

The Official Newsletter
of the
Kansas Ornithological Society

The Horned Lark

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March 1994

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This newsletter is printed on recycled paper

From the Keyboard -

Boy, what an issue. This issue is usually nip and tuck to get the information from the Spring Field Trip local committee and then get it out with more than a week to go before that field trip. But Jerry Horak and the local committee are well organized and had their information to me by early February! So I thought I was in good shape and had things pretty well lined out . . . that was until the Winter KOS Board meeting at the end of February. Then all of a sudden I had a whole lot more to get into the *Horned Lark*. I had originally intended for "Is Your Landscape For the Birds" to be one large article, but I was afraid that with everything else that had to go in this issue we would wind up with a mailing that would cost extra. So we'll just spread that article over the next year's worth of issues!

There are lots of activities coming up as you can tell from the articles. It's been a blah winter so let's hope that spring rewards us with some great birding! You've got lots of advance notice so plan to attend the Spring Field Trip (that is unless you are a florist or married to one, in which case you'll be busy with Mother's Day!), as this could be a good place to pick up a few of those warblers you've missed the past several years. And please, take some time to answer our little *survey* . . . your input is DESIRED and NEEDED!

The 1994 Legislature is still in session which means anything can happen! Keep an eye on your local newspaper so when something comes up that you strongly support OR that really concerns you, call or write your local senator/representative and let them know how you feel. Many questionable pieces of legislation get passed every year because "those folks in Topeka" here nothing from "the folks back home" and feel that no news must be good news. As Woody Allen said, "The world is run by those who show up!" If you can't "show up" at least make sure that a letter or phone call shows up!

As always my thanks to Dawn for taking these ramblings and making them look good, thanks to Dawn and Galen for getting this all together and mailed, to Diane for helping get the new Directory together, to Scott for helping proofread the Birding Roundup and finally to all of you who contribute so much to each issue. Keep those cards and letters coming - it's how we'll continue to improve each issue of the *Horned Lark*!

Have a good spring and good birding!

--chuck

This is the last regular mailing you will receive if you have not paid your 1994 dues.

If you don't remember when you last paid or at which level, check you address label. So in order not to miss out on the next exciting issues of the *The Horned Lark* and *The KOS Bulletin*, send your check as soon as possible to the KOS Treasurer.

Just another reminder that Gregg Friesen is now our KOS Treasurer. Please make sure you are using his proper address when sending dues or donations.

Gregg Friesen
KOS Treasurer
515 E. 4th

Newton, KS 67114-3531

Gregg and the Postal Service appreciate it!

Thank you for your continued support of K.O.S.

--Diane Seltman, Membership Secretary

The North American Migration Count - May 14, 1994

by Dave Rintoul

Purpose: (paraphrased from Chandler S. Robbins) To give each and every birdwatcher the opportunity to enjoy a day's birding during Spring Migration with the knowledge that the result of their findings, together with the birds counted by others, would fit together like the pieces of a puzzle and reveal the status of bird migration on a specified date.

Have you ever wondered what is the shape of migration? It all depends upon your viewpoint. Waterfowlers have benefited from the extensive studies of the US Fish & Wildlife Service in their role of managing the Nation's game species. Hawk watchers may think of it as "Rivers" and space themselves on ridges and prominent peninsulas like the Marin Highlands, Whitefish Point, the Blue Ridge Mountains and Cape May to count the flow. Shorebirders look at it as "Island Hopping" and go to the islands of Bodega Bay, Mono Lake, Bear River, Galveston, Cheyenne Bottoms, Higbee's Beach and Pea Island. All of these have led to efforts to preserve and protect critical habitat for migration; we now have the National Wildlife Refuge System, Hawk Mountain and the Delaware Bay beaches. But what of songbirds?

By what paths do neotropical migrants move from Central and South America to their breeding grounds. Do American Redstarts line up in military style and move north in a solid front, leaving occupying forces along the way? Perhaps Wood Thrushes are like blood flowing through capillaries before anastomosing into arteries. Think of Kingbirds lining up like runners in the New York Marathon and visualize the spread after the starter's pistol. Maybe Purple Martins move like ducks, geese and swans, with colonies making a series of short hops along a predictable route. It may seem wild, but do Bobolinks move like shorebirds, with a series of widely spaced discrete essential stops?

Most of you have participated on the Christmas Bird Counts sponsored by the National Audubon Society. The rules are simple: spend a day in the field counting birds in a specified area and keep track of hours and miles on foot, car, boat, feeder watching. The North American Migration Count is like a Christmas Bird Count, but with a few twists. The Area for any one count is not a 15 mile diameter circle, but an entire county (parish in Louisiana). The big twist is the timing: unlike Christmas Bird Counts, which are spread over several weeks, this count is done on just a single day. That day is the second Saturday in May, which falls on May 14 in 1994.

The choice of the second Saturday in May has been to try to find the peaks of movement of neotropical species while they are still where most of the birders are. It will not be peak everywhere; the northern states will be getting the first glimmer of spring and the Deep South will be in early

breeding season, but the overall goal is of importance to everyone. The goals of the North American Migration Count are:

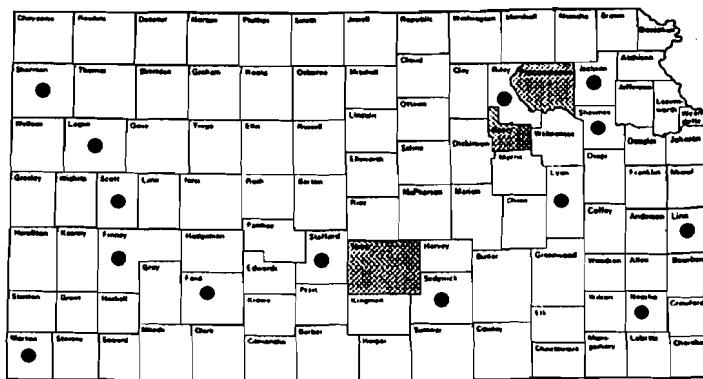
- to obtain a "snapshot" of the progress of spring migration
- to obtain information on the abundance and distribution of each species
- to initiate more participation among birders within and between states
- to create challenges and goals among birders while collecting useful information
- to aid in organization and centralization of data
- to have fun
- to establish the second Saturday in May as "National Birding Day"

Last year 5,807 birders in 43 states and 3 Canadian provinces counted 2,237,309 individual birds of 554 species. Sixty birders in 14 Kansas counties counted 53,785 individuals of 244 species; the high species count was in Stafford County with 163 species tallied. This year we hope to double the number of counties covered. You are being asked to help.

Listed below are the names, addresses, and phone numbers of the count coordinators from 1993. If you live in a county that was covered in 1993, and would like to participate, please contact those individuals. Some counties are conspicuous by their absence; maybe we can get some results from Douglas, Cowley, Butler, Johnson and Wyandotte counties this year! In addition, the national coordinator (Jim Stasz of Maryland) sent NAMC newsletters to all the Kansas Christmas Count coordinators, hoping to convince them to coordinate a migration count as well. Call your local CBC compiler and ask him or her to coordinate a count. Or, better yet, call me (Dave Rintoul) and volunteer to coordinate a count yourself. I will send you a copy of the 1994 NAMC newsletter with detailed instructions, as well as a report form and checklist. I would certainly send you a DOS diskette with these forms on it if you would like to send me your data in computer readable format! Be the first in your county to participate; maybe Kansas can be the next state (following Maryland and Illinois) to include the entire state in the North American Migration Count. There are no fees (and never will be) for this activity; it is a volunteer effort on behalf of North American songbirds and a great opportunity to pay back Mother Nature for all those beautiful birds that she has

placed in front of your binoculars throughout the years. Call, write, or e-mail me if you have any questions.

