



# The Horned Lark

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Ornithological Society

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•**Editor** *KOS Bulletin*, Calvin Cink, Baker University, PO Box 65, Baldwin City, KS 66006; [calvin.cink@bakeru.edu](mailto:calvin.cink@bakeru.edu)

•**Editor** *The Horned Lark*, Cheryl K. Miller, [avian67226@hotmail.com](mailto:avian67226@hotmail.com)

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[shane@pld.com](mailto:shane@pld.com)

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## From the field

**M**y mother, a non-birder, told me recently of a conversation she had with a “hummingbird.” She has always had an appreciation for animals, but I hadn’t known her to engage in two-way communication with them.

Intrigued, I listened as she told me about a hummingbird one summer that would come to the kitchen window while she stood inside the house at the sink. When she was there, the bird would appear, and fly up and down and back and forth as though waiting for her to do something. It occasionally made a high-pitched chip-note as it watched her.

One day as my mother stood at the window drinking a cup of coffee, the bird approached and “chipped” at her. She “chipped” back at the hummer, which backed up as she did so. It chipped at her again, and she

responded, and the two of them carried on for a short time until the bird flew away. She didn’t see it again.

I have no idea what the two of them discussed (nor does my mother), but my hunch is that this hummer was used to being around humans and was a frequent visitor to nectar feeders. Perhaps the hummer was doing its best to nudge Mom into action to provide it with sustenance; however, because of some health issues, she no longer feeds birds or gardens. If anything, the hummer gave her entertainment on a long summer day.



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Wichita’s Great Plains Nature Center is the site for the fall KOS meetings. You still have time to nominate a member for the Ivan L. Boyd Recognition Award, submit a paper abstract, or suggest a bird for the “Best Bird of the Year.” See you in Wichita! —CKM

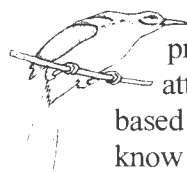
# The Eagle's Roost: Message from the president

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Over the years many of you have probably read on the KS-Birds listserv about the large roosts of blackbirds and robins that have occurred in and around Arkansas City, Cowley County. Several of you have had the chance to experience this phenomenon during the Ark City CBC. Each year these roosts were a place my two kids could view large concentrations of birds. One of the main roosting areas was adjacent to a department store on the north edge of town. A few years ago demolition crews destroyed part of this area for an apartment complex, and this summer the other portion of the main roosting area became a new, larger department store. The other day I was driving by the area with my 12-year-old son and I told him the roosting area that once held millions of blackbirds and up to a million robins—which of course supported numerous raptors like Red-tailed Hawk, Cooper's Hawk and Sharp-shinned Hawk, but even the occasional Northern Goshawk, Prairie Falcon and Merlin—was destroyed in the name of progress. My son said, "It's amazing how modern things for people can get in the way of birds and many other animals." He then began to ask me a series of questions that related to conservation issues.

For the first time I realized the

many discussions I had with my son over the years relating to our natural world, the environment and conservation made an impact. It also made me think of a rather simple question, "Conservation, what does it really all mean?"



Over the course of time one probably changes his or her attitude about conservation based on personal experiences. I know I have. But one thing that remains constant is the need or the desire to talk about conservation. Prior to becoming KOS President I had the unique and honored opportunity to work with the National Guard Bureau as their Endangered Species and Pest Management Program Manager. Living in the Washington, D.C. area and learning how the political system in this country functions was truly an amazing experience. Working with NGB folks from around the country and the myriad of state and federal agencies that NGB deals with on a daily basis was unlike any experience I had before. Perhaps the greatest knowledge I took away from the position was the "concept of conservation" and how it means so many different things to so many different people.

Last April I visited old friends from NGB at their national environmental conference in Utah. I again learned the power of discussion—much of the dealt with environmental policy and its

impact on conservation.

While conservation means different things to an individual or organization, perhaps the most important criteria for conservation efforts to be successful deal with the discussion and dissemination of data. As KOS President I feel quite fortunate to be part of an organization that has so many institutions, professors and individuals as part of the Kansas conservation movement. This leads me to the upcoming annual KOS fall meeting at the Great Plains Nature Center in Wichita. KOS always has excellent presentations during these meetings: college students give many of them and most include conservation implications.

I invite each of you to attend this fall's KOS meeting and learn a little about Kansas' avifauna. Hopefully, you can take some concepts, ideas or knowledge from the conference and use it to share some wisdom with the youth of Kansas, perhaps allowing them to begin to understand the multiple facets of conservation. As a result, ultimately, perhaps we can plant the seeds to allow Kansas to take the lead in avian conservation in the years to come.

I look forward to seeing you there.

*Eugene A. Young*  
President



# Favorite birding spots: Northwest Kansas

By Henry Armknecht

I grew up in Cheyenne County. The northern tier of northwest Kansas counties are somewhat different in that they tend to have more terrain relief, more surface water and more woody vegetation than other western Kansas counties. These characteristics all describe the northwest portion of Cheyenne County. The south fork of the Republican River bisects the county from southwest to northeast. The entire length of this valley contains cottonwoods dating from the 1936 flood. Willows and non-native species have increased in recent years. Junipers are also beginning to invade. The river generally has some year-round flow, but irrigation from the Ogallala Aquifer has reduced the flow and drained most of the marshes that formerly dotted the river valley.

