



The Horned Lark

Kansas Ornithological Society

June, 2019

Vol. 46, No. 2

From the President's Pen

By Cheryl Miller

Whoosh!

One moment I was becoming impatient with winter and the next I was holding onto the remnants of spring. The time went by so quickly that I'm still trying to regain my footing.

The unusually wet spring made birding and other outdoor activities challenging. Birders who weren't out during the frequent downpours had to wait for things to dry up a bit before trying the roads. Some favored birding spots, such as Marais des Cygnes, were inaccessible in areas because of flooding. Fields and other low spots were under water for days at a time, pushing wildlife to higher points.

Despite the wet weather, the spring KOS meeting participants saw many birds. The species count came in at 158 for Allen, Bourbon, Crawford and Linn counties. The stars of the show, the warblers, accounted for 26 species. New county species included Ovenbird (Allen), Northern Waterthrush (Bourbon) and Golden-winged Warbler (Bourbon).

One of the Saturday field trips included a visit to Dingus Natural Area. KOS owns the 167-acre property and the KOS board would love to see more members use it. Much of the hilly terrain hosts mature oak and hickory forest. A small stream, Little Sugar Creek, runs through the parcel. In addition to a variety of

birds, visitors will also find abundant animals, plants, fungi and lichens. During recent plant surveys, Kansas Biological Survey staff discovered at least two species of lichens that occur no place else in Kansas, and have also found plants that live only in mature oak-hickory forests.

In other words, it's a special place. Please visit it as much as you can and let us know what you see. For directions, please go to: www.ksbirds.org/kos/Dingus/ Dingus.

The local committee did an outstanding job of planning the spring meeting. This was difficult not only because of the weather, but also because of numerous weddings, graduations and other events that made finding adequate lodging a challenge. However, we found plenty of natural areas in the vicinity to bird. Many county listers were able to add to their records.

The fall meeting will be held in Wichita, Oct. 4-6, with papers presented at the Sedgwick County Zoo's Cargill Learning Center. We will have a nationally-known birder as the Saturday evening banquet speaker. More details can be found on Page 4.

I'll see you soon on the birding trails.

- Cheryl

From the Keyboard

By the Editor

I've spent a lot of time dealing with wet weather issues, and questions on odd natural world occurrences and lots of questions about birds not doing their "normal" thing. One thing that I have learned in all my years of birding and helping people learn about the natural world around them is that nature doesn't care what we think should be happening!

I have a favorite phrase that says, "Mother Nature always bats last and she has a much bigger bat." As humans it is easy to fall into the trap of thinking that we can control the natural world. But then a blizzard, or a tornado, or a flood or a hurricane comes along and humbles us very quickly. Instead of trying to figure out how to control nature, which we can't do anyway, we need to learn to better understand it and lead our lives in a manner that respect's its power and keeps us out of harms way.

Many birders were talking about how this species was early or late this year. Perhaps the discussion was the lack, or abundance, of certain species at our feeders. Yet in most cases, everything we see happening with the birds is directly tied with what is happening to the world around them and us. Every year is different and every year gives us an opportunity to learn more about how birds act and react.

I have another saying that most people think that average is whatever happened last year at this same time. If May was hot last year (which it was) then May is always hot. May seemed cool this year but it was far closer to normal than May last year. If we had a lot of Golden-crowned Kinglets last year and very few this year, then what happened to them this year. Or perhaps the question we are all asking is, "What is normal?"

There are many factors that influence all of the natural world. Some are natural occurrences, some are human influenced. But I can guarantee you that no two years are the same, so normal - or average if you are more comfortable with that term - is just the middle ground between the extremes. Late 2017 and at least half of 2018 was a terrible drought in parts of Kansas. We follow that up with an abnormally wet period which has brought record flooding to some parts of our state. And as we head full steam into summer we have a lot of water in many parts of the state. As much or more than we had in the flood year of 1993. These floods can be frustrating, they can threaten life, crops and property, and there isn't much we can do about them.

