

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST-ELM FORK CHAPTER

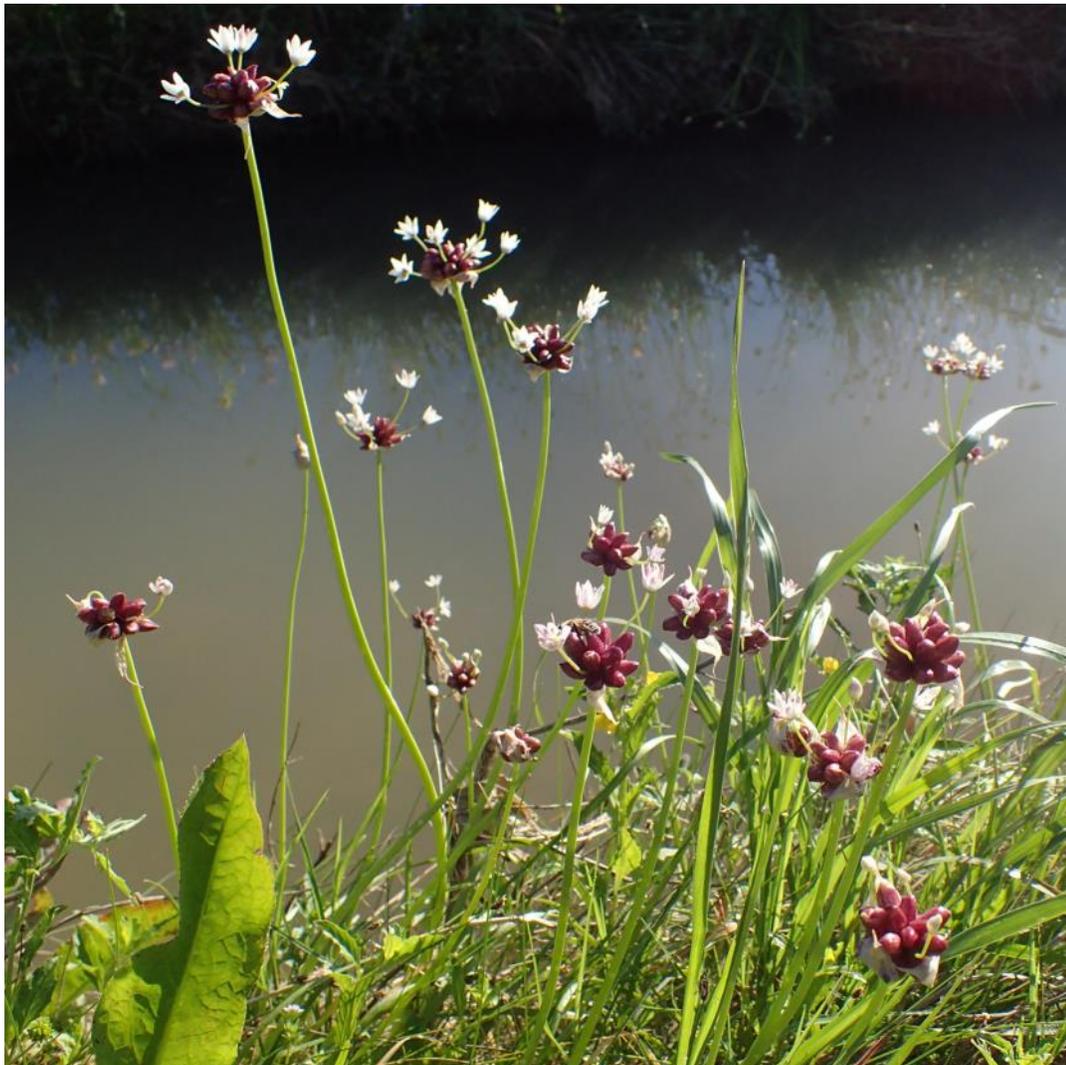
Naturalist News

VOLUME 21 ISSUE 6

JUNE 2020



Photo from Jonathan Reynolds taken on banks of Cooper Creek



Egyptian Walking Onion (*Allium proliferum*); also referred to as walking onion and/or garlic - Id from Dorothy Thetford

We're on the Web
www.txmn.org/elmfork

On Facebook:
www.facebook.com/TexasMasterNaturalistElmFork/

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JUNE 2020



Male Blue Grosbeak



Photo taken at Hagerman Wildlife Refuge by Ken Agee— submitted by Jan Hodson

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Monthly features features Science Corner & Meet a Master*
- *Picture Gallery—*

