



september : october : november 2015

We believe a personal connection with nature is an essential part of life. Come connect at the Center!



HANA AND ARTHUR GINZBARG

# nature discovery center

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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### DISCOVERY ROOM HOURS

NOON - 5:30 TUE - FRI  
10 - 5:30 SAT & SUN  
CLOSED MONDAYS

### ADMISSION FREE

Donations are appreciated.

Groups of six or more  
children by appointment.  
Cost is \$2/child.

### MISSION

*To ignite lifelong curiosity,  
understanding, and respect  
for nature through education.*

[naturediscoverycenter.org](http://naturediscoverycenter.org)

NatureDiscoveryCenter

NDCHouston

naturediscoverycenter

### nature discovery center

7112 NEWCASTLE  
BELLAIRE, TX 77401  
T 713.667.6550  
F 713.667.7654



## We're open during construction!

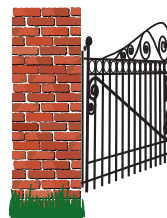
We are excited about our upcoming renovation project to the one acre immediately surrounding the Nature Center. The Center will be open during construction for programs and Discovery Room visits. Construction is scheduled to begin in the Fall and last roughly 6 months. The north parking lot will be closed to visitors during construction. Visitors are asked to park in the South parking lot (on the corner of Newcastle and Evergreen St) and enjoy a short walk through Russ Pitman Park to the Nature Center.

## Save the Dates!



### Pumpkin Patch (p 3)

2 Days of Fall Festival FUN!  
October 17 & 18 from 11 am to 4 pm



### 21st Twilight Gala (p 3)

*Gateway to Green*  
at the Houstonian Hotel  
November 20 at 6:30 pm

### Photos with Santa by John Daugherty Realtors

December 5 from 10 am - 1 pm



### Swift Night Out

**Nature Discovery Center** Sep 4 at 7:30 pm (p 7)

**Lakeview Elem. in Sugarland** Sep 18 at 7:30 pm (p 7)

**Tree ID Walks** Sep 5, Oct 3, Nov 7 at 10 am (p 6)

**Park After Dark** Sep 11 at 8 pm & Oct 23 at 7 pm (p 5)

**Meet the Animals** Sep 13 & Nov 8 at 2 pm (p 5)

**Nature Walks on the Wild Side with Mary Ann**  
Oct 10, Nov 15, & Dec 12 at 10am (p 5)

**Henry Owen**

Executive Director

**Staff**

Mary Ann Beauchemin

Maura Denman

Pam Dunker

Eric Duran

Anne Eisner

Michelle Vryn

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*Vice President*

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Kristin Berry

Jane Dembski

Marybeth Flaherty

Winfred &amp; Johnnie Frazier

Terese T. Hershey

Tom &amp; Brenda Koch

R. W. McKinney

W. Ed Michna, Jr.

Janie Mitcham

Sumita Prasad

Martin Reiner

J. Victor Samuels

Cindy Siegel

Elizabeth Blanton Wareing

## Gateway Project Brick Campaign

Help beautify our new walkway to the Nature Discovery Center and leave a memory that will last a lifetime with an engraved brick. Single bricks are available for \$100 each, and three bricks are available for \$270.

You can place your brick and engraving order online by visiting the link on our web page: [www.naturediscoverycenter.org/bricks](http://www.naturediscoverycenter.org/bricks). Order soon to ensure that your brick can be placed in the new walkway during Phase Two of our Gateway Project!

Engraved bricks are perfect for honoring school and scout groups, teachers, and any other nature lover in your life. If you own a local business and would like to be a corporate sponsor and purchase a brick to advertise your business, please contact our Director of Development at [mvrn@naturediscoverycenter.org](mailto:mvrn@naturediscoverycenter.org) for available sizes/prices and details.



*Bricks can be engraved with 2 lines of text, each with up to 24 characters including spaces and punctuation.*



*Phase Two of the Gateway Project will include a remodeling of the pavilion area. The open space will be resurfaced, and new sensory gardens will be built to make better use of this event and teaching space.*

## Center Welcomes Pam Dunker as New Office Manager

The Center is pleased to announce that Pam Dunker has joined the Staff as our new Office Manager! Pam's eye for detail, her tech savvy, interest in nature, and her life experiences volunteering in nature and conservation based non-profits make her a great addition!

