

OOS SPRING FIELD MEETING 2014

Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Alva, Oklahoma, Friday April 11 through Sunday April 13, 2014

Please join us for the OOS Spring Field meeting in Alva, Oklahoma. Field trips to the Great Salt Plains National Wildlife Refuge, Great Salt Plains State Park, the Cherokee Sewer Ponds and other local birding hotspots are planned for the weekend. The Friday evening registration and social, and the Saturday evening banquet and presentation will be held at the Northwestern Oklahoma State University campus. The event will be held in the Student Center which is directly behind Herod Hall, 709 Oklahoma Blvd., Alva, OK 73717: <http://www.nwosu.edu/campus-map>

Saturday, Dr. Jason Luscier will give the banquet presentation entitled: "Understanding Plummeting Populations of Rusty Blackbirds: the Plight of North America's Fastest Declining Songbird". The banquet will be held in the Ranger Room of the Student Center. Signs will be posted to help you find your way around the Student Center easily.

The Great Salt Plains area of Oklahoma is a great place to be in any time of year. We hope to see all of you there. This is a fantastic opportunity to watch and learn about the birds of the Great Salt Plains. It is also a wonderful time to see old friends and make new ones. Please consider bringing along folks who might be interested in joining OOS as this is a great showcase for our organization. We look forward to seeing you there!

CONFERENCE ACCOMMODATIONS

The following hotels are options in Alva: Comfort Inn & Suites (580)-327-0000); Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites 1-877-859-5095, and America's Best Value Inn (580) 327-1111. **All hotels in the area book up fast because of the recent oil boom, so reserve early to ensure that you can get a room.** There are also other accommodations nearby in the town of Cherokee, and cabins and camp and RV sites are available at the Great Salt Plains State Park (Phone:580-626-4731).

MEETING SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

4:30-6:00

OOS Executive Board Meeting

6:00-8:00 PM

----Registration table opens at the University.

----A Birding Trivia Game will start at the beginning of registration, so get there early and play!

----7:30:eBird Training Session for those of you who have been wanting to figure out what all the eBird excitement is about! From the eBird website: "A real-time, online checklist program, eBird has revolutionized the way that the birding community reports and accesses information about birds." For more information, show up for the workshop!

SATURDAY

(Breakfast on your own)

6:30 AM-4:00 PM

Departure from the University Parking Lot, if you are leaving from another location, please make sure to find out where the field trip is going on Friday night, and where/when to meet the field trip leaders!

Field trip details will be available at registration, but will include trips to the Great Salt Plains NWR, Great Salt Plains State Park, Cherokee City Sewer Ponds, and other local birding hotspots. The reason for the mystery is that we will have our field trip leaders scouting in the days prior to the meeting and locating the best places to go based on recent rainfall and bird migration.

For all field trips, bringing lunch/snacks and water is strongly encouraged. There are no food venues nearby. Also consider insect repellent, sunscreen, and a hat.

6:30 PM

Banquet at the university. **If you do not pay for your meal in advance we cannot guarantee that there will be food for you.** We have to provide a number to the caterers well in advance. Dinner will be a casual buffet. If you would like a vegetarian entree, please indicate this on your registration form. We will only have the number of vegetarian entrees that are requested and paid for in advance available, they will not be part of the buffet.

Following dinner, Dr. Jason Luscier will be presenting the banquet talk entitled: "Understanding Plummeting Populations of Rusty Blackbirds: the Plight of North America's Fastest Declining Songbird".

SUNDAY

(Breakfast on your own)

An optional field trip will be available on Sunday. Details will be announced at the Banquet.

You may register in advance (preferred) by completing this form and mailing it, **with your payment**, to the address listed below. Please note that to qualify for the early registration discount, mailed applications must be postmarked no later than March 28, 2014. You may also register on-line by visiting www.okbirds.org. The registration fee helps cover the day use cost for the University facilities, as well as our costs for organizing the meeting. Prices are per person.

	Early (3/28/14)	On Site	Quantity	Total
Registration fees				
Student	\$5		\$10	_____
Member	\$10		\$15	_____
Non-member	\$15		\$20	_____

Saturday night dinner

Saturday Dinner	\$15			_____
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(please indicate if vegetarian)

NAME (S) _____

AFFILIATION _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

Send form with check made out to OOS to: Nadine Varner, 7845 NE 18th St, Oklahoma City 73141.

Participation in Oklahoma Ornithological Society's activities and meetings is voluntary. Some activities such as field trips may expose you to the possibility of physical injury. By participating in these activities you accept all responsibility for all risks and release Oklahoma Ornithological Society, its officers, and volunteers from any and all liability from property damage, personal injuries, and other claims whether known or unknown arising from your participation.

Signature _____ (required)

Date _____ (required)