

# Annual Fall Meeting

September 29 - 30

Topeka

Registration  
Enclosed

## OFFICERS' CORNER

Amelia Betts, who died in May, was an extraordinary member of KOS. Although KOS has had many good leaders, few have devoted as much time, effort and concern to the welfare of the organization as did Amelia. She served on the KOS Board for most of its existence as Secretary and Membership Secretary. And after retirement from the Board, she continued to express her concerns to the Board and to the membership for the betterment of KOS.

Found among Amelia's papers was a draft of a letter to me and to the KOS Board written a little more than a month before her death. Among the concerns she expressed was the following: "Another subject -- I think I can remember that we voted a few years ago to make 'Student Affairs' (or some similar name) a standing committee. To treat it as an ad hoc committee is to relegate it to second-class status and I think we should be looking for new-to-the-list members as we do to 'ditto' bird species. We've ignored kids for 35 years and our membership has not grown for several years. And WE are all getting older!"

KOS should certainly be a forum for scientific reports on birds. KOS should be an association of enthusiastic birders who can talk birding jargon and share birding experiences. But Amelia was concerned that, if KOS is not to wither away, it must also be promoting an interest in birds and bird conservation; that means interesting new people in birds, be they adults or students. How can we do this? How can we stimulate the enthusiasm of new members or prospective members and help them develop their interest and proficiency in birding? How can we develop the interest of young people so that we can attract more student members who will be regular members in a few years? I hope you will think about this and bring your ideas and suggestions to the Board. Probably even more important, each of us can relate to persons with a budding interest in birds and help to nourish that interest and spark their enthusiasm. These are responsibilities of all KOS members. For Amelia showed by her example that even if you are not on the KOS Board, you can have concern and enthusiasm for KOS and good ideas for its program and activities.

Dwight Platt  
Corresponding Secretary

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Enclosed in this newsletter is the announcement for two meetings: one, is the annual KOS Fall meeting and the other is Saving Cheyenne Bottoms Conference. I feel the Bottoms Conference is of special interest to KOS members and encourage you to attend. Please do not mix up the forms for the two meetings. I am looking forward to seeing you at the KOS meeting in Topeka.

## NEWS ABOUT MEMBERS

Steve Kingswood has accepted a position as mammalogist at the San Antonio Zoo. He said, if any KOS member was planning a trip south to Texas and would like to see the zoo or do some good birding, they should contact him at:

San Antonio Zoological Gardens  
3903 North St. Mary's Street  
San Antonio, Texas 78212  
512-734-7183

We will miss Steve's enthusiasm for birding, but wish him well!!

POMONA RESERVOIR - KANSAS SUMMER BIRD COUNT

38° 41' N 95° 41' W, Center intersection US 75 and Dragoon Creek; Elevation 922 to 1175 ft. Habitat coverage: oldfields and fence rows 23%, riparian forest 21%, grassland 17%, cultivated fields 15%, lakes and rivers 14%, residential areas 5%, upland deciduous forest 3%, marsh 2% - June 16, 1984; 7:15 am to 6:00 pm. Clear, Temp. 75-89°F. Wind S, 5-20 mph. Wildfood crop good. Nine observers, 9 in 3 parties. Total party hours, 30.75 (11.5 on foot, 16.25 by car, 3 by canoe); Total party miles 215 (11 on foot, 201 by car, 3 by canoe).

