

The Official Newsletter
of the
Kansas Ornithological Society

The Horned Lark

613 Tamerisk, Junction City, KS 66441-3359

March, 1998

Vol. 25, No. 1

This newsletter is printed on recycled paper

From The Keyboard -

We've had a mockingbird in our backyard since early January. It'll sit in the spirea or forsythia bush, then fly up into the holly bush by the kitchen window, pluck a few berries then fly back out. Its gray plumage seems to have been a perfect match to the constant cloudy weather. Yet, its white wing patches bring a bright flash to remind us that spring will arrive, someday.....

The Seasonal Roundup will be the last written by Chris Hobbs. Chris has done a fine job and enjoyed doing it. But a person can only do so much and family has to come first. Thank you, Chris, for a job well done. Pete Janzen is already compiling the next Roundup. I don't regret handing off this responsibility. With all the gulls that were seen from December to February this will truly be a big challenge. Pete has been writing another column for the *Horned Lark* and since Pete tries to have a family life also he can only do one. Authors are needed to fill the vacated space!

You will find in this issue announcements of events or activities from other states. This is the start of a trend to try to help our members become aware of opportunities in our surrounding states. I'm starting to work with the editors from our neighboring states as we share information, hints and frustrations related to our positions. I hope you enjoy this information.

You'll find an update inside on the Teaming With Wildlife (TWW) project. Ken Brunson is the state coordinator for Kansas and a tireless worker with the Chickadee Check-off program. If we can get TWW through Washington it could literally mean millions of dollars for conservation, education and recreation for Kansas. Read Ken's article and contact your senators and representatives in Washington. There are also a lot of state issues pending that could have major impacts on birds and ecosystems in Kansas. Follow these issues and don't hesitate to contact your local legislators to let

them know how you feel. Your silence will only add to the problem. We all sometimes feel dwarfed by government and big business and think that we can't make a difference. But a short visit or phone call from us "real people" can make all the difference in the world!

Finally, take a look at the Spring Meeting information at the very back. Pete Janzen and his committee have lined up some great birding in a wonderful area of Kansas. Much of this area is on private land and you probably won't get another chance to visit this unique area. The cost is minimal, but the potential fun is incredible. I'm looking forward to it and I hope to see you there!

chuck

Who's Who in KOS - 1998

President, Roy Beckemeyer, 957 Perry, Wichita, KS 67203

Vice-president, Greg Farley, FHSU, Dept of Biological Science, Albertson Hall, 600 Park St, Hays, KS 67601-4099

Corresponding Secretary, Karen Ganoung, Box 96, Hoisington, KS 67544

Membership Secretary, Susan Barnes, 1425 S Wichita, Wichita, KS 67213, BARNOWLS@JUNO.COM

Treasurer, Edwin J. Miller, 218 Bermuda Dr, Independence, KS

Board Members:

Pete Janzen, 3137 N Mascot, Wichita, KS 67204

Dr. Richard F. Johnston, 602 Dyche Hall, Univ of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045-2454

Gene Young, Dept of Biology, Southwestern College, 100 College St., Winfield, KS 67156

Jim Mayhew, 1909 Judson, Manhattan, KS 66502

Business Manager, James Barnes, 1425 S Wichita, Wichita, KS 67213, 316-265-4059, BARNOWLS@JUNO.COM

Editor, The Bulletin, Max Thompson, 1729 East 11th St, Winfield, KS 67156

Editor, The Horned Lark, Chuck Otte, 613 Tamerisk, Junction City, KS 66441, 785-238-8800, OTTE@JC.NET

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Spring Meeting Information May 1 - 3, 1998 Red Hills of Kansas

Pete Janzen has a great spring meeting lined out with some exciting, once in a lifetime, fieldtrips arranged. Turn to the very back of the newsletter for all the pertinent information.

Not quite all the way back is important information regarding the Colorado Field Ornithologists (CFO) Convention May 8 - 10, 1998 (the following weekend) in Lamar, Colorado (about 100 miles west of Garden City on Hwy. 50.) One of the highlights of this convention is their banquet speaker, Jon Dunn. Jon is the author of the recently published *A Field Guide to Warblers of North America* along with Kimball Garrett. KOS members are more than welcome to attend!

WANTED! Authors

I'm always looking for articles to put in the *Horned Lark*. "Oh, I'm not a writer!", you say. "Nonsense!", I say. If you can get an idea on paper I can "clean it up" and we can probably use it. Go to page 7 and read Don Kazmaier's article on what he's done for hummingbird habitat in his backyard. We'd like to hear from more of you. This is a newsletter for the members and I'd like to see more members contributing to it.

There are two gaping holes in this issue. Pete Janzen is switching over to take on the Seasonal Roundup. We need someone to take his place in writing a regular article on birding tips, birding topics, just about anything.

Amy Rose, who has done such a wonderful job with the Kid's Page had to pack it in. She did a great job and we'll miss her. Did you enjoy or use the Kid's Page? If so let me know, and if you want to be it's new author just drop me a note or a completed page!

Chuck Otte, editor

Upcoming Meeting Locations

Please note the upcoming tentative spring and fall meeting locations. Mark your calendars, look for more information in coming issues and plan to attend!

Fall 1998 - 50th Anniversary Meeting, Lawrence
Spring 1999 - Winfield
Fall 1999 - Hays
Spring 2000 - Southeast Kansas (maybe with Okla.)

KOS Items Available

If you would like to purchase KOS T-shirts, sweatshirts, window stickers, etc. then you need to contact the KOS Business Manager, James Barnes, at 1425 S Wichita, Wichita, KS 67213, 316-265-4059, or via e-mail at barnowls@juno.com

If you are also having problems getting your newsletter or bulletin let James know. And if you want to purchase back issues, he is your contact also.

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KOS Fall Board Meeting

Great Plains Nature Center, Wichita

4 October 1997, Saturday, noon

Attendance: James Barnes; Roy Beckemeyer; Mike Rader; Max Thompson; Pete Jantzen; Ed Miller; Greg Farley; Karen Ganoung; John Schukman; Richard Johnston; Chuck Otte; Bill Busby.

Minutes: Mike Rader moved the minutes of the Spring board meeting, 20 April 1997, be accepted. Motion seconded and carried.

Financial reports: Ed Miller, Treasurer, distributed copies of the financial report, as of 1 October 1997. Since the KBBAT (Kansas Breeding Bird Atlas Project) totals are now completed, Greg Farley moved to transfer the KBBAT fund to the general fund; motion seconded and carried. Chuck Otte moved that this report stand as is; motion seconded and carried.

The Finance Committee met in Winfield, on 6 September 1997, and Max Thompson, Chair, presented a written summary of their recommendations. Others present at that time were Roy Beckemeyer, Gregg Friesen, and Ed Miller.

Presentations: James Barnes moved that 1 year of KOS membership be given to those who present papers, and registration fees for that meeting be waived, beginning in 1997; motion seconded and carried. Chuck Otte moved that the Student Awards Committee present subscriptions to two ornithological magazines (North American Ornithological, and AOU/American Ornithological Union) to one student presenter. This motion was seconded and carried.

Bulletin: Max Thompson thinks he has sufficient material for the December issue, including a story on Madge Hilbish, who recently left a sum of money to KOS through her will. He has other material for the March issue, also.

Internet: Chuck Otte plans to have a shortened version of the *Horned Lark* on-line; he hopes to be able to include advertisements in the printed Newsletter. There is a KOS Web page.

Conservation: John Schukman and Greg Farley discussed "Partners in Flight", stating that a full-time coordinator was desirable. Funding comes from State Fish and Wildlife, cooperating with NE. They encourage KOS members to host beginning birding trips, putting into the newsletter plans for what/when/where.

Bird Records Committee (BRC): The bird identification contest at this meeting is a welcome sign of more publicity for the Committee. The BRC selects ten best birds of the year, and solicits more documented reports; voting can be done electronically now, which is much faster than in the past. Taken from "How to Write a Documentation: Take field notes; Use the form for basics of who/what/when/where; Describe the relative size and shape; List any striking feature; Compare the colors of feet and beak; Describe relevant parts, behavior, movements; Describe any vocalizations; Include sketches, a photo or video; Use only enough detail to make the point"Galen Pittman, KBRC Secretary

Newspaper column: Richard Johnston believes none of his six Bird of the Month articles have been printed in a state-wide newspaper. He has prepared columns on the Sandhill Crane, Red-tailed Hawk, and Purple Martin, in addition to the first three of meadowlark, robin, and Horned Lark.

continued next page

Did you see a good bird, an unusual bird, a common bird out of season or 'out of location?' Be sure to call the KOS Hotline at **316-229-2777**.

