



# Oklahoma City Audubon Society

OKC-AUDUBON.ORG

April 2013

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## Radar, Weather and Migration

The speaker for our April 15 program will be Dr. Phil Chilson, physicist in the School of Meteorology and the Advanced Radar Research Center at the University of Oklahoma. Although trained as a physicist, Dr. Chilson knows radar, weather and migration, which will be the points of his presentation. As most or all birders know, migration is a way of life for many birds and, therefore, is one of the beauties of birding not fully understood scientifically. Radar is one of the technologies used to unravel some of the mysteries of bird life, one of which is how weather affects migration. Both are being studied with radar.

Since obtaining his PhD in physics from Clemson University, Dr. Chilson's research interests have included the study of dynamics and stratification of the atmosphere. He has designed experiments using radar to study a wide range of topics including the ablation of meteors, dynamics in the summer polar mesosphere region, dynamic instabilities in the lower atmosphere, and effects of ionospheric modification. Dr. Chilson joined the faculty of the School of Meteorology in 2005. Before that he was a research scientist with CIRES at the University of Colorado where he worked with the NOAA Environmental Technology Laboratory. Earlier appointments were with the Swedish Institute of Space Physics and the Max-Planck-Institut für Aeronomie (currently the Max-Planck-Institut für Sonnensystemforschung).

Come out for an exciting evening of radar, weather, migration and warm camaraderie. And bring a friend and a young person.

Our meetings are held September through June on the third Monday of each month. They begin at 7:00 p.m. at the Will Rogers Garden Center, I-44 and NW 36th Street. Visitors are always welcome.

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### Dues Notice

It's time once again to renew your annual membership for 2013. OCAS dues are \$15 per household and may be paid at the monthly meetings, online at our website <http://www.okc-audubon.org> or mailed to Nancy Vicars, Treasurer, 820 Arthur Drive, Midwest City, OK 73110

### Cookie Patrol

The refreshments volunteers for the April 15th meeting are Gene and Jana Mott Marion Homier and Matt Jung

### New Members

The Oklahoma City Audubon Society welcomes new members: Laura Pollard, Edmond, OK and Rusty Gables Guest Lodge & Gallery, OKC

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# President's Perspective

By Bill Diffin



The thesis of the current series of articles is that we can abstract general characteristics from the local members of a supergroup and apply them to the supergroup worldwide. Last month we started an investigation of the Sylvioidea superfamily of passerine birds with a look at the Tufted Titmouse and Carolina Chickadee, members of the Paridae family. We should continue on with a review of the

other sylvioid families of North America and see what general characteristics we can abstract. So let's next look at the family, Remizidae, which contains the Verdin and is closely related to the Paridae. The first Verdin recording has a two-note song reminiscent of a Carolina Chickadee but shorter, <http://www.xeno-canto.org/21328>. Next is a recording of the call, sounding like a high version of the jay's "jeer", <http://www.xeno-canto.org/48222>. The last one has some gargles (see last month for chickadee gargles) mixed in with hard "tsik" calls, <http://www.xeno-canto.org/72248>.

The Alaudidae family is represented locally by the Horned Lark. Here is a xeno-canto song recording, <http://www.xeno-canto.org/80749>. It is simple and repetitive with little variation in this example. There is a more complex version that is described as the "dawn song" that contains more of the initial chips, <http://www.xeno-canto.org/14877>. Here is an example of the call, like a very high version of the jay's "jeer", <http://www.xeno-canto.org/53791>.

The Hirundinidae family is represented in Oklahoma by the Cliff Swallow, Barn Swallow, Bank Swallow, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Tree Swallow, Purple Martin and occasionally the Cave Swallow. Here is a Barn Swallow song, <http://www.xeno-canto.org/57230>. It resembles the Horned Lark's dawn song a little but with a dry rattle or churr substituted for the tinkling warble. The short rising whistles, the "reet" or "veet", sounds compressed together at the beginning of the song are very typical. Barn Swallows also make a shorter, sharper sound, which in one version sounds like a musical "tink" or "tidink" and in another version is an unmusical "chug" or "chug". These can be heard in the following two recordings, <http://www.xeno-canto.org/70503>, and <http://www.xeno-canto.org/70501>. In the next and final Barn Swallow recording, there is a bird calling to nestlings, and it seems to be vocalizing the two main call types very slowly and clearly to the young, <http://www.xeno-canto.org/81057>. The Northern Rough-winged Swallow has a single hoarse vocalization, <http://www.xeno-canto.org/34770>. The Purple Martin is known for having complex vocalizations which differ in males and females. Here is a male's song, <http://www.xeno-canto.org/33565>, and here are some female's calling, <http://www.xeno-canto.org/33567>.

