



Harvest Moon

By David Smith

Courtesy of Charlie Gindstaff

*I heard a song 'bout the "rustlers' moon" and
Listened to a tale of "The Last Comanche Moon"*

For my clan it was too late too soon to try the hossback trade.

We was nesters...we tilled the earth, our trade was plough and spade

We had the harvest moon. We was blessed with extry light.

And thankful for the miracle of seasons and the gift of extended sight.

Our Lord's Acre was set aside with

Serious reference and grateful praise.

What was gathered under the harvest moon

Became our covenant. "God thank you

for what we both could raise."

From the Desk of the **PRESIDENT**

Greetings Trailblazers!

I love that every season brings so many new and exciting activities for Indian Trail MN. Spring and summer raced by with many fun things going on for all of us both as a chapter and as individuals. Now it is time for a busy Fall. We started off with a bang with Harvest Moon on the Prairie which was a hit for all who attended. Our new trainee class is well under way, and we have a super crop of enthusiastic learners who are already volunteering and joining in the fall activities. Please plan to visit for a class if you can. We have two wildflower walks planned for Mockingbird Nature Park and October 1 is Observe the Moon Night also at Mockingbird. The TXMN Annual Meeting is in October. After that, the holidays are upon us...busy time for all! Our member calendar is also full of advance training (AT) opportunities. Lynn has been busy approving AT for us to attend.

I know we are also all thankful for the change in the weather. The rain we had was much

appreciated and the cooler temps are SOOO welcome. Pretty cool mornings are perfect to get outside for bird watching, planting wildflowers for next spring, and getting things ready for (we hope) some cold weather. This is also a wonderful time to look for butterflies as they either migrate through or ready themselves for winter. So relaxing to be able to take nice long walks in nature without all the heat

Please try to join in on at least some of these activities. It is so important to have everyone working to further our mission of providing trained volunteers. Each time we interact with someone at an outreach event, work in our yards and parks and make observations in Citizen Science projects we make a difference in our world. This mission becomes more important every day. I am honored to be able to work with you other Nature Nerds to further the cause of nature conservation.

See you soon!

Rena Sutphin, *President, Indian Trail chapter*

Two Fall Favorites



Spider Lily



Passion Flower

Indian Trail Master Naturalist Newsletter Team:

- Debbie Pierce, Editor..... debbiekpierce@att.net
- Thomas Hollingsworth, Editor..... thomas@brookwaterwildlife.com
- Jim West, Design/Production jrwest901@gmail.com

Monthly meetings are held on the 4th Monday (usually) of each month at 6 p.m., program at 7 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, Waxahachie. Our office is located in TexasAgrilife at 701 S. I-35E, Suite 3, Waxahachie, TX 75165 | 972-825-5175

Visit our website at <http://txmn.org/indiantrail>

ITMN's Fall Training Class of 2022!

Fall training is underway, and we already have several weeks under our belt! The class began on August 30 and ends on November 15. We have a full roster, with 20 trainees. It is an enthusiastic, inquisitive class with people of different ages, backgrounds and talents. This group has already gotten involved in chapter events, volunteering in various capacities. Thank you to our members for referring a number of your friends to training. Clearly, your enthusiasm is contagious!

Within our group we have several master gardeners and horticulturalists; a tree farmer; teachers and child-care workers; a librarian; at least two pilots; a geologist; hunters and outdoorsmen; a yoga instructor; professionals in various fields; several artists; a wood worker and animal trainer; a midwife; volunteers and board members of numerous nature boards as well as public parks and youth programs; and an Environmental Protection Agency environmental scientist. There are many other interesting backgrounds represented that are simply too numerous to list here. The common theme of course is that all the trainees are avid nature enthusiasts!

This year our training committee is: Erin McKool, Stephanie Racine and Lynn Sawyer. We are thankful for the many helping hands every night. Thank you to all the members who have attended, brought food, and interacted with the trainees

Thank you to Erwin and Anna Ramos for hosting us once again at the Cottonwood Venue. Each week, they work hard to prepare for us and are always warm and inviting.

We also want to give a big shout out to Celia Yowell and Christine Cook who arrive early every Tuesday with their hospitality magic and stay until everyone is gone. Their energy is inspiring!

