



Oxley Nature Center

May/June, 2015

Volume 227

Mary K. Oxley Nature Center Association 2014 Honor Roll

Oxley Nature Center:

-The Interpretive Building will be open Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Sunday, 12 noon - 4:30 p.m.

-Gate and parking lot is open daily, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. except most City holidays.

-Hiking trails are accessible during Mohawk Park hours, 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Redbud Valley Nature Preserve is closed:

all Mondays and Tuesdays.
-Open Wednesday through Sunday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Hiking after these hours is not allowed.

-Interpretive building is open Wednesday through Sunday. 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

-Closed most City holidays.

**** Holiday Closings:**

Oxley Nature Center and Redbud Valley Nature Preserve:

** Monday, May 25

Program information:

- 918-669-6644
- Oxley@cityoftulsa.org
- Website at <http://www.oxleynaturecenter.org>.

***Register for classes 48 hours in advance.**

-Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult unless otherwise stated.

-Most programs are stroller/wheelchair accessible.

-Our new mailing address is: Box 150209, Tulsa, OK 74115

The Mary K. Oxley Nature Center Association is honored to recognize the following individuals for their contributions during 2014. Sixty six donors contributed more than \$15,000. Each gift is deeply appreciated and is critical to the maintenance and enhancement of Oxley Nature Center.

Turtle

Roger & Susan Bey

Red-headed Woodpecker

Weber Foundation

Pecan

Kent Powers
Phyllis Stroud
Jim & Margaret Thayer

Purple Coneflower

Anonymous
Dr. & Mrs James
Randolph Birch
Dick Sherry
Fred & Randi Wightman

Monarch Butterfly

Anonymous
Don Benson
Pamela A. Beyer
Jackie Brown
John O. Buckley
Mary & Daryl Coley
Lucy Dolman
Melinda Droge
Susan Gannon
Tom Clark
Rusty Grimpe
Tippy Hawkins
Robert Hert
Judy & Glenn Hudgens
Thomas & Mary Kenkel
Tim Kuehnert
Helen Madden
Susan McCollum
Merrell Miller
ONEOK
Thomas E. Pendergraft
Philip Ruth
Dot Schultze
John & Kim Shannon
Rich Stearns

Marcia Wilson

David Zucconi

Honey Bee

Anonymous
Michael Ayling
Loretta Bailey
Cheryl Barron
Joan Brenckle
Tom Dalton
Russell L. Doden
Sharon Duncan
Roxanna Foster
Connie Gillis
Sadie Harris
Amy Hartman
Odes G. Hutchinson
Susan Jones
Rona Klein
Michael R. Lessard
Norma Luttrall
McCollum Family
Irene M. McKee
Shirley M. Miller
Jane & Kem Mullenax
Lisa Pierce
R. Bernard Robinowicz
Becca Roe & Peter Michael
Roy & Sharon Scott
Mary Williams
Jacquie Young
Marilyn Zielinski

Gifts in Memory of

Dr. Paul Buck

Irene M McKee

Daniel Draper

Roy & Sharon Scott
Robert Hert

Len Eames

Anonymous (2)
Mike Ayling
Cheryl Barron
Don Benson
Roger & Susan Bey
Joan Brenckle
Roxanna Foster
Susan Gannon
Rusty Grimpe
Amy Hartman
Rona Klein
Helen Madden
Merrell Miller
Dot Schultze
Dick Sherry
Mary Williams
Jacquie Young
Marylyn Zielinski
David Zucconi

Fred Farris

Fred & Randi Wrightman

Kenneth Flemming

Norma Luttrall

Wilson Jones

Susan Jones

Bob Pugh

Sharon Duncan
Helen Madden

Al Schultze

Anonymous
Roger & Susan Bey
Dot Schultze

Gifts in Honor of

Bethan, Matthew, Caleb, and Hudson Beyer

Pamela A. Beyer

Nature Center Happenings

Volunteer Naturalists Graduate

Our volunteer training was great fun this season! We had 8 weekday and 2 weekend volunteer naturalists graduate. Please give a big welcome to:

Barbara Hudnall, Bob Phillips, Carol Ann Conrad, Diana Cox, Frank Elijah Hammond, Gina Woods, Kalle Burgess, Penny Pendergraft, Rhonda Steiner, Stacey Hannebaum

Our volunteer staff are our greatest resource. They enable us to maintain trails, fight invasive species, greet our guests, lead interpretive tours, provide outreach and so much more. We thank them for their dedication and enthusiasm!

