

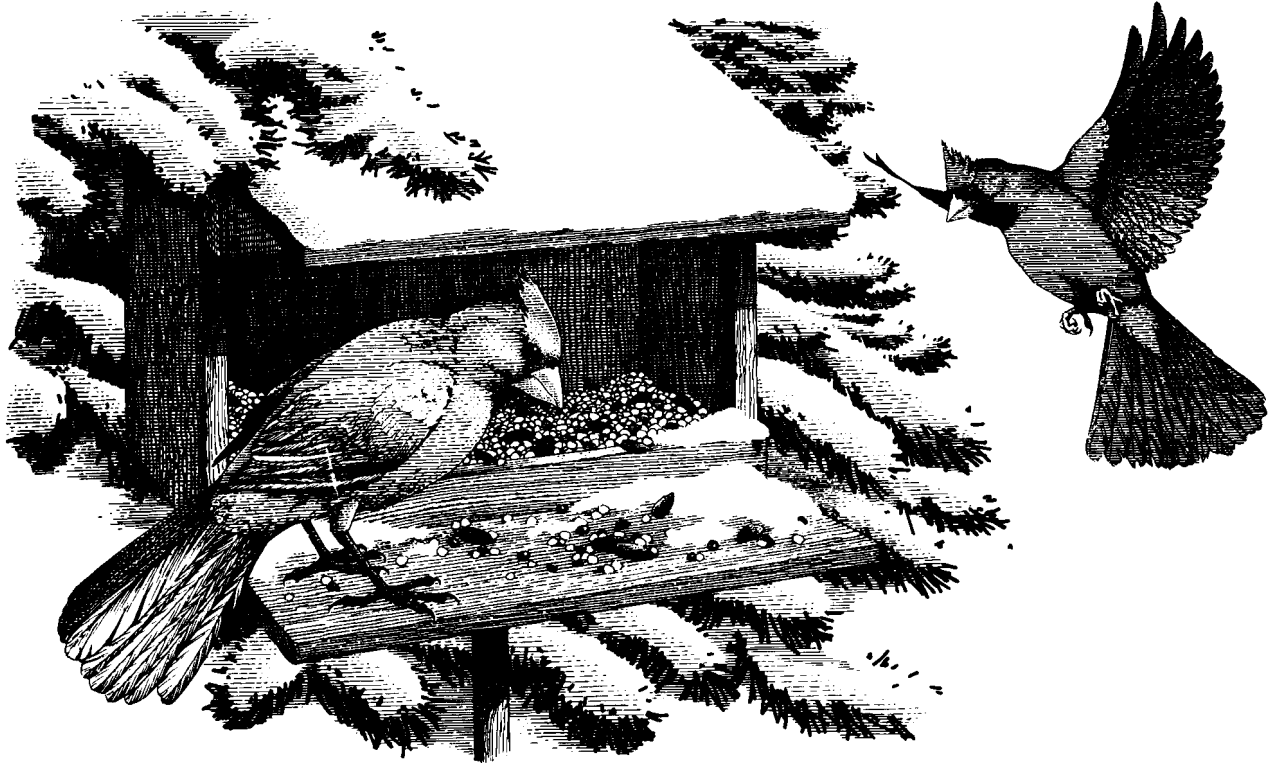
Kansas Ornithological Society

NEWSLETTER

Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS 66502

December, 1985

Vol. 12, No. 4



*Season's
Greetings*

OFFICER'S CORNER

I will forgo my usual comments for this section to bring to your attention Kansas Wildlife Heritage Month. Next year is the 125th birthday of the state of Kansas. In conjunction with this celebration Jan Garton and Terri Shuman invite you to celebrate our Kansas Wildlife Heritage in the month of March 1986. "Rivers--Highways of our Heritage" is the theme for this celebration. Jan and Terri encourage you as members of KOS and citizens of Kansas to come join them in the celebration. They are suggesting several ways for organizations, such as KOS, and individuals to become involved with this celebration. The KOS Board will decide at our January 1986 meeting how KOS will become involved. One suggestion is constructing information packets about birds for the 4th-6th grade age group. Contact me or other Board members, if you have any suggestions. If you so desire, Jan and Terri are accepting donations for promotions and brochures about Kansas Wildlife Heritage Month. Make checks payable to Kansas Wildlife Heritage and send to either Jan or Terri. The goal of this celebration is to reach people who may not be aware of their wildlife heritage or wildlife in general. For further details see Kansas Wildlife Heritage Month in this Newsletter or contact Jan or Terri.

Elmer J. Finck
Vice-president and Newsletter editor KOS

KANSAS WILDLIFE HERITAGE MONTH

Kansas statehood began 125 years ago, but Kansas history is far older. Shaped by the forces that created the Rocky Mountains, Kansas was born from eroded mountains and prehistoric seas.

It took time unimaginable to build the rich prairie soils, to carve the rolling prairies, to cut the courses of our rivers and streams, and to sow the great grasslands.

We think of the Indians, the conquistadors, the trappers and mountain men as the first great explorers of the American West, but trails more ancient preceded them. Buffalo, elk, deer and antelope knew the prairie first.

