



THE HAYS HUMM

Newsletter of the Hays County Chapter
Texas Master Naturalist

AUGUST 2018



Tom Jones & Betsy Cross

Newsletter Team





MEET YOUR MASTER NATURALISTS

Larry Calvert



About Myself: I was born and raised in Waukegan, IL. After graduating from Mississippi State University in Engineering, I spent my entire career at Union Carbide Corp. with assignments in all aspects of the business. I am married to Linda; we have one daughter, Lindsay (2011 Painted Buntings) and two granddaughters. We bought our current property in 1995 and moved to Wimberley in 2005. Knowing little about Hill Country land, we became Master Naturalists (2006 Falcons) so we could take care of our property. I loved the training, and since have been Training Committee co-coordinator, President, Past President, and Treasurer (since 2008). I love being involved in all aspects of HCMN!

You May Not Know: In 1980 we were on a family vacation headed to Olympia, WA, and Mt St. Helen erupted just before we arrived in Oregon. We drove in volcanic ash from Portland to Olympia. It was a very eerie and fascinating experience.

Favorite MN Activity: Applying water management techniques and educating others on how to optimize the collection/use of this precious element.

Bird I Identify With: Canyon Wren because they sound so happy and are so gregarious. I think they really enjoy life.

Melinda Seib



About Myself: I am a Texas transplant, an artist by education and trade, who now turns my powers of observation to the natural world. Ten years into Master Naturalists have set me on a new course of endeavor: "Project Wild Facilitator": training students as well as their teachers or other educators. HCMN class of 2009 "Dire Wolf"

What You May Not Know: I volunteer for a variety of nature oriented projects: Audubon Society, National Wildlife Federation, Nature Conservancy, and Texas Parks & Wildlife: whatever connects children to nature.

Favorite Master Naturalist Activity: Jacob Well Interpretive Guide educating families to appreciate our natural world.

CHAPTER NEWS

CHAPTER BOARD

President – Anne Child
Vice President - Mary O’Hara
Secretary - Tracy Mock
Treasurer - Larry Calvert
Past President - Beth Ramey
State Representative and Volunteer
Projects Coordinator - Dixie Camp
TPWD Advisor - Gordon Linam
Training Coordinator – Mark Wojcik
Advanced Training - Beverly Gordon
Calendar - Beverly Gordon
Historian – Dana Martensen
Webmaster and Membership Chair -
Jane Dunham
Outreach & Marketing - Art Arizpe
Outreach Events - Roxana Donegan
Host Committee - Mary Dow Ross
Newsletter– Tom Jones, Betsy Cross
Willett Project - Candy Spitzer
Agrilife Sponsor- Jason Mangold

MN BOARD MEETING

Thursday August 9, 6:30pm – 8:30pm
Where: Agri-Life Extension office
200 Stillwater Drive Wimberley, TX 78676.

CHAPTER MEETING

No Chapter Meeting – See Summer Reunion

SUMMER REUNION

August 11
10:00 am - 1:15 pm
Dripping Springs Ranch Park
See Page 12 for all the details

ADVANCED TRAINING CALENDAR

Click the link below for more opportunities
<http://haysmn.org/calendar-at.html>

PROJECT CALENDAR–

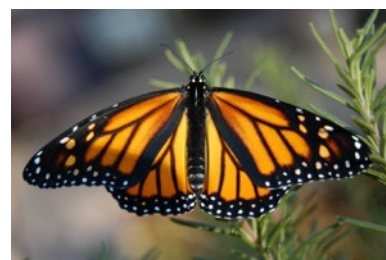
<http://www.haysmn.org/calendar-projects.html>



Nashville Warbler

THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR PHOTOS!

Randy Brudnicki
Larry Calvert
Betsy Cross
Kenneth Dees
Eva Frost
Tom Jones
Melinda Seib
Hope Shimek



Monarch Workshop "Train The Trainer"

Zilker Botanical Gardens - Austin, TX

Article and photos by Tom Jones & Betsy Cross

Your Newsletter team of Tom Jones and Betsy Cross attended a Monarch Workshop to qualify as a monarch butterfly trainer team. The 6-hour training session was presented on June 29 at Zilker Botanical Gardens in Austin. It was a full house with over 50 participants attending from cities throughout Central Texas and even from Houston. The workshop taught us how to acquire the necessary skills to become a knowledgeable speaker on monarch butterfly topics.

