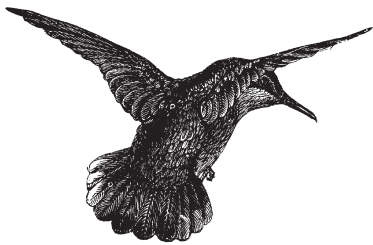


Wichita Audubon

Volume 45 No. 6 March 2011



MARCH MEETING



Get ready for spring as we learn about the fascinating lives of hummingbirds and ways to make our lawns and gardens more attractive to them. Chuck Otte is the Geary County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources. He is also an avid birder and very active in the Kansas Ornithological Society. Join us for his program on Tuesday, March 15, 7:30 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center. You can also join Chuck and other members for dinner at Doc Green's, 10096 E. 13th, in the Waterfront at 5:45 p.m.

CNC UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Friday, March 4, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. Woodcock Watch & Night Hike

The American Woodcock is a fascinating and uncommon bird that has an elaborate courtship display at dusk. Although hard to see, we'll find the bird by the sound made by its wings in flight. After visiting the Woodcocks, we'll continue down the trails without flashlights to listen and learn about other nocturnal animals. Dress for the outdoors and wear sturdy shoes.

Saturday, April 2, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Spring Cleanup

Help get CNC in shape for spring and summer with building cleanup and trail maintenance. You can choose a light workload or heavy. The Boeing Volunteer Group will be helping out, and they are donating lunch for everyone. Tools will be provided, but bring work gloves.

COMING EVENTS

March 4

Woodcock walk and night hike at Chaplin Nature Center, 6:30 - 8 p.m.

March 5

Cheney Reservoir & Harvey County West field trip. Meet at the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot at 2 p.m. for an expedition to find Woodcock. Leader: Cheryl Miller, avian 67226@gmail.com

March 19

Oak Park Cleanup
Meet by the north pond at 9 a.m. Leaders: Rob & Rosa McHenry, 263-4042, rmchenryphoto@sbcglobal.net

March 15

Regular meeting, "Hummingbirds and Hummerscaping" by Chuck Otte, 7:30 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center

March 26

Chaplin Nature Center field trip. Meet at Chaplin at 8 a.m. for a morning bird walk. Leader: Patty Marlett, 942-2164, pmarlett@mac.com

April 9

Chautauqua County back roads. Meet at the Dillon's parking lot at Andover Rd and US 400. Bring a lunch. Leader: Kevin Groeneweg, 706-9116, kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net



For more information about any Chaplin Nature Center programs call Shawn Silliman at 620-442-4133, or e-mail cnc@wichitaaudubon.org. CNC is located 3 miles west of Arkansas City on Hwy 166, north 2 miles on 21st Rd, east 0.6 miles on 272nd Rd.

GRANT RECEIVED

The Wichita Audubon Society has received a grant of \$2,500 from the Northface Outdoor Foundation. This money is being used to encourage the students at Jackson Elementary School in Wichita. We have a special relationship with one class, and they have turned into active birders. The funds are being used to buy binoculars and field guides for the class. In these days of school budget cuts, field trips have mostly been eliminated, so part of the funds will be used to provide transportation for them to visit Chaplin Nature Center. Remaining money will be used to fund transportation for additional classes to visit CNC.

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

The award committee is accepting nominations for the annual Meritorious Service Award. The criteria for selection include outstanding or sustained leadership as a member, officer, committee chair, or special project leader. Please include a brief description of the nominee's accomplishments and why you think they should receive this award. The presentation will be made at the May 17 meeting.

Send your nomination to Julia Hoppes, 914 N Mission Rd, Wichita, KS 67206, jhoppes@cox.net

Previous recipients of this award:

1994 John Wherry	2002 Wallace Champeny
1995 Ralph Wiley & Geula McDonald	2003 Patty Marlett
1996 Nathan McDonald	2004 Carol Cumberland
1997 Louise Wherry	2005 Sandra Tholen
1998 Don Vannoy	2006 Kevin Groeneweg
1999 Bob Gress	2007 Laura Groeneweg
2000 Dan Kilby	2008 Duane DeLong
2001 Rex Herndon	2009 Pete Janzen
	2010 Shawn Silliman

2010-2011 WAS Officers

President	Sandra Tholen	634-0049	stholen@cox.net
Vice-president	Carol Cumberland	685-4867	carol.cumberland@swbell.net
Secretary	Patty Marlett	942-2164	pmarlett@mac.com
Treasurer	Sharon Dilks	722-6927	johndilks@aol.com
Directors	Jeff Calhoun	737-1307	jecalhoun@wichita.edu
	Bob Gress	838-4130	bobgress@cox.net
	Kevin Groeneweg	706-9116	kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net
	Mike Heaney	733-6458	jeager@southwind.net
	Larry Londagin	729-9984	llondagin@cox.net
	Curt VanBoening	776-0993	curtvb55@yahoo.com