Seven bridges cross the river in Cheyenne County. All are on private land, but they do provide some birding access. The Road 3 crossing two miles from the Colorado state line provides the best road birding opportunity. Trees and wetlands border the road on both sides for three-quarters of a mile here. County Road G, west from Road 2, also provides great riparian access near the state line, though it does not cross the river. This short section of road in the southwest part of the county will make you think you are anywhere but northwest Kansas.

The major points of public access to riparian habitat in

Cheyenne County are the St. Francis Wildlife Area three miles southwest of St. Francis and the St. Francis River Walk on the northwest edge of town.

Access the St. Francis Wildlife Area from the River Road at Road 11 or from the north by Road 10 from K-36. This area is 480 acres designated for public hunting and fishing. The terrain varies from sand-sage to riparian. Several ponds are accessible on the south side of the river. Wet years produce some marsh areas as well.

The St. Francis River Walk is privately held property. Milton Lampe and other residents of St. Francis worked to make the River Walk a reality. There are two areas along the river currently available for public use. Access to the larger area is from the northwest corner of St. Francis. A farm road leaves town north and west of the elevators. Just before this road crosses the river, turn north into the parking lot. The trail follows the river in a northeasterly direction for approximately three-quarters of a mile. This place can be dripping with migrants! It is also a great place to find a mix of species such as Eastern and Western Wood Pewee. Be sure to check the pond area just across the bridge on the west side of the river as well. The rest of the river walk is accessed from the river bridge on the paved road about a mile north out of St. Francis. This section of the walk is about one-quarter mile long.

The intermittent flow of the Arikaree River cuts across the

extreme northwest corner of the county. One public road crosses this river on private land. It is the same road that leads to the three corners where Kansas, Colorado and Nebraska come together. I once got the same Ferruginous Hawk in three states here! The Arikaree Breaks Wildlife Drive begins at the intersection of highways K-36 and K-27 west of St. Francis. It can be a good way to see prairie species. It also crosses Plum and Cherry Creeks that traditionally have some year-round flow.

Other birding opportunities in the St. Francis area include the St. Francis sewer ponds northeast of town, a roadside park in town on the south side of K-36, various feedlots, and playa lakes when it rains. The town of St. Francis has many trees, making it possible to see birds not normally expected out west. One of my long-term goals is to help host a KOS event in the area. I believe that many Kansas birders would be pleasantly surprised that this part of northwest Kansas doesn't quite match the common perception of a dry, barren prairie.

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# Kansas Spring Roundup

March 1- May 31, 2005

Mark Corder, compiler

Three events during this reporting period contributed significantly to the birds appearing in this report. The first was the spring KOS meeting in April with field trips covering Pratt and its environs. The second, also in late April, was the Wings 'N Wetlands Festival that focused on Quivira and Cheyenne Bottoms. And the third, of course, was spring migration. All of these were impacted by multiple variables, not the least of which was the weather, which determined what birds were actually present to be seen, which were reliably observed, and which were, ultimately, reported to the KS-Bird listserv. Obviously, all of the conditions precedent to and favorable to a bird being present and being reliably seen go for naught if the observer, for whatever reason, doesn't forward a report. So, the big hint here is, give the birds, guys and gals a break. When in doubt, **report!**

A mini-spring event occurred in Morton County in mid-May when Max Thompson, Chris Hobbs and Sebastian Patti stuck gold with an Artic Tern at the sewage ponds in Elkhart. They rounded out the weekend with a Black-chinned Hummingbird, Blue-winged, Virginia's and Blackburnian Warblers, a Western Tanager, a Lazuli Bunting, and a Whimbrel. A Ruff put in a rare appearance for a lucky Kerrie Kirkpatrick in Reno County in early May. Greater Roadrunners, Cooper's Hawks, Fish Crows and Pileated Woodpeckers appear to be expanding and increasing their presence in the state while Pine Siskins seem to be hanging around this year long enough to raise a few youngsters.

Other species of note include Red-necked and Clark's Grebes both reported, coincidentally, on May 1. On the same day, Scott Seltman saw a Northern Goshawk cruising through central Larned. Other highlights

include 17 Peregrine Falcons and an amazing 400+ Long-billed Curlews seen in Kearny County on a single day in early April. Viewers reported seven Golden-winged Warblers from various locations during the period May 7-18 and several observers accounted for 16 Yellow-throated Warblers and five Bay-breasted Warblers being part of this spring's report.

Spring 2005 is history. The laws of nature require us to wait until the spring of 2006 for the special events and conditions of that time of year that drives us into the field. Until then, we can contemplate Labor Day weekend in Morton County, fall and winter at our Kansas lakes and reservoirs, CBCs, and a trip to the Valley or to northern Minnesota for some North American rarities. Birding goes on.

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

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Cackling Goose	Small flock Linn Sewage Ponds	Washington	03/09	DT
	1 Liberal	Seward	03/13	KH
	Small flock Clinton Marsh	Douglas	03/14	DG
Ross's Goose	Small flock	Shawnee	03/05	DG
	1 Council Grove Lake	Morris	03/05	MG
Trumpeter Swan	2 small rural pond	Washington	03/11	DT
Tundra Swan	4 QWNR	Stafford	03/12	MT