May Awards

This comes from Mary Morrow

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST—ELM FORK CHAPTER

Naturalist News

Volume 21 Issue 6
June 2020

*The following members receiving
recognition as of April 2020*

250 Hour Milestone

Bill Derow, Class of 2019

Alice Mankoff, Class of 2016

Jody Springer, Class of 2018

1,000 Hour Milestone

Kathy Webb, Class of 2017

1,500 Hour Milestone

Becky Bertoni, Class of 2015

*2020 Elm Fork Chapter
Awards Meeting - May*

May Awards

This comes from Mary Morrow

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Naturalist News

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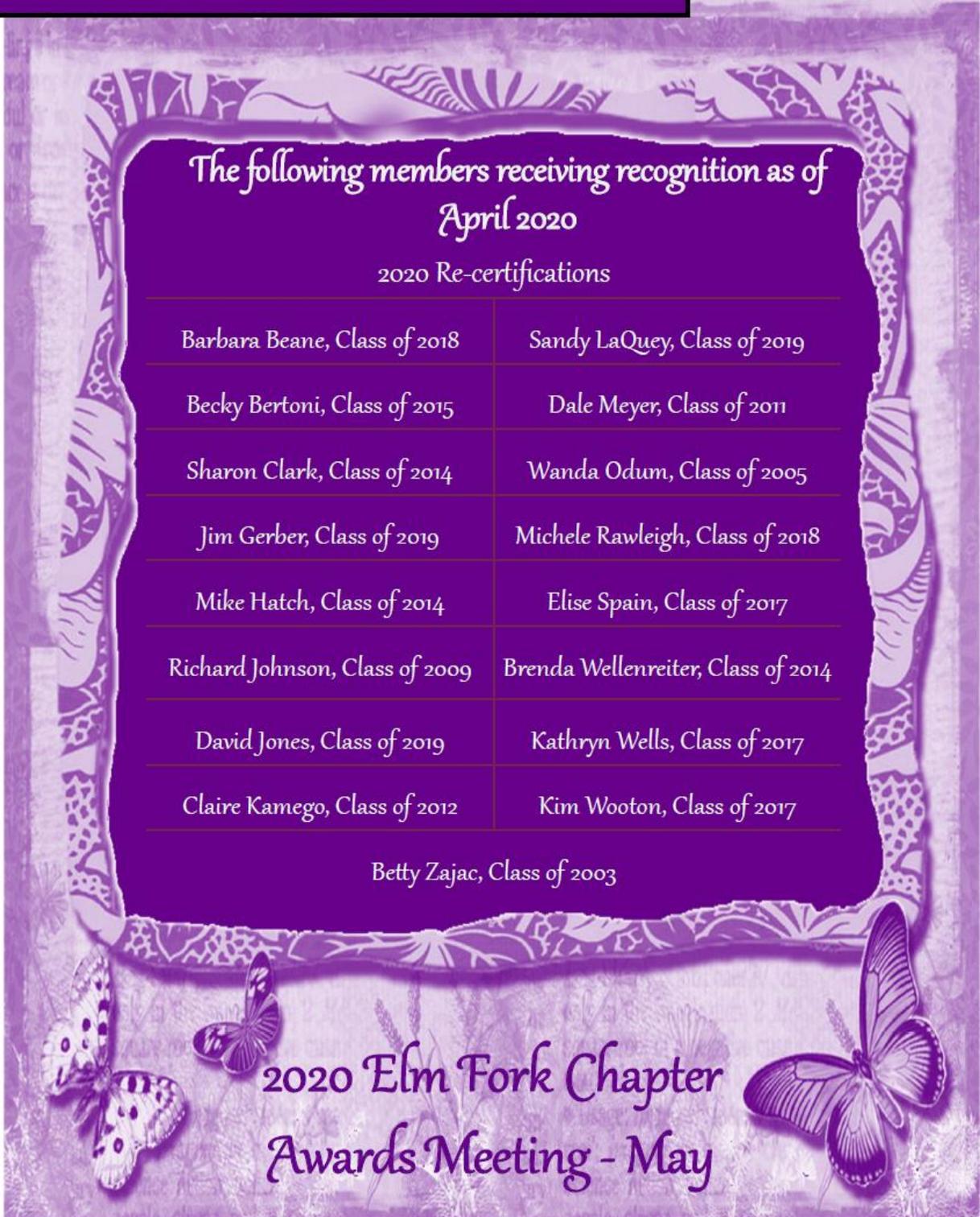
The following members receiving recognition as of
April 2020

2020 Re-certifications

Barbara Beane, Class of 2018	Sandy LaQuey, Class of 2019
Becky Bertoni, Class of 2015	Dale Meyer, Class of 2011
Sharon Clark, Class of 2014	Wanda Odum, Class of 2005
Jim Gerber, Class of 2019	Michele Rawleigh, Class of 2018
Mike Hatch, Class of 2014	Elise Spain, Class of 2017
Richard Johnson, Class of 2009	Brenda Wellenreiter, Class of 2014
David Jones, Class of 2019	Kathryn Wells, Class of 2017
Claire Kamego, Class of 2012	Kim Wooton, Class of 2017

Betty Zajac, Class of 2003

2020 Elm Fork Chapter
Awards Meeting - May



What's Next



What's in bloom?
*Photos from Dorothy
 Thetford*

Rough-leaf sunflower yellow

Bergamot (*Monarda
 fistulosa*)



What's Next

This comes from Rita Lokie

June 18 Elm Fork Chapter Presentation Summary and Bio

Presentation Summary:

Lisa and Rick Travis - "First Steps in Tree ID and North Texas Trees Highly Prized by Wildlife". Lisa will begin the talk with a short review of the fundamental physical characteristics used to identify tree species. Meeting attendees will be (electronically) provided a simple key-based tree ID brochure that can be used as a helpful guide. Rick will follow with a discussion of key trees found in north Texas that are most highly prized by wildlife, reviewing their physical characteristics, where they range, preferred habitat, natural history, and value to wildlife.

Lisa Travis is a happily retired teacher, and member of the Blackland Prairie chapter, class of 2018. She is a nature educator at the Heard Sanctuary, a trail guide at LLELA, and a Project WILD trainer/facilitator. She's also an iNaturalist fanatic, with over 10,000 observations, and over 12,000 identifications made for others. Lisa is interested in all things nature, with a focus on plants, and especially trees.