Dave Rintoul, NAMC Coordinator for Kansas
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 Kansas State University
 Manhattan KS 66506-4901
 (913)532-6663 (days); (913)537-0781 (eves)
 drintoul@ksu.ksu.edu (Internet); 71634,32
 (CompuServe)



1993 and 1994 NAMC County Coordinators

Shawnee County - Joanne Brier
 1822 Westwood Drive
 Topeka KS 66604
 (913)232-4317

Ford County - Joleen Fromm
 2402 5th Avenue
 Dodge City KS 67801
 (316)227-6342

Neosho County - Paul L. Milks
 2624 Gabriel
 Parsons KS 67357
 (316)421-3427

Linn County - Lloyd D. Moore
 1250 Scott Avenue
 Kansas City KS 66105
 (913)371-6475

Sedgwick County - John Northrup
 634 N. Shefford
 Wichita KS 67218
 (316)722-0018

Sherman County - J. Palmquist
 1521 Clark
 Goodland KS 67735
 (913)899-5187

Finney County - Leonard F. Rich
 1107 E. Johnson
 Garden City KS 67846
 (316)275-4616

Jefferson County - Richard C. Rucker
 121 East 17th Street
 Lawrence KS 66044
 (913)842-3845

Stafford County - Scott Seltman
 RR 1, Box 36
 Nekoma KS 67559
 (913)372-5411

Reno County - James M. Smith
 (not covered in 1993, but will be covered in 1994)
 3002 E. 30th
 Hutchinson KS 67502
 (316)665-8172

Logan County - Betsy Johnson
 HCR 1, Box 18
 Oakley KS 67748
 (913)672-3046

Morton County - Ruth/Lawrence Smith
 Box 841
 Elkhart KS 67950
 (316)697-4573

Lyon County - Marvin Schwilling
 1407 College Drive
 Emporia KS 66801
 (316)342-1985

Riley County - David A. Rintoul
 Biology Division - Ackert Hall
 Kansas State University
 Manhattan KS 66506-4901
 (913)537-0781

Scott County - Tom Shane
 1706 Belmont
 Garden City KS 67846
 (316)275-4616

Pottawatomie County - Duane Kerr
 (new for 1994)
 15110 6th St. Rd.
 Wamego KS 66547
 (913)456-2771

Geary County - Chuck Otte
 (new for 1994)
 613 Tamerisk
 Junction City KS 66441
 (913)238-4161 (work)
 (913)238-8800 (home)

**JOIN THE NORTH AMERICAN
 MIGRATION COUNT
 MAY 14, 1994!**

KBBAT Update

Year 2 of the Kansas Breeding-Bird Atlas Project wasn't a total washout, but it certainly submerged below expectations, i.e. the weather didn't help at all. Many of you (like this editor) did not get the block finished that you started pre-deluge back in April. Let's all get out there this spring and get those blocks finished up and move on to that next block. Or if you did get your block finished last year and you haven't gotten your sheets turned in to your regional coordinator, take the time to get your sheets together, finished up, proofed and sent off in the mail! Remember, we've got three years to go and more than 60% yet to finish so let's go!

Stafford County Spring Migration Count

On the 1993 count just four observers found 163 species at Quivira NWR and surrounding Stafford County. In 1994 we plan to be in the field about 20 hours and hope to find an even wider variety of birds. Each party will be given a portion of Quivira refuge, a large portion of rural Stafford County and at least one of the nine communities in the county. Call or write Scott Seltman well in advance of the count to receive your assignments and maps at RR1, Box 36, Nekoma, KS 67559, phone (913) 372-5411.

(Editors note- While Scott was the only person who submitted a help wanted add for "his" Migration Count you can see by the accompanying story in this issue that there are a lot of other counts. Since there aren't any field trip announcements in this issue, plan to take that second Saturday in May and get involved in one of the numerous counts across the state. Any of the count coordinators would love to hear from you and have your involvement!)

Wichita Area Block Busters?

Pat and I have been really enjoying the new challenge of Breeding Bird Atlas Survey birding. It is a great chance to really get to know the Kansas avifauna. As you know, John Zimmerman is the coordinator for the project, and he is concerned that things are going a bit slower than hoped. You can make a real contribution to the understanding of the status of birds in the Kansas ecosystem by helping to complete the survey per schedule. Pete Janzen is the South-Central Kansas coordinator, and he would really be happy to hear from you, either as a volunteer to do a block or as a candidate for a "block-busting" raid. That's where a large group of KOS birders converge on a three-mile square plot of Kansas landscape and find all the breeding birds hiding there. If you are interested in participating in such an adventure, call Pat or me at (316) 264-0049 or Pete at (316) 832-0182 and let us know.

-- Roy Beckemeyer

Morton County Records

Ted Cable and Scott Seltman will soon be conducting one last update of the Morton County bird records. Any birders who visited the Cimarron Grasslands in 1992 or may have previous records that have not yet been submitted are invited to send checklists and field notes to Scott Seltman, RR1, Nekoma, KS 67559. Dates and numbers for the more common species are especially needed.

WE NEED YOUR QUIVIRA CHECKLISTS!

Mike Rader has been asked to help update the Quivira National Wildlife Refuge Checklist. The problem is that he's under a tight deadline, but he wants to make the update as accurate as possible. If you could make copies of any checklists you have from your visits to Quivira over the past 5 years and get them to Mike by May 1st, he would be very appreciative, and we all will benefit from a new, updated checklist! Send those copies (not the originals) to: Mike Rader, PO Box 395, Wilson, KS 67490.

Donations?

As you have read (will read) in a related article the KOS is operating under very tight finances at the present time. Many of our activities, current and future, suffer from inadequate funding or (as in the case of the Hotline) operate solely on the donations of those who use it. We encourage you to contribute to the special project of your choice. Two that could always use some more assistance are the Rare Bird Alert Hotline and the Kansas Breeding Bird Atlas Project (KBBAT). While a lot of the hard funds for running KBBAT are coming from several sources, there are some costs (primarily from the poor beleaguered regional coordinators) that aren't picked up anywhere. If you feel that either of these projects (or other special projects that KOS is involved in) are worthy please send a contribution to the KOS Treasurer, Gregg Friesen. Simply indicate on your donation which special project you would like it applied to.

CELEBRATE SPRING:
Attend the Spring KOS Meeting
Marais des Cygnes
May 6-8, 1994
(signup deadline, April 20)

KOS IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED SINCE 11-1-93:

James L. Barnes, Wichita; Danion Doman, Lawrence; Lisa Edwards, Liberal; K.M. Highfill, Lawrence; Lawrence & Gail Kliewer, Newton; John & Diane Torline, Newton; Donald Wolfe - Sutton Avian Research Center, Bartlesville, OK; Christopher Farney, Wilson; Michael Heaney, Wichita; Harold McFadden, Wichita; Sally McGee, Lawrence; Phil Osborne, Hesston; Wesley Pauls, North Newton; Karen Barker, Oklahoma City, OK; Raymond & Janet Franz, Newton; Walter Ross, Lenexa.

Welcome!

What Do You Mean You Can't Read Your Membership Directory?!

When the last membership directory was published a couple of years ago we received a few complaints about the small type and difficulty in reading it. Well, the new directory is the same format, but hopefully it will be a little easier to read.

However, if you really are having trouble reading that lovely 8 point print (and not because you enjoy harassing the editor and membership secretary) drop me a note or give me a call and I will make arrangements to provide you with a large print version.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Help Wanted: KOS Officer Positions - Membership Secretary Diane Seltman and Business Manager Galen Pittman have both indicated that by this time next year they would both like to be spending more time birding and less time Board of Directing. If you are interested PLEASE contact these individuals and talk with them. They both cover several areas and can be tough, time consuming positions. Dedication has to come first on your resume! After you have visited with either of them and you still want to pursue the position contact Ken Brunson, 40050 NE 10th St, Pratt, KS, 67124, (316) 672-7289 or Jim Mayhew, 1909 Judson, Manhattan, KS, 66502, (913) 776-5121.

Help Wanted: KOS Board of Directors Members - there will probably also be a (some) board position(s) coming open in the upcoming year. If you are interested in helping with the decision making process of your organization contact Ken Brunson or Jim Mayhew at the numbers listed in the notice above to find out more about the responsibilities involved.