What we can do, though, is observe and learn. Southbound shorebird migration will be starting soon and it looks like many places will have incredible habitat for these shorebirds. We could see a lot of new county records because of this. We can't change it, but we can watch, and listen, take notes, and learn. Birds are inextricably tied to habitat. They can't use logic to figure things out, they have to act on instinct. If we have the good fortune to have floods and high water, let's use this opportunity to bird, and learn.

- Chuck



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

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**Official Nomination Form
2019 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:
Bob Gress, 1409 W 35th N, Wichita KS, 67204 or to bobgress@cox.net**

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.

Fall Meeting, October 4 - 6, 2019, Wichita KS

PREVIEW!

The 71st Annual Meeting of the Kansas Ornithological Society will be held October 4 - 6, 2019 in Wichita. Registration forms and full information will be in the September Horned Lark which should be hitting mailboxes in mid to late August and be available online by early August! The local committee has been in full swing making arrangements so let's take a peek at what you can expect!

Something new this year are pre-meeting Field Trips on Friday for those who want to get a jump on the weekend. These will depart at 7:00 a.m. on Friday October 4 from the Sedgwick County Zoo parking lot, 5555 W. Zoo Blvd, Wichita. Please contact Pete Janzen (pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net) 316-519-1970, to let him know if you plan to participate on Friday and which counties within a 75 mile radius of Wichita are of interest to you. These trips will likely visit locations farther afield than the Sunday half-day trips.

Friday evening, 5:30-7:30 p.m. - Social at the Great Plains Nature Center, 6232 E. 29th St. North, Wichita. Meet up with other attendees to make new friends or renew old acquaintances.

Saturday, October 5th - All Saturday events will be in the Cargill Learning Center at the Sedgwick County Zoo, 5555 W. Zoo Boulevard, Wichita, KS. Registration in the lobby of the Cargill Learning Center will open at 8 and the meetings will begin at 9:00 a.m. Papers will be presented until 11:30 when we'll have the first of two KOS Business Meetings. Lunch is on your own (lots of options in the area). In the early afternoon is the Bird-watcher's Hour where you can share your bird photos from the past year. Please bring you photos on a flash drive. We'll then have the afternoon paper session from 2:30 until 4:30. Following that will be the second KOS Business Meeting of the day.

Saturday evening will be the KOS Banquet starting at 6:30 in the North Boardroom of the Cargill Learning Center. After dinner we will have awards presentation, best birds of the year and our banquet speaker. The banquet speaker is Ted Floyd, editor of *Birding* and Managing editor of *North American Birds* magazines, both published by the American Birding Association.

Sunday we'll meet at the Sedgwick County Zoo parking lot at 7 a.m. for half day field trips in and around Wichita followed by a noon lunch and the compilation of the birds seen for the weekend (including the county listing trips on Friday.) Compilation will be at the new picnic pavilion next to the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot.

There are many lodging options in Wichita. We have reserved a block of rooms close to the zoo at The Mari-gold Grand Hotel & Suites, 2405 N. Ridge Rd in Wichita. Phone: (316) 729-5700. When making a reservation, tell them you are part of the KOS group block. Our group rate is \$95 for one king (some are king suites with a kitchenette at the same rate) and \$105 for 2 queen beds. The block will be held until September 20, after which you can still get our group rate if a room is available.

The meeting registration fee is \$20.00. This fee will be waived for all high school, undergraduate and post graduate students. The Saturday evening banquet is \$20.00 per person. The Sunday boxed lunches are \$10.00 each. **Student fees are NOT waived for the banquet or the boxed lunches. If your abstract for presenting a paper is accepted, you will still have to register.** Registrations must be received by Sept. 25 to be included in the meal counts. There are no refunds for cancellations after Sept. 27. Registrations received after Sept. 25 will have a \$10.00 surcharge per person.

Look for online registration in early August and the September Horned Lark in mid to late August. But be sure to mark your calendar now for this annual gathering of birders!

Call for Papers, KOS Fall Meeting

How to Submit KOS Paper Abstracts

The KOS fall meeting traditionally features papers given by scientists, students, and birders. The Fall 2019 Meeting will be held in Wichita at the Sedgwick County Zoo, October 4 - 6, 2019. Paper presentations are on Saturday, October 5 at the Cargill Learning Center at the Sedgwick County Zoo, 5555 W. Zoo Boulevard, Wichita, KS.

