information, contact Melissa Alderson at melissa.alderson@tpwd.texas.gov or go to the Organization Website: <https://tpwd.texas.gov/education/water-education/texaswatersprogram/texaswatersspecialist>.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24 7-8PM SCHREINER UNIVERSITY, KERRVILLE

AT19-011 NATIONAL WEATHER ASSOCIATION LECTURE

Dr. Patrick Marsh will speak on his experience as a severe weather forecaster. The lecture is at the Cailloux Campus Activity Center; for additional information and a campus map, go to www.hcnwa.club_.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24 12-1PM WEBINAR

AT19-105 INVASIVE BAMBOO MANAGEMENT IN U.S. SOUTHEAST

Dr. Deah Lieurance will discuss the biology, identification, and management of several common invasive bamboo species in the southeastern U.S. Contact Information: <http://www.conservationwebinars.net/webinars/invasive-bamboo-management-in-the-southeastern-u.s/?sr=wp~upcoming>. Organization Website: <http://www.conservationwebinars.net/webinars/>.

THURSDAY, APRIL 25 10AM-3PM MERIDIAN STATE PARK

AT19-081 TEXAS AQUATIC SCIENCE WORKSHOP

Melissa Alderson and Danielle Knapp-Smith will conduct this workshop to introduce the TAS; provide a sampling of field activities; make connection to local water and wildlife issues that will help people become aware of their place in the environment and their actions to protect it; and demonstrate field interpretive techniques used in TAS field activities and TAS trunk equipment inventory. For members who are pursuing Texas Waters Specialist Certification or members who are interested in Texas Waters but have not started yet, this workshop will provide 4 hours of TWS AT. Dress for current weather and wet conditions; bring lunch. Register with danielle.Knapp-Smith@tpwd.texas.gov or call 512-389-8497. Organization Website: tpwd.texas.gov.

Advanced Training

THURSDAY-FRIDAY, APRIL 25-26 8:30AM-5:30PM Y.O. RANCH HOTEL, KERRVILLE
AT19-104 2019 HILL COUNTRY LAND STEWARDSHIP CONFERENCE

The sixth annual Hill Country Land Stewardship Conference hosted by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service offers a chance for landowners in the region to learn more about addressing issues that arise when ranching and tourism combine, said Dr. Larry Redmon, AgriLife Extension program leader, College Station. On-site registration, check-in, and breakfast begin at 7:30 a.m. April 25 at the Y.O. Ranch Hotel, 2033 Sidney Baker St. The program will begin at 8:30 a.m. The conference fee is \$75, which includes all meals, break refreshments, and tour transportation costs. Organization Website: http://soilcrop.tamu.edu/2019-bennett-conference-april/?fbclid=IwAR1Ozi8J7EBEj0O2Xr_tEoRlo-DT-8qZr_hBYdKHxIhjp8q0-sNrijPFdAec .

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, APRIL 27-28 TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN MARCOS
AT19-060 2019 TAS LITHICS ACADEMY

This Texas Archeology Academy focuses on Texas history and prehistory as revealed through archeological investigations. The course will include a brief overview of stone tools, why stone artifacts are important, how they are produced and used, and how they contribute to the archeological record. Participants will engage in exercises designed to record information about stone artifacts. Mr. Chris Ringstaff, experimental archeologist at the Texas Department of Transportation, leads the workshop; Dr. Robert Lassen and Mr. Sergio Ayala of the Gault School of Archaeological Research are co-instructors. Go to <https://www.txarch.org/academy02> for more information.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27 8:30AM-4:30PM CENTRAL TEXAS ELECTRIC CO-OP, FREDERICKSBURG
AT19-06 B NATIVE LANDSCAPE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM, LEVEL 1

- Learn the value of including and preserving native plants in landscapes
- Discover the differences between sustainable and conventional development
- Understand your Texas vegetation region and soil
- Become familiar with 45 recommended native Texas plants and 5 plants to avoid.

The instructors are Kathy Lyles and Valerie Fishell. The course includes a classroom session and outdoor plant knowledge walk. To register: <https://npsot3.123signup.com/event/details/rqknc> .

FRIDAY, MAY 3 8AM-4PM HILL COUNTRY YOUTH EVENT CENTER, KERRVILLE
AT19-089 KERR COUNTRY SWCD COW POKES AND LAND FOLKS CONFERENCE
See p.8 of this newsletter for schedule, cost, and topics. Event Contact Information: missie.dreiss@tx.nacdnet.net ; 830-896-4911x3. Event or Organization Website: <http://www.kerrcountyswcd.com> .

TUESDAY, MAY 7 7-8PM CIBOLO NATURE CENTER & FARM AUDITORIUM, BOERNE
AT19-118 CACTUS NATIVE TO THE TEXAS HILL COUNTRY

Dr. Jimmy Black, President of the San Antonio Cactus & Xerophyte Society, is the speaker. Event Contact Information: npsotboerne@gmail.com or <https://npsot.org/wp/boerne> .

TUESDAY, MAY 29 1-2PM WEBINAR

AT19-106 MANAGING OAK FORESTS FOR NORTHERN BOBWHITE QUAIL

Dr. Dwayne Elmore is the presenter. Event Contact: <http://www.conservationwebinars.net/webinars/managing-oak-forests-for-northern-bobwhite-quail/?sr=wp~upcoming> . Organization Website: <http://www.conservationwebinars.net/webinars/> .

**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.**

T E X A S



We meet on the fourth Monday of most months at 6:45 PM in the Upper Guadalupe River Authority Lecture Hall at 125 North Lehmann Drive in Kerrville.

Join us at 6:15 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 2019

- Lisa Flanagan -- President
- Craig Childs -- Vice President
- Katy Kappel -- Secretary
- Cathy Binney -- Treasurer
- Paula Harley -- Advanced Training Director
- Catherine Gauldin -- Communications Director
- Reggie Cox -- Membership Director
- Tom Burke -- Volunteer Service Projects Director
- Carla Stang -- 2019 Class Director
- Steve Ramirez -- 2018 Class Representative
- Brenda Fest -- Immediate Past President
- Vern Crawford -- State Representative

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 Reggie Cox,
Membership Director
hillcountrymembership@gmail.com

