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DISCOVERY ROOM HOURS
NOON-5:30 DAILY
CLOSED MONDAYS

FREE ADMISSION
Donations are appreciated.
Groups of six or more are served by appointment.

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

naturediscoverycenter.org

NatureDiscoveryCenter
NatureDiscoCtr
naturediscoverycenter

Something for Everyone this Fall
The staff of the Nature Discovery Center will provide you and your family a variety of opportunities to get out and explore nature in Russ Pitman Park and beyond this fall. We’ve planned classes just for children, walks for the whole family, a field trip for seniors, and more!

We’re excited to spend this fall with you! Mark your calendars now so you can join the fun!

Save the Dates!

Pumpkin Patch (p 3)
2 Days of Fall Festival FUN
October 18 & 19 from 11 am to 4 pm

20th Twilight Gala (p 3)
Turning a New Leaf
at the Houstonian Hotel
November 21 at 6:30 pm

Photos with Santa by John Daugherty Realtors
December 6 from 10 am - 1 pm

Swift Night Out
Nature Discovery Center Sep 4 at 7:30 pm (p 7)
Lakeview Elem. in Sugarland Sep 12 at 7:30 pm (p 7)

Park After Dark Sep 19 & Oct 10 at 8:00 pm (p 5)

Adult Lecture Oct 1 at 7 pm (p 6)

Tree ID Walks Sep 6, Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 6 at 10 am (p 6)

Meet the Animals Oct 4 at 10 am (p 5)

Nature Walks on the Wild Side with Mary Ann
Oct 12 & Nov 8 at 10am (p 6)
Hello, Friends—

Most of you reading this are from the crazy and crowded concrete jungle of Houston. You face traffic every day, mastering moves around construction, wrecks, and jams. You hear street noise from your own backyard—horns honking and trucks zooming by. Even the air can feel oppressive, hot and humid with a tinge of smog thrown in. But (I hope) you are generally happy to live in a place filled with culture, friends, and let’s not forget—great restaurants.

The Nature Discovery Center improves our quality of life in Bellaire and greater Houston. It’s a quiet green space where you can take a break from the frenetic pace of the City. It is a place where you can reconnect with the natural world. It’s a place where the shade of canopy trees and the bubbling of the fountain seem to lower your blood pressure. Many people walk or drive right by, hurrying to their next destination. I guarantee you will have a better day if you take a quick detour through the Park. I’ve said it before, and I’ll say it again, time spent in nature makes you happier, healthier, and smarter.

Though these peaceful walks through the Park have great value on their own, our programs enhance the Park even more. Try a guided bird walk to develop your powers of observation. Or attend a pre-school class with your child to learn how to promote curiosity and a love of discovery. Attend Pumpkin Patch with your whole family to enjoy good old fashioned fun! Maybe even Meet the Animals one morning and touch a snake or bearded dragon...

Whether you come to the Park to escape the busy-ness of your life or you come to learn directly about the natural world around you, we welcome you always.

Sincerely,
Sarah Flournoy
Executive Director

Volunteer Spotlight:
Jim and Beth Murphy

Jim and Beth Murphy have been involved with the Park since its inception. Close-by neighbors, they began volunteering back when their children were young; now their kids are all grown up! You are likely to see Jim moving quickly through the Park with intention, whether he is hauling plants, helping band hummingbirds, or engaging in conversation with friends. You’ll also notice Jim’s curly hair and huge smile. Jim is a very important part of the Park, and he fits right in!

Jim is instrumental in the leadership of the Wednesday Willing Workers, our volunteer group that meets weekly to enjoy breakfast and coffee as well as hands-on work in the Park. The group manages the herb garden and the flower beds around the House. Next time you visit, please enjoy the colorful flowers and aromatic herbs and appreciate the time and energy these volunteers offer.

Improvements to our Facilities and Grounds

You may have noticed our spruced up appearance at the Center. Thank you so much for the compliments about the new wallpaper, paint, bathrooms, furniture, and more. Next up: the landscaping around the Center!

The support of the community has been overwhelming, and we can’t wait to replace our cracked surfaces, add more beautiful plants, enhance our outdoor animal area, include drainage on paths to keep your feet dry, and make the Center even more of a natural gem than it already is.

