

The Official Newsletter
of the
Kansas Ornithological Society

The Horned Lark

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March 1991

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RECYCLED PAPER

This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

KANSAS NESTING EAGLE SURVEY

The Prairie Raptor Project has this year contracted with the Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks to provide accurate information on any and all eagle nests (active or abandoned) located within the state. Please call (913) 225-6787 or write to the address below to provide information that is pertinent to this project. All information will be confidential and used only for protection of the birds and their habitat.

The Prairie Raptor Project
12660 W. Armstrong Road
Brookville, KS. 67425
Maure Weigel, Director

MEETINGS UPDATE

Information for the spring 1991 meeting, along with a registration form are included elsewhere in this newsletter. Please note that there is a change for the fall meeting from the customary October dates. The fall meeting will be held at St. Mary's College in Leavenworth on September 21-22. The change in dates was required because of the schedules for the facilities. Persons wishing to present papers at this meeting should especially make note of these dates.

PREVIEW OF THE JUNE NEWSLETTER

Information for the June newsletter should be provided to the editor by June 1, 1991. Articles intended to be included in that issue include stories of the respective "big years" experienced in 1990 respectively by Galen Pittman and Steve Crawford. Also intended to be included are the usual seasonal bird reports.

KBRC RULES

In this issue of the Horned Lark you will find a copy of the Kansas Bird Records Committee (KBRC) "new" Procedural Rules that were voted on and accepted by the KBRC and the KOS Board of Directors at the 1990 Fall Meeting. Also included is a full size report form for submitting unusual bird sightings. Feel free to copy this form and distribute it to any interested parties you encounter.

The KBRC needs the support and especially the participation of all active birders that observe rare or unusual birds in the state of Kansas. The need to "document" the occurrence of unusual bird species is very important to improving the quality of our knowledge of Kansas birds. Since one of the goals of the KBRC is to help establish and maintain a high standard of documentation for bird records, it is essential that the committee operate with a high degree of "professionalism" when records are evaluated for their validity. To be able to properly evaluate sightings, written documentation must be submitted by field observers to establish the facts and circumstances surrounding the record. In addition, a written record can be accurately reproduced and archived for the benefit of any present or future investigators who wish to independently evaluate the data. To rely on "hearsay" or strictly verbal reports of sightings is notoriously inaccurate and nearly impossible to verify and archive. Even if there was irrefutable physical evidence to support the occurrence of a particular species, there would still need to be documentation included that would establish the time and place and other circumstances of the sighting.

Some potential contributors might shy away from submitting detailed written documentation because of the feeling that their "word" should be all that is needed to "accept" a record as valid. The purpose of the KBRC is not to "judge" the observers submitting the records, but to evaluate the evidence that is presented to support the sighting. If the documentation submitted is poor the record is likely to be rejected! The observer is assumed to be presenting the true facts and thus the decision to accept or reject the record should be based on the scientific merits of the evidence provided. An observer might think they have seen a rare species, but perhaps didn't realize that the criteria they were using to identify that species wasn't sufficient to "rule out" a similar one or that they were just mistaken. The committee can't just rely on the good intentions of the observers. We must be as objective as possible and let the submitted facts speak for themselves.

Other potential contributors might shy away from submitting records because its just too much work or they don't have the time. The committee needs your help to expand and improve our "database" of Kansas birds. Ultimately, the committee needs your records to further advance our "working" knowledge of the distribution of Kansas birds and to make the KOS Checklist of the Birds of Kansas as up-to-date as possible. Finally, if your not sure if a sighting should be submitted. Contact any member of the committee and get their opinion.

Galen D. Pittman KBRC acting Secretary

Procedural Rules of the
Kansas Ornithological Society's
KANSAS BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

I. Name and Affiliation

- A. Name. The official name of this committee shall be the "Kansas Bird Records Committee" and is hereafter referred to as the "Committee."
- H. Affiliation. This is a committee of the society known as the "Kansas Ornithological Society." The Committee is established under the auspices of the Kansas Ornithological Society (hereafter, "KOS"), as approved by their Board of Directors.

