

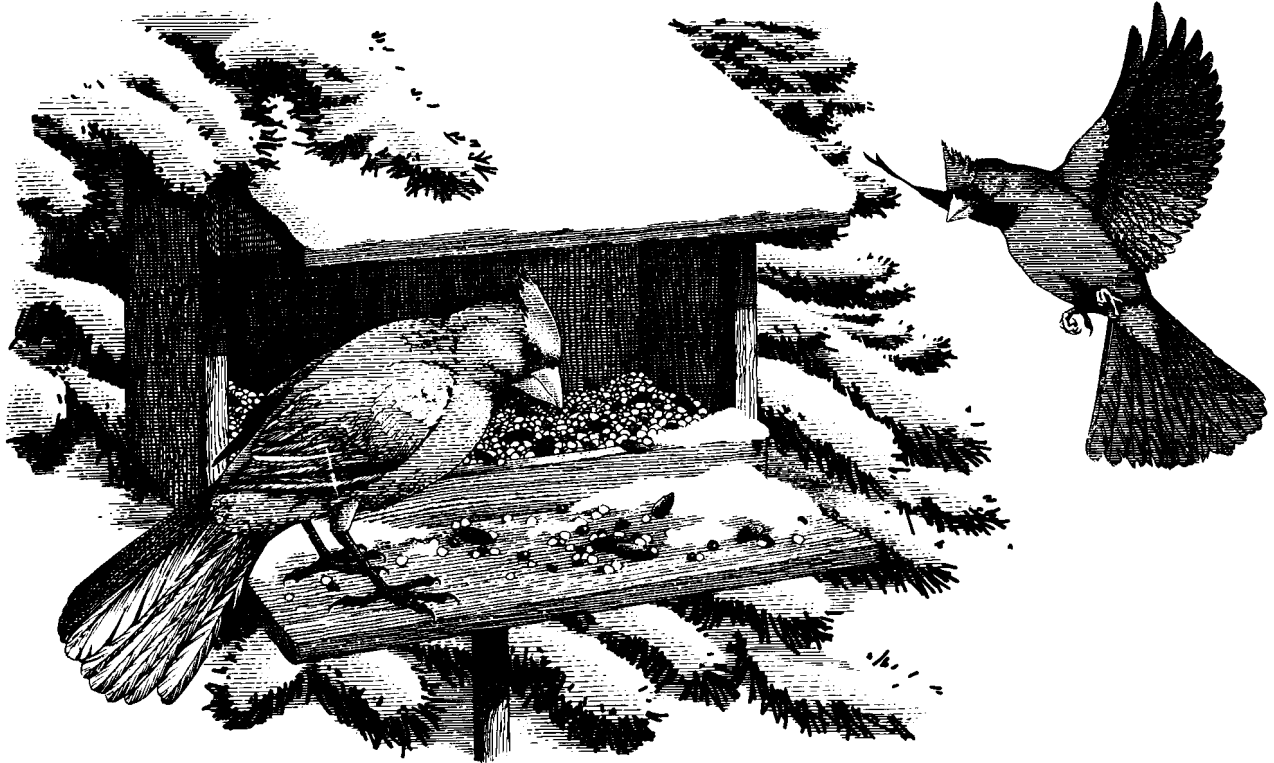
*Kansas Ornithological Society*

# NEWSLETTER

Kansas State University  
Manhattan, KS 66502

December, 1985

Vol. 12, No. 4



*Season's  
Greetings*

## OFFICER'S CORNER

I will forgo my usual comments for this section to bring to your attention Kansas Wildlife Heritage Month. Next year is the 125th birthday of the state of Kansas. In conjunction with this celebration Jan Garton and Terri Shuman invite you to celebrate our Kansas Wildlife Heritage in the month of March 1986. "Rivers--Highways of our Heritage" is the theme for this celebration. Jan and Terri encourage you as members of KOS and citizens of Kansas to come join them in the celebration. They are suggesting several ways for organizations, such as KOS, and individuals to become involved with this celebration. The KOS Board will decide at our January 1986 meeting how KOS will become involved. One suggestion is constructing information packets about birds for the 4th-6th grade age group. Contact me or other Board members, if you have any suggestions. If you so desire, Jan and Terri are accepting donations for promotions and brochures about Kansas Wildlife Heritage Month. Make checks payable to Kansas Wildlife Heritage and send to either Jan or Terri. The goal of this celebration is to reach people who may not be aware of their wildlife heritage or wildlife in general. For further details see Kansas Wildlife Heritage Month in this Newsletter or contact Jan or Terri.

Elmer J. Finck  
Vice-president and Newsletter editor KOS

## KANSAS WILDLIFE HERITAGE MONTH

Kansas statehood began 125 years ago, but Kansas history is far older. Shaped by the forces that created the Rocky Mountains, Kansas was born from eroded mountains and prehistoric seas.

It took time unimaginable to build the rich prairie soils, to carve the rolling prairies, to cut the courses of our rivers and streams, and to sow the great grasslands.

We think of the Indians, the conquistadors, the trappers and mountain men as the first great explorers of the American West, but trails more ancient preceded them. Buffalo, elk, deer and antelope knew the prairie first.

Kansas once was home to the great predators -- grizzly and black bears, wolves, cougars.

We will never again see the spectacle of millions of buffalo crossing our prairies; we will never again thrill to the wolf's howl. We have lost forever the sight of skies darkened from dawn to dusk by uncounted birds in seasonal flights. The great overland migrations are no longer compatible with modern boundaries and fences.

Yet while the most visible and awesome patterns of our Kansas wildlife heritage will never be repeated, the prairies still remain. Our creeks and rivers are still lined with woods; we still have wetlands and marshes, sand hills and chalk formations, caves and canyons.

Our Kansas wildlife heritage extends from a time long before statehood. KANSAS WILDLIFE HERITAGE MONTH is as much a celebration of the future of our wildlife as it is the past. We hold title to the destiny of our native, natural resources, and this special month is a reminder of that trust. When Kansas is 250 years old, we must assure that the living legacy of wildlife remains a valuable part of our Kansas heritage.

