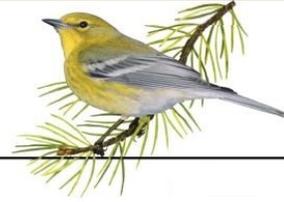


The Pine Warbler



NOVEMBER 2017

THE MOUNTAINS ARE CALLING

by **Al Barr**

Don't miss the
November 15th
program 7 p.m. at the
Big Stone Lodge.

Come early
6:30 p.m. for snacks
and social time.



(Mt. Mckinley) Denali National Park Alaska

Join Al Barr to view wildlife and scenes of various mountainous areas in North America to include the Chisos, the Rockies, the inside passage to Alaska, and the Alaska Range. The program is a compilation of trips that Al and his family have taken.

Photos taken by Al and Carole Barr

Al has been a member of PWWS since it began, and has been interested in nature photography for many years. He is a retired school teacher, teaching biology and environmental science in Spring ISD for 30 years. After retirement from Spring ISD he worked part time for the Harris County and Montgomery County Parks department for 10 years. He is past President of PWWS and a Master Naturalist.



Great Gray owl Grand Teton National Park



Mountain Goat and kid Inside Passage Alaska





Wildflowers in the Rockies



Bison Yellowstone National Park



Longs Peak on the left of photo Rocky Mountain National Park

Websites of interest:

