



The Horned Lark

Kansas Ornithological Society

September, 2026

Vol. 53, No. 3

KOS Fall Meeting Southwestern College, Winfield, Kansas September 25-27, 2026

Fall Meeting information on Pages 3 & 4. Registration form on P. 5.

Online Registration can be found at:

https://ksbirds.org/kos/Fall2026/kos_2026_fall_meeting.htm

Kansas Birding Trails (ksbirdingtrail.com)

I learned something that I've used in other states, State Birding Trail websites, but didn't know one existed in my own state. Ridiculous, I know! The Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks (KDWP) has an eye appealing and easy to navigate site, <https://www.ksbirdingtrail.com>.

Kansas has high bird species diversity with the current number at 492 according to our own stats person Chuck Otte. With 3,000 miles of public trails, 4 national wildlife refuges (NWR) and two federally-managed national grasslands, there is a lot to explore.

Sixteen birding trails are sprinkled throughout the state. Each trail includes a nice historical overview of the scenery, geology, flora & fauna including a map of the trail and in many cases a rough time frame if you drive with no stops which is helpful in planning. What a nice fall day or weekend outing this could be.

From the Keyboard

By the Editor

My gosh, September already. It's been a quiet summer of birding. Fun to keep track and observe all the breeding birds on the farm. With all the sightings of Red Crossbills in July, Chad and I did venture to the Otoe Area of Wilson State Park on July 15th. We were happy to HEAR, see, and photograph several. This was a species I had seen at the Orono Bog in Maine and the Sax Zim Bog in Minnesota. But, certainly not as close up as the juvenile that flew onto a lower pine branch right at eye level. There is truly something wonderful about seeing and hearing a new species in your home state. I was ecstatic!

After being originally heard & seen by KOS member Mark Nolen of Wichita starting on May 19th of this year, many of you may have taken the trip to Oak Park in Wichita to see the Hooded Warbler(s). I did a couple weeks later and was fortunate to hear and see a male. You may have also noticed through eBird that Mark documented his find through visiting this site numerous times. Mark's "Birding Blurb" entitled Hooded Warblers Successfully Breed in Sedgwick County with photos can be found on p. 9. Thank you Mark for agreeing to share with us!

Have you submitted your best bird of the year (since September 30, 2025)? We had several submissions last year, but would be great to flood Gene with a bunch! Enclosed is a Nomination Form on p. 8 or can quickly email him at: eugene.young@noc.edu.

The KOS Fall Meeting information and registration form can be found on pages 3,4, & 5. April Board Meeting minutes on pages 6,7, & 8. Winter Kansas Birding Roundup (December 2025 - February 2026), compiled by Chuck, on pages 10,11,& 12. As always, forward any note worthy sightings to Chuck at cotte@twinvalley.net.

Non-discrimination Statement

KOS is a non-profit organization committed to providing an environment that is inclusive and free from discrimination in our membership community and associated KOS activities because of race, religion, creed, national origin, ancestry, disability, gender, sexual orientation or age.



Statement of non-profit status and copyright: The Kansas Ornithological Society is a 501(c)3 organization created for the study, conservation and enjoyment of wild birds. The Horned Lark is the membership newsletter of the society and all material contained herein is copyrighted.

KOS Board of Directors

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

President

Mike Rader, Wilson, KS
Mike_rader@hotmail.com

Vice-President

Andrew George, Pittsburg, KS
adgeorge@pittstate.edu

Corresponding Secretary

Chuck Otte, Milford, KS
cotte@twinvalley.net

Membership Development Coordinator

Jeff Calhoun, Dodge City, KS
jeffcalhoun11@gmail.com

Treasurer

Max Thompson, Winfield, KS
maxt@cox.net

Business Manager

Malcolm Gold, Overland Park, KS
malcolmgold@gmail.com

Editor, KOS Bulletin

Gene Young, Arkansas City, KS
eugene.young@noc.edu
youngg6264@yahoo.com

Editor, The Horned Lark

Trish Remley, Miltonvale, KS
grasslandgardens@gmail.com

Past-President

Kurtis Meier, Garden City, KS
kurtis.meier@ks.gov

Directors at Large:

