



# The Horned Lark

The newsletter of the Kansas  
Ornithological Society

June 2005

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## From the field

Several KOS members in the Wichita area know I am an on-air guest during the local public radio pledge drive. This spring I confessed to listeners that for several years I depended on others to pay the cost of my favorite shows. I enjoyed listening to Garrison Keillor, David Sedaris and Terry Gross—member support by others was a good thing as long as I benefited, too.

As time went on I felt discomfort about not doing my part to sustain this wonderful gift. Gradually I came to feel the same way about supporting wildlife refuges and wetland habitat. When I went to Quivira, I was pleased to see Black Terns, Eared Grebes and Snowy Plovers. I was thrilled when a Roseate Spoonbill or a Wood Stork visited. And I realized I was remiss in not helping conserve habitat critical to their survival.

I now contribute to both causes, and I have a growing collection of coffee mugs and duck stamps. On July 1, I'll go again to the KDWP regional office or to the post office and pay \$21 for a state and federal duck stamp to fund wetland conservation. If you want to learn more about this important

program, visit <http://duckstamps.fws.gov/Info/Stamps/stampinfo.htm>.

I wish passerine migration lasted longer. I'm selfish.

If our neotropical migrants could talk, I am sure they would say the process is treacherous and exhausting. We glimpse only a part of their journey to their breeding grounds, and if we are preoccupied with other activities, we may miss their passage altogether. They cannot operate on our time tables.

However, I am always glad to greet my old friends as they come through, and I step outside every morning in mid-April hoping to hear the happy chatter of Barn Swallows. I know when they return warmer, sunny days are in store, and soon the sky fills with the flight of warblers, tanagers and thrushes. The birds surround me with strident choruses and spectacular flashes of brilliant yellow, fiery red and warm rufous-brown.

After a short rest, most move on and I become aware of their absence. I miss them, but look forward to their return next spring.

—CKM

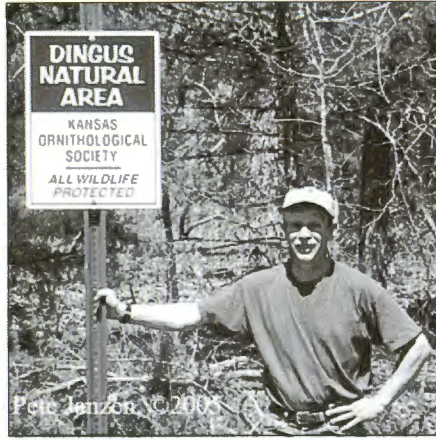


# The Eagle's Roost: Message from the president

I've been involved with KOS since the 1980s and I've noticed there is a certain ebb and flow to issues and concerns related to our organization. One of these issues is the periodic change in bylaws. The KOS Board addressed bylaw changes at its winter meeting in Emporia in February. We decided to modify the bylaws to address our committee structure and how we can conduct business (for example, via E-mail). While these types of issues may come once every 10 years or so, there is one item the board discusses at almost every meeting: Dingus Natural Area.

In this issue, Bill Busby provides an excellent overview and history of the Dingus area. It's a great birding area and botanical treasure, too. Simply put, the dilemma for KOS is what to do with this land. KOS is not set up as a land managing entity, but we acquired the tract for the purpose of preserving it. The key question is to preserve it as what?

Ecologically speaking, succession is a natural process that brings about new ecosystems through longevity, with a change of floristic characteristics over time. Occasionally these vegetative changes are set back to a previous state, usually with some dramatic event such as the natural action of fire, or via anthropogenic changes such as plowing a field (certainly fire is an anthropogenic tool we use in land management). The Dingus site has developed into a hardwood forest (through succession) with a prairie remnant along the uplands. Eastern Red Cedar threatens to invade this prairie remnant. Do we



Bill Busby at Dingus Natural Area.  
Photo by Pete Janzen, © 2005.

manage the prairie component and burn and remove the cedars, or do we simply ignore it and allow for succession to take place?

While this may seem a simple question, in practicality it is not. Why? Because different methods of management benefits different kinds of birds. Recognizing these small nuances makes it clear that KOS must make some decisions in regards to proper management of the Dingus parcel.

Bill Busby and I will develop a management plan for the Dingus Natural Area to lay the foundation for what KOS will do with the land for the next 10-20 years. At the board meetings, it is abundantly clear that 1) we don't want to get rid of Dingus; and 2) we need to do something with it. It is my hope that the details provided by Bill Busby in this issue of *The Horned Lark* and the forthcoming management plan will make everyone aware of this unique treasure.

I ask KOS members who wish to contribute bird records or other relevant information concerning

Dingus Natural Area to please contact either Bill Busby or me. We would like to use all of the information we receive to help us develop the management plan. Suggestions and ideas are also welcome. We will acknowledge all participants who contribute data or help with this project. We look forward to hearing from you.

**We have a winner!** I'm pleased to announce the editor of *The Horned Lark*, **Cheryl Miller**, won third place in page layout in the Kansas Professional Communicators 2005 contest. Cheryl entered the front page and page two of the December 2004 issue of *The Horned Lark* and received the award on 7 May in Wichita.

KOS is fortunate to have many experienced professionals who donate considerable amounts of time to this organization. On behalf of KOS, I want to say congratulations to Cheryl, and thanks to all of the editors and Board members for their hard work to make KOS one of the best state organizations in the country.

*Eugene A. Young*

President

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# Dingus Natural Area

by Bill Busby

KOS owns a 167-acre preserve, Dingus Natural Area, located in Linn County of extreme east-central Kansas. Its namesake, the Dingus family, homesteaded in the area in 1855 and lived in a walnut-log cabin located about one-half mile west of the preserve on the south side of the road (Lewis 1976).

At the time of European settlement, what is now Dingus Natural Area was wooded; in contrast, most of the surrounding landscape was tallgrass prairie (Lewis 1976). Apparently several steep, east-west oriented ravines at the site allowed forests to develop and persist, but halted prairie fires that swept through the area during pre-settlement times. Today, cropland and forest dominate land surrounding the preserve.

Wishing to protect the site's high quality forests, Wilson and Eunice Dingus acquired several forest tracts and deeded the property to The Nature Conservancy in 1973. Because they did not have an office in Kansas at the time, The Nature Conservancy leased the land to the Kansas Ornithological Society in 1976 and then gave title of the property to KOS in 1980. Several former and current KOS are relatives of the Dingus family.

## Fauna and flora

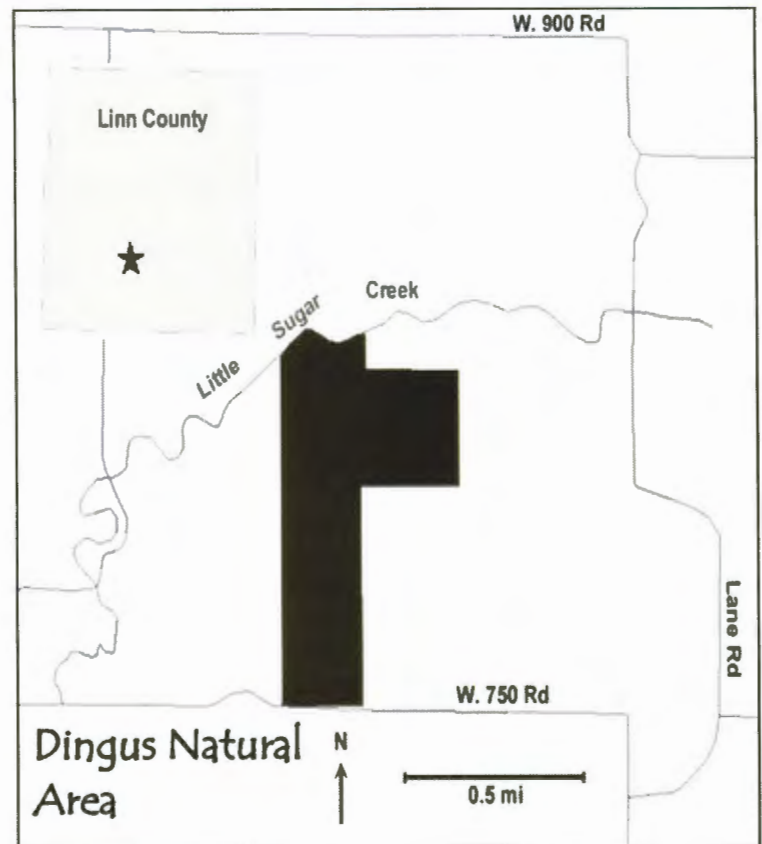
**Eunice Dingus** (1976) recorded 123 bird species on the preserve. She divided her list into permanent residents, migrants, summer residents and winter visitors. Eastern forest birds dominate the list, and characteristic breeding species include Pileated Woodpecker, Whip-poor-will, Wood Thrush, Louisiana Waterthrush, Kentucky Warbler and Summer Tanager.