Help Wanted: Hotline Operator - Scott Seltman has been running the Kansas Rare Bird Alert Hotline for 4 years and he has told us that 5 years should be long enough before a new person takes it over. This is a very demanding job requiring good knowledge of birds, Kansas and answering good machines (#@!%\$^&*). If you are interested, start talking to Scott now, (913) 372-5411.

Wanted: VOLUNTEERS - Roy Beckemeyer can still use volunteers in various and sundry activities. If you didn't fill out your volunteer survey a couple of issues back, dig it out and send it in. The placement rate for volunteers has been VERY high!

Wanted: Survey Completers - Elsewhere in this issue you will find a survey about KOS, why are you in it, what do you like about the organization, the Newsletter and the Bulletin, and what you would like to add or change. PLEASE take the time to fill it out and return it to me before you get busy with KBBAT blocks and Migration Counts later this spring!

CELEBRATE SPRING . . . CELEBRATE YOUTH

KOS YOUNG NATURALIST AWARDS, p. 7

Is Your Landscape "For the Birds?"

(This is the first of a four-part series)

by Chuck Otte

When I'm not editing this newsletter or birdwatching, I'm probably at my "real" job as a county extension agent for the Kansas Cooperative Extension Service. One of the fun things I get to do in that capacity is to help people landscape around their homes. This becomes a real challenge since most people aren't sure what they want, but they want it to look nice and cost little! I have the most fun when people want to create a backyard wildlife habitat. What a nice change from the "golf course" landscaping so many people want (all grass with a few trees at the edge).

I could spend 4 pages talking about that, but the Business manager would probably have a fit when he saw the mailing cost since this issue already has so much in it, so I'll break it up over the next several issues and discuss some of the basics that will help you create a backyard landscape that really is "for the birds!"

The first step is to recognize the basic needs of not only birds, but of all wildlife. . . food, water and shelter. Most birdwatchers do a pretty good job with food and water, but why not take those a step farther. In addition to a bird bath put in a small pond. These can be as small as half a whiskey barrel with a liner on the back patio, or take the liner out of the barrel and bury it in the ground. Add a couple of water plants like water lilies and pickrel rush, then throw in a couple of fish and you're in business. Many nurseries now have pond kits complete with in ground liners and recirculating pumps. Moving water is very attractive to wildlife, and it tends to have a soothing affect on humans after a long hard day as well. There are also dripper and mister attachments that you can add to your birdbath if you don't want to go to the work of installing a pond. My wife and I installed a barrel liner in the ground 3

years ago and have so enjoyed it my wife now wants me to build a mountain stream in our backyard!!

Food for the birds doesn't just have to come from a bird seed bag and feeder. Many landscape plants can provide food as well. But don't just limit yourself to thoughts of flowering crabapples, cotoeasters and honeysuckle. Think of hackberry, cedars and hawthornes. Too often we plan our landscapes and think only of perennials. Think of annuals also. Plant some sunflowers, safflower, millet and ornamental grasses. Not only do they provide nice color, form and shape but most of them come with built in bird feeders as well! Plant lots of flowers to attract hummingbirds as well as butterflies. Remember that hummers are going to be more attracted to colors in the red end of the color spectrum, so make your selections accordingly. If you have lots of room plant a trumpet vine plant as well. But make sure that you do have lots of room!

Be sure to provide diverse cover. Mix up evergreen and deciduous plantings. Some birds like high cover, some like low cover. Some want something they can completely disappear into, like junipers, while others prefer more open cover like spirea, forsythia or lilac. Remember to provide different layers in your landscape.

(If you can't wait until the next issue for more information on landscaping stop by your local County Extension Office and pick up their brochures on trees and shrubs for Kansas and other brochures on landscaping. Look in your phone book usually under County Government, or Extension Service or Cooperative Extension Service listings.) Next issue: *Basics of Form and Shape*.

Wichita Area KOS Beginning Birdwatchers Sessions

Pat and Roy Beckemeyer and Bert McClard, Wichita KOS members, are willing to work with new KOS members to help them sharpen their birding skills between now and the coming spring migrations. They plan to start in late March/early April, and tentatively plan for sessions to begin at the Wild Bird Center, 8414 W. 13th in Wichita at 8:30 or 9:00 AM on Saturday mornings, with half an hour to 45 minutes of instructions and questions and answers, followed by a couple of hours of birding in Wichita area hot spots. Area KOS experts will be asked to provide occassional assistance in order to keep the ratio of beginners to veterans at 3 or 4 to 1. If you are interested, either as a beginner or a volunteer leader, contact Roy or Pat at (316) 264-0049 or Bert at the Wild Bird Center (316) 729-8110. See you in the field!

Passings.....

We regret to inform KOS members of the recent passing of Mrs. Ivan Boyd of Baldwin City. Mrs. Boyd was a KOS Charter Member and a well respected friend to many KOS members. We extend our deepest condolences to Roger Boyd and the entire Boyd family over their recent loss. Mrs. Boyd's obituary will be in an upcoming issue of The Bulletin.

KOS YOUNG NATURALIST AWARDS

by Roy J. Beckemeyer

The following young people have all made significant contributions to the preservation of the environment of Kansas and to the welfare of the avian fauna of the state. They are the first recipients of the KOS Young Naturalist Award; we hope they are the first of many.

Amy Rintoul is an active participant in bird censusing studies. She has participated in Christmas bird counts and has helped with three Breeding Bird Atlas surveys. In addition to her contributions to the documentation of the statistics of the avian population of Kansas, Amy also helps others to appreciate the beauties of our natural world by providing sketches which appear regularly in the "Prairie Falcon," the newsletter of the Northern Flint Hills Audubon Society. Amy is 11 years old, resides in Manhattan, and attends Marlett Elementary School. She is the first recipient of the KOS Young Naturalist Award.

Jonathan Boyd has accomplished many significant improvements at the Baker University Wetlands. He played a key role in the installation of 850 feet of boardwalk and 24 wood duck and 10 Canada goose nesting structures. He planted native grass seed and 100 oak seedlings, and rip-rapped dikes and culverts. He was also involved in building a quarter-mile nature trail at Ivan Boyd Woods. He has assisted his father in conducting Least Tern research, and has helped with 4 KBBAT blocks. Jonathan is also an Eagle Scout who has earned most of the merit badges related to natural history and the environment. He is 16 and attends Baldwin High School.

Marie and Aaron Weigel have been working with the Prairie Raptor Project since they were toddlers. They participate in record-keeping, cage cleaning and repair, and medical treatment of injured birds--in other words, with the day-to-day operations of the project. (I'm sure they are now the envy of most KOS members, young and old!) But they also take part in the educational side of the project, including leading tours and telling the public about raptors and the part they play in the natural world. Marie is 15 and she attends Saline High School. Aaron is 12 and is a student at Brookville Grade School.

Aliah Seay was a 12 year old 7th grader at Manhattan Middle School when she initiated a petition drive last year to halt drag boat races that might have endangered a heron rookery in River Pond. She took the petitions to the race's sponsors in Manhattan, and mailed copies to other race sponsors. Her fortitude and commitment to environmental activism is certainly a model for us all, young or old! It should be mentioned that Aliah's actions served as the inspiration for the initiation of the KOS Young Naturalist Award as a way to say thanks to young people who are working to preserve the environment.

Please join me in thanking and congratulating these young people for their important contributions to the betterment of Kansas ornithology.

(Editors Note - The KOS Young Naturalist Award is a new program that was discussed in the last issue of the Horned Lark. With the YNA we have an opportunity to recognize and encourage those youth who are making a positive environmental impact in the world around them. Refer to the December, 1993 issue of the Horned Lark for more information and an application form, or call Roy Beckemeyer at (316) 264-0049.)

Spring Soothsaying

Anticipation of a poke-sprout spring lured me out before the source of Kansas' wind had gone on south for yet another year. North-places lingering on the wind (Great Slave Lake, the Yukon River) soon had me snuffling like an old bird dog, hoping to find scents from afar mingled with those more familiar (snowshoe hare with cottontail, caribou with white-tailed deer).

