

through the biKNOXulars

Knoxville Chapter of the Tennessee Ornithological Society

'Songbird Nesting Ecology' is topic of April 5 program

This Wednesday, April 5, Benny Thatcher will present "Songbird Nesting Ecology in Relation to Conservation-Oriented Timber Harvesting in Tennessee." Here is an opportunity to learn about bird nesting just as the breeding season gets into full swing.

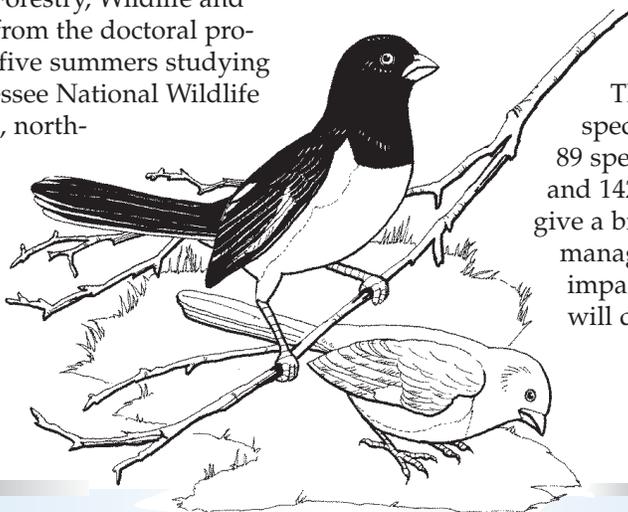
Thatcher is a graduate research assistant in Avian Ecology & Management for the University of Tennessee's Department of Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries. He will graduate from the doctoral program this fall, having spent five summers studying breeding songbirds at Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge (Kentucky Lake area, north-west Tennessee). Prior to coming to Knoxville, Thatcher earned his Masters from the University of Arkansas studying Henslow's Sparrows. He has also helped study endangered shorebirds in Montana, the

Red-cockaded Woodpecker in Florida, songbirds in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and worked on the Arizona Breeding Bird Atlas. His family can be found in the outdoors too, his wife studies Florida Panthers and rare plants as a geographer for the University of Tennessee, and his two-year-old son, Henry, loves the outdoors.

Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge includes over 50,000 acres on and around Kentucky Lake.

The refuge is home to 291 bird species, 51 different mammals, 89 species of reptiles and amphibians and 142 species of fish. Thatcher will give a brief overview of the habitat management at the refuge and its impact on bird conservation. He will discuss habitat characteristics

(Continued on page 4)



📅 MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April Field trips

See page 2 for details.

Saturday, April 1, 7:30 AM

Kyker Bottoms, Blount County

Sunday, April 9, 8 AM

Wood Thrush Ridge near Greenback

Thursdays, April 13, 20 and 27, 8 AM

Sharp's Ridge, Knox County

Saturday, April 22, 7:30 AM

Seven Islands WMA, Knox County

Sunday, April 23, 8 AM

Hickory Bend

Saturday, April 29, 8 AM

Sharps Ridge, plus Seven Islands

Sunday, April 30 - All Day

Knox County Spring Bird Count

(See page 5 for details.)

"People think it would be fun to be a bird because you could fly. But they forget the negative side, which is the preening"

- Jack Handey, "Deep Thoughts" from *Saturday Night Live*

April field trips *(Continued from page 1)*

Saturday, April 1, 7:30 AM

Kyker Bottoms, Blount County

Leader: **Charlie Muise** (865-977-8429; cmmbirds@yahoo.com)

Meet at the upper (paved) parking lot at 7:30 a.m. For those who are willing, be prepared to wander "off the beaten path" into the wet areas and tall vegetation, to look for rails and late migrating sparrows. Dress appropriately! Others may choose to stay back and hope to see birds from a less messy distance. Some breeders will certainly be back by then, but others, like Willow Flycatcher, are just an outside possibility. Charlie is likely to be there before dawn, to try to see/hear Barn Owls, and others are welcome to join him then. But we won't move much, not wanting to have too much impact on the owls or the area in general.

