



The Horned Lark

Kansas Ornithological Society

September, 2017

Vol. 44, No. 3

From the President's Pen

By Nic Allen

While out birding in early August a few Olive-sided Flycatchers and Osprey started to trickle through the Kansas City area. This got my mind turning towards the fall and migration that is starting to occur. Migration can be a breath of fresh air after a hot summer of observing breeding birds. Migration is a great time of year to spot some of the warblers and shorebirds you might have missed in the spring. The trick with fall birding is that there are a variety of plumages of the same birds that can make identifying them more of a challenge. These variations test even the best of birders.

Recently I had a discussion with a newer birder about fundamentals of birding. Studying birds before we go into the field is very important so that we have an idea what we are looking for. Studying birds while we are actively birding in the field is even more imperative. It is so easy to see a new bird and immediately grab a field guide to figure it out. Pretty soon it is easy to start manipulating the bird in your mind to fit a description in the guide, but then you may find yourself

wishing you could have seen it longer so you can remember more details. I would encourage you to instead take time to watch that bird as long as possible. Try to note bill color, leg color, plumage, wing and tail length, and behavior. Then write down this information to help you after the bird has left or you have gathered as much detail as you can. Then when you search through the guides you will have a more accurate picture of what you actually saw in the field.

Another skill to work on is identifying the habitat where you will be birding. To be able to create a checklist in your mind about what birds to expect in a given habitat is invaluable. This is a great exercise to do during the slower months of the year and will help know what to study before your next trip. Eventually this knowledge will become second nature.

Hopefully these are good reminders for both beginning and experienced birders. Have a great fall migration, and I hope to see many of you in Junction City at the fall KOS meetings!

- Nic Allen

From the Keyboard

By the Editor

2017 has been a challenging year for my wife Jaye and I. We lost her mother in April and my mother in June. They were 90 and 99 respectively. They had led good long lives and they influenced both of us immensely. My mother was a bird watcher so I'm sure I was genetically predisposed to becoming a birder as well.

My mother-in-law lived on the farm north of Junction City until her final days and thoroughly enjoyed watching the birds at her feeders. More than one quick trip was made to the farm to help confirm an unusual bird; among them were Black-headed Grosbeaks, Lazuli Buntings and Painted Buntings. I'll never forget sitting in the Atlanta airport in January 2009 waiting to board a plane to Panama. Jaye was talking to her on the phone before we went incommunicado for two weeks and her mother described a bird that had been coming to the heated bird bath that cold January day. It was likely a Varied Thrush. We didn't get to see that one!

Dementia was taking my mother from us long before she died but in March of 2014 we drove my mother out to the Platte River south of Grand Island. I grew up just 45 miles from Grand Island so an annual trek to see the Sandhill Cranes was simply how I grew up. Mother, at 96 wanted to see the cranes "one more time". It was a wonderful day and Mom thoroughly enjoyed seeing and hearing the cranes. Jaye took a photo of my Mom and I with Sandhill Cranes in flight behind us. A special photo and a special memory.

Birding is special to all of us. Regardless of when we started birding, it has made a big impact on us. We share it with our friends and our families. When people find out that you are a birder, they suddenly start noticing birds a little more. They start asking you questions and while they may never wind up being birders like we are, they start to understand a little more why we have this fascination with birds.

Many of us were influenced by a mother, a father, perhaps a grandparent or someone that we may call a birding mentor. While my mother definitely was the reason I became a birder, a birder farmer in my neighborhood, Lee Morris, really "pushed me over the edge". Two local residents, and former KOS board members encouraged me in my Kansas Birding: Celia White and Bob LaShelle. Lee, Celia, and Bob are all gone now. But their legacy lives on in me and other birders that they encouraged, nurtured and mentored. I have so many fond memories of every single one of them.

We are all both students and teachers; mentors and mentees. We learn from some and teach others. Just the simple act of helping at an Eagle Day or meeting with that 4-H Club or Scout group may be all that it takes to light the spark. Keep your patience with you as you mentor those younger or less experienced birders. And every time you interact with those that you consider mentors, treasure those memories. Because all too fast, they are gone....

- Chuck



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http://ksbirds.org/kos/kos_officers.html

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KOS Officers and Board Members

What do they do?