II. Purposes

- A. Evaluate reports of rare or unusual bird sightings from the state of Kansas.
- B. Maintain those original bird records and all Committee votes and comments for the use of any future bird students or enthusiasts.
- C. Publish at least minimal data on all records receiving a decision.
- D. Incorporate all records of the Committee and revise and publish, as appropriate, the official KOS Checklist of Birds of Kansas.
- E. Provide a means by which sight records can gain acceptance as valuable scientific data.
- F. Choose the "ten best Kansas birds of the year" from among those submitted to and accepted by the Committee annually (the year being defined as from 1 June to 31 May), to be announced at the annual fall meeting of the KOS and subsequently published in The Horned Lark.
- G. Establish standards of observation and reporting for improving the quality and quantity of our knowledge of Kansas birds.

III. Membership

- A. Number and Definitions. The Committee shall consist of seven regular voting members, one of whom is the "Chairperson" and another the "Secretary," and two alternate members. The alternate members shall vote in place of regular members on records submitted by those members, and in place of any absent members who have not expressed their votes in writing to the Secretary prior to the meeting.

- B. Qualifications. Committee members should possess expertise in identification of Kansas birds, knowledge of Kansas bird distribution, and familiarity with birds and localities in Kansas. Committee members shall belong to the KOS.

C. Members.

- 1. Appointment and Term of Office. The President of KOS shall appoint the seven members and two alternates to terms of three years each. Members and alternates will be appointed to designated slots on the committee, i.e. position #1, position #2, alternate #1, etc. Appointments shall be staggered, three annually, in order to maintain continuity. The stagger is as follows: 1,2,3 / 4,5,alt.1 / 6,7,alt.2. Members and alternates of the Committee will be allowed to serve for a maximum of two consecutive terms (six years total). After a one-year or longer absence from the Committee each member shall become eligible to serve again, with the same two-term restriction. Alternates, however, can be appointed to serve as a member for a maximum of two consecutive terms directly after having served as an alternate for one or two terms. There shall be no limit on the number of separate six-year periods that any one person may serve on the Committee. New members take office at the close of the annual fall meeting of the KOS.
- 2. Duties. Vote on bird records and in all elections.

D. Chairperson

- 1. Election and Term of Office. Same criteria and provisions as for the Secretary.

2. Duties

- a. Call and preside at Committee meetings.
- b. Vote on bird records and in all elections.
- c. Appoint subcommittees as needed.
- d. Assure that the current Rules are properly applied.
- e. Should the Secretary be unable to serve, the Chairperson shall act as Secretary in all respects.

E. Secretary

- 1. Election and Term of Office. The Secretary must be a regular voting member of the Committee. The Secretary shall be elected for a term of three years by a vote of the members of the Committee. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes shall be elected; a tie shall be decided by an additional ballot listing

only those persons tied. The Secretary takes office at the close of the annual fall meeting of the KOS. The position has the same restrictions on terms served as does that of a regular member.

2. Duties

- a. Receive, circulate, recirculate, file, and maintain all bird records and supporting data submitted to the Committee. Deposit a duplicate set of records for permanent storage at the Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.
- b. Vote on bird records and in all elections.
- c. Tabulate results of all votes of the Committee, including votes on bird records, but excepting the election of the Secretary.
- d. Keep or cause to keep minutes of Committee meetings.
- e. Furnish to anyone, upon request, any accepted or rejected bird record with all evidence, including Committee comments.
- f. Produce an Annual Report of the Committee's decisions and submit it for publication to the editor of The Horned Lark.

F. **Removals.** The Committee may remove, for cause, any member who is delinquent in his or her duties. Such action requires a super-majority vote of all other voting members, i.e., 5-1 or 6-0 for removal. A removal must be accomplished by written ballot either by mail or at a meeting of the Committee. An absent member may vote by supplying a written ballot to the Committee.

G. **Vacancies and Special Elections.** If the Committee loses a voting member or alternate during mid-term (through death, resignation, removal, etc.) the President of KOS shall immediately appoint a replacement, who will finish out the vacated member's term. If the Chairperson or Secretary position becomes vacant in mid-term the Secretary (or acting Secretary) shall immediately conduct an election, termed a special election, for the purpose of filling the vacancy. A special election may be conducted at a meeting or by individual contact (mail, etc.), whichever is most expedient in the opinion of the Secretary.

