

Early Winter Bird Seed, Feeder & Book Sale

Saturday, December 8th ~ 10am to 1pm Pre-order deadline is December 4th

Trinity Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall 1245 New Hampshire Street

Juncos are back in the yard! Red-breasted Nuthatches are back at feeders. White-throated and Harris's Sparrows are fossicking in the leaves for seeds and insects. Time to fill feeders for our winter birds, and—super important—support JAS.

Ordering is so easy, it makes pie look impossibly hard. The form is on pages 5 & 6 & the JAS website. Fill it out and <u>send by 12/4</u> to Seed Sale Chair Linda Lips or text or email her your choices. Then, on the 8th, pick up your seed. But if you forget to order we'll have some extra seed, so come shop the sale no matter what.

At the sale get expert feeding advice and pick out a new feeder. Gift idea? We'll have field guides and books about birds & plants that will be treasured. Plus there will be children's books for that special kiddo you want to inspire to become a nature lover/birder/defender of the wild.

See you on the 8th!

Sale proceeds go To fund education & conservation projects of JAS.



2018-19 Seed Sale Calendar

This year's seed sales will be at Trinity Lutheran Fellowship Hall again. The church is very kindly hosting us while the Senior Center is remodeling. Sale dates are:

November 3, 2018	10:00 am ~ 1:00 pm
December 8, 2018	10:00 am ~ 1:00 pm
February 2, 2019	10:00 am ~ 1:00 pm

Order forms with sale specifics are in the newsletter or on the JAS website: <u>www.jayhawkaudubon.org</u>

Questions? Contact Linda Lips, Seed Sale Chair, at <u>ditchlily@sprynet.com</u> or text to 785-766-3567.

Monday, November 26, 2018

Kansas Groundwater Resources:

The High Plains - Ogallala & Other Aquifers

How many aquifers are there in Kansas? Is the water drinkable? How much is there? How do they function? Such questions grow in importance every day. The 11/26 JAS talk by Don Whittemore will focus on our groundwater resources, covering both quantity and quality issues. The best known aquifer is the High Plains, encompassing both the Ogallala region in western Kansas, and the south-central Quaternary region. Lesser known are the Dakota aquifer in central and southwest Kansas, the Ozark aquifer in the southeast, and the Glacial-drift and Kansas River alluvial aquifers in northeast KS.

Quantity issues in the Ogallala region include long-term water-level declines caused by irrigation pumping, and how much to reduce pumping to sustain groundwater levels. Water-level declines in south-central Kansas are not nearly as great as in the Ogallala region, but do impact water supply and cause decreases in stream flow in some areas—huge issues for people & wildlife.

Water-quality issues include the infiltration of saline (and high uranium concentration) water from the Arkansas River into the Ogallala aquifer and nitrate contamination of aquifers across the state. Information on Kansas aquifers can be found on the Kansas Geological Survey web pages for water: <u>http://www.kgs.ku.edu/Hydro/</u> <u>hydroIndex.html</u> or the new publication "Status of the High Plains Aquifer in Kansas" at <u>http://</u> www.kgs.ku.edu/Publications/Bulletins/TS22/ index.html.

Don Whittemore is a Senior Scientist Emeritus in the Geohydrology Section in the Kansas Geological Survey at the University of Kansas. He received a Ph.D. in Geochemistry from Penn State University in 1973. His research and service are focused on the hydrogeology and hydrogeochemistry of water resources in Kansas, especially the High Plains - Ogallala aquifer, stream-aquifer systems, and saline waters.

~ Joyce Wolf, Program Chair

BYO Dinner with Don Whittemore: 5:00 p.m. Zen Zero. 811 Massachusetts downtown *Please let Joyce Wolf know if you will dine:* jarbwolf39@gmail.com or 785-887-6019.

Program: 7:00 pm. Trinity Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall. 1245 New Hampshire.



Eagles Day Committee planning the Kaw Valley's 23rd annual celebration of our national bird.

This year brings a significant change to Eagles Day. Both Free State and Lawrence Highs have construction projects underway, but USD 497, a cosponsor of the event for the last several years, has offered Billy Mills Middle School, 2734 Louisiana, to host the event. There is less room for exhibits, but it will be adequate, and the school is well located for eagle viewing field trips. Depending on the day's weather, there is even the possibility of having a "Walk to the Wetlands Birding Tour" leading hardier souls over to Baker Wetlands to search out wildlife.

