



The Horned Lark

Kansas Ornithological Society

March, 2018

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From the President's Pen

By Nic Allen

How often do you set goals for yourself? Do you have any goals you are currently pursuing? It has been said, "A goal without a plan is just a wish." Some people set goals for their career, health, and finances. Goals can be important for birding as well. Recently I set a long-term goal for myself that has made me be more intentional about investing in regular birding trips. I realized if I didn't take action, I would not actually get any closer to accomplishing what was important to me. I am trying to be more thoughtful about what locations and times of year are best for me to travel to help me reach my overall goal. If I want to accomplish things in the long-term, I also need short-term goals to help me get there.

While getting to see toucans, tanagers, and hummingbirds, a recent trip to Costa Rica helped me get closer to reaching my goals. I also enjoyed seeing other wildlife including sloths, bats, crocodiles, monkeys, agoutis, and snakes. There was one (very) near-encounter with a Fer-de-lance that almost left you without a KOS president! I have found that while I do really enjoy birding trips with friends, it is also sometimes enjoyable to meet other new birding colleagues on outside coordinated trips. We all know that there can be

very interesting personalities and people in the birding world! The love for birding unites us all even as we travel from across the country and sometimes world to each get closer to reaching our own unique goals.

As I continue the pursuit of my personal birding goals, it encourages me to keep getting out to new locations, enjoying the journey along the way in addition to some day crossing that finish line.

- Nic Allen



From the Keyboard

By the Editor

One of the things that I have always enjoyed about birding, is the sense of community that it provides. Perhaps, because of my age, that is more important to me than to others. Because we live in a fairly sparsely populated area we can often spend a day birding and not see another birder. So whenever I see another birder I always try to take the time to stop, say hi, ask what they're seeing and introduce myself.

On a very windy February Sunday, Jaye and I made a run for the Pyrrhuloxia. We weren't successful in that, but were successful in meeting a birder from Oklahoma. We added a few birds to our Harper County list, saw some new territory and made a new friend. We viewed it as a very successful day.

Many Kansas birders did get to see the Pyrrhuloxia thanks to the willingness of one person to share the information of her sighting. From there it just sort of snowballed. Many birders had an opportunity to see their lifer Pyrrhuloxia. Thanks to everyone involved in presenting the gift of a David Seibel photo to Elsie as a thank you from the Kansas Birding Community.

It's far too easy to ignore that other birder and just go on our birding way. It's too easy to overhear the conversation of the obvious non-birder saying something about a bird and not taking the time to help them understand what they are seeing. With just a few moments of your time, and your kindness, you may cause them to realize what an amazing thing birds are. There are far too many people who choose to use social media as their birding mentor and miss out on the real birding community that is out there.

About ten days before the KOS Spring Meeting I find myself getting as excited and giddy as an eight year old the week before Christmas! It isn't about the birds I may get to see (okay, it probably is a little bit), but it's about the birding friends I'll get to see and the new birding friends I'll get a chance to meet. It's the giddiness of getting to spend two days with birding friends, sharing experiences, learning and teaching and just being around friends that you don't have to explain the excitement of finally seeing 75 species in a new county. Birders "get" other birders. No explanation is needed!

If you know some non-KOS birders, invite them to the Spring Meeting. Offer them a ride to Dodge City and then help them learn what a great time we have at a spring meeting. Sure, you can get on the internet and find every "hotspot" in Ford or Clark or Hodgeman County. You can drive yourself there and go birding. But it just isn't the same as being there with a dozen birding friends. The more birders that get together in the same location, the more birds you are going to see. We call it the Patagonia Picnic Table Effect (you can Google that if you don't understand it!)

But it's more than just seeing good birds, it's seeing good friends, good birding friends. Information and registration are on Pages 14 and 15 and online at KSBIRDS.ORG. I'm looking forward to seeing you in Dodge City!

- Chuck



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The Birding Community Says Thank You!

On the afternoon of February 1st, Elsie Fisher sighted a Pyrrhuloxia near her home at Anthony City Lake, just north of the town of Anthony. She notified Eddie Stegall who posted a note on the Kansas Birds Listserv (KSBIIRD-L).

Several birders trekked to Anthony City Lake on Friday, February 2nd, were able to relocate the bird and photograph it. By late February the bird was still being seen and Elsie reports that she knows of over 75 birders that have seen the bird.

Pyrrhuloxias are not a common species in Kansas. This is only the 8th Kansas record. The last time this species was seen in Kansas was in 2000. A report has been filed with the Kansas Bird Records Committee along with a plethora of photographs.

Kansas birding really is a community. Thanks to the consideration of Elsie, who notified other birders, word of the sighting spread rapidly and many birders were able to see the bird and add it to their state or life lists. Thanks to the generosity of the Kansas Birding Community, a photo of the bird taken by David Seibel was framed and presented to Elsie as a gift of appreciation from the entire Kansas Birding Community. From all Kansas, and neighboring states, birders, thank you Elsie!



Elsie Fisher with the framed David Seibel photo of the Anthony City Lake Pyrrhuloxia that she found and alerted the Kansas Birding Community to.

