

ABOUT WICHITA AUDUBON

We are people who love and enjoy nature and work to preserve it. And we love to share the outdoors with those around us.

Our major education and conservation project for 47 years has been the development of Chaplin Nature Center. This 230 acre preserve near Arkansas City features a Visitor's Center staffed by a full time naturalist. The Visitor's Center features educational exhibits, a library and meeting spaces. Our naturalist conducts programs for school classes from across south central Kansas, as well as civic organizations, youth groups and the public. The trails through the woods and prairies, leading to the sandbars of the Arkansas River, are open to the public from sunrise to sunset year round. Our members support the Chaplin Nature Center with donations of money and time, including fund-raising, maintenance and construction projects, and staffing the Visitor's Center.

From September through May we have monthly programs that inform us and expand our horizons. Throughout the year we take field trips to interesting places near and far. All of our activities are free and open to the public. Our volunteers also participate in park cleanup projects, Christmas Bird Counts, environmental advocacy, and a large variety of other activities in support of our chapter and its mission:



OUR MISSION

The Wichita Audubon Society is committed to providing nature education, promoting environmental conservation, and encouraging appreciation of the natural world.

MEMBERSHIP

Join the Wichita Audubon Society and help us with our continuing efforts to maintain Chaplin Nature Center, provide free nature education for children and adults across south central Kansas, and provide speakers and field trips open to all. You will receive eight issues a year of our newsletter to keep you informed about all our news and upcoming events.

For additional information call Carol Cumberland, carol.cumberland@swbell.net, (316) 685-4867

NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

☐ I want to join the Wichita Audubon Society

Individual - \$20, Family - \$25

Student (18 & under) - \$10

☐ I would prefer to receive the newsletter by email

You can join online at www.wichitaudubon.org. Or make checks payable to the Wichita Audubon Society and send to PO Box 47607, Wichita, KS 67201.

Note: if you are a member of the National Audubon Society you are automatically a member of Wichita Audubon Society and do not need to pay additional dues.

WICHITA AUDUBON SOCIETY



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 2019-2020

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President Bob Gress 316-765-2046
bobgress@cox.net

Vice-Pres Rachel Roth 316-213-9527
& **Program Chair** lilbluestem@gmail.com

Secretary Niall Horton
niallhorton@gmail.com

Treasurer Patty Marlett 316-200-3419
pmarlett@mac.com

Director Tom Ewert 316-670-3140
& **AOK Rep** trewert@yahoo.com

Director Mark Nolen 765-346-7213
nolen.mark@gmail.com

Director Bill Langley 316-889-5434
78gmouse43@gmail.com

Director Travis Ross 316-706-7813
& **CNC Chair** rosstravis@yahoo.com

Director Daniel Housholder 316-684-2070
dhousholder@cox.net

Director Jeremy Birket 316-371-2829
tceinict@gmail.com

Field Trips Tom Ewert 316-670-3140
trewert@yahoo.com

Hospitality Sara Blackmon 316-264-4408

Membership Carol Cumberland 316-685-4867
carol.cumberland@swbell.net

Newsletter Patty Marlett 316-200-3419
& **Webmaster** pmarlett@mac.com

Naturalist Shawn Silliman 620-442-4133
cnc@wichitaudubon.org

www.wichitaudubon.org

The Wichita Audubon Society, Inc., is a chapter
of the National Audubon Society and
a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.
P.O. Box 47607, Wichita, KS 67201

PROGRAMS

Location: Great Plains Nature Center
6232 E. 29th Street North (29th and Woodlawn) 316-683-5499
Time: 7:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 17

Jurassic Lark: Why Birds Are Dinosaurs

From brooding behaviors to pneumatic bones, the similarities between modern birds and dinosaurs go well beyond feathers. Rachel will explain why dinosaurs still exist; they simply took to the sky.

Rachel Roth, Great Plains Nature Center Naturalist and WAS vice-president

FEBRUARY 18

Australia - Adventures Down Under

Jim and Patty Marlett, with Hal & Carol Cumberland, visited Australia in 2015 and 2017. They will share their journey along with pictures of the amazing birds, mammals, reptiles & plants they saw.