Recently I was visiting with a KOS member trying to encourage them to consider being a future KOS Board member. The individual I was talking to asked me a very simple question, during the conversation. "What do each of the officers do?"

One can read our Constitution and Bylaws on the website: <http://www.ksbirds.org/kos/BCIndex.htm>, and it does go into the various duties, but in all honesty, there is probably some updating needed to this document. Page 2 of each issue of the Horned Lark has a listing of the positions and who is currently in them, but let's try to do the "Cliffs Notes" version for everyone's better understanding of what your KOS Board does!

President - The president is the chief executive officer of the corporation (yes, KOS is a corporation, a non-profit corporation in fact). It's the president's job to oversee all of the activities of KOS, be the official spokesperson (if needed) and preside at all official meetings.

Vice President - The vice president stands ready to fill in for the president as needed and is responsible for working with the local committee for the fall meeting and preside over the presented papers session. While not a requirement of our bylaws the vice president frequently moves up to serve as president. Both the president and vice president serve one year terms and can be re-elected to a second one year term.

Corresponding Secretary - Keeps minutes of all official meetings and transactions of the society. Is responsible for any official correspondence that needs to be done.

Membership Development Coordinator - In some organizations this would be the membership secretary. They work with the treasurer to maintain the official list of dues paying members and life members. They also provide a current mailing list to distribute the publications of the corporation.

Treasurer - The treasurer has the responsibility to collect the dues and write the checks to pay the bills. The treasurer also works with the investment firm to manage the endowed funds of the corporation.

Business Manager - The Business Manager is in charge of merchandise that the society may periodically have for sale. This may include items of clothing, publications, various paraphernalia (like binocular harnesses). They are also responsible for the mailings but currently this is handled through the printer.

Editor of *The Bulletin and Horned Lark* - The editors are responsible for collecting information for and seeing to the printing of the society's two quarterly publications.

All of the above positions (other than president and vice president) serve one year terms with no limit to how many consecutive terms they can serve.

Directors at Large - These four positions are two year terms with two of them being elected every year. The directors serve in a capacity to be additional liaisons between the membership and the board. They serve as membership recruiters encouraging existing members to stay members, and to try to help gain new members. Many future officers start off as directors which gives them valuable insight into how the society operates.

So there you have a quick run down of what we all do. Our Membership Development Coordinator, Patty Marlett has expressed a desire to step down so we would really like to see someone step forward to fill that slot. And as always, two new directors are needed each year! Contact a board member if you are interested!

- Chuck Otte



Have you considered including KOS in your estate? Contact Treasurer Max Thompson for details on how to make this happen.

69th Meeting of the Kansas Ornithological Society
October 6 - 8, 2017
Geary County 4-H/Sr. Citizens Building, Junction City, Kansas

Join KOS members for a weekend of paper presentations and birding in the northern Flint Hills.

Schedule of Events

Friday, October 6

7 - 9 p.m. Social at the Geary County 4-H/Sr. Citizens Building, (Geary County Fairgrounds)
1025 S. Spring Valley Road, Junction City

Saturday, October 7 (times tentative)

8 a.m. - Registration at 4-H/Sr. Citizens Building.

9 a.m. - Welcome and paper session. (All Saturday daytime sessions will be in the east room of the 4-H Building.)

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 in Junction city to eat. A list will be in your registration materials.

1:30 - 2:30 p.m. - Birdwatcher's Hour - an opportunity for you to show your bird photos from the past year. Please bring photos on a flash drive.

2:30 - 5 p.m. - Paper Session.

5 p.m. - KOS Business Meeting

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. - Banquet at the Fairgrounds, 4-H/Sr. Citizens Building

7:30 - 9 p.m. - Awards and speaker

Banquet Speaker - Alice Boyle, Assistant Professor in the Division of Biology at Kansas State University, will take us to the tropical rain forest for the evening and tell us about the little colorful, dancing birds known as manakins. She will tell us about the manakins' "dating game," and how both the weather and living on a steady diet of fruit affects how they live and die.

Sunday, October 8

7:00 a.m. - Half day field trips will include areas around Dickinson, Clay, and Geary Counties. Gather in the parking lot at the Fairgrounds.

Noon - Lunch and compilation will be at the Milford Nature Center below the dam at Milford Lake. (Additional directions will be given at the banquet.) Compilation will include birds seen in Geary, Dickinson, Clay and Riley Counties starting at noon on Friday the 6th.