Great Blue Heron 7; Green-backed Heron 1; Mallard 1; Turkey Vulture 35; Red-tailed Hawk 5; American Kestrel 5; Northern Bobwhite 80; Killdeer 28; Upland Sandpiper 18; Rock Dove 17; Mourning Dove 127; Yellow-billed Cuckoo 60; Great Horned Owl 1; Common Nighthawk 1; Chimney Swift 65; Belted Kingfisher 1; Red-headed Woodpecker 23; Red-bellied Woodpecker 10; Downy Woodpecker 9; Hairy Woodpecker 2; Northern (Yellow-shafted) Flicker 23; Eastern Wood-Pewee 10; Empidonax sp 13; Eastern Phoebe 7; Great Crested Flycatcher 21; Western Kingbird 1; Eastern Kingbird 67; Scissor-tailed Flycatcher 11; Horned Lark 2; Purple Martin 13; Northern Rough-winged Swallow 26; Barn Swallow 70; Blue Jay 71; American Crow 36; Black-capped Chickadee 75; Tufted Titmouse 14; White-breasted Nuthatch 2; House Wren 7; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 4; Eastern Bluebird 23; American Robin 170; Northern Mockingbird 33; Brown Thrasher 66; Cedar Waxing 2; Loggerhead Shrike 27; European Starling 109; Bell's Vireo 1; Warbling Vireo 19; Red-eyed Vireo 5; Northern Parula 14; Kentucky Warbler 5; Common Yellowthroat 6; Summer Tanager 1; Northern Cardinal 109; Rose-breasted Grosbeak 3; Blue Grosbeak 3; Indigo Bunting 50; Dickcissel 365; Rufous-sided Towhee 4; Chipping Sparrow 1; Field Sparrow 50; Lark Sparrow 17; Grasshopper Sparrow 7; Red-winged Blackbird 148; Eastern Meadowlark 162; Western Meadowlark 2; Meadowlark sp 53; Common Grackle 266; Brown-headed Cowbird 160; Orchard Oriole 7; Northern (Baltimore) Oriole 55; American Goldfinch 18; House Sparrow 237.

Total 72 species; 3167+ individuals. Rob and Carol Culbertson, Dean Grisell, Steve Kingswood (Compiler), E. M. and E. R. Lewis, Evelyn and Ken Redman, Dan Williamson.

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

I am soliciting information on the past and present distribution of the Piping Plover (Charadrius melodus). Data will be used to further evaluate the status of this threatened species. If you have Piping Plover skins or egg sets in your collection, I am interested in the following information from each specimen: date collected, location, age, sex and collector.

Susan Haig  
Delta Waterfowl Research Station  
Rural Route 1  
Portage la Prairie  
Manitoba, Canada R1N 3A1

SPRING OBSERVATIONS FOR 1984

House Finch on January 1 in Harvey County  
American Woodcock nest April 14 Harvey County  
Western Grebe May 3 at Harvey County East Lake  
Cape May Warbler May 3 Harvey County East Lake in hedgerow  
Lark Bunting pair May 25 Sedgwick County  
Fulvous Whistling Duck June 14 Cheyene Bottoms

These sightings seem to be an interesting contrast of eastern and western species. This makes Kansas Birding always exciting and never completely predictable.

Jay Newton  
Newton, KS

OBSERVATIONS IN KIOWA COUNTY MAY 3, 1984

Mallard	Barn Swallow
Blue-winged Teal	American Crow
**Northern Shoveler	American Robin
Gadwall	Loggerhead Shrike
Turkey Vulture	European Starling
Swainson's Hawk (nest)	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Ring-necked Pheasant	Dickcissel
American Coot	**Rufous-sided Towhee
Killdeer	Vesper Sparrow
Greater Yellowlegs	Lark Sparrow
**Long-billed Dowitcher	**White-crowned Sparrow
**Wilson's Phalarope	Harris' Sparrow
Mourning Dove	Red-winged Blackbird
Northern Flicker	Western Meadowlark
Western Kingbird	Great-tailed Grackle
Eastern Kingbird	Common Grackle
Horned Lark	Brown-headed Cowbird
Cliff Swallow	House Sparrow

\*\*New county records

Bob Wood and Bill Layher

BIRD OBSERVATION IN COMMANCHE COUNTY MAY 3, 1984

Wood Duck	Tree Swallow
Mallard	Northern Rough-winged Swallow
Blue-winged Teal	Cliff Swallow
American Wigeon	Barn Swallow
Turkey Vulture	Blue Jay
Swainson's Hawk	White-breasted Nuthatch
Red-tailed Hawk	House Wren
Killdeer	American Robin
Lesser Yellowlegs	Northern Mockingbird
Willet	Brown Thrasher
Upland Sandpiper	Loggerhead Shrike
Pectoral Sandpiper	Northern Cardinal
Long-billed Dowitcher	Field Sparrow
Wilson's Phalarope	Lark Sparrow
Mourning Dove	Lark Runting
Red-headed Woodpecker	White-crowned Sparrow
Northern Flicker	Harris' Sparrow
Eastern Phoebe	Red-winged Blackbird

