

# **NATURE NOTES**

Dedicated to the Enjoyment and Conservation of the Natural Beauty of Sun City Texas at Georgetown VOLUME 24 Issue 1 January 2022

# Tuesday, January 18, 2:30 p.m., SCB Living Among Bats

Presented by Christie Gardner

Check meeting announcement for mask requirements

# Tuesday, February 15, 2:30 p.m., SCB Desalination Technology

Presented by Mike Morrison

Check meeting announcement for mask requirements

#### **MEMBERSHIP DUES: \$12 for 2022**

Dues include our monthly programs and all Special Interest Group programs and activities.

#### SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs)

Nature Club activities are posted on the Nature Club website calendar. E-mails are sent to Club members only.

#### **REPTILES & MAMMALS**

SIG Chair: Open

#### **REPTILE ID, RELOCATION & MAPPING**

FREE service, call:

- Jim Christiansen 512-868-3504
- Steve Kelley 512-639-0539
- John Leek 713-825-0145
- Joe Plunkett 774-226-0810
- City of Georgetown Animal Control 512-930-3592

We encourage residents to leave harmless, beneficial reptiles in their landscapes, but call us so we can identify and map all reptiles.

#### **ASTRONOMY SIG**

Tues., **January 24**, 6:30 p.m., CCF, program a selected lecture from, "A Field Guide to the Planets."

Mon., **February 28**, 7:00 p.m., CCF, program TBA

Watch for Special Viewing announcements.

SIG Chairs: Richard Wagoner & David Lingo

#### **BIRDING SIG**

Tues., **January 4**, 2:30 p.m., ACA – "Songbirds of Williamson County"

No Birding SIG Meeting in February

#### **BIRD WALKS**

Wed., January 6, Thurs., January 20, Wed., February 3 & Thurs., February 16. All walks 8:00 a.m., meet at LHPP parking lot near the lake. Any changes will be emailed. Masks Optional

SIG Chairs: Ed Rozenburg & Martin Byhower

### **BUTTERFLY/MOTH SIG**

No SIG Meeting in January Tues., **February 1**, 2:30 p.m., ACA – "Butterflies in the Rio Grande Valley"

#### **BUTTERFLY WALKS**

Look for announcements
Meet at the Tranquility trailhead.

SIG Chair: Ed Rozenburg



#### **GEOLOGY SIG**

Tues., **January 25**, ACA – Dave Weinberg will present, "Salt – The Rock You Eat and So Much More"

Tues, **February 22**, 4 p.m., ACA. Jim Tobin will present "Minerals that Rocked the World: Quartz"

SIG Chair: Paul Swetland

#### **NATIVE PLANTS SIG**

No SIG Meeting in January or February No plant walks in January or February

SIG Chair: Pat Garren



# Caught on Cam: Pair of Bald Eagle Eggs in Florida Expected to Hatch Soon

First of two <u>anticipated newborn bald eagles</u> conceived in Florida on Monday, and the incredibly touching scenes were captured on photograph for others to see.

Harriet and her mate M15 have been attentively protecting and gestating the eggs and scavenging across their sanctuary, which is situated on the Dick Pritchett Real Estate farmhouse, for further a month.

The New Born Bald Eagles

As per the homestead, a tiny tear that indicates the first sign of a newly hatched has been seen on one of eggs in the bald eagle enclosure on Sunday morning, and the newborn reared about 12:45 p.m. on Monday.

"The strong return of this prized bird reminds us of our nation's shared resilience, as well as the importance of being responsible stewards of the lands and waters that bind us together," the officials said.

Due to overhunting, habitat destruction, and use of DDT, a strong insecticide that earned bald eagle eggshells so vulnerable that they just cannot generate healthy children and bald eagle populaces in the reduced 48 states fallen significantly around 1870 and 1970.

The Pritchetts have implanted three sensors around the enclosure for the past ten years, allowing anybody in the universe to witness the eagles and their wonderful instances, from the period the eggs are arranged to the day eaglets are conceived.

In a public statement, Southwest Florida Eagle Cam stated, "Both guardians have tirelessly taken rotations gestating the eggs, preserving temperature embryos require for future growth."

Bald eagles were eliminated from the endangered species list in 2007 and are now kept safe by the <u>Bald and Golden</u> <u>Eagle Protection Law.</u> These eagles, which were once listed as threatened, nowadays are flourishing, as per a 2020 review.

Whereas audiences had all been eligible to observe as the couple cared for their eggs, regularly turning them and maintaining them comfortable, there were also some frightening occasions for the optimistic mom and dad.

"The bald eagle was always regarded a mystical lifeform by American Indian folks, and it is also precious to our country."

The Decline of Population of The Bald Eagles

According to an article from the US Fish and Wildlife Facility, the volume of bald eagles has quadrupled since 2009.

The very first egg was settled on November 20, with the second egg placed shortly afterward.

As shown in the document, over 316,700 bald eagles and much more than 71,400 breeding pairs were prevalent in the decreased 48 states although 2019 mating period.

There have only been 417 mating pairs in 1963, and the national law prohibits the use of DDT in 1972 as part of a broader exertion that would save the legendary animal.

Harriet and M15 have now become online media phenomenon, with millions and millions of users around the globe anticipating their 24-hour telecast, which is hosted by the Southwest Florida Eagle Cam.

Because the cameras were assembled in 2012, Harriet has laid 23 eggs, along with the 2 additional infants.

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