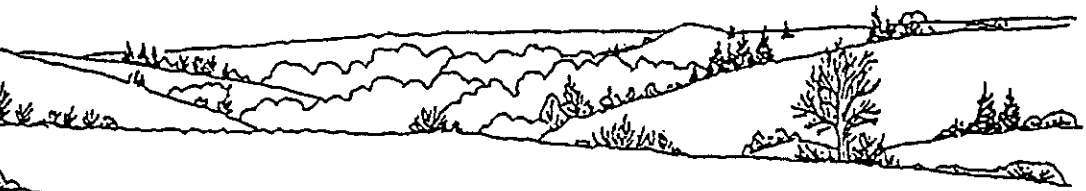


10/10/01



# nature notes



Journal of Webster Groves Nature Study Society

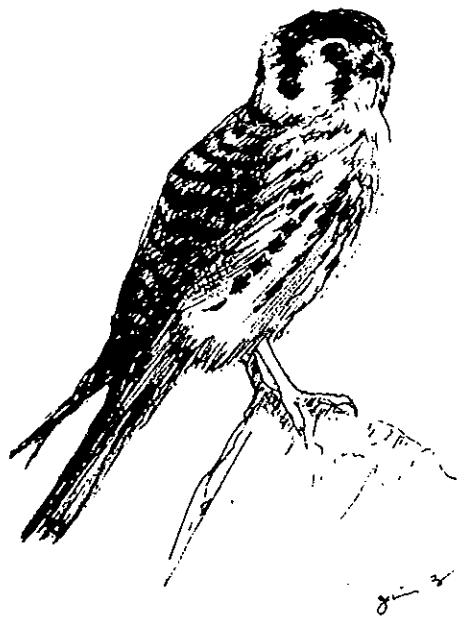
June 2001 Vol. 73, No. 6

## Ode to a Sparrow

Anne McCormack

In the weedy field next to the shorebird area at Busch a Sparrow Scavenger Hunt was in progress on May 12, complete with cheering teams. Paul Bauer and Rad Widmer were doing the St. Charles County count for International Migration Day when our Big Day team joined them. They had found a treasure trove of LBJ's—little brown jobs. We ran like Sylvesters after Tweety Bird, and were rewarded great looks at Henslow's Sparrow. As we listened to its hiccupy song, both Marsh and Sedge Wrens rocketed past. A Lincoln's Sparrow zipped above the grass just before a LeConte's scuttled below. Then, as our binoculars ranneth over, up jumped a colorful Sharp-tailed Sparrow.

There are always great sights and sounds on Big Day. Jean Cook spotted a Mississippi Kite through the sunroof of their SUV. David Becher's group heard a Chuck-will's-widow from the parking lot of the LaSalle Institute in Wildwood. Even better was their sighting of three adult Yellow-crowned Night Herons flying over the golf course on Collinsville Rd., Ill. As night fell at Marais Temps Clair, our group watched a raccoon snoozing in the Y of a tree. *continued on page 2*



Composite total..206!

'00 .....	185
'99 .....	190
'98 .....	177
'97 .....	195
'96 .....	195
'95 .....	188
'94 .....	179
'93 .....	164
'90 .....	193
'86 .....	180

Our day, May 12, may have been a little late—Randy Korotev's data from Forest Park predicts May 8 as the peak of migration. Migrants were scarce as hen's teeth.

Between the flood and the drought, shorebirds were hard to come by. With rainfall 4.5" below normal for this time of year, there were very few puddles for shorebirds. At the same time, conditions upriver flooded the Mississippi, leaving no muddy margins for the little guys. So with all our complaining and desperation, **how did we do so well?** One-hundred-thirty-three species of birds have been recorded by at least one time every year for the past five. We recorded them all.

**Seven species were added** this year to the composite compared to Big Day '00:

- ✓ Am. White Pelican
- ✓ Least Bittern
- ✓ Lesser Scaup
- ✓ Black-bellied Plover
- ✓ Least Flycatcher
- ✓ Marsh Wren
- ✓ Blue-headed (Solitary) Vireo

Add to that an amazing **5 species never seen before on any Big Day** since I began my database in '92. A possible first-year Lesser Black-backed Gull, gorging itself on a fish carcass at Riverlands would have made six if its markings had been more distinct. A beautiful **Glossy Ibis** joined a few peeps at a pond in Pontoon Beach, Illinois—about a mile north of Horseshoe Lake State Park on 111. A

**Northern Harrier** dived into the marsh grass, just ahead of a mob of Red-winged Blackbirds at Marais Temps Clair. Birders who went to the Casino Queen in East St. Louis hit the jackpot with a **Painted Bunting**—probably the same record-breaking pair from last year. Some teams also got a Western Kingbird there. The **LeConte's** and **Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows** make five. It adds up to a record-breaking

total of 206 species seen by birders reporting on May 12, 2001.

*Disclaimer:* I consider myself a reporter, not a compiler. I have made no attempt to collect documentation as we would for a Christmas count. Big Day is just big fun! The composite list for all groups is on page 11. A special thank you to Mary Anne Auer, David Becher, Jim Malone, Margie Richardson, Kevin Renick and Bill Rowe for their help in compiling this list. ~

### *Ternvoats..... 150*

Nick Barber  
Joe Eades  
Jim Malone  
Dave Rougles

### *The Nighthawks 148*

Anne McCormack  
Tom Parmeter  
Kevin Renick  
Bill Rowe

### *Becher Group.... 146*

Mary Anne Auer  
Loy Barber  
David Becher  
Mike Brady  
Bob Kleiger

### *Coles Group..... 135*

Rose Ann Bodman  
Jackie Chain  
Dick Coles  
Jean Cook

### **The Sparrow**

Marie De L. Welch

The viewpoint of the Sparrow  
Is arrogant and narrow,  
He *knows* that he excels.  
He is selfishly obsessed;  
He would not give an ostrich best.  
His children leave the shells  
Puffed to the very marrow  
With pride at being Sparrows.