Kansas once was home to the great predators -- grizzly and black bears, wolves, cougars.

We will never again see the spectacle of millions of buffalo crossing our prairies; we will never again thrill to the wolf's howl. We have lost forever the sight of skies darkened from dawn to dusk by uncounted birds in seasonal flights. The great overland migrations are no longer compatible with modern boundaries and fences.

Yet while the most visible and awesome patterns of our Kansas wildlife heritage will never be repeated, the prairies still remain. Our creeks and rivers are still lined with woods; we still have wetlands and marshes, sand hills and chalk formations, caves and canyons.

Our Kansas wildlife heritage extends from a time long before statehood. KANSAS WILDLIFE HERITAGE MONTH is as much a celebration of the future of our wildlife as it is the past. We hold title to the destiny of our native, natural resources, and this special month is a reminder of that trust. When Kansas is 250 years old, we must assure that the living legacy of wildlife remains a valuable part of our Kansas heritage.

"Rivers--Highways of our Heritage" is the theme of this year's celebration. Waterways were important avenues of travel for wildlife and for the early explorers. Our first settlements sprang up along rivers and creeks; even today most of our towns and cities are still tied to rivers. The more we learn about the values of rivers, the better we'll be able to insure their future -- and ours.

For more information contact either Terri or Jan.

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FINNEY COUNTY, KANSAS, SUMMER BIRD COUNT, JULY 8 & 9, 1985

Garden City. 37° 57'N, 100° 50'W. Center junction of US 83 spur and US 50. Habitat coverage: Sand-sage prairie 30%, riparian woodland 30%, residential areas and parks 35%, pond, stream and tail-water pits 5%. July 8 & 9, 1985: 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM both days; 67-95 F; wind 0-20 mph both days. One observer. Total hours: 8. Total miles: 45 (40 by car, 3 by bike and 2 on foot).