Lodging in Junction City

Hotels: There are numerous hotels in Junction City. Following is a partial list of housing options. There is no reserved housing block at any of the hotels.

Hampton Inn - 1039 S Washington, Junction City, KS - 785-579-6950

Best Western - 604 E Chestnut, Junction City, KS - 785-210-1212

Candlewood Suites - 100 S Hammons Drive, Junction City, KS - 785-238-1455

Courtyard by Marriot - 310 Hammons Drive, Junction City, KS - 785-210-1500

Motel 6 - 1931 Lacy Drive, Junction City, KS - 785-762-2215

Acorn Resorts - 3710 Farnum Creek Road, Milford, KS - 785-463-4000

Milford State Park - Milford Lake on K-57 Hiway, west of US 77

This is a partial listing - more hotels can be viewed at the Junction City/Geary County Convention and Visitors Bureau website: <http://www.junctioncity.org/194/Lodging>

Registration

The meeting registration fee is \$15. The Saturday evening banquet is \$20 . The Sunday box lunch is \$8 (standard fare of various sub sandwiches and chips) and will be held at the Milford Nature Center below the dam at Milford Lake. Registration fee (but not meal fees) is waived for students. ***If your abstract for presenting a paper is accepted, you still have to register.*** Registrations must be received by September 27th to be included in meal counts. No refunds for cancellations after September 29th. We again have the option to make on-line registration payments with PayPal. We do ask that you still mail or email the registration form to Max Thompson as the information we receive when you use the PayPal option is limited. The PayPal registration page is <http://ksbirds.org/kos/Fall2017/OnLineMeetingRegistration.htm>. All of the registration information found here is also on-line at: http://ksbirds.org/kos/Fall2017/2017_KOS_Fall.htm

The registration form may be found on page 12 and as a PDF form on line. **All participants must sign the liability release in order to participate in any portion of this meeting.**

Mail completed registration form and payment to:

Max Thompson
1729 E 11th Ave,
Winfield, KS 67156

Research Fund Fundraiser

There will not be a silent auction this year. If you would like to support the Research Fund, you may send your donation to KOS Treasurer, Max Thompson.

Best Bird of the Year

Nomination for unusual or rare birds observed since September 30, 2016. Please refer to the nomination form on page 11. Nominations can be mailed or emailed to Eugene Young: EUGENE.YOUNG@noc.edu

Kansas Birding Roundup, Spring 2017, (March – May) Chuck Otte, compiler

This is the report of the spring birding season in Kansas. Following in the wake of yet another abnormally warm winter, many species started returning to the state earlier than what we consider normal. Obviously the most likely candidates to return early are those that migrate the least distances. Several species never totally left the state during the winter so were already present in the state when the spring season reporting started. A series of strong storm systems moving across the country during this time frame also apparently moved several species out of their normal ranges south or southwest of Kansas, allowing them to make Sunflower State appearances. Topping the list of these were Vermilion Flycatcher, White-tailed Kite, Williamson's Sapsucker, and Painted Redstart. All four were documented with photos and reports filed with the Kansas Bird Records Committee (thank you!)

Not a surprise to those who have been monitoring the spread of Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks, was the appearance of many individuals, in often large groups (the most ever seen at once in the state). This resulted in several new county records, and left many wondering a.) how long would they stick around and b.) would this be the year we confirm breeding for this species in the state? The answer to both of these questions wouldn't be determined until later in the year. Reports from at least eight different counties of Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks were received during the spring season, with photos being obtained for most of them.

As previously discussed, many species returned with record early dates, so many, in some cases, that we haven't even reported them here. Yet at the same time, a few wintering species seemed to linger substantially longer than normal. Some of the storm systems that moved birds into Kansas may also be accountable for the easterly reports of normally western species. Lazuli Buntings again showed up in good numbers in eastern Kansas to the delight of many birders! The Golden-crowned Sparrow from the winter report continued to be a regular near Black Wolf until mid-April. A second apparent Golden-crowned Sparrow was reported in Rooks County in late April.

