

# Oklahoma City Audubon Society

FEBRUARY 2019

## Wondering About Woodpeckers?

Have you ever wondered why woodpeckers are so different from the other Oklahoma birds?

How do they get the food out of a hole and into their mouths?

What allows them to grasp a tree trunk without falling?

Our February 18 program will feature a lineup of nine OKC Audubon members, each giving a short, illustrated presentation on each of the eight woodpeckers that are breeding and/or winter residents, plus one that is not.





Featured speakers and their birds are: Grace Huffman, Ladder-backed Woodpecker; Esther Key, Northern Flicker; Janiece Gratch, Downy Woodpecker; Nancy Reed, Hairy Woodpecker; Nancy Vicars, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker; Martha Hordinsky, Pileated Woodpecker; Patti High, Red-bellied Woodpecker; Patti Muzny, Red-headed Woodpecker.

A plus-one will be John Shackford on the Ivory-billed Woodpecker, an

excellent example of a species proclaimed extinct based upon no information --- a totally unscientific conclusion.

Come out for these

informative and otherwise interesting presentations by our own members and acquire a deeper appreciation of woodpeckers, one family of our exciting Oklahoma birds.

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). Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Visitors are always welcome.



#### Meeting Location:

Our meetings are held at the Will Rogers Garden center, located at the intersection of NW 36th Street and I-44.

### **President's Perspective**

By Betsy Hacker

## Is Birding a Hobby or an Obsession?

I may be biased, but in my opinion, birding is the greatest pursuit available to the citizens of the world. It's basically a lifelong scavenger hunt played across the entire earth. It's equal parts science, literature, poetry, and art. Whether birding includes adventures to far-



flung corners of the world or discoveries in your backyard, it is estimated that every year 85 million Americans enjoy feeding, observing, or photographing birds. Its popularity is due in part to its simplicity. All that's really needed to get started is a decent pair of binoculars and a field guide.

The simplicity of birding includes being able to do it almost anywhere at any time. Once a birder, you are never really not birding. Sometimes I go weeks without a "bird walk," but never a day goes by that I'm not watching birds. If I'm not looking at them, I'm gathering information. My bookshelves are filled with field guides and bird books, a camera sits near the door, I keep binoculars in my car and in my house, and I have bird aps on my phone. I've re-landscaped my yard,



keep the feeders full, and keep fresh water in the birdbaths. If birding wasn't already an obsession, now OCAS vice president, Grace Huffman, has introduced me to a Wingspan, a new board game!

Wingspan is a competitive, medium-weight, card-driven, engine-building board game from Stonemaier Games. In this game, up to 5 players become bird enthusiast

(researchers, bird watchers, ornithologists, and collectors) seeking to discover and attract the best birds into a network of wildlife preserves. The game is fun, educational, and did I say competitive? The painting of the scissor-tailed flycatcher on the box drew me in and now I'm hooked!

#### **Project Bluebird**

The membership voted to fund 6 bluebird houses to be placed in Martin Nature Park. The houses will be ready to be put up in February but we will need 6 volunteers to help with instillation. Last year, several volunteers put up 6 bluebird houses in Will Rogers Park and it was fun! It took about 2 hours so it wasn't a big commitment. Please contact me if you are interested in volunteering.

#### **Prothonotary Warbler Boxes**

In past years, OCAS put up prothonotary warbler houses at the Stinchcomb Wildlife Preserve and near the coffer dam at Lake Overholser. We have talked about this but have not reached a decision as to whether we would like to replace these houses. If the club should decide to replace the boxes, it most likely would have to wait until the fall when water levels will be lower

#### Will Roger's Display Case

The current owl display with photos by Terri Underhill is due to be replaced. Brian Muzny has generously offered to work on a display featuring his drawings of shorebirds.

Respectfully, Betz Hacker

# Oklahoma City Audubon Society Officers 2019

President Vice President	Elizabeth Hacker Grace Huffman	638-6210 388-7369
Secretary	Sharon Henthorn	521-9958
Treasurer	Nancy Vicars	831-1945
Parliament	Valerie Bradshaw	664-6956
Programs	Warren Harden	596-2759
Recorder	Esther M. Key	735-1021
Conservation	Dave Woodson	601-622-3467
Field Trips	Nancy Vicars	831-1945
	Jimmy Woodard	365-5685
	Hal Yokum	819-4852
	Bob Holbrook	496-1731
Newsletter Editor	Patricia Velte	751-5263
Publicity	Doug Eide	495-8192
Historian	Vacant	
Refreshments	Sue Woodson	601-622-3467
Webmaster	Patricia Velte	751-5263

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

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

## **Bird of the Month**



By John Shackford

The American Crow (Corvus brachyrhynchos) is found over most of the U.S. and well into Canada. In winter, they retreat from much of the northern parts of their range so Oklahoma gets an influx of crows then.

