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#### A Letter from Amelia

This is not a farewell story, although I asked to be relieved of my office at the last KOS meeting. It is rather an admission that for most of my 18 years as secretary I was doing only part of the job!

The first three secretaries (Rev. Eugene Dehner, Rollin Baker, and E. K. Beals) had far greater duties than just recording the minutes. For one thing they received the membership dues and sent them on to the treasurer. I soon changed that double handling of checks and cash by having the members send their dues directly to the treasurer who then informed me of those who had paid.

Those first three men also planned and executed both the spring and fall meetings. One year of that and I decided that the vice-president (whose only job at that time was hoping the president stayed well) should take on that task. Elizabeth Cole was the first V.P. to do it and she and every V.P. since then have made that plan work very satisfactorily.

By 1964 our membership had grown so large and so many members waited until the spring meeting to pay their dues that my brief case after an annual meeting was a terrible hodge-podge of minutes, dues payments, address changes, etc. I asked the society to divide the job into correspondence and membership secretaries. That plan has worked well.

Now we have both a new C.S. (Jeff Cox of Lawrence) and a new M.S. (Mrs. Ruth Broderson of Wichita). Mrs. Broderson will have a year to get accustomed with our present dues set-up, but by mid-1978 she will have new forms planned and printed for 1979 (including new family membership).

I beg you to make her job simpler and easier by: 1) paying your dues before the first of the year, or at least in January; 2) notifying her of address changes as soon as you know them. She has to notify our mailer in Winfield who in turn notifies the computer center at KSU. This takes time and often results in undeliverable publications since our mailing permit does not permit forwarding such mail. 3) Tell her if you want to terminate your membership; this will cost you but a nine cent postcard but saves the KOS up to 75 cents or more per "quitter."

#### 18th Report

KOS membership has grown from 190 in 1959 to 420 in 1976. Sustaining members for 1976 totalled 100; life and part-time members equalled 19. We had 50 new members but 55 were dropped for non-payment of dues, deaths and resignations. Twenty-two of the 139 members paid dues for the 28th time. Already for 1977 we

have 427 members (the most ever) and I hope some of the 60 members recently dropped for delinquency will change their minds. We have 51 new members. One new life member (Mrs. Janelle O'Keefe of Dodge City) brings that total to 18 with three more paying toward life membership. But we have only 12 student members! Can't you think of some grade and/or high school student whose interest in birds warrants your making that \$1.00 gift?

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the pleasure I have had dealing with all members and especially with the other officers. Although many of them were professors and other knowledgeable people, I found they were just "people." I learned a lot from them.

As I said at the beginning this is not a farewell. I intend to stay active and vocal in KOS affairs as long as Katharine Kelly can get me to meetings. And I would never have lasted this long without her help and encouragement. I will continue to act as membership secretary until late June, so send address changes and membership suggestions to Baldwin until then.

Amelia J. Betts.

The following lists of sightings are extracts from lists submitted to the Newsletter. The full lists are filed at F.H.S.U. Ed.

Eastern Kansas

Red-shouldered Hawk	1	2/20	Eugene Lewis, Eulalia Lewis & Bob Glazier	Osage Co.
LeConte's Sparrow	1	2/27	above & Jean Schulenberg	Lyon
Common Loon	2	5/02	Schulenberg's	Lyon
Little Blue Heron	1	5/15	Schulenberg's	Osage
Red-breasted Merganser	2	3/08	Lloyd Moore	Coffey
Snowy Plover	1	5/08	Schulenberg's	Osage
Ruddy Turnstone	1	5/09,10	"	Osage
Whimbrel	1	5/15	"	Osage
Hudsonian Godwit	many	4/24 to 5/01	"	Osage & Coffey
Glaucous Gull	1	3/06	"	Osage
Caspian Tern	12	5/09	"	Osage
Black-billed Cuckoo	1	5/08	J. Schulenberg	Lyon
Bay-breasted Warbler	6	5/15	Schulenberg's	
Scarlet Tanager	2		Madge Hilbish Louis Schweitzer	Coffey

Smith's Longspur	15	3/08	Lloyd Moore	Coffey
	45	3/20	Schulenbergs	Coffey
Snow Bunting	many	winter	Dennis Ronsse	Jackson

Jean Schulenberg

Members of the ornithology class at KSU and their friends recorded the following species on or immediately adjacent to the Dingus Natural Area between 8 p.m., May 7th and 11 a.m., May 8th:

Black-billed Cuckoo	Solitary Vireo
Chuck-wills-widow	Red-eyed Vireo
Whip=poor-will	Warbling Vireo
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Black-&-white Warbler
Pileated Woodpecker	Worm-eating Warbler
Eastern Wood Pewee	Tennessee Warbler
Wood Thrush	Nashville Warbler
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Parula Warbler
Yellow-throated Vireo	Magnolia Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Blackpoll Warbler
Ovenbird	Kentucky Warbler
American Redstart	Summer Tanager
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Blue Grosbeak

On the 7th we were at the Marais des Cygnes Waterfowl Management Area where Unit D was particularly good for migrant passerines. Records of note were a late Snow Goose and a Red-breasted Nuthatch.

John L. Zimmerman

Central Kansas

The following are among the species compiled in 1976-77 at the Dillon Outdoor Education Center near Hutchinson. The area is 23 acres of trees, shrubs and prairie and has two ponds:

Ring-necked Duck	White-breasted Nuthatch
Mississippi Kite	Brown Creeper
Sandhill Crane	Red-breasted Nuthatch
Spotted Sandpiper	Mockingbird
Stilt Sandpiper	Townsend's Solitaire
American Avocet	Golden-crowned Kinglet
Ring-billed Gull	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Black Tern	Cedar Waxwing
Screech Owl	Loggerhead Shrike
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	Warbling Vireo
Great Crested Flycatcher	Boat-tailed Grackle

Lorena Combs

North-central Kansas

The following are among the species seen on 28 and 29 May, 1977:

Cloud County:

Red-tailed Hawk	Catbird
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Baltimore Oriole
Chimney Swift	Orchard Oriole

Marshall County:

Barn Swallow	House Wren
Purple Martin	Warbling Vireo
Black-billed Cuckoo	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Tufted Titmouse	Indigo Bunting
Mockingbird	Dickcissel

Republic County:

Great Blue Heron	Catbird
Ruddy Duck	Eastern Bluebird
Common Nighthawk	Warbling Vireo
Western Kingbird	Yellow Warbler
Least Flycatcher	Yellowthroat
Cliff Swallow	Yellow-headed Blackbird

Jewell Co. (Lovewell Res.):

Lesser Scaup	Brown Thrasher
Marsh Hawk	Warbling Vireo
Red-bellied Woodpecker	Cardinal
Eastern Kingbird	Indigo Bunting
Rough-winged Swallow	Lark Sparrow
Black-capped Chickadee	Yellowthroat

Lorena Combs and Avis Jackson

South-central Kansas

The following are among the species seen in Comanche County on 13 and 14 May, 1977:

Swainson's Hawk	Western Bluebird
Turkey	Bullock's Oriole
Roadrunner	Wilson's Warbler
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Sage Sparrow
Ash-throated Flycatcher	Lark Bunting
Bewick's Wren	Belted Kingfisher

A Boat-tailed Grackle was seen in Kiowa County. Tom Flowers.

South-western Kansas

The following are among the species seen in Morton County during the dates indicated:

April 28 to May 6

Vesper Sparrow	Grasshopper Sparrow
Rufous-sided Towhee	Field Sparrow
Eastern Bluebird	White-crowned Sparrow
Bullock's Oriole	Turkey Vulture
Long-billed Curlew	Marsh Hawk
Lark Sparrow	Yellow-shafted Flicker
Great Crested Flycatcher	Great Horned Owl
Warbling Vireo	Say's Phoebe
American Kestrel	Horned Lark
Burrowing Owl	Common Grackle

May 7 to 11

American Avocet	Lark Bunting
Western Kingbird	Chimney Swift
Vesper Sparrow	Lark Sparrow
Black-billed Magpie	Ring-necked Pheasant
Chipping Sparrow	Indigo Bunting
Mockingbird	Red-headed Woodpecker
Turkey	Lark Bunting
Blue Jay	Mockingbird

May 12 to 15

Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Franklin's Gull
Mississippi Kite	Red-headed Woodpecker
Swainson's Hawk	Warbling Vireo
Scaled Quail	Indigo Bunting

Haskell Co. May 14, 1977

American Avocet	Mallard
Killdeer	Lark Bunting

Finney Co., May 14, 1977

Barn Swallow	Common Yellowthroat
Chimney Swift	Lark Bunting

Morton Co., May 15, 1977

Gray-cheeked Thrush	Common Nighthawk
Acadian (?) Flycatcher	Yellow-billed Cuckoo

For two weeks prior to May 6, I noticed a great increase in Lark Sparrows, Field Sparrows, kingbirds, Lark Buntings, Grasshopper Sparrows and orioles. Harris Sparrows and White-crowned Sparrows were decreasing in numbers.

