



The Horned Lark

The newsletter of the
Kansas Ornithological Society

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President's Message

It is amazing to me how communications have changed between birders in the past 10 years or so. I can remember when we *might* get a telephone call from someone—if they could find a pay phone—to let us know of some exciting find. Then someone in KOS had the bright idea of setting up a hotline so anyone could call and find out what was being seen in the state. That site was run ably by **Scott Seltman** for some time before he handed it over to others. This hot line was a great advance but you still had to call it to find out what was going on. If you didn't call, you didn't find out about those great birds that were around.

Then we were blessed with the Internet. We could send quickly messages to everyone on the KSBIRD-L listserv. That

(continued on page 2)

From the field

I admit to being something of a worrier when it comes to Kansas weather.

In the warm months, I watch the skies constantly and get mildly agitated when the sky turns the faintest tint of green. If the wind suddenly shifts and blows harder, I'm off to the basement long before the tornado sirens sound.

In the winter months, I'm not as antsy. I lived in northern Illinois for four years and became comfortable driving in several inches of snow on a regular basis. I grew to like sunny, windless 20-degree days. I also came to realize that no matter where one lives, ice is dangerous and deadly.

However, in all honesty it's the wind that causes me the most worry.

When I was young, my brother Scott and I would scout around the farm house after windy spring and summer storms.

We weren't on a mission to clean up the yard; we were looking for birds that had fallen from their nests. We "rescued"* several nestlings in our early years, only to send the poor things to an early death with our "care." We may have had dreams about becoming wildlife rehabilitators, but we certainly weren't doing the animals any favors.

This spring I've worried a lot: about the people and animals in Kiowa and Stafford counties, about the wildlife along the creek at the farm, and about all the nestlings living in natural areas I visit on a regular basis. Of course I have an ulcer the size of Lake Michigan now, but my relief comes in knowing that nature has a way of healing itself.

It still doesn't make me like the wind.

—CKM

***Bob Gress** refers to this as *kidnapping*.

President's Message, *continued*

was almost instantaneous compared to the telephone system. However, KOS dropped the hotline when very few people used it.

Then came the modern walkie-talkies that birders within three miles could use to keep up with each other. While these were great, it didn't take us long to figure out that we could also communicate with our cell phones.

Recently, **Pete Janzen** called me to say he might have a zootie. I was in my car on the way to Medicine Lodge. Being away

from the Internet, I called **Sebastian Patti** in Chicago, who in turned called Pete for details, and we had it on the Internet within minutes. It was a false alarm and Pete was able to call off the hunt very quickly because of technology.

This advanced technology—not to mention the small iPods that let us find bird calls within seconds—has changed the face of birding. What will be next?

Max C. Thompson

President

One hundred years ago in Kansas

By John Schukman

In 1907 ten new birds were added to the Kansas list. Dr. R. Matthews of Wichita sent specimens of **Black-necked Stilt** and **Red-breasted Merganser** to Dr. Snow at the University of Kansas. Mr. T. H. Griffith collected the stilt about 10 miles south of Wichita, and the merganser was taken from a lake owned by Mr. Dan Breese near Colwich. Also, Mr. Edward R. Warren captured the

following species near the Kansas-Colorado border: **Scaled Partridge (Quail)**, **Spurred (Spotted) Towhee**, **Green-tailed Towhee**, **Swainson's (Warbling) Vireo**, **Virginia's Warbler**, **McGillivray's Warbler**, **Sage Thrasher**, and **Dwarf Hermit Thrush**. These 10 new species made the total 359 birds in Kansas as verified by Dr. Snow. (Snow, F. B. 1907. Ten birds new to the avifauna of Kansas. *Auk* 24:344).

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KOS joins 2007 Farm Bill coalition

By Bill Busby

Most of us don't connect great birding with farmland. We tend to focus on publicly owned hotspots such as Marais des Cygnes, Quivira and Lake Scott. However, these areas really are not where the birds are. Remembering that 97% of the Sunflower State is privately owned and that the great majority of this private land is in agricultural production, farmland truly is where most of the birds are. The main federal program that influences farm practices is the Farm Bill, administered through the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Every five years, the Farm Bill comes up for reauthorization, and 2007 is such a year. To promote awareness of the need for strong conservation provisions in the new Farm Bill, KOS has joined the Kansas Conservation Coalition, a newly formed entity composed of more than 20 member organizations representing a pro-wildlife and conservation stance.

The Conservation Title of the Farm Bill primarily deals with locally led, voluntary natural resource programs under the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service. This title of law also deals with the Conservation Reserve Program under the USDA Farm Service Agency. These programs generally work with landowners to provide financial assistance in the form of cost-share dollars and provide technical assistance through NRCS technicians to help protect and conserve soil, water, air, and wildlife habitats. Last year more than \$20 million in cost-share dollars were available to Kansas landowners through the Environmental Quality Incentive Program alone. Additional monies were also available to landowners through programs such as the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program and the Wetlands Reserve Program. More than three million Kansas acres are currently in the Conservation Reserve Program.

One specific program, the Grassland Reserve Program, has resulted in the purchase of permanent conservation easements on ranches in core areas of the Flint Hills. Another new provision of the CRP program, CP-33, provides support for establishing

native grass buffers around playas. Kansas leads the nation in acres enrolled in this program and hopes to have 62,500 acres enrolled by the end of 2007. Programs such as these will, respectively, protect and create key habitat for grassland birds.

