Dear Members and Friends... by Becky Etzler, Executive Director

The end of the year can elicit many varied emotions. Shock: “Where did the time go?” Nostalgic: “I remember when…” Anxiety: “How will I ever get this finished in time?” Melancholy: “Another year has passed.” Reflective: “Did I achieve all my goals this year?” Excitement: “We’re going to rock this new year!”

I tend to roll through all of the above and a few more. But, the one emotion that tends to linger is thankfulness. Though this year has been tough, tiring, and draining, there were many things for which I am grateful.

Making my top five are:

1. The broad public awakening to nature as a daily necessity. Vitamin N.
2. The commitment of the Riverside Nature Center board, staff and volunteers.
3. The loyalty and generosity of our membership and donors.
4. The flexibility of our organization to adapt and to seek new pathways.
5. The honor of heralding in another new year with Riverside Nature Center.

My sincerest appreciation extends to each and every one of you, the Riverside Nature Center Family. It is this unity that gave rise to RNC and will carry us far into the future.

Let’s plan on celebrating our past and our future with a little holiday cheer Saturday, December 19th. We’ll jump on that end of the year emotional rollercoaster and go for a wonderfully spectacular ride!

Happy Holidays!
Riverside Nature Center Upcoming Events & Programs

**NEd Talk Webinar:**
**A “Messy” Yard or A Wildlife Winter Wonderland?**
December 9th 1pm-2pm
Join Kelly Simons, TPWD Urban Biologist, as she explains the benefits of landscaping for wildlife through the seasons. Suggested $5.00 donation. Register at riversidenaturecenter.org or (830) 257-4837.

**Holiday Open House**
December 19th 11am-4pm
Join us for some holiday cheer. Hot cider & tasty treats will be served in the visitor center. Activities will include:
- Bird Walk & Talk 8:00-9:30
- Garden Tours 11:00 & 1:00
- Story Time in the Stone Circle 2:00
- Ornament Decorating 1:00-3:00
Happy Holidays!!!

**Bird Walk & Talk**
December 19th 8am-9:30am
Join Paul & Deloris Sellin on a walk to see how many birds you can identify! All ages and level of experience are welcome. Meet at Flat Rock Park in the parking lot near the dog park. Space is limited. Only the first 8 participants will be allowed so get there early! Face Coverings recommended.

**RNC WILL BE CLOSED**
12/24 & 12/25!

**WE WILL CLOSE**
EARLY 12/31 & BE CLOSED 1/1!

We wish you a very happy and healthy holiday season!

Visit riversidenaturecenter.org for more information!
Riverside Nature Center Presents:
A NEd Talk Webinar
A "Messy" Yard or a Winter Wildlife Wonderland?
Presented by Kelly Simon,
TPWD Urban Wildlife Biologist
December 9th 1pm
Before you rake those yards, join in for a discussion on the benefits of landscaping for wildlife throughout the seasons.

Suggested $5 donation
Register at riversidenaturecenter.org or (830)257-4837.

Kelly Conrad Simon has been with Texas Parks and Wildlife since 1995 and currently serves as the Urban Wildlife Biologist for the Central Texas area.

RIVERSIDE NATURE CENTER
HOLIDAY HOURS

We will be observing the following holiday schedule:

Thanksgiving Day- Closed
Christmas Eve- Closed
Christmas Day- Closed
New Years Eve- Closed at 4pm
New Years Day- Closed

Bird Walk
& Talk
Led by Paul & Deloris Sellin
December 19th
8:00am-9:30am
Join Paul & Deloris Sellin to see how many birds you can identify around Flat Rock Park.

Meet in the parking lot near the dog park!

Space is limited!
They will only be taking the first 8 participants so get there early!
Face Coverings Recommended

For more information contact rnc.kerrville@gmail.com or (830)257-4837

Come be a part of the Riverside Nature Center Holiday Giving Tree!

For a minimum $5.00 donation, your name or the name of your choosing, will be prominently featured on an ornament that will hang on our Giving Tree located in the RNC visitor center lobby.

Show your support of RNC this season by helping us decorate our tree with as many ornaments as possible!
The Shoppe @ Riverside Nature Center

Have you visited the Shoppe @ Riverside Nature Center lately?
We have everything you need for your holiday shopping!

Looking for t-shirts, hats, books, & toys?
We also have greeting cards, art, and jewelry!

Stop in Monday-Friday 10am-6pm!

This holiday season, remember our local jewelry makers that are offering interesting jewelry which would make perfect gifts this year!

Beautiful hot-glass “orb” beads by glass artisan George O’Grady are accented with complementary gemstones crafted by Tyra Kane into beautiful necklaces. Paired with whimsical glass earrings, they are a must see in our holiday collection for a beautiful gift for someone on your list.
Also introducing our new RNC embroidered logo sweatshirts!

