



Oklahoma City Audubon Society

OKC-AUDUBON.ORG

FEBRUARY 2017

February: Expansion of the Great-tailed Grackle

Brittany Simons is the scheduled speaker for our February 20 Audubon meeting. Her topic will be “Nest tree preference and the expansion of the Great-tailed Grackle.”

The tree most commonly associated with our newcomer to Oklahoma is the introduced Bradford pear. An ornamental cultivar of the Callery pear, a member of the rose family from China and Viet Nam, the Bradford pear has been planted widely for its beautiful spring blossoming and colorful fall foliage. However, an unintended consequence of the Bradford's popularity is its attraction to Great-tailed Grackles, both for nesting and for winter roosting. This in turn has led to their becoming an extremely tame parking lot grackle with a great tail. A new species?

Brittany will focus on this invasive and encroaching bird that owes its expansion to an ability to make use of one or more new features in a landscape, an ability that native species do not have. Originally a colonial breeder along the Gulf Coast and southern Texas, this grackle has, since the middle of the last century, spread northward through Oklahoma and the Great Plains and to the Pacific Coast.

She compared the grackles' preference to nest in Bradford pears to the other available trees in her study area. She found that, indeed, there was an overwhelming selection for Bradford pears. Her results, she believes, could be used to advise communities on pruning and/or replacement of urban trees that could discourage nesting grackles. Brittany is working in the Natural Resource Ecology and Management program at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater where she was a 2016 Wentz Research Scholar. Along with being a dog trainer, being employed with the Tulsa Zoo gave her experience involving a wide variety of animals including humans. Beyond university study, Brittany hopes to be instrumental in conservation efforts through eventual wildlife work and animal rescue.

Our meetings are held September through June on the third Monday of each month (with the exception of January, when the meeting is held on the fourth Monday). They begin at 7 p.m. Visitors are always welcome.

Note: New meeting location

While the Garden Center is undergoing renovations, we will meet at the Will Rogers Senior Activities Center, 3501 Pat Murphy Dr, in Will Rogers Park.



President's Perspective

By Bill Diffin



On Sunday, January 22, OCAS members Jimmy Woodard, Nadine Varner, Joyce Varner, Larry Mays and I participated in the J. T. Nickel Preserve winter bird count. The Nickel Preserve is a Nature Conservancy property located along the Illinois River north of Tahlequah. It is a beautiful spot, hilly as would be expected for

northeastern Oklahoma, with a mixture of pines, hardwoods, scrub and grassy areas.

Larry Mays and I rode with Jim Deming, a long time birder from the Tulsa area and the current OOS Awards Chairman. We were led around our birding route by the president of the Indian Nations Audubon Chapter, Albert Harris, and his wife who graciously performed the task of recording the sightings. For the purpose of bird counts the preserve is divided up into four, color-coded routes. Our group birded the green route which covers the interior south of the preserve. The other three routes cover the interior north and two halves of the perimeter. Jimmy, Nadine, Joyce, and Doug Wood (December meeting speaker on birds of Antarctica) birded a perimeter route that lay along the Illinois River. This was the first time I had birded the preserve in winter. The weather was cold and gray with a light rain and wind. Nevertheless it was an interesting day getting to know the winter bird population in the southern part of the preserve.

Other than Dark-eyed Juncos, the most common sparrow species was White-throated Sparrow followed by Field Sparrow. Our group saw no Harris's Sparrows or White-crowned Sparrows. The predominance of White-throated and Field sparrows surprised me. We do have White-throated Sparrows in the OKC area during winter, but I would say they are less common than Harris's Sparrows and about as common as White-crowned Sparrows. However according to Sibley, White-throated Sparrows are "The most frequent sparrow at woodland bird feeders in the East." (see text at range map for White-throated Sparrow in Sibley 2nd edition, pg. 535). As for the Field Sparrows, they are not really as uncommon around OKC as the frequency of reports might indicate. During a brief period in the spring, singing male Field Sparrows are not the least bit hard to find in their habitat, a mixture of grass and shrubs or trees, if you know what to listen for. During the rest of the year they keep themselves hidden most of

the time, so it was a bit unusual to see so many at the preserve. Jimmy's eBird checklist for the count shows 45 White-throated Sparrows, 20 Field Sparrows, 2 White-crowned Sparrows and no Harris's Sparrows, supporting the distribution of sparrow species we saw. Jimmy's list also shows 46 Bald Eagles, mostly seen perched in trees along the river, which confirms the now well known story that the Bald Eagle has returned from the brink of extinction with a vengeance.

