

Wood Duck Whistler September 2023

President's Message by Wanda Rauscher



The member survey is out! Please take the time to provide your input.

IMPORTANT-----Our next chapter board meeting will be September 28 at 5:15 p.m., prior to the chapter meeting, at the Tyler Nature Center. We will have reports from Officers, Directors, and Project Leaders. Under new business I will present the results of the member survey. We will discuss next steps. The Nominations Committee for 2024 vacancies will be presented as well. All members are welcome to attend. If anyone has new business items to propose send such to Wanda Rauscher by September 14.

For those of you that are able please consider attendance at the State Meeting, **Thursday, October 12th through Sunday, October 15th**. Early registration closes August 31 but standard registration is open through the month of September. Per the state website, "The Lower Rio Grande Valley is famous for its diversity of birds, butterflies, and endangered species like Ocelots, Texas Tortoises, Sabal Palms, and Piping Plovers that call the region home. McAllen offers some of the best birding and nature exploration opportunities in Texas, with its sunny subtropical climate and prime

location along the Central Flyway. For our 24th Annual Meeting, we are excited to gather at the McAllen Convention Center, which sits between multiple nature centers and wildlife refuges along the Rio Grande Valley. McAllen also offers a unique opportunity this year as a close location to view an annular solar eclipse! Registered attendees of the Annual Meeting will be transported to the East Foundation's El Sauz Ranch to view the Annular Solar Eclipse, learn from various topic speakers, eat lunch and host hands-on field-based advanced training sessions. The El Sauz Ranch hosts a unique diversity of landscapes and land management practices with active sand dunes, thornscrub brush, ocelots, an active cattle herd, university research projects, burn management plans, and so much more. Learn with us with boots on the ground." Visit <https://txmn.tamu.edu/2023-annual-meeting/> to learn more and/or to register.

♥ Happy 25th Anniversary to the
Texas Master Naturalist Program! ♥





Texas Pollinator BioBlitz

October 6 AT 12 AM – October 20 AT 12 AM

Search for butterflies, bees, moths and other pollinators during the Texas Pollinator BioBlitz! Share your observations by posting a photo or video, on Instagram and/or iNaturalist (a free site that will help you identify what you see). Tag your pics [#TxPollinators](https://twitter.com/TxPollinators). We'll have daily challenges as well as in-person events to find pollinators.

🌟 Learn more at tpwd.texas.gov/pollinators 🌟

👁️ Get a sneak peek of the daily challenges at <https://tpwd.texas.gov/education/bioblitz/challenges>

Tyler Chapter – Native Plant Society

Jim Carras



Sometimes events, like COVID can cause a group to become inactive. This is the case in Tyler where the Native Plant Society (NPSOT) chapter was forced to close. But, a community survey has shown interest in forming a new NPSOT chapter. Jim Carras, a Smith County resident, has started to promote the idea

forming a new chapter in Tyler. Various posts on Facebook asking for potential new members resulted in an overwhelming response. The response also reflected a wide range of reasons for wanting to participate in a new chapter. Some reasons were wanting to learn more about landscaping, learning about the different types of native plants, and encouraging the overall growth of native plants to support the birds, bees, butterflies, and other pollinators. This is great because that's what NPSOT is all about.

First Meeting Scheduled for October 14th, 10:30am to Noon at the Tyler Rose Garden Exhibit Area - [Mark Your Calendar](#)

Everyone is welcome to attend. The agenda for this meeting will be 1) a presentation on the benefits to you for joining the society and then 2) a very short organizational discussion followed by 3) our guest speaker. After the meeting, please plan to visit the Rose Garden, one of Tyler's favorite gardens.

Guest Speaker Ricky Linex

A retired wildlife biologist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service and now works as a range and wildlife consultant. He is author of "Range Plants of North Central Texas", A Land Users Guide to their identification. Also, he authored "Value and Management, a plant identification book for Texas". Ricky is also our NPSOT President Elect.

At this meeting, Ricky will present a showcase of 35 native Texas forbs, shrubs and trees that were used medicinally by many tribes across Texas and the southern US. The treatment method and the illness or disease treatment will be discussed for each plant. Resources will be shown that can be used to research plants you are interested in to see what tribes might have used the plants.

Don't miss this very informative presentation by a recognized expert in the field.