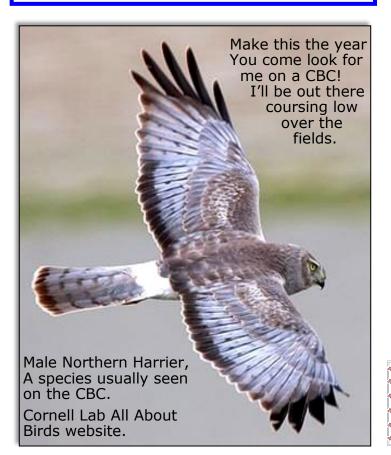
The Eagles Day committee gladly welcomes new members and ideas. Why not try attending a meeting to learn how you could contribute to JAS's gift to our Community?

Next Eagles Day Meeting:

Monday, November 19th, 2019. 6:00 pm

Clinton Lake Corps of Engineers Visitor's Center

Questions? Contact: Samantha Jones, Natural Resource Manager Clinton & Hillsdale Lakes U.S. Army Corps of Engineers <u>samantha.jones@usace.army.mil</u> or 816-389-3583



JAS Field Trip Chair Gone Birding

JAS's field trip chair Matt Longabaugh, given an opportunity many of us probably dream of, has taken a new job as an international birding guide! Congratulations and happy trails, Matt!

Sadly for JAS, however, we are now without a field trip chair. Would you, or anyone you know, enjoy leading or coordinating field trips? If so, please contact JAS President Jim Bresnahan at the phone number or email address given below. *Please note, the field trip chair does not have to lead every, or even any, trip.* You can be a planner and recruiter of other birders to lead trips or coordinate with Burroughs or Topeka Audubon on joint trips. The work of the field trip chair is key to a vibrant chapter!

JAS Officers & Board Members

President: James Bresnahan. 785-766-9625 jbresnahan@ku.edu Vice President: Vanessa Carlos Recording Secretary: Susan MacNally Corresponding Secretary: Pam Chaffee Jennifer Delisle Treasurer: Board Member: Roger Boyd Board Member: Lynn Byczynski Board Member: Jennifer Dropkin Board Member: Phyllis Fantini Board Member: Dena Friesen Board Member: McKay Stangler Membership Chair: Wayne Kennedy Newsletter: Susan Iversen: 785-843-1142 siversen@sunflower.com Conservation: Lynn Byczynski Programs: Jovce Wolf Sandy Sanders Education: Field Trips: VACANT Publicity: Pam Chaffee Facebook Page: Jennifer Dropkin, Administrator jendropkin@hotmail.com Webmaster: Lynn Byczynski Bird Seed Sales: Linda Lips Birdathon: Richard Bean Christmas Count: Galen Pittman Eagles Day: **Bunnie Watkins** Migratory Bird Count: Vanessa Carlos Hospitality: Kelly Barth Historian: Ron Wolf Books & Feeders: Ron & Joyce Wolf Audubon of Kansas Chapter Representative: Ron Wolf

Programs of the Jayhawk Audubon Society are free. All are welcome! JAS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization



Area Christmas Bird Counts

Lawrence CBC: Saturday, December 15. To participate contact compiler Galen Pittman ahead of time: text (785)760-3572 or via e-mail: <u>galenpitt@gmail.com</u>.

Beautiful Perry Lake CBC: Sunday, December 16. To participate contact compiler Bunnie Watkins by **December 1st**: ranger rabbit@sbcglobal.net or (785)393-0984.

<u>Baldwin CBC:</u> <u>Monday, December 17</u>. To participate contact compiler Roger Boyd ahead of time: 785-424-0595 or by email at <u>rboyd@bakeru.edu</u>.

Linn County CBC: Friday, December 21. To participate contact compiler Roger Boyd ahead of time: 785-424-0595 or rboyd@bakeru.edu. The group will meet at the gas station to the east & south of the US 69 and Hwy 152 intersection at about 7:15 am on the 21st to divide up the count circle.

