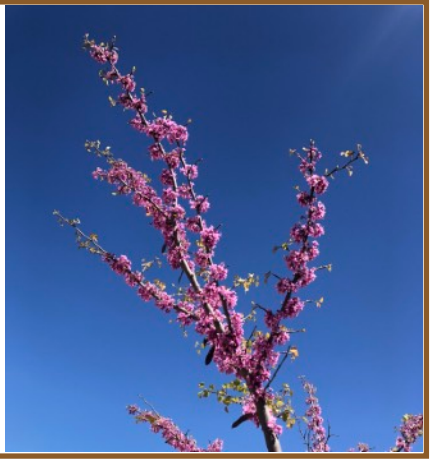


The Texas Star

Newsletter of the Texas Master Naturalist Hill Country Chapter

March 2023 Volume 21 Number 3

image by Vern Crawford



The March Hill Country Chapter meeting will be a hybrid meeting on Monday, March 27. Doors open at 6 for socializing. The business meeting is at 6:30, and the presentation by Rainey Bingham, the Real County Extension Agent, will begin at 7:10. Her topic is “Rangeland Management Tools Tools for You”; she will provide a basic overview of rangeland management techniques and how we can apply them to our own property, no matter the acreage.

Prior registration is required for attending the meeting/AT session via Zoom. You will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting, and can log into Zoom at 6pm on March 27. To register for virtual attendance, click [HERE](#).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE....JEFF SCHWARZ



The first monarchs and hummingbirds have shown up in central Texas, according to the email I received March 7 from JourneyNorth.org and the monarch flitting around my yard on the 8th! If you're into tracking these winged beauties, check out JourneyNorth.org. You can participate and submit your own sightings for monarchs, hummingbirds, and a few other plants and birds on that website.

Spring is in the air and the plants are coming to life so maybe you are more into attracting our buggy and birdy friends through your plants. Time to get off the couch and start preparing your planting areas for this year's purchases at one of the upcoming native plant sales. Our chapter plant sale is coming soon – Saturday, April 15, 9am – noon at Kerrville's Riverside Nature Center. Volunteer or shop at this sale and keep reading this newsletter for more details. Check out NPSOT.org and nativebackyards.com for information and ideas for your yard.

Of course, you could really get serious about tackling your own property by signing up for the Management Assistance Program (LMAP) or Pollinator Garden Assistance and Recognition Program. See our chapter Program (PGARP). See our chapter website, txmn.org/hillcountry/, for more information.

Officially we had 202 active members logging at least one volunteer or advanced training hour; 199 of those logged at least one volunteer hour. Our members logged 31,185 volunteer hours in 2022 and took 2,843 hours of Advanced Training! Texas Parks and Wildlife currently values their more than half-million hours of annual volunteer service at more than \$17,000,000, roughly \$34/hour. That values our chapter's 2022 volunteer hours at \$1.06 million! How awesome is that!

Texas Parks and Wildlife, as well as the organizations we volunteer for, really do value our volunteer service. Fourteen Texas agencies depend on federal funding that is tied to volunteer hours, plus our larger partner organizations also use volunteer data to help secure their funding.

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TMN volunteers also help replace the loss of staff diminished by budget cuts. It really is important that you volunteer AND log your hours into VMS and the partner organization's tracking systems, as that documentation is used by these organizations as they seek and receive funding and donations. Some of you have told me that you've been lax in reporting your volunteer hours into VMS. Maybe it seems like a bother to you, but it really means a lot to the program and the programs we support!

Congratulations and hats off to Tom Harrigan and Frank Garcia! These two chapter members each logged over 1000 volunteer hours in 2022! Tom volunteers his time primarily at Albert and Bessie Kronkosky State Natural Area and also coordinates the activity of a lot of other volunteers there. Frank was our Chapter VP last year and could also be found at many other volunteer projects around the chapter – he's one of our more visible, action-oriented leaders.

Volunteer projects are found on our chapter website and the volunteer calendar is starting to get populated with scheduled events. If you can't find the information you're looking for, ask another chapter member or any member of our board for help.

