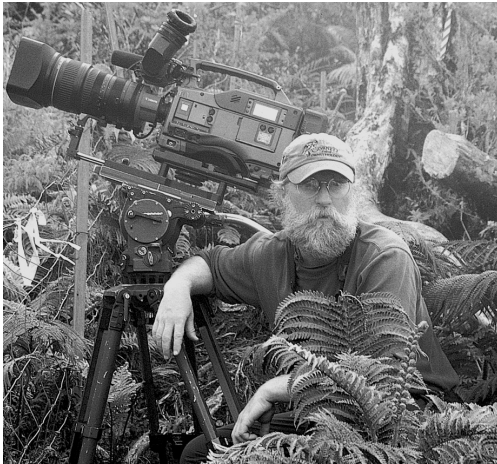


Wichita Audubon



Volume 40 No. 2 September 2005

SEPTEMBER MEETING



We're starting the year off with a program about the most exciting conservation news of the last fifty years - the rediscovery of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker. On April 28, the Big Woods Conservation Partnership announced they had found the long lost bird in east central Arkansas. Since 2004, Timothy Barksdale has spent 2600 hours in the field in search of the elusive bird. He will show footage of the Bayou de View where an Ivory-billed was seen, and will talk about plans to capture

the "Lord God" bird on video. A Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology research associate, he is president and principal cameraman of Birdman Productions, LLC. He has filmed more than 1100 species, including 660 in North America, and has served as principle cameraman for Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology expeditions in Alaska, Florida, Hawaii, Montana and Cuba. We are requesting a suggested \$5 per person donation for the program. The money will go to support Chaplin Nature Center.

Tim Barksdale will present "The Expedition to Find the Ivory-billed Woodpecker: An Insider's Tale," on Tuesday, September 20, 7:30 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center, 29th and Woodlawn. You can also join Tim for dinner before the meeting at Jason's Deli at 21st and Rock Road at 5:45 p.m.

CNC UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Saturday, September 24, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Fall Nature Day

Join us for a day long celebration of nature at the Chaplin Nature Center. There are bird walks, a herp walk (herps are reptiles and amphibians), a live herp demonstration and crafts for kids. We will also be tagging Monarch butterflies. Monarchs are our only migratory butterfly, traveling each fall to wintering grounds in the mountains of Mexico. continued on page 3 .



For more information about any Chaplin Nature Center programs call Shawn Silliman at 620-442-4133, or e-mail cnc@wichitaaudubon.org. CNC is located 3 miles west of Arkansas City on Hwy 166, north 2 miles on 21st Rd, east 0.6 miles on 272nd Rd.

COMING EVENTS

September 17

Field trip to Quivira NWR/ Cheyenne Bottoms. Meet at Quivira headquarters at 8 a.m. Leader: Kevin Groeneweg, 687-4268, kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net

September 20

Regular meeting: "Is the Ivory-billed Woodpecker Extinct?," by Timothy Barksdale, 7:30 p.m. Great Plains Nature Center

September 24

Fall Nature Day at Chaplin Nature Center, featuring Monarch butterfly tagging, guided nature walks, the Country Store, and more! 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. See more on this page.

October 8

Cleanup of Chisholm Creek Park. Meet in the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot at 9 a.m. and bring gloves. Leader: Patty Marlett, 942-2164, pmarlett@mac.com

October 15

Field trip to Slate Creek Marsh. Meet at Slate Creek Baptist Church at 8 a.m. Leader: Gene Young, 620-442-4165, youngg6264@yahoo.com

October 22-23

Field trip to Red Slough. See page 2 for details.

RED SLOUGH FIELD TRIP

Every fall the elusive Yellow Rail is found at Red Slough, in southeast Oklahoma. Local experts are going to help us drag ropes through the marsh to flush the birds. The slough is in the extreme southeast corner of Oklahoma, near Idabel. This is a long-distance trip involving a 7-hour drive each way and one or two nights of motel lodging. Be prepared to walk long distances in marshy areas while dragging a rope. We will also visit nearby southern pine forests where we hope to observe Brown-headed Nuthatch and a variety of other species. We will try for the rails on Saturday and possibly again on Sunday. A number of other wetland birds are expected.

