



The Official Newsletter
of the
Kansas Ornithological Society

The Horned Lark

Box 36, Nekoma, Kansas 67559

March 1990

Vol. 17, No. 4

ATTENTION LIBRARIANS - VOLUME ERROR

A typographical error in the heading of the last newsletter probably went unnoticed by the regular membership but created bedlam in libraries around the world. Volume 16 of The Horned Lark had only had two issues, March 1989 and August 1989. Volume 17 began with the December 1989 issue (which was No. 3) and will continue in sequence through 1990. Volume 17, Numbers 1 and 2 do not exist.

KANSAS RARE-BIRD-ALERT 913-329-4499

The Kansas RBA has moved to Nekoma and is being operated by Scott and Diane Seltman. Marvin Schwilling ran the hotline from its initiation in June of 1984 and continued its operation until February of this year. Marvin did a great job and deserves many thanks from all the state's birders.

The KOS Hotline had always been financed through the KOS treasury with occasional donations being given towards its operation by a few individuals. At the Winter Board Meeting it was suggested that a new operating fund be created and that donations be solicited from the most frequent users of the hotline. The idea was approved by the board and in late February fifty letters were sent out to some of our state's more active birders. The response was fantastic with over \$350 collected in just a few weeks. With the money collected so far the club purchased a new high quality answering machine which should improve the sound quality of the phone message and will allow unlimited message lengths. The old machines would only allow a maximum message length of three minutes which meant that directions and descriptions of rare birds seen had to be quite brief. Now, if a Jacana, a White-tailed Tropicbird and a Ross' Gull are all seen in Kansas the same weekend, detailed directions can be given for finding each of them. (Perhaps directions to counseling centers as well!)

Here are a few helpful bits of information on how the Rare-Bird-Alert works and how it is operated: Users of the hotline leave their messages after the beep just as on any regular answering machine. Frequent callers who want to leave a message without listening to the tape can push #5 on their touch-tone phones. This stops the outgoing message and immediately begins the record mode. All incoming messages are entered into a personal computer and the outgoing messages are usually read directly from the computer printouts. Updates will be made as often as necessary, even more than once a day if the situation

warrants. All significant sightings will be mentioned if time allows but rare birds will always be given top priority. Rarities will be featured on the tape for several days after they are last seen but even the best birds will be dropped if not reported for a full week. If you have reported a good bird that does not make the tape please bring it to my attention. Machines and people have both been known to malfunction.

The RBA fund has enough money to meet all current expenses as well as those for the next few months. However, donations for future bills are still being accepted and will be held for that purpose. Just write a check to KOS with a note that it is for the RBA and mail to: Rose Fritz, 1816 Cypress Lane, Newton, KS 67114.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Beginning with the next issue, The Horned Lark will have a new editor. Don Vannoy of Wichita has recently taken early retirement from his accounting profession and has enough free time to take on this job. Don and his wife Fran have been avid birders for about twenty years and have taken many birding trips here in Kansas and throughout the United States and Canada. In the future all materials for publication should be sent to: Don Vannoy, 2458 Coolidge, Wichita, KS 67204.

I have enjoyed being the editor these last three years. It is a challenging job, actually a little too challenging at times. Unfortunately, the traditional publication dates for the newsletter often conflicted directly with the seasonal demands of farming and ranching. That is one of the reasons that you have received no June issue for two years. I intend to continue writing the seasonal bird reports for The Horned Lark, a job that ties in directly with my new duties as RBA operator. Good Luck to Don and Thanks to those who helped me as editor.

Scott Seltman

BIRD KANSAS! / May 18-26, 1990

John Zimmerman will lead a nine day birding trip through Kansas on the above dates. The itinerary includes: Konza Prairie, Perry Lake, Clinton Lake, Ft. Leavenworth, Hillsdale Lake, Marais des Cygnes WMA, Dingus Natural Area, Neosho WMA, Schermerhorn Park, Elk City Lake, Barber-Comanche counties, McCoid Lake, Cimarron National Grasslands, Lake Scott, Cedar Bluff Reservoir, Cheyenne Bottoms WMA, Quivira NWR, Wilson Lake, Waconda Lake, Milford Lake, and points in between. The trip will depart from and return to Manhattan. Travel will be by university van, with camping (sometimes primitive) and food for an estimated cost of \$150/ person. Group size is limited to 10. For information contact: J.L. Zimmerman, Division of Biology, Ackert Hall, KSU, Manhattan, KS 66506.

MIST NETTING ALONG MISSOURI RIVER / May 19, 1990

John Schukman and Galen Pittman plan to set up a series of mist-nets along the banks of the Missouri River at the Weston Bend area of Ft. Leavenworth on May 19. The nets will be put up in the narrow strip of vegetation that is between the river bank and the levee. This area is featured on pages 96-99 of Zimmerman and Patti's Bird Finding in Kansas and Western Missouri. Persons wishing to help or observe can call Galen at 913-842-7105 or John Schukman at 913-727-5141.

FALL ROUNDUP/ August through November 1989/ by Scott Seltman

WOW! The fall season started off with a bang in the first week of August and birders with a taste for rarities had a full plate until the last day of November. It was a season that saw the addition of two new species to the state checklist and unprecented numbers of several other species invading the west. As is often the case in autumn, the majority of the good birds were seen in the southwestern corner of the state.

The August excitement came from the north end of Tuttle Creek with the report of an adult Black-shouldered Kite first seen by Gary Radke on the 6th. Over the next several days a steady stream of birdwatchers made several additional discoveries. First a second kite was found, obviously the mate of the original bird. Then the female kite was seen sitting on a nest. Eggs were hatched about August 20 and during the next two weeks the adults were seen feeding the young. Unfortunately, on September 8 a severe thunderstorm destroyed the nest and the young were presumably killed. The adults disappeared a day or two later.

