



# Oklahoma City Audubon Society

OKC-AUDUBON.ORG

September 2009

## Nealand's Road to 700

Nealand Hill says he was once asked what it is about birding he finds so great. "The only answer I could think of is: if you must ask you will never know." He says that as a boy growing up in Oklahoma his family was big on the outdoors. "We were always camping, fishing and those kind of things. We moved to New Mexico when I was fourteen and I fell in love with the mountains, the high desert and all of the birds and other wildlife out there." Nealand joined the Navy right out of high school and fell in love with the sea. After working for Phillips 66 in the Oklahoma gas patch, he retired at 55 to play golf and fish. "One day on the golf course I saw a male American Goldfinch and..." For the rest of the story, as they say, come to the Oklahoma City Audubon meeting on September 21 at 7:00 pm. Nealand will share stories and photos about reaching the 700 mark on his North American birds life list and more about his passion for birding.

Our meetings are held at the Will Rogers Garden Center, Northwest 36th street at I-44.



## President's Perspective

*By Eric Enwall*

### The Compleat Birder

When Izaak Walton wrote his treatise "The Compleat Angler," it is regarded as the total that was necessary for the English Gentleman to be a proper angler. Maybe it was. Today the concept of writing a book that can tell us ALL about birds is simply not sensible. Any-

one attempting such a treatise would have her first chapters out of date before the later chapters could be written. That is certainly not to say that folks should not write books, but that they must limit their goals and focus their efforts. For all of us who are learning "birding" is too bad that we can't find the complete book. On the other hand we have enormous resources available to us that poor Izaak could never have dreamed would exist. My goal here is to point out to some of you who do not yet use them, the existence and manner of use of some of the available resources.

Guide books are the first line in the canon of birding literature. I know of no one who watches birds to any degree who does not own at least one. I own

*Continued on page 2*



### Cookie Patrol

Refreshments for the September meeting will be provided by: Nealand Hill, Terri Underhill & Nancy Reed

---

### ***President's Perspective (cont.)***

at least nine though some were bought more for history than content. The breadth and depth of guides is not always well known to starting birders. They run from the simple Golden Books of our (at least my) childhood to books that cover only one type of bird. Two of my favorites in this latter class are "Shorebirds," and "Hawks in Flight." There are a myriad more and the best way to learn about them (in addition to just browsing the book store) is to talk with birders of more experience about books they use and would recommend. There is no "best" guide. The discussions about the relative merits of the various books can last for hours in a group of any size. Look at lots of them and pick the one which suits your pleasure.

Guide books are about all that some birders use, other than their extensive contacts with other birders. There are however several forms of information which can be exceedingly useful to those birders who have access to a computer and the Internet. The general name for the two most used are "mailing list" and "WorldWideWeb." A mailing list is in a way an electronic form of the old "family circle letter." In those letters we all wrote our bit concerning the happenings of our immediate families and mailed it on with the comments of other siblings or kin who also contributed to the letter.

In general, items were not aimed at any one person or family, but were of "general interest." In fact mail of a personal nature was denigrated and left to direct mail contact with the intended recipient. A "mail list" is just like that only almost infinitely faster. A "mail list" such as the OKBirds list, is a "letter" shared with a family. In this case, you have to choose to join the family (a really easy task) rather than be born in. Once you have joined, every e-mail sent to the OKBirds list is resent to you. On some lists (not OKBirds) this can amount to far too much e-mail to tolerate. OKBirds is a fairly quiet list (most of the time) with a stated goal of providing birders with a way to communicate bird sightings, items of special birding interest, and to expand the pleasure of birding in Oklahoma. (Most states have similar lists although in states of large population the rules of conduct when using the list can be quite draconian. OKBirds is, as one would expect from Oklahomans, quite a friendly place. I encourage you to try it. If you have trouble joining (or leaving if it comes to that) please contact

me. The rules of conduct are really just those of normal civil discourse. Contribute, but it's not a place for soapbox work. Be civil, and if you just can't abide someone's discourse, well that is what the DELETE key is for.

The other, and extraordinarily powerful resource is the WorldWideWeb; more generically referred to as the Internet. Trying to "define" it is akin the story of the blind mice/men describing an elephant. For our purposes it is just a plug in the wall for your computer.

