



NEWS FROM THE FLOCK...

Newsletter of the Sperry-Galligar Audubon Society

September 2013

VOLUME 2013 ISSUE 6

New Sperry-Galligar Audubon President on Board

Sperry-Galligar Audubon Chapter Officers 2011-2013

President:

Wayne Bockelman

Vice President:

Megan Corrigan

Secretary

Barb Robins

Treasurer

Liz Mangile

Newsletter Editor

Cindy Ford

cford@pittstate.edu

September Meeting
7:00 p.m.
Yates 102
PSU
****Presentation****

Sep 26 — "Looking to the Future with KDWPT" by Jennifer Rader, Southeast Kansas Nature Center, Galena, KS

Jenn will fill us in on what is new at the nature center located in Schermerhorn Park.

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

It's traditional for the new club president to introduce himself a bit in this first newsletter of the new season. I'm the guy with the beard and the pony tail.



The first SGAS meeting I attended was about ten years ago, an owl sighting field trip. We met at the Crawford County Museum near the

bypass on a cold winters evening. There we ate cornbread and bean soup to warm up. Then we set out in the darkness driving down country roads looking for owls, or rather, listening for owls. We would stop and listen, and call out, someone pretending to be a great horned owl. I learned to recognize a number of Audubon members by their voice before I recognized their face. I recognized some by their owl calls before I recognized their speech.

I do recall a much earlier interest in birds. My cousin and I were having a childish argument over who could run faster. He said he could run and catch robins before they had a chance to take off from the ground. Seeing the astonished look on my face he modified his claim a bit, "Sometimes they get off the ground, so I have to catch them in the air." Many frightened robins later, I concluded that my cousin was a liar.

I have since learned to be content with observing birds, rather than feeling the need to chase them. Growing up in southeast Kansas the call of the meadowlark became as familiar to me as the drone of cicadas on a warm summer's eve. I learned to

recognize a fleeting glimpse of white patches on a mockingbird flying in the distance. I earned a merit badge called Bird Study. Dr. Sperry was the toughest merit badge counselor of them all, but he always took time to show me some secret, hidden somewhere in Carney Hall.



Going away for college, I eventually earned a degree in biology. Yet, the day after graduation, my first purchase was a set of Golden Nature Guides, field books to identify wildlife I still did not know. For a number of years I taught high school biology, chemistry, and physics in Missouri, Kansas, and Texas. With aging family in the area, I eventually ended up driving along Crawford County roads looking for owls.

Many experienced bird watchers here in the club have helped me attach names to unfamiliar birds we have seen. For that I am grateful. The people resources in this organization are of incomparable wealth.



With that in mind I am happy to make my small contribution to the club, knowing that the real work continues to be done by those more experienced working in the background. So many people contribute in so many ways. Cindy assembles the newsletter from articles written by valued contributors. Bob always has answers to any question I might have about how things work in this organization. Liz lets me know if it ain't so.

I look forward to working and playing with you all this coming year.

Wayne Bockelman

Board Meeting Highlights Barb Robins, Secretary

Held August 25, Home of Cindy & Steve Ford

Attending: Mavis and Ray Benner, Wayne Bockelman (new president), Megan Corrigan (new vice president), Cindy & Steve Ford, Delia Lister, Bob & Liz Mangile, Diane McCallum, Barb Robins, Emmett & Ruth Sullivan.

Treasurer's Report (Liz): She handed out the annual report: \$8,922.19 in checking, which includes one CD moved to the account due to virtually no interest earned. We still have one CD; we authorized Liz to investigate possibilities and move the money to a better interest-earning account as she finds one.

Neosho River Wetlands Donation and Update (Wayne): He thanked us for our e-mail discussion contributions. A funding proposal is currently in abeyance, and not all organizations are in agreement or are neutral on the issue. If the project resumes, the SGAS board agreed to donate \$500.

Revision of Bylaws (Wayne): Since some sections are out of date, we agree to review and revise the document in the coming months. It was moved, seconded, and approved that Wayne e-mail the board the current bylaws, we will e-mail suggested changes to each other, and Diane will collate these suggestions and e-mail them back to the board for their perusal and discussion.

Form 990-N (Bob): In order to maintain our 501 3 (C) status, we must submit this form each year. Bob announced that he has done this and urged that the board keep track of this yearly requirement if he is called to another plane.

Newsletter Costs and Distribution (Bob): Currently, it costs \$123 to print the newsletter and \$225 to mail it; the e-mail version costs nothing. Issues concerning who should receive the print version were discussed. It was moved, seconded, and approved that an insert will be sent to the national members instructing them to return it if they wish to receive paper issues in the future; the newsletter will not be subsequently sent to them if they do not respond. Megan and Cindy will compose the insert's wording and include it in the next issue.

Chapter Annual Report (Wayne): Officers and committee chairs should send their year's activities posthaste; he will collate and submit a report to the national office.

Nominations for North Central Regional Director (Diane): If you wish to place a nomination, submit it by October 15.

