



photo by Tom Whipple

The Pileated Post

A National Audubon Society Chapter
Grove, OK

Grand Lake Audubon Society

Mar-May 2017

From the President's desk...

It is hard to believe that the 30th year (from September to June) of Grand Lake Audubon Society (GLAS) is already more than half over.

With the advent of spring the National Audubon Society has a feature about native plants and trees that are attractive to birds and butterflies. If you go to its website and type in your zip code, it will provide a list of what to plant in the area. <http://www.audubon.org/plantsforbirds>

The National Audubon website is filled with lots of articles, great pictures and valuable information. You do not have to register, nor be a member, to access the site. The bi-monthly magazine is available online, with issues that go back more than 10 years!

The Winter Holiday Dinner was a success, with winners of the Cy Seibert award being honored for significant contributions to GLAS.

Hard work and the participation of many members helped once again to make Christmas on Main Street at Har-Ber village an award winning success—a tie for first place! Once again, our group had a nice booth and display at the recent Lawn & Garden Show.

The Grand Lake Audubon Society will sponsor the Natural History Building this year at Har-Ber village. On January 13, 2017, the Grove Sun had a nice write up about GLAS—with emphasis on the January Eagle Watch trip. Let us hope the publicity GLAS is getting will help to enrich the group.

Speaking of “riches,” our group has a little bit of money in the treasury that could be given to a noble cause or project. Great ideas on this are welcome!

Upcoming field trips include Hackberry Flat, and a trip to Spavinaw Creek, both in April. The Tulsa Audubon Society web page has this to say: “Hackberry Flat is a premier destination for birders, especially for its high concentrations of

shorebirds and waterbirds, including Whooping Cranes.”

<http://www.tulsaaudubon.org/guides/hackberry-flat.htm>

Our last field trip for the year will be the George Washington Carver National Park in May.

Then we will have our annual picnic in June.

Installation of new officers and directors will be made at the June picnic. First, of course, it will be necessary to ~~elect~~ select and elect new ones. Each of our current officers has served for two straight years. The By-Laws of our organization state that “no officer may serve for more than two (2) years”. All officers are term-limited this year, and every position needs to be filled with someone new for installation at the annual picnic in June. A committee (of at least three members) is needed *immediately* for making nominations for officers and directors for installation in June.

Erin

Upcoming Events

Mar 4 Tulsa Audubon Society, “Monarchs and Pollinators: The Need for Habitat Restoration”; Dr. Chip Taylor, 2 pm at Broken Arrow High School Media Center; see www.tulsaaudubon.org

Mar 13 “Wind & Wildlife”, Jay Pruitt, Director of Conservation, OK Nature Conservancy

Mar 18 Har-Ber Village Museum open for season

Mar 24-May 8th “The Way We Worked”, Smithsonian Travel Exhibition at Har-Ber Village Museum; see www.har-bervillage.com

Apr 10 “Oklahoma Reptiles”, Amanda Wiley, Naturalist, Bernice Sate Park Nature Center

Apr 15 Birding field trip to Hackberry Flats, TBA; L Stanfill 918 589-4140

Apr 24 Birding field trip to Spavinaw Creek; depart 8 am S. Sullins, 918-786-2638, bring sack lunch

May 8 “Antarctic Birds”, Doug Woods, Ornithologist & Professor of Biological Sci, SE OK State University

May 13 Birding field trip to GW Carver Park, depart 7 am; J. Beyer 918-787-5188

Jun 17 “Ecology & Environment Day”, Har-Ber Village. W. Hale. 918 791-0926

Hospitality

March Evelyn Houck and JoAnn Walkup
April Anne Whipple and Ellie Womack
May Willie Hale and Carolyn Burr

Wings N' Wetlands Festival

“On April 28-29th at Great Bend, Kansas, The [Kansas Wetlands Education Center](#), along with [Kansas Department of Wildlife Parks & Tourism](#), [The Nature Conservancy](#), [City of Great Bend](#), and the [Kansas Birding Festival, Inc.](#), hosts this 2-day birding festival every other year on odd numbered years. The last WNW Festival was held April 24-25, 2015.

The Wings N Wetlands Festival offers participants a unique opportunity to bird two of the best birding spots in the region, [Cheyenne Bottoms](#) and [Quivira National Wildlife Refuge](#), as well as other area hot spots. Beyond the great birding, the weekend festivities also include fun workshops, relaxing socials, and opportunities to experience area attractions along the [Wetlands and Wildlife National Scenic Byway](#).

