



Bolivar Flats by Chip Morton

Galveston Bay Area Chapter - Texas Master Naturalists

October 2026

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President's Corner by Mary Dobberstine

As a guide, I have seen firsthand a guest moved to tears by the sparkle of a firefly and another light up with joy at the sight of a Great Blue Heron taking flight. Nature can be a kind of therapy. We hear about forest bathing, or maybe we simply say, "I need to get outside" or "I need to touch grass."

Through outreach, guided walks, programs, and presentations, we have the privilege of helping people make those connections. In many ways, our role as a facilitator between people and the natural world is one of the greatest gifts we give our community.

Workdays, family, health, exhaustion, nightly news...
Some days come in and bulldoze you over.
Some days come in and paralyze your spirit.
You sit.
You think too much.
Days pass.
Then you head outside.
You see clouds.
You hear birds.
You smell rain.
You touch grass.
And something shifts.

As master naturalists, we have the opportunity to help people—people just like us—find their way back to the natural world. Sometimes it happens through a firefly flashing in the darkness. Sometimes it is a heron lifting from the marsh, a butterfly resting on a flower, or the sound of frogs after a summer rain.

We may never know how much those moments mean to someone.

Our impact may be greater than any of us realize. We are not only caring for our natural resources; we are helping others discover why those resources are worth caring for.

Local People. Local Knowledge. Local Service.

Celebrating 25 years of caring for our natural resources—and helping our community discover the healing power of the natural world.

See you at the October 1st Meeting!



Next Chapter Meeting

October 1

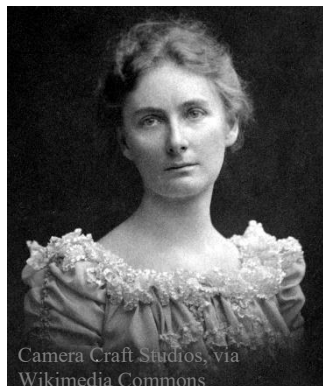
Galveston Bay Under
Pressure: Emerging
Threats and the Case for
Stewardship
By

Bob Stokes
Galveston Bay Foundation

At Extension Office*
and via Zoom

Women in Nature: Florence Bascom by Meade LeBlanc

Women were in the minority in college classrooms in the 19th century, often relegated to the back of the room, ignored by professors, possibly not considered enrolled students, or - apocryphal story or not - forced to sit behind a screen at the back of the room to be unseen and unheard. These were the experiences Florence Bascom (1862-1945) endured in the late 1890s at Johns Hopkins University where she studied graduate-level geology.



Florence, the youngest of five children, was born in Williamstown, Massachusetts on July 14, 1862. Her parents, John and Emma Bascom, both educated, believed women should receive college educations - a very rare idea at the time. John was a professor of rhetoric at Williams College and Emma, a former teacher

involved in the suffrage movement, was a graduate of Patapsco Female Institute, a Maryland boarding school for girls with a rigorous science, math, and earth science curriculum. Emma believed that a mother needed outside interests "to broaden her knowledge, deepen her sympathies and enlarge her mental vision."

The Bascom house contained laboratory and observatory equipment, which both parents encouraged the children to use. John also took the children on trips to the nearby mountains, to develop an interest in nature and "definiteness of aim." Trips like this, studying the features of the landscape, sparked Florence's early interest in geology.

In 1874, John became president of the University of Wisconsin, and the family moved to Madison. This was just one year after its Board of Regents had voted to allow men and women to study the same curriculum, although women still had separate lecture buildings and could only use the library on certain days. Florence enrolled at UW in 1877 and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1882. She taught school in Hampton, Virginia for a year at a school one of her father's friends had founded, but returned to Madison to study science, focusing on geology.