Most of us use the Web in a very passive way; more passive than a "mail list" where most of us will lurk (just read) most of the time, but occasionally we will post a note. However, very few of us will ever "build" a web site for others to use. We mostly just use what others provide. A web site can be as small and simple as a collection of my pictures for others to look at or as massive as the Amazon commerce site. A really good example of a site of intermediate size and great utility to birders is the site run by Pat Velte for our club [www.okc-audubon.org](http://www.okc-audubon.org). Visit this site and see about the club, field trips, etc. and especially make use of the area (look at the top of the home page) labeled Resources. There you will find "links" (which are just pointers really) to even larger and more ambitious sites. The ones run by Cornell University and the Sutton Avian Research Center are especially useful. Then of course you just continue finding and using more links and sites until you have used every available erg of energy in your body and second of time available in your life. Don't say I didn't warn you.

Magazines and periodicals can also be of use, especially for stories of daring do by birders with which you can entertain your (grand) children and spur yourself to even greater feats in listing or cataloging birds. Or you can just read them for pleasure as I do with a huge stack of Birdwatcher's Digests which I was given by a friend. I think I'll bring the already read ones to a meeting soon to give away to any takers.

Seriously, there are lots of resources to help us as we bird and learn and using the newer ones (lists and web sites) can expand your range and pleasure a very great deal. If you think that you are just not "computer literate" enough to do it, that just means you have not found the right young person to ask. My experience is that they can't wait to help you find out what you have been missing. See you Googling around. (It actually is now a verb in the Oxford Dictionary!)

# Black Mesa Field Trip

by Jimmy Woodard

Doug Eide, Jerry Vanbebber and I left Oklahoma City on Friday, September 4, headed for Cimarron County and a weekend field trip. Birding stops along the way were Fort Supply Lake, Optima Lake, Keyes, and Boise City.

Highlights of the day's birding were an adult Bald Eagle at Fort Supply, Black-crowned Nigh-Heron and Virginia Rail at Optima, a female Redstart in Keyes, Brewer's Sparrow and Lark Bunting at Boise City, and Western Screech-Owl, plus 16 Magpies at the Black Mesa Bed & Breakfast.

On Saturday morning we met Susan Thompson, Jody McKenize, and Judith Evans from Texas, along with Ursula Longberg and Valerie Bradshaw. We met in Kenton and watched several hummer feeders. We saw several Black-chinned Hummingbirds, Cassin's Kingbirds and Lesser Goldfinch.

At the Mesa B&B, we saw two Broad-tailed Hummingbirds, one sub-adult male and one female.

At the Hoot Owl B&B, we hiked down to the river and found Hairy and Ladder-backed Woodpeckers, Common Raven, Scrub Jay, Eastern Bluebird and Western Wood Pewee. After the couple-hour hike, we returned to the ranch house and found a Lewis's Woodpecker, which was our target bird.

We took lunch in Kenton. We visited Camp Billy Joe and drove the road to Colorado but didn't dd many birds. We then visited Lake Etling and added a few species including Black-crowned Nigh-Heron, Osprey and Cassin's Kingbird.

Nine of us ate dinner at the Hoot Owl Ranch and had a very nice meal. After dinner, as Jerry and I were driving on the road toward Boise we flushed a Golden Eagle from the telephone pole. As we drove through the state park we flushed a Poorwill from the road. At



the Cimarron River we searched for Screech-Owl with no luck.

Sunday morning, Jerry, Ursula and Valerie headed for New Mexico to look for a Blue-footed Booby. The rest of us birded at the Easter Pageant site and took the back road to Boise City.

Birds were scarce but we found a Solitary Sandpiper at the river, Blue Grosbeak at Benton's and Burrowing Owls along the road.

We birded Boise City and Keyes and back roads in between. We hoped for Mountain Plovers but did not find any. At a playa we found Northern Shoveler, Pintail and Baird's Sandpiper.

At dusk, back at the B&B, two Western Screech-Owls put on a show at close range.

On Monday we met up with Bill Carrell in Kenton and went to Camp Billy Joe. Bird numbers had increased and we found several Wilson's Warblers, Bewick's Wrens, Western Wood-Pewee, Great Horned Owl, Spotted Towhee, and Juniper Titmouse.

At mid-morning we separated and headed different ways toward home. My bird list ended at 107 species.