Rick owns a Bachelors' Degree in Forest management and an MBA, both from Stephen F. Austin State University. With retirement from his business career, Rick is fulfilling a long-deferred desire for involvement in the environmental sciences. He is a member of the City of Frisco's Urban Forestry Board, an active member of the Blackland Prairie Master Naturalist Chapter, and a volunteer trail guide at several places, including the Heard Wildlife Sanctuary, the Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Area (LLELA), and Frisco parks and nature trails.

June 18 Elm Fork Chapter Presentation cont'd

What's Next

<p>GROUP A SIMPLE LEAVES, ALTERNATELY ATTACHED</p> <p>ELM / HACKBERRY FAMILY Key identifier: Asymmetrical leaf base</p> <p>SUGAR-HACKBERRY corky bark, few or no teeth, leaves have 3 basal veins</p> <p>AMERICAN ELM large leaves, few forked secondary veins; a bark flake will show alternating brown and cream-colored layers</p> <p>CEDAR ELM small leaves, stiff and rough textured, rounded tips, flowers/fruits in the fall, often has corky wings on branches</p> <p>*CHINESE ELM (LACEBARK ELM) peeling bark with orange-colored bark underneath, flowers/ fruits in the fall</p> <p>SLIPPERY ELM large leaves, usually several forked secondary veins per side; very rough on both surfaces</p> <p>WINGED ELM small leaves, pointed tips, flowers/ seeds in the spring, often has corky wings on branches</p> <p><i>* indicates introduced species</i></p>	<p>OAKS Key identifier: acorns</p> <p>RED OAKS: leaves <u>with</u> bristle tips Acorns mature in 2 years</p> <p>BLACKJACK OAK leaves have 3 lobes with bristle tips, leathery, dark green and glossy on top; bark very dark</p> <p>SHUMARD OAK /TEXAS RED OAK 5-9 pointed lobes with prominent bristle tips</p> <p>WHITE OAKS: leaves <u>without</u> bristle tips Acorns mature in 1 year</p> <p>BUR OAK leaves have rounded lobes, with the end lobe largest; huge acorns</p> <p>CHINKAPIN OAK oval leaf, parallel veins, each ending in a curved, sharp tooth</p> <p>LIVE OAK small, glossy, oblong leaf, native to SE Texas, but planted throughout</p> <p>POST OAK thick, leathery leaves; shape very variable, but often 5 rounded lobes, forming a "cross" shape</p>	<p>DISTINCTIVE LEAF SHAPE</p> <p>BLACK WILLOW occurs in wet areas; shaggy bark, long narrow leaves</p> <p>COTTONWOOD triangular shaped leaf, flat stem, deeply furrowed bark</p> <p>HAWTHORN double-toothed margin, sometimes lobed, scaly gray bark with reddish patches and thorns</p> <p>MULBERRY variable leaf shape, some usually mitten shaped; berries like a long blackberry; leaves have milky sap</p> <p>REDBUD heart shaped leaf, brownish peapods</p> <p>SWEET GUM star shaped leaf, spiny fruit; native east of North TX, but frequently planted here</p> <p>SYCAMORE shallow pointed lobes, peeling bark</p>	<p>POTENTIALLY TRICKY ID</p> <p>CAROLINA BUCKTHORN shiny leaves with parallel secondary veins</p> <p>CHITTAMWOOD (GUM BUMELIA) teardrop-shaped leaves in clusters; twigs, often armed with sharp spines</p> <p>MEXICAN PLUM leaf has double row of fine teeth, green to red fruit, bark smooth</p> <p>OSAGE-ORANGE orange wood and roots; thorns on branches, horse apples</p> <p>PERSIMMON leaf has pointed tip and smooth margins; bark very dark and deeply furrowed into small squares (crocodile bark)</p> <p>POSSUMHAW HOLLY (deciduous holly) larger leaf, typically > 1 1/2 inches long, up to 4", loses its leaves in the winter</p> <p>YAUPON HOLLY thick, smooth, shiny leaf with narrow, rounded teeth and rounded tip; leaf < 1 1/2 inches long</p>
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Hint to help remember the trees with opposite leaves:

DAMPeR

D is for DOGWOOD
A is for ASH
M is for MAPLE
P is for PRIVET
R is for RUSTYBLACKHAW



Visit www.txmnn.org/bptm/ to learn about the Texas Master Naturalists and the Blackland Prairie Chapter

Text and photos by:
Lisa Travis
Blackland Prairie Texas Master Naturalist
Listrav@gmail.com

GROUP B
COMPOUND LEAVES,
ALTERNATELY ATTACHED

BLACK WALNUT 15-23 leaflets, last leaflet often small or missing

*CHINABERRY twice-compound leaves, leaflets coarsely toothed or lobed

*CHINESE PISTACHE leaves resemble soapberry, but have strong, peppery scent when crushed

EVE'S NECKLACE 9-15 oval leaflets, fruit hanging in "string of beads"

HERCULES CLUB bark has corky outgrowths tipped with short thorns, leaflets often have prickles

HONEYLOCUST large thorns on thorns; leaves once or twice compound; fruit a dark brown pod, 10-18" long

MESQUITE compound leaf branches into two parts; twigs and branches armed with stout, straight thorns up to 2" long.