Redbud Valley Wildflower Walks

The wildflowers at Redbud Valley are in a flush of bloom! Join a naturalist to explore the forest and prairie in search of these beautiful blossoms.

Date: Sunday, May 3 **Time:** 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Date: Sunday, June 7 **Time:** 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

All ages are welcome. Please remember this trail is rugged and is not stroller or wheelchair accessible.

You must **register in advance**. Spaces are limited. This program is free. Donations are accepted.

Celebrate Our Pollinators!

Date: Saturday, June 20 **Time:** 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Join us at Oxley Nature Center to help celebrate many of the wonderful animals that help to run our world! You can explore our pollinator garden, make a solitary bee condo to take home, create masks, discover the life cycle of a butterfly and more! Check our FB page for more details.

This event is for all ages. No registration is required. This program is free. Donations are accepted.

Forming a Pollinator Partnership

You have the ability to choose some of your neighbors. With some species having declined dramatically in the last decade, you can take steps to invite native pollinators to your yard.

Backyard gardens can have a significant impact on numbers and diversity of pollinators by enhancing important habitat. Providing for your neighbors will ensure a better fruit and seed set for your plants, giving you hours of entertainment. You can make a difference!

Celebrate National Pollinator Week, June 15-21

-Don't use pesticides in your gardens, please.

-Grow flowering plant species with different colors, shapes and blooming times to provide choices for different kinds of pollinators throughout the season.

-Plant host plants such as milkweed for Monarch butterflies.

-Plant in dense stands of native flowering plants. Some varieties of landscape cultivars have been selected for showy blooms at the expense of nectar and pollen production.

-Provide artificial nest boxes for solitary bees.

-Check out : <http://www.pollinator.org>

Full Moon Walks at Oxley Nature Center

\$3 requested donation per person, all ages welcome

** Please register in advance **

Full Flower Moon

Saturday, May 2, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

April showers and sunshine have brought a flush of wildflowers to the land. Join us for an evening walk along the trails.



Full Strawberry Moon

Tuesday, June 2, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

We will engage all our senses as we explore the trails this evening. Will we find wild strawberries?

Programs and Special Events

May

2 "Saturday Morning Birding" Ages: All
Saturday 8:00-9:45 a.m.
Free registration not required

Join us for birding at Oxley. Bring binoculars if you have them. All ages and skill levels are welcome.

10 "Flowers are Fabulous" Ages: All
Sunday 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Free registration not required

It is Mother's Day! Join us to learn all about flowers. Make a card for your favorite mother, aunt or friend. This is a come and go event at Oxley Nature Center.



16 "Butterfly Walk" Ages: All
Saturday 9:30-11:00 a.m.
Free registration not required

Join us at Oxley for our butterfly walk. Please note, the time has changed for the warmer seasons: May-August, 9:30-11:00 a.m. All ages and skill levels welcome. Bring binoculars if you have them.

16 "Flying Flowers" Ages: All
Saturday 10:00-12:00 noon
Free registration not required

Butterflies have been called flying flowers. Design your own unique butterfly to take home. This project is 'come and go'. Meet at Oxley

17 "Geology Walk at RBV" Ages: 8 to Adult
Sunday 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Free registration is required

Join us at Redbud Valley for a geology walk. This walk is not stroller or wheelchair accessible.

23 "Botany Walk" Ages: All
Saturday 10:30-12:00 noon
Free registration not required

What new wildflowers will we find? Meet at Oxley.

June

6 "Saturday Morning Birding" Ages: All
Saturday 8:00-9:45 a.m.
Free registration not required

Join us for birding at Oxley. Bring binoculars if you have them. All ages and skill levels are welcome.

