

CLASSES & EVENTS--2021

Due to COVID-19 protocol, we are scheduling ZOOM CLASSES, RESERVATION ONLY.

Class/lecture fees are: FREE with membership, admission; \$5 others.

Reservations, ZOOM ACCESS, 361-852-2100.

ORCHID-ODOLOGY! 1ST Thursday, each month, 7 pm, ZOOM.
FREE, for ANY Orchid Lover, any level!

ZOOM CONNECTION

<https://zoom.us/j/3321862989?pwd=Y3ZLK0ljeU5lZUt2cnRzV0cwa01UZz09> Meeting ID: 332 186 2989, Passcode: 3QdLq3

WINTER LECTURE SERIES, 10-11am, Wednesdays.

Residents and winter guests love this Wednesday morning series, where you enjoy a cup of coffee, new acquaintances, and new knowledge about Texas Coastal Bend horticulture, environmental education, other interesting topics, from different guest speakers each week.

Jan 20	Edible Gardens	Deb Holliday, Master Gardener
Jan 27	Trees for South Texas	Michael Womack, Exec. Director
Feb 3	Face Lift for Landscapes	Whitney Lance/Color by the Door
Feb 10	Growing Orchids on a Stick	Jorge Garcia, Orchid Curator
Feb 17	Monarch Waystations	Rosemary Plank, Master Naturalist
Feb 24	Plumeria Winter Wakeup	Melissa Garcia, Plumeria Society

ABCs OF SPRING VEGETABLE GARDENING

Saturday, February 6, 9:15 am –10:15 am.

Carol Krank, STBGNC Horticulturist, along with Nueces County Master Gardeners Deb Houlihan and Frank Eicholz, share secrets and life-times of gardening experiences on the best vegetable varieties, planting techniques, and how to head off potential problems in spring vegetable gardens, maximizing harvest.

GARDENING IN SAND

Saturday, February 20, 9:15 am –10:15 am.

Shelby Guererro of Bloomers Nursery in Rockport provides insights for gardening in sandy soils including plant selections, soil preparation, and other techniques to master this challenging growing environment.

NEW VARIETIES AND OLD FAVORITES FOR LANDSCAPES

Saturday, March 6, 9:15 am –10:15 am. (ZOOM only)

Kathy Hubner, Landscape Designer at Gill Landscape Nursery, shares examples of new plant varieties for local landscapes, providing information on some of her favorite plant picks that perform consistently through the years to give you more choices on sprucing up your landscape in spring. Get ideas from her years of experience on how to jazz up those old landscapes to create a vibrant new look with lots of curb appeal!

{SPECIAL EVENT}: SPRING BREAK

Daily Activities, March 6-21!

Students off during spring break weeks can fill a day at the Botanical Gardens, touring and joining special activities:

REPT-TALES, daily 10:30-11:00 am.

PARROT TALK, daily 1:30-2:00 pm.

ON YOUR OWN, explore nature trails, wetland boardwalk, wildlife blinds, floral conservatories, gardens, "Resident Reptiles," Butterfly House, Monkey Mansion Tree



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{SPECIAL EVENT}: MINI-BLOOM
Covid Version of BIG BLOOM, APRIL 2 & 3!

MEMBERS' PLANT SALE, ORCHID SALE—Pre-Orders, We'll CALL, CONFIRM, GET YOUR PAYMENT, PICK-UP TIME SLOT.

PUBLIC Remaining ORCHIDS, FACEBOOK LIVE, Apr 3.

PUBLIC Remaining Plants, FACEBOOK LIVE, Apr 9.

Call or email INFO@stxbot.org, 361-852-2100:

Or see STXBOT.ORG for details, PLANT LISTS.

Another MEMBER BENEFIT from the Botanical Gardens!

{SPECIAL EVENT}: BIRDIEST FESTIVAL IN AMERICA
Wednesday-Sunday, April 21-25

REGISTRATION CONTINUES, the Texas Gulf Coast offering amazing spring migration in perhaps the busiest flyway in the country, with 14 different field trips to famous South Texas ranch & coastal hot spots—8 different presentations & workshops; 3 bird walks; 9 Jonathan Wood Raptor Project shows! Trade Show, Family Fun Day, Artisan Market, Opening Texas BBQ Dinner!

UPDATE: Keynote speaker, David Allen Sibley, scheduled to speak April 23, postponed to 2022, due to COVID vaccination delays. Festival Registration now \$25!

WWW.BIRDIESTFESTIVAL.ORG 361-563-5968

POLLINATOR GARDENS

Saturday, May 1, 9:15-10:15

Nueces Master Gardener Deb Houlihan provides insights on planting a garden that attracts a variety of visiting pollinators to your landscape. Learn plant varieties which attract butterflies, hummingbirds, and bees to your garden.

{SPECIAL EVENT}: MOTHERS DAY FREE WEEKEND

MOMS GET IN FREE!

Saturday, Sunday, May 8-9

Celebrate Mothers' Day Weekend with us!

