



NEWS FROM THE FLOCK...

Newsletter of the Sperry-Galligar Audubon Society

Sperry– Galligar

Audubon Chapter

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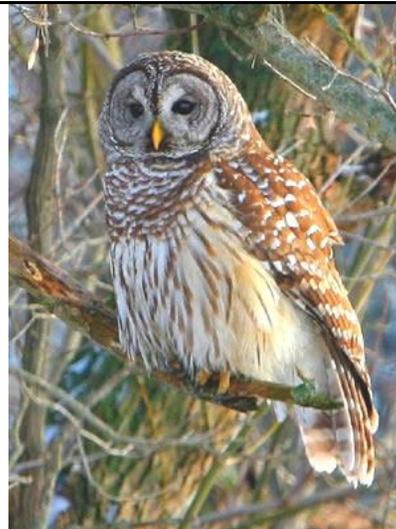
Cindy Ford

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Nov/Dec 2012

VOLUME 2012 ISSUE 8

CRITTER CONNECTIONS by Bob Mangile



Somewhere around 1970 a co-worker delivered to me a Barred Owl in a pasteboard box. The owl was found on the front lawn near what was then known at the State Park, just north of Frontenac, KS. The bird had its neck rolled under, a condition I've seen in pigeons, but it did not appear to have any injuries. So what should I do with this helpless critter that cannot feed itself? First things first – give it a physical exam! Neck seemed to be functional at times, no broken legs or wings, all feather in place suggesting it wasn't attacked or hit by a vehicle. Next step; make a "guess" what might be the cause of its rolled-under head.

My experiences with pigeons suggested it was possibly an infection of the brain or perhaps something more bizarre, polyneuritis. Polyneuritis is an inflammation of multiple nerves brought about by vitamin deficiency and my pigeon literature suggested

administering brewers yeast tablets. Polyneuritis was my diagnosis and I began administering brewers yeast tablets with its food. And to my surprise the Barred Owl began to hold its head upright.

Early on I force fed him various food items and added some pigeon feathers to the morsels as well as the brewers yeast tablets. All seemed to be going well. At night I would enter my garage to see those wide-open eyes looking at me through the wires of its cage. So I stopped the brewers yeast tablets and within a week it was rolling his head again. So back to the brewers yeast tablets and the head position became normal again. I continued treatment for several weeks, during which time a friend's young son gave it the name of "Herkimer". (The kid must have been on to something because there is a Herkimer Brewery in Minnesota and surely they use brewers yeast!)

The owl appeared in good shape so I decided to release it near where it was found and let nature take its course. And so one evening we released the bird at the State Park and it flew away with great fanfare from our family and relief knowing I didn't have to keep finding food for the owl. Our hopes were that the bird would resume a normal life but in reality the problem would likely return in time. We must come to understand that Nature is full of wonder and beauty as well as some unpleasant events. ###

Nov/Dec Meeting 7:00 p.m. Presentation

December 6 — "Condors"

Mike Davis returns to enlighten us with information (and hopefully some of his photography) on the endangered California Condors.

To receive an e-newsletter: send your e-mail address to Cindy Ford, Editor.

THANKS
FOR YOUR NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES!

Board Meeting Highlights
Barb Robins, Secretary

Attending: Mavis & Ray Benner, Cindy & Steve Ford, Bob & Liz Mangile, Donna Mansell, Diane McCallum, Carol Newcomb, Martha Price, Barb Robins.

Call To Order (Mavis): 6:15 p.m.

Treasurer's Report (Liz): Checking account balance of \$3,454.87.

Old Business:

Bird Seed Sale (Dec 8): Prices are not yet set. Mangiles will pick up seed cakes from Orscheln and rent truck.

Refreshment List: Will be passed around one more time—still have two openings. Moved, seconded, and approved that we reimburse providers up to \$15 for each meeting.

Field Trip: Schell-Osage is still blocked off; we can go to Bone Creek.

Community Project: Barb will check with the board of the Miners' Hall Museum in Franklin to see if there's any interest in our placing an item inside or out.

Sperry-Galligar Property Tour: We will have to postpone till spring; the house is currently occupied.

New Business:

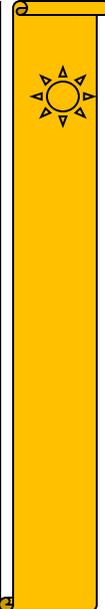
Frog/Turtle Races: Delia has some ideas she will share later.

Items for Speakers: We agreed to give them T-shirts and tote bags till we run out.

Financial Statement
Liz Mangile, Treasurer

October 2012

Beginning Balance -----	\$3277.81
Debits	
Newsletter Printing	\$ 16.47
Total.....	\$ 16.47
Credits	
Local Dues	\$ 45.00
Local Dues	165.00
Total.....	\$ 210.00
Ending balance -----	\$3471.34



October Audubon Presentation
Rod and Ellen Sallee



Rod and Ellen Sallee are old friends of Sperry-Galligar Audubon and once again awed us with spectacular photographs, this time of a July 2012 trip to national reserves in South and East Africa (South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, and Zambia). They apparently sought out all the birds and mammals one would dream of seeing in Africa, and had glorious photos of them. We would expect to see these on

a TV nature show, but to experience the images made by people we know was a special treat; many shots of the "big five" and other large mammals were taken just a few feet away. Mr. DeMille, the lion was ready for his close-up! African birds are amazingly colorful, and this was brought home to us by feasting our eyes on the excellent photographs of them. We were also treated with some pictures from their earlier trip to the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater in Tanzania and Kenya.



