



Nature Notes

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GALAPAGOS ISLAND MAGIC AT SEPT. 2 MEETING

Paul Bauer

Our first general meeting for the year will take us on a wildlife adventure to the Galapagos Islands, located 600 miles west of Ecuador's coast on the equator. Slight differences in closely related species of finches and giant tortoises—each in distinct ecological niches on separate islands—sparked Charles Darwin to ponder what his visit in 1835, and to form his theory of evolution, which shook the world.

Paul Bauer will share selected highlights of adventures to these magical islands, where every creature is so unafraid of humans. This is a prize place to enjoy wildlife and to photograph. We will experience giant tortoises, sea lions, marine iguanas, colorful crabs, and numerous tame birds all up very close and personal. Blue-footed Booby, Waved Albatross, Red-billed Tropicbird, Frigatebirds, and Swallow-tailed gull are among the many colorful birds shown. At least six types of the Darwin finches will be shared.

We meet at the St. Louis County Library Headquarters on Lindbergh Blvd., just south of Clayton Rd. in Frontenac, Thursday, September 2, at 7:00 PM. Hope to see you there for our adventure to the Galapagos! 🐦

LATE SEASON SINGING IN THE WHITE-EYED VIREO

Mark Peters

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In a now aging article from the December 1991 *Bluebird*, James P. Jackson queried: Why do certain songbirds, and not others, sing in autumn well after they have completed nesting? These are nuptial songs—to quote Jim: “The kinds of vocalizations serving to establish and defend nesting territories, to attract mates and to maintain pair bonds for the duration of the nesting season.”

In my experience, the prize winner for persistence in late summer and early fall singing has to be the White-eyed Vireo. The first section of this article will present some interesting information from two researchers who studied the vocalizations

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HAVE YOU RENEWED?

Most WGNSS memberships expire 8/31/04 (see your mailing label). Please mail your dues payment now, if you have not already done so. You won't want to miss *Nature Notes*.

If you misplaced the pre-addressed envelope, then mail your payment to:
Randy Korotev
WGNSS Treasurer
800 Oakbrook Ln.
Saint Louis, MO 63132-4807 ↗

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

Jim Adams

My good friend, Clarence Zacher, has provided historical tidbits from his files that are included in this article. Clarence and I reminisce a lot since I learned that we both have Monsanto roots. Clarence's father was a person assistant to the found of the company, John F. Queeny, and I a long-time Monsanto employee before I retired. Ann Early also contributed. Additional historical contributions will be gratefully received.

A clipping from *New Science* (Vol. 14, Number 5, Nov./Dec. 1998), published by the St. Louis Science Center picture long-time WGNSS member, Dr. Katherine Chambers, PhD, as the Science Center's oldest volunteer. Dr. Chambers was reported to be 95 at the time the article appeared. She is a current resident at the St. Louis Altenheim.

Marshall Wagner received the Missouri Botanical Garden's lifetime achievement awarded this past May. Dr. Peter Raven presented the award to him at a ceremony at the Garden. This award recognizes a volunteer who has made repeated and substantial contributions in a single division or in several areas of the Garden.

Marshall received a second honor in his community the same month when a new children's playground a Larson Park in Webster Groves that has a bug theme was formally dedicated as "Marshall Wagner's Bug Kingdom." He was honored as a world-renowned entomologist for his many contributions to the

community in many areas over the years. Marshall is a founding member of WGNSS and the current chair of the Entomology Group. See June *Nature Notes* and p. 20 of the *Webster-Kirkwood Times* for May 8, 2004, for articles about the dedication.

The January, 1982, issue of *Nature Notes* reports the Professor Art Christ, one of WGNSS's eminent botanists, received up to 5,000 fan mail letters a day after he was pictured in the April 1982 national Geographic, "Standing gracefully by a large botanical specimen in the Saguaro National Forest near Tucson."

The December 1981 *Nature Notes* presents a "proposed best year for the sighting of rare visiting birds by WGNSS members. The list for 1950, compiled by J. Earl Comfort, is presented as a challenge for member to "do better" in some future year.

Sightings for 1950 include:

Madeira Petrel (now called Band-rumped Storm-Petrel)	Sept. 2
Barnacle Goose*	March 25
Cinnamon Teal	April
Yellow Rail	Sept. 24
(see "June Bird Report," this issue, p. 8)	
Sandhill Crane	Sept. 24
Hudsonian Godwit	May 1
(observers listed included Roger Tory Peterson)	
Piping Plover	May 6
Am. Knot (now Red Knot)	Sept. 10
(see "May Bird Report," this issue, p. 3)	
Snowy Owl	February
Lazuli Bunting	May 6
Kirtland's Warbler	Sept. 29
MacGillivray's Warbler*	May 21-22
Swainson's Warbler	April 22
Smith's Longspur	March 19
Baird's Sparrow*	April 8
*Listed as "hypothetical" by Mo. Bird Record Committee ↗	

DATES FOR '04 MEETINGS

All of these are 1st Thursday:

Sept. 2 St. L. Co. Library -HQ 7:00 PM

Oct. 7 St. L. Co. Library -HQ 7:00 PM

Nov. 4 St. L. Co. Library -HQ 7:00 PM

MAY 2004 BIRD REPORT

Jim Ziebol & Yvonne Homeyer

- BCA = Busch Wildlife Area
 CL = Carlyle Lake
 CSP = Castlewood State Park
 CC= Clarence Cannon National Wildlife Ref, Annada
 FP = Forest Park
 HL = Horseshoe Lake
 LCCL= Little Creve Coeur Lake
 LVT = Lost Valley Trail
 MTC = Marais Temps Clair
 REDA = Riverlands Environmental Demonstration Area
 SNR = Shaw Nature Reserve (Arboretum)
 TGP = Tower Grove Park

Introduction: The migration in May in Tower Grove Park was very slow, except for May 14-16. A WGNSS group led by Sherry McCowan on 5/16 recorded 16 species of warbler, including Mourning and Connecticut. Margy Terpstra's yard was generally good, with as many as 43 species recorded in a single day. Margy also reported 3 Hairy Woodpeckers, including a juvenile, and a Turkey hen.