"It is great that agriculture and wildlife groups are coming together to support these Farm Bill conservation programs," said Troy Schroeder of the Kansas Rural Center. "Working together we can help better educate farmers about the programs that are available and we can help encourage our policy makers in Washington to support these voluntary programs that improve water quality, and provide wildlife habitats and financial incentives to farmers and ranchers."

What does the Kansas Conservation Coalition hope to accomplish? Here is a list of priorities:

- Continue and increase success of proven programs such as CRP and WRP;
- Prevent conversion of native habitat to crop production;
- Protect the ecological integrity of working lands;
- Link commodity payments to conservation;
- Continue to provide for wildlife habitat and associated public benefits in the Farm Bill;
- Encourage sound conservation and wildlife-friendly production systems of biofuels and renewable energy.

Please consider contacting your senate and house representatives in Washington about the 2007 Farm Bill. Even if you are not familiar with all the various programs within the bill, just saying that you support its conservation components will send a valuable message.

For more information, please see the following:

- KOS Web site: <http://www.ksbirds.org/>;
- Farm Bill proposal by Agriculture Secretary Johanns: <http://tinyurl.com/yrawk8>.

Editor's note: Bill Busby is a member of the KOS Conservation Committee.



Meet a Kansas birder: Kellye Hart

By Jon Strong

A native Oklahoman, Kellye Hart now hails from Ulysses (Grant Co.) in southwest Kansas. He started observing birds as a youngster and remembers sitting on his front porch year after year, watching Scissor-tailed Flycatchers build nests in a mesquite tree on his family farm near Geronimo, Okla. "I have always been interested in birds," he said.

Kellye's birding hobby took off in the spring of 2000. **Sam Guy** had invited him to go on a wildflower tour in Grant County. "We saw birds that Sam would identify while looking for wildflowers," Kellye said. "He noted my interest in birds and invited me to go birding with him."

Most of Kellye's birding is done in and around Ulysses, although he and Sam usually make a couple of trips each year to bird in Morton County. His Kansas life list total stands at 249.

His favorite bird sighting came on November 22, 2004, when he

and Sam discovered four Pine Grosbeaks at Fort's Cedar View bed and breakfast in Leoti.

"**Sebastian Patti** had reported seeing a Pine Grosbeak in Leoti, and Sam and I decided to go see it," Kellye said. "There was a fine mist, and we opted to go to Fort's Cedar View on the west side of town instead. We had only been there ten minutes and seemed to be in bird heaven. There were Pine Grosbeaks, Red Crossbills, Common Redpolls, and Cassin's Finches. I reported the find to the KSBIRD-L listserv, and **Mark Corder** was first on the scene." Thanks to Kellye's updates and information on the grosbeaks that winter, birders from at least five states were able to add the birds to their state or life lists.

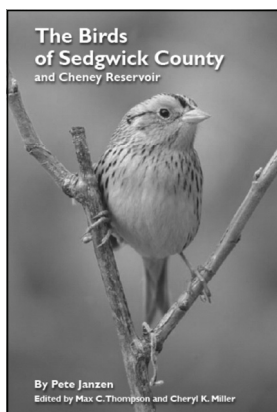
Kellye had some fine experiences with others during this period. He said, "During the time of the grosbeaks, I met with and served as a guide for many birders from across the state who called or e-mailed me; others just came. On

January 9, 2005, I received an e-mail from Jerry Oldenettel who asked if I would meet him and a fellow birder, and serve as a guide to the Pine Grosbeaks and Curve-billed Thrasher that **Tom and Sara Shane** saw on the Ulysses CBC."

"On meeting them, Jerry said that he was from New Mexico and fellow birder Paul Lehman was from New Jersey. I had no idea who Paul Lehman was," Kellye said, "but I have since found out that he is a well-known contributor to many birding publications, and served as chief map consultant for the 3rd Edition of the *National Geographic Society's Field Guide to the Birds of North America*. Fortunately, Jerry and Paul did see the grosbeaks and thrasher."

Kellye has a master's degree from Fort Hayes State University and a bachelor's degree from the University of Central Oklahoma. He has been a teacher, principal and superintendent, and retired in Kansas in 1992. He and his wife Diana have two adult children.

The Birds of Sedgwick County and Cheney Reservoir



In this book, KOS member **Pete Janzen** shares his wealth of knowledge of the birds and of the history of birding in Sedgwick County. Kansas residents, please send \$12.70 for each book; out-of-state residents, \$11.85 per book. These prices include shipping, handling and sales tax. Send your check, payable to KOS, to Pete Janzen, 3137 Mascot, Wichita, KS 67204.

Please send me _____ copies of "The Birds of Sedgwick County and Cheney Reservoir." I have enclosed a check for _____.

