

Society to Celebrate Silver Anniversary

The spring 1973 meeting to be held in Lawrence on April 28-29, at the Museum of Natural History, The University of Kansas, will see the Society meeting at its birthplace 25 years ago. Dr. Robert M. Mengel and his wife Marion Mengel are cochairman of the local committee. The following item was sent by Marion:

"The Museum of Natural History of the University of Kansas, and the Jayhawk Audubon Club, are pleased to be able to host the Silver Anniversary Meeting of the Kansas Ornithological Society. We hope you will be able to celebrate this event with us. Arrangements are being made for a group photograph to be taken to commemorate the affair.

The Meeting will be held on April 28 and 29. Registration will begin at 8:30 in the Museum's main exhibit hall (the panorama of North American Animals) where coffee and doughnuts will be served.

The business and paper sessions will be held on Saturday morning and afternoon in the auditorium of the Museum.

Lunch can be obtained on Saturday at the Student Union, adjacent to the Museum.

Throughout the day the bird collection of the Museum will be open for inspection by any interested person.

On Saturday evening, the Silver Anniversary banquet will be held at the Virginia Inn Restaurant. A selection of wines will be served before dinner. Orville Rice has accepted our invitation to entertain us with a talk entitled, "Alaska--the Great Land".

The traditional field trips are planned for Sunday morning. Box lunches will be served at noon.

If you arrive in Lawrence on Friday evening, we hope you will attend an open house at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Dale Clinton, 1635 Mississippi Street. The Clintons will expect guests between 7:30 and 9:30. Please refer to the enclosed map of the KU campus to understand the following directions. The Clintons live at the dead-end of Mississippi Street north of 17th Street. The best parking space is in the KU lot immediately adjacent to the Clintons, and this parking lot should be approached by driving north on Illinois Street from 19th Street.

The map also shows the best parking area for access to the Museum and Union, this being the hatched area labeled as "X" Zone.

Following is a summary of the various motels available. All are equally close to the University. Please make arrangements directly with the motel of your choice.

Virginia Inn Motel (and Restaurant): This is a Best Western Motel. Rates vary from \$12 (one person) to \$18 (three persons--two double beds). The banquet will be held at this restaurant. The restaurant opens at 7:00 a. m. 2907 West 6th St., Telephone 913-843-6611.

Travelodge Motel: This is close to the Virginia Inn and is next door to the Village Inn Pancake House, which opens at 6:00 a.m. Rates vary from \$12 (single) to \$19 (three persons--two double beds). 801 Iowa St., 913-842-5100.

Ramada Inn (and Restaurant): This motel is near the Virginia Inn. All rooms have two double beds. One person pays \$12, two pay \$18, and each additional pays \$3. The Restaurant opens at 6:00 a.m. 6th and Iowa St., 913-842-7030.

El Navajo Motel: This is across the street from the Virginia Inn. Rates are based on rooms, not the number of persons occupying them, and range from \$8 (one double bed, shower) to \$14 (two double beds, tub). 2512 West 6th, 913-843-9729.

Holiday Inn Motel: (and restaurant): This motel is about three miles from the Virginia Inn Restaurant. The Holiday Inn Restaurant is open 24 hours a day. Rates range from \$11.50 for one person to \$17 for two. 2300 Iowa St., 913-843-9100.

College Motel: This and the next motel are near the Ramada Inn Restaurant and the Village Inn Pancake House. A single costs \$11, two persons with two double beds pay \$15. 1703 West 6th, 913-843-0131.

Westview Motel: (see comments above) Rates for this motel range from \$7.50 for a single to \$10 for two persons with two double beds. 1313 West 6th, 913-843-6373.

KOA Campground: Located on the outskirts of Lawrence. RFD 4, 913-842-3877.

If you have any questions regarding any arrangements for the meeting, please write to Marion J. Mengel, Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas 66044. Registration forms, call for papers and best bird of the year forms are enclosed.

Field Notes

Kansas City Region--The following are dates on sightings of Clark's Nutcrackers in our area. All were seen on the Kansas side. There seems to be an influx of them. The first Kansas one was seen at Shawnee Mission South High School in the environmental outdoor lab by Dick Dawson on October 19th, 1972. The second was seen by Ted McNitt in his yard at 10131 Pawnee Lane in Leawood, Kansas on November 5. A third was seen January 5 at 50th and Rainbow Blvd. by Mrs. D. L. Azarnoff.

Three were observed at a feeder near Liberty, Missouri from November 5 up into the first or second week in December.

We have a huge flock of Pine Siskins and are having a ball hand-feeding them. They are absolutely fearless. There must be 200, which is probably a conservative number. Mary Louise Myers.

Great Bend--I, like many of you, I'm sure, accumulate sight records that while not being of enough significance to warrant an individual note, they should be recorded and reported for future reference.

Two Pinon Jays paid a brief visit just east of Walnut Creek diversion dam on 19 October 1972. They were seen only that day.

Eleven Red Crossbills were feeding on the seeds of green ash in the Great Bend cemetery on 16 December 1972.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Nossaman and their Christmas count group observed four Evening Grosbeaks in Great Bend on 16 December 1972. Two Evening Grosbeaks, one bright adult and one juvenile, stayed more than three weeks in and under Russian Olive trees just north of our house. They were first observed 6 January 1973. On 2 February 1973 I observed 11 Evening Grosbeaks in Great Bend near the corner of Forest and Washington St.

A flock of more than 40 Bohemian Waxwings spent at least part of the winter in Great Bend. Mr. Fred Appl first reported the birds on 10 January 1973. I watched the flock for more than thirty minutes--some at a distance of less than 20 feet, as they fed on juniper berries and bathed in puddles of melting snow on 14 January 1973. They were lifers for me. A single Townsends Solitaire also added to the unusual finds that day.