From Lisa Flanagan, Hill Country Chapter VMS Administrator

Volunteer Management System (VMS) Tips for Success

Hello everyone! I am Lisa Flanagan, one of your VMS Administrators. My responsibility is to approve the volunteer hours you enter each month. While some of you may think this is a tedious task, remember, or be glad, that you don't have to do it the way I did it when I first joined the chapter in 2013. We had a form to be filled out by hand, and it could be scanned and sent to Sandy Leyendecker, our Data Manager, or it could be mailed to her. It only had so many spaces per sheet, so you might have to fill out several sheets to get all your hours accounted for, be it AT or volunteer. It is so much easier now with VMS, believe me, though it took a little getting used to.

I want to share some things with you to make it easier for you, and for the people who approve your hours:

Acronyms – please don't use them without also writing them out fully on first use. In our organization, most of us understand what they are, although some are particular to our own chapter. However, acronyms are hard for the auditors outside our organization who check our entries to make sure they are good. If they can't understand something, they throw it out. You may get credit for it in our own chapter, but on the state level, we lose! This is bad because our funding, which is dependent on our hours entered, suffers. One Examples: ABK (Albert and Bessie Konkrowski State Natural Area) or TCIN (Texas Children in Nature).

TMN Tuesdays – Please be sure to use AT23-007 on all through December when reporting Texas Master Naturalist Tuesday sessions. Each month the number will be the same.

For our business portion of the monthly chapter meeting, use HC-00-A , Monthly Chapter Business Meeting. For this you get .5 hour credit.

From David Matthews, Class Training Director and Jane Jamison, Past Class Representative

The New Class Committee has been hard at work preparing a fertile field for the upcoming crop of new trainees. We have selected only the finest purveyors of naturalist knowledge to produce a bountiful harvest of freshly grown volunteers. Planting day is scheduled for August 19 and the harvest celebration will occur November 11.

We are currently searching for "Zoom Guides" to assist with breakout rooms during Wednesday evenings, 5:30-9. Contact Jane Jamison at classrepresentative@hillcountrytmn.org or David Matthews at newclassdirector@hillcountrytmn.org for more information.

This Month We Honor

Recertifications



Stephen Bishop, Jill Boyter, Jane Crone, Trudy Eberhardt,
Bob Hansen, Molly Houck, Nancy Huffman, Mark Hults, Katy Kappel,
Patricia Poore, Dot Maginot, Deborah Youngblood

Milestones

Jill Boyter, Patti Guin, Anna Orsak - 500 hours, Brushed Silver Dragonfly

Ann Dietert, Carla Stang - 2500 hours, Polished Silver Dragonfly

Congratulations to members who received awards at the February meeting



Bob Binney



Jeff Schwarz and Jane Jamison



Bill Sewell



Karolyn Andrews and Karen Ozer



Amy Slater



Gracie Waggener, Frank Garcia,
and Bob Binney - among those who
earned the most hours earned in 2022

Phyllis Muska Behringer

February 28, 1948 - March 16, 2023

A world traveler, educator, conservationist, master naturalist, loving wife, sister, and merciless scrabble opponent, Phyllis Muska Behringer passed away peacefully in her sleep on March 16, 2023.



An accomplished honor student and cheerleader at St. Gerard High School, Phyllis attended UT Arlington (then known as University of Dallas) on full academic scholarship, eventually achieving a Masters degree in Math and German language. Phyllis spent time abroad, living in Germany and Austria and later teaching English as a Second Language in Cairo, Egypt, conducted sightseeing tours throughout Europe, taught school in San Antonio, worked in publishing for Texas Monthly Magazine and conducted computer seminars for Texas State Government employees.

Possessing a sharp mind and an adventurous spirit, she loved hiking in Big Bend and biking the Texas hill country. For many years in the 80's she hosted an annual New Year's party promoting good fortune. She called it the "Black-eyed pea off."

Phyllis was married to Dan Behringer in 1995. After living in Austin for many years, swimming in Barton Springs most mornings, bicycling and taking daily walks, she and Dan moved to Harper, Texas and built their dream home on 60 acres overlooking the Pedernales River where they enjoyed living after retirement and where she continued daily swimming and working on their land, wrote a monthly column for the Harper newspaper and as a member of the Master Naturalists participated in regular outings documenting and preserving natural resources in her beloved Texas hill country.

