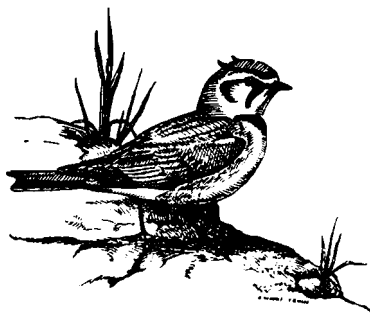


Kansas Ornithological Society

Tom Shane
713 W. 8th
Junction City, Kansas 66441



January 1975
Newsletter
Vol. 2, No. 7

Bluebirds and Starlings

Steve Fretwell

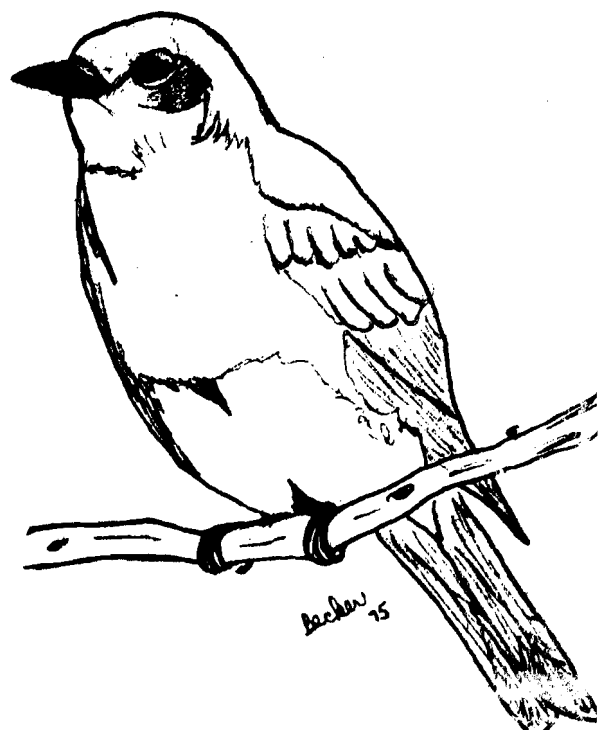
Drawing by
Roxy Becker

Last year the hackberries in the neighborhood were in fruit. It was the second time since I have been in Kansas that I have noticed a "Hackberry Year" and this time I paid special attention to which birds came to feed on the berries. Most years, the hackberries rest, producing no seeds at all. But when they do have berries, they have a lot. And a lot of birds take advantage of the available food.

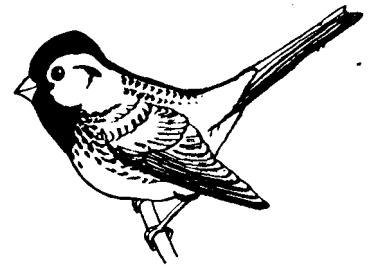
I think that Cedar Waxwings depend on crops like hackberry which are here one year but gone the next. The waxwings are erratic, and appear well adapted to finding out which areas in the country have a crop, and which areas are bare. But there are also many other species that feed on the hackberries; I recorded Flickers, Sapsuckers, Robins, Bluebirds, Cardinals, and most of all, Starlings. The Starlings especially impressed me. I was a bit surprised to see Starlings feeding in such a place, picking berries off the outermost limbs of a tall tree. Studies done in Britain recently do not report any feeding by Starlings on such kinds of fruit. Starlings, of course, are immigrants from Europe; apparently their taste for berries on trees has been acquired since they have come to this country.

I noticed also that Starlings eat all the cedar berries from the cedars that grow in my yard. This is a very recent occurrence. Three years ago, enough cedar berries would persist until spring to attract the Waxwings. I even had the opportunity to photograph the Waxwings in the cedar tree one March. No more, for now the Starlings eat all the cedar berries before Christmas. Of course, mine is only one yard; I have no idea how widespread is the Starlings' taste for such fare, but I think that it might be important to find out.

