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Annual Meeting at York

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Annual Meeting at York

Eighty-four members and guests were in attendance at the 110th Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union in York on May 15-17, 2009.

Field trips were led by Joel Jorgensen, Ross Silcock, Kent Skaggs, Mary Bomberger Brown and Clem Klaphake to North Lake Basin, Hidden Marsh, the Geneva cemetery, Harvard Marsh and other sites in the Eastern Rainwater Basin. Mary Brown also took a small group to her Piping Plover and Least Tern study locations along the Platte River.

Our Friday evening speaker was Dan Kim, who gave us an account of work he has done with the Whooping Crane Trust in grassland tracts south of Alma which have been alternately grazed, burned and allowed to rest. Species including Bobolink, Dickcissel, Grasshopper Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, Western Meadowlark and Brown-headed Cowbird were studied and banded. Cowbird parasitism and predation were studied. Surprisingly, host species often had better nest success when cowbirds had eggs in their nests than when they did not because if the cowbirds did not parasitize the nest, they often destroyed the host eggs or chicks.

Tim Gallagher, editor in chief of Cornell University Laboratory of Ornithology's journal *Living Bird* and author of *The Grail Bird: The Rediscovery of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker*, provided an entertaining chronicle of searches for the Ivory-billed Woodpecker, from sightings in the Singer Tract of northeast Louisiana in the 1940s to the widely-reported and often-questioned sightings in Bayou de View, Arkansas, in 2004. Gallagher's firsthand account of time spent in a canoe in the Arkansas swamps with other searchers, the photos and videos taken on those trips, and the analyses of those photos provided a captivating story of attempts to prove that the Ivory-billed is not extinct.

Board Meeting and Election

A brief business meeting was held, at which Urban Lehner was elected president, Nancy Leonard was elected vice-president and Anita Breckbill was elected librarian. Kevin Poague (secretary), Betty Grenon (treasurer) and Janis Paseka (editor) were re-elected to additional one-year terms, and Steve Lamphere was elected to another three-year term as director.

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	Butler	Clay	Colfax	Dodge	Fillmore	Hamilton	Platte	Seward	York
Greater White-fronted Goose			x						x
Snow Goose		x	x	x	x			x	
Ross's Goose									x
Canada Goose	x	x	x	x			x	x	
Wood Duck				x		x	x	x	x
Gadwall		x			x	x	x	x	x
American Wigeon		x						x	x
Mallard		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Blue-winged Teal		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Northern Shoveler	x	x	x				x	x	x
Northern Pintail	x	x	x				x	x	x
Green-winged Teal		x			x			x	x
Canvasback									x
Redhead					x			x	x
Ring-necked Duck					x			x	x
Lesser Scaup				x	x			x	x
Hooded Merganser							x	x	x
Ruddy Duck	x	x			x			x	
Ring-necked Pheasant	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Greater Prairie-Chicken	x								
Wild Turkey				x		x		x	x
Northern Bobwhite	x				x		x	x	x
Pied-billed Grebe	x	x				x		x	
Western Grebe							x		

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	Butler	Clay	Colfax	Dodge	Fillmore	Hamilton	Platte	Seward	York
Eared Grebe	x				x			x	
American White Pelican		x	x		x		x	x	x
Brown Pelican							x		
Double-crested Cormorant	x		x		x		x	x	
American Bittern					x			x	x
Great Blue Heron	x	x			x	x	x	x	x
Great Egret					x			x	x
Snowy Egret									x
Little Blue Heron								x	
Cattle Egret								x	
Green Heron	x				x			x	
Black-crowned Night-Heron		x			x			x	x
Glossy Ibis								x	
White-faced Ibis					x			x	x
Turkey Vulture	x	x			x	x	x	x	x
Bald Eagle								x	x
Northern Harrier	x								
Sharp-shinned Hawk								x	
Cooper's Hawk						x		x	
Swainson's Hawk		x						x	x
Red-tailed Hawk	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
American Kestrel		x			x			x	
Peregrine Falcon		x			x			x	x
Prairie Falcon					x				

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	Butler	Clay	Colfax	Dodge	Fillmore	Hamilton	Platte	Seward	York
Virginia Rail								x	x
Sora								x	
American Coot	x	x			x		x	x	x
Sandhill Crane									x
Black-bellied Plover		x			x			x	x
American Golden-Plover								x	x
Sempalmated Plover	x	x			x		x	x	x
Piping Plover			x				x		x
Killdeer	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
American Avocet		x			x		x	x	x
Greater Yellowlegs	x	x			x			x	x
Lesser Yellowlegs	x	x	x		x		x	x	x
Solitary Sandpiper					x				
Willet		x					x		x
Spotted Sandpiper	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Upland Sandpiper	x	x			x	x	x	x	x
Hudsonian Godwit		x			x			x	x
Marbled Godwit		x						x	
Ruddy Turnstone		x			x		x	x	x
Sanderling		x					x	x	x
Sempalmated Sandpiper	x	x			x	x	x		x
Least Sandpiper	x	x			x		x	x	x
White-rumped Sandpiper	x	x			x	x	x	x	x
Baird's Sandpiper	x	x			x			x	x