The Aegithalidae family has a US representative, the Bushtit, which is occasionally seen in the far western OK panhandle. These birds have very high voices. The most audible call for most people is a "spik" which can be heard here, <http://www.xeno-canto.org/109190>. It is reminiscent of the "tink" of a Barn Swallow. The Phylloscopidae family is represented by the Arctic Warbler in Alaska. Here is a recording of the song of repetitive short whistles with a few calls thrown in, written as "dzzip", <http://www.xeno-canto.org/91849>. The Timaliidae family is represented by the Wrenit in the California chaparral country. Here is the song of short repetitive whistles becoming a trill, <http://www.xeno-canto.org/90158>, and here is the rattling call, <http://www.xeno-canto.org/28525>.

Many of the songs of the sylvioid birds above are composed of one to a few simple whistled notes. In a few of the species, for example the Horned Lark, Barn Swallow and the Purple Martin, the notes are slurred and packed together, perhaps combined with some clicks or rattles, to produce something which sounds a little more complex. However the basic composition is simple and repetitive, predictable, and has an easily recognizable signature quality throughout. The calls of the sylvioids are mostly short, hoarse or buzzy sounds, sometimes repeated rapidly, surprisingly low on the whole considering the size of the birds. Next month we will see how well these conclusions apply to the sylvioids worldwide.

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## Oklahoma City Audubon Society

### Officers 2013

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*The Oklahoma City Audubon society is neither a chapter of nor affiliated with National Audubon.*

*For Oklahoma City Audubon news between newsletters*

## Bird of the Month

By John Shackford



To me there is something clean, crisp about the **Red-shouldered Hawk** (*Buteo lineatus*). When you get a decent look at one here in Oklahoma, it is remarkably consistent in coloration to other Red-shouldered Hawks. Nice reddish shoulder and reddish barred breast and much black and white barring elsewhere. This is unlike the Red-tailed Hawk, with plumages that seem infinitely variable. Thus, seeing and identifying a

Red-shouldered Hawk is generally an immediately satisfying experience.

There is one plumage that can be confusing: the young Red-shouldered is brown, with brown streaked breast and brown and light banded tail, quite similar to the plumage of a young Goshawk, and not too unlike a young Red-tailed Hawk. One winter, from a distance, I saw such a confusing plumage. A young Red-tailed Hawk could be ruled out due to the darker and less distinct bands on the tail. It took some hard looking to finally convince myself that this was indeed a young Red-shouldered Hawk rather than a young Goshawk: I finally got close enough with a scope to make out finer points and I am pretty sure I got it right, but it was very far from an easy identification.

I once found a hawk nest in Mineral Wells Park in Guthrie, Oklahoma, that had a banded-tailed bird sitting on it. For some reason, I said Red-tailed to myself and went on. I do not remember how many days it took before I realized that no nesting Red-tail should have a banded tail: the bird on the nest had to be either a Red-shouldered or a Broad-winged Hawk. I went back to verify that it was indeed a Red-shouldered Hawk, which it was. Sometimes we can get a bit “breezy” with identifications.

According to Sutton (1967, *Oklahoma Birds*), the Red-

shouldered Hawk nest is placed “...eighteen to sixty feet up in ‘small’ to large tree.” In the neighborhood where I live nests are usually placed toward the top of an oak tree. The nests may be placed on an old nest of a squirrel or one of the hawk’s former nests, etc., but usually not the nest from the previous year. Two to four eggs are usually laid—most often 3—and incubation is about 28 days. Since incubation of eggs starts toward the beginning of egg-laying, young from a nest hatch at different times so that there are different sizes of young in the nest as they grow, a very typical pattern for most hawks. This gives the older chicks an advantage of surviving over younger chicks, especially when food resources are slim for the young. This increases the odds that at least some young will fledge.



Sutton (1967) said that the Red-shouldered Hawk “...may migrate into and through state [of Oklahoma] to some extent.” But “observations during the last 30 years [1937-1967] in Tulsa County and during the past ten years in various parts of eastern Oklahoma indicate that the species is present in considerable numbers throughout the year, and we have no evidence either that birds which breed in the state move southward or that more northern birds move into or through the state in fall and winter.”

