



March/April
Volume 3, Issue 2

Meeting 4th Monday of each month at 6 p.m., program at 7 p.m. at the Red Oak municipal bldg <http://www.redoaktx.org/>

701 S. I-35E, Suite 3, Waxahachie, TX 75165 Office: 972-825-5175 Visit our website at <http://txmn.org/indiantrail>

From the President's Desk

By Eileen Berger, President ITMN

Signs of spring are beginning to appear, and I am ready for some flowers, bees, butterflies, and baby animals. I am writing this after a very successful tree line cleanup this morning. We had plenty of willing workers, as well as some "guests of the county" helping us. We may pick another spot to benefit from a cleanup in the fall. There are so many good things happening with our chapter that I am really excited about. The applications for our training classes are coming in, and we have an owl prowl soon. Before too long we will have a native grass demonstration garden at Mockingbird. Members are taking advanced training on new subjects, such as angler education and facilitator training for Project Wild. We enjoy each other's company, and we have fun and laugh a lot. What else could you ask for?

Master Gardener Expo

By J.Mundo, Outreach Chair

The ITMN Chapter will sponsor a booth at the Ellis County Master Gardeners' Lawn and Garden Expo in Waxahachie on March 16th. Volunteers are needed to help staff the booth that will focus on "Who Master Naturalists Are and What Master Naturalists Do". The booth will include the Chapter Display Banner and the project fair display boards. The chapter brochure, training information, schedule and applications, the 2013 schedule of meetings and programs and a sign-up sheet for a "Friends-of-ITMN" mailing list will be available. Booth Display Participation earns time toward Volunteer Service Hours. If you have not already signed up to help, contact Joe or Pam Mundo.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message & Master Gardener Expo	1
Agrilife Project with Photos	2
Meetings, Workshops, Advanced Training	3
Chapter Project News	4
Owl Prowl @ Mockingbird; Chapter Training	5
Book Review	6
Whooper Accidentally Shot; Regional Conference Info	7
Feature Article - Baby Monitors for the Birds	8
Board of Directors & Project Chair Listing	9
I Think I Heard That before - Volunteer Service Hours	10
Meeting Announcement and Creative Challenge	11

Calendar of Events, Projects & Meetings

March

- 2: BRIT plant mounting
- 7: Agrilife Office litter patrol
- 8: Mockingbird Park – Owl prowl practice
- 16: ITMN Booth at Ellis County Master Gardener Expo
- 18: Master Naturalist Training Applications Due
- 21: L.A.N.D.S. field exploration (Scurry, TX)
- 22: Mockingbird Park – Owl Prowl
- 25: ITMN meeting w/program "John Bunker Sands Wetland Center (JBSWC) – History, Mission & Events" by Linda Dunn
- 26: L.A.N.D.S. water exploration (JBSWC)
- 27: L.A.N.D.S. water exploration (JBSWC)
- 30: Mockingbird Park - Workday with Boy Scouts

April

- 2: Master Naturalist Training 6-9 p.m., First United Methodist Church (FUMC), 505 Marvin St, Waxahachie, TX
- 6: BRIT plant mounting; MN Training field trip
- 9: Master Naturalist Training 6-9 p.m., FUMC Waxahachie
- 12-14: North TX Master Naturalists' Regional Conference in Anna, TX
- 13: Earth Day Event in Ferris, TX
- 16: Master Naturalist Training 6-9 p.m., FUMC Waxahachie
- 20-21: Bluebonnet Fest Ennis, TX; MN Training field trip and Kachina Prairie work day
- 22: ITMN meeting w/program "Into the Prairie – A Celebration of Native Grasses" by Rich Jaynes
- 23: Master Naturalist Training 6-9 p.m., FUMC Waxahachie
- 24-27: Corsicana Derrick Days
- 27: Alternate Kachina Prairie work day
- 30: Master Naturalist Training 6-9 p.m., FUMC Waxahachie

May

- 4: BRIT plant mounting
- 7: Master Naturalist Training 6-9 p.m., FUMC Waxahachie
- 14: Master Naturalist Training 6-9 p.m., FUMC Waxahachie
- 18: Master Naturalist Training field trip
- 20: ITMN meeting w/program "Bobcats of River Legacy Park" by Dr. Richard Ashley
- 21: Master Naturalist Training 6-9 p.m., FUMC Waxahachie
- 24-26: Polka Festival in Ennis, TX
- 28: Master Naturalist Training 6-9 p.m., FUMC Waxahachie

ONE ~~DAY~~ HOUR! AND DONE PROJECT



The trash along the fence behind the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Office was no match for the clean-up crew who brought their A-Game to the task on March 7th.