After a diagnosis of Parkinson's disease, Phyllis still continued her daily walks and regular exercise routine. Preceded by her parents Henry and Doris Muska, brothers David and Arthur Paul Muska. Phyllis is survived by husband Dan Behringer and brother Terry Muska (wife Carol) and Phyllis's nieces, nephews, and her beloved feline companions Maddy and Stubbs.

According to her wishes services will not be held.

Donations in her name can be made to:

The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research

P.O. Box 5014 Hagerstown, MD 21741 US

18007087644

or online: [michaeljfox.org](https://www.michaeljfox.org)

<https://www.michaeljfox.org>

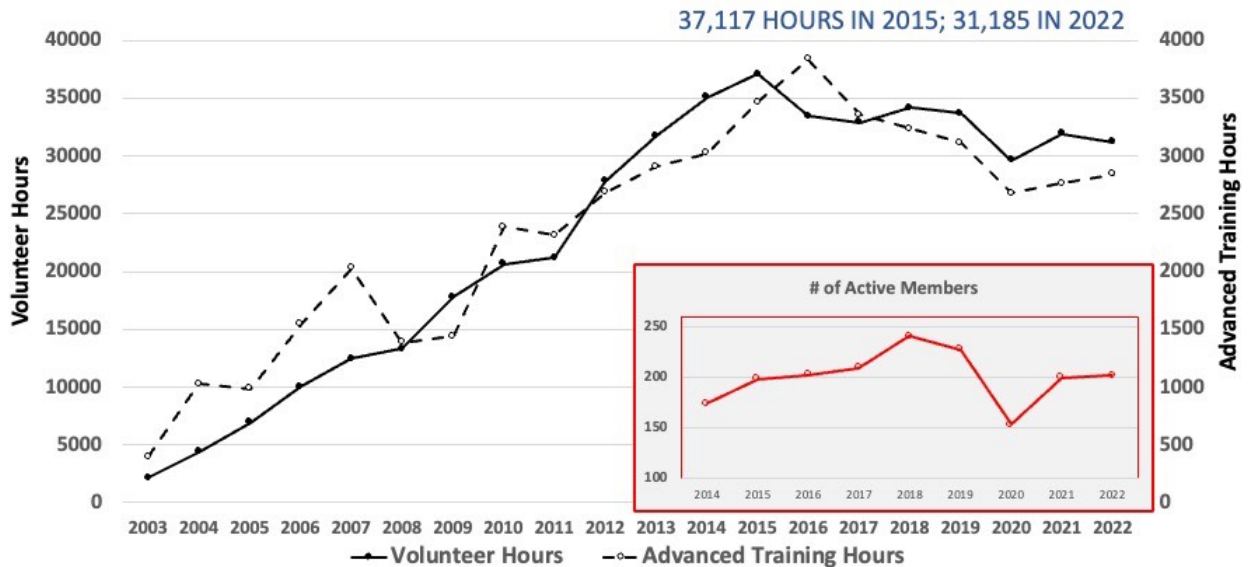
From Sherry Brown and the Muska family

Texas Master Naturalist, Hill Country Chapter

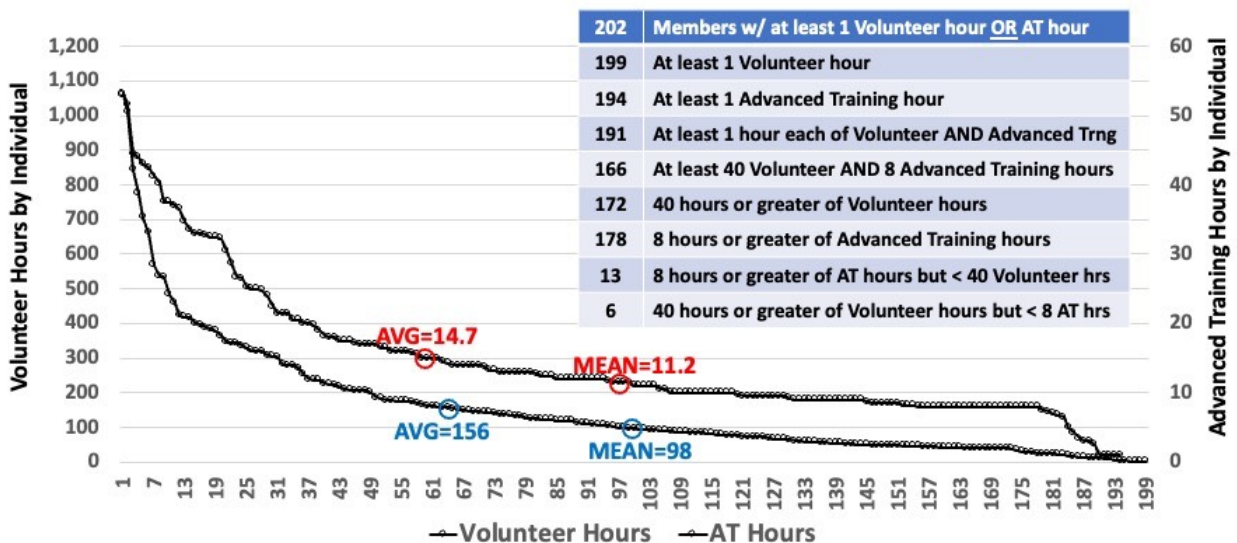
Statistical Analysis compiled in February 2023
