

# Audubon

Vol. 55 No. 8

July/August 2016

**July 9**  
Arkansas City Butterfly Count  
8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

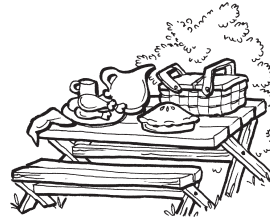
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**July 9**  
Second Saturday bird walk in  
Chisholm Creek Park. Meet in the  
parking lot at 8 a.m. Questions?:  
Pete Janzen, 519-1970,  
[pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net)

**July 19**  
Potluck dinner at the Great Plains  
Nature Center, 6 p.m. Bring a dish to  
share and your own service.

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Come visit Chaplin Nature  
Center this summer.  
It belongs to you!



## July Picnic

Join us on Tuesday, July 19, 6 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center for an air-conditioned picnic. Bring a dish to share and your own service. Drinks will be provided. After the meal we'll have a short program in the auditorium.

It's always fun to have extra time to visit and share a meal, so come and enjoy an evening with friends.

## Southeast Oklahoma Extended Field Trip

This year's extended field trip went to southeast Oklahoma, visiting Red Slough and Little River National Wildlife Refuge. Led by Tom Ewert, twelve people braved the rain and got a number of lifers. On Friday, April 29, they visited Oxley Nature Center in Tulsa and also hit Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge on their way

to Isabel, OK. They had over 80 species for the day. Friday they dodged most of the rain, but did need boots and jackets. They started the morning with David Arbour, a Biologist with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, at Red Slough. He showed them two Fulvous Whistling Ducks, life birds for most. There were more lifers with Anhinga, Purple and



*The Swainson's Warbler victory picture!*

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# Renewal Reminder

Check the mailing label on this newsletter for your membership expiration date, and don't forget to renew! There are two way you can become a member - if you join the National Audubon Society, you automatically become a member of the Wichita Audubon Society, or you can join as a member of Wichita Audubon only.

## TO JOIN THE WICHITA AUDUBON SOCIETY ONLY

Individual membership - \$20

Family membership - \$25

Student membership (18 & under) - \$10

You will receive 8 issues of the Wichita Audubon newsletter, but not Audubon Magazine. All your dues support your local chapter. Make your check payable to the Wichita Audubon Society and mail to PO Box 47607, Wichita, KS 67201. **Don't forget that you can now pay online** - just go to <http://www.wichitaudubon.org/Membership.html>

Let us know if you want to continue to receive a newsletter in the mail, or if you would prefer an electronic version by email. You can email us at [newsletter@wichitaudubon.org](mailto:newsletter@wichitaudubon.org)

## 2016-2017 WAS Officers

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	Tom Ewert	670-3140	trewert@yahoo.com
	Karl Herold	655-2389	kjherold2@gmail.com

## Committee Chairs

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CNC	Travis Ross	706-7813	rosstravis@yahoo.com
Field trips	Cheryl Miller		avian67226@gmail.com
Hospitality	Sarah Blackmon	264-4408	
Membership	Tom Ewert	670-3140	trewert@yahoo.com
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Naturalist	Shawn Silliman	620-442-4133	cnc@wichitaudubon.org

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

Send address changes to Tom Ewert, 1021 N. Lakewind, Wichita, KS 67212, [trewert@yahoo.com](mailto:trewert@yahoo.com)

## Southeast Oklahoma, continued

Common Gallinule, and Least Bittern. In the afternoon the real rains hit, forcing the group inside.

Day three was great. The storm blew through overnight and the weather was nice. The river was high, so access to the Little River National Wildlife Refuge was limited but they still found most of the warblers they wanted. There were good looks at the Swanson's Warbler and the Kentucky. They also found a couple of cool snakes, lifers for Eddie.

On the way home, some stopped at Broken Bow Lake and had excellent close-up looks at Pine Warblers.

The group included Tom Ewert, Dennice Craig, Bev Dugay, Harry Gregory, Terry & Sam Mannell, Ernie Misek, Atcha Nolan, Eddie Stegall, Curt VanBoening, and Helen Winter. Karl and Mary Herold, Janet Krack and Elsie Fisher joined the group for Tulsa and Sequoia NWR.



*Terry & Sam Mannell wading in a swamp*





# Birdathon

This year we had three Birdathon teams that raised more than \$5,000!

