

Looking for something to photograph? Here are some suggestions. Drop in on any of the 50 plus clubs in Sun City (tennis, pickle ball, pottery, painting, stained glass, mahjong etc.) and take some pictures of your friends in action, they won't mind. In addition, look through the Sun Rays magazine for events and outings, any of which will bring great photo opportunities.



It's that time of year

3/25/2018

## APRIL FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

April 1. **Sun City:** EASTER SUNDAY



April 6-8. **Llano:** LLANO FIDDLE FEST The Llano Open Fiddle Contest will be held at the historic LanTex Theater in downtown Llano. Festival activities begin on Friday with the Llano Air Fiddle and Anything Goes - Tricks and Licks competitions. This year's Open Fiddle Contest will include youth, senior, open, and accompanist divisions. Saturday's activities will also include an evening music concert. On Sunday morning, an early service with cowboy breakfast and Texas fiddle music will conclude the weekend of musical activities. Fiddle Fest week end will bring many talented fiddlers and music fans from Texas and beyond. Events take place at different locations and different times. See web site for details. <http://www.llanofiddlefest.com/>

April 7. **Austin:** SOUTH ASIAN NEW YEAR FESTIVAL Zilker Park, Hillside Theater. The cultural program is a great way for performers to showcase their talents while highlighting the diversity that is our community. And a perfect marketplace for local businesses to reach a unique and valuable audience. From delicious ethnic foods to jewelry, hand crafts, clothing and more. See people in traditional Asian costume performing native dances. Great photo opportunities. Open 11am to 8pm. Admission is Free. See web site for map to Zilker park. <https://www.sasianfest.com/>

April 7. **Cedar Park:** CEDAR FEST BBQ COOK-OFF There will be 70 teams of cooks judged by Kansas City BBQ Society rules. Cookers will be attempting to win the \$3000 grand prize and bragging rights. Categories include Chicken, Beef Brisket, Pork and Pork Ribs. Come judge for yourself. No admission to event. There is a fee for dinner plate. Location: Elizabeth Milburn Park 1901 Sun Chase Blvd. See web site for details.  
<http://www.cedarparkchamber.org/cedar-fest-bbq-cook-off>

April 7. **Pearl:** BLUEGRASS JAM AND STAGE SHOW This is a fun and friendly Jam and Stage Show. It often draws over 400 people to listen and play in this little town of Pearl, Texas in the heart of the hill country. It is at an old school house that has been renovated...added heat & a/c. People jam in every room of the school house, in the halls, outside under the pavilion and under any shade tree you can find. Lots of good ol' time bluegrass and gospel. All acoustic. Good home cooked food in the old school cafeteria...great pies. It is continuous music all day Saturday from a little before noon until 10 p.m. Location: Pearl Community Center - (FM 183, 7 miles south of Purgela) Pearl, TX. See web site for map. Admission is free. <http://www.pearlbluegrass.com/>

April 7. **Sun City:** GARAGE SALE



You'll find something you cant live without

April 7-8 **Waco:** HEART OF TEXAS AIR SHOW We are proud to headline the U.S. Navy Blue Angels in their first performance in Waco in over 30 years and their only appearance in Central and North Texas in 2018. The A-10 Thunderbolt Demonstration Team performing for the first time at air shows in 7 years. USASOC Black Daggers Parachute Team, Navy Leap Frogs and a great civilian performer line up. Experience exciting air show fun for the whole family as we bring world class military and civilian performers for edge of your seat excitement for all ages. Ticket prices run between \$12 and \$95. Get them on line. there is an elevated photo pit for photographers. Location: Texas State Technical College (TSTC) airport. 3801 Campus Drive. See web site for map, seating and flight line passes. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/heart-of-texas-airshow-april-7-8-2018-tickets-39462632797>



April 8. **Cedar Park:** NOLA, TEXAS FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL If you love all things Louisiana, this event is for you. This year's festival showcases funk, brass, zydeco, Cajun and the blues with seven bands. Fans can tempt their taste buds with a variety of food vendors selling everything from jambalaya to alligator, not to mention 5,000 pounds of FREE large, boiled, live crawfish, served one plate at a time while supplies last. The event also features arts and crafts booths, Mardi Gras costumes, dancers, roaming performers, and marching bands. Location: HEB Center, 2100 Avenue of the Stars. General Admission \$30 includes parking purchased in advance. \$35 at the gate. See web site for details.  
<http://www.hebcenter.com/events/detail/nola>