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 the following additional pieces of information:

- 1) The multimedia equipment you will need (computer and projector are provided);
- 2) Papers will be 15 min, including questions. If you need a shorter or longer time slot, please let Jenn Rader know;
- 3) Whether you are eligible and would like to be considered for a student presentation award. If so, what stage of program (undergraduate, MS, or Ph.D.).
- 4) Full and complete mailing address including zip code
- 5) Students having abstracts accepted for presentation **MUST** register for the meeting. **Registration fee is waived for all students but you MUST register. Submitting an abstract is NOT registering.**

Paper abstracts are due by September 27; please send, in MS Word, to Jenn Rader at jennrader34@gmail.com. In the subject line of the e-mail, please indicate the meeting and give your surname: "KOS 2019: 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 chalcii*) 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.



Beautiful eastern Kansas timber visited on the spring KOS Field Trips. Photo courtesy Cheryl Miller

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Kansas Birding Roundup, Winter 2018-19, (December – February) Chuck Otte, compiler

This is the report of the winter birding season in Kansas, December through February. The winter season seemed cold, long and harsh; although the actual numbers may show that many locations weren't that abnormal, perhaps just colder and wetter than recent winters. While there were a few lingering species, there were not as many as in recent years, especially shorebirds. As a matter of fact, for the most part, the season was rather un-extraordinary.

In recent years there have been many species which were once considered noteworthy that now seemed to be quite expected and regular. In one case, Thayer's/Iceland Gull complex, a lumping of the species changed how we looked at the "rareness" of Iceland Gull. In other cases, there truly does seem to be an increase in a species in the state. Lesser Black-backed Gull is a good example of this. Finally, more birders making more reports can help us better understand the occurrence of a species in the state. Which then leads to the questions of at what point is a species no longer noteworthy? Just because a species isn't routinely reported doesn't mean it is necessarily a rarity. Long-eared Owl comes to mind. Their habits simply preclude many birders from regularly encountering them, yet they are in the state routinely every winter. I spent considerable time examining waterfowl and gull records for this season. I was especially interested in scoters and Long-tailed Ducks as well as the black-backed, Iceland and Glaucous Gulls.

As you can see from the table below, Long-tailed Ducks were regularly encountered and they also tended to stay for considerable periods of time. They likely will not be reported in future winter seasons. I had felt that perhaps the scoters were in the same category, but after examination I now don't think they are. What is interesting is an apparent shift in what species of scoter is the most common. In past years White-winged Scoter was felt to be the most common and Black Scoter the most uncommon. This winter season seemed to rearrange that notion. Black Scoters were the most commonly reported and in some amazing numbers as well. (23 at Wilson Lake in the late fall season and 7 at El Dorado Lake were both amazing reports!) All four of these waterfowl species are well known to feed on clams/mussels so perhaps the increasing abundance of a food source in Kansas reservoirs is causing them to stay for longer periods of time making them more likely to be reported. This is pure speculation but would be an interesting topic to research!

Gulls present a conundrum at many levels. Yes, some are becoming more common, seasonally, in the state, or at least are being reported more regularly. Iceland and Lesser Black-backed Gulls certainly fall into this category as noted by their near absence from this report. Great Black-backed Gulls are still noteworthy. Only three were reported for this season. Glaucous Gulls, while over a dozen were reported for the season, probably still need to be reported. The numbers seem to be seasonally consistent from year to year, but perhaps not to a high enough level to dismiss from the winter report. Naturally, "early" Franklin's Gulls and large numbers of "over-wintering" Bonaparte's Gulls will also be reported.

The final conundrum to deal with addresses the question of whether a species that is being seen for an extended period is an individual that is "still present" or was it replaced by a different bird. I choose to simply say that it is "still present" indicating that at least one individual of that species was still being reported. I'll leave it up to you to decide if it was the same individual or a different one. Similarly the question of whether an individual is early returning or overwintering? Surely the Black-crowned Night-Heron seen in Wichita throughout the season was an overwintering individual. Others are merely a best guess. Regardless, global warming may throw more and more species into the "which one is it" category.