Name

Address

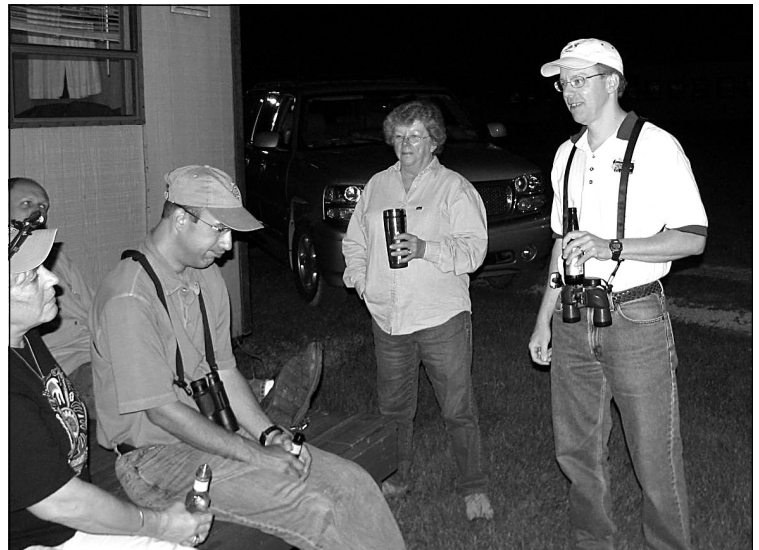
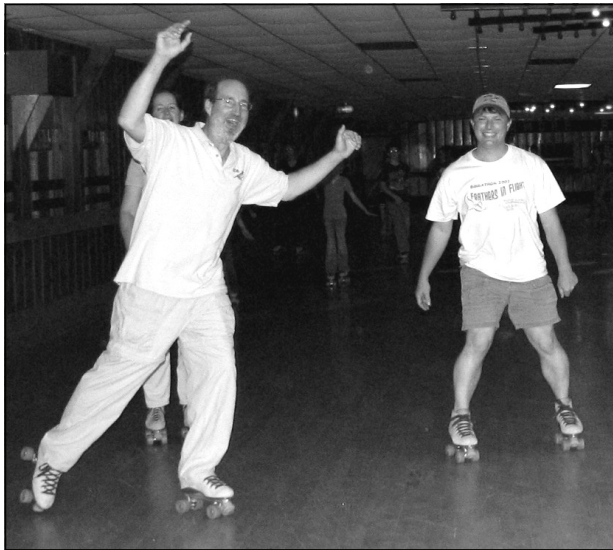




2007 KOS spring meeting

Brown County was the home base for KOS meeting participants, May 4-6. Birders attended field trips in Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska.

At left, **John Schukman** and **Mark Land** compare notes on Indian Cave State Park. Below left **Mark** and **Eileen Land** and **Matt Gearheart** roller skate at the Sycamore Springs rink. Below right **Nancy Leo**, **Brandon Magette**, **Tony Schaar**, **Doris Burnett** and **Kevin Groeneweg** relax after the day's adventures.



Although it rained much of the weekend, KOS birders found 184 species of birds. **Pete Janzen**, far left, worked on his Kansas county lists. After Saturday dinner, **Linda Zempel** and her husband, **John**, gave an informative presentation on the national "A Swift Night Out" program. (For more information on how to participate, visit <http://www.chimneyswifts.org/>.)

KOS members thank Lisa Weeks and the local committee for putting together a fun and productive weekend.



KOS Spring meeting species compila

KOS Field trips to Indian Cave State Park, Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge and local spots allowed participants to find the following species in Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska. Where a species was found in all three states, a mark appears under "all."

Species	All	KS	MO	NE
Snow Goose			x	
Canada Goose	x			
Wood Duck	x			
Gadwall		x	x	
Mallard		x	x	
Blue-winged Teal	x			
Northern Shoveler			x	
Green-winged Teal			x	
Lesser Scaup		x	x	
Hooded Merganser			x	
Red-breasted Merganser	x			
Ruddy Duck		x		
Ring-necked Pheasant	x			
Wild Turkey	x			
Northern Bobwhite	x			
Common Loon		x		
Pied-billed Grebe		x	x	
American White Pelican			x	
Double-crested Cormorant	x	x		
Great Blue Heron	x			
Great Egret		x	x	
Snowy Egret			x	
Cattle Egret		x	x	
Green Heron		x	x	
White-faced Ibis		x		
Turkey Vulture	x			
Bald Eagle	x			
Northern Harrier		x		
Sharp-shinned Hawk		x		
Cooper's Hawk		x		
Red-shouldered Hawk		x		
Broad-winged Hawk		x		
Swainson's Hawk		x		
Red-tailed Hawk	x			
American Kestrel		x		x
American Coot	x			
Semipalmated Plover		x	x	
Killdeer	x			
Greater Yellowlegs			x	
Lesser Yellowlegs		x	x	
Solitary Sandpiper		x		
Willet		x		
Spotted Sandpiper	x			
Upland Sandpiper		x		
Hudsonian Godwit			x	

Species	All	KS	MO	NE
Semipalmated Sandpiper	x	x		
Least Sandpiper		x	x	
White-rumped Sandpiper	x	x		
Baird's Sandpiper			x	
Pectoral Sandpiper			x	
Long-billed Dowitcher		x	x	
American Woodcock		x		
Wilson's Phalarope			x	
Franklin's Gull		x		
Ring-billed Gull			x	
Caspian Tern		x		
Forster's Tern		x	x	
Rock Pigeon	x			
Eurasian Collared-Dove	x			
Mourning Dove	x			
Yellow-billed Cuckoo				x
Eastern Screech-Owl		x		
Great Horned Owl		x		
Barred Owl		x		x
Common Nighthawk		x		
Chuck-will's-widow		x		
Whip-poor-will		x	x	
Chimney Swift	x			
Ruby-throated Hummingbird			x	
Belted Kingfisher		x	x	
Red-headed Woodpecker	x			
Red-bellied Woodpecker	x			
Downy Woodpecker	x			
Hairy Woodpecker		x		
Northern Flicker	x			
Pileated Woodpecker				x
Olive-sided Flycatcher		x		
Eastern Wood-Pewee		x		x
Willow Flycatcher		x		x
Least Flycatcher		x		x
Eastern Phoebe	x			
Great Crested Flycatcher	x			
Western Kingbird	x			
Eastern Kingbird	x			
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	x			
Loggerhead Shrike		x		
Bell's Vireo			x	
Yellow-throated Vireo		x		x
Blue-headed Vireo		x		x
Warbling Vireo	x			
Philadelphia Vireo		x		
Red-eyed Vireo	x			
Blue Jay	x			
American Crow	x			
Horned Lark	x			
Purple Martin	x			
Tree Swallow	x			



