

Our Year 2020, some Highlights, kayakpeter.net/etAlia

Typical winter here is very dry, freezing every night, thawing every day, very little snow. We are in **Drought!**



8 Feb 10:25, Gallinas rio

Lately this is the typical look of Winter in Las Vegas: dry brown and bare, with clear blue skies.



17 Jan 11:41, from our front yard, an uncommon snow



15 Mar 20 07:26, a most unusual, maybe once a year, FOG!



3 Mar 09:38, I'm returning an Euro wasp to the out-of-doors at her request though I think it is a little early.



24 Mar, 10:57, busy Honey bees harvest nectar from the only natives blooming now, streamside Blue-gray willow

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In the Spring Time the merry ring time

6th April 2020 09:08
Just off the Plaza near home
one Red Admiral butterfly
accompanying a number of
migrating Painted Ladies
nectaring on cherry blossoms

Winter makes a three day freezing-cold come-back, killing all our fruit blossoms.

13th April 2020 09:54
Hanging from a frozen seed cake
Pine Siskin along with House
finches, Lesser Goldfinches,
House sparrows, Juncos and
Collared doves enjoy lifesaving
meals upon our *portal* while we
watch from our breakfast table



Springtime makes a rapid return

29 April 2020 11:33
Nectaring on wild plum blossoms in
our back garden a Syrphid fly
(*Eristalis arbustorum F*) the larvae are
primarily aphid predators; adults feed
on pollen and nectar produced by
native plants having large
inflorescences and flat corollas.

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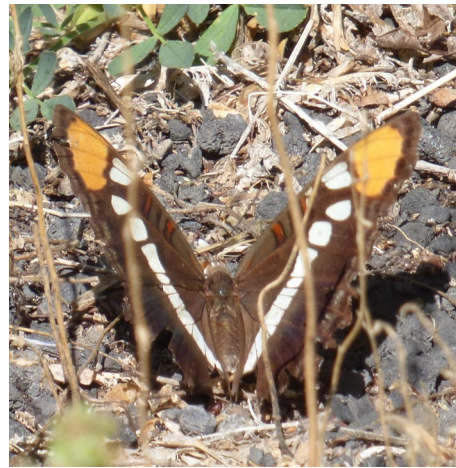
As spring becomes summer the earth turns from dead brown to green, people, dogs, birds, butterflies and all the creepy crawly fluttering little beings beloved of Peter reanimate the park and nature once more.



12 June 2020 08:46; Gallinas Riverwalk south



12 June 08:57, Lesser Goldfinches, and a LBJ (little brown job) ???



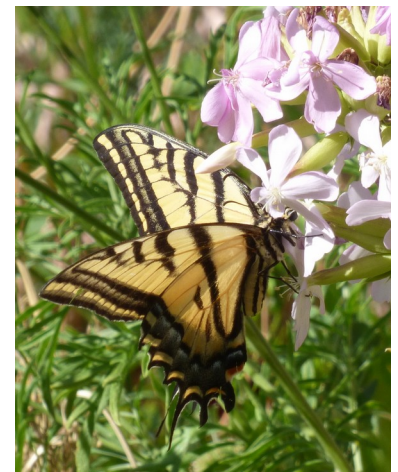
24 June 08:47, Arizona Sister, she is a new acquaintance

In

My Wild Garden is where I did most of my summer-fall nature watching due to my bum legs. There were sufficient beings to keep me occupied. That bumble bee was new to me, the yellow thistle came from the bird's food & that largest of US butterflies' Pink is an escaped garden flower. Wild is not native, as I am not but we all can live together.



22 June 08:24, in the Wild Garden Black-and-gold Bumble Bee



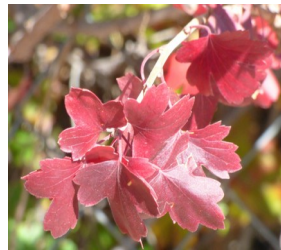
25 June 08:17, largest in US Two Tailed Swallowtail

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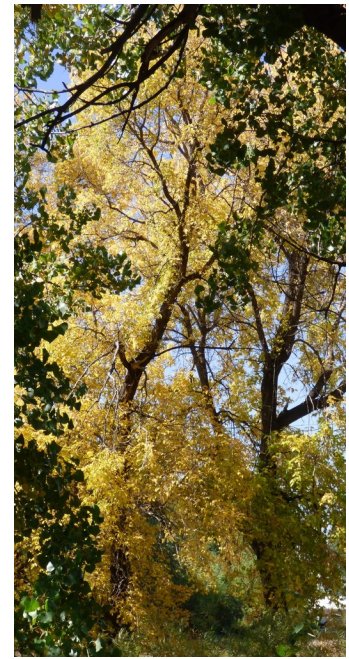
It is autumn now, the Sandhill Cranes are returning to their winter quarters, the native Cottonwoods, Box-elders, Alders and Willows are decking themselves out with Gold; Ribes and Amaranth prefer Ruby.



2 flocks merging, then flying to the SW



Wood Warblers and native sparrows are heading out after a last meal of what ever is available like this Wilson's Warbler and friends dining on these gravid female Blue Fuzzy Butt aphids as seen on my finger tip who are slowly flying from summer to winter plant host.



*Leaves always fall
There is nothing to say:
The wind is in charge of lives
Tonight. --Bob Kaufman*

...and so it goes, no rain but snow on Sept 9, mid Nov and big one Oct 26 which dumped c. 18" of snow from the *portal* on top of the 5' Purple Asters beating them into the ground but still blooming on Dec 27 as the days are all above freezing and occasionally into the 60s.