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News From the Flock, Vol. 2017 Issue 6

Sperry-Galligar Audubon Society

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Recommended Citation

Sperry-Galligar Audubon Society, "News From the Flock, Vol. 2017 Issue 6" (2017). *Sperry-Galligar Audubon Society Newsletters*. 83.

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NEWS FROM THE FLOCK...

Newsletter of the Sperry-Galligar Audubon Society

Sperry- Galligar

Audubon Chapter

Officers 2017 - 2019

President:

Wayne Bockelman

Vice President:

Christine Brodsky

Secretary:

Megan Corrigan

Treasurer:

Liz Mangle

Newsletter Editor:

Cindy Ford

cford@gus.pittstate.edu

Sep 2017

VOLUME 2017 ISSUE 9

**WELCOME TO A NEW YEAR OF SPERRY-GALLIGAR AUDUBON
From President Wayne Bockelman**

It is for the fifth year that I welcome back Audubon members to a new season of programs and activities. Sperry Galligar Audubon has always had a dependable group of volunteers who serve as officers and as board members. That continues to be the case, though this year brings a few changes.

We would like to welcome Christine Brodsky to the position of Vice President. Dr. Brodsky joined the faculty of Pittsburg State University in the fall of 2016, taking a position opened by Cindy Ford's retirement. Her research includes a study of urban habitats that promote a variety of bird species. She did this work in Baltimore. Has it become a requirement that our Vice Presidents come from Baltimore?

Megan Corrigan has moved from the position of Vice President to Secretary. She fills the position vacated by Barb Robins who believes that eleven years is enough. We appreciate her service.

The Vice President is also the program chairman. She is in charge of recruiting the presenters we look

forward to hearing each month. It may be the most difficult job of any of the officers. A number of the coming year's programs have already been confirmed. You can go to Sperry-Galligar.com to see the latest information.

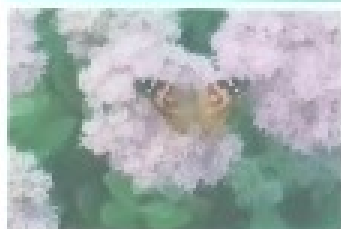
The September meeting will be on turkey vultures, an important species, loved by their mothers. Later in the year will be a program on successful conservation programs sponsored by Audubon of Kansas, from black-footed ferrets to bobwhite quail. We will be able to see some of Emmett Sullivan's beautiful wildflower photographs in a presentation by Cindy Ford—Emmett is more comfortable behind the camera. We also hope to hear from Christine Brodsky herself, presenting her urban bird habitat work. It will also give us a chance to get to know Christine a little better—some of you have not yet had the pleasure of meeting her.

We are excited about another fine year at Sperry-Galligar Audubon. I am looking forward to seeing you on September 28.

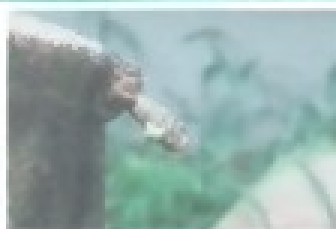
September Meeting
Thursday, 7:00 p.m.
Yates 102
Pittsburg State Univ
Presentation

Sep 28 — "Earth's Clean Up Crew!" Mike Davis, Master Naturalist of Missouri, will present a program on turkey vultures. Davis will talk about the physiological adaptations of these birds.

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

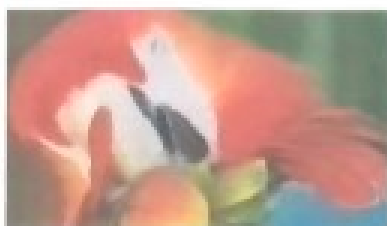


Painted Lady Butterfly

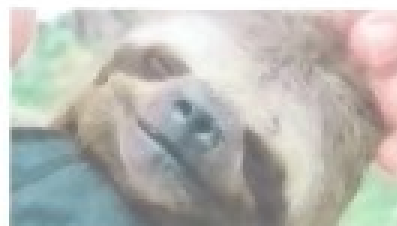


Cicada Emerging

Diane McCallum looked closely for wildlife activity in her backyard this summer. She snapped these photos.



Scarlet Macaw



Three-toed Sloth

Delia Lister traveled to Peru to get these shots of Amazonian rainforest wildlife.

Board Meeting Highlights Megan Corrigan, Secretary

Attending: Mavis Benner, Wayne Bockelman, Christine Brodsky, Megan Corrigan, Cindy & Steve Ford, Delia Lister, Bob & Liz Mangle, Diane McCallum, Emmett Sullivan

Minutes: for April 27 were read and approved

Treasurer's Report (Liz): Checking account balance of \$6484.55; Two CD's one about \$5000, one about \$3000.

