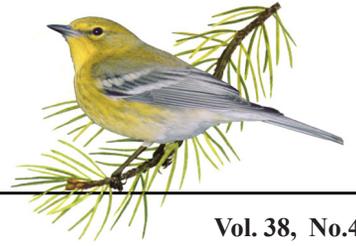


The Pine Warbler



April 2017

Vol. 38, No.4

HEART Happenings by Carole Allen, HEART Committee Chair



Nesting season is just around the corner since the Rancho Nuevo beach has reported a nest already. In the meantime, we continue to look for donations for the Kemp's ridley sculpture in Galveston. Thanks to the Moody Foundation for pledging \$9000 to the cause!.....If you have a few minutes to spare for the Internet, take a look at the website of Sea Turtle, Inc. at South Padre Island www.seaturtleinc.org/ including their newsletter. On February 2, they broke ground for a new facility funded primarily by donations from tourists. This is a perfect example of what could happen in Galveston if we had a place where tourists could see turtles in rehabilitation mode before release.

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April Program Costa Rica By Farrar Stockton



Farrar has been a member of PWWS since 1983 and has volunteered to serve on the PWWS Board, the Outdoor Nature Club, and BEST (Butterfly Enthusiasts of South East Texas) for many years. He retired from Chase in 2002 after 27 years of service and now works part time at the Museum of Natural Science helping with the permanent butterfly and beetle collection. Farrar's main interests are family and friends, nature, and watching Houston's sports.

Farrar Stockton will give a program on his latest adventure in Costa Rica in November 2015. There will be images of butterflies, birds, reptiles, and landscapes from 2 different locations.

Please join us on Wednesday April 19, 2017, at the Big Stone Lodge in Dennis Johnston Park, 709 Riley Fuzzel Road, Spring, Texas, for a wonderful evening!



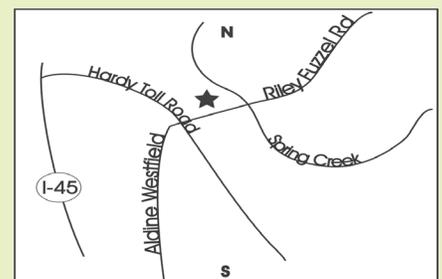
Big Stone Lodge - Dennis Johnston Park 709 Riley Fuzzel Road

PWWS meetings are held at the Big Stone Lodge at the new Dennis Johnston County Park at 709 Riley Fuzzel Road.

**Wednesday
April 19, 2017**

The directions to get there are much the same as to the Nature Center. Aldine-Westfield turns into Riley Fuzzel Road just northeast of Spring so there are several ways to get there.

1. Take the Rayford/Sawdust exit and go East (right) on Rayford Rd. It dead ends at Riley Fuzzel, then turn South (right) and drive to the Dennis Johnston Park past Spring Creek and on the right. or, 2. take Spring-Cypress east to Aldine Westfield through Old Town Spring, turn left and then on to Riley Fuzzel for a short distance and turn left; or, 3. Take Aldine Westfield north from Mercer Arboretum until it turns into Riley Fuzzel. Turn right and watch for the Dennis Johnston Park on the left.



Heart from page 3

Viewing a sea turtle has never been easy in Galveston especially after 9-11 when the federal government made it much more difficult to get on their property at 4700 Avenue U. On the other hand, down the Texas coast near the Mexican border, Sea Turtle, Inc. has grown from a very small place with a turtle or two to view, educational exhibits and volunteers to explain what is needed. On the other hand, US Fish and Wildlife Service has made it very difficult to set up an educational facility on Galveston Island. Just as Sea Turtle, Inc. has welcomed public visits and participation, the opposite seems to be true for the Galveston area. Millions of dollars are made by the Pleasure Pier and other entertainment venues in Galveston. Tourists want to view sea turtles and are eager to buy souvenirs and T-shirts that would support a facility such as Sea Turtle, Inc. is building. The Georgia Sea Turtle Center is another example of funds from tourists being used to help injured sea turtles while providing a marvelous education opportunity for the public.

One has to ask why Galveston can't have an educational facility funded by donations. The BP oil disaster has made millions of dollars available for all sorts of projects, some of which do nothing to help the Gulf or sea turtles. Now with a president in place who scoffs at climate change and the need for environmental programs, it is up to you and me and the public to get what Galveston and the sea turtles deserve – a place similar to what Sea Turtle, Inc. is beginning. Congratulations to them! Now, it is our turn!

April Horticulture Tips By Kathy Dodge



Planting - Plant new shrubs early before the heat arrives. Plant summer blooming perennials and annuals.

Clean-up - Live oaks should be finished dropping their catkins and leaves. Rake and add them to compost, or apply mulch over them.