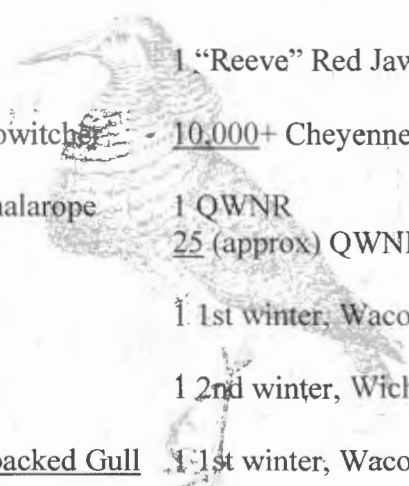
<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Cinnamon Teal	4 Slate Creek Wetlands	Sumner	03/26	HA
	2 QWNR	Stafford	04/03	CM,CS,KM,MP
	1 Seward County	Seward	04/03	KH
	2 Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	04/16	GF,JF
	2 wetland N of Cairo	Pratt	04/23	KOS
	1 rural Lane County	Lane	04/25	HA
	1 Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	05/05	HH
	4 wetlands w. of Ulysses	Grant	05/06	KH
Greater Scaup	1 KCPL Wetlands	Johnson	03/26	DF
Surf Scoter	1 below Tuttle Creek dam	Riley	03/09	LJ
	1 Shawnee Mission Park Lake	Johnson	03/11-26	BL
	1 Anthony City Lake	Harper	03/26	HA
Long-tailed Duck	1 Melvern Lake	Osage	03/05	MG
	1 QWNR	Stafford	04/22	TC,DB
	1 Wings 'N Wetlands festival	Stafford	04/30	CM reporting
	1 Browning Lake	Doniphan	<u>05/28</u>	LL
Red-breasted Merganser	Several reports mainly in the eastern part of the state			
Lesser Prairie-Chicken	5 males on lek S of Nekoma	<u>Rush</u>	03/05	SS
Common Loon	1 Hillsdale Lake	Miami	<u>05/30</u>	AM,MG
<u>Red-necked Grebe</u>	1 Lake Quivira	Johnson	05/01	MC,DS
Western Grebe	1 rural Hamilton County	Hamilton	05/01	HA
	4 QWNR	Stafford	05/14	SS
	2 QWNR	Stafford	05/26,30	AP,TM
<u>Clark's Grebe</u>	1 rural Hamilton County	Hamilton	05/01	HA
American Bittern	<u>20</u> QWNR	Stafford	05/14	SS
Yellow-crowned N-Heron	1 Elkhart sewage ponds	<u>Morton</u>	05/13	SP,CH
<u>Black Vulture</u>	1 near Riverton	Cherokee	03/24	MR,TC
Turkey Vulture	1 Elk Falls	Elk	<u>03/05</u>	GW
	3 near Tuttle Creek Reservoir	Riley	<u>03/06</u>	TC
Osprey	1 Antioch Marsh	Miami	<u>05/26</u>	AM,MG
Mississippi Kite	Many reports of early arrivals at various locations in southern counties			
<u>Northern Goshawk</u>	1 Larned	Pawnee	<u>05/01</u>	SS



<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Ferruginous Hawk	1 rural Grant County	Grant	03/13	KH
	1 KOS spring meeting	Pratt	04/23	KOS
	1 Wings 'N Wetlands festival	Barton	04/30	CM,MR
Cooper's Hawk	Several reports including nesting birds in urban areas-apparently becoming relatively common			
Golden Eagle	2 near Cimarron River	Grant	03/06	KH
	1 enroute to Liberal	Grant	04/03	KH
Merlin	1 near Clinton Lake	Douglas	03/13	BA
Peregrine Falcon	Pair nesting in Topeka	Shawnee	04/21	JB
	1 QWNR	Stafford	04/22	TC,DB
	1 KCPL Wetlands	Johnson	04/30	DF
	1S of zoo, Windmill Lake	Sedgwick	05/01	JNo
	1 flying over Shane residence	Finney	05/05	TS
	6 S of St. Marys	Pottawatomie	05/11	DM (reporting)
	1 Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	05/14	DH
	1 QWNR	Stafford	05/14	SS
	1 Vulcan Wetlands	Sedgwick	05/14	W&NB
	1 QWNR	Stafford	05/26	AP
	1 Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	05/26	AP
Prairie Falcon	1 KCPL Wetlands	<u>Johnson</u>	<u>04/08</u>	AM
King Rail	1 Wings 'N Wetlands festival	Stafford	04/29	PJ
	<u>10</u> QWNR	Stafford	05/14	SS
Sandhill Crane	3 flying over KCPL wetlands	<u>Johnson</u>	03/16	MG
<u>Whooping Crane</u>	6 rural Pawnee County	Pawnee	04/12	SS
	4 Cedar Creek area Wilson Lake	Russell	04/14	MR
Snowy Plover	1 Larned sandpit	<u>Pawnee</u>	04/16	SS
	<u>300+</u> QWNR	Stafford	05/14	SS
Semipalmated Plover	<u>62</u> Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	04/29	HH
Piping Plover	4 QWNR	Stafford	04/16	SS
	<u>90+</u> QWNR	Stafford	04/30	GF
Willet	<u>9</u> MDC	Linn	05/07	MCo
	<u>40</u> QWNR	Stafford	05/14	SS
<u>Whimbrel</u>	1 Red Jaw Marsh	Reno	05/05	KK
	1 Elkhart sewage ponds	Morton	05/13	SP,CH
	1 w. of Mulvane	Sedgwick	05/15	LH
	1 Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	05/24	AP