We can't finish this report without a comment on a report of a Little Stint from Quivira during a raging rainstorm the end of April. I think most birders would have written off an unusual small shorebird as just as an unusual small shorebird given the weather conditions. Regardless of the outcome of the Kansas Bird Records Committee review of this record, Gene Young needs to be commended for his diligent observation and note taking under adverse conditions. His actions could be a lesson to all of us on persistence and detail.

Any report marked as having been turned in to the Kansas Bird Records Committee (KBRC) should be considered tentative until review by the Committee is completed. Thank you to everyone who reports and contributes sightings for this report. Please forward any noteworthy sightings to me at otte2@cox.net or mailed to 613 Tamerisk Dr., Junction City, KS 66441.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observer(s)</u>
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	12 on playa north of Minneola	<u>Clark</u>	4/18	EH
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	1 at McPherson SFL	McPherson	4/23	SLw
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	Small flock on feedlot pond, Ingalls	Gray	4/25	GF, fide
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	2 at Augusta Lake	Butler	5/18	SW
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	1 at city lake, Jewell	<u>Jewell</u>	5/19	JG
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	2 at gravel pit near Larned	<u>Pawnee</u>	5/21	BJ
	9 reported later that day, 14 on 5/26			
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	3 photographed in Liberal on roof	<u>Seward</u>	5/24	NF
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	2 in pond behind Wetlands Center	Barton	5/27	PG
Tundra Swan	4 somewhat late at CBWA, Pool 4	Barton	4/6	MB
	Continuing, at least one, 4/22			
Cinnamon Teal	2 easterly near Basehor	Leavenworth	3/17	JS
	Continuing 3/21			
Surf Scoter	1 at Clinton Lake	Douglas	3/5	SN
Surf Scoter	1 at Marion Res.	Marion	3/31	PJ, TE, KG

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observer(s)</u>
White-winged Scoter	1 at Wilson SP	Russell	4/1	MR
White-winged Scoter	1 adult female, Milford Lake	Geary	4/23	JO, CO
Long-tailed Duck	1 at Clinton Lake	Douglas	3/3	JAM
	Continuing 3/20			
Long-tailed Duck	3 at Wilson Lake including an adult male	Russell	3/11	PJ, KS, TE, BL
	Continuing 3/12			
Long-tailed Duck	1 at Tuttle Reservoir	Riley	3/19	BSa
	Continuing 3/24			
Hooded Merganser	Adult female with 2 chicks, breeding record	Linn	5/8	DW
Red-breasted Merganser	1 at Tuttle Creek SP River Pond area	Pottawatomie	5/19	LM
Red-breasted Merganser	1 at Council Grove Res Outlet Park	Morris	5/21	PJ, CVB
Red-breasted Merganser	3 at Melvern Lake Outlet	Osage	5/30	CH
Red-breasted Merganser	1 at QNWR	Stafford	5/29	EM
Horned Grebe	1 at Tuttle Creek Res	Riley	5/28	EH
White-winged Dove	2 singing in Kensington	<u>Smith</u>	5/14	MR
Common Poorwill	1 calling at Wilson SP – early	Russell	4/5	MR
Black-chinned Hummingbird	1 female at Garden City feeders	Finney	4/20	TS
Black Rail	1 calling at QNWR, early	Stafford	4/8	AM
King Rail	5 at Lost Marsh	Neosho	5/21	ABu
Virginia Rail	4 young chicks, flightless, Baker Wetlands	Douglas	5/23	DL
Common Gallinule	1 at Baker Wetlands	Douglas	5/9	MTv
	Continued on through the end of the reporting period			
Common Gallinule	1 at MDC Unit A	Linn	5/21	MGo, JM
Common Gallinule	4 at Lost Marsh	Neosho	5/21	ABu
Sandhill Crane	1 late, playas near Minneola	Clark	5/17	EH
Whooping Crane	4, 16 miles north of Hays	Ellis	3/26	HA
	Continuing 4/5			
Whooping Crane	4 at QNWR	Stafford	4/4	BJ
	8 on 4/6, 3 on 4/10			
Whooping Crane	6 at CBWA	Barton	4/6	RP
Black-bellied Plover	40 at Marion Res	Marion	5/21	PJ, CVB
Snowy Plover	8 at QNWR, large number early	Stafford	3/9	MR
Whimbrel	2 at KSU Farm wetlands	Shawnee	5/11	JiM
Long-billed Curlew	3 at Fancy Creek area of Tuttle Res.	Riley	3/28	LJ
Red Knot	1 in alternate plumage, QNWR	Stafford	5/30	MR
Little Stint	Convincing report, QNWR – KBRC	Stafford	4/30	EY
	If accepted by KBRC this would be a new species for the state checklist.			
Least Sandpiper	2 at SCWA, early	Sumner	3/4	SW
Long-billed Dowitcher	2 at SCWA, early	Sumner	3/4	SW
Spotted Sandpiper	1 near Camp Wood, early	Chase	3/14	EH
Red-necked Phalarope	1 at Neosho WA	Neosho	5/5	ABu
Red-necked Phalarope	1 at Zac Hudec wetlands, Milford Lake	<u>Clay</u>	5/30	CO, JO
California Gull	1 second cycle bird, QNWR	Stafford	5/7	JL
Lesser Black-backed Gull	1 at Lake McKinney	<u>Kearny</u>	4/8	HA
Red-throated Loon	1 at Wyandotte Co. Lake	Wyandotte	4/11	BV
Pacific Loon	1 at Wilson SP	Russell	4/1	MR
Common Loon	1 at small rural pond	<u>Elk</u>	5/23	BSa - fide
Tri-colored Heron	1 on playa west of Hutchinson	<u>Reno</u>	5/16	JMi
Reddish Egret	1 dark morph at QNWR - KBRC	Stafford	5/31	JyM
Glossy Ibis	1 at Neosho WA	<u>Neosho</u>	4/20	ABu
Glossy Ibis	1 at farm pond with White-faced Ibis	<u>Butler</u>	5/1	SW
Glossy Ibis	1 on playa south of Larned	<u>Pawnee</u>	5/28	SS
Black Vulture	1 northerly near Pleasanton	Linn	3/31	MMH
White-tailed Kite	1 near Haviland, photos – KBRC	Kiowa	4/1	RH
	Re-found 4/2			
Red-shouldered Hawk	1 westerly, Lovewell WA	<u>Jewell</u>	5/1	DL

