

# Wichita Audubon



Volume 35 No. 2 September 2000

## CNC Upcoming Programs

Saturday, September 30  
10 am - noon

### Butterfly Tagging

Monarch butterflies migrate through Kansas on the way to their winter homes in Mexico. Participants will learn about the tagging program and methods of capturing and tagging Monarchs, then help capture and tag them and send them on their way.

Saturday, October 14  
9:30 am - 2:30 pm

### Fall Nature Day

Celebrate the wonders of nature during this family event. Bird, reptile, and other nature hikes along with crafts for children will be part of the celebration. See page 2 for things you can do to help.

### Lattner Grant

Wichita Audubon has received a \$5000 grant for operation of the Chaplin Nature Center from the Forrest C. Lattner Foundation, in memory of Forrest C. Lattner. Thank you!



## September meeting

Join us on Tuesday, September 19 for our first program. Wes Jackson, president of The Land Institute in Salina, Kansas, will speak on "Naturally Sustainable Agriculture: The Necessarily Radical System."

Mr. Jackson discusses what he believes to be necessary agriculturally to continue to feed the world without destroying the earth. The Land Institute is a 23 year old research and educational nonprofit organization dedicated to the search for principles of ecological agriculture.

You can join the speaker for dinner at Jason's Deli, in Bradley Fair at 21st and Rock Road, at 5:30 pm.

The Great Plains Nature Center will have its Grand Opening Sept. 1, 2, & 3. The new Exhibit Hall will be open for our meetings, so you can see it then, too.

## New Field Trips

This year the field trip committee has scheduled several Saturday morning birdwalks in addition to the regular, out of town field trips. These field trips are designed to help new or beginning birders find and identify birds found in several of our many area parks. Also, these outings will last for only two to three hours for those with a limited amount of time

## Coming Events

September 9

**Field trip to Quivira NWR and Cheyenne Bottoms.** Meet at Quivira Headquarters at 9 am.

September 16

Local Park Bird Walk. Meet at the first picnic shelter from the Oliver street entrance to Chisholm Creek Park at 7 am.

September 19

Regular meeting, "Naturally Sustainable Agriculture" by Wes Jackson, 7:30 pm Great Plains Nature Center

September 30

Butterfly tagging at Chaplin Nature Center, 10 am to noon.

October 1

Field trip to Slate Creek Marsh/Oxford. Meet at the Slate Creek Valley Baptist Church at 9 am. Leader: Gene Young, 316-441-5331

October 14

Fall Nature Day at Chaplin Nature Center, 9:30 to 2:30

to spare. They will also be flexible enough to allow us to head for the nearest hot spot to look for whatever exciting birds have been spotted.

The first of these walks is scheduled for September 16 at Chisholm Creek Park, to be led by Sandra Tholen. Meet at the first picnic shelter from the Oliver Street entrance at 7 am. Leaders and destinations will be announced in a timely fashion.

## Ecology Experience

This June, 90 Arkansas City area students ages seven to twelve participated in The Children's Ecology Experience 2000, a five week ecology program sponsored by the Arkansas City Public Library and Chaplin Nature Center. In its second year, the program is designed to encourage children to think about and solve environmental problems.

During the first week, participants studied the life cycles of insects; the second week was devoted to water conservation and a study of ponds and creeks; the third week was a study of trees, plants and grasses. The fourth week centered around animal adaptation and wildlife.

Creative, innovative thinking was rewarded throughout the program as the students were issued a series of challenges. The first challenge was

to create and underwater viewer using recycled materials. Each student who successfully completed the challenge earned a grab-bag prize. Other challenges included making safe insect traps, creating environmentally safe household cleansers, and building bird houses.

During the final week, the students put all their new knowledge to use by putting on their own ecology exhibition in a competitive fair, with prizes and ribbons. Best of Show went to Hilary Schafer for her series of experiments in which she added various chemicals to plants to test the effect of their growth. Hilary also won a ribbon for creating a nature game.

Other winners were Kori Martin, first place challenge and third place nature report; Madeline Cosgrove, first place, innovations; Dange Sanders,

first place, challenge; Sarah Enderud, second place, challenge; Chelsey James, second place experiment; Hannah Enderud, second place, challenge; Adrianna Weber, third place, nature report, challenge; Sam Cosgrove, third place, innovations; and Kelsey Martin, third place, experiment.

Funding for this free program was provided by generous donations from the following Arkansas City businesses: Union State Bank, Home National Bank, Taylor Drug, and Commerce Bank.

## You Can Help!

Shawn and the Chaplin Nature Center Committee are busy getting ready for Fall Nature Day, October 14. Help is requested in the following areas:

- Donated items to sell in the Country Store: baked goods, homegrown produce, homemade foods like jellies, craft items of all sorts, especially if nature or bird related.

- Donated items for the Silent Auction - nature or bird related.

- Donated cakes or pies for lunch.

Help out:

- Help prepare and/or serve lunch.
- Act as greeter and register visitors.
- Assist with children's crafts.
- Lead nature walks.

