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Meet the Texas Sabal Palm

The slow growing south Texas Native evergreen has fan-shaped arching leaves. The stems are smooth without sharp spines. Tall-growing, single trunked Palm has fruit in the fall for wildlife .

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Share your Summit experience!
Use #ANCASummit18 and tag ANCA.



@Assn.of.Nature.
Center.Admins



@Ancanews



@anca_pics

What's on your bucket list?

My bucket list

- 1. Start my list*
- 2. Create a timeline*
- 3. Develop a plan*

**May your
dreams
come true!**



www.quintamazatlan.com



Welcome to South Texas and Quinta Mazatlán. The RGV Nature Partners are honored to be your hosts for the “DREAM BIG–Living Your Bucket List” ANCA 2018 Summit.

Known as the Lower Rio Grande Valley or the “Valley” for short, we are located along a 120-mile expanse of the northern bank of the Rio Grande River between US and Mexico. McAllen is one of a handful of cities along this east-west stretch that you’ll be able to visit during the great pre- and post-field trips showcasing our hot spots (literally and figuratively).

We have created a BIG Bucket List of offerings for you in the Valley including great field trips, speakers, workshops, interpretive walks, cultural events, happy hours, great food and friendship, ending the night away with dancing.

Live a life filled with success, fun and adventure—DREAM BIG by creating a Bucket List! Thank you for coming!



Colleen Curran Hook

MANAGER, QUINTA MAZATLAN, WORLD BIRDING CENTER



On behalf of the board and staff of ANCA, welcome to Summit XXIV, The Dream Big Summit! Each year we host the Summit in a new location, and we are thrilled to be in the southernmost tip of Texas, only 70 miles from the Gulf of Mexico, and along the northern bank of the Rio Grande River which separates Mexico from the United States. Our country is vibrant and beautifully diverse, and the ANCA Summit offers the opportunity to explore local and regional cultures and learn from our peers who have welcomed us to their home.

I hope you will take this opportunity to meet new friends, explore innovative ideas, and share your challenges with your fellow ANCA members. I encourage you to be an active participant and add your voice to the conversation. Be sure to check a few things off your Dream Big Bucket List while you are here – mine includes checking the red-crowned parrot off my list!

I want to thank our host, Colleen Hook, and everyone at Quinta Mazatlan World Birding Center for their hard work to put on this event. I also want to thank the RGV Nature Partnership for their work bringing ANCA and the Summit to The Rio Grande Valley. I look forward to our time together!



Jen Levy

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ASSOCIATION OF NATURE CENTER DIRECTORS

WHAT TO EXPECT AT QUINTA MAZATLAN

Weather/Dress: September is summer season in South Texas, with temperatures in the 90s during the day. Wear lightweight clothing. Closed toe shoes are recommended, as are long pants to avoid mishaps with the many splendorous thorn forest plants.

Buildings: It's easy to find your way around! All workshop activities revolve around three buildings:

- 1) The historic **Adobe Home** with four areas: Visitor Center, Grand Hall (original living room), Art Gallery (original Master Bedroom), and the Front Lawn
- 2) The **Cottage** behind the home with three meeting areas: the Cottage Business Room, the Courtyard (pool and awning), and the South Oak outside the Courtyard.
- 3) The **Discovery Center**, a LEED certified building with five meeting areas: the Lab, the Hall, the Patio, outside the lab under the old Anacua Tree, and the North lawn.

Trails: The woods and animals always came first for the families that lived on this 20-acre urban sanctuary called Quinta Mazatlan—the Matthews starting in the 1930s, the Schultz's starting in the 1960s, and the City of McAllen, starting in 1998. In 2006, the Home opened to the public as part of the World Birding Center. Short walks through the woods give glimpses into original "thorn forest" where visitors are greeted by chachalacas, hummingbirds, green jays and kiskadees, along with up to 250 other bird species, mammals, reptiles, and a plethora of native Valley butterflies. A 7-minute walk will lead you to the most recent addition to Quinta Mazatlan—Ebony Grove, a model urban ecological restoration project with its own wildlife pond, trails, and birdwatching areas.

Dining: Enjoy all meals under the majestic oak on the front lawn of the White House (adobe home). Daily snacks provided by RGV Nature Partners.

Visitor Center/Store: Open from 8-5 pm daily. Visit the "Old Kitchen" gift shop featuring local artists and authors, and a variety of items from nature books to Mexican Folk Art. All gift shop purchases help fund educational programs at Quinta Mazatlan.

Mini-Cultural Events: Start and end your day in nature. From birds and plant walks to journaling and art in nature.

Connectivity: WiFi is available in buildings, and cell service throughout the property. Best location for WiFi is the new Discovery Center.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT QUINTA MAZATLAN

Social Hour Each Day with Spirits: Complimentary beer, and wine will be available each evening before dinner, from 5:30 to 6:30 pm in the Grand Hall of the Adobe Home. A Saturday evening wrap-up celebration social hour will be from 6:30 to 7:30 pm.

Green Event Features:

- Water Bottles—Gifted by McAllen Public Utility Department promoting water conservation for the City. Compostable corn cups will also be available for meals.
- Compost – Thank you for helping to sort your waste. Recycle and composting bins will be provided throughout the property.
- Shuttles – Daily bus transport will be provided to maximize shared transport during the event from the host hotel to the park.
- Use of nature - Using nature as the art supply and grocery store will be demonstrated during various mini-cultural activities.

Message/Job/Ride Share Board: Stop by the check in area for daily updates to the message board, where fellow ANCA members can post items of interest to all.

Address/ Mail:

Quinta Mazatlan | 600 Sunset Drive | McAllen, TX 78503

Should you need to mail something directly to Quinta, please allow extra days for processing through city mail service.

Emergency Info: Quinta Mazatlan: (956) 681-3370



Meet the Texas Ebony: Valuable to wildlife, the ebony offers cover, roosting, nesting sites, and protection for birds and other critters. The summer white flowers are an excellent nectar source for bees, butterflies and other pollinators.



SHUTTLE INFORMATION

ANCA Summit Transportation

- The Host Hotel, DoubleTree Suites by Hilton, will provide complimentary shuttles
- Metro McAllen Transit will provide a complimentary Trolley (holds 32 seated and 18 standing) during the Summit to take guests back and forth from Host Hotel to Host Nature Center.

Wednesday	Sept. 19	3:15 pm to 11:00 pm
Thursday	Sept. 20	6:30 am to 11:00 pm
Friday	Sept. 21	6:30 am to 11:00 pm
Saturday	Sept. 22	6:30 am to 11:00 pm
Sunday	Sept. 23	6:30 am to 12:00 noon
(On Sunday, the trolley can assist with McAllen Airport drop-offs)		



COMPLIMENTARY TROLLEY
Courtesy of Metro McAllen Transit

Where to Meet

Quinta Mazatlan: Parking Lot (outside the historic gates)

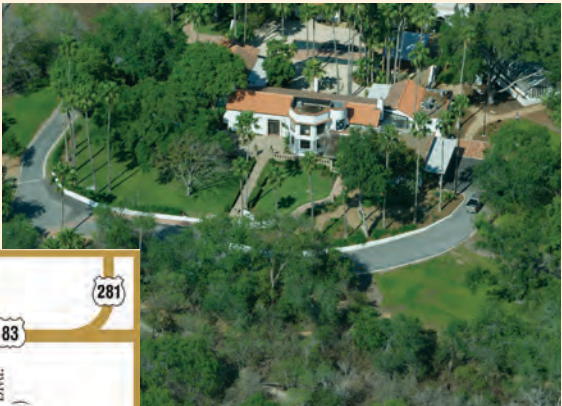
DoubleTree Suites by Hilton Hotel

McAllen: Front entrance of hotel

Important Phone Numbers:

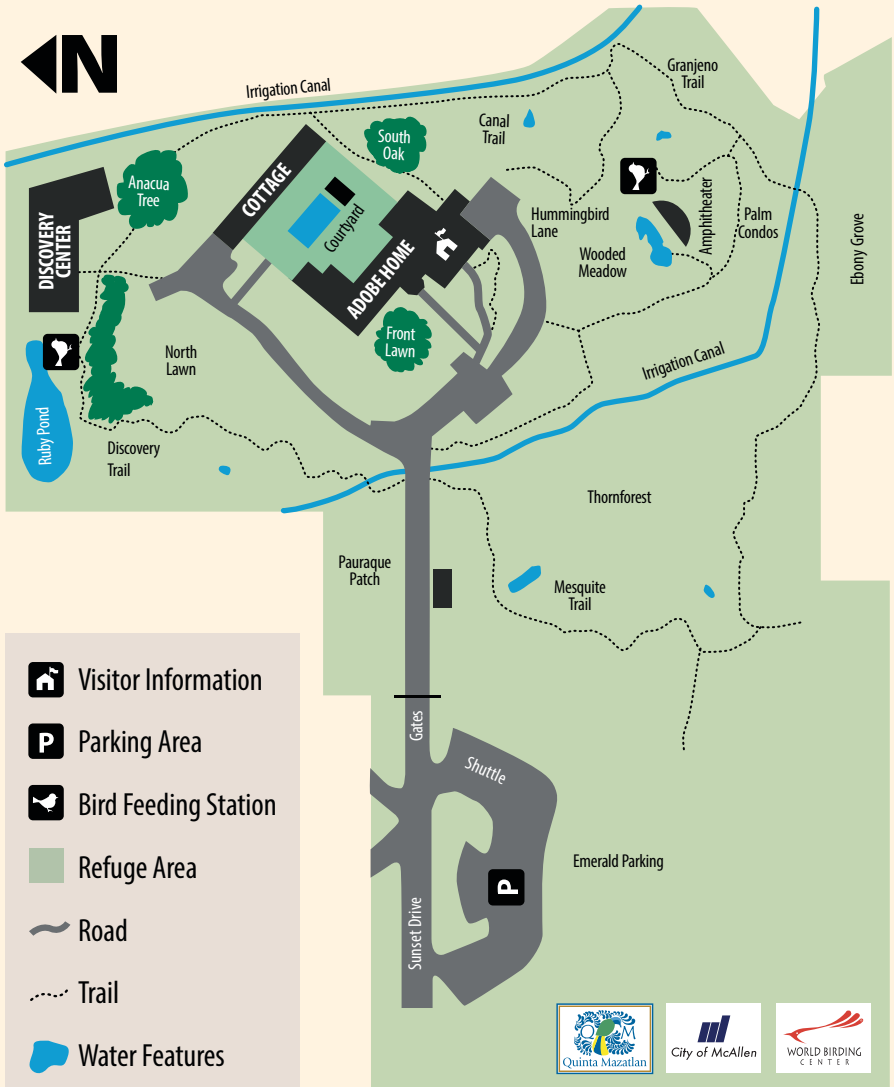
Quinta Mazatlan: 956-681-3370

DoubleTree Suites by Hilton Hotel McAllen:
956-686-3000



QUINTA MAZATLAN

WORLD BIRDING CENTER



ADOBE HOME

Front Lawn
Visitors Center
Grand Hall
Art Gallery
Gift Store

COTTAGE

Courtyard
Pool & Awning
Business Room
South Oak Tree

DISCOVERY CENTER

Patio (overlooking pond)
Hall
Lab
Anagua Tree
North Lawn

ABOUT THE ANCA SUMMIT

Established in 1995, the goal of the ANCA Summit is to create a positive atmosphere for networking, learning, and sharing of ideas and experiences for the nature and environmental learning center administrator.