IV. Meetings

A. **Annual Meeting.** An annual meeting of the Committee, unless deemed unnecessary, shall be held coincident with the annual fall meeting of the KOS. The purpose of this meeting shall be to conduct any elections and such other business as may be brought before the Committee. The Secretary must give prior notice of the annual meeting to all members, along with an agenda for the meeting.

B. **Special Meetings.** Special meetings of the Committee may be called by the Chairperson, by agreement of five or more members, or, in the Chairperson's absence, by the Secretary.

C. **Quorum.** Five voting members present at the meeting, not by proxy, shall constitute a quorum for any meeting of the Committee. Any meeting of the Committee is not considered "valid" unless it has a quorum present.

V. Adoption of and Changes to the Rules

A. **Formation.** All procedural rules of the Committee are to be determined by the Committee, upon approval by the Board of Directors of the KOS, and provided that they do not conflict with the bylaws of the KOS.

B. **Changes.** These rules may be changed by a majority vote of all the voting members of the Committee, upon approval by the Board of Directors of the KOS.

VI. Bird Records

A. **Records Treated.** Species requiring documentation shall be reviewed periodically by the Committee to assess their status. All species designated with an asterisk (*) on the latest edition of the KOS Checklist of Birds of Kansas shall require documentation. Furthermore, any species not listed on the Checklist shall require documentation. In addition, any species occurring on the Checklist but seen at an unusual time of year (e.g., Cape May Warbler in December) or at an unusual location (e.g., Canyon Towhee outside the southwestern corner of the state) shall require documentation.

B. **Submission.** Records should be submitted on the Committee's Official Report Form. Report forms shall be readily available from the Secretary.

C. **Resubmissions.** A record that has received a final Committee decision, whether accepted or rejected and even though published as such, may be resubmitted by anyone if there becomes available new and substantial evidence that might reverse that decision. Furthermore, records involving taxa that have since undergone taxonomic revision by the American Ornithologists' Union may be resubmitted to determine the status of any changed taxa. Any resubmitted record shall be circulated with all previous votes, Committee comments, publication status, and all new evidence marked as such.

D. **Circulation Procedures.**

- 1. **Initial Receipt by Secretary.** Upon receipt of a record, the Secretary shall do the following:

- a. Give the record a unique number, consisting of the year of receipt (not the year of sighting) followed by a hyphen and the next unused number, starting with "1," for that calendar year.
 - b. Judge the record's validity and vote on it.
 - c. Send the record to the other voting members.
2. **Receipt by Member.** Upon receipt of a record, the member shall do the following:
- a. Judge the record's validity and vote on it.
 - b. Send the completed validation form to the Secretary within 30 days of receipt.
3. **Recirculation.**
- a. If a non-decisive vote is obtained during the initial circulation, the Secretary shall recirculate the record with copies of all the first-round validation forms attached (see section VI.E.9 for the definition of decisive and non-decisive votes.)
 - b. If, after the second circulation, the record still has not received a decisive vote, it shall be kept by the Secretary until it can be discussed at a meeting of the Committee.
 - c. Regardless of whether a decisive vote was obtained during the first circulation, the Secretary may recirculate a record if he/she feels the Committee's comments might alter the decision.

E. **Voting and Acceptance Criteria.**

1. **Validation Form.** The vote of each member together with his/her comments, if any, must be submitted to the Secretary on an official validation form. This form must include spaces for at least the (a) record number, (b) name of the species, (c) name of the observer, (d) name of the voting Committee member, (e) date of the vote, (f) number of the circulation round, (g) member's vote, and (h) comments.
2. **Voting Categories:**
 - a. Accept.
 - b. Reject, origin questionable.
 - c. Reject, identification questionable.

