



# *The Horned Lark*

*Kansas Ornithological Society*

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## **From the President's Pen**

**By Matt Gearheart**

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Greetings KOS friends,

This morning, I'm outside on the back deck (with binoculars at hand of course), sipping my morning coffee and enjoying some unseasonably cool weather. It has been a pretty intensely hot summer. In fact, I believe we've had the hottest recorded July in history, so it is quite welcoming to finally have some relief. The cooler temperatures and seeing birds just beginning to start their southbound migration is a reminder to me of the upcoming KOS Fall meeting, September 30<sup>th</sup> – October 2<sup>nd</sup> in Garden City, see pages 9 - 12 for details and registration information!

With the changing of seasons, this fall also marks an end to my tenure as KOS President. The past two years went very quickly and I must offer many kudos and "Thanks!" to a very strong and dedicated board that made my job much easier. Sometimes, your time commitment is not always appreciated and it can be easy to forget that we are all volunteers, whom donate our free time to keep the mission of KOS alive. I am humbled to have served among such a devoted group and in the shadow of many other ornithological greats. Hats off to you!

Yesterday, I attended a local bird walk in Olathe. The group consisted of a very diverse entourage of birders, which included several avid birders, a few photographers, several brand-new birders and even four young birders. Which reminds me, KOS sponsors free memberships to youth birders. If you see a budding birder, feel free to contact the board about this. It was such a great experience seeing the old pros assist the new birders to find many new Lifers; often sharing scopes to help them get good views, and even going "old school" by opening field guides to show them what they were seeing. Reflecting upon this, I realize that this is what KOS is all about; passing along knowledge and experiences that will carry on to future birders and nature lovers.

I hope to see many of you soon at the Fall Meeting, at a Christmas Bird Count, or elsewhere out and about discovering birds. Now...my coffee and binoculars are calling my name.

Good birding,  
Matt

# From the Keyboard

By the Editor

I am so glad that summer is almost over! No, it isn't the heat or the weather (although it has been a hot summer), but it's just that my job keeps me entirely too busy from June through early August and I just don't get to spend as much time birding as I'd like to. With the approach of fall, I find that I have more time to be out in the field birding! I can almost hear the first juncos and Harris's Sparrows of fall!

We have a lot of challenges as a do many organizations now days. We need members and we need people willing to step forward into positions on the board and in the organization. We are at a cultural or generational divide. Many people seem to see little or no benefit in belonging to organizations. They see no need for socialization and feel that they can gather all the information that they want, or need, on virtually every subject on the internet. Have we worked so hard on placing information about birds in Kansas on the internet that we've facilitated our own demise as an organization?

People are interested in birds. The numbers of people involved in Kansas birds and birdwatching, based on the number of subscribers to listserves, discussion lists, Facebook pages and eBird just keeps growing. So why aren't they joining KOS? Cost shouldn't be an issue - \$20 a year isn't that much when you look at what we spend in fuel to go birding. I'd love to hear your thoughts on why people don't join KOS. Next time you are with some of your regular birding companions, ask them if they belong to KOS. If they say no, find out why. Print off our membership brochure: <http://ksbirds.org/kos/KOSBrochure20110208.pdf> and give it to perspective members. Let's all try to get at least one other person to join KOS in 2017!

Fall meeting details are at the back of this issue and you can also register on line. We haven't been to Garden City since 1994. For many of us it's quite a drive to get there, but if you haven't birded the Garden City area, or southwest Kansas very much, you owe it to yourself to experience the great southwest! Students, and KOS members at large, are all encouraged to present papers on research they're doing or items of avian interest. Deadline for getting abstracts submitted is September 16th. If you have any questions, let me know! We've been able to line up a fascinating speaker for the banquet. Dr. Mike Husak has been working on Scissor-tailed Flycatchers since 2008. Many of us have a strong affinity to Scissor-tails and here is a great opportunity to learn much more!

As we start moving towards winter and the end of the year my thoughts always turn towards Christmas Bird Counts (CBCs). I'll be posting a web page with information on Kansas CBCs. I like to get that posted about mid November. I know several compilers wait to see when other counts are scheduled before they schedule their own. As you do get details on your count figured out, please let me know. Until then, I'll see you in the field!

- Chuck



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# A Short KOS Internet History

by Chuck Otte

In the March 1999 issue of *The Horned Lark* was a short notice that stated, "Check it out and keep checking back - <http://KSbirds.org>." Such was the very quiet and non-flamboyant launch of the KOS website, simply called, ksbirds!

Before we go any further in this story, especially for the benefit of some of our younger members, the internet was a very different place back then. If you were not at a university, college or large business, you were probably accessing the internet, or world wide web as we often called it in those days, via a dial up modem on your computer connected to the phone line. There was no wi-fi, there were no smartphones, there was no broad band, it was you, your computer and a 28.8 or 56 KB connection. Even a "slow" broadband connection of 1 mbps is going to be about 25 times faster than the fastest dial up modems. Transmitting photos was a time consuming exercise so many of us saved photos for special occasions and focused on text.

