

Meadows of Brushy Creek

July 2009

Official Publication of Meadows of Brushy Creek HOA

Volume 2, Issue 7

BATTLE OF BRUSHY CREEK

170 years ago, the battle of Brushy Creek was fought between Texas Rangers and Comanche marauders. The battle occurred in late February 1839 a few miles from the site of present town of Taylor in Williamson County. It was a running affair along Battleground (present Cottonwood) and Boggy creeks and culminated north of Brushy Creek. In January 1839 Chief Cuelgas de Castro, traveling with a friendly Lipan party, reported to the settlers on the Colorado River that a Comanche band, their enemies, had entered the settlements and were encamped on the San Gabriel River north of Austin. Col. John H. Moore called out two companies of thirty men each. Joined by the Lipans, they rode to the campsite and found that the Indians had moved upstream. A snowstorm delayed pursuit. Moore tracked the intruders west to the mouth of the San Saba River and skirmished with the Indians, who, under the pretense of surrendering, made off with all his men's horses. About February 18 the Comanches returned east and swept through Travis County into Bastrop County. At Webber Prairie, twelve miles above Bastrop, they killed Mrs. Elizabeth Coleman and her son Albert. They captured her five-year-old son Tommy and seven of Dr. James W. Robertson's slaves.

About February 24 Jacob Burleson, elected a captain of a group of twenty-five mounted men, began scouting the area. Capt. James Rogers, his brother-in-law, joined him with an additional twenty-seven men. A day later, at ten o'clock in the morning, they came upon a Comanche camp near Post Oak Island, some three miles north of Brushy Creek. As most of the Indians fled on foot, Burleson ordered an attack to prevent them from reaching a nearby thicket. Historian J. W. Wilbarger wrote that the Texans flinched, Burleson was killed, and the command fell back that evening

to Brushy Creek. Edward and Aaron B. Burleson and all their brothers, Jacob, John, and Jonathan were in the Brushy Creek fight. Jacob Burleson ordered his men, twelve in number, to dismount and charge. Winslow Turner and Samuel Highsmith did so, but the others, seeing they were outnumbered, took cover. Jacob Burleson was shot in the back of the head while trying to help a young friend untie his horse. Within hours of the debacle, Gen. Edward Burleson and ranger captain Jesse Billingsley reached Brushy Creek with thirty-two men. Burleson
(Continued on Page 3)



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

MONTHLY HOA MEETINGS:
Meetings are scheduled for the 4th
Tuesday of every month
June 28th, 2009
Meetings are subject to change or
cancellation due to holidays and/or
board member availability.

MUD COMMUNITY CENTER EVENTS:

JULY

- 3..... Teen Pool Party
- 4..... July 4th Celebration CH Park
- 8..... Senior Social Hour
- 10..... Parents Night Out
- 11-19 Scuba Course
- 13..... Soccer Camp
- 14&15 Red Cross
..... Babysitter Training
- 15..... BookClub Whistling Season
- 18..... Neighborhood
..... Golf Tournament
- 20..... Flag Football Camp
- 27..... Volleyball Camp
- 31..... Teen Pool Party

AUGUST

- 1-9 Scuba Course
- 3..... Fencing Camp
- 11&13 Outdoor Fun Camp
- 12..... Senior Social Hour
- 14..... Teen Night
..... at Austin's Park & Pizza
- 21..... Parents Night Out
- 29..... District Pool Party

Meadows of Brushy Creek

HOA CONTACT INFO

HOA BOARD MEMBERS	TERM EXPIRES
Bob Grahl, Chairman of the Board bob@meadowshoa.com	09/2009
Mel Callender, President mel@meadowshoa.com	09/2010
Christian Soeffker, Treasurer christian@meadowshoa.com	09/2009
Mike Baranowski, Director mike@meadowshoa.com	09/2010
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(Deed restriction violations and general information)

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11149 Research Blvd, Suite 100
Austin, Texas 78759
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Fax (512) 346-4873

HOA Web Site

www.meadowshoa.com

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

CITY OF ROUND ROCK

Round Rock Refuse.....	512-255-4980
Williamson County (main line).....	512-943-1300
Williamson County Sheriff (non-emergency)	512-943-1300
Sam Bass Fire Department (non-emergency)	512-255-0100
Animal Control (domestic pets and stray livestock)	512-943-1389
Poison Contrl.....	800-POISON
For Emergencies.....	9-1-1
Non-Emergencies.....	3-1-1
Community, Healthy, Mental Services	2-1-1

