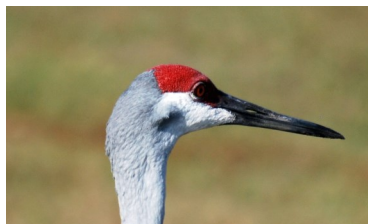




KNOXVILLE CHAPTER OF THE TENNESSEE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Sandhill Cranes Need Your Help!



Sandhill Crane, Source: Michael Plaster

The Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission will make a decision about whether to go forward with a hunting season on Sandhill Cranes August 22-23, 2013. The Commission will meet at the Holiday Inn West. (304 N. Cedar Bluff Rd., Knoxville, Tenn.) [(865) 693-1011]

The Wildlife Committee meeting will begin at **1:00 pm on Thursday, August 22, 2013**, and will include most of the Commission members. The Committee will hear presentations and comments about the season, both for and against, and invites input from the audience. Before the close of the meeting, the Wildlife Committee will vote on the hunting issue. The result of that vote will become their recommendation to the full Commission.

The full Commission will convene at **9:00 a.m. on Friday, August 23, 2013**, and will take the committee recommendation into consideration, have discussion, and conduct a final vote on the issue before the meeting closes.

The TOS Conservation Policy Committee has worked diligently to educate the commissioners about TOS' views and to arrange for presentations at the meeting that will add insight into the science, and the social and economic aspects of the issue. Thousands of letters were received by the Commission asking that they not approve this hunting season, including letters from former President Jimmy Carter and renown wildlife researcher, Dr. Jane Goodall.

Our goal is show our support for Sandhill Cranes as a premiere watchable wildlife species — symbols of hope and prosperity for the future of conservation in Tennessee.

Vickie Henderson

KTOS Presentation at Farragut Branch Library

On **September 7, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. at the Farragut Branch Library** (417 N. Campbell Station Rd., Knoxville, Tenn.), Oliver Lang will present "Migratory Birds." Oliver is the Director of Facilities Management at the Tennessee School for the Deaf and a former teacher. Oliver also helps KTOS with the "Discover Birds" program.

Weather permitting, the group will walk the trails around the library looking at the birds in the area. If you plan to attend, please do not forget to bring your binoculars.

September Potluck

After a long summer, we will get together for our annual potluck picnic at **Ijams Nature Center on Wednesday, September 4, at 6:30 p.m.** Bring a tasty dish with a serving utensil to share. KTOS will provide reusable plates and silverware. Please help us in our efforts to avoid disposables, and bring your own reusable cup and drink. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share – and the food is always awesome! Please arrive at 6:00 p.m. to help set up, if you are available.

Humming Bird Haven Future Uncertain

The Humming Bird Haven, located in Patagonia, Arizona, is the loving project of Wally and Marion Paton, who for more than 35 years built their property into a premier Arizona birding site and opened their home to thousands of local, American, and international birders to see Arizona's outstanding hummingbird diversity. In partnership with Tucson Audubon Society and Victor Emanuel Nature Tours, the American Bird Conservancy has entered into a contract with the owners to acquire the property and to maintain the property in perpetuity as a hummingbird sanctuary open to visitors. If you are interested in learning more about this site or can financially support this effort, please see www.abcbirds.org/paton.

Common Yellowthroat.
Source: Wikimedia Commons



Presidential Perch

Birds fly and that is what we love about them. Time flies too, and that is one thing that we do not like. It has been a whirlwind of a summer and now it is time for kids to go back to school. That also means it is Festival time!

As I write this we are gearing up for the "Wonder of Hummingbirds" Festival on August 24. Lots of volunteers have been busy all year getting ready. And we are ready! We have had lots of exposure in the printed media and on WBIR! Now all we need is favorable weather and the hummingbirds to cooperate! It is going to be one glorious day. New friends, new ideas, and a chance to learn how to find a hummingbird nest! I cannot wait for that. We have great speakers to answer any question that you have about hummingbirds, plants, feeders, bears, wolves, and butterflies! We have some wonderful vendors too that will dazzle you with their crafts and arts, plant experts with numerous native plants to draw more hummingbirds to your area, and some great food! I hope you are planning on spending the day with us at Ijams Nature Center and experiencing the "Wonder of Hummingbirds" Festival. This will be a day for children and adults to celebrate the wonderful world of nature and what better place than Ijams!

