

Wichita Audubon



Volume 45 No. 4 November/December 2010

NOVEMBER MEETING

Forget about winter and come enjoy the heat as we travel to Tanzania in Africa to experience the great migration on the Serengeti. Jim and Patty Marlett will share their experiences from a trip last February. Besides the enormous herds of wildebeest and zebra they saw all the big mammals, along with more than 220 species of birds. Join us on Tuesday,



November 16, 7:30 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center. You can also join us for dinner with Jim & Patty before the meeting at 5:45 p.m. at Doc Green's, 10096 E. 13th, in the Waterfront.

CNC UPCOMING PROGRAMS

November 6, Saturday, 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Astronomy Program

Join the Kansas Astronomical Observers for a night under the stars. Learn about the planets, constellations and other heavenly bodies. You are welcome to bring your own telescopes, or share the many that are there. You may want to bring a blanket and lawn chairs to sit on.

COMING EVENTS

November 6

Astronomy Program at Chaplin Nature Center, 7 - 8:30 p.m.

November 7

Cranes and Geese field trip to Quivira National Wildlife Refuge. Meet at Quivira headquarters at 3 p.m. for a drive through the refuge followed by the spectacle of thousands of Sandhill Cranes and geese coming in to roost. Leader: Patty Marlett, 942-2164, pmarlett@mac.com

November 16

Regular meeting, "Migration on the Serengeti," by Jim Marlett, 7:30 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

- see page 3

NO MEETING IN DECEMBER



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

NEW LISTSERV

Wichita Audubon has established a listserv to provide members with reminders about upcoming events like meetings and field trips. It can also be used to get people together for carpooling, and maybe occasionally to recruit volunteers. If you're thinking you can't stand anymore email, rest assured that this will not be more than a couple of emails a week at most, so we won't overwhelm your inbox!

You subscribe by sending a blank email (no subject, no content) to WASEvents-subscribe@wichitaudubon.org. You will receive an automated response asking you to confirm. After you confirm you will get a welcome email. To post to the list you send email to WASEvents@wichitaudubon.org.

We hope to see you online! If you have any problems or questions, ask Patty Marlett, 942-2164, pmarlett@mac.com.

BIRD SEED SALE

Help support Wichita Audubon and Chaplin Nature Center by buying your bird seed from us. We offer high quality seed, **delivered to your home** (within Wichita City limits.)

Please submit your order by **Tuesday, November 23.**

The seed will be delivered on **Saturday, December 4**

25 lbs Black Oil Sunflower - \$12

25 lbs Audubon Mix - \$10

25 lbs Safflower - \$18

Order by phone, mail or E-mail. Call Carol

Cumberland at 685-4867 or carol.cumberland@

swbell.net Mail: Wichita Audubon Society, PO Box 47607, Wichita, KS 67201

2010-2011 WAS Officers

President	Sandra Tholen	634-0049	stholen@cox.net
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E-mail any officer: was@wichitaudubon.org

Send address changes to Sister Patricia Stanley, 3700 E. Lincoln Apt 123, Wichita, KS 67218, pstanley@csjoseph.org

EXTENDED FIELD TRIP

This year the extended field trip is going to be closer to home, with visits to eastern Kansas hotspots during spring migration. We plan to visit Marais des Cygnes National Wildlife Refuge, the Overland Park Arboretum, Ft. Leavenworth and other places that you hear about on the listserv, but may never have visited. Join us May 13 - 15 (Friday through Sunday) on a hunt for those gorgeous spring warblers. The trip leader is Kevin Groeneweg. Please let him know if you are interested by signing up at a meeting, or by e-mail or phone: kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net, 687-4268.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

These events are all-day efforts to census all birds within 15-mile diameter circles. The results are reported to the National Audubon Society and Kansas Ornithological Society. Remember to dress for the weather and expect to do a fair amount of walking. A \$5 fee is due from each participant on most counts to defray data entry costs for the National Audubon Society. Most counts have a compilation at the end of the day. This is the 111th year for Christmas bird counts, and the 57th year of the Wichita count. For more Kansas counts, check the KOS website at www.ksbirds.org

DECEMBER 22, WEDNESDAY, 8 a.m. SLATE CREEK CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Meet at the Slate Valley Baptist Church, 7 miles south of Oxford on Summer St.