Training takes place on Tuesday nights from 6-9 p.m. in Waxahachie. We welcome members to come visit and get to know the trainees. A link to the full schedule of speakers and location for each night can be found here: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/a3dhoy-wd0xqdwht/2022%20SCHED-ULE%20AND%20ASSIGNMENTS.docx> (If the link doesn't work, please copy the following and paste into your web address bar: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/a3dhoy-wd0xqdwht/2022%20SCHED-ULE%20AND%20ASSIGNMENTS.docx>)



MEMBER P | R | O | F | I | L | E

Jim Patak

Indian Trail Master Naturalist

Interviewed by Debbie Pierce

What activities do you enjoy when you're not busy with chapter programs?

My brother and I have a small cow/calf operation and have 75 leased acres in hay production. I enjoy keeping up with my granddaughters. The oldest, has a Bachelor's Degree in Communications from Texas A & M University and will be pursuing a Master's degree in Communications at Northwestern University in the Chicago area. My two youngest, 13 and 10, live in Austin and are involved in soccer/volleyball and soccer/basketball respectively.

And then there's my fishing, Rangers baseball, and high school and college football. Presently, I am attacking a "bucket list" item, learning the language of my ancestors, Czech and the Moravian dialect.

How did you become interested in Texas Master Naturalists?

In 2011 I heard about a "Moth Night" at a place called Mockingbird Nature Park in Midlothian. My oldest granddaughter was 12 and we decided to come to the event to check it out and we had a blast. I recalled that I had met some of the coolest people, Ms. Charlie and Paul G., Elaine R., Eileen B., Lynn W. to name a few, and thought, I would really enjoy hanging out with this bunch. Because I was still working and travelled a bit, I couldn't commit to day classes. I eventually retired in 2013 and the chapter held its first nighttime class in 2014 and the rest is history.

What nature/environmental issues interest you the most or that you find most rewarding?

After going through the training class and getting my certification hours in, I realized I was leaning towards prairies and grassland, rivers and streams. The first project I was involved in was the 2014 burn at Kachina. I didn't even know it existed, much less that it is a remnant, tall-grass, Blackland prairie and it is literally in my backyard. Trees have become another interest of mine.

What projects do you enjoy the most?

I most enjoy projects that involve prairies, grasslands and water, rivers, streams and wetlands and TREES.



Add anything you would like to share about yourself that would help us know you better.

My interest in trees led me to pursue certification as a Citizen Forester through the Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council (Ft. Worth and surrounding counties west of the Trinity River) in 2018/19. I still do volunteer work with CTUFC to maintain my certification, but have become more involved in the revival of the Trinity Blackland Urban Forestry Council (Dallas and surrounding counties east of the Trinity River). A dedicated group of urban foresters, urban biologists, International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) certified arborists, and consultants are raising the TBUFC up out of the ashes and I plan to be involved in helping establish a Citizen Forester or similar group of trained citizens interested in trees.

Celebrating the Harvest Moon at Kachina Prairie

By Sheila Cloonen

Fun and excitement were had by all at the Harvest Moon celebration at Kachina Prairie on the evening of September 10. The skies were clear giving everyone a great view of this full moon. An estimated 68 people were in attendance enjoying a night of entertainment, games, nature walks and star gazing. A special shout



out goes to Laura Beattie for only missing one question in Quiz Me to the Moon. Waxahachie's "Cowboy Poet Lariat", David Smith, recited his poems and gave us some insight on cowboy life of long ago. Mike Harrison played guitar and sang a few Marty Robbins songs, along with a John Denver tune, and taught us a thing or two about the cowboy slang in the old

songs. With everyone circled around in chairs, the only things missing were the chuckwagon and campfire, although we did enjoy a few Moon Pies and other snacks.

The Texas Land Conservancy, who works with the City of Ennis and ITMN in caring for Kachina Prairie, had a table set up for handing out information about their 40 years of service and selling t-shirts and hats. Amber Arseneaux spoke to us about how their organization is dedicated to protecting the land, water and wildlife of Texas from the negative effects of land fragmentation and poorly-planned development. She spoke about what we can do to get involved if we are landowners interested in conservation.

As the evening went on and the skies were darkening, John Price and

Jeff Culbertson from the Texas Astronomical Society set up two powerful telescopes in the prairie for all to enjoy. We were able to view the moon up close, while



also viewing the planets of Saturn and Jupiter. To our amazement we were able to see the rings around Saturn and four moons around Jupiter.