If you can help with any of these things, please call Shawn at 316-442-4133, e-mail [silliman@hit.net](mailto:silliman@hit.net). For food related items, call Laura Groeneweg, 687-4268, e-mail [kgroeneweg@feist.com](mailto:kgroeneweg@feist.com), and arrange to get your items to Chaplin Nature Center on the 14th.

### 2000-2001 WAS Officers

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President	Carol Cumberland	685-4867	ccumb@swbell.net
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### Committee Chairs

Newsletter	Patty Marlett	942-2164	jmarlett@kscable.com
CNC	Gary Straley	316-221-3664	garrob@hit.net
Programs	Kevin Groeneweg	687-4268	kgroeneweg@feist.com
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Send address changes to Kevin Groeneweg,  
2603 Capri Ln, Wichita KS 67210, or by phone  
(316) 687-4268, or e-mail [kgroeneweg@feist.com](mailto:kgroeneweg@feist.com)

## Some Snapshots of the Twilight Dinner



The cooks hard at work. From left: Gary Straley, Laura Groeneweg, Carol Cumberland, Shawn Silliman, Bill Barr, Kevin Groeneweg, Dave Farber, Rex Herndon

Carol Cumberland gets a driving lesson on the Gator from Shawn



Shawn announces winners in the sandcastle building contest.



Familiar faces chowing down: from the left: Marcia Newton, Jay Newton, Laura Groeneweg, Ruth Goodrick, Ethelyn Lonnberg, Kevin Groeneweg, Nathan McDonald, Don Vannoy, and Geula McDonald

## NAMC Results

Here is a summary of results of the North American Migration Count, held May 13, for Sedgwick County. 162 species were reported. Warblers were way below expectations, despite the finding of two rare species, the Golden-winged and MacGillivray's, at Oak Park. Many "common" species like American Redstart and Ovenbird were represented by single birds.

Marsh birds seen at the Mt. Hope Marsh area included Sora, Virginia Rail, American Bittern, Hudsonian Godwit, Stilt Sandpiper, Wilson's Phalarope, White-rumped Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Black Tern, and one Northern Waterthrush. There was a Black-bellied Plover on the marsh just north of Colwich, also several White-faced Ibis. A puddle in east Wichita (21st and Webb road) actually contained shorebirds: Semipalmated Plover, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper and Baird's Sandpiper.

Don Vannoy found a Common Loon at Harbor Isle lake on north Meridian in Wichita. Some other interesting finds included a Sandhill Crane flying over the Presbyterian Camp on North Ridge Road, three Sanderlings in the southwest part of the county, two late Herring Gulls, three Wood Thrush and one Yellow-throated Vireo at the Presbyterian Camp, one Worm-eating Warbler near Cheney Reservoir, and one Sedge Wren, also near Cheney.

*Information from Pete Janzen*

Visit our new website at [www.wichitaudubon.org](http://www.wichitaudubon.org). It is much expanded, with pictures and a full version of the current newsletter. It will be updated frequently to keep you abreast of conservation issues, field trip details, and other news.

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## BirdName Changes

For those that keep up with avian taxonomy and nomenclature, below is a synopsis (copied from the Floridabirds list) of many of the changes to the AOU Check-list of North American Birds as published in the July issue of *The Auk*. The changes include:

Long-tailed Duck from Oldsquaw to concur with world-wide usage. (Does that mean Oldsquaw Pond is now just the Duck Pond? - editor)

Gunnison Sage-Grouse -- a newly recognized species in CO and UT.  
Greater Sage-Grouse from Sage Grouse. Note the hyphen and capitalization, similar in form to Night-Heron, Ground-Dove, Screech-Owl, Wood-Pewee, etc.

These are the only name changes to affect most US birders. These are the only English name changes -- there are several scientific name changes, which follow.

Crested Caracara in the US is now Caracara cheriway, separated from *C. plancus* of S America.

Skuas are merged into the genus *Stercorarius*, from *Catharacta*, making them congeneric with jaegers.

Arizona Woodpecker (*Picoides arizonae*) [again] split from the Strickland's Woodpecker of Mexico.

Black-billed Magpie now *Pica hudsonia*, distinct from the Eurasian Magpie (*P. pica*).

The scientific species names for Black-capped, Boreal, and Grey-headed chickadees are changed to *Poecile atricapilla*, *P. hudsonica*, and *P. cincta*, respectively, from the masculine forms.

Oak Titmouse now has the scientific species name of *ridgwayi*.

Bullock's Oriole is moved to follow Streak-backed Oriole, advancing it to precede Spot-breasted, Altamira, Audubon's, and Baltimore orioles on checklists.

Please consult the article for additions and revisions for the Caribbean, Central America, Attu, and Hawaii. The number of species increased by 15 to 2,023 on the main list.

*Reference: AOU. 2000. 42nd supplement to the AOU's Check-list of North American Birds. Auk 117:847-58.*

*summarized by Richard L. West, Tallahassee, FL*

The Kansas Rare Bird Hot Line has now changed its number to 316-229-6133.