

Wichita Audubon



Volume 35 No. 3 October 2000

CNC Upcoming Programs

Saturday, September 30
10 am - noon

Butterfly Tagging

Monarch butterflies migrate through Kansas on the way to their winter homes in Mexico. Participants will learn about the tagging program and methods of capturing and tagging Monarchs, then help capture and tag them and send them on their way.

Saturday, October 14
9:30 am - 2:30 pm

Fall Nature Day

Celebrate the wonders of nature during this family event. Bird, reptile, and other nature hikes along with crafts for children will be part of the celebration. See page 2 for things you can do to help, and page 3 for some pictures of past events.

Friday, November 10
6:30 - 8:30 pm

Star Program

Take a tour of the night sky and discover the constellations. Telescopes will zoom in on the planets Saturn & Jupiter. Bring a lawn chair or blanket for best viewing.



October meeting

Join us on Tuesday, October 17, for an amazing story of animal rescue. Joe Barkowski, Curator of Birds at the Sedgwick County Zoo, will share his experiences as part of an international rescue operation that saved thousands of penguins from an oil spill.

Last June, a tanker sank just off the coast of Cape Town, South Africa, and leaked more than 400 tons of fuel oil onto the beaches. Two nesting islands were affected that held half the world's population of Black-footed Penguins. Joe spent two weeks helping clean, feed, and exercise more than 21,000 penguins.

It is an amazing story, and a fascinating look at penguins from a very unique perspective.

You can join the speaker for dinner at Jason's Deli, in Bradley Fair at 21st and Rock Road, at 5:30 pm.

Calendars

The 2001 Audubon calendars are here and one can be yours for only \$4. As usual they feature lovely bird photographs for each month. See Carol Cumberland at the meetings or call her at 685-4867 to get your copy.

Coming Events

September 30

Butterfly tagging at Chaplin Nature Center, 10 am to noon.

October 1

Field trip to Slate Creek Marsh/Oxford. Meet at the Slate Creek Valley Baptist Church at 9 am. Leader: Gene Young, 316-441-5331

October 14

Fall Nature Day at Chaplin Nature Center, 9:30 am to 2:30 pm

October 17

Regular meeting, 7:30 pm Great Plains Nature Center. "Saving the Penguins of South Africa from an Oil Spill" by Joe Barkowski.

October 21

Local Park Birdwalk. Meet at the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot at 8:00 am.

Visit our new website at www.wichitaudubon.org. It is much expanded, with pictures and a full version of the current newsletter. It will be updated frequently to keep you abreast of conservation issues, field trip details, and other news.

Bird Seed Sale

Wichita Audubon sells and delivers bird seed in months of September, November, January and March. Last year we sold just over 11,000 pounds. We have set a goal of doubling that number this year, but we really need your ORDER. Please use the order form below to make your advanced orders or call Carol at 685-4867. **Note: Delivery is in Wichita only.**

Wichita Audubon Bird Seed Order Form Delivered Prices

	QTY	
November 18	_____	25 lb. Black Oil Sunflower @ \$10.00
	_____	25 lb. Audubon Mix @ \$7.00
January 20	_____	25 lb. Black Oil Sunflower @ \$10.00
	_____	25 lb. Audubon Mix @ \$7.00
March 17	_____	25 lb. Black Oil Sunflower @ \$10.00
	_____	25 lb. Audubon Mix @ \$7.00

Your Name _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Best time to call _____

2000-2001 WAS Officers

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Chapter Information Line 681-2266		www.wichitaudubon.org	
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Send address changes to Kevin Groeneweg,
2603 Capri Ln, Wichita KS 67210, or by phone
(316) 687-4268, or e-mail kgroeneweg@feist.com

Another New Number For KS RBA

The Kansas Rare Bird Alert has changed numbers (again) as of 15 September 2000. The new number is **316-441-5555**. The new number will be sponsored by KOS and Cowley County Community College. The old number will provide updates of the new number for about a month.

The RBA Coordinator is Gene Young, Biology Department, Cowley County Community College, P.O. Box 1147, 125 S. 2nd St., Arkansas City, KS 67005, 316-441-5331, e-mail youngg@COWLEY.CC.KS.US

Help Still Needed

Help is still needed for Fall Nature Day, October 14. Workers have been lined up, but you can still contribute by donating:

- Items to sell in the Country Store: baked goods, homegrown produce, homemade foods like jellies, craft items of all sorts, especially if nature or bird related.
- Items for the Silent Auction -nature or bird related.
- Cakes or pies for lunch.