Florence decided to study geology for several reasons. She had recently visited Mammoth Cave in Kentucky with her father. She had also gone on a drive with her father and a family friend, Dr. Edward Orton, a member of the Ohio State Geological Survey and first president of

The Ohio State University, and had become curious about unseen geological formations. And, last, but not least, was the fact that, unlike the other professors who seated the women in the back of the classroom, the geology professors arranged the students by last name, giving Florence a front row seat.

She studied geology under some of the best scholars in the country. When she received her Bachelor of Science in 1884, her professors encouraged her to continue her studies, leading to a Master of Science in geology in 1887. Florence taught geology and chemistry for several years at Ohio State University, then realized she needed an advanced education to become a professional geologist. Her Wisconsin professors suggested she apply to Johns Hopkins University, then the premier graduate school in America.

Florence applied in September 1890. Johns Hopkins did not accept women at that time, but they agreed to allow her to attend lectures. She was not considered a formal candidate, and only paid laboratory fees, not tuition. And she had to sit behind a screen in the corner of the lecture rooms to shield her from the male students. She did, however, have access to the important scholars of the day.

She did fieldwork with her professors and other students in Maryland and Pennsylvania, wearing a long skirt and carrying a backpack with compass, magnifying glass, notebook and geologic hammer. Curious onlookers stared at her while she hammered rocks. If she went into a field alone, farmers threatened her and let out their bulls to chase her. Studying her samples under a microscope back at the laboratory, Florence discovered that the rocks in the area were formed from lava flows and not sediments, which "changed the opinion of two generations of geologists."

Based on this research, her professors recommended she become a doctoral candidate, because she had "ability, energy and enthusiasm that could be expected of any man." She formally applied for a Ph.D., and it was approved secretly. The trustees emphasized that her Ph.D. was special, not a precedent. Nevertheless, in January 1893 she was the first woman awarded a Ph.D. by Johns Hopkins, and the first woman awarded a Ph.D. in geology in America.

In 1895 she was recruited by Bryn Mawr College, then an all-female college closely modeled after the rigorous curriculum standards set by Johns Hopkins University. At first, the college did not think geology would be a popular subject and only allowed her to teach one class. Over time, her lectures became so popular that the college

began to offer an undergraduate major in geology, and later a graduate program. Florence established a geological library with mineral specimens and laboratory equipment. Hers was the first geology department at a women's college.

During summer vacations, she worked for the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and was the first woman in that role. She went into the field, riding her horse, driving a buggy, or walking in the mountains, gathering rocks, taking notes, and making maps of the formations in the Mid-Atlantic Piedmont region. She analyzed the specimens on microscope slides in the winter, recorded her results, and wrote up her findings in the U.S. Geological Survey Folios. Describing her life, Florence wrote, "This is the life to plunge into the wholesome isolation of the field, to return to the stimulating association of Bryn Mawr, to observe and in part to clear up geologic phenomena, to return to the exposition and interpretation of geologic phenomena."

Florence retired from teaching in the late 1920s and from the survey in the late 1930s. She moved back to Massachusetts to live with her sister and died there on June 18, 1945. She is buried in the Williamstown, MA cemetery with family members.

While she is remembered as a trailblazing geologist and professor, she was also apparently a poet. This verse was found among the collection of her papers held at Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts:

The Hut

A hut and a tree
And a hill for me!
A dog, a horse, and upland meadows,
And I'll ask no thing
Of man or king
Save to clear away their shadows.

Chapter Generosity Greatly Appreciated by Kathleen McClean

In August the Beach Heroes kicked off their 8th season in spectacular fashion thanks to the generous donations of teacher supplies by the Galveston Bay Area Chapter of Texas Master Naturalists. The trove of paper towels, sanitary wipes, and classroom supplies was inventoried and valued at \$1,100 by Treasurer Meade LeBlanc. A fleet of Beach Heroes fanned out across Galveston and the Bolivar Peninsula to drop the bounty off at the Sunshine Center and GISD schools participating in the Beach Heroes Project. The deliveries were met with jaw-dropping amazement and appreciation for our chapter's support of the local schools which welcome us into their classrooms each year. Crenshaw Elementary immediately posted thanks on its Facebook page.