Tom –“I signed up to improve my understanding on monarch butterflies and learn how to educate others. My goal was to leave the course with the knowledge to engage others to take action on behalf of the monarch butterfly.”

Betsy - “I’ve been interested in Monarchs since my childhood. One of my fondest memories growing up in rural north Texas was the day a ‘kaleidoscope’ of Monarch butterflies migrated through our yard. It was over a decade later before we understood where these migrating butterflies were headed, and I’ve never seen such a thing since that one October afternoon. This workshop, the presenters, and the shared collateral were exceptional. I left the training inspired and invigorated!”

The Monarch Workshop educated us on the following topics.

- Monarch anatomy, biology, life cycle and migration.
- Monarch threats: parasites, disease, land use, and pesticides, among others.
- Milkweed ecology, nectar plants, and monarch way stations.
- Outreach tools and materials, agencies and conservation groups involved in monarch conservation activities.
- Citizen Science, communication skills, interpretation, and role-play.
- How to recruit for and structure a successful workshop/presentation.



Tom Jones & Betsy Cross

MEET THE MONARCH WORKSHOP TRAINING TEAM



Mike Quinn

Entomologist, Ornithologist,
Botanist, Photographer,

- The Hill Country is on the central flyway for Monarchs.
- Caterpillars are eating machines.
- Not all Caterpillars become adults
- Monarchs gain weight as they migrate South



Cathy Downs

Monarch Watch Conservation
Specialist

- Monarchs are threatened by:
- Habitat loss.
 - Agricultural practices.
 - Pesticides
 - Introduced Species

Herbicide tolerant crops effectively cause habitat loss.



Rebeca Quinonez

Monarch Outreach Coordinator at
National Wildlife Federation

The Monarch wintering areas in Mexico are getting smaller due to the domestic demand for wood. And the demand for wood remains high.

Forest loss = habitat loss.



Katie Boyer

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Southwest
Region's Monarch Outreach Specialist

- The Monarch road to recovery is with cooperation between Mexico-USA-Canada.
- Much work is needed to increase the population of Monarchs.
- Protecting trees is a priority.
- Higher quality acres=more Monarchs.



Craig Hensley

TPWD biologist and State Park Interpreter at
Guadalupe River State Park in Comal County

Milkweed Ecology

Milkweed is "A flower like no other".

- 125 species of Milkweed in North America.
- 64 Species in Texas
- 21 Species in the Hill Country.
- Milkweed flowers from March to Dec.

"Interpretation is revelation based upon information" Freeman Tilden

BETSY CROSS GALLERY
Buttonbush Photos



We are nearing the end of the nesting season at Jacobs Well. Sadly a few weeks ago, I had to remove five bluebird eggs from Box 1 because they had substantially exceeded their incubation time. Several of the eggs were visibly cracked, pecked on perhaps by some unwelcome invader and rendered unviable. I am skeptical if there will be any further nesting activity this year.

As I drive around the corner toward the Nature Center, there in the parking area are eight (8) white-tail bucks! They are a sight to see, each one sporting a full set of velvet-covered antlers. Quickly, but in an orderly fashion, they slip through the fence, walk up the road in single file, and disappear into the woods. Though I am predicting a bit of a ho-hum day of bird box inspections, Nature has a way of surprising me when I least expect it.



I see a male bluebird flutter to the ground in the open grassland between the parking lot and the Nature Center. Then in a flash of blue, he lands on the rain gutter. I finish lacing up my boots, fumble with my camera, and attempt to take a photograph, but too late, the bird has flown to the top of a tree and I cannot locate it in the viewfinder.

Box 4 resides in the middle of the grassy area. It is my first stop. The box has been empty since mid-May when I removed a used Titmouse nest. I notice right away the dry grass leaves sticking out of the bottom of the box. When I open it, inside is a full nest and two bluebird eggs! An adult bluebird arrives in the tree

above me and begins to chatter. I take a documentation photo of the eggs and close the box.

When I move away, the male bluebird drops out of the tree and onto the box as if to give me notice - this is his territory!

A week later, the female bluebird is tending the nest, which now contains four eggs. In my estimation, the eggs could hatch anytime between July 14-22. I hope that the eggs and the chicks inside will survive the intense heat of summer.

It has been shown that heat shields installed on nest boxes lower the interior temperature, thereby increasing the survivability of summer nestlings. At the end of this season, I plan to apply white heat shields to the outside of these boxes.