Lucas DeCicco, Lawrence, KS
lhdecicco@gmail.com

Kevin Groeneweg, Wichita, KS
kgroeneweg1616@gmail.com

Glen Caspers, Topeka, KS
GCaspers@cox.net

Jennifer Jones, Wichita, KS
jjinict@gmail.com

KOS FALL MEETING
77th Annual Meeting
Southwestern College, Winfield, Kansas
September 25 - 27, 2026

Come and join us on the beautiful campus of Southwestern College, in Winfield, the last weekend of September for a time of visiting with friends, old and new, learning more about birds and birdlife in general, celebrating accomplishments and enjoying some birding in very southcentral Kansas!

Schedule of Events

Friday, September 25

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. - Friday evening gathering will be in the Beech Science Center Foyer

Saturday, September 26

8:00 a.m. - Registration - Darbeth Hall Foyer

9:00 a.m. - Welcome and morning paper session in Messenger Auditorium

11:30 a.m. - KOS Business Meeting

11:45 a.m. - Lunch on your own. (The Southwestern College cafeteria will be serving lunch)

KOS Board Meeting If Needed: Location will be announced.

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

2:30 (or as soon as Birdwatcher's Hour ends) - 4:30 p.m. - Afternoon paper session

4:30 p.m., or as soon as the paper session ends - KOS Business Meeting (if needed)

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Banquet, awards and speaker, Smith Student Center. Mark Robbins will present a program on his recent trip to Antarctica.

Sunday, September 28

7:00 a.m. - Half day field trips will tentatively include: Slate Creek Wetlands (Sumner County); Winfield City Lake (Cowley County); Chaplin Nature Center (Cowley County), and other areas around Winfield (Cowley County). Gather in the parking lot north of Beech Science Center. Sign-up sheets will be provided Friday evening and all-day Saturday. Field trip locations may change based on participation sign-up and access availability.

12:30 p.m. - Compilation location will be at the large pavilion in Island Park (north side of Winfield adjacent to the river and US 77 Highway.) **There is no box lunch option - bring your own lunch!**

Lodging in Winfield

There is no hotel block. Recommended housing options include:

Quality Inn - 620-221-7529

Econo Lodge - 620-221-9050

Super 8 - 620-262-2230

Best Western (Arkansas City) - 620-307-6767

The Barns at Timber Creek (B&B) - 620-221-2797

Registration

The meeting registration fee is \$10.00. This fee will be waived for all high school, undergraduate and graduate students. The Saturday evening banquet is \$25.00 per person. To be certain to have a meal, you must be registered by September 12! Student fees are NOT waived for the banquet. If your abstract for presenting a paper is accepted, you will still have to register. If you are a student not needing to make a banquet reservation, register by sending Max Thompson an email at maxt@cox.net. Registrations must be received by Sept. 12 to be included in the meal counts. There are no refunds for cancellations after Sept. 20. Registrations

received after Sept. 18 will have a \$10.00 surcharge per person.

Top 10 Best Birds of the Year

Any and all are welcome to submit nominations for bird sightings of rare or unusual birds that were observed anywhere in Kansas since September 30, 2025. These are typically awarded in a Top 10 format with multiple honorable mention species usually included. Multiple nominations may be submitted. Please send your nominations to Eugene Young, Northern Oklahoma College, 1220 E. Grand. PO Box 310, Tonkawa, OK 74653-0310; or EUGENE.YOUNG@noc.edu. Be sure to include the species, location and name(s) of the observer(s).

Banquet Speaker and Program Information

Mark Robbins, Collections Manager, Ornithology, Retired, University of Kansas Natural History Museum.

If you register and pay online at PayPal you do not need to send the form to Max

Attention Christmas Bird Count Compilers

Please send your planned dates and details to Chuck at cotte@twinvalley.net

Speaking of the Christmas Bird Count (CBC) : When reading the Dyck Arboretum (located just off Interstate 135 in Hesston, KS) newsletter, a traveling exhibit titled “A Day With the Birds: Community Science & the Audubon Christmas Bird Count” caught my attention. Created by the Kauffman Museum exhibits team in North Newton, with lead curator Lorna Harder explores the longest-running community science project in the world.

