



The Horned Lark

Kansas Ornithological Society

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President's message

I hope everyone had a very birdy spring seeing all kinds of lovely warblers, vireos, thrushes and shorebirds. Now the doldrums of summer are coming when I don't do as much birding as I'd like. I wish I could bypass the perils of heat, poison ivy, ticks and mosquitoes.

However, I am glad I signed up for two Breeding Bird Surveys, which give me two more reasons to get outside.

Make sure you block out time on your calendar for our fall KOS meeting, October 8-10, in Overland Park.

Johnson County Community College will be our host for the paper presentations, banquet and field trips.

Please note that this is not our traditional time slot for the meeting as a major NASCAR event is also scheduled that weekend. If

you have ever tried to get a hotel room within a 50-mile radius of Kansas City during a NASCAR weekend, then you also know owners hike the prices up to three times the normal rate! We decided to avoid that. Later on we'll have lodging suggestions near the JCCC campus that won't match the cost of a new engine.

See you in October, and in the meantime take precautions against the perils of summer birding. Cheryl Miller has offered several suggestions to make your excursions more enjoyable (see page 13).

Nancy Leo

President

From the field



© Cheryl Miller

Joyce Davis, KOS member, birded with the Wichita Audubon Society in south Florida in April. The trip included a ferry ride to the Dry Tortugas.

100 years ago in Kansas

By John Schukman

In 1910, Charles D. Bunker¹ wrote and published an article of his work on locating and studying the Black-capped Vireo (*Vireo atricapilla*), noting:

“In the locality of which I speak, the canyons were about three hundred and twenty feet deep, with outcroppings of gypsum rock from bottom to top, with a strong salt stream running at the bottom....The canyon walls and gulches leading to the canyons were studded with clumps of bushes, mostly dog-wood, scrub-oak and similar shrubs, forming ideal cover for vireos,...”

Having made just a few trips to the Red Hills, the habitat of Schwartz Canyon (Barber County) comes to my mind first. Some still aspire to find but search unsuccessfully for Black-capped Vireo found in this area in the late 19th century. None have been confirmed since then. Most of Bunker’s study skins came from Oklahoma, but his collection includes one specimen from Comanche County taken in 1885.

Despite no formal education past grammar school, Bunker trained many great ornithologists and was a curator at the Kansas Museum of Natural History. E. Raymond Hall² noted that Bunker probably would not have published the vireo article without the help of Alexander Wetmore, a former



student at the University of Kansas, who later became Secretary of the Smithsonian.

¹Bunker, C. D. 1910. Habits of the Black-capt Vireo (*Vireo atricapillus*). The Condor 12:7-73. <http://tinyurl.com/3afvkz7>

²Hall, E. R. 1951. Charles Dean Bunker, 1870-1948. University of Kansas Museum of Natural History, Miscellaneous Publication No. 3, pp. 1-11.

Note: This article is a fascinating biography on Bunker: <http://tinyurl.com/2c6yjfj>.

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Spring KOS compilation list

KOS members birded in 11 northcentral counties and found 173 species May 14-16. For a county breakdown of the weekend, visit the KOS website at <http://ksbirds.org>.

Canada Goose	American Coot	Downy Woodpecker	
Wood Duck	Black-bellied Plover	Hairy Woodpecker	
Gadwall	Snowy Plover	Northern Flicker	
American Wigeon	Semipalmated Plover	Eastern Wood-Pewee	
Mallard	Killdeer	Acadian Flycatcher	
Blue-winged Teal	American Avocet	Least Flycatcher	
Northern Shoveler	Spotted Sandpiper	Eastern Phoebe	
Green-winged Teal	Solitary Sandpiper	Say's Phoebe	
Canvasback	Greater Yellowlegs	Great Crested Flycatcher	
Redhead	Willet	Western Kingbird	
Lesser Scaup	Lesser Yellowlegs	Eastern Kingbird	Mourning Warbler
Bufflehead	Upland Sandpiper	Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	Common Yellowthroat
Common Merganser	Hudsonian Godwit	Loggerhead Shrike	Spotted Towhee
Ruddy Duck	Marbled Godwit	Bell's Vireo	Eastern Towhee
Northern Bobwhite	Sanderling	Warbling Vireo	Chipping Sparrow
Ring-necked Pheasant	Semipalmated Sandpiper	Red-eyed Vireo	Clay-colored Sparrow
Greater Prairie-Chicken	Western Sandpiper	Blue Jay	Field Sparrow
Wild Turkey	Least Sandpiper	Black-billed Magpie	Vesper Sparrow
Common Loon	White-rumped Sandpiper	American Crow	Lark Sparrow
Pied-billed Grebe	Baird's Sandpiper	Horned Lark	Savannah Sparrow
Eared Grebe	Pectoral Sandpiper	Purple Martin	Grasshopper Sparrow
Western Grebe	Dunlin	Tree Swallow	Song Sparrow
American White Pelican	Stilt Sandpiper	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	Lincoln's Sparrow
Double-crested Cormorant	Short-billed Dowitcher	Bank Swallow	Harris's Sparrow
Great Blue Heron	Long-billed Dowitcher	Cliff Swallow	White-crowned Sparrow
Cattle Egret	Wilson's Phalarope	Barn Swallow	Summer Tanager
Green Heron	Bonaparte's Gull	Black-capped Chickadee	Northern Cardinal
Black-crowned Night-Heron	Franklin's Gull	White-breasted Nuthatch	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
White-faced Ibis	Ring-billed Gull	Carolina Wren	Black-headed Grosbeak
Turkey Vulture	Herring Gull	House Wren	Blue Grosbeak
Osprey	Caspian Tern	Marsh Wren	Lazuli Bunting
Bald Eagle	Black Tern	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Indigo Bunting
Northern Harrier	Common Tern	Eastern Bluebird	Dickcissel
Cooper's Hawk	Forster's Tern	Swainson's Thrush	Bobolink
Swainson's Hawk	Rock Pigeon	American Robin	Red-winged Blackbird
Red-tailed Hawk	Eurasian Collared-Dove	Gray Catbird	Eastern Meadowlark
American Kestrel	White-winged Dove	Northern Mockingbird	Western Meadowlark
Virginia Rail	Mourning Dove	Brown Thrasher	Yellow-headed Blackbird
Sora	Barn Owl	European Starling	Common Grackle
Common Moorhen	Eastern Screech-Owl	American Pipit	Great-tailed Grackle
	Great Horned Owl	Cedar Waxwing	Brown-headed Cowbird
	Burrowing Owl	Tennessee Warbler	Orchard Oriole
	Barred Owl	Orange-crowned Warbler	Baltimore Oriole
	Common Nighthawk	Yellow Warbler	House Finch
	Common Poorwill	Chestnut-sided Warbler	American Goldfinch
	Chimney Swift	Yellow-rumped Warbler	House Sparrow
	Belted Kingfisher	American Redstart	
	Red-headed Woodpecker	Northern Waterthrush	
	Red-bellied Woodpecker		

