



Corpus Christi's BIRDIEST FESTIVAL in AMERICA returns April 21-25, with KEYNOTE SPEAKER, author, illustrator—David Allen Sibley.

We are a national birding hotspot! Residents can explore the sport, at local festival!

Corpus Christi's BIRDIEST FESTIVAL IN AMERICA has earned its wings, welcoming keynote speaker, renown author/illustrator of *The Sibley Guide to Birds*, **David Allen Sibley**, presenting "The Art of Identification," 7 pm, Friday, April 23, included in \$35 basic Festival registration! Larger and longer, 2021 brings birders from many states to the Texas Gulf Coast for amazing spring migration in perhaps the busiest flyway in the country, featuring 15 different field trips to famous South Texas ranch and coastal hot spots, one led by Sibley himself! Eight different presentations and workshops; three bird walks; nine Jonathan Wood Raptor Project shows also are offered. An opening reception with Happy Hour cash bar and Texas BBQ dinner; Vendor Trade Show; artisan booths; and Saturday Family Fun Day round out your Texas Coastal adventure—plus a new four-day RIO GRANDE VALLEY pre-trip, April 17-20, limited to eight participants, with one opening left!

Residents should grab this opportunity for a local, reasonably-priced way to mingle with birders of all levels; and access spots unavailable to public! Based at the Botanical Gardens, before cancellation, the 2020 Festival had doubled its 2019 registration!

(Festival Covid protocol covers sanitation, daily entry, background/vaccine / exposure questions, touchless thermometers, spacing, masks, vans, classrooms, keynote, detailed registration & guest lists, contract tracing.)

Festival DETAILS, full schedule, registration, at BIRDIESTFESTIVAL.ORG, 361-563-5968.



KEYNOTE, *The Art of Identification*, is 7 pm, April 23, with reception at 6 pm, Emerald Beach Hotel. Included in basic registration. To attend keynote only, without registration, individual tickets are \$15, by contacting: Denise@aquariaservicesinc.com



FIELD TRIP HIGHLIGHTS!



KING RANCH' four divisions cover 825,000 acres! Norias Division's vast tracts of habitat are home to a variety of South Texas specialty birds, including Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl, Tropical Parula, Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet, Audubon's Oriole, Botteri's Sparrow, Green Jay, White-tailed Hawk . . .

FENNESSEY RANCH has 4,000 acres of wetlands, meadows, natural lakes, riparian woods and brush land, bordered on three sides by the Mission River. Spring migration tours here have been held for more than 20 years, with 400 bird species tallied.

GUADALUPE DELTA WILDLIFE PRESERVE, one of U.S. top five Christmas Bird Counts, with freshwater marshes, lush riparian forest in river floodplain.

PORT ARANSAS HOT SPOTS: Driving on the beach looking for shorebirds and seabirds is a treat if you don't live near water. Add in a world class neotropic migrant trap, very birdy fresh water pond and marsh, plus sparrows, ducks and waders.

ROCKPORT-FULTON HOT SPOTS: Beaches, coastal prairie, freshwater ponds, marsh, oak mottes...shorebirds, waders, sparrows, neotropic migrants.

'BIG DAY' FULL DAY TRIP: Challenging, fun, fastpaced 10-hour adventure. Seeing and hearing as many species of birds as possible in one day is not for all, but a MUST now in April! We will go to as many spots as possible, based on advance scouting. Weather and luck may win you the '150 club!' Our best eyes and ears will be in the lead!

"SKIMMER" BOAT TOUR: Leave from Fulton Harbor in nearby Rockport-Fulton, with Captain Tommy Moore on this four-hour springtime spectacular visiting four separate colonial water bird rookery islands to see water birds, egrets, herons, pelicans, terns and shorebirds in spring rituals of courting, sparring, mating, nesting.

(NEW!) KNOLLE JERSEY FARM, RIVER PASTURE with rolling hills ideal for raptors, sparrows. With 300 acres along the Nueces River look for Wild Turkey, Green Jay, Great Kiskadee, Black-crested Titmouse. Riparian forest boasts centuries-old oaks, creating an enchanting canopy. Spring migration brings neotropic migrants, up to 20 raptor species.

(NEW!) BIRDING WITH DAVID SIBLEY You've read about David's renowned accomplishments and Sibley Guide to Birds. Co-leader for this trip will be Clay Taylor, Naturalist Market Manager for Swarovski Optik, Corpus Christi resident, also leader for 2019's "Big Day" field trip hitting 150 species! Trip destination will be based on bird Festival bird sightings! THIS WILL FILL FAST!

