



The GLC Tidings

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From the President

Betsy Palkowsky

I'm ready for sunshine and dry weather. If your place is anything like mine the ground is saturated and in need of a haircut. Our many projects are in need of trims too. I hope you can help out at one of the pollinator gardens or trails when there is a request from the project leaders in the next few weeks. Good prep before winter sets in means less work when spring arrives.

Speaking of work, I want to thank all who represented our chapter at the annual meeting in Georgetown. This event is becoming very popular; there were about 30 of us mixed in with the 700 other attendees. The instructional sessions and field trips got rave reviews from everyone. I know I'll see some of you next year in Rockwall. Highlights of the weekend included raising \$25K for the Texas Master Naturalist Endowment at the gala, of which our chapter and attending members raised about \$5,000. The hard work of lots of our chapter members at the general store helped to move over \$16,000 worth of merchandise and finally, a number of our members were recognized for their dedication to the organization with 250, 500 and 1,000 lifetime-hour milestones reached during the last year. It was a pleasure to meet people from across the state with the same dedication and to honor those with many hours of their time including two gentlemen with over 20,000 hours!

November Chapter Meeting and Advanced Training

Saturday Nov 17, 2018

9:00 am - 10:30 am (followed by Advanced Training at 11:00)

Winedale Historic Center, 3738 FM 2714, Round Top, TX 78954

Advanced Training Program – Public Invited!

"Fire Resistant Landscaping" presented by William Hood, a Wildland Urban Interface Specialist with the Texas A&M Forest Service.

The focus of the program is helping homeowners reduce the risk of home loss during a wildfire by implementing a fire-resistant landscape design. Design elements around the Winedale Historical Complex will be used to illustrate concepts. The Texas A&M Forest Service handles wildfire education and outreach across the state, often cooperating with local fire departments, Texas Parks and Wildlife, and other agencies.

ANNUAL DUES FOR THE GIDEON LINCECUM CHAPTER ARE \$20 PER PERSON. PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES FOR 2019 BY JANUARY 1.

Pay online or to Treasurer, Leada Dietz

<https://txmn.org/glc/members-section/>

Our Mission

Volunteers dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources through education, outreach and service in our community

Through the Financial Lens: Chapter Activities in 2018

Leada Dietz, Treasurer

We are used to looking at our accomplishments through what plants grew (or didn't), what the kids learned, and how many hours we spent on tending pollinator gardens or educating our neighbors. But how much money we spent and on what provides a different view of our chapter accomplishments. Here is the financial picture for the first ten months of 2018.

Our money goes to three major categories—supplies for projects in all five counties, youth scholarships and supplies for our educational projects like county AG days, science nights, LANDS and BISD, and administrative costs like drop box and educational support for our members.

In the first ten months of 2018, we spent \$2,554.29 on seven of our projects; in order from most to least: Winedale (\$1,287.46), Millcreek Watershed testing (\$500.00), Stephen F. Austin State Park (\$374.77), Schubert House (\$125.00), Indian Creek (\$124.75), Native Prairie (\$106.30), and Washington On the Brazos (\$36.01).

Youth educational projects and scholarships only got \$191 of our dollars so far, although \$2,000 of 4-H scholarships for higher education have been awarded and we are awaiting presentations by four recipients (early in 2019) to present those checks. I have included outreach/recruiting numbers in the adult education amount because our outreach is always educational in nature: \$488.63.

Our administrative expenses have been \$1171.77, including \$200 for one scholarship to the annual convention (I expect another), \$422.52 for hospitality for training program and Christmas gathering, \$62.68 in Paypal service fees, \$315 for annual drop box fee, \$25 travel expenses for one AT speaker, and \$146.57 for miscellaneous administrative expenses.

So how do we support these expenses? Dues, training program, and grants and donations. We have taken in \$2,858.24 in dues so far this year, including \$40 for 2019—THANK YOU TO THE SCANIOS! (Why such an odd number? Because the accounting program has already subtracted any PayPal fees.) We have received \$1,593.75 in grants and donations for Winedale. (Earned through last year's efforts, but posted to bank account this year.) We have also received donations from members for specific projects--\$121.92 for Mill Creek watershed testing equipment, \$100 for Indian Creek, \$100 to the Bill Deaton fund collected from donations for tree seedlings, and an in-kind donation of the rental cost to use a skid steer to work on the Winedale trail.