The Beach Heroes' mission is two-fold: to alert our youngest citizens to the serious effects plastic pollution

has on the beaches and wildlife of Galveston and to foster behavior that will overcome those effects and result in a lifetime commitment to the stewardship of our environment. The presenters' eye-catching costumes of capes and amusing hats instantly grab the students' attention, and they remain captivated as the volunteers use props, music, and dance to relay the message of "Reduce, Re-use, Recycle". Creativity comes into play as well, as the children are invited to join the Beach Heroes by artistically expressing their ideas using the art supplies provided by Galveston Bay Area Master Naturalists.

The highlight of the Beach Hero Project is the Art Exhibit, where an average of 500 pieces of art produced by Galveston area children is colorfully displayed. This year's exhibit is Saturday, October 3, 2026, at the First Presbyterian Church, 1903 Church Street in Galveston.

Volunteers are always welcome in the Beach Hero Project. Besides presenting at schools, help is needed judging and preparing artwork for the exhibit, exhibit set-up, hosting, and clean-up, and preparing for presentations. Beach Heroes are also in need of a volunteer willing to be a liaison to Burnett Elementary School. This would entail communicating with the school administrators and art teacher to coordinate presentation schedules and collecting and returning the artwork for the exhibit. If you would like to be added to the team and receive email notifications of upcoming Beach Heroes opportunities, contact Maureen Nolan-Wilde.

Curing Plant Blindness - Green Gentians by Diane Humes

In July on a trip to Denver, Colorado, we had occasion to cross the Continental Divide at Independence Pass, elevation 12,095 feet. This is the second highest mountain pass in the entire U.S., first recorded by Zebulon Pike in 1806. The view is amazing, as is the road up there - totally impassable in winter - with a large assortment of mountain peaks exceeding 14,000 feet in elevation within view. Surveyed in 1873, the pass marked the western limit of European settlement in Colorado until prospectors discovered gold and crossed it on July 4, 1879.

The gold strike quickly played out and the mining town of Independence has long been a ghost town, but this summer it was a site to spot spectacularly blooming green gentian plants (*Frasera speciosa*), a species of flowering plant in the gentian family (Gentianaceae). To see them bloom is amazing but happens rarely. One population of green gentian plants in Colorado, observed for 35 years, has had some plants **not** flower within all that time. Thus, the average age of flowering for this species is estimated to be 40 years and the lifespan of some individuals to be more than 80 years. We got so lucky!



The Gentianaceae is a smallish family of about 85 genera and 1650 species, distributed nearly worldwide. In their moist, cool northern hemispheric temperate regions, they are mostly herbaceous, while in tropical and subtropical mountains, they are most often woody shrubs or small trees, lianas or even root parasites. Gentians contain unusual bitter substances purported to have medicinal properties. (Anything that tastes bad is usually thought to cure something!)

The green gentian genus is named for Scottish botanist John Fraser (1750 -1811) who collected plants

throughout the Americas. Other species named for him are Fraser's fir (*Abies fraseri*), Fraser's magnolia (*Magnolia fraseri*), and Fraser's Saint John's Wort (*Triadenum fraseri*) or (*Hypericum fraseri*). Note: "wort" is an old English word meaning "plant."

Green gentians, also known as elk weed and monument plant, are common in the western U.S. and into northern Mexico, growing in open to shaded meadows, clearings and woodlands at higher elevations, especially in the Four Corners region of Utah, Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico. This is also a Texas plant, found primarily at elevations above 7000 feet in the Guadalupe Mountains of Culberson County. Elk and cattle like to graze the leaves; many native bees pollinate them.