Hulbert and Weese (1976) list 185 plant species for the site and staff of the University of Kansas Herbarium continue to visit the area and add to the list of known species. Most of the preserve is oak-hickory forest that supports a rich diversity of trees and understory species. A prairie remnant is located on a south-facing slope near the center of the property.

## Location and directions

Dingus Natural Area is open to the public for wildlife viewing year-round. The preserve is approximately 15 miles southwest of Marais des Cygnes Wildlife Area and about three miles west of Mound City. Access to the preserve is gained along the south property border from West 750 Road. There are no trails at the site. Wear sturdy shoes to navigate the preserve's steep slopes.

From Mound City, proceed south on K-52 one mile to the south side of the high school. Turn right and then left on to W 750 Road. Go west one mile to the T-intersection, and proceed left up a steep hill to Lewis Road. Turn right on Lewis Road and



follow it as it curves to the left to become W 750 Road. Continue on W 750 Road less than a mile and look for the Dingus Natural Area sign on the north side of the road, (past a high voltage power line and where the land changes from pasture to woods). For a detailed map, see Kansas Delorme Atlas, page 66 B2.

## Literature Cited

- Dingus, Eunice. 1976. Birds of the Dingus Natural Area. KOS Bulletin 27(3): 34-35.
- Hulbert, Lloyd, and Robert Weese. 1976. Vegetation and flora of the Dingus Natural Area. KOS Bulletin 27(3): 26-34.
- Lewis, Eugene. 1976. A history of the Dingus Natural Area. KOS Bulletin 27(3): 25-26.



# "There's a little Dingus in all of us."

by Jeff Cox and Millie Reed

Although the story of how KOS came into the position of Dingus Natural Area is interesting, the namesake family history is more so. Virginia native Hiram (Jasper) Dingus built the walnut-log cabin at the bottom of the hill west of Dingus Natural Area. Family legend (and the history of Linn County) indicates that Jasper was active in "Bleeding Kansas" and the border wars.

Jasper was one of the original Jayhawkers and narrowly missed being a victim of the Marais des Cygne massacre. He died in Mound City in 1900 in an apparent murder; he was ambushed after going to town to sell some cattle. A man followed

him and hit him on the head with a club, killing him.

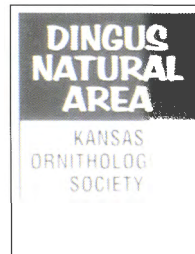
Jasper Dingus married Elizabeth Wayne and they had several children. One of their sons, John Orum Dingus, was the father of **Ruth Dingus Fahl**, whom many long-time KOS members will remember as being active in KOS until the 1980s.

Jasper and Elizabeth Dingus were parents to Mattie, also. Mattie married John Bower and lived in Mound City with two sons, Cecil and Burnette Orum. B.O. Bower was **Jeff Cox's** maternal grandfather

and Mattie Dingus Bower was his maternal great grandmother.

A love of nature seems to run in the Dingus line. Cox is a biologist by training; **Eunice** and **Wilson Dingus** loved birds and nature; and Ruth Dingus Fahl was a naturalist and worked at the museum at KU for several years.

As a student in a zoology class at the University of Oklahoma, Cox once listened to a lecture where the professor referred to the coracoid process (a part of the scapula less developed in humans than in other mammals) as a "dingus little thingy." Cox said, "At first I took some umbrage, but I now know there's a little Dingus in all of us."



## Favorite Kansas birding spot: Shawnee Mission Park

by Mark Land

Shawnee Mission Park is located at 7900 Renner in Shawnee (Johnson County). It is a favorite place of mine because of its wide variety of habitats. The park's 1,250 acres contain deciduous and riparian forest, grasslands, meadows, a flooded area below the dam and a 150-acre man-made lake. The 15-mile Mill Creek Streamway Trail that leads from the Kansas River to Olathe makes a loop below the dam.

Of the 317 species recorded in Johnson County, observers have found 231 in the park. Some of the more interesting species include Cinnamon Teal, the three scoter species, Long-tailed Duck, Barrow's Goldeneye, Red-necked Grebe, American Bittern, Cattle Egret, Ferruginous Hawk, Golden Eagle, Laughing Gull, Mew Gull, Willow Flycatcher, Yellow-throated Warbler,

Painted Bunting and LeConte's Sparrow.

One of the specialty features of the park is the large number of nesting boxes set up for Eastern Bluebirds. Volunteers monitor the boxes and more than 1,300 birds fledge each year. If you see a ribbon around the pole of a box that means the young are within a few days of fledging.

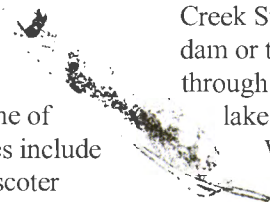
When visiting the park start at the lake. From there take the Mill Creek Streamway Trail below the dam or the three-mile trail that leads through the wooded area south of the lake. A picnic-playground area at Walnut Grove is a good place to investigate during the peak of songbird migration.

Other interesting areas are the Scout camping area, the flooded area below the dam, the marsh at the upper end of the lake and the old RC flying field.

You can also see an ever-expanding herd of white-tailed deer most mornings. Visitors have seen bobcat, muskrat and beaver below the dam. An entomologist can have a heyday with the diversity of butterflies, dragonflies, spiders and other insects found in the park. Workers stock the lake with brown trout several times a year—you'll need a county permit if you want to fish at the park. If you visit during the summer you can attend a production at the Theater in the Park, located just north of the park entrance.

I have a few words of warning for first-time visitors: 1) keep an eye out for copperhead snakes; 2) check for ticks if you leave the trails; and 3) be aware that we share the trail system with bicyclists.

**Mark Land** may be reached at 8447 Lamar, Overland Park, KS 66207; E-mail: [kestrelland@aol.com](mailto:kestrelland@aol.com).



# KOS Board minutes

The KOS Board of Directors had a productive fall and winter, meeting via Internet and in person. Below are minutes submitted by KOS Corresponding Secretary, **Bill Busby**.

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## Business conducted on the Internet, Fall-Winter 2004-05

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**Whooping Crane Incident Letter.** President **Gene Young** prepared a letter to Governor Sebelius with a copy to KDWP Secretary Hayden commenting on the Whooping Crane shooting and recommending changes to the Sandhill Crane hunting season. The letter was reviewed by the board and approved Nov. 19, 2004.

### Appreciation Certificates.

**Marvin Kuehn** made the following motion: "I move that we allow the President of KOS to use his/her judgment, when occasions arise during the year, to recognize individuals/families by sending a certificate of appreciation and/or letter on behalf of the KOS membership." The motion was seconded by **Pete Janzen** and approved Nov. 30, 2004.

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## KOS Fall Board Meeting 26 February 2005 Emporia, Kansas

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**Attendance:** **Chuck Otte**, **Pete Janzen**, **Dan Larson**, **Cal Cink**, **Bill Busby**, **Marvin Kuehn**, **Tom Shane**, **Mark Land**, **Matt Gearheart**, **Gene Young**, **Rob Penner**, **Nancy Leo**.

