

APRIL, 2019 STBGNC Calendar

General Admission includes your class; Members Free; or \$5 per person for class only.

CHECK IN AT VISITORS CENTER FOR CLASS LOCATION

361-852-2100 www.stxbot.org 8545 S. Staples St. Corpus Christi

Orchid-ology April 4, 7 pm

The *Orchid-ology* Class meets at 7 p.m., Thursday, **April 4** at the South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, 8545 S. Staples. Meeting the first Thursday of each month on a continuing basis, the orchid class series—led by Ty Harris and Orchid Conservatory volunteers—is an ongoing Orchid information exchange, for novice to experienced growers, in the Education Station classroom. Monthly topics range from different orchid genera, climate and acquisition to specific orchid culture techniques. FREE CLASS for anyone! Information, 361-852-2100.

Parrot Talk Shows Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, 1:30pm

Parrot Talk, South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center's ongoing interactive entertainment feature, is open to guests at 1:30 pm, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, included in admission, at 8545 S. Staples St. The 40-minute segment includes a 20-minute informal educational demonstration by Animal Care staff and parrot volunteers, followed by 20 minutes of visitor interaction and questions. Individual photo opportunities are available, for donations to parrot care. **Ask at Visitors Center for show location**, which varies with weather. The Botanical Gardens & Nature Center is open 9 am to 6 pm daily, except Thanksgiving Day, December 24 and 25.

BIG BLOOM mega Plant Sale, Garden Festival, DOLLAR DAY! April 6, 9 am-5 pm

The **BIG BLOOM**, South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center's annual mega Plant Sale, garden festival, and **DOLLAR DAY**, will be 9 am to 5 pm, Saturday, April 6, 8545 S. Staples St. Just \$1 admission to shop and see the whole bloomin' Botanical Gardens, made possible by corporate sponsors. Up to 6000 people can be expected, so it's wise to bring your own plant carrier . . . Adults love the orchids, plumeria, roses; Xeriscape, native and other durable landscape choices, tropicals, exotics, herbs and more, plus vendor and gift shop selections. Kids love Resident Reptile shows (11am, 2pm); Lady Bug Releases (10:30am, 1:30, 4:30pm); and Butterfly Releases (11:45am, 2:45pm); Parrot Talks (12:30, 2:30pm); nature trail *walk-and-talks*, Wetlands Boardwalk birding scopes, *touch-and-learn projects*, Monkey Mansion Tree House and inflatables. Everyone loves food trucks on site for lunch (11am-2pm). Members will be admitted free, and may begin shopping at 8 a.m. Free parking. Vendor spaces are available through April 3. For vendor information, call 361.852.2100, ext. 225, or kathie@stxbot.org. More details at www.stxbot.org.



Youth Second Saturday—Junior Volunteer Workshop and Nature Play April 13

NEW!

Youth are in for two new experiences in 2019 at the South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, the 'Second Saturday' of each month, **except June, July and August**, at 8545 S. Staples. At "**Junior Volunteer Workshop**," from **9am to 3pm**, youth ages 9-16 (16-youth maximum per session) interested in hands-on animal experiences will learn reptile and bird care, animal diet preparation, training, human interaction, shelter, desirability as a pet, more. Goal is to complete 50 hours of training/volunteering to certify as STBGNC "**Level 3 Animal Handler**", using volunteer hours for 4H, National Honor Society, Scouts, others. Training for higher certifications also will be available. Fees are **\$50 per session, or \$35 each for two or more (family or friend)**. To reserve a space in any session, or more information, contact Brenda, 361-852-2100 x 223, or brendae@stxbot.org.

At **2:30 pm**, following Parrot Talk, kids five through 10 may participate in "**Nature Play**," using "tree cookies," other nature building blocks, water play, sand and soil sensory stations, more. The Junior Volunteer Workshop team will assist staff with 'Nature Play,' included in general admission.

Birdiest Festival in America April 24-28

REGISTRATION is open for the third **BIRDIEST FESTIVAL IN AMERICA, April 24-28**, in Corpus Christi, named "Birdiest City" for a decade! Experience the incredible Spring Migration here along the Texas Gulf Coast, where 257 species were spotted at the 2018 Festival! Field trips include three divisions of the world-renown King Ranch, Fennessey Ranch, Guadalupe Delta Wildlife Management Area, Rockport and Port Aransas hot spots, a "Big Day," Shorebird Tour, fabulous Skimmer Boat Tour, more. The five-day event also features birding workshops, guest speaker presentations, bird and butterfly photography, bird tagging, bird walks, trade show, *Raptor Project* shows, and a whole lot of Texas Hospitality. Whether from here, there or "way yonder", don't miss this opportunity to experience some of the best birding in the Country, for just a \$25 basic registration fee, which includes opening Texas barbecue dinner, three presentations, trade show, Raptor Show, and entrance to home base South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center each day of the Festival. For entire schedule, details, and ONLINE REGISTRATION, visit www.birdiestfestival.org. Or call 361-852-2100.



<<< Puryear II (far left)
<<< James Witten (left)

WILDLIFE IN FOCUS >>>

