



VOLUME 31 • NUMBER 6

September 2008

# biKNOXulars

Knoxville Chapter of the Tennessee Ornithological Society

## PICNIC AT KNOXVILLE BOTANICAL GARDEN AND ARBORETUM

The fall meeting of KTOS will be a picnic at the Knoxville Botanical Garden and Arboretum beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The picnic will be potluck, so please bring a dish to share . We will also need some drinks .

In order to reduce our use of disposables, please bring your own non-disposable plate and cup - silverware will be furnished by the Club.

## Directions to the Knoxville Botanical Garden and Arboretum located at 2743 Wimpole Avenue

**From I-40 East** take exit 389, 441S, Hall of Fame Drive. Go south for 0.8 miles, turn left on Summit Hill Drive. Go 1.4 miles to five-way stop. Go straight but bear left. Go .4 miles and turn left on Biddle Street and go .2 miles to three-way stop. Turn right onto Boyd's Bridge Pike, go .6 miles and turn left onto Parish Street, go one block and turn left onto Wimpole Avenue. Continue along Wimpole. Park in the field across from the KBGA office (a former residence).

Office telephone number is 540-8690

**If driving along Neyland Drive going east**, take Hall of Fame Drive exit. Turn left on Hall of Fame Drive at the third traffic light, turn right onto Summit Hill Drive and follow above directions

## Other Birding Opportunities

**Saturday, September 6, 2008,  
11 A.M. to 4 P.M.**

Mast General Store, Downtown Knoxville

KTOS was invited to spend a day at Mast General Store to talk with any curious patrons about birds and birding. Janet Lee McKnight and Lyn Bales will staff the information table, but all are welcome to come and join us in this very fun place. We can talk to the public about the wonders of the birds around us, and maybe even glean some new club members! Call Janet for more details (865-271-8337).

## September 26-28

Kentucky Ornithological Society Fall Meeting at Dale Hollow Lake State Park. For more information, contact Brainard Palmer-Ball (brainard.palmer-ball@ky.gov)

## October 3-5, 2008

Carolina Bird Club Meeting in Wilmington, NC  
(<http://www.carolinabirdclub.org/>)

## October 9-13, 2008

Colonial Coast Birding Festival, Jekyll Island, GA  
(<http://www.coastalgeorgiabirding.org/index.htm>)

## October 16-19, 2008

Alabama Coastal Birdfest, Five Rivers Delta Resource Center, Spanish Fort, AL (<http://www.alabamacoastalbirdfest.com/>)

## November 7-9, 2008

TOS Fall Meeting, Chattanooga, TN (<http://www.tnbirds.org/>)

## Upcoming field trips and programs

### SEE PAGE 2 FOR DETAILS OF FIELD TRIPS

**Sunday, September 7, 2008, 8 A.M.**

**Upper Third Creek Greenway**

Leader: Robin Barrow

(865-297-2572, [braveladyrobin@gmail.com](mailto:braveladyrobin@gmail.com))

**Saturday, September 13, 2008, 8:00 A.M.**

**Fort Loudon Dam Area**

Leader: Tony King (865-988-6172)

**Saturday, September 20, 8:30 a.m. - ??**

Hawk Watch at Foothills Parkway

Leader: David Trently (Home 865-531-1473, Work 865-974-8664,

[NatureTours@avianpursuits.com](mailto:NatureTours@avianpursuits.com))

**Sunday, September 21, 2008, 8:00 A.M. until the Wood Thrush stop singing**

**Third Annual Five Bs Gathering at Wood Thrush Ridge**

Greenback, Loudon County

Leaders: Janet Lee McKnight (865-271-8337) and David Trently

**Sunday, September 28**

Knox County Fall Bird Count. Information found on page 3 of this newsletter.

‘A wise old owl sat on an oak; The more he saw the less he spoke; The less he spoke the more he heard; Why aren’t we like that wise old bird?’

Edward Hersey Richards



## Presidential Perch - By Mark Campen

The mystery bird from the June newsletter is the Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*), the most common breeding bird in Tennessee.

Here is the first clue describing the next bird, which will be the last of the "easy" ones:

Weighing in at a whopping 16-21 g (0.56-0.74 ounces), this bird is a true harbinger of spring. We will return to the quiz shortly.....

I invite you to visit downtown Knoxville! If I'm not mistaken, KTOS will have a table set up at the Mast General store on Gay Street the first Saturday of September. KTOS member Janet Lee has graciously volunteered to set up and visit with customers and share the good news of KTOS. Come show your support, take a trip down memory lane and visit Janet at the Mast General Store as she solicits members and talks all about birds with those who will listen. If you would like to volunteer to sit at the table for part of the time, even for just an hour, please contact Janet.

