

# Wichita Audubon



Volume 46 No. 5 January/February 2012

## **JANUARY MEETING**

Our January program will be presented by Senior Zookeeper Scott Newland, who works in the Sedgwick County Zoo Jungle building. Last April he spent two weeks working on the Mariana Avifauna Conservation (MAC) Project in Saipan. The MAC project is a response to the threat of the brown tree snake in the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). The establishment of the brown tree snake on Saipan serves as a direct threat to the survival of many of the CNMI's endemic and rare bird species. While in the area, Newland stopped in Guam to visit and lend a hand to people who run the Guam Rail Breeding Facility on the Island. Guam rails have been wiped out by the introduced brown tree snake and only survive in captive populations and a very small population released on the island of Rota. Sedgwick County Zoo has been involved with the rail project for many years.

Join us on Tuesday, January 17, 7:30 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center. We will also have dinner with Scott before the program at Ryan's, 3323 N Rock Road at 5:45 p.m.

## **FEBRUARY MEETING**

Our February meeting will be about our own Flint Hills and the birds that call it home. The Flint Hills, the largest tallgrass prairie remaining in North America, provides abundant habitat for many grassland wildlife species. Dr. William Jensen, Assistant Professor at Emporia State University, will present an array of avifauna characteristic of the Flint Hills and some conservation concerns involving grassland birds in the region.

Join us on Tuesday, February 21, 7:30 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center. We will also have dinner with Dr. Jensen before the program at Ryan's, 3323 N Rock Road at 5:45 p.m.

## **CNC UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

**January 28 and February 4, Saturday, 10 a.m. - Noon**

### **Eagle Watch**

Mid-winter is a great time to view Bald Eagles in Kansas. We will take a mile-and-a-half hike to the Arkansas River to find Eagles. Bring binoculars if you have them, or we have some to loan.



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.

## **COMING EVENTS**

### **January 8**

Derby/Belle Plaine Mid-winter Bird Count. Meet at the Target parking lot at 2024 N Rock Rd in Derby. Compiler: Jeff Calhoun, 737-1307, [jeffcalhoun11@gmail.com](mailto:jeffcalhoun11@gmail.com)

### **January 17**

Regular meeting, "The Threat of the Brown Tree Snake in the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands," by Scott Newland, 7:30 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center

### **January 28**

Lyon County State Fishing Lake field trip - see page 2 for information.

### **January 28**

#### **February 4**

Eagle Watch at Chaplin Nature Center, 10 a.m. to noon.

### **February 18**

Sedgwick County Zoo Jungle Building and Penguins - see page 2 for information.

### **February 21**

Regular meeting, "Grassland Birds of the Kansas Flint Hills," by Dr. William Jensen, 7:30 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center

## **Bird Seed Sale**

The last bird seed sale was a huge success thanks to Kevin Groeneweg and Curt VanBoening, who helped deliver all the seed.

Our next bird seed sale will be February 11th. Please submit your order by January 28th.

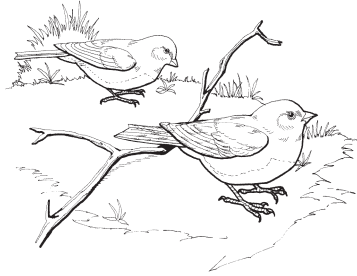
25 lbs Black Oil Sunflower - \$16

25 lbs Songbird delight Mix - \$13

25 lbs Safflower Seed - \$20

Order by phone, mail or Email. Call Carol Cumberland at 685-4867 or [carol.cumberland@swbell.net](mailto:carol.cumberland@swbell.net)