A flowering green gentian is a very large plant, between one-half and two meters tall. Leaves are long and strap-like, numerous and whorled around the unbranched stem, decreasing in size as they ascend the stalk. Flowers are lobed and pale green with purple blotches, scales and nectary glands. Fertilized flowers produce fruits that are oblong capsules, containing sixty seeds. Each flowering plant may produce as many as six-hundred blooms! While the mechanism for synchronicity of blooming is unknown, the result is spectacular, as seen this summer in many areas of Colorado

After flowering, the parent plant dies. Seeds are deposited within about two meters of the parent plant. From field observations, the parent debris/remains have been shown to provide a favorable environment for seed germination compared to bare soil. The copious quantity of seeds produced helps ensure success for the future generation in that location.



Finding these plants was a wonderful bonus to our trip and I can only suggest we all keep our eyes open, wherever we go. You never know what you might find, especially as a master naturalist!

Red Velvet Ants by Rebekah Gano

While out for a stroll in a park or woods, usually in a sunnier patch of nature, I sometimes spot a fuzzy red and black insect scurrying along the ground. I personally find the little arthropods adorable; though, their bright patterns give a clear warning: Do NOT touch! Knowing that these insects, known as “red velvet ants”, aren’t aggressive, I like to stay and watch them explore, giving them plenty of space and watching my step just in case another one - or another species of ground wasp - is around. It’s always great to know more about the littlest fauna, so read on for some insights into the lives of red velvet ants.



Judy Gallagher via Wikimedia Commons

Despite its appearance, a red velvet ant is not an ant at all; it is a solitary wasp, order Hymenoptera, species *Dasymutilla occidentalis*. Female red velvet ants do not have wings and spend their lives on or under the ground, which makes it easy to see why they were called “ants”. Males, on the other hand, have transparent black wings and look like furry versions of their typical wasp relatives. Like most wasp and bee species, female red velvet ants have an adapted ovipositor which can be used as a stinger, while males cannot sting. Though the insects are

non-aggressive, their sting is said to hurt intensely for 30 minutes, lending them the name “cow killer”.

Aside from the ability to sting and their bright colors, velvet ants, as a larger group, have amazing protections against predators, including especially thick exoskeletons and the ability to emit a foul-smelling chemical. Additionally, they make audible sounds. Velvet ants use the sounds as a warning to predators, just in case the bright colors weren’t enough, and to find mates.

Another way velvet ants attract mates is with pheromones and likely by sight. Females in search of mates will typically find a sunny location and crawl around in plain view. Once a male finds a mate, he usually carries her - the only flight of her life - to a shady location, away from competing males. It is thought that females only mate once and then promptly seek out host dens for their eggs.

Dasymutilla occidentalis larvae hatch out on and eat mostly the larvae of other ground wasp and bee species, in whose dens they were laid. Some red velvet ant larvae have been observed consuming fly and beetle grubs. Red velvet ants can serve as beneficial pest control for aggressive yellow jackets though they also prey on beneficial bumble bees who also nest in the ground.

In warm months, red velvet ant larvae hatch out in about 3 days and may develop into adults in as few as 20 days. As the temperatures cool, however, the life cycle pace decreases and finally stops for a few months as developing larvae and pupa enter diapause and overwinter in their hosts’ dens. Adult red velvet ants, like most other wasp species, reach the end of their lives as temperatures cool. Once spring arrives, however, the larva and pupa resume their development and soon emerge as adults, ready to eat a little nectar and find a mate to start the life cycle again.

Texas Glowing Click Beetles in the Limelight by Mary Carol Edwards

As a new resident in Alvin TX, I noticed some zig-zagging green streaks of light while taking my dog for late evening walks. How charming, I thought Alvin still has fireflies. One night I was excited to track down one of the gleaming green streaks as it landed on my windowsill. It wasn’t a firefly! This inch-long black beetle had two bioluminescent ovals on either side of the pronotum behind its head and a glowing abdomen. As the beetle energetically paced the window, the three light sources were sometimes on at the same time and sometimes independently. I got a few blurry photos and a video for iNaturalist before the beetle took off. This is

how I met my first Texas glowing click beetle (*Deilelater physoderus*.)

