

Photo from Jonathan Reynolds, article by w. odum



Family Dolichopodidae—Longlegged Fly

Longlegged Flies (Dolichopodidae)

This small fly, on average under 5 mm, can be colored a metallic green, metallic orange or bronzy with wings clear or with darker areas towards the wing tips. The common name, longlegged, is apt since they are elevated on their legs. Elevation may not be readily observable unless the fly is seen in a lateral position. The antennae are usually aristate (a bristlelike structure or appendage) and in some are impressively long.

In mating, the male displays his legs or wings to the female in an elaborate and unique way.

The longlegged fly can be found in partly shaded areas in woodlands and meadows or near swamps and streams. They feed on small insects although larvae of some species feed on plants by mining grass stems or live under bark.

Sources: <http://bugguide.net/node/view/100>; <http://www.americaninsects.net/f/dolichopodidae.html> and Joanne Fellows who ID and pointed me to reference material.



Becky Bertoni shared this photo of beautiful Monarch taken at Green Acres by Jackie Barcellona.

NATURALIST NEWS

PUBLICATION FROM TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST,
ELM FORK CHAPTER

— Spread the News —

Queen from Marilyn Blanton



We're on the web: www.txmn.org/elmfork

- * See upcoming events
- * Check resources
- * Read articles
- * Watch videos

FIELD NOTES IN FOCUS



Drickly Pear blossom—from the gallery of Jonathan Reynolds

*Featuring Master Naturalist photographers—
flora and fauna as you see them*

Carol Clark, will re-visit the Flower Mound Public Library to discuss **Planting Nectar Plants for Fall Monarch Gardens** on Wednesday, Sep 27 at 7 PM. Carol, our Monarch Watch area rep, presented a program also this past spring on March 21.

From Becky Bertoni

Correction from July Naturalist News:

This is an Englemann's daisy or cutleaf daisy (*Asteraceae*) from LLELA now growing at Green Acres. It was incorrectly labeled as an English daisy.



BRIT presents: International Award of Excellence in Conservation

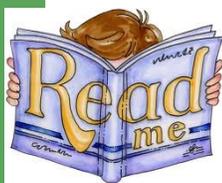
Honorary Hosts: Ed Bass, Lee Bass, Ramona Bass, and Carter Smith Event Chair: Grant James

September 27, 2017, 6:30 p.m. at the Worthington Renaissance

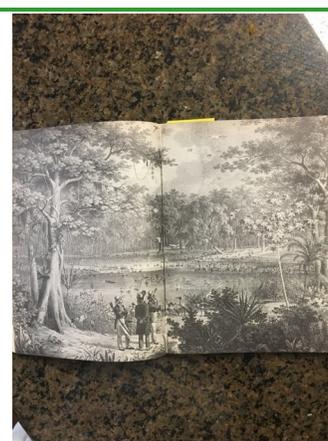
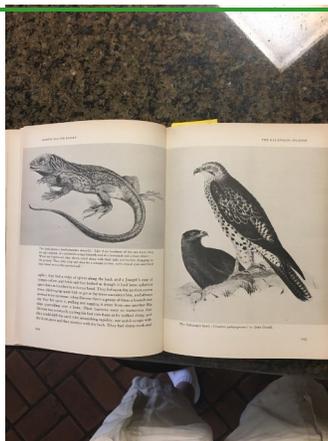
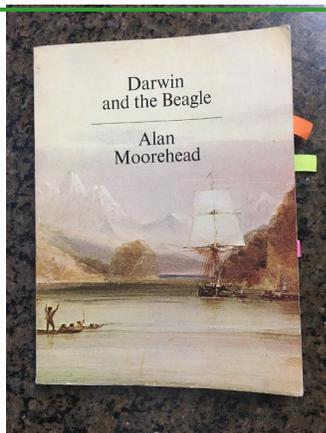
Information and to register go to:

https://brit.secure.force.com/events/CnP_PaaS_EVT__ExternalRegistrationPage?event_id=a4rj0000000aVNrAAM

From Becky Bertoni

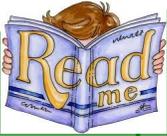


Reading Nook—share your treasures

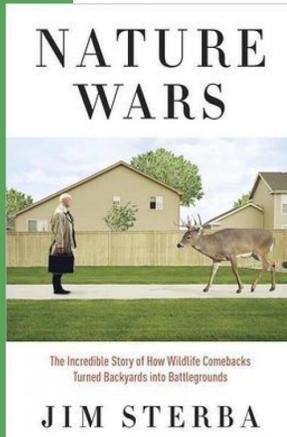


Darwin and the Beagle—There have been many books written about Darwin's voyage on the Beagle. This author was easy to read and the book had many illustrations, from the voyage, which really helps me understand the scope of what they were doing. Pretty amazing really.

From Don Fikes—book he mentioned at July meeting.



Nature Wars: The Incredible Story of How Wildlife Comebacks Turned Backyards into Battlegrounds by Jim Sterba



“This may be hard to believe but it is very likely that more people live in closer proximity to more wild animals, birds and trees in the eastern United States today than anywhere on the planet at any time in history. For nature lovers, this should be wonderful news -- unless, perhaps, you are one of more than 4,000 drivers who will hit a deer today, your child’s soccer field is carpeted with goose droppings, coyotes are killing your pets, the neighbor’s cat has turned your bird feeder into a fast-food outlet, wild turkeys have eaten your newly-planted seed corn, beavers have flooded your driveway, or bears are looting your garbage cans.” Read more at: <https://www.amazon.com/Nature-Wars-Incredible-Comebacks-Battlegrounds-ebook/dp/B008IUBA44>

Prairie Time, A Blackland Portrait by Matt White

Abstract: Nowadays, the Blackland Prairies of north Texas are the kind of landscape most people think of as great for subdivisions and strip malls: generally flat, easily bulldozed, and not too far from Dallas-Fort Worth. *Prairie Time: A Blackland Portrait* traces a similar utilitarian vision of the prairie in 19th-century pioneer descriptions as well: good for plowing, grazing, and—once the buffalo and Native Americans are exterminated—not too far from outposts of commerce. The book serves as an environmental jeremiad for a place too easily seen as useful and thus too often ignored for preservation. Matt White gives readers a context in which to begin to value the Blackland Prairie by combining a heartfelt story with a thorough sense of its ecological wonder, our post-settlement history and its environmental impact on the land, and some remarkable stories of current preservationists working to find and save remnant gems of unplowed prairie.

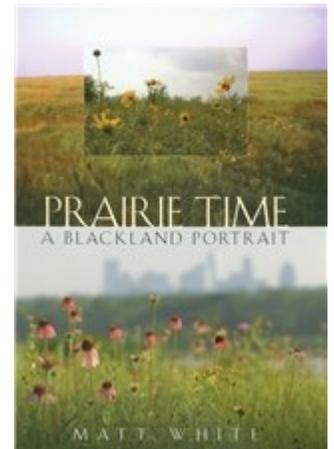
Review of Prairie Time: A Blackland Portrait by Matt White. Available from:

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/254702092_Review_of_Prairie_Time_A_Blackland_Portrait_by_Matt_White [accessed Aug 1, 2017].

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/254702092_Review_of_Prairie_Time_A_Blackland_Portrait_by_Matt_White

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Available from Texas A&M University Press

<http://www.tamupress.com/product/Prairie-Time,299.aspx>

Both suggestions are from Betty Zajac