

biKNOXulars

Knoxville Chapter of the Tennessee Ornithological Society

September Meeting to be a Picnic at Ijams Nature Center

The Pot-luck Picnic will be at the Millers Building at Ijams Nature Center on Wednesday, September 2, at 6:30 p.m. We have a special program for that night, so bring a friend, some food and drinks and let's enjoy a great summer evening.

Our guest speakers will be Katie Cottrell and Kathy Strunk who, for the past 24 years, have held the volunteer positions of Co-Directors of the Clinch River Raptor Center. Since its foundation some 25 years ago, this non-profit's volunteers have tended to nearly 1,800 sickly, wounded or gunshoted hawks, owls and vultures with almost 60% being returned to the wild.

Katie and Kathy have been active in rehabilitation of birds of prey during their time at the Center and have attended five national symposiums sponsored by the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council and the National Wildlife Rehabilitation Association. They have completed many classes associated with wildlife rehabilitation.

The speakers will be bringing 5 friends to the picnic: a Red-tailed Hawk, a Barred Owl, 2 Screech Owls and a Kestrel.

They will talk about injuries and why the birds became "education" birds as well as enlightening us about the birds' natural history. We'll also be told more about the Center and its objectives.

And, as a special treat if we all behave ourselves, Katie is going to let us look into an owl's ear! (I know that sound *grotiie*, but

believe me, it's fascinating.)

Ijams Nature Center is located at 2915 Island Home Avenue, Knoxville, TN, 37920, approximately three miles from downtown Knoxville. Call (865) 577-4717 if you need special assistance with directions. Once you enter Ijams, turn left at the sign for the Miller's Building which has its own parking lot. -- Billie Cantwell

There will be plastic cups and plates belonging to the club available at the picnic. These are washed in a dishwasher and stored in a sanitary bag between picnics. The supply of stainless steel cutlery is another matter. We have lots of odd-sized pieces, but not a good supply of knives, forks and spoons. Would everyone look in their kitchens for mismatched or odd knives, forks and spoons that you could donate to the club for picnics.

Remember - Please scrape the dishes and empty the drink cups before depositing them in a bag that will be provided. This will be very helpful to Jean and David who clean and store these supplies for us.

****SEE PRESIDENTIAL PERCH FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM MARK CONCERNING POSSIBLE MEETING LOCATION CHANGE****

KTOS FIELD TRIPS FOR AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

Sunday, August 30, 5:00 p.m..

Rankin Bottoms, Cocke Co.

Leader: Michael Sledjeski

Coordinator: Ginger Goolsby 423-748-4632

Being at Rankin Bottoms at 5:00 p.m. will allow 2 ½ hours of good lighting with less heat and waders flying in to roost. If anyone is interested in going out on the water for closer looks, Leslie & Michael will have a canoe there. They have another in Rankin for loan. Bug spray could be useful.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS: From east or west on I-40, drive north on I-81 to Exit 4; head east on 341 3.6 miles to 25E; go south 4.5 miles to Rankin Hill Rd; go east 3.8 miles to Hill Rd.; then 1.7 miles to RR crossing and Rankin WMA sign.; continue 0.9 miles to open views (coordinates N 36 04'60" W 83 14'31").

From north on I-81, take Exit 8; head south on 25E 8.5 miles to Rankin Hill Rd.; proceed as above.

Sunday, September 13, 2009, 8:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

Fourth Annual Five Bs Gathering at Wood Thrush Ridge Greenback, Loudon County

Leaders: Janet Lee McKnight and David Trently

For the 4th fall in a row, join hostess Janet Lee McKnight and birding leader David Trently for a day of indulging in any or all of the Five Bs (birding, botanizing, bugs, buffet, and BSing). We will hang out in the general vicinity of the house and yard, feeder watching and looking for fall migrants. We will take forays on foot throughout the day looking for wildflowers, butterflies and dragonflies, and anything else that is wonderfully natural.

This time we will have a potluck brunch (around 10:00), so bring some food to share, since we love to eat while birding!

One of the highlights is the number of hummingbirds coming to Janet's feeders. Call her for directions or for more information (865-271-8337), or email her at jlmcknight@bellsouth.net

Sunday, September 20, 7:30 a.m. - ??