Bent (A.C., 1964, *Life histories of North American jays, crows and titmice*, p. 266) has a delightful opening discussion about the species, "It has been aptly stated that if a person knows only three birds one of them will be the

crow...Because of its striking coalblack plumage, its large size, its unusual adaptability, its extreme cunning and apparent intelligence... it has become one of the best known of our American birds."

Of the crows adaptability, they are found in virtually all habitats throughout the United States—woodlands, neighborhoods, mountains, deserts and farm fields, where they can on occasion be an economic problem for farmers. An attempt to lessen this problem, at least in the past, has been the putting up of "scarecrows" in fields.

Bent (op. cit. p. 240) discussed one large study of food habits of the species, "of 1340 adult crows

collected in every month of the year, 824 (over 61 percent) had fed on corn." He adds that "the damage by the crow is chiefly in sprouting corn." These pieces of information come from well back in the 1900; since then farmers likely have found better ways to counter the crow as an economic problem.

I know of at least one case of continued problems with crows. My sister, who lives in North Carolina, has about five large pecan trees in her yard. When the pecans ripen and are still on the trees or are falling to the ground the crows show up. My sister goes under the trees and beats a pan to scare the crows away. One way or another she usually ends up with a good pecan crop.

Another example of crows gathering on cropland occurred in the 1970s at Ft. Cobb Lake in Caddo County in

southwest Oklahoma (Internet Siri just told me my home is 97 miles from Ft. Cobb AS THE CROW FLIES!). Anyway, back then there was a huge fall/winter roosting area at the lake that had many thousands of crows. Much of the apparent attraction for the crows in the area was the many peanut fields in the general area. At harvesting in the fall, I read, the peanuts are pulled from the ground still on the vine and allowed to dry for a day or two in the field. I am guessing the crows love these two days of the peanut harvest; also, no doubt, there are many peanuts left in the field that escape harvesting that the crows would continue to feed on.

The American Crow can lay 3-8 eggs, but usually 4-6; nests are in deciduous or evergreen trees and normally at a height of 10-70 feet high in these trees; nesting in

Oklahoma can begin as early as March. The idea that this species often builds high nests is reflected in the familiar term "crowsnest," the high platforms on the mast of sailing vessels that serve as lookout stations for sailors.

Ed and Irene Martin were founding members of the Oklahoma City Audubon Society (in about 1952). I feel very confident that Irene was the moving force that saw the successful beginning of our society—she was just that kind of person, and Ed was always right there with her; they were the "glue" of the club for many years, doing the many positive things that John and Dorothy

Newell would do in recent years. When Irene found out about any young person's love of birds, she and Ed would "adopt" and encourage them. About 1962, Irene told me that she wanted a pet crow; I found a nest in a deciduous tree in the same general area as Stars and Stripes Park at Lake Hefner today. I brought Irene one of the voung crows from the nest for her to adopt. (Although I may have been breaking the law at the time I was not aware of it; incidentally, there was—and still is—a hunting season on crows.) Irene trained the crow to say four or five words, including its name, Corvus. Eventually Corvus was allowed to fly free around the neighborhood, and then he would return home. Finally, one day Corvus did not return home. He may have flown free for good, but a more likely answer, unfortunately, was the report of a Cooper's Hawk showing up in the neighborhood.



# Hardy, Adventurous or Just Plain Foolish

By Patti Muzny

So, after 29 years of working as a Legislative Assistant in the Oklahoma House of Representatives, this writer finally took a deep breath (several, in fact) and actually retired on January 1, 2019. What a great way to start a new year! I do miss my wonderful "work family," and my paycheck, but don't miss the daily commute. Now I can participate in field trips during the work week. Look out birds, I've slipped my leash and am on the move! There are numerous adjectives that could be used to describe a gathering of birders who choose to get out of their warm beds earlier than usual and drive as many as 25 to 30 miles just to walk around the Oklahoma City Zoo Lake in the fog and light mist with a brisk south wind when the temperature was hovering at around 43 degrees with a wind chill of somewhere close to 35. My toes were wishing for their wool socks and my fingers longed for heavy gloves. Perhaps Nancy Vicars said it best, "We would call this group a 'Nincompoopery of birders'." Well put, Mrs. Vicars!!