Our group had 3 Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers for the day, and Jimmy's list shows 5. Have you ever heard the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker's mewing call, i.e. Sibley's "nasal squealing or mewing *neeah*"? We heard a YB Sapsucker calling for several minutes on the count. Larry Mays identified it. If you have ever heard what could be mistaken for a catbird in midwinter, suspect a YB Sapsucker. Here is a xeno-canto recording of the call, <https://goo.gl/L4RzxC>. YB Sapsuckers also make repeated *wicka* calls somewhat like a Flicker, listen here, <https://goo.gl/FeIN6H>. And they have a chatter call like other woodpeckers, heard after the *wicka* calls on this short recording, <https://goo.gl/nSCnxU>. For comparison here is the Northern Flicker's *wicka* call, <https://goo.gl/hiHACQ>. A birder armed with knowledge of YB Sapsucker calls should have an easier time finding the bird. They can be difficult to spot except when in flight.

(Bill's discussion on dabbling ducks resumes next month)

Oklahoma City Audubon Society

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

*For up-to-date Oklahoma City Audubon news log onto: **OKC-Audubon.org***

Bird of the Month

By John Shackford



The **White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) and its ability to easily walk down a tree, as well as up, always strikes me as interesting and sometimes comical—it just doesn't look "right". The species is often found in the company of chickadees, titmice and sometimes a Brown Creeper.

These nuthatches are permanent residents in central Oklahoma, but are also fairly rare here, usually sticking to wooded areas with fairly large timber. They tend to roost alone in tree cavities, either natural or woodpecker made.

The species has probably increased in central Oklahoma because timber is getting more mature and larger in recent decades—especially in towns and cities where watering and lawn manicuring are going on, as well as along rivers where fire suppression is normally practiced. At our home here in southern Logan County we have at least one pair that inhabits the blackjack and post oak trees of our neighborhood.

I once heard an interesting story from Albert Harris, an Oklahoma Ornithology Society member who lives in northeastern Oklahoma. One day he was near a White-breasted Nuthatch on a tree when a hawk—I am guessing a Cooper's Hawk—came into the vicinity. The nuthatch froze in place—I believe Albert said for over an hour. I do not know if the hawk was nearby all this time, but the nuthatch was very committed to not making the merest movement and giving away its location.

There are not many records of nests of the White-breasted Nuthatch in Oklahoma. According to Sutton (1967, *Oklahoma Birds*) "In Washington County (north of Tulsa) A. J. B. Kirn considered March 10 'usual time of nest-building,' found full sets of six to eight eggs March 21-30 in nests 13-65 feet up." (Sutton was apparently quoting Nice, M. M. 1931, *The Birds of Oklahoma*, revised edition. Publ. Oklahoma Biol. Surv. 3 (No. 1). 224 pp., who apparently included a direct quote of Kirn, whew!).

The literature indicates that this is a very interesting species in its nesting habits. It usually selecting natural cavities in a tree or an old woodpecker hole that usually is 15-50 feet high. The materials used for nesting begin with a bottom layer of strips of grapevines and bark chips. Then an inner layer that is often made of wild rabbit fur, sometimes the fur of other animal, and may contain feathers. Such a nest really sounds cushy! The species is single-brooded but makes up for not being double-brooded by laying from 5-10 eggs, frequently 8, about twice the number of eggs each nest of a double-brooded species lays. As a hole nester, it is rarely parasitized by the Brown-headed Cowbird.

I can remember seeing only one possible nest in the central Oklahoma area. It was many years ago in Lincoln Park in northeastern Oklahoma City: I think I saw a

nuthatch go into a hole in an oak tree that was maybe 15-18 feet high that I believed was an active nest (Why else would I remember this one sighting from maybe 50 years ago). Another time I saw a nuthatch enter a tree cavity, but it was clearly "just looking"; this also was in northeastern Oklahoma City. In this case I got a photograph of the bird hanging upside down at the hole, which made for a "funny" picture; also this is a "fresh" memory—perhaps only 25-30 years old!



This spring I am going to try to pin down where the pair of nuthatches in our neighborhood nests, but I know I will be very lucky to find the nest—too many backyards I cannot easily enter.