Species	Number and Location	County	Date	Observer(s)
Ferruginous Hawk	1 easterly near Neosho	Neosho	3/22	ABu
Ferruginous Hawk	1 easterly near Leon	Butler	3/21	HA
	Another Butler County report, 4/11			
Western Screech-Owl	1 heard calling, CNG western crossing	Morton	5/8&9	DA, JiM
Northern Saw-whet Owl	1 at Perry Lake, calling	Jefferson	3/4	m.ob.
Northern Saw-whet Owl	1 seen and heard	Decatur	3/11	WF
Williamson's Sapsucker	1 at Wilson Lake – KBRC	Russell	3/18	MG, JM, RR, RW
	Continuing 3/25			
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1 at Konza Prairie	Riley	5/13	AB
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1 in southeast part of county	Kiowa	5/13	JL
Peregrine Falcon	1 northeast of Harper	<u>Harper</u>	3/8	SS
Merlin	1 somewhat late near Belvidere	Kiowa	5/2	JL
Merlin	1 somewhat late, Baker Wetlands	Douglas	5/7	RB, KS
Alder Flycatcher	1 at KDWP&T offices	<u>Pratt</u>	5/24	MR
Alder Flycatcher	1 on St. Francis River Walk	Cheyenne	5/27	EH
Say's Phoebe	1 early return near Lake McKinney	Kearny	3/3	SSh, TS
Vermilion Flycatcher	1 near Spring Hill on county line – KBRC	Johnson/ <u>Miami</u>	3/29	KE
Plumbeous Vireo	2 in Elkhart	Morton	5/6	TC, DWg
Chihuahuan Raven	1 - convincing report	Stanton	4/7	HA
Chihuahuan Raven	1 near Hugoton, vocalizing	Stevens	5/9	DL
Common Raven	At least two on CNG	Morton	3/13	KC, DPe
Common Raven	Two near Syracuse	Stanton	3/13	KC, DPe
Common Raven	2 at Prairie Dog town	Morton	5/9	JiM
Purple Martin	Early returning – rural residence	Neosho	3/3	MBu
Purple Martin	1 quite westerly	<u>Hamilton</u>	4/7	HA
Tree Swallow	Slightly early return at Kingston Lake	Johnson	3/2	JM
Cliff Swallow	Somewhat early, Paola WTP	Miami	3/25	MG, SL, MWS
Cave Swallow	1 in colony of Cliff Swallows near Harper	Harper	5/25	SS
House Wren	1 near Nekoma, somewhat early	Rush	3/21	DKa
Sage Thrasher	1 northeasterly in the town of Kirwin	Phillips	3/9	PJ
Worm-eating Warbler	1 at CNG Work Station	Morton	5/4	TC, DWg
Virginia's Warbler	1 along S Fork, Solomon River	Cherokee	5/7	JiM
Common Yellowthroat	4 - early returns	Jackson	4/2	JZ, LZ
Hooded Warbler	1 at "Concrete Jungle" in Tribune	Greeley	5/8	JiM
Hooded Warbler	1 female in private woodlands	Reno	5/20	AM
Cape May Warbler	1 at wooded pond near Elkhart WTP	Morton	5/6	TC, DWg
Black-throated Blue Warbler	1 male at Corporate Woods, Overland Park	Johnson	4/25	EH
	Continuing 5/1			
Black-throated Blue Warbler	1 at Elkhart Cemetery	Morton	5/9	DA
Palm Warbler	1 at Elkhart Cemetery	Morton	5/5	TC, DWg
Pine Warbler	1 at Neosho WA	<u>Neosho</u>	4/23	ABu
Yellow-throated Warbler	1 at Lee Richardson Zoo, Park, Garden City	<u>Finney</u>	5/12	SSh, TS
Painted Redstart	1 in western part of county – KBRC, photos	Hodgeman	4/9	GM
Baird's Sparrow	1 in flight, private land	Kiowa	5/2	JL
Golden-crowned Sparrow	1 near Black Wolf, continuing bird	Ellsworth	3/6	DK
	This bird was last reported 4/13			
Golden-crowned Sparrow	1 at Webster State Park in mixed flock	<u>Rooks</u>	4/25	RC
Western Tanager	1 adult male in Shane's yard, Garden City	Finney	5/22	TS, SSh
Black-headed Grosbeak	1 male easterly in Leavenworth	Leavenworth	5/1	KC
Lazuli Bunting	1 easterly in town of Chautauqua	Chautauqua	4/26	TE
Lazuli Bunting	2 at feeders in yard	<u>Miami</u>	5/8	BC
Lazuli Bunting	1 at Shawnee Park	Johnson	5/9	m.ob.
Lazuli Bunting	1 at Felker Park, Topeka	Shawnee	5/11	JW
Lazuli Bunting	1 south of Lawrence	Douglas	5/11	JK
Baltimore Oriole	Pair – very early	Cowley	3/20	LV