- d. Reject, circumstances questionable.
1. **Disqualifications and Abstentions.** Members may not vote on their own record submissions. Members may not abstain from voting on any other submissions.
 2. **Secretary's Vote.** On the first circulation the Secretary must vote prior to circulating the record to members (thus without seeing other member's votes or comments.)
 3. **Comments.** On the first circulation a "reject,no" vote must be supported by appropriate comments. Comments must be supplied for a recirculation for either a "reject,no" or "accept,yes" vote.
 4. **Consultations.** On the first circulation, a member shall not discuss a record with another member until both have voted. Pre-vote consultations are encouraged among members for a recirculation.
 5. **Voting Criteria.** The criteria used by a member for acceptance or rejection of a record are based on that member's knowledge and experience and will not be specifically addressed in these rules. However, members are encouraged to accept or reject records on the basis of more-or-less objective criteria such as the adequacy of the field marks reported or the conditions under which the observations were made (e.g., lighting, weather, optical equipment, etc.) The veracity of the observer should not normally be questioned without good cause.
 6. **Tabulation.** The voting results shall be tabulated by the Secretary after all members have voted.
 7. **Decisive and Non-decisive Votes.** On any circulation round where the question is asked, "Should this record be accepted?":
 - a. A record is considered decisively accepted if it receives five or more "yes" votes, i.e., 7-0, 6-1, 5-2.
 - b. A record is considered decisively rejected if it receives four or more "no" votes, i.e., 0-7, 1-6, 2-5, 3-4.
 - c. A record is considered a non-decisive vote if it receives four "yes" votes and three "no" votes, i.e., 4-3.
 8. **Decisions at Meetings.**
 - a. Prior to each meeting, the Secretary shall inform all other voting members of any twice-circulated records still needing a final decision.
 - b. Any record that has not received a decisive vote after two circulations shall be discussed and voted on at the next

valid meeting of the Committee. The final decision must be made at the first valid meeting in which the record is discussed.

A record shall be accepted, if at a valid meeting of the Committee, it receives five or more "yes" votes to the question "Should this record be accepted?" Any record that receives fewer than five "yes" votes is rejected. Proxies shall not be allowed as votes.

11. **First State Records.** Some form of physical documentation shall be required for the acceptance of the first record of a species' occurrence in Kansas. Acceptable evidence could consist of photographs, sound recordings, specimens, verified band numbers, etc. First state record submissions that involve only a sight record (regardless of the number of observers) may be accepted as "hypothetical" and added to the KOS Checklist of Birds of Kansas as such. Species shall remain on the hypothetical list until the Committee receives physical evidence upgrading them to regular status.

F. **Publication.**

1. The decisions of the Committee shall be published annually, in the form of an Annual Report, in The Horned Lark.

2. The published data for accepted records shall include at least the name of the species, date(s) of observation, locality, reporting observer(s), and type of evidence supporting the record, e.g., specimen, photograph, sound recording, or sight only.

3. Rejected records shall also be published, with a minimum of the above data, except that the observer's name shall not be included. Also the reason for rejection shall be listed in accordance with the voting categories mentioned in section VI.F.2.

Kansas Bird Records Committee Official Report Form
KBRC No. (committee use only)

1. Species _____ / _____
(Common name) (Scientific name)

2. Sex/Age _____ 3. Number observed _____

4. Date(s) of sighting _____ 5. Duration of sighting _____

6. Location (including county) _____

7. Observer (your name): _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

8. Other observers: _____

9. Description of habitat/setting: _____

10. Distance from bird _____ 11. Optical equip. _____

12. Time of day _____ 13. Lighting conditions/sun angle _____

14. Previous experience with this or similar species: _____

15. Reference material consulted and how this influenced your identification: _____

16. How long after the sighting did you first write this description? _____

17. Was this put on the KOS Hotline (913-329-4699) and, if so, what was the result? _____

18. Vocalization heard (if any): _____

19. **DESCRIPTION:** (Include only what was observed. Describe, in detail, all relevant field marks, behaviors, etc., especially those that are diagnostic, and would distinguish this from similar species.) Please include any photographs, recordings, and/or sketches that would aid in identification. USE OTHER SIDE.

Mail completed form to: Kansas Bird Records Committee Secretary, Galen L. Pittman, RR4, Box 260, Lawrence, Ks 66044

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KOS WINTER BOARD MEETING
January 19, 1991
Foley Center, KU Campus West
Lawrence, Kansas

Members present: David Seibel, Dave Bryan, Dwight Platt, Rose Fritz, Galen Pitman, Joanne Brier, Jim Mayhew, Tom Shane, John Schukman, Mick McRugh.
Non-voting: Don Vannoy, Elmer Finck, John Zimmerman, Ruth Faulh, Chris Hobbs.

