

Wood Duck Whistler June 2022

President's Message by Wanda Rauscher



I am thrilled with the performance of our chapter in the inaugural City Nature Challenge Tyler/East Texas! Having 184 observers is a great first year! Getting 4865 observations is simply awesome! This would NOT have happened without the leadership of Bob Lumpkins. Bob put together a great team who in turn worked to teach a lot of folks about iNaturalist. He also laid groundwork for cooperation with other organizations that share our interest in the natural world. Did everyone see the piece in the Tyler Loop, "Master Naturalists Document Wildlife During City Nature Challenge"? WHY we are doing this: to engage people with nature so that they will start to care and take action to protect this place we love and to provide the species occurrence data for the professionals as they seek to determine what is needed to allow our diversity to thrive. Great job! Thanks to all chapter participants!

The chapter recently concluded another significant project: the Camera Trapping Project to collect data for TPWD Texas Nature Trackers. Again, without great leadership the project would not have succeeded. Thanks go to Mark Edmund! From mid Sept. 2021 to mid-April 2022, 11 game cameras were deployed in

five of our 10 catchment counties. Roughly 24 master naturalists reported 410 service hours for the project. Critters seen included feral hogs, raccoons, deer, possums, coyotes, beaver, and armadillo. Non-mammal species recorded included Red-shouldered Hawk, Great Blue Heron, Wood Duck and alligator. No bears nor spotted skunks but then there aren't many of either (if any) to see in our catchment. Our data provided Texas Nature Trackers the opportunity to compare sightings on private land to public land data. And now the chapter has an added skill set- how to use camera trapping for mammal surveillance. All good! Thank you to the chapter participants!

Want more opportunities to volunteer? Keep reading the E-Blasts and watch for updates to the approved VSH list.

Teacher of the Year!



ETCMN's own, Jason Pike, was awarded Henderson Independent School District's Northside Intermediate Teacher of the year.





2022 Recertification

Mark Edmund
Patti Gray
Beverly Guthrie
Phil Guthrie
Lance Homeniuk
Bob Lumpkins
Wanda Rauscher
Ann Reynolds
Ray Rottman
Karen Rueb-Hall
Lindsey Smith
Caryn Vorsas
Joe Vorsas
Bobbie Williams

Class of 2022 Double Certified

Denise Gary
Jim Walker

Initial Certification

Carol Lanthrum (Class of 2021)

250 Hours – Bronze Dragonfly

Mark Edmund
Sara Emry-Arthur

500 Hours – Silver Dragonfly

Bobbie Williams

1000 Hours – Gold Dragonfly

Karen Rueb-Hall



Put it on your calendar now as we prepare for our 23rd Texas Master Naturalist Program Annual Meeting, an event to gather, learn and celebrate another year of the Texas Master Naturalist Program. We're preparing this year's meeting as an in-person at the Omni Houston this fall, Thursday, October 20th to Sunday October 23rd.

This year's Annual Meeting will be hosted in the heart of one of the most ecologically diverse urban centers in the nation. Houston is nestled in the Gulf Coast Prairies and Marshes ecoregion of Texas, inviting a wide variety of wildlife and vegetation. With a temperate climate and abundant rainfall, more well-known species include the Houston toad and the whooping crane. The conference, held at the Omni Houston, sits on the shores of Buffalo Bayou, creating 160 acres of greenspace in the heart of downtown Houston, and re-introducing the natural world to those who call the city their home.

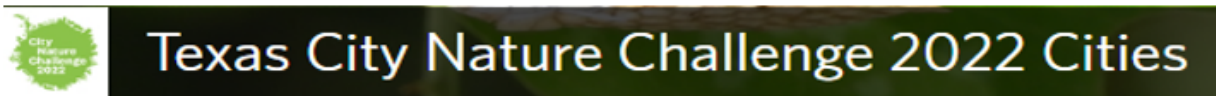
City Nature Challenge 2022 Final Report to the Chapter