Eleven Indian Trail members and seven inmates from the jail filled a 16' trailer with bags of trash in just over an hour. And doesn't it look so much better?

Thank you to all who helped.



By the way...very rare sighting this morning...Danny Smith in long pants, and NOT because of the cold either; just avoiding the greenbrier and poison ivy.



Julien Reverchon (1837 - 1905) was born in Diemoz, France, where he began his lifelong work of specimen collection. In 1856, he arrived with his father in Texas intending to settle at La Reunion, which is now within the city of Dallas. Reverchon was a noted botanist. He had collected over 2000 species of plants by the time he and his father came to America, and he continued to collect plants when he settled in Texas.

The January-February issue of the **Reverchon Naturalist newsletter** is now available on the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Service web site and can be found at this link: http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/tx/technical/ecoscience/bio/?cid=nrcs144p2_003087

Meetings, Workshops and Advanced Training Opportunities

Women of the Land Workshop:

scheduled for April 19-21, 2013. For pamphlet and details see Eileen Berger's email dated 3/2/13.

Stream Team Advanced Training:

SAVE THE DATE: August 31, 2013. Advanced Stream Team Training will be conducted at the Waco Wetlands, 1752, Eichelberger Crossing, Waco Tx. Time and agenda will be provided at a later date. All Volunteer Water Monitors that are CURRENTLY reporting results are invited to attend. Please pre-register by E-Mailing the Training Coordinator, Richard G. McCarthy, at: rgm3372010@live.com or contact him at (254)554-9979.

Using Social Media for natural Resource education and outreach:

The first of a statewide set of workshops that focus' on the use of social media for outreach, education, and natural resource education and communication. This one is in partnership with TIAER at Tarleton (Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Research). This training will target watershed coordinators but is open to all. May 23rd - Houston - sponsored by Houston Galveston Area Council; May 15th - San Antonio - sponsored by TWA; For more info go to: <http://imnr.tamu.edu> or <http://agriliferegister.tamu.edu>

Every Drop Counts—How to Raise Awareness in an Information Age:

Information is everywhere. It's out there on the news, in the paper, and—not surprisingly—abundantly on-line. Is it good information? Is it reliable information? How will people find your information first? If you are in the role of outreach and information dissemination, you have a challenging media -scape to conquer. You know about social networks, you know about being "on-line". The challenge is being heard against a tide of competing voices. What happens when sound science-based information is buried on page 5 of a search? What happens when the information you need the public to hear is too quiet to be heard? This one day course is designed for watershed coordinators and those who promote sustainable uses of watersheds. In this workshop you will learn how the media-scape (and social media) is changing the way we think about information dissemination and our own efforts to reach the public. It's not about using social media because its popular, it's about understanding how popular tools (and not so popular tools) can be used to expand the reach of important information in the most efficient way. March 29 Stephenville; May 15 San Antonio; May 23 Houston. Register online: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension through Conference Services at: agriliferegister.tamu.edu. Questions? Contact Leah Brown, TIAER Trainer, email: rbrown@tiaer.tarleton.edu phone: 254.968.0513

L.A.N.D.S. teacher/volunteer training offered by Texas Wildlife Association June 10-12, 2013 at Flagler Ranch. Danny Smith, Paul and Charlie Grindstaff attended the training last year and all said it was incredible. Contact Koy Coffey or Charlie Grindstaff for details.