Pam is also thrilled to join the team at the Nature Discovery Center. Seeking a place where she can be connected to sharing her love of all things nature, Pam feels like the Nature Center is a perfect fit. Pam has a degree in Philosophy from California State University at Sacramento. She has volunteered with Houston Audubon, The Nature Conservancy, and the National Park Service. She is a nature photographer, artist, amateur chef, avid gardener, and a bit of a technology geek.



**Pam Dunker**  
*Office Manager*



Stop by and say hello to Pam the next time you are in. She'll be in the main office ready to help with any questions you have.





# special events

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## Pumpkin Patch 2015

**Winner of the 2014 Macaroni Kid Gold Daisy Award  
for Best Fall Festival in SW Houston/Fort Bend County**



**Saturday & Sunday, October 17 & 18 from 11 am to 4 pm both days rain or shine!**

Fun for the whole family awaits as we get ready to head into the fall season. Come to our award winning Pumpkin Patch to experience a wholesome family outing. Pick out a pumpkin, play old time games and ride a hay ride.

Pumpkin Patch returns to the Nature Discovery Center this year with a slightly different look. Due to the construction surrounding the Henshaw House, Pumpkin Patch will be held primarily at the south end of the park. Pumpkins and ticket sales will be in the Russ Pitman playground area. Come wander through the park to see what games, food, and activities will attract your children. Prices for games and activities vary from \$0.50 - \$4. Pumpkin Passes, which offer a slight discount on tickets and save you from keeping track of handfulls of individual tickets, will be available for \$20. Call 713-667-6550 or email Anne at [aeisner@naturediscoverycenter.org](mailto:aeisner@naturediscoverycenter.org) for more information.

*See page 9 for information about volunteering at this year's Pumpkin Patch.*



**21<sup>st</sup> Twilight Gala  
November 20, 2015**

**Benefiting the Nature Discovery Center**

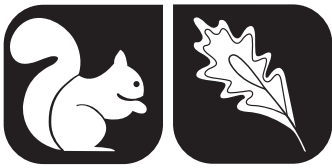
**6:30pm Friday, November 20, 2015 at the Houstonian Hotel**

Mark your calendars for November 20th, the date of our 21st annual Twilight Gala – a fantastic event that celebrates the wonder and beauty of nature, as well as the Center's mission to connect people with the natural world through education. *Gateway to Green* is the theme this year. It is always a memorable dinner, raffle, silent and live auction, and is the Center's largest annual fundraiser. Proceeds from this one evening alone can pay an educator's salary for a year.

Gala Chair Lisa Kornhauser adds, "I am honored to be a chair of the gala this year. The Nature Discovery Center and Russ Pitman Park add an invaluable natural and education element to the community, and the longstanding support from Bellaire and Greater Houston for this special event is truly amazing."

Festivities will include live music performed by the band 'Password'. The Center is also pleased to welcome back ABC13's Tom Koch as emcee. Our live and silent auctions get better and better each year, so do not miss out! Tables and individual tickets are now available for purchase. There are also opportunities to underwrite the event or donate an auction item. For more information, visit our website or email Michelle Vryn, Director of Development, at [mvrn@naturediscoverycenter.org](mailto:mvrn@naturediscoverycenter.org).

*Photos from Twilight 2014 courtesy of Wilson Parrish Photography.*



# children's programs

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Mr. Eric and one of his Curious Kids stop to make a discovery in the Pocket Prairie.

## FREE PROGRAM

### Nature Story Time

Stories, puppets, specimens, songs & more for preschoolers & their caregivers.

**Every Wednesday at 4 pm**

## PLAYDATE IDEA?

### Tour the Park & Discovery Rooms

Schedule a play date for your child's playgroup. **Play Date in the Park** packages may include Discovery Room tours, nature walks, themed activities, and stories in a 30 - 45 minute program specially geared for your group.

Play group visits are scheduled Tuesday - Sunday between 9:30 am - 4:30pm.

**Advanced reservation is required.**

\$8 per child (\$40 minimum)

Call us at the Center at 713.667.6550 to schedule.

## Fall Children's Classes with Mr. Eric

Sign-up for individual classes that meet your hectic schedules, or for a full semester of topics that will inspire your children! *To become a Member before registering and receive Member discounts, visit [www.naturediscoverycenter.org/join](http://www.naturediscoverycenter.org/join)*

### Curious Kids

**Ages: 3.5 - 5 years old with adult**

Preschoolers and their parents or adult caregivers will learn basic science concepts in hands-on classes that encourage and celebrate natural curiosity! Curious Kids lessons may incorporate live animals, plants, natural objects, crafts, puppets, stories, songs, and nature walks.