Hawk Watch at Foothills Parkway

Leader: David Trently (H 865-531-1473, W 865-974-8664,

NatureTours@avianpursuits.com)

I'm starting this year's event a bit earlier as the best warbler migration often occurs before most people arrive. We'll begin again at the base of the Parkway off US 321 near Townsend. If you arrive late and don't see us there, try walking the closed portion of the Parkway, past the gate. We go out that way to the bridge where we can overlook songbirds, when they are present.

Actual hawk watch begins between 9 and 9:30. The site is about 4 miles up the Parkway at a spot with paved parking lots on both sides of the road. Here we will scan the skies for whatever raptors and other birds might pass by. There are usually migrating songbirds here to keep birders interested in between flights of hawks. The most common raptor seen is Broad-winged Hawk (recently 20-40), but we can hope for other buteos, accipiters, falcons, vultures, eagles – and sometimes some real surprises.

Come on out to help us scan the skies. Feel free to bring lunch or snacks to share with others, and a chair can be useful too. Restrooms are not available at the immediate site, but are a short drive away.

KTOS FINANCIAL REPORT CALENDAR YEAR 2009

	June-Aug	May	YTD
Income:			
Dues	\$ 128.00	\$ 30.00	\$1,603.00
Shade Grown Coffee	70.00	283.75	752.25
Interest	57.35	17.47	160.71
Silent Auction	0.00	0.00	0.00
Owen Memorial	0.00	0.00	20.00
Misc. (Hummer Event)	50.00	0.00	50.00
Total Income	\$ 305.35	\$ 331.22	\$2,585.96
Expenses:			
Newsletter	\$ 73.20	\$ 223.20	\$ 517.50
Supplies	8.80	49.75	103.29
Shade Grown Coffee	212.92	133.53	685.06
Member Dues to TOS	0.00	44.00	2,256.00
Misc. (NSF Returned)	100.00	0.00	90.00
Total Expenses	\$ 394.92	\$ 450.48	\$3,651.85
Other:			
J. B. Owen Award	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Total other	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

Account Balances:

KTOS Checking & Savings	\$ 2,616.09	\$ 2,762.09
J. B. Owen Memorial	\$ 7,408.46	\$ 7,352.03
Memberships	120	116
Paid 2009 Memberships	116	116

New Members:

Patrick & Fae Burkhart
 Kristen Desbien Family
 Melinda Fawyer
 Woodrow Henderson

TWO RESEARCH PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY 2009 J. B. OWEN AWARDS

The Knoxville Bird Club has selected two winners of the 2009 J.B. Owen Award. Than Boves of the University of Tennessee Department of Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries has received an Owen Award of \$300 for support of his project on *Relationships between Cerulean Warblers, Timber Harvest, and Ornamentation*. Than's continuing research has two objectives: (1) To examine the relationship between plumage ornamentation and quality in Cerulean Warblers; (2) To determine if relationships exist among timber harvest intensity, ornamentation, year, and the quality of individual Cerulean Warblers that inhabit various harvest intensities. Findings could be important in land management and policy planning for conservation of Cerulean Warblers. Jessica Owens of the University of Tennessee Psychology Department has received an Owen Award of \$300 for support of her project on "*Chick-a-dee' calling behavior of tufted titmice (Baeolophus bicolor): A test of the effects of habitat structure and body condition.*" Jessica's proposed research has the potential to change the study of disturbance on avian species by providing a quick and simple method of vocal data collection and analysis.

The projects of Than Boves and Jessica Owens provide outstanding opportunities to achieve the Owen Award goal of promoting the welfare and conservation of birds in Tennessee. Previous Owen Award winners were:

- 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.
- 2006: Jim Giocomo for support of the project on Northern Saw-whet Owl Monitoring in Knox County, Tennessee; and Mark Armstrong for support of The MAPS (Monitoring Avian Productivity Station) at SIWR.
- 2007: Keith Watson of the Southern Appalachian Bird Conservancy (Sevierville) for support of the Breeding Bird Survey of Soak Ash and Cattail Wetland Habitats in Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee.
- 2008: Than Boves for support of the project on Relationships between Cerulean Warblers, Timber Harvest, and Ornamentation

The J.B. Owen Award is open to anyone with a project that promotes the welfare and conservation of birds in Tennessee. Information on applying for the Award can be found in this issue of the Warbler or at www.tnbirds.org.