Photo by Kathy Carroll

KOS Spring Meeting

May 4 - 6, 2018

Dodge City, Kansas

Get out to Dodge City
and have a wild birding time!

Information on pages 14 and 15

Information and registration at:
<http://ksbirds.org/>

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



**Official Nomination Form
2018 Kansas Ornithological Society
Avian Conservationist of the Year**

The Kansas Ornithological Society's Avian Conservationist of the Year Award is given to an individual for making 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 that 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 accomplishment should reflect a long-time commitment to bird conservation, research and/or education within the State of Kansas. This award will be presented during the fall annual meeting. More information can be found at: <http://www.ksbirds.org/kos/AvianConservationist.html>

NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL JULY 1ST.

Nomination Form

To make a nomination, send this form with attachments to: Robert L. Penner, 593 NE 130 Avenue, Ellinwood, KS 67526 or to rpenner@tnc.org

Name of Nominee:

Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

Nominator's Name:

Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

Attach a typewritten description of no more than two pages, both sides of paper may be used, giving 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.



**Official Nomination Form
2018 Kansas Ornithological Society
Dr. Ivan L. Boyd Recognition Award**

The Boyd Award is given to a member(s) of the Kansas Ornithological Society (KOS), usually each year, for outstanding contributions and service to the society. The Boyd Award is in recognition of the contributions of Dr. Ivan Boyd who was a KOS Founder, Charter Member, and the first president of KOS. He was also a Bulletin Editor and helped start the Baldwin Christmas Bird Count in 1942, which is the longest running CBC in the state.

Nominations should provide a list of the nominee's contributions to KOS. Contributions could include such things as number and years of offices held, committee involvement, papers presented at KOS, papers published in the Bulletin or Horned Lark, number of CBC's 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 an award. The Board may select more than one recipient each year or may choose not to name a recipient in a given year. More information can be found at: <http://ksbirds.org/kos/BoydAward.htm>

NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL AUGUST 1ST

Nomination Form

To make a nomination send this form with attachments to Nic Allen, 14115 NW 60th Ct., Parkville, MO 64152 or email to Kcbirder@gmail.com.

Name of Nominee:

Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

Nominator's Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Attach a typewritten description of no more than two pages, both sides of paper may be used, giving a detailed account of specific work the nominee has accomplished for KOS. Contributions could include such things as number and years of offices held, committee involvement, papers presented at KOS, papers published in the Bulletin or Horned Lark, number of CBC's compiled, and years of membership; this is not an exclusive list and other contributions to the society may be provided.

Kansas Birding Roundup, Fall 2017, (August – November) Chuck Otte, compiler

This is the report of the fall birding season in Kansas, August through November. Fall is a time of transition. The breeding season is wrapping up and already, by early August, southbound migration is in full swing. By the time the season ends, migration is pretty well wrapped up. But every year, we find ourselves struggling with what's an early record, what's a late record and how much is climate change impacting this?

Merlins and Sharp-shinned Hawks started showing up earlier than most long time bird observers expect. Fall departure of summering species and arrival of migrants or wintering species, like these raptors, is strongly correlated to north winds and colder weather. Over the last several years we have found many lingering species, especially when it comes to shorebirds. 2017 continued that trend with many species staying weeks later than normal. Several species that appeared in the summer season lingered, most notably Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks, and their young, as well as Quivira's Reddish Egret. Roseate Spoonbills were reported from two locations with one staying for nearly a month.

Few birds represent the enigma of birding better than the Snowy Owl. When Snowy Owls show up in Kansas they attract attention, A lot of attention. The winter of 2011-12 was a record setting irruption year. Since then we've had none to a few per winter. In the two biggest irruption years the first Snowy Owls showed up on or very near November 15th. The Snowy Owl that showed up near Perry Lake on November 16th set birders scrambling and hearts pounding. Would this be another big irruption year? Check back in the next Roundup for the answer to that question!

Many finch species are well known nomads. They may be absent from the state for two or three years and then suddenly appear in large numbers all across the state. Pine Siskins started showing up in August, and while not reported below, by early fall they were widespread and common. Red Crossbills started appearing in early August putting birders across the state on high alert. The reports came pouring in on a daily basis. August and September reports are reported below but by the time we got to October they were showing up everywhere, eventually being tallied in over 30 counties in the state. When possible, birders were recording their calls and submitting them to eBird for analysis. Type 2 was the most common subspecies reported with occasional reports of Type 4 being recorded. For a visual representation of where Red Crossbills were seen this fall and winter, point your web browser to: http://ksbirds.org/kos/Crossbills17_18.htm.

Fall warblers are expected and often common, although ID can be a challenge. A Painted Redstart is not one of those difficult to ID species. The seventh Kansas Painted Redstart record was seen and photographed at Lee Richardson Zoo in October. Some warblers are early migrants, some are late and some just never know when to leave. As with shorebirds, southbound warblers often hang around as long as weather and food allow. Some species, other than Yellow-rumped Warblers, occasionally overwinter. Again because of an extended late fall, several species lingered far later than normal causing us to not mention them this year when other years their appearance would be noteworthy. Lingering species deserving a mention because of the lateness or number include Northern Parula, Wilson's Warbler and Orange-crowned Warbler. I'm sure that 50 years from now researchers will be able to look back on these records and make some intriguing correlations with climate change.

