

Audubon

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March 2019

March 9

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

March 16

Bald Eagle nest viewing at Chaplin Nature Center, 10 a.m. - noon

Page 4**March 19**

Monthly program, "Birding Southern U.S. Hotspots," by Bob Gress, 7 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center. Join us for dinner before the program at Panera Bread, 1605 N Rock Road, at 5:30 p.m.

Page 1**March 23**

Pawnee Prairie Park field trip. Meet at the west parking lot east of the Maize Rd and Pawnee intersection. Leader: Bill Langley, 889-5434, 78gmouse43@gmail.com

March 30

Oak Park invasive plant removal, 9 a.m. at the southwest corner of Oak Park

Page 2

March Meeting

Bob Gress will present our March program, "Birding Southern U.S. Hotspots." Florida, Texas and Arizona offer some well-known birding destinations featuring unique species in unique habitats. 2018 was a year to chase previously elusive species as well as some old favorites. This program features Limpkins, Florida Scrub-Jays, Red-cockaded Woodpeckers, Golden-cheeked Warblers, Colima Warblers, Elf Owls, Elegant Trogons, Red-faced Warblers, hummingbirds and lots more!

Bob Gress is a naturalist, photographer, and birder and is the former director of the Great Plains Nature Center. He holds an M.S. in Biology from Emporia State University. Along with David Seibel and Judd Patterson he cofounded the website BirdsInFocus.com which features over 2,100 species worldwide.



Bob Gress

Since retirement in 2012, he has expanded his interest in world birds while continuing to search for U.S. birds that have eluded him. He has photographed birds and mammals for publications for over 30 years and over 4,500 of his photos have appeared in a variety of publications including most major nature magazines and more than 50 books. He has coauthored: *Birds of Kansas*, *The Guide to Kansas Birds* and *Birding Hot Spots and Faces of the Great*

Plains: Prairie Wildlife. Bob was a major contributor of photos to *The Smithsonian Book of North American Mammals* and *The Guide to Colorado Mammals*.

The presentation will be on Tuesday, March 19, 7 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center. You can also join us for dinner at Panera Bread, 1605 N Rock

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 30, 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 south west corner of the park.

For information: Pete Janzen , 519-1970, pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net



Last year's honeysuckle crew

2018-2019 WAS Officers

President	Tom Ewert	670-3140	trewert@yahoo.com
Vice-president	Jim Marlett	942-2164	jmarlett@cox.net
Secretary	Rachel Roth	213- 9527	lilbluestem@gmail.com
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	Travis Ross	706-7813	rosstravis@yahoo.com
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	Daniel Housholder	648-0434	dhousholder@cox.net

Committee Chairs

AOK Rep	Tom Ewert	670-3140	trewert@yahoo.com
CNC	Travis Ross	706-7813	rosstravis@yahoo.com
Field trips	Cheryl Miller		avian67226@gmail.com
Hospitality	Sarah Blackmon	264-4408	
Membership	Carol Cumberland	685-4687	carol.cumberland@swbell.net
Newsletter	Patty Marlett	942-2164	pmarlett@mac.com
Programs	Jim Marlett	942-2164	jmarlett@cox.net
Naturalist	Shawn Silliman	620-442-4133	cnc@wichitaaudubon.org

www.wichitaaudubon.org

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

Nominating Committee

The nominating committee is asking your help in filling the following positions for the next program year: president, vice-president, treasurer, and two directors. Our program year is from July 1 to June 30. The president serves a two-year term, the vice-president and treasurer are one year terms, and the directors are three-year terms.

The committee chair is Atcha Nolan, 316-323-4921, qanolan@cox.net.

If you are interested in serving or have suggestions, please contact Atcha. She would be glad to explain the jobs and what they require.

The slate of officers will be presented at the April meeting and voted on at the May meeting.

Members Photography

Our May program will be comprised of photos from our own members. Have you ever wanted to share an image, or a few images, but didn't want to commit to a full Audubon program? This program is made for you, and we need your help! Please share with us. Jim Marlett is coordinating and organizing this special program. He'll put together all images into a single presentation and we hope you will share a few words when your photo or photos are featured. Please join the fun and email Jim with your ideas at jmarlett@cox.net!

Cast It In Kansas Edition

Wichita Audubon is participating in the “Cast It In” program to provide recycling bins for monofilament fishing line anywhere people fish. This line causes considerable damage to wildlife.

Lynnea Nelson, 12, of Carbondale, started the “Cast It In, Kansas Edition” after an encounter in April 2017. While fishing, she and her mom found an American Coot in distress at Lake Shawnee. It was snagged on fishing line that was discarded in the lake. Lynnea and her mom were able to cut the weed it was snagged on and bring it to the bank. Lynnea carefully held it with its head covered while her mom worked to free it. Eventually they were able to unhook it and immediately release it.

Lynnea started thinking about how much fishing line she has seen laying around where animals or humans could get tangled. So the 11-year-old started “Cast It In, Kansas Edition” to build and monitor bins at area lakes for the disposal of fishing line, making it safer for wildlife.

The Cast It In, Kansas Edition project began in Osage and Shawnee Counties. Lynnea plans to spread the program into other counties as bins are constructed, volunteers located and educated. She has received support from Audubon Chapters and the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks as well as a Go Fund Me Page and a grant from the PIG Difference Grant Program.

Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks through Chickadee Checkoff donated 30 Monofilament bins. Burroughs Audubon Society (Kansas City area), Wichita Audubon Society, Sperry-Galligar Audubon Society and Topeka Audubon Society have all contributed time and/or financial support to Cast It In, Kansas Edition.

Wichita Audubon has 10 bins. We have bins committed to and have volunteers to monitor them at Cowley County State Fishing Lake, Veteran’s Lake in Arkansas City, Lake Afton and Harvey County East. There are some Wichita area spots that already have bins installed by other groups. If you have suggestions for locations or would be willing to monitor and empty the bins contact Tom Ewert, 670-3140, trewert@yahoo.com



A fishing line bin



Tom Ewert with Lynnea Nelson

P.O. Box 47607
Wichita, KS 67201

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

Wichita Audubon Society

March 2019

Chaplin Nature Center Programs

Saturday, March 16, 10 a.m. - Noon

Bald Eagle nest viewing

Join us as we visit a local nest to observe adult and young Bald Eagles. The young eaglets will be several weeks old, so we should see some good activity. Spotting scopes will be set up at distance to not disturb them. Participants will meet at the Chaplin Nature Center parking lot and then take a 15-minute drive to a local park.



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