



# Wood Duck Whistler November 2022

## President's Message by Wanda Rauscher



5. Provide sunny areas out of the wind.
6. Use native plant species whenever possible—mimic local natural areas.
7. Grow flowers throughout season. Provide a variety of colors and shapes.
8. Plant in clumps and layers. Use trees, shrub layers, with some low-growing perennials and vines—intermix with flowering annuals.

\*

[https://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/wild/wildlife\\_diversity/nongame/publications/media/monarchs-pollinators-of-texas.pdf](https://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/wild/wildlife_diversity/nongame/publications/media/monarchs-pollinators-of-texas.pdf)

On to chapter business!

Note that we have an official Nominations Committee: Karen Rueb-Hall, Lindsey Smith, and Paul Wick. They will be working to develop a slate of officers (and then directors) for 2023. We will vote to fill vacant officer positions (secretary and vice-president) at the December meeting & holiday party mid-day December 10 at the Tyler Nature Center. Directors are appointed positions. With the input of the nominations committee, I, as President, will propose the slate of directors who will be confirmed by a majority vote of the 2023 officers, immediate Past -President, and advisors.

Big welcome to our new TPWD advisor, Boyd Sanders!

Clint Perkins continues to serve as our Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service advisor.

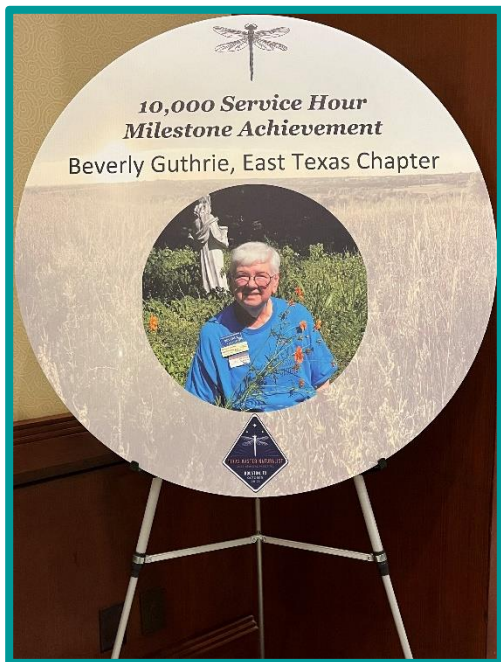
### Note from the Editor

We had 6 attendees at the TMN Annual Convention. I hope next year you would carefully consider attending because every presentation, every dinner/lunch and every field trip is so interesting. Next year's convention will be in McAllen. Put it on your calendar now. But the biggest news that came out of convention is .....drum roll please or turn the page.....

I want to extend my thanks to the project leader for the East Texas State Fair, Cindy Smith, and to all who volunteered their time! This is one of East Texas Chapter's oldest projects and with 549 adults and 435 children visiting the booth it is an impactful project! I know in the "old days before COVID" there were many more kids as schools visited. Even so this is what I would call a big project. I was surprised how many kids had never touched a butterfly wing. Most adults had not ever noticed a flower fly, and many indicated fear of bees and wasps. We did our part for pollinator appreciation. And as a reminder- here is how can you help pollinators:

#### How to Help Pollinators\*

1. Plant a pollinator garden—provide nectar and feeding plants (flowers and herbs).
2. Provide a water source—place shallow dishes of water in sunny areas or create a muddy spot (bird bath can work, too!).
3. Provide shelter and overwintering habitat (bee boxes, undisturbed soil areas, and piles of woody debris).
4. Stop using insecticides and reduce other pesticides (& follow package instructions!).

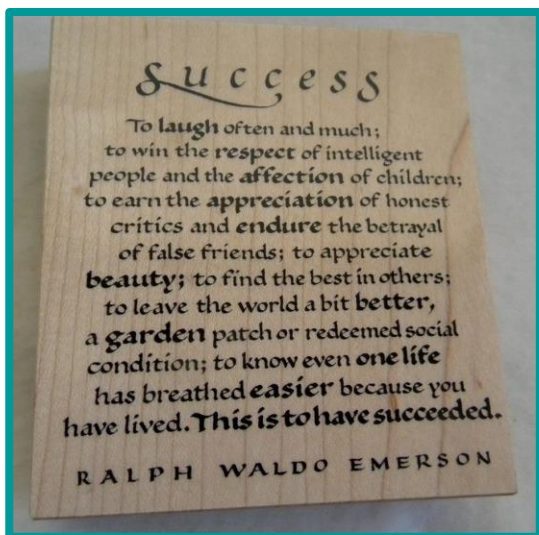


Beverly Guthrie was awarded the polished gold with emerald dragonfly pin. Congratulations Beverly to a big job well done!

