

# NATURES TALES

10201 Monte Cristo Road  
Edcouch, TX 78538  
956-262-4014

LIVING LIFE NATURALLY

www.naturesresorttexas.com  
naturesresort@gmail.com  
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## ***A Trip to the NABA Butterfly Park.***

On Thursday, November 8, twelve Natures Resort bicyclists rode four miles from the Mission Bike and Hike trailhead on Conway Road in Mission to the NABA Butterfly Center. They were joined there by four others from Natures who had driven by automobile.

Grounds Manager Max Munoz led the group on a tour of the garden describing both the butterflies and the various plants that are host to the butterflies and their larvae. More than 200 species of butterflies have been seen at the National Butterfly Center, including a number of rarities and U.S. Records!

Following the guided tour, the group enjoyed a picnic lunch in the middle of the butterfly garden and then the bicyclists rode the four miles back to their vehicles.

Many thanks to Bruce & MarySue for organizing this fun outing.

If you are interested in beautifying your lot with native plants that are easy to grow, will attract butterflies and feed the larvae, there is a three ring binder in the NR library that will give you all the information that you will need.

## ***Tidbits from Speckles, Natures Proud Cat!***

What a wonderful time we are having! Food, Fun, Friends – You can't beat that! There are so many things going on, I hope that I can remember everything!



- I heard some singing in the clubhouse, and went to investigate. It was Karaoke time hosted by Cindy (Randy) and Patty (Russ)! We have talent at Natures!
- Have you heard all the noise in the clubhouse on Tuesday afternoons? NUDE bowling sure attracts a bunch of people who know how to enjoy themselves. Even if you don't want to play, it is fun to watch. Check it out!
- Risking life and limb, Steve & Sue did



an awesome job of getting people to stop at our garage sale. Inside sales totaled \$280.33 and Monte Cristo sales were \$312.73 making a grand total of \$593.06. Many thanks for all the donations and to EVERYONE who helped make this such a success!

- Jack (Cassandra) has a new knee! His replacement surgery went well, and everyone wishes him a speedy recovery.
- Did you ever hear of a 'slab warming party'? Lee & Mary had one after their new cement slab was poured.
- I heard the Big Voice in the Pool area, and went to check it out. Julia and Rainy are coordinating water aerobics. What a nice, cool way to exercise!

- The Blood Mobile was back on November 5<sup>th</sup>. 17 Eligible Donors gave 19 units of life giving blood. Thank you everyone who participated. The Blood Mobile will be back on January 7<sup>th</sup>. If you are able to donate, please sign up.
- More music in the clubhouse! The first of what I am told could be a Sunday Night Clubhouse Event hosted by Jack & Jane was a bluegrass concert DVD featuring Rhonda Vincent & The Rage.
- I nearly went crazy! The most delicious smell was wafting over all of Natures for one whole night. Later I learned that all the turkeys for the Thanksgiving Feast were being slow cooked through the night prior to Thanksgiving. I am thankful because somebody (I can't tell you who because I am not supposed to be given treats) gave me a slice of turkey. It tasted sooo good! Thanks to the hosts and helpers for making Thanksgiving so special.
- We have some really creative people at Natures. Look at this spectacular veggie dish made to look like a turkey!



*How Creative!*

- I think the cement truck is wearing out the gate. Ken & Barbie, Lot 238, also had a slab poured. Welcome to my Natures family!
- Marvin and Bill T spent the summer researching all the best places to go for

a good and reasonably priced breakfast, so there are lots of new places for the men to go for their breakfast outings.

- Water Volley Ball has become a major activity. Now they have even organized people to corral the stray balls!
- A number of people have signed up to take care of a section of the Memorial Garden for the winter season. I'm sure that Sandy is smiling down at all of them. Thanks so much for your help.
- Did you know that Sylvie & Sylvan travelled 600 miles to get to Natures in time for the Beer and Brats Festival?
- Check out the columns in front of Big Bill's house. I'm not sure what they do, but I like them.

That's all from me. Here's wishing for purrrfect weather for December!



### ***Beer & Brats Fall Festival***

A great time was had by all! About 150 people enjoyed sampling the many different beers and wine that people brought from their home town or state. Between sipping beer or wine, about 240 brats were consumed, and people also enjoyed and danced to the music provided by Ron O'Neil, Party of One. Many thanks to everyone who donated beer and wine, and to the many people who helped make this such a fun event.

### ***Christmas Giving***

Natures' membership has made a commitment to Monte Alto ISD to provide Christmas gifts for 40 children with a \$20 limit per child. In addition we will collect food, blankets, and electric heaters which will be delivered on December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Donations can be dropped off in the clubhouse.

## **Weekly Activities**

**Aerobics** (Low Impact) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 a.m. Clubhouse

**Bible Study:** Monday 10:00 a.m. Card Room

**Bike Ride:** Thursday 9:00 a.m. Meet outside the office

**Bingo:** Friday 6:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. card sales. Bingo starts at 7:00 p.m.

**Breakfast:** Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. Clubhouse. Sign-up.

**Campfire:** Friday 5:00 Fire Pit. Bring your hotdogs, buns & drinks and join the fun.

**Texas Cards:** Saturday. 10:00 a.m. Clubhouse

**Country Western Line Dancing Lessons:**  
Thursday Clubhouse  
6:30 p.m. Couples Country Western  
7:15 p.m. Line dancing  
8:00 p.m. Music will continue to be available for those having special requests, seeking additional help, or simply wanting to enjoy more dancing.

**Euchre:** Monday 6:30 p.m. Card Room

**Happy Hour:** Wednesday 4:00 p.m. Sandy's

**Men's Breakfast:** Every second Tuesday. Meet outside the office at 8:00 a.m.

**Mexican Train:** Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Card Room

**Petanque:** Every day 2:00 p.m.

**Stitch & Chat:** Friday 1:00 p.m. Clubhouse

**Water Aerobics:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10:15 a.m.

**Water Volleyball:** Every day 2:00 p.m. Check the Impromptu Board by the pool for additional information.

**Wii Bowling:** Tuesday 3:45 p.m. Clubhouse

## **December Special Events**

*Please check the Bulletin Board for more details about these events and remember to sign up for any events that require a number count.*

**1<sup>st</sup>:** Trim A Tree. Join this fun event, and help to make the clubhouse festive for the holiday season.

**3<sup>rd</sup>:** Dance 7:00 p.m. Music by Ruthi. Hosted by Jack & Jane

**8<sup>th</sup>:** Breakfast in a Bag. If you've never had an omelet cooked in a bag, this is a MUST. Hosted by Jim, Judy and friends. Please sign up

**9<sup>th</sup>:** Join us in the clubhouse to celebrate the December birthdays and anniversaries with cake and ice cream 6:30 p.m.

**12<sup>th</sup>:** Crock-Pot Pot-Luck hosted by Judy, Joyce and Laurie. Please sign up.

**13<sup>th</sup>:** A Christmas Country Dance Party hosted by Bruce and Ruthi

**15<sup>th</sup>:** Fun Activities Association Members' Meeting. (If you are at Natures, you are a member). All are encouraged to attend. Complimentary coffee and donut.

**16<sup>th</sup>:** Hidalgo Festival of Lights. \$10 per person for Dinner, Trolley ride and concert. Tickets must be purchased in advance from Bruce.

**17<sup>th</sup>:** Dance 7:00 p.m. Music by Heartland Express.

**19<sup>th</sup>:** Christmas Sing-a-Long and Cookie Exchange. Hosted by John (Lot 102)

**25<sup>th</sup>:** Christmas Dinner Please sign up.

**31<sup>st</sup>:** New Year's Eve party.