"Rivers--Highways of our Heritage" is the theme of this year's celebration. Waterways were important avenues of travel for wildlife and for the early explorers. Our first settlements sprang up along rivers and creeks; even today most of our towns and cities are still tied to rivers. The more we learn about the values of rivers, the better we'll be able to insure their future -- and ours.

For more information contact either Terri or Jan.

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6811 W. 63rd St. Suite 211  
Shawnee Mission, KS 66202  
913-722-6024

Jan Garton  
219 Westwood Road  
Manhattan, KS 66502  
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#### FINNEY COUNTY, KANSAS, SUMMER BIRD COUNT, JULY 8 & 9, 1985

Garden City. 37° 57'N, 100° 50'W. Center junction of US 83 spur and US 50. Habitat coverage: Sand-sage prairie 30%, riparian woodland 30%, residential areas and parks 35%, pond, stream and tail-water pits 5%. July 8 & 9, 1985: 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM both days; 67-95 F; wind 0-20 mph both days. One observer. Total hours: 8. Total miles: 45 (40 by car, 3 by bike and 2 on foot).

Great Blue Heron 4; Black-crowned Night Heron 20; Mallard 1; American Wigeon 1; Turkey Vulture 1; Mississippi Kite 30; Red-tailed Hawk 1; Swainson's Hawk 1; American Kestrel 4; Ring-necked Pheasant 20; Lesser Prairie Chicken 6; Northern Bobwhite 14; Killdeer 7; Spotted Sandpiper 1; Rock Dove 16; Mourning Dove 38; Yellow-billed Cuckoo 1; Eastern Screech Owl 2; Great Horned Owl 1; Burrowing Owl 1; Common Nighthawk 10; Chimney Swift 5; Red-headed Woodpecker 12; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Downy Woodpecker 3; Northern Flicker 5 (red-shafted 4, yellow-shafted 1); Say's Phoebe 1; Great-Crested Flycatcher 2; Western Kingbird 31; Eastern Kingbird 6; Scissor-tailed Flycatcher 1; Purple Martin 4; Northern Rough-winged Swallow 2; Barn Swallow 8; Blue Jay 10; Black-billed Magpie 9; American Crow 1; House Wren 21; American Robin 5; Eastern Bluebird 4; Northern Mockingbird 8; Brown Thrasher 3; Curve-billed Thrasher 1; European Starling 17; Warbling Vireo 2; Common Yellowthroat 2; Northern Cardinal 2; Blue Grosbeak 2; Cassin's Sparrow 5; Field Sparrow 1; Lark Sparrow 13; Grasshopper Sparrow 2; Red-winged Blackbird 13; Western Meadowlark 27; Common Grackle 35; Brown-headed Cowbird 7; Orchard Oriole 18; Northern Oriole 23 (Baltimore 6, Bullock's 17); House Finch 10; American Goldfinch 4; House Sparrow 40. Total: 61 species (2 additional subspecies), about 544 individuals. Seen in area during count week but not on count days - Turkey, American Avocet, Belted Kingfisher, Horned Lark, Black-capped Chickadee, Pine Siskin, Lark Bunting.

Lawrence Herbert  
608 N. 11th  
Garden City, KS 67846

#### POMONA LAKE CIRCLE - KANSAS SUMMER BIRD COUNT 1985

38° 41'N, 95° 41'W, Center intersection US 75 and Dragoon Creek; Elevation 922 to 1175 ft. Habitat coverage: Grassland 15%, oldfields and fence rows 32%, cultivated fields 9%, riparian forest 17%, upland deciduous forest 12%; lakes and rivers 12%, residential 3%, Area 4 was not covered - June 22, 1985; 6:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Partly cloudy to clear, Temp 66-85F. Wind calm. 13 people in 3 parties. Total party hours 19 (9 on foot, 10 by car); Total party miles 141 (8 on foot, 133 by car).

Great Blue Heron 30; Cattle Egret 2; Green-backed Heron 6; Red-breasted Merganser 1; Turkey Vulture 15; Red-tailed Hawk 8; American Kestrel 3; Northern Bobwhite 19; Killdeer 32; Upland Sandpiper 17; Mourning Dove 97; Black-billed Cuckoo 12; Yellow-billed Cuckoo 24; Great Horned Owl 1; Common Nighthawk 6; Chuck-will's-widow 5; Whip-poor-will 3; Chimney Swift 13; Belted Kingfisher 3; Red-headed Woodpecker 20; Red-bellied Woodpecker 7; Downy Woodpecker 7; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Northern Flicker 11; Eastern Wood Pewee 4; Eastern Phoebe 9; Great-Crested Flycatcher 6; Western Kingbird 11; Eastern Kingbird 55; Scissor-tailed Flycatcher 5; Purple Martin 2; Cliff Swallow 3; Barn Swallow 55; Blue Jay 17; American Crow 17; Black-capped Chickadee 18; Tufted Titmouse 8; White-breasted Nuthatch 2; Bewick's Wren 1; House Wren 3; Eastern Bluebird 9; American Robin 82; Gray Catbird 5; Northern Mockingbird 20; Brown Thrasher 61; Loggerhead Shrike 21; European Starling 43; Bell's Vireo 1; Warbling Vireo 9; Red-eyed Vireo 1; Northern Parula 1; Common Yellowthroat 5; Northern Cardinal 40; Rose-breasted Grosbeak 3; Blue Grosbeak 2; Indigo Bunting 28; Dickcissel 124; Rufous-sided Towhee 1; Chipping Sparrow 1; Field Sparrow 9; Lark Sparrow 5; Lark Bunting 1; Grasshopper Sparrow 16; Red-winged Blackbird 104; Eastern Meadowlark 89; Western Meadowlark 1; Rusty Blackbird 2; Great-tailed Grackle 1; Common Grackle 176; Brown-headed Cowbird 51; Orchard Oriole 10; Northern Oriole 36 (all Baltimore); American Goldfinch 10; House Sparrow 146.