## Musings on Having Reached My 10,000<sup>th</sup> Volunteer Hour Milestone

### Beverly Guthrie

When I was growing up, I couldn't open the refrigerator without seeing this poem living on the door:



Ralph Waldo had it exactly right and remembering his wise words has guided me through most of life's challenges very well. As

I ponder my experiences with Master Naturalist, I hold up my work to this high standard to see if I have come even in small measure close to the mark. When I stood on the stage in Houston at the State Convention receiving my award for having achieved the 10,000<sup>th</sup> service hour milestone, it struck me that all those who were standing and cheering my service, understood what a great gift it is to volunteer.

My adventure with Master Naturalist began in 2004 when I took classes in the North Texas Chapter. I opened my ring binder on the first night and read the opening paragraph describing what a Naturalist was. I had thought I had known myself well by that point in my life, but when I read the paragraph, I softly said to myself, "So that's what I am--a Naturalist!" I think I was right. Through the subsequent 19 years of volunteering with this wonderful organization, I have never once doubted that I found my home that night. Master Naturalist has given me a platform on which I could play out my desire to succeed by Ralph Waldo Emerson's standards, supported and surrounded by hundreds of like-minded, goal oriented yet humble friends. Alongside the hundreds of volunteer Naturalists in that room in Houston, I look forward to many more hours of fun and hard work with the world's most dedicated and diverse group imaginable. It has been a joy and a high honor to serve 10,000 hours and, hopefully, to make my small part of the world a little better because I have been a Master Naturalist.

## Reminder: ETCMN Private Tour of I. D. Fairchild State Forest

**Denise Gary**  
**Thursday, November 10, 2022**  
**9:30 AM–3:00 PM**

We will meet at the entrance of the main tract of I. D. Fairchild situated 3.8 miles west of Maydelle (Cherokee County between Rusk and Palestine). The entrance is located at the

intersection of US 84 and FM 747 on the south side of the highway. Portable restrooms and



handwashing stations will be available.

Learn about healthy forest ecosystems and how you can volunteer on behalf of the endangered (and super adorable) red-cockaded woodpeckers at this working demonstration forest! Following morning demonstrations and a picnic lunch, participating master naturalists will enjoy a volunteer service project to help maintain critical habitat surrounding red-cockaded woodpecker clusters. Assisting with management of the red-cockaded woodpeckers will be an ongoing project for our chapter and will provide superb opportunities to earn AT and VSH while performing vital work on behalf of a species struggling against habitat loss and degradation:

**We recommend bringing:**

- **picnic lunch**
- **water, hat, sunscreen, and binoculars**
- **folding chair or sitting mat to use during the program and at lunchtime**
- **work gloves and tools to assist in volunteer woodpecker site maintenance (lopping shears, hand saws, bow saws, rakes)**

## **NETFO Christmas Bird Counts**

### **Mark Edmund**

It is not too soon to be thinking about Christmas Bird count dates. The calendar is not too kind to us this year with Christmas Eve being one of

the 3 Saturdays in the national count window (December 14 through January 5). We have tentatively set the following dates for the NETFO sponsored CBCs:

- Longview CBC on Saturday December 17
- Lake O' the Pines CBC on Saturday December 31
- Tenaha (Lake Murval) CBC on Monday January 2

Christmas Bird Counts are great opportunities to enhance your skills out in the field and are open to birders of all ages and experience levels. Please let Mark Edmund know if you are wanting to participate in this year's CBC's.

## **Goldenrod: Autumn's Vital Giver of Life**

### **Denise Gary**

When the season of summer slowly slides into slumber, the first golden gift of autumn arrives, not in the form of multicolored leaves but in sunny sprays of goldenrod lining the rural roads and untilled meadows of North America. These beacons of light shine as bright as a lighthouse to passing pollinators, gaudily advertising a banquet of sweet sustenance. Bees, wasps, flies and butterflies become so enraptured, they often bump into each other as they imbibe, paying little heed to such transgressions lest they lose a drop of precious nectar to another.