<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Long-billed Curlew	1 flying over rural area	Meade	03/26	TF
	<u>245</u> migrants on two dates	Finney	03/25,28	TS
	12 QWNR	Stafford	03/29	CG
	<u>400+</u> rural areas S of Holcomb	Kearny	04/02	MRa
Marbled Godwit	4 QWNR	Stafford	04/03	CM,CS,KM,MP
	10 QWNR	Stafford	04/16	SS
	1 rural Gove county	Gove	04/25	HA
	14 flying over Wilson	Ellsworth	04/28	MR
	4 wetlands west of Ulysses	Grant	04/29	KH
Ruddy Turnstone	1 Wings 'N Wetlands festival	Barton	04/30	CM, MR
	1 Bloomington area, Clinton Lake	Douglas	05/08	AP, RB
	1 Stranger Creek	Leavenworth	05/15	JS, GP
	2 Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	05/16	KK
	3 Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	05/26	AP
	4 QWNR	Stafford	05/26	AP
Sanderling	2 wetlands E of Ulysses	<u>Grant</u>	05/06	KH
	3 Clinton Lake	Douglas	05/08	AP, RB
	1 KCPL wetlands	<u>Johnson</u>	05/14	ML
	<u>15</u> QWNR	Stafford	05/14	SS
	1 QWNR	Stafford	05/16	KK
	<u>12</u> QWNR	Stafford	05/26	AP
Semipalmated Sandp.	2 Stockdale area Tuttle Creek	Riley	<u>03/19</u>	LJ
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	8 Konza Prairie	Riley	05/01	BS
	15 Red Jaw Marsh	Reno	05/05	KK
<b><u>Ruff</u></b>	1 "Reeve" Red Jaw Marsh	Reno	05/05	KK
Long-billed Dowitcher	<u>10,000+</u> Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	04/30	PJ
Red-necked Phalarope	1 QWNR	Stafford	05/16	KK
	<u>25</u> (approx) QWNR	Stafford	05/26	AP
Thayer's Gull	1 1st winter, Waconda Reservoir	Mitchell	03/23	PL
Glaucous Gull	1 2nd winter, Wichita	Sedgwick	03/26	PJ
<u>Lesser Black-backed Gull</u>	1 1st winter, Waconda Reservoir	Mitchell	03/23	PL
<b><u>Arctic Tern</u></b>	1 Elkhart sewage ponds	<u>Morton</u>	05/12	MT, SP, CH
Least Tern	2 along Kansas River	<u>Pottawatomie</u>	05/11	DM (reporting)



<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observers</u>
White-winged Dove	1 Overland Park Arboretum	<u>Johnson</u>	05/10	AM
Greater Roadrunner	1 Belvidere	Kiowa	04/23	KOS
	1 along Cottonwood Creek	Comanche	04/23	KOS
	1 Rozel cemetery W of Larned	Pawnee	04/25	SS
	1 Ridge Rd & NW 12th, Newton	Harvey	04/26	JU
	1, 2.5 miles E of Ulysses	Grant	05/04	KH
	1 se. of Ellinwood	Barton	05/06	DK (reporting)
	1 along US 183, N of Sanford	Pawnee	05/09	SS
	1 E of Matt Eck RE office	Sedgwick	05/16	GE
Barn Owl	1 Oak Park, Wichita	Sedgwick	03/10	PG
	1 Schwab backyard	Sedgwick	04/17	CS
	2 adults + 6 chicks W of Arma	Crawford	05/02	BM
	2 QWNR	Stafford	05/14	SS
<u>Snowy Owl</u>	1 near burned area Council Grove	Morris	<u>04/02</u>	DC
Burrowing Owl	1 near County Health Dept.	<u>Sedgwick</u>	04/08	CA
Long-eared Owl	1 Oak Park, Wichita	Sedgwick	03/11	PG
Short-eared Owl	2 Flint Hills along I-35	Chase	03/28	RB
	1 rural area S of Holcomb	Kearney	04/02	MRa
Common Poorwill	Several, rural pasture	Pottawatomie	04/02-09	RK
	1 E of Andover	<u>Butler</u>	04/23	MH
R-T Hummingbird	1 feeder Shawnee	Johnson	<u>04/08</u>	CH
Black-chinned H'bird	1 Elkhart	Morton	05/12,13	MT,SP,CH
Pileated Woodpecker	Numerous reports, appears to be expanding its range, suburban areas			
Say's Phoebe	1 QWNR	<u>Stafford</u>	04/03	CM,CS,KM,MP
	2 Cheyenne Bottoms	<u>Barton</u>	04/03	CM,CS,KM,MP
	1 Fort's Cedar View, Ulysses	Grant	04/04	KH
Vermilion Flycatcher	1S of Bloom	Clark	04/21	GP
Ash-throated Flycatcher	2 ½ mile S of Salt Fork Bridge	Barber	04/23	KOS
Yellow-throated Vireo	1 Ramsey residence Garden City	<u>Finney</u>	05/04	CO
Warbling Vireo	1 Burcham Park	Douglas	<u>04/16</u>	BA
American Crow	<u>50,000</u> Wichita roost	Sedgwick	03/06	PJ