Early Arrival Dates:

5/2	Blue Grosbeak	CSP	MB
	Bay-breasted Warbler	FP	RW
5/3	Short-billed Dowitcher	Point du Sable	
		J Moe	
5/6	Willow Flycatcher	Weldon Spr.	
	LB, BK, DB		
	Willow Flycatcher	BCA	JZ, J Moe
5/7	Olive-sided Flycatcher	Creve Coeur	JU
	Mourning Warbler	Kirkwood	M Terpstra
5/8	Alder Flycatcher	LVT	RAB et al.
5/9	Wilson's Warbler	TGP	Mary Huber
5/10	Black-bellied Plover	REDA	AM
5/11	Canada Warbler	Kirkwood	M Terpstra
5/13	Black-billed Cuckoo	TGP	JCh, Th. Group
5/14	Connecticut Warbler	TGP	m. ob.
	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	TGP	AM
	Common Tern	HL	FH
	Painted Bunting	Katy Access	
	Teresa Haenni & Jeff Blunt		
5/22	Ruddy Turnstone	REDA	CM
	Least Tern	Marina Road	JE
	Red-necked Phalarope	REDA	JU
5/23	Whimbrel	REDA	JU
	Sanderling	REDA	D Rogles
5/25	Red Knot	REDA	CM

Sightings: Paul & Barbara Johnson reported the following at LCCL on 5/31: 2 adult and 6 young Pied-billed Grebes, 2 adult and 2 young Coots, Ruddy Duck and Blue-winged Teal. Two Least Bitterns and 4 Am. Bitterns were

present at LCCL on 5/1 (BM, AM). Sherry McCowan found 15 Cattle Egrets on Hwy. 203 on 5/6 and on 5/12, Torrey Berger saw 16 Snowy Egrets at Indian Lake. Late geese included a white-form Snow at BCA on 5/6 (J Moe, JZ), an injured blue-form Snow at REDA on 5/11 (PL), and a White-fronted at Lakewood Park Cemetery on 5/15 (JMajka). Late duck sightings included a Bufflehead at HL on 5/11 (FH) and a male Canvasback at REDA on 5/18 (CM). Torrey Berger observed a Wood Duck with 19 young at BCA on 5/16. A Hooded Merganser and 8 young were seen at REDA on 5/4 (J&NS). On 5/27, 2 female Hooded Mergansers were reported at HL (FH). On 5/27 at REDA, the Thursday Group reported Pelicans, Blue-winged Teal, a Ruddy Duck and several Shovelers (J Ch). On 5/31, King Rails were heard at Prairie Slough (JU) and at Columbia Bottoms (Mike & JoEllen Thelen). Two Black-necked Stilts were found at REDA on 5/22 (MM, JU). A Black-bellied Plover was seen in a field on Hwy. H on 5/22 (CA, T Bo). On 5/16, the Meilleurs reported for CL: 2 Marbled Godwits, 2 Baird's, 8 White-rumped, 500+ Dunlin, 20+ Semi-palmated Plovers, and many Least and Semi-palmated Sandpipers. Tom Kennedy observed 4 Hudsonian Godwits at REDA on 5/11. Two Whimbrels were sighted at REDA on 5/23 (JU) and on 5/26, 15 were seen there (CM). On 5/23, Josh Uffman found 4 Red-necked Phalaropes, 7 Ruddy Turnstones, and 89 Sanderlings at REDA. The Barkers reported a Wilson's Phalarope at REDA on 5/15. Four Red Knots were seen at REDA on 5/25 (CM, m. ob.). Two Upland Sandpipers were found at Winfield Dam on 5/5 (SS) and Ian Hunt had 1 on Blue Grosbeak Trail on 5/12. Eight to 10 Franklin's Gulls were reported at REDA on 5/27 (J Ch, Th. Group). Least Terns were found at REDA on 5/25 (JU) and near Alton on 5/26 (KL). On 5/25, the Saturday Group found the following at REDA: Least, Common and Caspian Terns, and Franklin's, Herring and several Ring-billed Gulls. Sixty Black Terns, along with several Forster's and Common Terns, were present at HL on 5/14 (FH).

Mississippi Kites were reported in Kirkwood on 5/6 (MAA), in TGP on 5/8 (Matt Rowe), in University City on 5/8 (CS), south St. Louis on 5/9 (JZ), south Broadway on 5/9

(SM), in Ferguson and Washington, MO on 5/9 (JU), in TGP on 5/10 (J Ch), at her Kirkwood home on 5/11 (A McC), in Crestwood on 5/11 (DBz), in FP on 5/15 (MTh), and in TGP on 5/15 (P&BJ). Few Ospreys were reported this spring but one was soaring on 5/5 over TGP (SM). A N. Harrier at the Levee Road on 5/15 was a bit late (JZ). Merlins were reported in TGP on 5/4 (CA) and on 5/15 (P&BJ). Connie Alwood observed a Peregrine Falcon scattering the shorebirds and giving chase to a Kildeer at REDA on 5/15. A Eurasian Collared Dove was gathering nest material on Steppig Road on 5/15 (JZ). There were only 2 Black-billed Cuckoo reports, one in TGP on 5/12 (J Ck, G&TB) and one spotted at Tyson during a NABA butterfly walk on 5/23 (YH, m. ob.). Pat Lueders reported a Great Horned Owl at LCCL on 5/5. On Big Day, Mike Brady and Mary Anne Auer found 4 Whip-poor-wills and 3 Chuck-will's-widows. On 5/17, Jim Ziebol observed 4 Nighthawks in the late afternoon in TGP and Mick Richardson reported dozens there that evening. Western Kingbirds were found in Soulard on 5/9 (SM), on Hwy. 143 near Alton on 5/10 (SC), and at Hall Street on 5/31 (DB). Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were reported at Hwy. 94 & Hwy. 40 on 5/9 (MTh), 1 at REDA on 5/23 (D Rogles) and 1 near St. Peters on 5/26 (CC, CA). Olive-sided Flycatchers were sighted in TGP on 5/11 (LB), in TGP on 5/16 (IH), and 2 in FP on 5/16 (M Th). John & Nancy Solodar reported 1 Willow and 5 Acadian Flycatchers at LVT on 5/17. Also on 5/17 at REDA, there were 4 Willows seen and 1 Alder heard (CA). Frank Holmes reported thousands of swallows at HL on 5/12, mostly Bank and Purple Martins. A Winter Wren on the Blue Grosbeak Trail on 5/4 was rather late (BM). Nesting Bewick's Wrens were found at SNR on 5/4 (CA), on LVT on 5/16 (DC), and at their home in Franklin County (Cheryl & Don Delashmit). On 5/15, Ian Hunt reported 20 Magnolia and 25-30 Blackpolls in TGP. Jeannie Moe estimated 50 Blackpolls there on 5/16. Prairie Warblers were seen at CSP on 5/16 (MB) and at BCA on 5/18 (CM). There were numerous Mourning Warblers seen, including 1 at TGP on 5/10 (B&AM), 1 at TGP on 5/11 (J&NS), 1 at TGP on 5/12 (NB), 1 at TGP on 5/16 (JU), 2 at TGP on 5/18 (Mick R), a female there on 5/26 (Mick R), and both male and female there on 5/28 (Mick R). Loy Barber re-