On July 14, the four blue eggs have been incubating for approximately 11 days. But the parents do not appear to be in the area. I wonder if they have abandoned this nest. Disappointed, I continue my



walk to Box 3 and then head toward “The Well”. When I arrive early enough in the morning, I can observe the riparian ecosystem and watch the behaviors of its various inhabitants without interruption. If I’m lucky, I may see or hear the Green Heron again – “kuk-kuk-kuk”.

I approach the creek bed slowly, taking care not to crunch the gravel under my boots. I turn toward the water and stare up and down its banks for a long time. I avoid making any quick movements or sounds. I am patient and stand still as a statue, but there is no kuk-kuk-kuk, no motion except a dragonfly dipping into the water and a small swirl of tiny fish at the surface, nothing more. And then I sense a new presence. I turn slowly toward the dry side of the creek bed.



About 15 feet away, in the center of the white rocks, is a fox. We look at each other calmly. I wonder how long she’s been watching me. I raise my camera and click the button a few times. She seems undisturbed.

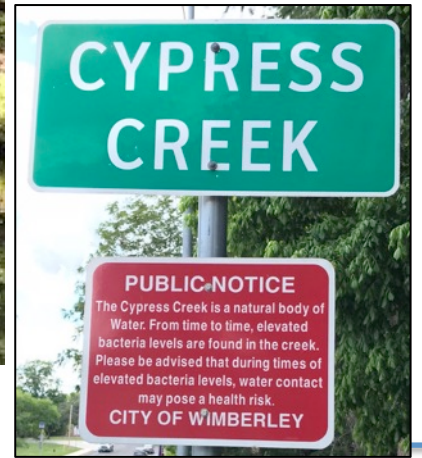
After a minute or more, she turns and walks slowly down the creek bed into the brush. I wait a few seconds and follow her. She moves up through the rocks and finally stops on an outcropping, where she looks down at me. I think she is beautiful. She allows me to take several more photos before she quietly moves into the shadows. The encounter is gentle and lovely and contains a strange element of familiarity - a

rare moment of kindness and kinship. I take a few minutes before returning to the crossing.

I go past the Button Bush, which is in full fragrant bloom, and approach “The Well” from the other side. And then I hear something - an unusual sound, subtle - a bird call? I zoom out in its direction and take a long-distance photo. It is the heron and he is hunched down hunting on the bank. Walkers frighten the bird and he flies to the other side. I go back to the creek bed crossing. He is perched on a low limb, where he poses and flaunts his stunning plumage.

I have only completed the monitoring of two of the nine bird boxes, but it has been an amazing day, full of unexpected surprises and beauty. As the nest box season comes to an end, I can surely say it has been a fascinating, educational, enriching experience. I have walked this 80-acre property every week since February 10, and to my knowledge it is the first full year of nest box documentation at this site. I am grateful to have had the opportunity.





I moved Wimberley in 2013. Not long after I arrived, I started seeing reports of Cypress Creek contamination in downtown Wimberley. I did not pay much attention to this for the first couple of years. But the reports persisted and became more numerous. Once I became a Master Naturalist with the Nighthawks, I started digging deeper into this issue.

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Cypress Creek is a natural body of water. From time to time, elevated bacteria levels are found in the creek. Please be advised that during these times of elevated bacteria levels, water contact may pose a health risk.

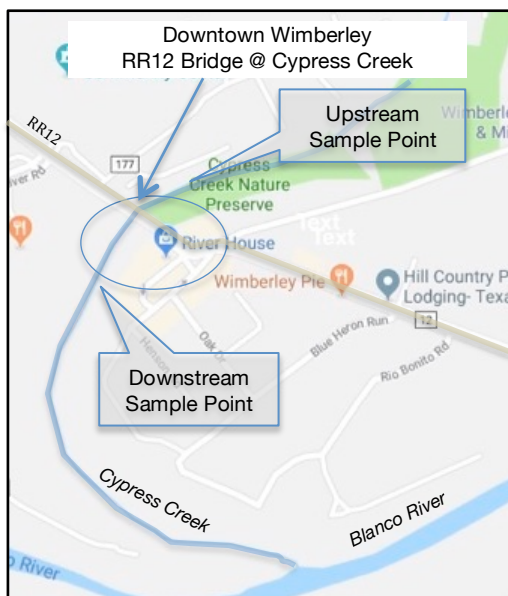
CITY OF WIMBERLEY

What causes the quality of surface water to become impaired? The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines two primary pollution categories: point and nonpoint.