Located in the Prairie Discovery Lab near the greenhouses, it will be open to the public through September 22, weekdays 1-4pm. Additional details can be found at their website: dyckarboretum.org or can call 620-327-8127.

A Reminder: End of Year:

Have you considered including KOS in your estate?
Contact Treasurer Max Thompson for details.

**Registration Form, KOS Fall Meeting
September 25 - 27, 2026
Winfield, Kansas**

I (we) plan to attend the 2026 KOS Fall Meeting

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

	Number	Total
Registration Fee \$10/person	_____	\$ _____
Student Registration <i>(No charge for students but you still need to register!)</i>	_____	\$ <u>0.00</u>

Saturday Banquet, \$25/person _____ \$ _____
To be certain to have a meal, you must be registered by September 12!
Gluten free and vegan options available - please indicate below under special needs

Surcharge for payment received after Sep 12th \$10/person _____ \$ _____

Total Amount Due (Checks payable to KOS) _____ \$ _____
Or pay online via PayPal

Number of persons in party: _____

Special needs or requests: _____

Registrations received after September 12th will have a surcharge of \$10.00 per person.

No Cancellation Refunds after September 20th.

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 2026 KOS fall meeting. (Registering on line, or submission of this form electronically indicates your acceptance of these conditions.)

Signatures Date

Kansas Ornithological Society (KOS)
Board Meeting Minutes
April 15, 2026
Conducted via Zoom

The KOS Board Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Mike Rader.

Attendance: Glenn Caspers, Andrew George, Malcolm Gold, Kevin Groeneweg, Jennifer Jones, Chuck Otte, Mike Rader, Trish Remley, Max Thompson, and Eugene Young. John Schukman was also in attendance as KOS Research Funds chair.

The minutes of the September 27, 2025 Board Meeting held during the Fall Meeting had been emailed to everyone earlier. **Gene moved to accept the minutes as presented. The motion seconded and was passed unanimously.**

Reports

Vice President: Andrew said that he would be sending out information for the call for papers soon. Chuck said he would forward information to Andrew.

Treasurer: Max shared financial information with the board and emphasized that the Society was very solvent. He briefly outlined expenses since the last meeting and reminded everyone that the largest expenditures are the printing and mailing of *The Bulletin* and the Horned Lark newsletter. *(Those financials are available upon request to the Treasurer by any current KOS member.)*

Membership Secretary: Jeff was unable to make the meeting but provided the following current membership numbers:

- Complimentary Memberships - 4
- Contributing Members - 2
- Exchange Agencies - 10
- Life Memberships - 133
- Library Annual Memberships - 5
- Regular Families - 13
- Regular Individuals - 54
- Sustaining Families - 9
- Sustaining Individuals - 17
- Students - 14

Secretary: Chuck said he would try to get the minutes out to everyone to review soon, but reminded the board that spring migration was happening! He also reported that he would be out of state during the fall meeting so would need a volunteer to serve as secretary to record minutes at the business meeting and the board meeting (if one was held.) He would prepare all the information that he normally does for the fall meeting.

Bulletin Editor: Gene reported that the June issue would contain the Kansas Bird Records Committee (KBRC) annual report for 2025. The September issue would be the Christmas Bird Count issue. Students were helping him work on the data analysis that would be included. There were several manuscripts currently in review for consideration for the December issue.

Horned Lark Editor: Trish said that she was starting to gather material for the June issue. She had asked about an "In Memory" article for Tom Ewert and if there was someone(s) who were going to pull

-continued next page

that information together. Kevin was going to contact several Wichita area birders who would be best qualified to do that. She wanted to do an article about Breeding Bird Surveys, hoping it would encourage more birders to volunteer for the open routes in Kansas. The June issue would also include a teaser for the Fall Meeting.

Business Manager: Malcolm reported that there was approximately \$2,300 in sales for 2025, mostly from calendars. The sales resulted in a total profit of around \$600. He said he was always open and looking for ideas. If anyone has thoughts on a calendar theme for 2027, please let him know. Several people expressed how well done the 2026 calendar was. He was asked about the chance of maybe doing a t-shirt for the spring meeting. Ideas were suggested and he said he'd get to work on it.