## 2010 Calendars Available



The beautiful 2010 fund raising calendars are here. They will be available at the monthly meetings for \$7.50 or you may order online or by mail. Yes, you can now purchase your calendar(s) from your home computer — visit the Oklahoma City Audubon site at <http://www.okc-audubon.org> and click on the "Order Online" link on the front page. The mailing cost will be \$7.50 plus \$1.50 per calendar. This is the only source of revenue other than our membership dues. If every member bought just one calendar, we would be able to net \$500.00



---

# Bird of the Month

By John Shackford



Welcome back from summer break. Bird-wise we are already well into fall migration. Let me ramble a bit. Spring and fall are the times for long lists of birds in Oklahoma because of the addition of those species that are only transients here. Spring is the “easy” identification season, when males

usually show their most striking plumage. Fall is the “hard” identification season—dull plumaged males, duller females and really dull young of the year, especially if you are talking warblers.

In central Oklahoma, September is when southward migration gets into full swing for many transitory species, and one such bird is the Nashville Warbler (*Vermivora ruficapilla*). Much of the Nashville Warbler population nests in Canada—north of the United States—and winters in Mexico, many passing over Oklahoma in between the two areas. It nests on the ground and usually lays 4-5 eggs in a first nesting; it is known to be parasitized by the Brown-headed Cowbird.

Recently, in reading A.C. Bent's *Life Histories of North American Wood Warblers*, I was surprised to find that when the Nashville Warbler was first discovered, and for a number of years following in the 1800's, it had been considered a rare species. It was something of a shock to learn that this was an “edge” species; edge is where two habitats abut each other, such as the junction between forest and meadow. In the 1800's Canadian forests were not as fragmented as today. Most warblers are not benefited by fragmentation of habitat, but apparently the Nashville Warbler is—the exception to the rule. So now, apparently, there are more Nashville Warblers than when the Canadian forests were pristine.

A couple of my favorite birding stories relate to the

Nashville Warbler. It was a species that led to Warren Harden and me becoming longtime friends. I had seen some gray headed warblers one fall many years ago, and thought there might be a possibility that one or more could have been Mourning Warblers. Dr. Sutton suggested that Warren and I try to band some of these, primarily to determine if they were Mourning Warblers. It turned out that most, probably all, I had seen were Nashville Warblers, not Mourning Warblers, but it allowed Warren, Doc, and me to become better acquainted with each other, and ultimately, build long-time friendships; we also became better acquainted with this migratory species. Only looking at that event many years in hindsight did the true significance of that as a day of friendship come so clear.



The second story also involved Warren Harden. He used to have a band of about 10 subpermittee birdbanders, and we usually had good luck when we were banding. We always had a good time. Some of Warren's subpermittees were banding at Lake Overholser, north of the coffer dam, on 26 September 1980. We caught a Nashville Warbler, banded and released it. The following year Warren received a letter from the U.S. Department of the Interior Bird Banding Laboratory, stating that

this Nashville Warbler had been recovered during March 1981, at the village of San Pedro de Honor, in the Province of Nayarit, western Mexico. Curious about the band recovery, Warren wrote the Banding Laboratory for more information. We received a letter in Spanish, together with translation, which read: “At San Pedro de Honor, Nayarit, a 9-year-old child was walking under the trees with a slingshot and little birds were in the trees. The child killed one of them and it had a band.....” The distance from site of banding in Oklahoma to site of collecting in Nayarit, Mexico was 1050 miles, the bird had survived over five months, and because Nayarit is on the west coast of Mexico, the warbler must have crossed the Sierra Madre Occidental Mountains to get to Nayarit.. It was a lot to learn from one very small bird.

---

## After 700 - what's next?

by Garey Harritt

The day after the May Oklahoma City Audubon Society meeting I got a phone call from Nealand Hill saying that there was a Fan-tailed Warbler at the Melrose trap west of Clovis NM. Linda and I were three hours from Oklahoma City looking at a lifer Bachman's Sparrow. We hurried back to chase this bird since I had not-so-good looks at it when Jimmy Woodard got it in Big Bend NP for his #700. We picked up Nealand and Max Fuller and arrived late that night in Clovis. Early the next morning we went to the Melrose trap just west of Melrose. A couple of birders were already there — but no bird. More birders arrived and still no bird. Tracy Wohl (known to many OKC Audubon birders) showed up and still no bird. We left in the early afternoon with no sighting. Chasing does that sometimes.

Linda and I were let down. Not to worry. There was a Greater Sand-Plover in Jacksonville FL. We were scheduled to go to Ohio and Magee Marsh on the 25th. So we decided on the 21st to leave early the next day and go to Ohio by way of Jacksonville FL. The bird is only the second record in the U.S. After driving two days through sheets of rain so heavy it stopped cars we arrived at Huegenot Memorial Park about 4 pm. Birders there said it had been seen 10 minutes ago. We parked and walked back and after 10 minutes the Greater Sand-Plover was spotted. An Asian species, it had been around for a week and left the following Tuesday.

