

MARCH, 2019 Calendar

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED,

General Admission includes your class; Members Free; or \$2 per person for class only.

CHECK IN AT VISITORS CENTER FOR CLASS LOCATION

361-852-2100 www.stxbot.org 8545 S. Staples St. Corpus Christi

Last 2019 Winter Lecture March 6, 10:30am

The South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center offers its last 2019 WINTER LECTURE, '**Outdoor Dutch Oven Cooking & BRUNCH**', with Karen Howden, Nueces County Historical Commission, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 6. Learn methods, sample each recipe!

Orchid-ology March 7, 7 pm

The *Orchid-ology Class* meets at 7 p.m., Thursday, March 7 at the South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, 8545 S. Staples. Meeting the first Thursday of each month on a continuing basis, the orchid class series—led by Jorge Garcia and Orchid Conservatory volunteers—is an ongoing Orchid information exchange, for novice to experienced growers, in the Education Station classroom. Monthly topics range from different orchid genera, climate and acquisition to specific orchid culture techniques. FREE CLASS for anyone! Information, 361-813-4879.

Parrot Talk Shows Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, 1:30pm

Parrot Talk, South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center's ongoing interactive entertainment feature, is open to guests at 1:30 pm, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, included in admission, at 8545 S. Staples St. The 40-minute segment includes a 20-minute informal educational demonstration by Animal Care staff and parrot volunteers, followed by 20 minutes of visitor interaction and questions. Individual photo opportunities are available, for donations to parrot care. **Ask at Visitors Center for show location**, which varies with weather. Open 9 am to 6 pm daily, except Thanksgiving Day, December 24 and 25.

Youth Second Saturday—Junior Volunteer Workshop and Nature Play March 9

Youth are in for two new experiences in 2019 at the South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, the '**Second Saturday**' of each month, **except June, July and August**, at 8545 S. Staples. At "**Junior Volunteer Workshop**," from 9am to 3pm, youth ages 9-16 (16-youth maximum per session) interested in hands-on animal experiences will learn reptile and bird care, animal diet preparation, training, human interaction, shelter, desirability as a pet, more. Goal is to complete 50 hours of training/volunteering to certify as STBGNC "*Level 3 Animal Handler*", using volunteer hours for 4H, National Honor Society, Scouts, others. Training for higher certifications also will be available. Fees are \$50 per session, or \$35 each for two or more (family or friend). To reserve a space in any session, or more information, contact Brenda, 361-852-2100 x 223, or brendae@stxbot.org.

At 2:30 pm, following Parrot Talk, kids five through 10 visiting the Gardens may participate in '**Nature Play**,' using "tree cookies," along with other nature building blocks, water play, sand and soil sensory stations, more. The Junior Volunteer Workshop team will assist staff with 'Nature Play,' which is included in general admission.

Backyard Fruit Crops seminar March 2, 10:30am

Ginger Easton-Smith, Aransas County Extension Agent, discusses increasing popularity of eating healthier and organic, but how home gardeners find it challenging growing fresh fruit in the Coastal Bend. Learn which varieties grow best in our region—like pecan, fig, pomegranate, citrus—along with planting and growing techniques to maximize fruit crops, at the "Backyard Fruit Crops" seminar, from 10:30-11:30 am, Saturday, March 2.

Name that Wildflower seminar March 9, 10:30am

Nueces Master Gardener and student tour docent Betty Whitt shares her expertise on Texas wildflowers, where and when you'll likely find them, with resources to identify and appreciate these natural beauties in the "Name that Wildflower" seminar, from 10:30-11:30 am, Saturday, March 9.

Making Miniature Gardens seminar March 16, 10:30am

Staff Horticulturist Carol Krank talks about containers and accessories to create your own miniature container garden, perfect for fairies, gnomes and other tiny garden guests, in the '**Making Miniature Gardens**' seminar, from 10:30-11:30 am, Saturday, March 16. Materials available to purchase separately for a hands-on workshop following lecture.

Spring Break Week daily activities March 9-17

Students on spring break can spend a day at the Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, touring and joining these special activities:

TORTOISE TALES, daily 10:30-11 am; **REPTILES UP CLOSE**, daily 11:30 am-12:30 pm; **PARROT TALK**, daily 1:30-2:30 pm; **NATURE PLAY**, about one hour, daily at 2:30 pm (Creative thinking using natural building blocks like "tree cookies," woodblocks, stones, other fun youth activities, to encourage self-guided outdoor play); **ON YOUR OWN** explore nature trails, wetland boardwalk, wildlife blinds, conservatories, gardens, "Resident Reptiles," Butterfly House, Monkey Mansion Tree House, more. General Admission covers all.

Hardscape in your Landscape seminar March 23, 10:30am

Gill Landscape Nursery Designer Phillip Ebert will teach you to blend rock, stone, pathways, sculpture, fencing and shade options to make your landscape more creative, attractive, functional and water-wise, in the "Hardscape in your Landscape" seminar, 10:30-11:30 am, Saturday, March 23.

Anyone Can Grow Orchids seminar March 30, 10:30am

Orchid admirers who want to make the leap and purchase an orchid April 6 at *Big Bloom* can discover simple tips for orchid success ahead of time, learning essentials from local orchid aficionado and STBGNC Orchid Volunteer Ty Harris, who says "just don't love it too much," at the "Anyone Can Grow Orchids" seminar, 10:30-11:30 am, Saturday, March 30.