

Wichita Audubon



Volume 46 No. 6 April 2012

APRIL MEETING



Our April program will be “Changing Landscapes and Grassland Birds in Kansas,” presented by Dr. Brett Sandercock. Dr. Sandercock is a professor of wildlife ecology at Kansas State University. His research interests involve population and evolutionary ecology. He has primarily studied shorebirds and grouse (which includes Prairie Chickens.) He will take us on a tour of Kansas landscapes and share his discoveries about the birds that live there.

Join us on Tuesday, April 17, 7:30 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center. We will also have dinner with Brett before the program at Ryan’s, 3323 N. Rock Road, at 6 p.m.

BIRDATHON

We need your help to make Birdathon a success! Birdathon is a fundraiser where teams solicit pledges from friends, neighbors and coworkers for the number of bird species they can find in a 24 hour period. Teams choose a date in late April or early May when migration is at its peak. We would really like to have your help. To join a team talk to Mike Heaney, Carol Cumberland, Patty Marlett, Kevin Groeneweg or Shawn Silliman. If you can’t join a team, consider soliciting pledges for one of the teams, or contribute yourself. Any and all assistance is appreciated

CNC UPCOMING PROGRAMS

April 7, Saturday, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Spring Cleanup

Volunteer to get CNC in shape with outdoor projects to get the trails and facilities ready for visitors and school groups.

April 14, Saturday, 7:30 - 9 p.m.

Astronomy

Join the Kansas Astronomical Observers for a night out with the stars. Find the North Star, Big Dipper and other constellations. Using telescopes, participants can view some deep sky objects such nebula, double stars and galaxies. You are welcome to bring your own telescopes.



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

April 7

Spring Cleanup at Chaplin Nature Center, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

April 14

Astronomy Program at Chaplin Nature Center, 7:30 - 9 p.m.

April 14

Chautauqua County back roads field trip. Meet at the Dillon’s parking lot at Andover Rd and US 400. Bring a lunch. Leader: Kevin Groeneweg, 706-9116, kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net

April 17

Regular Meeting, “Changing Landscapes and Grassland Birds in Kansas,” by Dr. Brett Sandercock, 7:30 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center

May 12

Warbler Walk in Oak Park field trip. Expect a long list of migratory birds, including warblers. Meet by the north pond at 8 a.m. Leader: Paul Griffin, 263-1251, pgriffin1@cox.net

May 12

Wild Derby Tour
Looking for Painted Bunting, Summer Tanager and more. Meet at the Crane Park picnic shelter at noon. Leader: Jeff Calhoun, 737-1307, jeffcalhoun11@gmail.com

May 12

Butterfly Walk at Chaplin Nature Center, 10 a.m. - noon
Leader: Shawn Silliman, cnc@wichitaaudubon.org, 620-442-4133

SLATE OF OFFICERS

The nominating committee this year was composed of Sandra Tholen, Curt VanBoening and Patty Marlett. They have presented the following slate:

Vice-president (one year term): Carol Cumberland

Secretary (one year term): Dennice Craig

Treasurer (one year term): Sharon Dilks

Board of Directors (three year term): Jeff Calhoun and Tom Ewert

Officers are elected at the May meeting, and their term of office begins July 1. Jay Newton will continue the second year of his two-year term as president.

BIRD SEED SALE

The last WAS bird seed sale was a success thanks to Curt VanBoening, Duane Anderson and Tom Ewert who helped deliver the seed.

Our next bird seed sale will be April 21. Please submit your order by April 1.

25 lbs Black Oil Sunflower - \$16

25 lbs Songbird delight Mix - \$13

25 lbs Safflower Seed - \$19

Order by phone, mail or Email. Call Carol Cumberland at 685-4867 or carol.cumberland@swbell.net

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

2011-2012 WAS Officers

President	Jay Newton	733-2486	jmnewtonus@yahoo.com
Vice-president	Carol Cumberland	685-4867	carol.cumberland@swbell.net
Secretary	Dennice Craig	788-0320	mdcraigster@gmail.com
Treasurer	Sharon Dilks	722-6927	johndilks@aol.com
Directors	Jeff Calhoun	737-1307	jeffcalhoun11@gmail.com
	Bob Gress	838-4130	bobgress@cox.net
	Kevin Groeneweg	687-4268	kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net
	Mike Heaney	733-6458	jeager@southwind.net
	Larry Londagin	729-9984	llondagin@cox.net
	Curt VanBoening	644-1986	curtvb55@yahoo.com
Committee Chairs			
CNC	Kevin Groeneweg	687-4268	kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net
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Development	Mike Heaney	733-6458	jeager@southwind.net
Field Trips	Jeff Calhoun	737-1307	jeffcalhoun11@gmail.com
Finance	Duane DeLong	684-7456	duane.delong669@gmail.com
Hospitality	Laura Groeneweg	687-4268	lgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net
Membership	Sister Patricia Stanley	613-7059	pstanley@csjoseph.org
Newsletter	Patty Marlett	942-2164	pmarlett@mac.com
Programs	Carol Cumberland	685-4867	carol.cumberland@swbell.net
Naturalist	Shawn Silliman	620-442-4133	cnc@wichitaaudubon.org

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E-mail any officer: was@wichitaaudubon.org

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

THANK YOU

Thanks to the following people who helped pick up trash in Oak Park for our annual cleanup on March 17. We donated 10 hours and picked up 11 bags of trash. It was a nice green way to spend St. Patrick's Day!