Bent (1961, *Life Histories of North American Birds of Prey*, part 1) talks about the Red-shouldered Hawk’s tenacity to its nesting woods; one pair (and possible successors) near Boston, Massachusetts, was believed to have nested each year in the same woodlands from 1872-1923, a total of 51 years, quite a remarkable period of time.

The Red-shouldered Hawk, according to Breeding Bird Survey data, appears to be increasing in numbers and expanding its range in central and western Oklahoma. The Red-shouldered Hawk is a bird of forests and swamps. Forested habitat in Oklahoma has expanded in the last several decades at least, probably due primarily to fire suppression.

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## Field Trip Report: Southwest Oklahoma

By Jimmy Woodard

Eleven birders met in Mustang Friday morning March 29th to begin the field trip to the southwest corner of the state. Joining me were Mary Lane, Steve Davis, Larry Mays, Jerry and Peggy Mitchell from Duncan, Gene and Jana Mott, Gavin Small, Dave and Sue Woodson.

Our first stop was tiny Salyer Lake in Caddo County near Binger. We observed about ten species including Shoveler, Blue-winged Teal and Northern Rough-winged Swallows. Amazingly, a small storm with lightning, thunder, and small hail came over us. It actually rained

for about 10 minutes! Our next stop was Crowder Lake State Park in Washita County. This small fishing lake didn't hold much waterfowl except a few pelicans, cormorants, and Mallards. A trail thru the



park and down to a creek held more birds. We found two Louisiana Waterthrushes, Great Horned Owl, several Chipping and White-crowned Sparrows and a pair of Bewick's Wrens.

After a pit stop in Cordell, we went south to Rocky/Hobart Lake, another smallish fishing impoundment. The lake was down which created some good mudflats along the north end. We found a hundred or so shorebirds most of which were Least Sandpipers. We also had Long-billed Dowitchers, yellowlegs, and Baird's Sandpipers. The surprise was a tiny adult Least Tern cruising over the water. We saw it hit the water a couple of times. We stopped at the dam on the south end and had a picnic lunch. We called up a Marsh Wren below the dam in a nice looking reedy marsh.

Quartz Mountain Lake and park were our next venue. The lake is way down which made the waterfowl a little far out to scope to our satisfaction. There were Horned Grebes, Northern Shovelers, two teal species and Lesser Scaup of those we could identify. Near the lodge we had good views of Rufous-crowned Sparrows.

Also heard or seen were Canyon Wren and Ladder-backed Woodpeckers.

After arriving in Altus, our home for two nights, we visited Altus Reservoir which is right in town. It was very birdy with waterfowl. We saw a nice male Cinnamon Teal. We got close up views of several other species of ducks and Horned Grebe. Several White-winged Doves were in the area and we had our first view of Swainson's Hawk, a flyover.

Saturday began cool and foggy. We made our way west toward Duke and stopped at Kizziar's feedlot. It was closed so we couldn't go inside but birding the road produced a couple of Burrowing Owls. Through the fog I was able to get a brief glimpse of a Prairie Falcon.



Near Eldorado in Jackson County, we spotted a couple of Golden-fronted Woodpeckers. Further south, we birded the mesquite thickets along the road. We had looks at two Lark Buntings, Black-crested Titmice, Ladder-backed WP, and Great Horned Owls on a nest. Near the Red River, we found an early Ash-throated Flycatcher. Other finds were Brewer's Blackbirds, Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks and a flock of six Long-billed Curlews in a field.

As we headed toward Eldorado and lunch, we found a small playa. There were quite a few Chestnut-collared Longspurs swirling over the field and several stopped at the water's edge to drink. We got great looks at them. Some were in partial breeding plumage. We also had a Sprague's Pipit come to drink. Two other pipits flew over at close range.

After lunch, several of our party headed for home. The rest of the group birded more back roads and we went back by Kizziar's and Altus Reservoir. Nothing new was added. Some of us enjoyed a good dinner at the Plaza Mexican restaurant in Altus.

Sunday morning, nine of us continued the birding trip. We went back to the river near Eldorado and tried for Verdin but had no luck. We found another Great Horned Owl on a nest with at least one chick.

*(Continued on page 5)*

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## Southwest Oklahoma (continued)

Quite a surprise was a lovely Say's Phoebe in the morning light. I've never seen one down in this corner of the state. Another surprise was the multiple sightings of LeConte's Sparrows in the tall grass. We had at least 4-5 and several other sparrows may have been this species also. A Rock Wren was a good find nearby.