Mark your calendar for October 12, 2013 for the the 100th anniversary of the National Conservation Exposition at Chilhowee Park. In 1913, this exposition drew over a million people from Labor Day until the beginning of November. It was an important event then and it is important now as we celebrate both the historic significance and our ongoing commitment to conservation, preservation, and sustainability.

A decision is about to be made about hunting Sandhill Cranes in Tennessee. KTOS member Vickie Henderson has led a wonderful campaign to help educate both the public and the TWRA Commission about this issue but it is proving to be a difficult task. A meeting is taking place here in Knoxville as discussed in this newsletter. If you can attend, it would be very helpful and appreciated.

As T. Roosevelt said in 1912 "There can be no greater issue than that of conservation in this county" and it is still the greatest issue that we face today.

Billie Cantwell



Seal from 1913 National Conservation Exposition held in Knoxville. Source: Gifford Pinchot, et al. (1914) The First Exposition of Conservation and Its Builders: an Official History. Knoxville, Tenn. Knoxville Lithographing Company. (Retrieved from <http://books.google.com>)

2013 Fall Meeting and Symposium

The Warioto Chapter of the National Audubon Society invites TOS members and all other interested birders to the Fall Meeting and Symposium on September 27-29, 2013. The meeting will feature a Friday evening gathering, field trips to many of the local area hotspots, a Board of Directors meeting and symposium with submitted presentations on Saturday afternoon.

The host hotel is the Country Inns and Suites, 3075 Wilma Rudolph Blvd., at I-24 Exit 4 in Clarksville. Tenn. Rooms are \$89 per night plus tax; call (931) 645-1400 before September 10, 2013 and ask for Erin or Donna, and mention TOS for the special rate. The room rate after September 10 is \$129 per night.

The Saturday afternoon meeting and symposium will be held at the the hotel. See www.tnbirds.org/Events/Fallmtg13.html for additional information.

"Wonder of Hummingbirds"

The **Wonder of Hummingbirds Festival** will take place **Saturday, August 24, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** and has an admission fee of \$5.00. Children under six are admitted free. The festival is co-sponsored by the Knoxville Chapter of the Tennessee Ornithological Society and Ijams Nature Center and will be located at Ijams, 2915 Island Home Ave., Knoxville, Tenn.,

KTOS will sponsor the "Bird Bargain Barn" where gently used items will be sold. Should you have any items that you would like to donate, please price them and either bring them on the morning of the festival or give them to one of the officers to bring.

KTOS thanks the generous support of the festival's gold and silver sponsors. This years gold level sponsors are: Wild Birds Unlimited (Knoxville, Tenn.), Stanley's Green House, Prism Pool Center, and Perky Pet. This years silver level sponsor is Visionary Horizons Wealth Management.



Knox County Fall Count

The annual Knox County Fall Bird Count will be held around late September with the exact date yet to be determined due to a conflict with the state TOS meeting on the traditional date. The final date will be announced at the next KTOS meeting and on [TOS List Server](#).

Regardless, 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). If you normally participate in this count but are unable to do so this year, please contact Dean so that someone else to cover that territory.

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

- a checklist including the tally for each species identified;
- names of all participants with contact information for at least one person;
- location(s) you counted;
- time of day 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, car and/or boat and miles covered while owling; and
- documentation including written details and photographs (if possible) of any rare species.

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

Get Out and Get Birding! June Fieldtrips

Beginning Birders' Clinic

Tuesday, September 3, 2013, @ 7:00 p.m.

Leader: Tiffany Beachy

We will meet at the Little River Trading Company (KRTC), located at 2408 East Lamar Alexander Parkway, Maryville, Tenn. at 7:00 p.m. Tiffany Beachy with the Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont, will conduct a beginning birders' clinic at the LRTC, including a short walk from the store.

Rankin Bottoms

Saturday, September 14, 2012 @ 7:00 a.m.