President called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

The first order of business was approval of minutes from fall meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

## Committee Reports

**Membership.** **Mark Land** distributed a handout summarizing membership numbers. Current membership is 246, substantially below the 326 members as of October 2004. However, we are in the midst of the winter renewal period so this situation is expected.

**Publicity.** This position has been vacant for many years. **Tom Shane** discussed the advantages of filling it with someone who would get meeting and field trip announcements to the media, etc. Ideas for candidates for this position were discussed.

**KBRC.** **Chuck Otte** passed out two handouts detailing 54 bird reports of which 33 have been circulated and 28 accepted. With the addition of Cackling Goose and Broad-billed Hummingbird, the state list is up to 467 species. New and re-elected members are **John Schukman**, **Max Thompson**, and **Mark Land**.

**Finance.** Treasurer **Dan Larson** reported on this 3-member ad-hoc committee and referred to the business report handout.

**Conservation.** This recently inactive committee was re-activated by the appointment last fall of **Rob Penner**. **Rob** discussed his idea of creating an Avian Conservationist of the Year award. Eligibility would not be limited to KOS members. After discussion, **Chuck** made a motion that the Conservation Committee chair will assemble a selection committee with the president's approval, and that the committee will select the award recipient with the president's approval. The motion was seconded and approved. **Rob** will be forming a committee and soliciting names of candidates for the award soon. **Chuck** moved that up to \$100 would be spent from KOS funds for each award. The

motion was seconded and approved.

**Editor's Reports:** *The Horned Lark.* In **Cheryl Miller's** absence, **Pete** mentioned that **Cheryl** considered using color in future editions of the *Horned Lark* but the additional cost would be substantial.

*Bulletin.* **Cal Cink** reported that the proofs for the winter bird count should be coming out soon. He is in need of material for *Bulletin* issues after June.

### Business Manager's Report.

**Pete Janzen** passed out a report. Sales of shirts, hats, and checklists have covered costs so all future sales will be entirely profit. About 10,000 checklists are available. **Tom** suggested two new products: a comprehensive checklist like those produced by **Tordoff** and **Johnston**, and a field card that doesn't need to be updated (like that produced by **Kerrie Kirkpatrick**). **Pete** said he would like KOS materials (shirts, hats, checklists, etc.) advertised on the website.

**Treasurer's Report.** **Dan Larson** discussed an income and expense summary and a balance sheet. He discussed different options for the method of calculating finances.

### Non-game Advisory Board.

**Dan Larson** attended his first meeting last fall and was impressed with all the activities for non-game wildlife within the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. KDWP is optimistic that the *Circle K Ranch* along the *Arkansas River* in *Edwards County* will eventually become state property. **Bill** reported on the KDWP-sponsored *Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan* meeting in *Manhattan* in *January* in which several KOS members participated.

(continued on page 6)



# Minutes, *continued*

## New items since October

### Role of KOS in Education and Conservation.

**Education.** Mark Land formerly wrote a section for 10-12 year olds in the Horned Lark for a couple of years. Discussion: does child readership warrant the effort of producing a kid's section? Tom suggested placing a kid's section on a website instead of in print. Gene would like to see more educational resources such as a powerpoint on T/E birds. Pete mentioned that the bird educational boxes produced by KOS are still at Great Plains Nature Center and used regularly. Many Audubon chapters do educational bird walks. Gene would like to do more walks through KOS. Pete pointed out that there is no substitute for field experience in motivating kids; owl calling is a particularly popular field trip.

### Whooping Crane Issue.

Gene submitted a letter from KOS to the Governor and submitted testimony at the KDWP Commission meeting last January, which focused on delaying the opening date of the Sandhill hunting season and reducing the shooting hours. The appropriateness of KOS providing comment on conservation issues was discussed. General support was expressed for KOS involvement on this issue. Cal suggested the Conservation Committee takes the lead in addressing similar issues in the future.

### Student Research Support.

Gene led a discussion on how to get increased student involvement in KOS. Funding for student support comes from the silent auction.

### Committees and Bylaws.

Gene asked if the bylaws should be revised to define the purpose of KOS committees. After discussion, Chuck made a motion to appoint a committee to examine the need for revising the bylaws to reflect the clear purpose of committees, to conduct business by Internet, and to add a finance committee. See Article V, Section 4 of KOS Constitution. The motion was seconded and passed.

### Adobe Acrobat Purchase.

Cheryl had asked for a request to purchase Adobe Acrobat Standard 7.0 be placed on the agenda. Previously, the board had voted to approve purchase of AA Publisher. Tom made a motion to purchase Adobe Acrobat Standard 7.0 for the Horned Lark editor. The motion was seconded and approved.

**KSIBIRDS.ORG.** Chuck has the option of updating the space available on the website from 250 to 450 MB for no extra cost. After discussion, Mark Land made a motion to upgrade the website to 450 MB with the same company. The motion was seconded and passed.

### Kansas CBC Data

**Dissemination.** Bill noted that Audubon CBC data is now available on the Audubon website. This includes about one-half (25) of the 55 CBCs conducted annually in Kansas. This availability greatly facilitates use of the information. Should KOS take steps to make the 30-odd non-Audubon CBCs conducted in Kansas available in electronic format? Does Web-availability reduce the need to publish Kansas CBC data in the Bulletin each year? Cal stated that he has 20 years of CBC data maintained in an Excel file, and that MS Word is used to publish the data in the Bulletin.

**Leasing Land for Birds.** Marvin raised the issue of KOS pursuing leases of private lands for bird watching.

Mark pointed out that legal issues are paramount: liability is a huge problem. Chuck has discussed with KDWP the idea of getting the state to lease land for birders similar to the walk-in hunting and fishing programs.

**Membership Directory.** Mark Land will work with Nancy Leo in producing an updated membership directory this year. The last directory dates from 1998.

### Appreciation Certificates.

Nancy Leo has produced and sent out certificates to three landowners expressing thanks for allowing birders to visit their property to view birds (see Internet business).

**Dingus Natural Area.** As noted at the fall meeting, the Dingus sign needs replacing. Bill Busby and Pete Janzen will get new signs made up and posted as approved last fall. Bill will also write up an article on Dingus for *The Horned Lark*.

**Duplicate Copy of the Minutes/Records.** A motion was made, then withdrawn, by Tom Shane to have a duplicate set of minutes/records made up and bound. After discussion, Bill offered to look into various options to make duplicates: binding hard copies, scanning and storage as PDF files, etc., and report back to the board about this subject.

**Future Meetings.** Gene has received letters from motels offering to host future KOS meetings. He will look into options for a location for the fall 2006 meeting.

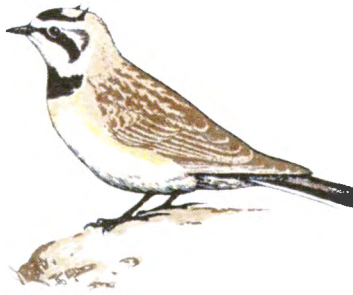
## New Business

None. The meeting was adjourned at 2 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Busby  
Corresponding Secretary





**2005 Kansas Ornithological Society  
Avian Conservationist of the Year  
Nomination Form**

The Kansas Ornithological Society's Avian Conservationist of the Year Award is given to an individual who makes significant contributions to bird conservation and/or education. Nominations should be made for outstanding work in bird conservation through the management or preservation of habitats, education, or research. A nominee may be any professional, volunteer, educator, or other person who has accomplished significant contributions in any of the areas listed. The accomplishments should reflect a long-time commitment to bird conservation and/or education within the state of Kansas. This award will be presented at the annual fall KOS meeting.

**NOMINATION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 1.** Send this completed form and attachments to Robert L. Penner, 1490 East Highway 56, Ellinwood, KS 67526.

