

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lana Gordon at 4:00 P.M. on March 19, 2008 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Geraldine Flaharty- excused
Gary Hayzlett- excused
Broderick Henderson- excused
Don Myers- excused
Robert Olson- excused

Committee staff present:

Kathie Sparks, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Ryan Hoffman, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Matt Todd, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Ann Deitcher, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Vern Swanson
Jerry Patterson, Chair Clay County Tourism Committee
Chuck Otte, Vice-Chair, Rare Bird Sighting Committee
Dennis Toll, Manhattan CVB
Rick Dykstra, Geary County CVB

The Chair called on Representative Swanson who introduced Jerry Patterson who told the Committee that in 2006 they had visitors from nine different states who came to Kansas to see birds. He called their attention to the names on the Kansas Birding Festival Committee saying how qualified they were. (Attachment 1).

Chuck Otte addressed the Committee next, speaking of the variety of birds seen in Kansas saying that we seem to be midway between everywhere which brings many bird species through Kansas. Calling it a "migratory superhighway", he said how it brings "many species of birds right through Kansas every spring and fall migration, much to the delight of local and visiting birdwatchers". (Attachment 2).

Telling the Committee that there has been an increase in bird watching of 266%, Dennis Toll also said that 76% of Americans say they want to visit somewhere they've never been before. He said how the Kansas Birding Festival offered participants the quintessential experience in Kansas nature-base tourism. (Attachment 3).

Appearing next before the Committee, Rick Dykstra said that first of all, he loved Kansas. He also said that he wanted the Committee to know that Kansas was not "bottom of the barrel stuff but the apple floating on top. All it needs is a little bit of polishing." (Attachment 4).

Adding to what Mr. Toll had said about people's reason for visiting somewhere, Mr. Dykstra said that 48% of these travelers are interested in "remote and untouched" destinations and 57% are attracted by an area's culture.

A copy of the Kansas Birding Festival evaluation summary was distributed. (Attachment 5).

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Economic Development and Tourism Committee at 3:30 P.M. on March 19, 2008 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

Representative Swanson called the Committee's attention to former State Representative Kathe Decker who was attending the meeting. Representative Decker spoke of her late husband, one-time State Representative Steve Lloyd, for whom the Steve Lloyd Wetlands are named for because of his interest in the state's natural resources, saying how honored he'd felt to be remembered in such a way.

Also in attendance was Anthony Meals of Clay Center who'd spent the day "shadowing" Representative Swanson. The Committee applauded Anthony who was celebrating his 17th birthday.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 24, 2008.



Kansas Birding Festival
P.O. Box 175
Wakefield, KS 67487

Kansas Birding Festival Committee

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Clay County Tourism Committee
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SPONSORS: Please review the sponsors listed on the bottom of the front page of the Brochure.

Committee Members – Please review the members on the committee listed on the left of this letter head. They are each professionals, dedicated and talented individuals.

2004 Festival – 42 registered

2006 Festival – 51 registrations from Kansas and 9 other States including Idaho, Washington, Mississippi, Texas, Missouri, Arkansas, Ohio, Massachusetts and Colorado.

2006 Festival Evaluation: Enclosed for your review.

2008 Festival – As of this date registrations from Pennsylvania, Iowa, Arizona, Minnesota, Texas, Virginia and in Kansas Wichita, Junction City, Clay Center, Wamego, Topeka and Pittsburg.

Registration Fee for 2008 Festival - \$90.00

This includes a reception, banquet, two breakfasts, tour guides and transportation on all birding trips. A real value for a great weekend.

REGIONAL EVENT - Sponsored, organized and promoted by three Counties: Clay, Geary and Riley.

YOU ARE INVITED: Just let us know if you would like to attend the Banquet, the Seminars or the entire **Kansas Birding Festival**. You are welcome.....

Economic Development & Tourism

Date: 3-19-08

Attachment # 1-1

KANSAS BIRDING

FESTIVAL



WAKEFIELD, KANSAS
MILFORD WETLANDS



KANSAS BIRDING FESTIVAL

P.O. Box 175

Wakefield, Kansas 67487

April 25-26-27, 2008



Bird & Wildlife Viewing

- Take a birding and wildlife trip you will never forget. Chose between one full day or three days of birding.