The full- and half-day Thursday Workshops are a great way to “focus in.” Whether they concentrate on a broad topic or a specific area of professional development, ANCA workshops offer a rich learning experience including our popular “in-the-field” series. Workshop leaders are experienced and knowledgeable in their topics.

Facilitated Discussions, scheduled on Friday and Saturday, are a unique feature of the ANCA Summit. Instead of a single voice presenting information, everyone present will enrich the discussion by contributing his or her ideas and experiences. The result is a synergistic dialogue that brings out an abundance of perspectives, possibilities, and renewed energy. During Facilitated Discussions, participants have the opportunity to explore various topics in depth.

Workshop Sessions allow participants the opportunity to learn about new programs and ideas. These 90-minute sessions allow for presentation time and dialogue among the group.

Open Space Sessions on Saturday afternoon provide you with the opportunity to create your own meeting, continue a session that needs more time, or find a group to address an issue that was not presented elsewhere during the Summit. In the Open Space Meeting, all Summit participants will gather and collectively design the session topics that will be offered during the afternoon. We ask you to bring to the meeting those topics that you feel will be relevant and meaningful to you and the group. What do you want to talk about?

There are **Four Principles** of an Open Space and Facilitated Discussion:

1. Whatever happens is the only thing that could happen.
Don't worry about what should have happened.
2. Whoever shows up are the right people to be there.
There is always wisdom in the room.
3. Whenever it starts is the right time.
4. When it's over, it's over! If you finish early take the time to find a quiet place to reflect, take a nap, or go for walk with a new friend.

Lastly, the **Law of Mobility** states that if you find yourself in a situation where you are neither learning anything or contributing anything, you are responsible for moving to another place, for example to another session. These principles and law will enable you to participate in ways that are most meaningful.

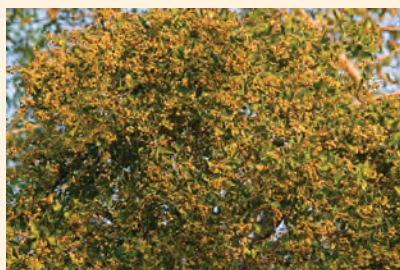
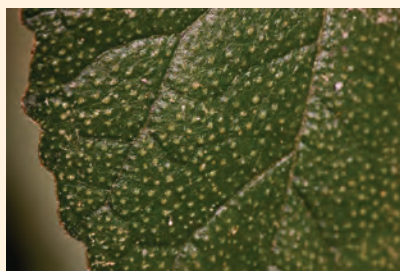
Pre- and Post-Summit Field Trips and Cultural Activities. Don't leave the Rio Grande Valley without time spent exploring the local flora, fauna, food, and culture of the area! ANCA Summit Field Trips offer the chance to add to your professional development experience while taking advantage of unique opportunities to visit additional nature education sites, spend time with local experts and interact with your peers. The morning and afternoon Cultural Activities give you the opportunity to learn about this unique region from local experts here at Quinta Mazatlan. Don't miss them!

The **open exchange of ideas** and the freedom of thought and expression are central to the aims and goals of ANCA; these require an environment that recognizes the inherent worth of every person and group, that fosters dignity, understanding, and mutual respect, and that embraces diversity. For these reasons, ANCA is dedicated to providing a harassment-free Summit experience. Summit participants violating these standards may be asked to leave, at the discretion of the ANCA Board and Summit organizers.



Meet the Anacua Tree

It is mainly native to South Texas and sometimes called the sandpaper tree because of its rough leaves. The Anacua blooms through the summer with white, fragrant flowers. The orange fruit ripens in the summer to support the birds.



SUMMIT SCHEDULE

Wednesday, September 19

8am - 6pm	Registration Open at Quinta Mazatlan	Adobe Home: Grand Hall
Field Trips	All field trips depart from the QM Parking Lot	<i>QM Parking Lot</i>
7:30am - 2pm	Ethnobotany of the Rio Grande Valley	
8am - 2pm	Birds, Butterflies, and Botanas	
8am - 4pm	South Padre Island Beach Goodies Trip	
7am - 2pm	King Ranch	
4-5pm	Optional Activities at QM • The Big Picture: Topo Map View of the Valley! • History Tour of Adobe Home • Palm Frond Painting & Rep-TILE Art!	Discovery Center: Hall Adobe Home: Historic Door Courtyard: South Oak
5:30 - 6:30pm	Networking Social, McAllen Chamber Border Buttermilk	Adobe Home: Grand Hall
6:30 - 7:30pm	Dinner - Tropical Nights	Adobe Home: Front Lawn
7:30pm	Welcome to Summit XXIV, the Dream Big Summit!	Adobe Home: Front Lawn
9 - 10:30pm	Fireside Chat & Music	Discovery Center: Anacua Tree

Thursday, September 20

7-8am	Optional Activities at QM • Songbird Stroll • Thorn Forest Trail Walk • Yoga in the Park • Nature Journaling	Adobe Home: Visitors Center Adobe Home: Front Lawn Courtyard: Awning Discovery Center: Patio
8am-6pm	Registration and Sponsor Hall Open at Quinta Mazatlán	Adobe Home: Grand Hall

WORKSHOPS: IN-THE-FIELD

8am-1pm	Habitat Management & Re-Vegetation	Adobe Home: Visitors Center
8am-2pm	Eco-Tourism in RGV: Mkting. Birds & Managing Birders	Adobe Home: Art Gallery
8am-3pm	RGV Envir. Education: Crossing Barriers on the Border	Discovery Center: Hall

WORKSHOPS: ON-SITE

9am-4:30pm	Strategies for Recruiting the Board You Need & Will Need	Cottage: Business Room
9am-Noon	Grassroots to Grasstops Advocacy Campaigns	Discovery Center: Lab
9am-Noon	Generational, Cultural, & Personality Differences in Workplace	Discovery Center: Hall
10:30am	Summit Snacks	Adobe Home: Grand Hall
12:15-1:15pm	Lunch - South Texas Wraps	Adobe Home: Front Lawn

Thursday, September 20

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS

1:30-4:30pm	Building Organizational Capacity	<i>Discovery Center: Hall</i>
1:30-4:30pm	Dreaming Big and Getting the Grant to Implement It	<i>Adobe Home: Art Gallery</i>
1:30-4:30pm	The Need for Nature Centers in Monarch Conservation	<i>Discovery Center: Lab</i>
3pm	Summit Snacks	<i>Adobe Home: Grand Hall</i>
4:45-5:30pm	Optional Activities at QM • Prickly Pear Jelly Making • Palm Frond Painting & Rep-TILE Art! • Early Knowledge: Make Rope out of Yucca • The Big Picture: Topo Map View of the Valley! • History Tour of Adobe Home	<i>Discovery Center: Lab</i> <i>Courtyard: South Oak</i> <i>Discovery Center: Anacua Tree</i> <i>Discovery Center: Hall</i> <i>Adobe Home: Historic Door</i>
5:30-6:30pm	iZone Imaging Networking Social	<i>Adobe Home: Grand Hall</i>
6:30pm	Dinner - Mediterranean Summer Breeze	<i>Adobe Home: Front Lawn</i>
7pm	2018 ANCA Leadership Awards Ceremony	<i>Adobe Home: Front Lawn</i>

Join us as we celebrate the ANCA Leader Award recipients!

The ANCA Nature Center Leadership Award is intended to recognize outstanding professionals in the field of nature center administration. The 2018 recipient is Bo Glover, Executive Director of The Environmental Nature Center in CA. The ANCA Outstanding New Leader Award is intended to recognize outstanding new leaders in the field. Chad Truxall is the fifth recipient of this award for his work at the Marine Discovery Center in FL.

8pm	2019 Summit Host Presentation	<i>Discovery Center: North Lawn</i>
8:15pm	Keynote Speaker, Dr. Douglas Tallamy	<i>Discovery Center: North Lawn</i>
9-10:30 pm	Fireside Chat & Music	<i>Discovery Center: Anacua Tree</i>

Join us for our Keynote Speaker:
**Dr. Douglas Tallamy, Award-Winning
 Author of "Bringing Nature Home"**
 presentation on the
 large outdoor LED screen.

8:15pm | Discovery Center: North Lawn



SUMMIT SCHEDULE

Friday, September 21

7 - 8am	Optional Activities at QM • Songbird Stroll • Yoga in the Park • Gardening for Wildlife • Nature Journaling	<i>Adobe Home: Visitors Center</i> <i>Courtyard: Awning</i> <i>Adobe Home: Front Lawn</i> <i>Discovery Center: Patio</i>
8am - 6pm	Registration and Sponsor Hall Open at Quinta Mazatlán	<i>Adobe Home: Grand Hall</i>
8:30-9am	Summit Welcome Mr. Roel Rodriguez, McAllen City Manager Carter Smith, Executive Director of Texas Parks & Wildlife Department	<i>Adobe Home: Front Lawn</i>
9:15 - 10:45am	Facilitated Discussions/Workshop Sessions I • Successes and Challenges for Sustainable Development Goals for Your City • Keeping Our Frontline Staff on the Cutting-Edge • Turn Bitterness & Tension into High-fives & Laughter! • Improving the Experience through Signage & Graphics • 10 Years at the Leopold Legacy Center • Leadership 101: Best Practices for Achieving Impact	<i>Discovery Center: Hall</i> <i>Discovery Center: Lab</i> <i>Discovery Center: Anacua Tree</i> <i>Cottage: Business Room</i> <i>Adobe Home: Art Gallery</i> <i>Adobe Home: Front Lawn</i>
10:45am	Summit Snacks	<i>Adobe Home: Grand Hall</i>
11am - 12:30pm	Facilitated Discussions/Workshop Sessions II • Using iNaturalist at Your Nature Center • Rentals: How to Maximize Income AND Minimize Impact • Stronger Together - RGV Nature Partnership Model • Can't See the Trees for the Forest • Benefits of Electronic Health Records at Camp • Weathering Disaster Response	<i>Discovery Center: Hall</i> <i>Discovery Center: Patio</i> <i>Discovery Center: Lab</i> <i>Discovery Center: Anacua Tree</i> <i>Cottage: Business Room</i> <i>Adobe Home: Art Gallery</i>
12:30 - 1:30pm	Lunch - Valley Nicoise	<i>Adobe Home: Front Lawn</i>
1:30 - 3pm	Facilitated Discussions/Workshop Sessions III • How Beijing Uses Parks and Traditional Chinese Culture as Comprehensive Education Resources • Community Based Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation • Outdoor Classrooms – Design and Purpose Dialogue • Extraordinary Personnel Issues • Challenges and Opportunities when Diversifying Your Board or Friends Group • Creating Meaningful Social Media	<i>Adobe Home: Art Gallery</i> <i>Cottage: Business Room</i> <i>Discovery Center: Lab</i> <i>Discovery Center: Patio</i> <i>Discovery Center: Anacua Tree</i> <i>Discovery Center: Hall</i>