## Edna Rau

Marshall Magner

Edna Rau, a long-time member of the Webster Groves Nature Study, died April 29, 2001, at Charless Home.

She was born May 9, 1898, in St. Louis, the youngest of ten children.

She graduated in 1915 from Harris Teachers College with a Bachelor degree in Education, and later did graduate work at several other universities.

She started teaching elementary students in 1917, and continued in St. Louis until retirement in 1965. After retirement, she dedicated thousands of volunteer hours at Missouri Baptist Medical Center, and as a docent at DeMenil Mansion. She was an excellent artist.

My memories are of Edna from the 1930's. They include her constant interest in and love for children. She was always teaching in ways that children didn't realize. Regularly, she attended our general and various group meetings and field trips. It seemed she was interested in everything in the outside world. ~

## WGNSS Board Updates

David Rabenau

The Board of the Webster Groves Nature Study Society wishes to thank Linda Virga for her service on the Board as Membership Chairperson for the past five years. She wrote that she found her participation on the Board interesting and often fun. Even still, WGNSS is fortunate to have Board members like Linda, giving their time and effort. Thank you, Linda, for your service since 1996! Linda will be serving on the St. Louis Chapter of NABA and we wish her well.

At its May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, the Board appointed Diane Benjamin as the new Membership Chairperson. We thank Diane for her willingness to serve. Welcome, Diane! The Board also appointed Nancy Totland of

the Nature Conservancy to a Member-at-Large position. And, as reported earlier, Vicki Flier has taken on the responsibilities of being an Ornithology Co-Chair. Finally, last but not least, at its April General meeting, WGNSS elected Randy Korotev for another term as Treasurer and Debbie Littmann as Secretary. ~

## WGNSS Announces Annual University Scholarship Winners

David Rabenau

The WGNSS Scholarship Committee (Dick Coles, Marjorie Richardson, Dottie Herweg, Barbara Elftman, Marshall Magner, and Mike Flieg) is pleased to announce the winners of this year's WGNSS scholarships: The Mickey Scudder Scholarship in Field Biology has been awarded to Elma Kay of St. Louis University for "Pollination of the Greater Antillean Passionflower, *Passiflora penduliflora*, by the Greater Antillean Long-Tongued Bat, *Monophyllus redmani*."

The Menke Scholarship for Wildlife Habitat has been awarded to Tracy A. Green of the University of Missouri-Columbia for "Dispersal of Salamanders through Fragmented Landscapes."

The Scholarship Committee received numerous scholarship applications, all of excellent quality, and is to be commended for all of their hard work that went into the selection process. Thank you to our committee members, and congratulations to our scholarship recipients! ~

## Lifetime Achievement Award for John Molyneaux

The following is a printed version of the remarks written by Pat McCormick and given by David Rabenau at the WGNSS 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Banquet in honor of John Molyneaux.

With this Webster Groves Nature Study Lifetime Achievement Award, we are

pleased to honor John Molyneaux. John's interest in botany and photography brought him to the Tuesday outings of the WGNSS Botany Group after his retirement. Nell Menke, a long-time Botany Group member, encouraged John's participation. With her invitation John joined their number and has been with us ever since.

Nell believed that if you're going to play you have to pay. Her basement was the print shop for our journal, *Nature Notes*. Once each month from August to May her crew assembled to print the journal on an old mimeograph machine. They would then assemble and address it for mailing. John's introduction to *Nature Notes* production was a challenge from Nell Menke, "Here, John, you take care of this," she said and handed him the ink roller from the old mimeograph machine. The roller was a drum bathed in printing fluid, which inked the master copy. As a crank was turned the individual pages were rolled out one at a time. John became custodian and curator of the roller until the old machine was retired by a personal computer. The machine was a cantankerous antique when WGNSS inherited it.

But John was a Boy Scout and scouts persevere. The Boy Scouts of America recently honored him for 75 years of dedicated service. Just think of many boys were encouraged to enjoy life outdoors in a natural setting by John's long career as a scout, scoutmaster, and commissioner.

John has served us well as well. He was President of WGNSS from 1981-83. With his good friend, Karen Haller, he produced two slide programs called "Tramping Tuesday's Turf," documenting botany group excursions. A WGNSS board member continuously he has carried many responsibilities. As Conservation Chairperson he kept up a stream of correspondence with senators, governors, representatives, and presidents on many issues from forest preservation in the Ozarks to opposing the Corp of

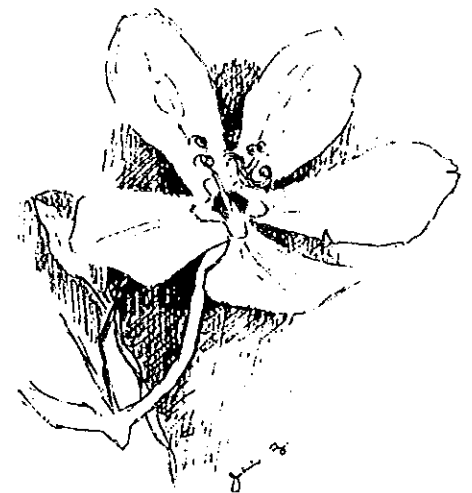
Engineers rebuilding of the Mississippi River.

When St. Louis County Parks wanted to establish St. Louis County Natural Heritage Parks at Cliff Cave Park, Pelican Island Park, St. Stanislaus Park, Greensfelder Park and Queeny Park, John and Karen Haller joined the campaign producing wild flower slide talks and leading wildflower walks to further these efforts.

In January of 1996 John took part in a presentation of streamside wildflowers slides for a WGNSS general meeting. This program supported the campaign for the Natural Streams Act.