APRIL IS THE BEST TIME

- The area is rich in birding opportunities during this time. See native birds who inhabit the area year around, plus this is the prime season for migratory birds.

DIVERSE LANDSCAPE IS THE KEY TO MORE BIRDING OPPORTUNITY - Grass Lands, Wet Lands, Rivers and Wooded Areas. Milford Reservoir, Largest Lake in Kansas; Konza Prairie Flint Hills Native Tallgrass Prairie, Bison Herd; Republican River and Milford Wetlands; Milford Nature Center; Kansas Landscape Arboretum Trails. *Website lists the 134 species seen during the 2006 Festival.*

EXPERIENCED TOUR GUIDES for trips to prairie chicken booming grounds, Konza Prairie, Milford Wetlands, Kansas Landscape Arboretum and much more. Educational Seminars, Banquet, prizes. Look at comments from 2006 Festival on the website.

For registration and continuously updated list of scheduled events, go to:

www.kansasbirdingfestival.org

DON'T MISS THE 2008 FESTIVAL
North Central Kansas, near Clay Center,
Junction City, Manhattan, Wakefield

LOCAL & STATE

THE DAILY UNION. MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2008



PHOTO PROVIDED BY JERRY PATTERSON

BIRDING COMMITTEE MEETS TO PLAN FESTIVAL

The Kansas Birding Festival Committee met last week in Wakefield to make final plans for the event set for April 25-27. Committee members attending were (from left) Treasurer Lorraine Cowell, Wakefield; Dennis Toll, Manhattan Convention and Visitors Bureau director; Shawn Stratton, Fort Riley biologist; Elby Adamson, Clay Center, seminar presenter; Chuck Otte, Junction City, Kansas Ornithological Society; Ken Wenger and R.J. Harms, Junction City, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Milford Lake; Hoogy and Carol Hoogheem, Ogden, Audubon of Kansas; and Chairman Jerry Patterson (not pictured), Wakefield. Sponsored by organizations in Clay, Geary and Riley Counties, the festival is held every other year and is expected to bring in birders from throughout the United States. The 2006 festival attracted birders from 10 states, including Idaho, Massachusetts and Texas. There have already been registrations from Arizona, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Nebraska for the 2008 festival. The Friday afternoon to Sunday morning program includes tours of the Konza Prairie, Fort Riley prairie chicken viewing, guided birding field trips and seminars. The full program and planned activities may be seen at www.kansasbirdingfestival.org.

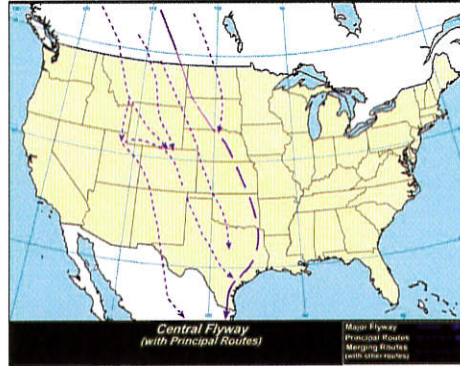
1-3

Why Birds, and Birdwatchers, Come To Kansas

By Chuck Otte*

Kansas is blessed with a great diversity of natural resources, especially bird life. If you look at the following list, you will see that only Colorado, with its Rocky Mountain resources, have more birds on their state's bird list than Kansas.

<u>State</u>	<u>Number of Species</u>
Kansas	470
Colorado	480
Oklahoma	469
Nebraska	448
Missouri	424
Iowa	416
Arkansas	397



The reason for this abundance is simply due to our location. Being located in the center of the continent, we seem to be midway between everywhere which bring many bird species through Kansas. The state ranges from the eastern deciduous forest on the east to the shortgrass prairie on the west. We have a little bit of the Ozark Plateau in southeast Kansas, we have the loess hills and the Missouri River bluffs in the northeast, we have the Arikaree Breaks region of northwest Kansas and the Cimarron River and Grasslands in southwest Kansas. The state is crisscrossed by numerous rivers. These rivers serve as conduits for migrating and wandering bird species and allow them to exist further east or west than one might expect.