Robert Lumpkins

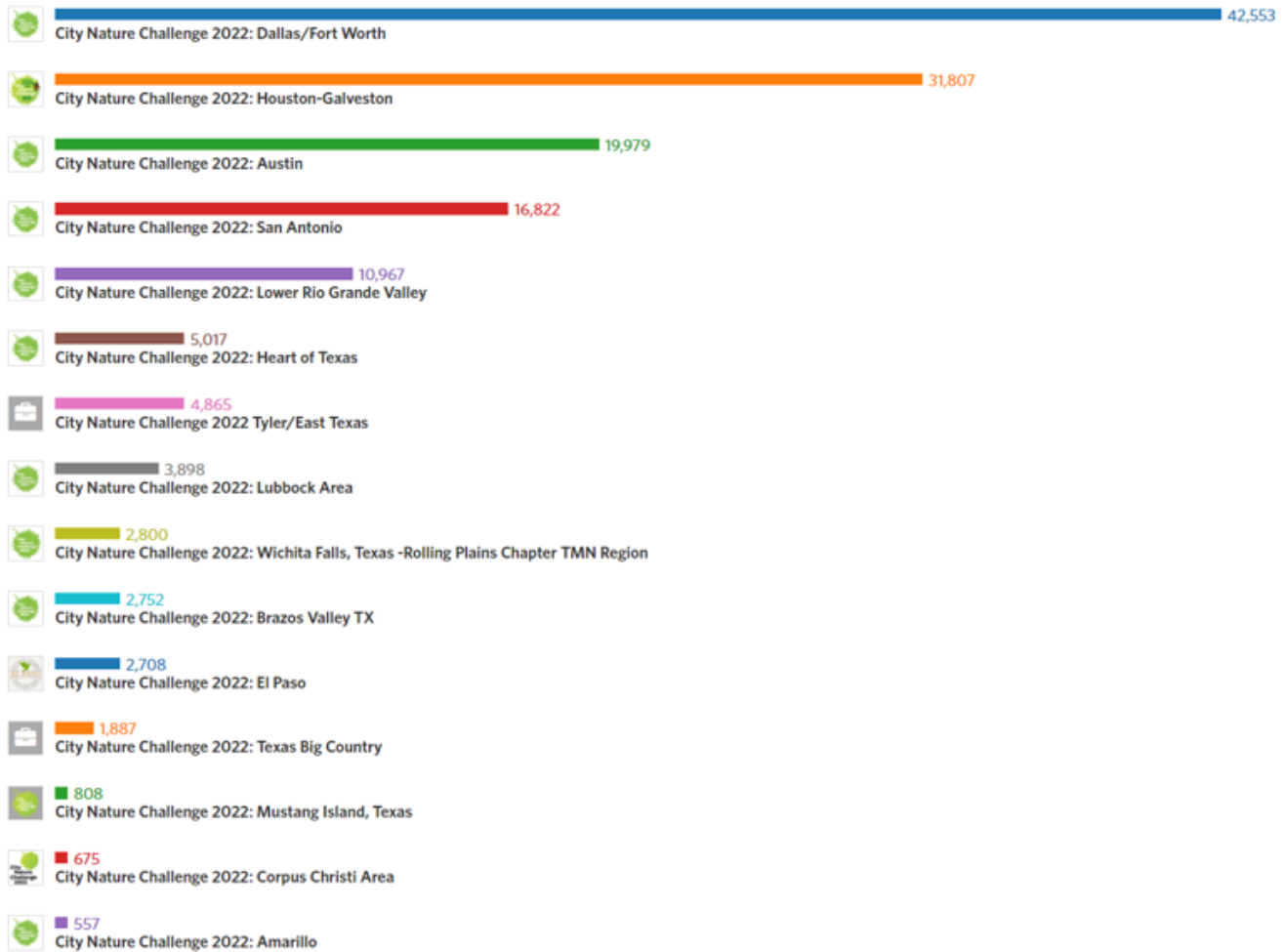
This year's City Nature Challenge (CNC) came to a close Monday May 9th at 9am. It culminated over six months of planning and preparation and resulted in:

- **Observations: 4865**
- **Species: 1220**
- **Observers: 184**

These total observation results placed us in seventh place of the fifteen CNC cities in Texas. Without a doubt this was a very respectable first year for us!



Leaderboard

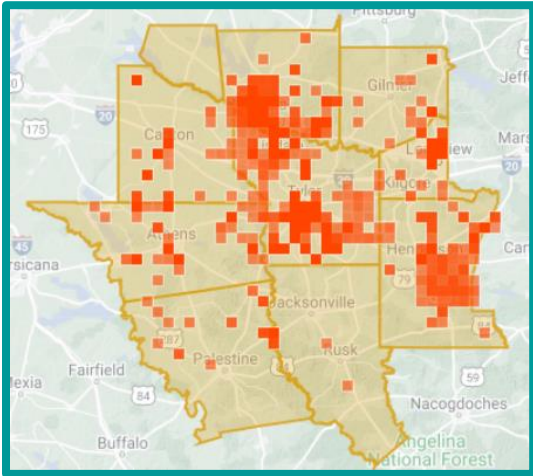


([Texas City Nature Challenge 2022 Cities · iNaturalist](#))



Over 445 cities uploaded 1.69 million observations of wildlife worldwide by over 67K observers this year. That is significantly increased from when this event began in 2016 between two cities as a challenge to see which city could recruit the most observers and who could upload the most observations. That first year netted about 1000 observers between the two cities and generated about 20K observations.