ation: Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska

Species	All	KS	MO	NE
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	x			
Bank Swallow	x			
Cliff Swallow	x			
Barn Swallow	x			
Black-capped Chickadee	x		x	
Tufted Titmouse		x		x
White-breasted Nuthatch	x			
Carolina Wren	x			
House Wren	x			
Sedge Wren	x			
Ruby-crowned Kinglet		x		x
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	x			
Eastern Bluebird	x			
Gray-cheeked Thrush		x		x
Swainson's Thrush	x			
Hermit Thrush				x
Wood Thrush		x		x
American Robin	x			
Gray Catbird	x			
Northern Mockingbird		x		x
Brown Thrasher	x			
European Starling	x			
Cedar Waxwing	x			
Blue-winged Warbler				x
Golden-winged Warbler		x		x
Tennessee Warbler	x			
Orange-crowned Warbler	x			
Nashville Warbler		x		x
Northern Parula	x			
Yellow Warbler	x			
Chestnut-sided Warbler		x		x
Magnolia Warbler		x		x
Yellow-rumped Warbler	x			
Black-throated Green Warbler	x		x	
Blackburnian Warbler				x
Yellow-throated Warbler		x		x
Palm Warbler		x		x
Blackpoll Warbler	x			
Black-and-white Warbler	x		x	
American Redstart		x		x
Prothonotary Warbler				x
Worm-eating Warbler		x		x
Ovenbird		x		x
Northern Waterthrush		x		x
Louisiana Waterthrush	x			
Kentucky Warbler		x		x
Mourning Warbler		x		x
Common Yellowthroat	x			
Wilson's Warbler		x		x
Yellow-breasted Chat	x			
Summer Tanager	x			
Scarlet Tanager		x		x

Species	All	KS	MO	NE
Eastern Towhee		x		x
Chipping Sparrow	x			
Clay-colored Sparrow	x			
Field Sparrow	x			
Vesper Sparrow		x		
Lark Sparrow		x		x
Savannah Sparrow	x			
Grasshopper Sparrow		x		x
Henslow's Sparrow		x		
Le Conte's Sparrow		x		x
Song Sparrow	x			
Lincoln's Sparrow		x		x
Swamp Sparrow		x		
White-throated Sparrow	x			
Harris's Sparrow	x			
White-crowned Sparrow	x			
Dark-eyed Junco				x
Northern Cardinal	x			
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	x			
Blue Grosbeak		x		x
Lazuli Bunting		x		
Indigo Bunting	x			
Dickcissel	x			
Bobolink		x		
Red-winged Blackbird	x			
Eastern Meadowlark	x			
Western Meadowlark		x	x	
Yellow-headed Blackbird	x	x		
Common Grackle	x			
Great-tailed Grackle	x			
Brown-headed Cowbird	x			
Orchard Oriole	x			
Baltimore Oriole	x			
House Finch		x		x
American Goldfinch	x			
House Sparrow	x			



Kansas winter roundup

December 1, 2006 – February 28, 2007

Mark Corder, compiler

There were no reports this period of any potential first state records and no reports which represented species with fewer than ten state records. However, the winter of 2006-2007 did produce some notable events in terms of numbers of certain species and birds appearing on dates when they should not have been here.

In the notable number category, more than 400,000 geese (five species combined) were found on the Christmas Bird Counts, cumulatively, covering the period mid-December, 2006, to mid-January, 2007. More than 18,000 Common Mergansers were found during a single day on the Waconda Lake CBC. Bald Eagles congregated in relatively large numbers (155) for the Milford Lake CBC, while approximately 48,000 Sandhill Cranes were counted on the Quivira CBC. Also, more than 7,000 Great-tailed Grackles were found in the Lawrence CBC circle, and more than three million Red-winged Blackbirds were tallied statewide on CBCs.

In the late date category, small flocks of American White Pelicans were present at three locations in January and February. Both species of bitterns, a Great Egret and a Green Heron also made the December tally. In February, the Vannoys located three Black-crowned Night-Herons at Twin

Lakes in Wichita. Three species of shorebirds also made appearances: two Greater Yellowlegs and one Lesser Yellowlegs on the Arkansas City CBC, and a single Least Sandpiper was found on the Wichita CBC.

The unusual date occurrences continued with one, perhaps two, Turkey Vultures reported from Shawnee County in mid-December. **Sebastian Patti** located one Inca Dove in Elkhart in late December. Two Greater Roadrunners, one each in Cowley and Clark Counties, surprised **Gene Young** and **Galen Pittman**, respectively, during the December holiday period. One House Wren, one Sedge Wren, and a remarkable 24 Marsh Wrens stayed at Quivira National Wildlife Refuge long enough to be counted on that CBC. Seven more Marsh Wrens were counted on the Wilson Lake CBC. A Gray Catbird, two Chipping Sparrows and one Field Sparrow were found on four separate CBCs.

Some less common species also appeared this winter. Small numbers of White-winged and Black Scoters, Long-tailed Ducks, and Barrow's Goldeneyes all made this list. Three separate sightings of Northern Goshawks added to the raptor count. There were also 12 reports of Red-shouldered Hawks from various counties,

including three seen on the Halstead-Newton CBC. The Black-legged Kittiwake which had taken up residence below the dam at John Redmond Reservoir continued to be seen into early December.

