

The Lindheimer Quarterly Newsletter 2nd Quarter 2021



The Free-tailed Bats Class Crescent Bend Field Trip

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Page
- 2 Susan Bogle 15,000 Hrs
 - 3 Chapter Information
 - 4 Community Science
 - 5 Fast Info
 - 6 2021 Recertifications & Milestones
 - 7 Progress at the BBW
 - 8 Bracken Preserve BioBlitz
 - 9 2021 Meetings

From the Editor

Our meeting on July 15th will be hybrid – in person as well as via WebEx so that you can choose according to your level of safety required. Bringing food is still a no – but hopefully soon! Sign up here if you are attending in person:

[Lindheimer Master Naturalist: Monthly Meeting in person at TPML and via WEBEX \(signupgenius.com\)](#)

The Big Give is September 24th – your chance to donate to the chapter so we can continue our good works!

Lindheimer Chapter Member Susan Bogle Reaches 15,000 Volunteer Hours!



Certified as a Texas Master Naturalist in 2004, Susan Bogle states: "I became a Master Naturalist because of my love of nature and wanting to serve my community.



Being a Master Naturalist reinforced my view of how and

nature is intricately intertwined

symbiotically related." Over the last 17 years, Susan has volunteered at Tye Preston Memorial Library, Guadalupe River State Park, Cibolo Nature Center,

"You can make a difference -
get involved -
never stop learning!"
Susan Bogle

Guadalupe River Trail - South, Friesenhahn Cave, Fischer Park, Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation, Corps of Engineers, Canyon Lake Gorge, Various bird, insect & plant surveys, PAL, Comal Trails Alliance, Bracken Cave, AgriLife

gardens, Folkfest, Science Fairs, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, LMN Speakers Bureau, and the Mesquite Creek Wildlife Area. The butterfly garden at Tye Preston Memorial Library is named after Susan. When asked what she would like to tell the next generation, Susan said: "You can make a difference - get involved - Never stop learning." As of July, Susan has 17,000 hours! She is starting a new project for WORD at Canyon Park called the Madrone Trail Pollinator Garden. Susan is an inspiring role model to both current and future generations of Texas Master Naturalists.

Congratulations to Susan on her outstanding accomplishment!



Chapter Information Page



2021 CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Rich Nielson
VICE PRESIDENT	Michael Buley
SECRETARY	Rob Kyrouac
TREASURER	Stephen Jones



COMMITTEES

Standing Committees

Education - Joe Finneran, Rick Corbell, Erin Harrison, Jack Sullivan

Membership & Records – Cheryl Trock

Outreach – Debbie Kyrouac, Jane Schnell

Projects & Opportunities - Jeanie Springer

Subcommittees

Trunks – Deb Kyrouac, Jane Schnell
 Program to Assist Landowners – Art Williams
 Community Recognition (VP) – Michael Buley
 Hospitality – N/A (COVID-19)
 New Class – President, Lynn Jones
 Photographer, Cal Jordan

Ad Hoc Committees

Big Give SA – MJ McFarland, Jane Schnell



COMMUNICATIONS

Director – MJ McFarland
Out & About – Sara Riggs

CHAPTER ADVISORS

Craig Hensley, Texas Parks & Wildlife, Wildlife Tracker
Troy Luepke, Texas A&M AgriLife, Comal County Agent

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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c/o Comal County AgriLife
325 Resource Dr.
New Braunfels, TX 78132



2021 MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETINGS

January 21
Rangelands Trends with Dr. Barron Rector

February 18
“Snakes of Texas” with Brett Parker

March 18
“Central Texas Cave Life” with Colin Strickland

April 15
“Ecology & Ecological Concepts” with John Hannon

May 20
“Toxic Plants” with Dr. Barron Rector

June 17
Anatomy of a Butterfly Survey with Craig Hensley

July 15
“Rock Art” with Jim Sievers

August 19
TBA

September 16
TBA

October 21
TBA

November 18
TBA

December 16
Elections & Graduation



2021 Board of Directors Meetings
Every 4th Monday at 5:00 PM
During COVID-19, meetings are via WEBEX

AgriLife Building
325 Resource Dr.
New Braunfels, Texas

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



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

Contributing to Community Science: iNaturalist.org



"Community Science" (formerly "Citizen" Science) is the participation of non-scientists in scientific research. As naturalists, many of us already participate in community 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 community science

projects is iNaturalist, a world-wide, on-line database of observations provided by community scientists like Master Naturalists.

