

Annual Fall Meeting

Sedgewick County Zoo

October 2-3, 1982

NONGAME CONTRIBUTIONS SURPASS PREVIOUS TOTAL

PRATT--Kansas taxpayers have shown their concern for wildlife. Contributions to the Nongame Wildlife Improvement Program are right around \$130,000, although the final tally is not completed.

The nongame program, popularly known as the "Chickadee Check-Off," allows Kansans to contribute any amount they choose by checking a box on state income tax returns. The amount received this year surpasses contributions made last year, the first year of the program's existence.

The funds collected are administered by Kansas Fish & Game, in cooperation with a Citizens Nongame Advisory Council.

Kansas Fish and Game News Release

NOTES FROM HARVEY COUNTY

Garganey (*Anas querquedula*), two males with a flock of Blue Winged Teal.
March 29, 1981. Harvey County East Lake.

Whistling Swan (*Olor columbianus*), one adult and one immature. March 18, 1982. Harvey County East Lake.

Bonapart's Gull (*Larus philadelphia*), two individuals. March 24, 1982.
Harvey County East Lake.

Great Tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*), nesting. Two pair Greenwood Cemetery, Newton; one pair nesting Newton City-County Airport.
June 3, 1982.

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*), one adult and two downy chicks.
June 16, 1982. Harvey County East Lake.

Jay Newton

SPRING FIELD TRIP, BARTON COUNTY, KANSAS

Horned Grebe; Eared Grebe; Pied-billed Grebe; White Pelican; Double-crested Cormorant; Herons: Great Blue, Green, Little Blue, Cattle Egret, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Blk-crnd. Night, Yel-crnd. Night, Least Bittern, American Bitters; White-faced Ibis; Geese: Canada, White-fronted; Ducks: Mallard, Gadwall, Pintail, Am. Green-winged Teal, Blue-winged Teal, Cinnamon Teal, American Wigeon, N. Shoveler, Wood, Redhead, Ring-necked, Canvasback, Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck; Red-breasted Merganser; Hawks: Red-tailed, Swainson's, Marsh, Osprey, Am. Kestrel; Ring-necked Pheasant; Sandhill Crane; Rails: King, Virginia, Sora; Gallinules: Common, American Coot;

Plovers: Semipalmated, Snowy, Killdeer, American Golden; Sandpipers: Common Snipe, Upland, Spotted, Solitary, Willet, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Pectoral, White-rumped, Baird's, Least, Semipalmated, Western, Sanderling, Long-billed Dowitcher, Stilt, Marbled Godwit, Hudsonian Godwit; American Avocet; Black-necked Stilt; Wilson's Phalaropes; Gulls: Herring, Ring-billed, Franklin's, Bonaparte's; Terns: Forster's, Common, Caspian, Black; Doves: Rock, Mourning; Owls: Screech, Great Horned, Burrowing; Chimney Swift; Belted Kingfisher; Woodpeckers: Common Flicker, Red-bellied, Red-headed, Hairy, Downy; Flycatchers: Eastern Kingbird, Western Kingbird, Scissor-tailed, Eastern Phoebe; Horned Lark; Swallows: Tree, Bank, Rough-winged, Barn, Cliff, Purple Martin; Blue Jay; Common Crow; Black-capped Chickadee; Wrens: House, Lg.-billed Marsh; Thrashers: N. Mockingbird, Brown; Thrushes: Am. Robin, Wood, Swainson's; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher; Ruby-crowned Kinglet; Water Pipit; Loggerhead Shrike; Starling; Warbling Vireo; Warblers: Black & White, Orange-crowned, Yellow, Yellow-rumped Myrtle, Black-thr. Gray, Palm, N. Waterthrush, Com. Yellowthroat; House Sparrow; Blackbirds, Orioles: E. Meadowlark, W. Meadowlark, Yellow-headed, Red-winged, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore, Brewer's, Great-tail. Grackle, Common Grackle, Br.-headed Cowbird; Grosbeaks, Finches: Cardinal, Bk.-hd. Grosbeak, Dickcissel, Pine Siskin, Am. Goldfinch, Rufous-sid. Towhee; Sparrows: Savannah, Grasshopper, LeConte's, Vesper, Lark, Chipping, Clay-colored, Field, Harris', White-crowned, White-throated, Lincoln's, Song.