Birders visiting the area this spring and summer should keep an eye out for these kites. Like many raptors Black-shouldered Kites often return to the same locality to nest year after year and the partial success of this pair might inspire them to come back this year. After the Tuttle Creek sighting another bird came to light. It was seen near Mound City in Linn County in mid-July by Don George. Don watched the kite devour a rodent. In the spring of 1989 one bird was reported from Cheyenne Bottoms but details are not known (at least by your editor). Tom and Sara Shane photographed a mystery raptor in southern Gray County in June of 1988. The slide has not yet been positively identified but appears to me to be a Black-shouldered Kite. The Black-shouldered Kite has been seen in all of the states surrounding Kansas except Colorado and has wandered north to both Dakotas and to Minnesota. The Texas population is apparently increasing and kites are nesting in southern Oklahoma. Kansans can certainly expect this bird in our state again and it could conceivably become a regular nester.

As remarkable as the kite event was, it was thoroughly eclipsed during September, October, and November by the most remarkable invasion of western and southwestern birds ever recorded in Kansas. On Labor Day weekend about 15 birders traveled to Morton County expecting great things. About the only birds of interest seen that weekend were a single Black-capped Chickadee (rarer than Mountain Chickadees in Morton County) and an unusually high number of Red-breasted Nuthatches, a very disappointing showing for what should have been one of the better migration weeks of the year. So it was with a real sense of reluctance that the Seltmans and Mark Corder returned to Morton County two weeks later.

We drove straight to the Wilburton Crossing of the Cimarron and got out of our cars. Almost the first birds we saw were a group of three dark jays flying across the road. We finally caught up with them on foot and confirmed that they were Scrub Jays. A short time later we were at the Boy Scout Area and saw a flock of 20+ dark jays flying downriver. Most of these birds disappeared but we did confirm that at least five or so were definitely Scrubs. At the Boy Scout Area we also saw a flock of ten or twenty finches flying over. I joked that they sounded like Lesser Goldfinches. A few moments later Diane looked up to see a Lewis' Woodpecker flying east high overhead. At the stock tank below the sand bluff we were temporarily distracted by a Chestnut-sided Warbler. A few hours later two little finches flushed from the side of the road about a mile east of Middle Springs. This time the black wings with prominent white windows were unmistakable as the pair zipped past the windshield. They disappeared but Mark found a small flock of goldfinches just minutes later about a half-mile away at the waterfowl ponds. They were indeed Lesser Goldfinches.

The Seltmans returned to Morton County on September 23 but could find no jays at all. We did hear several Lesser Goldfinches flying by but were unable to study them with our binoculars. A month passed and on October 21, the Seltmans, Greg Griffiths and Lloyd Moore returned to look for Scrub Jays. We found 15 at six different locations in Morton County. More importantly, while walking along the Cimarron about a mile east of the Boy Scout Area three Steller's Jays flew past! This was apparently the first time multiple Steller's Jays had ever been recorded in Kansas. Late in the day we found two more about two miles downstream. Other good birds for the day included a Mountain Chickadee, 100 Mountain Bluebirds and 2 Northern Shrikes. Two Canyon Towhees and 2 Rufous-crowned Sparrows found the week before by Sebastian Patti and Mike Rader were also seen on October 21.

The Steller's Jays created considerable excitement among the state's avid birders and the next weekend several people made the trip to Morton County once again. Max Thompson and Sebastian Patti not only got their Steller's Jay but found another new species as well. While birding at the Cimarron Grasslands Work Station on Saturday, October 28 they heard a loud chip note. It proved to be Kansas' first definitive Pyrrhuloxia. Over the next two weeks a good number of birders traveled to Morton County to see this bird. At times the Pyrrhuloxia was very difficult to observe as it spent much of its time hiding in the center of the numerous junipers, but at other times it was remarkably tame. Apparently all who went looking eventually saw the bird. It is not known at present when the Pyrrhuloxia was last seen alive, but a pile of feathers was found in late December at the Work Station. Colorado added Pyrrhuloxia to its state checklist on December 17, when a female bird quite similar to ours was found by Mark Janos and Kendall Knaus about 3 miles southeast of Holly and about a mile west of the Kansas border. These two sightings were obviously related.

By early November Scrub and Steller's Jays had spread throughout southwest Kansas. On November 4 a Steller's Jay was seen hopping across Main Street in downtown Hugoton. One bird made it to Satanta where it spent the entire winter. Scrub Jays fanned out in small flocks and were seen in Morton, Stevens, Seward and Haskell counties through November. Eventually during December some of these jays arrived in Hamilton and Finney counties. Meanwhile Mountain Chickadees also invaded the state with reports from Morton, Stevens, Seward and Kearny counties. During the winter months they strayed to Garden City and Scott State Lake. Black-capped Chickadees remained in Morton County all fall with as many as three at a time being seen at the North Fork of the Cimarron. Evening Grosbeaks also invaded, apparently from the Rockies, and were incredibly abundant in some western towns by the end of November. Other birds of note seen in Morton County in November included Long-billed Curlew (at Nov. 11 surely the latest state record), White-breasted Nuthatch (many), Pine Warbler, Northern Cardinal (10+), Cassin's Sparrow (latest record for Central Plains?), Smith's Longspur (first county record), Cassin's Finch and Red Crossbill.

