



## SMOKY HILLS AUDUBON SOCIETY

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

September 2016

### SHAS September 15 2016 Meeting

Join us on **Thursday, Sept 15** 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: Ian Trevethan** will be presenting

“Mosasaurs from the Western Interior Seaway of Kansas.”

Join us for dinner at Gutierrez Restaurant at 5:30 PM. Please RSVP Doug, 785-376-9082 or [ddrudick@hotmail.com](mailto:ddrudick@hotmail.com) if you wish to join us for the pre-meeting dinner.



**Speaker Biography: Ian Trevethan** is originally from Spokane Washington, where he grew up and attended primary school. It was during this time that he began to develop an interest in earth history and deep



time, due in no small part to the 1980 eruption of Mt. St. Helens, when he was in first grade. As Ian grew older, he also developed a great love for science fiction (Star Wars was his all time favorite), which he saw as a doorway to understanding science.

He attended Montana State University, where he earned a bachelor of science in Earth science, with a minor in museum studies. Ian completed a senior thesis under the guidance of Dr. Jack Horner examining cranial variation within the extant phylogenetic bracket of the dinosauria.

Ian attended Graduate school at Fort Hays State University, where he earned a Master of science in geology in 2015. His graduate research centered around the thermophysiology of mosasaurs from the Western

Interior Seaway of Kansas, via stable isotope analysis of biophosphate within fossil bone.

Ian took the position of Outreach Coordinator at Fort Hays State University's Sternberg Museum of Natural History in the summer of 2015. That job offered him the opportunity to work with a multitude of people and enables him to travel all around Western Kansas educating the general public about the natural history of our region. In addition to education outreach, he has the privilege of maintaining our museum volunteer program.

He currently lives in Russell, Kansas with his wife, Shannon and their daughter, Hannah.

## Field trips!

This months field trips will be looking for shorebirds. Please RSVP if there are no interested parties the field trip will be canceled. We will meet at the West Crawford McDonalds parking lot at: **8:00 AM Saturday, Sept 17**

Please RSVP David Tanksley at [dt1930@gmail.com](mailto:dt1930@gmail.com)! I hope to see you there!

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](mailto:dt1930@gmail.com)



## SHAS Calendar ~ 2016-2017

*We have great activities planned for 2016-2017. Save the dates!*

**Sept 15** - Mosasaurs from the Western Interior Seaway of Kansas ~ Ian Trevethan

**Oct 20** - Kanopolis State Park - Something Unexpected ~ Wendy Bowles

**Nov 17** - Birds of Tanzania ~ Jim Griggs

**Dec 15** - Christmas Bird Count Identification ~ Chuck Otte

**Jan 19** - Discover the Discovery Center ~ Brian Underwood

**Feb 16** - Exploring the Outdoors One Child at a Time ~ Jenna Miller



*\*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 Doug Rudick, 785-376-9082 or [ddrudick@hotmail.com](mailto:ddrudick@hotmail.com) if you wish to join us for the pre-meeting dinner.*



## *The view from my perch*

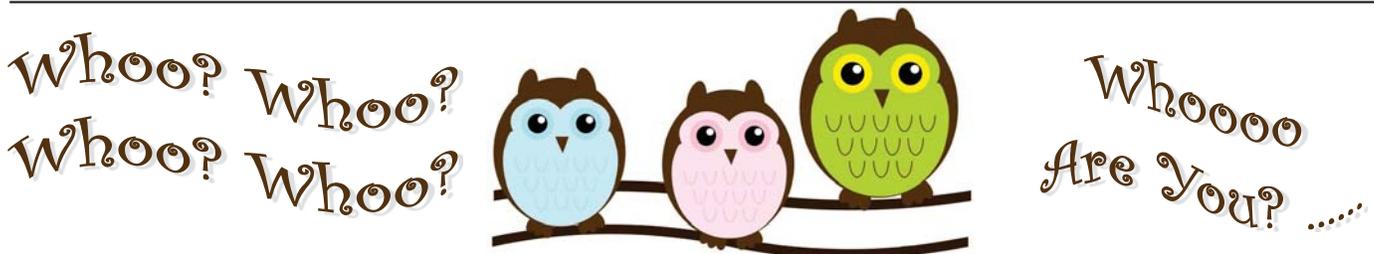
Doug Rudick, President SHAS

*Exciting times are in view. A strong Board of Directors stands ready to launch Smoky Hills Audubon into a new year! Last year saw exciting progress on a number of fronts. The Harold Lear Wildlife Sanctuary is looking better than ever. SHAS did controlled burns on the prairie area, cleared cedars and other invasive trees and shrubs, making the sanctuary more appealing to grassland birds. Our new tractor/mower makes maintaining the trails a breeze. They are cleaner and wider making them easier for our visitors to traverse. Our native plant reseeding efforts are starting to pay off with an increase of plant diversity starting to appear. New educational signs have been installed along the trails and inside the blind by the pond.*

