

The Pine Warbler



May, 2015

Vol. 35, No.5

May 19th Program Fun & Photos

Our next meeting will be the last before our summer vacation. After a full schedule of wonderful speakers, we are going to try something different! Member participation! Carlos Hernandez and Al Barr have planned a program of images of colorful migrating birds photographed by PWWS members.



Please send your images by Monday May 11. We will show them on the giant HD TV at the lodge. Be ready to tell us where and how you got the images and also your impressions. There are many members that don't know a lot about one of the most important natural phenomena happening during the month of April in our coastal area. We have many birding spots where we can see colorful migrating birds from South and Central America.



Here are the rules:

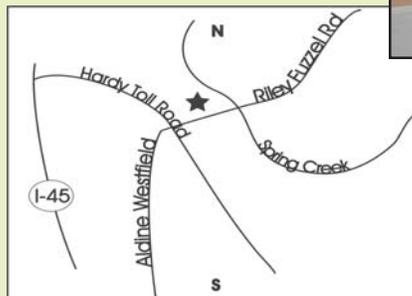
Please send Al at albarr@comcast.net up to 12 images taken during the Spring Migration or other nature images. Email requirements: Image Format: jpeg. Resolution: 72 pixels per inch Resize to Fit: 1024 pixels longest side



Don't miss this last meeting of the spring. We'll be looking for everyone at our annual August potluck. Details to follow!



May 19th
Social 6:30pm
Program 7:00pm



Big Stone Lodge
Dennis Johnston Park
709 Riley Fuzzel Road

Notes:

Next Board Meeting May 12th Tuesday 7PM at Kathy Coward's home. Just a reminder to board members.

WANTED: NEW VICE-PRESIDENT FOR PUBLICITY!

After an unknown number of years, Carole Allen is stepping aside from the Vice-President role. It's a fun job so give it some thought! Carole will continue writing HEART HAPPENINGS but a new officer with new ideas and new energy is needed!

Heart Happenings

Good news at last!



Five years after the devastating oil spill of the Deepwater Horizon, the Natural Resource Damage Assessment Trustees have announced another milestone in Gulf of Mexico early restoration. The Trustees and BP have identified approximately \$134 million in proposed early restoration projects for inclusion in a draft Phase IV Early Restoration Plan. Trustees have released a welcome plan for sea turtle conservationists. Among 10 Early Restoration Projects is a 10-year project to increase Kemp's ridley sea turtle nest detection adding additional staff, training and equipment in both Texas and Mexico. The Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network which provides vital information and a formal Emergency Response Program will both receive funding. We are particularly pleased to see money for patrols, equipment, training and staff on the Upper Texas Coast which has been virtually ignored for several years. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department law enforcement will be enhanced to expand education of shrimp fishermen and to encourage compliance with existing federal turtle excluder devices (TED) regulations. In addition is an allowance for two more nesting corrals and two cabins at the Padre Island National Seashore. Observers will be placed on commercial shrimp trawls to increase monitoring of sea turtle bycatch.

Details about the other projects can be found at <http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/2015/04/deepwater-horizon-trustees-announce-agreement-in-principle-for-10-gulf-early-restoration-projects/>

As of April 24, no Kemp's ridley nests have been found on any Texas beaches. Nesting is slow in Mexico also. A Louisiana representative has filed HB 668 to repeal the Louisiana law that prevents enforcement of Turtle Excluder Devices (TED) on shrimp trawls. If you have any relatives in Louisiana, please contact them and ask them to call their legislators to vote for this bill!

Have a wonderful summer and watch the news for sea turtle developments!

May Horticulture Newsletter

By Kathy Dodge

April showers bring May flowers and lots of gardening activities. Visits to your local nurseries and public gardens will stimulate lots of new ideas and possibilities. Here are a few items that can help you with your gardening activities.



Annual and Perennial Flowers:

There are too many to list here, but your choices are many, and nurseries are stocked with them. Annuals give you lots of color bang for your buck.

Plant angelonia, ageratum, sunflowers, zinnia, portulaca, marigold, cosmos, periwinkles, gomphrena. Plant vinca (periwinkle), which prefers hot, sunny sites, later in May once the weather turns warmer. For shady spots, grow these favorite plants: impatiens, coleus, caladiums and begonias. Flowering tobacco (*Nicotiana*) is a great fragrant annual for partial shade.

Perennials for the sun include Shasta daisy, dusty miller, garden mums, coreopsis, mallow, salvia (many kinds), daylily, rock rose, trailing lantana, and summer phlox. Shade loving perennials include hosta, columbine, phlox, ferns, violets, ajuga, firespike, and gingers. Cannas, dahlias, caladiums and other summer bulbs can also be planted in May.

Some plants can be grown as either annuals or perennials. Lantana loves the summer heat and sun, blooming from late spring through first frost. Most years it will come back from the roots. Lantana comes in bush and trailing forms, and in many colors.

Bougainvillea Won't Bloom? Let it completely dry out to the point you worry about it surviving. Then water liberally. The plant thinks it's dying and produces seed (flowers) to insure species survival. Works on other plants too — sometimes.

Lawns

If you have not yet fertilized St. Augustine grass, it is certainly not too late. The best way to determine what type and how much fertilizer is needed is to have a soil test done; otherwise use a 3-1-2 or 4-1-2 fertilizer ratio.

Troubleshooting

Check azaleas for lace bugs. These small, slow moving, black insects with clear, lacy wings feed on the underside of the leaves. Damaged leaves look stippled or bleached and have small, shiny black specks on the undersides.

Aphids, or plant lice, can be found on tender, new growth of all types of plants. Aphids are small, soft-bodied insects that suck plant sap, often occurring in very large numbers. There are



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The Pine Warbler is published monthly, September through May, by The Piney Woods Wildlife Society, Inc. and Copperhead Publishing.

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

Publisher: Copperhead Publishing
Publish1@copperheadfarms.net or
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P.O. Box 131776, The Woodlands, TX 77393

The deadline for submissions is the 25th of the previous month, earlier if possible. Always add "PWWS" in the subject line. All emails will be responded to within 3 days. If you do not receive a response please call 832 717-3276. All articles are subject to approval by the PWWS Board.

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

Visit: http://pineywoodswildlifesociety.org