Denali National Park Alaska

<https://www.nps.gov/dena/index.htm>

<https://www.national-park.com/welcome-to-denali-national-park/>

Yellow Stone National Park

<https://www.nps.gov/yell/index.htm>

<https://www.yellowstonepark.com/>

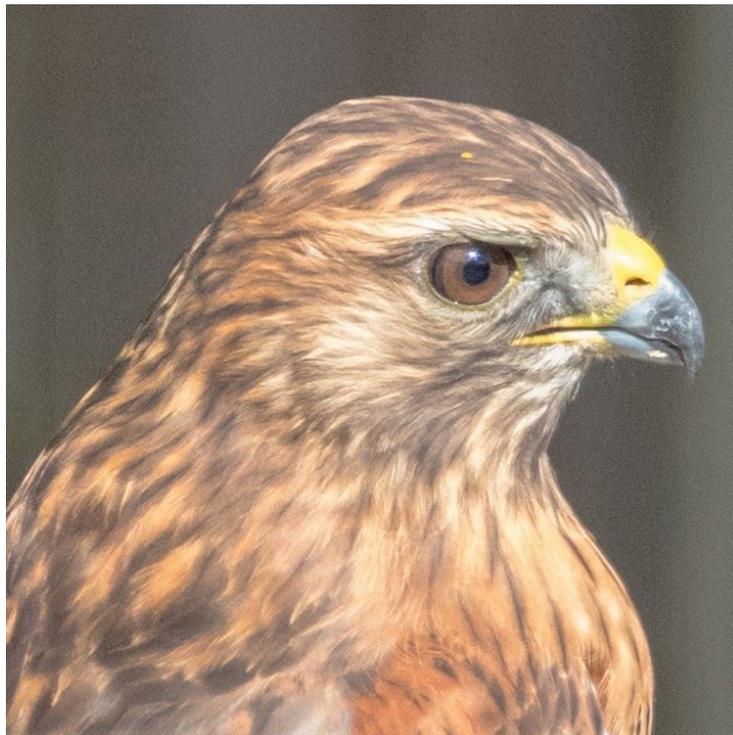
Grand Teton National Park

<https://www.nps.gov/grte/index.htm>

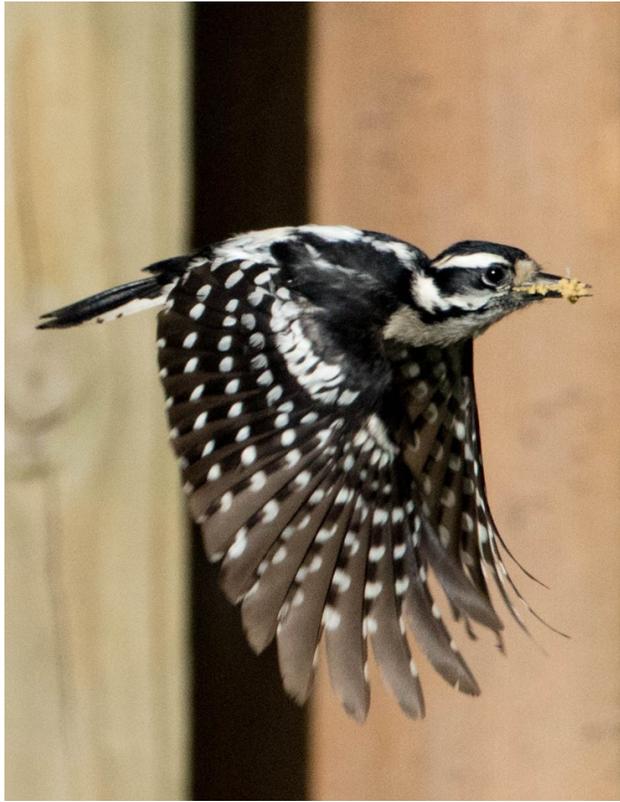
Rocky Mountain National Park

<https://www.nps.gov/romo/index.htm>

Photos below by Sandy Chrystal Vaughn



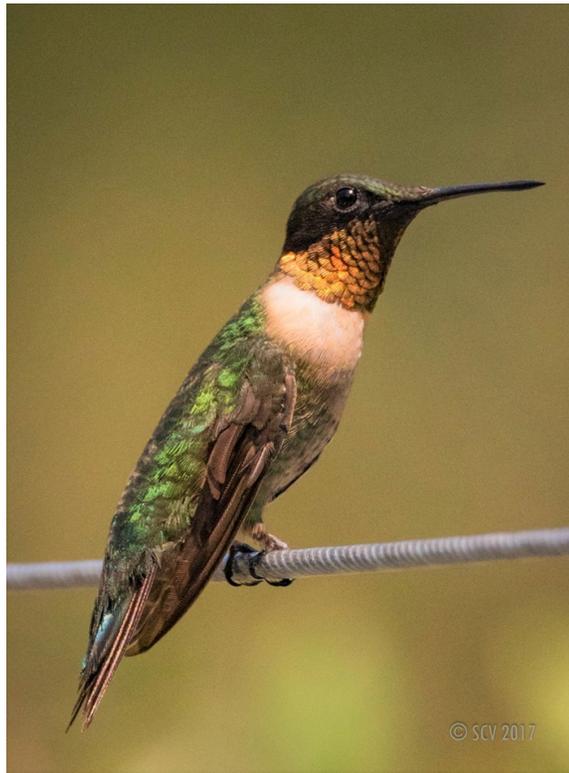
Red shouldered Hawk close-up. Backyard Clear Lake City (Houston) TX



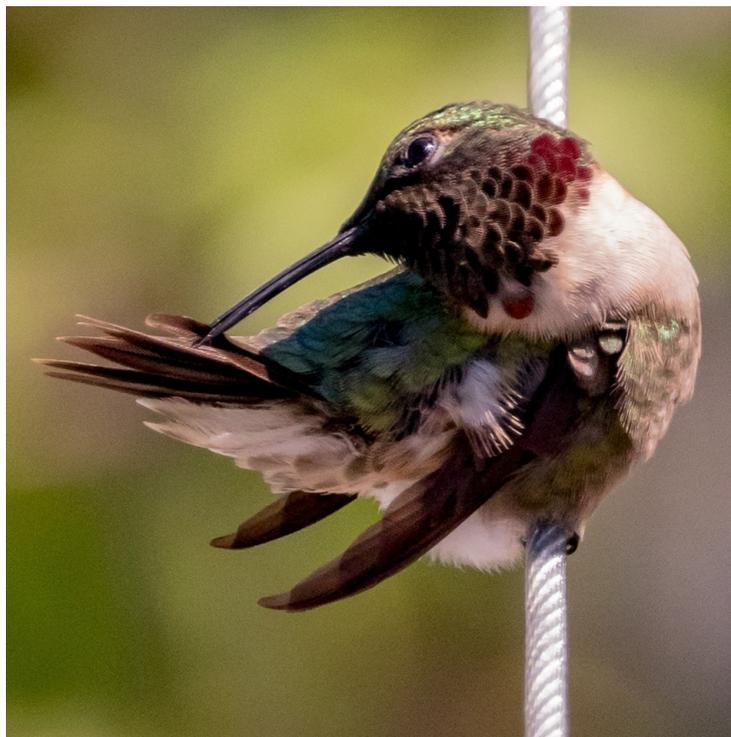
Female Downy Woodpecker flying



*Downy woodpeckers feeding - Clear Lake City
(Houston) TX - photo credit by Sandy Chrystal
Vaughn*



Male ruby throated hummingbird



Tail Preening of male ruby throated hummingbird. Balance fluff, turn stretch - wincingly amazing! Backyard Clear Lake City (Houston) TX



Experimenting with flash photography. Ruby throated hummingbirds at the test tube feeder. Backyard Clear Lake City (Houston) TX



Recycle Beyond the Curb at 3R Bazaar

KWILKINSES

Step into the future of recycling with The Woodlands Township!
The Environmental Services Department is hosting the annual 3R Bazaar, an America Recycles Day celebration, on **November 11** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 8203 Millennium Forest Drive.

