

The Lindheimer Quarterly - 3rd Quarter
July - September 2020



Photo by LMN Member Darlene Varga



**Lindheimer Chapter
Texas Master Naturalist™
20th Anniversary
20 Years of Service, Outreach and Education
2000 - 2020**



*"Are you going to get that little rodent, or am I?"
by LMN member Amber Lujan*

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*"Button Bush"
by LMN member Nancy Hammack*





Chapter Information Page



CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Rich Nielson
VICE PRESIDENT	Arthur Williams
SECRETARY	Rob Kyroutac
TREASURER	Stephen Jones



COMMITTEES

Standing Committees

Education - Joe Finneran, Debra Eanes, Rick Corbell
 Membership & Records – Brian Trock
 Outreach – Debbie Kyroutac, Jane Schnell
 Projects & Opportunities - Jeanie Springer

Subcommittees

Trunks – Deb Kyroutac & Jane Schnell
 Program to Assist Landowners – Art Williams
 Community Recognition (VP) – Art Williams
 Hospitality – Recruiting
 New Class – President, Christy Martinez
 Photographer, Steve Dockal

Ad Hoc Committees

20th Anniversary Committee – Art Williams
 Big Give SA – Susan Bogle, Jane Schnell, MJ McFarland



COMMUNICATIONS

Director – MJ McFarland
 Out & About – Sara Riggs

CHAPTER ADVISOR

Craig Hensley, Texas Parks & Wildlife, Wildlife Tracker

The Lindheimer Quarterly Newsletter
 MJ McFarland, Editor

Newsletter published quarterly by the Lindheimer Chapter, Texas Master Naturalist™ to communicate, educate & inform chapter members & the Hill Country Community. Current and previous issues of The Quarterly are posted on the website www.txmn.org/lindheimer.



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Snail Mail: Lindheimer Chapter
 c/o Comal County AgriLife
 325 Resource Dr.
 New Braunfels, TX 78122



2020 MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETINGS

January 16
 ‘Dark Skies’ - Ranger Holly Platz

February 20
 ‘Drought Proof Texas’ - Pete Van Dyck

March 19 - Cancelled
 ‘Rangeland Grasses’ – Dr. Baron Rector (COVID-19)

April 16
 ‘State of the Chapter’ – Rich Nielson (no AT)
 Online via Zoom

May 21
 ‘Geologic Formation Guad Valley’ - Joe Finneran

June 18
 ‘Outdoor Safety for Nature Lovers’ - MJ McFarland

July 16
 ‘Ferdinand Lindheimer’ - Susan James

August 20
 GBRA Plans for the Gorge – Nathan Pence

September 17
 ‘Pollen Trackers’ - Dr. Dan Katz

October 15
 ‘Honey Creek Issues – Annalisa Peace

November
 ‘Hot Birds’ -Patsy & Tom Inglet

December 10th or 17th
 Elections



2020 Board of Directors Meetings

Every 4th Monday at 5:00 PM
 On-line via WEBEX

- January 27 ● February 24 ● March 23 ● April 27
- May 25 ● June 22 ● July 27 ● August 24
- September 28 ● October 26 ● November 23
- December 28

WEBEX: <https://txmn.org/lindheimer/members-area/>

Board Minutes available at:
<https://txmn.org/lindheimer/chapter-info/lmn-board-members/lmn-board-minutes-archive/>

2020 Officer Elections



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Call for Nominations

Nominations are now being taken for these elected positions:

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary

You may nominate yourself or another member.

**Email your nomination to Rich Bradley,
Nomination Committee Chair**

rmbrad@gvtc.com

Deadline for nominations is November 20, 2020

The Pregnant Mantis

Photo & Article by Nancy Hammack



This pregnant praying mantis was lying in wait for a snack on my large Pride of Barbados. Here's a couple of facts to share about pregnant praying mantis:

- *The abdomen grows very large and the female loses its ability to fly.*
- *The female eats continuously because of her voracious appetite. She is a good pest controller to your garden because of her appetite for a variety of insects. She is also known to eat small frogs, lizards, and birds.*
- *She produces an ootheca (soft foaming casing that hardens over several days), then lays 30-300 eggs into the soft casing, weaving the eggs inside as she lays them.*
- *The egg casing can be attached to branches, leaves or even the side of your house.*
- *She dies after laying its eggs.*
- *The eggs will hatch in three to ten weeks. The praying mantis nymphs may cannibalize each other after they hatch.*

You can go to prayingmantisfacts.net to read endless facts about this amazing insect (order: Mantodea, phylum: Arthropoda). Below is the link to a YouTube video showing the female praying mantis laying its eggs into the ootheca. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l8UWI_q60Ic

The Dragonhunter

Photo & Article by Joel Dunnington











This photo of a Dragonhunter Dragonfly is one I took during a butterfly survey. I've added some information from Wikipedia.