I am occasionally asked how a decision is made on what to include in this Roundup. It comes down to location and date. A Whooping Crane at Cheyenne Bottoms or Quivira in November is not very noteworthy. But one in eastern Kansas at the same time would be noteworthy. I rely heavily on the range maps in *Birds of Kansas* (Thompson, et. al., 2011) as well as early and late dates from that book, modified with records since then. Then an adjustment is made for what was being seen in each season. A sighting one year might be worth reporting, but the next year it might not. Anyone wanting to view those date tables should contact me, or for ranges, check the range maps in *Birds of Kansas*.

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	Adults with young at feedlot, continuing They continued to be reported until 9/10	Pawnee	7/26	m.ob.
Trumpeter Swan	1 on farm pond W of Anthony	<u>Harper</u>	10/22	CE
Surf Scoter	1 female at Lake McKinney	<u>Kearny</u>	10/05	KM
Surf Scoter	1 female at Kingman SFL, photo	Kingman	10/07	JT
Surf Scoter	2 at Cedar Bluff Res outlet pool	Trego	10/22	HA
White-winged Scoter	1 at Lake Parsons	Neosho	11/06	ABu
White-winged Scoter	4 at Perry Lake just off the dam At least 1 still present, 11/27	Jefferson	11/06	GP
White-winged Scoter	1 at Milford Res, north dam area 1 still present 11/23	Geary	11/10	AB, CO
White-winged Scoter	1 at Lehigh Portland Trails	<u>Allen</u>	11/18	ABu
Black Scoter	1 at Wyandotte County Lake	Wyandotte	11/12	DS, m.ob.
Black Scoter	1 at Perry Lake	Jefferson	11/28	ML, JAM
Long-tailed Duck	1 at Perry Lake	Jefferson	11/08	MGo, m.ob.
Long-tailed Duck	1 at CBWA	Barton	11/12	MW
Long-tailed Duck	1 at Waconda Lake Causeway	Mitchell	11/17	PJ, TE, KG
Barrow's Goldeneye	1 at Wyandotte County Lake	Wyandotte	11/12	DKi, m.ob.
Western Grebe	1 easterly, Perry Lake 1 still present, 11/28	Jefferson	11/08	GP, m.ob.
Western Grebe	1 at Lake Shawnee, easterly	Shawnee	11/19	RC, m.ob.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1 late at Toronto WA	Woodson	10/21	PJ, ICTAud
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1 late at MDC WA	Linn	10/21	MGo, JH
White-throated Swift	1 trapped in wastebasket at KU Bird apparently flew through open window in Fraser Hall and took shelter in a wastebasket but couldn't fly out. Bird was taken outside and released.	Douglas	10/12	RA
Calliope Hummingbird	1 female at feeder in Larned	Pawnee	8/16	DKa
Calliope Hummingbird	1 in backyard	Ford	8/29	JC
Yellow Rail	Lost Marsh, good description	<u>Neosho</u>	9/25	ABu
Yellow Rail	1 possibly 2 at CLMAF	Douglas	10/06	MGo
Common Gallinule	1 continuing at private wetland	<u>Neosho</u>	10/08	ABu
Common Gallinule	5 immatures, Lassiter Marsh 8 total seen, 9/13	Jefferson	9/11	CM
Sandhill Crane	Heard overhead, east side of Salina	Saline	8/10	KK, CaM, ChM
Sandhill Crane	2 at playa, Yucca Rd and 107 Rd	Ford	9/04	HA
Sandhill Crane	1 near Perry Lake	Jefferson	11/19	KE, JAM, KC
Whooping Crane	2 adults – first of the season, QNWR	Stafford	10/19	BJ
Whooping Crane	<u>32</u> at CBWA, high count for the season Last report from CBWA, 11/10	Barton	10/31	LP, CW
Whooping Crane	<u>49</u> at QNWR, high count for the season Last report from QNWR, 12/05	Stafford	11/02	BJ
Whooping Crane	8 at Kanopolis Lake	Ellsworth	11/18	BB
Black-bellied Plover	1 late at Ward Feed Yard Pond	Pawnee	11/29	KG
Snowy Plover	2 late at Big Salt Marsh, QNWR	Stafford	10/16	JP, DS, BG
Snowy Plover	4 still present at Big Salt Marsh, QNWR	Stafford	11/04	TE
Mountain Plover	1 at QNWR, not late but easterly	Stafford	10/14	BJ
Upland Sandpiper	1 late, calling –flyover, Salina	Saline	9/26	MR