Neil Ford - Initial certification pin + certificate

Gail Bean - 2023 re-certification pin

Paul Wick - 2023 re-certification pin

Pat Spradlin - 1,000 hours award pin

Jim Walker - 1,000 hours award pin

Tyler Nature Center Update

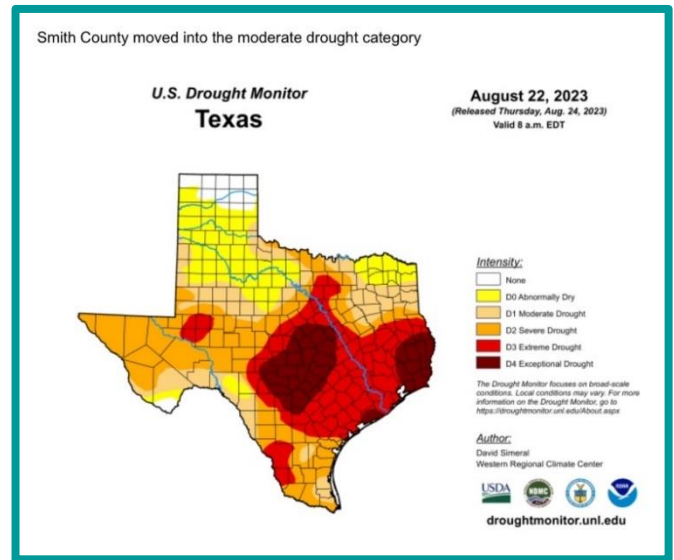
Kay Jenkins

The watering and weeding continue at the Wildscape at the Tyler Nature Center. But Kay Jenkins needs your help!

Please join her for the upcoming workdays September 9 and 23. Please RSVP to Kay so she can plan the work around the number of volunteers. Her email is: kay-jenkins@sbcglobal.net.

Bring the following:

- Gloves, hat, sunscreen and water to drink
- Knee pads or kneeling pad or towel to kneel on
- Shovel, rake, pruners, loppers, hoe
- 5-gallon bucket
- Pruners



Odolympics 2023 Here in East Texas

Bob Lumpkins

On August 19, several of us met at Faulkner Park North in Lindale to participate in this year's Odolympics. Our mission was to survey and hopefully capture some pictures of both



Nelson and Polly J., Lindsey, Amy S. and Angela H. taking photos

dragonflies and damselflies. As it turned out there were a number of dragonflies in and around the bank of the small lake located in the park. Lindsey Smith, serving as our guide and interpreter, took us on a two-hour adventure.

Damselflies were scarce; however, there were a large number of dragonflies, flying back and forth over their territories. Like hummingbirds, the dragonflies move quickly and seemed skittish. Few landed on plant stems or the ground. The vast majority were in flight.

Both dragonflies and damselflies belong to the Order Odonata. In general, both groups are strong fliers and are seen as beneficial insects, feeding on mosquitos and other biting flies (Abbott, 2020). They tend to be popular with naturalists, partly due to their large numbers and Texas having approximately half of the North American species spread across the State. Given their activity and skittishness, species identification can be challenging. However, with practice, observers, with their field guides in hand, can rely on the individual species coloration, abdominal patterns and anatomical features to help identify what they are seeing (Abbott, 2020). As for my experience, I saw several Eastern Pondhawk dragonflies, both male and female.



Male Eastern Pondhawk above;
Female Eastern Pondhawk below.



I did manage to capture a Common Green Darner in flight. As noted above, capturing a dragonfly in flight can be challenging, especially for a novice, but once again, this

proves the old adage "even a blind squirrel can find a nut on occasion".



Common Green Darner

Special Thanks to Lindsey Smith for dragonfly identification.

Abbott, J. and Abbott, K. (2020). Common Insects of Texas and Surrounding States: A Field Guide. University of Texas Press. Austin.

Wanda Rauscher

For me Odolympics was the excuse I needed to get outside in our extra hot summer weather.



Wandering Glider

I have rarely seen dragonfly swarms but got to stand in the middle of a feeding swarm at Martin Creek Lake SP! There were about 30 Wandering Gliders making circles. A Red Saddlebags joined the edge of the circle.

How many dragonflies do you see in this photo?