Kansas winter season roundup

December 1 - February 28

Mark Corder, compiler

What a season. The headliners for this past winter include swans, raptors, a rare woodpecker and, of course, the weather. Heavy snow caused the cancellation of several Christmas Bird Counts and the generally inclement and extended cold periods probably contributed to the number of CBC participants being substantially below the current decade's average: 476 versus 543. The number of individual birds seen on CBCs was less than one-half of the 10-year average: 3.3 million versus 7.1 million.

Even though the combined CBCs produced only nine swans total, the number of swans seen during the three-month winter period was unprecedented. Trumpeter Swans were reported from 18 counties in extraordinary numbers starting the first of December and continuing through the end of February. Tundra Swans were less frequently reported than Trumpeters but their numbers by comparison to previous years were impressive.

Perhaps as a result of the snow cover and an increase in the number of, or visibility of voles, reports of Red-tailed Hawks approached the incredible. Observers reported 118 on the Quivira CBC alone. The combined number of Red-tailed Hawks for the one-month period for CBCs was nearly 3,500, up 46 percent from the previous year.

Bald Eagle numbers and reports were likewise borderline unbelievable. Observers saw 80 on a

single day during the Derby/Belle Plaine CBC on January 6. Pete Janzen reported 67 from Greenwood County on December 22.

Merlin and Prairie Falcon numbers were off the chart as well. Sightings of the former came from 13 counties and of the latter from 18 counties. Impressive numbers of Golden Eagles, Rough-legged Hawks (17 on the Webster Reservoir CBC), Northern Harriers and Ferruginous Hawks warranted their inclusion in the winter roundup.

A male Williamson's Sapsucker startled Dave Klema on December 5 at Wilson Lake. This was the second record for Kansas in 2009 and only the fourth ever record. The bird was observed off and on through the end of February by many observers. This is most likely the bird of the year for 2009.

Gray Catbirds, Northern Mockingbirds and Brown Thrashers didn't seem to mind the cold so much as to be gone from the state altogether. Gray Catbirds were found on two CBCs and one in mid-January at the Wichita State University field station reserve near Viola. Participants on the Derby/Belle Plaine CBC tallied 11 Northern Mockingbirds. Ten Brown Thrashers held their ground in December and January in eight counties.

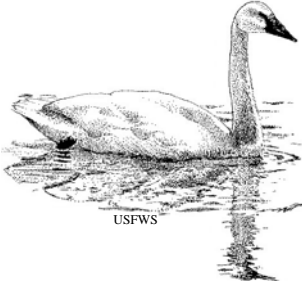
Other birds of interest include Barrow's Goldeneye (two reports,



perhaps as many as seven separate birds), Northern Goshawk (two), Franklin's Gull (one), Thayer's Gull (four), Lesser Black-backed Gull (one), Glaucous Gull (seven), Snowy Owl (two), Northern Saw-whet Owl (one), Northern Shrike (approximately 20), Palm Warbler (one), Western Tanager (one), Snow Bunting (three), Rusty Blackbird (808 on the Kanopolis CBC), Brewer's Blackbird (1,000+ from four locations) and Lesser Goldfinch (one).

As it turned out the winter of 2009-2010 was not so bad from a birder's perspective. Tough conditions oftentimes yield good opportunities and good birds. Frankly, I thought given the weather conditions that this past winter would be pretty lackluster. It's good to be pleasantly surprised. Thanks again to all of the people who take the time and trouble to report their birds which become the primary resource material for these reports.