Our current plan has us breaking ground on these updates in November. Please check our website or Facebook for the most updated information, or call us directly. We know the construction may be a bit of an eyesore temporarily, but we have plans to make it as fun as possible and to keep disruptions to a minimum. (Kids! Make note: We may do a mini-engineering exhibit to coincide with the landscaping, and we’re also discussing an orange cone decorating contest.)

Stay tuned for improvements ahead and help us ring in the next phase of life at the Nature Discovery Center.
Pumpkin Patch 2014

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

Saturday & Sunday, October 18 & 19 from 11 am to 4 pm both days rain or shine!

Hey Pumpkin Patch fans, October will be here soon! Russ Pitman Park will be transformed into a carnival like atmosphere with fun festival games for children, an inflatable Obstacle Course, the popular horse drawn wagons, tubs-of-fun ride, fall crafts, and more! Be sure to check out the jewelry, candles, and other wares being sold by different vendors as you enjoy our fall festival.

Don’t forget to buy a fantastic pumpkin perfect for your porch! Pumpkin Patch provides fun for the whole family and supports the programs of the Nature Discovery Center. A win-win!

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

Turning a New Leaf

20th Annual Twilight Gala Benefiting the Nature Discovery Center

6:30pm Friday, November 21, 2014 at the Houstonian Hotel

Preparations for our 20th Annual Twilight Gala are underway! Please mark your calendar for our most important fundraiser of the year. Enjoy a fabulous evening with friends as you dance, dine, and bid high on very special auction items. Your support of this event will allow us to offer the finest nature education programs in our area and enhance our beautiful outdoor classroom.

Purchase your Twilight table by September 12, 2014 to be invited to our Underwriter Party on September 17.

Gala Co-Chairs
Aileen & Andy McCormick

Auction Co-Chairs
Eileen Shults
Kristin Berry

Emcee
Tom Koch, Channel 13 Anchorman

Host Committee
Cathy & David Beathard
Vicki & John Brentin
Dr. Johnnie & Winfred Frazier
Jeryl & Jeff Golub
Brenda & Nick Lanza
Pat & Bob Lunn
Barbara & Don Ostdiek
Marcie Rosenberg & Ben Samuels
Cindy & Bob Siegel
Lynne Skinner

Visit naturediscoverycenter.org/twilight to see photos from last year, to learn more, and to purchase tickets and tables.

We are currently seeking auction items. Please email Heather Pray, hpray@naturediscoverycenter.org, if you have a donation for our live or silent auctions.

Early Gala Supporters as of August 15

Live Oak $10,000
Aileen & Andy McCormick

Southern Magnolia $5,000
Pat & Bob Lunn

Cherry Laurel $2,500
Brenda & Greg Cauthen
Cathy & David Beathard
Bellaire Young Mothers
John Carloss / Venetian Blind Carpet One
Chris Copeland
Lisa & Steve Derenthal
Eurocar-Werk
Gimmel
Brenda & Nick Lanza
Laura & Steve Louis
Debbie & Chris Patton
Tradition Bank
Wednesday Willing Workers

Other Early Supporters
Claire Caudill
Dana Levy Germain
Steven Ginzburg
Betsy & David Green
Mary & Carl King
Beth & Tim Logan
Janet Melhöff
Sandra & Ralph Weaver


Photo courtesy of Michelle Watson, CatchLight Group.
children’s programs

Fall Children’s Classes with Mr. Eric

Sign-up for individual classes that meet your hectic schedules, or for topics that inspire your children! To become a Member before registering, visit www.naturediscoverycenter.org/join

To register for classes, visit www.naturediscoverycenter.org/classes-camps

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:
$10 Member
$15 Non-member

Members-Only Semester Discount
Price: $120

Tuesdays - 10 am - 11:15 am

Dates & Topics:
09/09 – Plant Power
09/16 – Plants As Food
09/23 – Plants and Animals
09/30 – Fun With the Sun
10/07 – What Is an Animal?
10/14 – Animals With Bones
10/21 – Animals in Autumn
10/28 – Bats and Moths
11/04 – Slimy Animals
11/11 – Animals With Shells
11/18 – Beach Creatures
Thanksgiving Holiday
12/02 – Texas Animals
12/09 – Animals in Winter
12/16 – Wintertime 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
$18 Non-member

Members-Only Semester Discount
Price: $144

Thursdays - 4 pm - 5:30 pm

Dates & Topics:
09/11 – Plants of the World
09/18 – Where Does Food Come From?
09/25 – Plants and Animals
10/02 – The Sun and the Stars
10/09 – What Is an Animal?
10/16 – Animals With Bones
10/23 – Animals in Autumn
10/30 – Animals in Dark Places
11/06 – Slimy Animals
11/13 – Animal Defenses
11/20 – Creatures of Beach & Shore
Thanksgiving Holiday
12/04 – Texas Animals
12/11 – Animals in Winter
12/18 – Fun Science Experiments

Winter Break Camps
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 - login as the child who will be coming to camp.