Spend some time with these friends of nature—the goldenrods—on a warm, sunny day and you will be greatly rewarded. It is by design that these tall, waving flowers flourish at a time when most others have faded away, for they beckon migrating butterflies to stop for lifesaving top-offs of calories and provide for the desperate, late season needs of other insects before they yield to the callous hand of Jack Frost. Find a patch of goldenrod and



Figure 1 Great Purple Hairstreak

enjoy these creatures up close, for they will be too distracted by the bounty of the blossoms to



Figure 2 Hoverfly

make note of your presence. Watch a great purple hairstreak wiggle its hindwings and tails to misdirect predators toward its false head. Be amazed at the acrobatics of a hoverfly. Marvel at the beautiful markings of various scoliid and thynnid wasps. Discover peculiar native bees slipping in amongst the hyperactive honey bees. Behold the uncommon beauty of a common buckeye, rendered all the more



alluring upon a blanket of butter yellow. What a show!

No doubt, goldenrod is perfectly named. It is not simply golden in color; it is biological gold. Though mostly overlooked, the value of biological gold far exceeds the value of mineral gold. This precious, organic gold is the vital giver of life to the pollinators who unwittingly sustain nearly every being on Earth.

## 15 Fun Turkey Facts That Will Blow Your Mind

**Gordon Betts**

It's that time of year that Americans are thinking turkey. But there is a lot more to turkey than just a big bird we share on Thanksgiving Day. The turkey we share today is much different than the bird our ancestors enjoyed. Read on for 13 facts about this most iconic of American birds.


### 1. **Benjamin Franklin did not call for the turkey to be the national bird.**

Unlike legends claim, Benjamin Franklin did not



Figure 3 California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

advocate for the turkey to be our national symbol. He wrote a letter to his daughter, Sarah Franklin Bache, that the Bald Eagle was "a bird of bad moral character" because it stole from other birds. He described the turkey as "a much more respectable bird," "a bird of



courage,” and “a true original native of America.”

**2. The turkey is a native of North America.**

So, how did the turkey get named after the country of Turkey? The turkey looks somewhat like the guinea fowl, a native of eastern Africa. The guinea fowl was imported into Europe and called the turkey-cock or turkey-hen. When British colonists began sending turkeys back to Europe, the Europeans called them turkeys.

**3. There are three subspecies of turkey in Texas.**

The eastern turkey, *Meleagris gallopavo silvestris* is largely found in east Texas. The Rio Grande turkey, *Meleagris gallopavo intermedia* is found in a broad band from north, central and south Texas. The Merriam's turkey, *Meleagris gallopavo merriami*, is uncommon and is only found in isolated mountain areas of west Texas.

**4. Turkeys are widespread**

Wild turkeys can be found in 38 states and in Canada. Texas Parks and Wildlife has trapped and relocated over 30,000 since the 1920's in efforts to restore their native range. Over 7200 have been imported to east Texas from other states.

**5. Pardoning turkeys began in 1989.**

The tradition of pardoning turkeys before Thanksgiving didn't start until 1989. In that year, President George H.W. Bush pardoned a turkey for the first time in recent years. It is believed the first unofficial pardon was granted by President Abraham Lincoln after his son pleaded, they spare the life of a turkey that had been intended for Christmas dinner.

**6. Only toms gobble.**

Gobble, gobble. Only male turkeys, called toms, make the gobble sound we so clearly associate with the bird. And, they only do so during mating season. Females, called hens, make a wider variety of quieter sounds. Sounds like “purrs,” “yelps,” and “kee-kees”.

**7. Only wild turkeys can fly.**

The turkey you buy at the store has doubled in size the last 40 years. Commercial birds are bred to produce large breasts. That has resulted in an average bird of 29.8 pounds. This is why they can't fly.

**8. Wild turkeys are speed demons in the air.**

Wild turkeys can fly more than a mile at speeds up to 55 miles per hour.

**9. Wild turkeys are also speed demons on foot.**

Can you outrun a bird running 12 miles per hour? Think about it because turkeys have been known to attack humans.