A good variety of owls added spice to the mix including six Snowy Owls and two Northern Saw-whet Owls. A Ladder-backed Woodpecker returned to Riley County. The **Mannells** found a lone New Year's Day Varied Thrush in Ellis County. A single Golden-crowned Sparrow and one Common Redpoll put a nice final touch on the roundup report.

It bears repeating that thanks need to go out to all of the observers and reporters who take the time and make the effort to look for and report birds. Most importantly, without Christmas Bird Counts and the people who participate in them, the species numbers and records for the winter months would be much lower. Thanks again to everyone.

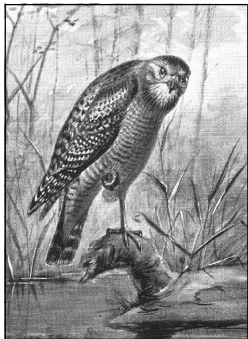
You may reach **Mark Corder** at buddesystem@msn.com



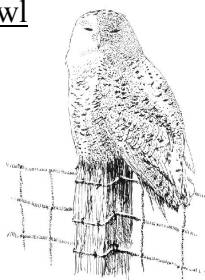
<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Geese (<i>5 species</i>)	<u>307,000</u> Quivira CBC <u>434,181</u> combined CBCs	Stafford statewide	12/14	MR (c)
<u>Trumpeter Swan</u>	2 private lake in Olathe 2 Wolf Ck. Environmental Area 2 Smoky Hill Riv. S of Wilson 5 in wheat field near Salina 3 Cheyenne Bottoms WA	Johnson Coffey Ellsworth Saline Barton	1/7 1/27 2/11 2/26 2/26	DWe MG, AM DK MS fide HH
<u>Tundra Swan</u>	5 Quivira CBC 1 Wolf Ck. Environmental Area	Stafford Coffey	12/14 1/27	MR (c) MG, AM
Am. Black Duck	2 N Lawrence ponds	Douglas	1/14	MG, AM
Greater Scaup	6 Lone Star Lake	Douglas	12/17	PW, RW
<u>White-winged Scoter</u>	2 Wathena sewer ponds	Doniphan	12/16	DC
<u>Black Scoter</u>	1 F, El Dorado Lake	Butler	2/4	KG
<u>Long-tailed Duck</u>	2 Clinton Lake Marina	Douglas	2/4	MG, AM
<u>Barrow's Goldeneye</u>	Pair, lake in S Wichita, CBC	Sedgwick	12/16	PJ (c)
Common Merganser	4-5,000 Milford Lake <u>18,040</u> Waconda Lake CBC 7,950 Kanopolis Reservoir CBC 5,000+ Clinton Lake 3,000 Winfield City Lake	Geary Mitchell Ellsworth Douglas Cowley	1/1 12/17 1/7 1/21 2/4	C&JO MR (c) MR (c) J&LZ MT
Greater Prairie Chicken	25 Waconda Lake CBC	Mitchell	12/17	MR (c)
Common Loon	10 Wilson Lake CBC 2 Linn Co. Lake 4 Wilson Lake	Russell Linn Russell	12/16 1/2 1/11	MR (c) AM MR
<u>Western Grebe</u>	3 Tuttle Creek Lake 1 Winfield City Lake 3 Milford Lake 1 Linn County Lake	Riley Cowley Geary Linn	12/10 12/12 1/1 1/2	TC MT C&JO AM
American White Pelican	3 Tuttle Creek Reservoir 6 John Redmond Reservoir 8 Winfield City Lake	Riley Coffey Cowley	<u>1/8</u> <u>1/27</u> <u>2/14</u>	DB MG, AM MT
Neotropic Cormorant	2 below John Redmond Dam, CBC	Coffey	12/30	BC (c)
American Bittern	1 Olsburg CBC	Pottawatomie	<u>12/17</u>	GJ (c)




<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Least Bittern	1 Kill Ck. Park Lake	Johnson	<u>12/02</u>	DF
Great Egret	1 Little Ark. Riv., Wichita	Sedgwick	<u>12/03</u>	H&SG
Green Heron	1 Salina CBC	Saline	<u>12/16</u>	HL (c)
Blk-crnd Night-Heron	3 Twin Lakes, Wichita	Sedgwick	<u>2/12</u>	D&FV
Turkey Vulture	1 Topeka CBC	Shawnee	<u>12/16</u>	GH (c)
	1 Okaloosa-Perry CBC (same bird?)	Shawnee	<u>12/17</u>	BW (c)
Bald Eagle	<u>41</u> Milford Lake	Geary	1/8	C&JO
	<u>114</u> Wakefield Area	Clay	1/8	C&JO
<u>Northern Goshawk</u>	1 Wilson State Park, Otoe Area, CBC	Russell	12/16	MR (c)
	1 Webster Reservoir CBC	Rooks	12/26	MR (c)
	1 N Wichita	Sedgwick	1/24-2/18	JN, D&FV, PJ
Harris Hawk	1 Pawnee Prairie Pk., Wichita	Sedgwick	1/11	fide PJ
Red-shouldered Hawk	3 Halstead-Newton CBC	<u>Harvey</u>	12/16	DP (c)
	2 Wichita CBC	Sedgwick	12/16	PJ (c)
	1 Topeka CBC	Shawnee	12/16	GH (c)
	1 Styx Ck. Park, Mulvane	Sedgwick	12/17	LH
	1 near Stranger Creek	Leavenworth	12/17	GP
	7 Arkansas City CBC	Cowley	12/24	GY (c)
	1 res in Andover	Butler	12/25	PJ
	3 Slate Creek Wetlands CBC	Sumner	12/27	GY (c)
	1 Leavenworth State Lake	Leavenworth	12/31	DFa
	1 Perry Lake	Jefferson	2/4	MG, AM
	1 KDWP Headquarters, Pratt	Pratt	2/11	MR, KB
	2 McPherson State Lake	McPherson	2/13	KG
Golden Eagle	1 imm. Alcove Spring	Marshall	12/05	TP
	1 imm. Linn County CBC	Linn	12/23	RB (c)
Merlin (Richardson's) (Taiga)	1 very pale bird S of Timken	Rush	12/01	SS
	1 rural res	Leavenworth	12/03	DW
	1 Hays	Ellis	12/09	TM
	2 Wichita CBC	Sedgwick	12/16	PJ (c)
Peregrine Falcon	1 downtown Manhattan	Riley	12/25	DR
Prairie Falcon	1 reclaimed mine land area	Linn	12/06	MG
	3 Wichita CBC	Sedgwick	12/16	PJ (c)
Virginia Rail	1 Wilson Lake, CBC	Russell	12/16	MR (c)