For the February 27, 2023 Board and Chapter Meetings

Jeff Schwarz, Chapter President
Contributors: Sandy Leyendecker, Kristie Denbow, Carla Stang, Deb Youngblood

Historical Chapter Volunteer and Advanced Training Hours



2022 Member Hours Recorded by Individual

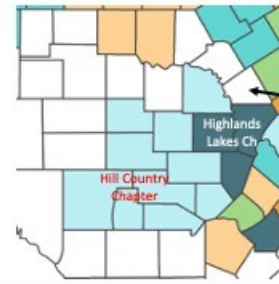
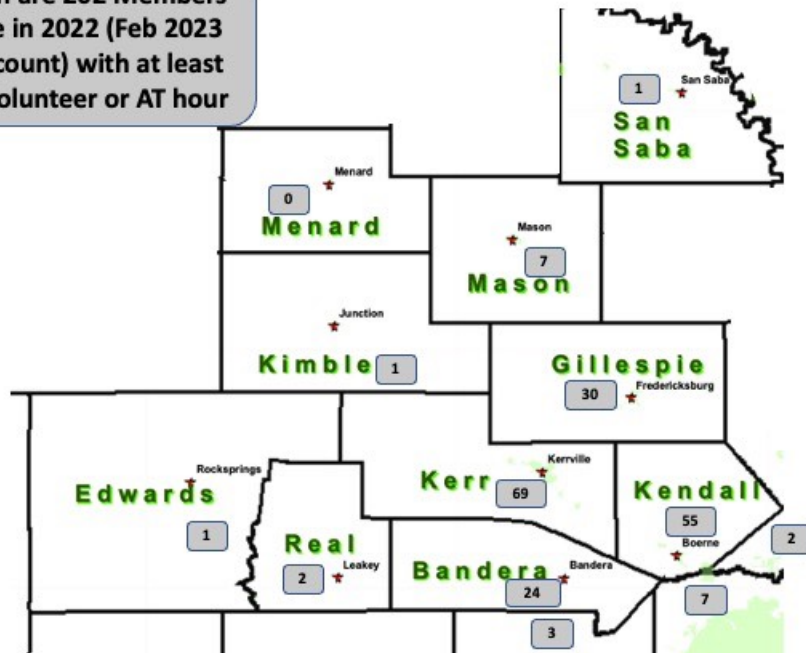


Note: Volunteer and AT Hours sorted separately for the graph. Individual points don't correspond to the same individual.
Data source: Kristie Denbow, Feb 2023 final report for 2022, 'Member_DataGridReport_2022.xls'

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Membership Statistics by County and Member County Populations Based on 202 Active Members in 2022 (Feb 2023 Final Count)

Shown are 202 Members active in 2022 (Feb 2023 final count) with at least one Volunteer or AT hour



