

NATURALIST NEWSLETTER

Louisiana Master Naturalist Greater New Orleans

SPECIAL EDITION * SPECIAL EDITION * SPECIAL EDITION * SPECIAL EDITION

RENDEZVOUS ROUNDUP

SPECIAL EDITION * SPECIAL EDITION * SPECIAL EDITION * SPECIAL EDITION

Bugging Out

By: Erin Richardson

Why do insects matter? If you ask this question of Zack Lemann, be prepared for a most exuberant answer from this exhilarating entomologist. Yes, it may seem awash with alliteration, but don't be bugged by it (pun intended). As the keynote speaker of the Rendezvous, Zack spun an intricate web of how dependent our world is on insects. Small but mighty is an understatement! Insects provide countless benefits without asking much in return. They are a vital food source for some animals, they decompose organic material (think rotting matter) and aerate soil, not to mention the understated service of pollination. Without insects, our entire world would become unstable; and we would lose three quarters of the animal diversity on our planet.

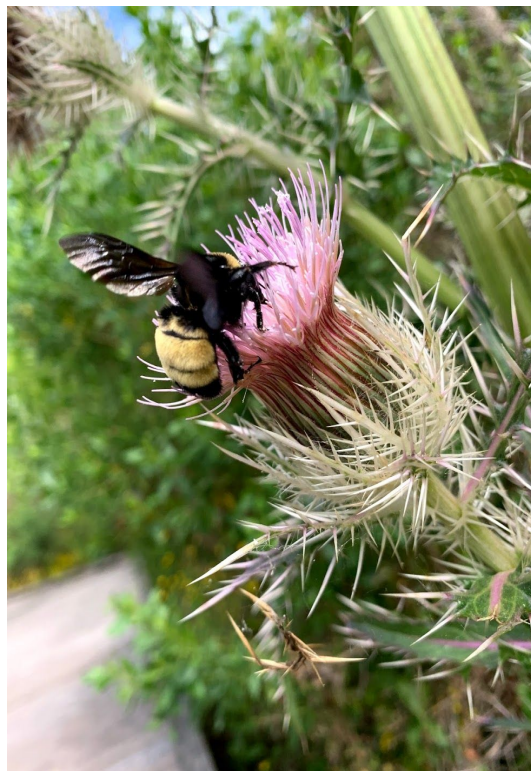


Photo Credit: Erin Richardson

In this issue:

Highlights from our 2019 Rendezvous
Information on upcoming volunteer and continuing education events

Volunteer Events:

(Click event title for info)

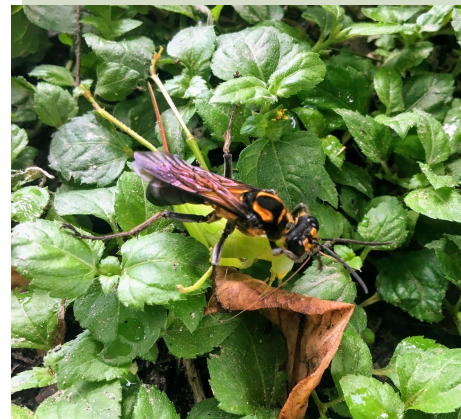
May

- **5th** Work/Play Day at Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge
- **8th, 22nd, 29th** Northlake Titivation & Nature Walk

June

- **5th, 19th, 26th** Northlake Titivation & Nature Walk

Photo Credit: Erin Richardson



Continuing Education Events:

(Click event title for info)

May

- **2nd** The Environment and Climate in Coastal Louisiana Seminar Series
- **5th** Work/Play Day at Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge
- **11th** Mushroom Walk with mushroom enthusiast John Mansfield

June

- **1st** Bullet-proof Native Plants for New Orleans Gardens
- **1st** "Snakes of Louisiana with Fred Mattingly"
- **15th** "Walk in the Woods" and "Medicinal Plants with Donna Caire" and "Plant I.D. with Rue McNeill"

Photo Credit: Alanna Frick



Caroline Dormon Outstanding Louisiana Naturalist Award

The Caroline Dormon Outstanding Louisiana Naturalist award is an annual award given during the Rendezvous event. This award is chosen for dedicated naturalists that contribute to broadening the public understanding of natural history within our state.



The 2018 Caroline Dormon Outstanding Louisiana Naturalist award was given to Dr. Charles Allen from the Northeast chapter. Dr. Allen is a well renowned botanist here in Louisiana. A retired University of Louisiana at Monroe Professor, he has written several books on the plants of Louisiana, but also has a passion for insects.

The 2019 Caroline Dormon Outstanding Louisiana Naturalist award was given to Vernon Antoine Brou, Jr. for his emmensily loyal collection of lepidoptera. "He is in his 50th year of catching, mounting, cataloging, and studying insects -24/ ..he has discovered 400 different species of moths." (Bob Rogers)





1st

Place

“Hey, Woody, get off our perch!”

Image and Copyright by
Connie Guillory

LMNA 2019 Wildlife Photography Contest

Each year, the Louisiana Master Naturalist Association hosts a wildlife photography contest at the Rendezvous. This year saw six entries and naturalists were asked to vote for their favorite over the course of the weekend. Here are the top winners!



2nd

Place

Little Blue Heron
Jane Patterson

3rd

Place



“Breakfast on the Bayou”
Sabine National Wildlife Refuge
Image and Copyright by Bob Thomas



“Midday Munching”
Image and Copyright by Erin M. Bryan

Rendezvous in Numbers

136

Total Master Naturalists
from across the state!

92

Total number of Volunteer
hours for our chapter alone!

66

From the Greater New
Orleans chapter. Way to
represent!

340

Total number of Continuing
Education hours for our
chapter alone!

Money raised

\$37.50

Swap Table

\$280

Book Sale

\$725

Auction

In Memoriam of Joe Baucum

By: Alanna Frick



The members of the certification committee wanted to express our deepest condolences once more for the loss of a true institution and founding member of our organization. Joe was such an important pillar in our community. His involvement in several

non-profits throughout the area spoke to his true character. His passion was in giving back and he did it so very well. Joe will be terribly missed, but his legacy will continue to live on in an organization that embodied his love for nature.



Social Media Buzz



*Dr. Mary Mysing-Gubala
teaching about gall wasps.
Photo by: Tanee Jaunez*



*UNO's CERF CE workshop on
lake Pontchartrain.
Photo by: Alanna Frick*



*Tabling at New Orleans City
Park Botanical Gardens.
Photo by: Erin Richardson*