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**Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Nominator:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

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\*\*Attach a typed description of no more than two pages. You may use both sides of the paper. Give a detailed account of specific work the nominee has accomplished. Past and current achievements, organization membership, or any other information the nominator feels pertinent will be considered.



# Wings 'N Wetlands Festival



Ruddy Turnstone, Cheyenne Bottoms, Wings 'N Wetlands Festival.  
Digiscope photo by Matt Gearheart, ©2005.

Ferruginous Hawk, Ruddy Turnstone and Bonaparte's Gull were some of the special guests present to delight participants during the Wings 'N Wetlands Festival, April 29-May 1 in Great Bend. Program organizers tallied 179 species for the weekend and hosted more than 100 festival participants.

"Events such as these help raise the awareness of Kansas as a great nature-based tourism attraction," said **Rob Penner**, festival co-chair. KOS was a sponsor of the program.

Thousands of Wilson's Phalaropes and hundreds of Yellow-headed Blackbirds brought vibrant color to Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Management Area and Quivira National Wildlife Refuge. A late season Merlin at Cheyenne Bottoms and a Long-tailed Duck at Quivira surprised many observers. More than 90 endangered Piping Plovers foraged on the mudflats at Cheyenne Bottoms.

Several KOS members participated as guides and presenters during the weekend. Additionally, **Scott Seltman** invited a group to see the Lesser Prairie-Chickens on his Rush County property.

**Mike Rader**, field trips chair said, "I am extremely pleased with the initial comments about the festival."

"If we can satisfy participants' wishes and create a positive influence on the communities surrounding these fantastic natural areas," said Rader, "we are well on the way to making an event participants and local businesses look forward to as well. I want to personally thank all those involved."

## KOS fall meeting, Wichita

It's not too soon to think about fall migration and birding activities. Plans are well underway for the KOS fall meeting, September 30-October 2. The Great Plains Nature Center, Wichita, will serve as headquarters for the event.

Mike Everhart will give the keynote address, "Birding in the Kansas Cretaceous." Everhart is an adjunct curator of paleontology at the Sternberg Museum of Natural History and is an expert on the Late Cretaceous of western Kansas. He is the author of "Oceans of Kansas – A Natural History of the Western Interior Sea."



Mike Everhart

The bulk of the fall meeting involves paper presentations given by students and professionals. Student papers will be judged and the winning student presenter(s) receive a one-year subscription to an ornithology journal of their choice. The Call for Papers appears on page 20 of this issue of *The Horned Lark*.

Field trip destinations will cover a variety of habitats and may include visits to Cheney Reservoir, Oldsquaw Pond, Mt. Hope and Patterson Marshes, Maple Grove Cemetery and Chisholm Creek, Oak and Sim Parks. County locations could include Harvey, Kingman, Reno and Sedgwick.

Look for the registration form and information on lodging in the September *Horned Lark*.





# Spring KOS compilation list

Below is the compilation of 147 species of birds seen in Barber, Comanche, Kiowa and Pratt counties during the KOS spring meeting.

Greater White-fronted Goose  
 Canada Goose  
 Wood Duck  
 Gadwall  
 Mallard  
 Blue-winged Teal  
 Cinnamon Teal  
 Northern Shoveler  
 Northern Pintail  
 Green-winged Teal  
 Redhead  
 Ring-necked Duck  
 Lesser Scaup  
 Bufflehead  
 Ruddy Duck  
 Ring-necked Pheasant  
 Lesser Prairie-Chicken  
 Wild Turkey  
 Northern Bobwhite  
 Eared Grebe  
 Double-crested Cormorant  
 Great Blue Heron  
 Great Egret  
 Snowy Egret  
 Cattle Egret  
 Green Heron  
 White-faced Ibis  
 Turkey Vulture  
 Osprey  
 Mississippi Kite  
 Northern Harrier  
 Sharp-shinned Hawk  
 Cooper's Hawk  
 Broad-winged Hawk  
 Swainson's Hawk  
 Red-tailed Hawk  
 Ferruginous Hawk  
 American Kestrel  
 Virginia Rail  
 Sora  
 American Coot  
 Killdeer  
 American Avocet  
 Greater Yellowlegs  
 Lesser Yellowlegs  
 Willet  
 Spotted Sandpiper  
 Upland Sandpiper  
 Semipalmated Sandpiper  
 Western Sandpiper  
 Least Sandpiper

Baird's Sandpiper  
 Pectoral Sandpiper  
 Long-billed Dowitcher  
 Wilson's Snipe  
 Wilson's Phalarope  
 Rock Pigeon  
 Eurasian Collared-Dove  
 Mourning Dove  
 Greater Roadrunner  
 Eastern Screech-Owl  
 Great Horned Owl  
 Burrowing Owl  
 Barred Owl  
 Short-eared Owl  
 Chimney Swift  
 Belted Kingfisher  
 Red-bellied Woodpecker  
 Downy Woodpecker  
 Hairy Woodpecker  
 Northern Flicker  
 Eastern Phoebe  
 Say's Phoebe  
 Ash-throated Flycatcher  
 Great-Crested Flycatcher  
 Western Kingbird  
 Eastern Kingbird  
 Scissor-tailed Flycatcher  
 Loggerhead Shrike  
 Warbling Vireo  
 Blue Jay  
 Black-billed Magpie  
 American Crow  
 Horned Lark  
 Purple Martin  
 Tree Swallow  
 N. Rough-winged Swallow  
 Bank Swallow  
 Cliff Swallow  
 Barn Swallow  
 Carolina Chickadee  
 Black-capped Chickadee  
 Tufted Titmouse  
 Red-breasted Nuthatch  
 White-breasted Nuthatch  
 Rock Wren  
 Carolina Wren  
 Bewick's Wren  
 House Wren  
 Marsh Wren  
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet  
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher  
 Eastern Bluebird  
 Townsend's Solitaire  
 American Robin  
 Gray Catbird  
 Northern Mockingbird



Brown Thrasher  
 European Starling  
 American Pipit  
 Cedar Waxwing  
 Orange-crowned Warbler  
 Yellow Warbler  
 Yellow-rumped Warbler  
 Louisiana Waterthrush  
 Common Yellowthroat  
 Spotted Towhee  
 Cassin's Sparrow  
 Rufous-crowned Sparrow  
 Chipping Sparrow  
 Clay-colored Sparrow  
 Field Sparrow  
 Vesper Sparrow  
 Lark Sparrow  
 Savannah Sparrow  
 Grasshopper Sparrow  
 Fox Sparrow  
 Song Sparrow  
 Lincoln's Sparrow  
 Swamp Sparrow  
 Harris's Sparrow  
 White-crowned Sparrow  
 Northern Cardinal  
 Blue Grosbeak  
 Red-winged Blackbird  
 Eastern Meadowlark  
 Western Meadowlark  
 Yellow-headed Blackbird  
 Brewer's Blackbird  
 Common Grackle  
 Great-tailed Grackle  
 Brown-headed Cowbird  
 Baltimore Oriole  
 House Finch  
 Pine Siskin  
 American Goldfinch  
 House Sparrow



# Feather Quest

Birders from across Kansas, Colorado and Iowa came together for the KOS spring meeting in Pratt. All hoped to see the two target species: Lesser Prairie-Chicken and Rufous-crowned Sparrow.