There is the potential for carpooling from Knoxville. Contact Charlie for info.

Sunday, April 9, 8 AM

Wood Thrush Ridge near Greenback

Birding, socializing and pot luck lunch at Wood Thrush Ridge near Greenback (the home of KTOS member

Janet McKnight), Loudon County

Leader: **David Trently** (dtrently@utk.edu; w 974-8664; h 531-1473).

Our March trip here was such a success that we want to go back! This time we will find out what birds migrate through Janet's property in early April.

Once again, we will spend our time on this extremely bird-friendly property, watching the many feeders, the trees, nearby fields and pond for birds.

Bring your field guides as we will take time to study even our more common birds, pointing out field marks and behaviors from point-blank range.

Much of the time can be spent relaxing in chairs or standing around feeders as we watch the birds coming in to eat. You may want to try some photography as well. There is an incredible view of the mountains from atop her ridge.

Here are directions: From I-75, take Exit 81 onto US 321 heading toward Lenoir City. Continue on 321 over Fort Loudoun Dam. Less than 4 miles from the dam, you'll turn RIGHT onto Highway 95. After 5.7 miles from there, turn LEFT onto Ness Lane. Pass Lake Leach on your left and take the first RIGHT (Hammontree Lane) up the hill. Enter the driveway on the right and park. (You can do a search for 163 Hammontree Ln, Lenoir City, TN on expedia.com and find the location)

Bring some food or drink to share! But please come even if you don't have a chance to get anything to bring. If you can't make it at 8 o'clock, come on later. We'll be there into the afternoon.

Thursdays, April 13, 20 and 27; 8 AM

Sharp's Ridge, Knox County

Leader: **Tony Headrick, David Trently or Dan Mooney** (to be determined later) Meet at the ranger's house at 8 a.m. The walk will be along the road in Sharp's Ridge Memorial Park. Spring migrants are the objects of these trips. Orioles, grosbeaks, tanagers, warblers and other migrants are expected.

Saturday, April 22, 7:30 AM

Seven Islands WMA, Knox County

Leader **Dan Mooney** (789-0806); birds@birdnerds.com

Meet at the Cracker Barrel on Straw Plains Pike.

Be prepared to walk. Since most of the bottomland warm season grasses were burned off this winter we will start by going up the hill behind the parking area. We will cover the fields and woods on the ridge and work our way down to the road. The eagles should still be around and may even have young by then. We will then take the trail behind the horse barn and around to the tip of the peninsula. We plan to finish up by noon. For more info on birding Seven Islands WMA please visit:

<http://www.tnbirds.org/birdfinding/SevenIslands.htm>

Sunday, April 23, 8 AM

Hickory Bend

Leader: **Mark Campen** (mark@tnike.com; 865-414-5593)

Meet at Earth Fare in west Knoxville off Parkside Drive (next to Turkey Creek wetland). This is a 250-acre TVA public land.

Saturday, April 29, 8 AM

Public bird walk on Sharps Ridge, plus Seven Islands Wildlife Refuge after lunch

Leader: **David Trently** (dtrently@utk.edu; w 974-8664;

h 531-1473). Other chapter members will serve as

co-leaders as we bird our way along the road. All KTOS members are urged to attend. The more birders we have listening, the more birds we will see, and that may translate into new recruits for our hobby. Meet at the J.B. Owen overlook at 8 a.m. The walk will be along the road in Sharps Ridge Memorial Park. Spring migrants are the objects of this field trip. Orioles, grosbeaks, warblers and other migrants are expected. The general public will be invited.

For those interested, we will then go to lunch, followed by a walk at Seven Islands Wildlife Refuge (time of arrival will depend on the success of the birding at Sharps Ridge). Here we will hope to add many field birds, including Northern Bobwhite, Yellow-breasted Chat, Grasshopper Sparrow, Blue Grosbeak, Bobolink and, hopefully, Bald Eagles.

