



RENDEZVOUS 2023
Friday, April 21, 2023 – Sunday, April 23, 2023
The Coastal Immersion Experience

SWLA Master Naturalists would like to welcome you to Rendezvous 2023 with a tour of Southwest Louisiana's coastal area. The Louisiana Master Naturalist Association (LMNA) is holding its 7th Annual *Rendezvous*, a statewide meeting of the seven master naturalist chapters in Louisiana, including Acadiana (Lafayette), Greater Baton Rouge, Northeast Louisiana (Monroe), Northwest Louisiana (Shreveport/Bossier), Greater New Orleans, CenLa (Alexandria), and our host - Southwest Louisiana (Lake Charles).

WHAT: *Rendezvous 2023* will include talks and field experiences on a variety of natural history subjects, photography contest, a silent auction, book sales, and time to befriend other master naturalists.

WHEN: *Rendezvous 2023* will take place from Friday, April 21, 2023 through Sunday, April 23, 2023. Registration will open at 4:00 PM Friday at the Hackberry Conference Center

WHO: The event is open to Louisiana Master Naturalists and their spouses/partners. Chapter members that are enrolled in classes to earn certification are also included.

WHERE: Friday registration/dinner/speakers will be at the Hackberry Community Center, 986 Main Street, Hackberry, La (south of Lake Charles). Saturday is field day – touring 5 different locales along the Creole Nature Trail with guides at each one. (car-pooling encouraged, each approximately 10-30 minutes from Conference Center). Sunday has a field trip option to a prairie habitat (maps provided at the conference).

ACCOMMODATIONS: The Main Stay Suites in Hackberry have reserved a block of rooms for LMNA. Rate is \$96 per night/2 or \$129 if only booking one night. All rooms are spacious - have 2 queen or 1 king bed plus a fold out couch, with a kitchenette. Hotel reservations are made on your own – separate from your conference registration. Contact the hotel directly 337-762-3128. Camping and RV parking is also available nearby. True Lodging for RV Parking – 337-287-0631.

REGISTRATION COST: \$75 per person includes Friday dinner, Saturday lunch and dinner. (Hotel provides breakfast for hotel-registered guests)

HOW TO REGISTER: Registration forms are available through EventBrite <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lmna-2023-rendezvous-registration-481496628377> or mail-in registration from our website: www.louisianamasternaturalist.org.

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST: The contest is online with multiple categories and amateur and professional groups to encourage many entries for all to enjoy. (similar to last year's format) Stay tuned for further information to participate by entering your photos and the voting process.

SILENT AUCTION AND BOOK SALES: Always great finds for naturalist treasure hunters! Additional information soon on receiving items for donation.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Please keep in mind that we reserve meeting rooms, plan menus with the caterer, and schedule workshops and field trips based on the number of attendees. We hope that you will not need to cancel your Rendezvous plans. We can only refund cancellations to the extent that these do not cost LMNA.

If you should become ill or experience an emergency extenuating circumstance, please notify your LMNA Treasurer and Rendezvous Registration Chair, Janie Braud (mjsbraud@gmail.com)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Volunteers are needed for additional tasks – please watch for additional information to sign-up.

WHAT YOU SHOULD BRING:

- Your Master Naturalist name badge if you have one
- Reusable water bottle/coffee mug, etc.
- Small ice chest to pack your Saturday lunch (provided)
- Cash, checks, or credit card for book sales and silent auction
- Tickets will be sold for great raffle items. Tickets at \$5 each or 5 for \$20. **Cash only.**
- Journal, binoculars, field guides, insect repellent, sunscreen
- Iced tea will be available with meals. You may bring your own additional beverages. Note that all Hackberry Suites have a small kitchen and microwave.

WANT MORE INFO? As program/schedule details are finalized, these will be posted on the LMNA website. Please check this site periodically. Additional questions - Conference Chair: Barbara Morris (tblsjm5@yahoo.com) or Treasurer/Conference Registration Chair: Janie Braud (mjsbraud@gmail.com)