Dave Bryan opened the meeting at 10:40 am and announced that President David Seibel would be a little late.

MINUTES: John Schukman moved that the minutes of the Fall Board Meeting be approved as published in the newsletter. Jim Mayhew seconded the motion. The motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Rose Fritz presented the Annual Treasurer's Report for 1990 (see attached report). The beginning balance in the general fund was \$3,848.95 and the ending balance was \$3,793.57. Receipts for the year were \$4,685.47 and disbursements were \$4,740.85. Total assets of KOS on December 31, 1990 were \$26,001.21. Joanne Brier moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. The motion was seconded by Jim Mayhew. The motion passed.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT: In the absence of Diane Seltman, Dave Bryan read the Membership Secretary's Report (see attached report). Total members as of January 15, 1991 were 397, an increase of 25 since the Fall Meeting.

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT: Galen Pitman reported that there were six bulk mailings in 1990. Postage rates will be going up by about 20% so our mailing costs will go up. A complete set of the Bulletins was sold to someone in Germany for \$125.

ZOOLOGICAL RECORD: Galen had received a request from BIOSIS UK for complimentary copies of the KOS Bulletin so that articles could be more conveniently indexed in the Zoological Record. Tom Shane moved that we send a complimentary copy of the annual volume of the Bulletin to BIOSIS UK at the end of each year. Galen Pitman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

BULLETIN EDITOR'S REPORT: John Zimmerman reported that he was in good shape with manuscripts. Most of the Christmas Bird Counts are in. He has copy for the June issue and part of the September issue.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT: Don Vannoy reported that the next issue will have information about the Spring Field Trip. He needs material by March 1.

KANSAS BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT: Chuck Ely was not present. David Seibel reported that Chuck had asked to resign as Co-chair of the committee. Max Thompson will be contacted but he is not back from Australia yet. Galen reported as Acting Secretary that they have not met in the last three months. He will see that the rules adopted by the committee are published in the next newsletter.

STUDENT RESEARCH FUND COMMITTEE REPORT: Elmer Finck has drafted an application form for research grants and gave copies to Board members. He would like comments and suggestions and then will prepare a revised copy for approval at the Spring Board Meeting. It was suggested that there should be a statement on the form that gave an applicant some idea of the amount of money he/she could apply for. Elmer Finck asked who selects the grant recipients and who tries to get donations for the fund. David Seibel suggested that the

Student Research Fund Committee should make the selections and that they should work with the Publicity Committee to generate donations.

ROYALTIES FUND COMMITTEE REPORT: Rose Fritz reported that another \$1000+ has been added to the fund from the royalties for Birds in Kansas. The committee has not yet made a decision with regard to the use of the fund.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT: John Schukman reported for the committee. He had been discussing the distribution of Bird Discovery Boxes. However this item was postponed and will come up later in the agenda.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE REPORT: Chris Hobbs reported that he had been making some inquiries about getting news out. The Kansas City Star has a state affairs office that can get news out across the state. Some local Audubon chapters have agreed to send out KOS membership brochures with their newsletters.

Chris raised the possibility of an expanded field trip program, particularly the possibility of regional field trips. It was suggested that he might explore the possibility of doing something with Jan Boyd, Chair of the Membership Committee.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT: Jan Boyd, Chair, is out of the country and no report was available.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT: Pete Janzen, Chair, could not attend the meeting. He sent word that he will get out a letter shortly in support of a request from the Manomet Bird Observatory with regard to endangered species status.

DINGUS NATURAL AREA COMMITTEE: David Seibel reported that he is still trying to get a chair for this committee.

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT: Don Vannoy reported for the committee which consisted of Ralph Willey and Don Vannoy. He reported that the committee had audited the records and found that the Statement of Accounts fairly presented the cash transactions of KOS for 1990. He also made some recommendations for future accounts. (See attached two letters from Don Vannoy to the Board of Directors). After some clarification of the recommendations, the Treasurer agreed that they could be implemented. Dave Bryan moved to accept the report of the Audit Committee. John Schukman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

KANSAS NONGAME WILDLIFE ADVISORY COUNCIL: Since Bill Busby was not in attendance, Elmer Finck reported. He said that they were waiting to determine the status of the Council with the change of State Administration.