**Cost per Class:**

\$12 Member

\$20 Non-member

**Members-Only Semester Discount**

**Price: \$139**

**Tuesdays - 10 am or 4 pm (1 hr 15 min)**

**Dates & Topics:**

09/08 – What's Alive?  
09/15 – Animals In the Grass  
09/22 – Forest Creatures  
09/29 – Animal Babies  
10/06 – Dangerous Animals  
10/13 – Squirrels  
10/20 – Spooky Spiders  
10/27 – Creatures of the Night  
11/03 – Nature in Fall  
11/10 – Possums and Kangaroos  
11/17 – Talking Turkeys  
*Thanksgiving Holiday*  
12/01 – Horns and Antlers  
12/08 – Animal Tracks  
12/15 – Winter Nature Crafts



### Junior Scientists

**Ages: 6 - 10 years old**

Our Junior Scientists explore the natural world and examine a variety of science themes through hands-on investigations and experiments, and in lessons enriched with crafts, games, and more!

**Cost per Class:**

\$12 Member

\$20 Non-member

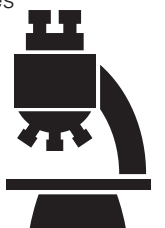
**Members-Only Semester Discount**

**Price: \$139**

**Thursdays - 4 pm - 5:30 pm**

**Dates & Topics:**

09/10 – What's Alive?  
09/17 – Grasses and Grassland Animals  
09/24 – Forests and Forest Animals  
10/01 – Animal Babies and Reproduction  
10/08 – Nocturnal Creatures  
10/15 – Squirrels and other Rodents  
10/22 – Arachnids  
10/29 – Venomous and Poisonous  
11/05 – Autumn Nature  
11/12 – Marsupials and Monotremes  
11/19 – Turkeys and other Big Birds  
*Thanksgiving Holiday*  
12/03 – Horns and Antlers  
12/10 – Tracks and Traces  
12/17 – Winter Nature Studies



**If you have a group of 5+ kids (5-10 yrs old), you can request a class, or a series of classes on most nature/science topics. Call Staff Naturalist, Eric Duran at 713.667.6550 for more info.**

## Winter Break Day Camps Coming in December

**Ages 5 - 10**

One day camps meet from 9:30 - 3:30 each day, with optional After Care until 5:30. Kids bring a lunch and we provide snacks and water.

**Register online.** Members - you may now login as yourself OR as the child who will attend camp.

**Cost/day:** \$45 member / \$55 nonmember

**After Care/day:** \$15

*Camp dates and topics will be announced this fall. Look for camp announcements on our website, on Facebook, and in your email, and register for our Winter Break Camps online later this fall.*







Register  
SOON!



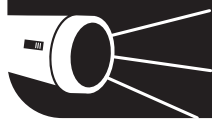
Photo by  
Richard Burton



*Eastern Screech Owls are the stars of the show during our Park After Dark Owl Prowls.*



*Meet the Animals programs offer opportunities for hands-on exposure to live animals.*



## Fall Park After Dark Walks Announced Join Us on a Family Friendly Night Hike!

Come learn about the animals that are out and about in Russ Pitman Park once the sun goes down. Bring your family and join us for a guided night walk through the park. **These night "hikes" are perfect for adults and children ages 4 and up.**

Our night walks begin at the **Nature Discovery Center**. Programs include an introduction to the animals we are likely to find and the best ways to find them, followed by a guided exploration through the park.

**Cost:** \$5/person

**Reservations required.** Visit [www.naturediscoverycenter.org/night-hike](http://www.naturediscoverycenter.org/night-hike) to sign up.

**Bring:** Mosquito repellent and a flashlight (for adult use ONLY).

### September 11, 8:00 pm: Owl Prowl

Owl prowls are always fun and very popular! Come learn about the owls that have been seen in our park and look for the ones that might want to be seen tonight. Sign up soon, our owl prowls fill up!

### October 23, 7:00 pm: Nocturnal Animals

Join us as we try to spotlight some of our nocturnal friends. We will explore the park to find out who is out at night, where they are, and what sounds they make.

## Meet the Animals Sunday Afternoon

Spend a Sunday afternoon at the Center getting to know our animals with up close and personal animal encounters! Each family friendly Meet the Animal session includes: hands-on exposure to live animals and/or specimens, an informal discussion about the animal's basic biology and behavior, and a question and answer period with one of our Staff Naturalists. Some sessions may also include surprises like opportunities to feed the animals or guest appearances by animals not usually seen in our Discovery Rooms.