(NEW!) ARANSAS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE is an important stopover for migrants, known for exceptional variety of resident and transient birds. ANWR has 93 species documented having nested there, total number of species approaching 400. Natural coastal prairie, Live Oak mottes, abundant trails. Expect to see Roseate Spoonbill, Reddish Egret, White-faced Ibis, Black-bellied and Fulvous Whistling Ducks, Mottled Duck and Least Grebe.

Annual BIG BLOOM 'trimmed back' to safer MEMBERS' mini-BLOOM, April 2-3, with pre-orders, orchid sale, Facebook Live!

'Community Day' April 24, during Birdiest Festival in America

The past year has revolved around community health, safety, families-only, the six-foot rule, masks—and unfortunately, the annual entertaining BIG BLOOM 'right of spring' celebration, cancelled last year, is no exception! As you've probably guessed, 5000-6000 plant shoppers also enjoying parrots, reptiles, butterflies and lady-bugs would test even the vast spaces at the Botanical Gardens & Nature Center! So plans have been reimagined a bit, holding JUST the PLANT SALE—scaled down for our 1400-or-so Botanical Gardens members only—with no other activities.

Keep in mind you can join by March 13, and participate in MEMBERS' BLOOM—getting all our FABULOUS MEMBER BENEFITS (see member form p 8) for a year, and helping meet the **Bouligny \$50,000 Challenge Grant** (article page 7).

There will be a \$2 ADMISSION COMMUNITY DAY for everyone to enjoy the Gardens, 9 am to 6 pm, Saturday, April 24, during the Birdiest Festival in America Family Fun Day!
Instead of BIG BLOOM this year, vendors may apply for booth space at the Birdiest Festival Artisan Market that day, by contacting Event Chair Denise Housler, denise@aquariaservicesinc.com.



MEMBERS' mini-BLOOM details: Pre-order, pre-pay, select pick-up time!

1. Pick your plants from list at right, chosen by Big Bloom history, availability.
2. Email your plant preferences, quantities, your name, address, phone, and member number, to: **INFO@STXBOT.ORG**, by **March 14**.
3. We will check availability of your plant requests, and call you to confirm or adjust your order, take your payment by phone, and arrange your pick-up time, in case you want to shop for orchids, or more.
4. To pick up your plants, shop for ORCHIDS, or extra plants left, members must sign up for one of these time slots, to help control numbers of people on site:

FRIDAY, APRIL 2: 10-11 am ■ 11:30 am-12:30 pm ■ 1-2 pm ■ 2:30-3:30 pm ■ 4-5 pm

SATURDAY, APRIL 3: 10-11 am ■ 11:30 am-12:30 pm ■ 1-2 pm

SATURDAY, APRIL 3: Remaining **ORCHIDS FACEBOOK LIVE SALE:** 2:30-4:30 pm

FRIDAY, APRIL 9: UNSOLD PLANTS may be purchased **by public**
On FACEBOOK LIVE SALE, 6-8 pm *

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, forward: Shop any remaining plants at Botanical Gardens Gift Shop, 9 am-6 pm, general admission applies.

* **Book our Facebook page to get sale reminders!**

CHOOSE FROM THESE PLANTS!

(based on March availability)

ORCHIDS

HERBS

TROPICALS

Bird of Paradise
(standard orange)
Bougainvillea Hanging Baskets
Hannah Ray Bottlebrush
Little John Dwarf Bottlebrush
Angel Trumpet
Desert Rose
Ixora (orange and yellow)
Spicy Red Jatropha
Yellow Allamanda
Cuban Gold Duranta
Thryallis
Carnation of India
Oyster Plant
Exotic/Cajun Hibiscus
Foxtail Fern
Cuban Pea Vine
Mona Lavender Plectranthus
Crown of Thorns
Geraniums

BUTTERFLY & HUMMINGBIRD ATTRACTOR PLANTS

Butterfly Milkweed
(yellow & orange)
Padre Island Mistflower
Native Texas Lantana
Gregg's Mistflower
Compact Blue Porterweed
Salmon/Coral Porterweed
Tropical Sage
Mystic Spires Salvia
Henry Duelberg
(Mealy Blue) Sage
Hot Lips Sage
Assorted Pentas
Pincushion Flower
Cleome – Spider Flower
Zinnias
Copper Canyon Daisy
Homestead Purple Verbena
Mexican Flame Vine
Lavender Lady Passion Vine
Incense Passion Vine
Sweet Almond Verbena
Shrimp Plant
Sapphire Showers Duranta
Giant Pipevine
Firecracker Plant





Daily fun for spring breakers, families planned March 6-21!



