

From: "Betty Watkins" <bwatkins1@austin.rr.com>
To: <Undisclosed-Recipient:;>
Date: 10/2/03 1:14PM
Subject: Master Naturalists: October newsletter

Hays County Master Naturalist Newsletter
October 2003

Class Meeting: October 14, 2003 @ the extension office

Livestock on Small Acreage - Rick Machem

Wildlife Tax Valuation - KayBeth Williams

Hays County Master Naturalist Chapter meeting: October 23, 2003

We will have a Pot Luck/Take Out supper together at 6:30. The program at 7:00 will be presented by Ken Saunders speaking on Riparian Zones.

Volunteer and Advanced Training Projects:

Texas Parks and Wildlife's Wildlife Expo (Oct. 4-5) Presented by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Expo gives visitors an opportunity to try out and learn about a wide range of outdoor sports and pastimes including angling, rock climbing, mountain biking, camping, shooting and much more. The birding area offers tours, workshops, the Junior Audubon Birdathon for youngsters and information about birding in Texas. Whether you're an old hand or a new backyard birder, you'll love Expo's birding area.

Picnic at 5 Mile Dam (Dudley Johnson Park) - October 19th, 1:00pm - 5:00pm

This is a joint Association /Class of 2003 family event. Let's get together for a little R&R and just get to know each other a little better. Bring a picnic lunch and your swimsuit. No work allowed - fun day only.

Directions -

From San Marcos:

Go North on Post Road. Continue on Post Road for about five miles. You'll wind through a rural neighborhood. When you get to the railroad trestle, go under it and across the Blanco River. Take an immediate left onto Old Stagecoach Road. It isn't well marked. Go about one mile and you'll see the park on your left.

From North:

Alternate route: Take IH35 to Yarrington Road just south of Kyle. Follow the frontage road to the 'Y', then take the right on FM 2779. When you come to the railroad trestle, don't go under it but turn right onto Old Stagecoach Road. The park is one mile down on the left.

Texas Butterfly Festival - October 16-19, 2003 in Mission

Join us (TPAW) in Mission, Texas as we celebrate the Valley's 280+ species of butterflies. Learn from internationally renowned speakers, explore the areas natural habitats on expert guided field trips. Other activities include the Butterfly Bonanza South Texas BBQ Dinner, and the Nature and Butterfly Expo. Contact: Greater Mission Chamber of Commerce (800-580-2700) (www.texasbutterfly.com)

Grapevine Butterfly Festival-October 18, 2003 in Grapevine

Educational programs, activities and entertainment for all ages. Contact: Grapevine Convention and Visitors Bureau (817-410-3185)

Festival de las Plantas! - October 18, 2003 at Roy G. Guerrero Colorado River Park. This event will highlight the biodiversity of this wonderful East Austin park and celebrate the relationship between plants and people. Volunteers are needed. Contact: Jean Crow (477-1566) Austin Parks Foundation

Balmorhea Birdfest- October 31-November 2,2003 in Balmorhea

This festival offers birders the opportunity to explore private ranches and nearby Davis Mountains in search of Montezuma Quail, Mountain Chickadee and Crissal Thrasher as well as other desert, montane, water and wetland species of the Trans-Pecos region.

Speakers will be well-known Texas birders who are experts on the birds of the area. Evenings will find participants enjoying chuck wagon- style suppers. Sunday morning will provide a cowboy breakfast send-off.

Contact: Ellen Weinacht (915-375-2325) (birdingbalmorhea@hotmail.com)

Statewide Meeting and Advanced Training (Oct. 24-26)

FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

Fellow Naturalists,

As the Master Naturalist program grows and we develop more opportunities for volunteer service in our communities, it is important for the Chapter to have basic information on each of these projects and the organization sponsoring it. State guidelines say each Chapter must approve a volunteer project before volunteer hours can be credited for that project. All volunteers working on a chapter- approved project will be covered by liability insurance provided by the state office. Starting in January 2004, our Chapter will implement this requirement, so we must have a record for each volunteer project on file. If you are the Master Naturalist contact for any project, or if you want to propose a project for Master Naturalist support, please complete the following form and return it to the Chapter Secretary, Betty Watkins (1061 Martindale Falls Road, Martindale, Texas 78655 or bwatkins1@austin.rr.com) by the end of October. Remember, after January next year, you will not be able to count for Master Naturalist volunteer hours any time you devote to a project if that project has not been approved. Please help us meet our responsibility; it is good business practice as well to have good records of our projects.

Thanks, and don't forget to turn in your hours!

Dell Hood, President

Volunteer Project Guidelines

Hays County Master Naturalist Chapter

1. TMN State Guidelines: "In order to attain certification, a Texas Master Naturalist trainee must complete a minimum of 40 volunteer service hours (and 8 hours of advanced training) within one year of the initial training series. In order to retain the title of Texas Master Naturalist, a volunteer must complete another 40 volunteer service hours (and 8 hours of advanced training) in every subsequent year."
2. Volunteer work must be of a type that furthers the TMN mission statement: "To provide education, outreach, and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within our communities." This mission includes educating the public on natural resources, but it also includes managing, maintaining, and improving the environment for the benefit of wildlife and the public.
3. Volunteer work must be performed as a Texas Master Naturalist rather than as a member of another organization.
4. Volunteers who belong to two organizations that both require volunteer service as part of membership (e.g., TMN and Master Gardeners) may not count the same work hours twice, getting credit from both organizations.