- David Trently, Dan Mooney

M E M O R I A M

Jon Anthony "Tony" Koella

June 10, 1938 - March 1, 2006

"Tony was a birder's birder," said his wife Mary Laura. "He could stand out in the middle of a field with his eyes closed and hear every bird conversation within his hearing range—every call, every chip note, every little pip—and tell you what birds were present, what they were saying, and where and how many there were. He would say, 'A cerulean warbler is in that tree and at least five American goldfinches are flying overhead.' And he'd be right."

"But more than that, he was the sweetest man in the world. He never said an unkind thing about anyone and was always positive." Even through his long illness, Tony Koella remained upbeat. If you asked him how he was, no matter the circumstances, he'd say, "just fine." He handled his decline with such grace, dignity and humor that he was an inspiration to us all.

The last time many of us saw Tony was in June 2005 at the spring picnic at Ijams Nature Center when Tony was awarded the TOS Distinguished Service Award. The honor is given by the statewide organization in recognition of outstanding service to the Tennessee Ornithological Society.

Tony's mother sparked his interest in birds by giving him a bird book to keep him "out of her hair." He started birding at about age twelve in the early 1950s. The late J.B. Owen was one of his earliest birding companions.

Over the summers during high school, Tony, an Eagle Scout, taught nature and birding to Boy Scouts at Camp Pellissippi near Norris, where he was a counselor. He was a graduate of Maryville High School, North Carolina State University where he obtained an engineering degree Magna Cum Laude, and Harvard University where he received an MBA degree.

In the mid-1970s under Gov. Winfield Dunn, Tony served as State of Tennessee Assistant Conservation Commissioner. He referred to this job as his all-time favorite because this position gave him the unique opportunity to visit every state park in Tennessee and presented unlimited birding opportunities on a paycheck. Also, he looked for new wildlife areas and was always interested in their development and protection and was a strong supporter of the Land Conservancy.

As a member of the TOS since 1967, Tony played important roles as a dedicated conservationist and a leader at both the state and local levels.

He served as TOS State President from May 7, 1983 until May 4, 1985 and while in that office urged local chapters to form conservation committees, challenged members to broaden the base of participation in TOS, and encouraged the involvement of more young people

by sparking their interest in birds.

In 1974, Tony and Ken Dubke of Chattanooga went to the Highland Rim region and encouraged the establishment of a new local TOS chapter there. During his tenure as president, TOS fully endorsed the Breeding Bird Atlas Project and also supported the Peregrine Falcon Restoration Project as a conservation project.

In 1989, Tony was elected vice president of the Knoxville Chapter of TOS. At the local level he has been one of the most dedicated participants in annual bird counts. Although Tony often birded alone, he was quick to share his discoveries and special birding locations with other club members. When he found a rare Harris Sparrow at his White Pine farm, birders came from all over the country for viewing, and Tony led many people to one of East Tennessee's last Bachman's Sparrow locations near Crab Orchard. He thoroughly explored the places he birded—covering nearly every square yard to obtain a complete species count.

Tony's main contribution to birding in Tennessee was his discovery of the abundant bird life at Rankin Bottoms on the French Broad River in Cocke County. When Tony first reported sightings of over 100 Great Egrets and regular flocks of over a hundred shorebirds on the mudflats at Rankin, few people had ever heard of such numbers in East Tennessee. Today Rankin Bottoms is recognized as one of the premier birding places in East Tennessee and a critical stopover site for migrating shorebirds.

"Tony Koella was a renaissance man." said Rev. Steve Musick at his memorial service. "He was a man whose heart and intellect were big enough to embrace a wide spectrum of interests, activities and loves—especially the loves. He had a lust for living that only grew stronger as his body got weaker. He was a man on a quest to discover the most true things; a man with a thirst for knowledge and experience, a quest he undertook with a quiet passion. He lived to learn and grow and love."

The day Tony was interred at Grandview Cemetery in Maryville, a flock of broad-wing hawks migrating north passed overhead. Those at the service felt it was a fly-over, a final salute from the avian world to the man who loved them so much.