Compiler: Gene Young, 620-660-0547, youngg6264@yahoo.com

DECEMBER 18, SATURDAY, 7:30 a.m. WICHITA CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Meet at the Lawrence-Dumont Stadium parking lot. Compilation: 5:30 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center. Chili and beverages will be provided.

Compiler: Kevin Groeneweg, 687-4268, kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net

DECEMBER 18, SATURDAY, 6:45 a.m. HALSTEAD/NEWTON CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Meet at the Kaufman Museum, N. Newton. Participants pay a fee of \$7.50. Compilation 5:30 p.m. at the museum. Bring a sack lunch.

Compiler: Lorna Harder, 620-367-8479, lornah@hesston.edu

DECEMBER 19, SUNDAY, 7:30 a.m. EL DORADO CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Meet at the McDonald's in El Dorado, 2004 W Central. \$5 fee required for the National Audubon Society.

Compiler: Bill Langley, 316-889-5434, blangley@butlercc.edu

DECEMBER 19, SUNDAY, 7:30 a.m. WINFIELD/UDALL CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Meet at the Beech Science Center, Southwestern College at 7:30 a.m. \$5 fee required for the National Audubon Society.

Compiler: Max Thompson, 620-221-1856, maxt@cox.net

DECEMBER 26, SUNDAY, 8 a.m. ARKANSAS CITY CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Meet at Newman Park on Hwy 77, just north of the Arkansas River, at 8 a.m. \$5 fee required for the National Audubon Society.

Compiler: Gene Young, 620-660-0547, youngg6264@yahoo.com

JANUARY 2, SUNDAY, 7:30 a.m. RED HILLS CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Meet at the Indian Grill Restaurant on U.S. 160 in Medicine Lodge. Groups will depart at 7:30 a.m. \$5 fee required for the National Audubon Society.

Compiler: Pete Janzen, 832-0182, pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net

JANUARY 9, SUNDAY, 7:30 a.m. DERBY/BELLE PLAINE MID-WINTER COUNT

Meet at the Target parking lot at 2024 N. Rock Rd. in Derby. Compilation 5:30 p.m. at the compiler's home with BBQ provided.

Compiler: Jeff Calhoun, 737-1307, jecalhoun@wichita.edu

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GOOD NEWS FOR BLACK-FOOTED FERRETS

On September 17, Senior Judge Jack Lively released a decision that promises to secure a future for continued conservation efforts to establish and maintain a population of endangered Black-footed Ferrets on ranch property owned by Larry and Bette Haverfield, Gordon and Martha Barnhardt, and Maxine Blank in Logan County.

On March 3, 2008 the Honorable Charles E. Andrews of the Third Judicial District entered a restraining order in this case limiting the extermination activities by Logan County to the 90-foot vegetative barrier surrounding the Haverfield/Barnhardt/Blank Complex. The issue before District Court of Logan County was whether the temporary injunction entered by Judge Andrew should be allowed to stand as a permanent injunction or whether the temporary injunction should be overruled to allow Logan County Commissioners to begin its eradication program.

An uncontroverted fact was that extermination of all prairie dogs would result in the death of the Black-footed

Ferrets (one of the most endangered mammals in North America) on the property. Senior Judge Jack L. Lively determined that the injunction shall become permanent, and the defendant's (Logan County) request to allow it to exterminate prairie dogs on the Complex, pursuant to Kansas Statutes 80-1201 et seq., is denied.

Judge Lively noted that the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and its conservation partners are providing surrounding landowners with free control of prairie dogs on their lands. According to Ron Klataske, Executive Director of Audubon of Kansas, this control, and other measures including special fences designed by Audubon of Kansas, and management practices implemented by the landowners are all designed to make the ferret reintroduction project a win-win opportunity for landowners on both sides of the boundary fence. Prairie dog control near the property boundary, the special "prairie dog fences" and vegetative barriers have dramatically reduced immigration from the property to adjacent areas.