That being said...An agreeable group of 14 OKC Audubon members, led by Nancy Vicars, met at 9:00 AM on Wednesday, January 16, 2019, on the east side of the Zoo Lake to search for whatever we could find. It was a little chilly, but armed with binoculars and cameras we persevered. The fog was not extremely low, so we actually could get fairly good views of the waterfowl on or near the water. Apparently a couple of Black-crowned Night Herons have chosen to spend their winter hunkered down against the west shoreline of the lake. Other water loving species included Ring-billed Gulls, Mallards, Ruddy Ducks, Buffleheads, Pied-billed Grebes, Hooded Mergansers, Coots, Gadwall and Ring-necked Ducks. A Great Blue Heron flew back and forth across the water several times.

While watching the west shore of the lake, Nancy commented that one would not habitually see an elephant in the background while looking at a Black-crowned Night Heron! When you join a "Nincompoopery" of birders, anything is possible!

As we hiked along the road, we found the "usual" species of woodland birds – Cardinals, Titmice, Chickadees, Eastern Bluebirds, American Goldfinches, Redshouldered Hawk, Downy and Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Juncos, Carolina and Bewick's Wrens, Blue Jays, Brown Creeper, Robins, Yellow-rumped Warblers, Harris's Sparrow and Mockingbirds. Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets, which are always a treat,

joined our list.

On every field trip, there has to be a highlight and this one had a superior one. While Nancy was "pishing" and looking into the wooded area on the south side of the road, Warren Harden got her attention and told her to turn around. There in plain view behind Nancy, was a beautiful Barred Owl! Brian Muzny, Warren and Nancy had been trying to entice birds up out of the woods and into view. Something worked, because everyone on the group surely had their owl mission

more than fulfilled on this frosty winter morning. There ARE rewards for those who venture from our cozy homes and stalk birds in the winter.

Toward the end of our hike, our attention was drawn to a commotion on the ground where clumps of leaves were being tossed into the air by a three foraging Fox Sparrows. These beautiful winter migrants are such fun to



© Calvin Rees

watch. So when you see leaves jumping around in the woods, it just might not be the Oklahoma wind or malfunctioning binoculars. (Carolina Wrens can also do this, as well as Brown Thrashers.)

Spending two hours out birding always works up an appetite, and Nancy, Brian and I concluded our day with a delicious lunch at Sunnyside Diner in south OKC.

#### Welcome!

The Oklahoma City Audubon Society welcomes new members:

Guyla Mayo, OKC
Taylor Muller, OKC
Ann Sherman, OKC
Darryel Reigh, OKC
Frances Pasternik, OKC
Mark Dittmar, OKC (welcome back)

## Minutes, January 28, 2019

Meeting was called to order by Club President Betz Hacker. She welcomed guests and new members Gaylynn Boice, Stephany Dowd, and Ann Sherman. A total of 42 attendees were present.

Minutes of the December 17, 2018 meeting were approved without additions or corrections.

Treasurer Nancy Vicars reported December 31, 2018 account balance of \$5899 after expenses and income. End of year 2017 account balance was \$5670.

#### Old business:

Nathan Kuhnert reported on the Christmas Bird Count for OKC's count circle which was performed December 15. There were 45 participants comprising 19 parties of observers, with reports of 110 species during that day.

The Raffle discussed at last meeting is cancelled, per Betz Hacker.

The Daily Oklahoman has had several good articles on birding in Oklahoma, and is featuring the OKC Audubon in the articles.

#### New business:

Vice President Grace Huffman has developed a Facebook Page for the OKC Audubon, and she also has a photo blog at her website. Google "The Parrot's Pencil" to check it out.

Project Bluebird is expanding to Martin Park Nature Center, and Jack Hurd has volunteered to monitor and maintain the new homes during the winter/spring.

#### Field Trip News:

Nancy Vicars led a birding visit to Zoo Lake. (see pg 4) Larry Mays led a trip to Canton Lake, including visits to Lake Elmer and Roman Nose State Park. (see pg 7)

**Upcoming events**, details in right column, on www.okc-audubon.org. (also see pg 8)

After the business meeting, a snack break followed. The speaker for the evening was PhD student Samantha Cady of Oklahoma State University. She spoke of the California Channel Islands and the ongoing multifaceted efforts for seabird restoration. The next meeting of the OCAS will be the third Monday of February, only three weeks from now, on February 18 at the usual time and location. Will Rogers Park Garden Exposition Building from 7:00-9:00 pm.