Tony is survived by his devoted wife Mary Laura and five children: Jon Jr., a doctor of veterinary medicine in Dandridge; Louis "Bummi," a family practice doctor in Sewanee; Julia Mayshark, a CPA in New York City; Jenny, with the U.S. diplomatic corps; and William, a graduate of the Navel Academy who works at the Pentagon in Washington D.C.

2005 Cades Cove Christmas Bird Count

Wednesday, 28 December 2005 • Susan Hoyle, compiler

The Cades Cove CBC was held on Wednesday, December 28, 2005. There were 14 participants in six parties. The weather was unseasonably warm with highs in the low 60s. A storm passed through the count area around 8:30 in the morning. It was windy most of the day with gusts to 25 mph.

High counts of Ring-necked Ducks, Buffleheads, Wild Turkeys and Eastern Meadowlarks were recorded. Missed species included Hermit Thrush, Chipping Sparrow, Fox Sparrow and Purple Finches.

Two new species were added to the list: House Wren in Cades Cove by Tom Howe, Common Grackle found by David Trently

Species:

Canada Goose 27, American Black Duck 1, Mallard 70, Ring-necked Duck 52, Bufflehead 45, Hooded Merganser 2, Ruffed Grouse 1, Wild Turkey 31, Pied-billed Grebe 7, Great Blue Heron 1, Black Vulture 23, Turkey Vulture 9, Northern Harrier 2, Sharp-shinned Hawk 1, Red-shouldered Hawk 2, Red-tailed Hawk 5, American Kestrel 4, American Coot 9, Killdeer 1, Wilson's Snipe 1, Rock Pigeon 10, Mourning Dove 58, Eastern Screech-Owl 1, Belted Kingfisher 2, Red-bellied Woodpecker 16, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 11, Downy Woodpecker 17, Hairy Woodpecker 3, Northern Flicker 11, Pileated Woodpecker 32, Eastern Phoebe 12, Blue Jay 17, American Crow 256, Common Raven 5, Carolina Chickadee 82, Tufted Titmouse 51, Red-breasted Nuthatch 9, White-breasted Nuthatch 24, Brown Creeper 7, Carolina Wren 55, House Wren 2, Winter Wren 11, Golden-crowned Kinglet 50, Ruby-crowned Kinglet 6, Eastern Bluebird 54, American Robin 28, Northern Mockingbird 6, Brown Thrasher 1, European Starling 105, Cedar Waxwing 116, Yellow-rumped Warbler 28, Eastern Towhee 2, Field Sparrow 15, Song Sparrow 103, Swamp Sparrow 33, White-throated Sparrow 50, Dark-eyed Junco 38, Northern Cardinal 31, Red-winged Blackbird 6, Eastern Meadowlark 91, Rusty Blackbird 1, Common Grackle 1, House Finch 15, Red Crossbill 6, Pine Siskin 2, American Goldfinch 53

Total species reported: 66. Number of individuals: 1827
Hours walked: 27.75, Miles walked: 24.6
Hours driving: 11.5, Miles driving: 120
Hours owling: 1, Miles owling: 11

Participants: Dee Dee Blane, Warren Bielenberg, Marcia Davis, Madeleine Hassil, Tom Howe, Susan Hoyle (compiler), Kris Johnson, Tony King, Ed Manous, Dan Mooney, Chuck Nicholson, Niki Nicholson, Martha Rudolph, David Trently

April program: 'Songbird Nesting Ecology,'

(Continued from page 1)

important to nesting birds, the types of nests built by different species and the preferred nesting locations for forest songbirds on the refuge. He will, of course, discuss the research he conducted including methods for finding and monitoring bird nests and the effects of habitat management on songbird nesting ecology.

Come learn more about the Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge and see some pictures of the following birds and their nests: Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Acadian Flycatcher, Wood Thrush, Ovenbird, Worm-eating Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Summer Tanager, Eastern Towhee and Indigo Bunting. We meet in room 117 of the UT Vet Building at 7 p.m.