And John has enjoyed rare moments in life when one's interests, experience, and joy all converge. He shared such a moment with retired biology teacher and botany group guru, Art Christ, and fellow photographer-botanist, Karen Haller. On a trip to an Ozark fen they found, photographed and documented a plant no one had ever seen in Missouri, an *anemone quinquefolia*. Every wildflower enthusiast's dream, to find a plant no one else has seen!

From Ozark fen to board meetings John has given long and valued service on our behalf. We salute you, John, for a lifetime of achievement. Please accept this wildflower photo taken in Washington State Park by Walter Liddell. Congratulations, John. ~





## Conservation Report

Yvonne Homeyer

Cerulean Warbler: WGNSS has received a special use permit from the Department of Conservation to expand its Lost Valley Trail Breeding Bird Survey into the area of Weldon Spring C.A. where the logging is taking place. Ceruleans have returned to Lost Valley Trail and Castlewood, the two known breeding locations in the St. Louis area. They have also been found at Tyson Research Center and Meramec State Park. Please continue to report any sightings of these birds to Jim Ziebol (314-781-7372). The National Audubon Society, Sierra Club and 24 other organizations petitioned the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service last fall to have this bird listed as "Threatened." The petition got caught in the self-imposed moratorium declared by the FWS which put all pending petitions on hold for one year.

Proposed Holnam Cement Plant: As a result of efforts by WGNSS and other organizations, Governor Bob Holden has written to the Corps of Engineers and asked that the Corps prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Holnam project. Holnam wants to build the largest cement plant in the United States, and one of the largest in the world, just 31 miles south of St. Louis in Jefferson & Ste. Genevieve Counties. U.S. Senator Dick Durbin (Ill.) has made a similar request to the Corps of Engineers (thanks to Kathy Andria, American Bottom Conservancy). State Sen. Wayne Goode and State Rep. Barbara Fraser have also asked the Corps to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (thanks to Margaret Gilleo). The American Lung Association of Eastern Missouri wrote to Gov. Holden expressing concerns about air quality and public health if the Holnam cement plant were built. As a result of the efforts of John Karel, two organizations of which he is a board member have passed resolutions against the proposed Holnam

project: the Missouri Parks Association, a statewide group, and Les Amis, a St. Louis-based group which promotes the French cultural heritage of Ste. Genevieve.

Local residents opposed to the Holnam cement plant and quarry are beginning to organize and be heard. Environmental/conservation organizations such as WGNSS, Sierra Club (Mo. and Ill.), American Bottom Conservancy, Coalition for the Environment, MoPIRG, Herpetological Society, St. Louis Audubon Society, and Missouri Audubon continue to work together. Maxine Lipeles of the Environmental Law Clinic of Washington University and her student team have provided invaluable assistance on this project. In the face of all this opposition, Holnam has hired a PR firm and a local consultant in Ste. Genevieve. Meanwhile, Holnam's applications to the Corps for permits under the Clean Water Act and to Mo. DNR for an air permit and a quarry permit remain pending before those two agencies.

Bird Conservation Initiative: Dianne Benjamin, Mark Peters and Yvonne Homeyer attended the April 21 organizational workshop for WGNSS, while former WGNSS president Sue Gustafson represented St. Louis Audubon Society. (Sue is now on their board as Conservation Chairperson). Many organizations and agencies offering diverse viewpoints attended the meeting, which was hosted by Mo. Dept. of Conservation in Jefferson City and co-sponsored by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Dianne volunteered to serve on the committee that is planning the next meeting. The Missouri initiative is part of the North American Bird Conservation Initiative, which includes Partners in Flight and other national groups.

Email List: Over the summer, I will keep people updated by email on developments related to Holnam and any other major issue that may arise. If you are not cur-

rently receiving emails from me and would like to be added to my list, please email me at: [homeyer@earthlink.net](mailto:homeyer@earthlink.net) and I will put you on my distribution list. ∞

## Ornithology Meetings

Vicki Flier

The schedule for the rest of the summer's meeting is June 17—bird nest identification, July 29, August 19 and September 23.

These are all on Sunday and will start at 4:00 PM. We will have different topics each month for discussion plus guest speakers. Bring a dish and join the fun while we increase our birding skills. For more information call Vicki Flier at 314-968-9166 or e-mail [RRVVCC@AOL.com](mailto:RRVVCC@AOL.com) Everyone is invited. ∞

## *tyson nature line*

Call 935-8432 for a summary of the latest bird sightings in the St. Louis area. Please report any unusual birds to Connie Alwood, 524-8111. ∞

## April 2001 Bird Report

Jim Ziebol & Yvonne Homeyer

Abbreviations:

BCA = Busch Wildlife Area

CL = Carlyle Lake

FP = Forest Park

HL = Horseshoe Lake

Lost Valley Trail = LVT

MTNWR = Mark Twain Nat. Wildlife Refuge

MTC = Marais Temps Clair

REDA = Riverlands

TGP = Tower Grove Park

*Introduction:* The land-bird migration this spring has been very slow and quiet. Many people commented on how quiet it was in the parks. The Cypress Circle of TGP has been notably empty. Earlier in the month, though, Harris's Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow and Clay-colored Sparrow were seen in exceptional numbers.