ported a high count of 3 Wilson's Warblers in TGP on 5/11. On 5/20 at TGP, the Th. Group found female Mourning, Canada and Wilson's Warblers (J Ch). Blue Grosbeaks were observed at HL on 5/6 (SM) and at BCA on 5/18 (CM). On 5/5, David Becher found several Grasshopper Sparrows at Columbia Bottoms. Henslow's Sparrows were reported breeding at Robertsville State Park (m. ob.), at SNR (m. ob.), and at Blue Grosbeak Trail (P&BJ). A Harris' Sparrow seen on the Blue Grosbeak Trail on 5/5 was very late (MM, RW). At Blue Grosbeak Trail on 5/4, David Becher reported Clay-colored, Henslow's, and Lincoln's Sparrows, as well as a large flock of Bobolinks. There were good numbers of Dickcissels at HL on 5/9 (FH, BW). Fifty Bobolinks were seen at 2 Rivers on 5/2 (CM), 100 were present at Blue Grosbeak Trail on 5/2 (FW), and 500+ were counted along the Levee Road on 5/15 (JZ). Zoe Geist reported that a Yellow-headed Blackbird was present at Creve Coeur Lake on 5/9.

Contributors: Connie Alwood, Matthew Andrews, Mary Anne Auer, Bob Bailey, Loy Barber, Nick Barber, George & Terry Barker, David Becher, Torrey Berger, Rose Ann Bodman, Tom Bormann, Dennis Bozzay, Mike Brady, Jackie Chain, Shawn Clubb, Dick Coles, Jean Cook, Connie Cooper, Doug Corbett, Jack Cowan, Dale & Nancy Delaney, Joe Eades, David Garcia, Donald Hayes, Frank Holmes, Yvonne Homeyer, Ian Hunt, Jim Jackson, Paul & Barbara Johnson, Wilma Kennell, Bob Kleiger, Vivian Liddell, John Loomis, Pat Lueders, Jurek Majka, Anne McCormack, Sherry McCowan, Jim & Charlene Malone, Brien & Alex Meilleur, Mark Mittleman, Jeannie Moe, Mark Paradise, Kraig Paradise, Mark Peters, Margie Richardson, Mick Richardson, Dave Rogles, Julie & David Scheu, Scott Schuette, John & Nancy Solodar, Claudia Spener, Margy Terpstra, Mike Thelen, Josh Uffman, Jane Walker, Bruce Wetteroth, Rad Widmer, Jim Ziebol. An asterisk means "documented." Please submit sightings by the last day of the month to Jim Ziebol (314-781-7372) or Yvonne Homeyer <homeyer@earthlink.net>. 🌿

JUNE 2004 BIRD REPORT

Jim Ziebol & Yvonne Homeyer

Introduction: A Yellow Rail, seen along the Chubb Trail on 4/16, was a late report received from Ian Hunt. He saw the bird in flight and observed the white secondaries and the legs hanging down.

Sightings: On 6/18, Frank Holmes counted 115 Pied-billed Grebes along with a Common Moorhen at HL, and on 6/25, he found 40 more Grebes at Eagle Park. Many observers reported nesting behavior of American Bittern, Least Bittern and Common Moorhen at LCCL (DB, J&CM, IH). Frank Holmes counted 102 Pelicans at HL on 6/15. On 6/20, 87 Cattle Egrets were found along Bend and Layton Roads at HL (JZ) and on 6/25, Frank Holmes found 220 there. A Blue-winged Teal with 6 young was reported at LCCL on 6/20. On 6/11 at REDA, Dave Rogles found a Wood Duck with 13 half-grown young. On 6/26, the Barkers saw a King Rail at LCCL. Summering ducks included a Lesser Scaup at Eagle Park on 6/9 (FH), 2 male Canvasbacks all month at REDA (CM), and 2 Shovelers at REDA on 6/11 (J Ch). An Avocet had returned to REDA by 6/22 (T Be). Two Semipalmated Plovers and 3 White-rumped Sandpipers seen at REDA on 6/12 were late migrants (CM); only one White-rumped Sandpiper was found on 6/13 (P&BJ). An apparent Wilson's Plover was viewed through a Questar at REDA on 6/17 (Kevin Richmond); however, no other observers found the bird. A sub-adult Laughing Gull was first found at REDA on 6/11 (D Ro). Tern sightings included 2 Common Terns at HL on 6/28 (FH), a Least Tern at HL on 6/9 (FH), 2 Least Terns at REDA on 6/11 (CM), 4 Least Terns at REDA on 6/13 (JU), 12 Black Terns at HL on 6/3 (T Be), and 3 Black Terns at REDA on 6/13 and 2 Caspian Terns at REDA on 6/24 (CM). Ian Hunt found several Mississippi Kites in Fenton. Black Vultures in Ste. Genevieve County, originally found by Joe Eades, were relocated on 6/14 (DB) and on 6/26 (CA, T Bo). Mike Thelen reported a Sharp-shinned Hawk from south county on 6/4. Mike also heard dueting Barred Owls at BCA on 6/12. Chuck-will's-widow was heard at SNR on 6/9 (P&BJ). Dennis Bozzay heard a Black-billed Cuckoo on

6/27 at BCA. A pair of Scissor-tailed Flycatchers was first located near Lenzburg, IL on 6/6 (Tim Dever). The birds were re-found by Bill Ford and the Thurs. Group on 6/24. On 6/26, two Loggerhead Shrikes were observed at Peabody Coal (CA, T Bo). Mike Thelen heard an Alder Flycatcher calling at LCCL on 6/12; this species is often reported in migration well into June. Mike Grant reported hundreds of Cliff Swallows at the Page Ave. bridge on 6/19.

A Black-and-white Warbler was a good find at BCA on 6/12 (M Th). On 6/11, Kevin Renick and Anne McCormack found a Prairie Warbler at Lake 26, BCA. This bird was seen again on 6/12 (YH, JZ). Mike Brady found a Hooded Warbler at CSP on 6/12. On 6/21 at the Katy Trail access, Painted Bunting, Lark Sparrow and Blue Grosbeak were observed by Margy Terpstra and Tina Weyman. On 6/11, Jim Hickner found Grasshopper Sparrow at Columbia Bottoms and Prairie Warbler at the Blue Grosbeak Trail. Two Lark Sparrows were seen at the Katy Trail access on 6/4 (J&NS). The Th. Group visited Robertsville SP on 6/4 and found Blue-winged and Prairie Warblers there. On 6/26 at Front St. in E. St. Louis, Mike Brady counted 3 Painted Buntings, 6 Bell's Vireos, 2 Blue Grosbeaks and 7 Western Kingbirds.