Friday, September 21

3 - 3:30pm	Summit Sponsor Ice Cream Social featuring Paleteria Mexican Frozen Treats	<i>Adobe Home: Grand Hall</i>
3:30 - 4:45pm	ANCA Trends Meeting - Join the ANCA Board & Staff for an update and discussion on the ANCA 2025 Strategic Plan	<i>Adobe Home: Front Lawn</i>
4:45 - 5:30pm	Optional Activities at QM • Rhythms of the Rio • Prickly Pear Jelly Making • Palm Frond Painting & Rep-TILE Art • Early Knowledge: Make Rope out of Yucca • History Tour of Adobe Home	<i>Amphitheater in the Woods</i> <i>Discovery Center: Lab</i> <i>Courtyard: South Oak</i> <i>Discovery Center: Anacua Tree</i> <i>Adobe Home: Historic Door</i>
5:30-6:30pm	Networking Social	<i>Adobe Home: Grand Hall</i>
6:30pm	Dinner - South Texas BBQ Feast	<i>Adobe Home: Front Lawn</i>
7:30pm	ANCA Auction	<i>Adobe Home: Front Lawn</i>

Join us for an evening of bidding to benefit ANCA! We can't continue supporting professional development in the field without your enthusiastic hand-raising. Get the chance to contribute to ANCA and walk away with a vacation trip, professional development opportunity, gear, or unique item from our Live or Silent Auction. Silent Auction will open Thursday morning and close after the Live Auction.

9 - 10:30 pm	Fireside Chat & Music	<i>Discovery Center: Anacua Tree</i>
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Saturday, September 22

7 - 8am	Optional Activities at QM • Songbird Stroll • Thorn Forest Trail Walk • Nature Journaling	<i>Adobe Home: Visitors Center</i> <i>Adobe Home: Front Lawn</i> <i>Discovery Center: Patio</i>
9 - 10:30am	Facilitated Discussions/Workshop Sessions IV • 1,2,3 Ecology • Budgeting 101: Making 'Cents' Out of Budgeting • Say What You Mean: A Conversation on Inclusive Language and Practices • Fee Structures: To be Free or Not Free? • Connecting Deeply with Nature Through Science • How to Ask for Major Gifts	<i>Discovery Center: Hall</i> <i>Cottage: Business Room</i> <i>Adobe Home: Art Gallery</i> <i>Discovery Center: Anacua Tree</i> <i>Discovery Center: Lab</i> <i>Discovery Center: Patio</i>
10:30am	Summit Snacks	<i>Adobe Home: Grand Hall</i>

SUMMIT SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 22

10:45am-12:15pm **Facilitated Discussions/Workshop Sessions V**

- Retirement 101 *Discovery Center: Lab*
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:
Where Does Your Organization Stand? *Discovery Center: Anacua Tree*
- Building Power & Influence for Nature Center Directors *Adobe Home: Art Gallery*
- Improving the Visitor and Staff Experience:
Strategies for Evaluating and Planning Technology Solutions *Cottage: Business Room*
- Nature Preschool, Right for You? *Discovery Center: Patio*
- Social and Emotional Learning: Why Incorporating
Best Practices in Youth Engagement Matters *Discovery Center: Hall*

12:15pm - 1:15pm Lunch - Coastal Power Bowl Salad

Adobe Home: Front Lawn

1:15 - 5:15pm Open Space Sessions

Adobe Home: Front Lawn

3pm Summit Snacks

Adobe Home: Grand Hall

5:15 - 6:30pm Welcome to relax and change at hotel before evening party

6:30 - 7:30pm Networking Social

Adobe Home: Grand Hall

7:30 - 8:30pm Dinner - Mexican Fajita Fiesta

Discovery Center: North Lawn

8:30 - 10:15pm Dancing and Summit Wrap-up Party
Live music by Ache de Barrio Quartet

Discovery Center: North Lawn

Sunday, September 23

Field Trips All field trips depart from the Quinta Mazatlán Parking Lot

7am - 6pm RGV Bucket List Birding

3 - 8:30pm Palms and Parrots of Brownsville

Onsite Quinta Mazatlán - Visitors Center

7 - 10:45am Fistful of Bucket List Birds

Bird-Banding at Quinta Mazatlán

Monday, September 24

Onsite Quinta Mazatlán - Visitors Center

7 - 10:45am Fistful of Bucket List Birds-Bird-Banding at Quinta Mazatlán

SATURDAY - Dancing and Summit Wrap-up Party

MEXICAN FAJITA DINNER & DANCE *Live Music by Ache de Barrio Quartet*

Come dance to RGV's premiere Latin Band that specializes in music styles in the like of Cumbia Tropical, Salsa, Merengue, Bachata, Cha Cha and Cuban Son. Enjoy a special dance performance by the Sorellanza Ladies.





Dr. Douglas Tallamy "Bringing Nature Home"

Thursday, September 20,
8:15pm
Discovery Center: North Lawn

Doug Tallamy is a professor in the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware,

where he has authored 90 research publications and has taught Insect Taxonomy, Behavioral Ecology, Humans and Nature, Insect Ecology, and other courses for 37 years. Chief among his research goals is to better understand the many ways insects interact with plants and how such interactions determine the diversity of animal communities.

His book *Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens* was published by Timber Press in 2007 and was awarded the 2008 Silver Medal by the Garden Writers' Association. The *Living Landscape*, co-authored with Rick Darke, was published in 2014. Doug is also a regular columnist for *Garden Design* magazine. Doug is a Lifetime Honorary Director of Wild Ones and has won the Garden Club of America Margaret Douglas Medal for Conservation, the Tom Dodd, Jr. Award of Excellence, and the 2018 AHS 2018 B.Y. Morrison Communication Award.

"When we design our home landscapes, too many of us choose beautiful plants from all over the world, without considering their ability to support creatures within our local ecosystems. Managing landscapes in this crowded world carries both moral and ecological responsibilities that we can no longer ignore. By planting productive native species, we can create life."

Tallamy will speak to the importance of restoring biodiversity to our residential properties and what we need to do to make our landscapes functioning ecosystems once again.

Books for sale in the QM gift store for autographs.



SUMMIT WORKSHOPS

Thursday, September 20 ANCA IN-THE-FIELD

ANCA In-the-Field Workshops will take participants to several nature sites in the Rio Grande Valley. The nature centers of the Rio Grande Valley have a variety of missions, priorities, and issues. These trips are designed to delve into a particular topic that these sites or organizations focus on particularly well. Visits to the sites will feature site staff discussing their history and expertise and will include some time for participants to explore the site on their own or talk to staff further about their operation.

Habitat Management and Re-vegetation: Keeping the sub-tropics in Texas

8am-1pm

Adobe Home: Visitors Center

With agriculture and trade booming in the RGV since the 1920's, quality habitat for the area's plants and animals became an increasingly scarce resource. During the late 1980's, there was as little as 1% native habitat left along the Rio Grande River and only 5% old-growth

habitat in the rest of the RGV. This session will tour some of the areas that have been converted from agricultural land back to habitat by US Fish and Wildlife Service and local nature sites. This trip will also tour the US Fish and Wildlife Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR Nursery that grows thousands of native seedlings per year for re-vegetation efforts.



Rio Grande Valley Environmental Education: Crossing barriers on the border

8am – 3pm

Discovery Center: Hall

With almost 400,000 K-12 local students, several RGV nature centers and partners have robust EE programs. Begin at Quinta Mazatlan to discuss their vertical learning program for local 3rd, 5th, 7th grade and High School students before visiting the Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and WBC to learn about their 5th Grade Wetlands Program in its 13th year



that serves 2,500 5th graders annually from the Edinburg Independent School District. A stop at the Pharr – San Juan – Alamo Independent School District will feature Schoolyard Habitats at local schools in partnership with US Fish and Wildlife. A stop at Valley Nature Center in Weslaco will highlight programs and camps for special needs students and other unique user groups.

Eco-tourism in the RGV:

Marketing Birds and Managing Birders

8am – 2pm

Adobe Home: Art Gallery

Birders, butterflyers, nature photographers, and other eco-tourists visit the Rio Grande Valley from all over the world for a unique nature experience.

While RGV eco-tourism is widespread, certain sites have become magnets for birds and eco-tourists. Visit well-known sites and get a behind the scenes look at interpretive programs, volunteer programs, and other eco-tourism based operations. Nancy Millar, longtime eco-tourism specialist with McAllen CVB will discuss RGV eco-tourism history and John Brush, Quinta Mazatlan Urban Ecologist, will share information on the economic impact of rare birds and designing spaces for birds and birders. Site visits include Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge and Estero Llano Grande State Park. Each of these sites will discuss effective ways to communicate and manage groups with a special interest.



Meet the Texas Wild Olive

A native small tree (15') is covered with white flowers most of the year. These beauties are called the Anacahuita in Mexico. This is a great hummingbird plant and butterflies are fond of the nectar from the blossom clusters. Many wild animals eat the fruit.



Thursday, September 20 | 9am-4:30pm | Cottage: Business Room



Strategies for Recruiting the Board You Need & Will Need

DAVID ALLEN

Development for Conservation

www.developmentforconservation.com

DESCRIPTION: We expect most Board members to be “plug-and-play” leaders – all they need is a two-hour orientation session, and they’ll be good to go. Yet most of us realize that it can take months if not years for new people – even staff – to fully understand how the “business of our Nature and the nature of our Business” actually works. How can we compress this learning curve?

Join organizational development and fundraising expert David Allen as we examine every step of the board experience and explore succession planning and leadership development from the inside out. We’ll talk about how to find Board members, qualities of a good Board member, and the Job Description. We’ll share tools for approaching this important work objectively and systematically. We’ll talk about recruiting diversity – how to recruit a Board that represents the community in which you work. And we’ll offer and consider five fresh ideas for identifying, training, and empowering the Board leaders you need – both now and into the future.