## Early Arrival Dates:

- 4/2 Caspian Tern
- 4/3 Northern Parula, Black-and-white Warbler
- 4/4 Wood Thrush
- 4/5 Whip-poor-will
- 4/6 Chimney Swift, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Chipping Sparrow
- 4/7 Solitary Sandpiper
- 4/8 Prothonotary Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Cliff Swallow
- 4/9 Bank Swallow, Nashville Warbler, Ovenbird
- 4/10 Green Heron, Blue-winged Warbler
- 4/11 White-eyed Vireo, Hooded Warbler
- 4/13 Scarlet Tanager, Red-eyed Vireo, Orange-crowned Warbler, Dunlin, Least Sandpiper
- 4/14 Forster's Tern, House Wren, Eastern Kingbird, Warbling Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Cerulean Warbler, Black-throated Green, Palm, Yellow, Kentucky, Northern Waterthrush, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole
- 4/15 Henslow's Sparrow
- 4/16 Spotted Towhee
- 4/18 Yellow-headed Blackbird, Ruby-throated Hummingbird
- 4/19 Lark Sparrow
- 4/20 Swainson's Thrush, Gray Catbird, Chuck-will's-widow
- 4/21 American Bittern, Grasshopper Sparrow, Baird's Sandpiper, Blue Grosbeak, Great-crested Flycatcher
- 4/22 Virginia Rail, Lincoln's Sparrow
- 4/23 Least Flycatcher, Summer Tanager, Indigo Bunting, Golden-winged Warbler
- 4/24 Am. Redstart, Willet, Short-billed Dowitcher
- 4/25 Blackpoll, Acadian Flycatcher
- 4/26 Chestnut-sided Warbler, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Sandhill Crane, Blue-headed (Solitary) Vireo, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Mississippi Kite
- 4/29 Philadelphia Vireo
- 4/30 Black-billed Cuckoo



**Sightings:** Two breeding and one non-breeding Common Loons were seen at HL on 4/1 (DB). On 4/14, Tom Bormann found 3 Eared Grebes and 3 Forster's Terns there. A Glossy Ibis was located at Little Creve Coeur Marsh on 4/27 (Carol Hatton). The Malones found the first Am. Bittern on 4/21 at the Shorebird Area of BCA. A Cattle Egret is always a good find at BCA, and one was seen there on 4/29 (D Bz, YH). On 4/13, the Solodars found 80 N. Shovelers, over 100 Blue-winged Teal, 40 Mallards, 10 Gadwall, and a Vesper Sparrow at Little Creve Coeur Marsh, where the habitat is improving. On 4/8 and 4/9, 400-500 Lesser Golden Plovers were observed at REDA (DB, KL). Jeannie Moe found 1000 Pectoral Sandpipers, about 1000 Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, plus 10 Solitary Sandpipers, at Harbor Point on 4/13. One thousand Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs and Least Sandpiper, Pectoral, Dunlin and a few Pipits in nearby fields, were seen at CL on 4/13 (DK). Doug Corbett found Baird's Sandpiper at REDA on 4/21. There were 4 White-rumped Sandpipers located there on 4/30 (IH). On 4/23, 21 Short-billed Dowitchers and 2 Semipalmated Plovers were observed at REDA (IH). The Solodars found Willets and Short-billed Dowitchers at REDA on 4/24. On 4/26, there were 2 Dunlin and Semipalmated Plovers at the old Collinsville Road golf course (G&TB). Two Laughing Gulls were seen at CL on 4/22 (DK) and 1 was observed at REDA on 4/23 (IH). ). On 4/19, 10 Sora were spotted at Little Creve Coeur Marsh (Mike Nolan) and two Sora were seen at BCA on 4/22 (P&BJ). On 4/29, a Virginia Rail and an American Bittern were seen at BCA (MAA). Jack Foley saw a Mississippi Kite on 4/29. A Goshawk was seen at Busch on 4/15 being actively pursued by a Cooper's Hawk (JZ, m. ob.), and another was seen in Edwardsville on 4/16 (J Mo) and one was at HL on 4/18 (FH). Osprey sightings included: one car-

rying an ornamental goldfish on 4/7 (MAA), 1 at MTNWR on 4/7 (IM), and 2 at Dresser Island on 4/17 (IH). On 4/14, Sharp-shinned Hawks were observed at Castlewood SP, LVT, TGP and BCA (m. ob.). On 4/10, Dennis Bozzay found Sharp-shinned, Cooper's, Red-shouldered, and Broad-winged Hawks, plus 2 Barred Owls and Blue-winged Warbler, at Hilda Young CA. Mike Brady observed a Swainson's Hawk at Castlewood SP on 4/26. Paul & Barbara Johnson saw a Broad-winged Hawk and Worm-eating Warbler at Castlewood on 4/18 and a Red-shouldered Hawk feeding a snake to 3 young at Shaw Nature Preserve on 4/21. On 4/27, Marc Lund found a Sandhill Crane at REDA (m. ob.; photo, Paul Bauer).

Jim Jackson saw a Eurasian Collared Dove at MTC on 4/20. Two Whip-poor-wills were reported at TGP: one on 4/5 (JC) and one on 4/20 (RAB). Ian Hunt found a Chuck-will's-widow at TGP on 4/20. A Loggerhead Shrike, rarely seen any more, was seen in St. Charles County on 4/17. (IH). The first Chimney Swift was reported by Frank Holmes at his home in Madison Co. on 4/6. The Barkers saw a House Wren and Great Crested Flycatcher at TGP on 4/21. Don and Cheryl Delashmit reported the return of a pair of Bewick's Wrens to their home in Franklin Co. on 4/18. Winter Wrens were observed throughout the month at TGP. (RAB). On 4/24, Sedge Wren and Vesper Sparrow were located at BCA. (IH). A late Brown Creeper was seen at TGP on 4/24 (P&BJ). A very early Wood Thrush was seen at Emmenegger Park on 4/4 (RG). A Wood Thrush, Orange-crowned Warbler and 35 Ruby-crowned Kinglets were reported at TGP on 4/14 (IH). Lost Valley Trail was productive on 4/11, with 6 Yellow-throated Warblers, several N. Parulas, Louisiana Waterthrush, Black-and-white Warbler, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher and a Barred Owl dining on a mouse (YH, JZ,