James Barnes was responsible for KOS attaining a place on the internet with the ksbirds.org web page. Shortly thereafter David Rintoul and I took on a lot of the web work and will continue to do so, at least for a few more years.

Over the past fifteen or so years a lot has changed. Most birders had no way to post photos of birds or rare birds to the internet so the rare bird page was often used to post photos of rarities. Birders would get photos to us and we'd get them posted as soon as possible for others to see. Now we have personal web pages, photo sharing sites and, of course, Facebook! There are more bird photos shared on Facebook in one day than we had on the rare bird page in the first three years!

Periodically I am asked for information about Kansas birds or KOS history. Many of these questions have led to much of the information that is now available on the ksbirds webpage. It is always a challenge to design a webpage because no two people think alike or

organize information the same. What I've tried to do with ksbirds is to have a general birding portion of the site and a KOS portion of the site; in other words a birding side and a birding society side.

When you go to the <http://ksbirds.org/> home page, you are faced with a graphic of the KOS Horned Lark, and below that some links. If you click on the Horned Lark graphic, or the link to the right of the lark's beak, it takes you to the KOS side. The links below the graphic take you to birding pages: county checklists, birds record committee information, shortcut to the KSBIRD-L listserv archives page, etc. This is where many visitors want to go to find birding information. The KOS side is sadly under-visited.

On the KOS side you have links to our publications. ALL the KOS Newsletters and KOS Bulletins are here as PDF files. The first newsletter was in October 1963. It didn't become known as the Horned Lark until March 1989. *The Bulletin* goes back to the beginning of the society. KOS was formed in 1949 and the first *Bulletin* was published in April of 1950 with, naturally, a report of the 1949-1950 Christmas Bird Counts (there were 14 of them by the way!) *Bulletin's* are not immediately available. The most recent copies will be two years old.

If you click on the Officers link, it takes you to a listing of the current officers and how to contact them. At the bottom of that page is a link to a table of all the officers that KOS has ever had.

Click on meeting information and you can see dates and locations of more recent meetings as well as links to the species list and all of the registration information for about the past decade. At the top of that page is a link to a page that has a list of all the meetings that KOS has ever had and, if we could find them, field trip lists as well from that meeting!

I hope you'll look around the ksbirds web page and if you have any ideas, suggestions or questions please don't hesitate to contact me at [otte2@cox.net](mailto:otte2@cox.net).

# KOS Klassifieds

## We still need...

While we have found several volunteers for the various vacant board positions, we are still in need of someone to serve as vice-president for the next two years (and they traditionally move up to president, but not always - it's negotiable!) We also are in need of a membership development coordinator (membership secretary). If you are interested, or want to be considered for these, or any future board positions, let me or one of the board members know. If you want to know what each officer's responsibilities are, they can be found in Article VI of the bylaws. They bylaws can be found online at: <http://www.ksbirds.org/kos/BCIndex.htm>

## Calling all Authors!

If you like birds, and you like to write, we'd love to publish your writings in *The Horned Lark*. These articles can be about a favorite bird species or a favorite birding location. You can write about almost anything that relates to birds in Kansas. If you go back through past issues of *The Horned Lark* you can see that there have been many interesting articles. Chuck can help you edit it and get it ready to print, we'd just like to see KOS members submitting items for publication. And if you have an idea for a scientific article, talk to Eugene Young, *Bulletin* editor!

## KOS Membership

KOS membership runs the calendar year (January to December). You can renew any-time during the year, but most members renew at the fall meeting or at the end of the year. If you don't renew the March issues of *The Horned Lark* and *The Bulletin* will be the last ones you receive. If you are a new member and join in the fall of the year, after September 1, your membership will carry on through the end of the following year (we give you the end of the current year for free.)

We have several categories of membership. Those categories and dues are:

Student	\$5
Individual	\$20
Family	\$25
Sustaining Individual	\$30
Sustaining Family	\$35
Contributing	\$45
Life Member	\$300

(can be two consecutive annual payments of \$150)

You can pay dues on the web page at: [http://ksbirds.org/kos/kos\\_member.html](http://ksbirds.org/kos/kos_member.html) or they can be mailed to KOS Treasurer, Max Thompson, 1729 E. 11th Ave., Winfield, KS 67156

## Christmas Bird Count Season

Another Christmas Bird Count (CBC) season will soon be upon us. For official Audubon sanctioned CBCs, the dates are December 14 through January 5. For Kansas counts, that are not Audubon counts, we often extend that season on both ends. Gene will probably announce those dates in early fall. As you start to get details finalized on your counts, please email me that information ([otte2@cox.net](mailto:otte2@cox.net)) so that we can post the information on the web as we have in past years!  
- Chuck Otte

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# Kansas Birding Roundup, Spring 2016 (March – May ) Chuck Otte, compiler

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This is a difficult report to summarize because there didn't seem to be anything normal about the period what so ever. The winter was mild which led to many species returning earlier than normal. What might be noteworthy some years just wasn't this year; it was just an early year! Many species reports were received that were seven to ten days earlier than average early return dates, but they just weren't noteworthy because there was so many reports.