Jim and Patty Marlett, WAS members

OCTOBER 15

People & Wildlife: An Anthropologists Journey to Namibia

For the past decade, Dr. Ryan Klataske has studied wildlife management and conservation in Namibia. He will provide an introduction to the people, history, wildlife, and the lessons it can teach us.

Dr. Ryan Klataske, Anthropologist and Conservationist

MARCH 17

Nature Highlights of Scotland and Ireland

This program highlights Scotland and Ireland's traditional culture, landscapes, rural life and wildlife encountered on a month-long adventure during spring of 2019.

Bob Gress, Naturalist, Photographer and WAS president

NOVEMBER 19

The Impact of Road Mortality on Wildlife

We have all seen dead animals along the road and wondered how often did this occur? Bill's study described the mortality along Highway K254 over a two-year period. He will tell us what he found and its importance.

Dr. Bill Langley, retired Biologist and member of WAS

APRIL 21

Life History and Current Status of Prairie Chicken in Kansas

Greater and Lesser Prairie chicken are an iconic symbol of the Kansas prairie. This program will give details of their lives and population status.

Vickie Cikaneck, KDWP District Wildlife Biologist

JANUARY 21

Wetlands Food Chain

A wetlands area like Kansas' Cheyenne Bottoms is among the world's most dynamic habitats. This new film explores wildlife interrelationships from microscopic animals to apex predators, filmed mostly at Cheyenne Bottoms.

Mike Blair, Photographer/Videographer

MAY 19

Forest Park Owls: Hiding In Plain Sight

Mark has studied the Great Horned Owls in Forest Park in St. Louis since 2005. He will cover how he found them, basic facts about the species, and the different behaviors he has been able to see and document with photos and videos.

Mark Glenshaw, Master Naturalist

FIELD TRIPS

Second Saturday Bird Walks, 8 a.m.

Bring your binoculars and discover the birds that visit and live in Chisholm Creek Park. No birding experience is needed. Expect 1-2 miles of walking on paved paths. The walk will last about 90 minutes. Meet at the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot.

September 14	March 14
October 12	April 11
November 9	May 9
December 14	June 13
January 11	July 11
February 8	August 8

For questions: Tom Ewert, 316-670-3140, trewert@yahoo.com

September 21, Saturday 8 a.m.

Quivira/Cheyenne Bottoms

Meet at the Quivira National Wildlife Refuge headquarters and bring a lunch. This is prime migration time for shorebirds at these nationally renowned locations. Contact the leader for carpool information.

Leader: Tom Ewert, 316-670-3140, trewert@yahoo.com

October 12, Saturday, 9:45 a.m.

Chisholm Creek Park Cleanup

Join us after the second Saturday bird walk to collect trash and keep our adopted park looking nice. Bring gloves, we'll provide trash bags, along with coffee and donuts. Meet in the GPNC parking lot.

Leader: Brian & Nohora Talarico, btalarico34@outlook.com

October 19, Saturday, 6:45 a.m.

Fall Birding in the Cross Timbers

Meet at the Dillon's parking lot at Kellogg and Andover Road to consolidate vehicles. This trip will wander through the scenic Cross Timbers region, visiting Fall River and Toronto Reservoirs. Bring along lunch as this trip will be all day. A State Park Permit will be needed for each vehicle.

Leader: Pete Janzen, 316-519-1970, pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net

November 2, Saturday, 3 p.m.

Cranes and Geese at Quivira NWR

Quivira hosts tens of thousands of Sandhill Cranes and hundreds of thousands of geese in late fall. Meet at Quivira headquarters. We will take a leisurely drive to the Big Salt Marsh to see the spectacle of these birds coming in to roost.

Leader: Patty Marlett, 316-200-3419, pmarlett@mac.com

December 14, Saturday, 7:30 a.m.

Wichita Christmas Bird Count

Meet at the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot. Compilation: 5:30 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center, with chili and beverages provided.

