Preferences

The Pine Warbler

Piney Woods Wildlife Society - May 15, 2019 Program

“Chasing migrants, Spring 2019 – LEGAL migrants that is!"

By Paul Gregg

Male Hooded Warbler - by Paul Gregg

“Chasing migrants, Spring 2019 – LEGAL migrants that is!”

Paul Gregg will share his experience with this year’s spring migration. Warblers, orioles, buntings, vireos, thrushes and other photos will be shared. (Paul is a member of PWWS as well as Gold Coast Audubon Society in the Beaumont area. His favorite birding location is Sabine Woods, but he loves to visit other locations around the upper Texas coast as well.)

Paul Gregg is an avid, advanced amateur photographer. He presented free photography classes at Lone Star College (New Caney and Kingwood). He has made presentations to 6 of the photography/camera clubs in the area.

Paul loves nature photography and enjoys spending time at various locations during the spring migration as well as looking for subjects in his own back yard. He also loves travel and landscape photography and has a number of presentations on various subjects dear to his heart.

He is retired from the U. S. Air Force, as well as from working at Harris Co. Adult Probation.

Please join us on Wednesday, May 15, 2019. (Social time with snacks provided is at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting starts at 7 p.m. at the Big Stone Lodge at Dennis Johnston Park located at 709 Riley Fuzzel Road in Spring, Texas.

Paul Gregg, SMSGT, USAF (Ret.)

Magnolia Warbler - by Paul Gregg

Baltimore Oriole - by Paul Gregg

Black-throated Blue Warbler - by Paul Gregg

Blue-winged Warbler - by Paul Gregg

HEART Happenings

by Carole Allen

Kemp Ridley Sea Turtle

It's nesting time for the Kemp's ridley sea turtles on the Texas coastline. So far this year, five nests have been confirmed on the Texas coast with the best weeks of nesting in May and June.

So far, one nest has been found on Mustang Island, three at the Padre Island

National Seashore and another on South Padre Island but not in the National Park.

Should you be at any beach and see a sea turtle, do not bother her but call 855-TURTLE5 to get protection and information.

Updates regarding nestings and release of hatchings are also posted at the Padre Island National Seashore website: www.nps.gov/pais

Sea Turtle

THE KILLDEER

A Skilled Actor

**by Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center

A concerned citizen who came across a nest on the ground with eggs in it and an injured mama nearby contacted us via Facebook. The lady wanted to know what she could do to help. She posted pictures to help us identify the bird. Not being familiar with the hundreds of bird species we have here, I reached out to our former Executive Director who not only identified the bird but also shared some interesting information about the species.

The bird was a Killdeer. They find small depressions in the ground and build their nests with sticks, grass, weeds, shells or rocks. Their nests can be found in parking lots, golf courses, lawns, athletic fields, etc. Their nests are often overlooked because they are almost level with the ground around it. What makes this bird so fascinating is that females will fake injuries to lure predators away from their nests. As a predator approaches, she will drag herself farther and farther away from her nest continuing to fake her injuries. It's also been observed that she may roll completely over, pant and gasp for air—all an act. Another tactic they use to protect the nest is by pretending to build a nest. When a predator approaches the real nest, the Killdeer will move away, find a depression in the ground and pretend to be covering her non-existent eggs. As the predator approaches the fake nest, the Killdeer will leave only to repeat this fake-out until the enemy tires of her games and flies away.

Sometimes groups of Killdeer get in on the action of chasing away real or perceived predators. The first one to spot the enemy will fly very close to the face of the animal while making a loud, shrill cry as if to be yelling at it. Soon others join in with the same loud cries. In most cases, this is enough to scare anything

away.

Because Killdeer build their nests on the ground, it can take up to six attempts in a season to successfully hatch their eggs. Pesticides, other lawn chemicals and cats are the biggest threats.

The Killdeer is a member of the plover family. Plover, as defined by the Free Dictionary, is, “Any of various widely distributed shorebirds of the family Charadriidae, having rounded bodies, short tails, and short bills“. Although defined as a shorebird, it’s equally happy in dry or wet locations. It is classified, as migratory but is a year-round resident in most areas of Texas.

According to Texas Parks and Wildlife, the Killdeer is one of the noisiest birds in America. Their name was derived from their call—a loud “KILL-DEER”.

Nature is amazing, isn’t it?