Great Crested Flycatcher  
Western Kingbird  
Eastern Kingbird  
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher  
Horned Lark

Western Meadowlark  
Common Grackle  
Brown-headed Cowbird  
House Sparrow

Bob Wood and Bill Layher

UNUSUAL BIRD SIGHTINGS JAN-MAY 1984

Tri-colored Heron		5-27-84	Barton
Ross' Goose	(2)	4-07-84	Stafford
	(14)	4-21-84	Barton
Brant	light form	3-10-84	Barton
Canvasback		5-26-84	Morton
Goshawk		4-04-84	Pawnee
Peregrine Falcon	(1)	4-28-84	Barton
	(1)	4-28-84	Stafford
Lesser Prairie Chicken	(3)	5-26-84	Morton
Short-billed Dowitcher	(2) carefully studied	6-03-84	Barton
Red-necked Phalarope	(3) females	5-28-84	Barton
Bonaparte's Gull	(2)	4-21-84	Rush
Glaucous Gull		2-19-84	Barton
Sabine's Gull	individual in full breeding plumage; photographed and also shown to Smith's	5-26-84	Morton
Common Tern		5-28-84	Barton
Poorwill	at dusk n. of river	5-26-84	Morton
Ladder-backed Woodpecker		5-26-84	Morton
Western Wood-Pewee		5-26-84	Morton
Western Flycatcher	seen and heard	5-26-84	Morton
Cassin's Kingbird	on wire at Whitelaw	5-02-84	Greeley
Chihuahan Raven	watch for this species either sw. or w. of Moscow, Kansas		
	(4)	5-26-84	Stevens
	(2) s. of Rolla	5-26-84	Morton
Veery		5-19-84	Rush
		6-02-84	Linn
Hermit Thrush		5-26-84	Morton
Sprague's Pipit		4-23-84	Rush
Northern Shrike		1-26-84	Rush
Black-throated Gray Warbler		4-27-84	Pawnee
Townsend's Warbler	photographed	4-27-84	Rush
Yellow-throated Warbler	one singing	6-02-84	Linn
Cerulean Warbler		6-02-84	Linn
Black-and-White Warbler	several singing	6-02-84	Linn
Northern Waterthrush		4-29-84	Linn
		5-26-84	Morton
Brewer's Sparrow	s. of Rolla	5-26-84	Morton
McCown's Longspur		3-27-84	Pawnee
Purple Finch	rare in the west	1-07-84	Scott
House Finch	first record	4-09-84	Pawnee
	nesting failed	6-05-84	Pawnee

Scott Seltman  
Nekoma, Kansas

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KOS FIELD TRIPS FOR 1984

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Saturday and Sunday, September 15 & 16 Morton County. Meet at noon on the 15th at the El Rancho Restaurant in Elkhart. Contact Scott Seltman - 913-329-4411.

Saturday, November 10 Perry Reservoir (in conjunction with a Topeka Audubon Society field trip). Meet at 7:30 AM at parking lot of Gage Park Zoo. Contact Gene Lewis - 913-232-1847.

If you are planning to attend any of the above field trips, please let the contact person know so they might have an idea of how much interest there is in each field trip. The field trip committee solicits feedback and/or questions on these trips or potential future trips. Contact Steve Kingswood (316-942-5134) or Scott Seltman (913-329-4411).

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OTHER FIELD TRIPS

Topeka Audubon Society

Field trips the second Saturday of each month. Meet at the Topeka Zoo parking lot, Gage Park at 7:30 A.M. Some trips are flowers, tree, etc., but birds are always watched. Contact Paul Willis - Field Trip Chairman or Jo Ramberg - President.

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PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND  
"SAVING CHEYENNE BOTTOMS"

The Kansas Audubon Council and Kansas Wildlife Federation are sponsoring SAVING CHEYENNE BOTTOMS, a one-day conference at Great Bend on Saturday, Sept. 22.

Conference participants will learn about Colorado's impact on the Arkansas River, what water supplies exist above and below ground around Great Bend, what the state water plan will mean to wildlife and wildlife habitat in Kansas, and why Cheyenne Bottoms is so vital. Persons from Kansas Fish and Game will explain in detail the problems confronting the Bottoms, and propose some alternatives to improve the situation.

