

# Audubon

Vol. 57 No. 7

April 2018

**March 31**

Oak Park Invasive Plant Removal, 9 a.m.

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**April 7**

Chaplin Nature Center Spring Clean-up, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

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**April 14**

Second Saturday Bird Walk in Chisholm Creek Park. Meet in the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot at 8 a.m.

Questions?: Kevin Groeneweg, kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net, 706-9116

**April 17**

Monthly program, "Oaxaca: Birding the Heart of Mexico," by Nic Allen, 7 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center.

Join us for dinner with Nic before the program at Panera Bread, 1605 N Rock Road, at 5:30 p.m.

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**April 20 - 23**

Texas Hill Country Extended Field Trip Leader: Kevin Groeneweg, 7006-9116, kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net



## April Meeting

For our April program, Nic Allen will discuss a recent trip to the Mexican state of Oaxaca where birds, culture, and history combine to make a unique travel experience. Oaxaca is a great place to see wrens, jays, warblers and endemics.

Nic Allen is a native Kansan growing up in Overland Park. Currently president of the Kansas Ornithological Society, he has spent much of the last 15 years serving on various conservation boards in Kansas City and the state of Kansas. Nic also worked in the bird feeding industry for eight years and helped with the development of numerous products and feeders. He enjoys guiding at bird festivals and passing on the



Nic Allen

importance of conservation to youth and adults. When he isn't guiding, Nic can be found spending time with family, behind a camera capturing nature, and fishing.

A college class spent studying nature in northern Michigan one summer led to seeing Kirtland's Warblers and ignited Nic's love of birds and conservation. He has since traveled both throughout the US and internationally and is always excited to share his experiences with others.

*The presentation will be on Tuesday, April 17, 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.*

# Chisholm Creek Cleanup

Thanks to Carol Cumberland, Brian and Nohora Talarico and Patty Marlett for their efforts in Chisholm Creek Park on March 10



# 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.

## 2017-2018 WAS Officers

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Send address changes to Carol Cumberland, 1106 Gretchen, Wichita, KS 67206

# Oak Park Invasive Plant Removal

Asian bush honeysuckle is an invasive plant that is causing serious habitat damage in many Wichita parks. Join us on Saturday, March 31, at 9 a.m. in Oak Park. We'll spend 3 - 4 hours removing these plants, directed by the Wichita Parks Department staff. Tools, gloves and bottled water will be provided. This is good exercise and a positive contribution to preserving habitat quality at one of our best local birding spots. Meet by the stone arch at the southwest corner of the park.

For information: Pete Janzen , 519-1970, [pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net)





## Backyard Bird Workshop

On February 24 we held our Backyard Bird Workshop at the Great Plains Nature Center. We had almost 200 people come by, and kids built 50 Carolina Wren houses and made an uncounted number of pinecone birdfeeders. A big thanks to all the volunteers: Cathy Clausen, Dennice Craig, Bill Langley, Kevin Groeneweg, Susan Hammer, Pete Janzen, Patty & Jim Marlett, Dale Roark, Sandra Tholen, and Rod Wedel. An extra big thanks to Pete for getting the supplies for 50 bird houses and precutting all of it.



## 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.

P.O. Box 47607  
Wichita, KS 67201

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## Chaplin Nature Center Programs

Saturday, April 7, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

### Spring Clean-up

Volunteer to help get the Chaplin Nature Center spruced up for the upcoming year. Help is needed in all areas, from building clean-up to trail maintenance. Light duty or heavy duty work available. Soft leaf rakes and/or tree pruners needed.



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