Chapter Project News

(Gathered from the Briefing Notes, emails and minutes)

Bardwell Lake – P.Bailey: trail work at the Buffalo creek Wetlands area is complete for now. Look for another work day next autumn.



Joe & Pam Mundo, Kitty Smith and Vic Pochobradsky enjoy cookies after a work day clearing trails at Buffalo Creek Wetlands near Bardwell Lake.

Mockingbird Nature Park– A.Gritzmaker: the Winter Walk at Mockingbird was an outstanding success with 70 walkers in attendance. Midlothian Parks Dept. was very happy and appreciative of our help. Thanks to Chapter members who worked the event. The Boy Scouts will be at Mockingbird on March 30 to clear out the brush between the parking lot and Onward Road. We need members with chain saws to trim the trees up to about six feet to make the parking lot and any activity there visible from the street. Everyone is welcome to come out and help. Regular workdays will be held every Monday beginning in March and will continue throughout the growing season. We are gearing up for our NIGHT HIKE to be held Friday, March 22nd at 8:30 p.m. The City of Midlothian is working hard on it. I am getting stuff together for a raised bed of native grasses. John Snowden of Bluestem Nursery has made some recommendations about the grasses we should use; some grasses that would have been growing here before settlement took over.

L.A.N.D.S.– C. Grindstaff: Contact Koy Coffey kcoffer@texas-wildlife.org if you can help with any of these upcoming Field Investigation Days on March 21, 26 and 27; April 17; May 1 and 7. No special training is needed, just your time, smile and enthusiasm for a great program that is introducing kids to the wonderful nature of Texas. Contact Charlie or Eileen about carpooling.

Texas Turtle Watch – Turtle census, no update

Kachina Prairie Work Day – P.Bailey: a workday is planned for Saturday, April 20th. The Texas Land Conservancy Stewardship Director, Daniel Dietz, will host a volunteer workday at Kachina Prairie in Ennis, TX. Goals include removing woody plant species and installing transects. Contact Peggy Bailey to volunteer.

Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT) Plant Mounting– D.Pierce: ITMN does plant mounting the First Monday of each month. There are brown bag presentations and lectures for volunteers at BRIT. Check the website or email Julie Donovan for more information. March 14th 6:30 pm “What’s LEED Got to Do With It? Why It’s Important in a Changing Environment.” March 21st at noon Dr. Valentina Savo, “Long Term Perceptions of and Observations about Plants and Ecosystems: Italy and Beyond.”

Project Wild – E.Berger: we are continuing at Pettigrew Academy with study of common birds. Next up is trees. We will start back at Ovilla Christian School after Spring Break.

Growing Up Wild– R.Schumacher: several of our members are privileged to be able to offer the Growing Up Wild and Project Wild curriculums in area schools and libraries. We are currently in partnerships with the Petti-grew Montessori School in Waxahachie, and Ovilla Christian School in Ovilla, to present this program weekly to grades k-4 thru 6 reaching approximately 50 children each week! We have no shortage of opportunities to share this great program, all we need are more volunteers willing and able to share their knowledge and love of the outdoors with the next generation!

CoCoRaHS – no update

John Bunker Sands Wetlands– no update

Stream Team– water quality monitoring, no update

Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center– no update

Wolf Creek Park– Trail maintenance, no update

Owl Prowl at Mockingbird

By C. Grindstaff

Join the Indian Trail Master Naturalists for a family-friendly moonlit hike through the park as we look and listen for owls Friday, March 22 at 8:30 p.m. We will explore what makes these birds so fascinating, practice our owl hoots and then hike the trail. Although we will be searching for owls, we will be on the prowl for other nocturnal creatures as well. Closed-toe shoes and long pants are recommended. Adults (only) bring a flashlight. Plan to be outdoors about two hours. Mockingbird Nature Park is located at the corner of Mockingbird and Onward Roads in Midlothian. Call 972-291-2868 to register. This free night



Owl Prowl and Night Hike, Friday, March 22 at 8:30 p.m.

hike is sponsored by the Midlothian Parks and Recreation Department and the Indian Trail Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist (ITMN) Program.