April 8. **Dallas/ Ft Worth:** O'REILLY AUTO PARTS 500 at TEXAS MOTOR SPEEDWAY. The monster energy NASCAR Cup Series roars into Texas with the best drivers in the world with only one thing on their minds, locking themselves in the to Playoffs. Tickets start at \$49. For more seating and pricing see web site. Find map to speedway also.  
<http://www.texasmotorspeedway.com/tickets/oreilly-auto-parts-500-nascar-race-weekend-april-2018/o-reilly-auto-parts-500/>



April 14. **Houston:** 31st Annual ART CAR PARADE come see 250 jaw-dropping cars, bikes, skaters, and motorized creatures will roll along Smith Street in Downtown Houston, making it the largest gathering of its kind in the world, and one of the biggest annual events in Houston. Grab your spot early, so you have the best views. Get a reserved spot on one of the bleachers around the parade route. Generally the parade lasts from 2 to 4pm. At 11am join the starting line party. Join the artists as they get ready to roll in the largest parade of its kind in the world, Food trucks, music, beverage and a whole lot of fun! Get there early for all the action. Parade is free. See web site for parade route, reserved seating and more. To see how crazy it is click on list of winners last year. Great place for pictures and all around fun.  
<http://www.thehoustonartcarparade.com/>

April 20-22. **Austin:** AUSTIN AUTO SHOW The Austin Automobile Dealers Association proudly presents the 2018 Austin Auto Show April 20-22 at the Austin Convention Center. On display will be some of this year's most anticipated car models, full of cutting edge technology and style. This is the perfect opportunity to compare brands and models for virtually all manufacturers under one roof in the perfect setting. Come test drive one of the cars your interested in possibly purchasing. See one of the original Aston Martin Vanquish stunt vehicles from the 2002 James Bond Movie, "Die Another Day" starring Pierce Brosnan and Halle Berry. Complete with Rocket Launcher and pop-up machine guns. This was an actual screen used stunt car that you can spot in the video below. One little secret, this Aston Martin is an impostor! It is actually a Jaguar. In 2002 when "Die Another Day" was filmed, the Ford Motor Company owned both Aston Martin and Jaguar which both shared the same platform as a Mustang. In the movie, stunt versions of the Aston Martin were built using both Mustang and Jaguar chassis with fiberglass replica bodies. Tickets: on line \$6 Seniors \$3.75 Housrs Fri and Sat. 10am - 8pm Sun. 10am - 6pm. Location: Austin Convention Center 500 East Cesar Chavez St. See web site: <http://www.autoshowaustin.com/tickets/>

April 21-22 **Austin:** AMERICAN HEROS AIRSHOW at Camp Mabry. First presented in 1993 at the Santa Monica Airport, the American Heroes Air Show has grown to become the nation's premier, helicopter-only, admission-free aviation event designed to educate the public, media and community officials about rotary-wing aviation's diverse capabilities in law enforcement, public safety, communications, Search & Rescue as well as homeland security and national defense. In addition the Texas Military Department Open House is an annual event designed to welcome the community to Camp Mabry and provide guests an up close look at its Texas National Guard. Through demonstrations, displays, and personal interaction with the public. See web site for list of activities and location. <http://www.heroes-airshow.com/events/austin/>



April 21-22 **Hamilton:** CENTRAL TEXAS BARREL RACING (CTBRA) Barrel racing is a truly special event in the rodeo world, and one of the fastest. While cowboys are holding down bucking broncs and spinning bulls, cowgirls are charging through the gate in a race against the clock. The rider enters the arena at a gallop and runs toward the first barrel. The rider then steers her horse toward barrel two, circles it, and charges toward barrel three. After rounding barrel three, the rider pushes her horse toward the finish line at top speed. Location: Circle T arena 4007 West Hwy 36 Event is free. See web site for map. <http://rodeosusa.com/rodeos/hamilton-ctbra-show/>