*We will continue to search out informative and diverse speakers for our popular public programs.*

*We will continue to develop the Discover Salina Naturally festival to be the premier showcase for pursuing sustainability issues.*

*Now, what can you do for SHAS? Where are your interests? What path do you want to take on our journey to make SHAS the strongest and most effective environmental group in Central Kansas? Are you interested in birds, native plants, studying pond/wetland or woodland ecology? Do you want to certify your backyard as a Smoky Hill Audubon Songbird Habitat? What about linking SHAS with the Salina Educators Program? There are Bluebird Trails to monitor and record, general maintenance and clean up to keep our sanctuary appealing to hikers, naturalists, and photographers. Let's not forget the power of social media. Like us on Facebook, follow our webpage. Spread the word! We no longer want to be "the best kept secret in town"!*



## **Smoky Hills Audubon Society Local Membership**

**Committee Chairperson: Bonnie Neubrand Co-Chairs: Jaci Novak and Neva Heikes**

When I first volunteered to head up the Membership Committee I thought what an exciting and challenging opportunity. Little did I know it would be much more than that. Membership is much more complex. First of all trying to determine who are our members. Original Membership would be with National Audubon, which would include several surrounding counties automatically with your subscription to the Audubon Magazine. Our Local Membership is a fairly new endeavor. Local members take more of an interest locally and would be more active in events and educational programs that are presented by our Organization. As the year goes on I will highlight the differences in our newsletter, but for now I want to focus on our Local Membership Program.

By being a part of this local organization you will be able to interact with like minded individuals and be a part of possibly making changes in your community, and surrounding areas. You can become a walking witness of what it means to be committed to an organization that believes in educating others and making all of us aware of our natural habitats.

Some of the topics we are involved in:

- Community Education Programs/Schools/CivicGroups/Etc.
- Backyard Songbird Habitat Certification
- Discover Salina Naturally
- Harold Lear Sanctuary/Little Pond on the Prairie (Open to Members and Public)
- Monthly Educational Programs (KWU)
- September thru May Field Trips
- Blue Bird Trails
- And many more....

You will find enclosed a Local Membership form with prices based on your membership preference. For your convenience a self addressed envelope has been enclosed. Upon receiving your requested membership you will be mailed a membership card. Thank you for your support so that we can continue in our mission of education and activities to enhance our community.



## A look back from the past!

Mark Neubrand

Nearly 10 years into the history of the Smoky Hill Audubon Society we find a wide variety of activities keeping the group engaged.

*Spring 1985* – A kite making workshop, sponsored by the Junior Audubon Club of the Smoky Hills Audubon Society, launched kites over Presbyterian Manor and the kites sailed without a hitch. But it was a kite eating building rather than Peanuts style Kite eating tree that got the best of some pilots. The materials were provided by the Audubon Society at no charge and the six participating children made their own kites out of dowel rods and plastic trash bags. The previous project for the Junior Audubon club was putting up bird feeders at rest homes in the area. Their next project will be making plaster casts of animal tracks.

*Kanopolis Reservoir* – The rookie rock hounds of the Smoky Hills Audubon Society was spread out along the shore of lake hoping to happen upon the fossilized remains of some prehistoric creature that once roamed the earth. The Audubon members, who were used to turning their gazes skyward to search for birds, focused their stares toward the ground Saturday. The walk was lead by Jo Johnson, who works at the Saline County Health Department. On a point near Horse Thief Canyon, the group found hundred of Barite roses, a tannish mineral that forms concretions resembling roses.

*First National Handi-Bank* (A regular meeting place way out south by the Mid State Mall in the 1980's) – A program sponsored by the Smoky Hills Audubon Society will feature Gene Brehm, wildlife photographer with the Kansas Fish and Game Commission with tips on Nature Photography.

