

Wichita Audubon

Volume 43 No. 1 July/August 2008



DUANE DeLONG HONORED



President Kevin Groeneweg presents the Meritorious Service Award to Duane DeLong.

Duane DeLong was the recipient of the 2008 Meritorious Service Award, presented at the May meeting. Duane has served on the board of directors since 1999 as Finance Director and as Treasurer. After his term as treasurer was over he has continued to be our accountant, filing tax forms and keeping our books shipshape. He invested a great deal of time getting records of the endowment fund straight and writing the board policy for the use of the endow-

ment fund. And thanks to his research and good judgement, we have had good returns on our investments, despite the ups and downs of the market. Also, he can always be depended on for park cleanups, envelope stuffing, and bird seed sales. Congratulations, Duane!

JULY PICNIC

Everyone is invited, including family and friends, for our annual picnic. This is an indoor, air conditioned picnic so everyone can stay comfortable. We'll meet on Tuesday, July 15, at 6:00 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center. Bring a covered dish or dessert to share and your own service. We will provide iced tea, or you can bring your own beverage. After dinner we will watch the one episode of the "Planet Earth" series in the auditorium. Bring the whole family for good food and a good time.

CNC UPCOMING PROGRAMS

June 28, Saturday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Chaplin Nature Center Open House & Exhibit Grand Opening - see page 3

July 12, Saturday, 8:30 a.m.

3rd Annual Butterfly Count - see page 3

COMING EVENTS

June 28

Exhibit dedication & Open House at CNC, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
See page 3.

July 12

3rd annual Butterfly Count at the Chaplin Nature Center. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the CNC Visitor's Center. See page 3

July 15

Annual picnic, 6:00 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center.



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

NEW OFFICERS

The following people were elected to serve as officers of Wichita Audubon for 2008-2009:

Vice-President - Jay Newton
Treasurer - Carol Cumberland
Secretary - Patty Marlett

Board of Directors -
Mike Heaney
Bob Gress.

Please thank them for their willingness to give their time and talents to our organization, and to Ben Rogers and Marsha Ebaugh, who are leaving the board after three years of service.

EARTH DAY

Wichita Audubon had booths at two Earth Day events this year. Marsha Ebaugh manned one for the event at the Unitarian Universalist Church. Patty Marlett staffed one for OK Kids Day at the Great Plains Nature Center. Kids were invited to compare their size with the wingspan of birds, and we had a quiz for people to test their bird knowledge. We also distributed information about conservation and the declining numbers of many bird species.



PHOTO DONATION

The speaker at our May meeting, Ron Day, presented us with a signed and framed print of his photo of a Bald Eagle. The picture is currently hanging at Chaplin Nature Center. Thanks to Ron for an excellent presentation and the beautiful picture.

2008-2009 WAS Officers

President	Kevin Groeneweg	687-4268	kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net
Vice-president	Jay Newton	733-2486	jmnewtonus@yahoo.com
Secretary	Patty Marlett	942-2164	pmarlett@mac.com
Treasurer	Carol Cumberland	685-4867	carol.cumberland@swbell.net
Directors	Dan Kilby	943-5136	ddkilby@prodigy.net
	Curt VanBoening	776-0993	curtvb@earthlink.net
	Duane DeLong	684-7456	dwdeLong@earthlink.net
	Catherine Lewis	681-3362	thexchange@cox.net
	Mike Heaney	733-6459	jeager@southwind.net
	Bob Gress	838-4130	bobgress@cox.net

Committee Chairs

Newsletter	Patty Marlett	942-2164	pmarlett@mac.com
CNC	Kevin Groeneweg	687-4268	kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net
Programs	Jay Newton	733-2486	jmnewtonus@yahoo.com
Development	Patty Marlett	942-2164	pmarlett@mac.com
Membership	Sister Patricia Stanley	744-2192	pstanley@csjoseph.org
Hospitality	Laura Groeneweg	687-4268	lgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net
Field Trips	Pete Janzen	832-0182	pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net
Finance	Duane DeLong	684-7456	dwdeLong@earthlink.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, 6739 Perryton, Wichita, KS 67226