- 5. Volunteer work that results in a profit to another organization cannot be approved:
 - a. Volunteers may not count volunteer work for a for-profit organization.
 - b. Volunteers may not count work for a nonprofit organization that results in the organization earning money for its own programs.
- 6. Volunteer work in approved Chapter fund-raising efforts can be counted.
- 7. Paid work of any kind cannot be counted for Volunteer credit.
- 8. All volunteer work must be approved as a chapter project and assigned a Project ID before any credit can be given for it.
- 9. All volunteer work is to be reported in a timely manner to the Records Committee chair.
- 10. Volunteer hours credit is earned for time spent preparing a volunteer presentation as well as for making the actual presentation. Travel time to and from any volunteer project activity earns volunteer credit (does not apply to attending advanced training activities).
- 11. All chapter board members, committee chairmen, and committee members will receive hour-for-hour credit for volunteer hours spent fulfilling those duties (including travel time).

VOLUNTEER PROJECT PROPOSAL 2004

HAYS COUNTY MASTER NATURALIST CHAPTER

NAME OF ACTIVITY OR EVENT: _____

STARTING DATE: _____ ENDING DATE: _____

TYPE OF ACTIVITY: _____

SPONSOR: NAME OF AGENCY/GROUP _____

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE _____

NAME OF CONTACT AT SPONSORING AGENCY/GROUP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

M.N.CONTACT: NAME _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

M. N. COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THIS PROJECT: _____

ATTACH A ONE- PAGE DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT.

APPROVED BY:

NAME _____ DATE: _____ OFFICE: _____

NAME _____ DATE: _____ OFFICE: _____

NAME _____ DATE: _____ OFFICE: _____

REFER TO THE VOLUNTEER GUIDELINES IN DESCRIBING/REPORTING YOUR PROJECT.

NOTE: The project number and signatures indicating approval will be completed by the Executive Board.

OBTAIN THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECT (WHEN APPLICABLE) FOR THE YEAR END REPORT.

ACRES: (Estimated acres affected directly by the project) _____

MILES OF TRAILS (Developed or maintained) _____

ATTENDEES (Non-member attendees at an education or outreach event) _____

ATTENDEES SEX (Estimated # of attendees of each sex) _____

ATTENDEES AGE (Estimated # of Juveniles (17 and under) _____

Estimated # of Adults (18 +) _____

ATTENDEES RACE (Estimated # of attendees of each basic race category)

THANK YOU!

Linda Anderson said that this recipe should be in the newsletter. I made this salad for the August class meeting. HOWEVER, credits go to Winifred Simon who sent the recipe to me after she served it at a MN meeting. Judy

Chinese Cabbage Salad

Brown the following on the stove:

1 stick of butter

- 2 packages of Raman noodles (discard the spice mix)
- 1 cup of pecan pieces
- 1 cup of sunflower seeds

Slice thinly and toss together:

- 1 head of Napa cabbage
- 5 green onions

Toss cooled nut mixture with greens and dress with the following:

- 1 cup of oil
- 1/2 cup of vinegar
- 1 cup of sugar
- 2 tablespoons of soy sauce

(Recipe should be halved unless you are preparing it for a mob. Also, it doesn't hold over well as the noodles get soggy, but you can keep the nut mix separate to mix as needed over several day! s)

Reminder:

Because of liability issues the state Master Naturalist office is requiring Annual Membership forms to be completed by all active Master Naturalist volunteers. Volunteers working on approved MN Volunteer Projects who have an Annual Membership form on file with their chapter will be covered by Liability Insurance paid for by the State Office.

Membership forms for 2004 are included with this Newsletter. They can be submitted by e-mail, snail mail to any of the officers, or dropped off at the Extension Office. Bari in the Extension Office also has copies of the forms if you prefer to drop by and fill one out there.

I would appreciate receiving the forms as soon as possible so the information can be entered into the state Master Naturalist database. Thanks for your cooperation.

Betty Watkins, Secretary

Hays County Master Naturalists

YEAR _____

HAYS COUNTY MASTER NATURALIST

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

PLEASE LIST VOLUNTEER PROJECTS IN WHICH YOU ARE CURRENTLY ACTIVE _____

EXPECTATIONS OF THE MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM _____

SKILLS _____

INTERESTS _____

PLEASE CONTINUE ON PAGE 2

The following demographic data is requested by the State Master Naturalist office only for compiling the Annual Report. It will not be shared for the report with your name attached. Nor will it be available to any other entity. Thank you for providing it.

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: Male Female

Race: Asian African Caucasian Hispanic Indian Middle Eastern
Mixed Native American Pacific Islander Other _____

Educational Level: (Circle highest level attained.) Elementary Junior High

High School Vocational Some college Associate Degree Bachelor's
Professional Masters Doctorate

Employer _____

Retired _____ Student _____ Homemaker _____

Occupation (current or former) _____

Other organizations to which you belong _____

'til next time,

Melissa Brooks

HCMN. Ringtails 2002

(benmiss@worldnet.att.net)

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