Along with elusive Alaskan odors (melting arctic snow, swelling spruce buds), a choir of chanting geese were in the air. Above the river's meandering indecision they banked and wheeled, in loose formation, into the north-wind's waning breath: a hundred prescient geese reading sign on the wind of a coming, a gray-green, a sprouting arctic spring.

--Roy Beckemeyer (Along the Arkansas River)

QUIVIRA ON FOOT*by John Rakestraw*

Quivira National Wildlife Refuge is well known for its user-friendliness. One can drive through many parts of the refuge and experience some fine birding. But those who limit themselves to the Wildlife Drive and the main roads are missing out on a lot of birds and other aspects of this wild area. That is why I prefer to explore Quivira on foot.

Much has been written on birding from the car. The two main advantages are being able to cover large areas in a short time and sometimes being able to use the car as a blind to closely approach wildlife. The disadvantages, however, are many. A curved windshield, tinted glass, and a roof greatly reduce your ability to see. Birds flying overhead can go completely unnoticed. Another disadvantage is speed. When driving 15 - 30 MPH, not only are you more likely to miss some birds, but you are also less likely to go to the trouble of stopping to really look at all the birds you do see. It is much easier to assume all those birds by the road are Tree Sparrows.

Footwear becomes an important consideration when you decide to get out of the car. I wear knee boots for most of my birding. They allow me to cross through mud or water up to a foot deep and provide protection from burrs, ticks, chiggers, and the occasional rattlesnake. Red Ball knee boots are available at any farm supply store for \$15.00. If you are more fashion conscious, you can get a pair of Wellingtons, the choice of British birders, for about \$30.00.

When birding any wild area, you should be aware of your impact on the habitat. At Quivira, you can cover a lot of territory by walking on the service roads. Birders should never walk out into the nesting areas of plovers or terns, and should always keep an eye open for other ground nesters. The grasslands are less fragile, and birders can really immerse themselves in Quivira's large tracts of prairie. Be careful to keep your bearings when walking the prairie. On more than one occasion I have walked a large loop through a section of grassland and, upon returning to my starting point, discovered that my car had moved several hundred yards.

Listed below are several areas that have been productive for me. The section numbers correspond to those on the refuge map. An "N" before the number indicates that the section is north of County Road 484. An "S" indicates that the section is south of the road.

- The Wildlife Drive - Get out of the car from time to time and explore the little peninsulas that extend into the marsh.
- Halfway through the Wildlife Drive is a service road. You can walk this road clear around the east and south sides of the Big Salt Marsh.
- There is also a service road that runs along the west side of the Big Salt Marsh (section N29).
- Many birders ignore the east edge of the refuge. Park at the second parking area north of County Road 484 on the refuge's eastern boundary. A service road will take you along a large stand of hardwoods and ends up at a grove of cedars. This section (N36) has several large wooded areas and windbreaks interspersed with grassland.
- Park at the display on the border of sections S36 and S1. Walking east takes you into woods, while walking west will take you into the Little Salt Marsh.
- Walk to the photo blind on the south end of the Little Salt Marsh. This area is good for sparrows as well as waterfowl.
- There is a gate on the refuge boundary west of the Little Salt Marsh (south end of section S35). On this service road you can reach grasslands southwest of the marsh and walk into the Little Salt Marsh from the west.

These are just a few possibilities. Do some exploring on your own. You will be delighted with the variety of birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians that you can find by leaving the car and exploring Quivira on foot.

Missouri Audubon Society Spring Meeting

We have been invited to attend the spring meeting of the Missouri Audubon Society. The dates of their spring meeting are April 29, 30 and May 1st. The location is down in the "boot heel" of Missouri at Mingo NWR and Big Oak Tree State Park.

Probably the best location to find a motel will be at Sikeston (be sure to go to Lamberts Cafe - Home of Throed Rolls!) Registration fee is \$20.00 for adults, \$10.00 for children up to age 11. Registrations can be sent to Bill Reeves, 98 Hawthorne #35, Farmington, MO 63640 by April 15. Last minute reservations can be made by calling Bill at home, 314-756-6446 or at work 756-4160. If you've got that weekend open plan to attend. That is a beautiful part of the state, and some good birding!

SWAN SONG?

It seems that over the past several years anytime swans have shown up in Kansas at least 1 gets shot. William Brecheisen observed what appeared to be 2 Trumpeter Swans in Anderson County late last November. The following day William and Eva went to a small farm pond to take some pictures of the swans and found one of them dead on the ice. They contacted a local Wildlife and Parks Conservation Officer who returned to the location with them. After working through the Wildlife and Parks and US Fish and Wildlife Service channels, William obtained permission to salvage the bird and take it to KU for their museum collections. Unfortunately thawing ice made things a little tricky, but they eventually were able to get a boat into the water and out to the dead swan. After the swan was retrieved it was discovered to have been shot, which required a whole new set of phone calls and investigation. The bird was finally turned over to the KU Museum (and was subsequently identified as a Tundra Swan).

Why is it that when swans show up in Kansas someone has to declare open season? Most of the Trumpeter Swans that show up seem to be from the Minnesota re-establishment flock and are usually very well marked with tags. The logic of these actions escapes me. As birders we have ethical expectations to protect the natural world around us. If you locate swans in Kansas be sure to report them to the Rare Bird Alert (913-372-5499). If they are wearing tags indicating that they are from the Minnesota flock be sure to notify Wildlife and Parks officials so these birds can be monitored and protected. Let's all help protect these majestic waterfowl!

**Hey, wasn't that Superman?
Or was it just a low flying airplane?**

It was a...no, It couldn't have been...

WAIT A MINUTE!!!

**IT IS! I heard about it on the
KOS RARE BIRD ALERT!
and it's still here!**

**Reports and Donations Always
Accepted**

(913) 372-5499

Be Sure to Check Out the

"CLASSIFIEDS"

(Page 5)

**You Might be Just the
Officer Candidate
We're Looking For!**

**Help KOS continue to
provide opportunities for
the birdwatchers of Kansas!**

TRIP ANNOUNCEMENT!

When It's Sweltering in the Midwest Next July You Could be in the Cloudforest with all the Songbirds!

Just when Kansas is headed for a heat wave in July, you could be in Costa Rica enjoying 70 degrees and sunshine with a dozen new friends. July 12 - 24, 1994, you can join a 12 day natural history tour of Costa Rica's spectacular scenery.

A sample of the trip itinerary includes:

- Selva Verde, a large private tract of virgin tropical rainforest
- Arenal Volcano, with its impressive fireworks at night
- Tamrindo Beach on the Pacific in Guancaste Province, where many Americans retire
- Villas Blanca, a high cloud forest where the naturalist shows you an amazing variety of flowers, butterflies, monkeys and much more wildlife

The full itinerary to this trip needs to be seen to be believed (I wish I wasn't getting ready for a County Fair then!). The potential bird list is incredible - parrots, jacamars, hummingbirds, motmots. . .well, you get the picture. Eloise tells me they'll have an outstanding native birder along as well!

Trip cost is approximately \$2500 and includes just about everything. The trip is personally escorted from Kansas City by Eloise Hart. Call (816)361-6991 for more information!

Why Do You Want to Raise Dues?

Following this article are official notices regarding an upcoming vote at the Annual Meeting in October to amend the by-laws to increase dues. Some of you are probably wondering what on earth the Board is wasting your dues money on so that we have to raise dues.

Well, believe me, the Board has wrestled with this dilemma for some time, and the truth of the matter is that it is simply costing more to run the organization than it has in the past. Over half of our expenses in any given year (see the 1993 Financial Statement in this issue) are in the *Bulletin* and Newsletter. The cost of mailing these publications has roughly doubled in the past 5 years. As KOS Treasurer Gregg Friesen was wrapping up the 1993 books, he took the time to calculate our regressing financial position and cost per member. The cost of all that KOS does on a per member basis in 1993 figured out to be roughly \$12.50. And when most of the memberships are a single individual at \$10.00 per year it is easy to understand why we basically lost \$1,700 in 1993.