Mark Corder may be reached at buddesystem@msn.com.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observer(s)</u>
Greater White-fronted Goose	<u>50,000</u> , Quivira CBC <u>633</u> , Derby/Belle Plaine CBC	Stafford Sedgwick	12/14 <u>1/10</u>	MR (rep.) JC (rep.)
Ross's Goose	<u>3,000</u> , Quivira CBC	Stafford	12/14	MR (rep.)
Cackling Goose	<u>2,500</u> Harbor Isle, Wichita <u>5,000</u> , Quivira CBC <u>9,785</u> , Derby/Belle Plaine CBC	Sedgwick Stafford Sedgwick	1/1 12/14 1/10	NO MR (rep.) JC (rep.)
<u>Trumpeter Swan</u>	9, Quivira NWR 11, River Pond State Park 1, 6 miles south of Parsons 3, oxbow east of Wathena 1, Perry Lake CBC 9, field, Topeka CBC 2, rural area 6, Lone Star Lake 2 ad., 5 imm., flyover 7, wetland area south of Fort Scott 6, feeding in cornfield, south of Burns 2, west of Fredonia 8, west of Oxford 2, Flint Hills loop 1, between Chapman and Abilene <u>10</u> , near Scammon 4, rural area west of Frankfort 6 probable, Kerr property 2 adults, 1 imm. south of Haysville 7, northwest of Louisville 9, Quivira NWR	Stafford Riley Labette Doniphan Jefferson Shawnee Doniphan Douglas Saline Bourbon Marion Wilson Sumner Greenwood Dickinson <u>Cherokee</u> Marshall Bourbon Sedgwick Pottawatomie Stafford	12/1 12/6 12/14 12/18-19 12/20 12/21 12/29 1/7 1/12 1/12 1/14 1/21 1/23 1/24 1/26 1/26 2/6 2/17 2/23 2/25 2/25	MR JR CS DC M&EC DL HH JK KF DH JRue PJ MT (rep.) WL, CG CO (rep.) ES TP RM (rep.) JC KB (rep.) BJ
				
<u>Tundra Swan</u>	2, Quivira NWR 4, Sawyer CBC 5, Flint Hills loop 10, Big Salt Marsh, Quivira NWR	Stafford Pratt Greenwood Stafford	12/1 12/22 1/24 2/25	MR KB (rep.) WL, CG MR
Swan sp.	<u>32</u> , Quivira NWR <u>25</u> , field east of Rossville	Stafford Shawnee	12/7 1/22	SS BM
Gadwall	<u>216</u> , Derby/Belle Plaine CBC	Sedgwick	1/10	JC (rep.)
Mottled Duck	1, Quivira NWR	Stafford	<u>12/1</u>	MR
Barrow's Goldeneye <A>	1 m., Wichita, Twin Lakes 1 m. and probable f., Twin Lakes <u>3 m., 2 f.</u> , Marion Reservoir 1 f., Wichita, Twin Lakes	Sedgwick Sedgwick Marion Sedgwick	12/11 1/9 1/24 2/4	PG PJ SSo PG
Red-breasted Merganser	1, Twin Lakes, Wichita 12, John Redmond Res. & Wolf Creek 7, LaFarge sandpit, Wichita 2, Clinton Lake	Sedgwick Coffey Sedgwick Douglas	1/12-16 1/16 2/6 2/28	PG, m. ob. MG PJ JK

Species	Number and Location	County	Date	Observer(s)
Greater Prairie Chicken	<u>46</u> , Junction City CBC	Geary	12/27	CO (rep.)
	<u>110</u> , Waconda CBC	Mitchell	12/30	HA (rep.)
	<u>169</u> , Kanopolis CBC	Ellsworth	1/10	BK (rep.)
	<u>60</u> , rural area	Morris	1/12	GH
Wild Turkey	<u>281</u> , Ladder Creek Canyon	Scott	1/3	T&SS
	<u>352</u> , Webster Reservoir CBC	Rooks	1/3	MR (rep.)
Pied-billed Grebe	<u>26</u> , Wilson CBC	Russell	12/20	MR (rep.)
	1, Red Hills CBC	Barber	<u>1/2</u>	NO
White Pelican	2, near dam, Perry Lake	Jefferson	<u>12/20</u>	M&EC
	1, count week, Sawyer CBC	Pratt	<u>12/21</u>	KB (rep.)
	13, west boat ramp, Clinton Reservoir	Douglas	<u>1/24</u>	BAS
Great Blue Heron	<u>16</u> , Canoe Launch, Derby	Sedgwick	1/8	JC
	<u>36</u> , Derby/Belle Plaine CBC	Sedgwick	1/10	JC (rep.)
Bald Eagle	<u>16</u> , Quivira NWR	Stafford	12/4	BJ
	8, Derby	Sedgwick	12/13	JC
	2, nest building, Wichita	Sedgwick	12/14	PJ
	3, Shawnee Mission Park	Johnson	12/19	ML
	<u>67</u> , below Fall River Dam	Greenwood	12/22	PJ
	<u>80</u> , Derby/Belle Plaine CBC	Sedgwick	1/10	JC (rep.)
	1 ad., 1 imm., Stilwell	Johnson	1/16	CS
	2, Fall River area, Fredonia	Wilson	1/21	PJ
	1, north of Winfield	Cowley	1/22	AN
	<u>30</u> , Clinton Reservoir	Douglas	1/24	BAS
	<u>37</u> , Perry Lake	Jefferson	1/24	BAS
	1, Lake Olathe	Johnson	1/24	BW
	<u>50</u> , Marion Reservoir	Marion	1/24	SSo
	<u>30</u> , Little Salt Marsh, Quivira NWR	Stafford	1/25	BJ
<u>44</u> , Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	1/27	RP	
Northern Harrier	<u>32</u> , Derby/Belle Plaine CBC	Sedgwick	1/10	JC (rep.)
	<u>24</u> , Quivira NWR	Stafford	1/11	BJ
	<u>20+</u> , rural areas	Butler	1/13	JC
	<u>58</u> , Kanopolis Reservoir	Ellsworth	2/6	TB, NL
	<u>40</u> , Quivira NWR	Stafford	2/28	BJ
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Numerous reports	Statewide	All months	m. ob.
Cooper's Hawk	Numerous reports	Statewide	All months	m. ob.
<u>Northern Goshawk</u>	1 possible, Friesen residence	Reno	12/27	GF
	1, Webster Reservoir CBC	Rooks	1/3	HA
Red-shouldered Hawk	1, Perry CBC	Jefferson	12/20	DL
	1, along Arkansas River, Derby	Sedgwick	12/22	JC
	3, Derby/Belle Plaine CBC	Sedgwick	1/10	JC (rep.)
	2, rural area	Anderson	1/11	JK
	8, various rural areas	Coffey	1/16	MG