Bring the whole family to learn how fun and easy it can be to reduce, reuse, and recycle beyond the curb. The 3R Bazaar is the perfect opportunity to refresh your recycling knowledge, support your village, and enjoy eco-friendly games and festivities. Participate in expanded collection opportunities to reuse and recycle commodities beyond curbside with local businesses and charitable organizations.

Reduce

Visit participating booths to learn about commodity items that are destined for recycling, not wasting away in a landfill.

Reuse

Residents are invited to donate usable clothing to The Salvation Army and eyeglasses to the Lions Recycle for Sight program.

Recycle

Give new life to old products by recycling them at one of our collection booths.

Participate in the 2017 Village Challenge! Earn scholarship funds for your village by bringing CD/DVD disks and jewel cases for recycling with The CD Recycling Center of America.

Watch nature's method of recycling by enjoying an outdoor compost class offered at 9:30, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. Scouts who attend a class receive a badge!

Repurpose

Meet Grant Manier, the eco-impressionist as he creates one of his "coolages" using only recycled items. Bring your worn t-shirts to upcycle into fashion accessories or dog toys at the No-Sew Boutique. Explore other creative outlets to breathe new life into waste and turn trash into treasure.

ReBuy

Complete the cycle by shopping at the award-winning Buy Recycled Boutique hosted by Woodlands G.R.E.E.N. Find eco-chic items created from recycled or sustainable materials. All products are made in the United States or certified Fair Trade. Every product has been gifted an extended life! From Green Toys™ to jewelry, view the current lines from new and favorite manufacturers.

The 3R Bazaar is brought to you by The Woodlands Township Environmental Services with sponsorship from The Woodlands G.R.E.E.N. and Waste Management. For more information, volunteer opportunities, or participation in a collection for next year, please visit us online or contact the Environmental Services Department at 281-210-3800.

Recycling Guidelines
LISTED ITEMS, ONE DAY ONLY!

Alkaline Batteries

AA, AAA, C, D and 9 volt ONLY

NO rechargeable; NO lead-acid

Clothing and Shoes

Clean and usable condition – Salvation Army

Unusable condition – Simple Recycling

Electronics

Small electronics such as cell phones, mp3 players, and tablets

NO TVs

Eyeglasses

Prescription and reading glasses, sunglasses

Plastic and metal frames; cases

Flip Flops

Oral Care Products

Collected by Girl Scout Cadette Troop 11953

Used toothbrushes, empty toothpaste tubes, and floss containers

Yard Signs

Corrugated plastic signs

Village Challenge

CD/DVD Disks and Jewel Cases

Disks must be separated from case and paper insert

Secure Document Shredding by Southern Shred

Boxed or bagged personal documents

Residential only

5 cans of food or \$5 per box benefits Interfaith Food Pantry

No limit

Eco-Carnival

Live Music

Eco- Friendly Games

Prizes



The Woodlands Wildflower Festival Blooms on Saturday, November 4.

The Woodlands 30th Annual Wildflower Festival is set for Saturday, November 4 at Hughes Landing from 10 am - 2 pm with a free concert

THE WOODLANDS, TX - (October 27, 2017) – The Howard Hughes Corporation® (NYSE:HHC), and its wholly-owned subsidiary, The Woodlands® Development Company, are hosting The Woodlands 30th Annual Wildflower Festival on Saturday, November 4 from 10 AM – 2 PM at its new location, Hughes Landing® on Lake Woodlands. A free concert will take place after the Wildflower Festival from 2 – 4 PM at Hughes Landing Band Shell.

The developer and participating sponsors have given away over 1.5 million free wildflower seeds since the inception of The Woodlands Wildflower Festival 30 years ago. Participating sponsors for The Woodlands Wildflower Festival are BrightView and The Woodlands Township. The Woodlands Lions Club receives proceeds from the poster and recycle bag sales. The Woodlands Lions Club is a nonprofit organization providing community services to the visually impaired, youth, elderly, the environment and disaster relief.

This free, family-oriented event features 23 varieties of wildflower seeds, giant inflatable rides, a petting zoo, exhibits related to gardening and native plants and music. Lovable mascot of The Woodlands, Puffy Pine Cone®, along with mascot friends including Bridgeland Bill®, will make special guest appearances from 11 AM – 12 PM at the festival. Located in Cypress, Bridgeland® is a development of The Howard Hughes Corporation, managed by The Woodlands Development Company.

