



NATURE NOTES

Dedicated to the Enjoyment and Conservation of the Natural Beauty of Sun City Texas at Georgetown

VOLUME 24

Issue 6

June 2022

Tuesday, June 21, 2:30 p.m., SCB

Rare Earths and Other Metals Presented by Dave Weinberg

Tuesday, July 19, 2:30 p.m., SCB

Wildlife Here Before and After Sun City Presented by Jim Christiansen

SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars now and save the date.

December 5 – Nature Club Holiday Party

More information coming as we approach the date!

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](http://www.sctexas.org) 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

Mon., **June 27**, 7:00 p.m., CCF, program TBA

Mon., **July 25**, 7:00 p.m., CCF, program TBA

Check the Calendar for up-to-date info and watch for Special Viewing announcements.



SIG Chairs: Richard Wagoner & David Lingo

BIRDING SIG

No SIG meeting in June

Tues., **July 5**, 2:30 p.m., ACA – “*Birds and Butterflies in My Backyard*” presented by Jack Cochran, photographer/naturalist.



BIRD WALKS

Thurs., **June 2** & Wed., **June 15**. All walks 8:00 a.m., meet at LHPP parking lot near the lake. Any changes will be emailed.

Bird walks will resume in September

SIG Chairs: Ed Rozenburg & Martin Byhower

BUTTERFLY/MOTH SIG

Tues., **June 7**, 2:30 p.m., ACA – Topic TBA

No SIG Meeting in July



BUTTERFLY WALKS

Tues., **June 7**, 2:30 p.m. & Wed., **July 27**, 10:00 a.m. Meet at the Tranquility trailhead off Lone Star.

SIG Chair: Ed Rozenburg

GEOLOGY SIG

Tues., **June 28**, 4:00 p.m., ACA. “*What Makes Denver the Mile High City?*” presented by Micheal Starch

Tues., **July 26**, 4:00 p.m., ACA. “*The Geology and Origin of Carlsbad Caverns*” presented by Debra Rutan

SIG Chair: Paul Swetland



Living With Wildlife SIG

Thur., **June 23**, 10:00 a.m., ACA, “Coyotes in an Urban Environment” with Kelly Simon, TPWD Urban Biologist

Thur., **July 28**, 10:00 a.m., ACA, program TBA

SIG Chairs: Nancy Wagoner and Barbara Meisner

NATIVE PLANTS SIG

Plant Walks Mon., **June 6**, and Wed., **June 8**. There will be no plant walks in July. All plant walks start at 8:00 at the Rocky Hollow Trail Head Parking Lot.

SIG Chair: Pat Garren



Nature Club Field Trip

On April 19, 2022, 35 members of the Sun City Texas Nature Club participated in a field trip to [Inks Dam National Fish Hatchery](#) (IDNFH), about an hour's drive away. The facility is located near Burnet, Texas, on 100 acres, with 30 acres dedicated to the fish raising program.



We arrived at the Visitors Center about 9 a.m. The introductions and guided tours were directed by three very enthusiastic and knowledgeable members of Friends of IDNFH.

We were offered tours of the fish hatchery, a pollinator garden, a native plant garden, and an interpretive hike up the Overlook Trail. The top of Overlook Trail gives a good look at the facility as well as beautiful views of the surrounding Hoover's Valley and Inks Lake Dam.

Among other projects at IDNFH, we learned about their catfish reproduction program. They raise thousands of channel catfish to meet Native American Tribal trust commitments. These fish are distributed to 10 Southwestern Native American Tribes in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas, offering economic benefits through sport fishing and other recreational activities. We saw the catching and the feeding of the fish. Exciting!

Afterwards, some of us enjoyed a picnic lunch on site, and others went to nearby recommend restaurants.

IDNFH gives people a place to get outside, learn about the world around them and enjoy the outdoors. A great place to visit!

By Betty Skinner



A view of the IDNFH Photo Betty Skinner



Channel Catfish Photo IDNFH