A new expense this year was our \$1,000 contribution to the Texas Master Naturalist Endowment fund, matched by \$100 donations from ten members for a second \$1,000.

Now for the Texas Master Naturalist training program, which both earns money and spends money. After all the expenses of the 2018 program were accounted for, it had a balance of \$3,150.77.

As you can see, income does not cover outgo, so we need to continue to think of creative ways to bring in money so we can expand our service to the community. And don't underestimate the importance of your annual \$20.00 dues, payable now.

Training Class begins January 28, 2019.

Interested students may go online for details and to complete an application:

<https://txmn.org/glc/about/to-apply-for-training-and-membership/>



What's That Plant, Who's That Bug?

Jamie Lee Manning and Lori Buffum

Jamie Lee: See the beautiful banded sphinx moth observed in my cousin's garden in Texas City, Texas? I have been using the iNaturalist app to help me identify my observations and it's been such a cool tool that I have recommended it often to my network of friends and family. I have made 11 observations in the last six months. I'm curious



to know how many other GLC members are using this tool that learned about during our basic training class. (Texas Spiny Lizard on the right.)



Lori: Amen, Jamie! Since I take most of my "nature" photos with my iPhone, iNaturalist is always at my fingertips. In fact, it was quite the hit with fellow travelers in France (Common Carder Bee, right) and Scotland (European Robin, left) when I was able to ID bugs and birds that were not familiar to me. Not only are we having fun and learning as observations get confirmed, we are also contributing to citizen science as



observers add our bugs and plants and birds to the many "project databases" that are maintained through iNaturalist. I think both Jamie Lee and I would say "Don't leave home without it!"

iNaturalist's current top identifier, Greg Lasley, discusses iNaturalist: <https://vimeo.com/279929390>

From the "New Kid"

Jan Hughes, Class of 2018

This year was my first year to become a Texas Master Naturalist, and to attend the state meeting. Being a part of this experience, I learned about many different subjects, but also about the passion and knowledge of the members of this awesome program.

I was amazed at the energy and dedication of everyone there. I'm proud and thankful to be a part of this group.

As I look out my window, typing this, I'm watching nature unfold in front of me. As the leaves fall and I watch the many birds, butterflies and lizards act out their part in my favorite movie, I remember a Chinese Proverb I saw written down at the meeting and have embraced it.

"Tell me and I'll forget. Show me and I may remember, Involve me and I learn"

Texas Master Naturalist 20th Anniversary Meeting

Chris Morrison, Membership Director



Most of my time in Georgetown was spent in the “General Store”. We set a new record for sales, thanks to the amazing salespeople in our chapter, who came early and stayed late to help before, during and after the conference. We’ve run the store for three years, but this will be our last one, at least for a while. Next year we can all enjoy as many sessions as we want!

The meal function speakers were great, and so was the panel at the Gala on Thursday night. The band at the Gala had lots of folks reliving their rock ‘n roll memories. I was able to go to three sessions on VMS, where I learned about new features and how to better utilize ones that are in the system already.

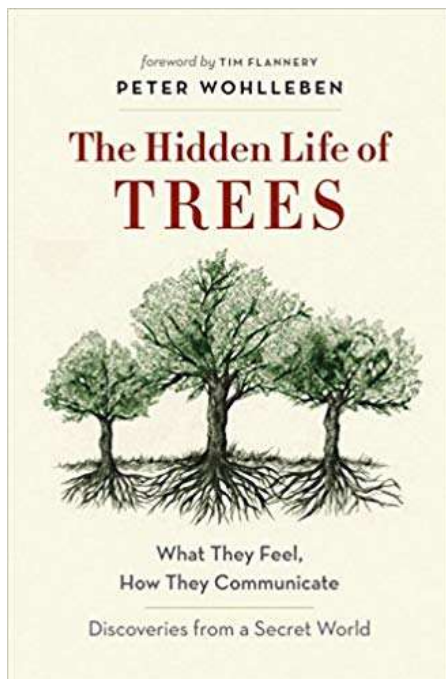


Finally, I was so proud of our chapter members for their service award recognitions! And did you know we had THIRTY members there? That’s a new record, too. And our very own Lori Buffum was one of the presenters. Hopefully you’ll be hearing from many of them about things they learned and be encouraged to attend next year in Rockwall. Meanwhile, look for many of us sporting the beautiful “anniversary” t-shirts.

