



Friends of Jocelyn Nungaray NWR Gator Tails August 2025

New Logo and Contact Info



To go with our new name, Friends of Jocelyn Nungaray NWR (FJNNWR), we have a new logo and contact information. Our new email is friendsofjocelynnungaraynwr@gmail.com.

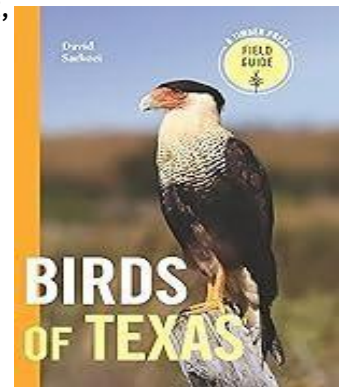
Please add this email to your contact list, so you won't miss our messages. For events, news and volunteer opportunities, please visit (and bookmark) our new website, <https://www.friendsofjocelynnungaraynwr.com>

We look forward to continuing our participation in local outreach events, education programs, and volunteer opportunities in Anahuac and the surrounding communities. Come join the fun and help us support and promote our beautiful refuge.

New Book at the Nature Store

David Sarkozi, founding board member and current vice president, introduced his new book, *Birds of Texas*, at a presentation and book signing at the Texas Chenier Plain Refuges Visitor Center in July. The presentation included fascinating facts and stories that did not fit into the format of a field guide. For example, did you know black-bellied whistling ducks, one of the most common ducks in Texas, is mostly nocturnal?

The *Birds of Texas* is big, 614 pages, and includes 150 more species than other Texas Bird Guides. It includes local favorites and rare curiosities that can be found in the Lonestar state. This full-color guide includes precise descriptions of voices, behaviors, habitats, and details of the top birding sites across the state. Signed copies are available for purchase in the FJNNWR [Nature Store](#).



For more upcoming special events please check the [website](#) and watch for emailed notifications.

Planning for New Educational Trailer



With a \$50,000 donation from the estate of Lu Skillern and a \$30,545 grant, FJNNWR will fund an exciting new addition to our Education Program. It is a 14 ft customized enclosed trailer which will have educational displays and hands-on activities to expand our environmental education outreach into schools and events within Chambers and surrounding counties. We expect to increase our education program to well beyond our current reach.

Each side of the trailer will have lift-up panels covering different aspects of the upper Texas coast. One side will teach about habitats, wildlife, plants, and more. The second side of the trailer will be a diorama illustrating the animals and plants that thrive in local wetlands emphasizing the importance of wetlands to our survival. A nocturnal display will be on the back of the trailer demonstrating the wildlife that thrives at night. There will be a wrap covering the outside of the trailer to draw attention to this treasure along the upper Texas coast that we call Jocelyn Nungaray NWR.

Volunteer for Upcoming Events

Looking for fun and exciting volunteer outreach events? We have several coming up this fall and we welcome you to come along for FREE. We have a great time sharing fun information about our refuge and the activities available to all of us. Let us know if you are available, and together we can determine which 3 or 4 hour shift will work with your schedule. We will train you, no experience necessary. Contact Stephanie Martinez at Stephanie_Martinez@FWS.gov or Kay Lovelace at Kaytlovelace@gmail.com.



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| • GatorFest, Anahuac | September 12, 13, 14 |
| • Rice Festival, Winnie | October 3. 4. 5 |
| • Nurture Nature, Baytown | October 11 |
| • Galveston Bay Foundation, Bike Around the Bay | October 18 |
| • Buffalo Bayou Kids Day | October 19 |

Junior Ranger Summer Camp

GREAT group of kids, GREAT teachers and GREAT volunteers, meant a GREAT time was had by all!!!



New Membership Dues

As mentioned in our early summer Refuge Report, the Friends Membership dues will increase in 2026. Take advantage of our 2026 EARLY BIRD MEMBERSHIP by renewing or joining in November at the current fee. New fees are effective January 1, 2026.

Membership	Current Fees	New Fees
Individual	\$15.00	\$25.00
Family	\$22.50	\$37.50
Sustaining	\$50.00	\$50.00
Family Sustaining	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00
Sponsorship	\$ -	\$100.00
Corporate	\$100.00	\$150.00
Lifetime	\$300.00	\$500.00



Ongoing Projects



Jocelyn Nungaray NWR Wildlife Fold-out Guide

Very soon we will offer our very own fold-out guide to wildlife found at our refuge. It will be available in our 2 Nature Stores and online in the FJNNWR [Nature Store](#).

Jocelyn Nungaray NWR Audio Tour

This fall we anticipate completing a refuge Audio Tour funded by a \$5,000 grant from Texas Parks and Wildlife, Great Texas Birding Classic. The objective is to offer information on significant sites and activities on the Refuge as if the visitor had their own personal guide. Visitors may stop at designated places and listen to short audio clips describing various features of the landscape, wildlife, habitats, area history, and refuge operations and management.

Fall Festivals

Stop by our booths at Anahuac GatorFest, Winnie Rice Festival, Baytown Nurture Nature Festival and Houston Buffalo Bayou Kids Day. We will have plenty of hands on activities!