

Clearwater Audubon Trip to Kansas Central Flyway

(Kansas wetlands and grasslands provide rest and refueling for birds in the Central Flyway.)

October 24th – 29th

Bird Guide William “Bill” Kaempfer



Day 1: Arrive at Kansas City (MCI) airport and transport to Hampton Inn, Kansas City, MO.

After grouping up, we will bird in nearby Weston Bend SP (MO) on the bluffs above the Missouri River. It is a raptor migration spot and while most of that migration will be over, we may still pick up some accipiters as well as Black-capped Chickadee and White-breasted Nuthatch.

Day 2: Travel to Great Bend (KS) and begin birding the Cheyenne Bottoms area.

It is about a 3 ½ hour drive from Platte City to Cheyenne Bottoms, so we will stop and pick up a sandwich and have lunch at a rest stop before beginning our initial exploration. Cheyenne Bottoms will be loaded with waterfowl. This will include 3-5 species of goose including Snow, up to 17 duck species including possible Common Goldeneye and Northern Pintail. Four species of grebe including Western and Horned. Ring-necked Pheasant and shorebirds.

Day 3: Quivira National Wildlife Refuge

I hope this doesn't sound like more of the same, but all the birds listed above will be possible at Quivira, too. Sandhill, and if we are lucky, Whooping Cranes will be there. The shorebirds can include American Avocet, Stilt Sandpiper, American Golden Plover, Baird's Sandpiper, Wilson's and Red-necked Phalaropes, Long-billed Dowitcher. Then add in Franklin's Gull and White-faced Ibis, and we might stay until dark to try for Short-eared Owl. Sparrows will be a big attraction with White-crowned, Harris's, LeConte's, Vesper, Lincoln's, Fox, and Song all possible.

Day 4: Quivira NWR again

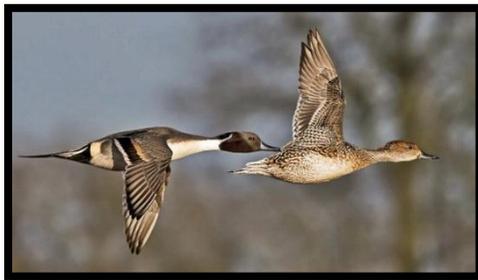
We will try to find what we missed the day before, like maybe Yellow-headed Blackbird, Sedge Wren or Winter Wren! We may revisit Cheyenne Bottoms as warranted.

Day 5: Drive to Manhattan, KS

Possible stop at Kanopolis Lake where more sparrows are possible, like Chipping, Field, American Tree, or Junco. Then, on to the Konza Prairie and Turtle Creek Reservoir.

Day 6: Leave Manhattan for Kansas City, Missouri for late morning to mid-day departures.

Bird Guide - Bill Kaempfer started birding 40 years ago on a trip to Denali National Park in Alaska. He has been leading field trips for more than 35 years and in nine states for the Colorado Field Ornithologists, the American Birding Association, the Western Field Ornithologists (CA), Boulder (CO) Audubon, Boulder Bird Club, Denver Field Ornithologists, Denver Audubon, Pomona (CA) Audubon, and Clearwater Audubon. He has been the compiler of more than 100 Christmas bird counts and contributed to two Breeding Bird Atlas projects and two Breeding Bird Surveys. After a 38 year career in Colorado, he moved to Safety Harbor two years ago.



Trip cost: 12 persons - \$1,100 per person **double** room, \$1,500 per person **single** room. The cost of trip is based on a minimum group size of twelve participants. Contact Dale Goebel at 727-510-1462 if you are interested or you have questions.

We will all meet at either the Kansas City airport or at the Hampton Inn **by 12:00 pm** on the 24th, we'll leave our luggage at the hotel and head out birding. If you were to be a late arrival, the hotel has a free shuttle from the airport. If you desire to catch up the group who left at noon, Uber is an option.

Cost Includes: Transportation in two mini vans, hotel fares (double occupancy rate, single occupancy available at an addition cost), breakfast included at each hotel, park fees. expert bird guide – Bill Kaempfer. We select quality hotels convenient to our birding and tour destinations.

Cost Does Not Include meals, and airfare. This gives you the opportunity to use your airline points. If you'd like to know the flight(s) others are taking to Kansas City, please contact Dale Goebel 727-510-1462.

Registration: This trip is strictly limited to a maximum of 12 participants. A deposit of \$800 will reserve your space. Registrations are taken on a first-come first-serve basis with priority given to the date received.

Completion of Payment: \$300 double, or \$700 single (balance after the deposit) is due August 2nd. You may send a check made payable to Clearwater Audubon Society (CAS) to Dale Goebel at 1617 Hamilton Ct., Dunedin, 34698 or use our CAS PayPal account at www.clearwateraudubonsociety.com on the Field Trip page. **Please let Dale Goebel know if you plan on using PayPal.** Thank you.