It is likely that some of these birds were found simply because coverage of certain areas was very high. But for several species, (Steller's Jay, Scrub Jay, Mountain Chickadee and Lesser Goldfinch), the numbers of birds seen and the scope of their invasion had no precedent in Kansas ornithological history. Whenever there is any sort of avian invasion the natural reaction is to assume that the invading individuals are from the nearest populations of each species. But early reports from Arizona and New Mexico suggest several species, especially Steller's Jay, were at locations and elevations that were without precedent in those states as well. This means that there must have been either a population explosion or a food crop failure somewhere, perhaps on the Colorado Plateau. The western jay invasion was even more dramatic in southern Colorado and at Black Mesa Oklahoma. The Christmas Bird Count at Kenton tallied 86 Scrub Jays, about 60 more than normal. The count also recorded 57 Steller's Jays up from a previous record high of one. It will be interesting to see

what American Birds will make of this invasion. A national publication is obviously required to give us "The Big Picture."

Other great birds were seen throughout the state this fall but no real patterns of occurrence are evident. Many birds took advantage of the mild, stormless periods of October and November to linger somewhat longer than normal in Kansas. A few of these birds stayed extremely late and their dates are underlined below. The autumn weather was pleasant for the most part but also very dry. November turned out to be the driest November on record for the State of Kansas with a few reporting stations recording trace amounts of precipitation and all others recording none at all.

Bird records for the winter months, December through February, should be mailed to Nekoma by May 1st. All of the following records are subject to review by the KOS Bird Records Committee.

BIRDING HIGHLIGHTS/ August through November 1989

Pacific Loon	1 on Wilson	MR	11-07-89	Russell
Common Loon	5 on Lake Wabaunsee	DLS	11-11-89	Wabaunsee
Western Grebe	1 on Cedar Bluff	LM,MM,SP,MR	10-14-89	Trego
Western Grebe	1 on Coldwater Lake	SP,MT	10-27-89	Comanche
Anhinga	1 n. Belle Plaine	R&MW	9-16-89	Cowley
(This bird was flapping and gliding, like anhingas but unlike Double-crested Cormorants. It had long thin wings, long tail, pointed bill.)				
Great Egret	1 late bird Harvey East	PJ	<u>10-27-89</u>	Harvey
Cattle Egret	1 late bird State Lake	DG	11-13-89	Ottawa
White-faced Ibis	1 flying over Sim Park	PJ	9-10-89	Sedgwick
White-faced Ibis	1 at Perry WMA	DLS	9-21-89	Jefferson
Tundra Swan	5 on Wilson	MR	11-17-89	Russell
Tundra Swan	2 on Wilson	MR	11-29-89	Russell
Ross' Goose	<u>38</u> on Lake McKinney	DS,SS	11-12-89	Kearny
Greater Scaup	1 photographed	TSh,SSh	11-05-89	Scott
Oldsquaw	1 on Wilson	MR	11-07-89	Russell
Oldsquaw	1 on Wilson	MR	11-16-89	Russell
Black Scoter	1 at Liberal	MM,GP,SP	11-11-89	Seward
Surf Scoter	1 at Liberal	SP,MT	10-27-89	Seward
	still present	MM,GP,SP	11-11-89	Seward
White-winged Scoter	1 at Liberal	MM,GP,SP	11-11-89	Seward
<u>Black-shouldered Kite</u>	1 bird discovered	GR	8-06-89	Pottawat.
	confirmed	TC	8-06-89	"
	bird sitting on nest		8-12-89	"
	2 young being fed	TSh,SSh	8-27-89	"
Bald Eagle	1 marked bird	Wichita Aud.	9-24-89	Barton
(This eagle with a patagial wing marker was confirmed as one injured in n. Minnesota in 1987 and released from a rehabilitation center in 1988.)				
Northern Goshawk	1 imm. just w. Moscow	DS,SS	9-17-89	Stevens
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	DR	9-07-89	Pottawat.
(This bird was seen flying south along the east side of Tuttle Creek Res.)				
Golden Eagle	1 imm. along Smoky Hill	DLS,BLS	11-26-89	Geary
Peregrine Falcon	1 at CB	KB,JH,MS	10-04-89	Barton
Peregrine Falcon	1 over Wichita	PJ	10-10-89	Sedgwick
Sora	2 along Clinton shore	DG	10-08-89	Douglas
Common Moorhen	pair with four young	MM,m.ob.	9-02-89	Barton
Whooping Crane	2 adults with Sandhills	DS,SS	11-10-89	Pawnee
Black-bellied Plover	3 at Wilson	MR	11-07-89	Russell
Lesser Golden Plover	300+ at Quivira	PJ	10-01-89	Stafford
Piping Plover	1 at Q	Wichita Aud.	9-24-89	Stafford
Greater Yellowlegs	1 late bird	DLS	11-19-89	Lyon
Long-billed Curlew	1 incredibly late bird	MM,GP,SP	<u>11-11-89</u>	Morton