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Abbreviations: see "May," p. 3. 🐦

JULY 2004 BIRD REPORT

Jim Ziebol & Yvonne Homeyer

Sightings: This year in Wilson Park, Granite City, IL, 3 Yellow-crowned Night Heron nests produced 10 young and a Cooper's Hawk nest produced 2 young (FH). Josh Uffman found an immature Yellow-crowned Night Heron at REDA on 7/1. About 200 Great Egrets were present at REDA on 7/1 (m. ob.). George & Terry Barker found a Piping Plover at Chain of Rocks on 7/31. On 7/4, Mike Brady reported Semipalmated Plover, Yellowlegs, Pectoral Sandpipers and peeps at REDA. Four Least Sandpipers and 6 Spotted Sandpipers were found at REDA on 7/3 (CM). On 7/10, 4 Semipalmated Sandpipers were also seen there (D Ro). On 7/23 at Confluence SP, Torrey Berger reported 4 Stilt, many Killdeer, 6 Greater Yellowlegs, 5 Lesser Yellowlegs, 4 Spotted Sandpipers, 2 Solitary Sandpipers, 1 Western, good numbers of Least and Semipalmated, 4 Short-billed Dowitchers and 2 Semipalmated Plovers. Fourteen species of shorebirds, including Black-bellied Plover, 2 Wilson's Phalaropes, and Western Sandpiper, were found at Lot 3, CL (DK). A second apparent Wilson's Plover (see June report) was seen at Columbia Bottoms on 7/25 (MM). Josh Uffman and Kristi Mayo found several King Rails at Clarence Cannon on 7/17. A male Cinnamon Teal was a very good find at REDA on 7/5 (CM). Breeding Ruddy Ducks have been confirmed at Eagle Park on 7/31, where Frank Holmes observed 2 pairs of Ruddies, one with 5 half-grown young and the other with 6. Tern sightings included 2 Forster's at HL on 7/11 (JZ), 6 Least Terns at REDA on 7/6 (CM), a few Black Terns at HL on 7/28 (FH), and Caspian at Winfield Dam on 7/17 (JU). A Barred Owl was found at Clarence Cannon on 7/26 (G&TB).

Jackie Chain and the Thurs. Group found a Mississippi Kite and an immature Red-shouldered Hawk at Clarence Cannon on 7/22. Mississippi Kite sightings included 2 adults and 2 immatures at Howell Island on 7/3 (MAA), 3 soaring over Webster Groves on 7/9 (JZ), and one flying in Rock Hill on 7/23 (D Bz, YH). Josh Uffman observed a N. Harrier and a Peregrine Falcon at REDA on 7/24. Another Peregrine was sighted that day at

Clarence Cannon (DB). A remarkable 14 Eurasian-collared Doves were seen in the Granite City area on 7/24 (FH). A male Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was found on Mo. Bottoms Road on 7/9 (CC, CA). On 7/10, a male and a female were found there (J&CM). Since May there have been at least 5 different reports of Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in the St. Louis area. An Acadian Flycatcher was seen feeding 3 young at Young CA on 7/10 (YH, JZ). Clarence Zacher found a perched Bank Swallow at Elm & Watson in mid-July. On 7/3, Mary Anne Auer found a Redstart and 10 Red-headed Woodpeckers on Howell Island. On 7/26, Jim & Charlene Malone found a Painted Bunting and 2 male Blue Grosbeaks at the Katy Trail Access. Jim Ziebol predicted that Great-tailed Grackle would be found in the St. Louis area this summer, and Bob Lewis found one at REDA on 7/19.

A typical day on 7/8 – Red-headed Woodpecker at Hideaway Harbor Park; a number of Purple Martins, Turkey Vultures, 2 Eurasian-collared Doves at Machens Farm; 2 Least Terns, Caspian Tern, a few Ring-billed Gulls, many Pelicans, 2 Snowy Egrets, many Great Egrets, Cliff Swallows, Black-crowned Night Heron, 2 Bald Eagles at REDA; Dickcissel, Sedge Wren, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Yellowthroat, several Pied-billed Grebes with stripe-headed juveniles at HL (Thurs. Group).

Comments: Regarding his University City neighborhood and yard, Mike Thelen stated, "We've had Red-tailed Hawks on neighborhood roofs and screeching in our University Place subdivision throughout the month of July. Ruby-throated Hummingbirds have returned to our yard and feeds. We also had a fly-by Green Heron and a fly-over of 14 Little Blue Herons."

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WHITE-EYED VIREO

Continued from page one

of the White-eyed Vireo and their use during the breeding season. I will discuss the information that points to the White-eyed Vireo as being a very vocal singer up until the moment of its departure for the wintering grounds. In addition, I will consider the possibility that late summer and early fall singing (hereafter late season singing) is actually related to late season breeding. Finally, I will suggest that late season singing in the White-eyed Vireo is related not only to maintaining the same breeding season territory until departure for the wintering grounds (apparently long after breeding is complete), but also to the subsequent establishment of a territory on the wintering grounds, the possession of which is advertised with breeding season song.

To begin, the description of the actual breeding season song of the White-eyed Vireo (hereafter WEVI) draws heavily from two authors. Bradley (1980, 1981, see bibliography) studied the *griseus* subspecies (*Vireo griseus griseus*) near Gainesville, Florida, during the spring and summer of 1977 and 1978. Sixty-six individuals were captured, banded and color-marked (three colored plastic leg bands) for individual recognition. The adults were sexed based on the presence of an enlarged cloacal protuberance in males or a functional brood patch in females. The sex of young birds could not be determined. The purpose of his study was to elucidate the role of song in the behavior of the species.

Borror (1987) is the second author. He found the "typical" species-specific breeding season song (hereafter song) of territorial WEVI to be 1.1 seconds long. At my site in northern Jefferson County, Missouri, this typical song most commonly sounds like "chick-uh-purr-wee-oh-chick!" or numerous variations thereof. These songs vary in their individual note type composition. In his study of 16,612 recorded songs of 379 WEVI from 20 states (representing at that time the 5 recognized subspecies that occur in the United States and Bermuda), Borror identified 375 note types. The number of note types for individual birds ranged from 28 to 54. He found that each

bird's repertoire of note types is used to produce a variety of song types. The number of notes in the song types varied from 1 (repeated at least once) to 18. The average number of notes in a song for all subspecies taken together was 7. In all the birds studied, the note types were used in varying composition to produce 614 recognizable song types. Individual birds used their number of note types to compose an average of 14 song types. Interestingly, Borror states that since no two birds studied had the same song type repertoires. The repertoire may serve as a means of individual identification.

