

# Rio Brazos Master Naturalist Chapter Meeting

Mar 6, 2014 – Acton Library

**Program:** Dave Moore: Birds Of Big Bend and Wendy Moore: Galls

**Recognition of Guests:** Guests were Malea and Jake Balmuth, Sam, Hannah and Terri Olsen, Sam, Jonathan, Cathy and David Shields and Tom Scott.

**Old Business:**

- The minutes from February were approved.
- The Treasurers report was read and accepted. Yearly dues are due.
- Background checks are due and forms need to be turned in.

**Training Committee Report:** Robert Theimer said there will be a class starting on March 15. He also said a new project has been approved. It is called Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network, CoCoRaHS. This will be next month's program.

**Outreach Committee Report:** Billy Teels.

- The first Sat. bird walk in February had 16 people with 2 new families joining. They had heard about it in the newspaper.
- The Great Backyard Bird Count didn't have many people but they all enjoyed the talk given on Saturday about the birds of the Gulf Coast.
- The ANC Fun Run is scheduled for April 26, 2014 (morning)
- Maryann Mathews said the Bureson Camp-out is scheduled for April 26, 2014 and is seeking volunteers who will work between 4-8:30pm. The Crocker's are looking for more help with their fishing program. There will also be stargazing.
- There will be a birding field trip to Dinosaur Valley State Park on March 29<sup>th</sup>. Participants will meet at the Cedar Breaks trail head between 7 and 7:30am.
- On March 7<sup>th</sup> after the art class at the ANC, master naturalists showed up to help the students with some night time events. Mike Balderas led a walk to look for herps under rocks, Billy Teels listened for night birds and led a coyote calling, scorpion flashlights were handed out and there were at least 5 scorpions sighted and Chris Inbody, Gary Hinds and Jake Balmuth helped everyone look through the telescopes where they saw a star cloud and 4 moons around Jupiter.

**Volunteer Committee Report:** Ken Coy said a work day is scheduled for March 8<sup>th</sup> to work on the water feature.

**Membership:** Dave Moore showed a slide to help explain how to properly record hours.

**Newsletter:** The next newsletter comes out in May and Billy Teels said he welcomes light-hearted articles as well as more serious ones.

**Website:** Chris Inbody is working on web maintenance issues.

**Notices:**

- The Johnson County Herb Society said tables at their event are \$25 for early registration. If anyone thinks this would be a good venue to set up the booth and is available on Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup>, please let the booth committee know.
- Spring break at Fossil Rim is very busy and they will need extra volunteers at that time. Chris Paulsen also talked about the recent fire that burned a good portion of the gift shop. Please contact Chris Paulsen or Carol Lee to help.

The next meeting will be at the McGregor House in Cleburne on April 3, 2014.