Species	Number and Location	County	Date	Observer(s)
Red-shouldered Hawk	1, downstream, Fall River dam	Wilson	1/21	PJ
	2, Lone Star Lake	Douglas	1/24	BAS
	1, rural area	Butler	1/24	WL, CG
Red-tailed Hawk	<u>118</u> , Quivira CBC	Stafford	12/14	MR (rep.)
Ferruginous Hawk	1, just west of Russell	Russell	12/25	MR
	1, Webster Reservoir CBC	Rooks	1/3	MR, ER
	<u>14</u> , two miles northeast of Ulysses	Grant	1/11	SG
	1 imm., Quivira NWR	Stafford	1/11,25	BJ
	Unreported number, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	1/22	RP
	2, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	1/27	RP
	1, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	2/11	RP
	1, Quivira NWR	Stafford	2/13	BJ
Rough-legged Hawk	<u>15</u> , Quivira CBC	Stafford	12/14	MR (rep.)
	<u>17</u> , Webster Reservoir CBC	Rooks	1/3	MR (rep.)
	Unreported number, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	1/22	RP
	1, Marion Reservoir	Marion	1/25	SSo
	2, Quivira NWR	Stafford	1/25	BJ
	4, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	1/27	RP
	Unreported number, Quivira NWR	Stafford	2/4	BJ
	2, Kanopolis Reservoir	Ellsworth	2/6	TB, NL
	4, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	2/11	RP
	7, Quivira NWR	Stafford	2/13	BJ
	7, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	2/19	RP
	1, seen from living room	Jackson	2/20	J&LZ
Golden Eagle	1 ad., Cimmaron NG CBC	Morton	12/27	MT
	1 imm., Quivira NWR	Stafford	12/31	BJ
	1, wetland area south of Fort Scott	Bourbon	1/12	DH
	1, northeast of Rosalia	Greenwood	1/24	WL,CG
	1, cruising dam, Marion Reservoir	Marion	1/24	SSo
American Kestrel	<u>48</u> , Wilson CBC	Russell	12/20	MR (rep.)
Merlin	1, along K-96 (pale race)	Ness	12/5	GF, PJ
	1, Alamota (dark race)	Lane	12/5	GF, PJ
	1, over pasture (dark race)	Marshall	12/5	DM
	2, "prairie" race, Quivira NWR	Stafford	12/23	JK
	1, Clinton Lake	Douglas	12/28	JK
	1, northwest rural area	Sedgwick	1/1	NO
	2, Derby/Belle Plaine CBC	Sedgwick	1/10	JC (rep.)
	2, rural area	Anderson	1/11	JK
	1, harassing GH Owl, Quivira NWR	Stafford	1/11	BJ
	1, Winfield City Lake	Cowley	1/13	MT
	Unreported number, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	1/22	RP
	1 m., 77 th N. and Hillside, Wichita	Sedgwick	1/27	CM
	2, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	1/27	RP
	1, hunting feeders, Pamona	Franklin	1/30	PJ, KG
	Unreported number, Quivira NWR	Stafford	2/4	BJ
1, Kanopolis Reservoir	Ellsworth	2/6	CM, m. ob.	