PRESENTER: Development for Conservation helps environmental/conservation organizations raise money from individual donors by improving renewal, cultivation, and major gift systems. David Allen brings 30 years’ experience to the practice, including thirteen with The Nature Conservancy. He has devoted his professional career to helping conservation organizations, including several Nature Centers, pursue excellence in all aspects of their endeavors. David is a skilled seminar presenter, particularly in major gift fundraising. Specialties include Development Audits, Board Training, and Campaigns.



Thursday, September 20 | 9am-Noon | Discovery Center: Lab

Grassroots to Grasstops Advocacy Campaigns Workshop

McGUIREWOODS CONSULTING LLC

www.mwcllc.com

DESCRIPTION: Advocacy is critical to influencing policy. But advocacy takes on several different forms – some effective and some not. We will explore how to channel your advocacy for your issues in an efficient way by maximizing your time and that of your organization. We will dive into the difference between different types of advocacy and their best practices. We will also discuss the role of communications and relating to the media. Finally, we will discuss all things social media and how to determine the best set up for your issue.



Amber Hausenfluck is a Vice President of State Government Relations at McGuireWoods Consulting LLC where she assists clients with traditional advocacy, lobbying, and government relations services in matters before the Texas Legislature and regulatory agencies.



Cait Meisenheimer is a Vice President of State Government Relations at McGuireWoods Consulting LLC where she focuses on executing elements of grassroots, public relations, communications, and digital marketing campaigns in addition to providing strategic content development services for clients.



Tony Gius is a Vice President in the MWC Advocacy group where he specializes in managing grassroots and grasstops programs for associations and corporations. He has managed campaigns for companies such as Wal-Mart, Whole Foods, and Disney, and campaigns for associations such as FWD.us and the Texas Cultural Trust.

Thursday, September 20 | 9am-Noon | Discovery Center: Hall



Generational, Cultural, and Personality Differences in the Workplace

DR. RUBEN FLORES

DESCRIPTION: This workshop discusses Hofstede's Cultural Theory and how it relates to customer service issues and interpersonal issues that arise in the workplace. It discusses the different dimensions of culture comparing two cultures, the American culture and the Mexican culture and how the differences and similarities are rife for creating problems in the workplace. The Big Five (Factor Five) Personality Theory is discussed and how those dimensions of personality are so important in staffing decisions, promotions, job fit, and customer services. Traditional, Generation X, and Millennial Generations and the dynamics they bring to the workplace are also discussed. Now you put all three into one model and you have an approximation of the complexities that is the workplace.

Participants will work through a case that involves all three components in one model and get a feel for the challenges that leaders face in the world that is the workplace.

You will learn:

- Define, learn, and analyze cultural dimensions and how they can affect interpersonal and intrapersonal relations in the workplace.
- Define, learn, and analyze personality dimensions and how they can affect interpersonal and intrapersonal relations in the workplace.
- Define, learn, and analyze generational differences and how they can affect interpersonal and intrapersonal relations in the workplace.
- Combining all three theoretical perspectives to address interpersonal and intrapersonal issues that ultimately affect productivity in the workplace.

PRESENTER: Dr. Ruben Flores is a Professor in the Bachelor of Applied Science in Organizational program in South Texas College. He also teaches in the Master of Business Administration program of a local university. He has a Masters in Public Administration, Masters in Business Administration, and a Ph.D. in Business Organizational Leadership.

Thursday, September 20 | 1:30–4:30pm | Discovery Center: Hall



Building Organizational Capacity Workshop

BEETLES PROJECT

www.beetlesproject.org

DESCRIPTION: Improving organizations is a surprisingly challenging undertaking. Even when we know what we want to be different, it can be immensely difficult to implement the change we seek. This workshop lays out a process for organization leaders who want to get better at systematically assessing seven research-based organizational capacities for improvement.

This interactive workshop takes a deep dive into two of these capacities, Leadership and Equity & Inclusion, and provides an overview of the other five capacities and a process for addressing them. Participants will also take part in small group discussions with peers and leave the workshop with the BEETLES Capacity Building Tool in hand.



Jedda Foreman is the Manager of the BEETLES project where she directs the BEETLES effort to advance equity and inclusion in environmental education.

Kevin Beals is the director and co-founder of the BEETLES project. He has worked for the Lawrence Hall of Science since 1988 and published over 100 curriculum guides, children's books, and professional learning resources.

Meet the Palo Blanco, Sugar Hackberry

A tall Valley tree with small purplish berries for the birds!

Thursday, September 20 | 1:30–4:30pm | Adobe Home: Art Gallery



Dreaming Big and Getting the Grant to Implement It

CONNIE BODNER

Institute of Museum and Library Services

www.imls.gov

DESCRIPTION: This two-part participatory program will unpack the strategies, logistics, and best practices involved in preparing successful IMLS grant applications. With a sharp focus on nature center needs, we will examine the process in manageable units, from articulating a project justification, defining appropriately scaled activities, and drafting a budget to defining a strategy for measuring project results. Then we will switch gears and using abbreviated examples of actual applications from nature centers, we will replicate peer review panel activities in small groups so that participants can develop a solid understanding of what's involved in the analysis and evaluation of competitive, fundable applications. Bring your project ideas or plan to create them on site with your colleagues. Participants will receive sets of worksheets and PowerPoint slides for the day's activities as well as for future reference.

Workshop participants will understand:

- the nature and goals of IMLS grant programs for museums, including new initiatives and emphases;
- how to assess the fit between their funding needs and the agency's opportunities; and
- how an application is reviewed and evaluated; ...and will learn how to:
- write a succinct, effective project justification;
- define appropriately scaled activities;
- draft a high-level budget; and
- define a strategy for measuring project results.

PRESENTER: Connie Bodner is a Supervisory Grants Management Specialist at IMLS and co-leads a team of museum professionals who coordinate IMLS's discretionary grant programs in conservation, preservation, collections management, community engagement, and learning for museums of every size and focus across the country. Holds a Ph.D. in Anthropology from University of Missouri-Columbia and a B.A. & M.A. in Anthropology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Thursday, September 20 | 1:30–4:30pm | Discovery Center: Lab

The Need for Nature Centers in Monarch Conservation

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION | www.nwf.org

CIBOLO NATURE CENTER & FARM | www.cibolo.org

- GOAL:**
- To make the case that monarch conservation programs are fundamental to Nature Centers' programming.
 - To provide tools and information that will help Nature Centers to engage in monarch and pollinator conservation efforts.

This workshop will illustrate threats to Monarch butterflies throughout North America and the conservation efforts that Nature Centers can implement to ensure healthy populations of these iconic butterflies. The workshop will emphasize resources that are already available to help Nature Centers accomplish their conservation goals.



Ben Eldredge is the Director of Adult Education at the Cibolo Nature Center & Farm. In this capacity he oversees the adult education, citizen science programs, land stewardship, the creation of a nature-based school, as well as a significant program expansion to the neighboring Herff Farm, including agriculture and land restoration education. Through Ben's efforts, the Cibolo Nature Center became a founding member of the Monarch Joint Venture and has facilitated outreach to over 15,000 individuals annually. He has a degree in Environmental Studies from Hobart & William Smith Colleges in New York State.



Dr. Rebeca Quiñonez-Piñón has over 30 years of experience in forest and water conservation in Canada and Mexico. More recently, she worked on monarch conservation efforts through forest restoration and sustainable management within the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve. In November of 2014, she joined the National Wildlife Federation

as the Monarch Outreach Coordinator, and her main focus is on helping the different monarch conservation networks in Texas to accomplish the implementation of their monarch conservation actions.

DARING DESIGN MASTERFUL BUILD

DEADWOOD
SOUTH DAKOTA

THE NORTHERN BLACK HILLS

Legends divide the Black Hills—called the Paha Sapa for He Sapa by Lakota—in half. The granite Needles and Black Elk Peak, formerly known as Harney Peak, overlook the Southern Hills.

Northern Hills commemorates the Lead, Deadwood, and Spearhead or two magnificent crosses the Spearhead Canyon. The Northern Hills offers scenic heavy snowfall, making them prime winter sports destinations.

Dead's forest caps the southern edge of the Black Hills in Wyoming. Just there was a few miles from Fort Meade, a small town where the 7th Cavalry regrouped after the 1876 Battle of the Little Bighorn.

Like the Michelson Trail from Deadwood, the trail crosses more than a hundred former railroad bridges. It starts down the other side of Mount Rushmore, Grant Peak, Iron Creek, Lake, and forest!



Creating exhibits for museums
and nature centers since 2000.

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Facilitated Discussions & Workshop Sessions

Friday, 9:15 - 10:45am

Development Goals for Your City

Discovery Center: Hall

This facilitated panel discussion will explore the important relationships and partnership possibilities between city, county, and state agencies and nature education facilities. We will discuss ideas on how to work together to benefit our communities.

Facilitated by: Colleen Hook, Manager, Quinta Mazatlan WBC

Panelists: Carter Smith, Executive Director, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
Dr. Cory Christopher, Dir., Ctr. for Conservation at Cincinnati Nature Ctr.
Glenna Holstein, Mgr., Menomonee Valley, Urban Ecology Center
Dr. Parwinder Grewal, Executive Vice President for Research Graduate Studies & New Program Development, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Keeping Our Front-line Staff on the Cutting-Edge

Discovery Center: Lab

As nature center leaders, we find it important to stay up to date with latest trends and developments in the field. Likewise, it is important our staff are given the same opportunity to do so. However, we often face issues regarding cost, availability of training, quality of training, how would we implement the training, who really needs to go, where do I get funding etc... During this facilitated session we will share how we keep our staff on the cutting edge of what is happening in the nature center field and discuss topics such as how to make nature/environmental education a recognized and understood profession in the eyes of the world.

Facilitated By: Linda Dunn, Education Manager, John Bunker Sands Wetland Center

How to Turn Bitterness & Tension into High-fives and Laughter!

Discovery Center: Anacua Tree

Nothing jeopardizes an organization more than tension in the workplace. These words will ring true if your organization is suffering from a lack of team cohesion or low staff morale. Join us for a lively discussion on tips and tricks for creating the foundation of a high functioning team. Learn methods that will boost both team performance, attitudes, and maybe more importantly, your mental sanity!

Facilitated by: Jenn Wright, Executive Director, Grass River Natural Area

FRIDAY & SATURDAY SESSIONS

Facilitated Discussions & Workshop Sessions

Friday, 9:15 - 10:45am

From Now to Wow!

Improving the Nature Center Experience through Signage & Interpretive Graphics

Cottage: Business Room

This session will provide an opportunity to gain an understanding of the intricate processes of developing effective and engaging signage, wayfinding and interpretive graphics for Nature Centers and their related Green Spaces and Trails systems. Through presentation of proven analytical processes and how this translates into developing successful design direction, messaging, stakeholder consensus, contract documentation, and finally case studies of implemented projects attendees will experience a start to finish understanding of means and methods to achieve success on their future projects. Attendees will also have the opportunity to contrast and compare their past experiences, or current status of such programs, and participate in a peer discussion to identify challenges that are being faced and what solutions are available to them to improve their facility's visitor experience and value perceptions of the respective Nature Center.