*Injured Golden Eagle* – A golden eagle injured by a gunshot shared the stage with a Kansas State University professor of veterinary medicine Thursday night at the Smoky Hills Audubon Society meeting at Salina. Terry Campbell, director of raptor rehabilitation at K-State had planned a slide show on the treatment of injured birds. Maurie Weigel, director of the Prairie Raptor Project of Salina brought the injured eagle so Campbell could demonstrate before his audience.

*Central High Biology Club* sponsored a “Save the Cheyenne Bottoms” fun run attracting 150 runners and raising 400 dollars for the wetland area.



## Smoky Hills Audubon

*Songbird*

### Habitat Certification Program

It has been with great enthusiasm that Gordan and I have had a great “Kick-Off” for our certification pro-gram. We have been privileged to view and record some of the most interesting, beautiful, and diverse yards so far. It is so simple to have your yard stand out in your neighborhood as a certified yard and in-fluence the love of nature to others around you. As simple as one, two, three and four. Ask yourself do you provide water, does your yard have cover for protection or birdhouses, is there a place for birds to raise their young, is there a natural food source or do you provide food. Having your yard Certified comes with some perks or (peeps). For the cost of \$35.00 you receive:

1. A SHAS certification plaque to display in your yard.
2. One year Membership to the Smoky Hills Local Audubon Chapter. (Sept-Sept)
3. Subscription to our Newsletter (Sept-May)
4. A full color certificate suitable for framing to have in your home.

I would like to recognize the people that have been certified since Gordan and I have been se-lected to head this program:

- \* Rob and Amy Freelove
- \* Gordan and Joyce Gorton
- \* Gene and Donna Sandberg
- \* Jathan and Tanya Show
- \* Becky Lister
- \* Ted and Vera Zerger

**Committee Chairperson**  
Bonnie Neubrand  
neubrandb@yahoo.com

**Co-Chair**  
Gordan Gorton  
ggkansas@yahoo.com

If you would like to have your yard certified please contact Gordan or I at the above email address's. We would love to evaluate your habitat. We have a list of people to work through so please let us know so we can add you to the list. Continue good birding and care of nature.



## Hard work & commitment have beautiful results!

Dan Baffa

The hard work put in by many volunteers at the refuge is beginning to show signs of a very real success. Mother Nature has helped too. With adequate rainfall some of the wildflower seeds are starting to show after several attempts at planting seed over the years. I am optimistic that even more wildflowers will be blooming in the years to come as many wildflower seeds will lie dormant for many years waiting for just the right conditions to germinate. The refuge committee can see many future improvements. All it will take to reap these benefits is hard work, commitment, time and an eager volunteer effort to really showcase the 67 acres. Plant diversity is key to improving habitat. As invasive species are being removed whole new areas are being opened up for native species to take their place. A diversified mix of habitats are necessary for wildlife. I recently saw at the refuge, a mink, a covey of quail and a turkey and two different species of snake in one small stretch of the sanctuary.

So much more work needs to be done. Starting in September, on the first and third Tuesdays of the month the refuge committee will be working at the refuge at 5:30 each evening, clearing trails, controlling drainage, erecting fence and the list goes on. If you want to help we'll be working for one and a half to two hours as weather and daylight allow. Come join us.

Another opportunity to help will be on September 10. We will meet at the refuge at 8:00 am and put in four hours of a community work day to work on creating habitat for wildlife and nature enthusiasts.





**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.



**LOOK WHAT I CAUGHT!**

There are plenty of photography opportunities at the Audubon Sanctuary if you have the patience. On a recent trip to the sanctuary to look for herons, I spotted a belted kingfisher hovering over the pond. To my amazement, after a quick dive, he came up with a fish firmly skewered on his beak! The pond's edge also provided an interesting photography moment as I witnessed a frog

catch another frog for his snack. I encourage you to spend some time at the sanctuary, you never know what you'll catch!

*by Jaci Novak*



**Come join us at the refuge!**

**First and Third Tuesdays  
of Each Month at 5:30pm  
&  
September 10 at 8:00am**

Starting in September, on the first and third Tuesdays of the month the refuge committee will be working at the refuge at 5:30 each evening, clearing trails, controlling drainage, erecting fence and the list goes on. If you want to help we'll be working for one and a half to two hours as weather and daylight allow. Come join us. Another opportunity to help will be on September 10. We will meet at the refuge at 8:00 am and put in four hours of a community work day to work on creating habitat for wildlife and nature enthusiasts.