Fifteen years ago, Douglas James at Fayetteville, Arkansas, analyzed some Christmas Count data for Bluebird populations wintering in the southern U.S. He found that Bluebird populations in the Gulf states were substantially lower the year following a very cold winter. The more freezing days one winter, the fewer bluebirds on the Christmas Count the next. This suggested that Bluebirds can not tolerate cold weather. However, Doug James then looked at the counts from areas as far north as



(continued on page 5)



KOS-OOS FALL FIELD TRIP

One of the highlights of the KOS-OOS meeting was the performance of a Yellow Rail on Saturday, September 21 at 5:15 P.M., 30 feet off the main dike, about 1½ miles from Cheyenne Bottoms' headquarters. The bird was observed for 15 to 20 minutes by members of Burroughs Audubon of Kansas City, Harry Gregory, Elizabeth Cole, Ruth Michaels, JoAnn Garrett and Nanette Johnson.

On Sunday, September 22, at 7:00 A.M. the rail was observed again by approximately 15 more KOS-OOS members. Along with it in the same 10 foot square area were two Virginia Rails and one adult and one immature Sora. As we were watching one Sora, a Virginia and the Yellow Rail all were feeding at the edge of the reeds at the same time. Excellent comparison. Then the adult Sora chased the Yellow and it flew around the end of the small patch of reeds. Once in a lifetime lifer, even for Elizabeth Cole. -- Nanette Johnson

No.	No.	No.
LOONS, GREBES	Black	Red-shouldered
Common Loon	Mottled	Broad-winged
Horned Grebe	Gadwall	Swainson's
Eared Grebe	Pintail	Rough-legged
Western Grebe	Grn-winged Teal	Ferruginous
Pied-billed Grebe	Blue-winged Teal	Harris'
	Cinnamon Teal	Golden Eagle
	Showeler	Bald Eagle
PELICAN, White	Amer. Widgeon	Marsh
CORMORANT,	Wood	Osprey
Double-crested	Redhead	Prairie Falcon
	Ring-necked	Peregrine Falcon
HERONS	Canvasback	Pigeon
Great Blue	Lesser Scaup	Sparrow
Green	Com. Goldeneye	
Little Blue	Dufflehead	PRAIRIE CHICKENS
Cattle Egret	Oldsquaw	Greater
Common Egret	White-winged	Lesser
Snowy Egret	Scoter	QUAIL
Blk-crnd. Night	Ruddy Duck	Bobwhite
Yel-crnd. Night		Scaled
Least Bittern	MERGANSEER	PHEASANT
American Bittern	Hooded	Ring-necked
LOUISIANA	Common	TURKEY
IBIS, White-faced	Red-breasted	CRANES
SWAN, Whistling	VULTURE, Turkey	Whooping
GEESE	KITE, Mississppi	Sandhill
Canada	HAWKS	RAILS
White-fronted	Goshawk	King
Snow	Sharp-shinned	Virginia
Blue	Cooper's	Sora
	Red-tailed	Yellow
DUCKS	Harlan's	Black
Mallard		

No.	No.	No.
GALLINULE, Com.	Common	Cassin Kingbird
COOT, American	Least	Scissor-tailed
PELVERS	Cauplan	Great Crested
Semipalmated	Black	Ash-throated
Piping	DOVES	Eastern Phoebe
Snowy	Rock	Say's Phoebe
Killdeer	Mourning	Acadlan
Mountain	CUCKOOS	Yellow-bellied
Am. Golden	Yellow-billed	Trall's
Black-bellied	Black-billed	Least
Ruddy Turnstone	ROADRUNNER	Dusky
SANDPIPERS	OWLS	East. W. Pewee
Am. Woodcock	Barn	West. W. Pewee
Common Snipe	Screech	Olive-sided
Lg-billed Curlew	Great Horned	Hammond's
Upland Plover	Snowy	LARK, Horned
Spotted	Burrowing	Tree Swallow
Solitary	Barred	SWALLOWS
Willet	Long-eared	Bank
Gr. Yellowlegs	Short-eared	Rough-winged
Les. Yellowlegs	Saw-whet	Barn
Knot	GOATSUCKERS	Cliff
Pectoral	Ch.-will's-widow	Purple
White-rumped	Whip-poor-will	JAY, MAGPIE, CROW
Baird's	Four will	Blue Jay
Least	Com. Nighthawk	Scrub Jay
Dunlin	SWIFT, Chimney	Blk billed Magpie
L. bill Dowitcher	HUMMINGBIRD	Wh. neck. Raven
SOB	Ruby-throated	Common Crow
Semipalmated	KINGFISHER,	Pinon Jay
Western	Belted	CHICKADEES
Belt-breasted	WOODPECKERS	Black-capped
Marbled Godwit	Yel-shaft. Flick.	Carolina
Hudson Godwit	Red-shaft. Flick.	TITMOUSE, Tufted
Sanderling	Pileated	NUTHATCHES
AVOCET, Amer.	Red-bellied	White-br.
FULT, Blk neck.	Red-headed	Red-breasted
FLALAROPES	Lewis'	CREEPER, Brown
Wilson's	Yel.-b. Sapsucker	WRENS
Northern	Hairy	House
GULLS, Sabine.	Downy	Winter
Laughing	Ladder-backed	Bewick's
Rise-billed	FLYCATCHERS	Carolina
Franklin's	Eastern Kingbird	Lg-billed Marsh
Belted-tails	Western Kingbird	Sh.-billed
FLYNS		Rock
Blue-winged		

