



SMOKY HILLS AUDUBON SOCIETY

P.O. Box 2936 Salina, Kansas 67402-2936

Fall 2014

Note: The Expiration Date shown above your name on the address label is the date that your membership in the National Audubon Society (NAS) expires. This information and your member ID, pulled from the latest membership roster, are over a month old. You can check your membership status by calling NAS at 1-800-274-4201 or at the following Member Benefits webpage for more up to date information: <http://support.audubon.org/member-benefits>. After opening webpage, click on 'Update Member Info' tab on right side of page, and then follow directions. You are guaranteed of getting the latest info by calling. **If your membership has lapsed, then please renew with NAS and/or consider directly supporting our chapter by becoming a SHAS Chapter-Only Member (See details about our new Chapter-Only Membership below).**

September 2014 Meeting

Join us on Thursday, 18-Sept for our first program titled "The future of Birds and Biodiversity". The program will cover the latest Audubon data on the changing climate, shifts in geographical ranges, long term ramifications & predictions, and what you can do to change the present global course.

Both Dan Baffa, President of SHAS and Jeffrey Kasoff, Treasurer of SHAS will be presenters of this interesting and at times sobering topic.

Kansas Wesleyan University, Peters Science Hall, Room 229,
Social and refreshments start at 7:00 PM, program at 7:30 PM

We will also vote on an amendment to the SHAS Chapter Bylaws to allow for Chapter-Only Membership without joining NAS. Please come to vote on this amendment and support our plans. See details of amendment below.

Join us for dinner with the speakers at Gutierrez Restaurant at 5:30 PM. Please RSVP Jaci Novak (call 785-826-5614 or e-mail jln7266@hotmail.com); if you wish to join us for the pre-meeting dinner.

2014-15 Smoky Hills Audubon Society Calendar

We have great activities planned for 2014 & 2015. Save the dates!

SHAS PROGRAMS and related environmental activities:

Saturday, September 13 – SHAS Birds and BB'Q – see details in this newsletter

Saturday, September 13 – Opening Reception for 'Embracing Nature' Exhibit, 5-7 pm, Birger Sandzén Memorial Gallery 401 North 1st St, Lindsborg. See description at link: <http://sandzen.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/2014-Press-Release-Sept-Oct-exhibits.pdf>

Thursday, September 18 – SHAS Meeting, PSH Room 229, Dan Baffa and Jeffrey Kasoff, Topic: The Future of Birds and Biodiversity

Friday through Sunday, September 19 – 21, Kansas Native Plant Society 2013 Annual Wildflower Weekend, Location: Pratt, KS. Details at following link: http://www.kansasnativeplantsociety.org/aww_2014.php

Friday through Sunday, September 26 – 28, Prairie Festival at The Land Institute, Details and registration form at following link: <http://www.landinstitute.org/event/the-prairie-festival-2014/>

Saturday, September 28 - Audubon of Kansas Board Meeting, hosted by Smoky Hills Audubon Society, more details TBA

Friday, October 3 – Safari Adventure Day, Grades K-7, Rolling Hills Zoo, Salina, KS; Register by 19-Sept, Details and registration at link: <http://www.smokyhill.org/vnews/display.v/ART/53fcefa0869df>

Friday through Sunday, October 3 – 5, 66th Meeting of the Kansas Ornithological Society, Kansas Wesleyan University, Salina, KS, Pre-register by 26-Sept for dinner and other meals, otherwise register for program only when you arrive. Details and registration form at following link: http://www.ksbirds.org/kos/Fall2014/2014_KOS_Fall.htm

Saturday, October 12 – Fall Work day at the SHAS Sanctuary

Saturday, October 19 – Rain date for Fall Work day at the Sanctuary

Thursday, October 16 – SHAS Meeting, PSH Room 229: Tim Crews, Director of Research, The Land Institute, Topic: Agroecology – The Future of Farming?

Friday, November 1 – SHAS Fall Seed Sale, MKC Co-op, Abilene – see details in this newsletter and chapter website. Note: We will have a pickup location and deliveries, if requested, in Salina

Thursday, November 20 – SHAS Meeting: PSH Room 229, Jim Griggs, Wildlife Photographer

Thursday, December 18 – SHAS Meeting: PSH Room 229, Chuck Otte, Topic: Bird ID & Christmas Bird Count

Thursday, January 15, 2014 – SHAS Meeting: PSH Room 229, Ron Klataske, Director of Audubon of Kansas

Thursday, February 19 – SHAS Meeting: PSH Room 229, Scott Newland, Curator of Birds at Sedgwick County Zoo, Topic: The MAC Project – Protecting Pacific Species

Thursday, March 19 – SHAS Meeting: PSH Room 229, Bob Gillespie, Natural Resources Coordinator, Illinois Natural History Survey; Topic: Prairie Chickens

The Speakers for SHAS Meetings on Thursday, April 16 and Thursday, May 21 to be announced in December Newsletter.