It was the perfect night of celebrating the Harvest Moon.



Thanks to all who attended and a special thank you to all who volunteered making it a very memorable night.



MOTH NIGHT AT CRAWFORD PARK



By atie Christman

Armed with UV lights and bed sheets, our small team of Master Naturalists ventured to Crawford Park in Cedar Hill to look for moths during the annual National Moth Week in July. This global citizen science event, encourages “mothers” of any age and ability to capture data about moths that they observe in their backyard, parks and neighborhoods.

Compared to other insects, moths are sometimes left out of the limelight. However, for a species that is so diverse (with an estimated 500,000 species worldwide) moths are experts at camouflage, are nocturnal, and are essential food sources both as pollinators and as prey.

While, we only saw about four species of moths, we observed some other critters including cicadas, beetles, leafhoppers and of course mosquitoes! Our team speculated that the dry, hot weather played a role in the lack of moths that evening. Other mothing groups also observed the same throughout the week.

I will note though we had a great turnout for an event we have never hosted before in this area. We saw about 35 people show, ranging in age from 4 to 70! Being able to engage with folks that are sometimes fearful of the unknown, was a success for us as a chapter. Our local Parks and Recreation Department was so pleased with the event that we have been asked



to return to lead another moth night. We are looking forward to returning to another park in the future!





Jumping Spider

MR. WEST'S NEIGHBORHOOD

By Jim West

Yes, I know that spiders creep out a lot of folks, especially me when I walk through an orb web in the dark.

I seldom set out looking for spiders as I know that I'll find them whether I want to or not. I grub around in all kinds of brush and scrub looking for subjects to shoot and, there are usually a couple that catch my eye. Not so much this year though as since the spring, I have seen very few of any species. I hope it's temporary due to the extended dry spell we had because we need them.

Here are a few that you don't see often. Only one of these shots was from this year.

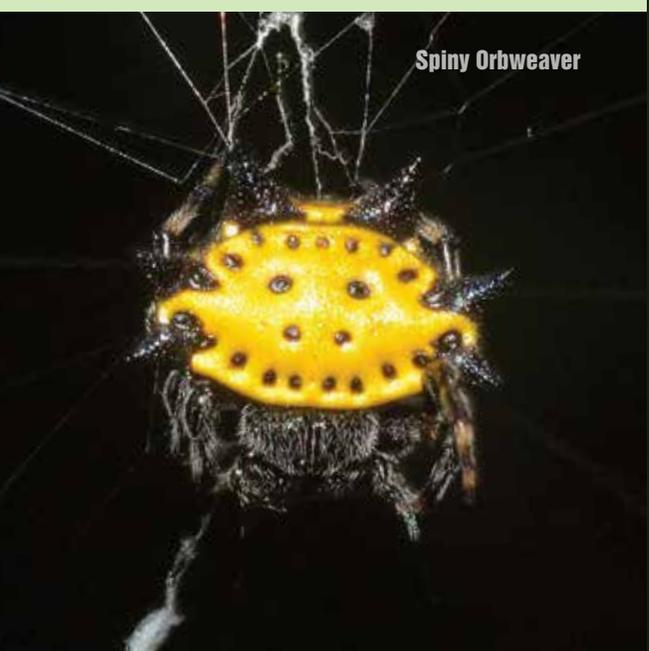
As far as the fear factor goes, smile, Halloween's just around the corner.



Wolf Spider



Nursery Web Spider



Spiny Orbweaver

RETURN OF THE WHISTLING DUCKS

OR

Ducks on My Roof, Part II



By Maureen Nitkowski

As late spring became summer, the number of black-bellied whistling ducks (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*) and mallards (*Anas platyrhynchos*) coming to my yard diminished. After a high count of 60 in total, there were none. Along with the whistlers and mallards there had also been a solitary male wood duck (*Aix sponsa*) which had been actively courting a hen mallard. Given the evidence that love was in the air, I assumed that all of the ducks had departed to nesting sites.

In mid-August, I noticed the noisy return of blue jays (*Cyanocitta cristata*) to feeding stations. For me this is an indicator of autumn regardless of the 100-degree temperatures. Within a few days of this sighting, the whistlers returned- 80+ of them. Their numbers have increased to over 100 with perhaps 20 mallards added to the mix. They arrive early morning and early evening daily and clean up all of the cracked corn that is offered. It must have been a very successful breeding season.