PROPOSED RULES GOVERNING THE KOS OFFICAL RECORDS COMMITTEE

I. NAME

The name of this committee is the Offical Records Committee, hereafter referred to as "the committee."

II. DUTIES

A. Functions of the committee

1. To solicit, organize and maintain records, documentation, photographs, tape recordings, etc. of the birds of Kansas. Two duplicate sets of records will be maintained; one by the chairperson, and one deposited in the Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS.
2. To review reports of species - new or rare in the state - and provide final judgment of their status. Maintain an official Kansas list. Judgments of the committee with editorial comments will be provided in an annual report at the fall meeting of the Society. A single official list will be maintained with the following information annotated for every species:
 - a. (1) Specimen available
(2) Photograph (accepted by the committee)
(3) Sight Record (accepted by the committee)
 - b. Number of species in each of the above categories listed, as possible.

- c. Breeding status past or present in Kansas.
- d. List of species on which information is needed and what specific information is needed.

3. Disseminate information through the KOS Bulletin or Newsletter to assist KOS members in developing knowledge and skills.

B. The purpose of the committee is to serve the professional and amateur KOS member and to promote and help maintain a high degree of quality, integrity and professionalism. For the committee to function, it needs the complete support of all interested persons in the state. Individuals should feel free to dispute in the open literature, the published opinions of the committee, and vice-versa.

III. MEETINGS

A. Most committee work will be handled by correspondence with one meeting each year at the annual meeting of the society. Other meetings may be held as desired by the Chairperson.

IV. CIRCULATION OF RECORDS

A. Records shall be circulated as received. Committee members should evaluate and judge the document and return with their comments to the chairperson within 30 days.

Committee Members:

Marvin Schwilling, Chairman
Max Thompson
Charles Ely
Orville Rice
Roger Boyd
Earl S. (Mick) McHugh
Steve Kingswood
Scott Seltmann

SANDHILL CRANE SEASON DELAYED

At its commission meeting of 27 July, Kansas Fish and Game biologists proposed a statewide, 58 day (2 October - 28 November) Sandhill Crane season with a daily bag of 3 and possession limit of 6. Ron Klataske learned of the proposal a few days before the meeting and began making and soliciting phone calls. Within two days the Pratt office, the commissioners and the governor's office had received a host of calls opposing the proposal.

Among the concerns was the lack of advanced notice and opportunity to provide input at an earlier stage. Few people saw the brief notice in some local papers. I called Pratt and learned that they had not expected any opposition so had not directly consulted with conservation groups or the Kansas Non-game Wildlife Advisory Council. I also learned that they had already considered many of our objections and were willing to make changes, including reduction to a "trophy hunt" with a one bird bag over a greatly restricted area and time period. I don't accept the wildlifer's logic that every large edible species has to be harvested, but IF a season is to be held this seemed the way to start.

At the commission meeting Ron gave a detailed 20 minute presentation listing numerous concerns (including the dangers to whoopers and herons) and challenged some of their biological data. I briefly questioned the need for a season, stressed that bad publicity for the agency would outweigh the benefits for a few hunters and suggested no more than a trial season. The commissioners voted to reject the proposal for a year while the problems are studied.

I was assured by several F & G personnel that they were not trying to avoid the opposition and that it was a matter of poor judgment and inadequate communications. Someone was certainly naive to think that a crane season would not be controversial! Everyone that I talked with was reasonable and hopefully the agency can gain the confidence, respect and cooperation of various conservation organizations. I AM NOT blasting the I & E Division which is doing a great job overall.