pstanley@csjoseph.org

BIRDATHON

The 2008 Birdathon is complete. The Painted Buntings (Carol Cumberland, Patty Marlett and Marsha Ebaugh) ended up with 134 species. They went from Chisholm Creek Park to Maple Grove Cemetery and Oak Park, then on to Quivira NWR and Cheyenne Bottoms. Their favorite bird of the day was a pair of Western Grebes at Cheyenne Bottoms. The CNC team (Shawn Silliman, Kevin Groeneweg, Rex Herndon, Dwight Schoup and Gene Young) found 140 species. They covered Slate Creek Marsh, Chaplin Nature Center, Kaw Wildlife Area and Cowley County State Lake. They found a late Bald Eagle at Slate Creek. The Two teams raised \$2500. Thanks to all who contributed!

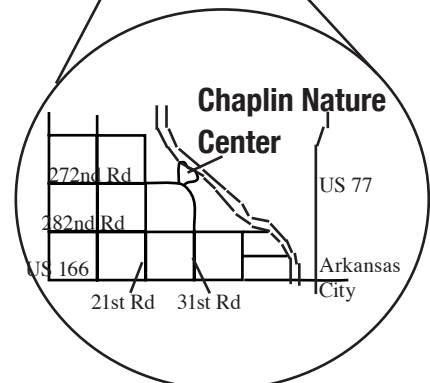
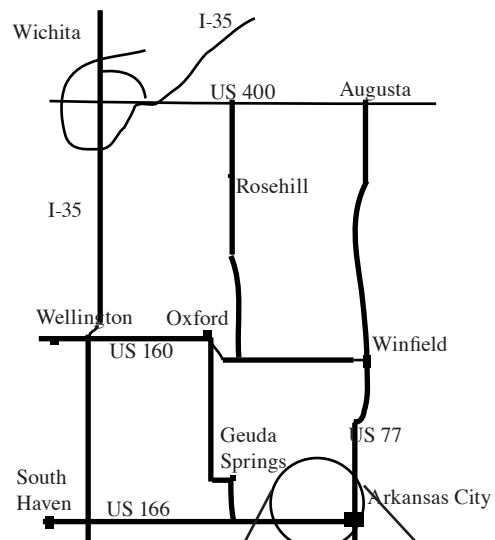
CHAPLIN NATURE CENTER OPEN HOUSE

After more than two years of planning, design and construction the new exhibits in the visitor's center at Chaplin Nature Center are complete and we are ready to show them off. It has been a labor of love for Shawn, the Chaplin Nature Center committee, and the Kauffman Museum design team. There will be a short dedication ceremony at 10:30 a.m., followed by an open house. There will be refreshments and some live animals to add to the fun. We want everyone to come see this stunning new addition to our nature center.



BUTTERFLY COUNT

We're going to hold a Butterfly Count at Chaplin Nature Center that will be conducted just like a Christmas Bird Count, identifying species and counting the number of individuals seen in a circle fifteen miles across. Results will be reported to the North American Butterfly Association. Meet on July 12, 8:30 a.m. at the Chaplin Nature Center Visitor's Center. People living in Arkansas City can also help by counting the butterflies they see in their gardens. For instructions on garden counting, or more information about the butterfly count, call Shawn Silliman, 620-442-4133 or cnc@wichitaudubon.org. You are welcome to participate even if you can only spend part of the day with us.




Wichita Audubon Society
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FRIENDS UNIVERSITY MASTER OF SCIENCE PROGRAM

On August 14, 2008, the Graduate School at Friends University will be starting a new cohort in the Master of Science in Environmental Studies program. Please consider enrolling now as applications are being accepted! You'll receive high quality instruction from environmental professionals who will engage you in real-life experiences through internships and projects, as well as, a broad-based approach to local, regional, national, and global environmental issues. The courses will cover studies in environmental history, economics and politics, environmental management, environmental health measures, energy and the environment, environmental biology, environmental geology and environmental law. Classes meet one night per week for approximately 20 months and are structured to allow adults to maintain the responsibilities of family, community and career. For further information or to submit your application, please contact Patty Gingrich at 295-5693 or 1-800-794-6945, Ext. 5693. You may also reach her by email at pattyg@friends.edu. Please consider this opportunity to further your education and your career.