

Wichita Audubon



Volume 35 No. 7 April 2001

CNC Upcoming Programs

Saturday, April 7 9 am to 11 am Birding Basics

This introduction to bird watching will begin with bird identification tips and binocular use. Then participants will head for the trails to practice birding skills.

Saturday, May 5 5 pm to 9 pm Twilight Dinner II

Join us for a beach party, barbecue, and lots of fun. See page 4 for details.

For more information about any of these programs call Shawn Silliman at 316-442-4133, or e-mail cnc@wichitaudubon.org.



Meritorious Service Award

The award committee is accepting nominations for the annual Meritorious Service Award. The deadline for nominations is April 10. Please send your nomination to John Wherry at 2114 Geo Washington Blvd, Wichita, KS 67218-4827, jwherry@feist.com 682-1004

April Meeting

Staff members from the University of Kansas Museum of Natural History spend several months each year studying the birds of Paraguay. Hear about their exciting expeditions as they battled bees, wildfires, and piranhas to collect specimens and document new species in the wilds of South America.

The meeting will be April 17, 7:30 pm, at the Great Plains Nature Center. Join the speakers for dinner before the program at Jason's Deli, in Bradley Fair at 21st and Rock Road, at 5:45 pm.

Lesser Prairie Chicken Field Trip

The search for booming Lesser Prairie Chickens has led us to Elkhart in Morton County. Friday, April 6, one hour before sunrise, we will depart from the El Rancho Motel in Elkhart. We will drive together to the blind or other booming grounds (no reservations are taken by the U.S. Forest Service for the blind, which is first come-first served). We will do general birding around Morton County starting at the El Rancho at 1 p.m. Thursday April 5 and after breakfast on Friday, April 6 until noon.

Motel reservations at the El Rancho may be made at 620-697-2117. If possible, please notify Don Vannoy (e-mail dvannoy@kscable.com) or 838-4062 if you plan to attend.

Space is limited in the blind, but there are other locations where Lesser Prairie Chickens may be seen from the road.

Coming Events

April 6

Morton County field trip. Leader: Don Vannoy, 838-4062

April 7

Introduction to bird watching at Chaplin Nature Center, 9am to 11am.

April 17

Regular meeting, "The Birds of Paraguay" by Kim Bostwick & Kristof Zyskowski. Great Plains Nature Center, 7:30pm

April 21

Clean up at Chisholm Creek park. Meet at the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot, 9am.

April 27-29

Wings N Wetlands Weekend, Great Bend KS - see page 2.

May 5

Twilight Dinner II at Chaplin Nature Center, 5pm to 9pm. See page 4 for more information.

May 4,5,6

Camp Prairie View weekend campout. See page 3 for info.

May 12

North American Migration Count Leader: Harry Gregory, 263-7608, birdfan@infi.net

May 15

Regular meeting, "Dancing with Boobies in the Galapagos" by Julia Hoppes, Great Plains Nature Center, 7:30pm.

Help Save Bolivar Flats

The Houston Audubon Society is undertaking its largest and perhaps most significant habitat conservation project to date. Bolivar Flats has been recognized as an Important Bird Area in the IBA program. The protected habitat serves as a sanctuary for several shorebirds that are in critical decline such as piping plover and red knot. Additionally, it serves as a nesting area for many species whose habitat is declining on the Upper Texas Coast.

In the 1990's, HAS worked with many individuals and with the State of Texas to conserve the areas along Rettillon Road. Now, the most critical area of the Bolivar Flats, the wetlands on the side towards the jetty, have come up for sale. This property is the area in which the massive numbers of avocets, pelicans, gulls and shorebirds can be seen roosting.

After careful deliberation, the Houston Audubon Society has undertaken to acquire almost 700 acres. We have one year to raise slightly over \$700,000 to preserve this habitat. In addition to fulfilling our mission of conservation, this area is open to the public for viewing opportunities year round.

We welcome donations in any amount. There is no amount too small, nor too large. Your donations may be tax deductible as we are a 501c3 organization.

Donations may be mailed to:
Houston Audubon Society
Bolivar Flats Project
440 Wilchester
Houston, Texas 77079-7329

If you have questions, call 713-932-1639 Ext. 14, or visit the HAS website at <houstonaudubon.org>

Jeff Mundy, President, Houston AS

May Meeting

Our May speaker has been "to be announced" for months, but now we can make the announcement. Our own secretary Julia Hoppes will entertain us with pictures and tales of her trip last summer to the Galapagos Islands. "Dancing with Boobies in the Galapagos" will feature slides by Julia and Don and Fran Vannoy, who all went on a trip to eight of the Galapagos Islands last August with Victor Emanuel Tours. The program will be on May 15, 7:30 pm at the Great Plains Nature Center.

Help Clean the Park

Our next cleanup day at Chisholm Creek Park will be Saturday, April 21, at 9 am. Meet in the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot. Trash bags and sticks will be provided. Bring some work gloves and wear sturdy shoes or boots. With lots of help, this only takes a couple of hours, so come help us keep our park looking good.'

