

# The Pine Warbler



February, 2014

Vol. 34, No. 2

## Notes:

Looking ahead Carlos Hernandez, our talented program chairman, presented an excellent program about Costa Rica last month which was enjoyed by a full house! He not only announced our February program but told the club that Paul Gregg will be returning on March 18 for another great program about his trips west with wife Carol. The program is entitled "Zion – more than a hill near Jerusalem!" with marvelous photos taken in Utah at the Zion National Park as well as the north rim of the Grand Canyon in Arizona.

*next page*

## Big Stone Lodge

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 Olde 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.



## PWWS February 18th Program Wildlife Photography with Gary Seloff

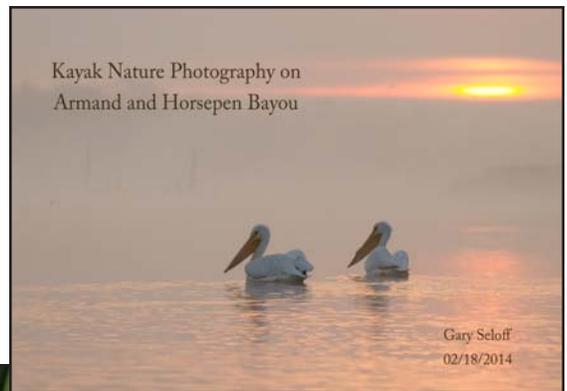
At our February 18 meeting, Gary Seloff will show us a new way to photograph birds and other wildlife in their own settings. As he points out, photographing from a kayak allows a degree of intimacy with the subjects that is rarely achieved from land-based positions, as well as a variety of unique and pleasing settings. His presentation will share tips, tales, and imagery from more than 100 kayak trips on the waters around the Armand Bayou Nature Center, near Clear Lake City.

With a master's degree in Art History from the University of Texas, Gary has enjoyed a somewhat unexpected career at NASA's Johnson Space Center for the past 25 years. Following the Challenger accident,



sual arts. Don't miss this fascinating program!

*Photos from a Kayak!*

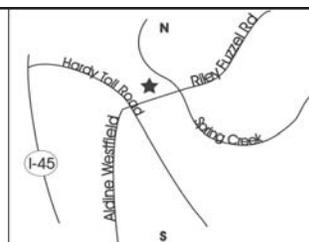


he was recruited to curate and automate the Center's film collection and eventually moved into Information Technology management. In recent years, photography has become a hobby and passion to maintain a connection with his background in the vi-



Date: February 18  
Time: Social 6:30 p.m.  
Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**Big Stone Lodge**  
709 Riley Fuzzel Road



Carlos is planning another Costa Rica trip later in the year, so contact him if you are interested.

If you are interested in Paul's classes, he sent the following information:

1. I will be presenting my basic birding and photography class to the Academy of Lifelong Learning (ALL) class at the Atascocita Lone Star College location on Thursday, February 6, from 1 to 3 p.m.
2. Beginning Lightroom I and II will be given on Monday (Feb. 3) and Wednesday (Feb. 5) from 6:30 to 8:30p.m. each night. The CEU classes will be at Lone Star College in Kingwood.
3. Beginning Digital Photography will be presented Tuesday (Feb. 4) from noon until 4:00p.m. at Lone Star College in Kingwood. This is also a CEU class.

The ALL classes are free to people over 50 years of age and there is no limit to number of students. The CEU classes for which there is a charge must have at least 6 students, or the class will be cancelled. (You can e-mail him at paul.gregg@comcast.net if you have questions.)

### Honoring Gloria and John Jones!

Thanks to Kimberly White who has sent a generous donation to PWWS to honor her parents, Gloria and John Jones. Kimberly lives in Fort Smith, Arkansas, and has heard a lot about PWWS over the years. Gloria and John have helped to keep PWWS strong for many years holding offices, producing the newsletters and providing marvelous programs following their travels. John also helps all of the club photographers improve their photos. We appreciate their support and membership and now we can thank their daughter, too!

**From Claire Moore:** Piney Woods plans related to the money donated in honor of Mike Drummond changed from buying a memorial bench (to be placed in one of our parks) to awarding three annual scholarships for \$350 each. The scholarships will go to a college bound Envirothon student in David Henderson's program at Klein Collins High School. Those who qualify will fill out our scholarship application form and a committee of several people (including Jean Drummond) will determine which high school student will get the scholarship. The scholarship money will be paid directly to the university that the student attends in the fall. We are working with David Henderson to determine which of his Envirothon students are eligible and have them submit application forms. We hope to make the decision by April so that we can announce it at the May meeting when the Envirothon students generally make their presentation to PWWS. We are excited with the opportunity to encourage a deserving university bound Envirothon high school student.

**Annual Bird Count:** Al Barr reports that 91 bird species were seen on the Spring Creek Bird Count on December 14. Thanks to everyone who participated or led a group! Details will follow!



## Heart Happenings

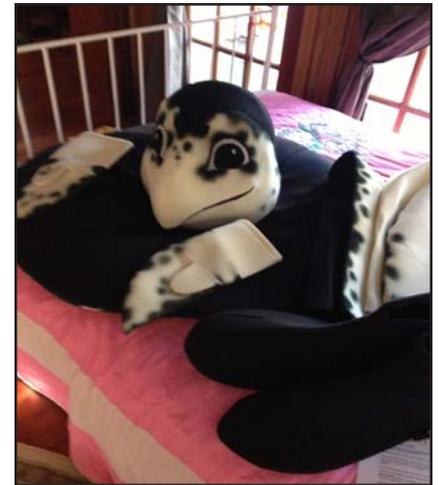
The Galveston Island Nature Tourism Council will sponsor its annual Sea Turtle Saturday on February 8 from 8:30 a.m. To 1 p.m. at the NOAA Flower Garden Banks Sanctuary Ballroom at 4700 Avenue U., Building 216 in Galveston. Registration can be done online at [www.GalvestonNatureTourism.org](http://www.GalvestonNatureTourism.org). There is a children's event for ages 8-13. The program will include National Marine Fisheries Service biologists, Dr. Joe Flanagan of the Houston Zoo and Joanie Steinhaus of the Sea Turtle Restoration Project. This event sells out so don't wait to register. Guests will also visit sea turtles being raised at the facility.



At the January meeting, HEART/PWWS members may have seen the first Kemp's ridley costume that is quite accurate portraying a one year old Kemp's ridley. The kindergarten children at the River Oaks Baptist School raised over

\$1000 so that the Akron Design Company could make exactly what we wanted.

This is the photo I sent to the Design Company and here is ROB the Ridley's head and a few other parts. The children haven't seen him yet, but we'll arrange that soon.



### East Texas Nature Mexican Turks Cap

by Diane Cabiness, Texas Master Naturalist

*Where would we be if humanity had never known flowers? If they didn't exist or had always been hidden from our sight... would our character; our moral, our aptitude for beauty, our happiness be the same?"*

- Maurice Maeterlinck

The native Turks Cap, *Malvaviscus arboreus* var. *drummondii* is





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### Numbers of Interest

Heart Hotline..... 281 444-6204



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**The deadline for submissions is the 25<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:cdmoore3@gmail.com) (Claire Moore) and add PWWS to the subject line. Thank you.**

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