Red Knot	1 at Liberal	m.ob.	9-03-89	Seward
Least Sandpiper	several late birds	MR	11-14-89	Russell
Buff-breasted Sand.	2 along Clinton shore	BH,GP	8-09-89	Douglas
<u>Ruff</u>	1 in Pool 4 No details.	??	9-28-89	Barton
Red-necked Phalarope	2 at Liberal	m.ob.	9-03-89	Seward
Red-necked Phalarope	32 at Q	DH	Sept.89	Stafford
Parasitic Jaeger	1 at CB	KB,JH,MS	10-04-89	Barton
Laughing Gull	2nd yr. bird at CB	MM,SP	8-12-89	Barton
Laughing Gull	2 at CB	MM,m.ob.	9-02-89	Barton
Common Tern	1 winter plumage	LM,MM,SP,MR	10-14-89	Trego
Long-eared Owl	4 at Milford Lake	DLS,BLS	11-26-89	Geary
Short-eared Owl	1	DS,SS	10-24-89	Pawnee
Short-eared Owl	3	SS	11-30-89	Pawnee
Saw-whet Owl	1 photographed	MR,DS,SS	11-17-89	Rush
Common Nighthawk	300 southbound	PJ	9-20-89	Sedgwick
Rufous Hummingbird	1 female observed very closely in Sublette	SP	9-04-89	Haskell
	same bird	DS,SS	9-05-89	Haskell
'archilochus', sp.	1 in Sublette	DS,SS	9-05-89	Haskell
	(Possible female Black-chinned Humm. Gray flanks, gray forehead.)			
Lewis' Woodpecker	1 at Boy Scout Area	DS	9-16-89	Morton
Ladder-backed Wood.	1 female	SS	10-21-89	Morton
Pileated Woodpecker	1 two mi. s. Valley Falls	DLS	9-17-89	Jefferson
Cassin's Kingbird	2	MC,SS	9-16-89	Morton
Steller's Jay	<u>5</u> along Cimarron	GG,LM,DS,SS	10-21-89	Morton
Steller's Jay	1 at Elkhart Cem.	m.ob.	10-29-89	Morton
Steller's Jay	1 in Satanta	NC,ER	10-29-89	Haskell
Steller's Jay	1 Main Street Hugoton	LM,DS,SS	11-04-89	Stevens
Steller's Jay	<u>4</u> Hugoton City Park	MM,GP,SP	11-09-89	Stevens
Steller's Jay	1 at N. Fork	m.ob.	11-11-89	Morton
Steller's Jay	<u>5</u> at Boy Scout	m.ob.	11-11-89	Morton
Scrub Jay	<u>25+</u> during day	MC,DS,SS	9-16-89	Morton
Scrub Jay	<u>24</u> at Conover Feedlot	JC	10-04-89	Seward
Scrub Jay	2 in Satanta	NC	10-04-89	Haskell
Scrub Jay	<u>14</u> in 6 locations	GG,LM,DS,SS	10-21-89	Morton
Scrub Jay	6 in 3 locations	LM,DS,SS	11-04-89	Morton
Scrub Jay	3 at Moscow elevator	MM,GP,SP	11-09-89	Stevens
Scrub Jay	6	m.ob.	11-11-89	Morton
Black-billed Magpie	5 birds near Walton	PJ,JY	9-02-89	Harvey
Chihuahuan Raven	50+ near Hugoton	MC,DS,SS	9-16-89	Stevens
Black-capped Chickadee	1 at N. Fork	m.ob.	9-02-89	Morton
Black-capped Chickadee	2 at N. Fork	m.ob.	11-11-89	Morton
Mountain Chickadee	1 at Boy Scout Area	GG,LM,DS,SS	10-21-89	Morton
Mountain Chickadee	1 at Conover Feedlot	MR	10-21-89	Seward
Mountain Chickadee	1	LM,DS,SS	11-04-89	Morton
Mountain Chickadee	5	m.ob.	11-11-89	Morton
Mountain Chickadee	1 in Lakin	DS,SS	11-12-89	Kearny
Mountain Chickadee	1 in Hugoton	MM,GP,SP	11-09-89	Stevens
Mountain Chickadee	1 Cim. R. ne. Liberal	MM,GP,SP	11-11-89	Seward
Red-breasted Nuthatch	5 at N. Fork	m.ob.	9-09-89	Morton
Carolina Wren	1 Cim. R. ne. Liberal	MM,GP,SP	11-11-89	Seward
Sedge Wren	1 in the Big Ditch	PJ,JY	10-29-89	Sedgwick
	same bird	PJ	11-04-89	Sedgwick
(5) Wrens	Lower Ferguson Marsh	DLS	9-30-89	Jefferson
	(Carolina, House, Winter, Sedge, Marsh)			
Mountain Bluebird	100+	GG,LM,DS,SS	10-21-89	Morton
Mountain Bluebird	100+	DB,SS	10-28-89	Trego
Mountain Bluebird	5 s. Junction City	DLS,BLS	11-26-89	Geary

