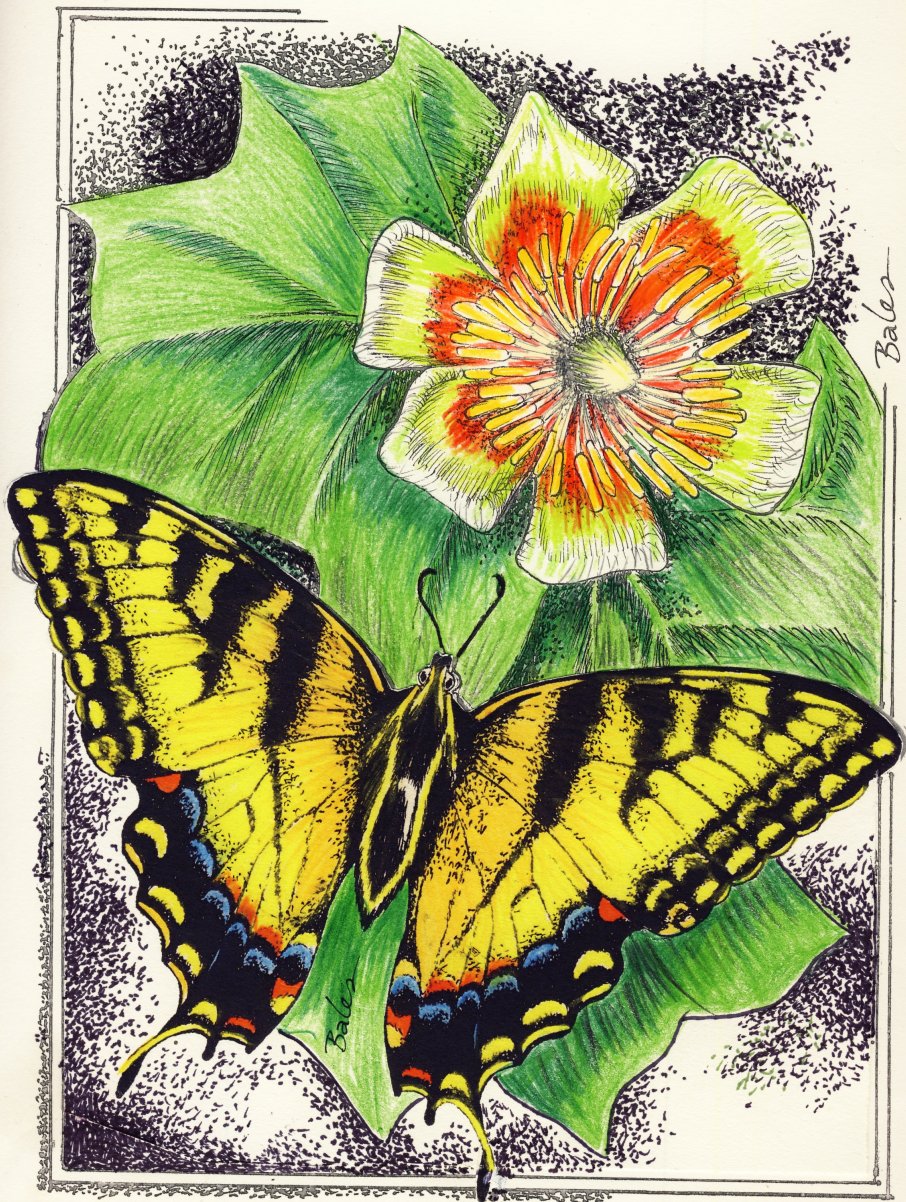




11TH ANNUAL UT ARBORETUM SOCIETY
Butterfly Festival

Saturday, August 29, 2026

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. EDT

**University of Tennessee Arboretum
901 S. Illinois Avenue
Oak Ridge, TN 37830**

SPEAKERS & ACTIVITIES

10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. UT INSECT ZOO

Jerome Grant, PhD, and Matthew Longmire, PhD, Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology

10:00 a.m.–10:40 a.m. WE LIVE IN A WONDERLAND

Stephen Lyn Bales, Author, Artist and East Tennessee Natural Historian

11:00 a.m.–11:40 a.m. THE MAGNIFICENT MONARCH MIGRATION TO MEXICO

Kris Light, Science and Environmental Outreach Educator

10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. BOOK SALES

Book sales inside the Auditorium include books and artwork by speaker Stephen Lyn Bales. Also, books by local author Shirley Raines (EdD '79) and Memphis photographer Curt Hart will be on sale (the now-complete four volumes of *Butterflies*, *Birds*, *Bees*, and *Bugs*, as well as their newest book, *Our Butterfly Garden*).

NOON–1:00 p.m. LUNCH

Enjoy your food truck lunch items inside our air-conditioned Auditorium or on the patio outside.