Any report marked as having been turned in to the Kansas Bird Records Committee 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 cotte@ksu.edu or mailed to 613 Tamerisk Dr., Junction City, KS 66441.

Species	Number and Location	County	Date	Observer(s)
Brant	1 at Sylvan Grove WTP	Lincoln	2/2	HA, JC
Trumpeter Swan	<u>106</u> near Rossville	Shawnee	2/7	DMK, MPH,
American Black Duck	1 well seen at MDC WA	Linn	12/20	MGo
American Black Duck	1 at Neosho WA	Neosho	1/13	ABu

Species	Number and Location	County	Date	Observer(s)
American Black Duck	1 at Hillsdale Lake Still present 1/29	Miami	1/27	MGo, MiL
American Black Duck	1 at Wyandotte County Lake	Wyandotte	2/26	NA
Cinnamon Teal	1 at Lake Shawnee Still present 2/26	Shawnee	2/24	JMm
Surf Scoter	1 at Clinton Lake Still present 1/15	Douglas	12/02	CS
Surf Scoter	1 at LaFarge Sandpits	Sedgwick	12/05	MN
White-winged Scoter	1 at LaFarge Sandpits	Sedgwick	12/01	MN
White-winged Scoter	1 at Pomona lake	Osage	12/20	LZ
White-winged Scoter	1 at El Dorado Lake Still present 1/1	Butler	12/22	RW
White-winged Scoter	1 at Wilson SP	Russell	1/20	DK
Black Scoter	3 at Melvern Lake	Osage	12/08	MGo
Black Scoter	7 at El Dorado Lake, 2 males, 5 females Still present 1/7	Butler	12/17	AN
Black Scoter	1 at Waconda Lake	Mitchell	12/19	JE
Black Scoter	1 at Osage SFL	Osage	12/28	HA
Black Scoter	1 at Wilson SP	Russell	12/28	DK
Black Scoter	1 refound on 2/21 – unsure if same or different bird than December sighting 3 at Cheney SP Still present 1/6	Reno	1/3	MN
Long-tailed Duck	1 at Paola WTP Still present 12/10	Miami	12/07	MGo, JM
Long-tailed Duck	1 at Leavenworth SFL Still present 12/10	Leavenworth	12/09	JP
Long-tailed Duck	1 at Clinton Lake Dam area Still present 12/16	Douglas	12/12	GP
Long-tailed Duck	1 at Linn County Park	Linn	12/21	RB
Long-tailed Duck	1 at Hillsdale Lake Still present 2/25	Miami	12/26	MTy
Long-tailed Duck	1 at Wilson SP Two present on 2/24, 1 still on 2/22	Russell	12/28	DK
Long-tailed Duck	1 at Bismark Lake Still present 1/16	Douglas	1/13	KC, DP
Long-tailed Duck	1 at Perry Lake Still present 2/10	Jefferson	2/9	BA, m.ob.
Long-tailed Duck	Lake Shawnee, Topeka Still present 2/28	Shawnee	2/12	CL
Barrow's Goldeneye	1 on Oskaloosa/Perry CBC	Jefferson	12/16	CBC
Horned Grebe	1 at Sedgwick County Park	Sedgwick	1/13	SH
Western Grebe	1 at Meade SP	Meade	2/1	SSh
Clark's Grebe	1 at Langley Point Rd, Kanopolis Res	<u>Ellsworth</u>	12/15	MR
Greater Roadrunner	1 in Emporia	<u>Lyon</u>	12/09	NQ
Virginia Rail	1 at Point of Rock Ponds CNG	Morton	1/19	GF
Greater Yellowlegs	1 near El Dorado Lake	Butler	12/05	CS
Black-legged Kittiwake	1 at Kanopolis Lake Still present 12/17	Ellsworth	12/15	DK
Bonaparte's Gull	50 below dam, Milford Lake	Geary	1/4	JRo
Franklin's Gull	1 early at Bowerstock Dam, Lawrence	Douglas	1/18	MGo, MMH
Franklin's Gull	1 at Wilson Lake	Russell	2/22	HA