Good water conditions across most of the state led to many waterfowl lingering longer than usual or in many cases just not leaving at all. Winter ducks, like scoter's and Long-tailed Ducks stuck around for weeks and in some cases months. Many times, reports of these species aren't "chaseable" because they are only around for a few days. Milford Lake Long-tailed Ducks, first seen around Christmas, lingered until the end of March!

As the period moved out of March and in to April, shorebird numbers swelled to incredible numbers at the big marshes. Again, excellent water across the state contributed to not only big numbers at some marshes, but widespread dispersal of many species. From water rich wildlife areas on southeast Kansas to the playas of southwestern and western Kansas, the reports just kept rolling in.

Oh, we had another White Ibis...yawn. Oh, we had another Brown Pelican...yawn. In recent years we have almost come to expect these species to show up every other year if not every year. Both have been removed from the KBRC review list in part because they are not easily misidentified but also because of the growing number of sightings of both. A growing number of sightings could also be said to apply to Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks. A pair showed up in Newton towards the end of the count period and cooperated for several days allowing many birders to get the bird on their life list, state list or at least their year list!

Birds of Kansas (Thompson, et. al., 2011) considered Vermilion Flycatcher to be a casual visitor in the southwestern part of Kansas and a vagrant in the east. Most records have been spring records with a majority being in April over the years. 1994 to 2009 there were ten records of Vermilion Flycatcher accepted by the Kansas Bird Records Committee (KBRC). Since 2009 there had been no KBRC records submitted for Vermilion Flycatcher until last fall when one was seen and photographed in Neosho County. Then in April a male Vermilion Flycatcher was seen and photographed in Johnson County. While an easterly record it wasn't totally unexpected from a species that is known to be a bit of a vagrant. What I doubt anyone in the state expected was that three more Vermilion Flycatchers would be documented in May. All of these were from the southwestern part of the state where we generally expect to see them, but all four records were new county records. Will we now go through another five year drought before the next sighting?

Pine Siskins apparently bred in scattered locations across the state this spring. Pine Siskins are considered fairly early nesters and the presence of siskins in May around conifers in residential areas is a strong indication that nesting probably occurred. There were many reports of Pine Siskins well into May.

On the evening of April 26<sup>th</sup>, following a series of thunderstorms, KSU Ornithologist Dr. Alice Boyle looked at her oriole feeders in her backyard to see what appeared to be a Hooded Oriole. A few minutes later it returned and was confirmed. MANY Kansas birders made the trek to Manhattan on the 27<sup>th</sup> and were treated to perhaps a new standard in homeowner hospitality for viewing a rare bird, oh, and they got to see the Hooded Oriole as well. After acceptance by the KBRC this became the second record of Hooded Oriole for Kansas.

In what has become a new summer ritual, the American Ornithologists Union Checklist Committee released their annual Checklist Supplement outlining changes to the taxonomy of North American birds. This is also considered by many as the annual taxonomic list fruit basket upset. Some big changes in taxonomy for the non-passerine species (species in the first half of the checklist before flycatchers) were the notable outcome of this year's report. Some minor changes in the order of the species occurred within some families (quail, sandpipers and vireos to be precise). Finches and House Sparrow were also moved up ahead of Warblers and Longspurs. You will no longer find the lowly House Sparrow at the end of the checklist. The checklist now ends with orioles! The following list reflects these changes. To view the Kansas checklist as it now stands, reflecting the AOU changes, you can go to <http://ksbirds.org/checklist/KansasChecklist.pdf>

Thank you to everyone who reports and contributes sightings for this report. Please forward any noteworthy sightings to me at [otte2@cox.net](mailto:otte2@cox.net) or mail to 613 Tamerisk Dr., Junction City, KS 66441.

Species	Number and Location	County	Date	Observer(s)
Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks	2 at the home of James Miller, Newton Still present 5/30	Harvey	5/27	GF
Cackling Goose	2 at QNWR	Stafford	4/28	KMD, MP
Cackling Goose	1 reported at CBWA	Barton	5/1	AM, JMi