Paul Hobelman, Greenways chair

Wings N Wetlands Weekend

Cheyenne Bottoms, Quivira NWR, The Nature Conservancy, Audubon of KS, KDW&P, and a host of others are sponsoring a wetlands festival the weekend of April 27-29. With headquarters at the Best Western in Great Bend, it will feature birding at both Quivira and Cheyenne Bottoms as well as a host of workshops and presentations, including activities for kids. Check our website at www.wichitaaudubon.org for the full schedule, or e-mail cvb@greatbend.com for more information.

2000-2001 WAS Officers

President	Carol Cumberland	685-4867	ccumb@swbell.net
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Naturalist	Shawn Silliman	316-442-4133	cnc@wichitaudubon.org

Chapter Information Line 681-2266 www.wichitaudubon.org
email any officer: was@wichitaudubon.org

Send address changes to Sherry Brewer, 3231 SW Farmstead Rd, Benton, KS 67017 (316)778-1648 or e-mail lpbrewer@earthlink.net

May 4, 5, 6 Camp Prairie View

This year we're going to explore a new place! **Prairie View Camp** is located on the south bank of the Arkansas River, just southeast of Arkansas City.

Join us **May 4-6** for a weekend of fun in the outdoors. There will be special activities for kids, lots of birds, beautiful scenery, and good company.

Prairie View Camp is located right on the banks of the Arkansas River. It has woods and prairie along with swinging bridges and a nature trail. It is also in the midst of the Kaw Wildlife Area. A full weekend of nature activities and field trips is planned, or you can just relax and enjoy the

beautiful countryside on your own. On Saturday night there is a barbecue dinner on the beach at Chaplin Nature Center, complete with a nature scavenger hunt for kids, night hikes, campfire music and entertainment, night hike, and a star program. This event is not just part of the Family Camping Weekend, but also open to all our members, and a thank you to the donors who make Chaplin Nature Center possible.

Accommodations:

Prairie View Camp has three dormitories with twelve rooms each. Each room has its own bathroom and beds for up to six people. Bring your own bedding - linens are not

provided. If you like to camp, you can pitch a tent. Restrooms and showers are available for campers to use. There are no electrical hook-ups in the camping area. Meals are prepared by the camp staff and are served in the dining hall.

Location:

Drive south from Arkansas City on Highway 77. Turn east on 312th Rd (less than 1/2 mile south of the Arkansas River bridge.) Follow 312th Rd approximately 3 miles to the Prairie View Christian Camp gate.

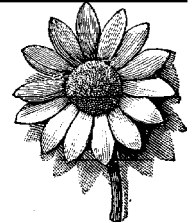


Names: _____

# of adults	_____
# of children 4 and up	_____
# of children 0-3	_____

Address: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____



	Number	
Breakfast, Saturday	_____	x \$5
Lunch, Saturday	_____	x \$5
Supper, Saturday	_____	x \$5
Breakfast, Sunday	_____	x \$5
Total Meals	_____	

Children 3 and less are free for meals and lodging.

Lodging

Friday night	_____	X17.50
Saturday	_____	X17.50
Tent camping		\$6.00 per night

••••• Family Rate = 3 times
 ••••• the per person rate.
 ••••• If your family consists
 ••••• of more than three
 ••••• people, the family rate
 ••••• applies.
 •••••

Total Meals
\$ _____

Total Lodging
\$ _____

Total Day Use
\$ _____

Weekend total
\$ _____

Day Use Fee: Pay this **ONLY** if you don't spend the night.
 Adults & Children 4 and up \$5.00/ day

	Number	
Saturday	_____	x \$5.00
Sunday	_____	x \$5.00

Send to: Patty Marlett, 4406 W. 11th, Wichita, KS 67212 phone 942-2164 email: jmarlett@kscable.com
 Enclose complete payment. Make checks payable to Wichita Audubon Society, Inc.
 Return this form with payment by April 21.

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

Return Service Requested

Printed on recycled paper

Twilight Dinner II at Chaplin Nature Center

This special event on Saturday, May 5, is to honor our members and donors who make Chaplin Nature Center possible. Activities include:

- barbecue dinner on the beach
- bird watching
- nature scavenger hunt for kids
- night hike
- entertainment around the campfire
- star program

Festivities begin with a social hour at 5 :00 pm, dinner at 6:00 pm, and activities continuing until after dark.

There will be transportation provided to the river, so don't worry if you can't walk that far. We want this to be accessible to everyone.

Donors who have given one hundred dollars or more will be honored with a free dinner (you'll receive a personal invitation in the mail.) For those attending the family camping weekend

at Camp Prairie View, this will be the Saturday night dinner included in your fees. All others are invited to join the festivities for only \$5.00 for adults and \$2.50 for children 12 and under - and this is all you can eat! Please let us know you are coming by returning the coupon below with payment by April 21.

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ St. _____ Zip: _____

Fee enclosed for:

of adults: _____ #of children under 12: _____

Mail to Wichita Audubon Society, PO Box 47607,
Wichita, KS 67201