Additional interesting information on other vocalizations of the WEVI follows. Bradley (1980) states that the breeding season song as described above is given only by males and that it is used primarily in territorial defense. The chatter vocalization is a rapid series of harsh, noisy, raspy sounds uttered in agonistic contexts, especially in territorial encounters between males. This call is also delivered in the presence of a predator or a human intruder (personal observation). The chatter vocalization is the most common call of adult female WEVI, again per I Bradley. Rambling song sounds like the typical WEVI gone truly berserk. This song is longer than the typical 1.1 second long song but instead lasts 5-10 seconds! or more. Rambling songs are composed of some typical song notes, some notes suggestive of the, aggressive chatter as well as other harsh staccato notes. Males singing rambling songs were 1 frequently approached by a female with subsequent copulation (Bradley, 1980).

How are song types developed by a hatching year (immature) bird? Bradley (1980). It states that male WEVI (presumed to be male as the sex of hatching-year birds was not determined in his study) begin to sing at an earlier age. The earliest date he observed subsong (the first phase of song learning) was 1 June. Subsong is characterized by soft warbling and poorly defined notes. Per Bradley, within two weeks subsong is replaced by rehearsed song. This is an intermediate stage between subsong and typical adult song. This song is sung for several weeks during which it evolves into the typical breeding season song.

Bradley goes on to make some interesting behavioral observations. Hatching-year WEVI are occasionally fed by the adult male, will follow their fathers around the home territory, and will sometimes cooperate in its defense. Hatching-year (HY) birds using only chatter vocalization were assumed to be HY females. Preliminary analysis of the songs of three HY WEVI indicated that most of the song types in individual HY WEVI, are identical copies of their father's and that the other song types are shared with immediate territorial neighbors. For more on song type sharing across the species entire distribution see Borror (1987).

A penultimate reference to Bradley indicates that HY (presumed male) birds by the end of August sing typical breeding season song. In the St. Louis area, I cannot recall a personal observation of a HY WEVI singing. Regrettably, however, in this regard, and that of the possibility of dueting in this species, I have not been a conscientious observer. Again Bradley worked with the Florida *griseus* subspecies population. Do the majority of the above observations of Bradley hold for the Missouri subspecies, which is *noveboracensis*?

How strong is the evidence that WEVI continue to sing up until their departure for the wintering ground? Some of the sources that I could locate indicated that singing waned earlier in the season. One source (A. A. Saunders in Bent 1950) said WEVI song waned during the molt that occurs after breeding and that it is revived after the molt with the last song (unspecified location) averaging 9 September. Bohlen (1989) says WEVI molt in August and early September and that after a pause in their singing they start again and sing for a brief time in September. Williamson (1971), studying foliage-gleaning birds in Maryland, stated that singing there was rare by mid-June. Bradley (1980) says song persisted well past the nesting period but that by the end of August few, if any, adult males were singing. This is largely inconsistent with my observations in the St. Louis area where a good number, if not the majority of WEVI, continue to sing from the same sites from their arrival roughly 16 April to their departure the last 10 days of September or a bit later. My latest singing WEVI have been 7 October, 1974 and 10 October, 1992. Making the strongest statement, Brewer et al. (1991 p.372) says the bird in Michigan "Sings

regularly in September, in many cases on territories occupied that summer. Hence, fall departure dates, in mid to late September, are easily determined." This last statement appears to best reflect the situation in northern Jefferson County, Missouri, where I am most familiar with the bird.

Also to be considered should be the possibility that late season singing in the WEVI might indeed be due to late-season breeding efforts. Possibilities to consider include: 1) multiple broods and, 2) nest abandonment secondary to Brown-headed Cowbird parasitism or predation and subsequent renesting.

The first possibility is addressed by Graber and Graber (1985) who, in their excellent work on the vireos of Illinois, suggest that the laying season is sufficiently long in the south (of Illinois) to indicate that more than one brood could be attempted. At the Illinois latitude roughly corresponding to my Jefferson County site, the range of egg laying dates span 27 April to 24 June. Considering the last egg was laid 24 June with an incubation period of 15 days (Bent 1950), a nestling period of 11 days (estimated by Bradley 1980), and a successful fledging, the nest would have been empty about 21 July. Would not a WEVI be largely expected to have ceased singing by September if breeding had largely ceased a month or more earlier?

Secondly, regarding nest abandonment, Graber and Graber (1985) suggest that the long laying period may actually be related primarily to a high failure rate in nesting secondary to Brown-headed Cowbird parasitism. They imply that WEVI may renest, accounting in part for the long laying season. However, I was unable to find information on whether WEVI ever ejects Brown-headed Cowbird eggs from the nest or rejects Cowbird eggs by nest abandonment and subsequent renesting. Cowbird parasitism of WEVI is apparently common. The Grabers note that ten of twelve recent nests that reached the laying stage in Pope County, Illinois, were parasitized. Even if WEVI abandoned parasitized nests and renested the egg dates noted above could be considered to include these late nesting efforts and would seem to indicate that even later nesting efforts were unusual.

This article would be remiss without making a comment on the astute observations of

Pat Mahnkey (1994). On more than one occasion in southwest Missouri he has observed White-eyed Vireos dueting. Dueting birds are generally a mated pair that each contributes certain notes of a particle song. The birds may take turns uttering the notes with variable overlap, or many of the notes may be simultaneously uttered by both birds. Dueting in birds deserves an article in itself. None of the authors quoted above mentioned whether dueting did or did not exist in the White-eyed Vireo.

On the breeding grounds, I suggest that White-eyed Vireos continue to maintain their individual territories after breeding is completed. The possession of which is advertised quite frequently with breeding season song. This vocal and territorial behavior is apparently continued on the wintering ground.

In the neotropics, two studies found the White-eyed Vireo to be territorial and to commonly sing the breeding season song. As an aside, winter territoriality for "our" temperate/boreal zone breeders might be more the rule than the exception. Rappole and Warner (1980) is an excellent introduction to the territorial behavior of migratory landbirds that occupy Neotropical regions outside the breeding season. Their study (1973-1975) in the Tuxtla Mountains of southern Veracruz, Mexico, found that individuals of both sexes of fourteen migrant species (all of which occur in Missouri either as breeders or as transients) defended separate, small—0.5-1.25 acre—feeding territories throughout the temperate-zone winter and returned to the same territory in subsequent seasons.

Winter territoriality for the WEVI is thus not a unique feature but the continued use of the breeding season song essentially is. Relying entirely on Rappole and Warner (1980), the following comments are interesting in summarizing the vocal and territorial behavior of the fourteen migrant species referred to above. For both sexes, vocalizations were used in advertising and defending the territory from conspecifics (birds of the same species). In the majority of cases, the breeding season song was *not* used to accomplish these presumed goals but instead a much shorter, but nonetheless characteristic vocalization, the "chip" note, was more often used. Additionally, terri-

tory owners for all species of migrants studied, vocalized spontaneously at fairly regular intervals throughout the day. Vocalization was also triggered by approach of a conspecific, a predator or by calling of a neighboring conspecific. These vocalizations are apparently of the same type as those used under similar circumstances on the breeding grounds but in most cases *without* the breeding season song. These vocal characteristics further point to the near uniqueness of the WEVI as it habitually uses breeding season song on the wintering grounds.