You may know the large family of click beetles for their trick of launching themselves into the air by releasing a spine-and-latch mechanism between their head and thorax. It works to pop them upright when they are stuck on their backs and possibly for startling predators. Given the g-force of the launch and the way they may tumble to the ground again at full speed, click beetle bodies tend to be bullet-shaped and very tough.

Only a few species bioluminesce, including our very own Texas glowing click beetle, endemic to east and southeast Texas. Just as in fireflies, the protein luciferin and enzyme luciferase cause the chemical reaction that produces light.



I own some acres of land behind Green Star Wetland Plant Farm, near Alvin, where I am reestablishing a coastal tall grass prairie. It has been gratifying to see actual fireflies flashing there in spring and summer. One early August evening I felt weary of the workings of humans and decided to do a quick immersion in the non-human centric world at the back of the farm. I was walking the mown trails of the Green Star prairie by 8:15pm, and a few fireflies were beginning to flash like yellow sparks rising from a campfire. Something else was lighting up the dark grasses with a flickering green gleam – Texas glowing click beetles, frantically climbing stems and taking flight.

Within the hour the click beetles outnumbered fireflies, and maybe a hundred click beetles were zooming festively at eye level across the prairie. Unlike the fireflies, which have a characteristic pattern of lights on and off for each species, Texas glowing click beetles generally keep their lights on longer and fly horizontally. It was thrilling to be able to witness the glowing party of click beetles, and I didn't feel weary anymore, even as it grew late.

Now that we are at the end of summer, the glow party is winding down for the year. Adults only live about 3 months. But the next generation is growing underground. If you have ever seen a slender orange grub called a wireworm while gardening, you have seen a click beetle larva. Wireworms have earned a bad reputation for damaging crops, by gnawing root vegetables and chewing the roots off seedlings. However, the glowing click beetle larva are unlikely to be the culprits, based on information I gleaned from beetle-breeding enthusiasts. *Deilephila physoderus* lays its eggs in decomposing hardwood logs or soil with high organic matter. The first 2 instars will eat decaying wood, then later instars become predatorial. They live at least a year in the soil, eating

invertebrates and even each other. Adults are said to be omnivorous, though not a threat to crops.

Create Texas Glowing Click Beetle Habitat

Want to encourage these fascinating insects where you live? If you follow the guidelines that support firefly populations, you are already supporting Texas glowing click beetles.

Habitat: These beetles prefer open woods and grasslands with a body of water nearby and have adapted to neighborhoods with mature hardwood trees.

Forest floor: Allow some wood to rot on the ground. Downed branches and logs line the paths of my home garden. As the wood decomposes it becomes habitat for larvae and their prey.

Moisture: Click beetle larvae need moist soil. Mulches, in-ground ponds and rain gardens help retain soil moisture.

Vegetation: In my garden, glowing click beetles prefer the tall foliage of Switchgrass and Saltmarsh mallow. Sometimes beetles inside the plants light up when another beetle comes zigzagging through the garden, so it seems they are signaling each other like fireflies do.

Pesticide free: To state the obvious, pesticides can kill the food source for the predatory larvae, as well as the larvae themselves.

Light: Glowing click beetles seem more tolerant of light pollution than fireflies but turning outdoor lights off is a kindness for insects that need to find each other by their own glow.

The Midden

The Midden is published bimonthly by the Galveston Bay Area Chapter - Texas Master Naturalists to inform, communicate and educate chapter members and the community about our natural world and serve as an archive of chapter activities. To submit an article or join the team, please contact Diane Humes, treimanhumes@gmail.com.

Texas AgriLife Extension Service
4102 B Main (FM 519) Carbide Park
La Marque, TX 77568

The Midden is posted on the GBAC-TMN chapter website: <https://txmn.org/gbmn/> two weeks prior to chapter meetings. Archived issues are also on chapter website. If you prefer to receive *The Midden* in hard copy and are not currently receiving it, please contact the extension office at 281-534-3413.