Cost/day: $40 member / $50 nonmember
After Care/day: $10

Winter Break Camp Dates
Monday, 12/22
Tuesday, 12/23
Monday, 12/29
Tuesday, 12/30

Camp topics will be announced this fall. Look for our camp announcements on our website, on Facebook, and in your email, and register for our winter camps online later this fall.

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, stories and songs 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.

Nature Story Time
Stories, puppets, specimens, songs & more for preschoolers & their caregivers.
Every Wednesday at 4 pm

FREE PROGRAM

PLAYDATE IDEA?

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

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.
family fun

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 to sign up.
Bring: Mosquito repellant and a flashlight (for adult use ONLY).

September 19, 8:00 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.

October 10, 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!

Meet the Animals Saturday Morning

Spend a Saturday morning 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.

Saturday mornings at 10 am

Upcoming Dates:
October 4 - Our Feathered Friends
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:
Sunday, October 12, 10 am
Saturday, November 8, 10 am
Cost: members - FREE
nonmembers - $5/family
Meet: at the front porch
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.
Free Adult Lecture

Wednesday, October 1 at 7 pm

Saving Our Wildlife: Wildlife Conservation Efforts at the Houston Zoo
with Joe Flanagan, DVM, Chief Veterinarian, Houston Zoo

The conservation team at the Houston Zoo works tirelessly to help save a variety of endangered and imperiled native Texas animals. Join the Zoo’s Chief Veterinarian, Joe Flanagan, for a fascinating talk about the Zoo’s efforts, through breeding programs and field work, with Texas Sea Turtles, Attwater’s Prairie Chicken, and Houston Toads.

Joe Flanagan graduated from the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1982. After graduation, he trained at Omaha’s Henry Doorly Zoo until he began work as a veterinarian at the Houston Zoo in December 1982. He is currently the Chief Veterinarian at the Houston Zoo, where he is responsible for the healthcare of 6000 animals ranging from invertebrates to great apes. He is a member of the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians and served as its president in 2005. Flanagan received the Environmental Hero Award from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in 2000 for volunteer work in the recovery of Kemp’s Ridley sea turtles in the Gulf of Mexico.

Monday Morning Gardening

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?

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 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

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 6, November 3, & December 1 from 9:30 am to Noon

Tree Identification Walks

Saturdays, 10 am to 11 am

Dates: September 6, October 4, November 1, December 6

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 and teaches you 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!

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!

Annual Members Meeting

Wednesday, December 3 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 our favorite people!

Be on the lookout for these and other fall blooming plants in the park. Top - Ironweed, Bottom - Spot Flower. Photos courtesy of Don Verser.
Smith Point Hawk Watch Birding Trip for Senior Members

Friday, September 26, 8 am – 6 pm

This popular trip is now FULL. Please join the Wait List for it online. There are often a few cancellations as the trip date nears.

www.naturediscoverycenter.org/hawk-watch

Nature Discovery Center Co-sponsors Family Friendly ‘Swift Night Out’ Events

If you missed the Swift Night Out Events we held at Whole Foods Market/Pershing Middle School or at Kleb Woods in August, don’t worry. There are still two more Swift Night Out Events yet to come! Join us as we help count the swelling numbers of chimney swifts migrating through Houston area at our towers here in Russ Pitman Park and at a chimney in Sugar Land. We will watch chimney swifts swoop and soar over their roost and count them as they enter their chimney for the night.

Bring a folding chair if you prefer 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.

Thursday, 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 and Houston Audubon Society.

Friday, September 12 - 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, through late October, a team of volunteers count Chimney Swifts as they enter chimneys to roost for the night. Please drop in 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 and buntings 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 17 through November 5
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 3, January 7, & February 4
Where: Meet us on the front porch. Just drop in!
Bring: binoculars.

Just ask!