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Meadows of Brushy Creek

Brushy Creek - (Continued from Cover Page)

began an immediate pursuit of the Comanches and overtook them shortly after noon. They found the Indians in a strong defensive position. Although his men were outnumbered, Bureson ordered an attack that became a running fight along Battleground Creek. After dark the Comanches departed. They left a wounded black slave who said the Indians lost at least thirty dead and wounded. Besides Jacob Bureson, the Texans lost Edward Blakey and John Walters. Rev. James Gilleland died ten days later. In 1925 the schoolchildren of Taylor raised money for a red granite marker to mark the battle site. It was dedicated on November 5, with Walter P. Webb as featured speaker. The marker is on private property 1.4 miles south of Taylor on the west side of Highway 95.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: John Holland Jenkins, *Recollections of Early Texas*, ed. John H. Jenkins III (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1958; rpt. 1973). Kenneth Kesselus, *History of Bastrop County, Texas, Before Statehood* (Austin: Jenkins, 1986). David Nevin, *The Old West: The Texans* (New York: Time-Life Books, 1975). Noah Smithwick, *The Evolution of a State, or Recollections of Old Texas Days* (Austin: Gammel, 1900; rpt., Austin: University of Texas Press, 1983). J. W. Wilbarger, *Indian Depredations in Texas* (Austin: Hutchings, 1889; rpt., Austin: State House, 1985).

NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE

BRUSHY CREEK FARMERS MARKET

The Brushy Creek Farmers Market opened in May for the summer season. It is held Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at BC MUD Community Center, 16318 Great Oaks Drive. The market features seasonal vegetables, fruits, herbs, meats, and fresh flowers, and local crafts. Call 440-7196 or e-mail brushycreekfarmersmarket@gmail.com.


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Meadows of Brushy Creek

COUNTDOWN BEGINS FOR 2010 CENSUS

The United States Census is conducted every 10 years and is based on actual counts of persons dwelling in U.S. residential structures. Census taking is mandated by the United States Constitution.

The population is enumerated every 10 years and the results are used to allocate Congressional seats (congressional apportionment), electoral votes, and government program funding.

The census is performed by the United States Census Bureau. The first census after the American Revolution was taken in 1790, under Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson; there have been 21 federal censuses since that time. The last national census was held in 2000.

In the 2000 US census, there were 15,371 people, 4,805 households, and 4,252 families residing in Brushy Creek. The population density was 1,764.8 people per square mile. There were 4,919 housing units at an average density of 564.8/sq mi. The racial makeup of Brushy Creek was 82.95% White, 4.08% African American, 0.27% Native American, 6.81% Asian, 0.08% Pacific Islander, 3.71% from other races, and 2.09% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 10.23% of the population.

There were 4,805 households out of which 57.9% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 80.2% were married couples

living together, 6.8% had a female householder with no husband present, and 11.5% were non-families. 8.6% of all households were made up of individuals and 1.4% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 3.18 and the average family size was 3.39.

The population was spread out with 35.0% under the age of 18, 4.7% from 18 to 24, 39.1% from 25 to 44, 17.2% from 45 to 64, and 4.0% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 32 years. For every 100 females there were 96.3 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 93.7 males.

The median income for a household in the CDP was \$84,472, and the median income for a family was \$85,370 (these figures had risen to \$107,465 and \$113,523 respectively as of a 2007 estimate[4]). Males had a median income of \$60,409 versus \$39,542 for females. The per capita income for the CDP was \$28,129. About 1.2% of families and 1.7% of the population were below the poverty line, including 2.0% of those under age 18 and 1.3% of those age 65 or over.

Census Facts

The census is a count of everyone living in the United States every 10 years.

(Continued on Page 5)

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2010 Census - (Continued from Page 4)

- The census is mandated by the U.S. Constitution.
- The next census begins April 1, 2010.
- Your participation in the census is required by law.
- It takes less than 10 minutes to complete a census form.
- If you fail to fill out the form, an enumerator will visit your home until you comply.
- Census data are used to distribute Congressional seats to states, to make decisions about what community services to provide, and to distribute \$300 billion in federal funds to local, state and tribal governments each year.

What Is Recyclable?

Recyclable items that are accepted: newspaper, magazines, white office paper, aluminum, steel and tin cans, milk jugs, clear and colored plastic bottles (please remove any caps or lids off the plastic bottles). Thanks for recycling!



ENVIRONMENT FRIENDLY CORNER

Yard Of The Month

Spring.....or is it Summer already? Keep up the GREAT work in your yards.