**Sunday afternoons at 2 pm**

**Upcoming Dates:**

**September 13 - Reptile Rendezvous**

**November 8 - Insects & Other Boneless Creatures**

**Cost:** \$5/person

**This is a drop-in program. Advanced registration is not required.** As a courtesy, please call us at 713.667.6550 if you know you plan to come with a group of 6 or more.

## A Walk on the Wild Side! with Mary Ann Beauchemin

Come explore and learn more about the wild side of nature in the city with our fun, family friendly nature walks in Russ Pitman Park. Join us while we sneak up on lizards, peer through a spotting scope for close up looks at honey bees or birds, discover the latest blooms and their pollinators in our Pocket Prairie, spy on the secret life of animals that hide under logs, and investigate more seasonal nature surprises! Learn some tips to explore nature with your family in your own backyard or on your travels. Walks are about an hour long.

**Upcoming Dates:**

**Saturday, October 10, 10 am**

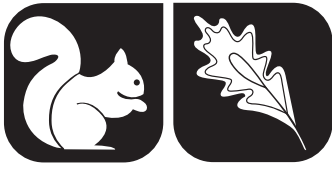
**Sunday, November 15, 10 am**

**Saturday, December 12, 10 am**

**Cost:** members - FREE  
nonmembers - \$5/family

**Meet:** on the front porch of the center

**Registration is not required.** As a courtesy, please call us at 713.667.6550 if you plan to come with a group of 6 or more.



## Tree Identification Walks

**Saturdays,  
10 am to 11 am**



**Dates:** September 5,  
October 3, November 7

Interested in learning how to identify local trees? Jim McKee, a Master Naturalist, tree lover, and bird watcher will once again be leading tree identification walks in the park each month this fall. Jim shares lots of interesting information and historical facts about the many species of trees we have in Russ Pitman Park as well as how to identify them. You might even have some of the same kind of trees in your own yard. Come learn more about them. Join us for one or all of the walks!



Be on the lookout for these and other fall blooming plants in the park. Top - Ironweed, Bottom - Spot Flower. Photos courtesy of Don Verser.

## Monday Morning Gardening with Mary Ann Beauchemin

Are you an adult who is interested in gardening? Want to learn more about native plant gardening, non-native invasive species and help us care for the park at the same time?

Adults are welcome to join us on the first Monday of the month, starting in October when the weather cools down a bit, for some light gardening and help us care for the park. We'll be removing some invasive species, growing out & planting natives, watering recently planted plants and more.



- No experience necessary. Experienced staff will work with you & guide you through projects.
- Come dressed for the weather and be prepared to get dirty.
- Bring your own gloves and gardening gear or use ours.

Please contact Mary Ann Beauchemin, our Park Steward, in advance if you are interested in coming or have any questions.  
[mbeauch@naturediscoverycenter.org](mailto:mbeauch@naturediscoverycenter.org)

Note: If you are interested in volunteer gardening, but cannot make it on the dates below, contact Mary Ann. Perhaps you can help on another day!

**October 5, November 2, & December 7  
from 9:30 am to Noon**



## Annual Members Meeting

**Wednesday, December 2 at 6:30 pm**

Join us for a cup of cider and some winter cheer at the annual meeting to learn what the Center has been doing this year and to hear some of our plans for next year. Meet and vote on the slate of officers for our 2015 Board of Directors.



**This is a Members-only event**, and we look forward to sharing the evening with some of our favorite people!

## Bellaire Garden Club Monthly Meetings

**First Thursdays at 7:00 pm**

The Bellaire Garden Club holds their monthly meetings at the Nature Discovery Center. Everyone is invited!







# fall birding

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## Smith Point Hawk Watch Birding Trip for Senior Members

**Friday, September 25,  
8 am – 6 pm**

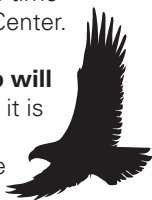
Mary Ann Beauchemin will lead a fall birding trip for NDC Members to the Smith Point Hawk Watch at the height of raptor migration. This trip will be open to any Center Member, who is age 50 or over by September 25, 2015.

We have scheduled a free Seniors' bus from Harris County, Precinct 3. Our thanks go to Steve Radack and Harris County, Precinct 3, for providing this service. In order to ride on the bus, county regulations require that you must be at least 50 years old on or before the trip to be eligible to join us.