video). Cerulean Warblers have been reported at LVT (P&BJ), Castlewood SP, Tyson (DColes), and Meramec SP (Bill Miles). Nick Barber saw a Bank Swallow, Nashville Warbler and Ovenbird at TGP on 4/9. On 4/14, Jackie Chain and the Saturday Group found Kentucky Warbler at TGP and Palm Warbler at HL. Hooded Warbler and White-eyed Vireo were observed at Rockwoods on 4/11 (J Mo). On 4/22, Hooded and Prairie Warblers were seen at TGP. (SW). Worm-eating and Prothonotary Warblers, plus a Barred Owl, were located at Castlewood on 4/7 (MT, MAA). Randy Korotev found 19 warbler species at Forest Park between 4/20 and 4/23, including one male Cerulean and a Prothonotary. The Thursday Group observed 2 Scarlet Tanagers at TGP on 4/19. A Spotted Towhee made an appearance at TGP on 4/16 (NB, BK, G&TB).

A Chipping Sparrow was seen at Tyson on 4/6 (Jane Walker). Henslow's Sparrows have returned to BCA for the second year in a row, but it is too early to know if they will stay to breed there as they did last year. Three Henslow's were found by Paul Dunbar on 4/14, 4 were seen by Dave Becher on 4/21, and 10 were found by Jeannie Moe on 4/22, and several were seen on 4/28 by Anne McCormack and Kevin Renick. A Henslow's was also sighted at TGP on 4/26 (PD, Bob & Martha Gaddy, Jackie Chain, m. ob.). Clay-colored and LeConte's Sparrows were seen at BCA on 4/22 (MT, D. Rogles). On 4/19, 2 Lark Sparrows and 10 Sora were spotted at Little Creve Coeur Marsh (Mike Nolan). A Gambel's race of White-crowned Sparrow was filmed by Jim Ziebol along the South Levee Road on 4/19. On 4/8, 12 immature Harris's Sparrows were found at Weldon Spring (MT, MAA, SW). Clay-colored Sparrow, two adult Harris's Sparrows, Swamp, Lincoln and White-crowned were observed in and near BCA (AM, KR). Dan Kassebaum found a Smith's Longspur near CL on 4/21. An early Rose-


breasted Grosbeak was spotted at Hunter's Ford (DR). Blue Grosbeak was seen in Forest Park (RK) and at LVT (DCorbett) on 4/22. On 4/23, at TGP, Indigo Bunting, Summer Tanager, Least Flycatcher, Rose-breasted Grosbeak and a record early Golden-winged Warbler were seen (JC, RAB, Gail Ahumada). On 4/28, 20 species of warblers, including Blackburnian, were seen in TGP, along with Blue-headed Vireo (m. ob.). Randy Korotev found a record bird for Forest Park: a *Bobolink* seen there on 4/28. Several Bobolinks were observed along Powers Road on 4/30 (CA, m. ob.). Ian Hunt saw 5 Rusty Blackbirds at REDA on 4/6 and he also found a male Yellow-headed Blackbird at Spanish Lake Park on 4/18. Lou Hanes had a Yellow-headed Blackbird at his home.

*Comments:* The Neotropical Cormorant reported last month should have been a Double-crested Cormorant. Jack Harris observed a Cooper's Hawk in his yard and Ron Goetz found a pair nesting at Powder Valley. Backyard birds at Wilma Kennell's included Blue-winged Warbler with Ruby-crowned Kinglets on 4/13, White-eyed Vireo on 4/18 and 2 Nashvilles and 1 Ovenbird on 4/25. The Catbirds that have nested in her yard also returned. Barbara Lawton found Great Egrets nesting in Simpson Park. Dennis Bozzay observed N. Waterthrush, Nashville and Ruby-throated Hummingbird (bathing in the spray of the hose held in his hand) at his yard on 4/30 Doug Corbett found a Brewster's Warbler at LVT on 4/20. Nick Barber observed Palm, Orange-crowned, Summer Tanager and Peregrine Falcon the week on 4/15 on the SLU campus. Mike Thelen reported that David Rogles and the New Melle Fire Dept. extinguished a fire near the Shorebird Area in BCA. Dick Coles reported nesting Red-shouldered Hawks and Broad-winged Hawks at his home in Eureka. Margie Richardson found a Winter Wren, Red-eyed



Vireo and Lincoln's Sparrow at her home. Both she and Sue Gustafson had a Prothonotary Warbler in their yards (rarely seen in urban areas).

*Contributors:* Connie Alwood, Mary Ann Auer, Bob Bailey, Nick Barber, George & Terry Barker, Paul Bauer, David Becher, Torrey Berger, Rose Ann Bodman, Tom Bormann, Dennis Bozzay, Viola Buchholtz, Jean Cook, Dick Coles, Doug Corbett, Paul Dunbar, Bob & Martha Gaddy, David Garcia, Ron Goetz, Frank Holmes, Yvonne Homeyer, Ian Hunt, Paul & Barbara Johnson, Dan Kassebaum, Bob Kleiger, Randy Korotev, Kent Lannert, Vivian Liddell, Carol Loewe, Marc Lund, Jim & Charlene Malone, Anne McCormack, Jeannie Moe, Irene Mondhink, David Rabenau, Kevin Renick, John Solodar, Mike Thelen, Steve Whitworth, Rad Widmer, Helen Wuestenfeld, Jim Ziebol, many observers. An asterisk means "documented." To submit a report, call Jim Ziebol (314-781-7372) or email Yvonne at [homeyer@earthlink.net](mailto:homeyer@earthlink.net) by the last day of the month. If you want to send photos or videos of birds reported, please mail them to Jim Ziebol, 3900 Berger, St. Louis, Mo. 63109. We will keep them on hand for future reference. ~

Next Deadline: Aug. 10   
Anne McCormack

Submissions—handwritten, typed, IBM or Mac to: Anne McCormack, 587 Andrews, St. Louis MO 63122-5722 or [mccormacka@earthlink.net](mailto:mccormacka@earthlink.net)

## Deadlines for *Nature Notes* '01

Marjorie Richardson

Mailing parties to send out mail *Nature Notes* start at 10 AM Oak Bend County Library and are usually over by noon. Any member who wishes to help is welcome.