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



### **2011-2012 WAS Officers**

President	Jay Newton	733-2486	<a href="mailto:jmnewtonus@yahoo.com">jmnewtonus@yahoo.com</a>
Vice-president	Carol Cumberland	685-4867	<a href="mailto:carol.cumberland@swbell.net">carol.cumberland@swbell.net</a>
Secretary	Dennice Craig	788-0320	<a href="mailto:mdcraigster@gmail.com">mdcraigster@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Sharon Dilks	722-6927	<a href="mailto:johndilks@aol.com">johndilks@aol.com</a>
Directors	Jeff Calhoun	737-1307	<a href="mailto:jecalhoun@wichita.edu">jecalhoun@wichita.edu</a>
	Bob Gress	838-4130	<a href="mailto:bobgress@cox.net">bobgress@cox.net</a>
	Kevin Groeneweg	687-4268	<a href="mailto:kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net">kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net</a>
	Mike Heaney	733-6458	<a href="mailto:jeager@southwind.net">jeager@southwind.net</a>
	Larry Londagin	729-9984	<a href="mailto:llondagin@cox.net">llondagin@cox.net</a>
	Curt VanBoening	644-1986	<a href="mailto:curtvb55@yahoo.com">curtvb55@yahoo.com</a>

#### Committee Chairs

CNC	Kevin Groeneweg	687-4268	<a href="mailto:kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net">kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net</a>
Conservation	Curt VanBoening	644-1986	<a href="mailto:curtvb55@yahoo.com">curtvb55@yahoo.com</a>
Development	Mike Heaney	733-6458	<a href="mailto:jeager@southwind.net">jeager@southwind.net</a>
Field Trips	Jeff Calhoun	737-1307	<a href="mailto:jecalhoun@wichita.edu">jecalhoun@wichita.edu</a>
Finance	Duane DeLong	684-7456	<a href="mailto:duane.delong669@gmail.com">duane.delong669@gmail.com</a>
Hospitality	Laura Groeneweg	687-4268	<a href="mailto:lgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net">lgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net</a>
Membership	Sister Patricia Stanley	744-2192	<a href="mailto:pstanley@csjoseph.org">pstanley@csjoseph.org</a>
Newsletter	Patty Marlett	942-2164	<a href="mailto:pmarlett@mac.com">pmarlett@mac.com</a>
Programs	Carol Cumberland	685-4867	<a href="mailto:carol.cumberland@swbell.net">carol.cumberland@swbell.net</a>
Naturalist	Shawn Silliman	620-442-4133	<a href="mailto:cnc@wichitaaudubon.org">cnc@wichitaaudubon.org</a>

### **WWW.WICHITAAUDUBON.ORG**

E-mail any officer: [was@wichitaaudubon.org](mailto:was@wichitaaudubon.org)

Send address changes to Sister Patricia Stanley, 3700 E Lincoln Apt 123, Wichita, KS 67218, [pstanley@csjoseph.org](mailto:pstanley@csjoseph.org)

## **LYON COUNTY STATE**

### **FISHING LAKE FIELD TRIP**

Lyon County State Fishing Lake is famous around the state for Smith's Longspurs and Long-eared Owls. On Saturday, January 28, bring a lunch and meet at the Emporia McDonald's (2810 W 18th). From I-35 take Exit 127 and go north on Industrial Rd to 18th. The weather is always a factor this time of year, so let the leader know if you are planning to attend so you can be informed if there are last minute changes. Leader: Matt Gearhart, [mgearhart@designwithinsight.com](mailto:mgearhart@designwithinsight.com). For carpooling info contact Jeff Calhoun, 737-1307, [jeffcalhoun11@gmail.com](mailto:jeffcalhoun11@gmail.com).

## **SEDGWICK COUNTY ZOO**

### **JUNGLE BUILDING FIELD TRIP**

Since the weather can be awful in February, we decided to go for an indoor field trip. It is really fun birding in the jungle building at the zoo, and harder than it sounds. The staff will give us a list, and we'll try to find the birds. We will also get a peek at the penguins. You must pay admission to the zoo, or use your zoo membership. We will meet in the jungle building lobby at 10 a.m. on Saturday, February 18. Leader: Patty Marlett, 942-2164, [pmarlett@mac.com](mailto:pmarlett@mac.com)

