

# May 24<sup>th</sup> Chapter Presidents & Advisors Meeting

- Introduce yourself & your chapter in the Chat Room
  - Share video (if your bandwidth allows)
  - Michelle & Mary Pearl will be monitoring the chat room
  - Will be recording the meeting
  - Will share slides, chat room and notes
- 
- We'll get started at **1:00pm**
  - Volunteer Note Taker – \_Bert @ Coastal Prairie\_\_\_\_\_



May 24<sup>th</sup>  
Chapter Presidents & Advisors  
Monthly Meeting



# Agenda

- Return to Service Guidelines – **Updated 5.21**
- Regional WebEx Accounts
- TMN Websites
- TMN Tuesdays
- Be The Change Diversity Series
- Nature Reflections 2021
- TMN License Plate
- Annual Meeting – **LOTS HERE**
- Presidents Roundtable Discussions
- Looking Ahead



# Return to Service Guidelines

Safety is our guiding principle for operations. The Texas Master Naturalist™ Program has a responsibility for creating a **safe** and **friendly** space for all members, attendees, local partners and the public and communities we serve.

**The following considerations should direct how the Texas Master Naturalist Program will operate for the foreseeable future.**

## **Considerations for all TMN Activities:**

It is very important to know and follow all federal, state, county and local COVID guidelines/restrictions before conducting TMN Activities. Beyond these, please consider the following in planning gatherings:

- Virtual meeting platform tools are useful and should remain an important consideration for planning meetings and events.
- For any indoor or outdoor activities that do occur in-person, masks and social distancing considerations are encouraged.

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/welcome/covid-19-response/>



# Return to Service Guidelines

**Please note regarding vaccines:** Our program and agencies currently have no legal authority to develop policy based on private health information (HIPAA laws) at this time and we don't anticipate the program drafting its own policy or allowances, etc. addressing whether individuals (members or the public) with vaccines can/cannot participate in any TMN activities and where, when and how.

**Texas Master Naturalist members or members of the public should not be asked about their vaccination status.** Chapters may encourage persons in program settings to continuing following CDC guidance.

**There shall be NO EFFORT (including casual comments made publicly or privately) to DISCOURAGE the use of face coverings or any COVID related safety precaution.** Those who wish to wear masks and practice COVID protocols should be respected and their wishes supported.



# Regional WebEx Accounts

**REMINDER**

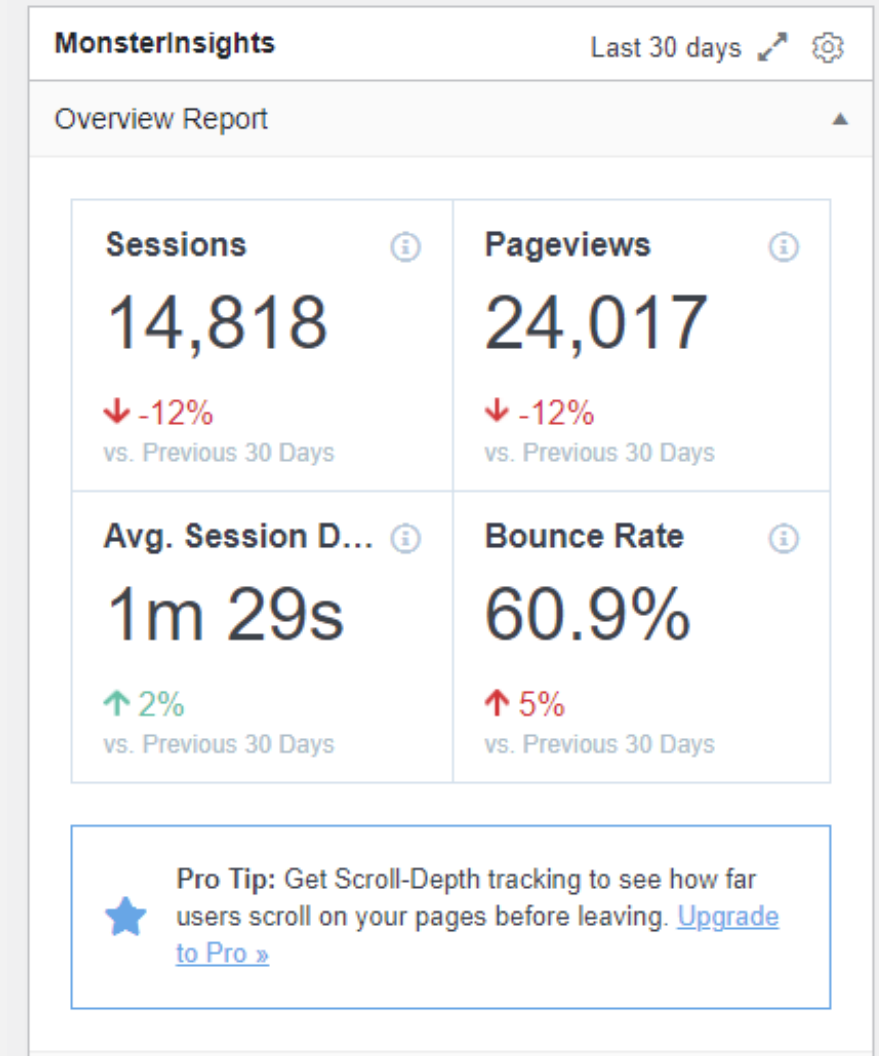
- Storage Capacity reached for all Regional WebEx Accounts
- Recordings were removed by TPWD IT office and saved on external device.
- IF needed – please contact Michelle
- Suggestions - Share recordings via YouTube, Vimeo or other Drive options. . .
- **New Policy** – At end of each month, please download and save recordings. And **DELETE** from Regional Accounts.
- Break Out Sessions – Available now!
  - Check Cisco's website for details and training materials on how to use.