<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Fish Crow	Large flock S Galena	Cherokee	03/24	MR,TC
	1 calling Unit G, MDC	<u>Linn</u>	04/02	MM,GP
	1 Kaw Wildlife Area	Cowley	04/03	LH
	1 below dam John Redmond	Coffey	04/17	BFT
	1 Riverton	Cherokee	05/01	BM
	Small kettle (17 +/-) MDC	Linn	05/07	CH
Townsend's Solitaire	1 Rader residence	Ellsworth	03/14	MR
	1-2 Fort's Cedar View, Ulysses <i>(last seen this location 05/02)</i>	Grant	<u>04/12-21</u>	KH
	1 KOS spring meeting	Pratt	04/23	KOS
Hermit Thrush	1 Oak Park, Wichita	Sedgwick	04/02	CM
	1 Overland Park Arboretum	Johnson	04/15	NL,,JSe
	1-3 Oak Park, Wichita	Sedgwick	04/23-30	PG
Sprague's Pipit	Small flock S of Beaumont	Butler	04/01	JN
	1 rural area	Pawnee	04/18	SS
	1 KCPL wetlands	<u>Johnson</u>	05/01	ML
Blue-winged Warbler	1 work station, CNG	<u>Morton</u>	05/13	MT,SP,CH
Golden-winged Warbler	1 Ft. Leavenworth Bottoms	Leavenworth	05/07	DF
	1 Oak Park, Wichita	Sedgwick	05/13	PG
	1 Ft. Leavenworth Bottoms	Leavenworth	05/14	JS
	1 Ernie Miller Nature Park	Johnson	05/14	DF,MG
	1 Overland Park Arboretum	Johnson	05/14	DF
	1 singing male, Oak Hill Cemetery	Douglas	05/16	AP
	1 Oak Park, Wichita	Sedgwick	05/18	PG
Virginia's Warbler	1 Elkhart cemetery	Morton	05/12	SP,CH
Cape May Warbler	1 Fitch area, Lawrence	Douglas	05/14	BA
	2 Fitch area, Lawrence	Douglas	05/15	GPa
Blackburnian Warbler	1 Elkhart cemetery	<u>Morton</u>	05/13	SP,CH
Yellow-throated Warbler	1 near Unit G, MDC	Linn	04/10	MM
	1 near Hewin	Chautauqua	04/10	PJ,KG,GF,DL
	9 Ft. Leavenworth Bottoms	Leavenworth	04/15	JS
	1 Schermerhorn Park	Cherokee	05/03	LH
	2 Cherokee County	Cherokee	05/05	SS
	1 extreme S Atchison County	Atchison	05/07	JS
	1 Schermerhorn Park	Cherokee	05/21	AM
<u>Prairie Warbler</u>	1 singing male, Chisholm Creek	Sedgwick	05/15	PJ
Bay-breasted Warbler	1 Crane Park, Derby	Sedgwick	05/09	KG
	1 Spring Creek, Wilson	Russell	05/11	MR



<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Bay-breasted Warbler	1 Riley Park, Derby	Sedgwick	05/14	KG,DD
	1 Ernie Miller Nature Park	Johnson	05/14	MG
	1 Oak Park, Wichita	Sedgwick	05/18	PG
<u>Cerulean Warbler</u>	2 Ft. Leavenworth Bottoms	Leavenworth	05/07	DF
	2 Ft. Leavenworth Bottoms	Leavenworth	05/14	JS
Black-and-white Warbler	1 east of Pleasanton	Linn	<u>04/02</u>	MM,GP
Prothonotary Warbler	1 near Unit G, MDC	Linn	<u>04/10</u>	MM
Louisiana Waterthrush	1 rural area, like Swartz Canyon	<u>Kiowa</u>	<u>04/23</u>	KOS
Hooded Warbler	1 Oak Park, Wichita	Sedgwick	05/07	PG
	1 McHugh residence	Johnson	05/09	MMc
	1 Oak Park, Wichita	Sedgwick	05/18	PG
Western Tanager	1 female North Fork, CNG	Morton	05/13	SP,CH
	1 male, shelter belt, Elkhart	Morton	05/13	SP,CH
Baltimore Oriole	1 N of Elk Falls	Elk	<u>04/10</u>	PJ,KG,GF,DL
<u>Rufous-crowned Sparrow</u>	1 Swartz Canyon	Comanche	04/23	KOS
	1 south side of Salt Fork	Barber	04/23	KOS
Lark Sparrow	1 SE of Kinsley	Edwards	<u>04/01</u>	SS
McCown's Longspur	Small flock W of Larned	Pawnee	03/13	SS
Black-headed Grosbeak	1 Frank Anneberg Park	Riley	05/11	LJ
	1 Mt. Hope area	Sedgwick	05/14	PJ,JB
Lazuli Bunting	1 Seltman residence	Rush	05/01	D&SS
	1 Burcham Park, Lawrence	<u>Douglas</u>	05/02	BA
	1 Elkhart	Morton	05/12,14	SP,CH
	1 Lakewood Park, Salina	Saline	05/14	JP
	1 Riley Park, Derby	Sedgwick	05/15	CM,CS
	2-3 Theel residence, Lansing	<u>Leavenworth</u>	05/14-18	RT
Painted Bunting	2 territorial males, Clinton Lake	Douglas	05/08	GP
	1 Burnett residence	Pottawatomie	05/09	DB
	1 Ernie Miller Nature Park	Johnson	05/13	LW
	1 Cable residence	Riley	05/16	TC
Red Crossbill	<u>9-14</u> Shane residence, Garden City	Finney	04/16-17	TS
<u>Pine Grosbeak</u>	2-4 Fort's Cedar View, Ulysses	Grant	03/05-15	KH
	1 Fort's Cedar View, Ulysses	Grant	<u>04/04</u>	KH
Pine Siskin	Numerous reports statewide, appears to be breeding at several locations			



**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:** Cimarron National Grassland (CNG), Burroughs Field Trip (BFT), Kansas Ornithological Society (KOS), Marais des Cygne W. A. (MDC), Quivira National Wildlife Refuge (QNWR); "reporting" indicates that the individual reporting is not the observer.