Total species 68; 1673+ individuals. Jeanette Bame, Heidi Bond, Bob and Carol Culbertson, E. L. Dennis, Deon Grisell, Alane Harris, Dan Larson, E. R. Lewis, Steve Schoepflin, Diane Supple, B. A. Watkins (compiler), Dan Williamson.

KOS ANNUAL FALL MEETING 1985  
 Albertson Hall 310  
 Fort Hays State University  
 Hays, Kansas  
 October 4-6, 1985

The thirty-eighth Annual Meeting of the Kansas Ornithological Society was held at Fort Hays State University on October 4-6, 1985.

#### Saturday, October 5, Morning Session

Charles Ely opened the meeting at 9:00 AM and read a welcome from Eugene D. Fleharty, Chairman of the Department of Biology at FHSU, who could not be present because of other commitments. Roger Boyd, President of KOS, responded to the welcome and thanked FHSU for providing facilities for this meeting.

Charles Ely made announcements about local arrangements and then turned the meeting over to Elmer Finck, Vice-president, who chaired the papers section. The papers were presented in the morning session according to schedule (see attached abstracts).

A business meeting was called to order at 11:35 AM by President Roger Boyd.

MINUTES: Max Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting as published in the Newsletter. The motion was seconded. The motion was passed.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE: The report of the Nominating Committee was made by Max Thompson (chairperson). The slate of candidates proposed for officers and directors was:

President: Roger Boyd  
 Vice-president: Elmer Finck  
 Corr. Secretary: Dwight Platt  
 Memb. Secretary: Jane Hershberger  
 Treasurer: Eugene Lewis

Bus. Manager: No nominee at this time. The committee will make a motion to let the President appoint a new Business Manager.

Director: Donna Cooper, Hays  
 Director: Joe Schaefer, Wichita

The terms of Directors David Bryan and Dan Williamson do not expire.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT: Roger Boyd announced that a committee to judge non-professional papers has been appointed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Eugene Lewis reported that KOS started the year with \$13,700 in all accounts and ended the year with \$16,000 in all accounts. The Dingus Natural Area account has almost \$4,000 and the Amelia Betts fund has \$860. Max Thompson moved to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion was seconded. The motion passed.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT: Dwight Platt reported for Membership Secretary Jane Hershberger, who could not be present because of other commitments. Total members as of September 30, 1985 were 373. There are 64 fully paid life members.

BULLETIN EDITOR'S REPORT: John Zimmerman reported that he has enough copy for the Bulletin through the June issue. However he still needs more manuscripts and he appealed to members to send him manuscripts. A question was raised about possibly including some of the Newsletter material in the Bulletin. John Zimmerman replied that the two publications serve different functions and this difference should be kept distinct. It was suggested that the abstracts from the meeting should be published in the Bulletin. John replied that this could be done but the Board would have to make this decision. John reported that the Bulletin had not been abstracted by the American Ornithologists Union since 1982 but he was trying to remedy this.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT: Elmer Finck asked members to keep sending in their reports. Abstracts of papers being presented at this meeting need to be sent to him before October 15. He would also like to get reports of the scheduled dates of Christmas Bird Counts before October 15.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS: Richard Johnston moved to approve the reports. The motion was seconded. The motion was passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Charles Ely announced that the Board would meet at noon in the Prairie Room of the Student Union.

Max Thompson announced that those who buy checklists at the meeting can get them at bargain prices.

The business meeting adjourned until afternoon at 12:00 noon.

#### Saturday, October 5, Afternoon Session

The Bird Watcher's Hour convened after lunch.

The papers were presented in the afternoon session according to schedule.

The afternoon business meeting was called to order by Roger Boyd at 4:20 PM.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:** Roger Boyd presented the slate of candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee and the motion to allow the President to appoint a new Business Manager. Nominations were opened for officers and directors. It was moved that the proposals of the Nominating Committee be accepted. The motion was seconded. The motion was passed.

**MEETINGS:** Roger Boyd announced that the Spring Meeting and Field Trip would be at Camp Aldrich near Cheyenne Bottoms either the last weekend in April or the second weekend in May. Camp Aldrich is booked for the first weekend in May. Roger asked for preferences and problems with either date. It appeared that the last weekend in April was preferable.

The Fall Meeting in 1986 will be in the Kansas City area. However we cannot get a confirmation from Johnson Community College until August. We are also looking into the possibility of Camp Wildwood. The meeting will be October 3-5.

The Spring Meeting and Field Trip in 1987 will probably be in Cherokee County the first weekend in May.

The Fall Meeting in 1987 will be at Kansas State University in Manhattan.

**EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS:** Roger Boyd announced that KOS will be exploring the feasibility of cooperating with the Education Department of Kansas Fish and Game Commission in producing some educational materials on birds for young people.

**AMMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS:** Roger Boyd announced that the Board would be bringing two proposals for ammending the Bylaws to the next Fall meeting, one raising the age for student membership and one changing the bonding of the Treasurer to a system of countersigning checks.

**WILDLIFE HERITAGE MONTH:** Elmer Finck announced that a group is working to get March 1986 designated as Wildlife Heritage Month and KOS will be cooperating with this effort.

**KANSAS NONGAME WILDLIFE ADVISORY COUNCIL:** Roger Boyd reported on KNWAC. The program is going well but the donations are falling off. Some KOS members complained that their donations had been refused. Marvin Schwilling pointed out that donations can always be made to the Wild Trust at Kansas Fish and Game and designated for a specific project.

**CONSERVATION ISSUES FORUM:** Roger Boyd announced that Bill Hanzlick, Director of the Kansas Fish and Game Commission, is organizing a Conservation Issues Forum to which he has invited representatives of various conservation organizations to attempt to come up with a common agenda of issues and goals. Roger Boyd will be representing the Kansas Nongame Wildlife Advisory Council and Marvin Schwilling will be representing KOS.