## **HOG ISLAND AUDUBON CAMP**

The National Audubon Society has opened registration for their legendary 6-day birding programs for adults, teens and families at the historic Audubon Camp in Maine on Hog Island. Pete Dunne, Scott Weidensaul, Steve Kress, Lang Elliott, Don Kroodsma, Bill Thompson III and many more expert ornithologists, naturalists, educators and authors will be in residence during the 2012 sessions. Website: <http://hogisland.audubon.org>

Hog Island Audubon Camp is run by the Seabird Restoration Program (Project Puffin) of the National Audubon Society. All summer programs include field trips to nearby Eastern Egg Rock, where Dr. Steve Kress and his team of biologists have successfully restored an island colony of Atlantic Puffins, and Roseate, Arctic and Common Terns. Immerse yourself in the joy of birding with expert-led workshops, lively evening presentations, salt-water birding tours and trips to diverse habitats on the Maine coast. Roger Tory Peterson was the camp's first birding instructor in 1936 and many of America's finest naturalists, including Rachel Carson, have spent time on the 330-acre wildlife sanctuary, located in mid-coast Maine, on Muscongus Bay. Participants live in restored wooden buildings dating back to the early 1900's and are treated to three fabulous meals each day, prepared by chef extraordinaire Janii Laberge.

2012 Programs:

Maine Seabird Biology & Conservation - June 3-8 & Sept 9-14

Joy of Birding - June 10-15 & June 24-29

Field Ornithology - June 17—22

Coastal Maine Bird Studies for Teens - June 17—22 & June 24—29

Sharing Nature: An Educator's Week- July 19—24

Family Camp - August 19—24

Audubon Chapter Leadership Program - August 26—31

Living on the Wind: Fall Migration and Monhegan Island - September 16—21

For more information or to enroll, visit <http://hogisland.audubon.org> or call (607) 257-7308 x 14 or [hogisland@audubon.org](mailto:hogisland@audubon.org).

## **RIVERS AND WILDLIFE CELEBRATION**

Gather with wildlife enthusiasts from around the world to celebrate the annual migration of 500,000 sandhill cranes and millions of waterfowl through the heart of the Central Flyway. The Rivers and Wildlife Celebration is Nebraska's crane festival and the nation's longest running wildlife festival. Check our website [nebraskacranefestival.org](http://nebraskacranefestival.org) often for updates, because the agenda is still shaping up. Here are a few highlights of what we have planned for the 2012 Celebration:

Saturday night keynote address by award-winning wildlife photographer Michael Forsberg

Saturday lunch keynote address by humorist and storyteller Al Batt

Family-friendly "Wild Experience Room", with live raptor and snake shows, and a special show for kids of all ages from Al Batt

A variety of field trips to choose from to see cranes, waterfowl, prairie chickens, and other birds and wildlife  
REGISTRATION OPENS IN JANUARY For other questions about the Celebration email or call 402-797-2301.

  
Wichita Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 47607  
Wichita, KS 67201

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Wichita, Kansas  
Permit No. 921

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Printed on recycled paper

**CHECK THE MAILING LABEL TO SEE IF YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS ABOUT TO LAPSE**

The upper left portion of your address printed above is the date your membership expires.

Month/Year of expiration

Name

Address

City, State ZIP

There are two ways of being a member of Wichita Audubon: by joining the National Audubon Society, or by joining or making a donation to the Wichita Audubon Society. IF YOU ARE A MEMBER of the NATIONAL Audubon Society, you receive Audubon magazine in the mail, as well as this newsletter. National will send you renewal notices when your membership is about to expire.

IF YOU ARE A MEMBER of the WICHITA Audubon Society ONLY, you do not receive Audubon Magazine. You should check the expiration date above. Use the form below to renew your membership, or go to [www.wichitaudubon.org](http://www.wichitaudubon.org) and click on Membership. If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, check the appropriate box below.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, renew my membership in the Wichita Audubon Society at the following level:

Individual - \$20    Family - \$25    Student (18 & under) - \$10

Remove my name from your mailing list

Mail to: Wichita Audubon Society, P.O. Box 47607, Wichita, KS 67201