Now available in Heather Grey & Sand!

Limited sizing available so get yours today!
These beautifully original cardinal felt-crafted ornaments were hand-made and generously donated by Barb Bicker. No tree is complete without one!

Purchase yours in The Shoppe today and add a little spice to your tree!

Hurry while supplies last!

Sure to be a favorite gift is The Natural History of the Edwards Plateau Hill Country by Chapman & Bolen. Pamela LeBlanc has a new release also, “My Stories, All True: J. David Bamberger on Life as an Entrepreneur & Conservationist” which is now available.

Our fun nature-exploring books for children have activities and tips for bird watching and nature trail discoveries. You can enable a future beekeeper with “Turn this Book into a Beehive!”

The popular inspiring “Keeping a Nature Journal” is a great gift for nature lovers.

Plus, there other Nature books and field guides for naturalists!

These uniquely works of art were created by the talented Bridget Langdale. She uses various old and recycled tools and objects to create stunning sculptures.

Her work is viewable inside the Riverside Nature Center visitor center as part of our “Return of the Birds” exhibit, and is also available for purchase. Give the gift of art to the avian lover in your life!
December 19
11am-4pm

Holiday Open House
At Riverside Nature Center

Hot Cider & Tasty Treats
Bird Walk & Talk 8am-9:30am
Garden Tours 11am & 1pm
Story Time in the Stone Circle 2pm
Ornament Decorating 1pm-3pm
Janis and Alan Arterbury are recent arrivals to the Hill Country. They purchased their hilltop house overlooking the Bandara Natural Area only a couple of months ago.

Extensive landscaping had been done by the previous owners. The terraced beds had been generously planted with a variety of Yucca, Lantana and Sage. Plants we were able to identify were Native Lantana, Rosemary, Lavendar, Trailing Lantana, Cenizo, Esperanza, Century plant, Oleander, Mexican Honeysuckle, Jasmine ground cover and Wisteria. There were also bunch grasses, Gulf and Lindheimer Muhlys and Canada Wildrye. It looked like a lot of cedar had been cleared leaving numerous oaks around the house.

The team agreed she was on the right track wanting to remove the Wisteria vine from the front entry and the Oleander from the corners of the house. Our main advice was to take a wait and see approach, let the natives do their thing and then decide what changes she might want to make. It will be much easier to identify the flowering plants during the spring and summer months.

The team will be willing to come back and help identify the blooming plants. Janis also expressed keen interest in enrolling in this fall’s Master Naturalist course. Sandra also invited her to the upcoming Bandera Garden Club meeting to learn more about the local flora.
RNC New Members
10/21/20 thru 11/23/20
Karen Clint

If you would like to renew your membership or become a member of the Riverside Nature Center please visit https://riversidenaturecenter.org/about-rnc/become-a-member/

RNC DONORS
10/21/20 thru 11/23/20
Julie Sentell
Becca Bigott
Harriet Redwine
Ms. Pamela Laing
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Clay
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Mitch & Audrey Mitchell
Native Roots Landscape
Malcolm & Peggy Matthews
Michael & Bernice Fischer
Peter Lewis (Peter Lewis & Associates)
Michael & Sally Sheehy (Hart-Sheehy Fund)
Ysmael Espinoza & Ernesto Carino (Medina Garden Nursery)

PARTNERS IN NATURE
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WHAT IS A RIVERSIDE NATURE CENTER?

Located at the confluence of the Guadalupe River and Town Creek in the Hill Country town of Kerrville — 2010 population, 22,347 — Riverside Nature Center is a 501[c][3] nonprofit organization, owned by its members and primarily operated by volunteers.

Our mission is to advance the stewardship of our natural environment. We provide quality educational experiences for the community’s children, adults and families; and we serve as a resource center for the community on native plants and nature related information.

RIVERSIDE NATURE CENTER

150 Francisco Lemos St.
Kerrville, Texas 78028
(830)257-4837
www.riversidenaturecenter.org

BOARD MEMBERS

Becca Bigott
Bernice Fischer
Joe Hawkins
Malcolm Matthews
Liz Ross
Jake Walther
Zoe Van Dyke

RNC OFFICERS

Barbara Oates-President
Peter Lewis - Past President
Tara Bushnoe - Vice President
Bryan Brown - Secretary
Jeff Gelsone - Treasurer

We would love it if you will
Like us on Facebook
(Riverside Nature Center Association)

and follow us on Instagram
(riversidenaturecenter)

DONATE NOW!
http://riversidenaturecenter.org/index/about-rnc/donate/general-donation-form/

Support RNC
Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon purchases to RIVERSIDE NATURE CENTER whenever you shop on AmazonSmile.