Besides the total observations, two other points of interest are worth noting. First, we saw observations in all but one of the counties our chapter covers. While the majority of the observations were in and around Tyler, Mineola (Nature Preserve), Longview and Henderson, we also saw activity in every county but Rains.



The second data point pertained to the near 200 observers involved with our project. This number far outpaces our original estimates. I believe this turnout was a direct result of the CNC Planning Committee members and other chapter volunteers making so many educational and recruitment appearances at various community events.



Whether it was City of Tyler Arbor Day or Camp Tyler Earth Day recognition, volunteers were busy sharing information, flyers and hands on instruction for opening iNaturalist accounts, tips on using and uploading wildlife photos.

We also had invitations to school nature events which provided the opportunity to interact with "future master naturalists", many of whom already had active iNaturalist accounts, which they used for classwork.

City of Tyler Arbor Day Photo W. Rauscher



All Saints EVIROFEST 2022. Photo B. Lumpkins

April 29-May 2nd "THE EVENT"

We saw excellent weather for getting outside during the four-day event. Fortunately for us we had several great venues for observing nature and wildlife. Each of our four sites had great diversity of wildlife, much of which were easily photographed and uploaded.

Mineola Nature Preserve, hosted by Polly and Nelson Jones and Allison Utley, showcased water features, forest areas and open grassland. We saw any number of wildlife, both plant and animal.



Polly and Nelson Jones at Mineola Nature Preserve.



Mineola Nature Preserve CNC.



The "infamous" alligator even made a short appearance (see below). Lindsey Smith was available to identify dragonflies and damselflies. Ann Reynolds stopped by to share her bird knowledge and expertise.

Our Tyler State Park event was an all-day BioBlitz, hosted by our President Wanda Rauscher with help from several chapter volunteers. The welcome table was situated outside the Silver Canoe Store and afforded an excellent opportunity to introduce both the City Nature Challenge event and the iNaturalist app. Many of the visitors were campers in the park and were very interested in our project, use of iNaturalist and our Chapter.

Vickie Hoppis lead a great nature/iNaturalist walk at Faulkner Park South in Tyler. Vicki Betts joined the group and shared her extensive knowledge regarding tree identification which helped with species identification in iNaturalist.



Tyler State Park photos by Wanda Rauscher

There are so many members, friends and volunteers to thank for this year's successful City Nature Challenge. Certainly, our CNC Planning Committee (Shanna Thornton, Vickie Hoppis, Karen Rueb-Hall, Ann Reynolds, Carol Lanthum, Crystal Mann and Jason Pike) was instrumental in all the "behind the scenes" planning strategies and activities. During the event itself, Polly and Nelson Jones and Allison Utley with help from Lindsey Smith and Ann Reynolds did a marvelous job setting up and running the Mineola Nature Preserve BioBlitz. Wanda Rauscher with help from Vickie Hoppis, Carol Lanthum, and Karen Rueb-Hall set up and ran the very successful Tyler State Park BioBlitz. Crystal Mann



Faulkner Park South. Photo courtesy of B. Lumpkins

and Jason Pike lead the Longview nature walk at the Paul G. Boorman Trailhead. Vickie Hoppis organized and lead the nature identification walk at Faulkner Park South in Tyler.



Photos courtesy of Bob Lumpkins

Finally, on behalf of myself as Organizer and our Planning Committee we wanted to thank every member of our Chapter for their willingness to participate and making our inaugural City Nature Challenge a SUCCESS!!

Our Understanding of the Natural World Continues to Evolve!

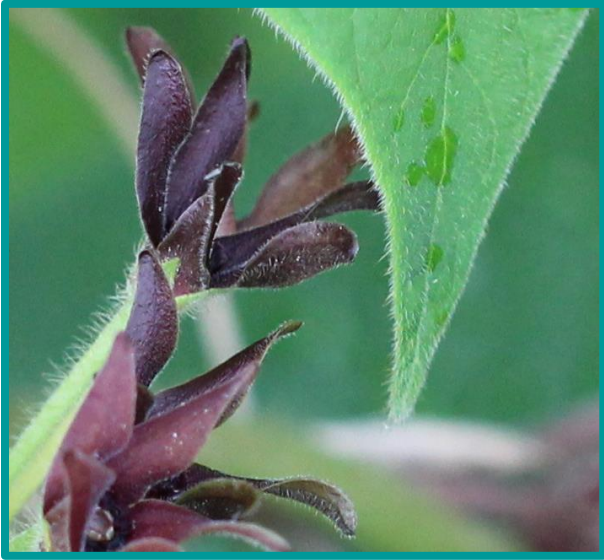
Wanda Rauscher

Whenever I participate in a Bioblitz I end up learning a lot. I work hard on my identifications - verifying any "computer vision" suggestions against field guides or web sites such as [Bug Guide](#) or [Moth Photographers Group](#). For plant I.D. I let "computer vision" get me to genus if it can and then I pull [BONAP](#) data for what species in the genus occur in Texas and then use Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower site [Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center](#) to examine all the possibilities. Sometimes I discover that I did not capture just the right view to distinguish between closely related species but sometimes folks with expertise weigh in to teach me what I didn't know. From City Nature Challenge 2022 there were three such events I want to share! First on Blackjack Trail at Tyler State Park I observed the following:

