



The Official Newsletter
of the
Kansas Ornithological Society

The Horned Lark

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December 1991

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RECYCLED PAPER

This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

WELCOME TO MORE NEW KOS MEMBERS! THE FOLLOWING HAVE JOINED SINCE THE SPRING MEETING

Larry Armstrong, Wichita; Deborah Beutler, Manhattan; Joan Breit, Newton; Brent Brock, Manhattan; Robert & Lea Ann Brown, Denver, CO; Dan Buford, Salina; Mick & Cathy Clausen, Wichita; Pat Diener, St. Louis, MO; Jane Edson, Wichita; Esther Eicher, Brewster; Robert Evans, Boulder, CO; Fred & Elizabeth Griner, Colwich; Don Haley, Manhattan; Larry & Laurie Hesed, Pawnee Rock; Barbara Higdon, Lawrence; Joan Jefferson, Freeman, MO; Ralph & Erma Manning, Leavenworth; Paul McKenzie, Columbia, MO; Alan Neufeld, Moundridge; Jim Oakland, Bainbridge, WA; Bill, Inez & John Prather, Longmont, CO; Richard Prum, Lawrence; Amy Rogers, Wichita; Joe Roller, Denver; Bob Rose, Wichita; Cindy Smith, Stilwell; Doug Storer, Manhattan; James Storer, Moundridge; Marilyn Tilghman, Manhattan; David & Elaine Tompkins, Wichita; Linda Vidal, Aspen, CO; Adam Wagoner, McPherson; Joe Weaver, Merriam.

KOS T-SHIRTS AND CAPS ARE STILL AVAILABLE

KOS T-Shirts are \$8.00 each:

Navy w/white logo: 1-small; 4-medium.

White w/red ribbing: 4-small; 6-medium; 3-large; 2-x-large.

White w/blue ribbing: 2-medium; 1-large.

KOS Caps are \$3.00 each: White w/navy logo; 3 left.

If you are interested in any of the items above, contact *Jan Boyd, Baker University, Baldwin, KS 66006*. Make checks payable to KOS.

60 IN ATTENDANCE AT KOS FALL MEETING IN LEAVENWORTH, KS. SEPT. 20-22, 1991

Gordon & Martha Barnhardt; Deborah Beutler; Roger, Jan & Jon Boyd; Joanne Brier; Dave & Linda Bryan; Bill Busby; Ted Cable; Calvin Cink; Kimberly Coolidge; Steve Crawford; Craig Faanes; Ruth Fahl; Elmer Finck; Bob Fisher; Greg Friesen; Rose Fritz; Dan Gish; Bob Gress; Jerry Horak; Virginia Holman; Allen Jahn; Kathryn Kelley; George Knight; Gil & Marie Leisman; Mike Lesan; Sister Jean Wm. Lockett; Alan Maccarone; Mick McHugh; Dwight Moore; Brian Obermeyer; Chuck & Jaye Otte; Galen Pittman; Dwight Platt; Richard Prum; Mike Rader; Karyn Baker Riney; Dave Rintoul; John, Linda, Beth Anne & Abbey Schukman; Jean Schulenberg; Marvin Schwilling; Ruth Scott; David Seibel; Diane & Scott Seltman; Jack Smith; Doug & James Storer; Max Thompson; Don Vannoy; Kay Wahl; Douglas White; John Zimmerman.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends and Fellow Members:

It's been a terrific year for KOS. Last year I described several of the exciting possibilities that were taking shape within the society. In this, my third and final term as president, I am pleased to report that most of those possibilities are now realities, thanks to all of you who have given so generously of your time and talents. As you will see in more detail in the minutes of the annual meeting and the board meeting, we've accomplished a lot and, despite a flagging economy all around us, have continued to grow both in membership and in financial solidity.

Attendance at this year's meeting in Leavenworth was good, and those present were as enthusiastic a group as I've seen. As always, Vice President Dave Bryan and the local committee (this year, John and Linda Schukman and Linda Bryan) put together an excellent program of presentations and activities for a thoroughly enjoyable, informative, and stimulating weekend. My personal thanks also to all the speakers, field trip leaders, and the hosting staff at St. Mary's College, with special thanks to Membership Secretary Diane Seltman for another of her ever-popular quizzes and to Karyn Baker Riney of the Birdwatcher's Store in Lawrence for her display of books and related items, with generous discounts and prizes for members.

Committee activity within KOS is increasing steadily. We still need volunteers for almost every committee, and I urge each of you who hasn't already done so to contact the chair of the committee that interests you most (see the list in the minutes of the annual meeting) to offer whatever help you have time to give. The membership, education, and conservation committees, in particular, will be needing your help soon.

One of our special activities I should mention here is the forthcoming Breeding Bird Atlas project. John Zimmerman will be leaving his post as *Bulletin* editor to head the atlas project. To be successful, this exciting and ambitious undertaking will require a great deal of participation by KOS members. It will be discussed in detail in the *Horned Lark* and special announcements in the coming months.

I also want to renew my request for help from every member to continue recruiting additional members. You can get all the membership brochures you need from Business Manager Galen Pittman; hand them out freely and make them available to groups with similar interests.

The keys to success in most of our goals are communication and cooperation, not only within our club but also among other groups. For this reason I have encouraged joint meetings with ornithological societies in neighboring states, and invitations are being extended. Some exciting prospects for expanding our ornithological horizons in this way should materialize in the near future.

My two remaining proposals for the coming year aim to increase activity at the local level. First, under the enthusiastic leadership of Mike Rader, the KOS local field trip program should see a rebirth during the months ahead. Local field trips have been attempted previously and are an excellent way to increase "grass-roots" participation, but past attempts have been hampered by limited communication and scattered membership. With our growing membership and improved communication vehicles (including the Birding Hotline), we have some promising new ideas that may overcome these obstacles.

Finally, I hope to implement a program, coordinated by the Membership Committee, of local phone networks to welcome new members, invite members to meetings and field trips, set up local trips, etc. This will likely be an area in which we need many volunteers.

As I write this letter on this Thanksgiving Day, it seems fitting to close with a note of thanks. I am indeed thankful for all the wonderful members and volunteers who have made possible the continuing growth and vitality of KOS. It is not easy for most of us to squeeze in extra time for volunteer work, and I want you all to know how much I appreciate your help. I especially want to thank the officers, both continuing and outgoing, who have served KOS so well, and to welcome the new ones to their posts. You've all made my job much easier and more enjoyable; keep up the good work!

--Good Birding, David E. Seibel, President

