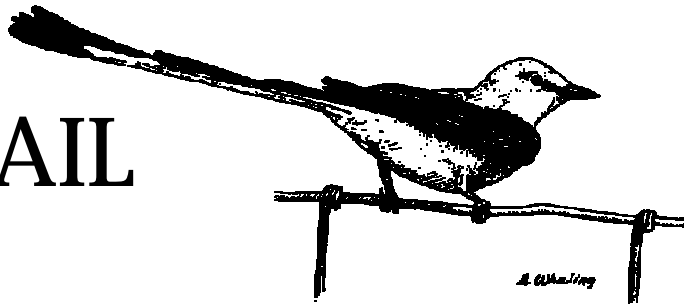


TULSA SCISSORTAIL

WINTER 2010



TULSA
AUDUBON
SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER
VOL. LXXI, NO. 2

Kathy tam
editor

From the President

President's Message

Help Wanted - TAS Anniversary. As you may know, TAS is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year! The board has been discussing some ideas on how to celebrate, but we are looking for a few volunteers to help plan our celebration. If you would like to help, please contact me. (johnkennington@gmail.com or 918-809-6325.)

TogetherGreen Volunteer Days. Our first event this year, at the new Ray Haral Nature Center in Broken Arrow, was a great success. Thanks to everyone who came out. We will be holding another work day there in the Spring, as well as other work days at Oxley Nature Center.

Huge News! As of December 9th, Eric Beck is now officially the first Audubon employee in the state of Oklahoma!!! He is the Oklahoma Audubon Council's Important Bird Areas Coordinator. It is a part-time position, but this is a huge mile-

stone for Audubon in Oklahoma.

The primary funding for this position comes from the TogetherGreen Innovations Grant we received, which focuses on Lesser Prairie-Chicken conservation. We are also supplementing that with funds from the Council. You will be hearing lots more about this from me. This is a very exciting time for Audubon in Oklahoma!!!!

As you may know Tulsa Audubon, as the state's largest chapter (and being a legal non-profit entity,) administers the Council's funds, and I want to thank our treasurer Mary Jackson and the entire board for all the extra work they have taken on overseeing the Council's finances.

Lesser Prairie Chicken Festival. The second Lesser Prairie-Chicken Birding Festival in Woodward, sponsored by the Audubon Council, will be April 16-21, 2010. Many TAS board members are closely involved in the festival planning. The festival brochure and registration form will be available at

www.okaudubon.org. Our keynote speaker this year is Julie Zickefoose (Google her if you don't recognize the name!) If you could not make it to last year's festival I would encourage you to consider attending this year.

Bird Seed Sale. I still have a few bags of most of the items available. Contact me to check on what I have in stock.

Conservation Victory. You may recall back in 2007 I reported the city of Dallas was suing the state of Oklahoma in federal court to force Oklahoma to provide water for Dallas. The long term consequences of this action would be very scary, especially from a conservation and wildlife point of view. I am pleased to report that Oklahoma won a major victory in federal court in November 2009 when the judge dismissed the lawsuit. As reported in the Tulsa World on Nov. 20, 2009 this won't necessarily be the end of the conflict, but the ruling provides Oklahoma with some pretty strong arguments for protecting the state's interests with regards to water rights.

Winter Activities

Jan. 2, Sat. Eagle Days. Meet between 8 and 10 a.m. in the parking lot of the Watchable Wildlife Area, east of the Corps of Engineers Office on the north side of the Arkansas River at Lake Keystone dam. For information, contact Dave Edwards, 865-7398.

Jan. 19, Tue. Society Meeting - Wind power in Oklahoma with Jay Pruett. Jay is the Director of Conservation for the Oklahoma Chapter of the Nature Conservancy. He will discuss the impact that wind energy development can have on wildlife if done wrong.

Jan. 23, Sat. Field Trip, Sooner Lake. Leaders – Terry Mitchell and Cyndie Browning. Cyndie needs the names and addresses of **all** participants who want to go inside the plant fences no later than Jan 15th. Call or email leader [Cyndie Browning](mailto:Cyndie.Browning@okaudubon.org) at 918-492-5622 to

RSVP at get your name on the list of those allowed in the plant.

Feb. 16, Tues. Society Meeting, Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge: a Birding Treasure with Kris Patton. Kris is the director of Tishomingo, a favorite destination for Oklahoma birders. It is a managed wetland, which attracts waterfowl, shorebirds, and migrants.