Cheyenne Bottoms and Quivira National Wildlife Refuge are two Wetlands of International Importance, and provide thousands of birds a stopover along their North and South migration routes. The festival dates coincide with the historical peak of shorebird migration, and is sure to provide some excellent viewing of well over 150 species of birds. Paid registration for the festival includes three guided birding fieldtrips with transportation, workshops and seminars, breakfast, 2 dinners, and snacks. Events take place at the Kansas Wetlands Education Center at Cheyenne Bottoms and the Best Western Courtyard in Great Bend.

For more information contact the Kansas Wetlands Education Center at 1-877-243-9268.” - <http://wetlandscenter.fhsu.edu/wings-n-wetlands-birding-festival/>

ed. - An online registration form, prior birding lists and more information are available at the website. ♦

The Way We Worked

Har Ber Village Museum is one of five Oklahoma museums selected to host a Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition on “The Way We Worked”. This can be visited from March 24 through May 8th, Thursday through Monday from 9 am to 3:30pm, closed on Tuesday and Wednesday. Exhibit openings, book and film discussions and special school programs are all part of the offerings while the exhibit is at Har-Ber Village.



Museum on Main Street is collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and State Humanities Councils nationwide. Har-Ber Village Museum will open for the season on March 18th. Visit <http://www.har-bervillage.com> for more information. ♦

Turtles

Kenneth Middick a naturalist and Grounds Director at WildCat Glades gave a very interesting lecture on “Native Turtles of MO,



Ornate box turtle - *Terrapene ornate ornata*

KS, and OK”. He brought several specimens

alive and otherwise with him. There are clear differences in the number of species throughout the region with 13 or possibly 14 different species in common within these states. Missouri has 17 different species. Oklahoma has 19 native species. All turtles lay their eggs on land. The eggs hatch either in late summer or early fall, or the young turtles may remain in the nest or egg until spring. Check with the appropriate state laws concerning possession and sale of turtles. In Oklahoma, any person taking or attempting to take a land reptile must have a valid hunting license. Also for water-dwelling reptiles a fishing license is required. Do your part to protect these reptiles. They are another of our necessary scavengers. ♦

Bird and Bees

Sara Jean Peters shared her love and knowledge of bees and birds. Did you know



Photo by Ellie Womack

that honey bees are not native to the U.S.? They were brought into this country around 1630 most likely by the New England colonists. Before the invention of the

movable frame hive by Langstroth, beekeepers had little capability for managing their colonies. Bees are necessary pollinators for many plants whose berries, nectar and fruits are needed by many bird species. The decline in the bee population may be attributable by many factors including viruses, mites (specifically the parasitic mite *Varroa destructor*), and “colony collapse” disease. The increased use of pesticides and genetically modified plants including pollen free sunflowers are also contributing factors. The Rusty Patched Bumble Bee (*Bombus affinis*) is now listed as an endangered species. Think about growing more nectar plants for those bees and other pollinators in your neighborhood. ♦

Natural History Building

This building is one of the newer exhibits at Har-Ber Village Museum. In 2017, birds will be the featured species. This has been a project sponsored by our Grand Lake Audubon Society. The building will only be open when a guide or docent is present. There will be a training program for docents. The village is looking for volunteers and docents to help with this important project. Please contact the village at 918 786-6446 or visit www.har-bervillage.com for more information or to volunteer. ♦

Nature Trail

“Har-Ber Village's Nature Trail is open to the public without museum admission. Bring a picnic lunch and enjoy walking the trail during regular museum hours. The trail is a pleasant and scenic mile and a half long walk that has several loops that meander through woods along the edge of Har-Ber Village property. You may see deer, birds and other wildlife. A wide variety of trees and plants grow along the trail. The trail is being expanded to include a walk near the shore of the lake. The trail does have some uneven surfaces and loose gravel in places—please wear appropriate shoes and take care going up and down hills.” – www.har-bervillage.com ♦

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Lendonwood Gardens is issuing a call for all artists and artisans to sign up soon for the 2017 ***Art in the Garden*** show set for Saturday, May 6, at the botanical garden in Grove. Area artists are invited to reserve booths for showing and selling their works at the annual show. A deposit of \$25 reserves booth space and is reimbursable to artists who participate. Booths will be set up throughout the Gardens and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Artists retain all proceeds from sales of their artworks. Contact Pauline Hale, 918-786-8375 or Cindy Reynolds, 918-787-6065 for more information.