Sharon Henthorn, Secretary

## **Upcoming Festivals / Events**

The Lesser Prairie
Chicken Festival will
be April 13-15 in Woodward, with Keynote
Speaker award-winning
author Kenn Kaufman.
Details and registration
page can be located at
www.lektreks.org.

The upcoming OOS spring meeting will be in southeastern Oklahoma at Lake Wister

May 3-5. Nature Conservancy's Jona Tucker will lead field trips. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the immediately following **Red Slough Birding Convention** in Idabel on May 5-7.

On May 19, OKC Will Rogers Park will host the annual **Garden Festival**, with a table reserved for the OKC Audubon. This is an excellent chance to meet with current and potential birders. Volunteers will be needed.

### Refreshments

Refreshments for the February 18th meeting will be provided by

Snacks - Susan Schmidt and Sharon Henthorn

Ice & Drink - Mary Lane and Steve Davis

### **DUES NOTICE**

It's time once again to renew your annual membership for 2019. 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.

## Recorders Report January 2019

Quite a few birders celebrated the start of the New Year by going birding. On the 1<sup>st</sup> at Mitch Park Chad Ellis, Jimmy Woodward, Larry Mays and Zach Poland located Northern Harrier, Great Horned Owl, and LeConte's Sparrow; and at Lake Hefner Parkway Ponds Chad, Jimmy and Larry reported **Lesser Black-backed Gull** and



Forster's Tern. At Lake Hefner five birders saw both the White-winged Scoter and Black Scoter; in Bethany Brian Marra and Bill Diffin confirmed Lapland Longspur. At Northeast/Zoo

Lake Sharon Henthorn identified Canvasback, and Black-crowned Night-Heron; in Norman John Tharp and Joe Grzybowski had **Ross's Goose**; and in Edmond Hal Yocum witnessed a 12-13 minute "hunting episode" by a Cooper's Hawk. At Martin Park Nature Center Dustin Lynch added American Goldfinch and Eastern Bluebird; and in Logan County at Liberty Lake Gadwall and Darkeyed Juncos.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Jimmy Lovett found Hooded Merganser, Herring Gull and American Kestrel at Lake Carl Blackwell; Carol Enwall encountered Orange-crowned Warbler and **Pine Warbler** in southwest Norman; and Elizabeth and Tim Pratt



photographed a **Yellow-billed Loon** at Lake Hefner. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Chad Ellis recorded Merlin at Lake Hefner, and John Tharp had **Smith's Longspur** in Norman. On the 4<sup>th</sup> Zach Poland discovered Ross's Goose at Bell Cow Lake in Lincoln County; and at Lake Hefner Larry Mays initially spotted the **Red-throated Loon**. On the 5<sup>th</sup> Zach Poland counted Winter Wren, Brown Thrasher, and American Pipit at Lake Elmer in Kingfisher County.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> Brian Marra photographed Snow Goose, Greater White-fronted Goose and **Prairie Falcon** north of El Reno on Britton Road and at Lake Overholser **Virginia Rail**, Marsh Wren, and Swamp Sparrow. Zach Roy detected Greater Roadrunner, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and Brown Creeper at The Botanic Garden at OSU; and Grace Huffman recognized **American Woodcock** at Arcadia Lake. On the 7<sup>th</sup> Bill Diffin documented **Longtailed Duck** and Horned Grebe at Lake Hefner Dam. On the 8<sup>th</sup> Joe Grzybowski came across Horned Lark along Ten Mile Flat in Cleveland County; Jimmy Woodward noticed **Rusty Blackbird** near the dentist office in Midwest City; and Feodora Steward watched a Belted Kingfisher at a pond in Bethany. On the 9<sup>th</sup> Joe Grzybowski verified **Eared Grebe** at Lake Hefner.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> in Logan County Roy McGraw viewed at Mineral Wells Park White-breasted Nuthatch and Song Sparrow and at Guthrie Lake American White Pelicans. On the 12<sup>th</sup> Chase Moxley tallied Barred Owl and American Kestrel along South Jenkins in Norman. On the 13<sup>th</sup> Jason Shaw has Great Blue Heron at Shannon

Springs Park in Chickasha; Rachel Wrenn last observed the **Lesser Goldfinch** at their feeder in Norman; and Bill Carrell documented **California Gull** at Lake Hefner. On the 15<sup>th</sup> Larry Mays located Brewer's Blackbird at Lindsay Prairie Dog Town in