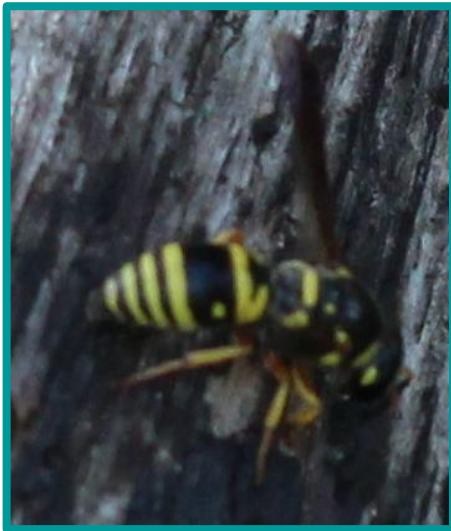


I thought it was Oldfield milkvine, *Matelea decipiens*. Plant expert Sonia Fajardo Hill said rather it is *Matelea hirtelliflora*. This species is not yet listed at Lady Bird Wildflower Center or BONAP. I found the article by Angela McDonnell and Mark Fishbein "Matelea hirtelliflora (Apocynaceae), a New Species of Milkweed Vine from Northeast Texas," *Systematic Botany* 41(3), 781-786, (26 August

2016) <https://doi.org/10.1600/036364416X692460> . As Sonnia pointed out the corollas (petals) are pubescent (covered in fine hairs). Have to look closely to see! How about that?!



My second surprise is a little wasp. Photo quality is not great- it would NOT be still.



I listed it as a potter & mason wasp genus *Ancistrocerus* (& I was wrong). Expert Matthias Buck informed me that while it is a potter & mason wasp it is *Euodynerius fedoris*. This species has only been reported from Texas. It was elevated from subspecies to species around 2008. It is very similar to the common and widespread *E. foraminatus* but differs in having large yellow propodeal (the part of the

body behind the head and before the wasp waist) spots, and fairly extensive reddish areas



on the legs. I want to get a better photograph of this little gal so I will be watching for her! To figure out what wasp family/species you have there is a great reference out there (which I had not found previously):

https://cjai.biologicalsurvey.ca/bmc_05/pdf/bmc05.pdf. This is the Identification Atlas of the Vespidae of the northeastern Nearctic region.

My third surprise is the learning curve for *Triodanis*, the Venus Looking Glass 5-petaled purple flowers.



Triodanis biflora, Longview, TX

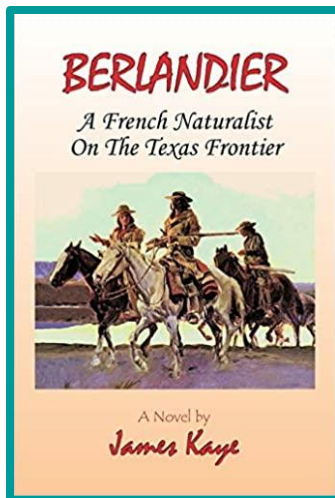
We apparently have 7 species of *Triodanis* in our area and they are not so easy to distinguish. Need to see leaves & how they are attached to the stem and the fruit. Kimberlie Sasan of Blackland Prairie Chapter TMN has put together a chart to help. See it at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1G1pro3tLp9Lp_9dFrjo9pBGTF0xhte_2/view or ask me for a copy if you cannot access it.

I'll share more next month!

Book Reviews for May

Lance Homeniuk

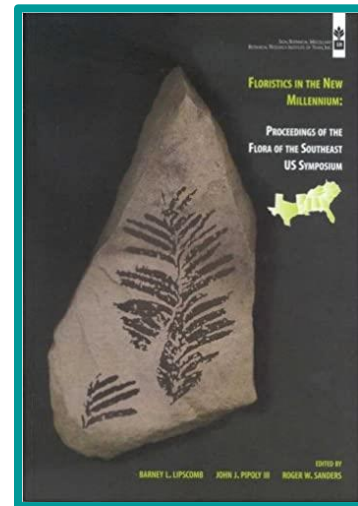
Berlandier: A French Naturalist on the Texas Frontier by James Kaye. Published in 2021 by Trafford Publishing, Coppel, TX. Paperback, 140 pages, 15.5 cm X 23.5 cm.



