



The Official Newsletter
of the
Kansas Ornithological Society

The Horned Lark

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March 1992

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RECYCLED PAPER

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KOS 1992 SPRING MEETING / FIELD TRIP, MAY 9 & 10

KOS will hold its annual Spring Meeting and Field Trip in Cheyenne County, Kansas and Bonny Reservoir, Colorado on May 8, 9 and 10, 1992. This will be a joint meeting with the Colorado Field Ornithologists, hopefully one of many such joint meetings. Come and meet old and new friends and explore new areas.

We will meet Friday, May 8 beginning at 7:00 pm CDT in St. Francis, Kansas at the roadside rest area on the south side of Highway 36, or at the Dusty Farmer restaurant, open until 10 pm CDT. (Look for signs). Information and sign-up sheets will be available for field trips leaving Saturday morning.

Three field trips are planned:

- (1) Leave St. Francis at 7:00 am CDT from the Empire Motel and explore the Republican and Arikaree River areas West to the Colorado line.
- (2) Leave St. Francis at 7:00 am CDT from the Empire Motel and explore the area south of town looking for migrant water birds on the potholes.
- (3) Leave Bonny Reservoir group campground and explore the Republican River riparian areas East to the Kansas line. This trip will be led by CFO members.

Accommodations in St. Francis are at the Empire Motel (913) 332-2231, with 34 units, with rates of \$22.00 for single and \$32.00 for double occupancy.

If you wish to camp, KOS has reserved the North Cove Group Camping area at Bonny Reservoir which has maximum occupancy of 30 persons. Rates will be based on the number of persons attending. To reserve a campsite in this group area, call Scott Seltman by April 26, 1992. If and when this area is full, you may also make your own reservation at any of the other campsites at Bonny by calling the Colorado Parks Reservation System at 800-678-2267. There are 21 campsites near the group camping area, and you should specify the North Cove area when making your reservation. Rates are \$6 - 7.00 / night. There is also a \$3.00 / car / day fee for entering the Bonny Reservoir State Park; persons wishing to enter for the Saturday evening meal only may carpool from the entrance.

We will all meet back at the North Cove Group Camping Area at Bonny Reservoir Saturday evening at approximately 8:00 pm CDT, for a meal together at the large shelterhouse. We will have a fire in the large grill, so bring your provisions for cooking out. Come and enjoy an evening of socializing and getting acquainted with our Colorado friends.

2 (KOS 1992 Field Trip Cont'd)

Field trips will be planned again for Sunday, followed by the list compilation at 1:00 pm CDT at the Dusty Farmer Restaurant in St. Francis.

For those wishing to stay longer, Scott Seltman will lead a trip on Monday, May 11, to look for Sharp-tailed Grouse in Kansas.

For more information on this weekend call *Dave Bryan at (913) 341-9584* or *Scott Seltman at (913) 329-4411* or *(913) 372-5411* after May 1. Please complete the registration form on page 15. There is no registration fee, but we would like to know how many members will be in attendance.

Hope to see you there!

FIELD TRIPS RESUME

Under the leadership of Mike Rader, KOS will once again offer field trips to its members. The spring trips are as follows:

- April 5 - Konza Prairie with Dave Rintoul
Trip to blind for Greater Prairie Chickens
10 people maximum
For more information, contact *Dave at (913) 537-0781*

- April 18 - Perry Lake with David Seibel
Trip to try for shorebirds and early warblers
For more information, contact *David at (913) 841-7932*
Other possible date: April 25

- May 16 - Fort Leavenworth area with John Schukman
Trip for warblers, flycatchers, and other woodlands species
For more information, contact *John at (913) 727-5141*

- Second or Third Weekends - Monthly with Dave Bryan
Various trips to different locations, including:
Marais des Cygnes (April 25 or 26)
Perry Lake
Clinton Lake
For more information, contact *Dave at (913) 341-9584*

KBAT UPDATE

The Kansas Breeding-bird Atlas Project has been funded for the first year the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks from Chickadee Checkoff monies, and we expect funding to continue in subsequent years.

The response to my request for volunteers in the last *Horned Lark* was excellent. At last count there were about 75 people willing to participate, but twice that number will be necessary to satisfactorily initiate this project. I know of many people whose names are not on that list, but whose names should be. I await your letter or phone call.

Bill Busby at the Biological Survey has supervised the copying of topographic maps, and I have been drawing in the 746 survey blocks and locating these blocks on county maps. Using materials from Missouri as a guide, I have written the handbook that will provide the instructions for doing the survey blocks; I'm just waiting for final bids on the cost. I have also been developing the field data card. There still are some tasks to complete; the major one being the estimating of the expected species in each of the survey blocks. While an approximation based on the physiographic region can be made, the map for each block will need to be evaluated to determine the presence of specific habitats like wetlands that will affect the expected number of breeding species. This number is critical, since one of the criteria for the completion of a block is the identification of at least 75% of the expected species in the block.

The state has been divided into geographic regions, each with a coordinator to assist volunteers in working their survey blocks. Richard Rucker is the coordinator for the Northeast, Mick McHugh for the East Central, Mike Rader for the North Central, Pete Janzen for the South Central, Scott Seltman for the Southwest, and Sara and Tom Shane for the Northwest. I am serving as temporary regional coordinator for the Southeast. The quality of these folks, as well as those who have already volunteered to do blocks, indicates to me, at least, that KBBAT will get off to a good start.

Come join us; write -

John L. Zimmerman, Director, KBBAT, Div. Biology - Ackert Hall, Kansas State Univ. Manhattan, KS 66506.