The Hidden Life of Trees

Lori Buffum

Discover the “wood wide web” in this engaging fascinating marvelous narrative of the real forest as we are only just beginning to know it. This book feels like a conversation around Peter’s kitchen table as he reveals the incredible secrets of the interconnected lives that comprise a wooded ecosystem. Each chapter sketches out a facet of the life, personality, spirit, role, nature, behavior, and heart of a tree in its earthbound environment.



The chapter titles themselves help tell the story. Here are a few of them with favorite quotes from the text:

- *Friendships* – “why are trees such social beings?”
- *Slowly Does It* – over many decades, “mother trees, widely linked to other trees in the forest through their fungal-root connections, exert their influence in the upbringing of the youngsters.”
- *Tree School* – “the heart of tree school . . . where a certain amount of physical punishment is still the order of the day, for Nature is a strict teacher.”
- *Mother Ships of Biodiversity* – “In total, a fifth of all animal and plant species – that’s about six thousand of the species we know about – depend on dead wood.”
- *A Question of Character* – “if the [three] oaks behave differently, it must be because of their own innate characteristics.”
- *More than Just a Commodity* – “Wherever forests can develop in a species-appropriate manner, they offer particularly beneficial functions that are legally placed above lumber production in many forest laws.”

“Under the canopy of the trees, daily dramas and moving love stories are played out.” Thanks to Peter, when I take my next walk in the forest or pass by a tree, I

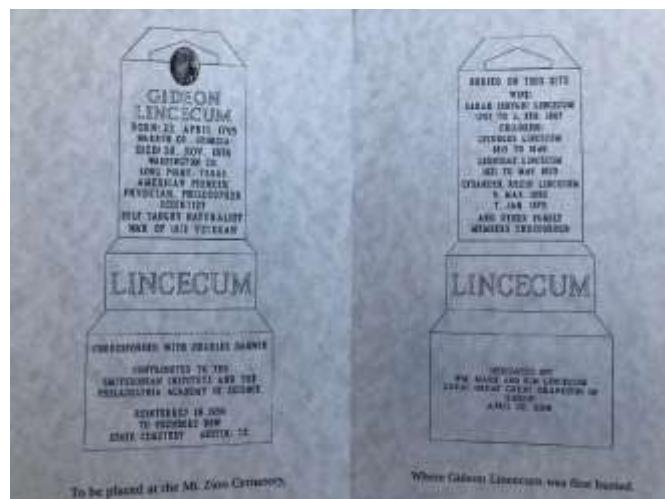
will be intimately aware of these rich and lively communities and remember to say hello to the beings we share the planet with. My rating: 10 out of 5 stars!!

Dear Lincecum Family and Friends,

Kim and I have been working on a monument for Gideon and his family to be located at the Mt. Zion Cemetery. There is currently not a marker for any of the four family members buried in the cemetery. That includes Gideon’s wife Sarah and three sons: Lycurgus, Leonidas and Lysander Rezin. Gideon was originally buried there but was exhumed in 1936 and reinterred in the State Cemetery on Founders Row for the Texas Centennial Celebration. We believe some or all of the markers are there but over time they have been overgrown and buried; we’re still looking.

Here’s progress on the Gideon Lincecum Memorial Monument: The granite tower is in. Kim and I inspected it and we love it. The engraving has started and should be done soon. We are planning a tentative dedication ceremony at Mt. Zion Cemetery in Burton, TX on Saturday, Dec.1, 2018. So pencil it on your calendar and we will keep you all updated.

– Mark Lincecum



Mayor's Monarch Pledge

Julie & David Itz

At the 2018 Native Plant Society of Texas Symposium, Julia Murphy from the City of San Antonio, Office of Sustainability spoke about the Mayor's Monarch Pledge. San Antonio is one of 85 Texas signatories for The National Wildlife Federation Mayor's Monarch Pledge and, along with McAllen, has become a Monarch Champion by taking all 24 actions suggested to encourage and assist the monarch butterfly. Thirty-three other signatories in Texas, including College Station, have taken 8 or more actions for the monarch butterfly. In addition, thirty-nine signatories from Texas are taking at least 3 actions for the monarch including Bastrop, Belton, Bryan, Burleson, Caldwell and Conroe.