Students of all ages celebrating spring break, March 6-21, will enjoy a special menu of botanical and nature action! Elementary through college, kids and families can fill a day at the Botanical Gardens & Nature Center touring on their own, and joining special activities below. Unlike last year, our pandemic protocols are in effect, including at least six-foot social distancing throughout the site; and masking up while in indoor facilities, including conservatories, Visitors Center, new Parrot Hut and Kids' Play Area. Although hand-sanitizer will be available at check-in, we recommend guests have a personal supply as they tour our 182 acres of floral exhibits, trails and wetlands! **BREAK BONUS: Students over 12 receive a \$2 admission discount, paying \$7, rather usual adult price of \$9. Kids 3-12, pay \$5. Under age 3, and members, no charge.**

REPT-TALES, daily 10:30-11:00 am. Meet Ivan the Iguana, tortoises, snakes and explore the new Reptile Room!

PARROT TALK, daily 1:30-2:00 pm. Get acquainted with our star parrots, and learn about our animal ambassadors.

ON YOUR OWN, daily 9 am- 6 pm. Explore nature trails, wetland boardwalk, wildlife blinds, floral conservatories, gardens, Butterfly House, Monkey Mansion Tree House, more. General admission covers all.



USSLEXINGTONMUSEUM.COM ■ CCMUSEUM.COM ■ TEXASSTATEAQUARIUM.ORG ■ STXBOT.ORG ■ ARTMUSEUMOFSOUTHTEXAS.ORG

Five major attractions again partner for half-price February!

Members of any of these five Corpus Christi educational and cultural attractions—Art Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi Museum of Science & History, South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, Texas State Aquarium or USS Lexington Museum on the Bay—get an added mega membership benefit during February—half-price reciprocal admission at the other four, and 10 percent off in all five gift shops. The third bonus is a 10 percent discount on any new membership—throughout February only!

The February partnership is designed so area residents can explore hometown visitor destinations as tourists do, but at substantial cost reductions, while supporting these non-profits! **Be prepared to show your current membership card and photo identification** at all facilities. *(The reciprocal benefit applies only to those family members covered on the home membership category.)* If you missed this news in the media, a few days remain to catch this February bargain. Visit websites for membership, hours, health protocols, other information. *(Newsletter publication was delayed by inclement weather and power outages.)*

Admission revenues higher during COVID than year before!

Numbers don't lie! Surprisingly, Botanical Gardens September–December, 2020, visitor counts out-paced the same period in 2019 by 67 percent; while 2020 admissions revenues those same months topped 2019 by 58 percent!

Those increases helped negate COVID-19 lows March–July.

From “lock down” through partial openings, mask orders, not eating out, shopping, not going to the office, school or church, the safe spot seems to be outdoors! With 182 acres of roaming space, social distancing has presented no problems, even with masks required in indoor exhibits.

Of course, in-person classes, school tours, garden rentals are down. But even Nature's Boutique revenues are recovering. Children's Play Areas remain closed due to constant sanitation requirements, but will be kept open during Spring Break, March 6–21.





HOLLY-DAYS' 4 WEEKENDS IN 2020 UPS DECEMBER ATTENDANCE 150 PERCENT!

Beginning with Thanksgiving weekend, pre-Christmas Friday evenings and Saturdays at the Gardens were filled with Santa photos, hayrides, a petting zoo, lights, poinsettias, decorated trees—revolving around the traditional 20-foot live, lighted fir tree, donated for the third year by board member Joyce Barnette!

Kids crafts, story time, s'mores and cocoa created a warm family atmosphere, although many were apart from family this year. Special thanks to lead sponsor VALERO Bill Greehey Refineries, and Port of Corpus Christi for making our third HOLLY-DAYS merry and bright!



Joyce Barnette





MOONLIGHT STEWARDSHIP DONOR MONEY BEING PUT TO WORK!

Although “Moonlight Toasts the Future” fundraiser was not held last fall, donors generously left their sponsor-ships to upgrade and enhance Botanical Gardens exhibits! That work has begun, and is visible!

