

Audubon

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September 2017

September 9

Second Saturday Bird Walk in Chisholm Creek Park. Meet in the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot at 8 a.m. Questions? Kevin Groeneweg, 706-9116, kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net

**September 16**

Field trip to Quivira National Wildlife Refuge and Cheyenne Bottoms. Meet at the Quivira refuge headquarters at 8 a.m. Leader: Kevin Groeneweg, 706-9116, kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net

Page 2**September 19**

Monthly program, "Chaplin Nature Center," by Shawn Silliman, 7 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center. Join us for dinner with Shawn before the program at Panera Bread, 1605 N. Rock Road, at 5:30 p.m.

Page 1**September 23**

Monarch tagging-Nature Day Celebration at Chaplin Nature Center, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

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September Meeting

Our September program will be presented by Shawn Silliman, our very own naturalist. With a Master of Science in Environmental Studies from Friends University, Shawn has been working for the Wichita Audubon Society for 20 years. His primary role has been managing W.A.S.'s greatest conservation and education effort — the Chaplin Nature Center. In his role as a naturalist, he actively manages the property for species diversity and conducts a variety of nature programs for all audiences.

*Shawn Silliman*

diversity of habitats, the Chaplin Nature Center has become an ideal place for schools, scouts and the public to come and discover nature. Whether its tagging monarchs, taking groups on night hikes without flashlights or kayaking down the Arkansas River at dusk, the Center has helped people develop a deeper value and passion for the environment.

Audubon's great conservation effort began with the purchase of 200 acres along the sandy banks of the Arkansas River in 1973. Over the next 44 years the Society has developed the property into an education center that serves South-Central Kansas. With a natural

Shawn's program will focus on the Chaplin Nature Center. He will give a sneak preview of this year's upcoming public programs and share some of the sights that one might expect to see while walking on the trails. He will also provide an update of some recent biological surveys in and around the property.

The program will be on Tuesday, September 19, 7 p.m. at the Great Plains Nature Center. Join us for dinner at Panera Bread, 1605 N Rock Rd at 5:30 p.m.

Quivira NWR Field Trip

Join us on September 16 for a trip to two world renowned wetlands. Both Quivira NWR and Cheyenne Bottoms have been named Wetlands of International Importance by the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. At least half of all migrating shorebirds that travel the interior of our continent stop at one or both of these refuges. And mid-September is prime time for the fall migration as shorebirds head south from their northern nesting grounds. Meet at the Quivira NWR headquarters at 8 a.m. Bring a lunch - not many shopping opportunities here! And if you have an FRS radio, bring it, too, so we can communicate between vehicles. Our leader for the day will be Kevin Groeneweg, 706-9116, kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net



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

Facebook Live!

We are going to use Facebook Live to stream our programs this year. So if you can't attend a meeting you can still hear our speakers and be part of the experience. Just go to our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Wichita-Audubon-Society-288144603039/>. You can watch the program live or at a later time. The post will remain on the page indefinitely. Right now you can visit our page to see the program about the May field trip to Ohio that was presented at the July picnic.

We are just learning how to do this, so bear with us if it doesn't always go as planned.

Note that WAS has TWO Facebook pages. The standard page is the one referenced above, where the videos will be posted. On that page anyone can view the content, but only our administrators can post content. In order to give people a place to contribute content, such as asking questions or sharing sightings or pictures, we also have a closed group page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/628245680609341/>.

Only members of the group can view the content, but any member can contribute. All you need to do to join the group is to go to the page and ask to join. We are not trying to be exclusive - we are just working with the structure Facebook gives us.

Confused yet? If you search for Wichita Audubon in Facebook you should find the public page easily. If you stumble on the closed group page you'll know what it is and know to look for the other page to find the videos!

Chaplin Nature Center

Voted Best Local Tourist Attraction

The Cowley Courier Traveler newspaper held it's first ever Best of Cowley County contest this year. Several hundred people voted, casting over 20,000 votes in 130 categories. Our own Chaplin Nature Center was voted the Best Local Tourist Attraction.



2018 Extended Field Trip

Join us in Concan, Texas as we tour the Texas Hill Country. This area of the Edwards Plateau is where the junipers and oaks of the Hill Country meet the thick brush of South Texas. We will spend five nights at Neal's Lodges as we explore this bird-rich area to look for the specialty birds of both habitats. Our main target birds are the Golden-cheeked Warbler, endemic to Texas, and the Black-capped Vireo. We will also spend one evening at a local bat cave to observe the spectacle of Brazilian Free-tailed Bats. The famous Texas bluebonnets may be blooming, too. Contact the leader to sign up and receive addition information. Leader: Kevin Groeneweg, 316-706-9116, kgroeneweg@sbcglobal.net



Chaplin Nature Center Programs

*Saturday, September 23, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Monarch Tagging - Fall Nature Day Celebration*

Here is a perfect opportunity for families to discover the butterflies, birds and plants in Kansas. Participants can learn about the monarch migration and have an opportunity to capture and tag monarchs. In addition to the tagging, nature hikes focusing on birds, plants and other wildlife are scheduled for 10:00 am and 1:00 p.m. Lunch will be available for purchase. For more information call the center at 620-442-4133.



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.