

February, 2017 Calendar

(Fees for **MOST** Saturday Classes included in General Admission/members **FREE!**)

CHECK IN VISITORS CENTER FOR CLASS LOCATION!



WINTER LECTURE SERIES From 10 to 11:30 a.m., Wednesdays, February 1 through 22.

A variety of unique nature and horticultural topics which define and explain our unique South Texas Environment. For Winter Texans, other travelers and Coastal Bend residents. Make some new acquaintances and have a cup of coffee at these enjoyable morning sessions.

FEB 1 Vanishing Bee Populations & Basic Beekeeping

Lost Oaks on the Nueces Beekeepers, **Kris & Phil Johnston**

FEB 8 Anyone Can Grow Orchids

Orchid Conservatory Curator, **Sam Jones**

FEB 15 Propagating Mexican Spices

Nueces Master Gardener Propagation Specialist, **Rosemary Plank**

FEB 22 Kitchen Composting

Nueces Master Gardener, **Deb Holliday**



WILDLIFE IN FOCUS PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION Through September 30!

Full-color award-winning photographs from the 2015 *Wildlife in Focus* biennial photography competition will be displayed, with photographers' metadata, on art pillars along the Mary Hope Brennecke Nature Trail. The varied collection was shot by photographers partnering with South Texas landowners, judged in segmented categories of birds, mammals, invertebrates, reptiles/amphibians and specialties. The exhibition is included in general admission, and may be viewed from 9 am to 6 pm daily, except Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas. For more information, contact the Botanical Gardens, 361-852-2100, www.stxbot.org; or Wildlife in Focus, 361-881-9316, wildlifeinfocus.org.



ORCHIDOLOGY Thursday, February 2, 7 pm.

On-going Orchid monthly class series and information exchange, for novice to experienced growers, with Orchid Curator Sam Jones, in the Education Station classroom. Monthly topics range from different orchid genera to specific orchid culture techniques. FREE for all orchid lovers! Orchids for sale at most meetings. For information, call 361-290-7429.



BLACKLOCK'S WINTER FINCH / SPARROW ID & NATURAL HISTORY:

2-Day Short Course

Class: Friday, Feb. 3, 6:15-9 pm, Education Station. **Field Trip:** Saturday, Feb. 4, 7:15 am-3 pm.

Intermediate and advanced birders learn why South Texas is a North American leader for diversity of winter finches and sparrows, with emphasis on seasonality and habitat. **\$45 members, \$60 non-members. Prepaid registration required by Jan. 31, 361.852.2100.**



BLACKLOCK'S INTERMEDIATE SOUTH TEXAS BIRDS IN WINTER ID:

3-Day Short Course

Feb. 7—**Class:** 9-11 am. **Field Trip:** 12:30-5 pm.

Feb. 14—**Field Trip:** 7:15 am-12:30 pm. **Class:** 2-5 pm.

Feb. 21—**Field Trip:** 7:15 am-12:30 pm. **Class:** 2-5 pm.

Identification and natural history of South Texas birds in winter (basic plumage), including common characteristics of bird groups--songbirds, waterfowl, birds of prey. **\$95 members; \$110 others.** Class minimum 12, maximum 16.

Prepaid Registration required by Feb. 4, 361.852.2100.

HEIRLOOM GARDENING WITH THE 3 SISTERS

Saturday, February 11, 10 am to noon.

Four String Farm's Justin Butts--radio host and food writer--talks about his 35-acre sustainable farm started on thick forest land in Rockport; his native American "three sisters" gardening technique featuring corn, squash and beans; and shares insights on heirloom vegetable varieties and pioneer gardening techniques still applicable today.



GROWING "UP" WITH VEGGIES! Saturday, February 18, 10 am to noon.

Gill Landscape Nursery's Kathy Hubner discusses how to go "up" with your veggies, using vining varieties on trellises or arbors to save space and improve gardening aesthetics.

COMMUNITY GARDEN SUCCESS Saturday, February 25, 10 am to noon.

Hear Nueces County Extension Horticulturist Kevin Gibbs, and Master Gardener Deb Holliday sharing lessons learned on starting and succeeding with community gardens, discovering local opportunities right for you.