KOS Research Funds: John indicated that a grad student at Pittsburg State Univ had received \$2,000 in late 2025. The check had not been cashed yet because of some challenges with how the funds were being handled internally at the University. \$1,500 had been awarded to Town Peterson to help defray costs associated with Greater Prairie-Chicken surveys this spring. John inquired as to the listed value of the Dingus property and whether that included the value of some very good quality walnut timber on Sugar Creek. Max explained that KOS was required to keep the property on the books at the value that it was when it was Quit Claim Deeded to KOS by The Nature Conservancy (TNC). KOS can never sell it, they can only give it back to TNC.

Kansas Bird Records Committee (KBRC): Chuck explained that KBRC members are elected by the members of KBRC but that election is subject to the approval of the KOS Board as per KBRC's Procedural Rules. Seven members serve four-year terms and can be elected to two consecutive terms. Max Thompson and Mike Rader had completed their first term and had been re-elected to a second term. **Chuck moved and Malcolm seconded that the election of Max and Mike be confirmed. The motion passed unanimously.** Chuck also reported that Max had been chair of the KBRC and was eligible to be re-elected but had chosen not to. Malcolm Gold was elected to serve as chairman through the end of his current KBRC term. Secretary of KBRC does not have to be a KBRC member and has no limit on how long they can serve. Chuck Otte had finished his current four-year term as secretary and had been re-elected to another term. Chuck also serves as an alternate voting member for KBRC. The two officer terms do not need to be approved by the KOS Board. (A list of the KBRC members as well as the full Procedural Rules is linked to KBRC's home page at: https://www.ksbirds.org/kos/kos_kbrc.htm).

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Spring Meeting: Jennifer and Kevin are working with Pete Janzen on the spring meeting planning and reported the following. Reservations are made and confirmed for the various venues. Field Trip leaders have been lined up. Pete will not be able to attend but Malcolm has been recruited to lead a field trip as well as Ed Miller, Andrew Burnett in addition to Kevin and Jennifer. Max reported on the current numbers registered. Jennifer said she would send out reminders on social media channels to get registered before the late fees begin.

Fall Meeting: Max reported that the Fall Meeting would be September 25 – 27 at Southwestern College in Winfield. He reported that the Friday evening informal gathering would be in Beech Science Center, Saturday paper sessions and business meeting would be in Darbeth Fine Arts Center. The Saturday night banquet would be in Deets Library and Mark Robbins would give a program on his recent trip to Antarctica. Gene Young was in charge of Sunday Field Trips.

Future Meetings: A discussion was held on possible locations for future meetings. After a review of all locations where spring and fall meetings had been held, Glenn indicated that he thought he could get a committee together to host the Spring 2027 meeting in Topeka. Several ideas were bounced around

-continued next page

for future fall meetings with most of the discussion on central Kansas. Great Bend and Hutchinson were specifically mentioned and Mike said he would initiate contact with individuals in those locations.

KS Turnpike Photo Scavenger Hunt: Chuck had been contacted by individuals with the Kansas Turnpike who were trying to help draw public attention to the wildflower plantings that they were doing at the Turnpike service areas. They had wondered if KOS might help promote a photo scavenger hunt idea with photos of birds taken at the wildflower plots. Chuck had told the two individuals he'd talked to that he could help promote it within KOS and the larger Kansas birding community but has since heard nothing back from those two individuals.

EcoMeet Support: EcoMeet is a primarily high school competition that encourages students to learn about the ecological systems and species found in them in Kansas. Last year KOS sponsored \$500 in student scholarships and had been asked if they were willing to do this again. **Chuck moved to support EcoMeet with \$500 in state scholarships for 2026. Malcolm seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

Other new business/announcements: Andrew informed the board that the Wilson Ornithological Society would be meeting in Kearney Nebraska in March of 2027. He encouraged board members to consider going as it is a well-respected international society that brings excellent papers presentations and speakers together.

There being no further business, Mike declared the meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Chuck Otte
Corresponding Secretary

BEST BIRD OF THE YEAR NOMINATION FORM

It's time to start getting your nominations submitted for best bird of the year (since September 30, 2025). Consider submitting a numbered list of what you consider to be the 5-10 best birds, or whatever number you feel like. Regardless, start getting those sent into Gene so he can start sorting through the list and put it together.