Charles A. Ely

SEASONS ESTABLISHED ON EARLY MIGRANT SPECIES

PRATT--Fish and Game commissioners have set hunting seasons and limits for dove, teal, snipe, rail, and woodcock...but delayed action on a proposal to open sandhill crane hunting. The action came in the commission's July 27 meeting at Pratt.

The agency's staff had recommended opening Kansas' first ever sandhill crane season. However, opposition voiced at the meeting by Audubon Society spokesman Ron Klataske and in telephone calls from other Kansas to commissioners prior to the meeting, resulted in delaying action on the proposal until next year. Although several states already have hunting seasons on sandhill cranes, opponents of the proposal were concerned that allowing crane hunting could pose a threat to other species which are protected, including whooping cranes and great blue herons.

Among the seasons set by commissioners at the meeting were:

--Dove: Sept. 1 through Nov. 9, with a daily limit of 12 and possession limit of 24.

--Teal: Sept. 11-19, with a daily limit of four and possession limit of eight.

--Snipe: Sept. 11 through Dec. 26, with a daily limit of eight and possession limit 16.

--Rail: Sept. 11 through Nov. 21, with a daily limit of 25 and possession limit of 25.

--Woodcock: Oct. 2 through Dec. 5, with a daily limit of five and possession limit of 10.

Kansas Fish and Game News Release

SUMMER BIRD COUNT - POMONA RESERVOIR - KANSAS

38°41'N 95°41'W, center intersection U.S. 75 and Dragoon Creek, as described 1977; elevation 922 to 1175 ft. Habitat coverage: old fields and fence rows 24%, grassland 20%, cultivated fields 18%, riparian forest 18%, lakes and rivers 14%, upland deciduous forest 3%, residential areas 2%, marsh 1%.- June 19; 6:45 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Partly cloudy. Temp. 60-77°F. Wind NNW, 10 m.p.h. Wild food crop good. Seven observers, 7 in 3 parties. Total party hours, 32.25 (13 on foot, 16.25 by car, 3 by canoe); total party miles 196 (9 on foot, 182 by car, 5 by canoe).

Great Blue Heron 33; Green heron 3; Blue-winged Teal 1; Wood Duck 3; Turkey Vulture 19; Redtailed Hawk 29; Marsh Hawk 1; American Kestrel 7; Bobwhite 190; Kildeer 34; Upland Sandpiper 7; Mourning Dove 207; Yellow-billed Cuckoo 61; Black-billed Cuckoo 2; Barred Owl 2; Chuck-will's-widow 1; Common Nighthawk 2; Chimney Swift 65; Ruby-throated Hummingbird 3; Common (Yellow-shafted) Flicker 19; Red-bellied Woodpecker 25; Red-headed Woodpecker 63; Hairy Woodpecker 2; Downy Woodpecker 12; Eastern Kingbird 65; Western Kingbird 4; Scissor-tailed Flycatcher 14; Great Crested Flycatcher 15; Eastern Phoebe 11; Least Flycatcher 1; Empidonas, sp. 15; Eastern Wood Pewee 10; Horned Lark 4; Rough-winged Swallow 1; Barn Swallow 130; Purple Martin 14; Blue Jay 70; Common Crow 61; Black-capped Chickadee 118; Tufted Titmouse 32; White-breasted Nuthatch 11; House Wren 12; Mockingbird 38; Gray Catbird 6; Brown Thrasher 84; American Robin 169; Eastern Bluebird 38; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 8; Luggerhead Shrike 67; Starling 133; Red-eyed Vireo 3; Warbling Vireo 16; Vireo, sp. 4; Northern Parula 3; Common Yellowthroat 8; House Sparrow 457; Eastern Meadowlark 163; Meadowlark, sp. 30; Red-winged Blackbird 155; Orchard Oriole 13; Northern (Baltimore) Oriole 68; Common

Grackle 358; Brown-headed Cowbird 142; Summer Tanager 4; Cardinal 143; Rose-breasted Grosbeak 6; Blue Grosbeak 3; Indigo Bunting 21; Dickcissel 243; American Goldfinch 61; Rufous-sided Towhee 5; Grasshopper Sparrow 11; Lark Sparrow 3; Field Sparrow 56.

