NABA News and Notes
(continued from inside front cover)

NABA welcomes Norman Winter as the new Executive Director of the National Butterfly Center. Norman, who received his bachelor’s degree from Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene TX, and master’s degree from Texas A&M University in College Station, has been no stranger to the world of horticulture, or the Lower Rio Grande Valley, for that matter.

Norman served as Hidalgo County Extension Agent for Horticulture in 1980-81 before leaving to become the first Executive Director of the Texas Pecan Growers Association that later included the National Pecan Marketing Council and from there to the American Rose Society.

He said “I am ecstatic to be back in the Valley and to have the opportunity to work on the conservation, and scientific research of butterflies. The National Butterfly Center is a well kept secret in the field of conservation and I want to see that changed by letting the world know about this amazing native garden and natural habitat.”

Norman also served for over 15 years as a Horticulture Specialist with Mississippi State University Extension Service where he was coordinator for the Mississippi Medallion Award program, promoting outstanding plants for the state. His award winning Southern Gardening television news segment was seen weekly not only across the state of Mississippi but nationally on RFD-TV.

He is currently a syndicated columnist with Knight-Ridder Tribune, now McClatchy Tribune, where his columns are read nationwide from coast to coast and north to south, from Anchorage AK to Bradenton, FL. He is also a feature writer in the popular State-by-State Gardening Magazines. Winter has already taken the opportunity to feature the National Butterfly Center in his column.

Norman said “this truly is the premier location in the United States to experience the beauty, drama and emotion of wild butterflies. It is like that phrase from the movie, build it and they will come. Well, we’ve built it by planting thousands of plants that the butterflies need for nectar and for caterpillar growth, and now it is a real butterfly paradise enjoyed by individuals and tour groups throughout the week.”

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