<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Sandhill Crane	<u>48,000</u> Quivira CBC	Stafford	12/14	MR (c)
Greater Yellowlegs	2 Arkansas City CBC	Cowley	<u>12/24</u>	GY (c)
Lesser Yellowlegs	1 Arkansas City CBC	Cowley	<u>12/24</u>	GY (c)
Least Sandpiper	1 Ark. Riv. Sandbar, Wichita	Sedgwick	<u>12/16</u>	PJ (c)
California Gull	1 1 st winter, Mass. Bridge, Lawrence 1 Waconda CBC	Douglas Mitchell	12/02 12/17	DF MR (c)
Thayer's Gull	1 Mass. bridge, Lawrence 1 ad., Mass. bridge, Lawrence 1 Waconda CBC 1 Ark. Riv., Wichita 2 Bowersock Dam, Lawrence	Douglas Douglas Mitchell Sedgwick Douglas	12/02 12/05 12/17 1/28 2/4	DF DF MR (c) PJ MG, AM
Lesser Black-backed Gull	1 'sub-adult' Waconda CBC 1 Kanopolis Res., CBC	Mitchell Ellsworth	12/17 1/7	MR (c) MR (c)
Glaucous Gull	1 1 st winter Ark. Riv., Ark. City 2 Little Ark. River dam, Wichita 1 Webster Reservoir CBC 1 Clinton Lake	Cowley Sedgwick Rooks Douglas	12/05 12/20 12/26 1/21	GY DK MR (c) J&LZ
<u>Black-legged Kittiwake</u>	1 below John Redmond dam	Coffey	12/02	DG, TAS
White-winged Dove	<u>89</u> Shane res., Garden City <u>143</u> Shane res., Garden City 1 Topeka res.	Finney Finney Shawnee	12/03 12/11 2/24	T&SSh T&SSh JB
Inca Dove	1 Elkhart, CNG CBC	Morton	<u>12/30</u>	SP (c)
Greater Roadrunner	1 Arkansas City CBC 1 west of Clark Lake	Cowley Clark	<u>12/24</u> <u>12/28</u>	GY (c) GP
Barn Owl	<u>5</u> Waconda CBC	Mitchell	12/17	MR (c)
<u>Snowy Owl</u>	<i>1 in field along U.S.-56 between Great Bend and Ellinwood.</i> 1 Quivira NWR CBC 1 Manooka Pk., Wilson Lake 1 near Delevan 1 Herrington Airport 1 north of Sylvan Grove	Barton Stafford Russell Morris Morris Lincoln	12/03-13 12/14 12/15-16 12/17 12/17-19 1/1	K&KC, M: ob MR (c) RW, CK fide BK, CO fide BK, TC ML
Barred Owl	1 Clark Lake	<u>Clark</u>	12/28	GP



