



through the biKNOXulars

Knoxville Chapter of the Tennessee Ornithological Society

Super to speak at next KTOS meeting, October 4

The next KTOS meeting will be Wednesday, October 4 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 117, UT College of Veterinary Medicine. Our program will feature Paul E. Super, Science Coordinator Appalachian Highlands Science Learning Center at Purchase Knob

in the Great Smokies.

Super will give an update, with a slide show on the status of bird research in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

- Mark Campen, VP and program coordinator

 MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October trips & events

Sunday, October 1, 8:30 AM

*Hawk Watch at Foothills Parkway
See page 1 for details.*

Sunday, October 8, Sunrise until Sundown

*BIG SIT! Louisville Point Park
See page 1 for details.*

Saturday, October 14, 9 AM - Noon

*Sharps Ridge Clean Up
See page 2 for details.*

Thursday, October 19, 8 AM

*Seven Islands WMA
See page 2 for details.*

Saturday, October 21, 8:15 AM

*Field trip to Kyker Bottoms
See page 2 for details.*

TOS Fall Meeting, October 27-29

*Clarksville, TN
See September newsletter for details.*

Sunday, October 1, 8:30 AM

*Hawk Watch at Foothills Parkway
8:30 a.m. - ??*

Leader: **David Trently**; dtrently@utk.edu; (865) 531-1473
home; (865) 974-8664 work

We'll start at the base of the Parkway off US 321 near Townsend, eventually making our way up about four miles, to the site with parking lots on both sides of the road. From there we will scan the skies for whatever raptors and other birds might pass by.

Feel free to bring lunch to share with others, as this works well as a pot-luck opportunity. A chair can be useful too, as there may be times to sit and chat while no hawks are being seen.

Sunday, October 8, Sunrise until sundown

BIG SIT! Louisville Point Park

Team leader: **Janet McKnight** (The Lone Tuftmouse)
Team participants: Anyone who cares to join her

The Big Sit is a nationwide competition among birders that allows us all to sit for a change. Participants sit in a 16-foot circle and count the birds that come their way. If the circle is in proper habitat, most possible species should eventually show themselves. It is so fun to use the ears and scopes and eke out as many species as possible. Janet will be in the circle for the duration of the competition, and anyone who cares to give her some help and company may come and go at any time during the day. Bring some food to grill out, a chair to relax in and a brownie for Janet. Call Janet if you have any questions,

(Continued on page 2)

"We went out onto the gallery, into the darkness and the smell of the roses and the honeysuckle too, and besides the mockingbird which was in a tree not far away, we could hear two whippoorwills..."

- William Faulkner, "The Reivers," 1962.

Upcoming events and one 'Big Sit'

(Continued from page 1)

and please come and give her some company!
(865) 856-2229 or (865) 271-8337.

Please look at the following websites:

<http://www.birdwatchersdigest.com/site/funbirds/bigsit/bigsit.aspx>

<http://www.newhavenbirdclub.org/bigsit.htm>

Join in the fun and test the theory that if you stay in one place long enough on any given day, every bird expected for that area will eventually show up!

Saturday, October 14, 9 AM-Noon

Sharps Ridge Clean Up

Much of the vegetation has been cut back from the sides of the road, so more garbage may be visible and a bit easier to get to.

Contact **Mark Campen** at 406-6377;

campen@tnike.com for additional details.

Thursday, October 19, 8 AM

Seven Islands WMA

Leader: **Dan Mooney** (865) 789-0805

Meet at 8 a.m. in the parking lot at the end of Kelly

Lane. We will walk out the road and down toward the river near the new wetlands area. From there we will walk along the river back to the last red barn. We should finish up about noon. Please bring water and a snack. We should see mostly grassland species with the possibility of a few late migrants. Bald eagle is always a possibility with other raptors possible as well.

Saturday, October 21, 8:15 AM

Field trip to Kyker Bottoms

www.tnbirds.org/birdfinding/KykerBottoms.htm

Leader: **David Trently**, dtrently@utk.edu; 531-1473 home; 974-8664 work

Meet at 8:15 a.m. at the paved parking area. Contact me if you are interested in carpooling from west Knoxville.