Midden Team - Diane Humes, Editor

Peggy Antone	Madeleine K. Barnes
Verva Densmore	Sheron Evans
Rebekah Gano	Meade LeBlanc
Carolyn Miles	Chuck Snyder

The Lowly Roly-Poly by Verva Densmore

Whether you call them roly-poly (rollie pollie) bugs, doodlebugs or pill bugs, these small crustaceans are mostly beneficial residents of Texas. Their bodies have 7 segments and an abdomen, and they can roll into a protective ball, a process called conglobation.

If you've ever looked at one and saw a similarity to an armadillo, that would be appropriate: their scientific name is *Armadillidium vulgare*. This species arrived in N. America from Europe; others also occur world-wide. And despite often being called "bugs," they are terrestrial crustaceans (isopods) and are more closely related to shrimp and crabs and lobster than to insects.



Xeroporcellio via Wikimedia Commons

Pill bugs are detritivores, feeding on decaying organic matter. Because of this, they play a beneficial role by breaking down dead plant material and returning nutrients to the soil. These little decomposers rarely eat living plants, do not carry disease, do not bite or sting and help improve the soil. They pose no threat to

humans and have very little negative effect on crops or gardens.

Females carry fertilized eggs for 3-4 weeks in an abdominal pouch called a marsupium. The eggs hatch into white, miniature "mancas" which stay in the pouch for a few days before becoming independent. Unlike insects, pill bugs do not go through a larval stage. With favorable conditions, they will live 2-3 years.

All around the world, children find pleasure in gentle play with these safe, non-biting, non-stinging, fun creatures, watching them roll into balls and then return to crawling away. Their play introduces children to careful observation of nature.

Occasionally, the population can grow too large and can become a nuisance in the garden, or they might move inside the home seeking moisture due to drought conditions. Controlling the population size by encouraging birds and frogs can help. It is also important that you control moisture from around your house and keep mulch and organic debris under control to limit population size.

We often view pill bugs as pests to be managed, but they are some of our best neighbors. They inform us about soil health and moisture, and they tell us about the ecosystem beneath our feet. And by consuming old dead matter, they prepare the way for the new. They are silent sentinels of the garden.

TX Sea Grant Community Engagement Interns in Action by Brandi Keller & Sadie Berry

I had the pleasure of working with two Texas Sea Grant (TXSG) Interns from June 3rd to August 11th. Hailey Reese is working on her combined Bachelor's and Master's degree in Oceanography at Texas A&M main campus, while Sadie Berry is finishing up her last semester to complete her B.S. in Coastal Environmental Science & Society at Texas A&M Galveston

They gained a hands-on look at what it means to work in coastal Extension. Their experience went beyond the office, with opportunities to work alongside GBAC Master Naturalist volunteers, community partners, stakeholders, and members of the coastal and seafood industry. They supported educational programs, worked with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension agents and TXSG staff, engaged with the community, and completed professional trainings, including Angler Education Facilitator Training.

One example of their work with volunteers is their commitment to Camp Wild at Galveston Island State Park. Both interns served as camp counselors, assisted hospitality, and even lead the owl pellet activity over two days.



Photo by Brandi Keller

They also learned how to monitor a non-harvestable oyster reef, assisted MRRP with the Texas City Dike monofilament survey, hosted a Sea Grant table for a state conference, planned and led an activity on Coral Crafting, and made public comment to our Galveston County Commissioner's Court.

Throughout it all, they brought enthusiasm, professionalism, and a genuine willingness to learn. Sadie and Hailey quickly became valued members of the team, and we are grateful for their energy and perspective they brought to our program this summer.

Brandi Keller
Coastal & Marine Resources County Extension Agent

This summer, Hailey and I had the privilege of being Community Engaged Interns with Texas Sea Grant, working under Brandi Keller and alongside many Galveston Bay Area Chapter Master Naturalist Volunteers.