As we drove toward Gould and Hollis, we found one Upland Sandpiper close to the road. It made several short flights calling as it flew. We also found two Yellow-headed Blackbirds along Hwy 62.



North of Hollis, we made a brief visit to Hall Lake. I'd never been here before but it looks like a good spot. We saw several ducks, a kingfisher, towhees and a few other things but nothing unusual. Gavin parted with us at this point. The rest of us pressed on to Sandy Sanders WMA, another first visit for me.

The roads were a little wet from an overnight shower, but luckily it wasn't too muddy to drive thru the WMA. This place was nothing like I expected. The arid, mesic country and buttes and mesas very much reminded me of the mesa country in the panhandle. We drove thru this surprising place not really seeing much. We stopped at the headquarters barn to check it for owls.

As I circled the barn to go in an entrance, I focused on a couple of nesting platforms visible in the loft. I should've been focused on the ground around me. The telltale rattle stopped me in my tracks at the door. Just to my left and luckily far enough away, was a 4-5 foot Western Diamondback rattler. It had about half its body sticking straight up and ready to do business if I got too close. After my heart began beating again, I slowly backed away and called for the others to come. This guy continued to rattle and stay erect as several of our group snapped photos from about 15 feet away. Meanwhile, I quietly went around to the other end of the barn and checked for owls. Nobody was home.

As we continued homeward bound, we stopped at a few old homesteads looking for owls and such. No owls were found in any of them. After lunch in Elk City, we visited Elk City Lake just outside of town. It looked a little barren but it did have some good shoreline and some shorebirds. We also had a few ducks, pelicans and cormorants. A group of Cliff Swallows had taken up residence in a bandshell. At the far west end of the lake, we spotted an Osprey which gave us 116 species for our three day trip. It was another successful visit to one of my favorite corners of the state.

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## March 18, 2013 Meeting

Called to order by President Bill Diffin.

Minutes of February meeting approved without changes.

### Committee Reports:

Treasurer report: Nancy Vicars reported expenses for recent Prairie Dog Point cleanup tools, otherwise usual expenses. Cash on hand: \$5,956.12.

Conservation committee: Dave Woodson reports the Earthfest will be held at Martin Park Nature Center sometime in May-June. Volunteers are requested to man the booth for educational information on birding.

Field trips: Mark Delgrosso was absent, and Bill Diffin reviewed the published upcoming trips, without changes.

### Old Business: none

### New Business:

OCAS was contacted to join in an effort to prevent planned relocation of a gun range near Lake Draper to a location closer to neighborhoods nearby. Bill Diffin discussed the details, and as no apparent birding agenda is involved, we will not take part in the petition. Anyone who has an interest may ask for a petition to sign.

Presentation by Bob Holbrook was given about birding in Romania, where his wife Dana grew up. Beautiful and entertaining slides were displayed. Bob recommends IBIS Tours as a guide, and website is available.

*Sharon Henthorn, Secretary*

## Recorders Report – March 2013

### Spring!!

Clocks changed and warmer weather arrived making time outside more comfortable; but is there anything new to see? Ah yes, from Sandhill Cranes to Yellow-crowned Night Herons, birds began to return. Who would be the first to see what where? Resident birds started nesting and in a strange location owlets fledged.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Patti Muzny observed three Greater Roadrunners in McClain County, and near Chandler Jimmy Woodward discovered a Loggerhead Shrike. At Lake Hefner Jeff Tibbits located a blue morph Snow Goose, and Matt Jung found lots of different waterfowl including Ruddy Duck, Pied-billed Grebe, Horned Grebe, Herring Gull and Bonaparte's Gull. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Matt added Red-breasted Merganser and Common Goldeneye. At Boyd Davison Park in Payne County, Brandon Melton had Brewer's Blackbird, while in Norman Joe Grzybowski sighted a Red-breasted Nuthatch, and along South Jenkins T K saw a Winter Wren.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> Larry Mays had **Sandhill Cranes** near Newcastle, while Dick Gunn checked out South Jenkins and discovered Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Sandhill Cranes, and Fish Crows. Dala Grissom saw Redheads at Shawnee Twin Lakes. Jimmy Woodard heard a **Purple Martin** flying over his house in Mustang, and Marybeth Murphy located Common Merganser and Forster's Tern at Lake Hefner.



