

Wichita Audubon

Volume 44 No. 2 September 2009



SEPTEMBER MEETING



*Paul Griffin leading the annual
Warbler Walk in Oak Park*

Paul Griffin is our resident expert on Oak Park. You can find him there almost every day, patiently strolling the paths with his video camera in hand. Thanks to his dedication we have all learned a lot about the birds that visit this little grove on the river. Paul is going to share the video he has recorded of 32 species of warblers. Join us

on Tuesday, September 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center. You can also join us for dinner with Paul before the meeting at 5:45 p.m. at Doc Green's, 10096 E. 13th, in the Waterfront.

CNC UPCOMING PROGRAMS

September 26, Saturday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Fall Nature Day and Butterfly Tagging

Join us for a day long celebration of nature at the Chaplin Nature Center. There are bird walks, a herp walk, 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. By attaching a tiny tag to their wing, we can help scientists track them and learn more about this unique phenomenon. *Continued on page 3.*



For more information about any Chaplin Nature Center programs call Shawn Silliman at 620-442-4133, or e-mail cnc@wichitaudubon.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 5

Wichita Area local field trip to Maple Grove Cemetery and Chisholm Creek Park. Meet at the Chisholm Creek west parking lot off Oliver Street. Leader: Pete Janzen, 832-0182, pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net

September 15

Regular meeting, "Warblers in Wichita," by Paul Griffin, 7:30 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center.

September 19

Field trip to Quivira National Wildlife Refuge and Cheyenne Bottoms. Meet at the Quivira headquarters at 8 a.m. Leader: Kevin Groeneweg, 687-4268, kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net

September 26

Fall Nature Day and Butterfly tagging at Chaplin Nature Center. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

October 10

Chisholm Creek Park Cleanup. Bring gloves and help clean up our adopted park. Meet in the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot at 9 a.m. Leader: Patty Marlett, 942-2164, pmarlett@mac.com

ARKANSAS CITY BUTTERFLY COUNT



Gulf fritillary

The 4th annual Arkansas City Butterfly Count was held on July 11th. This count uses the same count circle as the Arkansas City Christmas Bird Count and is an official count of the North American Butterfly Association. We only had five participants this year. The heat was on and the humidity was stifling, which probably had a lot to do with that, but the butterflies didn't seem to mind. Overall, numbers were down this year. We had a total of 342 individual butterflies counted, representing 39 species. Eddie Stegall and Dale

Randall worked Camp Horizon and the east part of the circle and had 3 Common Roadside Skippers. Kevin Groeneweg and Patty Marlett hit the back roads and wandered through town and saw Gulf Fritillaries in two different locations. Shawn Silliman covered Chaplin Nature Center where the Orange Sulfurs and Common Wood-Nymphs were numerous. Mark your calendars for July 10th, 2010 and join in the fun.

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E-mail any officer: was@wichitaudubon.org

Send address changes to Sister Patricia Stanley, 3700 E Lincoln Apt 123, Wichita, KS 67218 pstanley@csjoseph.org

CALENDARS

The 2010 Chaplin Nature Center calendars are ready, featuring a beautiful bird photograph for each month. They are still just \$5 each. They will be available at all meetings, or you can contact Patty Marlett, 942-2164, pmarlett@mac.com.

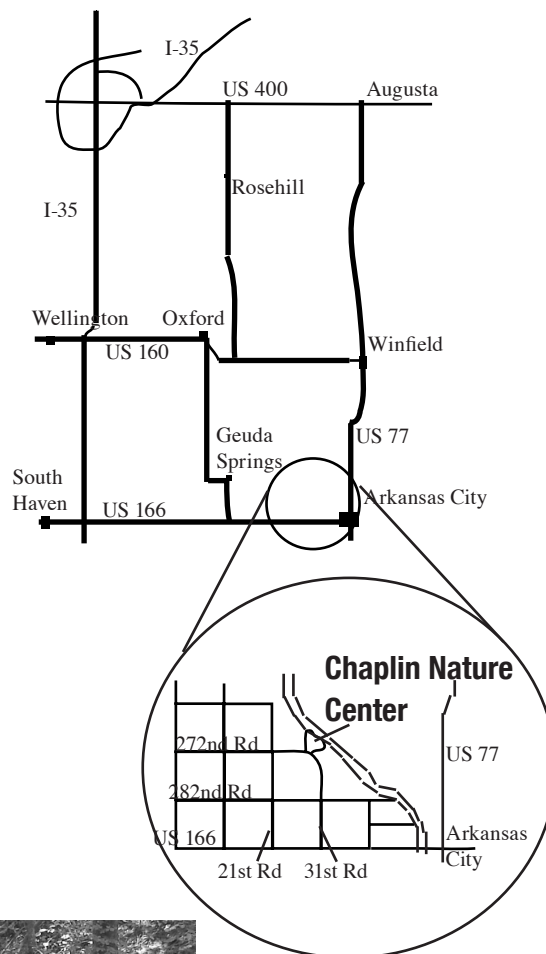
FALL NATURE DAY, CONTINUED

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. The visitor's center was remodeled last year with new exhibits. If you haven't been to Chaplin Nature Center lately, this is the time to get re-acquainted. Please come!



EXTENDED FIELD TRIP

This year's extended field trip is a location we've never tried before - Florida! We plan to concentrate on South Florida - the Everglades, the Keys, and a day long boat trip to the Dry Tortugas. Since there are so many good places to bird, it is taking the committee a while to sort through them all, so things are still in the planning stages. We do plan to fly and rent vans when we arrive. There will be sign-up sheets at the meetings. Be sure to sign or notify Patty Marlett if you are at all interested so we can keep you informed as plans progress. We will be asking for a deposit for the van rental, and there will be a limit to how many people we can accommodate, so get your name in early. The dates are April 25- May 1, although even that is somewhat tentative depending on the Dry Tortugas boat. Patty will be handling the accommodations and rentals, and three people will be planning itinerary: Mike Heaney, Pete Janzen, and Kevin Groeneweg.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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CHIMNEY SWIFT TOWER AT CNC

There is a new structure at Chaplin Nature Center - a Chimney Swift tower was constructed and is located next to the maintenance building.

The tower was built by Russell Swanson as his Eagle Scout project and he raised most of the funds for materials himself. It is a 12 foot wooden tower based on plans from the book "Chimney Swift Towers, New Habitat for America's Mysterious Birds: A Construction

Guide" by Paul and Georgean Kyle of the Driftwood Wildlife Association. While it was a little late to attract a nesting pair for this year, we are hoping that it may yet be used as a roost and that a pair takes up residence next year. A real big thanks to Russell for this wonderful addition to CNC. Come visit and check it out!

by Kevin Groeneweg

