



## Results: 2015 Hummingbird Festival Banding

At the hummingbird festival in August we banded 26 Ruby-throated hummingbirds plus one Goldfinch, one Carolina Wren and one Song Sparrow. The breakdown of age and sex for the hummingbirds is: 14 young males, 5 adult males, 6 young females and one adult female. In addition to the birds we banded we also recaptured a Ruby-throated that was banded during the 2013 festival. Just by being lucky, we recaptured one of the birds we just banded at 1jams at our home in Seymour one week later. I just wanted to thank KTOS for the generous contribution to East Tennessee Avian Research. We will put the money to good use for the purchase of banding equipment and to finance the continuing winter hummingbird banding project. Thank you all very much.

Mark Armstrong



Common Redpoll, an a very rare visitor to East Tennessee, by Francesco Veronesi from Italy [CC BY-SA 2.0 (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0)], via Wikimedia Commons

## November Meeting: TOS Documentary

Please join us on Wednesday, November 4, 2015 for a special presentation by Daniel Shelton. He will reveal the back story to the making of the first film to document the lives of those who created and sustained Tennessee's earliest state-level bird -study and conservation organization in the Southeast. See film footage and photographs not included in the original film released in May 2015. Experience the journey that Danny took across the state to locate the films, photographs, and personal interviews that made the documentary a reality.

The KTOS meeting begins at 6:45 pm in Room 118 of the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine. For directions, visit the KTOS website at: [www.knoxvillebirding.org](http://www.knoxvillebirding.org).

## J.B. Owen Memorial Award

The J.B. Owen Memorial Fund was established in 2002 to honor the memory of J.B. Owen (1916 – 2001), longtime Tennessee Ornithological Society (TOS) member and columnist known to thousands in East Tennessee through his columns in Knoxville newspapers. Since its inception the Fund has made annual awards supporting projects that promote the welfare and conservation of birds in Tennessee. This year's J.B. Owen Memorial Award was presented at the October meeting of KTOS to Lee Bryant in support of her project "Investigating potential impacts of hemlock health decline on a streamside bird, the Louisiana Waterthrush." Lee has been involved in this research since 2013 when she began as the Louisiana Waterthrush Field Biologist and Educator, working with Tremont Institute Citizen Science Coordinator Tiffany Beachy, the 2012 Owen Award recipient for this same project. Because she is working toward her Masters degree in Environmental Science at Arkansas State University and could not travel to Knoxville for the meeting, Lee accepted the award via a Zoom meeting (similar to skype) and KTOS members were treated to hearing her gracious acceptance while viewing her on the big screen. Please see [youtu.be/-qzCxAT7xBJU](http://youtu.be/-qzCxAT7xBJU) for her acceptance of this award.



## Presidential Perch

Welcome fellow birders!

I am still remembering with pleasure last month's presentation by Ron Hoff of his and Dollyann Myers' whirlwind trip to Jamaica where they located 22 of the 28 endemic species without a professional guide! If you are hoping to go birding abroad, I strongly recommend you contact Ron and Dollyann ([aves7000@bellsouth.net](mailto:aves7000@bellsouth.net)) who have had extensive experience birding out of the country. Then you can show off your pictures at our January 6, 2015 member's photos meeting. Of course we enjoy local pictures too.

If you remember, a couple of years ago, Jerry and Merikay found a deceased Osprey being tracked by the Michigan Osprey Project after they sent them the last known coordinates. Another went missing last month near Fall Creek Falls State Park, so Ed LeGrand, who lives nearby, attempted to find it but to no avail. We will be learning about this great work the Project is doing when they come to speak at our **April 6, 2016** meeting next year—another great meeting set up by our Vice President, Merikay.

Keep an eye on our new KTOS calendar at [www.knoxvillebirding.org](http://www.knoxvillebirding.org) for up-to-date information and KTOS events, among which is Mark Armstrong's attempt to band Saw-whet Owls coming to Seven Islands Birding Park beginning Sunday evening November 1st at dusk. Any cancellations due to weather will also be on that calendar so pay close attention and peruse the site while you're at it.

And also be on the lookout for Snowy Owls possibly coming soon. There are already about 45 reports from Minnesota to Michigan, most coming from Wisconsin, with one in Indiana and one in Pennsylvania. This may be shaping up to be the third banner year in a row for Snowies and hopefully with a repeat visit to Tennessee. Redpolls are also on the move and have also just arrived early in New York—14 were banded at Braddock Bay Bird Observatory along Lake Ontario on October 25, 2015. There were about a half dozen that came to our state in 2012. This could be the year.

One Rufous Hummingbird has already shown up in Knoxville, so keep one feeder going as November is the month when they are most frequently seen. If you have any report of late hummers or any exciting birds you can let any of the officers know or simply email us at [knoxtbirds@gmail.com](mailto:knoxtbirds@gmail.com) and we will spread the word.

Have a blessed and birdy season.

*Tom Howe*

## Get Out and Get Birding! September Field Trips

**Kingston Lakeshore Park and Gupton Wetlands  
Saturday, November 7, 2015**

**Leader: Tom Howe**

**Phone: (865) 407-9620; [blountbirder@gmail.com](mailto:blountbirder@gmail.com)**

For those of us who have not been able to join Tony midweek, I felt this place has great potential. Meet at the new visitors overlook. We will meet at 714 Swan Pond Rd., Harriman, Tennessee.

**Sharp's Ridge Memorial Park Cleanup  
Saturday, November 14, 2015 @ 9 a.m.**

**Leader: Tony King, (865) 966-6172**

Help keep Sharp's Ridge beautiful. Meet at the J.B. Owen Overlook in Sharp's Ridge Memorial Park. Gloves are all you need—Tony will bring the bags.

**Gupton Wetland**

**Thursday, November 19, 2015 @ 9 a.m.**

**Leader: Tony King, (865) 966-6172**

This area has high potential to fill up with waterfowl this season. Go west on I-40 from Knoxville, take the Midtown exit, exit 350, turn left under the interstate, left on Route 1, and then left onto Swan Pond Rd. After arriving at Swan Pond Rd. turn right at the second intersection with Swan Pond Circle Rd., then the first right into a gravel lot.



**Saw-whet Owl**, by Superior National Forest (Saw Whet Owl Up-loaded by AlbertHerring) [CC BY 2.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/>), via 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 (high school or younger), or TOS life membership for \$450 with \$8 annual fee to Chapter.



[www.tnbirds.org/KTOS.html](http://www.tnbirds.org/KTOS.html)

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