



NEWS FROM THE FLOCK...

Newsletter of the Sperry-Galligar Audubon Society

Sperry- Galligar

Audubon Chapter

Officers 2018 - 2020

President:

Steve Ford

Vice President:

Christine Brodsky

Secretary

David Hollie

Treasurer

Liz Mangile

Newsletter Editor

Cindy Ford

cford@gus.pittstate.edu

March Meeting
Thursday, 7:00 p.m.
Yates 102, PSU
Pittsburg, KS
****Presentation****

Mar 28 — "Bats of Kansas and Missouri" by Amy Hammesfahr, Pittsburg State University Graduate Student will talk about bat diversity, myths, threats and the common bat species in the area. Amy will offer suggestions on how we can help save bats in this area."

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

Mar 2019

VOLUME 2019 ISSUE 3

Get to Know your Mosquito

Bob Mangile

The often-told myth that if you can hear a mosquito buzzing it is a male and it will not bite because only females bite but they "do not" buzz! Trying to resolve this is difficult because if you hear buzzing



by your ear you cannot see if it is going to bite and if you can see it on, say your arm, you cannot hear it buzzing. Not being a mosquito expert by any means I groused around on the Internet and compiled a few interesting generalities.

Mosquito means, "little fly" in Spanish - which are true flies (Diptera) having two wings. About 175 species are found in the U.S. Only a couple hundred of over 3,500 species of mosquitoes bother humans. It has been estimated that humans murder 475,000 people a year, which is second to the 750,000 deaths caused by diseases transmitted by mosquitoes.

Only the female mosquitoes bite using a long piercing-sucking proboscis. Males lack the parts to penetrate human skin therefore they do not bite. **And both sexes "buzz"** - not just the males! Males

live about a week, females about 5-6 times as long. Both sexes feed on the nectar of plants but females need protein to produce eggs, which they get from animal blood. A female will continue to bite and draw blood until her abdomen is full.

If she is interrupted before she is full, she will fly to the next person. After feeding, the mosquito rests for two or three days before laying her eggs, then is ready to bite again.

The feeding preferences of mosquitoes include those with type O blood, carbon dioxide from heavy breathers, those with a lot of skin bacteria, people with a lot of body heat, beer drinking and the pregnant. They are more attracted to people in dark clothing than in light-colored clothing. So, to reduce chances of being bitten by mosquitoes don't breathe too heavily, bathe often, stay cool, don't drink beer, don't get pregnant and wear light clothing! Not sure how to deal with type O blood though!

<Smile> ###



Wings and Wetlands Festival

Remember the Wings and Wetlands (W&W) Festival in Great Bend is Friday and Saturday, May 3 & 4. Great birding, especially migrating shorebirds, at Cheyenne Bottoms and Quivira National Wildlife Refuge. Prairie chicken sighting opportunities too. Register at: nature.org/wingsandwetlands

6:00 Board Meeting Highlights David Hollie, Secretary

Attending: Mavis Benner, Wayne Bockelman, Christine Brodsky, Steve and Cindy Ford, David Hollie, Bob Mangile, Diane McCallum, Sally Imhof, Emmett Sullivan

Treasurer's report - \$4633.09 in working account

Flight pen grant request – motion passed to donate \$500 to the SEK rehabbers towards the construction of a flight pen for rehabilitating birds of prey

Presenter reimbursement – motion passed to reimburse Noppadol Paothong (our February presenter) for hotel costs after his presentation

May picnic plans – chicken catering from Chicken Annie's. Bob talked to them and will be updating the catering order depending on how many people are coming. Mavis will be getting a cake for the picnic

5k water station – Cindy is overseeing our table and needs 2-3 volunteers to help man the station

Officers next year – we will be in need of a secretary starting in the fall

Other concerns – we need to have a second name to sign checks in the event that Liz is unavailable to sign. Mavis will be the second name on the account.

April meeting – Amy Hammesfahr, Dr. Brodsky's graduate student, will presenting on her work with bats

WHAT A CROWD FOR THE FEBRUARY MEETING!