"We are proud to have hosted The Woodlands Wildflower Festival for three

decades. We are committed to continuing to enhance The Woodlands' natural beauty and annually sow 1,000 pounds of wildflower seeds throughout the community. This is wildflower planting season and the wildflowers will bloom in the spring," said Alex Sutton, Co-President of The Woodlands Development Company. "We want to encourage residents and guests to come by the festival at its new venue, Hughes Landing, and plant some seeds."

Hughes Landing is an award-winning, 66-acre mixed use development offering panoramic views of Lake Woodlands. Hughes Landing is located off Lake Woodlands Drive at Hughes Landing Boulevard.

For more information, visit us at www.thewoodlands.com, click on Events.



HEART Happenings

Nesting season for the Kemp's ridleys is over, but Green sea turtle continue to show up. Here is the last report:

GREEN SEA TURTLE

So far this year, 28 nests have been confirmed on the Texas coast. This surpasses the previous record of 15 green turtle nests found during one year. The nests recorded in Texas during 2017 include (north to south in state):

- 22
Padre
Island
National
Seashore
(area
record)
- 6
South
Padre
Island

(area
record)

Please mark your calendars on Friday, **November 10**, to attend the dedication of a bronze Kemp's Ridley sea turtle at 48th Street and the Seawall in Galveston - address is 4600 Seawall Blvd. It will be held at 4 p.m. with a reception to follow at the sea turtle office on Broadway. The Mayor's office will declare November 10 to be Sea Turtle Day in Galveston! I hope representatives of Piney Woods can be there.



Large spiny softshell turtle basking in the sun. Photo by Sandy Crystal Vaughn



THEY'RE EVERYWHERE

By Cheryl Conley

TWRC Wildlife Center

Love them or hate them, they're everywhere! I'm talking about those funny little critters called squirrels.

As the fall baby season is coming to an end, TWRC Wildlife Center has been inundated with babies. What is normally a very busy time anyway, Hurricane Harvey only added to the numbers. Hundreds of orphans were admitted and will continue to be cared for until they are ready for release.

The Houston area is home to the gray squirrel, the fox squirrel, and the flying squirrel. About 90% of the squirrels in our area are gray squirrels. Most people have never seen a flying squirrel because they are nocturnal. They are very small and their tail acts as a rudder to help guide it in flight. They don't have wings but rather skin that forms "flaps" that stretch between the "ankle" and "wrist".

If you've ever seen a squirrel eating out of a "squirrel-proof" bird feeder, then you know how intelligent they are. They have also been known to pretend to bury food just to trick other animals. A 2010 study showed that when a squirrel is being watched, they will actually dig a hole, pat it with their front teeth and scrape dirt over it to make it look like they are burying a treasure when, in fact, they are hiding their stash in a pocket near their armpit.

Here are some things you probably don't know about squirrels:

- A squirrel's front teeth never stop growing. In the wild, squirrels are constantly gnawing which keeps them short.
- When you see squirrels running and zig-zagging in your yard, they are doing this to avoid capture by a predator.
- Baby squirrels are only about an inch long when they're born.
- There are 285 species of squirrels and they can be found in every continent except Antarctica and Australia.
- Squirrels have four toes on the front feet and five on the back feet.
- Squirrels will twitch their tails to alert other squirrels to possible danger.
- Squirrels have more than one nest. If one gets destroyed or infested with insects, they always have a back-up.

TWRC Wildlife Center is a 38-year-old non-profit in Houston that rehabilitates injured and orphaned wildlife with the goal of releasing healthy animals back to the

wild. If you love wildlife and want to help, go to www.twrcwildlifecenter.org or you can call 713-468-8972.