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observer(s)</u>
Surf Scoter	1 female at Milford Lake Dam Still present 4/16	Geary	3/25	CMo, SN
Surf Scoter	1 male photographed at Milford Lake Still present 4/16	Geary	4/14	fide CO
Surf Scoter	1 at Clinton Lake Still present 4/11	Douglas	4/9	SN
Surf Scoter	1 at cattle yard pond	Ford	5/14	JC
White-winged Scoter	1 female at Milford Lake Dam	Geary	3/23	CO, JO
White-winged Scoter	1 male at Clinton Lake Dam Still present 4/8	Douglas	4/7	JK
Long-tailed Duck	1 at Oswego WTP Continuing birds, first seen 2/19	Labette	4/5	ABu
Long-tailed Duck	1 at Milford Lake Continuing birds first seen around Christmas, last reported 3/27	Geary	3/23	CO
<u>Red-necked Grebe</u>	1 at Jetmore City Lake	Hodgeman	3/15	TC
Eared Grebe	<u>136</u> at Big Salt Marsh, QNWR	Stafford	4/11	MR
Western Grebe	2 at Clinton Lake	Douglas	4/10	SN
Eastern Whip-poor-will	1 quite westerly in Hays	Ellis	4/19	HA
Common Poorwill	3 singing, somewhat early south of Wilson	Ellsworth/Russell	4/8	MR
Black-chinned Hummingbird	1 adult male, Ramsey's yard	Finney	4/24	SSh, TS
King Rail	1 on Berwet BBS Route, stop #4	Sedgwick	5/29	PJ
Common Gallinule	1 at Baker Wetlands Second bird reported on 5/31	Douglas	5/30	MGo, mob
<u>Sandhill Crane</u>	1 easterly heard in western edge of county	Labette	3/17	HA
Sandhill Crane	1 easterly, with photo, on private property	Neosho	3/18	ABu
Sandhill Crane	1 late	Shawnee	5/11	JHa
Sandhill Crane	1 flying overhead calling west of Basehor	Leavenworth	5/15	AF
Whooping Crane	7 flying overhead east of Ellinwood	Barton	3/1	RP
Whooping Crane	4 at QNWR 5 seen on 3/29, 1 on 4/5, 3 on 4/7,	Stafford	3/23	BJ
Snowy Plover	2 early at QNWR	Stafford	3/11	BrM, DB
Long-billed Curlew	<u>110</u> south of Pierceville	Finney	4/3	SSh, TS
Hudsonian Godwit	<u>650</u> at CBWA	Barton	4/22	MR
Marbled Godwit	1 early at CBWA	Barton	3/25	MR
<u>Marbled Godwit</u>	1 on pond south of Sabetha	Nemaha	4/7	CMo, SN
Red Knot	1 at CBWA	Barton	4/21	MR
Dunlin	1 at CBWA	Barton	3/12	BS
Baird's Sandpiper	7 early, John Redmond Reservoir	Coffey	3/3	SN
Baird's Sandpiper	<u>50,000</u> at CBWA	Barton	4/21	RP
Least Sandpiper	1 early, Baker Wetlands	Douglas	3/5	WC
White-rumped Sandpiper	800 at Neosho WA, good number easterly	Neosho	5/16	ABu
Pectoral Sandpiper	2 early, Baker Wetlands	Douglas	3/5	AP
Semipalmated Sandpiper	2 at CBWA	Barton	3/12	BS
Long-billed Dowitcher	<u>5,000</u> at CBWA	Barton	4/21	RP
Spotted Sandpiper	1 somewhat early, River Pond Area TCL	Pottawatomie	3/3	JNg
Wilson's Phalarope	5 at CBWA	Barton	3/12	BS
Red-necked Phalarope	1 at QNWR	Stafford	4/25	MR
Red-necked Phalarope	1 at CBWA	Barton	4/26	EH
Red-necked Phalarope	5 at QNWA	Stafford	5/17	MR
Red-necked Phalarope	1 at KCPL Wetlands	Johnson	5/20	MG
Red-necked Phalarope	2 at Baker Wetlands At least 1 still present 5/28	Douglas	5/24	RB, GP, JS
Red-necked Phalarope	<u>28</u> at QNWR	Stafford	5/28	WCT
Red Phalarope	1 at QNWR Still present 5/30	Stafford	5/25	MGo, JMI
Herring Gull	Many reports of lingering birds from Barton and Douglas	mid May		mob
Lesser Black-backed Gull	1 first cycle bird, present for some time	Barton	4/24	JL