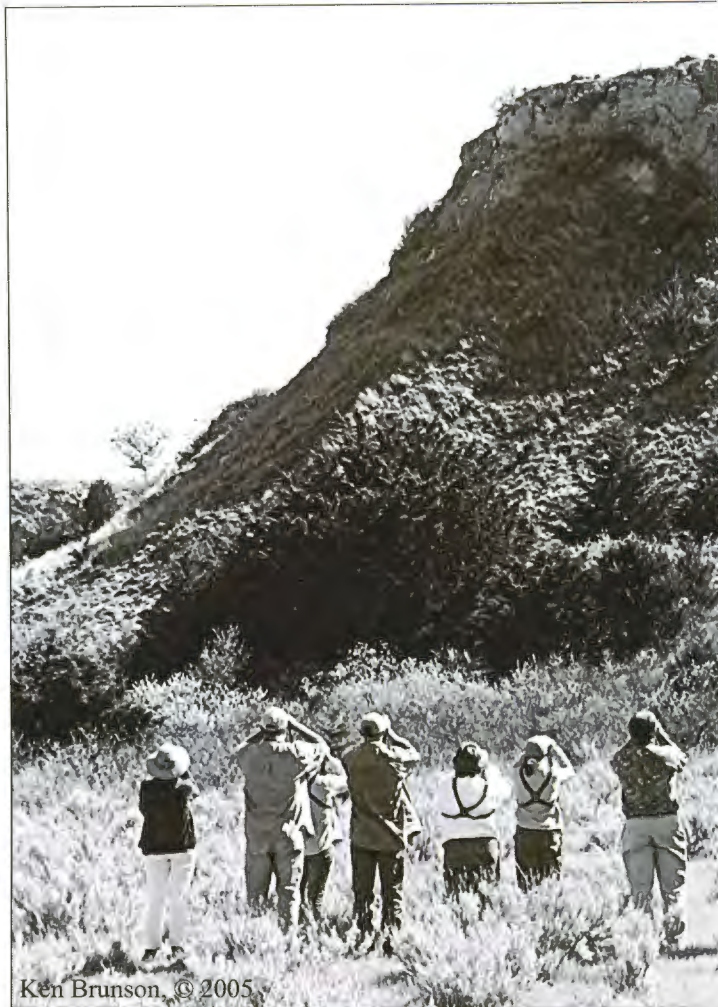
Field trip destinations covered a four-county area of southwestern Kansas; listers were able to “tick” in Barber, Comanche, Kiowa and Pratt counties. Site visits included Isabel Wetlands, Pratt Sandhills and Texas Lake Wildlife Management Areas; the Merrill Ranch and Schwarz Canyon; Hargis Lake; and Lemon Park and other locations around the town of Pratt.

No trip to this part of Kansas is complete without visits to Trail End

Junk Shoppe in Belvedere and Buster’s in Sun City. Business owners opened their establishments for KOS birders during brief stops.

The weekend’s success is due largely to its organizers. The spring meeting committee included **Lee and Jane Queal, Laurie Yasui, Mary Haddican**, Chris and Kristen Hase, **Ken and Lee Ann Brunson**, Nate Davis, Eric Johnson, Linda Loomis, Jan Parsons and Deb Simon. **Stan Roth, Pete Janzen, Gregg Friesen** and **Kevin Groeneweg** were field trip leaders.

Of course, KOS members extend their deep appreciation to Dee and Phyllis Sherich. They graciously opened Merrill Ranch to birders Saturday.



Ken Brunson, © 2005



Here two male Lesser Prairie-Chickens face off on the lek. The birds were active at 6:30 a.m. Digiscope photo by Matt Gearheart, © 2005.





Kevin Groeneweg, © 2005.

*Above: It's hard to know who was more surprised—the observers or the Ash-throated Flycatcher found Saturday morning. Digiscope photo by Kevin Groeneweg, © 2005. Left: KOS members search the rocky hillside for the elusive Rufous-crowned Sparrow at the Merrill Ranch. Photo by Ken Brunson, © 2005.*



Ken Brunson, © 2005.

*It was unseasonably chilly at the Lesser Prairie-Chicken lek, but observers didn't mind (much). Twenty-three birds danced and cackled. Photo by Ken Brunson, © 2005.*



Timeless Images, Dave Bryan, © 2005.

*Steven Seltman wished he hadn't told his mom about seeing the Eskimo Curlew flying over the Merrill Ranch.\* Photo by Timeless Images, Dave Bryan, © 2005.*

\*Editor humor.




# Kansas Winter Roundup

December 1 – November 31, 2004

Mark Corder, compiler

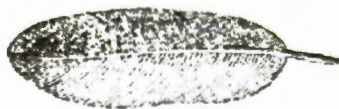
<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Ross's Goose	Numerous reports statewide <i>(apparently becoming relatively common)</i>			
Cackling Goose	Numerous reports statewide <i>(now officially on the KOS checklist)</i>			
<u>Trumpeter Swan</u>	2 Big Salt Marsh QNWR CBC 1 Lake Shawnee	Stafford Shawnee	12/15 12/25-01/29	MR DG
<u>Tundra Swan</u>	2 Big Salt Marsh QNWR 2 Big Salt Marsh QNWR CBC 5 NE of Worden	Stafford Stafford Douglas	12/08 12/15 01/09	S&DS MR RB
<u>Am. Black Duck</u>	1 Waconda Lake	Mitchell	12/15-16	S&DS
<u>Greater Scaup</u>	1 Belle Plaine sewage ponds 50 Belle Plaine sewage ponds 4 Ritchie sandpit, Wichita 4 Ritchie sandpit, Wichita	Sumner Sumner Sedgwick Sedgwick	12/19 01/01 01/16-17 02/20	TH & LH TH & LH DV, MLi PJ
<u>Surf Scoter</u>	1 female Shawnee Mission Park 1 male Shawnee Mission Park	Johnson Johnson	12/31 02/17-23	MMc ML, MG, BF
<u>Long-tailed Duck</u>	1 QNWR CBC 1 Waconda Lake CBC 1 Belle Plaine sewage ponds 2 Ritchie sandpit, Wichita 1 Clinton Lake 3 Clinton Lake	Stafford Mitchell Sumner Sedgwick Douglas Douglas	12/15 12/16 01/01-7 01/16 01/21 01/23-29	MR MR TH & LH DV GPa ML, MG
<u>Barrow's Goldeneye</u>	1 Tuttle Creek Res.	Riley	02/26	LJ
Hooded Merganser	70 Wilson Lake CBC	Russell	12/19	MR
Red-breasted Merganser	20+ Udall-Winfield CBC	Cowley	12/19	MT
Gtr. Prairie-Chicken	28 Waconda Lake CBC 20 El Dorado CBC	Mitchell Butler	12/16 01/02	MR TH
Lesser Prairie-Chicken	8 Cimarron NG CBC	Morton	01/01	SP
Scaled Quail	28 Cimarron NG CBC	Morton	01/01	SP
Common Loon	1 Ritchie Sandpit, 1 <sup>st</sup> for Wichita CBC 1 Pomona Lake CBC 3 Ritchie Sandpit, Wichita	Sedgwick Osage Sedgwick	12/16 01/08 01/16-17	PJ MG DV, MLi