Maybe some of you have better areas where you can watch for a nest; I do not think there is even one nesting record in the literature for the Oklahoma City area: start watching for courtship behavior late in February, nest-building in the first three weeks of March and egg incubation in the last 2 weeks of March. (You realize I am basing this on no records for our immediate area, so figure in your preferred amount of slop on these suggestions.) The earliest Oklahoma date for young out of the nest is April 29th. This gap between nest-building in March and young out not until late April brings up, I believe, an interesting point—there is really quite a dearth of information on this nuthatch—at least in Oklahoma. I suspect the early records reported by Kirn may have related to egg collecting going on way back when.

Christmas Bird Count 2016— Yes!

By John Shackford

Under very adverse conditions, we as a group did a fantastic job this year on the Oklahoma City Christmas Bird Count (CBC). **We had 44 participants in 22 parties and counted 111 species of birds.** This was more a “team” effort than we have ever had I believe; many parties chipped in a special species here, and a special species there, and it all added up to a quite good count. With a cold temperature of 9 degrees for that 24-hour period we could have wimped out big-time and recorded far fewer than 111 species. With much nicer weather on the count last year, and with 34 participants, we counted 116 species. Given the weather conditions for this year’s count, I was afraid we might not even break a hundred species!

The find of the day was a Baltimore Oriole that appeared—and was well photographed—at Marilyn and Jerry Taylor’s feeders in the southwest part of our count circle. John Bates, who lives near the Taylors, also saw and photographed the bird at his feeders during count week.



Some interesting numbers from the count. There were 27 Ruby-crowned and 10 Golden-crowned Kinglets seen: my personal belief is that the Golden-crowned is slightly more cold tolerant than the Ruby-crowned. When we have more Ruby-crowns on the CBC, I begin suspect an overall milder fall—but you could not tell this by the temperature on count day!.

Some other good finds were 2 Stilt Sandpipers by Muzny party; 5 Hermit Thrushes by Davis, Muzny and Shackford parties; 4 Forster’s Terns by the Velte party; 1 Pileated Woodpecker by Diffin party; 344 Northern Shovelers by Homier, Muzny, Woodard and Woodson (a lot of Northern Shovelers—another bird I do not believe is extremely cold tolerant); 2 Bald Eagles by Sterling and Woodard parties; and 2 Brown Thrashers by Kuhnert and Woodard parties (good work guys—a hard bird to find on cold days!).

We also had two additional forms on count day: Yellow and Red-shafted Flickers and “normal” Red-tailed and Harlan’s Hawk. During Count Week we recorded Wild Turkeys—6 of them.

The four most common birds counted were Ring-billed Gulls—13,074; Starlings—3,583; American Robin—2,459; and Great-tailed Grackle—1,539. Our total number of individual birds was 31,183, a very low total, I suspect, for our CBCs.

Many thanks go to Patti, Brian and Sam Muzny for hosting the CBC Tally Party. When I arrived at the party it was snowing outside and maybe 15 degrees, so a fire in the fireplace was a very welcome treat! Some people missed the tally party because they did not want to risk the snowy roads and cold temperatures that night. They may have been smarter than some of us diehards who did attend, but the party was a great! For the entire day, I did not hear of any unfortunate stories that happened to anyone—it was a dicey day.

I especially want to again thank Pat Velte, who always does a fantastic job of data entry for our count!

Thanks again to all who participated for toughing it out this year—glad we all survived!

2016 CBC Species Count >>

Welcome to OKC Audubon

Erin LaVasque, Moore, OK
Randy York, OKC
Grace & Paul Huffman, OKC
Brent Barnes, Edmond, OK
Robert Smith, OKC

DUES NOTICE

It’s time once again to renew your annual membership for 2017. 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, 24 SE 57th St., OKC 73129.