The Painted Buntings team included Dennice Craig, Carol Cumberland and Patty Marlett. They had a perfect day with bright sunshine and no wind. They started at the Derby boat launch with good looks at their name sake, the Painted Bunting, plus a cooperative Yellow-throated Vireo. Birds were singing everywhere. After a stop at the Yellow-crowned Night Heron colony on Larry Lane it was on to Oak Park. The best bird there was a Chestnut-sided Warbler. Then off to Quivera NWR, which was pretty slow - not many ducks and too much water for shorebirds, but thousands of Wilson's Phalaropes were whirling around.

Late in the afternoon they headed for Cheyenne Bottoms and found the missing shorebirds. The day ended watching Upland Sandpipers in a prairie dog town with 138 species for their efforts.

This year the CNC team consisted of Rex Herndon, Dwight Shoup, Gene Young, Kevin Groeneweg and Travis Ross. They began at 3:30 pm on Friday at Slate Creek Church. Before they even stepped out of their cars they heard the first bird of the count singing — the Dickcissel. They then headed east to the Winfield Gun Club Property, then over to the south marsh and along the way found a Bobolink on 80th Rd. It was now a little before 6 p.m., so to avoid a strong storm cell bearing down on them they headed up to Oxford. They found Wally Champeny by the Oxford Mill where he had been seeing a Lazuli Bunting. While there they added several more species and finally at 7:30 the Lazuli showed up. They then went to the Rainbow Bridge to listen for owls. It was not until 9:15 that they finally heard a Barn Owl in an abandoned house. That was the last bird of the day. In

the first 6 hours they had 94 species. The next morning the first stop was in the Whispering Oaks neighborhood, then on their usual route down the road past Camp Horizon to the Kaw WMA boat ramp. At Kaw Lake a lot of water was being released into the spillway, causing a feeding frenzy for hundreds of Franklin's Gulls and

several heron species and a few pelicans and cormorants. On a sand spit were several shorebirds, including three Willets. They ended the day cruising Cowley County roads, finding a Grasshopper Sparrow and a couple of flocks of Bobolinks. Their total number of species (126) was lower than previous years, but still a good result.



*Carol and Patty at Cheyenne Bottoms*

Wichita Audubon Birdathon Harvey County team scored 108 birds. Gregg Friesen, Rod Wedel, Ernie Misek and Tom Ewert started at 6:30 a.m. with the Kauffman Museum bird walk along with twenty other folks. Then they headed out to Harvey County Park West, Greenfield, Patterson and other marshes, back to Newton for an afternoon break, out to Harvey County Park East, Osage nature trails, a couple private farms, 14th St. wetlands, Mission prairie, back out to Greenfield marsh and ending the day back at Harvey County

Park West where they listened to four Barred

Owls calling back and forth.

Best birds were multiple bobolinks in at least three locations, including an amazing 45 seen by Rod Wedel north of the Newton airport, Hudsonian godwits at the 14th Street wetlands and a mud puddle south of Halstead.

Thanks so much to all our supporters! And if you missed out it's not too late to help - remember you can donate online at [www.wichitaudubon.org](http://www.wichitaudubon.org).



*Cowley County Bobolinks*

## Chaplin Nature Center Programs

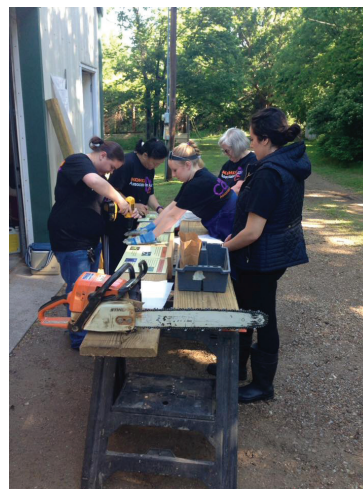
### *Saturday, July 9, 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Butterfly Count*

Help count and identify butterflies as part of a North American Butterfly Association official count. This one-day survey will count all the butterflies seen in a 15 mile diameter area. Anyone interested in butterflies is welcome to participate. More experienced counters will be teamed up with novices, so everyone is welcome to help. Meet at the visitor's center at 8:30 a.m. For more information call the center at 620-442-4133.



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.



A big thank you to the Kohl's Associates in Action, who came out in May to help install new interpretive signs at Chaplin Nature Center!