April 25-29



**Cedar Park:** DISNEY ON ICE presents REACH FOR THE STARS. Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse, Donald Duck and Goofy set the stage for a star-studded talent extravaganza as Disney On Ice presents Reach For The Stars. Unleash the magic with royal sisters Anna and Elsa and the hilarious snowman, Olaf, as they sing captivating songs like “Let it Go” and “In Summer.” Life is the bubbles when Sebastian strikes up his hot crustacean band and the Daughters of Triton make a splash as they introduce Ariel in an ‘80s pop montage. Get tangled up with a chorus of harmless hooligans when they get a visit from the spirited Rapunzel and her charming ally, Flynn Rider, on their journey to see the floating lights. Relive a tale as old as time when Belle opens her heart to new adventures as the Beast’s enchanted objects take center stage for a dazzling skating spectacle. You never know what unforgettable feats your whole family will discover. Location: HEB Center. 2100 Avenue of the Stars. See web site for ticket pricing and starting times. <http://www.hebcenter.com/events/detail/disney-on-ice-presents-reach-for-the-stars>

April 27.

**Round Rock:** ALLAN HOUSER SCULPTER EXHIBIT. Renowned Native American painter and Modernist sculptor of the 20th century Allan Houser (1914-1994) was a Chiricahua Apache sculptor, painter and book illustrator born in Oklahoma. Houser’s work can be found at the Smithsonian Museum of American Art, the National Museum of the American Indian, the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C.. A collection of 18 large bronze pieces are available for viewing now through May 2019 at the Round Rock Centennial Plaza. Location: 301 West Bagdad Exhibit is free. see web site for details. <https://www.roundrocktexas.gov/residents/arts-culture/allan-houser-exhibit/>

April 27-29



**Round Rock:** Experience the 26th ANNUAL SCULPTFEST The event features work from approximately 70 sculptors from Texas and across the US. The show will feature a huge selection of miniature to monumental size sculptures as well as live demonstrations of stone carving, 3D printing for art, clay sculpting and bronze pouring. The Texas Society of Sculptor has relocated its annual art show to historic Main Street in Round Rock. There will be live music and numerous places to eat. Hours 5-9 pm (Friday), 11 am.-9 pm. (Saturday), 11 a.m.-4 p.m. (Sunday). Location: 221 East Main Street (In front of City Hall) See web site for details. <https://www.roundrocktexas.gov/residents/arts-culture/sculptfest/>

April 27-28 **Austin:** **TEXAS BURLESQUE FESTIVAL** Since its inception, the Texas Burlesque Festival has been an unprecedented success, busting at the seams with amazing Burlesque, Vaudeville and Cabaret performers from all over the nation and abroad, and playing to sold out audiences. We anticipate this year being no different. The Texas Burlesque Festival is a two-day hoedown and showdown celebrating the raucous revival of burlesque, vaudeville and the accompanying et cetera. Aimed at (but not exclusive to) the regional, national and international community of ecdysiasts, this weekend overflows with opportunities to refine your bump and grind including parties, a roundtable/brunch, workshops and performances. Ticket prices: level 1, \$35, level 2, \$48 level 3, \$57 VIP \$70 Show time 8pm. Location: Paramount Theater 713 Congress Ave. <http://texasburlesquefestival.com/>



April 27. **San Antonio:** **BATTLE OF THE FLOWERS** The Battle of Flowers Parade is the oldest event and largest parade of Fiesta® San Antonio attracting crowds of more than 350,000. It is the only parade in the United States produced entirely by women, all of whom are volunteers. These ladies, dressed on Parade day in yellow and wearing yellow hats, direct operations with the valued assistance of the Texas Army National Guard. In keeping with the original purpose of the Parade, honoring the heroes of the Alamo, participants place a floral tribute on the lawn as they pass in front of the Alamo. With the largest number of Vanguard participants in the parade's long history, more colorful float entries than have ever been seen on the streets of San Antonio, and a new section honoring San Antonio Heroes, the 2018 Battle of Flowers Parade will bring revelers more dazzling displays of Alamo City pageantry than ever before. See web site for parade route and tickets for bleacher seating. <http://www.battleofflowers.org/events/about-the-parade/>

April 27-29 **New Braunfels:** **CRAWFEST** Plenty of crawfish for mud bug lovers. Crawfish gumbo, crawfish eating contest, crawfish races and a great line up of music. Advance tickets \$10 At the gate \$15. Or get a reserve crawfish plate with free parking pass. Location: Comal County Fairgrounds, 701 Common St. Hours: Fri 5:30-12:00am Sat. 11:00-1:00am Sun. 12:00-10pm See web site for details and map. <https://www.crawfishfestivalnewbraunfels.com/>



