



September Potluck Picnic

After a long hot summer, we will get together for our annual potluck picnic at Ijams Nature Center on Wednesday, **September 5, at 6:30 p.m.** Bring a tasty dish with a serving utensil to share. Jean Alexander will provide our traveling dishes and silverware. Please bring your own drink. If we are lucky, we may see hummingbirds around the back patio. Bring your binoculars along, if you want to come early or stay late for a little birding! For directions, see ijams.org/find-ijams/directions/.

For those that preordered a 2013 Duck Stamp, we will have them to distribute. We hope to see our new members for this get together where we have the opportunity to learn more about each other.

TOS Fall Meeting

The Nashville Chapter will host the Fall Meeting and Symposium of the Tennessee Ornithological Society (TOS) between **October 12-14, 2012**. Registration will be held Friday, **October 12**, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Baymont Inn and Suites, located at 111 Penn Warren Dr., Brentwood, Tenn. The registration fee is \$15 and rooms are \$69 per night. Inn reservations may be made at (615) 376-4666.

The Saturday afternoon meeting will be held at the Warner Parks Nature Center. Sandy Bivens, Superintendent of Nature Center, has offered to set up a banding session at the Warner Parks Nature Center if there is enough interest. Please indicate if you are interested in attending a bird banding session at Warner Parks on the registration form. The registration form is in the August 2012 issue of the Tennessee Warbler.

To learn more and to register for the event, visit www.tnbirds.org/Events/Fallmtg12.html.

Help Hiwassee Wildlife Refuge

The Land Trust for Tennessee (LTTN) has secured an option to purchase a 68-acre parcel adjacent to the Hiwassee Wildlife Refuge. As you know, this refuge is home to the largest winter flock of Sandhill cranes in the southeast US outside of Fla. and is used by the reintroduced eastern population of Whooping cranes as a stopover during the migration periods and, at times, for part of the winter. This refuge is also home to the Tennessee Sandhill Crane Festival. This parcel was very close to being developed for a subdivision.

Fortunately for all friends of the Refuge and its wildlife, the LTTN will help purchase the parcel to add to the public wildlife lands managed by the TWRA. TWRA is contributing the maximum amount of funds they have available, \$250,000, to the project. LTTN is committed to help TWRA raise the remaining ~\$150,000 that is needed to secure this parcel and protect this important habitat. They have only three and a half months to raise the needed funds.

LTTN hopes people are willing to make tax-deductible donations, at any level, and also help them think of other ways they can raise the needed funds. They have some early indications of local foundation interest, but they are reaching out to as many local organizations and individuals to accomplish this important and critical task. Let's help them get the funds and support them! Additional information may be obtained from the enclosed flyer.

Wine in the Wild

Come taste some great wines, bird watch, and support KTOS on **Saturday, September 15, 2012**. We will taste some early fall whites and reds from wineries that are related to birding. We will begin with some birding around Billie's garden at 4:00 p.m. when the hummers should be at their peak. We will sit down for wine and a presentation by Mike Nelson about birds and wine at 6:00 p.m. Bring a dish for all to share. All proceeds from this event will benefit KTOS.

The cost for the wine tasting is \$35 per person and is limited to 26 people. This will be an outdoor event so dress accordingly. The event will be held at 1613 Cove Creek Ln., Knoxville, Tenn. Reserve your spot contacting Billie (bfcantwell@gmail.com), (865) 212-9797 or 567-4273.



Presidential Perch

As my first year as president has come to an end, I would like to highlight some of the things we, as a club, have achieved. The blind at Kyker Bottoms Refuge was completed due to Evan Searfoss' Eagle Scout project and the help of KTOS. An osprey nest at Looney Island was restored with the help of Wes James of TVA and KTOS. We sold Duck Stamps, had some great field trips, and had some outings at the Bijou Theater. Let's not forget our first ever wine tastings event or the hummingbird festival at Ijams Nature Center. WOW, what an exciting festival that was and we, as a club, have lots of new ideas to make it bigger and better next year. I think we can make the festival an annual event, not just to raise money for KTOS, but as a community service to the people that love hummers. We are educating children and adults, giving lots of exposure to KTOS and Ijams, getting new members, and most importantly having fun!

I do want to say a big thank you to all the volunteers that have given so much time, effort, and thought into making this last year a great one. I look forward to working with each of you again and having another busy and exciting year. We will be starting off with a big bang, "Wine in the Wild," where we will have a wine tasting outside amongst the hummers. You don't want to miss this one! Mike Nelson promises great wine, birds, and fun.