Highlighting the program is Lynn Greenwalt, director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service until dismissed by James Watt; he'll talk about Cheyenne Bottoms from a national perspective. Legislators Ron Fox and Joe Norvel will give insights into how the legislature works, and how to be effective in working with the legislature.

Other events surrounding SAVING CHEYENNE BOTTOMS will be a Friday evening film fest for those who arrive early, and a Sunday morning field trip to Quivira National Wildlife Refuge for those who stay over. A Saturday afternoon tour of the Bottoms and the diversion dam on the Ark River will be scheduled if enough people are interested.



SAVING CHEYENNE BOTTOMS  
 A Conference at Barton County Community College  
 Great Bend, Kansas  
 September 22, 1984

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

7:00 p.m. Film Fest

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

9:00-10:00 Registration - Fine Arts Building  
 10:00 Welcome -- Jerry Lindberg, Great Bend Chamber of Commerce  
 10:05 Introductory remarks  
       Rep. Ron Fox, Vice-Chairman  
       House Energy and Natural Resources Committee  
 10:15 "Cheyenne Bottoms: Endangered Wetland"  
       Northern Flint Hills Audubon Society  
 10:30 "What's so important about Cheyenne Bottoms?"  
       Jean Schulenberg, Admire  
 10:45 "Is it all Colorado's fault?"  
       John Campbell, Assistant Attorney General of Kansas  
 11:05 "Where's the water?"  
       Tom McClain, Kansas Geological Survey  
 11:25 "How does the state water plan protect wetland and wildlife  
 resources like Cheyenne Bottoms?"  
       Joseph Harkins, Kansas Water Office  
 11:45 Questions and answers  
 12:15 Luncheon -- BCCC Union  
       "What's the legislature's role in saving the Bottoms, and how  
       can grassroots groups be effective?"  
       Senator Joe Norvell, Assistant Minority Leader  
 1:30 Kansas Fish and Game Presentation  
       "A close look at the problems, management, ecological and  
       economic values, and future of Cheyenne Bottoms"  
 3:00 Questions and answers  
 3:30 Break  
 3:45 Caucus of organizations and individuals to meet and coordinate  
 goals and activities.  
       Mari Peterson, Executive Director  
       Kansas Natural Resource Council  
 3:45 Tour of Cheyenne Bottoms and the Arkansas River diversion dam  
 6:00 Banquet  
       "Why Cheyenne Bottoms is of national significance?"  
       Lynn Greenwalt, National Wildlife Federation

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

6:30 Birding trip to Quivira National Wildlife Refuge  
 10:00 Return



ANNUAL FALL MEETING

The annual fall meeting of the Kansas Ornithological Society will be held in Topeka September 28 through September 30, 1984. The Saturday activities will be at Stoffer Science Hall on the campus of Washburn University. It is imperative that you preregister for the banquet and the Sunday lunch. Registrations must be received by September 24.

Friday, September 28 - An informal get together will be at the Lewis residence, 1285 MacVicar Avenue from 7:00 pm to ?? Anyone coming early is invited to attend.

Saturday, September 29 - Stoffer Science Hall, Room 103. Stoffer is at the northeast corner of the campus near 17th and Washburn Avenue. Plenty of parking right there. Registration begins at 8:00 am, coffee and doughnuts will be available. Paper sessions will begin at 9:00 am. Lunch will be available at the Washburn Union or at some fast food places nearby.

The ever-popular Birdwatchers Hour will be from 1:00-2:00 pm. Here is a chance to show some of your slides and brag about the ones that didn't get away.

The banquet will be held in the Washburn Union at 6:30 pm, Max Thompson will speak on Tierra del Fuego - the land of fire.

Sunday, September 30 - Several field trips are being scheduled to some of the very good birding places around Topeka. We hope to have the groups small and the lists large. The trips will begin at Stoffer Science Hall. Lunch will be barbeque and will be held at Lake Shawnee, Shelterhouse #1, west side of lake.

Motels and Other Accomodations

The enclosed brochure lists the motels available and their location. Camping, both RV and tent, is available at Lake Shawnee on the east side. The campground is fenced and patrolled, and the cost is reasonable. See map.