BIRDING IN SOUTHERN ARIZONA

I will again lead a birding trip to southern Arizona, departing Manhattan on 17 May and returning 30 May. Transportation will be by university van, accommodations will be by camping - sometimes primitive, and participants will share in the cooking. Itinerary includes Cave Creek Canyon, Rustler Park and Rucker Canyon in the Chiricahuas, San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area, Sawmill Canyon in the Huachucas, Sonoita Creek, Madera Canyon, Sonoran Desert at Tucson, and Baldy Peak Trail in the White Mountains. Space limited. Contact *John L. Zimmerman, Div. Biology, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506.*

KOS IS PLEASED TO WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED SINCE JANUARY 1, 1992

Cynthia Abbott, Mayetta; Rebecca Atherton, Lawrence; Mr. & Mrs. H. A. Bath, Newton; Ethyl Blazer, Wichita; Tom Buchanan, Washington; Charlene Caspar, Junction City; Larry Davison, Derby; Bev DuGay, Wichita; Clyde & Marilena Ferguson, Manhattan; Melvin & Clema Haller, Randolph; Dennis Hilding, Lawrence; Patsy Hodges, Topeka; Diane Johnson, Linwood; Daniel Jones, Gardner; Rita Kenney, Liberal; Laura & Gary Keim, Fairview; Mr. & Mrs. M. W. Kraemer, Ogallah; Jane Leo, Prairie Village; James Liebl, Offerle; Rita Lucas, Lecompton; Laurie Malone, Shawnee; Calvin & Patricia Mummert, Olathe; Jean Muncrief, Hutchinson; Eric Otte, Valley Center; John Rakestraw, Emporia; Mary Randle, Burdick; Michael Reed, Shawnee; James Regehr, Emporia; John Rentco, Shawnee; Virginia Richards, Perry; Iola G. Russell, Sedgwick; Steve Samuelson, Emporia; Ann Schardein, Nickerson; Paul Watson, Shawnee Mission; Harriet Wilson, Lawrence; Ruth Wilson, Overland Park; Vernon & Marleene Woods, Rush Center.

A REMINDER TO PAY 1992 DUES

Most of you have already sent your checks for 1992 dues. For those of you have not, let this be a reminder to do so. Late payments necessitate KOS sending out reminder letters to those who have not paid, thus incurring yet another expense for the society. So please send KOS your check today. Thank you for your continued support.

-- Diane Seltman, Membership Secretary



KOS WINTER BOARD MEETING 1992

January 25, 1992

University of Kansas West Campus

Foley Center

Lawrence, Kansas

Members present: David Seibel, Dave Bryan, Rose Fritz, Galen Pittman, Joanne Brier, Jim Mayhew, Mick McHugh.

Non-voting: Ruth Fauhl, Chris Hobbs, Lloyd Moore, John Schukman.

President Seibel called the meeting to order at 10:30 am. Joanne Brier agreed to record minutes in the absence of the secretary.

4 (KOS Winter Board Meeting, Cont'd)

MINUTES: Dave Bryan moved the minutes of the Fall Board Meeting be approved as printed in the December 1991 newsletter. Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Rose Fritz presented the Annual Treasurer's Report for 1991 (see report in this issue). She reported that KOS should have adequate operating funds for the current year, but expressed concern over falling interest income. She will monitor and analyze the current dues structure relative to costs per member. The report of the 1991 audit by Don Vannoy was reviewed and recommendations noted.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT: The president reported ten new members since fall; renewals are continuing, few have dropped.

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT: Galen Pittman noted that combining mailings has helped to save postage, but the cost of materials continues to rise. He will work with the treasurer to figure expense per member and evaluate the results.

BULLETIN EDITOR'S REPORT: Max Thompson has replaced John Zimmerman as editor. Max was unable to attend the meeting so no report was available at this time.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT: March 1 is the deadline for copy for the next issue.

Discussion followed in regard to KOS publications. The president noted that the suggestions need to be more clearly defined, summarized and prepared for presentation to the membership and board. Chris Hobbs will prepare information on alternative format for the newsletter. Jim Mayhew's idea of combining the four quarterly issues of the *Bulletin* into a single annual volume drew enthusiastic response and will be investigated further.

KANSAS BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE: Galen Pittman noted that birders need to submit records of sightings. An annual report for 1991 has been prepared and should be published soon in the *Bulletin*.

STUDENT RESEARCH FUND: No report.

BIRDS IN KANSAS ROYALTY FUND: The treasurer reported \$2,795.70 in the fund as of 12 / 31 / 91.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE: John Schukman is gathering information on available resources and their uses to prepare a catalogue / listing for use by those wishing to know more about birds. Additions to his list are encouraged; more in the upcoming newsletter.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE: Chris Hobbs reported that two meetings a year give little opportunity for publicity and that upcoming local field trips will help.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: The president reminded those present to call other members in their areas and encourage them to participate in KOS activities such as regional field trips and attending spring and fall meetings.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: The president reported that Mike Rader has responded to all the issues requested at the previous board meeting. He has received no response from his mailings so far.

DINGUS NATURAL AREA: The president reported that the signs need attention. The importance of the area as a means of conservation was discussed and affirmed, as was the need to stimulate interest among members.

KANSAS NONGAME WILDLIFE ADVISORY COUNCIL: No report.

AUDIT COMMITTEE: Galen Pittman moved to accept the report of the Audit Committee. Motion Carried.

BIRD FEEDER SURVEY: Galen Pittman reported the mailing list had grown to 425.

