

Audubon

Vol. 60 No.7

May/June 2021

May 8 & June 12

Second Saturday Bird Walk in Chisholm Creek Park. Meet in the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot at 8 a.m.

Questions? Tom Ewert, 670-3140, trewert@yahoo.com.

May 18

Monthly program, "Shorebirds in the Tallgrass Prairie; seriously?," by Dr. Robert Penner.

7 p.m. live-streamed on Facebook and YouTube.

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**May 15**

Field trip to Chaplin Nature Center and the Arkansas City area. Meet at Chaplin Nature Center at 7 a.m. and bring a lunch. We'll look for warblers, tanagers and Painted Buntings.

Leader:

Kevin Groeneweg, 706-9116, kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net

June 4

Twilight Kayak Float at Chaplin Nature Center

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**June 5**

Field trip to the Derby Canoe Launch. Meet at the canoe launch on 71st at 7 a.m. for Painted Buntings, White-eyed Vireo and other southern species.

Leader: Tom Ewert, 670-3140, trewert@yahoo.com.

May Meeting

Dr. Robert Penner, Avian Conservation Manager at The Nature Conservancy in Kansas, will talk about the importance of the midcontinent, Kansas, and specifically the Flint Hills to shorebird conservation.

We will look at what we have learned from past shorebird surveys in the Flint Hills along with what we are learning from some of the Flint Hills Shorebird Conservation Initiative projects and how does this all relate to managing the tallgrass ecosystem for shorebirds and other wildlife.

Robert has been interested in birds since the age of fifteen. That interest led to degrees in Wildlife Management and Environmental Studies, both with an emphasis on ornithology. He has worked as The Nature Conservancy's Cheyenne Bottoms Preserve manager since 1996, increasing habitat for migrating shorebirds and nesting grassland



Robert Penner

birds at the world-renowned wetland. He oversees avian monitoring on other TNC preserves across the state and is author of *The Birds of Cheyenne Bottoms*.

Currently, Robert serves as chair of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network's United States Committee, which allows him to work on shorebird conservation issues on national and international scales. He also co-leads a Flint Hills shorebird conservation program with Monica Iglecia of Manomet.

The program will be live-streamed May 18 at 7 p.m., and will also be saved so you can watch it at your convenience. You can watch on the Wichita Audubon Facebook page, or on YouTube. The link for our YouTube channel is: www.youtube.com/channel/UCBzA8JCBgw-5aUHVW11M7jw

You can also find links on wichitaaudubon.org/events.

Nominations

The nominating committee has presented the following slate of officers:

President: Daniel Housholder

Vice-president: Kevin Groeneweg

Secretary: Barbara Gobbert

Treasurer: Patty Marlett

Board of Directors:

Nick Stroot and Bob Gress

Members have until May 15 to submit additional nominations. If there are no more nominations, at the program on May 18 we will consider the slate elected by unanimous consent. The new officers will assume their duties on July 1.

A big thank you to those who are leaving the board: Rachel Roth for her service as vice-president and Tom Ewert for his service as president and many years on the board.

We also want to thank this year's nominating committee for their work: Tom Ewert, chair, Jim Marlett and Shawn Silliman.

CNC Cleanup Thanks

Thirty-three volunteers showed up for the Chaplin Nature Center Spring Clean-up in April. The Visitor Center, trails, bridges and front flower beds all got spruced-up for the upcoming year. A big thank you to Cowley County Community College, Boy Scout Troop #328, Rex Herndon, Patty Marlett, Dwight Corrin, Novelene Ross, Debra Ringler, Steve Ruggles Family, and Joan Caldwell Family.



2020-2021 WAS Officers

President	Bob Gress	316-765-2046	bobgress@cox.net
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	Daniel Housholder	316-648-0434	dhousholder@cox.net
Committee Chairs			
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Hospitality	Sarah Blackmon	316-264-4408	
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Programs	Rachel Roth	316-213- 9527	lilbluestem@gmail.com
Naturalist	Shawn Silliman	620-442-4133	cnc@wichitaudubon.org

www.wichitaudubon.org

Send address changes to Carol Cumberland, 1106 Gretchen, Wichita, KS 67206
carol.cumberland@swbell.net, 316-685-4867

Birdathon

All our teams are making plans for this year's Birdathon. This fund-raiser is a very important source of funding for 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.

You can also make a donation online through our website and indicate that it is for Birdathon.

For the CNC team contact Shawn Silliman at 620-442-4133, cnc@wichitaudubon.org. For the Painted Bunting team contact Carol Cumberland, carol.cumberland@swbell.net, 685-4867, Our third team, the Roadrunners, is organized by Tom Ewert, trewert@yahoo.com, 670-3140.

New House at CNC

Construction of the new house at Chaplin Nature Center has begun! Materials have arrived and excavation of the basement was completed on April 15.



Thank You!

A big thank you to everyone who helped with the Chisholm Creek Park cleanup on April 10, especially the folks from Special Olympics. And a big thanks to Brian and Nohora Talarico, who organized the event and provided donuts and coffee! The door prize, a birdhouse decorated by Nohora, was won by Steven Walters.



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Chaplin Nature Center Programs

Friday, June 4, 7 - 9:30 p.m.

Twilight Kayak Float

Take in the scenery and search for wildlife during this 3.5 mile evening float down the Arkansas River. This program is for both first time kayakers and those with experience. Participants will get wet and muddy, so be sure to wear old clothes. Sandals or old shoes recommended. Space is limited. Pre-registration required. All proceeds help support the Chaplin Nature. 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.