Great Blue Heron 4; Black-crowned Night Heron 20; Mallard 1; American Wigeon 1; Turkey Vulture 1; Mississippi Kite 30; Red-tailed Hawk 1; Swainson's Hawk 1; American Kestrel 4; Ring-necked Pheasant 20; Lesser Prairie Chicken 6; Northern Bobwhite 14; Killdeer 7; Spotted Sandpiper 1; Rock Dove 16; Mourning Dove 38; Yellow-billed Cuckoo 1; Eastern Screech Owl 2; Great Horned Owl 1; Burrowing Owl 1; Common Nighthawk 10; Chimney Swift 5; Red-headed Woodpecker 12; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Downy Woodpecker 3; Northern Flicker 5 (red-shafted 4, yellow-shafted 1); Say's Phoebe 1; Great-Crested Flycatcher 2; Western Kingbird 31; Eastern Kingbird 6; Scissor-tailed Flycatcher 1; Purple Martin 4; Northern Rough-winged Swallow 2; Barn Swallow 8; Blue Jay 10; Black-billed Magpie 9; American Crow 1; House Wren 21; American Robin 5; Eastern Bluebird 4; Northern Mockingbird 8; Brown Thrasher 3; Curve-billed Thrasher 1; European Starling 17; Warbling Vireo 2; Common Yellowthroat 2; Northern Cardinal 2; Blue Grosbeak 2; Cassin's Sparrow 5; Field Sparrow 1; Lark Sparrow 13; Grasshopper Sparrow 2; Red-winged Blackbird 13; Western Meadowlark 27; Common Grackle 35; Brown-headed Cowbird 7; Orchard Oriole 18; Northern Oriole 23 (Baltimore 6, Bullock's 17); House Finch 10; American Goldfinch 4; House Sparrow 40. Total: 61 species (2 additional subspecies), about 544 individuals. Seen in area during count week but not on count days - Turkey, American Avocet, Belted Kingfisher, Horned Lark, Black-capped Chickadee, Pine Siskin, Lark Bunting.

Lawrence Herbert
608 N. 11th
Garden City, KS 67846

POMONA LAKE CIRCLE - KANSAS SUMMER BIRD COUNT 1985

38° 41'N, 95° 41'W, Center intersection US 75 and Dragoon Creek; Elevation 922 to 1175 ft. Habitat coverage: Grassland 15%, oldfields and fence rows 32%, cultivated fields 9%, riparian forest 17%, upland deciduous forest 12%; lakes and rivers 12%, residential 3%, Area 4 was not covered - June 22, 1985; 6:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Partly cloudy to clear, Temp 66-85F. Wind calm. 13 people in 3 parties. Total party hours 19 (9 on foot, 10 by car); Total party miles 141 (8 on foot, 133 by car).

Great Blue Heron 30; Cattle Egret 2; Green-backed Heron 6; Red-breasted Merganser 1; Turkey Vulture 15; Red-tailed Hawk 8; American Kestrel 3; Northern Bobwhite 19; Killdeer 32; Upland Sandpiper 17; Mourning Dove 97; Black-billed Cuckoo 12; Yellow-billed Cuckoo 24; Great Horned Owl 1; Common Nighthawk 6; Chuck-will's-widow 5; Whip-poor-will 3; Chimney Swift 13; Belted Kingfisher 3; Red-headed Woodpecker 20; Red-bellied Woodpecker 7; Downy Woodpecker 7; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Northern Flicker 11; Eastern Wood Pewee 4; Eastern Phoebe 9; Great-Crested Flycatcher 6; Western Kingbird 11; Eastern Kingbird 55; Scissor-tailed Flycatcher 5; Purple Martin 2; Cliff Swallow 3; Barn Swallow 55; Blue Jay 17; American Crow 17; Black-capped Chickadee 18; Tufted Titmouse 8; White-breasted Nuthatch 2; Bewick's Wren 1; House Wren 3; Eastern Bluebird 9; American Robin 82; Gray Catbird 5; Northern Mockingbird 20; Brown Thrasher 61; Loggerhead Shrike 21; European Starling 43; Bell's Vireo 1; Warbling Vireo 9; Red-eyed Vireo 1; Northern Parula 1; Common Yellowthroat 5; Northern Cardinal 40; Rose-breasted Grosbeak 3; Blue Grosbeak 2; Indigo Bunting 28; Dickcissel 124; Rufous-sided Towhee 1; Chipping Sparrow 1; Field Sparrow 9; Lark Sparrow 5; Lark Bunting 1; Grasshopper Sparrow 16; Red-winged Blackbird 104; Eastern Meadowlark 89; Western Meadowlark 1; Rusty Blackbird 2; Great-tailed Grackle 1; Common Grackle 176; Brown-headed Cowbird 51; Orchard Oriole 10; Northern Oriole 36 (all Baltimore); American Goldfinch 10; House Sparrow 146.

