

Career Path of Dr. Nick C. Parker

Before School
1943 1948



School
1948 1962



Electronics
1959 1968



College
1966 1977



Scientist
1970 2003



Business
2004 2015



Current Businesses

- American Air Scrubbers
- Global Scientific, Inc.
- Global Scientific Research, Inc.
- Global Scientific of Colorado, Inc.
- High Plains Gardens
- Ogallala Commons
- Nick Parker Consulting, LLC

Position

- Chief Scientist
- Chief Scientist
- Chief Scientist
- Chief Scientist
- Partner
- Faculty
- Owner

Organizations

- American Fisheries Society – Life Member
- World Aquaculture Society – 1973-Present
- Lions Club – 1982-Present
- Ogallala Commons – 2003-Present
- Habitat for Humanity – 2000-Present

1943 – 1948 Before School

Back in 1943 in the small, rural town of Blytheville, Arkansas I had the opportunity to begin learning about nature and its diversity at an early age. We moved from Arkansas to Phoenix, Arizona where I became acquainted with gardens, flowers, snails, worms, geese, cotton plants, and the desert environment. These are things I learned about before starting to school.

1948 – 1962 School

I started kindergarten in Phoenix and then my parents moved to Tennessee, their home state. There I attended several schools in both rural and urban setting. My brother and I basically grew up on farms and learned to capture and identify critters, including turtles, snakes, squirrels, and bobcats, from an early age. As I approached the magical age of 16 when I began to drive, I became interested in hot rods and old cars. My interest also included electronics, radios and TVs. I enrolled in an electronics correspondence course and began working in a small TV repair shop. In school, I especially enjoyed courses in science and math.

1959 – 1968 Electronics

My interest in electronics continued after high school graduation in 1961. I enrolled in my first college courses as an engineering student with my eye on electrical engineering. After one year, my grades were not very good because my interest was elsewhere. I was more interested in girls and hot rods. I dropped out of college and enrolled in a trade school, taking courses in machine shop and welding.

After 1 year of trade school, my 32 Ford hot rod with a chrome undercarriage and heavily chromed engine burned. I thought my world had ended. I joined the U.S. Air Force and was placed into electronics. I worked in communications for the Atlas F defensive missile system.

1966-1977 College

When I started back to college in 1966, I was undecided about what to study. I was working at night in a factory that was building up to 3,000 + televisions every 8 hours – about \$10,000 televisions per day. I enrolled as a pre-pharmacy student and took my first course in biology. I helped a friend collect fish from the Wolf River as part of his master's thesis research. Wow! That's the job I wanted. I began formal training as a scientist. Math and science were now to control my studies.

1970 – 2003 Scientist

As a fisheries biologist, I literally traveled throughout the U.S. and around the world as a government employee conducting research. I worked with catfish, striped bass, tilapia and many other species. In 1989, I left the Federal laboratory in Alabama and moved to Texas where I became involved in the Texas GAP Analysis program – a program that used satellite imagery to map and classify landcover, land use, and habitat for terrestrial species throughout Texas.

2004 – 2015 Business

After retiring from the Federal government in 2003, with 32 years of service, I entered the world of business. My first venture was an art gallery – an enjoyable, but financially unsustainable venture. My past experience in metal work and electronics positioned me to become a principal in American Air Scrubbers – a company manufacturing air purification equipment. My research experience also allowed me to become involved in business development through Global Scientific. My farm background and interest in watching things grow led me to High Plains Bamboo and Koi. In all of these ventures, math and science have been the key tools I've used on a daily basis.