Mangile
Photo



Financial Statement...Liz Mangile, Treasurer March 2019

Beginning balance-----\$4635.65

Credits

2 birdhouses \$30.00 owed Bob \$9.00
black oil seed for speakers- \$ 21.00
Nat'l Audubon-----\$ 40.00
Total-----\$ 61.00

Debits

Newsletter-----\$ 2.56
Fee speaker and motel room-----\$ 170.00
Flypen for injured raptors Sally Imhof--\$ 500.00
Total-----\$ 672.56

Ending balance-----\$4024.09

Feb Presenter: Noppadol Paothong



February's club meeting offered a rare glimpse into the lives of five species of birds collectively known as Prairie Grouse (Greater Sage-Grouse, Gunnison Sage-Grouse, Greater Prairie-Chicken, Lesser Prairie-Chicken, and Sharp-tailed Grouse). Noppadol Paothong, staff photographer of the Missouri Department of Conservation, shared his stunning photos and videos of these incredible denizens of the prairie and sagebrush. His journey started with photographing the Greater Prairie-Chicken lekking early in the morning. The experience had a profound impact on him and reinforced his passion for wildlife conservation which ultimately led to his first book project: *Save the Last Dance*. The book project took 11 years as he traveled the country documenting the plight of the five species of prairie grouse. Noppadol wasn't planning on a second book, but a photo of a Greater Sage-Grouse nest in a book published in 1950 struck him with the realization that, despite years spent photographing the mating displays of sage-grouse on leks, he had never seen a nest! He was only familiar with a small part of the sage-grouse's life cycle. His second book, *Sage Grouse: Icon of the West*, takes a deep dive into the entire life history of the species and, just like his first book, is illustrated with his incredible photography.

The meeting was more than just a showcase for Noppadol's spectacular photography; his passion for the conservation of these special birds was contagious. He outlined many of the major threats that these species are facing, the biggest of which is habitat fragmentation, mostly through land being developed for oil. The habitat of sage-grouse is important for more than just the sage-grouse. Hundreds of species inhabit the high desert ecosystem; by protecting sage-grouse, we save hundreds of species along with it.

A true conservationist is a man who knows that the world is not given by fathers, but borrowed from his children. – John James Audubon
Only if we understand can we care. Only if we care, we will help. Only if we help, shall they be saved. – Jane Goodall

Many thanks to Christine Brodsky for the great refreshments at the February Meeting.

HAPPENINGS IN SOUTHEAST KANSAS

Sperry-Galligar Awards Grant to Rehab Group

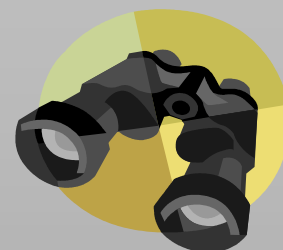
The S-G Audubon board voted last month to award a \$500 grant to the Southeast Kansas Wildlife Rehabilitation Group. The funds will help buy material to build a new flight pen near Mulberry. The small, but dedicated group nurses young and injured birds and some species of wild mammals back to health, and eventually releases them back to nature. The rehabbers respond to calls from individuals as well as local law enforcement and wildlife agency officials, and receive assistance from local veterinarians when necessary.

The large pen – 10x12x50 feet – is designed to allow larger birds, such as birds-of-prey, to strengthen their wings in a controlled, protected area before being released. The pen's design must meet Federal guidelines, including being as predator-resistant as possible. It is illegal for non-licensed individuals to maintain wild animals when they require care, so the rehab group fills that niche. They receive no regular funding from any organization.

Westar Energy has contributed significantly with some materials and construction. The SEK Rehab group is seeking much needed additional funding from other conservation-oriented organizations and individuals in the area. If you can help or have questions, or find a wild animal in distress contact:

Sally Imhof, Mulberry (620-764-3123 H, 620-719-7394 C),
 Leann Moore at Happy Paws (620-719-9639 C),
 Angie Gatton, Parson's Animal Rescue (620-820-1601 C),
 Rhonda Hawpe, Ft. Scott (620-215-5230 C)

Sightings.....