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

Observers: Danny Akers, Henry Armknecht, Michael Bader, Roger Boyd, Alice Boyle, Andrew Burnett (ABu), Meleia Burnett (MBu), Ted Cable, Kathy Carroll, Bill Coulter, Rebecca Crofton, Kelli Egbert, Tom Ewert, William Flack, Nathan Foreman, Gregg Friesen, Matt Gearheart, Judy Gibson, Malcom Gold (MGo), Pam Graber, Kevin Groeneweg, Charles Hall, Richard Hall, Eric Hough, Pete Janzen, Lowell Johnson, Barry Jones, Donnie Kazmaier (DKa), Jon King, Dave Klema, Bill Langley, Stephen Lansaw (SLw), Dan Larson, Jonathan Lautenbach, Sherry Leonardo, Jim Malcom (JiM), John Mallery, Ethan Maynard, Mick McHugh (MMH), Andrew Miller, Jay Miller (JyM), Joseph Miller (JMi), Graham Montgomery, Jo-Ann Moore (JAM), Lynette Mueller, Sue Newland, Chuck Otte, Jaye Otte, Rob Penner, Diane Persons (DPe), Mike Rader, Robert Reed, Brett Sandercock (BSa), John Schukman, Scott Seltman, Sara Shane (SSH), Tom Shane, Kylee Sharp, MW Stoakes, Maulik Trivedi (MTv), Curtis VanBoening (CVB), Liza Vaughn, Brian Voorhees, Janeen Walters, David Wiggins (DWg), David Williams, Rodney Wright, Suntesha Wustrack, Eugene Young, John Zempel, Linda Zempel, m.ob. – multiple observers