Species	Number and Location	County	Date	Observers
Long-eared Owl	6 Waconda CBC	Mitchell	12/17	MR (c)
	6-8, pine stand N of Herrington	Morris	12/19	TC, JS
	4 Slate Creek Wetlands CBC	Sumner	12/27	GY (c)
	3 Pawnee Prairie Pk., Wichita	Sedgwick	1/20	PJ, PG, BG
Short-eared Owl 	5 Lawrence CBC	Douglas	12/16	GP (c)
	23 Slate Creek Wetlands CBC	Sumner	12/27	GY (c)
	3-5 below Clinton Lake Dam	Douglas	1/2-6	JH, GPa
	2 Baker Wetlands	Douglas	1/7	AP
	1 Konza Prairie	Riley	1/7	BS
<u>N. Saw-Whet Owl</u>	1 Wakefield CBC	Clay	12/17	CO (c)
	1 Pawnee Prairie Pk., Wichita	Sedgwick	1/19	fide BG
<u>L-backed Woodpecker</u>	1 F, Stockdale Area, Tuttle Ck.	<u>Riley</u>	12/11	LJ
Pileated Woodpecker	<u>17</u> Linn Co. CBC	Linn	12/23	RB (c)
	3 Leavenworth-Atchison CBC	Leavenworth	12/31	JS (c)
Eastern Phoebe	1 Manhattan CBC	Riley	12/16	DR (c)
	2 Neosho Wildlife Area	Neosho	1/6	RM
<u>Northern Shrike</u>	1 near Hargrave	Rush	12/08	SS
	1 Quivira CBC	Stafford	12/14	MR (c)
	1 Wilson Lake CBC	Russell	12/16	MR (c)
	1 Slate Creek Wetlands CBC	Sumner	12/27	GY (c)
Loggerhead Shrike	1 Manhattan CBC	Riley	12/16	DR (c)
	<u>7</u> Quivira CBC	Stafford	12/14	MR (c)
Rock Wren	1 marina cove, Wilson Lake	Russell	12/01	MR
	2 marina cove, Wilson Lake	Russell	12/12	MR
	1 Kanopolis Lake, CBC	Ellsworth	1/7	MR (c)
Bewick's Wren	<u>7</u> Arkansas City CBC	Cowley	12/24	GY
House Wren	1 Quivira CBC	Stafford	<u>12/14</u>	MR (c)
Winter Wren	1 Wilson Lake CBC	Russell	12/16	MR (c)
	1 Leavenworth-Atchison CBC	Leavenworth	12/31	JS (c)
Sedge Wren	1 Quivira CBC	Stafford	<u>12/14</u>	MR (c)
Marsh Wren	<u>24</u> Quivira CBC	Stafford	<u>12/14</u>	MR (c)
	<u>7</u> Wilson Lake CBC	Russell	<u>12/16</u>	MR (c)
Mountain Bluebird	100+ Wilson State Park	Russell	12/01	MR
	147 Quivira CBC	Stafford	12/14	MR (c)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Mountain Bluebird	<u>624</u> Wilson Lake CBC	Russell	12/16	MR (c)
Townsend's Solitaire	1 Garden City res. 1 Quivira CBC <u>6</u> Wilson Lake CBC	Finney Stafford Russell	12/03 12/14 12/16	T&SSh MR (c) MR (c)
Hermit Thrush	4 Arkansas City CBC 2 Leavenworth-Atchison CBC 1 Felker Park, Topeka 1 Manhattan res. since Dec	Cowley Leavenworth Shawnee Riley	12/24 12/31 1/4 2/16	GY (c) JS (c) DG RK
<u>Varied Thrush</u>	1 in Hays	Ellis	1/1	T&SM
Gray Catbird	1 Quivira CBC	Stafford	<u>12/14</u>	MR (c)
Chipping Sparrow	1 Manhattan CBC 1 Topeka CBC	Riley Shawnee	<u>12/16</u> <u>12/16</u>	DR (c) GH (c)
Field Sparrow	1 Clark Co. CBC	Clark	<u>12/23</u>	GP (c)
<u>Golden-crowned Sparrow</u>	1 Halstead-Newton CBC	Harvey	12/16	DP (c)
Great-tailed Grackle	<u>7,125</u> Lawrence CBC 1,500 Leavenworth-Atchison CBC 600+ N Lawrence ponds	Douglas Leavenworth Douglas	12/16 12/31 1/14	GP (c) JS (c) MG, AM
Red-winged Blackbird	<u>3,000,000+</u> combined CBCs statewide			
Pine Siskin	2 Garden City res.	Finney	12/03	T&SSh
Common Redpoll	1 John Redmond CBC	Coffey	12/30	BC (c)

Key:

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

Abbreviations: adult (ad.); Arkansas River (Ark. Riv.); Christmas Bird Count (CBC); CBC compiler (c); Cimmaron National Grassland; female (F); fide (reliable unofficial report); immature (imm.); Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP); multiple

observers (M: ob); Reservoir (Res.), residence (res.).
Observers: Roger Boyd, Joanne Brier, Ken Brunson, Doris Burnett, Ted Cable, Kit & Karen Carlsen, Donna Chance, Bob Culbertson, David Farmer (DFa), Dave Fischer, Matt Gearheart, Dan Gish, Harry &

Sharon Gregory, Bob Gress, Paul Griffin, Kevin Groeneweg, Gary Haden, Helen Hands, Joe Harrington, Leon Hicks, Pete Janzen, Gary Jeffrey, Lowell Johnson, Curtis Keller, Dan Kilby, Ron Klataske, Brent Konen, Harold Lear, Marc

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KOS Board minutes, October 2006 - May 2007

The KOS Board conducts business through e-mail and in person throughout the year. The following comments are from e-mail discussions between October 8, 2006 and May 4, 2007.

October 8, 2006: Chuck Otte noted he had updated the board listserv, and comments or business to the board can be mailed to board@ksbirds.org.

October 18, 2006: Pete Janzen had discussions with **Lisa Weeks** and **Rosella Royer** about hosting the KOS Spring meeting in northeast Kansas and proposed that KOS accept this invitation. Otte provided a second for the motion and the motion appeared to carry with solid support.

October 20, 2006: Max Thompson (president) finalized the vote accepting the motion. The meeting will be May 5,6, and 7, 2007.

December 11, 2006:

Mark Land commented on nearly having the membership directory complete. Little more comment on this was noted.

January 7, 2007: Gene Young commented on KOS sponsorship of the Winter Bird Feeder Survey.

January 13, 2007: Janzen brought up the issue of the publication of the book on Sedgwick County birds. He noted the initial plan to publish 500 copies and requested a number of copies to give to people and institutions who had helped with the book. He noted the following: "1) To print a thousand copies with 128 pages will require the spending of \$750.00 more than was discussed at the last board meeting, but will also give us 500 more copies than we had discussed; 2) As a board we should agree on the "list price,"

with the understanding that KOS members will get a modest discount, and re-sellers will retain up to 40% of this price, per industry norms; 3) Approval or amendment to the proposed distribution of copies at no charge to those persons and institutions whom I mentioned."