"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." How to get started? Go to www.inaturalist.org and sign up! Here are the numbers as of 7/4/2021. Take a look at Comal County!!!

Location	Observations	Species	Observers
World	71,729,380	338,853	1,727,442
Texas	4,824,000	23,434	96,838
Comal County	61,431	3,937	3,153



Electronic Lindheimer

Website: www://txmn.org/lindheimer/

Here's what's available on our website!



Welcome! ▾ Chapter Info ▾ Out & About Calendar Newsletters Members ▾ Texas Waters 2021 Class – Free-tailed Bats 🔍

Chapter Project – The BBW at AgriLife Projects & Opportunities Program to Assist Landowners Donate Chapter Meetings

Social Media – Facebook: www://facebook.com/txmn.lindheimer

Amazon Smile: Painless donation!

Shop Amazon Smile & designate "Lindheimer Chapter" – we'll get money!

www://smile.amazon.com/ – Designate Lindheimer Chapter

Fast Info! By MJ McFarland



Red-eyed Devil: LMN member Jeanie Springer submitted this great picture of a *Neobarrettia spinosa*, also known as greater arid-land katydid, red eyed katydid (or red eyed devil), giant Texas katydid. *Neobarrettia* is a cricket of the katydid family, Tettigoniidae, that is native to west-southern United States and northern Mexico. What you need to know about this red-eyed devil is that it is a carnivorous insect, hunting grasshoppers, other katydids, caterpillars, small frogs, lizards, and any other small animal it can overpower. YIKES! This katydid defends with a

powerful bite and a nasty rear kick. Yes, it will bite humans. Admire from afar!




Eastern Coachwhip: Many thanks to LMN member Don Bergquist for this great photo of *Masticophis flagellum flagellum*, the Eastern Coachwhip, taken during the recent Bracken BioBlitz, and demonstrating one of the coachwhip's well known behaviors – “periscoping.” Coachwhips are found throughout Texas. Here in the Hill Country, we usually see the Eastern Coachwhip, a non-venomous, long, slender, colubrid snake with a narrow head and large round eyes. It is a diurnal hunter. As many of us learned as kids, the coachwhip is wicked fast, hard to catch, notoriously cranky and will bite several times in quick succession in order to persuade you to let it go. The other characteristic that coachwhips are known for is “periscoping” (as in this photo). They will rise up to one third of their body length to survey the terrain for items on their lunch menu such as lizards, other snakes, bunnies and birds. They can often be found in trees – either hunting birds or escaping predators. They are active March to November & mate in the spring. The female will deposit a clutch of about 10 eggs, which hatch in 6 – 10 weeks. The babies are about 10 – 12 inches long and look very different than the adults. Coachwhips can grow to about 8 feet long. Supposedly, they get their name “coachwhip” from their pattern which looks like a braided whip.



2021 Recertifications and Milestone Awards

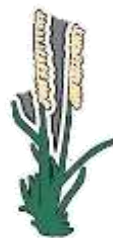
2021 Recertification Pin – Sideoats Grama