No.	No.	No.
MIMICS	Magnolia	Bk. hd. Grosbeak
Mockingbird	Black-th. Blue	Blue Grosbeak
Catbird	Myrtle	Indigo Bunting
Brown Thrasher	Audubon's	Luzon Bunting
Sage Thrasher	Black-th. Gray	Painted Bunting
THRUSHES	Townsend's	Dickcissel
Robin	Black-th. Green	Even. Grosbeak
Wood	Cerulean	Purple Finch
Hermitt	Blackburnian	House Finch
Swainson's	Chestnut-sided	Pine Grosbeak
Gray-checked	Bay-breasted	Common Redpoll
Very	Blackpoll	Pine Siskin
Eastern Bluebird	Prairie	Am. Goldfinch
Mount. Bluebird	Palm	Red Crossbill
Town. Solitaire	Ovenbird	Wh.-w. Crossbill
GNATCATCHER	N. Waterthrush	Gr.-tail. Towhee
Blue-gray	La. Waterthrush	Rufous-s. Towhee
KINGLETS	Kentucky	Lark Bunting
Golden-crowned	Mourning	
Ruby-crowned	Macgillivray's	SPARROWS
PIPITS	Yellowthroat	Savannah
Water	Yel.-breast. Chat	Grasshopper
Sprague's	Hooded	Baird's
WAXWINGS	Wilson's	LeConte's
Bohemian	Canada	Henslow's
Cedar Waxwing	Am. Redstart	Vesper
SHRIKES	SPARROW, House	Lark
Northern	BLACKBIRDS	Cassin's
Loggerhead	Bobolink	Wh.-wing. Junco
STARLING	B. Meadowlark	Blate-eld. Junco
VIREONS	W. Meadowlark	Oregon Junco
White-eyed	Yellow-headed	Tree
Hill's	Red-winged	Chipping
Yellow-throated	Groshard	Clay-colored
Moltary	Balt. Oriole	Brewer's
Red-eyed	Bullock's Oriole	Field
Philadelphia	Rusty	Harris'
Warbling	Brewer's	White-crowned
WARBLERS	Common Grackle	White-throated
Black-&-white	B.-head. Cowbird	Fox
Prothonotary	Belt-tailed Grackle	Lincoln's
Worm-eating	TANAGERS	Swamp
Golden-winged	Western	Song
Tennessee	Scarlet	Sharp-tailed
Orange-crowned	LONGSPURS	McCown's
Nashville	GROSBEAKS, FINCHES	Lapland
Parula	Cardinal	Smith's
Yellow	R.-br. Grosbeak	Chestnut-collared

KANSANS AT CHEYENNE BOTTOMS SEPTEMBER 21 AND 22, 1974 (Species list on page two)