Compiler: Kevin Groeneweg, 316-706-9116, kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net

December 15, Sunday, 7:30 a.m.

Winfield-Udall Christmas Bird Count

Meet at the Beech Science Center, Southwestern College in Winfield.

Compiler: Max Thompson, 620-221-1856, maxt@cox.net

December 17, Tuesday, 8:00 a.m.

El Dorado Christmas Bird Count

Meet at the McDonald's on Central in El Dorado. Notify the compiler if you plan to attend.

Compiler: Atcha Nolan, 316-323-4921, qanolan1942@gmail.com

December 18, Wednesday, 8 a.m.

Slate Creek Christmas Bird Count

Meet at the Slate Valley Baptist Church, 7 miles south of Oxford on the main road.

Compiler: Gene Young, 620-660-0547, youngg6264@yahoo.com

December 20, Friday, 7:30 a.m.

Sedan Christmas Bird Count

Meet at Granny Wolfe's Green Door Café (north side of W. Main in Sedan) 7:30 for breakfast or 8:00 to start birding.

Compiler: Atcha Nolan, 316-323-4921, qanolan1942@gmail.com

CHAPLIN NATURE CENTER

Chaplin Nature Center is owned and operated by the Wichita Audubon Society.

The Trails are open **AT NO CHARGE** to the public from sunrise to sunset, seven days a week. Programs are available on and off site for children and adults. For more information or to schedule a visit, call Shawn Silliman at 620-442-4133 or e-mail CNC@wichitaudubon.org

Visitor's Center Hours:

Open year round: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Saturday
1 p.m. – 5 p.m. Sunday
Closed Mondays & Holidays

Sept 1 - Nov 15	9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tuesday–Friday
Nov 16 - March 15	closed weekdays
March 16 - June 30	9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tuesday–Friday
July 1- Aug 31	10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Tuesday–Friday

The Visitor's Center is available for rental year round from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Groups should make appointments in advance.



Chaplin Nature Center is located 3 miles west of Arkansas City on Hwy 166, then north 2 1/4 miles on 31st Rd. or 2 miles south of Geuda Springs, then 2.6 miles east on 272nd Rd

Address: 27814 27th Dr, Arkansas City, KS 67005

December 21, Saturday, 8 a.m.

Arkansas City Christmas Bird Count

Meet at Newman Park on Hwy 77 just north of the Arkansas River.

Compiler: Gene Young, 620-660-0547, youngg6264@yahoo.com

December 28, Saturday, 7:30 a.m.

Marion Christmas Bird Count

Meet at Wendy's in Hillsboro at 7:30 a.m.

Compiler: Tom Ewert, 316-670-3140, trewert@yahoo.com

January 4, Saturday, 7:30 a.m.

Red Hills Christmas Bird Count

Meet at the Medicine River Truck Stop, 301 N Fowler in Medicine Lodge. Groups will depart at 7:30 a.m.

Compiler: Pete Janzen, 316-519-1970, pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net

January 25 - 31, Saturday - Friday

Rio Grande Valley, Texas, Extended Field Trip

The Valley is always a hot spot for rarities and tropical species that don't occur anywhere else in the US, with winter bringing Mexican vagrant species. Pete and Kevin are planning the birding itinerary and will lead. Patty will be handling accommodations and transportation. We will rent vans for transportation from Wichita, so sign up at a meeting or notify Patty for more information. Space is limited.

Leaders: Kevin Groeneweg, Pete Janzen, Patty Marlett, 316-200-3419, pmarlett@mac.com

February 22, Saturday, 9:15 a.m.

Birding the Tropics at the Sedgwick County Zoo

Meet in the lobby of the Tropics Building (the zoo opens at 9). Leave the cold weather outside and enjoy birding in the tropics. Bring admission money. Binoculars will be helpful. We'll have an intro by a keeper and a list of birds to find.