<b>Species</b>	<b>Number and Location</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Observer(s)</b>
Pacific Loon	1 at Cheney Reservoir	Sedgwick	3/27	AM, JMi
<u>Common Loon</u>	1 westerly at Kiowa SFL	Kiowa	5/20	JC
Neotropic Cormorant	1 at La Cygne Lake	Linn	3/15	NV, MLo
Neotropic Cormorant	1 at Neosho Wildlife Area	Neosho	3/23	ABu
Neotropic Cormorant	1 at Unit G, MDC	Linn	5/14	mob
<u>Neotropic Cormorant</u>	1 at Kiowa SFL	Kiowa	5/20	JC
Brown Pelican	1 at Kingman SFL	Kingman	5/30	JMi, mob
	Still present 5/31, bird continued on into early June			
Glossy Ibis	1 at Flint Hills NWR	Lyon	5/7	AP, KS
White Ibis	1 adult at CBWA	Barton	4/30	CW
	Still present 5/15			
Black Vulture	1 with Turkey Vultures, Overland Park	Johnson	3/5	ML
Black Vulture	1 westerly at Camp Horizon	Cowley	5/7	Spring KOS
Mississippi Kite	1 early over west Junction City	Geary	4/13	JO
<u>Northern Goshawk</u>	1 2 <sup>nd</sup> year bird hunting over LEPC lek	Comanche	4/10	JL, ER
<u>Northern Goshawk</u>	Likely the same bird as above, 7 miles apart	Kiowa	4/14	JL
Broad-winged Hawk	1 slightly early, NW part of county	Crawford	3/15	ABu
Swainson's Hawk	1 first of season,	Gray	3/27	SSh, TS
<u>Ferruginous Hawk</u>	1 easterly along Kansas Turnpike	Leavenworth	3/3	GC
Snowy Owl	2 reported at Wolf Creek Lake area	Coffey	3/1	ABu
Snowy Owl	1 at Coffey County Airport	Coffey	3/20	mob
	Could be one of the birds reported at Wolf Creek Lake, well photographed, last reported 4/11			
Short-eared Owl	1, rarely reported other than in winter	Kearny	5/16	DH
<u>Pileated Woodpecker</u>	1 female, continuing westward expansion	Ford	3/10	BrM, CMo, DB
Pileated Woodpecker	1 ongoing reports from QNWR	Stafford	5/1	AM, JMi
Merlin	1 at Rockefeller Native Prairie	Jefferson	5/7	JCo
<u>Yellow-bellied Flycatcher</u>	1 westerly at Rader residence, Wilson	Ellsworth	5/18	MR
<u>Vermilion Flycatcher</u>	1 male at Kill Creek Park, Olathe	Johnson	4/11	RM
	KBRC #2016-25			
<u>Vermilion Flycatcher</u>	1 first year female near a creek crossing	Hodgeman	5/2	JHa
	KBRC #2016-12			
<u>Vermilion Flycatcher</u>	1 male at Arkalon Park in Seward	Seward	5/9	GC
	KBRC #2016-22			
<u>Vermilion Flycatcher</u>	1 at Bear Creek Crossing of K-27	Stanton	5/10	SM, TM
	KBRC #2016-17			
Plumbeous Vireo	1 Elkhart Cemetery/Shelterbelt	Morton	5/2	CG, JM
Plumbeous Vireo	1 at K-27 Campground – photo	Morton	5/9	DW
Philadelphia Vireo	1 somewhat westerly near Palmer	Washington	5/21	DT
Philadelphia Vireo	1 well west	Finney	5/25	SSh, TS
Philadelphia Vireo	1 westerly at Pratt	Pratt	5/26	MR
<u>Fish Crow</u>	1, continuing expansion within the state	Atchison	4/21	AS
<u>Fish Crow</u>	1 near Kingman SFL	Kingman	5/31	KG
Common Raven	Several reports from various locations	Morton	5/1	KG, JM, PJ
Tree Swallow	2 somewhat early, Baker Wetlands	Douglas	3/5	AP
Barn Swallow	1, early return, MDC	Linn	3/17	MMH
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1 at Zoo, 1 in Shane yard	Finney	4/25	TS
Brown Creeper	1 late in Leawood City Park	Johnson	5/4	AVP
Winter Wren	1 late near Ohio Township Cemetery	Saline	5/2	KK
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	1, near Wilson Cemetery west of Elgin	Chautauqua	3/25	KG, JC
Mountain Bluebird	1 male nesting with Eastern female	Russell	3/12	DK
Brown Thrasher	1 somewhat early, Ashland Bottoms	Riley	3/3	JRo
Cedar Waxwing	Estimating <u>20,000</u> in Arkansas City	Cowley	3/22	EY
Red Crossbill	1 female at Bonner Springs feeders	Leavenworth	3/1	JAM
	Present since late January, last reported 4/23			
Red Crossbill	1 at Sharon Springs City Park	Wallace	5/12	JK
Common Redpoll	1 at feeder in Garden City	Finney	3/5	SSh, TS
	Continuing bird first reported 2/15			