Species	Number and Location	County	Date	Observer(s)
California Gull	4 (2 1 st yr, 2 adults) at Reno Co. Landfill	Reno	2/23	EY
Lesser Black-backed Gull	7 (5 1 st yr, 1 2 nd year, 2 Adults) at Landfill 1 adult, 3 1 st yr on 2/23	Reno	1/21	EY
Glaucous Gull	1 immature at East State Park, Cheney Res Still present 1/4	Reno	12/17	SS
Glaucous Gull	1 north of Lawrence Still present 2/13	Jefferson	12/20	KC
Glaucous Gull	1 at Reno County Landfill area Still present 2/27, 2 present on 2/9	Reno	12/29	AM
Glaucous Gull	1 at LaFarge Sandpits Still present 2/26, 2 present on 2/10	Sedgwick	1/6	GF
Glaucous Gull	1 immature at Augusta Lake	Butler	1/24	AN
Glaucous Gull	1 at Riverside Tennis Court, Wichita	Sedgwick	1/26	MN
Glaucous Gull	1 at John Redmond Res.	Coffey	1/27	ABa
Glaucous Gull	2 at Hillsdale Lake Still present 2/14	Miami	2/8	CE, MGo
Glaucous Gull	1 at Wilson Lake Still present 2/25	Russell	2/8	DK
Glaucous Gull	1 on Kansas River near I-435	Wyandotte	2/11	KC
Glaucous Gull	Lake Quivira	Wyandotte	2/17	BA, m.ob.
Glaucous Gull	Lake Olathe	Johnson	2/22	Aba
Glaucous Gull	Shawnee Mission Lake Same bird as Lake Olathe the day before?	Johnson	2/23	Ago
Great Black-backed Gull	1 at Milford SP	Geary	2/5	CL
Great Black-backed Gull	1 at Wilson Lake Still present 2/22 – this bird was occasionally seen in Lincoln Co portion of lake	Russell	2/10	MR, HA
Great Black-backed Gull	1 at Lake Shawnee	Shawnee	2/24	KE
Common Loon	1 at Quivira Scout Ranch	<u>Chautauqua</u>	1/6	MP, KMD
Great Egret	2 late, Neosho WA 1 still present 12/05	Neosho	12/01	ABu
Great Egret	2 late at Wellington Lake	Sumner	12/15	FSQ
Black-crowned Night-Heron	1 along Wichita River Walk Still present 2/25, 2 on 2/26	Sedgwick	12/11	MN
Black Vulture	9 west of Galena	Cherokee	1/13	TSM
Black Vulture	50 near to where the above 9 were seen	Cherokee	1/13	JR
Turkey Vulture	First returns of season in Galena	Cherokee	2/14	JR
Golden Eagle	1 well described along Kansas River, Shawnee	Johnson	2/24	DMz
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1 quite western in St. Francis	Cheyenne	2/7	MK
Pileated Woodpecker	1 westerly at Clark SFL	<u>Clark</u>	1/1	JZ, LZ
Eastern Phoebe	1 late north of Medicine Lodge	Barber	12/20	HA
Eastern Phoebe	1 at Old Mill north of Oxford	Sumner	2/4	FSQ
Northern Shrike	1 easterly near Edgerton	Johnson	12/08	JW
Northern Shrike	1 north of Melvern Lake	Osage	1/14	TSM
Northern Shrike	1 east of Sedan	Chautauqua	1/15	AN, CS
Northern Shrike	1 at Quenemo	Osage	1/27	ABa
Blue-headed Vireo	1 at Oak Park, Wichita	Sedgwick	12/15	JBi, SH, HG
Fish Crow	1 early at Empire Lake, Riverton	Cherokee	2/9	ABa
Chihuahuan Raven	3 west of Tribune	Greeley	12/28	TL
Chihuahuan Raven	2 south of Syracuse	Hamilton	1/31	TL