Facilitated by: Chris Frison, Associate Vice President, DIG Studios; Grady Brown, President, iZone Imaging

10 Years at the Leopold Legacy Center:

Looking Back, Looking Ahead

Adobe Home: Art Gallery

In Spring, 2007, the Aldo Leopold Foundation of Baraboo, Wisconsin completed work on its new 12,000sf headquarters. Designed by The Kubala Washatko Architects (TKWA), the Legacy Center was envisioned as a small complex of structures organized around a central courtyard with office and meeting spaces, interpretive exhibit hall, archive, workshop, and three-season hall. Built on the site where Aldo Leopold died fighting a brush fire in 1948, the Center provides a trailhead to the original Leopold Shack for visitors from around the world. In Fall, 2008, Leopold Legacy Center achieved LEED® Platinum and became the first building recognized by the United States Green Building Council as carbon-neutral in operation. Projected as a 'zero net energy' building, the Center was designed to produce over 110% of it's annual building energy needs. Significantly, the Center introduced innovative approaches to sustainable site development, energy management, bioclimatic design, and the use of ecologically appropriate materials. The essential goal for this unique collaboration between the Leopold Foundation, TKWA, and a diverse team engineers, scientists, craftspeople, and artists was to demonstrate how human

activity, the built environment, and the natural world are intertwined in a larger cycle of energy and life. In the ten years since its completion the Center has been published in over a dozen languages in more than twenty countries. This ANCA Workshop Session will consist of three parts: a) Creating the Center; b) Lessons Learned; and c) Program Impacts. The informal presentation will allow for audience interaction and discussion.

Facilitated by: Joel Krueger, Architect, TKWA

Leadership 101:

Best Practices for Achieving Impact

Adobe Home: Front Lawn

Discover and share secrets to effective leadership. Engage in a lively discussion that may change your view of leadership and help you grow in your profession to achieve more impact for your organization.

Facilitated by: Corky McReynolds, Principal, Lead Team, LLC

Facilitated Discussions & Workshop Sessions

Friday, 11am-12:30pm

Using iNaturalist at Your Nature Center

Discovery Center: Hall

In this session, we will discuss how to use iNaturalist, how to engage the public with this tool, and how the data can guide land management and public policy. iNaturalist is a platform for nature appreciation, and the free app can be easily taught to the public to engage them even more with nature. All of the nuts and bolts of iNaturalist will be discussed, as well as some of the concerns of using this tool.

Facilitated by: Sam Kieschnick, Urban Wildlife Biologist, Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept.
Tania Homayoun, Texas Nature Tracker Biologist, TPWD

Rentals: How to Maximize Income AND Minimize Impact

Discovery Center: Patio

Hear all about Irvine's experience with rentals as we transitioned away from managing these external events yet maintained it as a steady source of income. In this session, Irvine's Executive Director and Director of Operations will share with participants the keys to success and pitfalls to avoid while also looking at the short and long terms benefits realized from making this change. We will share our current contract, what we have learned in year one, and how we plan to move forward as interest in using our space grows.

Facilitated by: Brooks Paternotte, Executive Director, Irvine Nature Center

FRIDAY & SATURDAY SESSIONS

Facilitated Discussions & Workshop Sessions

Friday, 11am-12:30pm

Stronger Together - The Rio Grande Valley

Nature Partnership Model

Discovery Center: Lab

The TX Rio Grande Valley has over 20 staffed nature centers in a rather small area. Although most of these centers interpret the same resources and share similar programs and audiences, RGV Nature Centers have built a support system for sharing and collaboration. Learn the history of the RGV Nature Partnership, and how federal, state, city and non-profit nature centers, parks, and refuges have created lasting partnerships.

Facilitated by: Javier de Leon, Park Superintendent, Estero Llano Grande State Park
Marisa Oliva, Manager, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands & World Birding Ctr.
Gisela Chapa, Refuge Manager, Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge

Can't See the Trees for the Forest

Discovery Center: Anacua Tree

Advancing your organization through challenging times can require outside the box thinking. Have you ever thought you had your strategic direction in place only to find out that the bigger picture didn't turn out the way you planned? Purposefully forcing a paradigm shift from focusing on the bigger picture to the individual details can reveal a path forward you would otherwise not notice. Share your ideas, concepts, and processes that shifted your perspective to achieve outcomes with substantial results.

Facilitated by: John DeFillipo, Executive Director, John Bunker Sands Wetland Center

The Benefits of

Electronic Health Records at Camp

Cottage: Business Room

Camps are adopting Electronic Health Records (EHRs) now more than ever. Relying on handwritten instructions is a thing of the past; paper records can be cumbersome, illegible, and easily misplaced. Together we'll explore how EHRs can help ensure the health and safety of your participants, help make your program more efficient, and help your staff avoid mistakes. Don't get left behind!

Facilitated by: Alexander Goren, Director of Sales, CampDoc.com

Facilitated Discussions & Workshop Sessions

Friday, 11am-12:30pm

Weathering Disaster Response

Adobe Home: Art Gallery

It's not always an issue on our mind to plan for. Natural disasters can devastate an organization, but there are things we can do to be ready ahead of time, and especially for the aftermath. We will look at the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory's recent Hurricane Harvey damage, Stephen F. Austin State Park's flooding, and other events and try to learn from them. Please bring any discussion along!

Facilitated by: Martin Hagne, Executive Director, Gulf Coast Bird Observatory
Martha Garcia, Park Superintendent, Texas Parks & Wildlife

Facilitated Discussions & Workshop Sessions

Friday, 1:30-3pm

How Beijing Uses Parks and Traditional Chinese Culture

as Comprehensive Education Resources

Adobe Home: Art Gallery

1. The Temple of Heaven is where Emperors used to pray to the Universe for good harvests. At the same time its architecture is an example of enabling architecture to serve an educational purpose. There is an amazing acoustic phenomenon, an echo, at each radius. It increases as the radius gets larger. Primary school students, as part of math classes, calculate and demonstrate these echoes.
2. The Summer Palace for emperors became an urban park for the people after 1949. Primary school students study nature and architecture here and use this knowledge to give guided tours.
3. Mid- Autumn Festival is a traditional Chinese festival and Solar Calendar. Chinese celebrate the harvest by enjoying mooncakes under the harvest moon. They share the ancient tales about Houyi, his wife Chang-e and the moon. This year the festival is on September 24th.

Application activity: creating ornamental dragonflies.

Facilitated by: Dr. Cunli Fan, Beijing Academy of Educational Sciences
Ms. Yuan Liu, Beijing Academy of Educational Sciences
Ms. Yang Wu, Beijing Academy of Educational Sciences

FRIDAY & SATURDAY SESSIONS

Facilitated Discussions & Workshop Sessions

Friday, 1:30-3pm

Community Based Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation

Cottage: Business Room

Explore new innovative ways to engage communities and partners in wildlife conservation related projects. Facilitator will lead the discussion by sharing examples of non-traditional partnerships to engage communities in the outdoors and wildlife and habitat conservation.

Facilitated by: Gisela Chapa, Refuge Mgr., Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge (USFWS)

Outdoor Classrooms – Design Dialogue on Purpose,

Placement, Program, and Functionality

Discovery Center: Lab

Outdoor “classrooms” and gathering areas can take on a variety of forms and be constructed of an array of materials. Some of the best, however, don’t even feel like a “classroom” at all. What elements of successful outdoor gathering spaces best deliver on mission and program while also being inviting and durable? How can these spaces work together to build a storyline and best engage visitors with the natural systems at your center? Bring your success stories and come share your “lessons learned.” Hear some perspective from designers who have worked on these facilities around the country.

Facilitated by: Mike Frazee, Principal, Studio Outside

Extraordinary Personnel Issues

Discovery Center: Patio

Bring your challenges to this panel of experienced managers and we will discuss how you survive when dealing with difficult issues around your paid and volunteer workforce - including board members! We will discuss strategies and best practices for dealing with the initial shock of a situation to how to resolve your most uncomfortable situations.

Facilitated by: Amber Parker, Executive Director, Ijams Nature Center

Panelists: Suzanne Tuttle, Retired Manager, Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge
Iain McCloud, Executive Director, Squam Lakes Natural Science Center
Tim Sandsmark, Education Supervisor, Jefferson County Open Space

Facilitated Discussions & Workshop Sessions

Friday, 1:30-3pm

Challenges and Opportunities when Diversifying

Your Board or Friends Group

Discovery Center: Anacua Tree

This discussion will include opportunities to examine challenges creating a diverse board, ways to overcome those challenges, and recruitment/retention of your board, volunteers, and/or friends group.

Facilitated by: Sara Beesley, Director, Mitchell Lake Audubon Center
Susie Creamer, Director, Patterson Park Audubon Center

Creating Meaningful Social Media

Discovery Center: Hall

On January 11, Mark Zuckerberg announced Facebook users would see more content from their friends and family over posts from business pages. This shift could have significant impacts on small businesses that use social media to advertise themselves. This session will guide you on how to efficiently deal with the Facebook changes by creating engaging content that keeps guests coming back to your page.

Facilitated by: Jessica Tanguma, Program Coordinator,
City of McAllen- Parks and Recreation

Facilitated Discussions & Workshop Sessions

Saturday, 9-10:30am

1. 2. 3. Ecology

Discovery Center: Hall

Nature is all around us and constantly at work. The presentation will review three processes of nature (photosynthesis, chemistry, and fire physics) and review the impacts and benefits they have on the built environment. Jacob will present design principles and economic outcomes that result from incorporating nature in design. The presentation is a primer on some of the aspects of science you learned but might have forgotten; and a look at the role of nature in design. The presentation illustrates how the process of nature impact designs.

Facilitated by: Jacob Blue, Ayres Associates Inc.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY SESSIONS

Facilitated Discussions & Workshop Sessions

Saturday, 9-10:30am

Budgeting 101:

Making 'Cents' out of Budgeting

Cottage: Business Room

Many of us began our nature/environmental centers as tree huggers and happy educators, but suddenly found ourselves leading our organizations and being tossed into the cold world of financial documents and budget spreadsheets. Learning how to navigate and guide your organization's finances is one of the most critical things you can do to insure success. Whether you are navigating nonprofit or governmental finances, your organization needs a budget. Join your fellow leaders as we delve into the basics of budgeting and learn from each other the tips and tools for successful budgeting.

