



Your Donation to BRIT Will Have an Instant Impact!

You will have an instant impact to keeping our botanical experts in the field making new discoveries, and our educators guiding kids through new experiences in nature.

Your support now of \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100, or more will help to reach our goal of \$150,000!



[Mail Your Donation in Today](#)

This year your donations will help save threatened plants that surprisingly exist in some of the most obvious of places, Texas highway shoulders and medians. BRIT, Tarleton State University, and the Texas Department of Transportation are partnering to build habitat maps for 57 rare Texas plant species growing along their roadways.

Make your gift by December 31, 2016, and have an instant impact!



BRIT Brown Bag with Dr. Grace Bascope and Tom Guderian

Join us as we wrap up the 2016 season of BRIT Brown Bags with a presentation by BRIT Resident Research Associate and Environmental Anthropologist, Dr. Grace Bascopé, and Dr. Thomas Guderjan, Associate Professor of Anthropology (University of Texas, Tyler) and

the director of Maya Research Program's (MRP) Blue Creek Archaeological Project in Belize. Dr. Bascopé and Dr. Guderjan along with students from the MRP will share their experiences working at the Belize archaeological sites collecting voucher specimens and training others in the processes of plant conservation. The students will also explain their work in Belmopan, the capital of Belize, and the herbarium there, which will lead to BRIT receiving duplicates of the Belizean specimens MRP has collected. Learn more about the work being done by MRP and how you can participate. **This Brown Bag will take place November 1st from 12 - 1 p.m. in the BRIT Commons.** For more information, please visit our [webpage](#).

Texas Plant Conservation Lifetime Achievement Award

BRIT's very own Board Member and Resident Research Associate, Bob O'Kennon, is the recipient of the 2016 Texas Plant Conservation Lifetime Achievement Award. This award honors all the great plant work done over the course of one's career. Bob will be recognized at the upcoming Texas Plant Conservation Conference on Friday, November 4, at 9 a.m. in the Auditorium at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden. Kim Taylor will present the award and give a short talk on some of his career highlights.



Congratulations, Bob!

Congratulations to Carter Smith, our 2016 International Award of Excellence in Conservation Award Recipient.

Thanks all of our corporate sponsors and donors for making BRIT's Annual International Award of Excellence in conservation event a success. A big thank you also goes to the event's honorary hosts, event chair, and honorary committee.

Thank you to corporate and media sponsors

Presenting Sponsor



Are You Happier Outside? Or Do You Prefer the Indoors? Either Way Our Volunteer Opportunities Will Help You Grow.

Have you been wanting to volunteer outside at BRIT? Are you curious about the research plots on the BRIT campus? We are still looking for a few more volunteers to join us and adopt one of BRIT's plots in collaboration with the General Services Administration (GSA). As you monitor water usage and habits of pollinators your knowledge of eco-friendly plants will grow.



If you are happier indoors, we are always in need of more volunteers with smiling faces and inquiring minds. BRIT is the perfect place to learn more about plants and connect your knowledge to the friendly community we are a part of as you welcome our guests. There are open greeter positions many different mornings and afternoons.

Outside or inside? Either way, please contact [Julie Donovan](#), Director of Volunteers and Visitor Relations at 817.546.1846.

28th Annual Delzie Demaree Travel Award

The 28th Annual Delzie Demaree Travel Award was presented at the 61st Annual Systematics Symposium (7–8 Oct 2016) at the Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis. BRIT staff member Barney Lipscomb presented the 2016 Travel Award to Leland Werland, University of Minnesota, St. Paul. Leland is a Ph.D. student researching Restoration Ecology in the Area de Conservación Guanacaste in northwestern Costa Rica. His projects seek to reforest tropical dry forest on degraded soils, recover native tree diversity, and restore ecosystem function.



28th Delzie Demaree Travel Award recipient...

Leland Werden

Ph.D. student...