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	Butler	Clay	Colfax	Dodge	Fillmore	Hamilton	Platte	Seward	York
Pectoral Sandpiper		x			x	x		x	x
Dunlin	x	x			x		x	x	x
Stilt Sandpiper	x	x			x	x		x	x
Buff-breasted Sandpiper					x			x	x
Short-billed Dowitcher		x						x	x
Long-billed Dowitcher	x	x			x	x	x	x	x
Wilson's Phalarope	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
Red-necked Phalarope		x				x		x	x
Laughing Gull							x		
Franklin's Gull	x	x	x		x		x	x	x
Ring-billed Gull					x		x		
Black Tern	x	x	x		x		x	x	x
Forster's Tern	x						x	x	x
Rock Pigeon		x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Eurasian Collared-Dove	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Mourning Dove	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Yellow-billed Cuckoo		x							
Barn Owl	x								
Eastern Screech-Owl					x				
Great Horned Owl								x	
Barred Owl								x	
Common Nighthawk				x					
Chimney Swift	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Ruby-throated Hummingbird				x					

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Belted Kingfisher	x			x					
Red-headed Woodpecker	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Red-bellied Woodpecker					x	x		x	x
Downy Woodpecker	x			x	x	x		x	
Hairy Woodpecker						x		x	
Northern Flicker	x		x		x	x	x	x	x
Eastern Wood-Pewee								x	
Willow Flycatcher					x				
Least Flycatcher	x				x	x		x	x
Eastern Phoebe			x	x	x	x	x	x	
Great Crested Flycatcher	x			x		x		x	
Western Kingbird		x			x	x		x	x
Eastern Kingbird	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Loggerhead Shrike		x		x	x				
Bell's Vireo									x
Yellow-throated Vireo								x	
Blue-headed Vireo						x		x	
Warbling Vireo			x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Red-eyed Vireo					x			x	
Blue Jay	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
American Crow	x	x		x	x			x	x
Horned Lark		x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Purple Martin	x	x			x	x	x	x	x
Tree Swallow	x			x	x		x	x	x

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Northern Rough-winged Swallow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Bank Swallow	x							x	x
Cliff Swallow	x		x		x			x	
Barn Swallow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Black-capped Chickadee							x	x	
White-breasted Nuthatch					x	x		x	x
Carolina Wren					x			x	
House Wren	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Sedge Wren		x		x					x
Marsh Wren					x			x	x
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher					x			x	
Eastern Bluebird		x	x	x				x	x
Gray-cheeked Thrush					x			x	
Swainson's Thrush					x	x		x	x
Wood Thrush				x					
American Robin	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Gray Catbird	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Northern Mockingbird					x				
Brown Thrasher	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
European Starling	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
American Pipit					x				
Cedar Waxwing					x	x	x	x	
Tennessee Warbler			x		x	x		x	
Orange-crowned Warbler			x		x	x		x	x

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Nashville Warbler					x				
Yellow Warbler	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Chestnut-sided Warbler								x	
Yellow-rumped Warbler					x	x		x	x
Blackpoll Warbler					x	x		x	
Black-and-white Warbler					x				
American Redstart		x	x		x	x		x	
Northern Waterthrush								x	
Mourning Warbler					x				
Common Yellowthroat	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Hooded Warbler								x	x
Summer Tanager								x	
Scarlet Tanager								x	
Spotted Towhee						x	x		
Eastern Towhee	x		x					x	
Chipping Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Clay-colored Sparrow	x	x			x	x	x	x	x
Field Sparrow							x	x	
Vesper Sparrow		x		x	x			x	
Lark Sparrow	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Savannah Sparrow	x	x			x				x
Grasshopper Sparrow	x							x	
Henslow's Sparrow					x				
Song Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

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Lincoln's Sparrow					x			x	
White-throated Sparrow								x	
Harris's Sparrow					x	x			x
White-crowned Sparrow		x			x				
Northern Cardinal	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Blue Grosbeak				x			x		x
Lazuli Bunting						x			
Indigo Bunting		x				x		x	
Dickcissel	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
Bobolink	x	x			x		x		x
Red-winged Blackbird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Eastern Meadowlark	x						x	x	
Western Meadowlark	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Yellow-headed Blackbird		x			x	x		x	x
Common Grackle	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Great-tailed Grackle					x			x	x
Brown-headed Cowbird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Orchard Oriole		x	x	x	x			x	x
Baltimore Oriole	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
House Finch				x	x		x	x	x
Pine Siskin					x	x		x	
American Goldfinch	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
House Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
TOTAL SPECIES	192	78	91	50	58	125	77	81	152