### Dates for *NN* in 2001

10 AM Oak Bend Library, 842 S. Holmes Kirkwood

mailing party	deadline
Aug. 20	Aug. 10
Sept. 17	Sept. 7
Oct. 15	Oct. 5
Nov. 19	Nov. 9
Dec. 17	Dec. 7

### *tyson nature line*

Call 935-8432 for a summary of the latest bird sightings in the St. Louis area. Please report any unusual birds to Connie Alwood, 524-8111. ~

## Key to WGNSS Calendar

### birding field trip

each Thurs...call Dottie Herweg 314-966-2274  
most Sat (not June or July) .....  
..... call David Becher 314-576-1146

### board meeting

1<sup>st</sup> Wed 7 PM Sept.–May .....  
..... call David Rabenau 314-968-8128

### botany field trip

each Thurs. .... call Fr. Sullivan 314-291-7885

### conservation meeting

3<sup>rd</sup> Wed. .... call Yvonne Homeyer 314-963-7750

### entomology meeting

last Sun. .... call Marshall Magner 314-961-4588

### ornithology meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> to last Sun. .... call Vicki Flier at 314-968-9166  
or e-mail [RRVVCC@AOL.com](mailto:RRVVCC@AOL.com)

### general meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> Fri. 8 PM. .... call Doug Corbett 636-861-2829  
note: no meeting June, July, Aug.

### mailing party for *Nature Notes*

3<sup>rd</sup> Mon. (not June/July) 10 AM .....  
..... call Margie Richardson 314-965-8974

### **Nature Notes deadlines**

10 days prior to 3<sup>rd</sup> Mon. ....  
.....call Anne McCormack 314-965-8091  
no issue in June or July

### **membership expires/renewal due**

Aug. 31

### **Spring banquet**

Thursday, early May .....  
.....call Pat McCormick 636-825-2842

### **Big Day birding competition**

Usually 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. May

### **Webster Groves Nature Study Society**

The objectives of the society are: To stimulate interest in nature study on the part of adults and children to cooperate with other organizations in nature study to encourage amateur research in the natural sciences to promote conservation of wildlife and natural beauty. Open to all with an interest in nature.

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## **2000-2001 WGNSS Board**

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1<sup>st</sup> Vice Pres: Doug Corbett

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## Composite list for Big Day 5/12/01.

column 1

name	remarks 01
Pied-billed Grebe	marais temps clair
Am Wt Pelican	riverl-not seen since 98
Double-crested Cormorant	riverlands
Am Bittern	marais temps clair
Least Bittern	mtc-not seen since 93
Great Blue Heron	÷
Great Egret	÷
Snowy Egret	÷
Little Blue Heron	÷
Cattle Egret	÷
Green Heron	÷
Black-crwn Nt-Heron	÷
Yellow-crwn Nt-Heron	collinsville
Glossy Ibis	pontoon beach-new
Canada Goose	÷
Wood Duck	÷
Mallard	÷
Northern Pintail	riverlands
Blue-winged Teal	riverlands
Gadwall	riverlands
Ring-necked Duck	riverlands
Lesser Scaup	riverlds-not seen since 99
Hooded Merganser	riverlands
Ruddy Duck	riverlands
Turkey Vulture	÷
Mississippi Kite	tower grove
Northern Harrier	marais temps clair-new
Cooper's Hawk	busch
Red-shouldered Hawk	castlewood
Red-tailed Hawk	÷
Am Kestrel	÷
Ring-necked Pheasant	marais temps clair
Wild Turkey	÷
N Bobwhite	÷
Sora	eagle pk
Am Coot	÷
Black-bellied Plover	riverld-not seen since 97

## Composite list for Big Day 5/12/01.

column 2

name	remarks 01
Semipalmated Plover	pontoon beach
Killdeer	÷
Lesser Yellowlegs	busch
Spotted Sandpiper	busch
Hudsonian Godwit	riverlands-seen 00 97 94
Least Sandpiper	pontoon beach
White-rumped Sandpiper	pontoon beach
Baird's Sandpiper	pontoon beach
Pectoral Sandpiper	pontoon beach
Dunlin	riverld & st charles
Short-billed Dowitcher	riverlands
Long-billed Dowitcher	riverlands
American Woodcock	busch
Ring-billed Gull	riverlands
Herring Gull	riverlands
Lesser Black-backed Gull	riverlands-new
Common Tern	horseshoe lk
Forster's Tern	horseshoe lk
Black Tern	horseshoe lk
Rock Dove	÷
Mourning Dove	÷
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	busch
Great Horned Owl	÷
Barred Owl	÷
Common Nighthawk	busch
Chuck-will's-widow	wildwood
Whip-poor-will	busch
Chimney Swift	÷
Ruby-thr Hummingbird	÷
Belted Kingfisher	lost valley
Red-headed Woodpecker	katy trail
Red-bellied Woodpecker	÷
Downy Woodpecker	÷
Northern Flicker	÷
Pileated Woodpecker	busch
Eastern Wood-Pewee	busch
Acadian Flycatcher	lost valley