Month	Recertifications - 2021 Sideoats Grama Pin	Milestones
Dec-20	Bob Gray, Janet Hahn, Nancy Gray, Allison Sciarffa, Cynthia DeWitt, Jack Oliver, Jack Sullivan, Teresa St. John, Ron Stoeck, Lynn Boyd, Marie Miller 	250 Hours Cynthia DeWitt 500 Hours Harry Ferrell
Jan-21	Susan Bogle, Brian Trock, Marilyn McFarland, Darlene Varga, Edith Bergquist, Don Berquist, Lois Ricci, Sara Riggs	500 Hours Pat Fletcher
Feb-21	Jane Miller, Jeanie Springer, Cheryl Trock 	250 Hours Rob Kyrouac, Christy Martinez 2,500 Hours James Jameson
Mar-21 	Joe Finneran, Jim Jameson, Steve Jones, Deb Kyrouac, Cathy Oberkampff, Teresa Turko	250 Hours: Kathy Ofsdahl 4,000 Hours: Darlene Varga
Apr-21	Mary Barr-Gilbert, Rich Bradley, John Davis, Craig Dillion, Jane Finneran, Erin Harrison, Sue Huntsman, Laird Ingham, Rob Kyrouac, Valerie Lefebvre, Rhonda Neel, Rich Nielson, Susan Sommer	500 Hours: Jane Finneran 5,000 Hours Brian Trock
May-21	Ron Butts, Heidi Case, Pat Fletcher, Gail Groves, Carol Ingham, Lori Largen, Merril Mabon, Dan Madden, Jensie Madden, Christy Martinez, Patricia Porterfield, Stephen Verschoyle, Mary Williams	250 Hours Merril Mabon, Susan Sommer, Erin Harrison, Teresa Tyler 500 HOURS Craig Dillion

Sideoats Grama – 2021 Pin Texas Master Naturalist Program™ Official State Grass of Texas

Sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*) is a native species of prairie grass found on rocky hillsides and dry, open grassland. "Side-oats" refers to the small oat-like seeds that hang down uniformly on one side of the seed stem. Sideoats grama prairie grass is a nutritious food for foraging wildlife and livestock. The bright purple and orange flowers of sideoats grama give it a special grace and beauty. [Texas State Grass | Sideoats Grama \(statesymbolsusa.org\)](http://statesymbolsusa.org)



Progress at the BBW - Lookin' Good!



Members are hard at work at the Bird Blind, Butterfly Garden & Wildscape (BBW). Photos by LMN member Brian Trock.



If you would like to volunteer at the BBW, contact Rich at 512-653-3356. See more info at [Chapter Project - The BBW \(txmn.org\)](http://Chapter Project - The BBW (txmn.org))

Bracken Bat Preserve BioBlitz 2021

by Edith Bergquist

Bracken Bat Preserve sponsored a BioBlitz for the 2021 City Nature Challenge April 30 through May 3. This is the third year Bat Conservation International has participated. There was a great turnout despite one rainout day.

This year we had 2039 final observations and 422 species. BCI gave prizes for the top observations and the top species numbers.

Top Observers	# Observations	Top Species Identifier	# Species
Brian Trock	213	Brian Trock	90
Heidi Forgione	132	Heidi Forgione	69
Darlene Varga	91	Cyndie Segovia (AAMN)	68
Cyndie Segovia (AAMN)	84	Darlene Varga	57
Rhonda Neel	79	Rhonda Neel	47



In the Lindheimer Chapter Master Naturalists-in-Training, the "Free-tailed Bats" the winners were: Jon Killam with 72 observations and Lynn Jones had 46 species.

Congratulations to the winners! We are looking forward to 2022.

BioBlitz Photos



2021 Chapter Meetings

April 15, 2021

Lindheimer Chapter Texas Master Naturalist Program™

Monthly Chapter Meeting
When: Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 6:00 pm
Who: Craig Hensley, Texas Nature Trackers Biologist, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
What: "iNaturalist and City Nature Challenge Master Class"
Where: Online via WEBEX
Members: Login to our Members Area for the Link (you'll need the chapter password)
 Non-members: Email LindheimerMNCcontact@gmail.com



Join Texas Nature Trackers Biologist Craig Hensley for an advanced look at iNaturalist and learn how your involvement can help conservation in Texas.

You'll also learn about the upcoming City Nature Challenge and how you can participate in the San Antonio metro effort during this 4-day global event!