I found the following article in the Lindsborg newspaper. I'll encourage the organizers of the event to let the KOS know about it next year. It could be a way of recruiting new members.

#### "GOKOTTA PLANNED IN LINDSBORG"

"Some Lindsborg residents are planning a "Gokotta" to experiment with an old Swedish tradition "festival of birds" picnic. The picnic was scheduled for May 14, beginning at 6 a.m.

In Sweden during May numerous "Gokotta" picnics are held early in the morning when the birds are singing at their best according to Hildur Ek, one of the picnic organizers. Sometimes only a half dozen friends get together at these informal gatherings. They bring coffee and rolls and hike into the woods just to hear the birds sing (especially the cuckoo-goken).

At other places, such as in Gothenburg, large crowds assemble in the parks and a program is added. Some old time Lindsborg Swedes have reported the event in Sweden to be a thrilling experience.

"A few Lindsborg residents would like to see the custom become a yearly one" noted Ek. "It could even spread to other communities in this day of ecology-minded people."

It will take place at the new section of the Old Mill Park south of the Smoky Hill River and west of the road. It will start at 6 a.m. and in case of rain would be held on Monday, May 16. A short program will be presented at 6:30 a.m. by people familiar with birds of this area. Persons planning to attend should bring a lawn chair, coffee, sandwiches, rolls and binoculars.

Robert Kruger

#### SHOW OF BIRD PAINTINGS

Helen Franklin will have a one-woman show of 50 or more of her bird paintings at the Collectors Galley, 4121 Gage Center Drive in Topeka from September 3 to October 1. The gallery is in the Gage Shopping Center. The show will feature her wild bird paintings done in oriental brush work with Chinese ink and color on various handmade rice papers.

You are equally welcome to attend whether you are a purchaser or whether you simply would like to look at the show and see a personal way of interpreting wildlife.

#### SPEAKER AVAILABLE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

The program presented by Richard J. Baldauf at the spring KOS meeting in Newton was well received with much enthusiasm and should have whetted the appetite for more.

Workshops, lectures, and field trips on topics related to environmental education are the specialties of Dr. Baldauf, who has a broad background in biology, nature study, career consulting, natural resources, and associated topics such as urban planning, energy, citizen action, and legislation.

It is important to note that his presentations are not reserved for teachers or science; instead, he has a way of melding effectively all subjects into an array of experiences which benefit teachers at all grade levels as well as other adults in the community. His list of lectures offers great diversity.

You may contact Dr. Baldauf directly for additional information: 115 Morningside Drive, Kansas City, Missouri 64113; telephone (816) 523-3562.

KOS 1977 Spring Meeting, Newton

A very diverse series of papers, films and other activities were presented at the spring meeting. A partial program follows:

More birds that came to see me	John Breukelman
Avian diversity in Kansas winters	John Bucher
Finch invasion at Baldwin	Katharine Kelly
Breeding Bird Census -- a 10 year survey of Route 014 doves	Eugene Lewis
Golden Eagle nesting attempt in southwest- ern Kansas	Tim Blakely, Becky Finney
Some observations of the winter blackbird- starling roost near Pittsburg, Crawford County, Kansas	J. C. Johnson, Jr.
Nuisance bird law	Perry Conway
Some information on falconry	L. O. Nossaman
Alaska: Wildlands for tomorrow	Perry Conway
Woodland bird communities	Richard Johnston
Effect of weather on the nest success of Horned Larks	Roger Boyd
Clutch size variation in House Sparrows	Ed Murphy
The importance of dietary lysine to the nutrition of Dark-eyed Juncos	John Parrish
Breeding biology of solitary nesting Green Herons	Calvin Cink
So you want to have a Christmas count?	John Zimmerman
Quiz:What bird is this	Allen Jahn
Breeding Bird Survey	John Zimmerman

The Spring field trip on 30 April-1 May produced 119 species. Among the more interesting finds were: Mississippi Kite, American Woodcock and Henslow's Sparrow.