

Audubon

Vol. 61 No.8

May/June 2022

May 7

Woodson County Spring Migrants field trip. Meet at the Dillon's parking lot at Andover Rd and US 400. Bring a lunch. State park vehicle permit needed.

Leader: Mark Nolen,
765-346-7213,
nolen.mark@gmail.com

May 14 & June 11

Second Saturday Bird Walk in Chisholm Creek Park.

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**May 17**

Monthly program, Kansas Wildlife Federation's Backyard Habitat Program, by Laura Mendenhall, 7 p.m.

**June 3**

Twilight Kayak Float at Chaplin Nature Center

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June 11

Chisholm Creek Park CleanUp. Meet in the parking lot at ~9:45 (after the bird walk.) Bring gloves, trash bags and donuts provided.

Leaders: Brian & Nohora Talarico,
btalarico34@outlook.com

June 18

Open house for the new residence at Chaplin Nature Center, 1 - 5 p.m.

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**June 25**

Wildflowers, Butterflies, and Birds. Meet in the parking lot of the Great Plains Nature Center at 8 a.m. for a wildflower walk through Chisholm Creek Park. **Leader: Sandra Tholen,**
316-670-3140,
stholen@cox.net

May Meeting

Our May speaker is Laura Mendenhall, who will review the fundamentals of including native plants in your yard's formal landscaping, discuss common pitfalls to avoid when creating backyard habitat, and explain in detail how to implement the five tenets of the National Wildlife Federation's Certified Wildlife Habitat Program (food, water, cover, places to raise young, and sustainable practices) in your backyard!

Laura grew up in Olathe, Kansas where she cultivated a strong outdoor ethic after joining the Boy Scouts of America Venturing Co-ed Scout program at age 14. Following undergraduate studies in conservation biology and Spanish at Kansas State University and graduate studies in spatial analysis for conservation at Duke



Laura Mendenhall

University, Laura started her now 10-year career as a biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service first at the California Condor Recovery Program in Ventura, California and now in Kansas. Laura lives in rural Riley County where she enjoys hunting, birding, landscaping with native plants, and finding innovative ways to reduce trash. She currently serves on the board of the Kansas Wildlife Federation (KWF) and is a co-host of the

KDWP & KWF outdoors podcast, "Flatlander."

The presentation will be on Tuesday, May 17, 7 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center. The mask mandate has been lifted, but we are still not offering refreshments after the program. The program will also be live-streamed on YOUTUBE (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBzA8JCBgw-5aUHVW11M7jw>), or just search YouTube for Wichita Audubon Society. The recorded program will be uploaded to our FaceBook page later, and the recording will be available in both locations.

Open House at Chaplin Nature Center

Come see the new house at Chaplin Nature Center!. Shawn and Susan are hosting an open house on Saturday, June 18, 1 - 5 p.m. Get a guided tour and see what your support has helped to build. If you have any questions, call Shawn at 620-442-4133, or e-mail cnc@wichitaaudubon.org. There is a map to CNC on our website, www.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.

We Need Your Help!

You should have received a letter recently asking for support. Your donations are always needed and always appreciated. Just return your check in the enclosed envelope, or go online and donate through our website at wichitaaudubon.org.

You can also assist by supporting our Birdathon teams, who will be going out in May to raise money to support Chaplin Nature Center. 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.

For the Painted Bunting team contact Carol Cumberland, carol.cumberland@swbell.net, 685-4867. Our third team, the Roadrunners, are organized by Tom Ewert, trewert@yahoo.com, 670-3140.

2021-2022 WAS Officers

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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, 316-685-4867

2nd Saturday Bird Walks

On May 14 there is a conflict between our bird walk and the Great Plains Nature Center's event Walk With Wildlife. We will meet at 8 a.m. in the WEST parking lot off of Oliver Street (the first one by the picnic shelter). Walk With Wildlife is from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., so after the bird walk go join in the fun!

On June 11 our walk will proceed as usual. Meet in the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot at 8 a.m. The June walk will be followed by a park cleanup, so bring your gloves and stay to help keep things ship shape. Trash bags, along with donuts and drinks, will be provided by Brian and Nohora Talarico. We will be joined by volunteers from Special Olympics.

