

KANSAS ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Division of Biology, Kansas State University  
Manhattan, KS 66506

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JANUARY 1979

HERON NESTING SITES TO BE SURVEYED AGAIN.

Since 1952, naturalist Steve Stephens has been studying nesting colonies of the great blue heron in Kansas. He conducted an annual count for each of ten consecutive years and then did another statewide count in 1972. He has been compiling information from this work but will do one more census before publishing a report. Stan Roth has been helping with the heron survey since 1956 and will again be involved with the 1978 work. The KOS membership is being asked to report any information about the location of nesting colonies of the great blue heron in Kansas. The flimsy, stick nests will be found in the larger trees (usually sycamore in the East and cottonwood in the West) of remote woodlots throughout the state. Steve can be contacted %Ross Reservation, Rt. 1, Americus (66835). Stan is at L.H.S., Lawrence (66044): phone 913/842-6625 x 72 at school or 843-8764 at home.

KOS FALL FIELD TRIP

The fall field trip of the Kansas Ornithological Society was held at the Cheyenne Bottoms Waterfowl Management Area in Barton County on the weekend of September 30th and October 1st, 1978. Although the availability of good habitat was limited by droughty conditions and the numbers of shorebirds were low, the variety was good with 122 species recorded during the two day period.

Eared Grebe  
Pied-billed Grebe  
Double-crested Cormorant  
Great Blue Heron  
Green Heron  
Little Blue Heron  
Cattle Egret  
Great Egret  
Snowy Egret  
Black-crowned Night Heron  
Yellow-crowned Night Heron  
American Bittern  
White Pelican  
White-faced Ibis  
Canada Goose  
White-fronted Goose  
Mallard  
Gadwall  
Pintail  
Green-winged Teal  
Blue-winged Teal  
Cinnamon Teal  
Northern Shoveler  
American Widgeon

Ring-necked Duck	Common (Red-shafted) Flicker
Redhead	Red-bellied Woodpecker
Ruddy Duck	Red-headed Woodpecker
Turkey Vulture	Hairy Woodpecker
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Downy Woodpecker
Red-tailed Hawk	Great Crested Flycatcher
Swainson's Hawk	Eastern Phoebe
Bald Eagle	Horned Lark
Marsh Hawk	Tree Swallow
Osprey	Barn Swallow
Prairie Falcon	Cliff Swallow
Merlin	Blue Jay
American Kestrel	Common Crow
Ring-necked Pheasant	Black-capped Chickadee
King Rail	White-breasted Nuthatch
Virginia Rail	House Wren
Sora	Long-billed Marsh Wren
Common Gallinule	Mockingbird
American Coot	Brown Thrasher
Semipalmated Plover	American Robin
Snowy Plover	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Killdeer	Water Pipit
American Golden Plover	Loggerhead Shrike
Common Snipe	Starling
Spotted Sandpiper	Yellow-rumped (Audubon's) Warbler
Willet	Common Yellowthroat
Greater Yellowlegs	Wilson's Warbler
Lesser Yellowlegs	Eastern Meadowlark
Pectoral Sandpiper	Western Meadowlark
Baird's Sandpiper	Yellow-headed Blackbird
Least Sandpiper	Red-winged Blackbird
Long-billed Dowitcher	Brewer's Blackbird
Stilt Sandpiper	Great-tailed Grackle
Semipalmated Sandpiper	Common Grackle
Western Sandpiper	Brown-headed Cowbird
Marbled Godwit	American Goldfinch
Sanderling	Rufous-sided Towhee
American Avocet	Savannah Sparrow
Northern Phalarope	Grasshopper Sparrow
Ring-billed Gull	Vesper Sparrow
Franklin's Gull	Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco
Sabine Gull	Field Sparrow
Forster's Tern	White-throated Sparrow
Black Tern	Lincoln's Sparrow
Rock Dove	Song Sparrow
Mourning Dove	
Barn Owl	
Screech Owl	
Great Horned Owl	
Burrowing Owl	
Common Nighthawk	
Chimney Swift	
Belted Kingfisher	
Common (Yellow-shafted) Flicker	