Point source pollution is pollution discharged from a clearly defined, fixed point such as a pipe, ditch, channel, sewer or tunnel. In Texas, one major type of point source pollution is wastewater discharged by industrial facilities and municipal sewage plants into the surrounding water.

Nonpoint source pollution (NPS) is pollution that does not originate from a clearly defined, fixed location. It originates from many different places across the landscape, most of which cannot be readily identified. A common source of NPS contamination is runoff from the land surface, which carries pollution into the surrounding watersheds.

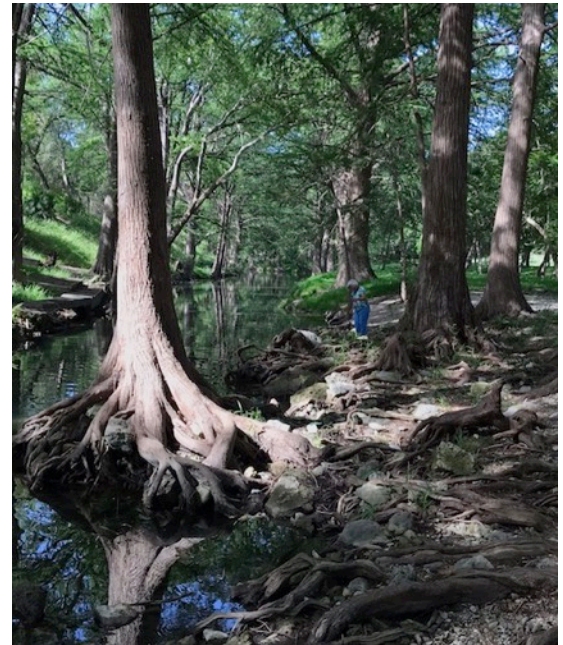
In a non-urban setting such as Wimberley large industrial sources and municipal treatment plants are absent. Common sources of bacteria in surface water include runoff from undeveloped land where livestock, wildlife, dogs and other animals are abundant. It is also present where sanitation facilities (septic systems) are inadequate. Disease-causing bacteria is a major issue because it can pose serious health and environmental risks.



To determine if the pollution identified in Cypress Creek is point source or NPS, we need to look at the reported types of contamination. Elevated levels of E.coli bacteria and fecal coliform have been measured by the Texas Stream Team, other Agencies and HCMN teams (project 802). The presence of E. coli in a water sample typically indicates fecal contamination. At the upstream sample point on Cypress Creek near the RR12 Bridge, test results indicate high levels of E.coli and fecal coliform. Other Cypress Creek locations such as Jacobs Well and the Blue Hole bacteria counts are at safe levels. At the downstream sample point, high bacterial levels have also been measured.

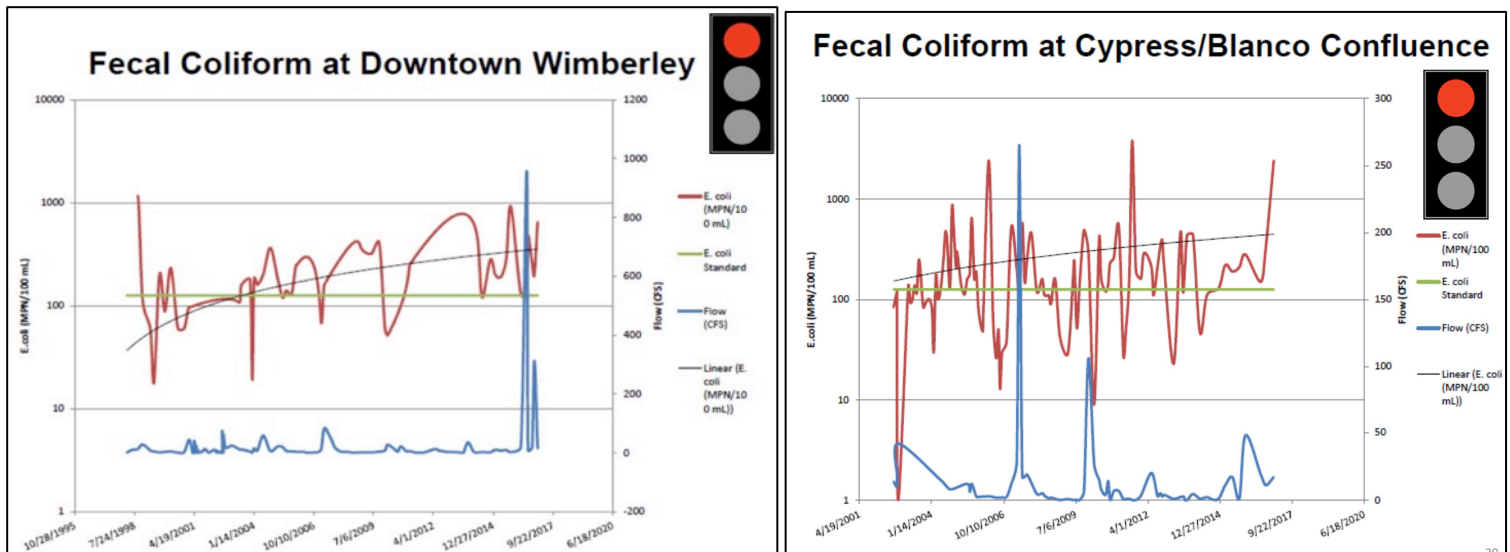
Test results and recommendations included in various articles, reports and memos are available on the Meadows Center Cypress Creek Project website. The Texas Stream Team also held Cypress Creek Project stakeholders meetings in Wimberley to review their findings. They are summarized below.¹

