

Audubon

Vol. 50 No. 3

October 2015

October 10

Second Saturday Bird Walk in Chisholm Creek Park. Meet in the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot at 8 a.m. Questions?:

*Pete Janzen, 519-1970,
pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net*

**October 10**

Planets, Constellations and Satellites at Chaplin Nature Center, 7:30 - 9 p.m.

Page 4

**October 20**

Monthly program, "The Sights and Sounds of Cheyenne Bottoms and the Kansas Wetlands Education Center," by Curtis Wolf, 7 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center.

Page 1

October 20

Join us for dinner with Curtis before the program at Barn'rds, 2037 N Woodlawn (just south of 21st on Woodlawn) at 5:30 p.m.



October Meeting

Our October presenter is Curtis Wolf, the site manager at Fort Hays State University's Kansas Wetlands Education Center (KWECC) at Cheyenne Bottoms near Great Bend. The KWECC opened in April 2009 and is operated as a branch museum of FHSU's Sternberg Museum of Natural History.

Curtis's presentation is titled "The sights and sounds of Cheyenne Bottoms and the Kansas Wetlands Education Center." Many people know very little about the awesome resource that lies right here in Central Kansas. Did you know Cheyenne Bottoms is the largest wetland in the interior of the U.S.? Curtis will focus on the importance of Cheyenne Bottoms, showing many photos, videos, and recordings of some of the unique avian visitors that call the



Curtis Wolf

Bottoms home. He will also give an introduction to the KWECC and allow you to participate in a bird watching activity.

The presentation will be on Tuesday, October 20, 7 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center. You can also join us for dinner at Barn'rds, 2037 N Woodlawn, at 5:30 p.m.

Schedule Changes

We have some switches in our programs for the coming months. Christine Cline, who was originally scheduled for October, will be here in February. Bob Gress and Lynda Williams have traded dates. The November program will be presented by Bob Gress, "Wildlife Down Under - Australia." Linda will be at our January meeting with her presentation, "Raising Moths and Caterpillars in Kansas." They all will be great, so plan on coming to all.

Renewal Reminder

If you are a member of National Audubon, you get lots of reminders! But if you are a member of Wichita Audubon only, it is harder to keep track. Consider renewing in the fall when our program year begins. The arrival of a new schedule of events can also be a reminder to renew!

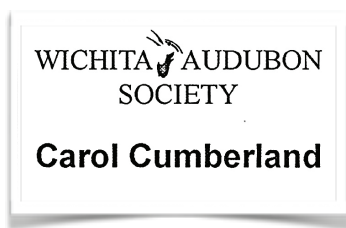
Extended Field Trip

The extended field trip this year will be April 30 - May 1 to southeast Oklahoma. Red Slough has become a premier destination for birding. This wildlife management area covers 8,000 acres and includes marshes, lakes, streams and forest. It is home to such species as roseate spoonbill, purple gallinule, white ibis, wood stork and black-bellied whistling duck. The forests should have a good selection of spring migrants, as well as residents like Swainson's Warbler, Bachman's Sparrow and Brown-headed Nuthatch. We'll also try for the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker. If you are interested in joining us watch for a signup sheet at meetings, or contact Tom Ewert, 670-3140, trewert@yahoo.com

Name Tags

You might have noticed those blue Wichita Audubon name tags at meetings. Now you have the opportunity to get your own name tag.

They can be ordered from Economy Engravers, 11818 E Kellogg, Wichita, 67207
Call Kevin at 686-7617 or email economyengravers@yahoo.com
Cost \$12.00 + tax, cash or check only
You can request a pin or magnet back.



Grant for Chaplin Nature Center

The V. J. Wilkins Memorial Foundation of Arkansas City has given us a grant of \$45,000 to replace the bluff staircase at Chaplin Nature Center. The staircase is a beautiful feature, but is showing its age. This money will enable us to replace the wood with composite lumber that will be resistant to rot and termites, and should last for many years.

Last year the V. J. Wilkins Memorial Foundation gave us the funds for a tractor for CNC. It is a private, non-profit foundation whose mission is to maximize the value of its finances so that it may assist the community to provide a quality, cultural environment of arts, music, language and other endeavors, which many times are shadowed by the importance placed upon athletic achievements. Their generosity is greatly appreciated.