One bird didn't show and the other only took 20 minutes to find. Every chase is an adventure. Two days later we arrived in Ohio and proceeded to get a few warblers including Mourning, Connecticut and Canada. A bunch of other good birds including Philadelphia Vireo and Yellow-bellied Flycatcher were tallied.

On to Michigan for the Kirtland's Warbler. I might mention that by now Linda had a full stuffed nose and I had a raw sore throat. We got the Kirtland's on Thursday morning in damp almost drizzly weather. We left right after for the road home. We made a stop overnight in St. Louis and the secretary of Missouri Audubon, showed us the Eurasian Tree Sparrow in her neighborhood. Linda got 8 lifers and I got 9. We are in position to get 700 in the next year or two. Maybe less.

## Recorders Report – May 2009

### Eastern and Western Invasions

This has been an unusual spring with more numerous reports of eastern wood warblers than can be mentioned here, as well as, reports of western species such as Lazuli Buntings and Black-headed Grosbeaks.

On May 1<sup>st</sup> in Norman Debby Kaspari a second male Lazuli Bunting, 3 or 4 Blackpoll Warblers, an American Redstart. On the 5<sup>th</sup> she added Painted and Indigo Buntings, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and a singing **Pine Siskin**.

On May 2<sup>nd</sup> Vince Cavalieri went to Lake Sanborn and saw 150-200 Orange-crowned Warblers, 40-50 Yellow-rumped Warblers, **Black-throated Green Warbler**, hundreds of Chipping and Clay-colored Sparrows, Blue-headed Vireo, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, several Great-crested Flycatchers, Mississippi Kite, and an Osprey with a fish.

On May 3<sup>rd</sup> Joe Grzybowski checked South Jenkins around noon and found a **Philadelphia Vireo**. Also in the Normal area he saw an adult **Peregrine Falcon**, a Swainson's Hawk and **Northern Harrier**. On May 4<sup>th</sup> in Norman Dick Gunn had Philadelphia Vireo. Nancy Reed had a Rose-Breasted Grosbeak visit her.

On May 6<sup>th</sup> Ernie Wilson found a dozen Bobolinks along Wilshire near the Canadian Valley Sod farms located at Midwest and Wilshire Boulevards. Matt and Jenny Foster had a **Black-headed Grosbeak** in Blanchard. Vince Cavalieri at the OSU arboretum in Stillwater had **Mourning Warbler** and a Rose-breasted Grosbeak.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> Nancy Vicars took a group of senior citizens on a bird walk during the afternoon through the Myriad Gardens in downtown Oklahoma City and found a **Hooded Warbler**, one **Black-throated Green Warbler**, 2 Gray Catbirds and a Red-headed Woodpecker

On the 19<sup>th</sup> Bill Diffin in Yukon City Park found several **Magnolia Warblers** in some willows on the north woods trail. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> Bill found an **Acadian Flycatcher** on the west side of the Stinchcomb Wildlife Refuge and on the 23<sup>rd</sup> confirmed **Alder Flycatchers** and an **American Redstart**.

In May **161** bird species were reported making the Central Oklahoma area total to date at **266** species.

---

# Recorders Report

## Summer 2009

### The Beginning of Fall Migration

**JUNE:** On June 8<sup>th</sup> at Lake Stanley Draper Jim Bates saw a pair of **Kentucky Warblers**, heard a Yellow Breasted Chat, and found White-eyed Vireo, Summer Tanager, Pileated Woodpecker, Prothonotary Warbler and Eastern Wood Pewee. On June 9<sup>th</sup> Matt Jung found 6 Wood Ducks (3 drakes and 3 hens) with at least 9 ducklings at Rose Lake, and on the 11<sup>th</sup> he had a male **Ruddy Duck** on Lake Hefner. On June 14<sup>th</sup> John and Jim Bates checked the three Prothonotary Warbler boxes on the Coffey Dam road and saw one on the first nest box near the gate. In mid-June Pat Velte photographed a **Common Loon** at Lake Hefner. It was seen again on July 21<sup>st</sup> by Bill Diffin and August 21<sup>st</sup> by Joe Grzybowski. On June 29<sup>th</sup> Pat Velte spotted an immature **Brown Pelican** late in the afternoon at Lake Hefner. It was floating on the lake, flexing its wings and then took off, headed west. On July 2<sup>nd</sup> Bill Diffin found it on the west side pond at the Stinchcomb Wildlife Refuge; Matt Jung found it at Lake Overholser on August 3<sup>rd</sup>; and Jimmy Woodward found it August 11<sup>th</sup>.