SPRING MEETING: The Spring Meeting will be the first weekend in May. Dave Bryan asked if he should arrange for Wildwood Camp since some members had felt that the costs there were too high. He was encouraged to check it out and also to check out cabins at LaCygne County Park and a Youth for Christ Camp.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 11:54 am. The meeting was called to order again at 1:00 pm by David Seibel.

BREEDING BIRD ATLAS PROJECT: Mick McHugh reported that John Zimmerman would be willing to consider the directorship of this project. Mick and Bill Busby will be meeting with Ken Brunson at the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks to discuss the status of this project. The future is somewhat questionable because of the change in State Administration but Mick is hopeful that it can

get started.

The National Group of Bird Atlasers will meet in Keystone, Colorado in September. Mick McRugh moved that KOS sponsor the attendance of John Zimmerman or another specified person at the North American Bird Atlas Conference by sending in the \$95 registration fee by January 31. Tom Shane seconded the motion. The motion passed.

BIRD FEEDER SURVEY: Elmer Finck will send mailing labels so that KOS can send membership brochures to all those that indicated an interest in KOS on the bird feeder survey forms.

BIRD SURVEYS AT STATE PARKS: This project is on hold since the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks has cut it from the budget.

FALL MEETING 1991: John Schukman has explored the possibility of meeting at Saint Mary College in Leavenworth. Rose Fritz moved that we schedule the Fall Meeting in 1991 at Saint Mary College in Leavenworth. The motion was seconded by Jim Mayhew. The motion passed. Mick McRugh moved that the Fall Meeting be held on the first weekend in October. Galen Pitman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

REVISED COMMITTEE DUTIES: David Seibel wrote a list of duties for each KOS committee and they were published in the last newsletter. Board members felt that he had done a good job. He will solicit comments from the committees.

FUNDS FOR STUDENT RESEARCH AWARDS: A question was raised about the availability of the principal of the fund established by the life memberships of deceased members for student research awards. The minutes of Fall 1988 Meeting when the fund was established specify that only the interest on this fund can be used for student research awards.

DEATHS OF LIFE MEMBERS: A question was raised by the Treasurer as to how she would know when life members die so that their memberships can be added to the Student Research Fund. Tom Shane moved that membership renewal cards be sent to life members and they be asked to check the cards and return them. Mick McRugh seconded the motion. Both the mover and seconder retracted the motion. David Seibel will consult with Diane Seltman to find a method for determining when life members die.

STUDENT PAPER AWARDS: No awards were given at the last Fall Meeting although there were a number of student papers. Tom Shane moved that KOS abolish the Student Paper Award. John Schukman seconded the motion. Both mover and seconder retracted the motion. David Seibel will refer the matter to a committee for study.

REFORMATTING THE BULLETIN AND NEWSLETTER: Galen Pitman pointed out that the size of the Bulletin has been rather small recently. Could we combine these two publications. The Board discussed the proposal but there was little support for it.

COMPUTER POSSIBILITIES: David Seibel pointed out that we depend upon computers owned by various officers for society uses. He said that we could obtain the equipment for desktop publishing for \$4800 and could get a computer and other equipment needed for other purposes but not desktop publishing for \$1600. He suggested KOS might be able to buy a computer and then have one person who would do all the computing for the society in return for having the computer available. This proposal was discussed but no decision was made.

MEETING HOSPITALITY: It was suggested that we should be more hospitable to new members at meetings. Maybe new members should be introduced. It was also suggested that the best way to encourage the participation of new members

is to ask them to do something.

DISTRIBUTION OF BIRD DISCOVERY BOXES: Of the four Bird Discovery Boxes being made by Bob Gress and financed by KOS, one was to go to Wichita Wild and the distribution of the other three is still to be decided by the Board. Gerald Wiens at Chaplin Nature Center near Arkansas City would like to have one to use in his program. Mary Kay with the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks in Kansas City would like one to use in her programs. Also one might be placed with the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks in Pratt to be sent to schools across the state. Bob Gress also has some ideas about the distribution of these boxes. Tome Shane moved that we request donations to the Amelia Betts Fund in order to be able to make more Bird Discovery Boxes. The motion died for lack of a second.