**Observers:** Charles Anderson, Bob Antonio, Henry Armknecht, William & Nancy Beard (W&NB), James Barnes, Richard Bean, Mavis Benner, Doris Burnett, Clait Braun, Robert Broyles, Ken Brunson, Ted Cable, Doug Carlson, Mike Cooper, Mark Corder (MCo), Duane DeLong, Grant Elder, Kat Farres, Dave Fischer, Tom

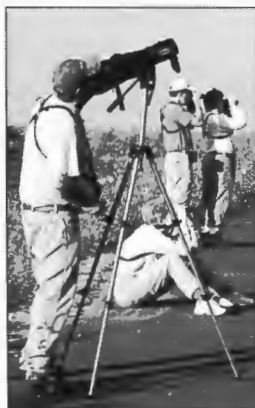
Flowers, Gregg Friesen, Joanna Friesen, Matt Gearheart, Dan Gish, Paul Griffin, Kevin Groeneweg, Chet Gresham, David Haight, Kellye Hart, Helen Hands, Mike Heaney, Leon Hicks, Larry Herbert, Chris Hobbs, Pete Janzen, Lowell Johnson, Don Kazmaier, Kerrie Kirkpatrick, Ron Klataske, Larry Lade, Mark Land, Dan Larson, Betty Leader, Paul Lehman, Nancy Leo, Bob Mangile, Terry Mannell, Kathy McDowell, Mick McHugh, Cheryl Miller, Aaron Mitchell, Dan Mulhern, Jay Newton, John Northrup (JNo), Chuck Otte, Gary Parkinson (GPa), Judd Patterson, Harold Peterson, Galen Pittman, Marie Plinsky,

Alexis Powell, Sebastian Patti, Mike Rader, Mike Ramsey (MRa), Brent Sandercock, John Schukman, Carolyn Schwab, Jo Seaman (JSe), Scott Seltman, Diane & Steven Seltman (D&SS), David Seibel, Tom Shane, Carolyn Schwab, Dwight Stanford (DSt), Ron Theel, Max Thompson, Dan Thalmann, Don & Fran Vannoy (D&FV), Lisa Weeks, Gloria Wolf.



## Three-toed wonder in Morton County

On July 3, **Matt Gearheart**, Aaron Mitchell, April Mitchell and **Will Chatfield-Taylor** found an American Three-toed Woodpecker at the picnic area near K-27 in the Cimarron National Grasslands. Birders from Illinois, Missouri and Nebraska came to see it. If accepted by the Kansas Birds Record Committee, it will be the first record of the bird in Kansas.



**Left: Pete Janzen, Cheryl Miller, and Kevin and Laura Groeneweg** watch the woodpecker in the cottonwoods at the picnic area. *Photo by Jon Strong, ©2005.* **Above and right:** the woodpecker stayed in Kansas several days, and many saw its namesake foot structure. *Photos by Judd Patterson, © 2005.*



# Proposed KOS Bylaw Changes

The Kansas Ornithological Society Board of Directors presents the following proposed KOS Bylaw changes. During the fall meeting in Wichita, KOS members will vote regarding acceptance of these changes.

**Article II, Section 3C**, add a zero (0) to \$150.0 to make it read \$150.00

**Article II, Section 4G**, deleted Business Manager and inserted Finance Committee.

**Article III, Section 4**, add a period to end of sentence so it reads "...prior to such meeting."

**Article IV, Section 1A**, replace Chairman with Chairperson.

**Article IV, Section 2**, deleted "or" prior to telephone and added a "comma" between mail and telephone, and added "or electronic media (ex. E-mail, video conference, etc.)" after telephone and prior to "if necessary."

**Article V, Section 3A**, Replaced Chairman with Chairperson and added "and Finance Committee".

**Article V, Section 3C**, replace chairman with chairperson.

**Article V, Section 3E**, deleted section.

**Article VI** added Committee so it reads as "DUTIES OF OFFICERS, COMMITTEES, AND APPOINTEES."

**Article VI, Section 2C**, added "Finance Committee" and "her" to make it read "his/her."

**Article VI, Section 2G**, replaced Chairman with Chairperson.

**Article VI, Section 2, I through K**, added the following:

I. "Call for nominations for the Dr. Ivan L. Boyd Recognition Award and Avian Conservation Recognition Award with an announcement in the Horned Lark and in KSBIRDS prior to the fall meeting per Article VII Section 5 and Section 6.

J. Be authorized to sign checks.

K. The President will appoint an Auditing Committee at the Fall Meeting."

**Article VI, Section 3A**, changed his to his/her.

**Article VI, Section 3B**, capitalized President.

**Article VI, Section 3C**, replaced to read as follows: "The Vice-President will coordinate with the local committee for the fall meeting and conduct the scientific papers sessions."

**Article VI, Section 4B**, capitalized President.

**Article VI, Section 4C**, replaced chairman with chairperson.

**Article VI, Section 4E**, deleted section.

**Article VI, Section 5, G through J** are deleted.

**Article VI, Section 5G**, newly added and will read as follows:

"G. Maintain the mailing list."

**Article VI, Section 6A**, added "or President."

**Article VI, Section 7B** now reads as follows:

"B. Oversee the printing and distribution of the Bulletin, Newsletter and other publications."