Species	Number and Location	County	Date	Observer(s)
Bushtit	3 at Scott SP	Scott	12/15	JC
House Wren	1 near Winfield, late	Cowley	12/16	DS
Varied Thrush	1 near Mission Lake, Horton, KBRC	Brown	2/19	AMt
Gray Catbird	1 uncommon winter record, Cherryvale	Labette	12/04	HA
Curve-billed Thrasher	1 south of Johnson City	Stanton	1/31	TL
Brown Thrasher	1 in St Francis	Cheyenne	12/21	MK
Brown Thrasher	1 in Shawnee	Johnson	2/15	EB
Eastern Towhee	1 in Wilson, northwesterly for winter Still present 2/15	Ellsworth	1/11	MR
Chipping Sparrow	1 in Lawrence – increasing winter reports	Douglas	1/14	KC
Chipping Sparrow	1 in Shawnee	Johnson	1/14	EB
Chipping Sparrow	1 in Shawnee (different location)	Johnson	1/19	JH
LeConte's Sparrow	1 near Belvue	Pottawatomie	12/10	JH
LeConte's Sparrow	1 southwest of Hutchinson 1 in same area 1/19	Reno	12/24	JMi
Rusty Blackbird	<u>75</u> near Lakin	Kearny	12/16	SSh
Summer Tanager	1 quite late Wyandotte County Lake	Wyandotte	12/02	DS
Dickcissel	1 rare winter record near Burton	Harvey	1/5	GF

Locations and notes: CBC – Christmas Bird Count, CNG - Cimarron National Grasslands, KBRC – Kansas Bird Records Committee report filed, MDC – Marais des Cygnes, Res. – Reservoir, 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 - Individuals: Nic Allen, Henry Armknecht, Aaron Batterbee (ABa), Jeremy Birket, (JBi), Roger Boyd, Emily Brosnan, Andrew Burnett (ABu), Jeff Calhoun, Kathy Carroll, Kelli Egbert, Jared Engelbert, Corey Entriken, Gregg Friesen, Allison Godek (Ago), Malcolm Gold (MGo), Harry Gregory, Mark Keller, Dave Klema, Chris Lake, Tony Leukering, Micky Louis (MiL), Jim Malcom (JMm), John Mallery, Terry & Sam Mannell (TSM), Kathy McDowell (KMD), Mick McHugh (MMH), Debby McKee (DMK), Andrew Miller, Joseph Miller (JMi), Andrew Mitchell (AMt), David Mootz (DMz), Atcha Nolan, Mark Nolen, Jess Painter, Diane Persons, Mark Pheasant (MPh), Galen Pittman, Marie Plinsky, Faith Shapley-Queen (FSQ), Nadia Qureshi, Jenn Rader, Mike Rader, John Row (JRo), Carolyn Schwab, David Seibel, Scott Seltman, Sara Shane (SSh), Mark Tarry (MTy), Rodney Wedel, Jeff Witters, Eugene Young, John Zempel, Linda Zempel **Observers - Groups:** BA - Burroughs Audubon Society, CBC – Christmas Bird Count participants, m.ob. – multiple observers

BEST BIRD OF THE YEAR NOMINATION FORM

(for period since September 30, 2018 - more than one bird can be nominated)

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 _____

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

2019 KOS Spring Meeting Compiled Checklist
Noon May 10 through noon May 12
Allen, Bourbon, Crawford, and Linn Counties

158 species

Species	Allen	Bourbon	Crawford	Linn
Canada Goose	X	X	X	X
Wood Duck		X	X	
Ruddy Duck			X	
Northern Bobwhite	X	X	X	X
Wild Turkey		X	X	
Pied-billed Grebe		X		
Rock Pigeon	X	X	X	X
Eurasian Collared-Dove	X	X	X	X
Mourning Dove	X	X	X	X
Yellow-billed Cuckoo		X		X
Common Nighthawk		X		X
Chuck-will's-widow		X		
Eastern Whip-poor-will		X		
Chimney Swift	X	X	X	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	X	X	X	X
Sandhill Crane			X	
Killdeer	X	X	X	X
Upland Sandpiper		X		
Long-billed Dowitcher	X			
Spotted Sandpiper	X	X	X	X
Solitary Sandpiper	X			
Lesser Yellowlegs			X	X
Franklin's Gull				X
Caspian Tern			X	
Black Tern			X	
Forster's Tern		X		X
Common Loon	X		X	
Double-crested Cormorant	X	X	X	X
American White Pelican				X
Least Bittern		X*		
Great Blue Heron	X	X	X	X
Great Egret			X	
Green Heron		X		
Turkey Vulture	X	X	X	X
Osprey	X		X	
Cooper's Hawk	X	X		
Bald Eagle		X	X	
Mississippi Kite		X		

