

Audubon

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October Program at the Sedgwick County Zoo

Join us as Pete Janzen shares his many pelagic birding adventures and the birds he has found.

As a group, seabirds are among the least known and enigmatic bird species in the world and North America. Pete will provide an overview of the seabirds and other wildlife found offshore on the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts, as well as coastal Alaska. Most of the

species of alcids, shearwaters, petrels, storm-petrels, gannets, boobies, cormorants, jaegers and skuas that occur in North American waters will be discussed, along with whales, dolphins, seals, and other pelagic wildlife. The program will also discuss other aspects of pelagic birding, some of the more popular pelagic destinations and conservation concerns.

Pete has been an active birder throughout the United States, Kansas, and the Wichita area since the late 1970's. He is the author of *The Birds of Sedgwick County and Cheney Reservoir* (2006), and (co-authored with Bob Gress), *The Guide to Kansas Birds and Birding Hotspots, Revised and Expanded* (2025). He has had a particular interest in pelagic birding since 1994, when he took his first pelagic trip from Monterey, California with Shearwater Journeys. Since then, he has been on nearly 20 offshore pelagic birding expeditions throughout the United States and Canada. In the past he has served as an officer of Wichita Audubon and the Kansas Ornithological Society and is currently the vice-president of WAS. He is a graduate of Wichita State University

Join us at 7 pm on Tuesday, October 20. Don't forget that we are holding our meetings at the Cargill Learning Center at the Sedgwick County Zoo. You can join us for dinner with the speaker at Jason's Deli, 7447 W 21st St N at 5:30 pm.

As always, a recording of the program will be available on [YouTube](#) (@wichitaaudubonsociety4372) the next day.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Information about all our activities is available on our [website](#). You can download a copy of our 2026-27 Schedule of Events [here](#).

October 3, 8 am Saturday Bird & Wildlife walk at Chaplin Nature Center

Join us for a bird and wildlife walk lasting 1 – 1.5 hours, weather permitting. Meet in the visitor's center. Wildlife photographers and beginning birders welcome! Ages 7 and up suggested due to the length of the walk.

For more information or to RSVP call or text Eden Johnson at 620-442-4133, or e-mail cnc@wichitaaudubon.org.

October 10, 8 am Second Saturday bird walk in Chisholm Creek Park

Expect 1-2 miles of walking on paved paths for about 90 minutes. No experience is necessary - beginners are welcome! Meet in the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot at 8 am.

Questions? Pete Janzen, pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net, 316-519-1970

Extended Field trip to SW New Mexico and SE Arizona July 24-August 1, 2027

There are still a few spots open for this fantastic field trip! On these trips each participant is responsible for the cost of their lodging, transportation and food, but there is no charge beyond that. We will organize the lodging. We will be traveling by car, and carpooling is encouraged. If you've never been on one of our extended trips, this is the one to try! Feel free to contact any of the organizers if you have questions.

This trip will visit the Mogollon Mountains near Silver City, New Mexico, and a number of locations in the Chiricahua and Santa Rita Mountains of Arizona. The trip will focus on southwestern bird species and other wildlife. We are limiting the total number of participants to no more than 16 for logistical reasons. The dates listed do not include the travel time to and from the birding locations. Watch newsletter for more information as plans develop. WAS has not visited this area since 2006.

You can sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0C4CADA92CAAF58-58081362-swnewmexico> or use the QR code

Leaders: Kevin Groeneweg, kgroeneweg1616@gmail.com 316-706-9116

Pete Janzen, 316-249-3550, pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net

Patty Marlett, 316-200-3419, pmarlett@mac.com



KOS Award to Patty Marlett

At the fall meeting of the Kansas Ornithological Society Patty Marlett was presented with the 2026 Avian Conservationist of the Year award. This award is given to an individual for making significant contributions to bird conservation and/or education. It reflects a long-time commitment to bird conservation or education in the state of Kansas. Last year's recipient was our own Pete Janzen. Significantly, this is the first time out of 19 awards that this has been given to a woman.

October 11, Sunday, 10 am Chaplin Nature Center Young Birders' Club

This group is open to all kids aged 8 - 17. Learn to navigate trails and wildlife habitats. Gain bird identification and outdoor skills. Build self-confidence. Participate in citizen science and conservation projects. Meets monthly on rotating Saturdays and Sundays. Bring binoculars (some available for use), comfortable walking shoes, water bottle and snacks, notebook, sunscreen, bug spray.

Sign up by call/text Eden Johnson at 620-442-4133 or email cnc@wichitaaudubon.org.

October 17, Saturday, 8 am Pracht Wetlands Park field trip

Meet at the parking lot, 9829 W 29th St N in Wichita. Pracht is one of the largest wetlands within an urban setting in the Midwest. Join us as we walk the mowed trails. Expect a good variety of wetland species and up to two miles of walking.

Leader: Pete Janzen, 316-249-3550, pete.janzen@sbcglobal.net



Fall Nature Day at CNC

More than 200 people came out to tag Monarch butterflies for our annual Fall Nature Day on September 26. The weather didn't cooperate, so there weren't too many wild butterflies, but besides tagging butterflies people got to participate in a Monarch feeding station and see caterpillars and chrysalises. A big thank you to the many volunteers, and especially Jeremy Coleman for bringing Monarchs, and Grant Tyler for his Monarch station with live caterpillars and chrysalises.



Renewal Reminder

Remember that all local WAS memberships renew on January 1, so if you haven't renewed or joined since August it is about time.

Membership prices:

Individual - \$30

Family - \$50

Student (18 & under) - \$10

Life membership - \$300

You can renew on our website

www.wichitaudubon.org using PayPal, or mail a check to Wichita Audubon Society, PO Box 47607, Wichita, KS 67201.

If you have further questions, ask our membership chair Carol

Cumberland,

carol.cumberland@swbell.net,

316-685-4867.

If you are a member of National Audubon, you are automatically a member of WAS and don't need to pay additional dues. National Audubon will send you renewal notices.

Don't forget we have a Life Membership category. For \$300, you will be a member for life, and will never have to remember to renew! All your money will stay local to help Wichita Audubon and Chaplin Nature Center.