**Article VI, Section 7E**, delete section.

**Article VI, Section 7 F, G, H** due to elimination of 7E, 7F becomes 7E, 7G becomes 7F, and 7H becomes 7G.

**Article VI, Section 10 A-C, Section 11 A-D, Section 12 A, Section 13 A, Section 14 A-D, Section 15 A**, all added as follows:

**Section 10**. The Conservation Committee shall:

A. Be responsible for providing awareness to the Board and KOS members on conservation issues that may have positive or negative impacts on avian communities in Kansas pursuant to Article II of the KOS Constitution.

B. Be responsible for soliciting nominees and selecting from those nominees the recipient of the Annual KOS Avian Conservation of the Year Award to be approved by the Board per Article VII Section 6.

C. Seek to promote conservation and provide educational opportunities for the general public.

**Section 11**. The Membership Committee shall:

A. In coordination with the Membership Development



Coordinator develop communications media for use in KOS membership development activities.

B. Develop activities to educate the public about KOS, its aims, and the benefits of membership.

C. Encourage interest of young people in birds and ornithology as part of long term membership development.

D. Develop outreach programs whereby KOS members can interact with the public, schools, and other organizations to further interest in ornithology in Kansas.

*Section 12.* The Publicity Committee shall:

A. Be responsible for contacting media outlets of upcoming meetings and other pertinent events sponsored by KOS.

*Section 13.* Kansas Bird Records Committee shall:

A. Be responsible for evaluating reports of rare and unusual bird sightings from Kansas per the KBRC Procedural Rules of the KOS's KBRC (as approved and amended by the KOS Board).

*Section 14.* Finance Committee shall:

A. Consist of the Chairman, the Treasurer, and the past Treasurer.

B. Be responsible for the management of all funds of the KOS and make investments for the Society as approved by the Board.

C. Solicit budget requests from each officer and standing committee prior to the annual business meeting.

D. Provide a budget for the next fiscal year at the annual board meeting for approval by the Board.

*Section 15.* The Auditing Committee shall:

A. Audit the Treasurer's books and annual report for the year ending December 31 and will report this audit to the Board at the next Board meeting.

Added **Article VII Sections 5 A-F** as follows:

*Section 5.* Establishment of the Dr. Ivan L. Boyd Recognition Award. This award is to be given to a member(s) of KOS, usually each year, for outstanding contributions and service to the society. The award is not a monetary award but shall be presented to an individual(s) as a plaque with appropriate information provided. It shall be known as the Boyd Award in recognition of the contributions of Dr. Ivan Boyd who was a KOS Founder, Charter Member, and the first president of KOS.

A. Individuals must be nominated by another KOS member. Nominations will be accepted each year by the KOS President.

B. The KOS President will notify the Board of all nominations.

C. The Board will review the nominations and make a selection. The Board may approve more than one recipient each year or may choose not to name a recipient in a given year.

D. Announcement of the Award recipient(s) will be made at the KOS meeting each fall.

E. Current KOS Board members are not eligible to

receive the Boyd Award.

F. The KOS Board may adopt other guidelines and procedures to improve or modify the administration of the Boyd Award.

Added **Article VII Sections 6 A-F** as follows:

*Section 6.* Establishment of the KOS Avian Conservation of the Year Award. This award is to be given to an individual, who may or may not be a KOS member, usually each year, for outstanding efforts in avian conservation in Kansas. The award is not a monetary award but shall be presented to an individual(s) as a plaque with appropriate information provided.

A. Individuals must be nominated by a KOS member.

B. Nominations will be accepted each year by the KOS Conservation Committee. The Committee will select a recipient to be approved by the Board.

C. The Committee may select and the Board may approve more than one recipient each year or the Board may choose not to name a recipient in a given year.

D. Announcement of the Award recipient(s) will be made at the KOS meeting each fall.

E. Current KOS Board members are eligible to receive this award.

F. The KOS Board may adopt other guidelines and procedures to improve or modify the administration of the Avian Conservation Award.



# KOS fall meeting itinerary

September 30 - October 2, Wichita



## GREAT PLAINS NATURE CENTER

### Friday, Sept. 30

7:00-9:00 p.m. Informal reception in GPNC classroom

### Saturday, October 1

*All events to take place in Coleman Auditorium, GPNC, unless otherwise noted.*

7:30-9:00 a.m. Birding around GPNC.

8:00-9:00 a.m. Registration, lobby.

9:00-11:00 a.m. Paper sessions.

11:00 a.m. Business meeting.

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Lunch on your own.

1:00-2:00 p.m. Birdwatchers Hour. Bring photos and videos to share.

2:00-4:00 p.m. Paper sessions.

4:00-5:00 p.m. Business meeting.

5:00 p.m. Silent auction ends.

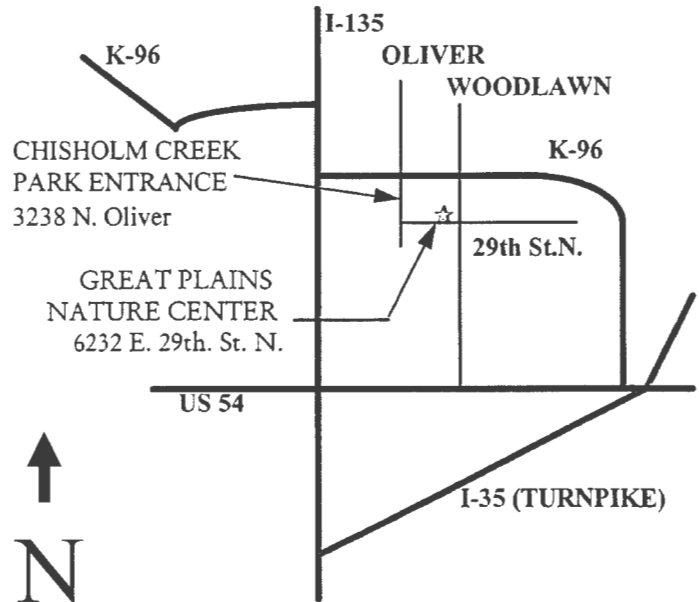
5:00-6:00 p.m. Free time.