1. The study indicates substantial bacteria loading in Cypress Creek at one or more locations over the approximately 1/2 mile reach of Cypress Creek studied (upstream of the RR12 Bridge).
2. The highest concentration of E. coli bacteria and most diverse identification of sources were recorded during wet weather conditions with active runoff.
3. Based on observable land use for this reach of Cypress Creek, direct deposition of fecal matter into the stream by livestock and/or wildlife as well as leaking septic systems would be the most likely sources of E. coli bacteria found in the study area during dry weather conditions.
4. Further investigation of potential E. coli contributions in Cypress Creek from the colony of bats living under the RR12 Bridge in the study area should be considered.
5. At the downstream sampling point high bacterial levels in Cypress Creek are also present and continue to the confluence with the Blanco River. The downstream sample point may be more influenced by the septic system leaks than the upstream sample point



HCMN Project 802 downstream Cypress Creek sampling location behind Leaning Pear restaurant. A HCMN team measured high bacterial levels in July 2018.

The above findings show that the Cypress Creek contamination in downtown Wimberley meets the criteria of non-point source pollution.



CYPRESS CREEK WATER WATCH – JULY 15, 2018			
Downstream of RR12 Bridge	Dissolved O ₂		E.coli (cfu/100ml)
Station ID 80926	5.2	●	685
HCMN SAMPLING TEAM T. Jones & S. Carlisle	<5.0 stress to aquatic life	●	>394 unhealthy for swimming

¹ 2017 Cypress Creek Bacterial Source Tracking-Cumulative Report. Meadows Center Texas Stream Team



Photos by Tom Jones



Dana Martensen, center – Project Lead





**2018 SUMMER REUNION
SATURDAY AUGUST 11, 2018
It's Time To Get Back Together!**

Renew Relationships with Classmates
 Discover new Projects and Volunteer Opportunities
 Meet other Master Naturalists
 Socialize with fellow Master Naturalists, friends & families
 Win a Door Prize – Test Drive the new Webpage



Speaker: **Michelle Camara**. Michelle has rehabilitated animals for over 30 years and is the founder of Southern Wildlife Rehab in San Antonio. AT approved for 1 hour.

Topic Highlights: How to peacefully coexist with wildlife, What to do if you find an injured animal and Anecdotes of wildlife rehabilitation and release.

Schedule: 10am – 1:30pm

Catered Lunch: Miss Red's Place of Buda will be catering a delicious lunch of poppy seed chicken with sides and dessert (optional vegetarian plate). Cost will be \$10 per person (cash or check at the door).

Reservations Required: Please email (marydowross@gmail.com) or call (512-847-7190) no later than Monday, August 6 with your reservation.



photos from 2017 Summer Social



Dripping Springs Ranch Park
 1042 Event Center Drive
 1.7 miles north of the RR12/290 intersection, on the left
 across from the Dripping Springs Elementary School



HAVE YOU SEEN THIS WEBSITE?

Article by Tom Jones



I am highlighting this awesome website to increase awareness of this awesome site by your own HCMN. Right now, click on the link and have a look. The information below was part of a Press Release issued in May and all the photos used in this article are from beautifulhayscounty.org.