ITMN Class of 2013 – Training Program to Begin April 2nd

By P. & C. Grindstaff, Training Co-Chairs

Talk about training! Invite friends and family!
We need students!

2013 Tentative Course Schedule:

2-Apr	Master Naturalist Program; Weather & Climate
6-Apr	SATURDAY FIELD TRIP
9-Apr	Ecology & Ecosystems
16-Apr	Ichthyology/Aquatic Ecology
20-Apr	SATURDAY FIELD TRIP + Classroom
23-Apr	Texas Naturalists
30-Apr	Urban Systems; Mammalogy
7-May	Entomology
14-May	Geology & Soils of Texas; Volunteers as Teachers
18-May	SATURDAY FIELD TRIP + Classroom
21-May	Rangeland Ecology; Herpetology
28-May	Archeology; Evaluation

Would you like to join an active citizen corps of knowledgeable volunteers to provide education, outreach and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within our communities? ITMN will conduct spring training Tuesday evenings 6-9 p.m. at First United Methodist Church from April 2 - May 28.

Training will be held on nine consecutive Tuesdays, 6 to 9 p.m. beginning April 2 at the First United Methodist Church in Waxahachie. We have Saturday field trips planned for April 6, Tierra Verde Golf Course and BRIT; April 20, Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center; and May 18, John Bunker Sands Wetland Center.

Do you think nature should be part of our everyday life, not just somewhere to go on the weekends? You are invited to attend our free, open-to-the-public, monthly program on the fourth Monday of the month at 7 pm at the Red Oak Library, 200 Lakeview Pkwy, Red Oak, TX.

For more information on the Indian Trail Master Naturalist Chapter, contact the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service at 972-825-5175 or visit our website:
<http://txmn.org/indiantrail/>.

BOOK REVIEW

By E. Berger, Certified Master Naturalist, Indian Trail Chapter

Adventures with a Texas Naturalist

Author: Roy Bedichek

It is always important to know where we have been, to know the history of a subject, before we endeavor to improve or correct it. As Master Naturalists, we read animal guides, books about conservation, those on creating “wildscapes” and water-wise gardens as well as histories about what this land was like before settlements by our forefathers and mothers. One of the first books that I picked up from our library at the AgriLife office was *Adventures with a Texas Naturalist*, by Roy Bedichek. The premise, taking a year off to really “get back to nature”, is one that we naturalists can all identify with. Roy lived from 1878 until 1959. He was born in Illinois, but moved with his family to the community of Eddy in Falls County, Texas in 1884. He attended the University of Texas and received a B.S. in 1903. He was employed as a reporter, taught school, and edited several magazines. In 1910 he married Lillian Greer, and the couple had three children. In 1917 he began work with the University Interscholastic League and eventually became its director. As the director, he traveled all over Texas visiting schools. Since there were not many hotels or other forms of lodging in these small towns, he began camping out. He soon became interested in wildlife and nature, especially birds. Even though he had no formal training about wildlife, he became an expert. His gift of journalism made him a natural advocate for nature conservation. Two other important names in Texas’ literary history, J. Frank Dobie and Walter Prescott Webb, were his close

friends. In 1946 they encouraged him to take a year’s leave of absence in seclusion to write about nature and man’s influences on the natural world. This was not a new idea, as Henry David Thoreau had set the example in the early 1800’s. Webb owned a ranch south of Austin which he offered as a retreat. Bedichek accepted the offer and the result was *Adventures with a Texas Naturalist*.

His introduction explains the reason for the year’s leave, and then goes on to describe the lodging arrangements and provisions for visitors. His easy manner of writing reads as if he were sitting in a comfortable chair near the listener, recounting amusing and not so amusing tales. Our influence on nature since early settlement in the mid 1800’s is always revealed through his critical eye. Man has indeed “conquered” the land here in Texas as well as the rest of the continent. Now we are experiencing the “spoils” of that war.