We will leave at 8 am and will return about 6 pm. As Hawks utilize rising thermals from the heated ground to soar, we will not need to arrive at Smith Point until about 9:30 or 10 am. After 2 or 3 pm, when it slows down, we can take a little tour around Smith Point itself to look for other birds and migrating butterflies. If there is time, we'll move on to Anahuac until it is time to return to the Center.

**This popular trip will soon be FULL.** If it is

full when you go to register, please do join the Wait List for it online. There are often a few cancellations as the trip date nears.



[www.naturediscoverycenter.org/hawk-watch](http://www.naturediscoverycenter.org/hawk-watch)

## Nature Discovery Center Co-sponsors Family Friendly 'Swift Night Out' Events

Join us for our remaining family friendly 'Swift Night Out' events this fall. Check your calendars and see if you can help count the swelling numbers of Chimney Swifts migrating through Houston. We will watch Chimney Swifts swoop and soar over their roosts and count them as they enter their chimneys. We often count over 500 Chimney Swifts in some locations at this time of year!

Bring a folding chair (if you care to sit down) and mosquito repellent! Binoculars are optional (the swifts are visible with the naked eye as they enter the chimney). For more details and updates see [www.naturediscoverycenter.org](http://www.naturediscoverycenter.org).



### Friday, September 4 - Swift Night Out at the Nature Discovery Center

Meet at 7:30 pm in front of the Nature Discovery Center for special activities and information about chimney swifts just before the count. The Nature Discovery Center will provide light snacks and drinks. The great advantage of this site is that the chimney swifts fly low - right over your head - and they are easy to get a good look at!

*Co-sponsored by the Nature Discovery Center, Houston Audubon Society, and Whole Foods Market-Bellaire.*

### Friday, September 18 - Swift Night Out at Lakeview Elementary in Sugar Land

Meet at 7:30 pm at Lakeview Elementary, 314 Lakeview Dr., Sugarland, 77498, for special activities and information about chimney swifts. Last fall there were over 1,100 swifts roosting at Lakeview Elementary! Whole Foods Market-Sugarland will be providing refreshments.

*Co-sponsored by the Nature Discovery Center and Houston Audubon Society, Whole Foods Market-Sugarland, and Lakeview Elementary School.*

## Swifts Over Houston



Who doesn't love a bird that eats mosquitoes! **Every Tuesday evening at dusk, from the beginning of April through October 20th**, a team of volunteers count Chimney Swifts as they enter chimneys to roost for the night in the Houston area. Please feel free to drop in any evening and join us!

### Count Locations:

1. **SW corner of the Whole Foods Parking Lot**, 4004 Bellaire Blvd, Houston TX
2. **Parking lot on the north side of Pershing Middle School**, entrance off of Stella Link.

## Lunch with the Birds Begins in September

**Wednesdays, Noon to 1 pm**

Interested in birdwatching? Whether you are a novice or an expert, join our free guided bird walks through Russ Pitman Park.

Warblers, vireos, thrushes, flycatchers, & orioles are just a few of the types of fall migrants you may see. If you bring your lunch, plan to eat it before or after the walk.

**Dates:** September 16 through November 4

**Where:** Meet us on the front porch. Just drop in!

**Bring:** binoculars.

## Monthly Winter Bird Walks



**Wednesdays, Noon to 1:15 pm**

Mary Ann Beauchemin will lead a monthly bird walk in Russ Pitman Park throughout the winter. In addition to our winter songbirds we have had some interesting "migrants" overwinter in the past. Most years have some very interesting hummers visiting the park. Last year we had several Rufous, and a few Calliope and Black-chinned Hummers!

**Dates:** December 2, January 6, & February 3

**Where:** Meet us on the front porch. Just drop in!

**Bring:** binoculars.



# summer science fun

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## Ms. Anne's Summer Outreach Programs Are in High Demand!

Ms. Anne took science shows on the road to libraries, day care and learning centers, and summer camps throughout the Greater Houston Area and beyond this summer.