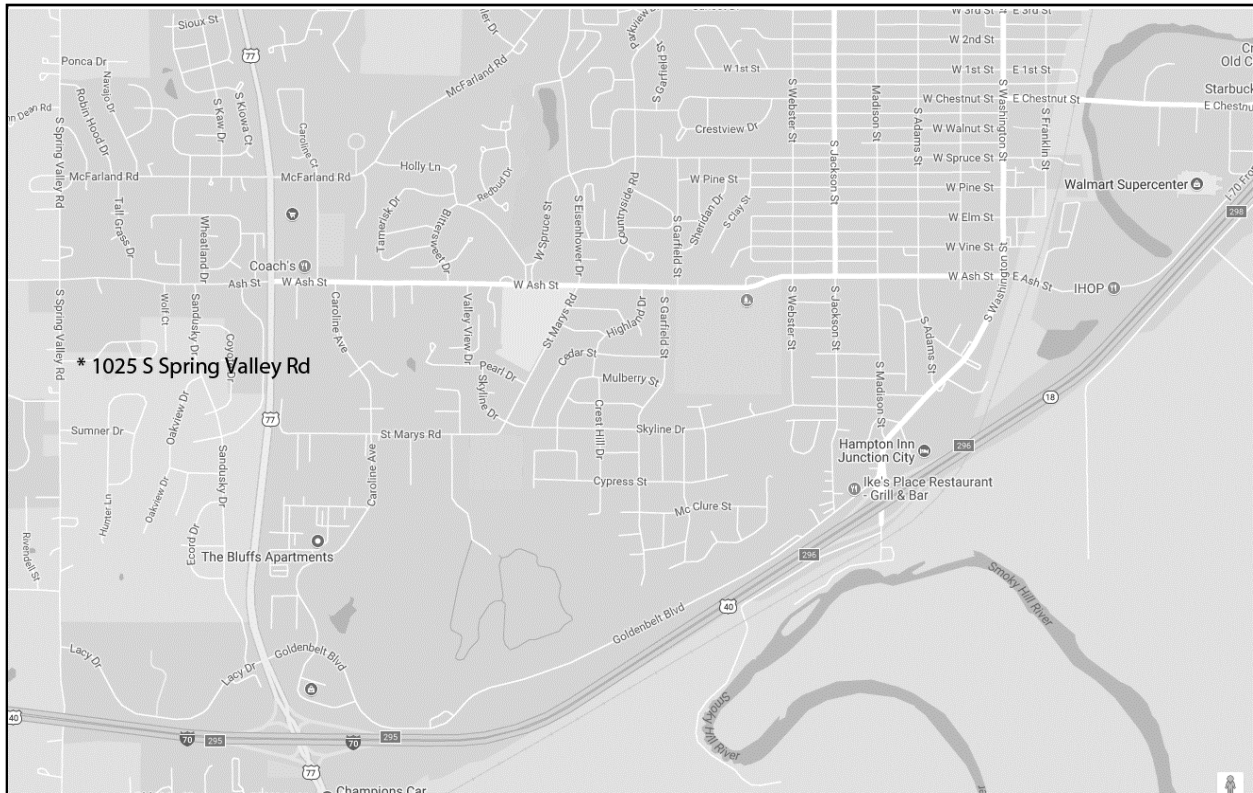
Did you know....?

- ◆ KOS was organized in 1949. We are a non-profit corporation recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation meaning that donations to KOS, above your annual dues or payments for meetings, are tax deductible.
- ◆ The first meeting was held in May 1949 in Lawrence. Annual meetings and scientific paper sessions were held in the spring until 1979 when the annual meeting was moved to the fall and the spring meeting was devoted to birding field trips.
- ◆ Great Bend/Cheyenne Bottoms holds the record for the most meetings with 16. Part of that was due to the annual Fall Field Trip being held there nearly every year through the 1970s. We have met in Lawrence and Manhattan 9 times each, 7 times each in Topeka, Emporia, Wichita and Hays, 6 times in Winfield and 5 times in Baldwin City. A complete listing of all past meetings can be seen at: <http://www.ksbirds.org/kos/KOSMeetingsHistory.htm>
- ◆ There have been four women KOS presidents: Elizabeth Cole, 1962 - 1964, Celia White, 1972 - 1974, Jean Schulenberg, 1976 - 1978, and Nancy Leo, 2008 - 2010.
- ◆ The two longest serving officers were Eugene Lewis who served as Treasurer from 1969 through 1988, and Dwight Platt who served as Secretary from 1978 through 1996. A complete list of all past officers can be seen at: http://www.ksbirds.org/kos/KOS%20Officers,_1950_to_present.htm