Kid Friendly Rating: ★★★ (Out of four)

- Tracey Muise, VP and program coordinator

Waxwings are what they eat

"Biologists recently discovered evidence that the saying 'You are what you eat' fits the Cedar Waxwing perfectly. A waxwing feeding on the fruit of certain introduced honeysuckles, while growing its new tail feathers in fall, will form a waxy tail tip that is orange in color instead of the typical yellow.

A carotenoid pigment (part of the chemical group that includes carotene, which gives carrots their orange color) in the honeysuckle berries is responsible for the color change.

The red waxy droplets on the wing feathers, which give waxwings their name, are also colored by carotenoids, but they appear not to be affected by the alien honeysuckles. These waxy wingtips vary in number and size, being most obvious on waxwings more than two years old. It's thought they signal social status as well as age, allowing individuals to evaluate each other during pair formation."

From *Secret Lives of Common Birds: Enjoying Bird Behavior through the Seasons* by Marie Read

Spring Bird Count is Sunday, April 30 - Compiler Dean Edwards

We will be conducting our annual spring bird count throughout Knox County on Sunday, 30 April 2006. Everyone is invited to participate by joining a group in the field or counting birds in your own backyard and neighborhood (assuming you live in Knox County, of course).

There were 160 reports from Knoxville on the recent Great Backyard Bird Count so I'm hoping for a big turnout on the spring count. For more informa-

tion, contact Dean Edwards: 865-560-9701 (H), 865-660-9701 (C), kde@utk.edu or go online for forms and maps at:

<http://www-chaos.engr.utk.edu/~kde/birds/kcsfc/KCSFCpage.html>

Please return your compilation forms and checklists as soon as possible to Dean Edwards (kde@utk.edu; 1615 Meadow Chase Ln, Knoxville TN 37931). Also note that there are no fees for this count.



OF NOTE!

Election of 2007 club officers

The Nominating Committee of KTOS will nominate the following individuals for state and local offices for 2007: TOS State Directors: Ron Hoff, Dollyann Myers and Charlie Muise; KTOS Officers: President - Dan Mooney, Vice President - Mark Campen, Secretary - Kathy Bivens, Treasurer - Marie Oakes; KTOS Executive Committee Members at Large: Jean Alexander and Tony King.

The Nominating Committee of KTOS recommends that you vote for these candidates in the May elections.

-Respectfully, David Johnson, Tony King and Jerry Hadder

'Artfully Ijams' art show to be held in April

Artfully Ijams Art Show and Silent Auction fundraiser for Ijams Nature Center will be held during the month of April. A portion of the proceeds will benefit "One Ton," area sculptors who work in Tennessee Marble. Artfully Ijams will showcase area artists. Some of the artwork is based on threatened, endangered and extinct species of North America such as the ivory-billed woodpecker and passenger pigeon.

For early perusal, all artwork will be on display in the Visitor Center April 7 - 29. The silent auction fundraiser is scheduled for Saturday, April 29, 5:30-8:30 p.m. The night of the event live music will be provided by Jay Allen. Ijams will also offer light refreshments.

Tickets: \$10 per person in advance, \$15 at the door. RSVP to Kelley Dodd at 577-4717 ext. 23 or e-mail kdodd@ijams.org.

KTOS calendar available online

A calendar of events for all KTOS functions is available on-line. The calendar has field trip info and meeting times. It can be downloaded and printed.

<http://www.tnbirds.org/chapters/knoxvill/Calendar/KTOSCAL.htm>

Our condolences

Laurie Mooney's father passed away a few weeks ago in Oklahoma. Laurie, we all are saddened by your loss.