Did you see a **REALLY** good bird?? Take the time to complete a KBRC Official Report form and send it to Dave Rintoul, 1124 Woodland, Manhattan, KS 66502. A KBRC report form was in the March, 1997 *Horned Lark* (pg. 17) and can also be found on the KOS World Wide Web homepage at <http://www-personal.ksu.edu/~drintoul/kos>. Click on the Rare Bird Record Committee menu option.

KOS Board Meeting Minutes, continued

Hot-line: Scott Seltman has resigned as the Rare Bird Alert Hot-line coordinator, after seven years. Chuck Otte moved that Gene Young of Winfield fill this position. He will be reimbursed the initial charge of \$50 hook-up costs. Motion seconded and carried; the present phone number will remain active until the next news-letter reports the new number for this service.

KOS Meetings: Pete Jantzen is coordinating plans for a spring meeting May 1-3 in Medicine Lodge, and for area field trips. Specific information will be available by February 1.

The mid-winter board meeting will be February 28. The fall 1998 meeting is October 2-4 in Lawrence at the KU Museum. This will be a celebration of 50 years.

The spring 1999 meeting is planned for Winfield, the fall 1999 at Hays; the spring 2000 meeting is planned for Pittsburg. A joint meeting with OK is a future possibility, perhaps in the spring 2000.

Ideas and suggestions for future meetings are welcomed and can be given to the officers. Meeting adjourned.

/s/Karen Ganoung
Corresponding Secretary
Kansas Ornithological Society

KOS Annual Meeting
Great Plains Nature Center, Wichita
4 October 1997, Saturday, 4:35 pm

New Board Members: Gene Young and Jim Mayhew were elected new board members. Susan Barnes was elected the new membership secretary, replacing Margaret Wedge, who wished to resign her position.

Student Research Fund: A written report from Tom Shane was distributed, including a detailed financial record from 10/1/90 to 7/30/97. Also of interest were the names of research grant recipients. Funds from the current Silent Auction will go to the Student Research Fund. (\$553...kg) Of the five students funded, three presented papers. Financial help and suggestions from KOS members is requested.

Finance Recommendations: The report presented earlier by Max Thompson and his committee was approved.

Hot-line: Those in attendance expressed thanks and appreciation to the out-going coordinator, Scott Seltman. The meeting stood adjourned.

/s/ Karen Ganoung
KOS Corresponding Secretary

50th Anniversary Annual Meeting
KU Museum of Natural History
October 9 - 11, 1998
Lawrence, Kansas
Special Events - Special Guests

Remember KOS.... If you would like to help the Kansas Ornithological Society's future growth consider leaving a memorial trust for the Society or including the KOS in your will. If you would like more information feel free to contact any of the Board Members.

Teaming With Wildlife Update

by Ken Brunson

There are over **TWO THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED** organizations and businesses endorsing Teaming With Wildlife (TWW). In Kansas there are now 32 groups (listed next column) The Kansas Ornithological Society is one of them. For Kansas, one of the most important recent companies to jump on this wildlife wagon is Orscheln Farm and Home, Inc. Orscheln sells bird seed and a variety of other wildlife feed and supplies and has two dozen retail outlets in Kansas. If you have an Orscheln store in your area be sure to stop in and say thanks to them. Thanks to Carol Cumberland, we have also recently had two Wild Bird Center stores and Wild Birds Unlimited all of Wichita join ranks. Additionally, Kansas Quality Hardwood & Flooring Center in Wichita recently joined the TWW effort.

The International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies is on the verge of lining up some very important bi-partisan sponsorship and has decided that it is worth waiting in order to shore up this support prior to bill introduction. There are a number of manufacturers and retailers besides organizations that depend on wildlife and have profited from wildlife programs. These include bird-oriented stores, outdoor equipment suppliers, and many sporting goods stores. The best support for Teaming With Wildlife could be shown by letting views be known to our Congressional delegation. For politicians wishing to get "greener", Teaming offers an excellent opportunity. Here's what to do: (1) write your congressman and tell him you support Teaming With Wildlife as a logical, "user pay" concept to support wildlife viewing, education, and recreation programs in Kansas, and (2) contact Leann Harrell, Kansas Audubon Council, 12615 School Creek Rd., St. George, KS 66535-9712 Phone: 913-494-2556 for more information.

Kansas TWW Coalition Members

Kansas Ornithological Society
Great Plains Nature Center
Wild Bird Center, 2250 Rock Rd., Wichita
Wild Birds Unlimited, Wichita
Wild Bird Center, 8414 W. 13th, Wichita
Leavenworth Audubon Society
Kansas Quality Hardwood & Flooring Center
Kansas Wildlife Federation
Olathe Community Sportsman's Club
Kanza Audubon Society
North American Falconers Association (national)
Smoky Hills Audubon Society
Kansas Canoe Association
Burroughs Audubon Society
Geary County Fish and Game Association
Kansas Wildflower Society
Northern Flint Hills Audubon Society
Pure Water for Kansas
Kansas Chapter of the Sierra Club
Topeka Audubon Society
Southeast Kansas Chapter of the Audubon Society
Kansas Audubon Council
Wichita Audubon Society
Jayhawk Audubon Society
Kansas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
Kansas Herpetological Society
Kansas Chapter of the Wildlife Society
Friends of Smoots Creek
Washburn College Republicans
Organization of Fish and Wildlife
Information Managers (national)
American Fisheries Society-Introduced
Fishes Section (national)
Wild Bird Crossing, Salina



TEAMING WITH WILDLIFE
a natural investment

Deadline for submissions for the
June, 1998 Horned Lark is
May 10, 1998.

Kansas Ornithological Society
12-31-97 Balance Sheet
Edwin J. Miller, Treasurer

Assets... Restricted Funds

Book Royalty Fund	\$10,204.44
Dingus Natural Area	8,065.98
Endowment	56,467.40
Future Dues	390.00
Life Membership	18,272.00
Student Research Fund	1084.74

Assets... Unrestricted Funds

Business Manager	\$58.71
General Fund	2,858.56
<u>Southwestern College</u>	<u>18.57</u>
Total Assets	\$97,420.40

Liabilities

1997 Dues & Interest	\$6,176.98
1997 Income	2,424.46
Expenses	(7,030.87)
Future Dues Cap	390.00
Restricted Funds Cap	94,291.64
Retained Income	2,522.65
<u>Scholarships</u>	<u>(1,355.00)</u>
Total Liabilities	\$97,419.86

In February 1998, KOS received a partial distribution from the estate of Phyllis J. Henney amounting to \$3,300. Ms. Henney had been a KOS member since 1969 and was well known in the Topeka area. Look for more information on Ms. Henney and this bequest in future KOS publications.

It's Never Too Early....

The fall meeting of the Kansas Ornithological Society will be here before we know it. There is an active committee hard at work in Lawrence and at KU getting ready for this very special event. This would be a good time to start thinking about what items you want to contribute to the 1998 KOS Silent Auction. **Anything** bird related is acceptable - be creative!

This year it is important that you contact Susan Barnes (316-265-4059 or barnowls@juno.com) and tell her what you intend to submit. Susan is trying to have all the bid sheets and item information prepared in advance. Walk-in items will be accepted but prior notification would be preferred. For more information, or if you have questions, call or e-mail Susan - she loves to answer questions!

Don't forget those dates - **October 9, 10 & 11, 1998, University of Kansas, Lawrence Kansas**

Hummingbirds in Kansas The Perspective of a Novice

by *Don Kazmaier*

If three years ago, you had told me what I'm about to tell you now, it would have been hard to believe. One hummingbird was all that this writer had ever seen in nearly fifty years of residence in this state. That being said, this fall (1997) we recorded a record number of 22 hummers IN OUR YARD! Not withstanding that, one, a female broadtail had never before been reported in Pawnee County. So what's the catch? No catch at all. A very intense program of planting on our lot (87' x 150') has proven that even in old dusty, hot, inhospitable Kansas, hummers do exist. The "catch" is in providing them something to first make them stop, and second to make them stay for awhile (about 2 days in the spring to 7 - 10 days in the fall).

By no means do I consider myself an expert, only one who loves hummingbirds, and was naive enough to believe what I read in books about hummers. Book after book related of attracting hummers with their favorite flowers. To say I was skeptical was the understatement of the year. But because my wife Kathy is a butterfly and flower nut, we decided to pursue a planting program to attract hummers and butterflies. If nothing came, we would have at least decorated the yard!

But did they ever come! The first year was fairly sparse, since many of the perennials were just beginning to get a foothold. One hummer that first spring came to a feeder briefly. That fall, we were encouraged when we actually saw "our hummer" chase a second bird away from the feeder. This year (1997) spring again only produced three birds. But, one of these was a mature male Ruby-throat. Hoping that possibly we had been discovered, we threw ourselves into a more serious study of the "books" and an accelerated planting program. As stated at the beginning, you already know the results of our efforts.