Species	Number and Location	County	Date	Observer(s)
Stilt Sandpiper	1 late, Big Salt Marsh, QNWR	Stafford	11/01	JL
Dunlin	1 early migrant, Rolander Road Slough	Pottawatomie	8/07	DR
Baird's Sandpiper	6 quite late at QNWR	Stafford	11/17	MR
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	15 at TNC CBP, late	Barton	10/24	GH, RP
Red-necked Phalarope	1 at lagoons, KSU Beef Unit	Riley	8/22	LJ
Red-necked Phalarope	3 at Big Salt Marsh, QNWR	Stafford	8/24	MR
Red-necked Phalarope	1 at QNWR	Stafford	10/21	JL
Red Phalarope	1 at Big Salt March, QNWR, photos Apparently continuing, 11/01	Stafford	10/04	PS
Sabine's Gull	1 at Little Salt Marsh, QNWR Continuing, 9/16	Stafford	9/04	SW, JL, LB
Sabine's Gull	1 at Big Salt Marsh, QNWR, possibly same bird	Stafford	9/14	DA
Sabine's Gull	3 juveniles at Keith Sebelius Res.	<u>Norton</u>	9/19	DA
Sabine's Gull	1 juvenile at new Herington City Lake	<u>Dickinson</u>	10/08	NA, m.ob.
Sabine's Gull	1 at Marion Res	Marion	10/14	TE
Sabine's Gull	1 juvenile at CBWA	Barton	10/21	JL
Lesser Black-backed Gull	1 adult, Perry Lake	Jefferson	9/17	MMH
Lesser Black-backed Gull	1 immature at Big Salt Marsh, QNWR	Stafford	10/10	SS
Glaucous Gull	1 at Perry Lake	Jefferson	10/26	LZ, JZ
Pacific Loon	2 in basic plumage, Wilson Res Continuing, 11/19	Russell	11/11	MR
Pacific Loon	1 at Linn Co. Park Marina	Linn	11/18	KC
Pacific Loon	1 at Perry Lake	Jefferson	11/25	GP
Frigatebird sp.	1 possible female Magnificent, CBWA	Barton	9/20	ST, LS, WO
Reddish Egret	Continuing bird at QNWR This bird was regularly reported through 10/05	Stafford	8/03	m.ob.
Roseate Spoonbill	1 at McPherson Valley Wetlands This bird was seen by many observers through 9/21	<u>McPherson</u>	8/25	MGo, ML, DKE
Roseate Spoonbill	US 56 near Moscow, up to 3 reported	<u>Stevens</u>	9/02	KC
Swallow-tailed Kite	1 near Toronto Rest Area, US-54, KBRC	Greenwood	8/20	CS
Mississippi Kite	47 coming off roost, Winfield	Cowley	9/22	MT
Mississippi Kite	1 immature, somewhat late, Sublette	Haskell	10/07	JC
Northern Goshawk	1 immature NW of Hugoton, photos, KBRC	Stevens	9/02	KG, HA, JC
Harris's Hawk	1 adult near Gardner, photos, KBRC	<u>Johnson</u>	11/27	RW, m.ob.
Golden Eagle	1 juvenile at Lake Olathe	Johnson	10/08	DM
Golden Eagle	1 juvenile at Neosho WA	Neosho	11/13	TR
Snowy Owl	1 south of St. Marys	Pottawatomie	11/16	DAx
Lewis's Woodpecker	1 at Middle Spring, CNG	Morton	9/21	JM
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Early migrant, Lexington Lake Park	Johnson	8/06	MG
Say's Phoebe	1 juvenile, SE of Arkansas City	Cowley	9/30	DS
Cassin's Kingbird	1 NE of Wallace	<u>Wallace</u>	9/22	KG, JC
Cassin's Kingbird	1 on Rice/Stafford line, photos	<u>Rice</u>	10/07	AM
Steller's Jay	At least 1 along River east of K-27 Bridge	Morton	11/28	JN
Woodhouse's Scrub Jay	At least 5 at CNG, near Cimarron River Birds were observed numerous times through the period.	Morton	10/07	SN