Facilitated by: Tim Sandsmark, Education Supervisor, Jefferson County Open Space

Say What You Mean: A Conversation on

Inclusive Language and Practices

Adobe Home: Art Gallery

Does "citizen science" invite only American citizens to participate in collecting data? Do sweat-wicking, weather-repelling hiking clothes imply that only those who can afford the gear can go on the hike? Do the job requirements or the online applications create barriers for applicants without higher education or access to technology? Equity, diversity, and inclusion are vital to environmental sustainability and programs success in our multicultural world. We must be thoughtful and intentional in our daily approach. Join us for an informal discussion in a safe space to explore how each of us can create a more welcoming place for participants, volunteers, and staff.

Facilitated by: Susie Creamer, Director, Patterson Park Audubon Center

Fee Structures:

To be Free or Not Free?

Discovery Center: Anacua Tree

As debate rages on between whether we should build value in nature by charging for access to nature sites or make access free and available to all, let's discuss the merits of both perspectives, while learning what policies and practices sites have put into practice to meet the economic realities of their operations and the communities they serve.

Facilitated by: Marisa Oliva, Mgr., Edinburg Scenic Wetlands & World Birding Center

Facilitated Discussions & Workshop Sessions

Saturday, 9-10:30am

Connecting Deeply with Nature Through Science

Discovery Center: Lab

A scientific mindset is a deep way for learners to develop a life-long relationship with nature. Nature is filled with mysteries, and by focusing in on any part of nature using a well thought out approach of observations, questions, and connections, learners can become intrigued. We'll model an activity that gives learners the opportunity to engage in practices and ways of thinking of science, while becoming deeply engaged with exploring and figuring out an intriguing corner of nature. Once this curiosity is ignited, and they've caught "inquiry fever," they'll be interested in and prepared to wonder and explore other parts of nature on their own. This session is based on one of the many free outdoor science resources developed by the BEETLES program at the Lawrence Hall of Science. Come "fall in love" with an intriguing aspect of nature.

Facilitated by: Kevin Beals, Director, BEETLES-Lawrence Hall of Science
Jedda Foreman, Project Manager, BEETLES-Lawrence Hall of Science

How to Ask for Major Gifts

Discovery Center: Patio

The truth about Major Gift Fundraising is that it IS hard – at least the ASKING part is. It is emotionally taxing for both the solicitor and the prospective donor. Building a stone wall is hard too. It requires muscles not everyone has. We can't make either activity less difficult, but we can strengthen the muscles needed through exercise. And like physical labor, the more you do, the more you will be able to do.

Join organizational development and fundraising expert David Allen for a fast-paced, interactive workshop where we examine the nature of our organizational fundraising muscle and demonstrate several exercises we can take back to help us make that muscle stronger. We'll look at motivations behind giving decisions from the donors' perspective, how to find and qualify prospects, how to think creatively about and plan for cultivation activities, and the differing roles of staff and board. We'll examine a foolproof outline for organizing the personal ask visit. And, we'll identify three paradigm shifts in our thinking that can make a HUGE difference in our experience and our results.

Facilitated by: David Allen, Principal Consultant, Development for Conservation

FRIDAY & SATURDAY SESSIONS

Facilitated Discussions & Workshop Sessions Saturday, 10:45am-12:15pm

Retirement 101

Discovery Center: Lab

There are three levels of preparation for retirement. **1)** Preparing yourself financially. **2)** Preparing your organization for the change. **3)** Preparing yourself mentally. This session will focus on number 3. When you retire, you give up your responsibility, connection to many people you are close to, and, in many ways, your self-image. How does one prepare mentally for this new role? Now retired 2.5 years, Bob will lead a discussion. There are no right or wrong answers, so we will explore options. What are you going to do?

Facilitated by: Robert Mercer, Retired, Silver Lake Nature Center

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:

Where Does Your Organization Stand?

Discovery Center: Anacua Tree

Just as ecosystems are stronger and more resilient when they are more biologically diverse, we know that in order for environmental efforts to succeed, they must be built by and for people who represent the vast diversity that we find across our communities.

- Removing barriers and building bridges
- Building diverse staff teams
- Meaningfully engaging diverse communities

We'll also tackle the question of: what the heck do those terms "diversity, equity, and inclusion" mean, and are they the best terms to use for your work at your center?

Facilitated by: Glenna Holstein, Manager - Menomonee Valley, Urban Ecology Center
Pam Musk, Board of Directors, ANCA

Building Power and Influence for Nature Center Directors

Adobe Home: Art Gallery

Leadership can be defined as taking responsibility for enabling others to achieve purpose in the face of uncertainty. What does leadership mean to you? How do you want to leverage your role to impact your cause? What are your leadership goals? Foundational to good leadership are qualities of empathy, compassion, open-mindedness, respect, and generosity.

Facilitated by: Kitty Pochman, Executive Director, Linda Loring Nature Foundation
Panelists: Vera Vollbrecht Roberts, Director, Warner Park Nature Center
Mary McKinley, Executive Director, Ogden Nature Center
Merica Whitehall, Executive Director, Fontenelle Forest
Javier de Leon, Park Superintendent, Estero Llano Grande State Park
Saul Weisberg, Executive Director, North Cascades Institute
Bo Glover, Executive Director, Environmental Nature Center

Facilitated Discussions & Workshop Sessions Saturday, 10:45am-12:15pm

Improving the Visitor and Staff Experience: Strategies for Evaluating and Planning Technology Solutions

Cottage: Business Room

With other attractions competing for the same visitors, nature centers must strive to deliver a unique and satisfying visitor experience that promotes loyalty and support. Nature centers often adopt new visitor-serving technologies as they became available, resulting in a mix of systems from a variety of vendors that may not efficiently meet an organization's diverse and evolving needs. Technology strategies tend to fall into four general categories, each of which offers benefits and drawbacks.

- Present common technology models and strategies
- Moderate a discussion about participants' technology challenges and possible solutions
- Lead a collaborative exercise in developing technology options
- Share strategies for evaluating and implementing technologies

Facilitated by: David Ellis, VP, Sales and Marketing, Doubleknot
Ruth Lundin, Retired President, Audubon Community Nature Center

Nature Preschool, Right for You?

Discovery Center: Patio

What is a nature preschool? Is a nature preschool right for your organization? How do you decide? How do you start one? This session will help you decide if it is a good option for you and give you the background and steps to ensure a smooth start-up should you choose to go that route. The session will be an open discussion with focus on the areas that participants choose as priorities. Staff with existing nature preschools are welcome as well as those who are still in the decision-making process.

Facilitated by: Michele Cardinaux, Dir., Tacoma Nature Center, Metro Parks Tacoma

Social and Emotional Learning: Why Incorporating Best Practices in Youth Engagement Matters

Discovery Center: Hall

Raising socially and environmentally conscious children leads to lifelong stewardship of nature and community. Explore how incorporating Social Emotional Learning best practices in youth engagement at outdoor science centers creates transformative change in programs, teams, individuals, and community. Join the conversation and become change agents.

Facilitated by: Nancy Patterson, Director, BLM Campbell Creek Science Center



Suggested Retail: \$179

Introducing an exciting new way to engage visitors.

Echo Meter Touch 2 turns every visitor's phone into an interactive bat detector.

Bring a new level of fun and learning to your evening bat walks using something most visitors carry with them – their phones.

When bats are near, Echo Meter Touch 2 lets visitors listen to the bats' ultrasonic echolocation calls. They can view them on a colorful, interactive spectrogram, and the app automatically identifies and displays the most likely bat species being detected. They can then save what they've heard and learn more about each species.

It's easy to add Echo Meter Touch 2 to your evening bat walks.

The app is free and available for iOS and Android.

Echo Meter Touch Ultrasonic Module is available for \$179 directly from Wildlife Acoustics.



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Contact sales2018@wildlifeacoustics.com for retail opportunities

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CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Big Picture: Topo Map View of the Valley! | Discovery Center: Hall

Wednesday, 4-5pm | Thursday, 4:45-5:30pm

Host: CAROL GOOLSBY is the Supervisor of Environmental Education for youth and family programs at Quinta Mazatlan. Her specialty is creating environmental, hands-on, interactive, educational curriculum and nature experiences.

Description: Enjoy a unique “birds-eye-view” presentation of the Lower Rio Grande Valley on a large-scale topographical model of the region followed by a look at some of the live and taxidermy creatures that can be found in the Valley’s six physiographic zones. See where the nature parks are in relation to the Rio Grande, Mexico, and major cities in this introductory “Welcome to the Valley!”

History Tour of Adobe Home | Adobe Home: Historic Door

Wednesday, 4-5pm | Thursday, 4:45-5:30pm | Friday, 4:45-5:30pm



Host: VICTOR DE LEON is the Supervisor of Marketing & Adult Environmental Programs at Quinta Mazatlan. A Valley native and former school teacher, Victor spent two years avidly pursuing the history of the Quinta Mazatlan home and gardens.

Description: Join Quinta Mazatlan’s historian on a tour of the historic home, sharing its colorful past as it moved through the ownership of two families before being purchased by the City of McAllen. Learn about Spanish Colonial Architecture, Talavera Tile, and tour the smallest museum in South Texas—the Ann Moore Collection of Mexican Folk Art, housed today in a transformed children’s bedroom.

Palm Frond Painting & Rep-TILE Art! | Courtyard: South Oak

Wednesday, 4-5pm | Thursday 4:45-5:30pm | Friday 4:45-5:30pm

Host: CARLY TENCZA is an environmental educator at Quinta Mazatlan with a passion for nature journalism and sustainability who works with children’s nature programs. Carly is a recent arrival from New Mexico where she led a sustainability program for a national corporation.

Description: Bring out your inner “wild” and take back home a creative souvenir of the subtropics: a palm frond painting or a painted “rep-tile!”. Carly Tencza will introduce you to our live indigo snake, eastern rat snake, and Texas tortoise, and then challenge you to paint a unique souvenir.

Songbird Stroll | Adobe Home: Visitors Center

Thursday 7-8am | Friday 7-8am | Saturday 7-8am



Host: JOHN BRUSH is the Urban Ecologist at Quinta Mazatlan's Center for Urban Ecology. John grew up in the Valley as son of its premier ornithologist. Today he is considered one of the Valley's top naturalists, who gives bird workshops and tours, as well as coordinates habitat conservation research through the Center for Urban Ecology.

Description: Join experienced ornithologist John Brush on a bird walk through the thorn forest where you will get to see and learn about local specialties such as the great chachalaca, green jay, clay-colored thrush, great kiskadee, as well as migratory species that visit the LRGV.

Thorn Forest Trail Walk | Adobe Home: Front Lawn

Thursday 7-8am | Saturday 7-8am



Host: JORGE TRUJILLO is an Environmental Educator at Quinta Mazatlan who works with toddlers, preschool, and school-age programs. Jorge grew up in the Valley and expresses his Bolivian family heritage and South Texas experience through story, food, and music, highlighting

rich connections to nature.