This is one of the many books featured in Barney Lipscomb's "What is a Naturalist?" lesson. I took a notion to start adding these books to my collection and this is one of the first. It says on the cover that this is a novel, but it is based on, and paraphrases much that was written by and about Jean Louis Berlandier, so I would call it a readable biography. Berlandier is of importance to we naturalists not just for his botanical and zoological discoveries, there is a list of some 71 plants and animals that bear his name in an appendix. He also was a keen observer of native peoples and another appendix lists 70 names of aboriginals that were found in the Texas of his time, writing "The

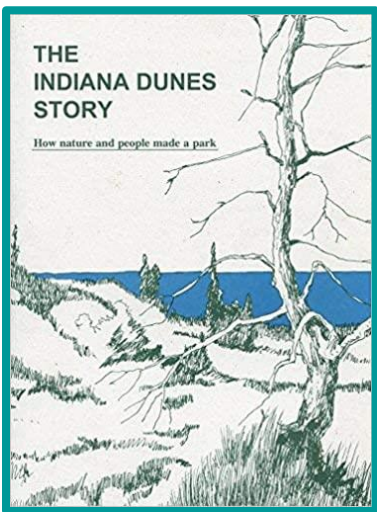
Indians of Texas" in 1830. I get the impression that he was a complex character. In the epilogue Kaye writes a spirited defense of Berlandier who had been severely scapegoated by his sponsor, Dr. De Candolle, who nevertheless named many of the specimens after him that he had collected. The blame is put on the harsh conditions of the frontier climate, pests, and dangers for him not collecting even more specimens than he did. Judge for yourself if you wish. I bought my copy online but I'll loan it to you if you sign my library card 😊

Floristics in the New Millennium: Proceedings of the FLORA OF THE Southeast US Symposium, edited by Barney L. Lipscomb, John J. Pipoly III, & Roger W. Sanders. 2000, BRIT, Ft Worth, TX. Paperback, 135 pages, 17.5 cm X 25.5 cm.



This is a scholarly work, much of which was over my head or not relevant to my experience. My son got it for me because our "own" B.L. was an editor. Of the 13 articles I found the first, "Geological History of the Vegetation in Southeast United States" by David Dilcher, to be most interesting. He showed how we owe our present plants to the distribution of their ancestors around the Tethys Sea and Gondwanaland. He has maps! I am a map nerd. Even though these are black and white I found them captivating and traced the ocean currents with my finger as I flipped back and forth through the text. Another interesting

article is "The Plants Database: A National Taxonomic Standard" by Mark W Skinner and J Scott Peterson. As of printing (see above – 22 years ago!) there were 36000 taxa of land plants and lichens in the database. They gave the url (plants.usda.gov) so I looked it up. My first search yielded 2184 hits and I did not choose to add up all the plants in other categories. You can if you feel the urge. It also had a showcased plant, several links, and now includes mosses, ferns, and aquatic plants. Though this is not something I recommend to the average reader, if you are herbarium or botany or taxonomy aficionado, I'll loan mine to you.



The Indiana Dunes Story. How nature and people made a park. 2nd edition edited by Joan Gibb Engel. Published by The Shirley Heinz Environmental Fund, 1997, Newcomb printing services, Inc., Michigan City, IN. Paperback, 64 pages. 8.5 X 11 inches. We spent an afternoon in the national seashore a few years ago, but did not pick up any literature. To my surprise this booklet appeared in a swap site on my computer recently and I am glad I found it. Containing 10 articles on nature, history, and the political processes of preserving important fragile habitat surrounded by urban (Gary, IN) and industrial development (Bethlehem Steel). I have a greater appreciation of dunes, marshes and woods we wandered in.

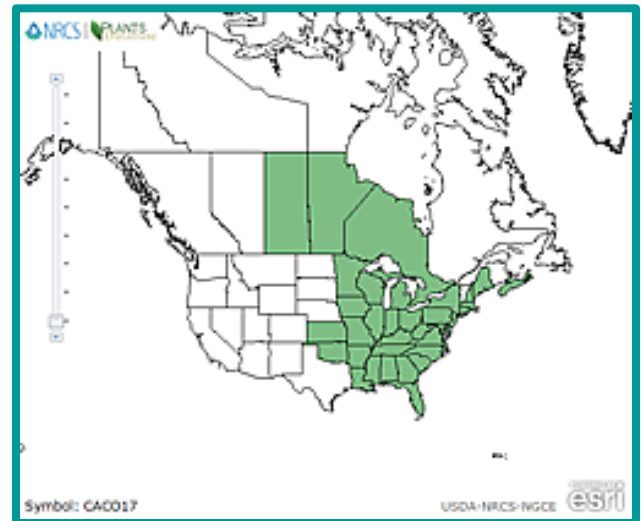
Native Plant of the Month

Ruth Adame

In 1978, my family and I traveled from Iowa to Texas, down long, narrow two-lane highways, and as we crossed the Texas border and headed deep into East Texas, my mother oohed and ahh-ed and fell in love with the vibrant Indian Paintbrush flowers mingled with the brilliant bluebonnets that carpeted the ditches and medians.

