

Audubon

Vol. 60 No.7

April 2021

March 27
Marion County field trip. Meet at the city park in Marion at 8 a.m.

Notify the leader if you plan to attend. Tom Ewert, 670-3140, trewert@yahoo.com



April 3
Spring Clean-up at Chaplin Nature Center
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April 10
Second Saturday Bird Walk in Chisholm Creek Park. Meet in the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot at 8 a.m. Questions? Tom Ewert, 670-3140, trewert@yahoo.com



April 10
Chisholm Creek Park Cleanup following the bird walk
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April 17
Oak Park invasive plant removal.
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April 20
Monthly program, "GO NATIVE! Restoring the Ecology of your Backyard for Birds," by Brad Guhr 7 p.m. Online
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April Meeting

Due to the continuing dangers of Coronavirus, the board has decided that all our programs through May will be online.

Our April program will feature Brad Guhr, from the Dyck Arboretum in Hesston, presenting "GO NATIVE! Restoring the Ecology of your Backyard for Birds."



Brad Guhr

Restoring the ecology of our own backyards starts with the plants that we nurture. Basic ecological food chain principles teach us that if we plant a greater diversity of native plants in our landscapes, we will be able to host greater wildlife diversity including birds. Brad will discuss how native plant landscaping and giving thoughtful consideration to your property conditions, the plants you can grow, and best management practices to get them established all contribute to the level of success you can have in attracting wildlife. Ecological landscaping is a rewarding, lifelong endeavor and

the best time to start is now.

Prior to moving back to the Southcentral Kansas area, Brad worked as a botanist and wetland scientist for the environmental consulting division of Burns & McDonnell in Kansas City. Brad is currently the Education/Prairie Restoration/Concert Series Coordinator at the Dyck Arboretum of the Plains in

Hesston, Kansas. Brad and his wife Sara have two boys (Henry-20 and

Ben-16) and live in Newton, KS. In his spare time, Brad enjoys the study and restoration of natural areas, running, and playing ukulele.

The program will be live-streamed April 20 at 7 p.m., and will also be saved so you can watch it at your convenience. You can watch on the Wichita Audubon Facebook page, or on YouTube. The link for our YouTube channel is: www.youtube.com/channel/UCBzA8JCBgw-5aUHVW11M7jw

You can also find links on wichitaudubon.org/events.

Nominations

This year's nominating committee chair is Tom Ewert, with help from Jim Marlett and Shawn Silliman. They have presented the following slate for the 21-22 year:

President: Dan Housholder (2 year term)
Treasurer: Patty Marlett (1 year term)
Secretary: Barbara Gobbert (1 year term)
Board of directors: Bob Gress(3 year terms)

We are still looking for a nominee for vice-president, and one more director. If you have a nomination contact Tom Ewert, 316-670-3140, trewert@yahoo.com.

Chisholm Creek Park Cleanup

Join us after the second Saturday bird walk (April 10, approximately 9:45 am). Meet in the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot to collect trash and keep our adopted park looking nice. Bring gloves, we'll provide trash bags, Bring gloves, we'll provide trash bags, along with coffee, water, Gatorade and donuts. We'll finish with a raffle for a prize and a group picture!.

Leaders: Brian & Nohora Talarico, btalarico34@outlook.com

2020-2021 WAS Officers

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| President | Bob Gress | 316-765-2046 | bobgress@cox.net |
| Vice-president | Rachel Roth | 316-213-9527 | lilbluestem@gmail.com |
| Secretary | Barbara Gobbert | 316-841-5099 | bgobbert@gmail.com |
| Treasurer | Patty Marlett | 316-200-3419 | pmarlett@cox.net |
| Directors | Bill Langley | 316-889-5434 | 78gmouse43@gmail.com |
| | Mark Nolen | 785-346-7213 | nolen.mark@gmail.com |
| | Jeremy Birket | 316-371-2829 | tceinict@gmail.com |
| | Rod Wedel | 316-215-4362 | redb819@sbcglobal.net |
| | Tom Ewert | 316-670-3140 | trewert@yahoo.com |
| | Daniel Housholder | 316-648-0434 | dhousholder@cox.net |
| Committee Chairs | | | |
| AOK Rep | Tom Ewert | 316-670-3140 | trewert@yahoo.com |
| Field trips | Tom Ewert | 316-670-3140 | trewert@yahoo.com |
| Hospitality | Sarah Blackmon | 316-264-4408 | |
| Membership | Carol Cumberland | 316-685-4687 | carol.cumberland@swbell.net |
| Newsletter | Patty Marlett | 316-200-3419 | pmarlett@mac.com |
| Programs | Rachel Roth | 316-213-9527 | lilbluestem@gmail.com |
| Naturalist | Shawn Silliman | 620-442-4133 | cnc@wichitaudubon.org |

www.wichitaudubon.org

Send address changes to Carol Cumberland, 1106 Gretchen, Wichita, KS 67206
carol.cumberland@swbell.net, 316-685-4867

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. For the Painted Bunting team contact Carol Cumberland, carol.cumberland@swbell.net, 685-4867, Our third team, the Roadrunners, is organized by Tom Ewert, trewert@yahoo.com, 670-3140.