Leader: Tom Howe (865) 748-9610, thowe@lillyco.com

This date is tentative. Based on the water levels, this fieldtrip may be rescheduled. Rescheduling information will be posted on [Facebook](#) at the [TOS List Server](#) and [KTOS Yahoo! group](#).

We will meet at the Stokley Building at Cedar Bluff at 7:00 a.m. to drive to Rankin Bottoms or you can join us at the site. (Note: The Stokley Building is located at 320 North Cedar Bluff Road, Knoxville, Tenn.) Please RSVP if you plan to meet at Cedar Bluff. For directions to Rankin Bottoms and a site description, see www.tnbirds.org/IBA/SitePages/Rankin.htm. Join us to search for migrating shorebirds. Bring snacks and water as there are no eating facilities nearby.

Heritage Center Walking Trail

Thursday, Sept 19, 2013 @ 9:00 a.m.

Leader: Tony King, (865) 988-6172

Meet at the main entrance to K-25 (Heritage Center) across from the small pond. Parking lot is on the left.

Hawk Watch on Look Rock Parkway.

Sunday, Sept 22, 2013 @ 8:00 a.m.

Leader: Tom Howe (865) 748-9610, thowe@lillyco.com

We will meet at the Foothills Parkway turnaround at the beginning of road in Walland, Tenn. at 8:00 a.m. We will start our trip by looking for migrants around the parking lot such as Hermit, Grey-cheeked, and Swainson's Thrushes with some confusing fall warblers. We will then move to higher



Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs
Source: Wikimedia Commons

KTOS membership: Join or renew by mailing your annual dues to Carole Gobert, 1304 Barcelona Drive, Knoxville, TN 37923. Dues levels: \$26/individual, \$30/family, \$38/sustaining, \$13/student, or TOS life membership for \$450 with \$8 annual fee to Chapter.



www.tnbirds.org/KTOS.html

**2013 — 2014
Chapter Officers**

President

Billie Cantwell
(865) 567-4273
bfcantwell@gmail.com

Vice President

Patty Ford
(865) 719-8383
pattyford.ford@gmail.com

Treasurer

Carole Gobert
(865) 254-8841
cpgobert@hotmail.com

Secretary

Karen Wilkerson
(865) 406-8506
karenwilk@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Michael Plaster
(865) 694-4814
KTOS.Editor@gmail.com

Field Trip Coordinator

Tom Howe
(865) 983-8198
blountbirder@yahoo.com

State Directors, 2012 – 2014

Jean Alexander
Harold Howell
David Johnson

State Directors, 2013 – 2015

Michael Plaster
Chris Welsh

through the biKNOXulars
5425 Yosemite Trail
Knoxville, TN 37909

Published monthly, except January, July, and August by the Knoxville Chapter of the Tennessee Ornithological Society, 5425 Yosemite Trail, Knoxville, TN 37909
Subscription price: \$8.00.

Have you bought your “Duck Stamp”?

I know a lot of you think or feel that the “Duck Stamp” only represents hunters. In fact, this is the only way we have to help with the acquisitions of additional land for National Wildlife Refuges, besides specific donations such as that done for the [Blythe Ferry Project](#). In fact the sale of duck stamps to hunters is down. Until the Federal Conservation Stamp is available, this is our only way of helping.



On June 5, 2013 the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission (MBCC) approved the addition of more than 9,600 acres in fee-title (direct purchase) and leases to three units of the National Wildlife Refuge System: (1) Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge (Texas) (81 acres fee-title); (2) Red Rocks Lakes National Wildlife Refuge (Montana) (6,323 acres lease); and (3) Upper Quachita National Wildlife Refuge (Louisiana) (3,219 acres fee-title). So if you bought a duck stamp last year, you contributed to the acquiring of these properties.

The 2013—2014 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (“Duck Stamp”) features the image of a male Common Goldeneye and went on sale July 1, 2013 at many local post offices. You can also buy the stamp on the internet, and at many national wildlife refuges, sporting goods and outdoor stores. Buying a “Duck Stamp” each year gives you free admission to refuges and the comfort of knowing that the stamps are, dollar for dollar, one of the best investments one can make in the future of America’s wetlands. All birders are encouraged to purchase a stamp.