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observer(s)</u>
Clark's Nutcracker	1 east of Anthony, photos, KBRC	<u>Harper</u>	11/12	CE
Fish Crow	1 at Smoky Hill River Park	<u>McPherson</u>	8/01	ZR
Cave Swallow	1 juvenile, Elkhart WTP	Morton	9/14	ABu
Red-breasted Nuthatch	4 at Elkhart Shelterbelt	Morton	8/13	TL, TSm
Red-breasted Nuthatch	Seen in pines at Bird City Park	Cheyenne	8/22	BeM
Pygmy Nuthatch	1 at Scott Lake SP, KBRC Perhaps as many as 8 were present. Reported through the period and into December.	<u>Scott</u>	11/18	WB, m.ob
Rock Wren	1 at Kansas Aviation Museum, Wichita	Sedgwick	9/29	DLx
Pacific Wren	1 at Scott Lake SP, video/audio, KBRC Bird was confirmed by audio analysis. Continued to be seen into December.	Scott	11/19	KPJHT, m.ob.
Curve-billed Thrasher	1 in Coolidge	Hamilton	9/03	HA, JC, KG
Cassin's Finch	1 female at feeders, photos, KBRC	<u>Shawnee</u>	11/26	MF
Common Redpoll	1 with mixed flock, rural residence	Reno	10/30	JMi
Common Redpoll	1 at residential feeder	Johnson	11/05	m.ob.
Common Redpoll	1 at feeder	Decatur	11/22	GFi
Common Redpoll	1 at Chisholm Creek Park, Wichita	Sedgwick	11/15	SH
Common Redpoll	At least 2 at feeders in Holcomb	Finney	11/19	AN
Common Redpoll	1 at Scott Lake SP	<u>Scott</u>	11/23	AM, JMi
Common Redpoll	1 female at feeders in Garden City	Finney	11/27	SSh, TS
Red Crossbill	3 in pines in Garden City	Finney	8/06	SSh, TS
Red Crossbill	1 male, southeast of Partridge	Reno	8/07	JMi
Red Crossbill	2 in Dodge City	Ford	8/20	JC
Red Crossbill	3 at Hays Middle School	Ellis	8/29	HA
Red Crossbill	Ford SFL	Ford	9/04	HA, JC, KG
Red Crossbill	Elkhart Cemetery	Morton	9/16	NV
Snow Bunting	1 with Longspurs, SE part of county	Kiowa	11/08	JL
Lesser Goldfinch	1 feeding on flowers, Shane residence	Finney	10/11	SSh
LeConte's Sparrow	1 west of Anthony	<u>Harper</u>	10/24	CE
Lincoln's Sparrow	1 early SE part of county	Kiowa	9/03	JL
Lincoln's Sparrow	1 early, Pottawatomie SFL #2	Pottawatomie	9/07	DR
Harris's Sparrow	1 slightly early	Reno	9/20	AM
White-crowned Sparrow	1 early in NW Lawrence	Douglas	8/29	KL
Brewer's Blackbird	20 at Ecke McColl Nature Reserve	Douglas	9/12	JAM
Baltimore Oriole	1 quite late in Winfield	Cowley	11/23	MT
Golden-winged Warbler	1 female, fall plumage at Pittman residence	Leavenworth	9/25	GP
Blue-winged Warbler	1 at Pittman residence	Leavenworth	9/07	GP
Orange-crowned Warbler	Early migrant, rural residence	Pratt	8/21	MR
Nashville Warbler	1 late at Perry Lake, south marina area	Jefferson	11/06	MMH
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Frazier Park, Ulysses	<u>Grant</u>	9/03	HA, JC, KG
Pine Warbler	Adult female, Lake Parsons	Neosho	8/17	ABu
Pine Warbler	2 at Toronto WA	Woodson	10/21	KG, ICTAud
Yellow-rumped Warbler	Audubon's, Hillsdale Lake, easterly	Miami	10/16	MMH
Black-throated Green Warbler	1 early migrant, 1 st yr. bird, Perry Lake	Jefferson	8/21	MMH
Painted Redstart	1 at Lee Richardson Zoo, KBRC Continued through 10/12	<u>Finney</u>	10/10	SSh, m.ob.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number and Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observer(s)</u>
Lazuli Bunting	3 on River Rd near St. Francis	Cheyenne	8/16	MK
Painted Bunting	Apparent family group, westerly	Kiowa	8/18	JL

Locations and notes: CBWA – Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area, CNG - Cimarron National Grasslands, CLMAF – Clinton Lake Model Airplane Field, KBRC – Kansas Bird Records Committee report filed, MDC - Marais des Cygnes, QNWR – Quivira National Wildlife Refuge, Res. – Reservoir, SFL – State Fishing Lake, SP – State Park, TNC CBP – The Nature Conservancy Cheyenne Bottoms Preserve, WA – Wildlife Area, WTP – Water Treatment Ponds, Underlined county name indicates new county record. Underlined number indicates an exceptionally high count.

Observers, Individuals: Danny Akers, Dallas Alexander (DAX), Nic Allen, Robert Antonio, Henry Armknecht, Aaron Balogh, Brandon Beckman, Liam Berigan, Will Britton, Andrew Burnett (ABu), Jeff Calhoun, Randy Carman, Kathy Carroll, Kelli Egbert, Dave and Kathy Ellis (DKE), Corey Entriken, Tom Ewert, Gisela Fisher (GFi), Michelle Folster, Matt Gearheart, Malcolm Gold (MGo), Bob Gress, Kevin Groeneweg, Jennifer Hammett, Steve Hofhine, Gentry Holaday, Pete Janzen, Lowell Johnson, Barry Jones, Donnie Kazmaier (DKa), Mark Keller, David Kirsch (DKi), Kaleb Kroeker, D Lamoureux (DLx), Dan Larson, Jonathan Lautenbach, Kevin Leonard, Tony Leukering, Matt Longabaugh, Micky Louis, John Mallery, Caleb Marshall (CaM), Chloe Marshall (ChM), Mick McHugh (MMH), Kurtis Meier, Andrew Miller, Joseph Miller (JMi), David Mootz, Carol Morgan, Bernard Morris (BeM), Jo-Ann Moore (JAM), Sue Newland, James Nickel, Art Nonhof, Willis Ohl, Chuck Otte, Judd Patterson, Linda Penner, Rob Penner, Galen Pittman, Mike Rader, Travis Ratliff, Dave Rintoul, Zach Roy, Carolyn Schwab, David Seibel, Luke Seitz, Scott Seltman, Sara Shane (SSh), Tom Shane, Tim Smart (TSm), Paul Suchanek, Scott Thomasson, Jay Thompson, Max Thompson, Nick Varvel, Mary Wilcox, Sarah Winnicki, Curtis Wolf, Rodney Wright, John Zempel, Linda Zempel

Observers, Groups: ICTAud – Wichita Audubon, KPJHT – Kevin Groeneweg, Pete Janzen, Jeff Calhoun, Henry Armknecht and Tom Ewert, m.ob. – multiple observers

Two New Species Added to the KOS Checklist

The Kansas Bird Records Committee (KBRC) met in early February to finalize action on records submitted in 2017 and to update the review list. Everyone who submitted records in 2017 has been notified of the decisions on their records. The full report, as per tradition, will be printed in the June KOS Bulletin.