Cheryl Conley President TWRC Wildlife Center

10801 Hammerly Blvd., Suite 200

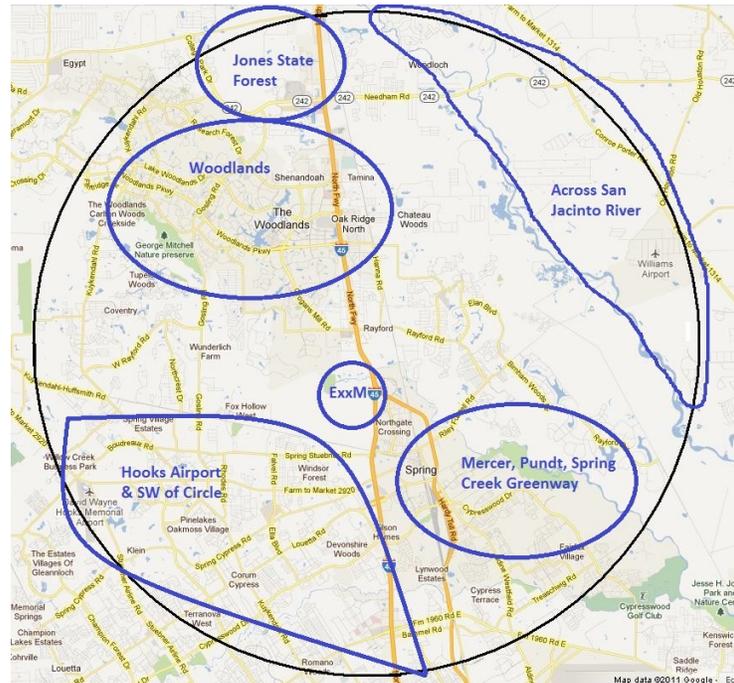
Houston, TX 77043

281.723.9696

www.twrcwildlifecenter.org

cheryl@twrcwildlifecenter.org

“The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated.” Mahatma Ghandi



"Spring Creek Christmas Bird Count Circle & Team Locations".

"Spring Creek Christmas Bird Count"

Save the Date: Saturday, December 16th

If you will be around on Saturday 12/16, please plan to join PWWS to help survey the birds present in our Spring Creek Christmas Bird Count circle. Several teams of bird watchers will be out in the field on Saturday, December 16th, counting up all the birds that can be found in our 15 mile diameter CBC circle which is roughly centered at I45 at the Rayford Sawdust exit.

If you're not able to go into the field and happen to live inside that circle, you can help out as a "feeder watcher" sending in your observations made on Saturday, December 16th, to be included in the official CBC results.

Regardless, go ahead and highlight that day on your calendars and let Claire know (via email at cdmoore3i@gmail.com) if you can help out in either capacity.



Mike Howlett - photo by Lucinda Valdez

It's Not Easy Being Green:

Frogs and Toads of Houston

Mike Howlett, Special Projects Coordinator, Spring Creek Greenway

This free lecture is one of The Woodlands "Walk in the Woods Nature Lectures" and will be held on Thursday night, November 2, 2017, at 7:30 p.m. and is sponsored

by The Woodlands Township <http://www.thewoodlandsgreen.org/lectures> . It will take place at McCullough Junior High School in one of their auditoriums. The address is 3800 S. Panther Creek Drive, The Woodlands, TX 77381.

Learn about 16 species of frogs and toads are common in our area, each with a unique call or vocalization. Mr. Howlett will provide simple clues for identifying frogs by their characteristic clicking, belching and chirping sounds. Well-known for his lively programs about snakes, Mike Howlett will present a spellbinding evening with frogs and toads.



Located on the edge of the Big Thicket, Montgomery County is home to a diverse plant and wildlife population.

Walk in the Woods Nature Lecture Series provides an introduction to the unique species that inhabit our community. Guest speakers recognized for their expertise present topics ranging from bats and owls to hummingbirds and habitat gardening. Featuring exquisite photography and occasionally live specimens, Walk in the Woods appeals to nature enthusiasts of all ages and levels of interest, from students to retirees.



Help Mercer Arboretum Rebuild

Hurricane Harvey, a storm of epic proportions, unprecedented in size, brought massive devastation to our community, including Mercer Botanic Gardens. For five days in late August 2017, rain consistently pelted the entire region leaving in its wake a scale of destruction beyond comprehension. The destruction of Harvey is yet to be fully quantified.

One year prior during the Tax-Day Floods in April 2016, Mother Nature first delivered a significant wake-up call as catastrophic flood waters poured out of the banks of Cypress Creek inundating the Gardens, destroying blooming annuals, stripping bark from trees, crumpling large trees and leaving behind a landscape of sandy silt with dunes as high as five feet.

Once again, we will recover and Rebuild Mercer. With you, we can ensure that Mercer Botanic Garden will help to engage, inspire, preserve, educate and enrich lives for generations. For nearly 44 years, donors like you have helped Mercer Botanic Garden. And, since 2008 you have helped The Mercer Society fulfill its mission to promote the importance of plant diversity, natural habitats and

botanical research.

Your generosity and gift is especially welcomed at this time. Future development must be on higher elevation. Acquiring the adjacent acreage to the Gardens went from becoming a desire to a necessity in a matter of hours. The first 10 acres of a 34-acre parcel was acquired in November 2016. Acquiring the remainder of that parcel and rebuilding the Gardens after Hurricane Harvey is now at the center of our Rebuild Mercer campaign. You can be a part of our Rebuild Mercer team.

Donating to our Most Pressing Need helps us offer special events, educate visitors about the natural world, preserve valuable plants around the globe and expand our beautiful horticultural display gardens. With your support, all of this is possible. Please call The Mercer Society office at 713.274.4166 with questions.