Wood Thrush	1 at Seltman yard	DS	9-30-89	Rush
Varied Thrush	1 male in G.C. Cemetery	T&S Sh	10-09-89	Finney
Sage Thrasher	1 at Point of Rocks	SP,MR	10-15-89	Morton
Sprague's Pipit	5 following wheat drills	SS	10-04-89	Pawnee
Sprague's Pipit	2 at different field	SS	10-04-89	Pawnee
Sprague's Pipit	1	SS	10-04-89	Rush
Sprague's Pipit	1	SS	10-14-89	Norton
Sprague's Pipit	6	m.ob.	10-15-89	Rush
Northern Shrike	2	GG,LM,DS,SS	10-21-89	Morton
Northern Shrike	1 along Rep. R.	MR,DS,SS	11-18-89	Cheyenne
Northern Shrike	1 adult s. Junction	DLS,BLS	11-26-89	Geary
Chestnut-sided Warbler	1 fall bird	MC,DS,SS	9-16-89	Morton
Townsend's Warbler	1	DS	9-16-89	Morton
Yellow-throated Warbler	1	LM	9-03-89	Miami
Pine Warbler	1	LM	9-03-89	Miami
Pine Warbler	1 found by McHugh	m.ob	11-10-89	Morton
	same bird	m.ob.	11-11-89	Morton
Connecticut Warbler	1	LM	9-03-89	Miami
Western Tanager	1 at N. Fork	DS,SS	9-23-89	Morton
<u>Pyrrhuloxia</u>	1 female at Ag. Station	SP,MT	10-28-89	Morton
	same bird	MR,DS,SS	10-29-89	Morton
	still present	MS	10-31-89	Morton
	still present	m.ob.	11-04-89	Morton
	still present	m.ob.	11-11-89	Morton
Rufous-sided Towhee	1 <u>east. unspotted male</u>	SS	10-21-89	Morton
Canyon Towhee	1 first found	SP,MR	10-15-89	Morton
	2 at Pt. of Rocks	GG,LM,DS,SS	10-21-89	Morton
	1	SP,MT	10-28-89	Morton
	2	MR,DS,SS	10-29-89	Morton
Cassin's Sparrow	1 at w. waterfowl ponds	SP	11-10-89	Morton
Rufous-crowned Sparrow	1 first found	SP	10-15-89	Morton
	2 at Pt. of Rocks	GG,LM,DS,SS	10-21-89	Morton
	3	MR,DS,SS	10-29-89	Morton
	2 still present	MC,TC,SS	11-11-89	Morton
American Tree Sparrow	1 very early arrival	DS,SS	9-23-89	Morton
Baird's Sparrow	1 near State Lake	DG	11-13-89	Ottawa
LeConte's Sparrow	7 in Big Ditch	PJ,JY	10-29-89	Sedgwick
	4 still present	PJ	11-04-89	Sedgwick
Smith's Longspur	many at N. Fork	MS	10-31-89	Morton
Pine Grosbeak	1 at Oak Park	BG	11-??-89	Sedgwick
Cassin's Finch	1 male seen and heard	m.ob.	11-11-89	Morton
House Finch	1 male, 2 fem. at Perry	DLS	11-05-89	Jefferson
Red Crossbill	1 in flight at Pt. Rocks	SS	11-11-89	Morton
Lesser Goldfinch	20+ total in 3 areas	MC,DS,SS	9-16-89	Morton
Lesser Goldfinch	several heard	DS,SS	9-23-89	Morton
Lesser Goldfinch	20 along US 160	BE,AF	10-13-89	Barber

(Bill Evans and Annette Finney from Cornell were in Kansas recording the nocturnal flight calls of migrating birds. They saw and heard their flock of Lessers at the Scenic Overlook in the Gyp Hills west of Medicine Lodge. Both are authorities on bird calls.)

Lesser Goldfinch	1 at Elkhart Cem.	SP	10-15-89	Morton
Evening Grosbeak	2 at Seltman yard	DS,SS	9-30-89	Rush
Evening Grosbeak	4 at Work Station	SP,MR	10-15-89	Morton
Evening Grosbeak	2	DS	10-22-89	Rush
Evening Grosbeak	1 at Work Station	SS	11-04-89	Morton

OBSERVERS CITED: Ken Brunson (KB), Dave Bryan (DB), Ted Cable (TC), Jack Conover (JC), Norma Conover (NC), Mark Corder (MC), Bill Evans (BE), Annette Finney (AF), Dan Gish (DG), Bob Gress (BG), Greg Griffiths (GG), Don Haley (DH), Bill Hayes (BH), Jerry Horak (JH), Pete Janzen (PJ), Bob LaShelle (BLS), Dan LaShelle (DLS), Lloyd Moore (LM), Mick McHugh (MM), Sebastian Patti (SP), Galen Pittman (GP), Ellen Rader (ER), Mike Rader (MR), Gary Radke (GR), David Rintoul (DR), Marvin Schwilling (MS), Diane Seltman (DS), Scott Seltman (SS), Sara Shane (SSh), Tom Shane (TSh), Max Thompson (MT), Ralph & Mary Wiley (R&MW), Joe Yoder (JY), multiple observers (m.ob.).

ADDENDUM TO SUMMER 1989

Double-cr. Cormorant	nesting 2 mi. SSE of	DLS	7-03-89 Clay
	Wakefield on Milford WMA		
	4 adults incubating	DLS	7-04-89 Clay
	2 nestlings	DLS	7-23-89 Clay
	nests abandoned	DLS	8-06-89 Clay

CORRECTIONS TO DECEMBER 1989 ISSUE

Page 3: Charles Ely and Marvin Rolfs banded 8000+ TOTAL birds in Hays during the 1980's. A mere 5000+ were House Finches with most of the balance being Pine Siskins.

Page 17: The two Red-tailed Hawks listed under the heading "Of Special Interest" were both albinos.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO KOS BYLAWS

The following amendments to the KOS Bylaws were proposed at the Winter Board Meeting. If passed the first three amendments would simplify the system of paying bills by requiring only one signature on checks rather than the dual signature policy that is now in effect. The fourth amendment would strengthen the auditing procedure by requiring a thorough review of all financial records every year. The Board has already adopted stricter auditing procedures. The proposed changes will be voted on separately at a brief Business Meeting that will be called in Elkhart at the Spring Meeting. They read as follows:

1. Amend Article VI, Sec. 4E to read:
 - E. Be authorized to sign checks.
2. Amend Article VI, Sec. 6A to read:
 - A. Be the custodian of all funds belonging to KOS. Any instrument for financial transactions may be signed by one of the following officers: Treasurer, Business Manager or Corresponding Secretary.
3. Amend Article VI, Sec. 7G to read:
 - G. Be authorized to sign checks.
4. Amend Article V, Sec. 3 by adding a part E to read:
 - E. The President will appoint an Auditing Committee at the Fall Meeting. This committee will audit the Treasurer's books and annual report for the year ending December 31 and will report this audit to the Board at its Winter Meeting.