2015-2016 WAS Officers

President	Gregg Friesen	316-217-3301	friesen_fenton@yahoo.com
Vice-president	Pete Janzen	519-1979	pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net
Secretary	Anne Woods	688-1889	amwoods624@aol.com
Treasurer	Rod Wedel	215-4362	redb819@sbcglobal.net
Directors	Tom Ewert	670-3140	trewert@yahoo.com
	Susan Hammer	788-1472	susan.e.hammer@gmail.com
	Karl Herold	655-2389	kjherold2@gmail.com
	Catherine Lewis	992-1708	seasidesparrow@mac.com
	Travis Ross	706-7813	rosstravis@yahoo.com
	Mary Singleton	200-0789	mary.singleton@wesleymc.com

Committee Chairs

AOK Rep	Tom Ewert	670-3140	trewert@yahoo.com
Bird Seed	Carol Cumberland	685-4867	carol.cumberland@swbell.net
CNC	Travis Ross	706-7813	rosstravis@yahoo.com
Field trips	Jeff Calhoun	737-1307	jeffcalhoun11@gmail.com
Hospitality	Sarah Blackmon	264-4408	
Membership	Tom Ewert	670-3140	trewert@yahoo.com
Newsletter	Patty Marlett	942-2164	pmarlett@mac.com
Programs	Pete Janzen	519-1979	pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net
Naturalist	Shawn Silliman	620-442-4133	cnc@wichitaudubon.org

www.wichitaudubon.org

Send address changes to Tom Ewert, 1021 N. Lakewind, Wichita, KS 67212, trewert@yahoo.com



The bluff staircase at Chaplin Nature Center

Photo Contest Winner



The 2016 National Audubon Society Calendar features a photograph of Roseate Spoonbills for the month of May. This photo was taken by Cindy Hansen of Pearland, Texas, who is a granddaughter of Hazel and Stedman Chaplin. Her mother, Carol Milbourn, reports that she entered the photo in an Audubon photo contest some time ago, but had forgotten all about it until she was contacted for permission to use it in the calendar. All the photos in the calendar are submissions to Audubon's annual photo contest. Congratulations Cindy!

Try A Bird App

Hello Wichita Audubon,

I am a PhD student at Washington State University, and I have just released a new, free App that I've been developing for iPhone and iPad that I feel is in line with the Audubon Society's goals of increasing knowledge and accessibility of birds to the community.

The App is called Kea: Learn Birds Through Play, and it is designed to make the process of learning to recognize birds faster and more fun by turning it into a game. Our initial version was kindly tested and critiqued by Audubon members, and we have incorporated their feedback into the current version. I am writing today to ask if any members of your organization would be interested in primary testing the latest version of the App.

Kea uses a series of different games that help users recognize images of birds, rather than rote memorization. As a level is passed, the user earns tokens that can be used to unlock new levels, modes, and habitats. Users start with 'Backyard Birds' levels, to allow them to recognize the birds they are most likely to see close to home. A user can also play with levels organized according to taxonomy, rather than habitat. They can use their learning to unlock all the birds in North America, Europe, and Costa Rica skills.

including Pelagic species and Rarities. Modes can be unlocked to learn the scientific names of all species, or in a Timed Mode that sharpens rapid identification skills.

Since Kea is free to use, Beta testers would be asked to download and try out the App, then provide feedback through a questionnaire.

We are also currently just at the start of our crowdsourcing campaign to raise funds for our upcoming expansions. Anyone interested can check us out at any one of the crowdsourcing sites below:

Kickstarter: [Kea's Kickstarter Campaign](#)

IndieGoGo: [Kea's IndieGoGo Campaign](#)

GoFundMe: [Kea's GoFundMe Campaign](#)

Anyone interested in primary testing Kea on their iPhone or iPad can email me

at keabirdlearning.info@gmail.com. I will send them a questionnaire, and once they turn it back to me, they can choose to be on the advanced notice list for future expansions if they like. The App itself can be accessed through Apple's App Store, and the Android version should be available this fall.

I'm very excited about bringing this tool to the birding community, and can't wait to hear great feedback that can make it better.

Chris Duke,

Email me at keabirdlearning.info@gmail.com

P.O. Box 47607
Wichita, KS 67201

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Wichita, Kansas
Permit No. 921

Wichita Audubon Society

October 2015

Chaplin Nature Center Programs

Saturday, October 10, 7:30 - 9 p.m. Planets, Constellations and Satellites

Come join the Kansas Astronomical Observers for a night of star gazing. We will use of telescopes to view Saturn, double stars, and other deep sky objects. Common constellations will be pointed out and we will search for satellites and iridium flares. Participants are welcome to bring their own telescopes to join in on the fun.



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.