*All SHAS Program Meetings are open to the public and held at Kansas Wesleyan University, Peters Science Hall (PSH), Room 229, unless otherwise noted. Social and refreshments begin at 7:00 PM, program starts at 7:30 PM. Dinner with speaker 5:30 PM. Please RSVP to Jaci Novak (call 785-826-5614 or email jln7266@hotmail.com); if you wish to join us for the pre-meeting dinner.

SHAS Board Meetings

SHAS Board meetings are generally held the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM in Room 213, Peters Science Hall, Kansas Wesleyan University. ALL members are welcome to attend

A message from SHAS Board

Want to save a tree or a local natural habitat? Do you want more students of all ages to enjoy the Smoky Hills Audubon Harold Lear Wildlife Sanctuary and learn an appreciation for nature and the out of doors?

The Smoky Hills Audubon Society of Salina, KS needs your help. We receive annual baseline funding from the National Audubon Society in the amount \$2.75 for each National member assigned to our chapter. This funding and local donations allow us to send out a newsletter, bring in speakers for our monthly programs, run educational programs and keep up our Sanctuary. We have halved our newsletter expenses in the past year by a) e-mailing a link to the quarterly & monthly newsletter to all members that sign up for the e-newsletter and b) only mailing printed quarterly newsletters in Sept, Dec and Apr to our over 200 national membership roster. All the newsletters are posted on our chapter website, www.smokyhillaudubon.com. Please feel free to download these newsletters. Note: The printed quarterly newsletters are NOT sent if a member request that we only send newsletters electronically. We will continue this newsletter policy this coming year to conserve funds for our chapter activities.

Activities at our Sanctuary include removing the non-native plants and planting more native plants to attract wildlife. Some of the existing vegetation at our sanctuary is non-native, invasive and deleterious to wildlife and biodiversity. We conducted with Carl Garten, Director of Saline Extension Office and his burn team; a prescribed burn on 7 acres of the sanctuary. The burn, the morning of 15-May-2014, simulated a natural prairie process and weakened the non-native Smooth Bromegrass. The burn also killed weedy, Eastern Red Cedars and removed a heavy layer of thatch that had accumulated over multiple years. The burn was followed a few weeks later by a mowing and on 19-June by inter-seeding with a CRP prairie mix. The CRP mix was drilled into 1.5 acres of a pure stand of Bromegrass to diversify the seed bed. The inter-seeding would not have been possible without the generous support of the Saline Conservation District, Steve Burr and Jed Burr. Extra seed was planted into the same plots with a Billy Goat Overseeder rented from Waters True Value on the afternoon of 22-June. See map & images of burn and inter-seeding areas on our chapter website. It will take time to see the full beneficial effects of our land practices.

To continue and expand our sanctuary activities the SHAS board of directors would like to send the newsletter electronically via e-mail to your home. This would save a considerable amount of money that could be used for educational outreach and restoration of our refuge. **Please become a part of changing the world one step at a time, by giving us permission to e-mail the newsletter to you and thereby avoiding the cost of printing and mailing.**

Even with the lowered expenses of distributing the newsletters, we are still short of reaching our funding goals and that is why we have developed a new Chapter-Only Member policy described below.

We will vote to amend our chapter bylaws to include this Chapter-Only membership at the September program meeting on 18-Sept.

We are all in this together. Your interest in Audubon, one way or another, is an indication of your support for the world's dwindling wildlife. You can make a difference. Think globally act locally, right here in north central Kansas.

Best regards,
SHAS Board

Joining us under New Chapter-Only Membership and/or National Audubon Society Membership

Background information - According to Audubon's Chapter Policy, all National members who reside in a Chapter territory are assigned to their respective Chapter; a Chapter serves members throughout its territory. Only \$2.75 of your annual NAS membership dues go to Smoky Hills Audubon Society (SHAS). NAS and SHAS are both nonprofit 501(c)3 organizations.

Choice 1. Join National Audubon Society (NAS) and become a member of our chapter at the same time. Receives all the benefits of national and chapter membership for just \$20, the one-year membership dues. See list of national benefits, like the bimonthly Audubon magazine at link: <http://support.audubon.org/member-benefits>

Choice 2. Become a Chapter-Only Member of Smoky Hills Audubon Society (SHAS) for just \$20 (Students membership is \$15). 100% of the chapter-only membership dues will be used locally for critical local chapter work. Both NAS members and Chapter-Only members are invited to special events like the BBQ on 13-September. Chapter-Only membership form is printed below and can be downloaded from our website.

