

*The mission of TexNEP is to provide a forum for individuals interested in the field of nature photography and the environment, provide education, gather and disseminate information, and promote nature photography as an art form and a medium of communication.*

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**November Program**

**Thursday, Nov. 19, 2009**

**6:00 pm**

**Quinta Mazatlan  
600 Sunset Drive  
McAllen, Texas 78501**

**This month's program:**

***Amazing Caterpillars of the  
Rio Grande Valley and  
Beyond .***

**Presented by Javier De Leon.**



De Leon's presentation, "Amazing Caterpillars of the Rio Grande Valley and Beyond", will talk about the different adaptations caterpillars have that enable them to survive in an environment full of all kinds of predators. This presentation will discuss how caterpillars cope with birds that want to devour them, plants that want to poison them, and wasps and other parasites that want to lay their eggs inside of them! In addition to how caterpillars protect themselves, this intriguing presentation will briefly discuss the amazing metamorphosis that occurs to every caterpillar as they transform from a caterpillar with eight eyes and up to 14 pairs of "legs" to a graceful moth or butterfly that flutters from flower to flower in search of nectar.

Javier de Leon's interest in butterflies began while working as an intern at the National Butterfly Center in Mission. He quickly became one of a handful of valley residents who regularly seek out and photograph many of the amazing butterflies and moths of the Rio Grande Valley. He recently received a B.S. in Biology at the University of Texas - Pan American in Edinburg, and currently works at the Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center as an Interpretive Naturalist where he talks to people about the birds, plants, reptiles, and insects of South Texas.

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## November Field Trip



November field trip will be at Edinburg Scenic Wetlands on Sunday morning, November 22.

Meet at the parking lot in front of the center at 7:00 am.

We will be hunting for caterpillars so bring your macro photography gear.



# WANTED

## Your Images

Yes, we want you to be thinking of those great images that you wish to share with fellow TexNEP members. We would be thrilled to view any nature, landscape, or travel related images that you may have captured during your world travels. Of course we would also like to see those great shots that you may have taken in your back yard.

Digital or slide images are welcome. Digital images should be JPEGs sized to 6 in. on the long side at 200 ppi and can be brought on a CD or flash drive.

Those wanting to participate in the "Share and Show" portion of our program should bring up to five (5) images.

The "Favorite Places" portion of our program features images from some great location that anyone wishes to share with TexNEP. Any photographer with 20 or so images and a story to tell is welcome to schedule their favorite place during one of our programs.

To schedule a favorite place contact our program director, Marsha Ralston.

**Have you renewed your TexNEP Membership?**

The TexNEP fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30. It is not too late to join or renew your membership. You can find a downloadable membership form at <http://www.texnep.org> – Click on the “Join TexNEP” tab. Below are the membership levels and dues:

Student	\$15
Individual	\$25
Family	\$35
Digital Friend	\$50
Close-up Donor	\$125
Macro Sponsor	\$250