

Austin Butterfly Forum

*Monday, May 22, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
Zilker Botanical Garden Center*

This meeting is free and open to the public

The Hows, the Whys, and the Butterflies of the Cockrell Butterfly Center

Presented by Nancy Greig, Director emeritus

This talk will cover the history of the Cockrell Butterfly Center in Houston, Texas and some of the interesting pros and cons of live butterfly exhibits.



Nancy grew up in the frozen northlands of Calgary, Alberta, but came to Texas in 1977 to attend UT and never went back. A lucky fluke sent her on a field course to Costa Rica in 1983 and she subsequently stayed on at UT to get a PhD in tropical plant ecology. Further serendipity and a push from her major professor, Larry Gilbert, landed her a job in Houston in 1994, as the director of a live butterfly exhibit at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. Although not an entomologist, her background in tropical plants and insects served her well and she headed up the Cockrell Butterfly Center for 23 years. Last year she retired from her administrative duties and now enjoys flitting from public speaking, to gardening, to political activism, to travel adventures.