It's been a tough decision deciding this month's winner! Remember to water at night or early in the morning and continue to feed your plants regularly to keep them looking great during these hot and dry months.

The winner for June, 2009 is: 8702 White Creek Dr.

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Michael F. Phillips, M.D.

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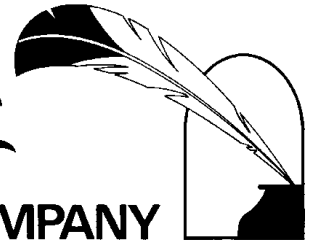
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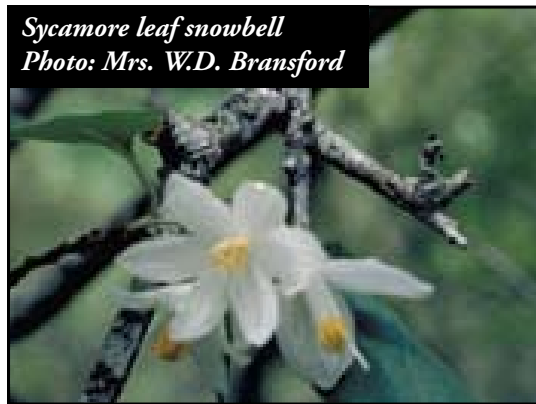
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Canyon mock orange
Photo: Mrs. W.D. Bransford



Sycamore leaf snowbell
Photo: Mrs. W.D. Bransford

Nature Watch

By Jim and Lynne Weber

Signature Plants

The hill country of central Texas is defined as an environmental ecoregion, which means it contains a certain set of plants and animals whose presence indicates specific conditions such as temperature range, rainfall, food supply, and physical characteristics of the land. This set of species, called indicator or signature species, can be among the most sensitive in a region, acting as an early warning of changing conditions to monitoring biologists. There are several signature plant species found on the Edwards Plateau, many of which are common, and several that are quite rare.

Found only in 5 Texas counties (Blanco, Comal, Hayes, Kendall, and Travis), canyon mock orange is a rare low shrub with small glossy green leaves and fragrant white blossoms. It grows near springs, among boulders and on bluffs in shady, moist canyons. Endemic to the hill country, this plant is almost identical to a more common but still uncommon species called Texas mock orange, which occurs in Bandera, Edwards, Real, and Uvalde counties. Aside from slight geographic differences in location, the key to properly identifying each species lies in the hairs that cover the lower leaf surface – canyon mock orange has only short straight hairs and Texas mock orange has a mix of short straight hairs and long tangled hairs. Listed as a state “species of concern” due to its declining numbers, canyon mock orange is in need of environmental protection.

One of the most beautiful and uncommon shrubs found only on the Edwards Plateau is the sycamore leaf snowbell. A sprawling, irregular, deciduous shrub, it grows on or

(Continued on Page 7)

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Meadows of Brushy Creek

Nature Watch - (Continued from Page 6)

under steep bluffs near creeks, offering showy white bell-shaped flowers in the spring and large green leaves with angular projections in the summer, turning to bright yellow in the fall. As a larval host plant, its leaves offer food for the caterpillars of tiger swallowtail butterflies. Several protection efforts by concerned citizens and botanists to propagate this plant are occurring on private lands.

Once scattered throughout central Texas, the bracted twist-flower is now a rare plant, likely due to the combined effect of picking and over-grazing. Found on rocky, wooded slopes it grows 2-4 feet tall, with a base of long, lobed green leaves that become shorter and more rounded as they travel up the stem. Striking violet-purple multi-flower spikes 4-10 inches tall grace the plant in late spring, with each individual flower having a small bract or leaf at its base.

Climbing on shrubs and small trees and found in a variety of environments, the uncommon bracted passion flower vine is yet another native jewel of the hill country. While its pale yellow-green flowers are small at only one inch across, they exhibit the typical intricacy of passion flower structure. Smooth, deeply lobed green leaves provide food to zebra longwing and gulf fritillary caterpillars, but also frequently sport tiny yellow spots, presumably to mimic butterfly eggs and discourage excessive egg laying.

While the signature plant species described above are rare and unique on their own, together they help define the true nature of the Texas hill country. Monitoring and preserving them is not only good for the sake of maintaining biological diversity and understanding changing environmental conditions, but for the future beauty of our ecoregion as well.

Send your nature-related questions to naturewatch@austin.rr.com and we'll do our best to answer them.



Bracted twist-flower
Photo: Mrs. W.D. Bransford



Bracted passion flower
Photo: Joseph A. Marcus

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