The book is humorous, entertaining and thought-provoking. Bedichek was a true student of the classics, and knew the Greek philosophers, as well as famous English writers and poets. He wrote chapters on fences, chickens, a holiday in the Davis Mountains, folk names of birds and flowers, mocking-birds and killers, to name a few. He quotes poetry and wise statements, as well as anecdotal stories that will make you chuckle. It must be remembered that he was writing this in 1946, a time just after WWII, and a few of his stories would not be politically correct today. Educated readers already know this, and readers of history have no problem placing this in the context of the time it was written. Subjects were treated with respect and should cause no offense.

I highly recommend this book to those readers who love Texas history, nature, and a good story, since you will find all three in large quantity.

Whooper Accidentally Shot

By TP&W (2/12/13)

A juvenile whooping crane was accidentally shot and killed earlier this year; charges are pending in U.S. District Court. The whooping crane population that winters in Texas is the only self-sustaining wild population of whooping cranes in the world. Since beginning their slow recovery from a low of 16 birds in the 1940s to almost 300 today, whoopers have, with few exceptions, always wintered on the Texas coast on and near Aransas National Wildlife Refuge. However, in the winter of 2011-12, several groups of whooping cranes expanded their wintering areas to include more coastal areas and even some inland sites in Central Texas. Whoopers usually follow a migratory path through North and Central Texas that includes cities such as Wichita Falls, Fort Worth, Waco, Austin, and Victoria. During migration they



Whooping Crane, *Grus Americana*, winters in Aransas National Wildlife Refuge on the Gulf Coast of Texas.

often pause overnight to use wetlands for roosting and agricultural fields for feeding, but seldom remain more than one night. They nearly always migrate in small groups of less than 6-8 birds, but they may be seen roosting and feeding with large flocks of the smaller sandhill crane. They are the tallest birds in North America, standing nearly five feet tall. They are solid white in color except for

Please see *Whoopers* on page 9

North Texas Regional Conference

By North Texas Chapter

Join Master Naturalist chapters of the North Texas region for the **Prairies, Lakes & Timbers Conference** at the Collin County YMCA Adventure Camp in Anna. This will be a weekend of fellowship and advanced training, with many great speakers lined up, including TPWD's Wildlife Diversity Director, John Davis.

Sessions will be both indoors and outdoors, utilizing many of the trails at this beautiful location. Programming includes: Prairie Wildflowers by Jim Varnum, Forests of North Texas by Jim Flood, and examples of the outdoor education curriculum presented by the camp staff. Other session topics include: Water Ecology, Recent Trends in North Texas Wildlife Populations

(separate sessions for birds, mammals, herps, and insects,) Snake Hormones, Predicting Mussel Populations, Hexaectris Orchids, Wild Onions, Milkweeds, Alligator Study at Fort Worth Nature Center, Land Management with Bison, Prescribed Burns, and more.

The climate controlled classrooms, a campfire amphitheater, well-appointed dining room and good food add comfort to the beauty of the natural environment for a pleasant weekend experience.

Space is limited, so please make your reservations early. <http://www.rsvpbook.com/PLTC>



Baby Monitors for the Birds

By Charlie Grindstaff

Certified Master Naturalist, Indian Trail Chapter

Recently I asked my best friend what she would like for her upcoming birthday (she being of an age where another dust collecting figurine is out of the question and now reading books on her cell phone so that option was out, also). She replied that she would like a microphone at the birdfeeder outside her window so that on cold, wintry days she could hear the birdsong inside her home. I blithely assumed they make such things and set out to find one. Yes, they do make them, but no one sells a model locally that I can afford. My search moved to the internet, where I found others looking for similar items and then I found a great suggestion. You could use a baby monitor. I rushed out to buy one and sure enough, some are wireless, have quite long ranges, can transmit through windows and best of all, are within my price range. I must admit as soon as I arrived home I opened the package, placed the transmitter outdoors near my birdfeeders, turned it on and by the time I walked back inside, the birds were chirping inside my home. My dog cocked its head and was very confused that she couldn't locate the birds. Carefully I repacked the unit, purchased a clear plastic shoe box and gave both to my friend. For some protection against the elements we attached the bottom of the shoe box upside down to a branch above her feeder and then aimed the transmitter downward at the feeder, attached it inside the box, turned it on and went inside to listen. It works well. We don't know how long the batteries will last but the weather will be nice enough soon that she can have her window open and not need the monitor again till next winter.