Sparrows and rails will be some of the targets of this trip, and in order to see some of them, we will be walking in potentially wet fields, where lots of plant seeds might stick to us. I recommend old shoes and maybe clothes you can throw away afterwards! You don't have to walk through the fields, but can stay to the sides, watching for any birds the rest of us chase into view.

- David Trently, Interim Field Trip Coordinator

J.B. Owen Award to Support Two Bird Research Projects *By Marie Oakes*

Knoxville Chapter of the Tennessee Ornithological Society (KTOS) has selected two projects to receive the 2006 J.B. Owen Awards. Former KTOS member Jim Giocomo will receive \$400 to determine the presence of migrating/wintering Saw-whet owls in his project on Northern Saw-whet Owl Monitoring in Knox County, Tennessee. Jim's project will provide a banding station in an under-represented area of the country and encourage other efforts to monitor saw-whet owls in the Southeast. The proposal for Jim's project was written in cooperation with KTOS past president Charlie Muise.

The second Owen Award will provide a \$265 grant to KTOS member Mark Armstrong for support of The MAPS (Monitoring Avian Productivity) Station at Seven Islands Wildlife Refuge. Few stations process as many birds in a season as the Seven Island MAPS station processes in one session. Most stations are located in stable habitats, but Seven Islands is operated in a changing habitat that is being managed to improve the habitat for birds.

Each project provides an outstanding opportunity to achieve the Owen Award goal of promoting the welfare and conservation of birds in Tennessee. Previous Owen Award winners were:

- 2002: Foothills Land Conservancy of Maryville, Tennessee, for the Conservancy's work in the acquisition of wetlands—for the welfare and conservation of cranes and other birds—in the area between the Yuchi and Hiwassee Island Refuges;
- 2003: Jennifer Powers, of East Tennessee State University, for support of graduate research on the reproductive success and natal dispersal of American Kestrels;
- 2004: Samuel deMent of Greenwood, SC, David Vogt of Chattanooga and Keith Hobson of Saskatoon, SK Canada for support of the project on stable-isotope feather analysis and foreign band encounter comparisons of wintering American Kestrels in similar habitats west and east of the Southern Appalachians.
- 2005: Lyn Bales for support of outreach programs at Ijams Nature Center of Knoxville.

The J.B. Owen Award is open to anyone with a project that promotes the welfare and conservation of birds in Tennessee. For information on applying for the Award, please contact Marie Oakes at marieoakes@msn.com or visit www.tnbirds.org.



Presidential Perch

- By Dan Mooney

Being prez has offered me a couple of interesting opportunities that I did not expect.

A few weeks ago I got a call about an injured hawk in a south Knoxville yard. Laurie and I had the privilege of going on the rescue mission with Lyn Bales. We managed to capture a badly injured Cooper's hawk and deliver it to the UT Veterinary Hospital Emergency Room. Unfortunately the hawk did not survive its injuries. (Read the complete story in the next issue of *Hellbender Press*.)

About a week later I got another call about a bird that needed rescue. It was with mixed emotions that I had to explain to the lady on the phone that I was in New Mexico and she would have to contact the folks at Ijams for help.

Another privilege was meeting Terry McGown when I went to her home to pick up the prints she donated to KTOS. I learned a bit about KTOS history. I hope to get more time to speak to Mrs. McGown in the future!

Since I have been prez, three important (aren't they all) positions in KTOS have opened up. As most

of you know Janet McKnight has asked to be relieved as our refreshment chairperson. Lucky for us, Tony King has volunteered to fill that role in the future. THANK YOU TONY!!

That leaves two positions open.

David Trently has been filling in as our field trip coordinator since Harold Howell has been out of the country. Harold is due back in November, but word from Russia is that he will not be able to resume that role when he returns. David will not be able to continue in that position either. KTOS needs someone to fill this role. No expertise in birding, birdwatching or field trip leading is necessary (believe me, I did it for a couple of years). The role is basically to contact folks who may be interested in leading field trips and getting the info to our newsletter editor. Lots of support for this role is available.

