

Hays County Master Naturalist



June 26, 2003 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held at the Extension Office and preceded by a covered dish supper. There were sixteen people present.

BUSINESS MEETING: Vice President Winifred Simon called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the absence of the President. The speaker had not yet arrived so the floor was opened for business. Joe Piazza reported on the Training Class. They are to meet on Saturday, June 28 at Bamberger for a field trip. Chapter members are also invited. Last Saturday they had a work day at Freeman Ranch. Chapter members were also invited on an upcoming site visit

Winifred announced the program for the July 24th meeting. It will be presented by Paul and Georgean Kyle from the Wimberley Birding Society. The topic will be the Chimney Swift Project.

The meeting was opened for discussion of a proposal for volunteer/advanced training projects from Delbert Bassett. (See July newsletter.) Some suggested projects included Freeman Ranch, Five Mile Dam, the Wimberley Birding Refuge, and the "Crypto" removal on the San Marcos River. Randy Moss recommended developing our own project rather than taking on someone else's ongoing project. Delbert Bassett concurred and indicated he thought that a biological survey of the plants of Hays County would be a good project.

PROGRAM: The speaker was Mike Quinn from Texas Parks and Wildlife. He presented an overview of the history of interest in butterflies in the Americas and the development of field guides and research. He then presented a very interesting in-depth look at the natural history of the Monarch butterfly and its look-a-likes the Queen and the Soldier. The peak season for butterflies in Texas is in September and October. Fall flowering plants such as asters and mistflowers provide good food sources.

Advanced Training: 1.5 hours

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Watkins, Secretary