Because the juvenile whistlers are still smaller than the adults and have gray feet and bills rather

than the rosy orange of the adults, it has been possible to observe families as feeding groups. Two adults keep watch as the juveniles feed and also keep their young together and intruders out of the mix. The adults eventually feed one at a time and seem to be ever-vigilant. Most families include 4 to 7 juveniles, but there is at least one with 9. I cannot imagine the willpower it takes to keep 9 teenagers in line.

The male wood duck has returned a few times to feed with the mallards. It remains a mystery how his amorous quest ended, but there is always next year.



SKUNK IN A CAN

& OTHER CRITTER ENCOUNTERS

By Thomas Hollingsworth

This Summer was hot! For a wildlife tracker, 85-degree mornings are not appealing. The solution? Hit the lakes, slide into local museums...then head to the mountains.

To beat the heat, my wife, Lynne and I floated the lake at Cleburne State Park (CSP). We saw black vultures, turkey buzzards, kestrel, red shouldered hawk, crow, and bank swallows feeding over the water. At Joe Pool Lake's swimming area, I observed great blue heron, seagull, non-breeding white pelican, cattle egret, and mallard. Staying cool in my fishing floatie at Cleburne Lake (not CSP), all I spotted was largemouth bass and a dead carp. Lake Mineral Wells State Park's east shore trail stays cool under the blackjack oaks. On that hike, we saw a western rat snake chow on a Texas spiny lizard in a huge, rock cave, and we eyed a Texas spotted whiptail.

Another way I kept cool while immersing in natural history was to hit the Navarro County museums. The Pearce Collections Museum was a gem. The Hunter-Gatherers of the Blackland Prairie exhibit had thousands of artifacts and excellent kiosks and the Civil War Museum was sobering. I am a student of native culture and I found many facts to stimulate more study.

For cooler weather and more critters, I headed to the mountains on a tent-camping adventure. At my site in Alabama, I saw gray squirrel, raccoon, chipmunk, and white-tailed deer. In the Smokey Mountains, I took back-country roads and long hikes. I was rewarded by sightings of eastern screech owl,

groundhog, osprey, ruby throated hummingbird, bats, eastern turkey, snail, slug, millipede, raven, and Canada geese. One morning in the Pisgah Forest (look up founding of American forestry), I was awakened by loud snorts. As a it pushed in on the tent, I back-handed a black bear on the nose. I got out and watched it amble off and took a grainy picture. I had three more bear encounters, two of which resulted from wilderness hikes observing sign.

When in the Shenandoah Valley going through a neighborhood with a friend, I encountered a striped skunk running in circles with a can on its head. I went into rescue mode and amused my friend who thought I'd be sprayed. Corraling the critter, I grabbed the skunk by the can and shook vigorously until its head popped out like a cork! It took a quick look at me and...sprinted!

Lynne met me on my return to Texas. On a hike through Black Mountain, N.C., we spotted a mama black bear and triplet cubs in the deeply wooded cottage town. On the road home, we spotted a painted box turtle, red tailed hawk, wild hog, a dead red fox, and a dead opossum.

Awareness is the key to wildlife observation. Whether in urban or rural areas, parklands or wilderness, you see more, when you take notice of your surroundings. Critters...I love 'em!



2 Of The Best

By Chris Cook

I love what I call nature writing, so I want to introduce you to two of my most favorite naturalist writers whose written words come from their love of the land they lived on and the land they traveled.

Edwin Way Teale and **Hal Borland** were born within one year of each other in different states of the USA. Each became teachers, either officially or by their writing. Each had an awakening that brought them to an internal understanding that the highest importance in life was not in their 9-5+ hour jobs, but a life as part of the natural world. Each used their curiosity and talent to share with the world the idea that man belongs to and in nature and will not be complete without that participation. They both wrote of their travels, and they both wrote of the natural world they observed around their homes. They both ended up loving living on small farms in Connecticut. They both became beloved internationally through their writings, and won much acclaim and many awards. For each, it “wasn’t about them,” but about sharing man’s place in this grand scheme of nature, which is timeless. I like to think they were good friends.

They probably lived and wrote before many of you were ever thought of by those who became your parents. Yet their offerings are not “dated” or “old school” as I hear so often now, because nature is always current! Their love of the natural world, from microscopic to panoramic, shines through their works and warms my heart to this day as I reread their books...again.

