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Ruby-throated Hummingbird | Gayle Tapp

In September we will be seeing many of our summer visitors leaving for more southern locations. The Ruby Hummingbird is always one we are loathe to see go, as we notice them tanking up for their big trip south. We will also miss that special flash of blue and their clear high song as the Indigo Buntings leave us too. Who will you be saddest of all to say goodbye to?



All about Nature Book Club

Letters from the Dust Bowl, by Caroline Henderson

By Mary Seabourne

Caroline Henderson's "Letters From The Dust Bowl" provides a real window into the lived experience of life on the Great Plains. While there is plenty of great literature written about those years, what makes Henderson's Letters especially powerful is her first-hand account as a woman. Raised in rural Iowa and educated at Holyoke College, Henderson left her teaching career in 1907 for big homesteading dreams on a staked-claim in northwestern Oklahoma. What unfolds through the collection of bound letters is a vivid story of struggle and survival of a pioneering family.

For over six decades, Henderson and her spouse farmed in Texas County, Oklahoma with the help of their only child. Geographically isolated out there in literally "No Man's Land," she kept her spirits up through her voracious reading and through her correspondence with family and friends. Later, in desperate times, Henderson turns her writing into a source of much-needed income, first drafting pieces for a small women's magazine until remarkably, she is eventually published in The Atlantic, where she amasses a national following of readers hungry for the stories of Dust Bowl life. Through these writings, we learn about the day-to-day goings on of homesteading, like digging wells and tending chickens, of her big hopes for the corn and wheat crops, and too of the failures, of the persistent drought and the falling prices, the dust storms, and the almost nightmarish reality of "dust to eat and

of her as a middle-aged woman show someone far older, stooped, thin, and sharp.

Without a doubt, "Letters From The Dust Bowl" enriches our understanding (and our deep respect for those that lived in that era). Even if you've read other accounts of this period of American life, Henderson's is a necessary add to that list.



Annual Hayride and Weiner Roast Announcement

To all of our ONCA Members:

Invitations for the Annual Oxley Hayride and Weiner Roast will be sent out the first week of October to current members only. If your membership has lapsed, please renew soon.

Mary K. Oxley Nature Center - September Programs


Interpretive Center is open Tuesday-Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and Sundays Noon – 4:30 p.m.


Call 918-596-9054 for program reservations.

Saturday, September 2 - **Saturday Morning Birding**

8:00 – 9:45 a.m.

Join us for our Saturday morning birding walk. All skill levels welcome. Meet in the parking

Subscribe	Past Issues	<i>lol. Bring binoculars if you have them. Free!</i>	Translate ▼	RSS 
		<p>Saturday, September 2, 9, or 16 - Parks for Pollinators BioBlitz 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. <i>Join us for guided BioBlitz walks aimed at raising awareness of the essential role of pollinators! These are great opportunities to learn more about pollinators, the plants who support them and the world of citizen science! No registration required! Free and open to all!</i></p> <p>Saturday, September 9 - BioBlitz for Butterflies 10:00—11:30 a.m. <i>Come look for butterflies with naturalist Rusty Grimpe! We will seek out and record as many species as possible as part of our BioBlitz event! Free and open to all! Bring binoculars if you have them.</i></p> <p>Tuesday, September 12 or Friday, September 19 - Seedlings 10:00—11:30 a.m. <i>Welcome Fall during our first Seedlings class of the year! We will explore nature to look for golden sunflowers and discover the sweet rewards they provide during the Autumn harvest! Ages 1-5 + caregiver. Free for members/\$5 for non-members. Pre-registration is required.</i></p> <p>Saturday, September 16 - Plants and their Pollinators Walk 10:00—11:30 p.m. <i>Join us to learn more about the vital relationships between plants and pollinators. Let's see how many we can find and identify! All ages and skill levels welcome!</i></p> <p>Saturday, September 16 - Paper-making Class for Kids 2:30—4:00 p.m. <i>Learn how to make paper with Oxley Artist-in-Residence Kayla Anley! For ages 7-13. Call the nature center to register your child. \$5 for members/ \$10 for non-members.</i></p> <p>Friday, September 22 - All About Nature Book Club 11:00 – 12:30 p.m. <i>Join our book discussion on nature, conservation, and the environment. We'll be talking about <i>The Botany of Desire: A Plant's-Eye View of the World</i> by Michael Pollan.</i></p> <p>Friday, September 29 - Full Harvest Moon Walk 7:00—8:30 p.m. <i>This full moon nearest the autumnal equinox (September 22) is named for the gathering of crops. It is a time of preparation for the winter months to follow. Let's explore the trails and see what we can discover! All ages welcome. \$3 for members/\$5 for non-members. Pre-registration is required.</i></p> <p>Saturday, September 30 - Goldenrod and the Art of Botanical Skincare 2:00—3:00 p.m. <i>Join Rebecca Southard of Prairiebourne Botanicals to learn about the historical uses and medicinal properties of goldenrod. Participants will be guided through the process of creating their own goldenrod tinctures to take home. \$4 materials fee. Pre-registration is required for this special event.</i></p>		