Note: Highlands Lakes Chapter has recently added Lampasas County

	JAN 1 2020 POPULATION	DEC 2022 HCTMN	MEMBERS PER 1000
KERR	52,869	69	1.31
KENDALL	48,523	55	1.13
GILLESPIE	26,890	30	1.12
BANDERA	23,861	24	1.06
SAN SABA	6,039	1	0.17
KIMBLE	4,396	1	0.22
MASON	4,344	7	1.61
REAL	3,411	2	0.59
MENARD	2,124	0	0
EDWARDS	1,923	1	0.52
LAST 6 SUBTOTAL	22,237	12	0.54
10 COUNTY TOTAL	174,380	190	1.09
OTHER		12	
TOTAL W/ OTHERS		202	

From Shelly Plante, Nature Tourism Manager, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Great Texas Birding Classic

Now that we are in the month of March, I wanted to be sure to reach out to all TMNs one more time to remind them that Birding Classic teams still have time to register and that conservation grant funding is still available this year from the 27th annual Great Texas Birding Classic!

The registration deadline for the Great Texas Birding Classic (<http://www.birdingclassic.org>) is just under a month away! Register today to join this fun, friendly birdwatching event. There are categories for all ages and skill levels (including beginners!), so select the one that works best for you. Reminder: the Big Sit! Is the only tournament category with one or more people to a team. All other tournament categories have 3-5 people per team.

Team Registration deadline: April 1

Tournament days: pick any day from April 15-May 15 to participate

Have questions? Please see the following to help - or reach out directly by email or phone. I'm happy to help!

Step-by-step process to register: <https://tpwd.texas.gov/events/great-texas-birding-classic/how-to-participate>

Online registration: <https://tpwd.texas.gov/events/great-texas-birding-classic/rules-and-registration>

Tournament categories: <https://tpwd.texas.gov/events/great-texas-birding-classic/tournament-categories-1>

GTBC Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/birdingclassic>

Remember – it's for the birds! Registration fees and sponsorship dollars go toward Conservation Grants for birding, nature tourism, and habitat restoration and enhancement projects throughout the state, and select winning teams will help choose which projects are funded. The more teams that register, the more funds raised and awarded through the grants! Grant proposal deadline: May first. For more information on grant criteria and submission process: <https://tpwd.texas.gov/events/great-texas-birding-classic/prizes>.

Thanks and happy almost Spring!
Shelly

Riverside Nature Center
Native Plant Society of Texas - Kerrville Chapter
Texas Master Naturalist - Hill Country Chapter
invite you to...

Spring Native Plant Sale






Saturday, April 15th
9am-12pm

At Riverside Nature Center

Tax Free on
All Purchases



-  Knowledgeable plant docents to answer questions
-  Personal shoppers to assist in selecting plants and navigating the sale
-  See many of the sale plants in mature form throughout the garden



Native plants offer several benefits for your landscape and family. Benefits such as producing a smaller carbon footprint, water conservation, and are low maintenance. They are also a healthier choice for your community and family because fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides are not necessary. Native plants increase biodiversity by providing a healthy habitat for all living things.

830.257.4837 or www.riversidenaturecenter.org
150 Francisco Lemos Kerrville, Texas 78028



NATIVE PLANT SALE AT HERFF FARM

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE BOERNE CHAPTER OF THE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF TEXAS

JOIN US FOR
THE CIBOLO'S 35TH
EARTH DAY BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION!

SATURDAY, APRIL 22ND
9AM - 1PM

THE TEACHING GARDEN
AT HERFF FARM

MEMBER ONLY PRESALE
8AM - 9AM

33 HERFF RD.
BOERNE, TX 78006

**SHOP LOCALLY GROWN NATIVE PLANTS
& CHAT WITH TEXAS NATIVE PLANT EXPERTS!**

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AT HERFF FARM



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April Program: INaturalist – Fredericksburg Nature Center

Nature Series, Part II –INaturalist for Science – Learning and Fun!



