May 7
Warbler Walk at Oak Park
Meet at the pond at the north end of the park at 8 a.m.
Leader: Paul Griffin, 263-1251, pgriffin1@cox.net

May 13 - May 15
Extended Field Trip to Eastern Kansas Hotspots.
Leader: Kevin Groeneweg, 706-9116
kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net

May 17
Regular meeting, “Confessions of a Crazy Swamp Lady,”
by Dr. Mia Revels, 7:30 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center.

May 22
Quivira and Cheyenne Bottoms field trip.
Meet at the Quivira NWR headquarters at 8 a.m. and bring a lunch.
Leader: Jeff Calhoun, 737-1307, jecalhoun@wichita.edu

June 4
Sandhills State Park field trip.
Depart at 7 a.m. from the King’s X Restaurant at 21st and Amidon.
Leader: Cheryl Miller, avian67226@gmail.com

June 18
Bird, Butterflies and Breakfast
8:30 a.m. at Chaplin Nature Center. See page 3.

June 18
Party on the River - 5 p.m. till dark. See page 3.

Our May program will feature Dr. Mia Revels from Northeastern Oklahoma State University. Mia has spent her last ten summers traveling around Oklahoma’s bottomlands looking for Swainson’s Warblers, a bird of special concern for the state. Most of this work has been conducted in the Little River National Wildlife Refuge, where in 2001 Mia located and documented the first Swainson’s Warbler nest in the state since 1917! Swainson’s Warblers are difficult to study, since they inhabit the darkest, densest, least navigable parts of the bottoms. Mia thinks that she makes a great Swainson’s Warbler biologist because she doesn’t mind heat, isn’t allergic to poison ivy, is not terrified by the mere sight of a cottonmouth, and is not afraid of a little blood-letting by briar in search of these elusive swamp birds. She has located 7 previously undocumented locations for Swainson’s Warblers in Oklahoma since beginning the project, and has banded hundreds of individual birds, located and monitored many more nests, and investigated numerous aspects of Swainson’s Warbler breeding biology in Oklahoma.

Join us on Tuesday, May 17, 7:30 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center for “Confessions of a Crazy Swamp Lady.” You can also join Mia and other members for dinner at Doc Green’s, 10096 E. 13th, in the Waterfront at 5:45 p.m.
**Slate of Officers**
The nominating committee for 2011-2012 is comprised of Curt VanBoening, Cheryl Miller and Paul Griffin. They have presented the following slate of officers:

- President (2 year term): Jay Newton
- Vice-president (1 year term): Carol Cumberland
- Secretary (1 year term): Dennice Craig
- Treasurer (1 year term): Sharon Dilks
- Director (3 year term): Mike Heaney
- Director (3 year term): Bob Gress

The election will take place at the May meeting.

**Birdathon**
It’s not too late to make a pledge to one of the Birdathon teams. This fund-raiser is a very important source of funding for Chaplin Nature Center every year. 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@wichitaaudubon.org, or Kevin Groeneweg at 316-706-9116, kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net. For the Painted Bunting team contact Carol Cumberland, 685-4867, carol.cumberland@swbell.net or Patty Marlett, 942-2164, pmarlett@mac.com.

**Birdseed Sale Thanks**
Thanks to those who delivered our birdseed for the April sale: Kevin Groeneweg and Patty Marlett. We are looking for willing volunteers for next October. Call Carol Cumberland at 316-685-4867 to talk about a fun opportunity to volunteer with Wichita Audubon.

**Oak Park Cleanup**
A big thank you to everyone who helped with the Oak Park cleanup on March 19. We got rid of a lot of trash and made it look a lot better. The names of volunteers were:
- Patty Marlett
- Eddie Steagal
- Dale Randall
- Paul Griffin
- Kevin Groeneweg
- Jan Lister, Riversider
- Rosa McHenry
- Rob McHenry

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**2010-2011 WAS Officers**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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E-mail any officer: was@wichitaaudubon.org
Send address changes to Sister Patricia Stanley, 3700 E. Lincoln Apt 123, Wichita, KS 67218, pstanley@csjoseph.org
On June 18 we will begin the day with Birds, Butterflies and Breakfast at Chaplin Nature Center. Have breakfast on the porch, watching the birds come to the feeders, then stroll around the grounds to enjoy the birds, wildflowers and butterflies. Please let us know at least two days in advance so we can plan the food. Make reservations by calling Shawn at 620-442-4133, or email cnc@wichitaaudubon.org.

Later that day we are planning to celebrate 150 years of Kansas statehood on the sandy beaches of the Arkansas River. You can hike the 3/4 mile to the river or ride on the hay wagon. There will be a number of activities for children of all ages, centering around Kansas nature. After dinner Bob Gress and Patty Marlett will talk about owls, including some live ones from the Great Plains Nature Center.

Highlights include:

- Seining the Ark River
- Kids bone yard dig
- Horseback rides
- Scavenger Hunt
- Live Owls

Black Angus hotdogs and hamburgers from local Creekstone Farms will be served along with side dishes and homemade desserts.

Festivities begin with a social hour at 5:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m., then the owl program and activities that continue until after dark. Transportation will be available to get you to the activities, so don’t worry about long hikes. Also, if the weather is too hot or wet we will move from the sandbar to a more comfortable location.

Advance registration is required. Adult tickets are $8 and children under 16 are $4. Tickets may be purchased at Wichita Audubon meetings or by calling 620-442-4133 or email cnc@wichitaaudubon.org.
Chaplin Nature Center Cleanup

The April 2 spring cleanup at Chaplin Nature Center was a big success. Record breaking number of volunteers turn out to help get the Chaplin Nature Center in shape for the up-coming year. Seventy-six volunteers showed up on Saturday and began working on the trails, cleaning around the visitor center, and removing flood debris from the sandbar. A big thank you to the 31 Wichita Boeing employees, Arkansas City scouts, and the families and individuals who spent their Saturday volunteering at the center. Also, thanks to Boeing for providing lunch for all the volunteers.