Texas Indian Paintbrush, Entire leaf Indian Paintbrush, Texas Paintbrush, Indian Paintbrush, Scarlet Paintbrush, call it what you will, is a member of the Orobanchaceae (broomrape) family, and is called the *Castilleja coccinea*, *coccinea* meaning scarlet (the bracts) and *Castilleja* referring to the Spanish botanist Domingo Castillejo. It was previously classified as part of the Scrophulariaceae (Figwort Family).

This spectacular annual plant is native to not only Texas but also Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana, and can be found almost anywhere, such as on the side of roads, plains, meadows, savannas, and pastures. The soil tends to be dry and sandy and the location is sunny.



Height can be up to 16" tall, and the flowers themselves are greenish-white. The deep red color comes from the bracts, which surround

the flower, and together the flowers and bracts form spikes of 3-8." The leaves are



long, a deep shade of green, and attach to the stem in an alternating pattern. The plant is hemiparasitic; if it thrives, the host plant usually does not. They do well close to bluebonnets.



If you are concerned about the tiny flying friends of the world, the paintbrush attracts hummingbirds, bees, and other pollinators that hover rather than land.

Final Note: Native Indians used this plant in food as a love charm and also as a poison against their enemies.



Great Texas Birding Classic 2022

Mark Edmund

This year's Classic ran from April 15 to May 15 and our chapter did a great job competing in the Prairies and Pineywoods East region. We had 4 teams with 18 master naturalists participating versus 3 teams and 12 master naturalists last year. Here is a quick overview of this year's teams and results.

The Boyd, Boyd and Giddens team was sponsored by Holly Boyd's law firm. This team birded as an intact flock in the Lake Tyler area on Saturday April 23. They recorded 85 species. Team members were Holly Boyd, Amy Cumbie, Amy Martin, Laura Schneider, and Kari Stef.

The Half-Cockaded team (our new team) birded as an intact flock at Tyler State Park on Wednesday April 27. They recorded 41 species. Team members were Denise Gary, Karen Rueb-Hall, Carol Lanthrum, Bonnie Edwards, and Gail Bean.

The Old Coots team birded as an intact flock at variety of locations in Wood, Titus, and Franklin counties on Saturday April 30. They recorded 72 species. Team members were Lance Homeniuk, Kris Homeniuk, Buck Lee and Mark Edmund.

The Bird Nerds birded as an intact flock on Saturday May 14 at the Mineola Nature Preserve. They recorded 33 species. Team members were Dawn Bahr, Ann Reynolds, Pat

Spradlin, Sandy Tibbs, Jamie Upson, and Bobbie Williams.

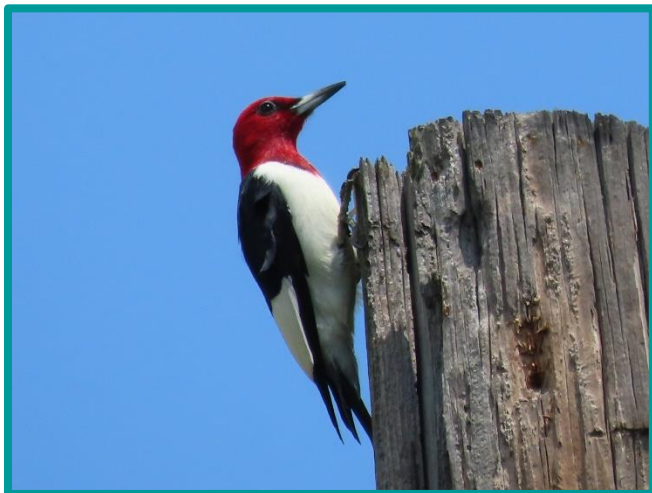
The East Texas Twitchers (a NETFO team) birded as a dispersed flock on Saturday April 23. The team birded in 12 counties and recorded 142 species. Team members were David Brotherton, Daniel Boney, Barbara Cavin, Bonnie Edmund, and Mark Edmund.

Thanks to all of the participants. By all reports, everyone had a great time being out in



nature and working on their birding skills. It paid off with each team seeing a good mix of local birds and migrants that were passing through. Can't wait for next year's competition!