Species	Allen	Bourbon	Crawford	Linn
Red-shouldered Hawk		X	X	X
Broad-winged Hawk		X		X
Swainson's Hawk			X	
Red-tailed Hawk	X	X	X	X
Great Horned Owl				X
Barred Owl		X	X	X
Belted Kingfisher	X	X	X	
Red-headed Woodpecker	X	X	X	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	X	X	X	X
Downy Woodpecker	X	X	X	X
Hairy Woodpecker		X		X
Northern Flicker			X	
Pileated Woodpecker	X	X	X	X
American Kestrel	X	X		X
Peregrine Falcon		X		
Great Crested Flycatcher	X	X	X	X
Western Kingbird	X	X	X	X
Eastern Kingbird	X	X	X	X
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	X	X	X	X
Eastern Wood-Pewee	X	X	X	X
Acadian Flycatcher		X	X	
Alder Flycatcher		X	X	
Willow Flycatcher		X		
Least Flycatcher	X	X	X	X
Eastern Phoebe	X	X	X	X
Loggerhead Shrike	X	X	X	X
White-eyed Vireo		X	X	
Bell's Vireo	X	X	X	X
Yellow-throated Vireo	X	X	X	X
Blue-headed Vireo	X			X
Philadelphia Vireo				X
Warbling Vireo	X	X	X	X
Red-eyed Vireo	X	X	X	X
Blue Jay	X	X	X	X
American Crow	X	X	X	X
Fish Crow	X	X	X	X
Horned Lark	X	X		X
Purple Martin	X	X	X	X
Tree Swallow		X	X	X
N. Rough-winged Swallow	X	X	X	X
Bank Swallow		X		
Cliff Swallow	X	X	X	X
Barn Swallow	X	X	X	X
Carolina Chickadee	X		X	
Black-capped Chickadee	X	X		X

Species	Allen	Bourbon	Crawford	Linn
Tufted Titmouse	X	X	X	X
White-breasted Nuthatch		X	X	X
House Wren	X	X	X	X
Carolina Wren	X	X	X	X
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	X	X	X	X
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	X	X		
Eastern Bluebird	X	X	X	X
Veery		X		
Gray-cheeked Thrush	X			
Swainson's Thrush	X	X	X	X
Wood Thrush		X		X
American Robin	X	X	X	X
Gray Catbird	X	X	X	X
Brown Thrasher	X	X	X	X
Northern Mockingbird	X	X	X	X
European Starling	X	X	X	X
Cedar Waxwing	X	X	X	
House Sparrow	X	X	X	X
House Finch	X	X	X	X
American Goldfinch	X	X	X	X
Eastern Towhee		X		X
Chipping Sparrow	X	X	X	X
Clay-colored Sparrow	X		X	X
Field Sparrow	X	X	X	X
Lark Sparrow	X	X	X	X
Savannah Sparrow	X	X		X
Grasshopper Sparrow	X	X	X	
Henslow's Sparrow		X		
Lincoln's Sparrow		X	X	X
White-throated Sparrow	X	X		X
Harris's Sparrow		X		
White-crowned Sparrow	X	X	X	X
Yellow-breasted Chat			X	
Yellow-headed Blackbird	X			
Bobolink		X	X	X
Eastern Meadowlark	X	X	X	X
Orchard Oriole	X	X	X	X
Baltimore Oriole	X	X	X	X
Red-winged Blackbird	X	X	X	X
Brown-headed Cowbird	X	X	X	X
Common Grackle	X	X	X	X
Great-tailed Grackle	X	X	X	X
Ovenbird	X*	X	X	X
Louisiana Waterthrush	X	X	X	X
Northern Waterthrush	X	X*	X	