Please remember, if you have any ideas of things that you would like to see the club do, let one of the officers know and we will do our best to make it happen

Billie Cantwell

Knox County Fall Bird Count

The annual Knox County Fall Bird Count will be held on **Sunday, September 30, 2012**. Everyone is encouraged to participate by joining a group in the field or counting birds in your backyard and neighborhood (for those living in Knox County). For more information on how you can participate, please contact the compiler, Dean Edwards (see below for contact information). It is also very important to contact the compiler if you normally work the count but are unable to do so this year so that we can get someone else to cover your territory. Your tallies need to include the same information as for the Fall Migration Bird count and what time of day you counted. Please submit your count results to the compiler as soon as possible.

Dean Edwards
1615 Meadow Chase Lane, Knoxville, TN 37931

Fall Migration Bird Count

Each September, birders take part in the fall North American Migration Count (NAMC) to count birds in the field and create a snapshot of migration across the continent. This year the count will be on **Saturday, September 15, 2012**. You can participate by taking part in counts scheduled in Anderson and Blount counties, or by counting in your own county if you live elsewhere. Everyone is encouraged to participate by joining a group in the field or by counting birds in one's own backyard. There is no cost to participate, and all experience levels are encouraged to participate!

For specific contact information of the county compilers, see below. The county compilers can also answer questions about the count, give you a designated area to cover, or get you connected to a group that is already going out.

You will need to submit the following data to the compiler after the count.

- checklist with the tally for each species identified
- miles covered and hours spent counting by car, by foot, and by other means (boat, etc.) and owling
- hours spent watching feeders (if any)
- weather data and temperatures
- number of birding parties
- number of participants, their names, and their contact information
- location(s) where you counted
- documentation of any rare species, including written details and photos (if possible)

Putting your tally sheet of birds in taxonomic order really helps compile the data. For a checklist, visit www.tnwatchablewildlife.org/files/0986_bird_card.pdf.

Anderson County & all other counties

Ron Hoff
282 Hackworth Lane, Clinton, TN 37716
(865) 567-9679
aves7000@bellsouth.net

Blount County

Jean Alexander and David Johnson
(865) 977-0052

Field Trip Coordinator Needed

Unfortunately, Alice and Gary Woody will not be able to serve as our Field Trip Coordinators this year. Alice and Gary have done a great job since they began to coordinate trips last year! If you are interested in volunteering for this position, please contact Billie Cantwell.



Hummingbird Festival Success!

The hummingbird festival was a huge success! A big thanks to Ijams Nature Center, Wild Birds Unlimited, and our guest speaker Bob and Martha Sargent from the Hummer/Bird Study Group. Martha gave away some great door prizes! The festival would not have happened without all the volunteers that rolled up their sleeves and gave hours of planning, creating, troubleshooting, and hard work to make it a success. We had over 300 people who came and paid to see the bird banding and hear Bob speak. We had some great vendors from food and plants to awesome artists that showed their talent in their paintings, and glass, stone, and metal art.

This is not only a great fund raiser for both KTOS and Ijams but a community service to all nature lovers. We raised awareness about KTOS and Ijams in our community. As of this newsletter going to print, we have five new members who joined because of this festival! We also helped educate people about hummingbirds and what they can do to help the hummers. We need to get more people out and enjoying nature.



Get Out and Get Birding! September Field Trips

Rankin Bottoms

Sunday, September 2 @ 7:00 a.m.

Leader: Mike Nelson, madbirder@surfbirder.com

We will meet at the Stokley Building at Cedar Bluff at 7:00 a.m. to drive to Rankin Bottoms. (Note: The Stokley Building is located at 320 North Cedar Bluff Road, Knoxville, Tenn.) If you would like to join us at the site, we plan on being there for a while. For directions and a site description, see <http://www.tnbirds.org/IBA/SitePages/Rankin.htm>.

Join us for a trip to Rankin Bottoms where we will search for several sand-piper (peep) species including the Western, Least, Semipalmated, White-rumped, Baird's, and Spotted. We may be able to see Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs. We will check through the herons for an odd one in the bunch. There is a chance we may find a Double-crested Cormorant, Belted Kingfisher, and several other odd shorebirds depending on water depth. If a storm moves up the eastern US coast, we may expect more species to be pushed our way. Bring snacks and water as there are no eating facilities nearby.

The River Bluff atop Cherokee Trail (Legacy Parks Foundation)

Thursday, September 20 @ 9:00 a.m.

Leader: Tony King, (865) 988-6172

We will meet at the parking area for the River Bluff at 9:00 a.m. To reach the site from I-40, take U.S. Hwy 129 South (Alcoa Highway) and exit at the UT Hospital/Cherokee Trail. Follow Cherokee Trail uphill past the condominium and apartment complexes to the parking area on the left side of the road near the blue water tower.