Baldwin--Amelia Betts, Katharine Kelly, Dr. and Mrs. I.L. Boyd.
 Great Bend--Marie Brehmer, Pearl Dodd, Mr. & Mrs. L.O. Nossaman Marvin Schwilling,
 Thaine Dirks, Floy Schwilling, Sherm Nystrom, Ed, Pat, & Kathy Martinez.
 Topeka--Harriet Graham, June McCallum, Grace Holcombe, Rod & Jeanette Runyan, Peggy
 & Andy Barber, Eugène & Eulalia Lewis, Bob Glazier, Harry Cornwell.
 Hays--Keith & Paula Baird.
 Lawrence--Andy Finfrock, Polly Trillich, Ruth Fauhl, Mr. & Mrs. J. Paoples, Eldon &
 Marjorie Perry, Mr. & Mrs. R. Garrett.
 Dodge City--Joan Challans, Joyce Davis.
 LaCrosse--Francis & Charles Bankston.
 Shawnee Mission--Mary Louise Myers, Wallace Kilbourne, Elizabeth Cole, Dr. & Mrs. P.
 Kaul, Mr. & Mrs. H. Albright.
 McPherson--Jeffry & Allen John, Kurt Stucky, Kendall Shaw.
 Olathe--Sue & Wendall Davidson.
 Emporia--Steve Perry, Jim Shields, Rick, Lester & Dorothy Laird.
 Seneca--Bill Brannon, David Ronney.
 Newton--Dwight & Richard Platt, Stephen Capel, Bob Regier, Jane Hershberger.
 Admire--Jean & Margaret Schulenberg.
 Wichita--Bob Kruger, Walter & Ruth Broderson, Sharon & Donald Stout.
 Junction City--Steve & Kathy Hickok, Bob LaShelle, Tom Shane.
 Manhattan--Richard Felthausen, Ken Solomon, Louise Latscher, Marge Davidson, Steve
 Fretwell, Sondra Williamson.
 Salina--Doris Dodge, Francis Hernandez, Mr. & Mrs. S. Burr, John & Diane Simpson,
 Jack Halstrom.
 Independence--Jim Gebhard, Tom Swan, Roger Wells.
 Richmond--Effie, Charles, Carl, Roy & Glen Edwards.
 Oxford--Wallce Champeny; Osawatomie--Mr. & Mrs. M. Pressgrove; Edgerton--Marne
 McKaughan; Eureka--Bob Nancy; Offerle--Esther Quasebarth; Potwin--Clare Redding;
 Linwood--Jananne McNitt; Hesston--Loren Entz.

OKLAHOMANS AT CHEYENNE BOTTOMS FIELD TRIP

Oklahoma City--Messie Humphrey, Mary Wiley, Mr. & Mrs. J. Parkhill, Ruth McNew, Mr.
 & Mrs. H. Chezem, Buena Vista Morrison, Marjorie Miller, Gweneth Field, Kathryn
 Belcher, Dr. E. & Doris Shircliff, Walter Doane, Agnes Pearson, Una & Bill Conover,
 Dorothy & John Newell, Clementine Mideke.
 Lawton--Anne Powell, Janet & Louis McGee.
 Tulsa--Alice Hensy, Polly Keating, John & Pat Tomer, Elizabeth & Ken Hayes, Katy
 Jones, Joanne Murdoch, Eleanore Sieg, R.J. Farris, Dr. L.M. Lee.
 Norman--Grace Ray, Katherine Hauffman, Ruth Scott, Mary Johns.
 Bartlesville--Paul & Irene Hefty, Goldie & Bob Scheeler, Dr., Mrs. & Katherine Smith,
 Ruth Barlow, Nell South, John & Emma Messerly.
 Enid--Florel Helema, Helen Stewart, John Brisben.
 Cushing-- F.C. Dunaway, Dolores Isted.
 Midwest City--Helen Casey; Ponca City--J.P. Barrett; Harrah-- Ruby Ray; Duncan-- Mr.
 & Mrs. J. Craythorne; Nicoma-Park--Beverly Schadensack; Del City--Gladys McClelland;
 Choctaw--Florence Basinger; Fletcher--Velma & Carroll Ridgway; Edmonds--Vernon &
 Diane Lowe; Muskogee--Marian & Jimmie Norman; Tahlequah--Everett Grigsby.

MISSOURIANS AT THE FALL KOS MEETING

Kansas City--Pearl Brady, Joanne Garrett, Nanette Johnson, Harry Gregory, Curtis &
 Mrs. Frances Stout.
 Raytown--Richard Parker; Columbia--I.C. Adams.
 NEW YORK, Staten Island--Helen Mochules.

