

# Gillespie Creek Journal

2019 I had the opportunity to spend two weeks "Birding" in Kenya, East Africa. We visited five different ecosystem hiring guides in each. Our goal was to add to our "Life List of Birds;" not to photograph the prized "Big Five: Lion, Leopard, Rhino, Elephant and African Buffalo." However we accomplished both! All due to our native guide's alert "Nature Consciousness." Birds, mostly Raptors either in flight or perched led us into the secret lives of all "Big 5" species.

Our expert ornithologist guides seamlessly moved their consciousness between the human, plant and animal kingdoms and the natural movement of our planet's atmospheric systems.

Check out this listing of Farmer's Almanac "Wit and Wisdom for 2023" to make meaning between indicators that might seem unconnected.

Do loudly croaking frogs predict rain?

If a cow stands with its tail to the west will the weather be fair?

If a cow grazes with its tail to the east, will the weather turn sour?

Do spider webs in the basement mean cold weather is coming?

Engage Your Senses

This Friday the 13th my Nature Notes will feature the relationships between animal behavior and the natural environments that intertwine life on our planet. Quoting from **Earthjoy-writing** by Cassie Premo Steele, Ph.D, "Nature is not out there. It's in us." Nature is a relationship, a consciousness we have that enables us to connect and find meaning between things that might seem unconnected.



## Recently Killed Thomson's Gazelle Stowed in an Acacia Tree by Mom Leopard

Can crickets predict temperature? (Count the number of times a cricket chirps in 14 seconds and add 40 to that number. Is the total the temperature current in Fahrenheit?)

Nature's Treasures Abound



## African Crowned Eagle

This Eagle brought us to the dead Gazelle stored in the tree photo on the left.



## Then to Mom Leopard Retrieving the Gazelle and Delivering it to Her Waiting Cub

### FYI

Oct 1, 2022

This Gillespie Creek Woolly Bear Caterpillar wore a very narrow brown stripe, an indicator of harsh winter to come.

Jan. 13, 2023

Gillespie Creek Snow depths are above a man's knees, trees are draped in ice. Bitter cold, cloudy days continue endlessly.



## Woolly Bear Caterpillar

Experience Awe