



Please join us on **Wednesday, February 5** at 6:45 pm in room 118 of the University of Tennessee Veterinary Medicine Bldg. Barry Spruce will be showing pictures of Snowy Owls and other birds of the Cold North that he has photographed on his annual trips to the northeast during late January.



What Our Dues Are Used For

A common question from new members is what are the membership dues used for. So the answer is in two parts. First, about 2/3 of dues go to TOS, the main organization of which KTOS is chapter. They use the money for two primary things. Each membership will receive two publications that are printed and sent out by TOS. The printing and mailing is a significant cost and discussions are underway to look at the possibility of sending these publications out electronically. The second area that TOS spends significant funds on each year is conservation and educational grants. There are committees that oversee these two areas and review requests for funds each year and award grants up to their annual limits.

What does KTOS do with their portion of the dues? Generally KTOS has three types of expenses. First, we have some operational expenses like paying for website related costs, postage and printing of things like business cards and membership applications. This doesn't run very much but may vary from year to year. Secondly we have been paying for rental of a place where we hold our potluck dinners. Again, this runs about \$100 a year so not a huge expense. Third, the club usually funds one major project that is educational or conservation related. Last year we gave \$1,000 to a UT graduate student for his research project. The year previous we gave \$1,000 to the International Crane Foundation.

In our current year we have used this discretionary part of our budget to fund educational material that we used at the Hummingbird Festival last August. We are also planning to participate at the Dogwood Arts Festival's Home and Garden Show in February. The reason for being at this show is educational (see President's Letter on page 4) and KTOS will need to use funds for additional printed materials and space rental. In 2020/2021 we may use some funds to do native plant restoration on Sharp's Ridge. In any event, we anticipate continuing to use about \$1,000 annually on an educational or conservation project.

Rare Bird Sightings



Its been a real slow December and January for rare birds. Two really special birds did show up in Nashville recently. A Western Grebe has been hanging out with a large group of Horned Grebes on Percy Priest Lake. This grebe is almost twice the size of a Horned Grebes so it really stands out. A Little Gull has been hanging out at Long Hunter State Park now for several weeks. This gull is almost identical to a Bonaparte's Gull except it is slightly smaller and has all black underwings. Some of the KTOS members who have made one or more treks to Nashville lately to see these birds are Bill Keeler, Dr Collier, Laura Tappan, Howard Cox and Beth Schilling.

KTOS Financial Report for 2019

Income	2018	2019
Dues	\$2,551.00	\$3,064.00
Shade Grown Coffee	\$1,041.00	\$943.37
JB Owen Fund Donation	\$0.00	\$100.00
Marcia Davis Memorial	\$2,405.00	\$497.00
Wild Birds Unlimited Products	\$0.00	\$250.00
Discover Birds Activity Books	\$0.00	\$0.00
Class Sponsorships/Field Trips	\$0.00	\$200.00
Marcia Davis Book Sales	\$0.00	\$184.00
JB Owen Book Sales	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Income	\$6,023.00	\$5,238.37
Expenses		
Supplies	\$41.72	\$96.85
Shade Grown Coffee	\$1,062.28	\$924.56
Member Dues to TOS	\$2,054.00	\$1,954.00
Room Rental - Ijams	\$200.00	\$144.00
Grants and Donations	\$1,000.00	\$74.67
J B Owen Award	\$700.00	\$1,000.00
Marcia Davis Award	\$500.00	\$587.00
Internet	\$53.98	\$86.25
Printed Materials	\$0.00	\$159.33
Total Expenses	\$5,611.98	\$5,026.66
Account Balances		
KTOS Checking and Savings *	\$17,662.02	\$14,241.23
JB Owen Memorial *	\$8,528.44	\$8,662.69
Marcia Davis Memorial *	\$2,305.51	\$3,057.91
Total Assets	\$28,495.97	\$25,961.83

* 1019 KTOS Funds Understated by \$1,587. JB Owen overstated by \$1,000. Davis Fund overtated by \$587

Membership	108	102
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International Travelers - Again!

As usual, Ron and Dollyann are off to far corners of the world. This time they are spending January in the Philippines. Along on the trip are Merikay (Waldvogel) and Jerry (Ledbetter), Chris Welch and Kirk Huffstater. Do I since a Phillipines talk in our future?

Why Shade Grown Coffee?