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observer(s)</u>
Pine Siskin	<u>40</u> in the Shane yard	Finney	3/25	SSh, TS
Pine Siskin	Over 1,000 banded in Meade this winter	Meade		TF (fide TS)
Chestnut-collared Longspur	1 rather late	Kingman	4/24	SS
<u>McCown's Longspur</u>	9, southwest of Kingman	Kingman	4/1	SS
Louisiana Waterthrush	1 calling at 10 <sup>th</sup> Street bridge Labette Creek	Labette	3/21	ABu
Golden-winged Warbler	1 at Tomahawk Park	Johnson	4/27	MGo
Golden-winged Warbler	1 at Baker Wetlands	Douglas	4/27	PG, MZ
Golden-winged Warbler	1 westerly at Tuttle Creek Campgrounds	Riley	5/17	BS
Orange-crowned Warbler	1 at residence in Johnson County	Johnson	3/1	BW
Continuing bird first seen on 12/21/15, last reported 3/16				
Connecticut Warbler	1 heard and seen at Blackhoof Park, Lenexa	Johnson	5/17	MG
KBRC #2016-21				
Blue-winged Warbler	1 heard and seen at Baldwin Woods	Douglas	5/6	PW, MZ, PG
<u>Cape May Warbler</u>	1 female at Elkhart Cemetery/Shelsterbelt	Morton	5/9	DW
Common Yellowthroat	1 at wetlands north of Chetopa	Labette	3/17	HA
Black-throated Blue Warbler	1 westerly at Tuttle Creek Campgrounds	Riley	5/17	BS
<u>Palm Warbler</u>	1 westerly east of Utica	Ness	5/4	JSh
Spotted Towhee	<u>55</u> at Ford County SFL	Ford	4/25	JC
Canyon Towhee	1 at Point of Rocks, CNG	Morton	5/7	WCT
KBRC #2016-14				
Cassin's Sparrow	1 slightly early, CNG	Morton	4/2	WH
Chipping Sparrow	1 somewhat early at Clinton SP	Douglas	3/1	GP
Given the number that overwintered, hard to determine if this is an early migrant or not.				
Nelson's Sparrow	Intriguing report of 2 calling	Neosho	5/15	ABu
White-throated Sparrow	1 late at Shawnee Mission Park	Johnson	5/23	TSw
White-crowned Sparrow	1 late at Baker Wetlands	Douglas	5/24	AR
Dark-eyed Junco	1 late at Flint Hills NWR	Lyon	5/6	SSC, TSc
Dark-eyed Junco	1 late at Leavenworth SFL	Leavenworth	5/12	KMD
Black-headed Grosbeak	1 male at feeder in Lawrence	Douglas	5/4	KL
<u>Black-headed Grosbeak</u>	1 at feeder	Ottawa	5/5	CD
Painted Bunting	Territorial pair westerly at Wilson SP	Russell	5/14	DK, MR
Dickcissel	1 at feeder NE of Lawrence	Leavenworth	3/1	GP
Present much of the winter				
<u>Bobolink</u>	1 male, 2 females, somewhat late	Kingman	5/12	SS
Rusty Blackbird	1 late at Ashland Bottoms area	Riley	5/12	JRo
<u>Hooded Oriole</u>	1 male coming to feeder, Manhattan	Riley	4/26	AB
This bird stayed for 1 day and was seen/photographed by many birders KBRC #2016-24				

**Locations and notes:** BBS – Breeding Bird Survey, CBWA – Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area, CNG – Cimarron National Grasslands, KBRC – Kansas Bird Records Committee report filed, MDC – Marais des Cygnes Area, QNWR – Quivira National Wildlife Refuge, SFL – State Fishing Lake, SP – State Park, TCL – Tuttle Creek Lake, WA – Wildlife Area, WTP – Water Treatment Ponds, *Underlined species name indicates new county record. Underlined number indicates an exceptionally high count.*

**Observers:** Henry Armknecht, Alice Boyle, Roger Boyd, Andrew Burnett (ABu), Doris Burnett, Jeff Calhoun, Tom Cannon, Glenn Caspers, Will Chatfield-Taylor (WCT), Walt Cochran, Jacob Cooper (JCo), Catherine Doud, Tom Flowers, Andrew Friesen, Gregg Friesen, Matt Gearheart, Malcom Gold (MGo), Chet Gresham, Kevin Groeneweg, Peter Grund, Jan Hansen (JHa), Wil Hershberger, Daniel Horton, Eric Hough, Pete Janzen, Barry Jones, Jon King, Dave Klema, Kaleb Kroeker, Mark Land, David Lautenbach (DLa), Jonathan Lautenbach, Michael Lautenbach (MLa), Kevin Leonard, Mickey Louis (MLo), Brandon Magette (BrM), Jim Malcom, John Mallery (JMI), Sam Mannell, Terry Mannell, Kathy McDowell (KMD), Mick McHugh (MMH), Don Merz, Andrew Miller, Joseph Miller (JMi), Rex Miller, Jo-Ann Moore (JAM), Carol Morgan (CMo), Sue Newland, Jessica Nguyen (JNg), Chuck Otte, Jaye Otte, Andrew V. Payeur (AVP), Rob Penner, Galen Pittman, Marie Plinsky, Alexis Powell, Mike Rader, Alexa Ray, Edward Raynor, John Row (JRo), Brett Sandercock, Sam Schermerhorn (SSc), Tom Schermerhorn (TSc), Al Schirmacher, John Schukman, Scott Seltman, Sara Shane (SSh), Tom Shane, Kylee Sharp, Jim Shroyer (JSh), Terry Swope (TSw), Dan Thalmann, Nick Varvel, Phil Wedge Bryan White, David Wiggins, Curtis Wolf, Eugene Young, Molly Zohn, mob – multiple observers

# Contact Us

If you haven't already made an official visit through the GCCC Office of Admissions, call or email to schedule yours soon. If you haven't already applied for admission, contact the Office of Admissions for your application form, or print one at [www.gcccks.edu](http://www.gcccks.edu).

**OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS  
GARDEN CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
801 CAMPUS DRIVE  
GARDEN CITY, KS 67846  
620-276-7611 or 800-658-1696  
Email: [admission@gcccks.edu](mailto:admission@gcccks.edu)**

**start here**

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITY**  
Garden City Community College does not discriminate against applicants, employees or students on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, height, weight, marital status, sexual orientation, or other non-merit reasons, or handicaps nor will sexual harassment be tolerated in its employment practices and/or educational programs or activities. Those concerned about the above should contact *Cristina Turley*, Garden City Community College, 801 Campus Drive, Garden City, KS 67846, 620-276-9574.

**ADA/EQUAL ACCESS**  
Garden City Community College is complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act and is committed to equal and reasonable access to facilities and programs for all employees, students and visitors. Those with ADA concerns, or who need special accommodations, should contact the Accommodations Coordinator, Garden City Community College, 801 Campus Drive, Garden City, KS 67846, 620-276-9638.

**GC3**  
admissions  
media

Photos by GC3 Student Media & GCCC Office of Admissions

**www.gcccks.edu**

## Additional Lodging Options in Garden City

- Holiday Inn Express: 2502 E Kansas, 620-275-5900 Complimentary Continental Breakfast
- Townplace Suites by Marriott: 3510 E Kansas, 620-805-6717 Complimentary Hot Breakfast
- Comfort Inn: 2608 E. Kansas, 620-275-5800 Complimentary Continental Breakfast
- Best Western Plus: 2412 E. Kansas, 620-277-7100 Complimentary Continental Breakfast
- AmericInn Lodge & Suites: 3020 E. Kansas, 620-272-9860 Complimentary Hot Breakfast
- Clarion Inn & Conference Center: 1911 E. Kansas, 620-275-7471
- National 9 Inn: 123 Honeybee Court, 620-275-0677 (only 4 blocks from the college)

## **KOS Merchandise**

It's always fun to sport your society's name on a t-shirt, sweat shirt even a coffee cup. Periodically KOS has produced special edition shirts, which have often sold out quickly. But through a marketing arrangement with Zazzle, we have certain items that are regularly available. You can access the online catalog of these items at: <http://www.zazzle.com/kosbirds>. We have a few other items, including Pete Janzen's book, *Birds of Sedgwick County*, available on our webpage. To see these items, visit: <http://www.ksbirds.org/kos/Merchandise.htm>

# 68<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Kansas Ornithological Society

## September 30 - October 2, 2016

### Garden City Community College

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The 68th Annual Meeting of the Kansas Ornithological Society will be held September 30 - October 2, 2016 in Garden City. Most events will be headquartered at the campus of the Garden City Community College (GCCC). For those arriving in time Friday evening there will be an informal gathering at GCCC. Saturday is devoted to presented papers and KOS Business Meetings. For all photographers, note the traditional Birdwatcher's Hour after lunch on Saturday to share your favorite photos (don't have to be from Kansas) from the past year. Saturday evening is the banquet and a very interesting speaker. Sunday morning is devoted to Field Trips!

*(All times tentative. Check [ksbirds.org](http://ksbirds.org) website for last minute time changes.)*

#### **Friday, September 30**

- 7 - 9 p.m. Social at GCCC , Fouse Science Hall

#### **Saturday, October 1**

- 8 a.m. - Registration at Fouse Science Hall.
- 9 a.m. - Welcome and paper session in Fouse Science Hall Lecture Hall. *(All Saturday daytime sessions will be in the Lecture Hall.)*
- 11:30 a.m. - KOS Business Meeting
- 11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Lunch. KOS Board meeting: location will be announced. There are many locations on and near campus for lunch.
- 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. - Birdwatcher's Hour - an opportunity for you to show your bird photos from the past year.
- 2:30 - 5 p.m. - Paper Session.
- 5 p.m. - KOS Business Meeting
- 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. - Banquet in the Endowment Banquet Hall in the Student Union.
- 7:30 - 9 p.m. - Awards and speaker

#### **Sunday, October 4**

- 7:00 a.m. - Half day field trips will include areas around Garden City. Gather in the parking lot outside Fouse Science Hall.
- Noon - Lunch and compilation will be at the park on the east side of the Garden City Zoo.