Edwin Way Teale 1899-1980. He and his wife Nellie began a series of trips across the country as a way to deal with the grief of losing their son David in 1945. They also wrote about nature travels in Great Britain. When my sister and I were stuck at home with babies - myself in Big Spring, TX and she in Duluth, MN, and only had time to lose ourselves in reading late at night, she gifted me two of Teale’s books as a Christmas present. From the moment of my first read, I was a goner for all the books I could find secondhand. Fifty some years later now, I just ordered two more from Thriftbooks online!

Hal Borland 1900-1978. Borland is a well-known editorial writer for the *New York Times* and author of *When Legends Die*. He suffered a sudden complicated and life-threatening appendectomy and during his slow recovery he realized that the natural world in

which he lived was the place where he belonged as a human being, not his job in an office. It was then that he and his wife, Barbara, moved to Connecticut and he began writing his classic nature book *This Hill, This Valley*. Thank you, Sis, for this book, also.



If you want to explore these authors’ lives to a greater extent, there is copious information online, and then some! I may be willing to share my books with you, if you are willing to sign away your life, LOL!

Here are a few quotes you may have heard or read:

E.W. Teale:

1. No winter lasts forever; no Spring skips its turn.
2. If you would know strength and patience, welcome the company of trees.
3. The ultimate wisdom which deals with beginning remains locked in a seed. There it lies, the simplest fact of the universe, and, at the same time, the one which calls (for) faith rather than (for) reason.

H. Borland:

1. Our minds, as well as our bodies, have need of the out-of-doors.
2. If man can take care of man, nature can take care of the rest.
3. For observing nature, the best pace is a snail’s pace.



ANGLER EDUCATION

INSTRUCTION & OUTREACH

By Linda Sanford

We are fortunate in Texas to have many outdoor education resources available to us as Texas Master Naturalists. When preparing for an event at John Bunker Sands, I took advantage of several educational opportunities and have two recommendations for my fellow Trailblazers:

1. Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) Angler Education Instructor Program

This is a fun, very informative and helpful opportunity to learn and then pass on all the good material and information to others. Check it out on the Texas Parks and Wildlife website:

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/education/angler-education>. I did two (2), interactive online sessions for a total of five (5) hours of training. After completing the program I received copies of informative materials that are available for passing on to students. It's a volunteer program and you can record your time in the TMN Volunteer Management System.

I got to use some of that training on August 5th at John Bunker Sands Wetland Center (JBS) when they hosted Vogel Alcove (homeless outreach program) for kids ages five through 14. The kids learned about fish and fish identification, tackle and equipment (including a couple of basic knots), casting with a rod and reel, and safety. Then we went to a pond and tried some fishing...I say, some, because at 1:30 p.m. it was HOT! Nevertheless, the kids were wonderful and all had a good time. The group photos are from this event.

2. Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center

The other preparation for the JBS event that I did was visit the TPWD Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens. It's a beautiful facility with lots of exhibits, a tour, fishing opportunities (equipment and bait provided) and a beautiful nature trail with lots of iNaturalist opportunities. They even have a pitcher-plant bog. The photos of the pitcher-plant bog and aquariums are from the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center (including: Guadalupe Bass, Largemouth Bass, Blue Catfish, Blue Gill, and more). The Game Warden museum is located on the premises. See, it just gets better and better!



Nature Volunteers



Maryland Angel, an employee at the Texas Discovery Gardens, prepares for the incoming volunteers.

By Madeline Kelley

A few weeks ago, I was reading my Sunday *Dallas Morning News* and happened across a very interesting article that reminded me of all the good things that nature volunteers do to help our natural world. I don't know if anyone from ITMN has ever been to the Texas Discovery Gardens at Fair Park in Dallas. Many moons ago, when I was a member of North Texas Master Naturalists, we volunteered there in their native plants garden.