Sources of revenue: National Audubon sends \$470 per year, Birdseed Sale, Dues.

Programs: Mike Davis of Joplin will present in September on Turkey Vultures. Possible future speakers from the Forest Service, State of Missouri and others have agreed in principle but dates not yet set. Suggestion from Emmett: Noppadol Paotthong has another book and gave a great presentation in the past.

Motion passed: To allow the vice president discretion to offer speakers compensation for travel and lodging of up to \$100.

Publicity: Wayne will approach KRPS about publicity and possibly sponsoring the new program Bird Note. Cindy suggested finding out the terms Kelce Planetarium has negotiated.

Motion passed: To allocate up to \$200 per year for sponsoring Bird Note.

Facebook: Mavis will continue to update the page, and will meet with Megan to add other board members as editors.

Board will invite participation from general membership.

Website: Costs about \$150 annually through Blue Host.

Wayne will visit with Bob to learn the ropes.

Membership (Diane): 126 individuals as of August, 2017. In 2016-2017 we had 439 attendees at programs.

Audubon of Kansas: It was decided that at this time Sperry Galliger will not have a representative, but should a member express interest the issue will be revisited.

Nature Reach (Delia): There were 14 campers this year, Bob Mangle and Donna Smith volunteered. The Preschool reading program was extremely popular and will be continued in future years with online registration.

Sperry House: Steve and Cindy will continue to maintain outside for another year before handing it off to University.

Walter DeGruson: Wayne will mail a sympathy card.

Newsletter: Thank you to Cindy. Wayne will write a President's welcome and a short tribute to Walt DeGruson. We will mail a copy of the newsletter to Rita DeGruson.

Field Trip: Swift Count, September 8, 9, or 10 depending on weather.

T shirts: Steve will propose a design, Steve and Delia will get quotes. The design will be shared with the membership at the first meeting.

Adjourned: 5:34pm



Can you name this bird found in the Amazon River Basin?

Delia Lister took this photo during her trip to Peru last summer.

May Presenter: Andra Stefanoni



Andra Stefanoni shared her experiences and non-formal teaching strategies at the annual Sperry-Galliger Audubon Chapter picnic.

Andra and her husband, Brad, have consciously involved their two boys in outdoor activities and focused activities to cultivate an appreciation of nature. She said that one of her best investments was a small pair of rubber boots for the boys when they were young. With those boots, they would fearlessly venture into water, mud, and vegetation exploring for a diversity of treasures from Mother Nature. Even though the boys are teens now, they are still accompanying their parents into the "wilds". Andra emphasized that taking time when children are growing up to involve them as part of the family outdoor trips and activities will pay off in knowledge and interest in their connection to nature later in their lives.

SPECIAL PROGRAM ON MONARCHS

EXTRA! EXTRA! Please plan to attend a special program where Sara Dykman will talk about her travels along migration routes of monarch butterflies. She links her activities to schools. She is on her bicycle. The presentation will be held **Sunday, October 1, 2:00, In Yates 102.**



Check out her website: Beyondabook.org

Financial Statement Liz Mangile, Treasurer Sep 2017

Beginning balance-----\$6530.55

DEBITS

Homer Cole building for next year picnic-----\$ 60.00
Stamps for newsletter-----\$ 98.00
Total-----\$ 158.00

CREDITS

Donation from Walt DeGruson memorial-----\$1000.00
National Audubon for memberships-----\$ 60.00
Membership-----\$ 15.00
Total-----\$1075.00

Ending balance-----\$7447.55

HAPPENINGS IN SOUTHEAST KANSAS

Memorial Contributed to Sperry-Galligar in Walt DeGruson's Name

Walter DeGruson passed away on August 6, 2017. He was a long-time member of Sperry-Galligar Audubon.

It was always good to see Walt at the monthly Audubon meetings. He often had a story to tell—often about something he'd seen recently on his ranch, or while hunting or fishing. Walt spent more time out of doors observing nature than many of us do watching our bird feeder out of a window. Once a year he could also be seen on campus at the Gene DeGruson Lecture, named after his late brother who established the University's Special Collections Library.

The trailer in the parking lot of Meadowbrook Mall at the annual bird seed sale is a very good venue for stories. Between carrying 50-pound bags of black oil sunflower seeds there is plenty of time for talk. Walt entertained us with a generous share of tales that were mostly true.