Press Release: A new website, beautifulhayscounty.org, is now available for Hays County residents who want to find out more about the natural environment of the Texas hill country. It was created by The Hays County Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist™ program.

“The site is a valuable source of information for everyone interested in nature, conservation, and the environment in Hays County and central Texas,” says Anne Child, president of Hays County Master Naturalists.

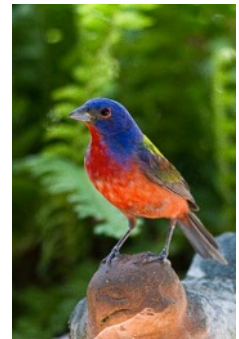
“Parents and educators will find the site is a great way to introduce children to these concepts, and, if you have questions, you can find answers from a network of knowledgeable sources by submitting queries to the site’s ‘Ask an Expert’ feature.”

There are many informative articles covering the general topics of water, plants and landscapes, wildlife and insects, as well as conservation and restoration. There are several articles on each topic and each is filled with practical information to help make informed decisions.

“An additional ‘Wildlife Resources’ page provides many useful links to our partner organizations,” says Child, “including information for visitors to Hays County, reading recommendations, and links to many great and useful smartphone apps.”

The website also provides an event list, regularly updated posts, and an array of unique and colorful photographs of local wildlife, plants, and landscapes.

“Sharing the wonder and beauty of Hays County,” says Child, “aligns perfectly with the mission of Texas Master Naturalists to ' provide education, outreach, and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within our community



NEW HCMN WEBPAGE GETS OK TO PROCEED BY BOARD

NEW LOOK - NEW DESIGN - NEW CAPABILITY

Check it out at the Summer Reunion!
See Demo
Give it a Test Drive

WHO WE ARE!

We are teachers, guides, photographers, trainers, volunteers, videographers, bird experts, biologists, geologists, conservationists and neighbors who will help. We are all trained volunteers living in Hays County. We are Master Naturalists.



Guide



Nature Photographer



Educator-Elementary Sch...



Trainer-Nature Expert



Water Quality Monitor



Leader-Trainer-Videograp...



Outdoor Educator



We are an Organization

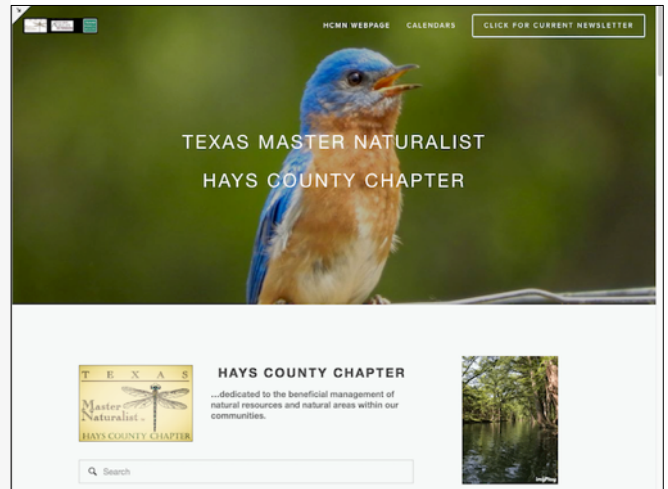
WHAT WE DO



Jacobs Well Natural Area Restoration Rangers

The Hays County chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist™ program is dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within our communities through the formation of a corps of trained volunteers. To achieve these goals, the Hays County Master Naturalist (HCMN) chapter provides training and volunteer opportunities to individuals who wish to learn about and promote the sustainable use, conservation, and maintenance of our natural resources and who afterward are willing to continue serving as volunteers in such endeavors. The program is presented through a collaborative effort of professionals from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and other organizations, as well as past students of the Master Naturalist Program. HCMN is a chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist Program, a statewide organization sponsored by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

Tentative Go Live
September 2018



SPEAKERS

BUREAU



**NEED
A SPEAKER?**

[Click here](#)



Welcome

Thank you for visiting our website. We hope that these pages will answer most of the questions you might have about the Hays County Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist Program. To get a better idea about our activities and programs, please feel free to browse the information and links provided below. If you have other questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

[Click Here](#) to send an email to the Hays County Master Naturalists



PRESIDENT'S UPDATE BY ANNE CHILD

The Hays County Master Naturalist chapter is blessed to have a wonderful group of dedicated board members. They are proud to report the accomplishment of our members and the progress of the new class. The board members work diligently behind the scenes to improve the HCMN experience and maintain the high quality chapter we all have come to appreciate. Here are just a few of the items covered at the recent board meeting.

