



the Leaflet



Our mission is to conserve our natural heritage by deepening our knowledge of the plant world and achieving public understanding of the value plants bring to life.

Brown Bag at BRIT, The Anegada Iguana Conservation Program

Join us on Tuesday, March 7, from noon – 1 p.m. in the BRIT Commons as Kelly Bradley from the Fort Worth Zoo discusses her work with the Anegada iguana in the British Virgin Islands. Animals are important seed dispersers for many species of plants and can have enormous impact on plant populations and community compositions. Lizards



(as a group) are becoming recognized as an important group of frugivores or fruit eaters. Interestingly, of the 280 documented species of frugivorous lizards, 174 live exclusively on islands. Islands typically have high density of lizards, low density of arthropods (the primary diet of most lizards), and very little predation. These island conditions force lizards to expand their trophic niche by exploiting available resources: fruit being an important one.

Anegada is the second largest island in the British Virgin Islands (BVI) (39 km²). This unique environment is home to the critically endangered Anegada iguana (*Cyclura pinguis*). The population has suffered an estimated 80% decline since the late 1960s due to the effects of invasive species. Equally threatened is the tropical dry forest habitat found on Anegada, on which the Anegada iguana is dependent, given its herbivorous diet. What is less understood is how this species maintains its habitat through seed dispersal.

Ms. Bradley will summarize the history of the Anegada iguana conservation program and highlight her research into the relationship between the iguana and the plant species that make up its habitat on Anegada, with particular focus on rare and threatened plant species.

For more information see [Brown Bags](#).

Permaculture and TERM at BRIT. Curious Yet?



Our two new series of classes at BRIT, Permaculture 101 and TERM (Techniques for Ecological Research and Management), got off to a great start in February. Join us on **Saturday, March 4**, for one of these fun and informative classes:

Introduction to Vegetable Gardening

10 a.m. – Noon in the BRIT Commons
\$25 (\$20 for members)

Ready to grow your own food but wish you knew more? This is the class for you! The class will cover a range of topics to help beginning vegetable gardeners be successful growing their own food organically.

Plant Identification and Vouchering

1 p.m. – 3 p.m. in the BRIT Classroom

\$10 (\$5 members)

Learn what physical and online resources are available to you (including the BRIT herbarium and library) and get some practice in the identification of plants using the techniques that professional botanists use. We'll also guide you in the process of vouchering plants, that is, collecting plant specimens and associated data that are of scientific quality.

For more information about these and other adult education programs and events, please visit BRIT's [Adult Education page](#).

Sip at BRIT, High Performance Landscaping

Join us on March 16 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. for the first in our series of happy hour learning events occurring every third Thursday of the month. It begins with a half-hour mixer made festive with good wine from our generous vintner friends, **Trefethen and LangeTwins**, and tasty hors d' oeuvres.

BRIT Researchers Heather Bass and Keri Barfield will then share what they have learned about high performance landscaping from Heather's work with the General Services Administration, including giving a guided tour of the actual test plots to bring it all to life. Varying combinations of native and traditional nursery plants are providing vital information on the use of native plants to increase water efficiency and pollinators while decreasing carbon footprint.



To register, [click here](#) or call 817.332.2748.



Explorers **by nature.**



Green Revolution

Every year during spring break, Green Revolution commandeers Agents from their respective zip codes to participate in a dynamically immersive camping experience. This year is no different. In March, we will travel down to Camp El Tesoro to hike, learn more about the environment, cook outdoors, view wildlife, rock climb, zip line, and reconnect with nature. Green Revolution believes in the fundamental importance of providing environmental education experiences that sustain the natural curiosity in youth.

This life-changing tradition is only possible because of our valued partnership with Camp Fire.



We are fired up about the GROWTH of our Agents this spring break!

Volunteering from the Comfort of Your Home

Are you the type of person who wants to volunteer but doesn't have time during regular business hours? Do you have access to a computer and are comfortable using it? We have just the activity for you, and it will help us digitize our 200,000 herbarium specimens of Texas. You will join the remote volunteers and help us with steps in building a research database.



You will be given a Dropbox folder of high resolution specimen images which you may access from home in order to transcribe the information we need. You will enter the label information from an image into an online database that will allow it to be located and used by scientists.

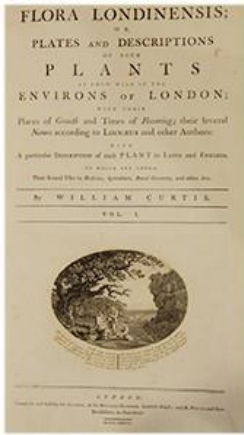
We hope we can provide you with a fulfilling experience in exchange for all your assistance. Most of these volunteer opportunities will be at your own pace from the comfort of your own home. If you would like more information about volunteering, please contact [Julie Donovan](#), Director of Volunteers and Public Engagement, at 817.546.1846.



Membership is Just One Way to Support the Work at BRIT



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



Hidden Treasures: Flora Londinensis

BRIT's rare book collection houses a great number of esteemed botanical, medicinal, and herbal publications. Among these is William Curtis's *Flora Londinensis*, an ambitious catalog of all wildflowers growing within 10 miles of London. The book also includes some grasses, mosses, and fungi.