Feb. 20, Sat. Field Trip, Birds & Wine – Drumright Area & Tidal School Vineyards. We will begin the day looking for raptors, sparrows and other wintering birds in the Drumright area, and then warm up with a visit Tidal School Vineyards for lunch and a winery tour. Contact [John Kennington](mailto:John.Kennington@okaudubon.org), 918-809-6325.

Feb. 27, Tue. Field Trip, Woodcock Watch and Weiner Roast at Mohawk Park. Leader

– John Kennington

Mar. 14, Sun. Afternoon Outing. A short visit to a local birding area. Meet 4:00 p.m. at the Tulsa Garden Center. Contact [John Kennington](mailto:John.Kennington@okaudubon.org), 918-809-6325.

Mar. 16, Tue. Society Meeting, Sandhill Cranes on the Platte River with Jack Curran. Jack is an artist, photographer, and author from Arkansas. He will be presenting beautiful and exciting photographs of Sandhill Cranes on their famous staging area in Nebraska. He will bring copies of his book *Jack Curran's World of Books* and donating a portion of the sales to TAS.

Mar. 27, Sat. Field Trip - Redbud Valley Nature Preserve. 10:00-Noon. Leader – Carol Eames.

TAS Together Green Event

★ Feb. 6, Sat. TogetherGreen Volunteer Day, [Oxley Nature Center Habitat Improvement](#). Lunch will
★ be provided, and participants will receive a Together Green/TAS T-Shirt. For more information, con-
★ tact [John Kennington](#), 918-809-6325.
★

By John David McQuaig



Volunteers Needed

Plan the celebration for the 75th Anniversary Contact John Kennington (johnkennington@gmail.com or 918-809-6325.)

TULSA AUDUBON SOCIETY OFFICERS : President - John Kennington Vice-President - Gail Storey Secretary - Anita Mitchel Treasurer - Mary Jackson Recorder - Paul Ribitzki Directors: Jay Pruett, Jim Mitchell, Gary Siftar, Martin Brown, Kathy Tam, Bob Germany

TAS Website: www.tulsaudubon.org

"Tulsa Scissortail" is the quarterly newsletter of the Tulsa Audubon Society, a chapter of the National Audubon Society, P.O. Box 2476, Tulsa, OK 74101. As the "Scissortail" newsletter goes to the printer two weeks before the date of issue, the editor needs items for that issue at least a week before going to press (For Summer 2009, that will be early June). We are always looking for a good nature story.

e-mail: buckskinhawk@hotmail.com Kathy Tam, Editor

Recorder's Report

Recorder: Paul Ribitzki, e-mail: lribitzki@juno.com



1 September 2009 through 29 November 2009

R = rare, O = out-of-date range

| Rarity | Species | Date | Count | County | Location | Observer(s) |
|--------|-------------------------|----------|-------|--------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| R | Surf Scoter | 11/22/09 | 2 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Lynn Lane Reservoir | B Carrell |
| R | Greater Prairie-Chicken | 11/17/09 | 1 | Tulsa | Hwy 51 E of Mannford | T Curtis |
| O | Common Loon | 09/24/09 | 1 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Lake Yahola | T Mitchell |
| O | Snowy Egret | 11/01/09 | 1 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Lake Yahola | T Mitchell |
| R | dark Ibis sp. | 09/12/09 | 24 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Lake Yahola | F Sandford |
| R | dark Ibis sp. | 10/09/09 | 5 | Tulsa | Leonard sod farms | G Kamp |
| R,O | dark Ibis sp. | 10/17/09 | 1 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Lake Yahola | T Mitchell,B Carrell |
| R,O | dark Ibis sp. | 10/20/09 | 9 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Mohawk Park | Tuesday Morning Birders |
| R | Ferruginous Hawk | 10/27/09 | 1 | ulsa | Leonard sod farms | Tuesday Morning Birders |
| R,O | Peregrine Falcon | 11/09/09 | 1 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Lake Yahola | J Singletary,S Jones |
| R | Sandhill Crane | 10/24/09 | 2 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Lake Yahola | B Carrell |
| O | Semipalmated Plover | 10/17/09 | 2 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Lake Yahola | T Mitchell,B Carrell |
| O | Sanderling | 10/24/09 | 1 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Lake Yahola | P Ribitzki |
| O | Stilt Sandpiper | 10/20/09 | 25 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Mohawk Park | Tuesday Morning Birders |
| O | Willet | 09/13/09 | 1 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Lake Yahola | T Mitchell |
| O | Wilson's Phalarope | 10/15/09 | 1 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Lake Yahola | T Mitchell |
| R | Laughing Gull | 09/12/09 | 1 | Pawnee | Lake Keystone, Cowskin Bay | T Mitchell, et al |
| R,O | Sabine's Gull | 10/28/09 | 2 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Lake Yahola | B Carrell |
| R | Black-legged Kittiwake | 11/22/09 | 1 | Tulsa | Lake Keystone dam | J Hoffman |
| O | Acadian Flycatcher | 09/11/09 | 1 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Oxley Nature Center | B Carrell |
| O | Hermit Thrush | 10/10/09 | 1 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Oxley Nature Center | T Mitchell |
| R,O | Blue-winged Warbler | 09/20/09 | 1 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Oxley Nature Center | B Carrell |
| R | Chestnut-sided Warbler | 09/13/09 | 1 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Oxley Nature Center | B Carrell |
| O | Nashville Warbler | 09/01/09 | 1 | Tulsa | South Tulsa County | Tuesday Morning Birders |
| O | Tennessee Warbler | 10/27/09 | 1 | Tulsa | Bixby sod farms | Tuesday Morning Birders |
| O | Yellow Warbler | 09/27/09 | 1 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Oxley Nature Center | B Carrell |
| O | Yellow Warbler | 09/29/09 | 1 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Mohawk Park | Tuesday Morning Birders |
| O | Scarlet Tanager | 09/15/09 | 1 | Tulsa | West Tulsa Co | Tuesday Morning Birders |
| O | Lark Sparrow | 10/06/09 | 1 | Tulsa | North Tulsa County | Tuesday Morning Birders |
| O | Lark Sparrow | 10/14/09 | 1 | Tulsa | Tulsa, Lake Yahola | G Kamp |