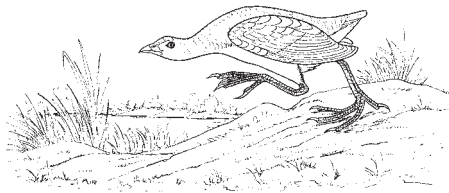
Here are three possibilities for lodging in Idabel:

Budget Inn, 1301 SE Washington, 580-286-6526

Comfort Suites, 400 SE Lincoln Blvd, 580 -286-9393

Microtell, 2906 NW Texas, 580-286-4466

You can sign up at the September or October meetings, or contact Pete Janzen for further details at prarybrd@southwind.net. Or call 832-0182 in the EVENING.



M.A.P.S.

Shawn and the Chaplin Nature Center Committee are working on establishing a M.A.P.S. banding station at Chaplin Nature Center. M.A.P.S. stands for Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship. It is a cooperative project between numerous public agencies and private organizations from all across North America to band birds in order to collect long-term data on populations of more than 100 species of birds. Mist nets are put out once every 10 days during the breeding season to determine the number and proportions of adult and young birds. This provides information about adult survival, population size and population growth. Volunteers would be trained to assist. It will be a great opportunity to contribute to ongoing scientific research, and a chance for our members to learn about and study birds from a unique perspective. The committee is working with Gene Young from Northern Oklahoma College, researching what will be required. This is a substantial commitment, as we are requested to commit to at least 10 years. Watch for updates as the project progresses.

2005-2006 WAS Officers

President	Patty Marlett	942-2164	pmarlett@mac.com
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Treasurer	Sandra Tholen	634-0049	stholen@cox.net
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	Ben Rogers	630-0190	brogers7@cox.net
	Rosa McHenry	263-4042	rmchenryphoto@sbcglobal.net
	Gary Straley	620-221-3664	garrob@hit.net
	Don DeWitt	722-0742	ddewitt@omnibizcenter.com
	Anne Tarver		anne.tarver@wichita.edu

Committee Chairs

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CNC	Gary Straley	620-221-3664	garrob@hit.net
Programs	Carol Cumberland	685-4867	carol.cumberland@swbell.net
Development	Rosa McHenry	263-4042	rmchenryphoto@sbcglobal.net
Membership	Sister Patricia Stanley		pstanley@csjwichita.org
Hospitality	Laura Groeneweg	687-4268	laurann@cox.net
Field Trips	Cheryl Miller	978-6659 (wk)	avian67226@hotmail.com
Finance	Don DeWitt	722-0742	ddewitt@omnibizcenter.com
Naturalist	Shawn Silliman	620-442-4133	cnc@wichitaudubon.org

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email any officer: was@wichitaudubon.org

Send address changes to Sister Patricia Stanley, 6739 Perryton, Wichita, KS 67226
pstanley@csjwichita.org

CALENDARS

The 2006 bird calendars are here. They will sell for \$5 apiece. You can purchase them at meetings, or contact Rosa McHenry, 263-4042, rmchenryphoto@sbcglobal.net

EXTENDED FIELD TRIP

The extended field trip this year will be to southeast Arizona with an extension into northern Mexico July 31- August 6, 2006. In Arizona we will visit famous hotspots in the Chiricahuas mountains like Portal and Rustler Park, and the Sierra Vista area with attractions like the Ramsey Canyon Preserve and the Patagonia-Sonoita Creek Sanctuary. Following the Arizona birding we plan to rent a van to bird our way to Yecora, Mexico.

This trip is still in the planning stages. Sign up at the meetings or contact one of the trip leaders if you are interested and we will keep you informed as plans progress.

Kevin Groeneweg is planning the itinerary. He can be reached at 687-4268, kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net. Patty Marlett is planning logistics like lodging. She can be reached at 942-2164, pmarlett@mac.com.

ESSAY CONTEST

The Northern Flint Hills Audubon Society is sponsoring a writing contest for youth up to and including 8th Grade. The subject is "My Favorite Bird of Summer." We would like to know a little about the habitat of your favorite bird and why you like this special one. The top three entries will receive prizes. LENGTH: At least one full page - no longer than two pages, typed or hand-written.