## FALL MIGRATION, September 1 thru November 30, 1978 from Jean Schulenberg

Common Loon	1 on 11/y, 1 on 11/25 1 on 11/24	Schulenberg "	Coffey Lyon
Horned Grebe	1 on 11/24 1 on 11/25	Schulenberg "	Lyon Coffey
Ross' Goose	1 on 11/11, 1 taken 11/25	Dabid Gentry	Lyon
<u>Greater Scaup</u>	29 on 11/4 possibly a first county record	Marvin Schwinlling	Lyon
Hooded Merganser	<u>14</u> on 11/25	Schulenberg	Coffey
Cattle Egret	8 on 10/30 late	Marvin Schwilling	Lyon
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1 last week in Sept.	J. C. McKinney	Lyon
Cooper's Hawk	1 on 10/30	H. A. Stephens J. Schulenberg	Lyon
Bald Eagle	1 im. on 10/8, 3(2 a. 1 im) on 11/25	Schulenberg	Coffey
Prairie Falcon	1 on 11/6	Schulenberg	Coffey
Whooping Crane	3 (2 a. 1 im.) on 10/22 2 a. on 10/24 5 on 11/7 and 11/8 (family group - 1 young with red and green band)	fide Marvin Schwilling " "	Barton " "
	2 on 10/23 and 10/24 2 on 11/9 and 11/10	Marvin Schwilling	Stafford
	2 a. on 10/20 and 10/21	Gary Heskett	Jewell
	1 flying with Canada Goose 11/3	fide Marvin Schwilling	Marshall
Snowy Plover	1 on 10/22	Schulenberg	Coffey
Am. Golden Plover	40+ on 10/8	Schulenberg	Coffey
Black-bellied Plover	3 or 4 on 9/13	Marvin Schwilling	Osage
Am. Avocet	12 on 9/13 8 on 10/22	Tom Mosher & Marvin Schwilling Schulenberg	Osage Coffey
Bonaparte's Gull	8 on 11/6 building to 300+ 11/25	Schulenberg	Coffey
Sabine's Gull	2 on 9/10	Marvin Schwilling	Barton

Caspian Tern	3 on 9/17	Schulenberg	Osage
<u>Mountain Bluebird</u>	4 on 11/5 county first	Marvin Schwilling	Lyon
Blue Grosbeak	1 on 9/14	Schulenberg	Lyon

#### NESTING YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRDS NEAR SAND PRAIRIE

Dwight Platt reports that Yellow-headed Blackbirds were found nesting for the first time in Harvey County in a marsh just west of the Sand Prairie Natural History Reservation. There were five males in the population and three nests were found. The birds were first seen on May 21, 1978 and were still there on June 17, but had left by June 22 without fledging any young. In the same marsh on June 10, a Least Bittern was discovered; this is the first record for Harvey County for this species.

#### SOME FALL OBSERVATIONS from Steve Kingswood

Three Hooded Mergansers on November 29 and an osprey during the period from September 29 through October 3 in Sedgwick County. Also from Sedgwick County, a Black-headed Grosbeak on October 9 and a Swamp Sparrow on October 27. On September 17 a Veery was seen in Cowley County.

#### AND FROM HAYS

Chuck Ely reports a single Barn Swallow from Cheyenne Bottoms on November 2, a late record for the state. The following records are from Hays (Ellis County):

Mississippi Kite - large migration on September 6 with over 78 individuals, followed by 121 on September 11 and 27 on September 27. Observed by Marvin Rolfs.

Broad-winged Hawk - a few during the period September 18-25.

Prairie Falcon - appeared for the first time in the Hays area this year on September 20.

Poor-will - one netted on October 6 (Editor's note: and probably put into hibernation in a refrigerator in the biology building until Christmas Census time!).

Hermit Thrush - one netted on October 4.

Townsend's Solitaire - first fall arrival on October 1.

Black-throated Green Warbler - a late record on November 4.

Ovenbird - another late record on October 21.

Great-tailed Grackle - one male in the area on October 21 and 24.

