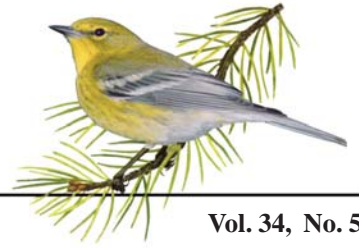


The Pine Warbler



May, 2014

Vol. 34, No. 5

Notes:

Our Turkey travelers, Margarita and Mike Betheard will be coming home in late May or early June! Mike's company, Bechtel, has decided to move their project to Houston leaving just a few staff in Turkey. So, as Margarita just wrote: "Win or lose, we will return to the Houston office and take up a new assignment." Let's welcome them back with open arms and hope for a wonderful program this fall!

Get well wishes to our wonderful columnist Diane Cabiness! Diane is recovering from surgery and we send her our best wishes and thanks for all the interesting columns she provides for the Pine Warbler.

Big Stone Lodge

PWWS meetings are held at the Big Stone Lodge at the new Dennis Johnston County Park, 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 May 20 Program Party Time for the May 20 meeting!

For the May 20 program, we are going to look at colorful migrating birds photographed by several PWWS members. 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!

How I spent the Spring Migration

Rules:

Please send Carlos Hernandez at carlania@icloud.com up to 12 images taken during the 2014 Spring Migration. Images from previous seasons will be accepted. Please note the preferred 8 images in case we are overwhelmed with contributions.



Email requirements: Image Format: jpeg.
Color Space: sRGB
Resolution: 72 pixels per inch
Resize to Fit: A minimum of 1024 pixels

If you have trouble figuring the email settings call me at 832 386 5931 or email me. Please send your images by the end of May 13, 2014.

Be ready to tell us where and how you got the image and tell us your impressions of the migration.

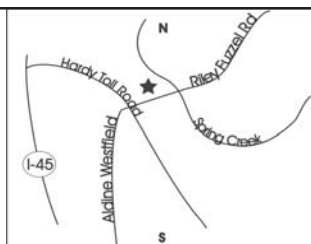
There are many members that don't know of one of the most important natural phenomena happening during the month of April in our coastal area. We have many birding spots where we can see colorful migrating birds from South and Central America.

This presentation project will be done next year in the month of March, so we can tell the members of the birding hotspots in our area and learn about the colorful visitors.

We will also hear from the winner of the Mike Drummond Memorial Scholarship from Klein-Collins High School. Also, if you haven't brought any treats, a few extra plates of goodies will be welcome. Thanks to everyone who has brought snacks during the meeting year.

Date: May 20
Time: Social 6:30 p.m.
Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Big Stone Lodge
709 Riley Fuzzel Road





Heart Happenings

Two Kemp's ridley sea turtle nests were found at the Padre Island National Seashore on April 27! Weather this year is cooler than usual, so let's hope things pick up before long.

IT'S A SHELL-E-BRATION! Don't forget May 10th at Stewart Beach in Galveston from 11 a.m. To 3 p.m. when we will celebrate the one year anniversary of the Kemp's ridley sea turtle being proclaimed the official state of Texas sea turtle! See the April newsletter for more details but it's a free family event with games and an appearance by ROB the Ridley who will pose for pictures at 11 a.m. Kids will be able to participate in a turtle costume contest, a sand sculpture contest and also relay races. COME ON DOWN!

Thanks to Farrar Stockton who met with college students at the Lone Star College to talk sea turtles and PWWS on April 17th. The Earth Alliance Club at the college has sponsored an Earth Day event for the last ten years led by Instructor Janice Hartgrove-Freile. (Yes, Carole Allen was there, too, although arriving late.) Al Barr had a great exhibit from Jones Park so PWWS was well represented.

Have a great summer and remember we'll be having our potluck in August. Check the PWWS website for details!

Mike and Margarita's Travels in Turkey!

Our traveling former PWWS president, Mike Beathard, and his spouse, Margarita, have been sharing wonderful photos of their stay in Turkey. Margarita shares some interesting comments about their stay and travels around the country.

There has been a burst of blooming trees in the area for the last several weeks; really pretty sight. I think they are sweet and sour cherry; but hard to tell since plum, pear and cherry trees also grow in Ankara and all these blooms look very similar to me. The temperatures have also been spring like and in the mid to upper 60s. Local elections were held yesterday in Turkey and unlike the process in the the US, there was electoral fraud, anti-government protests and temporarily banning of Twitter, YouTube and intermittent internet access, even violence in two villages in central Turkey – two families from opposing parties had it out with clubs. Interesting experience.....

We had a nice day trip last weekend. You really get a grasp for how young our country is when visiting sites in Turkey that are considered the cradle of civilization and dating anywhere from five to ten thousand years ago! We went with the same hiking group that we been on previous outings, but this particular trip was more of a history tour and a pleasant walk through the countryside. We visited the site of the the Hittite capital, Hattusa (part of the UNESCO World Heritage list), which dates



Alacahöyük sphinx gate



Hattuşaş relief carvings

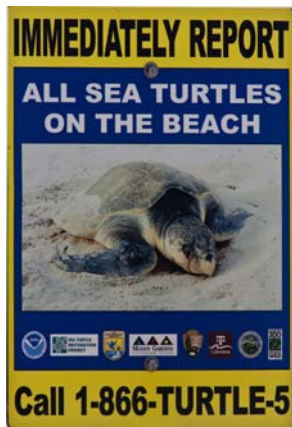


Alacahöyük settlement

back to 6000 years ago. It was a nice drive about 150 miles east of Ankara and through picturesque countryside. We spent most of the day visiting the highlights of the ancient city and the neatest part were the wall carving reliefs.

Things are busy at the office and there have been a few hectic weeks for Mike. He walks to and from the office everyday and he is getting his exercise; not sure how he is going to keep this up when we return to Kingwood. He really likes the commute here - 20 minute walk!

We are sorry to report that PWWS Board member, Jim Springer, passed away on April 26. Jim and his wife, Judy, have been active members for years. A private service was held for the family. We send our condolences to Judy and their family.



2013/14 Board of Directors

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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>