The other opening will be for newsletter editor. Lyn Bales has done a wonderful job over the last five years. We hate to see him move on. Lyn's last newsletter will be the December issue. The first issue for the new editor will be February 2007 since we do not publish in January. It would be great if someone would step forward this month so that the transition could be made over the next couple of issues.

OF NOTE!

Newsletter editor needed

Where does the time go? It's been almost five years since I assumed the role of club newsletter editor from Christine Tankersley. Now it's time for me to pass the baton for another project begs my leave. The December issue will be my last.

If you would like to enter the exciting world of newsletter editorship please contact me or any of the officers listed on the last page for details. - Lyn



Phillip Hoose, author of *The Race to Save the Lord God Bird* about the Ivory-billed Woodpecker, was in town recently to speak at the University of Tennessee and Ijams Nature Center. Pictured above: KTOSer Nancy Tanner and Hoose.

KTOS Financial Report • October 2006

Compiled by Marie Oakes, Treasurer

	September	Jun - Aug	YTD
Income:			
. Dues	\$56.00	\$76.00	\$1,166.00
. Shade Grown Coffee	\$92.00	\$132.26	\$669.26
. Interest	\$22.98	\$70.38	\$180.30
. Owen Memorial	\$19.90	\$25.00	\$69.90
. Other Memorials	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$575.00</u>
Total Income	\$190.88	\$303.64	\$2,660.46
Expenses:			
. Newsletter	\$67.66	\$54.63	\$454.60
. Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$31.92
. Shade Grown Coffee	\$0.00	\$202.71	\$580.23
. Member Dues to TOS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,570.00
. Miscellaneous	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$16.50</u>	<u>\$106.50</u>
Total Expenses	\$67.66	\$273.84	\$3,743.25
Other:			
. J.B. Owen Award	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
. Scout Project	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
. Seven Islands Wildlife Refuge	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Total Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Account Balances			
. KTOS Checking & Savings	\$3,877.67	\$3,796.79	
. J.B. Owen Memorial	\$7,119.81	\$7,077.47	
Memberships			
	141	141	

KTOS Membership

Join or renew your membership in KTOS by mailing your annual dues to: Marie Oakes, 18 Rockingham Lane, Oak Ridge, TN 37830.

Membership dues are \$26 for an individual, \$30 for a family, and \$13 for a student. Sustaining memberships are \$38 and a Life membership with TOS is \$450 with an annual fee of \$8 to the local chapter.

DEADLINE for November issue is **October 21**. Due to cost and space restrictions, please limit your articles to 600 or 700 words.

For a color version of this or past issues go to "local chapters/Knoxville" starting at the TOS Home Page:

HTTP://www.tnbirds.org



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Advanced Notice of Vote *By Marie Oakes*

The J.B. Owen Endowment Committee has selected two projects to receive the 2006 J.B. Owen Awards. The total amount of the awards is \$665, which exceeds the expected annual interest of the Owen fund by \$400. Additional information on the 2006 Owen Awards and monthly financial summaries are reported on page two and three of this newsletter.

According to the KTOS-approved guidelines for the Owen Endowment: "In case of a meritorious project deemed worthy of more funds than the [interest] yield from the Endowment, the Committee may recommend that KTOS make up the shortfall from its Treasury. Such request would require approval by the Officers of KTOS and presentation for approval by majority vote of members in attendance at a General Meeting of KTOS."

At the October club meeting, it will be proposed that "In accordance with provisions of the Owen Endowment guidelines, \$400 will be transferred from the general treasury to the Owen fund."

The proposal will be discussed in the October meeting, and after a month of consideration by members, a formal vote on the proposal will be held at the November meeting.

2007 KTOS membership dues

KTOS Treasurer Marie Oakes is now accepting membership dues for 2007. For additional information, see "KTOS Membership" at top left of this page.

ZAPPED!

Civilization as I had known it was unexpectedly disrupted as I was finishing the last pages of this newsletter. The storms that passed through the valley on Saturday, September 23 zapped out my cable. I was rendered internet and email-less and feel I've been Alley-Ooped back to the Stone Age, forced to complete this issue on a slab of Ordovician limestone with a sharpened deer antler and a hefty chunk of chert.

If I have left out something you sent me, it was inadvertent. Please resend it to me and I'll include it in next month's edition. *-Lyn*

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