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 _____

Hooded Warblers Successfully Breed in Sedgwick County.....Mark Nolen

Hooded warblers are rare spring migrants throughout the state of Kansas. I was walking through Wichita's Oak Park on May 19, 2026, when I heard the now-familiar bright, metallic chip of a hooded warbler in the understory. After several minutes, I located and identified a male: bright yellow underside, contrasting black hood with yellow face, and white flashes of outer tail feathers. Oak Park preserves a patch of old growth burr oak woodland nestled in a bend of the Little Arkansas River just west of downtown. In recent decades, the understory has become heavily infiltrated with bush honeysuckle and wintercreeper. Even so, the diverse habitat structure provides a modicum of stopover habitat for a variety of neotropical migrants. But seasoned birders will report (much to my chagrin): it's not like it used to be!

Pete Janzen and I observed a second hooded warbler in rapid chase with the male on May 20. That very day Sandra Spechtenhauser posted a photo of a female hooded warbler in Oak Park. This female was not seen again for a month while the male was reported to eBird 77 times by 45 eBirders on 37 separate days from May 19 to July 22. I personally identified the female for the first time on June 22. Christie Hofling spotted her first, and as we tried to follow her movements, I saw her carry a mouthful of food towards the ground! Returning to that spot on June 24, I found a nest built one meter up in a small honeysuckle bush, neatly camouflaged by dead leaves woven into its outer walls. Nest building and feeding of nestlings had gone unnoticed no more than 10 meters from the main trail. Upon inspection of the nest on June 29, it contained one unhatched egg: small and white with a cluster of brown spots at the top. The hooded warbler pair was finally seen feeding a fledgling on July 5. Early activity of the family group seemed concentrated inside impenetrable tangles, the male singing only sporadically. At least two hooded warbler fledglings were still attended by the pair on July 21.

Hooded warblers are denizens of eastern temperate deciduous woodlands, lurking where tree-falls or edges illuminate moist forests to produce a dense shrub layer. The closest populations to Kansas occur in Missouri, Arkansas, and Oklahoma. According to Breeding Bird Survey data, hooded warblers are expanding north, and their populations have increased 50 percent since 1970. Vagrant hooded warblers can stray far into the west. There are extralimital nesting records from New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, and even California (eBird and *Birds of the World*). These observations in Oak Park represent the third documented breeding by hooded warblers in Kansas. Previous records include a nest that fledged young in Anderson County on June 22, 1959, and immature hooded warblers that were seen in the late summer near Perry Lake in Jefferson County (*Birds of Kansas*). Careful observations of singing males during May or June could uncover more hooded warbler breeding pairs. The elusive behavior of the female may complicate this task, but the accessibility of Oak Park, its network of trails, and many observers certainly helped in this case.

Male



Nest with Egg



Fledgling



Kansas Birding Roundup

Winter 2025-2026 (December 2025-February 2026)

Chuck Otte, compiler

This is the report of the winter birding season (December 2025-February 2026) in Kansas. A concerted effort is made to scour all reports from eBird, KSBIRD-L and private messages, for new county records and to reflect them in this report. Weather always seems to dictate bird, and birder, activity and this is especially so in the winter period. December 2025 – February 2026 was much warmer than normal meaning that water stayed open longer into the period which would tend to keep many species lingering in the state well past expected departure dates. While January gave us a brief taste of winter, it was greatly tempered by the very warm December and February months that bookended it. Statewide, December was the fourth warmest on record and February was the third warmest on record. This led to many species lingering on the front end of the season and short distance migrants returning early on the back end. The brief January cold snap, the last ten days of the month, did keep many birders inside and birds sitting tight resulting in very few eBird reports being filed during this period.

What a crazy birding season this was. Many species that would normally leave the state, even briefly during the winter season, didn't leave. Eastern Phoebe were present in the state through the entire period. White-faced Ibis continued well into January, were unreported for a few weeks and then started returning by mid-February. A very similar story for Greater Yellowlegs. None were reported only from January 11 to February 8. Are these lingering individuals harbingers of what we can expect in coming years or just a one season phenomenon?