Kansas lost a species in 2017 due to the lumping of Thayer's Gull with Iceland .That dropped the all-time Kansas species count down to 478. HOWEVER, the KBRC accepted a record of **Brown Booby** (based on a photo of one perched on a wind turbine that was taken by a wind turbine technician). After much debate the KBRC also accepted, as a hypothetical species, **Little Stint**, based on exceedingly detailed notes and drawings submitted by the observer. Hypothetical species are those species that have been convincingly documented but for which we fail to have some sort of physical evidence, i.e. photo, video, audio or a specimen. There are only 13 hypothetical species on the KOS Checklist. The addition of these two species raised the all-time Kansas species count to 480. Links to the current KOS checklist can be found online on the County Checklist homepage located at: http://www.ksbirds.org/checklist/checklist_index.htm. If you'd like a printed copy of any of these, please contact the KBRC Secretary, Chuck Otte.

The KBRC also removed a few species from the Review List including: Iceland Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Little Gull and Lesser Goldfinch based on number of records. Also removed from the review list was Eskimo Curlew due to the high likelihood that this species is now extinct. The entire review list and information on documenting birds on that list can be found at: <http://www.ksbirds.org/KBRC/kbrcrvulist.html>.

Kansas Ornithological Society
Winter Board Meeting
February 3, 2018
Emporia State University, Emporia, KS

The meeting was called to order at 9:42 a.m. by President Nic Allen.

Attendance: Nic Allen, Henry Armknecht, Matt Gearheart, Kevin Groeneweg, Dan Larson, Terry Mannell, Cheryl Miller, Chuck Otte, Max Thompson, and Eugene Young. Rodney Wright had planned to be present but had become ill on Friday. Patty was traveling.

Minutes: The Secretary handed out copies of the minutes of the Annual Meeting and Board Meeting held at the Annual Meeting in October 2017. These had also been sent out via email prior to the meeting. **Max moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Matt and passed 10 – 0.**

Treasurer's Report: Max handed out copies of the Balance Sheet and financial transactions for the past year. Total income from all sources in 2017 was \$9,196.70. Total expenses for the period were \$9,688.74. A substantial amount of the income is from meeting registrations so most of that goes back out to pay the expenses of the meeting. The other principle expense is printing and mailing of the *Bulletin* and *Horned Lark*. In 2017 that expense was \$4,421.75. Sales of *Birds of Kansas* have slowed, but we still received a royalty check for 2017 of a little over \$350. This money goes into the Book Royalty Fund. The investment fund had done very well in 2017. Max said that the new book, *Birds of Missouri* is in final editing and will be out soon. It will primarily be available for sale as an eBook. If someone wants a printed copy it will be printed and bound on demand. **Terry moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and file it for audit. The motion was seconded and passed 10 – 0.**

Vice President: Cheryl reported that she had been in touch with Jeff and planning for the spring meeting is progressing.

Membership: Patty was currently out of the country but will send a membership report to the board when she returns.

Bulletin Editor: The September issue had been delayed because there was nothing to publish. A manuscript had been received, reviewed, and accepted for publishing and the September issue was now at the printer being typeset. A manuscript had been received for the December issue and had been accepted for publication with some revisions but wasn't ready in time for the mailing. The March 2018 issue, the Christmas Bird Count issue, is in process. It is a lengthy process to get it typeset and proofed. There was a discussion of the issue of no manuscripts. Many of the presented papers from the fall meeting would be excellent papers if the presenters would simply submit them. It was suggested that Gene and Chuck write up something explaining the help that would be available to anyone who wants to author an article for the *Bulletin*. This could be printed in the *Horned Lark* as well as being posted on the KSBIRD-L listserv and on Facebook. **Max moved to accept the report of the Bulletin editor. The motion was seconded and passed 10 - 0.**

Horned Lark Editor: Chuck said that the December issue was at the printer being printed and was waiting for a Bulletin or two to go with it. Target date for the March issue was to be at the printers by mid-March so it can be in member's hands a month before the spring meeting. Chuck announced that we needed to start getting someone lined up to take over the KSBIRDS web page as he wanted to hand it off in 3 or 4 years. Several members commented that the web page could use an update. Chuck indicated he agreed and that it would need to be done by others with more web skill than he has.

The discussion then moved into the social media aspects of the KOS Facebook page and how can we get more information on that page and hopefully create interest in people to learn more about birds and hopefully join KOS. There are a lot of people interested in bird photography right now that may or may not have any interest in becoming birders. There was additional extensive discussion of the social media challenge and how it seems to divide people and organizations, not bring them together.

