

Wichita Audubon



Volume 45 No. 8 May 2011

MAY MEETING



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.

CNC UPCOMING PROGRAMS

June 18, Saturday

8:30 a.m. Birds Butterflies and Breakfast

5:00 p.m. until dark Party on the River

see page 3



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.

COMING EVENTS

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, jcalhoun@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.

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.

2010-2011 WAS Officers

President	Sandra Tholen	634-0049	stholen@cox.net
Vice-president	Carol Cumberland	685-4867	carol.cumberland@swbell.net
Secretary	Patty Marlett	942-2164	pmarlett@mac.com
Treasurer	Sharon Dilks	722-6927	johndilks@aol.com
Directors	Jeff Calhoun	737-1307	jecalhoun@wichita.edu
	Bob Gress	838-4130	bobgress@cox.net
	Kevin Groeneweg	706-9116	kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net
	Mike Heaney	733-6458	jeager@southwind.net
	Larry Londagin	729-9984	llondagin@cox.net
	Curt VanBoening	776-0993	curtvb55@yahoo.com
Committee Chairs			
Newsletter	Patty Marlett	942-2164	pmarlett@mac.com
CNC	Kevin Groeneweg	706-9116	kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net
Conservation	Curt VanBoening	776-0993	curtvb55@yahoo.com
Programs	Carol Cumberland	685-4867	carol.cumberland@swbell.net
Development	Mike Heaney	733-6458	jeager@southwind.net
Membership	Sister Patricia Stanley	744-2192	pstanley@csjoseph.org
Hospitality	Laura Groeneweg	687-4268	lgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net
Field Trips	Jeff Calhoun	737-1307	jecalhoun@wichita.edu
Finance	Duane DeLong	684-7456	duane.delong669@gmail.com
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, 3700 E. Lincoln Apt 123, Wichita, KS 67218, pstanley@csjoseph.org

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

PARTY ON THE RIVER

A Celebration of the 150th Birthday of Kansas

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.

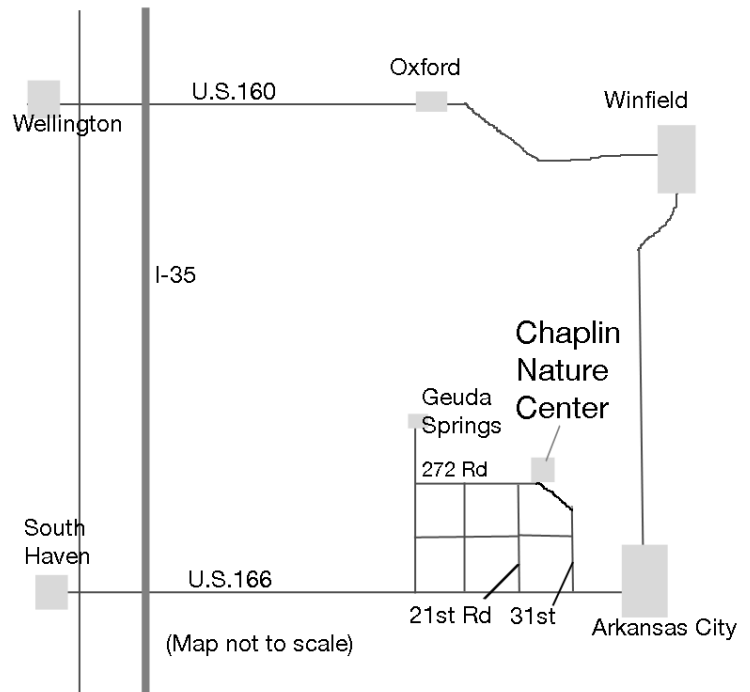
Highlights include:

- 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 is located 3 miles west and 2 miles north of Arkansas City.



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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.

