



Nature Notes

September/October 2012

a bimonthly publication of Outdoor Nature Club

volume 64 ♦ number 1

ONC Upcoming Activities

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

ONC Contacts

ONC General Information

Olga Beishir, 832-492-9174

Botany/Entomology Group

Katy Emde, 713-628-7575

Little Thicket Nature Sanctuary

Aaron Stoley, 713-781-1372

Ornithology Group (OG)

Marcy Brown, 713-664-5206

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).



September 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						

October 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			

10 Ornithology (OG) Meeting

6:30 pm—Learning Corner

7:00 pm—Program

Egret Plumage Variation, by Prof. Clay Green, Texas State University, San Marcos

11 Botany-Entomology Meeting, 7:30 pm

Native Plant Restorations, by David Lobpries, TPWD

01 Ornithology (OG) Meeting

6:30 pm—Learning Corner

7:00 pm—Program

09 Botany-Entomology, 7:30 pm

Coastal Plants, presented by Dr. Larry Brown.



LTNS ACTIVITIES

22 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.

22-23 LTNS Visitors Weekend

Come and enjoy late summer wildflowers and insects at the sanctuary. We will be "blacklighting" for moths on Saturday night.



LTNS ACTIVITIES

27-28 LTNS Visitors Weekend

It's HALLOWEEN at LTNS! Bring your witches' hats, broomsticks and vampire teeth and join in the fun. Don't forget a pumpkin for our annual pumpkin carvin' contest.





Outdoor Nature Club
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September/October 2012
 Volume 64 • Number 1
 Published bimonthly September–May

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 Sanctuaries VP Aaron Stoley
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 Ornithology Rep 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...

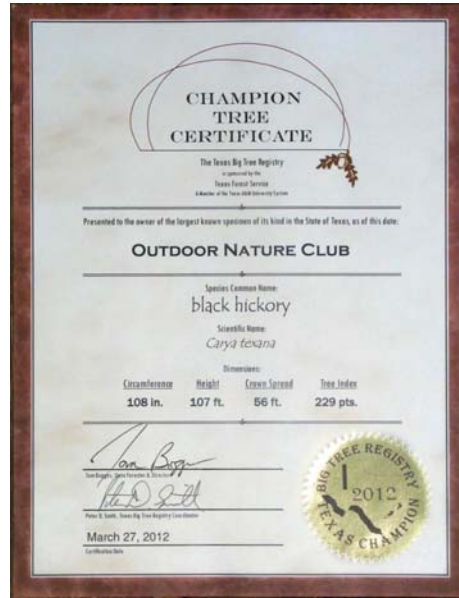
ONC owns a 700-acre nature preserve, Little Thicket Nature Sanctuary (LTNS), 11 miles northwest of Cleveland, TX. All members and guests are invited to attend monthly open houses.

We shall be faithful
 in preserving the Little Thicket
 Nature Sanctuary for future
 generations to see and learn
 of nature's ways.

Notes from Little Thicket Nature Sanctuary

ONC's State Champion Tree

The Big Tree Registry program in Texas is coordinated by the Texas Forest Service and recognizes the largest known species of its kind that grows in the state. In March, ONC was recognized as having the champion Black Hickory (*Carya texana*) at Little Thicket Nature Sanctuary. Appropriately, the tree can be found on the Big Tree Trail. State foresters had been keeping track of this tree for several years and visited LTNS in March to measure the tree. We are pleased and proud to have a champion on our property!



Polyphemus Moth (Antheraea polyphemus)

This beautiful moth came to our lighted sheet in June. It is one of the more beautiful giant silkworm moths, or Saturnids, found in our area. The larvae feed on leaves of trees and shrubs, including birch, hickory, maple, and oak. Adults in this family of moths do not have mouth parts and do not feed. They live for less than a week, just long enough to mate and for the females to lay eggs. The large eyespots on the hindwings serve as a defense mechanism to deter predators. These eyespots also give this moth its name, derived from the Cyclops Polyphemus in Greek mythology.

Many of the Saturnid moths begin to emerge in late August and September. If you want to take a chance on seeing one of these beauties, join us at LTNS on September 22; we hope to attract a few to our blacklighted sheet!