KANSAS ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
10/01/89 THROUGH 12/31/89

CHECKING ACCOUNT

BEGINNING BALANCE 10/1/89	1,093.50	
RECEIPTS:		
DUES	1,197.00	
T-SHIRT & CAP SALES	114.00	
CHECKLIST & DECAL SALES	56.50	
INTEREST ON ACCOUNT	20.36	
REIMBURSEMENT FOR DNA LIAB. INS. PREM.	149.00	
ROYALTY PAYMENT	950.07	2,476.93
DISBURSEMENTS:		
PRINTING - BULLETINS	(342.27)	
PRINTING - NEWSLETTERS	(181.22)	
PRINTING - ENVELOPES	(335.15)	
POSTAGE & SUPPLIES	(340.00)	
TELEPHONE HOTLINE	(31.16)	
BANK CHARGES	(5.79)	
SAFE DEPOSIT BOX RENTAL	(16.00)	
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL BIRD PRESERVATION	(100.00)	(1,351.59)
ENDING BALANCE 12/31/89 (INCLUDES AMELIA BETTS FUND - \$1054.82)		2,218.84

CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

BEGINNING BALANCE 10/1/89	12,983.43	
INTEREST EARNED	282.27	
ENDING BALANCE 12/31/89		13,265.70

PASSBOOK SAVINGS

BEGINNING BALANCE 10/1/89	2,124.27	
LIFE MEMBERSHIP PAYMENTS	37.50	
INTEREST EARNED	29.53	
ENDING BALANCE 12/31/89		2191.30

DINGUS NATURAL AREA ACCOUNT

BEGINNING BALANCE 10/1/89	6,628.06	
INTEREST EARNED	96.10	
LIABILITY INSURANCE PREM.	(149.00)	
ENDING BALANCE 12/31/89		6,575.16

SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE (CHECKLIST MAILING)

ENDING BALANCE 12/31/89		112.00
TOTAL ASSETS 12/31/89		24,363.00

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KOS WINTER BOARD MEETING
February 24, 1990
Rose Fritz Home, Newton

Members present: David Seibel, Pete Janzen, Mike Rader, Mick McHugh, John Schukman, Tom Shane, David Bryan, Galen Pittman, Diane Seltman, Rose Fritz, Dwight Platt.

A delicious lunch was served by Rose Fritz, after which President Mick McHugh called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Mick McHugh reported that he had been invited to be on the Advisory Board for the Marais des Cygnes Wildlife Refuge and that land may be available to expand this refuge.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Rose Fritz presented a report for the period 10/01/89 to 12/31/89 which showed total assets as of 12/31/89 of \$24,363. She also presented a list of steps for auditing the Treasurer's books that had been prepared by Don Vannoy.

David Seibel moved that Scott Seltman be appointed to audit the year-end report. The motion was seconded by David Bryan. The motion passed.

Mike Rader moved to approve the Treasurer's report subject to the audit by Scott Seltman. The motion was seconded by David Bryan. The motion passed.

There was a discussion of the problems of the current method of requiring two signatures for financial transactions. The bank does not monitor two signatures. David Seibel moved that the Board recommend an ammendment of Article VI, Sec. 4E, Sec. 6A and Sec. 7G of the Bylaws to provide that signature of only one of the named officers be sufficient for financial transactions. The motion was seconded by Pete Janzen. The motion passed.

David Seibel moved that the Board officially adopt the auditing procedures suggested by Don Vannoy and that the Board recommend an amendment of Article V, Sec. 3 of the Bylaws to provide for an Auditing Committee to be appointed by the President at the Fall Meeting to audit the annual report for the year ending December 31 and to report on this audit at the Winter Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Pete Janzen. The motion passed.

Rose Fritz moved that Bank IV in Newton be authorized to receive KOS funds on deposit. Mike Rader seconded the motion. The motion passed.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT: Diane Seltman reported that the current membership is 383. All but 14% of last year's members have renewed. Sixteen are new members since the last meeting. She will publish a welcome to new members in the next newsletter.

Some new members last year did not receive any mailings. David Seibel moved that any member who did not receive mailings last year should receive a conciliatory letter and an offer of free membership for this year. David Bryan seconded the motion. The motion passed.

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT: Galen Pittman reported that he had sent out two mailings. It was agreed that the newsletter should continue to be printed on recycled paper. He reported that we have 27 exchanges and asked if we were getting sufficient benefit out of the exchanges to continue them. It was suggested that he should get a list of the publications we receive and print this list in the next newsletter.

BULLETIN EDITOR'S REPORT: Mick McHugh reported for John Zimmerman that he had sufficient manuscripts.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT: Scott Seltman reported that the editorship of the Horned Lark will be passed on to Don Vannoy after the next issue.

Mick McHugh expressed appreciation for Scott's services as editor.

GUIDELINES FOR MEETINGS AND FIELD TRIPS: Draft copies of guidelines for KOS Annual Meetings and field trips had been distributed to board members at the last board meeting. Mike Rader moved that the board adopt these two sets of guidelines. David Seibel seconded the motion. The motion passed.

MEETINGS: The Spring 1990 Meeting and Field Trip will be May 5-6 in Morton County. David Bryan will work with the Smith's of Elkhart in making plans.