Black Vultures continued to ensconce themselves into the southeastern portion of the state, long known to be far more cold weather tolerant than Turkey Vultures. Turkey Vultures lingered into very early January, were absent for about a month and then came streaming back into the state in mid-February. How many more years until we can expect Turkey Vultures to be present throughout the winter?

2026 may well be remembered, by birders, as the year of the Caracara. Prior to January, Kansas had exactly three Crested Caracara records. Two solid reports, with photos/video were logged during the winter period and several more in the spring period. More on that in the Spring Birding Roundup!

Lastly, take a look at the number of summer passerine species that were reported during the period. Clearly the Great Kiskadee, third state record, found at Pratt was unexpected for the winter period. But then there were also Western Kingbirds, Baltimore and Bullock's Orioles, Summer and Western Tanagers plus a few others. To reiterate what I said towards the beginning, what a crazy birding season it was!

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. Records that have been accepted by the time this report is written will include the KBRC record number. Thank you to everyone who reports and contributes sightings for this report. Please forward any noteworthy sightings to me at cotte@twinvalley.net or mailed to 11319 Dundon Rd, Milford KS 66514.

Species	Number and Location	County	Date	Observer(s)
Trumpeter Swan	1 at Antelope Lake	<u>Graham</u>	1/25	RyG, SpS
Tundra Swan	1 on pond SW of Howard	<u>Elk</u>	1/04	NS
King Eider	1 female continuing at Perry Lake	Jefferson	12/02	DMK, MP
	This bird continued until 01/21, KBRC #2025-45, 2 nd State Record			
Barrow's Goldeneye	1 male at Melvern Lake	Osage	12/06	DMK, MP
	Continuing 12/07			
Barrow's Goldeneye	1 female at Tuttle Creek Dam outlet area	Riley	2/04	RyG
	Still present 2/06			
Red-necked Grebe	1 off the dam at Perry Lake	Jefferson	12/04	EW
	Continuing 12/05			
Red-necked Grebe	1 at Linn Co Park	Linn	1/01	BW
	Still present 1/04			
Clark's Grebe	1 at Wilson Lake	Russell	12/22	TCn