A list of all Kansas CBC's, including several other local counts, is on the Kansas Ornithological Society website: <u>http://ksbirds.org/</u>

The 2018 LAWRENCE CBC: Saturday, December 15th

Background: 2018 will mark the 75th Audubon Christmas Bird Count held in Lawrence! The National Audubon Society (NAS) has permanently set the dates for the CBC as 14 December – 5 January. Counts are held all over the world! Last year's species total of 103 was a really great effort. **It was the fourth year in a row and the seventh of the last eight years with a total of 100 or more.** With your help we can make that happen again this year!

How a CBC works: Count participants are organized into parties, each with its own leader and pre-assigned part of the 15-mile diameter count circle. The Lawrence count circle covers most of Clinton Lake, all of Lawrence including Baker Wetlands, the Fitch Natural History Reservation, the towns of Perry and Lecompton, and the Kansas River valley from just west of Lecompton to just east of Lawrence. *To be assigned to a party birders must contact compiler Galen Pittman well before Count Day*— **before December 1 is best**. See below for contact information.

Who can join in? All birders, from experts to total beginners, are welcome. In fact, the CBC is one of the best ways to improve your birding skills. Contact Galen <u>BEFORE</u> the count so that he can put you into a party, and so that the count circle gets the best possible coverage. **In addition to "in the field participants", feeder watchers are also needed.** If you have a bird feeder (within the count circle) that you can watch for some part of the day on December 15th, then you can participate and have your birds included in the grand total. Feeder watchers should also contact the compiler sometime <u>before</u> count day.

Results: At the end of the day all participants are invited to enjoy a chili supper and tally of the day's results. This year's compilation dinner will be held at the Baker Wetlands Discovery Center, 1365 N, 1250 Rd. (<u>http://www.bakeru.edu/wetlands</u>). The Lawrence CBC is an official NAS CBC so results are reported to NAS and included in the national CBC database.

Benefit to you: If you are a newer birder, you will be paired with experienced birders. You will have a great day of comradery, birds and learning. A day in the field doing a CBC is always highly anticipated and has become a holiday season tradition for many local birders. If you know a birder that has been on the count in the past, s/he is a good resource to learn what the Lawrence CBC is all about. ~ Galen L. Pittman, Lawrence CBC compiler

Contact Galen by early December by texting him at (785)760-3572 or via e-mail: <u>galenpitt@gmail.com</u>.

Some birds you have a good chance of seeing on a CBC. Top: Red-shouldered Hawks. By John James Audubon.

See them in color on the website



Yellow-rumped Warbler. By Jim Bresnahan.



November is busy, but maybe you can break for one of these events.

11/6: **VOTE!!!**

- 11/7: <u>Climate Change & the Tallgrass Prairie</u>. 7pm. Lawrence Public Library. GHF. <u>grasslandheritage@gmail.com</u> to rsvp and ?
- 11/9: <u>Discovery Day: North & South Poles</u>. KU Natural Hist. Museum. 10 am—12 pm. <u>https://biodiversity.ku.edu/</u>
- 11/10: <u>KU Field Station Frolic</u>. 9:30 am. Fun Run Fundraiser at the field station. \$26.95. Contact: <u>sheenap@ku.edu</u>
- 11/11: Hidden Valley Work Day. 1-4 pm. Cocoa, S'mores, friendship. To RSVP and learn More: <u>durandi@sunflower.com</u>
- 11/13: <u>KUNHM Collections up Close: Ornithology</u>. See stored specimens. 11:30am-1 pm.
 NOTE: Takes place at the Kansas Union.
- 11/14: <u>Public meeting on the SLT Environmental</u> <u>Impact Statement</u>. 5-7pm. Southwest Middle School. <u>info@slt-ks.org</u>
- 12/2: Discovery Day: Wildlife Conservation. 1-3pm. KUNHM.

AND Keep an eye on the Baker Wetlands FB page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/BakerWetlands/</u> for events at the Discovery Center and outside!

Project FeederWatch Starts 11/10

Project FeederWatch turns your love of feeding birds into scientific discoveries. FeederWatch is a winter-long survey of birds that visit feeders in North America. You count the birds at your feeders and send the counts to Project FeederWatch. Your counts help you track happenings in your own backyard and help scientists track long-term trends in bird distribution and abundance. To join Project FeederWatch visit: https://feederwatch.org/

People of all skill levels do FeederWatch, You can count birds as often as every week, or as infrequently as you like: the schedule is completely flexible. All you need is a bird feeder, bird bath, or plantings that attract birds.