The first volume of *Flora Londinensis* was published in 1777 to great praise. However, production costs were so high that Curtis only printed 300 copies. In fact, Curtis exhausted the funds he had secured from subscribers who committed in advance to buying the book. He was able to complete the book with the financial support of Lord Bute (Prime Minister 1762-1763), to whom *Flora Londinensis* is dedicated.

Several artists created copper engravings, many of which are true to scale. The illustrations are painted by hand and sit opposite a page with the plant's scientific name, common name, description, habitat, and locations where Curtis had seen it. Curtis used a similar format in his next publication, *The Botanical Magazine* (later renamed *Curtis's Botanical Magazine*), in which he managed to significantly lower production costs, sell many more copies, and therefore make a sizable profit



Flora Londinensis was published in six volumes, the pages unbound and unnumbered so the owner could arrange and bind them in whichever order he/she saw fit. However, Curtis did print two title pages and indexes, one at the beginning of printing in 1777 and the other at the end of printing in 1797, suggesting he intended *Flora Londinensis* be bound as two large volumes.

Contact the [Librarian](#) for more information about our rare book collection.



Jenny Ellerbe, Hightailing It, Bayou Desiard, Monroe, Louisiana, April 2005, ink pigment print, #4/25, 10 x 12 in. (Courtesy Afterimage Gallery)

Gallery Night at BRIT with Hightailing It: Artists View the Natural World

BRIT presents a wide-ranging exhibition featuring artworks drawn from the holdings of three long-established metroplex galleries--Afterimage Gallery, David Dike Fine Art, and William Campbell Contemporary Art. The artworks, selected by art historian Barbara Koerble, demonstrate how close observation of the natural world is transformed through each artist's personal style using their chosen medium of painting, printmaking, or photography.

David Dike Fine Art was established in 1986, and their extensive inventory includes early Texas, mid-century modern, American, and European art. Oil paintings and watercolors by Charles Bowling, Inez Staub Elder, Scott Gentling, Xavier Gonzalez, Frank Earl Klepper, and Flora Reeder are in the exhibition, along with drawings by L.O. Griffith and Marjorie Johnson Lee and the work of printmakers Edward Eisenlohr, Merritt Mauzey, Florence McClung, Blanche McVeigh, and Leo Meissner.

Photographers have focused their lens on nature since the beginning of the medium, capturing the varied textures, colors, and seasons of nature with exacting detail. The **Afterimage Gallery**, established in 1971, exclusively presents photography. In this exhibition, classic black and white prints of Ansel Adams, James Houston Evans, John Sexton, and Jenny Ellerbe are displayed with the color photographs of Carolyn Brown, Robert Glenn Ketchum, Charles Kruvand, Terry Falke, Angela Bacon-Kidwell, Keith Logan, and Joyce Tenneson.

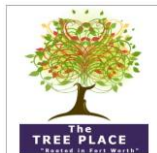
Since opening their doors in 1974, **William Campbell Contemporary Art** has featured artworks by living artists

working in a variety of media. For this show, several artists present abstract themes in nature, while others work in a realistic style. Gallery artists included in this exhibition are painters Carol Benson, James Blake, Billy Hassell, Richard Thompson, photographer Luther Smith, and printmaker Judy Youngblood.

The Madeline R. Samples Gallery will be open for **Spring Gallery Night from 4 p.m. - 9 p.m. on Saturday, March 25**. The **opening reception, with light hors d'oeuvres, will be from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.** and curator Barbara Koerble will give a **Gallery Talk at 6:30 p.m.**

In honor of BRIT's 30th Anniversary, all memberships sold at Spring Gallery Night will be 30% off and all BRIT members will take home a special BRIT commemorative.

Thank You to Our Reciprocal Membership Partners!



BRIT Members receive store discounts!



Mark Your Calendar for BRIT's
7th Annual Prairie Day
May 13, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Since we are celebrating BRIT's 30th Anniversary, there will be some very exciting and new fun activities for the whole family this year at Prairie Day!

Did you watch NBC's Season 8 of the Voice? You might want to check out Prairie Day [webpage](#) for an update!

MARCH

1st - Bella Book & Nature Club
4th - Bella's Story Time; Plant ID; Tour; TERM; Permaculture 101
7th - Bella Book & Nature Club; Brown Bag
16th - Sip at BRIT, High Performance Landscaping
20th - BRIT Reads Book Club
21st - Teacher Tuesday
Every Thursday - BRIT tours at 1:30 p.m.

APRIL

1st - Bella's Story Time; Plant ID; Tour; TERM; Permaculture 101
4th - Bella Book & Nature Club
5th - Bella Book & Nature Club; Brown Bag
17th - BRIT Reads Book Club
18th - Teacher Tuesday
20th - Sip at BRIT, Photographing People with Wildflowers
Every Thursday - BRIT tours at 1:30 p.m.

Additional information can be found at brit.org.