Business Manager: Dan informed the board that in the past year he had had 110 products produced and 68 have been sold. 34 were sold at meetings and 34 at the gift shop at the Wetlands Education Center at Cheyenne Bottoms. Dan led a discussion on possible future items to produce and sell. He felt that it might be a good idea to slash prices on existing stock, then when the next items are ordered limit the amount and market them as very limited edition and try to get them sold out quickly. It was suggested to see if the gift shop at the Baker Wetlands would be interested in carrying any items. American Kestrel and Northern Shoveler were suggested for clothing and perhaps it was time to bring back something with the Horned Lark on it. Chuck encouraged Dan to get information to him to get on the web page and in the Horned Lark.

Committee Reports:

Scholarship/Research Committee – Max reported on behalf of the committee formerly known as the Student Research Fund committee. Following action by the KOS Board in October, a payment of \$675 to the Kansas Biological Survey Endowment Fund was pending to help sponsor additional surveying of plants, lichens and mosses at the Dingus Natural Area. Two requests for funds had been received, 1 from Ft. Hays State and one from Emporia State. One was very well done and the other was somewhat weak. As the deadline for applications is February 15th, the selection committee had taken no action yet.

There was no report from the Conservation Committee.

Kansas Bird Records Committee (KBRC): Gene reported that the KBRC would be meeting in the afternoon. The terms of Chuck Otte and Jon King were expiring. Chuck was willing to serve a second term; Jon had declined to serve a second term. Following election of the board members they will also need to elect a secretary as that position expires when Chuck's board term expires. As the board members have to be approved by the KOS Board, an email will be sent out for board approval in the near future.

Unfinished Business:

KBBAT – Chuck discussed that he had been in discussion with KDWPT personnel about trying to get this arranged and moving forward. The big hurdle right now is getting funding so we can use eBird as a portal for all data entry. Attempts to find professors willing to lead or co-lead this, as well as capable lay people have hit a series of dead ends. Chuck feels we need to keep moving forward on this and he will be in contact with KDWPT in the near future.

Research Fund Auction – At the fall meeting a motion was passed authorizing the president to appoint a committee to find a way to reactivate this fundraiser in some manner. It was suggested to get a handful of very nice items and have a raffle/drawing. Nic said that he would like names of interested KOS members be sent to him and he will name a committee soon.

New Business:

Spring Meeting 2018 – Cheryl and Chuck have been in contact with Jeff. Jeff is working on details and should have things lined out fairly soon.

Fall Meeting 2018 – While it is planned that we will be in Lawrence for the 70th Anniversary of KOS we don't really have a local committee yet. Cheryl and the board will continue to work on this.

Bylaws – Cheryl and Chuck had found a few more lingering phrases in the bylaws that were not gender neutral. In addition there were several items in the bylaws that needed updating to reflect changing technology as well as reflecting the way that the society is operating today.

Gene moved that the following changes be proposed to the bylaws for the membership to vote on at the annual meeting in the fall. The motion was seconded by Terry and the motion passed. The proposed changes are:

Article V. Section 3A: Remove “Librarian” and “Publicity” and insert “Electronic and Media Coordinator”.

Article V. Section 3B: Replace “Librarian” with “Electronic and Media Coordinator.” This is in two different locations in 3B.

Article VI. Section 2C: Remove “Publicity” and replace “his” with “their”.

Article VI. Section 2E: Replace “Librarian” with “Electronic and Media Coordinator.”

Article VI. Section 2: Add “L. Prepare and be authorized to sign all legal agreements with individuals and organizations.”

Article VI. Section 3A: Replace the first instance of “his” with “their” and replace the second instance of “his” with “the President’s”.

Article VI. Section 5. Remove 5C. Then change D. to C., E. to D. F. to E. Change 5G. to 5F. and add “and oversee distribution of *The Bulletin* and the Newsletter.

Article VI. Section 7. Remove items B. C. E. and F. Change 5. D. to B. and Change 5. G. to C.

Article VI. Section 8. C. Change to read: “Publish *The Bulletin* and the Newsletter quarterly if material and funds permit.”

Article VI. Section 8. Add section E. “Oversee the printing of *The Bulletin*, Newsletter and other publications.”

Article VI. Section 9. Replace “Librarian” with “Electronic and Media Coordinator”.

Article VI. Section 9. Replace all of A. with “Be responsible for seeing that the web page is kept up to date. This will include, but not be limited to posting back issues of *The Bulletin* and the Newsletter on a schedule agreed upon with the KOS Board, maintaining historical records on the website, working with the secretary to archive historical records, and other items as determined by the KOS Board.”

Article VI. Section 9. Replace all of B. with “Be responsible for keeping relevant information on the KOS Facebook page.”

Article VI. Section 9. Add: “C. Work with the local committee of each spring and fall meeting, the editor of the newsletter, and appropriate media contacts, to coordinate publicity of upcoming meetings, events and announcements of interest.”

Article VI. Section 12. Remove this section.

Article VI. Section 13. – Renumber to Section 12.

Article VI. Section 14. – Renumber to Section 13

Article VI. Section 15. – Renumber to Section 14.