The KOS Board wants to do more for the membership. I want to keep making the Newsletter bigger and better. . . that costs money. Checklists need to be updated and reprinted. There is a plan to create a more in-depth annotated checklist. These efforts and projects cost money. At the winter board meeting steps were taken to reduce expenditures for 1994, but these are simply stop gap measures.

The biggest change would be in the life membership category. Several years when interest rates were 10% or more, the life membership generated more than enough interest to cover the associated costs. Unfortunately, with interest rates running half that or less, the current life membership structure has become a liability, not an asset. Sure it's a good investment for someone who has it, but not if it breaks the organization.

We want you to take a look at the proposed dues structure. For most categories it is a \$5.00 increase. Regular membership would change from \$10 to \$15 per year. When one long time KOS "elder statesman" member was quizzed about the possibility of increasing the dues the response was, "Geez, you can't join anything for under \$15 anymore." The proposed by-laws change will be published in 2 more issues of the newsletter before the October meeting in Garden City (you are making plans to attend aren't you!). Look at them, think about them, and if you have any questions ask one of the KOS officers or Board Members or myself and we'll be happy to visit with you about them.

PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGE

At the Winter Board meeting on February 26, 1994 the KOS Board of Directors voted to forward the following two By-laws changes to the membership to be voted on at the Annual Meeting in Garden City in October.

It was moved, seconded and passed that the following parts of Article II, Section 3 be amended to read:

- A: Regular members: \$15.00 per year
- B: Sustaining members: \$25.00 per year
- D: Family regular members: \$20.00
- E: Family sustaining members: \$30.00
- F: Contributing members: \$40.00 or more
- G: Any foreign category or subscription add \$5.00.

It was moved, seconded and passed that Article II, Section 3C be amended to read:

- C: Life members: a lump sum payment of \$300 or \$150 each year in 2 consecutive years.

These proposed changes would take affect January 1, 1995. Members who are currently paying on life memberships would be allowed to finish their payments. Sections 3A, 3B, 3D and 3E are all currently \$5.00 less than the proposal. Section 3F was changed by adding the words "or more". Section 3C currently reads \$150 in a lump sum or \$37.50 in each of four consecutive years." 3G is new, and is intended to help cover the additional cost of mailings to foreign countries.

The Student membership category was not changed. Institutions can purchase an annual subscription (this is not a membership category) and this fee was not changed either, other than the proposed increase for foreign mailings.

If you have any questions on this proposal, please contact one of the members of the KOS Board of Directors (see front cover of the membership directory for that list).

SO.

Where's YOUR KBBAT Block
THIS Year?

(Get on the stick! There's lots to be done!
Besides...it's an excuse to go watch birds!)

KOS FALL BOARD MEETING 1993

October 2, 1993

Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas

The noon Board Meeting was chaired by President Jim Mayhew.

FALL MEETING REGISTRATION: Mike Rader reported that 85 persons were registered for the Fall Meeting.

FALL MEETING 1994: David Seibel moved that KOS meet on October 7, 8 and 9, 1994 in Garden City. The motion was seconded. The motion passed.

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY MEETING: The fiftieth annual meetings of KOS will be held in four years. The first meeting was held at the University of Kansas. Max Thompson agreed to contact Marion Jenkins to see if she would head a committee to plan a 50 year anniversary meeting to be held at KU in Lawrence.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT: Chuck Otte encouraged more participation by members in writing for the Newsletter. He said that he had gotten positive feedback on the newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY: Roy Beckemeyer reported that he had received responses from 28 members with regard to the membership interest survey.

RESEARCH FUND: Mark Corder will be asked to Chair the Research Fund Committee. The committee needs to develop a long term plan and long range financial planning.

YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT RECOGNITION: There was discussion regarding the encouragement of younger persons, 1st through 10th grade. It was suggested that a certificate be given to recognize any achievement in improving the environment. KOS members could nominate persons as candidates for the award.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT: John Schukman reported that the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks has agreed to be the umbrella organization to gather data on bluebird trails in Kansas. Several KOS members have indicated a willingness to work on this. The Boy Scout Jamboree at Melvern is looking to KOS to provide some resource people.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT: Diane Seltman reported that she had sent 70 second reminders for membership renewal. She reported the death of Shirley Weaver, a life member. She asked how she should handle partially paid life memberships when the required annual payments are not continued. The consensus of the Board was that the money should be put into the general fund and their names should be dropped from the life members roster.

HOTLINE REPORT: Scott Seltman reported that July and August were the worst ever. There were 10 days without any messages.

CEDAR BLUFF CHANNELIZATION PROJECT: Scott Seltman reported that there was opposition to the Cedar Bluff Channelization Project on the Smoky Hill River.

BULLETIN EDITOR'S REPORT: Max Thompson reported that the December issue was about ready. He also reported that the publisher is going to a new printing process which will first be used on the March issue.

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT: Galen Pittman reported that he had received a complaint from a life member who had not received mailings. Back issues will be sent.

BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE: Max Thompson moved to take from the table the motion approving the revisions in the Procedural Rules for the Kansas Bird Records Committee (see Board Meeting minutes of May 1, 1993). David Seibel seconded the motion. There was discussion on the rule changes. The motion to approve the changes in Procedural Rules failed to pass.

WINTER BOARD MEETING: Jim Mayhew announced that the Winter Board meeting will be held on Saturday, February 26 at 10 a.m. at the Salina VoTech School.

SPRING MEETING: The Spring Meeting will be held the first weekend in May in Mound City with field trips to the Marais des Cygne Wildlife Refuge and the Dingus Natural Area.

A motion to adjourn was made by David Seibel. The motion was seconded and was passed.

Respectfully submitted, *Dwight R. Platt*, Corresponding Secretary (written from notes taken by Rose Fritz)

KOS ANNUAL FALL MEETING 1993

October 2 - 3, 1993

Fort Hays State University

Hays, Kansas

The forty-fifth Annual Meeting of the Kansas Ornithological Society met on the campus of Fort Hays State University in Hays, Kansas on October 2-3, 1993.

Saturday, October 2, Morning Session.

The papers presented in the morning session were as listed on the program (see attached program).

The morning business meeting was called to order by President Jim Mayhew.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Rose Fritz reported that the balance in the general fund as of September 30 was \$2,435.84. The total in restricted funds was \$28,850.64. She announced receipt of more than \$1200 in royalty payments from the Thompson/Ely books which goes into a restricted fund account.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT: Diane Seltman reported that KOS has a total of 449 members .

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT: Galen Pittman reported that he was still making an effort to combine mailings of the Bulletin and Newsletter.

BULLETIN EDITOR'S REPORT: Max Thompson reported that the Bulletins are being published on schedule. He requested manuscripts for the June Bulletin.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT: Chuck Otte requested more articles from members. He also asked compilers to give him dates for Christmas Bird Counts.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: Rose Fritz read the report for the Nominating Committee: **President:** Jim Mayhew; **Vice-President:** Mike Rader; **Recording Secretary:** Dwight Platt; **Membership Secretary:** Diane Seltman; **Treasurer:** Gregg Friesen; **Business Manager:** Galen Pittman; **Board Members:** Sara Shane, Roy Beckemeyer. The terms of Board Members Joanne Brier and Lloyd Moore do not expire. Max Thompson moved to accept the Nominating Committee's report. The motion was seconded. The motion passed.

The morning business meeting was adjourned.

Saturday, October 2, Afternoon Session.

The afternoon session followed the program (see attached program).

President Jim Mayhew chaired the afternoon business meeting.

SPRING MEETING: Tom Shane recommended that a spring meeting be held in June to do Atlas work.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS: Chuck Otte moved to accept the slate of officers and board members proposed by the Nominating Committee. The motion was seconded. The motion passed.