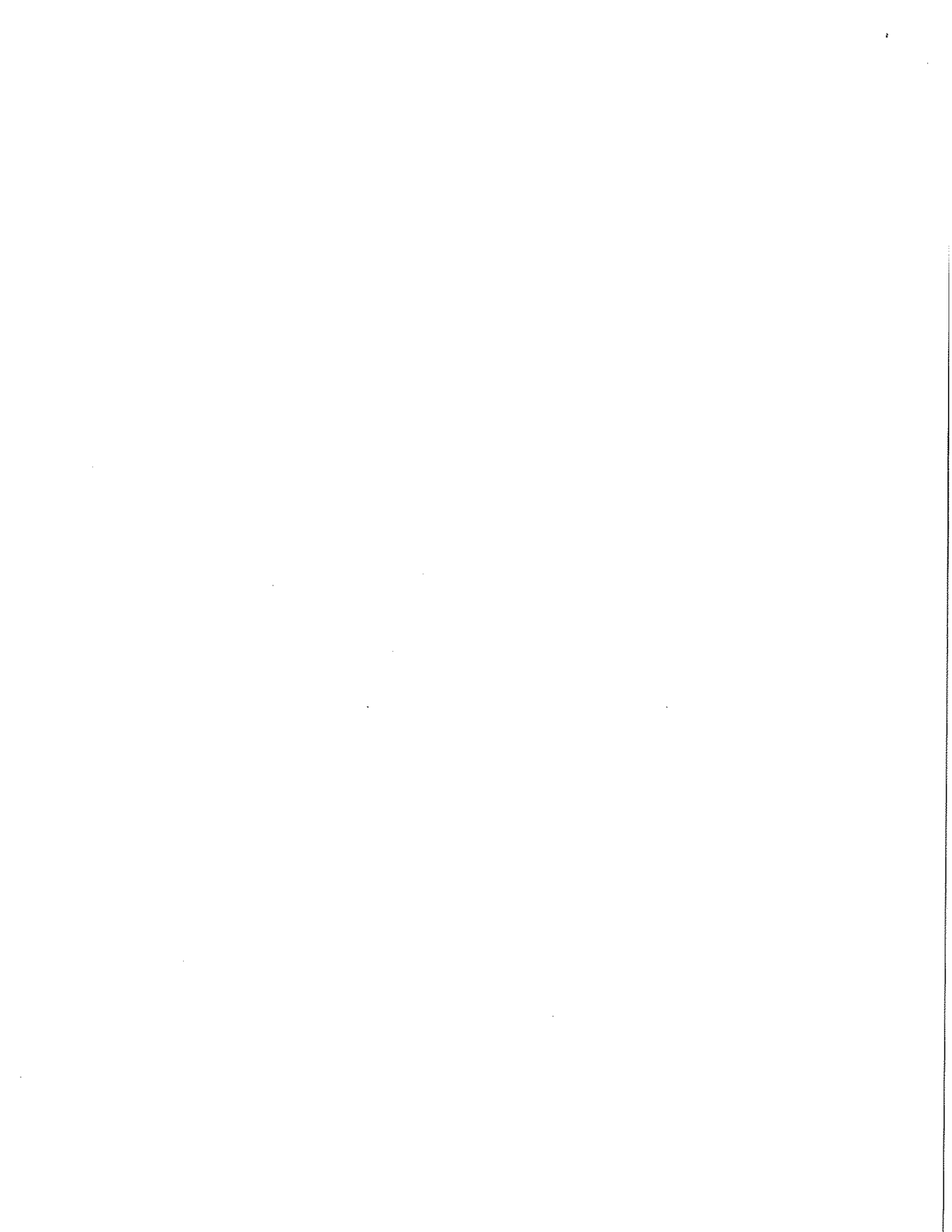
name	remarks 01
Alder Flycatcher	lost valley & bl grosbeak tr
Willow Flycatcher	bl grosbk trail & mtc
Least Flycatcher	bl grosbk-not seen since 99
Eastern Phoebe	÷
Great Crested Flycatcher	busch
Western Kingbird	casino queen & rt 3
Eastern Kingbird	÷
Horned Lark	st charles
Purple Martin	÷
Tree Swallow	busch
N Rough-winged Swallow	busch
Bank Swallow	horseshoe lk
Cliff Swallow	busch shorebd
Barn Swallow	÷
Blue Jay	÷
American Crow	÷
Fish Crow	borrow pit near bend rd
Black-capped Chickadee	÷
Carolina Chickadee	÷
Tufted Titmouse	÷
White-breasted Nuthatch	÷
Carolina Wren	÷
Bewick's Wren	busch shorebird
House Wren	÷
Sedge Wren (Short-Billed)	busch shorebd
Marsh Wren (Long-Billed)	busch shrbd-not since 99
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	÷
Eastern Bluebird	÷
Veery	tower grove
Gray-cheeked Thrush	÷
Swainson's Thrush	÷
Wood Thrush	÷
American Robin	÷
Gray Catbird	÷
Northern Mockingbird	÷
Brown Thrasher	÷
Cedar Waxwing	÷

name	remarks 01
European Starling	÷
White-eyed Vireo	÷
Bell's Vireo	busch
Blue-headed (Solitary) Vireo	tgp-not seen since 99
Yellow-throated Vireo	busch
Warbling Vireo	÷
Philadelphia Vireo	busch
Red-eyed Vireo	÷
Blue-winged Warbler	busch
Tennessee Warbler	÷
Nashville Warbler	÷
Northern Parula	÷
Yellow Warbler	÷
Chestnut-sided Warbler	tower grove
Magnolia Warbler	tower grove
Yellow-rumped Warbler	tower grove
Black-thr Green Warbler	busch
Blackburnian Warbler	gurney ct near tgp
Yellow-throated Warbler	lost valley
Prairie Warbler	hwy 94
Palm Warbler	tower grove
Bay-breasted Warbler	tower grove
Blackpoll Warbler	÷
Cerulean Warbler	lost valley
Black & White Warbler	tower grove
American Redstart	÷
Prothonotary Warbler	st charles
Worm-eating Warbler	busch
Ovenbird	tower grove
Northern Waterthrush	lost valley
Louisiana Waterthrush	lost valley
Kentucky Warbler	busch
Mourning Warbler	castlewood
Common Yellowthroat	÷
Wilson's Warbler	tower grove
Yellow-breasted Chat	÷
Summer Tanager	÷