6:00- 8:30 p.m., Banquet, awards and keynote speaker, Mike Everhart, "Birding in the Kansas Cretaceous." Spear's Restaurant, 1930 N. Woodlawn.

### Sunday, October 2

6:30-7:00a.m. Field trips depart, GPNC parking lot. Check departure times on sign-up sheets.

Noon Lunch at picnic shelter past Oliver entrance. Compilation of weekend bird list.



**Keynote Speaker:** Mike 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." He will sign books after the banquet.

**Field Trips:** Birders should plan to dress for the weather and take some snacks. Visits may include Cheney Reservoir, the Presbyterian church camp, Oldsquaw Pond, Mt. Hope and Patterson Marshes, Chisholm Creek Park, Maple Grove Cemetery and Oak and Sim Parks. Check the trip list at the reception and registration.

### Accommodations:

Please make your own motel reservations. Lodging near GPNC includes:

- Holiday Inn Express, 316-634-3900
- Northrock Suites, 800-881-0067
- Wichita Inn, 888-910-2022



# Dr. Ivan L. Boyd Recognition Award

KOS founding member **Ivan Boyd** was the first president of our organization and the first editor of the *Bulletin*. A professor at Baker University, he was active in KOS from 1949 until his death in 1982.

In honor of Dr. Boyd, the Kansas Ornithological Society recognizes one of its members for outstanding contributions and service to the Society. The Board may choose to recognize more than one recipient per year, or may choose not to name a recipient in a given year. Winners receive a plaque.

KOS members must nominate individuals for the award. Nominations should be submitted to the President and include a list of the nominee's contributions to KOS. This could entail number of years of offices held, committee involvement, papers

presented at KOS, papers published in the *Bulletin* or *Horned Lark*, number of CBCs compiled, and years of membership. This is not an exclusive list and other contributions to the Society may be provided. Current KOS Board members are not eligible to receive this award.

Previous Recipients:

2003 **Charles A. Ely, Marvin D. Schwilling, and Max C. Thompson**  
2004 **Katharine B. Kelley**

Please send nominations by September 15 to Eugene (Gene) Young, Northern Oklahoma College, 1220 East Grand Ave., Tonkawa, OK 74653-0310; [eyoung@north-ok.edu](mailto:eyoung@north-ok.edu), [youngg6264@yahoo.com](mailto:youngg6264@yahoo.com)

## Southern Ecuador: Podocarpus and Tumbesian Endemics trip

If you'd like some new life birds or just a change of scenery, you might be interested in a trip **Roger Boyd** plans to lead in Ecuador, February 3-19, 2006.

The itinerary includes visits to Guayaquil, the western arid areas, Podocarpus National Park and Quebrada Hondo. For more information, contact Roger at [Roger.Boyd@bakeru.edu](mailto:Roger.Boyd@bakeru.edu).

## New KOS Members

Please welcome: **Tisha Broyles**, Lenexa; **Sherry Chishenhall**, Wichita; **Ralph Hoover**, Topeka; and **Matt Talbot**, Mulvane.

## Silent Auction donations sought

Surely you have more than one copy of Sibley's on your bookshelf. Maybe you've lost some weight and have a nicely broken-in pair of birding pants that no longer fit you. Or perhaps you spent the afternoons during the miserable January ice storm building a bird feeder for KOS.

There's a place for all of these items and other treasures at the KOS silent auction. Be sure to bring them with you to the fall meeting in Wichita. All proceeds go to the student research fund to support the important field work graduate and undergraduate students conduct in Kansas.



End of spearlike tongue of Pileated Woodpecker.

## Post!

## A reminder from Marvin Kuehn

You may still submit a paper topic for the fall KOS meeting! Presenters will give papers Saturday, Oct. 1, in the Coleman Auditorium, Great Plains Nature Center, Wichita. Presentations may be on any topic of interest to Kansas ornithologists and birders, and may be technical or general in nature. Send submissions by September 15 to [kuehnmar@emporia.edu](mailto:kuehnmar@emporia.edu).



# Registration Form

2005 KOS fall meeting

Wichita, September 30 - October 2

I/We plan to attend the 2005 KOS fall meeting:

Name/s \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Number \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10 Registration fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15 Saturday banquet \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5 Sunday lunch \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Please pre-register by September 15. Mail this registration form and your check, payable to KOS, to **Pete Janzen**, KOS Business Manager, 3137 Mascot, Wichita, KS 67204.

In submitting this registration, I/we understand that KOS is not responsible or liable for any accidents or injury that might be associated with the 2005 fall meeting.

Signatures \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Best Bird of the Year

*(nomination form for unusual or rare birds observed since October 1, 2004)*

Species \_\_\_\_\_

Observers \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Mail or E-mail your nominations to **Max C. Thompson**, 1729 E11th Ave. Winfield, KS 67156; [maxt@cox.net](mailto:maxt@cox.net)