Kansas is far enough north that we have winter visitors from the far north, even Arctic Tundra nesting species, who come south for our "milder" winters. We are far enough south, that we have southern bird species, what we'd consider coastal Gulf species, that wander north in late summer, after nesting, perhaps to get a break from the Gulf heat and humidity. Equally important, Kansas sits right under the main stream of the Central Migratory Flyway. This migratory "superhighway" brings many species of birds right through Kansas every spring and fall migration, much to the delight of local and visiting birdwatchers.

This combination of factors, along with critical wetlands like Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Management Area and Quivira National Wildlife Refuge attract not only birds, but birdwatchers as well, to our state. Birders are learning that in Kansas we have a unique mix of habitats that allows for some very special birdwatching. Numerous "must see" species can be found in Kansas quite regularly. Cryptic little sparrows with very limited ranges, like the Harris's Sparrow or the Henslow's Sparrow are regularly found in Kansas with amazing ease. Kansas is proving to be perhaps the strongest population base for the Greater and Lesser Prairie-Chickens. Even majestic birds like the Bald Eagle and the endangered Whooping Crane, are regularly found in Kansas. With the wonderful mix of ecosystems that we are blessed with, even species specializing in vastly different habitats, can be found in amazingly close proximity to each other. Kansas truly has incredible watchable wildlife, and the birdwatching community across the country is starting to realize this!

Flyway graphic courtesy birdnature.com

* - County Extension Agent, Agriculture and Natural Resources, K-State Research and

Economic Development & Tourism

Date: 3-19-08

Attachment # 2



Manhattan
The Little Apple®
Convention & Visitors Bureau

March 19, 2008

To: House Economic Development and Tourism Committee

The Kansas Birding Festival offers participants the quintessential experience in Kansas nature-based tourism. Located in Wakefield, this fledging festival is ideally situated for bird watchers who seek a wide variety of birding opportunities. In close proximity to the wetlands of Milford Reservoir on one side and the tallgrass prairie of the Kansas Flint Hills on the other, the Kansas Birding Festival features an up-close look at species as diverse as herons, ospreys, upland sandpipers, pelicans, and the black-billed cuckoo. Of course, the highlight of the festival for many participants is the chance to observe up close the mating rituals of the famed prairie chicken.

The type of tourist attracted to the festival matches very well the profile of visitor who will also be interested in experiencing many nearby nature-based attractions, such as the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve in Chase County, the Konza Prairie Biological Station near Kansas State, the historic attractions in Council Grove, or the unique shops near the Oz Museum in Wamego, just to name a few. By promoting these and other attractions at the festival, we have the opportunity to extend the stay of these visitors.

The organizers of the Kansas Birding Festival, most native to the region, have displayed the ability to organize, promote, and operate a first-class event that has satisfied all who have made the trip to participate. As a new member of the organizing committee, I have been pleased to observe how this group of committed individuals runs the event with great proficiency, enthusiasm, and concern for the participants.

The organizers also have at their disposal a collection of expert bird watchers and ornithologists in the surrounding communities. With regular speakers such as Chuck Otte, editor of the Kansas Ornithological Society newsletter, and Pat Silvosky, director of the Milford Nature Center, the birding festival is earning a reputation as a trustworthy and respected event.

In short, the Kansas Birding Festival is an authentic Kansas experience that will appeal to a wide audience. For these and other reasons, the Manhattan Convention & Visitors Bureau wholeheartedly supports this event and promotes it as a major attraction to our region. We urge all who support Kansas tourism to offer their support and encouragement as well.

Sincerely,



Dennis Toll

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Economic Development & Tourism
Date: 3-19-08
Attachment # 3-1

Manhattan News

****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

Contact: Dennis Toll, Tourism Sales Manager
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Manhattan, The Little Apple®

Convention and Visitors Bureau

Kansas Birding Festival set for April 25-27

WAKEFIELD, Kan. – Kansas is home to a wide variety of birds. With such a diverse bird population, the opportunities for bird watchers abound in the Sunflower State.