**JULY:** On July 6<sup>th</sup> Nealand Hill had a pair of **Brewer's Blackbirds** at his back yard feeder for the past few days. Jimmy Woodard witnessed a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher popping a presumed **Sharp-shinned Hawk** several times in the course of about 100 yards of flight interaction. The Sharpie dipped down several times to avoid the Scissor-tailed Flycatcher but was unsuccessful in avoiding a hit. On July 18<sup>th</sup> around 9:30 am Patti Muzny saw at least six **Monk Parakeets** fly out of a large oak tree at the edge of her yard. Six years ago a nest was found at the corner of 89<sup>th</sup> SW and Pennsylvania, which is not far from where Patti lives. Patti feels they have nested again in this area, but has no clue as to where. On July 18<sup>th</sup> Bill Diffin found 11 species of shorebirds on a mud flat at Rose Lake. On July 30<sup>th</sup> Victor Fazio III found 8 **Neotropical Cormorants** at a Ducks Unlimited wetland at the north end of Lake Ellsworth, imme-



diately south of Apache in Caddo County.

**AUGUST:** On August 6<sup>th</sup> Bill Diffin found 15 **Black Terns** south of the mud island in northeast Lake Overholser along with a large number of Forster's Terns, one Least Tern and one Ring-billed Gull. Megan Jankowski saw two **Yellow-headed Blackbirds** mixed in with Red-winged Blackbirds at the Route 66 Park near Lake Overholser. On August 16<sup>th</sup> Joe Grzybowski made a detour past Lake Hefner and found 2 Willets, a **Long-billed Curlew** and on August 21<sup>st</sup> he found a juvenile **Piping Plover** along the Prairie Dog Point shore.

On August 16<sup>th</sup> Bill Diffin found two **Tricolored Herons** in the slough east of the retaining wall at Lake Overholser's Coffey Dam. They were running around in the shallows fishing actively. There was a third one perched in the emergent brush out in the lake directly south of the slough. On another occasion he counted 4 of them. On August 26<sup>th</sup> Jimmy and Nadine Varner found a Tricolored Heron and Willet at the north end of Lake Overholser along with a dozen or so Forster's Terns and a Bell's Vireo. On August 29<sup>th</sup> Jim Bates saw two Tricolored Herons at the north end of Lake Overholser. On the 30<sup>th</sup> along Lake Hefner he found a few shorebirds including 4 Sanderlings. He reports the water level at both lakes is dropping and exposing mudflats.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> at the Teal Ridge wetland in Stillwater Vince Cavalieri and Nikki were just sitting on the boardwalk soaking up some sun and enjoying the relative quiet and solitude of the little marsh surrounded by so much of Stillwater, when all of a sudden a male **Rufous Hummingbird** zipped down and presumably began investigating Nikki's bright orange shirt. It zoomed around them for about 5 seconds, hovered just a couple of feet in front of their faces giving great diagnostic looks, and zoomed away! As Vince says, it just goes to show that during migration you need to get out, because you never know what might just randomly pop by!

During the summer **125** bird species were reported making the Central Oklahoma area total to date at **275** species. I appreciate those who help provide the history of central Oklahoma birds by turning in reports of bird species seen at home and in the field. I can be contacted by email at [emkok@earthlink.net](mailto:emkok@earthlink.net), leave a message at 405-381-9170 or mail to 4603 Pikey's Trail, Tuttle, OK 73089. Esther M. Key, Editor.

---

# Birding 101

By Garey Harritt

This article is a brief introduction to beginning birders who may or may not know some of the terms and what some of the activities that birders engage in are. It is not intended for seasoned birders. "Birder" is a term which came about from the older bird-watcher when certain organizations included hearing a bird as the same as seeing it for record keeping purposes. That's ok if you can hear.

Records that birders keep are varied as the amount of birders. They are personal and yet some use them for competition among birders. Seeing who can obtain a life list of 700 or more birds in the North American area north of the Mexican border is the most common list among birders. It refers to all the birds you have identified by sight or sound in your lifetime. I personally don't keep a record of heard birds. What you do with your list is your business. To get to 700 requires that you travel all over the United States and maybe Canada and take boat trips out for pelagic birds. There is hardly any other way.