The plants that have proven most effective for us in order of preference by the hummers are: Trumpet Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*), Cardinal Climber (*Ipomea*)*, Mexican Bush Sage (*Salvia Leucantha*), Penstemmon (any variety tagged in your gardening book to attract hummers), *Salvia**, Pineapple Sage (*Salvia Elegans*), and many more [* indicates annuals.] Understand that this is not a complete list of plants earmarked to attract hummers, only what has so far worked for us. We still have many other plants that have yet to bloom and prove their potential. I would recommend any book you can lay your hands on about hummers and attracting them. There are several good ones as close as your local discount store or book

store. Our favorite is *How to Attract Hummingbirds and Butterflies* by Ortho. When reading these articles and books, bear in mind that what you're about to plant has distinct timing as to when it blooms. Also consider that perennials should be hardy for zones 5/6. Because of this, in Kansas it is difficult to have flowers when the first hummers come through in early spring (late March - more likely early April) With this in mind, we've only found one consistent bloomer that time of year the good old Trumpet Honeysuckle. Not only does this guy start trying to bloom in early (March) spring, he stays in bloom until late fall after the first killing frost. Very hardy, this vine can take light frosts and continue to produce.

Our first fall hummer arrived August 9, 1997. The female Broadtail arrived August 20. Noteworthy for amateurs like myself, is that the male birds normally arrive first, followed by the females and last by the immatures. Our last bird (a mature female Ruby-throat) departed October 26, 1997. Our early cold weather this year seemed to cause an early departure, as last year (1996) we had fall birds well into November, even after it had snowed! One other comment here may be necessary if your not experienced with hummers. They don't feed continuously. So grab yourself a comfortable chair, and watch. There average feeding cycle in Larned seems to be about every 10 - 15 minutes if not disturbed.

Should you be interested, I firmly believe you can attract hummers to your backyard. If you live in a community that has avid flower gardeners, so much the better for your opportunity to be successful. Since the majority of our hummers are migratory, keying your flower production to those times is mandatory. Although the hummers will readily come to feeders, their real preference is the flowers. There were times when a week would pass without seeing a hummer at a feeder because they were using the various flowers exclusively. Also, do NOT take your feeders down when you think the birds should be going south, they know when! You may just save some little guy who's late from starving to death, especially if it's after a hard freeze and the bugs and flowers are both gone. (Yes, they eat bugs, gnats is more like it. One of our odd ball drawing cards was our vegetable garden. The hummers not only liked the gnats and other small flying insects but even tried the blooms on the tomato plants!) Our ultimate goal is to continue to provide habitat to encourage hummers to spend the summer and raise little ones. Should you be interested we're home at: Don Kazmaier, 1111 Main, Larned, KS, 67550, 316-285-2970.

FALL ROUND-UP

1 August through 30 November, 1997

by Chris Hobbs

What happened to the post breeding wanderers this year? As Mark Robbins pointed out, very few 1st and 2nd year Little Blue Herons were present at Quivira NWR in early and mid-August, when large numbers are normally expected. No reports were received of sizable congregations of large waders in general.

Little wind shifts from the south to the north during September always produce excitement! After a week of southerly winds, a shift to the north brought migrants pouring through the state beginning 20 September. Grebes, raptors, shorebirds, and many passerines moved through the state during the third week. Pete Janzen described 'clouds' of Vesper Sparrows, as thousands were grounded in Morton County alone!

After balmy temperatures during the first half of October, a northwest cold front marched across Kansas beginning 13 October. What followed over the next 2-3 day period was a massive movement of birds! The first wave of southbound Sandhill and Whooping Cranes appeared in central Kansas, and hundreds of thousands of Franklin's Gulls brought up the rear. The front apparently pushed Western Bluebirds into the southwest, where three individual reports were received. Baird's Sparrows also extended east of their typical migration path, and *Ammodramus* sparrows in general made a good showing, with respectable counts of the normally elusive Nelson's Sharp-tailed and LeConte's, particularly at Slate Creek Wetlands.

Sebastian Patti and Mike Rader were in a state lister's dilemma while birding at Point of Rocks in Morton County on 8 November – relocate that female Western Bluebird that just flew by, or pay attention to those 3 large ravens soaring with that 'little' Red-tailed Hawk?! They opted for the latter, documenting three Common Ravens for Kansas!

Without a doubt, the birding prize was Mike Rader's discovery of a Long-billed Murrelet on 21 November at Wilson Reservoir! Early birders caught sight of the little Asian alcid the following day, but latecomers settled for leftovers, as the bird vanished sometime during the afternoon of 22 November.

Thanks to all who contributed reports directly, or indirectly through the KSBIRD Listserve and KOS Hotline! Both of these resources are invaluable aids for compiling bird sightings in the state, and thanks goes to Chuck Otte, Scott Seltman, and Gene Young for creating and maintaining these important data gathering and distributing services! Also, our thanks should go to the members of the Kansas Bird Records Committee for their careful review and analysis of rarity reports, and for maintaining lofty standards that provide clean, valid data! Finally, I especially wish to thank Pete Janzen for agreeing to take over this reporting job beginning next issue! Good birding! As always, all sightings are tentative pending action by the Bird Records Committee.

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>OBSERVER(S)</u>	<u>DATE(S)</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>
Red-throated Loon	1 – Clinton Lake	Powell, m.ob	10-25/11-08	Douglas
Pacific Loon	1 – Wilson Reservoir	Janzen, et al	11-22	Russell
	1 – Wilson Reservoir	Rader	11-26	Russell
	1 – Wilson Reservoir	Seltman, et al	11-28	Russell
Common Loon	2 – Pottawatomie Co. Lake	Hedinger	10-29	Pottawatomie
	2 – Wilson Rsvr.	Rader	10-29	Russell
Pied-billed Grebe	66 – Wyandotte Co. Lake	Moore	09-20	Wyandotte
Horned Grebe	9 – Liberal's Sewer Lake	Janzen, et al	09-21	Seward
	5 – Harvey Co. East Lake	Dester	10-27	Harvey
	20 – Wilson Reservoir	Rader	10-29	Russell

Eared Grebe	6 – Liberal’s Sewer Lake	Janzen, et al	09-21	Seward
Western Grebe	5 pair at Lake McKinney	Dunn	08-22	Kearny
	5 – Wilson Reservoir	Rader	10-29	Russell
	3 – Wilson Reservoir	Rader	11-03	Russell
	3 – Cheney Lake	Janzen, et al	11-07	Sedgwick
	1 – Harvey Co. East Lake	Dester	11-08	Harvey
	1 – Quivira NWR	Thompson, Young, et al	11-22	Stafford
	4 – Wilson Reservoir	Rader	11-26	Russell
	1 – Wilson Reservoir	Seltman, et al	11-28	Russell
Clark’s Grebe	1 – Wilson Reservoir	Rader	10-29	Russell
	2 – Wilson Reservoir	Rader	11-03	Russell
American Bittern	1 – Quivira NWR	Rader	09-27	Stafford
	2 – Slate Creek Wetlands	Young	10-07	Sumner
	1 – Quivira NWR	Regier	11-20	Stafford
Snowy Egret	10 – Tuttle Creek	Hedinger	08-13	Riley
	120 – Quivira NWR	Rader	09-27	Stafford
	5 – Slate Creek Wetlands	Young	10-07	Sumner
Little Blue Heron	1 ad. along Cimarron R.	Percival	08-29	Morton
	20 imm. Slate Creek Wetlands	Young	10-02	Sumner
	35 imm. – Slate Creek Wetlands	Young	10-07	Sumner
Tri-colored Heron	1 – Quivira NWR	Hicks	09-27	Stafford
Cattle Egret	75+ - Wilson Reservoir	Rader	09-19	Russell
	300 – Quivira NWR	Rader	09-27	Stafford
Yellow-crowned Night Heron	1 juv. – Lake McKinney	Dunn	08-22	Kearny
	2 – Slate Creek Wetlands	Young	10-07	Sumner
White-faced Ibis	1 – near Colwich	Janzen	09-08	Sedgwick
	30 – Quivira NWR	Rader	09-27	Stafford
	4 – Slate Creek Wetlands	Young, Thompson	10-02	Sumner
Turkey Vulture	1 – near La Cygne	McHugh	11-15	Linn
	1 – near Lawrence	J & E Zellmer	11-23	Douglas
Greater White-fronted Goose	50,000 – Quivira NWR	Hilley, manager	11-01	Stafford
Ross’ Goose	1 – John Redmond Rsvr.	F Young, Brobisky	10-24	Coffey
	1 – Pawnee Co. 1 st ?	Seltman	11-09	Pawnee
Trumpeter Swan	1 – Lake McKinney	Nonhof, et al	11-20	Kearny
Tundra Swan	1 ad. – Alma Sewage Ponds	LaShelle	11-01/02	Wabaunsee
	3 – Quivira NWR	Seltman	11-15	Stafford
	3 still present – Quivira NWR	Thompson, Young, et al	11-22	Stafford
Mottled Duck	1 male – Nature Conservancy prop.	Seltman	08-07	Barton
Cinnamon Teal	1 – Colwich Wetlands	Janzen, Hicks, Schwab	08-24/30	Sedgwick