In this internship, we conducted a Seafood Industry Spotlight Interview Project in which we interviewed several members of our local seafood industry. We then translated the messages from each individual into spotlight social-media posts with the goal of connecting consumers with the faces and voices behind their seafood. These spotlights will be released in the coming weeks, so keep your eyes peeled!

We also had the opportunity to help out with the Master Naturalist's Beach Heroes program. We assisted at the

Sunshine Center in Galveston, where we helped present a lesson on marine debris and completed a marine mural crafting activity. After this, each of the participants created their own marine art to be exhibited to the public later this year, allowing them to utilize creativity in an impactful way.

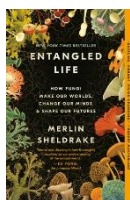


Being a part of the Beach Heroes team, even for only a short time, revealed to me the importance and extent of the impact that Master Naturalists instill in our community. I am very proud to have had this opportunity to work alongside such driven and dedicated environmental advocates, and I want to say a big thank you to each and every individual who makes this program possible. Thank you!

Sadie Berry
2026 CEI Intern

Heritage Book Club by TJ Fox

Your book club has just finished discussing an eye-opening book on animal culture, society, feelings and communication. Next, we turn to the world of fungi with Merlin Sheldrake's *Entangled Life*. The old expression "There is a fungus among us" is literally true.



The following review by *Good Reads* sums it up...

"In this captivating adventure, Merlin Sheldrake explores the spectacular and neglected world of fungi: endlessly surprising organisms that sustain nearly all living systems. They can solve problems without a brain, stretching traditional definitions of 'intelligence', and can manipulate animal behavior with devastating precision. In giving us bread, alcohol and life-saving medicines, fungi have shaped human history, and their psychedelic

properties, which have influenced societies since antiquity, have recently been shown to alleviate a number of mental illnesses. The ability of fungi to digest plastic, explosives, pesticides and crude oil is being harnessed in break-through technologies, and the discovery that they connect plants in underground networks, the 'Wood Wide Web', is transforming the way we understand ecosystems. Yet they live their lives largely out of sight, and over ninety percent of their species remain undocumented."

Entangled Life is a mind-altering journey into this hidden kingdom of life, and shows that fungi are key to understanding the planet on which we live, and the ways we think, feel and behave. The more we learn about fungi, the less makes sense without them.

Join our October 5th discussion of this fascinating book.

Song Book: Voices of the Bayou by Diane Humes

With our chapter motto, "Food, Fun and Friendship", it should be no surprise that we have a chapter song book! The first page begins with the Disney song - new lyrics by Dick Benoit - like this:

Hi-ho, hi-ho, it's off to work we go
We work all day and get no pay, Hi-ho, hi-ho

Hi-ho, hi-ho, it's to the marsh we go
We pot the sprigs and plant the digs, Hi-ho, hi-ho



We like to think we inspired great fun around many campfires, especially at state meetings! With guitars for accompaniment, we weren't too bad.

Hi-ho, hi-ho, it's to the prairie we go
To mow and burn and sod upturn Hi-ho, hi-ho

Hi-ho, hi-ho, it's to the bay we go
To seine and teach for our outreach Hi-ho, hi-ho



We always planned to see the stars; Marie and Odie Asscherick would bring their green laser pointer!

Hi-ho, hi-ho, it's to the park we go
To whack the tallows, and count the swallows Hi-ho, hi-ho

Hi-ho, hi-ho, it's to the stream we go
To test D-O and check the flow Hi-ho, hi-ho



Then:

Hi-ho, hi-ho, it's to the forest we go
We raise the rails and sign the trails Hi-ho, hi-ho

Hi-ho, hi-ho, it's down the bayou we go
We clean the bogs and count the frogs Hi-ho, hi-ho



Long live Food, Fun and Friendship!!

Hi-ho, hi-ho, it's off to work we go
We work all day and get no pay Hi-ho, hi-ho.