Also, please plan on attending our September picnic meeting at the Knoxville Botanical Gardens and Arboretum (<http://knoxgarden.org/index.html>) on September 3rd at 6:30pm. Directions are located on the first page of this newsletter.. We shall convene and have supper before we take a leisurely walk around the grounds to take in the birds and blooms.

We have been discussing plans to purchase a projector for a few months now. We need to confirm this plan, if we all agree that is something we need. There are many options and we (the executive committee/ planning meeting regulars) will present our findings to the membership soon. If we agree that we need a projector for our monthly meetings, we will go forward with purchasing the projector. We recently had to pay for use of UT's equipment because we were unprepared.

Lastly, the TOS Fall Meeting will be in Chattanooga, November 7-9, 2008. Please see the TOS website and/ or The Tennessee Warbler newsletter for further details.

Now back to the quiz-bird. Occupying breeding, residential and wintering grounds that cover more than half of North America and a large chunk of Canada, this bird prefers hanging out near fresh water and woodland edges. Dining mostly on insects, this species will hover and catch prey midair, as well as eat small fruits and berries. Historically, nests were most likely constructed on rocky outcrops and vertical stream banks, but this bird has adapted nicely to our manmade structures, including bridges, barns and porch ledges. This species has been noted as the first ever banded bird, by John James Audubon in 1804.

### Sunday, September 7, 2008, 8 A.M.

Meet at the greenway's Sutherland Avenue entrance, located 0.3 miles east of West High School, directly across from Cox St. (See <http://www.ci.knoxville.tn.us/greenways/thirdcreek.asp> for map and directions.) My plan is to follow the greenway approximately two miles to Concord St, where we will have placed a car to ferry us back to the Sutherland parking lot. The Third Creek conservation area combines woods, meadows, and wetland. Walking will be easy; bring water and insect repellent.

### Saturday, September 13, 2008, 8:00 A.M.

Meet at 8:00 in the lower Ft. Loudon Dam overlook parking area. This area is reached by taking the marked exit off U. S. Route 321

on the north (I-75) side of the dam. We will visit both overlooks at the dam, looking for gulls, wading birds, waterfowl and raptors. We will also visit the area south along the river, where we can see a Bald Eagle nest. With time permitting, we will cross the dam and check the area of the beaver ponds. There are major beaver pond areas to visit as well as the open water areas of the reservoirs and tail waters. We should finish before lunch. Walking should be easy to moderate. Bring water.

### Saturday, September 20, 8:30 a.m. - ??

As usual, we'll start at the base of the Parkway off US 321 near Townsend. We will eventually make our way up about four miles to the site with parking lots on both sides of the road. From there we will scan the skies for whatever raptors and other birds might pass by. There are usually migrating songbirds (especially thrushes, vireos, warblers) 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 to share with others, as this works well as a pot-luck opportunity. A chair can be useful too since there may be times to sit and chat while no hawks are in view.

### Sunday, September 21, 2008, 8:00 A.M. - ??

Join hostess Janet Lee McKnight and 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. Bring some food to share, since we loooove to eat while birding! This is a great chance to just hang out in lawn chairs and relax for a change. Call Janet for directions or for more information, or go to [www.woodthrushridge.com](http://www.woodthrushridge.com)

## SHADE GROWN COFFEE

**See David Johnson to place your order for shade grown coffee. Help the birds, the farmers and yourself!! You will also be benefiting KTOS. Thank you.**

### Advanced Notice of Motion to Fund MAPS Work

The J.B. Owen Committee and KTOS Officers recommend that a 2008 J.B. Owen Award of \$418 be made to Mark Armstrong for his project on The MAPS Station at Seven Islands Wildlife Refuge. Mark previously received an Owen Award for support of SIWR MAPS activities in which 410 individual birds were banded. An "After MAPS" phase was initiated to see how long some of the late breeders remained at the refuge and was extended to include fall migration and winter. In the "After MAPS" phase, 371 individuals were banded. Mark would use a 2008 Owen Award for replacement mist nets and for construction of a canopy over the banding table to provide shade while the station is in operation. For this award, a transfer of funds from the general treasury of KTOS would be required. The J.B. Owen Guidelines state that "In the case of a meritorious project deemed worthy of more funds than the yield from the Endowment, the [Owen] Committee may recommend that KTOS make up the shortfall from its Treasury." In the next KTOS meeting, an Owen Committee representative will make the following motion:

"It is moved that \$418 be transferred from the KOS Treasury into the Owen Endowment for the purpose of funding a 2008 Owen Award in support of The MAPS Station at Seven Islands Wildlife Refuge."

Please be prepared to vote on this motion.

