



Officers  
2002

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- Policies & Guidelines—Bill Watson

## Native Plant Exchange

Muriel Lem

The New Year brings a new planting season. Now that our area has received a hard freeze, this is prime time for digging and setting out hardy trees, forbs, and grasses.

At our November meeting, members assembled our “want lists” of native plants to add to our gardens for 2002. The actual plants will be exchanged at our upcoming January meeting. The following people have committed to bring potted plants for exchange:

Gerri Martinez	agarita	<i>Berberis trifoliata</i>
Len Polasek	St. Andrew’s Cross	<i>Hypericum hypericoides</i>
	Paw paw	<i>Asimina parviflora</i>
Muriel Lem	Pickernelweed	<i>Pondeteria cordata</i>
	Mexican Plum	<i>Prunus mexicana</i>
	American Beautyberry	<i>Callicarpa americana</i>
	Texas Star hibiscus	

Additionally, some plants were requested for which no supplier has yet committed. These include:

Sumac	<i>Rhus</i> spp.
Black hickory	<i>Carya texana</i>
<i>Penstemon</i> spp.	
Blue sage	<i>Salvia farinacea</i>
Other <i>Salvia</i> spp.	

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

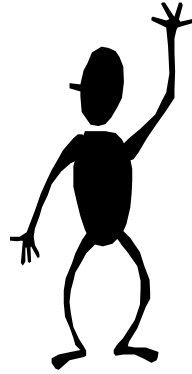
- 1 Native Plant Exchange
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Also available at the January meeting will be a limited number of Indian grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*), one of our most beautiful native tall grasses. Indian grass needs full or part sun, moderately good soil (blackland preferred) and space to four feet square. The foliage forms a bluish mound 1-2 feet high. The tall golden blooms appear in late summer.

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*This country’s wisdom still resides in its populace, in the pragmatic and generous spirits of everyday citizens who have not forgotten their kinship with nature.*  
—Terry Tempest Williams, in “Red: Passion and Patience in the Desert,” 2001

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**BYE RACHEL, WE'LL MISS YOU!**

IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE THE LOST PINES  
CHAPTER GETTING STARTED WITHOUT  
RACHEL BAUER'S DEDICATION. WE  
WISH HER WELL IN HER NEW  
ENDEAVORS!

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*Nature will bear the closest inspection.  
She invites us to lay our eye level  
with her smallest leaf, and take an insect  
view of it plain*

—H.D. Thoreau, *Journal*; 1839

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The Texas Master Naturalist program is sponsored by the Texas Cooperative Extension Agency and by Texas Parks and Wildlife.



## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR-**

Regular meetings of the Lost Pines Chapter, Texas Master Naturalist, are the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month.

### **JANUARY MEETING**

**January 29, 2001**

Rockne Church (Old Parish Hall)

6:00 PM

Program— Native Plant Exchange, and planning session for Chapter activities and programs for 2002. Bring your ideas!!

### **FEBRUARY MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 25, 2002**

6:00 PM

Program to be announced

### **FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

**February 11, 2002.** Send information to Andy Butler ([butler@mdanderson.org](mailto:butler@mdanderson.org)). We welcome relevant contributions, photos, announcements or other material relating to the mission of the Texas Master Naturalist program, particularly those pertaining to the Lost Pines area.

# Volunteer Opportunities

## McKinney Roughs Volunteer Opportunities

For information about our Chapter's McKinney Roughs projects, contact Rick Johnson, 512-398-2357. For more information about volunteering at McKinney Roughs, call 512-303-5073, ext. 8040 (Bastrop Area) or toll-free, 800-776-5272, ext. 8040. Here are some current opportunities at McKinney Roughs.

- **Trails and Parks support**—Activities include monitoring trail activities, ecological restoration, trail maintenance & construction projects, data collecting on native plants and wildlife
- **Education activities**—Serve as guides for student groups, give orientations, assist in preparation for student & teacher groups.

## Lockhart Demonstration Garden

- Contact Lytle Arche at 512-398-3122 or by E-mail [l-arche@tamu.edu](mailto:l-arche@tamu.edu) for specific information.

## Lockhart State Park Nature Trail

- Help extend and develop the Park's Nature Trail. Contact Rick Johnson at 512-398-2357 or by E-mail at [rojoh@thrifty.net](mailto:rojoh@thrifty.net) for details.

## Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

- Maintaining trails, watering gardens, collecting seeds, helping in the store. Contact Megan Murphy, Director of Volunteer Services, at (512) 292-4200 to arrange for a volunteer interview, or E-mail [megan@wildflower.org](mailto:megan@wildflower.org)

## Wild Basin Preserve

- Trail Maintenance—Volunteers welcome. Help repair portions of trails, control erosion, and make our trails safer for everyone to enjoy. 9 AM to Noon; scheduled dates include December 8. For information, call (512) 327-7622 or E-mail [hike@wildbasin.org](mailto:hike@wildbasin.org)

## Other Opportunities

### Texas Nature Trackers

Ongoing projects coordinated by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department or partner organizations.