AMENDMENT OF KOS BYLAWS: Jim Mayhew presented the following amendment to the KOS Bylaws which had been approved by the Board: Moved that Article II. Sec. 3C of the KOS bylaws be amended to read: C. Life members: a lump sum payment of \$300 (\$150 until January 1, 1995).The amendment failed to pass.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dwight R. Platt, Corresponding Secretary (written from notes taken by Rose Fritz)

Kansas Ornithological Society, Inc.
Statement of Accounts
As of the Close of the 1993 Books

Assets

Unrestricted Funds

General Fund

Beginning Balance 1/1/93 \$2761.14

Receipts

Contributions - BWD	54.93	
Contributions - RBA	90.00	
Contributions - Other	13.40	
Dues 1992	15.00	
Dues 1993	2,994.75	
Interest Earned	1,008.88	
Fall Mtg Overage	34.65	
Spring Mtg Overage	357.44	
Sales - Bulletin	125.00	
Sales - Checklists	89.60	
Sales - Decals	12.00	
Sales - Hats	3.00	
Sales - Sweatshirts	15.00	
Sales - T-Shirts	173.00	4,986.65

Transfer From Southwestern College Acct 100.00

Disbursements

Annual Corporation Fee	5.00	
Bank Charges	26.67	
Bulk Mail Costs	400.00	
Expense Business Manager	489.35	
Expense KRBC	63.87	
Expense Membership Secretary	54.23	
Expense RBA Hotline	217.49	
Exp Stud Research Fund Comm	13.40	
Expense Treasurer	45.63	
Expense Vice-President	34.69	
ICBP Annual Fee	100.00	
Inventory Costs		
Sweatshirts	623.50	
T-Shirts	309.00	
Print Bulletin	2,528.89	
Print Envelopes	280.00	
Print Membership Cards	89.47	
Print Newsletter	1,421.51	
Safety Deposit Box	25.00	6,727.70

Ending Balance 1,120.09

Southwestern College (Checklist Mailing)

Beginning Balance 1/1/93 141.31

Receipts

Checklist Sales 7.50

Disbursements

Postage & Copying Expense 14.18

Transfer of Funds to General Fund 100.00

Ending Balance 34.63

14 (Statement of Accounts, contd)

Future Dues (Post 1993)

Beginning Balance 1/1/93			
1994 Dues	17.50		
1995+ Dues	27.50	45.00	
Dues 1994 Income		2,095.00	
Dues 1995 and later		120.00	
Ending Balance			2,260.00

Total Unrestricted Funds End of 1993 Year 3,414.72

Restricted Funds

Life Membership Fund			
Beginning Balance 1/1/1993		14,347.00	
Life Membership Dues		1,325.00	
Ending Balance 1993 Year			15,672.00

KOS Student Research Fund			
Beginning Balance 1/1/1993		1,294.74	
Interest Income		37.06	
Ending Balance 1993 Year			1,331.80

Dingus Natural Area Account			
Beginning Balance 1/1 1993		7,218.10	
Dividend Income		169.50	
Liability Insurance Expense		-157.00	
Ending Balance			7,230.60

Book Royalty Account			
Beginning Balance 1/1/1993		3,377.68	
Interest Income		120.72	
Royalties Received		2,544.37	
Ending Balance 1993 Year			6,042.77

Total Restricted Funds End of 1993 Year 30,277.17

Total Assets End of 1993 Year 33,691.89

LATE FALL/EARLY WINTER ROUNDUP/November 1993 - January 1994/by Chuck Otte

What started out as a busy fall carried right on through Christmas. . .and then died! November and December held some good birding, but shortly after the first of the year the birding really slowed down, and the birding doldrums carried right on into February with just occasional glimmers of hope.

While certain desired winter species showed up in good numbers, hopes of such good birds as redpolls, grosbeaks, and Snow Buntings were left virtually unfulfilled through late November.

November started off interestingly with a fairly convincing report of a Harris's Hawk being left on the hotline. Scott Seltman pursued this bird west of Great Bend but neither he nor anyone else was able to find the hawk and it will have to remain as a single, unconfirmed sighting. Most of the scattered reports of Harris's Hawks in Kansas have occurred during the winter months so this report should not be summarily dismissed and birders in southwest Kansas should continue to be vigilant for this straggler.

Many wading species lingered well past their normal departure dates at Quivira. Sandhill Cranes lingered well into December with over 6,000 still present on the 17th. And some of the cranes apparently decided to spend the winter in Kansas with 1,000 being sighted by Seltman in western Stafford County in late January. Quivira wasn't the only location to have wading water birds past normal departure dates. The Webster Christmas Bird Count tabulated a Greater Yellowlegs, an unprecedented winter record for this species in northwestern Kansas.

A couple of species that have just recently made their first appearances in the state came up with repeat performances for some lucky Christmas Bird Count Compilers. The second state

record Canyon Wren showed up for the Scott Lake Count and stuck around long enough for several birders to tally this species and photograph it. And to the southwest of that record, the third state record Pyrrhuloxia showed up in Kearny County for the Lakin Count. While many compilers lamented low numbers on their counts, these 2 sightings along with other rarities like the Say's Phoebe and Curve-billed Thrasher on the Cedar Bluff Count kept the late December birding interesting.

Snowy Owls made numerous appearances around the state. No part of the state could really claim a monopoly on the Snowy Owl sightings with reports coming in from Dodge City, Quivira, Osborne County and clear on to Brown County. In virtually all cases, though, the owls would only be seen for one or two days. Whether these birds kept moving on south, or succumbed to the hunger that drove so many of them out of the north lands is hard to say at this point in time.

Mountain Bluebirds were one of the other few bright spots in the winter birding. In many parts of the state Mountain Bluebirds have been an almost daily sighting for birders in appropriate habitat, with numbers in some areas reaching into the hundreds!

And finally, Swans, both Trumpeter and Tundra, made numerous good showings this fall, and trouble all to often seems to follow them. Read some of the accounts in a related article elsewhere in the *Horned Lark* if you have not already done so!

Remember to call the Hotline (913-372-5499) with your sightings, and be sure to fill out a Bird Records Committee Report Form for appropriate sightings. And, of course, all of the following entries are subject to consideration by the Kansas Bird Records Committee.

BIRDING HIGHLIGHTS / November 1993 through January 1994

Species	Location and number	Observers	Date	County
Common Loon	1 at Wilson Res	MR	11-07-93	Russell
Western Grebe	1 at Scott Lake	LBR	11-06-93	Scott
Western Grebe	1 at Perry Res	MM,BF,GP	11-07-93	Jefferson
	still present		11-20-93	
	1 still present		11-28-93	
Western Grebe	2 at La Cygne power lake	LM,CH	11-27-93	Linn
Clark's Grebe	1 at Perry Res	MM,GP	11-20-93	Jefferson
Eared Grebe	1 at CB	SS,LB,DB	11-26-93	Barton
American White Pelican	1 lingering at Milford Res	CO	01-09-94	Geary

This bird was present throughout the fall and early winter and was seen on the Lake itself as well as the ponds in the outlet area. By late January all bodies of water had frozen over and the pelican could not be re-located, it's fate unknown.