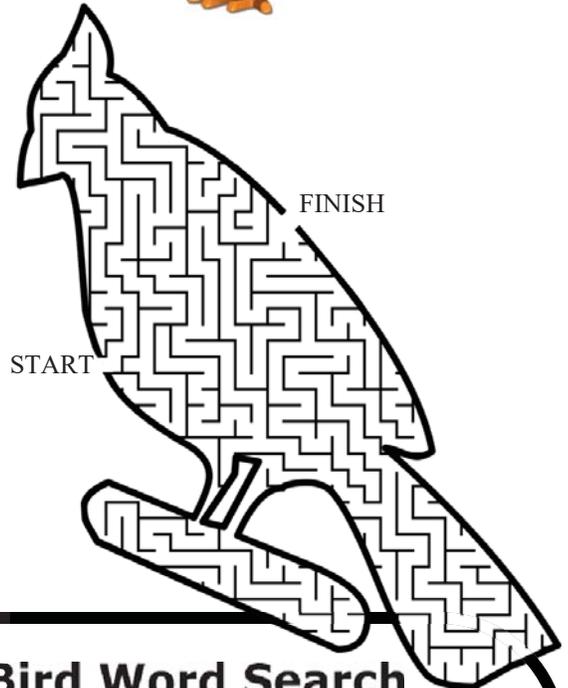
Please follow us on Facebook where you will find more images and regular posts. Join our community of friends who care about nature and support the work of our conservation network across America and around the world.  
<https://www.facebook.com/Smoky-Hills-Audubon-Society-184088464640>



**Don't forget!...** Please send your email address to [orcountrysidegirl@gmail.com](mailto:orcountrysidegirl@gmail.com) so that we can email you the newsletter each month. We will be reducing the number of printed newsletters we mail to members.



# Kids Page



## Jokes & Riddles

**Where does a peacock go when it loses its tail?**  
(A re-tail store!)

**Did you hear the story about the peacock?**  
(Yes, it's a beautiful tale!)

**What is even smarter than a talking bird?**  
(A spelling bee!)

**Why do hummingbirds hum?**  
(Because they forgot the words!)

**What do you give a sick bird?**  
(Tweetment!)

**Why do birds fly south for the winter?**  
(Because it's too far to walk!)

**What kind of bird can carry the most weight?**  
(The crane!)

**Did you hear the joke about the broken egg?**  
(Yes, it cracked me up!)

**What bird is with you at every meal?**  
(A swallow!)



## Bird Word Search

F C J Y E N R E E V O D B S V W O Q  
 C E H P K E A E E N H I L Z I H G Q  
 P A A I D S V L N I B O R N C K N Y  
 B E N T C T E G I H I B G R J E I W  
 Z E N A H K N A A B W C O T D N M G  
 F V A G R E E E M L O W Z O K S A G  
 V N J K U Y R N W S R I S R R P L E  
 Y D Y O B I Z O D U R W Q R F V F Z  
 H B X Z Y Z N E V K A O X A A D P F  
 W A K N N G E Z D Z P Y S P W K J O  
 W X W R R S U J Q V S O Z K W J W C  
 Y B G K R I U P G Z T E O F E X M J  
 Y E H N O E G I P G U J O G N D U F

SPARROW

CANARY

CHICKEN

CROW

DOVE

EAGLE

EGG

FEATHER

FLAMINGO

HAWK

NEST

OWL

PARROT

PENGUIN

PIGEON

RAVEN

ROBIN

SEEDS

BEAK

WING



**SMOKY HILLS AUDUBON SOCIETY**

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

Non Profit  
Organization  
POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Permit #90  
Salina KS 67401

*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.smokyhillsaudubon.com](http://www.smokyhillsaudubon.com) under Join/Donate Tab).*

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<b>SMOKY HILLS AUDUBON HAROLD LEAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY</b>	Groups should check with Dan Baffa before scheduling a trip and to arrange for guided nature tours. Dan Baffa, 620-271-8891, <a href="mailto:danbaffa1@yahoo.com">danbaffa1@yahoo.com</a>
<b>HOSPITALITY</b>	Kathie & Dave Roy, 785-392-2002, <a href="mailto:droy@dsoelectricwb.com">droy@dsoelectricwb.com</a>
<b>(Newsletter/Facebook Contributors)</b>	Mark Neubrand, <a href="mailto:mneubrand@cox.net">mneubrand@cox.net</a>
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<b>AUDUBON OF KANSAS WEBSITE</b>	<a href="http://www.audubonofkansas.org">http://www.audubonofkansas.org</a>