**10. Turkeys roost in trees.**

Like most other species of birds, turkeys roost in trees for safety from predators. They will seek out the largest and settle as high in the tree as they can manage.

**11. Domestic turkeys are descended from wild turkeys.**

Both belong to the same genus and species—*Meleagris gallopavo*. Decades of selection have led to our large, white domesticated bird. They have less genetic variation than many other agricultural species. Wild turkeys have darker feathers so they are difficult to see in the wild. They also are widespread over many states contributing to their genetic variety.

**12. Toms and hens have different shaped scat.**

If you are tracking turkeys in the wild, you can identify the gobbler from the hen by the shape of their scat. Gobblers leave long, J-shaped droppings while hens produce shorter, rounded droppings.

**13. What is that “thing” on top of their beak?**

That's called a snood. Both males and females have snoods. For gobblers, the size of their snood is part of their social hierarchy. During mating season, the male snood fills with blood and becomes longer. Females have been observed preferring males with a more prominent snood.

**14. The meat of turkeys was once a by-product.**

Up until 1935, turkeys were bred for their feathers, not their meat. An adult turkey has 5,000 to 6,000 feathers.

**15. Toms have beards but they aren't made of hair.**

Instead, they are modified feathers. Year old toms have beards three-to-five inches long. Beards grow continuously so that three-year-old toms have beards of ten inches or more. Beards of more than 12 inches are rare since they suffer wear and tear.

Now, that you know so much about turkeys, share these facts as you give thanks over a moist, delicious turkey dinner this season.

**Book Reviews for October**

**Lance Homeniuk**

The River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey by Candice Dillard, 2005, Broadway Books, NY. Paperback, 416 pages.

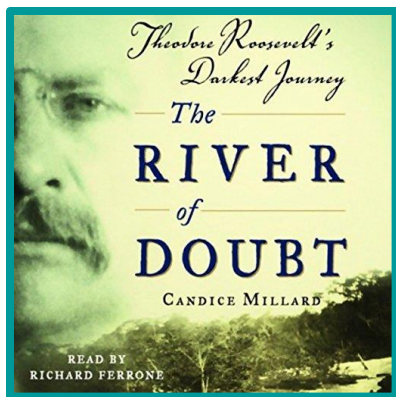


Figure 4 Photo courtesy the Internet

Former president, assination survivor, roughrider, cowboy, sickly child – Theodore Roosevelt was the action-adventure star of his age, but in reality. He seemed unstoppable, invulnerable, a force of nature (as I believe someone referred to him). But his last adventure hastened his physical decline, and it seems to me, led to his early death. The story of his exploration of the last great Amazonian river to be navigated and mapped, which was

subsequently named for him is the subject of this book. Tucked away in the narration like the tropical fauna hidden in the forest through which they passed are a couple of chapters that are devoted to the rainforest ecology itself. Using articles written by Roosevelt for American papers, interviews with descendants of the natives he encountered or who observed from behind cover, and reports of the Brazilian officers who accompanied him, the author puts us into immediate proximity of the party, the river, the surrounding forests, and the dangers they survived. But we are able see and understand more than they did. The hot, humid, jungle full of inedible plants and barren of animal life other than the ubiquitous insects and parasites is what they experienced. A finely balanced ecosystem of organisms adapted to survive and propagate, rather than to be exploited is what we are shown. I wonder how much of that natural world has survived the century since Roosevelt's time? For a change of climate see below.

The Snow Walker by Farley Mowat, 1977, Bantam Books, NY. Paperback, 209 pages.

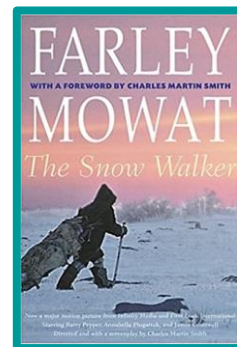


Figure 5 Photo courtesy the Internet

Mowat is a tricky writer to figure. Sometimes he writes nonfiction, sometimes he writes fiction, and many times he writes the latter as the former, at others he relates native folk tales with or without his personal spin. But his art is to put the reader into close contact with the arctic almost always through the agency of his characters. The ten short stories in this collection deal with life and death of the Inuit, their interactions with traders, missionaries, and other interlopers, with the harsh, beautiful land and climate as a starring character. Upon

finishing one of these stories, I have the clean, cold, dry sensation in my face that I remember from diving deep into the freezer in my parents' basement while searching for the hoar-covered plastic tub of Neapolitan ice cream. That is much more comfortable than stomping through snow into a stiff gale at minus 40 degrees!