<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Pied-billed Grebe	1 Olathe CBC	Johnson	<u>12/18</u>	DW
	1 Pomona Lake CBC	Osage	<u>01/08</u>	MG
	1 Lake Shawnee	Shawnee	<u>01/16</u>	DG
Eared Grebe	1 Lawrence CBC	Douglas	<u>12/18</u>	GP
	1 Udall-Winfield CBC	Cowley	12/19	MT
<u>Clark's Grebe</u>	1 Liberal sewage lagoons	Seward	02/20	KH
White Pelican	1 rural northern Clay Co.	Clay	12/13	BS
	2 Lone Star Lake	Douglas	12/11	BF
	1 Lawrence CBC	Douglas	12/18	GP
	1 Wilson Lake CBC	Russell	12/19	MR
Great Blue Heron	2 Olathe CBC	Johnson	12/18	DW
	3 Cedar Bluff CBC	Trego	12/20	S&DS
	1 Pomona Lake CBC	Osage	<u>01/08</u>	MG
Great Egret	1 Twin Lakes	Sedgwick	<u>12/04</u>	BM
Turkey Vulture	1 S end of Wellman Rd.	Douglas	<u>01/22</u>	BA
<u>Northern Goshawk</u>	1 Hays CBC	Ellis	12/18	MR
	1 Roe & I-35	Wyandotte	12/31	AG
	1 Red Hills CBC	Barber	01/02	PJ
	1 N of Waterville	Marshall	01/02	TP
	1 N of Sylvan Grove	Lincoln	02/01	MR
	1 Belle Plaine (Snowy Owl area)	Sumner	02/07-10	GY
Ferruginous Hawk	1 Wichita CBC	Sedgwick	12/18	PJ
	1 Manhattan CBC	Riley	12/18	DR
	2 Red Hills CBC	Barber	01/02	PJ
	<u>46</u> Cimarron NG CBC	Morton	01/01	SP
Merlin 	1 N of Elkhart	Morton	12/05	HA
	1 W of Johnson	Stanton	12/05	HA
	1 between Ulysses & Liberal		12/06	KH & SG
	1 Slate Creek CBC	Sumner	12/22	GY
	3 Red Hills CBC	Barber	01/02	PJ
	1 El Dorado CBC	Butler	01/02	TH
	1 between Ulysses & Garden City	Finney	01/09	GF & JH
	1 on Barnes Rd.	Riley	01/20	LJ
	1 near city of Osborne	Osborne	02/01	MR
1 near Miller farm	Sedgwick	02/20	CM	
Peregrine Falcon	1 I-35 near Johnson Dr.	Johnson	01/23	MG
Prairie Falcon	Numerous reports statewide			
Virginia Rail	1 QNWR CBC	Stafford	<u>12/15</u>	MR
	1 Wilson Lake CBC	Russell	<u>12/19</u>	MR
	2 Red Hills CBC	Barber	<u>01/02</u>	PJ



<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observers</u>
American Coot	21 Olathe CBC	Johnson	<u>12/18</u>	DW
	<u>210</u> Cedar Bluff CBC	Trego	<u>12/20</u>	S&DS
<u>Whooping Crane</u>	1 Big Salt Marsh QNWR	Stafford	12/08	S&DS
	3 QNWR	Stafford	12/13	KK
Sandhill Crane	<u>2,015</u> Red Hills CBC	Barber	01/02	PJ
Killdeer	8 Wichita	Sedgwick	<u>01/02</u>	H&SG
	1 Ulysses CBC	Grant	<u>01/01</u>	T&SS
Greater Yellowlegs	1 John Redmond Res.	Coffey	<u>12/04</u>	Topeka Audubon
	1 Big Salt Marsh QNWR	Stafford	<u>12/08</u>	S&DS
	1 QNWR CBC	Stafford	<u>12/15</u>	MR
	3 Wichita CBC	Sedgwick	<u>12/18</u>	PJ
	3 Red Hills CBC	Barber	<u>01/02</u>	PJ
Spotted Sandpiper	1 Manhattan CBC	Riley	<u>12/18</u>	DR
Least Sandpiper	1 John Redmond Res.	Coffey	<u>12/04</u>	Topeka Audubon
	3 John Redmond Res.	Coffey	<u>12/12</u>	MM
	<u>8</u> Wichita CBC	Sedgwick	<u>12/18</u>	PJ
	3 Wichita	Sedgwick	<u>01/02</u>	H&SG
	<u>8</u> Wichita	Sedgwick	<u>01/01</u>	PJ
Wilson's Snipe	1 E of Mulvane	Butler	12/31	TH
	1 Wichita	Sedgwick	01/02	H&SG
<u>California Gull</u>	1 Manhattan CBC	Riley	12/18	DR
	1 Shawnee Mission Park	Johnson	12/30	ML
	1 2 <sup>nd</sup> winter Clinton Lake	Douglas	01/16	DS, MMc, GP, RA
Thayer's Gull	1 ad & 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> yr, Waconda CBC	Mitchell	12/16	MR
	1 adult Lincoln St. Bridge	Sedgwick	01/07-26	PJ
	1 adult & 1 1 <sup>st</sup> yr Tuttle Cr.	Riley	01/10	TC
	1 1 <sup>st</sup> winter Clinton Lake	Douglas	01/16	DS, MMc, GP, RA
	1 imm. Tuttle Creek	Riley	01/16	KKo, TJ, TP, DB
	1 1 <sup>st</sup> winter Cheney Res.	Reno	02/18	KK
<u>Lesser Black-backed Gull</u> <D>	1 NE of Wichita Art Museum	Sedgwick	01/20-26	DV, M: ob
Glaucous Gull	1 Wichita CBC	Sedgwick	12/18	PJ
	1 first year Lincoln St. Bridge	Sedgwick	01/07-09	PJ
	1 2 <sup>nd</sup> year Tuttle Creek Dam	Riley	01/09	LJ
	1 first winter Lake Quivira	Johnson	01/10	ML
	1 2 <sup>nd</sup> year West Park	Harvey	01/13	GF
	1 2 <sup>nd</sup> year Exploration Pl.	Sedgwick	01/15	DK
	1 imm. Tuttle Creek tubes	Riley	01/15,16	KKo
	1 adult Tuttle Creek	Riley	01/16	Ko, TJ, TP, DB
	2 Ritchie sandpit, Wichita	Sedgwick	01/21	PJ
	1 2 <sup>nd</sup> year (as previously seen)	Sedgwick	01/21	PJ



<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Eurasian Collared-Dove	Numerous reports statewide <i>(apparently becoming fairly common)</i>			
Inca Dove	2 residence Meade	Meade	12/01	TF
	3 Kearny County	Kearny	12/19	T&SS
<u>Greater Roadrunner</u>	1 Winfield	Cowley	01/24	MT
	<i>(presumed to be the same bird reported in October, 2004)</i>			
	1 Thompson res. (same as above?)	Cowley	02/13	MT
Barn Owl	<u>21</u> Kearny County	Kearny	12/19	T&SS
	2 Cedar Bluff CBC	Trego	12/20	S&DS
	1 Slate Creek CBC	Sumner	12/22	GY
	1 Ark. City CBC	Cowley	12/26	GY
	1 Frazier Park—Ulysses	Grant	01/09	GF & JH
	1 Scott Lake	Scott	01/09	GF & JH
Long-eared Owl	1 Lawrence CBC	Douglas	12/18	GP
	4 Manhattan CBC	Riley	12/18	DR
	5 Wilson Lake CBC	Russell	12/19	MR
	5 Cedar Bluff CBC	Trego	12/20	S&DS
	1 Griffin res.	Sedgwick	01/01	PG
	2 Cedar Bluff Res.	Trego	01/09	GF & JH
<u>Snowy Owl</u>	1 found dead near Dodge City	Ford	12/13	BS
	1 S of Oxford	Sumner	01/07-25	DS
	1 near I-35 SW Beto Junction	Coffey	02/22-28	DLa
Short-eared Owl	7 Waconda Lake CBC	Mitchell	12/16	MR
	1 Cedar Bluff CBC	Trego	12/20	S&DS
	1 Ark. City CBC	Cowley	12/26	GY
	1 N of Kismet	Seward	01/08	GF & JH
	2 Globe Prairie	Douglas	02/12	BA
Common Nighthawk	1 135 <sup>th</sup> & Blackbob, Olathe	Johnson	<u>12/03</u>	MC
	<i>(seen &amp; heard)</i>			
	<D> 1 Roe & I-35, Roeland Pk	Wyandotte	<u>12/05</u>	AG
	<i>(seen &amp; heard)</i>			
<u>Ladder-backed W'dp'ker</u>	1 in Stockdale area Tuttle Creek	Riley	12/01	TC
	<i>(presumed to be the same bird)</i>		01/16	DB
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	<u>30</u> Manhattan CBC	Riley	12/18	DR
Eastern Phoebe	1 Wichita CBC	Sedgwick	<u>12/18</u>	PJ
<u>Northern Shrike</u>	1 John Redmond Res.	Coffey	12/12	MMc
	1 Wilson Lake CBC	Lincoln	12/19	MR
	1 Cedar Bluff CBC	Trego	12/20	S&DS
	1 Stockdale (seen again 2/12)	Riley	01/01	LJ
	1 near Salina	Saline	02/28	KF