McClain County; Bridger Arrington counted Northern Flicker at Horse Thief Canyon in Logan County; and Roy McGraw found Virginia Rail at Route 66 Park in Canadian County.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> Deb Hit detected Green-winged Teal and Ruddy Duck at Boomer Lake Park—Heron Cove; and Joe Grzybowski had Prairie Falcon along Ten Mile Flat in Cleveland County. On the 18<sup>th</sup> Ben Sandstrom spotted Wild Turkey beside a pond near Paul's Valley Lake, and Black Vulture and Song Sparrow in eastern Garvin County. Zach Poland reported Eastern Towhee and Yellow-rumped Warbler at Wes Watkins Lake and American Wigeon at Tecumseh Lake in Pottawatomie County; Dusty Swedberg watched Red-headed Woodpecker and White-throated Sparrow at The Botanic Garden at OSU; and Calvin Rees saw Northern Flicker at Lake Stanley Draper.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> in Canadian County south of Piedmont Joe Grzybowski discovered Ross's Goose in a flock of about 400 Cackling and Canada Geese and at Lake Overholser 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> winter Lesser Black-backed Gull, Eared Grebe, and Red-breasted Merganser; while at Arcadia Lake Brian Marra added Eastern Towhee.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> Steve Davis recorded Greater White-fronted Goose at Lake El Reno; and at Boomer Lake Park Scott Loss confirmed Lesser Black-backed Gull and Bonaparte's Gull. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> Christie Stoops viewed Hairy Woodpecker and Brown Creeper at Cottonwood Creek in Logan County.

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> at Newcastle in McClain County Larry Mays had a busy morning around his feeders with Red-breasted Nuthatch, Harris's Sparrow, Pine Siskin, and Hairy Woodpecker. On the 24<sup>th</sup> Jimmy Woodard came across Wood Duck, Ruddy Duck and Bonaparte's Gull at Taylor Lake in Grady County, Emily Hjalmarson identified Red-shouldered Hawk, Bewick's Wren and Harris's Sparrow along Ten Mile Flats in Cleveland County; and Steve Davis observed Pine Warbler in Choctaw. On the 25<sup>th</sup> Zach Poland verified Hooded Merganser, Great Egret, and Lincoln Sparrow at Bell Cow Lake in Lincoln County; D&D Norris got Hermit Thrush at Kairworks Garden in Logan County; John Tharp noticed LeConte's Sparrow in southeast Norman; and recognized Long-tailed Duck and Spotted Sandpiper at Thunderbird State Park North Sentinel Campground.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> on a field trip at Lake Elmer in Kingfisher County Larry Mays turned up Pied-billed Grebe and Brown Creeper, Steve Davis reported Wilson's Snipe and Eastern Towhee and John Hurd recorded Greater White-fronted Goose and Northern Pintail. At Shawnee Reservoir—Upper Section in Pottawatomie County Jake Rowland located Bald Eagle; at Meeker Lake in Lincoln County Jimmy Woodward found Golden-crowned Kinglet, Purple Finch, and Fox Sparrow; and along South Jenkins in Norman Zach DuFran encountered Great Blue Heron and Chipping Sparrow.

On the 27<sup>th</sup> Ben Sandstrom noticed Cedar Waxwing, White-throated Sparrow and Spotted Towhee at Lake Louis Burtschi in Grady County; Calvin Rees counted Eastern Phoebe in Newcastle; Zach DuFran discovered Pileated Woodpecker at Cherry Creek Park in Norman; and Joe Grzybowski identified Redhead and Pied-billed Grebe at Lake Thunderbird State Park—Alameda Drive. On the 29<sup>th</sup> D&D Norris observed Red-breasted Nuthatch at Kairworks Garden; and Scott Loss documented **Iceland Gull** at Meridian Technology Center Pond.

During January of 2019 in the Central Oklahoma area **142** species were reported. I appreciate those who help provide the history of central Oklahoma birds. Information is accessed at: <a href="mailto:ebird">ebird</a>. 2018 eBird: An online database of bird distribution and abundance [web application]. eBird Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York. Available: <a href="http://www.ebird.org/subnational1/US-OK/region">http://www.ebird.org/subnational1/US-OK/region</a>. (Accessed: January 30, 2019). And occasionally from Facebook and the OKBIRDS List. I can be contacted by e-mail at <a href="mailto:em-kok@earthlink.net">em-kok@earthlink.net</a>. Esther M. Key, Editor.