**HUNTING OF SANDHILL CRANES:** Max Thompson asked about the status of the Sandhill Crane hunting bill. Marvin Schwilling reviewed the history of this bill and indicated that it was brought up in the Legislature this year but did not pass. The Kansas Fish and Game Commission will bring up a proposal in 1986. The issue was discussed. Marvin Schwilling will provide the proposed regulation to which KOS may respond.

**FIELD TRIPS:** Scott Seltman, Field Trips Chairperson, reported that attendance has been low at field trips. Some field trips are being planned for next Spring. Some

members expressed difficulty with getting information on the field trips by phone. It was suggested that we might use the hotline to give messages about the field trips or at least list more than one telephone number where information could be obtained.

HOTLINE: Marvin Schwilling reported that many calls are coming in to the Hotline but few are leaving messages.

AUDIT COMMITTEE'S REPORT: Bob Gress reported that the Audit Committee had examined the Treasurer's accounts and found them in order. Elmer Finck moved that the report of the Audit Committee be accepted. The motion was seconded. The motion was passed.

TOWER KILLS: A question was raised about bird kills at towers and whether KOS could get a list of towers in order to contact the managers to encourage them to let someone know when there has been a bird kill so that the birds can be salvaged. Marvin Schwilling reported that only towers over 700 feet tall are dangerous. It is usually a phenomenon that occurs the first year the towers are up when weather conditions are right.

EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS: Marie Swisher told of her experiences that the Soil Conservation Service and the Chickadee Fund are doing a good job in the schools with educational programs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Charles Ely reported on details for the Sunday field trips.

The business meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.

#### Saturday, October 5, Evening Banquet

The annual banquet was served at 6:30 PM in the Trails Room of the Memorial Union on the Fort Hays State University campus. After the meal, Charles Ely introduced his co-workers who helped with local arrangements and appreciation was given by applause.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT: Jean Schulenberg read the Resolutions Committee Report thanking Charles Ely, his co-workers, Fort Hays State University and the various persons who presented papers for their efforts in making this such a successful meeting. The report was adopted by acclamation.

BEST STUDENT PAPER: Mike Dwyer was presented a one year membership in KOS for presenting the best student paper at the Annual Meeting.

TEN BEST BIRDS OF THE YEAR: Marvin Schwilling reported on the ten best birds of the year. Thirty-three birds were considered in making the selections. (See the attached report.)

DOOR PRIZE: A drawing of tickets was used to award a door prize which went to Myron Swisher -- a copy of the book "Natural Kansas."

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Charles Ely announced details of the field trips for Sunday morning.

Charles Ely introduced Roger Boyd who gave an interesting illustrated lecture on his trips to Colima, Mexico.

Saturday, October 6, Field Trips

Field trips went to Cedar Bluffs Reservoir and to locations around Hays. Participants met for lunch at Frontier Park. The compilation totaled 92 species of birds seen on the field trips. (See attached report.)

The Annual Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Dwight R. Platt, Corr. Secretary  
Kansas Ornithological Society

KOS FALL BOARD MEETING  
October 5, 1985  
Prairie Room, Memorial Union  
Fort Hays State University  
Hays, Kansas

Members present: Elmer Finck, Eugene Lewis, Max Thompson, Bob Gress, Roger Boyd, Dwight Platt, and Dan Williamson

Others present: Ruth Fahl, Marvin Schwilling, Margaret Boyd and John Zimmerman

The Fall Board Meeting of the Kansas Ornithological Society was convened at lunch on October 5, 1985 by President Roger Boyd.

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS FOR STUDENTS: There was discussion about KOS using some funds to produce educational materials about birds for students through junior high. It was suggested that KOS should work with the Kansas Fish and Game Commission in producing these materials. Marvin Schwilling will check with Kansas Fish and Game about their interest in such a project and whether we could cooperate on it through Wild Trust.

MEETINGS: The Spring Meeting will be at Camp Aldrich near Cheyenne Bottoms and Quivira.

The next Fall Meeting will be in the Kansas City area. We could meet at Johnson County Community College but they cannot confirm use of their facilities until August. The use of Camp Wildwood was suggested. Roger Boyd will check into the availability of Camp Wildwood.

ABSTRACTING OF BULLETIN: John Zimmerman reported that the KOS Bulletin had not been abstracted by the American Ornithologists Union for the last few years. Calvin Cink had agreed to abstract the Bulletin but the last abstracting was of volume 32. John Zimmerman is willing to abstract the Bulletin and send them to AOU. John will check with Cal Cink.

It was also noted that the Bulletin is not abstracted by Biological Abstracts or reviewed for Zoological Record. Ruth Fahl will write to Biological Abstracts and Zoological Record to see if the KOS Bulletin can be abstracted.

ABSTRACTS OF PAPERS PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING: There was discussion of where the abstracts of papers presented at the Annual Meeting should be published. It was decided that the abstracts will be published in the Newsletter and the authors will be encouraged to prepare manuscripts of the paper for the Bulletin.



BULLETIN ON MICROFICHE: Ruth Faulh inquired about the advisability of putting the first 30 volumes of the KOS Bulletin on microfiche since our stocks of some issues are very low. Ruth was asked to look into the cost of putting the Bulletin on microfiche.

AWARDS FOR BEST PAPERS: There was a discussion of suitable awards and of the categories. Max Thompson moved that an award be given to the best student paper presented at the Annual Meeting and that the award be a year's membership in KOS. John Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Bob Gress moved that the award for the best non-professional paper be abolished. Max Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

STUDENT MEMBERSHIPS: The question of age limits on student memberships was raised. There was a suggestion that student membership should be extended to include all full time students through graduate school. Max Thompson moved that an ammendment to the Bylaws should be proposed to the next Annual Meeting to raise the age limits on student membership to include all full time students through graduate school. The motion was seconded. The motion passed.

BONDING OF TREASURER: Max Thompson pointed out that the Treasurer is only bonded for \$5,000 and yet KOS has \$16,000 in funds. Bonding of the Treasurer to cover \$16,000 would be very expensive. It was suggested that we go back to a system of countersigning checks and withdrawal from accounts. Max Thompson moved that the Corresponding Secretary be asked to prepare proposed ammendments of the Bylaws which would provide for countersigning of checks and withdrawal from accounts and delete the requirement to bond the Treasurer and present these proposals for consideration at the next Board meeting. Bob Gress seconded the motion. The motion passed.