Jack Curran's World of Birds

Jack Curran, painter, sculptor, and photographer will present a program for Tulsa Audubon Society on "**Sandhill Cranes on the Platte River**" on Tuesday, March 16, 2010. Jack will bring copies of his book *Jack Curran's World of Birds*. The subtitle is: *A portfolio of photographs, watercolors, and woodcarvings, with commentary on forty years of watching birds and their behaviors*. Jack kindly sent me a copy of the book. It is a stunning collection of beautiful images of birds accompanied by interesting facts and anecdotes. The book retails for \$24.95. Jack has a great website where you can preview the book and see some of his work. So, come prepared to shop at our March meeting.



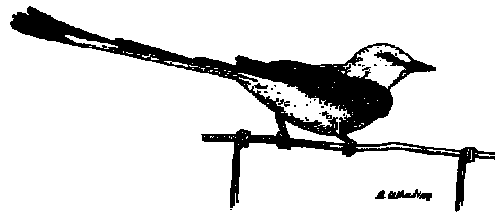
Mystery Bird Photo

This photo was taken in South Tulsa County on December 11. The question remains, "Is this a hybrid between a White Throated Sparrow and a Dark Eyed Junco or is it a Leucistic (partial albinism) Dark Eyed Junco?" We may never know the answer to this question. Isn't birding fun!

If you have a mystery bird photo, send it into Kathy Tam at bucskinhawk@hotmail.com for the next issue of the Scissortail.

WINTER 2010

Tulsa Audubon Society
P.O. Box 2476
Tulsa, OK 74101



Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Permit No. 2195

NAS/TAS Introductory Membership Form

Membership in the National Audubon Society provides membership in the Tulsa Audubon Society. Members receive six issues each of **Audubon** magazine and four issues of the **Tulsa Scissortail**.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Email: _____

Please check:

\$20 1 yr Introductory \$30 2 yr Introductory

\$15 1 yr Student/Senior School/Grade: _____

Check enclosed, payable to: **National Audubon Society**
Please write T01/7XCH on your check

Please bill me

OR

TAS Local Membership

Local membership in the Tulsa Audubon Society includes four issues of the **Tulsa Scissortail**.

\$10 Local membership, check enclosed
payable to: **Tulsa Audubon Society**

Mail either to: Tulsa Audubon Society
P.O. Box 2476
Tulsa, OK 74101

The Mission of the Tulsa Audubon Society

To foster appreciation, enjoyment and stewardship of our natural world.

We work to achieve this in four ways

- Promote the conservation of wildlife and the natural environment

- Provide the opportunity for study and observation of birds and all wildlife

- Contribute to research in the fields of conservation and ornithology by monetary support and active participation

- Educate the public on the need to protect the environment, and to promote a better public understanding of these natural resources