David Seibel will make the decisions about the distribution of the boxes. However the Board suggested that two might go to the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (one in Kansas City and one in Pratt) and one might go to Chaplin Nature Center unless Bob Gress had better ideas. A concern was raised that the box might need to be taken apart to be shipped around the state. The Board felt that whoever received the box should agree to keep it together.

SPRING AND FALL MEETINGS 1992: It was suggested that we explore Baxter Springs for the Spring 1992 meeting and Mays for the Fall 1992 meeting.

BUDGETS: Board members were asked to give budgets of their expenses for 1991 to Rose Fritz.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY: It was announced that the Membership Directory will be out soon.

CHEYENNE BOTTOMS: The IGWCCA has held hearings on the allocation of water for Cheyenne Bottoms. They invited testimony about the importance of Cheyenne Bottoms for birds. David Seibel has prepared a letter as President of KOS and he circulated it to Board members for suggestions. The Board was favorable to the letter. It was suggested that he might add a statement that Cheyenne Bottoms is worth \$3 million dollars to the state economy.

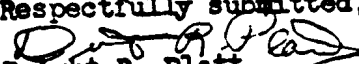
WILDLIFE HERITAGE MONTH: Roger Boyd has been representing us on the task force. He cannot continue to do this. Elmer Finck agreed to represent KOS on the Wildlife Heritage Month Task Force.

COUNTY BIRD RECORDS: The value of continuing to publish county bird records in the newsletter was raised. The question was referred to the Bird Records Committee.

HOTLINE ANSWERING MACHINE: Scott Seltman had sent a request to purchase a backup answering machine for the Bird Hotline for between \$175 and \$200. We have sufficient donations to cover that cost. Rose Fritz moved that Scott Seltman be authorized to purchase a backup answering machine for the Rare Bird Alert Hotline for \$175 to \$200. Mick McNugh seconded the motion. The motion passed.

RECORDS COMMITTEE BYLAWS: A concern was raised about the criteria for decisions by the Records Committee with regard to new state records. There was extensive discussion but no consensus.

The Board Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

 Dwight R. Platt
 Corr. Secretary

KOS Spring Meeting/Field Trips
to be headquartered in Pittsburg

The KOS Spring Fieldtrip weekend will be May 3, 4, and 5 in southeastern Kansas. Pittsburg will be the headquarters location and field trips will start and end at the Super 8 Motel, 3108 North Broadway.

Additional information regarding field trips will be available in the next newsletter; however tentative plans call for trips to Schemerhorn Park, along the rivers bordering Oklahoma and Missouri, Baxter Springs, Galena and other sites in southeastern Kansas.

The first week in May is excellent for warblers in southeastern Kansas as well as chances for specialties like the fish crow and anhinga.

Tentative weekend plans include:

1. Group social hour in one or two of the rooms at Super 8 or nearby restaurant on Friday night.
2. Field trips Friday afternoon, Saturday, and until 1 pm on Sunday.
3. Group dinner at the Idle Hour Steak House (previously called and known as Barto's), 201 South Santa Fe in Frontenac. Dinner will be planned to start 8 pm on Saturday night and Frontenac is only a short drive from the Super 8. My sources in Pittsburg indicate that this restaurant has the best fried chicken in a town known for fried chicken.

Hotels:

The Super 8 Motel has agreed to provide a group discount. You should call and make your own reservations and indicate you are a KOS member. Telephone: 316-232-1881

Other hotels: Extra Inn 316-232-2800
 Holiday Inn 316-231-8700
 Pittsburg Inn 316-231-8300

Camping: Red Fox Campgrounds
 3 miles west of Pittsburg
 on Airport Road

Registration:

Please fill out the form and send it with the registration fee of \$3.00 per person to:

Dave Bryan
9214 W 82 Terrace
Overland Park, KS 66204
913-341-9584 after 7 pm

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Number of members attending at \$3.00 per person: _____

