



The Official Newsletter  
of the  
Kansas Ornithological Society

# The Horned Lark

613 Tamerisk, Junction City, KS 66441-3359

March 1997

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This newsletter is printed on recycled paper

## From The Keyboard -

Caution! People at Work. That sign should be anywhere that your KOS Board of Directors or any of the committees, groups and individuals connected with KOS have been lately. We've stepped into the new year with lot's of ideas and action to back it up.

We moved out of 1996 with some great Christmas Bird Counts and you'll have to read the *Bulletin* for more details on that! The Kansas Bird Records Committee (KBRC) has been very active reviewing some of the great sightings of recent months but as always if you don't submit the information they can't review it or act on it. Galen Pittman has a good update on what could best be called Kansas Review Species. You'll also find a copy of the KBRC report form towards the back of the newsletter. Use it.. please.. reproduce it... often. What and when do you need to report a bird? Read Galen's article.

The KOS Board met in Wichita on February 15th at the Great Plains Nature Center, location for the 1997 KOS Annual Meeting in early October. It is a wonderful facility and you will enjoy the setting and the birding company! But let's not get the cart before the horse. Under separate mailing several weeks ago you should have received the announcement of the spring meeting which is a joint meeting with the Wilson Ornithological Society in Manhattan in April. The local committee has been active for over a year already and we are excited to have an ornithological gathering of this magnitude in Kansas. More details are located within this issue.

The subject has been discussed of having more weekend workshops on such subjects as bird identification, general field ornithology, etc. Tom Shane arranged one some time back and similar workshops in neighboring states have been very successful. Let the Newsletter editor or any board member know if you'd be interested in more workshops.

You should also all be getting a separate mailing very soon, if not already, about an opportunity in the playa lakes. This plus a final KBBAT wrap up is just more opportunity to get out with other birders and learn more about Kansas and its birds.

Finally something very dear to my heart... computers. Before the next issue of this newsletter comes out KOS should have a World Wide Web site. At this location you can find out more about the KOS, access the latest Kansas Rare Bird Report and the most recent issues of KOS publications. Check out the KOS Checklist and learn how to join this great organization. Dave Rintoul, along with Dave Seibel and myself have been working on this. If you want to know its address and can't wait 'til the June issue, drop me an e-mail! Have a good spring! *chuck*

### Who's Who in KOS - 1997

**President**, Roy Beckemeyer, 957 Perry, Wichita, KS 67203

**Vice-president**, Greg Farley, FHSU, Dept of Biological Science, Albertson Hall, 600 Park St, Hays, KS 67601-4099

**Corresponding Secretary**, Karen Ganoung, Box 96, Hoisington, KS 67544

**Membership Secretary**, Margaret Wedge, 1645 Louisiana, Lawrence, KS 66044

**Treasurer**, Edwin J. Miller, 218 Bermuda Dr, Independence, KS

#### **Board Members:**

Bill Busby, 626 East 1900 Rd, Baldwin City, KS 66006

John Schukman, 14207 Robin Rd, Leavenworth, KS 66048

Pete Janzen, 3137 N Mascot, Wichita, KS 67204

Dr. Richard F. Johnston, 602 Dyche Hall, Univ of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045-2454

**Business Manager**, James Barnes, 1425 S Wichita, Wichita, KS 67213, 316-265-4059

**Editor, *The Bulletin***, Max Thompson, 1729 East 11th St, Winfield, KS 67156

**Editor, *The Horned Lark***, Chuck Otte, 613 Tamerisk, Junction City, KS 66441, 913-238-8800, OTTE@JC.NET

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS!**

## **Dues are Due!**

They call them dues for a good reason It's because they are due... now. Please be sure to pay your KOS memberships dues for 1997 if you have not already done so. The March newsletter will be the last one received by unpaid members. Also special thanks to members who have alerted us to changes of address as that both saves KOS money and ensures that you receive your newsletter in timely fashion. to notify of change of address, please contact Margaret Wedge, 1645 Louisiana St., Lawrence, KS 66044 (913-842-0382) or James Barnes, 1425 S. Wichita St., Wichita, KS 67213 (316-265-4059).

While we are on the subject of dues and membership let's welcome the following as new KOS members! David and Elsa Durkee - Elkhart, Solomon Valley Birdwatchers - Kirwin, Joel Jorgensen - Blair, Nebraska, Jennifer Matiasek and Michael & Jennifer Sevigny - Hays. Also rejoining our ranks after a brief absence are: Dwight & Cindy Moore and Morgan Puderbaugh - Emporia, Suzi & Myron Plooster - Boulder, CO and Stan Senner - Anchorage, Alaska. It's good to have you back!

We should also note the passing of three long time KOS members. Theodore Sperry of Pittsburg, KS had been a member since 1950 as had Madge Hilbish of Burlington and Yates Center. Annie Laurie Steele of Hays had belonged to KOS since 1977. We are saddened by these losses.....

## **PERU: Lowland Rainforest to High Andes**

Roger and Jan Boyd from Baker University, Baldwin City, KS. will be leading their 2nd Natural History tour to Peru this coming July. The trip will originate in Miami July 19, 1997 and return August 3rd. Areas to be visited include Manu National Park, containing the highest recorded biodiversity of any park in the world; Cuzco area of the Andes at 10,000 ft. elevation and including the spectacular Incan ruin of Machu Picchu as well as the cloud forests of Abra Malaga, northwest from Cuzco; concluding along the Pacific coast at Paracas National Park, one of the largest seabird colonies in the world. There are over 1,400 species of birds and nearly 20 species of primates recorded for the areas visited. Manu is one of the least hunted areas in South America. Jaguars and tapirs still occur with some regularity. On our trip to similar areas last summer we identified 54 species of flycatchers, 33 species of tanagers, 25 species of hummingbirds, 19 species of parrots, 18 species of ant-followers and the list goes on. Don't miss this opportunity of a lifetime. Cost from Miami is \$3,025.00 per person (dbl. occ.) and includes airfare, guides, accommodations, meals, tips etc. Call today, only a couple of spaces still remain. If interested contact Roger Boyd for complete information at (913)594-3172 or e-mail at:

BOYD@HARVEY.BAKERU.EDU

*This trip is announced as a courtesy for those KOS members interested. KOS has no financial involvement in this event.*

**The 78th meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Society and the Annual Spring Meeting of the Kansas Ornithological Society will be in Manhattan, Kansas on 17 - 20 April, 1997. If you need more information contact Chuck Otte, Greg Farley or <http://www.dce.ksu.edu/dce/conf/bird/>**

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## DeLorme's Kansas Atlas & Gazetteer Debuts

Most birders who have traveled to other states are familiar with the DeLorme Company and their maps. For those of you who may not own one or more DeLorme atlases let me elaborate. The DeLorme company, headquartered in Freeport Maine, published their first state atlas in 1976 with the Maine Atlas and Gazetteer. Kansas became the 30th state to be so mapped by the DeLorme Company when the Kansas Atlas was released in February.

For anyone who travels, especially the backroads like birdwatchers do, these atlases become valuable tools. One of the real problems in Kansas has been the lack of detailed maps. USGS (US Geological Survey) topographic maps of the entire state are certainly available but a 1:24,000 scale and single sheet design makes them rather unwieldy. Each sheet is roughly 7 by 9 miles. The detail is incredible but it would take a good portion of the back seat of my car to carry the whole state.

There have also been county maps available that showed roads, major landmarks, etc., but once again 105 sheets were hard to manage and the scale was often so small as to make them virtually unusable. A now out of business firm in Topeka used to make these state maps into a small atlas which was better than nothing, but far from what was needed.

Enter the DeLorme company. Their atlases, depending on the state, are in a scale anywhere from 1:320,000 (1 inch to 5 miles) down to 1:100,000 scale (1 inch per mile). The Kansas Atlas (and Nebraska) are done on a 1:200,000 scale so 1 inch = 3.2 miles. This scale is very usable. It is fine enough to show pretty good detail (I found my parent's 1/4 mile long driveway in Nebraska), yet compact enough to be thrown in the car with the rest of the birding paraphernalia. Each of the 65 pages of maps covers roughly 30 by 44 miles. If you were so inspired you could by two extra copies of the atlas, piece all the pages

together and have a nice wall mosaic of the entire state 11 feet wide and 6 feet high! Hmmmmmm.....

The features on the map are wonderful. They show permanent water, intermittent water (including names for draws, gullies and ravines that I didn't even know were named!) Land use is color coded so that you can distinguish woodland from rangeland from crop land. In counties where the roads have been officially named those names are included (with the exception of some short roads or where space is a limiting factor.) They show all the major (and some minor) land features. Topo lines are included at 120 foot elevation changes. Grid line coordinates are set up so that you can identify blocks very quickly that are roughly 5 by 6.5 miles in size, which are handy if you are trying to give somebody directions, (map 36, G5 gets you to the south end of Milford Lake in a hurry!)

Well, I could go on for another page about the qualities of this wonderful tool. The maps are available from most bookstores, at the retail price of \$16.95. I have also seen them in other states where sporting goods are sold. The American Birding Association Book store carries a complete line of the atlases. Or you can contact the DeLorme Company directly at 1-800-452-5931 or on their WWW site at <http://www.delorme.com> where they have lots of information and an on-line order form.

Other nearby states that are currently available include: Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, Texas, actually all states "west" of Kansas except New Mexico. I must confess that I do own atlases of 7 of the states and eventually plan to have a complete collection. Yes, I am a map-aholic, and no, neither I nor the KOS is receiving anything for this fine mention! The atlas is a great asset and I imagine that many Kansas birders will soon have one in their car!

Chuck Otte

### **"The Bird's Nest " will be back next issue**

The *Horned Lark's* youth feature "The Bird's Nest" apparently migrated south for the winter and is not going to believe the groundhog's prediction for an early spring. I think it is safe to say that the Bird's Nest will be back in the state for the next issue!

## KBBAT Blockbuster Weekend

The Kansas Breeding Bird Atlas Project (KBBAT) is about to wrap up. There aren't very many more of these Blockbuster Weekends coming up so you'd better grab this opportunity.

### **KBBAT Southwest Region Blockbuster Weekend**

**June 27 - 29, 1997**

Contact John Zimmerman, Division of  
Biology, Ackert Hall, Kansas State  
University, Manhattan, KS 66502-4901

Office 913-532-6659  
Home 913-537-0238

## KOS Items Available

If you would like to purchase KOS T-shirts, sweatshirts, window stickers, etc. then you need to contact the KOS Business Manager, James Barnes, at 1425 S Wichita, Wichita, KS 67213, 316-265-4059, or via e-mail at [barnowls@juno.com](mailto:barnowls@juno.com)

If you are also having problems getting your newsletter or bulletin let James know. And if you want to purchase back issues he is your contact also.

Be sure to look for the KOS display at the upcoming KOS/WOS meeting in Manhattan in April! There will be items for sale there as well!

## North American Migration County 1997

An early warning note regarding the North American Migration Count, to be held on Saturday, May 10, 1997. Last year 173 volunteer counters censused 23 Kansas counties, and found 102,848 birds during the NAMC. Since the NAMC was initiated in KS in 1993, we have had counts in the following 31 counties (although not in all counties in all years):

Barber, Douglas, Finney, Ford, Geary, Greenwood, Greeley, Hamilton, Harvey, Jefferson, Kearny, Labette, Leavenworth, Linn, Lyon, Logan, McPherson, Morris Montgomery, Morton, Neosho, Pottawatomie, Reno, Riley, Saline, Scott, Sedgwick, Shawnee, Sherman, Stafford, and Washington.

This year we would like to cover all of these counties and more, if possible. Therefore I am sending out this message to remind you to keep that date (May 10) open on your calendars, to try to convince you to volunteer as a county coordinator if your county is not listed above, or to contact your county coordinator and volunteer if your county is listed. Names of county coordinators are available upon request, just send a note to me at [drintoul@ksu.edu](mailto:drintoul@ksu.edu) and I can get that information to you asap. If you have any other questions about this event, please do not hesitate to ask. Thanks.

Dave Rintoul

## Tagged Trumpeter Swans

Tagged Trumpeter Swans have been showing up in Kansas this winter. These birds have been released from several re-establishment programs and those folks want to know where the swans show up. A good contact is Madeleine Linck with the Trumpeter Swan Society in Minnesota. If you find a tagged Trumpeter and can read the number contact Madeleine at:  
[mshlinck@lenti.med.umn.edu](mailto:mshlinck@lenti.med.umn.edu)  
or  
3800 County Rd 24  
Maple Plain, MN 55359

**Remember KOS....** If you would like to help the Kansas Ornithological Society 's future growth consider leaving a memorial trust for the Society or including the KOS in your will. If you would like more information feel free to contact any of the Board Members.

## Birding in the Red Hills

### Part 2 - Barber County

by Pete Janzen

Going east from Coldwater on US 160 to Medicine Lodge will take you on one of the most scenic sections of highway in the state, as it bisects the heart of the hills. There are several good birding roads that intersect the highway. A scenic lookout is on the north side of the road in central Barber Co., and might be worth a look, although birding isn't usually very good there. Four miles east of the Barber/Comanche Co. line on 160, you can turn north, on a very scenic six mile drive to Sun City. In Sun City, I recommend a stop at Buster's Restaurant, one of those unforgettable local places. Stuffed Bobcats, lots of Remington prints and other western paraphernalia, and a group of the nicest farmhands and cowboys you ever met. That could be a side effect of the 24 oz. beers available for a whopping \$1.50 apiece. Buster died last year, but his son moved here to keep the place running, to the vast relief of people who come from far and wide to patronize this famous establishment.

From here you may take a very scenic paved county road that follows the Medicine River southeast into the town of Medicine Lodge., or return to US 160, and go a little over a mile east on 160, to the Deerhead/Aetna road, and proceeding south from the highway. The road passes through a prairie dog town about 10 miles south of the highway. Look for Ferruginous Hawk, as I have seen them here often, including several interesting June sightings. Twenty miles south of the highway you will intersect the Hardtner road described in the Comanche county tour (December, 1996 issue), 2 miles from the Barber/Comanche line.

The Gyp Hills Scenic Auto Tour is a designated scenic drive that begins and ends on US 160, looping south from the highway about 3 miles east of Medicine lodge, going southwest for approximately 8 miles on a paved road, turning west on a fairly good dirt road, and then zigzagging west and north for about 20 miles, until US 160 is reached again near Deerhead. This is the best road to look for large flocks of Mountain Bluebirds in the winter, often numbering in the hundreds. In years when the cedar berry crop is good they are very, very common throughout all of the hills country. Large numbers of Robins, and a few Yellow-rumped Warblers are present in winter also. Northern Shrike has been seen on all three Christmas counts, always in the more rugged hill country, so examine all shrikes seen in winter carefully.

A good spot for Painted Bunting can be reached by taking the first portion of the Gyp Hills tour. From the corner 8 miles south of US 160, take the gravel road 1 mile west, then turn north on a minimum maintenance road. After a mile or so you cross two tiny bridges, then

cross a cattle guard, after which you are on an oil well access road. Look for the buntings in the vicinity of the bridges, but if you follow the road around a dome shaped hill called Flowerpot Mound, the road climbs a ridge and enters an area of numerous cedar groves, where a lot of Painted Buntings can be found. You will likely have to walk the portion of the road on top of the ridge. A little local history involves some Kiowa tribesman burning a settler to death on top of this mound, in the era when they still had hegemony here. Blue Grosbeaks and Bewick's Wrens are also common here in the summertime.

A couple of other spots in Barber County are worth mention. A few blocks east of the Indian Grill Restaurant in Medicine Lodge, turn right onto a county road that goes south 1 mile, then turns east. A large marsh is south of the road here at this corner, where you might find various herons and egrets in summer, and Northern Harriers in the wintertime. From here, go 1.5 miles east, to where the road turns south again. In a mile or so, the road has a 'Y'. Take the right leg of the 'Y', which proceeds along the Medicine River for a stretch, then dead-ends. This seldom traveled road is a good place to find riparian species, such as White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Chickadee, Barred Owl, and so on. Brushy thickets east of the road here often have good-sized mixed flocks of sparrows during the winter months. Another good riparian area is reached by going 3 miles north of Medicine Lodge on Highway 281, then turning east, proceeding about one half mile to a bridge over Elm Creek, which has outstanding riparian habitats. Lots of Chuck-wills-widows may be heard here in the pre-dawn hour, as well as Barred Owls, and an excellent variety of passerines.

Finally, Barber County State Lake, on the north edge of Medicine Lodge, has some good timbered and brushy areas around it, which attract many birds, especially toward the upper end of the lake. Just take the turn off from Highway 281 on the north edge of town, and follow the park drives around the west side of the lake as far as they will go, then walk around some, especially across the footbridge from the last parking lot to an extensive stand of dense timber. A variety of waterfowl may be expected on the lake in migration and winter.

I hope this article is of assistance to you if you are planning on exploring this interesting area. There are many things yet to be learned about the birds here, and the possibility that you will make a real contribution to our knowledge of birds in this part of the state is very good. If you visit here, I hope you are as impressed with the scenery and the birds as much as I have been.

**KOS WINTER BOARD MEETING**  
*February 15, 1997*  
*Great Plains Nature Center*  
*Wichita, Kansas*

Attendance: Roy Beckemeyer, Greg Farley, Max Thompson, Mike Rader, James Barnes, Richard Johnson, Margaret Wedge, Bill Busby, Pete Jantzen, John Schukman, Chuck Otte, Karen Ganoung

President Roy Beckemeyer called the meeting to order at 10:11; his opening remarks included a reminder to the board that the fall KOS meeting, October 3-5, 1997, would also be held at the GPNC.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the fall board meeting, October 5, 1996 in Hesston were read and approved as read and as printed in the December, 1996 issue of the *Horned Lark*.

**Treasurer's Report:** Edwin Miller, treasurer, was absent because of illness; his report, attachments A & B, was presented by Roy Beckemeyer. Discussion concerned investing the endowment funds with twin goals of good return and safety. It was suggested that every newsletter could display a graph to inform members of the current status of the endowment fund. The finance committee has the authority to choose an investment strategy, and will present their decision to the board. Max Thompson was instructed to direct this process.

**Business Manager:** James Barnes presented a detailed report concerning bulk mailings, low inventories of T-shirts, window stickers and checklists. 600 new brochures are ready for use. Two complete sets of bulletins, no photo copies, are on hand. Back issues, stored at KU since 1949, are overflowing their storage area. By consensus, Mark Robbins, of The Museum of Natural History at KU, was instructed to keep 10 complete sets, and dispose of the remaining issues. Back issues of *The Bulletin* are free to a member who didn't receive one. Max Thompson moved that the price of a complete set of back bulletins be \$125 plus shipping, and a single replacement issue be \$2. Motion was seconded and carried.

**Membership Secretary:** Margaret Wedge pointed out that KOS needs up to 25 more life membership pins before the fall meeting; Diane Seltman may know details on purchasing these. Roy Beckemeyer moved that Margaret Wedge and James Barnes each inquire about pricing, then confer and place an order. This motion was seconded and carried.

**Dues:** A discussion dues notices made these points:

\*Membership brochures can be marked with a code, so the treasurer can tell which location produced the membership application.

\*James Barnes will place the brochures in several Wichita business locations, but each board member can help distribute brochures.

\*A separate mailing from the treasurer, instead of an insert in the December newsletter, is an added expense but seems to produce better results.

\*A separate mailing in January is a better time than in December, but this needs a change in the by-laws; a proposed change requires a 2/3 vote by the members, and 30 days written notice.

\*Margaret Wedge moved that separate dues mailings be in January instead of in December. The motion died for lack of a second. Chuck Otte moved that Article 2 Section 4C of the By-laws be changed from January 1 to March 1 to read, "C. Annual dues shall be payable to the treasurer by March 1." Motion seconded and passed. Notice of this proposed change will be in the June newsletter.

Margaret Wedge inquired if her membership year-end data should include new memberships from the fall meeting. If so, her statistics would be different from the treasurer's data, and these need to agree at least annually. By consensus, the board agreed the year-end membership data should include new memberships from the fall meeting. Roy Beckemeyer moved that the report from the membership secretary, attachment C, be accepted. Motion seconded and carried.

**Newsletter Editor:** Chuck Otte, newsletter editor, stated that the next issue should be sent in a week to the Business Manager for publication. Pete Jantzen is now a special columnist replacing the loss of John Rakestraw (who has moved to Indiana) and his column Wing Tips.

**Bulletin Editor:** Max Thompson stated that the March issue is at the press in Winfield and will be ready for publication in early March. There is enough manuscript left for the June issue. The Bulletin is free to each KOS member or contributor.

**Playa Lakes survey:** Tom Flowers, a KOS member from Meade, asked for the privilege of using the KOS mailing list to ask for volunteer help in a survey of the Playa Lakes, to document the migratory birds using the Playa Lakes in late April through May. Information on this project could be placed in the newsletter. Mike Rader moved to supply the KOS mailing list for this purpose; motion seconded and carried.

**Bird Records Committee:** Pete Jantzen presented a report from the Bird Records Committee (BRC). Concern had been expressed about lack of written documentation, misidentified birds being published in the Bulletin, lack of documentation for common birds seen out of season, and a possible use of publishing error corrections. It was pointed out that since KOS is the bird records committee sponsor high standards need to be maintained particularly if a BRC report leads to a change on the checklist. Pete Jantzen moved that the Bulletin editor publish only those records that are submitted first to the BRC. After an observation that the Bulletin editor should have complete authority over what is published, the motion died for lack of a second. Roy Beckemeyer moved that the board accept this defining statement: The Bulletin articles will continue to be accepted at the discretion of the editor; the bird records Committee is free to accept or reject articles from the Bulletin for considerations that may change the checklist. This motion was seconded and carried.

**Correspondence:** Roy Beckemeyer presented 4 items of correspondence received:

1 - News of funds received from the estate of Madge Hilbish, who died in Yates Center on 26 December, 1996. Although not a charter member, she was a KOS member since 1950 and deserves an obituary printed in the Newsletter. Roy will send a list of charter members, compiled by Dwight Platt, to the membership secretary and to the Newsletter editor.

2 - An invitation from Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks to set up a KOS information and promotional items booth at an upcoming event. There was no interest shown by the board.

3 - The American Museum of Natural History asked for copies of the KOS newsletters; the Museum will be added to the mailing list.

4 - Tom Shane asked about the status of the KOS library, including journals and newsletters from other sources. He stated that because some are stored in the bird division, and others are stored in the Science library, this literature is not easily accessible for research. He suggested that all KOS material be placed together and identified as the KOS library. A member commented that all such literature is KU property to bind and store as they wish. Richard Johnston offered to investigate this issue; perhaps the librarian is not aware of the specific factors.

Richard Johnston distributed memos, attachment D, of his idea for a KOS sponsored regular newspaper column, perhaps called BIRD CHAT, for the purpose of providing information on ornithological topics. Such a column needs to be entertaining enough to engage the interest of the general public, and specific enough to educate the readers. Remarks of enthusiastic board members included:

- \*send 3 sample columns and poll the media;
- \*might be submitted electronically;
- \*lead time needs to be at least 3 months;
- \*Mark Schupas, Pratt office of WLP, might coordinate this;
- \*Keep a local (KS) emphasis to attract local interest.

Chuck Otte will explore the distribution aspect; Greg Farley will inquire about interest in Hays; Richard Johnston will begin some sample columns; the Board will review progress at the April meeting.

**KBBAT:** Bill Busby reported on the progress of the KBBAT Kansas Breeding Birds Atlas project; it may need to be extended to a 6th year to complete the remaining 5% of the 750 blocks, especially in the SW region. The proposed publication date is 1999 by University Press in Lawrence. More information will be in the next newsletter.

Partners in Flight is planning its 3rd meeting; Regional Bird conservation plans are in progress, and one of these is the Flint Hills area.

Margaret Wedge remarked on the necessity to pursue any KOS applications found on the Bird Feeder Surveys; Elmer Finck will send them a brochure each.

Pete Janzen observed that the BRC needs a permanent archive, besides Max Thompson's at Southwestern College. Max offered to send a free list, on request, of birds seen in any county in Kansas.

Chuck Otte mentioned that recommendations and bills now in the state legislature concern endangered species, and seem conservative.

**KOS Meetings:** Greg Farley described some of the KOS plans for the Spring meeting in Manhattan, April, 17-21, the promotional sale items will include the revised checklists, membership brochures, pertinent books. T-shirts and sweat shirts are to be ordered and printed by the business manager. Field trips and transportation plans have been arranged. The KOS will meet May 1-3, 1998, in Barber County, and October 2-4, 1998, in Lawrence.

**Christmas Bird Counts:** Max Thompson expressed concern that of the 54 Christmas bird counts, totaling 165 species, that he has received, some are done by only one person. One person cannot really provide a good enough coverage for an accurate count.

Mike Rader moved the meeting adjourn: motion seconded and carried: meeting adjourned at 12:50.

After a lunch of sandwiches and soft drinks, provided by Roy Beckemeyer, the group enjoyed a tour of the facility in progress, led by Bob Gress, GPNC director.

*Respectfully submitted, Karen Ganoung, Corresponding Secretary  
Kansas Ornithological Society*

## Cyber-birding Update

For those of you not on the KSBIRD-L discussion list yet you need to drop me a note so we can get you added. This Kansas birding discussion group has recently grown in size and activity with recent discussions on what's a "countable" bird and who cares, top 10 list of birds you'd like to see in Kansas and recent sightings that make everyone wish spring was closer. If you are connected to the Internet but you're not on line with the Kansas Birds discussion group drop me a note at [otte@jc.net](mailto:otte@jc.net) to join the fun!

As I mentioned earlier several of us are working on a World Wide Web homepage. Some of it was based on some information Dave Rintoul already had on line for the Northern Flint Hills Audubon Society. So what can you find? Well how's this for a sampling: information on the Kansas Bird Records Committee (KBRC), what birds should be documented and a copy of the KBRC Report form in Adobe Acrobat PDF format, the KOS Checklist, a listing of regional rare bird alerts plus the transcript of the most recent update from each of those alerts and soon you'll also be finding copies of this newsletter as well as

the *Bulletin*. Short term plans are to have full KOS member and membership information at this site. Long term we'd like to create an electronic library with the back issues of the *Bulletin* and the *Horned Lark*. The only thing needed is time and money!

Here's where some of these interesting web sites are located. Some of the URL addresses are long and complicated so once you get there save these bookmarks in your Web Browser.

**KOS Checklist and KRBC Report form:**

[http://www-personal.ksu.edu/~drintoul/kos/kos\\_pubs.html](http://www-personal.ksu.edu/~drintoul/kos/kos_pubs.html)

**Rare Bird Alert transcripts:**

<http://www-personal.ksu.edu/~drintoul/falcon.html#rba>

**Electronic Birding links:**

[http://www-personal.ksu.edu/~drintoul/kos/kos\\_birdlink.html](http://www-personal.ksu.edu/~drintoul/kos/kos_birdlink.html)



## FALL BIRDING ROUNDUP

August through November, 1996

by Chuck Otte

The fall period may best be described with just a few words and just let you read the table. Those few words would be: hummingbirds, loons, crossbills and grosbeaks. Unfortunately, I can't let it go that easily and must make further comment!

Once again the fall season brings in another set of major loon sightings that the Kansas Bird Records Committee (KBRC) will have to sort through. In the month of November Red-throated, Pacific, Common and Yellow-billed were all reported to the hotline and all from Cheney Reservoir. While the first three were reported from other areas Cheney recorded the Loon Grand Slam.

The range of Western Grebes and Clark's Grebes became even better defined with reports coming in on Western's from 11 locations. This doesn't include the ones I saw at Milford. Clark's Grebes were reported from 2 locations this fall.

While waterfowl numbers were up most rarities were apparently "ducking" observation. Noteworthy were Tundra and Trumpeter Swans from Quivira as well as Tundra's being heard overhead at night in the Wichita area. Both in the spring and fall of '96 I had the opportunity to hear large night time flights overhead. If you have never sat there in the darkness and listened to wings, squeaks, pips, chips and short calls overhead for several hours on end it is an experience that will stay with you the rest of your birding years. It will also humble you as you try to identify what is flying over and realize how little we really know.....

While Whooping Cranes are expected at The Bottoms and Quivira they are not expected in eastern Kansas at Clinton Lake. However that is where one juvenile showed up and was seen by a good number of birders and non-birders alike. This appearance was at the same time that a Whooping Crane was found in Springfield, Missouri also!

Shorebird rarities were somewhat unimpressive but there were good gulls being found, again, and this trend would carry on into the winter period. Sabine's Gulls were noted at Glen Elder and Quivira, Black-headed Gulls were found at Clinton and Melvern, a Little Gull at Glen Elder and a Parasitic Jaeger at El Dorado. A Black-legged Kittiwake showed up at the end of November at Tuttle Creek Reservoir (and would be later joined by one or two more which were all highly visible well into December.)

Hummingbirds, Garden City. What more do I need to say. Showing that we indeed have much to learn about the avian migrants through the western edge of our state one KOS Rare Bird Alert mentioned seven (yes 7) species of hummingbirds. On August 31st the Shane's had Rufous, Broad-tailed and Ruby-throats at their feeders. Six Calliope's apparently visited Garden City in the fall of 1996. This should be encouraging enough to anyone to start planting more hummingbird friendly flowers and vines, put out more feeders and buy sugar in 50 pound bags!

Red Crossbills and Evening Grosbeaks also staged one of their better invasions in recent years. Crossbills showed up early and by early December were found in many locations in the eastern 3/4 of the state. Evening Grosbeaks also made a good showing getting as far east and north as Milford Lake (by late December).

Keep in mind that if you see a rarity we would all appreciate it if you would fill out the KBRC rare report form later on in this issue and submit your sighting. Any of the rarities listed in Galen's article (or in this report) are not officially recognized by the KOS until accepted by the KBRC.

With this installment of the Birding Roundup I hand off the reins. I took this over from Scott Seltman as a short term temporary assignment 4 years ago. It has been fun and a tremendous learning experience. But I can no longer do this AND get everything else done with the *Horned Lark* and our soon to be on-line World Wide Web site.

Chris Hobbs will be taking over the Birding Roundup authorship with the next issue. Chris is highly qualified to fill this role. He has recently been serving on the Kansas Bird Records Committee, he performs a similar function for our sister group in Missouri and helps Lloyd Moore edit state data for Audubon Field Notes. Having Chris take over will improve this article greatly!

Chris will be gleaning the information from several sources but would prefer to hear directly from you. Scott Seltman will still be maintaining the Rare Bird Alert so be sure to call those sightings in, but also submit them to Chris. His address is Chris Hobbs, 13121 Swartz Rd, Bonner Springs, KS 66012. He can be e-mailed at: [chobbs@ix.netcom.com](mailto:chobbs@ix.netcom.com)

Okay, Chris, it's all yours!

**BIRDING HIGHLIGHTS / August 1996 through November 1996**

<u>Species</u>	<u>Location and number</u>	<u>Observers</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>County</u>
Red-throated Loon	1 on w side of Cheney Res	PJ	11-16-96	Kingman?
		still present	11-29-96	Reno
Red-throated Loon	1 at Hillsdale Res	LM	11-18-96	Miami
Pacific Loon	1 at Wilson Res	MR	11-02-96	Russell
Pacific Loon	1 at sw corner of Cheney Res	DV	11-17-96	Kingman
Pacific Loon	1 at Melvern Res	LM	11-18-96	Osage
Common Loon	1 in basic plumage	MR	8-07-96	Russell
	this bird was present during most of July			
Common Loon	1 at Clinton L	MM,GP	11-02-96	Douglas
Common Loon	5 at Cheney Res	PJ,CG	11-02-96	Reno?
Common Loon	1 at Wilson Res	MR	11-02-96	Russell
Yellow-billed Loon	1 on w side of Cheney Res	PJ,CG	11-29-96	Kingman
Horned Grebe	20+ at Cheney Res	PJ,CG	11-02-96	Reno?
Horned Grebe	15 at Hillsdale Res	LM	11-18-96	Miami
Horned Grebe	35 at Melvern Res	LM	11-18-96	Osage
Red-necked Grebe	2 at Cheney Res	PJ	10-20-96	Reno?
Red-necked Grebe	1 at Clinton State Park marina	DKI	11-17-96	Douglas
Red-necked Grebe	1 at Wyandotte County State Lake	LM	11-17-96	Wyandotte
Red-necked Grebe	3 at Wilson Res	MR	11-23-96	Russell
Eared Grebe	5 at Cheney Res	PJ,CG	11-02-96	Reno?
Western Grebe	2 ad with chicks, Lake McKinney	SP,MM	9-12-96	Kearny
	a third adult was also present			
Western Grebe	4 at QNWR	HMF	9-27-96	Stafford
	3 still present		9-28-96	
Western Grebe	1 at Clinton Lake	LM	10-28-96	Douglas
Western Grebe	4 at QNWR	MR	11-02-96	Stafford
Western Grebe	1 at CB Pool #1B	CH,DB	11-03-96	Barton
Western Grebe	2 at Perry L	MM,GP	11-02-96	Jefferson
Western Grebe	2 at Clinton L	MM,GP	11-02-96	Douglas
Western Grebe	1 at Cheney R	PJ,CG	11-02-96	Reno
Western Grebe	12+ at Wilson Res	MR	11-03-96	Russell
Western Grebe	3 at Clinton Res	MM	11-10-96	Douglas
Western Grebe	2 at LaCygne Cooling Lake	MM,GP	11-09-96	Linn
Western Grebe	3 at Pomona Res	DKI,m.ob.	11-10-96	Osage
Western Grebe	7 at Cheney Res	DV	11-10-96	Reno??
Western Grebe	6 at Tuttle Creek Res	TC	11-17-96	Pott./Riley
Western Grebe	5 at Hillsdale Res	LM	11-18-96	Miami
Western Grebe	3 at Pomona Res	LM	11-18-96	Osage
Clark's Grebe	2 at Wilson Res	MR	11-03-96	Russell
Clark's Grebe	1 at Cheney Res	PJ	11-16-96	Reno?
		still present	11-17-96	
Neo-tropic Cormorant	2 at QNWR	BB	8-11-96	Stafford
Neo-tropic Cormorant	1 at Glen Elder Res	MRO	9-10-96	Mitchell
Tri-colored Heron	3 adults, 2 possible juveniles, CB	SS	8-03-96	Stafford
Tri-colored Heron	2 at QNWR	MR?	8-10-96	Stafford
Tri-colored Heron	1 at QNWR	JO,CO	8-17-96	Stafford
Tri-colored Heron	1 at QNWR	LM	9-12-96	Stafford
Black-crowned Night-Heron	1 at QNWR	MR	9-29-96	Stafford
White-faced Ibis	1,000 at QNWR	BT	8-18-96	Stafford
White-faced Ibis	350 at QNWR	MR	9-29-96	Stafford
Black-bellied Whistling Duck	1 at QNWR's Big Salt Marsh	MRO,m.ob.	8-10-96	Stafford
Tundra Swan	several heard flying over at night	JN	10-27-96	Sedgwick

Tundra Swan	1 imm at QNWR	MR	11-02-96	
	still present		11-03-96	
Tundra Swan	4 at QNWR	SP,MR	11-23-96	Stafford
		still present	12-01-96	
Trumpeter Swan	2 at QNWR	SP,MR	11-23-96	Stafford
		still present	12-01-96	
Ross' Goose	5 at John Redmond Res	LM	11-18-96	Coffey
American Black Duck	1 at QNWR	MR	9-29-96	Stafford
Mottled Duck	1 at QNWR	BB	8-10-96	Stafford
Tufted Duck	1 m at Lake Afton	JN	10-27-96	Sedgwick
Oldsquaw	1 at Tuttle Creek Res	TC	11-17-96	Riley
	this bird was seen regularly clear into January			
Oldsquaw	1 at Wilson Res	MR	11-30-96	Russell
Black Scoter	1 at Perry L	MM	11-10-96	Jefferson
Black Scoter	1 at Shawnee Mission Park	ML	11-13-96	Johnson
Surf Scoter	3 at Cheney Res	PJ	11-16-96	Reno?
Surf Scoter	1 at Paola Sewer Ponds	AS	11-24-96	Miami
White-winged Scoter	1 male at Cheney Res	PJ,CG	11-02-96	Kingman
White-winged Scoter	1 at Lone Star Lake	PW	11-20-96	Douglas
		still present	11-23-96	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	4 over I-435 & SMP	CH	9-27-96	Johnson
Cooper's Hawk	1 over I-435 & SMP	CH	9-27-96	Johnson
Northern Goshawk	1 over Chaplin Nature Center	JN	9-29-96	Cowley
	this is quite early for Kansas, especially this far south			
Northern Goshawk	1 e of Rock Springs Ranch	MR	10-20-96	Geary
Broad-winged Hawk	1	SP,MM	9-13-96	Morton
Broad-winged Hawk	50 over I-435 & SMP	CH	9-27-96	Johnson
Merlin	1 at QNWR	GF	10-12-96	Stafford
Merlin	1 in Hugoton	MR	11-10-96	Stevens
Merlin	3	SS	11-22-96	Pawnee
Prairie Falcon	1 at QNWR	WAS	9-21-96	Stafford
Prairie Falcon	2 nw of Lawrence	MM	11-17-96	Douglas
Northern Bobwhite	adult with <b>8 fledglings</b>	SS	10-16-96	Pawnee
Scaled Quail	4 n of Elkhart	MR	11-10-96	Morton
Sora	1 at QNWR	MR	9-29-96	Stafford
Sandhill Crane	southbound near Larned	SS	10-10-96	Pawnee
Sandhill Crane	50,000 at QNWR	MR	11-02-96	Stafford
Whooping Crane	3 at Cheyenn Bottoms Pool #1	SC	10-19-96	Barton
Whooping Crane	10 at QNWR	Media reports	11-01-96	Stafford
Whooping Crane	4 at CB	Media reports	11-01-96	Barton
Whooping Crane	2 at CB	MR	11-02-96	Stafford
Whooping Crane	1 juv at Clinton Lake, upper end	DM	10-31-96	Douglas
	Apparently the eastern most confirmed sighting of Whooping Crane ever in Kansas			
Black-bellied Plover	3 at QNWR	JO,CO	8-17-96	Stafford
Black-bellied Plover	1 at CB	MR	11-02-96	Barton
Black-bellied Plover	3 at Liberal's Sewer Lake	MR	11-09-96	Seward
American Golden-Plover	70 following tractor n of Rozel	SS	10-20-96	Pawnee
American Avocet	1 late at Wilson Res	MR	11-03-96	Russell
Lesser Yellowlegs	1 late at QNWR	MR	11-02-96	Stafford
Marbled Godwit	several at QNWR	WAS	9-21-96	Stafford
Ruddy Turnstone	1 at QNWR	MR	8-11-96	Stafford
Red Knot	1 at QNWR	MR	8-11-96	Stafford
Sanderling	6 at QNWR	MR	9-29-96	Stafford
Sanderling	1 late at Clinton	LM	10-10-96	Douglas
Semipalmated Sandpiper	quite large numbers at QNWR	MR	9-29-96	Stafford

Western Sandpiper	1 at Liberal's Sewer Lake	MR	11-09-96	Seward
Least Sandpiper	44 at Liberal's Sewer Lake	MR	11-09-96	Seward
Baird's Sandpiper	1 at Liberal's Sewer Lake	MR	11-09-96	Seward
Pectoral Sandpiper	4 at Liberal's Sewer Lake	MR	11-09-96	Seward
Dunlin	1 at QNWR	MR	8-11-96	Stafford
Short-billed Dowitcher	1 at QNWR	JO,CO	8-17-96	Stafford
Red-necked Phalarope	1 at QNWR	LM	9-12-96	Stafford
Red-necked Phalarope	1 at QNWR	MR	9-29-96	Stafford
Red Phalarope	1 at Melvern Res	BF	10-13-96	Osage
Red Phalarope	1 at Hillsdale Res	AS	10-20-96	Miami
Parasitic Jaeger	1 at El Dorado L	TH	11-17-96	Butler
Laughing Gull	1 at Glen Elder Res	MRo	9-10-96	Mitchell
Laughing Gull	1 1st winter, e side of Cheney	PJ,JN	11-10-96	Reno
Little Gull	1 ad at Glen Elder Res	MRo,m.ob.	9-09-96	Mitchell
Black-headed Gull	1 at Clinton Res	MM	10-06-96	Douglas
Black-headed Gull	1 ad at Melvern Res swimming beach	MM,GP	10-13-96	Osage
California Gull	1 3rd year bird at Lake McKinney	SP,MM	9-12-96	Kearny
Thayer's Gull	1 1st winter, west side of Tuttle	TC	10-18-96	Riley
Thayer's Gull	1 first winter at Perry L	MM	11-10-96	Jefferson
Thayer's Gull	1 second winter at John Redmond Res	AS	11-08-96	Coffey
Thayer's Gull	1 ad at John Redmon Res	AS	11-15-96	Coffey
Sabine's Gull	1 ad at Glen Elder Res	MR,m.ob.	9-09-96	Mitchell
Sabine's Gull	1 at sw corner Wildlife Loop, QNWR	DV	9-21-96	Stafford
Sabine's Gull	2 imm at Big Salt Marsh, QNWR	HMF	9-27-96	Stafford
	still present		9-29-96	
Sabine's Gull	1 at QNWR,	HMF	10-04-96	Stafford
	may have been one of those seen back in September			
Black-legged Kittiwake	1 imm at Tuttle Creek Res	LJ,m.ob.	11-29-96	Riley/Pott
	eventually 2 if not 3 Kittiwakes were found in the area			
	these birds were present well into December			
Caspian Tern	2 at QNWR	BT	8-18-96	Stafford
Common Tern	9 at Wilson Lake	MR	8-07-96	Russell
Least Tern	nesting in Wichita	??	8-03-96	Sedgwick
Inca Dove	1 in Garden City	??	11-09-96	Finney
Black-billed Cuckoo	5 in Wichita's Pawnee Prairie Park	PJ	8-31-96	Sedgwick
Black-billed Cuckoo	1	SP,MM	9-13-96	Morton
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1 late at Clinton	LM	10-10-96	Douglas
Barred Owl	1 in Maple Grove Cemetery, Wichita	PJ	9-22-96	Sedgwick
Long-eared Owl	1 at CNG Workstation	SS,MR	9-21-96	Morton
Short-eared Owl	20 in Pawnee/Rush Counties	DS	11-20-96	Pawnee/Rush
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	1 in Garden City	MO	8-20-96	Finney
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	1 in Garden City	SSh,TSh	8-27-96	Finney
Black-chinned Hummingbird	1 possible f on nest with eggs, Elkhart	fide LRS	8-10-96	Morton
	this bird was on nest from July 12 - August 10			
Black-chinned Hummingbird	1 m at Rich's, Garden City	LBR	8-26-96	Finney
	seen again		8-27-96	
Black-chinned Hummingbird	1 possible at Shane's feeders	SSh,TSh	9-22-96	Finney
Anna's Hummingbird	1 imm m at Osterbuhr's feeder	MO	8-21-96	Finney
	seen again		8-24-96	
Calliope Hummingbird	1 imm male	TSh,SSh	8-16-96	Finney
Calliope Hummingbird	1 in Garden City	BC	8-08-96	Finney
		through	8-18-96	
Calliope Hummingbird	1 f at Shane's feeder, Garden City	SSh,TSh	8-27-96	Finney
	last seen		8-30-96	
Calliope Hummingbird	1 at Shane's feeders, Garden City	SSh,TSh	10-18-96	Finney

Broad-tailed Hummingbird	f at Shane's feeder, Garden City	TSh,SSh	8-10-96	Finney
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	several at Shane's Feeder	TSh,SSh	8-20-96	Finney
	The Shane's had 3 present on 8-18			
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	1 imm m at Osterbuhr's feeder	MO	8-27-96	Finney
	High numbers of Broad-taileds were present in Garden City in August and were seen on an almost daily basis at numerous locations			
Rufous Hummingbird	1 briefly in Garden City	LBR	8-03-96	Finney
Rufous Hummingbird	m at Shane's feeder, Garden City	TSh,SSh	8-08-96	Finney
	present through		8-13-96	
Rufous Hummingbird	1 at Rich's feeder, Garden City	LBR	8-20-96	Finney
Rufous Hummingbird	1 at Rich's, Garden City	LBR	8-25-96	Finney
Rufous Hummingbird	1 in Garden City	SSh,TSh	8-26-96	Finney
Allen's Hummingbird	1 <u>possible</u> in Garden City	MO	8-20-96	Finney
Olive-sided Flycatcher	1 n of Elkhart Cemetery	BP,m.ob.	9-01-96	Morton
Olive-sided Flycatcher	1 at MDC	MM	9-01-96	Linn
Western Wood-Pewee	1 in Elkhart Cemetery	BP,m.ob.	9-01-96	Morton
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	1 at MDC	MM	9-01-96	Linn
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	2 at Perry Res ?	MM,GP	9-07-96	Jefferson
Hammond's Flycatcher	1	SP,MM	9-13-96	Morton
Dusky Flycatcher	2	SP,MM	9-13-96	Morton
Cordilleran Flycatcher	1 in Garden City	LBR	8-24-96	Finney
Cordilleran Flycatcher	1 in Elkhart Cemetery	BP,m.ob.	9-01-96	Morton
Cordilleran Flycatcher	1 on w side of Elkhart	MR,SS	9-21-96	Morton
Clark's Nutcracker	1 at e side of Garden City	??	10-23-96	Finney
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1 in Elkhart Cemetery	BP,m.ob.	9-01-96	Morton
Red-breasted Nuthatch	good numbers in Wichita	PJ	9-15-96	Sedgwick
Red-breasted Nuthatch	10 in Morton County	MR,SS	9-21-96	Morton
Brown Creeper	1 at Perry ?	LM	10-10-96	Jefferson
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	1 in Elkhart Cemetery	BP,m.ob.	9-01-96	Morton
Western Bluebird	3 f, 2 m in Garden City	SSh, TSh	11-05-96	Finney

There are several good sight records for Western Bluebird in southwest Kansas but this species has never been documented in the state before.

Mountain Bluebird	good numbers moving through	SS	10-13-96	Pawnee
Townsend's Solitaire	5	MR	11-10-96	Morton
Swainson's Thrush	1 late in Garden City	BC	10-29-96	Finney
Varied Thrush	1 ne of Lakin	MO,LBR	11-08-96	Kearny
Sprague's Pipit	2 nw of Larned	SS	9-29-96	Pawnee
Sprague's Pipit	Flock of <b>50</b> n of Rozel	SS	10-06-96	Pawnee
Sprague's Pipit	20 near Rozel	SS	10-20-96	Pawnee
Northern Shrike	1 just w of Rolla	MR	11-10-96	Morton
Northern Shrike	1 adult	SS	11-21-96	Pawnee
Cedar Waxwing	1 A with 4 juv at Boy Scout area	SS,MR	9-21-96	Morton
Cedar Waxwing	1 juvenile in Mulvane	TH	10-03-96	Sedgwick
Philadelphia Vireo	1 at QNWR	LM	9-12-96	Stafford
Northern Parula	1 n of Larned, late and well west	SS	10-10-96	Pawnee
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Clinton Res ?	MM,GP	9-07-96	Douglas
Black-throated Blue Warbler	1 m at Mill Creek Park	CH	9-13-96	Johnson
Magnolia Warbler	Clinton Res ?	MM,GP	9-07-96	Douglas
American Redstart	Clinton Res ?	MM,GP	9-07-96	Douglas
Wilson's Warbler	1 at MDC	MM	9-01-96	Linn
Wilson's Warbler	Clinton Res ?	MM,GP	9-07-96	Douglas
Canada Warbler	1 at MDC	MM	9-01-96	Linn
Canada Warbler	Clinton Res ?	MM,GP	9-07-96	Douglas
Mourning Warbler	1 at Lake Afton	PJ	9-29-96	Sedgwick

MacGillivray's Warbler	1 at QNWR	LM	9-12-96	Stafford
MacGillivray's Warbler	1 at Middle Springs CNG	SS,MR	9-21-96	Morton
Scarlet Tanager	1 in Hutchinson, w of normal range	HG	9-15-96	Reno
Scarlet Tanager	1 in Maple Grove Cemetery, Wichita	PJ	9-15-96	Sedgwick
Scarlet Tanager	1 late at Lake Afton	PJ	9-29-96	Sedgwick
Scarlet Tanager	1 f in Garden City	BC	11-10-96	Finney
Western Tanager	2 in Garden City	LBR	8-27-96	Finney
Western Tanager	2 n of Elkhart Cemetery	BP,m.ob.	9-01-96	Morton
Western Tanager	3	SP,MM	9-13-96	Morton
Western Tanager	1 n of Elkhart Cemetery	SS,MR	9-21-96	Morton
Dickcissel	1 late at Milford Lake	CO	10-10-96	Geary
Green-tailed Towhee	1 at Middle Springs, CNG	SS,MR	9-21-96	Morton
Spotted Towhee	1 in juv plumage, Scott Lake	SS	8-31-96	Scott
Brewer's Sparrow	1	SP,MM	9-13-96	Morton
Vesper Sparrow	1000+ during day	SS	10-16-96	Pawnee
Lark Bunting	1 out of place at Lake Afton	PJ,JN	10-13-96	Sedgwick
LeConte's Sparrow	several at Milford Lake	CO	10-09-96	Geary
Fox Sparrow	1 at Clinton Res?	LM	10-10-96	Douglas
Swamp Sparrow	<u>12</u> at Overflow Slab LSM, QNWR	MR	11-02-96	Stafford
White-crowned Sparrow	2 at Lake Afton	PJ	9-29-96	Sedgwick
Chestnut-collared Longspurs	10 in grasslands east of Lenora	SS	9-28-96	Norton
Chestnut-collared Longspurs	30 near Rozel	SS	10-20-96	Pawnee
Smith's Longspurs	18 at Harvey Count East L	BD	11-07-96	Harvey
Cassin's Finch	1 m at Shane's feeders, Garden City	TSh,SSh	11-10-96	Finney
Cassin's Finch	2 at Shane's feeders, Garden City	TSh,SSh	11-13-96	Finney
Red Crossbill	2 in Garden City	TSh,SSh	8-09-96	Finney
Red Crossbill	3 at Southwestern College	MT	10-21-96	Cowley
Red Crossbill	1 heard flying over n of Larned	SS	10-31-96	Pawnee
Red Crossbill	1 at Wilson St Park	MR	11-05-96	Russell
Red Crossbill	60 in Elkhart	MR	11-10-96	Morton
White-winged Crossbill	1 imm at Garden City feeder	BC	8-27-96	Finney
White-winged Crossbill	1 f at Shane's feeder, Garden City	SSh,TSh	11-10-96	Finney
Evening Grosbeak	5 coming to a feeder in Lakin	BC	10-28-96	Kearny
		through	10-30-96	
Evening Grosbeak	5 at Shane's feeders, Garden City	SSh,TSh	11-10-96	Finney
Evening Grosbeak	30 in w side of Elkhart	MR	11-10-96	Morton
Evening Grosbeak	30 at Forest Grove Apts, Wichita	JN	11-17-96	Sedgwick

#### Abbreviation Key

ad = adults

CB = Cheyenne Bottoms

CNG = Cimarron National Grasslands

e = east

f = female

imm = immature

LSM = Little Salt Marsh

m = male

m.ob. = multiple observers

MDC = Marais des Cygnes

n = north

QNWR = Quivira Nat'l Wildlife Ref

Res. = Reservoir

s = south

SMP = Shawnee Mission Parkway

w = west

**LIST OF OBSERVERS:** Doris Burnett (DB), Bill Busby (BB), Ted Cable (TC), Barbara Campbell (BC), Shari Chism (SC), Bob Dester (BD), Bob Fisher (BF), Gregg Friesen (GF), Harry Gregory (HG), Chet Gresham (CG), Pete Janzen (PJ), Chod Hedinger (Che), Tyler Hicks (TH), Chris Hobbs (CH), Dan Klusa (DKl), Mark Land (ML), Harold McFadden (HMF), Mick McHugh (MM), Lloyd Moore (LM), Dan Mulhern (DM), John Northrup (JN), Marie Osterbuhr (MO), Chuck Otte (CO), Jaye Otte (JO), Sebastian Patti (SP), Brandon Percival (BP), Galen Pittman (GP), Mike Rader (MR), Leonard and Betty Rich (LBR), Mark Robbins (MRo), Diane Seltman (DS), Scott Seltman (SS), Sara Shane (SSh), Tom Shane (TSh), Lawrence & Ruth Smith (LRS), Art Swalwell (AS), Bill Trelec (BT), Max Thompson (MT), Don Vannoy (DV), Phil Wedge (PW), Wichita Audubon Society (WAS)

# Kansas Bird Records Committee Review List

by Galen Pittman, KBRC Secretary

This review list is intended to be a guide for all potential contributors to the Kansas Bird Records Committee as to which species of birds are in need of documentation in Kansas. The last time this list was published was June 1992 in Vol 19(2) of The Horned Lark. This current updated list has considerable changes: including 13 new species (six still listed as "hypothetical"), four old species that have lost their "hypothetical" status, eight old species that now have greater than 10 records (lost the asterisk), and four old species that have gained an asterisk. The four categories listed below are in descending order of importance. It is essential that any species in the first three categories be documented whenever it is encountered. Documentation of species in the fourth category is highly desirable and is encouraged. Species are listed in taxonomic order within each category with the number of currently accepted records in ( ).

1.) Any species that is not currently on the KOS Checklist of Birds of Kansas and is naturally occurring within the state should be documented with physical evidence (e.g., specimens, photos, videos, etc.), whenever it is sighted in the state.

2.) Hypothetical species: These species are already on the KOS Checklist of Birds of Kansas but are designated as "hypothetical". The "hypothetical" designation means that although these species are on the list they lack acceptable documentation that is supported by physical evidence. Most of these species also have ten or less records, but not all. Species on this list should be documented whenever they are sighted in the state.

Yellow-billed Loon (1) - new record pending  
Clark's Grebe (10) - new record pending  
Eurasian wigeon (7)  
Tufted Duck (1)  
Wilson's Plover (1)  
Lesser Black-backed Gull (1) - new records pending  
Great Black-backed Gull (4)  
Arctic Tern (1)  
Western Screech-Owl (2) - new record pending  
Williamson's Sapsucker (1)  
Black Phoebe (1)  
Fork-tailed Flycatcher (1)  
Fish Crow (5)  
Western Bluebird (2)

3.) Species with 10 or less accepted records in Kansas. These species should be documented whenever they are sighted in the state.

Magnificent Frigatebird (4)  
Glossy Ibis (6)  
Roseate Spoonbill (4)  
Wood Stork (6)  
Greater Flamingo (2)  
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (4)  
Gargany (5)  
Common Eider (1)  
King Eider (1)  
Barrow's Goldeneye (10) - new record pending  
Swallow-tailed Kite - (>10 records, but not recently)  
White-tailed Kite (2)  
Harris' Hawk (6)  
Gyr Falcon (4)  
Spotted Redshank (1)  
Eskimo Curlew - (>10 records, but not recently)  
Curlew Sandpiper (5)  
Ruff (5)  
Pomarine Jaeger (5)  
Long-tailed Jaeger (5)  
Black-headed Gull (7)  
Black Skimmer (3)  
Band-tailed Pigeon (2)  
White-winged Dove (6)  
White-throated Swift (5)  
Magnificent Hummingbird (1)  
Black-chinned Hummingbird (5) - new record pending  
Anna's Hummingbird (4)  
Calliope Hummingbird (2)  
Broad-tailed Hummingbird (7)  
Lewis' Woodpecker (8)  
Red-naped Sapsucker (5)  
Hammond's Flycatcher (6)  
Gray Flycatcher (4)  
Cordilleran Flycatcher (4)  
Mexican Jay (1)  
Common Raven - (>10 records(?), but not recently)  
Black-capped Vireo - (>10 records(?), but not recently)  
Hermit Warbler (1)  
Swainson's Warbler (6) - new record pending  
Connecticut Warbler (10)  
Pyrrhuloxia (5)  
Canyon Towhee (10)  
Bachman's Sparrow (2)  
Black-throated Sparrow (7)  
Sage Sparrow (3)  
Scott's Oriole (1)

*KBRC Review List, continued*

4.) Species with greater than 10 accepted records, but with uncertain or changing status in the state. These species (though well established as occurring in the state) are either found sufficiently infrequently and/or are difficult to identify in the field and therefore are in need of additional documentation to determine their current status within the state. These species should be documented whenever encountered or, if designated with a "+", whenever found "outside" the stated range, i.e., If a Black Rail is seen anywhere but in Stafford County please document it.

Red-throated Loon (15)  
Pacific Loon  
Red-necked Grebe (13)  
Brown Pelican (11)  
Anhinga  
Tricolored Heron  
White Ibis (11)  
Fulvous Whistling-Duck  
Trumpeter Swan  
Brant  
Black Scoter  
Surf Scoter  
White-winged Scoter  
Black Vulture  
Ruffed Grouse  
Sharp-tailed Grouse  
Yellow Rail  
Black Rail + - Stafford county  
Piping Plover  
Snowy Plover + - Barton and Stafford counties  
Mountain Plover + - extreme western Kansas  
Red Knot + - Barton and Stafford counties  
Red Phalarope  
Parasitic Jaeger (13)  
Little Gull (13)  
Laughing Gull  
California Gull  
Thayer's Gull  
Glaucous Gull  
Black-legged Kittiwake (11) - new record pending  
Sabine's gull  
Inca Dove  
Common Ground-Dove  
Rufous Hummingbird  
Groove-billed Ani  
Ladder-backed Woodpecker + - southwest Kansas  
Dusky Flycatcher  
Vermillion Flycatcher  
Cassin's Kingbird + - Morton county  
Violet-green Swallow + - extreme western Kansas

Steller's Jay + - southwest Kansas  
Scrub Jay + - southwest Kansas  
Pinyon Jay + - southwest Kansas  
Clark's Nutcracker  
Chihuahuan Raven + - southwest Kansas  
Mountain Chickadee + - southwest Kansas  
Bushtit + - southwest Kansas  
Pygmy Nuthatch  
Varied Thrush  
Sage Thrasher + - Morton county  
Curve-billed Thrasher + - Morton county  
Blue-winged Warbler  
Golden-winged Warbler  
Virginia's Warbler (11)  
Cape May Warbler  
Black-throated Blue Warbler  
Black-throated Gray Warbler + - southwest Kansas  
Townsend's Warbler + - southwest Kansas  
Yellow-throated Warbler + - Linn, Cherokee, & Leavenworth counties  
Pine Warbler  
Prairie Warbler  
Cerulean Warbler + - Linn and Leavenworth counties  
Worm-eating Warbler  
MacGillivray's Warbler + - southwest Kansas  
Hooded Warbler  
Green-tailed Towhee  
Rufous-crowned Sparrow + - Morton county  
Brewer's Sparrow + - southwest Kansas  
Baird's Sparrow  
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow  
Golden-crowned Sparrow (14)  
Pine Grosbeak  
Cassin's Finch + - southwest Kansas  
White-winged Crossbill  
Lesser Goldfinch (11)

*editors addendum -*

Lloyd Moore serves as the Kansas editor for Audubon Field Notes and forwards Kansas information to the regional editor. On agreement between the state and regional editor and the KBRC bird sightings falling in Category 1, 2 or 3 of the above list will not be submitted for publication in the seasonal reports without supporting documentation. Birders submitting written records and documentation are encouraged to include photos and video tape of their rare sightings with the KBRC report form. Information can be mailed to: Lloyd Moore, 1250 Scott Ave, Kansas City, KS 66105 or e-mail to Chris Hobbs : chobbs@ix.netcom.com. Reports need to be received two weeks prior to the end of each season. Seasons end at the end of February, May, July and November.



# Kansas Bird Records Committee Official Report Form

Date of this report: \_\_\_\_\_ KBRC No. (committee use only) \_\_\_\_\_

1. Species: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
(Common name) (Scientific name)

2. Sex/Age: \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Number observed: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Date(s) of sighting: \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Duration of sighting: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Location (including county): \_\_\_\_\_

7. Observer(s) (your name): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Other observers (not making this report): \_\_\_\_\_

9. Description of habitat/setting: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Distance from bird: \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Optical equip: \_\_\_\_\_

12. Time of day: \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Lighting conditions/sun angle: \_\_\_\_\_

14. Previous experience with this or similar species: \_\_\_\_\_

15. Reference material consulted and how this influenced your identification: \_\_\_\_\_

16. How long after the sighting did you first write this description? \_\_\_\_\_

17. Vocalization heard (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

18. DESCRIPTION: (**Include only what was observed**). Describe, in detail, all relevant and diagnostic field marks and/or behaviors that would distinguish this species from similar ones. Please include any photographs, recordings, sketches, and copies of original field notes that were made at the time of the sighting that would aid in identification. USE OTHER SIDE.

Mail completed form to:

**Kansas Bird Records Committee Secretary**

**Galen L. Pittman, 12042 258th Street, Lawrence, KS 66044**

phone: 913-842-7105 (home)/ 913-843-8573 (work); email: glpitt@falcon.cc.ukans.edu