



LEE COUNTY WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION

leecountywildlife.org

July 2013

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Scholarships Awarded To Three Local Grads

The Lee County Wildlife Association offers five, \$500 scholarships to deserving graduating seniors from our membership each year.

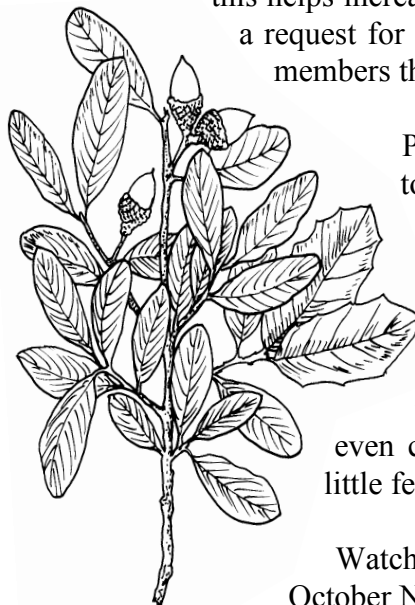
As part of the application process each applicant was asked to write a one-page essay on what is the role of the landowner in wildlife management. Only three students applied this year for the scholarships, all three students were awarded a scholarship.

Winners include Ashley Becker, Corie Schimank, and Loran Maass, all from Giddings High School. Congratulations to these ladies and all area graduates.

The un-awarded money will be carried over to next year with a possibility of 8 scholarships to be given.

Tree Seedlings to be Available in December

In an effort to help landowners replace a few of the many trees that have been lost due to droughts, along with the popularity of the free seedlings given out at the annual meetings when available, the Association directors decided to place an order for 2000 oak tree seedlings of various species. These trees should be available to members in December. Seedlings will have a root ball instead of bare root, we feel this helps increase the survival rate. Members will need to make a request for trees, then they will be divided by the number of members that requested them.



Planting trees is a serious commitment if you hope to have success. Frequent watering is essential during dry times and the use of some type of a trickle waterier can help somewhat automate the process. This can be as simple as staking a bucket next to your tree with a small hole drilled in it and refilling it as needed. Add mulch to help hold in some moisture. You might even consider the use of protective tree tubes. Add a little fertilizer and you're sure to beat the odds.

Watch for more information about this program in the October Newsletter.

Quail, Turkey and Grassland Bird Workshop

This workshop was held on Saturday, June 8th at Allen Wolf's property. We had a really good turnout.

Topics covered included the long term decline of quail through out most of their range, along with most other grassland bird species. The most important limiting factors on the landscape is having enough of the correct types of standing grass on the ground year round. For quail a minimum of 300 basket ball sized bunch grasses per acre is critical for nesting, plus a good mix of broad leaf forbs which produce seeds and attract insects. You also need around 20% bare ground between the bunch grasses, this allows chicks to move around to find seeds and insects.

Having the right amount of scattered clumps of brush thick enough to provide escape and thermal cover for quail, as well as nesting sights for songbirds, is also lacking from the landscape. Most properties have sod forming grasses, which do not provide nesting cover, nor allows any bare ground, plus have areas of thick woods. The interspersation of all the components will allow more of the property to be utilized by a variety of wildlife species.

Other Workshops in the Works

We are currently working on putting together a workshop on **Harvesting and Utilizing Rainwater**. With the seemingly ever decreasing amount of water falling from the sky, and more being pumped out of the ground; water is becoming extremely important. We thought this would be a good topic to learn more about. We are still working out the details and lining up a speaker, so no date has been set, but if this topic interests you keep an eye out for a flyer on this one.

It has been a couple of years since we had a **Deer Anatomy Class**, so we thought we would offer another class some time in October.

We will also be hosting a **Varmint/Predator Trapping Class**, scheduled for October 22 at the Lincoln Community Center starting around 6:30 pm.

4th Annual Women's Firearm Safety Class

The Wildlife Association held the 4th annual Women-Only Firearm Safety and Shooting Class on Saturday, May 11th. The turn out was great! Women of all ages came to the class and had a really good time, learning a lot.

The class teaches how to safely handle and shoot handguns, rifle and shotgun for self-defense or any other use, in a no-pressure, women-only class. This continues to be a free class for attendees thanks to Barbara and Bill Lindbergh, owners of the **Tejas Trading Post** and several other volunteers. I am as long as the interest continues, we will continue to offer this class.

Bird Identification Walk

We will be offering a Early morning bird identification walk on Saturday, July 13th in Lee County. Please note there has been a change in the location of the walk, it has been moved to **4174 County Road 117, Giddings**. The walk will be led by TPWD Diversity Biologist, Brent Ortego.

The dawn chorus is the best time for hearing birds sing, so that's the reason for the early morning; that, and to beat the heat. Come prepared to walk through fields and woods, also, bring good optics if you have them and or a camera. Please be prompt as will not be able to wait for stragglers.

There is no need to RSVP, but you can contact Greg Pleasant for more information at tpwbiologist@bluebon.net or at 979-540-2744.



Don't Give Pigs a Free Meal

Putting up a 24 to 30 inch panel fence around your deer feeder can save you more money than just the feed the pigs are eating. By not providing the pigs with a free meal they just might move out of the area entirely; which can prevent them digging up your pastures. Pigs can also intimidate deer from using a feed station; which is usually the animal the feed was intended to benefit.

It is recommended that you put up a pen with a 60 foot diameter or larger to prevent bucks from shying away and not jumping in to them. I have had hunters tell me their buck visitation went up dramatically when they enlarged the size of their feed pens, so don't skimp on size. The presence of cattle might make it necessary to have a taller panel or a double fence arrangement. A fence to stop the cows, and then inside of that one; to stop the pigs.

Hunter Education Classes Offered

There will be Two hunter education classes in Lee County this August, if you know of anyone needing the class.

One will be held in Dime Box, on August 30th and 31st, and one will be in Lexington, on either the 2-3 or the 9-10 of August.

For information on the Dime Box class, contact Roger Wubbenhorst at 979-884-2677. For information on; and for the final dates of the class in Lexington, contact Pastor Hasskarl at 979-540-7260.

Lee Counties New Game Warden

We welcome Adam Broll, his wife Kristen, and their 16 month old son, Weston to Lee County.

Adam, who replaces retired Texas Parks and Wildlife, Game Warden, Victor Gonzales is a graduate of St. Edward's University and a Native of Austin.



After completing game warden training, he was assigned to Liberty County, serving that area for three years.

Game Warden Broll, comes to Lee County with excitement and enthusiasm as he begins his duties.

Anyone needing Adam's assistance can reach him at 979-540-0194.

Game Wardens are commissioned peace officers who take charge in conservation enforcement by patrolling land and waterways, of the community, enforcing fishing, hunting, and boating safety laws.