TWRC Wildlife Center invites you to like our Facebook page. You’ll find useful information, cute photos and a community of great people who love nature and wildlife: https://www.facebook.com/TWRCWildlifeCenter

If you have any wildlife questions, give us a call at 713-468-8972 or check our website at .www.twrcwildlifecenter.org

Spring is our busiest season and babies have started coming in. We need compassionate people to help feed and care for baby squirrels, baby opossums and baby birds. The age requirement is 14 and up. This is an experience you’ll never forget! The link is Volunteer
Cheryl Conley President TWRC Wildlife Center
10801 Hammerly Blvd., Suite 200
Houston, TX 77043

Roy E. Larson Sandyland Sanctuary

April 14, 2019 Butterfly Count

BEST/Butterfly Enthusiasts of SE Texas;

NABA/North American Butterfly Association

www.Naba.org/Chapters/Nababest

First Butterfly Count 2019

Link from Sandy Crystal Vaughn:

Sights Seen on Roy E. Larsen Sandyland Sanctuary Butterfly Count

Group Photo - Hugh & Diane Wedgeworth, Sandy Crystal Vaughn & Betsy Robinson - Photo by Don Dubois

Year	Species	Individuals
2009	21	57
2010	25	110
2011	36	441
2012	16	226
2013	28	213
2014	22	77
2015	26	277
2016	28	146
2017	21	132
2018	19	142
2019	28	154

Region 7 - Texas

1. Roy Larsen Sandylands Sanctuary, TX. Yr. 19, 30.3540°, -94.2954°, center at 1.4 miles N of SR 327 on US 69, approximately 2 miles S of Kountze. See 2001 report for habitats. 14 April 2019; 1000-1600 hrs; sun AM 76-100%, PM 76-100%; 55-

72°F;
wind
10-
22
mi/hr.
5
observers
in
1
party.
Total
party-
hours
6;
total
party-
miles
on
foot
5.
Observers:
DON
DUBOIS
(9627
Crestwater
Circle,
MAGNOLIA,
TX,
77354;
donandchrisdubois@att.net),
B.
Robinson,
S.
Vaughn,
D.
Wedgeworth,
H.
Wedgeworth.

Pipevine Swallowtail 55, Zebra Sw. 9, Black Sw. 4, Giant Sw. 1, E. Tiger Sw. 2, Spicebush Sw. 1, Palamedes Sw. 4, Orange Sulphur 1, Cloudless Su. 3, Dainty Su. 1, Gulf Fritillary 2, Variegated Fr. 2, Pearl Crescent 2, Am. Lady 6, Painted La. 2, Com. Buckeye 27, Goatweed Leafwing 3, Carolina Satyr 4, N. Cloudywing 2, Funereal Duskywing 1, Com. Checkered-Skipper 1, Swarthy Sk. 4, Clouded Sk. 2, Fiery Sk. 3, Whirlabout 10, Dun Sk. 1, Eufala Sk. 1. Total 28 species, 154 individuals. Immatures: Pipevine Sw. 1 caterpillar on Crawling on ground;

Spicebush Sw. 1 caterpillar on Sassafras albidum; Zebra Sw. 1 caterpillar on Asimina parviflora (Dwarf pawpaw); Am. La. 1 pupa on Sheltered under log; Com. Bu. 1 caterpillar on Unidentified; Monarch 1 caterpillar on Asclepias amplexicaulis (Clasping milkweed).

Don DuBois - Leader - Getting that perfect shot. Photo by Hugh Wedgeworth

Hugh in search of butterflies - Photo by Diane Wedgeworth

Chocolate Daisy - Berlandiera - Photo by Diane Wedgeworth

Sandylands scene - by Diane Wedgeworth

White Morph Reddish Egret - Photo by H.M. Arnold

Beautiful Birds Photos from Hank

by H.M. Arnold

Black Necked Stilt - Photo by H.M. Arnold

Reddish egret chasing shad - Photo by H.M.Arnold

Great Blue Heron (notice he stabbed the mullet through the brain) Photo by H.M. Arnold

Some links from Hank:

https://hmarnold.smugmug.com/Birds
Here is a folder specifically of birds from more than 5 years ago
There are many folders of pictures taken on the Skimmer birding tour boat.

Those are probably the most inclusive of local species
https://hmarnold.smugmug.com/20180427-SHW

https://hmarnold.smugmug.com/20190211-Monarch

https://hmarnold.smugmug.com/20190416-Monarch-Madness/n-7fH87X
We had a lot of fun, and I can report that no caterpillars were injured in the making

of this movie. I think they were glad to get back home last night, though, after being poked and prodded all day.

Part of our offering was to have each class plant some milkweed on the Fennesey, with Sally's permission. During the re-loading process, one of the bus drivers from Port O'Connor spotted a different kind of native milkweed, and Julie, Tomi, and Nancy all dug some up and brought back samples to plant.

Ray's legacy of tricking me into planting milkweed endures.