Texas Discovery Gardens has a magnificent butterfly house that retired history teacher, Roseann Ferguson, visited once. One of her former students suggested she might want to volunteer there....and so she does to the tune of 22,000 hours so far. Her role and the other volunteers' roles are to keep native plants alive and encourage others to use native plants in their

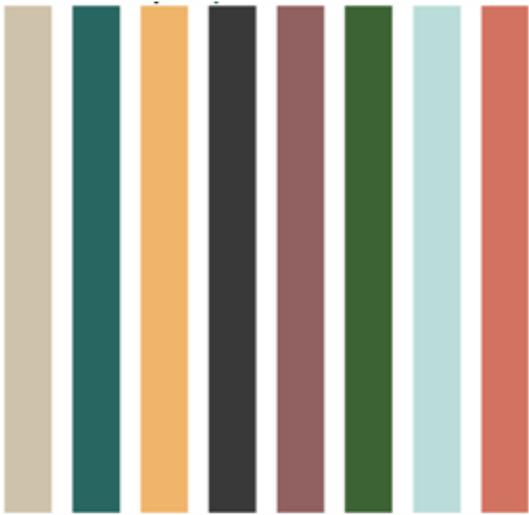
gardens. They do this by planting the seeds and then watching over the new growth. Then the plants are donated to schools and public places to grow. The reason to keep the natives alive and growing is that they take less watering and are much more adaptable to our environment here in Texas.



After a career teaching history, Roseann said she wanted the next chapter of her life to be devoted to making the world a better place....and it looks like she and other volunteers are doing that. I give a special thank you to Will McDaniel and Maryland Angel who were the two employees who showed us around while Jim West and I walked the area where volunteers do the planting.

You can support the work these volunteers are doing by going to their native plant sale which starts September 16 and continues for 3 days. These sales help contribute to Discovery Gardens needed repairs. <https://txdg.org/plant-sale>.





Be The Change.



txmn.org/bethechange

BE THE CHANGE

By The Indian Trail Be the Change Team

In 2021, the Texas Master Naturalist state office launched a mini-seminar series called *Be the Change*. Indian Trail formed a team to participate, learn, and find ways to incorporate the program into our chapter. You may have heard Katie Christman, Erin McKool, Rena Sutphin, Lee Zollinger, or Thomas Hollingsworth share program ideas in one of our meetings.

So, what is Be the Change all about? This program emerged to encourage the inclusion of all persons in chapter membership, outreach, and services, regardless of ability, age, or social background. From veteran members to new trainees and from all areas of our local communities, we value engaging every interested person in our mission to beneficially manage our natural resources. We also recognize that there are unmet conservation audiences, segments of our community that experience a nature deficit and need to be reached.

In response to this mini-series, our team identified five principles that define what “be the change” means to us. These principles are: intentional, evolving, collaborating, valuing, and seeking. Through intentional engagement, we will encourage activities

that involve all members, valuing their participation. We are ever-learning and evolving in our outreach to meet our mission. We will seek ways to include others and collaborate with partners throughout our community.

In a recent retreat, our team felt strongly that our priority is on building and strengthening these goals from within our team and our chapter. By intentionally focusing on inclusion within our chapter, we foster skills and forge bonds that further benefits others during community engagement. Our identified goals are:

1. Build and strengthen from within by encouraging involvement of both veteran and new members, extending support and friendship to all.
2. Create accessible activities that allow all chapter members to participate.
3. Reach children, youth and adults in the community with fun and interesting projects that foster our chapter’s mission.

This chapter provides amazing services to the community and to Nature and we have very, gifted members. Each of us are integral to being the change for others involved in Indian Trail. In future meetings and events, our team will further encourage inclusion and appreciation of everyone who serves and everyone we serve.



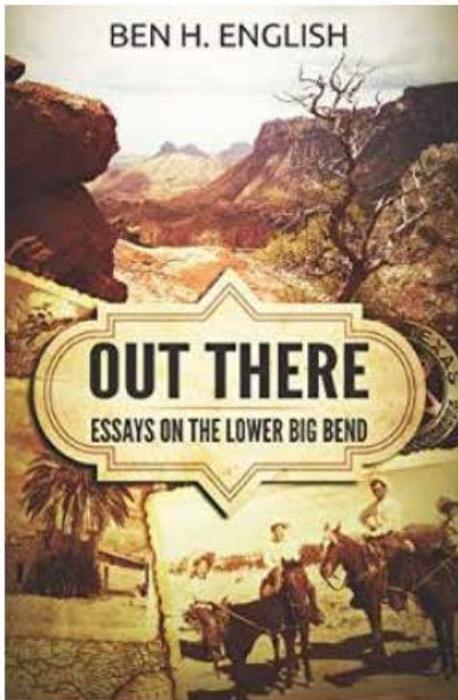
NATURAL reads

OUT THERE

By Ben H. English

Book Review by Stephen Mayo

If you've ever been to the Big Bend area of Texas, you already know a bit about the vast, open Chihuahuan Desert. This 450 (Kindle) page book is a collection of essays about this area, its trails, people and history. It is available in all the normal formats - hard copy, soft copy, Kindle, and Audiobook. I chose



the Kindle version originally, but I intend to buy the soft copy to loan to friends.