Through a tri-county conservation agreement, the San Antonio area is committed to planting native plants in parks, providing workshops, sponsoring complementary activities, and will be planting 1,000,000 sq ft of wildflower seeds in the Spring, 2019. Since 2014, the fall monarch migration through the area has been monitored with the following flowers found to be favorites in San Antonio gardens: 2014-2018 – Blue mistflower, 2016 – Mealy blue sage, 2017 – Cenizo, 2017 – Turks Cap.

Success is due in large part to having many groups working to improve the numbers of native plants in the San Antonio/Bexar County area. **Alamo Area Monarch Collaborative** is part of the NWF Urban Monarch Conservation Plan which works to increase awareness of the monarch through educational workshops; advocating for changes that encourage habitat creation, restoration, and conservation; and increasing monarch habitats and waystations. The NWF creates city-specific monarch conservation plans in select major cities located along the Central Monarch Flyway.

Other groups involved include **The San Antonio Zoo, The San Antonio Botanical Garden, San Antonio River Authority, University of Texas at San Antonio, Native Plant Society of Texas – San Antonio Chapter, Cibolo Nature Center** in Boerne, **Mitchell Lake Audubon Center**, and **Texas Parks & Wildlife**.

For more information about the NWF Mayor's Monarch Pledge see: <https://www.nwf.org/Garden-For-Wildlife/About/National-Initiatives/Mayors-Monarch-Pledge.aspx>

Learning to tag Monarchs at the annual meeting.
(Photo credit: Lori Buffum)



2018 Native Plant Society of Texas Symposium

We attended the 2018 NPSOT Symposium in San Antonio and learned about efforts to increase the use of native plants in public and private landscapes in the San Antonio area, as well as new eradication methods to fight invasives. The most important take-away was seeing how much can be accomplished by bringing together both public and private organizations and agencies through education and engagement. Another lesson learned was how long it can take for projects to get to the point where all parties are finally involved in working toward the final goal of increasing the use of natives.

Julie and David Itz

Why do monarchs form roosts during fall migration?

“Monarch butterflies only migrate during the day. They come down at night and gather in clusters. A cluster of butterflies is called a *roost* or a *bivouac*.

Monarchs migrate alone. They do not travel in flocks the way many birds do. Why do they come together at night and form roosts?” [read more at the link below... Donna Mueller found this fun article to share with us and the Journey North website is a wonderful resource. Check it out:

<https://journeynorth.org/tm/monarch/sl/17/>]

Glorious Autumn at WoB

Julie & David Itz

At the **September 8th Workday** at Washington on the Brazos, Sheri Wilcox and Julie & David Itz worked in the Pollinator Garden, collecting 6 bags of clippings, trimmings and trash. The Partridge Pea and Maxmillian Sunflowers still dominated the garden with their yellow flowers.



On **October 6**, Luther Moore, Sheri Wilcox and Julie & David Itz worked to bring the Partridge Pea and Maxmillian Sunflower under control. Sheri and Luther planted some additional *Salvia coccinea* plants. Both the Gregg's Mistflower and Blue Mistflower were blooming and attracting lots of butterflies. Queen butterflies darted about in pairs and Long-tailed Skippers joined them, all narrowly avoiding a spider web strung above the Mistflower! Blue was the prevailing color in the garden this month.



On October 21, Julie and David Itz planted an Antelope Horn Milkweed *Aclepias asperula* and a Winecup *Callirhoe involucrate* from the Native Plant Society of Texas Conference.



The weather at the **WoB November 3** was perfect as Luther Moore, Sheri Wilcox and Julie & David Itz worked to pull out the Partridge Pea and cut back the Maxmillian Sunflowers. The prevailing colors this month are blue and yellow with Gulf Fritillary butterflies continuing to enjoy the blue mistflowers and the blue salvia. We found the Lanceleaf Coreopsis *Coreopsis lanceolata*, Indian Blanket *Gaillardia pulchella*, Red Indian Blanket *Gaillardia amblyodon*, Standing Cypress *Ipomopsis rubra* and Englemann's Daisy

Engelmannia peristenia sprouting out in preparation for next spring. We planted some Bluebonnet seed balls and will check next month to see if they have begun to sprout.