What Bird Did That? By Peter Hansard and Burton Silver, 1991. Ten Speed Press, Berkely, California. Paperback, 64 pages.

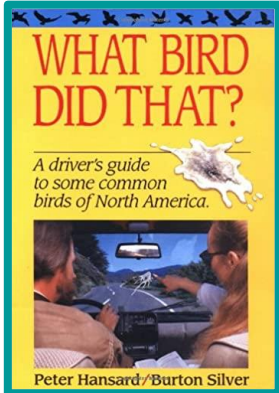


Figure 6 Photo courtesy of the Internet

It looks and feels like a pocket field guide for scatologists. Other books in the series "What bear did that? What snake did that? What camel did that? WHAT? Subtitled "A driver's guide to some common birds of North America". That sounds useful, like the flattened fauna roadkill guide. But wasn't that semi-serious? Bird droppings are called *splay*, lessons with photos are given for the collecting and classification of said *splay*. Each of the forty birds (and Bats!) have a scientific and common name, silhouette, description, food list, distribution and ... a *splay* description and color photograph thereof. A glossary and bibliography round out the slim book. However, no authors or titles gave hits on a web search, neither did the National Ornithological Dejecta Society of America or any of the state chapters. On closer rereading I did discover this in 9-point font "This book is intended for entertainment and humor purposes only. Neither the authors or publishers will assume responsibility for the use or misuse of any information in this book." OH. But be

warned – I may drop some dejecta terms into conversation (*splay, shplerd, sklop, etc.*) 😊

## Make Fall More Colorful

**Bonnie Edwards**

Fall typically brings the joy of many colors to East Texas. In spite of our record-breaking heat and drought this past summer, there is color to be found if you're paying attention!

During the height of the Covid pandemic in 2020 when we were advised to "shelter in place," I began the daily practice of taking a walk outdoors and creating a design from natural materials. Here are two designs from



the fall of 2020.

And here is one created this October:



Here's hoping you find some color this fall in the great outdoors!

## Bark, No Bite: The Legendary

### Dogwood

Ruth Adame

Dogwoods. Gnarled, twisted trunks and branches, pristine white flowers with tiny red stains. Most of us have heard the story in some form: The dogwood tree was, at one time, tall and strong, towering and majestic. So strong, in fact, that the wood was used to build the cross that Jesus would carry. In his grief, God cursed the tree so that it would never be used for a crucifixion again, and the tree's growth was stunted, the once-strong branches became narrow and twisted. To remind people, right around Easter the tree bursts into bloom. Creamy white flowers tipped with a nail-shaped indentation that's delicately lined with a blush-red hue explode and cover the crown of the tree.



Figure 7 Photo by Ann Reynolds

There are several other legends about the dogwood tree, ranging from religious to humorous to Native American. It isn't clear where, when, or how these legends came to be. However, one thing is definitely clear: the dogwood is a beautiful tree that grows in the wild but that is also widely used in landscaping.

In the wild, these hardy trees are found in moist soil, usually under the canopy of larger trees. As a landscaping plant, place these trees where the soil is well drained, preferably in an area where they get the morning light and then some shade. They grow to around 35 feet, with branches that tend to lay slightly horizontal, creating a flat crown.

These trees are deciduous. In the fall the leaves change color, deep crimson and purple hues, falling in early winter, only to return in the early spring with a deep green upper side and a grayish green underside. Leaves are not quite round, with a wavy edge, growing in an opposite pattern.

While a lot of people think of dogwoods as having white flowers, the flowers are, in reality, small yellowish green clusters in the center and surrounded by four somewhat large bracts. The bracts are the white petals of the dogwood, while some varieties sport shades of pink and others have a subtle variegated pattern.

If you are in the Palestine area in the spring, drive through Davey Dogwood Park. Established in 1938 by two friends, it boasts 254 acres, bursting with dogwoods, that include 5 miles of paved roads and 8 miles of hiking and biking trails.