- April 28. **Driftwood:** TEXAS EGGFEST Nestled just outside Austin in the rolling hills of Driftwood, the TEXAS EGGFEST brings over 1,000 “Egg Heads” from across Texas for tasting, cooking demonstrations, craft beer, live music and family fun. Celebrating it’s 16th year, the festival will be held at the historic Camp Ben McCulloch, showcasing the down home Texas culinary scene that includes well-known chefs and pit masters, a Texas-style Big Green Egg Grand Tasting, a Texas Craft Beer Garden, Eggfest University cooking classes, as well as a “Makers + Mom & Pop” vendor marketplace. Tickets: \$40. Location: TEXAS EGGFEST is happy to return to Camp Ben McCulloch for a third year, the venue is a century old Event & Camping Facility featuring majestic oaks and wide open spaces-- a stone’s throw from the World Famous Salt Lick BBQ Restaurant on FM 1826. <https://www.texaseggfest.com/>
- April 27-28 **Georgetown:** RED POPPY FESTIVAL is a weekend with arts and craft booths, music and food courts. The festival kicks off with a Friday Night concert and has live music throughout the rest of the weekend as well as a car show. Saturday is the “Paint the Georgetown Red” parade. Walk around the downtown square, voted most beautiful in Texas, for local shopping and great restaurants. See web site for complete list of events. <https://poppy.georgetown.org/schedule/schedule-complete/>
- April 29-30 **Wimberley:** WIMBERLEY ART FEST You'll see about 100 booths nestled among the pecan trees and cabins. Food truck aromas will beckon you to relax and have a picnic overlooking the river. A beer and wine booth will help you enjoy your picnic even more. Live music plays continuously and there will be chairs set up for you to rest and listen as you take breaks between art shopping. Great effort is made to intermix the art so you will see a large variety of media. All of the exhibiting artists are selected by invitation and all of them are experienced and talented. Some come from neighboring states and regions. About 25% are local artists. Located just off Ranch Rd 12 along the Blanco river. See web site for map and list of artist. <http://www.wimberleyartsfest.com/>

Many of the activities listed above occur on week ends. Below are a couple of events that are open during the week you will find fun and a great place to take pictures.

- April. **Brenham:** ANTIQUE ROSE EMPORIUM is actually located in Independence TX about 10 miles North of Brenham. The emporium is a large retail mail-order garden that have large variety of roses that grow in almost any climate and any location. The have a small garden displaying a variety of roses available for purchase. Check it out, its time to start working those flower beds. <https://www.antiqueroseemporium.com/>



open year round **Fredericksburg:** WILDSEED FARMS growing "hard to find" tropical trees and scrubs, as well as, local favorites including: Bluebonnets, Indian Blanket, Purple Coneflower and Laura Bush Petunias. We offer a large selection of ornamental grasses, tropical trees, cactus and succulents. The display gardens contain compatible plants that show the homeowner new ideas for possible landscape makeovers. Location: 7 miles east of Fredericksburg and approximately 25 miles west of Johnson City. Open 7 days a week 9:30am-5pm. <http://shop.wildseedfarms.com/>

open in the summer **Austin:** CONGRESS AVE BRIDGE BATS Every summer night a glance towards the bridge on Congress Ave will yield the site of people stopped with camera in hand waiting to catch sight of the spectacle that is the Congress Ave Bridge Bats. The worlds largest urban bat colony lives under the bridge and come dusk their nightly emergence is one of the grandest wildlife viewings in the world. Watch as the black cloud of 1.5 million bats spiral out into the summer sky. <https://www.viator.com/Austin-attractions/Congress-Avenue-Bridge-Bats-tours-tickets/d5021-a7723?pref=204>



Open year round **Johnson City:** Lyndon B Johnson National Historical Park tells the story of our 36th President beginning with his ancestors until his final resting place on his beloved LBJ Ranch. Tour the ranch, The Texas White House. Look for Air Force One. Park open 7 days a week 9am - 5pm. Admission is Free. <https://www.nps.gov/lyjo/index.htm>

In an effort to help promote photography this list of Festivals and Events is distributed to members of the photography club to provide a list of photographic opportunities' they previously may not have been aware of. Depending on your photographic interest, you will find, action, landscape, travel, street photography and other styles in this list.



No matter how you get there Don't forget your camera