

Dear Hill Country Chapter:

Happy (almost) end of summer. We hope y'all enjoyed our relatively cool early summer, and that you've been able to find some shade during the typical Texas heat we've endured these last 6 weeks or so. We're aware many of you have been away from Central Texas lately seeking relief, but with fall weather fast approaching it's almost time for us to restart CRA Hill Country Chapter Activities. We are looking forward to seeing you at our three events between now and the end of the year. Please put these on your calendar and be on the look-out for our formal invitations to start arriving via email in mid-September.

The next event is our Fall Luncheon on Wednesday, October 14th when we will once again visit one of our club's favorite venues...the Backwoods BBQ in Fredericksburg. Our lunch will begin at 1:30 and our featured speaker is [Gregg Eckhardt](#), an Environmental Scientist and Edwards Aquifer expert. Gregg will talk about an issue that remains top of mind for Central Texas...WATER. Our Highland Lakes may be at their highest average level in eight years, but water resources remain a critical concern for our region so be sure to attend this valuable discussion.

Two weeks later on Wednesday October 28th our club will visit the [Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center](#) in South Austin. The Center is the Botanical Garden of Texas with more than 280 acres of scenic gardens and trails, nearly 900 species of native plants from all over Texas, and the most diverse collection of Texas native plants in North America. We have arranged for a private, docent-led tour of the gardens and grounds for our group starting at 11:00 AM, but we encourage everyone to arrive early (doors open at 9:30 AM) and visit the indoor experiences and exhibit.

Finally, we will end the year once again with our Christmas Holiday Luncheon at the Petroleum Club in San Antonio on Wednesday, December 2nd. Plan to arrive by 11:00 AM for a reception, an excellent buffet, door prizes and lots of Holiday Cheer!

You can also find these dates on our [HCC website](#) calendar, along with photographs from our events earlier this year in case you haven't had an opportunity to see them earlier...or just want to see them again!

We're also planning our first 2027 event. Every two years, the Texas Oil & Gas Association holds an industry advocacy event at the State Capitol in Austin known as Texas Energy Day. Participants attend policy briefings, networking sessions, and observe active sessions in the Texas House and Senate. Featured state officials typically include commissioners from the Railroad Commission of Texas, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and the Texas General Land Office. Chevron is a significant participant in this event, and we are working with the Chevron Advocacy Network (CAN) to organize our participation. The date is not published yet, but it is typically a Tuesday or Wednesday in February. We will let you know as soon as we have a schedule. In the meantime, please ensure that you are registered with CAN. It is quick and easy to do at the [CAN website](#), and even if you don't plan on participating in the 2027 Texas Energy Day it is a great way to keep up with what Chevron is advocating for in the legislative process at both the national and state level.

If you haven't been able to keep up with all the Chevron news this summer (and there has been plenty) the [Chevron newsroom](#) is the place to catch up. If you haven't already, we suggest you register for the [Chevron newsletter](#), so this news is delivered to your inbox.

The new and improved [CRA website](#) continues to expand and improve so frequent visits are a good idea to see what's new including the publications tab where you will find the latest copies of Encore, Benefits Corner, and Tidbits. You can also register to have these delivered direct to your email inbox at: [Register for CRA publications](#).

If you visit the [Retiree Spotlight](#) you'll see that our member Jeff St. Claire has been recognized again this year by the Chevron Retirees Association for his ongoing service work. If you are involved with community service and would like to be nominated, or if you would like to nominate another member who is active in community service, please send us an email and we will assist in the application process. Every year, CRA selects at least one applicant for a significant financial award from Chevron to the charity of the applicant's choice.

Finally, we'd like to thank all of you who have paid chapter dues this year. If you haven't found time to do so and would like to, please click here: [2026 Membership Form](#). If you're receiving this newsletter and haven't decided to become a member, you're always welcome to attend our events while you make your decision.

We hope to see y'all soon,

Hill Country Chapter Board

PS - we are still looking to add another member to our board to help share the effort. If you are interested, please drop us a note at hccretirees@gmail.com.