- The *dragonhunter* (*Hagenius brevistylus*) is a clubtail dragonfly of the eastern United States and southeastern Canada. It is much larger than any other North American clubtail, at 3.3 inches (84 mm), with black and yellow markings and green eyes. Males can be distinguished at a distance by their habit of curling their abdomens under while flying, forming a sideways J shape.
- The dragonhunter is the only member of genus *Hagenius*. Its closest relatives are Asian dragonflies of genus *Sieboldius*, which are also sometimes called "dragonhunters". Together, the two genera form the subfamily Hageniinae.
- The nymph is unusual, with a very flat, wide body. It is slow-moving and lives among bark and leaf litter at the edges of streams, where its dark color provides camouflage.
- The adult feeds on large insects, including darner and clubtail dragonflies, sometimes ambushing them from above. It also takes monarch butterflies, eating the thorax and abdomen first to avoid the greatest concentration of cardenolide toxins.

2020 Recertifications & Milestone Awards

2020 Recertification Pin - American Bumblebee



	Recertifications	Milestones
January 2020 	Ellen Anderson, Susan Bogle, Lois Ricci, Brian Trock, Art Williams	<u>4,000 Hours</u> Brian Trock <u>500 Hours</u> Ed Finger
February 2020	Rich Bradley, Steve Jones, Darlene Varga	
March 2020	Don Bergquist, Edith Bergquist, Coco Brennan, Ron Butts, Joe Finneran, Laird Ingham, Jim Jameson, Deb Kyrouac, Dan Madden, Marilyn McFarland, Rhonda Neel, Sara Riggs, Jeanie Springer	
April 2020	Julie Crouch, John Davis, Jim Doyle, Jim McCullough, Rich Nielson, Cathy Oberkampf, Cheryl Trock	
May 2020 	Harry Ferrell, Jensie Madden	 <u>500 Hours</u> Steve Jones Cheryl Walthour
June 2020 	Mary Barr-Gilbert, Nancy Fitzpatrick, Brenda Stoeck	 <u>2,500 Hours</u> Julie Crouch <u>1,000 Hours</u> Melissa Skasik <u>250 Hours</u> Craig Dillon
July 2020	Judy Brupbacher, Sandra Carson, Earl Dittman, Ed Finger, Don Fletcher, Pat Fletcher, Nancy Hammack, Lori Largen, Valerie Lefebvre, Holly McCoy, Jane Miller, Evelyn Nielson, Melissa Skasik, Teresa Turko	<u>500 Hours</u> Don Epps <u>250 Hours</u> Pat Carnes
August 2020 	Pete Bryant, Marietta Diehl, Joel Dunnington, Marilyn Garrison, Gloria Glass, Gail Groves, Debbie Subke	<u>1,000 Hours</u> Nancy Fitzpatrick <u>500 Hours</u> Sandra Carson <u>250 Hours</u> Holly McCoy



Chapter Project: The Bird Blind, Butterfly Garden & Wildscape (BBW) at AgriLife

Photos by Brian Trock



Great job!

Lindheimer Chapter members have invested many hours, hard work and much sweat at our signature project, the Butterfly, Bird and Wildscape (BBW) gardens at AgriLife. Here are some pictures of the work in progress taming the weeds! The chapter thanks the following members for their work on the BBW: **Pam Dudley, Mary Barr Gilbert, Nancy Fitzpatrick, Heidi Case, Brenda Stoeck, Lois Ricci, Melinda McLeod, Lisa Smith, Brian Trock, Steve Jones, Ed Finger, Rick Corbell, Merrill Mabon, Anita (Salty) Brady, Vanessa Brown, Debbie Armijo, Susan Bogle, and Rich Nielson.**



3rd Quarter Chapter Meetings via ZOOM

July 2020



Texas Master Naturalist
Lindheimer Chapter



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20th Anniversary
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Monthly Meeting

When: Thursday, July 16, 2020 - 6:00 pm

Where: Zoom Meeting

Go to the Members Page <https://texas.com/naturalists/members-area/> on LMN Website to obtain the link to the meeting.