To introduce more bird watchers to the unique opportunities in this region, the **Kansas Birding Festival** will be held in Wakefield, next to Milford Reservoir, on the weekend of April 25-27, 2008.

During the last festival in 2006, participants saw 192 different species of birds, including bald eagles, red-tailed hawks, herons, ospreys, upland sandpipers, pelicans, and the black-billed cuckoo, just to name a few. One of the big attractions for this year's festival, however, will be prairie chickens, who congregate for their annual mating rituals in the spring.

“We expect the Kansas Birding Festival will become the premier semi-annual outdoor birding event in this region,” said Wakefield resident Jerry Patterson, who chairs the organizing committee. “This three-county area of Riley, Clay, and Geary offers the most diverse landscape for birding opportunities in Kansas, including grasslands, wetlands, rivers, woodlands, and reservoirs, all of which attracts a diverse bird population. The Flint Hills Native Tallgrass Prairie is a major feature of the region, attracting birding enthusiasts from throughout the United States.”

The three-day festival will feature guided field trips throughout the region and educational seminars in Wakefield. The Saturday evening banquet will feature keynote speaker Dr. Dave Rintoul, an ornithologist, wildlife photographer, and professor of biology at Kansas State University. Other guides and special speakers include **Chuck Otte**, editor of the Kansas Ornithological Society newsletter and **Pat Silvosky**, director of the Milford Nature Center.

One of the proposed tours will take participants through the Konza Prairie Biological Station, south of Manhattan, for an up-close look at birds native to the Kansas Flint Hills and the Kansas Flint Hills, as well as a tour through the Konza's bison enclosure.

Registration for the three-day event will be \$90 if received before April 10, and \$100 after that date. Registration includes the Friday reception, two breakfast meals, the Saturday banquet, field trips, and seminars. Registration for the Saturday education seminars only is \$10, with those under 18 admitted free. Registration for the banquet only is \$15.

For a registration brochure, visit the event Web site at www.KansasBirdingFestival.org.

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Economic Development & Tourism

Date: 3-19-08

Attachment # 3-2

Geary County
Convention & Visitors Bureau

Kansas House Economic Development & Tourism Committee
Written testimony concerning the
Kansas Birding Festival

By:
Rick Dykstra, Assistant Director
Geary County Convention and Visitors Bureau

Chairman Gordon and Honorable Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you on behalf of the Kansas Birding Festival.

It all started late in 2003 at a Kansas State University Extension Office in Junction City. The word was the birding festival at Cheyenne Bottoms, Wings and Wetlands, would be going to an every-other-year format. A discussion took place with Chuck Otte, KSU/Geary County Extension Agent about starting a birding festival during the odd-year, when Wings and Wetlands weren't doing theirs. Chuck said, "*Let's have a birding festival and we'll call it the Kansas Birding Festival.*" Here we are 5 years later and the KS Birding Festival has become an established Kansas destination event.

The 2006 Kansas Birding Festival attracted birders from nine states, not including KS. Let me say that again, birders traveled to Wakefield, KS from nine states. The great thing about birding, you can do it anywhere. If you live in Kansas City, Overland Park, Olathe or Wichita; you can watch birds in your backyard. If you want to explore, you can choose some better known national sites, such as Quivira National Refuge, Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge or Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area.

Wildlife-related recreation has become one of the most popular outdoor activities in the U.S. Over the past 20 years, participation in wildlife watching, particularly bird watching, has increased nationally by more than 266% (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service 2001 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation). The travel industry has noted the increased interest in outdoor and experiential travel, and in 2002, the Travel Industry Association of America declared:

76% of American travelers want to visit somewhere that they have never been before; 48% of these travelers are interested in "remote and untouched" destinations; and 57% are attracted by an area's culture.

According to the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service 2001 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, wildlife watching is the largest economic growth sector in outdoor recreation. Across the U.S., nearly \$40 billion was spent on wildlife watching—a figure that has increased by over 40% in the past ten years.