- ▶ A new tent purchased by Gloria Hicks and Hugh Dobson was first used at HOLLY-DAYS.
- ▶ The four topiaries (butterfly above), which weren’t fitting into the maintenance routine, have been replanted, and now have a caretaker.
- ▶ Reverse Osmosis filtered water is being piped underground from the Orchid Conservatory to be shared by the Bromeliad Conservatory.
- ▶ A contractor has begun replacing select planks and posts on the boardwalk.
- ▶ An enclosed outdoor bulletin board and bike rack have been ordered.
- ▶ Enhancements and repairs have begun in the Tropical Garden, while shade increases as trees recover from storm damage.
- ▶ New chandeliers, fans and up-lighting have been installed in the Rose Pavilion, along with new roses and drainage for Rose Garden walkways.
- ▶ Color has been added with winter annuals.
- ▶ Bromeliad House drainage and ventilation improvements are underway.
- ▶ A contractor has been scheduled to replace select planks and posts on the boardwalk.

Bouligny Challenge Grants prove huge help with financial side of COVID, and we got another one in January!

Last June, Eugene Bouligny heard the Botanical Gardens had to cancel both *BIG BLOOM* and *Birdiest Festival in America* due to COVID-19. He came to the rescue, with a challenge to raise \$50,000 in new funding, which we met in the next few months— receiving a most welcome check for his \$50,000 matching amount just before also canceling the annual MOONLIGHT fundraising evening!

With the cyclical pandemic cycling up again, Mr. Bouligny has issued another \$50,000 challenge; which WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MEET!

Your donation can be for a NEW project, NEW type of funding, NEW feature, NEW concept, or become a NEW donor! Suggestions include:

- Donate to our ENDOWMENT FUND**
- Donate to build our LEARNING LAGOON**
- Donate a Birding Festival Sponsorship**
- Buy New Membership, or Gift Membership**
- Give Memorials or Honorariums**
- Make Unrestricted Donation to Operations Fund**
- Give Summer Camp Scholarships**
- Sponsor a parrot or reptile**

For donation questions, contact Michael Womack • wmwomack@stxbot.org;
or MaryJane Crull • mjc@stxbot.org

CARING FOR THE COASTAL BEND

The Port of Corpus Christi is proud to sponsor
the South Texas Botanical Gardens
& Nature Center.



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- ✓ Free General Admission (12 months)
- ✓ American Horticulture Society **RECIPROCAL ADMISSION PROGRAM**
(**FREE** admission to 330 Gardens in US) listing at www.ahsgardening.org/rap
- ✓ 10% Discount at: **Turner's Gardenland & Bay Area Landscape**
(with valid STBGNC Member Card & ID) (excludes labor, sale items)
Feathered Friends & Co. (excludes birds)
- ✓ **FREE Better Homes & Gardens OR Martha Stewart Living Magazine Subscription**
- ✓ 10% Discount at **Nature's Boutique** year-round (STBGNC Gift Shop)
- ✓ 10% Discount at **BIG BLOOM** Plant Sale
- ✓ Substantial Class & Kids Camp Discounts
(most Saturday seminars free for members)
- ✓ Facilities Rental Privileges
- ✓ Newsletter ■ Event Invitations ■ Window Decal



ALSO JOIN ONLINE, WWW.STXBOT.ORG

☐ **Renewal or Former Member** ☐ **New Member**

Membership Category **MARK SELECTION**

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$ 35
<input type="checkbox"/> Couple *	\$ 50
<input type="checkbox"/> Family *	\$ 75
<input type="checkbox"/> Grandparent **	\$ 75
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining (Family or GP + 2 guests)	\$ 100
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting (Family or GP + 4 guests)	\$ 250
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron (Family or GP + 6 guests)	\$ 500
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor (Family or GP + 10 guests)	\$ 1000

* (Couple, Family: Must be Same Household)

** (Grandparents: Includes grandchildren/ greatgrandchildren under age 18)

Age 60+ / Active Military may take 10% off the membership level of their choice

PHOTOGRAPHER MEMBERSHIP, for you & clients - \$150/year!

Member Information **PLEASE PRINT**

NAMES (S)

STREET ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE (S)

E-MAIL

AMT \$ _____ CASH _____ CK# _____

☐ MC ☐ Visa ☐ DISCOVER ☐ AMX

ACCT #

NAME ON ACCT

EXPIRATION 3 DIGIT SECURITY CODE

SIGNATURE

PLEASE MAIL TO: South Texas Botanical Gardens
8545 S. Staples St. ■ Corpus Christi, Texas 78413

Private animal encounters offer special experience for guests!