At Visitors Center Check-in, all a mother needs to say is "Moms Love Flowers!", and she gets in free. Sorry, the rest of the family pays general admission. (Of course, members always get in free.)

SPECIAL MOMS DAY DEAL: Buy Mom a Membership at 20% off for a year of Benefits, including 330 RECIPROCAL GARDENS!



TROPICALS IN LANDSCAPE**Saturday, May 15, 9:15-10:15**

Nueces County Extension Horticulture Agent Kevin Gibbs explores options on transforming your backyard into a jungle paradise with tropical plants to transport you to the islands after a long day at work.

NEST CHECKS: MARVELS OF PURPLE MARTINS**Saturday, May 22, 9:15-10:15**

Louise Chambers, retired biologist with Purple Martin Conservation Assoc will give guests an chance to peak at tiny purple martins recently hatched in the STBGNC colony!

SUPER SUCCULENTS FOR PATIOS & LANDSCAPE**Saturday, May 29: 9:15-10:15**

Nueces Master Gardener Whitney Lance will share her joys of growing unusual succulents and how she creatively displays them to provide a wow factor for guests to enjoy.

"NATURE ADVENTURE"**for Families, Scouts, Home School groups...**

Choose your Garden & Trail areas, Animal Interactions, Science Investigations, Nature Crafts, private time in Play Area—for your small group—a 1.5 -2.0 hr adventure, any day of the week, 9am-6 pm, **year-round**. Groups divided into pods of max 8, including adults, with all health protocols, masks indoors.

Brenda, 361-852-2100; brendae@stxbot.org

Kids summer nature camps 2021

Our camps are designed to feature exciting animal interactions & nature activities in a safe, but stimulating environment. Specialized Education & Animal Care staff & volunteers lead our camps. Each session splits into "pods" of 6-8 students with adult leaders, which learn together the entire week. Wearing masks indoors, practicing social distancing, hand-washing, campers rotate through indoor science experiments, trail checklists, outdoor parrots, Reptile Room, Sensory Garden, Butterfly House, more. Camp Shirt, take-homes, daily snacks, drinks provided.

BRING: Water bottle, sunscreen, cap, extra snack.**WEAR:** Comfortable, cool clothing, close-toed shoes.**PARENT/GUARDIAN:** Will sign campers in/out daily.**CAMP DETAILS:** brendae@stxbot.org**REGISTER, PRE-PAY:** kathie@stxbot.org**ALL CAMPS: \$125 MEMBERS, \$150 OTHERS****Feathers & Scales**

Jun 14-18

9-Noon

Campers ages 6-8 will love this look into the world of tropical parrots & reptiles! They interact with different animals, participate in fun labs, create nature crafts, & keep camp journal.

Bird Brainiacs

Jun 21-25

9-Noon

Kids ages 9-12 investigate the world of tropical & native birds, explore bird characteristics & behavior, including labs about flight, nests, eggs, more.

Snakes & Friends

Jun 21-25

12:30-3:30

Campers ages 9-12 interact with snakes, lizards & turtles supervised by trained Animal Care staff, studying animal differences, habitats, diets, more.

Tiny Critters

Jul 5-9

9-Noon

Youngsters ages 6-8 explore digging, crawling & flying insects, & other tiny creatures, using observation skills, science lab tools, making a tiny creature habitat to take home.

Nature Shutterbugs

Jul 12-16

9-Noon

Youth ages 9-14 use cameras & various artistic techniques to express nature, combining & integrating photographs using paints, clay, wood, more. Cameras available, or bring yours.

Nature Buddies

July 19-23

9-Noon

Campers ages 6-8 explore multiple habitats to learn about birds, reptiles and plants. Nature investigations include using microscopes and cameras, and making science models and nature crafts.



{SPECIAL EVENT}: FATHER'S DAY FREE WEEKEND**Saturday, Sunday, June 19, 20, 9-6**

Dads demanded equal time. Just say, "It's Fathers' Day," and "the man" gets in free Fathers' Day weekend! Be "buds" with Dad, enjoy the new Reptile Room, gardens, Gator Lake, trails, other guy stuff! Sorry only dads are free—all other non-members pay general admission!

**{SPECIAL EVENT}: FOURTH- OFF FOR 4TH!****Sunday, July 4, 9-6.**

Celebrate AMERICA'S NATURAL BEAUTY at the Botanical Gardens with half-price admission on Independence Day, a "big bang" for your bucks! Just \$6.75 ages 13-59; \$5.25 Sr / Active Military / College; \$3.75 ages 3-12. Under 3 & Members free! Bring a picnic; but NO FIREWORKS allowed.

**PLUMERIA PASSIONS****Saturday, July 10, 9:15-10:15**

Plumeria Society of South Texas
Exhibit Co-Curator Renee Brown

discusses tips on acquiring, raising and wintering these exotic, tropical beauties, and leads a tour of the Gardens & Nature Center's impressive Plumeria Garden and Willoughby viewing platform. This amazing group maintains our Plumeria Collection year-round, always welcoming new members. Annual PLUMERIA SALE DATE "tba."