- **Texas Horned Lizard Watch**—provides instructions for surveying the Texas state reptile on your property or on public areas. Data sent from volunteers in the first year have already helped biologists suggest possible relationships between fire ant distributions and the

distribution of Texas horned lizards. Each year, more volunteers are needed from all over the state to increase our knowledge about Texas horned lizards. For information, contact the Wildlife Diversity program at 1-800-792-1112, ext. 7011.

- **Texas Mussel Watch**—volunteers are helping document the presence or absence of native freshwater mussel species. To volunteer for Texas Mussel Watch, call the Wildlife Diversity Program at 1-800-792-1112, ext. 7011.
- **Texas Monarch Watch**—monitor the spring and fall migration of this familiar butterfly on your own property or public lands. Volunteers can call the Monarch Watch hotline at 1-800-468-9710 (in Austin, 326-2231) to report sightings of monarchs or hear a recorded message about the status of the migration in Texas. For more information about Texas Monarch Watch or to receive monitoring kit, call the Wildlife Diversity Program at 1-800-792-1112, ext. 7011.
- **Hummingbird Roundup**—provides instructions for monitoring hummingbirds, along with suggestions and supplies for improving hummingbird habitat on your property in Texas. For information, call the Wildlife Diversity Program at 1-800-792-1112, ext. 4644.
- **Texas Amphibian Watch**—a partner with the North American Amphibian Monitoring Program. Texans involved in this project will use field guides, web sites and audio tapes to learn to identify the various species of frogs and toads native to their area by sight and by listening to their calls. For more information about Texas Amphibian Watch or about related workshops, contact the Wildlife Diversity Program at 1-800-792-1112, ext. 7011. (**Note** the Amphibian Watch Workshop listed under Advanced Training).
- **Project Prairie Birds**—Answer questions about Texas' wintering sparrows and their avian grassland neighbors. Project Prairie Birds can be conducted in any temperate grassland site. For more information, contact Cliff Shackelford, 512-912-7045 or by E-mail: [clifford.shackelford@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:clifford.shackelford@tpwd.state.tx.us).
- **Adopt-A-Species Projects**—Takes place on public properties that support populations of rare Texas plants or animals. Learn monitoring techniques. Volunteers agree to continue monitoring for a set period of time. Suitable for schools, club or civic groups. (Not available in all parts of the state). Contact the Wildlife Diversity Program at 1-800-792-1112, ext. 7011.
- **Remember**—Get approval before you begin a project for volunteer credit. Report your volunteer service to Janice Rampy (512-303-7994). Documenting your service hours helps you to become certified, and helps the Master Naturalist Program to justify support received from our sponsors!

## Advanced Training

Please obtain prior approval for advanced training, and don't forget to record your hours!

- **Prescribed Burning Seminar**—February 6, 2002 (9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.), at Chaparral Wildlife Management Area, Artesia Wells. RESERVATIONS NEED TO BE MADE BY JAN 31! Topics include:
  - Effects of prescribed fire on vegetation and wildlife
  - Planning a Prescribed Burn
  - Prescribed Burning Procedures
  - Plant Identification - Cool Season Forbs for Wildlife
  - Conducting a Prescribed Burn (hands-on activity)For More Information, call Chaparral WMA at 830/676-3413 or Tamara Trail at 800/839-9453
- **Collaborative Design for Riparian Restoration: Engineering and landscape design for degraded stream systems in Texas**— February 12th 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at The Wildflower Center. This seminar will discuss the planning and implementation of stream channel stabilization projects using hydraulic, geomorphic and landscape processes. Continuing education credits will be offered. Please RSVP by February 8th to Heather Venhaus at [hvenhaus@wildflower.org](mailto:hvenhaus@wildflower.org) or (512) 292-4200 ex. 134. Cost: Professional \$50; Student \$20.
- **Small Scale Restoration in Texas**—Saturday,

February 23, (9:00 am - 5:00 pm) at The Wildflower Center. Spring Symposium 2002 with the Native Plant Society of Texas: Co-sponsored by the Society for Ecological Restoration. Fourth annual Spring Symposium includes a discussion on restoring healthy ecosystems in Texas. Sally Wasowski and other experts will discuss the how and why of restoration. For a schedule and registration information, call 512/292-4200 for a registration brochure. Registration fee: \$35 if postmarked by February 1, 2002; \$45 if postmarked after February 1, 2002/ Optional Workshop fee: \$20

- **Stewardship Workshop**—March 23, 2002 (8:30 am to 4:30 pm), at Selah Ranch near Johnson City. Stewardship for large or small landowner or anyone considering buying land, who wants to know how to improve land for all plant and animal species. For information, call 830.868.7303, or see <http://www.bambergerranch.org>. Fee: \$90, but Mr. Bamberger offers a discount to participants in the Master Naturalist program.
- **Amphibian Watch Monitoring Workshop**—May 22, 2002, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., at Wild Basin Wilderness, 805 Capital of Texas Hwy Austin. Learn how to identify local amphibians, receive frog and toad call tapes, and get hands-on experience. Registration required. To register and for more information contact: Marsha Reimer (512) 912-7062; [marsha.reimer@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:marsha.reimer@tpwd.state.tx.us)

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED