



# Wichita Audubon Society

## *Annual Report 2017 – 2018*

This is the 42nd annual report of the Wichita Audubon Society and Chaplin Nature Center. This report highlights the activities for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. Chaplin Nature Center is owned and operated by the Wichita Audubon Society, with operations directed by the CNC committee of the board of directors.

### *July*

The annual butterfly count was held at Chaplin Nature Center. This citizen science project contributes data to the North American Butterfly Association. We saw 368 individuals of 38 species.

Our annual potluck dinner was held at Great Plains Nature Center, followed by a slide show of all the beautiful warblers seen on our May field trip to Magee Marsh in Ohio. We also tried out live streaming the program to Facebook. It was successful, so we made that a part of our programs, allowing those at home to join in.

We continued holding monthly bird walks at Chisholm Creek Park on the second Saturday of each month. It always draw a good crowd, ranging from beginners to expert



### *September*

Our field trip to Quivira NWR and Cheyenne Bottoms had twelve people attend. They saw lots of shorebirds, plus a Reddish Egret, a Sabine Gull, and many Sora and Virginia Rails.

The 2nd Saturday bird walk had sixteen people come to see lots of Brown Thrashers, Gray Catbirds, and Warbling Vireos on the move.

Shawn Silliman, our naturalist at Chaplin Nature Center, presented our first program of the year. He gave us an update on the property along with a sneak peak at upcoming CNC programs.

Fall Nature Day at Chaplin Nature Center had beautiful weather. Over 120 peoples attended, and they succeeded in tagging more than 100 migrating monarch butterflies.

Thanks to a grant from the VJ Wilkins Foundation we were able to replace a bridge across Spring Creek at Chaplin Nature Center. The project was made possible by volunteer help from Cowley County Community College, GE Aviation, and Pike Construction.

## October

The monthly program was a wonderful tour of the Galapagos Islands presented by photographer Jim Griggs.



A field trip to the Cross Timbers area around Toronto and Fall River led by Pete Janzen had several carloads. They found lots of lingering migrants, ranging from Sanderlings to Pine Warbler.

WAS members manned a booth at EcoFest at the Bartlett Arboretum and enjoyed interacting with members of the public.

## November

A sunset/moonrise hike at Chaplin Nature Center began when the sun went down and the almost full moon rose. It was cloudy and damp, so we didn't see the sun or the moon, but more than 60 people enjoyed hiking to the river and roasting marshmallows on the sandbar.

Our annual field trip to Quivira National Wildlife Refuge to see cranes had spectacular success - 24 Whooping Cranes! We also saw Black-bellied Whistling Ducks, Sandhill Cranes and thousands of geese.



The 2nd Saturday bird walk had a good turnout of 15 people despite the drizzle and chilly temperatures. We saw several species of sparrows, many Yellow-rumped Warblers and Cedar Waxwings

Jim Mason presented the November program, telling us about the beautiful butterflies of Kansas.

## December

December is the month for Christmas Bird Counts, a citizen science project that has contributed greatly to our understanding of the winter distribution of birds. The Wichita count had dry and warm weather, although windy. Highlights were two Common Loons, two Brown Thrashers, and a Chipping Sparrow.

The Winfield count found 98 species, including Red Crossbills. The Slate Creek count had 106 species. Later in the month the weather got colder, water froze, and the number of species found dropped. The Red Hills count had 87 species and the Marion count found 74 species. Other counts in our area included Quivira National Wildlife Refuge, Newton, El Dorado, Sedan and Arkansas City.

## January

Bob Gress showed his fantastic photos of Alaska for our January program.

Pete Janzen led a field trip to Cheney Lake for winter gulls. They found thousands of Snow Geese and Common Mergansers, along with Lesser Black-backed and Iceland Gulls and 32 Bald Eagles.

Chaplin Nature Center held its annual Eagle Watch program on the last Saturday of January and the first Saturday of February. A total of 110 people came to search for Bald Eagles along the river.

## February



The February program was presented by Dr. Jeff Ettling, Executive Director of the Sedgwick County Zoo. He illustrated the many ways our zoo contributes to wildlife conservation.

We once again held a Backyard Bird Workshop at Great Plains Nature Center. About 200 people attended. Kids built 50 Carolina wren houses and made a huge number of pinecone feeders.

## March

After the 2nd Saturday bird walk we held a cleanup for Chisholm Creek Park and removed a lot of trash from our adopted park.

Chaplin Nature Center held a Bald Eagle nest watch at a park in Arkansas City. The pair of eagles and their two chicks put on an amazing show. Each adult brought a fish to the nest and fed the chicks while the crowd looked on.

Our March program, 'A Decade of Discovering Secrets of Scissor-tailed Flycatchers', was presented by Dr. Mike Husak of Cameron University in Lawton, OK. His stories about their lives was fascinating.

## April

Early April was snowy with below freezing temperatures, but 30 people showed up for the Chaplin Nature Center spring cleanup.

Our April speaker was Nic Allen, president of KOS, who told us about his recent trip to the Mexican state of Oaxaca, with pictures of many beautiful birds.

Twenty-two birders traveled to the Hill Country of Texas, led by Kevin Groeneweg. With good weather and great locations we saw a lot of birds, notably Golden-cheeked Warblers and Black-capped Vireos - lifers for many.

## May

Paul Griffin led the Warbler Walk in Oak Park. Eighteen people joined him for looks at a Magnolia Warbler, American Redstarts, and Yellow Warblers, along with nesting Cooper's Hawks and Ruby-throated Hummingbirds at Paul's feeders.

Three Birdathon teams - the CNC team, the Painted Buntings and the Roadrunners - did an outstanding job of raising money for Chaplin Nature Center. This year's total was over \$6000.

The Wild Edible Plant walk at Chaplin Nature Center had six people sampling nature's delicacies.

The May program was a journey through seasons and through the state, presented by Kevin Groeneweg.

## June

Cheryl Miller led a field trip to the Derby canoe launch and surrounding areas. Despite the heat they saw those Painted Buntings.

At Chaplin Nature Center, two evenings were devoted to kayaking down the Arkansas River with the setting sun as a beautiful backdrop. This fundraiser for CNC is always popular.





# Chaplin Nature Center



**During the 2017 fiscal year more than 4,300 people visited Chaplin Nature Center from all over Kansas and the United States. Shawn Silliman, our naturalist, presented 91 programs that reached 1,930 people. Volunteers donated 401 hours doing projects that ranged from trail clearing to staffing the visitor's center to serving food to rebuilding the Spring Creek bridge. Three groups totaling 200 people used the nature center for business meetings, weddings and reunions.**



Listed below are the schools and community groups who visited CNC and benefitted from its programs:

- Arkansas City Recreation Center
- Cowley County Community College
- Arkansas City Schools
- PACE Home School
- Wellington Schools
- Wichita Home School
- Winfield Boy Scouts
- Arkansas City Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts
- Sacred Heart, Arkansas City
- Arkansas City Christian Academy
- Arkansas City Library
- Conway Springs High School
- Oxford Schools
- KAW Nation Child Care
- Wichita Advent Christian Academy
- Kansas Veterans Home
- Central Burden School
- Mulvane Schools
- Etzanoa



# Thanks to our donors!

## *Eagles (\$500 and up)*

Aveda Salons  
Michael Bayouth Charitable Fund, Wichita, KS  
Nancy Beard Estate  
Doris Burnett, Manhattan, KS  
Carol & Hal Cumberland, Wichita, KS  
Dillon's Community Rewards  
Marsha Ebaugh Estate  
Margaret Gray, Salem, UT  
Rhea Hartley, Wichita, KS  
Marlene Hayes, Wichita, KS  
Rex Herndon, Arkansas City, KS  
Julia Hoppes, Wichita, KS  
Daniel & Martha Housholder, Wichita, KS  
Mosby Lincoln Foundation, Ed Lincoln, Wichita, KS  
Jim & Patty Marlett, Wichita, KS  
Lattner Family Foundation, Delray Beach, FL  
Tom & Billie McDavitt, Wichita, KS  
Calvin & Mary Olmstead, Wichita, KS  
Phillips 66 Volunteer Grant from Ryan & Alisha Soule,  
Arkansas City, KS  
Walmart #978  
Gary Webb, Wichita, KS  
Louise Wherry, Wichita, KS



## *Hummingbirds (\$300-\$499)*

Boeing Gift Match  
Patricia Butin, Wichita, KS  
Stephen English, Wichita, KS  
Tom Ewert, Wichita, KS  
Charles & Terri Miller, Winfield, KS  
Ed & Savilla Stegall, Wichita, KS

## *Cardinals (\$100 - \$299)*

Keith Cooley, Hutchinson, KS  
Maxine DeLong, Wichita, KS  
Rogers Family Dentistry,  
Arkansas City, KS  
Steven & Barbara Dietz, Merriam, KS

Sharon Dilks, Wichita, KS  
Bill and Judy Docking,  
Arkansas City, KS  
Bev DuGay, Wichita KS  
Marlene Ewert, North Newton, KS  
Laura & Ken Ferguson, Wichita, KS

Bob Gress, Wichita, KS  
Kevin & Laura Groeneweg,  
Wichita, KS  
Allan Helsel, South Haven, KS  
Karl & Mary Herold, Wichita, KS  
Hank Hoesli, Wichita, KS

### *Cardinals continued*

Jon Jantz, North Newton, KS	Sue Ann Nicely, Oklahoma City, OK	Mary & Ben Rogers, Overland Park, KS
Bill Langley, Wichita, KS	Sally Ottaway, Wichita, KS	Jeff & Vonda Silliman, Wichita, KS
Greg & Linda Leighton, Wichita, KS	Carol Owens, Wichita, KS	Bill & Gayla Sutton, Topeka, KS
Terry & Sam Mannell, Topeka, KS	Suzie Peak, Wichita, KS	Brian & Nohara Talarico, Wichita, KS
Barbara Martin, Hesston, KS	Diane Pedicord, Oklahoma City, OK	Taylor Drug, Arkansas City, KS
Carol Milbourn, Mesa, AZ	Innes Phillips, Wichita, KS	Robert Waltner, Mulvane, KS
Charlotte Milne, Halstead, KS	Becky & Dick Price, Wichita, KS	Rod Wedel, Newton, KS
Chris Moeller, Wichita, KS	Jefferson PTO, Arkansas City, KS	Margaret & Richard Wieland, Wichita, KS
Elmer Morris, Arkansas City, KS	Gay Ritchey, Wichita, KS	Arkansas City Retired Teachers Association, Arkansas City, KS
Galaxie Business Equipment, Nathan French, Winfield, KS	Dale Roark, Augusta, KS	Karen Zeller, Arkansas City, KS

### *Meadowlark (\$25 - \$99)*

Madeline Akers, Wichita, KS	Rebecca Ediger, Wichita, KS	Atcha & Michael Nolan, El Dorado, KS
Judy Algrim, Bel Aire, KS	John Edmundson, Wichita, KS	Loretta Pendergraft, Wichita, KS
AmazonSmile Foundation	Jane Edson, Wichita, KS	Jared Piancone, Wichita, KS
Arkansas City COC-CVB	Kurt & Cindy Freeland, Arkansas City, KS	Roosevelt PTO, Arkansas City, KS
Arkansas City Lioness Club	Maurice Goff, Wichita, KS	Nancy Reinecker, Wichita, KS
Ed & Marilyn Armstrong, Mulvane, KS	Bill Gress, Wichita, KS	Richard Rempel, North Newton, KS
Renee & David Baade, Newtown, CT	Joanne Hackerott, Wichita, KS	Sharon Revell
Lorrie Beck, Wichita, KS	ComfortCare Homes, Inc., Wichita, KS	Cynthia Rhodes, Whitewater, KS
Jack & Donna Bender, Halstead, KS	Pete Janzen, Wichita, KS	Judith Richards, Wichita, KS
Neda Jo Bills, Arkansas City, KS	Harold & Lorine Kieler, Wichita, KS	Joseph Riedl, Leon, KS
Jeremy Birket, Wichita, KS	Hans & Karen Kraus, Valley Center, KS	Dan & Shirley Rogers, Valley Center, KS
Bruce Bittle	Harry Ledeker, Arkansas City, KS	Robert Ross, Augusta, KS
Patrick Boyarski, Wichita, KS	Hugh & Joyce Lent, Wichita, KS	Carolyn Rundle, Wichita, KS
Fred Bunting, Mahomet, IL	Cindy, Glenn & Alan Lessenden, Platte City, MO	Ed & Kim Shank, Wichita, KS
Richard Chamberlain, Wichita, KS	David & Marjorie Lidgett, Wichita, KS	Philip St. Romain, Wichita, KS
Nancy Clarkson, Arkansas City, KS	Kathy Massey, Derby, KS	Charles & Sara Swartz, Ponca City, OK
Margie Kay Conyac, Andale, KS	Shannon McPartland, Wichita, KS	Roger & Laurie Theis, Bel Aire, KS
Larry & Ruby Crow, Wichita, KS	Max & Sherry Kay Milleir, Wichita, KS	Sandra Tholen, Wichita, KS
Jacob & Victoria Denton, Wichita, KS	Ernie Misek, Wichita, KS	Sherman Volz, Wichita, KS
Don DeWitt, Wichita, KS	Mike & Jennifer Munson, Arkansas City, KS	
James & Connie Douthitt, Wichita, KS	Jim & Dene Nelson, Wichita, KS	





**In Memory of Walker Butin**

Pat Butin

**In Memory of Stedman & Hazel Chaplin**

Carol Milbourn, Mesa, AZ

**In Memory of Milford & Donna Ediger**

Rebecca Ediger, Wichita, KS

**In Memory of Larry Gray**

Margaret Gray, Salem, UT

Marian & Craig Murdock, Mapleton, UT

**In Memory of William L. Hayes**

Marlene Hayes, Wichita, KS

Carol & Hal Cumberland, Wichita, KS

**In Memory of Hope Leighton**

Larry & Ruby Crow, Wichita, KS

Bev DuGay, Wichita, KS

Julie Hamblin, Wichita, KS

Drs. Daniel & Martha Housholder, Wichita, KS

Greg & Linda Leighton, Wichita, KS

Linda Leighton, Wichita, KS

Cindy, Glenn & Alan Lessenden,  
Platte City, MO

**In Memory of Jana McCabe**

William McCabe, Derby, KS

**In Memory of Max & Orville Milne**

Charlotte Milne, Halstead, KS

**In Memory of Larry Peak**

Suzie Peak, Wichita KS

**In Memory of Barbara Silliman**

Carol & Hal Cumberland, Wichita, KS

Sandra Tholen, Wichita, KS

**In Memory of Don Vannoy**

Bruce Bittle

**In Memory of Glenn & Pearl Webb**

Gary Webb, Wichita, KS

**In Memory of John Wherry**

Louise Wherry, Wichita, KS

**Gifts in Kind**

Rex Herndon, Arkansas City, KS

**Bequests**

The Estate of Nancy Beard

The Estate of Marsha Ebaugh



## Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2018

### Profit & Loss Statement

#### Ordinary Income

Membership Dues	3,352.37
Contributions	34,952.61
Sales/Rental/Misc	3,962.60
Birdathon	6,152.69
Grants	5,500.00
Fund Raisers	10,039.85
<u>Gross Income</u>	<u>\$63,959.58</u>

#### Expense

Fund raising/Program/Misc	839.38
Office Supplies/Postage	1,491.00
Printing/Copying	3,983.52
Accounting	1,335.00
<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>\$7,648.90</u>

#### CNC Expense

CNC Programs	567.58
CNC Insurance	4,582.89
Office Expense	732.00
Telephone	346.97
Utilities	4,919.98
Employee Compensation	43,958.40
Medical Reimbursement Acct	2,550.00
Repairs & Maintenance	22,739.18
Depreciation	13,478.72
<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>\$94,030.19</u>
<u>Total Expense</u>	<u>\$101,679.09</u>

#### Other Income/Expense

Interest & Dividends	9,645.60
Capital Gain (realized)	18,907.07
Capital Gain (unrealized)	13,857.58
Bequest	30,272.65
Transfer to Endowment Fund	-13,872.10
Fees	-1,461.39
<u>Net Other Income</u>	<u>57,349.41</u>

**Net Income** **\$19,629.90**

### Balance Sheet

#### Assets

Current Assets	
Checking	18,356.27
Petty Cash - CNC	100.00
<u>Total Checking/Savings</u>	<u>\$18,456.27</u>

Other Current Assets	
Inventory	70.44
Prepaid Insurance	3,314.36
<u>Total Other Assets</u>	<u>3,384.80</u>

Total Current Assets \$21,841.07

Fixed Assets	
CNC Land	75,231.00
CNC Buildings	80,729.95
CNC Furniture/Equipment	27,986.06
<u>Total Fixed Assets</u>	<u>\$183,947.01</u>

#### Endowment Funds

Endowment Funds Raymond James	631,367.70
<u>Total Endowment funds</u>	<u>\$631,367.70</u>

**Total Assets** **\$837,155.78**

#### Liabilities & Equity

Total Current Liabilities	1,380.02
Equity	
Perm. Restricted Net Assets	478,470.43
Temp. Restricted Net Assets	152,897.27
Unrestricted Net Assets	184,778.16
Net Income	19,629.90
Total Equity	835,775.76

**Total Liabilities & Equity** **\$837,155.78**

### Officers:

President: Tom Ewert  
 Vice-President: Jim Marlett  
 Secretary: Rachel Roth  
 Treasurer: Kevin Groeneweg  
 Directors:

Gregg Friesen	Atcha Nolan
Karl Herold	Bill Langley
Daniel Housholder	Travis Ross

### Committee Chairs:

Bird Seed Sales: Carol Cumberland  
 CNC: Travis Ross  
 Field Trips: Cheryl Miller  
 Hospitality: Sarah Blackmon  
 Membership: Carol Cumberland  
 Newsletter/Web: Patty Marlett  
 Programs: Jim Marlett  
 Naturalist: Shawn Silliman

#### CNC Committee:

Travis Ross, Chair, Patty Marlett,  
 Steve Johnson, Lisa Vetter, Shawn  
 Silliman.