Bellaire Meth. Power Camp  
Bellaire Library  
Beth Yeshurun  
Bracewell Library  
Children's Courtyard  
Spring  
The Woodlands  
Chimney Rock Platou Comm.  
Collier Library  
CyFair Library  
Faith Lutheran  
First Colony Branch Library  
Girls Inc. Camp  
High Meadows Library  
Houston Public Library  
Johnson Library  
Kashmere Library  
Kensington School  
Kid's World Learning Center  
Lakewood Library  
McGovern Stella Link Library  
Melcher Library  
Meyer Branch Library  
Montessori Learning Beechnut  
Oak Forest Library  
Pace Prep  
Phoenix Academy  
Robinson-Westchase Library  
Sheperd Acres Home Library  
Sugar Creek Montessori  
Smaller Scholars  
St. Nicholas School  
Vinson Library  
West University Methodist  
Woodland Acres Elementary  
Young Branch  
Camp Buckaroo/Easter Seals  
Shepherd of the Heart,  
Pearland  
St. John the Divine  
Sugar Creek Baptist  
Woodlands Methodist Church

## Thank You for a Fabulous Summer of Science Camps & Sneak-a-Peek Classes!



## Don't Miss Our Fall Classes & Winter Break Camps!

Members enjoy savings on all classes and camps. Join in the savings and join in the fun today! Visit [www.naturediscoverycenter.org](http://www.naturediscoverycenter.org) to join, to browse our fantastic fall lineup of activities and events, and to register for programs today.





## Special Thanks to ...

### Terrell Sword & Sword

**Plumbing** for repairing broken pipes & leaky faucets in the park and cleaning out the water recycling tanks for Terrell Springs!

**Ronen Wenderfer** who made 3 native bee homes for the park and wrote up a handout with directions so that we could give them out to people who are interested in learning how to make some and install them in their own yards!

**Roland Groenenboom** who created a weekly "Guess Who" photo quiz for our Facebook Page this summer, and who has made and edited videos of animals in the park for us to use on our website, Facebook page, and YouTube Channel.

### Eagle Scout Projects

Constructing a section of decomposed granite trail  
Lihan Fitz  
Michael Richards

### Girl Scout Gold Award

Repair and refurbishment of several Discovery Boxes used in our Discovery Rooms  
Christina Whitehouse

### Outdoor Adventure Day

Reagan Draper, Lauren Faust, and Tessa Valente, Girl Scout Carettes of Troop 21182, lead a lesson about healthy eating and played active outdoor games with kids at their Outdoor Adventure Day in June.

## Summer Quarter Volunteers

### Animal Care

Pavle Bajic  
Jackson Culhane  
William He  
Dana Shay  
Blaise Tsai  
Jaka Tanugraha  
Arthur Yang  
Cate Urbani  
Henry Urbani  
Mary Grace Urbani  
Matthew Urbani

### Aviary Care

Ellen Hastedt  
Karen Borovsky  
Dr. Dan Jordan

### Family Fun Night

Amber Kittles  
Christina Whitehouse

### General Handymen

Gary Gray  
Sword Plumbing

### Park & Plant Care

Amber Kittles  
Aditi Ranganathan  
John Willis

### Special Projects

Roland Groenenboom  
Don Verser

### Wednesday Willing Workers

Norma Barnes  
Fred Campbell  
Beth Debenport  
Beth Murphy  
Jim Murphy  
Debbie Patton  
Michael Patton  
Pat Roberts  
Nora Wolff

### Welcome Volunteers

Margaret Dybala  
Roland Groenenboom  
Christina Fiorenza

### Discovery Room Docents

Pavle Bajic  
Isaac Gateno  
Ethan Glass  
Scott Gold  
Amber Kittles  
Alex Lee  
Tony Liu  
Isha Popat  
Rachel Pravinkumar  
Anna Rosenfeld  
Kiran Singal  
Riya Varadhachary  
Alyssa Yang

### Group Guides

Cecilia Ballesteros  
Meghan Bhatia  
Sammy Eldin  
Izel Fernandez  
Connor Franey  
Scott Gold  
Catherine Groff  
Tony Liu  
Jonathon Mills  
Isha Popat  
Alison Purcell  
Nathan Reichert  
Sarah Seegliger  
Blaise Tsai  
Mary Grace Urbani  
Muyao Zhou

### Sneak-a-Peek Assistants

Cecilia Ballesteros  
Ryan Blake\*  
Aaron Franey  
Ethan Glass  
Emily Kernell  
Amber Kittles  
Lisa Kurland\*  
Isha Popat  
Anna Rosenfeld  
Sabrina Sacks  
Kiran Singal  
Jonathan Turck  
Mary Grace Urbani  
Peggy Villarreal