Yellow-breasted Chat and Summer Tanager photos courtesy Ann Reynolds



Prothonotary Warbler and Red-headed Woodpecker photos courtesy of Buck Lee

How Raccoon Got His Mask and Other Amazing Facts

Gordon Betts

Raccoon didn't always have a mask. Raccoon was once silvery smooth from nose to tail. But, one night, he spied Raven returning home with five silver rings. "Ooooh, aaaah" he said. "I want those rings." So, he slipped on a mask, sneaked up to Ravens window and made odd sounds. Raven wondered what the sound was and so he wandered outside to search the woods for the source of the sound. Raccoon placed a light under his chin and slipped into Raven's home. He opened Ravens trunk and grabbed the 5 rings. But he realized he couldn't carry the light under his chin and the 5 rings, so he placed the rings on his tail and fled.

Returning home, Raven saw the open trunk and discovered the silver rings missing. The next day, he walked through the woods and asked each animal he saw if they took the rings. Bear said "no, wasn't me." Owl said "wasn't me, either". And even Chipmunk said "not me." Then he found Raccoon and spied the 5 stains of the rings on his tail. "It was you!" Raven loudly exclaimed. Raccoon bowed his head and admitted he was the thief and said "I'm very sorry". But, Raven was angry and said to Raccoon "For your crime, you will always wear the mask you used, you'll always bear the soot from your torch and you'll always carry stains from the rings on your tail." And, that, according to a Native American legend is how the Raccoon got its mask.

People find raccoons to be fascinating animals with their bandit looking appearance and ringed tail. They have a well-earned reputation for being mischievous and curious. Some of their curiosity may be due to their intelligence. One scientist studying raccoons decided that they are smarter than cats and maybe smarter than some primates. Way back in 1907, HB Davis gave 12 raccoons a series of problems involving a variety of locks and clasps that held

doors closed. If they could open the door, they were rewarded with food. Sometimes, they had to open doors after opening two or three locks in a special sequence. He found they could open 11 of the 13 lock types he gave them. And, they could still remember how to open the lock sequences three years later!

We've all heard about raccoons washing their food, haven't we? If you see a raccoon with food or watch a video, it really does look like they are scrubbing away. Turns out that's not true. Raccoons have very sensitive front paws. They have about four times more sensory nerves in the front feet than they do the back feet. That's about the same difference you find in human hands and feet. Scientists think they "wash" their food so they can actually feel it better. Even if water is not available, they will still turn their food over and over in the same way.

How did the raccoon get his name? Ever wonder about that? The English word "raccoon" comes from the Native American Powhatten word "aroughcum" which means "animal that scratches with its hands". The Aztecs called it "mapachitli" which means "one who takes everything in its hands". Today, "mapache" is the Spanish word for raccoon. There are six species of raccoons that can be found almost everywhere in the Western Hemisphere. Only one of those is a threatened species: the Pygmy or Yucatan raccoon found only on Cozumel Island off the coast of the Yucatan peninsula of Mexico. The International Union for the Conservation of Nature lists only 192 individuals in the wild and numbers are decreasing.

All other species of raccoon are increasing in number. The raccoons we are familiar with in North America, *Procyon lotor*, is found throughout North America except parts of the Rocky Mountains and the desert. They adapt incredibly well to urban habitats. While in the wild they will live in burrows, hollow trees, and rock crevices, around humans they make their homes in places like basements and attics and

other manmade structures. They are omnivorous, meaning they can eat a wide variety of foods. They love nuts, berries, fruit, acorns, small animals, frogs, fish, ground dwelling birds and insects. In cities, they raid trash cans for food. In fact, some people claim it is nearly impossible to keep raccoons from opening trash cans.

Raccoons are sometimes hunted by coyotes, wolves, owls and hawks, but their greatest threat is from cars. Some are hunted by people for sport or for their fur. Sometimes they are killed as pests. It must be hard for predators to hunt them because they are fast, running as fast as 15 mph. They are very good climbers and have been observed falling 131 feet without harm! They must be great at hearing their enemies, too. Their hearing is so sensitive, they can hear an earthworm under the ground. All the same, it must be a rough life. They only live three to five years in the wild but up to twenty in captivity.

What about that mask? Scientists think they know the real reason and it's not because they are trying to hide their identity. It's the same reason many athletes wear black stripes under their eyes: to reduce glare. Raccoons are nocturnal meaning they are active at night and sleep during the daytime. By reducing glare, their mask helps them to see better. They also have a layer of cells behind the retina of their eye called the tapetum lucidum that reflects what little light there is at night. Just like cats, it enables them to see better at night. Do you know how you can see colors in the daytime but not very well at night? Well, raccoons are color blind all the time.