Presenter: Craig Hensley, TPWD Biologist

When: April 19, 2023 10:00-12:00 Noon

Where: Tatsch House – Lady Bird Johnson
Municipal Park, Fredericksburg, TX

AT23-054

Join the Friends of the Fredericksburg Nature Center in welcoming Craig Hensley, our favorite Texas Parks and Wildlife Nature Trackers Biologist, on **Wednesday, April 19, 2023**, from **10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon**, at the Tatsch House, located on the grounds of Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park in Fredericksburg. His presentation will focus on using the INaturalist app as a tool for learning and contributing to citizen science efforts. The INaturalist app provides users the opportunity to not only learn more about nature but to also provide a better understanding of

the flora and fauna of an area, whether in Texas parks, nature centers, or in your own backyard. During this presentation, you will learn how to download and use the app, how to apply it to your property or elsewhere, and how to improve your photography skills with your cell phone. You will also find out how you can participate in the INaturalist City Nature Challenge which will be taking place April 29-May 1, 2023. For further information on Friends of the Fredericksburg Nature Center, visit their website at: <https://fredericksburgnaturecenter.com/>.

Seating is limited for this free program (donations are accepted), so please pre-register as soon as possible by contacting Gracie Waggener at gwaggener@flow-apps.com.

Craig Hensley is a life-long naturalist and educator, having shared his passion for and love of the natural world with audiences from Minnesota and Nebraska and across Texas. He has served as a Texas Nature Trackers Biologist for more than three years after a one-year stint as a Wildlife Biologist for Comal and Kendall Counties, and more than eight years as the Park Interpreter at Guadalupe State Park.

More about INaturalist: *INaturalist is a joint initiative of the California Academy of Sciences and the National Geographic Society. Its mission is to build a global community of 100 million naturalists by 2030 in order to connect people to nature and advance biodiversity science and conservation. It's a crowdsourced species identification system and an organism occurrence recording tool. You can use it to record your own observations, get help with identifications, collaborate with others to collect this kind of information for a common purpose, or access the observational data collected by INaturalist users. <https://www.inaturalist.org>*

Download the INaturalist app for free from the App Store or Google Play.



Friends of Fredericksburg Nature Center Workshops 2023

(All Workshop Times are from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon)

February 11	Monarchs and Milkweed Propagation Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park, Tatsch House	Cathy Downs, Hill Country Master Naturalist rsvp: gwaggener@flow-apps.com	AT23-008
April 19	INaturalist for Science – Learning and Fun! Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park, Tatsch House	Craig Hensley, Texas Parks & Wildlife Biologist rsvp: gwaggener@flow-apps.com	AT23-054
June 16	Native Bees and Bee Habitat Fredericksburg Agri-Life Extension Office	Molly Keck, Texas Agri-Life Extension rsvp: gwaggener@flow-apps.com	AT23-065
August 19	Solar Eclipses and Other Dark Skies Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park, Tatsch House	Jeff Stone, Retired NASA Engineer rsvp: gwaggener@flow-apps.com	AT23-056
September 13	Monarchs and Milkweed Propagation II Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park, Tatsch House	Cathy Downs, Hill Country Master Naturalist rsvp: gwaggener@flow-apps.com	AT23-083
October 28	Learning Through Nature Journaling Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park, Tatsch House	Nancy Huffman, Hill Country Master Naturalist rsvp: gwaggener@flow-apps.com	AT23-064

Trail Walks and Talks

(All Trail Walks/Talks are from 9:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.)

Members Only Field Trip to Enchanted Rock State Natural Area led by Debbie Windham. [RSVP required](#)

April 1	Trail Ecosystem Walk and Talk Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park Trailhead	Trudy Eberhardt, Hill Country Master Naturalist rsvp: Trudy.eberhardt@gmail.com	AT23-055
May 6	Trail Ecosystem Walk and Talk Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park Trailhead	Billy Guin, Hill Country Master Naturalist rsvp: Trudy.eberhardt@gmail.com	AT23-066

For further details, go to <https://fredericksburgnaturecenter.com/=Trudy.eberhardt@gmail.com>



The Boerne chapter meeting will be at 6:30 on April 4 at the Cibolo Nature Center. The speaker will be Chuck Janzow, who was a pioneer in promoting native plants in the Boerne community. He will discuss the process of seed collection, storage, and preparation for planting.

The Kerrville chapter meeting on April 11 will be a Members Only Field Trip to Enchanted Rock State Natural Area, led by Debbie Windham. [RSVP required](#)

The Fredericksburg chapter meeting will be at 6:30 on March 28 at St. Joseph's Halle, 212 W. San Antonio Street. Our speakers will be Kathy Lewis and Kathy Saucier, plant whisperers extraordinaire, who will guide us through growing and propagating native plants.