We will expect a variety of bird species in this 70-acre woodland habitat that includes two large ponds, a ridge top, and a low elevation trail along the Tennessee River. The overlook has a beautiful view of downtown Knoxville high above the river on Cherokee Bluff. This area is a historic Civil War site of the mostly forgotten Battle of Armstrong's Hill, a key Civil War battle in the defense of Knoxville.

Foothills Parkway

Sunday, September 30 @ 8:00 a.m.

Leader: Mike Nelson, madbirder@surfbirder.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 areas (upper parking lots) once the thermals begin and set up our viewing area and spend the day watching for individual species within kettles of raptors. There should be Broad-winged, Red-tailed, and Red-shouldered Hawks. There is a chance we will see a Peregrine Falcon, a species that has been seen in the past, along with Cooper's and Sharp-shinned Hawks. Bring snacks and water as there are no eating facilities nearby.

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

2012 — 2013 Chapter Officers

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State Directors, 2011 – 2013

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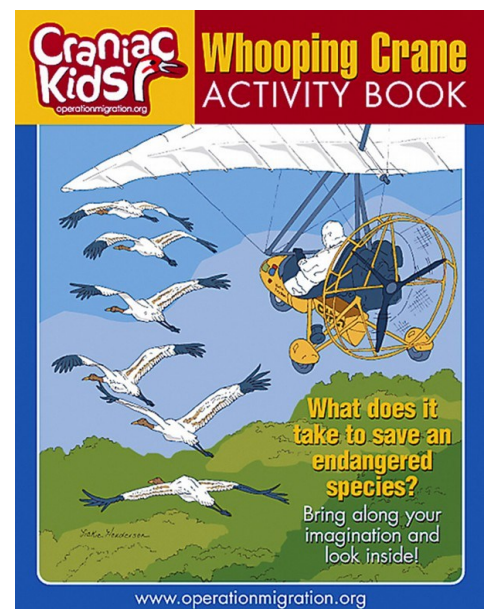
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Sponsor a Local Classroom with Activity Books!

Thanks to KTOS member Vicki Henderson and Sevier County teacher Teaka Carr, whose students now have the opportunity to learn more about their feathered friends when using their *Whooping Crane Activity Book*! These activity books, written by Vicki, are available to KTOS members for classroom donation at \$1 each to get more children involved. KTOS members are encouraged to sponsor a local classroom, which includes activity books for all students and lesson planning tools for their teachers.

This spring the Knoxville Zoo added these books to their gift shop collection and we hope to see them in state parks in the near future. Please contact Margaux Cowan-Banker at (865) 712-7862 or margauxmichelle@hotmail.com for additional information.



Help Protect BLYTHE FERRY HIWASSEE WILDLIFE REFUGE



The Land Trust for Tennessee and Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) need your help to purchase 68 acres of critical wildlife habitat that adjoins TWRA's Hiwassee Wildlife Refuge in Meigs County. Located along Blythe Ferry Road near the confluence of the Hiwassee and Tennessee Rivers, this peaceful stretch of tall grasses was slated for a high density residential development with a waste water treatment facility. Just imagine the difficulty in maintaining the integrity of the Refuge under those circumstances!

This essential acreage along the Hiwassee River corridor supports the annual Sandhill Crane migration, when thousands of the birds come to the Refuge each winter. In addition to the Sandhill Crane Festival held at the Refuge every year, Blythe Ferry was a major departure point for The Trail of Tears. The proposed development would have ruined the historic context for visitors to experience the old wagon road leading to the ferry, and to the Cherokee Removal Memorial Park that adjoins these 68 acres, and severely impacted the home to cranes and other wildlife.

We have a limited time to protect this property and the future of the Refuge. Everyone can be a part of the historic past and exciting future of Blythe Ferry.

Please use the form below or visit www.landtrusttn.org to make your donation today, or contact Katie McCallie at 423.305.1783 if you want to help us with this critical campaign!



Photo by Cynthia Routledge



Photo by Scott Somershoe



Photo by Cynthia Routledge

YES! I WANT TO DONATE TO
THE BLYTHE FERRY PROJECT!

Enclosed is my tax deductible gift of:

☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500

VISIONARY DONOR ☐ \$1,000

CONSERVATION DONOR ☐ \$2,500

OTHER \$ _____

☐ I PLEDGE \$ _____ OVER # _____ YEARS

Starting (MM/DD/YY) _____

☐ Kindly send me a pledge reminder

Please make checks payable to The Land Trust for TN

NAME(S) _____

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PLEASE CHARGE MY DONATION TO:

☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS

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Blythe Ferry - Hiwassee Wildlife Refuge Meigs County, Birchwood



Property boundaries are approximate. Created by Sarah O'Rear, Land Trust Staff, 2012