University of Minnesota
Academic Adviser,
Dr. Jennifer S. Powers



Dissertation project:
Restoration Ecology in Costa Rica

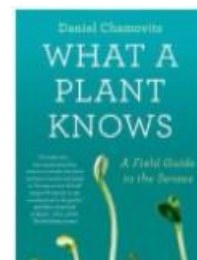
reforestation of tropical dry forest on degraded soils,
recover native tree diversity,
restore ecosystem function

The Delzie Demaree Travel Award was established in 1988 honoring Delzie Demaree who attended 35 out of a possible 36 symposia before he died in 1987. Delzie Demaree was a frontier botanist, explorer, discoverer, and teacher. His teaching career as a botanist began in Arkansas at Hendrix College in 1922. He also taught botany at the University of Arkansas, Navajo Indian School, Yale School of Forestry, Arkansas A&M, and Arkansas State University at Jonesboro where he retired as professor emeritus in 1953. One of the things he enjoyed most as a botanist was assisting students with their field botany research.

Anyone interested in making a contribution to the Delzie Demaree Endowment Fund, which supports the Travel Award, may make contributions by VISA or MasterCard or by a check, payable to Botanical Research Institute of Texas, and sent to Barney Lipscomb, 1700 University Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76107-3400, U.S.A. 1-817-332-7432; Email: barney@brit.org. Thank you.

What a Plant Knows by Daniel Chamovitz

Hard to believe but the inaugural year of the BRIT Reads Book Club is coming to a close. It's been a great year filled with good books and interesting conversation. Join us for the last meeting of the year on **Monday, November 21, from noon – 1 p.m.** where we will be discussing *What a Plant Knows* by Daniel Chamovitz, a book that “will change the way you see your garden.” If you can't join us on November 21, take a moment and check out the books we'll be reading and discussing next year [here](#). We hope you can join us in 2017!



Bella's Seasons of Stories, Seasons of Science

Families continue their exploration of the Poaceae (Grass family) with an interactive read-aloud, outdoor exploration, and tree house activities featuring Byron Barton's *The Little Red Hen*. We discovered in October that an ear of corn is really the female flower of the corn plant. So, in November we will explore grass seeds. One grass plant in particular produces some very important seeds. These seeds are used in our everyday lives. Can you guess what they are? Come find out, and we'll see if we can learn something else new and surprising!

- **Bella's Book & Nature Club: Tuesday, November 1 & Wednesday, November 2 (10:30 a.m. - noon), \$10 per family/Free to Members. Pre-registration is required at this [link](#).**
- **First Saturday Story Time: Saturday, November 5 (10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.), Free**





Bella, Books, and Botany: Full STEAM Ahead!

BRIT's early childhood programs both here at BRIT and in the community provide S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) learning

opportunities for our youngest learners. Teachers and children participating in a Bella's Field Study Trip in October explored how scientists and artists use some of the same tools. They created nature collages with the natural objects discovered on the BRITscape.

Bella took to the road to begin her visits to the childcare sites participating in this year's grant funded program, Bella, Books, and Botany. The teachers and children of the Arlington Child Development Center explored the grassy environment at their school and investigated the creatures they found living there.

For more information, please contact [Kimberly Whitlock](mailto:Kimberly.Whitlock@brt.org) at 817.546.1958.

Teacher Tuesday: Literacy in Nature

Reflective by Nature

The October Teacher Tuesday was presented by the Director of the GCISD/TCC Collegiate Academy, Bobbe Knutz, and the Academy's science department chair, Lynlie Brown. Teachers were given ideas in creating a safe place to help develop the writing skills of their students using science and data collection to drive the reflective process.

Participants journeyed into the BRIT prairie to explore and collect information on an assigned plant species. After completing the exploration, teachers shared their data and were given several writing prompts to help them connect and reflect on their scientific experience. K-12th teachers gained a greater understanding of writing across content areas to promote high-level thinking skills and developing the confidence in each student to be a great writer.

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Thanks, nature, for the inspiration!

Green Revolution - Growing GROWTH

Since the beginning, Green Revolution (GR) has been an environmental leadership platform focused on increasing environmental stewardship and building STEM skills. Now under new leadership, GR has been utilizing the environment as the vehicle to travel towards the kind of whole-child development that aligns with the extensive Out of School Time research done by the Harvard Family Research Project and the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. A whole child approach, which ensures that each student is healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged, provides for long-term student success (<http://www.wholechildeducation.org>).