Mulch - Mulch beds to discourage weeds, keep roots cool and conserve moisture.

Pruning - Prune spring blooming shrubs **after** flowers fade such as azaleas, wisteria, forsythia and quince. Pinch tips of coleus to avoid flowering and encourage bushier and compact growth. Remove spent blooms on spring annuals to promote new blooms.

Fertilizing - Fertilize azaleas, hibiscus, and containers.

Water - Maintain watering on newly planted seeds and transplants. Deep root watering on trees, lawns and shrubs is best. It encourages roots to move down into the soil where they will be less susceptible to moisture changes. Avoid frequent short periods of watering.

Pests - Keep an eye out for pests as well as beneficial insects in your vegetable garden. Pick off pests by hand. Check for snails and slugs early in the morning, when they are active.

Orchids - Move orchids outside and place them in shady spots. Repot if necessary.

Birds - Fill birdbaths and keep water fresh.

Life History of Orange-barred Sulphur on Candlestick Cassia by Sandy-Crystal Vaughn



#1 Candlestick Cassia (*Cassia Alata*) starting to bloom. Originally purchased at the Cockrell Butterfly Center in Houston. Can grow to eight or nine feet in a single growing season. I trim it back in the late fall and save a seed pod or two just in case it does not come back in the spring. So far, so good! (June 7th, 2016)



#2 This worn female Orange-barred Sulphur came in fast and furious ovipositing her eggs! Part of her right hindwing was gone. She was moving so quickly, that I switched to video mode on the camera to capture her image in flight. Later

pulled this frame from the short video. It has been a few years since this butterfly has been seen in the area. To make notification of this long hoped for area species sighting, I contacted by email Nancy Greig, director of the Cockrell Butterfly Center, Farrar Stockton, our regional NABA chapter president, and Don Dubois, one of the very best butterfly gurus of our B.E.S.T. (Butterfly Enthusiasts of Southeast Texas) chapter. (June 7th, 2016)



#3 This is a close up of one of the Orange-barred Sulphur eggs on the tender, new growth of the Candlestick Cassia plant. (June 7th, 2016)



#4 Seventeen eggs were collected and brought inside to a rearing bin. (June 7th, 2016)



#5 Forty-eight hours later, the eggs have darkened. This image was taken with a 45x magnification pocket microscope and a cell phone camera. (June 9th, 2016)



#6 The first caterpillars hatch; there are five. This image was also taken with a 45x magnification pocket microscope and a cell phone camera. (June 10th, 2016)



#7 Early instar caterpillar. Marking impressions are evident. (June 13th, 2016)



#8 Bold dark blue/black markings are now present. (June 17th, 2016)



#9 Trying to get a group shot can be like herding cats! Here are three of the five. They are 27mm long. (June 17th, 2016)



#10 Final instar caterpillar munching on a Candlestick Cassia flower bud. Three of the five caterpillars have reached 58mm in length. (June 22nd, 2016)



#11 Close-up of a final instar Orange-barred Sulphur caterpillar. Simple eyes and mandible can be seen. (June 22nd, 2016)



#12 Three of the five caterpillars are found in pre-chrysalis state when checked on in the morning. Two pupate close together in the rearing bin. (June 22nd, 2016)



#13 Several hours later on the same day, the freshly formed chrysalises are initially a lemon yellow. (June 22nd, 2016)



#14 Yet, dry to a soft green. (June 23rd, 2016) Color does not seem to be an indicator of gender. Later, as an adult butterfly, the chrysalis on the left contains a female, and the chrysalis on the right, contains a male.



#15 The fifth, and last, caterpillar pupates. It is the only pink with yellow outlining/veining chrysalis out of the five. (June 26th, 2016)



#16 On the morning of July 2nd, two female adult butterflies eclose from green chrysalises. Later, that evening, the chrysalis on the right from the image above (#14), indicates an adult male is getting ready to eclose. The orange “bar” on the forewing is visible.



#17 Welcome! Freshly eclosed male Orange-barred Sulphur ventral view. (July 3rd, 2016)



#18 The same freshly eclosed male Orange-barred Sulphur with backlit view. (July 3rd, 2016)



#19 Welcome! This is a third female Orange-barred Sulphur. Ventral view soon after eclosing. (July 3rd, 2016)



#20 The same freshly eclosed female Orange-barred Sulphur with backlit view. (July 3rd, 2016)



#21 Carried the rearing bin with the four adult butterflies (two females from July 2nd, and the freshly eclosed male and female from the morning) outside and said a prayer as I was trying to place them back on their host plant. The freshly eclosed female stayed long enough for a quick image! (July 3rd, 2016)