Red Saddlebags

At the pond behind Mobberly Baptist Church in Longview I saw this fine fellow:



Do you know about the dragonfly obelisk pose? It is thought to prevent overheating. This Halloween pennant and this Blue Dasher demonstrate.



Along the Paul Boorman trail in Longview I saw this Swift Setwing (above).

As I write this article, I have not seen any rare species but I have seen species that are new to me and also captured some photos of our "regulars" that I like.

At any time, users can view the Odolympics data in [Odonata Central](#) by opening the filters and setting the Project filter to "Odolympics" for records, species lists or maps.

Ann Reynolds

On August 26, 14 people braved the heat at the Mineola Nature Preserve to explore the world of the dragon and damsel fly. The adventurous folks included: Lindsey Smith, Bobbie Williams, Carolyn Nanni, Amy Svensson and her friend, Kari, Jim Walker, Ann and Rick Reynolds, Sandy Tibbs and Jay Heppner, Polly

and Nelson Jones and Neil Ford and his wife. Here are a few photos that Lindsey took:



Atlantic Bluet



Citrine Forktail



Four-spotted Pennant



Great Blue Skimmer



Lily Pad Forktail



Widow Skimmer


The Water Weasel

Sharon Hanzik

Most people have only ever seen a mink adorning the shoulders of affluent female (and sometimes male) socialites. However, that, as we've seen, is on the decline. And in this naturalist's opinion, good riddance, even if the animals are farm raised. We no longer need to harvest animals to support our warm clothing needs. In the wild, although the mink's population has been on a steady decline, their numbers are not an area of concern for conservationists.



Copyright Free Photo



Since this fur-bearing, semi-aquatic mammal is so secretive, one might be led to believe that it does not exist in this vast state that we live in. In fact, most people are surprised to hear that they are a Texas native, inhabiting much of the eastern half of the state. I was once one of these individuals. Once I did learn about this native Texan, I thought it would be very cool to see one. My hopes were diminished somewhat when I learned just how secretive they really are. I spent all of my career (31 years) as a park ranger at Brazos Bend State Park where I was blessed to view a wide range of flora and fauna. After a catastrophic flooding of the lower Brazos River in early 1991 we were extremely excited to see the return of the North American river otter, another member of the weasel, or mustelid, family. River otters had not been seen in this particular river bottom habitat for quite a few decades. Yet no one had ever reported seeing anything resembling a mink. That is, until a catastrophic drought hit in 2011. With water levels at almost an all-time low, it was the perfect time to clear off the Southern Wild Rice that was overtaking more shallow wetland areas in the park. The park rangers had been at this task for approximately a week when an excited call came across the two-way radio. "We just saw a weasel-like creature and it wasn't an otter!" Now we all wanted to join in the clearing in the hopes of a personal sighting. I never did get to see one, but mink were seen in at least two other wetland areas as they were being cleared. Along with the river otter, they were either back!

I hadn't thought about those instances in quite some time, until a day floating near the shoreline on Lake Palestine. My friend and I were just having a lazy day this past June, enjoying a mid-afternoon float near the boathouse when we both looked up to see a small, long-tailed mammal running the rocky shoreline then disappearing into the brush. River otters had been seen so we naturally jumped to that conclusion.

It was only a few weeks later when a friend was fishing the same shoreline and came out to the

pier to tell us he saw what looked like a weasel peek out of a den, go to the water's edge, then quickly return to safety once spying the perceived human threat (yes, we were again enjoying another relaxing float). A weasel? My friend and I looked at each other and it suddenly dawned on us that what we had both seen previously was, in fact, the same type of animal, not a river otter. In our haste to make an identification, we did not take into account the size of the creature, house-cat sized, and solitary. A very young river otter of that size would be with parents that would never expose it to a human threat. Based on my past experience, I knew we had ourselves a mink! And just an hour or so later, that little mink ran down the shoreline and disappeared into another den a little farther down the bank. This was most likely the culprit that had been raiding the live well! We had stopped keeping fish in there due to this constant thievery.