KANSAS WILDLIFE HERITAGE MONTH: Elmer Finck reported that he had attended a meeting of the group which is working for the designation of March 1986 as Kansas Wildlife Heritge Month. The theme will be on rivers to emphasize the effect of the Kansas Water Plan on wildlife. Elmer Finck was asked to continue to represent KOS at the meetings and to bring proposals for KOS cooperation in the activities for consideration at the Winter Board meeting.

BUSINESS MANAGER: Roger Boyd reported that Joyce Wolfe of Lawrence will be contacted to see if she will serve as KOS Business Manager.

FUTURE MEETINGS: It was decided to explore the possibility of Cherokee County for the Spring 1987 Field Trip. Marvin Schwilling will check this out.

John Zimmerman invited KOS to Kansas State University in Manhattan for the Fall 1987 Meeting.

The Board meeting adjourned at 1:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dwight R. Platt, Corr. Secretary  
Kansas Ornithological Society

ABSTRACTS FOR THE PAPERS PRESENTED AT THE  
THIRTY-EIGHTH KOS ANNUAL FALL MEETING 1985

ROTH, STANLEY D. JR.\* and JOHN M. MARZLUFF. Lawrence High School, Lawrence, KS 66046 and Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ 86001. Reproductive success of Ferruginous Hawks in relation to nest locality in western Kansas.

Nest placement and reproductive success of Ferruginous Hawk (Buteo regalis) pairs at 64 nest sites in western Kansas were monitored from 1978 to 1983. Pairs nested on chalk ledges (53-69% of nests per year), chalk buttes (20-32%), in trees (6-10%), and on the ground (0-2%). Nest exposure was significantly nonrandom with north and east exposures favored (59% of nests) and south exposures avoided (15%). Neither percent of years a nest was active, nor production of nestlings was directly influenced by nest exposure, nest site type, or proximity to prairie dog towns. Nest success was related to an interaction between proximity to prey and nest accessibility to predators, with south facing nests, which were all inaccessible to predators having high success, accessible nests near prairie dogs having very low success, and inaccessible nests near prairie dog towns having very high success.

DWYER, MIKE. Hays, KS 67601. Breeding biology of an egret-heron rookery in southern Wichita.

The breeding biology of the Great Egret (Casmerodius albus), Snowy Egret (Egretta thula), Little Blue Heron (E. caerulea), Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis), and the Black-crowned Night Heron (Nycticorax nycticorax), was studied during 1985 at the Sunnyside Nursery in Haysville, Kansas. Average clutch size ranged from 3.1 in the Little Blue Heron to 4.6 in the Snowy Egret. When these species flew from the rookery they generally flew north and east towards the Arkansas River where they obtained fish to feed young, except for the Cattle Egret, which flew in all directions and fed its young mainly insects. Storms were the main reason for low hatching success. The Snowy Egret had the lowest hatching success (47%) and the Black-crowned Night Heron had the highest (86%). Fledgling success varied from 37% in the Little Blue Heron to 93% for the Snowy Egret.

ZIMMERMAN, JOHN L.\* and BRIAN WILLCUTTS. Division of Biology, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506. Territory selection and habitat in Henslow's Sparrows.

Territories of Henslow's Sparrows (Ammodramus henslowii) were mapped on four watersheds of the Konza Prairie Research Natural Area near Manhattan, Kansas during the summer of 1985. Numbers of territorial males and the locations of their territories changed between early April and late May. Adjacent territories were seldom contiguous, and the territories of Henslow's Sparrows and those of Grasshopper Sparrows (A. savannarum) usually did not overlap. There was a significantly greater amount of standing dead vegetation within territory boundaries compared to areas not included within territories.

JOHNSTON, RICHARD F.\* and STEVEN G. JOHNSON. Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas 66045. Evolution of breeding season in the feral pigeon.

Feral populations of Columba livia show continuous reproductive activity even at high latitude localities. Productivity is low in winter, and winter breeding therefore has been thought to be a nonadaptive relic of the captive history of these birds. Advantages of normal, seasonal breeding include high efficiency of summertime reproduc-

tion, nonoverlap of breeding with molt, and feeding and thermoregulatory responsibility only for self in winter. But continuous breeding, which includes wintertime reproduction, can be shown to be adaptive to seasonal breeders. The necessary preadaptation for continuous breeding is cropmilk feeding of young. The origin of continuous breeding was artificial selection by humans. Reinforcement of continuous breeding is through addition of genes for such activity from captive populations, by means of preferential mating by feral birds with escaped captives.

KELLEY, KATHARINE B. Box 43, Baldwin City, KS 66006. Bird banding highlights.

During the past 24 years, I have banded over 25,000 birds, but only 95 of them have been reported to the Banding Office in Laurel, Maryland. Three species predominate: American Goldfinch (Carduelis tristis)--7,617 banded, 13 reported; Pine Siskin (Carduelis pinus)--6,701 banded, 30 reported; and Purple Finch (Carpodacus purpureus)--3,534 banded, 27 reported. These three species comprise 70 of the total of 95 reported birds. Several birds, rare or uncommon in the Baldwin City area, have been banded including White-winged Crossbill (Loxia leucoptera)--banded December 25, 1981; Great-tailed Grackle (Quiscalus mexicanus)--banded January 20, 1980; Groove-billed Ani (Crotophaga sulcirostris)--not banded but observed several days in November and December 1979; Common Redpoll (Carpodacus erythrinus)--2 banded March 7, 1970; and House Finch (Carpodacus mexicanus)--male banded February 22, 1977, seen daily until March 11, 1977 and also photographed at close range.

BOYD, ROGER L. Biology Department, Baker University, Baldwin City, KS 66006. Habitat management for Least Terns.