So that made me wonder what else could be repurposed. While walking in a tool store I saw a display of wireless inspection cameras. It is a small handheld monitor with a very small light and camera at the end of a three foot tube for use by mechanics to check inside engines for cracks, pitting and leaks. I instantly thought about my bird house and slipping the camera inside the hole to count eggs, or slipping it inside a decaying log to look for critters, or down a burrow. The possibilities are limitless. I can't wait for the birds to get on with their spring nesting now.

Not as technical but just as useful, you can take an empty plastic gallon water jug and convert it into a watering can. Punch holes in the cap before replacing it on the jug. You can regulate the sprinkle pattern by the number and size of holes.

There are so many different things and ways to, as they say, Repurpose, Reuse, Recycle. Think outside the box or in this case just *Think Outside*.



*In the hectic pace of today's world
we sometimes find it difficult
to keep a clear and noble sense of
direction...*

*peace of mind becomes lost amid the
whir of machinery and the din of
traffic.*

*When we begin to feel the pressure
and strain we usually turn to the
peaceful measure
of the out-of-doors...
a place to gather our thought,
and recover our bearing.*

*One finds a model of moral conduct
among the inhabitants of Nature's
dominion, for their character and
social manner has remained stable
in a changing world...*

- Anonymous -

Whoopers from page 7

*Whooping Cranes
fly with necks and
legs outstretched.*



black wing-tips that are visible only in flight. They fly with necks and legs outstretched.

Sightings can be reported to whoopingcranes@tpwd.state.tx.us or 512-389-TXWW (8999). Observers are asked especially to note whether the cranes have colored leg bands on their legs. Volunteers interested in attending training sessions to become "Whooper Watchers" in order to collect more detailed data may also contact the TPWD at whoopingcranes@tpwd.state.tx.us or 512-389-TXWW (8999). Additional information, including photos of whooping crane look-alike species, can be found at <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/whoopingcranes/> and at <http://www.whoopingcrane.com/report-a-sighting/>.

Board of Directors

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- Texas Turtle Watch..... Carolyn Gritzmaker
- Mockingbird ParkAaron Gritzmaker
- Stream Team.....Maureen Nitkowski
- Project Wild..... Rebecca Schumacher
- CoCoRaHS..... Carolyn Gritzmaker
- Dogwd Canyon Audubon Ctr..... Rex Reves
- Wolf Creek Park.....Sharon Lane
- Bardwell Lake Co-Chair.....Peggy Bailey
- Bardwell Lake Co-Chair.....Kitty Smith

I THINK I HEARD THAT BEFORE... by C.Grindstaff

The first in a series of articles reviewing and repeating ITMN Chapter policies and procedures

Today I (with the help of Carolyn Gritzmaker's handout on time sheets) am tackling a question that comes up very often, "Do I count my travel time?"

Keep track of your volunteer service hours **plus travel time** to and from project sites. Even though it says this in two places on the time sheet the question still gets asked pretty often, so let's explore this further. Ask yourself, did I travel to learn something or did I travel to share something? You are not allowed to count travel time if you are learning something (i.e. Advanced Training). You are allowed to count your travel time if you are sharing something, whether it is your knowledge for educational or outreach projects or your physical presence for trail building or weeding the butterfly garden.

Volunteer service hours (VSH) are those direct contact hours you spend on Texas Master Naturalist projects approved by Indian Trail Chapter.

