



Photo by Susan Bell

A Dose of Desert Joy

Dear Pamela,

The monsoons have had an extended stay this year with the past week bringing more rain and thunderstorms to the desert. In mid-town Tucson yesterday, an epic hailstorm even battered rooftops for a full 45 minutes, flooding yards and washes too. Cool evenings and mornings and fairly mild days mean it's comfortable to be outside all day long again. We wish you a weekend of ease, rest, and reflection.

If you take any photos out on your adventures and would like to share them, please send them my way. Email me anytime at Kathleen.Kennedy@sonorandesert.org and I'll include your photo(s) in one of our next editions of *A Dose of Desert Joy*. **Thank you!**



Christina Moodie really captured the feeling of autumn with this beautiful photo of drying morning glory leaves on a mesquite tree. Thank you Christinal!



This broad-tailed hummingbird hit the jackpot near Rose Canyon on Mt. Lemmon. Thanks so much, Lisa Mainz, for capturing this lovely image!

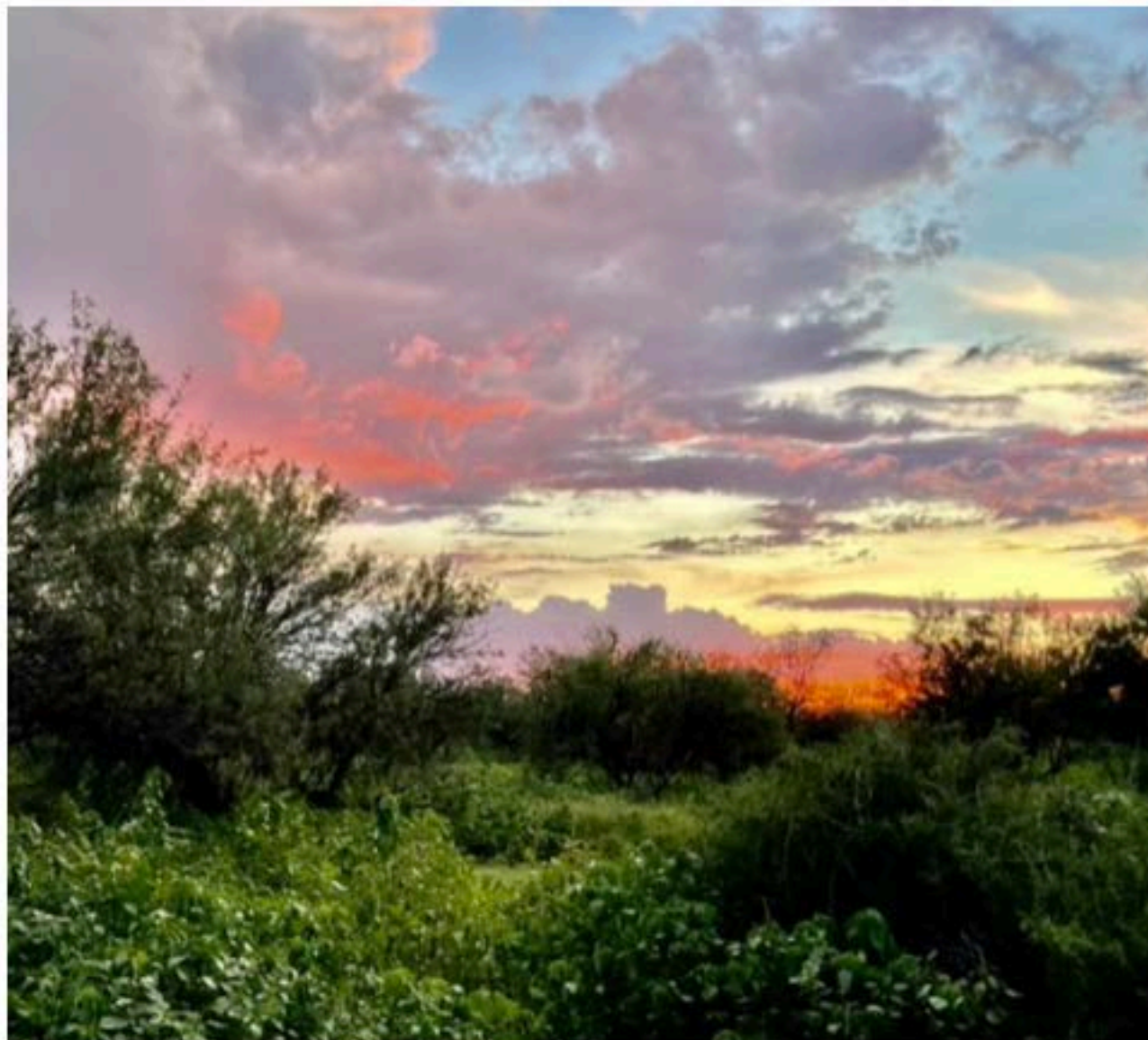
October

With patience to stay,
we pull our peace from soundless
ground and fold our hands.

-Adriana Stimola



Crichton Cuzner captured every detail of these bright orange cactus flowers, an appropriate color for this month full of pumpkins and gourds. Thanks Crichton!



The monsoons seem to be hanging on later than normal this year. Susan Bell took this photo of a colorful monsoon sunset in August. Thanks Susan!

And the sun took a step back,
the leaves lulled themselves to sleep
and autumn was awakened.

-Raqual Franco



Did you know that September and October is a common time to see male tarantulas on the move searching for a mate? Sheryl Hester came across this tarantula at the end of the summer. Thanks Sheryl!



Mike Philley wrote a lovely haiku after seeing this photo of a barrel cactus by Harriet Cowper a few weeks ago. Thank you Mike!

***The barrel cactus ~
looking from above I see
a wild mandala!***

The latest wildlife camera photos!

Our fleet of wildlife cameras watches over Sonoran Desert wildlife and gathers needed data as they move and live within important wildlife linkages. **We couldn't ensure their freedom to roam without the hard working Desert Monitors and Desert Identifiers that are so instrumental to this program!**

These photo selfies come from the MULE camera monitored by Evelyn Richards, the SANDPIPER camera monitored by Virgil Swadley and Keith Kleber, and the OWL camera monitored by Christine DeMatteo.



Female Cardinal? Or male Pyrrhuloxia? What do you think?





Coyote

*We are grateful for the opportunity to live and work on traditionally
Native lands, including those belonging to the
[O'odham](#), [Tohono O'odham](#), and [Pascua Yaqui](#).*

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