J. B. OWEN MEMORIAL AWARD

The purpose of the J.B. Owen Memorial Endowment is to honor the memory of J.B. Owen, longtime TOS member known to thousands in East Tennessee through his columns in Knoxville newspapers. J.B. Owen was an active member of Knoxville Chapter from 1947 until his death in 2001. He was awarded the TOS Distinguished Service Award in 1990. The Endowment provides funds for the annual J.B. Owen Award, with expected value of \$250 to \$500 per year.

The J.B. Owen Award is open to anyone with a project that promotes the welfare and conservation of birds in Tennessee. Applicants are encouraged to submit:

Cover letter with short project description and applicant contact information

- Resume
- Brief project proposal, of up to three pages, showing topic of the project, problem to be addressed, objectives, expected results and significance, deliverables (for example, written report, journal article, presentation), project location, and project schedule.

Each year, applications are due by May 1 and should be sent (preferably) by e-mail to marieoakes@msn.com or mailed to Marie Oakes, 18 Rockingham Lane, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830. The J.B. Owen Endowment Committee of KTOS will evaluate applications and will typically announce the Award winner the following September.

A New Way For KTOS Members to Keep in Touch!

An email listserve, **knoxvilletos** on Yahoo, has been created for KTOS. This will be used to keep members informed about meetings, field trips, important issues that need discussion, and other items that may not be appropriate for the TN-Birds listserve. In order to join, you need to send an email request to the Chapter president or vice-president, or to me, asking to be added to the list. It should be a great way to keep up with more of what happens with our Chapter than what you see in the newsletter or at the meetings.

David Trently - naturetours@avianpursuits.com"



Presidential Perch
Mark Armstrong

Hi Folks

As you all may know we have been getting free parking passes from the University since last spring to park in the Vet School parking lot during our meetings. The parking policy has changed however, so we have a number of alternatives to consider including changing our meeting location.

Hummingbird Event & Silent Auction Report

The Hummingbird Event at Ijams was a smashing success. Even though the Sargents presented two programs, we had to turn some people away. The banding demonstration was very popular and a number of people adopted hummingbirds and had their picture taken with them.

The silent auction was very successful with only two items not purchased. After all expenses were paid, the club earned \$1,372.95. Everyone enjoyed the evening. -- David Johnson

Spring 2010 TOS Meeting To Be Hosted by KTOS

The state TOS meeting will be hosted by the Knoxville chapter on May 1-2, 2010. A committee is investigating possible locations for the banquet, hotels, and field trips. As chair of the committee, I ask the club's approval of our preliminary budget and permission to pay necessary expenses, to be voted on at the October general meeting.

Jerry Hadder and Marie Oakes have devised a projected budget for the event, extrapolating from the budget of the last general meeting hosted by our club in 2003. The actual expenses for a given item may be more or less than projected. To balance expenses and revenue, ticket prices are adjusted upward; the proposed total price for attending + meal is \$7.50 + \$17.50 = \$25.00. The total budget of \$2,765 should be covered by revenue. However, revenue lags deposits and our treasury funds are limited. Paying the deposits necessitates careful stewardship of KTOS funds over the next year. --Robin Barrow

If we continue to meet at the Vet School, members can use the Vet School parking lot; but if you don't have a permit and get caught, the fine will be \$32. Another alternative is to purchase a daily permit from the parking office for \$5.00, or you can buy any number of undated permits (still for \$5.00 each) but you avoid multiple trips to the parking office. A third alternative is to try to find street parking across the bridge from the Vet School. I don't know how much street parking there is, but it has been suggested by the parking office. A fourth alternative is for everyone to purchase an evening school permit for \$33.80 each which is valid from August to mid May. These permits can be used multiple times and are valid after 4:00.