New FeederWatchers are sent a research kit, instructions, a bird identification poster, calendar, and more. You provide the seed and feeder(s). Another perk is access to the digital version of *Living Bird*, the Cornell Lab's award-winning magazine.

The annual FeederWatch participation fee is \$18 (\$15 for Cornell Lab members). The fee covers materials, staff support, web design, data analysis, and the year-end report. Without your support, this project would not be possible.

~ From the Project FeederWatch website

Birding Field Trips

- 11/17: <u>Smoky Hills Audubon Sanctuary & James-</u> <u>Town Reservoir.</u> For details see: <u>http://</u> <u>www.topekaaudubonsociety.org/calendar</u>
- 11/17: <u>Miami & Linn Counties.</u> For details see: <u>http://burroughs.org/its-free/field-trips-</u> <u>programs/</u> Burroughs Audubon.
- 11/24: Loess Bluffs NWR. JAS joint trip with University Women's Club Birding Group. Details on the listserv and FB later. Or contact Jim Bresnahan: 785-766-9625 or jbresnahan@ku.edu
- 12/1: Johnson County. See TAS website above.
- 12/8: <u>Bird Lyon, Coffey & Osage Counties</u> See Burroughs Audubon website above.

Purple Finch Hotspot Shared!

Purple Finches can be tough to find, but Jeff Hansen of Topeka Audubon reported seeing them in a forgotten place in late October: "Yesterday I was walking the road at the old Menninger property in Topeka. I'd forgotten how many pine trees are there. Today I went back to the trees to look at the cones and the cones are open and you can see the seeds. I really think that's what the purple finches were after. Today a Cooper's Hawk scared a bunch of birds out of these trees. This campus has such great habitat: lots of open country, lots of weedy habitat, lots of dead trees. I had a Mockingbird today and I rarely see those in Topeka proper. To access the property park at the KDWPT office on North Wanamaker and walk in. You cannot drive into the property. I also saw pine siskins near the wildlife and parks office." From KSBIRDS listerv. To subscribe:

https://listserv.ksu.edu/ksbird-l.html



Jayhawk Audubon Society **Pre-order Form**

Early Winter Bird Seed, Book & Feeder Sale The JAS Fall Bird Seed Sale is Saturday December 8, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Trinity Lutheran Fellowship Hall, 1245 New Hampshire St., Lawrence, Kansas

SEED TYPE	SIZE	PRICE	QUANT.	TOTAL	
Black Oil Sunflower	10 lbs	\$ 8.00			
	25 lbs	\$16.00			
	50 lbs	\$28.00			
NEW PREMIUM BLEND	10 lbs	\$10.00			
(45% black oil and 45% safflower	25 lbs	\$20.00			
& 10% sunflower chips)	50 lbs	\$34.00			
Economy Blend	10 lbs	\$ 6.00			
(20% black oil sunflower seed,	25 lbs	\$12.00			
40% cracked corn & 40% millet)	50 lbs	\$19.00			
Sunflower Chips	10 lbs	\$16.00			
	25 lbs	\$32.00			
Niger Thistle	10 lbs	\$22.00			
	25 lbs	\$46.00			
Finch Mix (50% sunflower chips	10 lbs	\$18.00			
& 50% Niger thistle)	25 lbs	\$38.00			
Safflower	10 lbs	\$ 11.00			
	25 lbs	\$22.00			
White Millet	10 lbs	\$ 5.00			<u>Name</u> :
	25 lbs	\$10.00			
	50 lbs	\$16.00			<u>Address</u> :
Red Millet	10 lbs	\$ 6.00			
	25 lbs	\$13.00			
	50 lbs	\$22.00			
Shelled Peanuts	10 lbs	\$17.00			
	25 lbs	\$38.00			<u>Phone</u> :
Ear Corn	Dozen	\$ 6.00			
Cracked Corn	25 lbs	\$ 9.00			<u>Email</u> :
	50 lbs	\$16.00			
Suet Cake	11 oz	\$ 1.50			

Please return form by December 4, 2018 to Linda Lips, P. O. Box 1285, Lawrence, KS 66044-8285 Delivery is available to senior citizens and persons with disabilities. Please call in advance. (785)766-3567 Page 6



Jayhawk Audubon Society Early Winter Bird Seed, Book & Feeder Sale December 8, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Trinity Lutheran Fellowship Hall, 1245 New Hampshire St., Lawrence, KS

This is the second bird seed sale of the bird-feeding season. Stock up on Audubon bird seed and plan to browse through our wonderful selection of books, bird feeders, and birding field guides.