PRIVATE REPTILE ROOM—Up close, 15-20 minutes private time to interact with 3-4 turtles, lizards, snakes—some can be held or petted. Also photos with animals, see them eat favorite treats. Must be scheduled 24 hours in advance. Limit 6 people, same household, \$30.

PARTY WITH PARROTS—Up-Close 15-20 minutes with 3-4 feathered friends, education about species, each parrot's personal story, and our mission. Hold 2 of the parrots, photos, 2-\$2 treat bags included. In Education Station, or Reptile Room. Schedule at least 2-3 hours in advance. Limit 6 people, same household, \$35.

SQUAWK, WALK & TALK—Best informational presentation about all parrots in 15-20 minute outdoor walk-through with staff (weather-dependent), seeing personalities of all parrots. Cues & vocals demonstrated, 2-\$2 treat bags included. 9-9:30 am, or 12:30-1 pm only—must schedule previous day. Limit 6 people, same household, \$20. Photo with one bird, extra \$10.

BEST DEAL—COMBO Reptile Room / Party with Parrots—Up-Close 40-50 minutes, description of both 2 & 3 above, held consecutively, in Reptile Room. Limit 6 people, \$55.

TO SCHEDULE: Call Animal Care Staff • 361 852-2100,
or ask Front Desk for details. Or email dedrab@stxbot.org.

*All guests must abide by CDC recommendations regarding wearing a mask or face covering. *We are limiting indoor encounters to 6 guests who are in your household. We will have 2-3 staff present as well, and will wear masks at all times. Staff will be available to take photos. *Children must be able to follow animal care staff's directions in order to hold or pet the animals for their safety and the animals' safety. Children may be asked to sit on a stool or the floor to hold some of the animals. Due to the close proximity needed to pet and hold the animals, staff may need to make contact with hands. Hand sanitizer and wipes are available and encouraged. Please keep in mind that anything with a mouth CAN bite, but we would not allow the interaction if we thought there was that potential, therefore we must make our animals feel safe and comfortable at all times. Our Animal Ambassadors are under care of DVM at all times.*

Remember to **ALWAYS** Recycle Right Corpus Christi!


The Recycle Coach App Keeps You on Track!

NEVER MISS ANOTHER COLLECTION DAY!
SEE SCHEDULES, RECEIVE ALERTS, AND LEARN RECYCLING TIPS!

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EDUCATION & SPECIAL EVENTS

Normally, we offer several in-person ADULT LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES, unlimited in size. Due to COVID-19 protocol, we now are scheduling ZOOM ONLY classes, RESERVATION ONLY. All class/lecture fees are: FREE with membership; \$5 others.

Reservations at 361-852-2100 • (SPECIAL EVENTS require social-distancing, masks.)

NEW VARIETIES & OLD LANDSCAPE FAVORITES

Saturday, March 6, 9:15 am –10:15 am.

Kathy Hubner, Landscape Designer at Gill Landscape Nursery, shares of new plant varieties for local landscapes, and some of her favorite consistent top performers to give you more choices on sprucing up your landscape. Get ideas from her years of experience on how to jazz up YOUR landscape creating a vibrant new look with lots of curb appeal!

{SPECIAL EVENT}: SPRING BREAK

Daily Activities, March 6-21!

Students off during two big spring break weeks, can fill a day at the Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, 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, NEW Reptile Room, Butterfly House, Monkey Mansion Tree House, more. General Admission covers all. (*Article, p. 4*) (Students age 13 – college, \$2 OFF admission.)

KITCHEN HERBS

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

Nueces Master Gardener Deb Holliday and her “herbie” compadres will provide insights into selecting and growing culinary herbs to spice up your recipes. Tastings of select dishes also are provided as they share ways to use herbs in your meals.

{SPECIAL EVENT}: BIRDIEST FESTIVAL IN AMERICA

Wednesday-Sunday, April 21-25

Spotlighting South Texas peak spring migration in one of country’s busiest flyways, festival features optional guided birding field trips to regional hot spots, shorebird/wading bird sites, and private ranches. *The Raptor Project*, presentations, vendor tradeshow, Saturday Family Fun Day with artisan booths. NEW THIS YEAR:

KEYNOTE SPEAKER, noted Birder, Author, and Illustrator,

DAVID SIBLEY, “The Art of Identification, 7pm, Friday, April 23rd

(*Article, pp1, 2*)

Details, schedule, registration: birdiestfestival.org.