Total, 71 species; 3898† individuals. - Johnie Brockway, Bob Culbertson, Steve Kingsword (compiler - Sedgwick County Zoo, 5555 Zoo Blvd., Wichita, KS 67212), E. M. and F. R. Lewis, Ken Redman, Jim Thurman.

NEW COUNTY RECORDS

On May 25 Bill Layher and I conducted a field site assessment on a proposed county road project which involves a channel realignment of a short reach of Soldier Creek in Jackson County. My map file indicates that Jackson County has relatively few county sightings of birds so incidental to our assessment, we recorded all birds sighted while we were in the county: Common Nighthawk, Common Flicker (Red-shaft) Western Kingbird, Eastern Phoebe, Eastern Wood Pewee, Rough-winged Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Warbling Vireo, Yellow Warbler, Northern Oriole, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissal.

Robert D. Wood, C.W.B.

NEW COUNTY RECORDS

<u>Species</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Black-throated Gray Warbler	Barton	5/4/82	KOS Members
Common Goldeneye	Ellsworth (Kanapolis River)	12/28/81	Jim Ptacek
Common Merganser	Ellsworth (Kanapolis River)	12/28/81	Jim Ptacek
Hermit Thrush	Chase	1/15/82	Jim Ptacek
Bald Eagle (2)	Leavenworth	2/3/82	Greg Hanson
Cattle Egret (1)	Cloud	2/17/82	Steve Sorenson
Long-billed Curlew (10)	Neosho	4/6/82	Larry Tiemann
Long-billed Curlew (1)	Chase	4/9/82	Marvin Schwilling
Long-billed Curlew	Lyon	4/10/82	Margaret Schulenberg
Barred Owl	Commanche	4/17/82	Ron Spomer (Photographed)
Louisiana Waterthrush	Commanche	4/17/72	Ron Spomer

NONGAME FUND UNDERWRITES SWALLOW-TAILED KITE PLAN

PRATT--A biology professor from Maine and a pair of young birds from Florida are the central figures in an experiment underway in southwest Kansas. The combination of characters and locations isn't as unlikely as it sounds, though.

Jim Parker teaches biology at the University of Maine but has been spending his summers in Kansas for several years, studying and censusing Mississippi Kites. This summer, Parker and two student assistants are experimenting with reintroduction of Swallow-Tailed Kites, cousins of the Mississippi Kite common in much of western Kansas. The work is being funded by a grant from the Kansas Nongame Wildlife Improvement Program.

Earlier this month, Parker obtained two nestling swallowtails in Florida and flew them to Kansas via commercial airlines. The young birds were placed in Mississippi Kite nests near Meade. Parker hopes the adult Mississippi Kites occupying those nests will continue feeding the young birds. Parker and his aides are watching the nests closely and will continue to make periodic observations until the birds reach flying age in mid-July.

Although the Swallow-Tailed Kite's range today has shrunk to a portion of the southeastern U.S., they once were fairly common in Kansas, Parker said. Habitat destruction and unregulated shooting eliminated the birds from much of their former range, he surmised.

The two Kite species share many common characteristics. Both species are graceful fliers that feed on insects while hovering aloft. They also eat snakes, lizards, small birds, and mice. The two species are easily distinguished from each other, however. Adult swallowtails have striking black and white plumage patterns and long, forked tails. They are much larger than Mississippi Kites, also, with wing spans that measure about four feet.

Parker expects the young swallowtails to migrate with Mississippi Kites to their South American wintering grounds. Since most migratory birds return to the area where they learned to fly, the pair of youngsters reared this year may return to Kansas next spring. Parker plans to release more swallowtails in Kansas next year; instead of the Meade area, however, he plans to focus those efforts on central Kansas, which is more suited to the swallowtail's climate and habitat requirements.