For members that are already NAS members, we hope you choose to become **both** a NAS national member and a Chapter-Only Member of SHAS, thereby supporting NAS and directly supporting SHAS.

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Birds and BBQ

Make sure to RSVP for the upcoming First Annual Smoky Hills Audubon Society Birds & BBQ! Spaces are filling up and it looks to be a good crowd and good times. The event is on **September 13, 2014**. Bird walks open to all begin at Lakewood at **8 a.m.** and will proceed from Lakewood to Thomas Park and then to the Smoky Hills Audubon Society Refuge. The BBQ begins at **2 p.m.** for Audubon members, whether National members or new Chapter-Only members, and their immediate families at the large Lakewood shelter house and will include everything you need to fill up and will include table service and beverages!

A prize will be offered for those attending the bird walks. The person that can list the greatest variety of species of birds at each location will win a prize!

Door prizes will be offered at the BBQ! So even if you cannot attend the bird walks, come eat and win stuff!

This event promises good times and good food. Don't miss out on what will be a great chance to enjoy nature, good company and delicious BBQ.

You must RSVP for the BB'Q . Space is limited. Send your RSVP to Bobby Hiebert at: E-mail: bobbybirdman23@gmail.com or Phone: (785) 488-7725.

SHAS Fall Bird Seed Sale

Our Bird Seed Sale will continue this year thanks to the efforts of SHAS member, David Haight. The Abilene seed sale will be held Friday, November 1, at MKC Co-op in Abilene. **As a courtesy to Salina buyers the SHAS Board will pickup and transport your pre-orders from Abilene to the Elmore shopping plaza on the morning of Saturday, 2-November.** We will also deliver the pre-order to you if the pickup time is inconvenient. In late Sept – Early Oct we will send via first class mail our Fall 2014 Bird Seed Pre-Order Form to the



Prospective Buyers. All seed buyers from last couple of years are considered ‘Prospective Buyers’ and will be mailed a pre-order form with details on pricing and pickup times. If you wish to receive the Pre-Order form electronically in lieu of the printed and mailed copy, then please forward your e-mail address to Jeffrey Kasoff, dragonflyk@sbcglobal.net. You can return the completed form via regular mail to our PO Box in Salina or e-mail to dragonflyk@sbcglobal.net. The Pre-Order form will also be posted on our website and will be electronically sent to all members and friends already on our E-list. Lastly, if you do not recall last time that you ordered seed from us and you wish to receive a printed copy of the Pre-Order form, then please mail us a note with your name and mailing address.

AUDUBON ADVENTURES!

Let’s open the eyes of students in some Salina schools, grades 3-5 to nature. National Audubon’s award winning nature educational program this year will cover “Raptors-The Birds of Prey,” “Hooray for Hummingbirds,” “Seabirds-Feathered Ocean Travelers,” “Caring for Our Planet: Kids Are Taking Action.”

These topics are covered with vibrant photos and lively illustrations in magazines for individual students in packets of 32 copies per class. The teacher receives Classroom Guides and online resources for each magazine. The classroom kit is correlated to Common Core Language Arts and Next Generation Science Standards. The teacher is also given a free membership to National Audubon.

The cost is still **\$38.50** per classroom. Smoky Hills Audubon Society will pay the \$7.45 shipping and handling charge. Send your donation with check made out to **Smoky Hills Audubon Society. Mail to SHAS, PO Box 2936, Salina, KS 67402-2936**

You can designate a certain teacher or let us pick one. School has started already! Please feel free to donate less than \$38.50 to this program. We can combine smaller donations and/or order less expensive electronic version of Audubon Adventures.

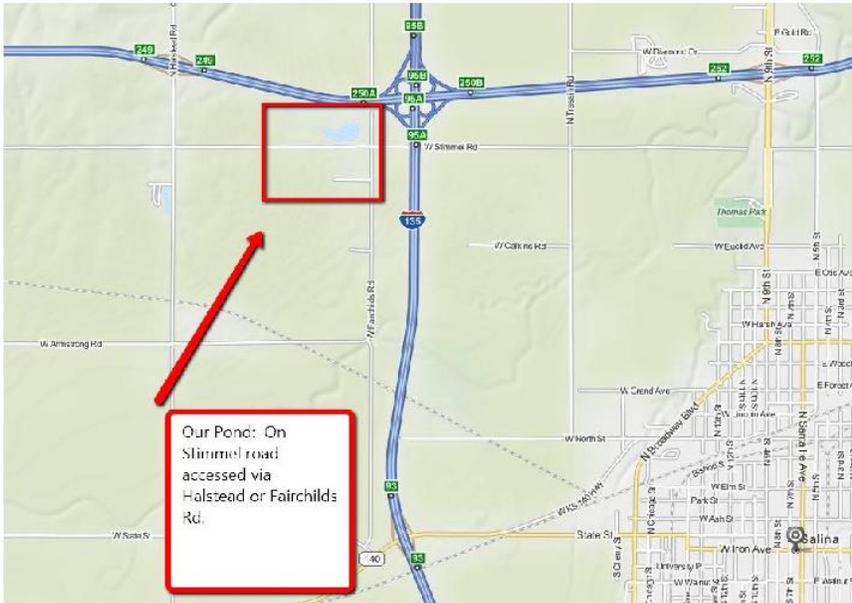
Smoky Hills Audubon Society would like to thank our 2013-14 Contributors for their generous gifts