Author Ben H. English grew up in the Big Bend area, helping his father with ranching, his grandfather with operation of the Trading Post in Lajitas, hunting, hiking and horsing around with his younger

brother. At age 17, he joined the Marines, serving several hitches before moving on to law enforcement.

His career with the Texas Highway Patrol lasted 20 years and included training other officers in marksmanship, combat techniques, and counter intelligence. Because of his intimate knowledge of the Big Bend area and fluent command of Spanish, he was often called upon to supervise counter-smuggling operations in that area for the DPS. Deeply conscious of the history of the area, he began recording this history and tales of the Lower Big Bend, along with “boots on the ground” descriptions of the trails in that area.

The Big Bend area of West Texas has always been open and harsh, full of farmers, banditos, miners, cowboys, merchants and smugglers. Once called “El Desplorado”, the area has been opened up by the paving of roads, the establishment of Big Bend National Park in 1946, and Big Bend Ranch State Park in 1991, as well as by media attention to the nearby towns of Marfa, Marathon, Terlingua and Lajitas.

Most of the book describes the area as it relates to the author's upbringing and memories. He is very respectful and curious about the lives and inclinations of those who have inhabited this land before the parks took over. His descriptions of trails in the Chisos Mountains and The Solitario confirm he has travelled those miles. He prefaces most trail descriptions with a philosophical passage intended to set up the main thesis for each essay. Taken as a whole, I came away with the impression of a man who considers hiking to be a spiritual experience (as I do), and still loves a good trek “out there.” I would like to meet him.

Warning: Reading this book may cause a reader to make that 10-hour trip to the Big Bend, either for the first time, or again and again, as I have. I know my perspective of hiking the area has been forever changed after reading Mr. English's essays. For more about Big Bend, read *Yonderings*, his first book.

FREDDY THE RACCOON

By Pam Mundo

Our Freddy the Raccoon, who visits us daily, is routinely inviting himself to our bird seed. We began taking in the feeder early in the evening. And yet, Freddy is still comes around. He hides behind our potted pepper plants which over the summer have almost become trees. He is really not afraid of us, does not run away. The native pecan is dropping pecans, so he may be feasting on those. Now, since we starting bringing the feeder in for the evening, he just comes early for dinner...about 4:30 p.m.!

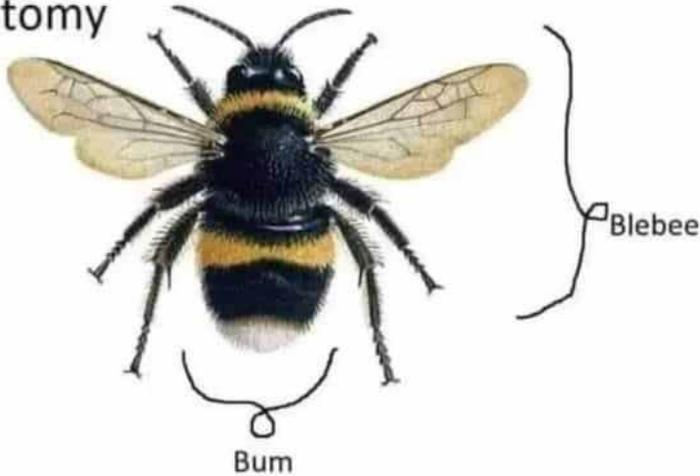


Nature Whims

Collection by Lori Crider

We can all use a little levity in life. As Texas Master Naturalists, we are often busy planning, doing outreach, helping with habitat work, or other volunteer services that we perform. To lighten up our day a little bit...here are a few messages on the more whimsical side. Enjoy!

Bumblebee Anatomy



*Enough adulting
for today, I'm off to
play with the dragonflies*



Nature Riddles

Courtesy of Chris Cook

What did the sun say to the fog?
You will be mist

What kind of shorts does a storm cloud wear?
Thunderwear

What is a tornado's favorite game?
Twister