

T E X A S

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Naturalist™



**NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER
CHAPTER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS
DECEMBER 9, 2020**

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION



* Chapter Dues - We Changed the Way You Pay

Payment Method:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Invoices will be sent out to your email starting November 5th• Pay from the Invoice.• Do Not Pay via PayPal - Please!
Due by:	December 31st
Amount:	\$30 - temporary reduction for 2021 due to COVID-19
Rationale:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The treasurers finished a major accounting software change last month to a new version which costs less and is more efficient.• We can invoice directly from the accounting program.• Paypal button will go away for dues.

* Update to Email Program

Why:	We have used Yahoo! Groups listserv to distribute our basic email since 2004. Yahoo! is discontinuing the email service as of December 15, 2020.
What Will We Do Instead?	We will move to Groups.io , a service that will provide email service which will do what Yahoo! does now.
How Do I Join?	We will send you an invitation to join . When you reply to the invitation, you will be added to the NTMN group on Groups.io
Why Do We Need This Program?	This is a simple email list that will enable us to send plain text messages which can have links and attachments.
What About Mail Chimp?	We will continue to use Mail Chimp which we adopted in 2018. Mail Chimp allows us to store and send more complicated messages which have maps, graphics, or photos. We also get useful statistics about what we sent, who opened the message or clicked on a link.
What Will I Need to Provide?	First Name, Last Name, and email address

* Hagerman NWR - Tree Frogs with Dr Michael Keck

Activity:	Seven species of true treefrogs (Family Hylidae) potentially occur at Hagerman NWR. Treefrogs are the most commonly heard species at the Refuge. Despite the common name of the family, not all climb trees. In this talk, Michael will explain how to identify these seven species, by sight and sound. He will discuss their natural history, especially focusing on the breeding season, when they are most likely to be encountered. Michael B. Keck grew up in Fort Worth, where he enjoyed feeding the toads on his parents' back porch. He received his PhD in Quantitative Biology from the University of Texas at Arlington. His main research interests were the ecology and physiology of snakes. Since 2001, he has been a biology professor at Grayson College. He and his wife, Trish, live near Savoy, where Mike enjoys feeding the toads on his porch.
Location:	Zoom Meeting - registration required - see link below
Date & Time:	December 12 th at 10 a.m.
Hours:	1 hour advanced training
More Information:	Hagerman website
Sponsor:	Friends of Hagerman NWR
Contact:	friendsofhagerman@gmail.com
VMS Entry:	AT: NTX: Other Pre-Approved
Zoom Registration: Required	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwkcOCtqzliGtOkklfU7VjyIKDqLaPZdfG9

* Christmas Bird Count

(NTMN participation contingent on AgriLife Closure Directive below)

Activity:	Documenting the species and number of birds encountered in Coppell Nature Park.
Background:	Join the Biodiversity Education Center for a guided bird walk through the trails of Coppell Nature Park as we continue the annual Christmas Bird Count tradition. Novices and experts alike are invited to experience the thrill of contributing to the nation's longest running citizen science project, established by the National Audubon Society in 1900. We will gather at the BEC for hot beverages and orientation, then spend the rest of our time on the trails documenting the species and number of birds we encounter. Social distancing and/or face coverings are required at all times. Participants should dress warmly and BYOBinoculars
Location:	Biodiversity Education Center in Coppell Nature Park.
Date:	December 26, 2020
Time:	7 a.m.
Hours:	2 hours volunteer hours
Website:	Biodiversity Education Center
Contact Person:	Cynthia Contreras
Telephone:	972-304-3581
VMS Entry:	Coppell Nature Park: Biodiversity Education Center

* Social Media Team Expansion: Twitter, Pinterest

Activity:	NTMN social media has a new chair: Yui Iwase. We are seeking someone passionate about Twitter to join our team. Do you understand Twitter users well? Would you relish a chance to get eco education out to the Twittersphere? Willing to work within a team? Also looking for someone into Pinterest to awaken that account. Drop me a line if interested.
Location:	In the comfort of your home on your schedule.
Hours:	1 hour a week (VH)
Social Media Info:	NTMN social media is listed here with links to samples.
Contact Person:	Amy Martin
Telephone:	214-797-2457
VMS Entry:	N TX Administrative > Website & Social Media
Parking:	We hope to get our team fleshed out before we have a Zoom vision meeting in January for 2021. Carol Garrison is currently tweeting, but would like someone really into Twitter to work with her. A big focus for social media team in 2021 will be creating posts that support diversity and inclusion.

* Previous Programs - September Videos

Activity:	We have videos of some of the presentations from our chapter meetings. If there is interest in viewing or reviewing these videos, we can try make more of the videos available.
September Chapter	Native Hunters, Prairies, and Bison Christopher Roos Professor of Anthropology at SMU <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The video is 1 hour and 17 minutes (1:17) long.• The password to view this video is: grassfire
	A video of the status report on the Forest Trunk project from the 2020 class <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The video is 15 minutes long.• There is no password for this video
	A video review of the Blackland Prairie project . <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This project was entered into the project fair and was tied for first place at the TMN 2020 Annual Conference. The video is 18.5 minutes long.• No password is needed.