Hank
H.M. Arnold HMArnold@msn.com

Photos by Bill Miller

Eastern Phoebes by Bill Miller

Peewee by Bill Miller

An Anna's Hummingbird in different light. — in Patagonia, Arizona. - by Bill Miller

Yellow-eyed Junco. — at Mount Lemmon. - by Bill Miller

Osprey with lunch Photo by Bill Miller

Cool lizard - Photo by Sue. — with Sue Peretti Miller at Tucson Botanical Gardens

4-17-2019 - Gila Woodpecker on a saguaro. — at San Tan Mountain Regional Park. by Bill Miller

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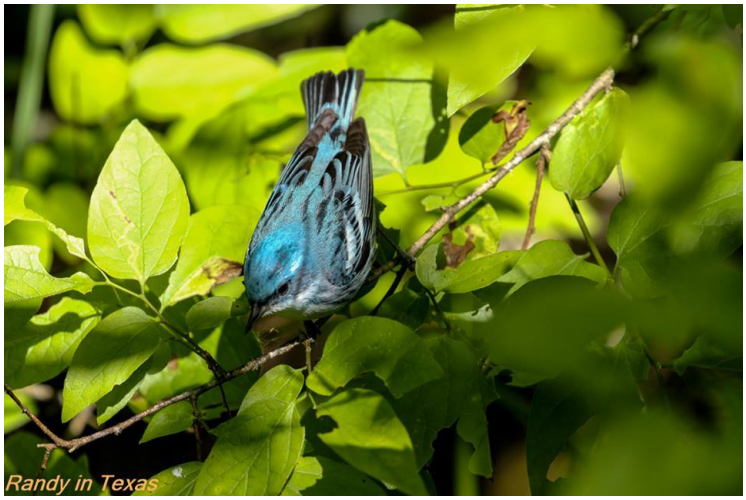
Photos by Randy Scott



April 1. Bettina and I went bird watching in Galveston. One of our stops was Corp of Engineers Nature Sanctuary. This was a prize of Bettina, my spotter, and of me the photographer. Cerulean Warbler. A gorgeous bird popping in and out of the bushes and trees.- by Randy Scott

In my backyard a few moments ago, this Indigo Bunting was leisurely showing off so I could photograph him - by Randy Scott

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Photo by Carlos Hernandez

Here is a Pano of the Quetzal. I was too close to the trogon to get the 1 meter long tails in the picture.

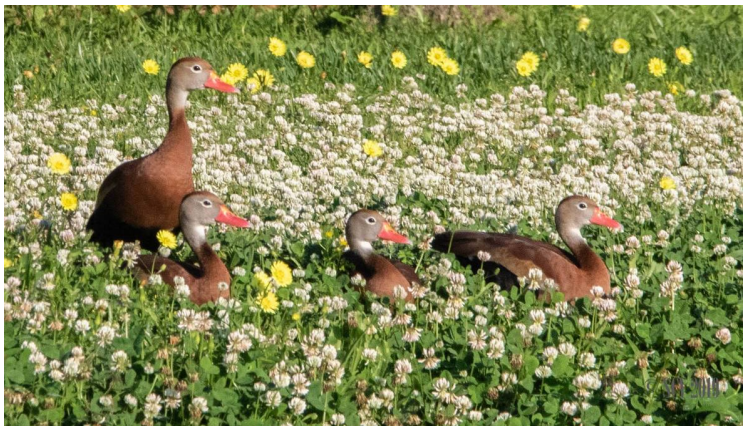
Photos by Sandy Crystal Vaughn

My current favorite wildflower Herbertia with a nectaring hoverfly (aka flowerfly)! Hoverflies are beneficials to have in the garden. Backyard Clear Lake City (Houston) Texas.

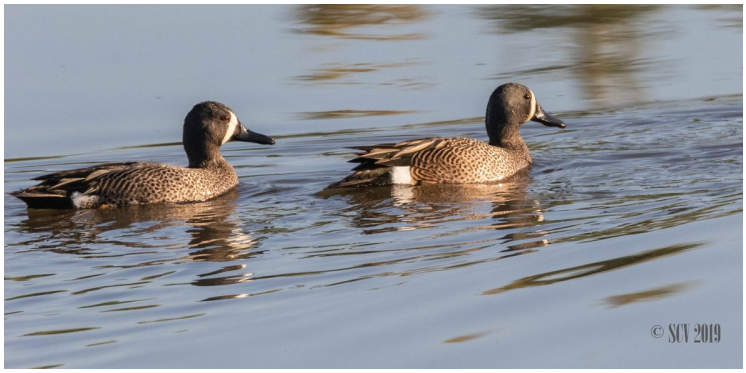
April 16, 2019 - Early instar Zebra Swallowtail caterpillar on host plant Dwarf Pawpaw. Hardin County, Texas.