*\*Jewish Family Service Volunteer*

### Summer Camp Counselors

Luis Abete  
Selene Alikah  
Emma Barrall  
Claire Betzer  
Jasmine Campuzano  
Catherine Craft  
Teresa Datta  
Katherine Davies  
Juliette Draper  
Joseph Engelhart  
Kate Fitzgibbon  
Amara Ghorbani  
Lena Goodman  
Brett Hauser  
Maya Kanani  
Sofia Kontos  
Nikitha Kukkalli  
Amy Lara  
Angela Liu  
Stanley Lopez  
Rachel Lu  
Gabriella Mendoza  
Mitchell Montalvo  
Jonathon Mills  
Isabella Passamano  
Ethan Pham  
Will Pybus  
Bridget Rasmussen  
John Westveer  
Christina Whitehouse  
Stacey Yard  
Lena Shadow  
Sellers Thomas  
Riya Varadhachary  
Maya Venkateswaran  
Zofia Villareal  
Abigail Wallin

*Thanks for another amazing summer!  
We couldn't do it without you!*



**Calling  
All  
Volunteers**



## Get Involved in Pumpkin Patch!

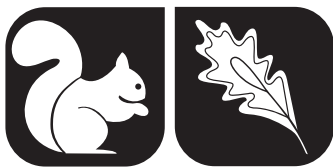
**Friday, October 16 - Pumpkin Unloading from 4 pm to 5 pm**

**Saturday & Sunday, October 17 & 18**

**Event shifts from: 8:30 am to 10:45am, 10:45 am to 1:45 pm, 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm**

Scout groups, school clubs, service organizations, families and individuals all make great volunteers for this annual event. We need people to help with set up, clean up, and a variety of activities during the event. Call Anne Eisner at 713.667.6550 for more information about volunteering, or email Anne at: [aeisner@naturediscoverycenter.org](mailto:aeisner@naturediscoverycenter.org)





*The Hana and Arthur Ginzburg Nature Discovery Center is most grateful to the following corporations, foundations, and individuals for their generous support between August 15, 2014 and August 15, 2015:*

*\* denotes In-Kind donations*

## **Discovery Circle \$15,000**

Anonymous  
George & Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation  
Harris County Commissioner, Precinct 3  
Steve Radack  
The Albert & Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation  
Houston Endowment Inc.  
Patrons for Bellaire Parks  
Russ Pitman

## **Investigator Circle \$10,000**

ACME Party & Tent\*  
The Brown Foundation, Inc.  
K. Cody & Kusum Patel  
Ginzburg Family Fund administered by the  
Greater Houston Community Foundation  
Seay Foundation

## **Explorer Circle \$5,000**

Robert & Pearl Knox Charitable Foundation  
Janie & Stuart Mitcham  
Bruce Storts

## **Wildlife Benefactor \$1,000**

Sharon & Jeffery Addicks  
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## **Wildlife Guardian \$500**

Barb & Jonathan Baliff  
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Arthur Feldman  
Marybeth & Thomas Flaherty  
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Rebecca & O. Clayton Lilienstern  
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Pam & Chad Thayer  
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Edith & Robert Zinn

## **Wildlife Supporter \$250**

Debbie & John Adams  
Kelly Apple & Jason Orsak  
Christine Bourget & Andrew Zimper  
Lagenia & David Clark  
Judy & Rodney Creel  
Sarah Davis & Kent Adams  
Ruth & Dan Flournoy  
Becky Galloway  
Cynthia & Robert Haines  
Susan & Michael Hawes  
Katherine & William Head  
Wendy & Mavis Kelsey  
Kathy & Nam Le  
Pamela Lewis & Chris Collins  
Meghan & Ken Lutschg  
Laura & Price Magness  
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Dr. Charlene & Scott Owens  
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Beverly & Ellis Rudy  
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Lucy & Ernie Seward  
Doris Taylor  
Cheryl & William Turcotte  
Don Verser  
Yvette & James Webb  
Whole Foods Market-Bellaire\*

## **In Memory Of**

**Ida Kaplan Wadler**  
Russ Pitman

## **In Honor Of**

**Ron Fisher - an awesome Dad!**  
Joslyn Fisher

**Ben King**  
Lauren Liles

*The Nature Discovery Center relies on contributions from the community in order to continue offering quality science and nature programs to children and families throughout the Houston area.*

*We thank you all for your support!*



**We invite you to join us in maintaining the Nature Discovery Center's place as a unique, natural learning environment by making a gift.**

**For more information, contact Michelle Vryn, Director of Development, at 713.667.6550 or [mvrn@naturediscoverycenter.org](mailto:mvrn@naturediscoverycenter.org)**