How? And can this paradigm shift be introduced at the onset of this new year?

BRIT Library

The BRIT Library is pleased to announce that one of our rare books, *A Manual of Texas Flora* by Albert Ruth -- which was selected by University of North Texas' Portal to Texas History as a part of the Rescuing Texas History program -- has been digitized and uploaded to the Portal for all to see and enjoy. Ruth's unpublished manuscript can be viewed here: <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaiph795319/>. Many thanks to Barney Lipscomb and Craig Elam for spearheading this project.

Albert Ruth (1844-1932), one of Texas's earliest botanists, was also Fort Worth's first resident botanist. An educator and amateur botanist for 30 years in Tennessee, Ruth collected prolifically, making many significant contributions there. In 1907 he retired to Fort Worth with 8,000 specimens. Here he continued collecting, primarily in Tarrant County, but also some in Dallas and Denton Counties. His collections formed the basis for the herbaria at Texas Christian University and also Texas Women's University.

The lack of an available flora for the state led him to create his own, without reference to other collections or professional help. Prepared in 1916 for use by students, he initially intended the work as a flora of Tarrant County, but expanded it to cover the entire state. It contains descriptions of the most common or interesting plants in the state, including those specimens collected and mounted by the author himself.

Permaculture? What's That?

Gardening in Texas is tough, and sometimes, unintentionally, we make it harder by working against nature and our specific piece of land, be that a small urban backyard, a roomy suburban spread, or a sprawling Texas ranch. Permaculture, the practice of using thoughtful observation to learn how to work with your land and employing techniques that mimic natural systems, can help make your garden more productive, cut down on water usage, and increase your gardening enjoyment. Join BRIT next spring as Kim Martin and Laurie Bostic of Barking Cat Farm, located in northeast Texas, walk us through the basics of Permaculture in a special four-part series that combines both lecture and hands-on experience. The four workshops that make up this series are:



- Introduction to Permaculture for Home Gardeners (2/4/2017)
- Introduction to Vegetable Gardening (3/4/2017)
- Raised Beds and Irrigation (4/1/2017)
- Building a Herb Spiral (5/6/2017)

For more information about these classes please visit our [webpage](#). Registration will open in Mid-November!

BRIT Membership Reciprocal Partners



BRIT Membership benefits include AHS, APGA, discounts here at BRIT on our programs, merchandise, and services, and also shopping discounts with these local area reciprocal partners: Calloway's Nursery, Marshall Grain Co., Redenta's Garden, The Tree Place, and Mingos Nursery & Garden Center.

There are Many Ways to Support BRIT

- Become a Member [here](#).
- You could [volunteer](#) at the coolest place in town to loan your skills and learn at the same time!
- Consider joining BRIT's planned giving program, the [Shinners Society](#), by remembering BRIT in your estate planning. No matter how large or small, any amount to BRIT in your estate plans will leave a lasting legacy for future generations.
- Do you own your own company and need ways to show your appreciation to your staff? Become a [Corporate BRIT Member](#), which allows you to give your staff annual BRIT memberships while you stay connected to your local community.

- Become a [Reciprocal Membership Partner](#) by providing BRIT members discounts at your retail business or by providing gifts-in-kind of goods or services to BRIT.

For additional information on any of these membership programs, please contact our Director of Membership and Grants Coordinator, [Tammie Crole](#), at 817.332.7518.



SAVE THE DATE

February 22, 2017

The Soil Will Save Us

Book Chat with
author & scientist Kristin Ohlson



November

1st - Bella Book & Nature Club; Brown Bag
2nd - Bella Book & Nature Club
3, 4, & 5th - Texas Plant Conservation Conference (TPCC)
5th - First Saturday Story Time; public tour; plant ID
21st - BRIT Reads Book Club
22nd - Teacher Tuesday
24 & 25th - BRIT is Closed
Every Thursday - BRIT tours at 1:30 p.m.

December

3rd - Bella Story Time; public tour; plant ID
23 & 26th - BRIT is Closed
Every Thursday - BRIT tours at 1:30 p.m.

Additional information can be found at brit.org.

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