Species	Allen	Bourbon	Crawford	Linn
Golden-winged Warbler		X*		X
Black-and-white Warbler	X	X	X	X
Prothonotary Warbler	X	X	X	X
Tennessee Warbler	X	X		X
Orange-crowned Warbler	X	X	X	X
Nashville Warbler	X	X	X	X
Mourning Warbler	X			
Kentucky Warbler		X		X
Common Yellowthroat	X	X	X	X
Hooded Warbler	X*			
American Redstart	X	X	X	X
Northern Parula	X	X	X	X
Magnolia Warbler	X	X	X	X
Bay-breasted Warbler	X			
Blackburnian Warbler	X		X	X
Yellow Warbler	X	X	X	X
Chestnut-sided Warbler	X	X	X	X
Blackpoll Warbler		X	X	X
Palm Warbler	X	X		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	X	X	X	X
Yellow-throated Warbler		X		
Black-throated Green Warbler				X
Wilson's Warbler	X	X		X
Summer Tanager		X	X	X
Northern Cardinal	X	X	X	X
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	X	X	X	X
Blue Grosbeak	X	X	X	X
Indigo Bunting	X	X	X	X
Painted Bunting	X	X	X	X
Dickcissel	X	X	X	X
Number of Species	107	131	112	111

* denotes new county record for that species

A Little Spring Meeting History

When KOS first formed in 1949, it was decided that there would be a spring and a fall meeting. Up until 1979 the annual meeting and paper session was held in the spring and the fall meeting was birding field trips. In the late 1970s KOS decided to switch those meetings around so that the spring meeting was birding field trips and it would land on or near the peak of spring migration.

In recent years the KOS Board has made a concerted effort to move the spring meeting around to different areas of the state based on invitations from local members who wanted to host, or to visit locations where we haven't been before, trying to not to stay in the same part of the state year after year. If you'd like to host a meeting in your part of Kansas, please let us know. We have board members who can help you work out the details. All you need is a motel or two, some restaurants and places to bird! Contact us if you are interested!



A fairly typical spring meeting field trip. A bunch of birders standing along a roadside looking into the trees. And as fate has it, it's lightly raining! Thanks to Cheryl Miller for this photo from the spring meeting taken in Linn County!

What Does It Take to Host a KOS Meeting

As was briefly explained on the previous page KOS meetings don't just happen. Fall meetings have a fairly formal structure due to the need for a presented papers session and a business meeting. Spring meetings are a little bit more free-wheeling with a strong focus, a solitary focus, of being out in the field birding. The KOS Board has the final say on where and when we meet (although we normally try to meet the first weekend of May and the first weekend of October.)

We like to move the meetings around, especially the spring meetings, so we can bird and visit different parts of our great state. Spring meetings need a motel or two for lodging, a restaurant where 30 to 60 can meet for a Dutch treat Saturday evening dinner, and a central point to gather and lunch on Sunday noon. A gathering place for a social on Friday night is also nice, and it can be very informal. The planning committee also needs to be able to have box lunches or a Sunday noon meal of some form (an additional charge for those partaking.) And of course, locations for birding. These can be city/county/state parks, Corps of Engineers reservoirs, good "birdy" county roads and even private property with access granted by the landowner. We need someone willing to step forward and offer to help plan our 2020 spring meeting. Board members are available to help plan, but we need boots on the ground. This spring we were in eastern Kansas, Fort Scott, and in 2018 we were in Dodge City. Somewhere in between would be wonderful!



**Official Nomination Form
2019 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 Cheryl Miller, avian67226@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.

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

KOS Fall Meeting

October 4 - 6, 2019

Wichita, Kansas

Annual Business Meeting

Presented Papers

Banquet

Networking

Birding

Plan now to attend and look for registration information in early August!

*Fall 2020 - October 2 - 4, 2020
Benedictine College, Atchison*

Want to become more involved in KOS?

If you look on the right hand side of page 2 of this newsletter you will find a list of the KOS Board members. Some are names you've likely seen, others you don't know. But it takes everyone on that list to make KOS function. Some positions will have the same person serving for several years, others change regularly. But there's at least two new members needed each year, sometimes more. Now you may think that you don't know anything about how KOS operates, and that's okay. But if you want to become more involved and help direct the future of KOS then there's always an opportunity for you to step up, get elected to the board and start to learn. If you are interested or have questions, contact anyone in that sidebar on page 2. We'd love to visit with you and have you join the KOS leadership team!