If you haven't taken a look at page 3 and the information about why buying shade grown coffee is better for the birds please do so. Many of the species of birds that are suffering the most are those that winter in northern South America. Coffee plantations that grow their coffee beans in full sun is resulting in more and more habitat loss which ultimately results in more bird deaths on their wintering grounds.



Please go to: www.knoxvillebirding.org for all KTOS information.

- Calendar (Fieldtrip Info)
- Newsletters
- Membership Information
- Contact Us
- FaceBook
- Photo Share
- Resources



Being part of a like minded community is important. Please remember to check the status of your membership. Morton Massey will be happy to answer any questions. You can email him at knoxtnbirds@gmail.com. Please remember to put "Membership" in the subject line.



Field trips and social gatherings are a great way of getting to know one another. Fields trips can be lead by any of our members regardless of skill level. We all can learn from one another. If you have an idea or would like to lead a trip, please contact Melinda Fawver at knoxtnbirds@gmail.com. Please remember to put "Field Trip" in the subject line.

Always check the Calendar at www.knoxvillebirding.org to view upcoming Field Trips, Festivals, Bird Counts and Social Gatherings.

Shade grown coffee is a great product and environmental friendly for our beloved feathered friends.

To order shade-grown coffee, email David Johnson and Jean Alexander at jjadmj@yahoo.com. Your order must be turn in Thursday night before for meeting each month. David and Jean bring orders to the monthly meetings.

Thank you, David and Jean!

<p>Sun-Grown Coffee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Grows faster ✗ Requires more water, fertilizer and pesticides ✗ Supports less biodiversity ✗ Degrades ecosystems 	<p>Shade-Grown Coffee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Grows slower ✓ Requires less water, fertilizer and pesticides ✓ Supports greater biodiversity ✓ Sustains healthy ecosystems ✓ Allows farmers economic diversification ✓ Tastes better



2020 Membership Renewals:

Annual dues can be turned in at KTOS meetings or mailed to KTOS, 1553 Dutch Valley Rd, Clinton TN 37716. Dues levels: \$26/individual, \$30/family, \$38/sustaining, \$13 student (high school or younger), or TOS life membership for \$450 with \$8 annual fee to Chapter.



2019 - 2020

Chapter Officers / Staff

President
Morton Massey

Vice President
Bill Keeler

Treasurer
Melinda Fawver

Secretary
Laura Tappan

Newsletter Editor
Position Open

Website
Morton Massey

Discover Birds
Tom Howe

Field Trip Coordinator
Tom Howe

Meeting Refreshments
Howard Cox

Website Blog
Karin Beuerlein

State Directors

Ron Hoff (2019 - 2020)
Bill Keeler (2019 - 2020)
Tony Headrick (2019 - 2020)
Chris Welch (2019 - 2021)
Tom Howe (2019 - 2021)

Presidential Perch by Morton Massey

I am pleased to announce that KTOS will be attending the Dogwood Arts Festival's Home and Garden Show February 14-16 at the Knoxville Convention Show. This opportunity came up a few weeks ago and the officers met and agreed it was an excellent opportunity to spread the word on how people can help reverse the loss of 3 billion birds in North America. Our primary message will be

Better Backyards for Birds

Bring Back Our Birds!

Here's How You Can Help

The show is going to be from 10 to 7 on Friday and Saturday. On Sunday it will be from 10 till 5. I encourage each of you to attend the show at some point and come by our booth. We are creating additional material to handout that we are reprinting from 3billionbirds.org along with other rack cards and materials we have used at previous events.

We need all KTOS members to get better educated on what needs to be done to reverse the loss of 3 billion birds. The good news is its not painful. Making our backyards better for birds should be a win win. More birds and more enjoyment of our birds.

So please come by and help with the cause!

Upcoming Events

February

- 5 KTOS Monthly Meeting
- 8 Cove Lake Walk
- 14-16 Home and Garden Show
- 26 Birding with Friends at Seven Islands Walk
- 27 Gupton Wetlands Walk with Kingsport Chapter
- 29 New Birder Walk at Lakeshore Park

All bird walks are subject to change. Please make sure to look on the KTOS calendar on our website for walk details. We are not posting many KTOS walks on our Facebook page to prevent more birders showing up than the walk leaders can support.



March's program will be a presentation by KTOS member Todd Freeberg. Todd is a professor at UT and will be talking about the sociology of birds thru vocalization.