Who: Susan James, LMN Member

What: "Ferdinand Lindheimer, Father of Texas Botany"



Ferdinand Lindheimer (1801 - 1879) is known as the Father of Texas Botany, with over dozens of species and one genus bearing his name.

The Lindheimer House in New Braunfels is preserved as a public museum and operated by the New Braunfels Conservation Society. The house was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1970.



Photo of Lindheimer House by LMN member Tracy Blomquist

August 2020



Texas Master Naturalist
Lindheimer Chapter



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Monthly Meeting

When: Thursday, August 20, 2020 - 6:00 pm

Where: Webex Meeting Online

Who: Nathan Pence

What: Executive Manager of Environmental Science & Community Affairs Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority Plans for the Gorge and the Role of Lindheimer Chapter

This is a WEBEX meeting!

Go to the Members Page on LMN Website.
<https://texas.com/naturalists/members-area/>


You will need to log-in to our Members Area to obtain the password for the meeting.

Our speaker: Nathan Pence has more than 15 years in watershed management and planning with an accomplished record of collaborating with local officials and stakeholders. Prior to GEBA, Pence served as the Threatened and Endangered Species Executive Director for the Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA) in San Antonio, where he facilitated and managed the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan (EAHCP). Additionally, he's worked for the City of New Braunfels collaborating with local tourism officials and environmentalists to improve economic development opportunities, while protecting the integrity of the natural resources. Pence earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in Aquatic Biology from Texas State University. <http://www.eaa.org/about/management.aspx>




Photo of 19th century gorge view by LMN member Tracy Blomquist

September 2020



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Monthly Chapter Meeting

When: Thursday, September 17, 2020 - 5:45 pm


Who: Dr. Daniel Katz, Postdoctoral Fellow
Dell Medical School, University of Texas at Austin

What: "Regional Pollen Alert System"


Where: Online Via WEBEX

Members: Login to our Members Area for the link.
Non-Members: Email LindheimerMNCContact@gmail.com

Dr. Daniel Katz is a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Texas at Austin. His research focuses on understanding allergenic pollen and reducing its impact on human health. To do so, he quantifies pollen production and flowering phenology; scales from individual plants to landscapes with remote sensing measures and models airborne pollen concentrations over space and time, and analyzes the effects of pollen exposure on human health. His current project is modeling airborne *Juncus roemerianus* pollen in Texas.




Check out Pollen Trackers: <https://rvcv.org/06/PollenTrackers>




Dr. Katz will talk with our group about a regional pollen alert system he wants to establish to predict cedar fever outbreaks. And...he's hoping the LMN members will become citizen scientists on behalf of the Alert System!

Learn more about Dr. Katz & his research on his website:
<https://rvcv.org/danielbrkatz.com/>

Coming in October!



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Monthly Chapter Meeting


When: Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 6 pm

Who: Annalisa Peace, Executive Director
Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance

What: Honey Creek Development Issues

Where: Online Via WEBEX


Members: Login to our Members Area for the link.
Non-Members: Email LindheimerMNCContact@gmail.com



"Annalisa Peace holds an MS in Urban Administration from Trinity University and has over thirty years' experience working with government and non-profit organizations in a variety of capacities. Since 2004, Ms. Peace has been the Executive Director of the Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance, which unites 52 organizations throughout a 21county region in Central and South Texas behind a plan to protect the Edwards and Trinity aquifers, their contributing watersheds, and the Texas Hill Country."

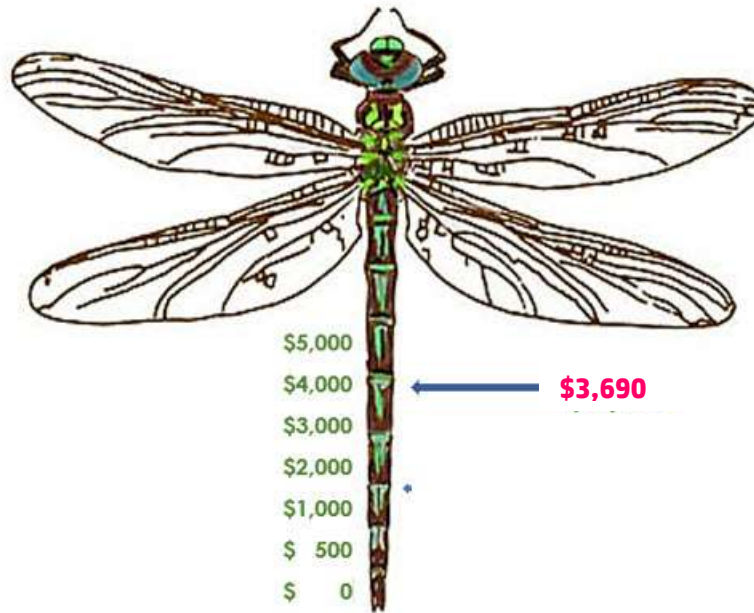
<https://aquiferalliance.org/geaa-staff/>

Annalisa will be speaking on issues surrounding the development of Honey Creek and why that's important to the Lindheimer Chapter.