Pre-Orders must be received by December 4, 2018 Make check payable to: Jayhawk Audubon Society. Return Pre-Order Form by December 4, 2018 to Linda Lips, P. O. Box 1285, Lawrence, KS 66044-8285. Call or Text Linda Lips at (785) 766-3567

Pick up your seed on Saturday, December 8, between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. at the Trinity Lutheran Fellowship Hall located at 1245 New Hampshire Street.

Proceeds of our bird seed, feeders and book sales and our other fund-raising activities, go toward supporting the educational and conservation projects of the JAS.

Bird Seed Sale Product Descriptions:

Black Oil Sunflower Seeds are the best seeds to offer wild birds. Over 40 different bird species are known to eat black oil sunflower seeds. The oil content (over 40%) makes this seed especially good food for birds. They should be the primary component of any bird feeding project, comprising at least 75% of the seeds you offer.

Premium Blend is our mixture of 45% black oil sunflower, 45% safflower, and 10% sunflower chips, which is very popular with a large number of bird species.

Economy Blend is less expensive but still attractive to many species. It is our mixture of 20% black oil sunflower seed, 40% cracked corn, and 40% white millet.

Niger Thistle and Sunflower Seed Chips are both attractive to finches and pine siskins. Both are excellent for finch feeders.

Finch Mix is an option for finch feeders. It consists of 50% Niger thistle and 50% sunflower seed chips.

Safflower has become an increasingly popular bird food because it is excellent for cardinals, rose-breasted grosbeaks, chickadees, nuthatches, mourning doves, house finches and white-throated sparrows. House sparrows and starlings don't seem to like it, though! Even squirrels don't eat safflower seeds.

White and Red Millet is highly desired by wild birds like bobwhites, cardinals, doves, purple finches, juncos, and native sparrows (i.e. chipping, fox, song, tree, white-throated), towhees, turkeys, grackles, blue jays and pheasants. White millet can be scattered on the ground or offered in cylindrical or tray feeders near the ground.



By Catharine Clark. http://www.birdwatchersgeneralstore.com/

Suet is chopped or ground animal fat (generally beef) that may be mixed with birdseed and/or peanut butter. Woodpeckers, chickadees, brown creepers, and nuthatches (among other birds) particularly enjoy suet. Because suet will melt and quickly turn rancid in temperatures above 70°F, it is generally offered only during the winter months.

Peanuts are a popular bird food for many of the same birds that eat black oil sunflower seeds. Special bird feeders may be required.

Cracked Corn is eaten by many of the birds listed above, including some "undesirables" such as house sparrows, brown-headed cowbirds, and starlings. It can be mixed with white millet and scattered on the ground during fall and spring for feeding migrant sparrows, juncos and other ground-feeding birds.



Thoreau and the Language of Trees

By Richard Higgins Reviewed by McKay Stangler

Henry David Thoreau—legendary writer, founding conservationist, and occasional misanthrope—is one of history's most quotable figures. Virtually every sentence he committed to paper could appear on a poster. (And, alas, *does* appear all too frequently; Thoreau has been coopted by the simplistic minds of the motivational-industrial complex.) One unexplored area of his work, though, has been his writing on our largest plants.

Thoreau and the Language of Trees, edited by Richard Higgins, aims to correct this oversight. It is one of a number of recent volumes that fills in some of Thoreau's non-Walden pursuits. We have also seen *Thoreau's Wildflowers* and *Thoreau's Animals*, as well as *The Boatman*, which focuses on his exploration and conservation of his beloved Concord River.

Part of the problem with writing about trees is that they are so often overlooked, or at least taken for granted. We might pull over to get a glimpse of a wildflower, but how many among us can identify more than a dozen tree species? Trees, deservedly, get plenty of attention during the spring bloom and the autumn turning, but for my money trees are most beautiful in the winter, when their spiraling complexity is revealed in their leafless state.