Come join us at one of our upcoming **Workdays: Saturday, December 1; Saturday, December 29; or Saturday, January 26.** We are hoping to add more edging to the bed and would appreciate help from anyone who has experience installing edging.



Iconic Whooping Cranes Making Way to Texas Coast

[from the Texas Wildlife Association "Resources" Oct. 30, 2018]

"With the first sightings last week of iconic, endangered whooping cranes along the Texas coast, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is reminding Texans to be on the lookout for these impressive birds as they move through the state."

<https://www.texas-wildlife.org/resources/news/iconic-whooping-cranes-making-way-to-texas-coast>

South Texas Natives Project – Plant Restoration in the Eagle Ford Shale

Julie & David Itz

At the 2018 Texas Native Plant Society Symposium, Forrest S. Smith, Texas A&M – Kingsville who is Director of the Texas Native (Seeds) Program (TNS), talked about their work to solve the native seed supply issues. TNS is an R&D program working to develop native seeds for commercial production that can supply the amounts needed for large-scale restoration around the state. The need for seeds has grown with increased oil & gas drilling, pipeline construction, highways, wind farms, powerline construction, etc. There is also more interest now from private landowners and government agencies in restoring land with natives.

TNS was established in 2010 by private landowners, the Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute's (CKWRI) South Texas Natives Project and TxDOT as a "collaborative effort to make native seeds available for restoration in central, west, and south Texas."

Landowners in the Eagle Ford Shale had questions about pipeline ROWs, drilling pad site locations, etc. Oil and gas drilling can be very impactful, because the pad site "wipes the slate clean" and requires lots of restoration. Pipeline ROWs have more severe impacts because the deep trenching brings subsoils to the surface where invasives can thrive and multiply. In the Eagle Ford area, 6-8 miles of road is laid to each ranch for each well, and these roads become corridors of invasive species and increase wildlife mortality. Exotic grasses and wildlife spread, especially in the absence of restoration. The exotic plants create barriers to native wildlife that won't cross certain plants, so the area available to wildlife shrinks.

Because private landowners decide what is done on their property, both they and energy operators need to be engaged and educated. The South Texas Natives Project (STNP) is engaging and educating energy operators. They've studied restoration methods, soil handling, seeding methods, and management of restoration (when to plant, how to plant, fitting restoration/planting into the timeline of the pipeline laying or pad site building). For pad sites, STNP has worked with landowners and companies to develop a step by step restoration method.

TxDOT now uses natives in rural seeding, increasing the need for commercial quantities of native grass and plant seeds throughout the state.

To increase the supply, TNS is working to collect native seeds from the areas where the seeds are needed so that when planted they will be appropriate for that area. Finding seeds that will grow fast enough and compete well with weeds and exotic grasses is critical to successful restoration. To identify the best populations of seeds researchers need wild seed collections of target native species. They plan to accumulate 30 seed collections per species of interest from their 3 project areas of south, central, and west Texas respectively. They need private landowners to help with the seed collection. Once collected the seeds are evaluated and those with the best potential for restoration work are planted and the seeds collected. Those seeds are provided to commercial seed growers who will in turn grow large quantities of seed for restoration projects. On average this is a 3-5 year process.

For more information, <https://www.ckwri.tamuk.edu/research-programs/texas-native-seeds>



2019
 RE-CERTIFICATION PIN
**GOLDEN-CHEEKED
 WARBLER**
 FIRST ANNOUNCED AT THE
 2018 ANNUAL MEETING

Who will be the first in our chapter to add this little beauty to their collection? Remember, 40 hours of volunteer service and 8 hours of advanced training are required for recertification.

There is still time to recertify for 2018 to receive your Ocelot!