From Nancy Huffman, NPSOT Kerrville Chapter President

Nature Journaling, sponsored by The Native Plant Society of Texas, Kerrville Chapter, will start our spring season on March 23, from 3-5 pm at Riverside Nature Center. This month we will start with a presentation and demo to get you started drawing and writing your observations of nature. These are the ways of naturalists and scientists of the past and continue to be valuable for scientific study and citizen science as well as meditation in nature.

The focus of this class is on learning about native plants and using drawing as a tool to help you learn. Please note that this is not a drawing class. I have some hacks so we can all get it down.

Please join us and stretch yourself for this fun activity and learning experience!

From Frances Lovett

Kerr County APO Advisory Council Status Report

The Guadalupe River has long been the Crown Jewel of Kerr County. Pristine springs contribute to its headwaters' origin in the far western reaches of the county. Contributing creeks and streams support the river's flow eastward into Kendall County. The river has long been the backbone of the local economy supporting farming, ranching, wildlife, tourism, and our Hill Country heritage.

Gravel mining along the eastern stretches of the river have raised questions about the river's stability. Concerns include quarry pits located within a few feet of the river banks, riparian destruction, and adverse impacts on the water's quality. Questions arose about the quantities of river water pumped for the quarry operations. Residents describe the areas of land destruction visible on Google Earth as moonscapes. In addition to losing riparian vegetation within the open pit, roads, stockpiles, gravel washing stations, and holding ponds meant further loss of riparian area protections.

Complaints of river degradation grew along with concerns of lost wildlife habitat. Loss of aquatic life downstream seemed to be associated with silt and industrial contaminants contained in stormwater runoff from the denuded quarry sites. The lake at Center Point Lions Park Dam collected enough silt to decrease the water level to waist high. Fine airborne dust from the quarry operations settled on neighbors' trees, fences, and roads as a fine white powder. River paddlers and sportsmen shunned the area, thus decreasing business revenue.

Aggregate Production Operations (APOs) include quarries, rockcrushers, concrete batch plants, and hot mix asphalt plants. Owners reminded residents that all were operating within the guidelines of their permits and none were violating any laws. In addition, they noted the burgeoning need for their aggregate materials, to support local and statewide growth.

APO managers suggested problems were associated with other industrial activity, but citizens pointed to the likelihood of their operations causing most of the damage. As conflicts escalated the Kerr County Commissioners' Court appointed the Kerr County APO Advisory Council to work on solutions. The Council members represent businesses, government, APOs, interested organizations, and local citizens who met for two years, came to an agreement, and voted to adopt it as Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Kerr County on March 15, 2023. The BMPs are voluntary, agreed upon in good faith, and available on the Kerr County Website.

The Council's work on BMPs will continue with subcommittees and quarterly group meetings. The charge from Judge Kelly is to continue our task of fine tuning the original document. Agreed upon issues for future discussion include noise, water usage, night lights, dust control, property values, and restoration. Meetings are open to the public and alternate between noon and evening.



1 on 1 with a Naturalist

Every 1st & 4th Friday | 10am – 12pm

A Certified Texas Master Naturalist will be available to meet 1-on-1 to answer questions, discuss various topics, or listen to ideas about how to advance the stewardship and conservation of our environment.



RIVERSIDE NATURE CENTER
ASSOCIATION
riversidenaturecenter.org | (830) 257-4837

SMALL ACREAGE BIG OPPORTUNITY

A wildlife management program especially for landowners with small properties.

BROWN COUNTY WORKSHOP

March 24, 2023
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Muse Wildlife Management Area
13549 Co Rd 478, May, TX 76857

\$80 registration fee



Includes lunch, program materials, and exclusive access to online presentations and resources

Join us to learn:

- Setting goals for your land
- Small acreage land trends
- Earning 1-d-1 wildlife tax valuation
- How to use iNaturalist
- Cost-share opportunities
- Meet your local partners
- Small-acreage management in action
- ... and more!