## How many bright metallic green bee species are there in east Texas?!

W.W. Rauscher

O.K. native bees are still really hard for me to identify to genus let alone species. Getting to family can feel like a real accomplishment! I promised to talk about bee I.D. so I am picking metallic green bees of east Texas as my starting point. There are two reference books I recommend: The Bees in Your Backyard by Joseph S. Wilson and Olivia Messinger Carril (2016) and Common Bees of Eastern North America by the same authors (2021). As it happens the bright metallic green bee species that are found in east Texas are all in bee family Halictidae. Hey we're done! All we have to say when we see a bright metallic green bee is "look it's a Halictid"! Not good enough? Well O.K. let's look further. In Subfamily Halictinae, Tribe Augochlorini one finds 7 of our area's metallic green bee species. All of these bees have a

notch on the inside of their eyes but to see it you need to be looking head-on (not from the side profile).

See the notch on the inner margin of the eye?



If you have the correct view and you see that notch then your bee is in tribe Augochlorini and that means one of three genera: Augochlora, Augochlorella, or Augochloropsis.

Next look at the tegula- the small covers where the wing connects to the body. For Augochlora the tegula is all brown and a rounded oval shape.



Augochlora pura- note the brown, rounded oval tegula

For Augochlorella the tegula is a paler reddish-brown and oval (though some authors say "round").

Augochlorella by Ted Kropiewnicki from Discover Life page-

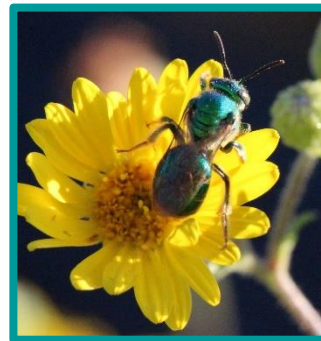
<https://www.discoverlife.org/mp/20q?i=Augochlorella+aurata,Augochlorella+bracteata,Augochlorella+gratiosa,Augochlorella+karankawa,Augochlorella+neglectula,Augochlorella+>

persimilis,Augochlorella+pomoniella&guide=Augochlorella&mobile=1



The tegula for Augochloropsis is kidney bean shaped metallic in color (looks metallic green and brown to me). To go with that unique tegula this genus also has green on the upper part of the legs (femur) with the bottom part of the leg (tibia) brown or yellow.

Augochloropsis (maybe Augochloropsis metallica)

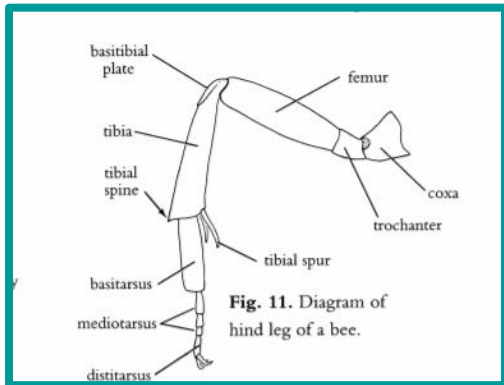


In BugGuide there's a note from bee expert Dr. John Ascher. He says, "Augochlora, Augochlorella, and Augochloropsis are very difficult to tell apart from photos alone. Useful characters for Augochlora vs. Augochlorella are the clypeus, the apex of the marginal cell [wing], and the tegula (to rule out Augochloropsis)." I have had mixed luck getting a good wing photo that shows wing veins for a live bee. Not easy to get the clypeus in sharp focus either- that's a face shot and the bees want to put that face down in the flowers. If you decide you have an Augochlora in our area you are done! It is likely Augochlora pura because that is the only native species for the genus residing in our area! For Augochlorella there are 3 species that could be observed and for Augochloropsis there are also 3 species that could be seen.

We're not done though- the previous discussion was all for the bees with the notched inner eye margin- Tribe Augochlorini. The remaining metallic green bees for us are in Tribe Halictinae. There is a single genus *Agapostemon* and 4 species that could be observed in our area. The females are all metallic green but the males have yellow and brown or yellow and black stripes across their abdomen. The main features that set this genus apart from the others are as follows: posterior face of propodeum completely encircled by a rim; hind tibiae equaling or exceeding their tarsi in length ([Discover Life](#)).