Surf Scoter	1 fem. – Lake Wabaunsee sew. pond	LaShelle	11-02	Wabaunsee
	7 – Lake Quivira	Cooper	11-08	Johnson
	1 – Lake Wabaunsee	LaShelle	11-08	Wabaunsee
White-winged Scoter	1 – Milford Lake	Otte	10-21	Geary
	1- Cheyenne Bottoms	Janzen, et al	11-22	Barton
	1- Wilson Reservoir	Rader	11-26	Russell
	1 fem – Wilson Reservoir	Seltman, et al	11-28	Russell
Black Scoter	1 male – Tuttle Creek Rsvr.	Cable	10-26	Riley
	2 – Pottawatomie Co. Lake #2	Runco	11-11	Pottawatomie
Oldsquaw	5 (3 fem, 2 males) - Quivira NWR	Robbins, et al	11-07	Stafford
	5 still present – Quivira NWR	Seltman	11-15	Stafford
	1 – Wilson Reservoir	Rucker, Ottes	11-23	Russell
	1 – Wilson Reservoir	Seltman, et al	11-28	Russell
Common Goldeneye	12 – new arrivals at Wilson Rsvr.	Rader	10-29	Russell
Red-breasted Merganser	3 – Wilson Reservoir	Rader	11-03	Russell
	1 – fem. at Wilson Reservoir	m. ob.	11-22	Russell
	17 – Winfield City Lake	Thompson	11-23	Cowley
	10 – Winfield City Lake	Thompson	11-28	Cowley
Osprey	1 – Wyandotte Co. Lake	Moore	10-25	Wyandotte
Mississippi Kite	1 – summered in Prairie Village	Leo	08-21	Johnson
	50 migrants at Cheyenne Bottoms	Land, et al	08-30	Barton
	1 – Liberal	Janzen, et al	09-21	Seward
	23 imm. – Garden City	Shane	09-27	Finney
Northern Harrier	100+ in Pawnee Co.	Seltman	10-07	Pawnee
Cooper's Hawk	1 – Towanda	Broyles	08-14	Butler
	1 – Greensburg	Broyles	08-18	Butler
	1 – imm near Towanda	Broyles	08-19	Butler
Northern Goshawk	1 ad – near Lenora	Seltman	10-22	Norton
Red-shouldered Hawk	1 – near Ark R. at OK border	Janzen	09-01	Cowley
	1 – Quivira NWR	Seltman, Rader	11-15	Stafford
Broad-winged Hawk	1 – along Cimarron R.	Percival, Rader, et al	09-14	Morton
	1 – Wilson Reservoir	Rader	09-17	Russell
	1 – Wilson Reservoir	Rader	09-19	Russell
	10 (incl. 1 dark morph) – Mulvane	Hicks	09-29	Sumner
Swainson's Hawk	40+ roosting in Seltman's yard	Seltman	09-14	Rush
	325 – bean fields near Walnut R.	Young, Thompson	10-08	Cowley
Ferruginous Hawk	1 – Cheyenne Bottoms	Land, et al	08-30	Barton
	1 – Quivira NWR	Thompson, Young, et al	11-22	Stafford
Golden Eagle	1 – Butler Co.	Broyles	11-20	Butler
	1 – Quivira NWR	Thompson, Young, et al	11-22	Stafford

Merlin	1 – Harvey Co. West Park	Friesen, Hesed	09-28	Harvey
	1 – Liberal’s Sewer Lake	Janzen, et al	09-21	Seward
	1 – Cheyenne Bottoms	Thompson, Young, et al	11-04	Barton
	1 – Lake Afton	Janzen, et al	11-15	Sedgwick
Peregrine Falcon	1 – dark individual – Chey. Btms.	Patti, Preston, Siglar, et al	09-11	Barton
Scaled Quail	10 – near Elkhart	Janzen, et al	09-20	Morton
Yellow Rail	1 – Baker Wetlands	Kluza, Bostwick	10-18	Douglas
Common Moorhen	2 – Cheyenne Bottoms	Thompson, Young, et al	11-04	Barton
	1 – Quivira NWR – late record	Robbins	11-07	Stafford
Sandhill Crane	1 st southbound wave over Rush	Seltman	10-15	Rush
	90,000 – Quivira NWR	Hilley, manager	11-01	Stafford
	1000’s present – Quivira NWR	Thompson, Young, et al	11-22	Stafford
Whooping Crane	1 – 1 st report – Cheyenne Bottoms	Smeltzer	10-16	Barton
	3 – near Wichita	Northrup	10-23	Sedgwick
	13 – Quivira NWR	Hilley, manager	10-25	Stafford
	4 ad – Garden City	Shane	10-26	Finney
	1 – flying over sw. Rush Co.	Seltman	10-26	Rush
	4 – Quivira NWR-late!	Regier	11-04	Stafford
Black-bellied Plover	1 - Clinton Lake	McHugh & Fisher	08-02	Douglas
	3 – Tuttle Creek	Hedinger	08-13	Riley
	3 – Liberal’s Sewer Lake	Janzen, et al	09-21	Seward
	2 – Quivira NWR	Beckemeyer	11-07	Stafford
Snowy Plover	30 – Quivira NWR	Rader	09-27	Stafford
Semipalmated Plover	8 – Wichita	Janzen	08-10	Sedgwick
	1 – Lake Shawnee	Arbesy	10-27	Shawnee
American Avocet	42 – Wilson Rsvr.	Rader	10-21	Russell
	2 – Quivira NWR	Robbins	11-07	Stafford
	7 – Quivira NWR	Thompson, Young, et al	11-22	Stafford
Greater Yellowlegs	1 – Quivira NWR	Regier	11-20	Stafford
Solitary Sandpiper	7 – pond near Derby	Janzen	08-04	Sedgwick
	1 – Slate Creek Wetlands	Young, Thompson	10-02	Sumner
	1 – near Lawrence	Robbins	10-18/22	Douglas
Upland Sandpiper	100’s – Great Bend & Quivira	Robbins	08-10	Barton/Stafford
Whimbrel	8 – pond near Derby	Hicks	08-04	Sedgwick
Long-billed Curlew	1 – Quivira NWR	McNeill	09-14	Stafford
	2 – Quivira NWR – late!	Janzen, Vannoy	11-04	Stafford
Marbled Godwit	6 – Quivira NWR	Land, et al	08-31	Stafford
	1 – Liberal’s Sewer Lake	Siglar, et al	09-12	Seward