RECENT LITERATURE OF INTEREST TO THE KANSAS ORNITHOLOGIST

"The Status and Faunal Affinities of the Summer Birds of Western Kansas". James D. Rising. June 28, 1974. The University of Kansas Science Bulletin. Vol. 50, No. 8 pp. 347-388.

Observations on the distribution and abundance of the summer birds in the western one-third of the state of Kansas (Decatur, Ness and Commanche counties as eastern limit) are presented. Additionally, the historical changes in land use, vegetation, and avifauna are summarized to include brief comments on zoological nomenclature. It was not stated as to what determined the limits of the area studied. The paper would be useful to individuals making nesting and other breeding season studies. Conservationists and natural historians will be particularly interested in this paper which gives the current status of birds in western Kansas so that future assessments of change will be possible. It will be welcomed by all students of western Kansas birds. -- Steve Hickok.

WANTED--160 "OLD MEMBERS"

Up to January 6, only 228 members had paid for 1975 and 25 of these are new members. With 366 total members last year, that leaves about 160 yet to pay for 1975. So---please look up the dues envelope that you received with the June Bulletin in September and mail it at once. Or mail \$1 student, \$3 regular, \$6 sustaining or \$100 life to our treasure--Eugene Lewis, 1285 McVicar, Topeka, Kansas 66604. I Don't want to send out 160 post card reminders.--Amelia J. Betts, Membership Secretary

ALSO WANTED--100 NEW MEMBERS

President Platt has challenged the 1975 membership committee to get 100 new members before the spring meeting. So far we have 25. If you know of prospective members please contact me. -- Katharine Kelley, Chairman, Membership Committee, Baldwin City, Kansas 66006

FIELD STUDY IN ORNITHOLOGY, AT HACIENDA EL COBANO, COLIMA, MEXICO

The University of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Ornith. Soc. are sponsoring the annual Ornithology program for all birdwarching enthusiasts at the Hacienda El Cobano in Colima, Mexico. Accompanying the group as field leader will be Warren Harden, birding veteran of Western Mexico. Lists and available indicating the number and variety of birds sighted by previous ornithology groups, which traveled to the Hacienda in January and June of 1973. The cost of the program is \$199, which does not include round-trip airfare. Deadline for registration is April 1, 1975. If you would like more specific information, please write or call: Warren D. Harden, OOS Tours, 1416 Huntington Way, Norman, Oklahoma 73069 phone; AC 405 364-2575

A FEW MORE 1974 KANSAS BIRD LISTS ARE NEEDED

The response has been great so far, the total is already over 300, however, it would be nice to have a few more to increase the sample. What to do: 1) use a KOS check-list. 2) write the county or counties, if you live on a county line and regularly bird in two counties, in the location blank. 3) go down the list and "X" all the species seen in your home county. 4) then go down the list and put an "0" in the empty blanks for the species you saw on trips away from your home county in Kansas. 5) count up all the species and put the total in the total species blank. 6) put your name in the observer blank and mail it to me.--Tom Shane, 713 W. 8, Junction City

SNOWY OWLS__

Get your Snowy Owl records for this winter organized, location, date, number any interesting notes together. We will be making a call for them in the next Newsletter.

BLUEBIRDS AND STARLINGS (continued)

Kansas. He found that there were usually fewer bluebirds farther north, but that the northern bluebirds were not affected by variations in the temperature. So, it seemed likely that temperature alone was not responsible for the southern bluebird declines that were noted. James suggested that all bluebirds were limited by winter food, but that northern bluebirds were depending on fruit, such as hackberries, cedar berries, and bittersweet. This fruit was not affected by the temperature. Southern bluebirds, however, seem to depend more on insects that come out on warm winter days. Then a long freezing spell causes many southern bluebirds to starve.

I guess there is a certain possibility that concerns me. Suppose that starlings are just now getting started in learning to exploit berries on trees, like hackberries and cedar berries. And further suppose that the enormous starling populations that are supported by crops, and by garbage, all learn to feed on berries when they can find them. What is to keep all those starlings from virtually wiping out the existing berry crops? I think that James' interpretation of the Christmas Count data is quite plausible, so that without the winter berry crops, our wintering bluebirds will be decimated, or even eliminated.