#22 The final chrysalis starts to change. Seeing no "bar", as was indicated in the prior green chrysalis, I was thinking this was going to be a female.... (July 4th, 2016)



#23 Surprise! It's a boy! (July 5th, 2016)



#24 The last of the batch. Freshly eclosed male Orange-barred Sulphur released back into the wild. (July 5th, 2016)

Sandy-Crystal Vaughn is now retired, but worked for Alcon Surgical for several years in Houston. After attending her first butterfly plant sale on the roof of the parking garage for the Cockrell Butterfly Center six and a half years ago, she was hooked! Soon to follow, after reading a magazine article about the Lower Rio Grande Valley's butterfly gardens and being asked by her new husband where she wanted to go for their honeymoon, was a trip to the National Butterfly Center! She is an active member of B.E.S.T. (Butterfly Enthusiasts of Southeast Texas), the local Houston area NABA chapter, and feeds her passion with raising butterflies, butterfly counts, and butterfly photography. Living on the southeast side of Houston (Clear Lake City), she applied to and was accepted into the Galveston Bay Area Chapter-Texas Master Naturalist's 2015 program and is now a Master Naturalist.



Photographs by Sandy Crystal-Vaughn



Heron, Egret Bay Blvd., Webster, TX

Wild Turkey and White tailed Deer resting at Choke Canyon State Park TX



Roseate Spoonbill, Egret Bay Blvd., Webster, TX



Crested Caracara

Ruby-throat Hummingbird



Up-coming Programs

BEST (Butterfly Enthusiasts of S.E Texas) /NABA		
Chapter Meeting		
Meeting	Presenter(s)	Topic
Tuesday April 04 7 p.m.	Farrar Stockton	Butterfly Collection at the Natural History Museum in London & the Microsculpture exhibit at Oxford University Museum of Natural History, lower floor Cockrell Butterfly Center. "Microsculpture is the process of photographing a fly or bee more than 4,000 times and then blowing it up to a size of a door making outstanding detail and color to the insect."
Date	Event & Organization /location	
Saturday April 01	Houston Museum of Natural Science –Spring Plant Sale – 5555 Hermann Park Drive, Houston – Hrs. 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. or until sold out.	
Saturday April 01	Texas Wildlife and Woodland Expo – Lone Star College – 3200 College Park Drive, The Woodlands. Hrs. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.	
Sunday April 09	Roy Larson Sandyland Butterfly Count - We will be meeting at the Roy Larson Sandyland Sanctuary trailhead located on Highway 327, 2.6 miles east of Highway 96 between 9:00 am and 9:30 am. Wear clothing for the field, bug spray, pack a picnic lunch, camera, binoculars and any other equipment you may need. There is a \$ 3.00 fee per person that goes to NABA for processing of data. Coordinator: Don DuBois -713-524-8169 Map Link: www.google.com/maps/dir//30.3482122,-94.2361672/@30.3481942,-94.2364193,20z	
April 4-10	2017 Galveston FeatherFest www.galvestonfeatherfest.com Phone: 832/459-5533; Nature Tourism info 409/789-8125	
Thursday April 06, 7:30 p.m.	Coexisting with Wildlife – Hennie Volscheck, game warden with Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept. http://tpwd.texas.gov/ McCullough Jr. High School, The Woodlands	

Piney Woods Wildlife Society Membership Form

Last Name(s):		First Name of Members(s):	
Street Address:		City:	State and Zip:
Home Phone No:	Work Phone No:	Email Address(s):	
Annual Membership Fee \$15.00*		Mail this form and check made payable to PWWS to:	
Additional Contribution \$ _____		Piney Woods Wildlife Society	
Total \$ _____		P.O. Box 189	
*Per Household -		Spring, TX 77383-0189	
Includes <i>The Pine Warbler</i> newsletter via email			
New <input type="checkbox"/>	Renewal <input type="checkbox"/>	Rejoining <input type="checkbox"/>	

Visit the links below to learn more about pollinators and pollinator gardens:

- [Texas Bee Watchers](#)
- [US Fish and Wildlife Service](#)
- [US Forest Service](#)
- [Pollinator Partnership](#)
- [The Xerces Society](#)

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Please join us!

PWWS web site is at <http://www.pineywoodsnaaturesociety.org>
PWWS Facebook site is at
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The Pine Warbler is published monthly, September through May, by The Piney Woods Wildlife Society, Inc.

For membership information write to us at P.O. Box 189, Spring Texas 77383-0189. Annual Dues: \$15.00 per household.

Please submit any articles you'd like considered for the PWWS Newsletter, The Pine Warbler, to Kathy Coward, justforthebirds@sbcglobal.net.

Please send all new address changes and any corrections to cdmoore3@gmail.com (Claire Moore) and add PWWS to the subject line. Thank you.