Female Downey Woodpecker

Savannah Sparrow by Sandy Crystal Vaughn



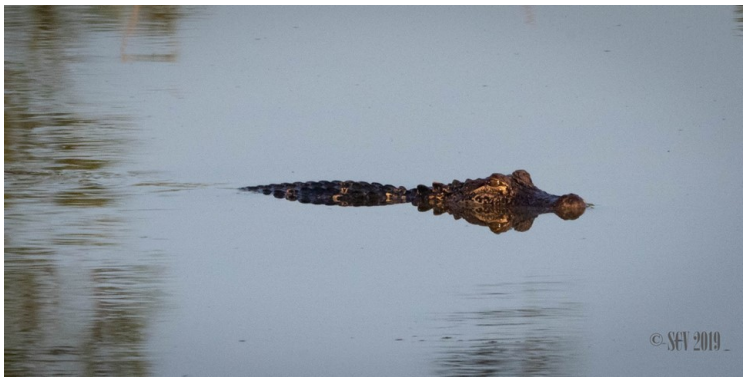
April 9 · Participated in Audubon's monthly survey of Exploration Green Phase I at the intersection of Diana and Reseda this morning. Black-bellied Whistling Ducks! Clear Lake City (Houston) Texas



April 9 · Participated in Audubon's monthly survey of Exploration Green Phase I at the intersection of Diana and Reseda this morning. Blue-winged Teals! Clear Lake City (Houston) Texas

Participated in Audubon's monthly survey of Exploration Green Phase I at the intersection of Diana and Reseda 4-9-2019. Mottled Duck! Clear Lake City (Houston) Texas

This spectacular male Pipevine Swallowtail stopped by to nectar in the garden 4-28-2019. Backyard Clear Lake City (Houston) Texas



Participated in Audubon's monthly survey of Exploration Green Phase I at the intersection of Diana and Reseda this morning. The Alligators are for real! Clear Lake City (Houston) Texas

Sanderling. Texas City Dike. Thursday, March 28th by Sandy Crystal Vaughn

White Pelicans in the sky 4-29-2019 at Little Cedar Bayou Park in La Porte, Texas! - by Sandy Crystal Vaughn

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Photos by Jim Snyder

April 18, 2019 Juniper Hairstreak on Green Antelope Horn at Knife River's Honey Creek property in Burnet County, TX.— in Burnet, Texas - by Jim Snyder

We had our first visitor come to a peach blossom today, March 9th, a female Monarch butterfly. — in Emerald Forest, College Station, Texas.- by Jim Snyder

Today's hatchlings .4-28-2019 — in Emerald Forest, College Station, Texas. - by Jim Snyder

September 15, 2018 American Alligator, Wakulla Springs S.P., Wakulla County, FL, 15-Sep-2018 — at Edward Ball Wakulla Springs State Park. Jim Snyder

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 on Rayford Rd. At Grand Parkway (99), turn right on the Grand Parkway frontage road. Go 2 miles (staying on the frontage road) watching for the Johnston Park sign on your right just before you get to the Hardy Toll Road overpass; or,
2. Take Louetta Road east from I45 to where it deadends into Aldine-Westfield. Turn left on Aldine-Westfield until it deadends into Riley Fuzzel Road. Turn right onto Riley Fuzzel Road and go only 0.5 miles to the park entrance on your left just after passing under Hardy Toll Road; or,
3. Take Aldine-Westfield north from Mercer Arboretum until it deadends into Riley Fuzzel Road. Turn right onto Riley Fuzzel Road and go only 0.5 miles to the park entrance on your left just after passing under Hardy Toll Road.

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*
Additional Contribution $_____
Total $_____

*Per Household – Includes *The Pine Warbler newsletter*

New _____ Renewal _____ Rejoining _____

Mail this form and check made payable to PWWS to:

Piney Woods Wildlife Society
P.O. Box 189
Spring, TX 77383-0189

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Please join us!
PWWS web site is www.pineywoodswildlifesociety.org

PWWS Facebook site is at https://www.facebook.com/Piney-Woods-Wildlife-Society-125891867423250/

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

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 our President, Kathy Coward, justforthebirds@sbcglobal.net or Diane Wedgeworth, Editor, milanodi@yahoo.com

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

Happy Mother's Day

Mom's Give Us Such Priceless Gifts--
A Home Life Rich With Caring,
A Deep Appreciation For the Joys
Of Family Sharing,
Special Moments Touched With Beauty,
Good Times Filled With Laughter,
And Memories That Warm The
Heart and Last Forever After.
Happy
Mother's Day

happy
mothers
day!

Happy
memorial
Day

Memorial Day
Remember Those That Gave Their All

We Support The Men & Women
Risking All To Defend Our Freedom
God Bless You!

REMEMBER THOSE
WHO SERVED

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