Ruddy Turnstone	1 – Liberal Sewer Lake – Co. 1 st	Thompson	08-31	Seward
Red Knot	16 – pond near Derby	Hicks	08-04	Sedgwick
	14 – pond near Derby	Janzen	08-05	Sedgwick
	1 – basic plumage – Colwich	Janzen	08-24	Sedgwick
Sanderling	1 – pond near Derby	Janzen	08-04	Sedgwick
	1 – Elkhart sewage ponds	Janzen, et al	09-21	Morton
	24 – Quivira NWR	Rader	09-27	Stafford
	1 – Quivira NWR	Thompson, Young, et al	11-04	Stafford
Semipalmated Sandpiper	104 (!) – Slate Creek Wetlands	Young	10-07	Sumner
Least Sandpiper	577 – Slate Creek Wetlands	Young	10-07	Sumner
Baird’s Sandpiper	3 – Quivira NWR	Robbins	11-23	Stafford
Dunlin	2 – Fish Farms at Lawrence	Moore	10-28	Douglas
	28 – Quivira NWR	Thompson, Young, et al	11-04	Stafford
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	1 - Ferguson Marsh, Perry Lake	McHugh, Fisher	08-02	Jefferson
	1 – pond near Derby	Hicks, Janzen	08-04/05	Sedgwick
	2 – sod farms near Stilwell	McHugh	08-22	Johnson
	4 – Colwich Wetlands	Janzen	08-24	Sedgwick
Short-billed Dowitcher	1 – nw Wichita	Janzen	08-03	Sedgwick
	1 – Elkhart sewage ponds	Janzen, et al	09-21	Morton
	2 – Quivira NWR	Rader	09-27	Stafford
Long-billed Dowitcher	10 – Quivira NWR	Rader	09-27	Stafford
	25 – Slate Creek Wetlands	Young	10-07	Sumner
Common Snipe	50 – Fish Farms at Lawrence	Moore	10-28	Douglas
American Woodcock	1 – Osage Nature Trail	Dester	10-26	Harvey
Red-necked Phalarope	1 juv. North of Garden City	Dunn	08-21/22	Finney
	1 – Liberal’s Sewer Lake	Thompson, et al	08-31	Seward
	2 – Liberal’s Sewer Lake	Patti, Preston, et al	09-12	Seward
	10 – Quivira NWR	Hobbs, Patti, Preston	09-15	Stafford
	16 – Liberal’s Sewer Lake	Janzen, et al	09-21	Seward
Franklin’s Gull	(1 albino) – Cheney Rsvr.	Northrup	10-23	Sedgwick
	100,000+ - John Redmond Rsvr.	F Young, Brobisky	10-24	Coffey
	500,000 – Cheney Rsvr.	Janzen	10-24	Sedgwick
Bonaparte’s Gull	300 – Clinton Lake	Moore	10-28	Douglas
California Gull	1 – Basic II – Clinton Lake	McHugh/Swalwell	11-08/09	Douglas
Sabine’s Gull	1 - 1 st year – Cheyenne Bottoms	Siglar, Percival, et al	09-11	Barton
	1 - 1 st year – Quivira NWR	Hobbs, Patti, Preston	09-15/27	Stafford
Common Tern	7 imm. – Clinton Lake	McHugh, Pittman, Seibel	10-11	Douglas

<u>Long-Billed Murrelet</u>	1 – Wilson Rsvr. – 1 st state record	Rader, m.ob	11-21/22	Russell
<u>Eurasian Collared-Dove</u>	2-3 in Goodland – still present	Cable, m.ob	08-09	Sherman
<u>White-Winged Dove</u>	1 at feeder in Hutchinson (photos)	Willbanks	08-30/09-15	Reno
<u>Inca Dove</u>	1 – in Wichita since first of year	Gilmore, m.ob	thru 09-02	Sedgwick
	1 – Elkhart	Rader, et al	09-13	Morton
	2 – Elkhart	R & L Smith	10-25/31	Morton
<u>Western Screech-Owl</u>	2 – along Cimarron R. at CO border	Patti, et al	08-29	Morton
	1 – along Cimarron R. at CO border	Patti, et al	09-12	Morton
Long-eared Owl	1 – work station at Cimarron NG	Rakestraw	08-11	Morton
	1 – suburban Topeka	Brier	11-02	Shawnee
Chuck-will's-Widow	1 – KSU Horticultural Center	Janzen	09-09	Sedgwick
<i>Archilochus, sp.</i>	1 fem at Elkhart	Giddens residence	08-30	Morton
	1 – Elkhart	Janzen, et al	09-21	Morton
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	1 ad male at Liberal	Patti	08-31	Seward
<u>Broad-Tailed Hummingbird</u>	1 female at Larned	Kazmaier	08-20/22	Pawnee
Rufous Hummingbird	1 ad male in Winfield	Steiners	08-31/09-02	Sumner
	1 – north Wichita	McFarland	09-12/14	Sedgwick
	1 – Overland Park	Taylor, Garrett, Leo	11-20/30	Johnson
<u>Lewis' Woodpecker</u>	1 – Yocemento	Kraus, m.ob	10-28/11-04	Ellis
Ladder-backed Woodpecker	1 male – Middle Spg, Cimarron NG	Seltman	10-18	Morton
	2 – near Point of Rocks	Patti, Rader	11-10	Morton
Olive-sided Flycatcher	1 – near Newton	Dester	08-10	Harvey
	1 – Emporia	Trelc	08-17	Lyon
	1 – Cheyenne Bottoms	Kluza, Watson	08-18	Barton
	1 – near Arkansas R. at OK border	Janzen	09-01	Cowley
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	2 – Marais des Cygne WA	McHugh	09-06	Linn
	4 – Wyandotte Co. Lake	Moore	09-10	Wyandotte
Hammond's Flycatcher	2 – Elkhart alley	Janzen, et al	09-20	Morton
<u>Dusky Flycatcher</u>	1 – North Fork	Percival, Rader, et al	09-13	Morton
<u>Gray Flycatcher</u>	1 – work station, Cimarron NG	Percival	08-28	Morton
	1 – Boy Scout area, Cimarron NG	Vannoy, et al	09-14	Morton
	1 – Boy Scout area, Cimarron NG	Janzen, et al	09-21	Morton
Cordilleran Flycatcher	1 – Elkhart Cemetery shelterbelt	Patti, et al	08-29	Morton
	1 – North Fork of Cimarron R.	Patti, et al	08-30	Morton
	10+ total observed in county	Thompson, et al	08-30	Morton
	1 – work station near Elkhart	Siglar	09-14	Morton

Ash-throated Flycatcher	1 – below Point of Rocks 1 – Marais des Cygne – pend MBRC	Rakestraw McHugh	08-11 09-06	Morton Linn
<u>Cassin's Kingbird</u>	1 – Middle Spgs, Cimarron NG	Patti, Siglar, et al	09-12	Morton
Western Kingbird	50+ migrants – Great Bend area 300+ migrants – near Elkhart only 3 left! - near Elkhart 4 – near Elkhart	Robbins Thompson, et al Thompson, et al Janzen, et al	08-08 08-30 08-31 09-21	Barton Morton Morton Morton
Eastern Kingbird	50+ migrants – Great Bend area 100's migrating – Tuttle Creek	Robbins Cable	08-08 08-30/31	Barton Riley
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	1 – Olathe	Arbesy	10-28	Johnson
Northern Shrike	1 juv – near Lenora 1 adult near Larned 1 adult – Rozel 1 adult – Wilson Reservoir 1 adult – Wilson Reservoir	Seltman Seltman Seltman Rader Seltman, et al	10-22 10-28 11-04 11-16 11-28	Norton Pawnee Pawnee Russell Russell
Blue-headed Vireo	1 – Wilson Reservoir 10+ – Maple Grove Cemetery	Rader Gresham	09-21 09-24	Russell Sedgwick
<u>Cassin's Vireo</u>	2 – Elkhart Cemetery shelterbelt	Preston, Percival, et al	09-12	Morton
Warbling Vireo	10+ - Chisholm Creek Park	Janzen	09-12	Sedgwick
Philadelphia Vireo	3 – Cheyenne Bottoms 1 – Chisholm Creek Park 1 – Woodson Co. State Fishing Lk.	Land Janzen Schwab	08-30 09-12 09-25	Barton Sedgwick Woodson
Blue Jay	400+ - Slate Creek Wetlands	Young, Thompson	10-02	Sumner
<u>Common Raven</u>	3 – Point of Rocks	Patti, Rader	11-08	Morton
Purple Martin	100's migrating – Tuttle Creek	Cable	09-01	Riley
Carolina Chickadee	3 – Meade State Lake	Janzen, et al	09-21	Meade
<u>Bushtit</u>	a few in Elkhart	Patti, Rader	11-08	Morton
Red-breasted Nuthatch	3 – Junction City Cemetery	Otte	09-04	Geary
White-breasted Nuthatch	'high' numbers along Cimarron R.	Seltman	10-18	Morton
<u>Canyon Wren</u>	1 – Point of Rocks	Vannoy, et al	09-14	Morton
Carolina Wren	1 – St. Francis	Rueb	11-15/16	Cheyenne
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	12 – Wyandotte Co. Lake	Moore	09-20	Wyandotte
<u>Western Bluebird</u>	1 female – Bear Creek 1 – Elkhart sewage ponds 1 female – Point of Rocks	Seltman R & L Smith Patti	10-18 10-20 11-08	Stanton Morton Morton