Walt may have been the only member to supply such a generous share of home-made sausage when his time came for refreshments at the monthly meeting.

Sperry-Galligar Audubon was suggested as the organization for memorials that friends and family might like to make in Walt's name.

His funeral at the Bedene Chapel in Arma was well attended with an adjacent room opened for overflow. Many people spoke on the importance of friends and family to Walter, and for his active enjoyment of life. They were generous with their gifts.

Wayne
Bockelman



September 10, 2017: Ten Sperry-Galligar Audubon members counted 941 Chimney Swifts at three roosts in Pittsburg, KS. That is a little more than last year's count of 901. Bob Mangle

Summer 2017 Nature Reach Report ... Delia Lister



It seems as if Summer 2017 flew by in an instant! I was lucky enough to take four wonderful students with me on Study Abroad to the Peruvian Amazon. Despite this being my 4th trip to Iquitos, Peru, I still see plenty of new things. A few "firsts" (and hopefully not "lasts") for me include a two-toed sloth, owl monkey, umbrella bird, horned screamer, and young collared peccary. As usual the Peruvians were wonderful, and the students were beyond excited to get up every day to explore and have their eyes opened to a new culture.

Three days after returning from Peru I jetted off to Shepherdstown, West Virginia to spend a week at the National Conservation Training Cen-

ter. I was one of fifty environmental education leaders across the US invited to participate in a leadership clinic by the North American Association for Environmental Education. The week was intense, but we all learned a lot and the venue was quite beautiful. As a board member of the Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education (KACEE), I am quite proud to say that Kansas is well represented, and is a major leader in the field. I encourage everyone to check out the KACEE website (www.kacee.org), become a member, attend a workshop, come to a conference, donate, or volunteer. You won't be disappointed.

The rest of my summer was filled with garden and bee-keeping duties, Day Camp, Library Programs, and a Pre-K Reading program. We had 14 campers this year, and four Pre-K reading sessions of up to 15 kids per session. Big thanks to Donna Smith and Bob Mangle for helping with camp. Many thanks to all of my student workers—Katie McMurry who filled in for me when I was traveling, and Emily Allen, Tayler Frazier, Stephen Wolfe, Lakynne McElroy, and Abbey Mendenhall for pitching in to help keep the animals well cared for during my absences!



Sightings.....



Pic of the Month
By
Emmett Sullivan



2017 Eclipse

Emmett captured this image during the rare eclipse that engulfed the U.S. a few weeks ago. He took this photo on his home driveway in West Mineral, KS.

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
816 E. Atkinson Ave
Pittsburg, Kansas 66762

Please Print



Name _____
Address _____
City _____
Phone _____
e-mail address _____

**Events &
Miscellany**



There are 37 Local Memberships that expired on August 31, 2017. Your \$15.00 can be mailed to Sperry-Galligar Audubon, 816 E. Atkinson Ave., Pittsburg, KS 66762 or can be paid to Liz Mangile at the meeting. Check with Liz to learn if your dues have expired.

All Bluebird Trail Masters are requested to report their 2017 bluebird fledging numbers as soon as possible to Bob Mangile. Several have already done so.

Wildcat Glades Nature Center in Joplin, MO, is hosting a native plant sale on Saturday, Sept. 23. Missouri Wildflowers Nursery will be set up to sell native flowers, shrubs, and vines that do quite well in this region. Fall is a good time to plant.

Listen for Bird Note on KRPS or visit their website, birdnote.org. This is a short piece on interesting birds around the world that airs currently on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m.

Try this bird feeder not only for orioles but you may invite prothonotary warblers to the feeder like Eweleen Good did at her house near Parsons, KS.

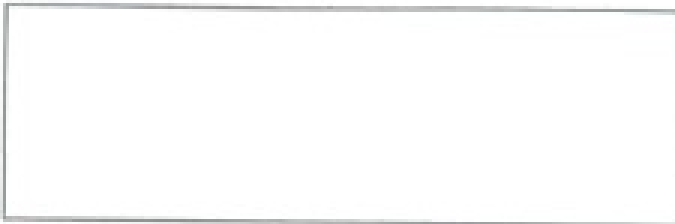


Sperry-Galligar Audubon Society
Newsletter
816 Atkinson Ave.
Pittsburg, KS 66762
Meetings are held the last Thursday of the month. No meetings in June, July, or August. (Nov/Dec meeting date to be announced.) 7:00 pm to 9 pm, in Room 102, Yates Hall, PSU Campus, Pittsburg, KS.
Refreshments served. Guests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