DEADLINE: Nov. 1, 2005.

Winners will be announced at the December Manhattan Christmas Bird Count Chili Supper. Send entries to: Don Yockey

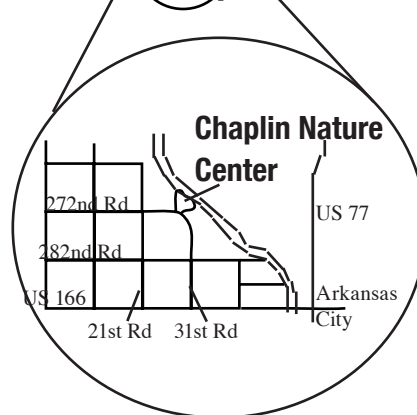
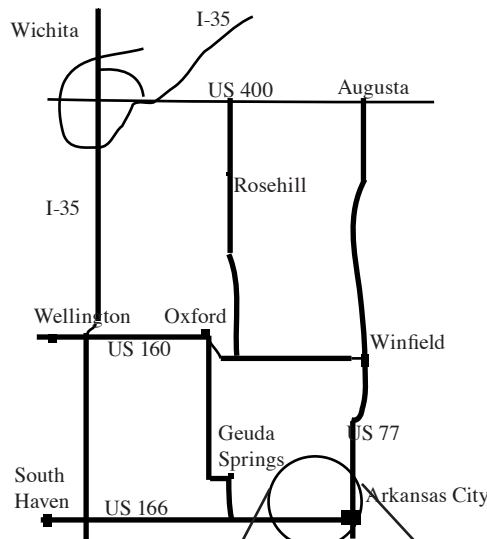
17300 Cannonball Rd.
Wamego, Kansas 66547

FALL NATURE DAY, CONTINUED

By attaching a tiny tag to their wing, we can help scientists track them and learn more about this unique phenomenon. In the past, two butterflies were recovered in Mexico that had been tagged at Chaplin Nature Center. They had traveled 1218 miles in 120 days.

As always there will be a country store featuring homemade baked goods, homegrown produce, and similar goodies. Lunch will be available to purchase, and will feature homemade desserts courtesy of Laura Groeneweg. Or you are welcome to bring your own picnic lunch.

Fall Nature Day is free and open to the public. If you haven't been to Chaplin Nature Center, this is the time to get acquainted. Please come!




Wichita Audubon Society
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YOUR HELP NEEDED TO SAVE ARCTIC REFUGE!

The fight over the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is heating up -- **YOUR HELP IS NEEDED IN AUGUST & SEPTEMBER!** Audubon is making a big push to save the pristine wilderness in Alaska from destructive oil drilling, and you can help!

After 25 years of fighting, our last best chance to protect the refuge will be in the House of Representatives on a vote quickly approaching in September. In August, members of Congress that will be casting deciding votes will be back home talking with their constituents – like you! All Audubon chapters and Audubon

members around the country will be using this opportunity to weigh in with their members of Congress and fight at this critical time for one of the most pristine places left in America!

Critically important targets in the House of Representatives include: Bradley (NH), Ehlers (MI), Frelinghuysen (NJ), Ferguson (NJ), Smith (NJ), LoBiondo (NJ), Gilchrest (MD), Kelly (NY), Kennedy (MN), Kirk (IL), Gerlach (PA), Reichert (WA), Schwarz (MI), Ramstad (MN), Castle (DE), Bass (NH), Boehlert (NY), Johnson (IL), Shays (CT), Simmons (CT), Johnson (CT), Leach (IA), Saxton (NJ),

Fitzpatrick (PA), Walsh (NY), Bartlett (MD), and Inglis (SC). Even though Kansas lawmakers are not represented above, please make a point to call, write or e-mail your elected officials today! Every member of Congress will be voting on this measure and right now, it's too close to call.

Log on to Audubon's special "Protect the Arctic" website – accessed via www.audubon.org, or contact Desiree Groves in Audubon's public policy office in Washington, DC at 202-861-2242, x. 3038 (dgroves@audubon.org) to find out more about how you can help!