Natural By Nature

823 N. Washington; P.O. Box 1846; Junction City, Kansas 66441-2
(785) 238-2885/2846 • (800) 528-2489 • Fax (785) 238-2313
www.junctioncity.org

Economic Development & Tourism
Date: 3-19-08
Attachment # 4-1

Geary County
Convention & Visitors Bureau

These expenses ranged from supplies such as binoculars and bird seed, to hotel rooms and gasoline. Of the nation's 66 million wildlife watchers, 45 million of them are bird-watchers. In 2001, these bird watchers spent \$32 billion in retail stores, which generated \$85 billion in overall economic impact and created over 860,000 jobs (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2001 Birding in the United States: A Demographic and Economic Analysis).

The Kansas Birding Festival provides a venue for more than just going to the field and watch birds, it provide the opportunity to highlight Kansas. During the welcome reception, participants will learn about the many aspects of natural KS by visiting display booths and gathering information. Wings and Wetlands will be able to cross-promote their birding event. During field trips, birding participants will see and hear about our great outdoors. During meals and breaks, participants will make new friends, people who share the same interest. And yes, somehow, birders just might hear about Exploration Place, Kansas Speedway, OZ Museum, Underground Salt Museum and even the Garden of Eden.

Yes, the Kansas Birding Festival is more than just birding, it's Kansas.

Natural By Nature

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KANSAS BIRDING FESTIVAL

APRIL 28-30, 2006

EVALUATION SUMMARY

28 Evaluations were returned. Not everyone answered every question, and some were not here for all activities.

24 Evaluations were turned in after the Saturday evening banquet, and four were received by mail. So those who returned the evaluations on Saturday evening had not yet participated in the Sunday morning field trips.

#1. How did you find out about the Kansas Birding Festival ?

- News paper (2)
- direct mailing to me (2)
- KS Bird Website (3)
- An article in West Wichita newspaper (2)
- Nature Conservatory Publication (4)
- Friend (4)
- Computer (2)
- E-mail from co-worker - she saw on Manhattan/Ft Riley Community Calendar.
- Bird Watchers Digest Website
- Topeka Audubon News Letter
- KOS List Serv & workers
- Kansas Wildflower Society Brochure
- Picked up brochure at an Audubon Society Meeting
- My wife is a bird enthusiast, and if I'd go to it with her, I'd not have to get her anything for Mothers Day.
- My wife
- Audubon News Letter and Nature Conservancy News Letter
- Brochure & Internet
- We were searching/surfing the internet on the Nature Conservancy reference the Ivory Billed Woodpecker.

#2. What was the main activity or event that attracted you to the event?

- All the activities (2)
- Prairie Chicken Leks
- Saturday program (2)
- Learning more about birds.

Economic Development & Tourism

Date: 3-19-08

Attachment # 5-1

- The chance to participate in guided field trip
- Bird Watching (2)
- Birds - Wild flowers - Location
- Being able to bird with fellow birders and the seminar aspect
- Seminars
- Field trips to areas I had not birded before (3)
- Birding field trips and programs (3)
- Prairie Chickens and never been here
- The general program and chance to see different terrain
- Birds of a different locale
- Birding , What else?
- The opportunity to see Konza Prairie and actually put a name to all the birds I've heard for years.
- Tour Guides very important - they were great
- Birding !!
- Learning more about birding in general. Milford Lake area sounded very interesting.
- The chance to learn more about birding in general. The different tours sounded very interesting.

#3. HOW WELL DID THE FESTIVAL FULFILL YOUR EXPECTATIONS?

- Excellent
- We saw as many birds as we could have expected with the rainy conditions. Also enjoyed the seminars very much.
- I was very pleased with all the learning I have gained from the leaders of the groups on tours and all the conversations with the people on the tours.
- Met and exceeded all my expectations.
- I think I learned a lot about some of the birds I've never seen before.
- Ryan was a wonderful tour guide, also Mike, Ken Gybron. These are delightful, knowledgeable and very helpful. Also Jerry Patterson.
- It has been well organized with lots of learning experiences.
- Very useful information on birds and wildlife.
- Great ! Lots of information in presentations and from interaction with others.
- It was an excellent festival, exceptionally well-organized. Very informational programs. Lots of planning went into it - and it showed. We were unsure what to expect - and had a great experience.
- Fully.
- Exceeded expectations.
- Great. Saturday - osprey, purple finch, pelicans.
- Great - all my expectations plus more.
- Satisfactory.
- Very Well.

