



June 2019 Newsletter

Welcome to the Friends of San Antonio Natural Areas (FOSANA) e-newsletter! We share natural areas news, the Friends' efforts, and opportunities to get involved in volunteering or educational programs at San Antonio's natural areas parks. Please check our website, www.fosana.org, for periodic updates and program information.

What (or Who) Is in a Name?

Plant names can be confusing. The common names can vary from book to book and may be based on the name of the first person who observed the plant, the shape of the fruit, the color of the flower, or any number of other characteristics. However, no matter how many different common names there are, the scientific (Latin) name is always the same for any one organism. For instance, Indian blanket, firewheel, and sundance are all common names for the same plant. We can be grateful to Carolus Linnaeus for the system of Latin names used to identify plants (and animals). The first part, Gaillardia, refers to the genus, while puchella is the species that identifies the specific flower commonly called Indian blanket, firewheel or sundance. Interestingly, Carolus Linnaeus was actually born Carl Linnaeus, but used Carolus, the Latin version of Carl, in his books <http://unsm-ento.unl.edu/workers/CLinnaeus.htm>.

[Ferdinand Jacob Lindheimer \(1801-1879\)](#) is another person for whom we Texans can be particularly grateful. Born and educated in Germany, Lindheimer immigrated to the United States in 1836 and settled in [New Braunfels](#) where he wrote for the local newspaper and continued his passionate study of natural history and plants. Known as "the father of Texas botany because of his work as the first [permanent-resident plant collector in Texas](#)", there are [48 plants that bear the name of Lindheimer](#). One of those plants is blooming now, the Lindheimer daisy, also known as Texas Yellowstar, Texas Star, and Texas Yellow-star. Its Latin name, [Lindheimera texana](#), was assigned by A. Gray & Engelman, both of whom were prominent American botanists. Some of the common plants that were first identified by Lindheimer that we should look for in our parks are the Texas prickly pear (*Opuntia lindheimeri*), white gaura (*Oenothera lindheimeri*), Texas yellow star, and devil's shoestring (*Nolina lindheimeriana*).



Texas prickly pear (*Opuntia lindheimeri*), [Texas yellow star and white gaura \(*Oenothera lindheimeri*\)](#)

Upcoming Natural Areas Even

- **Family Fun Hike at Crownridge Canyon Natural Area** (recommended ages: 5 & up)
 - 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. | Saturday, June 1
 - Celebrate **National Trails Day** and enjoy a family-friendly guided hike along the trails of Crownridge Canyon Natural Area. Hike will cover approximately one mile. Southern Wildlife Rehab will also be at the Crownridge trailhead with their education ambassador animals including skunks, an opossum, bats, and more! RSVP required for those attending the hike. Visit fosana.org to reserve your spot. Suggested donation: \$3 per person, \$6 per family. For more information, call 210-207-3782 or email nicole.mcleod@sanantonio.gov
- **Dinosaur George at Confluence Park for Get Out and Play Day**
 - 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. | Saturday, June 8 | Confluence Park
 - Dino George is back, and brings his renowned dinosaur program to Confluence Park on San Antonio's Southside! On display will be amazing replicas of dinosaur skulls and teeth, including giant killer birds and large Texas mammals. Dinosaur George engages adults and children of all ages—there's something for everyone! Shows at 11:30 a.m. and 12:30. **FREE** to all.

All Programs (unless otherwise noted): RSVP required. Suggested donation: \$3 per person, or \$6 per family. For more information, call 210-207-3782 or email nicole.mcleod@sanantonio.gov.

Are you connected to San Antonio Natural Areas on social media?

You can like us on [Facebook](#).

Find us on [Instagram](#) @sanaturalareas.

Membership Update

We're excited to announce that we recently joined with memberplanet to help manage our FoSANA memberships. We're looking forward to offering you a better hands-on system for overseeing your membership. It will allow us to keep track of members and membership renewal dates, allowing us to focus more on promoting the stewardship of our precious San Antonio natural resources. We're letting you know about this change now because you'll receive an email asking you to join memberplanet in the coming days. All you need to register is your name and email address. If you want to renew your membership, then you'll also need a credit card to quickly and easily register.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at friendsofsanaturalareas@gmail.com. Of course, you're always welcome to renew your membership with a check made out to "Friends of San Antonio Natural Areas" and send to:
 Friends of San Antonio Natural Areas
 21395 Milsa Drive

San Antonio, Texas 78256

Sincerely,
FoSANA Board

Are you a member of Friends of San Antonio Natural Areas (FoSANA)?

Please support FoSANA on the preservation and educational outreach of natural areas around San Antonio by joining or renewing your membership [online](#) today.

Your membership this year will help us continue to

- offer over 400 environmental programs for families and adults at the Natural Areas.
- serve over 14,000 families and adults through education and outreach programs.
- coordinate over 400 volunteer programs and 7,500 volunteer hours supported trail maintenance, habitat conservation and restoration, and native landscapes and gardens.

Plus, when you renew your membership, you'll receive our monthly newsletter that provides updates on natural areas happenings and timely information on upcoming events.

Should you need any assistance or have any questions or comments about your membership, please feel free to email us at friendsofsanaturalareas@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
FoSANA Board

Friends of San Antonio Natural Areas is dedicated to promoting stewardship of San Antonio's Natural Areas, and to the understanding and appreciation of nature through educational and scientific programs.

For the latest updates and more activities, please see the calendar on the FOSANA website.

[Friends of San Antonio Natural Areas Website](#)
