

Rolling Plains Chapter, Texas Master Naturalist

Monthly Meeting

March 1, 2022

7 p.m. Bolin Science Hall, Room 209, MSU and via Zoom

The meeting was called to order by President Laura Gillis at 7:00 p.m. The meeting agenda, previous month's meeting minutes, and financial reports were presented to the members via email before the meeting.

Welcome Guests & Introduction

Richard Brown, Astronomer (program)
3Rivers Foundation

Larry Snyder, Quail Study
State of the project report

Members attending: L Clepper, Lynn Seman, Laura Gillis, Jim Masuoka, Tiffany Herring, Carl Brown, Larry Snyder, Judy Snyder, Debra Halter, Terry McKee, Joy Parsons, Alex Nelson, Linda Price, Judy Maness, Sue King, Warren King, Sandy Underwood.

Via Zoom: Allen Brajer Becky Trammell DeAnna Bullock Deborah Haralson, Glenna Pickens, Jane McGough, Lisa Taylor, Paula Savage, Penny Miller, Sandy Underwood Sharon Hyde, and Ray Hyde.

Meeting Minutes & Financial Report

February meeting minutes were presented and accepted unanimously.
The financial report was presented and accepted unanimously.

Old Business

T-shirts–TNM state office provided a special 20th Anniversary logo design. Send orders to RPC email account or deanna@dfwentworkign.com.

Home and Garden Show: February 26-27, 2022, at MPEC. The H & G show helped RPC recruit more trainees for the 2022 class. The hikes were well-received with 7 hikers on Sunday's hike.

New Business

New certifications: Congratulations to Judy Maness

Training Class: Training for Class 2022 starts March 3, 2022, in Bolin Hall at MSU. Twelve trainees are signed up.

Backyard Bird Count–Report: The Backyard Bird Count February 2022. Multiple members participated by viewing in their backyards, while others went into parks to count populations and species. Overall the bird numbers were lower than this time last year.

City Nature Challenge–April 29-May 2nd: Look for the link to sign up for the project. Members participating will need to sign up with the CNC Eventbright.

New Project Opportunity

Bluebird boxes at Lake Arrowhead State Park

L Clepper presented the bluebird box project to the chapter. There are multiple bluebird boxes in disrepair that need to be replaced. L also wants to install additional boxes on the trails. The group discussed how to accomplish the project. The project will be done in phases: 1st repair/replace bird boxes; 2nd map locations with GPS; 3rd monitor and collect data on bird populations.

Reminders

Dues are due: \$15 for individuals; \$25 for couples. For payment, see Lynn Seman.

Volunteer and Advanced Training Hours: Record all hours ASAP. Check the chapter calendar for upcoming opportunities.

Check Chapter Calendar for new training and volunteer opportunities.

Hikes: Next Hike March 26 @ 9 am in Archer City.

Partner Updates & Reports

River Bend Nature Center—Volunteers needed; contact Lynn Seman to sign up or for more info. March 19 at 1:00pm to 2:pm. For Public Outreach program about native plants. Need speakers for 10-15 minutes talking about the importance of native plants. Other volunteers needed to help with activities, including planting a native plant, preparing plants to be taken home, or using a microscope to view plant parts. Volunteers are needed for various STEM programs with school groups.

Midwestern State University—

Whiteside Museum—The museum is ready for volunteers. Teacher training digs are open for members to attend, but you must sign up.

Comanche Springs—

Lake Arrowhead State Park—March 12, 2022— A Day in the Park

8 am bird outing

2 pm trash pickup

8:30 pm night hike with Ranger L

Copper Breaks State Park—

Wild Bird Rescue—looking for volunteers before baby bird season.

March 6 @ 2 pm, Clean up at WBR

Other opportunities of interest

Native Plant Society of TX is hosting a day of seminars.

March 5 @ 9 am to 3:30, Not all apply to the RPC area; 4 hours have been approved for Chapter Advanced Training. \$30 to register for non-members.

Kid Fishing Rodeo at Plum Lake

March 5 @ 10 am to 12 pm

Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center presents

Collecting and Processing Seeds for Native plants

Online class

March 19 @ 10 am to 12 pm

\$20 (TMNs get a discount with code: TXMN22)

Invasive Worm Seminar

March 16 via Zoom

Watch for chapter email for more details.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DeAnna Bullock

Secretary

Next meeting: April 5, 2022, MSU Bolin Science Hall or on Zoom. Program: "Transitions of the Rolling Plains Ecoregion Over Time" by Kimberlee Howell, Texas Forest Service.

Volunteer/Advanced training for this meeting:

1 hr AT for presentation

.75 hrs for chapter administration