# TMN Chapter Websites

- AgriLife Website team in transition – no designated ‘go to’ person anymore
- All requests – [firstcall@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:firstcall@ag.tamu.edu)
- **MonsterInsights** – Chapters can set these up using a GMAIL account.
  - Google “How To”

## Dashboard



# Fall Training Class Information

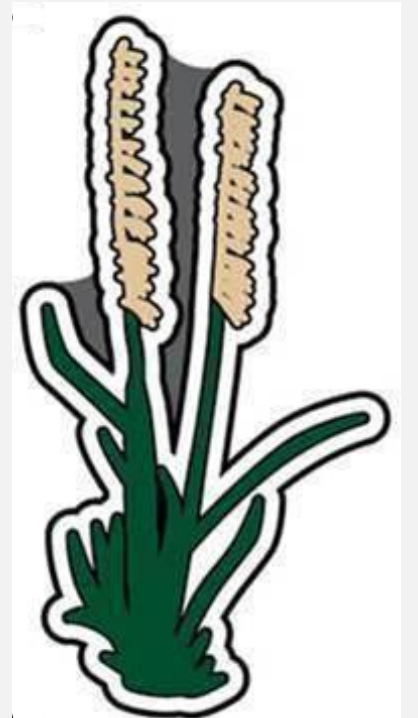
- Cameron will be posting & emailing with a request for Fall Training Class dates/registration information.
- Expect that email this week.
- One Question – Can a member who lives outside of our Chapters region/territory still train with us?
  - Yes! There are no rules on where a person living dictating which chapter they join.
  - However, they MUST still provide volunteer service within the chapters dedicated county(s) region/territory.





# Pins Update

- Presidential Volunteer Service Pin update - (4,000 hr)
  - Re now available have been ordered
  - Awaiting their arrival to our office and will be shipped out after that.



# #TMNTuesdays



## — Save The Date



## June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021

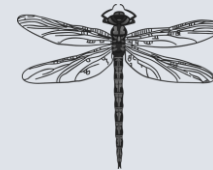


12:00 – 1:00pm Central  
**Second Tuesdays** of Each Month  
through December



Advanced Training Topics Seasonally  
Varies

## June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021



12:00 – 1:00pm Central  
**Third Tuesdays** of Each Month  
through September



Diversity & Inclusion Topics  
Building a Playbook

#TMNTuesdays



# Dragonflies: Pond Patrol



**June 8<sup>th</sup> - 12:00pm – 1:00pm CST**

**Sam Kieschnick**

TPWD Urban Biologist

@sambiology on iNaturalist

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/tmntuesdays/>





**As a leader of your organization, what presentation topics do you need to best guide your chapter in this moment of the series – the next three months of the series?**

**July 20<sup>th</sup> Be The Change –**

Chapter Survey Summary & Discussion

Emailed 5.18 – Please complete ASAP

Please have one person from your chapter respond by **June 4<sup>th</sup>**

<https://forms.gle/xHxamVEuxAcLPdcZ9>







**“Reflect upon how nature and specifically, the Texas Master Naturalist Program, has given you refuge or provided benefits in this past year.”**

- Request for **1 minute videos**
- Can count for Volunteer Service – up to **.5 Hours** (Chapter Admin)
- Please upload by **Monday May 31st**

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/nature-reflections-2021/>



# License Plate



## What we know . . .

- Press Release goes out June 19<sup>th</sup>!
- Order-able the following Monday
- How to order:
- <https://txmn.tamu.edu/tmn-license-plate/>

# Virtual Volunteer Fair

- **TENTATIVE:** August 31<sup>st</sup> & September 1<sup>st</sup> 2021
- Will be sending our Call for Proposals out in June!