Greater White-fronted Goose	1	American Kestrel	9	Bewick's Wren	1
Snow Goose	18	Hawk (sp.)	1	Winter Wren	6
Ross's Goose	3	American Coot	90	Golden-crowned Kinglet	10
Cackling Goose	1	Killdeer	57	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	27
Canada Goose	1235	Greater Yellowlegs	5	Eastern Bluebird	80
Wood Duck	4	Stilt Sandpiper	3	American Robin	2459
Gadwall	245	Least Sandpiper	96	Hermit Thrush	5
American Wigeon	26	Dowitcher (sp.)	2	Northern Mockingbird	38
Mallard	802	Wilson's Snipe	4	Brown Thrasher	2
Northern Shoveler	344	Bonaparte's Gull	28	European Starling	3583
Northern Pintail	1	Ring-billed Gull	13074	American Pipit	2
Green-winged Teal	34	Herring Gull	24	Cedar Waxwing	65
Canvasback	40	Gull (sp.)	55	Orange-crowned Warbler	2
Redhead	8	Forster's Tern	4	Yellow-rumped Warbler	44
Ring-necked Duck	41	Rock Pigeon	1167	Spotted Towhee	15
Greater Scaup	3	Eurasian Collared-Dove	407	American Tree Sparrow	4
Lesser Scaup	182	White-winged Dove	3	Chipping Sparrow	10
Buffleshead	93	Mourning Dove	132	Field Sparrow	10
Common Goldeneye	66	Great Horned Owl	9	Savannah Sparrow	41
Hooded Merganser	118	Barred Owl	2	Fox Sparrow	63
Common Merganser	7	Belted Kingfisher	14	Song Sparrow	64
Red-breasted Merganser	7	Red-bellied Woodpecker	64	Swamp Sparrow	10
Ruddy Duck	48	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	10	White-throated Sparrow	17
Duck (sp.)	3	Downy Woodpecker	63	Harris's Sparrow	164
Wild Turkey	Cw	Hairy Woodpecker	1	White-crowned Sparrow	10
Pied-billed Grebe	29	Downy/Hairy Woodpecker	1	Dark-eyed Junco	418
Horned Grebe	1	Northern Flicker	95	Smith's Longspur	13
American White Pelican	159	(Yellow-shafted Flicker)	13	Northern Cardinal	319
Double-crested Cormorant	112	(Red-shafted Flicker)	3	Red-winged Blackbird	1505
Great Blue Heron	43	Pileated Woodpecker	1	Eastern Meadowlark	3
Great Egret	1	Eastern Phoebe	3	Common Grackle	62
Black-crowned Night-Heron	4	Blue Jay	122	Great-tailed Grackle	1539
Bald Eagle	2	American Crow	120	Brown-headed Cowbird	146
Northern Harrier	1	Horned Lark	43	Baltimore Oriole	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3	Carolina Chickadee	136	Purple Finch	1
Cooper's Hawk	7	Tufted Titmouse	26	House Finch	102
Accipiter (sp.)	2	White-breasted Nuthatch	1	Pine Siskin	2
Red-shouldered Hawk	6	Brown Creeper	7	American Goldfinch	267
Red-tailed Hawk	55	Carolina Wren	68	House Sparrow	178
Harlan's Hawk	2	House Wren	1		

Recorders Report

January 2017

The New Year

Starting the 2017 New Year during January, bird reports were entered into eBird from all Central Oklahoma counties with 3 of them reporting over 100 species. Cleveland County had their Christmas Bird Count on the 1st and many birders in other counties started the year with a day of birding. Meanwhile, the drought continues in



central Oklahoma and lake levels are low.

On the 1st Joe Buck located a Loggerhead Shrike in Lincoln County near Chandler. Judson Lassiter spotted a Red-tailed Hawk in Newcastle in McClain County.

Cameron Carver checked the Okarche Sewage

Ponds in Kingfisher County and identified Canvasback, Common Goldeneye, Ruddy Duck and Bonaparte's Gull. In Canadian County Andrew Core saw Canada Geese at Rolla Lake near El Reno and at Lake Overholser Brian Stufflebean had Red-breasted Mergansers while Jerry Taylor reported Common Merganser and Ruddy Duck. In Logan County Jeff Tibbits added a Hermit Thrush and Bewick's Wren and Zach Poland detected a Barred Owl, Brown Creeper, and Song Sparrow at his place. In Payne County Alex James found a Red-breasted Nuthatch at Lake Carl Blackwell; John Polo noticed a Field Sparrow and White-throated Sparrow in Stillwater, Scott Loss counted a Canvasback and Purple Finch at Whittenberg Park in Stillwater. At Lake Hefner Cameron Carver recognized Thayer's Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull and Forster's Tern; and Jerry Taylor tallied Common Loon, Horned Grebe, and Greater Yellowlegs. At his OKC home Joe Buck turned up a Red-headed Woodpecker. In Norman Lindell Dillon saw a Pine Siskin; Paul Cook recorded a Swamp Sparrow along South Jenkins; Zach DuFran found Le Conte's Sparrow and Green-winged Teal south of Hwy 9; Zach Poland discovered Smith's Longspurs near the Max Westheimer Airport; and T K documented an Orange-crowned Warbler and Pine Warbler.