Although this article consistently refers to the mink as a weasel, as in the title, recent studies have determined that it is a species all its own and not a mustelid as previously believed. Just what is a mustelid? The term mustelid, according to the Collins English Dictionary, refers to "any member of the weasel family of small carnivorous animals with musky anal scent glands". And what animal first comes to mind when you think "small anal scent glands"? The skunk, of course. This group also includes everything from ferrets to river otters, badgers and wolverines. But the mink, according to the seventh edition of *The Mammals of Texas* (Schmidly and Bradley), is no longer one of them. Formerly classified as *Vison Vison* (basically meaning "stinky little furball" it is now classified as *Neovison Vison*, basically meaning "new stinky little furball". "New" or not, this secretive aquatic carnivore is on the decline in Texas due to consistent loss of its preferred aquatic habitat. However, the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) lists it as a species of least concern.

Vital Statistics

Size: similar in size to a house cat; an adult male can weigh in at 3.5 lbs; females around 1.7 lbs

Life span: 3-4 years in the wild; up to 10 years in captivity

Reproduction: Minks breed from January to March. The male is polygamous but usually stays with the last female he mated with to help her raise the 4-10 young in the litter usually born between April and June.

Habits: Mink are mainly nocturnal. This keeps them and their young safe from predators such as birds of prey, bobcats and coyotes. They are found near a water source, usually ponds, marshes, swamps and lakes. They do not hibernate. They can withstand cold water temperatures due to their thick undercoat which keeps water from touching their skin. Adults are well-camouflaged, sneaky and can easily defend themselves against more terrestrial predators. They are usually solitary, except as a familial unit until the young are on their own around the month of August.

Range: Eastern half of Texas; throughout North America, Great Britain and Ireland

Diet: small mammals, birds, eggs, frogs, fish, crayfish

Member Spotlight

Ann Reynolds

This month's member spotlight is **Lance Homeniuk**.



Where were you born/raised?

Born in Beaverlodge, Alberta, a little town in the north but raised in Edmonton, the capital. So, I was a city boy.

Where do you live now?

For 33 years in Kilgore, TX - after many moves.

Would you care to share with us about your family?

My wife, Kathy is a native Texan. We have two sons and a daughter who has given us 4 granddaughters. (They are so much fun we should have had them first).

What is/was your career? Education?

At last count I think I've had about 30 paying jobs. Teaching has been my career – retired after 30 years teaching high school students science. I have been substituting for 4 years and now back at it this year as 8th grade science.

I have a BA in sociology/psychology; Med in secondary education with umpteen hours in every science course at 4 universities I could get.

What are some of your hobbies?

Reading (surprise), travel, hiking, collecting, wood work, collecting, gaming, painting – I have more unread books and unfinished projects than I care to admit.

What do you attribute your love of nature?

Summers spent in the Rocky Mountains and Okanagan and winters in the "Great White North" were the sparks, but studying the wonders of creation as evidence of the awesomeness of the Creator is the fire that keeps it going. For me Tennyson's flower in the crannied wall was a dandelion growing beside the rugby field. I still have that research paper somewhere.

What was it that interested you in the Texas Master Naturalist program?

I was looking for something productive and interesting to do with the parks for when I

eventually retired and had “all that free time.” I found volunteer opportunities on the TPWD website, and that led me to TMN.

What class were you in?

The year of 2012 – double certified and received my pins at the annual meeting in New Braunfels.

What has been your favorite volunteer experience?

Staffing the discovery tables at various venues. The hands-on activities and especially making the nocturnal animals tunnel and walk through trees at the Tyler fair.

Favorite nature activity?

Walking to a secluded site and using all the senses to soak in the surroundings, all the life going about its business and the impressions of the sun, wind, soil, water, rocks... There is as much to perceive within two minutes from our home as there is in the Yukon.

Describe what would be your perfect, bucket-list natural science encounter or experience.

My fantasy is to spend a season (or year) living in one wild place and getting to know intimately the inhabitants, especially one creature, say, wolf, the way Jane Goodall came to know chimpanzees.

Advice for new master naturalists?