Kansas Fish and Game News Release

NESTING SEASON, 1 June to 31 July

<u>Species</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Eared Grebe	Stafford	107 nests on 6 July at Quivira NWR destroyed 13 July	Roger Boyd Bill Sharp Ralph Bryant
White-faced Ibis	Stafford	22 nests on 10 July at Quivira NWR	Ralph Bryant
Mottle	Clark	1 on 6 July with Mallards on sandbar	Jean Schulenberg
Northern Harrier	Stafford	Male and 3 young 2 June through 19 July	J. & E. Schulenberg
Prairie Falcon	Stafford	1 on 28 July observed capturing a shorebird	Ed Schulenberg
Sandhill Crane	Stafford	2 adults first observed 6 July still present 26 July Quivira NWR	Ralph Bryant m. ob
Black Rail	Stafford	4 birds calling on 3 June	Schulenburgs
Common Gallinule	Stafford	1 on 7 June 2 (pr) on 27 June nest 28 June Quivira NWR	Ed Schulenberg
Black-necked Stilt	Stafford	nested successfully at Quivira NWR 17 ad. & juv. on 25 July	E. & J. Schulenberg
Least Tern	Meade	13 pairs on 13-15 July	Schulenberg & Boyd
	Stafford	18 pairs on 28-29 July	Schulenberg & Boyd
	Clark	6 pairs on 15-16 July	Schulenberg & Boyd
Belted Kingfisher	Clark	1 pair at a nest cavity on 17 June	J. Schulenberg
Bell's Vireo	Clark	1 nest on 17 June	J. Schulenberg
Bobolink	Stafford	2 nests with 4 young	Roger Boyd, Bill Sharp and J. Schulenberg
Painted Bunting	Clark	1 nest 18 June abandoned with 3 eggs 7 July	Schulenburgs

WESTERN KANSAS BREEDING SEASON

<u>Species</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>County</u>
Green Heron	Several	6-12-82	Kiowa
Wood Duck	3	6-12-82	Kiowa
Mississippi Kite	Cliff Swallow captured in flight	6-12-82	Barber
Black-billed Cuckoo		6-12-82	Barber
Black-capped Chickadee	Belvidere	6-12-82	Kiowa
Carolina Chickadee		6-12-82	Barber
Carolina Chickadee		6-12-82	Comanche
Bewick's Wren	Adults with 5 young	6-12-82	Comanche
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher		6-12-82	Comanche
Painted Bunting		6-12-82	Comanche
Cassin's Sparrow		6-12-82	Comanche
Cassin's Sparrow		6-12-82	Barber

Tom Shane, Scott and Diane Seltman

Green Heron	1	8-07-82	Morton
Wood Duck	100+	8-14-82	Barton
Marsh Hawk	Nest with 4 eggs abandoned	7-06-82 8-01-82	Pawnee Pawnee
Merlin	Adult attacked wood- pecker on Smoky Hill - flew west into Gove County - no previous record in either county	7-30-82 7-30-82	Trego Gove
American Kestrel	Dickcissel captured in flight	7-23-82	Pawnee
Common Gallinule		8-14-82	Barton
Black-bellied Plover	3	8-10-82	Barton
Mountain Plover	Group of 30+ photo- graphed	8-07-82	Morton
Semi-palmated Plover	100+	8-10-82	Barton
Upland Sandpiper	Chicks photographed 4 fledglings in same area	7-30-82 7-30-82	Norton Norton
Baird's Sandpiper	First county record	7-30-82	Graham