An updated HCMN Chapter Operating Handbook was emailed to HCMN members recently. Surely, you have been anxiously awaiting this new handbook. Now is the opportunity for you, the members of HCMN, to review, comment and yes, even cast your vote for approval. Make comments to pres@haymn.org or bring them up to the Summer Reunion on Saturday August 11, 2018 at Dripping Springs Ranch Park. At the Summer Reunion, YOU will be able to perform your HCMN civic duty to cast your vote, Yea or Nay, for the approval the HCMN Chapter Operating Handbook. Your decision will provide the framework to guide us through the rest of 2018.

A brand new HaysMN website is being developed by Tom Jones and Betsy Cross. What, you thought they were the newsletter people? However, in their quest to create a more interactive newsletter, they and Jane Dunham, our webmaster, realized their prototype for an online newsletter was a great base for a new website. The transfer has been happening with gusto and the nearly-prime-time version of the website will be demonstrated at the Summer Reunion. Come check it out!

New signs for HCMN. Thanks to the work of the Willett Foundation team, HCMN will soon have new signs. These can be posted at project and restoration sites where you Master Naturalists have worked your magic to protect and share the environment around us with our community. The signs will spread the news of our chapter and hopefully create interest in our organization.

Decision to remove the HCMN member list from the website. Due to requests from some members to not have their contact information released, and administrative chore to track who had made that request or not, the board decided to remove the member list from the website. If you need to contact a member, and don't know of another source of the information, contact pres@haysmn.org.



Anne Child

EVA FROST GALLERY



New gulf fritillary caterpillar



Fox with kit



New gulf fritillary butterfly

FISH ATTRACTOR PROJECT Canyon Lake

Article by Kenneth Dees
Class of 2013, the Sages

Photos by Randy Brudnicki & Kenneth Dees



On June 24, 2018, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Inland Fisheries Division in San Marcos, conducted the annual fish attractor project at Canyon Lake. This project places underwater habitat structures in 42 locations around the lake. It is a joint project with TPWD, Canyon Bass Club of San Marcos and WORD from New Braunfels. Our club joined the project in 2013. Canyon Lake is a deep-water reservoir with little natural vegetation to hold and provide cover for the various fish species. This project began several years ago by placing cut juniper harvested from the surrounding park areas into the lake. These tree piles work very well, but must be replaced every two or three years, due to natural decay. This year, permanent structures were assembled to provide a more permanent habitat in these locations. Twenty-one structures were done this year and next year the remaining sites will receive structures. From then on, trees can be placed with these structures to provide a more natural habitat that can be refreshed periodically. These attractors provide much-needed habitat for all the fish species in the lake.

These structures were assembled by volunteers and moved to the lakefront. They were then loaded on TPWD boats and deployed to the various sites. The pictures show the assembly, loading and deployment of these attractors.



This project is directed by Marcos DeJesus, District Fisheries Mgt. Biologist in San Marcos and Carl Adkins of the Canyon Bass Club. These sites can be viewed by going to the Canyon Bass Club Website, www.canyonbassclubsanmarcos.com.



Notice - VMS Reporting - Change of the volunteer category code

VMS Volunteer Opportunity Category Code Change Please be aware that the volunteer project opportunity category “TR” - Training & Educating Others (Direct) has changed. It is now known as “DO” - Direct Outreach (Training & Educating). When entering your volunteer time into VMS under certain projects numbers you will see this change. The Volunteer Opportunity Category Definitions document found at the bottom of the HaysMN website has been updated for this change. It also includes several changes to category descriptions and examples. These changes conform to the latest revised Chapter Management and Operation Protocol document, Article VI, page 19. This can be found on the <https://txmn.org/> website under the Chapter Resource menu tab

KNOW SOMEONE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THE 2019 TRAINING CLASS!

For members to have friends who are interested
Contact Bari Conley bkconley@ag.tamu.edu at the Ag Extension.

Updated HCMN Chapter Operating Handbook-Vote!

Attached is the updated HCMN Chapter Operating Handbook.

- Texas Master Naturalists provided the modifiable version of the document in December 2017 (hence the catchy name).
- At the July 12th HCMN board meeting, the board approved HCMN specific changes to the handbook.