Questions? Mark Nolen, 765-346-7213, nolen.mark@gmail.com

Western Kansas field trip

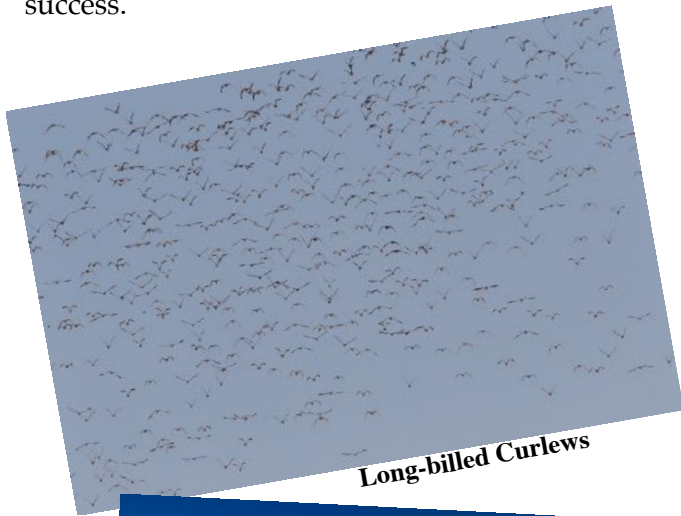
Sixteen of us spent 3 days exploring the wonders of Kansas. We started with rather quick jaunts through Quivira NWR and Cheyenne Bottoms. At Quivira we found Cinnamon Teal and Tundra Swans. At Cheyenne Bottoms there were two Whooping Cranes. From there we headed to Garden City and the home of Tom and Sara Shane, hosts to a famous Brown-headed Nuthatch who has been entertaining visitors since last October. It gave us excellent views, along with its Red-breasted and White-breasted brethren and many other species. From there we made a big loop west and south of Garden City and were treated to the sight of a huge flock of Long-billed Curlews - at least 1,000. They were flushed from their field by a pair of Prairie Falcons and impressed us with their numbers.

The next day we left at 5 a.m. for the prairie chicken blinds. We were split into three blinds. Some of us saw both Greater and Lesser chickens, some saw only Lesser. It was perfect weather and the birds performed admirably. Afterwards we toured Monument Rocks, Little Jerusalem State Park and other area wonders. Notable birds were Burrowing Owls, Say's Phoebe, and a surprising Long-billed Dowitcher.

The last morning we birded Scott Lake State Park with many species of ducks, an early avocet and Townsend's Solitaires. A big thank you to Pete Janzen for planning and leading this trip. It was a huge success.



Lesser Prairie Chicken



L to R: Tom Ewert, David Bergeson, Karl Herold, Cheryl Miller, Mary Herold, Barbara Gobbert, Patty Marlett, Herb Parsons, Jennifer Bruey, Susan Hammer, Rod Wedel, Jim Marlett, Kevin Groeneweg, Ernie Misek, Pete Janzen, & Sandra Tholen took the picture.



Monument Rocks

P.O. Box 47607
Wichita, KS 67201

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

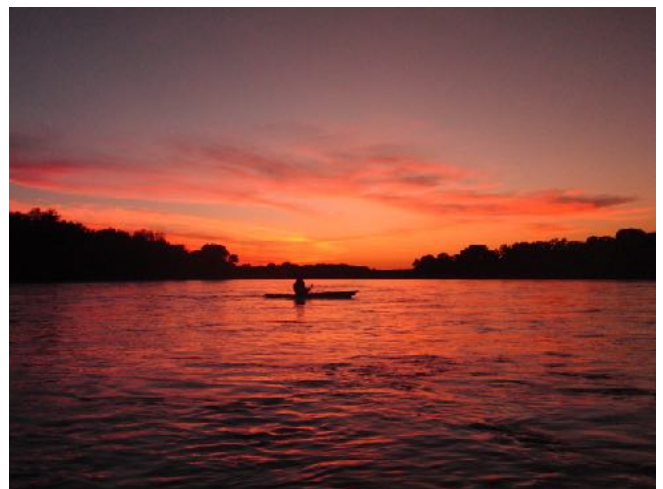
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Wichita, Kansas
Permit No. 921

Chaplin Nature Center Programs

Friday, June 3, 7 - 9:30 p.m.

Twilight Kayak Float

Enjoy a 3.5-mile float trip down the Arkansas River to take in the scenery and search for wildlife. This trip is open to beginners and experienced kayakers. Participants should bring drinking water, a complete change of clothes (including shoes), and be prepared to get wet and muddy. Space is limited. Pre-registration required. All proceeds help support the Chaplin Nature Center. Cost: \$25.00 per person.



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.