At this point we have two alternative meeting sites that are available to the club and both are free. The Knoxville Zoo has a conference room with plenty of seating and a projector screen. but it would be a slightly longer drive for pretty much everyone. The drive is easy with the completion of I-40, but we would pretty much be limited to the meeting room and not be able to go into the zoo at all. Another choice is Ijams Nature Center. It has great facilities with plenty of seating, projector screen and a long history with the bird club, but the drive in and out of Ijams can be challenging at night.

A planning committee is still looking for other options and may have other potential meeting sites to report on at the September meeting at Ijams.

None of our choices are perfect, but it would be good for us to vote on this issue at the September meeting in order to have time to inform all members of any changes. -- Thanks, Mark

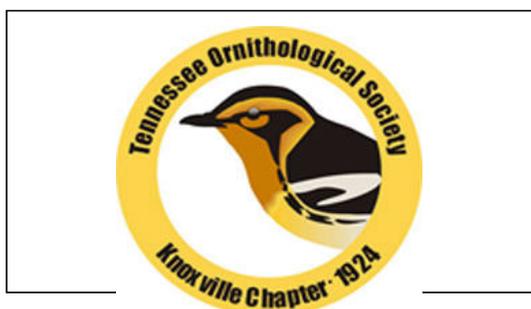
2010 TOS SPRING MEETING PLANNING BUDGET

Projected Expenditures	Projected Revenue	Price	Number
Speaker lodging	\$ 100 Tickets (pre-registration)	\$ 892	\$ 7.50 119
Speaker meals in transit	48 Tickets (registration)	0	\$ 8.50
Speaker meals in Knoxville	36 Banquet tickets	<u>1,873</u>	\$ 17.50 107
Speaker transportation	452 TOTAL	\$ 2,765	
Name tags (150 w pin)	26		
Hall rental	179		
Friday expenses	120		
Door prizes	179		
Banquet cost	1,408		
Contingencies	<u>217</u>		
TOTAL	\$ 2,765		

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 Life membership with TOS is \$450 with an annual fee of \$8 to the local Chapter.

DEADLINE for Oct. issue is Friday, Sept. 25
Due to cost and space restrictions, please limit your article to 700 words. For a color version of this newsletter or for past issues, go to the TOS home page, <http://www.tnbirds.org> and click on "local chapters/Knoxville"



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Knox County Fall Count - Sunday, Sept 27, 2007

The annual Knox County Fall Bird Count will be held on Sunday, September 27, 2007. Everyone is encouraged to participate by joining a group in the field or counting birds in your own backyard and neighborhood (for those living in Knox County). For more information on how you can participate, if you would like to join a group, or would like some suggestions on places to count, please contact the compiler, Dean Edwards (see below for contact information).

Please submit your count results to the compiler as soon as possible. There are no fees for participating in this count. Please note, your results should include all of the following:

- a list including the tally for each species identified
- names of all participants with contact information for at least one person
- time of day you counted
- location(s) you counted
- number of hours spent counting by foot, by car, and/or by boat plus hours spent feeder/backyard watching and owling
- number of miles covered while counting by foot, by car and/or by boat and miles covered while owling
- documentation including written details and photos (if possible) of any rare species.

Compiler contact information:

Dean Edwards (kde@utk.edu)
1615 Meadow Chase Ln, Knoxville TN 37931
(C) 865-660-9701, (H) 865-560-9701

IN MEMORIAM — Bettie J. Levy, age 92, of Oak Ridge, died on Tuesday, June 2, 2009, at her home. She moved to Knoxville to work for the Tennessee Valley Authority in August 1943, and met husband, the late Henri A. Levy, while hiking on the Appalachian Trail in the Smoky Mountains National Park in June 1945. Betty was a member of KTOS for 28 years, and she and her husband were active in many local and national organizations.

She is survived by two children, Janet Rose Levy of Chapel Hill, N.C., and David Eliot Levy of New York, N.Y.; and three grandchildren, Carmela Levy Feigenbaum, of Lawrence, Kan., Gibora Levy Feigenbaum, of New York, N.Y., and Kelila Levy Feigenbaum, of Chapel Hill, N.C., all daughters of Janet Levy and Alan Feigenbaum.

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