**To make a tax deductible donation to the Center today, visit us online [naturediscoverycenter.org/support](http://naturediscoverycenter.org/support)**





# membership

11

## New & Renewing Members

*The Nature Discovery Center is pleased to welcome the following new and renewing members for the Summer Quarter from May 15, 2015 to August 15, 2015.*

### Wildlife Supporter \$250

Jayne & Garrett Johnston

### Wildlife Partner \$100

Rebecca & Kevin Block  
Kristen Brigger  
Maria & Paul Cooper  
Becky Galloway  
Jennifer Hooper & David Dent  
Debra & Darayus Kolah  
Rachel & Benjamin Lavine  
Melinda & Shin-yueh Lee  
Heidi & Allan McPherson  
Amy & Keith Norman  
Liz & John Partenza  
Elizabeth & Kevin Siffert  
Marcela & Christof Straub  
Audra & Paul Trinh  
Caroline Verot Moore & Eric Moore  
Marina Wetmore



### Family \$50

Cora & John Abbott  
Colleen & Marc Baca  
Suzanne & Edward Barrall  
Sandra & Andrew Barrow  
Stephanie Bates & Robert Alexander  
Jeannine & David Bergt  
Megan & James Bishop  
Andrea Bradford & Peter Rispin  
Audrey & Ari Burgess  
Jennifer & Alan Cable  
Colleen Cerra-Stewart & Jerry Helfand  
Michelle & Eric Christ  
Elizabeth & Guy Travis Clifton  
Stacey Dallepezze  
Kelly & Julian Dent  
Irina Gorokhova & Mark Talanker



Kate & Andy Green  
Suzanne & Neil Hanchard  
Leslie Harris & Edward Baptista  
Michael Hawes & Susan Hawes  
Lourdes & Andrew Jea  
Saida Kadia & Douniazed Wong  
Jennifer & Adam Kirk  
Jennifer Kong & Eric Saibi  
Alina Laurie & Steven Heckard  
Dan Liu  
Rebekah Maddux El-Hakam  
& Moustapha El-Hakam  
Shailaja Menon  
Rachel & Jeff Pasternak  
Janet & Bryan Pate  
Paige & Doug Pecore  
Marissa Pedroche  
Julie & Richard Schwarz  
Andrea Seagraves & David Hickey  
Juhee Sim  
Uday Tare & Mansi Tare  
Weena Tzeng  
Jennifer Vaughan & Steven Vaughan  
Jennifer & Lee Wagner  
Kim Winston & John Baumgartner



### Student/Senior/ Individual \$35

Kurt Brown  
Fred Campbell  
Cynthia Edmondson  
Joanna Friesen  
Melissa Geis  
Mark Kulstad  
Deborah Lancaster  
Carolie Martin  
Janet Neath  
Gary Olson  
Linda Rippert  
Jan Rose  
Grace Saleses  
Margaret Swarts



### Family Members & Higher

... receive discounts on classes, camps, and field trips.

### Wildlife Partners & Higher

... have pavilion reservation privileges for parties

## Membership and Gift Form

(To become a member or renew online, visit [www.naturediscoverycenter.org/join](http://www.naturediscoverycenter.org/join))

Name Addresss City Zip

Phone Email

☐ You may acknowledge my gift (of \$250 or more) in the Nature Discovery Center newsletter.

- ☐ Student/Senior/Individual \$ 35
- ☐ Family 60
- ☐ Wildlife Partner 100
- ☐ Wildlife Supporter 250
- ☐ Wildlife Guradian 500

- ☐ Wildlife Benefactor \$ 1,000
- ☐ Explorer Circle 5,000
- ☐ Investigator Circle 10,000
- ☐ Discovery Circle 15,000

Will your employer match your tax-deductible dues and gift?

☐ Enclosed is my matching gift form. My employer's name is:



HANA AND ARTHUR GINZBURG

## nature discovery center

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**Walks & Talks**  
*page 6*

**Fall Birding  
Opportunities**  
*page 7*

### **2 Days of Fall Festival Fun! Pumpkin Patch**

Saturday & Sunday  
October 17 & 18  
11 am - 4 pm

# Fall Activities



### *Gateway to Green* **21st Anniversary Twilight Gala**



Friday  
November 20  
6:30 pm  
Houstonian Hotel

**Fall Classes  
for Children**  
*page 4*

**Family Fun**  
*page 5*

**Summer Collage**  
*page 8*