This is what is now happening in my yard. And I know for sure that it has not always happened. I suspect that starlings, having gotten established in the United States, are still learning ways to increase their numbers. And that population increase will be partly at the expense of some native species with which the starling competes for food. The bluebird is the prime example, and the Cedar Waxwing is a likely second choice.

I do not offer this as yet one more forecast of doom, for I want to suggest a solution. The solution is to induce the bluebird to become a feeder bird, like the Cardinal. Mary Louise Myers successfully feeds bluebirds already, and it might be possible to get her birds to teach others to come to other peoples' yards. In Britain not too long ago, a titmouse developed the habit of pecking holes in milk bottles left by the milkman on customers' porches. Before long, since milk bottles on porches were everywhere, nearby titmice picked up the trick, and it spread across the land. Now all over Britain, milk bottles left on porches are promptly opened by titmice, if they are not put in a protective box. Well, it seems to me that we can do the same thing for bluebirds. The only problem is, what sort of common type feeding arrangement can we put out to teach the birds where to come for food. Also Mary Louise feeds her bluebirds currants, which are a bit expensive. I have had bluebirds come to a grease and cornmeal mixture, so maybe we can teach them to eat some cheaper artificial food.

Of course, one might be able to independently attract a bluebird population, following the same procedure that Mary Louise follows. We are trying this in Manhattan, but not successfully yet. I think it would be neater to try to set up similar feeders near Camp Towanyak, which would attract the Myers' birds, as well as (hopefully) some neighboring birds that would not range into the Myers' yard. This process would be repeated, until people all over the state would be feeding bluebirds.

This program would not only help the bluebirds; it would help expand the membership (or influence, at least) of organized birding in Kansas. There are vast numbers of people who feed birds in their yards, who would probably help out in a project like feeding bluebirds. Most have never heard of KOS, or BPI, or the ABA. Very few are even Audubon members. This might be a way of getting their attention.

-- Division of Biology, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

Spring Meeting-- It is not too early to think of Spring and papers for the Spring KOS Meeting. Junction City will be hosting the annual meeting at Rock Springs Ranch with the paper session on Saturday May 3rd. What have you been doing that you could share with KOS? We would like to present a program as varied and interesting as our membership. The "Call for Papers" will be in the next Newsletter. Start planning yours.

Jean Schulenberg

From the President's Desk

Snowy Owls: There has been a large movement of Snowy Owls into Kansas this winter. I have heard reports of at least 15 owls that have been sighted and I am sure there are other sightings in other parts of the state. Jay Newton got some nice photographs of the one sighted near Newton in December. A letter from KOS member Stan Senner who is living near Fairbanks, Alaska this year tells of the low populations of rodents in that area this winter. The wolves are starving and are killing and eating dogs and the Snowy Owls have apparently come south.

Endangered and Threatened Species: The new legislature is in session and one of the items to be considered in this session will be a bill to establish a program for protection of endangered and threatened species in Kansas. Write to your state legislators urging them to support a strong bill and particularly to appropriate sufficient funds for a program of research and management. The list of endangered and threatened birds in Kansas will be published in the very near future in the Transactions of the Kansas Academy of Science.

Dingus Natural Area: At the December Board Meeting, action was taken to approve a five year lease of the Dingus Natural Area from the Nature Conservancy. We are now in the process of getting the final arrangements made. A committee to plan the management and use of this area is being appointed. I hope all KOS members will take the opportunity to visit this new KOS project when arrangements have been completed.

Poisons for Predator Control: "If you have strength left in your writing arm," says Charles H. Callison, Executive Vice President of the National Audubon Society, "write to President Ford and Secretary of the Interior Rogers C. B. Morton in support of the Executive Order ban on use of poisons for predator control." Callison warns that President Ford is expected to receive a set of alternatives to the ban within the next few weeks, and that the wool growers are pushing for a return of the use of toxicants, which could mean Compound 1080 and Strychnine, as well as the M-44 cyanide device, which is already being permitted under emergency and experimental conditions.

4-H program: A number of KOS members volunteered to help with the 4-H bird study project. Your names were sent to the State 4-H Extension. They have written me that the list of names was circulated to 4-H leaders throughout the state. I don't know how many of you have been contacted to help with the program. If you are not involved in the program but would like to help, I suggest that you contact your local 4-H leaders and indicate your willingness to help. 4-H also has a new project study on amphibians and reptiles.