A single gull cruising the inlet canal near the Cheyenne Bottoms WMA headquarters on 18 January 1973 proved to be an adult California Gull. The first we have been able to record in our many years here (second record for the State--Editor).

Two Boat-tailed Grackles were recorded on the Christmas count 16 December, both were males. One is wintering in Alfred Hammeke's farmstead feedyard just off of pool 4.

A single Harris' Hawk was recorded 16 December two miles south of the headquarters at Cheyenne Bottoms. The following week the bird moved northeast to the marsh and spent more than a week in and near the trees at the junction of pools 1,2 and 5.

This next report is a little out of our region but an adventure by one of our members which you'll find interesting:

Puerto Rico --Shortly after school began in late August, a wintering Cape May Warbler hit a school window and was brought to me. Not an expert on the winter plumages of warblers, I took the dead bird to the University of Puerto Rico Experimental Station for hopefully a positive identification. There, I met a Dr. Noel Snyder who is studying the nearly extinct Puerto Rican Parrot. He and his wife have built 18 lookouts and two blinds on El Yunque. He told me he fears only 16 parrots are left but that a very few might have been missed on the census. I got my first look of this rare bird on the morning of 9 December. Though we only saw two parrots that morning, we estimated there were a minimum of 4 and as many as 6. An attempt to find the Elfin Woods Warbler was futile.

On the morning of 5 January, I drove out to Cidra. I met Noel for a Plains Pigeon count. This species was thought to be extinct for nearly 30 years until rediscovered near Cidra in 1963 by N. F. Leopold. The final tally was 45 birds.

And on the other side of the fence: Starlings were sighted on the island for the first time in December.

Later Report from Puerto Rico; On 18 February my wife and I headed for El Yunque to look for the Elfin Woods Warbler. The late morning was hot and still, and the Elfin Woodland was beautiful. As we started back down the trail after lunch, a bird darted into a small moss-laden tree not ten feet away. We froze for several seconds until the bird appeared in full view of us too close for binoculars. I quickly saw the tail spots and breast markings and then the distinct head: an Elfin Woods Warbler. Truly a wonderful birding experience. Steven Den.

Treasurer's Report

Balance January 1, 1972		\$849.50
<u>Receipts</u>		
Dues	\$1005.00	
1971 Christmas Count	113.50	
KOS Checklists	27.30	
Miscellaneous	3.60	
	\$1149.40	\$1999.00
<u>Expenditures</u>		
Allen Press (three bulletins)	\$629.96	
Southwestern College (newsletter)	300.00	
Hutto Printing (checklists)	156.98	
Postage	48.64	
CEAK membership	25.00	
11 checks @.10 per check	1.10	
	\$1161.68	
Balance on hand December 31, 1972		\$837.32
Outstanding bills	\$220.53	
Savings Account, January 5, 1973		\$1346.26

Eugene Lewis, Treasurer

Membership Secretary

Contrary to the figure on the dues-paying envelopes, the cost of sustaining membership is \$6.00 per year--not \$5. It was a hot day in August when I got the envelopes ready for distribution and I forgot to change the \$5 to \$6. A few sustainers recognized the error and sent the full \$6. Three or 4 members always send \$10. The \$5 payments have been credited as full payment, but it would be much appreciated if sustaining members would send the extra dollar to the Treasurer Eugene R. Lewis, 1285 MacVicar, Topeka, Kansas 66604.

KOS has 3 more life members now--Mrs. Phoebe B. Gates, Baldwin City; Robert G. Barnhardt, Bucklin; Robert M. Mengel, Lawrence.

Membership to January 19 totaled 214--one more than that date last year. However, all memberships are due January 1st, so please pay as soon as possible. Sustaining members are running a little behind last year despite the \$5.00 "bargain" this year.

Membership last year reached 336. Remember that I will be glad to send invitational material to any prospective members you report to me. Amelia J. Betts.

PLEASE NOTIFY THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY IMMEDIATELY IF YOU CHANGE ADDRESSES. WE HAD SEVERAL BULLETINS COME BACK LAST MONTH WITH NO FORWARDING ADDRESS. THE NAME PLATES ARE PULLED IN THAT CASE AND YOU RECEIVE NO MORE SOCIETY MAIL UNTIL YOU NOTIFY US OF YOUR NEW ADDRESS.

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The KOS African itinerary has been set. Anyone desiring more information on the tour please write: Max C. Thompson, Southwestern College, Winfield, Kansas 67156. We are covering some of the places we covered last year and some new ones this year. If you anticipate going, please try and reply by April 15 so we can make the reservations in Africa.

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The Purple Martins returned to Winfield on March 9. Two days later than last year. Several have been seen since that time.

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The Presidents Corner--The Society can be proud of the progress it has made these 25 years since it's inception. We still have a long ways to go in enlisting members into the Society. Last years membership of 336 was I believe an all time high. If each of you could bring in one member, we would be close to having a membership as large as are sister state to the south, Oklahoma. I noticed in the newsletter news this time some names of people who reported birds but aren't even members. If they are interested in birds, you ought to be able to enlist them to our ranks.

I hope as many people as possible can get to Lawrence for the meeting. The 25th anniversary picture will be published in the Bulletin and we need as many people as possible in the picture.

Exciting things are happening in Kansas bird wise. A new book on Kansas birds is being drafted for publication in the near future (we hope). This is a chance for you to dig out your migration notes etc. and forward them either to Charles A. Ely, Hays or myself in Winfield. I know many of you have migration dates that could be used to update Johnston's checklist. Let us make it a joint area so that we all can profit from it. You'll hear more on it at the KOS paper session. Max C. Thompson