General Meeting Happenings — October 2012

Interim President Mavis Benner welcomed all. The signup sheet for monthly refreshments was passed around again.

The Bird Seed Sale is December 8, Meadowbrook Mall. Please bring baked goods (small portions) and crafts. If you have plastic lids, please bring them to the next meeting; we'll make ant guards for hummingbird feeders.

Next Saturday, any interested birders can meet at 7 a.m. at Applebee's; we'll probably go to Bone Creek. We were all pleased to see Jim Brumfield out and about after his biking accident, and we gave him a round of applause.

Door Prize: Vic Sullivan.

Mark Mehall, newly-hired Director of Operations of the Southeast Kansas Recycling Center, introduced himself and told us about his career background and early life experiences. He most recently hails from Michigan. Mark explained SEK's different operations and announced that 1,732 tons of recycled material were shipped out in 2011. For the future, Mark would like to continue present services and operations and expand wood pallet and glass processing. The center is always looking for volunteers.

Secretary, Barb Robins

Thank you, Mavis Benner, for serving as Interim President this fall.

Dear All,



Thank you for your continuing support. Your thoughts, prayers, cards and visits have been uplifting during the past three months. Thank you for continuing to hold me in the light.

Love, Light & Life,

Jim Brumfield

P.S. I am coming back.

Jim is recovering from a serious bicycle accident that he had in the fall. The Sperry-Galligar Audubon Chapter is happy to see him at the meetings again. Welcome back, Jim.

Sightings.....



BIRD FEEDER SPARROWS



White-crowned sparrow



White-throated sparrow



Harris sparrow



**Sperry-Galligar Audubon
Bird Seed Sale
Saturday, December 8**



Get your year's supply of bird seed. Come help at the booth or truck. See you there.



Refreshments for Meetings

Thank you to Martha Price and Ruth Hughes for the goodies in October.

Find a co-host to sign up for a meeting. Check our Sperry-Galligar website to get the latest on the refreshment co-host list. Contact Liz Mangile for getting on the list. There is opportunity for reimbursement for the refreshments.

**Charley Harper Birds
(Bird ID answers from last month's Newsletter.)**



Rufous-sided towhee



Northern mockingbird



American goldfinch



Barn swallow

Send your newsletter articles, bird sightings, and nature notes to C. Ford by Jan 10.

**Application for Membership
Sperry-Galligar Audubon Society**

For first-time National Audubon membership, send \$20.00 and become a member of both organizations, receive 6 copies of Audubon Magazine annually and 8 copies of Sperry-Galligar Newsletter. *Please make your check to: Sperry-Galligar Audubon.*

YES I wish to become a FIRST-TIME member of National Audubon and Sperry-Galligar Audubon. (\$20.00).

For only local or renewal membership, send \$15.00 for membership of Sperry-Galligar Audubon and receive the 8 newsletters per year informing you of all our local activities. *Please make your check to: Sperry-Galligar Audubon*

YES I wish to become a RENEWING member of the local chapter (\$15.00).

Future National Audubon renewals: Send Audubon mailer forms directly to National.

Mail to:
Sperry-Galligar Audubon Society
P.O. Box 205
Pittsburg, Kansas 66762-0205



Please Print

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Phone _____

e-mail address _____

**Fieldtrips, Events,
&
Miscellany**

Fieldtrip to Bone Creek
by Donna Mansell

Saturday, October 27, 2012, Mavis Benner picked up Donna Mansell at 6:45 a.m. and they met Liz and Bob Mangile at the Applebee's parking lot to go to Bone Creek Lake. Since it was still dark we stopped at McDonalds' before heading on. The thermometer read a very cold 29 degrees.

Along our journey we saw 51 species of birds. Initially the birds were quiet, but as the sun got higher in the sky, we saw many birds flying, including a large group of Canada geese, red-winged blackbirds and European starlings. The thickets along the country roads were full of small birds and some larger birds. We saw several species of woodpeckers, ducks, and sparrows.

Bob thought he saw two western grebes but Liz and Mavis did not believe they were. (However, western grebes were sighted at Shawnee Lake the same day.) Bob spotted a beautiful bald eagle perched on a dead tree in the lake. There were several hundred American coots along the north edge of the lake. We also saw 16 white-tailed deer, including three young deer. The cold temperatures did not stop us from having fun and seeing lots of birds. We all enjoyed ourselves.



Sperry-Galligar Audubon Society
Newsletter
P.O. Box 205
Pittsburg, KS 66762
Meetings are held the last Thursday of the month. No meetings in June July, or August. (Nov/Dec meeting date to be announced) From 7:00 pm to 9 pm, in Room 102, Yates Hall. PSU Campus, Pittsburg, KS. Refreshments served and Guests Welcome.



Visit our website:

<http://sperry-galligar.com/>



**Attention All
Members**

Pay membership dues in September. Please consider paying local membership dues. Our chapter receives 100% of the local dues only. **HOWEVER**, you can subscribe to both. Either way you get the newsletter.