On the 5<sup>th</sup> ten people arrived for the OCAS's American Woodcock field trip led by Jimmy Woodard and Nadine Varner at Lake Stanley Draper on the northwest side near Midwest Blvd and Stanley. They were not

disappointed when the first peent was heard around 6:45pm and at least 3 birds were seen doing displays. Marybeth Murphy discovered a **Tree Swallow** at the Lexington Wildlife Management Area.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> Alex James saw an American Pipit at Lake Carl Blackwell, and Michael Beilfuss had a Purple Finch east of Boomer Lake. On the 8<sup>th</sup> along South Jenkins, Dick Gunn observed a male

**Cinnamon Teal** among the mixed crowd of teal. James Hubbel located a **Barn Owl** at the Oklahoma City Shelter near SE Grand Boulevard and SE 29th Street, and Michelle Gardner discovered an American Woodcock at the Lincoln County Wetland south of Chandler.



On the 9<sup>th</sup> Dick observed a pair of **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** over the pasture along South Jenkins, and at Boomer Lake Cassandra Cullin discovered a **Franklin's Gull**. On the 10<sup>th</sup> Andrew West had a female **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** on his feeder in Stillwater, while at Lake Hefner Bill Diffin discovered a Lesser Black-backed Gull. On the 12<sup>th</sup> Alex James had a Lincoln's Sparrow at the Teal Ridge Wetland in Payne County. On the 13<sup>th</sup> Chris Butler saw a **Louisiana Waterthrush** at a small ravine in 10-Acre Park in Choctaw.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> Tim O'Connell heard a flock of about 40 Sandhill Cranes fly over his house in Stillwater. Alex James checked out Lake Carl Blackwell and relocated the Red Crossbills, a Pine Warbler, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Chipping Sparrows and a Tom Turkey. On the 15<sup>th</sup> Pat Garrison saw three Black Vultures flying over South Jenkins. On the 16<sup>th</sup> in Norman Brian Davis identified an Orange-crowned Warbler, T K discovered **Lesser Yellowlegs** at Lake Thunderbird, and Joe Grzybowski birded South Jenkins to discover an early migrating **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**. While riding a bike around Lake Hefner Patrick Schlecht counted 15 Common Loons. On the 17<sup>th</sup> Donna Mackiewicz had a **Barn Swallow** in Logan County between Edmond and Guthrie.

On the 18<sup>th</sup> Esther Key identified an **Evening Grosbeak** at her backyard feeder near Moore, while Chris Clay saw Northern Bobwhite near I-40 and US 270 in Shawnee County. In Norman Lindell Dillon reported an Eastern Bluebird laid her first egg of the season in one of his nest boxes and he also located a Great Egret in the Hallbrooke Addition. At Lake Thunderbird, Joe reports the lake is down and there are mudflats at the Twin Bridges with 9 species of shorebirds including **American Golden Plover**,

*Continued on page 7*

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## Recorder's Report (continued)

**Pectoral Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher**, Lesser Yellowlegs, Baird's Sandpiper, and at the dam Tree Swallows, Purple Martins and Franklin's Gulls.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> Mary and Lou Truex went on a birding trip and located a wetland southeast of Maud with Cinnamon Teal, at Lake Konawa a Sharp-shinned Hawk and Bewick's Wren, at Tecumseh Lake a Savanna Sparrow, at Little River wetland a Swamp Sparrow, at Purcell Lake a Rough-legged Hawk and Black-and-white Warbler, and at Lake Thunderbird's Twin Bridges a **Snowy Plover**. In Tuttle Larry Mays discovered Spotted Towhee, Eastern Phoebe, Barred Owl and Redhead.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> Bill Diffin checked Bluff Creek Park just below Lake Hefner Dam where the woods were alive with birds singing and calling and discovered Northern Shoveler, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Brown Creeper and Fox Sparrow. Meanwhile, south of Dover at a sand pit off of Hwy 81 Mary and Lou Truex had a Long-billed Dowitcher, Ruddy Duck, and Northern Pintail. On the 21<sup>st</sup>

Jason Shaw located a Wood Duck in the USAO Habitat Area's Lower Pond in Chickasha. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> Bill Diffin birded Stinchcomb WMA East and located a **Black-and-White Warbler** and Golden-crowned Kinglet; at Lake Carl Blackwell