On the 2nd Mary & Lou Truex saw Hooded Merganser, American White Pelican and Red-headed Woodpecker at Taylor Lake in Grady County; Corey Riding came across a Pine Siskin in Stillwater; and Roy McGraw detected a Spotted Towhee in Mineral Wells Park in Guthrie. On the

3rd Larry May encountered a White-crowned Sparrow and Harris's Sparrow in McClain County. On the 4th Victor Stoll got an American Wigeon and Northern Pintail along the I-44 Norman Spur. Don Maas discovered a Greater Roadrunner in OKC; John Hurd verified American Pipit at Lake Hefner; Zach Poland had a Lincoln's Sparrow at the Myriad Botanical Gardens in downtown OKC. In Norman Victor Stoll found a flock of Brewer's Blackbirds near the Max Westheimer Airport. On the 5th Roy McGraw tallied a Wilson's Snipe at Lake Hefner.

On the 6th at Boomer Lake Park Deb Hirt located Common Merganser and Red-breasted Mergansers and Scott Loss identified a Thayer's Gull and Lesser Black-backed Gull. On the 7th John McQuaig came across an Eastern Towhee at Lake Carl Blackwell and Scott Loss noticed a Greater White-fronted Goose and Ross's Goose, and elsewhere Winter Wren. Bill Diffin detected a Glaucous Gull at Lake Hefner; Joe Grzybowski recorded a Purple Finch at Little River State Park; and Zachary Hemans added a White-winged Dove and Lincoln Sparrow in Guthrie.

On the 8th Amanda Stubbs noticed a Red-breasted Nuthatch in Mustang; Joe Grzybowski documented a Lesser Black-backed Gull at Lake Overholser's west side; Lapland

Longspur's were seen at the Stinchcomb Wildlife Refuge; and Timothy Cloninger spotted a Winter Wren at Martin Park Nature Center. On the 9th Deanne McKinney turned up White-crowned and Harris's Sparrow at 50th and Morgan Road and Nolan Craun recognized a Prairie Falcon at Lake Carl Blackwell. On the 10th Steve Davis



reported a Wilson's Snipe and Horned Lark at Lake El Reno. On the 11th Brian Stufflebeam had Greater White-fronted Goose and Hairy Woodpecker at Lake El Reno. Nolan Craun turned up an American Tree Sparrow and Rusty Blackbird at Lake Carl Blackwell; Deanne McKinney verified the Great Egret at Saint Francis West Lake in OKC; and T K uncovered an Eared Grebe at the Lake Thunderbird south dam.

On the 12th John Hurd saw a Long-billed Dowitcher at Lake Hefner and Greti Landes posted pictures of a male and female Pine Warbler in her Norman yard. On the 13th Zach Poland identified a Townsend's Solitaire at Liberty Lake.

Carol Enwall reported an Inca Dove in Norman. On the 15th Jenny Elton spotted a Brown Creeper, Northern Flicker and Red-bellied Woodpecker near Chandler. At Shannon Springs Park in Grady County Jason Shaw spotted Northern Shoveler. On the 16th CH Hemphill located Ferruginous Hawk and Merlin near Cement in Grady County. Steve Davis identified an Eastern Towhee at Dolese Youth Park. T K saw a Spotted Sandpiper at Lake Thunderbird Little River Marina area. On the 17th Larry Mays identified a Greater Scaup at Lake Overholser's Route 66 Park, and Tim O'Connell saw Smith's Longspur at the OSU Cross Country Course.

On the 18th Brian Stufflebeam acknowledged Black-crowned Night Herons at the OKC Zoo, and on the 19th at Liberty Lake in Logan County he got a Wilson's Snipe. On the 21st Jeremiah Ables saw a Great Horned Owl flying along the creek in Foster in Garvin County; Emily Hjalmarson uncovered Rusty Blackbird at Arbor Gardens Park; and Joe Grzybowski verified a Long-tailed Duck at Lake Thunderbird. On the 22nd Brian Stufflebeam encountered Horned Grebe at Lake Overholser's west side. On the 23rd a Common Yellowthroat was detected along South Jenkins. On the 26th Roy McGraw determined an Orange-crowned Warbler was in his Oklahoma City yard. On the 27th Hillary Thompson had a Turkey Vulture along I-35 in Garvin County. At Lake Konawa in Seminole County Larry Mays added Black Vulture, and Golden-crowned Kinglet while Valerie Bradshaw counted a Bald Eagle and Le Conte's Sparrow. In Pottawatomie County Elizabeth Pratt spotted a Northern Harrier along I-40 near Shawnee, and near Tecumseh Lake Valerie reported a Greater Roadrunner and Larry Mays identified a Hermit Thrush.