The Mercer Society is grateful for donations of any kind and invites you to partner with us in whatever fashion is most meaningful to you. The Mercer Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in good standing. Contributions to The Mercer Society are fully tax-deductible.

To designate your gift as a memorial, honorarium, or commemorative certificate please follow the instructions after your donation is processed. Commemorative certificates are available for commemorative gifts of \$100 or more, and information on engraved pavers is available under Memorials. Thank you!

Assigning Your Gift

When making your donation, you may choose to assign your gift to Mercer's Most Pressing Needs or to one of the following five categories:

- Harvey TMS Restoration – help The Mercer Society restore their office operations, re-open The Mercer Society Gift and Plant Shoppe and refurbish the North Side Growing Compound following Hurricane Harvey's devastation.
- Rebuild Mercer – help acquire adjacent land to Rebuild Mercer on higher elevations.
- Harvey Restoration – help restore the Mercer Botanic Gardens meeting room following the recent devastation of Hurricane Harvey in August 2017 (includes the Raise the Roof campaign).
- General Operating for Gardens: Horticulture and Education – help support our magnificent seasonal displays & permanent collections and through education programs inspire and enrich audiences of all ages.
- Center for Plant Conservation – help support our valuable research and herbarium collections.

mercersociety.org

SAVE THE DATE

TEXAS
Butterfly Festival

Nov. 4-7, 2017
National Butterfly Center
Mission, Texas



2017 Community Day Everyone is invited to COMMUNITY DAY at the Texas Butterfly Festival, Saturday, November 4, 2017, from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.



Samuel Jaffe - Keynote Speaker The 22nd Annual Texas Butterfly Festival is proud to announce Samuel Jaffe, creator of The Caterpillar Lab, will be the keynote speaker

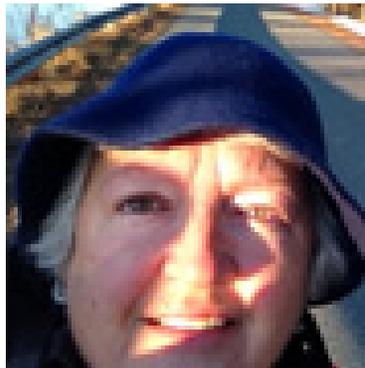


Come to the Valley

See all the butterflies at the Texas Butterfly Festival. Check out all the information at the festival web site. There are many great trip leaders and fantastic field trips available. Come out and make news friends and meet old ones. Additional information about NABA is also available at that web site.

<https://www.texasbutterflyfestival.com/>.

<http://www.naba.org/>



"Texas Butterfly Festival Trip Leaders"

Chris Balboni

Chris was born and raised in Western Massachusetts, and served on active duty in the U. S. Coast Guard at various locations for over 30 years, until her retirement in 2011. While still on active duty, Chris was assigned to Miami, Florida, where she she joined the Miami Blue Chapter of NABA. Here, members took her 'under their wing' and opened her heart to butterflies. Club field trips and NABA butterfly counts, as well as participating in Florida Natural Area Inventories (FNAI), only deepened her interest in butterflies. When she retired to Galveston, she became a member of the Houston Chapter of NABA, served on the Board of Directors of the Galveston Island Nature Tourism Council (GINTC), and volunteered for GINTC's annual "FeatherFest" spring bird migration and nature photography festival. A self-proclaimed "late bloomer" to the wonderful world of

Lepidoptera, Chris now describes herself as a "lep-tourist", because she is on the move searching for, and learning more about butterflies and moths. Chris and her husband Jake are Winter Texans, moving just last year to Retama Village in Mission. They migrate north each summer to Buffalo, NY, where Chris is active with the Rochester Butterfly Club. While on the road in their RV, she and Jake plan trips to find and photograph local butterflies wherever they travel; but in Mission, Chris may be found "skulking" the grounds at the National Butterfly Center, or tending to her own growing butterfly gardens!



Cat Traylor

I live in the south tip of Texas and became curious about butterflies some 15 years ago when I met Sue Sill, then director of what was called the NABA International Butterfly Park in Mission, Texas. Back then I worked as a U.S. Customs Officer processing vehicles coming from Mexico. I encountered Sue and her passenger at the bridge, where they told me about a trip to Mexico to photograph butterflies. My immediate thought was, "Well, that's a unique story." Sure enough, they had cameras and butterfly books in the vehicle trunk. That day, Sue invited me to visit the NABA Park to learn about butterflies and plants.