The Interior Least Tern (Sterna anathallorum athalassas) has recently been added to the official Federal Endangered Species List. My research since 1980 and that done by the Schulenbergs from 1980-1982 indicates that in Kansas Least Tern productivity is low (less than 0.5 young fledged per pair) and that populations have dropped in most sites. Several reasons have been postulated for these declines and low productivity including: flooding and coyote predation at the Quivira National Wildlife Refuge, drying up of the Cimarron River and vegetation growth on nesting sites in Meade County, Kansas. In 1985 experimental gravel mounds (1 m dia.) were readily used as nest sites at Quivira, but coyotes depredated all nests. Therefore, in 1986 an electric fence will be installed to protect these artificial nest sites. A 2 acre area in Meade County has been cleared of vegetation to see if the Least Tern will recolonize this former nesting site.

LEWIS, EUGENE\* and EULALIA LEWIS. 1285 MacVicar Ave., Topeka, KS 66604. Some breeding season birds of Republic County, Kansas 1985.

A bird census was conducted June 1 to 4 1985 in Republic County, Kansas. Seventy-five species were found of which two were assumed non-breeding. The most abundant species was the Dickcissel (Spiza americana) 461, followed by the Mourning Dove (Zenaid macroura) 243. In comparison to the two counties west of Republic County, Jewell County in 1984 and Smith County in 1983 had 260 and 113 Dickcissels and 530 and 599 Mourning Doves respectively. The three counties (Republic, Jewell, Smith) respectively had 61, 147, and 104 Northern Orioles (Icterus galbula); 133, 163, and 275 Eastern Kingbirds (Tyrannus tyrannus); 17, 81 and 208 Western Kingbirds (T. verticalis); 47, 37, and 123 Red-headed Woodpeckers (Melanerpes erythrocephalus); 19, 13, and 14 Orchard Orioles (I. spurius); 138, 132, and 111 American Robins (Turdus migratorius); 77, 85, and 120 House Wrens (Troglodytes aedon); and 31, 23, 31 Grasshopper Sparrows (Ammodramus savannarum).

THOMPSON, MAX C. Southwestern College, Winfield, KS 67157. Vocalization and hybridization in Black-capped and Carolina Chickadees in south-central Kansas.

In 1969-1970 a study was initiated to study the possible hybridization between the Black-capped Chickadee (Parus atricapillus) and the Carolina Chickadee (P. carolinensis) in south-central Kansas by Floyd Dowell and Max C. Thompson. The study was continued in 1984 by Steve K. Davis. Dowell and Thompson established that there was a zone of intergradation in south-central Kansas approximately ten miles wide. Davis continued the study but recorded the songs of the chickadees in an attempt to ascertain whether or not hybrids sang a different song. He found that in the zone of hybridization that there was a higher frequency of aberrant songs than in the areas with "pure" strains. Davis also established that the zone of hybridization may be further north than expected.

ELY, CHARLES A. Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS 67601. Dead birds do tell tales.

ZIMMERMAN, JOHN L.\* and SEBASTIAN PATTI. Division of Biology, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506 and Chicago, Illinois. "Bird-finding in Kansas and western Missouri": last call for additions.

At the present time 97 locations are being considered for inclusion in "Bird-finding in Kansas and Western Missouri". These sites are distributed among ecological areas of the region in the following manner: 13 in the Ozark Forest, 25 in Forest-Prairie Mosaic, 8 in Oak-Hickory Forest/Riparian Forest, 19 in Tallgrass Prairie, 9 in Sand Prairie, 1 in Cedar Hills Prairie, 3 in Sand-sage Prairie, 12 in Mixed-grass Prairie, and 7 in Short-grass Plains. Members of the Kansas Ornithological Society are asked to suggest locations of other public-access sites that could be included.

EDITOR'S NOTE: To those authors who noticed that your abstract is substantially different than the one you submitted, you exceeded the 150 word limit. The authors of these long abstracts ranged from young to not so young and professional to amateur. The length of the abstract is not to exceed 150 words. The winner was 383 words!!! I hope my revision of your abstract reflects what you intended to say.

#### BIRDS SEEN ON THE FIELD TRIPS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING 1985

Pied-billed Grebe	Horned Lark
Horned Grebe	Barn Swallow
Western Grebe	Black-billed Magpie
White Pelican	American Crow
Double-crested Cormorant	Black-capped Chickadee
Great Blue Heron	Red-breasted Nuthatch
Canada Goose	White-breasted Nuthatch
Wood Duck	Rock Wren
Mallard	House Wren
Northern Shoveler	Marsh Wren
Gadwall	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
American Widgeon	Eastern Bluebird
Redhead	Townsend's Solitaire

Ring-necked Duck	American Robin
Ruddy Duck	Northern Mockingbird
Northern Harrier	Water Pipit
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Cedar Waxwing
Cooper's Hawk	Loggerhead Shrike
Swainson's Hawk	European Starling
Red-tailed Hawk	Orange-crowned Warbler
American Kestrel	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Golden Eagle	Wilson's Warbler
Ring-necked Pheasant	Northern Cardinal
Northern Bobwhite	Rufous-sided Towhee
Sandhill Crane	Chipping Sparrow
Black-bellied Plover	Clay-colored Sparrow
Killdeer	Field Sparrow
Sanderling	Vesper Sparrow
Semipalmated Sandpiper	Lark Sparrow
Baird's Sandpiper	Savannah Sparrow
Long-billed Dowitcher	Grasshopper Sparrow
Franklin's Gull	Lincoln's Sparrow
Bonaparte's Gull	White-throated Sparrow
Ring-billed Gull	White-crowned Sparrow
Herring Gull	Harris' Sparrow
Rock Dove	Dark-eyed Junco (Slate-colored)
Mourning Dove	Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)
Great Horned Owl	Lapland Longspur
Common Nighthawk	Red-winged Blackbird
Chimney Swift	Western Meadowlark
Belted Kingfisher	Brewer's Blackbird
Red-bellied Woodpecker	Common Grackle
Downy Woodpecker	Brown-headed Cowbird
Hairy Woodpecker	House Finch
Northern Flicker (Yellow-shafted)	Pine Siskin
Northern Flicker (Red-shafted)	American Goldfinch
American Coot	House Sparrow

