

# The Pine Warbler



October, 2015

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## PWWS Started A Good Thing!

Back in 1982, PWWS adopted HEART (Help Endangered Animals-Ridley Turtles). ( Thank you, Piney Woods for this long lasting support!) This adoption gave HEART the IRS status needed to take donations for sea turtles. The following article appeared in the Galveston Daily News on September 24 before a tribute to Carole on the 26th at Moody Gardens.

"Sea turtles are fortunate to have Carole Allen on their side. Carole has been working for more than 30 years for protection of the Kemp's ridley sea turtle, and on Sept. 26, Turtle Island Restoration Network will honor her lifelong dedication for conservation of this critically endangered sea turtle from noon to 2 p.m. in the Garden Restaurant at Moody Gardens, 1 Hope Blvd., in Galveston. In 1982, Carole founded HEART (Help Endangered Animals-Ridley Turtles) and with the help of schools, formed HEART Councils. These councils were organized in more than 30 states and Saudi Arabia, and participants learned about the Kemp's ridleys, donated money to feed hatchlings and received a certificate of participation in the program. She has raised over \$100,000 to feed the hatchlings at the Galveston National Marine Fisheries Service Lab, purchased equipment for the Rancho Nuevo nesting beach facility,

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## October 21st Wednesday Program

### Quest for 1000 Species with Kendra Kocab

Our October program is very unusual and exciting! Entitled "Quest for 1000 Species," Kendra Kocab will tell us about her world-wide travels in 2014, looking for as many bird species as possible. She will talk and show photos about the birds that she saw, the beautiful scenery and culture she encountered. Kendra will also give tips she picked up for traveling birders! Our Program Director Carlos Hernandez says this is one program he won't miss!

## Big Stone Lodge

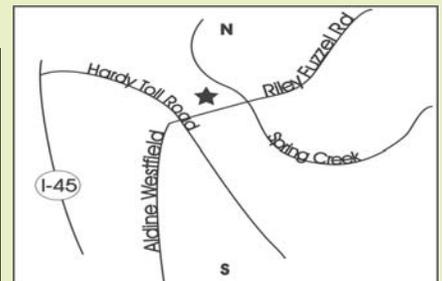
PWWS meetings are held at the Big Stone Lodge at the new Dennis Johnston County Park at 709 Riley Fuzzel Road.

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.

## Big Stone Lodge - Dennis Johnston Park 709 Riley Fuzzel Road

October 21st  
Social 6:30pm  
Program 7:00pm



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and supplied education material to schools in the U.S. and Mexico. She invited local teachers to join her at Rancho Nuevo beach while she completed presentations for schools close to nesting beach.

Carole was instrumental in securing the passage of the federal law requiring Turtle Excluder Devices in shrimp trawls in the mid-1980s, and more recently she worked to ensure the state of Louisiana implemented the federal TEDs law in Louisiana state waters. Collaborating with Dr. Andre Landry Jr. at Texas A&M University at Galveston, they established the Sea Turtle Saturday event and in 2015 it celebrated its 10th anniversary. Carole and her work have been the focus of numerous radio and television stations, both locally and nationally, and she has been mentioned in Oprah Winfrey's "O" magazine and in a book by Pulitzer Prize winner Edward Humes entitled "Eco Barons — the Dreamers, Schemers and Millionaires Who Are Saving Our Planet."

In addition, other accomplishments include: establishment of the public sea turtle reporting number (1-866-TURTLE5) which has been sponsored by Turtle Island Restoration Network for over 10 years, raising funds and producing the video "The Heart-break Turtle Today," and for the past 12 years being part of Turtle Island Restoration Network, an international organization saving sea turtles and other marine wildlife."

Thank you again, Piney Woods!

## Heart Happenings



## Never Too Early for a Sea Turtle Report



On June 30, Paul Gregg and fishing friend were at the beach when a storm came up. Kemp's ridleys like to nest in windy weather and sure enough, he photographed a female ridley returning to the Gulf after laying eggs. She found a nesting place in spite of obvious litter on the beach. Congratulations, Paul, for photographing a rare occurrence on the Upper Texas Coast. Too bad the eggs could not be incubated in the Galveston area so a hatchling release could be seen for everyone in our area! They could be if we all demanded it! It's just another government roadblock preventing it.

## The Lone Star Hiking Trail Conservancy needs our votes!

The Lone Star Hiking Trail Conservancy, Inc., a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization, has been chosen as one of the ten finalist for the Michelob Ultra Superior Trails Grant! American Hiking Society & Michelob Ultra have teamed up to award two \$25,000 grants to the two organizations with the most votes at the end of the public voting period. The voting period runs from September 1st - October 31st. You are allowed to vote every day, once per day.

The Lone Star Hiking Trail project will benefit the Sam Houston National Forest, New Waverly, Texas just one hour North of Houston. The project will provide badly needed repairs to trailheads on the Lone Star Hiking Trail, the longest hiking trail in Texas. The project includes adding gravel to the parking areas, post and railings, and road signs for all trailheads, so hikers, backpackers, birders, and hunters can enjoy the Sam Houston National Forest and the Lone Star Hiking Trail. Support your hometown trail by voting every day at:

<http://superiortrails.michelobultra.com>  
<<http://superiortrails.michelobultra.com/>>

We know you love the Lone Star Hiking Trail just as much as we do, which is why we need your help. We will not be able to win without your help of our supporters. Please show your support by voting every day at:

<http://superiortrails.michelobultra.com>  
<<http://superiortrails.michelobultra.com/>>

Then, share this link on your own Facebook wall to let all your friends know.

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY Open to US residents 21+. Begins 9/1/15 & ends 10/31/15. To vote and for Official Rules, visit [superiortrails.michelobultra.com](http://superiortrails.michelobultra.com).

<<http://superiortrails.michelobultra.com/>>

Void where prohibited.

Please, please, please help us help the Sam Houston National Forest to win this grant to improve the Lone Star Hiking Trail. Every vote counts! Thank you for helping spread the word on websites, facebook, twitter, etc.

## What Bird Was That? How to use Merlin Bird ID on your Smart Phone! By Claire Moore

Have you ever seen a bird and wondered what type of bird it was? Well, "there's an app for that!"

Cornell Lab of Ornithology has created a free "app" for smart phones called Merlin (available for both iPhone and Android). The purpose of this app is to help beginning & intermediate birders figure out what bird they are seeing by showing them the most likely birds in their own area that match what they are seeing. Birders just need to answer five simple questions.

