

# Audubon

Vol. 56 No. 7

April 2017

**April 1**  
Spring Clean-up at Chaplin  
Nature Center,  
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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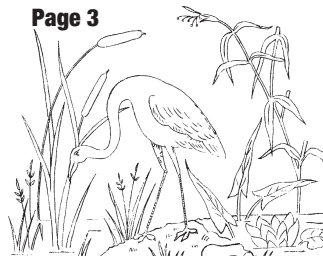
**April 8**  
Second Saturday Bird Walk  
in Chisholm Creek Park.  
Meet in the Great Plains  
Nature Center parking lot at  
8 a.m. Questions?: Kevin  
Groeneweg, 706-9116,  
kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net

**April 18**  
Monthly program, "Antarc-  
tica," by Lorrie Beck, 7 p.m.  
at the Great Plains Nature  
Center. Join us for dinner  
with Lorrie before the pro-  
gram at Panera Bread, 1605  
N. Rock Road, at 5:30 p.m.

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**April 22**  
Baker Wetlands Field Trip  
Meet at the Discovery  
Center, 1365 N 1250 Rd,  
Lawrence, at 9 a.m.

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**May 6**  
Warbler Walk in Oak Park  
Search for migrants at one  
of Wichita's finest migrant  
traps. Meet by the pond at  
the north end of the park at  
9 a.m.

Leader: Paul Griffin, 263-  
1251, pgriffin1@cox.net

## April Meeting

Join Lorrie Beck on a virtual visit to the coldest, driest, windiest and least visited continent on Earth. No worries about seasickness or hypothermia on this visit, as you'll enjoy close-up views of many of the wild creatures that call Antarctica home. Lorrie visited Antarctica in 2009 (December – Christmas), and that cruise/expedition represented the 7th – and final – continent she has visited during her years of travel with family and friends.



Lorrie Beck

We know Lorrie best as the Director of the Great Plains Nature Center, which ended with her retirement in 2014. After a 2-year stint with the U.S. Peace Corps, Lorrie returned to Kansas and began pursuing a career in her major: Outdoor Recreation. She was hired by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1984, then transferred to the U.S. Fish and

Wildlife Service. In 1993, she began a 21-year career with the Service at stations in Alaska, Denver, and finally Wichita, Kansas. She joined the staff of the Great Plains Nature Center in 2001 as a park ranger and naturalist. She finished her federal career as the Director of the Great Plains Nature Center.

While employed and now retired, Lorrie continues to be involved with many volunteer activities, such as Habitat for Humanity – both locally, nationally, and internationally. She currently serves on the Wichita Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors. Church remains important to Lorrie and her mother, and they are busy with various ministries, such as volunteering at the Lord's Diner and the Kansas Food Bank. Lorrie was recently appointed as the co-chair of the Wichita Alternative Gift Market, which is an arm of Alternative Gifts International.

The presentation will be on Tuesday, April 18, 7 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center. You can also join us for dinner at Panera Bread, 1605 N Rock Rd, at 5:30 p.m.

## Birdathon

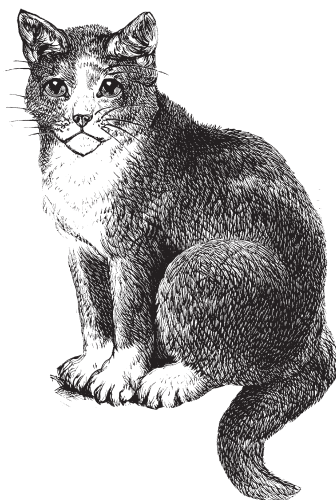
Birdathon It's that time of year again for our annual Birdathon. This fund-raiser is a very important source of funding for Chaplin Nature Center. Just contact a team member and tell them you would like to help. Pledges can be made based on the number of species the team finds or can be a fixed amount.

For the CNC team contact Shawn Silliman at 620-442-4133, [cnc@wichitaudubon.org](mailto:cnc@wichitaudubon.org). For the Painted Bunting team contact Carol Cumberland, 685-4867, [carol.cumberland@swbell.net](mailto:carol.cumberland@swbell.net). Our third team is organized by Tom Ewert, [trewert@yahoo.com](mailto:trewert@yahoo.com), 670-3140.