Species	Number and Location	County	Date	Observer(s)
Merlin	4, Kanopolis Reservoir	Ellsworth	2/6	TB, NL
	1, northwest of Larned	Pawnee	2/10	SS
	1, "prairie" race, rural area	Osage	2/14	MG, NA
	1, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	2/19	RP
Peregrine Falcon	1, <u>I-35 and Lamar</u>	Johnson	2/24	MG
	1, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	2/26	RP
Prairie Falcon	4, along K-96	Ness	12/5	GF, PJ
	6, Wilson CBC	Russell	12/20	MR (rep.)
	1, Sandhills Wildlife Area	Pratt	12/23	JK
	3, Waconda CBC	Mitchell	12/30	HA (rep.)
	2, 1 mile west of county lake	McPherson	12/30	GS
	1, Mined Land CBC	Cherokee	1/1	LH
	2, vicinity of Globe	Douglas	1/5	JK
	1, Derby/Belle Plaine CBC	Sedgwick	1/10	JC (rep.)
	1, rural area	Anderson	1/11	JK
	1, Kanopolis Reservoir	Ellsworth	1/15	GF
	Unreported number, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	1/22	RP
	2, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	1/27	RP
	1, Flint Hills	Butler	1/31	BB, PB
	Unreported number, Quivira NWR	Stafford	2/4	BJ
	1, Kanopolis Reservoir	Ellsworth	2/6	CM, m. ob.
	3, Kanopolis Reservoir	Ellsworth	2/6	TB, NL
	1, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	2/11	RP
	1, perched, field, rural area	Coffey	2/14	MG, NA
	2, rural area	Rush	2/18	SS
	3, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	2/19	RP
	1, rural area	Smith	2/20	MR, ER
1, rural area	Pawnee	2/21	DK	
1, rural area	Greenwood	2/27	PJ, et al.	
Raptors sp.	Many, Russell Springs area	Logan	12/10-11	DM
King Rail	1, responding to tape, Quivira NWR	Stafford	<u>2/26</u>	MR
Sandhill Crane	<u>10,000</u> , Quivira NWR	Stafford	12/7	SS
	<u>8,000</u> , Red Hills CBC	Barber	1/2	NO
Whooping Crane	4, Quivira NWR	Stafford	<u>12/4-07</u>	BJ
Killdeer	1, Milford Dam	Geary	<u>1/10,18</u>	CO, JO
	2, 87 th S. and Hydraulic, Wichita	Sedgwick	1/23	JC, CVB, LL
Greater Yellowlegs	1, small farm pond	Pawnee	<u>2/28</u>	SS
Least Sandpiper	2, Bowersock Dam, Lawrence	Douglas	<u>12/12</u>	JW
	1, <u>ice</u> , Empire Lake	Cherokee	<u>1/12</u>	DH
Wilson's Snipe	3, Sand Creek	Harvey	1/2	GF
Franklin's Gull	1, Clinton State Park Marina	Douglas	<u>1/24</u>	BAS



<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observer(s)</u>
Thayer's Gull	2, Cheney Reservoir	Reno	1/23	PJ
	1, marina, Hillsdale Lake	Miami	1/30	PJ, KG
	1, 1 st cycle, Clinton Lake	Douglas	2/2	JK
<u>Lesser Black-backed Gull</u>	1, Rocky Ford, Tuttle Creek	Pottawatomie	2/10	DB
	1, LaFarge sandpit, Wichita	Sedgwick	2/18	PJ
Glaucous Gull	1, 1 st cycle, Shawnee Mission Lake	Johnson	12/19	ML
	1 ad., near dam, Perry Lake CBC	Jefferson	12/20	M&EC
	1 sub-ad., Fall River Dam area	Greenwood	12/22	PJ
	1, Waconda CBC	Mitchell	12/30	HA (rep.)
	1, Brandy Lake	Reno	1/4	GF
	1, 1 st cycle, Clinton Lake	Douglas	2/2	JK
White-winged Dove	1, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	2/19	RP
	1, residence, Pratt	Pratt	12/5-08	LQ
	<u>55</u> , residence, Garden City	Finney	12/8	T&SS
	2, Liberal residence	Seward	12/28	MT
	<u>74</u> , Shane residence	Finney	12/31	T&SS
	2, Sorensen residence	Sedgwick	1/15	SSo
<u>Inca Dove</u>	2, Larned residence	Pawnee	2/20	SS (rep.)
	9, Liberal residence	Seward	12/28	MT
Greater Roadrunner	1, Brunson residence	Pratt	12/23	KB
	1, rural area	Pawnee	2/21	DK
Barn Owl	1, west of 135 St. W. and 71 st S.	Sedgwick	1/2	JC
	Unreported number, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	1/22	RP
	6, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	1/27	RP
	7, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	2/19	RP
	1, two miles from Tucker farm	Labette	2/21	RT
<u>Snowy Owl</u>	1, three miles south of Ellinwood	Barton	12/14	RP
	1, injured, Kirwin Reservoir	Phillips	2/13	MR (rep.)
Long-eared Owl	1, Wilson CBC	Russell	12/20	MR (rep.)
	5, Sandhills Wildlife Area	Pratt	12/23	JK
	1, Webster Reservoir CBC	Rooks	1/3	MR (rep.)
Short-eared Owl	2, Junction City CBC	Geary	12/27	CO (rep.)
	6, Globe	Douglas	12/28	JK
	6, El Dorado Lake environs	Butler	1/4	BB, PB
	1 f., rural area	Saline	1/8	KF
	1, Quivira NWR	Stafford	1/11	BJ
	1, along McIntyre Creek Road	Pottawatomie	1/11	RK
	3, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	1/27	RP
	5, rural area	Harvey	1/30	SM
	Unreported numbers, Cassoday	Butler	1/30	PJ, KG
1, perched, rocks, Melvern	Osage	1/30	PJ, KG	
9, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	2/19	RP	



