

5th Annual Texas Regional 2019 ANCA Meeting

Nature Centers of the Future: What Role Will We Play?

Thursday & Friday, February 7 & 8, 2019

Mitchell Lake Audubon Center
10750 Pleasanton Rd, San Antonio, TX 78221

[Mitchell Lake Audubon Center](#)



AGENDA

Thursday, February 7th

- 2:00 – 4:00 Pre-Meeting Welcome and Tour Mitchell Lake Audubon Center
- 4:00 – 5:00 Free Time
- 5:00 – 7:00 Welcome Reception – Dinner at Don Pedro's Restaurant (<https://www.donpedro.com/>)

Friday, February 8th

- 8:30 Registration – Come with our open space question/issue if you have one
- 9:00 – 9:15 Welcome – Linda Dunn, John Bunker Sands Wetland Center, & Sara Beesly, Mitchell Lake Audubon Center
- 9:15 – 9:30 Introduction to ANCA - John DeFillipo- John Bunker Sands Wetland Center
- 9:30 – 10:45 Keynote: If I built a Nature Center Today... Carolyn Chipman Evans, Director [Cibolo Nature Center & Farm](#)
- 10:45 – 11:00 Break; Open Space meeting time
- 11:00 – 12:00 Speaker: The Role of Nature in Health – Domenica Delgado, [Center for Health and Nature](#)
- 12:00 – 1:00 Lunch- sponsored by Studio Outside; individual Open Space meeting time
- 1:00 – 1:15 Explanation of Afternoon Sessions
- 1:15 – 2:00 Building Nature Center Team Culture –Lenny “Turtle” Scott, [Seguin Outdoor Learning Center](#)
- 2:00 – 2:45 Transition; Open Space time
- 3:00 – 3:45 Transitioning to a New Director –Lisa Gordon, new ED [Chihuahuan Desert Nature Center](#)
- 3:45 – 4:00 Transition; Open Space time
- 4:00 – 4:30 How a “Logic Model” Benefited Our Center–John DeFillipo, Director, [John Bunker Sands Wetland Center](#)
- 4:30 Wrap Up

Registration Cost - \$30.00 -- Cost will cover speakers, Thursday reception, facility fees, and snacks for Friday. Credit card, check or cash accepted. [Register here](#) or call Linda Dunn or John DeFillipo 972-474-9100 or email ldunn@wetlandcenter.com Checks can be made out to the Mitchell Lake Audubon Center.

Accommodations:

[Embassy Suites](#)

7610 South New Braunfels
San Antonio, TX 78235
\$129.00/night

[RV Accommodations - Yanawana Camp](#)

2322 E. Chavaneaux
San Antonio, TX 78214
\$35.00/night

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Speaker Biographies



Carolyn Chipman Evans is the founder and executive director of the Cibolo Nature Center & Farm in Boerne, Texas. For 25 years, she has worked to preserve a wild stretch of the Cibolo Creek in Boerne and develop a model nature center. She created The Friends of the Cibolo Wilderness, a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of natural resources through education and stewardship.

As the founding director, Carolyn has worn all the hats involved in nature center development. She has worked as a naturalist, volunteer coordinator, educator, public relations coordinator, program designer, newsletter editor, display designer, site designer, construction honcho, community change agent and leader, development director, and executive director.

The Cibolo Nature Center has grown to a staff of 15, with more than 30,000 volunteer hours donated each year. Initiatives include a growing Citizen Science Research team with a focus on land management and water quality, school programs, summer camps, gardening and sustainable-living classes and demonstrations.

Carolyn is co-author, with Brent, of *The Nature Center Book*, detailing how to develop a nature center, published by the National Association of Interpretation. It has now been translated into Japanese and Chinese. In May 2013, Carolyn and Brent traveled to Japan and China for a speaking tour on nature center development, sponsored by Coca-Cola Japan.

Says Carolyn: "I am the sixth generation on this Hill Country ranch where we live. I come from a long line of women who lived on this ranch and kept journals of their lives and their love of the land. I want all children to have the opportunity to play in the creek or see a great blue heron fly overhead. I am passionate about wild places and I want every generation to have the chance to experience them. Realizing how fast we are losing our natural world, I have dedicated my life to preserving land for future generations to know and love."



Domenica Delgado is the Program Project Manager for the Center for Health & Nature at Houston Methodist, helping the Center to enhance health and healing through nature. She organizes many of the activities of the program in relation to health and nature initiatives, including research, fundraising, and reporting. She also assists in the development and preservation of relationships in support of projects from design to implementation to evaluation. A native Houstonian, and proud graduate of Rice University, Domenica enjoys harnessing the mission of the Center for Health & Nature to drive research on the impact of nature on healthcare with evidence based programs that complement the full continuum of health care: prevention, treatment, and recovery.