Other chapters liked to join in: (shamelessly Texanized by Anton Hajek, Gulf Coast Chapter)

This land is your land, this land is my land
From Palo Duro to Padre Island
From the tall pine forests to the gulf shore islands
Texas was made for you and me

Let's keep adding to the songbook.

October and November Activities

ADVANCED TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Chapter Meeting - Oct 1; Galveston Bay Under Pressure:
Emerging Threats and the Case for Stewardship
Presenter: Bob Stokes
6pm Social, 6:30pm Meeting, 7pm Speaker
At Extension Office* and via Zoom; 1 hour AT

Gulf Coast Canine Project

Thursday, Oct. 15 at 6 pm; Armand Bayou Nature Center
Presenter: Jennifer Bock

Ongoing

Heritage Book Club

First Monday of every month via Zoom; 2 hours AT
Contact: TJ Fox, tj.fox39@gmail.com
See Pg. 8 for meeting dates and books.

STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

For a complete list of stewardship activities, see our
chapter website, <https://txmn.org/gbmn/what-we-do/>.

EDUCATION - OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

For a complete list of education - outreach activities, see
our chapter website, <https://txmn.org/gbmn/what-we-do/>.

CHAPTER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Calendar - <https://txmn.org/gbmn/gbac-events-calendar/>
Includes meetings, AT and volunteer activities

Board - <https://txmn.org/gbmn/board-of-directors/>
Contact information for the Board of Directors. **Board Meetings** - usually first Tuesday of each month (via Zoom), verify on the calendar

Committees - <https://txmn.org/gbmn/board-of-directors/>
Contact information for the Committee Chairs

Volunteer Service - <https://txmn.org/gbmn/volunteer-service/> Volunteer Opportunities

Advanced Training - <https://txmn.org/gbmn/advanced-training/>

Midden Archives - <https://txmn.org/gbmn/> Go to The Midden on the top menu.

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/gbactmn>

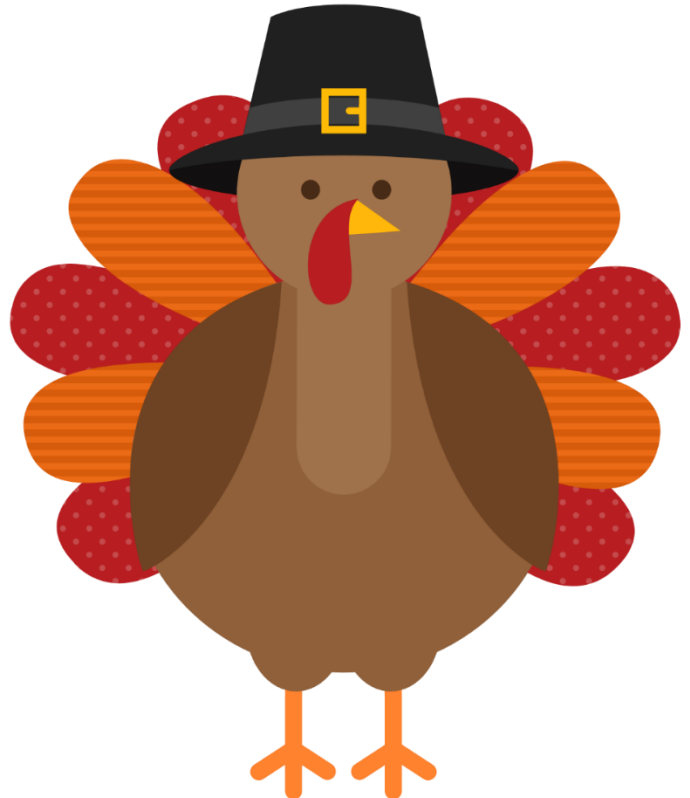


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The Midden Deadline
for the next issue

October 26



*Extension Office = Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service – Galveston County Office (Carbide Park)