* Previous Programs - October Videos

Activity: We have videos of some of the presentations from our chapter meetings. If there is interest in viewing or reviewing these videos, we can try make more of the videos available.

October Chapter

[Lichens 101](#)

Dr. Manuela Dal Forno, research botanist, BRIT
Professor of Anthropology at SMU

- The video is 1 hour and 20 minutes (1:20) long
- The questions from the audience are very interesting and each question is shown with a closed caption
- Questions from the Chat start at 46:40
- Questions from Q&A start at 49:49

Sam's Videos:

- Sam presented a [How To for the BioBlitz](#) and an of iNaturalist overview and the setup for the September event.
- View the [Review of the Socially Distant BioBlitz](#) on Vimeo - a summary of the September project.

* The Latinx Inclusion Team Needs A/V Help

Activity:	Grab your audio-visual equipment and join the Latinx Inclusion Team in developing bilingual virtual programming at Twelve Hills Nature Center! LIT has ideas for virtual field sessions and children's story time but lacks experience in recording, editing, and producing videos. We want to talk to you about equipment, best practices, considerations, and editing software. Whether you help in person by recording the videos or provide your knowledge virtually, we want to hear from you!
Location:	In person assistance at Twelve Hills Nature Center, 900 Mary Cliff Rd, Dallas, TX 75208, or virtual consultation Zoom meeting.
Sponsor:	Latinx Inclusion Team of NTMN
Hours:	1 - 2 hours VH to start
Contact Person:	Juliette Angulo
VMS Entry:	NTX-Outreach Events, enter "Trunk Work: Bilingual/Translation" in the notes
Comment:	Please email naturalistas@ntmn.org to share your skills! Date & time flexible.

* Creating Prairie Community Through Email Newsletter

Activity:	CLYMER MEADOW & ASSOCIATES NEWSLETTER A periodic look at North Texas prairies from The Nature Conservancy's Clymer Meadow, the heart of the Blackland Prairie in Texas.
Details:	See the next screen for more information.
Location:	Done at home
Time:	4 hours every season
Hours:	4 hours Volunteer Hours
Organization:	The Nature Conservancy
Contact Person:	Amy Martin
Telephone:	214-797-2457
VMS Entry:	Clymer Meadow
Comments:	Details are on the next screen

* CLYMER MEADOW & ASSOCIATES NEWSLETTER

A periodic look at North Texas prairies from The Nature Conservancy's Clymer Meadow, the heart of the Blackland Prairie in Texas.

- What: A biennial or quarterly email newsletter in a platform like MailChimp.
- Why: People won't care about what they don't see and few people actually see Clymer Meadow and other prairies.
- Who: Blackland Prairie Texas Master Naturalists volunteer project. To be composed and laid out by BPTMN volunteer(s), much of it from material provided by TNC North Texas Preserves Manager Brandon Belcher.
- How: Sent to Clymer Meadow email list using MailChimp platform managed by TMN volunteer.
- When: Starting with fall 2020 wildflowers and seed plumes, if possible.

Potential titles:

- Blackland Prairie Report
- Clymer Meadow Musings
- Prairie Rambles
- Social Clymer (forgive me)
- TNC North Texas

Elements:

- What's Blooming: Photos of that season's wildflowers or native grass seed plumes. Close-ups and landscape shots.
 - Selected and captioned by Brandon Belcher.
- Prairie Profile: Short profiles of prairies in North Texas. Some description, a bit of history, and ecological significance, with photos.
 - Written by TMN volunteer or Belcher if TNC or NPAT property.
- Behind the Scenes: A couple of paragraphs on that season's land-management tasks and infrastructure maintenance, helping people understand what it takes to steward and rehabilitate land.
 - Written by Brandon Belcher.
- Prairie Partners: Mini profiles of entities active in North Texas prairie preservation, including land trusts like Native Prairies Association of Texas and Texas Land Conservancy; nonprofits such as Connemara Meadow, Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Area, and Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary; and the local chapters of Texas Master Naturalists and Native Plant Society of Texas.
 - Written by TMN volunteer.
- Calendar: News of wildflower tours and workdays at Clymer and other prairies, plus significant prairie events such as conferences and seminars.
 - Compiled by TMN volunteer with material from Brandon Belcher.

* Coronavirus Updates

<p>New Guidance from TMN based on AgriLife designations:</p>	<p>Our “red county” designations mean no face to face activities, at least through December 23rd - Periodically reassessed</p> <p>Continue practicing exemplary Hygiene and Distancing, Wearing Masks, Generally Staying Safe at Home</p> <p>Hang in there! We are getting through this together</p>
<p>Impact to Future Meetings and Volunteer Activities:</p>	<p>No face to face activities, events, etc.</p> <p>NTMN Requires Masks Guidelines are on the website</p>