However, again according to Rappole and Warner (1980), a few species of migrants do use the breeding season song throughout the winter, as well as chip notes. At the time of this study, the WEVI was one of only three species exhibiting this behavior. Additional species doing so may now be known. Curiously, the other two species doing so are *Empidonax* flycatchers: the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher and the Least Flycatcher, species not known as striking songsters. The authors go on to state that the following species sing the breeding season song only occasionally: Ovenbird, Black-and-White Warbler and the Wood Thrush. Rather incredibly it was confirmed for the WEVI and the Least Flycatcher that the *females* were also singing the breeding season song! Terborgh (1989) comments that the Eastern Wood Pewee in Amazonian Peru establishes individual territories that are held throughout the northern winter. Terborgh observed the Pewee singing incessantly from the birds' arrival in October and suspected, but did not prove, that females were singing on a par with males.

Bradley (1980) with a marked population of known sex WEVI in Florida states that he has never heard the breeding season or rambling song from a female. I am unaware if documentation of female WEVI singing during the breeding season exists although it would seem at least a possibility if females commonly (?) do so on the wintering ground.

Rappole and Warner list eight characteristics they considered in establishing evidence for territoriality in wintering migrants. The WEVI possessed six of the characteristics and the remaining two were confirmed by Greenberg et al. (1993). The latter investigators studied the winter ecology of the WEVI and a very

closely related species, the Mangrove Vireo (*Vireo pallens*). The sites were in or around the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve in the state of Quintana Roo, Mexico. They found that WEVI were consistently territorial with an average territory size of 1.25 acres. Seven of eight WEVI monitored through the winter remained on territory. The Mangrove Vireo exhibited behavior consistent with year-round territories. Both the Mangrove Vireo and the WEVI commonly sang during the winter months. It thus appears that the post-breeding but pre-migratory vocal and territorial behavior of at least male WEVI is very similar to that exhibited on the wintering ground.

I am still puzzled at the seemingly unique characteristic of the WEVI in its continued use of frequently uttered song late in the season and on the wintering ground. Why should this species, amongst a host of temperate zone/nearctic landbird I species wintering in the neotropics, be so vocally inclined? What is the evolutionary advantage? Could a singing bird, including singing females, defend a larger territory than a WEVI that vocalized otherwise, thus perhaps I obtaining more resources (food) that allowed improved overwinter survival and pre-migratory fattening?

Comments are welcome on any facet of this article either within its pages or via letter. What are your observations? In writing this article I realized how little I really knew about a relatively common Missouri bird. Opportunities to observe it abound and I will definitely be a more conscientious observer while enjoying the ebullient vocal antics of this truly interesting and amazing bird.

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Nature Notes is printed on recycled paper.

NEXT DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 10!

Nature Notes publishes 10 issues a year, each mailed on the third Monday of the month. To allow time for layout, printing, etc., the deadline is always 10 days prior to the third Mon.

Our next issue will be assembled in September, deadline September 10. Submissions—handwritten or typed, email, IBM or Mac to: Anne McCormack, 587 Andrews, St. Louis MO 63122-5722 or

<amccormack@stjosephacad.org> 🐦

PLANTS CLEAN HOUSE

Anne McCormack

Ever listen to *Living on Earth*? The talk show about environmental issues is broadcast on KWMU 90.7 on Sunday nights, from 8:00 till 9:00 PM. I thought *Nature Notes* readers might be interested in this list of "Ten Eco-friendly House Plants":

- * **Lady Palm** (*Rhapis excelsa*)
- * **Areca palm** (*Chrysalidocarpus lutescens*)
- * **Ficus alii** (*Ficus macleilandii*)
- * **Peace lily** (*Spathiphyllum sp.*)
- * **Golden pothos** (*Epipremnum aureum*)
often mistaken for Philodendron
- * **Arrowhead vine** (*Syngonium podophyllum*)
- * **Bamboo palm** (*Chamaedorea seifritzii*)
- * **Dwarf Date palm** (*Phoenix roebelenii*)
- * **Rubber plant** (*Ficus robusta*)
- * **English ivy*** (*Hedera helix*)

For improving air quality in your home or office, B. C. Wolverton, author of *How To Grow Fresh Air* and *Eco-Friendly Houseplants*, recommends "2 or hopefully 3 nice sized plants per 100 square feet" <<http://www.loe.org/favorites/plants.htm>>. 🌿

AUDUBON'S WATCH LIST

More than 25% of America's birds are in trouble or in decline, according to the National Audubon Society's WatchList 2002. Of our area birds, Red Knot, Wilson's Phalarope, Buff-breasted Sandpiper (declining rapidly- red list), Red-headed Woodpecker, Bell's Vireo (declining rapidly- red list), Wood Thrush, Dickcissel, Willow Flycatcher, Painted bunting, Cerulean, Blue-winged, Kentucky, Prairie, Prothonotary, and Worm-eating Warblers made the list. 🌿

ST. L COMMUNITY COLLEGES DEER NATURE STUDY CLASSES

To see the full list of non-credit continuing education classes, visit <https://hank.stlcc.edu/pls/SLCC/stlcc_schedule.PW_SelSchClass>.

The following 3 are offered through St. Louis Community College-Florissant Valley

To register, contact Continuing Education, SLCC-Florissant Valley, 314-513-4444, or FAX 314-513-4288.

Missouri River hike NATR: 701 585

Sat. Oct. 2, 9-11 AM \$6

Meet at St. Stanislaus Conservation Area.

Missouri and Mississippi River Confluence Tour NATR: 701 586

Sat. Oct. 23, 9-11 AM \$6

Confluence Point State Park, beyond Riverlands.

Missouri River Columbia Bottoms Hike NATR: 701 587

Sat. Nov. 6, 9-12 \$3

The following 7 are offered through St. Louis Community College-Meramec

Contact Continuing Education, SLCC - Meramec, 314-984-7777, or FAX 314-984-7960.

Local Butterflies NATR: 720 600

Field trip Sept. 8 10 AM-1 PM

Tuesday September 14, 6:30-9 PM \$15

Presented by North American Butterfly Association-St. Louis.

Summer and Fall Night Sky Watching NATR: 726 600

Wed. Oct. 2 & 9, 7:00-9:30 PM and two field

trips. \$27 Communication South, 210. Presented by St. L Astronomical Society.

Reptiles NATR: 721 600

Thurs. Sept. 2, 9, 16 & 23, 7-9:30 PM and two

field trips. \$37.50 Communication South, 209. Presented by St. Louis Herpetological Society.