All teams are planning on early May for their marathon bird search.

## Keep Cats Indoors!

Now numbering well over 100 million in the United States, cats kill approximately 2.4 BILLION birds every year in the U.S. alone, making cat predation by far the largest human-caused mortality threat to birds.



## Baker Wetlands Field Trip

Join us on Saturday, April 22, for a guided tour of this renowned wetland. We plan to carpool from Wichita. Meet at the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot at 6 a.m. We are going to meet our guide in the Discovery Center parking lot in Lawrence at 9 a.m. If you want to meet us in Lawrence rather than carpool, here are the directions to the Baker Wetlands Discovery Center:

Take the Turnpike to Emporia, exit to I-35, then continue until just east of Ottawa. Exit onto US 59 (now 4 lanes to Lawrence). Fifty yards south of the first street light turn right on N 1250 Rd and go east 1/2 mile to the Discovery Center Parking lot. The address is 1365 N 1250 Rd, Lawrence, KS.

For more information contact Patty Marlett, 942-2164, [pmarlett@mac.com](mailto:pmarlett@mac.com)

### 2016-2017 WAS Officers

President	Gregg Friesen		<a href="mailto:friesen_fenton@yahoo.com">friesen_fenton@yahoo.com</a>
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### Committee Chairs

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Conservation	Anne Woods	688-1889	<a href="mailto:amwoods624@aol.com">amwoods624@aol.com</a>
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Hospitality	Sarah Blackmon	264-4408	
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Newsletter	Patty Marlett	942-2164	<a href="mailto:pmarlett@mac.com">pmarlett@mac.com</a>
Programs	Jim Marlett	942-2164	<a href="mailto:jmarlett@cox.net">jmarlett@cox.net</a>
Naturalist	Shawn Silliman	620-442-4133	<a href="mailto:cnc@wichitaudubon.org">cnc@wichitaudubon.org</a>

[www.wichitaudubon.org](http://www.wichitaudubon.org)

Send address changes to Tom Ewert, 5829 N Legion St, Wichita, KS 67204, [trewert@yahoo.com](mailto:trewert@yahoo.com)

## Thanks

Thank you to the volunteers who helped with the Chisholm Creek Park cleanup on March 18: Cortney Hawkins, Harry Gregory, Kevin Groeneweg, Hank Hoisli, Linda Lavacek, Brian Talarico, Sandra Tholen and Ron Williams. Their efforts improve the park for everyone!





## Chaplin Nature Center No Flashlight Night Hike

More than 60 people came out on March 3 to hike the trails of Chaplin Nature in the dark. They were treated to coyotes howling, deer in the woods, and small animals scurrying through the brush. It was a beautiful, warm night with just enough moonlight. The pictures above show Shawn Silliman giving the crowd an introduction to their experience.

## Backyard Bird Workshop

Our Backyard Bird Workshop was held February 25 at the Great Plains Nature Center. About 185 people attended. We gave away 55 bird houses, and an uncounted number of pinecone bird feeders. A big thanks to all the volunteers: Cathy Clausen, Dennice Craig, Hal Cumberland, Sharon & John Dilks, Tom Ewert, Kevin Groeneweg, Susan Hammer, Pete Janzen, Patty & Jim Marlett and Rod Wedel. An extra big thanks to Pete for donating the supplies for 40 bird houses and precutting all of it. And also to Rod, who supplied and cut an additional 15 bird houses.





## Chaplin Nature Center Programs

*Saturday, April 1, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Spring Clean-up*

The busy season is just around the corner. We have lots to do to get ready for school groups and visitors. Trails need to be cleared, leaves need to be raked and the Visitors Center needs a good cleaning. We need volunteers of all ages and skills. Additionally, you can help out by bringing a leaf rake and/or tree pruner. Call the Center for more information at 620-442-4133 or email [cnc@wichitaaudubon.org](mailto:cnc@wichitaaudubon.org).



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