QUESTIONS?
Contact Amanda Gobeli
agobeli@texas-wildlife.org
(720) 333-6224

REGISTER TODAY:
tinyurl.com/m5ay4v82

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TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
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IN CONJUNCTION WITH:





The View from Rusty Bend



Rainbow hiding in the fog

Obsessive

so
struck
by this
winter wind
licking the dry grass
like a dog with a wounded paw

February at Rusty Bend and still we cry for rain. The landscape is monochrome, black and white as an old movie, but spots of color give sweet relief. There's always what Andy calls a "bag o' reds" at the birdbath. Cardinals and house finches showing off their hues.

They say that new research shows that birds know who their people are, and we enjoy speculating about it. One of the ravens always talks back to me when he flies by. The goldfinches rarely flush when we go outside and have been known to tap the window when the Nyger feeder runs dry. We laugh at them with their questioning call *dweeee, dweeee?* We need seed!

Will the screech owl remember us? We have a new snake-proof nest box mounted on a tall pole. Fervently, we wish for a second chance. Last year's rat snake plundering traumatized us all.

The foxes stop and stare at us when we cross paths. One unforgettable day we watched as a fox trotted by the garden, then planted herself in front of the dolly I'd been using to move bags of mulch. She sat in front of it for many minutes then almost reverently, did a deep bow, *hello dolly*.

continued on next page

When the drought gets me down, I take the river cure. It's a comforting remedy walking beside the Guadalupe. The cypress needles muffle all sound. But what's that I hear now? Yes, yes, here they come. Sandhill cranes in a tantalizing V. Hundreds of them thumbing a ride on the wind, heading north. Crooning a bugle that ebbs and flows.

I keep walking between the big rocks and up pops a Canyon Wren right next to me. He squeaks at me, then does a deep knee bend. *Squeak*. As if to say, *what are you doing down here? You are usually on the porch up the hill*. Then he sings his delicious descending aria and disappears.

So I walk home, calmed, renewed, the smell of balsam and river in my nose. Then I get a whiff of something new. Notes of vanilla on the wind. Yes, sturdy agaritas are defying the drought. They are heavy with prickles and golden light. Yellow blossoms sugar the air, tantalizing my spirit with a promise of change.

Such reassurance in repetition. I know I'll see twenty species of birds every day. I know the wrens are going to litter my porch with sticks as they build their nest on the light shade.

February means it's time to prune, time to plan the garden. Of course, we pray for rain. A girl can dream, can't she?



Rare visitor, Scott's Oriole guarding a suet feast

Poem, images and essay by Lucy Griffith Copyright 2023

Lucy Griffith, PhD co-manages the Rusty Bend Ranch with her husband, Andy Robinson. She also writes poetry, her muse, a tractor named Mabel. The story of the Burro Lady of West Texas, told in poems, *We Make a Tiny Herd*, has been awarded the 2020 Willa Literary Award for Poetry as well as the Wrangler Award by the Cowboy Hall of Fame. A joint project of bird poems and images, with wildlife photographer Kenneth Butler, *Wingbeat Atlas*, can be ordered from [Wingbeat Atlas — FlowerSong Press & Juventud Press](#)

Comments welcome at lucy@lucygriffithwriter.com.

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.



Chapter meetings are held on the fourth Monday of the month (except in December). Members and the public are welcome to attend in person or virtually. There is no cost to attend.

We meet in the auditorium at the Upper Guadalupe River Authority (UGRA) Building at 125 Lehmann Drive in Kerrville. Doors open at 6PM for socializing. Business Meeting begins at 6:30PM. Advanced Training session is 7:10-8:10PM.

Board of Directors 2023

President.....Jeff Schwarz
Vice President.....Kim Ort
Secretary.....Patti Guin
TreasurerRon Scoggins
Advanced Training DirectorDeb Youngblood
Class Training Director.....David Matthews
Communications Director.....Mark Hults
Membership Director.....Dot Maginot
Volunteer Service Director.....David Drake
Past Class RepresentativeJane Jamison
Past PresidentCarla Stang
Chapter State Representative...Vern Crawford
Chapter Advisor: Michelle Hagerty



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.

Questions about our chapter?

Email Membership Director Dot Maginot
membership@hillcountrytmn.org

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.