Other Sanctuary News

The Harold Lear SHAS Sanctuary has been abuzz with activity this summer....

The floor and stairwell of the blind has been repaired and stained this summer. Thanks to the efforts of Bob Highgate, Dan Baffa, and Jeffrey Kasoff.

On Monday, June 23, KSU-Salina Upward Bound students helped out at the Sanctuary. Students thinned Eastern Red Cedars and created brush piles of downed trees. Many thanks to all!



Want to lend your skills at the Sanctuary? Then mark your calendars for....

Fall Work Day at the Sanctuary

**Saturday, October 12
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

(rain date, October 19)



Directions to the SHAS Harold Lear Sanctuary

From I-70: Take the Halstead Road exit, go ¼ mile south on Halstead Road to Stimmel Road. Go east ¾ mile on Stimmel Road to the SHAS Sanctuary gate.

From I-35: Take the State Street exit and go a short distance west on old highway 140 to State Street. Take State Street one mile west to Halstead Road. Go 2 miles north on Halstead Road to Stimmel Road. Go east ¾ mile on Stimmel Road to the SHAS Sanctuary gate.

☛ **Don't forget!...** Please send your email address to ***dragonflyk@sbcglobal.net***. We will be reducing the number of printed newsletters we mail to members. See Board's message on page 3 for further details.

If you wish to become a Chapter-Only member, then cutoff or copy the following form and mail to SHAS or **give to chapter officer at our next event**. You can download from our chapter website the same form.

Note: You can also use this same form to make donations to our chapter, even if you do not wish to become a Chapter-Only member (Just do not check the Membership Category).

Smoky Hills Audubon Society Chapter-Only Membership Form

Name:	
Address:	
Phone:	
E-Mail:	
Membership Category, Gifts, and Preferences (check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 One-year Student membership	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$20 One-year Regular membership	
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional gift to Smoky Hills Audubon Society	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10 <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Check if this is a renewal	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check if you wish to receive e-newsletter in lieu of printed and mailed newsletters.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check if you wish to receive mailings and e-mails from the National Audubon Society	

Total: _____
Make check payable to: SHAS
Mail to: SHAS, PO Box 2936, Salina, KS 67402-2936



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P.O. Box 2936 Salina, Kansas 67402-2936

SHAS Contacts 2014-2015

PRESIDENT	Dan Baffa, 620-271-8891, danbaffa1@yahoo.com
VICE-PRESIDENT	Bobby Hiebert, 785-488-7725, bobbybirdman23@gmail.com
TREASURER	Jeffrey Kasoff, 785-420-0006, dragonflyk@sbcglobal.net
SECRETARY	Jaci Novak, jln7266@hotmail.com
SMOKY HILLS AUDUBON HAROLD LEAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, "OUR POND"	Groups should check with Dan before scheduling a trip and to arrange for guided nature tours. Dan Baffa, 620-271-8891, danbaffa1@yahoo.com
SHAS BACKYARD SONGBIRD HABITAT CERTIFICATION PROGRAM;	Bonnie Neubrand, 785-342-1522, neubrandb@yahoo.com
HOSPITALITY	Kathie & Dave Roy, 785-392-2002, droy@dsoelectricwb.com
SIGHTS AND SOUNDS (Newsletter/Facebook Contributors)	Kat Farres, 785-825-4247; Dr. Judy Collins jcollins@sal.ksu.edu ; Mark Neubrand, mneubrand@cox.net
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Jamie Bruton, jamieb@sunflowerbank.com
MEMBERSHIP & FIELD TRIPS	Bobby Hiebert, 785-488-7725, bobbybirdman23@gmail.com
DISCOVER SALINA NATURALLY	Mark Neubrand, mneubrand@cox.net
BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE	Stephanie Welter, Stephanie.welter@kwu.edu ; Paul Willis, wldflwrs@sillw.com ; Neva Hiekas, David Tanksley, dt1930@gmail.com
SHAS WEB SITE	http://smokyhillaudubon.com
AUDUBON OF KANSAS WEBSITE	http://www.audubonofkansas.org