It took me several years to make my way over there, but once I started learning about butterflies and their larval host plants I fell into raising them. I'd never much paid attention to butterflies, then I found some really strange looking caterpillars on a backyard plant. They turned out to be the then-rare Marius Hairstreak (Rekoamarius) and I became hooked. After that I started seriously researching butterflies and the plants they use as larval hosts and got my feet wet raising and releasing any eggs or caterpillars I could find. You don't need to know how many bug eggs I raised, mistaking them for butterfly or moth eggs!

Funny thing: the U.S. Port of Entry where I was stationed has huge metal butterflies decorating the bridge entrance and I never gave them a second thought. That bridge turned out to be my gateway to the wonderful world of butterflies.



John Rosford

John Rosford lives in Retama Village, near the National Butterfly Center in Mission, Texas. He and his wife have returned to the Rio Grande Valley every year, since 1999, to enjoy this wonderful habitat and to photograph the butterflies, dragonflies, and birds that are found here. In 2010, they made the Valley their permanent home.



Linda Cooper

Although Linda Cooper is a Florida native, part of the year she is a Texan and proud of it! An intense, active birder since 1982, Linda participates in bird surveys through Cornell's Laboratory of Ornithology migration counts and backyard bird counts, and was the resident naturalist at Audubon/Street Nature Center in Winter Haven for 13 years, living on the grounds and running the Nature Center for Lake Region Audubon Society. She is a charter member of the North American Butterfly Association, frequent contributor of articles and photographs to American Butterflies magazine, and recipient of numerous conservation awards.



Javier Gonzalez

Javier is originally from Tampico, Tamaulipas, although he grew up in McAllen, Texas. One magical walk through Santa Ana NWR, where he found himself walking through clouds of colorful butterflies, hooked him and he's been thrilled by the chase ever since. Today, he works as a Naturalist Educator at Edinburg Scenic Wetlands, where he teaches others about the ecological relationship between butterflies and plants. He is still amazed by the incredible diversity and variety of butterflies in south Texas, and enjoys the camaraderie and excitement of searching for them with fellow enthusiasts during the Texas Butterfly Festival.



Dan Jones

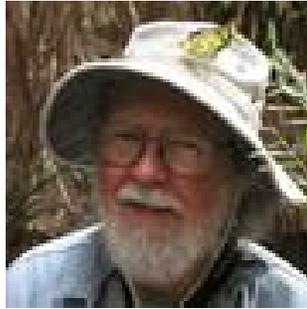
Dan Jones, raised in rural southwestern Missouri, has been a nature nut since birth. He has lived on the southwestern border of the US for the past 32 years, with the last 18 in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. A retired high school math teacher, Dan now spends his time prowling the South Texas brush country looking for unusual birds and bugs. He is highly regarded, locally, for his ability to find rare and elusive butterflies, birds, and dragonflies. He holds the North American and American Birding Association record for finding the White-crested Elaenia, and routinely finds over 300 bird species in just Hidalgo County, Texas, each year. Dan has been a leader for the RGV Birding Festival for many years.



John Yochum

John Yochum is a Park Ranger at Estero Llano Grande State Park. He says he is owned by 3 dogs, 1 African Gray and a spouse of 25 years. He is obsessed with birds, butterflies and his ancestors. John is very knowledgeable about birds, butterflies, and dragonflies, and has led field trips for both the birding and butterfly

festivals. He also does educational programs for school groups.



Mike Rickard

Mike A Rickard is a native Texan who began collecting butterflies as a child while working on a scouting merit badge. He has spent the rest of his life conducting field studies on Texas butterflies. While he is credited with over 20 US records, his primary emphasis has been on butterfly ecology - habitat and host plants. Among his caterpillar host plant discoveries is *Adelia vaseyi*, utilized by the Mexican Bluewing. Since retiring and relocating from Houston to Mission in 2008, Mike has photographed nearly 250 of the LRGV's butterfly species, and more recently has begun photographing moths at blacklight. He is frequently joined in the field by his wife, Ginny Musgrave, herself a fine photographer, who has spotted some of their rarest finds and has been credited with several county records. Mike is a member of the North American Butterfly Association, The Lepidopterists' Society, and The Southern Lepidopterists' Society, and is a Research Associate of the Texas Lepidoptera Survey.



Luciano Guerra

Luciano Guerra is an esteemed nature photographer, whose awards include Best of Contest and the People's Choice award in the Small Tract Competition of the venerable Valley Land Fund Wildlife Photography Contest. His photographs have been published widely, and many may be viewed on his website: www.bugsbirdsandbeyond.com. An avid photographer since he received his first 35mm camera as a teenager, Luciano loves sharing the incredible diversity of the Rio Grande Valley in images captured through his lens. He is currently employed

as the staff photographer and sports writer for the Progress Times family of publications, and he is also the photographer for the S.T.A.R. Livestock Show in Edinburg, where he has helped raise over \$4 million in scholarships for Hidalgo County youth in 4-H and FFA programs.



