

Wichita Audubon



Volume 39 No. 1 June/July/August 2004

CNC Upcoming Programs

**June 19, Saturday
5 pm - ?**

Twilight Dinner

Join us at Chaplin Nature Center for a beach party, barbecue, scavenger hunt, birdwatching, a program by Cowboy Poet Russell Graves, and lots of fun. See page 3 for reservation information

Shawn Silliman, naturalist

Chaplin Receives Lattner Grant

Chaplin Nature Center has received a grant of \$6500 from the Forrest C. Lattner Foundation, in memory of Forrest C. and Frances H. Lattner. The money will be used for a new system of trail markers. Currently, the five miles of trails are marked by wooden posts and signs, which are showing their age and don't always give clear directions. They will be replaced with limestone posts that should be permanent, attractive, and easy to see.

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



June Picnic

Instead of a program this month we're having our annual picnic. It will be held on the usual meeting night, Tuesday, June 15, at 6:30 p.m. in Pawnee Prairie Park. We'll be at the large picnic shelter at the West entrance to the park.

Bring your own service and a covered dish or dessert to pass. Iced Tea will be served, or bring your own beverage.

Directions: from Kellogg, go south on Maize Rd. to 23rd St. S. and turn left. On the west side of Maize Rd. the street sign says 23rd S., on the east side there is a sign for Pizza Villa. Proceed east on 23rd street/Pawnee for 2/10 of a mile to the parking lot on the north side of the street.

Carol Cumberland Honored

At the May meeting Carol Cumberland was presented with the 2004 Meritorious Service Award.

Carol has been a member of Wichita Audubon since 1983. She has served two terms as president, vice-president, secretary, board member, Finance committee chair, Development committee chair, Education committee chair, board member of Audubon of Kansas, treasurer of Audubon of Kansas, member of the Chaplin Nature Center committee, and more. Her tireless work and dedication to our cause has been invaluable, and she richly deserves this award.

Coming Events

June 15

Annual picnic at 6:30 pm in Pawnee Prairie Park at the large picnic shelter at the west entrance.

June 19

Twilight Dinner at Chaplin Nature Center, beginning at 5 pm. See page 3 for more details.



New Officers

The May meeting included our annual election of officers. The following slate was elected:

Carol Cumberland, vice-president

Sandra Tholen, treasurer

Nancy Beard, secretary

Rosa McHenry, board member

Anne Tarver, board member

The president serves a two year term of office, so Kevin Groeneweg will continue with the second year of his term.

Please welcome these new officers and thank them for their willingness to give of their time and energies.



Rosa McHenry, Carol Cumberland, Sandra Tholen, Anne Tarver

2003-2004 WAS Officers

President	Kevin Groeneweg	687-4268	kgroeneweg@cox.net
Vice-president	Carol Cumberland	685-4867	carol.cumberland@swbell.net
Secretary	Sharon Bolin	620-584-2314	jbolin@sktc.net
Treasurer	Duane Delong	684-7456	dwdelong@earthlink.net

Directors

Bill Beard	722-3081	wbeard@cox.net
Mary Engleman-Kemmer	688-5322	rockchalk123@aol.com
Barbara Millar	838-8542	bmi3931874@aol.com
Gary Straley	620-221-3664	garrob@hit.net
Don Dewitt	722-0742	ddewitt@omnibizcenter.com

Committee Chairs

Newsletter	Patty Marlett	942-2164	pmarlett@mac.com
CNC	Gary Straley	620-221-3664	garrob@hit.net
Programs	Carol Cumberland	685-4867	carol.cumberland@swbell.net
Conservation	Barbara Millar	838-8542	bmi3931874@aol.com
Membership	Sister Patricia Stanley		pstanley@csjwichita.org
Hospitality	Laura Groeneweg	687-4268	lauranng@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@wichitaaudubon.org

www.wichitaaudubon.org

email any officer: was@wichitaaudubon.org

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

Birdathon

Thank you so much to all of you who helped make the 2004 Birdathon a success. The two teams have raised almost \$3500 this year. Once again, the women triumphed in the number of species.

