

KANSAS ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Fort Hays State University
Hays, Kansas 67601

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President's Message

As KOS begins a new year, we can look back with some satisfaction on the past one. Amelia Betts for so many years our able Membership Secretary announced her retirement last spring. Words cannot begin to express the society's appreciation of her years of service which have seen a steady increase in membership. We hoped to have given her a measure of our thanks when Amelia became one of the first recipients of the KOS Merit Award.

Amelia and Ruth Broderson, newly elected Membership Secretary, effected smooth transition of the records and membership is now in Ruth's capable hands. Margaret Boyd is the new Memebership Committee Chairerson, replacing Katherine Kelley who retired after a job well done. Margaret has distributed membership applications to all committee members throughout the state. This plan was set up several years ago by Dr. Dwight Platt. All these people have worked hard to increase membership but new members should be the concern of everyone. New people mean new ideas. Can you bring a new member to KOS?

Dr. Charles Ely deserves special recognition for the high caliber of the KOS bulletin and for his years as editor. Dr. Ely plans to retire his editorship this spring.

All of the members, Jeff Cox, Gene Lewis, Steve Fretwell, board members, committee chairmen, and committee members have done their utmost to see KOS move forward. It has been the greatest pleasure to have worked with such dedicated and hard working people and to have been associated with an organization like KOS.

1977 has seen KOS establish a solid working relationship with the Kansas Fish and Game Commission in which some of our ideas have been incorporated into that agency's Plan for Kansas Wildlife and their 1978 legislative program. KOS has spoken out on several vital issues affecting wildlife and conservation. Most notable were resolutions on falconry, nuisance birds, the Alaskan Wilderness, and rare and endangered species. We have established a channel of legislative information from Washington, and Stan Roth, Conservation Committee Chairman, is trying to set up one in Kansas.

As to 1978, there is always much to do. We shall be preparing a new KOS brochure to include information on the Dingus Natural Area. We plan to publish a Kansas Life List and Diary booklet and publish with the Topeka Audubon Society, The Bird Species of Shawnee County, by Robert Southerland. We will be distributing species observation cards. Members and others may use cards to report unusual species and return them to Marvin Schwilling, Check List Committee Chairman. We are also looking into the cost of KOS arm patches.

The Spring Meeting will be held April 29 and 30 at Salina with Steve Burr as Local Arrangements Chairman. We hope to have another outstanding program and it is not too early to be preparing papers. Dr. Steve Fretwell at KSU Manhattan is the Papers Session Chairman. Field trips at the Salina meeting will offer the opportunity of seeing bird life in a new area of the state.

If an organization is only as good as its members, then KOS stands at the forefront. To each of you I send my gratitude and my sincerest wishes for a bright future.

Jean Schulenberg



Birding Opportunities in Kent

While vacationing in England last April we had the opportunity to visit the Dungeness Bird Observatory in the county of Kent. The observatory is on a promontory that juts into the English Channel and for that reason draws many migrants coming from the continent. Next to the Dungeness Bird Reserve of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and nearby are the Wallend and Romney Marshes.

The reason we are telling of this is because the warden of the observatory Nick Riddiford, asked that we pass the word here in the States that students (and others) are welcome to come and help with the work of the observatory while learning bird ringing (banding). He has students from England and the Continent but few from here have heard and taken advantage of the opportunity. Study is year-round but the most exiting times are during the heart of the migration although much good work is done with breeding birds at nearby marshes.

All expenses are borne by the student, but once there, the living is not too expensive. If arrangements are made in advance, accomodations can be had at the observatory where a maximum of ten people can live in a hostel type situation. Visitors provide their own food and do their own cooking. While we were there a group of students (mixed gender) came in from checking nets and then measured ringed, and turned loose a number of birds. We have more detailed information for anyone interested in a different kind of adventure and study.

Gene and Eulalia Lewis

Need Sunflower Seeds?

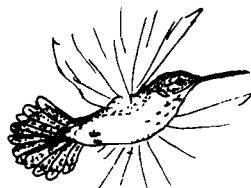
Dave Ranney has access to 15 tons of black sunflower seeds at .20¢ per pound plus freight. Any profits will go to the Nemaha County Sheltered Workshop for handicapped adults who are doing the actual packaging. Minimum orders of 25 pounds (and orders in multiples of 25) are preferred. Seed will be shipped the day after receipt of your check and should arrive the next day. Freight costs are:

	zone	1	2	3	4
25 lbs.		1.37	2.14	2.52	3.18
50 lbs.		2.12	3.67	4.45	5.73

zip codes zone 1 664-666
 2 640-648, 653, 660-662, 667-675, 680-686, 688-689
 3 620-623, 630-636, 656-652, 654-658, 676-679, 687, 690-691, 726-729
 4 355-424, 624-638, 637-639, 692-693, 716-725, 800-884

Dave Ranney 516 Main, Seneca, KS

Mr. Carl Marx, of Sylvia, reported sighting a rufous hummingbird in Sylvia. Mr. Marx works at Quivera with Charlie Darling.



Lorena Combs

CALL FOR PAPERS

KANSAS ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL SPRING MEETING

APRIL 30 and May 1, 1978

SALINA, KANSAS

The Kansas Ornithological Society will hold its annual spring meeting at Salina, Kansas April 30 and May 1. The paper session will be on Saturday, April 30. The program is now being composed and members are urged to participate by reading a paper. The success of our program depends entirely upon contributions of members concerning their projects, observations and experiences with birds in Kansas or elsewhere. If you can prepare and present a paper, please fill out the form below and mail before April 1.

Detach along this line and mail to:

Dr. Stephen Fretwell
Division of Biology
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS. 66506

CONTRIBUTED PAPERS SESSION, April 30, 1977

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

TITLE OF PAPER _____

TIME REQUIRED _____ MINUTES. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT REQUIRED _____

Detach along this line and mail to: Marvin D. Schwilling
Box 57
Americus, KS. 66835

BEST BIRD OF THE YEAR 1976-77

SPECIES _____ OBSERVER _____ LOCALITY _____