



# LONGLEAF RIDGE NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2020

## Longleaf Ridge Master Naturalists in action.

Adopt a Highway FM 2799

Big Thicket first Sunday hike



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### FEBRUARY:

Great Backyard Bird Count  
Friday February 14- Monday February 17.

Guided canoe trip to Eagle nesting site Saturday  
February 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 to noon MDJSP

Guided hike to Eagle nesting site Saturday  
February 15<sup>th</sup> at 2p-3pm MDJSP

Guided hike- Trail Between the Lakes  
Sunday February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2pm to 4:30 pm





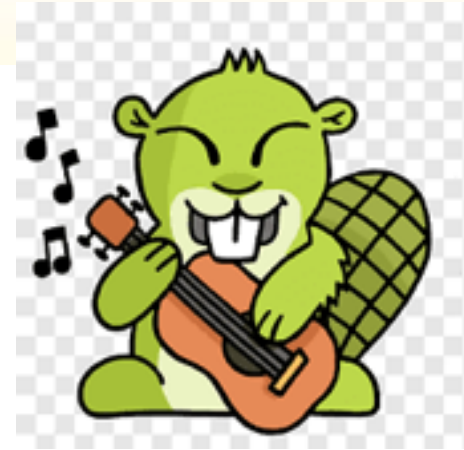
# Longleaf Ridge Master Naturalist Photo Gallery





Congratulations Pinecones!!

Julia McCormick –Certification pin  
Phillip Hight- 250 hour service milestone pin



Chapter Officers:

**President**

Sharon Lamoreaux

sherlmx@gmail.com

**Vice President**

Richard Peters

bethshebaherps@yahoo.com

**Secretary**

Brenda Marshall

brendamarshall50@yahoo.com

**Treasurer**

Joanie Kuchanek

4joanie@gmail.com

**Advisor**

Rock Fry

bafry@ag.tamu.edu



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LRMN Plant of the month- POSSUMHAW

*Ilex decidua* Aquifoliaceae

Possumhaw is a large shrub or small tree frequently encountered in or near seasonally wet areas in Central and East Texas. Fairly nondescript in summer, female plants with their red, orange, or yellow fruit can become a blaze of color in the fall and winter landscape. It is the widest ranging of all Texas hollies and can adapt to a wide range of soil conditions. It can be grown in shade, but it fruits best in partial shade to full sun. Females need a male pollinator for good fruit set.



## LRMN: WORDS OF THE MONTH

### **Shivelight and shadowtackle**

Coined by the poet Gerald Manley Hopkins, shivelight and shadowtackle both describe the fast-changing shafts of light and shade that fall on a forest floor on a bright, windy day.

### **Smeuse**

The Sussex dialect gives us the fantastically specific ‘smeuse’: a hole in a hedge created by small animals frequently scampering through it. More than 20 species of mammal criss-cross our hedgerows, including hedgehogs, mice, stoats and rabbits, so it shouldn’t be hard to spot a smeuse or two.

### **Gussock**

An East Anglian word for a sudden, powerful rush of wind: “That gussock just took my hat off.”



## LRMN – Committee Chairs

Siecke Signage- Laura Clark  
[lauralucillemorgan@yahoo.com](mailto:lauralucillemorgan@yahoo.com)

Farmer's Market Booth -Richard  
Peters [bethshebaherps@yahoo.com](mailto:bethshebaherps@yahoo.com)

Fall Festival Booth- Don Fralick  
[fralickdonald@gmail.com](mailto:fralickdonald@gmail.com)

Newsletter- Lori Horne  
[lori.horne1965@gmail.com](mailto:lori.horne1965@gmail.com)

Longleaf Ridge Master Naturalists web sites-  
<https://txmn.org/llr/> Longleaf Ridge Master  
Naturalists

FaceBook-[https://www.facebook.com/  
LongleafRidgeMasterNaturalists/](https://www.facebook.com/LongleafRidgeMasterNaturalists/)

Martin Dies Jr. State Park events -[https://  
tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/martin-dies-jr/  
park\\_events](https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/martin-dies-jr/park_events)

Watson Preserve <http://watsonpreserve.ning.com>

Big Thicket National Preserve [https://  
www.nps.gov/bith/index.htm](https://www.nps.gov/bith/index.htm)