The eventual discussion focused on printing the extra 500 copies and selling the book for 10 dollars. **Gregg Friesen** made the first motion on the book as follows: 1) proceed with printing 1000 copies of *The Birds of Sedgwick County* to be printed by Mennonite Press. Friesen further moved that 2) the price be set at 10 dollars (to round it out for the sake of convenience) with no cut for anyone, with another suggestion that 3) the book should be funded from the publication fund of KOS with proceeds from the sale of the

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Roundup, *cont.*

Lovin, Robert Mangile, Terry Mannell, Terry & Sam Mannell, Aaron Mitchell, John Northrup, Chuck Otte, Chuck & Jaye Otte, Tom Parker, Gerry Parkinson (GPa), Sebastian Patti, Rob Penner, Galen Pittman, Dwight Platt, Alexis Powell, Mike Rader, Dave Rintoul, Brett Sandercock, John Schukman, Scott Seltman, Tom & Sara Shane, Marge Streckfus, Jim Shroyer, Max Thompson,

Topeka Audubon Society, Don & Fran Vannoy, Bunnie Watkins, Phil Wedge, Roy Wedge, Don Weiss, Dave Williams, Ryan Williams, Gene Young, John & Linda Zempel.

In Memoriam

- Johnnie May Brockway
- Hazel Moore



Board minutes, *continued*

book being returned to the fund. Finally, 4) those deemed by the author to have made a significant contribution to the book should receive a free copy. Land offered a second to the motion. Support for the motion was strong with a note from Young that the section on copies for Janzen (at no charge) should be clarified to follow a more consistent approach (and set such a precedent) without issue of the open ended number of books offered addressed.

The amended motion read as follows: 1) KOS directs Pete Janzen to have Mennonite Press of rural Newton print 1,000 copies of *The Birds of Sedgwick County*, Monograph #1 of the Kansas Ornithological Society, and **Dan Larson** (KOS treasurer) is directed to pay the cost of the printing from the KOS book royalty fund; 2) The KOS set a price of 10 dollars (US currency) for this book.. Arrangements with local bookstores would be such that the price would be less for them in accordance with prescribed or customary practice in this area of business; 3) Janzen be given 40 copies of the book to distribute as he pleases as long as he gives five copies to **Bob Gress**, five to Max Thompson, and five to **Cheryl Miller**. The other books will be distributed to the various individuals, at Janzen's discretion, who aided at no cost to themselves in the writing and research work of the book. Additionally KOS will sell

to Janzen 20 copies of the book at the price charged to KOS by the printer with the intent of Janzen giving these to family and close friends ever so long neglected during his time of isolation and intense writing; 4) Proceeds from the book will be returned to the book royalty fund. The motion passed.

The book was published with Janzen reporting in April that the cost of printing had been recouped through sales of the book.

January 28, 2007:

Thompson noted there would be no winter board meeting this year.

February 20, 2007:

Johnnie May Brockway, longtime KOS member, died and a memorial for KOS was set up. Larson will send thank you notes to people who made donations.

April 21, 2007: Nancy

Leo announced plans for a short business meeting at 8:00 p.m. at the spring meeting.

Submitted by KOS Secretary, Gregg Friesen

The following minutes are from the board meeting held May 5, 2007 during the KOS spring meeting.

Members present: Leo, **Matt Gearheart**, Land, Larson, **Patty Marlett**, Miller, Janzen, and **Bob Broyles**. Meeting began at 8:00 p.m.

Research fund: John Schukman announced that the committee had agreed to award

\$800-900 total to two students in research awards. Details are not final.

New business: Leo announced that the Kansas Bird Records Committee was recommending three members for approval: Matt Gearheart, **Mark Robbins**, and **Doris Burnett** (alternate). Land moved to ratify the three new members recommended to the board. Larson seconded. Motion passed.

Membership: Land said KOS now has 283 members. He is still sending e-mails and letters to remind people to renew. Marlett recommended that a pre-addressed envelope be included with the December HOLA to encourage members to renew.

HOLA editor's report:

Miller brought forth an idea from a member that the *Bulletin* and *Horned Lark* be combined into one publication and designed as a self-mailer. The idea received little support. Miller also noted a suggested change in the page numbering format. This change will occur with the 2008 issues.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Submitted by Cheryl Miller, Editor, *Horned Lark*



Poetry by Chet Gresham

Birding

Nowhere does it say the landscape will change
in your wake. Each step no matter the sound,
the purpose, the pressure will lead you.
These maps are only probabilities.

A rare bird calls into the open,
and the murmur of feet
quickens with approval
as the moon slips
out of its leafy dress, exposing
this tree where a flammulated owl
should be, close to trunk.

Sometimes lust can seem more
like need in the chirping night.

This bird or that bird, the evolution
of tree and nest, a hollowed out call
that says the owl is here, but
the more we position the light
the quieter, the closer, the more
the dark arranges its body
in perfect anticipation.



Birding (II)

Eyes tune to any limb
that ruffles into stillness --
a way of being seen

or not seen at all. We pass
under screech-owl
as day opens

every green thing,
then again as shapes
shift behind each other

into dusk. The owl lifts
into the blazing dark
and there are only so many

senses we can bend
to the task of seeing,
but deciphering a tree

into bird
and limb
sometimes spoils all.

Christmas Bird Count, Wichita, Kansas

Behind Outback Steakhouse there is a ditch full of cattails held by ice and grease. We don't live in sod houses with cattle chewing cud on the roof. But still there is no way to adjust your eyes to and when a tree lined creek appears on the rise – it takes a day longer to reach than it seems it should. I could say there is that same need to discover, like in this beefy run-off looking for lingering birds. That solitary figure crashing cattails and ice for snipe and rails while the rest wait, staying warm in the Explorer, their breath clouding the windows.