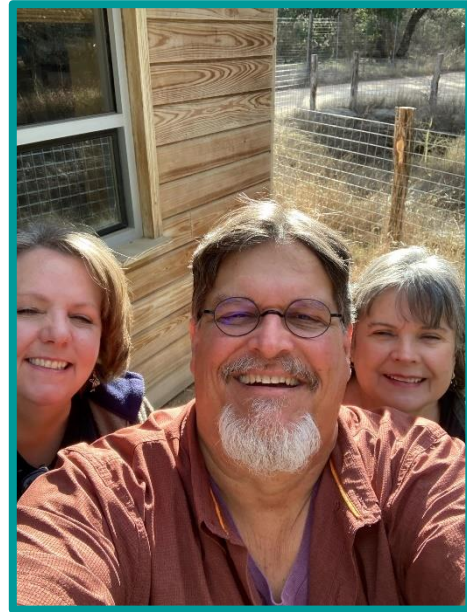
Try everything – as many service projects as you can, as many classes on varied topics, meet as many different people, especially experts in their field, and learn from all of it. Or... zero in on that one thing that you love and do it.

One of My Favorite Texas Places

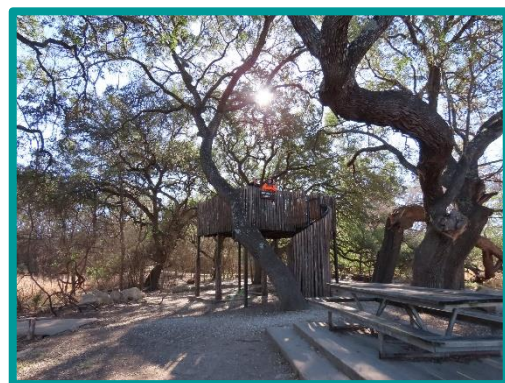
Ann Reynolds

With a state as big as Texas there is something for everyone. Whatever your outdoor or indoor passion, you are sure to find it. I found a place new to me about 3 years ago when my grandchildren moved, along with their parents, to Boerne, TX. While the downtown area is very touristy, one can find a wonderful nature

treasure that the city, volunteers and other agencies have preserved – The Cibolo Center for Conservation. You may recognize it as the TPWD office of our friend, Craig Hensley (Texas Nature Trackers).



A handful of people planted the seed of the Cibolo Nature Center thirty-five years ago, never imagining it would become what it is today. Now the Cibolo Center for Conservation encompasses 100 acres of city park and the 60-acre Herff Farm. It has protected over 850 acres of the Cibolo Conservation Corridor, all in downtown Boerne.

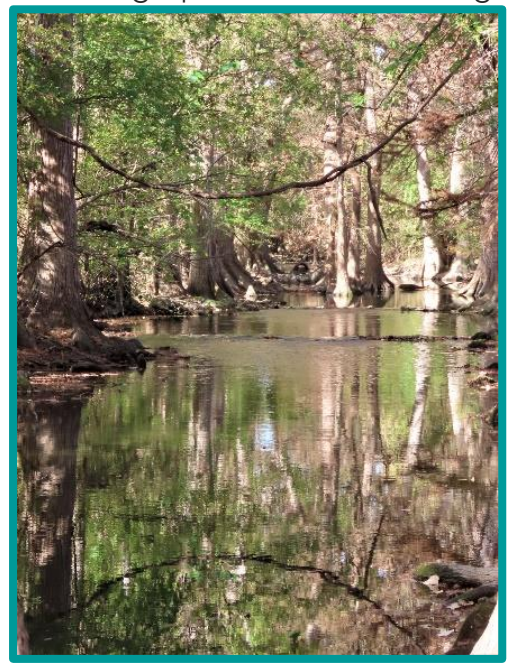


The center includes a nature center, miles of trails along pasture land, a marsh and Cibolo Creek, the Herff Farm, the Nest Nature School

for preschoolers, the Inspiration Garden, the Teaching Garden, the Chicken School Yard, the Chick Hatchery, the Farmers Market at Herff Farm and satellite sanctuary lands.



Beginning as the 60-acre Cibolo Wilderness Trail in Boerne City Park, friends and volunteers started cleaning up the creek, creating trails,



and the city reclaimed the marsh. The prairie was restored through prescribed burns and years of management. The creek has been cleaned regularly by groups and volunteers. The gardens have been nurtured by the Native Plant Society and volunteers. Scouting organizations, university students, Boerne school students and many other have worked on the stewardship of lands and waters, including removal of invasive species, and planting hundreds of native trees. This effort has been recognized by Texas Parks and Wildlife with the Lonestar Land Stewardship Award. Programs like the Mostly Native Plant Sale,

Night Hikes, Bird Watching, Gardening, Nature Camps, Landscaping and Land Stewardship have been supported by the community. Outdoor classroom programs have touched many thousands of public and private schools' students and homeschoolers at the Cibolo while Nature Boxes and other outreach programs reach tens of thousands more.