PECAN 11-17 slightly curved leaflets with small teeth; leaf has a large terminal leaflet

SOAPBERRY 7-19 leaflets with smooth margins and pointed tip; mature berries translucent

Group C SIMPLE LEAVES,
OPPOSITE ATTACHED

ROUGH-LEAVED DOGWOOD reddish twigs, smooth leaf margins, veins curve towards tip, sometimes considered shrub

PRIVET
* CHINESE PRIVET small leaves with stem and wedge shaped base
* GLOSSY PRIVET large leaves, very glossy

* QUOHOU PRIVET small leaves, no stem, and a tapering base

RUSTY BLACKHAW leaves finely toothed, on reddish petiole

GROUP D COMPOUND LEAVES,
OPPOSITE ATTACHED

ASH FAMILY
GREEN ASH very short or winged stalk on leaflets; samara is needle-like

TEXAS ASH samara about 1" long, rounded; seed ends where wing begi, often has 5

WHITE ASH samara similar to Texas Ash, but larger; often has 7 leaflets.

MAPLE FAMILY
BOXELDER MAPLE 3-5 leaflets with irregular lobes and/or teeth.

Trees of North Texas

KEY TO THE BROADLEAF TREES:

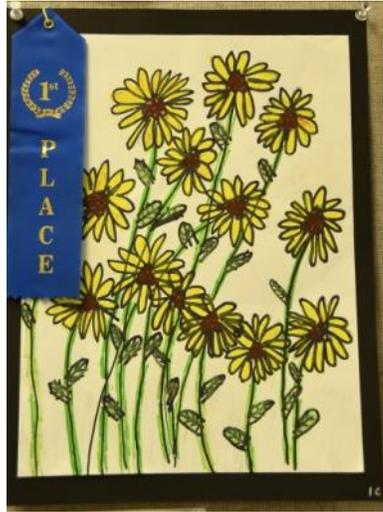
- Are the leaves SIMPLE or COMPOUND? A leaf is SIMPLE if the blade is a single unit, and COMPOUND if it is made up of two or more discrete leaflets. HINT: Each leaf, whether simple or compound, has a bud at its base (on the twig). There is no bud at the base of a leaflet.
- How are the SIMPLE leaves attached?
 - ALTERNATELY: GROUP A Simple leaves, alternately attached
 - OPPOSITE: GROUP C Simple leaves, oppositely attached
- How are the COMPOUND leaves attached?
 - ALTERNATELY: GROUP B Compound leaves, alternately attached
 - OPPOSITE: GROUP D Compound leaves, oppositely attached

Projects in and around the community

This comes from Marilyn Blanton, project manager

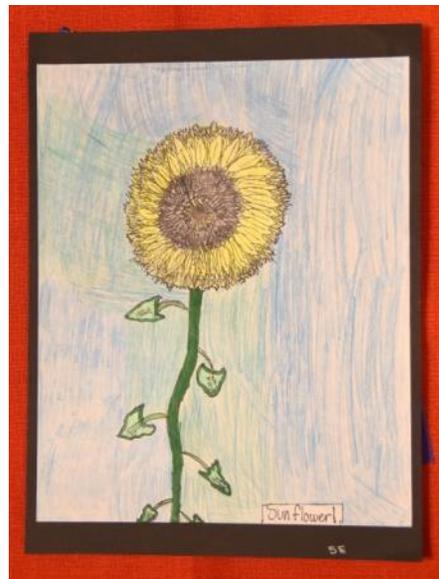
Here are some more examples of flower pictures created by fourth grade students for the **Texas Native Plant Art Exhibition** matched to photos of the actual plant.

Black Eyed Susans



Prickly Pear Cactus

Common Sunflower



Meet a Master

Mr. & Mrs. Meet a Master...

Sue YOST class of 2017

Meet a Master...Mike Hatch

Where are you from? Corpus Christi, TX

Marital status? Married to Diana

Kids, Grandkids: Four adult sons, Eight grandchildren

Pets Nope!

Work history: Student Activities Advisor/Director at Texas Tech, then Kansas State University, and most recently IT Manager at University of North Texas.

Schooling: BBA in Management, Texas A&M

How long a MN? 6 Years

What class year? 2014

Favorite pastime: Woodworking

Favorite food: Meat & potatoes!

Favorite place to visit: The Grandkids!

Favorite animal: Bobcats

Favorite MN volunteer opportunity: VMS, since I'm kinda geeky.

Share a funny story or antidote about being a MN. While working on our class project, a group of us managed to accidentally squash down the roof of the LISDOLA golf cart. It caught on poorly-trimmed limbs along the Geology Trail. Super Ray managed to repair it.

Tell us something we'd be surprised to know about you. I was once a stage hand for a KISS concert, as part of my work in Student Activities.

“Man of the Hour”

Mike, the chapter's technical wizard, is seen here with two open screens managing a meeting. Photo from mate, Diana Hatch (thank you Diana)



Meet a Master

Mr. & Mrs. Meet a Master...

Sue YOST class of 2017

Meet a Master...Diana Hatch

Where are you from? My father was transferred frequently with the military, so I grew up all across the US.



Marital status? Married to Mike

Kids, Grand kids: Four adult sons, Eight grandchildren

Pets: One indoor cat and a stray I'm trying to make friends with outdoors.

Work history: I was at home with the kids most of the time and volunteered with a parenting organization for thirty years.

Schooling: BA in German, MS in Education

How long a MN? 13 Years

What class year? 2007

Favorite pastime: Restoring antique furniture. My biggest project was a 1905 burl walnut upright piano, which disassembled into about 25 pieces. After lots of sanding and many coats of tung oil, it became a nice piece of furniture. It took me two years to finish, and Mike had to help me figure out how the pieces went back together.

Favorite food: I like trying new international foods.

Favorite place to visit: Living history museums and historic houses. (I love seeing the grandkids, too, as Mike answered, but I interpreted the question differently!)