# Save the Date for 2021!



Texas Master Naturalist  
—— 2021 Annual Meeting ——

October 21-24, 2021

Dallas/Fort Worth Airport  
Marriott





# Planning a HYBRID Event



**This Event is EVOLVING as we go. BUT we will NEED your Help!**

- Our definitions of Hybrid:
  - BOTH in-person & virtual attendee options
  - Speakers presenting from both in-person & virtually – by speaker choice. . .
  - Technology & tech hosts in physical room to stream #? sessions live for virtual attendees
    - And will be recorded . . .
  - Virtual Attendee Hub & tech hosts to help engage those virtual attendees. . . ?
    - What does that look like?
  - Certain field experiences for in-person attendees only . . .
    - Which ones? We don't know yet.
    - Virtual field session short videos from local/all chapters??
    - Who manages that?



# Planning a HYBRID Event



## Timeline:

- June –
  - Close Call for Proposals June 1st
  - Create Agenda & finalize speakers
- July –
  - Release Registration Costs & Final Agenda
- August 1st – Open Registration
- September 1st – Project Fair Deadline
- October 1st – All other Contests Deadline
- October 21-24th, 2021 – Annual Meeting



# Planning a HYBRID Event



## Call for Proposals

- Deadline **June 1st**
- Please share with speakers – those you've heard and those you want to hear!
- THIS IS VITAL to building the BEST agenda possible for our event.

## Contests & Awards

- Advisors Awards
- Video Contest
- Project Fair
- Photo, Art & Media Contest



# Planning a HYBRID Event



## Contests & Awards

- **Advisors Award**
- Nominate yours!
- Opening soon!
- Deadline - October 1st

### TMN Chapter Advisor Award

*The Chapter Advisor Award recognizes the exceptional work by the advisor or a team of advisors in one or several of the following areas...*

- Overall exceptional work of chapter advisors
- Exemplary contributions to the organization's mission and goals
- New initiatives and accomplishments supported by the advisor
- Advisor participation in the chapter
- The advisor's ability to empower members
- Resource management knowledge and activities



**Javier De Leon**  
Texas Parks & Wildlife  
Department

Rio Grande Valley  
**AND**  
South Texas Border  
Chapters Advisor

**John O'Connell**  
Texas A&M AgriLife  
Extension Agent,  
Brazoria County

Cradle of Texas Chapter  
Advisor



# Planning a HYBRID Event



## Contests & Awards

- Video Contest
- Deadline - October 1<sup>st</sup>
- Goal of Video Contest was originally to collect/encourage promotions videos for recruiting and marketing the TMN Program
- Have included field, project based videos, historical/anniversary and Nature Reflections short videos in the past
- Limited entries in 2020. . .
- Is this still useful?



# Planning a HYBRID Event



## Contests & Awards

- Project Fair
- Keeping aspects of virtual contest
- Deadline will be October 1<sup>st</sup>
- Virtual presentations will be done as October TMNTuesday – October 12<sup>th</sup>
- No physical poster needed
- We want to see how your projects adjusted in the COVID-era!