<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Black-billed Magpie	1 WIHA land N	<u>Clay</u>	12/02	MM
Chihuahuan Raven	2 Cimarron NG CBC	Morton	01/01	SP
<u>Common Raven</u>	1 Cimarron NG CBC	Morton	01/01	SP
<u>Bushtit</u>	5 near Hollister & J St., Leoti <i>(Flock reported for several days after 12/04)</i>	Wichita	12/04	S&DS
	10-15, Hugoton	Stevens	12/05	HA
	<u>34</u> Cimarron NG CBC	Morton	01/01	SP
Red-breasted Nuthatch	Numerous reports statewide <u>105</u> Wichita CBC	Sedgwick	12/18	PJ
Carolina Wren	<u>52</u> Ark. City CBC	Cowley	12/26	GY
Bewick's Wren	1 Wilson Lake CBC	Russell	12/19	MR
	1 Cable res.	Riley	12/20	TC
	1 Meade County CBC	Meade	12/31	TF
	1 Cable res.	Riley	01/10	TC
Winter Wren	1 near Kansas River, Lawrence	Douglas	12/05	RA
	1 Oak Park, Wichita	Sedgwick	12/11	PG
	1 N rural Clay Co.	Clay	12/13	BS
	1 Belle Plaine	Sumner	12/19	TH & LH
	1 Wilson Lake CBC	Russell	12/19	MR
	1 El Dorado CBC	Butler	01/02	TH
	2 Bonner Springs CBC	Leavenworth	01/02	GP
	1 Pomona Lake CBC	Osage	01/08	MG
Sedge Wren	2 Big Salt Marsh QNWR	Stafford	<u>12/08</u>	S&DS
Marsh Wren	<u>10</u> Big Salt Marsh QNWR	Stafford	12/08	S&DS
	<u>5</u> Little Salt Marsh QNWR	Stafford	12/08	S&DS
	2 Lawrence CBC	Douglas	12/18	GP
	1 Wilson Lake CBC	Russell	12/19	MR
	1 Cedar Bluff CBC	Trego	12/20	S&DS
	Small flock Meade Co. CBC	Meade	12/31	TF
	2 Red Hills CBC	Barber	01/02	PJ
Mountain Bluebird	<u>126</u> Wilson Lake CBC	Russell	12/19	MR
	<u>218</u> Red Hills CBC	Barber	01/02	PJ
Townsend's Solitaire	Numerous reports statewide <u>9</u> Wichita CBC	Sedgwick	12/18	PJ
American Robin	<u>31,200+</u> Lawrence CBC	Douglas	12/18	GP
<u>Varied Thrush</u> <D>	1 "Big Ditch" Wichita CBC	Sedgwick	12/18	PJ, M:ob
	<i>(Seen at various times by multiple observers through 02/07/05)</i>			
	1 Oldsburg (Voiles res.)	Pottawatomie	01/16-29	GR





<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Hermit Thrush	Numerous reports statewide			
Gray Catbird	1 Wichita CBC	Sedgwick	<u>12/18</u>	PJ
	1 Derby	Sedgwick	<u>12/31</u>	LH
Brown Thrasher	1 Oak Park, Wichita	Sedgwick	<u>12/11</u>	PG
	<u>6</u> Wichita CBC	Sedgwick	<u>12/18</u>	PJ
	1 Oak Park, Wichita	Sedgwick	<u>12/19</u>	PG
	1 Corder res. Olathe	Johnson	<u>01/15</u>	MC
<u>Curve-billed Thrasher</u>	1 Ulysses CBC	Grant	01/01	KH
	1 Smith res. Elkhart -count week, Morton CBC			SP
American Pipit	1 Milford Lake	Riley	<u>01/15</u>	CO
<u>Bohemian Waxwing</u>	49th & Logan, Leoti <i>(Flock reported for several days after 12/02)</i>	Wichita	12/02	DK & JN
	1 Mulvane	Sedgwick	12/18	TH
	1 Red Hills CBC	Barber	01/02	PJ
	3 Fort Cedar B&B	Grant	01/03	KH
	2 Ulysses Cemetery	Grant	01/29	KH
	1 Larned	Pawnee	02/25	S&DS
Cedar Waxwing	<u>973</u> Cimarron NG CBC	Morton	01/01	SP
Orange-crowned Warbler	1 Oak Park, Wichita	Sedgwick	<u>12/11</u>	PG
	2 Oak Park, Wichita	Sedgwick	<u>12/16</u>	PG
	<u>6</u> Wichita CBC	Sedgwick	<u>12/18</u>	PJ
	1 El Dorado CBC	Butler	<u>01/02</u>	TH
	1 Mulhern residence	Riley	<u>01/14</u>	DM
<u>Pine Warbler</u>	1 Washington Hgts/Tuttle Creek	Pottawatomie	12/15	DB
	1 Beckemeyer res. Wichita	Sedgwick	12/23-01/18	R&PB
	1 Friesen res. Newton	Harvey	01/05-22	GF
<u>Prairie Warbler &lt;D&gt;</u>	1 Oak Park-Wichita <i>(Seen at various times by multiple observers through 12/19/05)</i>	Sedgwick	12/10	PG, M:ob
Palm Warbler	1 Olathe CBC	Johnson	<u>12/18</u>	DW
<u>Canyon Towhee</u>	1 Cimarron NG CBC	Morton	01/01	SP
Am. Tree Sparrow	<u>5,100</u> Waconda Lake CBC	Mitchell	12/16	MR
Chipping Sparrow	1 Red Hills CBC	Barber	<u>01/02</u>	PJ
Vesper Sparrow	2 Manhattan CBC	Riley	12/18	DR
	1 near Douglas	Butler	12/31	TH
Lark Sparrow	1 Harvey County CBC	Harvey	<u>12/19</u>	GF



<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Savannah Sparrow	Large flock near Douglass	Butler	<u>12/31</u>	TH
Le Conte's Sparrow	3 Lawrence CBC	Douglas	<u>12/19</u>	GP
	Small flock, Wichita	Sedgwick	<u>01/01</u>	PJ
	1 Red Hills CBC	Barber	<u>01/02</u>	PJ
<u>Golden-crowned Sparrow</u>	1 Lawrence CBC	Douglas	12/18	GP
<u>Snow Bunting</u>	1 QNWR CBC	Stafford	12/15	MR
	8 Waconda Lake	Mitchell	12/15	S&DS
	9 Waconda Lake CBC	Mitchell	12/16	MR
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1 female, Wichita CBC	Sedgwick	<u>12/18</u>	PJ
Red-winged Blackbird	<u>6,000,000</u> Slate Creek CBC	Sumner	12/22	MT
Yellow-headed Blackbird	1 in Kearny County	Kearny	<u>12/19</u>	T&SS
Brewer's Blackbird	<u>500</u> Wilson Lake CBC	Russell	12/19	MR
Common Grackle	<u>857</u> Manhattan CBC	Riley	12/18	DR
	<u>50,524</u> Slate Creek CBC	Sumner	12/22	GY
Great-tailed Grackle	1 Olathe CBC	Johnson	12/18	DW
<u>Pine Grosbeak</u>	2 I St & Hollister, Leoti	Wichita	12/01	DK & JN
	<i>(Reported for several days after 12/01)</i>			
	2 Fort Cedar View B&B	Grant	12/02	KH & SG
	<u>6</u> Fort Cedar View B&B	Grant	12/06	KH & SG, M:ob.
	<i>(Continued to be seen at various times by multiple observers through 2-28-05)</i>			
	3 Wilson Lake CBC	Russell	12/19	MR & RP
Purple Finch	Numerous reports statewide			
<u>Cassin's Finch</u>	<u>20</u> Fort Cedar View B&B	Grant	12/02	KH & SG
	<i>(Reported for several days after 12/02)</i>			
	1 Cimarron NG CBC	Morton	01/01	SP
Red Crossbill	Numerous reports statewide			
<u>White-winged Crossbill</u>	1 at feeders-Webster State Park	Rooks	1/31	MR
<u>Common Redpoll</u>	Small flock, Fort's Cedar View	Grant	12/04	S&DS
	2 in Leoti	Wichita	12/14	CW
	1 Manhattan CBC	Riley	12/18	DR
	1 Cable res.	Riley	12/19	TC
	3 near Cable res.	Riley	12/19	DB
	1 Shane res. Garden City	Finney	01/02	SS
	4 near Hicks res. Mulvane	Sedgwick	01/05	TH
	1 Cedar Bluff Res.	Trego	01/10	GF & JH



**Key:**

- Underlined dates, locations or comments indicate unusual, late or early sightings.
- Underlined species indicates unusual species.
- Underlined species in bold** indicate species with no records or fewer than 10 records for Kansas.
- <D>indicates documentation was submitted to KBRC (Kansas Bird Records Committee).