#### **Lodging and Dining**

A rooming block has been reserved at America's Best Value Inn, 620-275-5095, 1818 Commanche (next to the IHOP Restaurant). Rate is \$55 per night. Ask for the KOS or KOS/Community College block. Please try to make reservations by September 26<sup>th</sup>. There are numerous other hotels in this area, approximately 1.5 miles from the college. Please refer to the chart on Page 9 for more options. None of these have a reserved block for KOS.

#### **Registration**

The meeting registration fee is \$15. The Saturday evening banquet is \$20. The Sunday box lunch is \$8. Registration fee is waived for students. Registrations must be received by September 23<sup>rd</sup> to be included in meal counts. No refunds for cancellations after September 27<sup>th</sup>. Registration form is on page 12 and also available at <http://ksbirds.org>

#### **Banquet Speaker**

Our Banquet Speaker this year is Dr. Mike Husak from Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma. Dr. Husak is a professor of biology and his presentation is titled: "The Secret Lives of Scissor-tails". A native of Victoria, Texas he has degrees from Angelo State University and Mississippi State University. Both his MS and Ph.D. dissertations focused on birds (Golden-fronted Woodpeckers and avian community structure in bottomland hardwood forests across seasons). Dr. Husak teaches numerous classes at Cameron University and studies breeding biology and migration of Scissor-tailed Flycatchers. If you love Scissor-tails, you won't want to miss this!

#### **Student Research Fund Fundraiser**

There will not be a silent auction this year. Another form of fundraiser is being planned. Stay tuned for details and opportunities to support this activity! If you can not attend the KOS Annual Meeting but would like to support the Student Research Fund, you may send your donation to KOS Treasurer, Max Thompson. Max's address can be found on page 2 or on the Registration Form on page 12.

# How to Submit KOS Paper Abstracts

The KOS fall meeting traditionally features papers given by scientists, students, and birders. The Fall 2016 Meeting will be held at Garden City Community College, September 30 - October 2, 2016. Paper presentations are on Saturday, October 1.

**To submit an abstract:** Include the title of the presentation, the list of authors (use an asterisk to indicate the speaker), the institutional affiliation of the authors (if applicable), and a brief abstract of up to 250 words. Abstracts will be printed in the KOS meeting program. When you submit the abstract, please provide three additional pieces of information:

- 1) The multimedia equipment you will need;
- 2) Papers will be 15 minutes, including questions. If you need a shorter or longer time slot, please let Chuck Otte know;
- 3) Whether you are eligible and would like to be considered for a student presentation award. If so, what stage of program (undergraduate, graduate, or doctorate).

Paper abstracts are due by September 16. Please send in Word format to Chuck Otte at [otte2@cox.net](mailto:otte2@cox.net). In the subject line of the e-mail, please indicate the meeting and give your surname: "KOS 2016: Jones."

## Example abstract:

Interspecific competition with wildcats limits populations of jay-hawks in northeast Kansas.

Willie T. Wildcat (\*), Division of Biology, Kansas State University.

Ongoing declines in autumn populations of jay-hawks (*Cyanorufa chalkii*) are a topic of conservation concern in Kansas. To assess the role of interspecific competition with wildcats (*Felis purpula*) as a factor contributing to observed population trends, I conducted three-hour observation bouts of captive animals in large enclosed arenas. In competition trials, jay-hawks demonstrated a strong aversion to environments saturated with royal purple. Thus, interspecific competition from wild felids may be a limiting factor that controls foraging and reproductive success of jay-hawk populations in the state of Kansas. Effective conservation strategies for jay-hawks should include keeping cats indoors.

## BEST BIRD OF THE YEAR NOMINATION FORM

(for period since September 30, 2015)

Mail to:

Eugene Young  
Northern Oklahoma College  
1220 E. Grand. PO Box 310  
Tonkawa, OK 74653-0310

Or e-mail to Gene at: [EUGENE.YOUNG@noc.edu](mailto:EUGENE.YOUNG@noc.edu)

Species \_\_\_\_\_

Observers \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Form, KOS Fall Meeting  
September 30 - October 2, 2016  
Garden City Community College**

I (we) plan to attend the 2016 KOS Fall Meeting

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

Registration Fee \$15.00 x \_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**High school, college and graduate students are exempt from the registration fee.**

Saturday Banquet \$20.00 x \_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday Box Lunch \$8.00 x \_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Surcharge for payment received after September 23<sup>rd</sup> \$10.00 x \_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Due (Checks payable to KOS) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of persons in party: \_\_\_\_\_

Special needs or requests: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registrations received after September 23<sup>rd</sup> will have a surcharge of \$10.00 per person.**

Please mail completed registration with full payment to:

**Max Thompson  
1729 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Ave.,  
Winfield, KS 67156**

**e-mail: maxt@cox.net**

In submitting this registration form I (we) understand that KOS is not responsible or liable for any accidents or injury that might be associated with the 2016 KOS Fall meeting.

\_\_\_\_\_

Signatures

Date