The Painted Buntings (Carol Cumberland, Patty Marlett, Marsha Ebaugh, and Cheryl Baumeister) found 136 species on a journey that took them from Chisholm Creek Park to Oak Park to Maple Grove Cemetery, then Quivira NWR and Cheyenne Bottoms. Their best birds were two American Bitterns flying at Quivira, a Black Rail calling at Quivira, and a beautiful Cinnamon Teal at Cheyenne Bottoms.

The Chaplin Nature Center Team (Shawn Silliman, Rex Herndon, Dwight Shoup, Kevin Groeneweg, and Gene Young) stayed closer to home and got 124 species. They birded the nature center, Kaw Wildlife area, and Slate Creek Wetlands. Their best birds were a Fish Crow at Kaw Wildlife Area, and a Black-necked Stilt at Slate Creek Wetlands.

A special thank you also to the team members who work so hard to raise money for the Nature Center.

Bird Conservation Programs

Within the coming weeks, Members of the House & Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittees – the Congressional Committees tasked with setting funding levels for programs coordinated through the U.S. Department of the Interior -- will be deciding critical funding levels for five Audubon priority bird conservation programs for Fiscal Year 2005 – all of which help to protect and restore important bird habitat

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Twilight dinner at Chaplin Nature Center

This special event, on Saturday June 19, is to honor our members and donors who make Chaplin Nature Center possible. Activities include

- Barbecue dinner by the beach (weather permitting - if it's raining we'll move inside). We'll have the tables back under the trees in the shade, but stay close enough to the sand for the kids to play
- Nature scavenger hunt for kids
- Sand castle building contest
- Bird watching
- A lively program by Cowboy Poet Russell Graves

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 sandbar, 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 in the past year will be honored with a free dinner (you will receive a personal invitation in the mail.)

All others are invited to join in the fun for only \$6.50 for adults and \$3.25 for children 12 and under - and this is all you can eat!

Please return the reservation below by June 12. You can also make reservations by calling Carol Cumberland at 316-685-4867, or email carol.cumberland@swbell.net.



Twilight Dinner Reservation June 19

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

phone: _____

email: _____

Fee enclosed for:

of adults: _____ (\$6.50 each)

of children under 12: _____ (\$3.25 each)

Mail to: Wichita Audubon Society, P.O. Box 47607,
Wichita, KS 67201



**P.O. Box 47607
Wichita, KS 67201**

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Bird Conservation, cont

– a critical need, as habitat loss is the number one threat to America’s declining bird populations. As this is a tight budget year, lawmakers are constantly searching for programs to cut—a decision that will ultimately fall on these lawmakers’ shoulders! These Audubon top priority programs are:

Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act – our country’s only program aimed specifically at saving songbirds.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Bird Management Program—that provides critical support for essential bird monitoring and surveys.

Joint Ventures – region-based partnerships of public and private organizations dedicated to the

delivery of bird conservation within their boundaries.

North American Wetlands Conservation Act – a program aimed at building public-private partnership to restore and manage wetlands habitat for migratory birds and other wildlife.

State Wildlife Grants Program - provides states with resources they critically need for effective bird and wildlife conservation and restoration efforts – putting dollars toward protecting critical habitats and species before they reach the endangered or threatened status.

Your Audubon Public Policy staff in Washington, D.C., Audubon state offices, chapters, advocates, and partner organizations are working

with these lawmakers – 15 Senators and 13 Representatives—urging them to adequately fund these programs. Kansas Senator Sam Brownback is one of these lawmakers because he sits on the Interior subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee. You can help by contacting Senator Brownback and asking him to support funding for these programs. Please call Senator Brownback at (202) 224-6521. As it will be unlikely you will reach your lawmaker, please ask to speak with the staffer who handles your lawmaker’s Interior Appropriations work. Follow-up your phone call with a letter.

You can learn more about all these programs at www.capitolconnect.com/audubon/summary.asp?subject=309&flow=2