-continued on next page

Sora	1 at Governor's Ponds, Topeka	Shawnee	12/20	LS, SMO, BU
Sora	1 near Lake Parsons, Parsons CBC	Neosho	12/22	AG
Whooping Crane	7 overhead west of Hutchinson	Reno	12/03	AdM
Whooping Crane	6 at QNWR	Stafford	12/16	MR
Black-bellied Plover	1 at QNWR	Stafford	12/23	MR
Snowy Plover	2 at Kanopolis Lake, late	Ellsworth	12/12	KLCBC
Long-billed Curlew	1 at QNWR, rare winter record	Stafford	1/05	SS
Least Sandpiper	9 at CBWMA, late	Barton	12/04	AH
	3 still present on 12/15			
Pectoral Sandpiper	1 at CBWMA, late	Barton	12/04	AH
	Still present on 12/15			
Long-billed Dowitcher	8 at CBWMA, late	Barton	12/07	AH
Franklin's Gull	1 at Clinton SP Marina	Douglas	1/01	JH
Franklin's Gull	2 at Johnson County WTP	Johnson	1/18	ABb
Lesser Black-backed Gull	1 at Council Grove Res.	<u>Morris</u>	12/10	LA
Lesser Black-backed Gull	1 at Schilling Road Sandpits, Salina	<u>Saline</u>	1/01	KKr
Red-throated Loon	1 at Melvern Lake	Osage	12/06	BAS
	Still present, 12/09, likely same bird from 11/28			
Red-throated Loon	1 at Cheney SP	Reno	12/16	MN
	Still present, 12/21			
Pacific Loon	1 at Marion Res.	<u>Marion</u>	1/11	DMK, MP
Neotropic Cormorant	1 at Tuttle Creek Lake outlet	Riley	12/03	LA, JW
	Continuing, 12/12			
White-faced Ibis	1 at CBWMA	Barton	2/15	CD
Turkey Vulture	1, possible first year bird, east of Russell	Russell	12/22	NT
Turkey Vulture	7 near Frontenac, late	Crawford	1/02	MMu
Turkey Vulture	1 west of Arkansas City, late	Cowley	1/03	TR
Turkey Vulture	1 north of Manhattan	Riley	2/10	DR
	This "early" return was followed by over 20 additional February sightings.			
Osprey	1 at Lakewood Park, Salina, late	Saline	12/02	NT
Osprey	1 at Sedgwick County Zoo, late	Sedgwick	12/10	JB
	Still present 12/17			
Osprey	1 on ground north of Toronto	Woodson	12/11	MvL
Osprey	1 at Wacanda Lake, CBC	Mitchell	12/27	HA
Snowy Owl	1 southeast of Russell	Russell	12/16	DBw
	Still present, 12/20			
Burrowing Owl	1 late south of Garfield	Pawnee	12/10	CF
Northern Saw-Whet Owl	1 at Melvern Lake	Osage	2/13	AdM
Northern Saw-Whet Owl	1 at Perry State Park	Jefferson	2/14	DMK, MP
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1 in Elkhart, westerly	Morton	2/22	AdM
Crested Caracara	1 east of Winfield, KBRC	<u>Cowley</u>	1/17	KVZ
Crested Caracara	1 videoed SW of Independence, KBRC	<u>Montgomery</u>	2/28	EG
Great Kiskadee	1 seen at KDWP Headquarters in Pratt	<u>Pratt</u>	12/09	MR, m.ob.
	Seen through 12/17, KBRC #2025-46, 3 rd State Record			
Western Kingbird	1 at Globe Prairie Area	Douglas	1/14	NH
Western Kingbird	1 SW of Ulysses	Grant	2/28	JC
Northern Shrike	1 east of Howard	<u>Elk</u>	2/18	DKb, MzG, JD
Fish Crow	1 at Hillsdale SP, early	Miami	2/15	MGo
Common Raven	1 south of Hamilton Co SFL, Syracuse CBC	Hamilton	1/04	SSh
Tree Swallow	3 at Heritage Lake	Johnson	2/27	ASk
Tree Swallow	3 at Baker Wetlands, Lawrence	Douglas	2/28	WL
Tree Swallow	1 at Kanopolis Lake	Ellsworth	2/28	RSz
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	1 late at Pracht Wetlands, Wichita	Sedgwick	12/06	JT
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	1 late at Sedgwick County Zoo	Sedgwick	12/14	JB
Rock Wren	1 SW of Medicine Lodge, Red Hills CBC	Barber	1/03	TCR, PJ, JJ
Rock Wren	1 at Wilson Lake	Russell	1/07	DK
Northern House Wren	1 near Oxford KS, Slate Creek CBC	Sumner	12/17	JA, EJ, PMa
Northern House Wren	1 in Pawnee Prairie Park, Wichita CBC	Sedgwick	12/20	JC, BG