People in the OKC Audubon Society are very competitive about this list. Yet, there are many who only do their backyard. The backyard is very enjoyable and my list at my present residence is now at 60 birds.

There is the annual Christmas Bird Count that a lot of people participate in and it is a good way to learn and meet people. Others keep a state list or lists of many states. There are also county lists. Local birding sites have lists. Such as the Great Salt Plains NWR.

The American Birding Association provides the guidelines for recording birds. One can follow them or not. However, if you compare your list you must be under the same rules so that only the birds allowed are recorded. Such a bird might be what is determined to be an escaped bird from a collector. There are many of these instances.

Equipment needed to bird usually includes a pair of binoculars. I know of one birder who got 700 birds with an old pair of Swifts that were not expensive. Others want the top of the line that can cost \$1800 or more. The same goes for scopes. These are needed for long distance like at a lake. On outings as a group there are usually some scopes available for people to share.

Field Guides are books that help with identifica-

tion. Local bookstores carry them or they can be ordered from ABA. National Geographic and Sibley's are the two most popular and both are very good. I normally advise not getting one with photographs as a general reference and use those for specific groups of birds such as Shorebirds.

Since birding is an outdoor activity you will find that you need sun protection. Sunglasses help prevent macular degeneration. Sunscreens, hats and long sleeves help and each individual must decide for themselves. Rain doesn't stop birders as that time may produce some good birds.

The social aspect of birding is the glue that normally holds the interest of many birders. I always enjoy seeing old friends when I am on a trip such as my recent one to Arizona when I was a day behind Jimmy, Nealand and Max. We never saw them but ran into of few Arizona friends. Groups outing are fun and a good meal are sometimes included.

There is a lot more to birding than this article portrays but this is the basics and will get you started. Bird on!

## Oklahoma City Audubon Society

### Officers 2009

President	Eric Enwall	364-5029
Vice President	John Shackford	340-5057
Secretary	Cheryl Allen	478-0339
Treasurer	Nancy Vicars	732-9885
Parliament	Sam Moor	752-9549
Programs	Warren Harden	364-3491
Recorder	Esther M. Key	381-9170
Conservation	Larry Mays	392-2131
Field Trips	Jimmy Woodard	324-1462
Newsletter Editors:		
	Pat Velte	751.-5263
	Carla Brueggen	495-3259
	Matt Jung	946-8764
Publicity	Cheryl Allen	478-0339
Historian	Nealand Hill	388-6759
Refreshments	Jim Vicars	732-9885
Webmaster	Pat Velte	751.5263

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

*For Oklahoma City Audubon news between newsletters and meetings, be sure to log onto:*

**OKC-Audubon.org**



# Field Trips

## **September 19, 2009 - Lake Thunderbird.**

Larry Mays will lead our first Saturday morning local field trip on Sept 19th. The destination will be [Lake Thunderbird](#) and surrounding areas. Meet at IHOP at 840 Ed Noble Pkwy, Norman, at 7AM for breakfast or at 7:30 for departure. Please try to RSVP to [retrix@atlinkwifi.com](mailto:retrix@atlinkwifi.com) at least a week ahead.

## **October 17, 2009 - Fort Reno.**

Jimmy Woodard will lead this field trip through [Fort Reno](#) (El Reno). Plan to meet at 7:30 for breakfast at the Braum's, I-40 & Country Club Road, El Reno. Contact Jimmy Woodard for more details: [j.woodard@cox.net](mailto:j.woodard@cox.net) or 405.365.5685.

## **November 21, 2009 - Purina Field (north OKC)**

Warren Harden will lead the field trip through the fields south of NW 150th & Lincoln, near the Purina plant. The field has been a good spot for locating Smith's Longspurs and Short-eared Owls during recent years. The group will meet at the Oak Tree Food & Fuel, Memorial Road & Santa Fe, time TBA.

## **December 5, 2009 - Oklahoma City Lakes Tour.**

John Shackford will host a pre-Christmas Bird Count field trip on December 5, working primarily on water-birds. Meet at 8 a.m. at the parking lot on the east side of the Overholser dam. The group will survey [Lake Overholser](#), then visit the canal area north of Overholser, ending up at [Lake Hefner](#). Please try to RSVP to [johnsshack@aol.com](mailto:johnsshack@aol.com) at least a week ahead, so John will know how many to expect.

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