Cibolo Creek Conservation has assisted with the city in cleaning the Upper Cibolo Creek management plan, careful development of Boerne Lake, the Old Number 9 hiking trail, a

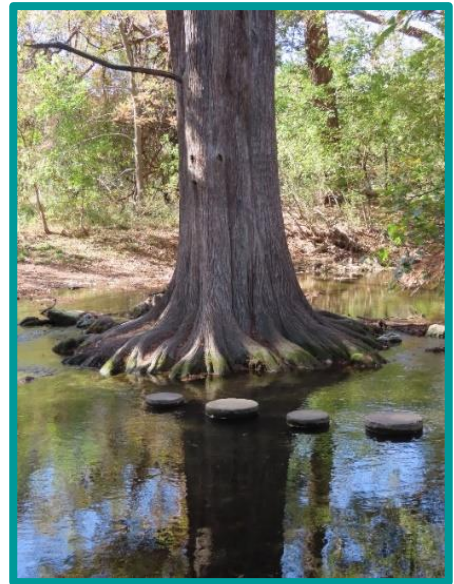


tree protection ordinance and a trail plan for the city.

The historic Herff Farm has been restored and is being used as a model to teach sustainable living practices and hosts a Farmers Market and the Nest Nature School. The Nest provides hands-on outdoor education for preschoolers.



All of these activities have garnered many awards but the greatest outcome has been all



the outdoor space for wildlife, families and friends to visit. It is a model for preserving, sharing, and teaching about living harmoniously and sustainably with our wide-



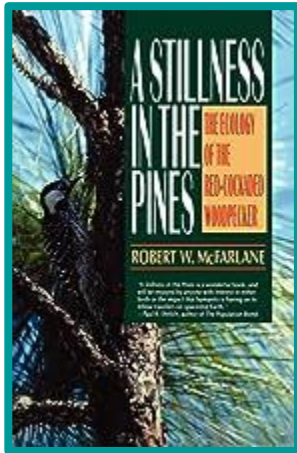
open spaces.

Bravo to a small town, in a small county in the Hill Country whose residents had a vision to save some ground and use it to teach how we can respect and enjoy our natural heritage.

Book Reviews

Lance Homeniuk

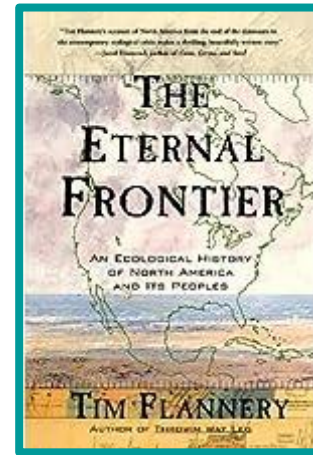
A Stillness in The Pines: The Ecology of the Red-Cockaded Woodpecker by Robert McFarlane. Published 1992 by W.W. Norton & Company, New York, NY. Hardcover, 270 pages.



Perfect timing – just as Mark's RCWP project was getting started I ran across this little gem in the Half Price Books. And to top it off it had been marked down – a steal! Or was it meant to be? The author is an experienced ornithologist, a researcher, consultant and advocate for the endangered bird. He was also Chair of the Red-Cockaded Woodpecker Subcommittee of the Texas Organization of Endangered Species. Need I state his writing is very informed and covers not just the “ecology of” but the evolution of-, life history of-, recovery of-, and bureaucratic entanglements of- (there is a chapter on “Peckerwood Politics”, -the RCWP).

Is anyone surprised that the major threat to the survival of the species is us? Most directly responsible are the logging practices of the timber companies with the aid and abetting of governmental agencies legally tasked with overseeing and enforcing compliance with existing laws (No names or acronyms are needed, are they?). Full disclosure- a hurricane wiped out the largest population of breeding birds in North Carolina and some federal agencies and at least one judge in Tyler, TX have struggled along with the conservation groups against the chop-em-all-down forces. RCWP were listed as endangered in 1968 and now, 55 years later have been nearly extirpated. But they are still hanging on.