-continued on next page

Northern House Wren	1 at Ford SFL, Dodge City CBC	Ford	1/02	KG, TCR
Northern House Wren	1 south of Medicine Lodge, Red Hills CBC	Barber	1/03	ZP
Northern House Wren	1 at rural residence near Ellsworth	Russell	1/08	DK
Sedge Wren	1 on Elmdale Raptor Survey, lingering	<u>Chase</u>	12/03	RyG, SpS
Sage Thrasher	1 in Elkhart	Morton	1/21	AdM
Sage Thrasher	1 near Colorado state line	Stanton	1/28	JC
Varied Thrush	1 at Scott SP, CBC	<u>Scott</u>	12/27	JC, KM
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	1 at feeders near Tuttle Tubes	<u>Riley</u>	2/05	RyG, SpS
	Still present 2/17			
Redpoll	1 at feeders near Miltonvale	Cloud	1/24	TCR
	Still present 2/21			
Lesser Goldfinch	1 at feeders in Manhattan	Riley	12/26	TCn
Lesser Goldfinch	1 at feeders south of Clements	Chase	1/30	GW
Smith's Longspur	1 at Wilson Lake, west of expected range	Russell	2/08	AdM
Black-throated Sparrow	1 near Sedgwick, Halstead-Newton CBC	<u>Harvey</u>	12/20	CS
	KBRC #2025-57, present until 12/27			
Vesper Sparrow	1 SW of Russell Springs	Logan	2/01	AdM
Canyon Towhee	1 at Point of Rocks CNG	Morton	2/21	AdM
Green-tailed Towhee	1 east of QNWR	<u>Reno</u>	1/30	DwM
Bullock's Oriole	1 late at KDWP Headquarters, Pratt	Pratt	12/12	DwM
	Still present, 12/14			
Bullock's Oriole	1 at Sandsage Bison Range WA	Finney	12/13	KM
Baltimore Oriole	1 female in Stockton, Webster Res. CBC	Rooks	1/03	MR, RP
Baltimore Oriole	1 female near Perry Lake	Jefferson	1/19	DMK, MP
Baltimore Oriole	1 female at residential feeders	Johnson	1/23	CE
Black-and-white Warbler	1 at Lake Afton	Sedgwick	1/01	DH
Pine Warbler	1 Maple Grove Cemetery, Wichita CBC	Sedgwick	12/20	KG, BOh, JdA
Yellow-throated Warbler	1 in Bonner Springs, quite early	Wyandotte	2/18	JMz
Summer Tanager	1 at feeders in Prairie Village	Johnson	12/06	BA, MSA
	Seen again on 12/07			
Summer Tanager	Female photographed at feeder in Fairway	Johnson	1/05	SI
	Seen periodically through 2/16			
Western Tanager	Female at Scott SP, CBC	Scott	12/27	SSh
Painted Bunting	Female coming to feeder in Lawrence	Douglas	12/21	CCG
	Seen through 12/23			
Dickcissel	1 at Perry Lake on CBC	Jefferson	12/21	CM

Locations and notes: CBC – Christmas Bird Count, CBWMA – Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Management Area, CNG – Cimarron National Grasslands, KBRC – Kansas Bird Records Committee report filed or accepted report number, KDWP – Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, QNWR – Quivira National Wildlife Refuge, Res. – Reservoir, SFL – State Fishing Lake, SP – State Park, SW – southwest, WTP – Water Treatment Plant, WA – Wildlife Area

Underlined county name indicates new county record. Underlined number indicates an exceptionally high count. County name followed by an asterisk (*) indicates a new confirmed breeding record.

Observers - Individuals: Jodi Addis (JdA), Bill Akin, Mary Sue Akin (MSA), Logan Anderson, Henry Armknecht, Jackie Augustine, Aaron Batterbee (ABb), Jeremy Birket (JBi), Derrick Brown (DBw), Jeff Calhoun, Tom Cannon (TCn), Caryl Chacey-Guba (CCG), Colin Danch, Jeff Dawson, Corey Entriken, Christopher Frick, Andrew George, Ryan Giordanelli (RyG), Malcolm Gold (MGo), Mackenzie Goldthwait (MzG), Evan Gordon, Bob Gress, Kevin Groeneweg, Aiden Haley, Dallas Hewett, Joe Hoelscher, Noah Hoelscher, Stephanie Iser, Pete Janzen, Eden Johnson, Jennifer Jones, Doug Kibbe (DKb), Dave Klema, Kaleb Kroeker (KKr), Maeve Ladd (MvL), Ward Lyles, Patricia Marlett (PMA), Debra McKee (DMK), Kurtis Meier, John Metzler (JMz), Andrew Miller (AdM), Dwight Miller (DwM), Carol Morgan, Sarah Morgan (SMo), Maggie Murray (MMu), Mark Nolen, Bob Ohlson (BOh), Robert Penner, Mark Pheasant, Zach Poland, Mike Rader, Trish and Chad Remley (TCR), Dave Rintoul, Travis Ross, Spencer Santi (SpS), Roger Schultz (RSz), Carolyn Schwab, Scott Seltman, Sara Shane (SSh), Logan Smith, Alexander Sokolowski (Ask), Nick Stroot, Nate Thomas, Jeff Tyson, Bronte Unrein, Kendall Van Zanten (KVZ), Joshua Ward, Bryan White, Evan Whited, Greg Wingfield **Groups:** m.ob. – many observers; BAS – Burroughs Audubon Society Field Trip, KLCBC – Kanopolis Lake CBC