**Abbreviations:** National Grassland (NG); Christmas Bird Count (CBC); Quivira National Wildlife Refuge (QNWR); Reservoir (Res.); residence (res.); Bed & Breakfast (B&B); M:ob, many observers.

**Observers:** Robert Antonio (RA), Henry Armknecht (HA), Richard Bean (RB), Roy & Pat Beckemeyer (R&PB), Doris Burnett (DB), Ted Cable (TC), Mark Corder (MC), Bill Falk (BF), Kat Farres (KF), Tom Flowers (TF), Gregg Friesen (GF), Matt Gearheart (MG), Dan Gish (DG), Alan Godwin (AG), Harry & Sharron Gregory (H&SG), Paul Griffin (PG), Kevin Groeneweg (KG), Sam Guy (SG), Kellye Hart (KH), Leon Hicks (LH), Tyler Hicks (TH), John Hobbs (JH), Pete Janzen (PJ), Lowell Johnson (LJ), Terry Johnson (TJ), Dan Kilby (DK), Kerrie Kirkpatrick (KK), Karl Kosciuch (KKo), Mark Land (ML), Dan LaShelle (DLa), Matthew Linnabary (MLi), Mick McHugh (MM), Beverly Maxey (BM), Mark Mayfield (MM), Cheryl Miller (CM), Dan Mulhern (DM), Jay Newton (JN), Chuck Otte (CO), Tom Parker (TP), Gary Parkinson (GPa), Sebastian Patti (SP), Rob Penner (RP), Galen Pittman (GP), Mike Rader (MR), Gary Radke (GR), Dave Rintoul (DR), Brent Sandercock (BS), David Seibel (DS), Scott & Diane Seltman (S&DS), Tom & Sara Shane (T&SSh), Max Thompson (MT), Don Vannoy (DV), Chris Wood (CW), David Weiss (DW), Gene Young (GY).

**Compiler's Narrative:** Coming smack in the middle of putting together this past winter's Kansas roundup, the news of the discovery of a male Ivory-billed Woodpecker proved to be a bit more than a minor distraction. The Kansas equivalent to that, I thought, would be a confirmed sighting of an

Eskimo Curlew at Cheyenne Bottoms or at Quivira National Wildlife Refuge! If one can dream of seeing a previously believed-to-be-extinct woodpecker in Arkansas, conjuring its equivalent in Kansas cannot be that big of a deal. However, the birds making it into this quarter's report are, if not just a little "cool," close to being down right exciting.

The driving force for many entries is the Christmas Bird Count. Of the roughly 240 entries, approximately 110 come from CBCs. The warm weather lasting into mid-December helped several counts pass previous highs for the number of species seen on count day. Both the Wichita and Manhattan counts broke the century mark, and Wichita set a new CBC record statewide with 105 species. Greater Yellowlegs were documented five times in the CBC reporting period. Three were seen on both of the Wichita and Red Hills counts. The Spotted Sandpiper on the Manhattan count was a "bonus" bird that helped put the CBC species total into a range well above the average. Of course, the records of several Least Sandpipers in December and early January, two sightings of Common Nighthawks in early December and a Prairie Warbler hanging around long enough to be added to the Wichita CBC count attest to the warmer than average weather.

Other highlights for this report include 210 American Coots on the Cedar Bluff CBC, two Snowy Owls, five Northern Shrikes and a Common Raven. Two Varied Thrushes, six separate reports of Bohemian Waxwings and one Golden-crowned Sparrow were recorded. Snow Buntings were reported on two CBCs, six million Red-winged Blackbirds put on a show on the Slate Creek CBC and

Pine Grosbeaks wowed observers in Wichita, Grant and Russell counties. Many Cassin's Finches were found in Grant and Morton counties, a White-winged Crossbill briefly appeared in Rooks County and Common Redpolls were reported from six different Kansas counties. On the downside, however, there were many reports from CBCs that sparrow numbers were significantly below historical levels.

As always, the ability to put together a report like this is dependent upon the many birders who give their time and energy to the enterprise of looking for and faithfully reporting birds. Yes, we'd all like to be the one looking up at just the right moment when the Eskimo Curlew flies over and lands close enough to have its digital picture taken. Fortunately, it does not take anything like that to keep Kansas birders enthusiastic and dedicated to protecting the welfare of our resident and transient birds. Many thanks to all of you.

You may reach **Mark Corder** at [buddesystem@msn.com](mailto:buddesystem@msn.com) or 232 S. Cherry, Olathe, KS 66061.

## New Members

Please welcome: **Kelly Barth**, Lawrence; **Mike Cooper**, Lake Quivira; **Kat Farres**, Salina; **Kellye Hart**, Ulysses; **Michael Heaney**, Augusta; **Joel Jorgensen**, Blair, NE; **Margie Kice**, Wichita; **George Lippert**, Chanute; **Rob and Rosa McHenry**, Wichita; **Daniel Moder**, Wichita; **Jeff Nichols** and **Mary Doud**, Boone, IA; **Matt Sexson**, Hays; **Jessica Shepard**, Overland Park; **Steve and Carol Sorenson**, Valley Center; **Terry and Karen Swope**, Lenexa; **Travis Wright**, Morganville.



# Call for papers

**Kansas Ornithological Society**  
**Fall Meeting**  
**Saturday, October 1, 2005**  
**Great Plains Nature Center**  
**Wichita, Kansas**



KOS members will flock to Wichita for the 2005 fall meeting. Presenters will give papers the morning and afternoon of Saturday, Oct. 1, in the Coleman Auditorium, Great Plains Nature Center. Paper sessions may be on any topic of interest to Kansas ornithologists and birders, and may be technical or general in nature. If possible, presenters should bring their own laptop. Judges will critique student papers and announce the Best Paper Award at the banquet Saturday night. All student presenters receive a free one-year membership in KOS.

**Submit your abstract by mail, E-mail or fax to:** Marvin D. Kuehn, Emporia State University, 1200 Commercial, Campus Box 4036, Emporia, KS 66801. **E-mail:** [kuehnmar@emporia.edu](mailto:kuehnmar@emporia.edu); **Fax:** 620-341-6200; **Phone:** 620-341-5795. Abstracts may be longer than the space provided on this form. **Submission deadline is September 1!**

## Call for papers submission form

**Presenter(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail(s):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title of Paper:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Authors and affiliations:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Estimated length of program (in minutes):**    \_\_\_\_\_ 10                      \_\_\_\_\_ 15                      \_\_\_\_\_ 20

### Audio/Visual Needs:

\_\_\_\_\_ Slide projector                      \_\_\_\_\_ Video                      \_\_\_\_\_ Computer projection                      \_\_\_\_\_ Overhead

\_\_\_\_\_ Bringing my own laptop (preferred)                      \_\_\_\_\_ Need a computer

**Abstract:** \_\_\_\_\_

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