Favorite animal: Songbirds

Favorite MN volunteer opportunity: Entomology

Share a funny story or antidote about being a MN. I enjoy insects and am rarely outdoors without a collecting net (so I can catch and observe insects closely). I am always catching frogs or other small critters to admire them.

Great Horned Owllet spotted in Rita Lokie's backyard



COMMON NAME: **Great Horned Owl**

SCIENTIFIC NAME: **Bubo virginianus**

TYPE: **Birds**

DIET: **Carnivore**

AVERAGE LIFE SPAN IN THE WILD: **5 to 15 years**

SIZE: **Body: 18 to 25 inches; wingspan: 3.3 to 4.8 feet**

WEIGHT: **2 to 5.5 pounds**

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www.nationalgeographic.com/

Monthly Specials—Citizen Science Corner



ZomBee Watch



What is it?

ZomBee Watch was initiated as a follow-up to the discovery that the **Zombie Fly** (*Apocephalus borealis*) is **parasitizing honey bees** in California and possibly other areas of North America.

Who is it run by?

ZomBee Watch is a citizen science project sponsored by the San Francisco State University Department of Biology, the San Francisco State University Center for Computing for Life Sciences and the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. The project is partnered with Planet Bee Foundation, a Bay Area environmental education nonprofit which created a K-12 ZomBee Watch school program.

How do I get started?

There are many ways you can get involved. It can be as easy as collecting honey bees that are under your porch light in the morning, under a street light or stranded on sidewalks. If you are a beekeeper, setting up a light trap near one of your hives is the most effective way to detect ZomBees. It's easy to make a simple, inexpensive light trap from materials available at your local hardware store. To test for the presence of Zombie Fly infection all you need to do is put honey bees you collect in a container and observe them periodically. Infected honey bees give rise to brown pill-like fly pupae in about a week and to adult flies a few weeks later.

Go to <https://www.zombeewatch.org/> and click the "Join the Project" button.

What does it cost? Nothing!

Note: I don't see anyone monitoring in our area, yet!

If you have an idea for a future Citizen Science Corner, please send it to Jim Gerber (jvgerber@gmail.com).

CoCoRaHS participation is now an EFCTMN approved project (P200611:FR). Look for details on the chapter website or contact Jim Gerber (jvgerber@gmail.com) for more information.



Features

THE AMERICAN BISON

By Bob James

A number of years ago our High Adventure Scouts in our Scout Troop decided they wanted to go on a backpacking trip to the Wichita Wildlife Refuge just west of Lawton, Oklahoma. I called the Refuge Office and obtained permission for our group of ten to hike into the Charon's Garden Wilderness Area which was highly restricted. This is a wilderness area covered in the 1964 Wilderness Act which states "...it is an area where earth and its community of life are untrammled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain".

We drove up to the Refuge and arrived in the early evening and set up camp in a beautiful meadow just south of the road and close to the campground and parking area. The cold clear air allowed us to see the Milky Way and millions of stars. Everyone turned in to their tents after star gazing and a quick supper.

I woke up from a very sound sleep just as it was getting light in the east. I kept hearing a rumbling growling sound and wondered what on the earth it was. I unzipped my tent and peered out and was astonished to see a number of Bison grazing through our campsite. The rumbling sound I heard was their stomachs growling. I remained quiet hoping not to disturb them and make them stampede perhaps ruining some tents and Scouts in the process. The entire herd slowly passed through to the west of the meadow. Later that morning I told everyone what I had seen and our Scouts were in disbelief until they saw the evidence - Bison pies on the ground in our campsite.

We had a wonderful trip backpacking into the Wilderness Area. We saw Bison, Elk, Wild Turkey, quail, vultures, a Golden Eagle and got to listen to the frogs sing at the small lake. We camped there two nights and explored the entire area seeing the Apple and the Pear (see photo 1) and backpacking out the final day. The Scouts all said it was one of the best trips they had made. It is well worth the trip to Lawton to visit this beautiful and interesting Wildlife Refuge.

There is a Bison herd in Texas at Caprock Canyon State Park. I have backpacked there a number of times. The park is located along the eastern edge of the Llano Estacado in Briscoe County. Park Headquarters is just north of Quitaque, Texas which is 14 miles west of Turkey. Every native Texan knows Turkey is the home of Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys.

American bison, or plains buffalo
(*Bison bison*)



© 2006 Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.

Photo 2 The American Bison

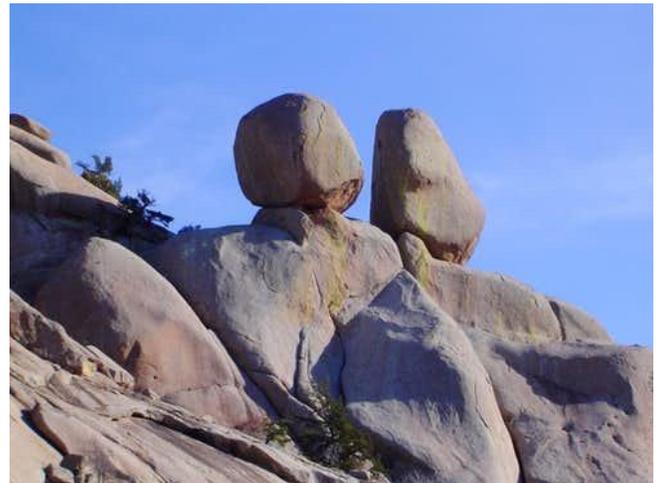


Photo 1

The Apple and the Pear
Charon's Garden Wilderness Area

Features

The park has an information center and a display on the American Bison (**Bison, see photo 2 above**). It shows how the animals evolved from the extinct Steppe Bison (*Bison, priscus*) which existed in the late Holocene. That animal evolved from the extinct *Bison paleosinensis*. Both of these animals were much larger than our Bison and had horns that were two and a half feet in length. They were herbivores and occupied northern Europe and northeastern Asia. There are paintings of these creatures in caves in Spain. The immediate ancestor of our Bison was *Bison Latifrons* or the giant Bison which lived in North America during the Pleistocene epoch (**see photo 3**). They became extinct about 30,000 years ago and were succeeded by the American Plains Bison.