13 "Wetland Wonders" Ages: All
Saturday 9:00-11:00 a.m.
Free registration is required

What amazing plants and animals make their homes in wetlands? We will dip net to see what lives in the water. Join us to explore marsh mysteries! Meet at Oxley.

20 "Butterfly Walk" Ages: All
Saturday 9:30-11:00 a.m.
Free registration not required

Join us at Oxley for our butterfly walk. Please note the time: 9:30-11:00 a.m. All ages and skill levels welcome. Bring binoculars if you have them.

20 "Pollinator Event" Ages: All
Saturday 11:00-3:00 p.m.
Free registration not required

Join us at Oxley to learn more about the birds, bees, butterflies and other critters that pollinate flowers. Check our FB page for more details!

21 "Making Tracks" Ages: All
Sunday 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Free registration is not required

Today is Father's Day and the first day of summer! Join us to learn about animal clues. Create something special for your favorite dad. This is a 'come and go' class at Oxley.

21 "Geology Walk at RBV" Ages: 8 to Adult
Sunday 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Free registration is required

Join us at Redbud Valley for a geology walk. This walk is not stroller or wheelchair accessible.

27 "Botany Walk" Ages: All
Saturday 10:30-12:00 noon
Free registration not required

Join us at Oxley to discover what is happening now!

Project WET & WILD Workshops

Saturday, May 9: Project WET

Saturday, June 13: Project WILD

Time: 9:00-3:00 p.m. \$20 fee for each curriculum

**Questions or to pre-register call Deidra Wakeley,
Science teacher and facilitator: 918-745-9264**

K-12 public, private and home school teachers, Boy and Girl Scouts, 4-H and Campfire leaders will all learn to use strategies and techniques to teach topics such as forests, wildlife, water, community planning and energy.

Through hands-on, interdisciplinary activities, Project WET and WILD help young people learn “how to think, not what to think”, about complex environmental issues. Participants should bring a sack lunch and dress comfortably.

4th of July North American Butterfly Count

Join us **Thursday, July 2nd** to spot, count and identify butterflies. Information gathered will supplement the North American Butterfly Association (NABA) 4th of July Butterfly Count. Citizen scientists participate in local counts, increase personal knowledge, raise public awareness and contribute valuable data about butterfly populations.

We will meet at 8:30 a.m. and count until dusk, weather permitting. You are welcome to participate in all or part of the count. Please bring a lunch, water, hat and binoculars if you have them.

You must call to register in advance. If you register by June 29, ONCA will pay your \$3 participation fee (required by NABA). No experience is necessary. You'll work in teams with experienced naturalists counting in different areas. Call 918-669-6644 with questions or to register.

Make Your Yard Wildlife Friendly

You can attract all kinds of wildlife to your yard or balcony if you provide some basic necessities. Food, water and shelter are things all living things require to survive.

One of the most simple and rewarding ways to attract wildlife is to provide a source of water. It can be as simple as a tray of water, or as elaborate as a pond with recycled running water. Sit back and watch insects, mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians come take advantage of this as they quench their thirst and splash and bathe.

Plant trees, shrubs, grasses and flowers that will support our native wildlife. Whenever possible, this means choosing native species. Your plantings may provide shelter, nectar, food as a host plant for herbivores, fruit for birds, mammals and reptiles, and natural beauty.

In May, Oxley Nature Center will have a booth at the **22nd Annual Wildlife Habitat Garden Tour and Plant Sale** sponsored by the Tulsa Audubon Society. Stop by and visit with Oxley Nature Center staff at one of the featured gardens.

Bring any questions you may have about encouraging birds, bees, bats and butterflies to visit your garden. What flower type and color attracts bees and what attracts butterflies?

Native plant vendors are featured at the gardens with a great selection of wildlife worthy plants.

The tour dates are:

Saturday, May 30, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 31, 12 noon-5:00 p.m.

For Garden tour map and information:
www.tulsaaudubon.org

