



SMOKY HILLS AUDUBON SOCIETY

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

CHANGE - Pre-talk Dinner on 17-March at 5:30 pm at Jalisco Mexican Restaurant, 2601 Market Pl, Salina, KS 67401 (785) 833-2388. Just a block south of Hong Kong Buffet

March 2016



SHAS March 17 2016 Meeting

Join us on Thursday, March 17th for our free monthly program.

Location: Kansas Wesleyan University, Peters Science Hall, Room 229

Event Schedule: Social and refreshments start at 7:00pm program starts at 7:30 P.M.

Guest Speaker: Mike Rader will be presenting "Bird Identification". **Birds in Spring**

Join us for dinner at Gutierrez Restaurant at 5:30 PM. Please RSVP Dan Baffa, 620-271-8891 or danbaffa1@yahoo.com if you wish to join us for the pre-meeting dinner.

Speaker Biography: Mike Rader is recognized for his significant contributions to bird conservation, education. He is the Wildlife and Park's wildlife education coordinator, and an accomplished birder.

Field trip!

This months field trip will be looking for Pileated Woodpeckers in the wood towards Wichita. We will meet at the West Crawford McDonalds parking lot at:

8:00 AM Saturday, March 19.

I hope to see you there!

Planning a trip to Cheyenne bottoms in April.

If you have places or species you want to see, Email me and we will plan a trip to check it out!
David Tanksley dt1930@gmail.com



Last field trip we ,as always, started our count when we left home. We saw 22 species which I thought was not too bad for staying in the car, it was really cold.

- House Sparrow
- Starling
- Northern Flicker
- Morning Dove
- Dark-eyed Junco
- American Kestrel
- Snow Goose
- Canada Goose
- Greater White-fronted Goose
- Red-wing blackbird
- Mallard
- Ring-neck Duck
- Cackling Goose
- Canvasback
- American Coot
- Gadwall
- Northern Cardinal
- Red-tailed Hawk
- Crow
- Ring-billed Gull
- Common Goldeneye
- Rock Pigeon



Sign up for Dillons Community Rewards Program!

Smoky Hills Audubon Society has teamed up with Dillons Stores as a benefactor of the Community Rewards Program. It's easy to sign up online using your Dillons Plus Card number, and best of all it is completely FREE!

Simply enroll your Plus Card online at: <https://www.dillons.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow> and

pick Smoky Hills Audubon Society Inc or our **NPO number 86468** as your designated nonprofit, then every time you shop our local Audubon chapter will earn! This program has no effect on fuel points, is totally free to participate in, and takes just a few clicks to begin. You can even keep track of your contribution online under your account summary. Lastly, you can easily switch from our organization to another if you wish to spread your contributions among more than one nonprofit.

SHAS Calendar ~ 2016

We have great activities planned for 2016. Save the dates!

March 17 - Bird identification with Mike Rader

April 11 - Landscaping for Birds with Brad Guhr

March 19 - Woodpecker Field Trip

May 19 - Spiders with Jason Graves

*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 Dan Baffa, 620-271-8891 or danbaffa1@yahoo.com if you wish to join us for the pre-meeting dinner.



It is Time to Monitor the Bluebird Trail at our Pond!

The trail is monitored April through August. Volunteers are encouraged to sign up for a month at a time so the monitoring packet doesn't have to be passed back and forth weekly, but volunteering for just a week to try this is okay. Once a week the trail is walked and activity noted for each birdhouse on the list. While you are out there you can make note of any other birds you happen to see. This is fun, interesting, good exercise and helpful to the Audubon society. It is probably best to team up with someone and walk together. Teaming up with someone is also good if you can't do it weekly...maybe the other person can still monitor if you can't. I would be able to walk with you at first if you wish to have a better idea of the monitoring.

If you want more information, I can answer your questions at the March 17th program and I welcome you to call me to inquire or sign up for April, May, June or July to monitor at 785- 392-7111.

Please consider volunteering to monitor our bluebird trail.

Kathie Roy

A summary 2016 CBC Salina data submitted to NAS is now posted on our chapter website, www.smokyhillaudubon.com. The report can be viewed under the CBC/GBBC tab or directly by clicking on the following link: http://smokyhillaudubon.com/web_documents/kssl_salina_cbc_2016.pdf.



SAVE THE DATE!

Please plan to join other Audubon members and conservationists from across the state for the first AOK conference to be held on April 9th at the Lawrence Holiday Inn. The conference is being

called: "Silent Spring 2016: Threats to Birds, Bees and other Wildlife." Everyone who comes will leave fortified with lots of information on how you can make a difference in your yards, gardens and farms. Registration starts at 8:00 AM and the first program will be at 9:15 AM, featuring Ann Birney doing an historical performance of Rachel Carson. We will be viewing the film "When the Well Runs Dry" by Stephen Lerner with commentary by Tom Averill and Matthew Sanderson. Our lunch-time speaker, from the Xerces Society, will talk about "Pollinators in the Balance." There will be speakers who will share their experiences doing habitat restoration at various levels; another reporting on research on native bees; and Sil and Ed Pembleton talking about "Helping Your Child to Wonder." There will be a session on the status of Prairie Dogs and Black-footed Ferrets, we'll hear from Matt Bergles who wrote "Larry Saves the Prairie," a tribute to Larry Haverfield's dedication to ensuring the reintroduction of ferrets would survive the onslaught of Logan County's poisoning. We'll take a break for music and a silent auction, then wrap up with dinner and the final keynote by Dr. Leonard Krishtalka, Director of the KU Biodiversity Institute. For more details, please see the Audubon of Kansas website where you can register securely online.

Conference 2016
Silent Spring



Donations Needed For A New Lawn Tractor!

As most of you know we have a lot of mowing trails to do all summer and as you can guess it is not quite as easy and smooth as mowing your nice front lawn. Through a generous donation from Harold Chace on 20-Feb-2016; we have gotten the old (2002) Cub Cadet Model 2166 mower back in running order at our Sanctuary. Our fundraising campaign for a new mower has raised \$2,770.00 since its inception four months ago. We are still short of our \$3,500 goal, but we are optimistic that in the coming weeks we will complete our selection of a suitable mower and meet or exceed our financial goal.



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.

A Message From The SHAS President



On February 20 of this year we had the most productive work party I have experienced at the Harold Lear Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary. Volunteers made this happen. The Smoky Hill Audubon Society would it not exist without volunteers. It's interesting to note that on the "Hike it Baby" web site the mothers and babies noted the work that had been done. Sometime in the next two months more volunteers will burn approximately seven acres to control the two invasive plants at the refuge, smooth brome and eastern red cedar. One a native and one a non-native interfere with the prairie ecosystem we are trying to restore. Very soon, as Jeffrey Kasoff reports in this newsletter, we will be purchasing a new mower and possibly using our old mower as a trade-in. This would not be possible without the help of volunteer funders. Maybe that's a new name for donors but in fact they do volunteer monies that help us reach our goals. Without generosity and hard volunteer work we would not exist. Thank you to all who have given.

Dan Baffa



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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 1-844-428-3826. You are guaranteed of getting the latest info by calling NAS. 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 on our Chapter Website, www.smokyhillaudubon.com under Join/Donate Tab).

PRESIDENT	Dan Baffa, 620-271-8891, danbaffa1@yahoo.com
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SMOKY HILLS AUDUBON HAROLD LEAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	Groups should check with Dan before scheduling a trip and to arrange for guided nature tours. Dan Baffa, 620-271-8891, danbaffa1@yahoo.com
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