**KTOS Financial Report - Calendar Year 2008**

	June/ July	May	YTD
Income:			
-Dues	\$ 86.00	\$ 38.00	\$ 1,800.00
- Shade Grown Coffee	234.00	0.00	711.00
- Interest	55.55	26.38	163.08
-Silent Auction	0.00	0.00	0.00
-Owen Memorial	150.00	0.00	152.00
- Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Income	\$ 525.55	\$ 64.38	\$ 2,826.08
Expenses:			
- Newsletter	\$ 35.00	\$ 89.60	\$ 309.06
- Supplies	0.00	0.00	27.10
- Shade Grown Coffee	271.55	0.00	633.09
- Member Dues to TOS	22.00	22.00	2,376.00
- Miscellaneous	30.88	0.00	30.88
Total Expenses	\$ 359.43	\$ 111.60	\$ 3,376.13
Other:			
J.B. Owen Award	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Total Other	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Account Balances			
KTOS Checking & Savings	\$ 3,864.46	\$ 3,901.80	
JB Owen Memorial	\$ 7,611.33	\$ 7,407.87	
Memberships	126	124	
Paid 2008 Memberships	126	124	
New Members:			
Brenda Berry			

**Obituary for Stephen Satterfield:**

The Tennessee Ornithological Society lost a friend and long-time supporter on Monday, May 26, 2008, when Stephen Satterfield of Plainview, Tennessee, died during heart surgery. Stephen was born on May 6, 1952, in Plainview, Tennessee, just northeast of Knoxville. After high school, Stephen went to work for the Knoxville Utility Board where he worked for 25 years. He had also worked a couple of jobs after a short retirement from the utility company.

Stephen had a keen interest in birds and birding from the early 1960's and became a TOS member in 1983. Over the years he and his wife Rebecca became known for being very good and credible birders, always being careful with their sightings and data and observing nearly 330 species in Tennessee. Just this spring they had one of the few sightings of Townsend's Solitaire ever in Tennessee in their side yard. A few years ago they also had a Harris's Sparrow on their property.

In addition to birding, Stephen's other main hobby was listening to and appreciating music in all its forms. During his lifetime he had amassed a music library of over 2000 albums/CD's, along with a self-built sound room to listen to it in. He was also an exacting craftsman, often building his own version of whatever it was he needed, and he usually built it better. He was the go-to guy where home maintenance was concerned.

Stephen's family was his true passion. He and Rebecca live right across a county highway from Stephen's mother and father. His father had been battling cancer for 10 years and was facing the worst when Stephen went into the hospital. Stephen's father, Roy, passed away the day after Stephen went into the hospital and he was unable to attend the funeral. He is survived by his wife, Rebecca, his mother, Betty, and his brother, Kelly.

I've known Stephen since he and Rebecca joined the Knoxville Chapter of TOS. We have been on several trips together to find birds around the state of Tennessee and one time in Cheyenne Bottoms, Kansas. Many times on Sharpe's Ridge in the spring I would find Stephen's 6'4" frame (known to most of us as "the big guy") showing anyone who was interested a migrant warbler or something. Everybody I know liked Stephen and I never heard a bad word about him. He was well liked by most who knew him and his time on this earth was cut far too short. He will be dearly missed.

Ron Hoff

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**Knox County Fall Count  
Sunday, September 28, 2007**

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The annual Knox County Fall Bird Count will be held on Sunday, September 28, 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.

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

## 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 March issue is February 23.

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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## J.B. Owen Award for Cerulean Warbler Research

Than Boves (UT Department of Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries) will receive a 2008 J.B. Owen Award of \$500 for his project on Relationships between Cerulean Warblers, Timber Harvest, and Ornamentation. The objectives of this project are:

- (a) To examine the relationship between plumage ornamentation and quality in Cerulean Warblers.
- (b) To determine if relationships exist between timber harvest intensity, ornamentation, year, and the quality of individual Cerulean Warblers that inhabit the various harvest intensities.

In his proposal, Than writes that "This research relates to the conservation and welfare of Cerulean Warblers for two reasons. First, if I am able to find a relationship between plumage and condition, in the future, we could monitor the health of Cerulean Warbler populations by examining their plumage. Secondly, I hope to determine if timber harvest affects birds that use the disturbed habitat in ways other than those typically investigated (demographics and reproductive success). If it does then timber harvest operations may not only affect reproductive success and abundance of Cerulean Warblers but may also cause high quality birds to select other locations to breed (rather than in the potentially low quality timber sites). If I were to receive this award, it would help pay for some necessary equipment and travel to and from the site."



Cherohala Skyway Field Trip - Hooper Bald, NC - June 22, 2008

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