Members Services: I have not yet received any response from you to my suggestions on members services in the last Newsletter. I am waiting for your ideas to print here. Another service I would like to see provided is a "hotline" on "good" bird sightings. Often when someone finds a rare or unusual bird here in central Kansas, many of us do not hear of it until much later. I don't know how such a hotline could be organized on a regional basis. Do you have any ideas?

Dwight Platt
RFD 2, Box 209
Newton, Kansas 67114

POTWIN--The KOS trip to Cheyenne Bottoms was the best ever-- and the sight of hundreds of pelicans soaring above Quivira on the way up was a sight I will never forget! Since then, I have enjoyed watching many scissortails gathering to head south--also the flickers. I am enjoying the various hawks although I am not the best at identification, however, I did count 17 sparrow hawks on Christmas day in a 7 mile trip.

I had noted in an old copy of "Birds in Kansas" that brown creepers were considered a little offbeat for Kansas--so imagine my surprise on October 9, to see a regular invasion! I first noticed a small bird dive bombing another--and told my husband there were two hummingbirds outside. Then noticed every tree in our yard, across the street, and next door to me, were literally working with brown creepers! Six to eight were spiralling up to the very tree tops. This was at 3:30 in the afternoon--a rather gray and gloomy day--they appeared on the 10th, and the 11th. Except for four that are here at the suet feeders, all disappeared. This is the second time I have ever seen them in great numbers. Once while fishing on the Verde River in Arizona, during the spring, the creepers were courting and the little mouse like squeaks filled the air. At the time of the October visit, there were many warblers in the tops of the trees, but not identified by me.

On December 8th a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker began to visit the feeder, and has been here daily since. Also on December 8th a Baltimore Oriole was on the front feeder, I could not believe my eyes, but I will have you know, this bird has been here daily since and has taken to eating on the feeder just outside my kitchen window. He comes at 7:30 to 8am --eats and stays in the lilac bush all day until 4:30 or 5pm. I can observe him from about two feet, he is in excellent shape. His colors would put Lord Baltimore to shame. He is absolutely gorgeous, simply glows! I was surprised to note that he digs the milt out of the bird "bread" I had baked--so he does not depend on suet alone. He tolerates the Cardinals, the Hairy Woodpecker, and the sparrows. He has finally allowed one starling to land, but takes off when a band of them descend. I scare the starlings off and the oriole seems to know I don't expect him to leave, so he flits over to the lilac bush and returns as soon as the air is cleared. Yesterday it was 28° to 40° here with some intermittent rain, sleet and hard pellets of snow and it had know effect on him!-- Clare Redding

FERGUSON'S YARD AND POINTS BEYOND-- From a canoe on Lake Wabunsee September 1: blue-birds pintails, great blue heron, Wilson's Warbler, spotted sandpiper black and white warbler, yellow-billed cuckoo, green heron, ruby-crowned kinglet, catbird, and a northern waterthrush. MJ,CF,MW,SW. I nearly stepped on a poor-will when I walked through a nearby field on this trip. SW.

Sunset Cemetery, Manhattan October 30: both kinglets, brown creepers, juncos, red-breasted nuthatch, clay-colored sparrows and cedar waxwings. SW.

Mill Cove on Tuttle Creek--September 8; sora, Baird's Sandpiper, solitary sandpiper, scissor-tailed flycatcher, rose-breasted grosbeak, and osprey. CF,LF. September 10: sora, long-billed marsh wren, Wilson's Warbler. CF,LF. Ferguson's Yard on September 16: Wilson's Warbler, ruby-crowned kinglet, Nashville Warbler. CF,LF. On September 28: Nashville Warbler, orange-crowned Warbler, black-throated green warbler ruby-crowned kinglet, and solitary vireo. CF,LF. October 1: Nashville Warbler orange-crowned warbler, myrtle warbler, white-throated sparrow, Lincoln's sparrow, yellow-bellied sapsucker, and 50 snow geese overhead. CF,LF,SW. October 9: Chipping sparrow. CF,LF.