- Leisuredly field trips that allowed participants time to pursue interesting birds.
- It was fantastic!
- Very well.
- Well organized - well done - lots of free bees.... Maybe to many !
- Saw many, many birds I wouldn't have found on my own. Met a lot of people.
- Hoped to see more shorebirds, but Thank God for Rains !!!
- More than Expected.
- I enjoyed it very much. It was well organized and each tour was interesting.
- I'm impressed. I saw new birds - that was my goal. The pre-planing is obvious. Lot's o' stuff - lot's o' stuff - lots of work.
- It was great. Tour guides very knowledgeable and helpful.
- As good as could be expected with the weather. We did go out to Smith bottoms and saw a lot of variety.
- Two (2) made no response.

#4. WHAT EVENT OR ACTIVITY COULD BE ADDED TO MAKE THE FESTIVAL MORE ATTRACTIVE?

- 12 had no suggestions.
- More shore bird tours - possibly on a boat.
- Wider advertizing.
- Nothing I can think of at this time.
- A field trip on wildlife photography.
- Bird Call contest.
- Getting a few lifers: Bewick's Wren, Orange-crowned Warbler.
- This is my first birding conference.
- Only think I know, it's not possible, more places to stay in Wakefield.
- It would be nice to have a copy of the registered persons to help remember names.
- The comradery between the various participants, very friendly.
- Bios on volunteers and guides.
- Shorter field trips.
- Just do it again !! No changes needed.
- Liked it all. The birding guides were great !! The classes were excellent
- Tour to see nesting Bald Eagles at Clinton Lake ????? Wine tasting social get together.
- Introductions of attendees - since several were from out of the area or state.

#5. WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF THE FESTIVAL?

- I enjoyed it all, but probably the prairie chickens and Bob Gress.
- Everything - field trips.
- The field trips.
- The live bird talk was extremely interesting. All of the tours and classes were well done.
- Saturday program and visiting the Arboretum.

- Bob Gress was a real treat. And it was so great to get with knowledgeable birders.
- So far, the live rapture demonstration.
- The wetlands
- Purple Finch – wild columbine!!!
- Birding w/knowledgeable Birders.
- All interesting
- Banquet
- Excellent field guides like Hoggie.
- So far the Fort Riley Prairie Chicken tour, but all was great.
- Birding and allowing us to take time to find birds.
- Field Trips.
- Presentations and Birding @ Landscape arboretum Homestead. Konza Prairie tour.
- Konza
- Small group “volunteer” field trip before the banquet.
- Cannot decide.
- The people.
- Meeting with other birders and enjoying their enthusiasm and the extent to which they carried their hobby. (I’m not that enthusiastic).
- The tours.
- Hard to choose. Maybe seeing the eaglet moving around in the nest at Ft Riley.
- Talking to the people/networking & learning from them.
- A. The Live Bird Demonstration, B. The birding tours, C. Sun rock Ranch, D. Interacting with the people.

#6. DID YOU HAVE ANY NEGATIVE EXPERIENCES THAT AFFECTED YOUR WEEKEND?

- “13” answered NO
- “4” made no comment
- Rained most of the weekend but still saw lots of birds.
- Just the misty rain.
- Closer motel.
- Getting up at 4:00 AM
- Fussy infant during the program.
- No, the committee did a great job.
- None (rainy - but you don’t have control over that).
- Difficult to be in a van for four 5 ½ hour field trips, to long.
- Would have liked to have a listing of motels closest to area.
- None except for the rain.
- Just rain and mud - I know it was needed.
- “2” None.