For more information about this TWA event, please go to: [https://www.texas-](https://www.texas-wildlife.org/resources/events/an-evening-with-twa-college-station)

[wildlife.org/resources/events/an-evening-with-twa-college-station](https://www.texas-wildlife.org/resources/events/an-evening-with-twa-college-station)

Join us for
AN EVENING WITH TWA
Invited Speakers:
Texas State Senator Lois Kolkhorst, TWA Life Member
Texas State Rep. Kyle Kacal, TWA Life Member & Director

COLLEGE STATION 11.29.18

**Hover Fly –
 Ayrshire, Scotland
 [photo credit: Lori
 Buffum]**



The Flowers of South Africa

Carol Paulson

As many of you know, I just spent 23 days in Africa. I visited South Africa (Cape Town), Zimbabwe, Tanzania and its island of Zanzibar as well as the Egyptian cities of Luxor and Cairo. I could write a book, and it would take too much time for just one article, so I am sticking to the flowers of South Africa for the moment.



I was surprised to see many of the flowers we have here. The continent of Africa doesn't put much energy into trying to raise non-native plants of any kind. But many of the plants we raise here, started there. As our October visit occurred in the middle of Africa's Spring we were fortunate to see glorious blooms everywhere.

In Cape Town, we visited the Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens which are on the eastern slopes of Table Mountain. Table Mountain overlooks all of Cape Town and is huge. The Gardens are 528 hectares including a cultivated garden and a nature reserve. All plants displayed are southern African plants including rare and endangered species. Some of the plants seen were the Protea (which is the national plant and grows wild everywhere), a yellow strelitzia (or Bird of Paradise) that was developed in honor of Nelson Mandela and the Boomslang Tree Canopy which is a walk in paradise.

Words just can't describe the beauty of this place where people go every day to picnic, learn and occasionally, hear concerts in the evening.



*The Board of the
Texas Master Naturalist Gideon Lincecum Chapter
invites you to*

*Join us for a **Happy Holidays** gathering
to celebrate 2018*



Volunteer Recognition Event

Date: Sunday, Dec. 9th
Time: Doors open 2:00 pm
Supper at 4:00 pm
Mix and mingle 'til ?

Location:
Camp Kubena
2001 Waldeck Rd
Ledbetter, TX 78946

*All chapter members are invited and spouses or
significant others are welcome.*

Earn volunteer service hours for attending; get to know your fellow chapter members; see a photo review of our accomplishments; and eat, drink, and be merry!

Turkey and ham along with a cake for dessert are provided by the Chapter.
Bring a side dish and your beverage(s) of choice.

RSVP to Betsy Palkowsky, President
at bpalkowsky@outlook.com or 281-728-3555.

Thank you to everyone for presenting October 23rd at Lee County Ag Awareness Day. It was a success because of each one of you.

I heard positive comments from the teachers on the event.

You were able to reach 279 youth and a total of 40 adults attended the event. Thank you again,

Tonya Poncik, M.S.

Extension Agent, Lee County

Family & Community Health

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Prairie Flameleaf Sumac (*Rhus lanceolata*)



“A writer for our member magazine, Wildflower, once said her affection for sumacs came from close encounters she had with them as a child: “I loved slipping under the canopy to daydream inside, unseen.” Prairie flameleaf sumac also provides cover for birds, small mammals and insects, who have their own reasons for being reclusive (read: survival). And who wouldn’t want to engulf themselves in these botanical flames? *Rhus lanceolata* is one of the most handsome of its genus, with glossy green leaves budding out in spring, whitish blooms in summer followed by ornamental red berries (that make a tart, tasty tea), and — as the encore of its yearlong beauty show — fiery foliage in russet, garnet and blazing orange that is simply stunning against the

brilliant blue skies of Texas fall.” [From Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center: [Wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org) “What’s in Season: November”]

Chapter Resources Keep You Informed, On Track, and In Touch

Gideon Lincecum Chapter Website <http://txmn.org/glc> - visit often for event listings and more

GLC Facebook Group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/21969044537/> - find us on Facebook and ask to join

Volunteer Management System: Go to the state website to log your volunteer and advanced training hours:
<http://txmn.org/tmn-vms-users/>.

State Resources Expand Your Horizons

Texas Master Naturalist State Website <https://txmn.org/>

Texas Master Naturalist Listserve <https://txmn.org/staying-connected/sign-up-for-tmn-listserv/> - subscribe to the listserv

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Submit articles and photos to Editor Lori Buffum (buffumhl@gmail.com)