Description: Unique plant and animal adaptations as well as cultural myths and stories can be found on every turn of the trail in this guided walk through a remnant of "Tamaulipan Thorn Forest" at Quinta Mazatlan. At the end of trail, have a sample "taste of the region."

Yoga in the Park | Courtyard: Awning

Thursday 7-8am | Friday 7-8am



Host: SABRINA LARTZ is a Quinta Mazatlan marketing coordinator, provider of adult history tours, and coordinator of Yoga in the Park. Sabrina moved to the Valley from Florida where she worked as a wildlife specialist in a nature preserve while teaching yoga in her spare time.

Description: Start your day with an hour of relaxation as Sabrina Lartz guides you through "Yoga in the Park."

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Gardening for Wildlife | Adobe Home: Front Lawn

Friday 7-8am



Host: SILVIA BARR is the Quinta Mazatlan horticulturalist and coordinator of the Mayor's Monarch pledge. A native of Venezuela, Silvia has lived in the Valley for the past several decades bringing her knowledge of South American plant families to compare with their North American

relatives.

Description: Join horticulturalist Silvia Barr on a tour through Quinta's butterfly and cactus gardens. Learn about programs such as the Mayor's Monarch Pledge, festivals and workshops, and our work to fulfill Quinta's mission to expand habitat gardens to urban areas to support wildlife and conserve water.

Nature Journaling | Discovery Center: Patio

Thursday 7-8am | Friday 7-8am | Saturday 7-8am

Host: CARLY TENCZA is an environmental education with a passion for nature journalism and sustainability who works with children's nature programs. Carly is a recent arrival from New Mexico, where she led a sustainability program for a national corporation.

Description: Start your day with an hour of soulfulness and nature connectivity as Carly demonstrates techniques used in creating a strong nature journaling program.

Prickly Pear Jelly Making | Discovery Center: Lab

Thursday 4:45-5:30pm | Friday 4:45-5:30pm



Host: CHRISTA LEE from McAllen is proprietor of "Christa's Pantry" selling locally made jellies and preserves in farmer's markets throughout the Valley. An Illinois native, Christa moved to the Valley 3 decades ago with her "passion for preserving," and has experimented with a variety of local fruits and Valley flavors.

Description: Watch Christa Lee, locally renowned jelly-maker, as she demonstrates the process of taking one of the Valley's iconic fruits, the

Prickly Pear Tuna, from the cactus through the flame-thrower, to pot, to the jar. Then taste the unique flavors as she serves it in unique ways including with Jalapeño Kettle Potato Chips, and as Prickly Pear Lemonade!

Make Rope out of Yucca | Discovery Center: Anacua Tree

Thursday 4:45-5:30pm | Friday 4:45-5:30pm



Host: DAVID FLORES and RICK GUERRA are Valley natives that work as environmental educators with Quinta Mazatlan's youth education programming. Their strong connection to the land growing up led to a lifetime of knowledge about the Valley's native plants and animals.

Description: Learn how early cultures along the Rio Grande used agave leaves to twine into threads that could be corded into rope during this hands-on demonstration. Take home a souvenir of the past.

Rhythms of the Rio | Amphitheater in the Woods

Friday 4:45-5:30pm



Host: Jorge Trujillo is an Environmental Educator at Quinta Mazatlan who works with toddlers, preschool, and school-age programs. Jorge grew up in the Valley and expresses his Bolivian family heritage and South Texas experience through story, food, and music, highlighting rich connections to nature.

Description: Enjoy an unforgettable introduction to LRGV cultural heritage as Jorge Trujillo transports you with song and story-telling through the various people that have called South Texas home.

Bird Banding | Adobe Home: Visitors Center

Sunday 7am - 10:45am



Before your flight back home, take some time to meet some of the Rio Grande Valley resident birds face to face as local bird banding legend Mark Conway continues his urban bird banding project at Quinta Mazatlan. Great Kiskadees, Golden-fronted Woodpeckers, Plain Chachalacas, and perhaps a bird rare to the area can be closely examined before being released back into the local habitat.



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6801 Padre Boulevard, South Padre Island, TX | spibirding.com



Join David Ellis, Doubleknot's VP of Sales and Marketing, and ANCA board member Ruth Lundin (recently retired Executive Director of Audubon Community Nature Center) for their workshop:

Improving the Visitor and Staff Experience: Strategies for Evaluating and Planning Technology Solutions



For more information about Doubleknot, visit hello.doubleknot.com/ANCA or write us at solutions@doubleknot.com.

Wednesday, September 19, 2018

All field trips depart from the QM Parking Lot

**Ethnobotany of the Rio Grande Valley –
Rancho Lomitas**

7:30am – 2pm, Cost \$60 (Lunch Included)

Head to the western part of the Rio Grande Valley and learn about how local people survived in the arid brushlands of south Texas for centuries by using native plants and local landscapes. Local ethnobotanist

Benito Treviño will take participants on a leisurely tour of his 200 acre ranch as he describes how his family used native plants to cope with the hardships of a harsh landscape. This trip offers a very unique look into the Rio Grande Valley's past and its unique culture. Rancho Lomitas is also a birding hotspot for the area. Audubon's Orioles, Green Jays, and Roadrunners are known to frequent the ranch headquarters.



Birds, Butterflies, and Botanas!

8am – 2pm, Cost \$40 (Lunch Included)

Get a taste of local culture through its nature and its food! Take a trip to the Rio Grande River at the Hidalgo Pumphouse and get a glimpse into the area's agricultural past and present state of affairs along the Rio Grande River. Photo

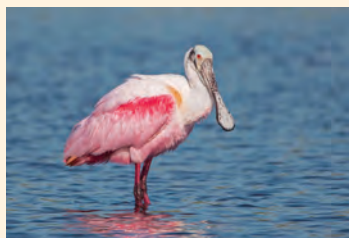


op next to the section of border wall at the Hidalgo Pumphouse World Birding Center possible during this trip. The group will also visit the National Butterfly Center to view the wide variety of birds and butterflies in the RGV at this time of year. Stop at a well-known restaurant for botanas (fajita sampler plate) or other local foods. Birds and butterflies possible during this trip include Green Jay, Plain Chachalaca, Altamira Oriole, Olive Sparrow, Malachite, Mexican Bluewing and many more!

FIELD TRIPS

Wednesday, September 19, 2018

All field trips depart from the QM Parking Lot



South Padre Island Beach Goodies Trip
8am – 4pm, Cost \$60 (Lunch Included)

Dip your toes in the Gulf of Mexico OR jump in completely! Visit Sea Turtle Inc, a sea turtle rescue sanctuary in operation since 1977, and South Padre Island Birding and Nature Center. Kayak in the Laguna Madre or cross the street and

do some beach lounging and birding. South Padre Island is the longest barrier island in the world, a popular tourist destination, and a vastly important stopover for migratory birds. Experience beach life with a variety of options during this field trip.



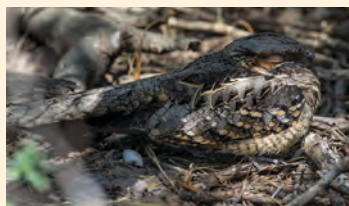
King Ranch Half-day Trip
7am – 2pm, Cost \$80 (Lunch Included)

Explore the legendary King Ranch with the ranch's own resident naturalists! This bucket list tour will visit the remote & unique Norias division of the vast King Ranch in search of a variety of rangeland birds such as White-tailed Hawk, Greater

Roadrunner, Vermillion Flycatcher, Great Kiskadee, Green Jay, and a rare south Texas resident: the Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl. While there is an abundance of native wildlife, you might also get a glimpse of an exotic mammal that roams this section of the ranch, the Nilgai Antelope. The Norias division is located within the south Texas sand sheet ecological area so the habitats encountered will also be quite special. Special pricing has been included for the ANCA Summit so don't miss this great opportunity. Picnic lunch included.

Sunday, September 23, 2018

All field trips depart from the QM Parking Lot



RGV Bucket List Birding
7am – 6pm, Cost \$60 (Lunch Included)

Don't miss this Rio Grande Valley Birding Big Day Adventure with local birders. This trip will find many Rio Grande Valley specialty birds and any migrating birds

as they make their way south for the winter. Begin at Bentsen RGV State Park and bird the entrance gardens and nature center in search of Clay-colored Thrush, Olive Sparrow, Altamira Oriole, Long-billed Thrasher and Curve-billed Thrashers. Stop at Santa Ana NWR for more riparian and forest species before heading to Estero Llano Grande State Park for Least Grebe, Black-bellied Whistling Duck, Pauraque, Green and Ringed Kingfishers. Enjoy a box lunch at Estero and then head to the coast for migrating song birds and shorebirds. Locations may vary according to where the birds are.



Palms and Parrots of Brownsville **3pm – 8:30pm. Cost \$40 (Dinner Included)**

Visit one of the last Sabal Palm forests along the Rio Grande with past ANCA Board Member Jimmy Paz. Tour a recently restored plantation house and the Sabal Palm forest for a unique sub-tropical experience. Enjoy a picnic dinner before visiting Oliveira Park - known for its raucous nightly parrot spectacle. Over Two hundred parrots (Red-crowned, White-fronted, Red-lored, Yellow-headed Parrots) gather here every night in the trees above the park to the delight of many visiting birders. Learn about the

efforts to protect Red-crowned Parrots, a native species to the area and possible endangered species candidate.

Sunday, September 23 and Monday, September 24, 2018 **Adobe Home: Visitors Center**



Fistful of Bucket List Birds **7am – 10:45am. Cost \$20**

Before your flight back home, take some time to meet some of the Rio Grande Valley resident birds face to face as local bird banding continues with the urban bird banding project at Quinta Mazatlan. Great Kiskadees, Golden-fronted Woodpeckers, Plain Chachalacas, and perhaps a bird rare to the area can be closely examined before being released back into the local habitat.

Join the nerd herd!

Wear your nerdiness proudly with this year's Nature Nerd button, \$25 each!



Stop by the ANCA table to join. All proceeds support ANCA's Operational Reserve.

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January 18-22, 2019

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OTHER THINGS TO DO IN THE VALLEY

LRGV BUCKET LIST

The diverse Lower Rio Grande Valley boasts a surplus of adventures and multi-cultural experiences. There is something for everyone to do in our proposed Bucket List of must-dos before you're through!



HIDALGO COUNTY

ENTERTAINMENT ZONES

Explore McAllen

www.exploremcallen.com

Explore McAllen is your source of things to do in McAllen from entertainment to dining & more.

Main Event Center in Pharr

www.mainevent.com

Enjoy bowling, laser tag, food and more games.

Top Golf in Pharr

<https://topgolf.com/us/pharr>

One of a kind experiential concept that is entertaining and growing the game of golf.