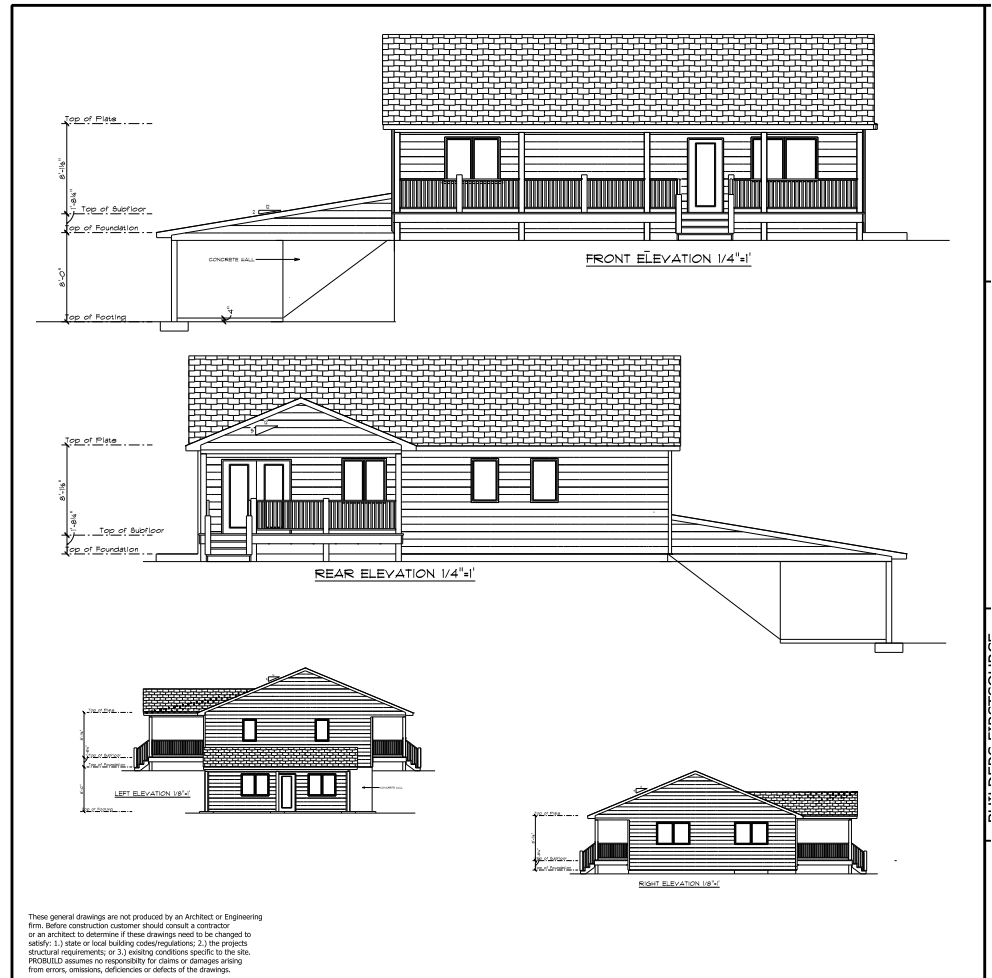
Oak Park Invasive Plant Removal

Asian bush honeysuckle is an invasive plant that is causing serious habitat damage in many Wichita parks. Join us on Saturday, April 17, at 9 a.m. in Oak Park. We'll spend 3 - 4 hours removing these plants, directed by the Wichita Parks Department staff. Be sure to bring work gloves. Tools 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

New House at Chaplin Nature Center

Thanks to the very generous bequest from Wally Champeny, we are going to be able to replace the Naturalist's residence at CNC. The current house began life around 140 years ago and has been added to several times over the years. Besides being cramped and small, there are problems with the foundation, wiring and plumbing. We have been wanting to replace it for years, but never had the resources. The new house, pictured below, will have three bedrooms and two bathrooms, along with a full basement for tornado safety. It will also feature a utility room for laundry. The washer and drier have always lived in the detached garage of the old house. There will also be a two car carport.

The planning committee moved very fast on this. A contract has been signed with Pico, LLC, a construction company in Derby. They plan to begin work around April 1. The new house site will be south of the old house, but still west of the visitor's center. We plan to leave the old house standing for a while. The decision to keep it or raze it will be made after the new house is complete. We are very excited to make this huge improvement to the nature center. When it is complete we will have an open house so everyone can take a look!



Grassland Groupies

Local prairie enthusiasts and biologists Nicole Brown and Rachel Roth have launched a non-profit in Kansas. Grassland Groupies works to empower, inspire, and engage audiences in the love of grasslands and their conservation. Check it out at their website: www.grasslandgroupies.org

The Best Biome: A weekly podcast exploring why grasslands are the best biome. Find it wherever you get your podcasts.

Grassland News: Our weekly newsletter with news, events, published research, and updates from our team. You can subscribe on their webpage..

Program Development: They're developing programs with select middle and high schools to help them take advantage of the [American Rescue Plan's](#) provisions for getting students engaged with nature as part of their after school and summer programming. Contact them if you're a teacher who'd like to learn more.

P.O. Box 47607
Wichita, KS 67201

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Chaplin Nature Center Programs

Saturday, April 3, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Spring Clean-Up

We need your help to get the facilities in tip-top shape for the upcoming year. We are looking for volunteers to work on a variety of outdoor and indoor projects. Trimming trails, checking bridges, raking leaves, and working on the front flowerbeds are just a few of the projects. Be sure to wear old clothes and bring a pair of work gloves. Soft leaf rakes and tree pruners needed.

Be sure to wear old clothes and bring a pair of work gloves. Soft leaf rakes and tree pruners needed. Call the Center if you have additional questions.



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