Martin Reid

Martin was born and raised near London, England, where he worked for 23 years in the computing sector, mostly as a contract consultant in the corporate mainframe market. In 1986 he had an epiphany with birds and birding that changed his life, causing him to travel widely in search of birds, and move to Texas in 1991, which has been his home ever since. From 1993 he has worked in a variety of jobs more-or-less associated with birds and birding, including birding travel and tour guiding, retail backyard bird products, retail binocular and camera equipment, and bird/wildlife surveying. He is a past Report Secretary for Christchurch Harbour Ornithological Society, a past President of Fort Worth Audubon Society, and a past and current Member of the Texas Bird Records Committee (and its Webmaster). Since 1999 he has taken an increasing interest in butterflies and dragonflies, and has made a number of important discoveries, including two new butterflies and three new dragonflies for the U.S. Most of his discoveries have taken place in south Texas, since moving from Fort Worth to San Antonio in 2004. Martin's outgoing nature and British sense of humor lead to a fun experience regardless of what is flying!



Barbara Volkle

In 1996, Barbara, a computer programmer and systems analyst, started

MASSBIRD, the Massachusetts birding email list which has grown to over 1,400 subscribers. She still serves as the list moderator, today; in addition to having served on multiple conservation organizations, including Friends of the Assabet River NWR, which she helped form in 2000. Since 2012 she has served as secretary of the Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp. This national nonprofit is dedicated to the promotion, preservation, sales and better understanding of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, sales of which have generated more than \$850 million, since 1934, to purchase or lease over 5.3 million acres of waterfowl/wetland habitat in the National Wildlife Refuge System. Barbara is passionate about birds and butterflies, volunteerism and advocacy for environmental conservation. She is currently Secretary of the Massachusetts Butterfly Club.



Stephen Moore

Steve escapes to the outdoors, when not practicing law or serving as a trustee or board member of various conservation and charitable organizations. Outside of the office he enjoys leading bird and butterfly trips for the Brookline Bird Club and the Massachusetts Butterfly Club. A NABA member, since 2004, Steve has published articles in the Massachusetts Butterflies biannual journal, as well as Butterfly Gardener, concerning club activities and certain species of butterflies. He and Barbara spend significant time each Fall in the Rio Grande Valley, where they connect with "butterfly friends" from across the country.



Samuel Jaffe

Naturalist photographer Samuel Jaffe grew up in Eastern Massachusetts chasing

birds, mucking through ponds, and turning over leaves. He is the founder of The Caterpillar Lab, which has blossomed and expanded into caterpillar exhibits, shows, walks and talks, as well as a formal partnership with Antioch University New England, where Jaffe is collaborating on a diverse range of projects.



Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival

The 24th Annual Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival begins On **November 8, 2017** at the Municipal Auditorium located at 1204 Fair Park Blvd., Harlingen, TX.

The Festival dates are November 8-12, with exciting new pre- and post-trips surrounding the Festival.

On-line registration began in early August. There are many fun seminars & workshops, field trips and activities available. Situated in the middle of the Rio Grande Valley, Harlingen is the ideal location to venture from for excellent birding. Within 90 minutes are dry, desert habitats to the west, and the coastal habitats are only 60 minutes to the east, with a riparian ribbon along the entire southern boundary. For 23 years running, the Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival has provided thousands of birders with life birds, those we call the "RGV Specialties". Professional tour guides lead every trip, whether bus or van, with a low participant-to-guide ratio to provide excellent spotting and identification. Over 60 vendors of bird-related products can delight every level of birder at the Birders Bazaar, and their contributions to the Silent Auction make that event very exciting. We offer great birds, excellent guiding, educational seminars, rousing socials and FUN! Ask anybody who has been here before!

For more information, visit the official web site at <https://www.rgvbf.org/>



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.

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.

Piney Woods Wildlife Membership Form

Last Name(s):		First Name of Member(s):	
Street Address:	City:	State and Zip:	
Home Phone No:	Work Phone No:	Email Address(s):	
Pine Warbler will be delivered by E-mail Only			
Annual Membership Fee \$15.00*		Mail this form and check made payable to PWWS to: Piney Woods Wildlife Society P.O. Box 189 Spring, TX 77383-0189	
Additional Contribution \$ _____			
Total \$ _____			
*Per Household – Includes <i>The Pine Warbler</i> newsletter			
New _____		Renewal _____	
		Rejoining _____	

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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.

Thanksgiving Blessings





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