FCTT

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observer(s)</u>	
<u>Northern Saw-whet Owl</u>	1, responding to recording	Nemaha	12/22	DLa (rep.)	
Belted Kingfisher	5, Derby/Belle Plaine CBC	Sedgwick	1/10	JC (rep.)	
<u>Williamson's Sapsucker</u> <A>	1 ad. m., Wilson State Park	Russell	<u>12/5-2/26</u>	DK1 m. ob.	
Eastern Phoebe	1, Sawyer CBC	Pratt	12/22	KB (rep.)	
	1, residential area, Mulvane	Sedgwick	12/29	LHi	
	2, Derby/Belle Plaine CBC	Sedgwick	1/10	JC (rep.)	
Loggerhead Shrike	4, Quivira CBC	Stafford	12/14	MR (rep.)	
	2, Wilson CBC	Russell	12/20	MR (rep.)	
	Unreported number, Quivira NWR	Stafford	12/29	BJ	
	1, northwest rural area	Sedgwick	1/1	NO	
	1, rural area	Labette	1/10	RT	
	2, vicinity of Butler State Lake	Butler	1/13	JC	
	3-4, north part Cheney Reservoir	Reno	1/16	PJ, GF, CM, LL	
	1, south of John Redmond	Coffey	1/16	MG	
	2, rural area	Labette	1/31	RT	
	1, Cheyenne Bottoms	Bar ton	2/11,19	RP	
	4, Quivira NWR	Stafford	2/28	BJ	
	<u>Northern Shrike</u>	1, Quivira NWR	Stafford	12/1	MR
		1, Beeler High School	Ness	12/5	GF, PJ
1, Quivira CBC		Stafford	12/14	MR (rep.)	
2, Wilson CBC		Russell	12/20	MR (rep.)	
Unreported number, Quivira NWR		Stafford	12/29	BJ	
3, Waconda CBC		Mitchell	12/30	HA (rep.)	
2, Blue Rapids CBC		Marshall	1/2	TP (rep.)	
1, Red Hills CBC		Barber	1/2	PJ (rep.)	
1, Webster Reservoir CBC		Rooks	1/3	HA	
1, Kanopolis CBC		Ellsworth	1/10	BK (rep.)	
1, Mayfield Road, Cheney Reservoir		Reno	1/16	PJ, GF, CM, LL	
1, Kanopolis		Ellsworth	2/6	CM, m. ob.	
2, Kanopolis		Ellsworth	2/6	TB, NL	
1, Wilson Lake environs		Russell	2/12	TE	
1, rural area		Rush	2/18	SS	
Rock Wren	1, Wilson CBC	Russell	12/20	MR (rep.)	
Carolina Wren	Many reports	Statewide	All months	m. ob.	
Winter Wren	1, Park West	Harvey	1/2	GF	
	1, Webster Reservoir CBC	Rooks	1/3	MR (rep.)	
	1, Kanopolis CBC	Ellsworth	1/10	BK (rep.)	
	1, along Eight Mile Creek	Butler	1/13	JC	
	Unreported number, Cheney Reservoir	Kingman	1/16	PJ, GF, CM, LL	
	1, Cheyenne Bottoms	Barton	2/19	RP	
Marsh Wren	2, Wilson CBC	Russell	12/20	MR (rep.)	
	1, Kanopolis CBC	Ellsworth	1/10	BK (rep.)	
	1, <u>outside office window</u> , Manhattan	Riley	1/15	DM	



Species	Number and Location	County	Date	Observer(s)
Mountain Bluebird	71, Quivira CBC	Stafford	12/14	MR (rep.)
	43, Wilson CBC	Russell	12/20	MR (rep.)
	<u>254</u> , Red Hills CBC	Barber	1/2	PJ (rep.)
	19, north end of Kanopolis Reservoir	Ellsworth	2/6	TB, NL
	50-60, Haefeles residence, Ulysses	Grant	2/9	KH (rep.)
Townsend's Solitaire	1, Wilson Lake environs	Russell	2/12	TE
Hermit Thrush	1, Alamota	Lane	12/5	GF, PJ
	1, Webster Reservoir CBC	Rooks	1/3	MR (rep.)
Gray Catbird	1, Manhattan CBC	Riley	12/19	DR (rep.)
	1, Elkhart, Cimmaron NG CBC	Morton	<u>12/27</u>	SP
	1, WSU field station reserve	Sedgwick	<u>1/19</u>	CR
Northern Mockingbird	2, Quivira CBC	Stafford	12/14	MR (rep.)
	1, Wilson CBC	Russell	12/20	MR (rep.)
	<u>11</u> , Derby/Belle Plaine CBC	Sedgwick	1/10	JC (rep.)
	4, Kanopolis CBC	Ellsworth	1/10	BK (rep.)
	1, residence, Shawnee	Johnson	1/11	DRe
Brown Thrasher	<u>2</u> , Manhattan CBC	Riley	12/19	DR (rep.)
	1, Wilson CBC	Russell	<u>12/20</u>	MR (rep.)
	1, Elkhart, Cimmaron NG CBC	Morton	<u>12/27</u>	SP (rep.)
	1, Junction City, CBC	Geary	<u>12/27</u>	CO (rep.)
	1, west of Derby	Sedgwick	<u>12/27</u>	JC, SH
	1, rural area	Labette	<u>1/10</u>	RT
	1, Kanopolis CBC	Ellsworth	<u>1/10</u>	BK (rep.)
	1, area along Wakarusa River	Douglas	<u>1/12</u>	WF
	1, Canoe Launch	Sedgwick	<u>2/2</u>	JC
	Yellow-rumped Warbler	35, Quivira CBC	Stafford	12/14
<u>128</u> , Wilson CBC		Russell	12/20	MR (rep.)
40, along Arkansas River		Sedgwick	12/22	JC
<u>99</u> , Derby/Belle Plaine CBC		Sedgwick	1/10	JC (rep.)
Palm Warbler	1 possible, Sawyer CBC	Pratt	12/22	KB (rep.)
Western Tanager	1, Seltman farm	Pawnee	<u>12/7-24</u>	SS, DS
Canyon Towhee	1, Point of Rocks, Cimmaron NG CBC	Morton	12/27	SP
Field Sparrow	1, Harvey County West Park	Harvey	<u>1/2</u>	GF
	<u>7</u> , Derby/Belle Plaine CBC	Sedgwick	<u>1/10</u>	JC (rep.)
	4, Kanopolis CBC	Ellsworth	<u>1/10</u>	BK (rep.)
Chipping Sparrow <D>	1, KU campus	Douglas	<u>1/28</u>	JK
Savannah Sparrow	1, feedlot south of Eudora	Douglas	<u>1/8</u>	JW
	1, Derby/Belle Plaine CBC	Sedgwick	<u>1/10</u>	JC (rep.)