The Fall 1990 Meeting will be October 6-7 in Newton.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF KOS COMMITTEES: A draft of the responsibilities of KOS committees had been prepared by David Seibel and distributed at the last meeting. Discussion of this document was postponed until the Fall Meeting.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: Mick McHugh announced that this committee had been appointed: Bill Busby (chair), Mike Rader and Mick McHugh. They have been discussing the initiation of a Breeding Bird Atlas for Kansas. Thirty-three states have similar atlases underway. It would involve censusing breeding birds in 1466 blocks in the state of Kansas and would require a large financial commitment. They will be approaching Alan Wentz at the Kansas Dept. of Wildlife and Parks. KOS can supply volunteers for the project.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Diane Seltman has been appointed Chair of the Membership Committee. She will be sending out a Membership Directory in the near future. She will ask whether members want to be included by a notice in the next newsletter.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE: Co-chairs of this committee are David Seibel and David Bryan. They are working on a membership brochure. David Seibel passed around a draft of the text and the design. He said that an 8 1/2" X 11" brochure can be printed for \$322 for 2,000, \$462 for 5,000 or \$697 for 10,000. There will be an additional fee for the designer of \$60 plus materials. David Seibel moved that the board authorize the production of 10,000 brochures. Tom Shane seconded the motion. The motion passed.

BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE: Chuck Ely and Max Thompson have been appointed as co-chairs of the Bird Records Committee. Other members of the committee are Scott Seltman, Lloyd Moore, Galen Pittman, Roger Boyd and Marvin Schwilling. Mick McHugh thanked Marvin for his years of service chairing this committee.

RARE BIRD ALERT: The Rare Bird Alert Hotline has been transferred to Scott Seltman. It was reported that in Colorado they have used donations to fund the Rare Bird Alert and they have received more than enough money to cover expenses. Tom Shane moved that we put an announcement soliciting donations for the Rare Bird Alert in the next issue of the Horned Lark and also in Audubon Society Newsletters. The motion was seconded by Mike Rader. The motion passed. Tom Shane moved to authorize Scott Seltman to send a letter soliciting donations to 50 birders in the state. Galen Pittman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

STUDENT RESEARCH COMMITTEE: The Student Research Committee consists of Elmer Finck, Jim Mayhew, Chuck Ely, John Simpson and Rose Fritz. Funds available to support student research (from life membership payments of deceased members) amount to \$425.00.

DINGUS NATURAL AREA: Gene Lewis continues as chair of the Dingus Natural Area Committee. It was suggested that we might have a field trip to the Dingus Natural Area. The Parsons Audubon group might be able to make arrangements for a field trip. Mick will contact them.

NEW PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE: This committee consists of Chuck Ely, Max Thompson and Rose Fritz. More than \$900 was received as royalty from the book, Birds in Kansas last year. This is available for projects to be selected by this committee.

WILDLIFE APPRECIATION DAY: Wildlife Appreciation Day will be held in Topeka on April 4. KOS will have information on the table to be set up by the Audubon Council. Mick McHugh moved to authorize the payment of \$10 to the Kansas Audubon Council to reimburse some of their costs. The motion was seconded by David Bryan. The motion passed.

AUTHORIZATION OF EXPENSES: The procedure for authorizing the payment of expenses by KOS was discussed. Mick McHugh appointed David Seibel to bring recommendations on procedures for authorizing expenses to the Spring Meeting.

CHEYENNE BOTTOMS: The Kansas Wildlife Federation is planning to take the Kansas Water Board to court in order to enforce senior water rights for Cheyenne Bottoms. There was discussion as to whether KOS should help them. Tom Shane moved that when the Kansas Wildlife Federation goes to court, KOS

should publish a request for contributions to support the lawsuit in the newsletter. John Schukman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

KANSAS BIOLOGICAL SURVEY: Bill Busby said that birders are going to be needed to monitor birds around critical habitat areas.

SPRING 1991 MEETING: It was suggested that the Spring Meeting in 1991 be to the Marais des Cygnes Wildlife Refuge and the Dingus Natural Area.

LIBRARY SUBSCRIPTIONS: Galen Pittman asked whether we should have a higher subscription rate for libraries. Also libraries need to receive invoices indicating such a rate. Tom Shane moved that invoices be drawn up for libraries which have a \$15 annual subscription rate for libraries only and that only the Bulletin be sent to foreign libraries or exchanges. The motion was seconded by Mike Rader. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dwight R. Platt
KOS Corresponding Secretary

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

The following persons have joined KOS since October 1989. Why not call and invite them on your next birding trip. New interest keeps KOS growing!

Steve and Jane Amy, Wamego	Chuck and Jaye Otte, Junction City
Julie Fredrick, Topeka	Patty Field, Topeka
Maxey Irwin, Topeka	Loreta Neff, Hiawatha
Doug Siegel-Causey, Lawrence	Kevin Siek, Lawrence
Philip Wedge, Lawrence	Becky Wisdom, Lawrence
Joanne Hackerott, Wichita	Rachel Moyer, Augusta
Helen Hands, Great Bend	Ray Schulz, Great Bend
Jeff Wayman, Overland Park	Marilyn Wayman, Prairie Village
Cecil Sweeney, Overland Park	Juli Winer, Overland Park
Bernard Sietman, Emporia	

NEW MAILING LABELS:

Perhaps you noticed the new look to your mailing label. The entire mailing list has been computerized, complete with categories and dues dates. By way of explanation, your category and year through which your dues are paid appear in the upper right-hand corner of your label. The following is a list of the membership categories.