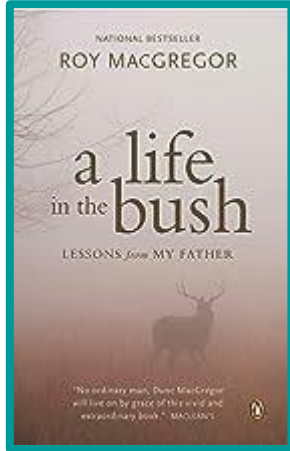
The Eternal Frontier: An Ecological History of North America and its Peoples by Tim Flannery. Published 2001 by Grove Press, New York, NY. Paperback, 404 pages.



An Australian has undertaken the biography of OUR continent. And has done an outstanding job of it. Maybe the distance (emotional as well as geographical) was necessary to give a proper perspective. This is a 65-million-year long story, full of migrations, extinctions, drama, upheaval, and monstrous beings (not just us). The role of astronomy is filled by the asteroid, that of climate change by the ice ages and ocean currents, biology mostly by mammals, anthropology by people from Clovis to U. S. Americans. Reading like one of Mitchener's sweeping sagas full of interweaving lineages, life and death struggles and real places it contains enough facts and even first-person experience for the nonfiction fans.

I use extreme self-discipline to refrain from listing all the wonderful things Flannery shared with me, his faithful reader. But let me leave you with one tidbit- you will learn how a steak from a 35,000-year-old, mineral encrusted, long-horned bison tasted in 1979! I think I would have needed a lot of steak sauce.

A Life in The Bush - Lessons from My Father. By Roy MacGregor. Published 1999 by Penguin Canada, Toronto, Ontario. Paperback, 374 pages.



MacGregor spoke to me on a personal level. The setting is in and around Algonquin Provincial Park in Ontario, Canada. The town closest to the center of action was laid out by a great grandfather of mine, a Dominion surveyor. One of the author's grandmothers was a relative of my grandfather. And my brother and I have a long-standing date to canoe and fish for speckled trout in the lakes. It may not come to pass unless I get a move on but I have poured over the topo maps and viewed photos online of those lakes and rivers. So, I "watched" the book as clearly as ever I did the movie "A River Runs Through It".

Duncan MacGregor was not a heroic figure, not a great success, not a good role model. But his unassuming life and person is all the more relatable and, to me at least, worthy of appreciation. He had a few flaws and more praiseworthy traits that make him someone I think anyone would like to know.

YANTIS, TEXAS

PRAIRIE DAY



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023
at The Northeast Texas Prairie Classroom
124 West Oak
Yantis, Texas 75497
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Family friendly, free outdoor event celebrating nature and our grazing lands.

*Prairie restoration walk (9 am) and land stewardship talks throughout the day.

Come and meet Texas Parks & Wildlife, US Fish & Wildlife, The Audubon Society, Texas Grazing Lands Coalition, local landowners and others.

Contact Julie Mattox for more information
sagegeodetic@msn.com
903.752.1015

DATE CHANGE
December 2
Caddo Culture Day
Celebration

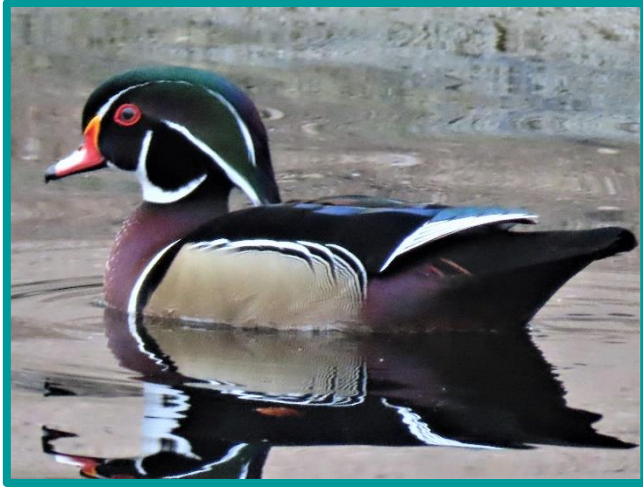


Photo courtesy Ann Reynolds

If you are interested in learning more about the business side of the chapter, all ETCMN members are invited to attend the quarterly chapter Board meetings. You can also access the Board meeting minutes on the chapter website under Members Only section, select Board of Directors and enter the current password.