Species	Number and Location	County	Date	Observer(s)
McCown's Longspur	1, county road T, east of US 183	Pawnee	2/22	SS
<u>Snow Bunting</u>	1, one mile south of Phillipsburg	Russell	12/25	MR
	1, Blue Rapids CBC	Marshall	1/2	DB,CH
	1, rural area	Smith	2/20	MR, ER
Yellow-headed Blackbird	Unreported number, Waconda CBC	Mitchell	<u>12/30</u>	HA (rep.)
	1, Webster Reservoir CBC	Rooks	<u>1/3</u>	HA
Rusty Blackbird	6, grain spill south of Welda	Anderson	12/20	CSc
	30, mixed flock, Derby area	Sedgwick	12/29	JC, NO, RR
	16, Webster Reservoir CBC	Rooks	1/3	MR (rep.)
	52, Derby/Belle Plaine CBC	Sedgwick	1/10	JC (rep.)
	<u>808</u> , Kanopolis CBC	Ellsworth	1/10	BK (rep.)
Brewer's Blackbird	<u>412</u> , Wilson CBC	Russell	12/20	MR (rep.)
	<u>290</u> , Sandhills Wildlife Area	Pratt	12/23	JK
	<u>270</u> , Webster Reservoir CBC	Rooks	1/3	MR (rep.)
	66, Kanopolis CBC	Ellsworth	1/10	BK (rep.)
Great-tailed Grackle	5, <u>Walmart</u> , Hays	Ellis	12/13	GP
	<u>1,651</u> , Derby/Belle Plaine CBC	Sedgwick	1/10	JC (rep.)
Pine Siskin	<u>20</u> , Webster Reservoir CBC	Rooks	1/3	MR (rep.)
<u>Lesser Goldfinch</u> <D>	1 northwest of Medicine Lodge	Barber	1/2	PJ

Key:

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

Abbreviations: adult (ad.), Christmas Bird Count (CBC), female (f.), immature (imm.), male (m.), multiple observers (m. ob.), National Grasslands (NG), National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), reporting (rep.), Reservoir (Res.), species (sp.), University of Kansas (KU), Wichita State University (WSU).

Observers: Nic Allen, Henry Armknecht, Tim Barksdale, Bob Broyles, Patricia Broyles, Ken Brunson, Doris Burnett, Jeff Calhoun, Donna Chance, Mark and Elaine Corder (M&EC), Tom Ewert, William Falk, Kat Farres, Gregg Friesen, Charlie Green, Paul

Griffin, Sam Guy, Gary Haden, Sarah Harper, Kellye Hart, Chod Hedinger, Dave Henness, Lawrence Herbert, Helen Hewins, Leon Hicks (LHi), Pete Janzen, Barry Jones, Donnie Kazmaier, Ron Klataske, Jonathan King, Dave Klema (DKI), Bob Kruger, Mark Land, William Langley, Dan Larson, Dan LaShelle (DLA), Nancy Leo, Larry Londagin, Brandon Magette, Robert Mangile, Scott McCloud, Cheryl Miller, Dan Mulhern, Atcha Nolan, Nathan Ofsthun, Chuck Otte, Jaye Otte, Tom Parker, Sebastian Patti, Robert Penner, George Probasco, Lee Queal, Ellen Rader, Mike Rader,

Debbie Reasoner (DRe), David Rintoul, Chris Rogers, Rachel Roth, John Row, Jeff Rue (JRue), Carolyn Schwab (CSc), Diane Seltman, Scott Seltman, Tom & Sara Shane (T&SS), Cynthia Smith, Steve Sorensen (SSo), Chuck Spellman (CSp), Emmett Sullivan, Greg Swick, Max Thompson, Rick Tucker, Curt Van Boening, Brad Williamson, Jeff Witters, John & Linda Zempel (J and LZ).

Navigating summer birding perils

By Cheryl K. Miller

Some of my earliest memories involve playing outside on the farm under the hot summer sun. The endless days of exploring in the yard or along the creek led to many exciting discoveries: colorful songbirds, box turtles, snakes, frogs and itch-inducing pests.

I still enjoy exploring the outdoors as an adult, but I have become much more aware of situations that lead to overheating or histamine-induced misery. As we head into the summer season, I'd like to share some tips for both beginning and experienced birders.