Native Plant community Quality Assessment
NATR: 723 600

Tues. Sept. 14 & 21, 7-9:30 PM and 2 field trips,
Oct. 12, 19, & 26. \$38.50
Communication South, 205. Presented by MO
Native Plant Society.

City Prairies Walk and Seed Collection
NATR: 704 MO1

Saturday September 25, 10 AM - 12 noon \$6
Presented by the Green Center. Meet at the
Green Center, 314-725-8314.

**Leading a Nature Walk Without All the An-
swers NATR: 701 MO1**

Saturday, October 2, 9 AM - 12 noon \$9
Presented by the Green Center. Meet at the
Green Center, 314-725-8314.

Autumn Leaves Walk NATR: 704 MO2

Sunday Oct. 17, 10 AM-12 \$6
Presented by the Green Center. Meet at the
Green Center, 314-725-8314.

PROGRAM & ART AT MACHACEK

The Machacek Branch of St. Louis Public Li-
brary, 6424 Scanlan Avenue at Watson, will
host a display of nature art work by *Nature
Notes* columnist Jim Ziebol. Jim and our presi-
dent, Yvonne Homeyer, will present a pro-
gram at the library on Sept. 29 at 7 PM on birds
and insects of the St. Louis area. Take I-44 to
Jamieson Ave. exit 284A, straight to Bradley
Ave., quick left on Ivanhoe, and right on Scan-
lan. For more information, call Machacek
Branch of St. L. Public Lib., 314-781-2948. 🐦

NATURE CLASSES AT MBG

The Missouri Botanical Garden will present a
variety nature study classes this fall. Mail regis-
tration to Missouri Botanical Garden Kemper
Center, PO Box 299, St. Louis MO 63166, FAX
314-577-9444 or for Shaw Nature Reserve, PO
Box 38, Gray Summit, MO 63039. Classes in-
clude:

"Butterfly Plant Walk" Sat. Sept. 4 9:30 -11 AM
at Butterfly House, \$25

"Nature Photography" 6 Wed. Sept. 1-Oct. 6
7-9 PM at MBG \$175

"Birding II," taught by Bill Rowe. The class will
meet at MBG 6 Monday evenings Aug. 30,
Sept. 13, Oct. 4 & 18, Nov. 8, Dec. 6 and will
take 4 field trips. \$250.

"Identifying Mushrooms" Sun. Aug. 29 1-4 PM
at SNR \$20

"Nocturnal Awareness Hikes" Sept. 17, 24 or
Oct. 8-10:30 PM at SNR \$20

"Controlling Invasive Plants" Wed. Oct. 13 6-8
PM at SNR \$20

There are also a number of classes— in-
cluding several family classes—that focus on
nature. Most meet on Sat. or Sun. at Shaw Na-
ture Reserve (Arboretum). 🐦

GREEN CENTER EVENTS

Must See Wildflower Photography

Exhibit Open to the Public through October 15
Explore the link between nature and art at the
Green Center. View the fine art photographs
of Missouri wildflowers taken by Craig D. Bar-
ton and lose yourself in his lush landscapes.
The framed images are ready to hang in your
home or office at reasonable prices. A portion
of the proceeds will support the Green Cen-
ter's environmental programs.
Viewing hours are 11AM-6 PM Mondays-
Fridays and 12-4 PM Saturdays or by appoint-
ment. Please contact 314-725-8314 or
events@thegreencenter.org. No fee charged.

Hike and Happy Hour

Saturday, September 11, 4 - 8 PM
Hike with us to the prairie, wetland, or woods
to see and appreciate the wildlife habitat that
Green Center volunteers help maintain and
restore throughout the year. After some out-
door fun, return to the Green Center building
to enjoy the Craig D. Barton wildflower pho-
tography exhibit, meet the artist, and partake
of wine and cheese in an informal social gath-
ering.

Paper Moon and Painted Prairie

Exhibit Open October 24 - January 15
A musical reception opens this special exhibit at
the Green Center on Sunday, October 24, 2:00-
4:00 PM. Enjoy a real treat as you discover the
art of two talented local artists. The great
spaces of the Midwestern prairie and the
Southwest inspire Marilyn Cathcart to capture

their beauty in traditional oils. Francine Brungardt's work combines her handmade paper and paper cutout illustrations. "Miss Lucy Dink and the Magic Moon" is a panel narrative telling the story of the night a river sang and how one girl heard its song. Viewing hours above. The Green Center is a center for environmental education, nature and art. It is located at 8025 Blackberry in University City, 63130, four blocks north of Delmar on North & South Rd., and five blocks west on Blackberry Ave. adjacent to Kaufman Park. 🐦

FOREST PARK BIOBLITZ

Valerie Vartanian, Director
Gateway Wildlands

The St. Louis BioBlitz will be held at Forest Park on Friday, September 10 starting at 3 PM and ending the next day, Saturday at 3 PM. The Explorers Club of St. Louis and Gateway Wildlands will be co-facilitating the event. The goals of the event are to share the discovery of biodiversity with the public and create a detailed list of organisms. There will be two main activities at the event: 1) activities for the public; and 2) data collection and processing.

On Saturday, vendors and organizations will be set up to display information and provide hands-on activities. Some of the activities include: 1) updates on the species tally each hour and live/taped video of survey teams at work; 2) vendor booths and organizations providing refreshments, related merchandise; and 3) guided activities for families including hikes and demonstrations. There will be many opportunities to learn more about local biodiversity and the work being conducted by the survey teams. 🐦

CALL THE NATURE LINE!

Call 314-935-8432 for a summary of the latest bird sightings in the St. Louis area and dates & times of WGNSS events. Please report any unusual birds to Sherry McCowan, 314-664-2381 and press "3" or wait for the prompt. You can also leave a message at the end of the Nature Line recording. 🐦

NATURE NOTES DEADLINES & MAILINGS

We meet at the Oak Bend Library, 842 S. Holmes, Kirkwood or at Missy Choteau's to attach mailing labels. We could use your help! Call Margie Richardson 314-965-8974.