At the end of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th century it is estimated there were more than 70 million American Bison on the plains of North America. They existed in two herds. The northern herd ranged from northern Saskatchewan, Canada south to the Republican River in Kansas. The massive southern herd ranged from North Dakota to the Gulf of Mexico. It was a perfect migratory synergistic system with the Bison as a keystone species. The old and infirm animals were taken out of the herds by wolves. The quality of the herds continued to improve as they migrated and grazed on the rich prairie grasses. Their manure improved the grasses that grew to a height of six feet; fires burned off the dead dry grasses and the ash helped the soil. Rain over the prairie was allowed to soak into the heavy sod and percolate slowly into the underlying aquifer. The heavily wooded streams and springs ran with clear cold water and they supported incredible wildlife. This system existed for eons before it was discovered by man.

In the mid 19th century there was an increase in the demand for industrial belting to help drive the machinery of the Industrial Revolution. It was found that tanned leather from the Bison was perfect - it was thick and supple and could be joined into long belts. The leather was tanned through the use of tannic acid obtained from the leaves of Oak and Birch trees. The demand for the tannin was so great that vast forests of the trees were destroyed eliminating the habitat of the Passenger Pigeon (*Ectopistes, migratorius*). This loss of habitat was one of the reasons for the birds extinction.

The demand for the leather was so great that hide hunters journeyed out onto the prairies and the great slaughter began. The hunters killed the Bison by the millions taking the hide and salting the tongues. The rest of the animal was left to rot to feed the vultures, coyotes and ants. The Bison bones were later gathered in immense piles and shipped back east to be ground into fertilizer.

By the end of the 19th century there were only a few hundred of the animals left alive. Almost everyone predicted they would be extinct within the first decade of the 20th century. Since that time great progress has been made by supporting their habitat and putting the animals in protected wildlife areas. On May 9, 2016 the American Bison was made the National Mammal of the United States.



Photo 3

Bison Latifrons

WHEN BISON RUN WILD by C.J. Krieger

Sometimes when the Bison run wild,
Across the plains of my mind,
I can hear their thundering hoofs rumbling,
Down the twisting, turning roads,
Of my dreams at night.

Features

Assembled from the Internet not written by w odum.

What's in a name?

Behind every bird name there is a story - and often a unique bit of history. ***

Consider our familiar American Robin, which lives throughout much of North America but is not found in Europe. When English settlers in the New World encountered this new bird, they saw in it a reflection of the bird they knew as the Robin – or Robin Redbreast – of the old country. So they called this one a Robin, too. The Robin of the British Isles [song of the European Robin] is a tiny bird with an orange face and upper breast, and only a distant relative of our much larger American Robin.

Photo by Jonathan Reynolds



And there were more “robins” to come. One writer remarked: “Wherever the English have settled they have tended to bestow the name Robin on any bird with a noticeable amount of red or russet in the plumage.” On this continent alone, bluebirds (which have some orange on the breast) were called Robin by the British, towhees were Ground Robins, and the Baltimore Oriole was called the Golden Robin.

Today the American and British Ornithological Unions work together to determine, among other things, how a given bird got its name.

<https://www.birdnote.org/show/how-robin-got-its-name>

When the Red, Red Robin Comes Bob-Bob Bobbin' Along

*When the red, red robin comes bob, bob, bobbin' along, along
There'll be no more sobbin' when he starts throbbin' his old sweet song*

. . . was a 1926 popular song written, both words and music, by Harry Woods. The song became the signature song for singer and actress Lillian Roth, who performed it often during the height of her musical career from the late 1920s to the late 1930s.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>

Features

Life goes on..in the animal world. Sue YOST class of 2017

Running out of things to do and watch? Even though we are slowly making our way out of quarantine, if you are like me we still aren't venturing out much. Life has not skipped a beat in the animal world. Here are some of my favorite webcams to watch. Sometimes I just put on the Puffin loafing cam, turn the volume up and just leave it playing for awhile. It's peaceful. The sounds of the Atlantic Ocean splashing up against the rocky coast of Maine and the many sounds of the gulls, tern and Puffins going about their day without a care in the world.

Day or night there is always a live webcam to watch. Most of the Eagle nests are now inactive as they mostly have fledged so I only included one. The Cornell site actually has 9 different cams active right now. The Kestrel cam is close to fledging. Then there is the Barn Owl site from Temecula, Ca. Barn Owls usually only have one clutch but this pair started a second clutch! The eggs are in the process of hatching so lots of good viewing time coming. Plus this cam can take up some of that boring, evening time you might have as it's most active after dark [unless you like to watch owls sleep then daytime viewing is the best]! Another really cool night time webcam is the Panama Fruit feeder cam through Cornell. It's quite busy with beautiful, colorful birds during the day but once it gets dark [about 8:30/9:00] in the tropical paradise of Panama out come the insects and the Orange fruit bats feeding on the day old fruit and the nectar from the hummingbird feeders. Ask fellow naturalist Regina Dale about that lodge...she saw it up close and personal!!