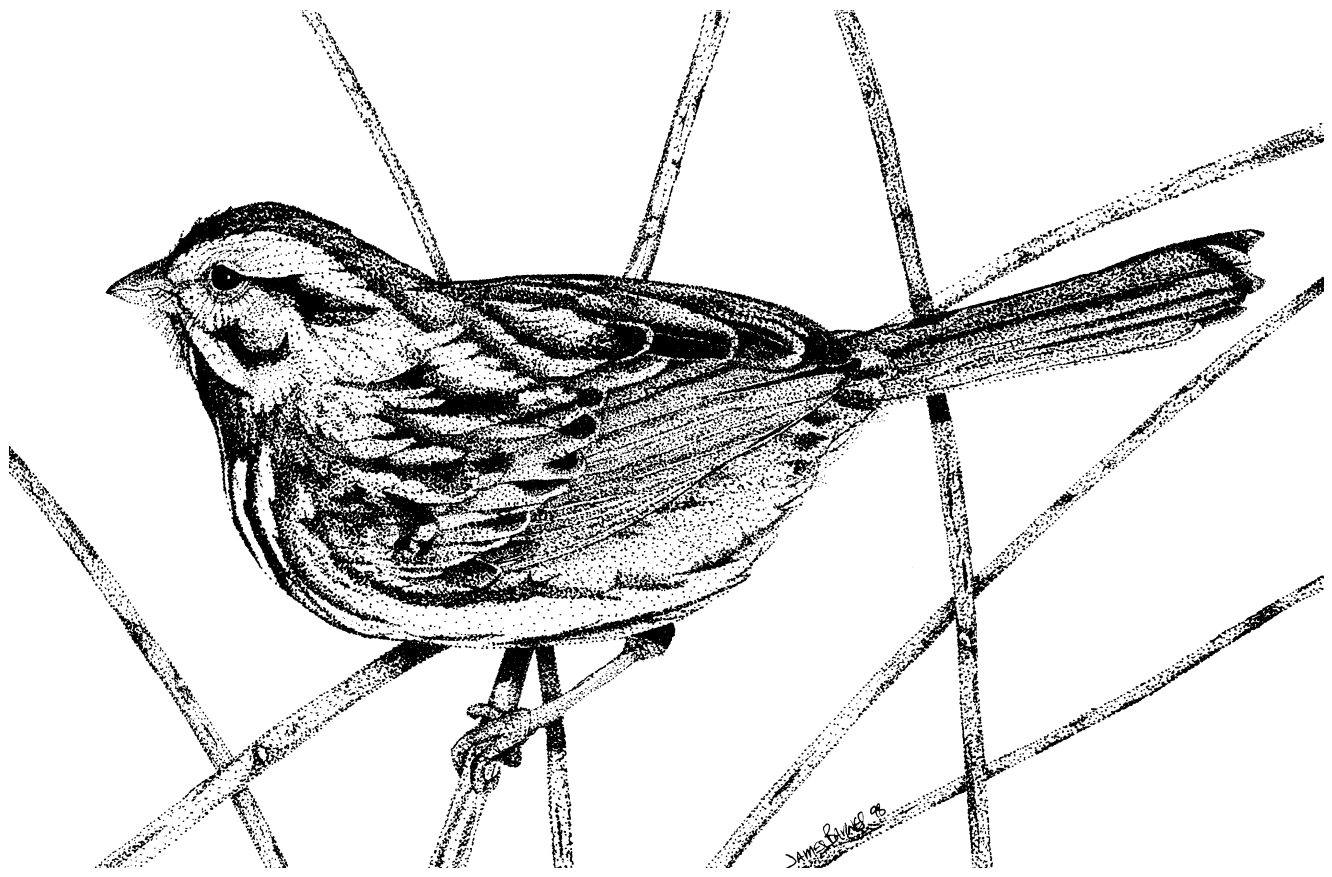
Mountain Bluebird	a few migrants near Elkhart 3 – Wilson Reservoir	Seltman Hicks	10-18 11-23	Morton Russell
Hermit Thrush	1 – Wilson Reservoir	Rader	10-21	Russell
<u>Varied Thrush</u>	1 - Elkhart	R & L Smith	10-27	Morton
<u>Sage Thrasher</u>	1 – Middle Spg, Cimarron NG 1 – nw of Larned	McNeill, et al Seltman	09-16 09-21	Morton Pawnee
Curve-billed Thrasher	1 – near work station 1 – near work station	Vannoy, et al Janzen, et al	09-14 09-20	Morton Morton
Sprague's Pipit	a few northwest of Larned	Seltman	09-30	Pawnee
Blue-winged Warbler	1 imm. – Marais des Cygne WA	McHugh	09-06	Linn
Golden-winged Warbler	1 – along River Road	Plinsky, McDowells	09-23	Shawnee
Tennessee Warbler	2 – Chisholm Creek Park 1 – Grantville	Janzen Volmut	09-22 09-28	Sedgwick Jefferson
Nashville Warbler	25 – Wyandotte Co. Lake	Moore	09-20	Wyandotte
Yellow-rumped Warbler	100's at Wyandotte Co. Lake	Moore	10-25	Wyandotte
Black-throated Gray Warbler	1 – work station 1 – work station	Percival Patti, Percival et al	08-28 09-12	Morton Morton
Black-throated Green Warbler	25+ – Maple Grove Cemetery	Janzen	09-25	Sedgwick
Pine Warbler	1 – near Newton 1 – Richardson Zoo, Garden City 1 – McPherson Valley Wetland 1 – Maple Grove Cemetery	Dester Dunn Hicks, Schwab Gresham	08-02 08-22 08-31 09-24	Harvey Finney McPherson Sedgwick
Blackpoll Warbler	1 – Boy Scout area, Cimarron NG	Cable, Percival, et al	09-12	Morton
Cerulean Warbler	1 imm. at Marais des Cygne WA	McHugh	08-22	Linn
Mourning Warbler	2 – Junction City Cemetery 1 – Marais des Cygne WA 2 – Wilson Reservoir 1 – Grantville	Otte McHugh Rader Volmut	09-04 09-06 09-21 09-28	Geary Linn Russell Jefferson
Hooded Warbler	1 imm male at Perry Lake	McHugh	08-09	Jefferson
Canada Warbler	1 – Wolf Creek Power Lake 5 – Marais des Cygne WA 1 – Elkhart Cemetery shelterbelt 1 – Maple Grove Cemetery	Trelc McHugh Percival, et al Gresham	08-31 09-06 09-12 09-24	Coffey Linn Morton Sedgwick
Scarlet Tanager	1 female – Maple Grove Cemetery	Janzen	09-25	Sedgwick
Western Tanager	1 imm. at Cimarron R. near Elkhart	Kluza, Watson	08-17	Morton

Green-tailed Towhee	1 – Elkhart alley	Janzen, et al	09-20	Morton
Eastern Towhee	1 male – Seltman’s yard	Seltman	10-22	Rush
	1 – Wyandotte Co. Lake	Moore	10-25	Wyandotte
Spotted Towhee	5 – Chisholm Creek Park	fide Janzen	09-29	Sedgwick
American Tree Sparrow	4 – Rush County	Seltman	09-24	Rush
Vesper Sparrow	1000’s of grounded migrants	Janzen, et al	09-20	Morton
<u>Baird’s Sparrow</u>	2 – Harvey Co. East Lake Trail	Janzen, Dester	10-14	Harvey
	1 – near Topeka	Koontz, Frey	10-21	Shawnee
LeConte’s Sparrow	9 – Milford Reservoir	Cable, Otte	10-17	Geary
	2 – Rush County	Seltman	10-27	Rush
	17 – Slate Creek Wetlands	Young	10-28	Sumner
Nelson’s Sharp-tailed Sparrow	2 – Milford Lake	Otte	10-03	Geary
	several’ – Slate Creek Wetlands	Thompson, et al	10-23	Sumner
	4 – Slate Creek Wetlands	Hicks	10-26	Sumner
	6 – Slate Creek Wetlands	Young	10-28	Sumner
Dark-eyed Junco	1 st of the fall – Harvey Co. West Pk.	Friesen, Hesed	09-28	Harvey
<u>‘White-Winged’ Junco</u>	1 – banded in Winfield	Thompson	11-25	Cowley
Lapland Longspur	10,000 – Rush Co.	Seltman	11-15	Rush
Smith’s Longspur	2 – Melvern Rsvr. – Eisenhower SP	Brier	10-29	Coffey
Chestnut-collared Longspur	‘many’ migrants heard overhead	Seltman	10-18	Morton/Stanton
Northern Cardinal	1 juv being fed by adult – Elkhart	Janzen, et al	09-21	Morton
Black-headed Grosbeak	1 female – Elkhart	Janzen, et al	09-21	Morton
Lazuli Bunting	1 – Middle Spring, Cimarron NG	Janzen, et al	09-20	Morton
Painted Bunting	1 ad. male – K-96 bridge in Wichita	Barnes, Janzen	08-09/10	Sedgwick
Dickcissel	3 – overhead migrants - Elkhart	Janzen, et al	09-21	Morton
Bobolink	1 LATE imm. male – Lawrence	Robbins	11-09	Douglas
Orchard Oriole	100+ near Elkhart	Thompson, et al	08-30	Morton
Bullock’s Oriole	1 – Mulvane	Hicks	09-09	Sedgwick
Purple Finch	2 – Clinton Lake	Moore	10-28	Douglas
Red Crossbill	1 fly over – Elkhart	Patti	08-30	Morton
White-Winged Crossbill	1 – Olathe	Arnett, m. ob	11-10/17	Johnson