Subscribe	Past Issues	Saturday, September 30 - Forest Bathing at Oxley Nature Center	Translate ▼	RSS 
		<p>10:00—12:30 p.m.</p> <p><i>Join Nature and Forest Therapy Guide Pam Rogers for a research-backed practice that promotes health through immersing oneself in the calming and restorative atmosphere of forest and other natural environments. \$5 for members/\$10 for non-members. Pre-registration is required for this special event.</i></p> <p>Sunday, October 1 - Forest Bathing at Oxley Nature Center (2nd session)</p> <p>8:00—10:30 a.m.</p> <p><i>Join Nature and Forest Therapy Guide Pam Rogers for a research-backed practice that promotes health through immersing oneself in the calming and restorative atmosphere of forest and other natural environments. \$5 for members/\$10 for non-members. Pre-registration is required for this special event.</i></p> <p>.....</p>		



In celebration of pollinators, join us at Oxley Nature Center to create a snapshot of local wildlife. Work alongside staff and volunteer naturalists to advance the health of local pollinators, which are essential to our ecosystem. We will use the *iNaturalist app to photograph plants and insects which will contribute to a scientific inventory of pollinator species.

**EVERYONE
IS
WELCOME!**

No registration required!
For more information call
918-596-9054 or email
oxley@cityoftulsa.org

***PHONE AND APP ARE NOT REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE**



Explore & Play Oxley Seedlings

Experience nature with your little ones! Through stories, crafts, and time exploring the trails, we will help to inspire a lifelong love of the outdoors! Join us every month on the second Tuesday or following Friday from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Ages 1-5 + caregiver



upcoming sessions:

- September: Sunflower Seed Harvest
- October: Squirrels Stashing Nuts
- November: Mushrooms in the Woods
- December: Plants in Winter

\$5 per session
Free for ONCA
members.

Learn more and sign up by calling the nature center at
(918) 596-9054 or emailing oxley@cityoftulsa.org



AT OXLEY NATURE CENTER
WITH ARTIST KAYLA ANLEY

AGES 7 - 13

PAPER MAKING CLASS

FOR KIDS

09 | 16 | 23

CALL 918-596-9054 TO
SIGN UP TODAY!
2:30 - 4:00 PM



GOLDENROD

AND THE THE ART OF BOTANICAL SKINCARE

PARTICIPANTS WILL LEARN ABOUT THE HISTORICAL USES AND MEDICINAL PROPERTIES OF GOLDENROD, AND WILL BE GUIDED THROUGH THE PROCESS OF CREATING THEIR OWN GOLDENROD TINCTURES TO TAKE HOME.



REBECCA SOUTHARD IS THE FOUNDER OF PRAIRIEBOURNE BOTANICALS, A HOLISTIC LINE OF SKINCARE THAT DRAWS ON HER LIFELONG LOVE OF NATURE AND EXPLORATIONS OF THE HEALING PROPERTIES OFFERED BY THE PLANT WORLD.

\$4
MATERIALS
FEE

**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 30
2:00-3:00**

CALL OXLEY AT 918-596-9054 TO REGISTER
CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED AND WILL SELL OUT
ALL AGES WELCOME



FOREST BATHING

AT OXLEY NATURE CENTER

Forest Bathing is a research-backed practice that promotes health through immersing oneself in the calming and restorative atmosphere of forests and other natural environments.

GUIDED BY PAM ROGERS



Holding a Master of Science Degree in Environmental Studies and Science Education, Pam has worked with children and adults as a farm, wilderness, science, and naturalist educator for over 35 years. She is trained and certified as a Nature and Forest Therapy Guide through the Association of Nature and Forest Therapy, and currently teaches science at Holland Hall.

**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 30**

10 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

**SUNDAY
OCTOBER 1**

8 A.M. - 10:30

**PRE-REGISTRATION IS
REQUIRED**

**\$5 FOR MEMBERS, \$10 FOR NON-MEMBERS
CALL [918] 596-9054 OR EMAIL
OXLEY@CITYOFTULSA.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION**

OXLEY NATURE CENTER HOURS

10-4:30PM Tuesday through Saturday

Noon - 4:30PM on Sunday



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Past Issues

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