<i>mailing party</i>	<i>NN deadline</i>
Mon. 9/20, 10-1 Oak Bend	Fri. 9/10
Mon. 10/18, 10-1 Oak Bend	Fri. 10/8
Mon. 11/15, 10-1 Oak Bend	Fri. 11/5
Mon. 12/20, 10-1 Oak Bend	Fri. 12/10 🐦

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Contact the editor 🐦

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 🐦

KEY TO WGNSS CALENDAR

birding field trip

each Thurs. 8 AM Jan. - Aug., 8:30 Sept.-April
call Jackie Chain 314-664-5998

most Sat. 8 AM: call David Becher 314-576-1146
some Sundays: call Kent Lannert 618-624-4464

summary of the latest bird sightings

Call Tyson Nature Line: 314-935-8432

to report a bird sighting

To include a sighting on the "Nature Line" phone message, call Sherry McCowan, 314-664-2381. To submit a report to the *Nature Notes* bird column, call Jim Ziebol at 314-781-7372 by the last day of the month or email Yvonne at <homeyer@earthlink.net>.

board meeting

1st Wed. 7 PM Sept.-May at University Club
Tower: Yvonne Homeyer 314-963-7750

botany field trip

each Thurs: call Fr. Sullivan 314-291-7885
some Saturdays: call Jeannie Moe 636-946-9802

entomology meeting

last Sun: call Marshall Magner 314-961-4588

general meeting

Meetings are usually on the first Thurs. of the month, at St. Louis Co. Library HQ at 7:00 PM. No meetings in June, July or Aug.

mailing party for Nature Notes

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

Nature Notes deadlines

10 days prior to 3rd Mon: call Anne McCormack 314-965-8091
amccormack@stjosephacad.org

membership expires/renewal due 8/31

2004 WGNSS

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NEED DIRECTIONS?

University Club Tower

- 1034 S. Brentwood, St. Louis, MO 63117
- Brentwood, between Highway 40 and Clayton Rd.
- across from the Galleria
- board meets in the office of Yvonne Homeyer, Suite 1920 on first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM

St. Louis Co. Library Headquarters

- The membership meets on a variety of days, Sept–April, at 7:00 PM
- Take 40 to Lindbergh south, left at the second light into library.
- 1640 South Lindbergh in Frontenac.
- All are welcome. Bring a friend!
- Birding trip, park on north side.

Tower Grove Park

- Take 44 to Kingshighway south, east (left) on Magnolia, 1st right into park.
- Usual meeting place is the Gaddy Bird Garden, NW corner of the park.

The Heron

Theodore Roethke

The heron stands in water where the swamp
Has deepened to the blackness of a pool,
Or balances with one leg on a hump
Of marsh grass heaped above a muskrat hole.
He walks the shallow with an antic grace.
The great feet break the ridges of the sand,
The long eye notes the minnow's hiding place.
His beak is quicker than a human hand.
He jerks a frog across his bony lip,
Then points his heavy bill above the wood
The wide wings flap but once to lift him up.
A single ripple starts from where he stood.

Webster Groves Nature Study Society

CALL 314-935-8432 FOR THE LATEST BIRD SIGHTINGS IN ST. LOUIS.

MEETINGS

Wednesday September 1

7 PM Board meeting at University Club Tower, 1034 S. Brentwood, Suite 1920. All members are welcome.

Thursday September 2

7:00 PM at St. Louis County Library HQ in Frontenac, Paul Bauer will present wildlife photography from the Galapagos Islands.

ENTOMOLOGY

Sunday September 26

Regular meeting at Magners': Show and Tell. Bring specimens photos, slides and summer stories. Slide projector and screen will be available.

BOTANY

Thursday August-October

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. E-mail is sent every Wed. advising when and where the field trip is scheduled. To receive, send your e-mail address to Jack Harris <jahar@mac.com>.

BIRDING

Thursdays August

8:00 AM at Des Peres Park on Ballas, one block n. of Manchester. Questions: call Jackie Chain, 314-644-5998.

Thursdays September-April

8:30 AM at Des Peres Park; see above.

Saturday August 28

8 AM WGNSS "Where the Birds Are." Parking lot of HQ of Co. Library, Lindbergh, south of 40. Meet on N side. Bring lunch. David Becher 576-1146.

Saturday September 4

8 AM WGNSS "Where the Birds Are." Parking lot of HQ of Co. Library, Lindbergh, south of 40. Meet on N side. Bring lunch. David Becher 576-1146.

Sunday September 5

7:30 AM Tower Grove, meet at Gaddy Bird Garden with Sherry McCowan.

Saturday September 11

8:00 AM Tower Grove, meet at Gaddy Bird Garden with David Becher.

Saturday September 18

8 AM WGNSS "Where the Birds Are." Parking lot of HQ of Co. Library, Lindbergh, south of 40. Meet on N side. Bring lunch. David Becher 576-1146.

Saturday September 25

8:00 AM Tower Grove, meet at Gaddy Bird Garden with David Becher.

Sunday September 26

9 AM hawk watch at Mark Peter's prairie in Imperial, Mo.

Saturday October 2

8 AM Riverlands, meet at Teal Pond with David Becher.

Saturday October 9

8 AM WGNSS "Where the Birds Are." Parking lot of HQ of Co. Library, Lindbergh, south of 40. Meet on N side. Bring lunch. David Becher 576-1146.

Saturday October 16

8 AM Riverlands, meet at Teal Pond with David Becher.

Saturday October 23

8 AM WGNSS "Where the Birds Are." Parking lot of HQ of Co. Library, Lindbergh, south of 40. Meet on N side. Bring lunch. David Becher 576-1146.

Sunday October 24

8 AM Clarence Cannon NWR HQ parking lot with Mike Thelen.

Saturday October 30

8 AM Riverlands, meet at Teal Pond with David Becher.

Saturday November 6

8 AM WGNSS "Where the Birds Are." Parking lot of HQ of Co. Library, Lindbergh, south of 40. Meet on N side. Bring lunch. David Becher 576-1146.

Saturday November 13

8 AM Riverlands, meet at Teal Pond with David Becher.

Saturday November 20

8 AM WGNSS "Where the Birds Are." Parking lot of HQ of Co. Library, Lindbergh, south of 40. Meet on N side. Bring lunch. David Becher 576-1146.

Saturday November 27

8 AM Riverlands, meet at Teal Pond with David Becher.

Saturday December 4

8 AM WGNSS "Where the Birds Are." Parking lot of HQ of Co. Library, Lindbergh, south of 40. Meet on N side. Bring lunch. David Becher 576-1146.

Saturday December 11

8 AM Riverlands, meet at Teal Pond with David Becher.

Sunday December 12

8 AM Riverlands, meet at Teal Pond with Dave Rogles.

NATURE NOTES



deadline Sept. 10

JOIN WGNSS



Send \$20 to Randy Korotev, 800 Oakbrook Ln., St. Louis MO 63132

Brimming Water

Tu Fu

Under my feet the moon
Glides along the river.
Near midnight, a gusty lantern
Shines in the heart of night.
Along the sandbars flocks
Of white egret roost,
Each one clenched like a fist.
In the wake of my barge
The fish leap, cut the water,
And dive and splash.

**WEBSTER GROVES
Nature Study Society**

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for 1st class mail.....add \$8
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Please mail this form with check to:
Treasurer: Randy Korotev, 800 Oak-
brook Ln., St. Louis MO 63132
Please make check payable to: Webster
Groves Nature Study Society