Indigo Bunting - recorded on October 30, another latest date.

## SPRING K.O.S. MEETING

The Spring Meeting of the K.O.S. will be held in Lawrence on April 28 and 29. Co-sponsors of the meeting are the Jayhawk Audubon Club and the Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas. Please pre-register if possible.

Members and registrants who are artistically inclined are invited to send original art\* or photographs, relating to birds or other wildlife, for display and/or sale. Commissions from sales will be deposited in the K.O.S. Endowment Fund. Persons interested in participating in this show must write to Marion J. Mengel, Museum of Natural History, well in advance of the meeting for further details.

Events at the meeting will include the following:

Friday, April 27.--Persons arriving in Lawrence on Friday evening are invited to the home of Cynthia Clinton, 1635 Mississippi (see enclosed map), for an informal gathering from 7:30 to 9:30. An adjacent KU parking lot will provide easy parking.

Saturday, April 28.--Registration will be held from 8:00 to 10:00 in the Public Education Room (Room 602, Dyche Museum). Coffee and doughnuts will be available. The proposed art show will be exhibited in this room which will also serve as an informal lounge throughout the day. The paper session will begin at 9:00 in Dyche Auditorium (Room 308). Lunch will be available in the Student Union (adjacent to the Museum) for less than \$3.00. The evening banquet will also be held in the Student Union for \$6.50. Prior to the banquet a cash bar (for 3.2% beer) will be open for persons who wish to attend.

Sunday, April 29.--Field trips will be to sites near Lawrence. Participants will meet at the Douglas County Fairgrounds for lunch, which will be available for \$2.50.

Accommodations.--Camp sites are available at low cost at Perry Reservoir (about 15 miles NW of Lawrence) and at Lone Star Lake (about 8 miles SW of Lawrence). A KOA campground is located in Lawrence. Prices given for the motels listed below indicate the range from a single to a double with two beds.

Virginia Inn	Hallmark Inn	Holiday Inn	Ramada Inn
2907 W 6	730 Iowa	2309 Iowa	2222 W 6
843-6611	841-6500	843-9100	842-7030
(\$18-\$24)	(\$19-\$24)	(\$23-\$28)	(\$24-\$32)

Travelodge	Westview Motel	El Navaho Motel
801 Iowa	1313 W 6	2512 W 6
842-5100	843-6373	843-9729
(\$20-\$26)	(\$10-\$16)	(\$11-\$16)

\* Art = paintings, ceramics, weavings and allied creative efforts



KOS SPRING MEETING

28-29 APRIL 1979

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Call for Papers

Persons attending the Spring Meeting are urged to participate by presenting a paper. A wide variety of papers will make the meeting an interesting one for all registrants. If you have any projects, research, or observations to report on, please take this opportunity to share them. Please try to limit your presentation to no more than 15 minutes. Include an abstract of your paper 200-250 words in length that is suitable for publication.

Fill out the form below and send it as soon as possible (no later than April 1) to the address indicated.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Title of paper \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Time required \_\_\_\_\_ minutes      Equipment needed \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Dr. Charles A. Ely  
Department of Biology  
Fort Hays State College  
Hays, Kansas 67601

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Best Bird of the Year 1978-79

Species \_\_\_\_\_ Locality \_\_\_\_\_

Observer(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Comments \_\_\_\_\_

Species \_\_\_\_\_ Locality \_\_\_\_\_

Observer(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Comments \_\_\_\_\_

(use back if more space is needed)

Mail to: Marvin D. Schwilling  
Box 57  
Americus, Kansas 66835

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

SPRING K.O.S. MEETING

1979

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

		Number	Total
Registration Fee	\$2.50	_____	_____
Saturday Banquet	\$6.50	_____	_____
Sunday Lunch	\$2.50	_____	_____
			Grand Total _____
			Amount Enclosed _____

Make checks payable to "KOS-KU"

Note: Accommodations, Saturday lunch, and the cash bar preceding the banquet are not included in the above amount.

Mail to: Marion J. Mengel  
Museum of Natural History  
University of Kansas  
Lawrence, Kansas 66045