

SPRINGTIME IN TEXAS:

BLUEBONNETS, BARBECUE AND LADY BIRD'S CENTER

April 4 - 9, 2008



A SPECIAL TRIP TO CELEBRATE
THE NATIVE PLANT CENTER'S TENTH ANNIVERSARY!

Trip Itinerary:

Friday April 4 Depart this morning on regularly scheduled non-stop service to Austin, Texas, from either Newark or JFK Airports.* On arrival in Austin board our private coach; we'll drive through the famed Texas Hill country, stopping for lunch en route to the historic town of Fredericksburg. In the mid-nineteenth century a treaty with the Comanche Indians opened up thousands of acres in Texas to German settlers. Fredericksburg, one of numerous German settlements, was named for the Prussian Prince Frederick. Accommodations for the next two nights are reserved at The Inn on Baron's Creek. Enjoy free time to explore this quintessential hill town and join us in the evening for a welcome dinner, Texas style. (L,D)

Saturday April 5 Guided walk on the Bamberger Ranch Preserve, the largest habitat restoration project on private land in the State of Texas. More than 5000 acres have been carefully planted and restored to include nature trails that honor the pioneers in their respective fields—Rachel Carson, Louis Bromfield, and Jane Goodall. In the afternoon we'll visit a second private ranch in the hill country. Then return to Fredericksburg, stopping in the town of Luckenbach, made famous in song by Waylon Jennings and Willie Nelson. (B)

Sunday April 6 This morning we'll drive to the LBJ Ranch on the north bank of the Pedernales River in Stonewall, Texas. Visit the small farmhouse where Lyndon Johnson was born and then follow the bend of the grassy river where Herefords and Texas Longhorns graze and pecan trees rustle in the wind, to see the private family burial ground of President and Mrs. Johnson. Stop for lunch in the town of Stonewall before continuing through the bluebonnet dappled hill country to Austin. Accommodations for the next three nights are reserved at The Hyatt Hotel on newly named Lady Bird Lake. Tonight dinner will be at the Mandola Estate Winery and Restaurant in Driftwood, Texas. (B,D)

Monday April 7 Enjoy a free morning in Austin; there will be an optional excursion to the LBJ Library at the University of Texas where you can view a new exhibit about Lady Bird Johnson. This afternoon we are invited to walk in a private Austin garden. And this evening enjoy a bat watching cruise on Lady Bird Lake to witness the nightly flight of the largest urban bat colony in North America; an incredible wildlife spectacle as hundreds of thousands of bats take flight from under the Congress Street Bridge. (B)

Tuesday April 8 Spend the morning at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center where native plants and local culture are beautifully combined in gardens and natural areas. After a guided tour indulge yourself at 'Wild Ideas,' the Center's incomparable gift shop before luncheon and a special program. There will be free time to further enjoy the many aspects of the Center before a mid-afternoon visit to a private Austin home and garden. This evening we've planned a festive dinner when we dine in a hacienda lush with foliage and stunning décor. And the food is terrific! (B,L,D)

Wednesday April 9 Spend a morning in an outstanding private Austin garden. Early afternoon transfer to the Austin Airport in time for scheduled airline departures. (B)

Itinerary subject to change.

TOUR COST: Members \$ 1400 Non-Members \$ 1460 Double occupancy Single Room Supplement \$ 350

Reservation & Deposit: A per person deposit of \$ 300.00 is due 27 November 2007. **DON'T DELAY - FIRST COME FIRST SERVED. This will be a popular trip. Single rooms are limited.** You will be billed for your final payment by Limewalk Tours. It will be due 7 February 2008 (make final check payable to Limewalk Tours).

Cancellation: The deposit is fully refundable, less a \$ 150 administrative fee, if notice is received before 7 February 2008. Between 8 and 29 February a cancellation fee of \$ 500; no refund will be made after 29 February 2008. Unused services are not refundable and refunds cannot be made to persons not completing the tour for any reason.

Air Fare: *Not included in the tour cost. Limewalk Tours will handle air ticketing for designated flights originating at either Newark or JFK Airport—please indicate your preference on the Reservation Form. Flight details will be sent with reservation acknowledgement; the round trip air ticket will be charged to your credit card, unless otherwise requested. *If you wish to make your own air arrangements please coordinate arrival time with Limewalk Tours to secure transfer on our chartered coach.* Early registration will insure that you get on one of the two preferred flights: Jet Blue out of JFK; Continental out of Newark, both arriving in Austin at nearly the same time. Air fares are always subject to change.

BOOK EARLY - CONTACT LIMEWALK TOURS AT: cecelialindberg@gmavt.net / 888-580-9255 / 802-758-2144.

The Native Plant Center
75 Grasslands Road
Valhalla, NY 10595

Reservation Form: Return to: Native Plant Center, 75 Grasslands Road, Valhalla, NY 10595, 914-606-7870, Fax: 914-606-6143
Include your deposit (\$300.00 per person) payable to: **WCC Foundation** (Credit cards accepted: **MC & Visa**)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Tel _____

E-Mail Address _____

Credit Card (MC & VISA) _____ Exp. Date _____

() I/We are members of *The Native Plant Center* at WCC

___ I wish to share a room with _____

___ I wish to share a room; please assign a roommate

___ I wish to have a single room

___ I wish to have Limewalk Tours charge the air fare fee to my credit card. I wish to leave from ___ Newark ___ JFK.

___ I wish to purchase an *NPC* Membership for \$45 (Membership fee **must be paid with trip deposit** to receive Member Tour Cost).