We keep binoculars on hand at the Center for visitors to borrow while birding in Russ Pitman Park. Call ahead to check availability.
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.

Barbara Bush Library
Becker School
Bellaire Meth. Power Camp
Bellaire Library
Bracewell Library
Carnegie Library
Children’s Courtyard
Spring The Woodlands
Faith Lutheran
Flores Library
George Memorial Library
Girls Inc. Camp
Heights Library
Heights Preschool
High Meadows Library
Johnson Library
Knox Memorial Library
Lone Star College CyFair
McCrate Kashmere
McGovern Stella Link Library
Meyer Branch Library
Missouri City Branch Library
Montessori Learning Beechnut
Morris Frank Library
Pace Prep
Pasadena Learning Center
Phoenix Academy
Pleasantville Library
Robinson-Westchase Library
Shepherd-Acres Homes
Smaller Scholars
Smith Library
St. Mark’s Lutheran
St. Nicholas School
St. Andrews Presbyterian
Stanaker Library
Stimley Blueridge Library
Tuttle Library
Tyra Library
UOS Goldberg Montessori
UT Child Development Center
Vinson Library
West University Methodist
Young Library
Camp Buckaroo/Easter Seals
Shepherd of the Heart, Pearland
St. John the Divine
Sugar Creek Baptist
UMC, The Woodlands

Thank You for a Sold Out 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 to join, to browse our fantastic fall lineup of activities and events, and to register for programs today.
Special Thanks to ...

Charles Pressler for replacing our playground area picnic tables as his Eagle Scout Project. And to Troop 16 for donating funds for the lumber.

Dr. Cin-Ty Lee for teaching another Shorebird Workshop and field trip to benefit the Nature Discovery Center.

Terrell Sword & Sword Plumbing – for cleaning out and training staff to clean recycling tanks for Terrell’s Springs – the bubbling rock fountain he put in for us last summer/fall!

Don Verser for maintaining our beautiful Pocket Prairie and other areas in the park and for repairing the water level problem in our shady wetlands.

Volunteer for Pumpkin Patch

Friday, October 17 - Pumpkin Unloading
4 pm to 5 pm

Saturday & Sunday, October 18 & 19
Event shifts from: 8:30 am to 10:45 am, 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. Contact Anne Eisner at 713.667.6550 for more information about volunteering at this event. Email Anne at: aeisner@naturediscoverycenter.org

Summer Quarter Volunteers

Animal Care
Hannah Radcliffe
Jonathan Radcliffe
Dana Shay
Jaka Tanugraha
Cate Urbani
Mary Grace Urbani

Shorebird Workshop
Dr. Cin-Ty Lee
Mark Kulstad
Tim Perkins

Aviary Care
Ellen Hastedt
Dr. Dan Jordan

Sneak-a-Peek Assistants
Allison Clark
Sammy Eldin
Peggy Horn
Emily Kernels
Leslie Medina
Hattie Meehan
Gabriella Mendoza
Isabella Passamano

Aviary Care
Ellen Hastedt
Dr. Dan Jordan

Discovery Room Docent
Kathleen Connell
Nicholas Echeverri
Jack Sullivan
Alex Lee
Alex Lewis
Angela Liu
Bravyn Lu
Eli Melendre
Anna Rosenfeld

Summer Camp Counselors
Jake Beinhart
Kyle Biedermann
Jasmine Campuzano
Teresa Datta
Katherine Davies
Joey Engehart
Amara Ghorbani
Brett Hauser
Maya Kanani
Nina Kim
Sophia Kontos
Lauren Li
Stanley Lopez
Rachel Lu
Carrie Meng
Ali Niefeld
Isabella Passamano
Katherine Powers
Christina Ru
Jack Sullivan
Priscilla Trevino
Maja Venkateswaran
Kehvi Wang
Stacey Yard

General Handymen
Gary Gray
Terrell Sword & Sword Plumbing

Summer Group Guides
Myra Acevedo
Sara Colburn
Sara Colburn
Jazmin Galvan
Carson Gartner
Catherine Groff
Leigh Gonik
Sammy Eldin
Marlon Guerrero
Elyse Hanse
Jamie Hassell
Antonia Iyer
Eli Maireson
Lauren Sonik
Erika Vinette
Muyao Zhou