16 (Birding Highlights, contd)

Tundra Swan	2 at QNWR	SS	11-16-93	Stafford
Tundra Swan	2 (1 adult, 1 imm) near Colony	WB	11-26-93	Anderson
These birds were originally identified as Trumpeter Swans. Unfortunately one of the birds was shot and was taken to KU where it turned out to be a Tundra Swan.				
Tundra Swan	1 at QNWR (same bird as 11/16?)	JR	12-06-93	Stafford
Tundra Swan	1 imm at Seven Springs Marsh	DR	12-05-93	Geary
	still present	CO	12-11-93	
Trumpeter Swan	1 at Harvey Co East Lake	BD	11-20-93	Harvey
Trumpeter Swan	2, 1 with orange wing markers	Davis	01-26-94	Kingman
American Bittern	2 lingering at QNWR	SS	11-16-93	Stafford
	1 still present		11-26-93	
Great Egret	1 at QNWR (record late?)	SS	11-16-93	Stafford
Cattle Egret	20 at QNWR	SS	11-13-93	Stafford
Snowy Egret	1 at Wilson Res (record late?)	MR	11-07-93	Russell
Black-crowned Night-heron	15 at QNWR	SS	11-16-93	Stafford
Yellow-crowned Night-heron	1 at QNWR (record late?)	SS	11-13-93	Stafford
White-faced Ibis	1 record late state record, QNWR	SS	11-13-93	Stafford
White-fronted Goose	500 at QNWR, Big Salt Marsh	SS	01-29-94	Stafford
Snow Goose	200 at QNWR, Big Salt Marsh	SS	01-29-94	Stafford
Ross's Goose	3 at QNWR	SS	12-04-93	Stafford
	2 still present at QNWR		12-17-93	
Ross's Goose	10 present with other geese	SS	01-29-94	Stafford
Ross's Goose	1 on Lakin CBC		01-08-94	Kearny
Canada Goose	30,000 at QNWR, Big Salt Marsh	SS	01-29-94	Stafford
Blue-winged Teal	2 late birds at LeCompton Bridge	MM,GP	11-20-93	Douglas?
American Black Duck	2 at Perry Res	LM	11-21-93	Jefferson
American Black Duck	1 at Melvern	LM	12-30-93	Osage
Greater Scaup	2 at CB	SS,LB,DB	11-26-93	Barton
Oldsquaw	1 male at Wilson Res	MR	11-07-93	Russell
Oldsquaw	1 at Perry Res	MM,BF,GP	11-07-93	Jefferson
Oldsquaw	1 female at Pott Co Lake #2	DR	11-30-93	
	Pottawatomie			
Hooded Merganser	1 at Wilson Lake	MR	01-19-94	Russell
	17 were present		01-22-94	
Common Merganser	9,600 at Wilson Lake	MR	01-19-94	Russell
Black Scoter	1 female, Paola Sewer Ponds	LM	12-09-93	Miami
Bald Eagle	8 imm at QNWR	WH	1-20-93	Stafford
Bald Eagle	pair building nest at Tuttle Creek		01-10-94	Riley
Northern Goshawk	near Melvern Dam Headquarters	CH	01-05-94	Osage
Northern Goshawk	1 imm sw of Andale	PJ	01-06-94	Sedgwick
Golden Eagle	1 at QNWR	SS,DB,LB	11-26-93	Stafford
Golden Eagle	1 at Perry Lake	bua	12-11-93	Jefferson
Merlin	1 at Wilson Res	MR	11-07-93	Russell
Merlin	1 at Perry Res	MM,GP	11-20-93	Jefferson
Harris's Hawk	1 unconfirmed adult west of Great Bend		11-06-93	Barton
Seltman searched for this bird on the 7th without success				
Peregrine Falcon	1 at QNWR, Big Salt Marsh	JBa	12-11-93	Stafford
Peregrine Falcon	1 on KSU Campus, Manhattan	DR	01-10-94	Riley
Sandhill Crane	50,000 - 70,000 at QNWR	SS	11-06-93	Stafford
	6,500 still present		12-17-93	
Sandhill Crane	1,000 s of Radium	SS	01-29-94	Stafford
Black-bellied Plover	16 at QNWR	SS	11-06-93	Stafford
American Golden-Plover	1 at QNWR	SS	11-16-93	Stafford
Western Sandpiper	10 at QNWR	SS	11-06-93	Stafford
Pectoral Sandpiper	10 at QNWR	SS	11-06-93	Stafford
Franklin's Gull	1 alt. plumage at John Redmond ??		01-31-94	Coffey

California Gull	1 adult at Clinton Lake	LM	12-02-93	Douglas
California Gull	1 sub-adult at John Redmond	LM	12-30-93	Coffey
Thayer's Gull	1 fw at Perry Res	MM,GP	11-20-93	Jefferson
Thayer's Gull	1 fw at Hillsdale Res	LM,CH	11-26-93	Miami
Thayer's Gull	1 fw at Paola Sewer ponds	LM,CH	11-26-93	Miami
Thayer's Gull	3 fw, Ark Riv. Wichita	PJ,DK,DV	12-08-93	Sedgwick
Thayer's Gull	1 fw at Clinton Lake	LM	12-18-93	Douglas
Thayer's Gull	2 fw at Brooks Landfill		12-18-93	Sedgwick
Thayer's Gulls	still present at Brooks Landfill		01-06-94	
Thayer's Gull	1 fw at John Redmond	LM	12-30-93	Coffey
Glaucous Gull	1 fw at Waconda Lake	MR	12-19-93	Mitchell
Great-horned Owl	adult on nest with eggs	CO	01-29-94	Geary
Snowy Owl	1 adult at QNWR Big Salt Marsh	JR	11-04-93	Stafford
This owl was seen by many observers from the 5th through the 7th				
Snowy Owl	1 unconfirmed sw of Junction City		11-15-93	Dickinson
Snowy Owl	1 at Perry Lake Marina	JEZ	11-27-93	Jefferson
Snowy Owl	1 at Tuttle Creek, McIntire Pt	m.ob.	12-04-93	Pottawatomie
Snowy Owl	1 at Tuttle Creek Res	DR,JZ	12-11-93	Pottawatomie
Snowy Owl	1 sw of Dodge City	Dodge City CBC	12-18-93	Ford
Snowy Owl	1 nw of Horton	DLN	12-22-93	Brown
Snowy Owl	1 at a farm n of Waldo	DE	01-10-94	Osborne
Snowy Owl	1 unconfirmed from e Geary Co.		01-20-94	Geary
Long-eared Owl	11 n of Wilson State Park HQ	MR	01-22-94	Russell
Selasphorus spp Hummingbird	1 imm male at Wichita feeder	HM	12-01-93	Sedgwick
This bird unfortunately starved to death when a feeder was not refilled. The specimen was transferred to Southwestern College and identified as a Rufous Hummingbird.				
Canyon Wren	1 s of Scott Lake State Park	TSh	12-30-93	Scott
Only the second record for Kansas, this bird was seen by numerous observers and was photographed.				
Still present				
Sedge Wren	10 at QNWR, Little Salt Marsh	SS	02-13-94	
	at least 1 still present	SS	11-16-93	Stafford
			12-04-93	
Mountain Bluebird	65 at Wilson Res	MR	11-07-93	Russell
Mountain Bluebird	7 at Kirwin	DB,MR,SS	11-27-93	Phillips
Mountain Bluebird	3, Tuttle Creek, Stockdale area	CHe	12-08-93	Riley
Mountain Bluebird	180 around Wilson Lake	MR	01-19-94	Russell
Townsend's Solitaire	2 in Union Park Cemetery, Winfield	MT	11-28-93	Cowley
Hermit Thrush	1 at Harvey Co West Lake	GF	01-03-94	Harvey
Brown Thrasher	1 at Chisholm Creek Park	JN	01-21-94	Sedgwick
Brown Thrasher	1 at Quivira NWR	JR	01-24-94	Stafford
Curve-billed Thrasher	1 coming to a feeder in Pratt	LJQ	12-28-93	Pratt
	still present		02-01-94	
Northern Shrike	1 at Webster Res	DB,MR,SS	11-27-93	Rooks
Northern Shrike	1	SS	11-29-93	Pawnee
Northern Shrike	1 at Melvern Dam	BF,GG	01-08-94	Osage
Northern Shrike	1 at Wilson Lake	MR	01-19-94	Russell
Northern Shrike	1 at Milford State Park	DLS	01-29-94	Geary
Pyrrhuloxia	West of Syracuse River Bridge	AN	01-09-94	Hamilton
The 3rd record for this species in Kansas				
	Still present		01-16-94	
Common Yellowthroat	1 male at Quivira NWR	JR	01-12-94	Stafford
Chipping Sparrow	1 at Perry Res	MM,GP	11-20-93	Jefferson
Savannah Sparrow	1 at Quivira NWR	JR	01-12-94	Stafford
Henslow's Sparrow	1 very late and out of range	SS	11-01-93	Barton
western most Kansas record?				