NATURE DESTINATIONS

Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park- World Birding Center

<http://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/bentsen-rio-grande-valley> OR
theworldbirdingcenter.com

Edinburg Scenic Wetlands

World Birding Center

www.EdinburgWBC.org OR
theworldbirdingcenter.com

Estero Llano Grande State Park –

World Birding Center

<http://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/estero-llano-grande> OR
theworldbirdingcenter.com

Frontera Audubon Sanctuary

www.fronteraaudubon.org

McAllen Nature Center

www.facebook.com/mcallennaturecenter

Mission Hike and Bike Trails

1414 South Conway Avenue

National Butterfly Center

www.NationalButterflyCenter.org

Old Hidalgo Pumphouse

World Birding Center

theworldbirdingcenter.com

OTHER THINGS TO DO IN THE VALLEY

Quinta Mazatlán-World Birding Center
www.quintamazatlan.com OR
theworldbirdingcenter.com

Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge
http://www.fws.gov/refuge/santa_ana/
http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Lower_Rio_Grande_Valley/

Valley Nature Center
www.valleynaturecenter.org

MUSEUMS/ART GALLERIES

International Museum of Art & Science in McAllen
www.theimasonline.org
Smithsonian Affiliate, explore the over 50,000 sq. feet of arts and professional exhibits.

Museum of South Texas History in Edinburg
www.mosthistory.org
Discover the rich heritage & blended culture in the RGV—fascinating exhibits.

SHOPPING

La Plaza Mall in McAllen
<http://www.simon.com/mall/la-plaza-mall>
Premier shopping destination with over 1,200,000 sq. ft. of retailers and restaurants.

Nuevo Santander Gallery in McAllen
www.nuevosantander.com
Original paintings & sculptures by internationally recognized artists in an historical setting.

GOLF

Palm View Golf Course in McAllen
www.palmviewgolf.com
The beautiful par 72 championship layout is enhanced with lakes and palm trees.

Los Lagos Golf Club in Edinburg
www.cityofedinburg.com/EdinburgGolf/
Los Lagos is an 18-hole golf course that ranks as one of the top courses in the Valley.

EVENT & PERFORMING ARTS CENTERS

McAllen Convention Center and McAllen Performing Arts Center
www.mcallenconventioncenter.net
Home of the “Great Place in Texas” with Oval Park, restaurants, music and theatre.

HISTORICAL CHURCHES

Basilica of Our Lady of San Juan Del Valle
<http://www.olsjbasilica.org>
One of the most visited Shrines by pilgrims from around the world.

La Lomita Mission
<http://missiontexas.us/life-in-mission/attractions/la-lomita-chapel/>
Built in 1865, La Lomita Chapel is a religious shrine that provides a glimpse into history.

OTHER THINGS TO DO IN THE VALLEY

CAMERON COUNTY

ENTERTAINMENT

South Padre Island Chamber

www.spichamber.com

Whether looking for fun and entertainment on the land or water, you'll find it here!

NATURE DESTINATIONS

Harlingen Arroyo Colorado

World Birding Center

www.myharlingen.us OR

theworldbirdingcenter.com

Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge

www.fws.gov/refuge/laguna_atascosa

Lennox Foundation Southmost Preserve

[http://www.nature.org/](http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/texas/placesweprotect/lennox-foundation-southmost-preserve.xml)

[ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/texas/placesweprotect/lennox-foundation-southmost-preserve.xml](http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/texas/placesweprotect/lennox-foundation-southmost-preserve.xml)

Resaca de la Palma State Park

World Birding Center

Theworldbirdingcenter.com

Sabal Palm Sanctuary

www.sabalpalmsanctuary.org

Sea Turtle, Inc.

www.seaturtleinc.org

South Padre Island Birding & Nature

Center-World Birding Center

spibirding.com OR

theworldbirdingcenter.com

South Padre Island Sealife Center

www.spisealife.org

ZOO

Gladys Porter Zoo

gpz.org

Gladys Porter Zoo is a zoological and botanical park located in Brownsville, Texas.

MUSEUMS/ART GALLERIES

Brownsville Museum of Fine Art

www.brownsvillemfa.org

Children's Museum of Brownsville

www.cmofbrownsville.com

Harlingen Arts & Heritage Museum

www.myharlingen.us

Museums of Port Isabel

www.portisabelmuseums.com/

Port Isabel Light House and Keepers Cottage

<http://portisabellighthouse.com/lighthouse/>



OTHER THINGS TO DO IN THE VALLEY

STARR COUNTY

NATURE DESTINATIONS

Rancho Lomitas

www.rancholomitas.com

Roma Bluffs World Birding Center

www.theworldbirdingcenter.com

com/Roma.html OR

theworldbirdingcenter.com

Sam Fordyce Hike and Bike Trails

FM1496 and US HWY 83

KLEBERG COUNTY

NATURE DESTINATION

King Ranch

<http://king-ranch.com>



My Bucket List
Here it goes...

[illegible]



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CAPE COD & NANTUCKET

7 NIGHT STAY IN TRURO ON THE CAPE
VISIT TO LINDA LORING NATURE
CENTER ON NANTUCKET
AVAILABLE AUGUST 31ST-
SEPTEMBER 7TH

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND

2 NIGHT STAY ON
SOUTH PADRE ISLAND
DOLPHIN TOUR FOR 2

STOP BY THE ANCA TABLE FOR THE FULL AUCTION GUIDE



CHAUTAUQUA EXTRAVAGANZA

4 NIGHT STAY AT THE HOPPLE'S
COTTAGE ON LAKE CHAUTAUQUA
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WINE TASTING

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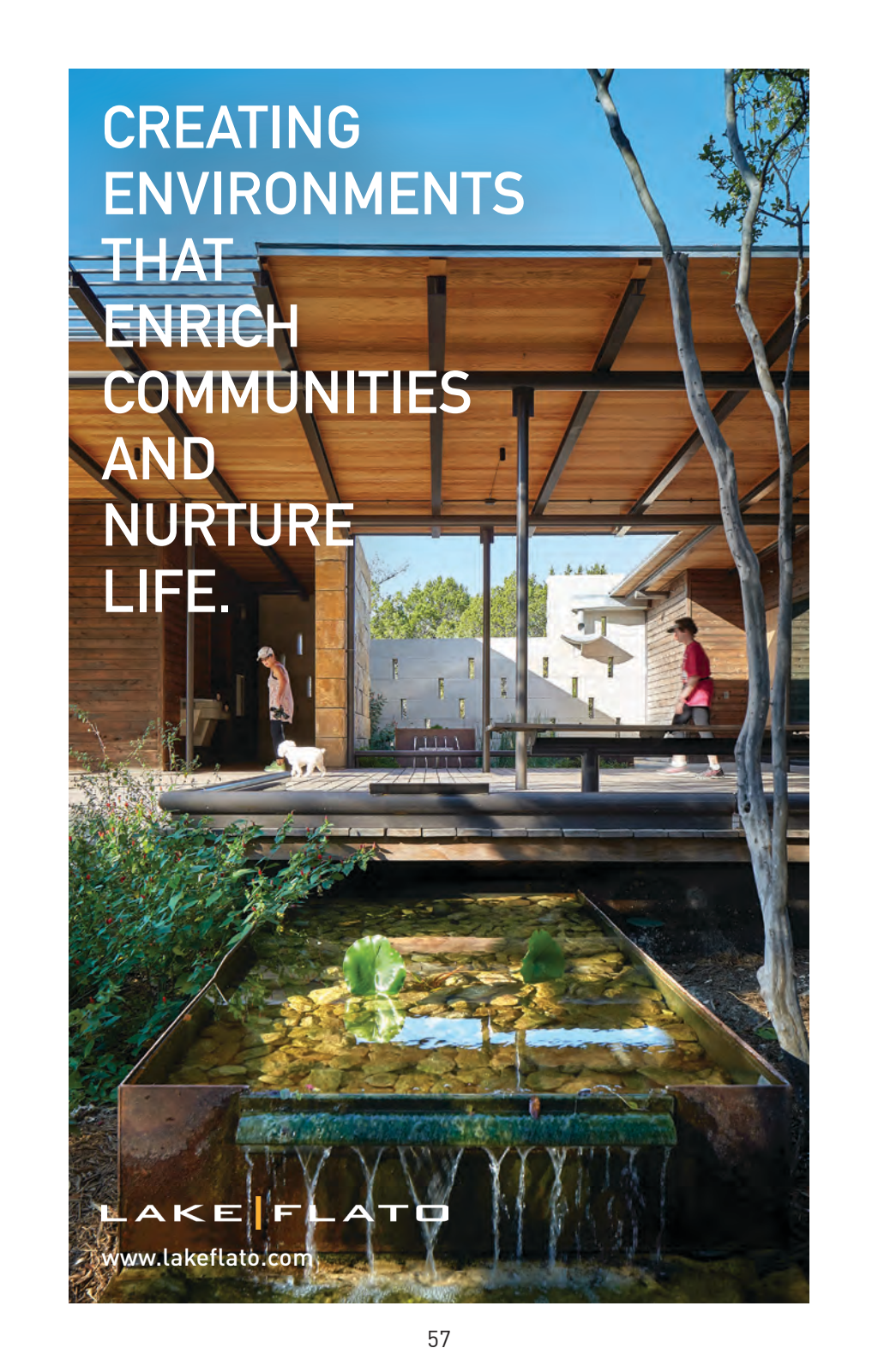
SAVE THE DATE



ANCA SUMMIT 2019

August 20-24

Cincinnati Nature Center, Milford, Ohio

A photograph of a modern architectural space. In the foreground, there is a rectangular water feature with a low, dark metal wall. Water is cascading over a series of small, dark, rectangular blocks, creating a series of small waterfalls. The water is clear, and there are some green lily pads floating on the surface. In the background, there is a wooden structure with a flat roof made of horizontal wooden planks. The structure has large glass windows and doors. A person is standing near the entrance, and a small white dog is walking on the wooden deck. Another person is sitting on a wooden bench. The sky is blue, and there are some trees and bushes in the background.

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- SPI Birding and Nature Center
- The Valley Land Fund

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Thank you

FOR COMING TO THE ANCA SUMMIT 2018 AT QUINTA MAZATLÁN



The Bucket List

What's on your travel bucket list?

1. Stroll through a Thorn Forest in the Subtropics
2. Eat Fajitas Where Fajitas Were Born
3. Learn about the National Heritage on the Country's Southern Border
4. Stuff Yourself Silly with Texas BBQ

5. Fill Up Your Memory Card

500+ Bird Species and 300+ Butterfly Species

6. Explore the Diversity in the Country's Only "Ecological 4 Corners"

7. Viva el Valle with a Concert in the Park

8. Swim in the Warm September Waters of the Gulf of Mexico

9. Learn something new about your expertise/industry

10. Gather new resources, contacts and friends!

Should
Would
Could
Did



600 Sunset Drive | McAllen, TX | (956) 681-3370
www.quintamazatlan.com