name	remarks 01
Scarlet Tanager	÷
Northern Cardinal	÷
Rose-br Grosbeak	÷
Blue Grosbeak	katy trail
Painted Bunting	east st l-new
Indigo Bunting	÷
Dickcissel	schoolhouse rd near horsesl
Eastern (Rufous-s) Towhee	÷
Chipping Sparrow	busch
Field Sparrow	÷
Lark Sparrow	katy tr
Savannah Sparrow	katy tr
Grasshopper Sparrow	near Bruns Rd
Henslow's Sparrow	busch shorebd
LeConte's Sparrow	busch-shorebd-new
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Spa	busch-shorebd-new
Song Sparrow	÷
Lincoln's Sparrow	busch shorebird
Swamp Sparrow	busch
White-throated Sparrow	tower grove
White-crowned Sparrow	busch
Bobolink	st charles powers rd
Red-winged Blackbird	÷
Eastern Meadowlark	÷
Common Grackle	÷
Brown-headed Cowbird	÷
Orchard Oriole	÷
Baltimore Oriole	÷
House Finch	tower grove
American Goldfinch	÷
House Sparrow	÷
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	horseshoe lk
composite total	206

name	remarks 01
Greater White-fronted Goo	missed-seen 00
Green-winged Teal	missed-seen 00
Northern Shoveler	missed-seen 00
Canvasback	missed-seen 00
Bald Eagle	missed-seen 00
Merlin	missed-seen 00
Peregrine Falcon	missed-seen 00
King Rail	missed-seen 00
Common Moorhen	missed-seen 00
Am (Lesser) Golden-Plover	missed-seen 00
Solitary Sandpiper	missed-seen 94-00
Ruddy Turnstone	missed-seen 00
Semiplamated Sandpiper	missed-seen 00
Western Sandpiper	missed-seen 00
Stilt Sandpiper	missed-seen 00
Common Snipe	missed-seen 00
Wilson's Phalarope	missed-seen 00
Red-necked Phalarope (Nc	missed-seen 00
Franklin's Gull	missed-seen 00
E Screech Owl	missed-seen 00
Hairy Woodpecker	missed-seen 00
Olive-sided Flycatcher	missed-seen 00
Red-breasted Nuthatch	missed-seen 00
Golden-winged Warbler	missed-seen 94-00
Hooded Warbler	missed-seen 00
Canada Warbler	missed-seen 00



# Webster Groves Nature Study Society

## ☘ meetings

### Wednesday Sept. 5

7:00 PM Board meeting at David Rabenau's, 429 Belleview Avenue, Webster Groves, 314-968-8128. All members are welcome.

### Friday Sept. 14

7:30 PM program in the auditorium of St. Louis County Library on Lindbergh in Frontenac. Please note time change.

## ☘ botany

### Thursdays Aug.-Oct.

Field trips usually meet 9:30 AM. Beginners welcome. Bring lunch, weather gear. Trip is usually 3-5 hr. plus travel time. Call Fr. Sullivan: 291-7885 after 1 PM Wed for location. An e-mail message is sent every Wed. advising when and where the field trip is scheduled. If you would like to receive it, send your e-mail address to Jack Harris at jahar@mac.com

## ☘ entomology

### Sunday May 27

7 PM at Magners', above. Phil Koenig and Marshall Magnier will discuss Lepidoptera records of the early 1900's.

### Sunday June 24

4 PM Blacklighting at Quiver River State Park. Come early and walk some of the trails in the woods and prairie. Bring your own picnic supper. At dusk we shall meet at headquarters and then check the black-light traps.

### Sunday Sept. 23

7 PM at Magners', above. Show and Tell. Bring comments, specimens, slides, photos, etc. from summer vacations. Projector and screen will be available.

## ☘ birding

### Thursdays Aug.-Sept.

8:00 AM at Des Peres Park on Ballas, one block north of Manchester. Note time change. Questions: call Dottie Herweg: 314-966-2274.

### Saturday May 26

8 AM "Where the Birds Are." Meet at SE corner of Kohl's parking lot, Olive & 270. Bring lunch. Leader: David Becher, 314-576-1146.

### Sunday June 17

4:00 PM Ornithology group meeting: bird nest identification. Meet at Vicki Flier's, 18 Algonquin Wood. For more information, call Vicki: 314-968-9166 or e-mail RRVVCC@AOL.com Bring a dish and join the fun while we increase our birding skills.

### Sun. July 29, Aug. 19, Sept. 23

4:00 PM Ornithology group meeting. For more information call Vicki Flier above.

### Saturday Aug. 18

7:30 AM "Where the Birds Are." Meet at SE corner of Kohl's parking lot, Olive & 270. Bring lunch. Note change of starting time. Leader: David Becher, 314-576-1146.

### Saturday Aug. 25, Sept. 1

7:30 AM Riverlands. Meet at Teal Pond. Note change of starting time. Leader: David Becher, 314-576-1146.

## Nature Notes deadline Aug. 10

## join WGNSS

Send \$15 to Randy Korotev, 800 Oakbrook Ln., St. Louis MO 63132

Webster Groves  
Nature Study Society  
PO Box 190065  
St. Louis MO 63119

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# Webster Groves Nature Study Society

## Membership Application

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_ fax ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Membership categories (circle one):  
Individual or Family:.....\$15  
*for 1st class mail..... add \$5*  
Student .....\$5  
Life .....\$300  
*(lump sum or equal payments over 5 yr.)*

Please make check payable to: Webster Groves Nature Study Society

Please mail this form with check to:  
Treasurer: Randy Korotev, 800 Oakbrook Ln., St. Louis MO 63132