SPEAKER NOTES

STEPHEN LYN BALES is a retired senior naturalist from Ijams Nature Center and author of five books about nature including his newest, *We Live in a Wonderland One and Two*. His books and artwork are for sale inside the Auditorium. He is also co-host for the UT Arboretum's First Thursday Nature Supper Club.

KRIS LIGHT is a former elementary school science teacher who is currently the science outreach instructor for the American Museum of Science and Energy in Oak Ridge.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

- Have your face painted
- Get a butterfly tattoo
- Color a butterfly mask
- Frost a cookie
- Make a Magic Color Scratch critter
- Create a colorful flower for pollinators
- String a monarch caterpillar bracelet
- Assemble a ladybug and learn its legend
- Learn about the mystery of metamorphosis
- Craft a butterfly magnet

Note: Each children's activity requires one \$1 ticket. Follow the signs for craft ticket sales. For cash sales only, look for roaming vendors in tan UTAS aprons with TICKETS badges.

DULCIMER MUSIC

Sit a spell and enjoy the beautiful music of the **Knoxville Area Dulcimer Club!**

FOOD TRUCKS

Rocky Top Hot Dogs

(All-beef hot dogs with a variety of toppings)

Pelican's SnoBalls

(New Orleans-style shaved ice in a wide variety of flavors)

Millborne Bakery

(Cookies, cinnamon rolls, scones, and pastries)

Calamity's Coffee

(Coffee, hibiscus tea, and lavender lemonade)

LOCAL NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES

TENNESSEE NATURESCAPES, LLC

2131 Oliver Springs Highway, Clinton, TN 37716

Featuring native plants for pollinators.

tennesseennaturescapes.com

One free native pollinator plant per family while supplies last!

LE FAVE FOREST FARM

lefaveforestfarm.com

faveforestfarm@gmail.com

Providing pollinator-friendly saplings for sale, such as Tulip Poplar, Wild Black Cherry, and others.

ARTISANS

KATHY FAHEY: Unique concrete birdbaths and butterfly drinking fountains using real leaves.

LUCAS COE-STARR: 3-D printed bird feeders and nest boxes, as well as no-waste wild bird feeds.

STACIA BALDWIN: Linocut prints and illustrations inspired by natural history, as well as paper art nature specimens.

KRIS LIGHT: Beautiful nature-themed jewelry and note cards.

HONEY FROM OAK RIDGE BEES

Professor Larry Millet, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, is selling UT Arboretum honey and Oak Ridge honey to fund "honey bee technology" research at the UT Arboretum. Come help save the honey bees! Consider supporting honey bee technology research at giving.utk.edu/honeybee. A brief summary of Larry Millet's broad research program is at cee.utk.edu/people/larry-millet.

LOCATIONS

The UT Insect Zoo with Jerome Grant, PhD, and Matthew Longmire, PhD, along with their UT graduate students, showcases preserved and live insects and their relatives found in Tennessee and throughout the world. You can get "up close and personal" with live arthropods like the Madagascar hissing cockroach!

Two Butterfly Viewing Tents are located on the lawn outside the Auditorium.

Anderson County Tennessee Extension Master Gardeners will be available to answer your gardening questions at a booth near the entrance to the Auditorium.

Photograph your child in a butterfly costume with Ms. Monarch!

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

SMOKIES LIFE: Nature-themed toys, games, posters, and books.

TENNESSEE NATURALIST PROGRAM: Quality environmental education for adults.

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND ENERGY: Citizen science programs.

TENNESSEE BLUEBIRD SOCIETY: Learn how you can help.

FRIENDS OF THE SMOKIES: Outreach and educational materials about the Smokies.

– *The University of Tennessee is a smoke-free campus. Smoking and vaping are prohibited in and on all University property.* –

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

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Tennessee Naturescapes, LLC

MONARCH LEVEL

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Oak Ridge City Councilmember Charles Hensley

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CHRYSLIS LEVEL

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Nurtured Earth

Bob & Janet Cushman

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Jack Smith Family

CATERPILLAR LEVEL

Elevated Eagle

Travis Jones & Rachel Smith-Jones

Thad & Elias Jones

Mansour Hasan State Farm

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Strata-G, LLC



Use this QR code to see the festival map.

COVER ARTWORK BY STEPHEN LYN BALES.

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To request an accommodation for accessibility, please contact us at (931)797-5369

We are happy to assist in making this event accessible to all participants.

The UT Forest Resources AgResearch and Education Center, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2014, is one of ten outdoor laboratories located throughout the state as part of the UT AgResearch system. AgResearch is a division of the UT Institute of Agriculture. The Institute of Agriculture also provides instruction, research, and public service through the UT College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, the UT College of Veterinary Medicine, UT AgResearch, and UT Extension offices, with locations in every county in the state.

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