## KOS ATTENDANCE ROSTER - ANNUAL MEETING 1985

Admire

Jean Schulenberg

Baldwin City

Jan Boyd

Jon Boyd

Margaret Boyd

Roger Boyd

Katharine Kelley

Barbara Pressgrove

David Pressgrove

Martin Pressgrove

Coldwater

Marie Swisher

Martin Swisher

Hays

Earl Carson

Chris Cooper

Donna Cooper

Mark Cooper

Charles Ely

Jan Ely

Marvin Rolfs

Bill Stark

Annie Laurie Steele

Tim Wagner

Denis Zehr

Linda Zehr

Hoisington

Karen Genoung

McPherson

Allen Jahn

Mulvane

Mark Crawford

Newton

Dwight Platt

Richard Schmidt

Nekoma

Diane Seltman

Scott Seltman

Russell

Jane Holland

LeRoy Holt

Copeland

Arthur Nonhof

Edgerton

Marno McKoughan

Elkhart

Lawrence Smith

Ruther Smith

Garden City

Carleen Herbert

Larry Herbert

Lawrence

Ruth Fauhl

Richard Johnston

Stan Roth

Manhattan

Greg Farley

Susan Farley

Elmer Finck

LaVonne Finck

Steve Hansen

John Zimmerman

Topeka

Eulalia Lewis

Gene Lewis

Wichita

Harold Dwyer

Mike Dwyer

Sue Dwyer

Bob Gress

Winfield

Max Thompson

TEN BEST BIRDS OF THE YEAR  
 October 1, 1984 - September 30, 1985  
 Official Records Committee  
 Marvin D. Schwilling, Chairman

In contrast to the previous two years this year we had an early spring. The first migrant warblers appeared in mid-April with all indications that their numbers would increase, however, it never happened. And it proved to be just a poor migration year. This fall too has been spotty and rather disappointing.

Information used in choosing the "top ten" included a search of the bulletin, newsletter, Christmas counts, "unusual bird report forms", and Rare Bird Alert Hotline reports.

As in the past, consideration was given to previous state records or specimens, geographic location in the state, season of sighting, nesting, etc., and committee judgments.

We considered 33 candidates:

TOP TEN CANDIDATES

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Brown Pelican                                | 18. Bairds Sparrow                              |
| 2. Northern Saw-whet Owls<br>(possibly nesting) | 19. Ground Dove                                 |
| 3. Red-necked Grebe                             | 20. Mountain Bluebird<br>(possibly nesting)     |
| 4. Western Screech Owl                          | 21. Tri-colored Heron (nest, 3 yg.)             |
| 5. Clark's Grebes                               | 22. Sage Thrasher                               |
| 6. Thayer's Gulls                               | 23. Black Rail                                  |
| 7. Violet-green Swallow                         | 24. Cerulean Warbler<br>(first documented nest) |
| 8. Bushtits                                     | 25. Peregrine Falcon                            |
| 9. Broad-tailed Hummingbird (oxford)            | 26. Olive-sided Flycatcher                      |
| 10. Trumpeter Swans                             | 27. Magnolia Warbler                            |
| 11. Olivaceous Cormorants                       | 28. Pygmy Nuthatch                              |
| 12. Western Tanagers                            | 29. Bohemian Waxwing                            |
| 13. Reeve's                                     | 30. Rufous-crowned Sparrow                      |
| 14. Long-tailed Jaeger                          | 31. Connecticut Warbler                         |
| 15. Little Gull                                 | 32. Mottled Duck                                |
| 16. Parasitic Jaeger                            | 33. Snow Bunting                                |
| 17. Red Phalarope                               |   |

TOP TEN

1. Brown Pelican - Reported April 21, Meade State Lake, Mark Goldsberry.
2. Thayer's Gull - New bird for Kansas list reported at Cheyenne Bottoms, Sept. 2, 1984, and was number one on "top ten" list last year. Since then it has been reported from the Kaw River in the Kansas City area Jan. 6 & Jan. 10, 1985, Mick McHugh and Mel Cooksie; Kaw River state line January 13, Mick McHugh, Mel Cooksie, and Lloyd Moore; Tuttle Creek Reservoir Spillway January 15, by Ted Cable; Tuttle Creek Reservoir below the dam March 6, by Ted Cable; and at Perry Reservoir near the dam on March 17, by Lloyd Moore and Mel Cooksie - it was a Thayer's Gull year.
3. Western Screech Owl - First Kansas recorded record May 11 Morton Co., Scott and Diane Seltman.
4. Clark's Grebe - First Kansas recorded record August 30, Cheyenne Bottoms W.M.A. by Scott Seltman, many Kansas City birders and others.
5. Trumpeter Swans (4) - Reported January 23 through February 22, by Bill Brecheisen and Doug Sonntag at Garnett.
6. Red-necked Grebe - Reported January 13, Wyandotte County Lake, Lloyd Moore. The only other county record I am aware of is for Douglas County.
7. Reeve's (female Ruff) - Reported May 20 from Marais des Cygnes W.M.A. by David Seibel, Leland Pittman and Richard Rucker.
8. Broad-tailed Hummingbird - Reported August 17-18, at Oxford by Wallace Champney. There is one specimen from Morton County.
9. Little Gull - Reported November 4 at the Marais des Cygnes W.M.A. by Mel Cooksie, Lloyd Moore, and Nan and Nancy Johnson.
10. Bushtits - Reported September 14 at the Boy Scout area in Morton County by Scott and Diane Seltman and others.

HONORABLE MENTION

1. Connecticut Warbler - Reported May 6 in Wichita's Oak Park by Don and Fran Vannoy and in Lenexa, Johnson County May 28, Don Stout.
2. Black Rail - Reported October 17, at East waterfowl ponds in Morton County by Larry Smith and George Moore.
3. Long-tailed Jaeger - Reported August 31 at Cheyenne Bottoms W.M.A. by Steve Crawford, Richard Parker, and others.
4. Northern Saw-whet Owls (possibly nesting) - Reported July 27 at Hillsdale Reservoir by Mike Muehler.
5. Ground Dove - Reported October 6 in Edwards County by Scott Seltman.

