

Dear Hill Country Chapter Members:

We hope you are enjoying this beautiful Spring weather. Our current membership stands at 217. We appreciate the 134 retirees/survivors and 83 spouses that have completed their registration and paid their 2025 dues...thank you! Our 2025 membership includes 25 retirees/survivors and 13 spouses that are either new to our organization or have rejoined after being members in the past.

Thanks as well for those of you that were able to join us for the hike at Honey Creek State Natural Area. Feedback from participants was positive again this year, and some expressed interest in having our expert Hiking Guide (Chapter Treasurer Ed Van Reet) organize an outdoor activity at the [Canyon Lake Gorge](#). Ed is also a Geologist and the Gorge is one of the best opportunities to study the Texas Hill Country geology including dinosaur tracks and perfectly preserved fossils, exposed for the first time in millions of years by the 2002 flood. We will let y'all know when this event is planned...look for it later this year or in early 2026.

We also appreciate those of you who made it to our Spring Luncheon at the Backwoods BBQ in Fredericksburg. Our newest Board Members Jose Parra and Greg Pritchett were in attendance, and our guest speaker was Patsy Inglet with the Audubon Society. Patsy gave an interesting talk and slide show that helped motivate the group to learn more about the impressive variety of birds we are privileged to have here in Texas. She was the perfect speaker to help us get prepared for our bird watching activity planned for this fall at the [Hornsby Bend Bird Observatory](#) near the Austin airport. Our Board Member, Paul Skakun, who is an experienced "birder" recently took our Chapter President Doug Hinzie who has never been formally bird-watching before to Hornsby. Doug reports that "with a little guidance from Paul and use of the app [Merlin Bird ID](#), we were able to positively identify more than 20 species of birds in a little more than an hour." We are still finalizing dates for this activity so please watch for more information, but we are tentatively planning for two Wednesdays in late October and early November so that members will have the option to choose which date works best for their schedule.

We will be shutting down [our old website](#) in early June, so photos from both the Hike and Luncheon are now posted on our new website: [HCC Home | Chevron Retirees](#). We're making the move to improve quality and functionality at a lower cost, while better aligning our site with the Chevron Retirees Association national website. We hope you like the look and usability of our new site and would appreciate any feedback or suggestions you may have by sending us a note at hccretirees@gmail.com. Also, if you have not done so we encourage you to spend some time on the new and much improved CRA website [Home | Chevron Retirees](#). A few of the most popular sections include:

BENEFITS: Access information on retiree benefits.

PUBLICATIONS: Read recent copies of Encore, Benefits Corner and Tidbits.

IN-MEMORIAM: Now a searchable system organized by company, year and month.

RESOURCES: A comprehensive list of resources made available by CRA and Chevron.

If you are interested in learning more about how to get the most out of the new CRA website, we will be conducting a Zoom call at 2:00 PM CDT on Wednesday, June 11 with the CRA

webmaster Jim Bonwell. Jim is also Chair of the CRA Benefits Committee. He will be making a short presentation on the new site, and will have time to answer your questions. A formal invitation will be emailed to you soon.

We have finalized a date for our Fall Luncheon...be sure to mark your calendar for Wednesday, September 10. In response to popular demand, we will be returning to Caso do Brasil in North Austin beginning at 11:00 AM and plan to adjourn around 1:30. We are coordinating with Chevron for a company representative as our guest speaker who will be confirmed when we issue formal invitations in August. We're sure there will be plenty to talk about with all the changes Chevron is experiencing this year, so please plan to join us.

Finally, we wanted to let you know that our new e-pay system is proving to be quite popular with membership. In fact, approximately 70% of our Spring Luncheon participants used the e-pay system when they registered. This is not only more convenient for members, it makes our Treasurer's job more enjoyable...Ed says "THANKS"!

We hope y'all have a happy and healthy summer and we'll be talking to you again as we get closer to our Fall events and activities.

Hill Country Chapter Board