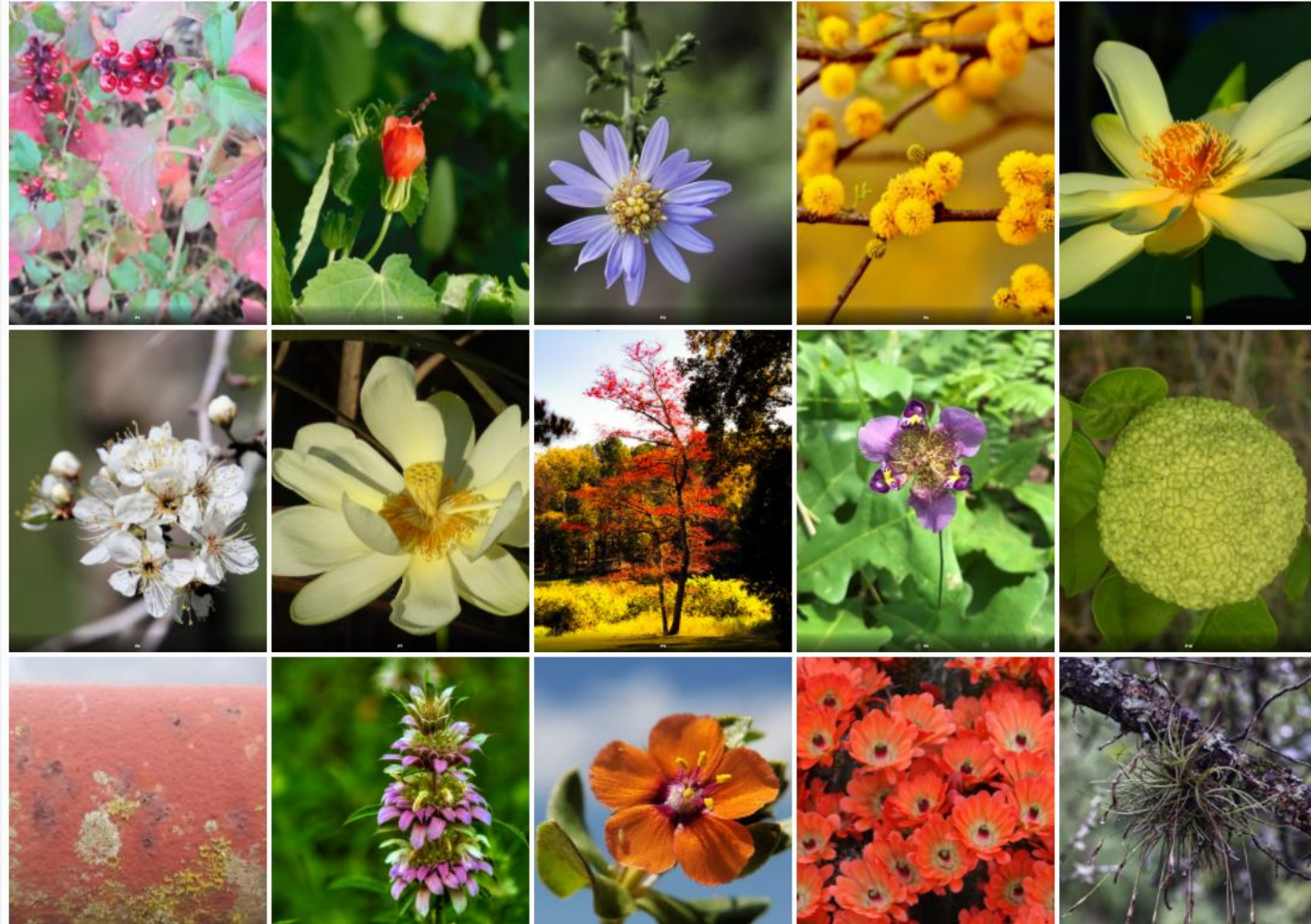


# Planning a HYBRID Event



## Contests & Awards

- Photo, Art & Media Contest
- Keeping aspects of virtual contest
- Seeking a chapter to host . . .



# Planning a HYBRID Event



## TENTATIVE

### Agenda

- May shift up one day with hybrid attendees schedule in mind
- Thursday at noon to Sunday breakfast
  - Presidents Meeting with Lunch on Thursday? –October 21st?
  - Sponsored lunch? (~\$2,500)
  - Would this work for you? Hybrid
- Friday - Technical Sessions(H) all day
- Friday - Keynote(H) at Lunch
- Saturday - Technical Sessions(H) & Field Sessions(I)
- Saturday - late afternoon/evening Awards (H)
- Sunday - breakfast Contest awards (H)

## TENTATIVE

H – Hybrid  
I – In Person only





# Planning a HYBRID Event



## Field Sessions

- Building a local chapter team to evaluate locations & speakers
- Will have capacity restrictions & transportation changes
- Can we include virtual attendees in these field sessions?
  - No. Additional technology needs & staffing.
  - Field Sessions are a benefit for the in-person registrants.
  - Encourage local members to limit attending field sessions to give traveling members opportunity to see these cool places
  - We see the local chapters leading these sessions, not attending them themselves.

Pre-recorded field session videos were such a hit last year though. . .

Submit for Project Fair or for Video Contest!