Common Redpoll	1 – early fall record – Lawrence	Robbins	11-09	Douglas
Evening Grosbeak	4 early migrants – west Wichita	Northrup	09-30	Sedgwick

OBSERVERS: Michael Arbesy, Debarah Arnett, James Barnes, Pat & Roy Beckemeyer, Kim Bostwick, Joanne Brier, Curtis Brobisky, Bob Broyles, Ted Cable, Mike Cooper, Bob Dester, Jon Dunn, Greg Farley, Bob Fisher, John Frey, Gregg Friesen, JoAnne Garrett, Chet Gresham, Chod Hedding, Larry Hesed, Tyler Hicks, Dave Hilley, Chris Hobbs, Pete Janzen, Don Kazmaier, Dan Kluza, Glen Koontz, Charlie Kraus, Mark Land, Dan LaShelle, Nancy Leo, Erin & Kathy McDowell, Jane McFarland, Mick McHugh, Roger McNeill, Lloyd Moore, Art Nonhof, John Northrup, Chuck & Jaye Otte, Sebastian Patti, Brandon Percival, Galen Pittman, Marie Plinsky, Alexis Powell, Eric Preston, Mike Rader, John Rakestraw, Bob Regier, Mark Robbins, Richard Rucker, Chad Runco, Carolyn Schwab, David Seibel, Scott Seltman, Sara & Tom Shane, Andy Siglar, Keith Smeltzer, Ruth & Lawrence Smith, Joe Steiners, Art Swalwell, George Taylor, Max Thompson, Bill Trelc, Don Vannoy, Joyce Volmut, Dave Watson, Linda Willbanks, Fred Young, Gene Young, Jim & Ellen Zellmer.

Kansas Rare Bird Alert - 316-229-2777



Song Sparrow by James Barnes

Bird Records - What Happens To Them?

by Eugene A. Young, Hotline Compiler

All bird records assist ornithologist across the country in understanding the distribution of birds, their migrational patterns, population status etc. To that extent all records are important. While each of us may collect bird records for different reasons (enjoyment, listing, hobby, profession etc.) one must keep in mind that all records, sight, photo, video, specimen etc., are a valuable tool.

Recent controversy over bird records is nothing new. What is new is the number of people providing records, the mechanism by which records are obtained (i.e. video), and the way in which records are evaluated. In KOS there are three main avenues to report bird records: 1) the bird roundups in the KOS Newsletter; 2) the KOS and Southwestern College sponsored Rare Bird Alert (RBA); and 3) the Kansas Rare Bird Records Committee (KBRC). I want to take a few moments to explain how records from each of these are obtained.

KOS Roundups -- Over the years several people (Scott Seltman, Chuck Otte, Chris Hobbs, and currently Pete Janzen) have been involved in gathering records for the KOS Newsletter. These records can come from a variety of sources: personal communication, letters, e-mail, the Kansas List Serve, and the RBA. Most of these records are unconfirmed sight records.

RBA -- The RBA was started in June 1984, by Marvin Schwillig. Scott Seltman took over responsibility in February 1990 and ran it until I took it over last fall. Records for the RBA come from the hotline voice-mail, e-mail, Kansas List Serve, and personal communication. Most of these records are of unconfirmed sight records.

KBRC -- This committee was formed to help document the occurrence of rare species in the state. It is a vigorous attempt to determine the status of species for which there are few records. Records are obtained from individuals who fill out a form that is submitted to the KBRC committee. The KBRC committee evaluates the documentation submitted and then votes on the record to determine if it is accepted or rejected.

Knowing how these records are obtained is important, because it can help you in deciding how much effort you want to put into documenting a bird. Not all birders want to take time to photograph or to make lengthy reports on the rare birds they see. In an ideal world, I suppose we would all be happy to have the time to obtain the physical

evidence or to write down detailed notes about the birds we see.

Perhaps the most important point of all of this is that all records reported to the Roundups, RBA, and KBRC are available for scientific scrutiny. All records that are received for the Roundup and RBA are saved and distributed to the various databases on Kansas birds, even if they are not included in the Newsletter or on the RBA. Sometimes records are deleted from these by mistake or for specific purposes (for a variety of reasons). For example, on the RBA, people frequently call about their Song Sparrows singing, or they provide a detailed list of 15 species of waterfowl with corresponding numbers and the only rare one is a Brant, which is the only one put on the hotline. I save all of these records and forward them so they can be put in one of the state's databases.

As most of you know, Max C. Thompson and Charles Ely have been documenting and working together on birds in Kansas for almost 40 years. Thompson and his students update county records via a database that was developed for Kansas birds through a grant from the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks and the Chickadee Check-off Program. Ely continues to compile records and add them to his database of Kansas birds at his retirement home in Texas. Many of their records come from those reported to the Round-up and RBA coordinators. In addition, some people are working on county checklist or certain taxa and records are distributed to them as well.

KBRC records are also scrutinized by those working on county lists or state lists. All records, rejected or accepted, are archived as well. A rejected record by the KBRC does not necessarily mean that a person(s) working on a county list or those working on the state list will reject the record. Accepted KBRC records may even be rejected by some.

All of this means, that ultimately, all records are subject to a certain degree of examination, albeit, some more than others. Do not be dismayed if your record is rejected by KBRC, or omitted from the Roundups or the RBA. The data from each record is still used, it is not lost. Each and every KOS member has the opportunity to add to the wealth of knowledge already known about KS birds, but more is needed. So please continue to send in records to KOS because they play a key role in understanding ornithology in Kansas.

- - a call for assistance

The Oklahoma Breeding Bird Atlas Project

The Oklahoma Breeding Bird Atlas Project consists of a statewide survey of nesting birds which is conducted by volunteer birders. Atlas projects have been undertaken in over 40 states and are usually conducted over a five-year period. Our project began in 1997 and will continue through 2001. The areas surveyed (called random blocks) are about 10 square miles in size and are randomly located throughout all regions of the state. About 600 of these blocks need to be surveyed by 2001 in Oklahoma. The final product will be a published encyclopedic-type atlas displaying maps with the most up-to-date and complete information available on Oklahoma's breeding bird life. The Sutton Avian Research Center in Bartlesville and the Oklahoma Biological Survey at the University of Oklahoma are coordinating the project.

Sign up sheets and inquiries may be sent to:

Dan Reinking
Sutton Avian Research Center
P.O. Box 2007
Bartlesville, OK 74005-2007
Phone: (918) 336-7778
e-mail: GMSARC@aol.com

(editors note: It appears that the Oklahoma project is very similar to our own. Ten hours is considered the minimum time per block. If you live close to Oklahoma, or want to take some vacation time to go down and help, please contact Dan and let's give Oklahoma a hand on this!)

The Canyonlands: Southeast Logan County Winter Bird Count participants ready to move on after a break and a change to dry socks. The count, conducted on December 30, 1997, covered 8.5 miles on foot. Left to right are: Debra Bolton, Barbara Campbell and Greg Farley. *photo by Tom Shane*

Colorado Field Ornithologists Convention

May 8 - 10, 1998

Lamar, Colorado

KOS members have been invited to the Colorado Field Ornithologists (CFO) Spring Convention. There are several things that make this convention attractive. It is close to Kansas. Lamar is just 100 miles west of Garden City on Hwy. 50. It is at a good time of the year for migrants. CFO members are going to southeastern Colorado to look for eastern vagrants, so it only stands to reason that Kansas birders could go there looking for some of the western specialties! The registration brochure for the meeting is 8 pages in length. I'll try to condense the highlights and important contact information down to one page.

Friday, May 8th, Lamar Colorado, The Cow Palace, 1301 North Main, 6 pm to 10 pm check-in/social.

Saturday, May 9th, Field Trips - listing follows schedule - Member slide show at 7 pm.

Sunday, May 10th, 1/2 day morning field trips. Afternoon Paper Session at 1:30 p.m. Banquet Buffet at 7:00 p.m., program at 8:15. Program Speaker will be Jon Dunn. Mr. Dunn was a chief consultant for *The National Geographic Society's Field Guide to the Birds of North America*. His latest book, *A Field Guide to Warblers of North America*, with Kimball Garrett, was published late last summer.