Jack Olson saw a Yellow-throated Warbler; at Lake Thunderbird T K discovered a Louisiana Waterthrush; and in east Norman Joe located a **Lark Sparrow**.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> Joe made a quick sweep past Lake Hefner and was surprised to find two winter-plumage Red-throated Loons together just off the dam near the intake and at Prairie Dog Point he had a Snowy Plover. Meanwhile, along South Jenkins Dick located a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and **Yellow-throated Warbler**. On Sanborn Lake Brandy Polo identified Hooded Mergansers.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> the first **Scissor-tailed Flycatchers** were seen on the west side of Oklahoma City in Mustang by Jimmy Woodward and on the east side over I-44 by Brian Davis. Mike Husak reminds us that he and Diane Landoll have been banding Scissor-tailed Flycatchers and to please notify them if you spot a banded bird at [michaelh@cameron.edu](mailto:michaelh@cameron.edu) or [dvl04@hotmail.com](mailto:dvl04@hotmail.com)

On the 29<sup>th</sup> Jim Bates stopped by Crystal Lake and lucked out in spotting a **Long-billed Curlew**. Brian Davis noticed a raptor circling over Cleveland Elementary in central Norman that sure looked like a Mississippi Kite???. On the 30<sup>th</sup> in Oklahoma City Bill Diffin located Pine Siskins at the Coffey Dam and then checked below the dam at Lake Overholser to discover returning **Cliff Swallows**. Jim Bates also checked the mudflats and found a single **Least Tern**. Dora Webb had a very large Crow/Raven visit her yard. Meanwhile along South Jenkins T K located a **White-eyed Vireo**.

Over the weekend Dick Gunn reports along South Jenkins there were Yellow-throated Warblers, **Yellow-crowned Night-Herons**, all three teal species and at Griffin Park a Great Egret. Meanwhile south of Lake Hefner between two parking lots, Pat Flanigan reports the 3 Great Horned Owl chicks fledged. When surprised employees discovered the nest, they set up spotting scopes and took pictures of the family.

During March **153** bird species were reported with **27** new species which brought the 2013 year's total to **169** species in the Central Oklahoma area. I appreciate those who help provide the history of central Oklahoma birds and can be contacted by e-mail at [emkok@earthlink.net](mailto:emkok@earthlink.net). Esther M. Key, Editor.

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## Cedar Removal at Lake Hefner

District Two Oklahoma County Commissioner Brian Maughan has announced a new program that would remove Eastern Red Cedar trees from public and private land across Oklahoma County. Officials said the trees can drain up to 40 gallons of water a day from soil, making it hard for landowners to keep other plants and crops alive. The trees are also filled with oils that make them a major wildfire hazard.

Oklahoma County, with the City's approval, has initiated a program to remove eastern red cedars from the south shoreline of Lake Hefner. The work is scheduled to begin in the next week or so. The City is hoping the removal of this invasive tree species will reduce some water loss and help open views of the lake from South Lake Hefner Drive.

The City has also initiated a project to reconstruct and repair the road on Hobie Point. The improvements will enhance public safety and improve access for emergency response. The project includes installation of a fence, in order to deter illegal off-road activity in restricted areas.

Oklahoma City Audubon Society  
c/o Patricia Velte  
1421 NW 102nd Street  
Oklahoma City, OK 73114

## 100th Birthday Celebration for Founding Father Dr. Sam Moore

On Saturday, March 30, 2013, OKC Audubon Society founding father Dr. Sam Moore celebrated his 100th birthday at a major party at The Fountains at Canterbury in north Oklahoma City. Trees were planted and dedicated in Dr. Moore's honor followed by a program that included the Oklahoma Zoo Friends who brought a Short-eared Owl and other live birds for people to enjoy. Dr. Moore was a long time member of the zoo board. Making a special trip to OKC from Washington, D.C., for the celebration was Nancy Kelly, executive Director of Health Care Volunteer Overseas, who presented Dr. Moore with an early copy of the Saturday Evening Post that featured Sam and other doctors who started the organization after WWII to help provide surgical and other health care to needy people in other countries. Other speakers highlighted Dr. Moore's enjoying the arts, travelling to well over 100 different countries, birding and water skiing everywhere he went, helping to found the Oklahoma Ornithological Society and serving as president of the Oklahoma Orchid Society as well as being a renowned orthopedic surgeon, husband, father and grandfather. Representing the OKC Audubon Society among the many attendees were John Shackford, Bill and Susan Schmidt who took photographs, and Warren Harden.