Mill Cove--screech owl November 22, great horned owl November 24. Tuttle Puddle --mature Bald Eagle and a large flock of gadwall, November 28. Pott. 2--green-winged teal, red-heads, ring-necked ducks, golden-eyes, canvasbacks, bufflehead, baldpate, and sparrow hawk. CF,JH.

Minneapolis, Kansas--brown thrasher on November 28, four short-eared owls and 75 prairie chicken on November 29.

Williamson's Yard--Carolina Wren, seen and heard a number of times since Nov. 3. Was a winter resident last year too.

DODGE CITY--Winter birds have been fewer in number than usual. White-breasted Nuthatches and red-breasted nuthatches one winter wren and one brown creeper have been present. Tree and Harris' Sparrows are here in smaller numbers than usual. We have seen only one mockingbird and one blue jay. We saw both a golden eagle and one American Eagle so far this winter and a Harlan's Hawk in early December. Few robins stayed to winter and only one flock of waxwings so far.--Joan Challans.

FT. LEAVENWORTH--Olive-sided flycatcher seen September 14 and 17, brown creeper and black-throated green warbler on October 6 and ruby-crowned kinglet on November 1. Vassar St. Park--Two American Avocets and three caspian terns on September 21. Perry St. Park--Fifteen ring-billed gulls on September 7, and one mourning warbler on October 12.--Malcolm Otis.

<u>ADMIRE REPORT</u> --Species	Dates & Numbers	Observer	County
Common Loon	2 on 11/3, 4 on 11/4, 2 on 11/10, 1 on 11/12, 1 on 11/30		Lyon
Horned Grebe	4 on 11/3, and 11/4		Lyon
Eared Grebe	1 on 11/3, 1 on 11/10	Jake Miller	Lyon
Double-crested Cormorants	several large flocks on 11/3		Lyon
Snowy Egret	2 on 9/8		Lyon
Wood Duck	87 on 10/15, large flock on 10/26		Lyon
Canvasback	6 on 11/3		Lyon
Hooded Merganser	1 on 11/3		Lyon
Red-breasted Merganser	8 on 11/4		Lyon
Swainson's Hawk	75 on field 9/29	Ed Schulenberg	Lyon
Rough-legged Hawk	1st on 10/22		Lyon
Ferruginous Hawk	1 on 11/20	Larry Herbert	Lyon
Bald Eagle	1 imm. on 10/20, 1 imm. on 11/30		Coffey
Osprey	1 on 11/4		Lyon
Peregrine	1 on 9/19		Lyon
Prairie Falcon	1 on 11/7	Jake Miller	Wabaunsee
King Rail	1 on 10/13	Tom Hutton	Lyon
Little Gull	1 on 11/3 Jake Miller, Ross Silcock and on 11/4 J. Miller, Ed & Jean Schulenberg carefully observed and photographed		Coffey
Bonaparte's Gull	several on 11/3 and 12 on 11/4		Coffey
Long-eared Owl	1 on 11/17	Ed Schulenberg	Lyon
Long-billed Marsh Wren	2 on 10/20 & several on 10/25 & 28		Lyon
Short-billed Marsh Wren	1 on 10/25, 1 on 10/28		Lyon
Cedar Waxwing	10/29		Lyon
Rusty Blackbird	1 on 11/20		Lyon
Le Conte's Sparrow	5 on 10/19 thru 10/28		Lyon
Fox Sparrow	flocks on 10/13, 11/4, 11/12w		Lyon
Swamp Sparrow	10/13, 10/19, 11/4		Lyon
Lapland Longspur	first flocks on 11/7, 11/9, 11/10		Wabaunsee & Lyon
Smith's Longspur	75 on 11/7, 400 on 11/9, 11/10, 4 on 11/25		Wabaunsee & Lyon

Warbler migration spotty with usual species except for waves of Yellow-rumped Warblers around the end of September and into October. Good migration of fall sparrows but localized in areas of cover which have been reduced by summer drought conditions. Much unharvested feed was available. Weekend of 11/2 and 11/3 was marked by the passing of a frontal system and brought with it numbers of waterfowl--Mallards, Lesser Scaup, Loons. It also seemed to bring the Little Gull. This should be a first record. The following weekend 11/9 and 11/10 was similar and was characterized by the arrival of the Longspurs most of which were Smith's this year.

--Jean Schulenberg