The Wood Duck Whistler is a monthly publication of East Texas Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist Program. News, essays, comments, and ideas are welcome. Please email them to Ann Reynolds at ann@etex.net.

Photos for Book Reviews are courtesy of Amazon. Unless otherwise noted, all other photos belong to the author of the article.

Upcoming Events

Sept 5-Oct. 31 Master Volunteer Entomology Advanced Training. See eBlast.

September 9, 8:00 Wildscape Work Day, Tyler Nature Center, RSVP Kay Jenkins

September 12 – TMN Tuesday noon – Birds

September 20 articles for the chapter newsletter due to Ann Reynolds

September 23, 8:00 Wildscape Work Day, Tyler Nature Center, RSVP Kay Jenkins

September 28 – Board meeting 5:15; Chapter Meeting, 6:45 Social, 7:00 Speaker, Tyler Nature Center, see eBlast for speaker details.

IN THE COMMUNITY

NETFO – 1st Wednesday 6:30 pm, Alethea SS Classroom at Greggton UMC (1101 Pine Tree Road) in Longview. **David Brotherton, NETFO will be speaking on hawk identification, hawk migration, and the hawk watch occurring at Daingerfield State Park.**

Tyler Audubon Society, 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 pm St. Francis Episcopal Church, Education Room, 3232 Jan Avenue. **David Brotherton, NETFO will be speaking on hawk identification, hawk migration, and the hawk watch occurring at Daingerfield State Park.**

Yantis Prairie Day – Yantis TX September 30

Tyler Native Plant Society, October 14th, 10:30am to Noon at the Tyler Rose Garden Exhibit Area

NPSOT-Longview – 4th Thursday, 2:00 pm,

November 9-11th Native Plant Society of Texas Fall Symposium, Nacogdoches



WHERE YOU CAN FIND US

You can find East Texas Chapter Master Naturalists here:

<https://txmn.org/etwd/>

<https://www.facebook.com/EastTexasMasterNaturalist/>

<https://www.instagram.com/easttexasmasternaturalist/>



<https://tpwd.texas.gov/>

Texas Master Naturalist – East Texas Chapter Monthly Chapter meetings are held the **fourth Thursday of the month at the Tyler Nature Center, 11942 FM 848, Tyler, TX 75707**. Meet and greet 6:45 pm; meeting at 7:00 pm.

Everyone is welcome.

Safety Guidelines from TMN: Safety is our guiding principle. Follow all federal, state and county guidelines for TMN activities. Virtual platforms are useful and should remain an important consideration for planning meetings and events. Masks and social distancing considerations are encouraged. (July 2021)

ETCMN CHAPTER ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

****President: 2022-2023** Wanda Rauscher

****Vice President: 2023-2024** Cindy Smith

Hospitality Co-Chairs: 2023 Caryn Vorsas, Joe Vorsas; Bonnie Edwards

****Secretary: 2023-2024** Carol Lanthrum

Historian/Archivist: TBD

****Treasurer: 2022-2023** Phil Guthrie

Immediate Past President: 2022-2023 Paul Wick

DIRECTORS:

Advanced Training (AT): Lead - Beverly Guthrie with Amy Cumbie and Cindy Smith

Volunteer Service Projects (VSH): Lead – Dawn Bahr with Lance Homeniuk and Greg Marshall

Community Education/Outreach: Lance Homeniuk

Speakers Bureau: Greg Marshall

Diversity and Inclusion: TBD

Training Class: Beverly Guthrie

Membership: Wanda Rauscher

Volunteer Management System Director: Lindsey Smith

Communications Support:

E-Blast: Wanda Rauscher

Newsletter: Ann Reynolds

Photography: Lindsey Smith

Public Relations: TBD

Social Media: Lead - Greg Marshall, Dawn Bahr and Julie Davis

Website: Dale Wade

State Representative: Wanda Rauscher or appointed alternative

2023 Class Representatives: Natalie Curley

Chapter Advisors:

Clint Perkins – A&M Agrilife Extension Agent-Smith County

Boyd Sanders – TPWD Advisor

**** = Officers & Executive Board Members**

Revised 5/9/23