#### Bee Anatomy

[https://www.zportman.com/uploads/8/3/5/4/83540892/michener\\_et\\_al.\\_-\\_1994\\_-\\_the\\_bee\\_genera\\_of\\_north\\_and\\_central\\_america\\_\\_hymenoptera\\_apoidea\\_.pdf](https://www.zportman.com/uploads/8/3/5/4/83540892/michener_et_al._-_1994_-_the_bee_genera_of_north_and_central_america__hymenoptera_apoidea_.pdf)



*Agapostemon splendens*

Once you are at genus differentiating species will require patience, some great macro photography, and a good reference ([Common Bees of Eastern North America](#) and the Discover Life Guides (such as <https://www.discoverlife.org/mp/20q?guide=Augochlorella> and <https://www.discoverlife.org/mp/20q?guide=Agapostemon> )

In the meantime, remember, see a pretty metallic green bee in our area: it's a Halictid!

## Fall Migration is for the Birds

### Dale Wade

I heard them before I saw them, of course. Their distinctive honk-honk-honk alerts me that fall is here, and winter is not far behind. Snow geese (*Anser caerulescens*) are on their way to winter in the southern US. Others fly as far as Central Mexico. Birds are in the midst of the great bird fall migration. When I say birds, I mean some 4.7 billion of them according to The Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

### Why do birds migrate?

Simply put, there are two main reasons: food and cold. As winter approaches the supply of seeds, nuts, grains, and insects decreases. That, as well as shorter days and cooler temperatures, alert the birds to move on to better climes. Genetic predisposition pushes many with a strong urge to head south. Birds that deliver offspring later in the season will not leave until the fledglings are mature.

### When can you see birds migrating?

Birds are either diurnal or nocturnal migrants. Those that you typically see during the day, diurnal migrants, will fly during daylight. That includes many strong fliers like raptors, pelicans, and even hummingbirds.

Birds that travel at night, nocturnal migrants, are generally those that you rarely see during the day. That includes those that prefer thick vegetation or wooded areas, rarely leaving

those habitats. Flying at night gives birds like thrushes, warblers, and orioles protection from predators. They feed and rest during the day to prepare for another long night of travel.

### How far do birds migrate?

Well, that depends on the birds. Migrants range from short to medium to long distance travelers. Short-distance migrants may move from a higher elevation to a lower. Medium-distance migrants may leave the Northern states and head to Florida or Texas.

It is the long-distance migrants that astonish us. The whooping crane will easily leave Wood Buffalo NP in Alberta and arrive 50 days later at Aransas NWR in Texas. That is a bit over 2,500 miles through the Central Flyway. (Flyways map)



Figure 8 Whooping Crane (*Grus americana*)



Figure 9 Rufous hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*)

Not to be outdone, the Rufous hummingbirds depart from Alaska and head to central America via the Pacific Flyway traveling some 4,000 miles in just a few weeks.

Ruby-throated hummingbirds leave their Northern US habitats for Mexico traveling over 2,000 miles. That includes a 22-hour non-stop flight over 600 miles of the Gulf of Mexico. So, leave those feeders up until at least 3 weeks after you see the last hummer. Those that get a late start will need that food stop for energy. Hummers weigh about the amount of a Lincoln-head penny. It doubles its weight for the long flight.



Figure 10 Ruby-throated hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*)

### How do birds know where to go?

Scientists have no definitive answers, but research points to several ways. Birds navigational skills are exceptional as they are able to get direction from the location of the sun, the stars, and even the earth's magnetic field. Many follow known landscapes that offer food, water, and protection. Even young birds on their first migration seem to sense where to go.

### How can you find out which birds are migrating in your area?

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Colorado State University, and University of Massachusetts-Amherst have banded together to create [Birdcast](#). This application released in 2018 uses Doppler weather radar data to track when, where, and how far birds migrate *in real time*. The dashboard lets you enter your county and state to see the latest information about

bird migration in your region. I believe that you will be totally amazed at what you find. Additional Information:

- [All About Birds](#)
- [BirdFact](#)
- [The Backyard Naturalist](#)

Photo Credits:

- Snow Geese, Port Louisa NWR, Wapello, Iowa, Public Domain
- Whooping Cranes, Jim Hudgins/USFWS, Public Domain
- Rufous Hummingbird, NPS/Andy Bridges, Public Domain
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird, abbeyprivate, Public Domain

## You Know You are a Master Naturalist When – Dawn Edwards

You go to Discount Tire to have your tires checked and the attendant shows you a gigantic dragonfly that rode home with you from Broken Bow, OK and you ask him if you can keep it! You immediately log it into iNaturalist, set it down on a table outside, and a bird steals it!