18 (Birding Highlights, contd)

Le Conte's Sparrow	7 at QNWR	PJ,JN	11-08-93	Stafford
	1 still at Little Salt Marsh	JR	12-06-93	Stafford
Fox Sparrow	2 at Chisholm Creek Park	JN	01-21-94	Sedgwick
Swamp Sparrow	1 at Quivira NWR	JR	01-12-94	Stafford
Golden-crowned Sparrow	1 adult at Camp Christy	RR	12-30-93	Scott
Smith's Longspur	several at Lyon Co State Lake	NW	11-12-93	Lyon
	up to 30 still present	SS,m.ob.	12-04-93	
Snow Bunting	1 west of Hunter	MR	12-19-93	Mitchell
Snow Bunting	2 at Melvern Dam	DG	12-27-93	Osage
	at least one of these birds was present up through the end of January			
Yellow-headed Blackbird	1 at Quivira NWR	JR	01-24-94	Stafford
Rusty Blackbird	30 on Turnpike at El Dorado	PJ,DV	01-18-94	Butler
Pine Grosbeak	6 s of Wakefield	WH	01-23-94	Clay
Red Crossbill	1 in Union Park Cemetery, Winfield	MT	11-28-93	Cowley
Red Crossbill	2 at Curtis Creek, Milford Lake	DLS	01-29-94	Geary
Purple Finch	at feeder s of Welda	WB	11-26-93	Anderson

EXOTICS

Ruddy Shelduck	3 at Pratt Co State Lake		01-30-94	Pratt
	First identified as Fulvous Whistling Ducks these birds appeared to be wild and unrestrained, but all North American records must be considered escapes.			
Ringed Turtle-Dove	1 coming to feeder in Russell	JH	01-17-94	Russell

ADDENDUM/CORRECTIONS TO FALL ROUNDUP

Sabine's Gull	1 imm, Elkhart Sewer Ponds	MR	09-18-93	Morton
	Mike Rader found this bird on the 18th, Wichita Audubon saw the bird on the 19th.			

CB = Cheyenne Bottoms

CBC = Christmas Bird Count

fw = first winter

imm = immature

m.ob. = many observers

QNWR = Quivira National Wildlife Refuge

Res = Reservoir

LIST OF OBSERVERS: Burrough's Audubon (bua), Wichita Audubon (wa), James Barnes (JBa), Dave Bryan (DB), Linda Bryan (LB), William Brecheisen (WB), Bob Dester (BD), Dean Elliot (DE), Bob Fisher (BF), Greg Friesen (GF), Dan Gish (DG), Greg Griffith (GG), Chod Hedinger (Che), Chris Hobbs (CH), Jane Holland (JH), Wayne Hochstetler (WH), Dan Kilby (DK), Pete Janzen (PJ), Dan LaShelle (DLS), Hugh Magness (HM), Lloyd Moore (LM), Mick McHugh (MM), Art Nonhoff (AN), Don and Loreta Neff (DLN), John Northrup (JN), Chuck Otte (CO), Sebastian Patti (SP), Galen Pittman (GP), Lee & Jean Queal (LJQ), John Rakestraw (JR), Mike Rader (MR), Leonard & Betty Rich (LBR), David Rintoul (DR), Richard Rucker (RR), Scott Seltman (SS), Tom Shane (TSh), Max Thompson (MT), Don Vannoy (DV), Noel Wamer (NW), Jim and Ellen Zellmer (sp?) (JEZ), John Zimmerman (JZ)

Spring Meeting Signup Form on Back of this Newsletter!

Read it, Complete it and MAIL IT!
(to arrive at Jerry Horak's by April 20, of course)

WHY DO YOU BELONG TO KOS

Please take a few minutes to think about the following questions, fill in your answers and return the survey to me. Your responses will be compiled and taken to the KOS Board of Directors, as well as help shape what shows up in the Newsletter as well as what other activities KOS becomes involved in. Thank you for your time and effort!

1. How long have you belonged to KOS? _____

2. Why do you belong to the KOS?
 Spring Field Trip _____
 Fall Meeting _____
 KOS led Field Trips _____
 The Horned Lark Newsletter _____
 The Bulletin _____
 KOS Rare Bird Alert _____
 Other (specify) _____

3. What do you like most about the *Horned Lark*? _____
 What would you like to see more of? _____
 What would you like to see less of? _____
 What else would you like to change? _____

4. What do you like most about the *Bulletin*? _____
 What would you like to see more of? _____
 What would you like to see less of? _____
 What else would you like to change? _____

5. Do you call the KOS Rare Bird Alert? _____
 How often (daily, weekly, twice a week, etc)? _____

6. What could KOS do to attract more members? _____
 What projects do you think KOS should become involved in? _____
 Would you be willing to help with those projects? _____

7. What else would you like to say to the KOS Board of Directors, *The Bulletin* editor or *The Horned Lark* editor?

8. Name (optional) _____

Please complete and return to:

Chuck Otte, Editor
The Horned Lark
613 Tamerisk
Junction City, KS 66441

or if you prefer to FAX it:

913-238-7166

~~~~~ KANSAS ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY 1994 ANNUAL SPRING MEETING ~~~~~

The KOS will hold its annual spring meeting at the Wildwood Outdoor Education Center, near the Marais des Cygnes Wildlife Areas in Linn County on May 6th, 7th and 8th.

Wildwood Outdoor Education Center is located at the north end of the La Cygne Power Lake, one mile east of Highway U.S. 69 near the Linn/Miami County line. From U.S. 69 turn east on 399th St. (gravel road), just south of the telephone relay tower, continue east for one mile to "Wildwood" sign at the top of the hill.

Wildwood overlooks the upper end of the lake. Habitats in and around the camp are varied and should be an excellent birding area. Accommodations are dormitory style with some limited family units available. **A twin bed is provided, but you should bring your own sheets, blankets and pillows as well as soap and towels.** The staff cooks the meals and all of us will eat in the dining hall unless you have other arrangements. Camping space is available at the Linn County Park just south of Wildwood along the west side of the lake. For more information about camping call 913-757-6633.

Field trips will include the entire Marais des Cygnes Wildlife management area including the refuge, plus a permit will be obtained to bird in the new Fish and Wildlife Service's Marais des Cygnes unit east of U.S. Highway 69. The Dingus area, owned by K.O.S., is near Mound City. All these areas have many species of warblers. If conditions are right there will also be a birding canoe float trip down the Marais des Cygnes River. You need to bring your own canoe. Final field trip itineraries will be available at Wildwood upon arrival. Friday evening is open for social activities.

Advanced payment and registration is required. The center needs to know how many persons are going to attend the meeting so they can prepare for us. We ask that you have your registration and payment in by April 20. You must pay a \$15.00 registration fee which includes complete use of the Wildwood facilities such as, boating, fishing, hiking, birding, tennis courts, meeting areas, etc. and then may select any combination of meals and lodging. We ask your cooperation in promptly sending us your payment. Sign-in will begin at 5:00 p.m. on the 6th, dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m.

For more information call Jerry Horak at work (316/342-0658) or at home (316/343-6080).

~~~~~Registration~~~~~

| | No. | Amount | |
|-----------------------------|-------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Registration fee - \$15.00 | _____ | _____ | Name: _____ |
| Meals: | | | Address: _____ |
| Dinner Friday (\$5.00) | _____ | _____ (6pm) | _____ |
| Breakfast Saturday (\$4.00) | _____ | _____ (8am) | _____ |
| Lunch Saturday (\$4.00) | _____ | _____ (noon) | _____ |
| Dinner Saturday (\$5.00) | _____ | _____ (6pm) | MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: |
| Breakfast Sunday (\$4.00) | _____ | _____ (8am) | Kansas Ornithological Society |
| Lunch Sunday (\$4.00) | _____ | _____ (noon) | |
| Lodging: | | | Send completed applications to: |
| Friday night (\$12.00) | _____ | _____ | Jerry Horak |
| Saturday night (\$12.00) | _____ | _____ | KDWP |
| TOTAL | _____ | _____ | P.O. Box 1525 |
| | | | Emporia, KS 66801 |

Would you be interested in participating in a canoe trip? Yes ___ No ___

~~~~~Registration Deadline April 20~~~~~