Feeder cams or nesting cams...they can be addictive! Sit back and enjoy some calming "nature time" because as we all know....life goes on..no matter what.

<https://explore.org/livecams/hummingbirds/bella-hummingbird-nest>

<https://explore.org/livecams/puffins/puffin-loafing-ledge-cam>

<https://www.twitch.tv/hoothouselivestream?fbclid=IwAR2y0XR9LqbRMX0J-GNoXsct4wj1p6L5YVfQBoSwTZI1byYfstW0kaNozGk>

<https://www.berry.edu/eaglecam/>

http://cams.allaboutbirds.org/channel/40/Cornell_Lab_FeederWatch/

<https://i84005.com/kestrel/webcam/>

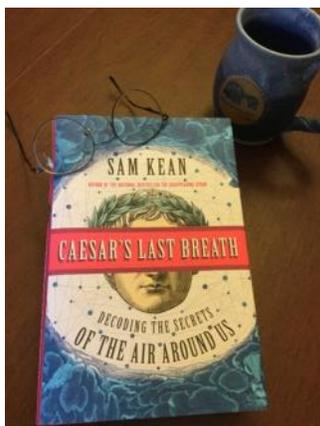


Bing.com



Bing.com

Let's Read



Book Recommendation (Robert's Readings)

Caesar's Last Breath by Sam Kean tells the fascinating story of the air we breathe. The title is derived from the fact that with each breath we take; we inhale *sextillions* (1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000) of gas molecules. The same gas molecules that have been floating around our atmosphere for millions of years. They have been inhaled and exhaled many, many times. A few of which were probably part of the last breath of Julius Caesar.

Told in a series of stories that include volcanic eruptions, early attempts at anesthesia, lakes that explode, and Einstein's refrigerator, the book explores the wide variety of gases that make up our atmosphere and how they impact our daily lives.

From Robert McLaughlin

Notices

Looking for Volunteers

Green Acres for now until it gets cold--starting in Nov, Dec, January

Green Acres workday
Tues 8:30-11 am

Please let Becky know if you are attending: becky.bertoni@gmail.com 940 487 0045

We maintain the monarch station, work on a prairie restoration, develop the new wetlands, and monitor bluebird boxes. We look forward to your help!

Please bring garden tools, gloves, etc, and dress for the weather, etc.

Ruby throat hummingbird—
photo by Regina Dale



Notices



Credit: Howard Russell, Michigan State University, Bugwood.org

Jeanne Erickson shares these two articles from:
Texas Invasives.org

Emerald Ash Borer Discovered in Denton

A news article in [The Denton Record-Chronicle](#) reports that the emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) has been found in Denton. This represents the second known infestation of the destructive invasive beetle in Texas. Haywood Morgan, the city's urban forester, made the discovery. He found what looked like emerald ash borer (EAB) larval galleries in ash trees and has sent an adult specimen to experts to be identified. All indications are that this is indeed an EAB infestation.

If you think you've found EAB, please immediately [report them](#), and contact your local AgriLife Extension agent, Texas A&M Forest Service agent, and/or city arborist

National Wild Pig Task Force – Virtual Conference

The NWPTF cordially invites you to participate in its “2020 Virtual Wild Pig Conference” where pre-recorded presentations of their wild pig speakers will be available for viewing beginning June 1, 2020. Get FREE access to wild pig presentations, workshops, and plenary sessions! [Register here](#).



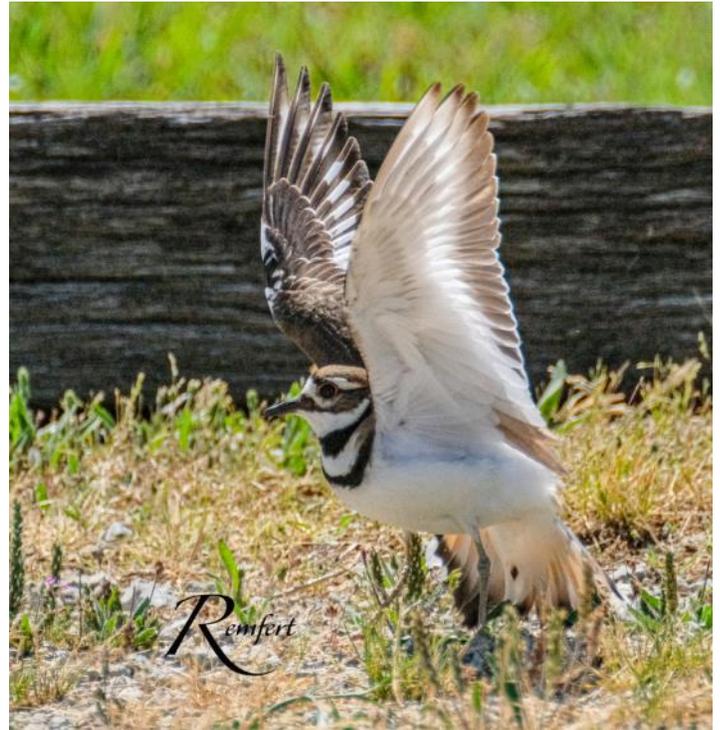
Help is needed to design Chapter flyers, brochures and more! Are you creative? Do you have experience using Publisher and perhaps Canva? The Communications Committee needs you immediately. Please contact Communications Committee members Mary Morrow at hawkilittle@aol.com or Fran Witte at recycling_emma@yahoo.com and start creating today.