Committee Chairs

Newsletter	Patty Marlett	942-2164	pmarlett@mac.com
CNC	Kevin Groeneweg	706-9116	kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net
Conservation	Curt VanBoening	776-0993	curtvb55@yahoo.com
Programs	Carol Cumberland	685-4867	carol.cumberland@swbell.net
Development	Mike Heaney	733-6458	jeager@southwind.net
Membership	Sister Patricia Stanley	744-2192	pstanley@csjoseph.org
Hospitality	Laura Groeneweg	687-4268	lgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net
Field Trips	Jeff Calhoun	737-1307	jecalhoun@wichita.edu
Finance	Duane DeLong	684-7456	duane.delong669@gmail.com
Naturalist	Shawn Silliman	620-442-4133	cnc@wichitaaudubon.org

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E-mail any officer: was@wichitaaudubon.org

Send address changes to Sister Patricia Stanley, 3700 E. Lincoln Apt 123, Wichita, KS 67218, pstanley@csjoseph.org

OAK PARK CLEANUP

Join in our annual effort to keep this priceless birding spot litter-free. On Saturday, March 19, we'll meet at 9 a.m. by the north lily pond. Wear your Audubon hat or shirt or name tag to help advertise our presence. Gloves are also recommended. We'll provide trash bags and pick up sticks.

As always, feel free to put in some time at your convenience if you can't join the group. Just let us know so we can document the hours contributed. The leaders are Rob & Rosa McHenry, 263-4042, rmchenryphoto@sbcglobal.net.

BAD BILLS PILE ON THE CLEAN AIR ACT

Congressman Fred Upton (R-MI) started his attack on the Clean Air Act when he introduced his "Dirty Air Act" bill, quickly followed by a day-long hearing. His bill includes a sweeping rollback of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) authority to regulate power plant pollution and protect public health. In the Senate, Senator James Inhofe (R-OK) has introduced companion legislation, joining two other bills in that chamber that also hamstring EPA's ability to do its job.

These radical legislative proposals favor corporate polluters over American families and a healthy environment. At stake is EPA's ability to increase protections to public health from pollutants such as:

- * Mercury—this heavy metal accumulates in the tissues of wildlife and humans alike causing reproductive, behavioral and neurological problems. One in six U.S. women has enough mercury in her body to be a potential risk to her baby, should she become pregnant.

- * Soot—fine particulates that are drawn deep into our lungs, soot is implicated as one of the causes of cardiovascular disease.

- * Carbon dioxide—one of the key greenhouse gases responsible for climate change, carbon dioxide has been determined to be a health threat by EPA and the agency is moving to regulate emissions from both mobile (cars and trucks) and large stationary (factories, utilities) sources.

- * Sulfur and Nitrogen oxides—the main culprits in acid rain, serious steps were taken in the 1990 CAA amendments to reduce these pollutants with a beneficial outcome for a number of east coast streams and lakes. EPA seeks to ratchet down these pollutants even further to better protect habitat and human health.

- * Ozone—ground-level ozone is a chief component of smog and causes respiratory problems, particularly for the elderly, children, and asthmatics. Even healthy individuals are warned to curtail activity during high smog alerts in urban environments.

It is the single biggest attack on the Clean Air Act in its 40-year history and defending the Act is one of Audubon's highest priorities. Your continued support is needed to defend this landmark environmental law.

IN MEMORIAM

Long time Audubon member Geula McDonald died January 29. Geula and her husband Nathan joined Wichita Audubon in the 1950's and were active and influential members for more than forty years. Geula was a member of the committee that negotiated the purchase of the Chaplin property for our nature center, but for the most part was content to let Nathan hold offices and serve on committees, while she was hostess and greeter. Her cheerful smile and Arkansas voice made everyone feel welcome. Her bubbly enthusiasm couldn't be beat, and no one was a stranger around her.

Geula was the second recipient of our Meritorious Service Award in 1995 for her valuable contributions. She was also famous for her persimmon cookies, another legacy from Arkansas.

She died at age 99, her last few years spent at Larkfield Place. Her family has established a memorial with Wichita Audubon.




Wichita Audubon Society
P.O. Box 47607
Wichita, KS 67201

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IF YOU ARE A MEMBER of the WICHITA Audubon Society ONLY, you do not receive Audubon Magazine. You should check the expiration date above. Use the form below to renew your membership, or go to www.wichitaudubon.org and click on Membership. If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, check the appropriate box below.

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