# Planning a HYBRID Event



**Where else will we need your help?**

**Here's what we know:**

In-Person Help:

Move-In/Out –

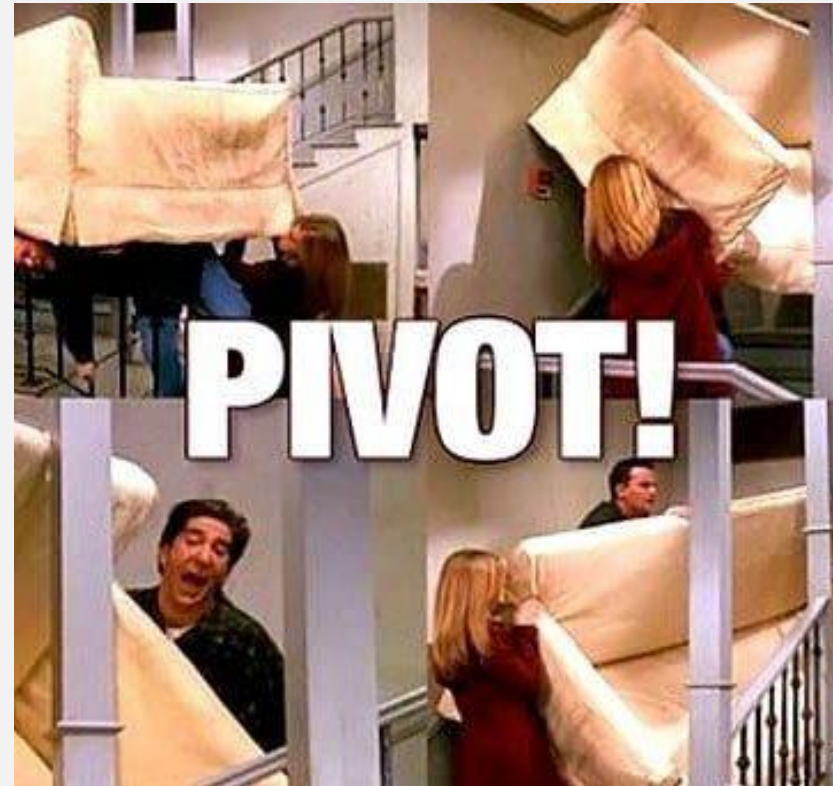
Registration Desk –

Meeting Room Support Volunteers –

Virtual Help:

Virtual Help Desk –

**Job requirements** – Be able to PIVOT!



# Planning a HYBRID Event



## **Lodging @ Dallas/Fort Worth Airport Marriott**

NEW this year! Lodging will be a separate phone call/website and transaction.

**DON'T Call them yet . . .**

Potential capacity limits for in-person registration. . .  
. . . May have to limit the # on-site.

We are working with hotel in regards to our lodging obligations per our current contract.



# Planning a HYBRID Event



## **FINANCIALS**

\*Remember, the Annual Meeting is a training event and provides no financial support to the state program office (cost-recovery)

## **Registration Fees –**

Will have by mid-July

In-person – has ranged from \$300-350 in past

Virtual - ?? unknown, will likely increase from 2020 based on new tech needs

## **Virtual Nature Venture/Fundraiser –**

Cross Timbers Chapter is working on this! Will have updates soon!

## **Vendors –**

Dropped this year



# Planning a HYBRID Event



## FINANCIALS

### Sponsorships –

Will be requesting again!

Pres Luncheon or Meals

Breaks

Registration Bags

Etc.

Please help us circulating this request!

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/2021-annual-meeting/#be-a-part-be-a-sponsor>

### Sponsorship Levels

Friend	\$150+
Ecologist	\$300+
Steward	\$500+
Conservationist	\$1,000+
Naturalist	\$5,000+



# Planning a HYBRID Event

**What other questions are you hearing from your members?**



# Presidents Roundtable Questions

- Photo Repository at state level? – **Asking this in May**
  - How does your chapter collect and store or archive all its images?
- Any others?





# Monthly Presidents & Advisors Meetings

2021 Monthly Chapter Presidents & Advisors Meeting – last Monday of Month

- ✓ January 25<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ February 22<sup>nd</sup>
- ✓ March 29<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ April 26<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ May 24<sup>th</sup>
- **June 28<sup>th</sup>** 
- August 9<sup>th</sup> (summer meeting)
- September 27<sup>th</sup>
- October - @Annual Meeting
- \*\*November 15<sup>th</sup>
- \*\*December 13<sup>th</sup>
- \*\*NOT the last Monday, adjusted due to holidays.





# The End