Surely, you have been anxiously awaiting this new handbook. Now is the opportunity for you, the members of HCMN, to review, comment and yes, even cast your vote for approval. You may make comments to President, Anne Child directly at pres@haymn.org. Or you may bring your comments to the Summer Reunion on Saturday August 11, 2018 at Dripping Springs Ranch Park.

At the Summer Reunion, YOU will be able to perform your HCMN civic duty to cast your vote, Yea or Nay, for the approval the HCMN Chapter Operating Handbook. Your decision will provide the framework to guide us through the rest of 2018. It is an honor to present this to you.

VOTE!



GET READY! Texas Master Naturalist 2018 Annual Meeting, October 26-28, 2018 @ Sheraton Georgetown

From the state office of Texas Master Naturalists - Annual Meeting insider tidbits:

- Registration will be sometime the last week of July. Watch the website <https://txmn.org/2018-annual-meeting/> and Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/TexasMasterNaturalistProgram> and your email for the opening
 - the fee for the meeting itself will be determined just before registration opens.
 - One registration opens, people start signing up immediately. This means the sessions and field trips fill up fast. So it is suggested that you look through the [2018 Annual Meeting Agenda Matrix \(here https://txmn.org/files/2018/06/TMN-Agenda-Matrix-6-29.pdf\)](#) and [Get Outside Guide \(here...https://txmn.org/files/2018/06/GettingOutsideGuide_6-27.pdf\)](#) NOW so you are able to go through the registration process without hesitation in order to get the sessions you want
- Registration changes from previous years
 - Flat rate fee for all sessions and meals - available in 1 day, 2 day and 3 day fees
 - Lodging is a separate fee but still through the same online registration system (do not call the hotel directly)
 - After choosing your flat rate fee and lodging choices, there is one easy payment at the end

If you go, have fun, learn a lot and bring it back your experiences to share with the rest of the chapter!



Link: <https://txmn.org/20th-anniversary/>

Website <https://txmn.org/2018-annual-meeting/>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/TexasMasterNaturalistProgram>

[2018 Annual Meeting Agenda Matrix](#)



LINK TO WESTCAVE

<https://westcave.org/>

LINK TO EVENTS & BIRD WALKS

<https://westcave.org/events>

VOLUNTEER AT WESTCAVE PRESERVE

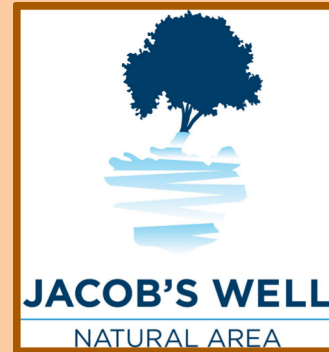
<https://westcave.org/get-involved/volunteer>

HCMN PROJECT CALENDAR REMINDER TO PROJECT LEADERS

Beverly Gordon

The HaysMN Project Calendar is a great way to promote your project and recruit volunteers. There is another fantastic class of HaysMN trainees underway seeking volunteer opportunities. The Calendars are found at the bottom left of haysmn.org. If your project is not already on the Project Calendar, please forward the following information to calendar@haysmn.org:

- Project name and number
- Project date(s)
- Start and end time
- Location
- Brief Description of work required & equipment needs



LINK TO JWNA WEBSITE:

<http://www.co.hays.tx.us/jwna.aspx>

FACEBOOK LINK:

<https://www.facebook.com/JacobsWellOfficial/>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

quincy.kennedy@co.hays.tx.us

HCMN on FACEBOOK

Find us, like us, share with us! Click icon for HaysMN Facebook page.



NEWSLETTER

Do you have some awesome photos or want to share a volunteer experience? Let us know! We are looking for interesting items for the newsletter.

Contact Tom Jones

wimberleytom@gmail.com

or Betsy Cross

betsy.cross@sbcglobal.net

HAYS MN FORUM

Join the Forum! It's a great way to connect with fellow naturalists, ask questions, and learn from each other. Click the Forum link.

<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/haysmn>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Watch your e-mails for upcoming volunteer opportunities! Check out the Projects Calendar for more information.

<http://www.haysmn.org/calendar-projects.html>

HAVE YOUR PROJECT ADDED TO THE CALENDAR

Send requests to calendar@haysmn.org

LINKS to Chapter Partners, Program Sponsors, Central Texas Master Naturalist Chapters and Other Sites of Interest

Link: <http://www.haysmn.org/links.html>



Blanco River near Wimberley – T. Jones