Field Notes in Focus



Cont'd below

Field Notes in Focus



From the Gallery of Denise Remfert

Kildeer mother doing her broken wing dance to attract attention to herself and away from her nest.

I used a telephoto lens so I did not have to get close to her. There were other people near her who she was nervous about. They did not understand her behavior. I explained she was trying to draw them away which meant the nest was nearby and asked them to be careful of where they stepped.

Photo Gallery

Mosey along with Jonathan Reynolds and appreciate Nature's beautiful bounty of orchid wildflowers (Id'ing as you go!)



1



2



3



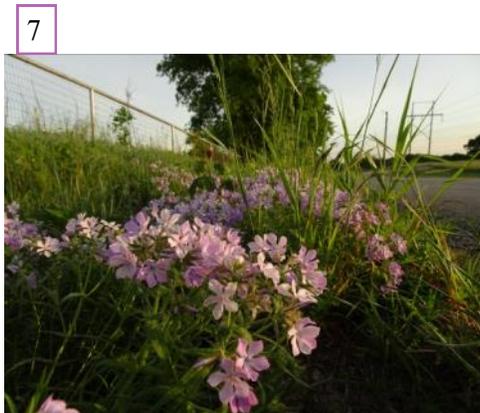
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8

Contributors to this Naturalist News



wanda odum
editor, class 2005



Jim Gerber class 2019



Mary Morrow class 2014



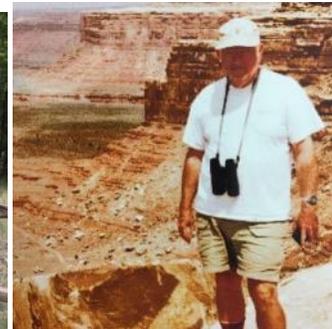
Judi Elliott class 2009



Sue Yost class 2017



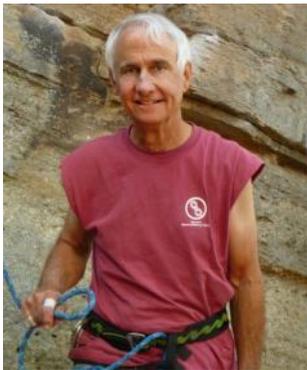
Robert McLaughlin class 2017



Bob James class 2003



Marilyn Blanton class 1999



Jonathan Reynolds class 2014



Dorothy Thetford class 2001



Jeanne Erickson class 1998



Rita Lokie class 2013



Denise Remfert class 2015



Jan Hodson class 2003



Fran Witte class 2017

Almost the Last Word



Want to be a Naturalist News contributor?
Send to: newsletter@efctmn.or



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 940-349-2883

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www.txmn.org/elmfork

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Our mission . . . "to develop a corps of well-informed volunteers who provide education, outreach, and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within our community"

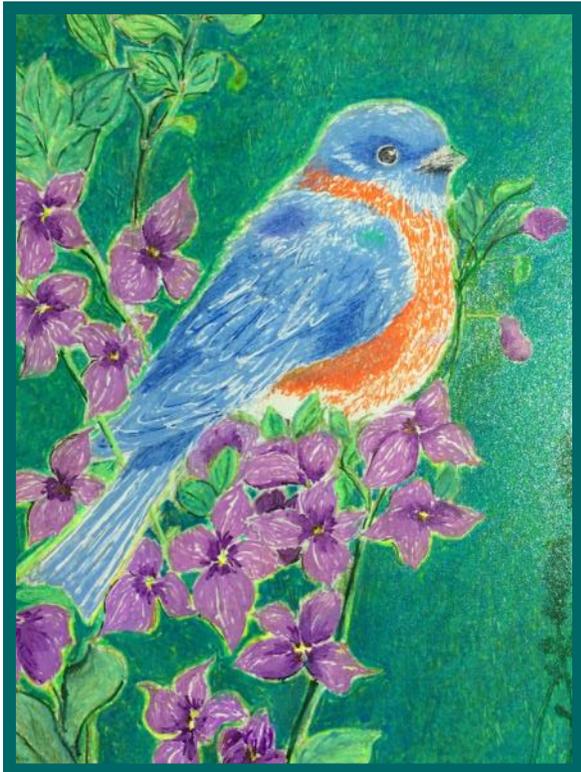
Our vision . . . "in our community, Elm Fork Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist program will be recognized as a primary source of information, education and service to support natural resources and natural areas today and in the future."

Board Meetings
 The Board meets each second Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m. The Board last met June 11 2020. Next monthly Board meeting July 9, 2020.
 Monthly Board meetings are open to members.

Regular Monthly Chapter Meetings
 9:30 a.m. preceded by a social time at 9:00 a.m. on the third Thursday of each month. Chapter meetings are open to the public. Next meeting:
Virtual meeting on
Lisa and Rick Travis - "First Steps in Tree ID and North Texas Trees Highly Prized by Wildlife"

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD:
 PRESIDENT—Brenda Wellenreiter
 IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT—Adelaide Bodner
 VICE-PRESIDENT/PROJECTS—Jody Springer
 SECRETARY—Kathryn Wells
 TREASURER—Jerry Betty
 MEMBER-at-LARGE—Harriet Powell
 CLASS 2019 REPRESENTATIVE— David Jones

ADVISORS:
 Janet Laminack, Extension Agent
 TPWD—unfilled at this time



Artist, Valerio D'Ospina, says he continues to work on a painting until "we have no more to say to each other."

"Conversation closed"—pen by w odum