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME(s) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

	NUMBER	TOTAL
Registration Fee.....\$3.00.....	_____	\$ _____
Saturday Banquet.....\$7.50.....	_____	\$ _____
Sunday Lunch.....\$3.75.....	_____	\$ _____
	TOTAL	\$ _____

Make checks payable to Kansas Ornithological Society. Banquet and Sunday lunch tickets must be reserved in advance. We must receive them by September 24.

MAIL TO: E. R. Lewis  
 1285 MacVicar Avenue  
 Topeka, KS 66604

CALL FOR PAPERS  
KANSAS ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING, 1984

The Kansas Ornithological Society will meet 28, 29, and 30 September 1984, on the Washburn University campus in Topeka. The contributed papers session will be on Saturday, 29 September. A successful, well-rounded and interesting paper session depends on contributions from a large segment of the membership of KOS, at all levels of expertise in ornithology and birdwatching. We encourage graduate students and undergraduates to share the results of their studies. Bird banders, breeding bird survey participants and observers of nesting activity in backyard situations are just a few of the examples of interesting information that can be shared with us. Long and short presentations are welcome. If you can present a paper, or know of another person, member or not, that will present a paper, please fill out the form below and mail before the 10th of September.

We are again requesting that all contributors submit an abstract or short summary of their presentation. These will be printed in the Newsletter so that others can see our activities and so we will have a better record of the activities of Kansas birders. We all thank you for your willingness to share those activities with us.

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Complete this form and mail to: Dr. Roger L. Boyd  
Biology Department  
Baker University  
Baldwin City, Kansas 66006  
913-594-6451 ext. 547 or 594-3172

Contributed Papers Session, 30 September 1984

AUTHOR(s): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

TITLE OF PAPER: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTRACT: Send now or bring it to the meeting - but don't forget! Short summary of 150 words.

Time for presentations and questions: 10 min.    15 min.    20 min.

Audio-visual Equipment needed: \_\_\_\_\_

## KANSAS ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY RARE BIRD ALERT

The KOS Rare Bird Alert number has been activated at Emporia. Persons interested in finding out what is being seen in the state should dial 316-343-7061. They should receive a recording of about 90 seconds telling you what has been going on the past week. It will be updated immediately if something rare is spotted (and reported) otherwise, Marvin Schwilling will update it on Sunday of each week. Those of you having sightings to report can call the rare bird alert number, listen to the recording and then at the sound of the tone, leave your sightings for updating the recording. You may also call Marvin directly at his home at Emporia if you wish.

The installation of the phone at Emporia cost the KOS about \$50+ and we pay \$11.92 per month rent on the line. If anyone wishes to contribute to KOS to help defray the cost, it is tax deductible as a gift to a charitable organization. Why not pick your favorite month and send the treasurer a check to cover the cost of your use of the recording.

What do you do if you loose the number and need to call information to retrieve it? Don't ask for KOS as it isn't listed. Ask for Max C. Thompson, Emporia and they will give you the listing. Economics deemed it necessary to list it in his name.