Beat the heat

- Drink plenty of water and take with you more than you think you'll need. You may want to fill a water bottle three-quarters full and freeze it overnight. In the morning, fill it to the top with water and enjoy an ice-cold drink while you're out birding.

- Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing to reduce the need for sunscreen. Splurge a little and buy some long-sleeved shirts with mesh ventilation panels and pants that allow you to unzip the legs for shorts. You can also partially unzip the legs to create ventilation without exposing your skin.

- Don't like wearing a lot of fabric? Then cover up with sunscreen or sunblock. Be sure to apply it liberally and frequently.

- Wear a hat with a wide brim. Secure your hat with an adjustable chin strap or head band; otherwise, be prepared to chase it like a tumbleweed across the prairie or mudflats.

Avoid the itch

- Who needs the misery?

Know how to identify poison ivy and don't let any part of the plant touch your skin. If you do get into it, take a cool bath as soon as you can and gently wash off the plant's oil.

- Chiggers and ticks and skeeters, oh my! Use a good insect repellent. However, avoid getting any DEET-based product on your optics because DEET will eat through the rubber casing.

- An excellent preventive measure for chiggers is powdered sulfur (also known as flowers of sulfur), available at pharmacies. Lightly dust the powder around the openings of your socks, pants and boots. Beware, though: sulfur has an unpleasant odor that may be objectionable to your birding companions. Some users may experience skin irritation.

Sweet relief

- Apply Aloe vera gel to areas of mild sunburn. Taking cool

baths, drinking plenty of water and staying out of the sun will also help make the burn more tolerable.

- If you find yourself experiencing mild itching from chiggers or poison ivy, an oatmeal bath may work wonders in making you more comfortable. Look for 100% colloidal oatmeal bath packets at your local pharmacy. For serious cases, see your physician.

Warning signs

- If you are thirsty, you may already be dehydrated. If you're not able to sweat or if you feel dizzy, you may be in serious trouble. See a physician immediately.

- If a bullseye rash develops anytime at the site of a tick bite, seek medical attention as soon as possible. Be alert to other symptoms associated with Lyme Disease as outlined on this Mayo Clinic web page: <http://tinyurl.com/26shkyu>.

Being prepared for summer birding will make it that much more enjoyable. Once you develop your own arsenal of misery-fighting methods, battling the summer perils will become less of a challenge. You'll be able to spend your energy focusing on the finer details of plumage rather than worrying that the crawling sensation on your calf is really a tick.



Avian Conservationist of the Year Award

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 nominee does not have to be a member of KOS, but the nominator must be a current member of KOS. 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.

Previous recipients:

2009 **Michael Watkins**

2008 **Bob Gress**

2007 **Chuck Otte**

2006 **Stan Roth**

2005 **Max C. Thompson**

NOMINATION DEADLINE IS JULY 1. Send this completed form and attachments to Robert L. Penner, 593 NE 130 Avenue, Ellinwood, KS 67526 or rpenner@tnc.org.

Nominee: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Nominator: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

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.

KOS member photography



Top left and right: Larry Londagin photographed this Yellow-crowned Night-Heron at a local colony in Wichita. The Great Egret is one of many nesting at the rookery near the Sedgwick County Zoo. Bottom right: Mark Corder, Olathe, looked outside in March and saw this unusually colored American Robin.

Corrections

Please note the following corrections to the March 2010 and December 2009 issues of The Horned Lark.

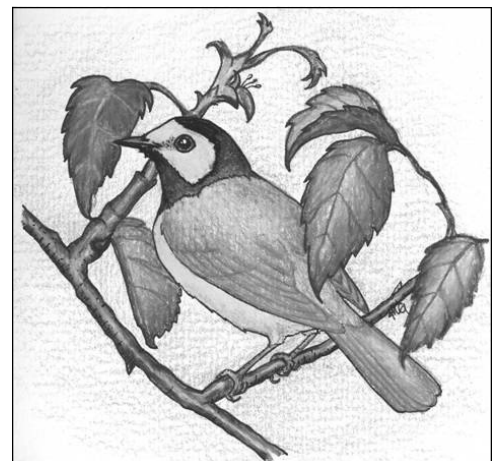
March 2010

•Roundup. The Sabine's Gull reported for Wilson Lake in Russell County on August 29, 2009 was instead seen at the Wilson sewer ponds in Ellsworth County by Mike, Ellen and Jennifer Rader.

December 2009

•Whooper madness. The caption for Larry Londagin's photo incorrectly listed the Ross's Goose as a Ross's Gull.

•Ten best birds of the year. The Black-headed Gull at Quivira National Wildlife Refuge on March 5, 2009 was found and reported by Jay Newton.



Hooded Warbler. ©Mark Gearheart.

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 Dr. Ivan L. Boyd Recognition 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:

- 2008 **Tom Shane**
- 2007 **John Zimmerman**
- 2005 **Celia Markum, Dwight Platt**
- 2004 **Katharine Kelly**
- 2003 **Chuck Ely, Marvin Schwilling, and Max Thompson**

NOMINATION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 1. Send this completed form and attachments to Nancy Leo, 4505 W. 66th St., Prairie Village, KS 66208, njleo@earthlink.net.

Nominee: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Nominator: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Attach a typed description of no more than two pages. Give specific examples of contributions to KOS the nominee has made.