Scott Seltman

NEW COUNTY RECORDS

<u>Species</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>
Eared Grebe	Cheyenne	June, 1981
Eared Grebe	Logan	June, 1981
W. Pelican	Gove	July, 1979
Cattle Egret	Labette	August, 1982
B. Cr. Night Heron	Scott	June, 1980
Green Heron	Gove	July, 1979
B. W. Teal	Gove	July, 1979
Wood Duck	Gove	July, 1982
Ruddy Duck	Cheyenne	June, 1981
Rudy Duck	Gove	June, 1978
Upland Sandpiper	Lane	July, 1979
Pectoral Sandpiper	Rawlins	July, 1978
L. B. Dowitcher	Rawlins	July, 1978
West. Sandpiper	Logan	June, 1979
Baird's Sandpiper	Logan	June, 1979
Avocet	Logan	June, 1981
West. Sandpiper	Cheyenne	June, 1978
Avocet	Cheyenne	June, 1979
Y. B. Cuckoo	Wichita	June, 1982
Y. B. Cuckoo	Lane	July, 1978
Barn Owl	Lane	July, 1979
Poor Will	Meade	July, 1982
Rock Wren	Greeley	June, 1982
B. G. Gnatcatcher	Scott	June, 1978
Yellowthroat	Lane	July, 1979
Y. H. Blackbird	Atchison	May, 1982
Bk.-hd. Grosbeak	Lane	July, 1979
Blue Grosbeak	Greeley	June, 1982
Indigo Bunting	Trego	June, 1978
Baird's Sparrow	Comanche	November, 1981
Henslow's Sparrow	Greenwood	June, 1980

Stan Roth

FIRST COUNTY RECORDS

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>County</u>
Green Heron	5-08-82	Edwards
White-faced Ibis	5-10-82	Rush
Snow Goose	3-20-82	Ness
Ring-necked Duck	3-20-82	Ness
Bufflehead	3-20-82	Ness
Ruddy Duck	3-20-82	Ness
Greater Yellowlegs	3-20-82	
Semi-palmated Sandpiper	4-23-82	Pawnee
Long-billed Dowitcher	3-20-82	Ness

Marbled Godwit		5-01-82	Pawnee
Hudsonian Godwit		4-21-82	Pawnee
Short-eared Owl		5-08-82	Hodgeman
Saw-whet Owl	Observed at close range by Diane	3-21-82	Rush
Eastern Wood Pewee	Seen and heard for 2 days	5-14-82	Rush
Philadelphia Vireo		5-20-82	Pawnee
Golden-crowned kinglet		4-01-82	Norton
Black-and-white Warbler		4-30-82	Rush
"Audubon's " Warbler		4-30-82	Scott
"Audubon's " Warbler		5-15-82	Rush
Ovenbird		5-18-82	Rush
Common Yellowthroat		5-14-82	Rush
Wilson's Warbler		4-24-82	Scott
American Redstart		5-15-82	Rush
Brewer's Blackbird		5-08-82	Edwards
Black-headed Grosbeak		5-08-82	Edwards
Chipping Sparrow		5-08-82	Edwards
Chesnut-collared Longspur		4-01-82	Norton

(The Saw-whet was flushed by one of our cats that was nosing about in a 5-foot cedar tree. Diane stared at it for 20 minutes from a few feet away and the owl was still staring back when she left. Unfortunately, I was not home at the time and could not find it later.

Scott Seltman

NEW COUNTY RECORDS

<u>Species</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Long-billed Curlew	Wallace	6/23/82	Walt Graul/Marvin Schwilling
White Pelican	Comanche	7/1/82	Jean Schulenberg
Black-billed Cuckoo	Rooks	6/26/82	Ken Brunsen
Carolina Wren	Bourbon	6/28/82	Bob Wood, et al
Summer Tanager	Bourbon	6/28/82	Bob Wood, et al
Great-tailed Grackle	Trego	7/15/82	Bob Wood/Bill Layher
Eastern Wood Pewee	Wabaunsee	7/14/82	Ken Brunson/Sheryl Barnett
Tufted Titmouse	Wabaunsee	7/14/82	Ken Brunson/Sheryl Barnett
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Wabaunsee	7/14/82	Ken Brunson/Sheryl Barnett
Ankinga	Linn	7/24/82	Lloyd Moore/Richard Parker
Tree Swallows (nesting)	Clay	8/17/81	Jim Ptacek and Margaret
Nesting in standing dead timber		& 6/15/82	Schulenberg
Milford Reservoir			
Broad-winged Hawk	Montgomery	7/21/82	Ken Brunson, Bill Layher and S. Barnett