May 20, 2021

Lindheimer Chapter Texas Master Naturalist™

Monthly Chapter Meeting
When: Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 6 pm
Who: Barron Rector, PhD
What: Toxic Plants
Where: Online via WEBEX
Members: Login to our Members Area for the Link
Non-members: Email LindheimerMNCcontact@gmail.com

Do you know what plants are toxic to you, your pets, your livestock? No? If you'd like to find out - you're in luck! Join us on Thursday, May 20 for an expert on toxic plants!



Dr. Barron Rector
 Associate Professor and Extension Range Specialist,
 Ecosystem Science and Management Department
 Texas AgLife Extension Service,
 Texas A&M University, College Station.

Dr. Rector is recognized nationally and internationally for his plant identification skills, training workshops which include discussing poisonous plant issues, exotic, noxious weed management and plant materials important to agriculture and urban interests in native plants. He is also the recipient of many awards in recognition of his work.

Dr. Rector has served as a member or advisor of the Texas Master Naturalist Statewide Committee for the past twenty-one years, and received the "Texas A&M Vice-Chancellor's Award of Excellence" in 2002 for work on the Texas Master Naturalist statewide program. He serves as a trainer for Texas Master Naturalist volunteers statewide and is commonly called on to teach about ecology and ecosystems, vegetation areas of Texas, plant identification, rangeland ecology and management, brush and weed management, invasive plants, impacts of humans, "What is a Naturalist?", the water cycle and management and others. Join us!

June 17, 2021

Lindheimer Chapter Texas Master Naturalist Program™

Monthly Chapter Meeting
When: Thursday, June 17, 2021 at 6:00 pm
Who: Craig Hensley, Texas Nature Trackers Biologist, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
What: "Anatomy of a Butterfly Survey"
Where: Online via WEBEX
Members: Login to our Members Area for the Link (you'll need the chapter password)
 Non-members: Email LindheimerMNCcontact@gmail.com



Join Texas Nature Trackers Biologist Craig Hensley to learn about Butterfly Surveys!

From Craig: The use of butterfly surveys for conservation has been on-going in many parts of the world for some time, including the North America Butterfly Association's annual 4th of July Count. Documenting butterfly abundance over time can help determine population trends - positive and negative, distribution of species, including changes associated with climate change, and ultimately help determine conservation strategies for them. Different techniques are used to survey butterflies from formal projects to general surveys, and bring together people of all experience levels and experience in their identifications. This in-depth presentation will reveal how these surveys are being used for conservation of individual species to butterflies overall. If you have not yet become involved in on-going butterfly surveys, this presentation will, we hope, inspire you to become involved in on-going local community science opportunities, from that at Guadalupe River State Park and Bucken Cave Preserve, or simply documenting what species are visiting your yard or property using iNaturalist.



Coming July 15

Lindheimer Chapter Texas Master Naturalist Program™

Monthly Chapter Meeting
July 15, 2021 at 5:30 pm
"The First Texas Artists: Art & Archaeology in the Lower Pecos Canyonlands" with Jim Sievers

In person: Tye Preston Memorial Library
For purposes of planning, please sign up to attend the meeting in person via Sign-Up Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10A0C81A5A6A2DAB1E3D-meeting>
 There will be no snacks at the meeting.

WEBEX: Members: login to our Members Area for the Webex Link
 Non-members: Email LindheimerMNCcontact@gmail.com

Jim Sievers has been a student of ancient cultures for more than 50 years. During those years he has participated in both dirt and research archaeology. He has spent many years in mesoamerica with most of that time attached to the ancient Maya culture. His dirt archaeological efforts have been centered in central, southern and southwest Texas along with southwest Colorado. Jim has guided groups of people to the rock shelters in the Lower Pecos Canyonlands for twenty-three years, discussing the world class rock art and the ancient archaeological evidence left behind by the Lower Pecos People.



Photo of Fave Red Shelter photography by M. McFarland