KTOS Financial Report • April 2006

Compiled by Marie Oakes, Treasurer

	March	February	YTD
Income:			
. Dues	\$630.00	\$176.00	\$914.00
. Shade Grown Coffee	\$125.00	\$136.00	\$268.00
. Interest	\$19.36	\$21.18	\$40.54
. Owen Memorial	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
. Other Memorials	<u>\$25.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$125.00</u>
Total Income	\$799.36	\$358.18	\$1,372.54
Expenses:			
. Newsletter	\$63.00	\$44.95	\$107.95
. Supplies	\$17.78	\$0.00	\$17.78
. Shade Grown Coffee	\$106.90	\$270.62	\$377.52
. Member Dues to TOS	\$428.00	\$0.00	\$2,366.00
. Miscellaneous	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$615.68	\$315.57	\$2,869.25
Other:			
. J.B. Owen Award	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
. Seven Islands Wildlife Refuge	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Total Other	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Account Balances			
. KTOS Checking & Savings	\$4,042.65	\$3,977.86	
. J.B. Owen Memorial	\$6,940.91	\$6,922.02	
Memberships	135	155	
Note:			
Memberships decreased because of non payment of dues.			

Driving Miss Nancy *By Janet McKnight*

Nancy Tanner and I have a mutual friend, nature artist and writer Julie Zickefoose. Julie has always been fanatical about the Ivory-billed Woodpecker, and in the 1980s she had the opportunity to meet one of her heroes, James Tanner.

She and Nancy met on that day, and have kept in touch, but had not seen each other since. At bird club meetings Nancy would casually say to me, "When are we going to Julie's?" So I decided to just make it happen. A road trip with Nancy Tanner would be a trip in more ways than one, and I could always use a Julie fix. So I called Julie and asked her if Nancy and I could come up for a visit.

It was not easy to align the schedules of three very busy women, but a date was set and off we went. The drive up to Ohio was full of two ladies chatting, and I learned so much about Nancy and her family. Her three children had an idyllic upbringing, and Jim and Nancy had a wonderful marriage. Their world is a snapshot of family life that is becoming increasingly rare, and it was neat to hear about raising children in a time gone by.

We arrived safely (I'm an excellent driver) at Indigo Hill in Whipple Ohio and the visit was under-way. With all the new excitement surrounding the Ivory-bill subject, Julie was primed for hearing every word Nancy had to say. Julie had a notebook near, and every time Nancy starting talking Ivory Bill, Julie grabbed the notebook to get it all down. At one point Julie pulled me aside and said, "This is so great! Nancy said, 'Jim called them board wings because of the sound their wings made on the down stroke', where else will you get info like that!?" Julie was so thrilled to have Nancy and all the priceless knowledge she possesses in her home. We got to hear the past and present sound recordings of the Ivory-bill call and

compare them. We got to watch the old footage of the Ivory-bills in the Singer Tract and watch the new "Luneau video." All of us reveled in the knowledge that these birds were not gone after all.

Julie's Boston terrier Chet Baker supplied some of the entertainment. He was determined to make Nancy love him, and was very fixated on her. He would launch himself into her lap thinking this would win her over, and Nancy would point to me and tell him "No, go to her," wanting him to share his affection with both of us. Chet wouldn't hear of it, he wanted Nancy only. (Get a look at Chet Baker at juliezickefoose.com/blog; he's an absolute character, much like his mother.)

Julie has a daily walk she does on her land, on a trail called The Loop. I was anxious to get out and walk it, since I needed to negate some of the massive caloric intake of the trip. As we bundled up to take the hike, Nancy wanted to go too. Well, she was told, it is hilly, muddy, there's a creek to cross, etc.

She was not dissuaded; she hiked the entire two miles with us! I hope beyond words that I'm just as fit when I am nearly 90; she amazed and inspired me.

The drive home was not as fun...Nancy and I were stuck on I-81 for two hours due to an accident. Nancy called Julie to tell her we were at a stand-still, and she said "Janet's an excellent driver, but she's not an excellent sitter." To say the least. But we eventually made it back to Knoxville and what remains is the memory of a road trip will never forget. We ate great food, had many laughs and had such a good time. And what great company to be in; I'll hang out with birding legends any day. Julie Zickefoose, Bill Thompson and Nancy Tanner are truly my kind of people, and I'm so proud to know them.