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 about great plant varieties for butterflies, hummingbirds, and bees in 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 this weekend, at 20% off for a year’s worth of free admission, Nature’s Boutique, nursery, BIG BLOOM and other discounts, national magazine subscription, plus 325 Reciprocal Gardens around the Country, (ahsgardening.org/rap).

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 work day.

NEST CHECKS: MARVELS OF PURPLE MARTINS

Saturday, May 22, 9:15-10:15

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

SUPER SUCCULENTS FOR PATIOS & LANDSCAPE

Saturday, May 29:15-10:15

Nueces Master Gardener Kathie Fernandez will share with you her joys of growing unusual succulents and ways she has creatively displayed them to provide a wow factor for guests to enjoy.

{SPECIAL EVENT}: FATHER’S DAY FREE WEEKEND

Saturday, Sunday, June 20-21, 9-6

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!

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.”



YOUTH EXPLORERS

KIDS SUMMER NATURE CAMPS, 2021

Our camps are designed to feature exciting animal interactions & nature activities in a safe, but stimulating environment. Education staff & Animal Care specialists, & volunteers lead our camps. Each session splits into "pods" of six-eight kids with adult leaders, which learn together the whole week. Wearing masks indoors, practicing social distancing, and personal hygiene, campers rotate through indoor and outdoor stations, including parrot & reptile habitats, Sensory Garden & Butterfly House. 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 CAMP FEES: \$125 members \$150 others

	DATES	TIMES
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.

\$125 members, \$135 others

	Jun 21-25	9-Noon
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Bird Brainiacs
Kids ages 9-12 investigate the world of tropical & native birds, explore bird characteristics & behavior, including labs about flight, nests, eggs, more. *\$125 members, \$150 others*

	Jun 21-25	12:30-3:30 pm
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Snakes & Friends
Campers ages 9-12 interact with snakes, lizards & turtles supervised by trained Animal Care staff, studying animal differences, habitats, diets, more. *\$100 members, \$125 others*

	Jul 5-9	9-Noon
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Tiny Gritters
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.

\$100 members, \$150 others

	Jul 12-16	9-Noon
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Nature Skatterbugs
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.

\$125 members, \$150 others

	July 19-23	9-Noon
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Nature Buddies
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.

"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, 9 am-6 pm. Groups divided into pods of max 8, including adults, with all health protocols, masks indoors. CONTACT:

Brenda • 361-852-2100 • brendae@stxbot.org

OUR LATEST ANIMAL SPONSORS!

Recent Resident Reptile Sponsors

'FLAKES' the Corn Snake

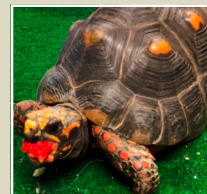
By Daria & Daniela Shores

'MRS. MIHOGGIE' the Western Hognose Snake

By Deborah & Douglas Shores

'TONY' the Red-Footed Tortoise

By Lisa & Jason Stoddard



New Tropical Parrot Sponsors

'ETHEL' a Double Yellow-Headed Amazon

By Leslie Bennett

'UBOO' a Sun Conure

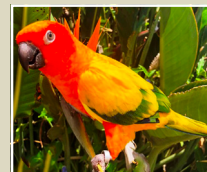
By Alexis Haney & Dale Roper

'JELLY BEAN' a Chestnut Macaw

By Daria & Daniela Shores

'ROSCOE & RICKY' Yellow-Naped Amazons

By Howard & Kristal White



Become an Animal Ambassador Sponsor, 361-852-2100.

un poquito.

NOUN

TRANSLATION: A LITTLE BIT

Cutting your water usage a little bit goes a long way.

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Nursery

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Southide Lions
Club

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Aquaria Services

\$100

Wildlife In Focus

PHOTOGRAPHER

\$150

Mindi Brenz
Photography

Sammantha &
Matthew Clark
Photography

Karen Dominguez
Photography

Daphne Hancock
Photography

Shoocha
Photography

Francene Moya
Photography

Jilka Zdvihlova
Photography

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Busby

Briana McGuirl

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Jerry Ruthruff

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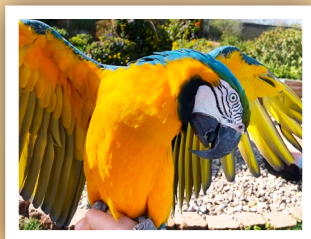


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