- all service projects must be pre-approved by the Projects Committee led by the Vice President for Projects
- service performed at the request of our sponsors, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Services and Texas Parks & Wildlife Department has been approved by open blanket project statements for ongoing work and separate approval is not required for each task performed
- outside meetings when the Chapter is asked to consult or advise on possible projects or partnering opportunities would count as VSH even though there is no approved project in place
- service activities relating to the development and management of ITMN, such as serving as an officer or board member, receive VSH
- service project opportunities may involve short or long-term efforts by the entire Chapter, a few members or individual members
- VSH must be performed within our service area: Ellis and Navarro Counties unless approved by a Chapter Advisor. Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center in Dallas County, BRIT in Tarrant County and John Bunker Sands Wetland Center in Kaufman County have all received approval. CoCoRaHS observation stations at your home are also approved sites.
- **travel/prep time is included**
- attending the monthly chapter meetings **does not** count as VSH, except for the President and Secretary typically
- attending Chapter committee meetings **does** count as VSH
- Advanced Training hours **are not** volunteer service hours and travel time **is not** allowed.

Notice the words "approved" and "pre-approved" are very important. They ensure that members are covered by the Texas Master Naturalist program insurance available. They ensure the goals of ITMN and our partners are met and they take the guesswork out of deciding whether the time counts as volunteer service hours.

Next time we will review the activity codes used for the state reports.



Meeting Announcement: March 25, 2013

“John Bunker Sands Wetland Center”

History – Mission - Events

Location: Red Oak Public Library

200 Lakeview Parkway, Red Oak, TX 75154

Indian Trail Chapter, Texas Master Naturalist

- **6:00 PM - Business Meeting**
- **7:00 PM – Program by Linda Dunn, Education Manager at JBSWC and Master Naturalist - North Texas Chapter**

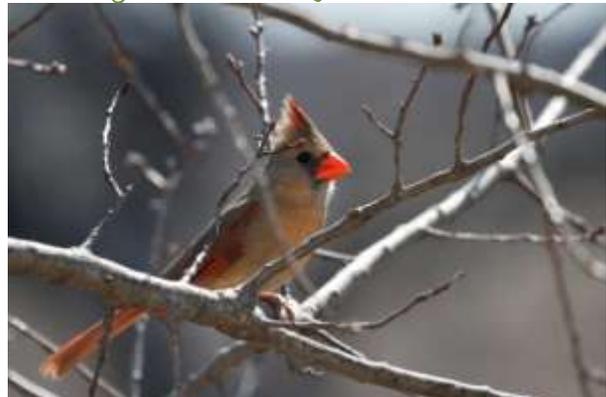
“John Bunker Sands Wetland Center”

The John Bunker Sands Wetland Center is a non-profit 501c3 located in Seagoville. Through the 2,000 acre man made wetland located on the property, the mission of the Center is to educate the public about the unique and natural solution for supplying clean water to the growing population of North Texas through the East Fork Wetland Project and provide opportunities to learn the importance of water quality and supply, wildlife management, wetland systems and water conservation.

Creative Challenge:

Pam Mundo thought our chapter was underrepresented in the art and talent department at last fall's State Meeting in October and she's right! We will have a creative challenge for each meeting. Last month we held a photo challenge. At the meeting members were reminded to vote for one of the dozen photo entries submitted. The Photo Challenge votes were counted and Jack Dunaway's picture of a cardinal won. Pam then asked members to write down topics, not just for photos, but other challenges as well like needlework, collections, or found items and we would draw one topic for next month's challenge. The drawing for next month brought this challenge: Photos – “Under”. It is open for interpretation – bring your creative responses!

February Winner (Subject: Photo – “Nature”)



Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*), Female
Photo by Jack Dunaway
Certified Master Naturalist, Indian Trail Chapter

Editorial/Newsletter Chair

Kitty Smith

Email

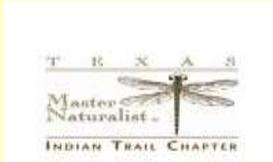
Newsletter@itmnc.com

Phone:

972-875-5175

Cell:

469-337-4105



We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

<http://txmn.org/indiantrail>

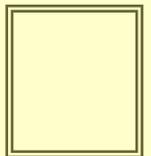
Master Naturalist Program Mission:

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.



The Texas Master Naturalist program is a partnership between the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Texas Parks & Wildlife, and other local partners.

Indian Trail Master Naturalists
Texas A & M AgriLife Extension Service
701 S. I-35E, Suite 3
Waxahachie, TX 75165



Name
Street Address
City, ST ZIP Code