Park & Plant Care
Ronnie Renick
Don Verser
John Willis
Lijin Zeng

Summer Watering in the Park
Georgia & Brandye Drager
Hayden & Catherine Hanslik
Hillery Keith
Ethan Pham
Gaby & Mary Ann Yabut

Park Project Consultation
David Black
Gary Gray
Carol & Richard Phillips

Wednesday Willing Workers
Norma Barnes
Fred Campbell
Marcelle Daniel
Beth Debenport
Beth Murphy
Jim Murphy
Debbie Patton
Michael Patton
Pat Roberts
Nora Wolff

Volunteer Spotlight (Continued from Page 2)

Jim serves as the Chairman of the Bellaire Garden Club’s annual plant sale. The plant sale takes place in the spring at the Nature Discovery Center, and frequently the Club will reinvest its sale earnings into the Park. At home, Jim and Beth propagate many plants for the sale, and they are valuable resources at the sale itself, providing advice on soil and sun conditions needed to make a variety of plants thrive. Jim enjoys learning about and growing native plants, in particular. He believes in the native plant restoration we are doing in the Park and loves seeing the excitement on kids’ faces when they discover insects on one of our many plants!

Beth established the herb garden in our back pavilion area, and she remains a member of the Herb Society of America to this day. The herb-themed discovery box was designed by Beth, and both Jim and Beth share their knowledge of herbs and other herbaceous plants at our annual Spring Fling. Recently, Beth also led the charge during our Whole Food Market volunteer day; young volunteers planted many wildflower seeds, which we grew and then planted in the Park.

When you look around the beautiful grounds at the Nature Discovery Center, it is likely Jim and Beth had a hand. We are fortunate for their involvement and thank them for sharing their time—and for sharing our passion for plants!
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, 2013 and August 15, 2014:

* denotes In-Kind donations

Discovery Circle $15,000
The Cullen Foundation
The Fondren Foundation
George & Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation
Harris County Commissioner, Precinct 3
Steve Radack
Houston Endowment Inc.
The Wortham Foundation

Investigator Circle $10,000
ACME Party & Tent*
The Brown Foundation, Inc.
The Albert & Ethel Herzstein Foundation
Andy & Aileen McCormick Family Fund
The Powell Foundation
Seay Foundation

Explorer Circle $5,000
Bellaire Young Mothers
John & Bridgette Goss
Bob & Pat Lunn
Chris & Debbie Patton
Russ Pitman
Samuels Foundation
Whole Foods Market-Bellaire

Wildlife Benefactor $1,000
Dr. Robert & Mrs. Jamie Allen
Kelly Apple & Jason Orsak
Brent & Julie Bersin
Greg & Brenda Cauthen
Centerpoint Energy
Lynda Clemons
James & Christiane Copeland
Lisa & Steven Derenthal
Don’s Tree Service
Lynn & Marilyn Elliott
EurocarWerk
Dan & Ruth Flournoy
John Flournoy
Dr. Cullen Geiselman
Gimmel
Jeffrey & Jeryl Golub
Charles R. & Tracy Hallenberger
Jaciob & Terese Hershey Foundation
Chap & Ethel Hutcheson
Brenda & Nick Lanza
Christine & Mark Laskin
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Lee Norris & Linda Steen Norris
K. Cody & Kusum Patel
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Reliant Energy Charitable Foundation
Silver Eagle Distributors L.P.
Lynne Skinner
Sword Plumbing Company*
Jill & Charles Talisman
Alex & Amy Tsui
Venetian Blind & Floor Carpet One

Wildlife Guardian $500
Councilman James Avioli, Sr.
& Mrs. Dee Avioli
David & Cathy Beathard
Lewis & Shelley Brazelton
Nigel & Cherry Curlet
Marlin & Marla Downey
Exxon Mobil Foundation
Tom & Marybeth Flaherty
Wayne & Patsy Fox
Dr. Johnnie & Mr. Winfred Frazier
Dana Germain
Steven Ginzberg
Carter & Mary Groves
Terese Hershey
William & Cynthia Hutz
Carl & Mary King
Thanos & Lucinda Kontos
Randy & Kathy Lake*
Nikky Lawell
O. Clayton & Rebecca Lilienstern
Tim & Beth Logan
The Meyer Foundation
Jimmy & Jennifer Murchison
Buck & Jacque Ogilvie
Laurie & Bradley O’Halla
Ernie & Lucy Seward
Shell Oil Company Foundation
Cynthia & Robert Siegel
Don Verser
Village Plumbing & Home Services
Louis Waters, Jr. & Geraldine Waters
Robert & Edith Zinn