Leader: Patty Marlett, 316-200-3419, pmarlett@mac.com

March 21, Saturday, 8 a.m. Pawnee Prairie Park

Meet at the west parking lot, located east of the Maize and Pawnee intersection. We will be looking for sparrows, late winter visitors and spring migrants.

Leader: Bill Langley, 316-889-5434, 78gmouse43@gmail.com

March 28, Saturday, 9 a.m.

Oak Park Invasive Plant Removal

Asian bush honeysuckle is an invasive plant causing serious habitat damage. We'll spend 3 – 4 hours removing these plants, directed by the Wichita Parks Department staff. Tools, gloves, and water will be provided. Meet by the stone arch at the SW corner of the park.

Leader: Pete Janzen, 316-519-1970, pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net

April 2, 3, 4, Thursday - Saturday

Sandhill Cranes at Kearney, Nebraska

Each spring, the Platte River in central Nebraska hosts the largest gathering of cranes in the world. This trip plans to visit the top viewing areas near Kearney, NE: the riverside blind of Rowe Sanctuary, the Fort Kearney Hike and Bike trail bridge, the CPNRD Platte River viewing deck, and the Rainwater Basin's Funk WPA. Cost will cover vans, blind fees and entrance fees. A block of rooms will be reserved but food and room expense will be on your own.

Leaders: Patty Marlett, 316-200-3419, pmarlett@mac.com and Bob Gress, 316-765-2046, bobgress@cox.net

May 16, Saturday, 7 a.m.

Chaplin Nature Center and Ark City Area

Join us as we bird Chaplin Nature Center and nearby hotspots. We should find breeding warblers, tanagers and Painted Buntings. We may encounter lingering migrant songbirds as well. Meet at 7 a.m. at the Derby Dillon's Marketplace, 1624 N. Rock Road, to carpool, or meet up at CNC at 8 a.m. Bring a lunch.

Leader: Kevin Groeneweg, 316-706-9116, kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net

July 21, Tuesday, 6 p.m.

Picnic

Join us at the Great Plains Nature Center at 6 p.m. for our annual pot-luck dinner. Dinner will be followed by a short, fun program. Bring a dish to share and your own service.

CHAPLIN NATURE CENTER PROGRAMS

Exact times and dates may be subject to change. Please call ahead to verify at 620-442-4133.

Friday the 13th Full Moon 2k Fun Walk/Run

September 13, Friday, 8-10 p.m.

It's a full moon AND its Friday the 13th.... a perfect time to get outdoors and get moving with this 2k fun run/walk. See the website for registration information: wichitaaudubon.org/events/

Monarch Tagging - Nature Day Celebration

September 28, Saturday, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Celebrate the wonders of nature by participating in the monarch migration. The butterfly tagging program is part of on-going research conducted by the University of Kansas.. Nature hikes at 10 and 1. Lunch available for purchase.

Star Gazing

October 19, Saturday, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Join us for an evening of astronomy. A variety of telescopes will be available for the public to use to view a double star, galaxy, or a globular cluster. Dress for the weather. In the event of clouds the program will be cancelled.

Bald Eagle Winter Hike

Jan 25, Saturday, and Feb. 1, Saturday, 10 a.m. – noon

Mid-winter is one of the best times to view Bald Eagles. We will start with a 15 minute introduction, then take a 1.5 mile hike to the Arkansas River to search for wintering eagles.

Bald Eagle Nest Viewing

March 14, Saturday, 10 a.m. – noon

This is a great opportunity to view both adult and young eagles through spotting scopes. We will have the scopes set up at Veteran's Lake in Arkansas City for a close-up look.

Spring Clean up

April 4, Saturday, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Volunteer to help get CNC in shape with cleanup or trail maintenance. Light workloads or heavy, your choice.

Evening Kayak Float

June 6, Saturday, 7 – 9 p.m.

Enjoy a 3 mile trip down the Arkansas River to take in the scenery and watch for wildlife. Kayak, paddle and life jacket provided. Cost \$25. Call to make reservations.

Arkansas City Butterfly Count

July 11, Saturday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Help us count and identify butterflies as part of a North American Butterfly Association official count.