In Memoriam Joyce Davis

Word was received in July of the passing of long time KOS member Joyce Davis. Joyce passed away last October at the age of 91. Joyce was a librarian for many years, but birds were her love. She never served as an officer of KOS nor did she serve on the board, but everyone seemed to know Joyce! She joined KOS in 1969 and was a life member. Although never in the official leadership roles, I doubt that there is a KOS member out there who attended more meetings. It didn't matter where the meeting was, fall or spring, it seemed that Joyce was always there. Even in her later years she never seemed to slow down and was always willing to take a walk to try to find some birds. She enjoyed Christmas Bird Counts, participating in her first Dodge City Count in 1968. She participated not only on the Dodge City CBC but others around the state as well, and served as compiler from time to time. Joyce will be missed by all of us who enjoyed birding with her at spring or fall KOS meetings.

Chuck Otte



The Geary County Fairgrounds are located at 1025 South Spring Valley Rd on the west side of Junction City. Spring Valley Road is about 1/2 mile west of US 77. To access Spring Valley Road from US 77 either take Lacy Drive (turn west at Sapp Brothers Truck Stop just north of I-70) or Ash Street (turn west at the Central National Bank). The Fairgrounds are located between Ash Street and Lacy Drive and are on the east side of Spring Valley Road. If you get close, you can't miss it. GPS should take you there IF you use the address. If you just put in "Geary County Fairgrounds, Junction City, KS" it will get you close.

Friday evening registration and informal reception will be here. All of Saturday's activities will be here. Field Trips will leave from here on Sunday morning. Motels in Junction City are generally located along the interstate at Exits 295 (US Highway 77), 296 (South Washington), and 298 (East Chestnut Street). East Chestnut Street has several of the suggested hotels. To reach the Fairgrounds from the hotels on the east side of Junction City, take Chestnut Street to Washington Street, Washington to Ash Street and Ash Street west to Spring Valley Road. From the hotels on the south side of Junction City. Take Goldenbelt Blvd west where it becomes Lacy Drive and then over to Spring Valley Road.

The Sunday noon lunch and compilation is at the Milford Nature Center. Follow signage to Milford Lake. On the south side of the Milford Lake Dam, (on State Highway K-57) look for the sign that says Milford Fish Hatchery and Nature Center. Take this road down past the outlet tubes and then continue north on Hatchery Drive at the base of the dam. Almost to the end of the road turn right on the paved road (look for another brown sign that directs you to the Fish Hatchery and Nature Center.) Look for signs directing you to the building where we'll have lunch (there's only two buildings there - it won't be difficult!) Also feel free to check out the outdoor exhibits. The Milford Nature Center has some excellent displays and several birds of prey. (Sorry, these birds won't count on the compilation list!)

How to Submit KOS Paper Abstracts

The KOS fall meeting traditionally features papers given by scientists, students, and birders. The Fall 2017 Meeting will be held at in Junction City at the 4-H/Sr. Citizens Building, 1025 South Spring Valley Road, Junction City (west side of town at the Geary County Fair Grounds), October 6 - 8, 2017. Paper presentations are on Saturday, October 7.

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 27. Please send in Word format to Chuck Otte at otte2@cox.net. In the subject line of the e-mail, please indicate the meeting and give your surname: "KOS 2017: 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, 2016)

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

Species _____

Observers _____

Location _____

**Registration Form, KOS Fall Meeting
October 6 - 8, 2017
Geary County Fairgrounds, Junction City, KS**

I (we) plan to attend the 2017 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 27th \$10.00 x ____ = \$ _____

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

Number of persons in party: _____

Special needs or requests: _____

Registrations received after September 27th will have a surcharge of \$10.00 per person. Meals can not be guaranteed for registrations after the 27th!

Please mail completed registration with full payment to:

**Max Thompson
1729 E. 11th 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 2017 KOS Fall meeting.

Signature(s)

Date