Belinda Tomasi

Eddie Stegall

Pete Janzen

Bev Dugay

John & Sharon Dilks

Sheryl the Butterfly Lady

Patty Marlett

SENATE TRANSPORTATION BILL CONTAINS POWERFUL CONSERVATION AND OIL SPILL RECOVERY

PROVISIONS

Statement of Audubon President and CEO David Yarnold

The U.S. Senate's \$109 billion surface transportation funding bill passed March 14 by an overwhelming bipartisan margin of 74-22. The bill includes provisions to support both Gulf of Mexico restoration and American land preservation, which were added as a two-part amendment last week by a similarly overwhelming margin of 76-22.

"Today, the Senate made a down payment to generations to come by passing the most significant conservation measure in more than a decade. This is a commitment to fix nature's infrastructure along with roads, rails and tunnels," said Audubon President and CEO David Yarnold. "It says we'll pay for what we broke because we owe it to our grandkids and their grandkids. Let's celebrate this moment of hope and healing. BP's penalties will help restore the Gulf Coast under provisions of the RESTORE Act. And Land and Water Conservation Fund dollars will help us live up to our responsibility to be good stewards of our abundant natural resources."

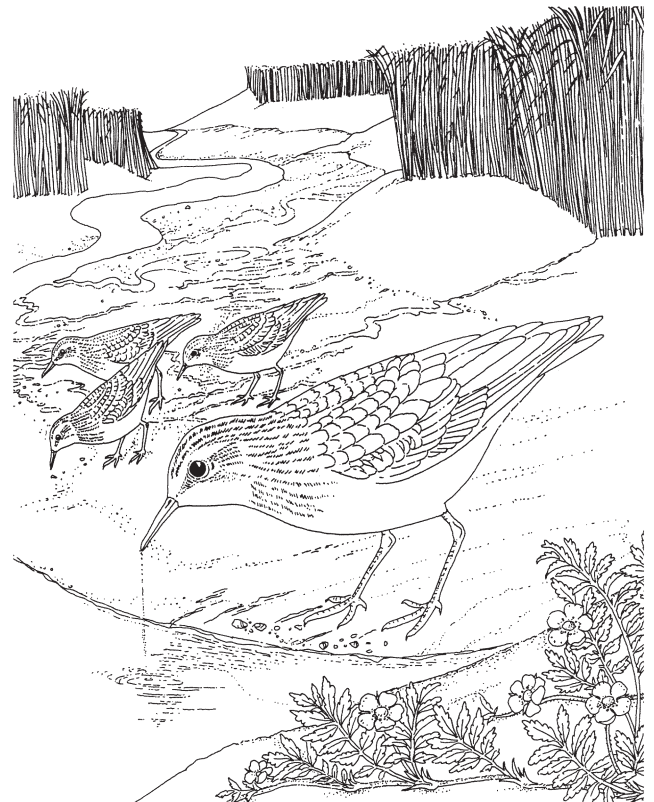
Yarnold concluded, "Now that the House and the Senate have both expressed overwhelming support for RESTORE Act principles, it's time to get a final bill to the president's desk."

The RESTORE/LWCF amendment does the following:

- Specifically directs 80 percent of Clean Water Act civil penalties resulting from the oil spill to restoration of the Gulf Coast environment and

local economies. This could mean as much as \$10-20 billion.

- Distributes resources fairly and equitably to the affected Gulf Coast states, allowing them to launch immediate recovery efforts.
- Ensures that the funds are spent responsibly and for their intended purposes.
- Establishes the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council which will develop and fund a comprehensive plan for the ecological recovery and resiliency of the Gulf Coast.
- Provides \$1.4 billion over the next two years for the Land and Water Conservation Fund for acquiring and protecting precious lands across America.



Wichita  Audubon Society
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SANDHILL CRANES!

Didn't make it Nebraska this year to see the Sandhill Cranes? You can still experience it second hand through the Rowe Sanctuary Crane Cam. A single Sandhill Crane is a majestic sight. Half a million of them is an awe-inspiring spectacle of sight and sound. Aldo Leopold wrote that when we hear a crane, "we hear the trumpet in the orchestra of evolution." This month watch cranes converge in vast numbers along Nebraska's Platte River. Watch (and hear) birds gather at dusk and disperse at dawn at <http://www.rowsanctuary.org/crane cam.htm>