There being no further business, Nic adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Chuck Otte
Corresponding Secretary

KOS SPRING MEETING

Dodge City, Kansas

May 4 - 6, 2018

*Online registration at <http://ksbirds.org/> with payment through **PayPal***

Make plans now to attend the KOS Spring Meeting in Dodge City, Kansas, May 4-6, 2018. The last time KOS met in Dodge City was the fall of 1966 so a return trip is overdue. From Dodge City field trips will travel north, south, and west as we start to explore the birds that frequent the somewhat drier parts of our state.

Headquarters - While there are many places to stay in the area, the headquarters hotel will be the Comfort Suites at 2700 West Wyatt Earp Blvd., Dodge City. Other lodging venues are listed below.

Friday evening: We will have a casual meet and greet with snacks and refreshments at the Comfort Suites.

Saturday Field Trips: Meet in the Comfort Suites parking lot at 6:30. All day field trips will focus on Clark, Ford, Hodgeman, Meade and Gray counties. Note: Saturday lunch is on your own. Trip leaders will provide snack/lunch stops along the way; though options may be limited.

Saturday Evening: The evening meal will be Dutch treat at Casey's Cowtown Club, 503 E Trail St, Dodge City in their private banquet room. Plan to gather at 6:30. Their menu can be found on their web page at <http://caseyscowtownclub.com/>

Sunday: Meet in the Comfort Inn parking lot at 6:30 a.m. for field trips. After a ½ day of birding, we'll have a box lunch compilation (sandwiches, veggie option available – please indicate your desire for this option on the registration form) of the birds seen on all the field trips. We will meet at Ford County State Fishing Lake at noon. The State Fishing Lake is located 3 miles north, 5 miles east of Dodge City.

Accommodations: A block of rooms has been reserved at the **Comfort Suites**, 2700 West Wyatt Earp Blvd., Dodge City, 620-801-4545 . Be sure to mention the KOS block for the \$99/night room rate. The room block expires April 21st.

Other housing options include:

Best Western Plus, 506 N 14th Avenue, Dodge City, KS 620-225-7378

Best Western North Edge, 404 W Frontview, Dodge City, KS, 620-371-6441

La Quinta, 2400 West Wyatt Earp Blvd, Dodge City, KS, 620-225-7373

TownePlace Suites Marriott, 2800 West Wyatt Earp Blvd, Dodge City, KS, 620-371-7171

Hampton Inn, 4002 West Comanche, Dodge City, KS, 620-225-0000 (At Boot Hill Casino)

Camping is also available at the **Fort Dodge RV & Camping Resort**, 701 Park St, Dodge City, KS, 620-371-7177, <http://www.fortdodgervresort.com/>. Camping is also available at Ford State Fishing Lake, Clark State Fishing Lake, or Buckner Valley Park.

Registration Form, KOS Spring Meeting, May 4 – 6, 2018 Dodge City, Kansas

I (we) plan to attend the 2018 KOS spring meeting

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

		<u>Number</u>	<u>Total</u>
Registration Fee	\$15/person	_____	\$ _____
Sunday lunch (sandwiches)	\$9/person	_____	\$ _____
Surcharge for payment received after April 20 th	\$10/person	_____	\$ _____
Total Amount Due (Checks payable to KOS)			\$ _____
<i>Or pay online via PayPal -</i>			

Number of persons in party: _____

Special needs or requests: _____

Registrations received after April 20th will have a surcharge of \$10.00 per person.
No registration refunds for cancellations after April 30th.

Please mail/email completed registration with full payment (even if paying online) 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 2018 KOS spring meeting. *(Registering on line, or submission of this form electronically indicates your acceptance of these conditions.)*

 Signatures

 Date

KOS Membership

____ New Member

____ Renewal

Please clearly mark your choice of membership category below.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| ____ Student | \$5 |
| ____ Individual | \$20 |
| ____ Family | \$25 |
| ____ Sustaining Individual | \$30 |
| ____ Sustaining Family | \$35 |
| ____ Contributing | \$45 or more |
| ____ Life Member | \$300 (or two consecutive annual payments of \$150) |



Please remit check or money order, payable to KOS, and mail this form and your dues payment to:

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

Name Daytime phone or email

Address City State Zip Code

Dues are Due!

If you have not renewed your Dues for 2018, this is the last issue of the Horned Lark that you will receive! If you can't remember if you have renewed, contact Patty Marlett at pmarlett@cox.net.

Correction!

In the article about the Top 10 Birds that was in the December, 2017 issue, an editor's mistake resulted in an incorrect date. The Black Vulture seen by Dave Klema in Russell County was seen in October **2016**, not 2017. We apologize for that error.

Upcoming KOS Meetings!

Fall Meeting, 2018

KOS was formed in 1949 with a meeting in Lawrence. Therefore fall of 2018 will be our 70th Annual Meeting. The KOS Board is planning to hold its 70th Annual Meeting back in Lawrence. Details and dates are still very nebulous but stay tuned and we'll keep you posted as we prepare to celebrate 70 years of Kansas birds, birders and birding!

Spring Meeting 2019

The KOS Board is still working on locations for the spring 2019 Field Trips. If you are interested in hosting, please contact a Board Member (list on Page 2).

Fall Meeting 2019

An offer has been extended by Wichita to host the fall 2019 meeting. The KOS Board has accepted this invitation and thanks Wichita area KOS members for offering to host this meeting!