## **Canton Lake Field Trip**

By Larry Mays

We had eight birders for the Canton Lake field trip on January 26. Weather was chilly to start the day, with a little south wind, but warmed up to the low 50s by early afternoon.

Our first stop was Lake Elmer, an Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation lake just a couple miles northeast of Kingfisher. Zach Poland had pre scouted the lake for us, and, though he couldn't join us, provided some good advice. He had told me of a female Eastern Townee he'd seen there, and although we missed the female we did find a male eastern nearby. Probably the least common bird for the trip.

Other good birds were Winter Wren, Wilson's Snipe, some Cackling Geese mixed with some Canada Geese, and at least one member of our party, John Hurd, saw a small flock of white-fronted geese fly over. We got to watch a very large beaver which climbed up into shallow water and posed for pictures.

From Lake Elmer we headed for Roman Nose State Park north of Watonga. On our last trip there a couple years back we had excellent luck working the cattail marsh there, and we weren't terribly disappointed to shake out Common Yellowthroat, Swamp Sparrow and Marsh Wren there. Shortly after that Nancy Vicars got us on some Mountain Bluebirds which are always very nice to see. Our trip so far had been a steady accumulation of species, and the rest of the day trended the same.

We finally hit Canton Lake around lunch time, and started birding the little cemetery there--most of us walking and eating because who wants to waste good birding time stopping for lunch. Right? We got good looks at a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker there along with some woodland species.

The lake itself was pretty thin on birds, but we slowly gained some waterfowl and gulls. We were really wishing the lake had been mostly frozen over as past experience has shown that to be the best condition for seeing lots of birds, but just a little too warm for that but we ended the day with 78 species.

We did manage to see three Bald Eagles. We watched one immature bird snatch a fish. Some other birds of note here were a flock of about a hundred goldfinches with only one or two Pine Siskins among them. One flash fly-by Merlin gave us only a brief look. Below the dam as we were winding down Brian Marra discovered a porcupine in a tree and it proved to be a lifer for Roy McGraw.

Steve Davis, Mary Lane, Jenny Elton and yours truly made up the rest of our gang. Jenny is a relatively new birder, but she is definitely no slouch, and got us on to several good birds while picking up seven lifers for herself.

Thanks to all for tolerating my eccentricities enough to join me. You guys were the absolute best!

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

## Upcoming Field Trips:

Fieldtrips may need to be canceled or postponed due to weather or other unforeseen conditions. It is always best to notify the leader that you plan to attend in case of delays or cancellations. Participants should always bring snacks and beverages to all outings. In some cases, a sack lunch for all day events.

#### February 16, 2019—Wichita Mountains NWR

Leader: Kurt & Sharon Meisenzahl meisenzk@SBCGLOBAL.NET or 580-353-3962

Meet at the Love's Station at the Medicine Park exit off Hwy 44 (HE Baily Turnpike) south at 9:00 AM. Since this is an all day trip, please bring snacks, drinks and lunch. Please RSVP

#### March 23, 2019 - Grey Snow Eagle House

Leader: Warren Harden warhar@yahoo.com

We can meet at the Oklahoma highway visitor center on the southwest corner of I-35 and north 122nd in OKC at 8:45 am to leave elephant-style car train by 9:00 am via I-35, Rt. 66 and Hy 177 to arrive at 10:00am. The lowa Nation's <u>Grey Snow Eagle House</u> is located near Perkins – 335588 E 750 RD, Perkins, OK 74059

#### **April 27, 2019 – Little Sit**

Marion Homier and John Cleal will be hosting their annual Little Sit (an informal "sit" with no rules of any sort) in Choctaw at our home at 3626 Santa Fe Drive on **Saturday**, **April 27th** from 9:00 a.m. until dusk. We'll provide modest snacks plus sodas. Attendees should feel free to bring their favorite snacks to share, and definitely bring folding/camp chairs if you have them. The rain date will be May 11th, but in case of inclement weather on April 27th, call and check with us regarding status as we may bird that day from indoors through the windows as we did last year when the weather brought in a male Baltimore Oriole for great views and a total of 26 species.

Notification of attendance is always appreciated: phone (405) 390-2001 or email at <a href="mailto:mhomier@yahoo.com">mhomier@yahoo.com</a> Comeand-go or come-and-stay, we hope you'll join us. See http://okc-audubon.org for directions