## East Texas Master Naturalists are Seen at the East Texas State Fair!



The Christmas Bird Count for Tyler will be Jan. 2, 2023. Contact Amy Martin email

[\(\[amy@kinseypharmacy.com\]\(mailto:amy@kinseypharmacy.com\)\)](mailto:amy@kinseypharmacy.com)

or text Joe Marsey at

(903 714 7889)

if you wish to participate. Please join our effort. More eyes the better in the car and in the field.

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EXTENSION



Give yourself the best gift of all—knowledge! Learn about our rich E. TX ecosystem from experts in their fields and volunteer with like-minded friends. Whether you are into bugs, birds, bats or botany, you will love these classes! Master Naturalists find fun ways to enjoy the outdoors together while helping to preserve the Earth's treasures for our children and grandchildren. Join us!



**2023 CLASSES BEGIN JAN. 17th**

**6-9 PM Tuesdays thru April.**

**In person classes held at  
Tyler Nature Center,  
11942 FM 848, Tyler, TX 75707**



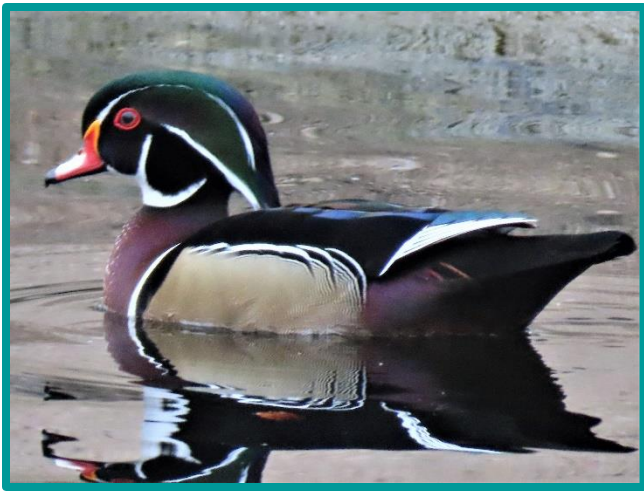


Photo courtesy Ann Reynolds

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.

Unless otherwise noted, all photos belong to the author of the article.

## Upcoming Events

**November 1 - Project FeederWatch 2022-2023 Season**  
begins <https://feederwatch.org/>

**November 8 – TMN Tuesday noon –**

**November 10 – Field Trip – I.D. Fairchild State Forest**

**November 20 articles for the chapter newsletter due to Ann Reynolds**

**November – NO CHAPTER MEETING**

**December 10 – Holiday Party, 11-2 pm, Tyler Nature Center**

**Tentative January 14 Officers & Directors Retreat-** Tyler Nature Center

## IN THE COMMUNITY

**November 2 – NETFO – 6:30 pm, Alethea SS Classroom at Greggton UMC (1101 Pine Tree Road) in Longview.**

**November 8 – Tyler Audubon Society, 6:30 pm, St. Francis Episcopal Church, Education Room, 3232 Jan Avenue, Tyler.**  
Jessica Coleman – UT Tyler project

**November 12 – Field Trip – Camp Tyler – 8:00 am**

**December 13 - Santa who will be giving CBC tips**

**NPSOT-Longview – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 2:30 pm, Longview Arboretum**

**NPSOT – Linden – 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 6:30 pm, Senior Citizen Center, 507 S. Kaufman St., Linden**



## 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:**

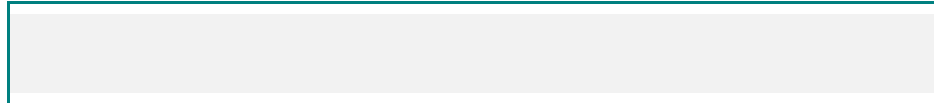
<https://txmn.org/etwd/>

<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:** Wanda Rauscher

**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**

**Boyd Sanders – TPWD Advisor**

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

**All ETCMN members listed are voting Board members.**

**Revised 10/21/22**