Raccoons aren't very sociable with each other. Females, called sows, will sometimes form small groups but prefer being alone when it is time to breed and bear young. Groups of raccoons are called a nursery or gaze. One to seven baby raccoons, called kits, are born in early summer after a 63-day pregnancy. They will stay with their mothers for about a year before going out on their own. Males, called

boars, will stay around a female for about a month before breeding but leave when kits are born. They don't help any in raising the young. Humans sometimes keep raccoons as pets. Back in the 1920's, President Calvin Coolidge was given a raccoon to enjoy for Thanksgiving dinner (they were popular dinner fare back then). He and his wife Grace decided the gift would make a better pet than a dinner dish and named it Rebecca. He even gave it a collar engraved with the words "White House Raccoon". The president and his raccoon could often be seen taking walks on the White House grounds or visiting other presidential pets: a bobcat, goose, donkey, two lion cubs, an antelope and a wallaby! Do they make good pets for the rest of us? Not really. They can rarely carry rabies, but they also carry a raccoon roundworm, spread in their feces that can cause nerve damage. And so as wild animals, they are best left in the wild.

Raccoons are amazing animals. From Native American legend to presidential pet. Their toughness, their wide distribution, their adaptability to human caused habitat change, it seems safe to say raccoons will be around to entertain us for a long time to come.



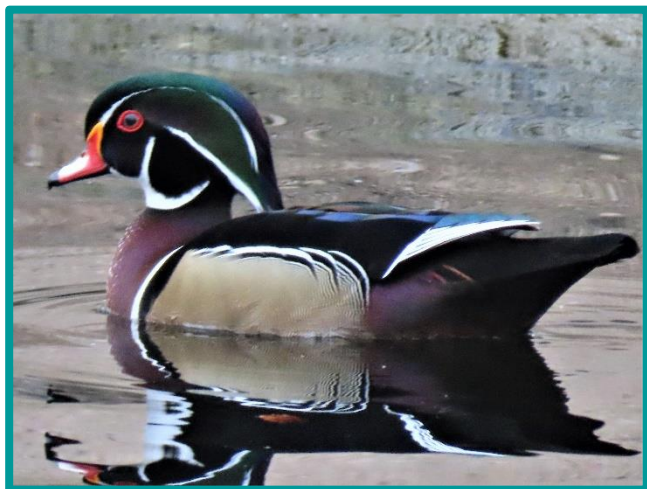


Photo courtesy Ann Reynolds

The Texas Master Naturalist Program's mission is to develop a corps of well-informed volunteers to provide education, outreach, and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within their communities for the State of Texas.

Upcoming Events

June 20 – newsletter articles due to **Ann Reynolds**

June 23 – Chapter Meeting – Jason Pike “Moths,” 6:30 meet/greet, 7:00 program, Tyler Area Senior Citizens Association Event Center, 10495 County Road 2167 (Jim Russell Rd) Whitehouse, TX **Note location change**

July 28 – Chapter Meeting – Social at the Mineola Nature Preserve, Mineola, TX

September 23 – October 2 – East Texas Fair, Tyler

October – Yantis Prairie Day, Yantis

October 20-23 – TMN Annual Meeting, Houston

In the Community

NETFO – no meetings **June, July, August**

NE TX Chapter Native Plant Society, June 23 – 2:30, topic **TBA**, Longview Arboretum and Nature Center

Tyler Audubon Society – no meetings **June, July, August**



WHERE YOU CAN FIND US



Chapter dues of \$20 per individual or \$35 per couple are due. Please remit to: ETCMN, Attn. Treasurer, P. O. Box 131184, Tyler, TX 75713-1184



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

You can find East Texas Chapter Master Naturalists here:
<https://txmn.org/etwd/>
<https://www.facebook.com/EastTexasMasterNaturalist/>

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:** Wanda Rauscher

****Vice President:** Ray Rottman

Hospitality Co-Chairs: Karen Rueb-Hall, Caryn Vorsas and Joe Vorsas

****Secretary:** Bob Lumpkins

Historian/Archivist: Bob Lumpkins

****Treasurer:** Phil Guthrie

Immediate Past President: Paul Wick

DIRECTORS:

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

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

Community Education/Outreach: Lance Homeniuk

Speakers Bureau: Greg Marshall

Diversity and Inclusion: Holly Boyd

Training Class: Beverly Guthrie

Acting Membership: Wanda Rauscher

Volunteer Management System Director: Lindsey Smith

Communications Support: Terri Gerber

E-Blast: Beverly Guthrie

Newsletter: Ann Reynolds

Photography: Lindsey Smith

Public Relations: Carol Lanthrum

Social Media: Lead - Greg Marshall, Julie Davis

Website: Dale Wade

State Representative: Wanda Rauscher or appointed alternative

2022 Class Representatives: Denise Gary and Michelle Seaton

Chapter Advisors:

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

Kevin Herriman – TPWD Advisor

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

All ETCMN members listed are voting Board members.

Newly Revised 5/15/22