

16 February 1999

Catriona Glazebrook
Texas Audubon Society
2525 Wallingwood #301
Austin, Texas 78746-6922

*Not sent
on
Friday*

Dear Catriona,

I have just received a cost estimate for the color plate of the Green Jays commemorating the centennial of the Texas Audubon Society. The bill will be \$6,100. I need to give the go ahead to start the printing as soon as possible - in the next day or two if we are to have the prints available for your Bass Hall opening. Since the print is primarily offered for the promotion of a trade edition of our "Of Birds and Texas," I see no reason to do it if the Texas Audubon Society cannot or will not support the book project.

When the cost of the print is added to the \$1,500 that I gave Txs to pay Shannon Davies for her early editing work, and the \$1,000 I have paid Ralph Carr to help you with your Bass Hall auction and patron list etc. and the approximately \$4,000 I have promised Shannon for further editing and computerizing of book's new text, you can see that Scott's and my financial commitment to this project is already substantial. We do not have bottomless deep pockets, nor do we have the time out of our currently pressing schedules to pursue this matter without some sort of specific written declaration of support for the Texas Audubon Society. There is certainly no reason for us to spend the considerable sum of \$6,100 for the Green Jays print whose main purpose was to help promote the bird book.

I really do believe that the book can be very successful if we do have the support of the Txs with its unique access to Audubon Society members throughout the state as well as the quality and beauty of the book itself. I even believe that the book would be successful without your support but it would require a major commitment of my time and effort to make such success possible, and Scott and I have too many other things we would rather do. Still, it is exciting to know that with proper support our "Of Birds and Texas" would not only be a financial success but that it would continue to enhance the standing and prestige of the Texas Audubon Society for many years to come. And if we do have your support, I can say that I am prepared to go above the and beyond the call of duty to help with the promotion and marketing of the book to help insure its success.

I think it is only fair and reasonable, then, for us to have a written acknowledgement of Txs's support and the details of that support before we proceed further. Scott told me that he would consider auctioning off a portrait - but only if he has confirmation of a major commitment by Texas Audubon to the book project. I'm sure also that you realize that Ralph and I can not use the green jay print to raise money for the book

Society and its many worthy programs. I really believe that it would be a win - win situation. And there is always the possibility of a second edition some day.

Please let me know what you think. I am prepared to discuss any of these issues with you at any time. UNTil then, I am looking forward to the Bass Hall festivities. I will try to do what I can to help though I do have two important deadlines to meet in the weeks ahead including the completion of the design of the Grand Lobby ceiling for the Bass Hall and a major print for Fort Worth's Sesquicentennial this year; Scott and I are the honored artists for this event. Strange coincidence.

Sincerely yours,

Stuart Gentling