



Wednesday, October 6, 5:30 PM Meeting at McClung Museum

Our October meeting will be held at the McClung Museum of Natural History on the UT Campus starting at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, October 6. The address of the museum is 1327 Circle Park. There should be ample free parking around Circle Park.

KTOS has set up this exciting meeting to learn about the extensive bird material collection that McClung Museum owns as well as view the current exhibit of bird drawings done by Elizabeth Gould. Elizabeth was the wife of renowned publisher John Gould who did several European and Australian bird books during the mid 1800s. Elizabeth did most of her husband's illustrations. She died in her mid 30s and was never recognized for her work during her lifetime.

At 5:30 the doors will open to KTOS members and guests who would like to view the Gould Exhibit. You may walk around and view other exhibits in the museum as well. At 6 PM we will convene downstairs in the large auditorium. There is plenty of room to spread out if you wish. We will then hear a 45 minute presentation by McClung Museum staff about the history of the museum and specifically, details about their extensive collection of bird related materials. We will then have a short 10 minute business meeting before adjourning.

Masks are required at all UT indoor functions so bring your mask.

We do need to give the museum a ballpark on how many plan to attend. Please RSVP if you are coming and how many are in your party. knoxbirds@gmail.com



Illustration by Elizabeth Gould

Other News

Next Meetings

The November KTOS meeting will be a virtual Zoom meeting. Our meeting room at the UT Vet Center is still not ready for use due to construction being done..

Tentatively our meeting will be to hear about what is going on at the American Eagle Foundation. On September 19 the Eagle Foundation had a ground breaking ceremony at their new property on Kodak Road about 3 miles east of Seven Islands. When the new building is completed the entire operation that is now located up at Dollywood will be relocated to the new facility. One of the major features of the new facility will be state of the art classrooms where they will offer world class educational programs about raptors.

In December we are scheduled for our annual program by Knoxville's number one bird talk presenter Lyn Bales.

Knox County Bird Count

The fall Knox County Bird Count is this Sunday. We have a lot of new members. If you would like to participate please contact Dean Edwards at sparverius@comcast.net. As part of that count we do have a group going to the UT Plant Sciences Farm on Alcoa Hwy. We only get permission to bird that property a few times a year and its just for KTOS members. We still have a couple of spots available so if you are interested in participating with that group please contact Morton Massey at massey6932@comcast.net

TOS Fall Meeting

The Fall TOS Meeting will again be a virtual Zoom meeting. All members are welcome to participate. The meeting will be held on Monday, October 4 at 7PM EST. The link to the meeting will be on our calendar.

Wings of Winter

Many of you all have probably already heard that Wings of Winter has again been cancelled this winter.

September Birding

September birding has been reasonably good. The best birding spot this fall has probably been Songbird Trail. Many fall migrants have been coming though and many have been seen at Songbird. One of the treats was a Yellow-throated Flycatcher that was heard, seen and photographed a number of times over 5 days.

On September 4, TVA started their fall schedule of lowering the lake level at Douglas. Douglas had actually been 4 feet below full in late August but shot up 8 feet after hurricane Ida went through. So on September 4 it was still a little above full. By August 15th the lake was down several feet and we had good shorebird birding for a week before migration seemed to come to a halt. There were lots of Buff-breasted Sandpipers and Sanderlings hanging around for over a week along with a couple of Golden Plovers and one Black-bellied Plover.

Fall Hawk Watch on the Foothills Parkway seems to be getting less and less predictable and productive. But if you want to see a spectacular display of fall migrating nighthawks just hang out around the Great Smoky Mountain Visitor Center in Townsend in early September. Kat Barrow lives just up the street from the visitor center and was counting several hundred birds in later afternoon on several days in a row.

Eagle Foundation to the Rescue



Barn Owls Before Release

Some of you will remember running down to Windy Hill Farms in Loudon County a few years ago to see the Northern Wheatear that was discovered by the late Tony King. The property manager contacted KTOS back in August stating the mother of the three baby barn owls that were hatched in one of his silos over the summer was found dead and there were no signs of the father. He said the babies were still alive but were looking like they were getting pretty week.

The American Eagle Foundation was contacted and went down and collected the birds. They took them back to their facilities at Dollywood where they feed and nursed them for a month. In mid September they took the three birds back down and released them.



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

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



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

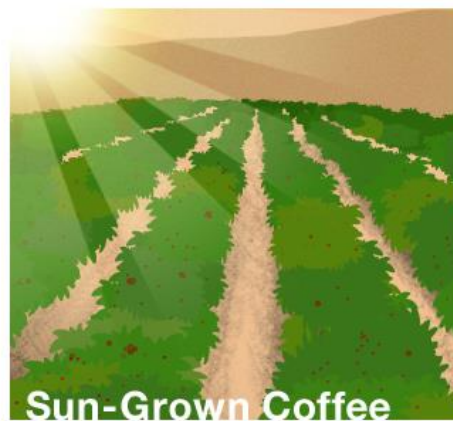


Field trips and social gatherings are a great way of getting to know one another. Fields trips can be lead by any of our members regardless of skill level. We all can learn from one another. If you have an idea or would like to lead a trip, please contact Tom Howe at knoxbirds@gmail.com. Please remember 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.

Due to the Covid situation, we are not taking orders for coffee. However, you can find a number of the Vienna Coffee House blends at Whole Foods, Fresh Market and Butler and Bailey in Rocky Hill.



Sun-Grown Coffee

- ✗ Grows faster
- ✗ Requires more water, fertilizer and pesticides
- ✗ Supports less biodiversity
- ✗ Degrades ecosystems



Shade-Grown Coffee

- ✓ Grows slower
- ✓ Requires less water, fertilizer and pesticides
- ✓ Supports greater biodiversity
- ✓ Sustains healthy ecosystems
- ✓ Allows farmers economic diversification
- ✓ Tastes better



2021 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),



2021 - 2022

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Letter from the President

We again seem to be swimming in more or less uncharted waters. KTOS like many organizations are continually holding up a finger to try to figure out which way the wind is blowing and trying to determine the best way to deliver activities club members want during these trying times. And yes, we are like most other groups who have half their membership who look at the Covid situation one way and the other half look at it an opposite way. Fortunately so much of what we do is enjoying the great outdoors where we can pretty much get away from many of the stresses of life.

We tried a couple of things over the last six weeks in hopes of reaching potential new bird club members. Unfortunately things didn't go so great. First we started the East Tennessee Birding Group to do monthly virtual programs about birds and bird watching. We were really hoping to tap into the nearly 3000 East Tennessee Birding Facebook members. On the first two programs, over 90% of the attendees were KTOS members and most the rest were from other clubs. It was clear this approach was not going to work so we are discontinuing it.

We did have better success with two new birder walks for non members. But coordinating the events and communicating with folks when weather is bad is problematic. Not sure if we will continue these efforts either.

But the good news is birds are out there. Go Birding! Morton

Upcoming Events

- Oct 2 - Seven Islands Bird Walk
- Oct 3 - Knox County Fall Bird Count
- Oct 4 - TOS Fall Meeting
- Oct 6 - Monthly Meeting at McClung Museum
- Oct 27 - Birding with Friends at Seven Islands

There may be a Kyker Bottoms Walk scheduled later in Oct.



November meeting will be a Zoom meeting. Tentatively we have scheduled the American Eagle Foundation to give a talk about their programs and birds.