Wildlife Supporter $250
Mike Alsup
Mary Ann Beauchemin & Gary Gray
David & Betsy Black
Van & Bridget Burkart
Buck & Sally Chapoton
Virginia Clark
Joe & Susie Dilg
T. Kevin & Susan Golden
Greater Houston Community Foundation
Dr. Ben & Mrs. Cookie Portnoy
Dr. Charlene & Mr. Scott Owens
Dr. Ben & Mrs. Cookie Portnoy
Barbara Raines
Judy & Marty Reiner

Event Support
Family Nature Nights
Goodman Financial

In Memory Of
Hana Ginzburg
Terese Hershey

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 Heather Pray, Director of Development, at 713.667.6550 or hpray@naturediscoverycenter.org

To make a tax deductible donation to the Center today, visit us online naturediscoverycenter.org/support
### New & Renewing Members

The Nature Discovery Center is pleased to welcome the following new and renewing members for the Summer Quarter from May 15, 2014 to August 15, 2014.

#### Wildlife Guardian $500
- Caroline Smith & Abigail Micu
- Cherie Coco
- Laura Conley
- Stefanie Cousins
- Geeta & Piyuse Das
- Kelly & Julian Dent
- Lisa Derenthal
- Gene Doggett
- Stephanie Drumgoole
- Suzanne & Neil Hanchard
- Nassim Hatami-Brinkley
- Susan & Michael Hawes
- Shweta & Satyajit Khade
- Debra & Darayus Kolah
- Lindsay Ladenburg & Terri Barazzas
- Jutta & Roy Neely
- Anh-thuy Nguyen & Russell Hall
- Althson Nisbet
- Rene Nutter & Cynthia Walsh
- Janet & Bryan Pate
- Catharine Perry
- Lori Peters & Eric Johnstone
- Sally & Howard Phillips
- Tiffany & Brett Podolsky
- Pamela & Chase Randle
- Deirdre & Peter Rozowski
- Karl & Jane Schulz
- Gopi Shah
- Erin Furr-Stimming, MD
- Anoushka Tandon
- Renee & Richard Thomas
- Vanessa Wegner & Martin Fuller
- Heather Westendorp
- Nancy Wilson

#### Individual $30
- Charles Brasier
- Becky Galloway

#### Student/Senior $25
- Kurt Brown
- Fred Campbell
- Claire Caudill
- Cynthia Edmondson
- Twilight Freedman
- Deborah Lancaster
- Carolie Martin
- Janet Neath
- Jan Rose
- Margaret Swarts
- Susan Schultz

#### Wildlife Partner $100
- Brent Bersin
- Sarah & Adam Davidson
- Steve Gordon & Denise De La Cruz
- Kate & Peter Hays
- Hanna Hepp & Joseph El-Azzi
- Karen Hibbard
- Kristin & Todd Janicek
- Sarah & Charlie King
- Sacha Lazarre
- Song Li
- Amy Malphrus
- Alyson & Ryan McConnell
- Heidi & Alan McPherson
- Edith Santiago
- Meredith & Brad Segal
- Rona Sonabend
- Elvia & Reynaldo Uresti
- Joyee & Sameer Vachani
- Karrie & Richard Wheatley
- Andrea Winard

#### Family $50
- Nabil Ahmed
- Irina Beatty
- Candice & Brandon Bedingfield
- Jeannine & David Bergt
- Monica Bowes
- Audrey & Ari Burgess

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#### Membership and Gift Form

To become a member online visit naturediscoverycenter.org/join.

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| Wildlife Guardian $500 |
| $ 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:

---

Family Members & Higher
- receive discounts on classes, camps, and field trips.

Wildlife Partners & Higher
- have pavilion reservation privileges for parties.
Fall Activities

2 Days of Fall Festival Fun!
- Pumpkin Patch
  - Saturday & Sunday
  - October 18 & 19
  - 11 am - 4 pm

20th Anniversary Twilight Gala
- Friday
- November 21
- 6:30 pm
- Houstonian Hotel

Fall Classes for Children
- Friday
- November 21
- Houstonian Hotel

Fall Birding Opportunities

Walks & Talks

Family Fun
- page 4

Summer Collage
- page 5