Results of the Big Give Fundraiser September 10, 2020

Lindheimer Chapter Big Give 2020
Goal = \$5,000



When we decided to participate in the Big Give 2020 in August 2019, no one knew that a pandemic was on its way. The Big Give was postponed for 5 months from April to September 10.

A total of **\$3,690** was donated either offline or through the website. Donations were accepted up to September 13 and we received 2 or 3 donations after the 10th. The fee of \$200.00 was also donated. There were two challenge matches: Board of Directors - goal met; and the McFarland Family Fund - goal exceeded. Our donors agreed to pay the card fees so that meant we received approximately \$190.00 that otherwise would have gone to pay those fees. There were 55 donors: 43 members and 12 non-members. As of 9/27/20, all donations have been paid out.



Many thanks to our generous donors!

Big Give 2020 Committee

Marilyn McFarland, Susan Bogle, Jane Schnell, Rich Nielson

Texas Waters Specialist Certification in 2020

TO: LMN Members
FROM: Marilyn J McFarland
RE: Certification as a Texas Waters Specialist in 2020
DATE: July 1, 2020

Hopefully, the next 'in-person' Texas Waters Specialist Class will be in early 2021. For now, however, modifications to obtaining TWS certification AT hours is offered by state in 2020. To obtain the 8 hours of AT needed to certify:

- **Required: Read the Texas Waters Curriculum and take the chapter quizzes (must pass with 100%, can be taken more than once)**
- Attend the live waters webinars
- Previously recorded webinars can be viewed independently; small group discussion through virtual platforms highly encouraged (currently, LMN chapter does not offer this option).

The Texas Waters Curriculum is online. Here are the links to the program:

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/education/water-education/texaswatersprogram/texaswatersspecialist>

If you are going to certify, please let us know so that the Texas Waters AT category is added to your VMS profile. Email me at

LindheimerMNContact@gmail.com.

Use this email if you have any questions or need clarification.

Remember, if you have already certified as a Texas Waters Specialist, you don't need any more Texas Waters AT, just 10 hours volunteer service annually in water related activities (part of your 40 hours).





Electronic Lindheimer

Social & Online Media

Check us out on the internet, Amazon Smile, Facebook and Pinterest. Place your cursor on the hyperlink, then press your ctrl button and click to follow the link. Designate us as your charity under Amazon Smile.

Website: <https://txmn.org/lindheimer>

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/txmn.lindheimer>

Amazon Smile: <https://smile.amazon.com/> - Designate Lindheimer Chapter

Sign Up Genius Links

Sign Up Genius for BBW: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0C4FA9AA28ABF58-bbwahbg1>

Contributing to Citizen Science: iNaturalist.org



Photo of a Variegated Fritillary
by Joel Dunnington

“Citizen Science” is the participation of non-scientists in scientific research. As naturalists, many of us already participate in citizen science projects that contribute to the body of scientific knowledge about plants, animals & insects: butterfly surveys, bird counts, plant identification. And we take pictures – LOTS of pictures! Each picture is an observation and represents an opportunity to increase the scientific knowledge of what, where & when. One of the largest citizen science projects is **iNaturalist**, a world-wide, on-line database of observations provided by citizen scientists like Master Naturalists.

From www.inaturalist.org: “If enough people recorded their observations, it would be like a living record of life on Earth that scientists and land managers could use to monitor changes in biodiversity, and that *anyone* could use to learn more about nature.” Here are the numbers! Take a look at Comal County!

How to get started? Go to www.inaturalist.org and sign up!

Location	Observations as of 9/30/2020	Species	Observers
World	51,015,632	298,124	1,340,262
Texas	3,641,595	22,373	78,095
Comal County	38,256	3,401	2,460

Bugs, Bugs, Bugs!

Photos by LMN Members



Top: Joel Dunnington, Sandra Miller
Middle: Nancy Hammack, Joyce Doyle,
Judy Brupbacher,
Bottom: Cyndi DeWitt, Darlene Varga