Saturday Field Trips:

1/2 day trips

1. Hasty and John Martin Reservoir areas, leaders: Clif Smith and Pearle Sandstrom-Smith
2. Great Plains Reservoirs, leader: Duane Nelson.
3. Fort Lyon area, leader: Brandon Percival.
4. Two Buttes Reservoir, leader: Joey Kellner

Full Day Trips

5. Cottonwood Canyon and Baca County, leader: Mark Janos
6. LaJunta area, leader: Van Truan

Sunday Field Trips

1. Bent's Fort (combined birder/non-birder trip)
2. Great Plains Reservoir
3. Fort Lyon area
4. Two Buttes Reservoir
5. Holly area

If you want to attend this meeting you need to hurry as pre-registration needs to be in by April 15. Pre-registration is \$30 for members, \$40 for non-members. The banquet buffet is \$14. Field trip sack lunches are \$5. The registration brochure has a list of nine motels in Lamar ranging in prices from the mid \$20 to the mid \$40.

How do you register? Contact their registration chairperson!

Pearle Sandstrom-Smith
2823 5th Ave
Pueblo, CO 81003

719-543-6427

Or contact the Horned Lark editor (see front page, Who's Who) and I can FAX or mail you a copy of the registration brochure.

Miscellaneous Stuff

Great Plains Nature Photographers

This group got organized with a successful meeting last fall with over 100 photographers in attendance at Lindsborg. They have set dates for their next two meetings.

Their spring meeting will be April 18th at the Great Plains Nature Center in Wichita. The fall meeting will be November 21, tentatively scheduled for Emporia. Single registration for the spring meeting is \$10, \$15 for a family registration. To register, or to get more information) contact: Larry Rosenkoetter, 204 W. Columbus, Lindsborg, KS 67456, (785) 227-3294

Gleanings

There have been a couple of recent meetings that this editor has attended. The KOS Winter Board Meeting met in Wichita on February 28th.

Quite a bit of the morning discussion centered around the upcoming 50th Anniversary meeting in Lawrence. This will be a gala celebration which will include the chance to visit with and listen to some of the legendary figures of Kansas Ornithology. If you can squeeze in the time, you could get a chance to view some of the study skins at KU including those of extinct or extirpated species. Jim Mayhew and Chuck Otte are compiling an updated history of KOS. If you have anything you can share with us please let us know as soon as possible, (addresses are on the front page).

There was a report from the Kansas Bird Records Committee. They had met at KU recently and spent time studying skins of recently split species (the former Solitary Vireo complex for one) and other confusing groups. Look for more good projects out of this committee to help KOS members sharpen their ornithological skills.

We also discussed the Dingus Natural Area. KOS owns this area near Mound City and we will need to be getting some volunteer help together to do some upkeep and improvements. If you would like to help, contact Jim Mayhew.

Local Field Trips

If there is one thing that will get more people joining and involved in KOS it's local activities. I encourage other members to lead local field trips. You don't have to be a Roger Tory Peterson, just set a date, time and place; advertise it; show up and lead it. If you are just learning yourself let everyone know that this is definitely a beginners trip and have fun. Encourage families and children to come along. Contact our KOS Business Manager, James Barnes (see front page) and ask him to send you some membership brochures and hand them out.

Some of the information that Ken Brunson has gotten together to support the Teaming With Wildlife effort is pretty astounding. In Kansas 586,000 people observe wildlife, 126,500 photograph wildlife, 761,100 feed wildlife and 109,000 people maintain natural wildlife plantings. In total, more than 844,000 Kansans and out of state visitors attend events relate to, or making use of, Kansas' outdoor resources. The amazing part of all of this is that these figures are from a 1991 study. Since that time, everyone is pretty well in agreement that the numbers have increased dramatically. Let's take advantage of this interest and get these folks familiar with KOS.

To put my time where my mouth is here are dates for upcoming bird walks in the **Milford Lake** area. All these walks are on Saturdays, they start at 8:00 a.m., and will leave from the Milford Nature Center, below the dam at Milford Lake (look for the signs.) April 18, May 16, June 20 and July 18. All trips will be lead by Chuck Otte, they usually last about 2 hours, birders of all experience are welcome - especially beginners and youth, and we will explore areas around and near Milford Lake.

If you are leading local field trips please drop me a note and I will announce those in future issues!

I've spent most of my life birding. The rest I've just wasted! *Modified after a sign in a Garden City establishment by Tom Shane*

KOS Spring Field Trip Announcement and Registration Form
May 1 - 3, 1998
(with optional activities April 30)
The Red Hills of Kansas

The Spring Field Trip of the Kansas Ornithological Society will be in the scenic Red Hills of Kansas this year. Plan now to attend for a chance to view some of the most appealing scenery in Kansas, and a chance to find some of the more sought-after birds in the state. The trip planning committee, composed of Bill Busby, Gregg Friesen, Pete Janzen, Jim Nickel, and Eddie Stegall, invites you to participate in this exciting event! Non-members are welcome to attend as well.

The weekend will start with a campout at Coldwater Lake Thursday night, April 30. There is a \$7.00 fee for overnight camping at the lake. The primary goal is to listen for Black Rails and other marsh birds. On Friday, the group will meet arriving birders by 10 am, and depart the lake for a tour of the Red Hills area, which will arrive at Medicine Lodge in the late afternoon.

Headquarters for the remainder of the weekend is the Copa Motel in Medicine Lodge. A block of rooms has been set aside for the 1st and 2nd of May. Be sure to identify yourself as a member of KOS. I have been quoted \$41.95 for a room with 2 queen-size beds. There are only a handful of eating establishments in Medicine Lodge. These include a Pizza Hut, a mom & pop burger stand, a truck stop, and a couple of convenience stores. The group will meet at a quaint tavern in Sun City on Saturday night for compilation, and at the Pizza Hut in Medicine Lodge for the noon meal on Sunday. Trip participants are responsible for paying for these meals. All other meals are on your own. Please plan accordingly.

There will be two main field trips on Saturday. One will visit the canyons along the Salt Fork in south-eastern Comanche County. This trip offers some up-close looks at seldom-visited areas, including Swartz Canyon, where Rufous-crowned Sparrow is a possibility, and species such as Rock Wren and Painted Bunting are surprisingly common. People planning to go on this trip are advised to drive vehicles with high clearance and/or 4 wheel drive, as some of the roads are very poor. This trip will also include 3-5 miles of hiking across some fairly rugged terrain. Also, be aware that the possibility of encountering several species of rattlesnakes is not impossible on this trip. Be sure to plan for this trip accordingly, including bringing a good supply of water, etc. Leaders for this trip are Bill Busby and Pete Janzen.

The other Saturday trip will be less challenging from a logistical standpoint, and will visit the beautiful areas of western Barber County and southeastern Kiowa County. This trip will be led by Eddie Stegall and Ken Brunson, two of the more interesting members of our society. For those who have not seen the Red Hills before, this trip will offer a great opportunity to explore them, with two of the naturalists who know the area the best. These two people have a wealth of knowledge about the natural life and history of the Red Hills.

The trips on Sunday will visit a number of areas closer to Medicine Lodge. Plans at this point are for up to four trips, in order to keep the group size as small as possible. Permission has been obtained from several local landowners to trespass on their property. The compilation will be at noon at the Pizza Hut.

We have decided that it would be too difficult to incorporate trips to Lesser Prairie Chicken leks with the other field trips, so these are not planned. Maps will be available to those wishing to view a lek before or after the meeting.

There is not a registration fee for this trip, because all of the participants are responsible for their own meals and lodging. It is requested that you register for the weekend, using the form below, so that the committee can have an idea of how many people to expect. Also we need to warn Buster's how many people to expect!! Hotel reservations are up to you. The number for the Copa Best Western is 316-886-5673. Anyone seeking lodging in Coldwater for Thursday night (other than camping), is advised to contact the Comanche Motel at 316-582-2104.

KOS Spring Field Trip Registration Form
May 1 - 3, 1998
(with optional activities April 30)
The Red Hills of Kansas

Yes I plan on attending the KOS Fall Meeting on the following days

Thursday, April 30. Evening campout at Coldwater Lake.

Friday tour of the Red Hills, departing Coldwater Lake at 10:00 AM sharp.

Saturday field trips. Please indicate preference of trip:

Southeast Comanche Co/Swartz Canyon

Western Barber Co/Belvidere area.

I plan to attend the compilation at Buster's in Sun City. He should make some dinner for me.

Sunday field trips.

Sunday compilation at the Pizza Hut

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone Number _____ e-mail address _____

Return completed form to:

Pete Janzen

3137 Mascot

Wichita, Ks. 67204-4407

or by e-mail to:

prarybrd@southwind.net

Phone inquires may be made by calling Pete at **316-832-0182**

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(But don't forget to mark down the dates of the 50th Anniversary KOS Annual Meeting

October 9 - 11, 1998

Special Events

Special Guests

Special Activities

Be part of this historical gathering

Plan now to attend!)