Emmett's Photos



Nature Reach Inaugural "Run Like an Animal" 5k Run/Walk and 1-Mile Kids Fun Run



When: Saturday, March 30, 2019, Packet Pick-up starts at 7:00, Race at 8am

Where: Starting location at the PSU Student Recreation Center, 2001 S. Rouse, Pittsburg, KS

Why: Proceeds go to benefit PSU Nature Reach

Hydration: There will be a hydration station at mile 1.5.

Cost: Early Bird Registration \$30.00 per person with early bird registration date of March 2, 2019

with on-site registration \$35.00 without a shirt or reusable swag bag guarantee!

Kids Fun Run (Kids under 12) \$5.00

***Checks or credit card on race day

Participant will receive:

Kids Runners—All finishers receive T-shirt, Bib, custom race medal, animal mask

5k Runners/Walk—T-shirt, custom finisher race medals, reusable grocery bag (It's even packable!), Post-Race snacks, custom medals for top male and female runners in each category: 19 and under, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50 and up.

Event Description:

Are you ready to fly down a race course like falcon? If so, come join us on March 30, 2019, for the inaugural "Run Like an Animal" 5k Fun Run and 1 Mile Kids Run. Wear leopard print, paint your face, wear an old Halloween costume, we don't care...we just want to see a bunch of animals having a great time on a run! It doesn't matter if you think you are as slow as a turtle, walkers are welcome!! One of the Nature Reach Animal Ambassadors will be making an appearance at the starting line! There will be a drawing at the end of the race for some cool prizes and awards for the best animals! All proceeds will go to help care for the Nature Reach Animal Ambassadors.

All participants who pre-register will receive:

Kids Runners—All finishers receive T-shirt, Bib, custom race medal, animal mask

5k Runners/Walk—T-shirt, custom finisher race medals, reusable grocery bag (It's even packable!), Post-Race snacks, custom medals for top male and female runners in each category: 19 and under, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50 and up.

*In the event of rain, the event will be rescheduled for Sunday, March 31st at the same time.

**Register online via www.pittstate.edu/naturereach OR sign up on Race Day.

Emmett Sullivan photographed this flowering dogwood in Cherokee County. They will bloom in April with bracts that look like flowers. The red berries are eaten by birds. Many cities celebrate their flowering dogwoods with spring festivals.

Send your newsletter articles, bird sightings, and nature notes to C. Ford by April 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
816 E. Atkinson Ave
Pittsburg, Kansas 66762**

Please Print



Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Phone _____

e-mail address _____

**Events &
Miscellany**



SPRING 5k RUN OPPORTUNITY

****Register online for "Run Like an Animal" 5K** Run via www.pittstate.edu/naturereach OR sign up on Race Day. (See previous page for details.)

*****Virtual option available!** For those who are unable to attend race day you can sign up for the virtual event. Once you run (or walk or hike!) just post your time on the Facebook Event Page or email us at naturereach@pittstate.edu. We will mail your race packet directly to you after the race! (Virtual runners are not eligible for awards and will be charged a minimal shipping fee).

**EARTH DAY
Celebrations on April 20**

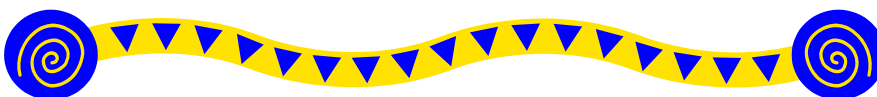
PSU campus festivities
And
Pritchett Pavilion
Miners' Park
(2nd & Broadway)
downtown Pittsburg
11:00—3:00

**Sperry-Galligar Audubon Society
Newsletter
816 Atkinson Ave.
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.)
7:00 pm to 9 pm, in Room 102, Yates Hall.
PSU Campus, Pittsburg, KS.
Refreshments served. 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.