FPLM = Fully Paid Life Member	\$150.00 (4 payments of \$37.50)
FPLC = Fully Paid Life (Charter) Member	
PPLM = Partially Paid Life Member	\$ 37.50 (4 consecutive pmts.)
CONT = Contributing Member	\$ 40.00 (annual rate)
SIND = Sustaining Individual	\$ 20.00 " "
SFAM = Sustaining Family	\$ 25.00 " "
RIND = Regular Individual	\$ 10.00 " "
RFAM = Regular Family	\$ 15.00 " "
STUD = Student (grade, high or coll.)	\$ 5.00 " "
LIBR = Library (Paid Subscription)	\$ 15.00 " "
EXCH = Exchange (Publication in Return)	\$ -----

If you feel your category is incorrect for the amount you paid, or if you have paid dues for 1990 and received a reminder letter in error, please contact Diane Seltman 913-329-4411, or Galen Pittman 913-842-7105.

EXCHANGE PUBLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE TO KOS MEMBERS

Are you aware that the Kansas Ornithological Society maintains a series of publication exchanges with a variety of ornithological organizations both in the U.S. and in several foreign countries? Since KOS does not maintain a permanent library itself, these exchange publications are currently being deposited in The University of Kansas library system on the Lawrence campus. The fact that these journals are housed at KU means that any KOS member who has access to a local library can obtain these titles through the nationwide interlibrary loan system. Check with your local library for information on how to make an interlibrary loan request. Of course, if you can come to the KU campus in Lawrence, books and journals can be loaned out to the general public . . . not just KU students and staff! Below is a list of the exchange journals and the organizations from which they come.

The Ostrich - African Ornithological Society
 The Bluebird - Audubon Society of Missouri
 Birding News Survey - Avian Publications, Inc.
 Occasional Papers of the Bell Museum of Natural History - Bell Museum
 Occasional Newsletter of the Bermuda Audubon Society - Bermuda Audubon Soc.
 Bird Watcher's Digest - (sent to the KOS newsletter editor)
 B.T.O. News - British Trust for Ornithology
 The Chat - Carolina Bird Club
 CFO Journal - Colorado Field Ornithologists
 Newsletter of the Florida Audubon Society - Florida Audubon Society
 Iowa Bird-Life - Iowa Ornithologists Union
 Living Bird Quarterly - Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University
 Jack Pine Warbler - Michigan Audubon Society
 Nebraska Bird Review - Nebraska Ornithologists Union
 New Jersey Audubon Research Unit Supplement - New Jersey Audubon Society
 The Scissortail - Oklahoma Ornithological Society
 The Ring - Polish Zoology Society
 South Dakota Bird News - South Dakota Ornithologists Union
 Bulletin of the Texas Ornithological Society - Texas Ornithological Society
 Journal of the Yamashima Institute for Ornithology - Yamashima Inst. Ornith.

NEW KOS MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

A new KOS Membership Directory will be published in the near future. All members who are currently on the mailing list will be included in this directory. Every attempt will be made to include telephone numbers (if listed in the telephone directory.) If you DO NOT want your name, address or telephone number published, or if information needs to be corrected or changed, please detach & return this notice to: Diane Seltman, R.R. Box 36, Nekoma, KS 67559 no later than May 1, 1990.

-----Clip and Mail-----

I DO NOT WANT MY NAME/ADDRESS/PHONE LISTED IN THE KOS MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY:

PLEASE CHANGE/CORRECT MY NAME AND ADDRESS TO:

NAME _____	ADDRESS _____			
CITY _____	STATE _____	ZIP _____	TELEPHONE _____	

KOS SPRING MEETING AND FIELD TRIPS
Elkhart, Kansas
May 4-6, 1990

The KOS Spring Meeting will be held on May 4, 5 and 6 in Elkhart, Kansas. All plans have not been finalized, but the following information will allow for your advanced planning, registration and reservations. Before leaving home call the Kansas RBA at 913-329-4499 for late news.

MOTELS AND CAMPING:

The El Rancho Motel on U.S 56 in Elkhart has reserved 6-10 rooms for KOS members and more are available. Rooms range in price from about \$30-50 for double occupancy. Several large rooms that could be shared by several members have been reserved in the new annex just east of the main building. PLEASE CALL THE EL RANCHO MOTEL AT 316-697-2117 AND MAKE YOUR OWN RESERVATIONS.

Camping is available on the Cimarron Grasslands but is "primitive". Popular areas are the picnic area just off K-27 south of the river bridge and at the fish ponds which are south of the river about four miles east of the highway.

MEALS: A group meal is tentatively planned for Saturday night at one of the local restaurants. Otherwise, each individual will be responsible for their own food. There are several restaurants as well as grocery and convenience stores in Elkhart.

FIELDTRIPS:

Fieldtrips have been organized for the Cimarron National Grasslands and surrounding areas for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Marvin Schwilling will lead early morning fieldtrips on Saturday and Sunday to the booming grounds of the Lesser Prairie Chicken. Dave Bryan will lead a trip to Black Mesa, Oklahoma on Saturday. Many Kansas birders have participated on the Black Mesa Christmas Bird Count but may not have experienced spring migration at this unique area.

FRIDAY: Meet at the El Rancho parking lot at Noon for an organized birding trip through the Cimarron Grasslands.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY: Fieldtrips will depart the El Rancho parking lot at 6:30AM both days. Leaders and destinations will be announced at the meeting.

COMPILATION: The species list will be compiled before Noon on Sunday at a central meeting spot yet to be determined.

REGISTRATION: A registration fee of \$5.00 per adult is being charged to defray the cost of refreshments, etc. Please write a check to KOS and mail to Dave.

-----Clip and Mail-----

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____

MAIL TO: Dave Bryan
9214 W. 82nd Terrace
Overland Park, KS
66204

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN PARTY _____
AMOUNT ENCLOSED (\$5/adult) _____