Thoreau's writing on trees is just as stunning and finely wrought as the best portions of *Walden* and his famous journals. One of his great skills was to make nature seem relatable to us—to render it *part* of our experience, not *separate from* that experience. Consider this 1860 excerpt: "I am struck by the fact that the more slowly trees grow at first, the sounder they are at the core, and I think that the same is true of human beings... better if [children] expand slowly at first, as if contending with difficulties, and so are solidified and perfected."

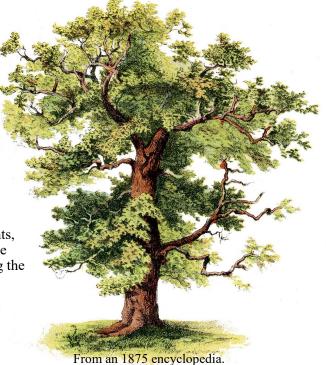
He was often delightfully childlike, reveling in the "beginner's mind" that children bring to an experience. He loved, for example, to climb the trees among which he wandered and about which he wrote. From his essay "Walking": "We hug the earth—how rarely we mount! Methinks we might elevate ourselves a little more. We might climb a tree, at least... The pines have developed their delicate blossoms on the highest twigs of the wood every summer for ages, yet scarcely a farmer or hunter in the land has ever seen them."

Throughout this volume, one is struck by how beautiful Thoreau's prose could be. From his 1840 journal: "It would be well if we saw ourselves as in perspective always, impressed with distinct outline on the sky, side by side with the shrubs on the river's brim. So let our life stand to heaven as some fair, sunlit tree against the western horizon, and by sunrise be planted on some eastern hill to glisten in the first rays of the sun."

Or this, from 1857, about pines: "Like great harps on which the wind makes music. There is no finer tree. The different stages of its soft glaucous foliage completely concealing the trunk and branches are separated by dark horizontal lines of shadows, the flakes of pine foliage, like a pile of light fleeces." Or this, from *Wild Fruits*, about noticing what is around your home rather than glorifying distant beauty: "There may be the most beautiful landscapes in the world within a dozen miles of us, for aught we know—for their inhabitants do not value nor perceive them, and so have not made them known to others... I do not believe that there is a town in this country which realizes in what its true wealth consists."

Do we realize it? Do we know our true wealth? We hang nature calendars and marvel at the glories of Yellowstone, but we take for granted a sunset over Clinton Lake. We delight in autumnal tints, but how many of us walk ignorantly past those same trees the rest of the year? As always, Thoreau is the patron saint of *noticing*: of truly seeing the beauty around you.

"Look up at the tree tops and see how finely Nature finishes off her work there," he writes. "See how the pines spire without end higher and higher, and make a graceful fringe to the earth."



Jayhawk Audubon Society P.O. Box 3741 Lawrence, KS 66046 Nonprofit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Lawrence, KS Permit No. 201

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Become a Member: Just \$20 to join both National Audubon and Jayhawk Chapter.

<u>National Audubon Society membership is \$20.00</u>. Members receive four issues per year of the Audubon magazine and will be enlisted as members of the Jayhawk Chapter. All members also receive 9 issues of the JAS newsletter per year and are entitled to discounts on the books and feeders we sell to raise funds to support education and conservation projects. (Make your check payable to National Audubon Society and mail to our JAS membership chair at the address below. You may also join National Audubon online at https://secure.audubon.org/site/Donation2? df_id=9431&9431.donation=form1&s_src=2015_AUDHP_topbanner-button-menu.)

Chapter-only membership to Jayhawk Audubon Society is <u>\$10.00</u>. (Make check payable to Jayhawk Audubon Society.) You will not receive the Audubon magazine. Those with National Audubon memberships are encouraged to support the chapter by voluntarily paying these dues. Chapter membership expires annually in July. JAS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations are tax deductible.

To join or donate to Audubon of	Kansas make check payable to AOK	or use this online link - <u>http://</u>
www.audubonofkansas.org/joindonate/		-

Please send this completed form and your check to JAS Membership Chairs at the following address:

Wayne Kennedy, 1308 Crosswinds CT. #1 Lawrence KS 66046. E-mail contact: <u>w.a.k.e.n.n.z@gmail.com</u>.

Name	; Address	;
City	; State ; ZIP Code (9) digit ;	
Telephone (with Area Code)		
Email address		
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