Paying Expenses to Program Presenters (Megan): Discussion seemed favorable to paying them on a case-by-case basis. It was moved, seconded, approved to pay Joseph Neal, an upcoming presenter, \$125 as requested by him.

Possible Building Expenditures at Sperry House

(Steve): He will talk to the house caretaker regarding projects in which we might participate or help with funding.

Committee Chairmen:

Field Trips: Perhaps a coordinator concept will work better; Delia agreed to schedule the first one, possibly on September 26.

Door Prizes: We agreed not to have them this year.

Refreshments: Liz thought last year's system of scheduling volunteers for each meeting worked; she will continue to coordinate that September 10 is the newsletter deadline. Members must contribute.

The birdseed sale will be December 7.

Financial Statement Liz Mangile, Treasurer

September 2013

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| Beginning Balance | \$ 4,331.07 |
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Debits

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| Newsletter | \$ 222.87 |
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Credits

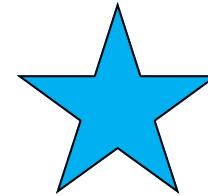
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| Postage, ant molts, t-shirts | \$ 35.00 |
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| CD cashed | \$ 4,716.99 |
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| Bank refund | \$ 2.00 |
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| 2 yr. membership | \$ 30.00 |
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| Total | \$ 8,892.19 |
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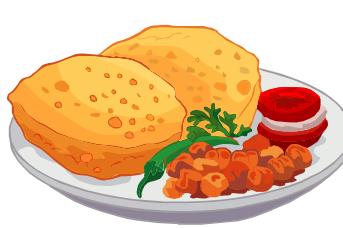


"ATTENTION: All Bluebirders: If you maintain bluebird nest boxes in Cherokee, Crawford and Bourbon counties in Kansas please report the number of boxes, their general location and number of young bluebirds fledged in 2013 for our Bluebird Program. E-mail: <rmangile@cox.net> or call Tel: 620-231-3117. Thanks. Bob Mangile"

Summer Happenings

Sperry-Galligar Picnic in May

The Sperry-Galligar Audubon annual picnic was an enjoyable event last May, our last meeting before summer. There were lots of good things to eat, followed by a great program on photography by Donna Smith. Everyone had a good send-off to summer.



Audubon Summer Camps at PSU

Nature Reach and Sperry-Galligar Audubon hosted two day camps this summer. Both were a big success! The kids all had a wonderful time and I was able to introduce us to some new community members. I want to give a big thank you to Bob and Liz Mangile as well as Donna Smith for their help with the camps. I also had two PSU student helpers, Miles Collins and Cassidy Rethorst. I really could not host the camps without the help of these wonderful people. I plan on sharing a couple of videos from the camps at our first meeting so I hope to see all of you there! Most of the photos you see were taken by the talented Donna Smith.

Delia Lister



Field Trip to the Sperry-Galligar Home and Grounds

Steve and Cindy Ford hosted some Sperry-Galligar Audubon members on a tour of the Drs. Ted Sperry and Gladys Galligar home and grounds. The site is managed by the PSU Department of Biology as it was when the Audubon Chapter namesakes were living there. Most people who visit the house agree that the experience is like stepping back into history. The "yard" has always been maintained in a natural fashion to attract wildlife. Numerous species of birds have been recorded on the property.



Sightings.....



Swifts

More chimneys in Pittsburg are being capped, but despite the loss of chimneys, 1300 swifts were counted last year.

Mississippi Kites

Larry Herbert is asking if anyone sees Mississippi kites on a regular basis here in the Pittsburg area. They are common in Joplin.

"Earthflight"

For beautiful bird photography, watch this program on PBS for a few weeks at 7:00 Wed.

Send your newsletter articles, bird sightings, and nature notes to C. Ford by Oct 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 _____



**Events,
&
Miscellany**

**NEW DIRECTOR / NATURALIST at
SOUTHEAST KANSAS NATURE CENTER**

I have been asked to write a short introduction for Jenn Rader, the new director of the Southeast Kansas Nature Center. Jenn is employed through the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism. She earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology with emphasis in Biodiversity and Conservation from Fort Hays State University, and has a solid background in conservation and environmental education. We are fortunate to have someone with Jenn's experience and talents to take over the reins of the Center.

She began her duties as director in late May and it has been a pleasure to get to know her over the past few months and she has already proven to be a great asset to the center. She has already taken over the Summer and after school TLZ(The Learning Zone)programs for the Galena Schools and is developing new outreach programs for area schools. Even though she is new to the area Jenn is getting involved with the local Community Economic Development committee in town. This group is looking to find new ways to promote existing businesses and to encourage tourism to our area. Having Jenn in our community is turning out to be a great benefit not only to our Nature Center but to the community as well.

Linda Phipps

P.S. Linda is the founder and has been the tireless Director of the nature center up until she retired this past year. She is still volunteering at the center.

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|  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 Au- gust. (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. |  |
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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.