## T-SHIRTS

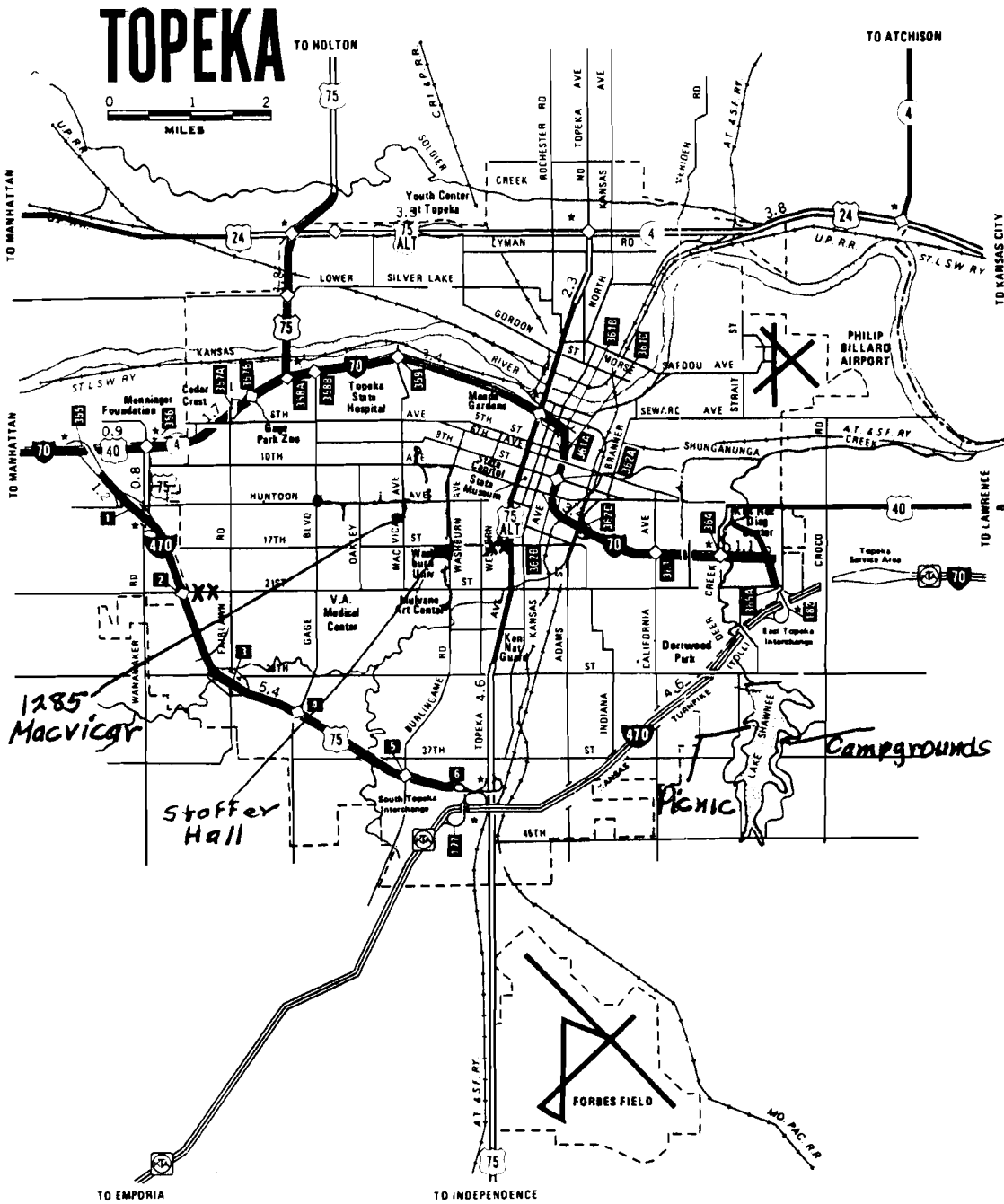
There are still T-Shirts available from the Business Manager. We have at least 3 sizes available S-M-L. There may be a few XL left but we aren't sure. Only white with colored neck and sleeves are left.

## CHECK-LISTS

There are still a few Kansas Field Check-lists left from the Business Manager. We are getting low and there will be a new printing within the next year or so. If you need some, write now before the fall migration starts.

## NOTE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

The June mailings may have been fouled up. If you received a newsletter with double pages, pages missing, please advise the Business Manager and he will try and send you another page. We doubled some while putting it together and then had to xerox pages to finish out the mailing. Some of these got upside down while xeroxing. In fact the whole June mailing was jinxed from start to finish. The type was set for the Bulletin and then when the corrected copy came back from the Editor, the computer typesetter was on the blink for four weeks. Finally the Bulletin was printed and Max and the good elves started to assemble it only to find that the printer forgot to trim it. He was brought in from his Saturday nap to do that. I would like to thank Agnes and Ross Williams, Donna Wilt and the Andersons for the evenings they have helped get your mailings out to you.--Max C. Thompson



### AFRICA TOUR

Max C. Thompson is leading a tour to Kenya and Tanzania during August 1985. The probable date of departure is August 5. The tour will be gone approximately 25 days. Big game parks visited will be: Samburu, Tsavo, Amboseli, Mountain Lodge, The Ark, Lake Nakuru, Lake Naivasha, Masa Mara. In Tanzania, we visit: Mt. Arusha, Tarangire (a little known park but some of the best birding in East Africa), Lake Manyara, Ngorongoro and Serengeti. The tour will depart from New York City probably via Europe although the airline routing has not been established. For more information contact:

Max C. Thompson  
 Southwestern College  
 100 College St.  
 Winfield, KS. 67156-2499