KTOS supports Seven Islands nest box program

KTOS has contributed \$100 to support the nest box programs at Seven Islands Wildlife Refuge. This support is made possible by a gift to honor the memory of the late Lou Fuller, a leading KTOS member who made many important contributions to the conservation of wildlife habitat and for the welfare of birds in Tennessee. The 360-acre refuge, on former farmland, includes the Kelly Bend peninsula along the French

Broad River. Habitats include wooded hills, an intermittent stream and several fields being restored to native warm-season grasses. A paved road extends over a mile into the property creating a prime birding route. There is more information about the refuge at:

<http://www.tnbirds.org/birdfinding/SevenIslands.htm>



Presidential Perch

- By Charlie Muise

"To the dull mind all nature is leaden. To the illuminated mind the whole world sparkles with light." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

This is my penultimate Presidential Perch. At the May meeting we will be electing new officers, and after three years, I will be stepping down. The new president, and all elected officers, will take over at the June picnic at Ijams. In my opinion, the nominating committee has nominated a great group of leaders to be our next officers. (See page 5.) I look forward to seeing where this talented group of individuals take our club.

Speaking of Ijams, we hope that in future years they will have a pair of Whooping Cranes in a large, specially-built wetland habitat enclosure. What a great way to teach the public and area students about endangered animals.

It is migration time – please let folks know what you see and hear! As usual, our club has a great slate of field trips planned. (See page 2.)

At the last meeting of the Executive Committee a motion was passed to donate the \$100 given in honor of Lou Fuller to the Seven Islands nest box program, to be used at the discretion of Wayne Schacher. The motion passed.

KTOS is sponsoring a Cats Indoors poster contest. Right now it looks like sixth grade students from three middle schools will participate. Prizes will be \$30 gift certificates from Carpe Librum, Jerry's Artorama, and a national bookstore such as Borders or Barnes and Noble.

Perhaps the most important news regarding TOS is that our scientific, peer-reviewed journal *The Migrant*, has been digitized! On April 1, CDs will be available of all the issues from 1930 through 2004—approximately 300 issues. For members of TOS, they will cost \$5 shipped, or \$2.50 if purchased at a state meeting. I intend to purchase some at the meeting for club members. If you would like a copy, please let me know. I will bring them to the spring picnic.

I would like to personally thank the members of the TOS publications committee for accomplishing this important task. Members of the committee include Wallace Coffey, Theresa Graham, Dan Mooney, Chuck Nicholson, Michael Roedel (chair) and Chris Welsh. This is a momentous occasion for Tennessee Ornithological Society.

MY BACK PAGES

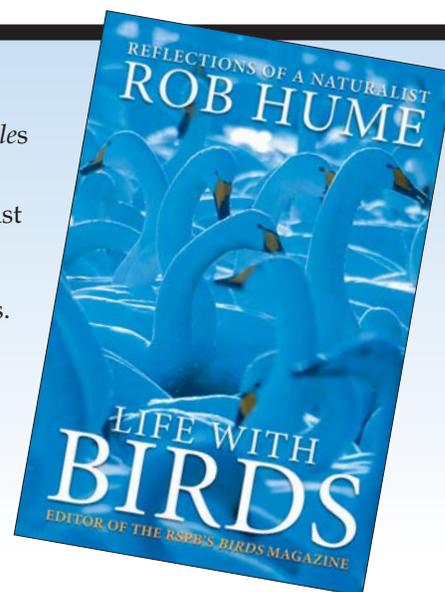
New book details a 'Life with Birds' - By Lyn Bales

Life with Birds: Memoirs of a Naturalist is a delight. Part bird book, part travelogue and all autobiographical, it's written by British naturalist Rob Hume who has worked for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds for 30 years and edited their magazine *Birds* for 16 of those.

Hume is also well-traveled and kept detailed notebooks of his trips. Luckily for us his scribbles of faraway places have found their way into his memoir. It's the journey of a lifetime you can make without going through customs, waiting in crowded airports, getting all those vaccinations or swatting mosquitoes; just settle into a comfortable chair with your favorite beverage. (To get in a proper frame of mind, might I suggest a cup of Earl Grey.) Until Dollyann and Ron write their book of travels, this one will fill the void rather nicely.