If you can help with any of these things, please call Shawn at 316-442-4133, e-mail cnc@wichitaudubon.org. For food related items, call Laura Groeneweg, 687-4268, e-mail kgroeneweg@feist.com, and arrange to get your items to Chaplin Nature Center on the 14th. Carol Cumberland is coordinating the silent auction. Her number is 685-4867, e-mail ccumb@swbell.net.



FALL NATURE DAY

Did you know that one queen is capable of laying 2,000 eggs a day and healthy beehive can contain forty to fifty thousand bees? Learning about honey bees and beekeeping is just a one of the many nature activities planned for Fall Nature Day at Chaplin Nature Center. This annual event featuring nature hikes, children's crafts and activities for the whole family will take place on Saturday, October 14 from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm.

The 230 acres of the Chaplin Nature Center will provide ample room for guided nature hikes. Families can get a close up view of reptiles while searching for these animals in the wild. Take a walk on the wild side and examine some prairie wildflowers or take a taste of an edible wild plant. Also, participants can learn about bird banding and take a beginner bird hike to the Arkansas river.

Hands-on activities for the kids will also be a part of the day. Nature crafts will be offered in the morning and in the afternoon the children can search for snakes or use a net to explore the life in a pond. A few other interesting items on hand will be a rare bird egg collection from the late 1800's and a demonstration of flint knapping.

"To take advantage of all the activities families should plan on spending the whole day at the Nature Center," says Shawn. Lunch can be purchased at \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children. A country store will feature baked goods and crafts, and a silent auction will offer a variety of nature related treasures.

Fall Nature Day is a free program open to the public. If you haven't been to Chaplin Nature Center, this is the time to get acquainted. It is located 3 miles west of Arkansas City on Highway 166, then follow the highway sign north 2 miles.



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Water Quality Hearing Report

Ron Klataske, director of Audubon of Kansas, attended the September 13 hearing on proposed Kansas water quality standards. The following is his report.

"I attended the (EPA) hearing in Topeka, along with about 800 other folks, many of whom had to sit outside and listen to the statements over speakers because the meeting rooms in the History Museum Annex were filled. The vast majority of those in attendance were farmers and ranchers concerned about the potential

ated accusations. EPA was cast as villainous. In my opinion the most appropriately balanced statement presented was made by Mary Fund of the Kansas Rural Center. I share the Rural Center's greatest fear that "all of the highly publicized controversy surrounding the proposed standards (and the) negative reaction will ultimately result in either lower water quality standards across the board and less protection for all of us - rural and urban -, or it will result in less flexibility for individual farmers in addressing water quality problems at the farm level...."

impacts of the proposed EPA water quality standards for Kansas. Almost all of the oral statements presented were by representatives of elected officials, state agencies, farm and ranch organizations, and municipalities.

I left around 10 p.m. and at that point I do not believe that any advocates of the standards had spoken, and when called they did not appear before the panel. Opponents presented a long list of real concerns that need to be addressed and a number of exagger-

Major concerns and questions focused on the extent to which the standards would impose regulations on private farm ponds; the potential financial impact of the standards on farmers, ranchers and small municipalities; and the classifications of designated uses for streams large and small and even intermittent. Although I am personally confident that EPA would not impose fencing requirements on farmers and ranchers to keep livestock out of farm ponds built in large part for livestock purposes,

there was great concern that this would be the ultimate result. If ponds throughout the state had to be fenced it could cost tens of millions of dollars. As Mary Fund pointed out the prospect of "monitoring and enforcement of every farm pond is unreasonable and impractical, and ultimately unenforceable."

A number of speakers made reference to the desirability of incentive programs and that was good."

Ron Klataske

The next Audubon of Kansas board meeting will be held the weekend of Oct. 28 in Medicine Lodge, and will include a tour of the South Z-Bar ranch in the Red Hills, recently purchased by Turner Ranches. All chapter members are welcome to attend these meetings. Details are still being planned. For information call Patty Marlett, 942-2164 or e-mail jmarlett@kscable.com