6. Cerulean Warbler (nesting) - Reported May 26 just north of Marais des Cygnes W.M.A. by Roger Boyd, Don Stout, and Jackie Crossley.
7. Bairds Sparrow - Reported October 25 in Lyon County by Jean Schulenberg.
8. Tri-colored Heron (nesting) - Reported June 23 nest with 3 young, Cheyenne Bottoms W.M.A., Ed Martinez.
9. Red Phalarope - Reported September 14 at Elkhart sewer ponds Morton County and October 1 at Cheyenne Bottoms by Scott Seltman.
10. Rufous-crowned Sparrow - Reported \_\_\_\_\_ Morton County by Lloyd Moore.

THOSE NOT MAKING THE LISTS

1. Pygmy Nuthatch, Morton County
2. Violet-green Swallows, Cheyenne Bottoms and Quivera
3. Sage Thrasher
4. Mottled Duck
5. Western Tanagers
6. Olivaceous Cormorants
7. Snow Buntings
8. Mountain Bluebirds (possibly nesting in Finney County)
9. Parasitic Jaeger
10. Bohemian Waxwing
11. Peregrine Falcon
12. Olive-sided Flycatcher
13. Magnolia Warbler

LIFE MEMBERS, AS OF OCTOBER 1, 1985

Katharine B. Kelley  
 Carl S. Homes  
 Amelia J. Betts (deceased)  
 Max C. Thompson  
 Philip G. Kaul  
 J. W. Butin  
 Charles H. Franklin, Jr.  
 Katherine Nelson  
 Phebe B. Gates  
 Robert G. Barnhardt  
 Robert M. Mengel  
 Ivan L. Boyd (deceased)  
 Dorothy M. Ehart  
 Chandler S. Robbins  
 Richard H. Schmidt  
 I. Mabel Willis  
 Jerome Jackson  
 Mrs. T. M. O'Keefe  
 Wallace Champeny  
 Margaret Boyd  
 Gordon C. Sauer  
 Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr.

Marion Mengel  
 Jane Holland  
 George Neavoll  
 Celia White  
 Jay Newton  
 Eulalia Lewis  
 Eugene R. Lewis  
 Shirley Weaver  
 Jane Hershberger  
 I. Leroy Holt II  
 Theodore Sperry  
 Stan Roth  
 Ruth Fahl  
 Roger Boyd  
 Donna Cooper  
 Charles Ely  
 Steve Kingswood  
 James K. O'Toole  
 Nada Voth  
 John Parrish  
 Lorena Combs  
 Steven Crawford



LIFE MEMBERS CONTINUED

Steve Burr  
 Phyllis J. Henney  
 Sebastian Patti  
 Helen Garrett  
 Richard Garrett  
 Joyce Davis  
 Marvin Schwilling  
 Earl Carlson  
 Phillip Menninger  
 Marvin Kuehn  
 Wally Boles

Paul C. Finninger  
 Richard Rucker  
 Ruth Broderson  
 Tom Flowers  
 Don Yockey  
 Hazel Moore  
 Nanette Johnson  
 Jack Tyler  
 Esther Stockebrand  
 Jean M. Bailey  
 Dwight Platt

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SPECIAL NOTICE

Please watch for Pine Siskins with bright colored breast feathers as I am again making banded siskins.

Katharine B. Kelley  
 Box 43  
 Baldwin City, KS 66006  
 Phone: 913-594-6857

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CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

Baldwin City  
 December 29, 1985 Contact Roger Boyd 913-594-3172  
 Camp Naish  
 December 23, 1985 Contact Stan Roth 913-842-6222 Ext. 272  
 Lake Perry  
 December 28, 1985 Contact Richard Rucker  
 Linn County  
 December 28, 1985 Contact Barbara Pressgrove 913-594-6753  
 Junction City  
 December 29, 1985 Contact Bob LaShelle 913-238-2887  
 Lawrence  
 December 21, 1985 Contact Galen Pittman 913-842-2967  
 Manhattan  
 December 21, 1985 Contact John Zimmerman 913-532-6659  
 Olathe  
 December 29, 1985 Contact Roger Royd 913-594-3172  
 Emporia  
 December 22, 1985 Contact Jean Schulenberg 316-342-2380

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## CHEYENNE BOTTOMS RUN

In conjunction with the Kansas Wildlife Heritage Month the Kansas Chapter of The Wildlife Society, is tentatively scheduling a run from Cheyenne Bottoms to Topeka for 22-24 March 1986 with the runners reaching the State Capitol about 9:00 Monday morning. Plans are to have the route from Cheyenne Bottoms to Topeka follow the course of rivers as closely as possible.

For more details or if interested in participating, contact:

Joe Schaefer  
Kansas Fish and Game  
Wichita District Office  
27th and Arkansas, Box 4750  
Wichita, KS 67204  
316-832-9787

OR

Randy Rogers  
Kansas Fish and Game  
Northwest Regional Office  
Route 2  
Hays, KS 67601  
913-628-8614

## COLOR-MARKED AMERICAN WHITE PELICANS

In 1985 approximately 150 immature American White Pelicans were color-marked at Path Finder Reservoir, Wyoming to determine their post-fledgling dispersal, migration routes, and wintering areas. Birds were marked with a red plastic leg band with horizontal white strips on the right leg and a USFWS numbered band on the left leg. If you observe a color-marked American White Pelican the following information would be appreciated:

- 1) Date of observation
- 2) Location of observation
- 3) Behavior of bird (size of group, feeding, etc.)
- 4) Observer's name, address, and phone number

Please report sightings to:

Scott Findholt or Bob Oakleaf  
Game and Fish Department  
260 Buena Vista Drive  
Lander, WY 82520  
(307) 332-9110