

Nature Notes

Outdoor Nature Club Upcoming Activities

See websites for additional details (www.outdoornatureclub.org or www.ornithologygroup.org)

ONC Contacts

ONC General Information

Sergio Henao, 713-729-2385

Botany/Entomology Group

See our website

Little Thicket Nature Sanctuary

Aaron Stoley, 713-781-1372

Ornithology Group (OG)

Marcy Brown, 713-664-5206

January 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

Meeting Place, Bayland Community Center

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are held at Bayland Community Center, 5400 Bissonnet at Hillcroft.

Little Thicket Nature Sanctuary Events

All LTNS events are held at the sanctuary, 2001 FM 945, Cleveland, TX (map is available on our website).

- 02 Ornithology (OG) Meeting**
6:30 pm—Learning Corner
7:00 pm—Program
Colonial Nesting Birds of Galveston Bay Area, by Winnie Burkett
- 07 Botany-Entomology, noon-4:00 pm**
TWELFTH NIGHT PARTY (Saturday!)
Join us at the home of the Blakleys for our annual after-holiday party and potluck lunch. For more information, contact Connie at 281-358-5407.



LTNS ACTIVITIES

- 21 LTNS Adopt-A-Highway, 8:30 am**
Come help pick up trash along our adopted highway two miles either side of LTNS along FM 945.
- 21 Dally Days at LTNS, 10:30 am**
Winter Tree Identification

- 06 Ornithology (OG) Meeting**
6:30 pm—Learning Corner
7:00 pm—Program
- 14 Botany-Entomology, 7:30 pm**
Program to be announced.



LTNS ACTIVITIES

- 25 Dally Days at LTNS, 10:00 am**
On The Ground and In The Sky; Mushrooms and Astronomy.
With a little luck and a little rain, we should find some interesting mushrooms along the trails. We'll also be on the lookout for early-flying Falcate Orange-tip Butterflies. After dark, clear skies permitting, we'll do some star gazing.

Time To Renew

Membership Dues
are due January 1

Renewal Form Enclosed

PLEASE RENEW TODAY

THANK YOU!



Outdoor Nature Club
 P.O. Box 270894
 Houston, TX 77277-0894
www.OutdoorNatureClub.org

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Officers and Board of Directors

PresidentSergio Henao
 Executive Vice President vacant
 Membership Vice President.....Margret Simmons
 Sanctuaries Vice President (acting).....Aaron Stoley
 Secretary..... Andrew Beck
 TreasurerMike Correll
 Custodian vacant
 Botany•Entomology Representative Leland Day
 Ornithology Representative Marcy Brown

our charter...

A nonprofit educational and scientific organization established in 1923 to protect and conserve natural resources by fostering an interest in nature study.

our sanctuary...

ONC owns a 700-acre nature preserve, Little Thicket Nature Sanctuary (LTNS), 11 miles northwest of Cleveland, TX. All members and guests are invited to attend monthly open houses.

ONC Appreciates Your Donations

Donations to ONC are always appreciated and gratefully acknowledged. Thanks, everyone, for your generosity.

In honor of Calvin Blakley

Gwen Kunz

In memory of David Marrack

Charles & Wanda Smith

Berries for the birds



If you're thinking of using more natives in your landscape, why not use plants that produce berries for local wildlife. One of our showiest natives is American Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*). In the fall and winter it dons clusters of bright magenta berries that are

favorites of our local birds. The territorial mockingbird guards ripe beautyberries so that other species don't dare to try and snatch one for a meal.

This deciduous plant is an understory shrub that can get rather large and needs lots of room to spread its branches. The fruits will last until new leaves sprout in the spring — that is, unless they're all eaten by the birds.

Another favorite of local bird life is the Yaupon Holly (*Ilex vomitoria*), but be sure to plant a female if you want berries. Birds seem to prefer these berries in late winter after they've fermented. Watch for Cedar Waxwings to descend on your yaupon. They'll strip it bare within a day and, if you're lucky, you might get to watch them line up along a branch and pass the berries down the line.

Yaupon wants to be a shrub, but if you prune carefully you can train it into a lovely small tree. It's tolerant of most any conditions, from sun to shade and poor drainage to drought. What a great plant for those of us with a "black" thumb!

OUTDOOR NATURE CLUB
New/Renewal Membership Form
(www.outdoornatureclub.org)

NOTE: Dues are paid January 1 of each calendar year. To join ONC, please mail your check with this completed form to: Outdoor Nature Club, PO Box 270894, Houston TX 77277.

CATEGORY 1 – ONC Parent Organization (please circle one)

- \$8 Individual
- \$15 Family
- \$40 Supporting
- \$250 Life Member

SUB TOTAL Category 1 _____

CATEGORY 2 – OG Ornithology Study Group (optional - please circle one)

- \$14 Individual OG — with mailed "Spoonbill" newsletter
- \$19 Family OG — with mailed "Spoonbill" newsletter
- \$10 Individual OG — e-mailed "Spoonbill" newsletter
- \$15 Family OG — e-mailed "Spoonbill" newsletter

SUB TOTAL Category 2 _____

CATEGORY 3 – Botany/Entomology Study Group (optional)

- \$2 Individual

SUB TOTAL Category 3 _____

CATEGORY 4 — DONATIONS (please specify)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| ONC | \$ _____ |
| ORNITHOLOGY (OG) | \$ _____ |
| Little Thicket Nature Sanctuary | \$ _____ |

SUB TOTAL Category 4 _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED (Add Categories 1+2+3+4)

NEW MEMBERS: How did you hear about us?

- Friend told me
- Saw newsletter in library (which one? _____)
- Saw poster at Bayland Community Center
- Found you on internet
- Other (please specify: _____)

Thank you!

We appreciate your support and hope to see you at our next meeting.

Name(s) _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City/ST/Zip: _____ Email: _____