Total species 68; 1673+ individuals. Jeanette Bame, Heidi Bond, Bob and Carol Culbertson, E. L. Dennis, Deon Grisell, Alane Harris, Dan Larson, E. R. Lewis, Steve Schoepflin, Diane Supple, B. A. Watkins (compiler), Dan Williamson.

KOS ANNUAL FALL MEETING 1985
 Albertson Hall 310
 Fort Hays State University
 Hays, Kansas
 October 4-6, 1985

The thirty-eighth Annual Meeting of the Kansas Ornithological Society was held at Fort Hays State University on October 4-6, 1985.

Saturday, October 5, Morning Session

Charles Ely opened the meeting at 9:00 AM and read a welcome from Eugene D. Fleharty, Chairman of the Department of Biology at FHSU, who could not be present because of other commitments. Roger Boyd, President of KOS, responded to the welcome and thanked FHSU for providing facilities for this meeting.

Charles Ely made announcements about local arrangements and then turned the meeting over to Elmer Finck, Vice-president, who chaired the papers section. The papers were presented in the morning session according to schedule (see attached abstracts).

A business meeting was called to order at 11:35 AM by President Roger Boyd.

MINUTES: Max Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting as published in the Newsletter. The motion was seconded. The motion was passed.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE: The report of the Nominating Committee was made by Max Thompson (chairperson). The slate of candidates proposed for officers and directors was:

President: Roger Boyd
 Vice-president: Elmer Finck
 Corr. Secretary: Dwight Platt
 Memb. Secretary: Jane Hershberger
 Treasurer: Eugene Lewis

Bus. Manager: No nominee at this time. The committee will make a motion to let the President appoint a new Business Manager.

Director: Donna Cooper, Hays
 Director: Joe Schaefer, Wichita

The terms of Directors David Bryan and Dan Williamson do not expire.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT: Roger Boyd announced that a committee to judge non-professional papers has been appointed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Eugene Lewis reported that KOS started the year with \$13,700 in all accounts and ended the year with \$16,000 in all accounts. The Dingus Natural Area account has almost \$4,000 and the Amelia Betts fund has \$860. Max Thompson moved to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion was seconded. The motion passed.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT: Dwight Platt reported for Membership Secretary Jane Hershberger, who could not be present because of other commitments. Total members as of September 30, 1985 were 373. There are 64 fully paid life members.

BULLETIN EDITOR'S REPORT: John Zimmerman reported that he has enough copy for the Bulletin through the June issue. However he still needs more manuscripts and he appealed to members to send him manuscripts. A question was raised about possibly including some of the Newsletter material in the Bulletin. John Zimmerman replied that the two publications serve different functions and this difference should be kept distinct. It was suggested that the abstracts from the meeting should be published in the Bulletin. John replied that this could be done but the Board would have to make this decision. John reported that the Bulletin had not been abstracted by the American Ornithologists Union since 1982 but he was trying to remedy this.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT: Elmer Finck asked members to keep sending in their reports. Abstracts of papers being presented at this meeting need to be sent to him before October 15. He would also like to get reports of the scheduled dates of Christmas Bird Counts before October 15.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS: Richard Johnston moved to approve the reports. The motion was seconded. The motion was passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Charles Ely announced that the Board would meet at noon in the Prairie Room of the Student Union.

Max Thompson announced that those who buy checklists at the meeting can get them at bargain prices.

The business meeting adjourned until afternoon at 12:00 noon.

Saturday, October 5, Afternoon Session

The Bird Watcher's Hour convened after lunch.

The papers were presented in the afternoon session according to schedule.

The afternoon business meeting was called to order by Roger Boyd at 4:20 PM.