#7 - SATISFACTION LEVEL FOR THE ACTIVITIES :

	Very Satisfied	SATISFIED.	NOT SATISFIED.
A. Field trip to Milford Wetlands	11	7	
• Didn't think we were actually in a wetlands.			
B. Field Trip to Arboretum	14	6	
C. Ft Riley Prairie Chickens	6	2	
• Ryan			
D. Konza Prairie	8	2	
• Foggy			
E. Milford Nature Center	5		
F. Local Birding Areas	12	2	
G. Back road adventures	7	1	
H. Meals during festival	15	9	
• Terrific Veg Lasagna			
I. Saturday night banquet	24	2	
• Great			
J. Bob Gress banquet program	24		
• Fantastic			
• Great			
• Very good			

#8 - WHERE DID YOU STAY

#9 - IF YOU STAYED IN A HOTEL, HOW SATISFIED

A. *From around here, so stayed at home.....* 6 Individuals.

<i>B. Stayed in a Hotel (name and place)</i>	<i>Comments.</i>
• Sportsman Inn , Wakefield	Fine
• Wakefield Bread & Breakfast	Very Pleasant Experience
• Sportsman Inn - Wakefield	Very clean even though the outside looked pretty run down.
• Econolodge, Junction City	Fair
• Econolodge, Junction City	OK
• Wakefield Bread & Breakfast	

- Cedar Court, Clay center Very Much
- Cedar Court, Clay Center Just fine!!
- Cedar Court, Clay Center OK
- Cedar Court, Clay Center They were fine
- Sportsman Inn, Wakefield OK
- Econolodge, Junction City Yes
- Cabin, Milford Flag Stop Spartan
- Wakefield Bed & Breakfast
- Cabin, Milford Flag Stop Cabin was lacking
- Bed & Breakfast, Wakefield It was very pleasant
- Holiday Inn, Manhattan Fair - Prom/Graduation time &
Many youth were having parties.

Hotel was under renovation.

C. OTHER, PLEASE EXPLAIN

- My motor home.
- Camped at Milford State Park
- Cabin at Milford
- Friends in Manhattan - a bit of a drive, but free (A way to car pool & maybe room mates for shared expense could be helpful.)
- Cousins home.

#10: ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE FESTIVAL. HOW MUCH MONEY DID YOU SPEND?

A. \$ 0.00 to \$50.00	7 people	\$ 0.00 to \$ 350.00
B. \$51.00 to \$100.00	6 people	\$301.00 to \$ 600.00
C. \$101.00 to \$250.00	9 people	\$909.00 to \$2,250.00
D. \$251.00 to \$500.00	5 person	\$1,251.00 to \$2,500.00

This would equate to a minimum of \$2,461 to a Max of \$5,700.

(This does not include the \$75.00 per registration fee to attend the festival).

(And of the Registration Fees the funds spent on meals, printing, etc, which also added money to the local economy.)

#11. WILL YOU MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THE FESTIVAL IN 2008?

Why or why not???

- YES!! The chance to get with other birders is always a good thing.
- My wife may make me an offer I can't refuse and then I'll be back!
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes - I enjoyed meeting Katherine Haney, to be commended Kowell and Patterson.

Thank all you people for a wonderful time.

- Yes - it was fun and a super learning experience. Much thanks to the Methodist ladies who helped !!!!
- Yes !! To learn more !!
- Yes - Thanks so Much !!
- Yes, if possible.
- Yes
- All depends on what direction might want to go next.
- Possible
- Yes
- Yes !!
- Yes, It was fun and I learned. Praise goes to the committee who planned & did all the work. Great Job !!
- Yes - if schedule and body allows.
- Yes I enjoy them & it is close to me.
- Unsure @ this time.
- Yes
- Yes. Well worth the trip from Eastern Kansas.
- Sure
- Will seriously consider it.
- Yes!!
- Yes - Better w2eather will bring out even more birds. The seminars were all excellent. Great tour guides.
- Yes, very much so. It was so much fun. The people from the area and hosting were very nice and accommodating. David Thurlow, County commissioner even provided us a private tour of the Republican Valley Farm Machinery Museum Saturday afternoon. The hosts kept everyone laughing & inserted humor when appropriate. The gift raffle was very much appreciated. All were made to feel welcome, regardless of their "Birding" expertise.

MEMO: The spelling of names, use of terms, phrases and comments are exactly as written on the Evaluations.