On the 28th Zach Poland birded Lake Elmer in Kingfisher County and discovered Snow Goose, Cackling Goose, Brown Thrasher and Fox Sparrow and south of Kingfisher a Horned Lark. Corey Riding documented an American Pipit at the Meridian Technology Center; Mike Yough turned up Greater Scaup at Sanborn Lake; and Joe Grzybowski uncovered a Lesser Yellowlegs at Lake Thunderbird Alameda Drive Twin Bridges. On the 29th John Bates still has a Baltimore Oriole at his OKC yard feeder. On the 30th Emil Younger Jr birded Pottawatomie County and located Northern Bobwhite, Wild Turkey, and White-breasted Nuthatch.

In the Central Oklahoma area during January **138** species were reported to date for the 2017 year. I appreciate those who help provide the history of central Oklahoma birds by making reports at <http://ebird.org> and can also be contacted by e-mail at emkok@earthlink.net. Esther M. Key, Editor.

Audubon meeting January 23, 2017

Meeting was called to order by President Bill Diffin. Treasurer Nancy Vicars reports \$5185 in the account. Annual dues are due at \$15.

Guests and new members: Natalie Hamilton and her mother (sorry, didn't get the name), John Gilbert, Roy McGraw.

Field trips: Mark DelGrosso reports the Pontotoc Ridge Preserve will have its winter bird count on January 28th. Contact Jona Tucker of the Nature Conservancy if you'd like to attend. Larry Mays will lead a convoy of birders to Ft. Cobb Reservoir on February 4th, leaving at 7:30 from the Braums at I-40 and Garth Brooks Blvd in Yukon. Prepare for a full day and take a lunch.

Emily Hiatt of the Martin Park Nature Center requests volunteers to help man the information table while renovations are in progress. She especially needs help on weekends.

Metroplex Church of the Nazarene welcomed Terri Underhill, Bill Diffin and Dave Woodson for a birding workshop for homeschoolers recently. Many of the children were already knowledgeable about birding.

Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) will be held on the four days from February 17-20. See the National Audubon Society website for rules and forms.

Betz Hacker will lead Tuesday morning birding tours from March 14 into May. She has lined up a number of hot spots for us beginning with Mitch Park in Edmond.

Sue Woodson requested sign-ups for meeting refreshments through June.

The business meeting was adjourned and the next meeting will be February 20th at 7:00 pm at the Senior Activities Center at Will Rogers Park.

The program was presented by Zach Poland, geologist at Devon Energy. He gave the second in a two-part series about the geology of eastern Oklahoma as it pertains to bird species distribution, and lessons that can be learned from comparisons among them.

Report generated by Secretary Sharon Henthorn.

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

Field Trip Schedule: (contact trip leader if you are planning to attend)

FEB. 17-20: Great Backyard Bird Count <http://www.audubon.org/menu/great-backyard-bird-count>

FEB. 25: Wichita Mountains Nat'l Wildlife Refuge. Meet at Love's gas station at the I-44 / Medicine Park exit at 9:00 on Saturday Feb 25th. Lunch at Meers or Ann's Country Kitchen. Target species: Canyon & Rock Wrens, Longspurs, Le Conte's & Rufous-crowned Sparrows, and anything else we stumble upon. Leader: Kurt Meisenzahl (meisenzk@sbcglobal.net)

Late February or Early March: Woodcock Mating: leader: Jimmy Woodard

Tuesday Morning Birders

Tues, March 14: Mitch Park, (1501 Covell Rd. Edmond, OK): 7:15 Meet Hal Yokum: drhal2@cox.net at Old School Bagel Cafe (775 W. Covell Rd)

Tues, March 21: Lake Hefner: 7:30 Meet Betz Hacker: elizabethhacker66@yahoo.com at the inlet canal. Bring a scope if you have one

Tues, March 28: Lake Overholser: 7:30 Meet Bob Holbrook (incatarn@msn.com) at the police station parking lot. Bring a scope if you have one.

Tues, April 4: Will Rogers Park: 7:30 Meet Betz Hacker: elizabethhacker66@yahoo.com at the Senior Community Center Parking lot

Tues, April 11 George Edwards property (I-44 & Kelly, OKC): Bob Holbrook & Betz Hacker: elizabethhacker66@yahoo.com. 7:30 Contact Betz for information on where to meet. We'll need a head count for this walk because it's on private property.