Here's a beautifully written excerpt from the Serengeti in Africa:

One more place: Ndutu, on the edge of the Serengeti, is a small, simple, rather primitive camp, next door to the tented camp used by the late Hugo van Lawick (a great photographer and film-maker), not far from a large lake. To reach it means a long, hard, tiring drive from Ngorongoro, sweeping down from the mountain rainforest and vast open slopes, through a region that looks like Scotland but with ostriches and elands and Masai villages, on past the area of Olduvai Gorge where so many discoveries have helped elucidate the evolution of mankind, then finally across great open plains. Somewhere, nowhere, there is a fork in the road and a little wooden sign, a picture of a genet and an arrow to the left to Ndutu; but you are not there yet, it is still many miles away, into the edge of the open, dry, fascinating savanna woodland, which often seems to be full of various species of cuckoos.



-David and Charles Publishers, 2005. 320 pages with illustrations by the author.

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 May issue is April 22. 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



PRESIDENT.....Charlie Muise
2632 Montvale Road,
Maryville, TN 37803 (865) 977-8429
cmmbirds@yahoo.com

VICE-PRESIDENT.....Tracey Muise
2632 Montvale Road,
Maryville, TN 37803 (865) 977-8429
traceson@yahoo.com

TREASURER.....Marie Oakes
18 Rockingham Lane
Oak Ridge, TN 37830 (865) 483-9287
marieoakes@msn.com

SECRETARY.....Kathy Bivens
114 Boulder Street
Maryville, TN 37804 (865) 983-7349
volkathy@yahoo.com

EDITOR.....Stephen Lyn Bales
1801 Kemper Lane
Knoxville, TN 37920
(865) 577-6978
lynbales@comcast.net

EDITOR (Distribution)...Patty Ford
5525 Lonas Drive
Knoxville, TN 37909-3248
(865) 584-8473
pattyford@comcast.net

Migrant Archive available on CD

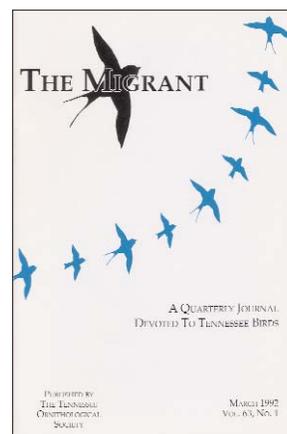
The "Digital Migrant" archives will be available April 1, 2006. *The Migrant*, a journal devoted to Tennessee birds, has been published by the Tennessee Ornithological Society in paper form since 1930. The back issues of *The Migrant* are now available in digital format on CD.

The CD contains approximately 300 issues of *The Migrant* spanning 75 years (1930-2004). All issues are in the popular Portable Document Format (PDF) which is readable and fully searchable using the free Adobe Acrobat Reader.

The most recent copy of that software package is included on the CD and is easily installed on your computer if you don't already have it.

The CD will be available at the Spring TOS meeting in Nashville, or may be ordered for delivery by mail after April 1, 2006. By mail, each CD is \$5 for members, or \$55 for non-members postage paid. At a state meeting the cost is \$2.50 for members and \$50 for non-members.

When ordering by mail, checks should be made out to Tennessee Ornithological Society and should be sent to: Mac McWhirter, TOS Treasurer, P.O. Box 22682, Memphis, TN 38122.



The Migrant covers. An illustration by KTOS's first president H.P. Ijams served as the cover for The Migrant from March 1935 until the early 1990s, a period of 56 years. It was replaced by the modern-day design created by Teresa Price Bullock, daughter-in-law of TOS member Carolyn Bullock. Her cover first appeared on the 75th Anniversary of TOS in 1990. It then reappeared and became the permanent cover design on the March issue 1992.

Editor's note: Special thanks to all those involved—Wallace Coffey, Theresa Graham, Dan Mooney, Chuck Nicholson, Michael Roedel and Chris Welsh—in making The Migrant archive available in a digital format. It's a valuable resource and an important piece of our history.

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